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TOPIC: Field Notes.  
By Elsa Krauch.

*Cottonwood  
Co*

#### MOUNTAIN LAKE.

Mountain Lake, a Mennonite community in Cottonwood County was formerly called "Little Russia" because the inhabitants, though of German blood came to Mountain Lake from Russia. There are about 254 families in the town, 191 purely Mennonite, 33 of Mennonite descent, 30 non-Mennonite. These Mennonites came to Minnesota in 1873, leaving Russia because they wanted religious freedom and exemption from military service. They left their homes in the Crimean Peninsula and the banks of the Molotschna River in South Russia upon the promise of President Grant that wherever they settled in America they would be free from military service. And they were given free land grants of 160 acres besides. Other tracts were offered by the Government and the Railroad Company at \$2.50, \$5.00 and \$8.00 an acre and these also were rapidly purchased, for these people had <sup>been</sup> / successful farmers in Russia and were not penniless.

TOPIC: Field Notes.  
By ~~Elsa~~ Trauch.

Mountain Lake became a village in the early 80s, and was first called "Midway", that is midway between St. Paul and Sioux City. Schools and churches were built in 1878, the Mennonites at first building their own schools. But in 1888 an Independent School District was organized, a store, elevator and mill erected, and in 1903 a German newspaper "Unser Besucher" was begun.

The Mennonites are devoted to their church, and there are certain features peculiar to their faith; they do not believe in taking arms, in taking an oath, or in divorce. There are five Mennonite churches in the vicinity and they are filled every Sunday. Until recent years there were no salaried pastors, but any layman could volunteer to preach, and if he was selected by the majority, he was ordained by an elder, and thus became a Mennonite minister. There is no infant baptism, but every spring there is a class organized for catechism and instruction, and at the end of seven weeks members usually express desire to be received into the church by the rite of baptism. Mennonite funerals are held in the afternoon, and coffee is served to all who attend. And attendance at funerals is large. All churches have full kitchen and dining room equipment.

The churches have built Bethel Hospital, with a Nurses' Home and a Home for the Aged--an institution worth fully \$100,000.00. The women of all the churches have one large society that helps to fill the needs of our hospital; they have bought china and linens, sterilizers, furniture. In addition each church has its individual Women's Society which raises money by food sales, bazaars and programs, all for purposes

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of benevolence. There is strict observance of all church holidays--Christmas, Good Friday, Easter, Ascension, Pentecost--Christmas and Easter are celebrated for two days. They are big days for family reunions, and flocks of cousins get together. It's a great factor in keeping Mennonite traditions alive.

At Christmas the youngsters recite festive verse--practiced for weeks beforehand--for the grandparents, and are rewarded by dimes and quarters by prosperous uncles. A favorite dinner dish is cold boiled ham or pork sausage, and a "Mus" made of prunes, raisins and apricots, seasoned with sugar, cinnamon and sweet cream. A typical Mennonite combination. At four o'clock coffee and sweets and zwieback are served. Pfeffernuesse are tiny cookies, no bigger than marbles, and are flavored with cardemom. These are always baked for Christmas. For New Year's there are "Porzelehen", a raisin cake fried in deep fat, not so sweet as doughnuts. "Borch" was added to the Mennonite cuisine in Russia, a well-spiced beef soup, with cabbage, tomato, onion, dill, rich cream and lots of potatoes.

Every Saturday the good Mennonite hausfrau bakes her "zweiback" a double bun made of rich unsweetened dough.

Peculiarities of dress are rapidly disappearing. Formerly a married woman would not attend public functions bare-headed. Because hats were considered vain, she wore a coarse black net over her hair, or a bonnet of ribbons and lace, or a three cornered black shawl or veil tied under her chin. Dresses were buttoned high at the neck, skirts swept the floor, sleeves were full length.

The Mennonites have retained the German language. They spoke it exclusively in America during the first years, and even today the



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oldest inhabitants of Mountain Lake speak no English. High school boys and girls frequently have difficulty with the th, v and w sounds even now, and their vowels have a peculiar flat intonation,

There is great stress laid on family life, and weddings, birthday celebrations and picnics are mainly family affairs. Though the Mennonites do not take naturally to the fine arts, he has tremendous interest in education. First they had the private schools, open six months in the year, and taught earnest young men at \$5.00 per month; then a full grammar school course, and finally a high school with the first class graduating in 1907. Their own college is at Newton, Kansas. Many ministers, missionaries, educators and doctors have come from Mountain Lake, and to date, one lawyer.

The Mennonite is thrifty, diligent, self-reliant, peace-loving, and has a horror of debts. He sends all the help he possibly can to foreign missionaries, and to persecuted kinsmen in other countries. Now some of their social customs. To them the Sabbath is a day for worship, family companionship and social life. Relatives, neighbors and friends visit back and forth. The father is the head of the house and his wishes are respected. Family prayers are part of the daily routine. The habit of giving the first-born son the father's name is deep-rooted in Mennonite traditions: the little girls are preferably named for either grandmother. They love music, and have soloists in their churches, any young person singing just because he loves to do so.

In the Autumn there is a music Festival in which all the Mennonite

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choirs participate.

There is a New Year's convention where all church members gather for afternoon and evening session, and there is usually a community chorus and a guest speaker.

In April or May there is another conference, this one for church workers only, to discuss better methods of religious instruction with Sunday School teachers and superintendents and young peoples leaders.

But Mountain Lake is changing. The young people have gone away to school, and married outside the "clan". They now have a Commercial Club, Bridge Club and College Women's Club. The reunions are not what they once were. The church stands as the last bulwark between the Mennonite and everyday American life.

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Report by Miss Mary Borgen, Mountain Lake, Minnesota.

Recd. 3/23/36

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TOPIC: Windom, Minnesota  
SUBMITTED BY: Ruth Lambert  
NO. OF WORDS: 1,450

Cottonwood County

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A duplicate

Windom is the county seat of Cottonwood county, a city of 2,123 persons, near which are several points of interest. It is about 150 miles southwest of the Twin Cities. It may be reached over the Chicago Northwestern railroad or on Southwestern Stages. The bus depot is at the Korner Cafe. It may also be reached on highways U.S.71 and M.60 and M.62.

Hotels:

The Frederick, 824-4th, newly redecorated and furnished in 1936, has 21 rooms, showers and tub baths, at rates from \$1.25 to \$1.75. The Park, at 416 ~~10~~ 10th, has 46 rooms at \$1.25 and up.



Tourist Camps:

There is a public tourist camp at the south end of 4th ave. This camp is on the river and almost surrounded by water. There is good shade, plenty of parking space, picnic tables, fire places, and there are cabins for rent.

