

Old Dorsey Schoolhouse in 1890 Is Far Cry from Schools of Today



Pictured here at the old Dorsey school in 1890 were (front row) left to right: William Derickson, Roy Alder, Esta Yocum, Barbara Reynolds, Ethel Lee, Lizzie Goden, Lucie Marston, Rene Alder, Jeanette Derickson, Lottie Yocum, Mary Goden, Sadie Derickson and Georgia Derickson. Second row: Grant Alder, Henry and Herold Marston, Lawrence Marston, Grace Hudson, Dora Mertz, Alice and Ida Alder, Ada Yocum, Sadie Willows, Edward Alder, Arthur Reynolds, Charlie Reynolds, Carl Conley and Frank Reynolds. Back row: Mary Wiley, Effie Willows, Nellie Davidson and Maggie Willows. In the window are Johnny Davidson and Otto Mertz.

A glimpse of a rural school in the year 1899 when the day's enrollment was 34 and those pupils between the ages of 13 and 21 were kept at home to help with the farm and house work. The older ones were allowed school privileges only when they could be spared from the more necessary work of the parents interest. For many of those a school term meant the months of December, January and February.

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parents before them. Books were the property of the pupil. Often a pupil left the eighth grade in the spring and returned to it in the fall as the "Teacher" with preparation for the same amounting mostly to the lengthening of her skirt, putting up her hair in the accepted grown-up hair-do and the assumption of as much authority as she could to impress her pupils with-most of whom she had known all her life and among them her own sisters and brothers.

Wouldn't a psychiatrist view such a problem as a mixed-up relationship indeed and report it an impossible situation. Even so the citizens who get their education under those conditions retain a basic knowledge of the subjects taught and in their eighties now write a more legible hand than those who have been handed with greater opportunities. Too, it was the day of the polibolled stove, the good slate blackboards, the chart on a stand from which beginners learned their A, B, C's then graduated into Harper's first reader.

This school is the old Dorsey school in the days when Steel Creek (or Apple Creek) was settled by the Emersons, Torbits, Dericksons, Moshers, Thomases, Willows, Hudsons, Godens, Lees, Yochims, Baders, Gadsys and Darrs.

On the day the picture was taken Miss Effie Willows was the teacher. Roy Alder furnished the picture and the information concerning those who went to school at that time. His cousins, Rene, Ida and Edward Alder are all dead. Also Nellie Davidson, the late Mrs. Tom Drayton.

Among those still living are Bill Derickson, Sadie Derickson, Georgia Butterfield of this area and Frank Reynolds of Scotts-bluff.

Roy recalls that old Dorsey was built in the hollow and at the time they moved there the town consisted of the Emerson House, W. Gagers harness shop, the Ap-

ple Creek flour mill operated by Mertz. One building served many purposes. The Emerson House furnished food and lodging to the weary traveler, supplies of all kinds necessary to the pioneer and the same for his team or mount. The post office was housed there.

Years later the hollow was abandoned, the people moved up on more level land and a new Dorsey school was built. Sadie Derickson's home was the former Darr property and about one hundred yards due north from her house John Binkerd's lived in a dug-out. For warmth and protection from weather such a home could not be best. Springs furnished water for all their needs in those early days.

Mr. and Mrs. James Carson went to the Darr place to spend their honeymoon and their first years of married life. "Hattie" Darr Carson has described the Dorsey hollow as the most beautiful place on earth. It was winter's wonderland and in the spring from the time of leafing and blooming the place was a veritable fairyland from the lowest point to the skyline far, far away in receding perspective with the woods charted with paths leading from home to home. Cow trails became trails for horsebackers traveling single file while tortuous road following the course of least resistance was laborously built for freighters and those who boasted horse-drawn vehicles.

Ruth Page was Alder's first teacher with Effie Willows his second year teacher.

Ewing News

By Mrs. Harold Harris

The Young Matrons Pinochle Club was entertained Tuesday evening at the home of Mrs. Arthur Kropp with Mrs. Archie Tuttle as co-hostess. Guests were Mrs. Jerry Tomjack and Mrs. Robert Pruden. Mrs. Charles Rotherham was the winner of high score and low went to Mrs. Ralph Munn. Lunch was served by the hostesses.

Mrs. Anna Koenig, Mrs. M. J. Sneider and Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Mannlein from Petersburg, spent Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Thoenel.

Mrs. Marcella Bollweit had a physical check-up in Norfolk on Monday. Mr. and Mrs. John Turay took their daughter Connie to Omaha for a physical check-up on Friday.

Donald Hawk who attends the Norfolk Junior College spent the weekend with his parents. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hawk.

Jephthah Chapter No. 85, Order of Eastern Stars, installed new officers at the regular meeting Tuesday evening. Ina Bennett, worthy matron, and Wilbur Bennett, worthy patron, were in charge.

