



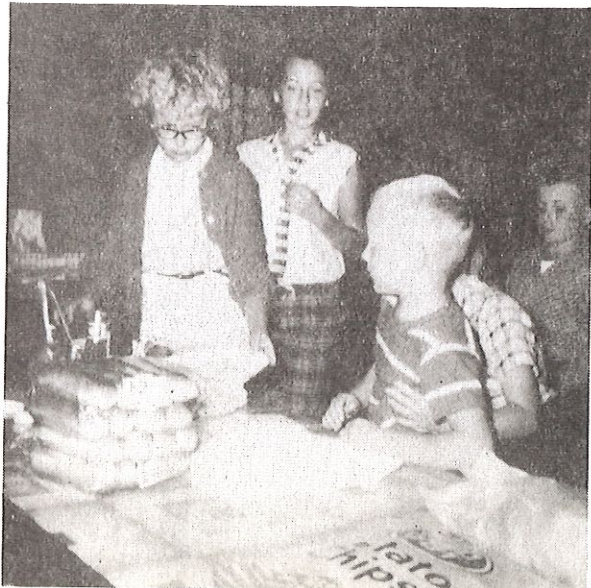
Wanda Bockouse, Teacher
1952-53.



End of an era - last pupils awaiting dismissal - 100
years of school.



Isla Austad's pupils in 1940-41.



No more syrup buckets - hot lunches had come.

Pt 2 P923-40 23

TEACHERS

As important as the school building, was the teacher. There were good teachers and just great teachers. Teachers who wrestled 23-30 pupils divided in eight grades through a long day, back again the next morning through all kinds of weather, to build an early fire in subzero temperatures so the frame and plaster building would be warm enough to start the day. The older boys in school helped to feed the fire throughout the day to keep warm. All records prior to 1888 are not available. The names of Hamlin teachers available are listed herewith.

Lillian Rainey	1887
Hattie Pierce	1888
Florence Parker and Grace Pinkerton	1889

In 1889, the school board members Fred Bowers, L. Lampman and C. N. Webster, hired Florence Parker to teach the 3-month term for \$75.

Letitia Wright	1890
Jenny Linsay	1890-1891
Ida Case	1892
Jennie Lindsay	1892-1893
Rose Shipman	1893-1894
Mary Bibby	1894
Rose Warner	1895
Catherine Warner	1896
Mary Rosman	1896
Catherine Warner	1896-1897
Lillian Rainey	1897-1898
Rose Warner	1898-1899
Catherine Warner	1899
Jerome Rosman	1899-1900
Leona Webster	1900-1901
Fannie Hunt	1901
Leona Webster	1902
Mayme Dean	1903
Nora Nelton	1904-1905
Mayme Dean	1905
Helen Gorton -- Lola Wilson	1905-1906
Mayme Bryon	1906-1907
Grace Crocker	1907-1908
Minnie Holte	1909
Ellen Knudtson	1909-1910
Esther Martinson	1910-1911
Eleanor Lee	1911-1912
Elsie Jenson	1912-1913
Julia Holte	1913-1914
Arvilla Goss	1914-1915

Edna Severson		1915-1916
Irene Russeling		1917-1918
Lucille Kees		1918-1919
Ethel Mulvaney		1919-1920
Sophie Boe	1920-1921	1921-1922
Miss Bain		1922-1923
Jane Anderson		1923-1924
Mildred Stensby		1924-1925
Ida Hopland		1925-1926
Nettie Paulson		1926-1927
Florence Helgeson	1927-1928	1929-1930
Emma Thompson (Feb. to June)		1930
Selma Hanson	1930-1931	1931-1932 1932-1933
	1933-1934	
Bernice Berg	1934-1935	1935-1936 1936-1937
Esther Hoff		1937-1938 1938-1939
Isla Austad	1939-1940	1940-1941 1941-1942
Clarice Bergerson		1942-1943 1943-1944
		1944-1945
Selma (Hanson) Call	1945-1946	1946-1947
Louise Halvorson		1947-1948
Olga Christianson	Feb. 1948	1948-1949
		1949-1950
Wanda Bockhouse	1950-1951	1951-1952
Viola Jacobson	1952-1953	1953-1954 1954-1955
	1955-1956	
Wanda Bockhouse	1956-1957	1957-1958
	1958-1959	1959-1960
Mary Ann Mueller	six weeks	-1960
	Closing of Hamlin School.	

