RAYMOND

1880-1980

A Century of Growth
RAYMOND, NEBRASKA
A
CENTURY OF GROWTH
1880 — 1980
Acknowledgements

We, the members of the Centennial Book Committee, wish to express our sincere thanks to the many citizens and former citizens of Raymond who searched through their mementoes and loaned us pictures and articles which we copied and put into book form for us and our descendants to enjoy for the future.

It is our sincere hope that our effort will encourage the younger members of the community to make the history an on-going project by taking pictures and recording happenings of interest.

We are indebted to the Lincoln City Library, the Nebraska State Historical Society, and the News.

Despite our effort to make this book with its writings and pictures authentic and interesting we know that there will be omissions and mistakes for which we apologize to those concerned. Only the committee who have had the opportunity to view the huge amount of material collected know what a task it has been to choose what was best to use. We plan to exhibit some of the pictures and material which we could not use in the book in the Raymond Woman’s Club House.
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A four-story flour mill stood at this site on Oak Creek a half-mile south of town in the 1870's.

Butcher shop in Raymond operated by Coppinger. Pictures are (from left): Owen Mauel, Coppinger, and Dr. Sankey Bacon.

Cabin built by Frank Grady 1878 stood on Wm. Silverstrand's place.

Wagon bridge over Oak Creek.

Main street of Raymond, date unknown.

Elza Aukerman (Winnie England's father) farmed 80 acres south of Raymond and ran the County Poor Farm for years.
In early days scenes like this were common on post cards.

A History Of Raymond

Perhaps Annette Wynne’s poem *Indian Children* can best express the sights that met the eyes of the early settlers who came to this vicinity:

"Where we walk to school each day
Indian children used to play—
All about our native land,
Where the shops and houses stand.

And the trees were very tall
And there were no streets at all,
Not a church and not a steeple
Only woods and Indian people.

Only wigwams on the ground
And at night bears prowling round
What a different place today,
Where we live and work and play."

Yes, those were the sights that met the eyes of the first settlers who came to this vicinity. Some of those who came first were Silas Pratt, the Crawfords, Cornelia White, and John Moore. They were followed by Ezra Tullis and Seth Linderman. Some of the Crawfords are buried in the old cemetery which lies north of Raymond.

In 1869, J.W. Weller homesteaded the land one and one-half miles east and a mile south of Raymond. The White family, who were related to Mrs. Nellie Magee, settled on, what later became, the Bert Sterns place.

Mrs. White’s son, Charles Clark White, married Olive Johnson of Valparaiso, and their home became the site of a subscription school. Charles White became the postmaster of the town of Tipton, which was later named Raymond. Other places where mail was distributed to the settlers were McFarland, a mile south of Raymond, and Orlando, which was situated near the Clyde Campin and Keith Ivey homes.

The traveler who comes into the valley today would find it difficult to visualize the difficulties and hardships endured by the early pioneers. Many of those have passed on their claims to their descendants.

Most of the early settlers came from the south or from east of the Mississippi. Their mode of travel was slow and laborious and perhaps they were happy when they came to this fertile valley with Oak Creek running through it. The creek furnished water for the people and their animals. It was also used for power to grind grain. Some of the early settlers filed homesteads, others bought land from the railroad, and still others made tree claims. Some of the early people came because of a desire for a home, others came for adventure, and still others came because of relatives.

Silas Pratt homesteaded the land, on which Raymond is located, in 1862, but did not file his claim until June 20, 1870, according to Lancaster County Records Book H, page 149, and some Raymond abstracts. Mr. Pratt could not meet his
This view of Raymond in 1885 shows the town development.

obligations and the land was purchased by Mr. C.C. White at a sheriff's sale. Mr. White sold the land to Thomas P. and Olivia Kennard, who divided it into plots and named it Tipton, after their friend Senator Tipton. All these transactions took place in 1879. At first the streets were laid out straight with the railroad which was being built at that time. The last rail for the Union Pacific was laid at the end of 1879.

In 1892, a group of about 40 persons from the village went before the County Commissioners and petitioned the board to grant them Articles of Incorporation. At that time, there were 200 people living in the town. The petition contained 52 signatures.

After the village was platted, lots were sold and many thriving businesses were started. In 1886, there were livery stables, a cheese factory, a photo shop, and many other going concerns which served the needs of the people. A large hotel, where travelers could get a bed and a meal for the small sum of $1.00, was owned and operated by Serena Jane Mumford Ingersoll, who was the wife of Marion Ingersoll, a grandfather to Harold, Charles, and Edna Ingersoll (Sterns).

While Raymond was becoming a village, more and more settlers were coming into the valley and filing their claims.

Mr. John Melvin Wilson, father of Rex, spent the first winter in a dugout on the farm where Lee Grant now resides. He was given land under the Tree Claim Act which encouraged tree planting. The cottonwoods, which he planted, are still standing there. His father traded good Ohio land for a farm in Butler County, but, when he came to the fertile Oak Valley, he let that go and filed his tree claim. Mr. John Melvin Wilson told of walking to Lincoln to trade a pair of home knit socks for medicine for his father who was ill during that winter. The above was told to Rex by his father, along with many other stories of privations.

Another interesting character who came to the Raymond area was Dr. Charles Orlando Strickland who was a practicing physician in Lincoln until 1877, when he purchased a flour mill at Raymond from George Baker and gave it all his attention. The mill, which had four-run of stone, and ground about twenty-five bushels of grain per hour, was built on the banks of Oak Creek and was run by water power. People came from miles around to have grain ground. In the spring of 1884, he took a lantern and went out to inspect the water in the dam. The force of the current swept him overboard. As there was no one to help him, he drowned. His son continued to run the business for a while. (Chapman Bros. Biographical Album, page 628).

The mill was located near the Keith Ivey and Clyde Campin homes, and a shaft and stone can still be seen there. During our coming centennial, it is planned to attempt to pull the stone from the creek and move it to Raymond for a landmark.

Ezra Tullis, who came to Raymond after the Civil War, was a half-brother to David Tullis, great-grandfather to Norman Duling. This was
Bird’s-eye view of Raymond before 1907.

According to his discharge papers, he homesteaded north of Rex Wilson’s farm.

Another very influential settler who came to Raymond from central Indiana in about 1872, was David Latture who purchased 160 acres in Section 8, south of the cemetery. On this farm, he was one of the first settlers to raise prize stock. Later, he moved to Raymond, where he became section boss, and was very active in helping to manage the affairs of the Oak Creek Cemetery. He served as secretary for many years. Everett Dove, a grandson of the Lattures, lived in the Raymond area for many years. He drove the first oil truck route out of Raymond for Carl Hotchkiss. His children, Lela and Lloyd, attended Raymond school.

Still another early settler who came to this area in 1875, was John Dean Mulvane, whose descendants have been in the Raymond area for 104 years. He purchased the 160 acres west of Raymond, known as the Lawton farm, in 1875. The land was in a wild state, but was soon improved, and the Mulvanes began planting crops. There were only three neighbors within a five mile radius, with the exception of Indians. In 1890, Mr. Mulvane sold the farm to Dan Campin, father of Clyde and Ivy Campin (Lawton) and moved to Raymond, where he purchased a home from Campin.

If time and space permitted, volumes could be written about the early pioneers who stopped here, staked their claims, and are now resting in Oak Creek Cemetery. Included here is a letter written to Hazel Billows by her father, who tells how they coped with
Many early street scenes were included on calendars distributed by the Raymond Cooperative Grain Co. Next to the store on the corner are the brick bank building and the post office.

their adversities.

"In the year 1862, I came to Nebraska with my parents and settled at the old Salt Basin, now known as Capitol Beach. There was nothing in the present site of Lincoln until 1864, when a seminary was built and we attended school there. A few families made up what was called a colony, later called Lancaster. In the fall of 1863, my father was elected constable, and this was the first attempt to call in the aid of the law. People now-a-days think they have hard times, but they have good clothes, automobiles, and most of them have all the money they need. In those days, we
wore grain sacks for trousers, no different clothes for Sunday either. I had one pair of buckskins that I wore until I out-grew them.

We made barrels and sold them to a miller at Weeping Water. The mill and the miller’s house were all that made up that town.

During the Civil War, we made ram-rod’s and wagon spokes and fellows hauled them to Nebraska city and sold them. All this hauling was done with oxen and was slow-moving.

From the basin we moved to the homestead, known as the Flodeen farm, south of Raymond. I planted the walnuts that grew into the trees that now stand by the road. I intended that they be thicker than they are, but they didn’t care to be so friendly.

My parents lived in a log house and it served as a road house for several years. We went to school in a dugout where Albert Carlson lives. Later, Mrs. C.C. White taught school in a log house on the Sterns place.

During this time, my father took the contract to haul wood to burn the bricks for the first University building. I helped haul the wood from Oak Groves above Valparaiso. It was a real job. All the streams were forded, and, if we got stuck, we had to throw the wood over and reload on the other side.

In 1872, the Oak Creek Mill was built by George Baker. I traded my share in the homestead for the mill, then sold, in 1873, for a filing right on the Morgan eighty, known as the Luther Howard place. That year was grasshopper year. I had a good crop of corn, but stocks were all that I had left. They ate the onions out of the ground, just leaving the holes where the onions had been. Nebraska didn’t look good to me then and I traded my land for a team and wagon and we moved in a covered wagon to Iowa in 1874. I didn’t like it there and came back in 1878. We lived in a dugout on Elks Slough, near the Barney Speth place, and worked in the Oak Creek Mill owned by Dr. Strickland. I worked with a team and boarded myself for $40 a month.

In 1878, we moved back to the old homestead and I farmed there until 1880. In 1878, the survey by the railroad, went through my cornfield. The U.P. still owes me for the corn and the land. In 1880, we moved to my own place, now owned by J.A. Jackson.
which I had bought for $8.00 per acre. We lived in a
dugout until 1893, then built the home which is now
owned by the Pearl Cordon.

The first post office was Orlando and was a log
house where Keith Ivey resides. The mail was
hauled from Lincoln. People from Crounse had to go
to Lincoln after their mail. There wasn’t much
reading matter; one family would take a paper and it
would make the rounds until one could hardly make
out the letters.

Raymond was started in 1878. The RR Co. gave it
the name. The first house was a log cabin at the
Charles Priest place. The first store building stood
where the bank now stands.

I was 10 years old when I came to Nebraska and
have lived near Raymond practically all my life. I am
as satisfied with this small town as most people are
with a large town.”

Articles Of Incorporation

We, the undersigned, residents of Raymond, in the
County of Lancaster and State of Nebraska,
respectfully represent that we are taxable residents of
said town, that said town contains inhabitants to the
number of two hundred or more, and that it is our
desire to obtain better local government. We,
therefore, respectfully request that we may be
incorporated as a village under the name of
Raymond, which village shall cover the territory
described as follows, to-wit:

All of the North East quarter (¼) of section six (6)
in Township eleven (11) and Range six (6) in the County
of Lancaster and State of Nebraska.

J.R. Inkster
W.J. Weller
J. Plank
J.W. Montgomery
S.C. Lowdan
H.H. Hurd
O.H. Mulvane
Z. Proctor
Fred Thurston
Charles Basye
J.W. Bingham
Wm. A. Kerlin
O.W. Oberman
Thomas Priest
C.H. Hotchkiss
Dan Woodard
F.E. Mulvane
B.A. Grady
A. Halst
Samuel Van
L.F. Polk
J.M. Richmond

David Prengle
W.H. Timmons
George Sleuss
J.W. Kerns
C.B. Reynolds
R.W. Carver
J.C. Hotchkiss
V.S. Augee
J.L. Hathorn
G.W. Murphy
J.D. Mulvane
I.D. Murphy
E.F. Black
R.G. Hall
Milton Combs
Mrs. Doubledee
D.U. Quackenleude
J.T. Hurst
O.C. Andrews
W.F. Weller
E.E. Blackman

Lincoln, Nebraska, March 9, 1892

Early Ordinances

These are two of the early ordinances quoted from
a book by the town board in 1908 when William Weir
was village clerk and G.J. Mauel was chairman of the
village board.

ORDINANCE NO. 18.

An ordinance to prohibit horse racing, boxing or
sparring and wrestling matches, within the village of
Raymond, Nebraska.

Be it ordained by the Chairman and Board of
Trustees of the village of Raymond, Nebraska:

SEC. 1. That it shall be unlawful for any person or
persons to engage in horse racing, boxing or sparring
or wrestling matches, with the village of Raymond,
Nebraska.

SEC. 2. Any person, or persons violating any of the
provisions of this ordinance shall, upon conviction
thereof, be fined in any sum not less than five dollars
($5) nor more than twenty-five dollars ($25) for each
offense and stand committed until such fine and costs
of prosecution are paid.

SEC. 3. This ordinance shall take effect and be in
force as from and after its passage, approval and
publication according to law.

Passed and approved this 10th day of August,
1908.

ORDINANCE NO. 32.

Providing that every male inhabitant of the village
of Raymond, between the ages of twenty-one and
fifty years, may be required to perform two days
labor on the streets, alleys and highways of said
village.

Be it ordained by the Chairman and Board of
Trustees of the village of Raymond, Nebraska:

SEC. 1. That every male inhabitant of the village of
Raymond, between the ages of twenty-one and fifty
years, shall, between the first day of April and the
first day of November of each year, either by himself
or by a satisfactory substitute, perform two days
labor upon the streets, alleys and highways of said
village of Raymond, at such times and places as the
street commissioner may designate, upon three days
notice in writing being given said person.

Passed and approved this 10th day of August,
1908.

Wm. Weir
(Seal) Village Clerk.
G.J. Mauel
Chairman of Village Board.
Only Available Partial Listing
Of Village Boards

Village Board in 1932 was: Mr. Helm; Mr. Deuser; Mr. Brey; Sarah Hermance, Treasurer; and Hazel Billows, Clerk.

1937-1942
A.L. Hardesty - Chairman
John E. Schulling - Clerk
John Brey
John Lehl
L.F. Dunkak

1961-1965
Wesley W. Hornung - Chairman
Everett P. Nissen - Clerk
Milton J. McGill
Wallace P. Thompson
William J. Krone

1965-1967
Wesley W. Hornung - Chairman
Everett P. Nissen - Clerk
John L. Hardesty
Philip M. Brey
Gerald Maxson

1967-1970
Wesley W. Hornung - Chairman
Robert VanArsdall - Clerk
Gerald Maxson
John L. Hardesty
John L. Sipp

1974-1976
Wesley W. Hornung - Chairman
Sally S. Grant - Clerk
Lowell R. Swanson
John L. Sipp
Thomas R. Oliver
Gerald Maxson

1976-1980
Wesley W. Hornung - Chairman
Sally S. Jacobs - Clerk
Lowell R. Swanson
Donald Suchy
Thomas R. Oliver
Gary Ehlers

VILLAGE BOARD - Lowell Swanson, Donald Suchy, Gary Ehlers, Tom Oliver, Wesley Hornung, Sally Jacobs, Mary Buresh.

Main street in Raymond in 1979.
Community Development

Streets, Water System, And Park

In 1936, twenty-four blocks of Raymond streets were graded and drained by the county employees. Nine carloads of gravel had been received by the town for the surfacing of twelve of the twenty-four blocks. The gravel was spread to a width of thirty feet and one-and-one half inches thick.

Government employees built or rebuilt fourteen culverts and crossings. The gravel was hauled by these men also.

The estimated cost for the repairing of the roads was $1,200, of which the government paid fifty-five per cent and the village of Raymond paid the remaining forty-five per cent.

The two east and west streets past the school grounds were graveled with the streets on the west side of the school being graveled north to the "highway."

In May, 1973, all streets were hard surfaced.

In 1978, it was decided to put up names and numbers of the streets. These signs were put up by the Green Thumbers of Raymond.

In 1965, the town had its first water system. Everyone that wanted the water system signed up for it. Some people didn't sign up because they had their own wells. Later on, when their wells went dry or failed to work, they were connected to the water system.

The following year, a sewage treatment plant was constructed. It was located near the oil building of the Raymond Co-op.

In 1975, because there were too many minerals in the old well water, a new well was dug east of Raymond on the old Harold Clark farm.

When the school house was torn down, the town purchased the land and buildings. The land was made into a park. Later, in August, 1977, the tennis court and playground equipment were installed. The west edge of the park was contoured to make for easier mowing and upkeep.

New City Water System Delight Of Housewives

by Gene Budig

Raymond—What most of us regard as a necessity will become a luxury here this week.

For the first time, Raymond's housewives will have piped running water at their finger tips.

Previously, the water flowed only after long, hard sessions behind a pump handle. This primitive process was carried on for more than 60 years.

One housewife, a local resident for 17 years, said: "I can't tell you how happy my sore hands are."

Other homemakers echo her sentiments.

The new water system will serve 45 Raymond dwellings. Service is not being offered to residents out of the town's limits.

One official said that no resident is required to utilize the service, but he added that most are.

Not Backward

Raymond, Neb.

The community of Raymond would like to answer The Star's news article, "New City Water System Delight of Housewives."

First, we wonder how it was figured that it is a necessity to others and a luxury to us to have "piped running water." Is this not still a "classless society" in these United States of America?

Raymond can boast of having reared and educated people who now fill or have filled the following stations in life: judges, lawyers, doctors, county commissioners, members of the State Game Commission, U.S. land officers, lab technicians, county sheriffs, teachers, bankers, business managers, colonels and many other useful positions.

Although our village is quite small, here are some statistics on it. To 50-some residences and business places in Raymond, "piped running water" is not a new experience. To be exact, there are four pump handles in the village. Even the picture used, which by the way is not in the village, depicts power-pumping.

If and when we discard our oil-burning lamps and buffalo chip stoves, learn to wear shoes and enjoy the luxuries of life, we'll inform everyone.

OLE SILVERSTRAND

Harry Thatcher, well digger.
Raymond Businesses

The 1890-1891 edition of the Nebraska State Gazetteer and Business Directory stated grain and livestock as the productions that received the most attention. A creamery, an elevator, a banking house, a hotel, etc., were among the business interests. Of these types of businesses listed, only the elevator remains today. The Gazetteer showed twenty-five separate businesses listed as follows:

- Charles Basey, wagonmaker;
- E.F. Black, livery, justice, agi impts;
- Daniel Campin, livestock;
- R.G. Hall, carpenter, painter;
- C.H. Hotchkiss, prop., Valley View Creamery;
- H.H. Hurd, hardware;
- Hurd & Kerlin, millinery;
- Inkster & Cameron, livestock;
- J.R. Inkster, insurance;
- Robert Inkster & Son, lumber;
- Fred Johnson, photographer;
- Fred Kinyon, agricultural implements;
- Wm. Kerlin, carpenter;
- L.C. Lowdan, mgr., Omaha Elevator Co.;
- S.C. Lowdan, agricultural implements;
- S. Morgan, meat market, coal, feed;
- John D. Mulvane, grocery;
- J. Plank & Co., drugs;
- L.F. Polk, physician;
- Reagan & Son, bankers;
- Reynolds & Davis, livestock;
- George Shuss, carpenter;
- W.J. Weller, genl mde, postmaster;
- D. Woodard, hotel, blacksmith.

Local advertisers in the July 21, 1892, issue of the Raymond Review added Thomas Priest for a meat market, Z. Proctor as proprietor for the Raymond House which rented rooms for $1.00 a day, John F. Hurst for mason work, Hoover & Wilson for well-boring and pumps, Mulvane as a photographer. A cheese factory was even part of the business community. In 1885, a depot was constructed to handle freight entering and leaving town. Railroad timetables shows Raymond as a scheduled passenger and freight stop from 1905 to January 1, 1952. The Union Pacific completed a new depot July 3, 1909.

In the early 1900's, the town had three general stores, two elevators, a lumber yard, two livery barns, a hotel, two taverns, a doctor, a dentist, a hardware and implement store, a restaurant and confectionary store, a photographer shop, and a dance hall. The Bank of Raymond was established in 1901, with W.J. Weller as president, and J.C. Deuser as cashier. A new building was built in 1909. A 1924 ad listed the Bank of Raymond, with J.C. Deuser, Jr. and Alice I. Deuser as directors. The bank was closed during the depression of the 1930's.

In 1921, businesses serving the needs of the community were:

- Stores: William Wier, Frank Clark, Carl Hotchkiss
- Garages: Peter Nelson, Ray Campin
- Drugstore & Physician: Dr. A. J. Phillipsen
- Restaurants: J.C. Emrich, Mrs. T.R. Simpkins
- Barber Shop: Elmer Casement
- Lumber Yard: Home Lumber Company; George T. Helm, Manager
- Elevators: Raymond Co-Operative Assn.; H.H. Forke, President; H. Marble, Manager
- Well Digger: Harry Thatcher

Mention is made in 1924 issues of the Raymond Review of persons who established themselves in the
Blacksmith shop. Charles Monroe, standing left, Harry Brightenburg, seated right.

Pictured in the Raymond tavern in 1938 are Jo Pohlan and owners E.E. and Minnie Edie.
Raymond business community. Mr. and Mrs. John J. Brey, storekeepers for nearly twenty years, are well-remembered for their help during the economic depression in the 1930's. D.C. “Dude” Hermance ran a Ford garage in Raymond for over thirty years. And, also in 1924, a veterinarian, Dr. F.E. Braden, and his wife moved to Raymond.

Many residents still remember Chris Lullman, whose main occupation was digging wells, but who also operated a store and slaughter house; and Charles Monroe, who ran a blacksmith shop.

Another well-loved person, never to be forgotten, is Ole Silverstrand, who for many years, provided welding, trucking, and corn shelling services to the community and surrounding rural area.

From the late 1930's, taverns in Raymond have been owned by “Doc” & Minnie Edie, Pete & Margaret Reed, Emil & Jo Navratil, Mr. & Mrs. Schenneman, Ernie & Goldie Pearson, Henry & Helen Schaffer, Stan & Marilyn Wimmer, Ernie Thaller, and Bob & Mary Somerhiser.

Serving the town with grocery stores have been Mr. & Mrs. John Lehl, Mr. & Mrs. Don Weikle, James & Mable Dewey, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Schleicher, and Everett & Margie Nissen. Meat locker service was provided and live fishing bait was also available.

Other business concerns have been: beauty shops operated by Mercedes Gerdes, Joyce Stockton, and Mary Somerhiser; John Ivey’s TV & radio repair service; a hardware store owned by John Gerdes; and the C & C Carbon & Ribbon Mfg. Co. established by Irvin Collins.

In the vicinity of Raymond are, or have been, the following businesses: Phil’s Corner, Schaffer’s Bait Shop, Olson’s Ceramics, Ziemba’s Beauty Shop, Rolofson’s Earthmovers, Inland Shores Marina, and The Piano Company.

Today’s list of commercial enterprises are as follows: Raymond Co-operative Grain, Dick Krone, Manager; Auctioneer, T.R. Oliver & Associates; Mechanical Engineering, Tom Silverstrand; Barber Shop, Jerry Beranek (since 1927); Silverstrand Garage & Welding, Burdell Silverstrand (since 1938); Statewide Pumping, John Sipp; Raymond IGA, Godfrey Machel; Raymond Enterprises, Clarence Jr. & Mary Schweitzer; Ding-A-Ling Bar, Duane & Freida Harr; Laundromat, Duane & Freida Harr; Car Wash, John & JoAnn Sipp; Ferry Construction, Glen Ferry; Ashley Stoves, Glen Ferry.
PRESENT DAY RAYMOND BUSINESSES - Sipp's Car Wash - Harr's Laundromat - Raymond Enterprises (Hardware) Jerry Beranek's Barbership - Inland Shores Marina - Ding-A-Ling Bar Glen Ferry, Carpenter - Raymond IGA, Raymond Cooperative Grain - Berdell Silverstrand - Tom Silverstrand, Custom Engineering
Raymond Cooperative Grain Company

The Raymond Coop Grain Company was incorporated in the State of Nebraska on March 21, 1916. The original articles of incorporation listed twenty-six names of local farmers in the area who were the principal shareholders. They were as follows:

A.J. Bair  M.J. Martin
C.L. Nord  C.L. Bell
H.H. Forke  E.H. Johnson
J. Thompson  G.R. Carr
J.A. Jackson  J. Rex Wilson
A.P. Lawson  E.A. Bennett
J.A. Carlson  Edward Olson
C.T. Ingersoll  Samuel Alm
George Stein  Frank S. Bolar
James Gammel  L.W. Howard
John Danley  Carl H. Springer
Frank Flodeen  J.E. Ideen
Mathers Bros.  A. Schweitzer

According to records those wishing to become members first purchased a $100.00 share or shares for the purpose of marketing farm products and sharing in the purchasing of other agricultural products and services to any farmer in the area who wished to participate.

