

CHAPTER VI.

TOWNSHIPS OF COTTONWOOD COUNTY.

Cottonwood county is sub-divided into eighteen civil township, each having a local government of its own, but all working in harmony with the general county government plan.

Germantown comprises congressional township 108, range 36, west.
Highwater comprises congressional township 108, range 37, west.
Ann comprises congressional township 108, range 38, west.
Selma comprises congressional township 107, range 34, west.
Delton comprises congressional township 107, range 35, west.
Amboy comprises congressional township 107, range 36, west.
Storden comprises congressional township 107, range 37, west.
Westbrook comprises congressional township 107, range 38, west.
Midway comprises congressional township 106, range 34, west.
Carson comprises congressional township 106, range 35, west.
Dale comprises congressional township 106, range 36, west.
Aino comprises congressional township 106, range 37, west.
Rose Hill comprises congressional township 106, range 38, west.
Mountain Lake comprises congressional township 105, range 34, west.
Lakeside comprises congressional township 105, range 35, west.
Great Bend comprises congressional township 105, range 36, west.
Springfield comprises congressional township 105, range 37, west.
Southbrook comprises congressional township 105, range 38, west.

GERMANTOWN TOWNSHIP.

This is the eastern township of the three northern townships of the county, being described as township 108, range 36, west. It is bounded on the north by Redwood county, on the east by Brown county, on the south by Amboy township, Cottonwood county, and on the west by Highwater township. Its surface is somewhat cut up by numerous prairie creeks or runs, which afford splendid drainage, and at the same time make the general scenery one of rare beauty. The soil in common with other parts of this county is not lacking in the features and elements which yield abundant

harvests. The chapter on Geology treats in detail of the soil, surface and minerals of this township.

The population at various periods is as follows: In 1895 it had 488; in 1900 it had 512 and in 1910 it was placed at 522 by the United States census returns.

ORGANIZATION.

Germantown was organized into a separate civil township in January, 1874, by a petition presented by a majority of the voters in township 108, range 36. The first township meeting and election for officers was fixed at the house of August Brand on January 24, 1874.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

To have been an early settler in Germantown township was to be counted among the heroic band of men and women who braved many hardships and saw the real "rough side of life," in Cottonwood county. Many of the pioneers have passed from earth. In many cases the lands they entered under either pre-emption or homestead act, have long since passed into the hands of strangers. Those who came later knew not of the privations and sacrifices made by the original settlers.

The following will give a brief record transcript of many who claimed land and actually settled in this township:

Wesley D. Sprague homesteaded, June 3, 1878, at the New Ulm land office the northwest quarter of section 2. U. S. Grant, President, signed his patent papers.

Gottlieb Scheef, claimed a homestead, May 7, 1879, the southeast quarter of section 30, and his patent was signed by President R. B. Hayes.

Caroline Retz claimed as her homestead right, land in the west half of the northwest quarter of section 6, this township. It was entered at the land office at New Ulm and the patent is dated March 13, 1879, and is signed by President Hayes.

Henry Graling homesteaded land in the northwest quarter of section 30. The patent bears date of February 6, 1881, and is signed by President Hayes. The entry was effected at the land office at New Ulm.

August Block claimed land as a homestead right in the west half of the southwest quarter of section 8; the patent is dated February 10, 1881, and is signed by President Hayes. The entry was made at the land office at New Ulm.

John F. Borsach homesteaded land in the south half of the southwest quarter of section 6. It was entered at the land office at New Ulm, and the patent is signed by President Hayes and bears date of December 30, 1879.

Henry Moll homesteaded land in the southeast quarter of section 24. His patent is dated September 10, 1880, and was signed by President Hayes, but the entry was made at the land office at New Ulm.

Ferdinand Heller homesteaded land in the southeast quarter of section 34. The date of his patent is February 10, 1881, and is signed by President Hayes; the land was secured at the New Ulm land office.

Herman Luck homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 34 at the land office at New Ulm, his patent being issued by President Hayes and bears the date of June 15, 1880.

Christine Werner homesteaded the west half of the northeast quarter of section 4, at the land office at New Ulm; her patent was issued and signed by President Hayes, February 10, 1881.

George Werner homesteaded the west half of the northeast quarter of section 6; it was entered at the land office at New Ulm and patented to him by President Hayes, December 30, 1879.

Daniel Werner homesteaded the east half of the northwest quarter of section 6; the same being entered at the land office at New Ulm and patented by President Hayes, December 30, 1879.

Frederick Juhnke, at the New Ulm land office entered as a homestead the south half of the southeast quarter of section 8, the same was patented by President Hayes, February 10, 1881.

Herman Ohme homesteaded the west half of the northeast quarter of section 8, the same being entered at the land office at New Ulm and patented by President Hayes, January 20, 1881.

Charles Tesmer at the land office at New Ulm entered as a homestead the southwest quarter of section 4; it was patented by President Hayes, February 10, 1881.

John Surratt homesteaded the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 32, at the land office at Worthington and the same was patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, July 10, 1885.

Daniel Raddatz at the Tracy land office entered as his homestead the southeast quarter of section 22; it was patented by President Chester A. Arthur, November 1, 1881.

William R. Divine homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 12 at the land office at New Ulm and had the same patented to him by President James A. Garfield, June 20, 1881.

Frederick Schroter claimed a homestead in the southwest quarter of section 20, the same being entered at the land office at Tracy and patented by President Chester A. Arthur, February 10, 1883.

Christian Nerget entered the southeast quarter of section 20, at the land office at New Ulm, and later obtained his patent from President Hayes, who signed same on February 10, 1881.

PRE-EMPTION CLAIMS.

Isaac Davis, at the New Ulm land office entered the east half of the southwest quarter of section 10. The patent was signed by President U. S. Grant, May 12, 1874.

George Werner entered the southeast quarter of section 32, at the Tracy land office, and his papers were signed by President Chester A. Arthur, May 15, 1884.

Valentine Bott entered the east half of the northwest quarter of section 10, at the Tracy land office and his final papers were signed by President Grover Cleveland, July 27, 1885.

Henry Essig entered the northwest quarter of section 24, at the Marshall land office and his papers were signed by President Harrison, November 15, 1892.

AMBOY TOWNSHIP.

Amboy township is one of the central townships in the county, being composed of congressional township 107, range 36, west. It is made up of thirty-six full sections, and is bounded on its north by Germantown, on the east by Delton, on the south by Dale and on the west by Storden township. Its surface, lakes and streams have already been covered in the chapter on Geology, hence need not be referred to here. Of its schools and churches special chapters will treat, in general. To one who has recently visited this part of Cottonwood county, it goes without saying, that this has come to be a veritable garden spot, where corn and cream are king and queen. The branch line of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha railroad traverses the southern portion of the township, with a station at the sprightly village of Jeffers.

The population of Amboy township in 1895 was 443; in 1900 it was placed at 489 and according to the 1910 United States census it had decreased

to 437. The inhabitants are a sturdy, painstaking class of good citizens, many of whom are foreigners who came to our shores many years ago without much means, save strong bodies and determined wills, and with these they have forged to the front and today are among the most independent, prosperous and contented people within southern Minnesota.

ORGANIZATION.

This township was formed by act of the county commissioners at their meeting held on October 10, 1872, when township 107, range 36 west, was declared to be organized and the first election called to meet at the house of C. M. Bywater, and the judges of such election were, John H. Nelson, Peter A. Wheeler, Milo T. DeWolf, and Charles M. Bywater was named clerk.

FIRST SETTLERS.

The records show the following to have been the early homesteaders and also holders of pre-emption claims:

Moses DeWolf claimed as a homestead the southwest half of section 34, at the New Ulm land office, April 8, 1878, and the papers were signed by President U. S. Grant, the land being in what is now Amboy township.

Emery Cook, at the New Ulm land office, entered a homestead in the southwest quarter of section 36, May 29, 1878, the patent being signed by President R. B. Hayes.

Henry C. McLean claimed land in the southeast of section 2, at the New Ulm land office, and his patent was signed by President U. S. Grant, February 27, 1879.

David W. Potter homesteaded land in the southwest quarter of section 10; his patent is dated February 20, 1881, and was signed by President Chester A. Arthur. It was entered at the New Ulm land office.

George W. Jones homesteaded land in the southwest quarter of section 32, and his patent is dated March 13, 1879, and is signed by President Hayes; this homestead was entered at the land office at New Ulm.

John A. Kelley homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 26; his patent for same bears date June 24, 1878, and is signed by President Hayes. The land was secured through the land office at New Ulm.

Peter A. Wheeler homesteaded the northeast quarter of section 14, at the land office at New Ulm, and had the same patented by President U. S. Grant, December 20, 1875.

Adolph M. Scott homesteaded the northeast quarter of section 18, at the land office at Tracy, and had the same patented to him by President Grover Cleveland, January 9, 1886.

John Wright homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 26, at the New Ulm land office and the same was patented by President U. S. Grant June 20, 1874.

Wilber Potter homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 10, at the land office at Tracy, and had the same patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, February 10, 1883.

PRE-EMPTION CLAIMS.

Agnes E. Safley entered land in the north half of the southeast quarter of section 12, and the patent was signed by President Benjamin Harrison, March 1, 1892; the land office was at Marshall.

John Knowles, at the Tracy land office, entered the northeast quarter of section 20, and signed by President Grover Cleveland, June 5, 1888.

Esther Dickerson, at the Marshall land office, entered the north half of the northeast quarter of section 2, and the final papers were signed by President Benjamin Harrison, April 24, 1891.

VILLAGE OF JEFFERS.

Jeffers is situated in section 20, township 107, range 36, west, and was platted by the Inter-State Land Company, September 19, 1899. In so far as the early history of Jeffers is concerned, there is not a great deal to be said. The site that is now occupied by the village was homesteaded by George Jeffers and Wesley Stoddard over forty years ago. When the Currie branch of the Omaha railroad was surveyed through the county, Mr. Whited, representing a townsite company, saw great possibilities in locating a village at this place. So the beautiful farms or parts of, belonging to the men mentioned above, were transformed into town lots and sold at auction. The village sprung up like a mushroom over night and soon there were mechanics and tradesmen of all kinds on the ground.

Among the first on the ground to put up houses and open up for business were Mr. Loomis and A. A. Faust; Mr. Faust's building was where the co-operative store now stands. J. J. Duroe put up a building and started a bank in the lumber yard. In the spring of 1900 Cowan & Castledine built a business house on the site of the restaurant and Louie Dustin started a

drug store the same spring. L. P. Dolliff and Company installed their lumber yard in the spring of 1899, as did the Hayes-Lucas Lumber Company. The Peary elevator was also put up in 1899. The early professional men were Dr. W. N. Theissen and Attorney E. M. Duroe.

Jeffers has experienced two fires, each of which was rather serious. The more destructive one occurred in May, 1911, destroying four large buildings and causing an unusually heavy loss. The first fire happened in August, 1902, starting in the hotel which was consumed as were the buildings owned by A. A. Faust and Nels Anderson. The total loss was about twenty-one thousand dollars.

The first postoffice in Amboy township was known as the Red Rock postoffice and was located on the farm of D. M. Fairbairn, who was also the postmaster. After Jeffers became a village the Red Rock office was discontinued and the postoffice took on the name of the village. The first postmaster appointed to the Jeffers office was A. A. Faust. He died before his term expired and J. O. Querna was chosen to fill out the unexpired term. Miss Ida Faust, the daughter of A. A. Faust, received the next appointment and as Mrs. Ida Mertens succeeded herself. The present postmaster is Mr. J. H. Tofflemire. Through attention to business and with the help of appreciative patrons, he has brought the receipts of the office up to the point where it will soon graduate to the third class. The postal receipts for the last fiscal year amounted to two thousand one hundred and eleven dollars and seventy-four cents, exclusive of money orders. The money orders for June, 1916, amounted to one thousand and six dollars and ninety-six cents. A rural route, with Bert A. Crist, was established on October 15, 1904; he is still serving in that capacity.

MUNICIPAL HISTORY.

Jeffers became an incorporated village on September 28, 1899. The first election placed in office the following men. President, L. P. Dustin; recorder, Lewis E. Streater; trustees, C. G. Fredricson, A. W. Binger, A. A. Faust. The present officers include the following: President, William A. Potter; trustees, E. F. Schmotzer, H. C. Schoper and J. M. Jackson; treasurer, C. O. Castledine; clerk, Charles Grabert; justice, E. D. Helder. The following is a list of all the presidents who have served to date: L. G. Dustin, A. A. Faust (pro tem), H. H. Potter, L. A. Duroe, W. Gleason, S. M. Pratt, M. C. Vold, E. J. Viall, A. W. Mertens and W. A. Potter.

At present the village is lighted with gas lanterns, but there is a move-

ment on foot to install an electric system. The village is also badly in need of water-works, as now they have no ample means of fire protection except chemical engines. With these things added, the village would be as modern as any in the county. The village has about three miles of cement walks and building more all the time. The present indebtedness is about one thousand five hundred dollars.

Jeffers, the hub of Cottonwood county, is a beautiful, hustling little town of six hundred population, located on the Currie branch of the Omaha railroad, one hundred and fifty miles from the Twin Cities and sixteen miles from Windom, the county seat. It is one of the busiest trading centers in the state, according to size. It is located in the heart of the beautiful, rolling plains of southern Minnesota. Its business people are up-to-date, progressive, courteous and accommodating. The farmers of the community are up to the times in their farming methods, and rank high in the citizenship of the community. Five years ago, good land could be procured in this community at sixty dollars per acre, while most land is now worth around one hundred and twenty-five dollars per acre. Jeffers has a modern system of schools, fine churches and strong secret societies, all of which will be treated in their respective chapters.

CREAMERY.

Jeffers is supplied with a prosperous and enterprising creamery under the management of H. E. Nimitz. It is regarded as the most important enterprise of the town and it is doubted if any one business concern turns over as much money to the farmers as the creamery. The creamery has about one hundred and forty patrons, with an average monthly output of three thousand pounds of butter-fat per month. They supply the local market with butter and ship the remainder to the markets in Chicago and New York.

COMMERCIAL FACTORS IN 1916.

In 1916 the business interests of Jeffers were represented by the following:

Auto garage—Iverson & Harrison.

Banks—State Bank, Farmers State Bank.

Barber—Charles Grabert.

Blacksmiths—Krame M. Michiel, George J. Koess.

Creamery—H. E. Nimitz.

Confectionery—L. J. Bastian.

Druggist—F. J. Armantrout.

Elevator—Benson Grain Company, Farmers Co-operative Elevator Company.

General dealers—Jeffers Co-operative Company, Thorne & Dustin, Malachi Vold.

Harness dealer—John M. Jackson.

Hotel—The Jeffers, The Leader.

Hardware dealer—L. A. Duroe.

Ice dealer—Charles Burmeister & Son.

Jeweler—F. J. Armantrout.

Livery—David E. Noble.

Lumber dealer—L. P. Dolliff and Company, Haynes-Lucas Lumber Company.

Milliner—Olga B. Grenwatz.

Meat market—H. C. Schoper.

Moving picture show—M. B. Fish.

Newspaper—*The Review*, E. F. Schmotzer, proprietor.

Physician—George P. Panzer.

Produce dealer—City Produce Market.

Restaurant—W. A. Sargent, L. J. Bastian.

Real estate dealer—The Jeffers Land Company, W. H. Dhabolt.

Shoemaker—Edward D. Helder.

Undertaker—Peter Aune.

AMO TOWNSHIP.

Amo township comprises all of congressional township 106, range 37, west. It is situated south of Storden township, west of Dale, north of Springfield and east of Rose Hill township. Its thirty-six sections contain some of the finest land in southern Minnesota. It is settled by an industrious class of citizens, mostly of foreign birth, who have made a prairie wilderness blossom like the rose. The principal lake within the township is Lake Augusta. With the passing of years much of the former swampy land has been transformed into beautiful pastures. The schools and churches of the township are mentioned at length in other chapters of this volume.

The population in 1895 was 296; in 1900 it was 385, and according to the census taken by the United States in 1910, the township contained a population of 395.

There are no towns or villages within this township and it is purely an agricultural and dairy section, where the people vie one with another in making substantial improvements and beautifying their places. Many of the old homesteads of the county were located in Amo and have long years since come to be valuable farms. The hundreds of artificial groves seen here and there over this township, lend a charm once seen never to be forgotten. It was the wisdom and foresight of the pioneer band of settlers, which caused to be planted out the cottonwood, the elm, the ash, the willow and the maple trees, which today weave in the winds with their branches extending far and wide, as so many living, growing monuments to those hardy pioneers who set them out. These groves have for years provided fire-wood for the farmer and made an excellent wind-break in winter time, as well as a cooling retreat in the hot summer months.

ORGANIZATION.

Amo was formed as a civil township of Cottonwood county in February, 1873, at a special meeting of the board of county commissioners. It was effected through a petition signed by the legal voters of township 108, ranges 37 and 38, asking that they be set off as a separate civil township, to be known as Amo, the territory formerly being included in Westbrook township. The first election was held March 4, 1873, at the school house in district No. 4, in township 108, range 37, west.

The record shows that it was first named "Georgetown," but soon changed. It is believed that W. H. Benbow named it "Amo," which in Latin means "I love."

FIRST SETTLERS AND LAND ENTRIES.

The books of the register of deeds at the court house at Windom, show the following facts concerning the original land entries, homesteads and pre-emptions, in Amo township:

Jemima Benbow obtained a homestead in the west half of the northwest quarter of section 34; it was filed at the land office at Tracy and finally patented by President Chester A. Arthur, February 10, 1883.

John Wilford, an early pioneer in Minnesota, had patented to him a homestead in the west half of the southwest quarter of section 26, from the Worthington land office and it bore the signature of President U. S. Grant.

William G. Shafer homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 26, at the Jackson land office, the papers being signed by President Grant.

Gilman S. Redding patented at the Worthington land office, February 22, 1879, the east half of the northeast quarter of section 25, the same bears the name of President Rutherford B. Hayes.

Presbury W. Moore homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 34, May 11, 1879, under the signature of President Rutherford B. Hayes.

James A. Moore claimed the northwest quarter of section 26, at the Worthington land office, April 15, 1879, signed by President U. S. Grant.

Elias N. Peterson homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 12, on December 18, 1879, at the Worthington land office, the same being signed by President Grant.

David Pratt claimed, as a homestead, the north half of the southeast quarter of section 8, township 106, range 37, west. The date was October 14, 1879, and the patent was signed by President Hayes.