New officers installed were: Mrs. Elmer Bergstrom, worthy matron; Mrs. Keith Biddlecome, associate worthy matron; Wilbur Bennett, associate worthy patron; Mrs. Harriet Welke, secretary; Mrs. Vera Anson, treasurer; Mrs. Audrey Wood, conductress; Mrs. Dewitt Hoke, associate conductress; Mrs. Waldo Davis, Chaplain; Ina Bennett, marshal; Mrs. Wilbur Bennett, organist; Mrs. Robert Hobbs, Adah; Mrs. J. L. Pruden, Ruth; Mrs. S. M. Burtwistle, Esther; Mrs. William Spence, Martha; Vina Wood, Electa; S. M. Burtwistle, warden and William Spence, sentinel. Wilbur Bennett was the installing officer, Mrs. Dewitt Hoke installing marshal, and Mrs. Burtwistle, installing chaplain. Lunch was served by Miss Bennett and Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Bennett.

Kent Schroeder was two years old January 2. In honor of the oc-

casation, Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Schroeder had as their dinner and evening guests, Mr. and Mrs. James Minarik and Mr. and Mrs. Frances Haemesser, who were celebrating their second wedding anniversary. Card games were played during the evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Schroeder and family were Sunday guests at the Don Mackel home at Eling.

Guests at the Ernest Pierson home Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Halstead and Inman and Mrs. Ed Howard and family of O'Neill.

Family night was held Wednesday evening for the congregation of the United Presbyterian church, sponsored by the women's organization of the church. Fifty members were in attendance. Mrs. Willie Shrader was in charge of the devotional period. Mrs. Wayne Shrader showed pictures of Panama and Guatemala taken when she served as a W.A.C. A social hour followed. Lunch was served.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Angus and family, who have spent a part of a 15 day leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Angus, left Monday to visit her parents in Kansas. Max is stationed with the air force at the Lincoln base.

Mr. and Mrs. Merl Angus and family of Lincoln came Sunday and are guests at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Watson McDonald. They attended the funeral of Mrs. Bertha McDonald Monday, at the Methodist church in Neligh. Mrs. McDonald was the mother of Watson McDonald and the sister of Mrs. Will Conner in Ewing.

The Rev. W. W. Elliott accompanied by the Misses Leonora Tuttle and Bertha Harris, attended the sub-district Methodist Youth Fellowship council meeting Sunday afternoon at the Inman Methodist church.

Guests Thursday at the home of the Rev. and Mrs. W. W. Elliott were the Rev. and Mrs. Merlin Loftis of Plainview. The Rev. Loftis is in charge of the Crawford Valley and Stark Valley Methodist churches.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Larson, accompanied by their son-in-law, Henry Reimer, went to Hastings Thursday where Mrs. Larson had a checkup on her eyes.

The children through the First to Sixth grades of the Ewing Methodist church have begun a study of the American Indians. Twenty-two are enrolled for the course of five lessons, which will be conducted Monday afternoon beginning at 4 p.m. Mrs. Ray Sedivy, secretary of children's work of the W.S.C.S., is in charge, assisted by Mrs. W. W. Elliott.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Larsen had as their guests Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Persons and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Roberts of Norfolk.

Harry Clemens of Chicago is a guest at the home of his sister, Mrs. Ella Ziems. He plans to visit relatives at O'Neill and Orchard during his month's stay in Nebraska.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Larsen and Mr. and Mrs. Will Conner attended the funeral of Mrs. Bertha McDonald which was held Monday afternoon at the Neligh Methodist church. She was a sister of Mrs. Conner.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Wood, Vina Wood and Mrs. Florence Butler transacted business in Neligh Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Cloyd attended a family gathering at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Timmerman at Plainview Sunday. In the afternoon they attended the silver wedding anniversary celebration of her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Westrel.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Doud and Mrs. Edna Loquest were dinner guests at the home of Mrs. Willie Meyer at Clearwater Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. James Minarik and Karen spent Sunday at Eling visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Don Mackel.

Sunday evening guests at the Dewitt Gunter home were Mr. and Mrs. Roland Hord.

Mrs. Don Ruode is chairman of the Polo drive in Ewing, assisted by Mrs. Myrl Meyer. Coin containers have been placed in all the business places. The women are making plans for the drive in the Ewing community.

St. Rita's Circle of the Christian Mothers sponsored a card party Sunday evening at St. Dominics Hall with a good crowd in attendance. Mrs. Eddie Kaczor was chairman. The winners in pitch were Frank Bohn, Mrs. Floyd Lee, Francis Huemesser and Mrs. August Thiele. In pin-ochle, Mrs. Edna Coyne of O'Neill, Ludwig Koenig, Tony Pruss and Mrs. Arthur Kropp won prizes. Mrs. Kropp also received the door prize. Lunch was served by members of the circle.

