

Fertile Reminder

DEC 1984

The Message of Christmas

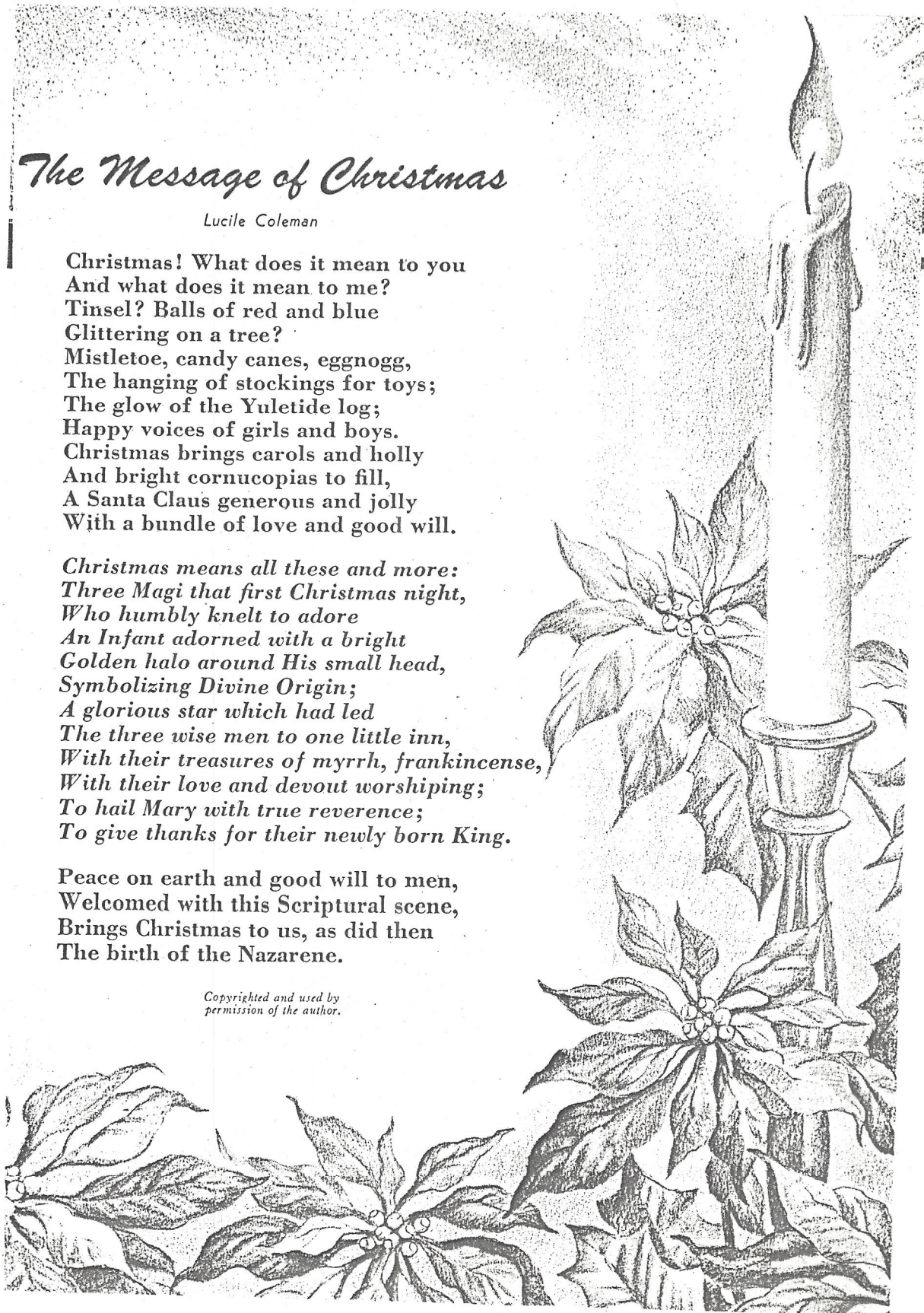
Lucile Coleman

Christmas! What does it mean to you
And what does it mean to me?
Tinsel? Balls of red and blue
Glittering on a tree?
Mistletoe, candy canes, eggnogg,
The hanging of stockings for toys;
The glow of the Yuletide log;
Happy voices of girls and boys.
Christmas brings carols and holly
And bright cornucopias to fill,
A Santa Claus generous and jolly
With a bundle of love and good will.

*Christmas means all these and more:
Three Magi that first Christmas night,
Who humbly knelt to adore
An Infant adorned with a bright
Golden halo around His small head,
Symbolizing Divine Origin;
A glorious star which had led
The three wise men to one little inn,
With their treasures of myrrh, frankincense,
With their love and devout worshiping;
To hail Mary with true reverence;
To give thanks for their newly born King.*

Peace on earth and good will to men,
Welcomed with this Scriptural scene,
Brings Christmas to us, as did then
The birth of the Nazarene.

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Her Plan for THE 12 DAYS BEFORE Christmas...

Famous last words: "There's no need for all this last-minute rush at Christmas, if one makes a systematic schedule and sticks to it."

By Esther C. Smith

ON THE TWELFTH DAY before Christmas, my schedule said to me,
"Now put up the Christmas tree."

ON THE ELEVENTH DAY before Christmas, my schedule said to me,
"Do your Christmas shopping."
(And put up the Christmas tree.)

ON THE TENTH DAY before Christmas, my schedule said to me,
"Buy Christmas wrappings."
(Do your Christmas shopping and put up the Christmas tree.)

ON THE NINTH DAY before Christmas, my schedule said to me,
"Gift-wrap the presents."
(Buy Christmas wrappings, do your Christmas shopping and put up the Christmas tree.)