History:

When Cottonwood county was surveyed in 1858-59, the surveyors found a few Germans here, including Charles Zierke, known as "Dutch Charlie". (See map, ~~Printed on the Interest~~ see Historic Remains) He lived in the northwestern part of the county and Dutch Charlie creek is named for him. He was believed to have been killed sometime during the Indian outbreaks of 1862 or the following years. (A-79)

About a dozen persons had settled in what is now Cottonwood county prior to 1862 when the Indian troubles began. The first settler was a homesteader named Joseph F. Bean. (A-79,80)

After Bean, came several families to Westbrook township. In 1868 others located in Lakeside township. Because of the danger from Indians from 1862 until several years later, settlement was slow until the ~~the~~ railroad came in 1871. (A-80)

The early settlers had many hardships. There were prairie fires and hailstorms to destroy crops and property. In 1873 the grasshoppers came. They ate the crops and left the settlers almost ~~the~~ without food. The winter following the first invasion of the hoppers many had to have help from the government to keep from starving. Then, as the crops were coming up the



eggs laid by the horde of insects which had come the year before began to hatch and the young ate the crops. Year after year, often in dire need, the settlers stayed on. On top of all the ~~other~~ hardships caused by grasshoppers came the great blizzard of 1872. (A-80,81)

A three day blizzard, which struck suddenly and without warning, caused the death of many of the settlers and their children. At that time there were no farm groves to break the force of the wind. Settlers homes and buildings were buried in snow. For many days the temperature was far below zero. (B)

The railroad was completely blocked that winter from January until April 10. (A-81)

Cottonwood county was created May 23, 1857 with the county seat at Windom. (A-81)

Originally Cottonwood county had 20 townships but in 1864 the state legislature passed an act to change the boundaries of Brown county to include the two northeast townships and provided that the final decision was up to the voters of Brown, Redwood and Cottonwood counties. At election time Cottonwood county was still depopulated because of the Indian troubles and cast no votes. ~~then~~ Redwood county had only 14 votes. Brown county cast 287 votes and got the two townships. Old settlers referred to those two townships as "stolen" by Brown county. (A-95)

The county was organized in 1870. At first county offices were at Great Bend, four miles north of the present city of Windom, on the Des Moines river, but were moved, after a vote on the proposal, to the present site in 1872. (A-95)

The first court house was small and used for many purposes. It was the school house but when court was in session the school had to dismiss because there was not room for both. It was rented for dances and entertainments. The agricultural society had its free use for fairs. (A-102) The present court house was built in 1905. (A-104)

In 1901 the county commissioners put a bounty of \$15 on male and \$20 on female wolves killed in the county. (A-107)

Windom was named in honor of U.S. senator William Windom. (A-287) The town was plotted in 1871 and incorporated in 1875. However, because the original charter became muddled from having ammendments inserted in the wrong places, the town was re-incorporated in 1884. There was another re-incorporation in 1916.

#### Racial Groups:

Scandanavians predominate in the vicinity. They have celebrations and ~~dinners~~ dinners once in a while.

#### Industries:

Windom's industries are founded on agriculture. There are four ~~creameries~~ hatcheries, a co-operative elevator, several cream stations and a creamery.

Historic Remains:

There are three places in the county at which there are what might be classed as historic remains. The cabin believed to have been built by Dutch Charlie is still standing and now in use as a machine shed. (See map) This building is believed to have been the first house built in the county. (C)

Only a few miles from Windom is a farm which remains almost exactly as it was when founded in pioneer days by the ~~father~~ father of the present owner. (See map for Pat's Grove) The original dugout house is just as it was when built and is still in use. The outbuildings are of logs. The fences are of rail. In going to the place, turn east on the small side road just before coming to the timber by the creek. The present owner is Pete Connolly. (C)

Only a short distance from Windom is what remains of the old Thompson farm on which fine Standard Bred horses were reared and trained. It was established about 1892 and closed about five years later. Of the 477 acres in the place, about 300 acres was ~~an~~ enclosed in a board fence as pasture. One of the barns and the original house still remain. (C and D) (See map)



Points of Interest:

See Historic Remains.

See map and legend.

There is a waterfall on a creek in Germantown township. The fall is formed as the creek goes over the quartzite ridge. Upstream from the falls rocks inscribed by Indians have been found. (D)

Recreation:

There is a good golf course just outside the city. A mile and a half east is a good bathing beach. The Wonderland Theatre, on the square, has motion picture shows. There are dances at the Armory once a week. There is good pheasant hunting nearby. There are several lakes within a few miles. Most of the lakes are kept well stocked with game fish.

Education:

There is a new high school building with large Auditorium. The public library is in the school building.

Churches:

There are nine churches active in the city.

Publications:

The Windom Reporter and Windom Citizen, both weekly newspapers, and the Reminder, a mimeographed shopping news, are published here.



Environs:

In the northern part of the county is a massive ridge of quartzite which extends 25 miles from east to west in four townships. (See map) Although covered with till, there are frequent rock exposures. Its elevation above the surrounding country is as high as 300 feet and its elevation above ~~sea~~ <sup>altitude</sup> ~~sea level~~ <sup>Thin veins of calcite occur in its quartzite</sup> is 1,500 feet. The remainder of the county is generally rolling with occasional hills of glacial drift. (A-60 to 78)  
The soil is generally dark loam.

Other Information:

The Cottonwood county fair, held ~~ann~~ annually in Windom, is considered one of the best county expositions in the state. The fair is a five day event with a celebration, horse racing, automobile racing, free acts, and exhibits of fine farm products and livestock. The program lasts all day and evening each day.  
(D)

Bibliography:

- A--John H. Brown, editor in chief, History of Cottonwood and Watonwan counties; 1916, by the B.F. Bowen and Co., Inc., Indianapolis, Ind.
- B--E.E. Gillam, Windom, old settler who has written many accounts for the historical societies and for local papers.
- C--F. Dickey, Windom, Minn.
- D--Mrs. George Warren, Windom Reporter, Windom, Minn.
- E--Windom, "The City Beautiful", (1932) a leaflet printed by the Windom Reporter.

Map and legend attached.

