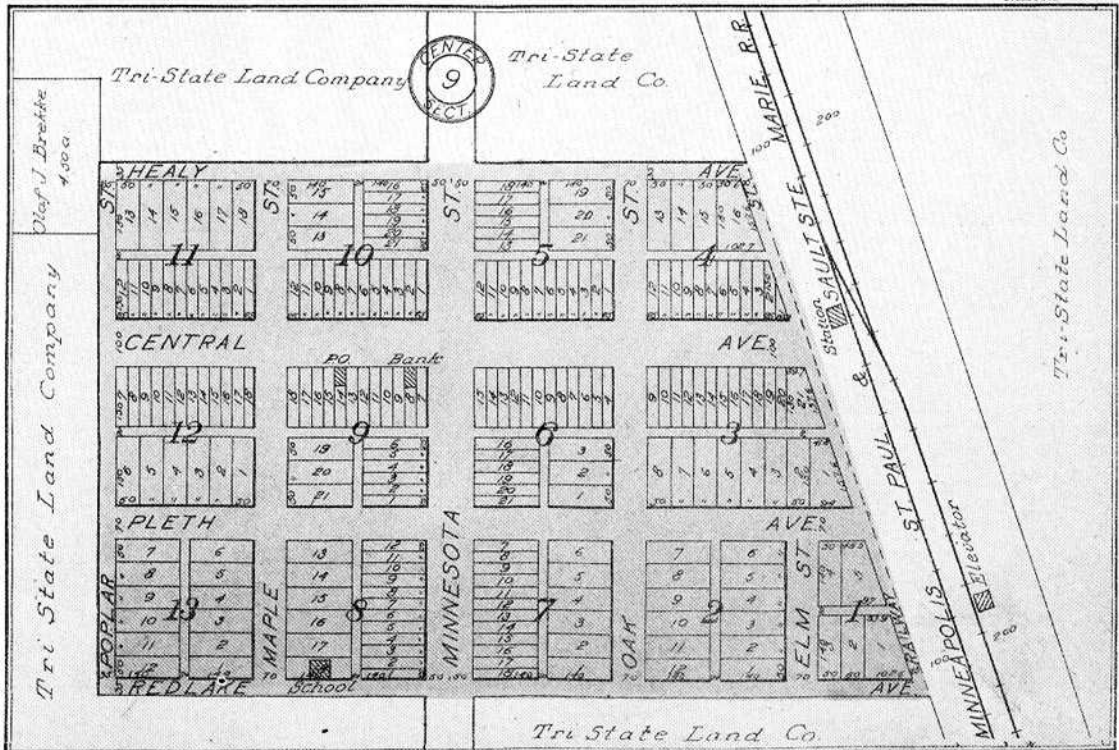


Aerial View — Village of Plummer

PLUMMER

EMARDVILLE TWP. Scale: 300 ft. = 1 inch.



PLUMMER

Plummer is located in north central Red Lake County on U.S. Highway #59 and County road #1 in Section 9 of Emardville township with a population of 283.

At the turn of the century the townsite of Plummer was located west of the Clearwater River Dam. A man by the name of C. A. Plummer operated a feed mill and trading post which he later sold to H. H. Finrow. Finrow operated a store and restaurant and was also the postmaster.

In 1904 the Soo Ste. Marie Railroad built through Emardville township and a town soon began to mushroom close to the railroad. It was decided to call the new town Scotland, but upon petitioning it was found that there already was a Scotland in Minnesota. It was then named Plummer after the first storekeeper. The first freight train passed through the town in September, 1904. Plummer was plotted in the summer and by the end of the year almost every business was represented. The first to purchase land was the First State Bank which opened for business on November 7, 1904, with L. C. Simons, President, C. N. Bourdon, Vice-President and Henry J. Enderle, Cashier.

Julius Pleth formerly of St. Hilaire was the townsite agent and had a real estate office. Due to his vision of growth for the town, it was plotted with the wide streets as they stand today. At first there were two plank walks laid length-wise from the bank to the depot; the streets were still full of poplar stumps which were finally grubbed and the streets put into good shape.

By Christmas of 1904, several businesses were established. Robinson and Co. were the first to start a general store. P. K. Olson ran the "Welcome" saloon and restaurant. W. G. Brown and J. E. Buskirk were the pioneer contractors and builders and put up nearly every building in the new town except the railroad building. They also operated a saloon. Hotel Scotland was owned and operated by Erick Iverson. Louis Seiff owned a large livery and feed stable with Joe Morrisette in charge. The Bovey-Schute Lumber Company of Minneapolis had a lumber yard with A. Aldrich in charge. E. Peterson was a blacksmith, J. A. Rothstein ran a meat market and was a cattle buyer, and J. M. Reed was a furniture dealer and also handled confectionary items.

The Plummer Pioneer newspaper was published by Charles T. Latta, who was also postmaster. The Thief River Falls Milling Company owned a large elevator in the town with Olaf Tande in charge. The Emardville Creamery Association purchased an acre of land on the west side of the Clearwater River and moved their creamery to Plummer. Due to heavy lumbering in the area, the Soo Line Railroad built a branch line from Plummer to Duluth in 1910.

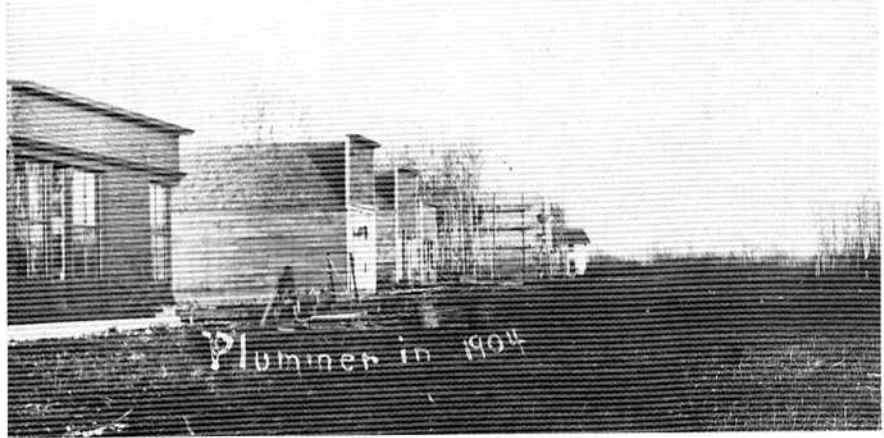
Plummer was incorporated in 1906. John M. Reed was the first Mayor, Charles Latta, Clerk, and Henry Enderle, Treasurer. Other former mayors were: William Bottineau, P. B. Lanager, H. H. Finrow, Alcide Morrisette, Arthur Carlson, James Ford, George LaFaivre, Emil Larson, Henry Weiss, E. B. Kopp, Reaume St. Marie, Emil Malwitz, Franklin Brown, James Froseth, Ernest Pederson, and Norman Baune.

In the past seventy years many businesses have come and gone. These included the S. J. Rice Hotel, Hotel LaVoy

and the Farmers Bank with Booren and Hagen. Merchandise stores were run by O. H. Langlie (Clearwater Mercantile), Fox, Johnson and Rowvien and Charles Schmitz. Alcide Morrisette operated a store from 1914 to 1965. Saloons were run by Tom Norby, Ed Johnson and Skoghaug. Severin Hanson operated a rooming house and restaurant. Albert Martin was butter-maker at the Creamery. Other businessmen were cattle buyer Henderson, wheat buyer Oscar Carlson, Andrew Gunderson of the elevator, and Tom Norby who ran the electric power plant for the village. Paul Schoenauer was an implement dealer and operated a garage for many years. Lars

Haga and E. B. Lanager owned a hardware store. Wm. Bottineau had a lumber yard and J. W. Pahlen a land office. Depot Agents were Krueger and Taggart. There was a Bertram-Wright Lumber Company, Hans Huggett had a butcher shop, E. L. Wichterlan ran a livery stable, and Willett was a well-driller, Holten and Nelson were blacksmiths, and Davies was an editor of the Plummer Pioneer.

The present mayor of Plummer is Clinton Theroux, and councilmen are Jim Froseth, Larry Ness, Ray Franklund and Howard Greenwald.



