

"Museum Alive" Huge Success



Ready to welcome guests at "Museum Alive" are Stephanie Prepiora, museum curator, Selma Lundene, and Henry Lundene, society president.

"Back by popular request," said curator Stephanie Prepiora. "Museum Alive" is the Minto, N.D., museum's demonstration of how to make a community museum work to its full capacity.

Persons from all over Walsh County donated their time and talents to help make Sunday, July 13, one of the most entertaining and successful interpretive events in the area.

The first demonstration one witnessed upon entering the grounds was a rope-making demonstration by Charles

Stewart. This particular demonstration was very popular with the young people as they helped turn the crank weaving together the pieces of twine.

But that wasn't all. In developing the museum in the old Minto school building, the museum board created numerous displays, such as a general store, a blacksmiths shop, an ice cream parlor, a drug store, a barber shop, a post office, a creamery, and several others. All concerns were in operation and open for business,

with individuals dressed in period costumes, explaining and demonstrating.

"The way it started," Stephanie reminisced, "was that the Walsh County Historical Society went on annual tours. Finally after 12 years or so, they ran out of places to go, and asked if they could come to the museum. The museum board thought it might be a little bit dull and that we could liven it up a bit by dressing people in costume and putting the museum to work."

And work it did. Museum Alive had been scheduled for the weekend before but got rained out.

"We called all the television and radio stations to have them announce it," Stephanie

exclaimed, "but even so 500 people showed up." The crowd wasn't diminished by the hot 90 plus degree temperature on the 13th either, as an inspection of the guest book in late afternoon showed something more than 1,300 signatures.

"We've had wonderful cooperation from area farmers, bringing in animals for our petting zoo, benches and other items," the curator remarked.

In addition to the displays and activities in the various store fronts, there were also demonstrations of hardanger, old-time food preservation, rosemaling, quilt making, china painting, and noodle makers who provided tasty samples for the

SEE MUSEUM ALIVE

Cont. on Page 2, Col. 1

Vol. 3 Of Walsh Heritage Books Will Be Published

Material is presently being assembled for volume three of the "Walsh Heritage" books. The new publication should be available in 1981 — Centennial year of Walsh County. The first two volumes of the "Walsh Heritage" books were published in 1976 and included family histories up until 1914 and churches, organizations and schools up until 1930. This new edition will bring the area history up to date.

Township workers have been distributing envelopes and information sheets and people have been encouraged to write their histories. Personal contacts were not made for volume three — just newspaper, radio, word of mouth and the random distribution of envelopes.

It is hoped that families omitted in the first two volumes and present day families will write and turn in their histories so they can be included in this centennial edition.

Serving as chairman of the book committee is R. F. "Pete"

Matejcek, Lankin; co-chairman Mrs. James (Otella) Johnson, Adams; Mrs. Leonard (Bertha) Jensen, Edinburg, secretary; and Leonard Jensen, Edinburg, treasurer.

The price for the new edition will be announced in 1981.

Township and town or city workers are as follows:

Grafton City: Ora and Charles Stewart, John Morgan; Grafton Twp.: Alida Goodman, Kenneth Coulter, Ruth Holt; St. Andrews Twp.: Alida Goodman; Martin Twp.: Alida Goodman; Acton Twp.: Alida Goodman, Verna Gabbert.

Oakwood Twp.: Alida Goodman Cecilia Sass and Albert Gourde; Walshville Twp.: Irene Mozinski; Pulaski Twp.: Blanche Babinski; Fairdale City: Mrs. Mabel Haug.

Minto: Ambrose Wysocki, Annette Risky, Lois Stanislawski, Blanche Babinski; Ardoch and Ardoch Twp.: Mrs. Gary Grzad-

SEE VOL. 3

Cont. on Page 3, Col. 3

State Historical Society Met In Grafton

The North Dakota State Historical Society met in Grafton on Saturday, June 7th. A board meeting and noon luncheon was held at the Lantern Room Inn followed by a program and tour.

Gloria Thompson gave the history of Acton, Amy Stewart gave the history of St. Andrews, Charles and Ora Stewart gave a report on the development of the Alexander Henry Rest Area on Interstate No. 29 east of Grafton,

Ralph Adamsen gave a history of the development of the Heritage Village on the west edge of Grafton and Father Schmirier also spoke on local history. Jay Hillier brought greetings from the Pembina County Historical Society. The tour group stopped at the sites of St. Andrew and Acton, St. Joseph's Chapel near Warsaw, St. Stanislaus Church in Warsaw, and the Walsh County Museum in Minto.

Scenes From "Museum Alive"



Ted Torgerson, Park River, spinning during "Museum Alive." Ted has made several spinning wheels.

Cont. From Page 1

curious and the hungry.

A particularly impressive and popular attraction is the wildlife room hosted by the Vejtasa family who donated the taxidermy done by the late Frank Vejtasa. Many of the animals seemed almost to come to life in the realism of the displays.

Steve Mozinski was in the log cabin, built by his grandfather Joseph Slominski in 1881.

The museum has a very rare collection of antique automobiles and farm equipment, some of it on the grounds and some housed in the school gymnasium. Perhaps the most unique is a very ornate horse drawn hearse guaranteed to take you to your last reward in the finest style and luxury. A. J. Hulstrand of Fairdale, the donor of many of the items in the museum, was on hand to explain how they worked.

