

*Up*

*to*

*Now*

Compiled by  
The Bruno History Book Committee.

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## *Acknowledgement*

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Since many of these stories are submitted by memory we cannot accept responsibility for their authenticity; therefore, we or the publisher cannot be held responsible for the records published.

The community of Bruno and especially the Book Committee owe a special "thank you" and honourable mention to Dianne Olchowski for all the hours and hours she spent typing, proof reading, etc. in preparing this book. Her strong desire to see its completion and her constant work towards that goal made it possible. We are fortunate to have Dianne in our community. Again, we say "thank you" for a job well done!



## *Dedication*

by **Daniel Gerwing**

Many people have lent a hand to building the community of Bruno. There were pioneers whose descendants now share in the benefits of the first settlers. There were leaders of sections of the area in individual interest constructing the complexes of schools, churches, town and societies. There were unrecorded endeavours of dedicated persons, of farmers, of businessmen, of men and women, of youthful enthusiasts, of academics and unlettered folk.

Browse through the pages of the history book and read and enjoy the written accounts. Read between the lines and draw conclusions about the reasons behind the actions. Watch the spiral development of families, school and farm communities, urban changes, external improvements and transportation betterments. Savour the simple narrations and access the future in their light.

Applaud the work and dedication of our forefathers; they showed us industriousness; they gave us an example of community consciousness; they put up a foundation for progress; they supported the new ideas and ideals; and they deserve our gratitude.

Let us go forward in the same spirit of trust, hope and love.

## *History Book Committee*



**History Book Committee. Back, L to R: Ben Seidel, Chairman, Pete Bourauel, Irene Mitchell, Loretta Leuschen, Agnes Lummerding, Annavon Seidel. Front: Dianne Olchowski, Treasurer, Donna Olchowski, Florence Pulvermacher, Vicky Serblowski, Secretary. Missing: Mary Welman.**



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## Early Beginnings

*Translation by Charles Schmeiser of a German Brochure that was circulated in the early 1900's to attract people to the Golden West:*

"Establishment of St. Peter's Kolonie." The Benedictine Fathers of St. John's College, Stearns County, Minnesota. With the thought in mind, to establish a Kolonie in Western Canada, to give German Catholics an opportunity for a new home under the most favourable circumstances with churches and schools and Germans as neighbours. Also excellent economic prospects. The spiritual welfare is to be in the hands of the Benedictine Monks, who have already erected a Monastery, Churches and Parochial schools, thereby providing excellent opportunities for worship and education.

"Description of Land". A magnificent panorama of rolling plains, interspersed with blue seas, sparkling clear water ponds and wooded areas give the country a park-like appearance. It offers the best imaginable farmland. The soil in the Kolonie is of excellent quality. It is the most productive land which can be found anywhere. In the western part, there is a black humus loam to a depth of 10 to 24 inches, free from alkali. There are not any stones with the exception of a few limestones which make a good grade of lime for plastering purposes.

"Water". Pure drinking water can be found everywhere in shallow wells 10 to 24 feet deep. In many places there are surface springs.

"Wood". Almost every section contains stand of poplar; no one has far to go for fuel and building purpose. When the Railway is completed, cheap coal from Edmonton Mines will be available. Also, when the proposed branch is built, hardwood can be had.

"Railway". St. Bruno is located on the Canadian Northern Railway, presently under construction, with plans of building a branch line from Bruno to Prince Albert via Leofeld, St. Benedict, etc., making Bruno an important trading center. When the main line is completed, it will form a direct link between Winnipeg and Edmonton with nearby Humboldt a Divisional Point.

"Land Company". The German American Land Co. Ltd. advises that anybody who purchases Company land is permitted to acquire a homestead without being compelled to build and live on it. (I may add that homesteads were on even-numbered sections. Obligations to become the owner of a quarter section of land consisting of 160 acres were \$10.00 for registering fees, bring under

cultivation a certain number of acres each year. A residence had to be erected. There were a variety of homes -- dugouts, sod, log, some from lumber, and one near Bruno was from stone. A specified number of months had to be spent on your land each year. If you met these requirements for three years you became a "Titled Land Owner", a Canadian citizen, and could receive a mortgage at 12%. Note: The above information was not taken from the brochure. The information is personal.)

"Climate and Rainfall". The climate in the Kolonie is exceedingly healthy; illness is unknown. Ailing people who came from other countries soon improved and became healthy, especially those with lung ailments were advised by Eastern doctors to go west. Rainfall is abundant for successful farming, there never being a shortage of moisture reported to be 22 to 28 inches, two-thirds of this coming during the growing season, April to August. The harvest season is free of rain, making harvesting and the preparing of land for next year very favourable. Yields have been very good. Average in 1904 were: Oats 50; Wheat 17 bushels per acre on virgin soil. One settler reported that he planted one bushel of potatoes and got 20 in return.

"Seasons". The St. Peter's Kolonie lies exactly the same distance south of the North Pole as Muenster and Berlin in Germany; however, due to the greater distance from the ocean, the climate and seasons vary somewhat. Spring usually arrives at the end of March to the beginning of April. Seeding is done from the middle of April to mid-May. May and June usually bring good rains conducive to immediate sprouting. From June to August the days are long and warm; however, the nights are cool and pleasant. By August 15, harvesting usually begins. The first frost may come after mid-September. This is followed by pleasant autumn weather until November when winter sets in. The temperatures may drop occasionally, but due to the wooded and hilly contour of some areas, storms are unknown.

"Production". All grains, vegetables, garden produce and fruits grow abundantly. The absence of searing hot winds gives the crops an opportunity to ripen fully, being the reason that Canadian wheat is in great demand. With an abundant supply of native hay (Prairie Wool) and the high production of coarse grains, raising of livestock is economical and profitable. The milk industry also provides a good income with creameries established in nearby towns.

## ORIGINAL HOMESTEADERS

The following article was taken from an issue of The New Banner dated 1955, Saskatchewan's Golden Jubilee Year.

"Here is a list of original homesteaders, who made Bruno their trading and mail center. Mainly we have A. J. Ebner to thank for his work on the list, but we did have help from others which we sincerely appreciate. Many of these pioneers are being forgotten and this is at least a small way of putting them on record. Also the various names will bring back memories to many of our readers. There are, we know, a few names missing; there are some misspelled, but the record is pretty complete. It was rather hard to know in many cases, just where to draw the line, since some who may have lived closer than others to Bruno, still got their mail at Pilger, Leofeld, Peterson or Carmel and vice versa.

John Ahlers, Tommy Atkinson, Martin Aldorfer, Anton Andres, Frank Asali, Thom Auben, Mr. Atkinson Sr., Andrew Atkinson, P. Balin, J. Barber, Mary Bauer, Mike Bauer, Mike Besinski, Steve Besinski, Danil Bidulka, Steve Bauer, Peter Balon, Joe Braun, Frank Berscheid, John Brash, Ed Bendig, Henry Berger, John Bidulka, John Buckle, Metro Bidulka, Kasmir Borysko, James Boak, Joe Bauer, Theo Bendig, William Brown, Frank Boure, Joe Boure, Aaron Boak Sr., James Boak, Henry Brooks, Oswald Brooks, Joseph Brooks, John Borysko, John Bunko, Wasyl Balon, Ed Bussinger, Onofry Borysko, Mike Breit Sr., Mike Breit Jr., John Boehm, Matt Clayton, J. P. Cherry, Pat Cary, Jurko Chomoway, Albert Campbell, Sudig Dagnies, J. Dosenbacks, Nap. Duford, Jerry Duford, John Douglas, Charles Diebert, Nick Damarco, G. S. Daun, Art Dufor, Michael Ebner, Philip Ewanishin, Herman Eckert, Joe Ebner, Mike Esty, Charles Ettennie, Joe Ehn, Jake Einseidler, John Ewanishin, Thomas Ewanishin, George Ebner, Emeley, Adam Eckert, Isidor Eagley, A. Ermin, John Beckman, John Ettennie, Charles Clayton, Jim Foos, John Foos, Frank Fry, J. J. Fisher, Frank Fisher, John Felix, Joseph Felix Sr., Frank Joseph, John Gibb, George Gebauer, Albert Grunow, Anton Gerlinski, William Gutthardt, John Greuel, William Godfru, George Goodrich, Walt Humois, J. Holdem, Joe Hamley, C. Honish, Albert Herbott, Peter Handwerk, Theo Holfels, Mike Heise, Martin Heise, Hrynko Hryciw, John Holfel Sr., John Holfels Jr., Joseph Hutmacher, Peter Hoffman Jr., Peter Hoffman Sr., Lee Helmink, Frank Honish, Carl Hamdl, John Handl, George Heuring, Philip Heise, Gus Handke, Adolph Hadtke, George Hudson, Wilfred Hergott, John Huber, Jake Huber, O. Heska, N. A. Hoffman, Fred Haller, Anton Hepp, Jake Huhn, Reg Harvey, Robert Harvey, Nick Hofbauer Sr., Anton Huhn, Hans Huhn, W. F. Hargarten,

John Fay, Joseph Irmen, Martin Irmentrout, Peter Indioski, John Indioski Sr., William Gleich, Thomas Felix, Sabastien Holz, John Just, Joseph Jessel, Barney Johannas, John Jallen, Joe Jallen, Jacob Jasper, Joe Koenig, John Kress, Herman Knoke, Chris Kochleman, Anton Koenig, John Knoke, Ben Knoke, Tony Kalinski, Adam Keehborn, Wenzil Koenig, Walter Kimball, August Letzel, Annie Kurmay, Henry Koenig, Joseph Koenig, John Koenig, Herman Koenig, Joseph Knoke, John Kramer, Peter Kramer, P. F. Kramer, Henry Klinge, Albert Kustush, Mrs. Magdelene, Mike Kovach, Frank Kota, John Kerkovky, John Keehborn, F. Klinger Sr., Nick Kramer, P. Kline, Peter Krentz, Peter Krentz Jr., Wenzel Koenig, Charles Lube, Fred Lobsinger, William Leisen, Louis Johnson, Nick Fiel, Theo Lummerding Sr., Frank Leuschen, Anton Meiners, Pete Marsh, John Marsh, Sam Monz, Fred Monz, Jean Miskolsky, Jacob Miller, George Middleton, James Matcham, Bert Marchell, Ernest Mervin, P. Milchart, Mike Linde, Peter Meyer, Joseph Meyer, Val Mamer, Ben Merkoski, Anton Merkoski, Roy Mervan, Tony Merkoski, Conrad Marchell, Nick Mitsuick, Mike Mikituick, Frank Mayer, Art Neuholm, Peter Notschke, Arthur Nyholm, John Nazaruk, Adolph Louis, August Louis Jr., Robert Lauer, P. McKinley, Ben Noeth, Peter Noeth, William Notschke, Fred Mikituik, Robert Newbald, Mike Pray Sr., Mike Pray Jr., Wilfred LaCoy, Robert Poole, Alex Pulvermacher, Edward Peiper, Frank Ludwig, Leo Pulvermacher, Walter Paver, Barry Pilsbury, Matt Pulvermacher, John Polonto, Joe Poole, M. Pilsbury, George Poole, Dan Poloniuk, John Praualne, Nels Rhueme, Isidor Rhueme, Bartko Romanda, Frank Ries, Steve Roll, John Roll, Jurko Ritzand, Joe Ring, Peter Reifferscheid, G. J. Roles, Anton Ludwig, August Louis Sr., Walter Newton, George Schroepfer Sr., Tony Schmerler, Frank Scharf, Dan Sutherland, Nick Schill, Joe Struk, P. Serblowski, Carl Sawicki, Wasyl Stadnyk, Peter Stadnyk, John Siermachesky, Ignatz Solar, Panko Sieman, August Sins, Simon Schwinghamer, Frank Schmirler, Anton Schmirler, John Stahl, Jacob Schienherr, John Scheidl, Joe Schmidt Sr., Mike Sally Sr., Mike Sally Jr., Joe Sestak, Mike Sawicki, William Severn, Carl Scheidl, Jacob Spartz, Joe Scheidl, Andrew Sass, Paul Seidel, Ilko Salewich, Mike Simon, F. Schoederbeck, Joe Thiel Sr., Jim Thiel, Otto Thiel, Mike Tesch, Bert Tucker, J. Teischberger, Wasyl Thoms, Metro Thoms, John Tarnowski Sr., Mike Tarnowski Sr., August Thiel Sr., Robert Tally, John Thoms, Nick Thoms, Henry Ulrich, John Oxman, John Urban, Andrew Urban, Joseph Urban, George Verle, P. Valentine, Tom Veatch, Frank Vinnis, F. Wunderlich, M. Wishart, Louis Weiser, Charles Wilson, Fred Weber, George Ward, T. L. Young, Alex Yarosko, William Ziegler, Tytus Ziegler, Charlie Zacher, William Zmud, Mike Zmud.

Father Chrysostum homesteaded the townsite of Bruno.

## PIONEER HARDSHIPS: A MEMOIR

The following memoirs were written by William Ludwig, a 1903 Willmont pioneer who made his home in Bruno: "In 1902 there was so much talk about homesteads in Canada that Dad decided he would make a trip and see. So that summer he left Kansas for Rosthern, Sask. There he hired a team of horses and started east and south until he reached the place that is called Willmont, or St. John's (near Fulda). He staked on land half a mile from where the station was staked out, as he wanted to be sure to live close to town.

He returned to Rosthern, a distance of 60 miles, and filed on the new homestead and came back to Beloit, Kansas. Meanwhile, Mother could not wait until Dad came back to hear the news. The first thing she asked was, "How is Canada? Is there anything growing there, or is it all ice?"

"Well," said Dad, "look here. This is the kind of wheat they grow in Canada." He also brought some black soil along. He was well pleased with the crops in Canada.

Mother asked, "When are we going?"

"Well," Dad said, "I don't think we will go yet as the railroad is not through, and we are too short on money." So we stayed in Kansas until 1903. This gave Dad some time to think it over. Dad put in another crop in 1903 as he was a renter, but could not make a go of it. To buy land was impossible as the price of land in Kansas was high. After taking off the crop (which matures much earlier than in Canada), he got a box car and loaded on it four horses, some chickens, household goods, some farm machinery, blacksmith tools and our faithful dog, Rover.

We all said goodbye to Dad and he left us. I can still see my aunt crying while wishing him goodbye. Mother and we seven children were to stay for a week or so, and then follow him. There was John, 16; Mary, 14; William (myself), 11; Charles, eight; Ed, six; Louise, four; and Frank, two.

It was hard for our aunts and uncles to see us go, and it was quite a strain on Mother to think of going to a wild country and living 60 miles from the railroad, with no church or doctor. No buildings. Only a tent for a house. And only one neighbour whom we hoped would still be there when we arrived.

The journey was a long one, and we children all got train sick. We would ask Mother, "Why did Dad do this to us and go so far? Are we never going to get there?"

We passed through Regina, which at that time was only a small place. Saskatoon was also very small.

Finally we came to Rosthern and found Dad at the station. He took us to the tent and said, "You beat me to

it! I was just going to send you a telegram not to come because I decided to go back. I have just come back from an attempted trip to our homestead, which I didn't reach last night. First I got soaked from the hail and snow, then I got stuck in a mud hole and had to carry the load to the other side. Then this morning the ground was frozen, and I was nearly frozen to death."

It was a tough night for him, and to think that the cold winter could come so early in October with no buildings for shelter for a family of seven children! However, the weather got warm and the skies were clear again. Then Dad said, "Well, you are all here and the weather is good again, so I think we will stay." The next day, Dad and my brother, John loaded two loads of household goods and left for the homestead.

In three days they were back again. The horses were given a day's rest and the wagon was loaded again with the rest of the household articles. Dad was in the lead with the covered wagon, and John and Mother with the rest of us children were on the two-seated buggy. I accompanied Dad, and this was the joy of my life!

After driving 12 miles, we camped for dinner. Because we got a late start, we did not get very far by noon. The horses were staked out to graze and Dad built an open campfire. Then he left with the 12-gauge shotgun to try for some chickens for supper. Mother hung a syrup pail over the fire to boil coffee and put on the lid, which fit quite tightly. Louis, Frank, the baby, and I were standing at the fire and suddenly the lid blew off and the coffee flew all over our faces. Mother wiped the hot coffee from our faces and as she did so, the skin came off with it.

That took all the joy out of life for some time. Mother bandaged our faces and after the horses had fed and dinner was over, we started off again.

After much travelling, we came to the Saskatchewan River, but Mother was much frightened to cross the river as it was quite high at that time. The ferry carried us over safely and by this time, my eyes were almost closed from the swelling. But the pain on my face was much better, and I began to enjoy the trip once more.

The only road we had now was the Indian trail winding through bush and sloughs until we reached Leofeld (six miles east of Cudworth). Dad and John staked out the horses and another campfire was built. The tent was put up for the night and Mother made pancakes for supper. As we had no milk, she had to make them with slough water, for that was the only water there was. We found the pancakes good, as we were very hungry.

Dad asked Mother, "How do you like the country?" Mother replied, "Do you call this a country? I think it is the end of the world and if this is the promised land, well, I can't see it! The only thing I can say is, May God help us!"

We slept on the grass, Dad got up often that night to see if the horses were all right.

We were up early the next morning with Mother getting breakfast. Dad and John got the horses harnessed. Then we hit the Indian trail again in hopes of reaching our new home that same day.

It was a very fine, warm morning with a clear sky. After travelling for some time, Dad pointed to coyotes. Mother said, "Oh my, are there such wild things out here? Well, I think that is what this wilderness is for!"

"Oh," said Dad, "They won't hurt anybody."

On we went, up and down hills and around bushes, but we found mostly open plains. After five hours of travelling we camped for dinner. Mother fried chickens which Dad had shot that morning along the road. This was a treat for us, as we were hungry. While eating dinner, Mother asked Dad how much further it was and Dad said about another 12 miles. Again we hit the Indian trail, hoping to reach our homestead.

We reached our landing early. Dad turned a few hundreds yard off from the Indian trail and stopped at a dugout. "Here we are," he said. "This is not our homestead though. Our farm is a little north from here, but this dugout will do for a kitchen for now."

This was an abandoned homestead which some person had taken and let go when he went back to the United States. The dugout was like a cellar, five feet deep and ten feet square. A roof was over it with a door that had a window in it. Here we put the cook stove, table and chairs. The tent was put up. That was to be our home for some time.

After everything was unloaded and supper over, Dad visited our new neighbour, the only one we had for miles around. Dad's intention was to let him know that we had arrived and see if he could get his wagon to bring the remainder of our things.

After some time of waiting, we heard Rover's barking and thought Dad was coming. But Rover kept on barking, so Mother told John to go out and see what he had. John came back in a hurry. "Oh, Mother, it is something black and bushy. I'll take the shotgun and shoot it," he said. He hardly got out the door when Mother called him back. "Don't, it may be Dad trying to frighten us." Dad came back, got the lantern and shot the big skunk Rover had found. That settled everything for the night.

The next day, dry wood was gathered and a well four feet deep was dug close to the slough. The following day, Dad and John started back for Rosthern with two wagons to get some more supplies. Dad told Mother not to look for them for the next three or four days. By this time, Mother was more satisfied as she knew the moving was over.

As usual, I was enjoying all this very much, but Mother was afraid I would wander too far away and get lost. This was the time of the season when the ducks were on their way south and there were only a few stray ones left on the slough close by. One day I saw a duck sitting on a

muskrat hut and getting all excited, I ran to Mother and told her about it, and asked if I could have the .22 and shoot it. She thought there were no cartridges, but I quickly made a search and finding one, went down to the slough.

I could not look over the willows to take aim, so I turned the washtub over and climbed on top of it, aimed, and pulled the trigger. But it wouldn't fire. I kept on turning the cartridge and tried it in a different place and finally it went off. The duck rolled off the hut with only a broken wing, but Rover caught it. Mother fried it for dinner and, oh boy! Was it ever a treat! Ducks were very fat in the fall. That was my first duck in Canada.

Dad and John made good time and in three days they were back again. This was to be the last trip for a while, as now a house had to be built! The house was built by digging a hole four feet deep in the ground, measuring 61 by 24 feet. Sod was broken and laid like bricks until a height of seven feet was reached.

For a roof, a log ten inches thick was laid across, and on top of this, poles, fine willows, sod and some clay. There were three windows on the north wall and the door was on the southeast corner. The only lumber in this house was the door and windows. With the help of the neighbours, it did not take long to put up. A small house in the same style was put up for the chickens. The barn was built of logs. This finished our building. We were blessed with warm, clear weather at the time.

We felt quite at home after moving into our new house which did not need paint or floor wax, and there was no such things as scrubbing.

There was still plenty of work to be done, such as wood to gather, hay to put up and more trips to Rosthern. There were still some implements and more food supplies to get. Dry wood was plentiful, as a prairie fire had gone through eight or ten years before we came. All a man had to do was to knock off the limbs and load up. The bark was all off and it made pretty good firewood. We gathered about 15 loads.

Dad was busy mowing hay while John and I were gathering wood. It was a bit dry, but there was plenty of it. Later we helped put up the hay and by this time it was getting cold and starting to freeze at night.

