



Recollections of Prosper, ND 1912 - 2012

Prosper, ND will celebrate its Centennial on July 14 and 15. In preparation, the Centennial committee has been asking the older members of the community for some of their favorite memories.

The Prosper School

Raymond township was home to several schools before Prosper was founded. School records still exist for Raymond District #96, located near Maple Sheyenne Swedish church, beginning in 1884. However, within ten years the records show Raymond District identified as District #23.

The Prosper School was built as a one room school in 1915. When the attendance reached 43 students, a second room was added. One room housed grades 1-6 and the other was used for grades 7 and 8 plus one year of high school, alternating the first and second year.

Justine Swanson attended school in Prosper and remembers getting a 1 ½ hour break over the noon hour during the winters. "The Peterson boys (Orville and Ralph) would clear the snow off the ice at the reservoir and all the students would ice-skate during the noon break. It was great fun," she recalls.

The school was the social center of the community serving as the meeting place for the PTA, American Sunday School Union, WCTU (Women's Christian Temperance Union), Community Club, and the Prosper Pixies and Prosper Livestock 4-H clubs. Social events including box socials, carnivals, dances, and youth groups met at the school as well. After the gym was added in 1954, dances, carnivals, roller skating and basketball were big attractions. Timothy McIntyre remembers tasting his first "pop" at an event "up at the school."

The Prosper school district was annexed to Casselton in 1964. The school itself was torn down in the 1960's, but the gym still remains on the site.

NEXT WEEK'S RECOLLECTIONS will focus on Prosper's business community throughout the last century.

PROSPER CENTENNIAL July 14 & 15		
EVENT REGISTRATION		
EVENT	ON-LINE	CALL
Parade	www.ProsperND.com	Dane Larsen 281-0373
Talent Show	www.ProsperND.com	Dennis Rust 238-0131
5K Run/Walk	www.ProsperND.com	Ben Bush 866-6192
To share memories or recollections		Tim McIntyre 261-8089