

711

TOWN OF SLATER  
SLATER, IOWA

MAY 1, 1968

I, RICHARD NOVAK, MAYOR, TOWN OF SLATER, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL, HELD ON APRIL 24, 1968, AT 8:40 P.M., WHICH WAS CALLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERATION FOR PROVIDING A HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF SLATER, TO BE PLACED IN THE CORNERSTONE OF THE NEW COUNTY COURTHOUSE AT NEVADA, THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMAN LESTER BECKER AND IS A PART OF THE OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THAT MEETING:

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT FUNDS BE MADE AVAILABLE AND A PERSON HIRED TO COMPILE A HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF SLATER, TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL AND SIGNATURE ON OR BEFORE THE 2ND DAY OF MAY, 1968, AND SUBMITTED TO THE STORY COUNTY AUDITOR FOR INCLUSION IN THE CORNERSTONE OF THE NEW STORY COUNTY COURTHOUSE.

"ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS: AYES: HAMMOND, BECKER, NELSON. NAYS: NONE. ABSENT: HOEVEN, CHLUPACH.

"RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED BY MAYOR NOVAK."

FURTHER, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT IS HEREBY GIVEN TO MRS. MYRNA HARMON AND MRS. LAVENA BLASKOVICH FOR THE GATHERING OF MATERIALS, COMPOSITION, AND PREPARATION OF THIS HISTORY. WE ARE ALSO GRATEFUL TO THE MANY CITIZENS OF SLATER WHO CONTRIBUTED INFORMATION, AND ESPECIALLY, TO PHIL ROOD, EDITOR OF THE SLATER NEWS, FOR MATERIAL TAKEN FROM HIS HISTORY OF SLATER, WRITTEN IN 1939; TO RELATIVES OF OLEY NELSON, IN ALLOWING EXCERPTS TO BE TAKEN FROM HIS BOOKLET ENTITLED, BRIEF HISTORY - FIRST NORWEGIAN SETTLEMENT IN STORY AND POLK COUNTIES IN IOWA, WRITTEN IN 1930, WITH ADDITIONS BY ANFIN APLAND IN 1945; AND TO THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA FOR USE OF MATERIALS PUBLISHED IN THE PALIMPSEST, WHICH CONTAINED THE ARTICLE WRITTEN BY JAMES A. STORING, ENTITLED "THE TOWN THAT MOVED".

I DO, THEREFORE, DECLARE THE INFORMATION THAT IS CONTAINED IN THIS HISTORY TO BE AS FACTUALLY CORRECT AS IT IS POSSIBLE TO VERIFY AND THAT IT IS A TRUE ACCOUNT OF THE HISTORY OF SLATER, IOWA, FROM 1890-1968.

Richard E. Novak  
RICHARD NOVAK, MAYOR, TOWN OF SLATER

COUNCILMAN:

Howard Hammond  
HOWARD HAMMOND

Arthur Nelson, Jr.  
ARTHUR NELSON, JR.

Lester Becker  
LESTER BECKER

Charles Hoeven  
CHARLES HOEVEN

Gerald Chlupach  
GERALD CHLUPACH

HISTORY  
TOWN OF SLATER, IOWA  
1890-1968

ORIGIN

THE TOWN OF SLATER IS LOCATED IN PALESTINE TOWNSHIP IN THE SOUTH-WEST CORNER OF STORY COUNTY ON HIGHWAY 210, 4 MILES WEST OF HIGHWAY 69, AND 11 MILES SOUTH OF AMES. IT'S ORIGIN IS BASED ON THE MIGRATION WESTWARD OF STURDY PIONEERS, MANY OF WHOM HAD EMIGRATED FROM NORWAY, SWITZERLAND, AND GERMANY. SINCE THE POPULATION IS LARGELY OF NORWEGIAN ANCESTRY, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION HAS BEEN OBTAINED FROM A BOOKLET WRITTEN BY THE HONORABLE OLEY NELSON, IN 1905, ENTITLED, "A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE FIRST NORWEGIAN SETTLEMENT OF STORY AND POLK COUNTIES IN IOWA", AND ADDED TO BY ANFIN APLAND IN 1945:

THE FIRST NORWEGIAN SETTLEMENT IN STORY COUNTY WAS KNOWN AS THE PALESTINE CONGREGATION. THEY WERE RELIGIOUS, LUTHERAN FAMILIES AND WOULD NOT UNDERTAKE THEIR JOURNEY TO IOWA AS A COLONY WITHOUT IT BEING A CHURCHLY COLONY. THESE SETTLERS HAD COME TO AMERICA DURING THE PERIOD FROM 1848-1854, FROM THREE PARISHES IN NORWAY, KNOWN AS ETNE, SKAANEVIK, AND FJELBERG PARISHES, TO SEEK AND ACQUIRE A HOME FOR THEMSELVES AND FAMILIES AND TO FIND GOVERNMENT LAND AT GOVERNMENT PRICES ON WHICH TO MAKE THEIR PERMANENT HOME IN THE NEW WORLD. THEIR JOURNEY FROM NORWAY TOOK FROM SEVEN TO FOURTEEN WEEKS.

THEIR FIRST MIGRATION WESTWARD WAS TO LISBON, ILLINOIS, WHERE THEY FOUND THERE WAS NO GOVERNMENT LAND AVAILABLE. THIS WAS A GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT. IN THE EARLY FALL OF 1854, A MAN BY THE NAME OF NILS OLSEN NAES, WHO WAS EMPLOYED BY A BIBLE SOCIETY AND WHO HAD TRAVELED PARTS OF IOWA AND SOUTHERN MINNESOTA, CAME TO LISBON, AND TOLD THEM THERE WAS FINE PRAIRIE LAND WITH TIMBER ALONG THE STREAMS, TO BE PURCHASED IN IOWA FOR \$1.25 AN ACRE. A MEETING WAS CALLED AND IT WAS DECIDED THAT A COMMITTEE WOULD GO TO IOWA TO INVESTIGATE. THIS WAS NEARLY THREE HUNDRED MILES WEST OF LISBON. THEY SELECTED FOUR MEN: OSMOND SHELDAHL, OLIE FATLAND, OSMOND JOHNSON, AND OLIE APLAND. THEY LEFT LISBON ON SEPTEMBER 25, 1854, AND RODE IN TWO-SEATED SPRING WAGONS DRAWN BY HORSES. THEY RETURNED IN 30 DAYS AND REPORTED THEY HAD SECURED LAND FOR THE COLONY AND THAT IT WAS VERY GOOD.

PREPARATION FOR THE MOVE TO IOWA THEN BEGAN AND TOOK ALL WINTER AND ON MAY 17, 1855, 111 PERSONS (21 FAMILIES, 3 WIDOWS, AND 5 YOUNG MEN) BEGAN THE TRIP IN 25 COVERED WAGONS. EIGHTEEN WERE DRAWN BY OXEN, 6 BY HORSE TEAMS, AND ONE SPRING WAGON WAS DRAWN BY A HORSE OWNED BY LARS THOMPSON. THEY FOLLOWED WHAT WAS KNOWN AS THE CALIFORNIA TRAIL, THE SAME TRAIL THAT THE FOUR DELEGATES HAD FOLLOWED. THE WEATHER WAS GOOD THE WHOLE JOURNEY AND THE WORST DIFFICULTY THEY HAD WAS IN CROSSING STREAMS---ONE WAGON GOT IN A LITTLE TOO DEEP AND NEEDED HELP, AND ANOTHER TIME THE CATTLE WENT DOWN STREAM AND THEY HAD QUITE A TIME ROUNDING THEM UP. THE JOURNEY ENDED ON JUNE 7, WHEN THEY CAME TO THE LAND SELECTED BY THE FOUR MEN. THEY STOPPED ON THE QUARTER SECTION THAT OSMOND SHELDAHL HAD FILED FOR HIMSELF, ONE MILE EAST OF WHERE HUXLEY NOW IS. THIS IS WHERE THE PALESTINE CHURCH IS NOW BUILT. THEY

FORMED A CIRCLE WITH ALL THEIR WAGONS, PREPARED FOOD FOR THEIR FIRST MEAL ON THIS NEW LAND, AND THANKED GOD FOR THEIR SAFE JOURNEY AND HIS BLESSINGS. OLIE ANFINSON WAS THEIR FIRST PASTOR. ON SUNDAY, JUNE 10, THEY HELD THEIR FIRST CHURCH SERVICE. THE FIRST SABBATH DAY SERVICE UNDER A ROOF WAS HELD ON OLIE FATLAND'S LAND UNDER THE SHELTER OF A HAY SHED.

ON SEPTEMBER 30, 1855, AN ADDITIONAL 30 PERSONS FROM LISBON, ILLINOIS, JOINED THIS GROUP. THIS NOW MADE 141 IN THE TOTAL COLONY AS THREE CHILDREN HAD BEEN BORN AND TWO WOMEN AND ONE CHILD HAD DIED. LARS TESDAHL, KNUTE ERSLAND, AND JOHN SEVERSON WERE THE FIRST TO ERECT THEIR OWN HOMES.

