

CLAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



CCHS Newsletter

September/October 1997

Vol. XX. No. 5

- ● Fall History Tour to sites at Northfield and Rochester ● ●
 ● ● See Pages 5 and 15 for details ● ●



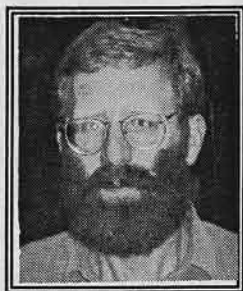
S.P. Wange's basement barber shop, Hawley, October 1917. Wange is standing behind the chair at left. The other barbers are students of Wange's. He taught 24 men to cut hair.
 (See story beginning on Page 8.)

Flaten/Wange Collection

President's Report

By Paul Harris, President

We did it! Lutheran Brotherhood Lake Agassiz Branch 8430 challenged us to raise \$2,000 by recruiting new individual and family members, and we made our goal. Since the end of January, we've added **115** new individual and **35** new family members, thus earning 100% of the \$2,000 match offered by Lutheran Brotherhood and going over-the-top by a solid margin.



I especially want to thank Lloyd Paulson. Lloyd is a former CCHS president who now volunteers with Lutheran Brotherhood. He approached us in January to offer the matching grant, but he did much more than that. During the last month of the membership drive, Lloyd proved to be our most zealous recruiter. He personally mailed out 200 letters to prospective members, of whom 48 signed up. Together with earlier recruitment, Lloyd brought 51 new members to CCHS.

Many other people contributed as well. Out in Ulen, we recruited several new members thanks to Maybelle Dinsmore. Maybelle published an appeal in the *Ulen Union*, pointing out how few of her neighbors were CCHS members. I guess shaming still works.

Of course, none of these appeals would have been successful if good people had not taken the final step. To all our new members, a very cordial welcome! We hope you will be with us for many years to come.

During the course of the membership drive, many people naturally asked about the benefits of CCHS membership. Well, you're looking at it. Not that the newsletter isn't a great benefit. I'm sure you'll find the articles informative and entertaining, and you'll look forward to its arrival every two months as so many of our other members do. I also pointed out that CCHS members get free admission to the Clay County Museum, although I'm too honest not to add that admission is free to non-members as well.

When it comes right down to it, though, I think most people support CCHS with their membership dollars because they believe in what we're doing. They share a genuine interest and pride in our local history, and they

appreciate the excellent work that our staff is doing to preserve that history and make it available to others in their communities and to future generations.

The success of our membership drive proves that these values are widely shared and suggests that there are still many people out there who would be happy to join. Don't stop now. Tell a friend about us.

WEATHER MEMORIES

from "How about that weather?" exhibit

"I remember the flood of 1952 when my brother and I were called to help people save what they could from the rising waters. Our truck company, "Mac's Transfer," had trucks with water over the axles, while we literally threw furniture and belongings into the trucks to save what we could." Member of Class of MHS 1950, now living in Seattle WA.

CLAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



202 1st Avenue North, Box 501
Moorhead, Minnesota 56561-0501
Phone 218-233-4604

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Paul Harris, President, Moorhead
Marjorie Aakre, Vice President, Moorhead
Galen Vaa, Secretary, Moorhead
Dorothy Dodds, Treasurer, Moorhead
Kenny Fox, Hawley
Norman Roos, Hawley
Joyce Haug, Hawley
Marion Gee, Moorhead
Arvid Thompson, Barnesville
Al Bloomquist, Moorhead
Lee Kolle, Borup
Mike McCarthy, Cnty. Rep., Moorhead
Arnold Ellingson, HHIC Rep., Fargo

STAFF

Pam Burkhardt, Collections Manager
Mark Peihl, Archivist
Margaret Ristvedt, Office Manager

NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION

Margaret Ristvedt, Editor/Publisher
Pam Burkhardt, Contributor
Mark Peihl, Contributor

Music to our ears

By Pam Burkhardt

It may not be the sweetest music to many people, but it is a sound that the curator of the Clay County Historical Society would really like to hear. What is it? The sound of Knute Syverson playing his hardanger violin. The violin, a part of our small collection of musical instruments, is silent forever: it is no longer in playing condition and Mr. Syverson died in 1957.

If anyone knows of a recording (disk or reel-to-reel tape) of Knute Syverson playing the Hardanger violin we would be interested in making a copy for the CCHS collection. The music could be re-recorded on a small device and mounted near the violin in the Clay County Museum so that at the touch of a button Syverson's music would come back to life.

The Hardanger Violin

The Hardanger [pronounced *har'-dunger*] violin may be called the national instrument of Norway. On the Hardanger the carved lion's head with gilt crown, mother-of-pearl and bone inlay, pen and ink decoration and sympathetic strings are traditional. The CCHS violin has eight tuning pegs, four of which are connected to sympathetic strings - wires under the finger board which resonate (vibrate) with the four standard strings above. The resonating strings give the Hardanger violin its unique sound. The first Hardanger violin was made in 1651 in Norway with six strings, only two of which were sympathetic.

The CCHS Hardanger violin was made by Jon Helland, a member of the famous Helland family of Norwegian violin makers. The records state this instrument was made between 1832 and 1836, however, experts agree the size and style are more consistent with violins made between 1800 and 1820.

John Helland was the grandfather of Fargo violin maker Gunnar Helland (1885-1976) who learned violin making in Norway and continued his art in this area. Gunnar made Hardanger violins for the immigrant populations of Wisconsin and North Dakota. Gunner was known for his excellent concert violins throughout the United States and by members of the Fargo-Moorhead Symphony Orchestra.



Knute Syverson (1882-1957)

The Syverson family emigrated from Hallingdal, Norway in 1870. They lived in Iowa before coming to Ulen Township in 1876. Knute, the youngest of seven children, was born in Ulen. He farmed northeast of town.

Knute played in contests called *Leikaslogs* and *Rapleike* (excuse the possible misspelling) held throughout the Red River Valley.

(Continue on Page 13)



Photo postcard of Knute Syverson with his Hardanger violin.