(End of Windom, Minnesota account)

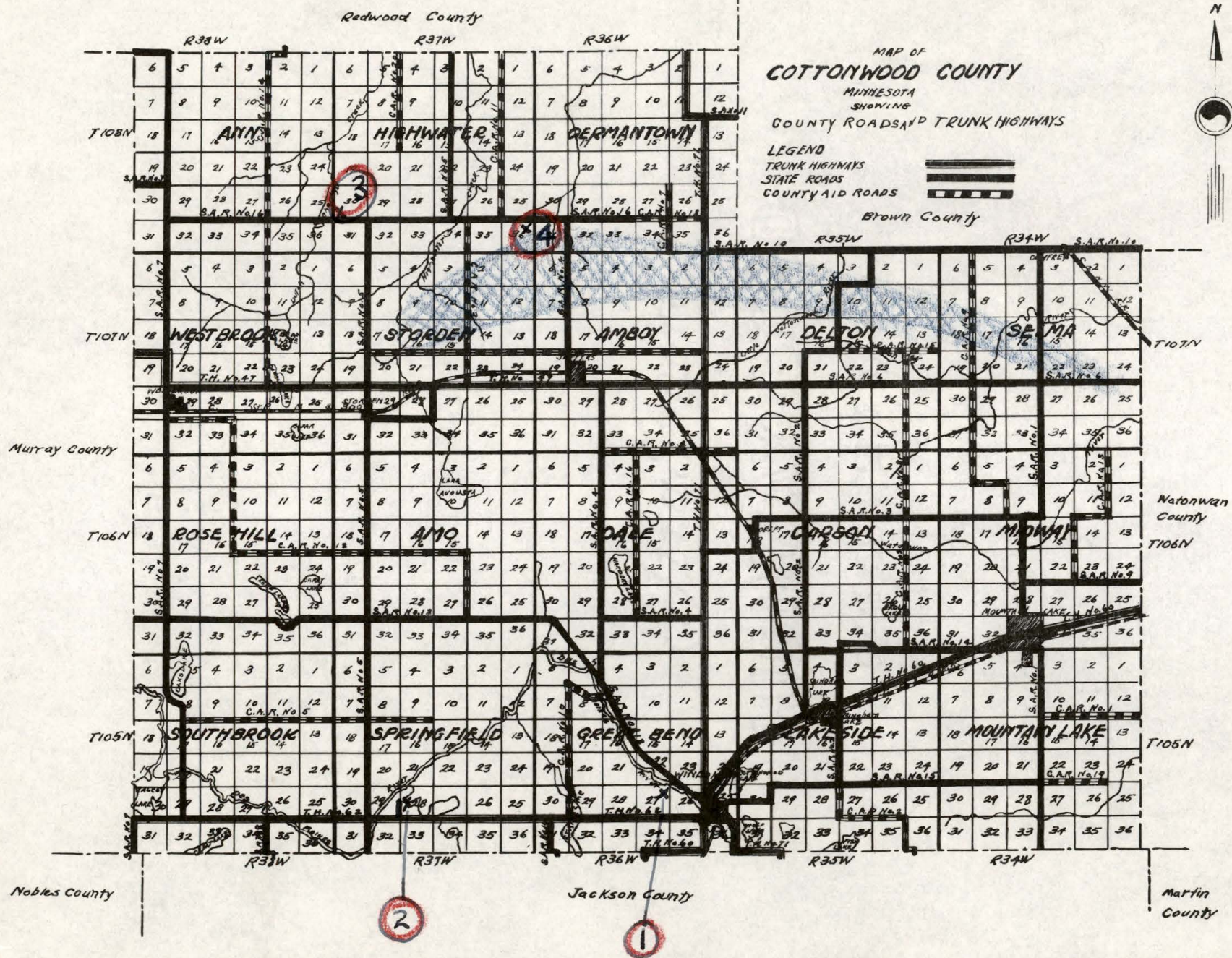
POINTS OF INTEREST IN COTTONWOOD COUNTY

1. Old Thompson farm.
2. Pat's Grove, pioneer farm.
3. Dutch Charlie's cabin. Believed to have been first house in county.
4. Waterfalls and scene of discovery of rocks inscribed by Indians.

*Shaded portion indicates quartzite ridge.*

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MINNEAPOLIS.MINN.

Topic:Cottonwood County History

By P J Wallace

## COTTONWOOD COUNTY HISTORY

Cottonwood County is divided into eighteen townships each having a set of governmental officers of its own.

Germantown township, which derives its name from its many German settlers, was organized January 24, 1874, as congressional township 108, range 36, west,

The early settlers secured title to their land by using their homestead or pre-emption rights. Most of those received their patents from the General Land Office in 1878 -79 and as late as 1885. Wesley D. Sprague, homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 2 June 3rd 1878 and his patent, which appears to be the first one granted in the township, was signed by President Grant. The population growth in this township was as follows: 1895, 488; 1900, 512; 1910, 522.

Amboy township, organized as congressional township 107, range 36 west, ~~xxxx~~ ~~organized~~ October 10, 1872, was named by settlers from the eastern states. The southwestern part of this township is traversed by the Omaha Railway and trunk highways 47 and 71. Jeffers, on the railroad and highway 27 is its principal trading center. The population in 1895 was 443; in 1900, 489; in 1910, 437.

Amo, which means -in latin- "I love", was organized February 1873, as congressional township 106, range 37, west. This township, which is a purely agricultural and dairy district and has no villages, was first named "Georgetown" but the name was changed and, at the suggestion of W H. Benbow, clerk of the court of the county at the time, was given its present name.



Its population in 1895 was 296, in 1900, 385; in 1910, 395.

Ann, congressional township 108, range 38, west, was named in honor of the wife of Hogan Anderson, homesteader, wagonmaker and member of the Board of County Commissioners. It was organized in 1876. The early settlers were mostly Scandinavians. It is an agricultural township ~~very~~ close to the Redwood and <sup>a</sup>Murry county lines. It had a population of 402 in 1895; 500 in 1900; 433 in 1910.

Carson congressional township 106, range 35 west, named for Kit Carson, frontiersman, trapper and guide, was organized in July 1871. Originally this township had a chain of beautiful lakes, which are now nearly all drained. The Watonwan river and its tributaries flow through this township. Delft is its village. The Omaha railway traverses the southwest corner of the township. Its population in 1895 was 655; in 1900, 623 and in 1910, 672.

The early homesteaders bear American names.

Dale, congressional township 106 range 36 west, organized March 1872, is one of the central townships of the county. Its first homesteaders were <sup>9</sup>native stock. Wild fowl abounded around the lakes of this ~~county~~ <sup>township</sup> in the early days. The lakes are now nearly all tiled and drained. Its population in 1895 was 367; in 1900, 455; 1910, 485.

Delton, congressional township 107, range 35 west, was organized Sept 17, 1872. This township has no other industry but farming and has no villages within its borders, but the market towns of Delft, Jeffers and Comfrey are close to its borders. Its principal stream is the Little Cottonwood River and its many branches. The names of the early settlers indicate they were of American stock. The population in 1895 was 350; 1900, 360; 1910, 371.

Great Bend congressional township 105, range 36 west, was organized in 1870 and derives its name from the Big Bend of the Des Moines river. This township, which included the county seat, Windom, was the earliest section of the county to be settled because it was traversed by the river. Many of the first patents to homesteads in the county were granted at the Jackson Land Office to

residents of this section. William Feeh received his patent December 13, 1873. In 1895 the population was 358, exclusive of the city of Windom, which then had a population of 1523. in 1900 township had 435 ; in 1910 township had 444 and Windom had a population of 1749.

The early homesteaders ,who proved up on their claims at the Worthington, Marshall and Jackson Land Offices ,were of American stock.

