



AWARD-WINNING ORGANIZATION 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2003

historically speaking

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE HOWARD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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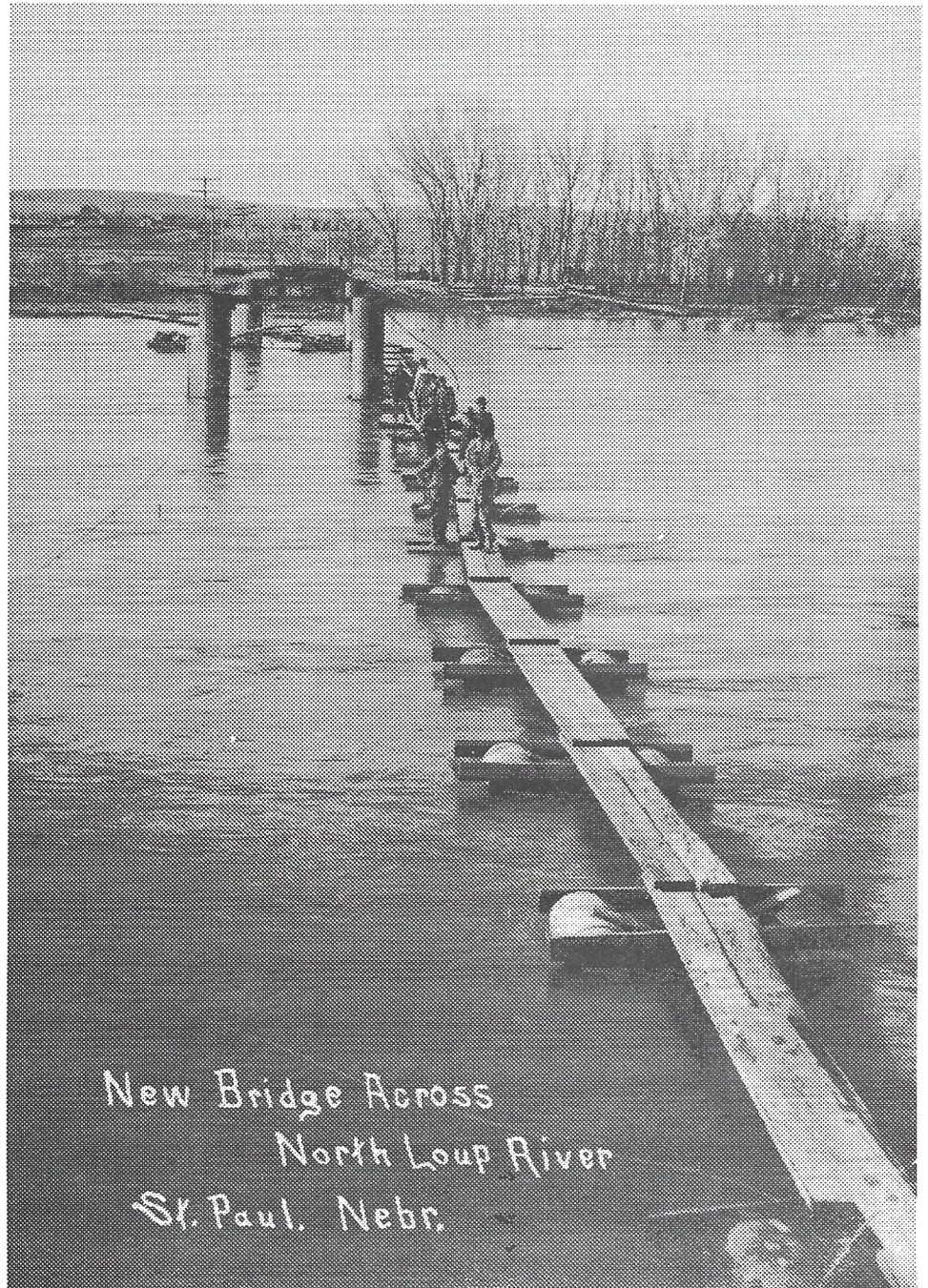
Kimber *photographed* HOWARD *County*



By
Ron W. Sack



Kimber rarely missed an event in Howard County. And, in doing so, he helped document Howard County's history. Everything from Saint Paul's state championship basketball teams...to family celebrations...to snow-storms...was captured through his lens. Historians today are now beginning to reap the benefits of his talent.



