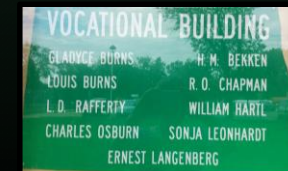


# North Dakota School for the Deaf Resource Center for Deaf & Hard of Hearing

## Dedicated Landmarks



By Lilia Bakken  
Communications Coordinator  
2016

# North Dakota School for the Deaf Landmark Project

From 1992 to 1997,  
the North Dakota Association of the Deaf (NDAD)  
worked with former Superintendent Jaime Galloway,  
of the North Dakota School for the Deaf (NDSD),  
on a very important person (VIP) landmark project.

# Purpose

The purpose of the project was to dedicate buildings and landmarks on campus in honor of former employees who had achieved ranks of high esteem for their accomplishments at NDSD.

## NDAD + NDSD

Since 1890, there have been thousands of devoted individuals who have left their imprint on the school's history.

Narrowing the list of candidates was no easy task.

# Dedication

Ultimately, NDAD's selection committee chose VIP's who were recognized for their exceptional dedication to their profession and to the students they served.

The following landmarks were dedicated:

# A. R. Spear School Building

Dedicated, 1992, in memory of Superintendent Anson Spear,  
1890-1895 (5 years).



Built - 1911

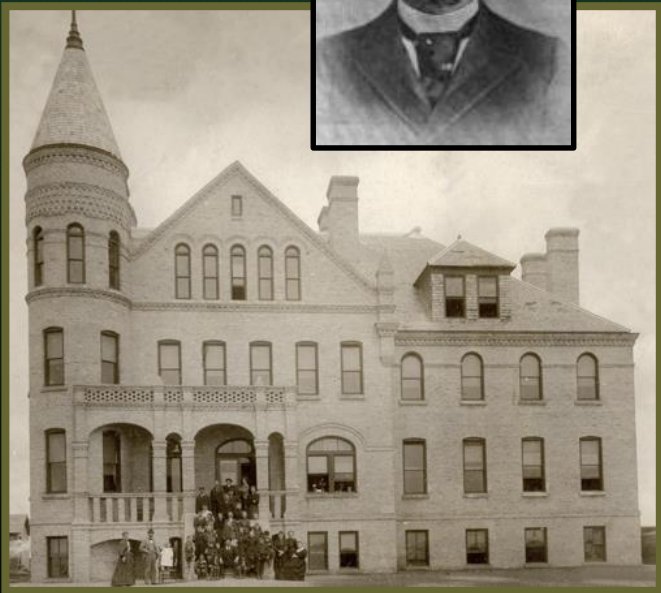


Spear  
(deaf)



Note: the Spear School Building  
is now occupied by Head Start  
and Early Head Start.

# Spear Achievements



ND School for the Deaf  
Original Main Building  
Built 1892, Razed 1975

- Spear, first superintendent and only one in NDSD's history who was deaf.
- 1890, helped establish North Dakota School for the Deaf and oversaw construction of Main Building (Old Main).
- Requested legislators change school name from *ND Deaf & Dumb Asylum* to *ND Deaf School*.
- Implemented trade programs: farming, dairy, gardening, printing, sewing and housekeeping.
- Established school newspaper, *The Banner*, first published December 5, 1891, continues to be printed (one time each school year). (Note: a complete set of *Banners*, from 1891 to present, is maintained in the library at NDSD).

# Carl F. Smith Building

Dedicated, 1993, in memory of Superintendent Carl Smith,  
1945-1969 (24 years).



Smith  
(hearing)



Smith Building  
Built - 1963

Formerly called Administration Building and Girls' Dormitory, the Smith Building now houses NDSD's outreach department, pre-school, kindergarten, elementary and middle school departments, as well as the dining room and various offices.

Note: NDSD's high school department closed in 2010.



# Smith Achievements



Smith

- Oversaw construction of:
  - gymnasium (1953), cabin (1955).
  - administration building/girls' dormitory (Smith Building -1963)
- Connected campus to city water and sewer lines.
- Implemented new programs: maintenance, baking, painting, upholstery, driver training.



1948 Chevrolet Fleetmaster Sedan with dual controls. Louis Burns was the first instructor.

*Banner Flashback*, 1956 - written by James Connolly, Manager, ND Traffic and Safety Department: "I have made the statement several times that, your school offers the best Driver's Education course available in our state."