ON THE EIGHTH DAY before Christmas, my schedule said to me,
"Mail all the parcels."
(Gift-wrap the presents, buy Christmas wrappings, do your Christmas shopping AND put up the Christmas tree.)

ON THE SEVENTH DAY before Christmas, my schedule said to me,
"Address your cards."
(Mail all the parcels, gift-wrap the presents, buy Christmas wrappings, do your Christmas shopping, and put up the Christmas tree.)

ON THE SIXTH DAY before Christmas, my schedule said to me,
"Write Christmas letters."
(Address your cards, mail all the parcels, gift-wrap the presents, buy Christmas wrappings, do your Christmas shopping And PUH-LEEZE put up the Christmas tree.)

ON THE FIFTH DAY before Christmas, my schedule said to me,
"Make Christmas cookies."
(Write Christmas letters, address your cards, mail all the parcels, gift-wrap the presents, buy Christmas wrappings, do your Christmas shopping and PUT UP THAT CHRISTMAS TREE!!)

ON THE FOURTH DAY before Christmas, my schedule said to me,
"Four plates of candy."
(Make Christmas cookies, write Christmas letters, address your cards, mail all the parcels, gift-wrap the presents, buy Christmas wrappings, do your



Christmas shopping and do SOMETHING about that Christmas tree.)

ON THE THIRD DAY before Christmas, my schedule said to me,

"Bake three pies."

(Four plates of candy, make Christmas cookies, write Christmas letters, address your cards, mail all the parcels, gift-wrap the presents, buy Christmas wrappings, do your Christmas shopping and put up what's left of the tree.)

ON THE SECOND DAY before Christmas, my schedule said to me,

"Two Christmas programs."

(Bake three pies, four plates of candy, make Christmas cookies, write Christmas letters, address your cards, mail all the parcels, gift-wrap the presents, buy Christmas wrappings, do Christmas shopping, and pretend the tree isn't there.)

ON THE LAST DAY before Christmas, my schedule said to me,

"Do last-minute jobs."

SO I —
Strung Christmas lights on four plates of candy, dropped three pies into the nearest mailbox, gift-wrapped the Christmas cards, put Christmas seals on some burned cookies, beat all the parcels in the electric mixer, threw the Christmas letters into dishwasher,

And baked the Christmas tree.

(Esther C. Smith is a Charles City housewife.)

"REMINISCENCES" continued:

homes in the East or Wisconsin. Fortunately, however, Worth County soil was never the scene of bloodshed between the white men and the Indians.

Next Month: "PIONEER LIFE AND CUSTOMS"

We are sending this newsletter out early in hopes it will remind everyone of the Christmas Holidays. Maybe all of you will keep in mind, as you plan your own Christmas meal for family and friends, the needy families in the area that will be coming in to the food bank for food. Or, can you think of some elderly person or persons on low income that you might share with.

There are countless numbers of families in this area that don't know how they are going to make it through the month. A lot of people are working but cannot make the money reach, some cannot work because of physical or mental reasons. Some are barely existing on their social security checks. Will you spread the word to people who don't get the newsletter? Many times we hear of a "doubting Thomas" who thinks if he or she is not hungry and is comfortable with life, that means everyone else is too.

We want to thank the people that keep faithfully giving towards the food bank and the people that donated their fruit and garden products this fall. Our sincere thanks to our devoted volunteers for their work too.

The food bank has some money at this time but we have to make it stretch for a whole year. Don't let that fool you into thinking "the food bank has money now" so we don't have to give to them for awhile. We have quit giving out meat when we ran out, in order to save money and hope the farmers will donate meat again soon.

The first part of October Bonita Kloster brought back food from Des Moines food bank. The first part of November Mr. and Mrs. Jim Brones brought back food from there (including fresh potatoes and onions). In October Luella Johnson, Barb Borkowski and Dorothy Book bagged more raisins into small bags that come in bulk.

THIS CHRISTMAS:

Oh! Give Thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His loving kindness continues forever.

"MERRY CHRISTMAS"

LIBRARY NEWS

NEW ADULT BOOKS:

WHEEL OF FORTUNE - SUSAN HOWATCH
LANDOWER LEGACY - VICTORIA HOLT
BRIDGE ACROSS FOREVER - RICHARD BACH
UNEASY LIES THE HEAD - JEAN PLAIDY
LOVE AND WAR - JOHN JAKES
FORGIVE AND FORGET - LEWIS SMEDES

NEW CHILDREN'S BOOKS:

BEAR'S CHRISTMAS - STAN BERENSTAIN
GET ALONG GANG AND THE CHRISTMAS THIEF - ALICE PARKER
MICKEY'S CHRISTMAS CAROL - DISNEY PRODUCTIONS
101 DALMATIANS - WALT DISNEY
BERENSTAIN BEARS MEET SANTA CLAUS - STAN BERENSTAIN
GARFIELD, HIS NINE LIVES - JIM DAVIS

WINTER LIBRARY HOURS:

WEDNESDAY - 11 AM - 6 PM
FRIDAY - 1 PM - 5 PM
SATURDAY - 9 AM - 11 AM

MRS. LANCE BURTNES WAS WELCOMED AS A NEW TRUSTEE ON THE LIBRARY BOARD WHICH MET TUESDAY, NOV. 27. SHE REPLACES LEE BRIGGEMAN.

TWO BIG EVENTS WERE HELD AT THE COMMUNITY Center in November. On Nov. 3, a profit of \$1,035 was made on our annual turkey supper-- 360 dinners were served. Thank you to all who attended and a special thank you to all the men and women who roasted turkeys, baked pies, made dressing, served the food and cleaned up, or helped in any way. It was a great success!

