

Fertile Reminder

July
1986

"GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY"



Clyde and Viola Buckley



40th



25th

When I, Helen Humphrey Ouverson, was a young girl my parents and my sisters, Edith, Amy, Maud and my brother Earl lived with my parents on their farm which was within the Fertile City limits, just on top of the hill west of Fertile. I remember Mr. Hjelmeland, who was the Lutheran minister, and his family. They lived a few blocks east of the Lutheran Church, and I remember he had a large family. I'm not sure of all the names in order, but I remember there were Andrew, Sophia, Mrs. Wilbur Anderson, Mrs. Leo (Synneva) Elthon, Olaf, Ruth, Martin, Leonard, Annette and the baby Agnes, my age.

A. A. Elthon owned and operated the Elthon store. A. A. Elthon's store was on the south side of the street near the Riverside Cafe between the street and the Winnebago River. Mr. Elthon and Mr. Hjelmeland were J.D. Nelson's grandparents, I believe.

I think Ruth and Annette were in the same girls' basketball team as my sister Maud, and they got to go to Des Moines to the girls' tournament. Earl and I seldom got to play with the town kids because we had chores and work to do. Ruth Ivne Elthon is J.D.'s mother. She and my daughter, Phyllis were good friends. They played basketball together.

My husband, Edwin Ouverson, was one of Wilbur Anderson's pupils in about the 8th grade.

Mr. and Mrs. Elthon had two boys, Leo and Thelan Elthon, and some girls, Mabel Esther, Ada and Ruth. Elthons lived in Fertile too, and Thelan and his wife, Lillian still live in Fertile near the river. They have a very good view of the river and wild life - ducks, geese, and deer. Thelan feeds hay and corn to the wild life in the winter time.

I remember you could buy corn and grapes in small baskets and my parents had a few hens. We gathered the eggs twice a day and I would carry this grape basket full of eggs to Elthon's store and buy my mother's groceries. Once in a while I could buy a nickel's worth of candy to take home for all of us - maybe one piece for each of us. It was good.

Some of the town kids were Lyra Deuel, Mrs. Norman Oswald, Rueben Rogberg, Thelan Elthon, Alpha, Mildred and Palmer Ouverson.

Rog
My cousins John and Nellie Humphrey had a pony. May, John's pony, was sorrel and we got to ride her, but had to be careful where we put our feet or we found ourselves on the ground, and that tickled John. Nellie's was black and white. He was older and didn't buck you off. The town kids all wanted to ride, so the ponies had a busy day.

In
We lived where Louelle Felland lives and Uncle Ed and his family lived just west of us.

I
I received a small gold colored pen on a chain for my graduation in 1926 and a girlfriend liked it and I let her have it to wear, and she lost it. We could never find it. When I moved into my house in Fertile I had a space on the north side of my house planted for a garden. I went out to plant potatoes, and in the first spade full of dirt I found my small gold pen and chain all in one piece. After being washed it looked almost the same as when it was lost. It had lain in the dirt from 1926 until 1974. I was glad to find it.

Lyra and her mother Sophie Deuel lived with Sophie's father, K. O. Sheimo at that time. Sophie was a sister to Phil Sheimo. I visited Lyra in their home many times when Lyra and I were in high school. I wish they could know that the lost pen and chain were found.

Clyde Buckley and Viola Moen were married May 30, 1936 at Immanuel Lutheran Parsonage with Conrad Bartleson and Olga Bartleson serving as attendants.

After a short honeymoon, they came home to build a house on the farm Clyde's dad was farming and he farmed with him until grandpa Buckley died. When his Mother moved to Forest City, Clyde & Viola and 2 sons Jerrold and David moved into the farm house and continued to farm the 240 acres. Viola did substitute teaching now and then and Janet was born here in 1948.

In 1949 they purchased 160 acres near Kensett and found out what a job moving was. While here, Viola operated the Northwood Sales Barn Lunch Room for 7 years, 2 of these years she owned the Clear Lake Sales Barn Cafe too.

They sold the farm after 10 years and moved to a neighboring farm for 1 year while looking for a farm to purchase. They rented the Merle Hill farm near Fertile for 2 years then bought it. While farming, Clyde worked for Bob Haugen Sodding, Colby Peat Company, and Arco Chemical Company.

