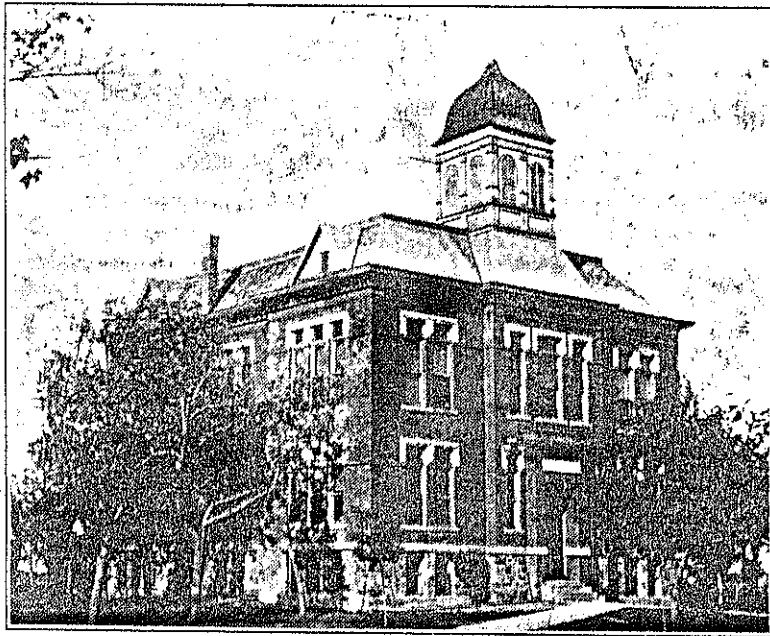


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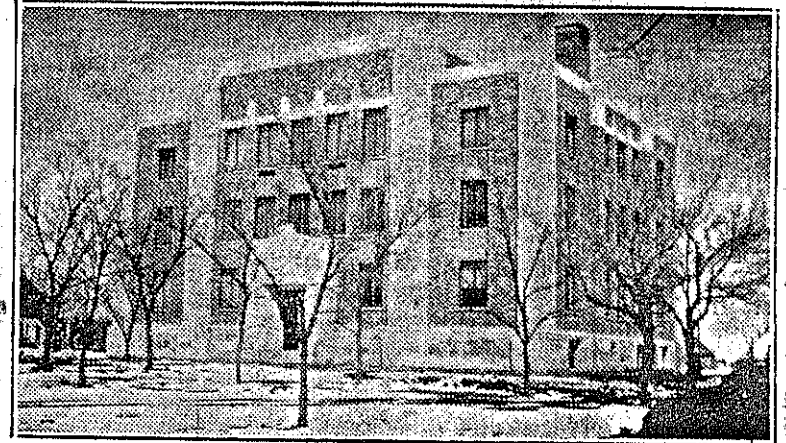
The Old Courthouse

The former Edmunds county courthouse was built in 1889 and 1890 at a cost of \$11,000. Public records had accumulated to such an extent that there was not room for some of the county offices. Furthermore, there was a constant menace of fire as the building was not fire proof.

The new building is absolutely fire proof, is up to date in every way, and is outstanding among the courthouses of the state architecturally and in construction. The total cost was \$108,000 of which sum the federal government furnished \$32,300.

The people of the county may well feel proud of the building which will answer its purpose for the coming centuries.

Edmunds County's New Courthouse



IPSWICH TRIBUNE MOONLIGHT PHOTO

To be dedicated to the
people of Edmunds county
on Wed., June 5, 1935

Appointment

Mr. _____

The people of Edmunds County will dedicate the new courthouse to the use of the public on June 5, 1935.

The event is of such economic and historic interest that appropriate ceremonies will be held. The general public has taken the initiative in this and have asked the Board of County Commissioners to assume charge.

To make it what it should be—a get-together of the people of the entire county, the board has appointed a general committee from all parts of the county. They have selected you as representative of the community in which you live and you are hereby notified of appointment by the Board of County Commissioners of Edmunds County. They trust that you will accept this honor and responsibility in the same spirit in which it was made.

A committee of Ipswich citizens will have active charge in conjunction with the county commissioners, but your counsel and assistance is solicited.

By order of the Board of
County Commissioners,

County Auditor.

DEDICATION COMMITTEE

Board of County Commissioners

Wm. Stafford, chairman.
Joseph Bachman
Ludwig Merkel

Carl C. Krueger
Tom Langan
A. E. Herrholdt,
County Auditor.