THE FIRST THREE CHILDREN BORN WERE ANNA, DAUGHTER OF SOLEMON AND SARAH HIGGEN; OLIE, SON OF OLIE AND ANNA HEGGIN; AND HALVER, SON OF LARS AND MARTHA TESDAHL. THE FIRST COUPLE TO BE MARRIED WAS OLIE APLAND AND ANNA ERSLAND. OLIE APLAND WAS THE 15TH MAN TO APPLY FOR A MARRIAGE LICENSE IN STORY COUNTY, AND THIS WAS THE FIRST NORWEGIAN COUPLE TO GET MARRIED IN THE STATE OF IOWA. THE FIRST DEATHS WERE A BABY OF ENGEBRITH AND SARAH HEGGEN, THE WIFE OF KNUTE ERSLAND, AND THE WIFE OF ERICK TESDAHL.

WITH 141 PERSONS, 15 HORSES, 44 OXEN, AND A BUNCH OF CATTLE, THEY WERE THEN FACED WITH THE PROBLEM OF GETTING THROUGH THE WINTER UNTIL THEY COULD PLANT CROPS AND HARVEST THE NEXT YEAR. THEY SHARED WITH EACH OTHER WHENEVER NECESSARY AND WERE ABLE TO PURCHASE SOME FOODSTUFFS FROM THE STORE AT CAMBRIDGE AND AT SWEDE'S POINT (MADRID). THERE WAS PLENTY OF WILD FOOD--GRAPES, PLUMS, AND BERRIES--AND PLENTY OF WILD GAME, FOWL, AND FISH. AFTER THE WINTER HAD PASSED, THEY WERE THEN ABLE TO PLANT THEIR CROPS, HARVEST, AND CONTINUE TO BUILD THEIR HOMES, A SCHOOL, AND A CHURCH.

SOME OF THESE ORIGINAL SETTLERS MOVED APPROXIMATELY FIVE MILES FURTHER WEST AND THUS THE TOWN OF SHELDAHL CAME INTO EXISTENCE. SOME OF THE PERSONS WHO HAD PARENTS IN THIS GROUP WERE GEORGE HOUGE, PETER APLAND, MRS. BELLE RYAN, MRS. CHARLES SKORTMAN, MRS. A. L. PETERSON, MRS. C. E. LARSON, MISS NELLIE THOMPSON, MRS. SACK SYDNESS, MRS. WILLIAM CASSEL, MRS. BESSIE SKOLA, GEORGE CHRISTIANSON, TOM T. WICKS, DR. GEORGE J. SEVERSON, M. S. HEGGEN, MRS. JOHN SIMONSON, MRS. OLEY STORING, MRS. NELLIE IHLE, MRS. NELS ERSLAND, MRS. MAGGIE TWEEDT, MRS. ANDREW ESTREM, SANFORD TESDELL, ANDREW SHELDAHL, AND MRS. BERTHA NERVIG.

ONE OF THE MOST OUTSTANDING SETTLERS WAS HON. OLEY NELSON, WHO CAME FROM WISCONSIN RIGHT AFTER THE CIVIL WAR. HE FIRST RAN A HOTEL IN DES MOINES, CALLED THE FARMERS HOUSE. IN 1874, HE AND HIS BROTHER-IN-LAW, OLIE APLAND, ERECTED THE FIRST STORE BUILDING IN SHELDAHL AND CALLED IT "APLAND AND NELSON". HE AND HIS WIFE MOVED INTO THE UPSTAIRS LIVING QUARTERS OF THIS BUILDING AND CARRIE, THEIR THIRD CHILD, WAS THE FIRST CHILD BORN IN SHELDAHL. MR. NELSON WAS A BRIGHT MAN, WELL EDUCATED, AND COULD SPEAK ON ANY SUBJECT. HE HAD A STRONG PERSONALITY, LOTS OF FRIENDS, AND

WAS A NATURAL LEADER. HE WAS ELECTED STATE REPRESENTATIVE FROM STORY COUNTY AND SERVED IN THE 21ST AND 22ND GENERAL ASSEMBLIES. HE WAS NATIONAL COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC IN 1936. HE WAS SERGEANT-AT-ARMS IN THE HOUSE CHAMBER AT THE STATE HOUSE SIXTEEN OR SEVENTEEN YEARS, UP UNTIL HE DIED IN 1939, AT THE AGE OF 93 YEARS.

THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF SLATER, AND ITS FIRST GROWING PAINS, ARE VIVIDLY RECORDED IN THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE, AS WRITTEN AND PUBLISHED BY PHIL ROOD, EDITOR, IN THE SLATER NEWS ON DECEMBER 14, 1939:

"IN 1881, THE CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE, AND ST. PAUL RAILWAY COMPANY DECIDED TO LAY THEIR TRACKS ONE AND ONE-HALF MILES NORTH OF SHELDAHL. THIS PLAN MET WITH THE IMMEDIATE DISAPPROVAL OF THE CITIZENS OF SHELDAHL, SINCE THEY HAD ANTICIPATED THE BUILDING OF THE RAILWAY, IMMEDIATELY NORTH OF THEIR TOWN. OLEY NELSON, A MERCHANT IN THE TOWN OF SHELDAHL, HAD OCCASION AT THAT TIME TO GO INTO CHICAGO TO PURCHASE STOCK FOR HIS STORE, AND WHILE THERE, WENT TO MILWAUKEE WHERE HE HAD AN AUDIENCE WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE COMPANY, A MR. MILLER, REGARDING THE PROPOSED CHANGE. HIS EFFORTS MET WITH DEFEAT, AND CONSTRUCTION WORK BEGAN THAT SUMMER, THE ROAD BEING COMPLETED IN 1882. IN 1883, THE STATE LEGISLATURE PASSED A LAW REQUIRING ALL RAILROAD CROSSINGS TO HAVE A STATION. THE TWO ROADS, THE MILWAUKEE AND NORTH WESTERN, THEN BUILT A DEPOT WHICH WAS LISTED AS "SHELDAHL CROSSING" ON THEIR SCHEDULES.

"A SMALL SETTLEMENT BEGAN TO SLOWLY FORM. BEN FREAD, A BROTHER OF WRIGHT FREAD, ERECTED AN ELEVATOR ALONG THE MILWAUKEE ROAD. A SMALL LUNCH ROOM WAS OPENED ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE TRACK OPPOSITE THE DEPOT. LEW ASKLAND BUILT A SMALL GROCERY STORE ON THE LOT WHERE SWAN JOHNSON'S HOME NOW STANDS.

"IN 1886, A. M. JENKS, OWNER OF THE LAND, SECURED A CAPABLE SURVEYOR AND PROCEEDED TO LAY OUT A TOWN PLAT. THE PLAT WAS NOT VERY LARGE, COVERING THE TERRITORY NORTH OF THE PRESENT CREAMERY ROAD, AS FAR EAST AS THE NELSON STORE. HE GAVE THE PLAT THE NAME OF "SHELDAHL CROSSING", WHICH NAME STILL PREVAILS IN THE OFFICIAL DESCRIPTION OF SAID LOTS.

"THE SHELDAHL SHIPPERS OF GRAIN AND OTHER COMMODITIES HAD DIFFICULTIES FOR SOME TIME WITH THE RAILROADS AS TO RATES, LONG AND SHORT HAULS, AND OTHER MATTERS. COMPLAINTS WERE FILED WITH THE COMPANY OFFICIALS, BUT NOTHING WAS ACCOMPLISHED. AFTER SOME TIME, THEY OPENED NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE OFFICIALS OF THE MILWAUKEE RAILROAD TO ASCERTAIN WHAT PRIVILEGES THEY WOULD HAVE IF THEY MOVED THEIR BUSINESS PLACES TO SHELDAHL CROSSING. OF COURSE, THE RAILROAD COMPANY WAS GLAD TO DEAL WITH THEM AND THEY WERE ASSURED OF EVERY COURTESY AND CONSIDERATION IN VOGUE AT THAT TIME. ANOTHER CONTRIBUTING FACTOR TO THE MOVING, WAS THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE BUSINESS MEN THAT SOONER OR LATER, A TOWN WOULD SPRING UP AT SHELDAHL CROSSING, DUE TO THE FAVORABLE LOCATION OF TWO OF THE COUNTRY'S LARGEST RAILROADS, AND SO THEY WERE WILLING TO MOVE AND "BE ON THE GROUND FLOOR".

"AT A PUBLIC MEETING, HEADED BY OLEY NELSON, THE MATTER WAS DISCUSSED. THE SPIRIT OF THE MEETING WAS TO MOVE, THE CONSIDERATION BEING THAT THOSE WHO ABANDONED THEIR BUSINESS OR RESIDENTIAL LOTS IN SHELDAHL, SHOULD GET SIMILAR LOTS AT SHELDAHL CROSSING, FREE OF CHARGE.