Mr. and Mrs. Waldo Davis and family were guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Barton for a dinner Sunday in honor of the birthday anniversary of their daughter, Linda.

Mr. and Mrs. Waldo Davis transacted business in Norfolk Friday.

The Thursday Night Pitch club was entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Spence in O'Neill January 12. All members were present. Waldo Davis, Mrs. Archie Tuttle, Mrs. Davis and Mr. Tuttle received prizes. Lunch was served by the hostess.

Mrs. Jessie Angus accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Ray Angus of Neligh to Ainsworth Thursday where she visited relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Grover Shaw and children of Ainsworth were calling on friends in Ewing Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Funk and family, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bartak and family and Mrs. Laura Spittler were Sunday evening guests at the Sam Regan home to join them in celebrating a wedding anniversary. Card games provided amusement.

Vance Anson, who is hospitalized at Minneapolis, underwent surgery again last week. Mrs. Anson is with him.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hoff of Grand Island were visitors Satur-

day evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Hahlbeck.

Mrs. Maud Boles, who has been ill at her home for some time, is now showing improvement.

Mr. and Mrs. George Hayes and family and Mr. and Mrs. Don Hughes and family moved to Orchard Friday. Mr. George Hayes has begun his duties as night marshal there.

Mrs. C. C. Hahlbeck entertained 20 women at an informal party Tuesday afternoon. Games provided entertainment.

Norvald Borden and a friend came by plane to O'Neill Sunday where they were met by R. H. Shain. They returned to Ewing to spend the day at the Shain home.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Urban were Sunday dinner guests at the Victor Bollweit home. In the evening the Urbans visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Tagel. Other guests at the Tagel home were Mr. and Mrs. Harold Spahn and family.

Mrs. Everett Ruby spent Monday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Joe Beelaert and family.

Mrs. L. A. Hobbs accompanied relatives from O'Neill to Norfolk Monday where they visited her sister who is hospitalized there.

Mrs. Ed Fleming, who has made her home in Ewing for a number of years, is seriously ill at the home of her son, Mrs. Clifford Fleming.

Mrs. Kittle Fry was a weekend guest at the home of her sister, Mrs. Mark Hemerway at Clearwater.

Steven Good, the small son of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Good, is a patient at St. Joseph's hospital in Omaha which he entered Friday. Mrs. Good is staying with him. Mr. Good came home Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Cuddy and family of O'Neill were guests Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Jefferies. The Jefferies accompanied by Royce Wright, spent Thursday and Friday in Omaha.

Guests Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Max Wanser were Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gragge of O'Neill.

Ray Butler and H. R. Harris transacted business in O'Neill Tuesday.

HHH Club
Mrs. Louis Funk was hostess to the members of the HHH Club Thursday for their first meeting of the new year.

Secret sisters were revealed. The lesson on houseplants was given by Mrs. Fred Serr. Mrs. Mary Daniels, Mrs. Charles Wright and Mrs. Effie Kubart were guests.

Monday afternoon guests at the Ed Urban home were Mrs. Fred Bollweit and son, Mrs. Clarence Latzel and Mrs. Alfreda Pruden. Mr. and Mrs. Ed Urban were dinner and evening guests Tuesday at the John Honeywell home at Chambers. Other guests were Mr. and Mrs. Vearl Tuttle and daughter, Linda.

Leo Hawk, Commander of Sanders Post No. 214, attended the County American legion and auxiliary meeting at Stuart Monday evening.

The teenage dance at St. Dominics hall Wednesday evening attracted a good crowd. The members of the St. Rose Circle of St. Peter's church sponsored the event.

Mr. and Mrs. Dean Pofahl were dinner guests Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Fick at Inman.

Guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Tomjack for a one o'clock dinner Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Grover Shaw and family of Ainsworth.

Mr. and Mrs. Dean Pofahl went to Omaha January 11 to visit his mother, Mrs. Louis Pofahl, a patient at the Methodist hospital. Mr. Louis Pofahl accompanied them.

Dr. Wm. H. Ross and Ralph Shrader went to Wayne Thursday to attend the Niobrara Presbytery meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Willis Rocky and children went to Omaha Wednesday and remained overnight. They spent some time at the Methodist hospital with her mother, Mrs. Louis Pofahl.

The Green Lantern, the Coffee Cup and Eda's Cafe will serve coffee Monday, Jan. 23, as a polo benefit for the March of Dimes in the Ewing Community.

Mrs. Amy Jacobson had as her guests Monday afternoon, Mrs. Bertha Johnson and Mrs. Anton Rothleuter.

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Dorsey News

By Mrs. Harold Osborn

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Wells drove to Sioux City Sunday to get their daughter, Donna, who has been in the hospital for sometime. She is recovering nicely but has to have medical attention for an uncertain time.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Krugman, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hiseocks, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Wells and family and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wells and boys were visitors at

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