Hiram S. Ellis homesteaded the east half of the southeast quarter of section 10, and the same was patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur; the entry was effected at the land office at New Ulm, and the date of patent was June 20, 1882.

Francis T. Seely homesteaded the south half of the northeast quarter of section 32; it was filed at the land office at Tracy and patented March 1, 1883, with the signature of President Chester A. Arthur attached.

Alonzo K. Peck claimed as his homestead the west half of the northwest quarter of section 24 and the west half of the southwest quarter of the same section. The patent was signed by President U. S. Grant September 5, 1874.

Philip Zorn homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 18; it was filed at the land office in Tracy and was patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, March 10, 1883.

Martin Bales homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 26; it was originally filed at the land office at Tracy and patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur March 10, 1883.

William W. Barlow homesteaded the northeast quarter of section 26; his filing was made at the land office at New Ulm, while his patent was issued by President Chester A. Arthur, April 10, 1882.

Leslie Anderson claimed as his homestead right the northeast quarter of section 20. His filing was made at the land office at New Ulm, and his patent was signed by President Hayes, March 13, 1879.

Warren Hunt homesteaded the west half of the southwest quarter and north half of the southwest quarter of section 32; it was filed at the land office located at New Ulm and was patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, February 13, 1882.

Orrin Silliman homesteaded the east half of the southwest quarter of section 14; also the north half of the southwest quarter of same section; he made his filing at the land office at Tracy and received his patent from President Chester A. Arthur, March 3, 1884.

William H. Bigalow homesteaded the northeast quarter of section 30, making his filing at the land office at New Ulm, receiving his final patent from President Chester A. Arthur, January 2, 1882.

Lewis L. Bigalow homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 30; his filing was made at the land office at Tracy and his patent was obtained from President Chester A. Arthur, February 10, 1883.

Daniel C. Ashley homesteaded the northeast quarter of section 14, making his filing on same at the land office at New Ulm and receiving his patent from the hands of President Chester A. Arthur, June 20, 1882.

Ransom Bigalow claimed as his homestead right the southeast quarter of section 30, and received his patent from President Chester A. Arthur, March 10, 1883. The entry was made at the land office at Tracy.

Orrin Polk Moore, at the Tracy land office entered a homestead situated in the east half of the southwest quarter and the south half of the northwest quarter of section 28, and had the same patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, May 24, 1884.

David Pratt at the land office located at Tracy entered the south half of the southwest quarter of section 8, and had the same finally patented to him by President James A. Garfield, June 20, 1881.

John C. Sprague, at the New Ulm land office, entered as his homestead the southwest of the northwest quarter of section 6, and the same was patented to him by President Hayes, February 20, 1880.

John F. Tabbert homesteaded the north half of the northeast quarter of section 6, the same was patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, January 15, 1885.

Ebenezer Rice homesteaded the southwest quarter of section 8, at the land office located at Tracy and had the same patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, March 10, 1883.

Elbert D. Cole homesteaded the southwest quarter of section 4, at the land office then located at Tracy, and the same was later patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, October 1, 1883.

Peder C. Jensen homesteaded at Tracy, the south half of the northeast quarter of section 28, the same being patented to him by President Grover C. Cleveland, May 20, 1885.

O. Scott Mead, at the land office at Tracy, entered the northwest quarter of section 34, and had it patented by President Chester A. Arthur, March 10, 1883.

George Chapman at the New Ulm land office entered as a homestead the east half of the northeast quarter of section 26, and had it patented June 20, 1882, by President Chester A. Arthur.

PRE-EMPTION CLAIMS.

Orrin P. Moore at the New Ulm land office, entered a tract of land described as the west half of the southeast quarter of section 28; the final papers were issued to him by President Hayes, who signed the same, January 10, 1879.

John W. Rice pre-empted land in this township in the northwest quarter of section 4; the final papers were signed by President Benjamin Harrison, January 5, 1892.

James E. Reynolds entered land in the New Ulm land office, described as the south half of the southeast quarter and the south half of the southwest quarter of section 22, the same being finally patented to him by President Hayes who signed the instrument, January 10, 1879.

John Robertson, at the land office at Marshall, entered the southeast quarter of section 8, the final papers were signed by President Roosevelt December 12, 1901.

ANN TOWNSHIP.

Ann civil township is the extreme northwestern township in Cottonwood county; it is six miles square, comprising congressional township 108, range 38 west. It is bounded on the north by Redwood county, on the east by Highwater township, this county, on the south by Westbrook township and on the west by Murray county.

It was originally a pure prairie country, but through the foresight and unrelenting toil of the settlers who first made settlement here, groves of elm, maple, cottonwood and other varieties of forest and shade trees were early planted out, and now they wave in all their growing beauty, affording a

beautiful cooling shade in mid-summer and in winter are appreciated by both man and beast for the wind-break they afford. These groves, here and there over the township, give it a look resembling a forest land, when in fact not a native tree was found growing by the first comers, but all have been planted as seed, seedlings or cuttings shipped in from abroad. Many of these trees now measure sixteen inches in diameter and tower up thirty and forty feet.

This township, as well as most all of the northern tier of townships, is settled largely by foreigners, who have made a fine agricultural section out of what in the seventies was but a prairie wilderness. The various census enumerations for this township show the following: In 1895 it had a population of 402; in 1900 there was 500 and according to the United States census returns in 1910, there was a population of 433.

ORGANIZATION.

Ann township was organized by the board of county commissioners at one of their regular meetings during the year 1876, as it does not appear of record in January, 1876, but does appear in the list of townships January 1, 1877.

EARLY LAND ENTRIES.

The records of the county show the following to have made homestead or other land entries, at some one of the various land offices in this state, and these men and women constituted the first settlers of Ann township:

Engbert E. Heggerston, at the New Ulm land office, entered as his homestead claim the northeast quarter of section 18; he received his patent from President James A. Garfield, June 20, 1881.

Peder Pederson claimed as a homestead right the east half of the northeast quarter of section 8; it was filed at the land office at Tracy and was finally patented by President Chester A. Arthur, August 1, 1883.

Nels Knudson Dalen homesteaded the east half of the southwest quarter of section 14; it was filed at the land office at New Ulm and patented by President Hayes, September 10, 1880.

Rasmus Hanson homesteaded the north half of the southeast quarter of section 22 of this township; the filing was at the land office at Tracy, and the patent was secured from President Chester A. Arthur, October 5, 1881.

John J. Alfson homesteaded the east half of the southeast quarter of

section 14; he filed at the land office at Tracy and secured his patent from President James A. Garfield, June 20, 1881.

Kesta K. Helgerson, at the New Ulm land office filed on the west half of the southwest quarter of section 14, and as a homestead it was patented to him by President Hayes, September 10, 1880.

John J. Alison homesteaded the west half of the southeast quarter of section 14, the same being filed at the land office at Tracy and his final papers were signed by President Chester A. Arthur, October 1, 1883.

Johannes Petersen homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 8; it was filed at the land office at New Ulm and patented by President Hayes, February 6, 1881.

Ole O. Knudson homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 24, the entry being made at the land office at Tracy and the patent was issued by President Chester A. Arthur, July 5, 1885.

Ole Larson claimed a homestead from the land office at New Ulm, the same being the west half of the northwest quarter of section 6; it was patented to him by President James A. Garfield, May 3, 1881.

Ole John Anderson homesteaded the east half of the northeast quarter of section 12; it was filed on at the land office at New Ulm and patented by President Chester A. Arthur, June 20, 1882.

Hans Ola Olsen, at the New Ulm land office, entered as a homestead the southwest quarter of section 6, and had it patented to him by President Hayes, February 10, 1881.

John T. Holly claimed, as a homestead right, the northeast quarter of section 20, September 18, 1879, the patent issued by President Hayes, and the entry effected at the land office at New Ulm.

Mervin Waight homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 4, at the New Ulm office, December 7, 1878, the patent being signed by President Hayes.

Kittle Sanderson homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 14, the date of his patent being January 5, 1875, and is signed by President U. S. Grant, the entry being made at the land office at New Ulm.

Thomas Halvorson homesteaded the west half of the southwest quarter of section 12, the date of the patent being January 20, 1881, and was signed by President Hayes, the papers coming through the land office at New Ulm.

Rasmus Hanson homesteaded at the Tracy land office, the south half of the southeast quarter of section 2, the patent being signed May 3, 1881, by President James A. Garfield.

John M. Hanson homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 26, at the New Ulm land office, the patent being signed by President Chester A. Arthur, March 15, 1882.

Hogan Anderson homesteaded the west half of the southeast quarter of section 24, the patent being signed by President Hayes, March 20, 1878.

Andrew O. Anderson homesteaded the southwest quarter of section 24; it was filed at the land office at New Ulm and patented by President Hayes, February 10, 1881.

Hans A. Nelson homesteaded the northeast quarter of section 26; his filing was made through the land office at New Ulm and he received his patent from President Chester A. Arthur, signed on November 1, 1881.

Thomas Hansen claimed, as his homestead right, the south half of the southeast quarter of section 2; his filing was made at the land office located then at New Ulm. His patent was received from President Hayes, January 20, 1881.

Thomas Pool homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 24; it was filed at the land office at New Ulm and patented by President Chester A. Arthur, June 25, 1882.

Apollos S. Yale homesteaded the northeast quarter of section 30; it was entered at the land office at New Ulm and patented by President Chester A. Arthur, June 20, 1882.

Gilbert Oleson homesteaded the north half of the southwest quarter of section 10, at the land office at Tracy and had the same patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, August 1, 1883.

T. B. Steen homesteaded the east half of the northeast quarter of section 6, at the land office at New Ulm, and the same was patented to him by President Hayes, December 30, 1879.

PRE-EMPTION CLAIMS.

Gilbert A. Olson, at the New Ulm land office, had issued to him a pre-emption claim for the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 10, President U. S. Grant issuing the papers on May 20, 1874.

Ole John Anderson, at the land office at New Ulm, pre-empted the west half of the northeast quarter of section 28, the same being certified by President Hayes, June 24, 1878.

Ole Olson, at the Tracy land office, entered the south half of the southwest quarter of section 18, this township, and his papers were signed by President Chester A. Arthur, April 20, 1883.

Ingebret I. Toker, at the land office at New Ulm, pre-empted land in the west half of the northeast quarter of section 28, and the papers were signed by President Hayes, January 20, 1881.

Iver Nielson Moen, at the land office at New Ulm, pre-empted land in the west half of the southwest quarter of section 28, the papers being certified by President Hayes, January 20, 1881.

CARSON TOWNSHIP.

Carson is one of the southeastern townships in Cottonwood county, and comprises all of congressional township 106, range 35, west, hence is six miles square. The chapter on geology in this volume treats of the soil, lakes and streams of this township. There were originally numerous ponds and prairie lakes, but for the most part these have been drained and their former beds are cultivated or used as pasture lands, the soil being very rich and deep—almost inexhaustible. Delft is a small hamlet in this township, a station point on the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha Railroad, which runs through the southwestern part of the township, en route from Jeffers to Bingham lake.

The population of Carson township in 1895 was 655; in 1900 it was 623 and the United States census in 1910 gave it as having 672.

With the passing of years the land within this part of the county has materially improved, and since tiling and ditching have been so successfully carried out, the territory is almost all reclaimed from its former wet state to one of cultivation. The hundreds of prosperous homes observed on every hand are but an index as to what intelligent management and hard toil will do for a country. Lands have risen in value, until today there are few parts of Cottonwood county more sought after by home-seekers than Carson township.

ORGANIZATION.

This civil township was organized by the board of county commissioners at their meeting in July, 1871, when township 106, range 35, west was declared to be the civil township of Carson.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The records show the following persons to have entered lands, either under the homestead or pre-emption acts in this township:

William B. Walker claimed a homestead under the act of 1862, for the northwest quarter of section 2, the land was entered at the New Ulm land office, and the date was January 18, 1875; signed by President U. S. Grant.

Joseph McMurtrey claimed land at the New Ulm land office, in the south half of the northwest quarter and the north half of the southwest quarter of section 30. The patent was signed on January 18, 1879, by President Hayes.

Michael O. Keefe homesteaded land in the northeast quarter of section 2; it was entered at the land office at New Ulm and was patented by President Hayes; signed on February 10, 1881.

William G. Furman homesteaded land in the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 34 also in the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of the same section. It was patented by President Hayes on March 13, 1879; it was entered at the land office at New Ulm.

Frederick Carpenter homesteaded the northeast quarter of section 8; it was patented by President Hayes on February 10, 1881; it was entered at the land office at New Ulm.

Nathaniel P. Hoag homesteaded land in the southeast quarter of section 12, and the patent was signed by President Hayes, December 30, 1879; the entry was effected at the land office at New Ulm.

Marshal Chase claimed a homestead in the east half of the northeast quarter and in the west half of the northeast quarter of section 10. It was patented by President Hayes and by him signed on January 20, 1881. It was entered in the land office located at New Ulm.

Charles A. Gardner homesteaded land in the west half of the southwest quarter of section 32; it was patented by President Chester A. Arthur on June 12, 1882. It was secured at the land office located at New Ulm.

Daniel Griffin homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 12, at the land office at New Ulm; his patent was obtained at the hands of President Hayes and signed by him on February 10, 1882.

Klaas Dick homesteaded the east half of the southwest quarter and the northwest of the southwest of section 22, at the land office at Tracy, and received his patent from President Chester A. Arthur, March 10, 1883.

Edwin Maxon at the New Ulm land office entered the south half of the southwest quarter of section 28 and received his patent on same from President Hayes, April 9, 1878.

Aaron Schofield homesteaded the north half of the southwest quarter of section 28; it was entered at the land office at New Ulm and was patented by President Chester A. Arthur, June 20, 1882.

George S. Maxon homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 28 at

the Tracy land office and had the same patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, February 20, 1882.

Peter Wien homesteaded the east half of the northwest quarter of section 28, at the land office at Tracy, and had the same patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, February 10, 1883.

Cornelius Hubert claimed the homestead situated in the west half of the northeast quarter of section 26, at the land office and had his patent finally issued to him for the same.

Jacob S. Neal homesteaded the southwest quarter of section 2, at the land office at Tracy, and had his patent granted him by President Chester A. Arthur, March 10, 1883.

Henerich Quiring, at the Tracy land office entered a homestead in the east half of the northwest quarter of section 10; it was patented by President Chester A. Arthur, January 15, 1885.

Frank C. Mason homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 24, at the land office at New Ulm, and his patent was issued by President U. S. Grant, October 1, 1875.

William H. Leighton homesteaded the south half of the southwest quarter of section 34, at the land office at Tracy, and his patent was granted by President Chester A. Arthur, March 10, 1883.

George H. Smyth, at the New Ulm land office entered the southeast quarter of section 32, and his patent was granted by President Hayes, March 20, 1878.

PRE-EMPTION CLAIMS.

Elizabeth Smith entered at the New Ulm land office, lot No. 3 in section 26, and received her patent from President U. S. Grant, May 20, 1874.

Arthur Minnion selected south half of the northeast quarter of section 4, this township, and the same was patented to him by President Hayes, January 10, 1879.

William Minion pre-empted the north half of the southeast quarter of section 4, this township; his entry was made at New Ulm and his final papers were issued by President Hayes, January 20, 1881.

Edgar Hazen entered the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 10, President U. S. Grant signing the final papers, April 10, 1875.

Robert Minion, at the New Ulm land office, entered the southeast quarter of section 4, and had the same patented to him by President Hayes, May 15, 1880.

Peter C. Hiebert, at the Marshall land office, entered land in the north-

west quarter of the northwest quarter of section 34; the same was finally patented to him by President Benjamin Harrison, February 24, 1893.

Henry E. Fast entered land in the southeast quarter of section 28; it was entered at the land office at Marshall and his final papers were signed by President William McKinley, March 20, 1897.

Thomas J. Warren entered land in the north half of the northeast quarter of section 10; the entry was effected at the land office at Tracy and the final papers were signed by President Benjamin Harrison, January 18, 1890.

Oella P. Mason, at the New Ulm land office entered land in the tract known as lot No. 3, in section 24. President U. S. Grant signed the patent on May 15, 1876.

VILLAGE OF DELFT.

Delft is situated in the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 18, township 106, range 35, west, and was platted by the Inter-State Land Company June 18, 1902.

Town plats of the village of Delft were filed in the office of the register of deeds on June 25, 1902, by the Inter-State Land Company, of which O. O. Whited was vice-president. The plat consisted of eleven blocks in the township of Delton. This was the place where the railroad and warehouse commission ordered the railroad company to put in a sidetrack, in response to the petition of the farmers, in order that they might put in an elevator. Not so very long after the elevator had been built the village had its first fire, which burned the farmers' elevator, the coal sheds and the railroad company's stockyards. All were rebuilt immediately after. At present the business of the village is chiefly in the hands of Jacob Rupp, who conducts a general store; John Rupp, who conducts a hardware store; and the Farmers Elevator Company, who buy and sell grain, have charge of the coal sheds and do a general implement business.

DALE TOWNSHIP.

Dale is one of the central townships in the county, and comprises all of congressional township 106, range 36, west, hence has thirty-six sections of land within its borders. It is south of Amboy township, west of Carson, north of Great Bend and east of Amo township.

When first discovered there was a beautiful chain of lakes in the central

eastern portion of this township. These were filled in their season with wild fowls and many fish abounded in their waters. With the settlement of the country, several of these lakes have been drained out and are now utilized for pasture and field purposes by the farmers who own the property. Some of the lakes are still intact and are highly prized by the citizens of the county. The educational interests of the township, as well as the churches, are all treated in special chapters relating to such subjects.

The population of Dale in 1895 was 367; in 1900 it was 455 and the census reports of the United States enumeration for 1910 showed a population of 483.

ORGANIZATION.

Dale became a separate civil township by act of the county board in March, 1872, from township 106, range 36, west and was to be bounded as follows: "Commencing at the northeast corner of township 106, range 36, thence south to the southeast corner of said township; thence west to the southwest corner of said township; thence north to the northwest corner of said township; thence east to the northeast corner of said township and place of beginning." The first election was held at the house of George W. Purdy, Saturday, March 30, 1872; the judges were: George W. Purdy, Charles White and L. E. Mace, with John A. Harvey, clerk.

SETTLEMENT.