The northern lights were a surprise to Mother and us children as we couldn't see them in Kansas. I remember one night when Dad called us out to see them and Mother got frightened and thought it was the end of the world. "No," Dad said, "it is only the northern lights."

The next morning, Dad said we would have to make more hay, so he got the mower out again and shod two horses. There was lots of hay to make, even on the ice. It was about 18 inches above the ice and quite green yet. There was no snow until late in November, and that was a blessing to the settlers.

As time went on, the snow came to stay. Dad went into the timber, got four bent poplars to make a bob-sleigh. Dad was handy with blacksmith tools and he made a good job of that bob-sleigh, which we used for ten years. The snow gave us children much fun. It was something new to us. As the winter progressed, Dad made several trips to Rosthern for more supplies. He bought ten bags of Four-X flour which was the poorest flour you could buy; but he was lucky when the miller made a mistake and put the best flour in the Four-X flour bags. So we had the first class bread the first winter. We did not eat many rabbits as Dad and John were too busy taking care of other people's horses and also getting and bucking wood.

Now the snow was getting deeper and snow banks were piling up. The storms we had usually lasted three to four days. We had a snow bank right over the house, and we had to make a tunnel about 50 feet long through the snow bank to get out of our house. One day, one of our horses came up the tunnel, and as he would never back up, we had to lead him out again. We cut one of the trees beside the house on a level with the snow bank. In spring, when the snow was gone, we measured the tree. It was 13 feet. As our windows were low, we had quite a job to keep them open during a storm. Sometimes we had the lamp burning for three days and nights.

I can still remember one night. It was storming and very dark. A man came from Rosthern to stop overnight with us. He could hardly find the house and if it hadn't been for the barn standing on a high place, he would not have found it at all. He knew where the house stood, but to his surprise he fell through the tunnel, knocked the door open and rolled through it. He had a fur cap and a fur coat on and a full beard. My sister, Mary was not far from the door, and she screamed at the top of her voice, "A bear! a bear!"

He got up mighty fast and said, "No, No, I'm not a bear. I would like to stay overnight as my horses are played out and I'm also very hungry."

In those days, we saw many people with frozen noses and some with frozen feet. These were hard trips for them to make, and sometimes the weather was -30 to -50 degrees F, and people only had open sleighs. Sometimes we had 18 people staying with us, and they all slept on the dirt floor.

There is one thing which I will never forget as long as I live. It happened at the time when Dad was off to Rosthern. We children had the measles and were almost over it. So he thought it was all right to go.

But John got a setback and got very sick in a short time, just before evening, Mother sent Mary to hurry to our neighbour before it got dark to get some medicine. I wanted to go along, but as I was starting to swell, she would not let me. Mary did not get back before dark, as it was late when she left the neighbours, and she got lost.

Now Mother had another worry as she knew Mary was overdue. Here we have to thank good old Rover. After roaming around in the dark, Mary did not know where to go, so she just stood quietly wondering what to do and which way to go. Then Rover came to her and quickly ran to and from her, and he repeated this several times. Finally she thought she would follow him, and before she knew it, she could see the house.

This was an awful night for Mother. John got the cramps six times. Mother had to pry his mouth open with a tablespoon to keep him from choking.

He had several teeth broken out and his tongue was also bitten. By the time he got over his second cramp, a man came to stay overnight. Mother was glad to have some help and he did as much as he could. It was impossible to get a doctor, and this man was not much of a consolation to Mother. Instead of encouraging her, he said, "Now you've got a homestead, and so you lost that boy; he is worth more than a homestead."

After John got his sixth cramp, we thought he was dead. Mother had John's Communion candle burning all the time, and it was burnt right down. "Yes," Mother said, "I thought he would live as long as the candle lasted. I will make room over here so we can lay him down here."

I can still hear my Mother saying, "Oh God, please give me my son back!" The man said, "It is no use; he is cold already." But Mother had no rest and called us all together again, and we prayed and cried at the same time. In about ten minutes, John opened his eyes again and called, "Oh Mother!" and then fell asleep and rested well.

Dad heard the sad news on his way home. He hurried as fast as he could. When he got home, John was feeling much better. But Dad changed horses and went back to Rosthern to see a doctor. Dad made the trip in two and one-half days and brought medicine along. John was sick for some time, but got well again.

Now that winter was coming to an end, the sleigh roads were getting bad. The river was getting dangerous, but some people still crossed even if the ice was like rubber. Several teams fell through and one man just managed to jump clear of the hole in the ice.

The weather got warm and the snow was soon gone. It was warm enough now for people to sleep outside again, so they did not stay overnight with us anymore.

Dad got out the breaker and broke up four acres of prairie. It was seeded to wheat, and some potatoes were planted under the sod. Then Dad went out breaking for other people as he was short of money. This was a drawback for Dad as he should have been breaking his own land in order to have more in crop for the following year. In those days, there was no credit at all. After two weeks of breaking for others, he came home.

By this time, John and I had the cellar dug for the new house. Dad helped us get logs and put up the frame. Then

he gave us orders to carry on, and he left for Rosthern to get the door, windows and flooring. John and I hauled out dry poplar poles about three inches thick and filled in between the studdings.

Dad was back in four days. Then he did some more breaking on our own land. After the blocking was done, sod shingles were laid, clay hauled, and the floor laid. Then it was mudded out, and we moved in. It really felt funny to walk once more on a board floor. By this time, the wheat was coming along fine, but the potatoes did not grow as they were salted to make them keep longer. This meant we had to buy some or do without.

One thing we had to be thankful for was the wild game and wild berries. We lived on ducks all summer -- duck eggs, rabbits and strawberries. We did not have any milk, butter, tame eggs, or lard of any kind, and by this time, our good flour was gone and we had to eat the poor grade.

My job at this time was mostly hunting and picking strawberries, of which we ate about two gallons per day. They were mashed and mixed with water. Mary, Charles and I did the picking. In about four hours, we had out two gallons. It was a pleasure to pick them as they were plentiful. When it rained, it was not so nice. After the strawberries, the blueberries came, and they were also good.

After Dad did some more breaking at home, he left again to break for others. He had no oats for the horses, and he had to sleep outside and he had to eat ducks, black bread, and black coffee.

In 1904 the C.N.R. railroad came through, but not where it had been staked out. Instead, it passed through seven miles south of us. Many of the first settlers got fooled as they settled where the railroad was staked out. If it would have come through where it was first staked, we would have been only one-half mile from town.

I remember the time we heard that the railroad was through. Dad said, "Sunday, after the rosary, we will go and see if we can find the station." When Sunday came, we started out. The whole family went except John. He wanted to go hunting, since he did not get much chance during the week.

We started southeast, followed the Indian trail until we reached Mount Carmel Hill, and then turned south until we reached the track. We then went west until we got about one and a half miles east of where Bruno stands. Here was a spring of running water, so we staked out the horses and had our lunch. Dad walked west until finally we could see a small shack. Here he met Bill Smith who had a few things in his small store, such as tobacco, coffee, tea, matches and only the most necessary things. Dad bought a few items and then returned.

We started back home. When we came past Mount Carmel Hill, we asked Dad if we could go up to the top. He stopped the horses and waited until Mary and I came

back. We ran as fast as we could until we got to the top and were surprised to see a grave and a wooden cross. The grave was very plain and there were some letters cut into the cross which I don't remember. We ran back and told Dad and Mother about it. Mother thought it was awful to have a grave on a place like that.

We hit the Indian Trail again. When we got home, John met us with a big smile. That day he shot his first badger. We skinned it and fried out the fat, as we were told that the fat was good for wounds and burns. This we found out later was true.

Dad left the next day again to do more breaking for other people. He was gone for two weeks. When he was home for a few days, the two horses got sick and died. This left one horse and a bronco which we could not use; he was sold in spring. We had only one horse left.

This was hard on Dad and Mother and they both cried. They had no money and no credit. So Dad went out carpentering and John and I used the one horse at home to haul wood, hay and logs for a barn. John drove the horse and I held up the neck yoke walking along on one side of the horse. This was no pleasure; going over stones and through bush was tough. But in a few days, I was broken in well.

Soon the wheat was ready for cutting. Dad had a binder which he brought along from Kansas. Our neighbour did not have one, so Dad and our neighbour got together and decided to hitch three oxen to the binder, cutting our crop first and then his. Joe and John, the neighbour's boys, brought their oxen. Everything went well so far. Dad got on the seat, Joe was at the front of the team and John at the rear. Everything was set and Dad called out, "Let her go."

To our surprise, when the oxen saw the reels coming around and heard the noise of the binder, they started out straight through the center of the field. Everybody was yelling, "Whoa, whoa!" but the oxen kept right on going until they got to the other side of the field. Then they were led around on the prairie until they calmed down.

After our crop was cut, the crew moved to the neighbour's field. When the sheaves were dry, they were threshed by hand with a flail. With the aid of the wind, the grain was cleaned. We had 80 bushels of wheat in the granary and some oats. We had to keep most of the wheat for seed for the next year.

Indians were still travelling up and down the trail. I learned a lot about hunting and trapping from them. They were quite friendly and never stole my traps. We could not understand each other, but by some signs with our hands, we could make out what we meant. Some of them were still using the old fashioned muzzle loading guns. I've seen them slide up to a slough as flat as a snake, then rise up and fire and get four to five ducks in one shot. Then the squaw would come and wade deep in

the water with her clothes on and bring them out; and with these wet clothes on her, they would drive on again and let them dry in the sun. Sometimes they would pull up some bullrushes and eat the bottoms as we eat carrots. They smoked cat tails.

In those days we did not hunt ducks as we do today. We had to make our shots count even though cartridges were much cheaper. A box of 25 12-gauge shells sold for 45 cents and we could load them by hand for about 25 cents. We loaded some shells full, some half, and some three-quarters full. A full cartridge had to bring three or more ducks, and a half was for one duck.

When the young ducks were about ready to fly, we did not use a gun at all. We threw stones in the water and chased them out into the grass where the dog would find them. When we had about 20 or 30, we would pack them home, clean them and put them in the ice well. That would be a supply for a week and then we would go for more.

These were happy days for me! There wasn't anything that I liked better than hunting and trapping. There was no school until 1906 and I did not learn much in school, but learned a lot about wildlife, hunting and trapping.

As the summer passed on, the time came to make hay. We got a horse from a neighbour to mow the hay and put it up. But that winter we had only the one horse and had to get along the best we could. The garden was very good, but there were no potatoes. We had more cabbage than we could use, so our neighbour gave us salt for the cabbage and we made sauerkraut. We bought potatoes and had a lot of vegetables in the cellar; and with plenty of rabbits in the bush, we were certain not to starve in the winter.

In September, we started to trap muskrats. Dad worked at carpentering off and on, but there was not much money in that line of work. He also made a pair of shafts for the wagon, which left me out of my job as a horse.

By this time, our clothes were pretty well in rags, so Mother made overalls and shirts from the tent for us boys, and a dress for my sister. We also needed shoes. John thought of going south to the railroad to see if the railroad workers left any where they camped. We walked to the tracks on Sunday and found there were plenty of shoes, but they were pretty well worn out. Just the same, they would do. We took them home, Dad sat up late at nights mending shoes, cutting some off to make them smaller, until we all had shoes.

By this time, we were in our second winter, and we were wondering if Santa Claus would come this time. Mother told us that he only went where there were more children and that he would not come for only a few. So there was no candy or nuts for the second time.

Now that the work was all done, there was time to trap muskrats. We caught 700 that winter and sold them in spring for seven cents a piece. The fat was dried out for

oil and wagon grease. I remember the time my sister and I spread it on our bread and thought it was very good; but Mother caught us at it and made us give it to our dog. That was an insult as we were so hungry for fats, being out of butter or fats for so long. In the fall, we shot over 800 rabbits and salted them down in a barrel. In the winter, they were harder to get and they were not as good since they ate mostly bark.

Dad bought a cow, but she did not give much milk. However, we had hopes that when she would get on the green grass in spring, she would do much better. Mother did not make butter since we needed the milk much more.

The winter passed quickly. By March 20th, the snow was all gone.

Dad was very worried about how to get the crop in. One of our neighbours, four miles away, heard about our difficulty and came over to tell Dad he had two oxen that he did not need. He would sell them on time; we could pay when we had the money. That was a great relief for Dad. We hitched the two oxen alongside of the horse and managed to get our crop in. After seeding was over, John started to break more land and a pasture was put up from rails. Dad did more carpentry work whenever he could get it. It seemed that money was always short.

Mary and I spent many a day digging seneca roots. Again we had no shoes, so we split a block of wood and made boards out of it. On these we placed our feet, marked around them and cut them out in that shape. Then we nailed straps on the boards to keep them on our feet. This protected our feet from snags and thorns. With these shoes, we finally got enough roots to buy a hundred pounds of flour, which we needed very badly. By this time, we had a store 12 miles from us and I walked home from this store quite often with a pack of groceries on my back.

By 1905 we had a pretty good crop and threshed with a steamer. By this time, we could haul our grain to Bruno. Things were going much better.

We butchered the cow in the fall as she was no good for milk. Dad bought two more. We had milk and butter. Dad paid off the oxen and bought two horses. We also got a new roof on the house. The sod was taken off and a board roof was put on with tarpaper over it. But this was not as good as the sod because the first rain went through it like a sieve. Dad went to town the next day and got cedar shingles. Siding was also put on to keep the rain from washing out the clay.

In 1906, most of the homesteads were taken up and everything seemed to become more civilized. We children were getting very shy to strangers.

For entertainment there was not much of any kind, only parties among the neighbours. For us boys, hunting and trapping was a great sport. John and I went duck hunting every time it rained and we did not care if we got

wet as long as we could keep our ammunition dry. Mary often went along to help carry the game. She enjoyed it very much and if we shot a deer, she simply had to go along and help drag it home.

In 1906 we had our first school and church. We had school for ten months the first year, and for six months in 1907. I had a good start in Kansas but forgot nearly

everything and had to start all over. I got to the third grade in 11 months and during that time, I also had to stay at home and help. There were many my age that didn't get any education at all.

In 1906, homesteaders came in by the thousands and they settled all along the railroad, so those that came last got close to the towns.



## Town of Bruno

Bruno is a thriving community of 811 people situated 54 miles northeast of Saskatoon and caters to a wealthy and diverse farming population of approximately 2,500.

The Town of Bruno owes its origin to the German American settlers who came to the area from Minnesota in 1903 and 1904. The town actually had its start after the Reverend Bruno Doerfler, a Benedictine Father and organizer of the mass migration of German American families, came to start a new religious colony. The settlement was to have been called St. Bruno but as there was a postal address already by this name in Quebec, the name of Bruno was settled upon.

In 1906, Father Chrysostom, another Benedictine Father affiliated with the newly formed Catholic Abbacy of Muenster, arranged to have a small log school built. Church services were held weekly if the priest was able to make it to the parish.

The district, as well as the village, increased in population as more settlers arrived to take up homesteads. A major factor was the railroad being put through in 1905. With the railroad access to Bruno by settlers was made easier. As the population increased, so did the business sector.

In 1916, a fire destroyed almost half of the business section of the Village, but through the strength and determination of our pioneers, the main street was rebuilt and flourishes still today.

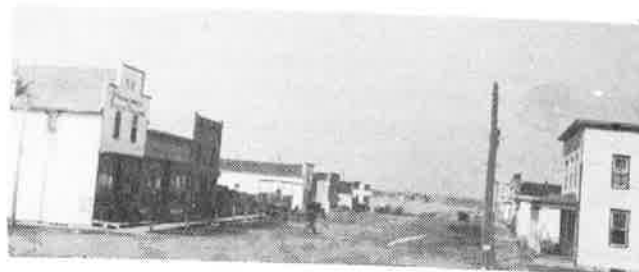
Bruno was incorporated as a Village in 1909 with Peter Schwinghamer the first overseer and William Leisen and Frank Fisher the councillors. William Gleich was appointed the constable and health inspector. On Oct. 4, 1909, an Inspector of Municipalities visited the Village and gave the councillors instruction regarding day to day operations. The inspector also informed them that the secretary could not be one of the councillors, a procedure they had been following. After becoming aware of this fact, William Gleich was appointed as the first secretary-treasurer. In November of 1909, all members of Council took the Declaration of Office.

The Bylaws of the Village were set up in 1909, as well. Some of the bylaws that were enforced included: 1) the feeding of teams on Main Street is prohibited; 2) tin cans, manure, hay and general refuse must be cleaned up; and 3) stock running at large in the Village area is prohibited and loose animals will be impounded and the owner of same fined \$1.00 per head.

During these early years, the first council found that a form of taxation was necessary to run the town properly. To this end, the following three forms of taxation were levied: 1) poll tax of \$2.00 levied on every male person of age; 2) taxes were levied on dogs -- \$1.00 for males and \$3.00 for females; and 3) licenses were issued for businessmen (\$25.00 for the hotel, \$10.00 livery barns, \$5.00 weigh scales and \$1.00 for auctioneers).

The following is an outline of the history of the Town of Bruno.

**1909** -- the first meeting of the council was held on April 6; 500 feet of wooden sidewalks (250 feet on each side) were built of two inch planks at a cost of \$239.00. This project was completed by April of 1910; the main street was gravelled and graded; the village books were first audited by H. McGill at a cost of \$10.00.



Downtown Bruno

**1910** -- Council was Peter Schwinghamer, Aloys J. Schwinghamer and Frank Fisher. William Gleich was the secretary-treasurer and H. Pillsbury the constable and health inspector; councillors were paid \$1.00 per meeting, and taxes were ten mills on the dollar.



**1911** -- Council was Simon Schwinghamer, Peter Schwinghamer, and Ed Piper. John G. Bourauel was the secretary-treasurer and Frank Fisher the constable and health inspector; the town jail was built 12' by 16' by 9'; for fire protection a well was dug. A pump complete with a gasoline engine made this well very modern.



Bruno, 1911

**1912** -- Council was Peter Schwinghamer, Ed Piper and William Gleich. Frank Hamm was the secretary-treasurer and Frank Fisher the constable and health inspector; the secretary was authorized to purchase a flat top desk and three letter files. \$2.00 was spent for postage in 1912; the brush was cleared off main street; at the July 15, 1912 meeting, Councillors Gleich and Piper resigned. At the election which followed, L. M. Vossberg and Jacob Gransch were elected. William Smith was the new constable and was paid \$50.00 per year. Handcuffs were ordered. Frank Hamm was the license inspector.

**1913 & 1914** -- Council was Peter Schwinghamer, L. Vossberg and Frank Fisher with Frank Hamm as the secretary, William Smith as the constable and Dr. Barry the health inspector; built an addition to the village office to provide a suitable office for the RNWMP which was to be stationed at Bruno.

**1915** -- T. B. Patterson was appointed as the new secretary-treasurer.

**1916** -- The Union Bank of Canada opened their office; all persons not having brick chimneys were ordered to have one built as soon as weather permits; the first street lamp was erected on the corner by the hotel; in September the first fire equipment was purchased.

**1917** -- The council was Peter Schwinghamer, Alex Pulvermacher and William Hargarten. Charles Haas was the new constable; the fire hall on Main Street was in the planning stages.

**1918** -- New council members were Alex Pulvermacher, overseer, Joe Weber, secretary-treasurer and Dr. Barry the medical health officer. The new constable was Constantine Honish who also became the weed inspector for the village. During the year Frank Wirtz took over the position of secretary. In April, the residents of Kirby Street were ordered to remove clothes

lines and other obstructions from the street. May 1 was proclaimed Clean Up Day; plans were being made to include the Hamlet of Koenigsville in Bruno; the hitching posts on Main Street were removed and erected on Railway Avenue south of Main; a resolution was sent by the councillors to the elevator companies to open at least one elevator in Bruno.

**1919** -- Bylaw for speed limit of 12 miles per hour was put in place and enforced; ratepayers petitioned council to go on fast time.



Bruno, 1919

**1920** -- Council was Peter Schwinghamer, overseer, John G. Bourauel, Frank Wirtz, secretary-treasurer, Peter Kissling, constable and Dr. Kennedy the medical health officer.

**1921** -- N. J. Klassen became the secretary-treasurer.



Bruno in its early days

**1922** -- A franchise was granted to the Electric Light and Power Company of Bruno to operate and maintain power to Bruno for 20 years. This motion was made by Frank Wirtz and seconded by R. J. Schwinghamer.

**1923** -- Adam Eckert was hired by the village and part of his duties included ringing the 9:00 p.m. curfew bell. The curfew applied to all children under the age of 16. It was reminded that all children on the streets unaccompanied by their parents would be severely dealt with.

Paul Honatzis was asked to plan a skating rink 170 x 70 x 8 ft. with an addition 24 x 12 x 8 ft. In December a bill for \$283.00 was paid for lumber used for the skating rink. All school children could skate for free on Saturdays between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.



Bruno, 1923

**1924** -- All vehicles shall not exceed 10 m.p.h.; F. Schramm was the new secretary. Later in the year, Mr. Schramm resigned and N. J. Klassen resumed the position. J. P. Ludwig was hired as the town constable.

