

## CHAPTER XL.

### CROOKSTON, MINNESOTA—HER EDUCATIONAL, RELIGIOUS AND FRATERNAL INSTITUTIONS.

#### **Public Schools of Crookston.**

By

**E. E. McIntire.**

Crookston educates its children in two distinct school districts, district No. 1 and district No. 257. The latter is located in the south side of the city, in that section known as South Crookston, or Carman, and is organized as a common school with an official board of three trustees. District No. 1 is organized as an independent school district and is administered by a board of education composed of six members, as follows: E. M. Walsh, president; Edward Peterson, clerk; F. R. Hamel, treasurer; Carl Reidesel, O. O. Christianson, E. L. Chesterman.

All of the sites for school buildings, with the exception of the one in Highland Park, are occupied by commodious and modern buildings. In Jerome's addition is the McKinley building of four rooms, opened in 1903; in the "woods" neighborhood, the new and magnificent Franklin building, opened last January, erected at the cost of \$40,000, with rooms for eight departments; in Sampson's addition, the Eugene Field School, remodeled and enlarged three years ago, of four departments; on the "Hill," the new Washington School, of four departments, was opened two years ago, a building of the newest approved appointments, and

the central grounds, the Lincoln and High School buildings, the former the older, with rooms for thirteen departments, the latter the home of the 260 high school pupils, with their nine or ten teachers. The maximum registration of pupils in the above enumerated schools is 1,763, for whose instruction the district employs forty-one teachers.

Each building is heated by steam, is equipped with a complete plumbing system and is supplied with ten proper mechanical devices for perfect ventilation. Forced ventilation is obtained in the Franklin School by a fan drawn by a twelve-horsepower electric motor.

The high school receives special state aid amounting to nearly \$2,500 a year, and extends for tuition to all pupils without regard to their place of residence, a fact which helps to account for the large number of non-resident pupils registered in the school. Seven hundred and fifty dollars of state aid is annually received on account of the normal training department, which is maintained in connection with the high school and which has enrolled during the past year between forty and fifty pupils. This department is to prepare students for teaching.

An ungraded department was organized for the benefit of pupils not adapted to the graded system, two years ago, and now enrolls nearly 100 pupils and employs two special instructors.

Manual training was introduced one year ago, for which the shop is located on the fourth floor of the high school building, which has a complete equipment of benches and tools for carpentering and tables for mechanical drawing; shop work is given to all the boys above the fifth grade and to as many as wish it in the high school. During the past year 250 boys have enjoyed the benefit of the department of instruction. Sewing is taught to the girls of the same grade. Music and drawing are being systematically taught under special instruction. In the high school are the following musical organizations: A boys' glee club, a girls' glee club, a mixed chorus and a high school orchestra.

Literary work receives regular attention, each high school class constituting a literary society, giving programs tri-weekly throughout the school year. Public declamations and orations

are encouraged. Class debates are a part of the regular work of the school.

The general library of reference books is gradually increasing and now comprises nearly 1,000 well chosen volumes. This library is of the freest access and is in constant use.

The pupils have published during the past year a school organ called the "Little Press," which has been highly complimented both at home and abroad. The social life of the high school receives proper encouragement.

Among the boys the athletic sports are by no means neglected, and it has been the aim of the school to take a firm stand for clean sports in all inter-scholastic contests. The young men of the Crookston high school have been the recipients of high commendation for their uniform good behavior while representing their school and city in the neighboring towns.

**Ezra E. McIntire.**—The present superintendent of the Crookston schools, Ezra Elmer McIntire, was born in Neponset, Ill., June 15, 1861, educated in a preparatory school known as the Waterville Classical Institute, Waterville, Me., where he attended from 1877-79, under Dr. J. H. Hanson, principal. Graduated from Colby University, state of Maine, with the class of 1884, degree of A. B.; degree of M. A. in class of 1886.

After graduating he went to Union, Ia., where he was engaged in teaching from 1886-88. He next went to Warsaw, Ill., where he was also engaged in the same occupation from 1888-90. He then removed to Glencoe, Minn., where he also took up teaching, remaining there from 1890-1903. From there went to Crookston and accepted the superintendency of the city schools.

**Prof. Thomas Casey** was born in the Empire state, in the city of Rochester, October 27, 1855. Son of Joseph and Matilda (Webb) Casey, both of Irish extraction. Father of the subject of this pleasant memoir was an agriculturist. In 1863, when the great Civil War was going on, this family removed to Samilac county, Michigan. In that state Professor Casey completed his high school course, then entered northern Indiana Normal School in the city of Valparaiso, completing a scientific course, graduating in class of 1882, with degree of B. S. At the age of nineteen