General County Committee

Clear Lake—Thos. Hansen	Montpelier—Albert Beyers
Richland—H. C. Cunningham	Bryant—Wm. Schurr
Cortlandt—A. P. Hasvold	Roscoe—Chas. Christen and Kasper Sahl
Pembroke—James Nicol	North Bryant—Christ J. Gross
Kent—John Davies	Hillside—John Krueger
Union—S. W. Mount	Glover—Gust Winkler
Fountain—Jos. D. Lacher	Glen—Michael Hauck
Belle—L. G. Calkins	Sangamon—Helmuth Preszler
Powell—John Richards	Madison—John Knecht
Harmony—Albert Lewis	Cloyd Valley—David Leidholdt
Ipswich—Willard Chase	Cottonwood Lake—M. A. Hoerner
Ipswich City—J. W. Parmley and F. E. Lass	Hosmer Twp.—Baldasar Gisi
Rosette—Chas. Kindelspire	Hosmer City—John Heckenlaible and Frank Boldt
Liberty—Floyd Poole	Hudson—Emanuel Knecht
Cleveland—Albert Kub	Odessa—Rudolph Aldinger
Huntley—Alvah Lovett	Bowdle Twp.—Richard Lemke
Adrian—A. E. Silver	Bowdle City—John C. Gross and A. L. Englehardt
Vermont—E. L. Fredrickson	Modena—Peter M. Hellman
Loyalton—T. H. Hines and E. P. Waller	

Ipswich General Committee

H. S. Crissman
Frank Archer
J. W. Parmley

F. E. Lass
J. F. Holdhusen



NEWTON EDMUNDS

Second Territorial Governor

- ✦ Residence: Yankton, Dakota Territory
- ✦ Years Served: 1863-1866
- ✦ Date of Inauguration: November 2, 1863
- ✦ Age at Inauguration: 44
- ✦ Politics: Republican
- ✦ Born: May 31, 1819 - Hartland, New York
- ✦ Died: February 13, 1908 - Yankton, South Dakota

Political Background:

- ✦ 1863-1866: Governor of Dakota Territory

Governor Edmunds grew up in New York, and in 1832 his family moved to Michigan. Edmunds came to Yankton in 1861 where he became chief clerk in the surveyor general's office.

Edmunds was notified of his appointment as territorial governor by President Lincoln on October 17, 1863. He took the oath of office on November 2, 1863. His most important contribution was participating in the 1865 and 1866 negotiation of treaties with the Sioux and other tribal groups along the Missouri. The territorial governor also served as superintendent of Indian affairs for Dakota Territory. Upon his return from a peace mission on August 8, 1866, he was replaced as governor, as a result of political quarreling between President Andrew Johnson and radical Republicans.

Edmunds continued to live in Yankton where he was active in civic life. He helped to organize the first church, took an active part in building the first school, and also helped in the establishment of an academy. He was head of a banking firm which he organized in 1869. His interest in political matters continued and he was a member of the Territorial Council in 1879.

Governor Edmunds participated in the negotiation of Indian treaties.

The White Man Comes



Ezra Drew 1912, Age 85
In front of what is now Henry Beck's residence

Edmunds County was created in 1873 and organized in 1883. The County was named for Newton Edmunds, a New Yorker, who became the second Governor of Dakota Territory. Born in Niagara County, New York, he came to Dakota Territory in 1861, as chief clerk in the surveyor's office. He was appointed by President Lincoln in 1863 and served until 1866.

The settlement of Edmunds County dated from October, 1882. At that time range 66 was not a part of the county, it having been omitted by the territorial legislature in defining the boundary between Brown and Edmunds counties, so, that at that time Edmunds County consisted of ranges 67 to 73 in Township 121 to 124 inclusive.

The first actual settlement made in the county was by Ezra Drew and Ira Dibble and their families on October 16, 1882. These settlers were accompanied by George Phillips, John and George Jameson and others from Oelwein, Iowa, who located a townsite on the southwest quarter of section 34, town 123 range 68, named Georgetown which was platted during January 1883.

During the winter of 1882 and 1883, numerous claims were located in eastern Edmunds county, some of which were resided upon during part of the winter. This was especially true of William V. Bold, A. B. Allen and others in the vicinity of the townsite of Freeport; A. B. Allen erecting the first two story building in the county, known as the Allen House in February, 1883.

The settlement of the western part of the county was not made until on or about the first day of April, 1883, when S. B. Basford located a small shanty on the southwest quarter of section 24, town 123, range 71. Returning to Aberdeen, he met Charles P. Morgan on his way out with a large tent to start a hotel in the same locality. J. W. Parmley soon after arrived and settled nearby, and the settlement was given the name of Roscoe, after Roscoe Conklin. Travel between Aberdeen and the new town of Le-Beau on the Missouri opened at once with daily stage from Aberdeen to the river 110 miles. During the following six weeks, nearly all the land as far west as Range 69 was taken by settlers and many went farther west picking choice locations.