By watching Frank Schiller, chairman of the museum, at the end of the day it was obvious that the task of organizing the demonstrations and entertaining so many people was not easy. But

it was also obvious by his wearied smile that the tremendous success of the day was extremely rewarding.

"All I've eaten all day is a hot dog," Frank exclaimed. "But boy, was it good!"

Yes, Frank, and there were about 1,300 other people who had the same contented feeling as they left your fine museum. Keep up the good work, and see you again next year at Minto's Museum Alive.

+

Chorus Presents Concert At Heritage Village

The Grafton Community Chorus presented a concert "Ring All the Bells of Freedom" at the Heritage Village in Grafton on Sunday afternoon, May 4th. The chorus also presented several numbers at the pancake meal at the village on October 26th.



Charles Stewart, center, being assisted in rope making during "Museum Alive" by Tate Burns, Charles Stewart's grandson and Reed Stewart, son of Charles.



Effie Rolzinski and Isabel Klave are making noodles during "Museum Alive."

Williams, Barnes, Mary Ann, Origins of N.D. Place Names

Williams, Barnes, Mary Ann, Origins of North Dakota Place Names, 1966, Bismarck Tribune.

GRAND FORKS: French Canadian explorers and employees of Hudson Bay Company named this site at the confluence of the Red River of the North and Red Lake River, who used it as a depot or outpost nearly 100 years before the white settlers came to Grandes Fourches or in the singular, as the fur traders commonly knew it, La Grand Fourche. The English version of this French name was suggested to the Post Office Department by Sanford C. Cady, who on June 15, 1870, became the first postmaster in the county, when the village of Grand Forks had only thirty

inhabitants, although its settlement began in 1865. This was the second permanent occupation by white families of any townsite in what was to be the state of North Dakota, the first having been at Pembina about 1813. On Oct. 26, 1875, Capt. Alexander Griggs filed the first plat of the original town, covering about 90 acres of his claim upon which he had exercise squatter sovereignty since 1871. Grand Forks was designated the county seat in 1873; it was organized in 1878; incorporated as a village in 1884, and as a city in 1887. The Great Northern branch railroad from Crookston westward reached here in January, 1880.

SEE ORIGINS

Cont. on Page 7, Col. 3

Heritage Village Continues To Grow

I will give a brief summary of improvements and additions at the Heritage Village in Grafton in 1980. For four months Alice and Ed Couture — Ed as a paid employee and his wife as a volunteer — worked long hours and accomplished much. The grounds were well kept, blue star marker repaired, jail cell from Pisek enclosed, linens in the Landstad Church washed, porch and rails on the country school replaced, windows puttied, pile of old power pole was cut and stored, kitchen completed with sink, cupboards and serving window, and carriers made to store the new chairs.

The city of Grafton installed eight poles and lights on the village grounds; bathrooms were built and hooked up in the theatre building; two hundred forty chairs ordered for the theatre; and some gravel was hauled. More gravel is still needed and hopefully a gravel bee can be organized in 1981.

Many groups toured the buildings at the village this summer; Grafton held an arts and craft

show in the theatre building during the Beet Festival Days; Grafton Community Chorus presented a benefit concert "Ring All the Bells of Freedom" for the village; second antique show and sale in late August; and the pancake and sausage meal served in October.

The generous financial support of the village by the community helped with the completion of the above projects. Donations were received from the following: Grafton V.F.W. \$400; Grafton Legion Post No. 41 \$450; Grafton Community Chorus \$125.50 and several smaller cash donations. Bonnie Heldt donated money to plant flowers around the Blue Star Marker and she presented the village a collection of pictures on the development of the village. Robert Vaudrin, Grafton, donated a large collection of bottles and jugs to the village. Vaudrin hopes to see a drugstore completed at the village in the future and hopes that some of these items will be the beginning and he and friends would then donate more bottles if a drugstore building was ever

completed. The Walsh County Historical Society also gives a substantial donation to the village each year for upkeep and improvements. And we cannot forget all the volunteer labor of those who served on committees,

worked at various functions, which were held at the village, and helped in many untold ways. A special thanks to Ralph Adamsen and his crew and Charles Matcha for their work on the development of the village.



City Of Grafton Donates Piano

The Landstad Lutheran church at the Walsh County Heritage Village in Grafton received a piano, courtesy of the Grafton City Council. The piano had been stored, tuned but unused, in a corner of the Council chambers. Here Mayor Warner Taylor (right) and Walsh County Historical Society president Henry Lundene look over the upright instrument.

1980 Membership

Renew your membership for 1981. Mail \$2.00 to Stephanie Prepiora, membership chairman, Minto, N.D. 58261.

	Total	Regular	Business	Life
Adams	44	40	4	0
Edinburg	45	42	3	0
Fairdale	11	11	0	0
Forest River	12	10	2	0
Grafton	249	197	52	0
Hoople	24	21	3	0
Minto	106	100	6	0
Park River	64	57	5	2
Ardoch	3	3	0	0
Fordville	2	2	0	0
Lankin	8	8	0	0
Voss	2	1	1	0
Pisek	4	4	0	0
Out of County & Out of State	38	32	5	1
	612	528	81	3

Life Members In Walsh County Historical Society

In 1980 the historical society added three new life members and they are: Mrs. Percy (Leona) Walstad, Park River; Olaf R. Johnson, Park River; and Mrs. Robert M. Ritzel, Arvada, Colorado, (the former Judy Masolski of Park River).