Perhaps no better way of showing who the pioneer settlers in this township were, can be shown than to give a brief transcript of the original land entries, which is as follows:

Henry C. Cornell homesteaded the southwest quarter of section 2, March 12, 1878, at the New Ulm land office, the patent being signed by President U. S. Grant.

James H. Sharp claimed as a homestead the southeast quarter of section 14, in this township, March 21, 1878, the patent being signed by President Grant, and the entry was made at the New Ulm land office.

James E. Mace claimed as a homestead land in the west half of the southwest quarter and the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 12, at the New Ulm land office; the patent was signed by President Hayes, April 27, 1878.

Abram L. Miles homesteaded at the New Ulm land office, the north-

west quarter of section 24. President R. B. Hayes signing the patent, July 12, 1878.

James C. Brown homesteaded the northeast quarter of section 26, July 12, 1878, the same being signed by President Hayes; the entry was made at the New Ulm land office.

S. Alexander homesteaded land located in the west half of the southeast quarter of section 10; it was patented to him on February 20, 1880, and was signed by President Hayes and secured through the land office at New Ulm.

James B. Rhoades homesteaded land in the west half of the southwest quarter of section 32. It was patented on October 20, 1880, and signed by President Hayes, being secured through the New Ulm land office.

Edwin S. Streator claimed land under the homestead act of 1862, in the west half of the southwest quarter of section 34; it was patented to him on November 3, 1876, and signed by President U. S. Grant; it was secured through the land office at Worthington.

Alfred Mosher homesteaded land in the west half of the southwest quarter of section 14; it was patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur and dated June 20, 1882; it was secured through the land office at New Ulm.

David Goss homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 12, at the New Ulm land office, and received his patent from President Chester A. Arthur, June 20, 1882.

John Schnotyen, at the land office at Tracy, entered a homestead in the north half of the northeast quarter and the south half of the northeast quarter of section 6; it was patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, February 10, 1883.

Peter Schmith homestead the southwest quarter of section 6, at the Tracy land office and had the same patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, May 31, 1884.

William G. Douglass claimed, as his homestead, the north half of the southwest quarter of section 28, the date of patent filing is April 7, 1874, and it bears the signature of President U. S. Grant.

Joel R. Clark claimed, as a homestead, the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 34, the patent being signed by President U. S. Grant, October 22, 1878.

Joseph O. Miles, claimed a homestead in section 24, and his patent was filed on February 18, 1879, signed by President U. S. Grant.

Joseph R. Cornwell, homesteaded at the New Ulm land office, the northeast quarter of section 8, the patent being issued on September 17, 1879, and was signed by President Hayes.

College land was claimed at the land office at Washington by William Prentiss, the same being the southeast quarter of section 20. The date of filing was March 6, 1875, signed by President U. S. Grant.

Homer L. Jewitt homesteaded land in the south half of the southwest quarter of section 28; it was patented by President Hayes and signed on March 13, 1879; it was entered at the land office at New Ulm.

Daniel F. Rogers homesteaded the southwest quarter of section 34 at the Tracy land office and had the patent to the same issued to him by President Chester A. Arthur, May 10, 1883.

Valentine Pfremmer homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 6, at the land office at Tracy and had his patent granted him by President Chester A. Arthur, May 31, 1884.

PRE-EMPTION CLAIMS.

George A. Purdy, at the New Ulm land office, pre-empted the odd lots in section 28, at the land office at New Ulm, and had his papers signed by President U. S. Grant, May 26, 1874.

Peter O. Arvold at the Worthington land office pre-empted the northwest quarter of section 8, the papers being signed by President U. S. Grant, January 6, 1876.

Jacob P. Epp, at the Marshall land office, claimed the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 24; the same was signed by President William McKinley, March 20, 1897.

Aaron G. Laing, at the New Ulm land office, pre-empted the south half of the northwest quarter of section 2, the papers being signed by President Hayes, January 20, 1881.

George P. Jeffers pre-empted the lot known as No. 6 in section 22, at the Tracy land office, the papers being signed by President Benjamin Harrison, January 18, 1890.

Frank C. Bell pre-empted the northwest quarter of section 20, at the New Ulm office, the papers being finally issued by President Hayes.

James H. Wilson pre-empted the part of section 22, known as lot No. 3, at the land office at Marshall, under President Cleveland's administration, and he signed the same June 9, 1894.

Adolph Graumann, at the Marshall land office, entered the west half of the southwest quarter of section 30, the papers being signed finally by President Grover Cleveland, November 6, 1893.

Henry E. Wall, at the land office at Marshall, entered the southwest

quarter of the southwest quarter of section 24, President Grover Cleveland signing his papers on March 12, 1896.

William W. Barlow pre-empted land in the north half of the northwest quarter of section 30, at the Marshall land office, the papers being certified to by President Benjamin Harrison on February 14, 1893.

Lars Anderson entered under the pre-emption act, at the land office at Marshall, the north half of the southeast quarter of section 26. President Grover Cleveland signed the papers on October 22, 1895.

Abram L. Miles entered the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 26, at the New Ulm land office, and had his final papers signed by President Chester A. Arthur, June 1, 1882.

DELTON TOWNSHIP.

Delton is composed of congressional township 107, range 35 west, hence is six miles square and contains thirty-six sections of land. It is bounded on the north by Brown county, on the east by Selma township, on the south by Carson and on the west by Amboy township. Its principal stream is the Little Cottonwood river and its many small branches, all of which are merely prairie runs or creeks, which in dry times have but little water in them, but in rainy seasons are full to overflowing.

What in an early day was but a wild prairie wilderness, without shrub or tree, has now come to be one of the finest farming sections in all this part of the state. The farmers have labored long and hard and have finally reclaimed the low, waste places and kept cultivating, annually the higher, better land until the scene is now one of real rural beauty, and the contented owners of these lands have come to enjoy a life little dreamed of by the homesteaders of the early seventies. It is, of course, a pure farming section, with no other industry to enrich the resident, but here farming and dairying certainly pay good returns for the labor expended.

The farmers of this part of Cottonwood county are well favored by having market towns on every hand—Jeffers at the west, Delft at the south and Comfrey to the northeast—all being railroad points, where the products of the farm may be exchanged for the smaller necessities of the farmhouse.

The population of the township in 1895 was 350; in 1900 it had reached 360, and by the census of 1910 it was placed at 371.

FIRST TRACTS OF LAND ENTERED.

The records show the following original land entries in Delton township:

At the New Ulm land office James Coy claimed land in the southwest quarter of section 2, the patent being filed on May 13, 1878, by President Hayes.

John C. Gent homesteaded at the New Ulm land office the southwest quarter of section 20, and the filing was made on January 17, 1878, signed by President U. S. Grant.

John W. Bangle homesteaded at the New Ulm land office the southeast quarter of section 12, the date of filing being May 10, 1878, signed by President U. S. Grant.

George M. Mayberry homesteaded land at the New Ulm land office in section 26, of range 31, and also in the east half of the northeast quarter of section 12, township 107, range 35 west. The filing was made on January 9, 1878, and bore the signature of President U. S. Grant.

Morgan C. Young claimed land in the west half of the southwest quarter of section 14, the filing being dated at New Ulm land office, January 5, 1880, and signed by President Hayes.

Ayres Hall homesteaded land in the east half of the northeast quarter of section 34 and the west half of the northwest quarter of section 4, in this township. It was patented to him by President U. S. Grant and by him signed on December 1, 1873; it was entered at the land office at New Ulm.

Andrew A. Nickerson homesteaded land in the southeast quarter of section 18, the same being patented by President U. S. Grant and signed by him on February 20, 1877. It was entered at the land office at New Ulm.

Nicholas Burger homesteaded the south half of the northeast quarter of section 22, also the north half of the southeast quarter of that section. It was entered at the land office at New Ulm and was patented by President Chester A. Arthur and signed on June 20, 1882.

Smith Cottrel claimed, as his homestead, the south half of the northeast quarter of section 18; it was filed on at the land office at New Ulm, and patented by President Hayes on March 13, 1879.

John R. Baldwin homesteaded the north half of the southwest quarter of section 30 and the west half of the northeast quarter of section 12, township 107, range 35. This was effected at the land office at New Ulm, and

the patent to same was issued by President Chester A. Arthur, December 1, 1882.

Charles S. Naramore homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 12; it was entered at the land office at New Ulm and finally patented to him by President James A. Garfield, January 20, 1881.

George Lent homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 8; his filing was made at the land office at Tracy, and his final papers were signed by President Chester A. Arthur, March 10, 1883.

Abraham Triesen, at the Tracy land office, entered as a homestead the northeast quarter of section 34; it was patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, May 31, 1884.

George L. Kendall homesteaded the southeast of the northwest; the east half of the southwest and the southwest of the southeast quarter of section 22, at the land office located at New Ulm, and had same patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, June 20, 1882.

John Calkin homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 6, at the land office at Tracy, and on February 10, 1883, it was patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur.

PRE-EMPTION OF CLAIMS.

Lyman Parsons, at the land office at Tracy, entered a pre-emption claim to the northwest quarter of section 2, and had the same patented to him on June 1, 1882, by President Chester A. Arthur.

Titus F. Mills, at the land office at New Ulm, entered land in the east half of the northwest quarter of section 32; President U. S. Grant signed the papers on May 12, 1874.

Albert Gowin entered, at the land office at Marshall, the southeast quarter of section 6, the same being patented by President Harrison on November 15, 1892.

Edson R. Fry, at the Marshall land office, entered the northwest quarter of section 14, and the final papers were signed by President Grover Cleveland, June 5, 1894.

Carl Schneider, at the Marshall land office, entered the northeast of the southeast quarter of section 18, and President Grover Cleveland signed the papers June 9, 1894.

Charles Schneider took land in the north half of the northeast quarter of the above section and had his papers signed by President Cleveland, June 4, 1895.

John O'Connor entered the northwest quarter of section 26, at the land office at Marshall, President Benjamin Harrison signing the final papers on February 21, 1893.

Ed H. Crumlett, the Tracy land office, entered the southeast quarter of section 4, and his papers were finally signed by President Chester A. Arthur, October 10, 1882.

ORGANIZATION.

Delton township was organized by the county commissioners from congressional township 107, range 35 west, on September 17, 1872. The first township meeting was held at the house of J. J. Edwards, September 27, 1872. The judges of such election were appointed as follow: J. J. Edwards, Lyman Parsons, George W. Bailey, and the clerk was P. W. Oakley.

GREAT BEND TOWNSHIP.

Great Bend township, which derives its name from the big bend in the Des Moines river within its borders, is situated centrally east and west, on the southern line of Cottonwood county, with Jackson county at the south, Springfield township on the west, Dale township at the north and Lakeside township at the east. It is comprised of congressional township 105, range 36 west. Windom, the county seat of Cottonwood county, is located within this township, of which later account is given.

This township had some of the very earliest settlers in the county, owing to the fact that the river courses through this part of the county. Streams and lakes are always sought out by the pioneer, and this settlement was no exception to the rule.

The population of this township in 1895 was 320, exclusive of the city of Windom, which then had a population of 1,523. In 1900 the township's population was 435, and the United States census returns in 1910 gave it 444, with the city of Windom as having 1,749.

ORGANIZATION.

This township was formed by the county commissioners in 1870, and was the original civil township organized in the county. It was described thus: Commencing at the southwest corner of township 106, range 35, or the northeast corner of township 105, range 35 to the southeast corner of

township 105, range 36, thence west along the line of township 104, township 36, to the southwest corner of township 105, range 36, thence along the east line of township 105, range 37, to the northwest corner of township 105, range 36; from thence east and along the south line of township 106, range 36 and on to the place of beginning.

It was resolved to have the first township meeting held at the house of Charles Chamberlin, August 27, 1870. S. B. Stedman, Paul Hamilton and Hosea Eastgate were appointed judges of election.

EARLY LAND ENTRIES AND SETTLERS.

The record shows the following to have been the land entries in Great Bend township:

William Feehan, at the Jackson land office, filed in the east half of the southwest quarter of section 10, December 30, 1873, the papers being signed by President U. S. Grant.

Mary Feehan filed on the west half of the southwest quarter of section 10, December 30, 1873, and it bears the signature of President U. S. Grant.

Reuben N. Sackett filed on the south half of the northwest quarter of section 6, September 13, 1878, the patent being signed by President U. S. Grant.

George W. Russell filed on January 18, 1878, on the north half of the northwest quarter of section 24, at the Worthington land office, the same being signed by President Rutherford B. Hayes.

John F. Hamilton claimed a homestead in the southeast quarter of section 10, February 10, 1879; this was also signed by President Hayes.

Addison G. Hall claimed as a homestead the southeast quarter of section 28; it was patented from the Worthington land office on December 12, 1879, and signed by President U. S. Grant.

John E. Teed homesteaded land in the northeast quarter of section 18. It was patented to him on August 15, 1876, and signed by President U. S. Grant; it was secured at the land office at Worthington.

Elisha B. Owen homesteaded land in the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter and the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 10; it was patented by President Hayes, November 5, 1878, and was entered at the land office at Worthington.

Samuel S. Gillam claimed a homestead under the act of 1862, the same being situated in the west half of the southeast quarter of section 24. This land was patented to him by President Hayes and dated June 10, 1871. It was secured at the land office at Worthington.

George L. Macomber homesteaded land described as being in the east half of the southwest quarter and the west half of the southeast quarter of section 34. It was patented to him on June 10, 1879, by President Hayes and entered at the land office in Worthington.

Arthur Johnston homesteaded land in the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 30; it was patented to him by President James A. Garfield, and signed on April 9, 1881.

Amos Rank homesteaded land in the south half of the southeast quarter of section 30; also in the east half of the northeast quarter of the same section, in this township. It was patented by President James A. Garfield and signed by him on April 9, 1881.

Oliver S. Bryant homesteaded land in the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 8; also the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of the same section. It was patented to him by President Hayes and dated June 5, 1880; it was entered at the land office at Worthington.

James Thompson homesteaded land in the north half of the northwest quarter of section 6; it was patented to him on November 5, 1878, and was signed by President Hayes and entered at the land office at Worthington.

Daniel Gallagher claimed land under the homestead act in the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 6, township 104, range 36, and also in the same range, but in township 105, he entered land known as lot six. This was patented by President Chester A. Arthur and dated December 20, 1881, and entered at the land office at Worthington.

Calvin Rank homesteaded land in the north half of the southwest quarter and the north half of the southeast quarter of section 30. It was patented to him by President Hayes, and signed on December 30, 1880; it was entered at the land office at Worthington.

Askel K. Trefol homesteaded land in the east half of the northeast quarter of section 8; it was patented to him by President Hayes through the land office at New Ulm, February 10, 1881.

Allen Gardner, Jr., homesteaded land in the east half of of the southeast quarter and the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter and in the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 8. It was patented by President Hayes, and signed on December 30, 1880. It was entered at the land office at Worthington.

Lucius A. Knight homesteaded land in the east half of of the northwest quarter of section 4; it was patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, and signed on April 11, 1882; it was entered at the Worthington land office.

Ethan Allen homesteaded the northeast quarter of section 6, and had same patented to him by President James A. Garfield, April 9, 1881.

James E. Fitch homesteaded the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 22, making the entry at the land office at Worthington, and having the patent finally issued by President Hayes, June 15, 1880.

Charles F. Warren, at the Worthington land office, entered as his homestead the northeast quarter of section 14; the same was entered at the land office at Worthington, and the final patent was signed by President Chester A. Arthur, August 3, 1883.

Arthur Johnston homesteaded the old lot in section 30, township 105, range 36, and his filing was made at the land office at Worthington, and his final patent was signed by President Chester A. Arthur, June 5, 1884.

Thomas Faucett homesteaded the west half of the southeast quarter of section 20, his filing being at the land office at Worthington, and his patent was signed by President Chester A. Arthur, June 5, 1884.

William Tryon homesteaded in the west half of the northeast quarter of section 34; his entry was made at the land office at Worthington, and his patent was issued and signed by President Chester A. Arthur, March 15, 1882.

Silas D. Allen claimed a homestead right to the north half of the northeast quarter of section 26, the same being entered at the land office at Worthington, and the final papers signed by President Chester A. Arthur, April 5, 1883.

Augustus Halmer homesteaded the south half of the northwest quarter of section 26; it was entered at the land office at Worthington and was patented by the signature of President Hayes, November 5, 1878.

Frank L. Jones homesteaded in the east half of the southeast quarter of section 18; the entry was made at the land office at Worthington, and his final patent was issued under signature of President Chester A. Arthur, January 10, 1885.

Ellison D. Mooers claimed under the homestead act of 1862 the northwest quarter of section 8; it was entered at Worthington land office and finally patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, March 10, 1883.

Charles C. Purdy claimed his homestead right to the southwest quarter of section 12, and his filing was at the land office at Jackson, while his final patent was signed by President Hayes, April 5, 1877.

Peter Devlin homesteaded the south half of the southwest quarter of section 2; it was filed at the land office at Worthington, and the patent was issued by President Chester A. Arthur, October 1, 1883.

Diantha Clark, at the Worthington land office, filed on the west half of the northwest quarter of section 10; it was patented on August 25, 1882, by President Chester A. Arthur.

Ed Savage homesteaded the south half of the northwest quarter of section 24, at the land office at Worthington, and it was patented by President Chester A. Arthur, May 10, 1882.

PRE-EMPTION CLAIMS.

Squire B. Stedman pre-empted the south half of the southeast quarter of section 26, at the land office at Jackson, his papers being signed by President U. S. Grant, May 20, 1874.

George H. Young pre-empted at the Worthington land office, in this township and range, his papers being signed by President Hayes, September 4, 1879.

William Gray pre-empted land at the Jackson land office, the same being the south half of the northeast quarter of section 26; President U. S. Grant signed his papers on May 20, 1874.

David Evans, Jr., at the Jackson land office, pre-empted the north half of the northwest quarter of section 18, and his papers were signed by President U. S. Grant, September 12, 1872.

Collins A. Ludden pre-empted the south half of the southwest quarter of section 24 at the land office at Worthington, and his final papers were signed by President Chester A. Arthur, March 30, 1882.

Hosea Eastgate pre-empted land in section 8, at the Worthington land office, and his final papers were signed by President Hayes, November 10, 1877.

Arthur Miller, at the Marshall land office, pre-empted the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 20, and his final papers were signed by President Benjamin Harrison, January 5, 1892.

John T. Smith, at the Jackson land office, pre-empted the southeast quarter of section 6, and his papers were signed by President U. S. Grant, May 20, 1874.