Edmunds County was organized July 26, 1883.

by a meeting of the Board of County Commissioners appointed by Governor Ordway consisting of Louis F. Diefendorf, Loren A. Barbour and Charles N. Skillman at the Skillman House on the townsite of Edmunds. The Board after organizing adjourned until the next day when the county seat was located at Edmunds by a vote of two for Edmunds and one for Freeport. At this meeting C. L. Pratt was appointed Register of Deeds, and the Board adjourned to meet August 13th. At this meeting W. R. Ruggles, who had been appointed Clerk of Courts by the district judge, qualified. The board appointed John Hughes of Powell City, Sheriff; A. B. Allen of Freeport, Treasurer; John Sweet of Georgetown, Assessor; J. A. Rice of Roscoe County Judge; and adjourned to August 27th, when J. W. Parmley was appointed Superintendent of Schools; and C. L. Seabright, Coroner; also justices and constables were appointed and the organization was completed.

The Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railway extended its line from Aberdeen west 26 miles to the center of a triangle formed by the towns of Freeport, Edmunds and Georgetown. On October 2, 1883, a town was platted on Section 27 and 28 town 123 range 68, and was given the name of

Ipswich. Lots were sold at auction to the amount of over \$5,000 the first day and at once the moving of the three disappointed boom towns to Ipswich was commenced.

Within three weeks a large town had sprung up. On November 1, 1883, the Board of County Commissioners met in the one remaining building at Edmunds and by resolution changed the county seat from Edmunds to Ipswich at which it was later permanently located by a vote of the people of the county.

In 1886, the road was extended from Ipswich west to section 21, town 123, range 73, where the town of Bowdle was established.

The territorial legislature in 1885 changed the boundaries of Edmunds County by annexing range 66, thus making the county 48 miles long by 24 wide.

The first homestead entry was made October 2, 1882 by Milton Bliss and the first pre-emption filing by John Ackley, September 20, 1882.

Olga Herrick



Mrs. Ira Dibble and her brother, Murwin Drew. Children of Ezra Drew, first permanent settler of Edmunds County. Mrs. Dibble is the Grandmother of Elsie Bosanko.

1909 file story explains how area towns were named

Taken from the Edmunds County Democrat; F.J. Tracy, Editor and Publisher; August 19, 1909.

F.W. Kimball, who was engineer in charge of the construction of all early lines in South Dakota was in Pierre last week on a visit to relatives and was induced by the department of history to write out some reminiscences of the days of the 1st boom in railroad building. Aberdeen was named for Aberdeen, Scotland, the birthplace of Mr. Mitchell, then president of road

Andover, Groton and Ipswich were named by Mr. Merrill, the general manager of the road for towns in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Most of the larger towns in this state were named for directors of the road at that time.

Being well acquainted with Mr. Kimball and having had a hand in the building of some of the lines of railroad, the editor, F.J. Tracy, of this paper has some knowledge of how some of the towns around here were named.

Roscoe was named for Roscoe Conklin, then senator from New York and a prominent politician and leader in the Republican party.

Bowdle was named for a prominent banker and capitalist living at Mitchell.

Hosmer was the maiden name of Mrs. S.V. Arnold and Mrs. Arnold was given the honor of naming that town after her father Capt. Arnold was at that time the right-of-way agent of the

Milwaukee road.

Many of the prominent citizens of Loyaltown, among them John A. Bowman, who conducted a bank in that lively little town, made a hard fight to have the place named Vermont City and for a long time there was much confusion as the station was named Loyaltown and the post office was Vermont City. The drought and hard times coming on, the feud was forgotten and the place was nicknamed "Hardscrabble," and some of the old timers recognize it by the name yet. But few of the original Vermont colony who started the town now reside there.

Before the railroad was built west of Aberdeen, and Mina was platted, a post office was established in a small town store northwest of where Mina now stands and the office was called Courtlandt. When the station was built at Mina and the office moved the post office authorities refused to change the name to Mina as it might be confused with Menno and the post office is still called Courtlandt.

Powell was called after W.E. Powell, who was emigration agent at that time for the railroad, and it was he who located his countryman in the Welsh settlement. The great majority of the original settlers or their descendants in that settlement stuck to their homes and prospered.

The reminiscences of F.W. Kimball would be a very fair history of the states of Iowa, Minnesota and Dakotas.