

“When the pioneers broke the prairie sod and planted crops, their farms did not look like ours do now. There were no large fields of grain. They raised what they needed and not a great deal more. This meant smaller fields and more varied crops. Corn, oats, wheat, flax and barley were grown. It would have been impossible for them to care for very large fields because of the meager equipment they had and because so much of the work had to be done by hand.”

Getting and preparing food was always a problem for the pioneer in a new land. Mr. Regenberg and other settlers of the 1870's “went to mill” with a load of the wheat they had raised themselves and came back with enough flour to last them a year. They went to LeMars in the 1870's, and later in the 1880's and 1890's, they went to Beloit. Then the Prairie Queen Flour Mill opened at Sheldon, and a flour mill was built at Rock Rapids.

Taking a load of wheat to a mill as near as Rock Rapids, waiting for it to be ground and returning home with it took a whole day. Often the miller kept the bran as his payment for grinding the wheat.

"Fritz Regenberg, one of The Reporter's staunch German friends at Matlock, has our thanks for a renewal of his subscription."

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