NORTH DAKOTA STATE UBRARY Bismarck, N. D. 58505

> Berwick Memories 1911 - 1960



July 2 - 3, 1977

July 26, 1911
Presented to the State Library
by the Berwick School Reunion
Committee.

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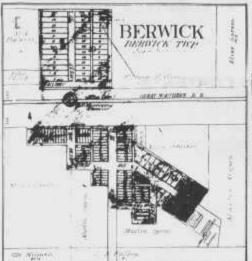
Berwick memories, 1911-1960.

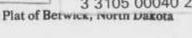
## NORTH DAKOTA STATE LIBRARY BISMARCK 58505



## NORTH DAKOTA BOOK OR AUTHOR













(Looking North)

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#### DEDICATION

To The Memory Of The Pioneers Of
The Berwick Community And Their Sons And
Daughters Who Have Continued & Advanced
The Good Work Done By Their Parents. Also
To The School Officers And Teachers For
Their Efforts In Advancing The Ideals Of
Education In The Berwick School District.

#### **TEACHER TRIBUTES**



MR. OLIVER FINSTAD who brought educational standards up to a high degree. His work, devotion, and enthusiasm were an inspiration to all.





EDNA FYLKEN (Mrs. A.V. Erickson) & VIVIAN GROVE (Mrs. Darwin Kinney) for their many years of teaching in the Berwick School and for their efforts in advancing the ideals of education.

#### HISTORY OF BERWICK

This article is based on information found in the following: HISTORY OF BERWICK, by Milo Bryn; A Column in the MINOT DAILY NEWS, by Leonard Lund; Early Editions or issues of THE BERWICK POST.

Also letters from or interviews with those who were in a position to know Berwick in the early years of its' existence.

"A happy home. Have one of your own in Berwick, the new town in eastern McHenry County on the main line of the Great Northern Railway, offers the best of opportunities in the west for all classes of business. Berwick is situated in the best flax growing country in the world. Finest No. 1 hard wheat land. Splendid horse, cattle, and sheep country and plenty of nutricious grass. The surrounding country is settled by live, energetic, prosperous farmers—many of them are well to do. If you want to leave an old place and come to a brand new town—come now before all the best locations are taken. For prices or further information, call on or write to E.E. Greene, Townsite owner, Berwick, N.D."

This ad, wrote Milo Bryn in his HISTORY OF BERWICK, was taken from "THE BERWICK POST", June issue, 1901. The Great Northern Railroad had extended its line from Devils Lake to four miles west of Minot. The first permanent building on the Berwick townsite was the section house built in 1897. Thirty

years later it was sold to Jack Haman who moved it to his farm.

Elmer E. Greene bought the townsite property of Berwick from Henry Erickson of Towner in April, 1899 for \$800.00 and in the June 1901 issue of "The Berwick Post" the above ad appeared. The settlement of Berwick had already begun. Pat Morrissey constructed the first elevator. Mary Baldwin, who later married Pat Morrisey, erected her general store in Berwick. A St. Hilaire Lumber Co. was established. Elmer Greene and Ole Gilbertson built their hardware store.

The ad brought results. Only a matter of months before the Berwick State Bank was opened with A.M. Iverson, president; T.N. Fylken, vice president; and Ed Nelson, cashier. This bank building was on the opposite side of the street from where the town hall now stands. In 1904 the bank had a paid up capital of \$10,000. The building itself cost \$4000.00 to erect.

George Jundt and Nels Jacobson built a general store across the street from the Morrissey elevator. The building was later bought by Frank Sitter and moved

to the corner by the Highway.

In 1906 a creamery was established with stockholders being: Iver Orvedal, T.N. Fylken, O.A. Rue, M.A. Halseth, Thor Teigen, George Jundt, Ole Bryn, Louis Ebel, and Hans Fedje. It was built on a corner of Ole Tweeten's property, on what now belongs to John and Mary Volk. Creamery must have folded after 1907.

An A.K. Lee erected a building in Berwick which he used as a store for five years. One morning in February, his clerk, John Stauss, found the store locked when he came to work. Upon opening the store and entering the back room, he found Mr. Lee frozen to death.

In 1906, Chris Fedje and Nels Tweet purchased the Lee store. Later Tweet opened a store in Tunbridge and Mr. Fedje continued to operate the store alone until he was killed when struck by a train in 1933. Mrs. Fedje operated the store from then on until it was destroyed by fire in 1942.

Elmer Greene sold his store to M.A. Halseth of Cando in 1902. Mr. Halseth

continued to operate it as a grocery store until he moved to Minot.

Martin Oppen built a store in 1907, the first of the famous line of Oppen's Grocery Stores, 8 in North Dakota and 1 in California. In 1923, he sold it to Peter Johner and Casper Johner. Pete Johner died in 1930 and Casper sold his share to Elmer Halseth. The store was now known as Johner and Halseth. After the building burned, Elmer bought and moved in a store from Barton. He continued here with the grocery line until he closed the store in 1965 and retired.

Martin Oppen and Oscar Hilmen built a hardware store in 1902. Later, Oppen sold to the Arnold Bros. Then Hilmen bought out Arnold and continued to oper-

ate the store until he died in 1959.

Thorvald Fylken built a hardware store in 1906 (south of Hilmen's store) and operated this store until 1915. This building also housed the Knoll Drugstore but was destroyed by fire in 1915. Knoll then moved his drug business across the street to the former Berwick State Bank building.

Louis Ebel built an Implement Shop in 1902. In 1910 he sold it to Otto Aubol, and Ole Bryn. Aubol sold to Pete Teigen. After a few years operation, the build-

ing was sold to Oscar Hilmen who moved it to his farm south of Berwick.

There was also another implement firm under the name of Rasmus Folden and Henry Erickson. Years later this business was operated by Nick Schafer, Charlie Knudson, and Ole Bryn. Mr. Schafer bought out his partners. Years later it was sold to Jack Haman who moved it to his farm and used it as a barn.

It seems there used to be three lumber yards. The first one was St. Hilaire Retail Lumber Co. which later became the Imperial Lumber Co. Then there was the Atlas Lumber Co. which was sold to Ole Torgerson in 1910. Torgerson owned

about five lumber yards, four of them in neighboring towns.

The Citizens State Bank was organized in 1906 by Henry Paul, C.D. Rice, Louis Ebel, and A.A. Hanson with Louis Ebel as cashier. They built a brick building which is still standing. Two years later this bank sold out to the Berwick State Bank which then moved into the brick building. In 1934 Berwick State Bank sold to the Citizens State Bank of Rugby.