In 1971, Pat Nissen rented the farm and is still farming it.

Clyde continued to work off the farm until he retired in 1984. He has fished in Canada each year. Now he gardens and cares for a large yard.. Winters he has cut and sold wood.

Viola began work at the Forest City Hospital a month after they moved onto the present farm. For 14 years in charge of diets, 3 days a week and 9½ years on the Nursing Staff as Ward Secretary until this job was included in other positions when Mercy Hospital took over.

Now Viola is catching up on all she couldn't do when working. She's doing Crafts, tends lots of flower beds, visits 2 nursing homes regularly, is active in Kum-Along Senior Citizens of Forest City, is secretary of Sarah Circle at Immanuel Lutheran Church, and belongs to the Fertile Garden Club. She hopes to do more traveling in the U.S.A. She says "What's wrong with a road runner? Who needs Valium if the gas tank is full?"

The Buckley's have 3 Children: Jerrold of Hanlontown, David of Kensett and Janet of Clarion. 10 Grandchildren, 3 Great-Grandchildren, and 1 Step-Great Grand Daughter.

Thanks again, to Everyone for their cards, letters and prayers while I was in Rochester and North Iowa Medical Center. Every thing was appreciated. Also Thanks to the Fire Dept. for coming to the house with oxygen.

Arlene Lee

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HOMEcoming "86" ALUMNI BANQUET is but a memory but what a memory it is. The Officers are to be congratulated on doing a superb job. 243 were served dinner by WE 3 Catering Service. A fun program was put on with Eva Purcell Sampson and Erma Hennis Brue in charge. The Board of Directors of the Fertile Community Center would like to thank the following for cleaning the building the week before the banquet: Stan and Erma Brue for cutting all the weeds outside. Randy Shropshire for keeping the lawn mowed and Clarence & Ruthie Ouverson, Syneva Hoffman, Arden & Fern Midtgaard, Barb Seglem, Edna Pederson, Harriet Ouverson, Verna Hallman, Harold, Ruth B. and Mike Ouverson, Evelyn Elthon, Sue Lee, and Charlie & Florence Nye, for scrubbing the building.

All the trophy's have been brought from the Library to the Dining Room and will be kept there.

* * * * *

LETTER FROM A SUBSCRIBER

Dear Reminder Friends,

Please accept my Contribution toward postage and your efforts in publishing the Reminder.

I enjoy it very much for the memories it restores, especially in the mention of some of the old family names of those who were around at the time I attended Fertile Consolidated School some 65-70 years ago. Also I find the many historical items very informative and interesting.

You surely deserve a sincere comondation and Thanks for all you are doing to remind we older people and the Young Folks what Fertile was and is all about.

Thanks and Keep up the Good Work.

*Floyd W. Paulsen
The Manor
Mason City, Iowa*

* * * * *

Government Food Commodities; Cheese, Corn meal and Flour will be given away July 10th at the Fertile Community Center from 1 - 5.

Wanted - Custom Windowing

Hay and oats

*Dean Ouverson
797. 2716*



Paul Humphrey and Harold Ouverson with a 20 lb. 12 oz. fish caught in Clear Lake in 1945.

* * * * *

CHURCH NEWS

FERTILE LUTHERAN

Worship - 9:00 a.m.
S.S. - 10:30 a.m.

Circles

Mary-7/24-9:30 a.m.- Edna Pederson
Rebekah-7/24-2:00 p.m.- Doris Novak
Ruth-7/28-7:30 p.m.- Elsie Felland
Sarah-7/28-7:30 p.m.- Lavonne Peters

ALCW -7/10-9:30 a.m. "CRADLE ROLL"

L.L. 7/6 - 5:00 p.m.- Bible Study
7/13-18 - Senior High Canoe Camping
Trip at Riverside Bible Camp.

PILOT KNOB

Worship - 10:30 a.m.
S.S. - 9:00 a.m.