"THE DECISION TO MOVE HAVING BEEN MADE, THEY WENT TO SHELDAHL CROSSING TO MAKE THEIR CHOICE OF LOTS. THEY FOUND MR. JENKS' PLAT UNSATISFACTORY, HOWEVER, ESPECIALLY THE BUSINESSMEN WHO THOUGHT MAIN STREET FROM THE DEPOT EAST WAS TOO CLOSE TO THE MILWAUKEE TRACKS. THEY ALSO FOUND THAT MANY OF THE LOTS ALONG THIS STREET HAD ALREADY BEEN SOLD TO SPECULATORS WHO WERE WANTING TO SELL THEM TO THEIR ADVANTAGE. THEIR CHOICE WAS FOR GROUND FURTHER SOUTH AND EAST. MR. JENKS PLATTED MORE GROUND, NAMING THIS ADDITION "SLATER JUNCTION" (AFTER A FRIEND OF HIS). WITH ALL DETAILS SETTLED, THE MOVING BEGAN THE FOLLOWING SPRING OF 1887."

JAMES A. STORING HAS DESCRIBED THIS MOVING IN HIS ARTICLE, "THE TOWN THAT MOVED", WHICH APPEARED IN THE FEBRUARY, 1939, ISSUE OF THE PALIMPSEST, PUBLISHED AT IOWA CITY BY THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA.

"THE PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES OF MOVING WERE MADE MORE HAZARDOUS BY THE UNCERTAINTIES OF ROADS AND WEATHER. THE USUAL PROCEDURE WAS TO MOUNT THE BUILDING ON "TRUCKS" AND PULL THE LOAD WITH THE AID OF CIRCULAR HORSEPOWER. IMMEDIATELY AHEAD OF THE BUILDING ITSELF THE ROAD WAS PLANKED. IT WAS A LABORIOUS TASK INDEED TO PLACE THOSE HEAVY PLANKS. THEN, TOO, IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO PROCEED FAR BEFORE A RESETTING OF THE POWER APPARATUS WAS REQUIRED. THE ADVANTAGES GAINED BY THE DEVICE BECAME READILY APPARENT WHEN IT IS NOTED THAT MANY OF THE LARGER BUILDINGS, INCLUDING THE GRAIN ELEVATOR, WERE MOVED THE FULL TWO MILES WITH ONLY A SINGLE HORSE. EVEN WITH AMPLE POWER AND AN ADEQUATE LABOR SUPPLY, THE JOB WAS OF COMPARATIVELY LONG DURATION. OFTEN A WEEK WAS CONSUMED BEFORE THE TASK WAS COMPLETED AND THE RECORDS TELL OF MOVINGS THAT REQUIRED AS LONG AS TEN DAYS.

"NO OFFICIAL COUNT OF THE ACTUAL NUMBER OF BUILDING CONVEYED TO SHELDAHL CROSSING IS AVAILABLE. IT SEEMS SAFE TO ESTIMATE, HOWEVER, THAT FIFTY-TWO OR FIFTY-THREE HAD BEEN MOVED BY THE END OF THE HIGH TIDE PERIOD IN THE CLOSING MONTHS OF 1888."

DURING THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS, THE TOWN STEADILY GREW WITH WELL LAID STREETS, ALLEYS AND LOTS; GRAIN ELEVATORS, A SCHOOL HOUSE, A CHURCH, AND GOOD TRAIN SERVICE. BY 1889, THE TOWN HAD A POPULATION OF 450 PEOPLE WITH MORE THAN TWENTY BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS, THREE CHURCHES, MANY NICE HOMES, AND SEVERAL MORE UNDER CONSTRUCTION. IT WAS INCORPORATED ON APRIL 7, 1890. ON MAY 5, THE FOLLOWING TOWN OFFICIALS WERE ELECTED; MAYOR - E. PETERSON; RECORDER - FRANK CRAMER; TREASURER - A. A. LANDE; ASSESSOR - L. J. JOHNSON; STREET COMMISSIONER - MARSHALL CLARK; COUNCILMEN: OLEY NELSON, P. D. HATFIELD, AUGUST PETERSON, E. F. MILLER, AND E. A. RAWSON.

IN THE SAME YEAR, ON NOVEMBER 7, 1890, THE SLATER DRIVING CLUB AND RACE TRACK WAS FORMED. IT'S OFFICERS WERE: PRESIDENT - WRIGHT FREAD; SECRETARY - ED MILLER; TREASURER - AMOS A. LANDE; DIRECTORS - G. E. STEWARD, J. H. LARSON, P. D. HATFIELD, G. J. HIGHLAND; EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE -

WRIGHT FREAD, OLEY NELSON, G. E. STEWARD. OTHER MEMBERS WERE PEJE NEWMAN, ANFIN APLAND, DR. RAWSON, JONAS JOHNSON, CHARLEY RICE, ANDY OSTLING, GABE HIGHLAND, OLE APLAND, AND BERT DRURY. THEY LEASED LAND FROM MR. JENKS. IT EXTENDED FROM STORY STREET WEST TO THE CLARENCE RYG HOME, AND AS FAR EAST AS THIRD BASE ON THE BASEBALL DIAMOND. THE TRACK RAN PARALLEL WITH HIGHWAY 210 ON THE SOUTH AND NELSON PARK ON THE NORTH. OLEY NELSON SURVEYED THE TRACK. MARSHALL CLARK AND HIS TWO SONS, CLARENCE AND BERT, HARROWED IT TO LEVEL IT, THEN USED AN IMPROVED ROAD DRAG (THE FIRST EVER USED HERE) TO SMOOTH THE TRACK.

PETE NEWMAN HAD FINE TROTTERS; WRIGHT FREAD HAD A FINE BLACK PACER; THE OSTLING BOYS, A RACING SPEEDSTER; G. E. STEWART, FINE STALLIONS; AND ED MILLER, A TROTTER.

#### NEWSPAPERS

SLATER'S FIRST NEWSPAPER WAS ESTABLISHED JANUARY 17, 1890, BY FRANK B. CRAMER. IN OCTOBER, 1890, IT WAS SOLD TO OLEY LANGLAND. IN JANUARY, 1903, HE GAVE IT TO ANDREW MALAND AND OSMOND VILAND. MR. MALAND THEN BOUGHT MR. VILAND'S SHARE AND HAD COMPLETE OWNERSHIP FOR THE NEXT THIRTY-FOUR YEARS. ON MAY 1, 1939, PHIL ROOD PURCHASED THE BUSINESS. IN SEPTEMBER, 1939, HE WROTE THE HISTORY OF SLATER'S FIRST FIFTY YEARS.

#### POST OFFICE

THE FIRST SLATER POST OFFICE WAS LOCATED SOUTH OF MUNN LUMBER YARD AND WAS OPERATED BY MR. LEWIS ASKLAND, AN UNCLE OF MRS. OLEY RYAN, WHO IS LIVING IN SLATER AT THE PRESENT TIME. HE SERVED AS POSTMASTER FOR ABOUT A YEAR, THEN RESIGNED SO THAT HE MIGHT ATTEND RED WING SEMINARY IN MINNESOTA. HE WAS SUCCEEDED BY JOHN SCOTT IN FEBRUARY, 1888, AND OTHER POSTMASTERS AS FOLLOWS: JOHN JOHNSON, JUNE, 1893; LEWIS A. LARSON, APRIL 15, 1897; SWAN JOHNSON, SEPTEMBER 18, 1898; ANDREW MALAND, 28 YEARS; LESTER HALVERSON, OCTOBER 1, 1934; MERLE B. CHADER, AUGUST 5, 1939 (MR. FREEBERT T. RIIS TOOK OVER DURING THE TIME MR. CHADER WAS IN THE NAVY DURING WORLD WAR II); JONAS CHRISTIANSON (ACTING POSTMASTER), JUNE 1, 1959; AND KINGSLEY SCHAUDT, JANUARY, 1962.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT

THE FIRST FIRE TEAM WAS ORGANIZED ON SEPTEMBER 3, 1914, WITH EQUIPMENT CONSISTING OF CHEMICAL ENGINES, HOSE CARTS, AND OTHER PARAPHANALIA. TEAM MEMBERS AND ASSIGNMENTS WERE: FIRE CHIEF - P. L. HILL; CHEMICAL ENGINE - ANDREW MALAND; CHEMICAL MAN - MILLER HEGGEN; ASSISTANT - MARTIN SEVERSON; NOZZLEMEN - JOE HOUGE AND OTHER MEN.

THE WORST FIRE OCCURRED ON APRIL 28, 1910, AND WAS STARTED BY A SMALL BOY, BROWN MICKELSON, WHO SET FIRE TO SOME BUILDINGS ON HIS FARM AND THEN HUNG HIMSELF. THE FIRE COMPLETELY DESTROYED THE UNION DEPOT, THE MILWAUKEE FREIGHT HOUSE, THE NORTH WESTERN FREIGHT HOUSE, THE COAL AND OIL SHEDS, THE FLOUR HOUSE, AS WELL AS SOME OTHER PROPERTY. A TRAIN CREW TRIED TO SAVE THE PROPERTY, BUT FLAMES DEVELOPED TO A POINT WHERE THE STRONG WINDS MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO PUT THEM OUT. THE MEN SAVED SOME OFFICE LITTER BUT THAT WAS ALL. THE TOTAL LOSS WAS AROUND \$14,000.