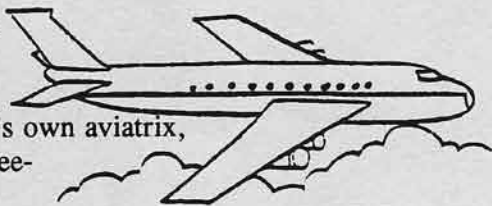
Outreach Displays

	Opens	Closes
Hitterdal Senior Center	Aug. 19	Nov. 11
Ulen-Hitterdal High School	Sept. 9	Nov. 11
Viking Manor, Ulen	Aug. 19	Nov. 11
Hawley Public Library	Aug. 19	Nov. 11
Glyndon Community Center	Aug. 21	Nov. 12
Moorhead Public Library	Sept. 9	Nov. 12
Barnesville Public Library	Aug. 21	Nov. 12

The Hitterdal Senior Center features STOP, LOOK & LISTEN. Items include a school bell, threshing goggles, a megaphone and bicycle horn.

The Ulen-Hitterdal High School library starts the school year with a topic that, for some, represents one of the basic food groups! By the box or bar, CHOCOLATE CENTERED is a sweet display.

Viking Manor is UP IN THE AIR with model airplane plans, an aircraft identification wheel and the story of Clay County's own aviatrix, Florence "Tree-Tops" Klingensmith.



A SCANDINAVIAN SAMPLER can be seen at the Hawley Public Library featuring items from Norway and Sweden.

The Glyndon Community Center features the Clay County Fair as a focal point in YOU'RE A WINNER. This display highlights awards and prizes from fairs, shows and parades.

The Moorhead Public Library will display YESTERDAY'S MEDICINE with a look at over 125 years of medical history in the county.

The Barnesville Public Library presents JUST A WHITTLE BIT with carved items made in Clay County and Scandinavia.

If you like local history, point your browser to:
<http://homer.cc.ndsu.nodak.edu/~schwert/stockwd/stockwd.htm>.

(By Dr. Don Schwert, NDSU and Mark Peihl, CCHS Archivist)

Artifacts & Donors

JULY/AUGUST 1997

Donors include:

Moorhead: Wayne Ingersoll, Olive Andvik, Helen Euren, Charlotte A. Onstine, John R. Holten, Family of Mrs. Ann Louise Christainson (Mrs. Leif), Flora H. Johnson, Clay Co. Records Office, Moorhead Public Schools (Dist. 152)

Lake Park: Einar Bredeson

Hawley: Denis Holen

Fargo ND: Fargo Rotary Club

Scottsdale AZ: Lloyd Gunderson

Aurora CO: Kay Peterson

Seal Beach CA: Doris Eastman

Artifacts: box of records, newsletters, video & certificates of the Fargo Rotary ca 1917-present; (1) vol. Aspelund Lutheran Church records ca 1915-1950; box of records of the Clay-Becker Medical Association; scrapbook ca 1929-1938 compiled by Thelma Campbell of Moorhead school functions & area activities; scrapbook (compiler unknown) containing photos and articles from the Ulen-Hitterdal area ca 1937-39; envelope of materials re: "Buckskin Harry" Parnell; 1914 Moorhead High annual *Cho-Kio*; book, *Cass County in the World War*, 1919; booklet and programs from Hawley's 125th celebration *The Journey Continues* ...; 35mm b/w copy negative of the Solem Lutheran Church parochial school class of 1913; photos of Clay County residents etc. including a photo of three of the cooks at MSTC (Moorhead State Teachers' College); (2) *Montgomery Ward* catalogs 1942-43 & 1950, an *Alden's* 1947-48 catalog & a 1955 *Spiegels* catalog; ashtray from the King Koin Laundry Barnesville/Hawley; a large water can from a Civil Defense shelter dated 1962; bow tie pattern quilt and wool blanket/quilt the center of which was started 61 years ago and added onto as the child grew; a pair of shoe cleats which attach to shoes or boots for walking on ice (pat. 1937) in original box; Norwegian bunad (dress, cap & purse) ca 1964; box of mourning stationery & (2) pkgs of cigarette papers; and a number of flood related items - video, *The Raging Red: Floodwatch '97*; book, *Fighting Back, The Blizzards and Floods in the Red River Valley*; one aerial photo of the HHIC building 4-22-97.

ON LINE: *Then and Now* photo exhibit:

http://www.gps.com/pioneer_spirit/then/then.htm#intro

(Thanks to Great Plains Software, Fgo)

Mayo Clinic on Fall Tour

It is with some pride CCHS announces its Fall History Tour to Northfield and Rochester. In November of 1992 CCHS sponsored its first out-of-the County tour to the newly opened Minnesota History Center in St. Paul. It was well received and set a precedent for future tours. Since that time CCHS has sponsored two tours a year to sites of historical importance and interest.

The Fall History Tour will continue that tradition by visiting sites in Northfield and Rochester. If you have never been on one of our tours, now would be a good time to start. If you have enjoyed a past tour, we look forward to seeing you again. Call 233-4604 for more information and to register. Registration deadline is October 3.



NORTHFIELD

Our first stop will be at Northfield. After eating in the "King's Room" at St. Olaf College we will be given a guided tour of the campus. Following that a professional storyteller will join us for a historic sites tour of the Northfield community ending at the Northfield Historical Society, site of the famous (or infamous) Jesse James/Cole Younger gang attempted bank robbery. The bank has been restored to its 1876 appearance.

Shopping in a number of unique Northfield shops including those in the historic Archer House, will be an option for the evening since many of these shops are open Thursday evenings. The Archer house was built in 1877 in the French Second Empire architectural style and was renovated in 1984. It houses several restaurants and a number of specialty shops.

ROCHESTER

Have you ever been to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester? If so, it might have been for a medical problem. Now you have a chance to visit the Clinic with a different agenda - to learn a little history about this Minnesota medical miracle known the world over.

The Mayo Clinic in Rochester evolved as a medical mecca about a century ago when three doctors (all members of the Mayo family) banded together to provide total patient care. The new concept of "group practice," caring for the patient in all disciplines, is today practiced worldwide.