New Bridge Across
North Loup River
St. Paul, Nebr.

Saint Paul and Howard County were documented by the late photographer Kimber. His studio was located in a two-story brick building on Howard Avenue. He painstakingly recorded the history, events, and architecture of Howard County. Shown above is the new bridge being constructed across the North Loup River a couple of miles north of Saint Paul. HCHS photo.

Saint Paul's Kimber captures snowstorm...

Photographs taken of the February 1915 blizzard by Howard County photographer Kimber depict the Burlington Railroad's struggle against the storm.

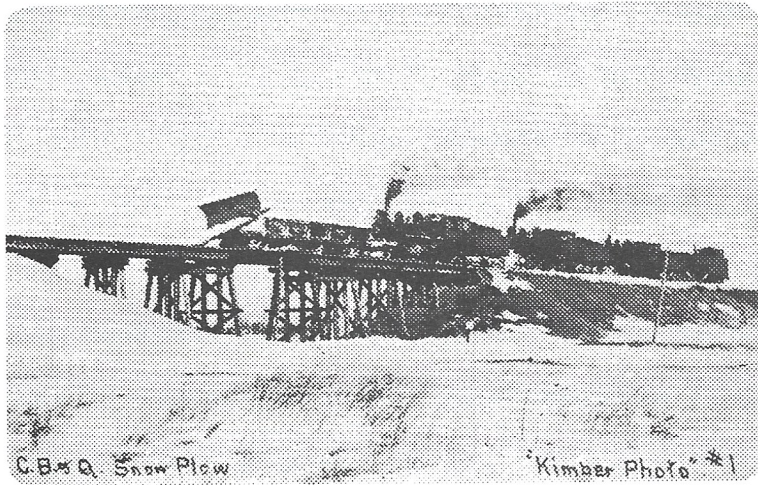


Image 1

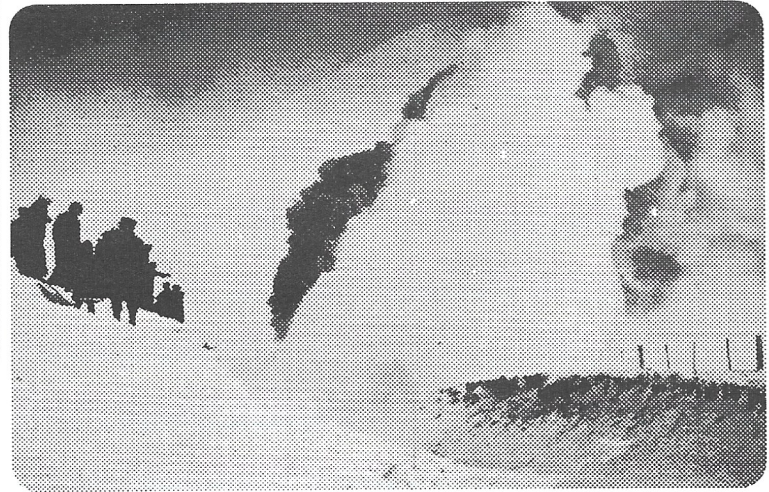


Image 2

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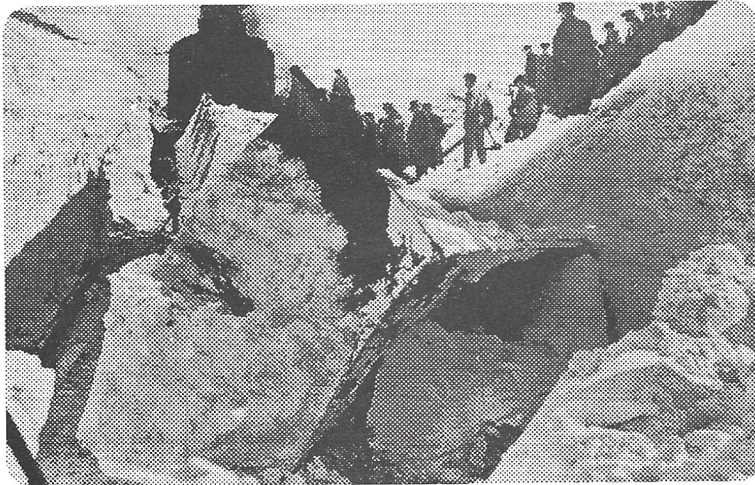