ON DECEMBER 14, 1911, MUCH PROPERTY WAS DESTROYED BY A VERY BAD FIRE. THE STORE ROOM, WHICH WAS OCCUPIED BY A. A. LANDE, WAS REDUCED TO ASHES. THE LOCAL LIVERY BARN, LOCATED ON MAIN STREET, WAS COMPLETELY DESTROYED. THE MEN WORKED HARD AND WERE SUCCESSFUL IN SAVING THE TWEEDT BUILDING AND PREVENTED THE FIRE FROM SPREADING. THEY DID VERY WELL WITH THE LIMITED EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE IN THOSE DAYS. IT IS BELIEVED THIS FIRE WAS STARTED BY A CARELESSLY DISCARDED CIGARETTE OR CIGAR. THE LOSSES TOTALED SEVERAL THOUSAND DOLLARS.

AT PRESENT, THE TOWN OF SLATER, IS QUITE PROUD OF ITS NEW BRICK, CITY-OWNED BUILDING, WHICH IS ALSO HEADQUARTERS FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT. COUNTY-WIDE TAXATION SUPPORTS THE DEPARTMENT, WITH THE TOWN FURNISHING THE VOLUNTEER FIREMEN AND HOUSING THE TRUCKS. EQUIPMENT INCLUDES TWO FIRE TRUCKS--ONE 500 GALLON TANKER WITH FRONT-END REVERSIBLE PUMP, EQUIPPED WITH 800 FEET OF HOSE; AND ONE 250 GALLON TANKER WITH 250 FEET OF HOSE. OTHER EQUIPMENT INCLUDES 2 SCOTT AIRPACKS, 1 RESPIRATOR, 6 PORTABLE LANTERNS, 2 GAS MASKS, AND RAINCOATS, HELMETS, AND BOOTS FOR EACH OF THE FIFTEEN FIREMEN. FIREMEN AND THEIR ASSIGNMENTS ARE AS FOLLOWS: FIRE CHIEF - ARTHUR NELSON; ASSISTANT CHIEF - ROBERT MUNSON; CAPTAIN - VERNER HANSON; SECRETARY AND TREASURER - RICHARD MASON; OTHER FIREMEN: FRED BLASKOVICH, KINGSLEY SCHAUDT, HAROLD ANDERSON, MARVIN TWEDT, ORVILLE BANNISTER, WILLIAM SCHAUDT, JOHN ZAGAR, FRED MASON, JIM SIEVERS, CARROLL SESKER, AND CARROLL MICHAEL.

#### LOG CABIN

THE PEOPLE OF SLATER HAD LONG DREAMED OF HAVING A LOG CABIN BUILT IN THE PARK FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMMUNITY USE FOR MEETINGS, REUNIONS, PARTIES, AND VARIOUS GROUP FUNCTIONS. IN JUNE, 1936, THE SLATER COMMUNITY CLUB WAS FORMED, AND THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS ELECTED: PRESIDENT - W. E. WALKER; VICE PRESIDENT - F. T. RIIS; SECRETARY-TREASURER - M. S. HEGGEN. THE CLUB THEN APPOINTED DR. NOTT, MART THOMPSON, STANLEY MOSEY, AND W. B. MCBRIDE TO FIND SUITABLE LOGS TO BUILD THE CABIN. THEY FOUND THEM NORTHWEST OF POLK CITY. THE FOUNDATION FOR THE CABIN WAS COMPLETED JULY 1, 1936, AND WAS THEN READY FOR THE LOGS TO BE PUT IN PLACE. BILL BURLISON WAS THE WOODCHOPPER WHO SUPERVISED THE CUTTING AND LAYING OF THE LOGS (IT TOOK ABOUT 100 TREES). IN THE LATTER PART OF JULY, 1936, A LOG HAULING BEE WAS HELD AND THE LOGS WERE HAULED TO SLATER FROM THE TIMBER, IN TRUCKS FURNISHED BY AL HUSER, RALPH ACCOLA, MIKE TYLER, SYLVAN ANDERSON, ART NELSON, SR., AND KENNETH KLONGLAN. THE WORK WAS ALL DONE BY VOLUNTEER BUSINESSMEN AND OTHER CITIZENS. MANY DONATIONS WERE RECEIVED TO FINANCE THE PROJECT, INCLUDING A \$50.00 DONATION FROM THE FARMERS' COOPERATIVE CREAMERY. IN MAY, 1937, A LOG CABIN BENEFIT DINNER WAS HELD. THE SLATER WOMEN PREPARED AND SERVED THE MEAL. TICKETS WERE SOLD AT 40 CENTS EACH. IT IS RECORDED THAT THE DINNER WAS A BIG SUCCESS, NETTING \$60.00.

IN RECENT YEARS, THE CABIN HAS BEEN COMPLETELY REMODELED WITH THE JOB BEING SUPERVISED BY CHARLES RAKER, CONTRACTOR, WHO WAS PRESIDENT OF THE COMMUNITY CLUB DURING THIS TIME. MUCH OF THE LABOR AGAIN WAS DONATED. THE REMODELING COST APPROXIMATELY \$3,000. TODAY, THE CABIN IS THE CENTER OF MANY COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND IS QUITE AN ASSET TO THE TOWN.

## SCHOOL

THE FACT THAT THE SLATER SCHOOL HAS SUCH LARGE GROUNDS IS ATTRIBUTED TO THE FACT THAT J. H. LARSON REFUSED TO SELL ANY OF IT FOR RESIDENCE LOTS, AS HE SAID THEY WOULD NEED ALL THE ACREAGE FOR SCHOOL GROUNDS SOMEDAY. THE FIRST SCHOOL WAS A ONE ROOM, FRAME BUILDING, 20 x 40 FEET WITH 3 ROWS OF SEATS, BUILT IN 1888, ON THE SAME PRESENT SCHOOL'S LOCATION. AFTER A FEW YEARS, THE SOUTH PART WAS ADDED ON. GRADUALLY THE CLASSES BECAME TOO LARGE, AND IN 1907, THE BRICK ADDITION WAS ADDED TO THE WOODEN STRUCTURE. BY FEBRUARY, 1917, THE SCHOOL WAS PLACED ON THE STATE'S ACCREDITED LIST WHICH CERTIFIED THAT IT WAS ON AN EQUAL BASIS EDUCATIONALLY WITH THE BEST SCHOOLS IN THE STATE. ON NOVEMBER 8, 1917, CONSTRUCTION OF THE HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING WAS COMPLETED. ON NOVEMBER 2, 1921, THE FIRST P.T.A. MEETING WAS HELD WITH THE FOLLOWING ELECTED OFFICERS: PRESIDENT - MRS. CLIFFORD HEGGEN; VICE-PRESIDENT - LUCILLE HELFENSTEIN; AND TREASURER - E. M. ELIASSEN. AT THAT MEETING, MISS MYRA CALL GAVE A TALK ON "THE HOME BEHIND THE SCHOOL".

ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 1954, VOTERS FROM THE SLATER SCHOOL DISTRICT WENT TO THE POLLS TO VOTE ON A \$76,000 BOND ISSUE FOR A PROPOSED NEW GYM PROJECT, TWO ADDITIONAL CLASSROOMS TO BE ADDED ON THE SOUTH WING, AND REMODELING OF THE OLD GYM INTO FOUR CLASSROOMS. THE VOTE WAS: 295 FOR, 76 AGAINST, AND 5 SPOILED BALLOTS. COMMUNITY EFFORT WAS GRACIOUSLY GIVEN IN FURTHERING THIS PROJECT, WITH THE MEN PROVIDING DONATED LABOR AND UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF LOCAL CONTRACTORS, DEMOLISHED THE OLD, WOODEN PORTION WHICH WAS TO BE REPLACED BY THE NEW CLASSROOMS. LADIES OF THE COMMUNITY PROVIDED LUNCHEON SNACKS WHILE THE MEN WORKED. LABOR WAS ALSO DONATED IN THE LAYING OF THE GYM FLOOR. ADDITIONAL FUNDS WERE NEEDED FOR COMPLETION OF THIS PROJECT AND OVER \$2,000 WAS RAISED BY AN ALL-OUT COMMUNITY EFFORT IN PARTICIPATING AND PROMOTING A "VARIETY" SHOW WHICH WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL. THESE ARE PRIME EXAMPLES OF EXCELLENT COOPERATION AND OF THE SLATER CITIZENS' INTEREST IN EDUCATION AND IN PROVIDING THE FACILITIES NEEDED AS ITS TOWN'S GROWTH CONTINUED.

THE FIRST BASKETBALL GAME WAS PLAYED IN THE NEW GYM ON JANUARY 4, 1955, AND HAD A PACKED ATTENDANCE. HUXLEY WAS THE VISITING TEAM.

GIRLS BASKETBALL - IN 1947, THE SLATER GIRLS WON THE SECTIONAL AND COUNTY TOURNAMENTS. IN 1948, THEY WON THESE AGAIN, AS WELL AS THE DISTRICT, AND WENT ON TO THE STATE TOURNAMENT, PLACING THIRD. IN 1949, THEY WON THE COUNTY, SECTIONAL, AND DISTRICT, BUT LOST THEIR SECOND GAME IN THE STATE TOURNAMENT. IN 1950, THEY WERE STATE CHAMPIONS OF IOWA GIRLS BASKETBALL, WINNING THE FINAL GAME OVER KAMRAR. THE HAPPY GIRLS WHO WERE ON THIS TEAM AND BROUGHT BACK THE TROPHY WHICH IS IN THE PRESENT HIGH SCHOOL TROPHY CASE, WERE: MARTELLE ERLAND, NETTIE HAMMOND, MARGARET MIDDENTS, MARJORIE ACCOLA, DARLENE KLONGLAN, AND KATHRYN TWIT.