Facilities were purchased from two independent elevator operators who were in business prior to this time for the amount of about $6,000.

After the operation was established for a number of years the original stockholders were repaid their investment to establish the cooperative. From that time on shares of stock and any dividends were earned by the amount of products that they sold or bought from the cooperative.

The two elevators were in operation for many years offering a variety of products and services, grain, coal, petroleum, farm machinery, parts, hardware and many products related to agriculture or needed services to the residents of Raymond.

Operations continued much the same for some 30 years until the end of World War II. Growing pains were upon us at that time. Plans were laid for a new elevator at the present site where our offices are now.

Construction began in 1946 and was completed in 1947. The other elevator which was situated just one block south of the present elevator was then torn down. The cost for the new elevator and machinery it contained was $64,714.00, quite small by today’s prices.

In the 1950’s additional services and products were offered. These included a feed mill, livestock feed and liquid fertilizer. In 1955 a quonset building was added to the grain storage facilities holding more than 80,000 bushels of grain. This was four times the amount that the elevator itself held. With the ever increasing demand for grain storage and handling capacity a 30,000 bushel steel grain tank was added in 1959.

The 1960’s proved another booming decade with addition of yet another 30,000 bushels of storage in 1962 bringing our storage capacity to 162,000 bushels. In 1963 an anhydrous ammonia fertilizer plant was added as the demand for fertilizers continued. In 1964 a new shop and warehouse were added just adjacent to the west, housing farm chemicals, tires, oil and other merchandise that had far outgrown the offices and feed area where they were formerly housed. Also in 1964 a new grain dryer was purchased to handle the growing demand for facilities in the area that could take wet grain.

The 1970’s were equally rewarding as demand for goods and services continued at a record pace. Drastic changes were made in the mode of service offered and facilities to handle grains and fertilizers beginning in 1973 with a new dry fertilizer blending plant with the capacity of 600 tons of storage of product. Extensive remodeling and revamping of present facilities in 1975. From 1975 to the present our fertilizer capacity has multiplied more than 10 times the previous decade in sales, machinery and tonnage.

After more than one year of deliberation in 1978, plans for a new elevator were once again taking shape. After looking at countless other elevators and facilities across the state we were convinced we needed an elevator we could effectively operate from both a cost factor and an efficiency point. Many plans were considered and costs reviewed. A decision was made following a stockholder’s meeting with several plans presented for their consideration. A majority voted in favor of the steel structure now in operation.

Industrial development bonds were used to finance the construction at an interest rate far below any bank financing that was available. The total cost of the new elevator came to $325,000.00 with financing borrowed at $385,000.00 to complete the project. Construction began on May 15, 1979, and continued until October 1, 1979. The undertaking was the largest expenditure ever incurred by the cooperative in its 64 year history. On October 6, 1979, the first of over 3,000 loads of grain were unloaded in the new complex marking the beginning of one of the largest harvests we have ever experienced. The bushel take was over 600,000 bushels in a period of 70 days.
Managers over the years have been:

Tom Davey  
Len Marble  
Fawn Maul  
Mel Dresher  
Mel Robb  
Herb Micham  
Albert Carlson  
R. Harry Tolhurst  
Ivan Olson

Roger Smith  
Roger Grant  
Dean Redinger  
Wayne Huston  
Homer Hamilton  
Wayne Christesen  
Bill Ross  
Richard Krone

Henry Ideen was employed for 44 years from 1928 until his retirement in 1972 as the tank truck operator. He had eight trucks for delivering oil during this period.

The present employees are Richard Krone, Manager, Don Elenga, Gary Ehler, Frank King and Dorothy Nelson.

From the year of 1916 until 1980 the investment of $6,000 from a few concerned individuals has led to an investment in this trade area of over $700,000 in buildings and equipment.

Raymond Fire Protection

In about 1908 or 1910, Raymond had a well and force pump just south across the street from the Woman's Club building. The pump had a handle, like a two inch pipe, about eight feet long. It centered on the pump, about four feet on each side, with a cross handle long enough so at least four men could pump it. It pumped on both up and down strokes. They had a pump house which held the rolled up hose which was coupled to the pump. Thy pump was used several years for drinking, etc., for those who wanted to carry their water.

The town then bought a fire cart that was pulled by hand. It had pressure tanks that were charged with a soda chemical and acid that created the pressure. After several years, they mounted it on a Model-T pickup chassis. They got donations from around Raymond, and it was stored in the jail house.

Later, they bought a better Model-A Ford truck, purchased from donations given by farmers. This worked well for several years, as they collected enough money to maintain and service the truck. Then, the donations dropped off. Some farm owners did not live on their farms, but lived in the towns and cities, and the renters felt they were paying for the landlords' buildings. Donations dropped off so much, nobody would take care of and maintain the equipment. There were chemicals, gas, and oil to buy and nobody responsible to take care of things. This was probably in the early 1930's.

Then, there was a fire. The truck had not been checked and the battery was run down. It had to be pulled to start it.

At a Grange meeting, Rev. Hammel wondered if there was not some way that money could be raised through taxes. A committee of three Grange members, Dorothy Sterns, Lloyd Nelson, and Chris Nissen, contacted the State Fire Marshall. He informed them that a law had been passed that, by petition, a fire district could be formed. The committee layed out the district and planned what was necessary to canvas the layed-out district. There were only a couple who would not sign. They wanted to wait and see how many signed up. They were never asked again because all the rest had been won.

The Grange then called a public meeting and elected a Board of Directors: Chris Nissen, President; Ole Silverstrand, Treasurer; Dorothy Sterns, Lloyd Nelson, Joe Gray, and Willard Hansen. Chris Nissen was president for several years.

It was voted to have a carnival and raffle off a new Ford car and many smaller articles. Books of tickets were sold and there was a big turn out.

It was decided to get better equipment, and the government had surplus World War II fire trucks that could be purchased at a discount.

Chris Nissen, Lloyd Nelson, Ole Silverstrand, and
Willard Hansen hired Elmer Drewel to drive them to Fort Riley, Kansas, to look at some fire trucks. They only had trucks that had never been used, only the fire hoses were weather-beaten. Some were International trucks and they were interested in them, but there was some hitch about getting one right away. The army said they would advise when the trucks would be released. The committee wrote down the numbers of the trucks in which they were interested. In a couple of months, an army office in Kansas City called and said that the trucks had been released. The numbers they gave were the old truck; the ones the committee wanted had all been taken.

Then, word was received of a good high-pressure truck at an army base at Alliance, Nebraska, and Ole Silverstrand flew to Alliance and drove the truck back. It was stored at Chris Nissen's for a couple of months.

The District found out they could borrow money from the Mutual Insurance Company for two percent interest to build a firehouse; it was to the insurance company's advantage to have a good building in which to house the fire truck. An agreement was made with the town of Raymond to share the building.

About three years after taxes were raised from the district, including Raymond, it was learned that, because it was only a Rural Fire District, Raymond could not be taxed. The District could, however, contract with the town for fire protection.

The Fire District was established in 1947 and the first fire barn was a two-stall building built in 1948 to accomodate the narrower trucks of that time. As time went on, the need for larger and more sophisticated equipment required a move to larger quarters.

The new building, with four stalls and a meeting room, after three years of planning and construction, was dedicated on October 4, 1975. The new fire barn, located at First and County Road 670, was erected by a general contractor. The interior finish was done by the twenty-five members of the volunteer department. The efforts of these volunteers is estimated to have saved the District $9,000.

Additional features have been added from time to time by the volunteers to update and modernize this building. The volunteers also maintain and repair the building, as needed, to further save money for the District.

Presently, the District's response equipment includes the following units.

**Unit 60.** A fast response, four-wheel drive truck, which carries 250 gallons of water, and has a pump capacity of 135 g.p.m. This unit also carries the medical emergency equipment, fire fighting tools, and the Jaws of Life extrication tool. Money for the "Jaws" was raised by the volunteers canvassing the resident of the fire district.

**Unit 30.** A pumper truck, which carries 500 gallons of water, and has a pump capacity of 500 gpm. This truck carries the heavy duty fire fighting equipment, 1,000 feet of two-and-one-half inch hose, 500 feet of one-and-one-half inch hose, and necessary hard suction lines. Ladders and other required equipment are also included.

**Unit 40.** A pumper-tanker truck, which carries 1,000 gallons of water, and has a pump capacity of 50 gpm. This unit acts as a water hauler on large fires and responds to grass fires.

**Unit 49.** A larger tanker truck, which carries 3,500 gallons of water. This unit serves as a nurse station to Units 30 and 60 on large fires.

**Unit 20.** A grass rig which carries 200 gallons of water and a small pump. This converted jeep is very versatile in getting into rough and difficult locations.

**Unit 61.** An enclosed van, which carries bunker coats, helmets, and boots. This unit also serves as a warm-up area when the firemen are wet and cold, especially during the winter.
Snow-Mobile. Recently donated to the fire district by Kawasaki Motors to serve in times of need during emergency operations, when the roads are not open to other traffic.

The Raymond Volunteer Fire Department is staffed by thirty members. Some of the training by these members consists of:

- 20 trained in Crash Injury Management, a 51-hour first aid course
- 5 trained in Fire Fighter Fire Aid, an 80-hour course in advanced medical training
- 2 certified C.P.R. and Basic Life Support instructors
- 8 certified Scuba Divers, with 104 hours of training
- 21 certified on the Jaws of Life, a 6-hour course
- 30 trained in C.P.R. and Basic Life Support, a 6-hour course

Officers of the Raymond Volunteer Fire Department are: Don Suchy, Chief; Harold Danley, Asst. Chief; C.J. Schweitzer, Jr., President; Frank King, Secretary; Bruce Boyd, Treasurer.

Members of the Raymond Rural Fire District Board are: Martin Nissen, President; Frank King, Vice-President; Linnier Backstrom, Secretary-Treasurer; John Wescott; and Jack Sterns.

Raymond Volunteer Firemen's Auxiliary

The Raymond Volunteer Firemen's Auxiliary was organized in 1975. Charter members were: Reba Beranek, Jean Brown, Verna Burcham, Janice Cochran, Janice Hornung, Jo King, Joan Martin, Marge Nissen, Betty Silverstrand, Phyllis Oliver, charter officers were: Jo King, President; JoAnn Sipp, Vice-President; Sheila Sterns, Secretary; and Joan Martin, Treasurer.

The auxiliary was formed for the purpose of performing any service by which we may aid those less fortunate than we, our firemen, and our community whenever called upon.

The first function of the auxiliary was to help the fire department with the open house of their new fire barn on October 4, 1975. We furnished decorations, served refreshments and greeted people. Some other functions have been as follows: serve coffee at large fires and other times when needed; serve refreshments at Mutual Aid meetings; help firemen with their social functions; have Christmas parties for the children and Halloween parades for the children, including prizes for the best costumes; sponsor skating parties. Two other functions we are proud of are helping the firemen in collecting donations for the Jaws of Life, and having a part in getting rumble strips put in at the intersection of Highway 79 and Raymond Road.

Some of our money making projects have been: a box social, bake sales, garage sales, car wash, raffle tickets, flea markets, and serving lunch at sales.

We have also given donations to the fire department scuba team, Jaws of Life, St. Elizabeth Burn Center, lukemia victim Loren Dowding of Eagle, Raymond ball team, and the Raymond Central's basketball team recognition, just to name a few.

Our own social entertainment has been water fighting, which spreads good will between our fire department and other departments, participating in parades, having firemen's picnics, and, also, our Christmas parties and gift exchange.

The auxiliary's current officers are as follows: Betty Silverstrand, President; Jo King, Vice-President; Phyllis Oliver, Secretary; and Verna Burcham, Treasurer.

RAYMOND VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' AUXILIARY - Back Row, left to right: Marge Nissen, Sheila Sterns, Marge Suchy, Mary Schweitzer, Nancy Petri, JoAnn Sipp, Freida Harr, Sue Danley, Joan Martin, Mary Drewel, Lou Ehlers, Joyce Wescott. Seated: Phyllis Oliver, Jo King, Betty Silverstrand, Verna Burcham.
Postal Service

The post office was officially established in the community on February 6, 1878, with about 500 people being served. June 3, 1880, the name was changed to Raymond. RFD Route No. 1 was started February 1, 1902 (Raymond Reviews, January 18, 1902). In 1945, the Raymond post office was moved to a new site on the corner of First and Clark Streets, and the same building still serves the needs of eighty-five local boxholders and 225 rural boxholders.

Benes retired as rural carrier in October of 1969, after twenty-three years of service. Donal Brey is the current carrier, and Janice Kirchhoff is serving as postmistress. Helen (Mulvane) Ilg held that position for twenty-six years, the longest of any Raymond postmaster/postmistress.

Following is a list of former postmasters/postmistresses:

- William Breeden .......... February 6, 1878
- Benjamin F. Reagan .......... March 15, 1880
- Albert V. Johnson .......... October 3, 1885
- William J. Weller .......... October 17, 1889
- Rufus W. Carver .......... May 7, 1894
- George W. Murphy .......... April 8, 1898
- Charles A. Leckhter .......... June 25, 1902
- Charles M. Bull .......... September 27, 1904
- William L. Shuff .......... September 4, 1907
- Roy H. Sawyer .......... January 22, 1909
- Zadok Stephenson .......... October 21, 1911
- Mattie E. Stephenson .......... September 12, 1914
- Sarah E. Stephenson .......... July 15, 1916
- Mary L. Taylor .......... October 25, 1916
- Helen G. Mulvane .......... May 17, 1938
  (name changed by marriage to Mrs. Helen G. Ilg on August 26, 1942)
- John E. Schulling .......... October 1, 1944
- Helen G. Ilg .......... November 30, 1958

Helen Geraldine Mulvane was appointed postmaster to the fourth class office of Raymond, Nebraska, in September, 1938. Her name was changed to Helen G. Ilg on August 26, 1942, when she married Clarence Ilg of Valparaiso, Nebraska.

On September 30, 1944, she resigned the position to care for her family. She was reappointed to the third class office on November 30, 1958, retiring from that position on October 7, 1977.

During those years, she received several awards for patriotic service in support of the U.S. Savings Bonds program, from its inception until it was discontinued.

The Wichita Region of the Postal Service awarded her certificates of outstanding achievement for outstanding accomplishments in the environmental improvement program on two different occasions.

For her support of community activities in the commemoration of the U.S. Bicentennial, she was given a plaque by the U.S. Postal Service, together
with a letter of appreciation from the Regional Postmaster General.

On October 7, 1977, she was given an award for dedicated service of twenty-five years to the Government of the United States, by the Regional Postmaster General. At the same time, she received a letter of appreciation from the MSC Manager for her years of outstanding cooperation, devotion, and loyalty to the service.

Over 130 people attended the coffee given by Helen in appreciation of the friendship and kindness shown her while in office.

The community presented her with a beautiful clock, card table with two chairs, and an air pot.

Emil M. Benes.

Raymond Rural Route

SEPTEMBER 1, 1946 - SEPTEMBER 1, 1969
(by Emil M. Benes)

I started carrying mail on the Raymond rural route September 1, 1946. The route consisted of fifty-four miles, of which thirty-two miles were dirt roads. This route served 165 families. The Postmaster was John E. Schulling, and the rural substitutes were Lawrence Jones and Dennis Benes.

In 1947, the State Legislature passed the Schroder bill, which assessed a one-cent tax on each package of cigarettes for graveling the dirt roads on all of Nebraska’s rural routes. This, of course, also served the farmers by “bringing them out-of-the-mud.” The roads were completely gravelled by 1956.

When the government bought land in the Crouse area, three miles west of Raymond, for the building of Branched Oak Dam, it took eighteen families off the route.

In 1960, the United States Congress passed a bill to extend rural routes to farmers’ driveways for better service. This service extended the route to seventy-nine miles.

In 1969, I retired and said farewell to Helen Ilg, the Postmistress, Donal Brey, my faithful substitute for eighteen years, and 171 thoughtful families.

The Raymond community honored me with a retirement reception held at the Woman’s Club building. I was presented with a gold Bulova watch and many other treasured gifts and cards.

Telephone History In Raymond

The Nebraska Telephone Company, which was part of the Bell Telephone system, was incorporated in 1882. It was serving at least eight communities in Nebraska by 1883, with toll connections between them. During the next couple of decades, many telephone exchanges were established in various towns by the Bell Company or by Bell licensees. It was this Company that established the first telephone exchange in Raymond.

In 1912, the Lincoln Telephone and Telegraph Company purchased all of the Bell telephone properties in the southeast twenty-two counties of Nebraska, and sold to Bell all of its telephone properties outside of that area. It was at this time that the Lincoln company acquired the Raymond exchange.

Lincoln Telephone and Telegraph Company was organized in 1903, and began operating an exchange in Lincoln in 1904. They expanded to several nearby communities in the next few years, and also acquired some toll lines. They had a toll station in Raymond prior to 1912.

E.W. Barnes was the manager of the Raymond exchange in 1913 and 1914. Mabel Fisher was the operator. Mr. Barnes was paid $75 a month, and Mable Fisher $15 a month. At the same time, Mr. Barnes served as cableman at Davey for a pay of $10 a month. Apparently the three exchanges of Raymond, Davey, and Malcolm were operated in some respects as a group, with one manager having the responsibility for them.

In 1915, Raymond had 164 phones. The switchboard was moved to new quarters in Raymond.

1918 - Mrs. Fulton, Telephone Operator
Mrs. Fulton was the operator in 1918. From 1927 to 1928, W.J. Spurlock was the manager. Mr. Edward Dulin was the manager from 1938 until 1931.

John Schulling was the manager from 1931, until his retirement in 1935, and his wife, Aletha, was chief operator-cashier from 1931 until 1950.

The Raymond exchange was converted to dial operation at 10 a.m. on March 2, 1950, in a triple conversion, that also included Denton and Davey. The three exchanges served 444 telephones.

Some of the operators that worked for the Schullings were Madge Booth, Dorothy Vant, Hazel Schulling, Thelma Schulling, Lillian Schulling Tolhurst, Elma Clark, Dorothy Heiser Timmons, Mary Polk, Ethel Nissen, Helen Mulvane, Barbara Tolhurst, Bonnie Edie, and Pat Tolhurst.

Some of the operator's duties were to blow the noon, 6 p.m., and fire whistles. Whenever there was a fire, line calls would be made to let everyone know where the fire was so they could help.

**John And Aletha Schulling**

(by Pat Tolhurst Hardesty)

The things I remember, and was told, about my grandparents, John and Aletha Schulling, running the telephone office, was their dedication. It was their responsibility twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. My grandmother put a roll-away bed by the switchboard at night and slept there so she could answer the calls. If there was a storm it often meant nights of little sleep. She always seemed to be cooking for her help and the telephone men who came out from Lincoln to work on the equipment. She had to miss many things in the community, even going to her daughter Hazel's high school graduation, held only one block from the office. My grandfather's salary in 1917, was $70 a month, out of which he had to pay his operators.

In the summer of 1947, when I was only 11½, my grandmother began training me as an operator. Until the exchange converted to dial in 1950, I would work a few hours a day while she cooked supper and did her other work. I was paid eleven cents an hour and later was paid thirteen cents. After thirty-two years of service with the phone company my grandfather retired. He went on in the Raymond community as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Raymond Co-operative Credit Association (bank), an insurance salesman, kept safety deposit boxes, and then became the postmaster from 1944 until 1958. My grandmother retired from the phone company in 1951 after twenty years of service and later became a clerk in the post office until retiring again in 1958.

They celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on September 28, 1958, in the Woman's Club building in Raymond, surrounded by their family, their many Raymond friends and friends from the
Lincoln Telephone Company.

My grandmother has lived to see four generations of her family employed by the Lincoln Telephone Company: daughters, Lillian Tohlhurst, Hazel Ferry, and Thelma Wisen (retired after twenty-eight years of service); granddaughter Pat Tolhurst Hardesty, and Pat's husband, Jack (twenty-four years); and Pat and Jack's two daughters, Susan Hardesty and Jill Hardesty Jones (the Schullings' great-granddaughters).

Unidentified youngsters out for a Sunday drive??!!

Early Transportation
(as remembered by Chris Nissen)

Before we had a car, we used to drive to Lincoln with horses. We had a buggy for one horse and what we called a spring wagon, for two horses.

The spring wagon had a body about eight feet long, one foot deep, and four feet wide. It had two leather upholstered seats with springs in both the cushions and backs. The back seat could be taken off and made into a place to haul anything, like a pickup truck. It had springs under the body. Under the back wheels, it had flat springs on the sides and another cross-ways called cantilever springs. In front, the spring was a double spring cross-ways. It rode nicely. When new, they were neatly painted, usually black, and trimmed or striped in red.

The buggies were mostly used with one horse; although, some had light driving horses and drove two horses. The buggy was a one-seated body with a top, that could be folded down, and had side curtains that were kept under the seat and put on when it rained or was cold. Some had a storm cover that fit over the dash board and was fastened on to the top; there was a slit cut out to put the lines through to drive your horse.

A horse and new buggy were a young man's delight. A new buggy painted black with red wheels was what every young fellow wanted, to go see his girl. You young folks don't know and what you have missed. You did not have to have your hands on the steering wheel!

Early Transportation—The Train
(as remembered by Chris Nissen)

The passenger train used to come to Raymond, from Beatrice and Lincoln, in the morning. It would go on to Valparaiso and return to Raymond around nine o'clock, then go back to Lincoln and Beatrice. In the afternoon, it returned to Raymond around three o'clock, then went to Valparaiso and came back.
Sometimes we would drive to Raymond, put the horse up in the livery barn and take the train to Lincoln. The depot at Lincoln was about halfway across the present “O” Street viaduct. You climbed some wooden steps to get up on the viaduct and walked up town. The sidewalk was about six feet wide and made of six inch planks. It was a very cold walk if the wind was blowing and cold. You did your shopping and carried your packages with you to catch the train back home. It cost two cents a mile for your ticket, a total of twenty-two cents to Raymond.

When you got back, you went to the livery barn, helped hook up your horse, paid your fee (I do not remember how much) and went home.

The livery barn also had horses and buggies for rent. Salesmen and insurance agents would hire a buggy, and either drive themselves, or the livery barn furnished a driver.

Steam engines were a frequent sight as they traveled through Raymond.

Many will recall traveling to Valparaiso or Lincoln on the “motor.” (Union Pacific Railroad Museum Collection)

Churches

Raymond Presbyterian Church

The first Presbyterian church was organized April 30, 1880. It was called Little Salt Church because it stood near the Little Salt Creek three miles east of Raymond. Neither the town of Raymond nor the railroad were in existence at that time. Some of the family names of people enrolled as members of the Christian Covenant are: Latture, Wilson, Kinyon, Larrimer, Deigan, Morgan, Kerlin, Mulvane, Hetrick, Whittaker, and Breeden.

Two years later on October 22, 1882, the congregation erected a new building in Raymond with the total cost of building and furnishings amounting to $2,000. All, except $500, was provided for the project. After an urgent plea from the Rev. E.M. Lewis, the congregation provided the balance and the church was dedicated and presented, debt free, to the Almighty God.

That building was located on Out Lot No. 1, which is now known as 2nd and High Streets. Later, the congregation bought three lots and moved the building to the location now known as 3rd and Clark Streets. When the building was moved it was enlarged and improved, the cornerstone being laid November 9, 1907. The Church was dedicated, free from debt, September 20, 1908.

Twenty-four years after the founding of the church, a fine two-story seven room manse was built. It was finished in April, 1904, and, as had always been the policy of the congregation to use the pay-as-you go plan, the manse also was debt free.

In October, 1922, work was begun to rebuild the foundation, enlarge the basement and add an annex.
to the west side of the church. Art glass windows were also attached. Since all the labor on this improvement was donated by members and friends, the congregation saved approximately $1,600. The project was completed by the spring of 1923.