1904 Main Street Plummer



Main Street Plummer 1908



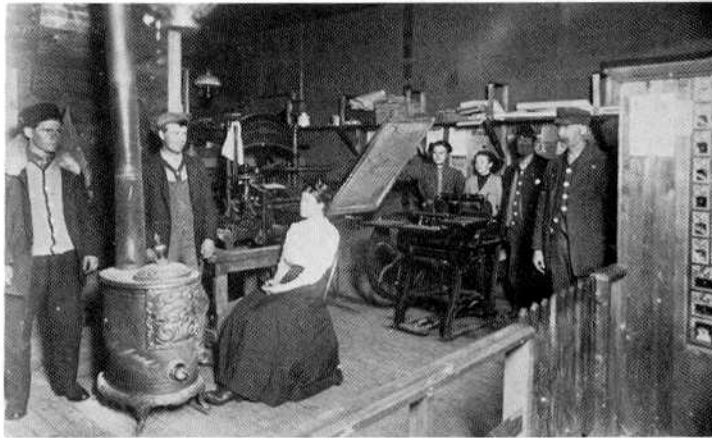
Plummer 1912



Hotel Scotland — Plummer



Pioneer Hardware



Postoffice about 1906



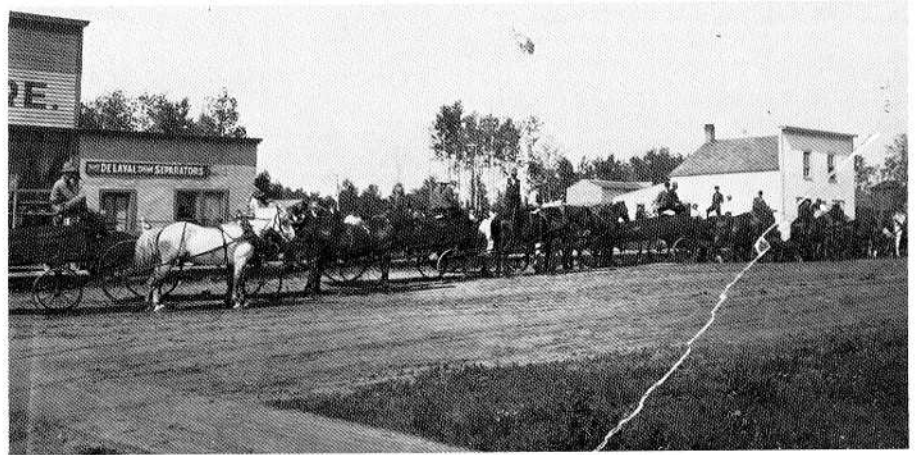
First State Bank



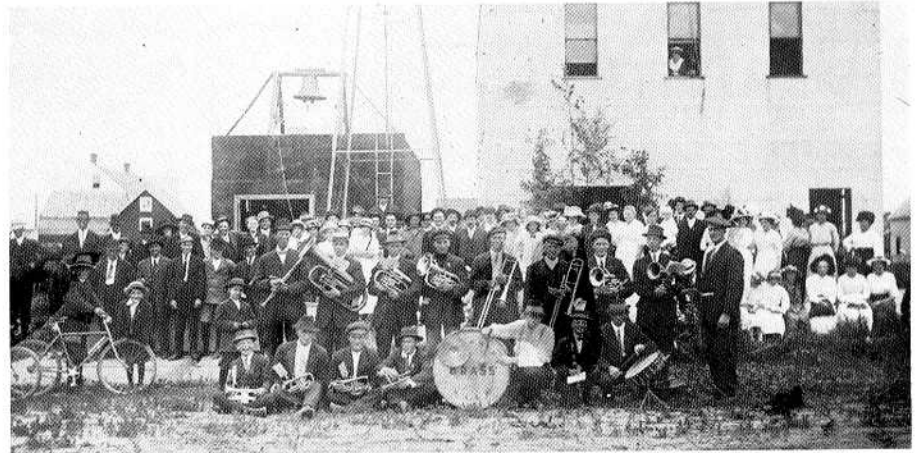
Pioneer Hardware



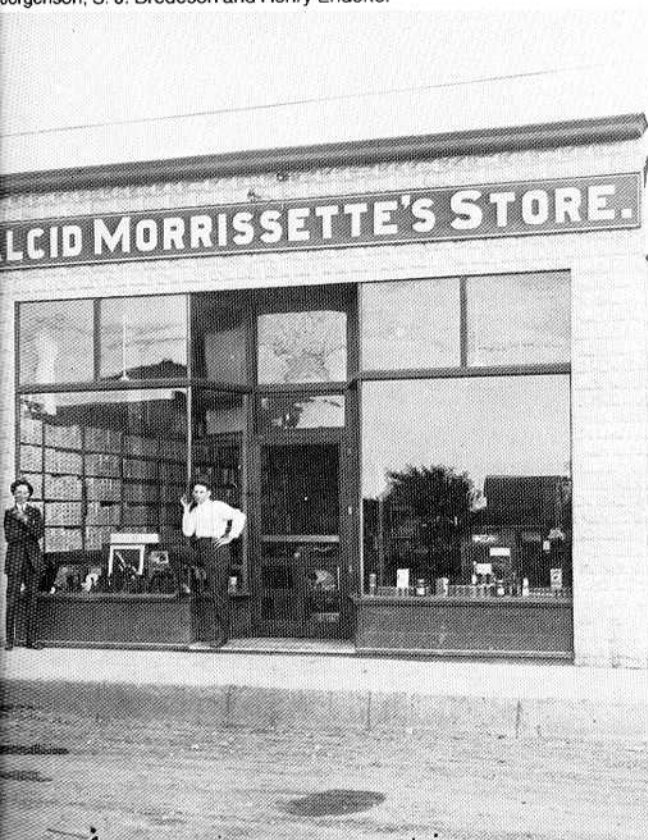
First State Bank 1926: August Glewve, Gladys Jorgenson, S. J. Bredeson and Henry Enderle.



A lineup of wagons on north side of Main Street.



Old Plummer Hall and Plummer brass band 1916.



Alcide Morrissette Store 1914



Soo Line Depot. Line came through Plummer 1910.

ORIGIN OF PERSHING SCHOOL

SCHOOL

The village of Plummer acquired its first school in October, 1906. The building was moved from its location in District 16, one-fourth mile east of the Soo Line Railroad track and on the north side of the present road to Oklee.

It was built in 1898 on section 9 on land given the district by Eyvind Schjeldrup who homesteaded the acreage.

Known first as the Magnell School, it was later called the Medchill School.

Following the turn of the century, Plummer Village was getting its start. The number of children from town who attended the Medchill School was increasing. Fearing for the safety of the children in crossing the railroad tracks, the citizens of Plummer decided to have the building moved into town. The move was accomplished on October 19, 1906 by means of horses.

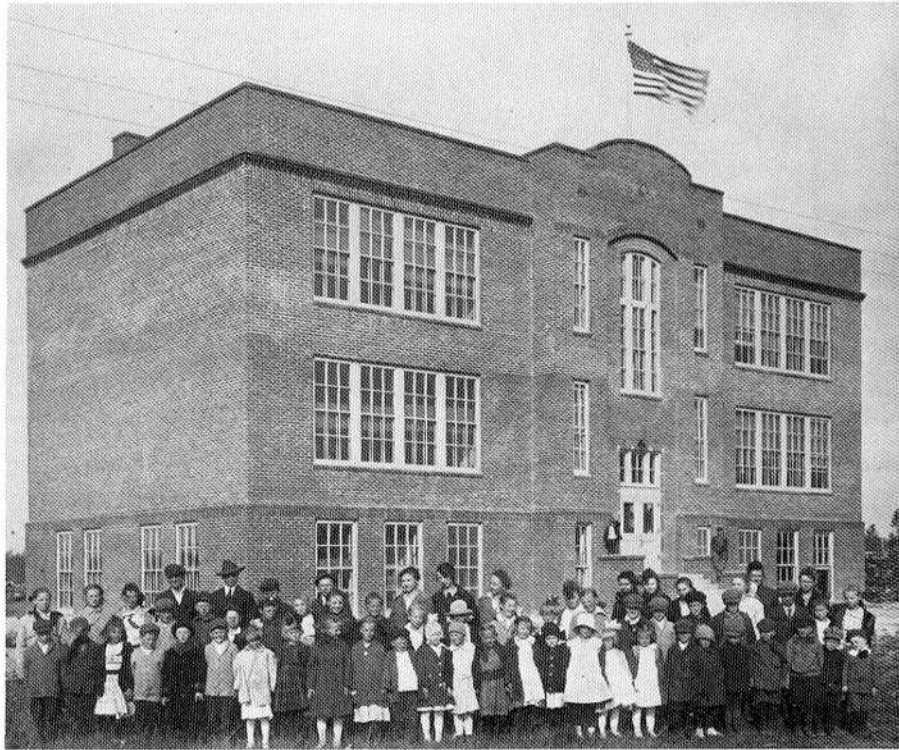
Related to the event was an accident that cast sorrow over the whole community. The building was set down, horses unhitched and a fourteen year old boy was holding the reins of one team. Something scared the horses. Quick as lightning they took off and ran away, throwing the boy, Clarence Finrow, to his death. It was said that he was thrown as high as the tallest buildings nearby.