Joseph Devlin, at the land office at Marshall, pre-empted the north half of the southeast quarter of section 2, his papers being signed by President Grover Cleveland, June 4, 1895.

Richard K. Johnson pre-empted land at the land office at Marshall, in section 22, the same being signed by President Grover Cleveland.

Robert Devlin entered the north half of the southwest quarter of section 2, the same being patented by President Hayes, April 20, 1883.

Charles W. Hamilton, at the Worthington land office, entered the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 26, and it was patented to him by President U. S. Grant, May 10, 1875.

John T. Smith came to Cottonwood county in 1870 or 1871 and built a store at Big Bend, where it was supposed that the railroad would cross the river and the county seat finally located. He had about five or six hundred dollars and began business with a very small stock of goods. The railroad did not cross at the bend, where Charles Chamberlin had induced a preliminary survey and located the capital of the county. Windom "was born" in 1871 and with it the bright prospects and fond hopes of Big Bend were blighted. Mr. Smith's store was soon removed and no trace of Chamberlin's city nor his papers remains. Mr. Smith built a modest little store at Heron Lake about the time the railroad reached Worthington and began business there. Possessing good business tact, he entered upon a very successful era, gradually increasing his trade. Later, he opened stores in other towns, where he was quite successful and gained considerable wealth.

HIGHWATER TOWNSHIP.

Congressional township 108, range 37 west, is styled Highwater township, and of which name further mention will be made. In this connection it may be stated that when the government surveyors came here to do their work, they found a white man named Charles Zierke, but known as "Dutch Charlie," living with an Indian woman in this township, and he is supposed to have been the first white man in the limits of the county.

Highwater township is bounded at the north by Redwood county, on the east by Germantown township, on the south by Storden township, and at its west is Ann township. Its surface is a beautiful, undulating prairie country, with frequent small prairie creeks, some of which, with the settlement of the country, have dried up. This has come to be one of the wealthy agricultural sections of Cottonwood county, and the land has long since all been taken up and well improved. The present owners are a prosperous people, who are enjoying life, as but few of the first settlers could do, on account of the early-day drawbacks—prairie fires, drought, grasshoppers, etc. There are no villages or railroads within the northern tier of town-

ships, including Highwater. General farming and stock raising are the chief pursuits of the landowners of this portion of the county.

In 1895 the township had a population of 569; in 1900 it had 512 and, according to the 1910 United States census returns, there were 591 inhabitants in the township.

ORGANIZATION.

Highwater was organized by the board of county commissioners at the session of January, 1874, when township 108, range 37, was declared a civil township of Cottonwood county. The county commissioners called the first election to be held in the new township for January 24, 1874, the same to be held at the school house in district No. 3. The name was fixed as "Highwater," after the creek of the same name, which was thus called at an early day on account of its quick rising after a rain storm. This territory was detached from Aino township of former days.

PIONEER SETTLEMENT.

Some of the earliest land entries in the county were effected within Highwater township. Without regard to who might have been first, second or third, the following brief transcript from the public records show many of the early land entries. Most all of the persons who thus homesteaded or pre-empted land in this township in the seventies and eighties became permanent settlers and reared families, and much of the land originally entered is still held by members of the family, while not a few of the settlers are still residing in the places in which they located more than a third of a century ago.

Andrew Larson claimed, as a homestead, land in the north half of the southwest quarter and the south half of the northwest quarter of section 26, of this township, at the New Ulm land office, under President U. S. Grant's administration and signed by him on January 10, 1878.

John Larson claimed land under the homestead act of 1862, in the north half of the southwest quarter and the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 2, September 14, 1878, signed by President U. S. Grant, and the entry was effected at the New Ulm land office.

Jeremiah Lott homesteaded land in the east half of the southwest quarter of section 14; it was patented to him by President U. S. Grant and dated August 20, 1875; it was entered at the land office at New Ulm.

Francis M. Smith claimed, under his homestead rights, land situated

in the southeast quarter of section 24, and it was patented to him by President U. S. Grant, dated September 15, 1874; it was entered at the land office at Jackson.

Halvor Knudtson homesteaded land in the west half of the southeast quarter of section 18; it was patented to him on January 20, 1881, and the instrument was signed by President Hayes, the entry being made at the land office at New Ulm.

Knud Olson homesteaded land in the west half of the northwest quarter of section 28, and it was patented to him by President James A. Garfield, dated June 20, 1881. This land was entered at the land office at Tracy.

Elias Warner homesteaded land in the south half of the southwest quarter of section 18; it was patented to him on February 20, 1882, by President Chester A. Arthur; the land was entered at the land office at New Ulm.

Frederick Jauck homesteaded land in the north half of the southwest quarter of section 10; it was patented to him by President Hayes and dated February 10, 1881; it was entered through the land office at New Ulm.

Ole Esteson located a homestead in the west half of the southeast quarter of section 18, and it was patented to him by President James A. Garfield and signed on June 20, 1881; it was entered at the land office at Tracy.

Frithjof Riis selected a homestead in the east half of the northeast quarter of section 28, and it was patented to him by President Hayes and dated January 20, 1881; it was entered at the land office at New Ulm.

John Olson homesteaded land in the west half of the southwest quarter and the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 24. It was patented by President James A. Garfield and signed by him on May 3, 1881; it was entered in the land office at New Ulm.

George B. Walker homesteaded the south half of the northwest quarter of section 30, and it was patented to him by President Hayes and was signed by him on June 24, 1878.

Alse H. Ophime homesteaded land in the north half of the southeast quarter of section 28; it was entered at the land office at Tracy and was patented by President Chester A. Arthur, who signed it on November 1, 1881.

Wilhelm Jeick homesteaded land in the south half of the northeast quarter of section 10, and it was patented by President James A. Garfield, who signed same June 20, 1881.

Hartman Loomis homesteaded land in the southwest quarter of section 6; it was entered at the land office at New Ulm and was patented by President Chester A. Arthur, signed by him on June 20, 1882.

Svend S. Loeny had patented to him a homestead, signed by President U. S. Grant, March 1, 1876, the entry being made at the land office at New Ulm. This land is situated in the north half of the northwest quarter of section 32.

Lars Halvorson homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 14, the patent was signed by President Hayes, February 10, 1881, and the land entry was at the land office at Worthington.

Christian Oleson claimed, under the homestead act of 1862, the south half of the northeast quarter and the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 24; it was signed by President James A. Garfield, June 20, 1881, and was entered at the Tracy land office.

Andrew Overson homesteaded the north half of the southeast quarter of section 30; it was patented by President James A. Garfield and signed by him on June 20, 1881.

Ole Nelson Beck had patented to him the east half of the southeast quarter of section 26, the land was entered at the land office at New Ulm during President Hayes' administration and was signed by him on January 20, 1881.

Peter Pettersen, at the Tracy land office, secured land under the homestead act, the same was described as being the south half of the northeast quarter of section 34. This homestead was signed by President James A. Garfield on June 20, 1881.

Aslask Torgerson, at the land office at Tracy, had patented to him by President James A. Garfield, the west half of the southwest quarter of section 18; the instrument was signed by President Garfield on June 20, 1881.

William Geik, at the New Ulm land office, claimed under the homestead act, land in the south half of the southeast quarter and the south half of the southwest quarter of section 10; the patent was signed by the hand of President U. S. Grant, October 5, 1873.

John Roth homesteaded land in the northeast quarter of section 22, and had it patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur and signed on February 10, 1883.

Andreas H. Rongstad, at the New Ulm land office, secured his right to a homestead in the east half of the northeast quarter of section 34; the patent was signed by President James A. Garfield, May 3, 1881.

Andrew Pederson homesteaded the north half of the northeast quarter

of section 34, at the Tracy land office and had his patent finally issued by President James A. Garfield on June 20, 1881.

Ole A. Thollongbakken, at the Tracy land office, entered as his homestead the north half of the northeast quarter of section 6, and he had the same patented to him by President Grover Cleveland, who signed it April 25, 1885.

Ollare Hanson, at the Tracy land office, entered his homestead in the north half of the southwest quarter of section 34, and had his patent issued to him by President James A. Garfield, June 20, 1881.

PRE-EMPTION CLAIMS.

Jens Jacobson pre-empted the land in section 2, of this township, the entry being filed at the land office at New Ulm, and the papers were signed by President U. S. Grant, May 20, 1874.

Lowitz Larson Tatdal, at the New Ulm land office, pre-empted the south half of the southwest quarter of section 32, and his papers were signed by President U. S. Grant, in May, 1874.

John A. Monson, at the land office at New Ulm, pre-empted the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter and the northwest of the northeast of section 8, his final papers being signed by President U. S. Grant, November 10, 1875.

Martin Erickson claimed land under the pre-emption act at the land office at New Ulm, and his papers were signed by President U. S. Grant, May 20, 1874.

A. Torgerson, at the New Ulm land office, pre-empted the south half of the southwest quarter of section 18, the same being issued to him by President U. S. Grant, May 20, 1874.

Henry A. Bredli, at the New Ulm land office, pre-empted the land in this township and his papers were signed by President Hayes, January 20, 1881.

A. G. Quale pre-empted land in the west half of the southeast quarter of section 8, the papers being signed by President Hayes on January 10, 1879.

Christian Olen, at the land office at New Ulm, pre-empted land in the south half of the northwest quarter of section 22, the papers being signed by President Hayes on May 24, 1879.

Lars Larson Evanger, at the land office at New Ulm, pre-empted the

east half of the southeast quarter of section 24, and had his papers verified by President U. S. Grant, April 10, 1875.

Ingeborg Erickson pre-empted land at the land office at New Ulm, the same being the west half of the southeast quarter of section 20; the papers were signed by President U. S. Grant, May 20, 1874.

LAKESIDE TOWNSHIP.

Lakeside township is the second township from the eastern line of Cottonwood county, and is on the south line, comprising all of congressional township 105, range 35 west. It is bounded on the north by Carson township, on the east by Mountain Lake, on the south by Jackson county and on the west by Great Bend township. In this section some of the earliest settlements in the county were effected. The village of Bingham Lake is situated within Lakeside township, the history of which appears further on in this chapter. The township is traversed by the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha railroad. The township once had a large number of lakes, some of which have long since disappeared through drainage systems, but there are others still in existence—Bingham lake, near the village; Fish lake, in the south part of the township; Cottonwood lake, Clear lake, etc. This is an ideal farming township—good soil, near to good market towns, close to the county seat and a population of intelligent citizens, whose aim in life is to thrive and do all they can for the advancement of churches and public schools.

The population of Lakeside township in 1895 was 547; in 1900 it was 392 and according to the census returns in 1910 it had 449 population.

ORGANIZATION.

This township became a separate civil township by an act of the board of county commissioners at their meeting in the month of August, 1870, as comprising all of congressional township 105, range 35 west.

FIRST SETTLERS AND LAND ENTRIES.

The best evidence of names and dates concerning the settlement of this township is the record shown at the court house at Windom, which discloses the following entries of homesteads and pre-emption claims:

August L. Brown had patented to him a homestead in the southwest quarter of section 22; the filing was dated at the Worthington land office and bore the signature of President U. S. Grant.

Charles F. Sheldon claimed the east half of the southwest quarter of section 32, of this township, as a homestead, the same being patented on December 24, 1877, and signed by President U. S. Grant.

Charles Breech claimed the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 32 for a homestead on December 24, 1877, the papers bearing the signature of President U. S. Grant.

Osgood H. Dinnell, on May 23, 1878, homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 2, at the Jackson land office, with the signature of President U. S. Grant attached thereto.

M. Mathews homesteaded the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 4, May 29, 1878; the patent was signed by President U. S. Grant; the transaction was made at the Worthington land office.

Samuel C. Taggart homesteaded the northeast of section 22, June 5, 187; the patent was signed by President U. S. Grant, from the Worthington land office.

Ebenezer A. Hatch homesteaded, at the Worthington land office, the north half of the southeast quarter of section 10, the papers being signed August 26, 1878, by President U. S. Grant.

Kirk W. Sheldon claimed the northwest quarter of section 28 and had it patented to him by President U. S. Grant, who signed it July 1, 1875. The entry was made through the land office at Worthington.

Henry W. Burbank homesteaded land in the west half of the northeast quarter of section 34, the patent being issued by President Hayes on December 13, 1879, through the Worthington land office.

David P. Jaqua claimed a homestead under the act of 1862, in the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 4, the patent being signed by President Hayes, through the Worthington land office, December 12, 1877.

Myron Barr homesteaded the south half of the southeast quarter of section 10, President Hayes signing the patent on December 13, 1870.

Eber Morton claimed a homestead in the south half of the southeast quarter of section 18, the patent being signed by President Hayes, June 15, 1880, through the Worthington land office.

Jacob W. Grant homesteaded the east half of the southeast quarter of section 28, the patent being signed by President Hayes on December 13, 1880, the entry being made at the land office at Worthington.

Frank Parso homesteaded land in the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter and the south half of the southeast quarter of section 32. His patent was signed by President Hayes on June 10, 1879, and the entry was made at the Worthington land office.

Henry C. Barr homesteaded land in the east half of the northeast quarter of section 20, and had his patent signed by President Hayes on January 20, 1881, the entry being effected through the land office at New Ulm.

Chester N. Lewis homesteaded land in the south half of the southwest quarter of section 20. His patent was issued under the signature of President Hayes and was dated June 15, 1880; the entry was made at the land office at Worthington.

William C. Banks homesteaded land in the southeast quarter of section 28, and it was patented to him by President Hayes, signed on August 5, 1877, the entry being made at the land office at Worthington.

William J. Leisure claimed a homestead under the act of 1862, in the southeast quarter of section 14; it was patented to him by President U. S. Grant and signed on February 1, 1873; the entry was effected at the land office at Jackson.

John W. Mathews homesteaded land in the west half of the northeast quarter of section 10. It was patented to him by President Hayes, through the land office at Worthington, December 30, 1879.

Judson F. Pearson homesteaded land in the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 4, and his patent was signed by President Hayes on December 30, 1880; the entry was made at the land office at Worthington.

John Edwin Hemme homesteaded land in the north half of the southeast quarter of section 20; it was patented to him by President Hayes, signed by him on December 20, 1877; the entry was effected at the land office at Worthington.

Simeon Greenfield claimed a homestead under the act of March 20, 1862, in the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter and lot No. 1, in section 28. It was patented to him by President Hayes and signed by him December 30, 1880, and entered at the land office at Worthington.

James C. Porter claimed a homestead in the east half of the southeast quarter of section 30; also in the west half of the southeast quarter. His patent was signed by President Chester A. Arthur, and was dated December 20, 1881.

Charles Maxon homesteaded land in the west half of the northeast quarter of section 20; it was patented to him by President Hayes and signed

by him on November 5, 1878; it was secured at the land office at Worthington.

Elizabeth P. Carpenter homesteaded the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter and lot No. 2, in section 4. The patent was issued by President Hayes, and signed by him on December 20, 1877; the entry was made at the land office at Worthington.

Polly R. Young homesteaded the west half of the southwest quarter of section 2, and had the same patented to her by President Hayes, June 15, 1881. This entry was at the Worthington land office.

Seth S. Johnson homesteaded, April 9, 1881, at the Worthington land office, the south half of the southeast quarter of section 18, this township. The patent was signed by President James A. Garfield, and the entry was made at the land office at Worthington.

Albert C. Innes homesteaded, at the Worthington land office, the east half of the southeast quarter of section 12, the patent being signed on March 15, 1882, by President Chester A. Arthur.

John J. Young homesteaded the land in lot 4, in the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 4. It was patented by President Chester A. Arthur, and signed on October 1, 1883, the entry being effected through the land office at Worthington.

Elizabeth Moffatt homesteaded land in the southwest quarter of section 24, the same being filed at the land office at Worthington, and finally patented by President Chester A. Arthur on October 26, 1883.

Andrew Greenlee homesteaded land under the act of 1862 at the land office located at Worthington, and had same patented to him on June 5, 1884, by President Chester A. Arthur. It was situated in the east half of the southeast quarter of section 30.

Andrew L. Ely homesteaded land by entry at the land office at Worthington, the same being the northwest quarter of section 22; it was patented by President Hayes on December 13, 1879.

David Fast claimed a homestead in the north half of the northeast quarter of section 2; it was entered at the land office at Worthington, and patented by President Cleveland, January 9, 1886.

Montgomery Milford homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 20, at the land office at Worthington, and the patent was issued by President Chester A. Arthur, June 5, 1884.

Israel Burbank homesteaded lot No. 3, in section 34, at the land office at Jackson; the same was patented by President U. S. Grant, May 26, 1873.

PRE-EMPTION CLAIMS.

John D. Cook, at the Worthington land office, pre-empted the west half of the northeast quarter of section 14, and on September 10, 1880, it was patented to him by President Hayes.

Joseph A. Hoople, at the Worthington land office, entered the west half of the northwest quarter and the west half of the southwest quarter of section 12, and his papers were signed by President Chester A. Arthur, January 20, 1885.

John Button entered the west half of the northeast quarter of section 26, this township, and had his papers signed by President U. S. Grant, April 1, 1875.

Phillip Linscheid, at the Marshall land office, entered the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 10, the final papers being signed by President Grover Cleveland, June 4, 1895.

Marcellus H. Better, at the Jackson land office, entered the west half of the northeast quarter and the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter and the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 8. President U. S. Grant signed his patent papers.

Henry Clark filed on the southwest quarter of section 10 at the Jackson land office, and the same was patented to him by President U. S. Grant, September 2, 1872.

James W. Thorn entered land in this township, in the north half of the northwest quarter of section 34; it was entered at the land office at Jackson, and finally patented by President U. S. Grant, May 15, 1873.

VILLAGE OF BINGHAM LAKE.

This sprightly little village is situated in Lakeside township, in section 9, township 105, range 35 west, and was platted by the officers of the St. Paul & Sioux City Railroad Company, July 28, 1875.

The village of Bingham Lake was made a separate corporation from Lakeside township in 1900. Its municipal improvements have not as yet materialized to any great extent; it has no water or lighting system.

The postoffice at Bingham Lake was established in 1872 and the first postmaster was Daniel Davis, who held the office until 1886. Among the postmasters who have served since that time are Samuel Taggart, John J.

Goertzen and C. F. Hiebert. The present postmaster is John J. Gaertzen. The postal receipts for the last fiscal year, exclusive of money orders, amounted to one thousand two hundred and four dollars and twenty-nine cents. The money order department yielded one thousand five hundred dollars. Two rural routes serve the country communities.