Did you know that at one time there were six elevators operating in Berwick? Some say there were seven. There was the Heising Elevator which later became the St. Anthony & Dakota, the Acme Elevator, Berwick Farmers Elevator, Arnold Bros. Elevator, Foss Elevator, and the Morrissey Elevator. Most of them burned or were moved away so only part of one remains today and that is owned by Warner Knudson but is not open for business. Berwick had a large area to draw from for its' grain market--extending south for forty miles. Often one could see 30 to 40 wagonloads in line waiting to get into the elevators. Construction by the Soo Line Railway of a railroad about twenty miles south of Berwick cut deeply into this market.

Several doctors lived in Berwick but outside of Dr. Steeves who came to Berwick in 1905 and stayed until 1915, the periods of stay by the others were brief. Dr. Nap Chagnon came in 1902. Dr. Phelps was there in 1904 but left before Dr. Steeves arrived.

There probably was need for a doctor once in a while at least, as Berwick had some wild times too in those early years-gambling, bootlegging, and fights over a keg of beer.

Quoting from Milo Bryn's account: "This is taken from TOWNER NEWS AND STOCKMAN".

'A little shooting affray at Berwick on Wednesday between J. Gallagher, a merchant, and Wm. Mitchell, foreman for the BERWICK POST, resulted luckily in nobody getting hurt. The difficulty arose over the possession of a room in the rear of the printing office which Gallagher claimed he had rented. It resulted in Mitchell slapping Gallagher when the latter drew his gun and fired three shots, one shot lodging in the heel of Mitchell's shoe. Mitchell then ran to the printing office and produced his own gun and fired at Gallagher's retreating figure. The report state: he was wounded in the side, as Mrs. Gallagher produced a 38 calibre bullet she claims was extracted from his side, but it was generally known that Mitchell used a 45 calibre."

Then under "Local Happenings" in an April issue published in 1905 of THE

BERWICK POST (courtesy of Claude Oppen) was this item:

"Several blind piggers came to grief at Granville on Saturday".

Seems like these incidents created excitement but no serious injury-just a

part of Berwick's early history.

The two religions that most of the early Berwick pioneers belonged to were Lutheranism and Roman Catholicism. A Roman Catholic Church was never built at Berwick. There were times during the winter when Mass would be held in the Morrissey store but most Catholics would go to either Towner or Rugby.

Two Lutheran congregations, however, did build in Berwick. One was the Berwick Lutheran Free Church and the other was Trinity Lutheran Church. (Information here was taken from the Golden Jubilee edition of the PIERCE COUNTY TRIBUNE, June 18, 1936, Courtesy of Mrs. Elaine Kraft).

The Berwick Lutheran Free Church congregation was organized by Rev. G.U. Peterson who served from Minot. Services were held in any place convenient. In 1900 the congregation decided to build their own church and it was completed in 1902. In 1940 the structure was raised from its foundation and a basement was constructed. The Ladies' Aid was organized around 1900.

Early officers of the church were: Ole Rue, Elias Larson, Ole Bryn, Christian Hageseth, Ole Hanson, Lauritz Larvick, M.T. Aubol, Herman Haugen, Evan

Rue and Ole Hielle.

It is presently being served by Pastor Gerald C. White from Rugby. Its' mem-

bership is very active in all departments of the church.

Trinity Lutheran Church congregation was organized in 1899 by Rev. O.L. Brevig of Leeds. It was sometimes called the Valders Lutheran congregation as so many of its members were from Valders, Wisconsin.

Charter members of the church were: Martin Oppen, Ole Torgerson, Tom

Oppen, Oscar Hilmen, Ed Fylken and Chris Fedje.

The church building was started in 1910 but was not completed until 1932.

Rev. R.T. Wanberg from Towner took charge as pastor in 1919 and continued to serve until the church was disbanded in 1973.

Although the members were few in number, they were a lively group and supported many activities such as Sunday School, Ladies' Aid, and Luther League. The annual Lutefisk Suppers served by the men of the congregation were well attended by people from far and wide.

Mail was first delivered to the Berwick community about 1885. The mail was sent from Devils Lake (end of railroad at that time) to Minnewaukan by steam-

boat. From here it was picked up by carrier who had a fast team of horses. The mail for Berwick was left at Newport (southwest of Towner) and was taken to the Hans Oium farm (north of Towner). The early settlers would go to the

Oium farm and pick up their mail.

The first post office for Berwick was established in Jan., 1900 with Elmer Greene as postmaster and the office was in his store. Before that, however, mail for Berwick was dropped off at the James Cock's sod house which was on the Berwick townsite. This was in 1890 and lasted 3 years. The last postmaster for Berwick was Mrs. Eileen Ebell. Mail for Berwick is now handled by rural delivery from Towner.

THE BERWICK POST, edited by A.C. Sleight, sent out its first issue in June., 1901. Other publishers were Richard Leppla and H.R. Young. The subscription rate was \$1.50 per year and it was published every Saturday at Berwick. At one

time the paper had over 400 subscribers.

Martin Evenson was a barber in Berwick for many years. He had his barber shop in a building next to one of the two hotels that were run by Otto Finneman. Mr. Evenson later moved to Minot.

Ed Larson was a blacksmith in Berwick for quite a few years. He later moved to a farm north of Berwick.

Can you believe that Berwick also had an 18 piece town band? It did and in the band were: Herb Arnold playing violin, Lyle Arnold (son) playing a horn, Madge Arnold (daughter) playing piano, Casper Johner and Walter Ebell, slide trombone.

In latter years the Berwick community plays were well received and attracted

a lot of people.

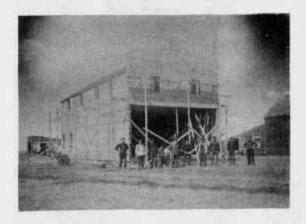
Time is gradually erasing Berwick - not many are left. The town that once boasted it had 6 grain elevators, 2 banks, 2 hotels, 3 lumber yards, 3 hardware stores, 4 grocery stores, a drug store, 2 livery barns plus smaller shops like a millinery, and a population of at least 150 is now down to one business, the Brossart Garage, and a half a dozen families.

'Tis Sad!