# L. Dwight Rafferty Field

Dedicated, 1994, in memory of Coach Dwight Rafferty,  
Track, 1945-1976 (31 years).



Rafferty  
(deaf)



Rafferty Field is currently used by  
Devils Lake Athletic Department.



1974 Class B State Championship  
L. Dwight Rafferty, Coach

# Coach Rafferty Achievements

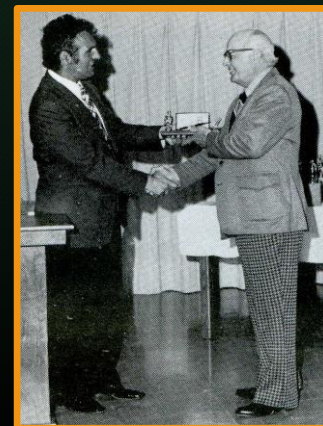


Rafferty's track team championships:

- 1946 Ramsey County Invitational
- 1961-63 Tri-Lake Conference
- 1966 NDSD Invitational
- 1968 ND District Meet
- 1969 Peace Garden Conference
- 1972 Lake Region Conference
- 1975 State Class B Indoor and Outdoor Meets
- 1976 State Class B Indoor Meet

From 1943-1955 Rafferty taught in the academic department and then from 1955-1985 taught Printing & Graphic Arts (42 total teaching years).

In 1975, Rafferty was named Head Track Coach for the Pan-Am Olympian Games for the Deaf held in Venezuela. Rafferty's U.S. track team won the Gold Medal Championship!



1982 – Coach Rafferty inducted into *NDSD Athletic Hall of Fame*.

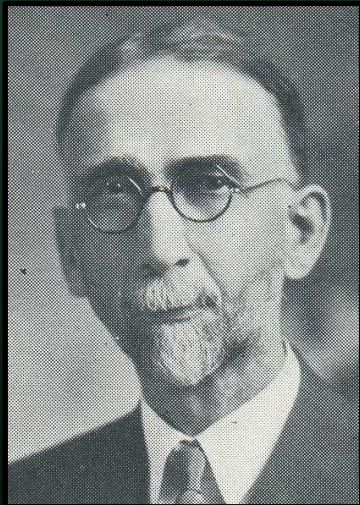
# Thomas Sheridan Road

Dedicated, 1994, in memory of Thomas Sheridan, Teacher,  
1908-1947 (39 years).



Home

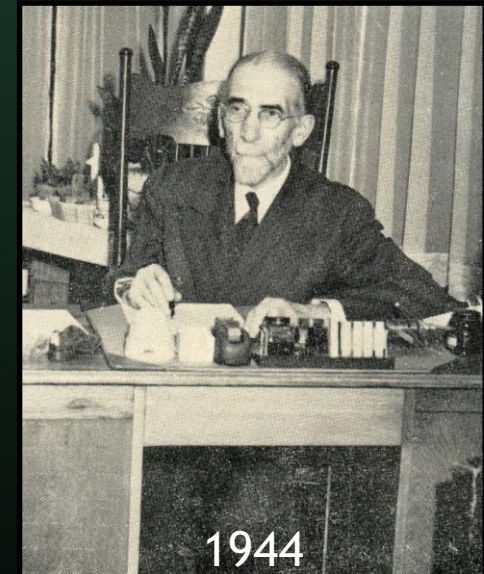
NDSD



Sheridan  
(deaf)



Sheridan and his family lived in this house on the corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. NW. For 39 years, he walked to NDSD, even in the stormiest weather, rarely missing a day of work.