The first storekeeper ,John T. Smith, came to Cottonwood County in 1870 and built a store at Big Bend ,where it was expected that the railroad would cross the river. But he was mistaken because the railroad went through where Windom is now located in 1871 and the present county seat was born. He moved to and opened a store at Heron Lake, where he was successful. The Omaha road runs into this township at Windom and it is on trunk highways no 71, and no 62.

Highwater congressional township 108, range 37 west ,organized January 1874, is named for Highwater Creek. When the government surveyers reached this township they found Charlie Zierke, believed to be the first white man in Cottonwood County, living with an Indian woman. "Dutch Charlie" Creek and Highwater Creek drain this township. Its population in the early days were from the Scandinavian countries and Germany and many proved up on their homesteads as early as 1874. The population in this township in 1895 was 569; in 1900, 512; 1910, 591.

Lakeside congressional township 105 range 35, west, organized August 1870, derives its name from Bingham Lake. The village of the same name is the most important market town within this township. It is located on the main line of the Omaha <sup>H</sup>Railway and is the junction from which the Currie branch of the same road connects with the main line. Windom joins this township on the southwest. Besides Bingham Lake, the township has Cottonwood, Fish and Clear Lakes. Most of the early settlers ,who were of American stock, secured title to their homesteads at the Worthington , Jackson and Marshall Land Offices in 1877-78

and the early eighties. This township is one of the best farming sections of the county. The number of inhabitants in 1895 was 547; in 1900, 392; in 1910, 449.

Midway, congressional township 106 range 34, west, was organized March 1895.

Its name refers to the railway which passes through it - equidistant between St Paul and Sioux City. Originally this township, which was included in Mountain Lake Township, had many latelets and ponds which are now reclaimed.

This township was settled by Russian Menonites as early as 1870.

The population in 1895 was 528; in 1900, 607; in 1910, 658

The town of Mountain Lake, on the Omaha railroad is within the borders of this township. The Watonwan River flows through it.

Mountain Lake Township 105 range 34 west, organized May 6, 1871, derives its name from its former large lake, in which an island 40 feet high towered above the lake and was used by the early settlers as a land mark. This lake is now reclaimed and fertile acres produce foodstuffs where it once was. The Omaha railway touches this township on the north as does the village of Mountain Lake, in Midway ~~County~~ Township. This township, which was settled by Russian Menonites, has no villages. The population in 1895 was 612; 1900, 561; 1910, 512.

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any thing*

Rosehill congressional township 106, range 38 west, was organized in Mar ~~1879~~ 1879, received its name from its plentiful supply of wild roses and low hills. The early settlers who "proved up" in the land offices of New Ulm, Marshall, and Tracy in the eighties, were of mixed nationalities. The population in 1895 was 480; in 1900, 535; in 1910, 510.

Selma congressional township 107, range 34 west, organized April 4, 1874, bears a Scandinavian feminine name, which was given to the first child born there. It was first named Clinton but there is no record of when the name was changed to the present one. The Northwestern Railway runs through its northeastern corner and a branch of the Watonwan River drains it. It has no market village but Gompfrey, Brown County is located on its borders.



In 1895 the population was 405; in 1900, 427; in 1910, 530.

Springfield congressional township 105 range 37, west, organized August 27, 1870, was so named by settlers from eastern states which have cities of this name.

This township was organized by the Commissioners at Great Bend before Windom became the county seat. Most of the early settlers were of American stock and proved up on their homesteads at the Worthington Land Office.

The population in 1895 was 351; in 1900, 361; in 1910, 332.

Southbrook congressional township 105, range 38, west, organized July 1871,

derived its name from the many brooks and rivulets of the Des Moines River which crosses it. This township has neither a village nor a railroad station.

Its homesteaders names indicate that it was settled with people of native stock.

The population of Southbrook in 1895 was <sup>318,</sup> ~~432~~; <sup>350</sup> ~~542~~; 1900, ~~542~~; 1910, ~~659~~ 303.

Storden congressional township 107, range 37, west, organized March 30, 1875,

was first named Norsk but later was renamed in honor of Nels Storden an immigrant from Norway. It is crossed by the Currie branch of the Omaha Railway and trunk highway number 47. Its principal trading village is named Storden.

Its population in 1895 was 439; 1900, 548; 1910, 659.

Its early population were immigrants from Norway.

Westbrook congressional township was organized Sept 17, 1870, as township

107, range 38, west, and was named for the west branch of the Highwater creek, which flows across its southeast corner. "Dutch Charlie Creek" also flows

through it. This township was homesteaded from 1872 and through the eighties

by people of Scandinavian extraction and immigration. It is traversed by the

Omaha Railway, which has a station in the village of Westbrook within its borders.

Its population in 1895 was 599; in 1900, 688; in 1910, 579.

#### DESERTED VILLAGES

None



Cottonwood County History.

The pioneer lawyer of the county was Emory Clark who located in Windom soon after the county was organized. He is cited in the Old Settlers Association minutes for distinguished public service in the community. He wrote an opinion on the famed two "Stolen townships" which he claims should belong to Cottonwood County on the ground that the election, which was held pursuant to an Act of the Legislature, did not decide the issue because only Brown and Redwood Counties voted and Cottonwood, which was established but not organized, could not vote.

Attorney A D Perkins came to the county in 1872 and hung out his shingle in Windom. He had a distinguished legal career in the county, being elected County Attorney in 1872, State Senator in 1897. He was appointed District Judge in 1885 and elected to that office in the election of 1886.

A W .Ames graduated in Law from Michigan University .He became Mayor of Windom, County Attorney of Cottonwood County and member of the School Board.

Wilson Borst who was Attorney for the Milwaukee <sup>RR</sup> before he came to Windom in 1894. He was one of the most active practitioners in Southwestern Minnesota being on one side of nearly every case in the territory for many years. He had one of the finest libraries in the county.

W C Benbow, an early Attorney, was elected County Attorney, was for a time editor of the Citizen and later engaged in the Brick and tile business.

George M. Laing located in Windom in 1881 and became Probate Judge. He was one of the lawyers appointed to revise the probate laws of Minnesota in 1890.

J G. Redding, who was the first Clerk of the Court, became County Attorney after he was admitted to the bar, and later was Probate Judge.

#### PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

The pioneer doctor was Dr Silas D Allen. Born in Pennsylvania he taught school and studied medicine at Ann Arbor, Michigan. He married Lucy A Allen. Trying his fortune as a gold miner in California he wandered back to the middle west and settled on a farm in northeast Iowa. The new land of Cottonwood County attracted him and he settled on a farm about a mile from Windom on the Valley road. There he farmed and practiced medicine for a number of years, living in a log house until he built a fine frame house on the same site. He made his calls on horseback and was widely respected by the early settlers.

Dr Allen Smith commenced practice in Windom in 1871.

Dr C A. Greene was the other doctor in the town.

Dr J H. Tilford registered in 1886 and practiced in Windom.

Dr Joseph R. Noble registered in 1886.

Dr Le Roy Brown registered in 1886.