he taught school during his college vacations, and immediately after graduating he was chosen as the principal of his home schools. In 1882 he resigned his position to join the Winnipeg boom, and for a year after arriving in Winnipeg, Manitoba, worked as a bookkeeper for the firm of McDonald & Hawley. In the fall of 1883 was the beginning of his school career in Polk county, arriving in Crookston, where he again took up his chosen profession of teaching; selected to teach the South Crookston schools for a brief period. Later became the choice of the people as principal of the Fisher schools, where he continued for three years. Many of his pupils there have felt his impress among them as an able teacher, especially in mathematics and penmanship. He taught in the grammar department of the Crookston high school for one year; superintendent of the city schools of East Grand Forks one year, when he was induced to return to Fisher for one year. He was then appointed as superintendent of schools in Polk county, to fill the vacancy of E. F. Elliot. Polk county was then the largest organized county in the state, and Professor Casey served as superintendent one year and a half. He joined the next campaign as the Republican nominee for the office of county superintendent, and received the nomination by acclamation, but the party ticket was defeated by the Populist landslide, although he ran 1,603 votes ahead of his ticket. He then became city superintendent of Red Lake Falls city schools, where he continued for five consecutive years, and during this period was engaged by the state to instruct teachers in the summer school for four years, and thus became one of the most successful and popular instructors of northern Minnesota. He was again induced to take charge of the Fisher state graded schools, where he remained until the fall of 1900; then resigned to enter the campaign as a candidate on the Republican ticket for county superintendent of Polk county. He was elected against his formidable opponent by a majority of more than 500, and was the first Republican to qualify in Polk county in a period of ten years as a county official. He holds a state professional certificate. He is a member of the Masonic Order of Crookston.

**Northwest Experiment Farm and Crookston School of Agriculture  
of the University of Minnesota.**

By  
**William Robertson.**

The Northwest Experiment Farm of the University of Minnesota, a gift from James J. Hill, is situated just north of Crookston. It was established in 1895, with T. A. Hoverstad as superintendent, the object being to study local agricultural conditions of this section of the state. Under Superintendent Hoverstad's administration several acres of forestry plantation were made, a good poultry plant was put in operation and appropriations were made by the state for installing an experimental drainage system.

Meanwhile, owing to the enthusiasm of the people of this region, the legislature of 1905 was induced to pass a law establishing a school of agriculture, which was to be a department of the University of Minnesota, be in charge of the board of regents of the university and be located at or near Crookston. An appropriation of \$15,000 was also made for erecting and equipping a building for its use.

At this time Superintendent Hoverstad resigned and William Robertson, of the St. Anthony Park school, was elected superintendent of both the school and the farm, and took charge of affairs in August of the same season.

The board of regents, after due consideration, located the school on the Northwest Experiment Farm, and the following winter erected a three-story brick building which housed the school for the first two years. The school is what might be classed as an agricultural high school, and is intended to round out the education of the farm boys and girls after they leave the rural schools, fitting them either to go back to the farm or to enter the university, should they desire to take up professional work in the line of agriculture. Students attending the institution are boarded at the school and are thus in a continual agricultural atmosphere, expenses being only the actual cost of living. The course of study includes farm botany, mechanical drawing, music, farm mathematics, poultry, social culture, English, agriculture, black-

smithing, carpentry, military drill, cooking, physical training, sewing, study of breeds, laundering, agricultural physics, dairying, fruit growing, farm accounts, stock judging, breeding, household art, agricultural chemistry, vegetable gardening, field crops, gymnasium, forestry, entomology, algebra, handling grain and machinery, veterinary science, civics, geometry, plant propagation, dressing and curing meats, feeding, soils and fertilizers, home economy, domestic chemistry, domestic hygiene and meats.

Although the school has been hampered by lack of funds, room and equipment, it has been popular from the start, and in its third winter had an enrollment of 101 students, practically all farmers' sons and daughters, coming from various parts of northwestern Minnesota.

As a result of the loyal support of the people of the Red River valley, under the able leadership of Senator A. D. Stephens, the school is now being well cared for in the way of current expense, and will have two additional buildings within the next two years. With its numerous attractive buildings and pleasant surroundings and the practical work which it is accomplishing, the institution is becoming a source of pride to the people of the Red River valley.

Along with the development of the school has gone that of the farm. In co-operation with the department of agriculture at Washington the experimental drainage system has been installed, the farm now having two miles of open ditch and approximately nine miles of tile drains. Minnesota Experiment Station Bulletin No. 110 gives a full description of the system.

The poultry plant of the farm continues to grow in importance and is doing much to provide the farmers of the state, at small cost, with excellent strains of pure-bred stock.

The farm and school are only a pleasant drive or walk from Crookston, and are much visited by outsiders as well as by farmers.