TEACHERS MODE OF TRAVEL

One year we had a teacher that went home every weekend. Not that this was unusual, but this teacher just came back the unusual way. On Monday morning at 8:30 sharp, she stepped off the local train at the crossroad one-half mile north of the school. The engineer always gave an extra toot as the teacher went on her way. This teacher, after getting off the train, had to take the chance of bad weather and walk in rain, snow, sleet, sunshine and a sand road. I remember this very well. It was part of my school life, always wondering if she was going to be on the train.

We had another teacher that had an unusual and hard way to get to school. She was Miss Julia Holte, who lived one mile northeast of Strum. She chose to ride her bicycle to and from school every day until the snows came. It meant getting up early and out in all kinds of weather. Roads were not good in 1914. This was a three-mile ride each way, over sand and shale roads, with two hills that required walking with the bicycle.

BOARDING THE TEACHER

The usual rural teacher had to room and board with a family near school who was willing to put her up. As the years went by housing became better. She was given the best room in the house, and could keep to herself if she wanted to. Not so a few years back. Out of school, the teacher was truly a part of the family with which she boarded. She ate with them around the kitchen table, washed in the family washbasin, used the common towel, and sometimes shared not only a room, but a bed with one or more small children. The food was plentiful and although the houses were small and often very cold, they were real homes. Joys and sorrows were shared.

JANITOR

The teacher was her own janitor. She came early to unlock the door, make fires, and sometimes shared the chore of snow shoveling with some of her pupils. The boys carried in the daily supplies of wood and water, and sometimes stayed after school to clap erasers or toss around the damp, red compound that absorbed the dust from sweeping. We eagerly offered to hoist Old Glory to the top of the flagpole in the morning, or ring the bell when recess was over.

For over ninety years, men who could work and shape iron have been popular in this agricultural community.

Lest names of tradesmen be forgotten, we mention them in this historical writing: Pete Bonkrud, Chris Finstad, Anton Blixrud, Even Peterson, Hellick Knutson, Halvor Sheffield, Lennie Larson, Albert Thompson, Elmer Lewis, Jewel Berge

STRUM MANUFACTURING CO.

Jewel Berge, Prop.

PUPILS

The first record available includes the following children enrolled in December 1894. Mary Bibby was the teacher.

John Boyd
Roy Davidson
Earl Davidson
Harvey Lampman
Minnie Jones
Grace Lampman
Leona Webster
May Webster
Glen Jones
Roy Jones
Fannie Jones
Martha Matson
David Matson
Grace Crocker
Merle Crocker
Nettie Lampman
Ralph Sweet
Ada Rice

Fred Bowers, District Clerk

September 1906, Mayme Bryon, teacher

Upper Form

Mayfred Stoughton
Merle Crocker
Floyd Wingad
Emil Wingad

Middle Form

Gladys Jones
Milo Wakefield
Wilford Stoughton
Clara Engen
Edwin Pederson

Primary Form

Violet Jones
Glen Wingad
Florence Wingad
Gale Babcock
Percy Babcock
Rex Wingad
Grace Wingad
Olaf Engen
John Engen
Lawton Skogstad
Gelmer Stoughton

1909

Minnie Holte and Grace Crocker,
teachers

Upper Form

Gladys Jones
Minor Wold
Floy Wingad
Emil Wingad
Clifford Wold

Middle Form

Cora Wold
Violet Jones
Glen Wingad

Primary Form

Florence Wingad
Grace Wingad
John Engen
Louise Indgjer
Katie Jones
Arthur Kelly
Ray Van Pelt
Kenneth Jones
Laura Engen
Rex Wingad
Joseph Borgen
Arthur Indgjer
Effie Wingad