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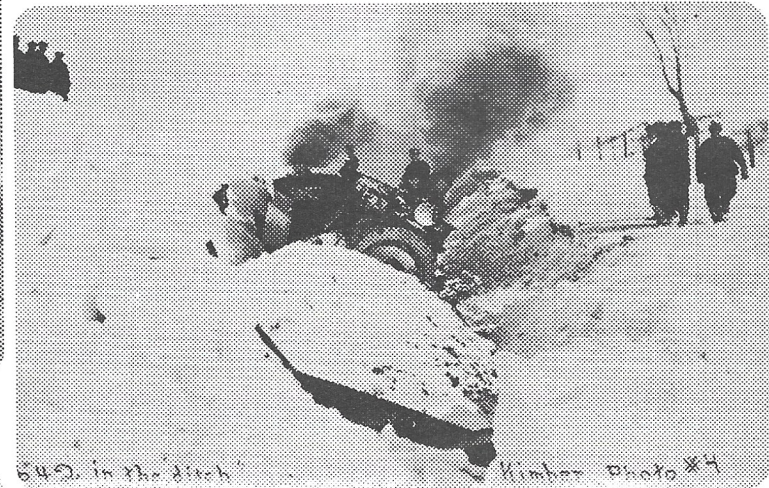


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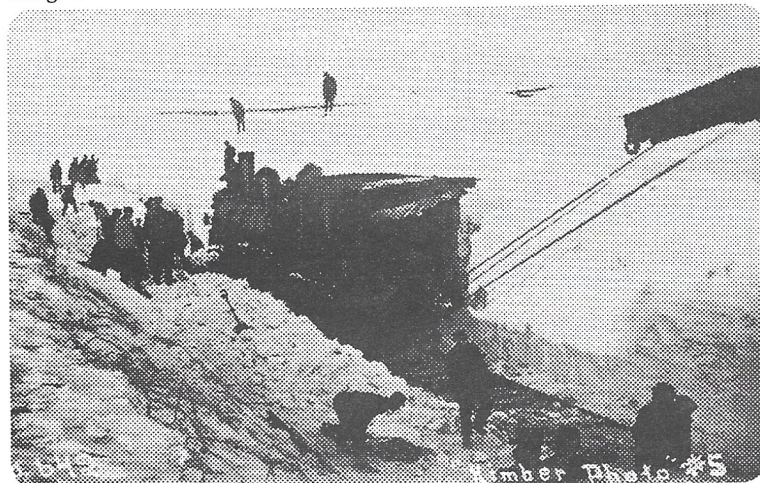


Image 1: Burlington heads west on the trestle in Saint Paul to clear the tracks.

Image 2: Saint Paul residents line the tracks to get a commanding view of the snow removal process.

Image 3: The amount of snow and the hazards of clearing the track become apparent.

Image 4: The Burlington is engulfed by snow.

Image 5: Engine is pulled out of massive drifts as the crowd looks on.

Photographs 1-5 courtesy of the HCHS.

...all the way from Saint Paul to Farwell.

The storm takes a toll on the Burlington Railroad. Crowds begin to form to witness the feat and the railroad tracks are finally cleared all the way to Farwell.