#### **Eclectic Business College.**

The Eclectic Business College of Crookston is located on the top floor of the Merchants Bank building and is under the management of Mrs. Julia A. Hughes. This college is fast becoming one of the best shorthand schools in Minnesota. The principal,

Mrs. Julia A. Hughes, is a woman of years of experience as a reporter of some of the largest conventions in the Northwest, and is well versed in court work, having had twenty years' experience as a public stenographer, typewriter and expert accountant. She founded a school, September, 1905, on a small scale in her own private home, teaching shorthand and other branches. In September, 1906, she opened the Eclectic Business College in the old postoffice building, and in December, 1908, moved into the present headquarters, Merchants Bank building. She understands and can teach several systems of shorthand, namely: Eclectic, Graham, Munson, Moran, Pitman and Gregg. After years of experience in all these systems, she has decided that the Eclectic is the easiest to learn, read, write and remember. This college also teaches elocution and oratory, commercial and preparatory courses. Bookkeeping in all its branches is in charge of an experienced accountant, M. J. Casey, who teaches latest and shortest methods. Commercial law, political economy and commercial correspondence are in charge of P. S. Hughes, who is thoroughly versed in these subjects. This college will graduate a class of twenty-four in June, 1909.

Mrs. Julia A. Hughes was born in Chicago and attended school there seven years, three at convent and four at the public schools, completing the eight grades. Attended high school at Storm Lake, Iowa; next entered the Buena Vista County Normal Institute, completed a four years' course and graduated in class of 1888, receiving teacher's professional diploma; then entered the Western Normal College of Shenandoah, Iowa, and graduated from that institution in 1891, completing the normal, literary, scientific, elocution and oratory, shorthand and business courses and winning a gold seal. Also took a course of private lessons in elocution, oratory and Delsarte movements, under Marion Lowell Pickens, of Boston and Philadelphia Schools of Oratory and Elocution.

**The Masonic Lodge of Crookston**, No. 114, was organized under dispensation in 1879. Ross Houston and C. E. Dampier were made Masons under this dispensation. January 15, 1880, the lodge received its charter. The first officers: W. M., M. R. Brown; S. W., William Box; J. W., J. H. Thomas; treasurer, W. E. Harts-

horn; secretary, J. K. Arnold; S. D., W. M. Ross; J. D., W. H. Stuart; S. S. Frank Bivins; J. S., C. S. Spendley; Tyler, C. E. Dampier. In 1909 the officers are: W. M., Thomas Morris; S. W., C. L. Bang; J. W., B. D. Keck; treasurer, E. M. Walsh; secretary, O. Fredericks; S. D., I. S. Mills; J. D., E. W. Schmidt; S. S., H. I. Marsh; J. S., Nels Christianson; Tyler, C. H. Mix.

The approximate membership is 250. They own the top floor of the Wallace building, valued at \$8,000.

**Pierson Chapter** No. 141.—Excellent high priest, Thomas Spence King, B. D. Keck; scribe, E. A. Mills; C. H., H. A. Marsh; P. S., Oscar Frederick; M. 3d V., W. G. Lytle; M. 2d V., C. F. Mix; M. 1st V., F. Bracelin; treasurer, C. E. Dampiers; secretary, G. W. Munch. The membership of the chapter is 144.

**Constantine Commandery** No. 20—E. C., C. C. Strander; G., E. A. Mills; C. G., C. F. Mix; P., W. S. Ward; S. W., B. D. Keck; J. W., A. A. Miller; St. B., A. C. Schmidt; S. W. B., F. M. Brown; W., W. G. Lytle; treasurer, J. W. Wheeler; recorder, L. S. Miller. Membership, 116.

**Independent Order of Odd Fellows** of Crookston.—Chief officers at the organization of Valley Encampment No. 9, organized 1880, were as follows: Chief, Frank Creamer; J. W. Hawkins, senior warden; J. W. Sandberg, junior warden; G. S. Chesterman, scribe. Later officers are: A. A. Glenn, chief; W. H. Dixon, senior warden; M. A. Hoffard, junior warden; G. S. Chesterman, scribe. Number of members, 90.

This lodge owns its building, valued at \$7,500. It was the old court house, and since the Odd Fellows Lodge purchased it has been remodeled and refurnished.

**Crookston Lodge** No. 79.—Officers: A. O. Busterud, noble grand; Magnus Lundberg, vice grand; G. S. Chesterman, secretary; Carl Riedesel, treasurer.

**Modern Woodmen of America**, Crookston Camp No. 2,303, was instituted by D. H. Counsel and E. O. Ransom. First officers: V. S., L. G. Theures; W. A., A. C. Schmidt; E. B., A. Chabot; clerk, William O. Brien; escort, W. A. Hammond; watch, Charles F. Boeman; secretary, Charles Baungartel; physician, A. H. Dunlap.

First delegate, Martin O. Brien, March 17, 1896, elected to



state and national convention. At convention held in Peoria, Ill., in 1908 he was the unanimous choice of that convention and elected as national auditor.

Clerk William O. Brien at first organization of the camp resigned on account of having to leave the city. He was succeeded by Carl Riedesel, the present clerk. He has remained continuously ever since, with the exception of two terms.

Present officers (1909): V. C., Thomas R. Johnston; W. A., Joseph LeBlanc; E. B., Nels Peterson; clerk, Carl Riedesel; escort, E. A. Linde; watch, Joseph Couvrette; sentry, L. N. Howe.