TILE FACTORY.

The tile factory at Bingham Lake has in the past been operated with various degrees of success. However, not until the business management of the concern came under the direction of John Henderson, has the plant attained a perfect success. At the present time the plant is running at its full capacity, employing eleven men and making six to eight thousand tile a day.

PIONEER BUSINESS MEN.

Daniel C. Davis was the first permanent settler in the village of Bingham Lake and, in company with R. P. Mathews, established all the corners of the townsites. Upon coming to the village, Mr. Davis opened a general store and continued to operate it for three years. He was appointed postmaster in 1872, and served until 1886. It is rather of an interesting fact that at the end of the first three months, after taking out his own salary and office expenses, the government's share of the receipts was three cents.

Mr. Davis bought his first stock of goods, amounting to three thousand six hundred dollars, in New York, as goods could be bought much cheaper in the East than at St. Paul or Minneapolis. However, he greatly overestimated the needs of the people and had to dispose of a great amount of his stock to Windom merchants. During the grasshopper days he supplied many needy people with provisions, trusting that when they were able he would receive payment, but in many cases his accommodations and sacrifices were lost sight of and the money was never forthcoming.

In 1872 the plat of ground set aside for a park was broken up by Mr. Davis and planted with trees. They were not taken as good care of as they should have been, with the result that the prairie fires destroyed most of them. A few of the original trees are still standing, but the majority have been planted within the last thirty years.

Among the early business-men, besides Mr. Davis, were, Mr. Clines, who came from Lake City. He sold his business to Mr. Young, who was burned out. A. J. Bueller was another one of the early merchants. He

remained in the village for a while and finally sold out and went to Montana. D. J. Hiebert was also one of the early business-men and did a large and profitable business for many years.

One of the early landmarks of the village is still standing, and that is the first house erected in the village by Mr. Davis and now occupied by William Evans. It is in a good state of preservation and looks better than many of the houses erected in the last few years.

By noticing the present business directory one can see that there has been a great change since the early settlement of the village. Almost every line of business is now represented, and although the village is destined to never become a large town, yet it is growing because the merchants are wideawake and prosperous and the village is located in the midst of a fine farming community, which is the chief basis for all growth.

COMMERCIAL INTERESTS IN 1916.

The business interests of Bingham Lake were represented by the following people in 1916:

Bank—First State Bank.

Barber—Frank E. Hyde.

Blacksmith—W. J. Butler.

Brick Plant—John Henderson.

Creamery—Bingham Lake Creamery.

Elevator—St. John Grain Company, The Liem Elevator.

General Dealer—Holt & Wickland.

Harness Shop—Erickson & Anderson.

Implement Dealer—Charles A. Liem.

Meat Market—Henry Wessel.

Livery—Joseph Morton.

Lumber Dealer—S. L. Rogers Lumber Company.

Restaurant—J. J. Soltau.

Stock Buyer—C. S. Cain, N. P. Minion.

Telephone—Windom Mutual, Northwestern.

MIDWAY TOWNSHIP.

Midway township is the central sub-division of the county, on the eastern border, and comprises all of congressional township 106, range 34

west. It is south of Selma township, west of the line between Cottonwood and Watonwan counties, and north of Mountain Lake township. The village of Mountain Lake is within this township and was named "Midway," but latter changed on petition of the citizens. Originally, this township had numerous swamps and lakelets, but with the flight of years they have nearly all been reclaimed, and now growing crops wave over their surface. The soil is of unexcelled fertility in these old lake and pond beds. Hundreds of miles of private farm tiling have made this one of the best sections in the county, and still the work is going on.

This township, as are others adjoining it, is largely settled by Russians, who came in to this part of the county in great colonies about 1870 and later. They still retain many of their foreign notions, but are thorough farmers and good citizens. If they have any special hobby it is that of supporting an almost endless number of different kinds of Mennonite churches, which practically are the same, only for some special feature.

The population in 1895 was 528; in 1900 it had reached 607, and according to the United States census reports of 1910 it was placed at 658.

TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION.

This township was organized by the county commissioners board in March, 1895, from territory once included in Mountain Lake township, the new township taking in township 106, range 34, west. The first meeting and township election were called by the board to meet at the house of Cornelius Janzen, March 16, 1895.

EARLY SETTLERS.

The records show the following land entries in this township:

Joseph A. Belling homesteaded, March 18, 1878, at the New Ulm land office, the northeast quarter of section 4, the patent being signed by President U. S. Grant.

William Seeger homesteaded the southwest quarter of section 2, at the New Ulm land office, the patent being signed by President Hayes, March 13, 1879.

F. Tows homesteaded the south half of the northwest quarter of section 28, at the land office located at Tracy and it was patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, March 10, 1883.

Apollos S. Yale, on February 10, 1883, had patented to him by Presi-

dent Chester A. Arthur, a homestead in the northeast quarter of section 30, the same having been entered in the land office at Tracy.

*Thomas Curley, at the Tracy land office, had a homestead which was situated in the south half of the southeast quarter of section 2, the same was patented by President Chester A. Arthur, May 10, 1883.

Asa L. Warren homesteaded the south half of the southwest quarter of section 34, at the land office at New Ulm, and had the same patented to him by President U. S. Grant, February 20, 1877.

Morris Dunn homesteaded the west half of the southeast quarter of section 10 and the south half of the northeast quarter of the same section, all within township 106, range 34, west. It was patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, May 3, 1884.

Martin Carty homesteaded the northeast half of the southeast quarter of section 2, the entry being made at the New Ulm land office; the patent was issued to him by President Hayes, January 20, 1881.

Henry Goosen, at the Tracy land office, entered as his homestead the west half of the southwest quarter of section 12; the same was patented by President Arthur, March 10, 1883.

Henry F. Billings homesteaded at the New Ulm land office the east half of the northeast quarter of section 34; it was patented by President U. S. Grant, December 1, 1873.

Paul Seeger homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 20; it was entered at the land office at New Ulm and patented by President U. S. Grant, May 20, 1873.

PRE-EMPTION CLAIMS.

Alonzo R. Phillips, at the New Ulm land office, pre-empted the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 8; President Hayes signed the papers on May 24, 1879.

Henry M. Kroecker, at the land office at Marshall, entered the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 30, the final papers being certified to by President Benjamin Harrison, March 9, 1893.

Ruth M. Chandler, at the land office at New Ulm, entered the north half of the southwest quarter of section 34, President U. S. Grant signing the final papers on May 15, 1876.

Caroline Quiring, at the New Ulm land office, entered the south half of the southeast quarter of section 4, President Hayes signing the papers on January 20, 1881.

Albert Wigton entered at the New Ulm land office, the west half of the

southeast quarter of section 6, President Hayes issuing the papers on July 24, 1879.

MOUNTAIN LAKE VILLAGE.

The village of Mountain Lake received its name from the lake of the same name, located about two miles southeast of the village. In the center of the lake was an island almost circular in form, flat on top and rising out of the water about forty feet. The upper part of the island was covered with trees which could be seen for many miles. This spot served as a landmark and a guide for many of the early settlers.

Near this lake and island the railroad station was first located. In time the station was moved to the present site and the name of the village was changed to Midway, but the name proving unsatisfactory, was changed back to Mountain Lake.

The village was platted in 1870, but made little progress until after the building of the railroad in 1873. In this year, three general stores were doing business in the village and were owned by S. J. Soule, J. Lynch and Paul Seeger. The store owned by Seeger was probably the first and was located on the site of the State Bank. The store room was very small, but was quite adequate to the needs of the times. Mr. Seeger came from Cumea, Russia, in 1873, and settled on the first claim in the vicinity of Mountain Lake. He was also among the first postmasters. The first blacksmith was Carl Penner, who later moved away and died in California. Among other early business men in the village were Howard Soule, Jacob Reiner, John Janzen and Abraham Penner.

With the coming of the railroad, immigration set in rapidly and the village grew by leaps and bounds. In 1886 the village was incorporated with a population of three hundred people, mostly Mennonites from southern Russia.

Among other business factors in the village have been the following:

Jacob Heier, who began the furniture business in 1878 south of the railroad track, settled in Mountain Lake in 1874 and began work as a carpenter. David Ewert, who in 1880 opened a lumber yard and store in partnership with H. P. Goertz, came to the village in 1878. P. H. Goosen, the blacksmith, who came into the village in 1875. H. P. Goertz, one of the very earliest settlers and among the very few living in the town, started business with David Ewert and in 1882 started in the lumber business for himself. He also settled in the village in 1875. Henry Hammer located in the village in 1883 and opened up a harness shop in 1877. Mr. Hammer

first settled on a tree claim, eight miles north of the village. Frank Balzer entered into the lumber business in 1886 and still operates his place of business. Balzer & Hiebert opened a general store in 1888. Mr. Balzer, the druggist, began the drug business in 1889. John C. Hiebert became a dealer in general merchandise in 1891. Abraham Nickel, the harness man, began business in 1891. Edward Rupp, merchant, began business in 1892. A. E. Woodruff opened a large merchandise store in 1894. Thiessen Brothers began their implement business in 1895. In 1896 Julien Glasman opened a new meat market. John Jungas began the operation of a shoe store in 1897. In 1898 P. P. Goertzen a jewelry store and was quite successful.

One of the early physicians to locate in the village was Dr. John Watson, a graduate of Bellone Medical College, New York City. He began the practice of medicine in Mountain Lake in 1901.

Among other men who have contributed to the business welfare of the town are, J. D. Schroeder, J. J. Unruh, Theo. Nickel and G. D. Schroeder.

Among other early settlers have been the following: Abraham Funk, 1875; H. Goosen and G. Gerdes in the early seventies; Abraham J. Fast, 1875; Henry J. Fast, 1875; Gerhard Neufeld, 1878; Jacob P. Harder, 1873; John Janzen, 1873; Henry Dickman and Peter Dick (Krim).

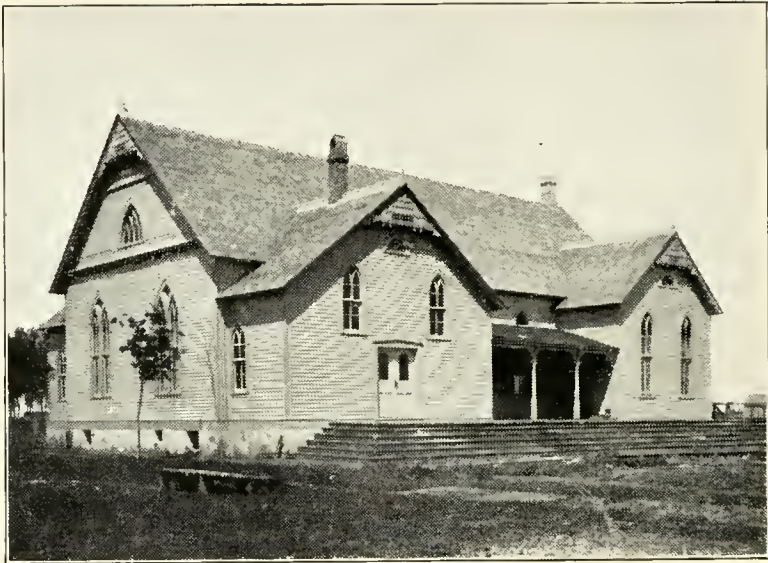
MUNICIPAL.

The village of Mountain Lake became separated from the township in 1886. A Penner was the first president of the town council and John Janzen, the first recorder. The present officers are inclusive of the following: President, J. H. Dickman; treasurer, F. F. Schroeder; recorder, M. S. Hanson; trustees, John Jungas, D. Heppner and A. Janzen; marshal, William Burk; justices, Herman-Teichroew and John P. Rempel; constables, J. J. Brown and W. Burk; assessor, Herman Teichroew.

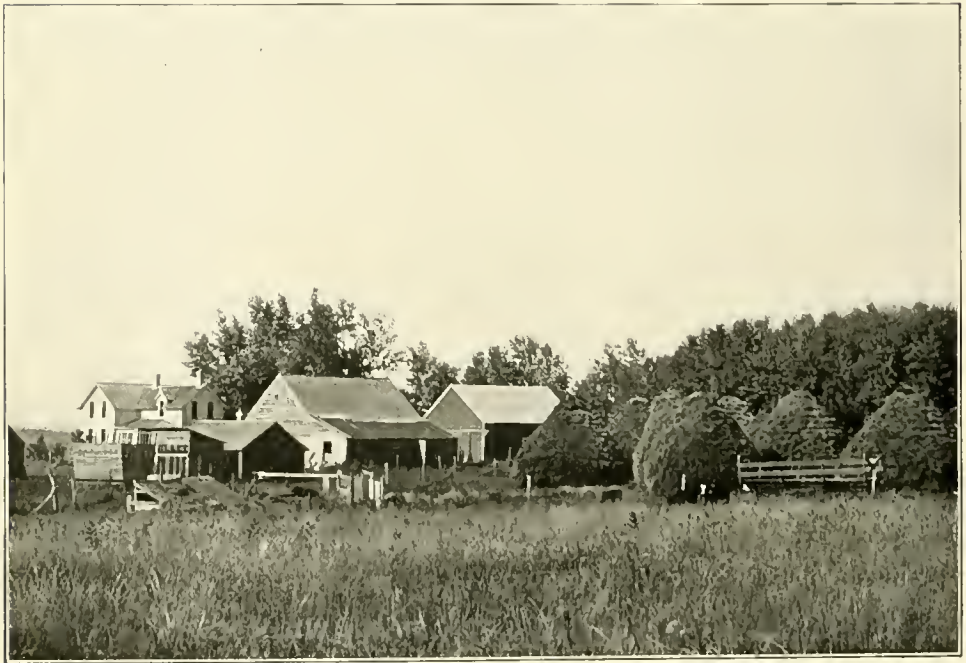
The town is very active in the way of improvements. Twenty thousand dollars have been spent in installing a water-works system. The town is furnished with water from a drilled well four hundred and fifty feet deep, three hundred feet of which is drilled through solid rock.

POSTOFFICE.

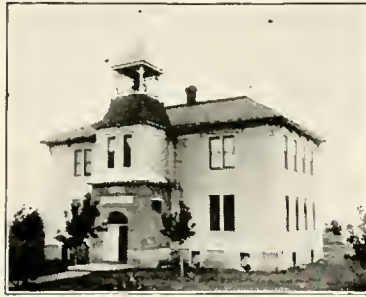
The postoffice at Mountain Lake was one of the first government offices established in the county and at the present time its receipts are the second largest in the county, amounting to four thousand three hundred dollars.



BETHEL CHURCH, MOUNTAIN LAKE.



FARM VIEW NEAR MOUNTAIN LAKE.



GERMAN SCHOOL, MOUNTAIN LAKE.



HIGH SCHOOL, MOUNTAIN LAKE.

exclusive of money orders, for the last fiscal year. Four rural routes serve the country people from this office. Among the postmasters who have held the office are the following: Howard Sonler, John Janzen, Abraham Siemens, Joe Wigton, J. D. Schroeder and I. I. Borgen. Mr. Borgen, the present postmaster, has served in the capacity continuously for the last fourteen years and although a Republican, received his last appointment under a Democratic administration.

THE COMMERCIAL CLUB.

The Mountain Lake Commercial Club began its existence on March 1, 1915. In the beginning the membership numbered nearly one hundred, but since the number has decreased until there are only about eighty members. The club is composed of business and professional men in Mountain Lake and neighboring communities. A great many public questions have been brought up and discussed at the meetings with the result that a great deal of good has been accomplished. Among the questions have been those of sewerage, roads, a public rest room, etc. The officers who were first elected still retain their offices. They include the following: President, Frank Balzer; vice-president, Henry P. Goertz; secretary, D. G. Hiebert; treasurer, F. F. Schroeder; executive committee, Dr. W. A. Piper, D. C. Balzer and A. A. Penner.

The purpose of the club is to bring into one organization, the business and professional men of Mountain Lake and vicinity, so that by frequent meetings and the full interchange of views, they may secure an intelligent unity and harmony of action, that shall result to their own benefit, as well as the future development of the community in which they live.

MENNONITE HOSPITAL.

The Mennonite hospital of Mountain Lake began its existence about 1905. The organization included only local men, among whom were, H. P. Goertz, D. Ewert, J. D. Hiebert, F. Balzer, J. H. Dickman, J. G. Hiebert. For a few years the institution was run without much success. Finally, in 1912, the company was reorganized and the institution sold to the Bethel Deaconess Home, of Newton, Kansas, and is now considered as a branch of it. The hospital is managed by a local board consisting of one member from each of the five Mennonite churches. H. P. Goertz is president of the board; D. P. Eitzen, secretary; Aaron Peters, treasurer.

The physicians in charge are Doctor Piper, of Mountain Lake, and Doctor Sogge, of Windom, who are assisted by three sisters and two or three helpers. In 1915 the institution had sixty-four patients and thirty-two operations were performed.

ELECTRIC LIGHT AND FIRE COMPANY.

In 1913 the Mountain Lake Milling Company installed an electric light plant which furnishes the town with electricity. However, arrangements have been made whereby connections are to be made with the Rapidan system and hereafter light will be furnished by that concern.

The fire company is composed of fourteen men, well supplied with a fire engine, hose, ladders, chemical tanks and other necessary fire equipment. The present indebtedness of the town is about thirteen thousand dollars.

INDUSTRIES.

David Hiebert, who came from Russia, started the Mountain Lake flour-mill in 1875. He conducted the business for a period of ten years of time. He sold to Neufield & Friesen, who after two or three years sold to Abraham Penner. Mr. Penner was not a miller and therefore was not very successful. He soon sold out to Diedricks & Hiebert, the present owners, who after running the business for four years, formed an incorporated company known as the Mountain Lake Roller Milling Company. The officers at present are: President, J. J. Diedricks; vice-president, J. J. Hiebert; secretary-treasurer, D. G. Hiebert. The company is incorporated for forty thousand dollars. The capacity of the mill is one hundred and twenty barrels per day. Their special brands of flour are "White Rose," a first-grade flour, and "Natural Patent," a second-grade flour. Besides they make rye, graham, wheat graham, corn meal and rye flour. An elevator is run in connection with the mill which has a capacity of ten thousand bushels.

At the time of incorporation, an electric plant was installed in connection with the mill and was very successful. Recently, however, an opportunity presented itself of securing better service by connecting with the Consumers Power Company. The Milling Company has just entered into a ten-year contract with the above company, service to begin on October 1, 1916. The Milling Company continues to distribute light and power.