Knoll - Druggist in Berwick about 1915

### **PICTURES**



Building Hilmen's store



Front part of Hilmen's store



Tin shop part of Hilmen's store



Oscar & Grace Hilmen



Herb & Ida Arnold



Hilmen's & Oppen's seated at table



Oscar Hilmen & son, Chester



Berwick Baseball Team 1915-16

Unknown, Ross Arnold, Leonard Gallagher, Clarence Oppen, Lyle Arnold, Walter Oppen, un known, Ed LaFave, Elmer Oppen



Sled pulled by 4 oxen in front of Berwick State Bank. Ed Nelson, John Fylken, Dr. Steeves, Marlin Pederson, Zarker, Miller



Ross Arnold in Service Uniform



Berwick Band



G.H. Gorder family (former cashier)



Mrs. Elida Halseth



Hallof Hermanson went a courting -Betsy by his side



Mrs. Ole Folden & Girls, Ed Fylken, Iverson & Ole Folden



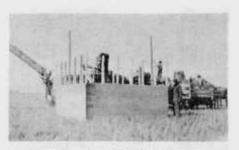
Threshing Rig - Hallof Hermanson & Oscar Larson



Eric Iverson hauling grain



Andrew Folden and his cousin



Thresh, Build & Fill



Ed Fylken & Ole Folden on Grain Binders in 1915



Mr. & Mrs. C.A. Aafedt (Grain Buyer)



Jack Krause - Hobby of Building Small Wagons



Johner & Halseth store 1952



Eikeness Garage '52



Morrissey Elevator



Hilmen's Our Own Hardware '52



Farmers Union Elevator '52



Brossart Garage '52



Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Grove (Elevator Manager)



Jack Haman family



\*Bolts & Nuts\* Community Play Cast - 1955. L. to R. Back Row-- Orris Haugen, Carleton Haman, Eileen & Louis Ebell & Finstad. 2nd Row--Wendell Holmes, Vivian Grove, Doris Smith, Ethel Knudson, Pearl Teigen, Midge McGregor. Front Row--Virgil Jaeger & Leonard Black.

### CHURCHES SERVING THE BERWICK COMMUNITY



Free Lutheran, Berwick



Trinity Lutheran, Berwick



St. Cecilia, Towner



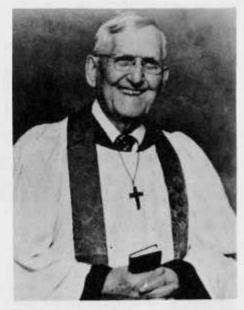
St. Anselm's, Berwick



Vacation Bible School 1907-1908



Confirmation Class of 1926



Rev. R.T. Wanberg 1919-1960 Trinity Lutheran Church



Rev. Berntson Berwick Lutheran Church



Father Filteau St. Cecilia's Catholic Church



Elevator burning at Berwick



August Reiter



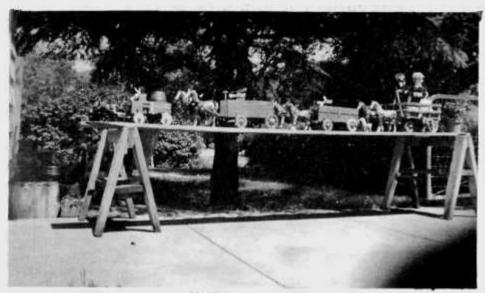
Men serving Lutefisk Supper at Trinity Lutheran Church



Old cars ready to go to a picnic at the Mouse River in 1914



Olena Larson on her 80th Birthday



Miniature Wagons by Jack Krause

Dirchday Greelings Myrtle Drene Tarson, Trom Mather,

Beautiful Handwriting of Olena Larson

#### ADS FROM THE BERWICK POST

May 13, 1905 Issue

#### BERWICK POST.

MICHARD V. LEPPLA, Publisher

Assistance prior, \$1200 year, traditions.

Entered at the peak office of fevering N. Mr. .

Patel from every Farmings at Berwick, 35 Decry county, North Danota.

Anti-armine Have-arregis or him Carle column for motion because position of each research.

Flow you then appreciate — We have to decrease by here by subscriber on how had who here not appreciate the very time below of the paper. We say no the auto-riber to notify as when-

Free he earle to slope.
The prime will be continued until
our red support by the enbergeter himself. At healt subscription to data
next the paid when the paper? Magi-

BULLS COLLECTED MORTHLY

#### Our Clubbing List

In passection with the Berwick Post we over to paid-te-advance unharribers loow or old) the following publications:

The Post and Minreopolis
Daily News, One Your.... \$2.00

The Post and Thrico-a-Week N. Y. World, ude year ...... 82.00

The Post and Wessen's Home

The Post and Weekly St. Paul Dispatch one year .............. 1.50

Besides the above we have secural wore liberal clubbing offers. Now is the three to secure your winter's reading matter logether with your beams paper at the possibly journet figures.





## McCORMICK Binders and Mowers

Are guaranteed to do the work under all conditions. Use no other.

I also handle a Line of Steel Ranges and am ugent for the "Omeega" Gream Seperator.

LOUIS EBEL

988888888888**88888** 

H. W. ARNOLD.

II. J. AHNOLD

## Arnold Bros.

REFERANCE OPERWICK STATE DANK

Dealers in Grain and Seed, Feed, Coal and Wood-

Berwick, North Dakota.

## **♦** BERWICK STATE BANK ♦

Berwick, North Dakota.

INCORPORATED.

Paid up Capital \$10,000.00.

Greneral Banking Businessig

Lands, Loans and Insurance.

A IS IVERSON. President

T. N. EYLKEN. Pice President.

EDSI: IED NELSON, Coshier.

# Oppen & Hilmen,

**2和异国际政策的政策政策政策政策政策政策政策政策** 

ARE HEADQUARTERS FOR

Hardware, Stoves, Nails, Tiuware, Ranges, Barb Wire,

Picture Framing, Harness, Iron Beds, Pumps,

White Sewing Machines,

Paints.

GIVE US A CALL WHEN AT

BERWICK

**地域在外域的现在形式的现在形式的现在分词的现在分词的** 

# Mew Spring Goods



O'll Spring Goods have just arrived. The showing is one of the most attractive and near-representing both the intestistyles and colors. Read this announcement over carefully and see if those is nessomething in the following that you will want.

## Ladies', Wear

New Dress Goods—patterns for spring and summer wear. Shirt Waists, Belts, Gloves, Rtc.

### Men's Goods

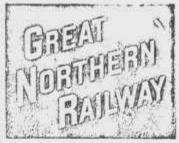
New Line of Pancy Dress Shirts, Neck Wene, Laupher Hats and most up-todate line of Shees.