Dr Noah Dinonetenberg, graduated from the St Paul Medical College, and located in Cottonwood County the same year. Dr Chas Wilber Ray, graduated from the Bennett Eclectic Medical College, Ill., and located in Cottonwood County in 1887.

Dr Thos A Beach, a homeopathic doctor, in 1893.

Dr F. R. Weiser registered in Windom, 1894.

Dr Theodore Beck registered in 1896.



Ed

## EDITORS

E.C.HUNTINGTON was the first editor in the county .He established the Windom Reporter in 1873.

C F Warren established the Cottonwood County Citizen in 1882.

O M.Quigley established the Westbrook Sentinel in 1901.

Harry Maxfield established the Jeffers Review March 1900.

D C.Benjamin established the Mountain Lake Review 1894.

Early School Teachers 1873

The teachers of the early schools were bonded because Brown says: "So many of them got married before the school term expired. The School term in the early days was short - about 4 months. Miss Nettie Sackett was the first school teacher in the county. "A select School" was held in Windom on the upper floor of the Loop and Woods Lumber Office in 1871.Miss Lawton was the teacher.

The salary of a school Superintendent in 1871 was fixed at \$20 per year. In 1879 it was raised to \$350 per year.

William Prentiss served as County Superintendent of Schools from 1873 to 1877. He took an active interest in the early farm organizations being <sup>Lecturer</sup> ~~Secretary~~ and Master of the Grange in Windom. He later became a lawyer and moved to Chicago.

Other teachers in 1873 in the county were: Alice C Flint,Alice L. Fitch, Alice J.Brown,Emma A.Young,Mary C.Nourse,Nellie Imus,Edgar Holmes and Orrin P.Moore.Eva Cook,Kattie M.Tingley,Mary Yale ,Maggie Morrison , Wm Peterson andAlva B Swayne.



## EARLY STORES

Daniel C Davis was the first permanant settler in the village of Bingham Lake. Upon coming to the village he opened a general store and bought his first stock of goods ,amounting to \$3,600,in New York City. He continued to operate his store for three years when he became postmaster ,a position he held until 1886.

The three general stores doing business in Mountain Lake were owned by S J Soule,J Lynch and Paul Seegar.

Mr.Seegar came from Cumea ,Russia,in 1873,and settled on the first claim in the vicinity of Mountain Lake. He was the first postmaster. Balzer opened a general store in ~~1872~~ 1888,Edward Bopp opened a store in 1892;In 1897 John Jungas opened a shoe store;in 1896 Julian ~~Gals~~ Glasman a meat market;P P Goertzen opened a Jewelp~~ry~~ Store in 1898;

~~Jeffers~~ Storden

The first business houses in Storden in 1906 were C H Shammer,grocer, A M Clark and sons ,Hardware.

Westbrook

St John Brothers built the first store in Westbrook. J D Bevier had a restaurant and boarding house as well as a grocery.

Windom 1872

J N.Mc Gregor came to Windom in ~~1872~~ 1871 and entered a partnership with D Patten in the general merchantising business. He was elected county Treasurer and later became president of the First National Bank. The other stores in Windom at this early date were :

Flour dealer L Clark;General Dealers M E Donohue,Hutton and Wilson;

Hardware and Implements Espey & Lukens;Jeweler C A Ludden;

Meat Market H M Clark.

Great Bend

J T Smith was the store keeper at Great Bend before the railway came.

MINNEAPOLIS.MINN.

Topic: Cottonwood County History.

By P J Wallace

### Cottonwood County History

Cottonwood County ,with a population of 14,782 is in southwestern Minnesota.Its capital city,Windom,lies 150 miles southwest of St Paul and 122 miles northeast from Sioux City. It is bounded on the north by Redwood and Brown Counties,on the east by Watonwan ,on the west by Murray and is separated from the Iowa line on the south by Jackson County.

It is in the Second Congressional District and together with Jackson county constitutes the tenth legislative district.

It is in the First Division of the United States Courts in Minnesota and ,in Minnesota,in the Thirteenth Judicial District.

The county is named after the Cottonwood River. The reports of Keating and Nicollet states that the word "Cottonwood"comes from the Dakotah or Sioux word "Waraju" which the Indians gave to the tree which grew in abundance along the banks of the rivers of the county. The voyageurs called it "Liard" which means far5hing. This alluded to the nearly worthless character of the lumber for construction purposes.

Cottonwood County

Wallace

No claim jumping records found

No Horse thieves or Horse Thief  
Associations -

No Indian Children records

No missions

Slip #2



Wallace

## Cottonwood County

Early settlement and Settlers When the county was surveyed in 1858-59 the early rod and chainmen, ~~who included amongst their number Jefferson Davis~~, found a few Germans. The best known of these was Dutch Charlie ~~Tierke~~ <sup>Tierke</sup> who has a creek called "Dutch Charlie" Creek" called after him. Only about a dozen settlers lived in the county prior to 1862. The first actual settler was a homesteader named Joseph F. Dean and the second George B. Walker. These first settlers lived along the creeks in Great Bend Township, along "Dutch Charlie's Creek" in highwater Township and over by the Oak Grove schoolhouse. Most of these people found their way to what is now Cottonwood County, over rough trails from the more densely settled sections of the East and Iowa. They did their trading at New Ulm where the -- Land Office was located. Here they filed on homestead which they could "prove up on" by living for a certain time on the land, putting in certain improvements, appearing before the Register of the Land Office, proving their residence and paying stated fees. They were later issued a patent to their land from the General Land Office in Washington, bearing the signature of the then President.

Because of the panic of 1857; the Indian massacre of 1857 at Spirit Lake, Iowa, and at Jackson, Minnesota, the Civil War and the Indian War of 1862, settlement was retarded until the late sixties. About this time the Minnesota History Bulletin # 8 records that small groups of Danes settled at Storden and Westbrook. The settlers in the later place were to a large extent emigrants from Baptist groups in Freeborn and Brown Counties.

In the late sixties and the early seventies many veterans of the Civil War came to get "Free land" in Cotton wood County. But even with the building of the railroad in 1871, right across the county to Windom, settlers came in what at that time appeared to be large numbers but ~~not so thickly~~ <sup>in not sufficient numbers</sup> to take up all the available homestead land. Windom, the county seat was laid out in 1872, with the coming of the Omaha Railway into the territory. The first important building was erected on

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Lot 8, Block 18, June 1871 and was used by Espey and Lukens as a hardware store.

Other buildings <sup>me</sup> erected <sup>among them</sup> was the Windom Hotel <sup>built</sup> erected by Clark and Bell.

In 1871 the human relations had become so complicated that the first court was established with Franklin H. White presiding, J. G. Redding acting as Clerk and Charles White as Sheriff. The county was organized earlier and a full set of officers were appointed.