The Farmers' Co-operative Creamery at Mountain Lake was organized about June 1, 1908. The company owns their own building, which was

built especially for the purpose and is doubtless the best and most completely equipped of any in the county. The plant has a capacity of about ten thousand pounds of butter per week, but the amount turned out at the present time amounts to about four thousand pounds per week, all of which has a ready market in the local community and Chicago. During the month of July, 1916, the creamery had one hundred and ten patrons.

SMALL CONFLAGRATIONS.

Mountain Lake has been very fortunate in not having many destructive fires. In 1897 the elevators belonging to H. P. Goertz and E. G. Terwilliger were burned, causing a loss of six thousand dollars. It was the general belief at the time that the fire was of incendiary origin, but it was never proven.

In 1900 the creamery owned by P. C. Hiebert burned, causing a loss of four thousand dollars, covered by insurance to the extent of two thousand dollars.

On April 13, 1898, the Hubbard & Palmer elevator burned, causing a loss of six thousand dollars. Seven thousand bushels of wheat were destroyed.

Hiebert Brothers' elevator was burned on January 30, 1899. At the same time an attempt was made to burn the elevator belonging to Hubbard & Palmer. All the losses were covered by insurance.

MOUNTAIN LAKE TOWNSHIP.

The southeastern corner township in Cottonwood is Mountain Lake. It comprises all of congressional township 105, range 34, west, and is a full thirty-six section township. It is situated south of Midway township, west of the Watonwan county line, north from Jackson county and east of Lakewood township. It derives its name from the lake of that name within its borders, of which further mention will be made. The lake, as known to pioneers, is no more; it has long since been drained and grains and grasses grow in its old bed. There are a few small prairie creeks in the township, but none of any considerable size. Except the southern suburbs of the village of Mountain Lake, which is in Midway township, there are no villages within Mountain Lake township. It is excellent land and produces immense crops of all grains and grasses common to this latitude. It is set-

tled very largely by Russians, who make first-class agriculturists, though many have methods peculiar to themselves.

The population of the township in 1895 was 612; in 1900 it was 561 and the United States census for 1900 gave it as having only 512.

ORGANIZATION.

Mountain Lake township was organized at a board meeting in 1871, by a petition presented the board by Daniel D. Bates and many more, asking that township 105, range 34 be set off and called Mountain Lake township. The prayer was answered and the township organized by calling the first election at the house of A. A. Soule, Saturday, May 6, 1871. Daniel D. Bates, A. A. Soule and M. Jacobson were appointed judges of such election, and S. H. Soule was appointed clerk. The legal description of the new townships was: "Commencing at the northeast corner of township 105, range 34, thence south to the southeast corner of said township and range; thence west to the southwest corner of said township, thence east to the northeast corner of said township and to the northeast corner of said township, thence to the place of beginning."

PIONEER AND LATER LAND ENTRIES.

The subjoined list of homesteads and pre-emption claims has been transcribed from the books in the register of deeds in the court house at Windom, and shows many entries, name of land office and by whom patented.

A homestead claim was filed on August 25, 1873, by William H. Drake in the northwest quarter of section 4, township 105, range 34, west, at the Jackson land office, and signed by President U. S. Grant.

Under the Soldiers Bounty Act of 1820, Abraham Mace, a private in Captain Wooster's company, Vermont militia, at the invasion of Plattsburg, during the War of 1812, was entitled to land, and his heirs laid claim to the southwest quarter of section 30, township 105, range 34, at the Jackson land office; the same contains one hundred and fifty-six acres.

President U. S. Grant signed the patent for a homestead on November 4, 1874, for Julia T. Knowlton, from the Worthington land office, the same being land in the southeast quarter of section 30, township 105, range 34.

Alfred A. Soule homesteaded, at the Jackson land office, the east half of the northwest quarter and the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 2, in 1872, the same being signed by President U. S. Grant.

Ed. O. Zimmerman homesteaded at the Worthington land office the southwest quarter of section 20, the patent being signed by President Hayes, July 23, 1878.

James Cooney claimed, as a homestead, July 23, 1878, the east half of the northeast quarter of section 4, the patent was signed by President U. S. Grant; the papers came through the land office at Worthington.

James B. Jones claimed a homestead in the southeast quarter of section 14, and had it patented to him by President Hayes and signed on February 10, 1881; it was secured at the Worthington land office.

Eliza C. Huntington homesteaded the east half of the northeast quarter of section 30; it was entered at the land office at Worthington and was patented by President Hayes and by him signed on December 13, 1880.

Simon Huntington homesteaded land in the west half of the northeast quarter of section 30; it was entered at the land office at Worthington and patented by President Hayes, who signed it on June 15, 1880.

Cornelius Quiring homesteaded land in the west half of the southwest quarter of section 28; it was entered at the land office at Worthington and patented by President Chester A. Arthur and signed by him on April 5, 1883.

Ole Christensen homesteaded the east half of the southeast quarter of section 12, at the land office at Worthington and had same patented to him by President U. S. Grant, who signed it on November 3, 1876.

Peder Christensen claimed, as his homestead, the east half of the northeast quarter of section 12, and the same was patented to him by President U. S. Grant, and signed on December 1, 1876; the entry was made at Worthington land office.

John Oglesby at the land office located at Worthington, claimed as his homestead the west half of the southeast quarter of section 34 and his patent was issued by President Hayes, June 15, 1880.

George Baumann, at the Worthington land office homesteaded the west half of the southeast quarter of section 18, and had same patented to him by President Hayes, who signed the papers on December 30, 1879.

Joseph Meixell claimed as a homestead at the land office at Worthington, the northwest quarter of section 28, and same was patented by President Hayes, November 5, 1878.

William Weibe homesteaded the north half of the northeast quarter of section 22, the entry being made at the land office at Worthington and patented by President Chester A. Arthur, April 5, 1883.

Christian Reinert homesteaded the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 22; also the northeast of the southwest of same section,

the entry being made at the land office at Worthington and the final patent issued to him by President Chester A. Arthur, March 10, 1883.

Charles F. Barnes homesteaded the west half of the northwest quarter of section 34, the entry being made at the land office at Worthington; the patent was issued by President Chester A. Arthur, March 15, 1884.

Samuel E. Ford homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 18, and it was patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, April 5, 1883; the land was entered at the land office at Worthington.

Heinrich Regehr, at the Worthington land office filed on the east half of the southwest quarter of section 34, and the same was patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, June 5, 1884.

Henry H. Winter homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 26. The entry was effected at the land office at Worthington and was finally patented to him by President U. S. Grant, November 5, 1874.

Thomas S. Potter homesteaded the north half of the northwest quarter of section 18, and the same was patented to him by President Grover Cleveland, April 20, 1885.

Martin Pepper homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 14 and his patent was signed by President Hayes, November 5, 1878; the entry was made at the land office at Worthington.

Andreas Heiler, at the land office, Worthington, filed on a homestead in northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 10, this township; it was patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, January 10, 1885.

Jacob Dickson homesteaded the east half of the southeast quarter of section 28 and had the same patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, April 5, 1883. It was filed on at the land office in Worthington.

Wilhelm Holzrichter had patented to him a homestead by President Chester A. Arthur, October 26, 1883, the same being the south half of the southwest quarter of section 18. It was filed on at the Worthington land office.

David Wade homesteaded the south half of the northeast quarter of section 22, the same being entered at the land office at Worthington and finally patented by President Chester A. Arthur, March 10, 1883.

Jacob Neufeld entered as a homestead at the land office at Worthington, the northeast quarter of section 20, and had the same patented to him by President Grover Cleveland, August 10, 1886.

PRE-EMPTION CLAIMS.

Paul Seeger, at the Jackson land office, pre-empted the northeast quarter of section 4, President U. S. Grant signing his final papers.

Martin Henderson pre-empted two quarters in this township at the land office at Jackson and the final papers were signed by President Chester A. Arthur, May 20, 1884.

William H. Race, at the Worthington land office, pre-empted west half of the southwest quarter of section 12, the papers finally being verified by President Hayes, March 20, 1877.

D. D. Olfert pre-empted at the land office at Marshall, the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 20, the papers being issued by President Benjamin Harrison, November 15, 1893.

William Leder, at the land office at Marshall, pre-empted the south half of the northwest quarter of section 6, the papers being signed by President William McKinley, September 9, 1897.

Frederick Maker pre-empted the east half of the southeast quarter of section 6, the papers being signed by President U. S. Grant, May 20, 1874.

Keziah M. Tingley, at the Jackson land office, entered the north half of the northeast quarter of section 34; President U. S. Grant signed his papers on April 1, 1875.

Peter K. Voth entered land at the land office at Marshall, the same being described as the north half of the southeast quarter, and the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 20; the final papers were signed by President Benjamin Harrison, March 1, 1892.

The business interests and professions of Mountain Lake were represented by the following in 1916:

Auto garage—H. P. Goertz Auto Company, Peter Stoesz.

Banks—First National, First State.

Barber shop—Rempel & Harder.

Blacksmith shops—Peter Goosen, Herman Kremin.

Confectionery—J. J. Vogt, "The Pleasant Corner."

Clothing—Janzen Brothers, J. N. Fast.

Creamery—Farmers Co-operative Association.

Creamery station—Fairmount Creamery Company, Worthington Creamery Company, Hansford Creamery Company.

Drug store—S. Balzer.

Dray lines—J. P. E. Derksen, Dick & Heppner.

- Dentist—E. A. Rieke.
Elevator—F. Schroeder, Hubbard & Palmer, Farmers Elevator Company, Schaefer Brothers.
Furniture dealer—Jacob Heir, J. J. Janzen.
Feed store—D. D. Enns.
General dealers—Balzer, Hiebert and Company, David Ewert, P. Geyerman & Sons, Ed. Rupp.
Hotel—The Commercial.
Harness shop—Mens S. Hanson.
Hardware dealers—J. J. Janzen, John Jungas.
Implement dealers—Schroeder & Becker, Thiessen Brothers, Mountain Lake Implement Company.
Jeweler—W. A. Nickel.
Lumber dealers—H. P. Goertz, Frank Balzer and Company.
Livery—George Hutgler.
Mill—Mountain Lake Roller Milling Company.
Milliners—Hiebert Sisters.
Meat markets—George P. Derkson, T. J. Eickholt.
Merchant tailor—Phil Nerstheimer.
Newspaper—*Mountain Lake View* and *Unser Beuucher*.
Physicians—Dr. P. W. Pauls, Dr. W. A. Piper.
Photograph gallery—Cornelius J. Brown.
Produce dealers—Hanford Produce Company, Worthington Produce Company.
Real estate dealers—Aug Buche Land Company, J. C. Koehn, D. A. Lahart Land Company.
Shoemaker—Henry Fiel.
Tin shop—J. V. Dueck.
Telephone—North Star Telephone Company, Tri-State.
Veterinary—Sidney Meyers.

ROSE HILL TOWNSHIP.

Rose Hill township is situated on the western line of Cottonwood county and is the second from the southern line. It comprises all of congressional township 106, range 38 west. It is bounded on the north by Westbrook township, on the east by Amo, on the south by Southbrook and on the west is the county line between Cottonwood and Murray counties. Originally, there were numerous lakes and prairie ponds within the limits

of this township, and there are still a few, but many of the lakes have been drained and their beds are utilized for pasture and field purposes. Among the lakes are Berry, Long and Carey lakes.

This is an excellent agricultural and dairy section and the farmers are rapidly becoming forehanded and wealthy. They have the modern conveniences of life, and are reaping the reward for the long years of struggle they had as homesteaders, against prairie fires and grasshoppers.

The population of the township in 1895 was 480; in 1900 it was 535 but by 1910, according to the United States census returns it had decreased to 510.

ORGANIZATION.

By an act of the board of county commissioners in the month of March, 1879, Rose Hill township was organized, and the board ordered the first township meeting and election of officers to take place on April 5, 1879, at the house of John Carey.

SOME EARLY LAND ENTRIES.

Maria Carey homesteaded land in the south half of the northwest quarter of section 24, at the land office at New Ulm, and had her patent issued to her from President Hayes, September 10, 1880.

Samuel Hoveland, at the Tracy land office, had a homestead entry on the northeast quarter of section 2, and had the same patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, May 15, 1884.

William Johnson homesteaded the south half of the northwest quarter of section 22, and had the entry made at the land office at Tracy and his patent was issued him by President Chester A. Arthur, January 15, 1885.

Henry Olsen homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 14, in the land office at Tracy and the same was patented to him by President Grover Cleveland, April 27, 1885.

Frank White, at the land office at Tracy, was given his homestead right in the southwest quarter of section 14, and the same was patented to him by President Grover Cleveland, January 9, 1886.

PRE-EMPTION CLAIMS.

Clark W. Seeley, at the land office at New Ulm, entered the southwest quarter of section 4, this township; his final papers were signed by President Hayes, January 20, 1881.

Martin Kauchbauns, entered land at the land office at Marshall, described as lot No. 3, in section 26. President Benjamin Harrison signed the final papers, granting the patent.

George F. Robison, at the Marshall land office, entered the land known as lot No. 1, in section 12, the same having been signed by President Theodore Roosevelt, September 2, 1902.

SELMA TOWNSHIP.

The extreme northeastern congressional township in Cottonwood county is known as Selma; it comprises township 107, range 34 west, and is situated directly south of Brown county, west of Watonwan county, north of Midway township, Cottonwood county, and east of Delton township, this county.

A branch of the Chicago & Northwestern railway crosses this township, entering in section 3, running directly southeast, leaving the township and county from section 13. The Watonwan river and small tributaries are found flowing through this township. The soil is excellent and all the tillable land is now under a high state of cultivation. The village of Comfrey, Brown county, extends over into this township to a certain extent. Of the churches and schools of the township other separate chapters will treat. The population of the township in 1895 was 405; in 1900 it was placed at 427 and the United States census returns for 1910 gave it as having 530. There are no towns or villages within Selma.

ORGANIZATION.

Selma township was organized by the board of county commissioners at their regular meeting in March, 1874, and was then named Clinton township and why changed, or when, the records seem silent. It comprises township 107, range 34 west. The first election was called to be held at the house of D. T. Woodward, April 4, 1874.

"Ripley" township was organized at the same time and comprised township 108, range 34 west, which civil township has no history in this county, as it was immediately taken over by Brown county with another congressional township.

HOMESTEADS AND PRE-EMPTIONS.

Just who was the first white man to set stakes and make for himself a permanent home in this township is not now well established, even by tradition. But a careful search through the books of the register of deeds of the county, shows that the following were the original land entry persons, either as homesteaders or pre-emptors:

John W. Golden, homesteaded at the New Ulm land office, the south half of the southeast quarter of section 18, January 18, 1878, and his patent was signed by President U. S. Grant, and the entry was effected at New Ulm land office.

Lewis Coville entered, as a homestead at the New Ulm land office, July 12, 1878, the south half of the northeast quarter and the north half of the southwest quarter in section 32, his patent being signed by President U. S. Grant.

David Archibald claimed a homestead in the northeast quarter of section 12, October 6, 1878, and the patent was signed by President U. S. Grant.

Mathias Stoffel homesteaded on May 22, 1879, the south half of the southeast quarter of section 26, the patent being signed by President Hayes. The entry was made at the New Ulm land office.

Charles Anderson homesteaded land under the Homestead Act of 1862, in the west half of the southeast quarter of section 10. It was entered at the land office in New Ulm and was patented by President Hayes and signed by him on January 20, 1881.

Thomas Cullen claimed his homestead rights in the west half of the northeast quarter of section 6; it was entered through the land office at New Ulm and was patented by President Hayes and signed on March 13, 1879.

Caroline Knudson homesteaded the west half of the northeast quarter of section 34; it was entered at the land office at New Ulm, and was patented by President James A. Garfield, June 20, 1881.

Thomas Coen homesteaded land in the east half of the southeast quarter of section 6, and had the same patented to him by President Hayes, who signed it on March 13, 1879; it was entered at the land office at New Ulm.

Greta Jones Dater homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 14, at the land office at Tracy; the patent for this land was issued by President Chester A. Arthur, February 20, 1882.

Olf Peterson homesteaded the north half of the southeast quarter of section 26; it was entered at the land office at New Ulm and patented by President Hayes.

John Cullen homesteaded the east half of the northwest quarter of section 6; it was entered at the land office at New Ulm and patented by President Hayes, March 13, 1879.

Christian Anaker homesteaded the northeast quarter of section 24 at the land office at Tracy, and had the same patented to him by President Grover Cleveland, January 9, 1886.

Theodore P. Eickholt homesteaded the south half of the southeast quarter of section 26, at the land office at New Ulm, and received his patent from President Hayes, January 20, 1881.

Howard M. Goss homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 34, at the land office at New Ulm, and received a patent signed by President U. S. Grant, September 15, 1874.

Ogden D. Warner homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 34, at the land office at New Ulm, and received his patent from President U. S. Grant, March 20, 1876.

PRE-EMPTION CLAIMS.

Theodore J. Brandt, at the Marshall land office, entered under the Pre-emption Act, the northeast quarter of section 20, and his final papers were signed by President Grover Cleveland, January 3, 1894.

Lemuel Randall, at the New Ulm land office, pre-empted the north half of the southwest quarter of section 8, and April 10, 1875; President U. S. Grant certified to his papers and signed the same.

SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP.

Springfield township is the second from the western line of the county and is on the south line, with Southbrook township at its west, Amo township at its north, Great Bend township at its east and Jackson county at the south. It comprises all of congressional township 105, range 37 west. The main stream and south branch of the Des Moines river flow from the southeast to the northeast of this township, forming the great bend, after leaving and entering Great Bend township. This is an excellent township and the farming interests are good. The people are of the thrifty type, who always

succeed in accumulating wealth. Once a barren prairie domain, it has, under the touch and labor of its settlers, come to be known as one of the finest in the county. Its groves, which were planted out by the thoughtful settlers, have come to be of great beauty and utility, both for the fuel and shelter they afford against the severe elements.

The population of Springfield township in 1895 was 351; in 1900 it was 361 and in the United States census reports for 1910 its population was given as only 332.

ORGANIZATION.

Springfield became a separate civil township by an act of the board of county commissioners in 1870, when Great Bend and a few more townships were organized. By a petition of a majority of the legal voters within township 105, range 37, west, the county commissioners decided to form this township, and fixed the day for the first township election for August 27, 1870, and appointed John Wilford, George W. McGaughey and R. A. Nichols as judges of the election. This was done at the county commissioners' meeting at Great Bend, before Windom had been made the seat of justice, the exact date being August 15, 1870.