## A fine Line of Ready Made Clothing

Nundt & Nacobson,

BERWICK,

The Real State Control of the State State Control of the State Sta



### SHORT ROUTE FAST TIME

-T()-

# All Points - in the NORTHWEST

AND OW THE

### PACIFIC COAST.

TIME TABLE.

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† Monday, Wednesday & Friday.



U. S. Commis oner.

He loans money on final proofs—takes proof at Berwick, or on land.

FOR PARTICULARS.

#### Why Suffer From Rheumatism?

Why suffer from rhoumatism when one application of Chamberlain's Pair Balm will relieve the pain? The quick rulled which this liniment affords makes rest and alcop possible, and that alone is wor a many times its cost.

Many who have used it hoping only for a short relief from suffering have been happily suprised to fled that after awhile the relief became permanent. Mrs V.H., Leggett of Yum Yum Tennessee, U.S. A., writes, "I am a great sufferer from rheumatism, all over from head to foot, and Chamberlain's Pain Haim is the only thing that will relieve the pain." For sale sy J. S. Milter.

\$2" The Imperial Lumber Yard gpt in a car land of good fence posts which they are selling at reasonable prices.

#### Berwick Market Report.



Norwegians To Celsbrate-

On account of the Norwegian Independence Day Celebration at M nneapolis, the Great Northern will sell tickets to St. Paul or Minneapolis at one and one-third faras for the round trip. Tickets good going on May 16th and 17th, with return limit good until May 19th. Consult local Agent.

#### A Good Family Liniment

Every family should be supplied with a kottle of Chamberlain's Pain Halm. For cuts, bruises, burns, scalds, and similar injuries, which are of frequent occurrence there is nothing so good. It soothes the would and not only gives instant relief from pain, but causes the parts to hea! in about one-thid the time required by the usual treatment. As it is an antisepticall danger from bloodpoisoning is avoided. Sold by J. S. Maller:

Soud Seed Potatoes - 25c. a Bushel. First Class Seed Pointoes for eale at

Martin Oppon.

25c. a bushel.

#### Wetch Lost.

Lost, a silver watch between Turbridge and see: 52-156-74. Finder will please leave at this office and receive suitable reward.

ATTENTION, FARMERS! - The Post will supply you with 100 good envelopes with your return card printed therson for the remarkably low price" of 50 cents-cheaper than you can buy the envelopes alone.

#### Chumberlain's Caugh Ramedy the very Best

"I have been using Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and twant to say it is the best cough -medicine I have ever taken," says Cao.L. Chubb, a murchant of Harlan, Mich. There is no question about its being the best, as it will cure a cough or cold in less time then any other treatment. It should always be kept in the house ready for instant use,

## Martin Evenson

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Barber Shop and Billiard Hell & &

A complete Line of Soft and Carbonated Drinks. Clgars and Tobacco, Fruit, Nuts, Etc. Agent for Grand Forks Steam Laundry.

BERWICK. N. D. 

## 0000000000 E. O. STEEVES

Physician and Surgeon

0000000000

Berwick.

N. D.

## Final Proofs.

Lord tollion at Devtte Lang, N. D., Jan St.

Land then the beyon taken the following-Soften is hereby given that the following-rations were in incoming of our bis resembles to make mind period in manager of less characters that will be made belong W. C. Mellin-land, i. S. Commissioner at the other at English S. Long shart in 1966, visc

MERIARI, RUSEINCH, R. E. No. -

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Lann Ompo at Devils Lake, N. D., January

fig. rock.

Souther in horning given that the f-innering-Softe is borney given that the i-Borney names earlies has died between of his intention of these fluid proof in support of his giving and that said proof with a state before facility research, it. S. Chamberson, at the office in their years with a state of the con-

THORES OFFER, B. E. Se. 1995

has the adjusted now bound and also way use. H. tp. 15d.

the names the following witnesses to prove the community waterner upon and additation of and family set.

Full latinose, John T. Shorley, Alexander Ricc, Celek Revillar, all of Revent N. Dill.

Ok. Schungard, Royletov

# The City Meat Market.

OTTO HILMEN, Prop.

Fresh and Salt Meats.

Oysters, Eish and Game in Season

00



Cash Paid
For Hides...

00

Eggs and Produce taken in Exchange

BERWICK, NORTH DAKOTA.

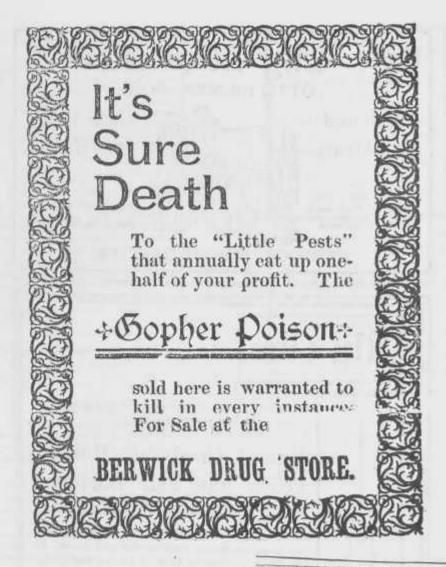
# My Aim

IS to Sarialy my Customers. A satisfied customer is the best advertisement.

## Honest Goods at Honest Prices and Fair Dealings

Is my motto. My Stock of DRY GOOD is all new and up-to-date both in color and fabric. I also have a complete Line of Ladies' and Children's TRIMMED HATS and FOLIAGES, I handle the celebrated NORTH STAR SHOES—the beaton the market—and my GENTS' FURNISHING department is complete. If you want something to cat, remember I handlebothing but best in GROCERIES. In fact, it will pay you come and see my line of goods before buying elsewhere and be convinced that this is the right place for bargains. Vours to satisfy.

The Berwick Bazaar,





22nd ANNUAL CA-TALOG of interesting things for all. Earliess Field and Sweet CORN and Vegetables on earth, Hardiest Fruit and Foundatives.

Extra Packets with every under. Oscar H. Will & Co. Memarck, N. D

#### Taken Up

By the uncorsigned at his place, nine miles southwest of Berwick, N. D. on May 1, 1995, the following described berses: One has politics, branded 5 on left shoulder; on left thigh 3; one roan Pinto, no visible brands, both cars sitt; one brown gelding, four white foet, white star in forchend and white on nose. Branded E on teft hip. Samuel Gorman.

Towner, N D.

# Morman Township.

Be ein Westlar Erbeerpogient.

castego trip.

Erick Raviling is visiting friends in this vininity.

Chels Fedja is making regular and numerous trips to Tunbride. What it the attraction?

Albort Bredahl Is back from Rugh He says Judge Cowan has adjourn cours until blaich 6.