Location of the building was near the present site of Pershing School. Remodeling included a wall through the middle providing for two rooms.

Behind the school was solid brush and woods and also a ditch which was really a little river during the spring break-up. Boys would sail rafts down the ditch.



Built in 1898, the Medchill (Magnell) School was moved to Plummer in 1906.



New Plummer School 1918

SCHOOL DISTRICT 16 — PLUMMER VILLAGE SCHOOL

Teachers who taught the upper grades from 1909 to 1914, Lou Green; 1914-15, Lena Gullingsrud; 1915-16, Olga Narveson; and 1916-17, Amanda Eckblad, Lower grades were 1909-12, Laura Halseth; 1912-14, Emma Tanberg; 1914-15, Anne Tharaldson; 1915-16, Fern Lindly; and 1916-17, Irene Lanager. Haga School was added: 1917-18, Amanda Eckblad taught the upper grades, Miss Kelly, Middle grades and Irene Lanager, lower grades.

THE NEW BRICK BUILDING

Contractors for building the school was the Brady Construction Company of Red Lake Falls.

The three story brick school was ready for the 1918 school year and the transition from a one or two room school was an event not to be forgotten. Sixty-five pupils was the approximate enrollment.

Miss Hazel Baseman, Principal, taught grades 8 and 9 and boys' manual training. Grade 9 subjects were algebra, English literature, science and ancient history. Miss Caroline Graham had grades 5, 6 and 7. Miss Marie Erickson was in Room 2 and taught sewing to the upper grade girls. Miss Bertha Erickson was primary teacher and taught cooking to the girls. A hot dish was prepared each day by these domestic science teachers and the children brought sandwiches from home.

It was war time and the students busied themselves knitting garments and shared in other Red Cross projects for the fighting world war I soldiers.

Community sings were held weekly in the assembly room and patriotic songs such as "Over There", "Keep the Home Fires Burning" and "Till We Meet Again" were lustily sung.

An outstanding event in this school year was a visit by the nationally known author and lecturer, Maria Sanford.

Miss Baseman was a former student of Miss Sanford and when she heard about her coming to a nearby area, contacted her. She was a vibrant speaker and her recitation of "Old Ironsides" was so impressive that it is still remembered by some who were in the fifth grade at that time.

Towards spring there grew an interest in giving the school a name. It was decided that the students should have the privilege of making a choice by ballot. Preceding the voting were discussions which brought out strong support for the names Washington and Lincoln. One boy, however, Elmer Schjeldrup, opposed these choices. He

thought it would be confusing to have the same names as schools in nearby towns. Also, he felt that a more recently noted hero should be honored. The idea spread and when the votes were counted, the name, "John G. Pershing" won.

Finalization of the event was the christening. This occurred on one of the Wednesday assembly sessions. Pupils and teachers were in the rear of the room. A suitable target was placed on the floor. As Oren Norby came on the stage, a round bottomed bottle in hand, stillness pervaded the air. His words came clear, "I christen thee the Pershing School", as he swung the bottle. CRASH! Stillness shattered. All were proud of the little hero.

"Elated" was the feeling experienced by the pupils as Miss Baseman later read a letter to the group. A letter from General John G. Pershing to the school thanking them for the honor given him. This letter was saved, but couldn't be found for the bicentennial year.

Teachers for the first three years were: 1918-19, Hazel Baseman, Principal, Room 4; Caroline Graham, Room 3; Marie Erickson, Room 2; and Bertha Erickson, Room 1. 1919-20, Hazel Baseman, Principal; Caroline Graham, Miss Baker, and Miss Toms. 1920-21 Albert Giles, Principal; Vivian Huffman, Miss Vore, and Francis Kauffman.

present time (1976).

IMPORTANT EVENTS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM 1926 to 1976

During the years 1926 to 1931 bids were regularly taken right after the first of the year for green "popple" cord wood that was cut, split and delivered to the school ground and there unloaded and ranked. The price for a cord of wood was \$1.98 in 1931.

During the years of 1930-1931 motor driven buses went under strict state qualifications, but still privately owned.

School carnivals were initiated. Each grade presented some feature: there were skits, folk dances, and musical numbers plus other novelties.

1933-1934, Aleck Ripple was hired for \$125.00 per month and Leo Lauer for \$100.00. The teachers were asked to take a ten percent cut in wages. The Basketball Cardinals won the District Consolation trophy.

1934-1935: A hot dish or soup was served at lunch time for 2¢ per dish. Peter Rolf Ohnstad organized and directed the first Plummer School Band. The band has continued to grow and is featured at festivities.

1940-1941: Bonds were issued for the purpose of building an addition to the school.

1941: Forty-two passenger buses were purchased.

1942-1943: These were World War II years. Daylight saving time was in effect and school days started at 9:30 a.m. on shorter days. A Fargo Foundry was to build fire escapes for \$315.00. A coal stoker was installed at a cost of \$1,000.00.

1944-1945: Due to crowded conditions in school, it was authorized to build a room in the stairway space.

1945-1946: Bus drivers salaries were \$100.00 a month. School rent for village auditorium was \$400.00 a year for use in athletic activities and physical education programs.

1946-1947: Elbert Larvick engaged as Veteran Vocational Agricultural Trainee.

THE TRANSITION YEARS — 1921-1926

1921-1922, Walter Kelly was the Principal. There were three bus routes. Drivers were Route 1, Sam Pikkela, Route 2, R. A. Preston and Route 3, Andrew Nelson.

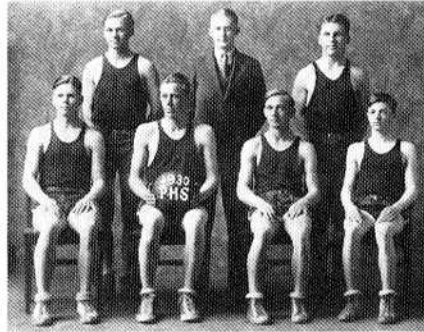
Buses were horse drawn, high wheeled wagons with bright red bus bodies. The roads were deep rutted and usually muddy. Horse drawn sleighs with a box style shelter was used during winter. Short cuts across fields and through farms were unrestricted routes taken and the last children off would often get home at 6 p.m. Foot warmers and blankets were used for warmth.

In 1922-23, Walter Kelly was principal. Enrollment was 137 pupils.

1923-24, John Budzinski was principal with Lucille Engeldinger as helper. Domestic science was dropped and physics introduced. Touring cars were occasionally driven on bus routes. These were crowded.

1924-25, Eloise Anderson was principal and Jessie Battenfeld was helper. 1925-26, Bernard Curtiss, principal and Jessie Battenfeld, helper. A school district vote was taken for a state accredited four year high school. The vote was 44 in favor; 6 negative. Mr. Curtiss resigned because of ill health. Jessie Battenfeld became principal with Mable Splitzoeser as helper.

A girls' basketball team was organized by Miss Splitzoeser, but was discontinued after a year's time because of fear that the strenuous activity might be hazardous to girls' health.



Plummer team 1930



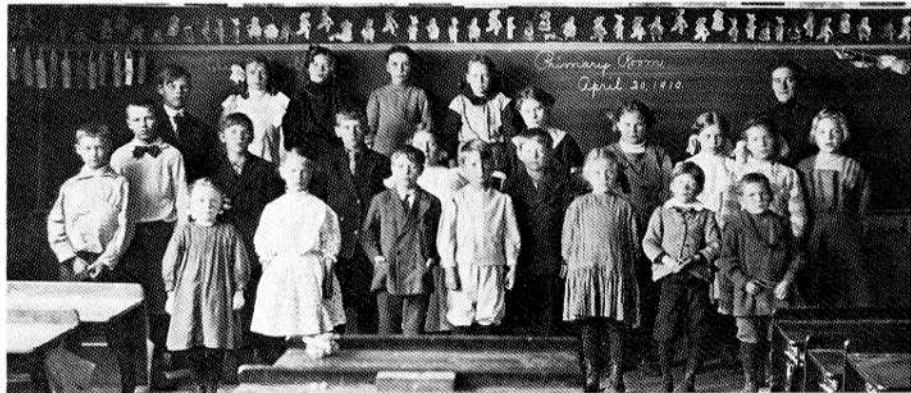
Teachers Laura Halseth and Lou Green 1912

A FOUR-YEAR PERSHING HIGH SCHOOL

The goal was reached. In September 1926 the Plummer school started with a full senior high school. Graduates of the first four year state accredited class were: Gladys Norby, Aagot Hanson, Gertrude Schaack, Anton Mickelson, Ethel Johnson and Minard Slattery.