ALCW & JOINT CIRCLES-7/8-7:30 p.m.at church

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The Little League has had trouble with the Concession Stand. There has been somebody breaking into the Concession Stand and eating the candy; plus drinking the pop. That is stealing from the Kids of the Little League. So if anyone is caught breaking into the concession stand, they will be turned over to the Sheriff's Department. If anyone knows or finds out who is breaking into the Concession Stand, would you please contact

Ron Almeliem, Jane Ramon or Cliff Petersen.
Thank You,
Little League

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FERTILE TOWN

Turn from the Highway and travel down To that inland village, that "Fertile" town. Drive down the hill to the village street, Where the winding stream and the timber meet, For this village street was an Indian trail, As the pioneers tell the old, old tale; And the winding stream still bears the name Of the "Winnebagos," who hunted their game And fished this stream where the lilies grow In the Indian days of the long ago.

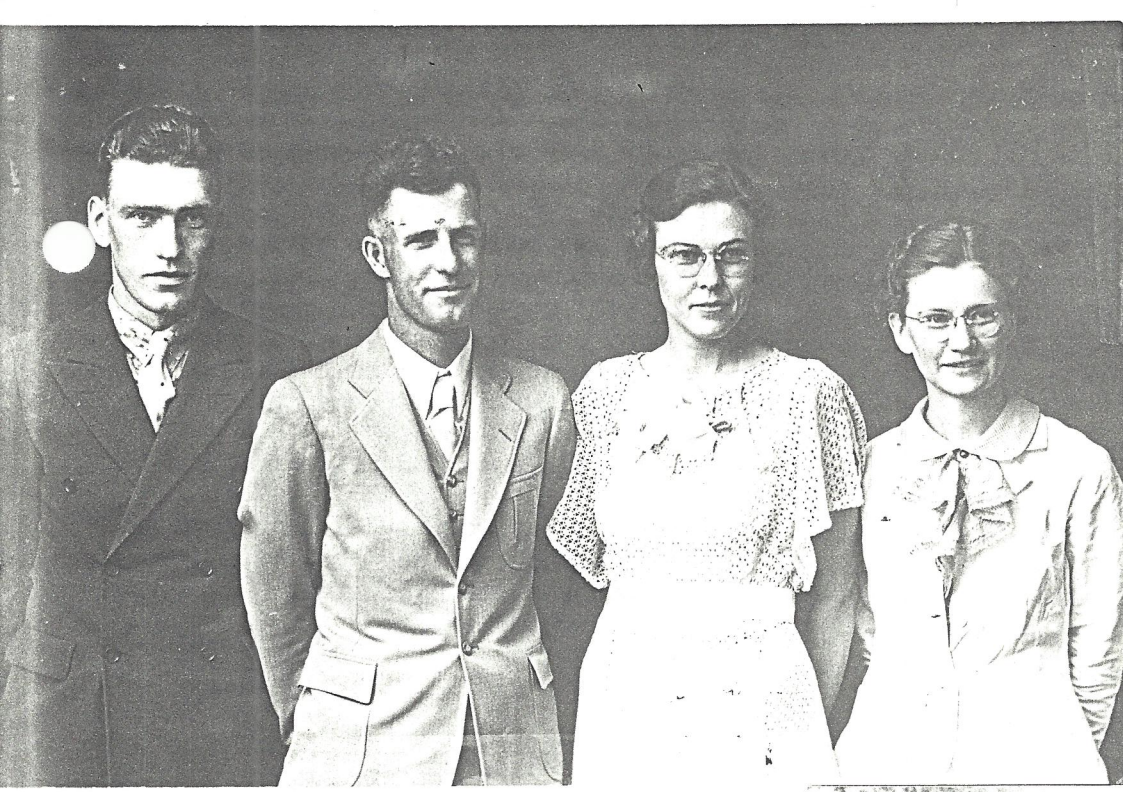
Drive down the street to the "Old Red Mill," The water-wheel's turning, the mill wheel's still;

And the oaks are there, along the stream. Where the settlers fed many an oxen team; And the cabin is there, the pioneer's home In the days when the Indians liked to roam Along this stream from the big bend down, For this valley was then their "hunting ground" And of Indian scares and of wolves galore, There are hair-raising tales round the village store.