The editor of The Post made as to roc in the heading of last week's our respondence. The name Tuplicided township was changed to Normall by upon petition of the voters.

Mr. and Str., Amin Itale taylinder number of Lieur many friends to their home host extunder evening, for a sociable even or at whist. After which talking over old times was taken up as an amusement among the old folice, while the young people 'whonk their feet." Mr. and Mrs. Bale know how to entartain.

67 Shorts and bran for sale at the mporial Lamber Yard.

## Court House Burned.

Towner Early Tuesat day Morning.

### Andrew Routson is back from the Records Destroyeu.

THE RECORDS OF THE CLERK OF COURT. SUPERINTENDENT AND COUNTY COURT, WERE DESTROYED-FIRE DISCOVER-BY THE JANITOR.

The Mulleary county court house at Towner, was destroyed by fire at an carly hour Tocsday morning. The fire was drut discovered by a man sensitive and the Jone

nor, behind the starrway in the ball, but the flames had gained sugh a headway that nothing could be done to way their progress and ten minutes later the building was in full blaze.

Sheriff Javuager and County Treasneer Walley were sleeping in the shorriff's quarters of the new jail building. and upon below awakened, hurrled to the score, but yere unable to save anything to speak of outside of a couple of typewritors and an automat's addince machine.

The records in the suditor's and treasurer's office were ip fire proof vaulte, and were but slightly dainaged, but those in the clerk of court's, county superintendent's often and of the county court were destroyed.

The building itself burned to the weenend.

The origin of the fire appears to be a mystery The building and contents was insided for \$7900.

# Subscribe for The Most

#### COUNTRY SCHOOLS IN BERWICK TOWNSHIP

Indebted to the following for information: Olena Larson, Mrs. Jennie Gustafson McKellip of Everett, Wash., Oscar Folden of Minot and Eva Kuhn.

One school was first located about three miles north from the Ole Sorenson farm. This school was called the Strand School. Anton Strand, an uncle to Olena

Larson, was the closest neighbor.

According to Mrs. Jennie Gustafson McKellip of Everett, Washington, some of the pupils attending this school in 1897 were: Mabel and Emma Jorgenson; Christine, Henry and Lettie Hanson; Amelia and Albert Hermanson; Amelia, Olga and Melvin Paulson, Ida and Olena Sorenson; Jennie Gustafson & a couple of boys by the name of Taylor.

Olena Larson, who started school here in 1903, remembers her first teacher as being May Wiseman, who later married Albert Hansen, a gardener from

Towner.

School would be in session for three months in the spring, and then again for two or three months in the fall. There weren't too many who finished all eight

grades--some would quit after four to six years of school.

A few years later, the Strand school building was moved to near the Iverson farm. From then on, the school was referred to as the Iverson School. Another way to pinpoint the location would be to say it was 1½ miles west from what is now the Pete Schell farm.

Oscar Folden of Minot wrote that one of the first teachers in this school was a Miss Inanda Gigstad. She filed on a homestead southwest of the Pete Schell farm and taught school while living on the homestead to prove her claim. Other teachers in the school were: Phil Stenseng, Minnie Klokko, A Miss Gerton, and a Miss Sophia Knutson from Wisconsin who later married Dr. E.O. Steeves. Dr. Steeves practiced medicine in Berwick at that time and later moved to Rugby. Then there was an Ida Halstengaard. She married Chris Fedje who was with the Fedie & Tweet General Store in Berwick.

Some of the pupils attending this school were: Jennie, Isabel, Oliver, and Harold Gustafson, Knute, Oliver and Carlis Iverson; Olga, Alvina and Ida Hermanson; Ellen, Oscar, Anne and George Folden; Alice and Mabel Carlson; Alma Fjarli; Olena and Henry Sorenson; Bessie Paulson, who later went on to high school to become a teacher. She taught in Berwick for several years. There were also Barney and Joe Huber, who lived on a farm owned by Thorvald Fylken. Ole Foldens also lived on this farm shortly after they were married.

Leonard Bischoff now lives on the farm.

After bus routes to the school in Berwick were established, there didn't seem to be any further need for this country school, so the building was sold in 1914 to Ole Sorenson, who moved it to his farm where it became a kitchen for his house. Later, the Ole Sorenson farm became the Oscar Larson farm.

The third school was the Norway School located about an eighth of a mile from

the Pete Haman farm.

Some of the teachers were: Christine Jorgenson, Marcella Krause, Susan Burns, Gabriel Tuchscherer, Winona Schiele, George Schafer. Clara Haman, Marion Haman, Stephena Haman and Minnie Olson. The last teacher was Helen Haman.

This writer can remember when she and her friend, Gladys Halseth, were visiting this school when George Schafer was teaching. Being former classmates and Gladys being a natural cut-up, she couldn't resist making faces at the pupils when George wasn't looking. After he had dismissed school for the day, he said he should have kept the kids in and thrown the visitors out.

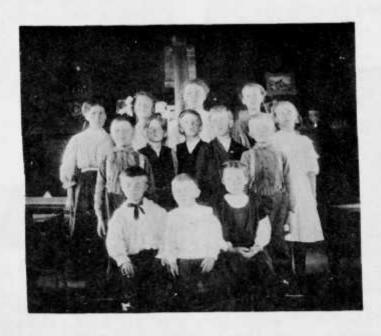
Pupils attending this school included: the Larsons, (Olena went to all three schools in the township), Hamans, Burckhards, Wormsbeckers, Hansons,

Kuntz, Fern Ellingson and the Brandons.

Eva Haman Kuhn, who went all eight years here, remembers the Christmas programs, in particular. They were the big events for the year. The school-house would be packed as people came from miles around.

Finally, there were so few pupils, it was cheaper to bus them into Berwick than run the school. John Jaeger bought the building and moved it to his farm for a

garage.



Inside Iverson School or Gustafson School (Strand School after being moved) District No. 12. Back row: L to R: Olga Hermanson, Isabel Gustafson, Olena Larson, Ellen Folden, Olga Iverson. 2nd Row--L to R: Oliver Gustafson, Carlis Iverson, Henry Sorenson, Oscar Folden, Harold Gustafson. Sitting: Bennie Iverson, Melvin Iverson, Ida Hermanson.