1916

Edna Severson, teacher

Mabel Wingad
Effie Wingad
Henrietta Wingad
Florence Teeple
Kenneth Teeple
Ruth Teeple
Jerome Skogstad
John Skogstad
Melvin Skogstad
John Skogstad
Mabel Indgjer
Hartwell Indgjer
Carol Bowers
Howard Bowers
Claire Jones
Esther Jones
Arthur Kelly
Alice Hanson
Alma Engen
Edna Shields
Julie Gunderson
Oscar Indgjer

1927, 1928, ½ of 1929

Florence Helgeson, teacher

Lucille Goss
Sophia Skoug
Harvey Skoug
Clarence Indgjer
Spencer Skogstad
Kenneth Bockus
Irene Skogstad
Lester Melsness
Guilford Melsness
Gordon Skoug
Lillian Skoug
Alvin Ulberg
Everette Indgjer
Ona Severson
Raymond Berg
Lillian Larson
Beryl Anderson
Marion Anderson
Robert Bockus
Norman Melsness

1941 - Isla Austad, teacher. Salary \$85 per month.

Pearl Larson	Lucille Larson
Junior Kelly	Donald Hovey
John Alf	Donna Van Pelt
Evelyn Johnson	Leo Anderson
Vernon Johnson	Marjorie Ann Hovey
Robert Kelly	Jerome Rosman
Goodwin Alf	James Anderson
Helen Anderson	Dorothy Back
Ramona Goss	Marjorie Rognlien
Robert Holte	

1943 - Clarice Bergerson, teacher.

Marge Rognlien	Pearl Larson
Andor Rognlien	Lucile Larson
Mervin Berg	Marion Larson
Robert Berg	Shirley Larson
Junior Kelly	Donald Eide
Shirley Kelly	Delores Missell
Donald Hovey	Walter James
Margie Hovey	Patsy Teeple
Joyce Hovey	Romona Goss
Lew Hovey	Donald Johnson
Donald Van Pelt	Vernon Johnson
Daniel Van Pelt	Helen Anderson
Ronald Hanson	Leo Anderson
Darlene Hanson	Jimmy Anderson
John Elf	Sharon Anderson
Goodwin Elf	Jerome Rosman
Donald Elf	Carol Gunderson

1950 - Mrs. Olga Christianson, teacher

Shirley Kelly	Darlene Hanson
Deloris Missell	Butch Back
Romaine Back	Jimmy Ulberg
Donald Alf	Joan Hanson
Daniel Van Pelt	Sharon Ulberg
Andor Rognlien	Dennis Hanson
Sharon Anderson	Allen Hardy
Bobby Back	

This last record includes the following children that went to Hamlin school in 1960, with Mary Ann Mueller of Independence as their teacher:

Dennis Ulberg	Jim Gullicksrud
Judy Gullicksrud	Paul Gullicksrud
Shelby Hardy	Matthew Amundson
Diane Back	Rosalind Indgjer
Jeffrey Indgjer	Jim Bockus
Karen Gullicksrud	Christine Amundson
Vicki Johnson	Mark Gullicksrud
Cheryl Myren	Randy Ellifson

THE BOAT

I mentioned about the teachers having had unusual ways of travel to get to school. There was a girl that crossed the Beef River every day, spring and fall, in a flat-bottomed boat, to attend school. This family of three lived near the Beef River on the north bank. The girl would step into the boat as she started out to school, cross the river by paddling, tie the boat to a tree, and walk in a path to the railroad right of way, over to the crossing, and onto the road going south to the school. I personally have crossed the river with her in this boat, as we were very good friends. In winter when the river was frozen, she would cross on foot. Very seldom did she walk the long way around, except in high water. This girl's name was Julie Gunderson.

THE FIRST SCHOOL BOARD

Among the first settlers who served on the school board were Henry Teeple, S. R. Stoughton, James Rice, and Lawrence Lampman.

According to available records, Henry Teeple was one of the first district clerks. Records show him district clerk from 1878 to 1890. He was constantly on the school board until his death in 1904, serving in all capacities many times, and was nominated chairman countless times. He was a rugged pioneer and believed in a good education for his children and others. He worked hard to this aim.