At present there are fourteen life memberships in the historical society. You can purchase a life membership by donating one hundred dollars and you in turn receive a certificate and help the society financially. These funds have been placed in a savings account for the society.

Other life members are: Dr. John Lipinski, Kalispell, Montana; Louis Wisniewski, Minto; W. L. A. Grain, Minto; J. D. Miller, Minto; Alphonse Koehmstedt, Grafton; Mrs. Alphonse Koehmstedt, Grafton; Rorghild Wollan, Washington, D.C.; Mary Koehmstedt, Garhardt, Oregon; Mrs. Myrtle Schrank, Grafton; Roy H. Mohagen, Grafton; and Elvin Kieley and Sons, Inc., Grafton.

Vol. 3

Cont. From Page 1

ziewski, Mrs. Syl Grzadziewski; Warsaw: Mrs. Steve Slominski.

Conway-Fordville: Medford and Eden Twp.: Gladys Huseby, South part of Medford Twp.: Mrs. Jon McMillan.

Kinloss Twp.: Mrs. Chester Sandvik, Mrs. Arnold Clemens; Dewey Twp.: Mrs. Hjalmar Hove; Cleveland Twp.: Loretta McLaughlin; Vernon Twp.: Dorothy Gaarder.

Kensington Twp.: Harold and Edith Harris; Ops Twp.: Walter Yon, Gene Schanilec; Prairie Centre Twp.: Gabe Dusek, Tony Zidon; Glenwood Twp.: Nora Gryde, Lorraine Paulson; Walsh Centre Twp.: Johnny Janda.

Park River: Gladys Lewis, Leona Walstad; Hoople: Ben Langerud.

Edinburg-Lampton, Dundee, Tiber, and Golden Twp.: Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Jensen, Joseph Holm (Dundee), Eleanor Fjeld and Leonard Almén (Golden).

Norton-Lankin: R. F. "Pete" Matejcek; Pisek and Rushford

Twp.: Ann Praska, George Chyle, Agnes Jelinek; Adams: Mrs. Clifford Grove, Mrs. James Johnson, Mrs. Harvey Lykken.

Shepard Twp.: Mrs. Wallace Lee, Mrs. Harold Lee; Sauter Twp.: Mrs. Dennis (Barbara) Bina; Perth Twp.: Stella Shereck, Mrs. Clifford Grove; Latona Twp.: Mrs. Sig Bakke, Mrs. Gerald Linstad, Mrs. Lowell Sukstorf, Mrs. Alvin Shimek.

Silvesta Twp.: Mrs. Gordon Lykken, Mrs. Garvie Haroldson; Vesta Twp.: Raymond Setnes; Farmington Twp.: Alida Goodman, Mrs. Willard Hove; Forest River-Forest River Twp.: Charles Lester, Mrs. Walter "Bud" Hewitt.

Harriston Twp.: Ed Gudajtes; Norton Twp.: Mrs. Norman Carlson; Fertile Twp.: Mrs. Harvey Tallackson.

The committee anticipates an enthusiastic response from Walsh citizens about this new edition of the Walsh Heritage Book.

British Isles Ethnic Group Very Active

The British Isles ethnic group — England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland — is the most active of the organized ethnic groups in Walsh County.

On Friday, January 25, thirty-five members of the British Isles Group gathered to celebrate Robert Burns Night, a National Scottish Holiday, at the Lantern Room Inn, Grafton. Charles Stewart served as master of ceremonies; Rev. Rory Scott, St. Thomas, read the Selkirk Blessing; Arden Burbidge, Park River, gave an interesting presentation of early Scotch settlers in Walsh County; and Jerry Bruce, Grafton, spoke on Scottish lore and life of Robert Burns and read several poems written by Burns.

On Saturday, March 15, the Second Emerald Isle Dinner and Program was held at the American Legion, Grafton, for

approximately two hundred guests. The menu consisted of Irish Mist Punch, English game birds with stuffing, "Crown Rubies," O'Malley Mashed Potatoes with toppin', Canterbury beans, Castle cabbage, Brython Emerald Gelatin, Stratford-upon-Avon and Cymru coffee. The program was also typically British Isles: Scotch Broth welcome, Charles Stewart; Top O' the Evening, Warren Taylor, Grafton Mayor; Takk ska de ha from the Scandinavian Ethnic Group, Henry Lundene, chairman; Bits O'Blarney from Francis Phelan, master of ceremonies; Welsh Melodies, Amy Stewart; Irish Blessings, Father Lommel; Irish medley, Tom Dolman from Grand Forks; Four Hand Reel and Irish Gig, St. Alphonse School students, Langdon; ventriloquist Lorie O'Toole and

Chester from Crystal; group sing-along by Amy Stewart and Peggy Dahl Bartunek and a drawing for the Irish Sweepstakes. What an enjoyable evening! Flowers of the four countries made up the head table arrangement and the other tables were decorated with a British Isle theme.

