

ECHO OCT. 3, 1984

(32)



The school photo was taken around 1935-36. An old minute book of the school board shows that teachers in the earlier years included P. J. Dyck, W. S. Buhr and I. A. Enns. The salary of a teacher in 1927 was \$100 per month which dropped to \$50 per month by 1932. The sec. treas. salary in 1927 started at \$50 per year which dropped to \$10 per year in the middle '30's. It wasn't until the early '40s that the teacher's salary was back up to a hundred dollars per month.

Neuhorst layout different

• by J. C. Fehr

Neuhorst is a village located near the U.S. border, about 8 miles west of Gretna. It was settled in 1875, being one of the original villages that were established here at that time. It is located somewhat different from other villages in that the village street runs north and south through the middle of Sec. 1-1-3W. This type of a settlement gave the original 20 farmyards a full ½ mile on both sides of the street.

Section 6-1-2W to the east of the village was divided up into twenty strips one mile long, one strip (Kagel), for every family. So also was the section to the north. The section west of the village had more low areas and was set aside for hay. Pasture for the community was the northern portion of the village section and all of the Section 7-1-2W northeast of the village.

Thus was this district organized and in operation during the early years of its existence.

A famous resident of Neuhorst was the first "Obervorsteher" (Reeve) of the colonists namely Isaac Mueller. He was very much involved in the organization and setting up of the villages, administering food and seed grain and setting up of local government.

He was the man who organized the erection of a line of posts from Emerson to the Pembina Hills. The purpose was for the guidance of travellers in the Manitoba blizzards. This trail became known as the Post Road. It ran one mile north of the border from Emerson to Neuhorst, where it made a turn NW through the various villages on to Morden. A stopping place on this road was about one mile northwest of Neuhorst. It was here that a big barn and a big house (almost a hotel) was located for the convenience of travellers. The barn stood until 1974 when it was dismantled.

A private school in the cen-

tre of the village operated until the mid-1920s.

The public school district No. 1994 was established by order in Council on Feb. 21, 1920. A school was built one half mile northwest of the village on SE 11-1-3W in the early 1920s and was known as Exeter S.D. No. 1994. However they experienced difficulties in getting the village students to attend, so the school was moved into the village in Spring 1927 to replace the private school. The private schoolhouse was used as a teacherage and also as a second room when they had a high pupil count in the 1940s. The school operated until 1958 when it became part of the Kronstal Consolidated. Today the school is used as a grain cleaning facility. The teacherage, built in 1949 is today the residence of Mrs. J. Martens.

The twenty original farmyards of Neuhorst have thinned out somewhat over the years, today consisting of approximately 16 residences.