The railroad came, but it missed this place, And the village was out of the world's mad race. If neighboring places have spread and grown, This pretty village has held its own, For down through the years these kindly folks Have weathered the storms like the grand old oaks;

There are plenty of towns near a railroad track, But this village has something that they all lack; Sometimes in the Summer, why, just drive through. You'll love this old village, the same as I do [copied]

Reliable, experienced
Teenager desires part or
fulltime baby sitting job
Reasonable rates.
Call 797-2654
ask for Becky



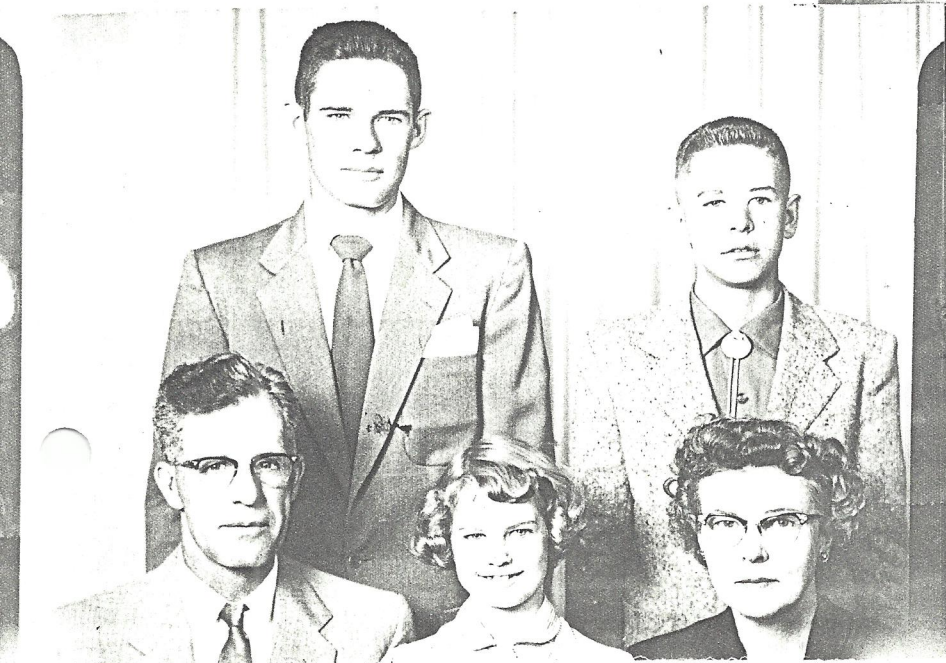
Wedding, May 30, 1936

L to R:

Connie Bartleson, Clyde
Buckley, Viola Moen
Buckley, Olga Bartleson
Sevold.



"First Home"



standing:

Jerrold and David

sitting:

Clyde, Janet, Viola

[1957 - Jerry went to Service]

PORK CHOP SUPPER

A Pork Chop Supper will be held, Sat. Aug. 23 at the Fertile Community Center. The Menu will be: Chops - Potatoes - Corn-Cole Slaw - Buns - Coffee - Cold Drink-Cupcakes or Bars.

Cost will be \$5.00 in advance and \$5.50 at the door. Serving will be 5 - 7:30. Plan to attend.

* * * * *

STORK NEWS

GIRL to Rick & Kathy Sandifer, June 5th, 8 lbs. 5 oz. Kristen Michelle. Grand-parents are Ray & Deloris Sandifer, Fertile and Warren & Joan Andreasen, Algona. Great Grandparents are Ernestine Claus, Fertile and Alvin & Fern Andreasen, Algona.

GIRL to Scott & Kelly VanDenBosch, Pine, Arizona, June 9th, 7 lbs. 10 oz Vanessa Star. Grandparents are Jean VanDenBosch, Fertile, Wayne VanDenBosch, Lake Mills, and Bill & Jane West, Pine, Arizona. Great-Grandmother, Jeanett VanDenBosch.

ANOTHER SHEIMO

Riley Thomson Sheimo, 9 lbs. 4 oz. born May 19th in Colville, Washington to Thomas A. Sheimo and Brenda Sheimo. Tom is a son of Stanton L. & Alaire Sheimo. Stanton, son of Carl M. & Hilda Sheimo, was born in Fertile, grew up and completed school there. Carl was a long-time hardware merchant in Fertile and the son of Kittel O. and Marie Sheimo. K.O. Sheimo was the original Sheimo in Fertile and lived on a farm just West of Fertile.