During the depression years the congregation was joined by the congregation from the Raymond Methodist Church for combined activities and services which were held in the Presbyterian Church. The ministers were supplied by the Methodist Conference. They made the Methodist parsonage their place of residence. The combination of the two congregations contributed to the attendance of a large choir and young people's organization.

The Rev. Francis Aucock served this combined congregation for many years. The two congregations finally went their separate ways during the early part of the 1940's. For a time after that, ministers from "Back to the Bible" filled the pulpit.

The Presbyterian resumed charge of the church in 1948 and Presbyterian ministers served the congregation from that time forward.

Rev. T.R. Hollingsworth and Rev. Clarence Mattison were two ministers who served the congregation the longest.

Due to the loss of members, because of death and people migrating from the community, the church was dissolved on Sunday, December 30, 1979, when the congregation met for the final service, just four months short of serving the community one hundred years.

**Raymond United Methodist Church**

Among the first settlers in this vicinity were C.C. White, his mother and three sisters, who settle one half mile southwest of the present town of Raymond in 1864. Mr. White married Olive Johnson. In their home the first circuit minister held services.

Records indicate that the Raymond Methodist Church was organized March 13, 1882. The first Board of Trustees were Edmund Duling, Jacob, Plank, Joseph Loses, Malcolm Showers, Herman Reeves, John Harrison and G.F. Reagan. The Trustees borrowed $250.00 from the Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

On June 24, 1882, the Board of Trustees bought from Charles F. Bowman and wife, for the sum of $50.00, Lots 1, 2, and 3, in Block 11 of Bowman's First Addition to Raymond. At the same time another loan was made from the Church Extension Board and a church building was erected. There is no record of the cost of the original church building. The present church is still located on these lots.

In 1908, the church was extensively remodeled, adding a choir loft, Sunday school rooms and a full basement.

The windows in the church were donated by some of the members of the church. These stained glass windows still remain with a plaque stating who they are in memory of.

At the meeting February 16, 1911, Articles of Incorporation for the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Raymond were drawn under chairmanship of J.D.M. Buckner. The Board of Trustees at this time were W.J. Weller, H.H. Forke, H.S. Weaver, J.M. Nord, T.W. Van Twyle, J.C. Deuser, S. Youker, J.W. Bennett and D.L. White.

In 1917-1918, a new modern parsonage was built at a cost of $7,500.00. The last minister to live in the parsonage was Rev. Richard Kellogg. The parsonage was sold in 1975 to Richard Krone.

The women of the church have always been very active. The first records of the "Ladies Aid" meeting are in 1919, with Mrs. Edward Paswaters as president. In 1940, the Woman's Society of Christian Service, which replaced the Ladies Aid, was organized. In April, 1974, the Society was renamed the United Methodist Women. Their meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month.

On November 4, 1931, when one church bazaar supper was held, the cost of the meal was only 25 and
35 cents—unbelievable now. The first school lunch was February 1, 1946. Prices for the lunch were 15 and 20 cents. Lunches were served occasionally until 1954, when lunches were served the first Wednesday of each month. In 1947, prices were 15, 20, and 30 cents. School lunches were served until the school in Raymond was closed.

December 3, 1947, the W.S.C.S. members took ten food boxes to the needy. Christmas boxes were filled and delivered to the elderly and persons living alone since 1954. At present the church women still carry on this tradition, only the boxes are filled and delivered at Thanksgiving.

The first Father and Son Banquet was served in the Raymond Woman's Club building on February 15, 1950.

The first Easter breakfast was served April, 1946. It was estimated that 75 people were served. The Crounse church was invited. Easter sunrise services and breakfast are still observed, with the sights alternating between the Raymond and Valparaiso churches.

In 1964, the church kitchen was remodeled and modernized.

In 1962, the church celebrated its 80th birthday with many former members in attendance. Members receiving fifty year pins at that time were Mrs. Ed Paswaters, Miss Jessie Bragg, Mr. H.K. Weaver, Mrs. Mary Forke Sterns, W.B. Duling, Mrs. Grace Sterns, Miss Laura Hansen, Mrs. Margaret Hall, Mrs. Roscoe Lawton, Mr. C.C. Ingersoll and Miss Hazel Billows.

There were two members of the Raymond Methodist Church who served as foreign missionaries—Miss Jessie Bragg who served in India and Floyd Shacklock in Japan.

In 1929, the Methodist and Presbyterian churches federated for the purpose of worship. Rev. J.F. Thompson, a Presbyterian minister, was the first pastor. Following the retirement of Rev. Thompson, because of ill health, the churches were served by three Methodist ministers. It was during the pastorate of J.D. Hammel (1941-1944) that the churches became independent of each other.

The following men have ministered to the Methodist Church of Raymond:

Rev. Badcon 1882-1883
A.M. Ogburn 1883-1884
D.T. Black 1884-1887
N.L. Hookingarner 1887-1888
E.J. Birch 1888-1889
G.H. Wehn 1889-1890
J.M. Richmond 1890-1894
Geo. I. Wright 1894-1895
L.G. Parker 1895-1897
H.F. Smith 1897-1898
A.G. Forman 1898-1900
J.G. Stanard 1900-1904
J.W. Royse 1904-1905
Harry H. Royse 1905-1907
O.L. Buress 1907-1909
L.L. Gaither 1909-1910
O.H. Albertson 1910-1911
M.E. Porter 1911-1912
Geo. M. Jones 1912-1915
L. Morrison 1915-1916
R.E. Wilton 1916-1917
F.I. Finch 1917-1919
R.F. Shacklock 1919-1920
E.L. Barch 1920-1922
W.C. Braymen 1922-1923
G.B. Warren 1923-1924
E.E. Pengelly 1924-1927
J.W. Custer 1927-1928
C.E. Connell 1928-1929
J.F. Thompson 1929-1933
G.A. Moon 1933-1937
F.J. Aucock 1937-1941
J.D. Hammel 1941-1944
1944-1946
George W. Chaffee 1946-1947
Charles Chappell 1947-1948
A.C. Wischmeier 1948-1950
Alfred L. Coolidge 1950-1952
W.C. Fawell 1950-1952
W.J. Dunn 1952-1955
H.D. Walker 1955-1958
Alan Wood 1958-1960
Richard Kellogg 1960-1970
Elmer Shaw 1970-1978
Michael Conner 1978-1983

At the present time Michael Conner is pastor. The present membership of the church is 109.

St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Agnew

The first Mass in this community was celebrated by Rev. William Murphy in the public school at Crounse in 1884. Fourteen families, principally Irish and a few
Germans, under the leadership of Father Murphy, established the first church in Agnew in 1888. Before the establishment of the parish, the Catholics of this community attended Mass at St. Patrick’s Church, located two miles north of Davey and in Lincoln.

Agnew, fifteen miles northwest from Lincoln, in West Oak precinct, was laid out by Eliza States and the plot filed May 2, 1889. Mr. L.B. McFarland, a local general store proprietor, suggested Agnew as the name of the community in honor of Dr. Agnew, a famous physician who took care of President Lincoln. Mr. McFarland was the first postmaster.

The first Mass in Agnew was celebrated on Christmas eve in 1888, in the new church which was dedicated to St. Joseph. The property on which the church was built was donated by Joseph Hennessey. There were 77 Catholics in the parish. Mass was celebrated once a month, later every two weeks, and it was not until after 1913 that Mass was celebrated every Sunday.

The first church was damaged by a cyclone and a new church was built in 1910. In 1913, the parish became a mission of St. Mary’s in Valparaiso. On December 3, 1922, the second church was destroyed by fire. The present building was built in 1923 at a cost of $11,000. The church was redecorated in 1937 and wired when electricity was available to the rural areas in 1938. A complete refinishing and decoration of the church was done in October, 1958.

In 1976, the Valparaiso and Agnew parishes were consolidated and the new parish is called Saints Mary and Joseph. There are 765 members. A new church was built in Valparaiso with a seating capacity of 370. The church was first used for Mass on March 21, 1977. Some of the Raymond area members of the building committee were Glen Ferry, Henry Kane, and Stephen Benes.

Pastors through the years have been Fathers William Murphy, William Bradley, D.J. Cronin, George Agius, Aloysius Faessler, Luke Mandeville, O.F. Schlacter, Marcellus Agius, John Kaczmarek, William Rezabek, John Kozlik, Richard Bromback and John Glaves who is currently serving as pastor.

The parishioners who have entered the priesthood and sisterhood are: Monsignor Denis Barry; Father Floyd Brey (from Raymond); Father Michael Christensen; Sister M. Honoberta Writeball, O.S.F.; Mother M. Agnita Barry, O.S.U.; Sister Marie Bartek, O.S.; Sister M. Dolorice Barry, R.S.M.; and Sister M. Louise Ann Strizek, C.S.

Some of the earlier presidents of the Altar Society were: Mary Barrett, Mrs. Elizabeth Rohan, Mrs. Rosa Barry, Mrs. Joe Jirovsky, Sr., Mrs. Frank Blazek, Mrs. Charles Bartek and Mrs. Herman Schweitzer (from Raymond).

Raymond Woman’s Club

Community Activities

Raymond Woman's Club

In November, 1919, eight ladies met at the home of Mrs. Philipson and formed the Raymond Woman’s Club. They elected officers, named the date of the meetings and formed committees. The purpose of the club was, and still is, to stimulate intellectual and moral development, to promote good fellowship among the members, and to strengthen, by organization, their individual efforts for humanity.

They became a federated club in 1921. Until 1941, meetings were held in the homes, in the church basements and in the school. In 1940, the ladies purchased the old Home Lumber building for $100. It took lots of money and many hours of hard work to get it in shape for the meetings.

One of the women’s very early projects was leasing land from the railroad for the park south of clubhouse. They spent time and money making it into a nice little park. They planted trees, put up lights and bought benches which they loaned to other organizations. They continued to keep up the park until it was taken over by the businessmen.

To raise money through the years, the members gave plays at least once a year, held bake sales, served school lunches, served farm sales, and made money in other ways to contribute to community affairs.

For many years almost every meeting, bills were allowed to pay someone for working in the park or for buying benches, trees and shrubs. Some items of interest found in the old treasury books were:

Purchased piano from Charley Patterson for $4.00
C.B. Short, $17.50, for piano
Coat rack from Peglers, $35.85
Large flag for school, $35.00
April 28, 1920, bill for fencing park
Nov. 22, paid to Methodist Church for lights, 50 cents

The big trees, still growing in the park, were planted by William Silverstrand in about 1926. They came from Rex Wilson’s woods.

The clubhouse is rented for elections, family gatherings, elevator meetings and community showers. The Club raised money to help start the fire department. They also held a carnival and gave the town $300 towards graveling the streets.

In the past few years improvements have been made to the building. Glen Ferry, Emil Benes and John Sipp installed bathrooms. The Green Thumb, under the direction of Glen Ferry and Richard Freiburger, greatly improved the clubhouse by putting in a cement floor.

When the school was closed, the ladies of the Club had a trophy case installed to display the school’s trophies. They bought albums and preserved the pictures of the students who graduated from Raymond High School.

In November, 1979, the club held its 60th anniversary. Mr. John Brey, the only member who has belonged all sixty years, was honored.

Raymond Area Extension Clubs

Nebraska Home Extension Club Creed

I BELIEVE, a nation is as strong as the communities of which it is composed.

I BELIEVE my community is as strong as its homes.

I BELIEVE, as homemaker, my responsibilities are:
To guard the morals and ideals of my family; the mental, physical and spiritual health in my home;
To be myself without conceit, envy or false pride, that I may seek and appreciate the better things in life.
To grow by study, observation and participation in the affairs of the home, community, nation and world.
To share what I have in talents, time and material wealth with others.

I BELIEVE in my job as a homemaker, a magnificent challenge, with heart-warming compensations.

Raymond Extension Club

The Raymond Extension Club came about as an outgrowth of the Raymond Woman’s Club. The ladies wanted to have learning lessons, so they started the Extension Club in September, 1940, with twenty-three members.

Following is a list of those members:

Mrs. John Brey
Mrs. Suzie Jackson
Mrs. Don Keetle
Mrs. Ed Riddell
Mrs. Ray Millington
Mrs. Willis Kratzer
Mrs. Slagle
Mrs. Jim England
Mrs. Charles Jouvenat
Mrs. Minnie Edie
Mrs. Ed Spencer
Mrs. Mary Nichols
Mrs. Willard Lawson
Mrs. Harold Clark
Mrs. Henry Ideen
Mrs. Ed Jakoubek
Mrs. Dorothy Meyer
Mrs. William Tobin
Mrs. Kenneth Weaver
Mrs. Henry Schaffer
Mrs. Albert Sterns
“In-Between” Extension Club

On a very cold day in January, 1958, six young women met at the home of Mrs. Alice Spath to start an Extension Club. Mrs. Dorothy Duling had inquired about starting the club. The six charter members were: Mrs. Willard (Alice) Spath and Mrs. Herbert (Vema) Wilson, both of Malcolm; and, Mrs. T.R. (Phyllis) Christensen, Mrs. Ervin (Marcy) Rolofson, Mrs. Norman (Dorothy) Duling, and Mrs. Martin (Darlene) Nissen, all of Raymond. They selected the name “In-Between” Extension Club.

Over the years, some of the projects of the club have been taking programs and entertainment to the residents of Westview Home, taking cookies to the U.S.O. in the 1960’s, embroidering tea towels and dresser scarves for L.A.R.K. (Robin Dale) School in Lincoln, making scrapbooks for Cedars Home for Children, and helping sponsor a benefit for Darlene Nissen. The club has made financial contributions to the March of Dimes (Polio Benefits), the Heart Fund, Cancer Fund, to buy eggs for the State Hospital at Easter time, 4-H Camps at Louisville and at Halsey to rebuild 4-H cabins after the fire, Operation Santa Claus, Salvation Army Tree of Lights, County Extension Scholarship Fund, and Pennies for Friendship (a world-wide Extension project).

To raise money for their projects, they have had both auctions and silent bids of items members brought to club, including “white elephants,” crafts, plants and baked items.

The club members have had club tours, family picnics, cooky exchanges at Christmas time, and, once during the year, the members have a “night out” when they have gone bowling, to a movie, or to a live dramatic or musical performance, and then they usually eat out. At Christmas, the members gather at one of their homes for an evening of good food, fellowship, singing, games, and as a finale, revealing of year long secret sisters.

There have been over forty members during the past twenty-two years, with many lasting friendships being formed during those years. There are presently eighteen members; five of the six Charter members still belong.

On January 23, 1980, present members and former members gathered at the Raymond Fire Department building to celebrate their 22nd anniversary. A short program was held and lots of visiting was done during the evening.
Dorothy Olson, graduate of Raymond High School, taught in rural schools in the Raymond area for many years, was cited for over 20 years of 4-H leadership, and with her husband Dan ran a ceramics shop in her home.

4-H

Over the years many of the children in the Raymond area have participated in 4-H and won many honors. Some of the Clubs they have belonged to are:

- West Oak led by Dorothy Olson
- Jolly 4-Hers led by Emma Beranek
- Raymond Rangers led by Janice Kirchhoff, Ann Watson, Sally Grant, Mary Jochim, and Shirley Zornes
- Freedom Riders led by Maxine Shell, Doug Cease and Al Cochran
- Sunshine Girls led by Sally Grant and Jean Ohnoutka

Virginia Jones and Sharon Lawson have also had Clubs but the names were unavailable.

Raymond Youth Council

The Raymond Youth Council was organized on May 16, 1957. Mrs. Hazel Abel, of Lincoln, donated $300 to start the Council. The boundaries set up were limited to the Raymond Rural Fire District.

The first officers were: Mrs. Helen Ilg, President; Ray Monk, Vice-President; Mrs. Margaret Ideen, Secretary; and Mrs. Mary Olson, treasurer. The following organizations each had a representative: Men’s Club, Raymond Grange, Extension clubs, Fire Department, Woman’s Club, P.T.A., Presbyterian Church, Methodist Church, Agnew Catholic Church, and Raymond Town Board. Four teenagers from the area were also selected to serve on the Council.

A canteen was set up in the Woman’s Club building and was open from 8 to 12 on Saturday nights. There was dancing to records, ping pong tables were set up and food and drinks were sold.

Many projects were undertaken to raise money. The youth mowed yards, picked up corn, and held auctions and rummage sales. Watermelons, popcorn and homemade ice cream were sold at carnivals and firemen’s dances. Dances were sponsored at the high school gym, where cake walks were held, and food and drinks were sold.

The Council sponsored volleyball and basketball games in the gym during the winter months and softball and baseball games during the summer. The equipment and ball shirts were provided by the Youth Council.

For several years, a dance was held with the proceeds going to the March of Dimes. Swimming parties, roller skating parties, hayrack rides and weiner roasts were held. Halloween and Easter parties were sponsored for the younger children of the community.

The Youth Council donated money to the Woman’s Club for Community Christmas, to the Children’s Zoo in Lincoln, and to the school for playground equipment.

Raymond Grange No. 391

The Raymond Grange No. 391 was organized in April, 1944, with Wayne W. Rolofson serving as the first Master. Meetings were held in the Raymond school and the Raymond United Methodist Church. Later, meetings were held in the Raymond Woman’s Club building until William Spath gave the White Chapel School house to the Grange in 1966, after the school district had joined Malcolm School District.
Raymond Grange women serving hungry workers. From left: Gladys Phillips, Alice Rolofson, Dorothy Duling, Anna Everett, Minnie Behring, Elizabeth Nissen, Ella Campin.

Raymond Grange No. 391 organized the Raymond Rural Fire District in 1945-46, with Chris Nissen, Lloyd Nelson and Mrs. Gerald Sterns serving on the committee. A petition was circulated within the community to obtain signatures of those in favor of the fire district. The Grange sponsored a carnival to raise money to buy the fire truck and equipment needed. A Ford car was raffled off at the carnival.

In 1955, the Grange asked the County Commissioners for authorization of a speed limit sign to be erected on the east side of the Raymond cemetery. In six months the sign was erected.

The Grange saw the need for an automatic railroad signal on the north edge of Raymond, as several people had been killed at the railroad crossing. Henry Ideen and Clyde Campin worked with a committee from the Raymond Woman's Club and the Raymond mail carrier, Emil Benes, to get the signal. After two years of work on the project, the signal was installed.

Twenty members have received their twenty-five year pins for continuous membership in the Grange.

The Grange has been active in many community projects, such as helping build a park north of Raymond, cleaning the Raymond cemetery when there was no caretaker, sponsoring a 4-H Achievement Day for the 4-H Clubs in the Raymond, Davey and Malcolm areas and contributing cash to local and civic affairs, as well as the State and National Grange projects.

Those members who have served as Past Masters of the Raymond Grange No. 391 are Wayne W. Rolofson, Frank Gillett, Kenneth H. Weaver, Clifford Hotchkiss, Ted Christensen, Ervin Rolofson, William Underwood, Chris Nissen, Harry Robotham, Clarence Jacobsen and Mrs. Henry L. Ideen.

The present members are:
- Mr. and Mrs. Ted Christensen
- Mr. and Mrs. Harold Crocker
- Mrs. George (Agnes) Danley
- Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ideen
- Mrs. Elsa Langley
- Mrs. Lloyd (Louise) Nelson
- Mr. and Mrs. Chris Nissen
- Mr. and Mrs. Dale Phillips
- Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Rolofson
- Mrs. Wayne (Alice) Rolofson

Baseball And Softball

According to articles in the Raymond Review, Raymond had a winning baseball team as early as 1910. It has continued to be a good source of entertainment.

In about 1927, crowds gathered in the field north of Raymond to watch the high school and town team games. Town teams were always eager to play other towns.

In about 1910, Raymond had a team that won over all the towns around, including Lincoln. This was due to the pitching of Grover Alexander and the coaching of a Mr. Nunamaker. These two soon joined the big leagues and were no longer available, but other local players kept up the good work. There was so much enthusiasm that wherever they played a large crowd followed.

A local boy who made good and went to the big leagues to play still lives near Raymond. He is Albert Bool, who caught for Washington, Pittsburg, Boston, and other big league teams. Al started playing with the Raymond team at age 15 and quickly became the best known catcher in the area. His strong arm and quick bat made him a much sought after player. He remembers playing the Cerco team. He was catching for Raymond, with Bill “Toby” Tobin pitching, when Thurmond Martin attempted to steal and was quickly thrown out by Bool. Another Cerco man who was noted for his ability to steal bases met the same fate when the quickness of Dude Hermance got to second base ahead of him.

Other players who helped Raymond win many games were: Ed Beranek, who played in the state league, Reed Graham, Raymond Thatcher, George Wertz, John Polk, Floyd Sterns, Jerry Beranek, Charles Leazenby, Floyd Ingersoll, Willard Lawson. Jake Bool, Norris Ivey, Henry Ideen, Lee Ideen, Clifford Hermance, Frank Thompson, Alfred Barton, Don Brey, Harold Simpkins, Edward Black, Joy Thompson, and many others. Their suits were bought by donations and gate receipts. Jerry Beranek tells of losing 12 new balls in one game and paying 5 cents for each one found. This was because they were playing close to the creek.

Ed Beranek played in the state league.

Old time Raymond ball players including “Dude” Hermance and Bill Tobin.

Raymond belonged to the Blue Valley League which consisted of Garland, Pleasant Dale, Seward, Staplehurst, Gresham, Tamara, and Utica. If one town dropped out, usually another would come in and take its place. They also belonged to other leagues. Some of the managers over the years have been: J.W. Dewey, Edward Frank Thompson, Bill Hellerich, Clarence Danley, Ernie Pearson and Don Craig. According to Melvin Wilson, who kept score for years, they had to guarantee the other team at least $15. Jerry Beranek reported, that before they went into the league, they split the gate receipts 40-60. They charged 25 cents at the gate and usually made enough money to pay some of the expenses.
The players furnished their own hats, gloves and shoes.

For many years the high school team played baseball and softball in the park north of town and later in the ball park in town.

Examples of a couple of years of high school baseball and softball games follows:

In the fall of 1937, games were scheduled with Davey, Rokeby, Denton, Walton, Valparaiso, and Hallam. In that same year, approximately 25 girls turned out for softball practice which was held during the noon hour and after school. After a difficult decision Mr. Lewis, the coach, finally chose the team. They won their first game with Malcolm, 2 to 1.

In 1945, some of the highlights in baseball were games with Waverly, Firth and Hickman. They won from Waverly 9 to 12, from Hickman 9 to 5, but tied the score with Firth. That year, Raymond was second in the baseball tournament.

A recent feat of a Raymond baseball team was accomplished in the summer of 1979, by the Pre-Midget Baseball team, when, although they did not have a winning season, they were awarded the “Sportsmanship” Trophy at the invitational tourney in Valparaiso. Under the coaching of John Beranek, the team consisted of: Joe Beranek, Chris Hardesty, Mike Grant, Marty Silverstrand, Bill Hellerich, Nick Gyrha, Robbie Moxham, Richard Cooper, Del King, John Huck and Steve McAndrew.

Lack of time and available information does not allow the total story of the history of baseball and softball in Raymond to be recorded.

Schools

1862 to 1874. J.W. Blllows, who settled in the Raymond area around 1864, after coming to Nebraska in 1862, recalls attending school in a dugout on the former Albert Carlson farm east of Raymond.

Education was an important concern of the early pioneers. Raymond was no exception. In 1864, Mrs. Cornelia White and family settled one-half mile southwest of the present village. In 1868, Charles Clark White, son of Cornelia White, was married to Olive A. Johnson. In 1869, the couple’s new home became the site of a subscription school, the first educational institution in the area. The students boarded with the Whites during the week and Mrs. White was the teacher. Mr. White secured a few slabs of wood from a portable saw mill, cut holes in them and inserted pegs; these were for seats. The children slept in the attic of the log cabin and cut wood to pay their tuition. Sometimes the parents would bring meat and other food for the Whites.

H.M. Worley was one of the pupils who attended school in the winter of 1869 and 1870. In his recollections, boys and girls came from up and down Oak Creek, West Oak and Little Salt on foot and on horseback. In all, there were about 35 or 40 students of all ages and grades. The log cabin was 12 feet by 16 feet with kitchen and garret. Mr. Worley spent nearly 40 years teaching and superintending in Nebraska schools.

In 1871, a school was organized and classes were held in an unused grainery.

In 1874, a building was constructed one mile south of the present town site.