**1927** -- The first concrete sidewalks were being planned. A Mr. Underwood was asked to draw up the plans; stores were closed each Wednesday afternoon during the summer.

**1928** -- All vehicles not in operation were ordered to be parked with the rear end towards the sidewalk; a large new arena was planned and debentures to cover the cost in the amount of \$2,750.00 were issued; assessment for the village was set at \$194,530.00.

**1930** -- A request to the Department of Municipal Affairs asking for permission to incorporate as a "town" was dispatched; power lines came into Bruno.

**1931** -- A fire brigade was organized by William Hargarten.

**1933** -- Times were becoming harder because of the recession and a 4% discount was being offered to those who paid their taxes by July 1st.

**1934** -- License was granted to operate slot machines in the village.

**1935** -- The boundaries of the village were enlarged.

**1936** -- Math Lauer was the new overseer and Adam Eckert was retained as the village constable at \$17.00 per month; Herman Meyer was retained to remove eight inches of dirt from the curling rink. He was paid \$28.00. Peter Breit was hired to complete the ice sheets in the curling rink and skating rink, build fires and collect skating fees; meeting allowances were raised to \$2.00 per councillor and \$3.00 for the overseer.

**1941** -- Peter Schwinghamer was the overseer; a motion was made and passed disallowing the keeping of hogs in the village of Bruno unless the pens were kept at least 150 feet away from any dwelling. Pens must be

cleaned weekly. Cows were not to be staked out in the boundaries of the village; Bill Lummerding became the village constable; in December, 11 lots and 18 business taxes were cancelled. The lots were sold for the cost of the back taxes and arrears could be paid by working on the construction of cement sidewalks.

**1944** -- Jake Sarter was hired as the village constable.

**1945** -- Daylight saving time was initiated April to September, 1945.

**1946** -- John F. Kellerman took the oath of office; Joe Breit was hired at \$150.00 per month to work with his team of horses for eight hours a day; a donation of \$100.00 was given to the Welcome Home Veterans Fund; first hospitalization collection and registrar was the postmaster, William Hargarten.

**1947** -- Peter Bourauel was elected and took his oath of office on December 11; Jake Sarter, the constable, was given one-third of all fines with his salary to stimulate the prosecution of infractions of the Village by-laws; six street lights were installed.



Bruno - taken from the top window of the Searle Elevator, while it was being built, 1950.

**1951** -- The first stop signs were erected for the safety of pedestrians and vehicles; the village purchased a second-hand road grader from the R.M. of Bayne at a cost of \$500.00.

**1952** -- Roman Schwinghamer, overseer, F. A. Schwinghamer secretary-treasurer, P. M. Bourauel and Heinz Hartman, councillors. Dr. Patchell was the health officer and Jake Sarter the constable; a new siren was placed on the fire hall on Main Street; the Humboldt Detachment of the RCMP was requested to patrol our streets.

**1953** -- Alvin Meyer applied for and received the position of secretary-treasurer; daylight saving time was a contentious issue; Christmas lights were purchased for Main Street.

**1955** -- The fire brigade was re-organized under the leadership of Alvin Meyer; the council made representa-

tion to the Department of Highways as to the location of the proposed Highway No. 2.

**1956** -- George Gerling was the newest councillor; the health inspector gave an account to the council and suggested that all milk sold was to be pasteurized and that no cattle come within the village limits. These suggestions were voted into bylaws.

**1957** -- The Bruno Banner stopped circulation; the fire truck was replaced by a 1950 3-ton Ford at a cost of \$525.00; the mill rate was raised to 24 mills to cope with rising costs; the curfew was discussed with the Home and School and the Town agreed to blow the curfew siren at 9:00 p.m. each evening.

**1959** -- a snow plow club was formed and the village gave \$300.00 to be used as payment of work done; bylaws were devoted to licensing and care of dogs within the village area and a dogcatcher was appointed; Joe Samorey was hired to police the village at \$5.00 per night; Robert Renneberg was hired to be the town dray and garbage collector; parking and pedestrian laws were revised as follows: 1) double parking was prohibited; 2) no trucks over  $\frac{3}{4}$  ton rating were to park on Main Street; 3) no vehicle containing explosive material is to park on Main Street; 4) the speed limit will be enforced at 25 m.p.h. except for ambulances, fire vehicles and law enforcement vehicles which will not be restricted while on duty; 5) bicycles must be ridden with at least one hand on the handle bars and must be on the street and not on the sidewalk; and 6) no person may drive or walk through a military parade or funeral procession. Petitions were being made to the Wakaw School Unit for the building of a high school in Bruno.

**1960** -- Lawrence Schulte was elected councillor and overseer by acclamation; discussions centered around water and sewer and when the vote went to the people on the costs connected with this project the vote was negative; around this time a Senior Citizens Home for Bruno was also being discussed; Bruno was elevated to "Town" status in October of 1960. The vote for this change was 210 in favour and 40 against.

**1962** -- The council in 1962 was Mayor Ray Klassen, Alois Helgert, Don Dufort, George Gerling, Percy Schmeiser, Francis Pulvermacher, and Harold Hergott; water and sewer was brought again to the vote and this time 135 voted in favour and 47 against. Debentures were issued in the amount of \$90,000.00; passenger train service was discontinued to Bruno.

**1963** -- Adam Keehborn and Ed Schlosser were the newest councillors; Francis Hamm sold his pasture to the Town of Bruno; Alex Dust sold the Town 70 acres of land south of Bruno for the purpose of a sportsground and golf course. All of the sports organizations were asked for donations and a Recreation Board of eight members was formed. The matter of straightening the south entrance road into Bruno was dealt with. The land

around the Blaseg yard was eliminated and a straight road constructed with signal lights at the railway crossing. The cost of this project was \$1,126.00 and was shared with the R.M. of Bayne. Sylvester Meyer was hired as the utility man.

**1965** -- A trailer court and V.L.A. lots were discussed in September; a new motor patrol, Model D Allis Chalmers, was purchased; a move of the post office was suggested; a new Town Office was discussed as a Centennial Project. The building would be 42 by 36 ft. and include Council Chambers, Clerks Office, Nurses Room, public washrooms and a recreation room in the basement.

**1966** -- A new councillor, Art Lueke, was elected; the drainage at the lagoon was working satisfactorily; an air strip was discussed.

**1967** -- Percy Schmeiser was elected as Mayor in January and the councillors were: Len Dust, Mat Tarnowski, Henry Honatzis, Don Dufort, Art Lueke and Jack McClelland. The four miles south of Bruno to Highway No. 5 was the subject of a resolution sent to the Minister of Highways. After some time, it was decided to be built, topped and widened. The Town of Bruno and the R.M. of Bayne joined the Humboldt Emergency Measures Organization for better fire protection. The official opening of the Town Office was held on June 24, 1967. The day was declared a civic holiday.



Opening ceremonies for the new Town Office, June 24, 1967.



Mayor Percy Schmeiser - standing to right on the step.



Quite a crowd on hand for the opening



Mayor Schmeiser escorting the first citizen through the new doors.



Mrs. Marie Young in all her finery for the Opening Day Celebrations.

**1968** -- Another utility man was discussed and Isadore Hutchkowsky was hired; mill rate was 32; some streets were oiled in the town limits.

**1969** -- Ray Freistadt joined the council; Sylvester Meyer resigned as fire chief and Henry Honatzis was appointed as his replacement; fluoridation of our water system was implemented; council agreed in December to join the Wheatland Regional Library.

**1970** -- Leon Stahl was the new councillor; Saskatchewan Home Coming '71 was discussed and Lawrence Schulte agreed to be the chairman for this project.

**1971** -- The Town of Bruno and the R.M. of Bayne agreed to provide for the construction of an addition and alteration to the Bruno area and the Bruno Community Hall as their joint Homecoming '71 project. A letter was received from the C.N.R. in regards to the closing of the station which is slated for 1976. The Town replied stating their opposition to this move.

**1972** -- After discussion on the proposed expansion to the rink and after the formation of a rink committee it was suggested that it would be less expensive to construct a new rink rather than try to enlarge the old one. Steps to this end were taken immediately. The go ahead was given in May for the construction of the new library building. The library was opened on Friday, Oct. 27, 1972.

**1973** -- Senior Citizen Low Cost Housing was introduced into the community.

**1975** -- The Parish of St. Bruno demolished the parish house under the Winter Works Program. Meetings were being held regarding the closure of the C.N.R. station; street sign posts were erected by and through the Youth Employment Program; the Town of Bruno purchased a new fire truck; funding through a Federal Youth Program was utilized in the compiling of a history of the town and district. This book was completed and excerpts from it have been used in this history book. Mention of the participants can be found in the Acknowledgements.

**1976** -- The Municipal Mill rate was set at 42; Senior Citizens Low Income Units were completed in September.

**1977** -- A new fire hall (two bays) was proposed; the Sask. Housing Corporation came into Bruno and erected Low Cost Housing Units.

**1978** -- The C.N.R. rail line service will be coming through Bruno as of March 16. This will run from Saskatoon to Melfort and return. Henry Honatzis resigned his position of Fire Chief and Brian Schriml was appointed as his replacement; authorization for the Town Oiling Project was approved; the town operated trailer court was disbanded and a private court set up on the south side of the tracks; the Town of Bruno entered into an

agreement with various other councils to provide road ambulance service.

**1979** -- The Main Street Development Program started to take shape in April. Correspondence was received from Associated Engineering Firm stating that an addition to the hall is not adviseable and their recommendation is that a new hall be built. In May, a representative from the Provincial Government met with Town and the Rural Municipality to explain the Celebrate Saskatchewan Program. He advised those at the meeting that the first thing required is to appoint a local board. Town of Bruno purchased a street sweeper; census was taken this year and the population of community was 828; Council passed a resolution in August designating a Business Improvement District in accordance with the Main Street Development Program. Lawrence Weiman was hired as the Town Maintenance Man.

**1980** -- Work on the proposed Community Center was begun. The Town was approached by a delegation of four, to have the use of the old fire hall as a Drop-In Centre for teenagers. This was approved. Correspondence was received from the Transport Commission regarding the discontinuation of the Railliner service from The Pas to Saskatoon as it is always in a deficit position. This service will terminate on the last Sunday in April. The hospital levy on the tax roll was increased to 3 mills. The Chamber of Commerce approached the Town in regards to constructing campground facilities on the sportsgrounds. This was approved. Saturday, June 28 (half day) was declared a civic holiday with respect to Celebrate Saskatchewan activities and specifically the parade. The first "no U-Turn" sign was erected in Bruno.

**1981** -- A delegation met with council regarding construction of a playground on the area allocated for park purposes on the north end of town. Permission was granted. The Recreation Board was also revived in conjunction with the playground project. Work on the cistern expansion continued; plans for the proposed four lane bowling alley were being discussed; the Town engaged Mr. Hayter, a well driller, for the purposes of digging a new well for the Town.

**1982** -- Our bowling alley was opened for operation; a new subdivision was set aside on the south side of the tracks; the new town well was dug and another cistern built to increase the capacity of water available to town residents; an additional five acres of land were purchased for the garbage disposal grounds; Brian Schriml resigned his position as Fire Chief and Victor Meyer was appointed to take the position.

**1983** -- Alvin Meyer resigned his position as secretary-treasurer with the Town of Bruno effective May 31, 1983. Barry Kuzik became the new secretary-treasurer for the town until his resignation effective July 31, 1983. Gael Wilson was hired as the new Town Administrator and accepted the position effective Sept. 1, 1983.

Approval for five Low Income Homes to be constructed in agreement with the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation was granted. The Town made plans to issue debentures to cover the cost of the expansion of the water and sewer system. The resignation of Sylvester Meyer, Town Utility Man, was accepted with regret. Garrett Kunz was hired to the position of Town Utility Man. Jean Fisher was hired as the Administrator's assistant.

**1984** -- The Town of Bruno was accepted as a host for a Katimavik Project to start in July. Thirty-six students from across Canada will live and work in Bruno until June, 1985. Plans to purchase a new town truck were implemented. An expansion of the lagoon that was initially proposed in 1981 was studied further as to feasibility; in 1981 a delegation approached Council for permission to construct a playground at the north end of town -- permission was granted and in 1984 the Park was officially opened on June 10, 1984.

It has been 75 years since Bruno was incorporated and as you can well appreciate a lot occurs through the years and to record each and every happening is not possible. This outline of the history of Bruno highlights the years events but does not include the Ursuline Academy, the churches, schools and businesses as they each have their own chapter, as is only right when their contributions to the community are of such great importance.

So many people have given to make the Village of Bruno what it is today. The list is unending and goes on still as our councillors take the time and the effort to be stewards to the people of Bruno, to the best of their ability. The present day councillors are: Mayor Percy Schmeiser, Audrey Ludwig, Karen Bender, Jerome Strasser, Dale Ebner, Dianne Olchowski and Dan Gerwing. The Town maintenance men are Lawrence Weiman and Garrett Kunz. The fire chief is Victor Meyer.

This history has been written by Loretta Leuschen and she adds: I have enjoyed doing this history outline of the Town of Bruno. The minute books have been treasures of information. Mayor Percy Schmeiser and Gael Wilson, the secretary-treasurer, have both helped immensely.

The following is a list of the various mayors, councilors and secretary-treasurers throughout the years:

**Mayors:** (until 1962 the position was titled "Overseer")

P. A. Schwinghamer — April, 1909 - December, 1917; January, 1920 - December, 1923; January, 1926 - December, 1930; and January, 1932 - December, 1947.

A. M. Pulvermacher — January, 1918 - December, 1919.

Constantine Honish — January, 1924 - December, 1925.

W. F. Hargarten — January, 1931 - December, 1931.

R. J. Schwinghamer — January, 1948 - December, 1960.

Lawrence Schulte — January, 1961 - December, 1961.

R. A. Klassen — January, 1962 - December, 1966.

Percy Schmeiser — January, 1967 - (present day, 1984).

**Councillors:**

William Leisen — April, 1909 - December, 1910.

Frank Fisher — April, 1909 - December, 1909; January, 1913 - December, 1916.

A. J. Schwinghamer — January, 1910 - December, 1910.

Simon Schwinghamer — January, 1911 - December, 1911.

Ed Piper — January, 1911 - July, 1912.

William Gleich — January, 1912 - July, 1912; January, 1916 - December, 1916.

L. M. Vossberg — August, 1912 - December, 1915.

Jacob Gransch — August, 1912 - December, 1912.

A. M. Pulvermacher — January, 1917 - December, 1917; January, 1924 - December, 1930.

William Hargarten — January, 1917 - December, 1921; January, 1927 - December, 1930; January, 1932 - December, 1932.

John Fisher — January, 1918 - December, 1921.

J. Ludwig — January, 1920 - December, 1922.

Frank Wirtz — January, 1922 - December, 1923.

Constantine Honish — January, 1923 - December, 1923.

Anton Fisher — January, 1924 - December, 1926.

P. A. Schwinghamer — January, 1931 - December, 1931.

Math Lauer — January, 1931 - December, 1938.

R. J. Schwinghamer — January, 1933 - December, 1947.

Charles Zacheral — January, 1939 - December, 1945.

J. F. Kellerman — January, 1946 - December, 1946.

Peter M. Bourauel — January, 1947 - December, 1952.

F. E. Hamm — January, 1948 - December, 1950.

Heinz Hartmann — January, 1951 - July, 1955.

Ray Schlosser — January, 1953 - December, 1955.

J. Honatzis — August, 1955 - December, 1961.

George Gerling — January, 1956 - December, 1966.

H. Hergott — January, 1962 - December, 1962.

Don Dufort — January, 1962 - October, 1982.

Alois Helgert — January, 1962 - December, 1963.

Percy Schmeiser — January, 1962 - December, 1966.

Francis Pulvermacher — January, 1962 - December, 1962; January, 1964 - December, 1966.

Adam Keehborn — January, 1963 - December, 1964.

Ed Schlosser — January, 1963 - December, 1965.

Jack McClelland — January, 1965 - February, 1972.

Art Leuke — January, 1966 - December, 1969.

Henry Honatzis — January, 1967 - December, 1970; March, 1971 - October, 1982.

Mat Tarnowski — January, 1967 - October, 1974.

Len Dust — January, 1967 - December, 1968.

Ray Freistadt — January, 1969 - February, 1971.

Leon Stahl — January, 1970 - December, 1970.

Louis Dust — January, 1971 - October, 1982.

Ed Felix — January, 1971 - October, 1976.

Paul Ludwig — March, 1972 - January, 1978.

Audrey Ludwig — November, 1974 - (present day, 1984).

Gerald Tegenkamp — November, 1976 - November, 1983.

Ken Gerling — February, 1978 - October, 1980.

Karen Bender — November, 1980 - (present day, 1984).

Dianne Olchowski — November, 1982 - (present day, 1984).

Dale Ebner — November, 1982 - (present day, 1984).

Daniel Gerwing — November, 1982 - (present day, 1984).

Jerome Strasser — December, 1983 - (present day, 1984).

**Secretary-Treasurers:**

William Leisen — April, 1909 - October, 1909.

William Gleich — October, 1909 - December, 1910.

J. G. Bourauel — January, 1911 - December, 1911.

Frank Hamm — January, 1912 - December, 1914.

T. B. Patterson - January, 1915 - December, 1917.

Joe Weber — January, 1918 - February, 1918.

Frank Wirtz — March, 1918 - April, 1921.

N. J. Klassen — May, 1921 - February, 1925; June, 1925 - January, 1940.

F. W. Schramm — March, 1925 - May, 1925.

Raymond Klassen — February, 1940 - December, 1951.

F. A. Schwinghamer — January, 1952 - February, 1953.

A. R. Meyer — April, 1953 - May, 1983; August, 1983.

Barry Kuzik — June, 1983 - July, 1983.

Gael Wilson (Mrs.) — September, 1983 - (present day, 1984).

GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN  
CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF THE MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER

REFER TO FILE

2754.

WHEN REPLYING

Do not write about more than  
one subject in any letter;  
And kindly refer to our File  
Numbers.

Address your envelopes to  
The Deputy Municipal Commissioner  
Regina

B-r REGINA, SASK. 9th March, 1909.

ERECTION OF THE VILLAGE OF BRUNO.

The requirements of The Village Act, in respect of the erection into a Village, under said Act, of that portion of the Province of Saskatchewan hereinafter described having been complied with and no sufficient cause having been shown against such erection,

I DO HEREBY DECLARE that portion of the Province of Saskatchewan bounded as follows, that is to say :

The South-West quarter of section sixteen (16) in Township thirty-eight (38) range twenty-five (25) West of the second meridian, to be erected a Village under The Village Act and do assign to the same the name of "The Village of Bruno".

I fix Friday, the 19th day of March, 1909, at the hour of One o'clock in the afternoon (mountain standard time) at Bruno Lumber Office, situated within said Village, as the day, hour and place of meeting for the nomination of candidates for election as members of the Council.

Attention is called to Section 60 of The Village Act, which is as follows :

" In the event of more than the required number of persons being nominated, the returning officer shall declare that a poll will be held and shall name the time ( which shall be on the same day of the week but in the next week follow-

ing

ERECTION OF THE VILLAGE OF BRUNO.

ing) and the place where the votes are to be polled and also the time and place at which the result of the polling will be declared."

I appoint P. A. Schwinghamer, of Bruno, Saskatchewan, to act as returning officer at such election.

I fix Friday, the Second day of April, 1909, at the hour of Two o'clock in the afternoon (mountain standard time) at Bruno Lumber Office, in said Village, as the day, hour and place for the first meeting of the Council.

Dated at Regina, this Ninth day of March,

*A. P. M. Grant*  
Municipal Commissioner.



## *Businesses of Bruno*

### **SMITH BUILDING, 1904**

Billy Smith's building, put up in the spring of 1904, was the first dwelling of a permanent nature to be erected in Bruno. It was located just north of where the Co-op store now is, and did duty as both a stopping place and a store. Father Chrysostom said Bruno's first mass in this place in July of 1904. The mail which came spasmodically from Rosthern was distributed from Smith's store for the first two years of the district's development.

Mr. Smith continued in the store until 1914. He then rented it to Mr. Berger who continued in the store business, adding a lean-to, in which Mr. Hargarten opened our first drug store. In the fire of 1916, the building was completely destroyed. This fire, which destroyed almost all of the buildings on the west side of Main Street, was started by a piped gasoline lamp system.



1903: William Smith and mother, Katherine standing in front of their house -- the store was attached to the right.

### **CAMPBELL BUILDING, 1905**

Early in 1905, Albert Campbell arrived here bringing the Massey-Harris agency from Rosthern where he had worked for the company. He put up a building with an office in front for his sales, most of which were wagons, walking or breaking plows and harrows. The building also included five rooms which were used as a residence, stopping place and boarding house.

This building was located on the east end of the grounds where the Bruno Hotel now stands. It was moved in 1906, to where the Bruno Motors garage now is and from its office Mr. Campbell bought and sold grain in 120 pound bags which were stored in a small shed, located near where the present Imperial Oil tanks are. He also ran a lumber business on this lot.