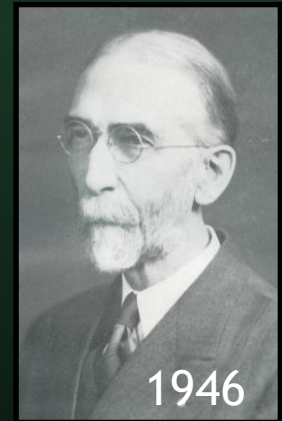


# Sheridan Achievements



1946 - Math class

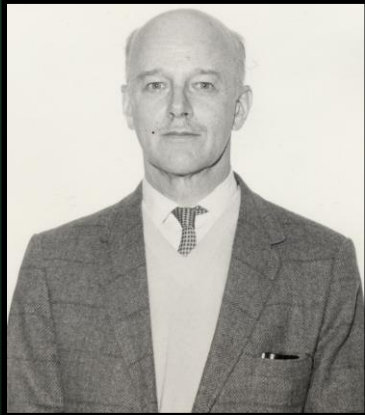
- A teacher at NDSD for 39 years, Sheridan was well-loved by his students and highly respected by his colleagues. He was known nationwide as a pedagogue in the profession of deaf education and was recognized as a great schoolmaster.
- Editor of *Banner* (school newspaper) from 1908 to 1944 (35 years).
- Adept as a magician, Sheridan often mystified his students and entertained people at social gatherings.



*Banner Flashback*, 1948, (upon Sheridan's death): "Thomas was a gentleman and a scholar. Our school is the better for his having lived and loved and labored in it, and his memory will be an inspiration to all who knew him."

# Blackhurst Dormitory

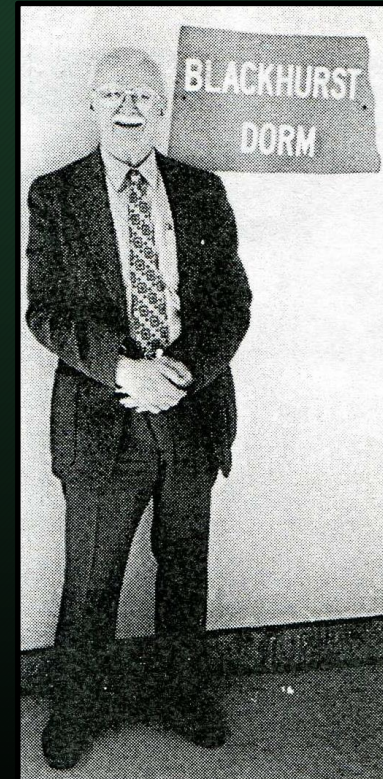
Dedicated, 1995, in memory of Kenneth Blackhurst, housefather & dormitory counselor, 1960-1984 (24 years).



Blackhurst  
(deaf)



Built in 1981, as a boys' dormitory, Blackhurst dorm is now a co-ed residential facility (boys on one side, girls on the other).



# Blackhurst Achievements



- Blackhurst was an avid biker and when bikes were in need of repair he knew how to fix them. Through the years, Blackhurst repaired many broken bikes for the children.
- Kenneth's favorite pastime was reading. He tried to instill in children the love of books and encouraged them to read as a leisure time activity.

*Banner Flashback, 1971: "We, the Class of 1971, dedicate this Senior Banner to Kenneth Blackhurst for his many years of selfless service to our welfare. We feel fortunate to have had him for our dormitory counselor and are thankful for his patience, tireless counseling and cheerful demeanor."*



# Burton W. Driggs Pond

Dedicated, 1995, in memory of Superintendent Burton Driggs, 1921-1937 (16 years).



Driggs  
(hearing)



Pond bridge built - 1934



*Banner Flashback*, 1934: Using depression labor, the twin ponds were improved with a new bridge built to connect them.



# Driggs Achievements



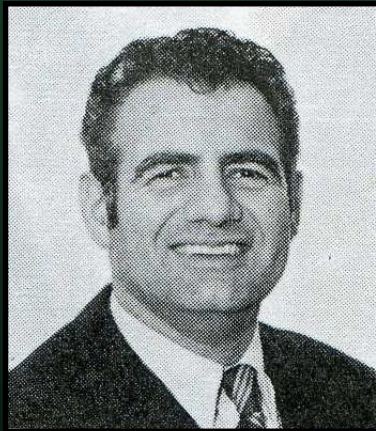
- Oversaw construction: Boys' Dormitory, Vocational Building, and bridge over pond.
- Implemented new programs: barbering, nursing, beauty culture, typing, shoe repair, bookbinding, home economics, rug weaving.
- Employed trained nurse to provide health care.
- Built fire-proof vault to protect school records.
- Initiated Spring Revues & Tumbling Teams.



*Banner Flashback, 1937:* “More than seven thousand people attended three performances of the *Spring Revue*. The pageant featured magnificent scenery and beautiful costumes all made by pupils and staff at the school. The *Revue* was filmed for the *International Congress on Education of the Deaf.*”

# Henry Z. Brenner Gymnasium

Dedicated, 1996, in memory of Coach Henry Brenner,  
(Football 1956-1970, Cross Country 1971-1978, Track 1977-1992, Basketball 1956-1992).