Image 6



Image 7

Image 8

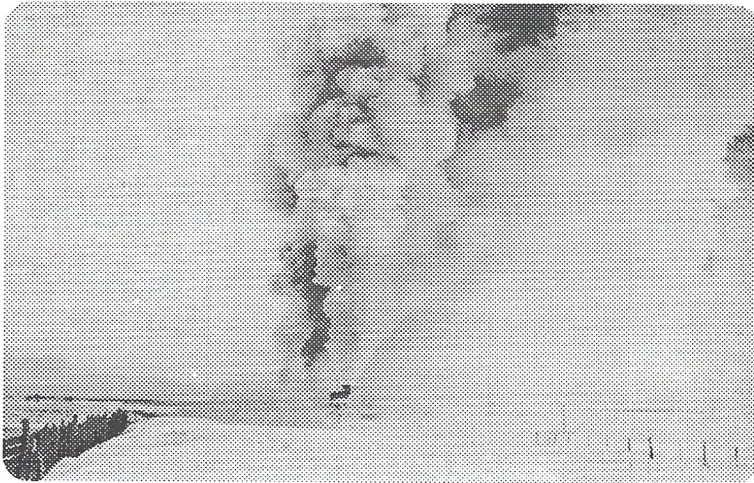


Image 9

Image 10

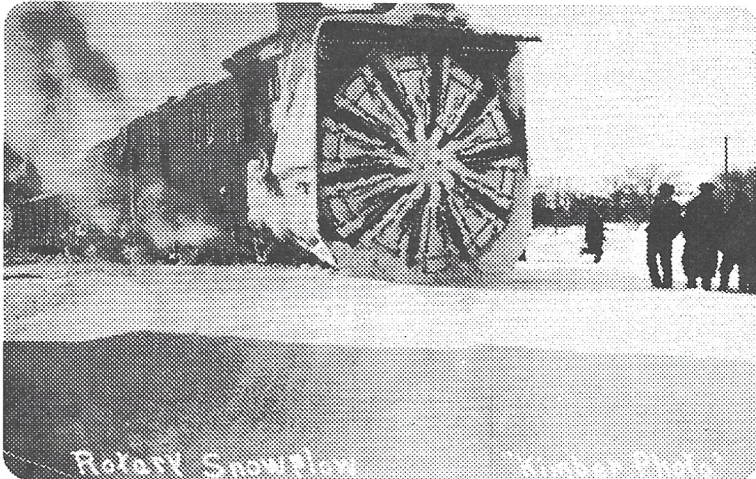


Image 6: Crews work hard to get the Burlington through.

Image 7: Portions of the tracks are cleared by hand.

Image 8: The Burlington rises again.

Image 9: Burlington and crew take a break.

Image 10: Branch line is open to Farwell. Rotary plow clears the way of the remaining snow.

Photographs 6-9 are HCHS photos. Photo 10 courtesy of Ron W. Sack.

Howard County buildings and places are remembered.

From Boelus to Cushing, these photographs offer us a glimpse into the past. As the Historical Society's collections continue to grow, so does the wealth of history for future generations.