Isabel & Jennie Gustafson



Tillie Iverson Jorgenson



Henry Sorenson



Mrs. Jack Krause



About 1925 - Mrs. Krause, Teacher



Mrs. Andrew Folden, Ellen Folden Mohagen & Oscar Folden



Olena Sorenson, Clara Hermanson Olga Hermanson, Ida Sorenson



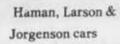
Oscar & Edna Folden of Minot



Mrs. Pete Haman & Beatrice



Back: Arnold & Myrtle Larson, Joe P. Haman. Middle: Phillip Wolf, Clem Haman, Richard Haman, Mary Ann Haman, Billy Haman, Francis Pfiefer, William Burckhard. Front: Beatrice Kuntz, Alice Wormsbecker, Rosemary Or Alice Pfeifer





Muriel Munson - Teacher. Class of 1948.



#### **BERWICK SCHOOL HISTORY**

McHenry County's Twelfth School District

By Mylo Bryn

The date of the organization of the Norway School District No. 12 is uncertain, since the early records of the school district are missing and the records in the office of the McHenry Superintendent of Schools were destroyed in a fire which destroyed the Courthouse in 1905.

There was a schoolhouse on the townsite before 1896. John Koenig was one of the early clerks. School terms were held during the summer, until January, 1902, when the board approved a plan to hold school during the winter months.

Some of the early members of the Norway School District Board include William Kiester, A. K. Lee, George Hunter, Louis Ebell, John Fjarle, Iver Iverson, and James Lockhead.

There was agitation for a new school during the early part of 1913. An election was held to decide whether to post a bond for a new school. The bond was approved by a vote of seventy-one to thirty-three. However, petitions were being circulated for another election a few weeks after the first election.

The earliest records available indicate that the first high school graduate was Miss Madge Arnold who graduated in 1914. The high school will be closed at the close of the 1959-1960 school year. Oliver Finstad has been the principal since 1950. Mr. Finstad has been instrumental in making several improvements in the school. He also spark-plugged the establishment of the PTA chapter in Berwick. Clifford H. Cram, Richard V. Housh, Ludwig A. Waiver, L. B. Ness, Joyce Michaelson, S. Taylor, P. A. McArton, B. A. Ereckson, W. B. Schmidt, Edna M. Fylken, James Lockwood and Virgil Reetz were former principals.

As the result of an election held in June, 1959, the school district became a part of the Newport Special School District. The high school will be consolidated with the Towner High School in September, 1960.

The last Board of Education of the school district consisted of Clifford Knudson, president; John Jaeger, and Adam Kuhn, directors; Mrs. Eunice Sitter, clerk; and Wayne Holmes, treasurer. The faculty during the final year of high school included Oliver Finstad, principal; Robert Myhre, high school, Mrs. Lorraine Regan, Mrs. Eunice Sitter and Mrs. Vivian Kenney, grade school.

#### ADDITIONAL NOTES

Richard Kuhnhenn, a retired machinist who has traveled widely to South America, Europe and Asia, and now lives in Portland, Oregon, sent us a most informative letter. He is a 1917 graduate. Quoting from Dick Kuhnhenn's letter:

"Starting with the 1913-14 term in high school, I lived with my married sister, Mrs. Clarence Taylor, about 4½ miles west of Berwick. (Clarence Taylor is a brother to Smith Taylor who was a professional wrestler as well as a teacher. He is a former principal of Berwick school.) I walked the 9 mile round trip, then my brother-in-law bid in a school bus route and I became a bus driver. (He had some exciting experiences as a bus driver.) During my final year, I worked in Fedje & Tweet store and lived in one of Berwick's two hotels".

For those of you who like a litte bit of history, Clarence Taylor's father was Alex Taylor. Alex Taylor's father lived in Crawfordville, Indiana. He sold and delivered wood to Major General Lee Wallace who was the author of the book, Ben Hur.

Dick Kuhnhenn's first principal was a Ralph Househ from Chicago who introduced basketball to Berwick High. For the next three years he had L. A. Waiver who maintained strict discipline and like he said, "You would expect that from a man whose initials spelled L.A.W."

He went on to say that Berwick had an oustanding basketball team losing only two or three games over a four year period. They played against high school teams, town teams and the State Normal School at Minot. Elmer Halseth remembers this team as including: Lyle Arnold, Leonard Gallagher, Ed LaFave, Walter and Orrin Oppen.

In Kuhnhenn's graduating class of 1917 there were three others besides him-

self. They were: Esther Burr, Walter and Orrin Oppen.

Some of those graduating before him were: Ed and Ethel LaFave, Lyle Arnold,

Jessie Torgerson, Leonard Gallagher, Lillian and Clara Ebel.

Some of his teachers were: Ida Christopherson, a Miss Kofoid, Florence Duncan and a lady who became Mrs. Chas. Blasing of Rugby. Years later the principals included a Miss Lura, Lyla Hoffine, Leonard Orvedal, and Harvey Headen.

Dick Kuhnhenn married a Willow City girl, Miletta Schultz. Her sister, Ruth, was the wife of Dr. L. Serhus, formerly of Rugby.

The Kuhnhenn's have no children.

Elmer Halseth graduated from Berwick High in 1922 and they had a good basketball team then too. They were so good, in fact, that in playing larger high schools they had to be careful not to get into a fight. A larger school does not relish being defeated by a smaller one. One time the Berwick team went by bobsled to Towner to play the Towner High team. Berwick was ahead by at least 20 points in the last quarter, then a fight erupted, so the Berwick coach told his team to get back in the bobsled and they drove back to Berwick without finishing the game. On his team were: Andrew Mitchell, Rochus Keller, Walter Ebel and Elmer and Bill Thorson.

Some of those who went to high school with Claude Oppen were: Lawrence

Aubol, Johnny Rose, Joe Voeller and Elmer Halseth.

The last class to graduate from Berwick High School was in 1960 and they included: Marjorie Jundt, Gloria Walters, Anna Volk, Wallace Ebell and Kenny Schell.



