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The Grossweide School, which served the district for over 70 years.

Grossweide formed in 1893

• by J. C. Fehr

The Grossweide district is located about five miles northeast of Plum Coulee. The land in this area is very productive if managed right, as it is of the heavier soil type. It is also quite flat. This made it subject to flooding in the early years before 1900. Around 1906-07 a network of drainage ditches was constructed to improve the situation. Flooding problems still persisted until the 1960s

when the dikes were reconstructed.

Mr. John J. Schroeder homesteaded the SW quarter of Section 20-3-2W in the year 1887. Having worked in a store in Niverville, Gretna and Morden for 13 years, he was familiar with taking inventories. So on January 1, 1888, the total inventory of his farm he had valued at a little over \$800. The quarter section (160 acres) was valued at \$400, the team of horses \$175

and the shanty at \$20.

He lived there as a bachelor until 1892, when he married and bought the NE quarter of Section 20-3-2W. It was here that he donated a piece of land for the school.

The school district Grossweide No. 786 was established by a Rhineland By-law No. 28 on Sept. 5, 1893. A schoolhouse was moved here by horses and rollers and was in operation until January 1, 1971, when it became part of Plum Coulee Consolidated. Mr. Schroeder was a member of the Grossweide school board for 50 years.

The district was well populated with five or six families per square mile in quite a few places. The one room school had up to 44 pupils attending. One of the pupils was Art Dyck of Altona, recently retired trustee of the Rhineland School Division after serving 21 years.