In 1906 he added a lean-to, to shelter his finer lumber and machinery. In 1905 he had built a small eight horse feed barn, where he also kept a livery team. This barn was located at the west side of Kirby Street on the corner. It was bought in 1906 by Pete Hoffmann who moved it on the lot where Mike Pantella presently resides, tearing it down the following year and rebuilding it where Peter Schwinghamer residence was later built.

In 1908, Campbell became indebted to the Massey-Harris company and Frank Wright, the Massey-Harris blockman installed his brother, Jim Wright, in the place until a buyer could be found. Two months later, a homesteader by the name of Brown took over, to be followed by Pillsbury and later by Reiferscheidt and Hoffmann. The Reiferscheidt Brothers ran it for a short time, then Charles Haas bought out one of the brothers. In 1921, Reiferscheidt and Haas sold out to Charlie Zacherl. After the lean-to was ripped off and a building put up for Zacherl's use on the neighbouring lot, the original building became a welding and repair shop for Haas and Schmirler. Later Bill Kellerman took over the building and was joined by Otto Scheidl, who followed the same line of work in 1928 and 1929, after which he moved to his present Kirby Street address. It continued as a garage and machine shop with various operators including Kellerman, Tom Meyer and Gregor Zimmerman. In the 1950's, it was used by Ray Schlosser as a warehouse until it was torn down in 1954 to make way for the new Handwerk Garage, which is now Bruno Motors.

## CORTES' BUILDING, 1905

Early in the winter of 1905, the Cortes hauled lumber from Rosthern and built a two storey building just south of where the office of the lumber yard now is. There was ample space on the main floor, which held a good general store stock, while the second floor was divided into several rooms. This apparently was Bruno's first larger business building but it had a short existence, since it was completely destroyed by fire in the late fall of 1906. Mr. Cortes collected his insurance money and moved on to try his luck elsewhere.

## ERMINTROUDE BUILDING, 1905

This small building was built in 1905 about at the rear of the present drug store lot, by Ermintroude who had a homestead northeast of town, his farm becoming quite well known for its stone buildings. He operated a small store for about a year, selling out to A. J. Schwinghamer in the spring of 1906. When Schwinghamer had his new store completed the small stock was transferred and the building was torn down. The lumber was used for other purposes.



Remains of Ermintroude house -- standing: Eleanore, Rose, Eileen and Alvin Strumborg.

## HINZ BUILDING, 1905

Hinz's Hardware was put up where Gerry Tegenkamp now runs Tegenkamp Electric. This was a solid little building with living quarters at the rear. When the building was almost complete, Mr. Hinz became interested in the Vonda area and although the stock arrived in Bruno by freight in 1905, it was never unloaded, but rebilled for Vonda, where his family followed, shortly.

He rented the building out for a spell (as many as three families lived in it at one time) and then it was taken over by a man named Gervitch, who in partnership with his father-in-law, ran a general store in 1908.

This store operated for several months and then the owners decided to leave Bruno, stock and all. After this, it was again used briefly as a residence. Following this, William Smith acquired it, using the living quarters and operating a pool hall in the store section. It was another of the buildings destroyed in the 1916 fire.

## LUMBER YARDS, 1905

Two more lumber yards were added to Bruno in 1905. These early yards were not very elaborate, merely consisting of a piece of ground, where building material could be piled, and a small shack for an office. The German American Land Company opened a yard here and put Joe Langer in as manager. Then M. Lyons, who was opening business interests in Humboldt, put in a yard and hired Peter Hoffmann to run it.

Joe Foss bought out first the German American Yard and then the Lyon's Yard. In 1907, he sold out his lumber business to Simon and Peter Schwinghamer, who handled it in a partnership for another year. It was closed for most of 1909 but in the fall, Peter Schwinghamer reopened it and continued to operate the yard until 1916 when it burned down.

It was rebuilt and owned by Peter Schwinghamer until 1937. His sons, F. A. and A. H. carried on for some years. Matt Tarnowski now owns the lumber yard.

The defunct Empire Lumber Yard which had been opened in 1918, located on property north of the community hall on Kirby Street, was taken over in 1931, and in 1932 the buildings were moved and assembled with the ones on Main Street. Louis Wirtz was the first manager of the Empire Lumber yard.



Bruno Lumber and Implement Co.



Bruno Lumber Co. addition under construction



Shoe repair shop

## BREIT BUILDING, 1906

In 1906, Bruno began to take shape as an actual village and several businesses started. One that was built in that year, which was well known to all who lived here, is the one formerly occupied by Bill Breit, now the site of the Town Library. It was built by the first parishioners of St. Bruno's as a school and church. Father Chrysostom held the first classes in it, in the summer of 1906, to be followed by that of our first school teacher, W. F. Hargarten. It continued to serve, with several additions built, until the present church got underway.

It was sold in 1918 and moved to the site of the library where it served as a residence and shoe repair shop by Mike Breit Sr. He had operated in a small building located where Dirk's Store was and which was later moved to the Breit farm.

A Candy Kitchen was also operated in the building, in the early 1920's, by Mike Breit Jr. In 1936, the business was turned over to his son, Bill, who handled and owned it until its demolition in the early 1970's.



Mr. and Mrs. Mike Breit

# BRUNO CANDY KITCHEN AND ICE CREAM PARLOR



OUR WATCHWORD IS  
CLEANLINESS, QUALITY  
AND PURITY

H. M. BREIT, Prop.



NO. SASK.

THE BRUNO LEADER PRINT

## BRUNO HOTEL, 1906



Kitchen of the Bruno Hotel. L to R: Theresa Breit, ?, Mrs. Vossberg, Francis Milkart. Children: Lucille and Verna Vossberg, and Louis Vossberg in window.



The Bruno Hotel  
20



**Hotel Dining Room**

The Bruno Hotel was built in 1906 by Simon Schwinghamer who was its first operator. It was operated for a short time by F. Young and then purchased by William Gleich. Gleich sold to Ed Peiper, who was followed by A. Klue. Henry Ulrich purchased the place in 1929 and operated it until 1946, when he sold out to Bernard Kaufman. Ulrich's re-purchased it in 1949 and operated it until 1972. It was then bought by John Vetter.



**Bruno Hotel, 1929**



**Bruno Hotel, 1920**



**Bruno Hotel after renovation**

## FRANK FISHER BUILDING, 1906

Frank Fisher built his blacksmith shop where the community hall now stands and moved it across the street in 1917. After Fisher's death at the beginning of the 1940's, it was used for one year by Fritz Geiger as a feed barn.

It was bought by Otto Scheidl, and rebuilt and used again as a blacksmith shop until the mid 1940's by Bill Lummerding. Bill moved to the Schwinghamer building on Hoffmann Avenue and then in 1948 to his shop that was located on the east end of town. Joe Samorey started in the rebuilt Fisher Shop in 1946 and retired in 1972. The building still belongs to Scheidl.

## LIVERY BARN, 1906

Peter Hoffmann built a 12-horse feed stable about where Otto Schiedl's shop is located. It was sold to Koob's, who moved it in sections and rebuilt it on their farm. Nick Hoffmann ran this new barn during the winter of 1906-07.

## SCHWINGHAMER'S HARDWARE BUILDING, 1906

The hardware building was built in 1906 by A. J. Schwinghamer as a general store. It also served as Bruno's first post office from 1906 until 1912, when the brick and tile building was put up just north of the store. The lower floor of this building was then used as a post office and the upstairs was occupied by Doc Gaynor who used



Schwinghamer's first store, 1906



Schwinghamer Hardware

two rooms and Doc Longault who used the other two rooms for some years during the 1920's and 1930's. It was the largest building in the village at the time.

Both floors served several auxiliary services associated with a small town's general store trade. The upper floor of the store served purposes connected with the Schwinghamer business. It's main purpose after 1919 was a warehouse for the general store. A minor cyclone hit the town in 1912, twisting several of the larger buildings and demolishing some sheds and chimneys. The building, because of its height, suffered the worst, and it was badly twisted. At first, it was thought it might have to be torn down, however it was straightened with cables and continued its good service.

In 1922, Roman opened it as a hardware, adding the International Harvesting Company dealership in 1939, this agency being taken over by his sons, with Don managing the hardware business. In 1952, Don bought out the business and operated it as a Marshall Wells store.

## HEURING'S SHOP, 1907

Heuring's Shop was built in 1907 by A. J. Schwinghamer as a warehouse for heavier merchandise. When the new warehouse was built across the street in 1925, it was rented to Carl Heuring. It was used as a sheet metal shop and tinsmith until he retired.

## KUSTUS BUILDING, 1907

The Kustus building was built in 1907 by Kustus as a blacksmith shop and was located at the rear of what was

formerly the Red and White Store. He operated it regularly until 1909, and occasionally, between his farm work, for a few years longer.

It had a short vacant spell and then in 1914 it was taken over by the R.M. of Bayne and was moved up to the sidewalk to be used as an office. Frank Hamm, the secretary, had had his original office on his farm, but for a short time he had used a part of the emergency hospital for his work, until he moved to the Kustus place.

The R.M. moved to Dana the following year and the place was purchased by Anton Fisher who had operated a harness shop in partnership with Mink, on Main Street. Fisher ran a harness shop in the building for several years, after which it served briefly as a dress shop for three or four years except for a short period when Ralph Gardwyne ran a second-hand shop in it. The Bruno Co-op purchased it in 1941 and when they moved to their present site in 1945, it was purchased by Nick Dirk who operated a Red and White store in it. It is presently Marion's Ceramics and is owned and operated by Marion Lauer.



Kustus blacksmith shop

## OSSELSON BARN, 1907

In the spring of 1907, Sam Osselson started to build a larger feed barn, located approximately where the community hall now stands. Before he bought out Peter Hoffmann, tearing that barn down and using the lumber to complete his own. This new Osselson place developed quite a list of owners. In the fall of 1908, Osselson sold to a man from Bonne Madone and after having it for only three months, he sold to John and Tony Fisher.

In 1909, Jim Thiel bought out Tony and operated in partnership with John until Jack Gransch bought out the

place in 1911. He later sold out to Boehm and Lopsinger. Boehm's share was bought out by Moll, who sold it to Joe Weiman. John Weiman then bought out Lopsinger, in 1920.

A short time later, August Knoke bought out John Weiman and then L. Wirtz bought out Joe Weiman. Van Bergan bought out Knoke and then Moritz and Moll bought out Wirtz and Van Bergen. Ted Lummerding operated the barn until it burned in 1931. It was not rebuilt.



Osselson barn built by Jacob Gransch

## **PULVERMACHER BROS. SHOP-RITE**

The store was begun by Alex Pulvermacher who was born in Wisconsin on a farm near Madison. He worked as a butcher for Conrad Jordon, a cousin. In 1906 he came to Canada with his father and brothers and sisters. He took up a homestead (16-38-25 W2) and later that year opened a meat market.

Alex made fresh sausage and as he acquired more equipment, he made ring bologna, big bologna, wieners, garlic sausages, cured and smoked hams and bacons. Casings were bought by the barrel at a cost of 20 cents per bundle. On an average day, 200-300 pounds of ring bologna was made and up to a maximum of 1000 pounds on a very busy day.

When people would come to town, they wouldn't eat in the cafe. The horses would be put up in the livery stables, or tied up to various posts throughout town and then they would get a loaf of bread from the bakery and then go to the Meat Market. At the Market, they would buy a ring of bologna, put it in the kettle of water which was always kept hot and then eat right there.

In 1918, Alex Pulvermacher had the first light plant in Bruno. The Convent, Sam Wahl's store, the baker, Joe Rammer and some others were hooked up to the electricity. The light plant ran all day and all night during the winter months to keep the batteries charged.

The front part of the store was built in 1926. In 1928 or 1929, Shelly Brothers rented it as an O.K. Economy Store until 1946. At that time, Bill, Julius and Francis had come home from the army and with their brother, Alex the store was purchased from their father. The store was then doubled in size. The stock was purchased from Shelly Bros., and the brothers went into business for themselves.

The brothers butchered until 1958. After supper, they used to slaughter until dark and then in the morning when it was still cool and before the flies were up, they would go to the farm, where Hillcrest is now, to bring the meat into town. The meat was cut up and kept cool in an ice box.

Around 1952, Alex went on his own. A few years later, Julius left the store to devote more time to his turkey operation. Bill and Francis remained with the store until 1979 when Bill passed away. In 1980, Mike and Jerome ran the store until 1981 when Peter moved to Bruno to replace Mike who had moved to Saskatoon to study at the University of Saskatchewan.



**Bruno Meat Market - Alex Pulvermacher**





**Julius**



**Renovations to Pulvermacher Bros. Shop-Rite**



**Bill**



**Francis**

## **BOSTON CAFE, 1910**

A general store was built in 1910 by William Leisen where the Credit Union building now stands. In 1911, he took on Tony Roles as a partner for a year and then carried on alone until he sold out in 1918 to Sam Wall, who continued the business until it was sold to A. Battel in 1924. He operated the store until he moved into the new brick store which was built in 1930, beside the old store. The new brick store is now converted into a cafe.

Bouchere Brothers rented the old building for a short time and then it lay vacant until F. J. Gantefoer, who had arrived here in 1918 from Germany as an immigration agent, rented it for a restaurant for four years. He was followed by a Chinese cafe man who ran the place for about a year. It was then used as a warehouse by A. Battel, and later demolished.

## **BRUNO CREAMERY, 1912**

The Bruno Creamery was built about 1912 with private capital and shares and operated as The Farmer's Creamery. It was first managed by R. Schaefer and then by Mike Frank, until it was sold to the Co-op Creameries Ltd. The Co-op Creameries Ltd. installed Wilson as a manager, later to be followed by Hansen who moved it to Humboldt. The building was torn down just before the 1920's.

## **COCKSHUTT BUILDING, 1912**

The Cockshutt building was built in 1912 by John Fisher as a machine shop. In 1929, Joe Gasper bought out

Fisher and sold to Peter Bourauel in 1930. In 1953 the business and building was bought by Herbott and Leuke who operated the Cockshutt business for 16 years. They sold the building to Henry Honatzis in 1969. Henry operated the Collision Repair Shop in this building until he moved to his new premises.

## **A. P. SCHWINGHAMER BUILDING, 1912**

The A. P. Schwinghamer building was built in 1912 by A. J. Schwinghamer after the storm which almost destroyed the hardware. After his death in 1934, the business and the building was taken over by his son, Alois, who continued to own and operate it as a general store until 1973, when Rene Jule took over.



**Jule's Shop Rite**



**Interior of Schwinghamer's store**

**Dry Good and Small Ware Specials  
For Week Starting March 3 to March 10**

<b>ELASTIC</b> White 3-8 in. Wide 4 yards <b>9c</b>	<b>PRINT</b> Tub-Fast 36 in. Wide per yard <b>16c</b>
<b>Bobby Pins</b> 20 to a card 3 cards for <b>13c</b>	<b>SHOE LACES</b> 1 Doz per bundle 36, 27 inch, per bdl. <b>9c</b>
<b>Writing Pads</b> Ruled or Unruled 8x10 per pad <b>13c</b>	<b>ENVELOPES</b> Blue Lined 3 pkgs. <b>13c</b>
<b>Thread</b> 50 Yard Spools 3 spools for <b>19c</b>	<b>CHEESE CLOTH</b> 5 yards per pkg. pkg. <b>19c</b>

**Grocery and Fruit Specials**

<b>COFFEE</b> Chase & Sanborn per tin <b>37c</b>	<b>Pork and Beans</b> Libbys 16 oz tin per tin <b>9c</b>
<b>Tomato Juice</b> per 20 oz. tin <b>9c</b>	<b>Grape-Fruit Juice</b> Texseen 12 oz. per tin <b>8c</b>
<b>Fresh Frozen Fish</b> Jacks dressed 25 lb. lot per lb. <b>5 1-2c</b>	<b>Sardines</b> per tin <b>4c</b>
<b>MATCHES</b> Eddy's per pkg. <b>23c</b>	<b>Oranges</b> per doz <b>13c</b>
<b>Jam Asst. Flavors 4 lb. tin</b> <b>39c</b>	<b>APPLES</b> per box <b>\$1.79</b>

**A. P. SCHWINGHAMER**  
Store of Quality and Service, Phone 44

Sale No. Amt. of Transaction

**A. P. SCHWINGHAMER  
GENERAL MERCHANT**

Account No.   
Bruno, Sask., June 6 1938

Sold to		
✓ sugar	138	
✓ coffee		35
✓ matches		23
✓ flour		10
✓ paper napkins		25
✓ bath towels		05
✓ soap		25
✓ hat		15
✓ 12 pound tin		27
✓ 10 lb tin		56
Cr. by	@	Total
Cr. by	@	Cr.
Total this bill		164
Your last bill		
Account to date		42

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**A. P. SCHWINGHAMER  
GENERAL MERCHANT**

Account No.   
Bruno, Sask., 6022-193

Sold to		
1 ✓ sugar		39
2 ✓ granules		25
3 ✓ coffee		25
4 ✓ flour		28
5 ✓ paper napkins		25
6 ✓ bath towels		17
7 ✓ soap	50	50
8 ✓ 12 pound tin	50	
9 ✓ 10 lb tin	10/15	36
10 ✓ matches		18
11 ✓ paper napkins		
12 ✓ bath towels		15
13 ✓ soap		65
14 ✓ paper		10
Cr. by	@	Total
Cr. by	@	Cr.
Total this bill		169
Your last bill		89
Account to date		80

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## EMERGENCY HOSPITAL, 1913

The Emergency Hospital was built in 1913 when a scarlet fever and a diphtheria epidemic threatened Bruno. Frank Hamm, the secretary of the government progress unit, had an office in this building for a short time. In the hospital there were two nurses, one cook and a doctor who came from Humboldt. The hospital was moved to the Blaseg Property on the west outskirts of town. It was purchased by T. L. Young in 1915.

## ESTA'S BUILDING, 1914

Mike Esta built a small place early in 1914 on the northeast corner of Hoffmann Avenue and Main Street and operated a shoe repair business in it until 1922. It served as an office for various purposes as well as being a butcher shop for a short time. The Banner used it as a warehouse during the mid 1940's. At the end of the '40's, Sylvester Meyer moved it up to Koenigsville, to use as a chicken house and later a warehouse for tools. It was burned down for a fire practise by the Bruno Volunteer Fire Department.

## THE ACE CAFE, 1915

The Ace Cafe was built in 1915 by A. J. Schwinghamer for F. Honish to be used as a pool room. It was later purchased by F. Honish. Handwerk bought the building in 1918 and for a short time a bakery was operated in it. It was then leased to Frank Leuschen who, together with his partner, L. Wirtz, operated a hardware business for a time. Frank later continued alone until 1921.

It was then taken over by Mike Polries who operated a cafe for a couple of years. In 1925 it was bought by Henry Beusch and Hubert Hohnan who operated a bakery business and cafe. When they closed up, a Chinese Cafe operator took over, to be followed by Ted Holmes, then Louis Sirup in late 1937.

Henry Dust operated a second-hand clothing store in it for a short time in 1938. Except to be used for benefit teas and a few meetings, it remained vacant until 1951, when it was purchased by Louis Schmid who remodelled it and equipped it for billiards and a barber shop. In 1954, Hassen and Stahl purchased the premises and again remodelled it to a billiard room and lunch counter.

Joe and Sadie Engele operated the cafe after Hassen and Stahl. The Engele's had the cafe until they sold the building to Bill Mah.

## ROYAL BANK OF CANADA - BRUNO BRANCH

The first Union Bank at Bruno was located on Kirby Street near Railway Avenue. The branch was opened in Bruno on Aug. 15, 1915. The present day building which houses the Royal Bank was built by request of the Union Bank in 1917. The building was completed on Dec. 30, 1917 with the exception of the installation of the electric fixtures. The existing branch was constructed at a cost of \$10,456.19.

The Union Bank was purchased by the Royal Bank of Canada on Sept. 1, 1925. The Royal continues to serve the residents of Bruno and the surrounding district, from these original premises, however several renovations have been completed over the years.

The individuals that have managed the branch over the years, are as follows:

1915-1922	B. C. V. Beyer
1922-1926	A. A. May
1926-1948	H. W. Clarke
1948-1952	A. C. Quinn
1952-1957	R. J. Waters
1957-1967	F. J. Kuhn
1967-1972	L. B. O. Haaland
1972-1975	R. J. Johnston
1975-1979	J. D. Podjan
1979-1982	K. H. Richter
1982-	W. K. Massier

The Royal Bank has played a major role in the history of Bruno and is looking forward to continuation of this role well into the future.

## Two years each on Bruno charge

Edward John Wielgosz, 25, of Brandon, Man., and John Shiloff, 26, of Calgary, were sentenced to two years each in Prince Albert penitentiary on a charge of attempted armed robbery at Bruno.

The two men forced their way into the upstairs apartment of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Kuhn, manager of the Royal Bank of Canada branch in Bruno, on April 20, 1962. One carried a .32 revolver and the other carried a sawed-off rifle.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Kuhn were bound and then tied together and the men then tried to get the combination of the safe. After some convincing talk by

the manager, the men fled without any further attempt to get into the bank vault.