BOYS BASKETBALL - IN 1954, THE SLATER BOYS PROVED TO HAVE A GREAT TEAM. THEY WON THE SECTIONAL, DISTRICT, AND DEFEATED A STRONG ROLAND TEAM IN THE SUB-STATE FINALS. IN THE STATE TOURNAMENT, THEY HAD THE UNLUCKY EXPERIENCE TO DRAW MUSCATINE, A BASKETBALL POWERHOUSE, AND WERE BEATEN IN THEIR FIRST GAME. MEMBERS OF THIS TEAM WERE: ROBERT LOCKER, DONALD ACCOLA, HARLAN ROZNOZ, RONALD LOCKER, AND CHARLES KRAUSE.

BOYS BASEBALL - FROM 1930 - 1950 SLATER HIGH SCHOOL WAS THE LEADING BASEBALL TEAM IN THE COUNTY, WINNING COUNTY TOURNAMENTS AND SECTIONAL TOURNAMENTS YEAR AFTER YEAR. IN 1937, SLATER ADVANCED TO THE STATE TOURNAMENT UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF FRED CIRNKOVICH, THEIR OUTSTANDING PITCHER, BY ELIMINATING THE FORMER STATE CHAMPIONS, NORTH HIGH OF DES MOINES, 2-0. IN THE TOURNAMENT, THE FIRST GAME WAS AGAINST TRIPOLI AND THEY WERE VICTORIOUS. MEMBERS OF THIS TEAM WERE: FRED CIRNKOVICH, EARL LUNDY, EVERETT LEWIS, WILLIAM BLASKOVICH, RUDY ZAGAR, RODNEY SUTTER, ROBERT HUNT, AND HOWARD HUNT.

OF ALL THE MANY FINE COACHES OF THESE SPORTS ACTIVITIES, ONE PERSON STANDS OUT IN THE MEMORY OF THE SLATER RESIDENTS AND THAT WAS MR. ANDY BUTT, WHO COACHED THE GIRLS TO THEIR 1950 STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP. MR. BUTT WAS ALSO THE SUPERINTENDENT AT THAT TIME.

REORGANIZATION - REORGANIZATION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT TOOK PLACE IN 1957-1959, WHEN THE TOWNS OF HUXLEY, KELLEY, CAMBRIDGE, AND SLATER JOINED TOGETHER TO FORM BALLARD COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT. SLATER RESIDENTS AGAIN WERE INTERESTED IN OBTAINING THE BEST EDUCATION POSSIBLE FOR THEIR CHILDREN AND KNEW BY A LARGER, TAX SUPPORTED AREA THIS WOULD BE POSSIBLE, AND WERE WILLING TO GIVE UP THE LOCATION OF THEIR HIGH SCHOOL TO A MORE CENTRALLY LOCATED SPOT THAT WOULD SERVE THE ENTIRE AREA BEST. THE HIGH SCHOOL AND JUNIOR HIGH ARE PRESENTLY LOCATED AT HUXLEY AND EACH OF THE OTHER TOWNS HAVE AN ELEMENTARY CENTER, GRADES ONE THROUGH SIX. AT THE PRESENT TIME, THE SLATER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HAS AN ENROLLMENT OF 244 PUPILS; APPROXIMATELY 65 SLATER STUDENTS ARE INCLUDED IN THE 228 HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT; AND 60 IN THE 232 JUNIOR HIGH ENROLLMENT.

#### SLATER BASEBALL

SLATER HAS ALWAYS BEEN A BASEBALL TOWN. AS FAR BACK AS 1897, BASEBALL WAS VERY IMPORTANT. IN THAT YEAR, IT IS RECORDED, THAT SLATER WAS CHALLENGED BY CAMBRIDGE TO PLAY A GAME ON NEUTRAL GROUND WITH A NEUTRAL UMPIRE. THE GAME WAS PLAYED AT THREE O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON AT MAXWELL, AND ALMOST EVERYONE FROM SLATER DROVE THEIR TEAMS OR RODE HORSES TO MAXWELL TO BACK THEIR TEAM. NEVER, SAY SOME OLD TIMERS, HAS THERE BEEN A BALLGAME FILLED WITH MORE EXCITEMENT OR ANTICIPATION. ROXY ROUTZING, THE SLATER PITCHER, REALLY BUCKLED DOWN IN THE THIRD INNING (WITH THE SCORE 3 TO 1 IN CAMBRIDGE'S FAVOR), AND USING HIS BAFFLING CURVES, STRUCK OUT EIGHT IN A ROW. THE REST OF THE GAME WAS SLATER ALL THE WAY AND THE CONTEST ENDED 9 TO 3, IN SLATER'S FAVOR. IT WAS LATE WHEN THE SLATER FANS AND PLAYERS GOT HOME, BUT THE TRIP WAS SURE WORTH IT ALL, IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE!

MANY GOOD YEARS OF BASEBALL FOLLOWED, AND BY 1947, THE PEOPLE DECIDED SLATER NEEDED A LIGHTED PARK, SO THE SLATER BASEBALL CORPORATION WAS FORMED, WITH JOHN MILLER OF AMES, AS THEIR ATTORNEY. THE BOARD MEMBERS WERE: GLEN FAUSCH, CLARENCE WALKER, ART TORGERSON, GEORGE JONES, FRANK ROZDOS, H. J. CARLSON, AND MORRILL NERVIG.

THE NEW LIGHTED BALL PARK WAS TO COST \$16,500, AND THE NEXT STEP WAS TO RAISE THE MONEY. IT WAS DECIDED TO RAFFLE OFF A NEW CAR. WILLIAM HARMON CONTACTED JENSEN & DUNN MOTOR COMPANY IN DES MOINES AND ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE TO PURCHASE A NEW FORD FROM THEM AT COST. EVERYONE IN TOWN WAS

SELLING RAFFLE TICKETS TO FRIENDS, RELATIVES, ETC. AROUND \$4800 WORTH OF TICKETS WERE SOLD, LEAVING APPROXIMATELY \$2,800 PROFIT. THE CAR WAS WON BY ROBERT HYND OF CAMBRIDGE. THEN, \$6000 WAS BORROWED FROM THE BOONE STATE BANK AT 4 PER CENT INTEREST. FOR SECURITY, SOME 75 MEN OF SLATER SIGNED NOTES OF \$100 EACH. (LATER, A "NOTE BURNING NIGHT" WAS HELD AT THE BALL PARK BEFORE A GAME.) LIGHT POLES WERE ORDERED AT \$142 EACH AND THEY CAME FROM OKLAHOMA ON TWO RAILROAD FLAT CARS. (THEY WERE TOO LONG FOR ONE FLAT CAR.) IT COST \$120 TO HAVE THE HOLES (10 FT. DEEP) DUG AND THIS WAS DONE BY A MAN FROM MADRID, WHO USED HIS HORSE TO ROTATE THE DIGGER. THE SETTING OF THE POLES WAS DONE BY A MAN FROM ANKENY FOR \$125. SLATER'S COMMUNITY SPIRIT AGAIN CAME THROUGH AND THE MEN ALL HELPED IN PUTTING UP THE FENCE, BUILDING THE BLEACHERS (THESE WERE BUILT AT NIGHT BY A CREW OF CARPENTERS), AND ANYTHING ELSE THAT NEEDED TO BE DONE. THE LIGHT POLES WERE 70 FT. HIGH AND SOME OF THE MEN WHO DIDN'T MIND THE HEIGHT (RUSSELL GUSTAFSON AND DICK JONES WERE AMONG THE HIGH CLIMBERS) DID THE JOB OF PUTTING UP THE BULBS AND REFLECTORS. ALMOST EVERYONE IN THE COMMUNITY HAD A PART IN THE BUILDING OF THE SLATER MEMORIAL BALL PARK.