At Rochester we will tour the Mayo Clinic and Mayowood, the legendary home of Charles H. and Charles W. Mayo. Other sites being considered are St. Mary's Hospital, associated with the Clinic for almost 100 years, and two historical homes. The 49 room Plummer House, an English Tudor Mansion built between 1917 and 1924, has all its original furniture. Heritage House, built in 1875 is a classic Victorian home that exemplifies the way of life of a middle class Midwestern family 100 years ago.

The Fall colors should be an added bonus to our trip. Rochester is located in the Minnesota River Valley and Northfield is located along the Cannon River.

(See Page 15 for more information.)



History on the air!

CCHS and KFGO Radio are bringing local history to the air waves every Tuesday afternoon. Weekly at 3:10 or 4:10 p.m. KFGO announcer Bob Harris interviews CCHS Archivist Mark Peihl about various topics in Clay County's past. Subjects for the 10 or 15 minute programs have included Moorhead's World War II German POW camp, the local hanging of a policeman's murderer in 1889 and Theodore Roosevelt's 1880 hunting trip to Clay County.

A few years ago, KFGO and CCHS experimented with rewriting some of our newsletter articles for reading on the air. But the project proved too labor intensive. Bob persisted, however, and in May he called Mark about doing interviews based on the articles. The format was much less work and a lot more fun. The first interview aired May 29 and was quite well received. Within a month, the program was a regular Tuesday afternoon feature.

KFGO has invited other area county historical societies to provide possible topics for interviews. There are lots of good stories out there, so this program should continue for some time. Tune in next week to KFGO, 790 on your AM dial!

Interns supplement CCHS Staff

CCHS has been fortunate over the years to have many interns from the three colleges located in Fargo and Moorhead. This past summer was no exception. Lauren Nesmith and Lisa Hanson, both students at North Dakota State University, spent a good portion of their summer assisting CCHS Staff in a number of projects. We are grateful for the enthusiasm and fresh outlook they provide. In their own words this has been their experience:



By Lauren Nesmith, Intern

What a wonderful place to work! Especially if you like to keep busy and enjoy working for the community. I was introduced to Clay County Historical Society (CCHS) through an introductory course in Public History at NDSU taught by Dr. Terry Shoptaugh. Pam Burkhardt spoke to the class about three-dimensional artifacts, which included an original 1894 paving block from a street in Moorhead. Mark Peihl gave a lecture on the tremendous efforts it took and of the many problems encountered to bring the railroad through Clay County in the early 1870s.

This was only the beginning, for it led me to volunteer. This past summer, however, I was able to work on an internship at CCHS. I learned about the many facets of the historical society, from putting

together bulk mailings (which is not as simple as it might sound), to helping with the newsletter and learning a little about how to plan a tour. I was able to assist with a few programs and later learned how displays are put together and helped run a demonstration booth at a local event.



Lisa Hanson, one of two summer interns at CCHS, prepares an Outreach case as part of her training.

I was given tips on how to take care of artifacts and how to deal with potential problems like water damage. After this, I began to work on my specific project, which I hope to continue on a volunteer basis.

It would be easy to go on and on about all that I have learned. Because of my internship this past summer I have gained a little experience and a little more knowledge, totalling up to a rewarding experience which I will always have to look back upon. It has been a pleasure and an honor to have been able to work with people like Pam Burkhardt, Mark Peihl and Margaret Ristvedt who make it all happen.

By Lisa Hanson, Intern

I'm Lisa Hanson, a public history student at NDSU. My hometown is Velva ND. I have really been enjoying my internship experience here at Clay County Museum. Pam and Mark have kept me busy cleaning glass negatives from the Flaten/Wange Collection, making photographic prints from the glass negatives, cataloging artifacts, producing my very own display for the Outreach cases and helping out in general.

I hope to graduate from NDSU in May and go on to graduated school to get a Master's Degree. My goal is to work for a state or county historical society, museum or archives. I am very grateful for this opportunity for hands-on experience and I feel I have really learned a lot.

Temporarily away ??

Many of our valued members will soon be heading south for the winter. Good for you!!

Since our newsletter is sent non-profit bulk rate it cannot be forwarded. Therefore, unless a winter address or instructions to temporarily suspend sending the newsletter is provided directly to CCHS, your newsletter is automatically discarded by the Post Office and CCHS is billed 50 cents for each undelivered newsletter. This can add up pretty fast.

Please let us know if you are going to be away for any length of time. This will save us money and assure that you get all your newsletters. We appreciate your help and thank you in advance for taking care of this matter.

LDS volunteers complete projects at Rollag

The Rollag District #3 rural school, aka Woodlawn School, was alive with activity July 19. As part of their Sesquicentennial Celebration of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS), church members were looking for historically-related, community projects to work on. The Historical Society needed volunteers to install ultraviolet (UV) light filtering film on the windows at the Rollag school. There was also a need for clearing brush at the Yankee Cemetery, just north of the school.

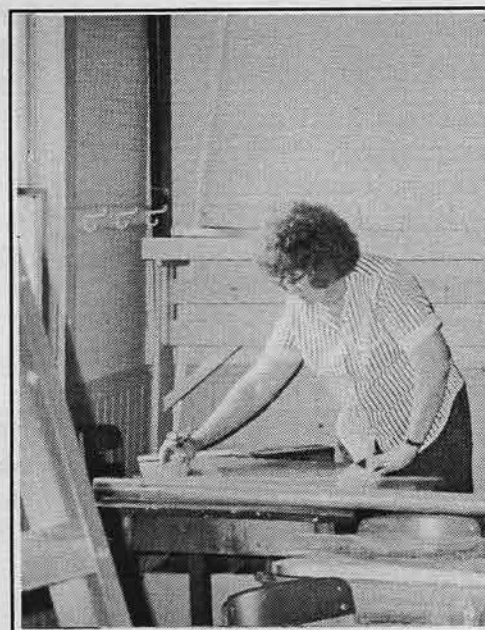
After a week of hot, humid weather, Sat. July 19 was (thankfully) overcast and cool. Mid-morning, CCHS Curator Pam Burkhardt and Archivist Mark Peihl met the LDS group at the school. Mark took a group of volunteers to the cemetery about 1/3 mile down the road where they removed four truckloads of rubbish and brush from around the edges of the cemetery. Other volunteers took rubbings of the tombstones.