Byron B. Teeple was the first district clerk required to be bonded, year 1891.

My grandfather, father, and two uncles, Byron Teeple and Wilbur Rhodes all served successive terms on the school board. My mother, Minnie Teeple, also served at a much later date, years 1910 to 1933. My brother, Kenneth Teeple, served several years from 1931 to 1943. Minor Goss served as director for 23 years. John Wold served on the board 10 years. Olaf Indgjer had a long term on the school board but the records are lost.

MEMBERS OF SCHOOL BOARDS

School board members have an unenviable job. Not only are they responsible for operation of the school, but must stand as a buffer or mediator between teacher and overfond parents whose kids can do no wrong. We have learned that Hamlin was of an old school -- if kids cut up at school, they could expect additional punishment at home.

The last school board of the hundred-year span was Clifford Ulberg, Clerk; Roy Back, Director; and Percy Missell, Treasurer.

OTHER SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

This is not a complete file. Some are missing.

David Wingad	1887
Fred Bowers	1890
B.B. Teeple, Clerk	1891 (3-year term)
C. N. Webster	1892
Wilbur Rhodes	1893
Louis Crocker	1894
C. N. Webster, Clerk	1894 (3-year term)

Records between 1894 and 1903 are missing on board members.

S. R. Stoughton	1903
S. R. Stoughton	1905
Olaf Indgjer	1898- 1908-1932
Frank Wingad	
John Wold	
Fred Alf	
Lud Anderson	
Roy Back	
Mrs. Lud Anderson	1932
Minor Goss, Director	1941
Fred Alf, Treasurer	1941
Kenneth Teeple, Clerk	1941
Clifford Ulberg	1959-1960

SCHOOL ORDERS

Budgets for country school operation were not large the first years. Teachers salary, wood for fuel, books, and a few teaching aids were basic. Cleaning the school for the fall term was also an annual charge for every district.

Here are some excerpts from several order registers of the Hamlin School beginning in 1888. All older records are missing; these were located at the Clifford Ulberg farm, he having been the last school clerk in the hundred years of operation. They were both dusty and mildewed, as stored records usually become, so a cleaning job was necessary. These records are now stored in the Strum Public Library and may be viewed there.

AN EARLY ANNUAL SCHOOL MEETING
HELD JULY 5, 1887

Minutes of the annual meeting of School District No. 3, Town of Albion held July 5, 1887, treasurer's report read and accepted. Charles N. Webster elected treasurer for three (3) years. Lawrence C. Lampman elected director for two (2) years, voted to raise \$150.00. One hundred and fifty dollars, voted to have six months school - three months winter and three months summer. Winter term to commence the first Monday in October, summer term to commence the Monday, first of April. Voted to raise five dollars clerk's salary. Money on hand, \$249.85.

Motion made to adjourn. Carried.

David Wingad, District Clerk

Even in later years supervision of rural school required.
Read following card found in record files:

Notice sent to --

Mr. Romain Indgjer
Clerk of Hamlin School
Strum, Wisconsin

BEWARE

A warning has been sent out to another county to watch out for a group of men, "Gypsies" who take the job of cleaning school furnaces and stoves. The sheriff is on their trail and boards have been advised to watch out for theft of radio, encyclopedias, etc.

I pass this warning on to you. Be sure that people you hire to work on your building or equipment are reliable.

Dorris L. Sanders
Superintendent of Schools
Whitehall July 18, 1947

Entries are interesting and while reading one gains an impression of having lived through a great change. Note the entry of July 10, 1896, it may have some interesting background coming so closely after the "4th." Do you suppose the many veterans of the area used their influence?

OLD RECORDS

Special Meetings	1877
Record of Annual Meeting	1883
Record Order	1887
Record of Annual Meeting	1888
Financial Statement	1888
Annual School Census Received	1888
List of Text Books	1888
Records of Orders	1888
Record of Annual Meeting	1889
Financial Statement	1889
School Census Received	1889
Annual Meeting	1891

July 3, 1893

Henry Teeple was elected chairman of the meeting. C. M. Webster was elected Treasurer for three years. Elected to have six months of school, three in winter - three in summer, to begin October 1st then April 1st.