Grandad, Stanton Sheimo

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CITY COUNCIL NEWS

The Fertile City Council met June 10, 1986, Mayor Hoffman presiding and Council Members Hare, Kirschbaum, Nye, Peterson, & Sandifer present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Council discussed responses & payments from delinquent sewer and water users. A few people who are not hooked up to the sewer system, will be notified to hook-up.

Council discussed mowing to be done, by tractor. Several property owners are mowing ditches near their property now.

Discussion on ball tournaments. Answers prepared for the lawsuit pending from 1982.

Motion to require \$50 deposit for future ball tournaments, refundable if ball park & surrounding area are left clean, and to require a certificate of insurance. Carried.

Estimate received from Henry Thompson on cleaning and painting the watertower.

Mayor reported on Supervisors' meeting. County will apply chloride on street North and West from the County Shed.

Special meeting will be held June 20 at 7 p.m. to meet with a representative of Watertower Paint and Repair.

Council discussed addition to Fire Dept. Building.

Motion to pay monthly bills. Carried.

Letter to be returned to NIACOG for the worker program was discussed.

Meeting adjourned.

Janice Hare
City Clerk

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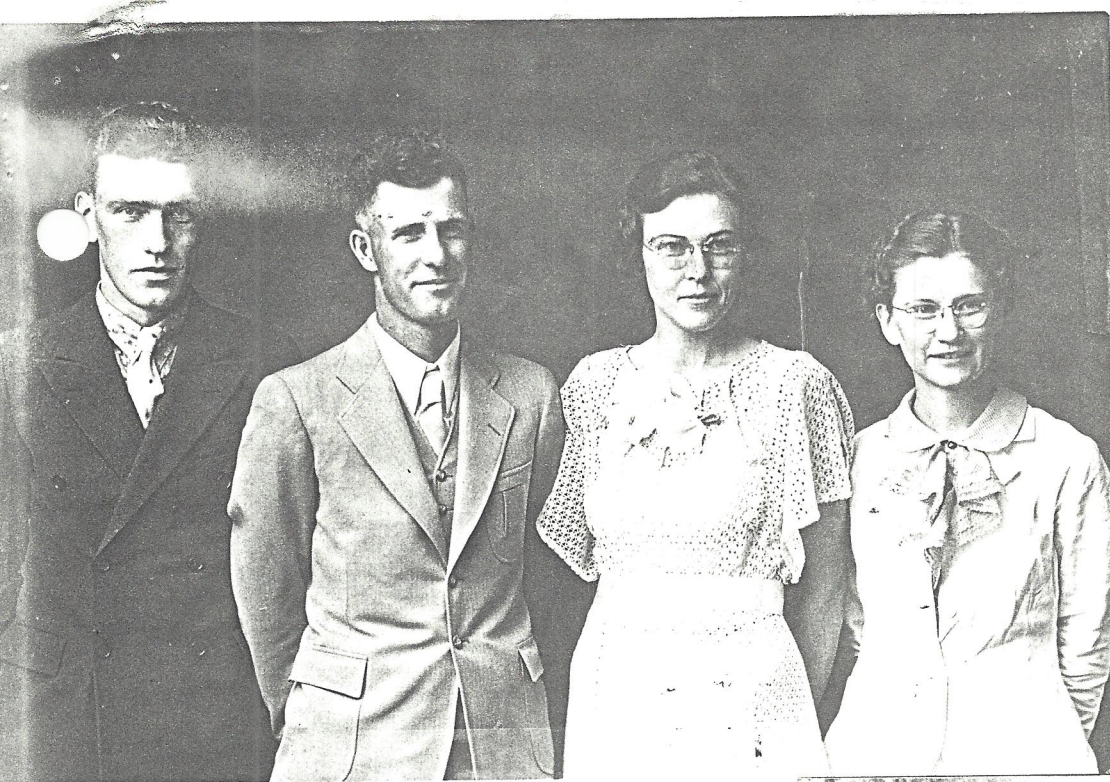
MAY BALANCE SHEET