Back at the school, windows were washed, and UV film cut and applied. The interior of the school was cleaned front to back and top to bottom. Around noon, lunch came from a variety of plastic coolers - something the rural school students wouldn't have had years ago when the school opened. By mid-afternoon, everything was clean; tools, equipment and coolers were loaded and the volunteers headed back to town.

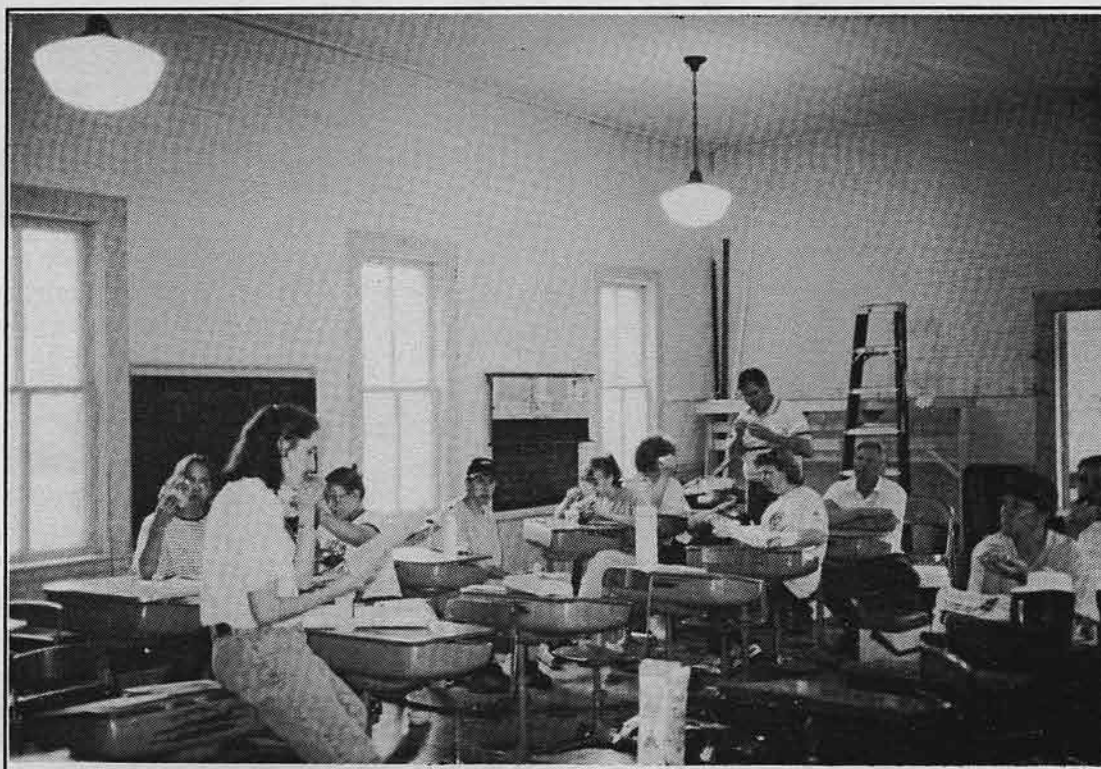


Volunteers included Jessica Hilliard, Gary Hilliard, Becky Hilliard, Tim Aland, Thomas A. Buckhoff, Cyndi Buckhoff, June Stine, Michael Stine, Mike Jenkins, Erin Yaru, Jackie Yarn, Scott Barrett, Melany Jenkins, Teresa Roesler, Teri Jenkins, Kent and Sharon Aland, Mark Gustafson, Steve Clauson. These dedicated people were wonderful volunteers and CCHS was lucky to be able to work with them.

On July 24 Burkhardt attended the LDS pageant at their church in south Fargo. At that time, the Historical Society received a certificate for our participation in their celebration. CCHS is grateful for the privilege of working with such superb volunteers.



Sharon Aland measures and cuts the protective UV filtering film as part of the LDS project at the Dist. #3 school at Rollag.



Recess! Actually, this is a lunch break for volunteers during the LDS project at the Dist. #3 school at Rollag. Cyndi Buckhoff (left, foreground) reads stories about some of the people buried at the Yankee Cemetery located near the school. Cleanup at the cemetery was also part of the LDS project.

Wange's photographs document

By Mark Peihl

This year marks the fiftieth anniversary of the retirement of the creator of one of the most important photograph collections in the CCHS Archives. Pioneer photographer S. P. Wange captured on glass 54 years of change in eastern Clay County. CCHS is blessed with thousands of his photographs, a rare and treasured record of the life and people of the Hawley area.

Wange died in 1956 and in 1961 CCHS received nearly 12,000 of his glass plate negatives. Topics include area street and farming scenes, community gatherings and events and many businesses. There are also many portraits in the collection. About 10,000 of the images are of people who lived in eastern Clay County between Hitterdal and Rollag, Muskoda and Lake Park.

When CCHS received the collection, over half of the plates were still in the original envelope sleeves in which Wange stored them. Most included information about who ordered the photograph taken. Others had no identifications at all. We cleaned and printed the unidentified plates first. The prints were displayed in the Hawley area in order that area residents could help identify the sitters. Local senior citizens provided identifications to about 15% of the unknowns. Long-time Hawley physician V. Duane Thysell recognized about 20% of the others. These names have been indexed and prints are available for purchase from CCHS. If you had relatives living in eastern Clay County between the 1890s and 1930s, there is a good chance we have a photograph of them.

What follows is a biographical sketch we compiled in 1986 of this remarkable man and his record of the life and times of his community.

Sylvester Peder Wange was born December 6, 1866, in Skeadager, Gudbrandsdalen, Norway, son of Per and Ann Wange. He had three brothers and three sisters all of whom remained in Norway.

As a young man in Norway, Wange took courses in barbering and photography. He moved to America in 1889, settling first in Ada where he operated a photo studio. In 1891, he relocated to Hawley and opened a barber shop. Two years later, he purchased the photo outfit of Hawley photographer O. K. Lee and added that line to his business.

The same year, he married Kristi Eide. They had five children: Peder, Purl, Olge, Lydia and Maria. Kristi died December 14, 1909. On December 11, 1913, Wange married Olga Nelson of Hawley. They also had five children: Bertrude, Raymond, Vernon, Owen and Barbara.