Wilbur Rhodes, District Clerk

HAMLIN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 3

Taken From Old School Records
Year 1887

Treasurers Report	May 31, 1887	On Hand	\$179.25
A loan from the State			

Year 1888

Record of Annual School Meetings.

July 7, 1890

Funds appropriated for new school building	\$250.00
Funds appropriated for teachers wages	150.00

This money loaned from state to come from tax levy. Teachers wages to come from loans through taxes.

July 7, 1890

A motion was made for bids in regards to grubbing and breaking a strip of land for the new school building. The lowest bidder being Robert Wingad at \$4.00.

David Wingad, District Clerk

1889 - 1890 - 1891

Records show the following:

Drawing for new school	\$ 7.00
Robert Wingad, building the new school house	250.00
Bill for lumber for the new school house	115.00
Bill to repair old school house	20.00
Bill was paid for the old school house site	25.00
Interest on same	18.00
Grubbing and breaking up school lot	4.00
Paid for outhouse buildings	4.60
Paid for water pail and broom	.50
Paid for cutting wood - to Ralph Sweet	7.00

Ralph Sweet was one of the two boys the Teeples took into their home and raised with their own children when the boy's parents died of Diphtheria.

Lawrence Lampman, Director

REGISTER OF ORDERS

1893-1894

In Whose Favor Drawn

Henry Teeple, wood	\$ 2.00
Mrs. Wilbur Rhodes, cleaning school house	1.50
Jennie Lindsay, teaching school	30.00
Ralph Sweet, cutting wood	7.00
Teachers Desk	6.25
School Carts	
Paint	
Insurance	
School Books	
Sawing Wood	
Hauling Wood	
District Clerk, one year's salary	5.00
Old School House	20.00
Lumber for new school house	115.00
Record book and supplies, purchased from Eau Claire	
New School House	148.00
Fence Posts	2.00

July 10, 1896	Donohue & Hesmeberry, Chicago, for Flag	\$ 5.00
Nov. 17, 1897	Bent Johnson, for painting	7.50
Dec. 23, 1896	Mary Rosman, teaching school	100.00
Dec. 26, 1896	Charles Bowers, building fires	1.10
Dec. 29, 1896	G. W. Snoyenbos, Lead and oil	8.50
Apr. 5, 1897	Elsie Bowers and Nettie Lampman, cleaning	2.00
Apr. 10, 1897	Fred Bowers, nails, posts, and boards	4.41
Apr. 24, 1897	Charles Bowers, building fence	3.63
July 1, 1897	Katie Warner, teaching school	75.00
July 5, 1897	E. W. Trowbridge, Insurance	13.18
July 5, 1897	L. F. Crocker, Clerks Salary	5.00
July 5, 1897	C. M. Webster, Incidentals	4.45
1897	For building woodshed	18.56

Register records missing 1898-1908

1908	Building chimney and belfry	\$14.50
1909	Pump on school ground - by Knut Tweet	34.30
1910	Ed Peterson for building fires 40 times	2.00
1910	Shingles for roof - Wilson Lumber Co.	30.38
1911	Water Jar - F. J. Hatman	2.25
1913	School Clock - Mrs. John Teeple	3.15
	Julia Holte - teacher	2
1916	Broom - Robbe's Store	.40
1919	Pump repair	13.40
1921	Water Pail and Dipper - Dahl & Mathison	.95
1922	Paper towels - Eau Claire Book Co.	2.08
1922	Pump repair - Sam Higley	3.00
1923	Oil for floor - J. H. Mathison	1.25
1923	Painting - Clifford Wold	30.00
1924	Cleaning school house	10.00
1927	5 cords of wood - Knut Berg	35.00
-	Cleaning school house - Lucille Goss	1.50
1930	Cleaning school house	2.00
1933	Cleaning school floor - Mrs. Gus Skogstad	1.75
1934	Cleaning school house - Olga Indgjer	2.50
1934	Six cords of wood and supplies	
1938	Sawing wood	
1939	New screen door - mention of new storm windows	
1939	Indoor toilets	292.00
1940	Cesspool	108.00
1950	In Olga Christopherson's report, stated the school board was to remove old platform approach.	
1950	Drilled the well 60 feet deep at Hamlin. W. H. Doyle, Wisconsin Rapids, did the work.	

