

PETER WENDELBOE'S FAMILY

By Mary Wendelboe 1968

Peter Wendelboe had ten children. They were, in order; Nora, Jens, Marie, Maurice (Marius), Peter, Ross (Rasmus), Mikael (Mike), Sine (Sena), Agnes, Dagmar. Dagmar was the only one of the kids that were born in South Dakota, who lived. She must have been born in 1885-- 5 years after Mike. Sena was one of a set of twins; her twin died at birth. *died age 74 - 1959*

Peter Wendelboe took Jens, Marie and Marius on a trek to Texas, where they caught yellow fever and Jens died. Rasmus suffered (so he always said) from malaria, the rest of his life.

Maurice married Marie, in when she was a green immigrant from Sweden. He was big and husky, over six feet, over two hundred pounds and she was as tall as he, and a beautiful young woman, but very ignorant of the customs and the work expected of an American farmer's wife. They had four children, all big and handsome. Marius at the time of their childhood was temporary Deputy Sheriff and he ran cattle on the James River not far from Mitchell, or Ethan, where his family lived on the homestead. For a while he made headlines in the ~~N~~ations newspapers, when he found a rattlesnake den on the riverbank, in which there were seventy five to eighty live rattlers; he killed them with a sixgun; and hung them on a barbed-wire fence, when several of the papers doubted his word.

Once, ~~when~~ about the same time, either he or Marie shot and killed a big rattler close to the house. For the rest of the summer Marie lived in deadly fear of its mate turning up as it is a wellknown fact rattlers travel in pairs. Came the fall,

and the big range was moved from the summer kitchen into the regular kitchen for the winter. This range didn't have feet, but stood on an iron frame that enclosed the space under ~~the~~ the ovenlike a box. In this space they found the other rattler, dead and dried up. There was a hole in the floor, where the snake had found its way in, but as there was not much room or light it had not been able to find the hole again, so had perished.

Nora married her best girl friend's brother, whose last name was Rasmussen, in Mitchell. But as she found him to be a drip she divorced him and for a while supported herself and her two girls Clara and Hansona, by having boarders, as she had a good house in Mitchell. After a while she married another Dane, Chris Hansen, in 1906 or 1907. They had two more girls, Helen-1909, and Hazel--1914. In 1915 or 16 the boom in Lethbridge Northern was on, Nora came visiting, saw the heavy crops, even on dry farms; she went back to South Dakota and disposed of all her property, and next year came ~~existing~~ up and bought an irrigated farm in the district south of Keho Lake reservoir-- east of Nobleford. It was in the time and the place of our sandstorms and Nora's farm was hard hit. After a year or two Chris got ulcers and as he wasn't staying on his diet very religiously, He had a series of hemorrhages. It finally ended in his death in . Nora sold out the farm, and with the girls moved into Barons to keep house for Grandpa who had been suffering under a series of housekeepers.

The last one, Olga, married Peter Fredericksen, who farmed out by Dollar Lake.