Directors: A. A. Just, A. H. Dunlap, C. E. Dampier, J. S. Killand. Up to December 31, 1907, Camp 2,303, Crookston, paid to head camp \$28,951.90. General fund to uphold the head camp, \$3,066.16.

Since organization of the local camp, twelve deaths have occurred for which \$27,000 have been paid in beneficiaries. Camp 2,303 has paid to aid other afflicted members an approximate sum of \$2,000. Also donated \$250 to build a cottage known as Crookston cottage on the sanitarium grounds, Colorado Springs.

Clerk Carl Riedesel represented his camp at the national convention held at Peoria, Ill., in 1908.

### **Churches of Crookston.**

#### **The Catholic Church in the City of Crookston.**

By

**Judge R. J. Montague.**

At the present time about one-third of the population of Crookston profess to belong to the Catholic church. It is commonly stated and believed that at least one-half of the people of Crookston who attend services at churches attend the services at the Catholic church. Not that there are more Catholics in town than all other denominations, but more people appear to attend the services at the Catholic churches in the city than do at all the other churches.

The parent congregation of the Catholic churches in this city is St. Anne's church, organized October 22, 1879; the first meet-

ings and services were held in a small hall over Fontaine & Anglim's store on Main street in the city. At that time William Kistenmacher, John R. McKinnon and Louis Fontaine were the trustees. Soon thereafter these trustees secured grounds for the location of a church. The church location was on lots 21 and 22, of block 2, in L. Fletcher's addition to Crookston. Mrs. Almira Clements donated one lot; the trustees bought the other. The church of that congregation and parsonage are still situated on those lots. The value of the property is about \$19,000. The church edifice is the latest of the better class of church edifices built in the city, and probably in all its arrangements is the best.

At the time of the organization of both the congregations herein referred to of the Catholic church, the Rt. Rev. Seidenbusch, of St. Cloud, was the bishop in charge of this diocese. The Rev. Peter B. Champaigne, a resident of Red Lake Falls, had the general charge as priest of all this territory. Numerous pastors for short periods of time were placed in charge.

It was a struggle with St. Anne's church for a good while; the edifice was erected in 1880, but in an entirely uncompleted condition, until in the summer of 1882, when August Munn, F. E. LePage and R. J. Montague were selected by the congregation and approved by the bishop as trustees, and were enabled, through the generosity of the congregation, to complete the church and put in pews, since which time services have been regularly held. This church was incorporated August 1, 1904, under Rt. Rev. James McGolrick, of Duluth, the bishop, the vicar general, the pastor, Rev. L. J. Grandchamp, Zephraim Geroux, and F. E. LePage being the incorporators.

The old church edifice, erected in 1880, was moved off the ground and the present splendid new edifice replaces it. One hundred and eighty-five families comprise the congregation of this church at the present time. The societies attached are St. Anne's Ladies' Society and St. Mary's Sodality for Young Ladies. The present pastor is the Rev. Tapin.

Any history of this congregation would be entirely incomplete did it not give some account of St. John Baptiste Society, organized in 1879. This society flourished for more than fifteen years and comprised nearly all of the enterprising members of the con-

gregation of that church. Louis Fontaine, then and for many years the leading merchant of Crookston, was a zealous member and promoter of that society. It provided entertainments and on many occasions funds for the church; it celebrated regularly St. John Baptiste Day, June 24, and regularly, on every anniversary of that day, a splendid celebration and street parade was given. Large sums of money were spent to make the celebration a success. There were floats in the parades representing the early Canadian voyageurs; the Canadian boatmen, hunters and explorers, each accompanied by persons singing the songs and illustrating the times. They made it the one gala day of the year. The writer well remembers an old American, Judge Reynolds' statement, that there was no use trying to celebrate the Fourth of July, because this St. John Baptiste Society celebrated so well the 24th of June that their celebration would eclipse anything likely to be gotten up for the Fourth of July. The celebration usually ended with balls and festivities for the young people in the evening. The society disbanded about fourteen years ago.

St. Mary's congregation was organized in 1886 and arose from the fact that the great majority of the people attending services at St. Anne's church spoke and understood French and desired to have sermons in the French language, and those people not speaking or understanding the French language applied to the bishop for leave to organize a separate congregation. Such leave was granted, and in 1886 St. Mary's church was organized. The first board of trustees was R. J. Montague, William Anglim and John R. McKinnon. Arrangements were made with the Rev. J. E. Lawler, then the pastor of the Fisher congregation, to give services to the newly formed congregation of Crookston twice a month. The church property now consists of lots 15, 16, 17 and 18, of block 14, original townsite of Crookston, situated on the corner of Broadway and Fifth street, being 140x150 feet in size, and contains a plain frame church edifice and residence for the pastor. The church is becoming insufficient in size for the growing congregation and boasts of being one of the churches of northern Minnesota to become clear and independent of debt at an earlier date than other churches. Three years ago its annual

statement showed that there was no indebtedness and a sum of more than \$500 in the banks on certificates of deposit as a building fund. This is being gradually added to. The grounds are well located and ample for a splendid church edifice and parsonage. The value of the grounds, present church edifice and parsonage is about \$11,000. The membership is considerably smaller than that of St. Anne's, but sufficient to build and maintain a good church; the number of families claimed to belong to the church at the present time is 130.