On Nov. 17 the Craft Fair was held. We had 28 tables of crafts. The Center made a profit on table rent and selling food, and the people who make crafts had a chance to sell their work. A special thank you has to go to the women who helped us in the kitchen (some worked all day) - Silence Johnson, Viola Roberts Edna Pederson, Jean VanDenBosch, Harriet Ouverson and Vesta Kuns. Also to the ones who demonstrated and sold their goodies--Carol Kleveland, Kringles; Larry Nelson, Abelskiver and Delores Suby, Rosettes.

Kay Olson was in charge of renting tables and Ruth B. Ouverson was in charge of the food.

Ruth B. Ouverson & Kay Olson

Thank you to Cletus & Carolyn Nedved for raising \$110 by raffling off 2 clocks made by Carolyn's Uncle Leo Hallet of Las Vegas. They were made of Utah Stone--one was won by Roger Jennings and the other by Edgar Schonmier of Emmons, MN.

ANYONE HAVING AN IDEA FOR FUND RAISING FOR the Center should contact someone on the Board. Our electric and heat bills are high--last month's light bill was \$185, the heat bill was \$450 and it's only November. It's great to have the building but we need more help raising funds. Please volunteer your time and give the Center your support in all its activities.

COOKBOOKS - How about buying Aunt Minnie or Cousin Mary a Fertile Cookbook for Christmas? It will make a nice remembrance--available at most business places.

LETTER - This is a letter from former residents of Fertile, sent to Mike and Ruth Wolfe.

"Hi, to all of Fertile. This ought to be a good day to write a letter (election day--Nov. 6) and let you know we think of you. Each time the Reminder comes we think of you guys and our many good memories of you and our hometown. Nowadays, memories are our very best pasttime and also we are reminded through The Reminder that if we want to keep it coming, we had bet-

ter feed the kitty. I hope you will be kind and give it to the proper ones so w will continue to get The Reminder. We do enjoy it and you know Fertile will always be home to us. We may never get back there again, but nevertheless, it's home to us. Our Fertile days will never be forgotten. Of course, when I thing of Fertile, I feel much younger and that's very important."

Clarke & Virginia Fankell
Oregon

Thanks so very much to all of you who have helped us in so many ways: to the men who brought the hospital bed and to the Community Center for lending it to us (it's great), also to all who have called, sent cards, gifts and prayers on our behalf.

Virgil & Ruth Ouverson

The family of Leo Oswald would like to thank everyone for their numerous cards, phone calls, memorials and visits after Leo's death. A special thank you to Pastor Hedin and our wonderful neighbors for all their help. Your many expressions of sympathy are greatly appreciated and will not be forgotten.

Gennivie Oswald
Andy & Pat Oswald & family
Sara & John Innes & family

We thank each one who has cared, who has given food, flowers and memorials, who has prayed, who has remembered us in any way since the death of our Dad and Grandpa, Harley Ouverson. We appreciate everything that has been done for us.

Jean, Bob & Betty & families

STORK NEWS!!!!!!

BOY - Todd William - Nov. 1, 8 lb. 14 oz.
Parents - Allen & Juanita Severson, of Fertile, Grandparents - Severin & Pearl Severson, Forest City and Vern & Irene Peterson, Thompson

BOY - Joshua Dean - Nov. 16, 9 lb. 6½ oz.
Parents - Mr. & Mrs. Craig Swalve, of Fertile, grandparents - Mr. & Mrs. Carrol Bakken, Garner and Mr. & Mrs.

Arnold Swalve, Buffalo Center

GIRL - Micki Marie - Oct. 21, 6 lb. 5 oz.
Parents - Cindy & Kenny Meier, West Memphis, Ark. - Grandparents - Ron & Millie Beyer, Fertile

FOR SALE: Oak picture frames. Will make to order-2 day delivery, some sizes on hand. 797-2465, Norman Nye.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PROGRAM AT THE COMMUNITY Center starting at 7:30 on Dec. 8. Santa will be there and he will have gifts for all children 10 and under. All ages will be participating in different choirs, plus other specials. Refreshments will be served after the program and a good-will offering will be taken to pay for heating the gym for this one night. Everyone is welcome-bring the whole family and start the Christmas season right.

Don't forget the businesses that advertise regularly in The Reminder. Express your appreciation by giving them your business.

CHEESE AND BUTTER DISTRIBUTION AT THE COMMUNITY Center, 1 to 5 p.m. on Dec. 13. Same guidelines as last month.

FOR SALE: Bundy Flute -- excellent condition. 797-2267 or 797-2440.

GARDEN CLUB ELECTS 1985 OFFICERS

Garden Club members elected the following officers for the 1985 club year: Pres. - Opal Almelien; Vice-Pres. - Penny Miller; Sec. - Marcella Mitchell; Treas. - Ehtel Tuttle; Corr. Sec. - Arlene Lee. Many suggestions for the next year's programs were given for roll call. Zelpha Wilhelm had the Thought for the Day. She accompanied the club in singing, "Thanks To God For My Redeemer."

The "A" for Christmas Surprise was given by Barbara McCoy of McCoy's Nursery, Forest City. She made up a door swag, and evergreen waterfall centerpiece and a Legend of Christmas design. These were given away in a drawing and were won by Marian Pitkin, Zelpha Wilhelm and Arlene Lee.

Penny Miller and Fern Midtgaard were hostesses for the November meeting.

The 1984 year will conclude with a Christmas potluck luncheon at noon at the home of

Zelpha Wilhelm on Dec. 11. At this meeting, secret pals will be revealed in a gift exchange.