Brenner  
(deaf)



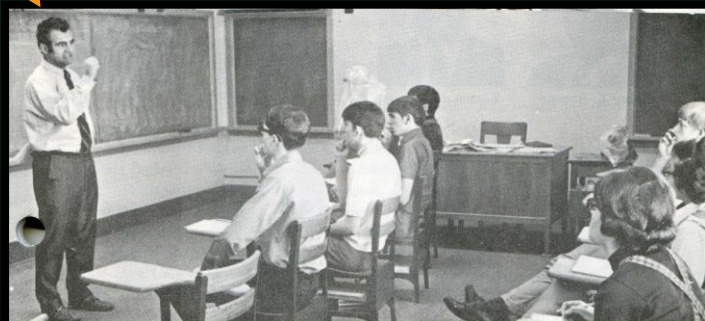
Coach  
Brenner

1971-72 NDSD Bulldogs  
Regional Runner Up  
Henry Brenner, Coach

# Coach Brenner Achievements



- 1957, 1960, 1961 Football Peace Garden Conference (undefeated).
- 1971, 1973, 1987, 1988 Basketball, District Runner-ups
- 1972 Basketball District Champions
- 1968, 1971, 1973, Ramsey County Tourney – Second place
- 1977, 1978, 1980 Track Peace Garden Champions
- 1980 Lake Region Champions



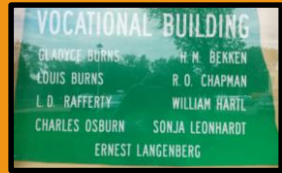
Teacher - Social Studies

- 1980 Regional 'Coach of the Year.'
- 1982 - Established the *NDSB Athletic Hall of Fame*.
- 1989 Inducted into *North Dakota Track & Field Hall of Fame* as a Track Starter.
- 1990 Coach Brenner inducted into *NDSB Athletic Hall of Fame*.
- 1956-1992, High School Social Studies teacher (36 years).



1962 Six-Man Football  
Peace Garden Conference,  
Co-Champions  
Henry Brenner, Coach

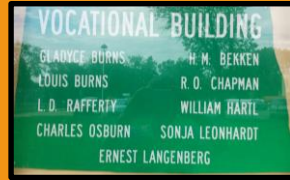
# Vocational Building (Trades Building)



Built - 1928

Formerly the vocational/trades school, the Vocational Building currently houses the *NDSD Heritage Museum*, the woodworking shop, and *Lake Region Center for Budokan—Japan Karate*.

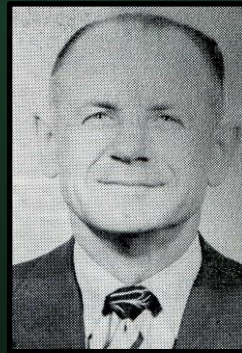
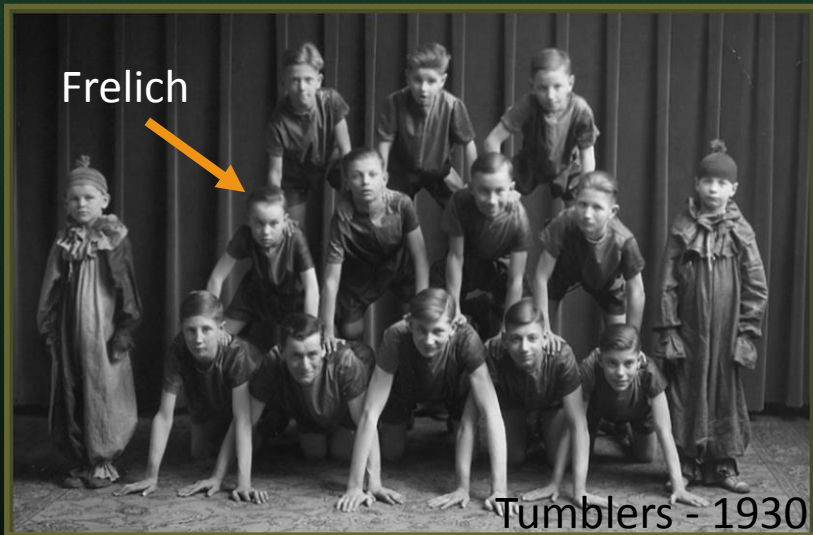
Dedicated, 1997, in memory  
of nine vocational teachers:



Louis Burns  
Gladyce Burns  
Ernest Langenberg  
R.O. Chapman

H.M. Bekken  
Charles Osburn  
William Hartl  
Sonja Leonhardt  
L. Dwight Rafferty

Louis W. Burns, 1924-1956 (29 years)  
Physical Education Teacher & Vocational Principal  
Coach for Tumbling, Football and Basketball,



Burns  
(deaf)

1982 – Coach Burns  
inducted into *NDSB*  
*Athletic Hall of Fame.*



*Banner Flashback, 1956* - Upon Burns' death, former tumbler, Philip Frelich wrote: "For ten years I performed on Mr. Burns' fast and daring tumbling team. People packed the gyms to see us and were thrilled and scared to watch our "Whirl" stunts. Burns was very proud of his tumbling teams – they were responsible for some of the most excellent publicity the school ever received."

# Gladys Burns

## Art and Domestic

1949-1978 (29 years)



Burns  
(hard-of-hearing)

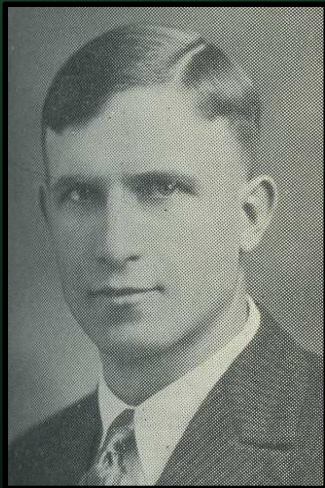


*Banner Flashback*, 1954: Art teacher, Gladys Burns, and carpentry shop teacher, William Hartl, created a beautiful Nativity Scene that graced the campus for many Christmas seasons.

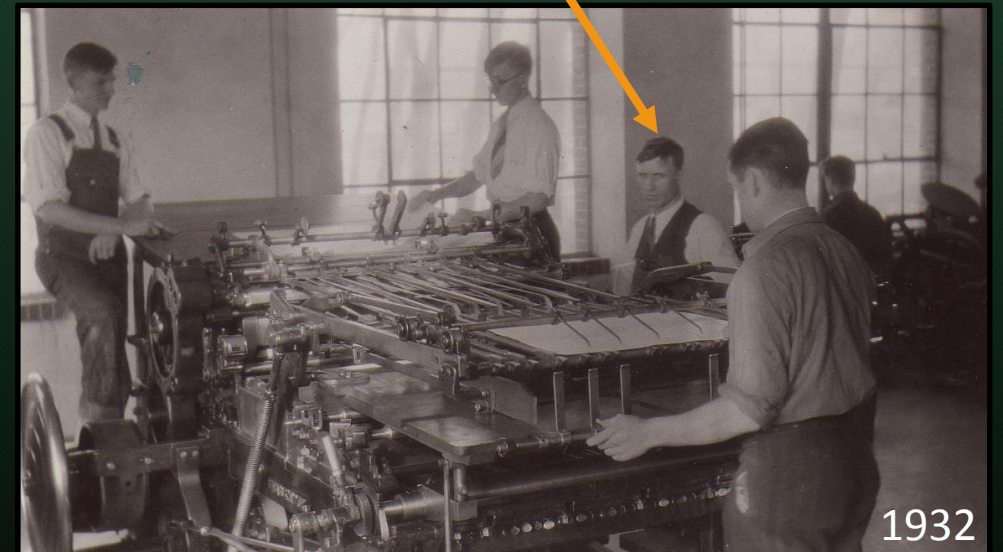
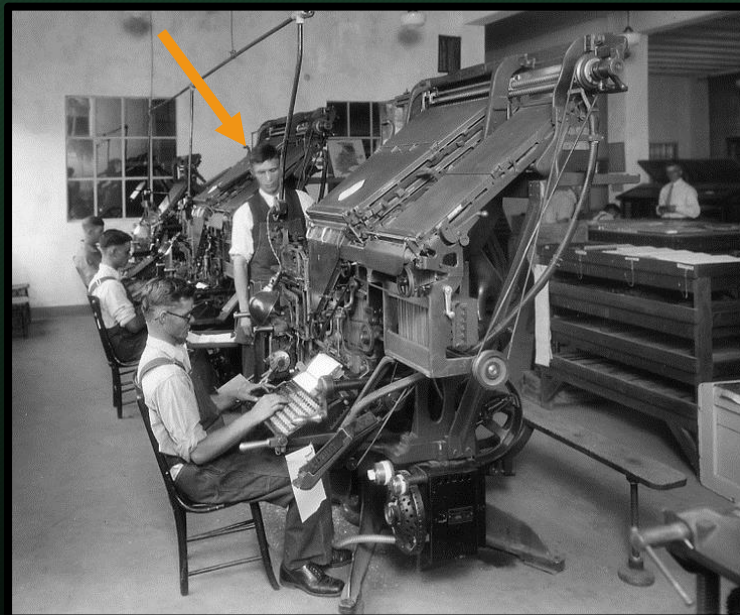
# Ernest G. Langenberg