His family remembers him as a meticulous photographer, unhurried in his work, staying in his darkroom for hours retouching portraits. He was also gregarious, always walking to church in order to visit with people along the way. He never learned to drive an automobile, and used a horse and buggy to travel throughout eastern Clay County taking photos of people, scenes and events.

Wange had quite a sense of humor. Around 1893 he made a fifty dollar bet that he would not cut his hair for one year. He won the bet, had his picture taken and sheared his long locks.

Wange claimed to be "the finger pulling champion west of the Mississippi River." He would bet salesmen passing through town that he could lift a number of 100 pound flour sacks with one finger. The bags would be tied together with a rope. Wange would stand on a box, hook his middle finger through the rope and lift the bags. He developed this talent by swinging from the rafters in his family's barn in Norway. (Sort of a "Norwegian Tarzan!")

Wange was a church, civic and business leader. He was one of the original organizers of Hawley Lutheran Church in 1898 and was on a 20 member board from three area congregations. In fifty years, Wange missed services only six times.

He was elected mayor of Hawley in 1901 and 1918 and was a village trustee in 1897, 1898, 1900 and 1902. Wange also served on the local Board of Education for 42 years.

He taught barbering in Hawley, where 24 men trained under him. At the turn of the century, he provided hot baths and hot packs for facial massages in addition to haircuts and shaves. Wange barbered in the basement of his building and had the photo studio upstairs. Many men got trimmed downstairs then trooped upstairs for a portrait.

over 50 years of community life



S.P. Wange, Hawley barber, community leader and pioneer photographer.

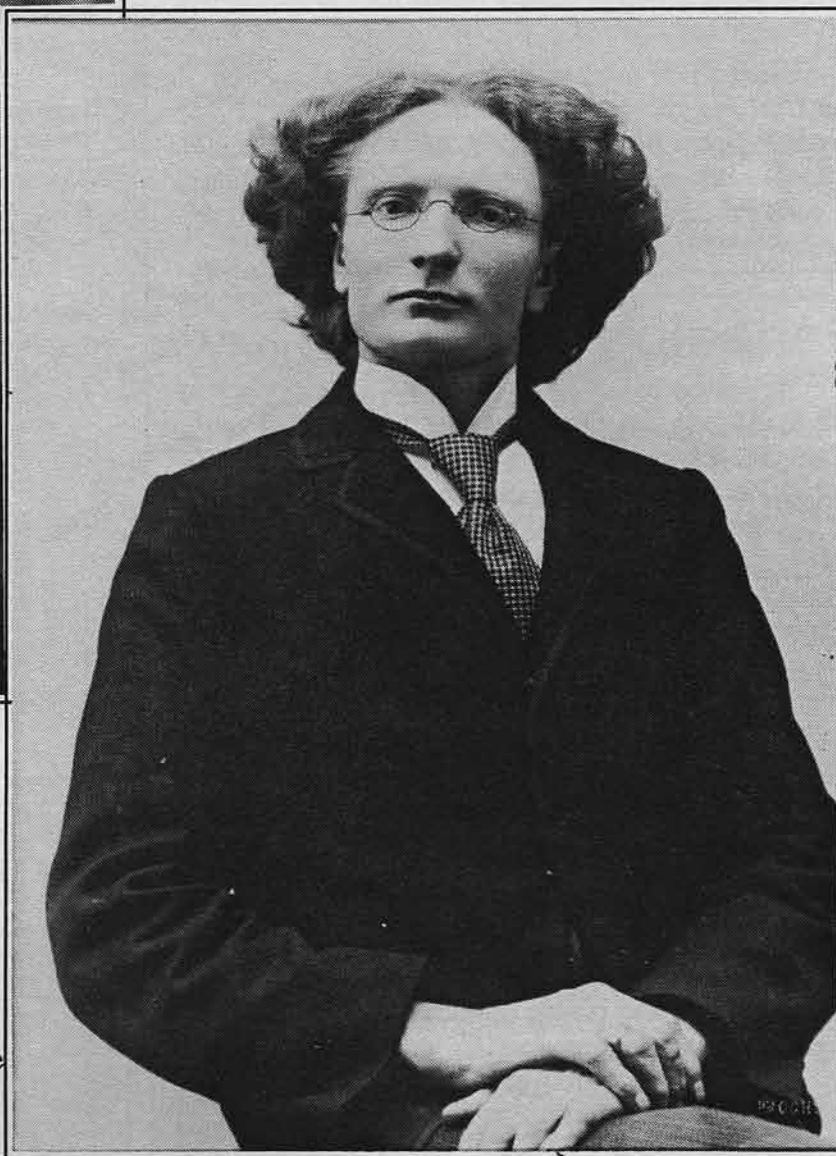
Flaten/Wange Collection

S. P. Wange's greatest contribution to his community was, however, his collection of thousands of glass plate negatives. Unlike today's plastic photographic film, Wange used glass sheets factory-coated with a gelatin based emulsion containing light sensitive chemicals. He picked up these sensitized plates during trips to Minneapolis. To take a picture, he would load (in his darkroom) a plate into a holder and cover it with a "dark slide" to keep out light. Then, in the studio, he would put the holder into his camera, remove the dark slide, make the exposure, replace the slide and return the plate to the darkroom for processing into a negative.

To make a print, he'd place a piece of light sensitive paper in a frame and lay the negative over the paper. Wange would set the frame in sunlight until the positive image appeared. The image could then be fixed in the darkroom, glued to mounting board and presented to the customer.

Wange was respected by his peers. He received special recognition for his work at conventions in Minneapolis and Fargo.

(Continued on Page 11)



Wange was quite a joker. Shortly after coming to Hawley, the barber/photographer bet a friend \$50 he would not cut his hair for a full year. In the end Wange collected the bet and took this bushy self portrait. Then he cut his own hair.

Flaten/Wange Collection

Barnes & Noble Book Fair set for October 26

Now you can further your enjoyment and education, do some early Christmas shopping, and most important, support CCHS - all at the same time.