Your city dog ordinance is working for you. This message is meant to make you aware of the fact that the county returns to the city 90% of any fines leveled as a result of prosecution concerning enforcement of a particular city's ordinance. Any unlawful act that you previously considered merely an annoyance can now be pursued and the result is additional city revenue. The City Council neither endorsed or admonished these statements and the facts are a matter of public record.

Mark Schultze
Councilperson

THE ANNUAL FLCW CHRISTMAS DINNER will be Thursday, Dec. 13, 6:30 p.m. Our guest will be Lollie Sawyer, she brings music and laughter together with an inspirational message drawn from her life as a teacher in S. America and current activities as a writer, speaker, actress and musical comedienne. Tickets are for sale from your circle chairman at \$2 each, those who furnish food for the dinner do not need a ticket. A count will be needed by Dec. 9 to know how many are coming. Anyone is welcome to come to the dinner or program.

CIRCLE MEETINGS

(F) Ruth	12/10	7:30	Shirley Sheimo
(F) Sarah	12/11	7:30	Zelpha Wilhelm
(F) Mary	12/20	9:30	Rosemary Tannahil at the church
(F) Reb.	12/20	2:00	Opal Almelien at the church
(PKLCW) & Circles	12/11	7:30	Church

CREAMERY RESTUARANT & LOUNGE 797-9685
Specializing in good food

FERTILE FEED SERVICE 797-2242
Complete Livestock Needs
Softner Salt, Dog & Cat Food

RAY JENNINGS 454-2707
Complete Auction Service

FERTILE LUMBER & HARDWARE 797-2437
Rent the Rug Doctor

WANTED: Person to clean office weekly - 797-2242.

We have room available for children on a daily or first-time basis. Let us care for them while you Christmas shop. TeddyBear Learning Center. 896-2445 or 797-2704.

FOR SALE: 2 pair cross-country skis, poles, bindings, 3 pair boots; cast iron wood lathe; used gas stove. 797-2719.

The Fertile City Council met Nov. 13, 1984 with Mayor Shropshire presiding. Council members present were Schultze, Petersen, Hall and Hare. Others present were Mark Tuttle and Henry Thompson.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and approved.

Thompson and Tuttle gave prices on cleaning and painting the water tower. Motion to accept their offer subject to contract and proof of insurance. Carried.

Council discussed snow fence for north side of Wash. St. Motion to buy snow fence if the state doesn't have any left. Carried.

Diane Burtness was appointed to fill a vacancy on the library board.

Motion to have city's attorney work on a public nuisance ordinance. Carried.

Letters will be sent to several residents asking that unlicensed vehicles be moved to help in snow removal.

Council discussed work on dam, bay, and west shelter house.

Motion to pay monthly bills. Carried.

Janice Hare
City Clerk

OCTOBER BALANCE SHEET - Expenditures

Janice Hare	217.73
Dick Sheimo	454.53
David Low	282.23
City of Fertile	51.00
Interstate Power	434.40
Waste Systems Corp.	603.00
Ipers - Foab	178.58
Treas. - State of Iowa	32.61
Ipers	369.99
IRS	82.80
Evelyn Knudson	204.96
Better Homes & Gardens	17.34
Family Bookshelf	14.17
T. Bouregy & Co.	28.50

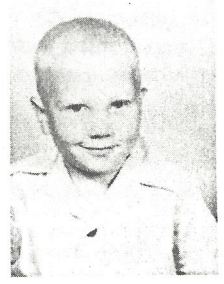
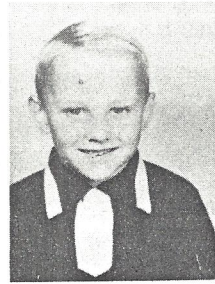
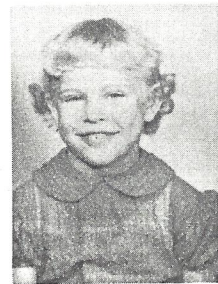
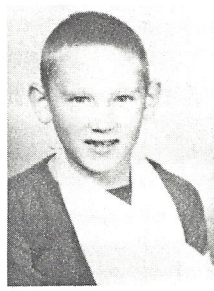
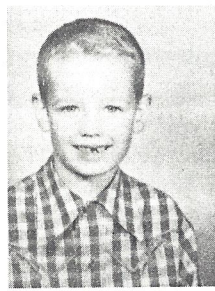
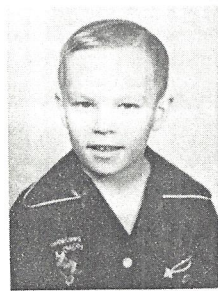
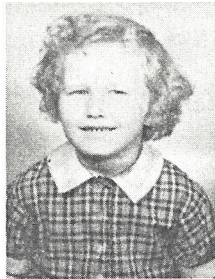
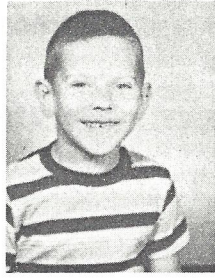
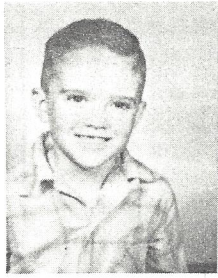
B. Dalton	10 95
Christian Bookstore	3 80
Baker & Taylor	1.14
Ladies' Home Journal	19.97
Glamour	15.00
Boys' Life	10.80
Mechanix Illustrated	11.94
Winn. RTA	120.80
Boyd Suby	36.00
Peoples Natural Gas	44.37
U.S. Stamped Envelope Agency	110.35
Fertile Lbr. & Hardware	327.47
Jordan's	119.05
Municipal Supply	94.30
Lonnie Bailey	417.50
K & R Gas	8.64
Weaver Sontr. Co.	74.25
Treas. - State of Iowa	84.65
Worsley Electric	29.20
Tenold Ins.	1,127.00
Barclay Co.	14.90
Fertile Meats & Groc.	7.08
Danny Kingston	15.75
Tom Hare	26.25
Allen Hare	38.50