1875. There were 54 pupils between the ages of 5 and 21, twenty-eight boys and twenty-six girls. The number of days taught were 140. The frame building was valued at $900 and the value of the land at $10. There were eight square yards of blackboard which was painted plaster. There were only 22 good desks. They did not have grades then, but went from one reader to the next. The teachers were I. Tullis, who taught for 60 days at the wages of $75; and Abbie Cook, who taught 80 days for $155. The Director, Louis Helmer, visited the school 28 times that year.

1881. The county superintendent was successfully petitioned to designate the school as District 19 in Lancaster County. The first two teachers were A.G. Martin and Mrs. George Gere.

1885. Enrollment was 53 boys and 41 girls for a total of 94 pupils. The texts were not furnished by the district. School was now valued at $1,570. Teachers were W.T. Clein, who taught 180 days for $400; and Elda J. Stetson, who taught for 180 days for $495. The total indebtedness July 13, 1885, was $1,685.50. The board members were D.A. Riddel, Director; S.R. Hanson, Secretary; and W.J. Johnson, Treasurer.

1892. The July 21, 1892, issue of the Raymond
Review newspaper lists the members of the village school board as Director S.C. Lowdon, Moderator Dr. L.F. Polk, and Treasurer Charles Grady.

1895. There were 103 pupils, 61 boys and 42 girls. Average daily attendance was 65. The teachers taught 177 days. The male teachers received $585 and the female teachers $400. The school was valued at $1,000 and the textbooks at $150. They paid $147.79 for books, maps, etc. Board members were S.C. Loudon, Director; George Shuss, Moderator; W.J. Weller, Treasurer; and J.S. Baer, County Superintendent.

1898. The teachers were Miss Randolph and Miss Kenyon. The school was given a new coat of paint on the inside. It was reported that the entire school attended the County Fair on October 1, and it was very windy and dusty that day. On January 22, 1898, the Raymond Review reported that a much-wanted item was finally received when the school received a new bookcase and there was a total of 55 books in the library. The board members were J.M. Wilson, J.C. Muggleton and W.J. Weller.

1901. Enrollment was 104. A second story was added to the building, making a total of four rooms. At that time, the ninth and tenth grades were added to the existing eight grades.

1902. The band was reorganized. The board members were John Montgomery, Director; J.W. Billows, Moderator; and W.J. Weller, Treasurer.

In 1910 the school was a two-story four-room building which faced to the north.

1908. Enrollment was 102. There were 21 in high school, 30 in the grammar room and 51 in the primary room. The board members were Henry Weaver, H.B. Hoyle and J.C. Deuser. It was reported that the students with the highest grade average
would receive the Raymond Review newspaper free for one year.

1909. The eleventh grade was added.


1919. Mildred Flodeen and Floyd Brey were the two members of the graduating class. Activities during that school year included an agriculture class visit to the State Fair, a visit to the Legislature, boys and girls basketball games, debates, baseball games, a play, and parties.


1920-21. Enrollment was 134.

1921-22. The twelfth grade was added. All 12 grades were held in the four room building. Enrollment was 139. The report to the County Superintendent, dated May 26, 1922, shows 12 pupils completing the eighth grade and 8 completing the 12th grade. The principal that year was Lola M.

1925 Debating Team: Right to left: Margaret Jackson, Frances Barton, Gladys Thompson.

Fussell. The records also show the number of volumes in the school library were 105 and the estimated value was $193. Petitions were circulated in 1921 to build a new brick structure but the proposition was voted down.

1923. Thirty years after it was orginally constructed, the school building was modernized.

1926. A gymnasium was added for $15,000. While it was being built classes were held in the churches and a building downtown.

1927. The gym was completed and ready for use. The seating in the gym was provided by benches around the floor and folding chairs and benches on the stage. When the games were really crowded the benches were pulled out from the wall and people stood behind them. The seniors of 1927 were the first to print a school paper called the Goldenrod. The Raymond High School Pep Club started with Gladys Thompson as leader and Margaret Grady as secretary-treasurer. The pep club members bought their own sweaters that year with money they made from selling baked goods at Brey’s Cash Store.

1928. The Raymond athletic team was called the Mules.

1931-32. On March 9, 1932, the PTA program for the evening was given by the Grammar Room. Ruth Anne Brey and Hazel Schulling played a piano duet and Beryle Weaver played a piano solo.

1933-34. Tuesday, January 2, 1934, was the PTA meeting. Mr. Higgins had charge of the program. The singing was led by Enid Loofe. Mrs. Tollhurst had the special music. A round-table discussion on the topic “Thrift, a Community Responsibility,” was led by Mr. Rex Wilson. Dale Grey concluded the program with a vocal solo.

1935-36. There was a total enrollment of 140 students, with 68 in high school and 72 in grades one through eight. The high school teachers were Mr. L.E. Wilson, Mr. P.L. Lewis and Mrs. Thelma Bugbee. Ten new desks were purchased for the high school students. New bells and buzzers were added to the school to facilitate the calling of the classes. Also, four electric clocks were installed in the grade school rooms and the assembly room. An electric fire bell was installed to replace the old hand operated bell. A
considerable savings was made by buying needed school equipment from Cotner College. $120 worth of science equipment was purchased for $35. The school board put a piano in the gym. It was reported that it looked the same as new and was tuned right up to 440 pitch. A jig saw and lathe were added to the Industrial Arts Shop. The boys in manual training made the equipment for a shuffle board which was played in the gym. Wire netting backstops were constructed at each end of the tennis court on the west side of the school building. The netting was ten feet high and extended six feet beyond each side of the playing court. It was reported that this made the playing more interesting as the players didn’t have to spend all their time chasing the balls down the hill. Nine boys and six girls reported out for tennis.

Under the direction of Mr. Wilson, who was the
music director and also the Superintendent, there were 32 in girls chorus, 25 boys in chorus and 14 in band. Eleven students took violin lessons.

The athletic coach was Mr. Paul Lewis. Seventeen girls were out for volleyball and it was reported they made their own suits consisting of purple shorts and white shirts, these being the school colors. There were 25 girls out for softball practice. Twenty boys reported for baseball and basketball.

The school newspaper, The Goldenrod, was sighted by the Daily Nebraskan, the University of Nebraska paper, for doing an excellent job of publishing a mimeographed school paper. For publishing an outstanding school paper, Raymond High School received one of the few charters granted in the State of Nebraska by the Quill and Scroll Society, an international honorary society for high school journalists. It was reported that Ralph Campin was awarded a prize of 50 cents for securing the most new subscriptions to the Goldenrod in a contest sponsored by the staff.

The primary room was taught by Miss Grace Wilson and had an enrollment of 28 students. Intermediate room had an enrollment of 24 and was taught by Nellie Laupp. Teaching the 20 students of the grammar room was Miss Cobb. Sixteen seniors graduated in 1936. Three of these seniors were the Baer triplets, Katherine, Margaret and Rose.

The teachers and enrollment of the surrounding districts in 1935-36 were: Oak Valley No. 13, teacher Iola Booth, 10 pupils; White Chapel No. 39, teacher Hilda Jung, 9 pupils; Clover Hill No. 143, teacher Elizabeth Riddell, 16 pupils; Crounse No. 47, teacher Goldie Hatzenbuehler, 16 pupils; Fairview No. 55, teacher Mildred Knopp, 15 pupils; Hillside No. 36, teacher Mary Jo Theisen, 17 pupils.

By a special proclamation from State Supt. Taylor, the absences caused by the severe cold and the fuel shortage would not be counted and would not have to be made up by an extension of the school term.

In December, 1935, a new electric scoreboard, instead of the old blackboard, was made by Arthur Nicholls and Vincent Hennesy under the direction of Mr. Wilson.

As late as 1936, as in all the previous years, students living from 6 to 10 miles from school boarded in town during the week.

Quotes from January 1936 Goldenrod:
"Distance Traveled to School--A total of 63,617 miles, or an equivalent of approximately 2½ times around the world, will be traveled by the 66 pupils enrolled in Raymond High School, in coming to and from school for the nine months of the school year. The daily mileage is 205 miles, equal to a trip from Lincoln to Hastings to Grand Island and return. Andrew and Stanley Benes, Eugene Harless, Mary..."
Hermance, Geraldine Sterns, Betty Thompson and Jean Theisen live the farthest from school, a distance of from 6-10 miles. Betty, Mary and Geraldine travel this distance twice each week, since they room in town during the school week. Members of the high school faculty have the patience to travel 1,148 miles yearly to improve upon the knowledge of the high school pupils and help to fit them for higher vocations.

"Primary Room, Miss Grace Wilson, Teacher—The eleven boys and girls who have had perfect attendance for the entire semester are Violet Baker, Arvid Beranek, Billie Beranek, Joan Brey, Dorothea Dickhute, Bonnie Edie, Clifford Hermance, Donna Lou Lawson, Joyce Lehl, Dale Maxson and Eugene Maxson. Seventy-five patrons have visited us this semester."

March 1936 Goldenrod: "Books for the Raymond High School and community library arrived this week and will be ready for circulation in a few days. These books were purchased with a fund started by the Raymond PTA about two years ago. The Woman’s Club also donated to the fund. Supt. L.E. Wilson, Mrs. John Brey and Mrs. Rex Wilson were appointed to select the books for the library. This committee will catalogue the books and issue a list and possibly a brief resume of the books and send these lists to all the patrons of the school so that they will know what books are on the shelves."

1937. Raymond baseball boys won the County Class A over Waverly, making them the only undefeated team in the county. They celebrated with a weiner roast on October 20, at the former Raymond ball park. The ruling was that everyone had to walk. The girls all wore slacks or overalls. Each person paid a dime for the refreshments.

"November 6, funds were raised to have stage remodeled in cyclorama style by having a benefit dance with a 16-piece orchestra from Lincoln. New drapes will be hung from the ceiling. A new lighting system with numerous colored lights will be added for the purpose of changing the color schemes. The Omaha Stage Equipment Co. is in charge of the remodeling. The drop and scenery are being painted by the Omaha Outdoor Company. The total cost of the labor and equipment will be, in addition to the advertising sold, about $65."

1939-40. The enrollment was 106 with 48 students in high school and 58 in K-8. Mr. Bench taught music three afternoons a week. There were 40 students in mixed chorus, a brass quartet and a string ensemble. Sports consisted of baseball, volleyball, basketball, tennis and track.

It was reported that the PTA had a library in Miss Wilson’s Primary room for those who wanted to read books. It was open on Monday and Wednesday after 4:00 p.m. for about 15 minutes and on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 3:30 until 4:00 p.m.

Eleanor Stearnes, 13, won the Lancaster County spelling contest in Lincoln on March 9, 1940. She spelled 250 words correctly.

Saturday, March 2, 1940, the basement of the school was flooded when the water supply tank burst. A hole had to be cut in the south wall of the manual training room to remove the tank. Then double doors were installed.

Apples and pears supplied by the Surplus Commodities Corporation were being distributed in the Raymond Public School. One piece of fruit a day was given to each pupil.

The teacher’s reception was held September 8, 1939, in the school auditorium. Mrs. Harry Tolhurst led the community singing and also had charge of the program. The program consisted of the following: Mr. Erickson’s violin students gave two numbers, a reading was given by Mrs. Henry Ideen, Joyce Lehnh and Barbara Tolhurst gave a piano duet, a tap dancing number by Goldie and Bonnie Edie, Jeanne and Mrs. Tolhurst gave a piano duet, Joan Brey and Melissa Brightenburg gave a tap dance number and Mrs. Gerald Sterns gave a reading.

1941. The Presbyterian Church served the first monthly school lunch to the school children and people from the community on November 13, 1941.

1944-1945. The boys basketball team won the Mucedas tournament held at Adams and the Lancaster County Tournament played at the Ag College in Lincoln. The team members were Vernon Nelson, Cliff Hermance, Leo Polk, Eugene Maxson, Earl Bool, Arvid Beranek, Bob Steffan, Don Barry, Junior Edie and Bill Beranek. James Tolhurst, the volunteer coach under Supt. Malone, took the boys in the back of a 1930 Model-A Ford van with benches and orange crates in the back for the boys to sit on. Gas was available, but he had quite a time keeping good enough tires because of War. They went as far as Walton, Sprague-Martell and Prague to play.

1945-46. Teachers for the school year were Miss Grace Wilson, Primary; Mrs. Mary Stearnes, Intermediate; Mrs. B. Malone, Grammar; Mr. Robert Malone, Superintendent; Mrs. Holcomb, Principal, and Mr. Birmingham, Coach. The cheerleaders were Judy Kilham, Barbara Tolhurst and Cathy Polk. Between 25-35 boys were out for baseball. A new ball diamond had just been built by the boys on the Albert Sterns farm on the south edge of Raymond. It was reported that they had a good backstop and the diamond was very level and smooth. Enough girls reported out for softball to make up two teams.

Following is an editorial written by Barbara Tolhurst taken from the September 1945 Goldenrod:

“School has started but a change has been made from the last four years. In our summer vacation influential things have happened which have ended the war. The great discovery of the atomic bomb has hastened the end of the war, but it has not satisfied the minds of the enemy.
Volleyball team, 1944-45, in their first year of competition won the Class B runner-up trophy at the Lancaster County Girls' Volleyball Tournament. In photo, left to right: Standing: Ruth Olson, Donna Lou Lawson, Joyce Lehl, Delores Chuda, Bonnie Edie, Judy Killham, Mrs. Hannon (coach). Seated: Margie Stearnes, Joan Brey, Carol Killham, Barbara Tolhurst, Beverly Stearnes, Alice Rolofson.

On September 2, 1945, General Douglas MacArthur met with the heads of the Japanese Empire and signed "The Peace." There were hundreds of planes overhead showing how great the United States Air Fleet is. There were ships completely surrounding the battleship Missouri to show the Japanese what power we have to enforce the peace.

It has been a long war and many lives have been lost, but we of Raymond High will sincerely do our best to prevent another war and to promote the speedy return of peace.

We have an increase of fourteen in our enrollment, making our school the second largest in Lancaster County. This is the first year Raymond has ever been second largest and we are going to try and do our best to keep up the good work that other schools have done when they were one of the largest schools.

We hope that we can have the best co-operation with other schools and make the teams work together better than any other year so that we can compete with other schools in all events."

1947-48. Enrollment was 99 students. Donald W. Craig, Superintendent, Grace Wilson, primary; Mary Stearnes, intermediate, and Mrs. Armstrong, grammar room. School board were Harry Tolhurst, Elmer Drewel and William Hellerich. There were 10 seniors graduating.

INFANTILE PARALYSIS—During the polio epidemic of the late 40's, several functions were held to raise money. On Thursday evening, January 29, 1948, the following program was held in the school auditorium under the direction of Miss Maxine Stone, the music teacher:

A musical skit by Crouse School
Tap dance by Sonja Ideen
Girls Trio: Marcy Phillips, Clarice Nelson, Cathy Polk
Vocal Solo: Clifford Hermance
Vocal Solo: Doris Adams, Crouse
Saxophone Solo: Gerald Sterns
The school band played
Master of Ceremonies was John Deigan
A dance followed the program

ANNUALS—The first annual was published in 1948. It was called the Goldenrod, the same name that was used for the school newspaper. The editor was Norma Lupton, Assistant Editor was Marian Nelson and Business Manager was Adeline Benes. In 1949 no annual was published.
1948-49. A “Survey of the Raymond Public Schools,” by Superintendent Don Craig, indicated that during the 20 years prior to this study, approximately 56 percent of the students came from within District 19. The rest were tuition students. Enrollment total was 132 in 1945-46, and decreased to 105 in 1948-49.

1949-50. Enrollment was 88 students. D.K. Shelver, Superintendent. School Board members were John Ivey, Harry Tolhurst, and Elmer Drewel. Seven seniors graduated. In 1950, the annual was again published, and the name was changed to Panther Pranks.

1950-51. October 23, 1950, the high school organized its first “R” Club, with Rex Brisack, President; Philip Brey, Vice-President; Lois Lipman, Secretary; and Ron Schaffer, Treasurer. Members were the boys and girls who lettered in sports.

1951-52. Six seniors graduated. Teachers included Glenn Fosnot, Supt.; Mrs. Norma Young and Ross Newcomb, high school; Mrs. Mary Stearnes and Miss Grace Wilson, K-8. School board members were Kenneth Weaver, Glen Ferry, Harry Tolhurst, Ivan Olson, and Willis Kratzer. The annual was called Revue for ’52.

1952-53. Enrollment was 71 students. Six teachers for the K-12 school. Ten seniors graduated. Valuation was $575,830. Mill levy was 29.53 for general school purposes and 5.21 for bonded indebtedness for a total of 34.74 mills.

The graduating senior class donated a large wooden trophy case with glass doors. When the school was torn down, the case was placed in the Raymond Woman’s Club House and filled with trophies won by the school over the years.

August 10, 1953, a special board meeting was held to discuss buying an athletic field and house from Oliver Johns for $3,300.

The boys track team was second in the Lancaster County Track Meet, April 23, 1953, led by Jack Beranek who scored 17 points.

The music department, under the direction of Mrs. Lorenz, entered the Mudecas, County, and District contests. The girls trio, consisting of Mary Nissen, Sharon, Lawson, and Pat Tolhurst, was selected to sing at the Lancaster County Eighth Grade Graduation, May 12, 1953, at the Stuart Theater in Lincoln.

1953-54. Enrollment totaled 89, with 8 seniors. The teachers were Arthur W. Teske, Supt.; John S. Lehigh and Maude R. Bean, high school; Grace M. Wilson, primary; Celia A. Brey, intermediate; and Mary J. Stearnes, grammar. School board members were Ivan Olson, Willis Kratzer, Kenneth Weaver, John Ivey, Lloyd Nelson, and Glen Ferry.

The first athletic field owned by the school was purchased. It was located one block south of the school. The Junior High Room and Home Ec. department room were redecorated. The Home Ec. room received two new stoves, a refrigerator, and
deep freeze. The newly renovated shop department received new windows. A band saw, rotary saw, planer, and sander were added to the shop equipment. The newspaper staff acquired a new mimeograph machine. It was reported that the business staff would help pay for the machine by their monthly ads. The gym floor was relined and refinished.

The school paper, written by the junior-senior English class, had a name change from the Goldenrod to the Raymond Hi Liter.

1954-55. Five seniors graduated. The teachers were Mr. Phil Young, Supt.; Eugene Hayes, Principal; Mrs. Shirley Kinsel; Richard Bush, music; Mary Stearnes, grammar; Celia Brey, intermediate; Grace Wilson, primary. School board members were Henry Ideen, Glen Ferry, Ivan Olson, Emil Benes, Kenneth Weaver, and John Ivey.

1955-56. One of the larger classes graduated, numbering fifteen. The teaching staff consisted of Leslie E. Livingston, Supt.; Shirley A. Kinsel; Harold D. Walker, coach; Harriet T. Walker, music; John A. Hippe, Jr. and Sara Jane Hippe, who each taught half the school year; Grace M. Wilson, primary; Celia A. Brey, intermediate; Mary J. Stearnes, grammar. The school board members were: Henry Ideen, President; Emil Benes, Secretary; Kenneth Weaver, Treasurer; John Ivey, Ivan Olson, and Glen Ferry.

1956-60. Enrollment average was 86. School board members remained the same: Henry Ideen, Glen Ferry, Ivan Olson, Emil Benes, Kenneth Weaver, and John Ivey.

1957-58. One of the best athletic performances for a Raymond High School team came when the basketball team, coached by Harold Walker, ended the season as the Class E State Basketball Runner-up. Members of the teams were Larry Chuda, Marvin Trouba, Larry Lawton, Lyle Maxson, Frank Moles, Charles Hellerich, David Ivey, Larry Hornung, Bob Grant, Jerry Lawton, Duane Trouba, and Verne Thompson. They beat Bellwood, Garland, and Weston in district play, Waterloo and Talmage in regional play, and Wilsonville at state before losing to Byron.

1960-61. It was decided that the high school would have to be closed. The Raymond district, as laid out in the early 1900’s, did not cover enough territory to support a high school in later years. Consequently, as prices rose and educational requirements became more demanding, the tax base was too small to finance a high school. Then, too, enrollment dropped steadily after 1940.

The last graduating class from Raymond High School was Duane Trouba, Barbara Benes, Betty Hassenplug, and Phyllis Ivey. Floyd S. Mann was superintendent and there were seven teachers on the faculty. Sports for the year were basketball, football, and track for the boys and volleyball and softball for the girls. Fifteen boys and eleven girls, under the direction of Betty Little, were in the music program and participated in the Mudecas, County, and District Music Contests.

The last pep club organized had Pat Hudkins as president and Judy Leazenby as secretary. Selected as
On May 11, 1961, the PTA honored the high school students with the traditional Athletic Banquet. Crowned as Activities King and Queen were Duane Trouba and Barbara Benes. Following the banquet, the Sophomore Class sponsored prom was held in the auditorium. The old gym never looked so lovely, with pastel colored balloons and streamers cleverly arranged. Then, on May 14 and 18, 1961, Baccalaureate and Commencement were held for the last time in Raymond.

1961-62. September, 1961, found the high school students from the Raymond area attending school in either Valparaiso or Ceresco. The Kindergarten through 8th grades continued to attend in Raymond. There were about 100 pupils.

The teachers were Loretta Sterns, Kindergarten and upper grade music; Emma Thompson, grades 3, 4, and 5; Sylvia Hellerich, grades 1 and 2; and Mary Stearnes, grades 6, 7, and 8. The upper grades took over the large high school room; the middle grades moved into the old grammar room; the lower east room was used for kindergarten classes. The upper grades were especially fortunate to have volunteer help with athletics. At different times, Bill Hellerich and Larry Hardesty coached the boys. Under the coaching of Pat Hardesty, the girls won all their volleyball games. Mrs. Stearnes, with the aid of local parents, opened the gym on some evenings and weekends for youth games. The students and their parents served lunches to make money for field trips. By using the Ceresco school bus, the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades alternated trips to Hastings, Minden, and Nebraska City.

Some of the teachers who taught after 1961, until the school closed in 1974, were Mary Stearnes, Sylvia Hellerich, Emma Thompson, Loretta Sterns, Barbara Mead, Pauline Boquist, Peggy Noble, Marie Hellerich, Adriene Schmidt, Barbara Franzen, Patricia Martin, JoAnn Barry, DeLaine States, Patricia Schied, Elaine Olson, Diane Wondercheck, and Deborah Cook.

1964-65. February PTA members were entertained by grades 6, 7, and 8, when the students, directed by their teacher, Mrs. Mary Stearnes, presented a “hootenanny.”

Featured at the March PTA meeting was a musical program presented by members of Mrs. Thompson’s room. The historical theme of the program was carried out in the costumes worn by the students.

April 1, 1964, the primary room pupils, directed by their teacher, Mrs. Sylvia Hellerich, presented the operetta, “Hansel and Gretel.”

The elementary grades sponsored a pancake feed, with the proceeds going toward a spring trip to Minden.

Sally Sue Sterns departed July 18, for a 13-day trip, with other 4-Hers from Lancaster County. The group participated in a citizenship course in Washington, D.C. Her leader, and long time 4-H leader in the community, was Dorothy Olson.

1966-67. At a special board meeting August 2, 1966, District No. 19, at Raymond, voted to merge with Valparaiso and Ceresco into new District No. 161. On June 14, 1967, District No. 19 was dissolved. Henry Ideen and Emil Benes represented the Raymond area on the school board for new District No. 161. The valuation in 1967 was $939,211.

An abandoned Nike Missle site, three miles east of Agnew, was given to District 161 by the federal government as a 21-acre site for the new Junior-Senior High School. A number of buildings and other improvements were already at the site, but extensive remodeling and new construction was needed to make an acceptable school site. The first year, the 385 secondary students met in Ceresco for classes, with elementary students attending school in each of the three towns. A $995,000 bond issue for necessary construction at the site was approved by a large majority of the voters on February 17, 1968. In 1969, the Davey school district joined District 161.

The name of the new district, Central Public Schools, was suggested by the 1966-67 junior class. They chose the school colors of blue and gold, and their mascot was the Mustang.

1967-68. The 7th and 8th grades left the Raymond building and attended school at the Valparaiso or Ceresco building in District 161.

1969-70. On January 5, 1970, 325 seventh through twelfth grade students moved into their new school building. The formal dedication of the building was held on March 1, 1970.