PIONEERS AND LAND ENTRIES.

The following is a transcript of the homestead and pre-emption entries in this township:

Charles L. Hecox claimed the west half of the southeast quarter and the east half of the southwest quarter of section 34, of this township, March 28, 1878; signed by President U. S. Grant, and entered at the Worthington land office.

Cyrus N. Peterson homesteaded land in the south half of the northeast quarter of section 12, this township. His patent bears the date of July 20, 1877, and is signed by President Hayes. The land office issuing the papers was at Worthington.

Legrand B. Rolph homesteaded at the land office at Worthington, land in the east half of the northeast quarter of section 4; it was patented on November 5, 1878, and was signed by President Hayes.

Augustus McNeely claimed a homestead in the west half of the southeast quarter of section 32, also in the east half of the southwest quarter of the same section. His entry was effected at the land office at Jackson, and

the patent was signed by President U. S. Grant, the date being February 1, 1873.

Marshall C. Cummings homesteaded land in the west half of the southwest quarter of section 14; his patent bears the date of December 30, 1880, and is signed by President Hayes. The land was secured through the Jackson land office.

Freeman Trowbridge claimed land in the northwest quarter of section 4; his patent was dated June 15, 1880, and is signed by President Hayes; it was issued from the land office located at Worthington.

William W. Frost homesteaded land in the southwest quarter of section 22; the patent was signed by President Chester A. Arthur and dated March 15, 1882; it was secured at the land office at Worthington.

Abigail J. Green located a homestead in the east half of the southeast quarter of section 4. The patent was issued on November 5, 1878, and was signed by President Hayes. This was secured through the land office at Worthington.

William B. Williams homesteaded land in the southeast quarter of section 2. It was patented on June 15, 1880, and was signed by President Hayes; it was secured through the land office at Worthington.

Delia R. Norris homestead land in the southwest quarter of section 30. It was patented on June 15, 1879, and signed by President Hayes; the land was granted to the widow of William Norris and was secured at the land office at Worthington.

John W. Cummings homesteaded the northeast quarter of section 8, at the land office at Worthington, and his patent was signed by President Chester A. Arthur, April 5, 1883.

William Kane claimed as his homestead the south half of the northeast quarter of section 30, the entry being made at the Worthington land office and the final patent papers were signed by President Hayes on December 15, 1880.

Thomas R. Brown homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 12; it was entered at the land office at Worthington and the patent was furnished and signed by President U. S. Grant, July 5, 1876.

Horatio M. McGaughey homesteaded at the Jackson land office, the north half of the northeast quarter and the west half of the northeast quarter of section 24; it was patented to him by President U. S. Grant, April 15, 1874.

James E. Williams homesteaded the northeast quarter of section 20,

at the land office at New Ulm; the patent was granted to him by President U. S. Grant and signed on June 13, 1876.

John Surratt homesteaded the east half of the northeast quarter of section 32; it was entered at the land office at Worthington and patented by President Hayes, June 15, 1880.

John H. Reisdorph had patented to him on November 22, 1877, a homestead instrument signed by President U. S. Grant.

Charles F. Morley homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 30; it was entered at the land office at Worthington and patented to him by President Hayes, December 30, 1879.

Vinzing Fried homesteaded the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 32; it was entered at the land office at Worthington and his patent was signed by President Chester A. Arthur, March 10, 1883.

Orrin Nasson, at the Worthington land office, entered as a homestead the west half of the northeast quarter and the north half of the northeast quarter of section 12; it was patented to him by President U. S. Grant, January 12, 1875.

Zadock Day homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 8, at the land office at Worthington, and had same patented to him by President Grover Cleveland, April 10, 1886.

Josef Neufeld homesteaded the south half of the northeast quarter of section 32, at the land office at Worthington and had the same patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, March 10, 1883.

George H. Aubrey, at the Worthington land office, entered a homestead in the north half of the southwest quarter of section 28, and had the same patented to him by President Hayes December 30, 1879.

PRE-EMPTION CLAIMS.

Charles L. Hecox entered as a pre-emption claim at the land office at Jackson, the south half of the northwest quarter and the west half of the northeast quarter of section 34. His patent was granted him by President U. S. Grant, December 15, 1870.

Lewis L. Miner, at the Jackson land office, claimed under the Pre-emption Act of 1820, the north half of the northeast quarter of section 34, the same was patented to him by President U. S. Grant, September 17, 1872.

Jason Foss pre-empted the south half of the northeast quarter of section 28, at the Worthington land office, the same being patented by President U. S. Grant, November 3, 1876.

Polly Cone, at the Jackson land office, pre-empted the northeast quarter of section 10, the same being signed by President U. S. Grant, May 20, 1874.

Mary L. Briggs pre-empted the southwest quarter of section 24, at the Jackson land office, the instrument was signed by President U. S. Grant and signed February 1, 1872.

Orrin Nason pre-empted the southwest quarter of section 4, the transaction was made at the land office at Marshall, and it was under President Grover Cleveland's administration and by him signed April 12, 1893.

SOUTHBROOK TOWNSHIP.

Southbrook township is the southwestern civil sub-division of Cottonwood county and comprises congressional township 105, range 38 west. It is bounded on the west by Murray county, on the north by Rose Hill township, on the east by Springfield township and on the south by the county line between Cottonwood and Jackson counties.

Besides two good sized lakes in the southwestern part of this township, the Des Moines river flows from the west out of Murray county, entering this township in section 6 and flows through the southern portion, leaving the township from section 31, entering Springfield township.

This township has neither village nor railroad station, but is settled by a thrifty class of people, who are fast becoming independent. Many of the early homestead and pre-emption claims of the county were selected from parts of this township.

The population in 1895 was 318; in 1900 it was 350, but in 1910 it had decreased, on account of removals, to 303.

ORGANIZATION.

This township was organized by the county commissioners at their meeting in July, 1871, as comprising all of congressional township 105, range 38, west.

EARLY SETTLERS.

The records show the following persons to have been among the first to claim lands within this township:

Francis H. Moon, homesteaded the east half of the southwest quarter and the west half of the southeast quarter of section 32, of this township,

December 7, 1877, the patent being signed by President U. S. Grant; the transaction was at the Jackson land office.

Manley T. White claimed the south half of the southeast quarter of section 26, on March 1, 1878, under President Grant's administration, the papers being issued from the Worthington land office.

Joseph Kane claimed a homestead in the northeast quarter of section 6, at the Jackson land office, the same being signed by President U. S. Grant, September 9, 1878.

Peter Olson homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 20, at the land office at Worthington, and his patent is signed by President Hayes, June 10, 1879.

Ole Rued claimed, as his homestead, at the land office at Worthington, the east half of the southwest quarter and the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 20, also land in the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 20, same township. The patent was signed by President Hayes and dated November 5, 1878.

Lyman W. Oaks claimed as his homestead right land in lots 2 and 3 of section 8; he secured it at the land office at Worthington and the patent was signed by President Hayes, December 13, 1880.

William McPheeters homesteaded land in the northwest quarter of section 30, at the New Ulm land office; the patent was signed by President U. S. Grant, October 5, 1875.

Thomas A. Jones secured a homestead in the east half of the northeast quarter of section 22, the patent was signed by President Hayes, June 15, 1880; the entry was made at the Worthington land office.

John Crapsey homesteaded, at the Worthington land office, the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 30 and the lot known as No. 2, of the same section, all being within section 30. The date of the patent was November 20, 1880, and the papers were signed by President Hayes.

Norman Freeman homesteaded land in section 32, the entry was made at the land office in Worthington and the patent was signed by President Chester A. Arthur, April 5, 1883.

Josef Lerk homesteaded land in the north half of the northeast quarter and the north half of the northwest quarter of section 18, the date of the patent being April 5, 1883, signed by President Chester A. Arthur; the same was secured through the Worthington land office.

Charles Robbins homesteaded land in the east half of the southeast

quarter of section 30, this township. It was entered at the land office at Worthington and the patent is signed by President Hayes, December 30, 1880.

Roswell Dunsmore homesteaded land in the south half of the northeast quarter of section 26; it was entered at the land office at Worthington and was patented by President U. S. Grant, March 1, 1876.

John Erickson claimed the southwest quarter of section 34 this township and his patent for his homestead was issued June 5, 1884, and signed by President Chester A. Arthur; the entry was effected at the Worthington land office.

Watkin H. Jones homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 22, his patent being signed by President Chester A. Arthur, June 5, 1884; the entry was made at the land office at Worthington.

Charles W. Aldrich homesteaded land in the west half of the southwest quarter of section 32; it was patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur and entered at the Worthington land office and signed on June 5, 1884.

Charles B. Handy, June 5, 1884, had patent issued to him for a homestead in the lots numbered 3, 4 and 5 of the section 30, the same being issued by President Hayes.

Annie K. Jentjen, at the Worthington land office, had issued to her as a homestead the land contained in the west half of the southwest quarter of section 2. The papers were signed by President Hayes, February 10, 1881.

Stephen Miranowski homesteaded land in the north half of the southeast quarter of section 10, the same being patented by President Hayes and signed on February 10, 1884; it was entered through the land office at Worthington.

James M. King homesteaded the land in northwest quarter of section 12, this township and same was patented to him by President Hayes and signed on June 10, 1879; the entry was made at the land office at Worthington.

John Kane homesteaded the east half of the southwest quarter of section 6, at the land office at Worthington, the same being patented by President Chester A. Arthur, April 10, 1880.

Thomas A. Jones homesteaded the west half of the northeast quarter of section 22, at the land office at Worthington, and had his patent issued by President Hayes, February 10, 1881.

Anton Reidl homesteaded the south half of the northwest quarter of

section 10, at the land office at Worthington, and had the same patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, April 10, 1882.

John Mathias entered as a homestead at the land office at Worthington the east half of the southeast quarter of section 2, and the tract was patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, August 1, 1883.

John Schneider, at the Worthington land office, entered as a homestead the west half of the northeast quarter of section 10, and had the same patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, March 10, 1883.

Florian Liepold entered, as a homestead at the land office at Worthington, the west half of the southwest quarter of section 12, and it was later patented to him by President Grover Cleveland, April 10, 1886.

PRE-EMPTION CLAIMS.

Henry G. Conrad pre-empted land at the land office at Worthington, described as the south half of the southeast quarter and the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 28, the papers being signed by President Hayes, September 4, 1879.

Bertha M. Johnson pre-empted the land known as lot No. 7 in section 30. The entry was effected at the land office at Worthington and the final papers were executed by President U. S. Grant, May 10, 1875.

Peter Jentzen, at the Worthington land office, entered under the pre-emption act, the northwest quarter of section 14; the final papers were signed by President Hayes, November 1, 1880.

Adam Fabe, at the Marshall land office, entered lot No. 1 in section 8, the papers being signed by President Benjamin Harrison, March 1, 1892.

Andrew J. Streeter, at the Jackson land office, pre-empted the east half of the northwest quarter of section 26, the papers being executed and signed by President U. S. Grant, May 20, 1874.

STORDEN TOWNSHIP.

Storden is situated in the northwestern part of Cottonwood county, it being the second from the north and the second from the western line of the county, with Highwater at the north, Amboy at the east, Amo at the south and Westbrook township at the west. It comprises all of congressional township 107, range 37, west. The Scandinavian people are the largest

landowners in this part of the county. The village of Storden is within this township.

Like many parts of the county, Storden originally had many low tracts of land, and small lakes abounded, but they were really little more than prairie swamps or sloughs, which, with the advent of the settlers, soon vanished by draining, until today the waste land in this township is quite small. The soil is of a rich quality and the grains and grasses grow in great luxuriance.

The population of the township in 1895 was 439; in 1900 it was 548 but by the taking of the Federal census in 1910 it was placed at 659.

ORGANIZATION.

This township was set apart as a separate civil township at the meeting of the county commissioners in March, 1875, and was first named Norsk, but subsequently changed to Storden. It comprises township 107, range 37, west, and was detached from Westbrook township. The first election was held at the house of Martin Hallan, March 30, 1875.

ORIGINAL SETTLERS.

The county records show the following to have entered land either as homesteaders or pre-emption claimants:

Jorgen Jensen homesteaded land in the lots known as Nos. 1 and 2, of section 21, the same being entered at the land office at New Ulm and patented by President Hayes, February 10, 1881.

Soren Sorenson claimed a homestead in the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 30; it was patented to him by President Hayes, February 10, 1881.

Christian A. Kaihor homesteaded in the north half of the northeast quarter of section 30, the same being entered at the land office at New Ulm; it was patented to him by President Hayes, February 10, 1881.

Halver E. Lohre homesteaded land in the east half of the southeast quarter of section 6; it was patented to him by President James A. Garfield, June 20, 1881.

C. Swenson claimed a homestead in the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter and the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 4. It was patented by President Hayes, February 10, 1881; it was entered at the land office at New Ulm.

Eston Erikson, claimed his homestead rights under the act of 1862, in the west half of the northeast quarter of section 6. It was entered at the land office at New Ulm and was patented by President Hayes, January 20, 1881.

Nels Gunderson homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 2, at the land office located at Tracy, and had the same patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, March 10, 1883.

Samuel S. Wheeler claimed as a homestead the southwest quarter of section 24 at the land office at Tracy and had the same patented by President Chester A. Arthur, February 10, 1883.

John Nelson homesteaded the southwest quarter of section 20, at the land office at Tracy and the same was finally patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, May 31, 1884.

Ole Christopherson homesteaded the north half of the northeast quarter at the land office at Tracy, and the patent was issued to him by President James A. Garfield, June 21, 1881.

Hans Anderson homesteaded the north half of the southeast quarter of section 18, at the land office located at Tracy, and had his patent granted him by President James A. Garfield, June 20, 1881.

Leopold Hansen homesteaded land in the west half of the southwest quarter of section 2, and had the entry made in the land office at New Ulm, while his patent was granted by President Hayes, December 30, 1879.

Julia A. Khurd homesteaded the northeast quarter of section 28, at the land office located at Tracy and her patent was issued and signed by President Chester A. Arthur, January 15, 1885.

Albert N. Jeffers, at the Tracy land office, entered a homestead in the south half of the northeast quarter and the north half of the southeast quarter of section 12, and had the same patented to him by President Chester A. Arthur, May 5, 1884.

Christian O. Mikkelsen claimed as his homestead the northwest quarter of section 18, at the land office at New Ulm; President Hayes signed his patent on February 10, 1881.

Charles H. Reipke homesteaded the northeast quarter of section 26, the entry being made at the land office at Tracy and the patent was signed by President Grover Cleveland, May 20, 1885.

George Downs homesteaded the southwest quarter of section 10, the entry being effected at the land office at Tracy and his patent was issued by President Chester A. Arthur and by him signed on January 15, 1885.

Peter M. Paulson homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 34; the patent was issued by President James A. Garfield, June 20, 1881.

PRE-EMPTION CLAIMS.

Charles Dietz, at the New Ulm land office entered the west half of the northwest quarter of section 24, the papers being signed by President Hayes, January 20, 1881.

Rasmus Anderson, at the land office at New Ulm, entered the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 8, this township; his final papers were signed by President U. S. Grant, April 10, 1875.

Andrew P. Fortstrom, at the land office at Marshall, entered the land described as lot No. 9 in section 20, and had the same patented to him by President Benjamin Harrison, August 24, 1891.

August Pufahl, at the land office at Tracy entered the southwest quarter of section 12; the final papers were signed by President Grover Cleveland, January 20, 1886.

VILLAGE OF STORDEN.

Storden was platted by the Inter-state Land Company, July 8, 1903, and is situated in the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 29, township 107, range 37, west. It is on the Curry branch of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha railroad. Among the first historic events of this village were the following:

The auction sale of lots in what is now the village of Storden took place on July 9, 1903. The village is located in the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 29. The village, although quite young, shows great signs of growth and prosperity, new and modern buildings being erected as fast as workmen can put them up.

The first man on the ground to do business was Mr. C. H. Shaner, who conducted a general store, where the confectionery store now stands. Nelson & Redding came next and occupied the store room now used by Mr. A. H. Anderson.

The first school teacher to teach in the village was Laura Iverson, who taught in the school building moved in from the Kahoi Anderson farm, about three-fourths of a mile north of the town.

John Sorenson built the first residence in the village, the one now occupied by the postmaster, James Morris. The house now occupied by Andrew Skoby was built about the same time.

The first brick building was erected by the Farmers' State Bank in the summer of 1916.

The first concrete building in the village was constructed in the spring of 1916 and is now occupied by Nelson & Christopherson as a garage, the first of its kind.

Among the very first business men and mechanics of the village were: C. H. Shaner, grocer; A. P. Frederickson, hotel; Roy Egger, blacksmith; John Skovley & Son, livery; A. M. Clark & Son, hardware; Henry Peterson, drayman; L. Dolliff, lumber company; St. John, elevator.

The depot at Storden was erected in 1904. The first business was that of C. H. Shaner; the first residence was erected by John N. Sorenson.

John Sorenson formerly owned the land now occupied by the village. The town was platted by the Inter-state Land Company, of Minneapolis, to whom Mr. Sorenson gave a one-half interest in the lots.

The plat of Storden is high, dry and slightly and not a finer and more natural business site exists on the Curry branch. The village is surrounded by hardy and industrious farmers, whose land is under a high state of cultivation. The main products of the farms are corn and oats, although an abundance of wheat, rye and barley are marketed each year. Five years ago, land could be procured in the community at sixty dollars per acre, while most of the land is now worth around one hundred and twenty-five dollars per acre.

POSTOFFICE.

The Storden postoffice was established in 1903, with John Sorenson as the first postmaster. He served until December 1, 1905, when James Morris, the present postmaster, was appointed. The large postal receipts, which are larger than towns several times its size, bespeak credit for the postmaster and the community. For the past year they amounted to four thousand five hundred and eighty-seven dollars and twenty-six cents. One rural route serves the rural community.

BUSINESS INTERESTS.

In 1916 the business interests of Storden were in the hands of the following:

Auto garage—Nelson & Christopherson.

Bank—First State, Farmers' State.

Blacksmith—Andrew Jorgenson, Edward Smestad.