On June 14, the British Isles Group sponsored a fun bus to Winnipeg and Lower Fort Garry. The group also had a float representing the British Isles and

they went to many parades in the area.

And, the British Isles Ethnic Group was the first of the ethnic groups in the county to construct and erect their emblems on the ethnic theatre at the Walsh Heritage Village in Grafton. The British Isles Group also donated fifty dollars toward the chair fund for the theatre building.

Officers of the British Isles Group are: Charles Stewart,

SEE BRITISH ISLES
Cont. on Page 5, Col. 1



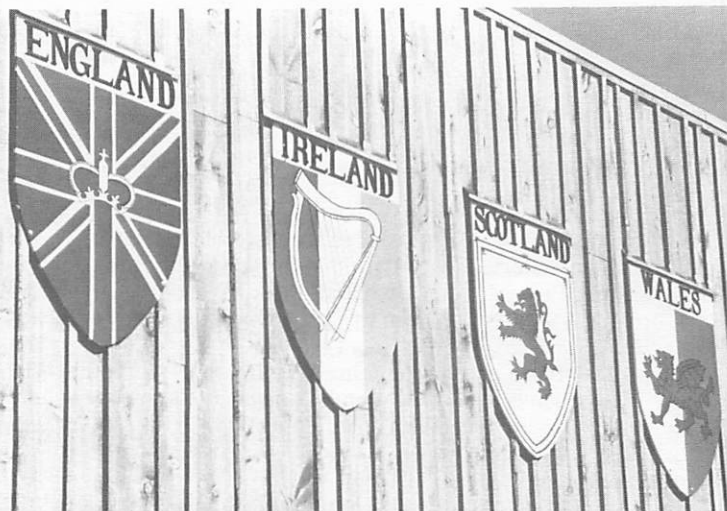
Charles Stewart, British Isles chairman, and his wife Ora and their daughter Amy in a Welsh costume, wearing a touch of green for the British Isles Emerald Banquet March 15. With them are Tom Dolman, singer, and master of ceremonies Francis Phelan.



Jean Bodmer, Helen Donnelly and Mazel Neilson all dressed up in their Scottish plaid for the British Isles Dinner and Program.



Speakers at the British Isles "Burns Night" included (from left) the Rev. Rory Scott of St. Thomas, Arden Burbidge of Park River, and Jerry Bruce and Charles Stewart, both of Grafton.



Emblems of the British Isles ethnic group recently went up on the south side of the Heritage Village Ethnic Theatre in Grafton. The emblems were painted by Charles Stewart and his daughter Amy of Grafton. Emblems of other ethnic groups represented in the area will be erected at the theatre in the future.

History Of Walsh County

I believe that most of us know that our county was named after George Walsh, but as editor of this historical society newsletter I would like to renew your history of the county since Walsh County will be celebrating its Centennial in 1981.

Walsh County was created on August 30, 1881, out of the southern portion of Pembina County and northern portion of Grand Forks County. Walsh of Grand Forks was sponsor of the bill creating the new county — the bill was passed, vetoed by the territorial governor, then passed again over the veto. Mr. Walsh was president of the Dakota Territory Council at that time.

The county was named in honor of George Henry Walsh, who was a prominent member of Dakota Territorial Legislature. He was an early-day lawyer, newspaperman, farmer and stock-raiser. Walsh was a native of Montreal, Quebec, and came to St. Paul, Minnesota, as a young boy where he was educated and resided approximately twenty

years and then came to Grand Forks in 1873 and established a law and real estate office.

In the year 1900, the Grafton News and Times published a book entitled "Grafton, the County Seat and Metropolis of Walsh County." It was compiled and copyrighted by William Dudley. Quoting from the chapter devoted to Walsh County the book reads: "The territory comprising Walsh County was a century ago a portion of "Prince Rupert's Land," claimed by both England and Spain. This territory was sold by Spain to France and by France to the United States as a part of the Louisiana Purchase. It was made a part of the territory of Louisiana in 1805. Then in 1812 it became a part of Missouri. Later, in 1834, it belonged to the Territory of Michigan; in 1836 to Wisconsin, in 1838 to Iowa and in 1849 to Minnesota. When Dakota Territory was organized in 1861, the present Walsh County was a part of Pembina County, which then included all of the territory from the International Boundary

line to the Cheyenne or Sheyenne River on the south and from the Red River to Devils Lake on the west. Voting precincts were established at Park River, (Stump Lake, Dead Island and Cheyenne), Walsh County being included in the latter with the territory now comprising Cass, Richland, Traill and Grand Forks Counties. The voting place was at Georgetown. Later in 1871, a voting precinct was established which included Grand Forks and part of Walsh and Traill counties, and another, including Pembina, Cavalier and part of Walsh County. In the spring of 1880 a precinct was established with Grafton as the voting place.