THE BALL PARK WAS DEDICATED ON AUGUST 6, 1948, AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 50 YEARS, BASEBALL COULD BE PLAYED AT NIGHT AS WELL AS IN THE DAY. A NEW NAME WAS GIVEN TO THE TEAM, THE SLATER NITE HAWKS. NOW, AFTER 20 YEARS OF NIGHT BASEBALL, THE HAWKS HAVE NEVER HAD A LOSING SEASON. THEIR GREATEST SUCCESSES CAME IN THE YEARS 1962 THRU 1967. IN 1962, AND 1963, THEY WERE THIRD IN THE STATE; IN 1964, THEY WERE SECOND; AND THEN RAN OFF THREE STRAIGHT STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS THEREAFTER. THE 1967 TEAM, MAKING THE THIRD STRAIGHT TRIP TO WICHITA (NATIONAL TOURNAMENT SITE), WAS THE FIRST TEAM TO WIN TWO GAMES, AND FINISHED 11TH IN THE NATION. THEY WERE AWARDED THE TOWN TEAM AWARD, GIVEN TO A TEAM FROM A TOWN OF UNDER 5,000 POPULATION. BOB LOCKER, A SIX TIME, ALL-STATE CATCHER FOR THE NITE HAWKS, WAS VOTED THE ALL-AMERICAN CATCHER OF 1967. KING SCHAUDT, PHIL GROTH, AND CLAIR RIERSON MANAGED THE THREE STATE CHAMPIONS. FOURTEEN PLAYERS FROM THE NITE HAWKS HAVE SIGNED PROFESSIONAL CONTRACTS, WITH JERRY McNERTNEY MAKING IT TO THE MAJORS WITH THE CHICAGO WHITE SOX AS THEIR CATCHER. THE YEAR 1958 WAS THE MOST SUCCESSFUL FOR THE HAWKS, AS THEY WON 25 STRAIGHT GAMES, FOLLOWING THEIR FINE RECORD IN 1957 OF 18-3. MILO PAPICH DESERVES MUCH CREDIT, AS HE WAS ONE OF THE MAIN SPARKS IN ORGANIZING THE NITE HAWKS. THE NITE HAWKS APPEAR TO BE STRONGER FOR THE COMING SEASON, 1968, AS THEY TRY TO WIN THEIR FOURTH STRAIGHT STATE TITLE. NO TEAM IN HISTORY HAD EVER WON THREE STRAIGHT STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS BEFORE THE HAWKS ACCOMPLISHED THIS LAST SEASON. A GREAT HONOR CAME TO THE HAWKS IN MARCH OF 1968, AS FAIRBANKS, ALASKA, OFFERED TO FLY THE TEAM FROM SEATTLE FOR A SIX-GAME SERIES, PAYING ALL EXPENSES FROM SEATTLE. THE TRIP IS IN DOUBT AT THIS TIME BECAUSE OF THE GREAT EXPENSE OF GETTING THE TEAM TO SEATTLE. KING SCHAUDT, GENERAL MANAGER OF THE NITE HAWKS FOR MANY YEARS, HAS SERVED AS STATE COMMISSIONER FOR NON-PRO BASEBALL FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS, AND WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR BRINGING THE STATE TOURNAMENT TO SLATER IN 1964.

IN ADDITION TO THE HIGH SCHOOL AND ADULT BASEBALL PROGRAMS IN SLATER, THERE IS AN ACTIVE "LITTLE LEAGUE" FOR THE YOUNGER BASEBALL ENTHUSIASTS (AGES 8-14), NUMBERING AROUND 75 AT THIS TIME. A "BABE RUTH" TEAM FOR THE SLIGHTLY OLDER GROUP HAS ABOUT 25 PARTICIPANTS. THESE ARE THE FUTURE SLATER BASEBALL PLAYERS WHO WILL INSURE THAT THIS GREAT SPORT WILL CONTINUE.

CHURCHES

SLATER'S TWO CHURCHES, THE SLATER METHODIST AND THE BETHLEHEM AMERICAN LUTHERAN, PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN THE LIFE OF ITS CITIZENS. THEIR ACTIVITIES CONTRIBUTE TO THE RELIGIOUS, AS WELL AS THE SOCIAL LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY. AS THE POPULATION OF SLATER HAS GROWN IN RECENT YEARS, SO HAS THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CHURCHES. THE PRESENT PASTOR OF THE SLATER METHODIST CHURCH, SERVING ITS APPROXIMATELY 180 MEMBERS, IS THE REV. GLEN DREW. THE BETHLEHEM CHURCH, WITH OVER 700 MEMBERS, IS SERVED BY THE REV. W. A. ADIX.

IN THE EARLY YEARS OF 1890-1895, THE METHODIST CHURCH WITH REV. MATTHEW, AN INDIAN, AS THE PASTOR IN CHARGE, WAS ORGANIZED. EARLY MEETINGS WERE HELD IN THE SLATER SCHOOL BUILDING. IN FEBRUARY, 1895, A NEW CHURCH BUILDING WAS ERECTED, WEST OF THE SLATER PARK, AND WAS DEDICATED. WHEN THE HOUGES' LUTHERAN FREE CHURCH DISBANDED, THEY SOLD THEIR BUILDING TO THE METHODIST CHURCH FOR A TOKEN PAYMENT OF A FEW HUNDRED DOLLARS, AND IN 1945, THEY DEDICATED THIS BUILDING, WHICH IS THEIR PRESENT CHURCH HOME. REV. CURT NOREN WAS THE PASTOR AT THAT TIME. IN 1955, THE CHURCH CELEBRATED ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY. BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN, WHICH WAS ORGANIZED IN 1878, CELEBRATED ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY IN THE FALL OF 1953. THEIR PRESENT CHURCH BUILDING WAS ERECTED IN 1910, AND LATER ON AN EDUCATIONAL UNIT WAS ADDED AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS MADE. A NEW, MODERN PARSONAGE WAS BUILT FOUR YEARS AGO.

THE WOMEN OF THE METHODIST CHURCH HAVE AN ACTIVE W.S.C.S. AND IN THE BETHLEHEM CHURCH THERE IS AN ACTIVE A.L.C.W. AND FOUR CIRCLES. BOTH CHURCHES HAVE YOUNG PEOPLE'S GROUPS, VACATION BIBLE SCHOOLS, AND MANY OTHER ACTIVITIES FOR ITS MEMBERS.

BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS  
1889-1900

OLE NELSON-GENERAL STORE	WRIGHT FREAD-STOCK BUYER
PETERSON & CROFT-GENERAL MERCHANDISE	C. C. HOLM-SHOEMAKER
MILES & SONS- HARDWARE & IMPLEMENT	CORNEIL HIGHLAND-LUNCHROOM
HATFIELD & PETERSON-HARDWARE & FARM IMPLEMENTS	M. P. WEBB-PLASTERER
W. A. ANDERSON-SHOES & BOOTS	C. B. OWENS-MEAT MARKET
A. A. LANDE-DRUGGIST	LEWIS GRAMUTH-MEAT MARKET
AUGUST PETERSON-CLOTHING, BOOTS & SHOES	G. WETTERFIELD-BLACKSMITH
GEORGE HELLEEN-JEWELER	HENRY JORDAHL )-CARPENTERS
A. K. ERSLAND-LUMBER YARD	SEVERT WINSETT )
OLE APLAND-RESTAURANT & CONFECTIONERY	A. G. SAMUELSON-SCOOP BOARD MAN
GUS REINEUS-BLACKSMITH & WAGON MAKER	JOHN JOHNSON-HOTEL JENKS
JOHN NELSON-RESTAURANT	T. M. DAVIDSON-PHOTOGRAPHER
OLEY CLEVELAND-BARBER	OLEY NELSON-ELEVATOR
LEWIS JOHNSON-CONTRACTOR & BUILDER	MILLER & SON-ELEVATOR
ANDY OSLING-HARNESS MAKER	E. A. RAWSON-PHYSICIAN & SURGEON
J. JOHNSON-FURNITURE & CABINET MAKER	CHARLES MYERS-HOUSE MOVER
WOOD BROS.-GENERAL MERCHANDISE	C. O. BASSETT-POOL HALL
JOHN N. SCOTT-POST MAKER	FRANK B. CRAMER & Co.-SLATER NEWS
MISS LOUISE ARNTY-DRESSMAKER	H. THOMPSON-PAINTER & DECORATOR
	DR. TODD-DENTIST

(THERE WERE ALSO SEVERAL LIVERY STABLES.)

TWO OF THE BUSINESSES MOVED FROM SHELDAHL TO SLATER CONTINUED UNTIL THE YEAR OF 1965, WHEN SLATER CELEBRATED ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY. THEY WERE THE PETERSON CLOTHING STORE, OWNED AND OPERATED BY AUGUST PETERSON, AND THE LANDE DRUG STORE, OWNED AND OPERATED BY DRUGGIST AMOS A. LANDE. A. L. PETERSON, SON OF AUGUST, CONTINUED THE BUSINESS UNTIL HIS DEATH IN THE FALL OF 1964. DRUGGIST LANDE RETIRED IN 1936, BUT THE BUSINESS ESTABLISHED BY HIM IN 1886, WAS CONTINUED BY HIS SON, CLAYTON, UNTIL JUNE, 1965, WHEN THE STOCK AND BUILDING WAS SOLD.

IN 1920, ANOTHER BUILDING WAS MOVED FROM SHELDAHL, AND THIS WAS BOUGHT AND OCCUPIED BY CLARENCE RYG FOR HIS SLATER AUTO COMPANY. THE BUILDING WAS LOCATED WHERE THE SLATER STATE BANK NOW STANDS. LATER, HE MOVED INTO THE BUILDING WHERE SLATER AUTO IS NOW OPERATING UNDER THE OWNERSHIP OF VERN HANSON, WHO BOUGHT THE BUSINESS IN MAY, 1966.