At this early date taxes were being collected to run the new county and the first man to pay his to the County Treasurer was George F. Robison in January 1872. In 1871 the assessed valuation was \$99,817. This gives an idea of assessed valuation in these early days in 1878 the valuation of land in Dale, Amboy, Southbrook, Ann, Amo, Delton and Selma was \$3.50 per acre. Carson Township was \$4.00, while Germantown and Highwater were \$3.75.

An idea of the <sup>number</sup> amount of voters in the county can be gained from the figures showing votes cast in the presidential election of 1872 when U. S. Grant ran for President against Horace Greeley. Grant received 437 votes in Cottonwood County to Greeley's 47.

January 7th 1873, a great snowstorm descended on the county ~~doing~~ doing considerable damage. This storm is described under the heading Early Schools on another page.

Grasshoppers in 1873. The ~~10~~ 10th Chapter of Exodus tells about how the locusts descended on Egypt, covering the face of the ~~land~~ earth so that the land was darkened and how they:-

"Eat every herb of the land, and all the fruit of the trees which the hail had left; and there remained not any green thing on the trees or in the herbs of the fields"

The story of Moses shows the invasion of Egypt to be only for a year while Southwestern Minnesota was ravaged for five years.



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Dr Peterson, a pioneer preacher of Cottonwood County, described the coming of the grasshoppers in 1873 in the following vivid words:

"I remember quite distinctly the coming of the grasshoppers the morning of June 1873, when the advance troop (of grasshoppers) arrived. I was surprised at what at first seemed snowfall. I looked up and saw millions of hoppers, with their outstretched wings, sailing down upon the field. \*\*\*\*\* I went and got my mother and we went to the cornfields, which only a few minutes ago looked so fine and gave promise of a good crop. It was now all bare. The succulent plants were eaten down to the ground. The garden had fared the same way. We had seen that the prospects of the year's crop had been snatched out of our hands in almost an hour" This was the beginning of a scourge which lasted almost five years in this great agricultural county.

In 1877 an agent was appointed to measure and destroy all grasshoppers and their eggs brought to his attention. He was paid one and a half dollars a day for this service. On July 26, 1875, the County Commissioners requested Judge Dickenson not to call a special term of the District Court that summer and or fall on account of the total destruction of the crops and the inability of the county to secure expenses for same.

The legislature of 1874, in answer to insistent appeals for relief, appropriated \$5,000 for relief of the devastated areas of Southwestern Minnesota, and \$25,000 for the purchase of seed grain. Crops were again planted and the wheat appeared green above the ground but with the first whiff of the Sun's heat millions of young grasshoppers hatched out from eggs buried beneath the surface of the ground and destroyed the crop again. After eating the crop they flew to the south in great swarms, darkening the sky.

Cyclone After the great snowstorm of 1873, in which one man lost his life within forty miles of his home, no great disturbance of the elements occurred until 1903, when a great cyclone arrived and passed four miles south of Windom



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demolishing houses ,uprooting trees and killing people and animals.The house of Daniel Gallagher,which stood on the edge of an embankment overlooking String Lake,toppled into the lake killing Gallagher and his two daughters His granary was blown away and his horses and cattle were killed.

After this storm cellars were built which probably saved many lives when the next Cyclone came in 1908 and distroyed many farm houses,groves and killed cattle and other livestock and caused thousands of dollars worth of damage.

An early tabulation of the settlers showed the population to be 889 in

1890 5,533 in 1880.

*Kallman*

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County Organization Cottonwood county was created, from the territory which was originally Wabasha County, May 3, 1857. It was formally organized July 29, 1870, when Governor Austen appointed the first three county commissioners. The township of Great Bend, about four miles from the present county seat of Windom was organized August 27th and a set of town officers were appointed. The county officers were appointed at the first meeting of the commissioners.

Choice of County Seat The county offices were first located at Great Bend but by a vote of the County Commissioners in 1872, they were removed to ~~Greax~~ Windom. There was no county seat fight in this county because at first Windom was on the railroad. One time the citizens of Jeffers had an idea that because their city was the most central in the county it should become the county seat. They donated a part of the center of the town, which is now known ~~of~~ as "Courthouse Square" but nevertheless no steps were taken to move the courthouse from its present place.

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Early Mail Carriers and Postmasters The first store in the county was opened by John T. Smith at Big Bend. He was also the first Postmaster.

At the first meeting of the Old Settlers Association, held at Windom, Oct 19, 1901, a story was told about the first Mail Carrier in the county, which shows the hardships endured in bringing the people their mail in the early days. It concerned Orris Nason, a carrier who came to Southwestern Minnesota in 1856 and carried mail from Mankato to Sioux City, Iowa. The first round trip, walking most of the way, took him fourteen days. He heard the howling of wolves most of the way. He took a homestead near String Lake and he and his wife "Lib" lived in a tent when they first took their claim. A room seven foot by nine answered for kitchen, bedroom and parlor. He had an ox team which furnished motive power for travelling and breaking the ~~tergixxxvixix~~ virgin prairie because horses were scarce at the time in Minnesota.

First Schools, teachers and children. The first school was erected in Big Bend Township in 1871. This School District was organized ~~ix~~ the same year. Miss Nettie Sackett was the first schoolteacher.



Pioneering in Great Bend.

During the summer of 1872 the second schoolhouse in the county was built was built at Great Bend. It was a wooden building constructed of pine lumber, sheeted on the outside and roofed with shingles. The inside was not plastered or finished. The twenty "scholars" were content with plain pine benches and desks. A small woodburning stove stood in the center of the room.

In this little shack the ~~the~~ teacher and children were assembled for their usual days work and study January 7, 1873. The morning was foggy but at about twelve o'clock a blizzard from the northwest came all of a sudden. The little building cracked and shook as the gale lashed the outside and some of the fine snow came through the crevices in the schoolhouse. The snowstorm continued unabated from Tuesday noon until Thursday at midnight. During the first afternoon and night the smaller children managed to keep themselves warm by wrapping themselves in clothes and huddling close to the stove. When the dry wood was gone green wood had to be used. This and the heat of the bodies kept the occupants of the schoolhouse from freezing until morning when the oldest and strongest boy went to the home of Dr Sackett, which was about a mile away. He and the Doctor returned with hot tea and provisions. They decided to go to the doctor's house again and return with a team which they did about four o'clock in the afternoon.

After the little ones were packed in the bottom of the sleigh and well covered with horse blankets, the doctor with his sled and living cargo started for his house. They had gone but a few rods when the sled stopped and the doctor cried out :  
"My God boys. I've lost the track" Two of the bigger boys went out, crawled on their hands and knees, and kept shouting to each other so as not to get lost, to look for the track. Finally they found the track in the snow and resumed the journey to the doctor's home where the children were safe from the snow and cold. One of the boys scribbled a note on the rude blackboard telling where they had gone so that if any of the neighbors, who were mostly attending the market at Windom and snowbound themselves, came they would know what happened to the children.