TOTAL	5,864.50
TOTAL RECEIPTS	11,357

LARSEN'S PLUMBING & HEATING	797-2219
PETAL SHOPPE	357-5030
FREE Delivery to Hosp.	357-5026
1714 7th Ave. N, Clear Lake	
BURTNESS PLUMBING & HEATING	797-2680
HOFFMAN CRAFTS	797-2714
701 West Main	
J & W UPHOLSTERY	797-2457
Upholstery--Auto Body	
Jean & Wayne Roberts	
OLD MILL ANTIQUES	797-2490
PERSONAL TOUCH BEAUTY SALON	797-2422
Styling for Men & Women	
FERTILE MEATS & GROCERIES	797-
Specializing in Meats	
for the Freezer	
RAY SANDIFER - TOM'S SALES	797-1
FLOWERS BY McCOY	582-4517
Flowers for Every Occasion	

1956

FIRST GRADE



L. to R.

Mary Jane Brinton, Bobby Davis, Richard Felland,
Blaine Field, Lucille Hanna
Janan Haugen, Kathy Hunter, Bonnie Jenkins
Connie Jenkins, Sammy Kirk
Mary Ann Knudson, Roger Ouverson, Stephen Ouverson,
Steve Peterson, Danny Petersburg
Thomas Petersburg, Joan Rippentrop, Byron Rutter,
Judy Tibbets, Wayne Torkelson
Linda Tweed
Not present for picture-ViJean McVicker

JORDAN'S MIDLAND SERVICE 797-2677
 Complete Automotive Service

FOREST CITY COW PALACE 582-4646
 Auction Every Wednesday

FIRST STATE BANK 896-2265
 Serving North Iowa
 Hanlontown, Kensett & Plymouth
 Main Office - Manly

CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD 797-2703
 Area Headquarters
 Christmas Decor from 12 countries
 Lannie Hanson, Supervisor

WORSLEY ELECTRIC 797-2494

K & R GAS 797-2440

C O O K S

A reporter asked the centenarian the inevitable, "To what do you attribute your long life?"

"Not sure yet." the old-timer replied, eyes a-twinkle. "I'm still negotiating with a mattress company and two breakfast food firms."

* * *

Sign in optometrist's window: "If you don't see what you want, you've come to the right place."



Mrs. Jordan

1956



Mrs. Purcell



Mrs. Carr

GIFTS FOR ANY SEASON TO GIVE WITH ALL YOUR HEART!

Smile.
 Provide a shoulder to lean on.
 Pat someone on the back.
 Say "thank you."
 Give an unexpected kiss.
 Or a warm hug.
 Say "gosh you look good."
 Rub a tired back.
 Say "good morning" even if it isn't.
 Mail a letter to an old friend.
 Place a surprise phone call.
 Ignore a rude remark.
 Save the want-ads for a job hunter.
 Wave at a meter maid.
 Pay your doctor bill.
 Give your used clothes to a needy person.
 Pass on some goodness.
 Buy the wine she likes.
 Buy the cheese he likes.
 Loan a favorite book.
 Consider a different point of view.
 Forgive an old grudge.
 Talk to a lonely child.
 Laugh at an old joke.
 Tell him he's wonderful.
 Tell her she's wonderful.
 Take the kids for a walk.
 Serve breakfast in bed.
 Make the music soft and the lights low.
 Share a dream.
 Keep a confidence.
 Try to understand a teenager.
 Let someone ahead of you in line.
 Say "you're doing a good job."
 Say you were wrong.
 Say someone else was right.
 Say "please."
 Explain, patiently.
 Tell the truth.
 Encourage a sad person.
 Take a problem upon yourself.
 Remain calm.
 Leave your mailman a little gift.
 Tell a bedtime story to a little one.
 Do a kind deed, anonymously.
 Mail someone a poem.
 Tape a love note to the refrigerator.
 Point out a beautiful sunset.
 Most of all, say "I Love You!" often.

"REMINISCENCES" - More Worth Co. History

From the writings of G.O. Mellem, the first settler in the county, have been taken the following reminiscences. These were first published in the Anderson Atlas of Worth County, 1913, and are recopied here owing to their great value as historical material.

"In the summer of 1854, a party started out from Dubuque to survey and lay out a part of Worth County into proper divisions and subdivisions. The head of this company was John Pennybaker, a nephew of the surveyor-general, and who was in a bad state of health, being of consumptive tendency and advised by his friends to breathe the pure air of the Iowa prairies. He had assembled his squad of five men, himself making the sixth, and after loading up their teams in Dubuque, preparatory to starting, took a rest of a day before making the move. John Blew, one of his companions, sat down upon the tongue of one of their wagons to rest. The day was bright and beautiful, an afternoon sun shone from a cloudless sky, and all nature rejoiced, as it seems always to do when we are blessed with that rarest of all days, a perfect spring day. Blew leaned his head upon his hands in apparent meditation, and suddenly looking up into the sky, told his companions, who were standing by, that he had seen before him in the heavens six men marching in Indian file from the east to the west, and after they had gone a short distance a man came from the south and joining them the seven continued on their westward march. All at once they stopped and appeared to dig, and when they proceeded on in a moment there were but six of them. All soon melted into thin air shortly after this. A hearty laugh greeted this tale and Blew was rather rallied about it quite often afterwards."

"The party set out and while they were crossing the prairie somewhere perhaps in Howard County, an Irishman, from Chickasaw County, joined them as cook. The advent of this man from the south was so remarkable a coincidence with the vision that, although they still laughed 'with counterfeited glee', yet in their own minds they all felt troubled. After their advent into this county they related the whole story to Mr. Mellem and he laughed with them."

