

Alexander old settler's picnic Saturday, Sept. 5

Sept. 3, 1970

Mrs. Ragna Aasen, pioneer resident of the Alexander community, will be the guest of honor at the 25th annual Old Settler's Picnic in Alexander on Saturday, September 5th.

The silver anniversary theme will be used throughout the festivities which will begin with a parade at 11 a.m. Floats, bands, antique machinery, horses, etc., will be among the many entries.

The free beef barbecue, with the beef furnished by the honored guest, as has been the tradition, will be served about 12:30 p. m. and will include all the trimmings. Organ music will be furnished by Orville Larson and Beverly Aasen during the dinner.

The honor program will begin at 2:00 p. m. with Charles Aasen as master of ceremonies. The invocation will be given by Rev. Carl Nelson. A medley of songs will be sung by the Aasen grandchildren followed by a family history read by Lynn Aasen. Mr. and Mrs. Ben Okland will sing and the program will conclude



MRS. RAGNA AASEN

with "God Bless America" sung by all of the Aasen family.

After the program there will be horse racing and other horsemanship events. A dance is being planned for the evening.

In between events there will be plenty of time for visiting with old friends and making new

ones. Everyone is invited.

Mrs. Ragna Aasen came to McKenzie County in 1906 with her mother and brother who homesteaded three miles north of Alexander. She was educated in the Alexander Public Schools.

Ole Aasen came to North Dakota in 1909 from Norway. He homesteaded north of Alexander and operated a dray line until he entered the Army. He was in service during World War I.

Ole and Ragna Aasen were married in October of 1923 and lived in Alexander until 1957 when Ole passed away. Mrs. Aasen was head resident of the girls' dormitory at Dickinson State College for five years and at Eastern Montana College, Billings, MT, for three years. She is now residing in Alexander.

The children of the Aasens are: Carsen, Denver, CO; Ronald, Tacoma, WA; Solveig and Charles, Alexander, and Lynn of Watford City. Mrs. Aasen has two sisters, Mrs. Alice Saltsman, Minot, and Mrs. Mabel Reynolds, Sacramento, CA.