Superintendents from 1926 to present time are as follows: Russel Newman, 1926-1928; Reuben Peterson, 1928-1933; Aleck Ripple, 1933-1937; Herman Berger, 1937, 1950; Homer Bjornson, 1950-1953; Roger Piehl, 1953-1958; Edwin Kval, 1958-1961; George Glum, 1961-1967; and Edward Arntson, 1967 — present time (1976).

High School Principals from 1926: Julia Saterlie, 1926-1928; Wahnita Tschida, 1928-1929; Marjorie Flaa, 1929-1931; Carl Bye, 1931-1933; Leo Lauer, 1933-1935; Irene Swenseid, 1935-1936; Julius Adrian, 1936-1941; Harold Spears, 1941-1943; E. Palmer Rocksvold, 1943-1945; George Saunders, 1945-1948; Elmer Doran, 1949-1950; Howard Casmey, 1952-1954; Harold Grams, 1954-1956; Harold Wilcox, 1956-1957; R. E. Farning, 1957-1958; George Glum, 1958-1961; Sherman Oftedal, 1961-1963; J. Malinousky, 1963-1964; Norman Nystrom, 1964-1966; Scott Hammond, 1966-1968; Elon Johnson, 1968-1969; Hugh Kappas, 1969-1971; and Francis Tobias, 1971 to



Plummer School primary grades 1910



Plummer School upper grades 1910

Contracts made with closed school districts 3, 5, 133J, 148J, 214, 228, 234 and 335. Contract for instruction with districts 126, 141, 208 and 233J.

1948-1949: Move to extend facilities of agriculture and home economics department in high school. Plans were made to build more class rooms. School water source was to be hooked up to Plummer water supply.

In 1949 there were five bus routes: Route 1, Thibert; 2, Kopp; 3, Carpenter; 4, Schoenauer; and 5, Hanson. K. R. Anderson blueprint for new building approved.

1949-1950: In March, 1950 Elmer Doran was appointed acting superintendent. Supt. Berger passed away May 19, 1950. Districts 142, 140, 233 and 249 admitted into District 16.

1950-1951: Hot lunch program to serve complete meal; 20¢ for grades 1-6, 25¢ for higher grades. Families with four or more children, 10¢ each. Industrial arts course introduced. Dist. 208 consolidated with District 16. Elimination of agriculture department took place.

1954-1955: Elementary wing added to original brick building. Purpose: to accommodate the growing enrollment.

1956-1957: Legislature changed the consolidated schools to independent schools and decreed these to be numbered consecutively. District Number 16 became Independent District 628.

1957-1958: A long discussed need for a gymnasium was resolved and built. Also athletic dressing rooms, a vocational agriculture classroom and two more classrooms in the elementary area. These areas were built to accommodate the varied curriculum and to modernize the athletic facilities which had been in the town auditorium. Home Economics and vocational agriculture were added to the curriculum.

1966-1961: Due to an acute accident that impaired Supt. Kval's health, George Glum was appointed acting superintendent.

1961-1962: It was decided to have an elementary principal for grades 1-6. Hazel Hagen was chosen.

1967-1968: The halloween burning of the Pershing School by vandals, a senseless act, left the residents heartsick and angered. The original structure with desks and books were destroyed. Neighboring schools of Oklee, Red Lake Falls and Thief River Falls gave and loaned books. The auditorium was partitioned into lunchroom and classrooms. Church basements were also put into use.

The gymnasium and north wing were preserved by a fire wall. After some pro and con discussions and some bitter resentment whether the Plummer school should consolidate with Oklee and/or Red Lake Falls, it was decided to rebuild. The decision was to build between the existing buildings. Work started in 1968. The bids went as follows: General construction, Nasvick Construction Co. Inc., Bemidji, MN; Electric, Langlie Electric, Thief River Falls, MN; Mechanical, Lundseth Plumbing and Heating, Thief River Falls, MN; Equipment, Kitchen Equipment, St. Paul Equipment Co.; St. Paul, MN; Library Equipment and casework, Erlenson Lumber Co. The total cost was \$214,306.00.

The entire Brooks school district no. 626 consolidated with Plummer district no. 628.

In the fall of 1968, Kindergarten started as a full time class. In the summer, a swimming program had started at the cost of 25¢ per individual.

A dedication of the new school building was held on November 6, 1969 with Odin Langen as speaker. Representative Langen was introduced by Jerry Gerardy, President of the Plummer school board. Harold Birkeland of Buffalo, MN, architect of the new addition presented Jerry Gerardy the key.

1973-1974: A modern music room, band practice areas, and a multipurpose room were added.

1975-1976: There are six bus routes, one bus for each route. Two window-van buses are used to transport kindergarten pupils and the students to the vocational center in Thief River Falls. Bus drivers for the present year are: Clarence Christianson, Barry Gustafson, Loren LaFayette, Roger Skjerven, Mrs. Henry Tvedt, and Raymond Witt.

Pershing School Personnel are: Edward Arntson, Superintendent; Francis W. Tobias, Jr., Secondary Principal; Charles Walker, Elementary Principal and Elementary Music; Nancy Anderson, Home Economics; Carole Berg, Librarian and English; Gary Brantl, Social Studies, Boys Phys. Ed.; Wallace Etter, Industrial Arts; Donald Fox, Science; Elizabeth Howard, Art and Girls' Phys. Ed.; Ellen Pierce, Music; William Poole, English and Social; Carolyn Carlson, Commercial; Paul Williams, Junior High Remedial Reading; Paul Walker, Mathematics; LeLon Naylor, Vocational Agriculture; Ruth Oen, SLBP-Elem. Rem. Reading; Roberta Weigand, SLBP-High School; Arlene Zimpel, Kindergarten; Inga Linder, Grade 1; Kathy Knott, Grade 2; Jean Schoeller, Grade 3; Rickey Koivisto, Grade 4; Leslie Hofstad, Grade 5; Leslie Wagner, Grade 6; Hazel Ollie, Elem. Rem. Reading. The cooks are Mrs. Goodwin Kvasager, Mrs. Lloyd Sorenson and Mrs. Bertie Palzinski. Aides are Mrs. Helen LaFayette and Mrs. Avis Froiland. Secretaries are Dorothy Pederson and Diana Qualley. Janitors are Harold Vatthauer and Arlan Koskela.

Enrollment for 1975-1976 are as follows: Kindergarten, 31; Elementary Grades, 140; Junior and Senior High, 166. Total 337.

School board members are Arthur Hamrum, Merlin Carlson, Jerry Gerardy, Dwight Robidous, Jerry Freitag and Melvin Eskeli.

PLUMMER IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Looking back into the history of good people in the Plummer community, we see the dedicated services of pastors, laymen and women throughout the years. It was just before the turn of the century that the first lutheran women a few miles south of Plummer decided there was definite need for a church so they got together and organized a ladies aid in the year 1896. Mrs. John Hagen was elected as the first president with nine women as charter members. In the year 1900 these dedicated women, through a lot of hard work baking, sewing and holding bazaars, had raised enough funds to start the building of a small church to be known as the Immanuel Lutheran Church.

The Village of Plummer was founded in 1905 and with several families moving into the community it became apparent a school and church were needed. The building of a school was considered of greater importance than a church, however it was understood that the school could be used for church functions when-

ever it would be available. Because of such limited facilities for their church work and meetings, a group of women got together at the home of Mrs. Adolph Aldrich and organized a ladies aid society, whose purpose was to raise funds for the construction of a church in the village of Plummer. It is very interesting to note that the uppermost thought in the minds of these early settlers was for a christian education in the community. The first officers for the aid were: Mrs. Adolph Aldrich, President; Mrs. E. B. Lanager, Vice President; Mrs. Ellen Rice, Secretary and Mrs. Knute Hender-son, Treasurer. The ladies of the aid were very busy sewing, knitting, crocheting quilting, baking and making all kinds of saleable articles for their fall bazaars. On May 14, 1914 the great day arrived which was of great importance in the history of our church. On this day the ladies voted to turn over the money in the sum of \$993.56 to the church building fund, which had been raised in the period of five years. Ole Bergdahl volunteered to solicit for donations toward the building fund also, so together with the money donated by the women and other donations, the building of the church began in 1914 and was completed the same year. The name chosen was Plummer Evangelical Lutheran Church. Rev. O. M. Stensgaard was the first regular pastor to serve the church. Vernice Priebe, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Priebe was the first child to be baptized in the new church. The baptism took place December 7, 1914. She is now known as Mrs. Lowell Hawkinson and resides in St. Hilaire. On Thanksgiving day November 25, 1915, the dedication and cornerstone laying services were held. Visiting pastors for the occasion were: Rev. I. T. Austad of Thief River Falls, Minnesota and Rev. H. O. Norby of Gary, Minnesota. This was a day long to be remembered.