Valedictorian for the 1970 graduating class was Debra Ivey of Raymond.

1970-71. The Raymond PTSA, Firemen, Woman’s Club, and Youth Council sponsored the Raymond Community Christmas Party on December 21, 1970. Students who participated in special numbers were: Brad Nelson, Steve Schaffer, Gina Jochim, Lisa Coggins, Hildy Swanson, Connie Warren, Jill Hardesty, Peggy Grant, Linda Swanson, Pat Crumb, Paul VanArsdall, Pam Oliver, Joni Hornung, Chris Hardesty, Steve Brey, Dennis Clark, Susan Jochim, Marcella Jochim, Cynthia Grant, Susan Hardesty, Lynn Coggins, and Lauri Coggins. Roy Ferry sang, and Debbie Ivey gave the reading, “Littlest Cherub.”
Grades K-12, 1955-1956 School Year.


Mixed Chorus, 1960: (left to right) Back row: Jay Sterns, Steve Pearson, David Hardesty, David Ivey, Loren Ilg, Ron Grant, Jack Sterns, Lynn Ilg. Front row: Sharon Grant, Barbara Benes, Pat Hudkins, Mary Beranek, Sharon Schmaljohn, Betty Hassenplug, Bernadette Kratochvil, Phyllis Ivey.

1972-73. Co-Salutatorians for the 1973 Raymond Central graduating class were Barbara Ivey and Geraldine Brey, both from Raymond.

1973-74. This was a year never to be forgotten, as it was the year that the District 161 board voted to completely close the Raymond school. The parents and residents of Raymond put up a good fight, going to every school board meeting, circulating a petition, and finally going to court to try to prevent losing their school, but it was to no avail.

In the spring of 1974, classrooms were emptied for the last time in Raymond. The grade school students were bused to Valparaiso.

An auction was held on June 15, 1974. The building was torn down. The town acquired the land and have since built a tennis court, basketball court, and installed a play area with slides and swings. The old merry-go-round from the school was rebuilt and placed there, too.

During the 1973-74 basketball season, Raymond Central compiled a 19-6 record, was a state tourney contender, and was ranked Number Two in Class C at the close of the year. Raymond area players on the team included Terry Maxson, Jerry Beranek, and Brian Ubben.

1976. The school board decided to add Raymond to the name Central Public Schools to avoid confusion with other schools in the state. Pat Crumb won the Wrestling Leadership Award.

1977-78. On May 25, 1978, at the Valparaiso school’s awards program, Principal Darrell Rosenquist presented the “Super Sportsmanship Award” to sixth grader Chris Hardesty of Raymond. The award is given to the student who has outstanding achievement in athletics and excels in qualities of sportsmanship as an individual and team play. This was the first year the award was given.

1978-79. The Raymond Central basketball team again won the District and advanced to the State Tournament. With a record of 17-4 (the best season record in the school’s short history), they were ranked Number Ten in Class B at the final polling. Raymond area players were Jeff Hellerich, Don and Dave Miller.

SCHOOL REPORT FOR DISTRICT 161 FOR 1980:
Assessed property valuation $27,185,917
Taxes 38.055 mills
Students - 412 elementary - 388 in grades 7-12 - total 800 students
Staff - 23 elementary teachers - 27 teacher for grades 7-12 - total 50 teachers
Elementary principal, Junior-Senior High principal, and superintendent.
Also have special education, remedial reading and math, music, physical education, vocational programs (agriculture and home economics).
Equality in sports for boys and girls—the sports being cross country, track, volleyball, wrestling, football, and basketball.
Buses average seating is 48 to 52 passengers. The largest bus is a 66 capacity. Gym has bleachers that seat 1275 plus 200 on the stage.

Around 1937 the grade school had an operetta accompanied by the high school band.
On March 11, 1980, the voters rejected a $3 million bond issue for a new 3-unit (3 classrooms for each grade, K-8) school, including special areas for science, industrial arts, home economics, and art. Gymnasium and locker room facilities would also be provided. This new building would be built somewhere close to the present Jr-Sr High school. The present Jr-Sr High would be converted to senior high grades 9-12. The grades 6-8 would be considered a middle school. If this bond had been approved, this would have meant closing the grade schools in Valparaiso and Ceresco, and placing all the school children in District 161 at one location approximately in the middle of the district. The passage of this bond would have raised the mill levy 10.9 mills.

Michael Ferry Award

The Michael Ferry Award was started in 1967 by Ceresco High School teacher-coach Mr. Ken Kasparek in football, basketball and track. Michael was born in 1945, graduated in 1964, and was killed in a car accident in 1967. The Award goes to an outstanding boy each year in football, basketball and track. The local boys who have received this Award have been:

Football Mark Hardesty 1972-73
Jerry Beranek 1973-74

Track Roy Ferry 1969-70
Roy Ferry 1970-71
Greg Ubben 1972-73
Don Maxson 1974-75
Craig Schaffer 1977-78
Basketball Jeff Hellerich 1979-80

Outstanding Girl Athlete Awards - Raymond Central High School
Some of the winners from the Raymond area have been:

Nancy Schaffer - 1971-72
Debbie Lawton - 1976-77
Julie Hellerich for Volleyball - 1978-79
Marcella Jochim for Track - 1978-79
Susan Jochim for track - 1979-80

Drama Club Awards - Raymond Central High School
Some of the winners from the Raymond area have been:

Best Actress
Lila Sterns - 1969
Maureen Trueblood - 1976
Cindy Seeman - 1979
Shari Shell - 1980

Best Actor
Dale Rolofson - 1970 and 1971
Brian Ubben - 1972 and 1973
Mike Novacek - 1976
Jim Story - 1978 and 1979
Todd Rivers - 1980

Rex Wilson – reflecting on the past.
Residents Of Raymond Area Who Have Taught In Raymond School

GRACE M. WILSON was a native of Raymond and attended high school there. She received her higher education at Peru State Teachers College and the University of Nebraska. Her first teaching job was at District 11, a grade school east of Raymond, where she taught for two years. She then taught for two years each at Centerville and Cheney schools, south of Lincoln. After a year at Ragan school, and four years at Creighton, she began teaching in Raymond in 1928. Miss Wilson continued teaching the primary room at Raymond for 29 years, retiring in 1957.

MARY J. STEARNES was born in Geneva, Nebraska, and attended high school in Grafton, Nebraska, and Teachers College High. She earned a BS degree at the University of Nebraska. She taught at District 55 for five years, at District 4 for three years, and began teaching in Raymond grade school in 1941. She began teaching in the intermediate room and later changed to the grammar room. She became the grade school principal in 1961, when Raymond became a K-8 school. Mrs. Stearnes recalls many years of being the ticket seller at all the athletic events held in the Raymond gym. She retired in 1966, completing 25 years of teaching in the Raymond grade school. Not being happy at being retired, Mrs. Stearnes joined the Lincoln faculty in 1967, where she taught grades 3 and 4 for three terms and then moved to Kindergarten and special education for three more terms. She retired from there in 1973, but still substituted for a number of years.

EMMA OLSON THOMPSON, a Raymond native, attended Crounse School District No. 47 through seventh grade, then transferred to Raymond where she graduated in 1928. In the summer of 1930, she obtained her Junior Certificate for teaching, after transferring from Secondary Education to Elementary Education. She taught Primary grades in Waterloo, Nebraska, for two years, and then taught in Fairmont, Nebraska, from 1932-1935 as a primary and grade one teacher, plus teaching elementary music. On June 1, 1935, she married E. Joy Thompson, and lived in Stromsburg, Nebraska, and Council Bluffs, Iowa. In 1942, when they moved to Raymond, Emma assisted in the music departments in the Raymond and Malcolm schools. Between 1952 and 1958, she taught at Blackwood School in Seward County, and Districts 13 and 56 in Lancaster County; during this time she returned to the University of Nebraska taking classes through Extension, Night School, and Summer Sessions. For six years, beginning in 1958, she taught grades 3, 4, and 5, at Raymond School. Beginning in 1964, she taught 1st grade in Valparaiso. She received her B.S. degree at the end of the 1966 summer school session at the U. of N., and enrolled in Graduate School where she took courses which enabled her to become a Resource Teacher, instructing the disabled and slow learners. In 1976, she was retired as a Resource teacher in the Valparaiso unit of the Raymond Central Public School System. She still, on occasion, substitutes as a teacher.

LORETTA HERMANCE STERNs is a native of Raymond, and attended grade school and high school there, graduating in 1939. She is a graduate of the University of Nebraska. Her first teaching job was at Yutan, Nebraska, where she taught Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades for three years. She then taught 1st and 2nd grades at Beatrice, for one year. During the 1950's, she was the accompanist for the music department in Raymond. In 1958, she was a supervisor in the high school and helped with school plays and the music department. In 1961, she taught Kindergarten in Raymond. From 1962 through 1966, she taught elementary at Ceresco. From 1966 through 1969, she taught 3rd and 4th grades in Raymond. In 1970, she started teaching 4th grade in District 161 in Valparaiso, where she is at present.

CELIA SPENCER BREY was born in Neola, Iowa, where she and John Brey both graduated from Neola High. She graduated from Iowa State Teacher's College in Cedar Falls, Iowa, in 1918, and taught 5 years in Neola. She came to Raymond in 1920, married, and after her four children were raised, she began teaching again. She taught 3 years in District 55 northeast of town, and 5 years in Raymond elementary where she taught the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades. She taught piano to Raymond area youngsters for over ten years.

SYLVIA HELLERICH came to the Raymond community after her marriage to William H. Helligerich in 1936. Before marriage she taught for three years in Districts 127 and 68 in Lancaster County. When the youngest son, Tom, was in first grade she again went back to teaching rural schools in Lancaster County—three years at District 55 and one year in District 13. She then taught ten years, from 1957 to 1967, in the Raymond School District 19. At first she taught Kindergarten and grades 1 and 2, but later, as the enrollment increased, taught only grades 1 and 2. After the district merged and became District 161, Mrs. Helligerich began teaching grade 3 in the Valparaiso unit. She has been there from 1967-1980. She retired in May, 1980, after thirty years of teaching, all in the Raymond area. Her schooling consisted of a high school education in Ceresco, teacher's certificate from Wahoo Luther College, and a B.A. degree from the University of Nebraska.

WILLIAM D. HELLERICH (Sylvia's oldest son) grew up on a farm two miles south of Raymond. He graduated from Raymond High School, and received his B.A. degree from Midland College at Fremont, and his M.A. degree from the University of Nebraska majoring in math and physical education. He has taught for sixteen years—two at Craig, Nebraska; three years at Valparaiso; one year at Utica, Nebraska; and ten years at Raymond Central as basketball coach and math instructor. He still lives on and farms the "home place" near Raymond.

JANELL IVEY PROTIVA is a native of Raymond and attended grade school in Raymond and graduated from Raymond Central High School in 1974. She received her teaching degree from the University of Nebraska in 1978. She taught Kindergarten in 1978-79, and first grade in 1979-80, in the Ceresco building of District 161, Raymond Central.
Reflections Of A Bus Driver

AUGUST 27, 1979

John Wescott has been driving about a 65-mile-a-day route for ten years. The drive begins at 7:25 picking up students for Valparaiso Elementary School and Raymond Central Junior-Senior High in the rural area south and east of Raymond, and then coming into Raymond for the children there. His bus has a 65 seat capacity.

John is a 1952 graduate of Raymond High and has been on the District 161 school board for six years. His daughter, Nancy, a fifth grader in Valparaiso, rides 77 mile each day. She starts off in the morning on her dad’s bus and then transfers in Raymond to the Valparaiso grade school bus.

John also drives the bus for school activities, which are usually over 100 miles round trip—a far cry from years past when the young people depended on their parents, teachers, farm trucks, and family cars for transportation.

Other bus drivers from the Raymond area have been William Hellerich, Sr., Tom Oliver, Gary Ehlers, Kenny Danley, and Marvin Burcham.

Reflections Of A School Teacher

Emma Olson Thompson, born September 5, 1910, (daughter of Edward and Mathilda Olson) tells some interesting things about education through the years. She and her brother, Daniel, walked two miles to Crouse School. At that time, Crouse had a Methodist Church and a Country Store that provided a snack (such as a 5-cent candy bar) which sustained Dan and her on that long walk home.

While attending Raymond school, she recalls the year school was held in the churches while the last addition to the school was made. It was so exciting to have an inside gymnasium and more classrooms.

In 1928, she started her college education at the University of Nebraska, where she enrolled in Secondary Education with a music major and an English minor. In 1930, she transferred to Elementary Education when the Bank of Raymond closed and money was “tight.” By attending summer school in 1930, she was able to obtain a Junior Certificate which met the qualifications necessary to teach in a town or city school.

Her beginning salary in 1930 was $100 per month, which was an excellent salary. In 1932, due to the depression, salaries were cut to $80 per month. Teachers started moving to find a better salary. She tells of being one of 125 applicants, out of which six candidates were selected for interviews, at the Fairmont Public Schools. After her interview with Supt. Clason, her hopes were squelched as she was told that she had the least education and experience of the six candidates, but had excellent references. After being interviewed by all six school board members, individually, she held little hope for being hired. However, a long distance telephone call from Supt. Clason the following week assured her that a contract would be mailed immediately and her salary would be $90 per month. In 1935, salaries dropped to $75 per month.

Then in the summer of 1935, she was married. Married women did not teach. In fact, if you married during the school year, you would forfeit two month’s salary; so Emma became a housewife and offered to substitute. Since there were so many substitutes available, she probably taught seven days in the eight years she and E.J. lived in Stromsburg and Council Bluffs.

She states that it was exciting and rewarding to assist in the music department of the Raymond and Malcolm Schools. And, everyone sang in the choruses in both schools and it was as important to win in music contests as it was to win in basketball and other sports.

In August, 1952, a telephone call came from a friend, Mrs. Armstrong, from Blackwood Public School in Seward County, asking Emma if she would be available to teach for a couple of months until they could find a teacher. She met the President of the Board of Education at the school, where the black, wood stove still graced the middle of the room, and the desks were still bolted to the floor in straight rows. She offered to teach if they replaced the stove with an oil heater. This was granted and Emma began her second career as a teacher. Curriculum had changed in the eighteen years she had been a housewife and mother. Hence, a challenge to return to the University to study the progress and new programs in reading, social studies, and science was pursued through Extention, Night School and Summer Sessions.

In the six years she taught at Raymond, community and family relationships were fostered through a very active P.T.A. The students of each room were invited to perform for a P.T.A. meeting each year, which provided the students an opportunity to display and exercise their varied talents in every area of the curriculum. Educational programs were promoted and enjoyed by all ages.

When Emma succumbed to the temptation to return to her first love (teaching first grade), she realized that a degree was important for monetary reasons. Elementary teachers were earning less than secondary instructors. So, with determination, long hours, and with the help of her family, she received her B.S. degree.

Graduate College presented courses important to instruction of the disabled and slow learners. Emma decided she needed instructions in that area, so she enrolled in Graduate School where she concentrated on reading and phonics programs designed to test, evaluate, and teach children with reading disabilities.

Emma says this about teaching: “Having enjoyed the privilege of the small democracies of the rural schools, the challenges of new programs, and a continued education in learning how to cope with the problems and individual needs of each student, I realize each child is a special God-given product with talents and personality to be developed with love and understanding.

“Substituting is a reward and I enjoy the challenges and affections of the many children I am privileged to share for a day or more as a “Silver-haired” Retired Teacher, which is simply Continuing Education.”
Parents Teacher Association (PTA)

In February, 1927, a PTA was formed with Mrs. Jesse A. Jackson, President, and Mrs. Clyde Hannan Vice-President. Superintendent was S. Conn. They joined the National PTA organization with 25 members. At the time there was lots of controversy. Some people thought the PTA would try to influence the school board. During the early years, the presidents included Mrs. C. Nord, Mrs. John Brey, Mrs. Rex Wilson, Mrs. E.F. Hanson, Mrs. Charles Jouvenot, and Mrs. A.F. Loofe.

By 1937, there were 67 members. During the first 10 years of its existence, the PTA provided playground equipment, dishes, stoves and lumber for cupboards for the Home Ec. room, victrola and records for the primary room, a light at the west end of the school, entrance walks, health clinics, school bell, annual teacher's reception, annual Christmas treats, basketball warmup suits, annual closing day picnic, and a library open to school and public.

The PTA remained very active in the school until 1966 or 1967. At that time, the members voted to drop their membership in the National PTA and become the PTSA, Parent Teacher Student Association. The PTSA continued until the closing of the school in 1974. Meetings were held once a month during the school year. The October meeting was a teacher's reception to honor, and become acquainted with, the teachers. In the later years, the teachers were presented corsages.

After the business meeting, there was a program furnished by either the high school music department, the grade rooms, or a member of the community. The grade rooms would often present a program on something they were studying. Many times there was group singing. Films were shown and discussions were held on many subjects of interest to the school and community. A lunch and social time concluded the evening. The January meeting was usually the time for the men to take their turn to provide and serve the lunch.

Fun nights and white elephant sales were sponsored to raise money for a variety of projects and items they gave to the school, including books for the library, playground equipment, black out curtains for the gym so films could be shown, and 75 trees which were planted around the ball diamond. They also sponsored the annual closing day picnic.

For many years, the PTA and the Woman's Club sponsored Community Christmas. The surrounding school districts provided part of the program. Santa would arrive with treats for the children. Many times the gym would be completely filled.

The PTA and PTSA were very important parts of the school, bringing together the teachers, parents, and students.

Some of the officers during the 1960's and 1970's were:

Mrs. Clarence Jacobsen
Mrs. Glen Ferry
Mrs. Donal Brey
Mrs. Jack Hardesty
Mrs. Everett Nissen
Mrs. Harold Beranek
Mrs. Calvin Sterns
Mrs. Duane Watson
Mrs. Tom Oliver
Mrs. Robert Schaffer
Mrs. Jack Coggins
Mrs. Lowell Swanson
Mrs. Ed Kratochvil
Mrs. Pat Peterson
Mrs. Linnier Backstrom
Mrs. H.L. Hrenchir
Mrs. William Hellrich
Mrs. Wesley Hornung
Mrs. Jerry Maxson
Mrs. Darrell Nelson
Mrs. Marvin Burcham
Lowell Swanson
Mrs. John Sipp
Mrs. Al Cochran

Students attending Raymond High School prior to

1922:

Glen Reed
Eunice Hunter
Charles Deuser
Irma Deuser
Richard Hunter
Maybel Thompson
Hazel Billows
Merce Thomas
Clara Thomson
Grace Billows
Hazel Nicholls
Ralph Graves
Harold Clark
Alice Clark
Boyd Lawson
Hazel Kilgore
Ada Lawson
Gladys Essex
Ellis Brown
Hattie Brown
Ruth Kamerer
Hubert Higgins
Rose Thompson
Bernice Wilson
Hazel Stubbs
Olive Wilson
May Robertson
Vera Weaver
Janet Weaver
Kenneth Weaver
Carl Nelson
Louise Graham
Julia Wilson
Craig Wilson
Irvin Forke
John Burke
Mary Mulvane
Gwen Mulvane
Fern Tillman
Mary Polk
Maude Wilson
Alma Wilson
Irene Wilson
Ruth Wilson
Rose Markle
Mattie Stevenson
Orphus Polk
Grace Barton
Mary Pickens
Bernice Helm
Floyd Brey
Nora Larimer
Harold Nicholls
Ivy Campin
Wayne Graham
Susie Larimer
Nora Paswaters
Mabel Paswaters
Sarah Barton
Lily Forke
Florence Fodeen
John L. Polk
Frank O'Connell
Bess Montgomery
Bernard Grady
Raymond O'Connell
Ethel Montgomery
Roy W. Bolar
Esther Bolar
J.J. Allen
Rex Wilson
Fern Westfall
Ada Gammel
Clara Mauel
Ina Lawton
Frank Pierson
Sabina Duling
Nellie Van Tuyl
Esther Stubs
Helen Nailor
Mattie Johnson
Ruth Jones
Marion Hurd
Margaret Robertson
Douglas Hermance
Hazel Hermance
Gladys Hermance
Paul Barton
Clyde Barton
Alfred Barton
Clarence Barton
Arthur Flodeen
Ralph Detweiler
Essie Meyers
Gertie Weller
Faye Montgomery
Willard Montgomery
Glen Montgomery
William Montgomery
Elmer Montgomery
Lena Cadwallader
Guy Cadwallader
Mildred Flodeen
Abbie Van Tuyl
Helen Stein
Dallas Focht
Floyd Focht
Grace Focht
Josephine Cameron
Willie Hennessey
Ella Hennessey
Ethel Housel
Isabelle Hoyle
Jessie Hotchkiss
Loren Graham
Alberta Thomas
Norris Graham
Ellen Lundquist
Maude Hermance
Willard Lawson
Ethel Lawson
Clara Van Tuyl
Earl Reed
Alice Hunter
Grace Wilson
Agnes Essex
Hazel Gammel
Miles Cadwallader
Madge Cadwallader
Ada Kaufman
Myrtle Johnson
Harold Wilson
Clara Bolar
Amy Olson

Graduating Senior
Classes of Raymond
High School,
1922 through 1961

1922
Floyd Sterns
Allie Wertz
Joe Johnson
Ruth Duling
Charles Grady
Reathel Simpson
Joe Weller
Mathias Mauel

1923
Cora Wertz
Mona Tilmn
Mabel Johnson
Inez Wilson
Helen Focht
Dorothy Paswaters
Iva Tilmn
Mary Brown

1924
Dorothy Graves
Margaret Gilbert
Margaret Axtell

1925
Hazel Ingersoll
Henry Ideen
Margaret Jackson
Reed Graham
George Wertz
Leona Brown
Herbert Heuman
Eloise Hornung

1926
Reese Weaver
Glen Youker
Nellie Grady
Daniel Olson
Ople Kilgore
Frances Barton
Clarence Schweitzer
Floyd Ingersoll
Frank Palmer
Horace Johnson

1927
Dorothy Nord
John Barrett
Margaret Grady
Olive Riddell
Dallas Weaver
Joy Thompson
Gladys Thompson

1928
Isabel Hermance
Emma Olson
Rose Hermance
Alice Axtell
Dorothy Thatcher
Harold Ingersol
Abbie Housel
Louise Payne
Chester Sterns
Roy Brightenburg
Mabel Graves
Katherine Hennessy
Orville Paswaters
Wilfred Tupper

1929
Virginia Howard
Fern Palmer
Lucile Jackson

1930
Maxine Black
Dale Gray
Helen Hennessy
Marie Thatcher
Dorothy Madsen
Ted Allen
Edna Ingersoll
Dale Riddell

1931
Enid Loofe
Mildred Jones

1932
Vladimir Hamata
William Hellerich
Eleanor Kane
Charlotte Olson
Dean Olson
Laura Robyler

1933
Paul Bennett
Elizabeth Riddell
Eugene Johnson
Norris Ivey
Dorothy Jones
William Sedlacek
Jeanette Graves
Edith Brightenburg
Katherine Roller
Charles Ingersoll
Helen Mulvane
Kenneth Hornung
Cleo Leach

1934
Charles Schulling
Catherine Kane
Gerald Sterns
Margaret Barton
Ralph Hickman
Frances Sedlacek

1935
Laurene Hansen
Willard Hansen
Orill Black
Julius Hellerich
Ivan Olson
Raymond Robler
Helen Bartzat
Erna Mae Sterns
Eunice Graves
Mary Schweitzer

1936
Phyllis Paswaters
Leonard Sedlacek
Eleanor Assenmacher

1937
Orin Hodtwalker
Max Loofe
Ruth Lawson
Betty Jo Jackson
Hazel Schulling
Martin Nissen
Albert Bartzat
Beryl Keetle
Vincent Rohan
Agnes Peterson
Dorothy Riddell
Virginia Polk
Elna Robertson

1938
Beryl Weaver
Maxine Hennessey
Ignatius Sedlacek
Josephine Nelson
Ruth Brey
Isabel Lipman
John Charles Kinney
Carl Hellerich
Leo Assenmacher
Virginia Palmer
Lucille Nicholls
Grace Jakoubek
Albert Olson

1939
Leonard Olson
Francis Hansen
Jean Keetle
Lurton Higgins
Arthur Nicholls
Jean Tolhurst
Marjorie Aucock
Mary Polk
Opal Walen
Harry Detweiler
Raymond Barry
Linnier Backstrom
Loretta Hermance
Lorenz Hodtwalker

1940
George Lipman
Wayne Rolofson
Elvin Robertson
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>Norman Backstrom, John Sedlacek, Jack Gray, Ruth Bool, Stanley Benes, Arnold Lehman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td>Ray McDifftett, Evelyn Heiser, Ralph Campin, Willard Spath, Calvin Sterns, Bud Bool, Helen Sedlacek, Kenneth Hotchkiss, Phyllis Barry, Phillip Benes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td>Ervin Rolofson, Dick Lehl, Irvin Mortensen, Hannora Dillon, Dorothy Heiser, Ellen Kueck, Roger Lawson, Arlene Graham, Dean Loofe, Floyd Sterns, Loren Bartzat, Henry Duling, Helen Hoag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1944</td>
<td>Ruth Kissinger, Rudy Benes, Darlen Nelson, Goldie Edie, Verna Jean Jouvenat, Oma Jean Lipman, Max Pierce, Melvin Wilson, Phillip E. Beckwith, Jack Reed, Donal Grey, Connie Killham, Larry Polk, Joan Assenmacher, Leora Timmons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>vivian Vanarsdall, Delores Martin, John Hardesty, Thomas Wilson, Richard Benes, Jerry Maxson, Mary Nissen, Janet Millington, Beverly Hassenplug, JoAnn Drewel, John Millington, Paul Singleton, Larry Maxson, Mary Sabin, Gerald Grant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1955</td>
<td>Beverly Hassenplug, JoAnn Drewel, John Millington, Paul Singleton, Larry Maxson, Mary Sabin, Gerald Grant, Shirley Ramel, John Sipp, Larry Hardesty, William Hellerich, Elton Paswaters, Ann Thompson, Shirley Nissen, Jackson Ideen, Shirley Sterns, James Helling, Wesley Hornung, Robert Schweitzer, Emily Clark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>Beverly Hassenplug, JoAnn Drewel, John Millington, Paul Singleton, Larry Maxson, Mary Sabin, Gerald Grant, Shirley Ramel, John Sipp, Larry Hardesty, William Hellerich, Elton Paswaters, Ann Thompson, Shirley Nissen, Jackson Ideen, Shirley Sterns, James Helling, Wesley Hornung, Robert Schweitzer, Emily Clark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957</td>
<td>Gene Silverstrand, Delores Grant, Bud Elliott, JoAnn VanArsdall, Bonnie Thatcher, Marlene Elliott, Janice Ivey, Norma Schweitzer, Shirley Ramel, John Sipp, Larry Hardesty, William Hellerich, Elton Paswaters, Ann Thompson, Shirley Nissen, Jackson Ideen, Shirley Sterns, James Helling, Wesley Hornung, Robert Schweitzer, Emily Clark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>Evelyn Sterns, Larry Chuda, Patricia Elliott, Larry Lawton, LaVerna Singleton, Frank Motes, Vern Thompson, Mildred Drewel, Marvin Trouba, Joyce Danley, Lyle Maxson, Judy Schmaljohn, Sandra Vanarsdall, Karen Ivey, Sara Jane Sterns, Carol Danley, 1959</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Raymond High School reunion, July 3, 1975. Top left: Floyd Sterns, Top right: foreground, from left: Mr. & Mrs. Don Craig, Marcy Rolofson, Background: Mr. & Mrs. Howard Hunter, Marian Ivey. Bottom, from left: Willard & Alice Spath, Ruth Hermance, Joyce Krueger.