"Now comes the singular part of the story. While they were yet running the lines in Northwood (Grove) Township, one of their number fell sick, and the horrible incubus of the vision weighed upon each man that they were doomed to lose one of their number and, of course, who else could it be but the sick man. He, lying there ill, conjured up the whole story of the vision, and feeling that he must die, desired that he might be taken to Charles City, that he might not die in this 'horrible wilderness', as he termed it. Accordingly, Mr. Mellem was employed to drive him there and whilst he was absent the denouncement came. It seems that one day it became necessary for the compass and other instruments to be carried across the creek, where it is very deep, and while the party was congregated together, discussing whether it was best to go above the head of the stream and thus turn it, or to build a little raft to carry their tools over the deep water, the cook, the Irishman, who had joined them from Chickasaw County, approached. Seeing that they were in a quandary he, naturally enough inquired the cause. He was informed, 'Is that all?' he said, 'why I'll put 'em on me back and swim across fur yees'. Now as he was quite a noted swimmer among them, and all felt that no danger would come to him, Paddy stripped and, taking the compass by the legs, threw it over his shoulder and struck out for the other shore. He had hardly made a half dozen strokes when he was seen to sink beneath the water. Not rising again every effort was made to reach him. All, however, failed in their object until too late, for when he was finally hauled upon the shore, life was extinct. His companions buried him on the banks of the pellucid stream and all but Blew left for the settlements. The latter lingered a short time when he, too, went back east. Thus the survey was broken up by a singular dream and its fatal fulfillment."

In speaking of the Indian scare of 1854 Mr. Mellem wrote:

"I did not see any Indians after coming here until the morning of Christmas Day, 1853. It was early in the morning and we had just finished eating our breakfast, and my wife was washing the baby, while seated by the fire, when the door was partially pushed open and a painted, plumbed head was shoved in over the top of the low door. I supposed, not thinking of the reality, that some of our friends from St. Ansgar, having come over to visit us, had indulged in the old country pastime of garbing themselves in fantastic dress, with the intent of scaring me. I rose up and shouted, 'come in, you fools, do you think that you can frighten me?' Imagine my feeling when there entered my cabin three buck Indians. Two of them were evidently of some rank, as they were the handsomest dressed Indians I have ever see, whilst the third was the shabbiest, meanest looking. They, looking around the room, asked for 'Minnie, Minnie.' I, misunderstanding them, said I had no money, for that is what I thought they wanted and it would hardly do to let them know I had any. They saw a pail nearby on a stool, pointed to it and then to their mouths, saying, as before, 'Minnie', which now I understood to be the Sioux for water. I gave them a drink. My wife was sitting there in fear and trembling, scared almost to death, and told me to give them everything they wanted. They now began to try and question me, but as neither of us could speak the language of the other, it had to be done by signs. They peered in the cupboards and under the table and up overhead, looking in every nook and corner as if in

"REMINISCENCES" continued:

search of something or somebody. I now came to the conclusion that somebody had been into their camp up north and hooked some of their horses and they were in search of them and the thieves. I determined, therefore, to take them to my stables and show them my stock, so that they could see that I had none of theirs. This I did, but it did not seem to be what they wanted, and I seemed no nearer an explanation than before. They now took my foot and planting it in the snow showed me the track of a boot, asking, this time plainly, by signs, if I had seen a man, or the tracks of a man with boots on, going south. I shook my head no; at this, one of them grabbed me by the head with one hand, while with the other he flourished a knife, drawing it across my throat. I thought my hour had come and for the only time I can remember felt scared. The Indian dropped his hold on me and seeing how frightened I looked, they all indulged in a good hearty laugh."

"While I was thinking what to do, they started suddenly for the cabin. Now, I thought, the slaughter will begin, and did not know hardly what to do, whether to run and hide in the timber or go to the cabin. After a moment's reflection, I felt my duty was to go to the house and see just what was going on, so at once proceeded there. I drew near with fear and trembling and, peeping in, expecting to see a horrible scene of bloodshed, saw my three red friends seated on stools around the fire, smoking their pipes. I knew that all danger, if there had been any, was now over and I entered quite boldly. I tried hard to learn their errand and partially succeeded before their departure, which was soon after."

"It seems, from what I gathered from them and from others, that Joseph Hewitt, of Clear Lake, had been up among the Sioux in the quality of trader, and to help his trade in ammunition, etc, he had told them that the Winnebagoes were coming to raid them and that they had better be prepared. Not seeing their savage foes make an appearance, they came south to Round Prairie, where they threw up fortifications, remnants of which can be yet seen, sent out scouting parties, of which my visitors were one, in search of Joseph Hewitt, to learn of him the whereabouts of the Winnebagoes. They remained encamped there for sometime and early in the spring two Norwegians, returning from the Blue Earth country north on foot, came in view of six or seven hundred natives who were indulging in war dances and hallooing like mad around a pole. The post was ornamented with the head of a Winnebago boy, who had been an attendant of Captain Hewitt's, and whom they had shot that day. The Indians had, by this time, understood the reason of Hewitt telling the story and wanted to get hold of him to kill him. These two Scandinavians did not tarry long when they caught a sight of the ghastly trophy, but 'gave leg bail for security', and on reaching the settlement spread the report of what they had seen. All was consternation now and all were making ready to leave the country at once. On their making a visit to Hewitt, whom they all knew was perfectly familiar with the Indians, he assured that there was no danger whatever; but when they looked around for him the next morning he, too, had fled, so they gathered up their traps without any more ado and left for the more thickly settled country at once, rousing up and scaring the country as they passed with their stories. Some, it is said, did not stop short of Decorah, and a few even reached McGregor."