Expenditures

Janice Hare	240.71
David Low	303.11
Dick Sheimo	682.61
Leilani Knudson	37.89
Evelyn Knudson	269.01
Waste Systems Corp.	695.20
Ipers	12.76
Ipers - FOAB	180.94
Treas. State of Iowa	84.08
Interstate Power Co.	625.38
Winn. RTA	19.77
Peoples Natural Gas	115.71
City of Fertile	51.00
Jordan's	15.62
Fertile Lbr. & Hdwe.	218.08
Max Nye	10.00
Barclay Co.	15.30
Co-op Services, Inc.	18.48
Worth Co. Auditor	1,488.00
Pronto	5.27
BMC	119.88
U.S. Stamped Envelope Agency	120.90
Postmaster	28.75
B. Dalton	174.40
T.B. Bouregy & Co.	42.80
Christian Bookstore	9.52
Burtness P. & H.	4.89
National Geographic	15.00
NCRLS	9.00

TOTAL 5,734.23

TOTAL RECEIPTS 9,844.24



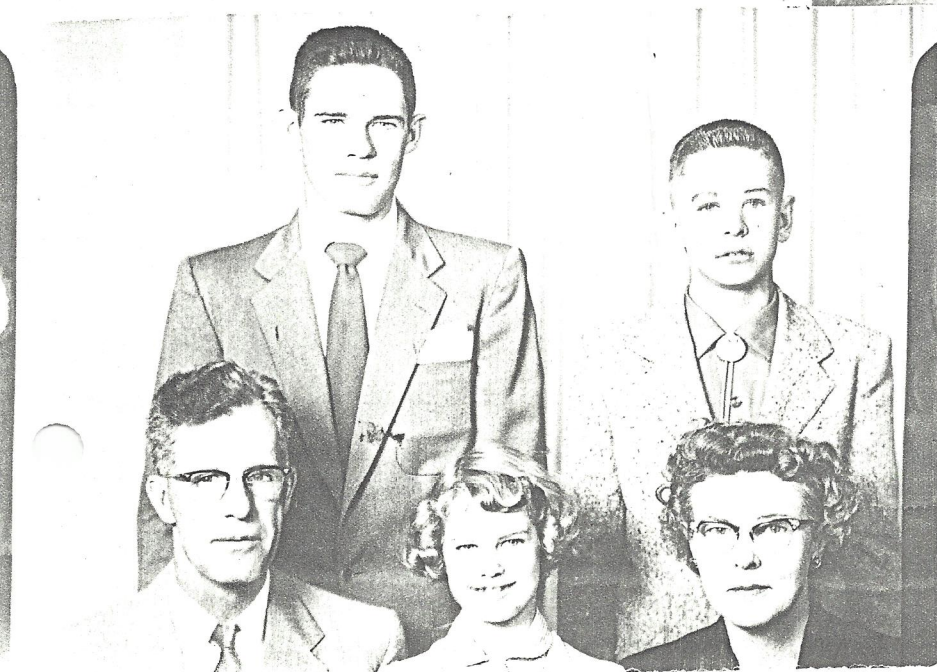
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Co-op Services, Inc.	18.48
Worth Co. Auditor	1,488.00
Pronto	5.27
BMC	119.88
U.S. Stamped Envelope Agency	120.90
Postmaster	28.75
B. Dalton	174.40
T.B. Bouregy & Co.	42.80
Christian Bookstore	9.52
Burtness P. & H.	4.89
National Geographic	15.00
NCRLS	9.00
TOTAL	5,734.23
TOTAL RECEIPTS	9,844.24

[This letter was written Jan. 19, 1907 to John Westcott & Wife from his Mother Belle Barney Westcott, Wife of George Westcott, Parents of Roy Westcott, Grandparents of Rex Westcott. They lived near Grant Center Cemetery.

The "Wayne" mentioned, is Rex's Uncle who died in France in W.W.I.

Roy and Gertie are Rex's Parents.

Dell is Dell Barney, Brother of Rex's Grandmother. One of his 5 daughters married Tom Phalen of Mason City.

We don't know who Aunt Mary is - or Alice.

Frank Willey and Maude Willey Kibe & Husband Allen were her cousins.

Carrie and Charlie Zirble were Roger Zirble's Grandparents -- Carrie was Jim Westcott's daughter.

Leola was the bride of John Westcott, parents of Loyd and Crystal.]