1900-1920

JOHN PETERSON-IMPLEMENT STORE	A. A. LANDE-DRUGGIST
P.L. HILL-JEWELER	OLEY LANGLAND-SLATER NEWS
S. W. JOHNSON-POSTMASTER	A. A. JOHNSON-RESTAURANT
J. M. ERICKSON-PLUMBING & HARDWARE	OLEY NELSON-GENERAL STORE
W. P. VILAND-IMPLEMENTS	VILAND & SKORTMAN-GENERAL HARDWARE AND CUTLERY
MISS LIZZIE ASKLAND-MILLINERY	MRS. S. WIGGERT-MILLINERY
JONDAHL & OLSON-BUILDING CONTRACTORS	CORNELL REINESS-PAINTER & PAPER SHOP
S. O. WALD-ATTORNEY AT LAW	MALAND & VILAND-FURNITURE AND FUNERAL HOME
HERMAN AUSTED-BARBER SHOP	E. A. RAWSON-M.D.
LEWIS GRAMUTH-MEAT MARKET	ANDY OSLING-HARNESS REPAIR SHOP
H. PEASE-M. D.	JOE JOHNSON-GROCERY STORE
L. P. WINNES-DRUGGIST	PETER LARSON-SHOE REPAIR
NEILSON & TOLLEFSON-MEAT MARKET	HENRY OSMUNDSEN-BLACKSMITH
JACKSON-DENTIST	A. D. JOHNSON-PAINTER
AUG. PETERSON & SON-COTHING & TAILOR	WEES-RESTAURANT
CHARLES SODERLAND-BARBER SHOP	OLE NELSON-ELEVATOR
HENRY FATLAND-PAINTER	A. K. ERSLAND-ADDING MACHINES & SCALES
P. T. RYEN-JEWELER	O. M. JOHNSON-ELEVATOR
CORNEIL HIGHLAND-RESTAURANT	NEILSON & DUELAND-MILLING Co.
JOHN JOHNSON-HOTEL	SLATER COOP. CREAMERY-C. CLARK, MGR.
J. H. LARSON-LUMBER YARD	HOUGE BROS.-OPERA HOUSE
M. S. HELLAND-HOTEL	
B. A. LOCKWOOD-ELEVATOR	

SLATER COOPERATIVE CREAMERY

THE FARMERS' COOPERATIVE CREAMERY ASSOCIATION OF SLATER, ONE OF THE LARGEST OF ITS KIND IN THE STATE, WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1891. THE FIRST BUILDING WAS LOCATED WHERE MASON'S STANDARD STATION IS NOW. WALTER PETERSON OF NEWTON WAS THE FIRST BUTTERMAKER. FOLLOWING HIM WERE H. C. GRANSETH, A. J. BERWIN, MR. FREELAND, R. J. SAVERAID, AND K. T. NAA. THE LATE CLARENCE CLARK WAS NAMED MANAGER AND BUTTERMAKER IN 1908, AND THE CREAMERY DEVELOPED FAST UNDER HIS LEADERSHIP. AFTER HIS DEATH IN 1936, HIS SON, RALPH CLARK, BECAME PLANT MANAGER AND HENRY BUCHE, OFFICE MANAGER. MR. BUCHE TOOK OVER THE JOB OF MANAGER WHEN RALPH MOVED ON TO ANOTHER CREAMERY. MR. BUCHE RETIRED IN 1966 AND SELMAR SWENBY WAS EMPLOYED AS MANAGER. HE WAS REPLACED IN 1967 BY HAROLD HAMM. OVER THE YEARS, THE CREAMERY HAS DONE A VOLUME OF OVER \$3,000,000 YEARLY BUSINESS AND HAS EXPANDED ITS FACILITIES TO INCLUDE A CHEESE DEPARTMENT AND AN EGG DEPARTMENT. IN ADDITION, A MODERN, BRICK OFFICE BUILDING WAS INCLUDED IN THIS EXPANSION.

IN THE 1967 ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE CREAMERY, PUBLISHED IN THE SLATER NEWS ON FEBRUARY 1, 1968, IT STATES THAT 928,316 LBS. OF BUTTER WERE SOLD; 2,656,273 LBS. OF CHEESE; AND 2,545,658 DOZEN EGGS.

1920-1940

ANDREW MALAND-SLATER NEWS  
R. G. NOTT-DENTIST  
FARMERS SAVINGS BANK  
FARMERS COOP. CREAMERY-C. CLARK, MGR.  
SLATER TELEPHONE COMPANY  
GEORGE SEVERSON-PHYSICIAN  
HANKINS & HAMMER-AUTO REPAIR  
ED RGY-IMPLEMENTS  
HOME SAVINGS BANK  
R. T. RYAN-JEWELER  
BERT SUTTER-BARBER  
SLATER MERCANTILE COMPANY  
OLEY NELSON-CLOTHING STORE  
TOM ROSSIN-BANKER

CLARENCE RYG-SLATER AUTO Co.  
L. E. MASON-REAL ESTATE  
AUGUST PETERSON-CLOTHING STORE  
GROSS AND WRIGHT-BANKERS  
A. WALKER-REAL ESTATE  
COLE BROS.-CAFE  
J. H. LANSON-LUMBER YARD  
P. L. NELSON-BUTCHER SHOP  
A. A. LANDE-DRUGGIST  
C. HAGGEN-MISCL. STORE  
W. H. SCHAUDT-POULTRY  
ELEC PETERSON-CLOTHING STORE  
BEN DULAND-ELEVATOR

1940-1955

JONAS CHRISTIANSON-CHRISTIANSON GROCERY  
ROSS DAGGETT-SLATER MEAT MARKET  
C. O. SWANSON-SWANSON HARDWARE  
JOE DOBBE-COZY CAFE  
ARCHIE COYLE-SLATER LOCKER  
ROY COLE-BARBER SHOP  
JACK GORD-JACK'S POOL HALL  
BILL SCHAUDT, SR.-HOME OIL Co. SERVICE  
PHIL ROOD-SLATER NEWS  
DR. WAYNE SEVERSON-PHYSICIAN  
J. C. ERSLAND-FEED STORE  
NELS SABO-PLUMBING  
NELSON & FLODEN-CONTRACTOR  
AMUND IHLE-CORN SHELLING  
FARMERS COOP. CREAMERY-H. L. BUCHE, MGR.  
DON PETERSON-INSURANCE  
HAROLD ERSLAND-INSURANCE  
DEWEY KALDENBERG-WELL DRILLING  
HENRY FOLGERO-WELL DRILLING  
L. P. EARP-TANK WAGON SERVICE  
KING SCHAUDT-KING'S SERVICE  
PAUL JONES-STANDARD OIL SERVICE  
BILL HARMON-AUTO REPAIR GARAGE  
GERALD SCHAUDT-BIB'S CAFE  
PHIL NELSON-NELSON ELECTRIC  
S. G. ANDERSON-TRUCKING  
COLLEGE SAVINGS BANK-M. S. HEGGEN  
ELIZABETH IHLE  
H. L. MUNN ELEVATOR-GEORGE JENNINGS

CHRIS PAUTVEIN-PAUTVEIN GROCERY  
R. GUSTAFSON-SLATER ELECTRIC  
STAN MOSEY-MOSEY CAFE  
HAROLD ANDERSON-FARMERS' CAFE  
R. C. LANDE-DRUG STORE  
BERT SUTTER-BARBER  
CLARENCE RYG-SLATER AUTO  
WALTER LEE-LEE'S SHOE SHOP  
DR. EARL SMITH-VETERINARIAN  
SHELBY CHADER-ATTORNEY AT LAW  
BOB CLINE-CLINE'S PLUMBING & HEATING  
CARROLL TWEEDT-CONTRACTOR  
RAY HARMER-CONTRACTOR  
FRANK GOERNER-BLACKSMITH  
E. J. RICHARDSON-TRUCKING COMPANY  
LOWELL SODERSTRUM-INSURANCE  
H. J. CARLSON-INSURANCE  
OSCAR DAHL-WELL DRILLING  
BILL SCHAUDT, JR.-HOME OIL Co.  
THOMAS ERICKSON-TANK WAGON SERVICE  
L. P. EARP-EARP'S SERVICE  
EDGAR ACCOLA-MARLOW MILKER AGENT  
BEN HOKEL-B & H CAFE  
ED TWIT-GRINDING SERVICE  
ROGER HARRIS-TELEVISION REPAIR  
A. PETERSON-COTHING STORE  
SLATER STATE BANK-T. C. DUNLAP  
H. L. MUNN LUMBER Co.-KERMIT GRANSETH

SLATER STATE BANK

SEPTEMBER 1, 1954, WAS AN EXCITING DAY FOR THE SLATER COMMUNITY BECAUSE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN NEARLY TWENTY YEARS, A LOCALLY OWNED BANK HAD BEEN OPENED FOR BUSINESS. THIS EVENT CLIMAXED TWO YEARS OF EFFORT BY MANY LOCAL CITIZENS. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WERE: CARROLL TWEEDT, W. H. SHARPBACK, WILLIAM G. HARMON, TOM DUNLAP, FRANK ROZNO, JOHN OAKLAND, AND DR. GEORGE SEVERSON. TOM DUNLAP WAS EMPLOYED AS CASHIER, AND IN 1961, WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT. IN 1964, THE NEW SLATER STATE BANK WAS BUILT AT A SITE AT THE WEST END OF MAIN STREET, OFFERING THE LATEST IN BANKING CONVENIENCE.