L.A. Waiver - Principal 1915-1920



Alvin Halseth - Student 1912-1915



Miss Slocum - Teacher 1913



Professor - L.A. Waiver, Orrin Oppen, Dick Kunnhenn, Walter Oppen, Walter Ebel, Arthur Fylken, Bill Thoreson



Cram - Principal Feb. 1921



Frances Warmsbecker, Lucy Schafer, Lena Stenberg, Christine Haman. Frances Johner, Milo Knudson, George Walters, Delbert Carpenter, Unknown, Richard Tiffany, Welk. 1921



H.S. Team that beat Minot Normal. Coach-Clarence Oppen 1913-14 Leonard Gallagher, Ed LaFave, Lyle Arnold, Elmer & Walter Oppen



Alpha Rice - Teacher Primary Grades 1918



Edith Dutee, Second Grade Chester Hilmen First 1919 Ethel (Fylken) Knudson - 3rd. (Front)



Bertha & Herman Larson Early 1900's



Inga & Cliff Fedje



Hulda (Larson) Rehbehm 1916



In Service Uniform - France Hulda (Larson) Rehbehm 1918



Leonard Orvedal - Principal 1923-24



Berwick Basketball Team Coach Condie 1924



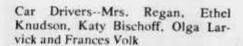
Berwick School - 1926. Teacher-Olive Hillman. Mike Volk, Joe Walter, Fred Welk, John Haman, Peter Bischoff, Art Gregory, Chester Hilmen, Richard Tiffany, Unknown, Bill Tiffany



Hilma Lillehaugen, Mrs. Hilmen, Mrs. Torgrimson, Mrs. Aafedt, Mrs. Fylken, Mrs. McArton, Lola Hutton, Ella Morgan, Mrs. Ebel, Mrs. Fedje, Mrs. Grove, Lillian Haman, Christine Jorgenson



Mrs. Bertha Hagboe, Mrs. Hilmen, Mrs. Aafedt





Lola Hutton - Teacher 1938



Lola Hutton - Teacher 1938





Eunice Sitter - Teacher 1956



1959 Grade Baskethall



Official Cheerleaders Jean Knutson, Ref., Myrna Larvick



8th Grade Graduation 1955



8th Grade Graduation 195



8th Grade Graduation 1954



Virgil Haman, Daniel Bischoff & Clinton Brandon

"Spike" Knudson Band 1954



Freshman Initiation 1954: Richard, Bonnie, Lorraine, Elaine, Helen, Joanne, Ken, Sylvia, Alice, Murdick, Karen and Frances





Freshman Initiation 1952



Skip Day Trip to Badlands 1952: L to R: Virgil Jaeger, Mr. Finstad, Edwin Walter, Leonard Black, Clifford Knudson



Berwick Boys Basketball Team - 1953: Seated: Edwin Walter, Coach Frankie Sitter, Jr., Joe Jundt, Virgil Haman. Standing: Warner Knudson, Virgil Jaeger, Curtis Teigen, Daniel Bischoff



Freshman Initiation 1953



Berwick Girls Basketball Team (1956) District 13 Champions Standing: Bonnie Ebell, Marlys Peterson, Lydia Jaeger, Joanne Peterson, Carol Finstad, Elaine Haugen, Coach, Mrs. Regan. Front: Joline Grove, Helen Voeller, Frances Black, Elaine Walter, Lorraine Kuntz, Sylvia Jaeger



What's Happening?



Relaxing?



Flying?!

SKIP DAY - BISMARCK - 1947



Grades 3-4-5 in 1952

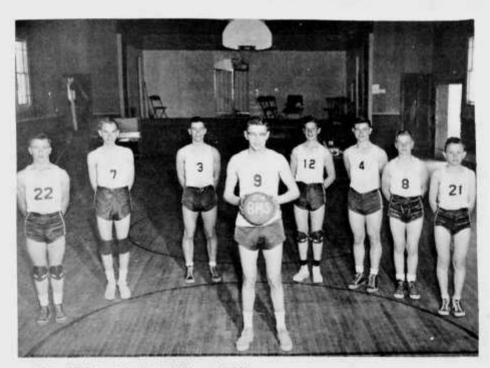
Mrs. Barlow - Teacher



Skip Day Trip to Winnipeg - 1955



"Class of 1" - 1953 Virgil Jaeger



Berwick Boys Basketball Team - 1954 George Jundt, Warner Knudson, Roy Jundt, Johnnie Bachmeier, Edwin Walter, Joe Jundt, Richard Voeller, Victor Schmaltz



Girls Basketball Cheerleaders 1953 Myrna Larvick and Jean Knudson



Teacher - Eileen Wallace Ebell 1931

Howard Haman, Leora Grove, Harriet Califf, Roger Morgan, Daniel Keller, unknown, unknown, Vera Califf, Sitter, Duane Morgan



School Board - 1952: John Jaeger, Louis Ebel, Wendell Holmes, Cliff Knudson



Pete Schell



Adam Haman



Lawrence Volk



Mike Adams



Burnadine Grove



John Johner 1944



1937 Berwick School. Mr. Erickson, Mr. McArton, Principal.



Elsie Brick - Teacher and the first 4 grades - 1943

Does John really have his foot on top of Diane's head? Seems Leon has a crush on Miss Brick!



Donald Vetsch, Paula Vetsch Kraft, Donrose Vetsch Sharkey



Berwick High School Students - 1954



John & Mary (Welk) Arnold & family. Picture taken in 1957. 1928 Grad.

## **BERWICK MEMORIES**

1911 - 1960

July 2 - 3, 1977



Frances Black - 1957



Lynda & Buddy Smith - 1960



Bernie & Denise Odden - 1959



Elmer & Frances Halseth & Grandson, Mark, about 1950



Eldore Evenson Potentate 1969



Halseths - 4 Generations



Mrs. Halseth & Mrs. Johner & Grandson, Mark.



Johnny Brossart & Whopper



Berwick Town Hall



"Dirty Dog" Brossart



Berwick School Reunion Committee

## Teachers In The Berwick School



Teso, Jimmy Ryder, Lela Briggs Oppen About 1922



Lydia Sauer Reider taught upper grades in the twenties

arincipal at Berwich School, 1923 to 1925



Lyla Hoffine, retired head of the English department of Minot State College, is the author of a number of youth books, including Jennie's Mandan Bowl, White Buffalo, Running Elk, Carol Blue Wing, Eagle Feather Prize, all with a North Dakota setting and dealing with North Dakota Indians—Sloux, Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara. Still writing, Miss Hoffine now is living at Tucson, Ariz.



Leonard Orvedal - Principal - 1929-31



Olive Hillman - Taught upper grades 1924-25



Peter A. McArton, Principal 1938 Marge & Robert McArton



Olive & Marie Hillman 1925



Tena Fedje 1932-1937 Taught 7th & 8th



Mrs. Dan Regan - about 1956 6th, 7th & 8th



Lola Hutton, Hilma Lillehaugen, Christine Jorgenson 1938



Lola Hutton



Muriel Berg 1945-48 5th & 6th Grades



Christine Jorgenson, Hilma Lillehaugen, Lola Hutton, Ivan Fosse & Edna Fylken



Mrs. Bertha Oppen - 1958-60 Lower Grades



Mr. & Mrs. Claude Oppen - Owners of Oppen's Grove & Cabins.