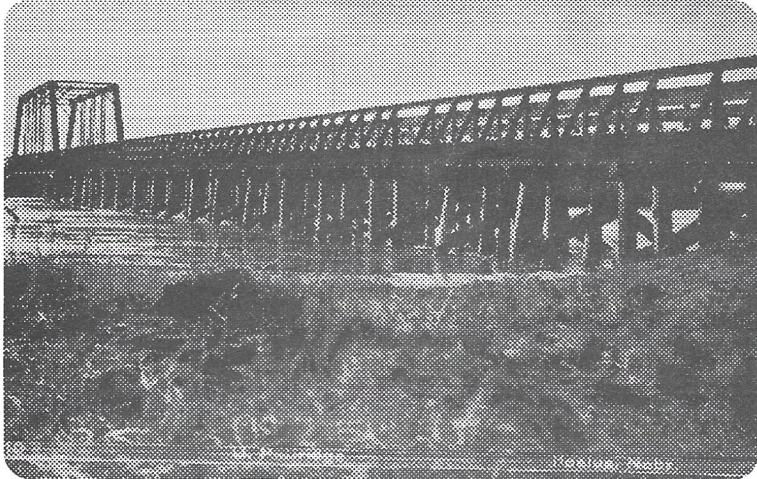


Image 1



Image 2

Image 3

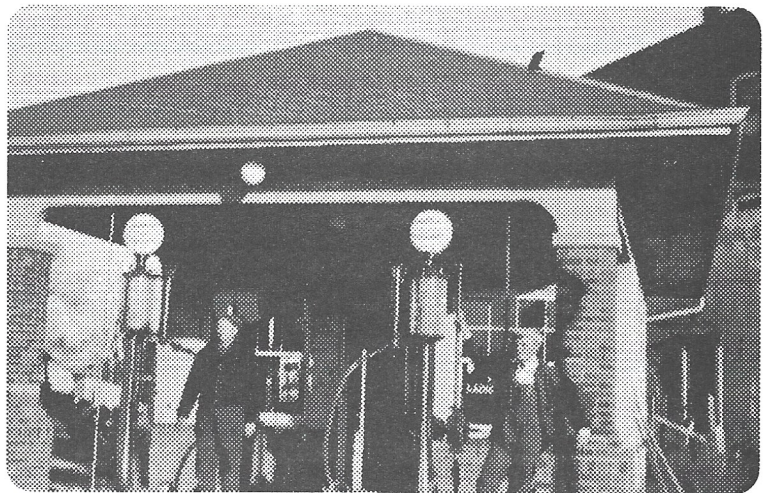


Image 4

Image 5



Image 1: A rare photograph documenting the Union Pacific Railroad bridge near Boelus. Photo courtesy of Ron W. Sack.

Image 2: Cushing students proudly stand by their school bus. HCHS photo donated by Catherine Jacobsen.

Image 3: The Dannebrog Elevator is engulfed by flames as shown in a 1911 Nellis postcard. Photograph courtesy of Ron W. Sack.

Image 4: Walt Skinner and Leonard Stewart are shown in the front of Skimmers' Gas Station. This station has now been restored by the Royal Coachmen Car Club of Saint Paul. HCHS photo donated by Ellen Partsch.

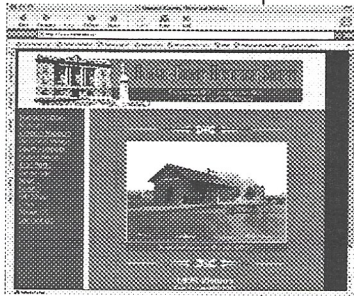
Image 5: Intersection of Seventh and Indian Streets in Saint Paul. Of special note is the Howard Hotel to the left and the street lamp in the middle of the intersection. Photo courtesy of Ron W. Sack.

Howard County Historical Society has a banner year in 2004.

From the Board of Directors

Members, supporters, and the citizens of Howard County helped make 2004 one of the best years on record for the Historical Society. This page highlights just some of the achievements.

We remain so grateful to those volunteers who helped in any way.



The Historical Society's website reached 1,700 hits.

Volunteers helped keep the Historical Village open for the most hours ever in the history of the organization.

Additional highlights included

Holiday Tour of Homes, sponsored by the Historical Society, brought many visitors to Saint Paul in 2004.

The Historical Society, in a combined effort with the Nebraska Humanities Council, brought in nationally recognized presenter John E. Carter.

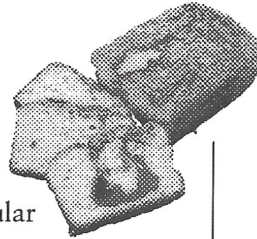
Carter is an expert on pioneer photographer



Howard County veterans were honored in May.

Solomon Butcher of Custer County.

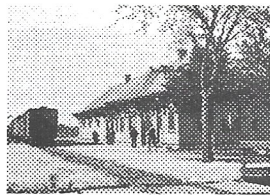
Other programs included our annual Bake Sale and ever-popular Holiday Tour of Homes.



We supported preservation of the written word by writing monthly columns and quarterly newsletters.

Two buildings at the Historical Village, the Cotesfield Post Office and the Blacksmith Shop, were reshingled and repaired. Farwell's Danish Lutheran Church was

repainted, thanks largely to a grant by the Sonderup Trust. The Gruber House also had repair work done to it.