On Palm Sunday, April 16, 1916 the first class was confirmed. Members of the class were: Otila Hemly, Julia Bredeson, Hilda Schjelderup and Elmer Haugen.

The ladies of the church still kept on working diligently raising funds to furnish the church. Finally the day arrived when they had enough money in their treasury to purchase chairs, a pulpit, baptismal font, pews, church bell, altar, heater and carpeting for the chancel.

In 1920 Rev. J. K. Lerohl was installed as pastor. The first wedding was held in the church in December, 1920. The bride was Mary Erickson and the groom was Richard Loffelmaker. Attendants were Bertha Erickson and Chester Fredrickson.

In March, 1947 Rev. J. K. Lerohl passed away, after faithfully serving the church for 27 years. Then until October the church was served by student pastors. In October, 1947, Rev. J. M. Runestead was installed to be our regular pastor. It was in this year that talk started for merger of the country church known as the Immanuel Lutheran Church, with the Plummer Evangelical Lutheran Church, as it was getting very difficult to secure a pastor who was willing to serve multiple church congregations. So it was in 1947 that the Immanuel Lutheran Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church voted to become one congregation and the name Immanuel Lutheran Church was taken for the name of it.

In the spring of 1949 extensive remodeling of the church began and was finished the same year. The remodeling consisted of a full basement, modern heating and plumbing facilities. Cornerstone laying services were held on May 21, 1950. The first

wedding in the newly remodeled church was on December 21, 1949 for Beatrice Waldal and Clayton Larson.

During the period that Rev. Runstead served as pastor, plans were made and finalized for organization of a Luther League for the youth of our church.

On September 23, 1952, the Immanuel Lutheran Church congregation voted to become separate from the Oklee parish which was also served by Rev. Runstead. This was to begin June 1, 1953.

In 1954 Rev. Runstead resigned and Rev. O. M. Simondson accepted a call to become our pastor. It was in 1954 that the parsonage was built and we became an independent congregation. The lots for the parsonage were donated by Edwin Jacobson, which was originally a part of the land homesteaded by Eyvind Schjeldrup in 1894. Most of the labor on the parsonage was donated and dedication service was held September 20, 1955, by E. A. Hanson, President of the Northern Minnesota District.

During the period Rev. Simundson served as our pastor, the ladies aid became known as the A.L.C. Women as our congregation joined the American

serve our church. The women voted to divide into circles so they could serve the church more effectively.

In 1961 Rev. Simundson left for Aberdeen, South Dakota and Rev. Milton Grorud was installed to serve our church. Rev. Grorud served our church only eighteen months when he resigned and moved to Arizona due to the illness of his wife. During the time Rev. Grorud served as pastor of our church, a constitution was adopted, and also one for the A.L.C. women's organization.

We were without services of a regular pastor from January until June, 1964, when Rev. Robert Amundson accepted a call to become our pastor and was installed July 5, 1964. No major changes took place during these years. In 1967 he accepted a call from Tigerton, Wisconsin and Rev. Sheldahl was installed on October 1, 1967. In the fall of 1972 Rev. Sheldahl resigned and moved to Hoople, North Dakota. A farewell party was held for Rev. and Mrs. Sheldahl and their daughter, Esther on Sept. 10, 1972. Now again we were left without a pastor. Lay pastor, Wilbur Neilson, from Erskine, Minnesota filled in until the time when Rev. Max Dietze accepted our call to become the eighth pastor to

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REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH OF PLUMMER

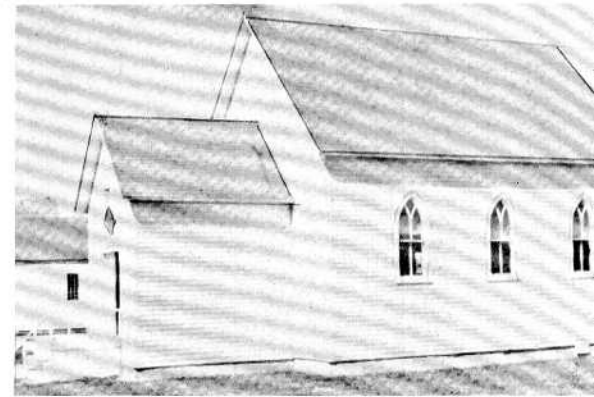
The first German Lutheran pastor to serve the Plummer area was Rev. Fred J. Seltz from Thief River Falls. Services were held in homes once a month. The house church took the name of St. Johns.



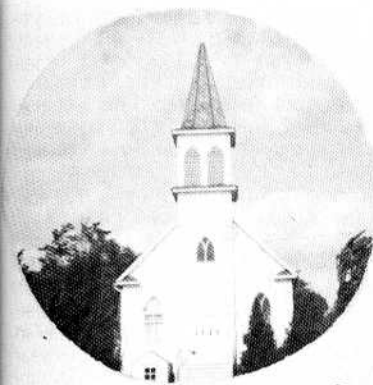
Redeemer Lutheran Church



Immanuel Lutheran Church 1974



First Presbyterian Church



St. Vincent DePaul Catholic Church



Norwegian Lutheran Church 1914 now the Immanuel Lutheran

St. Johns (Redeemer) congregation was served by Rev. P. J. Seltz of McIntosh in 1917. August 10, 1919 the congregation was organized. Five members H. Schmidt, Aug. Newbert, Carl Carlson, Aug. Arlt and Richard Loeffelmacher pledged their whole hearted support to the newly organized congregation. Carl Carlson was the first Treasurer. The Norwegian Lutheran Church was rented for \$1.00 per service. Shortly afterward they purchased 24 hymnals and promised to pay Pastor Paul Seltz \$3.00 for every trip for services.

Rev. O. C. Fedcke was the first and only resident pastor for Redeemer. Pastor Fedcke was installed Sept. 5, 1920. An estimate of 95 people crowded the church.

Upon his arrival Plummer Congregation numbered 25 baptized and 14 communing members. The Plummer congregations first Mission Festival was held Aug. 28, 1921, when Rev. Emil Kreidt of Thief River Falls preached the mission sermon. Sometimes the old outdoor Mission Festival turned into a dismal failure as in 1922 when both scheduled services were washed out by rain.

Financial troubles plagued the congregation. But after Pastor Fedckes first full year, Plummer Congregation listed 35 baptized members, 17 communing members with average church attendance of 14 per service.

In April 1923, Pastor Fedcke was given permission to accept the call of Ogema and Callaway congregation while still serving Plummer. Attendance sank under this arrangement. Pastor Fedcke traveled some 5,625 miles in the interest of Redeemer that year.

In 1925 the Presbyterian church was secured for services for \$1.00 per service. Sunday School sessions were begun in June 1925.

Pastor A. C. Seltz served the Ogema, Callaway, Plummer parish from October 1927 to October 1929. During his pastorate there was a noticeable increase in Mission giving and offerings were gathered to help acquire Valparaiso University as a Lutheran University and the 400 anniversary of Luthers Small Catechism (1929) was mared by a childrens program held in connection with the annual Mission Festival.

The parish lines were changed and the tie to Ogema, Callaway was dropped because of distance. A new parish alignment was made with Red Lake Falls and Wylie Township. Plummer people went along with the arrangement, but wanted services every two weeks in summer, less often in winter. The Pastor was paid \$8.00 per month.

Pastor Paul Burgdorf from Red Lake Falls, Wylie conducted his initial service on November 24, 1929. Under his pastorate there was liturgical change, as the congregation worship began to take shape of the Lutheran liturgy today.

During this time, Redeemer decided to apply for membership in the Synod. In 1936 George Hesse was a delegate to the convention in which Redeemer was accepted as a member.

In 1936 the congregation began a building fund for the purpose of owning its own building. In July 10, 1938 the congregation incorporated and chose the name (Redeemer) because of the large number of St. John congregations.