The church is now incorporated and the present pastor, with William Anglim and Judge L. E. Gossman, are its trustees. The present pastor is Rev. John W. Smiers. Several religious societies are connected with this church and all are acting zealously and doing good work.

In connection with the account of the Catholic churches in the city, reference should be made to the following institutions and societies under Catholic auspices:

St. Vincent's Hospital, a large and modernly equipped building, constructed in 1902, on block 25, original townsite of Crookston, is owned and conducted by the Benedictine Sisters. This institution is conducted on the broadest principles of charity, its doors are open to all, and each year it accommodates upwards of 150 patients. The same sisters maintain in the city a school of vocal and instrumental music.

St. Joseph's Academy was established in 1905 by the Sisters of St. Joseph. These sisters have a convenient and beautiful piece of property on Houston avenue and conduct there a school for girls and young ladies.

Catholic fraternal societies are represented in the city by a court of the Catholic Order of Foresters, instituted in 1897, with a membership of over fifty, and a Council of the Knights of Columbus, instituted in 1907, with a membership of about 125.

**First Presbyterian Church** of Crookston was organized July 9, 1882, with fifteen members. C. H. Mix, Esq., was unanimously chosen as ruling elder by Presbytery of the Red River. H. C. Baskeville, was the first pastor; came from New York.

The original records were destroyed or lost. July, 1883, Rev. Baskeville was called away from his work to Fort Worth, Texas.

In packing up his effects, by mistake he packed up the session record book, and after arriving at Fort Worth there was a fire, and in this way the first records were lost.

The rotary system of elders was adopted. Major Mix was the first ruling elder ordained at that meeting and installed by a committee appointed by Presbytery of the Red River, Rev. John Nevin, assisted by Rev. H. C. Baskeville. The charter members are as follows: C. H. Mix, Helen P. Mix (died March 13, 1885), Cassie Mix, C. F. Mix, W. R. Dunn, Mrs. W. R. Dunn, Emma Baskeville, Isabella Daugherty, Adaline Daugherty. By letter, Mrs. Daugherty, Mrs. McKenzie, Mrs. Finlayson, Mrs. Cohoon, Mrs. A. Palmer, David Huggard, Miss E. and Mrs. R. Huggard, Samuel Huggard, Robert Towers, Mrs. N. N. Markham.

Major C. H. Mix, of Crookston, has been clerk ever since the organization. The first services were held on the corner of Broadway and Rolph streets. The pastors have been as follows: Rev. Baskeville, 1882-83; second, Rev. R. R. Adams, 1883-84; third, Rev. Gordon, served six months in 1885; O. H. Elmer, 1886-93; fourth, H. McClern, served three months in 1884; fifth, C. H. Fulton served three months; sixth, Rev. F. L. Fraser, 1894-98; seventh, T. W. Fraser, 1898-02; eighth, Donald McKenzie, 1902-05; ninth, Rev. Williard S. Ward, 1905—present pastor in 1909. The membership for 1909 is 167. Receipts of the Ladies' Aid Society, \$1,361.03, for 1909 is in the bank, and set aside for furnishing the church.

**Methodist Episcopal Church** of Crookston was organized October 12, 1879. Rev. C. B. Brecount, pastor. First services held in Crookston were held in what was known as Losey's Hall. The first church is now used as Garvick's meat market, opposite the Cleveland Hotel.

Rev. Brecount served until October 13, 1880, and has been succeeded by J. W. Clipper, October 13, 1880, to October, 1882; A. W. Edwards, appointed October 10, 1882, to October, 1883; J. F. Ziegler, October, 1883, to May, 1884; J. C. Gullett, October 13, 1884, to October, 1886; M. N. Baker, October 12, 1886-87; J. J. Edwards, October 23, 1887-88; C. R. Kellerman, May, 1888, to October, 1888; C. T. Sharpe, October 15, 1888, to October 5, 1891; J. J. Edwards, October 5, 1891, to July 31, 1892; Lee W. Squier,

August 1, 1892, to October 6, 1895; William Hanson, October 6, 1895, to October 5, 1896; J. E. Houlgate, October 5, 1896, to October, 1898; A. E. Rowson, October, 1898; C. S. L. Lathvan, October, 1899, served one year; F. A. Ganson, October 1900-01; George E. Satterlee, October, 1901-06; A. B. Buckner, October, 1906; Thomas E. Green, 1907; Francis M. McCoy, 1908, is the present pastor. The official board of the church was Andrew Hanson and wife, Adalaide Harris, William Hurst and wife, Edward Hurst and wife.