PRESENT BUSINESSES

BIRDSALL FLOOR COVERING-DEWEY BIRDSALL	SHELBY CHADER-ATTORNEY AT LAW
CENTER OIL COMPANY-MORRIL NERVIG	DAGGETT GROCERY-ROSS AND ILA DAGGETT
CLINE PLUMBING & HEATING-ROBERT AND PHIL CLINE	DAIRY SWEET-GLENN AND JUANITA BOWER
DITCH WITCH OF IOWA-ROBERT HAUKOM, EARL GRIMM, GERALD CHLUPACH	DEWEY WELL Co.-DEWEY KALDENBERG
DUNLAP & SODERSTRUM INSURANCE-T. C. DUNLAP AND LOWELL SODERSTRUM	DOROTHY ANN'S BEAUTY SHOP-DOROTHY TUTTLE
SCANDANAVIAN GIFT SHOP-GLADYS COLE	E & D GROCERY-ED & DORIS HULME
GOOD SHOE SHOP-MERLE GOOD	FARMERS COOP. CREAMERY-H. HAMM, MGR.
GOERNER WELDING SHOP-FRANK GOERNER	FRANKLIN LIFE INSURANCE-DON PETERSON
HAMMOND MOBILE HOUSING & TRAILER PARK-RAY AND HOWARD HAMMOND	GUNNER'S LOUNGE-HAROLD & BARBARA BLIZE
HOME OIL COMPANY-WILLIAM SCHAUDT	HARMON MOTOR-WILLIAM HARMON
IHLE & IHLE CONSTRUCTION-ARNOLD AND DONALD IHLE	LEWIS & ZAGAR, INC.-RUDOLPH ZAGAR
LARSON ELEVATOR	ELMER RICHARDSON HEATING & PLUMBING
LARSON LUMBER AND GRAIN COMPANY	RICHARDSON'S CAFE-VIRENE RICHARDSON
LINDA'S BEAUTY SHOP-LINDA STENSLAND	RIIS FUNERAL HOME-FREEBERT RIIS
MASON'S STANDARD SERVICE-FRED MASON	ROOD PRINTING Co. & SLATER NEWS-PHIL AND MARY ROOD
MIDWEST COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE, INC.-ROGER KAUFMAN, ROLLAND KLING	DR. WAYNE L. SEVERSON, M. D.
RON'S BARBER SHOP-ROB MILLER	DR. JAMES SIEVERS, D. V. M.
MIM & DALE'S GREENHOUSE-MIM & DALE CLUCK	SINCLAIR PETRO-CHEMICALS, INC.
NORTH AMERICAN-PHILIPS TELEPHONE DIVISION-ROBERT STOLL	SLATER AUTO Co.-VERN HANSON
NORTHERN LITE'S CAFE-JACK & DORIS DAVIS	SLATER ELECTRIC-RUSSELL GUSTAFSON
NOVAK MASONRY-RICHARD NOVAK	SLATER PRODUCE-ROBERT MUNSON
TRAILMASTER CANOES-WALTER POHL	SOLFRID'S BEAUTY SHOP-SOLFRID SEVERSON
CHARLES RAKER CONTRACTOR & BUILDER	SLATER STATE BANK-T. C. DUNLAP
RASMUSSEN FLOOR SERVICE-JOHN RASMUSSEN	TEL IRONICS SERVICE Co.-ROBERT HAUKOM
RAYNOR COMMUNICATIONS Co.-DARRELL AND MARTHA RAYNOR	TRI-COUNTY TELEPHONE Co.-EARL GRIMM
	TWEEDT CONSTRUCTION-CARROLL & ARLEN TWEEDT
	UNITED MUTUAL INSURANCE ASSOCIATION-H. J. CARLSON & JONAS CHRISTIANSON
	ELMER VESPESTAD BARBER SHOP
	WISECUP PLUMBING & HEATING-ROBERT WISECUP

BETWEEN THE YEARS 1965-1968, FOUR BUSINESS ENTERPRISES LOCATED OFFICE AND WAREHOUSE FACILITIES IN SLATER. THE SINCLAIR PETRO-CHEMICAL COMPANY BUILT A WAREHOUSE-DISTRIBUTION FACILITY IN THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF TOWN. THE COMPANY DISTRIBUTES FERTILIZER THROUGHOUT THIS AREA. MIDWEST COMMUNICATIONS AND RAYNOR COMMUNICATIONS BUILT OFFICE AND WAREHOUSES FOR THE MANUFACTURE AND DISTRIBUTION OF TELEPHONE COMMUNICATION APPARATUS. DITCH-WITCH COMPANY REMODELED A SERVICE STATION ON MAIN STREET DURING THE FALL AND WINTER SEASON OF 1967-68. THE COMPANY SELLS AND DISTRIBUTES FROM THIS OFFICE-SHOP, DITCH AND TRENCH DIGGING MACHINES.

TOWN DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

THE SLATER RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT HAS GROWN CONSIDERABLY IN THE PAST FEW YEARS WITH THE BUILDING OF APPROXIMATELY 120 NEW HOMES. THREE LOCAL CONTRACTORS HAVE BUILT MOST OF THESE: TWEEDT CONSTRUCTION--92; RAKER CONSTRUCTION--15; AND IHLE CONSTRUCTION--10. SEVERAL APARTMENT HOUSES AND DUPLEXES HAVE ALSO BEEN BUILT. IN 1960, THE HAMMOND MOBILE HOME PARK DEVELOPMENT WAS STARTED ON A SIX-ACRE PLOT OF GROUND, ON THE NORTH SIDE OF FIRST AVENUE. TODAY, SITES FOR OVER 40 MOBILE HOMES HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED.

THE TOWN'S FIRST ELECTRICITY WAS INSTALLED IN 1913, AND THE FIRST WATER WORKS COMPLETED IN 1914, THE COMPLETE SYSTEM COSTING \$11,000. THE TOWN HAS TWO WELLS. A NEW WATER TREATMENT PLANT WAS PUT IN AT A COST OF \$50,000, IN 1967. THIS PLANT HAS GRAVEL FILTERS AND ZEOLITE SOFTENERS. AVERAGE WATER CONSUMPTION PER DAY IS BETWEEN 85,000 TO 110,000 GALLONS. A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM WAS INSTALLED IN 1963-1963. THIS IS AN OPEN-LAGOON TYPE OPERATION. NATURAL GAS LINES WERE PUT IN IN THE FALL OF 1966. A ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM WAS BEGUN IN 1966 WITH INSTALLATION OF CONCRETE CURB AND GUTTER ON MARSHALL AND STORY STREETS. IT IS PLANNED TO COMPLETE ALL ROADS IN THE TOWN DURING THE NEXT EIGHT TO TEN YEARS. SURFACING WILL THEN FOLLOW THIS WORK.

SLATER IS REPRESENTED AND IS A MEMBER OF THE NINE-COUNTY CENTRAL IOWA PLANNING COMMISSION, WHICH PURPOSE IS TO PLAN FOR LAND USE, TRANSPORTATION, POPULATION CENTERS, RECREATION, AIR POLLUTION, ETC. THE COUNCIL AND MAYOR ARE AT THIS TIME INITIATING ACTION WHICH WILL LEGALIZE A LOCAL TOWN PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION.

POPULATION

THE FOLLOWING CENSUS FIGURES ARE REPORTED: 1950--583; 1960--717; 1965--979. SLATER'S PRESENT POPULATION IS ESTIMATED TO BE WELL OVER 1,000. BERTHA ROOD IS THE OLDEST LIVING RESIDENT AT THIS TIME.

MAJOR COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

ACTIVE MAJOR COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS IN SLATER INCLUDE THE AMERICAN LEGION, AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, SLATER MEN'S COMMUNITY CLUB, KIWANIS, JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, BOY SCOUTS, AND CAMPFIRE GIRLS.

.....

SLATER CELEBRATED ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY IN THE SUMMER OF 1965. AGAIN, THE SLATER CITIZENS DEMONSTRATED THE TOWN'S SPIRIT IN COOPERATION AND EFFORT TO PICTURE THE EARLY SETTLERS AND REMEMBRANCES OF THOSE DAYS IN DISPLAYS OF PHOTOGRAPHS, ARTICLES, FURNITURE, AND EQUIPMENT USED BY THE RELATIVES OF PRESENT RESIDENTS. IT RECALLED MORE VIVIDLY MUCH OF WHAT HAS BEEN PLACED IN THIS HISTORY AND SERVED AS A REMINDER OF THE COURAGE, STRENGTH, ENDURANCE, AND FAITH THESE PEOPLE HAD IN MIGRATING TO THE WEST, OVERCOMING MANY DIFFICULTIES, AND ESTABLISHING THE COMMUNITY OF SLATER. THIS IS THE HERITAGE THAT HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE PEOPLE OF SLATER AND IT'S CITIZENS CONTINUE TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR SPIRIT IN EVERYDAY LIVING.

SLATER IS PROUD OF ITS HOMES, CHURCHES, SCHOOLS, BUSINESSES, VAST FERTILE FARM LAND IN THE HEART-LAND OF AMERICA, AND OF ITS PEOPLE. THIS COMMUNITY WILL CONTINUE TO GROW AND PROSPER, AND IT WILL BE ITS PEOPLE THAT MAKE IT SO.

BY: MYRNA HARMON  
LAVENA BLASKOVICH  
MAY 1, 1968