- - -

Grant Center Ia Jan 19, 1907

Dear Children

I will now try to write you a letter would have written before but have been sick have had the genuine Lagrippe but feel some better today although I am so weak I can hardly walk around hope this will find you both feeling well

It has rained all the forenoon and turned to snow this afternoon we have had only snow enough up to the present time to make the ground white guess this will not amount to much either for as I look out I see it has nearly stoped We were down to Uncle Jims about a week ago He has been confined to the house for some time he has a dreadful cough and looks very bad he has been very poorly ever since we came from Dak. Pa seems about the same he is quite thin in flesh Wayne set traps and captured a s---k he skined it he has 3 or 4 good ones which he will ship after a while Roy and Gertie were here for a visit the other day They inquire about you but of course I cannot tell them very much as we have heard so little from you for the past two months but I suppose being a newly married man you have so many cares and such like that you do not have time to write but hope you will do better later

They are having revival meeting at Grant for two weeks past. The "Ladies Aid" meets at Roy's next Thursday for dinner Dell's have sold their farm and are going to move to Mason until they find another farm to buy. Fannie Tiffit has gone way back East again They are draining Goose Lake and have found that it contains good peat for fuel to the depth of 16ft and also that here is the best of brick and tile clay just east of Fertile They expect to work both places

in the near future which will probably bring the long looked for railroad to Fertile There are four general merchandise stores at Fertile now Lang and Overson have enlarged their hardware store considerable

We got a letter from Aunt Mary saying that Alice is no better

Frank Willey is in Kansas this winter with Maude and Allen

John you remember that bachelor that kept the lumber yard and run the elevator at Troy well he and Gertie (the girl that waited so long for him) are married. I got a nice letter from her the other day.

I suppose by this time you will know if you are to run the elevator at Lake Wilson or not if you are and come home bring your trunk as Roys and we people want to give you something for a wedding present and if you are not coming soon we will send you something when we hear from you again so we will know where your future home is to be Carrie and Charly go by ever day or two since they commenced house keeping well I guess there is nothing in the way of news so I will have to close. I thought that when there was two of you to write that we would get more letters

Leola you can write if you are not acquainted we can get some acquainted that way and more when we meet which I hope will be before long Wayne says Hello! to you did you get some pictures taken will close with love and best wishes from Mother

* * * * *

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations go out to the Fertile Little League for selling enough candy bars to buy new uniforms for both the PeeWee and Midget teams.

Contest winners for the five teams are:
Peanuts- Abby Almellen,
Issac Almellen, Matt Peterson,
and Tami Ramon.

Peanuts- Ryan Buchanan
Pony Tails- Darcy Haugen
PeeWees Nathan Brierly
Midgets- Mark Stephenson

Thanks to all who bought candy bars!

How about coming to a game? It's fun and the kids appreciate the support.

Support these Merchants. Their ads make it possible for us to publish the Fertile Reminder. We also need to hear from each of you to pay the postage for mailings.

J & W UPHOLSTERY 797-2457
Upholstery-Fabric-Supplies
Jean & Wayne Roberts

LARSEN'S PLUMBING & HEATING 797-2219

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

JORDAN'S MIDLAND SERVICE 797-2677
Complete Automotive Service

CREAMERY RESTAURANT & LOUNGE 797-9685
Specializing in Good Food

FERTILE LUMBER & HARDWARE 797-2437
Rent the Rug Doctor

PETAL SHOPPE 357-5030
FREE Delivery to Hospitals 357-5026
1714 7th Ave.N, Clear Lake

BURTNESS PLUMBING & HEATING 797-2680

HOFFMAN CRAFTS 797-2714
701 West Main

OLD MILL ANTIQUES 797-2490

PRONTO MARKET 797-2220
Gas and Groceries

PERSONAL TOUCH BEAUTY SALON 797-2422
Styling for Men & Women

K & R SERVICE 797-2440

RAY SANDIFER - TOM'S SALES 797-2681

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

WORSLEY ELECTRIC 797-2494
Katolight Generators
Sales & Service

FLOWERS BY McCOY - Forest City
Flowers for all occasions 582-4517

FOREST CITY COW PALACE 582-4646
Auction every Wednesday