+

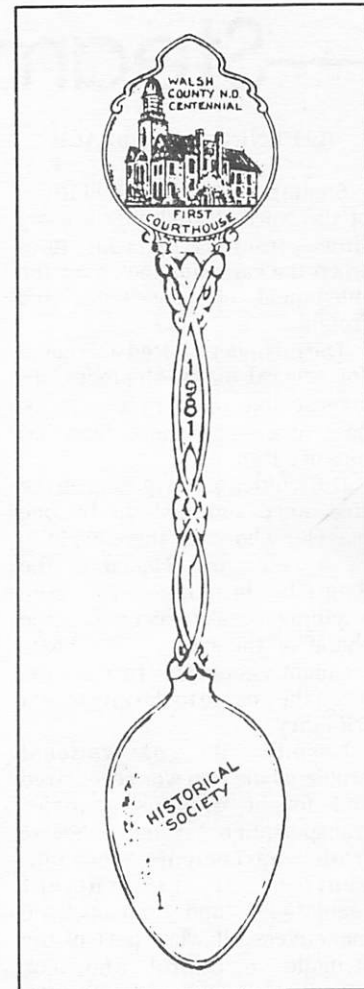
Heritage Books Still Available

The "Walsh Heritage" books, volume one and two, were published in 1976 and are still available. The two hard covered volumes with twelve hundred pages of area history - in picture and writing - includes the history of Walsh County, villages, towns, schools, churches and families. These books will make an ideal Christmas gift for family, friends, and relatives. Books can still be ordered by mailing twenty-three dollars, which includes postage, to Leonard Jensen, Edinburg, North Dakota 58227 or James Johnson, Adams, North Dakota 58210. Books can also be picked up at the Walsh County Bank in Grafton.

+

Center In Bismarck Completed

On October 1, 1980, crews began moving documents, books and archival collections from the Liberty Memorial Building to the new North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck. The moving process will take from six to eight weeks and will take place in a phased operation designed to coincide with the completion of various areas within this center. 1981 will be a great year in North Dakota as the new Heritage Center is opened to the public.



Centennial Spoons For Sale

In 1981 Walsh County will be celebrating its 100th birthday. The Walsh County Historical Society will be selling commemorative spoons in honor of this special occasion. The design of the spoon is shown in the picture above. Chairperson of the spoon committee is Lorraine Paulson, Hoople. Mrs. Leonard (Bertha) Jensen, Edinburg, and Mrs. Gladys Lewis, Park River, will be assisting her on the sales committee. The spoons will sell for four dollars, and add fifty cents if they need to be packaged and mailed. Proceeds will go to the county historical society. The spoons have been ordered and should arrive early in 1981. They will become a keepsake or collectors item.

Jubilees Held

The towns of Adams, Fordville, Fairdale and Lankin, which are all located along the Soo Line Railroad, celebrated their Diamond Jubilees in 1980.

British Isles

Cont. From Page 4

chairman; Dorothy Lykken, vice chairman; Margaret Phelan, secretary-treasurer; board members are Harold Harris, Mary Rose Rodriguez, Homer Nelson, J. J. O'Brien, Connie

Desautel, Margaret Bruce, Ora Stewart and Jean Bodmer.

Yearly memberships are available in this group and can be purchased from any of the above officers or directors.



Ventriloquist Lorie O'Toole, formerly of Crystal, and her sidekick Chester dressed up in matching green outfits for the British Isles Emerald Banquet March 15. Here they are flanked by master of ceremonies Francis Phelan.

—Steamboats' Reign Was Short—

By PENELOPE DauBACH
Grand Forks

Steamboating on the Red River of the North lasted only a short time — from 1859 to the late 1870s when the railroads took over the movement of passengers and freight.

The meandering Red was home for several major steamers, the largest able to carry nearly 300 passengers and more than 350 tons of cargo.

Difficulties of navigating on the Red were summed up by one traveler who said "there ought to be a new word coined in the English language to give anything like a correct idea of the shape of the river." The boats frequently could only turn around when they came to the mouth of a tributary.

Despite its navigational problems the Red was recognized and fought over as a major transportation system. Secret trade agreements, circumvention of government regulations and monopolistic maneuvers all were part of the struggle to control who took steamboats up and down the muddy river.

The earliest steamboat was the "Anson Northrup," built by its namesake in 1859 for a \$2,000 St. Paul Chamber of Commerce bonus. Northrup had dismantled his steamer "North Star" in Crow Wing, Minn., and transported it by sleigh to the Red where he rebuilt it. Northrup deserted the boat after one season.

The Hudson Bay Co. was interested in carrying merchandise through the United States to avoid the costly and difficult trip across Canada. The firm contracted with the Burbanks Brothers Minnesota State Co. to move 500 tons of freight per year through St. Paul.

At the same time a secret agreement was made with the Burbanks to purchase the "Anson Northrup" — secret because the United States forbade the Company from owning property in the states.

The "Pioneer," a rechristened and rebuilt "Anson Northrup," ran for just one more season before sinking in 1862. Fortunately for the partners, the "International" had been purchased.

The Hudson Bay Co. — Burbank's secret agreements lasted only until both parties

realized they were irredeemably opposed. The Burbanks, in favor of open trade and immigration, could not work with the Company, in favor of only its own trade and no immigration.

In 1863 the "International" was sold to Norman Kittson, employed by the Hudson Bay Co. since 1862. For the next several years the boat operated "for the convenience of the owners."