## Linotype and Printing

1925-1954 (29 years)



Langenberg  
(deaf)



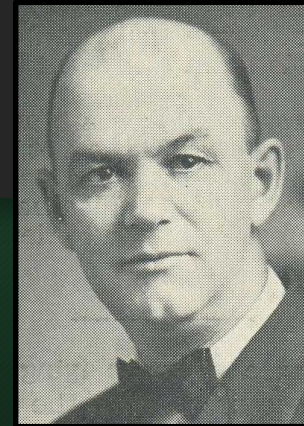
*Banner Flashback*, 1925: “Mr. Langenberg, our new printing instructor, is a 1924 graduate of Gallaudet. He has already won the warm friendship and esteem of our school and we hope that he will like his new job and his new surroundings at NDSD for many years to come.”



# R. O. Chapman

## Barbering

1921-1944 (23 years)



Chapman  
(hearing)

*Banner Flashback*, June, 1922 - written by student, August Pederson, after Chapman's first year of teaching at NDSD:

"Mr. Chapman says that he is very pleased with the work of his boys - their effort is 100% all the time. He is always interested in our work and is anxious to learn to talk with his fingers. His cheerful personality has made him a friend to all. Mr. Chapman says if he was a good writer he could write a whole page of the good work carried on at the School for the Deaf."



Chapman

1933

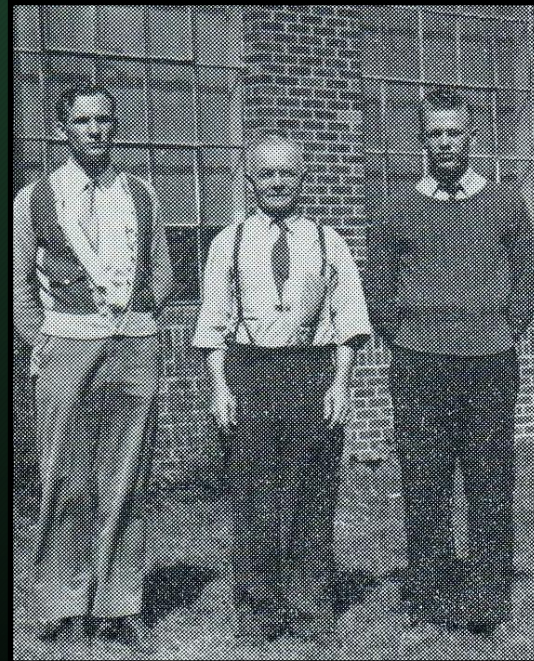
# Halvor M. Bekken

## Shoemaking & Shoe Repair

1925-1948 (25 years)

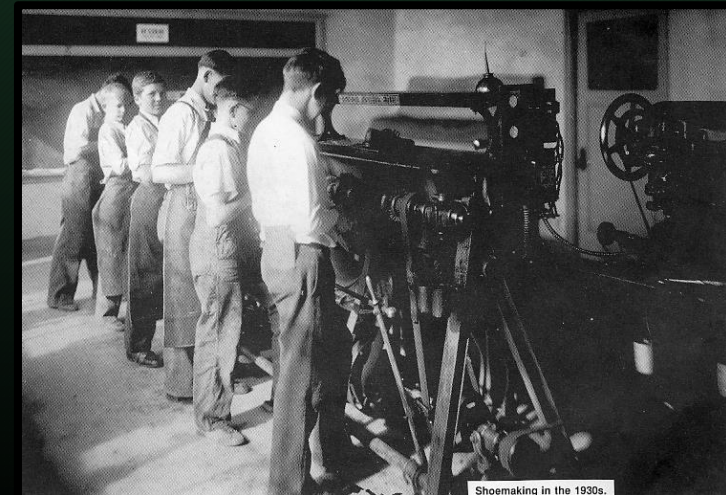


Bekken  
(hearing)