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First Churches The first religious service was conducted in the village of Windom by the Rev J. E. Filch in the summer of 1871, in an unfurnished hardware store. Rev Peter Baker, living in Jackson County, was the first on the circuit and had a preaching at Big Bend before the village of Windom was started. This clergyman organized the Methodist Episcopal Church at Windom in 1871.

The 1901 ~~papers~~ local papers show that Windom was the seat of the Dowie Zionist Society. They held services at the Cone business house.

The Menonites are confined to a Russian-American population in and around Mountain Lake. The first Menonite church was organized at Mountain Lake in 1878.

From P.P. 485 Historical Society  
Bulletin -

The process of reduction in  
size (of Brown County) began  
in 1857 when an extra session  
of the Legislature established  
the counties of Martin,  
Jackson, Cottonwood, Murray,  
Nobles, Rock and Pipestone, all  
carved out of the original  
Brown County

- - - - -

1855 Territorial Legislature  
carved Brown County out  
of Blue Earth County

Hallan

## COTTONWOOD COUNTY

Cottonwood is one of the leading livestock counties of Minnesota. It lies in the southwestern part of the State which was first a grazing and then a wheat-growing territory. Diversification is now the order of the day, with corn, oats, barley, and flax the chief crops, and the farm income is derived in the main from the sale of livestock and livestock products.

Farmers of Cottonwood County in normal years would have an average income of more than \$3,000, which accounts for the comparatively high land values of the district. In 1935 the average farm of approximately 200 acres was valued at \$10,367 for land and buildings, or \$52.07 per acre.

Factors contributing to the prosperity of the county, in addition to productivity of soil and the well-balanced system of feed-crop farming, are the excellent transportation and marketing facilities. All farms have good roads leading to the main highways and to railway shipping points, from which the primary markets are easily accessible.

Cottonwood is a county of progressive and neighborly farmers. They have built an excellent school system and they support a score of churches, which help to make any community in the county a desirable place in which to live.

### OPPORTUNITIES

Although land values are now rising with the increase in the value of farm products, it is possible to purchase good land for about sixty or seventy dollars an acre. The variation in the price of land



in recent years (according to the consensus of county commissioners, assessors, and the State Board of Equalization), is indicative of local fluctuations which occur as the result of economic conditions. In 1930 land was valued at \$87.07 per acre, in 1932 at \$59.22, and in 1933 at \$55.44. In the past ~~two~~<sup>2</sup> years the trend has been upward from the low figure of 1935 which was \$52.07. There is some Federal Land Bank land in this county which can be obtained by paying 20 percent of the sale price at time of purchase, and the balance over a period of 20 years at 6 percent interest. Tenancy offers opportunities for those who have not the capital to buy a farm. More than 47 percent of the farmers in Cottonwood County are tenants. However, in many instances, tenancy here requires both capital and equipment.

#### PHYSICAL SETTING

Located in the southwestern part of the State, two tiers of counties north of the Iowa line, and a short distance east of the South Dakota border, Cottonwood is bounded on the north by Redwood and Brown Counties, on the south by Jackson, on the west by Murray, and on the east by Watonwan. The county takes its name from the Cottonwood River, which in turn is named after the cottonwood trees which grow along its banks.

Topography The rolling prairies of Cottonwood County are diversified by lakes and streams, and further relieved by planted groves which enhance the beauty of the land and serve as effective windbreaks. Topographical depressions, and many cradling small lakes, occur frequently, particularly in the southern part. There are some swampy areas, but none large enough to contain peat in sufficient quantities to be used for fuel. A quartzite ridge, about 1,200 to 1,400 feet above sea level, crosses the northeast corner of the county, and gives its highest altitude.

Soil The soil is chiefly a till plain of clay loam. Ridges of pebbly clay loam, gravelly and sandy knolls and plains, and a small amount of bog and marshland is found in small areas. A topsoil of rich dark-colored loam, varying in depth from ~~two~~<sup>2</sup> to ~~eight~~<sup>8</sup> feet, predominates. Below

this lies a subsoil of porous clay/mixed with gravel.

Drainage About 200 square miles of the southwestern part of the county is drained southward by the Des Moines River. The remainder of the area drains northeastward to the Minnesota River. Among the largest of the lakes lying in the depressions of the rolling plain are: Bingham, Bean, Augusta, Tree, Cottonwood, Wolf, Double, Talcott, Long, Willow, and Fish Lakes.

Climate and Rainfall There are no weather-recording stations in Cottonwood County, but the records of the station at nearby New Ulm in Brown County can be considered indicative of the conditions throughout the neighboring territory. The mean annual temperature at New Ulm is 44.7 degrees. The coldest month is January, with a mean temperature of 13.4 degrees, the warmest, July, with a mean of 73 degrees. The average annual precipitation is 29.40 inches with the lowest monthly average occurring in December (.90 inches), the highest in June (4.65 inches). The frost-free growing season is approximately 144 days. The first killing frost occurs about September 30, the last one in spring about May 9th. Precipitation and temperature averages (1868 to 1936 inclusive) are as follows:

CLIMATIC RECORD  
(43 years)

MONTHS:	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
TOWN New Ulm (alt.791) Precipitation in inches	1.13	1.06	1.61	2.19	3.57	4.65	3.68	3.55	3.59	2.16	1.31	.90
Temperature and (Fahrenheit)	13.4°	16.4°	30.7°	46.1°	57.8°	67.9°	73.0°	70.3°	61.3°	48.4°	32.5°	18.9°

Annual Precipitation 29.40 inches  
Annual Temperature 44.7 degrees

SETTLEMENT AND  
RACIAL ORIGINS

Cottonwood County was established May 23, 1857 by settlers who had taken up land along the rich valley of the Des Moines River. Settlement of the county was retarded by the panic of 1857, the Sioux uprising of 1862 and the grasshopper plague of the early seventies, but after the Civil War a large number of soldiers settled here and rapid development began.

Total population of the county in 1930 was 14,782. This population is entirely rural, 9,660<sup>being</sup> classified as rural farm and 5,122 as rural non-farm. Of the total population, 12.5 percent is foreign-born. Approximately one half of the population is native American, coming from stock which has been in this country for more than two generations. The forebears of a large portion of this class emigrated from eastern United States in the early days of settlement. The largest group of foreign extraction (foreign-born, or one generation removed), is the German, which numbers 2,151. The next largest group (2,095) is the Slavic, in which Russians predominate. The large number of Russians is swelled <sup>by</sup> the Mennonite colony at Mountain Lake. The Mennonites, who are among Cottonwood's finest farmers, are not to be confused with the Canadian Dukhobors whose religious principles and practices have brought them into occasional conflict with the authorities.

Norwegians are third in order with 1,833, the only other racial group of size importance here. Danes (616), Swedes (459), and British (234) form the smaller groups.