Charter members: Christene Hanson, October 26, 1879; Mathew Knedy, July, 1879; Hattie Laterman, November, 1879; Hannah Morris, November 2, 1879; Amanda Messick, November 2, 1879; H. Bradshaw, October, 1879; Ellsworth D. Childs, September 12, 1879; Elias Phillips, 1879; Sarah Bardsley, July, 1880; William H. Bailey, August, 1880; Alvira Baker, December, 1880; Peter Burnett, 1880; Samuel Crookshank and wife, 1880; William Cunningham and wife, Priscilla Cunningham, 1880; Robert Corcoran, 1880; A. M. Childs, 1880; Matilda L. Cochrane, 1880; Mary Kent, 1880; Christoph Kern, 1880; John Morris, 1880; Avis Martin, 1880; Alexander McGregor and wife, 1880; E. B. Odell, 1880; M. S. Odell, 1880; Jennie Paul, 1880; John Ralston, 1880; Frederick Smith and wife and daughter Mary, 1880; C. G. Simmons, 1880; Charles W. Sanford and wife, 1880; Hannah Watts, 1880; Marion Webb, 1880; J. C. Waldron and wife, 1880; Williard Williams, 1880; Anna P. Watson, 1880; C. W. Webster and wife and daughter, 1880; Rev. S. M. Webster, P. Elder, Martha Webster, 1880.

October, 1879, the Methodist Episcopal church quarterly meeting for the Red River district was held at Losey's hall Sunday morning at nine o'clock; Rev. J. B. Starky, presiding elder, presiding at the morning service, and the Rev. C. Brecount in the evening.

The present Methodist Episcopal church was formerly used as a roller skating rink and as a theatre, at that time located where the excavation for a federal building is now going on. This building was removed in 1905 to its present location near the corner of Ash and Fletcher streets. The parsonage adjoins the church, which is on the corner.

In October, 1908, Rev. F. M. McCoy was called to the pastorate of this church. The building had undergone some marked improvements and a reopening service was held the first Sunday of his work. A few things at least which followed are worthy of special mention. A new system of work was inaugurated for the benefit of the visitors and strangers who attended the services. A Men's Club was organized, with Prof. William Robertson, president, and Mr. J. W. Newberry, secretary. A Boy's Club was also organized, with Harry Nicholson, president, and Aaron Felsing, secretary. The facilities for worship were augmented in March by the purchase of 200 new hymnals. The State Sunday School Convention, which was held in the church in May, gave impetus to the work in numbers added and interest manifested.

May 2 was a notable day in the history of the church, when forty-six joined its ranks. With strong, consecrated men and women in places of responsibility and a large and devoted following of people and true, this church bids fair to be a very important factor in shaping the future of city and county along ways that lead to righteous living, where "man to man shall brother be."

The present officials are: G. H. Wright, president; C. F. Carpenter, secretary and treasurer; J. W. Wheeler, J. F. Ingersol, B. D. Keck, J. C. Sathre, Byron Crowe, A. M. Childs, F. E. McGregor and Prof. William Robertson.

**Episcopal Church.**—First Episcopal services held October 31, 1879, in Losey's hall. The first minister was Rev. William Currie, who was a rector in Grand Forks and served this mission at Crookston. He was succeeded by Samuel Currie, his brother. The next minister was the Rev. Fortier; the next was Rev. Kite and then Rev. Greene; the latter served ten years, succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. Cox. The wardens of the church are Lorenzo Davis, C. E. Brown; vestrymen, Luther Palmer and Charles E. Potts and Fred Walker. The first cost of the church, \$2,200.

The ground where the building is now located was donated by Mrs. Lorin Fletcher. The building was donated under a contract by M. R. Brown as follows: To keep up perpetual service, and seats free, insured, and out of debt. Judge Davis Brower drew up the contract. The early members of the church were: M. R. Brown,

Judge Brower, W. D. Hulburt, W. E. Hartshorn, John Crowe, E. M. Walsh, George Peak.

**Hauges Lutheran Church.**—"Hauges Minde" of "Hauges Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Synod," Crookston, Minn., was organized in 1887. In the fall of the year 1889 a church was built, located at the corner of Hunter and Hurlbut streets in Crookston. The church's first pastor, who served until 1890, was Rev. Bersvend Anderson. From 1890 until 1894 Rev. M. J. Westphal was in charge of the church. He was succeeded by Rev. M. G. Hanson, who served until 1898. Upon his resignation, Rev. J. T. Krogstad was called to serve temporarily. His work in the church extended over a period of about two years. When Krogstad was unable to serve as pastor of the church, Rev. O. Anderson was called to take up the work. In 1903 Rev. A. J. Krogstad was called to take up the pastorate of the church. His connection with the church was severed January 1, 1908. Rev. O. F. Johnson was called as his successor and took up the work February 1, 1908.