The formation of the St. Paul-based firm of Hill and Griggs spelled an end to good times for the Company. Hill and Griggs built the "Selkirk" in the winter of 1870-71. To create a monopoly, Hill had earlier pushed a bill through Congress that made his firm, in effect, the only legal carrier for goods bound for Canada. The "Selkirk" would be the only boat available to the Hudson Bay Co.

By 1873 Kittson had grown tired of unsuccessfully competing with Hill and Griggs. Kittson joined

rather than be licked. The Red River Transportation Co., formed in 1873, was composed of the same interests that had always shipped on the Red.

The steamers "Oakota," "Alpha" and "Cheyenne" and the tugboat "Maggie" were added, along with 20 barges to the new company's fleet in the early 1870s. Competitors who had built "Alpha" quickly sold her to Kittson.

Dissatisfied with the monopoly, several St. Paul, Winnipeg and Moorhead merchants joined forces in the Merchants International Steamboat Co. in early 1875. Their "Minnesota" and "Manitoba" were launched that spring.

Before the new ships could provide much competition, trouble began. Shortly after the "Manitoba" began service she had a collision with the "International." The "Man-

itoba" was sunk.

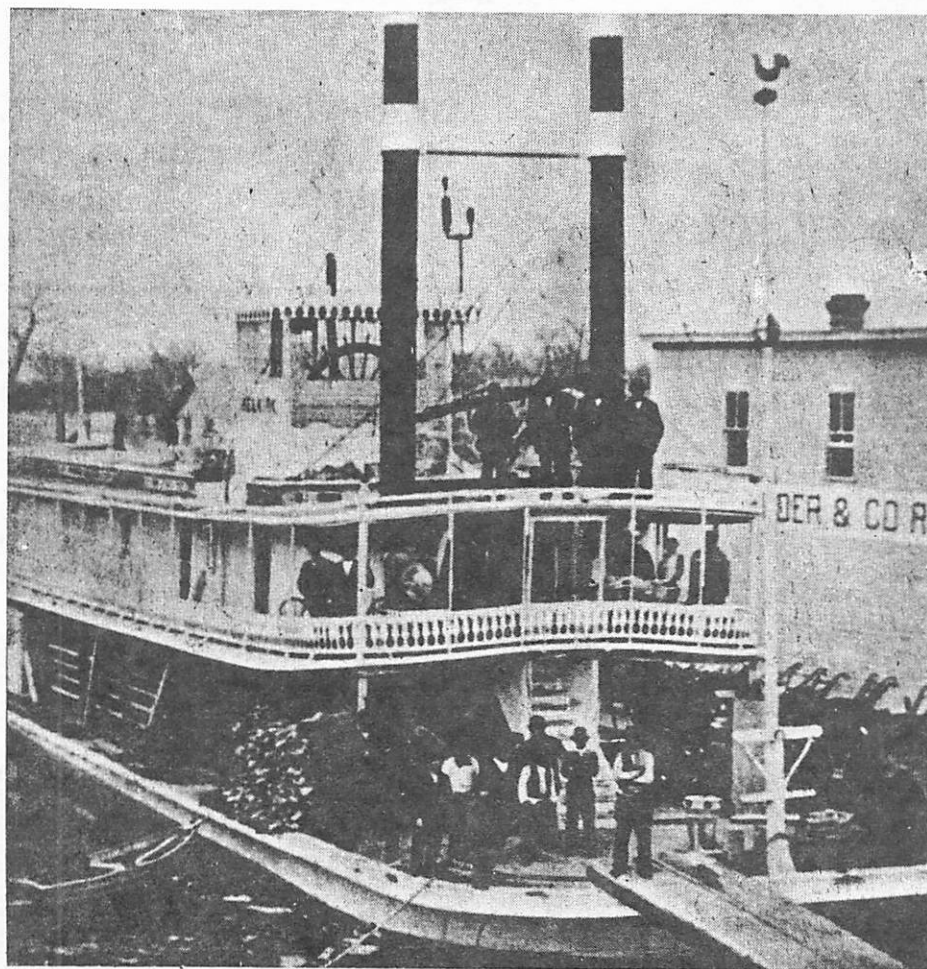
The "Minnesota" became the "City of Winnipeg" and later sank while crossing Lake Winnipeg. The "Manitoba" finished her days in the Saskatchewan area until the railroads again made her obsolete.

The "Alpha" and the "Cheyenne" were used on the Red and Assiniboine rivers until 1883 when they were dismantled and taken to Winnipeg. The "Dakota" burned in 1881 near Pembina.

The "International" was dismantled in 1880 in Grand Forks.

The "Selkirk" was carried from her moorings in a storm and wrecked near Grand Forks in 1884.

Griggs, co-founder of the firm that built "Selkirk" took the pilot house home for a play house for his children.



The steamer 'Selkirk' tied up near South Third Street in Grand Forks during a flood.

Summary Of Historical Society For 1980

1980 has been another active year for the Walsh County Historical Society. The annual meeting of the Walsh County Historical Society was held in the city hall in Park River on January 27th. At this meeting the society renewed its yearly membership in the Red River Valley Historical Society. And, the city of Grafton donated a used piano to the Walsh Heritage Village in Grafton to be used in the Landstad Church.