Raymond Alumni Association

The first alumni banquet was held June 26, 1936, in the basement of the Presbyterian Church, and was sponsored by the class of 1933. The officers elected were Matt Mauel, President; Gerald Higgins, Vice-President; Gladys Thompson Phillips, Secretary; and Margaret Jackson Ideen, Treasurer. The Master of Ceremonies was Charles Ingersoll. The banquet was held annually from 1936 through 1941. It was held in the Presbyterian Church the first three years, and then in the Raymond School Auditorium.

On June 2, 1968, the alumni reunion was held in the Raymond School Auditorium with 150 in attendance. The newly elected officers were Margaret Jackson Ideen, President; Barbara Benes Daughton, Vice-President; Dorothy Nord Olson, Secretary; and Grace Jakoubek Pickel Treasurer. The Master of Ceremonies was Sharon Lawson Petersen.

On June 25, 1972, the alumni reunion was held at the Airport Holiday Inn in Lincoln, with Charles Ingersoll as the Master of Ceremonies, and 118 in attendance. The 50 year class of 1922 were the honored guests. Those attending were Allie Wertz Crapenhoft, Floyd Sterns, Matt Mauel, Ruth Duling Mauel, and Reathel Simpson Bool. The new officers were Ruth Brey Ferry, President; Pat Tolhurst Hardesty, Vice-President; Nellie Grady Hudkins, Secretary; and Larry Hardesty, Treasurer.

On June 29, 1975, the alumni reunion was held at the Airport Holiday Inn in Lincoln with Floyd Sterns, Jr. as Master of Ceremonies. There were 130 alumni and former teachers in attendance. The class of 1925 was the honored class. Ray Bolar, of the class of 1913, was present. New Officers elected were Pat Tolhurst Hardesty, President; Margaret Jackson Ideen, Vice-President; Mary Nissen Hardesty, Secretary; and Alice Rolofson Spath, Treasurer.

On June 24, 1978, the alumni reunion was held at the Knolls in Lincoln, with Charles Ingersoll as Master of Ceremonies, and 150 alumni and former teachers attending. The classes of 1926, 1927, and 1928 were honored. The new officers elected were Gladys Thompson Phillips, President; Willard Spath, Vice-President; Margaret Grady Nelson, Secretary; and Alice Rolofson Spath, Treasurer.

Raymond High School Alumni Banquet June 19, 1937

PROGRAM

Invocation .............................. Rev. Moon
Toastmaster, Matt Mauel
Song Leader, Hazel Ingersoll
TOASTS
Welcome ............................... Mrs. Glenn Crapenhoft
Response .............................. Max Loofe
Ambitions ............................. Helen Focht
Life ..................................... Nellie Grady
Vocal Solo .............................. Dale Gray
Accompanied by Hazel Ingersoll
Undertakings ........................... Mrs. Dan Olson
Memorials .............................. Mrs. Joy Thompson
Vocal Solo .............................. Helen Mulvane
Accompanied by Betty Jo Jackson
Neighbors ............................... Charles Schulling
Ideals ................................. Jeanette Graves

Business Meeting
ALUMNI OFFICERS

Mr. M.E. Mauel .......................... President
Mr. Gerald Higgins ..................... Vice-President
Mrs. Henry Ideen ....................... Treasurer
Mrs. Dale Phillips ...................... Secretary

Compliments of
HELMSDOERFER FUNERAL HOME
and GERALD STERNS

Lincoln—B-4028  Raymond—15-J

Raymond High School Alumni Reunion
Raymond School Gymnasium
Sunday, June 2, 1968 at 1:00 P.M.

PROGRAM

Toastmistress — Sharon Lawson Petersen

R - Roll Call
A - Activities - Shirley Nissen Beranek
Y - Yesterday - Everett Nissen
M - Melodies - Barbara Benes
O - Old Friends
N - Novelties - Dorothy Jones Sterns
D - Decisions - Mildred Jones Offer
(Correspondence) - Margaret Jackson Ideen
(Correspondence) - Nell Grady Hudkins
COMMITTEES 1968
Chairman - Gladys Thompson Phillips

Notification of Classes: Phyllis Paswaters Roose, Chairman
Marge Ivey Nissen
Marian Nelson Ivey
Program: Gladys Thompson Phillips, Chairman
Mary Nissen Hardesty
Shirley Nissen Beranek
Pat Tolhurst Hardesty
Food: Margaret Jackson Ideen, Chairman
Grace Jakoubek Pickel
Ruth Brey Ferry
Set Up Tables: Raymond Firemen
Decorations: Marcy Phillips Rolofson, Chairman
Alice Rolofson Spath
Virgina Drewel Jakoubek
Advertising: Helen Mulvane Ilg

Raymond High School Alumni Reunion, June 29, 1975

Invocation was given by Charles Ingersoll after which dinner was served to 130 alumni and former teachers.

At the close of the main course, Mrs. Shirley Nisen Beranek led the group in singing. She was accompanied by Emma Olson Thompson on the piano.

The master of ceremonies asked each class to comment on their activities during their school days.

One of the first ones to graduate from Raymond High in 1913 was Roy Bolar of Lincoln. At that time the classes went only to the 11th grade.

The 50 year reunion members present were Margaret Jackson Ideen and Henry Ideen.

Those present from the first 12th grade were Allie Wertz Crapenhoft, Floyd Sterns Sr. and Mat Mauel and Ruth Duling Mauel.

The tables were attractively decorated with spring flowers and plaques stating the year so that each class could find their place. Those doing the decorating were Mary Nissen Hardesty and Marian Nelson Ivey.

The Contact Committee was Beverly Stearnes Brey, Joan Brey Millington, Gladys Thompson Phillips and Mary Stearnes. Their labors were greatly appreciated by those in attendance as they spent many hours trying to locate past graduates.

The business meeting was conducted by the President Ruth Brey Ferry.

Margaret Jackson Ideen read the minutes of the previous reunion held on June 25, 1972 for Nellie Grady who had previously passed away. The treasurer's report was given by Mary Nissen Hardesty.

A motion was made and seconded that the old officers be advanced one step and just one new person be elected. This motion carried and Alice Rolofson Spath was the new officer elected to fill the treasurer's position.

It was decided that the next reunion will be held in three years on the last Sunday in June of 1978 with the officers to decide the place. Any alumni knowing of members not contacted this time are requested to let the officers know.

The Alumni group had correspondence from Mrs. George Church of Oregon and John Charles Kinney of Indiana.

Those coming the furthest were Pearl Duling Graham, Horace Johnson, Olive Riddell, Charles Ingersoll and Melissa Brightening Reece.

A delightful afternoon was enjoyed by all by meeting old friends and past teachers.

Bi-Centennial

May 1, 1976 the Bicentennial Committee sent out a call for help in preparing and decorating the Club House for the Celebration which was held on May 2nd. Ladies came from the churches, Woman's Club and Extension Clubs and prepared a lunch for the workers. Chris Nissen, Henry Ideen, and Dale Phillips came with spades and shovels to represent the Raymond Grange. Al Cochran furnished poles and cable to put a fence around the park. Dick Freiburger painted the poles and assisted Ruth Ferry with plantings. John Sipp, John Martin, Don Suchy, Wes Hornung, Glen Ferry and John Wescott helped to set the poles and string the cables. Ole and Berdell Silverstand repaired the flag pole which has been used at the Raymond School for many years. A cement base was poured and the pole was installed by Glen Ferry and Jim Hewitt. A light was installed on the flag pole, water was put in the park and the picnic tables which were made by the Raymond Central shop class were set in place. Several methods of raising money for decorations were successful. Among them were an old fashioned box social held by the Volunteer Fireman's Auxiliary and the sale of

Clean-Up Day

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buttons by the committee. Vandals stole the Bicentennial and American Flag shortly after they were raised. This made it necessary to have a short rope so that it could not be reached from the ground, but flags wear out and have to be replaced. Duane Harr donated one and another one has been purchased with money left from the Bicentennial fund. Ruth Ferry and Dick Freiburger still care for the flowers and trees in the park. In 1979 Ruth Ferry received a plaque from KFOR radio station and Northwestern Iron and Metal Co. for Community service award.

Raymond Celebrates Nation’s Bicentennial

(As reported in “The News” May 6, 1976)

About 200 persons braved cold northern winds as Raymond was recognized as a Bicentennial Community during ceremonies on the afternoon of May 2.

The highlight of the program was the presentation of the bicentennial flag and official certificate of recognition by Mrs. William Hasebrook, chairman of the Nebraska American Revolution Bicentennial Commission.

Remarks were also heard from Mrs. Loretta Sterns, Raymond Woman’s Club president; Mrs. Betty Warner, of Waverly, county chairman for the

Raymond Bicentennial ceremonies, May 2, 1976.

NARBC; Congressman Charles Thone as read by John Hanlin; and Floyd Sterns, providing reminiscences of a few of the things his memory holds about Raymond.

Music for the occasion was provided by the Raymond Central band, under the direction of Roger Faden; a vocal solo from Mrs. Glen Ferry; and trumpet solos by Mark Masek and Melvin Wilson.

The salute to the flag was recited by Mrs. LeRoy Kirchhoff’s 4-H club, Mrs. Henry Ideen served as master of ceremonies, and Rev. C.R. Mattison of the Presbyterian Church provided the words for the invocation and benediction.

Postmistress Mrs. Helen Ilg was honored during the program with the announcement that she was to receive an award for her service during the past 24 years from the U.S. Postal Service Employee Bicentennial Award Committee.

Following the ceremony nearly everyone headed inside the Woman’s Club house for warmth and refreshments. Helping serve and provide refreshments were the Raymond Woman’s Club, Raymond Grange, Raymond businessmen, and volunteer firemen.

Tree Planted As Memorial

The small park along main street in Raymond has received the attention of many people to make it an area with trees, flowers, shrubs, and a lighted flag pole.

The roses donated by the late Mrs. Eva Schleicher and the cannas and petunias that were set out by Wilma Freiburger and Ruth Ferry are now blooming.

A recent addition to the flora is a Linden tree which was given to the park by Fritz Lutz who wanted it planted in Raymond in memory of his wife, Sophie, who died last year. Steve Brey and Emil Benes planted the tree.

Mr. and Mrs. Lutz came to Raymond from Germany to be near their daughter Anna Brey, who had met and married Philip Brey while he was stationed with the armed forces in Germany.

The village board of trustees has made plans to provide the park with water. That would eliminate the need to carry water to the park, which Ruth Ferry and Wilma and Dick Freiburger have been doing.

A stolen flag has been replaced with one donated by Duane Harr and installed by Glen Ferry, Jim Hewitt, and Wes Hornung.
CLEAN UP DAY. (left to right): Top: John Wescott and John Sipp; Workers enjoying meal; John Martin, Middle: Chris Nissen, Dale Phillips, Henry Ideen; finished park; Don Suchy. Bottom: Helen Silverstrand, Mary Stearnes, Agnes Danley, Virginia Jakoubek, Maureen Bausch, Elsie Givens, Gladys Phillips, Wes Hornung, Jim Hewitt, Glen Ferry.
Area Developments

Branched Oak

In November, 1965, the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission entered into a lease agreement with the Corps of Engineers to manage the recreation and wildlife resources at Branched Oak Reservoir. A basic management plan was developed at that time dividing areas of responsibility between the Parks Division and Resource Services Division. The management plan recognized those areas suitable for recreation and those areas more suitable for wildlife habitat.

During 1967, Resource Services established the Branched Oak Arboretum consisting of 1200 trees and shrubs comprising over 100 species.

In late 1967 and 1968, Resource Services established a captive Canada Goose flock. They also established nesting sites and introduced Wood Ducks into the area. Successful reproduction has provided stockings on several other lakes in the Salt-Wahoo Watershed.

In 1968, Parks Division commenced construction of interior roads, parking lots, camping areas, and boat ramps. Construction continued into 1969, with the completion of 10.5 miles of interior roads. During 1969, vault latrines, wells, and fencing were installed. Two swimming beaches were established, along with 13,000 square yards of boat launching and recovery areas, and 84,000 square yards of parking areas.

The Branched Oak Dog Trial Area was established by the Commission in 1969. This area includes approximately 800 acres and is used extensively during the spring and fall, with at least one national trial every year.

Additional funding was utilized to construct 42 picnic shelters and provide picnic tables and grills. Twenty-five sections of boat docks were installed in 1972. Also, in 1972, Lieber’s Point was dedicated with the installation of a memorial to Otto Lieber, who was instrumental in the development of Branched Oak Reservoir as a watershed dam.

Intensive wildlife management was initiated on the area resulting in the re-establishment of 1,500 acres of grasslands. 75,000 trees and shrubs were planted along with an additional 30,000 nuts and acorns.

Hard surfacing of the roads was completed in 1972. 1972 also saw the installation of an area manager for the Parks resources. In 1974, an area manager for the Wildlife resources was installed and a concession was built on the area.

Several nurseries were started in 1976 to provide stock for campground development. Some 8,000 trees have already been removed from the nurseries and planted in the campgrounds.

Construction of new campground commenced in 1979. The road system and pads have been completed, and support facilities are nearing completion. 1979 was the first year for an established snowmobile trail in the area.

Fisheries Division has stocked 500,000 Northern Pike, 390,000 Catfish, 270,000 Bluegill, 260,000 Walleye, 112,000 Largemouth Bass, and 18,500 Tiger Musky in the lake since 1967, establishing a sizeable fishery that has produced a number of master angler catches.

Casper & Marie Hornung donated this rock which was placed at Lieber’s Point in 1972. The rock came from the Hornung farm.
The present conservation pool totaling 1,800 acres was reached in 1971. Land acquisition surrounding the reservoir totaled 4,000 acres—1,800 acres for recreation and 2,200 acres for wildlife management.

Over twenty small dams have been constructed on the watershed surrounding Branched Oak. A successful grass management plan was established to maintain and improve grassland conditions for wildlife using prescribed burning and haying in varying rotations. A variety of cropping patterns and techniques is being utilized to improve habitat conditions for a wide range of wildlife species.

Branched Oak offers hunting, fishing, trapping, powerboating, sailing, water skiing, swimming, camping, hiking, natural beauty, and abundant waterfowl and wildlife. Future plans for Branched Oak include additional campgrounds and an upgrading of facilities along with continuing efforts to provide for wildlife conservation.

Ernie Pearson enjoying a day of fishing at Branched Oak.

Willard Estates

Willard Estates is located on 160 acres, 1 mile east of Raymond, just north of the Raymond Road. Woodcraft Homes Corporation subdivided it into 44 acreage sites consisting of acreages from 2½ to 4 acres. It was started in 1976, and has been active since the first house was built on the corner of Wassung Drive and Northwest 31st Street. Since then, there have been a total of 17 homes built on 23 sold lots. Homes in Willard Estates range in price from $60,000 to $90,000. Willard Wassung, President of Woodcraft Homes, is proud to be part of Raymond History.

Charlie H. Kinney, long time Raymond resident, Civil War Veteran.

Headquarters Department Of Nebraska Grand Army Of The Republic

IN MEMORIAM

The Department of Nebraska Grand Army of the Republic mourns the loss of three of its former officers in the early part of 1939.

Comrade Charles H. Kinney, past Department Commander, passed away at the Veterans Hospital in Lincoln February 20, 1939, at the age of ninety-three years. Funeral services were held at the United Church in Raymond, Nebr., February 22nd.

Comrade Kinney was born September 11, 1845, in Richwood, Ohio. He enlisted in the union army in Co. K, 96 Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in August of 1862, and was transferred to Co. C in 1864 upon consolidation of the regiment into a battalion. He was at the siege of Vicksburg under General Grant. He was mustered out in July 1866, age 19 years.

He came to Nebraska in 1868, homesteading near Sprague. In 1870, he was married to Vienna Hadley. His wife and one son preceded him in death. In 1899, he moved to a farm near Raymond and later moved
to the village where he made his home with his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Ladella Kinney, and grandson, John Charles Kinney. He traveled extensively during his lifetime, his last trip being to the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg held on this memorable field in July, 1938.

Comrade Kinney was elected Department Commander in 1935 and had served on the Council of Administration for several years. He was a member of the Methodist church and a citizen who was active in all movements for better living in his community. Beside his grandson, he leaves one sister, Mrs. Emma Leonard of Lincoln.

Civil War Veteran, John M. Nord, grandfather to Helen Schaffer and Dorothy Olson.

In Memoriam

Lorenz Hodtwalker graduated from Raymond High School in 1939. He was killed in action in World War II.

Hansen's Award Parents Receive

Mr. and Mrs. William C. Hansen, 3281 Potter, have received the purple heart award posthumously to their son, S/Sgt. Francis “Bud” Hansen, killed in action over France, Feb. 2, 1944. He had previously been listed missing in action.

Sergeant Hansen was graduated from Raymond High School and attended business college at Grand Island before entering the air corps in 1942. His group, commanded by the Lt. Col. James Stewart, former motion picture star, went overseas in November, 1943.

The citation accompanying the award reads:

"To S/Sgt Francis E. Hansen, air corps, who sacrificed his life in defense of his country... and with this medal goes my sincerest sympathy, and the hope that time, and the victory of our cause will finally lighten the burden of your grief. Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson."

S/Sgt. Raymond Kouma, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kouma was killed while fighting with the infantry near Metz, France, November 11, 1944.

S/Sgt. Francis “Bud” Hansen.
Sgt. N. L. Ivey
RAYMOND, Neb.—Funeral services for Sgt. Norris Lloyd Ivey, son of H. Lloyd and Bertha Ivey, will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday at the Presbyterian church here with Rev. Abe W. Ediger officiating. Mrs. Gerald Sterns and Mrs. Clarence Ilg will provide music.

Sergeant Ivey was graduated from Raymond High School in 1933. He entered the army Feb. 20, 1941 and served with the 134th infantry regiment’s Company M. He was killed in action at St. Lo, France, July 16, 1944, at the age of 29 years.

Besides his parents, he is survived by two brothers, John and Willard, both of Raymond. Burial will be in the Raymond cemetery. Pallbearers will be: Ole Silverstrand, Orvil Peterson, Franklin Thompson, Gerald Sterns, Ivan Olson, and Leonard Olson.

He entered the services Sept. 28, 1942, and after taking pilot training at various fields in Arizona and California was commissioned on Feb. 15, 1944. All of his service was in the United States.

He had flown as an air reservist at Offut Field, Omaha, before joining the Nebraska air national guard April 29, 1948. He was promoted to first lieutenant May 22, 1949.

In “Operation Snowbound”
A veteran of 1,404 flying hours, Lt. Backstrom had flown jet planes for almost a year. He was one of six air guard pilots that flew “Operation Snowbound” in Nebraska.

Lt. Backstrom flew a C-47 in the Alliance area for almost two weeks and had the second highest number of hours for “aerial” activity.

When the air guard hangar was destroyed March 3, 1949, at the municipal airport, Lt. Backstrom was one of the last guardsmen to leave the flaming building.

He was forced to jump out of a ground-floor window after attempting to save guard records in the operation office.

Surviving are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Backstrom, Raymond, and a brother, Linnier, at home.

Lt. Backstrom Killed When Jet Crashes
Raymond Pilot In Nevada Crackup
HILL FIELD, Utah—First Lt. Norman L. Backstrom, 26, Raymond, was killed Monday when his F-80 jet plane crashed and exploded while attempting an emergency landing at Overton, Nev.

The air national guard plane from the 173rd national guard fighter squadron at Lincoln, Neb., reportedly overshot the small field in Moapa Valley in eastern Nevada just north of Las Vegas.

After reporting a “flameout” (loss of power), Lt. Backstrom tried several unsuccessfully “air starts” before attempting a “deadstick” landing, five reports indicated.

The plane took off from Las Vegas, Nev., at 9:46 a.m. (CST) and was en route to Lowry Field, Denver.

Lt. Backstrom had left Lincoln, Neb., Thursday on a navigational training flight.

N.U. Student
Born Oct. 2, 1922, at Lincoln, Neb., Lt. Backstrom was a junior in the University of Nebraska college of agriculture. He was graduated from Raymond high school in 1940.

The following was compiled from a hand-written copy of a newspaper article:

Services will be held at the Methodist Church in Raymond, at a future date, for Lance Cpl. David C. Frye, 22, 1007 South 16th, who died in Vietnam.

Lance Cpl. Frye, who entered the Marines in March, 1966, died as a result of gun shot wounds in an operation against hostile forces in Quang Tri, Vietnam. Mrs. Frye said that her husband very much believed in the cause for which he fought and died.

Survivors include his wife, Connie Lo (Jacobsen); parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Frye of Garland; sisters, Pat, Karen, and Carol; grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Frye of Raymond.

David Frye was buried at Oak Creek Cemetery at Raymond in the spring of 1967.

His grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Joe Frye former Raymond citizens now live at Autumn Woods in Lincoln.