The congregation has had its ups and downs through the years it has existed. The greatest handicap the church has experienced is that it has had but two resident pastors with the exception of Rev. Johnson, the other pastors having served the church in connection with other calls; hence the work has not been efficient, and it has not progressed as it otherwise would have done. The membership has varied at the different times. New members have been added to the enrolment while others have removed and hence left the church. The present membership is about 100. The future outlook is very encouraging, perhaps more so than at any other time in the history of the church.

**Our Savior Church** of the Synod for the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran church of America, of Crookston, Minn., was formally organized by Rev. O. P. Vangsness, then of Minneapolis, Minn., August 28, 1889. Church work had previous to this date, though, been carried on. The first trustees were: O. P. Sawyer, Andrew Sanders and Andrew Eiken.

The church has been served by the following pastors: Rev. O. P. Vangsness, 1889; Rev. P. T. Hilmen, October 30, 1889-97; Rev. O. Andalsrud, August 18, 1898, until September 24, 1899;



Rev. Albert Quammen, 1900 until August 4, 1901; Rev. O. Andersrud, August 18, 1901, until November 29, 1903. The present pastor, Rev. Adolph Salverson, was installed May 22, 1904.

The present board of trustees consists of the following members: H. B. Tveden, Chris M. Tveden, Isaac Knudson, S. H. Lingholm, N. P. Stenshoel. The present officers of the congregation are as follows: Rev. Adolph Salverson, president; Chris M. Tveden, vice president; O. O. Christianson, secretary; H. B. Tveden, treasurer.

**First Congregational Church of Crookston, Minn.**—What is now the First Congregational church of Crookston was organized as Christ's church on the 6th day of February, 1878. This was a union church made up of members of several different denominations. The first pastor, so far as the records now attainable disclose, was Rev. F. H. Smith, who commenced work on the 8th of June, 1878, and remained one year. He was succeeded by Rev. S. H. Barteau, whose service began on October 23, 1879, and lasted until March 9, 1882. The first trustees of the Christ's church were C. S. Spendley, Frank Bivins and N. G. Jennings.

On November 27, 1879, these trustees purchased for the use of the church the lot upon the corner of Ash and Third streets, opposite the Central school building, where the Congregational church now stands. The first services, however, were held in what was then known as "Lawrence Hall," upstairs on Main street. During the pastorate of the Rev. S. H. Barteau the union church was dissolved and the First Congregational church of Crookston was organized. This was December 21, 1879. The church was incorporated as the First Congregational church of Crookston, with Charles S. Spendley, Frank Bivins and Gilbert N. Jennings as trustees, on the 25th day of March, 1880.

The pastors of the church succeeding Mr. Barteau were the following in the order named:

Rev. Thomas J. West, whose pastorate was very short, lasting only from March, 1882, to July, 1882. He was followed by Rev. C. E. Page, whose pastorate ended in November, 1885. Rev. W. H. Medler was pastor from March, 1886, to March, 1889, and was succeeded by Rev. J. G. Smith, who remained for a year or two. The longest pastorate of the church was that of Rev. Herman P.

Fisher, who succeeded J. G. Smith and remained for nearly ten years. Under the administration of Mr. Fisher the church attained greater strength, financial and otherwise, than it had acquired previously in its history. Mr. Fisher was succeeded in the pastorate by Rev. E. S. Shaw, who remained for two years and gave place to Rev. J. P. Dickerman, whose term lasted for not quite one year. In August, 1908, the present pastor, Rev. C. C. Warner, was recognized by council.

The work of this church has always been in the front of the moral and religious work of the city. The church building was erected in the year 1884, during the pastorate of Rev. C. E. Page, and was the same size as the church is at present, excepting that it had no basement. In 1898, during the pastorate of Rev. E. S. Shaw, the church was substantially rebuilt, a basement finished off underneath the whole of the church, which contains the steam heating plant, ladies' kitchen, dining room, library and parlors. During the same year a pipe organ, manufactured by the Hook-Hastings Company of Boston, Mass., was installed in the church this being the first pipe organ in the city of Crookston, or Polk county. The remodeling of the church at this time was done at an expense of between six and seven thousand dollars, and the church property is now worth in the neighborhood of ten or twelve thousand dollars. The building in the rear of the church on Third street was placed there many years ago and was used for a time as a parsonage. It still belongs to the church and is occupied by tenants.

The present officers of the church are: Pastor, Rev. C. C. Warner; trustees, A. A. Miller, N. P. Stone, Fred W. Hall, J. H. Ruettell and S. W. Wheeler. The superintendent of the Sunday school is Lucius S. Miller. The church maintains the usual societies in connection with the organization of Protestant churches, and is, without doubt, the best equipped of any of the churches in the city so far as its church building is concerned.