Weekly columns, historical photos, and press releases promoted a healthy image of Howard County in various newspapers.

The Historical Society paid honor to our veterans with special exhibits, dedications, and tributes in May.

Exhibits were expanded in the Gruber House and the Union Pacific depot and living history performers were at the Historical Village.

Work continued on the grounds of the Historical Village by volunteers and several members and supporters

acted as hosts for the many tour buses which came to the village.



Both the Cotesfield Post Office and the Blacksmith Shop were reshingled in 2004. Neither had been shingled in over 30 years.

HCHS's annual bake sale brought people to Saint Paul's Howard Avenue over the holidays.

A sizable bequest from the Anna Lukasewski estate this past year provided the basis for a new building fund to be established.

The Danish Brotherhood and

Modern Woodmen Insurance also donated a large amount to the Historical Society.

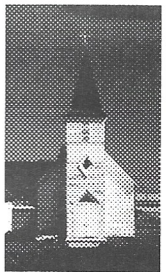
Please remember the

Historical Society in your end-of-the-year giving.

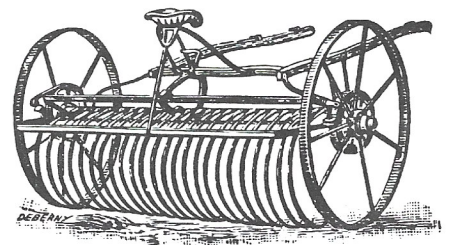
The Howard County Historical

Quarterly newsletters continued to preserve Howard County's history in 2004.

Society is a non-profit organization and your donations are tax-deductible. We, the Board of Directors, remain grateful for your donations of time, talents, and financial contributions. 2005 looks equally as promising.



Farwell's Danish Lutheran Church at the Historical Village was repainted by Patty Sok with a grant from the Sonderup Trust.



Even though it is just in the beginning stages, the Howard County Historical Society is developing plans for a new building to house items related to Howard County's agricultural background and early settlement.

Historical Society receives art work by Father Joseph Macourek.

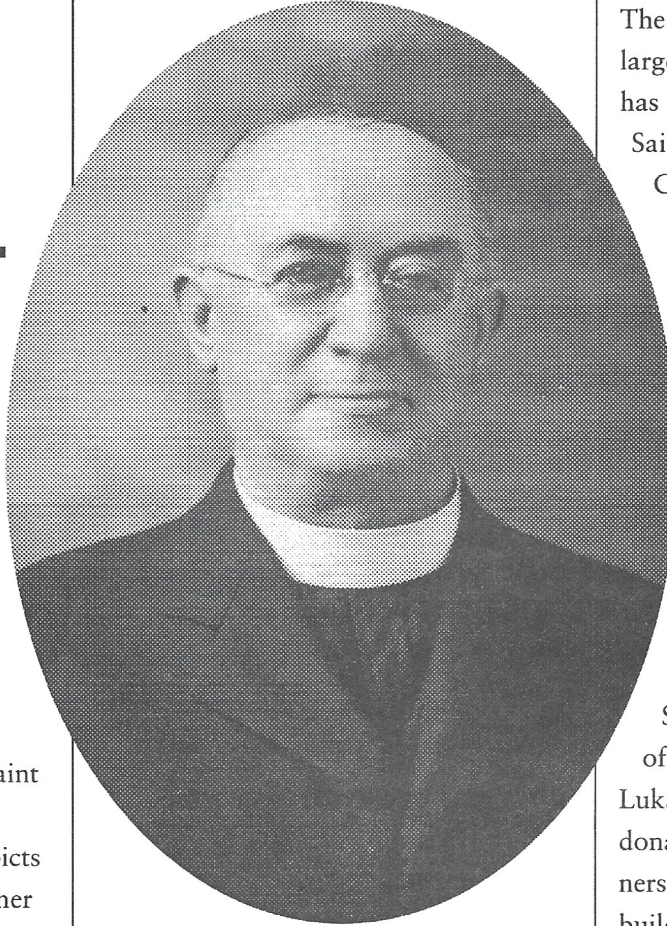
By Ron W. Sack

Two paintings and a wood engraving done by Father Joseph Macourek have been donated to the Howard County Historical Society by Thomas Mudd of Michigan. Father Macourek was once stationed in Saint Paul at Saints Peter and Paul's Catholic Church from 1902 until 1906. He also served the Catholic Parish of Saint Wenceslaus in Howard County.