On Sunday, Oct. 26 from 2-4 p.m. CCHS is sponsoring a fund raiser at Barnes and Noble in Fargo. Volunteers and Staff will be at the bookstore promoting programs and helping raise money. How can you help? When you purchase your books and gift certificates on that date, use the designated terminal and a percentage of your total price will be donated to our Historical Society.

If you need a new book or want to get a head start on your Christmas shopping, shop on October 26 at Barnes & Noble Bookstore, 1201 42nd St. SW, Fargo. You will get some shopping done and will be assisting our fund raising efforts at the same time. See you there!

Genealogy pox

With the History Tour to the Mayo Clinic coming up in October, this seemed like a good time to reprint information on an incurable disease called "genealogy pox." Although there is no known cure, it is seldom fatal, even in the most advanced cases.

Epidemiology: Warning! Mature adults are usually susceptible.

Symptoms: Chronic compulsion to search for names, dates and places. Patient has blank expression, sometimes utterly ignoring spouse and children. Perceived to have no desire for work of any kind, except feverishly looking through records at libraries and courthouses. Has an irresistible urge to write letters. Swears at the mailman when he doesn't leave mail. Often frequents such strange places as cemeteries, ruins and remote, desolate country areas. Makes secret early morning and/or weekend telephone calls. Hides phone bill from spouse. Mumbles to self. Has strange, faraway look in the eyes.

Prognosis: Guarded. There is no known cure.

Treatment: Medication is useless. Disease is not fatal, however, but gets progressively worse. Patient should attend genealogical workshops, subscribe to genealogical magazines and be given a quiet corner in

the house where he or she can be alone and not be disturbed.

***Patient is Harmless.** Is almost never violent. However, when you tell him [or her] everything you know, they will always want more.

Warning? Disease is not contagious, however, patient would like to inflict everyone, particularly distant cousins, aunts and uncles.

Remarks: The usual nature of the disease is....the sicker the patient gets, the more he enjoys it.

(Reprinted from the Anoka County Genealogical Society Newsletter, Jan/Feb 1991 Vol. 13, No.1.)

Calendar of Events

- Sept. 24 CCHS Board Meeting at Hjemkomst Center
- Oct. 9-10 History Tour to Rochester/Northfield
(See details Pages 5 and 15)
- Oct. 22 CCHS Board Meeting at Hjemkomst Center
- Oct. 26 Barnes & Noble Book Fair
(See details this page.)
- Dec. 7 CCHS Christmas Open House
with 1880s replica Quilt drawing



Norwegian Culture series



A 4-week lecture series on Norwegian culture by Rev. Soren S. Urberg is being sponsored by Lutheran Brotherhood Lake Agassiz Branch #8420 and Lutheran Brotherhood East Clay County Branch #8431. The

Thursday presentations on Sept. 25, and Oct. 2, 9 and 16 at the Hjemkomst Heritage Interpretive Center, 202 1st Ave. N. Moorhead, begin at 7 p.m. The series is free and open to the public.

The schedule includes:

Sept. 25: "The Norwegian Folk Tale," an introduction to the Asbjornsen and Moe collection.

Oct. 2: "How Ole Olsen Got His Name," on the traditional naming procedure practiced in Norway.

Oct. 9: "The Kensington controversy," a review of the pros and cons in light of a recent study.

Oct. 16: "Religion in Pre-Christian Norway," an introduction to Norse mythology.

Rev. Urberg has a background in Scandinavian studies. He is a charter member and first president of the North American Knattleikr Association and a founder and charter member of the Tre Elver Sons of Norway group in Fort Wayne, IN.

Rev. Urberg has given presentations concerning Norwegian literature, culture and history, including the pre-Columbian presence of Norsemen in North America and the runic calendrical cryptography associated studies at the American Institute for Scandinavian Educators and Decorah's famed, Nordic Fest. He has many published works.

For more information call Twilia Bjerke Evans, Lutheran Brotherhood Branch advisor at 218-483-4448.

Monetary Donations

July/August 1997

Violle Warner, Fargo ND
Esther Olson, Moorhead
El Zagal Temple, Fargo
Ione Diiro, Moorhead
Galen & Sharon Vaa, Moorhead
Hawley Firemen's Relief Ass'n,
Hawley (for painting school)
Margaret & Richard Reed, Mhd
Virginia Klenk, Moorhead



Labor Day - a day of rest Thanks to Mr. McGuire!

America's Labor Day holiday originated during the widespread worker unrest of the early 1880s. Peter J. McGuire, an Irish-American carpenter, began working as a young boy. In 1882, while president of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, he went to the Central Labor Union and proposed a worker's holiday that would applaud "the industrial spirit - the great vital force of every nation."

On September 5, 1882, 10,000 workers walked off the job to march from Union Square up 5th Avenue to 42nd Street in New York City. The solidity of the workers was not missed by the capitalists of the day and the one day holiday probably seemed like a bargain compared to paying higher wages.

By 1893, 30 states had made Labor Day an annual holiday and in 1894 an Act of Congress made it an official holiday for federal employees.

Wange (Continued from Page 9)

In 1941 he received a citation for being the oldest active photographer in Minnesota, North Dakota and Montana. He continued to work until 1947.

Through his work, S. P. Wange captured for future generations a record of the changing face and faces of Hawley in a way no words can. CCHS's Wange collection stands as both a testament to a long life of careful work and also an important reference source for over fifty years of a community's history.

For more information about the Wange negatives, contact Mark Peihl at the CCHS Archives.

When does the next century start??

We are waiting for the turn of the century, but there seems to be some confusion as to when it actually will occur. The same confusion occurs every 100 years. Parade Magazine, Jan. 2, 1994, explains it all quite clearly. Since the first century consisted of the year A.D. 1 through 100, the 200th century consists of the years A.D. 1901 through 2000, ending on December 31, 2000. So the next century, the 21st century, begins on January 1, 2001. It is imperative that genealogists stop writing dates such as 4/5/94. In the future will someone know whether that is 1894 or 1994?

(From Crow Wing Co. Gen. Newsletter, Winter 1994.)

CLAY COUNTY MUSEUM

features

"How about that weather?"