SCHOOL VISITORS

In the very early 1900's, the school had a rather large number of visitors. It seemed to be a sort of entertainment, a place to go. The large visitors record in this history shows this. Visitations soon dropped off. Later interested parents would come a few times during the year to see how things were going. The teacher always was a little nervous and the children extra quiet. The lessons given were done with utmost care. The teacher being rather careful to ask the pupils questions she was sure they could answer.

The supervising teacher, and sometimes her assistant, would come unexpectedly. On these days we could tell the teacher was just a little different, and we all tried extra hard to be quiet. Sometimes a larger boy would try to give the teacher a hard time, knowing she could not do much about it on the spot. The ages of the children ranged from six or seven years of age to fourteen, and some older. One boy was nineteen, but did not stay long as he was almost older than the teacher. She was unable to keep order, so he was expelled.

THE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS

In the years 1918-19, the eighth grade had to go to Eleva to take their examinations for graduation. These exams were given by the County Superintendent, who came from Whitehall in Trempealeau County. There were students from other counties there also. It was an all day affair. The County Superintendants I recall were:

F. C. Salt	1898	Helen Berg	1917-1925
L. S. Kieth	1899-1901	Tillie Sylfest	1926-1937
Dan Gibson	1910-1917	Laura Little	1937-1943

HAMLIN SCHOOL VISITORS

Visitors were not only local, but came from far and wide. This seemed to be a great school for visitation. Visitor records were kept from 1894 through 1917. Towns listed are: 1894-1903

Eau Claire	Osseo
Spooner	Naples
Omro	Black River Falls
Galesville	Arcadia
Independence	Warrens
Fairchild	Mandan, North Dakota
Hamlin	Eleva
Strum	Whitehall
Millston	

Visitors:

1894; Teachers: Rose Shipman, Mary Bibby, and Jennie Lindsay

Cora & Frank Blodgett	Eleva
Ethel Roe	Eau Claire
Miss Minnie Lee	Hamlin
Mrs. Wm Boyd	Eleva
Geo & Ray Rudd	Eleva
Mrs. H. Teeple	Hamlin

1895; Teacher: Rose Warner

Miss Elsie Bowers	Eleva
Nettie Lampman	Eleva
Supt. F. B. Salt	Osseo
Miss May Webster	Strum
Frank Blodgett	Hamlin
Mrs. C. N. Webster	Strum
Dr. Elkington	Eleva
Miss Crocker	Spooner
Mr. Norman Nagle	Naples
Chas. Bowers	Hamlin
A. D. Langerfield	Osseo
John W. Grant	Eleva
James W. Grant	Eleva

1898

Ada Rice	Eleva
Supt. F. C. Salt	Osseo

1899; Teacher: Lillian Rainey

County Superintendent	Galesville
-----------------------	------------

1900; Teacher: Leona Webster

Lulu Rice	Eleva
J. B. Houck	Black River Falls
Supt. L. S. Keith	Galesville
Florence Gorton	Arcadia
Maude Hunt	Independence
Rev. & Mrs. Campbell	Eleva
Grace Hardy	Eleva

1902; Teacher: Leona Webster

Nina Dutter	
Emma Bowers	
Clarence Lampman	
Wm. Hardy	
Grace Lampman	
Mrs. Lydia Bowers	Fairchild
Lena Bowers	
A. E. Eliver	Warrens, Wis
J. B. Houck	Mandan, N. Dak.