One of Macourek's painting depicts two horses in movement and the other shows a quiet moment in a wine cellar. A photograph of Father Macourek also accompanied the paintings and engraving.

Macourek was a man of many talents. He was a scholarly linguist, as well as an artist, scientist, and mechanic. He spoke Latin, English, German, French, and Bohemian with almost equal fluency.

He devoted much time to painting and engraving as well as to the study of scientific subjects and had worked out to mechanical form many things that appealed to his interest. One such subject was a clock which he called his masterpiece. It indicated the time in Nebraska as well as in Washington, D.C., Montevideo, Rio, London, Paris, Rome, Calcutta, Manila, Melbourne, Honolulu, and San Francisco.



Artwork by the late Father Joseph Macourek has been donated to the Howard County Historical Society. Macourek was stationed at Saints Peter and Paul's Catholic Church from 1902-1906. HCHS photo donated by Thomas Mudd.

Macourek was a native of Bohemia and received his elementary and high school education there. He received his theological training in France, and his earliest work as a priest was as an attache at the Cathedral of Saint Peter, at Louvain, Belgium, which was one of the most noted Cathedrals in Belgium.

Besides Saint Paul, Macourek also served in Ravenna, Creighton, and at an Indian Reservation in northeast Nebraska.

Descendants of Macourek's would be the Jerry Hanisch family of Saint Paul.

Currently the artwork is on display in the lower level of the Gruber House.

The Historical Society is working on a larger display of Macourek. If anyone has stories of when Macourek lived in Saint Paul, please contact the Howard County Historical Society at P.O. Box 1, Saint Paul, NE 68873.

Anna Lukasewski remembers the Historical Society.

By Ron W. Sack

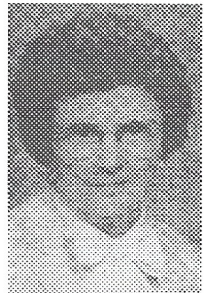
The Howard County Historical Society was remembered in the will of the late Anna Lukasewski. Her donation is the cornerstone to the new building fund for the society.

Anna grew up in the Warsaw Precinct southwest of Saint Paul and graduated from District 13.

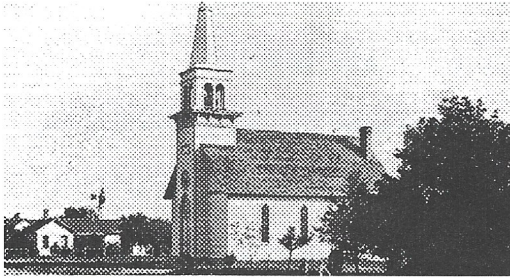
"She had a love for history and for Howard County," stated Evelyn Dvorak. "Anna's contribution will help establish a new building fund which is desperately needed for the Howard County Historical Society."

This building Dvorak is talking about will house items related to Howard County's agricultural background, as well as many other artifacts and exhibits.

If you are interested in remembering the Historical Society in your will, please contact any board member.



Lukasewski remembered Howard County in her will.



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historically speaking

Please renew your membership.

If your address label does not read "05" you have not paid your dues for 2005 and need to renew. Your membership helps fund a variety of things such as programs, building repair, and exhibits depicting Howard County's history. We appreciate your support and look forward to your renewal.

*Lucille Grim Fox story
 to be in upcoming issue.*

We are currently working on a story for an upcoming issue of "historically speaking" on Howard County historian Lucille Grim Fox.

Lucille captured the history of Dannebrog and the surrounding area. Her insight and vision will be reflected through a series of photographs and essays.

historically speaking

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 and Warsaw

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Photograph on mailing side: Elba Methodist Church courtesy of Ron W. Sack.