Officers for 1980 are: Henry Lundene, Adams, president; Ed Gudajtes, Minto, vice president; Leonard Jensen, Edinburg, treasurer; Jean Bodmer, Hoople, recording secretary; Lorraine Paulson, Hoople, corresponding secretary and newsletter editor.

New directors: Gladys Lewis, Park River; R. F. "Pete" Matejcek, Lankin; John Gudajtes, Minto.

Hold over directors: James Johnson, Adams; Stephanie Prepiora, Minto; Kay Vang, Grafton; Ella Matejcek, Lankin; Francis Chromy, Forest River; John Paulson, Hoople.

An executive meeting of the society was held in Grafton on February 20th. On February 24 the historical society met at the Senior Citizens Center in Minto. Plans were made for the county membership drive for March 3 to solicit members by selling memberships in local banks and savings institutions. Charles Stewart, Grafton, was appointed chairman of this drive.

The Second Emerald Dinner and Program sponsored by the British Isles Ethnic Group, a branch of the society, was held on March 15th at the Grafton American Legion.

On March 30 the society met in the farmers room of the county courthouse in Grafton. It was announced that two hundred thirty renewals were sold during the membership drive on March 3 bringing the paid memberships to five hundred twenty-three as of March 30.

At the March meeting Leonard Desautel, Grafton, displayed and presented an informative and interesting program on Red Wing Crockery. Lon Stenerson, St. Thomas, who also shares Desautel's interest, answered questions on crockery.

On April 24th officers, directors of the society and former Walsh Heritage Book Committee met at the courthouse in Grafton to activate the plans for a third

volume of the "Walsh Heritage" books. During the past months, there has been discussion on publishing another book with hopes to have it available to the public in 1981 — the Centennial year of Walsh County.

The April meeting of the society was held on the 27th in Adams in the pioneer log cabin in the city park. Commemorative spoons for the county centennial in 1981 will be ordered.

On May 6th an organizational meeting for Heritage Book No. 3 was held at the courthouse. Several district chairpeople or workers were selected (area workers are listed elsewhere in this issue).

On May 27th the society met in the farmers room of the courthouse. The second annual "Museum Alive" will be held in the county museum in Minto. The society will also serve lunch at the craft show and sale for the beet festival. The British Isles group is planning a fun bus trip to Winnipeg and Lower Fort Garry on June 14th.

A brief meeting was held following "Museum Alive" at Minto on July 13th. This special day at the museum is an interesting and educational day for the young and old and we hope it will continue to be an annual affair and continue to grow.

On August 17th a potluck noon lunch was served at the Pioneer Memorial Gardens of the Homme Dam west of Park River. The second antique sale and show was held at the theatre building at the Heritage Village in Grafton. And, the 5th Annual Threshing Show and Machinery Display was held on the west edge of Park River on August 24th.

On September 21st the county historical society met at the home of Ella and Pete Matejcek, Lankin. Plans were made to serve a pancake and sausage meal in the theatre building of the Heritage Village in Grafton from 8 a.m.-2p.m. on October 26th. Two hundred and forty chairs were recently ordered for the theatre building and proceeds from the meal will help with this new expense. A meeting was held on October 26th following the pancake meal at the Village. The society was pleased with the first pancake feed and hopefully it can become an annual affair. The Grafton Community Chorus presented several musical numbers at 1 p.m. The British Isle Ethnic Group also donated



An executive meeting of the Walsh County Historical Society following "Museum Alive." Left to right: Ed Gudajtes, vice president; Leonard Jensen, treasurer; Henry Lundene, society president; Lorraine Paulson, corresponding secretary; Otella Johnson, Heritage Book co-chairman; James Johnson, director; Pete Matejcek, Heritage Book chairman; Gladys Lewis, director; John Paulson, director; and Bertha Jensen, book secretary.

fifty dollars toward the chair fund. This was our first time that we could view the British Isles Emblems which Charles and Amy Stewart made and erected on the ethnic theatre.

The November meeting will be held in Edinburg. Plans are proceeding with the book, and material is now being assembled.

The sod hut float sponsored by the historical society appeared in many parades in the area this summer. Otella Johnson is keeping the historical scrap book up to date and Lorraine Paulson

began to submit material to the "Red River Valley Heritage Press" which is published quarterly in Fargo.

Monthly meetings are held throughout the county and we thank those for serving lunch and hosting the meetings. Also, renew your membership in the historical society because your financial support and attendance at meetings is needed and appreciated.

Lorraine Paulson
Corresponding Secretary

Origins Cont. From Page 2

FARGO: Its history commences with the advent of the N.P.R.R. surveying party. In the spring of 1871, there was wild speculation among squatters, townsite promoters and settlers about where the first railroad to enter the state would cross the Red River. Townsites were platted and tent shack towns sprang up overnight. Finally, on the evening of July 4, 1871, the engineers of the railroad made a rush for the site of the present city and soon after received title to same. The townsite settled quickly and became at once a chief distributing point for a large agriculture area. A post office was established Sept. 22, 1871, with Gordon J. Keenan, postmaster; once, the present site of Fargo was named CENTRALIA by the settlers. It was a coined word, which was meant to indicate the central point of

Dakota territory development; that it would be the center or hub of activities. It never became widely known by that name. The U. S. Postal Dept. shows the name changed to Fargo on Sept. 14, 1872, and Walter D. Maddock appointed postmaster. He meanwhile operated a general merchandise store, in which the post office was located. It was named Fargo by the directors of the Northern Pacific Railway at their meeting in New York, to honor one of the directors, William G. Fargo, the founder of the Wells-Fargo Express. Fargo was incorporated in 1875. N. K. Hubard purchased the first three lots sold. The first settlers, who lived in tents on this site, called it "Tent City." It was also originally called the Crossing as it was the site where the Northern Pacific Railway crossed the Red River.