1906:

Fannie Cole	Independence
Grace Crocker	Strum
Maggie Rorabeck	Whitehall
Fay Jones	Eleva
Thomas Bryan	Independence
Robert Bryan	Independence
Merel Crocker	Strum
Mayfred Stoughton	Eleva
Dorothy Stoughton	Eleva
Emil Wingad	Eleva
Gelner Stoughton	Eleva
Marie Peterson	Strum
Leone Webster	Strum
Clara Engen	Eleva
Mrs. Fred Bowers	Eleva
Julia Anderson	Eleva
Gail Babcock	Eleva
Percy Babcock	Eleva
Miss Borgan	Strum
Mrs. H. Teeple	Eleva
Mrs. D. Wingad	Eleva
Julia Holte	Strum
Olga Holte	Strum
Josie Willumson	Superior
Cora Clemenson	Strum
Laura Holte	Strum

1914:

Mrs. Fred Bowers	
Grace Crocker	
R. Adams	Eleva
Charlotte Goss	
Gladys Jones	
Violet Jones	
Cora Wold	
Linda Dutter	
Mrs. John Teeple	
Merel Crocker	
Grace Crocker	
Eddie Perry	

1916 - 1917:

Mrs. A. Wingad
Dan P. Gibson - County Superintendent
Paula Forraason
Mrs. John Teeple
Mrs. Fred Bowers
Mrs. Gus Skogstad
Mrs. B. Bergerson
Minnie Bergerson
Grandma Teeple -- Last recorded as a school visitor
Feb. 13, 1917.

A PIONEER KITCHEN

The old kitchen range brings back so many happy memories. The frosty morning you awoke to the noise of the creaking stairs, the sound of clanking stove lids, the scrape of the poker across grates, the rumble as the ashes were shaken down. Then you could hear the kindling being laid in, which had been cut the night before, and carefully stored behind the large stove for morning use. A cold hand fumbled at the matchbox on the wall. The damper was opened. The kindling was lighted that had kerosene on to start it faster - then more wood - dampers open to a good roarin fire - until time to check the fire - and just in time to keep the stove pipes from catching on fire. The smell of wood smoke mingled with the metallic smell of hot iron came through the grate to an upstairs bedroom above.

When the black iron teakettle filled with water began to sing and the rattling of the lid, you knew it was time to put your warm feet on the cold floor and start your day. Then downstairs to dress and wash, before buckwheat pancakes fried on a big black iron griddle were ready to be eaten. The smell of butter, maple syrup, pancakes and woodsmoke really started your day.

Remembering the smell of fresh baked bread, especially coming in from outside on a cool day and seeing the bubbles of fat boiling from an old hen, ready to drop egg string noodles in. The noodles so long they could be sucked in all the way if no one was watching. What a delicacy. That good old chicken taste is gone forever.

On most winter days a large stove with the water reservoir was laden with wet socks, mittens, wet overalls and long underwear. Many a pair of shoes left in the oven to dry out in a cool stove was forgotten and burned up when a good fire was made. Such a smell of burnt shoe leather - it did not take long to open doors to let in fresh air. The one thing we had plenty of was good fresh clean air. A house could be heated a lot faster and warmer, after the rooms were aired out, by opening the doors for a few minutes.

Saturday night was bath night. The galvanized bathtub, purchased from Sears Roebuck and Company, was brought in from the back porch. Everyone but mother had to leave the room during this operation. A large family took the cleanest child first to use the water for two or more. Warm water was hard to come by, especially for a large family.

When you had a toothache or a touch of the flu and were able to stay out of bed, you recovered in a large rocking chair pulled up close to the stove.

The kitchen entertained visitors on Sunday, within reach of the coffee pot. The atmosphere was just a little more comfortable here than in a front room. The kitchen rarely changed except for a new

calendar in January and a new roller towel of a different border stripes, a sink in one corner, a table with a water pail and dipper which always seemed to be empty. If someone wanted water and no one seemed to want to go outside to fetch a pail of fresh water, then mother said she would go and start to get up and then a mad scramble, everyone said they would go. Mothers with large families were not supposed to get the water.