Muriel Monson - Teacher. 5th, 6th, 7th & 8th Grades 1948

## **ALUMNI LIST**

We realize this list is not complete as it had to be compiled for press before all registrations and information was received. Some names and addresses were not complete when we received them.

Aafedt, Crystal (Mrs. Evans Pink) Madison, Wisconsin 53700

Aafedt, Marriel

(Mrs. William Kyle)

3418 Spiceland Dr. Boise, Idaho 83704

Aafedt, Prudence

(Mrs. Vern Halvorson)

Bismarck, ND 58501

Aafedt, Sylvia

(Mrs. Kenneth Carlson)

Mayville, ND 58257

Albright, Martha

(Mrs. Vernon Rom)

Denbigh, ND 58732

Aubol, Alpha (Mrs. C.H. Harding) 1312 Silver Ave. S.E. Albuquerque, N. Mex. 87106

Aubol, Herbena

(Mrs. Lester Nygard)

Fargo, ND 58102

Aubol, Margaret

(Mrs. Robert Ruud)

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(Mrs. Mildred Robinson)

341 School Lane Apt. 4 Lake Charles, La. 70601

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Bischoff, Betty C.

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Bischoff, Bill

P.O. 25

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Bischoff, Daniel 9914 Airport Way

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Bischoff, Diane

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Bischoff, Helen (Mrs. Pete Volk) Rugby, ND 58368

Bischoff, Jack Towner, ND 58788

Bischoff, Katie (Mrs. Nat Voeller) 406 E. 3rd Rugby, ND 58368

Bischoff, Lena

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Bischoff, Leonard R.R. Towner, ND 58788

Bischoff, Loretta

(Mrs. Dan Wentz)

1528 Griggs Grafton, ND 58237

Bischoff, Mildred (Mrs. Richard Mapes) 19505 67th St. E. Summer, Wash, 98390 Bischoff, Pauline

(Mrs. Jack Klause)

112 Bryant Ave. S.W. Wadena, Minn. 56482

Bischoff, Peter 412 2nd Ave. E. Rugby, ND 58368

Bischoff, Rebecca

(Mrs. Jack Simonet)

6567 N. 202 St. Forest Lake, Minn. 55025

Bischoff, Theresa (Mrs. Melford Halvorson) Knox, ND 58343

Bischoff, Theresa (Mrs. Richard Neitz) 130 Yonker St.

Barberton, Ohio 44203

Bischoff, Virginia (Mrs. Jim Williams) 366 S. McKnight Rd. Maplewood, Minn. 55119

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Black, Beatrice (Mrs. Leo Schell) 2508 N.W. 5th Minot, ND 58701

Black, Fabian Esmond, ND 58332

Black, Frances (Mrs. William T. Duchscherer) Ballour, ND 58712 Black, Ilene (Mrs. Claytus Mattern) Pleasant Lake, ND 58368

Black, Irene (Mrs. Aloys Dosch) 1813 21st N.E. Auburn, Wash. 98002

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Black, Leo R.R. Towner, ND 58788

Black, Leonard 1135 W. Lawrence Lane Phoenix, Ariz. 85069

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Black, Monica (Mrs. Russell Mills) Box 317 Sitka, Alaska 99835

Black, Regina (Mrs. Chester King) 15409 Los Molinos Hacienda Heights, Calif. 91745 Black, Theresa (Mrs. Dick Gehl) Meadowbrook Estates Minot, ND 58701

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Brandon, Clinton Star Rte. Box 22C Powell, Wyo. 82435

Brandon, Mae (Mrs. Morris Helkison) Minneapolis, Minn. 55408

Brandon, Pearl (Mrs. Stanley Bertsch) Towner, ND 58788

Brandon, Shirley (Mrs. Ray Erhardt) Rte. 1, Box 68A Mandan, ND 58554

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Box 282 Garrison, ND 58540

Burckhard, Daniel 611 S.W. 6th Minot, ND 58701 Burckhard, Donna (Mrs. Richard Berndt) D 15 Jefferson Park Minot, ND 58701

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Irene Burckhard (Mrs. Ken Follman) Towner, ND 58788

Burckhard, James J. Rte. 1, Box 45 Towner, ND 58788

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Burckhard, Monica (Mrs. Raymond Volk) Surrey, ND 58785

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Cartwright, Maice Anamoose, ND 58710

Cartwright, Nick Anamoose, ND 58710

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Finstad, Lee New Town, ND 58763

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Flageol, William 4743 Ada Lane S.E. Milwaukie, Oregon 97222

Folden, Belinda (Mrs. Justin Lovro)

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Folden, Oscar 414 N.W. 1st Minot, ND 58701

Fylken, Anne (Mrs. Anne Allen) 2434 E. Main #61 Mesa, Arizona 85203

Fylken, Edna (Mrs. A.W. Erickson) 2720 Lima Drive Mesa, Arizona 85205 Fylken, Ethel
(Mrs. Clifford Knudson)

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Fylken, Lillian (Mrs. Jack Haman) Towner, ND 58788

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Gange, John R.R. Rugby, ND 58368

Gange, Lawrence Bismarck, ND 58501

Gange, Marie Rt. 1, Box 21 Devils Lake, ND 58301

Gange, Peter Huntsville, Alabama 35800

Gange, Theresa (Mrs. Theresa Bolkan) Box 496

Parshall, ND 58770

Green, Maxine (Mrs. Bernard Odden) Towner, ND 58788

Grove, Bernadine (Mrs. Roy Kohn) 9235 Vicksburg Drive

9235 Vicksburg Drive El Paso, Texas 79924

Grove, Joline (Mrs. Glen Pfau) 815 21/2 Ave. S.E. Rugby, ND 58368

Grove, Leora (Mrs. Lester Johnson) 126 S.W. 11th Rugby, ND 58368 Grove, Vivian

(Mrs. Darwin Kinney)

Rolette, ND 58366

Gustafson, Jennie

(Mrs. A.L. McKellips)

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Halseth, Gladys

(Mrs. Clarence Franklund)

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## THANK YOU

Thank you to the many fine folks who assisted in securing the pictures and material. Time has faded many of the pictures and the memories of those who tell the stories. We sincerely apologize for any inaccuracies and many pictures and events which have been omitted. We have done the best we could in the time and space allotted us.

Berwick School Reunion Committee



Berwick School Reunion Committee

Not on picture--Orris Haugen, Leora Johnson, Photographer, Warner Knudson.

## **Autographs & Pictures**

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