

May 24, 1984

The Meridian United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 266
Meridian, Idaho 83642

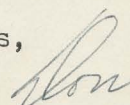
Att: Norma Gale.

Enclosed are some quotations from family genealogies that refer to the Methodist Church in Meridian. You can use them as you see fit. There is no need to return them.

Personal note: When I was two or three years old, my folks lived in Robinette, Oregon. One time when my mother, Elsie Burns Haasch, traveled to Meridian by train. (A two day trip) I was taken over to the parsonage, which was just west of the church, to be baptised. I remember that the water was put on the stove to be warmed before the minister used it for the Baptism. This was probably in 1915-16.

I may not be able to be present at your Time To Remember because I will be returning from a trip from Pocatello. But I wish everyone the best of times and remembrances.

Regards,


Don E. Haasch
3005 Teton
Boise, Idaho 83705

Notes taken from the Ancestral genealogy of the Pfof and Burns Families.

A church was built in 1891 on the Onweiler corner, and Mr Isaac Pfof gave it the name of "Sabbath Home." The building was later moved to Meridian and was known as the North Methodist Church. It was in this church that Martin Burns led the singing school.

From the Idaho Statesmen, Dec. 27, 1931.

"The Isaac Pfof boys had to work very hard doing chores and grubbing sage brush (on a farm on Ustick road). The older boys said that Lee, the youngest, was stunted because of the hard work. Lee was five foot four when grown. One winter grandfather gave so much money to the church, the children had to go without warm underwear which worked a very great hard ship on them."

The Pfof History by LaVerne Craig,- Lee Pfof's daughter.

"My father told of prayer every night before the family went to bed. One night the puppy was in the house. Grandfather in bare feet was kneeling on the floor praying. The puppy went up to grandfather and licked his bare feet. Grandfather would kick at the puppy and just keep on praying. Of course, the children got a big kick out of it. He named the church built in 1891 on the Onweiler corner "Sabbath Home."

The Pfof History by LaVerne Craig.

By 1911, Meridian boasted three churches, The Christian, the Methodist Episcopal South, and the First Methodist Episcopal. Two banks were doing business in Meridian--The Meridian Exchang Bank with J. J. Jones, Pres., S. M. Burns, Vice President.

"Things Do Move in Meridian Since Year 1911."

Meridian Times, Dec. 12, 1930

Obituary: Mary E. Burns, Isaac Pfof's daughter, wife of S. M. Burns, deceased, was born in Missouri. Nov. 14, 1867 and died at her home in Meridian, after a lingering illness, Monday morning, May 22, 1933. Mrs. Burns came to Idaho with her parents when she was 10 years old and Meridian has been her home most of the time since.Funeral services were held at the Meridan Methodist church and interment was in the Meridian cemetery. The Rev. Wm J. Luscomb officiated.

Merian Times.

Notes taken from the Ancestral genealogy of the Pfof and Burns Families

Martin Burns continued to run his store in Meridian successfully. He led the Choir in the Methodist Church and was noted as an excellent tenor. It is interesting that his daughter Almia was the first girl married in the Church. Nov. 21, 1913
Burns Genealogy.

Martin Burns took a very active role in the church doings. He sang and conducted the Choir.
Burn Genealogy.

Notes from Elsie Burns Haasch, Martins eldest daughter.

We all went to church Sunday morning. On our way there my father would sing all the way. He had a most beautiful voice. At the church he sang and led the choir and taught them special songs for special services. He chose to always sing tenor. He could also play the songs on the organ and later on the piano. He could also sing by note.

A North Methodist minister said that it was a sin to dance. Up until that time my father played the violin. But, he couldn't play it without wanting to dance, so he sold the violin. The

Obituary: Mr. S. M. Burns

.....Mr. Burns was 66 years of age. He has been one of the honored pioneers of the Meridian section... He and his family have been prominent in the business and social affairs since the town was organized.When death has visited the community very often it has been the beautiful tenor voice of Mr. Burns that has aided in furnishing appropriate music for the occasion. He was very fond of music and every Sunday found him in his place in the Methodist church choir.

The Meridian Times, Aug. 16, 1918

From; Boise, The Peace Valley, Annie Laurie Bird, Caxton Printers, 1934
When the branch line from Nampa to Boise was constructed, one of the stops provided was that at Meridian. 'Tis said, that when the first depot was built, the place was named Hunter in honor of the railroad superintendent at that time. However, for some time, the church and school were a mile north of the present townsite. (Page 365-6)

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I understand that the third marriage in the Methodist church in Meridian was Glenn and Mitee Green, who live east of Meridian on Franklin Road. Evidently not many people were married in a church in the early days.
Don.

From Generations, Caxton Printers, 1941, Apal A. Friedline
(Apal Friedline was S. M. Burns daughter)

" During this time Sunday School was being held every Sunday in the schoolhouse, but church services were held only when some minister came through the country. " ^{ED} Guy Flenner who was minister of the Methodist Church of Boise, City, was the outstanding speaker of the day. He came oftern and held services.

One time a North Methodist minister came out to the schoolhouse and held evangelistic meetings. Mart Burns attended every night for two weeks. Because the minister said the devil was in musical instruments, he gave his fiddle away without consulting Mollie, his wife, and would have given the organ away.

One day Mart said, "We must carry on our home in a Christian manner without musical instruments."

Mollie's answer was quiet, but firm: "You paid one hundred and fifty dollars for your fiddle, and if it's right for someone else to possess it, why didn't you sell it? The organ you fave as a present to Efa May and I do not feel disposed to give it away, or sell it, either."

That year the farmers organized a church. They built atbuilding on Onweiller corner, and Isaac Pfof gave it the name of "Sabbath Home." This church was later moved to Meridian and organized as M. E. Church North, near the present brick building. Mart Burns was song leader, and also held his singing school in the church house.

Pages 228-229

Note: Efa May was Isaac's Pfof daughter.