"The Indians, not finding Hewitt, made preparations for their return, not having injured a single white man. I would not run, nor was I scared, as I partially understood how matters were. Shortly after this, in the spring, I had to go to St. Ansgar to have my plough sharpened, and hitching up my team I packed in the wagon the wife and baby. While crossing the prairie, about on a line between this and Mitchell County, looking ahead I discovered a grove, where I had never seen a grove before. My curiosity led me to drive nearer and I finally saw it move. Can it be elk, I thought. On a closer examination I found it to be about three hundred Indians, emigrating to their homes in Minnesota. When I got closer up they treated me very kindly, entreating me by signs to go back, that they meant no harm, for they thought I was trying to run away, as I was journeying toward the settlement. They wanted me to buy a horse of one of them, but I did not think it best to be the purchaser, so drove off in peace. Soon after this they moved north and left the country for good."

Other narratives by the old settlers compare very much with this of G.O. Mellem. Mrs. Simon Rustad at one time discovered five big Indians standing in the cabin, while her two children cowered in the corner of the room. They wished bread only and after they had secured this they departed in peace. Shortly afterward a lone Indian threw a half of a deer into the Rustad cabin in return for the kindness. The Spirit Lake Massacre in Dickinson County in 1855, committed by the Wahpekute band of the Sioux, who were renegades, hated by the whites and reds alike, caused much uneasiness over all this portion of Iowa and preparations were made by all the settlers to defend their homes or leave. The New Ulm and other Minnesota massacres of the early '60s caused a flurry of excitement among the Norwegians of Worth County, many of them returning to their

REPORT FROM YOUR COMMUNITY CENTER shows total expenses for the last quarter of 1983 totaling \$3,732.83. December expenses were heat-\$850; electricity-\$83.39; phone-\$8.00; garbage, sewer and water-\$28.25. Income from suppers, rent, cookbooks and donations totaled \$4,034.25, leaving a balance of \$301.42. A careful reading of this report shows that it is necessary for us to have fund-raising events nearly every month. Some dates to remember for 1984 are:

SPOTLIGHT ON FERTILE	March 24th
Estate sale at which we	
will be serving lunch	
and noon meal	Apr. 10-14
MAYFAIR	May 19th
ANNUAL TURKEY SUPPER	Nov. 19th
CRAFT FAIR	Dec. 1st
CHRISTMAS PROGRAM	Dec. 8th

Other dates will be added to the calendar as they are planned.

Ruth B. Ouverson

A PAT ON THE BACK AND A BIG THANK YOU to Ray and Lorraine Bakke for being chairpersons of the Annual Sweetheart Dance. Last year a little over a thousand dollars was raised.

This involves a lot of planning--arrangements have to be made with the Surf, tickets and envelopes ordered, envelopes have to be filled, addressed and stamped. They have help from their committee, but there have to be leaders and they do a great job. THANKS, Ray and Lorraine.

Ruth B. Ouverson

NOTICE

The Sweetheart Dance that was to have been held Feb. 10th was postponed due to the foggy weather. It has been rescheduled for Friday, March 16, at the Surf in Clear Lake. The same orchestra is scheduled to play. All who have not turned in their money for this fundraiser may still do so.

FEBRUARY DISTRIBUTION OF GOVERNMENT SURPLUS CHEESE AND RICE will take place Thurs., Feb. 16, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Community Center. If you are picking up the commodities for another household, you must have a signed note authorizing you to act on their behalf, as well as the required information.

COME & EAT AT NOAH'S CAFE 797-2410
Monday through Saturday

WANTED: Hangers for the Clothes Closet in the Community Center.

FERTILE MEATS AND GROCERIES 797-2647
Specializing in fresh meats and freezer orders

WORSLEY ELECTRIC 797-2494

BURTNESS PLUMBING AND HEATING 797-2680

3RD ANNUAL VARIETY SHOW--"SPOTLIGHT ON FERTILE" will be given at 7:30 p.m., March 24th at the Community Center. Do you have an act or a number you would like to present? You do not need to be a resident of Fertile--we welcome anyone who would like to perform. If you decide to be a part of "Spotlight on Fertile", please contact Zelda Suby, 797-2752, or Nance Sheimo, 797-2223, by March 1st. (We do need a PA system, do you have one we could use, call Zelda or Nance.) ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY CENTER. Invite your friends, relatives, enemies--- come and enjoy an evening of fun!

PERSONAL TOUCH BEAUTY SALON 797-2422
Styling for men and women

CREAMERY RESTURANT AND LOUNGE 797-9685
Specializing in good food

J AND W RECOVERY SHOP 797-2457
Upholstery -- Auto Body
Jean and Wayne Roberts

FOREST CITY COW PALACE 582-4646
Auction every Wednesday

THE GYM will be open through March 17th. It will not be open on Saturdays after that date because of rentals, special events, etc.

THE FERTILE GARDEN CLUB will begin its 1984 year by having a potluck dinner on Tuesday, March 13, at the Fertile Community Center.

FREE: Gold Whirlpool washing machine. Needs new agitator--you haul. Tom Sheimo, 797-2223.