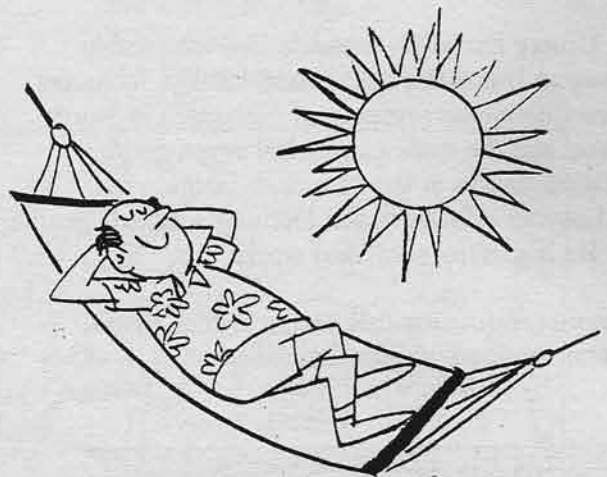
★ Feb. 23, 1997 - Jan 31, 1998

--- Free Admission ---

What is unique about Clay County weather? How do folks cope with our weather extremes - both hot and cold? How do we predict weather?

Our weather exhibit will try to answer these and many more questions.

Several hands-on activities in this major new exhibit.



PERMANENT EXHIBIT includes unique characterizations of one facet of the history of towns in the county. Together they form a chapter in the overall history of Clay County.

Hours are: 9-5 Mon.-Sat., 9-9 Thurs. 12-5 Sun.
Lower level of Hjemkomst Center, 202 1st Ave. N., Mhd. - FREE ADMISSION

Rollag School gets fresh coat of paint

The Dist. #3 School just east of Rollag looks fresh and bright in its new coat of paint. The purchase of the paint and UV film (see LDS article on Page 7) was made possible by a grant from Lutheran Brotherhood East Clay County Branch Board, No. 8431, courtesy of Joan Grefsrud. Thanks to Bette Haring of Lake Park who was instrumental in securing funding towards the labor through the Hawley Firemen's Relief Association.



Music (Continued from Page 3)

The Ulen centennial book's entry for Knute states, "He was well known for his skill at playing the eight stringed Hardanger violin. He never had any lessons, but he was known as the best violin player in the country."

Information on the back of the photo postcard reads, "Knute played on this violin at our wedding April 24, 1920." According to Clara Thompson, her mother (Mrs. A.K. Findalen) and Knute were cousins.

If you know of any tape or reel-to-reel of Knute Syversen playing his Hardanger violin please contact Clay County Historical Society c/o Pam, Box 501, Moorhead, MN 56561-0501 or call 1-218-233-4604.

*How about
that weather?*

Commemorative
Rain Gauge

Available at
CCHS Office

Get yours now!!

CCHS BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS

Thank You to the following businesses and organizations for their support!!!

PATRON (\$200 - \$499)

Case Corporation, Fargo

SUSTAINING MEMBERS (\$100 to \$199)

City of Hawley, Hawley

Dilworth/Glyndon/Felton Schools

Fargo Forum, Fargo

First National Bank, Hawley

Fisher Farms, Glyndon

Hawley Public Schools

Korsmo Funeral Service, Moorhead

Moorhead Area Retired Educators Asso.

Northern School Supply Co., Fargo

Rapat Corporation, Hawley

Sellin Brothers, Hawley

SUPPORTING MEMBER (\$50 to \$99)

Bentley & Bentley, DDS, Hawley

Michael J. Burns Architects, Moorhead

Cass-Clay Creamery, Inc., Fargo

City of Barnesville, Barnesville

Coast to Coast, Moorhead

SUPPORTING MEMBER (\$50 to \$99) Cont.

Dilworth Wal-Mart, Dilworth

Fevig Oil Company Inc., Felton

F-M Printing, Moorhead

Gjevre, McLarnan, Hannaher, Vaa, Skatvold

& McLarnan, Attorneys, Mhd

Gunhus, Grinnell, Klinger, Swenson

and Guy, Ltd, Moorhead

Hannaher's Inc., Moorhead

Hornbachers Foods, Moorhead

Kirk's Super America, Hawley

Mid-Day Lions, Moorhead

Moorhead Trader & Trapper Inc., Mhd

Norwest Bank MN, West N.A., Mhd

Petermann Seed Farm, Hawley

State Bank of Hawley, Hawley

State Bank of Moorhead, Moorhead

Tenneco Packaging, Moorhead

United Electric Serv. & Supply, Inc, Fgo

Wahl Drug Store/Gift Shop, Hawley

Ward Muscatell Auto, Moorhead

Wright Funeral Home, Moorhead

Replica 1880s Log Cabin Quilt Raffle Drawing set for Christmas Open House, December 7

Back in the 1880s Margaret (Mrs. Warren) Onan (1819-1904) started a pleated log cabin quilt in Moorhead. Later she moved to Ransom County ND where she continued to work on the quilt, all hand-sewn. The quilt is put together in what is known as a straight furrow log cabin design. In 1936 the quilt was presented to CCHS by Maud Griffith.

Over one hundred years after Mrs. Onan made her quilt, a replica of it is the prize in a raffle sponsored

by Clay County Historical Society. The quilt drawing will be held on December 7 at the CCHS Christmas open house, just in time for Christmas giving.... or you could decide to keep it yourself. Raffle tickets are \$1 each and can be purchased from the CCHS Office or from any CCHS Board or Staff member.

Get your tickets soon!!



CCHS Memberships - New and Renewals

July/August 1997

CCHS extends a very special thank you to the following individuals who have renewed their membership for another year.