Barber—Roy Smestad.
Creamery—Storden Creamery Association.
Confectionery—John Rongstad.
Dray line—Adolph Olson.
Elevator—Farmers' Elevator, Olaf Lande.
Grocer—Farmers' Co-operative Store.
General dealers—A. H. Anderson, Storden Co-operative Company.
Hardware dealer—Storden Hardware Company.
Harness dealer—A. H. Nacarinus.
Hotel—Prime Hotel.
Implement dealer—Saleen & Jenson Company.
Lumber dealer—L. P. Dolliff & Company.
Livery—Adolph Olson.
Meat market—John Spiecker.
Newspaper—*Storden Times*.
Produce dealer—C. H. Shaner.

WESTBROOK TOWNSHIP.

The second township from the county line on the north is Westbrook, which comprises all of congressional township 107, range 38, west. It is bounded on the north by Ann township, on the east by Storden, on the south by Rose Hill township and on the west by Murray county. Westbrook village is within this civil township and is mentioned at length in this chapter. Originally, the township had many lakes and ponds, with several creeks, most of which water-courses have disappeared from the surface of the county as time has changed the conditions; ditches have been cut, tilting carried on for a number of years and, today, the waste land within the territory is small. The soil is very fertile and produces all the grain and grasses common to this latitude.

The school and churches have ever been prominent factors in the township and those are treated with others of the county in special chapters in this volume.

The population of the township in 1895 was 599; in 1900 it was placed at 688 and in the United States census returns for 1910 it is given as 579.

ORGANIZATION.

Westbrook township was organized at the meeting of the county board, September 6, 1870, upon the petition of thirty legal voters in township 107, range 30, west, and township 108, ranges 37 and 38, west, they asking that four congressional townships be organized into one civil township and that it be named Westbrook, and the board of county commissioners ordered it done and called the first election for the township to be held at the house of Morton Engebretson, Saturday, September 17, 1870, with election judges as follow: John Hanson, John Rotte and Hogan Anderson; the clerk was George W. Walker.

PIONEER SETTLEMENT.

The first comers to this township were very largely homesteaders and pre-emption claim men and women, who selected at some one of the Minnesota land offices such lands as they wanted on which to locate and build homes. Among such land entries the following is a complete list, as shown in the records at the Cottonwood court house:

Nels Engebretson, homesteaded the east half of the northwest quarter of section 12, July 9, 1878, and the patent for the same was signed by President U. S. Grant.

Hernt Johnson homesteaded the north half of the southeast quarter of section 20, at the New Ulm land office, November 7, 1879, and his patent was signed by President R. B. Hayes.

Erick Anderson claimed a homestead in the southeast quarter of section 18, this township, the same being secured at the land office at Tracy, and the patent is signed by President James A. Garfield, June 20, 1881.

Ole Sorenson homesteaded land in the northeast quarter of section 24, and the patent is dated February 10, 1881, and signed by President R. B. Hayes.

Olof Johnson homesteaded land in the east half of the northeast quarter of section 12; also in the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 12. This was entered at the land office at Tracy, and bears date of June 20, 1881, and is signed by President James A. Garfield.

Ole Anderson homesteaded land in the west half of the southeast quarter of section 10, and it was secured at the land office at New Ulm and the patent is signed by President Hayes, February 10, 1881.

Syver Nielson homesteaded land in the west half of the northwest

quarter of section 12, the patent being signed by President James A. Garfield, June 20, 1881; the entry was effected at the Tracy land office.

Jacob Hansen homesteaded land in the west half of the northwest quarter of section 10; it was entered at the land office at New Ulm and was patented by President Hayes, January 20, 1881.

Forjus T. Einertson homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 2, at the Tracy land office, and the same was patented by President Grover Cleveland, August 5, 1884.

Bernt Johnson homesteaded the south half of the northeast quarter of section 20, at the land office located at Tracy; his patent was granted by President Chester A. Arthur, February 10, 1883.

Edward Erickson homesteaded the west half of the northwest quarter of section 8, at the land office at Tracy, the same being patented by President Chester A. Arthur, January 15, 1885.

Peter G. Lundman homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 18, at the land office at Tracy, the patent being granted by President Chester A. Arthur, May 15, 1884.

PRE-EMPTION CLAIMS.

Albert Olson pre-empted, at the St. Peter land office, the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 1, this township, President U. S. Grant signing the papers, April 1, 1872.

Jacob A. Anderson, at the land office at New Ulm, pre-empted the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 2, President U. S. Grant signing the papers, May 20, 1874.

Ole Andreas Pederson, at the land office at New Ulm, entered the east half of the southeast quarter of section 8, the papers being signed by President Hayes, May 24, 1879.

Olf Jonsson, at the land office at New Ulm, entered land in the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 12, President U. S. Grant signing the papers, May 20, 1874.

John Christenson entered the south half of the northeast quarter of section 2, the papers being signed by President Hayes, November 10, 1877.

Nels Engebretson entered land in the southwest quarter of section 12, at the New Ulm land office and his papers were certified by President Hayes, January 20, 1881.

THE VILLAGE OF WESTBROOK.

Westbrook was platted June 8, 1900, by the Inter-State Land Company, in section 29, township 107, range 38 west.

Westbrook township contained the first settlers of the county, one authority stating that the first settler after the Indian massacre of 1862 was Joseph F. Bean and next, George B. Walker, followed by other families settling in Westbrook township. Thus it was that when the Currie branch of Omaha railroad was built through here in 1900, it tapped a magnificent farming region, well settled, rich and productive, the trade of which for many years was far from market. On 11th of July, 1900, the sale of lots was held for the now prosperous town of Westbrook, the buyers wading around in an oats field, which yielded forty bushels per acre, looking for corner stakes. This was the beginning of Westbrook. Previous to this time there had been an effort made to have the town started on what is now known as the west side, and for a while there was a restaurant, store and several "blind pigs." The present site of the town was the result of a disagreement between the townsite company and Adolph Peterson.

At the lot sale the highest price paid was six hundred dollars for the corner lot, now occupied by the First National Bank. The first people on the ground to do business was the L. P. Dolliff Lumber Company, with G. F. Streates as manager, and the Laird-Norton yards, with H. E. Daffer as manager. Sivert Norum had moved a shed from Storden in which he started a boarding house for the workmen, until he got up the building known as the Commercial Hotel, later occupied by the saloon of John Stitz. This was the first building in town and in addition to keeping boarders, Mr. Norum also sold the first groceries of the town in one room and was also the first postmaster. At that time, before the railroad was built, he carried the mail three times a week from Storden.

The next building was that of J. E. Nelson, the harness man, and about this time the town got busy and was a veritable beehive of all kinds of mechanics.

Schippel & Malschke started their large two-story brick block, twenty-five by one hundred feet, and the State Bank, later the First National, rushed to completion the finest two-story brick and stone building in the town, at a cost of five thousand five hundred and eighty dollars. This bank was organized, December 1, 1900, with an authorized capital of two hundred thousand dollars, twenty-five thousand of which was paid up. The first

officers were: President, J. W. Benson, of Heron lake; vice-president, B. N. Bodelson, of Dundee; cashier, J. O. Pearson, of Heron lake. Farmers and business men took an active interest in the bank and very soon it was among the strongest in the county.

St. John Brothers were the first in the field with a first-class store building, forty-six by seventy-two feet, with a storage house thirty by forty feet, all of which was opened for business on September 30. The post-office was moved into this building, January 7, 1901, and M. A. Johnson was appointed postmaster, Mr. Norum having resigned.

Wild & Spaulding built a large two-story frame building, together with a large warehouse for buggies and farm machinery. Other improvements made during the fall of 1900 were the Erickson two-story building, the Theo. Miller building, later occupied by J. E. Villa; the Dick Needhaus city meat market building, John Holland's saloon, Dorster & Fritsche's two-story implement house, later owned by Peterson & Norum; Silliman Brothers' big store and hall building, J. J. Hubin's furniture store and residence, the building occupied by O'Neill & McCormick's saloon and the building occupied by Rehnelt's pool hall. The city drug store and building was moved here from Dundee by E. F. Fricke.

The Kane-Slice Implement Company was the first to engage in the implement business. They constructed a large two-story warehouse, twenty-four by sixty feet, just west of the First National Bank.

Peter Anderson conducted the first livery in the barn to the rear of the hotel. Very soon afterwards Frank G. Myres put in the Westbrook livery and early on the ground with a well equipped blacksmith shop was John Bendixen.

Brown & Roberts had the barber shop, Getty & Green conducted a real estate office, W. G. Owens, attorney, and Dr. C. P. Nelson were the professional men.

At this time Dolliff & Company and Laird-Norton Company erected mammoth lumber sheds which were necessary in order to keep a sufficient supply of lumber on hands for the numerous buildings that were being constructed. Four large and first-class elevators were put up to meet the demands of the farmers, they being the ones of the St. John Brothers, Hubbard & Palmer, Renke Brothers and K. Krueger.

Evidently anticipating the rush of business the railroad company put in commodious yards and sidings connecting with the elevator and stock-yards, dug a deep well and installed a large water tank and just west of

town opened a gravel pit from which they ballasted the line from Currie to Bingham Lake.

Schueller & Welter, of Morgan, bought the Commercial Hotel, which was conducted by Frank Scheffert until April, 1902, after which time the town was several months without a hotel.

The west side continued to make show for business and J. D. Bevier and family had a restaurant and boarding house, a small general store and blacksmith shop. There was also a full fledged "reading room" besides several "restaurants." The county attorney closed the last named places and business on the west side declined until nothing is left except some of the buildings and the Krueger elevator. The west side is now one of the fine resident districts of the town and no longer is there any feeling of separation or distinction from the rest of the town.

Two large ice houses were built, one operated by Chris Hanson for the Westbrook Ice Company and one by Peterson & Carlson.

Up to May, 1901, some sixteen or eighteen residences had been built. B. E. Low was the first to move to town to live as a retired farmer, he coming from his farm near Lake Eliza. Johnson Brothers built and occupied the first good residence, later the property of Walter Larson. The homes of J. A. Pearson, Chris Hanson, George Spooner, S. Norum, P. D. Peterson, J. J. Christy, I. C. Freeman, Frank Meyers, W. F. Wenholtz, B. E. Low, K. Krueger and Gustav Grams were among the principal residence improvements of the fall and winter of 1900.

INCORPORATION, ETC.

Previous to March, 1901, the village had no officers, and every man was a law unto himself, but at this time incorporation was made, an election held and the first set of officers chosen. They were as follow: Mayor, M. A. Johnson; councilmen, August Wild, W. H. Wenholtz, G. A. Schippel; recorder, G. F. Streater; treasurer, J. A. Pearson; justices of peace, George Spooner and D. Needham; constable, D. J. Green; assessor, S. B. Stockwell; I. C. Freeman, marshal; attorney, W. D. Owen. The work of the first council for the good of the town will ever stand as a monument to their business sagacity and wise administration. At this time three saloons were licensed, at one thousand dollars each.

About May 1, P. H. Rupp built a shoe store, F. H. Fricke also put up a small shoe store. Among other improvements was the completion of

Doctor Nelson's corner drug store at a cost of two thousand dollars; Schip-pel's two-story brick block, adjoining the First National Bank, in the fall, at a cost of three thousand dollars; Sampson's restaurant, twenty by thirty-six feet, at a cost of five hundred dollars. D. H. Flynn bought and finished the two-story frame building started by John Kaeding. The *Sentinel* built a home, twenty by forty-eight feet, at a cost of nine hundred dollars. Linschied's two-story building, used as a photograph gallery, constituted the business improvements of the year. The Standard Brewing Company put up a large cold storage house the same year.

In 1902 the Commercial Club was formed and as a result of their hustle the town secured a splendid one hundred barrel flour-mill, costing sixteen thousand dollars. Land for the mill was secured between Hubbard & Palmer's and Krueger's elevators and the first active work was begun on May 8, by Bert Milligan, who started the mill. Mr. Gress, of the Sleepy Eye Milling Company, was at the head of the new enterprise. The mill was later destroyed by fire, and never rebuilt.

The following is a record of the tons of freight and car-load lots received and forwarded from January 1, 1902, to May 1, 1902. When these figures are compared with those of the same period of time today, it may be seen how great has been the growth of trade.

	Freight forwarded.	Car loads.
Total tonnage, merchandise,	5,981,125 pounds-----	160
Live stock -----		45
		<hr/>
Total -----		205
	Freight received.	Car loads.
Total tonnage, merchandise,	4,861,033 pounds-----	115

A glance at the village will show that it has been quite active in the way of improvements. In 1902 the town installed a complete water-works system, at a cost of seven thousand dollars. The water is furnished by a well sixty-three feet deep, resting in lake sand. At one time a test was made to ascertain the strength of the well. Water was pumped out at the rate of forty-five gallons per minute, with the result that the water in the well was lowered only twelve feet, after which it was impossible to lower the supply. Water is pumped into a tank holding thirty-five thousand gallons and thereby the town is furnished with an abundance of water by means of strong pressure.

In January, 1915, an electric plant was put in at a cost of eight thousand dollars. The plant runs from about dusk in the evening until midnight. In the way of fire protection, they have an organized fire company of twenty-six men and an ample supply of fire equipment, such as hose, ladders, etc. The town has five miles of cement walks and each year more are added. The order in the town must be pretty good, because no marshal or policeman is on the pay roll and the "lock up" has a deserted appearance.

The presidents that have served the village are herein given in their order of service: M. A. Johnson, C. A. Zieske, D. H. Flynn, I. D. Annis, V. T. Miller, R. C. Soll, O. C. Anderson, J. E. Villa and W. F. Mead.

The present officers are inclusive of the following: President, W. E. Mead; trustees, M. J. Breen, Reinhold Ewy and A. L. N. Christianson; recorder, Jos Budish.

POSTOFFICE.

The Westbrook postoffice was established at about the same time the town was incorporated, Mr. Sivert Norum being appointed the first postmaster. Other men who have served in the same capacity are Andrew Lorson, M. A. Johnson, Clark W. Seely and John L. Sammons. The receipts for this office are the largest in the county, with the exception of Windom. Three rural routes distribute mail through the rural districts from this office. The receipts for the last fiscal year, exclusive of the money department, amounted to three thousand three hundred and sixty dollars.

WESTBROOK STREET FAIR.

On October 1, 1901, a meeting was held in Ancient Order of United Workmen hall for the purpose of organizing a street fair association. William G. Owens was made the temporary chairman. The meeting proceeded to elect officers and the following were chosen: President, William G. Owens; vice-president, M. A. Johnson; secretary, W. B. Leo; treasurer, J. A. Pearson; executive committee, J. E. Villa, Ed. Loomis and J. J. Christy. Six hundred dollars were offered in premiums. The first fair was a success, as were those which followed. It was estimated that five thousand people attended and enjoyed the features usually found at a county fair, such as the baby show, wild west, merry-go-round, vaudeville, etc.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY FOR 1916.

The business interests of Westbrook in July, 1916, were in charge of the following:

- Auto garage—Pederson & Ludwickson, E. Paetznick, Grant Ross.
Attorney—John L. Sammons.
Banks—First National, Citizens State.
Barber—Edward Dietchman.
Blacksmith—E. A. Paetznick, James Sorenson.
Clothing—Cohrs & Ewy.
Dray line—John Simning.
Drugs—Walter E. Mead.
Dentist—F. M. Miller.
Elevator—John J. Christy, Farmers Elevator Company, C. Krueger, F. Romke.
Furniture—Hans J. Christianson.
General dealer—George Woodward, Westbrook Co-operative Company.
Grocer—G. A. Scheppel.
Hotel—The Westbrook.
Harness—J. E. Nelson.
Hardware—Footh Brothers, Bengton & Sons.
Ice dealer—John Simning.
Implement dealer—Westbrook Implement Company, R. Ewy.
Jeweler—Theo. J. Arneson.
Lumber dealer—Botsford Lumber Company, L. P. Dolliff & Company.
Livery—John E. Anderson.
Milliner—Anastacia Travel.
Meat market—Falk Brothers.
Motion picture show—The Dixie.
Newspaper—*The Sentinel*.
Physician—H. A. Schmidt.
Produce dealer—Hansford Produce Company.
Photograph gallery—T. F. Leavitt.
Restaurant—T. P. Anderson.
Real estate—R. L. Eckert Land Company.
Stock dealer—Westbrook Stock Buyers Association, Charles Pasmore.
Veterinary—E. R. Tillisch.
Telephone—Windom Mutual and Northwestern.

Westbrook, although in its infancy, impresses a stranger as being the most city-like village in the county. It has wide and well-improved streets, which are clean and unusually well lighted with electric lights. It is one of the very few towns of its size in southern Minnesota that owns its own



HIGH SCHOOL, WESTBROOK.



MAIN STREET, WESTBROOK.



FARM SCENE NEAR WESTBROOK.



DOUBLE LAKES DRIVE NEAR WESTBROOK.

power and water plant. It can boast of a newspaper that has a wide circulation, a model of its kind and one which does credit to the town and the community.

Westbrook is a town of beautiful homes and well-kept lawns; a place especially well suited and inviting to the homeseeker, because there is found almost any religious denomination one may seek and a school system that would do credit to a town many times its size.

In the western part of town is a park that the town board bought of Whited, the townsite man, a short time after the town was laid out, for the nominal sum of one thousand dollars. The park is not merely a square lot with a few trees scattered here and there, but, instead, one sees trees of various species, symetrically placed and of a uniform size. The park is well supplied with inviting seats and chairs and is thoroughly lighted with electric lights. Westbrook's first annual chautauqua, held July 9 to 14, 1916, was held in the park, which made an ideal location. Up to this time there were many people in the village and vicinity who did not realize what a fine place for such a gathering the town has. The chautauqua was a success in every detail.

It has been stated upon good authority that Westbrook has as much business as the other towns on the Currie branch combined, which, if true, we predict that in the next decade she will be second to none in the county as a business center. At the time the townsite was laid out, it was considered the best on the Currie branch, as it was surrounded by a magnificent territory of rich farming lands, which had been settled for many years by thrifty and progressive farmers, many of whom were homesteaders twenty-five to thirty years ago. The location of Westbrook is an admirable one from a business standpoint, speaking geographically. It is on the west side of Cottonwood county, a little over a mile from the Murray county line and is about the center of the county on a north and south line, twenty-eight miles from Windom and has a wide trade territory in every direction.

As an index of the growth and improvements in the town from July 11, 1900, to May 1, 1901, one need notice only the assessed valuations. The assessed value of building improvements was forty-four thousand dollars. On May 1, the personal property valuation was seventy-four thousand five hundred and twenty-two dollars. These values did not include real estate.