Bekken  
1946

*Banner Flashback, 1940: Mr. Bekken, instructor in the shoe shop, is also proprietor of Bekken's Shoe Shop on Fourth Street in Devils Lake.*

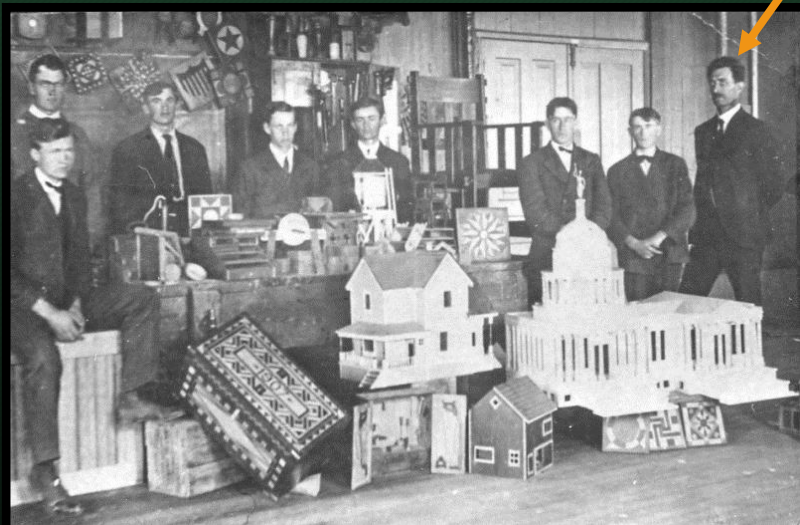


Shoemaking

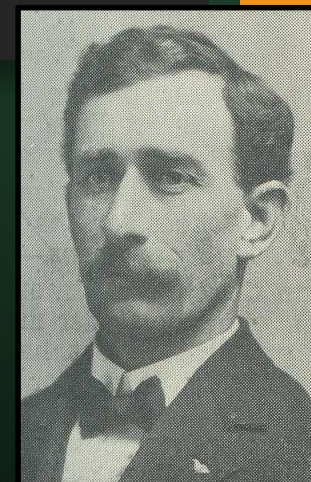
# Charles F. Osburn

## Carpentry & Cabinet Making

1904-1935 (31 years)



*Banner Flashback, 1936* - Upon Osburn's death, Superintendent Driggs wrote; "I have had the pleasure of working with splendid men in my lifetime but never one could surpass Charlie Osburn in loyalty. Until the day he died, Charlie never missed a day of work. His whole life was spent in service to others."

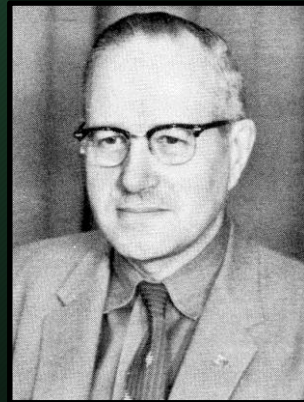


Osburn  
(deaf)