**Major Charles H. Mix** was born in New Haven, Conn., December 30, 1833, son of Charles E. and Catharine (Upperman) Mix. He received a good education in private schools and a private tutor at home. In 1849 he entered college at Georgetown, D. C., where he spent one year. Then under private tutor at

home, giving most of his attention to civil engineering and drawing. May 1, 1852, arriving in St. Paul, Minn., that time a few settlers in this territory, and the capital a small village. From there he moved to Long Prairie, Minn., then the agency for the Winnebago Indians, where he clerked for two years. On his trip to this part of the country he came by rail some ten miles west of Chicago, as far as the cars then ran, and balance of the way by stage. In the winter of 1853 he made a trip to his native land, staging it from St. Paul to Prairie du Chien, from that point by rail. In the autumn of 1854 was appointed secretary of Willis A. Gorman, then governor of the territory, and removed to St. Paul; that same year was appointed to take the Chippewas of Red Lake and Pembina to Washington. The Indians refused to go. He had many experiences with them. In the spring of 1855 he was sent to transfer the Indians at Long Prairie to the new agency in Blue Earth county. In 1856 established himself as an Indian trader at that point. In 1858 received the appointment of government agent of that agency, and continued in office until 1861. At that time he engaged in claim business, settling government claims, etc. While thus engaged, the Sioux uprising began, in August, 1862. Mr. Mix among others enlisted in Company A, First Independent Battalion Minnesota Volunteer Cavalry and commissioned as first lieutenant. That year he started with the command of the north and west toward Pembina. At that time the outpost of civilization was at Georgetown, on the Red river, and here the troops crossed the stream and marched north on the Dakota side. They wintered at Pembina, and in the spring of 1864 removed to Fort Abercrombie, where Captain Mix was commandant of the post until the following fall. In the spring of 1865 he was ordered to St. Paul to sit on a court martial, and when that disbanded was appointed assistant inspector general for the third civil district, with headquarters at Fort Ridgley. During the winter of 1866-67 he received the appointment of assistant adjutant general on the staff of General John N. Corse, who had his headquarters at St. Paul. After retirement of that officer Captain Mix was transferred to the staff of General Alexander at Fort Snelling, with the same rank. He remained with

the latter officer until June, 1867, when he was mustered out and honorably discharged from the service.

Then he returned to St. Paul, where he engaged in farming until 1877; that year entered the employ of the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba Railroad, as a clerk in the freight department at St. Paul; in September, 1879, was appointed as station agent for the same corporation at Crookston. During 1863-64, in winter quarters at Pembina, he was selected by the commanding officer to go to Fort Garry, now Winnipeg, and confer with Little Crow's band of Indians. Some 150 surrendered to him and were sent to Rock Island. He also took Little Six and Medicine Bottle, two noted chiefs, from Pembina to Fort Snelling, where they were hung in the spring of 1864. He acted as a guide to a trader of St. Paul, August, 1862, who was returning to Yellow Medicine, where he was wanted as a witness to any conversation between the Indian agent and trader. On the way to Fort Ridgeley they met the messenger carrying the news of the outbreak to the governor, but pushed on, reaching the fort by sun down, just as the Indians were retreating. They were noticed by the Indians and chased about sixteen miles, when they met Sibley's column at St. Peter and returned to Fort Ridgeley with him. A few days after he went out to bury the dead at Birch Covley, and helped to inter some sixty victims of that bloody massacre. In company with Justice Ramsey and Joe Bassett, he was appointed as commissioner to locate what is known as White Earth Reservation for the Chippewas, and to appraise the value of the old Sioux Reservation between Red Wood Falls and Big Stone Lake.

He was also one of the delegation who took the Sioux delegation to Washington to make the treaty for their reservation, the others being J. R. Brown and Benjamin Thompson. While at the national capital he was appointed special agent to take supplies to the destitute Indians of the Sioux reservation, and remained with that tribe some six months.

**N. Anthony Thorson**, county superintendent of schools of Polk county, Minnesota, was born December 22, 1881, in Nicollet county, Minnesota, on the county poor farm, of which his father was then superintendent.

(Benson) Thorson. They raised five children, of whom N. Anthony was the second in order of birth. In 1887 he removed with his parents to Winthrop, Minn., where they followed the occupation of farming, and, like most farmers' boys, he attended the district school. His parents, desiring to give him a good education, in the fall of 1898, then in his seventeenth year, sent him to St. Peter to attend college there. He began his preparatory work in the academic department of Gustavus Adolphus College, making rapid progress and completing the course. In 1900 he entered the Gustavus Adolphus College proper, graduating with the class of 1904 with the degree of A. B., and the last year represented the college in the intercollegiate oratorical contest, which was held at Hamlin University in the spring of 1904. That same summer he represented his state in the inter-state contest held in Springfield, Ill., but his opponent being a young lady, won out.

And so the college days of Mr. Thorson were full of work aside from his studies. He was the favorite quarterback in the football team; also devoted considerable time to music, being the tenor in the choir, and was active in literary societies. In the fall of 1904 he came to Crookston unexpectedly, where he taught four years in the science department of the high school, having charge of the athletic work. He still continues his choir work as tenor in all the churches of Crookston, and is connected with the city band. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

Mr. Thorson was elected to his present position as superintendent of schools of Polk county in the fall of 1908, since which time he has served with due credit to himself and the office.