FLOWERS BY McCOY--McCOY NURSERY 582-4517
Flowers for every occasion

K and R SERVICE 797-2440



8th Grade Graduation 1920

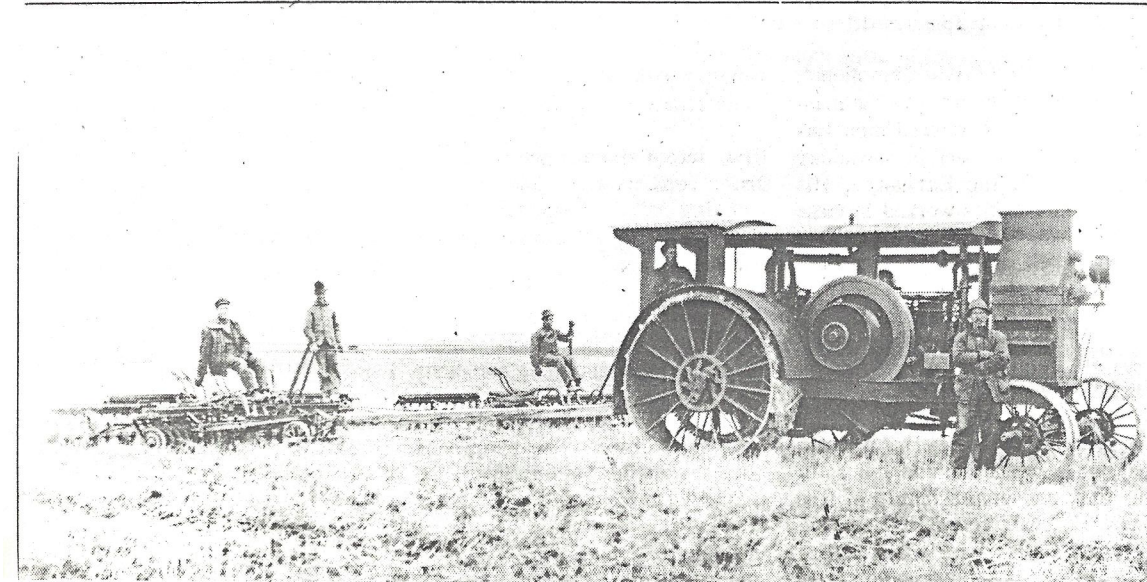


1928

1. Winnie Welsh - Hill
2. George Hall age 27
3. Glea Hall age 23
4. Gussie Haugen
5. ?



Church of Christ Sunday School Class



CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Fertile City Council met Feb. 7 with Mayor Shropshire presiding and council members Hall, Hare, Schultze and Petersen present. Others present were Ruth B. Ouverson, Kay Olson, Cletus Nedved and a representative of the Crisis Intervention Center of Mason City.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Council discussed stiffer dog ordinance and fines.

Mayor reported Wallace & Holland would like a special meeting with the council. Motion to pay remaining sewer engineering fees. Carried.

Revenue sharing requests received from Fertile Senior Citizens, Crisis Intervention Center and Chemical Dependency Center of Forest City. Final decision on requests at the March meeting.

Nedved asked about response from Fertile Feed Service on work done there. City has received none.

Council discussed ways to heat gym at the Community Center on Saturdays. Community Center may buy a heater and city pay for the gas. Prices to be checked on.

Permission requested by Community Center to be under the city's ID number for interest-bearing checking account. Granted.

Council discussed applying to Winnebago and Hansen Foundation for funds to build softball diamond.

Mayor set March 6 as budget hearing. Motion to pay monthly bills. Carried.

Council discussed slower speed limits in town. Several people have expressed concern on the speed cars going through town drive.

Council requests cooperation of property owners near fire hydrants in keeping them shoveled out.

Meeting adjourned.

Janice Hare
City Clerk

Next regular council meeting will be March 6 and will include revenue sharing hearing and budget hearing.

JANUARY BALANCE SHEET
Expenditures

Postmaster	40.00
Janice Hare	217.73
Dick Sheimo	490.13
David Low	282.01

Waste Systems Corp.	603.00
Winnebago RTA	20.28
Peoples Natural Gas	538.29
Interstate Power Co.	799.29
City of Fertile	51.00
Ipers - FOAB	157.08
Treas., State of Iowa	87.14
Fertile Meats & Groceries	5.16
U.S. Stamped Envelope Agency	110.35
Jordan's	69.92
Noah's	8.69
Glenn Tenold Ins.	654.00
Fertile Lumber & Hardware	9.20
Treas., State of Iowa	11.79
IRS	27.20
Janice Hare	10.80
Co-op Services, Inc.	28.85
Ipers	332.57
Fertile Tile & Block	56.00
Christian Book Store	25.02
Bro-Dart	23.39
National Geographic	32.00
	<u>4,690.89</u>

TOTAL RECEIPTS

4,972.61

CREAMERY RESTURANT AND LOUNGE

Now Open At 11 am

HOMEMADE Pies and Soup

Daily Specials

Tom and Cathy Kirschbaum

Fertile, IA

NEW BOOKS AVAILABLE AT THE LIBRARY

Easy Readers: Caring Is What Counts -
from Care Bears
That's What Friends Are For
A Fox and Hound Book from
Disney Productions
There's No Such Thing As A
Dragon, by Jack Kent

Junior Books: Black Stallion's Courage
by Walter Farley
Half the Battle, Lynn Hall

Adult Fiction: Rainsong by Phyllis Whitney
Moving to the Country by
R. Lindbergh Brown
Leftover Love by Janet
Dailey



MR. AND MRS. AMUND MIDTGAARD AND FAMILY — 1916



MR. AND MRS. OLE HAUGEN AND FAMILY — 1930

FERTILE'S FIRST GIRLS' TEAM TO GO TO STATE



FERTILE HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM IN THE YEAR 1920

Members of the team were, left to right, Ruth Johnson, Rena Johnson, Floy White, Anetta Hjelmeland, Norma Ouyerson, Doris Van Bore, Maude Humphrey, Hazel Haugen and Lois Wescott. Kenneth Prescott, their coach, is in the foreground. Although their coach was a man, officials in the Dac-Mainas tournament were women.