Recently the men were picked up in Calgary in connection with another charge. They were brought to Saskatoon where they appeared before Magistrate R. H. King, in connection with the Bruno attempt and were sentenced to penitentiary.



The Royal Bank



R to L: Mr. H. W. Clarke (manager, 1926-1948), Anne Arbeiter, May Hryniuk, Bernadette Knoke, Marian Gasper.



L to R: Bob Waters (manager, 1952-57), Bernie Schriml, Joan Holllcky, and Viola Weiman.

## BRUNO CO-OP STORE, 1917

The Co-op Store was built after the fire in 1917 by Billy Smith and operated as a bowling alley and pool hall by Ted Lummerding until 1918. Peter Reiferscheidt then operated it until 1920, during which time the bowling alleys were removed.

During the 1920's, it was operated in turn by Mike Linde, Maurice Kellerman, John Stahl, Charlie Haas and Joe Lummerding. This brought us to the 1930's.

During the 1930's, John Horky was the main tenant. The back section was used as a dance hall and meeting place until the early 1940's after which it remained closed until 1945 when the Co-op purchased it from Mr. Smith. It now serves as the Co-op General Store.

## THE DRUG STORE

The first drug store was opened in Bruno by W. F. Hargarten in 1914 in an annex on Berger's General Store, which was located near the present Co-op Store. The building was destroyed by fire in 1916 and the present drug store was built and occupied by W. F. Hargarten in 1917 where he continued in business until 1938 when he sold the drug store to J. F. Kellerman.

Fred McNeill bought the drug store in 1948 and sold it to the present owner, Lawrence Schulte in June of 1953.

The drug store annex was built by Mr. Hargarten in 1918 and was used as a telephone exchange. When the exchange became too large, it was moved to Kirby Street and the annex was taken over by Barrister Pheliane for a law office. Later, it was a shoe repair shop for Zmood and later Pozniach. It had several vacant spells and was used as a residence by the local blacksmith and then by Lawrence Schulte. In 1957 it became the doctor's office and examining rooms for Dr. Patchell, Dr. Junk, Dr. Murphy and Dr. Henning for the past 28 years.



Mr. Hargarten and his niece, standing in front of the drug store.

## **FASHION BEAUTY SHOP, 1917**

The Fashion Beauty Shop was built in 1917 by Jim Daniels to be used by himself as a tailor shop. It was converted to a print shop in 1919 by Joe Teppe. For the next several years between vacant spells and intermittent use as a residence, it served as an office or shop for several small businesses.

Possibly the most outstanding of these were Frank Zettl's Tailor Shop in the late 1920's and Dr. Hargarten's office during the late 1930's. In 1938, it was taken over by M. Marklinger and used as a sewing machine depot and barber shop until 1942, when it was purchased by Tillie Thiel. It was then used as a beauty parlor for the Thiel sisters. The building was later demolished.

## **DRUG STORE ANNEX, 1918**

The drug store annex was built in 1918 by W. F. Hargarten to be used as a telephone exchange. When the exchange became too large, it was moved to the present location in the building on Kirby Street and the annex was taken over by Barrister Pheliane for a law office.

Later it was a shoe repair shop, first Zmood and later, Prosak. It had several vacant spells and was later used as a residence. It presently serves as the doctor's office when a doctor from Humboldt comes to Bruno twice a week.



## **FRANTZ BUTCHER SHOP, 1918**

Frantz Butcher Shop was built in 1918 by John Ludwig to be used as a butcher shop. John Ludwig operated a Red and White store in it until 1936 when L. Wollmann rented it to use as a butcher shop. Frantz took over in 1937 and operated his butcher business until 1949, after which it was purchased by Zacherl and torn down.

## **SCHWINGHAMER'S POOL ROOM, 1918**

Schwinghamer's Pool Room was built by Maurice Kellerman early in 1918 as a garage, then it was sold to Joe Bergerman, who sold it to Tegenkamp and Mette, International Harvester Equipment dealers. The building was bought by John Messier in 1928 and operated alone until 1929 when it was bought by Schwinghamer interests. It was rebuilt inside and Ted Holmes rented the whole building. Later, August Mahlmeyer rented the front end and operated a harness shop in it for some time. After this, it was used by R. J. Schwinghamer for car storage.

When the pool tables were bought in 1943, he operated it for about a year as a pool hall. It was owned by R. J. Schwinghamer and continued as a pool room for a number of years, having been run by Dr. Seckenger, Leo Pulvermacher, Fritz Haller, Louis SIRRUP and Joe Weiman. The building stood south of Joe's Cafe. This building was demolished in 1972.

## **MADELINE'S SHOP, 1919**

Madeline's Shop was built in 1919 by Joe Rammer and used by him as a bakery until 1929. It was operated as a Red and White Store by Mr. Harkson from 1932 to 1934. The building was vacant for some time.

It was used in 1939 and 1940 as a tailor shop by Frank Zettl. It was bought in 1941 by the Arbeiter family who again ran a bakery and cafe until 1947 when L. Ludwig took over as a cafe owner. It was bought by Jack Kolinsky in 1949 and continued as a cafe until Jack's death in 1951, when Mrs. Kolinsky converted it to a ladies wear establishment. It was partially burned in 1954 and was rebuilt as a dress shop. It also accommodated Merle's Beauty Salon. It is presently owned by Joyce Meyer and operated as J. & R. Beauty Boutique.

## PALACE GARAGE, 1919

The Palace Garage was built as a Power Plant in 1919 to house ten and 15 horsepower semi-diesel generators, another 25 horsepower unit being added in 1926. In 1929, when Bruno was connected with Hydro Power, Paul Honatzis, who had been the operator and who had a shop at the rear of his residence, bought the building, where he operated his business until after the war.

John Honatzis managed the business in later years. The Palace Garage is now being operated out of Humboldt.



The Palace Garage



During the late 1930's, Paul Honatzis & Sons built numerous snowplanes and propellers that were sold across Canada.



1937 Plymouth before Paul Honatzis & Sons did autobody work.



1937 Plymouth after being worked on.

### ROXY THEATRE, 1919

The Roxy Theatre was built in 1919 for Mrs. Rollins who used it as a cafe. She ran it for two years and then it was taken over by a family by the name of Walz and it continued as a cafe until it was taken over by Leuschen to become a hardware store. It was later bought out by Hauser who operated a hardware for a short time and then it was sold to Schwingamer in 1925.

Since that time it has been used as a theatre and a hall. The first picture shown in it was by Schwingamer in 1925. It was taken over by Dennis in 1952 and was converted into a regular movie house. The Saskatchewan Government Wine and Beer store operated in part of these premises during 1935 to 1942. The building was remodelled in 1975 and now houses Tegenkamp Electric.

### SCHEIDL STORE, 1919

This building was originally built as a garage in 1919 by Tom Kisling and was rented out. Jack Schroe was one



Store and Machine Shop, 1939 V8 Ford car

of the first to operate in the building. Dr. Seckinger acquired the building in 1922 and leased it to Carl Lewis.

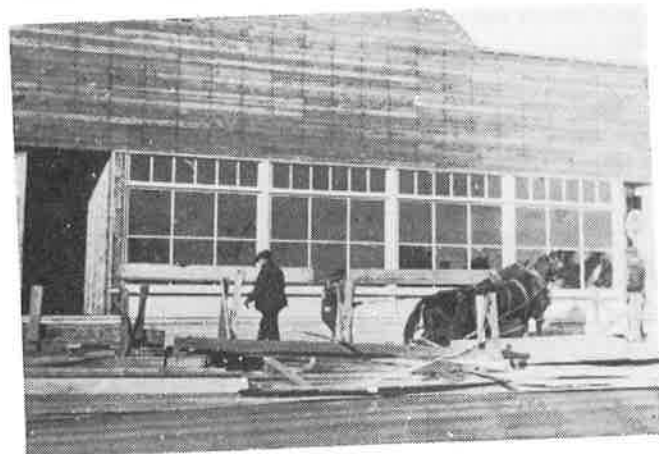
In 1930, R. J. Schwingamer bought the building from Seckinger and sold to Otto Scheidl, who bought out the Lewis equipment. Scheidl then operated his machine shop and hardware store. He also does welding and fixes odds and ends.



Otto J. Scheidl Hardware

### THE YOUNG BUILDING, 1919

The Young Building was built in 1919 by Peter Hoffman for T. L. Young as a garage. The building itself never changed hands, although it serviced various management. It was operated by Young for half a dozen years



The Young Building



and then followed Berggerman Bros., Coulter and Kopek, and Tegenkamp and Schlosser who ran it from 1928 to 1934. Youngs took the building over again and in the early 1940's Spengler re-opened it after a short period of inactivity, and ran it for nearly ten years. Kirzinger operated it until 1954 when he sold to Handwerk. The building became vacant when Handwerk moved to his new building.

Schlosser's Garage is presently built where the Young building originally stood.

### BRUNO CAFE, 1920

The Bruno Cafe was built in 1920 by Gus Knauer in partnership with the Hoenman Bros., who operated it as a general store. Knauer withdrew from the partnership in 1922 and Hoenman continued to run the business for another year. It was then sold to W. F. Hargarten, who rented it for a short time to Breit and Wisserman to be used as a Candy Kitchen, Bakery and Cafe.

In 1925, the cafe was sold to a Chinese partnership, the Der Brothers, that included Sam, Charley and Skinny Der, and one other Der brother. Skinny bought the cafe in July of 1929. The brothers continued to run the cafe until eventually a family by the name of Louis arrived. Richard Der and Peter Louis as well as two others, ran the cafe. Eventually, Richard ran the cafe on his own until it was sold. The building continued to be used as a cafe until it was purchased by the Credit Union. Later on it was used as a beauty shop and now is the home of the Senior Citizens Friendship Center.

Richard and Elaine Der are running a cafe in Winnipeg. They have three children, Norman, Norma and Toby.



Charlie Der



Richard Der family. Richard and Elaine, Mrs. Marie Young and the Der children - Norman, Norma and Toby. 1977.



Sammy Der

### LINDE MONUMENTAL BUILDING, 1920

The Linde Monumental Building was built in 1920 by Maurice Kellerman to be used as the first International Implement business and Feed Shop. It was purchased in the same year by Mike Linde who rented it to T. L. Young and later to Tegenkamp and Mette, who continued to use it as the International Implement Shop until it was taken

over by Math Demong, who used it as a paint shop after which it was vacant for a short time.

In 1924, C. Honish rented the place and used it as a dance hall. In 1925, Linde started his Coffin and Tombstone business. The building has been moved out of town and John Honatzis did store machinery on the lot.

## HAMM DAIRY, 1921

Francis Hamm started in the dray business in 1921, adding the dairy business in 1940. Today there are several dairy farms surrounding Bruno.

The dray business was sold to Joe Breit and Sons who also did a good job of excavating and earth moving.



The start of Hamm's Dairy



Ursula and Francis Hamm



Delmar and Diana Hamm out on milk delivery



Delmar Hamm with dray team hauling water, 1956

## KRIEG SHOP, 1921

The Krieg shop was built in 1921 by Bill Kohlman for use as a barber shop. It was sold in 1926 to Karl Krieg. Krieg barbered in Pulvermacher's store, and the pool room before starting his own place. The Krieg Shop has been torn down and Stahl's Beauty and Barber Shop now stands in its place.

## INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER COMPANY, 1925

The International Harvester Company was built in 1925 by A. J. Schwingamer as a warehouse and used for this purpose until the end of the 1930's. It was then used as a depot for Prairie City Oils, and by Canada Packers as

a candling station. It has also served as a residence on several occasions.

It was remodelled in the early 1940's and it accommodated R. J. Schwinghamer and Sons as a garage and implement shop. It was an International shop for a short time and the building is now vacant.

## SASK. WHEAT POOL ELEVATOR No. 79

by August Gartner

The first Pool elevator was erected in 1925 with a capacity of 30,000 bushels. The original elevator was destroyed by fire and the present elevator was built in 1928 with a capacity of 42,000 bushels. In 1956, a 50,000 bushel crib annex was added. Over the past years a number of renovations and improvements have been made including installation of electric motors in 1966, a new 50 ton capacity scale, electric car mover and electric door openers in 1970, a new cleaner in 1973, a dust eliminator in 1978 and in the fall of 1983 a computer was installed.

In 1972, Sask. Wheat Pool purchased the Federal Grain Elevators in Bruno, thus giving them three plants, namely A, B and C. In 1976 the C elevator was sold and demolished. Since 1974 the Sask. Wheat Pool elevator facilities have been operated by an agent and a permanent assistant agent.

The records of the agents prior to 1929 are not available but from then on the agents were as follows: C. F. Southward (Aug. 1, 1929 - June 27, 1932), J. H. Weber (June 27, 1932 - July 31, 1949), W. V. Muyres (Aug. 1, 1949



Saskatchewan Wheat Pool elevator

- July 19, 1950), H. Hilgers (July 19, 1950 - July 31, 1964), Joseph Fedorchuk (Aug. 1, 1964 - Feb. 9, 1972), Gregory Rath (Feb. 9, 1972 - Mar. 2, 1972), August Gartner (Mar. 2, 1972 - present), Russell Ebner B&C (March, 1972 - Dec. 31, 1973), and Don Welter, assistant agent (Jan. 4, 1974 - present).

## DUSTY INN DAIRY ... FIFTY YEARS

The first purebred Holstein cow and heifer for the Ben Dust Dairy was purchased in 1927, from James. A. Caskey, Madoc, Ont. The two animals served as the foundation for the herd that was established.

With the purchase of this foundation stock a new dairy barn was erected, accommodating 14 milk cows. All of the cows were milked by hand until 1932 when the Dust Dairy modernized, purchasing the first milking machines operated by gas motor and vacuum, the first milking machines in the Bruno area. A large hand operated separator and a cattle clipper driven by vacuum was also purchased.

Every day except Sunday, the Dust family had to transport eight gallon cans of milk to the C.N.R. station in Bruno, a mile and a half from the farm. From the station in Bruno, the full milk cans were loaded on the train to go to the Dairy Pool in Saskatoon, and empty cans returned to the farm. The Dairy Pool in Saskatoon was started with each dairy farmer wanting to join, having to mortgage each of his dairy cows for a certain amount. Bernard Dust was one of the first members.

On Oct. 17, 1951 at the dispersal of the dairy herd owned by Ben Dust, Joe bought the two top selling cows and one calf, from his father's herd. He paid \$500 for one and \$450 for another. This dispersal was auctioned by Jack Blacklock of Blacklock Auction Services of Saska-



Milking apparatus, 1940

toon, who was then at the beginning of his auctioning career.

The two cows and calf purchased along with 15 head of Holsteins earned on a share basis from the farm itself, were the basis for Joe's herd. Joe took over his father's milk contract continuing to ship milk to the Dairy Pool in Saskatoon.

The prefix name of Dusty Inn Dairy was registered by Joe. The herd was registered, accredited and listed, making any animal in the herd eligible to go anywhere in Canada under health regulations. The herd was also R.O.P. and D.H.I.A. tested.

Over the years, Bernard and Joe advertised and sold many purebred Holstein cattle to dairy farmers all over Saskatchewan. The dairy herd at St. Peter's College at Muenster was partially built with animals purchased from the Dust herd.

The installation of electrical power helped ease the dairy man's workload. In 1963, the C.N.R. terminated the passenger service from Winnipeg to Saskatoon. This action also ended the daily shipping of milk by eight gallon cans to Saskatoon. At this point, Joe and family switched to shipping cream. A hog operation was added to utilize the skim milk.

In 1972, a milk bulk tank was installed. The separating of milk ended and the milk was picked up by truck. As the three oldest children grew up and sought work away from the farm, Joe found the dairy too much for one man to handle.

On Apr. 24, 1978, fifty years after the herd was begun, the final dispersal was held. The dairy cattle were sold by auction by Ed Roth of Rosthern and were dispersed to various points all across Saskatchewan. Joe continued to farm until 1981 when he auctioned his farm machinery.



Cheryl Dust during Holstein sale, 1978

Arden, the youngest son, took over the Dust farm in 1980. He is the third generation of Dusts to be in the dairy industry. Arden and his wife, Debbie are building their own dairy herd under the prefix name of Dusty Inn Farm, without any livestock originating from the original dairy herd. He, too, ships the milk produced by his herd to the Dairy Pool in Saskatoon.

## BATTEL'S STORE, 1930

Battel's Store was built in 1930 by William Leisen. It was occupied in 1930 by A. Battel, and used continuously as a general store. It has since changed hands, twice, quite recently. The building was used as the M & R Diner and then sold to Bill Mah, who currently operates it as Mah's Cafe.



A. Battel

**A. BATTEL**  
GENERAL MERCHANT

Bruno, Sask. *Sept 20 1940*

Sold to	<i>Blaney</i>	
	<i>Apples</i>	<i>33</i>
	<i>apples</i>	<i>10</i>
	<i>Vanilla</i>	<i>10</i>
	<i>Callus</i>	<i>5</i>
	<i>tax</i>	<i>58</i>
	<i>yeast</i>	<i>59</i>
	<i>...</i>	<i>2</i>
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Cr. by	<i>credit</i>	Total	
Cr. by	@	Cr.	<i>68</i>
Interest charged at 8% After 30 Days		Total this bill	<i>72</i>
PLEASE KEEP THIS BILL FOR REFERENCE		Your last bill	
<b>D</b>	<b>029-46</b>		

EDMONTON - WESTERN SALES HOPE CO. LTD. FACTORIES - WINNIPEG & YANCOUVER

copy of bill

**SCHMEISER BUILDINGS, 1930**

Charles Schmeiser, a 1905 pioneer of the Fulda district, arrived in Bruno in 1930, from Davidson where he had run the Great West Hotel in partnership for seven years. In 1930, Charles built his first Bruno business place. An addition was made in 1942, and in 1952 a modern building was erected. The business is now under the name of Schmeiser's Garage Ltd., owned and operated by Percy Schmeiser.

**SCHLOSSER'S GARAGE, 1934**

Schlosser's Garage was built in partnership as a garage business until Tegenkamp's death shortly after. It was then operated by Schlosser who late took his sons into the business. It was then operated as Schlosser and Sons. It is presently owned by Ray Schlosser and operates under the name of Schlosser's Garage.

**BRUNO SAVINGS & CREDIT UNION LIMITED**

Minutes of the organization meeting of the St. Bruno's Parish Savings and Credit Union Ltd.

The first interest in the organization of a Credit Union was taken by Rev. Father Bernard Schaeffler, to whom goes all the credit for the calling of various meetings held and the final organization of this credit union. The preparatory meetings were held during the winter and interest in the organization was aroused and the workings of Credit Unions in Saskatchewan was discussed culminating in this organization meeting. Guest speaker at this meeting was Rev. Father Francis Lahmir, professor from St. Peters College of Muenster, Sask. who has made an extensive study of the credit union.

Rev. Bernard Schaeffler was chosen as the provisional secretary. Memorandum of Association was completed, copy of which is herewith attached.

Charter members being as follows:

Rev. Bernard Schaeffler, Bruno, Sask., parish priest	4 shares
Paul Honatzis, Bruno, Sask., machinist	2 shares
J. B. Lukan, Bruno, Sask., secretary-treasurer	2 shares
Leo Pulvermacher, Bruno, Sask., farmer	1 share
Mike Kirtzinger, Bruno, Sask., farmer	1 share
A. M. Pulvermacher, Bruno, Sask., butcher	1 share
L. W. Leuschen, Bruno, Sask., farmer	1 share
F. T. Pulvermacher, Bruno, Sask., butcher	1 share
Bruno Wollmann, Bruno, Sask., butcher	2 shares
Frank Spennath, Bruno, Sask., janitor	2 shares



1960, Board of Directors for the Bruno Savings and Credit Union. Standing, L to R: Ben Seidel, F. Pulvermacher, Leo Fisher, P. Schmeiser, Alex Dust, John Huber, M. Leuschen, Peter Bourauel. Seated: Henry Graf, Leo Suchan (manager), John Seidel (president), Otto Scheidl.

Minutes of the first general meeting of the St. Bruno's Parish Savings and Credit Union Ltd. held in the Parish Hall on Apr. 24, 1938, at 3 o'clock p.m.

All the charter members were present and the following new members were approved: John P. Seidel, Leo Fischer, Charles A. Schmeiser, Frank Leuschen, Joseph T. Breit, William T. Breit, Edward J. Hergott, Wilfred Leuschen, Paul J. Seidel, Theodore Kirtzinger, Otto Scheidl, Thimothy Dust, Anton Dust, L. L. Hergott, Raymond J. Fisher, Henry Ulrich, Robert Honatzis, Rose Leuschen, Clara Seidel and Loretta Weber.

Rev. Bernard Schaeffler acted as chairman and John B. Lukan was appointed secretary for the meeting. The chairman announced that the first business to be transacted was the election of five directors, three members to the credit committee and three members to the supervisory committee. All members were elected to hold office until the first annual meeting.

#### **Director:**

Moved by Paul Honatzis and seconded by Henry Ulrich that John B. Lukan be nominated as a director.

Moved by Leo Pulvermacher and seconded by Paul Honatzis that Charles A. Schmeiser be nominated as director.