The big pendulum clock on the shelf, with a cloth print ruffle around, hid a lot of things one wanted to save, like money, important bills, life insurance policy etc. Any hour in the night if one was awake, one could hear the muffled chimes on the hour. A pair of scissors hung on a nail under the clock. A long wall telephone was on the wall in a corner. Maybe a mirror hung near by that was held by a long wire. Then there was a catch-all magazine and paper rack. For all of us that can remember all the goodies in one of these old kitchens is a memory that we would not want to forget.

The variety of stoves was fantastic. Stoves began to be used widely in the 1840's when iron was plentiful. The cooking range with its removable lids replaced the open fires for cooking.

ANON.

ROBBE'S

One of the oldest privately owned stores in a wide area.
- on the same location over 70 years -

Ours has been a long service. This business has seen panics, depressions, inflations, war, and beaurocrats

It's been a pleasure to serve you through it all

Compliments of

Marshall and Esther Robbe

RAILROAD

Eleva had a 4-year high school; Strum had a state graded school with freshman and sophomore classes available. Students living at or east of Hamlin and wishing to complete their high school education usually attended the last 2 years at Mondovi. This required a stay at that city during the week, with rides back and forth by auto during early fall and late spring months. When the first snow and freeze-up came, back in the 20's, cars were placed on blocks and the 8:05 morning passenger train was transportation to the down-river city. Cost was \$1.04 for a round-trip ticket. The Friday train left Mondovi at 4:00 p.m.

This train had one or two passenger coaches, as the need arose. Many young people from Strum school rode this train to Mondovi to attend the last two years of high school, leaving on Monday morning about 8:00, in time to get to school. The depot in Mondovi was at the edge of town, about one mile from the downtown and school area. A large car or bus-like vehicle with seats situated lengthwise facing each other, behind the driver, seated about eight passengers. There was a flat top on this vehicle, sort of like an old surrey four-seated buggy, and it had large side curtains that could be rolled up or down, according to the weather. On Friday night the train left at the right time, and the school people could return to their homes in Strum.

I remember the coach on the train had red plush seats and hanging chimney lights with shades on that would swing back and forth when the train was in motion, depending on how fast the train was traveling. If the train was late, the engineer could really make the train travel over that little line.

A stove sat in one end. The conductor also sat in a back seat by the stove. When he shoveled coal in the stove, blue smoke could be seen and more often it could get pretty thick. The smell of coal gas was always present. The large windows had dark green shades that could be pushed up or down.

I thought this train was very elegant at the time, and was proud to be able to ride in it for two years. My father would take me to Strum by horse and buggy or the large Reo car we had at the time. I would get on the train and come right back riding through our farm land and could see our house very clearly as I went on to school. My sister Ruth had this same experience. My Uncle Byron Teeple met a girl from Durand on this train and married her.

REMINISCING

A big picnic was held for all area schools in 1916. Families came in buggies. The one big thing, besides the mounds of food and lemonade and homemade ice cream, was the pony run-away.

A family living north of Eleva had a pair of spirited ponies and a wicker cart that held about four people. A mother and her two daughters were in the cart,

all dressed up in pretty white dresses and frilly hats. As the little team came around the corner in front of the school, a dip on the side of the road, caused the ponies to become frightened and tipped the cart and its passengers, right onto the school grounds. Some men were there to take the situation in hand and no one was hurt, but picnic baskets, hats and all went flying. After some excitement, we all had a wonderful time.

Compliments of

PULVERMACHER DRUG STORE

There have been several pharmacists serving this community during the years. Familiar names, Branstad, Pace, Rognlien, Runkel, and thirty-one years service by Ted Halverson.

Your Friendly Durggist

Gene Pulvermacher

WILLARD'S BUILDING CENTER

Strum

Successor to
N. C. Foster
North Star Lumber Co.
O & N Lumber Co.
United Building Center

Building materials at this place since 1890

KOXLIEN TIE AND LUMBER CO.

During the past twenty years we have provided facilities for harvesting forest products and a cash return for this valuable natural resource of this area.

Modern Equipment Accurate Manufacture
20 million feet of Wisconsin Oak per year