October 1940 Pastor John Stehr accepted the call to Wylie, Red Lake Falls and Plummer. Under his leadership the congregation showed remarkable growth,

with membership in the back of the church. In Jan. 1945, the congregation purchased property. The present church building was purchased, moved from Brooks to the present location and remodeled to serve as a church. Members donated their time and ability to complete the first building after more than 25 years of existence.

Pastor Immanuel Bade served Redeemer from 1948-1953. Under his leadership altar hangings were introduced and improvements made in training the young in Sunday School.

Pastor Robert Boerger served the parish from 1953-1955.

Pastor Orville Poellet served from 1955-1959. After Wylie and Red Lake Falls merged in 1958 to form St. Johns church in Red Lake Falls, Redeemer congregation and Pastor Poellet agreed by mutual consent to sever that tie to Red Lake Falls.

After being without a pastor for some six months, Pastor A. C. Seltz served the congregation on a vacancy basis until 1963, when St. Johns of Thief River Falls and Redeemer agreed to form a parish.

Pastor Biegner accepted the call to Thief River Falls and Plummer in April 1963, after Pastor Seltz was elected to the full time presidency of the Minnesota North District. Pastor Biegner is still serving these congregations.

August 10, 1969, Redeemer celebrated their Golden Jubilee with a huge attendance. Invitations had been sent out to all former Pastors and members to attend this event.

Doris Malwitz was a delegate from Redeemer to the LWML International convention at Houston, Texas, in July 1969.

Rev. Bernard Lutz, a former son of Redeemer serves as an evangelistic missionary in New Guinea.

At the present time Redeemer congregation has services every Sunday at 9:00. Midweek services average about nine or ten through the year. LWML meet once a month and the voting members meet every third month. Confirmation classes meet once a week during the school year.

At this time Redeemer has approximately 75 communing members and about 23 in the Sunday School classes.

A discussion was held recently to repair or remodel the present church. Decision was made to set up a building fund for future use.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

First priest to say mass in Plummer in 1912 in an old wooden schoolhouse was Father Charles J. Deshales, who was stationed at the hospital in Bemidji.

Because of the great need and desire of the Catholic families and Father Deshales, a decision was made to build a church. Money was raised by loans and donations from parishioners and a great deal of work was donated by the members of the developing parish. The first mass in the new church, the structure that is still used today, was said by Father Paul LeFloch in 1913. He administered to the spiritual needs until Father Dingman came from St. Bernard's Church in Thief River Falls. He came by train to care for the Plummer mission church. The church had a low foundation without a basement, no bell, no pews — not much more than the building. The lights were kerosene lamps bracketed to the side walls. A woodburning, pot-bellied stove in the back of the church furnished

heat. The organ, too, was in the back of the church.

In 1914, St. Vincent de Paul was made a parish with a resident priest, Father Stanley Bouchard. His first improvement was obtaining a bell, which was acquired from the Gentilly church, and this called for a parish celebration! Pews were also added, and a cemetery located about one mile southwest of the village was obtained.

Father Bouchard was transferred to St. Anthony's parish in Terrebonne in 1917, and was succeeded by Father L. Perronet. Until this time there was no parish residence and house had to be rented for the priest. The abandoned schoolhouse was considered, and the majority of the parishioners deemed it wise to buy the old schoolhouse and remodel it. Therefore, the building that served as the first church continued to serve as parish rectory after it was moved next to the church.

Father Patrick Lyons succeeded Father Perronet in 1919, and remained only a few months, Father N. P. Junker becoming his successor. During Father Junker's tenure, he finished the front porch of the rectory, which had been started by Father Lyons. The interior of the church was decorated, two stained glass windows donated by the families of M. J. Fallon and Julius Pleth were installed in the sanctuary, and Stations of the Cross and statues were installed. The high altar was a gift of the Extension Society and with that the sanctuary was raised and two steps were added.

Father Emil Luetticke came to serve as pastor in 1924, after Father Junker was transferred to Bluffton. The parish had grown and more room had to be provided in the church, so a balcony was erected over the back part of the church. The organ was moved to the balcony and more pews added. Father Luetticke enjoyed social activities, so in order to provide a parish hall, he encouraged raising the church and putting a basement under it. His jovial disposition prompted people of all faiths to help, so it was made a truly ecumenical affair. He, himself, donned working clothes and helped with the digging and cement pouring. Electric lights and a wood furnace were then installed, wood being readily available in those days and donated by the parishioners. During Father Luetticke's last year as pastor, Father August Zellikens said his first mass in the parish. Both priests had come over from Germany, and Father Zellikens, while attending St. John's at Collegeville, had spent his vacations with Father Luetticke.

Father Zellikens replaced Father Luetticke as pastor on August 15, 1927. He improved the balcony and repaired the organ as one of his first projects. He was an accomplished musician and organist, having studied in Germany and in Rome, as well as at St. John's. The silver jubilee of the parish was celebrated by the congregation in 1938.

Father Paul Cardin and Father William Keeffe served the parish out of Red Lake Falls from February until May, 1940, when Father John Merth came to serve, remaining and improving on the spiritual life by urging the study of Christian doctrine and getting involved with the Rural Life Movement. He entered military service upon his departure from the parish.

Father Vincent Zarzecki, pastor from 1944-55, continued to help improve church properties. A new lower altar was installed, a beautiful tabernacle was donated in memory of Mrs. Mary Moonen, and newer pews, Stations of the Cross and

a baptismal font. When the first stone was laid, St. Mary's church or Red Lake Falls joined St. Joseph's church.

Father Jerome Felion served the parish from 1955-59, directing and assisting in the church's remodeling. He organized the Christian Mothers, St. Anne's Sodality, Holy Name Men's Society, and renewed parishioner's interest in the Rural Life Movement.

From 1959-65, Father Daniel Noah served and established the CYO and actively directed it. He initiated the Blessed Virgin Sodality also. Water and sewer were installed in the church and parish house. Additional kitchen equipment was obtained so more social functions could be held in the church basement. The interior of the house and church were painted and many parish functions helped raise money for continued remodeling.

In 1965, St. Vincent de Paul, a mission again because of the shortage of priests, was served by Father Henry Carriere of Brooks until 1972. Since there was no resident priest, the rectory was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Edward Arntson. During Father Carriere's tenure, the church kitchen was enlarged and modernized, to eliminate having to use facilities at the village hall and the school for parish dinners which were open to the public. Recently a hot-water furnace was installed and the walls were paneled and painted. A beautiful new organ was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Bernier and Fred, in memory of their son, Roger, killed in service in Vietnam.

Father Michael Patnode served the parish from May to August, 1972. With his guidance a parish council was started, and he was instrumental in getting the parishioners to be more active in the new liturgy which had been recommended by the Second Vatican Council.

Father Larry Wieseler is the present pastor. Under his guidance the interior of the church has been completely remodeled in a more modern design, and carpeting was put in. In 1974 an enlarged entrance replaced the open steps, and there is an inside entrance to the basement.

Members of St. Vincent de Paul church are deeply grateful to all those who were instrumental in starting and carrying on the work of this church.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH — PLUMMER

When the Rev. S. M. Kelley was called to serve the First Presbyterian Church in Red Lake Falls in 1917, he found that there was only one other Protestant Church using the English language. This was the Brooks Presbyterian Church.

In the spring of 1918, Rev. Kelley visited Plummer, which had no American Protestant services. Plummer was a small but progressive incorporated village having the best railroad facilities in the county. Upon interviewing some of the people, he found a deep desire for a Sunday School. Rev. Kelley secured the assistance of Rev. R. S. Pryor, Sunday School missionary for Adams Presbytery, and services were held occasionally during the summer. Through the efforts of F. R. Davies and a number of other people, two lots and an old country school, called the Haga school, were bought and moved into the place where the present church stands.

In the spring of 1919, an attempt was made through the Home Mission Board to secure a man who would take charge of

the work at Plummer and Brooks, but due to the shortage of ministers this was impossible. So the Rev. Kelley agreed to serve the Brooks and Plummer churches, but this necessitated holding only one service at Red Lake Falls. During the winter months, Missionary Pryor conducted services on a once a month basis.

In the spring of 1920, a petition was prepared, circulated, and presented to Adams Presbytery asking for the organization of a Presbyterian church at Plummer. The Presbytery appointed a commission of three: Rev. S. M. Kelley of Red Lake Falls, Rev. R. L. Barackman of Thief River Falls, and Elder Ed Healy of Red Lake Falls, who were to arrange the organization. On June 20, 1920, this committee met after the church services, and the organization took place. The names of Mrs. Hulda Anderson, Agnes Anderson Sorenson and Segrig Anderson Tillman were enrolled by transfer from the Red Lake Falls church. Other charter members were Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Davies, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Brooker, George Tanner, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Wichterman, Pearl, Helen and Kathryn Preston were baptized at this time.