COUNTY ORGANIZ-  
ATION AND SUB-  
DIVISIONS

Cottonwood has an area of 650.9 square miles and it is divided into 18 townships and 76 school districts. Windom, the county seat, is incorporated as a city and has a population of 2,123. Villages of the county are Mountain Lake, population 1,388; Bingham Lake, 243; Delft, 125; Jeffers, 434; Storden, 285; and Westbrook, 610.

## TAXES

Because of the sharp drop in property valuations during the de-



pression years, taxes in Cottonwood have been lowered. In 1931 the assessed value of property was \$13,728,207 and the tax rate of 40.49 mills was designed to yield \$561,990. The 1935 levy was \$523,771, or \$38,219 less, derived from a rate of 56.87 mills on an assessed valuation of \$9,034,596.

Indebtedness In 1935 the debt of the county and all its subdivisions amounted to \$1,022,277.59, or 11.32 percent of the total taxable value.

Delinquency The 1934 tax levy was \$499,373, of which \$32,608, or 6.53 percent, was uncollected. This amount became delinquent January 1, 1936 bringing the total of delinquent taxes to \$108,841.

#### MARKETS AND TRADE CENTERS

Windom, the county seat, is the principal trade center, and the smaller towns serve smaller trade territories. Mankato, "the hub of southern Minnesota," is 40 miles east of the county boundary, and New Ulm, seat of the adjoining Brown County, is 20 miles away. Livestock and grain marketed by Cottonwood farmers goes either to the Twin Cities, to Sioux City, Iowa, or to Sioux Falls, S. Dak.

#### SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES

Churches Mennonite settlements in the eastern part of the Cottonwood have given the county a distinctly characteristic flavor. The Mennonites were originally from Holland but they emigrated to Russia before coming to this country in their quest for religious freedom. Five Mennonite churches are located at Mountain Lake and one is at the neighboring town of Bingham Lake. In addition there are two Catholic churches, and 20 churches of nine different Protestant denominations in the county.

#### COOPERATIVES

The county has four cooperative and three independent creameries.

The cooperatives are located:

Delft Cooperative Creamery Co.  
Farmers Cooperative Creamery Co.

" " " "  
Jeffers Cooperative Creamery Assn.

Delft  
Storden  
Mountain Lake  
Jeffers

Two independents are at Westbrook and one at Windom.

Cooperative shipping associations number six and there are seven cooperative telephone exchanges, four stores, two oil companies, two insurance companies, and six elevators.

## TRANSPORTATION

The Chicago and North Western Railway cuts across the northeastern corner of Cottonwood County. A main line of the Omaha Railway passes through Windom, <sup>where</sup> a short line branches at Bingham Lake and runs east and west through the center of the county, connecting the towns of Westbrook, Storden, Jeffers, and Delft with the main line at Bingham Lake. State Highway 60 enters the county from St. James to the east and ends at Windom where it connects with State 62. County also serviced by State 47 and US 71.

Schools Cottonwood has ample educational facilities. Every farm family is within easy reach of one of the 83 schoolhouses. There are 80 teachers in graded elementary and secondary schools and 77 in ungraded elementary schools. Graded elementary and 4-year high schools are located in the towns of Westbrook, Storden, Jeffers, and Bingham Lake. Windom and Mountain Lake each have graded elementary, <sup>and</sup> junior <sup>and</sup> senior high schools.

## FAIR

The Cottonwood County Agricultural Society holds a fair at Windom annually, usually for <sup>4</sup>~~four~~ days around the first of September.

## FARM INCOME

In 1929 the income of 1,949 farms was \$6,035,750, or an average of \$3,096 for each farm. Livestock and livestock products contributed the bulk of income, 61.19 percent, and crops sold for cash brought in 28.69 percent. The income from forest products, being only .01 percent, was negligible. Products used on the farm amounted to 10.11 percent of the entire income.

## CENSUS REPORTS

The average farm in Cottonwood County, as computed from the 1935 census report, was 199.1 acres in extent, and it was valued at \$10,367, or \$52.07 an acre. Crop land of each farm amounted to 135 acres, the remainder being in pasture, fallow land, barn yard and woodlot. The crop

land was divided into: Corn, 50 acres; oats, 27 acres; hay, 20 acres; barley, 16 acres; Flax, 11 acres; wheat, 1 acre; and potatoes,  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. This statistically average farm was stocked with 5 horses, 24 head of cattle, 18 hogs, and 10 sheep.

Progressiveness of Cottonwood County farms is shown by the 1935 census in which the 1,997 farms reported 2,209 automobiles, 330 trucks, 859 tractors, 143 electric motors, and 1,290 gas engines. Telephones were installed in 1,240 farm homes, 211 had electric lights, and water was piped into 119 of the dwellings. Nearly every farm in the county lies adjacent to a concrete, gravel, or improved dirt road.



Agricultural Statistics

Population, 1930 . . . . . 14,782  
 Area . . . . . 640 sq. mi. . . . . 409,600 acres

County seat - Windom, 2,123

Farm Development

Number of farms, 1935 . . . . . 1,997  
 Land in farms . . . . . 97.1 percent . . . . . 397,617 acres  
 Average size of farms . . . . . 199.1 acres

Farm Values

Average value per acre, 1935 . . . . . \$ 52.07  
 " " " " , 1930 . . . . . 87.07  
 Average value per farm, 1935 . . . . . 10,367.00  
 " " " " , 1930 . . . . . 17,469.00

The Tax Picture

Total taxable value, 1935 . . . . . \$ 9,034,596  
 General Tax Levy , . . . . . 523,771  
 Tax rate . . . . . 56.87 mills  
  
 Debt of county and subdivisions . . . . . 1,022,277.59  
 Ratio of debt to taxable value . . . . . 11.32  
 Per capita debt . . . . . 69.16

Tenancy and Mortgage

Farm mortgage debt, owner-operated farms, . . . . . \$ 3,252,064  
 Owner-operated farms mortgaged, 1930 . . . . . 62.2 percent  
 Tenant farmers . . . . . 47.2 "

Farm Income (1930 Census)

Average farm income . . . . . \$ 3,096.00

## Source of Income

Crops . . . . .	\$ 1,731,772	28.69 percent
Livestock . . . . .	2,327,861	38.57 "
Livestock products. . . . .	1,364,808	22.62 "
Forest products . . . . .	919	.01
Products used on farm . . . . .	610,390	10.11
	<u>\$6,035,750</u>	<u>100.00 percent</u>

Livestock Holdings (1935 Census)

	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Number</u>
Horses and mules	1,830	10,959
Cattle	1,913	47,840
Sheep	458	19,493
Swine	1,729	35,631

Crop Census, 1934

<u>Crop</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Bushels</u>
Wheat	337	3,177	22,667
Oats	1,484	54,908	891,022 (threshed)
Barley	1,237	32,419	418,998
Flax	1,099	22,973	152,645
All hay		38,766	31,302 tons
Corn	1,874	99,698	1,287,499 (harvested)
Potatoes	1,558	1,029	45,401