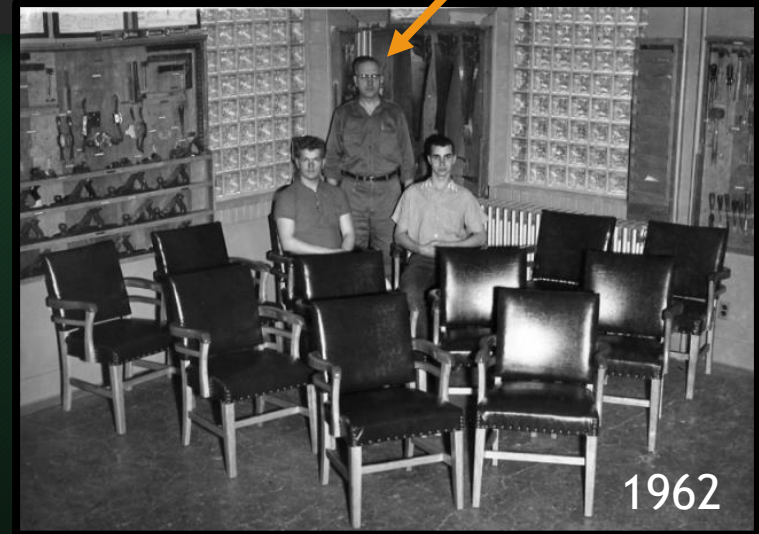
Osburn made gavels from the oak rudder of the old *Minnie H Steamboat* that piloted Devils Lake from 1883 to 1908. The gavels were given to various dignitaries including former ND Governor George Shafer (1929 to 1933) and Herbert Hoover, President of the United States, 1929-1933.

# William F. Hartl

Carpentry/Woodworking/Upholstery  
1943-1980 (37 years)



Hartl  
(hard-of-hearing)



These chairs are still used in  
the NDSD Conference Room.

1982 - Hartl inducted into *NDSD Athletic Hall of Fame* for his many years of service as bus driver for school activities.



Hartl devoted a greater portion of his life to NDSD, first as a student (Class of 1933) and then as an employee for 37 years.

# Sonja Leonhardt

## Art Teacher

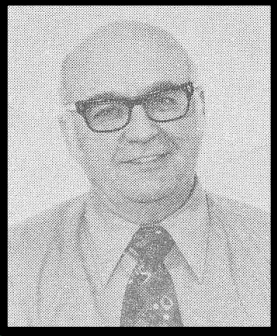
1970-2001 (31 years)



Leonhardt  
(hearing)



Leonhardt also served as an elementary teacher at NDSD.  
In 1981, Leonhardt was named Lake Region's *Outstanding Teacher of the Year*!



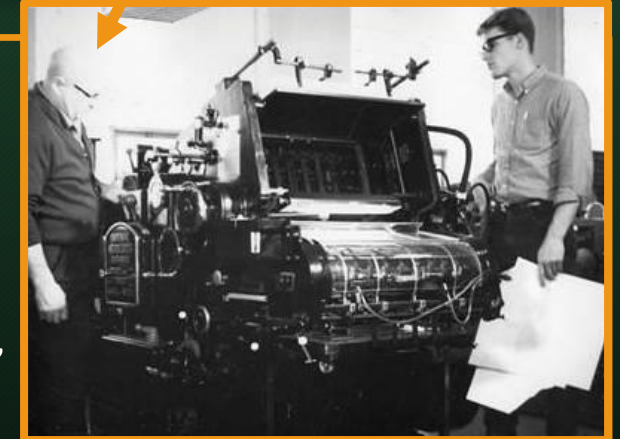
Rafferty  
(deaf)

# L. Dwight Rafferty

## Printing-Linotype-Graphic Arts

1943-1985 (42 years)

- Rafferty is the only person with two landmarks dedicated in his memory:
  - 1) Track field
  - 2) Vocational building
- Taught English & math for 12 years then took over printing department and taught 30 more years. Because of his outstanding reputation as a teacher, NDSU received calls from printers around the country requesting graduates of the 'Rafferty-trained' program.
- 1976 Rafferty was chosen as North Dakota's *State Employee of the Year*.
- Rafferty devoted a greater portion of his life to NDSU, first as a student (Class of 1937) and then as a teacher for 42 years.
- After Rafferty retired, his dream was to establish a museum at NDSU, a place to preserve memories. Rafferty volunteered many hours to accomplish his dream. The *NDSU Heritage Center* is located in Rafferty's former print-shop/classroom.



# Frelich Playground

Dedicated August 24, 1997, in memory of Philip & Esther Frelich and family.



Frelich Family  
(deaf)

- 1964 to 1968 Philip worked as photography teacher at NDSD.
- 1983 to 1999 Esther worked as seamstress at NDSD.
- All eleven members of the Frelich family graduated from NDSD.
- 1923 to 1999, the Frelich family was part of NDSD for 76 years.

Note: dedication made in cooperation with ND Friends of Deaf Children Foundation and ND School for the Deaf.





North Dakota School for the Deaf  
Established in 1890