The little schoolhouse was sold and in the spring of 1947, the Emardville Lutheran church was bought and moved to the present location.

In 1960, it was deemed necessary to merge with the Brooks Presbyterian Church. The two churches brought together their heritages and formed one. The Brooks building was moved to Plummer, a basement put in and a few other changes made. This was aided with land and material from the old church. On December 13, 1963, the dedication service was held, and the Brooks-Plummer congregation went down in church history as a merged church.

Since the merger, Rev. Gruneich, Rev. Glenn Atchison, Rev. R. J. Villwock, and the present pastor, Rev. Ronald Geisman have served the congregation. In all, twenty pastors have served since 1918.

It was an extreme necessity that brought on this merger. However, there was opposition to it, so much so that members left and went elsewhere. Will our church now endure? We believe as the word of God states, "People who have no vision perish". We have vision, and our vision shall last as long as our eyes are fixed on God.

PLUMMER POST OFFICE

The 1st post office in Plummer was open in 1904, west of the present village with H. H. Finrow as Postmaster. When the town moved to its present site near the railroad Charles A. Latta was appointed postmaster. Ole Johnson succeeded him and he moved the office into the Johnson Saloon in the Village of Plummer. Later a new building was erected on the property presently owned by Mrs. Ann Jaeger. In 1914 Mrs. Lamie Morrisette was appointed Postmistress serving until G. A. Krueger assumed the post. He moved the office to a building on main street. In 1905 a star route was established and the first driver was a Mr. Olson. He served 15-18 miles NE of Plummer called Rhoda. When he retired Mrs. Ole Hemly started to carry the mail by horse and buggy. Many times when the weather got down to 40 below, she would have to spend the night with a patron. Her patrons could tell she was coming from a distance as they saw the smoke from her pipe coming out the side of her carriage.



Post Office

She served for many years. Mrs. Hemly died on the route and the horses returned to the livery barn.

John L. Bredson drove the star route from 1916 to 1918. Mr. Ole Hemly was carrier from 1919 to 1923 and Edwin Jacobson from 1923 to 1927. In 1914 Mr. Walter Lonergan started serving a route. In 1925 the rural free delivery service was started and served by Mr. Lonergan and Clarence Rice. When Clarence Rice gave up the route, Edwin Jacobson was appointed. Routes at that time were 16 miles long and could take as long as 9 hours to cover. The substitute carrier for the two routes was Ben Schjelderup. When G. A. Krueger retired Frank Mack was appointed postmaster with Alice Mack as clerk. He had the office in the same building on main street, the present Emardville Town Hall, until he built a new post office next to the theatre. It burned in 1942. Mr. and Mrs. Mack retired in March of 1948. Mr. Kenneth M. Haaven was appointed Postmaster in March, 1948. The clerk was Lorraine Haaven with Mae Jackson as temporary clerk. In 1961 when Mrs. Jackson retired, Mrs. Nadine Johnson was appointed temporary clerk. The post office remained in the same building until Mr. Haaven donated a lot and Edwin Langlie of Thief River Falls built a new one, occupying it in December 1962. In 1956 Walter Lonergan retired so the two routes were consolidated into one and served by Ed Jacobson until his retirement in 1959. The route was served by Jesse DuChamp until 1961 when the regular carrier, Russell H. Pahlen, was appointed. Mail went off the trains in 1957 so Plummer was served by star route carriers: Henry Pederson, W. Jablinski of Thief River Falls, MN and Ronald Paradis of Brooks, MN. It is possible to now serve 114 miles in six hours. Kenneth Haaven retired after 23½ years of service in October 1971. Mrs. Lorraine Haaven was appointed the postmistress. Other employees are Nadine Johnson, Clerk; Russell Pahlen, Rural Mail Carrier; and Joseph Fallon, substitute rural carrier.

PLUMMER COOPERATIVE CREAMERY ASSOCIATION

Following is an excerpt from the handbook, "Guide to Northwestern Minnesota", published in 1950 by Earl V. Chapman:

"Plummer is situated in a territory devoted to mixed farming with dairying predominant. Indicative of the growth of the latter is the record of the Plummer Cooperative Creamery. In 1903 the creamery produced 12,411 pounds of butter. By 1941, it produced approximately 400,000 pounds of butter annually."

History of the Plummer Cooperative Creamery goes back to 1900, when a

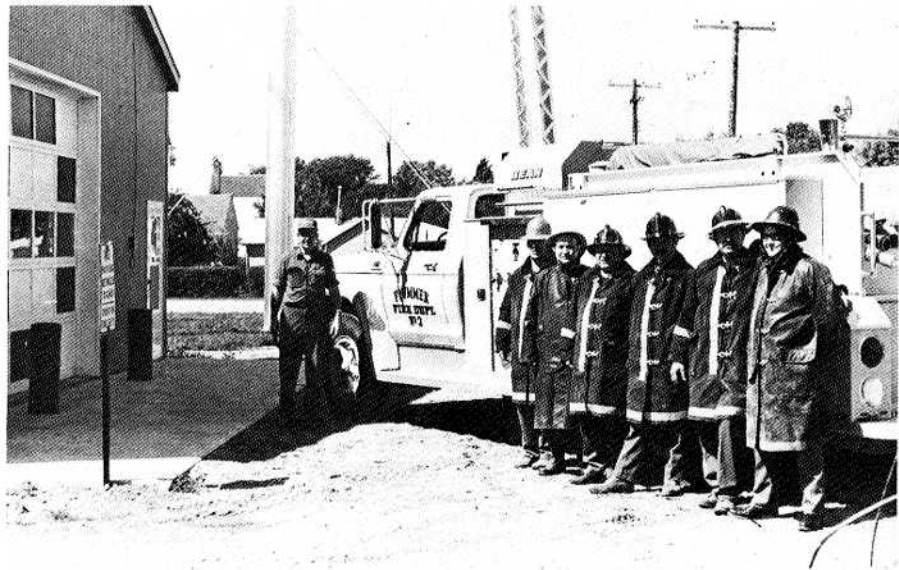
group of farmers organized and built the Emardville Creamery Association located near the Gilbertson bridge. In 1904 this building was moved to a spot on the west side of the Clearwater River at the new townsite of Plummer.

In 1918 a meeting was held to disband the Emardville Creamery Association and the Plummer Cooperative Creamery Association was begun. Those present at this meeting were: John Hagen, S. Michelson, John Carlson, Jacob Waldal, Harry Olson, Nils Hanson, Isaac Wilson, Carl Sorenson, John Brekke, Oscar Wilson, Anton Lee, John Greenwald, John Westerlund, Theodore Halverson, Martin Berg, Martin Foldoe, John Sorenson, L. J. Ellingson, Edwin Jacobson, David Haugen, S. J. Hemstad, Henry Giere, M. J. Fallon, H. C. Jesperson, Alfred Waldal, E. Schjeldrup and Simon Sater. The first officers of the newly formed association were: David Haugen, President; John Greenwald, Vice President; A. J. Hemstad, Secretary-Treasurer and Directors were John Greenwald, Anton Lee and P. S. Medchill.

A new brick building was constructed in 1918 at a total cost of \$11,723. Mr. Albert Martin was the first buttermaker.

In 1945 the Plummer Cooperative Creamery started handling milk, and at that time also an addition was put on the building. In 1962 the Creamery began picking up bulk milk.

Present officers of the Association are: Gust Foldoe, President; Joe Fallon, Vice President; Jerry Gerardy, Secretary-Treasurer; Lloyd Sorenson and Erwin Weiss, Directors. Russell Houtari is the manager. At the present time there are one hundred patrons, and the volume of milk handled in 1974 was 16,971,767 pounds.



Plummer Fire Department



Old Plummer Creamery

volunteer fire relief association. Their first truck was a 1936 Chevrolet truck with reel hoses. With no sirens the fire bell was rung to call the firemen to duty. The Village purchased a 1950 Dodge truck with all new equipment in 1952. In 1953 the rural communities of Plummer and Oklee joined with the Village of Plummer to form the Plummer-Oklee Rural Fire Ass'n. The Fire Department not only fought fires but were very active in other activities. In 1953 the Plummer Fire Dept. purchased Christmas lights and it has been their responsibility to put up and take down the lighting ever since. For many years the Plummer Fire Dept. conducted the heart fund drive. In 1962 they sponsored a bowling team. Plummer has hosted the Regional Fireman's Ass'n meeting in 1962 and 1967. Plummer Fire Dept. has sponsored a New Years Eve Fireman's Ball for many years. In 1966 the Commercial Club and Fire Department purchased new lights.