Moved by Frank Leuschen and seconded by Roland W. Leuschen that Francis T. Pulvermacher be nominated as a director.

Moved by Francis T. Pulvermacher and seconded by A. M. Pulvermacher that Roland Leuschen be nominated as a director.

Moved by Paul Honatzis and seconded by Leander Hergott that Mike Kirzinger be nominated as a director.

Moved by Charles A. Schmeiser and seconded by Frank Leuschen that John P. Seidel be nominated as a director.

Moved by Frank Leuschen and seconded by Wilfrid Leuschen that nominations for directors be closed. Carried.

A vote was taken by secret ballot upon which the following directors were duly elected: John B. Lukan, Charles A. Schmeiser, Francis T. Pulvermacher, Mike Kirtzinger and John P. Seidel.

#### **Credit Committee:**

Moved by Charles A. Schmeiser and seconded by Francis Pulvermacher that Leo Pulvermacher be nominated for the credit committee.

Moved by B. Wollmann and seconded by Mike Kirtzinger that Paul Honatzis be nominated for the credit committee.

Moved by Ed J. Hergott and seconded by Leander L. Hergott that Raymond Fisher be nominated for the credit committee.

Moved by John P. Seidel and seconded by Roland W. Leuschen that Ed Hergott be nominated for the credit committee.

Moved by L. L. Hergott and seconded by Mike Kirzinger that John B. Lukan be nominated for the credit committee.

Moved by Roland W. Leuschen and seconded by Francis T. Pulvermacher that Charles A. Schmeiser be nominated for the credit committee.

Moved by Paul Honatzis and seconded by Wm. T. Breit that nominations for credit committee members be closed. Carried.

As a result of a secret ballot, the following were elected as members of the credit committee: John B. Lukan, Charles A. Schmeiser and Ed Hergott.

#### **Supervisory Committee:**

Moved by Frank Spenrath and seconded by Frank Leuschen that Paul J. Seidel be nominated for the supervisory committee.

Moved by Wm. T. Breit and seconded by Leander L. Hergott that Raymond Fisher be nominated for the supervisory committee.

Moved by Frank Spenrath and seconded by B. Wollman that Henry Ulrich be nominated for the supervisory committee.

Moved by Roland W. Leuschen and seconded by Henry Ulrich that A. M. Pulvermacher be nominated for the supervisory committee.

Moved by John B. Lukan and seconded by Charles A. Schmeiser that Roland W. Leuschen be nominated for the supervisory committee.

Moved by John P. Seidel and seconded by Mike Kirtzinger that Leander L. Hergott be nominated for the supervisory committee.

Moved by Charles A. Schmeiser and seconded by Ed Hergott that Leo Pulvermacher be nominated for the supervisory committee.

Moved by William T. Breit and seconded by Frank Spenrath that nominations for the supervisory committee be closed. Carried.

By secret ballot, the following members to the supervisory committee were duly elected: John P. Seidel, Henry Ulrich and A. M. Pulvermacher.

Moved by Frank Leuschen and seconded by John P. Seidel that we adjourn. Carried.

Chas. A. Schmeiser  
President

John B. Lukan  
Secretary-Treasurer

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### **Hi-lites Over the Years**

**1938:** Charter granted on April 7, originally signed by ten members. Total share capital \$85.00. Office hours 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesdays.

**1939:** An education committee was elected.

**1940:** Shares paid 4% with share capital limited to \$500.00 per member. Deposits paid 2%.

**1941:** Everything remained as it was in 1940 with the exception that the interest rate on loans was to be lowered.

**1942:** A general meeting and social gathering was held in June to increase interest in the Credit Union. A financial rally was held in the fall.

**1943:** Benefits of Central Co-operative Organization were adopted.

**1944:** Dividends on shares 2%; deposits 1 1/2%. Share capital and loan insurance was offered. This was the first rural Credit Union in Saskatchewan to offer both.

**1945:** Dividend on shares 2%. Interest rate on loans 6%.

**1946:** Number of loans granted, 77. Two hundred members were present at a dance which followed the annual meeting.

**1947:** No loans made since May, 1946.

**1948:** Financial difficulties forced the dropping of loans and life savings insurance.

**1950:** Secretary's salary \$30.00/month.

**1952:** Eighteen loans granted for a total of \$5,240.00.

**1953:** Board of Directors increased from five to nine. 1% dividend on shares.

**1954:** Twenty-two attended annual meeting.

**1956:** Four loans granted during the entire year for a total of \$2200.00.

**1957:** Ten loans granted for a total of \$4,800.00.

**1958:** Loan and life savings insurance again adopted.

**1960:** Share capital drive and other expansion planned.

**1961:** Name changed from St. Bruno's Parish Savings and Credit Union Limited to Bruno Savings and Credit Union Limited.

**1962:** Total assets reached \$100,000.00.

**1963:** 25th anniversary celebration.

**1964:** Bruno Cafe purchased on Main Street, remodelled and opened for business on August 3 with assets of \$212,000.00.

**1965:** Cheque clearing privileges commence with Saskatchewan Co-operative Credit Society.

**1967:** Assets increase by 36% to \$514,000.00.

**1968:** New office built at cost of \$35,000.00. Official opening December 11.

**1970:** Credit Union house bought at cost of \$12,000.00.

**1971:** Service charges discontinued.

**1972:** Assets increased to \$1,251,000.00.

**1973:** Supervisory committee dispensed with.

**1975:** Over \$5,000,000.00 lent to members since 1938, with only \$2,700.00 written off.

**1977:** Share dividend 8%.

**1978:** 40th anniversary held August 3, assets over \$3,000,000.00 and memberships over 1100.

**1981:** Interest rates peak at 18% plus.

**1982:** Assets reach \$5,000,000.00.

**1983:** 13% dividend on shares.

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## Offices Over the Years

1. Municipal Office
2. Lumber Yard
3. Fisher House
4. Pulvermacher's Store
5. Pool Elevator
6. Co-op Store
7. Bruno Cafe
8. Present Building

## General Managers Over the Years

- 1938-42 — John Lukan  
1942- — Adam Giesinger  
1942-45 — R. J. Fisher  
1945-48 — A. M. Pulvermacher  
1948-49 — A. R. Meyer  
1949-54 — Tony Hutmacher  
1954-60 — Leo Schan  
1960-70 — Herb Hilgers  
1970-83 — Murray Alexander  
1983- — Mike Weisgerber

## Presidents Over the Years

- |                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Charles Schmeiser | P. A. Schmeiser  |
| Anton Bendig      | W. Hergott       |
| W. F. Hergarten   | M. A. Leuschen   |
| John Seidel       | Sylvanus Wollman |

## Board Members Over the Years

- |                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Herb Leuschen        | Herb Hering        |
| Ben Seidel           | Edwin Sand         |
| Leo Fisher           | Herman Suer        |
| Lawrence Schulte     | Peter Bourauel     |
| John Warick          | Arnold Weyland     |
| Ray Schlosser        | Joe Fedorchuk      |
| Alec Dust            | Frank Olchowski    |
| Francis Pulvermacher | Emile Detillieux   |
| Bernard Shepanik     | Lawrence Eichinger |
| Fred Reves           | John Polanik       |
| Art Lueke            | Theo Weyland       |
| Jack McClelland      | Marcel Paydli      |
| John Mesenchuk       | Wilfred Dauvin     |
| Ed Felix             | Peter Tarnowski    |
| Alain Tremel         | Matt Tarnowski     |
| Alfred Koob          |                    |

## A Memorable Quote

This is a quote by C. A. Schmeiser, a long time board member, from the 1971 annual meeting which best sums up the years of service by all: "How can a bunch of small town businessmen and farmers operate a financial institution where it takes training and brains to do so? I agree that we had very little training. Therefore, the directors and committees which you so wisely elected during these years must have had a lot of brains."

## CANADA PACKERS, 1943

The Canada Packers building, on Kirby Street, was erected in the early 1940's as a produce plant, which purpose it has served continuously. The plant had several managers and employees including S. Dyck, Don Breit, Margaret Huhn, Mildred Kramer had handled the plant for the last ten years of its operation. The building was then moved out of Bruno.

## BRUNO PRINT SHOP

The history of one average small town print shop is very similar to that of the next. The usual outline of our western shops has been that some adventure spirited fellow migrated out with the pioneer soil tillers and townspeople from some large centre. He built a small frame building in some section of the prairies where other frame buildings and shacks indicated that a town was in the making and the centre of an active community was in progress. He spent much of his time and what money he could spare towards the advancement of his particular town and district and usually his progress ran parallel to that of the town. His progress was marked by an addition to the frame shack and complete new buildings as the town grew.

The Bruno Print Shop did not follow as smooth a pattern. Its progress was marked by many setbacks and changes. Instead of the shop being continually and successfully handled by one man and his descendants, the destinies of Bruno's plant have been guided by no less than 13 persons. The paper was known as the Leader up until January of 1941, when it was taken over by Bud Daigle and the name changed to the Banner. Out of the several men who failed here, a number moved on to settle down to various degrees of success at other points — Rosthern, Naicam, Canora, Blaine Lake, as well as points in Alberta and south of the border, are places where some of our temporary printers found their services appreciated enough that they could settle down. Normally, country newspaper men are not wanderers.

The man responsible for giving Bruno its first paper was Mr. Joe Teppe. After getting the paper established, Mr. Teppe had a chance to buy the building. At that time, it was situated on the south side of the railroad tracks, and had been built by the United Grain Growers and used by them as a store. It was later moved and properly reinforced and the equipment moved in. However, Mr. Teppe did not enjoy the use of his new premises for long. He was killed by an aeroplane which visited Bruno in 1923.

Mr. Hintz took over the shop from Mrs. Teppe and proved to be a very popular and successful owner-



Front of the newspaper office

editor. He was soon joined by a partner, Mr. Pletchard, who was displaced by Mr. Hamm and later by Mr. Weber who shortly after became sole operator. Mr. Weber was followed by Mr. Klein and later by Mr. A. H. Schwinghamer. Then Mr. Stewart took over for a period, but poor business forced him to turn the shop over to Mr. Potter, a past secretary of the local municipality. Mr. Potter retired for a similar reason and Mr. Wallace took over, but lack of business again took its toll and Mr. Wallace moved on and the shop remained closed for a time. It was hard to get a new operator since confidence in the place was a low ebb. However in 1938, Mr. F. S. Krenn, the local M.L.A., took over the plant and ran it until January of 1941 when, because it interfered with his work, turned it over to Mr. Daigle. Daigle decided to change the name of the publication and the business in the hope that it might have a bearing on giving it a fresh start.

In 1943, the first building to be actually put up as a print shop was erected by Daigle and the business after operating for almost a year in a small room of the editor's home moved into its new quarters.

With the exception of a few items of equipment, purchased from St. Peter's Press and temporarily housed in the old plant and then moved over, all machines, type, etc. were brought in from other points to make the Bruno shop one of the most up-to-date and best equipped small plants in the province by 1945. The equipment from the old plant was later purchased and moved to Prince Albert where the obsolete items were junked and the useful items put to work in a shop there.

Bud Daigle was the Bruno Banner's last editor. He served here on the newspaper for 19 years until 1960.

## KLASSEN BUILDING, 1943

This little office building was built in 1942 or 1943 by Nick Klassen. It replaced another building that had been



built in 1917 and had become dilapidated. Since it was put up it has been used continuously as a business office and town clerk's headquarters. It was owned and used by Ray Klassen. The building was sold to Alvin (Lefty) Meyer and was used as a general insurance office run by Lefty until his death. Danny and Connie Engele now own the building and operate under the name of Engele Insurance Agency.

### ZETTL'S TAILOR SHOP, 1943

Zettl's Shop was completed in 1943 and is made up of two smaller buildings, which were located on the same site at the time Zettl bought them from the Schwinghamer estate in 1940. Both premises had been built much earlier on other sites and moved to that spot years later. The one that formed the north half was the original Union Bank building and the south half had been built by A. J. Schwinghamer about 1919 to rent as a law office. In their time, both had served several needs such as a law office, millinery shop, bakery, as well as serving several spells as a residence.



### MASSEY-HARRIS BUILDING, 1945

The present Massey-Harris building was erected to replace a smaller building which had been built earlier as a barber shop by Bill Kohlman. It had been used by Charlie Zacherl for several years as a Massey-Harris office. In the mid 1940's, Charlie had the new place built to accommodate more business. In 1951, his son Art

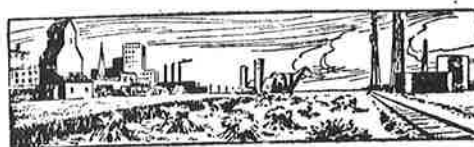
took over for a while and in 1953, Frank Zimmer was a partner. In 1954, Ozzie Thiel entered the business and the partnership was operated by Zacherl and Thiel. The building is now owned by Ray Schlosser.

### RED AND WHITE STORE

**Back In 1905 The Shotgun  
Made Out Your Grocery List**



To a great extent, the early settler had to rely on his trusty gun to supply his table provisions. To-day you can just give us a ring on the phone and your order is put up from clean packaged stock. Your home owned **RED & WHITE** store can supply your needs at the lowest current prices on quality merchandise.



# NICK DIRK

YOUR RED & WHITE STORE

**Groceries - Clothing - Shoes - Paints**

Your always right with Red & White

JEWELLERY REPAIRS



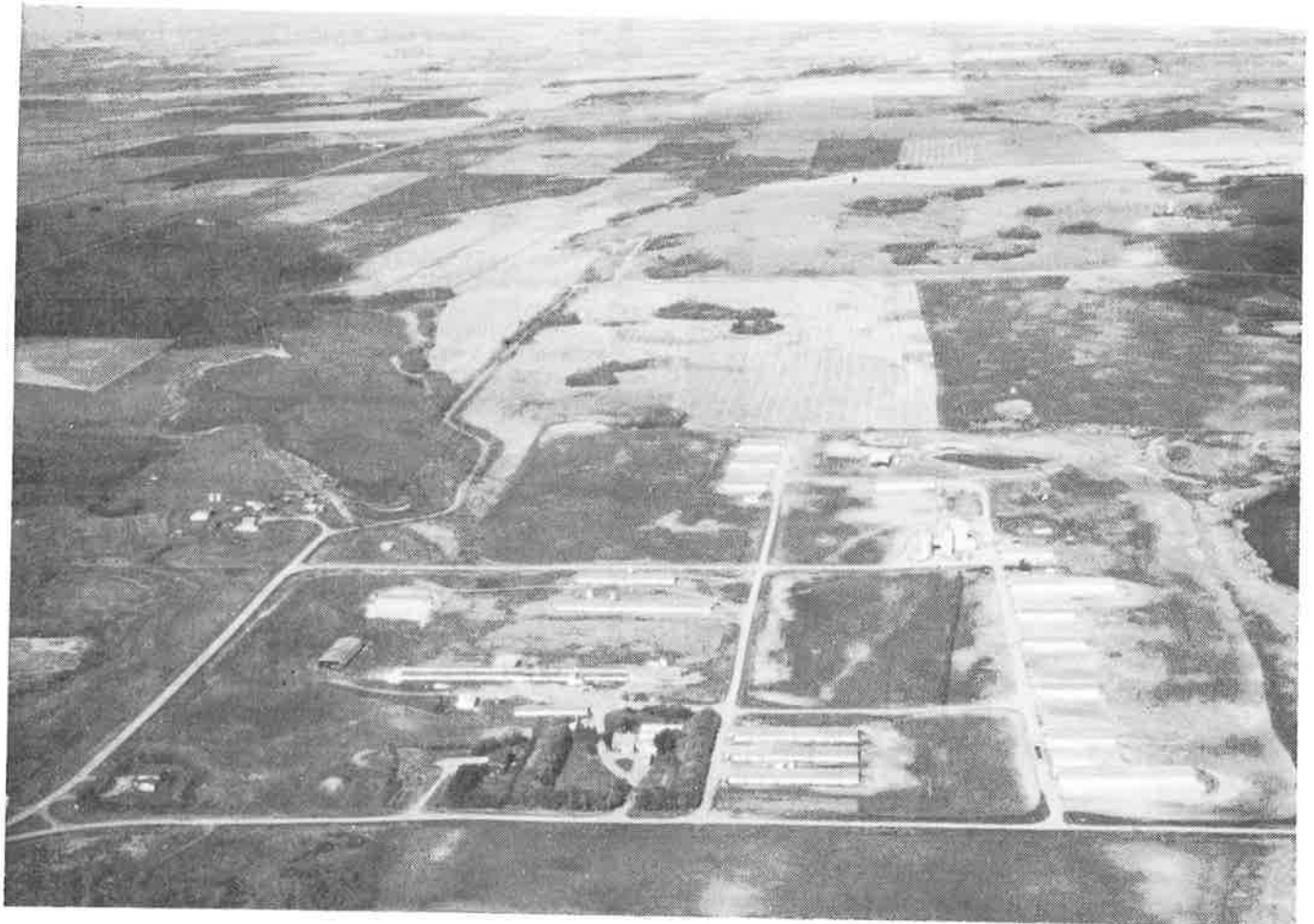
Dirk's Red and White Store

## HERING BUILDING, 1946

The Hering building was put up by A. J. Ebner as an implement shop in 1946. Ebner sold out to Hering in 1953. The building was destroyed by fire in March of 1958 and never rebuilt.

## HILLCREST FARMS

See Pulvermacher, Julius history.



Aerial view of Hillcrest Farms.

## LUMMERDING SHOP

Bill Lummerding set up his first shop which was located on the southeast corner of Bruno in 1948. In 1954 he built a new shop on the same spot where he practiced blacksmithing and welding until the time of his death.

## JUBILEE HALL, 1954

The Jubilee Hall was, for the most part, built in 1954. The building served as a meeting place for general gatherings, meetings and dances. The Lions Club had finished a large meeting room on the second floor and Louis Schmid operated a barber shop on the front of the main floor. The hall was known as the Community Hall until it was replaced by the new Bruno and District Community Complex. The Jubilee Hall is now being used as a storage shed by the Town of Bruno.

## BRUNO MOTORS, 1955

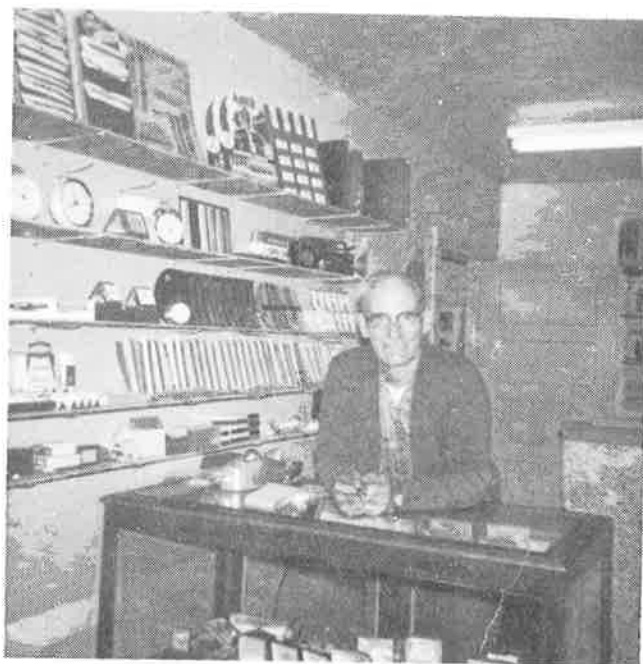
This building can be classed as a Jubilee Year structure, although it was started in 1954, it was not completed until 1955. The garage was built by Handwerk and sold to the partnership of Peter Bourauel, Len Dust and Leo Urban who operated the business under the name of Bruno Motors. Bourauel retired in 1962 and Len and Leo continued the operation.

## POST OFFICE BUILDING, 1955

This building was erected right beside Bruno Motors and like the Bruno Motors building was started in 1954 but completed in 1955. The office was built by the postmaster at the time, Ray Schlosser, and leased by the government for mail service. The post office building was moved beside the Royal Bank in 1965 where it still stands.

## DIRK'S JEWELLERY STORE

After the sale of the Red and White Store, Nick continued with his jewellery business. The shop was located in his home. Nick was a qualified jeweller and watch repairer.



Nick at home in his shop

## BRUNO SENIOR CITIZENS FRIENDSHIP CENTRE

The elderly of Bruno always were interested in card playing as a way to socialize. Aware of this fact, Nick Dirk, his wife Veronica, with the help of Barbara Doetzel in 1971, encouraged these people to get together once a week in the basement of the Town Office for a card social. Players had to record their own score, and the person with the highest score to receive a prize out of the admission paid. This arrangement worked well, as more people joined it was necessary to obtain a larger and more convenient place. Unfortunately, Mr. Dirk passed away in 1973.

It was after this that a meeting was called in 1974 to discuss the possibility to organize under the New Horizons program sponsored by the Federal Government to assist seniors through grants for the establishing of drop-in centers, available as a focal point for senior citizens' activities.

