

NO DATE AVAIL. ON THIS ONE EITHER

sometimes the plow would break off and pull up ^{out of the ground} a piece of pine root the size of a mans leg. Some of the land had stones. These stones created problems in the plowing and tilling of the soil and had to be picked. Dynamite was often used to blow up stumps and break up boulders. It all took time, and it was hard work but they managed to get a few acres broke every year.

Usually the first crops were potatoes and corn. The new ground produced good clean potatoes and it was a cash crop. ^{Money} Corn was planted ^{because on a small acreage it produced the most} because ^{was something the settlers never had too much of} on a small acreage it produced the most fodder per acre. Minnesota No. 13 was a popular variety of seed corn but even this variety did not assure ripe corn. The corn was cut and shocked by hand. It was left in the shocks for 2 or 3 weeks ^{to ripen}, then it was hushed by hand and the fodder feed to the cattle. As more land was opened up, oats and other grains were planted. If you did not have a grain binder, you hired a neighbor to cut your grain. The grain would be shocked and it would stay in the shock a week or so. Then the farmers would help one another to stack the grain. Now, to make a good grain stack was quite an art. The man who was best and most experienced at ^{stacking} the job of stacking, There would be 2 or 3 teams of horses hauling up the grain ^{to be} stacked. The grain stacks had to go through a period of sweating. Then in the fall of the year a steam engine would pull into the yard with a threshing machine. Before the steam engine came you had ^{to} get up a pile of pine stumps. This made the best fuel for the steam engine. Again the neighbors exchanged help. You had to have 10 or 12 men for a threshing crew. Neighbor ladies came and helped with the cooking. These threshing days actually turned into somewhat of a social events. Threshing was a dirty job and the men would wash outside on a bench, then they would come in to a table loaded with good food and lots of pies. It took a lot of time to shock the grain, stack it and then thresh it, but when it was in the bin, you had a grain of good color and quality.

Some of the bigger fields were found by the Munch town hall, Racers and Vlasaks had perhaps the biggest field in the