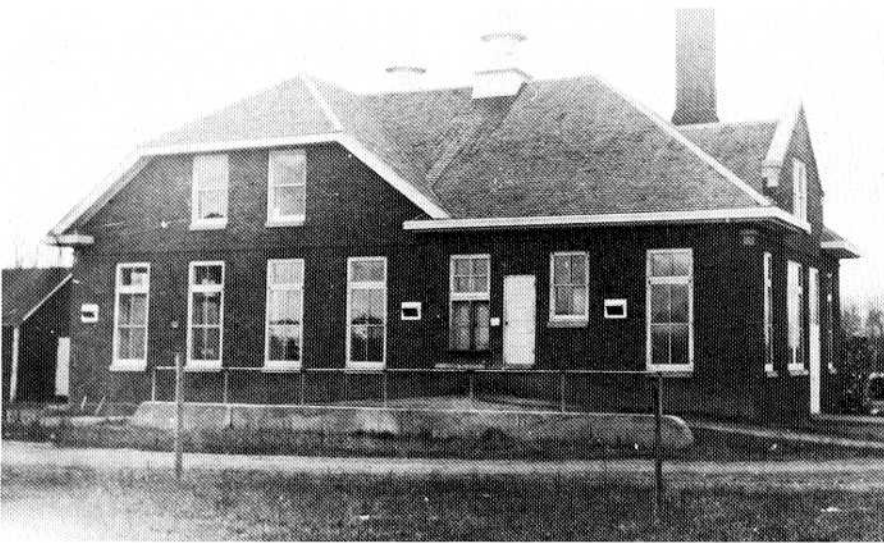
In 1969 the original fire bell was moved to the Plummer Community Park installed in a permanent base to be preserved as a historical landmark of our community. Past Fire Chiefs were: 1947-1953, Ed Jacobson; 1954-1956, Lawrence Carpenter and 1957-1968, Ted LaCoursiere. Past Sec.-Treasurers were: 1947-1948, George Saunders; 1949-1954, Elmer Doran and 1955-1968, Oscar Brown.

In 1968 the Fire Department was reorganized. R. H. Pahlen was elected President; Ted LaCoursiere, Fire Chief and Gust Westerlund, Sec.-Treas. Six fire phones were installed in business places and fireman's homes.

In 1969 the first large Fourth of July celebration was held and the Fire Department had the responsibility of taking charge of the fireworks. This was done until 1974.

The Fire Department has been called to assist in many fires. The largest being the Post Office and Theatre in 1943, Plummer Liquor Store in 1962, the Plummer School in 1967 and East Side Service in 1971.

In 1972 a new fire hall was built. In 1973 the firemen were reclassified and are now called fire-fighters. They are well-trained, capable men, and as members of the State Vocational Training School, training is received three times a year. Fire Chiefs since reorganization are: 1968, Ted LaCoursiere; 1969, R. H. Pahlen; 1972, Keith Kruse; and 1974, Gust Westerlund (presently serving).



Plummer Creamery

PLUMMER FIRE DEPARTMENT

One of the earliest institutions which was organized in the Village of Plummer was the fire department. A bell was rung warning everyone of a fire and grabbing a bucket they raced to the scene of the fire forming a bucket brigade. Most all attempts to save any buildings were futile. A pull cart with a small tank containing a chemical compound and water was stored in an early fire hall north of the town hall. The main reason for the chemical was to keep

the water from freezing but it didn't serve the purpose as at most fires the hoses were frozen and the tank useless. This is a proven fact as most of the original buildings in town burned. As time progressed an old truck with a pump was purchased before World War II which was the pride and joy of the town. This served the purpose until the Plummer Fire Department was formed in 1947. Elected to office were Ed Jacobson, President and Fire-Chief; George Saunders, Sec.-Treas. There were 22 volunteers who became members of the

PLUMMER AMERICAN LEGION POST #623

A temporary charter for the Plummer American Legion Post #623 was issued August 6, 1947. The first Commander was James Jackson with twenty-two charter members: Hubert Matt, Nick Jaeger, William Remer, John Bentley, Walter Peterson, Deane Schoenauer, Joseph Fallon, Joel Nelson, Donald Wichterman, Eugene Carpenter, John Hemstad, Walter Toulouse, Ollie Mattison, Russell Pahlen, Howard Greenwald, Douglas Maney, Joseph Havlick, Lloyd Hanson, Erwin Siebel, James Jackson, Waldamar Walter, and Kenneth Haaven.

After almost thirty years since the American Legion Post began, only four of the charter members are deceased. An all-time high in membership of 78 members was reached in 1948. Over-top membership today is thirty, and the average membership is approximately fifty members.

The American Legion conducts a Memorial Day Service every year visiting six cemeteries in the Brooks-Plummer communities. A \$50.00 scholarship has been given to a graduating senior the last few years. The Post has taken a very active part in the 4th of July celebrations in Plummer and send their colors to participate in all local parades.

Past Commanders are James Jackson, Jesse DuChamp, Ernest Pederson, Leo Eskeli, Hubert Matt, Walter Peterson, John Hemstad, Ernest Pederson, Floyd Hesse, Alvin Johnson, Russell Pahlen, Henry Moonen, Donald Hesse, Lorence Granum, Lawrence Carpenter, and Joseph Fallon.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT #623

An organizational meeting was held in Plummer in November, 1947, with twenty-two women present for the purpose of starting an auxiliary to the Plummer American Legion Post #623. For a number of years several Plummer women had belonged to the Red Lake Falls Auxiliary Unit, but at this time decided to form their own unit. First President was Mrs. Walter Peterson, and other officers were Mrs. James Jackson, Mrs. Amelia Eskeli, Mrs. Deane Schoenauer, Mrs. Kenneth Haaven, Mrs. Hubert Matt, Mrs. Josephine McCrady and Mrs. Merle Skatvold. There were thirty-four charter members six of them being Gold Star mothers.

The unit has been actively working with the Legion on such projects as the Memorial Day program, July 4th celebration and other programs.

The first girl to attend Girls' State from the Plummer unit was Eunice Jaeger, and Patricia Guillemette was the first girl to receive the Citizenship Award at graduation. Floyd Howard won third place in state competition with his poppy poster while a student at Pershing school.

In 1971 the Unit voted to give a scholarship to a deserving high school graduate, and Linda Hemly was the first recipient.

The Unit purchased unit colors in 1974, and first to carry them at a district convention were Arlene Kelly and Janice Mattison.

All-time high membership was achieved in 1974-75 when there were seventy-three members. Since the unit was organized, twenty-two members have died, five of them Gold Star mothers.

Present membership is seventy-two. Two of these are Gold Star mothers, Mrs. Emil Malwitz and Mrs. Jerome Bernier.

LANAGER HAGA

In the late 1890's Elling Bjorn Lanager and his brother Halvor were in the hardware business in Climax. By 1904 they decided to break up the partnership and "E. B." began to look elsewhere to start another hardware store. He had several locations in mind. Henry Enderle did a good salesmanship job and E. B. opened his hardware store in Plummer September 1904. (Thirteen years later Henry also talked E. B. into letting him marry his daughter Laura.)

He sold everything from paint to pots and pans to farm implements to coffins. For many years the family lived in back of the store. It wasn't unusual for anyone traveling a distance to sleep overnight on the floor. A big purchase was celebrated by E. B. grabbing a bucket and bringing it back from the saloon full of beer.

A boy who lived a few miles west of town finally saved up enough money to buy his first gun that he had been admiring in the store. He left home at sunrise and waited for two hours on the step for E. B. to open the store so he could buy his gun. Little did he dream that someday he would marry E. B.'s daughter Irene and in 1930 "Pioneer Hardware" would be changed to "Lanager and Haga".

Both E. B. Lanager and Lars Haga were members of the village council and members of the school board.



Mr. and Mrs. Lars Haga



The Lanagers



Finrow General Merchandise

WESTSIDE GROCERY

The first grocery store in Plummer was started in 1904 by a man named Al Finrow. The store building was located in back of the bank and faced east. After the bank burned, the grocery store building was moved to the corner where it stands today.

Charles Schmidt, Sr. operated it for some time, and sold to Arthur Torstveidt. He had the business until 1947, when Jesse and Wally DuChamp bought it. In 1965 Jesse sold his share to Wally, and he in turn sold to Wilfred Karr in 1974.

In October of 1974, Clinton and Pauline Theroux purchased the business and named it Westside Grocery.



Fourth of July Celebration