First New Horizons meeting was arranged by Peter Bourauel, Jan. 7, 1974 after the card game in the basement of the Town Office. He had received a pamphlet and application forms from New Horizon's office in Regina. This information he read and explained to some extent. A lot of discussion took place and the final outcome was to take further action for organizing and have

another meeting with speakers out from Regina to attend.

Peter Bourauel was asked to act as president and arrange for personnel from New Horizons to attend the meeting. Board members appointed were: Elizabeth Ulrich, Barbara and Theodore Doetzel, Mary and Frank Zettl, Margaret and Otto Schwark, and Veronica Dirk. As none of these would accept the secretary-treasurers position, Barbara Doetzel said she is confident Irene Mitchel would act to get us started, even though she is not a senior citizen. Present for this meeting were:

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Schwark	Mrs. Julia Krentz
Mr. and Mrs. Theodore F. Doetzel	Mr. Jim Thiel
Mrs. Maria Young	Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gerdes
Mrs. Veronica Dirk	Mr. Peter Meyer
Mrs. Rosie Weiman	Mrs. Rose Leuschen
Mr. Ervin Stahl	Mr. and Mrs. Henry Greuel
Mr. Nick Hofbauer	Mr. Peter Bourauel
Mrs. Mary Helmink	Mrs. Anna Pfeil
Mr. and Mrs. George Weiman	Mrs. Elizabeth Ulrich
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Zettl	Mrs. Catherine Krentz
Mr. and Mrs. John Weyland	Mrs. Alex Dust
Mrs. Mary Hoffman	Mrs. Mary Gresko
Mrs. Ethel Herman	Mrs. Josephine Weiman

The old cafe on Main Street just vacated by the Credit Union was suggested as a possible building to purchase if the Credit Union will accept our offer of \$1,500.00.

Meeting with New Horizons representative Joe Zakreski and regional manager and Mrs. Norman Wallace, field representative was called by Pres. Peter Bourauel, Jan. 24, 1974. Mr. Zakreski gave a detailed report on the New Horizons program and what financial help would be available. The directors decided to organize under the name of Bruno Senior Citizens Friendship Centre and make application for registration under the Provincial Societies Act. Mrs. Norman Wallace advised that a budget be drawn up -- total budget amounted to \$4,700.00. Mr. Zakreski inspected the Credit Union building and approved purchase of this building for \$1,500.00.

It took many days of volunteer work by senior citizens, tearing down the kitchen and living quarters attached to the rear of the cafe. The senior ladies always came to treat the workers with lunch which was appreciated very much.

Sept. 9, 1974 the Centre was officially opened, a large number of citizens attended. Among those taking part in the ribbon cutting ceremonies were: Mrs. Norman Wallace, field representative with New Horizons, Mayor Percy Schmeiser, Peter Meyer, Bruno's oldest man cut the ribbon.



Opening of the original Friendship Centre, 1974. L to R: Frank Zettl, Peter Bourauel, Irene Mitchell, Peter Meyer, Norma Wallace, Percy Schmeiser.

Peter Bourauel, president of Bruno Senior Citizens, in his introductory speech, read an article on senior citizens. Mrs. Wallace said people should not retire from a job or occupation but rather retire to a purpose for living. Your senior citizens centre is a perfect example where you have used your knowledge, skills and experience to improve the quality for your seniors.

Mrs. Wallace noted that the \$4,700.00 grant provided to Bruno appears to have been used to best advantage. The front section of the centre being the original structure was becoming beyond repair. In the summer of 1982 this section was taken down and replaced by a new addition complete with full basement.

The renovated centre now has fully carpeted main floor and basement. A ramp for wheelchair guests and full kitchen facilities was added. Amusements include snooker table, bank shuffleboard, daily cards, card tournaments, bingo, anniversary tea, quilting, Christmas parties and supper, and an active choir.



Opening of present Friendship Centre, 1982. President, Charles Stahl and secretary, Francis Pulvermacher cutting ribbon.

Official opening of the renovated centre was Nov. 4, 1982. Present for the opening were: Louis Domotor M.L.A., Allan Taylor, New Horizons Representative and Teresa Metz, consultant from Regina, Mayor Percy Schmeiser, Joe Dust, Grand Knight made a presentation of \$1,000.00 on behalf of the Bruno Knights of Columbus. President of Senior Citizens centre, Charles Stahl, cut the ribbon and declared the centre officially opened.



**Bruno Senior Citizens Choir, 1978. Back, L to R: Agnes Lummerding, Tony Tegenkamp, Francis Pulvermacher, Chris Tegenkamp, Otto Schwark, Charles Schmeiser. Center: Mary Paydli, Rose Weiman, Catherine Krentz, Kay Gerdes, Tek Pulvermacher, Mary Britz, Jean Johnson. Front: Sister Cecilia, Mary Schwinghamer, Evelyn Just, Peter Bourauel, and Henry Gerdes.**

**THE OTHER HALF div.  
BRUNO LUMBER SUPPLY LTD.**

The Other Half, located on the west side of Main Street, just south of Bruno Lumber Supply Ltd. and north

of Jule's Shop Rite, was built in the spring and summer months of 1979. It's owned by Mat and Frances Tarnowski and managed by their daughters, Dianne and Donna. The stores' doors swung open for business on Aug. 23, 1979. Approximately one and one-half years later the store underwent renovations to improve and enlarge. More major renovations took place yet again in 1984. The store has gone through many physical changes in its' brief existence but its motto has remained the same ... "Let our good looks, look great on you". The store stocks a wide range of dry goods, infant to adult, specializing in jeans and tops for the entire family.

**ALKEN MEN'S AND  
BOYS' WEAR**



# *Rural Municipality of Bayne No. 371*

## **RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF BAYNE No. 371**

### **Local Improvement District 19T2**

The records date back to 1904 when the Local Improvement District 19T2 comprised four divisions including land Tp. 39, R. 25 and 26, and Tp. 40, R. 25 and 26. The first council consisted of chairman, Frank Kohle; secretary-treasurer, Peter Diedericks; councillor Peter Arnoldy; councillor Theodor Holzum. Meetings were then held at the Leofeld schoolhouse.

In 1907, L.I.D. 19T2 was changed to District 18T2 and two more townships were added to the district: Tp. 38, R. 25, 26 W2 and Tp. 37, R. 25, 26 W2. The council then was: chairman, Conrad Marshall; secretary-treasurer, J. T. Flynn; councillors Jos. Hutmacher, J. H. Burns, and Thomas L. Young.

In 1910, District 18T2 was changed to L.I.D. No. 371 and now consisted of nine townships and the following were members of council: Math Pulvermacher, Div. 1; Ephrem Dauvin, Div. 2; Edward Hogan, Div. 3; Frank Hamm, Div. 4; Anton Gasper, Div. 5; A. P. Marcotte, Div. 6.

Oct. 15, 1910 the deputy minister of municipal affairs was invited to attend a ratepayers meeting which was to be held at the Dana school on Nov. 19, 1910. At this meeting the deputy minister of municipal affairs, Mr. J. W. Bayne, and the Member of Legislative Assembly, Mr. A. F. Totzke, addressed the ratepayers regarding municipal affairs. It was following this meeting that Local Improvement District No. 371 was dissolved and the Rural Municipality of Bayne No. 371 was formed. The first meeting of the newly-formed municipality was held at the Dana Schoolhouse on Jan. 3, 1911, which consisted of the following council: reeve, A. P. Marcotte, Howell; secretary-treasurer, Frank Hamm, Dana; Div. 1, Math Pulvermacher, Bruno; Div. 2, T. H. Young, Bruno; Div. 3, Elmer Spiker, Dana; Div. 4, John Stahl, Bruno; Div. 5, Frank Schmirler, Dana; Div. 6, Charles Mason, Howell.

The municipal office was located at the home of the secretary-treasurer, Mr. Frank Hamm.

Like many other municipalities, the depression of the 1930's burdened the council with a very heavy load to ease, if not solve, the many problems caused by lack of funds and material things as well. Feed for animals had to be shipped in from long distances, seed grain also had to be gotten from other areas that were more fortunate than we were; so it was impossible for the municipality

to purchase any road machinery it may have needed. So critical were the circumstances that in 1939 a copy of a resolution passed at a meeting was mailed to J. G. Gardiner, Minister of Agriculture, W. L. M. McKenzie King, Prime Minister, and to Frank Krenn, Member of Parliament, requesting that farmers receive at least 75 cents per bushel of wheat if they were expected to survive.

During the 1940's, times had improved with more and better crops, along with better markets, and it was then that farmers could start paying back the municipality many of their debts that had accumulated during the decade of the 1930's.

During the mid '40's, the municipality started purchasing power road machinery to replace the horse-drawn graders and maintainers. This was a big help in maintaining the few roads that were travelled at that time. In 1948 and 1949, two caterpillar tractors were purchased, one being a D4 cat with bulldozer and scraper, to make the much needed grades through sloughs and bushes. The other cat was a H.D. 10 Allis Chalmers which was teamed up with a road grader, and although the roads built then were not as good as what we have today they certainly served the R.M. well at that time.

As time went on, there was a greater demand for better roads so the municipality chose to hire contractors to do their road building. At present, the municipality has caught up to the grid road building program -- some grids have been rebuilt the second time. The first grid road built was project 1 / 56, beginning north of Sec. 24, Tp. 39, R. 27 W2 and going four miles east of No. 2 highway through Bremen.

At present, Bayne has 60 miles of grid road: seven and one-half miles of industrial road, 45 miles of main farm access roads, and approximately 100 miles of municipal roads, which are all gravelled, maintained, and kept in good driving conditions all year round. The municipality also assists snow plow clubs by clearing snow off the roads during the winter months with their patrols which are equipped with snow wings. A 51 x 60 machine shed was purchased to house the machinery. This purchase was a big asset, especially to the operators when servicing their machines. Grease and oil, along with tools (such as an air compressor and a welder) are also in the shed and are almost essential to today's operations.

The municipality has also been a shareholder in the senior citizens' home at Cudworth since 1968 and at Humboldt since 1964. It has two community wells to



Frank Hamm at work in the R.M. of Bayne office, 1910.



R.M. meeting, August 7, 1913. Gregor Roles (Div. 1), Anton Haberman (Div. 2), Jacob Skarra (Div. 3), Joe Hutmacher (Div. 4), Frank Schmirler (Div. 5), Charles Prefontaine (Div. 6), Jim Hogan (reeve).

serve the people, one in Division 5 and the other in Division 3. Both wells have coin-operated meters controlling the pumps and good access roads leading to each. Another well supplies water to the Dana hamlet. In 1983, the municipality also joined in the rat control program in an effort to help eradicate the rat population in the province.

In 1983 the tax assessment is 2,536,130 and the population is 1,221.

The present council members of the municipality are: Francis Yungwirth, reeve; Mrs. Bernadette Alexander, secretary-treasurer; Mike Hnatiw, Div. 1; Henry Basset, Div. 2; Joe Yaworski, Div. 3; Melvin Strasser, Div. 4; Anton LaBrash, Div. 5; Mike Mechor, Div. 6.

### Local Improvement Ordinance District 19T2

The following are council members of Local Improvement Ordinance District 19T2:

#### June 24, 1904

Frank Kohle -- chairman  
Peter Diedericks -- secretary-treasurer  
Peter Arnoldy  
Theodore Holzum

#### January, 1905

Peter Arnoldy -- secretary-treasurer  
Frank Kohle -- chairman  
Theodore Holzum  
Joseph Haneseck

#### January, 1906

Frank Kohle -- chairman  
Nick Arnoldy -- secretary-treasurer  
Joseph Haneseck  
Frank Hamm

#### January, 1907

Nick Arnoldy -- chairman  
Joseph Haneseck -- secretary-treasurer  
Frank Kohle  
Frank Hamm

#### January, 1908

Charlie Spaine -- chairman  
Frank Hamm -- secretary-treasurer  
Nick Arnoldy  
Henry Noll Jr.

#### January, 1909

Charlie Spaine -- chairman  
Frank Hamm -- secretary-treasurer  
Frank Green  
Math Arnoldy

### Local Improvement Ordinance District 18T2

The following are council members of Local Improvement Ordinance District 18T2:

#### February 9, 1907

Conrad B. Marshall -- chairman

J. H. Flynn -- secretary-treasurer  
Jos. Hutmacher  
J. H. Burns  
Thomas L. Young

#### January, 1908

Conrad B. Marshall -- chairman  
J. H. Flynn -- secretary-treasurer  
J. H. Burns  
Herman Knoke  
Thomas L. Young

#### January 22, 1909

Herman Knoke -- chairman  
J. H. Flynn -- secretary-treasurer  
F. Coumont  
Peter Reifferscheid  
J. H. Burns

### Local Improvement District No. 371

Year of  
Appointment

1910	Math Pulvermacher (Div. 1)
	Ephrem Dauvin (Div. 2)
	Edward Hogan (Div. 3)
	Frank Hamm, sec.-treas. (Div. 4)
	Anton Gasper (Div. 5)
	A. P. Marcotte, chairman (Div. 6)

### Councillors of Bayne Municipality No. 372

Year of  
Appointment (Division 1)

1911	Matt Pulvermacher
1915	Gregor J. Roles
1925	George Krentz
1933	C. Boehm
1943	Jacob Huhn
1951	Walter Harvey
1953	Mike Hnatiw
1955	Henry Greuel
1957	Mike Hnatiw
1961	Steve Remenda
1967	Mike Hnatiw

Year of  
Appointment (Division 2)

1911	J. H. Young
1912	Martin Bocklage
1913	L. Matcham
1915	Anton Haberman
1920	James Boak
1926	Anton Haberman
1934	Ephrem Dauvin
1936	Yves Tremel
1946	Mike Kinal
1948	Henri Basset
1954	Charles McIntyre
1956	Henri Basset
1958	Lawrence Lowe
1966	John Towstego
1972	Henry Basset

Year of  
Appointment (Division 3)

1911	Elmer Spiker
1913	Andrew Chycoski
1914	Jas. Hogan
1915	Jacob Skarra



1916	Nick Golinski
1918	Peter Vitas
1919	Elmer Spiker
1921	J. W. Cahill
1923	Leo Zoldak
1924	Henry Smolkowski
1927	Nykola Prebushewski
1929	John Woloshin
1931	W. Hryniuk
1933	John Shynkaruk
1935	William Stefaniuk
1937	Wasył Hryniuk
1939	John Shynkaruk
1949	Walter Skarra
1963	Joseph B. Yaworski

**Year of Appointment (Division 4)**

1911	John Stahl
1913	Thos. Felix
1914	Z. Dagenois
1915	Joe Hutmacher
1917	Albert Kustush
1917	John Stahl
1918	John Bourauel
1926	R. B. Thiel
1928	A. J. Honisch
1930	R. B. Thiel
1943	Joe Weiman
1946	Lewis Just
1952	Joe Weiman
1966	Francis Yungwirth
1972	Melvin Strasser

**Year of Appointment (Division 5)**

1911	Frank Schmirler
1913	J. A. Schlosser
1914	Frank Schmirler
1926	W. Kellerman
1927	Frank Hoffman
1929	J. Kirtzinger
1933	F. Kugler
1934	John Kirtzinger
1943	Peter Kleiter
1945	Paul Hawryliw
1951	George Megyesi
1953	Peter Beckman
1961	Roman Kleiter
1963	Peter Beckman
1967	Roman Hoffman

**Year of Appointment (Division 6)**

1911	Chas. Masson
1912	Joe Tompalski
1915	Chas. Prefontaine
1920	Jules Vanderbeck
1922	A. Reves
1924	Peter Vitas
1926	Sam Nowaselski
1930	S. Miskolczi
1934	Paul Misiura
1938	George Viczko
1942	Dmytro Chilliak
1944	Alex Hassen
1946	Steve Sopotyk
1963	Jacob Mechor
1968	Walter Sopotyk

1976 Mike Mechor

**Reeves of Bayne Municipality No. 371**

**Year of Appointment**

1911	A. P. Marcotte
1912	Anton Gasper
1915	Jas. Hogan
1926	John Bourauel
1927	Anton Schmirler
1933	H. H. Tegenkamp
1935	John Hogan
1946	Alex Hassen
1957	Henry P. Notschke
1959	John Collin
1973	Francis Yungwirth

**Secretary-Treasurers of Bayne Municipality No. 371**

**Year of Appointment**

1911	Frank Hamm
1923	O. K. Bicknell
1927	E. D. Potter
1935	J. B. Lukan
1941	E. J. Corneau
1959	B. M. Shepanik
1971	Mrs. B. M. Alexander (Hassen)
1972	W. M. Whitmarsh
1973	Mrs. B. M. Alexander (Hassen)

**Locations of the R.M. Office Since 1911**

- 1911-1914 — Dana
- 1914-1916 — Between Dana, Bruno and Howell
- 1916-1926 — Dana
- 1926-1942 — Bruno
- 1943-1959 — Totzke
- 1959-1983 — Bruno



Frank Hamm escorted this RCMP officer through the Dana district during the 1920's. They used a cutter in their search for homebrew!

### **Machinery Bought by R.M.**

**1946:** Road grader from Richardson Road Machinery at a cost of \$1,419.84.

**1947:** Five maintainers from Dept. of Highways for \$375 each.

**1948:** D4 Cat. complete with bulldozer and La Plante Choate scraper from Kramer Tractor at a cost of \$11,898.30.

**1949:** H. D. 10 Allis Chalmer crawler tractor bought from Western Tractor at a cost of \$10,795.00.

**1954:** Caterpillar Motor Patrol from Kramer Tractor costing \$7,000.00.

**1954:** Motor grader rented from Richardson Road Machinery at a cost of \$3,500.00 for two years.

**1966:** D600 Champion road grader from Fuller Bros. for \$25,896.00.

**1973:** D600 Champion road grader from Redhead Equipment for \$32,000.00 plus the Adams 440 patrol.

**1975:** John Deere 401B tractor and mower for \$9,860.00.

**1975:** D600 Champion for \$42,716 plus the 1966 trade-in.

**1983:** D740 Champion for \$105,000.00 plus the 1975 D600 trade-in.

# Clayworks

## THE BRUNO CLAYWORKS

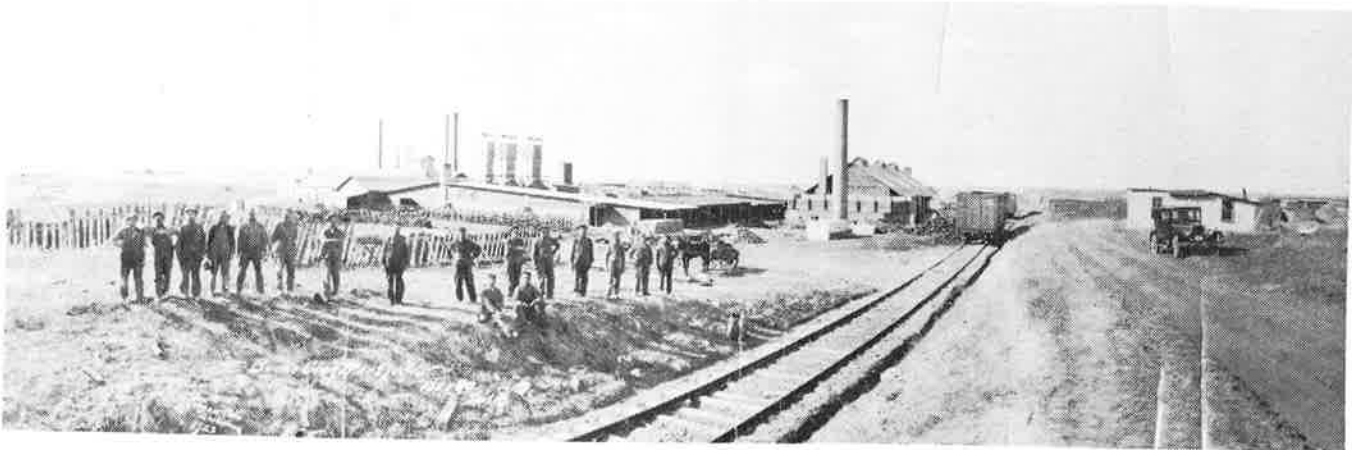
written by W. F. Hergarten

In May, 1904, C. Honisch, wife and six children left Manchester, Oklahoma in a covered wagon drawn by a team of horses and a two-wheeled cart drawn by a single horse, for their homestead in Saskatchewan, Canada, previously filed through an immigration agency. They arrived in Rosthern the first week in October. After a few days rest, well supplied with maps, the family set out to locate their homestead which was the S.E. 24-38-25 W2, two miles west of Bruno station. Mr. Honisch halted his covered wagon and cart, their home on wheels for five months, looked over at his new possession of 160 acres of beautiful prairie, lots of grass -- prairie wool as it was called, and plenty of gophers, and that was all. Next day, the wagon was dismantled, the horses hitched to the wagon gear and off they went, father and 13 year old son, Frank, to the bush for logs to build a permanent home. Bush in this park area was plentiful at that time and logs could be cut within one and one-half to two miles from the homestead.