Lance Cpl. David C. Frye

"On The Loss of a Son"
It is very sad when a life is done
But sadder indeed—when a mother's son
Still we never know when the end draws near,
To those we cherish or loved ones dear.
Only God in heaven, can call the roll,
In his book is written of every soul
And when he calls there is no dissent
Tho we hate to think of a life now spent.
Yet no one is here on earth to stay.
Everyone has to be laid away,
So rest assured, that way up high
The Lord gives solace—to those who die.
Dick Freiburger

“Marines Don’t Cry”

He can face the howling fury
Of a kill-crazy enemy; or sit
In silence through the pounding
Of artillery.

He lives with death as his companion,
Knowing someday he may die;
But not a tear will wet his eye,
He knows Marines don’t cry.

He sees his best friends freezing
In far-out distant land;
Or pinned down by machine-gun fire
On a beach of blood-red sand.

He has a reason for living though,
And he will stay alive and try,
For his family, friends and his love,
They know Marines don’t cry.

But then one day it’s over,
And his reasons are all gone,
A letter from his sweetheart
Which means to him “Dear John.”

His shoulders droop in sorrow,
And we find it’s a lie;
He knows that he is human then,
And he knows Marines can cry...

Dave Frye of Garland, a marine of six months, while enroute to Vietnam collaborated with two buddies to tell in rhyme the thoughts which go through the minds of men off to war...David was killed in Vietnam a few months later...

During World War II the Goldenrod School Paper was sent to the local boys in service. There are many letters from the service men printed in the papers thanking the students for thinking of them. They all expressed much homesickness and wished they were home with their loved ones.

There were savings stamps and War bonds sold to the students as school projects.

A short excerpt from a letter from Ralph Campin: "I see by the paper you are doing a wonderful job of selling bonds. Keep it up and maybe we can talk instead of writing letters soon. I do wish I could be with you again. I have a lot of friends, but they are never as nice as the ones you have known all your life.”

There are also many comments about the patient wives and children waiting for their husbands and fathers to return.
Floods
Floods

Oak Creek is never dry and has always furnished much pleasure for Raymond youngsters who enjoy angling for bullheads or taking a cool dip during the hot summer months.

Several times, heavy rains have caused it to leave its banks and bring much destruction to roads, farms, and homes.

In the spring of 1948, even streets and roads were knee deep with swirling water. Crops and some livestock were lost. Kenneth Weaver, who lived south of Raymond lost some cattle and many hogs. Others lost wheat and newly planted corn.

Again, in 1951, heavy rains upstream caused Oak Creek to leave its banks and inundate thousands of acres of crops, wash out railroad tracks, and damage roads.

The last, and perhaps the most damaging of all floods, was June 24, 1963. It was caused by very heavy rains north of Valparaiso, when water rolled down highways and covered all the land between Raymond and Agnew. The fire department was kept busy pumping out basements. During this flood, south of Valparaiso, swirling waters claimed the lives of Mrs. Dora Davis, Walter Lovejoy, and Jane Kolar, all of Dwight. The following article describes some of the hardships endured in the flood of '63.

Other pictures are of earlier floods.

1963...Path Of Destruction

by Dick Stuckey
Star Staff Writer

Raymond — Flood waters here late Monday receded almost as swiftly as they rose during the afternoon, leaving a path of destruction in this area.

Several Raymond families were evacuated from their homes as rising waters hit this section after moving south from Valparaiso and Agnew.

Three members of the Ed Beranek family, living in the southwest part of Raymond, were rescued by boat when flood waters threatened their home. The Eugene Maxson family was also evacuated.

Family Stranded

Monday morning the Keith Ivey family, living one mile south of Raymond in a new home, left their house as a safety precaution. Later they returned to their home to check on the progress of the flood waters and became stranded in waist-high water while trying to flee.

The family safely sat out the flood at their home surrounded by water at the height of the flooding.

The high water followed the tracks along the west edge of Raymond, covering the park and creeping up to the door of the tavern and beauty salon in the business part of town.

Sealed Off

Flood waters curled over the Raymond road about 3 p.m. Monday, sealing off that community from any west entry via Highway 79.

In less than 15 minutes, foaming inches-high water built up the steep road ditch and toppled over the road, down into the next field south.

Older residents said the depth and strength of the muddy water was the worst since 1908.

Boat Club Called

The Lincoln Boat Club, summoned to the scene by the Lincoln Fire Department, stood by with 6 craft.

Club Commodore Sid Dewey, 5325 Leighton, said members—boat owners and coast guardsmen—were originally called to aid in the evacuation of Valparaiso.

A Red Cross unit backtracked south and east ahead of the waters to reach Raymond.

Higher ground to the east enabled Raymond residents to evacuate in that direction towards Lincoln.

Raymond Poetry

WHEN THE WATERS ROSE

T'Was June twenty-third—in sixty-three,
When the waters began to rise;
And the people of Raymond stood in awe,
Awaitin' the next sunrise.

There was quite a few in our old hometown,
That were due to be pretty wet;
While the creek roared on and could not stop,
Still some were contented to set.

But she overflowed, and covered the land,
And houses began to float;
The Beranek family were caught inside,
And had to be rescued by boat.

Dick and Wilma got their share,
And the mud and slime were thick;
But the "Oak" got higher and wailed and moaned,
Pulling many a devilish trick.

Bill Silverstrand hurried and fought like hell,
John Sipp was doing the same;
Jim Jones was driving around like mad,
But waters—fast onward came.

Bill Masek was trying to save his stock,
While the Kratzers waited in fear;
Yes north on the highway—three folks drowned,
Fighting for loved ones so dear.

Bill Krone had water, and plenty to spare,
But nary one drop to drink;
And we all gazed on with a wary eye,
Brother! It made one think.

The railroad tracks were a twisted mess,
A schoolhouse came floating by;
There was water—water—everywhere
While hardly a spot was dry.

The Handy family and all their kids,
Hurriedly left by car;
Mrs. B. who lives across the street
Stood with her door ajar.
THE TAVEN damn near floated away,
   We couldn’t even drink a beer;
The folks just gathered-with hearts in mouth,
   While the creek got dangerously near.

There was futile task of doing one thing,
   Till the morrow came—and the sun;
For then we could pray, and offer thanks,
   Though we wept for the damage done.

Finally came morn and we started in,
   To salvage our mud-smeared abode;
Everyone lending a helping hand,
   And living up to the code.

Now hope eternal shall ever be,
   In the women folks and their men;
For we know God Almighty will bless us all,
   May it never happen again.

Shinto Pauvoo
      (Dick Freiburger)

OAK CREEK
By Agnes Tobin

You are a deceiver, you are a fake,
Flowing so meekly along- just a small
Stream you bend, twist and turn
Who would think you could ever be strong.

In summer, the children play on your banks,
In your shallow waters they wade-
With never a thought of worry, or care,
They romp, splash, and play unafraid.

Placid, and peaceful you go on your way-
Over ripples you murmur and sing,
But you have your moments, little Oak Creek
I have seen you go on a fling.

Your murmuring song, changed to a roar
Coming out of your banks, wide and strong
Grasping and greedy, you took all in your path
And carried it swirling along.

Then meekly you returned to your bed-
The children returned to their play,
You’ve had your moments, little Oak Creek,
Oh, you were king for a day.

THE MAKING OF A MOTHER
By J. Willis Kratzer

In loving reverence, I have tried,
To paint a view of mother.
But in despair, each time I sighed,
O God, I can but love her.
How was it that you made her so
To fill such earthy calling?
And blessed her thus in Heaven’s glow
To love me when I’m falling?
You took the sweetest girl on earth,
And mixed with sweetness, love.
You filled her then with joy and mirth,
And then took from above
Devotion, truth, and kindness too,
And added to her soul,
A heart of gold, so pure, so true,
Which does my sorrows hold.
You took two diamonds from the skies,
Most radiant up above,
And made my mother’s tear filled eyes
Radiant with sparkling love.
Yes, I might paint from dawn till night,
And we can only love her.
So let us love her while we may,
With love both true and strong,
For well we know there comes a day;
When mother will be gone.

OUR HERITAGE
By Bertha Hornung

Gone are the days of the white prairie schooner,
Gone are the days of the brave pioneer;
Where yesterday’s prairies reach out to the unseen,
Now the roar of the airship is greeting the ear.
Where the long prairie grass once fattened the bison,
And sheltered the broods of the grouse hen and quail,
Now the rustle of corn and the waves of the wheat fields
Instead of the beat of the tom-toms prevail.

Gone are the days of the heavy-yoked oxen,
Gone are the freighters who crossed o’er the plain;
Gone the trail-blazers who spanned the wide prairies,
But the fruits of their visions and dreaming remain.
We on the farms their stern valor envisioned,
Are reaping the fruit of their hardships and toil;
Ours is the heritage, won through their courage,
And passed on to us to defend or despoil.
Cemeteries

Fairview Cemetery

One mile north of town is the long-neglected Fairview Cemetery, where broken headstones mark the general location of twelve graves whose occupants died between 1874 and 1880.

Oak Creek Cemetery

The Oak Creek Cemetery, a mile southeast of town, was first created in 1878, when land was donated by Louis Helms. Later, one-and-one-half acres was purchased from Mrs. John Brey, whose farm borders the cemetery on the north and west. This made a total of seven-and-one-half acres.

The Oak Creek Cemetery Association holds its annual meeting the first Tuesday in the month of April. Present officers are: Norman Duling, President; Henry L. Ideen, Vice-President; Mrs. Ervin (Marcy) Rolofson, secretary; Mrs. Donald (Edna) Sterns, Treasurer; Harold Beranek, Darrell Nelson, and Donald Sterns, Trustees.

Reminiscences

Chris Nissen

Chris Nissen, son of Martin and Mary Nissen, was born in 1898, and still lives and farms the place where he was born. On September 19, 1925, he was united in marriage to Nancy Elizabeth Kennedy of Malcolm. She was born in 1904, the daughter of William and Nancy Kennedy, at Kennedy, Nebraska (Cherry County).

Chris and Elizabeth's five children, Ethel (Maw), Robert, Everett, Mary (Hardesty), and Shirley (Beranek), all graduated from Raymond High School.

The picture, taken in 1925, shows the popular car of the times: a Model-T Ford Coupe.

Raymond Jail House

(by Chris Nissen)

I remember when they built a jail house at Raymond. My uncle, Ernest Hansen, was blacksmith at Raymond and he built the jail cell. There was a fellow they called Buck Priest who liked his spirits, quite often too well, and got into trouble. Well, the boys around town were teasing Buck and said they were building it for him and that he would be the first one in jail.

He was drunk one day and shooting his revolver and said he would shoot any Dutchman that stuck his head out. Mr. Schweitzer looked out of his store door to see what was going on. I don't know if Buck shot at him, or just in the air, but Schweitzer took no chances.

My younger uncle, Jacob Hansen, who worked in the blacksmith shop, was scared and crawled behind a bench. But, Uncle Ernest, who was also marshall, went out and got Buck by the arm and took him to jail.

Just like the boys had said, he was the first one to spend the night in jail!
Raymond Businesses

(as remembered by Chris Nissen)

The mail came to Raymond by train, and the postmaster picked it up himself, or hired someone to get it, at the depot.

The railroad track used to be on the east side of the depot.

There was a creamery located between the main street and the railroad track south of the fire barn. There they made butter and cheese. It was later remodeled for a house and was occupied for many years.

There also was a harness shop which was located several different places. The last place was on the ground floor of the telephone building which was located north of the present grocery store. Loretta Sterns' grandfather, Jesse Barton, made harness for several years.

They had two grain elevators. One was about where the present one is located. The other was south of the road coming into the present elevator.

The stockyards were where the Co-op quonset is now located. They had scales to weigh incoming cattle and hogs, and loading shoots to load onto the railroad cars.

On the corner south of Jerry Beranek's was the William Weir Hardware and Implement Store. The upstairs was a hall used for dancing and other entertainment. I think it was the Woodmen Insurance Fraternal Hall. There was a big shed built on the west side for storing and setting up farm machinery.

After William Weir sold out to Pekerack, they had the town light plant located in the building. The generator was run with an Internal Mogul Tractor. When the building was torn down, they got a big gas or diesel engine, and had a small building next to the alley north of the old garage building.

Raymond Reminiscences

By Clyde Campin

Clyde Campin, one of the oldest residents of Raymond, recalls many things of interest.

The Campin house first stood on the north side of the road when the “mill” was in use and the place was called Orlando. Then when the railroad was built, the town was moved along the tracks and was then named Raymond. The town was incorporated in 1880. A stock yard was built along the tracks about where the grain bin now stands. Many buildings, long gone, stood close by. A hardware and lumber yard stood where the club house now is. A depot was built. Also, there was a market. Dr. John Polk lived and had an office in the building just north of the grocery store. There were also a barber shop, post office, jail, blacksmith shop, and a drug store.

A livery stable stood for many years where Mrs. Brey's house is. The first livery men were Dan Campin (Clyde's father) and Ed Black. Later, Mr. Larimer was the livery man.

A large two story building was built by the Woodmen with Mr. Weir having a machine shop in the lower part and a large room upstairs where meetings were held; also, dances and shows were held there.

Chris Lullman had an ice house back of the building, which he used for well supplies. It stood about where the laundromat now is.

Clyde also tells a funny story about one man who worked on the tracks. A small house stood close to where the depot was. The man went back to his native country and brought back his bride. Several thought they would “shivaree” them. They weren't about to come out and treat the bunch, so one man climbed up on the house and dropped a box of pepper down the chimney. That brought them out!

In 1881, the Presbyterian Church was incorporated with John Mulvane, Willard Kenyon, and L.L. Lorimer, named as trustees.

In 1882, the Methodist Church was incorporated. There was a hotel. The building was moved out north of Raymond on a farm across the road, northwest of the Cal Sterns farm.

Harry And Edna Tolhurst

Harry Tolhurst was the manager of the Raymond Co-operative Grain Company from 1937, until his retirement in 1953. His beginning salary in 1937, was $75.00 per month.

Edna (Mrs. Harry) Tolhurst taught piano lessons during the 1930s and 1940s, to as many as twenty-five students each week. Many of us, still living in Raymond, remember walking out to their farm about ¼ mile north of town, past Rex Wilson's home to take lessons. The Tolhurts later moved to Raymond across from the school. After Mrs. Tolhurst's death, her daughter, Jeanne Tolhurst Volpe, continued to give lessons until moving to Lincoln. Many years their students gave a piano recital which was held in the Methodist Church.

Gerald Sterns

Gerald Sterns, the youngest child of Albert O. and Edith Sterns, was born on the family farm just south of Raymond, October 29, 1915. He graduated from Raymond High School in 1934, and married Dorothy Jones, daughter of Drs. E.L. and Agnes Jones, in 1936. They had four boys. Albert, the next to the youngest, died at age two, as a result of a fire in their home.

Gerald managed the Raymond Co-op Credit Association for a short time, worked at Woodlawn Dairy, was janitor at the Raymond school in the early 1940's, helped build the Lincoln Air Base in the summer of 1942, was a fireman on the Burlington Railroad for a short while, and then farmed from 1944 until his retirement.

He served on the Raymond town board, was fire chief, and was a member of the town baseball team. He frequently entertained by playing his saxophone at various functions. Gerald and Dorothy were active in the church, the choir, P.T.A., and Grange. Dorothy served as president of Raymond Woman's Club, and also did lot's of singing.

The Sternses moved to Douglas, Nebraska, in 1950, where they are now living.
The Good Old Days (?)

Doris Striplin Millington

As viewed by a present farm wife, who really thinks they were the good old days? Not I! I'll take the present time! Today, whoever thinks that doing without electricity was fun? Everyday I do my laundry, ironing, cooking, rug cleaning and turn on the electric lights I think of Nebraska's Senator George Norris, who did more to change farm life than anyone else.

I was around in the really old days with no radio, no television and only the daily and Sunday newspapers and monthly magazines. During the depression, my father-in-law saved his daily paper for us and we read it later in the evening. My sister in Lincoln saved her magazines for me. She also bought me a new dress and shoes occasionally. Those were the days of no crops and smaller herds of cattle.

In retrospect I do not know how we survived but many people were in the same position so I accepted it as a temporary inconvenience which was bound to improve.

Somehow we always raised some garden produce and always had our own home butchered meat. Many times we would give a calf a good hard look and wondered whether we should butcher it or sell it to pay the taxes. Butchering usually won out and the taxes were also paid. I canned some of the meat in a wash boiler of hot water but later had a pressure cooker and also put it in a commercial locker until we finally had our own deep freeze.

I was a city girl and had come to the farm with no knowledge of what farm life was really like. I was deathly afraid to put my hand under a setting hen and somehow the hen knew that and usually gave me a mean look and scared me out. I cared very little for the cows but I did finally get so I could milk one. I will not even have much to say about pigs. I thought they were dirty and stupid but I learned to my regret that they may be dirty but they were smart enough to find a teeny hole in the fence, push through and get in my garden. But I will give them credit for giving the bank account a nice boost. A I got in my garden. But I will give them credit for that they may be dirty but they were smart enough to find a teeny hole in the fence, push through and get in my garden. But I will give them credit for giving the bank account a nice boost. A

We acquired an incubator and by reading everything I could find on the subject, I became a fond mother of 300 chicks. I will never understand how I had such good luck with the chickens since I had never had any experience with them before. I felt very self-satisfied when in the fall the pullets started to lay. Never before did an egg seem so important to me. The laying hens contributed in no small way to our income. Later, every spring, we bought 200 baby pullets from a commercial hatchery which was easier than caring for an incubator.

Much canning took place by cold packing in a boiler on a wood or cob burning stove. Later I acquired a large pressure cooker and an oil stove with built on oven which was much easier.

For the one thing that contributed most to comfort and pleasant living, we must give credit to Senator Norris. He worked very hard in the Senate for the Rural Electric program. Many times we talked of getting a Delco system but we kept hearing the electric lines would soon be built and finally they arrived. The R.E.A. bill was passed and the farmers were all set for electricity. Because our line would parallel the big feeder line of the "Big Power Company," we waited several years before the R.E.A. would build the line across from it to reach our home. When it finally became available to us, my brother-in-law, an electrical contractor, brought his crew out and wired the house, barn, garage and chicken house all in one day. This was the high spot of my life! It changed our way of living more than any other thing.

A pressure tank took the place of our gravity water system. Running water was made available to our basement laundry room. The new world of electricity enabled us to have an electric stove, washer, dryer, refrigerator, deep freeze and radio (to replace the battery set). Later a television and then a color television, electric knife, knife sharpener, mixer, grinder, toaster, coffee maker, electric blankets and electric baseboard heaters to replace the old coal basement furnace. These baseboard heaters made it possible to finish a recreation room in the basement. Our grandchildren enjoy this big playroom of their very own.

The electric lights replaced the kerosene Aladdin lamps and the Coleman gasoline lamps with their fragile mantles which would usually disintegrate especially if company would arrive. But they were a big improvement over the old kerosene lamps which my mother had on her farm home in the late 1800's. These kerosene lamps have now become antiques and my daughter-in-law in Omaha has the old glass one (which belonged to my grandmother) prominently displayed on her fireplace mantle. I often wonder what my grandmother would think if she could see it. This reminds me of the early washing machines turned by hand and the old flat irons heated on the kitchen cookstove.

Being an ex-schoolmarm, I must say that the present day schools seem to be very good but when I think of my two boys' education, it was very good also. They had very dedicated good teachers, good books and supplies, and more personal attention than some of the big cities offer.

The present material benefits are better. Better roads, conservation of water and soil, good news coverage, radio and television in all homes, and plenty of political news to keep up informed.

SHOW NIGHT!! Is there anyone around who remembers "show night"? During the depression the business people in Raymond provided the money to pay for outdoor movies shown in the park. That was the big night for the children and their parents. Much visiting took place and everyone looked forward to it. It was indeed the big night of the week.

Also another fun day was the annual school picnic which took place the last day of school. Another special event was the Christmas program when the children entertained with songs and readings. Much stretching of necks so you could pick out your child in the sea of faces.

As long as I have lived in the country for fifty-eight years, I am glad it was in the Raymond community. It has the nicest people, good schools, and everything for pleasant living. The dire prediction from my
family that I would miss living in the city with its conveniences and close neighbors has not come true. We hear that farm life is an independent life but it is not. It is dependent on weather, prices, farming practices, conservation, etc. It is the most wonderful life for children. My sister’s five children used to vacation with us in the summer and much weeping and wailing took place when they had to go home. They missed the freedom and the places to explore. They have never forgotten their visits to the farm. Now their children go to “camp.”

Our grandchildren, John’s sons, are the fifth generation to live on this place.

**Arbor Day Finds Busy Tree Planter Not Busy**

Today—Arbor Day—the nation observes the birthday of Nebraskan J. Sterling Morton, turning its attention to the planting of trees.

Yet one of the busiest tree-planters in the Lincoln area won’t be planting a tree today, and he seldom has on Arbor Day.

That is because Robert Black, 89, always considered the planting of trees something more than the work of a single day each spring. And he has planted trees every year for 75 years.

Black lives on a farm southeast of Raymond.

“I started planting trees when I was 15,” he recalls. “I sold trees then for a company in Louisiana, Missouri. As a kid I traveled around on horseback to sell them, and I must have planted 40 trees that first year.”

Black, as wiry and weathered as one of the trees he has put in the soil, says he never made a special point of planting on Arbor Day.

“I’ve just planted them in the springtime, and in lots of places around here,” he said. “Nearly always fruit trees and some nut trees. They had a lot of good fruit on them.”

Black says he has no idea how many trees he may have planted, except that there were lots of trees in lots of years “and I’m stilling 90 in the face.”

By his own reckoning, Black’s tree-planting would have started in 1889—just about four years before Nebraska City farmer Morton became U.S. Secretary of Agriculture.

**Drs. E. L. And Houston Jones**

Dr. E. Lance Jones came to Raymond in 1924, following reverses suffered in a homesteading venture, with which he combined his medical practice and teaching, in Montana.

Dr. Houston Jones had left Montana a few months earlier, and she and the four younger children were living in Wallace, Nebraska, the town where the Drs. Jones had met and married. The couple’s oldest two daughters, Marguerite and Irene, had married and remained in Montana. Dr. Houston Jones practiced medicine in Wallace and the surrounding ranch country, but they were anxious to have the family re-united and wanted to be nearer Lincoln and the University. In the fall of 1925, the family moved from Wallace to Denton, Nebraska. By this time, the third daughter, Eleanor, was enrolled in the University of Nebraska. The family took an active part in the community life of Denton, and it was through participation in a community orchestra that Eleanor met her husband, Orin G. Peterson.

So it was, that, when the family joined Dr. E.L. Jones in Raymond, in the summer of 1929, there were three children still at home—Lawrence, Mildred, and Dorothy. Lawrence was to enter the University of Nebraska that fall, and Mildred was a junior, Dorothy a freshman, in high school.

E. Lance Jones and Agnes Houston were married in 1895, in Wallace, Nebraska, where he had come to visit his brother who had a ranch there. Jones, who was a graduate of the university at Lebanon, Ohio and had been teaching in the east, was persuaded to stay and take over the school at Wallace. Agnes earned her teacher’s certificate also, but did not teach after their marriage. E. Lance became very active in school affairs in the central and western part of the state, conducting summer institutes for teachers in various towns in that area.

Seven living children were born to the Joneses. Their first child, a daughter was stillborn. After they had two more little girls, they decided to move to Lincoln and enter medical college. It was a big step, considering the family responsibility, and it was unusual for a woman to study medicine at that time. Because E.L. already had a university degree, he graduated from Lincoln Medical College a year before Agnes. In the summer before she graduated (with a grade average of over 90), she gave birth to their third daughter, Eleanor. E. Lance was a good student, also, and after graduation from medical school, he taught in the Lincoln Medical College, as well as developing a practice at Davey, Nebraska.

They set up a permanent practice at Greenwood. During this time, Dr. Houston Jones served for a time as a government doctor on an Indian reservation in Oklahoma, and later as physician at The Home for The Friendless, the State Home for children.

Two tragedies struck while they were at Greenwood. Their first son died of spinal meningitis, at the age of three months, and the building housing their office burned to the ground, with complete loss of their medical equipment. It was at this time that they moved to Montana, and it was there that Dorothy, the youngest of their six living children, was born.

