



Photo shows teacher Miss Anna Krause in the first years of operation with the pupils of Rosenheim around 1905. Not all are identified, but included are the following: Jacob Funk, Jacob Friesen, William Funk, Cornelius Klassen, Maria Sonntag, Caroline Pfeifer, Emily Sonntag, Helena Klassen, Katharina, Aganetha Friesen, three Martens' children, Abram Klassen, John Hintz, Jacob Sawatsky, Elizabeth Funk, Peter Sawatsky, Philip Sonntag, Tillie Hintz, Annie Neufeld, Margaretha Neufeld, Frank Sawatsky, John Klassen and Annie Sawatsky. The original school was replaced in the late 1950's. (Photo courtesy Johan Klassen)

Rosenheim S.D. formed in 1904

• by J. C. Fehr

Going west of Reichenbach we come to the district of Rosenheim. This at one time before the Melba district was formed was a fairly big district. It covered an area from the No. 14 highway all the way north to the municipal boundary.

Rosenheim School District No. 1306 was established in 1904. It operated until July 1, 1966, when it became part of Horn-dean S.D. The school was located on NW 14-3-2W.

According to an old minute book the first public school meeting was held on August 5, 1904, where it was decided to build a new school. The next meeting on September 5, 1904, when they decided on the school location and that one acre of land be bought for the schoolyard. The very next day, on September 6, they decided to

raise \$550 through special taxes for the project and also put an ad in the Nordwester (a popular German magazine) for a teacher.

By the 9th of September they had decided to hire the carpenter, A. H. Hiebert, to do the building. He was paid \$12 per thousand board ft. of lumber used. Also he was to have the building finished by October 15, a mere five weeks!

After the private school in the area closed in 1912, the pupil count increased so much that by 1927 there were 64 students! They had to make a smaller cellar for the stove in order to have room for them in the one room. This area was quite well populated at one time, averaging one family per quarter section.

There is a slight rise in the lay of the land in this area where the soil was better drained. This

part of the district was settled first, likely around the year 1890 or even sooner. The outlying area, where the drainage was poor, the settlers were often flooded out, so that they didn't stay long. After the government had completed the Buffalo channel south of Rosenfeld, they moved the floating dredge to make drainage in the northern part of the municipality. The dredge was powered by steam and heated by wood.

In wintertime there was wood stockpiled along the proposed ditch to be used in summer. It was a slow operation, but it helped the area somewhat.

The northeastern part of the district, known as "the flats", where the fall per mile is less than six inches, it took too long to drain for successful farming. Until the drains were improved in later years, the flats were used mainly for hay.