RENEWALS

Diane Haugen, Barnesville
Dana Powers, Rochert
William Prieb, Moorhead
Milton & Ardis Severson, Moorhead
Art & Marie Wenner, Moorhead
Marlene Ames, Fargo
Kent Knutson, Moorhead
Eileen Roberts, Moorhead
Owen & Fern Voxland, Moorhead
Faye B. Wells, VanCouver WA
Esther Olson, Moorhead
Arthur Nix, Moorhead
Paul & Mardeth Dovre, Moorhead
Pearl Grover, Moorhead
Edgar Peterson, Burbank CA
Ione Diiro, Moorhead
Lloyd Sunde, Moorhead
Galen & Sharon Vaa family, Mhd
Mel Ristvedt, Hawley
Rae P. Haynes, Durango CO
Arvid Thompson, Barnesville
Janet Gorman, Columbia MD
Chris D. Olson, St. Paul
Allen County Public Library, Ft. Wayne NE
Jim Antonen, Moorhead
Aldrich & Meredith Bloomquist, Moorhead
Arnold Ellingson, Fargo
Dorothy Garven, Los Angeles CA
Steven B. Olson, Moorhead
Margaret & Richard Reed, Moorhead
Howard Roos, St. Louis MO
Tim McLarnan, Moorhead
Fran Underberg, Breckenridge
Donald & Naomi Rice, Moorhead
Allen Ohrt, Fargo
Lawrence L. Kava, Barnesville
Polly Ames, Fargo
Justine M. Kingham, London U.K.

Anna Marie Larson, St. Joseph
Collin Peterson, Wash. DC
Helen Glawe, Barnesville
Sara Lee Cook, St. Paul
Donna Merchant, Minneapolis
John Haugland, Park Rapids
John Jenkins, Moorhead
Thelma Gylten, Halstad

The 1997 Lutheran Brotherhood Lake Agassiz Branch 8430 Matching Fund Membership Drive brought an abundance of new members, especially in August. We are grateful to Lutheran Brotherhood and wish to welcome these new members for joining at this opportune time.

NEW MEMBERS

Donna Knutson, Moorhead
Roberta Radfor, Moorhead
Sanford Steen, Moorhead
Cheryl Abelman, Moorhead
Clyde E. Allen, Jr., Moorhead
Neil & Polly Hanson family, Glyndon
Ruth Hanson, Moorhead
Mrs. Archie Tanner, Glyndon
Virginia Klenk, Moorhead
Neil H. Larson, Harwood
Jeanette Longtine, Moorhead
Larry Nordick, Moorhead
Terril Ann Pederson, Moorhead
Loretta Ramstad, Hawley
John Rowell/Bev Lake family, Moorhead
Dan Schalek family, Moorhead
Lois Selberg, Moorhead
Paul Skatvold, Moorhead
Mildred Treumann, Fargo
Shelda Warren, Moorhead
Phyllis Wirries, Moorhead
Tammy & Mike Bevins, Moorhead
Sharon Doeden, Moorhead

Clayton Jacobson, Perley
Bart Reiersen, Gardener ND
Don Reiersen, Gardner ND
Mae E. Ellingson, Moorhead
Paul & Joyce Eidbo, Moorhead
Lois Bekkerud, Glyndon
Ona May Brunsvold, Moorhead
Gail & James Jordahl, Moorhead
Anna E. Schneider, Moorhead
C. Diane Wray Williams, Moorhead
Stuart K. Heald, Moorhead
Janice Herr, Moorhead
Donna Dosland, Fargo
Andre Hougum, Moorhead
Emily Hougum, Moorhead
Roland & Carolyn Barden, Moorhead
Kathleen Enzkinken, Moorhead
Pat Lynde Hemmah, Glyndon
Robert Loeffler, Moorhead
James B. Ross, Moorhead
Shirley Lontz/Steve Slabik family, Mhd
Sherry & Tom Watt, Glyndon
Maxine Workman, Borup
Ardee & Eunice Johnson, Moorhead
Karen Schneider, Moorhead
Doug & Nancy Staiger, Moorhead
Clare Degerness, Moorhead
Rev. Roland Saethre, Moorhead
James Nicolai, Moorhead
Howard & Ruth Wagner, Moorhead
Elaine Skatrud, Moorhead
John Eidsness, Moorhead
Sam Rikhus, Ulen
M/M William Miller, Ulen
Adeline Corwin, Ulen
Burton J. Cahill, Moorhead
Robert & Selma Anderson, Moorhead
Lorraine Bundy, Moorhead
John & Nadine Glas, Moorhead
Nancy (Eagle) Loy, Moorhead
Kathryn Matthees, Moorhead
Harlan Rude, Moorhead
Twilia Evans, Ulen
Karen Fevig, Ulen
David S. Lindell, Moorhead
Corla Paulson, Moorhead

CCHS Fall History Tour

Highlights will include the
**Mayo Clinic,
& Mayowood Mansion**
at Rochester, and



to
**Northfield and
Rochester**



*Mayowood Mansion, home of Drs.
Charles H. and Charles W. Mayo.*

**St. Olaf College,
and Northfield Bank**
(site of the Jesse James bank raid)
at Northfield

-- Plus other Sites --

**Thursday/Friday
Oct. 9 & 10**

(See Page 5 for details)

You must be a CCHS Member to join us.
Individual Memberships are just \$15.
Join now by calling 233-4604!!

\$120

includes all site fees
bus fare, motel & four meals.

Registration Deadline is: Friday, Oct 3

For more information and/or to register

Call 233-4604

Clay County Historical Society, Box 501, Moorhead, MN 565601

CCHS Business Membership

- ☐ . \$ 50 to \$99 . Supporting Member
- ☐ . \$ 100 to \$199 Sustaining Member
- ☐ . \$ 200 to \$499 Patron
- ☐ . \$ 500 and up . Major Exhibit Sponsor

As a CCHS Business Member you will receive all benefits of an individual membership plus a certificate ready to frame and display, extra complimentary passes to the Hjemkomst Center's exhibits and a listing in all CCHS bi-monthly Newsletters. To become a CCHS Business Member please return this form or a facsimile to CCHS, Box 501, Moorhead, MN 56561-0501 or call 233-4604.

Business: _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

CCHS - 1997 Membership

I would like to become a member of Clay County Historical Society.

- ☐ INDIVIDUAL \$15.00 ☐ FAMILY \$35.00 ☐ Donation

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| * Support preservation of our heritage | * Discount on Photo Reproduction |
| * Bi-monthly newsletter | * Voting Privileges |
| * Discount on Acid-Free Materials | * Invitation to all CCHS events |
| * FREE Admission to Clay County Museum & Archives and two complimentary passes to the Center's Exhibits | |

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 494
MOORHEAD, MN

CLAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



202 1ST AVENUE NORTH

P.O. BOX 501

MOORHEAD, MINNESOTA 56561-0501

Address Correction Requested