Dr. E.L. had a rather stern manner, but had a genuine concern for his fellowman. Dr. Houston was very comforting as a physician. They had their office in their home, which was in the house now owned by the Henry Ideens. Both were devout Christians and took a very active role in community affairs. Dr. E.L. took part in a good many Woman’s Club plays, which he enjoyed very much. He was on the board of the Federated Presbyterian-Methodist Church, and took an active part in its formation. He was active in P.T.A. and always visited school at least once a year while his children attended. He never lost interest in farming and was an avid gardener, raising huge
Past & Present Raymond Area Residents: (left to right) Top: Isabel Lawton, Dorothy Sterns, Gerald Sterns, Mildred Drewel. Middle: Bill Silverstrand, Ray Millington, Doris Millington, Don & Edna Sterns. Bottom: John & Doris Millington, Jennie Jakoubek, Ivy & Roscoe Lawton, Floyd & Alvina Sterns.
amounts of vegetables, which the women of the family canned.

Both doctors belonged to the Lancaster County Medical Society. Dr. Houston was a member of a group of women doctors from Lincoln who met from time to time. She was active in the church, Women's Society of Christian Service, P.T.A., and Woman's Club. She served as president of the local club and, also, of the Lancaster County Federation. She was a good seamstress and made many of the family's clothes. All this, besides carrying on an active medical practice.

Dr. E.L. loved good music and had a fine bass voice. Both of them encouraged the family in music and saw that piano lessons were available. Mildred and Dorothy each served time as choir director in the Raymond Church. All the family has been involved in music through the years.

Dr. E.L. Jones died in 1938, at age 74. Dr. Houston Jones retired soon after. She died in 1964, at age 87.

Frank O'Connell.

Colonel Frank Boyd O'Connell

Colonel Frank Boyd O'Connell, retired officer of the Army of the United States, was born near Malcolm, Nebraska, in 1892. He was the sixth of eleven children. His parents, John and Emma Bates O'Connell, were pioneer Nebraska farmers.

He acquired an education in the country grade schools of his district, attended the high school at Raymond, and took one year of journalism at New York University. Also of interest, he was one of Dale Carnegie's first students.

Colonel O'Connell served as an enlisted man during World War I, was with the American Expeditionary Force in France, and, after the Armistice, he became editor of the American Embarkation News. He was one of the founders of the American Legion, later a Department Adjutant in Nebraska, and the founder of the Nebraska Legionnaire. After five years with the American Legion, he was appointed director of the Nebraska Game, Forestation and Parks Commission and served in that position for fifteen years. He founded and edited Outdoor Nebraska. In 1934 he was elected president of the International Game and Fish Commissioners.

Colonel O'Connell is the author of many magazine articles, including one in the Saturday Evening Post, and of a few short stories. In 1922 he published a History of the Nebraska American Legion and in 1930 a novel, When Peace Comes. Another of his books was Farewell to the Farm about his family's life after the turn of the century.

Dr. Lurton F. Polk

Dr. Lurton F. Polk was a pioneer doctor in Raymond, Nebraska. He came to Raymond from Indiana in the early days and served a wide area around Raymond. At first he rode horseback to visit patients in the country, due to poor roads. Later he used a buggy and would often start out in the morning and have to return later in the day to change horses and start out again. Often he would have to stay all night on a farm to help a patient. He was out in all kinds of weather and it was especially difficult in the winter.

Dr. Polk married Jeanette S. Morgan whose home was in Lincoln, Nebraska. She graduated from Lincoln High School in the early days when it was located in the downtown area. There she earned a teacher's certificate. She taught in a country school near Raymond, Nebraska, until her marriage to Dr. Polk. While teaching she roomed and boarded with a farm family near the school.

Dr. and Mrs. Polk had four children - 3 sons, Gilbert, John and Orpheus, and one daughter, Mary. He was well known and was active in the Methodist church in Raymond. He served the town in many official capacities.

Judge John L. Polk.
Judge John L. Polk

Judge John L. Polk was the son of Dr. and Mrs. Lurton F. Polk. He was born in Raymond, Nebraska, April 30, 1892. He attended school in Raymond. All through the years he kept in touch with his classmates returning to the town several times each year. He was well known in the community all of his life. His family moved to Louisville, Nebraska before he finished high school.

Judge Polk graduated in 1916 with honors from the University of Nebraska, where he received his baccalaureate of arts and law degrees. He was a World War I veteran. He practiced law in Lincoln, Nebraska until his appointment as municipal judge in 1929. He served in that capacity until 1937 at which time he was appointed to the District Court bench by Governor Roy L. Cochrane, and served as District Judge until his retirement in 1964. He has one son, Franklin D. Polk. He and his wife, Vergene, live in Lincoln, Nebraska.

An Interview With Mr. Hiram Duling

By Willis J. Kratzer

“So you want to talk to me, because, I am a pioneer. Well, son, you came to the wrong party, for I am not a pioneer. You will have to call on some of the older settlers, like “Grandma” Carr, if you want to talk to a pioneer. You see, I didn’t get onto these plains, until late in the summer of 1881, and therefore, I don’t know anything about the pioneer days, except what I have heard. You know, “Grandma” Carr came to Nebraska, way back in 1868. So you can see, that I got here, really too late to know much about that pioneer business. I don’t see why all your friends of mine are bound to call me a pioneer, when I know that I really was not one, and came too late for the real fun. Why, in 1881, when I came here, there were quite a few settlers, along the creeks, and I don’t call it pioneering when you follow someone else into a territory.

WINTER OF 1881

“About the first memory of the prairies, that I have, was the winter of 1881. We had just got to Nebraska, and put in some corn in that summer. On the 15th of October, with half of the corn, still in the field, and unshucked, the snow came, and snow laid in drifts until May. I finished husking that corn on the 13th of May, and plowed on the 18th, and planted more corn on the 27th. That was some winter, and we were unprepared for it. The house was unfinished, and the partitions were not yet put in, so we had to hang up carpets for partitions, to make rooms. All the stove, we had in that winter was an old cook stove, and we burned green cottonwood in it. Mother sat the children around the stove on chairs so that they could get close enough to keep warm and then she would cook on the stove at the same time, and lift the pans and pots over their heads, to and from the stove. Mother that’s my wife. She’s gone, many years now.

The winter of 1881 was the year that Mr. Carr, Mr. Markel and Mr. Bolar found a deer, which had got into deep snow, and couldn’t get out. They killed it and had deer meat. Deer was scarce, in those parts, when I got here, but I reckon there were lots of them back in pioneer days.

The man who drove the star route from Lincoln to Columbus, had quite a time that winter. I remember one time, when he came by our place, and brought the mail, looking fine and healthy, and started on his way, up by Oak grove and Lone Star on to the little towns between here and David City and then on to Columbus. That night a storm came up and the temperature went to 36 degrees below zero and he bucked that storm with the mail. When he returned to our place, on the way back, the right side of his face was so completely frozen, that it looked like it had been seared with a red hot iron. It left a scar that he carried to his death.

During that winter, I herded the cattle in the corn stalks and with only half of it shucked. I would have had quite a time, but my old shepherd dog was sure a go-getter, and those cattle didn’t dare to steal an ear from the part that was not shucked. We didn’t have

Tribute To A Pioneer

Taken from an October 1947 Goldenrod

On January 4, 1881 in Cass County Illinois a baby boy, who was named Charles Thomas, was born to Mr. & Mrs. C. Monroe. He was no different from any other baby that was born at that time. He had one brother and two sisters, who also helped to shape the nation as we know it to be.

Charles and his family homesteaded in Colorado in 1893. The place where Ovid, Colorado now is located, was the old Monroe homestead.

He was eighteen years old when he started working as a general blacksmith at York, Nebraska. From there he went to Palmyra, where he lived for a few years. Then, on to Grand Island, Central City, Lincoln, Valparaiso, and then he came to Raymond, Nebraska in 1927. The first “shop” that he owned was in Palmyra; he sold that and moved to Grand Island. He also had a shop in Valparaiso before he came to Raymond.

In 1912, September 4, at Lincoln, Nebraska, Charles Monroe married Rosa L. Henderson of Palmyra, who has lived with him and has been at his side every minute that she could. For the past twenty years they have lived in Raymond, where he has operated a blacksmith shop from 1934 until January of 1947, when he sold his shop to Roy Hart.

In the olden days he “punched” cows and wrangled horses for the Ogallalla Cattle Company near Julesburg, Colorado, until he was eighteen when he came to Nebraska. He was also a deputy sheriff, when the prairies were still unfenced and unbroken.

The people of Raymond will indeed miss “Charlie.” He had been a very honorable citizens and a good friend to all.
much hay, so the cattle just had to dig the corn stalks out of the snow.

Nebraska Ahead of Indiana

In 1894, I made a trip back to Indiana, to see my brother. There he was, plodding along behind an old A-type harrow, which was just a wooden A-shaped affair, with teeth, about an inch square, sticking straight up and down through this wooden frame. Land sake, you call me a pioneer, but I never used that crazy harrow in 1894, no-sir-ee! I had a three section harrow, and pulled it with three horses. Back there, he was still pulling that little harrow, and getting three or four acres a day done, while I was knocking out about twenty acres in a day with mine. When I told him that I used the three section harrow, with a lever to adjust the teeth, he laughed at me good and plenty, but when I went back again in 1898, I noticed that he had taken my advice, and was using the same kind.

FRUIT PIONEER

One of the first things, that popped into my mind, when I came here, was that I wanted fruit. The settlers laughed. I ordered 100 apple trees, 12 grape vines, and 12 cherries. The nurseryman told me that it would take seven years for the fruit to bear, in this dry prairie. Well, after all the laughing, I had lots of apples in 4 years, grapes the next year and cherries in two years. Seven years seemed to me like half a lifetime. I was sure glad he was mistaken. I had winesap, snow, ben davis, grimes' golden, duchess, early harvest and many other apples, and many years we had apples throughout the entire winter, and sold, and gave them away by the bushels. I have outlived three orchards, and if my age wasn't what it is, I'd plant another one.

RECELEGIUS LIFE

People went to church in them days–we had the greatest revivals, my goodness.

Worker's note-After this statement, which was made exactly as recorded in the above sentence, Grandpa Duling, or Uncle Hiram, as he is known to more people, shut up like a clam and seemed to be thinking about something afar off; something that meant a lot to him, and I knew that he was again living over, something that was dear to him many years ago, and it seemed like next thing to sacrilegious to break the beauty of that old son of the soil, dreaming himself back into the eighties, where he could live anew the thrill of the old fashioned revival meetings, which were his life then. I left Uncle Hiram, with his thoughts and bid his son, Henry, with whom he lives, and who was shaving at the time, a goodbye, and left. Sometime, in the near future, I trust I can call on Uncle Hiram, and find what was in his mind, that so captured him, soul and body, and left me there, talking to myself, while he neither heard, nor knew that I was talking to him.

Camp Fire Girls' Voices Thru 'Oldest' House In County

Lincoln Journal

Camp Orlando, site of what is probably the oldest house still standing in Lancaster county, has opened for the summer season and every week end voices of young girls echo in the ghost town of Orlando, 12 miles northwest of Lincoln.

The Cordon Cabin was used as a camp site for Lincoln Camp Fire Girls.

Reputedly build in Nebraska's territorial days while the Civil war was still raging, of lumber hauled from Nebraska City, the weathered gray three-room house and 29 acres partly enclosed by a picturesque horseshoe bend, are all that remain of the old village. It once comprised a postoffice, four-story mill turned by the waters of Oak creek, a blacksmith shop, trading post and school.

PRESENT OWNER of the site is Asa Cordon, farmer who lives three-quarters of a mile away and whose parents came to Orlando in the 1870s.

The two, however, was started earlier, in 1864, after the millsite had been chosen by the Crawford family, Silas Pratt, Mrs. White and her son, C.C. White and Jonn Moore. The mill was owned by C.C. Strickland for whose son, Orlando, the town was named.

The pioneer village was located in a bend of Oak Creek, still the beautiful spot which enchanted early settlers cool and green, with violets blooming in profusion in the spring, breezes sighing thru branches of towering trees and birds singing all thru the summer.

MRS. JAMES M. YOUNG, active in Camp Fire girls work in Lincoln for 31 years, with her husband happened upon the sequestered spot two years ago. They found Asa Cordon, who lives in a larger house nearby with his brother, Pearl–both are bachelors–glad to turn the ancient cabin over for the summertime pleasure of Lincoln girls.

Mr. and Mrs. Young took over, rejuvenated the cabin and after a grand opening attended by Bethany parents and their youngsters, began entertaining four girls each weekend at the camp during the summer.

INSIDE EVERYTHING is clean and shining, with lively blue woodwork and comfortable furnishings. An old Seth Thomas clock, an antique mirror brought from England by the Cordons and some candlesticks were loaned by the Cordon brothers.

The pioneer flavor is strong at Camp Orlando. Part of an old millwheel outlines a flower bed. The girls play in an old barn in which the Cordons still store hay, enjoy drawing well water with rope and bucket. They are taken on lumber wagon ride by the Cordons, who delight in helping entertain the young guests. They wade in a safe spot in Oak creek where the stream curves around the near-island camp.

Orlando is said to be near a branch of the old Mormon trail which passed thru Lancaster county on its way west.
Raymond's Modern Woodmen Camp No. 1529, met second and fourth Fridays of each month. Back row, second from right: George Brightenburg. Frank Grady, 2nd from right kneeling. Center Albert Simmons standing and center Frank Grady.
DEAR RAYMOND FRIENDS: Mr. & Mrs. Everett Dove, Tom Simpson, Drs. E. Lance & Agnes Houston Jones, Mr. and Mrs. John Backstrom, Nora & Clem Paswaters, Mr. & Mrs. Joe Ondracek, Charley & Belle Grady, Ella Baer, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Olson, Mr. & Mrs. Gus Bartzat, Sime & Loy Kilgore, Mr. & Mrs. Larimer.
This And That

MOTHER-DAUGHTER BANQUET -- taken from the April 4, 1947 Goldenrod

The Mothers and Daughters Banquet sponsored by the Raymond Woman's Club was held at the Club House March 18, 1947 at 7:00 P.M. One hundred twenty-one guests partook of the sumptuous menu of fruit cocktail, scalloped chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, peas, mint salad, angel food cake topped with peanut brittle, whipped cream and accompanying coffee supplied by the Social Committee of the Club--Mrs. E.E. Edie, Mrs. Frank Jakoubek, Mrs. E.A. Assenmacher and Mrs. W.W. Rolofson with husbands and sons acting as waiters.

A song-fest was led by Mrs. Gerald Sterns accompanied by Bobbie Tolhurst. Toasts were given by Mrs. Frank Gillette our President, Mrs. Dan Olson, Mrs. Rex Wilson, Mrs. D.C. Hermance, Mrs. Paswaters, Beverly Stearnes, Mrs. W.H. Lawson, Miss Bernice Wilson, Mrs. Gerald Sterns, Mrs. John Brey, Mrs. Kenneth Weaver, and Mrs. Peter Orr.

Two Charter members, Mrs. A.O. Sterns and Mrs. Maybelle Thompson were present. Mrs. Mulvane was unable to attend because of illness.

Wednesday, February 5, 1964, Journal--The annual talent show for Raymond residents was held last Wednesday evening at the school and it was a question who had more fun--the youngsters and adults presenting the show, or the audience. The show is sponsored annually by the Raymond Woman's Club, which opened the program with a humorous pantomime of a "typical" woman's club luncheon. Imitating the "talk, talk, talk, talk," were Mrs. Roy Schleicher, Mrs. John Brey, Mrs. Clarence Jacobsen, Mrs. John Givens, Mrs. Russell Pickel, Mrs. Frank Jakoubek, Mrs. Emma Thompson, Mrs. Martin Nissen, Mrs. Harold Hrenchir, Mrs. Glen Ferry, Mrs. William Silverstrand, Mrs. Mary Stearnes, Mrs. Merle Lawton, Mrs. Jack Hardesty, and Mrs. Henry Ideen.

Winning first place was an original dialogue presented by Lila Sterne, Lloyd Kratochvil, Shirley Hart, Loretta Grant, Kathy Maxson, David Joyce, and Joyce Backstrom. Second place winner was Roy Ferry, vocal soloist, third place went to Janice Monnier, guitarist.

January 30, 1966--A tragic car-train accident took the lives of Edward Kratochvil, 51, his sons Gary, 18; Lloyd, 14; Richard, 12; Jerome, 20; and his daughter, Patty, 19. Surviving the accident were Mrs. Josephine Kratochvil, 44, and a daughter, Bernadette, 22. The Raymond family had attended services at the church in Agnew about 10:15 a.m. The family skipped a church breakfast to fix a stove for Mrs. Kratochvil's mother and then were on their way home when the car was hit by a train. Father Brombach had to climb over the train to give absolution to the family.

Raymond past and present residents:

  Mr. and Mrs. Homer Welch who lived one mile south of town.

Charles Leazenby who farmed west of Raymond.
Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Thompson who built a new home in Raymond and still reside there. Mr. Thompson served on the Town Board, when the water system was installed.

November 25, 1931, the John Brey family journeyed to Neola, Iowa, where Miss Ruth was the flower girl in a wedding. She wore a shell pink dress, ankle length in the Greenaway style, with a wreath of flowers in her hair.

Beginning March 1, 1932, milk will be delivered to customers for 9 cents per quart--A.F. Loofe.

July 6, 1932, Mary L. Taylor, Postmaster, put a notice in the Raymond Review that first class mail will be 3 cents per ounce, postal cards will be 1 cent, and air mail will be 13 cents per ounce.

Summer of 1932--The free movies held in the city park will be on Monday evening. Seating for 200 and plenty of parking for cars. Everyone come and bring your produce. All the stores will be open. Post office will remain open until 9 p.m.

The Fireman's picnic will be held on Friday, September 2, 1932, at the ball park in Raymond. There will be ball games, races and contests.

BLIZZARD OF '36 - - - Taken from the March 6, 1936 Goldenrod

Let the 'old timers' spread their yarns about the weather back in '89 or '98, and of the times that seven pairs of trousers were necessary to keep one from freezing to death. We of the younger generation can tell our grandchildren and great-grandchildren about-- "When I was a young feller during that terrible snow storm of '36 when people had to stay home for two weeks; and when the old wagon box and sled-runners had to be resurrected from the junk heap; and when the mercury went down into the bulb and forgot to come back up for 30 days. those were the days!"

COMMUNITY RECREATION - - - Taken from the September 1938 Goldenrod

Every evening from 4:00 to 6:00, Mr. Lawson meets the boys who are fourteen years old or under on the new playgrounds for football.
On Monday from 7:00 till 9:00 a volleyball workout is provided for girls and women. A leader for this activity is yet to be chosen.
A class in dramatics is being planned. This group will produce plays.

John Lehl leads a group of prospective wrestlers on Friday evenings.
The lights for the horse shoe courts will be on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.
Parlor games are being conducted in the church basement on the same evenings that the horse shoe courts are lighted.
Several evenings the touch tackle team have called practice.
An announcement in the December 1943 Goldenrod 
Attend Red Cross at Mrs. Rex Wilson’s house Tuesday and Thursday nights and Thursday afternoon to fold bandages for the Red Cross.

In an interview by Willis Kratzer, Mrs. George Lipman explained how her family and Buffalo Bill's family came from the same roots. “My father's mother (my grandma) and Buffalo Bill's father were brother and sister.”

Many will remember Helen Gerdes whose cheery voice called everyone to wish them a Happy Birthday. Helen loved poetry and always carried beautiful poems in her purse.

In September of 1952 a serious accident east of Raymond caused the death of Mr. Edgar Kilzer and daughter Jean. Mrs. Kilzer and Patty were seriously injured. Frank Chaney, a truck driver from Fairfax, Missouri, who failed to stop at the stop sign collided with the Kilzer car. He was also seriously injured.

Mrs. Lizzie Rohan who lived in Agnew for many years kept a well filled scrap book from which we gleaned much information about past events.

On November 11, 1939, a severe ice storm came up suddenly and caused Mr. and Mrs. Edward Assenmacher to lose thousands of turkeys on their farm east of Raymond. They sold them for dog food to an Omaha firm.

Air craft Commander Clyde W. Tefertiller lost his life on January 16, 1958, while on a mission over Guam. His step son Ben Elliott resides near Raymond. His wife Martha has remarried and lives in North Dakota.

During the 1940s when Don Craig lived in Raymond while he was school superintendent, he led a troop of Boy Scouts. The boys often remember all the fun times they had with Mr. Craig.

In the middle 1960’s a former teacher, Shirley Kinsel along with Pat Hardesty and Joyce Wescott formed a Brownie Girl Scout troop. They held their weekly meetings at the school house and also had some exciting times at Kinsel’s farm which was the former Wilson sisters' farm one mile west of town.

People who resided in or near Raymond during the middle years and educated their children in the Raymond school are:
  Mr. and Mrs. Willard Lawson who farmed west of Raymond for over 50 years.
  Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Hassenplug who lived here many years.
  Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Schweitzer who farmed west of Raymond.
  Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Polk who farmed east of Raymond.
  Mr. and Mrs. Frank Jakoubek who farmed south and west of Raymond.
  Mr. and Mrs. Robert VanArsdall who lived in Raymond and worked at Goodyear.
  Mr. and Mrs. W.W. Rolofson who lived in the vicinity many years.
  Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Spahn who lived south of Raymond and are still active members of the Raymond Grange.
  Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer (Bud) Virgil who farms north and west of Raymond.
  Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Ramel. Mr. Ramel served as school custodian.
  Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sterns who farmed land adjoining Raymond on the south. Mr. Sterns served on the school board.
  Mr. and Mrs. Harley Flader who farmed south of Raymond.
  Mr. and Mrs. James England who farmed south of Raymond.
  Mr. and Mrs. Joe Johnson who were residents of the village of Raymond.
  Mr. and Mrs. William Leazenby who farmed 2 miles west of Raymond.
  Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Lipman who resided where Everett and Marge Nissen now live.
  Mr. and Mrs. Carl Nelson who farmed south and west of town. Carl served on the school board for many terms.
  Mrs. Ethel Simpkins who worked in Weir's store many years.
  Mr. and Mrs. Al Hardesty.

Others who resided in or near Raymond for many years are:
  Mr. and Mrs. Willis Kratzer who lived one mile west of Raymond. Willis was a writer of prose and poetry.
The Cordon family: (from left) Pearl, sister Mrs. Pain of Kingman, Kansas, and Asa.

The mill gears pictured here fell into Oak Creek in the early 1900s and were recently retrieved for display at the centennial.

Beverly Brey displaying the official T-shirt for the Raymond Centennial. “Raymond - 1880-1980 - Best Little Town By A Dam Site!”

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**Raymond Centennial Days**

**Saturday Morning**

- 9:00 A.M. Flag Raising by Nat’l Guard
- 10:00 Children games
- 10:00 Bingo
- Horse shoe tournament

**Saturday Afternoon**

- 1:00 P.M. Ball Games
- 2:00 P.M. Firemen water fights
- 2:00-4:00 P.M. Pork Roast
- 5:00-7:00 P.M. Hot dogs, B-B-Q’s, and Pie will be served by the Woman’s Club Popcorn, lemonade, ice tea and snow cones will be served by In-Between Extension Club.

**Saturday Evening**

- 9:00-1:00 A.M. Donation Street Dance (Whiskey River Boys)

**Sunday Morning**

- 10:00 A.M. Church Service
- 11:30 A.M.-1:00 Breakfast at Woman’s Club Bldg.

**Sunday Afternoon**

- 12:30-2:00 P.M. Bingo
- 1:00-3:00 P.M. Performances on stage
- 3:00 P.M. Jaws of life, Square dances, Czech singers, etc.
- 4:00 Parade
- Awards for beards, costumes, yard, etc. Square dancers from Ceresco

June 21, 1980

June 22, 1980
School Board in 1952: Standing from left: Kenneth Weaver, Glen Ferry and Ivan Olson. Seated: Harry Tolhurst and Willis Kratzer.

Brey’s Store and Chris Lullman’s Shop about 1924

Standing: Mrs. Tom Simpkins and son with a group of ladies on a hayrack ride.

Livery barn stood where Mrs. Brey’s house is.

Old Lumber Yard - 1900.