In the meantime, the Canadian Northern Railway was building its main line, Winnipeg to Edmonton roadbed, and cut through a corner of Mr. Honisch's homestead. In the spring of 1905, two brothers, Joseph and Charles Bonas of Muenster, arrived on the homestead with several loads of machinery and supplies, of a type which Mr. Honisch had never before seen. They asked for per-

mission to unload the machinery near the railroad, "just where it cuts through that small hill. This is a machine to make brick and we would like to try and make some brick here." Mr. Honisch was dumbfounded and replied, "I have travelled over 2000 miles with a family of seven in this covered wagon, forded rivers and creeks, drove through swamps and bush to find and make a home for them, and here as you see, I have nearly finished my log house and another problem faces me. Why make brick on my homestead when there is no other human habitation in sight, and lots of land to set up your machine to make brick? I am tired, I want rest and I want to be left alone so I can build a home for myself and family." Tears came to Honisch's eyes.

The Bonas brothers then told him they were homesteaders like himself, near Muenster, east of Humboldt; that they had come from Minnesota where they were brickmakers, bricklayers and contractors; that they were, at present, working for the C.N.R. in Humboldt and had undertaken to build the roundhouses there for the railroad. "We need good brick," they explained. "We tried to make brick at Muenster but the clay there was no good, so we inquired of the C.N.R. if they knew of suitable clay anywhere along their line, and they replied that their roadbed passed through a small hill about two miles west of Bruno station where their machinery cut through like so much hard butter -- no trace of sand or gravel or stone. We are of the opinion this clay might be suitable. The nearest point brick can be obtained now is



1928: The Clayworks



Winnipeg. So we offered to try out this clay, and we are here now to ask your permission." Then Mr. Honisch, eager to earn a dollar, asked if he and his son, Frank could work for them. This, of course, was gladly accepted. "Not only do we want you and your son's help, but we also want the help of one of your horses as this is a horse power machine." Mr. Honisch's face beamed. He considered this a windfall and like manna in a desert for his family, and gladly consented. The machinery was set up about 100 feet from the railway track, not yet quite completed, and preparations made to begin manufacturing at once.

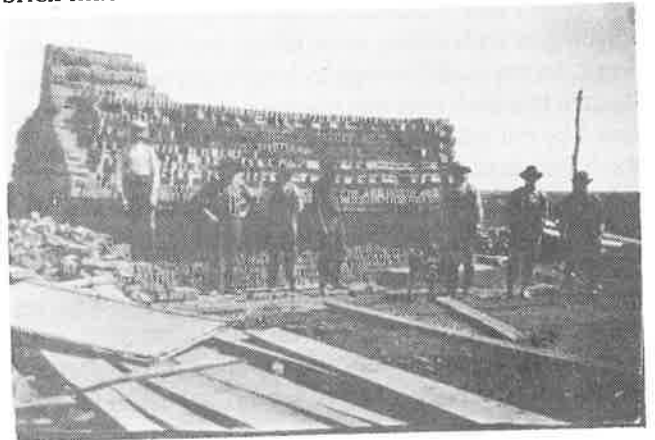
News of the new manufacturing establishment spread like a prairie fire and soon homesteaders from far and near applied for jobs. All were accepted. The sod had to be removed from an extensive plot of prairie and the ground levelled off so that the brick coming from the machine could be dumped there to sun dry. Eight men were employed, and later when the bricks were fit to be stacked in a kiln, four men were employed. Where experienced men were required, like setting brick in the kiln, the Bonas brothers did the work themselves. The entire summer was spent in making several hundred



Rows and rows of brick

thousand bricks, sufficient for the roundhouse in Humboldt. The Bonas brothers, then told Mr. Honisch that they did not intend to continue making brick, as their business was bricklaying and contract work, and that they intended to advertise the machine for sale. This pleased Mr. Honisch as he did not want his homestead all messed up with broken brick and other debris.

In September, 1906, I arrived in Bruno from Battleford to reply to an advertisement for a teacher in Bruno to open a school; Rev. Father Chrysostom O.S.B., missionary priest, had already called the children together and classified them pending the arrival of a teacher. I had taught school in the State of Iowa for several years and was also a graduate of the School of Pharmacy of the Iowa State University. Upon being sent west by my doctor on account of poor health, I chose western Canada and was homesteading in what is now the Wilkie district, 65 miles south of Battleford, when I read the advertisement for a teacher in Bruno. After arriving there, I learned there were plenty of homesteads available near Bruno, so I abandoned my homestead in Battleford and filed on one, one and one-half miles west of Bruno and one-half mile from Mr. Honisch's homestead and the idle brick machine.



Claywork's crew

Being close neighbours, I soon learned about the brick machine and its history. Mr. Honisch was not interested in the machine and hoped the Bonas brothers would soon dispose of it and get it away from there. He was interested in farming and nothing else. I knew nothing about brick machines and less about manufacturing of brick. I could see, however, the possibilities of a large industry buried here in the hill in years to come. I talked to Mr. Honisch about it, but he would not listen. I made use of every opportunity I had to convince Mr. Honisch of future possibilities. Finally he consented to form a partnership with me and buy the brick machine for which the Bonas brothers asked \$400.00. Mr. Honisch made one stipulation, that he and his son, Frank, who had learned the art of brickmaking from the Bonas brothers, would make the brick but that I would have to



Clayworks gang

guarantee to sell them or pay them for their work in cash. The purpose of this stipulation was only to kill the undertaking and he looked very surprised when I agreed to his proposal.

The agreement was now made. The next question was how to get the money to buy the machine. We did not have \$25.00 cash between us, so we agreed to walk to Humboldt, 20 miles away, and see the banker. But what hope is there to get money at the bank? We pooled our money and found we had better not take the train but walk and save the money for hotel expenses and meals. This was in March, 1908. Next morning early, we started for Humboldt along the railway tracks, arrived in the evening, had supper and went to bed. Next morning we went to the Bank of Commerce where a Mr. Campbell was manager. Mr. Honisch could say nothing, because he had already made up his mind all efforts to get money were useless. So I told the manager why we had come, and told him what the Bonas brothers had done and that their roundhouse in Humboldt had been built from brick from this place, and that now the Bonas brothers wanted to sell the machine as they did not intend to go into the brick manufacturing business. The usual questions were then asked, and Mr. Campbell smiled. He admired our courage and smiled again. We had almost given up all hope when he said, "I kind of like the looks of you two men. How much money do you need to carry out your plan?" We informed him we needed \$400.00 to buy the machine and that we would like another \$400.00 credit to pay our men until some money came in. He thought for a moment, smiled again and then said, "O.K., then you will both sign this note for \$800.00." Mr. Honisch was so excited he could hardly sign his name. We were glad, for things had gone well so far, but depressed when we thought of the liability we had just assumed which looked like an immense mountain of debt to us poor homesteaders.

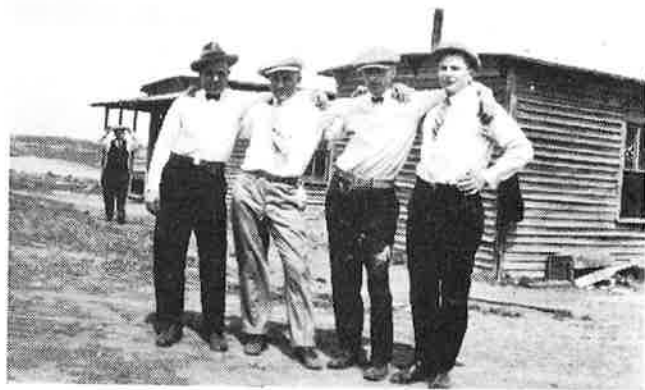
That afternoon we walked to Muenster, six miles east, bought the machine and returned to Humboldt in the evening. We now had \$400.00 in the bank to our credit,

but we did not dare touch it to buy train tickets; so the next morning we started back for Bruno on foot. One and one-half miles from Bruno, Honisch's strength failed him and he would walk no further, so we took a rest and then walked arm in arm wavering and stumbling the rest of the way like two drunken men. We arrived at my house in Bruno eventually, but could not lift our feet to the door sill. By trying to do so, we both fell flat on our faces into the house, thereby scaring Mrs. Hargarten nearly out of her wits, because we were hardly able to get up. Frank Honisch then came to get his father with a wagon.

When spring came, we were ready to go. Many homesteaders who had worked for the Bonas brothers applied again for a job and they were gladly taken on, having had previous experience. I was teaching school, and after school hours I would hurry out to the brickyard to help do what I could. Mr. Honisch was fulfilling his part of the contract we had entered into and I could see finished brick in the offing waiting to be sold.

I had guaranteed the sale of all brick we would make. The country, by this time, was getting well settled and shack after shack was going up but none had a brick chimney, just a stovepipe through the roof. One evening I sat down and wrote a number of posters by hand and mailed them to post offices east and west asking the postmasters to please post. Some I also sent to station agents.

About the time our first kiln was ready for delivery containing 100,000 bricks, the passenger train from the west began to "toot, toot, toot" the emergency call and all men stopped to see what would happen. When the engine came in sight from behind the hill, we noticed the fireman standing on the tender with something white in his hand. When close to the yard, he threw it over, a man picked it up and here was a letter ordering a carload of brick. The letter had been tied around a chunk of coal by the fireman and tossed into our yard.



L to R: Alphonse Cenflonie, Peter Bauer, Fred Turner, Eric Haine

# The Sun-Times

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1961

## Seek re-opening of clay works plant

see also: Page 2 "Encouraging industry" ... at Bruno

### Government purchase of plant seen as only answer

A petition at present being circulated among citizens of Bruno and district and other interested and sympathetic people is soon to be presented to the provincial government asking that the Bruno Clay Works be taken over as part of the Crown Corporation known as Saskatchewan Clay Products.

The action follows an announcement by Alsip Western Bruno Clay Works Ltd. that they do not intend to re-open the plant closed last summer for lack of orders.

Nearly 150 people attended a public meeting in the Bruno Community Hall Monday night at which the company's position was made clear. The meeting was arranged by the councils of the Village of Bruno and the R. M. of Bayne and the Bruno Lions Club. Chairman was R. J. Schwinghamer, president of the Lions Club.

Village Overseer Laurence Schulte reviewed the history of Bruno Clay Products and gave reasons why the plant was not now in operation. He attributed this completely to the provincial government's policy of protecting its Crown corporation, Saskatchewan Clay Products.

Walter Kucharczyk, representative of Alsip Brick Tile and Lumber Co., Winnipeg, owners of the Bruno plant, told the meeting that his company

was not prepared to operate the plant any further but was anxious to see the business continued.

Mr. Kucharczyk explained



### Bruno clay works pioneer in industry

The Bruno Clay Works started in 1907 by the late W. F. Hargarten and Frank Hoenisch. In 1912, the business was incorporated under new ownership and Frank Bolduan operated the industry until 1946 when it was sold to Alsip Brick Tile & Lumber Co. Ltd. of Winnipeg.

Until it was closed down last September because of its inability to compete with Saskatchewan Clay Products, the Bruno Clay Works operated nine to eleven months of the year employing as many as 23 men. Average annual payroll was approximately \$50,000.

The Bruno plant produces hollow building tile, drain or farm tile, Roman type brick, common brick and face brick which is suitable for public buildings as well as homes. The company is convinced their

plant is more suitable for the production of a better quality of tile, and at the same time more economically, than the Estevan plant. The products have met all tests and requirements and are completely satisfactory and acceptable to the building trade.

Each of the kiln's nine chambers has a capacity of from 22,000 to 23,000 face brick or from 25,000 to 26,000 common brick, which can be turned over about twice a month. This means the plant can produce approximately 450,000 face brick or 510,000 common brick at a minimum each ~~year~~ month.

Under the present ownership, many improvements have been made to the plant to improve and increase its efficiency and to manufacture a better product. Value of the plant is now estimated at \$250,000.

Actually, the Bruno Clay Works enjoyed a good business until the time that the Saskatchewan government took over the Estevan Clay Works and started issuing closed specifications on government projects—specifications which, it is understood, contain the requirement that clay products used in government work had to be those manufactured by Saskatchewan Clay Products at Estevan.

"It is government policy to favor Saskatchewan-made products where price and quality are comparable, and this favored state extends to Bruno products to the same degree as to Estevan products, both being Saskatchewan products".

In the same letter, referring to the construction of the Saskatoon Court House, Mr. Willis said:

"The successful contractor in this case is the W. C. Wells Construction Co. of Saskatoon. Upon checking with Mr. Wells I am informed that Estevan brick is being used, as the Department of Public Works has requested."

The speaker suggested that the two statements seemed to be in direct contradiction to each other and the last one indicated why Bruno Clay Products where price and quality compete with the Crown corporation.

Mr. Kucharczyk said there was no truth to the rumor that the plant had been closed because of trouble with the Union and labor.

During a question period, the speaker was asked what assurance there was that the government would take over operation of the plant if the petition was signed. Mr. Kucharczyk said this course of action had been decided upon since the people of Bruno had taken no alternative action.

Mr. Fred McClelland of Saskatoon was present at the meeting and said the Union was interested in seeing the plant back in operation and would like to see the government take the plant over.

In answer to another question, the meeting was told that the prices of the Bruno bricks and tile were competitive and were no problem where non-government contracts were concerned.

Following the meeting, all those who had not previously signed placed their names on the petition.

The brick had been ordered by the C.N.R. for their roundhouse at North Battleford. So, the first order for a carload of bricks came via a chunk of coal. I immediately acknowledged the order with thanks, tied my letter to a four foot stick, went to the railroad track when the passenger train came from the east, held the stick so the engineer could reach it and the letter was on its way. This incident caused a rousing enthusiasm among us all.

The next day the train from the east gave the same alarm and everybody looked to the east hollering, "There comes an order for another carload of brick." The train kept on tooting but seemed to make no headway, so the boys got uneasy and ran up the small hill to see what was holding up the train. Here we saw "Jim", Mr. Albert Herbott's work ox, walking leisurely ahead of the train on a high embankment, the fireman sitting on the cow-catcher with a coal poker in his hand poking the ox. Jim was unconcerned about the whole matter until they came to road crossing when he thought he better get out of the way. It was lucky for Jim because the engineer had a long range view of the track at this point and there might have been a ton of dead beef.

More orders came from Battleford and many carloads were shipped to lumberyards along the line. Our brickyard could not keep up with the orders and I wrote many letters regretting that we could not deliver the brick this time owing to the many orders already booked for delivery.

Although the bricks were made less than one hundred yards from the railway track, for shipment we had to haul them by team to Bruno to load them in a railway car. At the end of 1908, we had paid all our debts and had enough money left to partly pay for erecting drying sheds. With the aid of drying sheds, we were able to turn out more bricks, as intermittent rains had spoiled many for us out in the open.

Many bricks were sold at the yard, people coming from 40 to 50 miles away to get loads of brick to build a chimney for themselves and a neighbour. We worked hard for two years trying to create a stockpile and partly succeeded. Because our homestead work had been neglected and the necessary improvement on our homesteads had not been made to apply for patent, the brickyard was idle for the next two years.

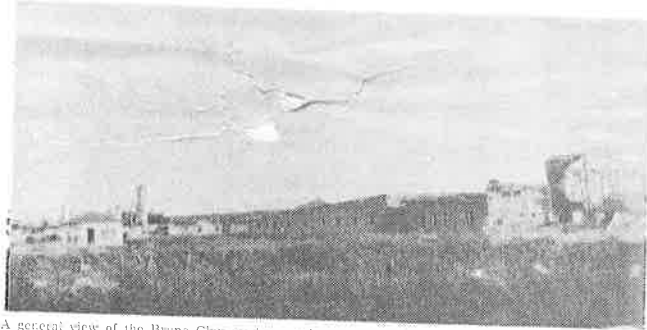
In spite of our success so far, Mr. Honisch was not impressed with the manufacturing business. He had acquired another quarter section of land and he wanted to farm; therefore he asked me to consider him out and for me to go ahead and develop the yard further if I so wished.

I then got in touch with a friend of mine, Mr. F. A. Bolduan of Chicago, who was in Canada at the time promoting the sale of a gopher poison, and he was very much interested. We then applied for incorporation with

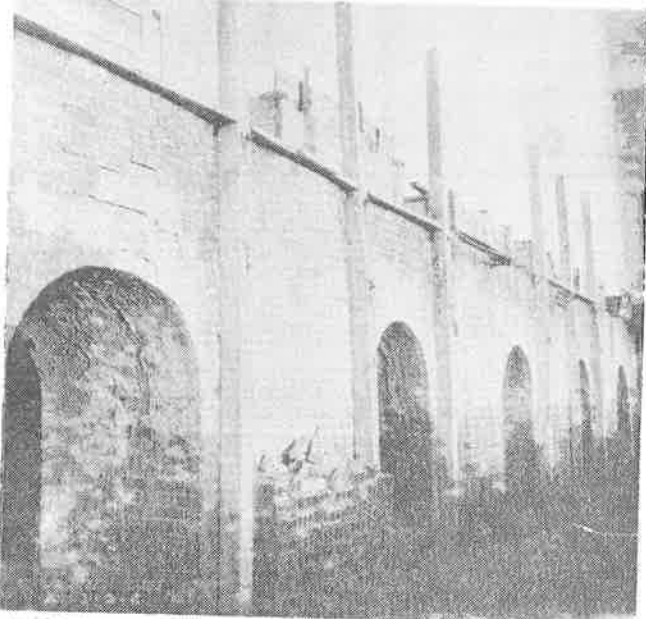
an authorized capital of \$100,000.00 and changed the name from the Bruno Brickyard to the Bruno Clayworks.

We expressed 500 pounds of clay to a brick machine company in Bucyrus, Ohio asking them to make miniature samples of any product the clay was good for. In due time, the samples arrived, consisting of interlocking tile, partition tile, drainage tile in all sizes, different kinds of

## A Bruno landmark is being torn down . . .



A general view of the Bruno Clay works now being torn down on orders from the owners.



A partial view of the ruins, reminiscent of ancient Roman aqueduct arches. — Journal Photo

### a local landmark

Started in 1907 by the late W. F. Harroten and Frank Bolduan. The Bruno Clay Works was incorporated in 1912 under the ownership of Frank Bolduan who operated the industry until 1946.

#### NEW OWNERSHIP

In that year it was sold to Alsip Brick Tile & Lumber Co. Ltd. of Winnipeg, and operations continued until September 1960. The plant then had to close because of its inability to compete with the Government-owned Saskatchewan Clay Products. It has not operated since.

#### PLANT'S CAPACITY

In its heyday, the Bruno Clay

Works functioned between nine and eleven months of the year, employing as many as 23 men.

The plant produced hollow burning tile, drain or farm tile, and all types of brick. The kiln's nine chambers had a total yearly capacity of between 450,000 and 510,000 bricks, depending on the type made.

#### VALUE

Under the Alsip ownership, many improvements had been made to increase efficiency. At the time of closing, the plant's value was estimated at a quarter million dollars.

#### PETITION TO GOVERNMENT

In early 1961, a petition was circulated in Bruno and distributed in the provincial government asking that the works be taken over as part of the Crown Corporation - Saskatchewan Clay Products. At the time, the Village Overseer had attributed the plant's closing completely to the provincial government's policy of protecting its own Crown Corporation.

#### THE END

Nothing concrete came of this petition and now the bell has tolled for this local industry. Demolishing operations are in progress.

brick and all sizes of flower-pots. Mr. Bolduan took some samples and went back to Chicago, while I was to try to sell some stock locally. I did succeed in selling some in this way.

I also armed myself with samples and went to Saskatoon to try to interest the building contractor there, who in turn might be able to interest investors. Several meetings were held and they promised to take the entire stock provided the factory be built in Factoria, about ten miles north of Saskatoon, where evidently a manufacturing district had been planned. I would not agree to this provision, probably for sentimental reasons, but mostly for business reasons, because this would increase the overhead of the company to such an extent that it would be impossible to meet competition at some future time. The meeting was then adjourned indefinitely. This was in 1913.

Shortly afterwards, Mr. Bolduan wired that sufficient stock had been sold and to go ahead with the plant. I bought Mr. Honisch's half section of land for the company, and he in turn bought a half section bordering on the village of Bruno. A. W. Weir, an expert in this work, was hired and made superintendent; Bolduan became president and I was appointed manager.

Bolduan and Weir went from Chicago to Ohio and bought the machinery, while I hired men and teams of horses to level the ground. The C.N.R. sent surveyors and we put a spur from the main line to the yard. Steam boilers soon arrived and were put in place, the old mold machine was used and a new one also came and both were put in operation as soon as steam engines and boilers were in position.

Sixty-five men were employed and the two machines were in operation while sheds were built and new machinery was installed. At the end of 1914, the new plant was finished and one million bricks were made and shipped, except several hundred thousand which we had used for construction. The two mold machines were sold and a new modern brick press took their place. The brick plant was now well established, and in 1916 I sold out my shares to the company and took a pharmacy course at the university for my Canadian papers, and went back into the drug store business, opening the first drug store in Bruno.

In 1947 the plant was sold to the Alsop Brick and Tile Co. of Winnipeg who also own several yards in Manitoba. Mr. Al Graham is manager and Albert Felix is local plant superintendent. They employ 24 men and have a weekly output of nine to twelve carloads of brick.