Walsh County Historical Museum Receives Complimentary Parade

Stephanie Prepiora
Curator

"Best county museum that I have seen between Fargo and Winnipeg."

"Even my home state of California can't boast of a small museum as complete as this."

"This orderly arrangement is great, not a hodge podge collection like some others I have seen."

"And so clean."

These quotes from visitors are music to the ears of the Walsh County Museum Board and its wonderful volunteer friends. This tune was played by 2,000 persons who walked through the museum this year from May to September.

WDAZ TV joined the complimentary parade when they brought their cameras, their newscaster Gail Hand and authoress Elizabeth Hampsten from UND and set up studio in the

museum. Staff at WDAZ requested the use of various rooms at the museum as background for a filmed series on pioneer life written by Mrs. Hampsten. The program will be aired locally, date to be announced.

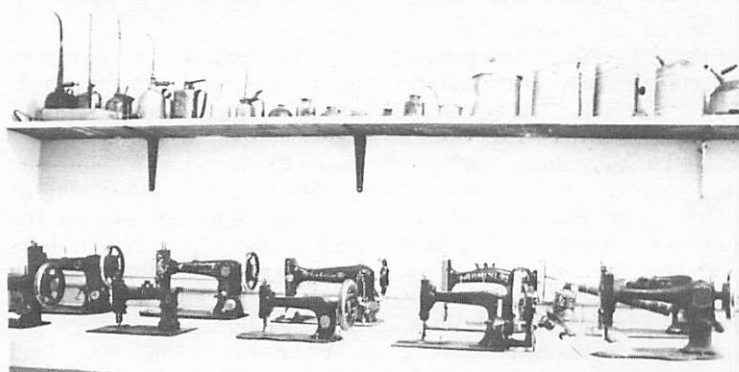
Changes made to enhance the telling of Walsh County History was the construction of glass-fronted display cases for children's and adult fashions from 1875, folk art, needlework and military display.

The hi-lite of the summer was "Museum Alive" when about 1,400 people came to the museum. There were visitors from seventeen states including Alaska and Hawaii and even visitors from Sweden, Norway, Germany, England and Canada.

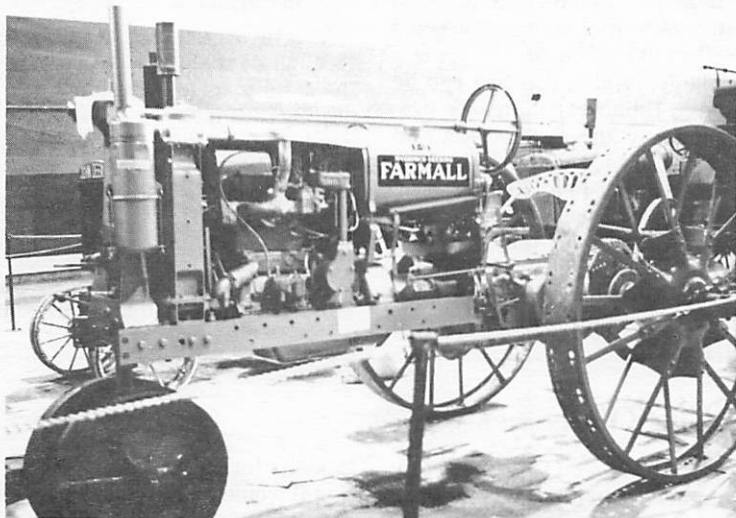
Final sweet note — word was received that CETA money will be available for the Museum for 1981.



Interior of the country school on the museum grounds in Minto.



A display of old sewing machine heads at the museum.



An old Farmall tractor on display in the quanset at the county museum.

Antique Show And Sale Held

On August 22 and 23, the Second Annual Antique Show and Sale was held at the Walsh Heritage Village in Grafton. Eight antique dealers from North Dakota and Minnesota had displays and offered for sale a large variety of antiques and collectibles.

Co-chairman of the show were Kay Vang and Jean Bodmer. Lunch was served by the Tri County legal Secretaries. Proceeds of the show went to the Heritage Village.



An antique barber's chair on display at the county museum.

Time To Renew 1981 Memberships

Renew your 1981 memberships. We would appreciate it very much if you would take a few minutes of your time to mail your yearly dues and in turn, you will receive your membership card.

- ANNUAL REGULAR DUES..... \$2.00 per person
- ANNUAL BUSINESS & INSTITUTIONAL..... \$10.00
- LIFE MEMBERSHIP..... \$100

Your support helps sustain our Society.

Stephanie Prepiora, Membership Chairman
Walsh County Historical Society
Minto, North Dakota 58261

Editor - LORRAINE PAULSON

Non Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 1
Minto, N.D.