

Oral History Interview with Martin Anderson and Alvin Nordeen
by Peggy Korsmo-Kennon
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- 1) Martin Anderson – September 15, 1889. Born in Denmark, Sjoring (northern part).
- 2) Martin came to America in 1913. He was 23 years old.
- 3) He came to America because he had two brothers here. One lived in Wisconsin and the other lived in Ohio.
- 4) He came to Minnesota to see a guy who he had worked together with in a creamery in Denmark.
- 5) The first co-ops in the world started in Denmark and the American co-ops are designed after the Danish.
- 6) Martin worked in the creamery for about two years. He became the butter maker. The year was 1913. The creamery was built in 1898.
- 7) Babcock test: tested cream, milk, skim milk, and buttermilk for the butterfat content. Before this was used they didn't have any accurate way of determining the butterfat.
- 8) They talk about the problems of keeping cream cool, and how it was used.
- 9) Alvin Nordeen said that he has found just about everything there is in cream from mice, frogs, snakes, to diapers, and when the state made a law for the grades of cream, he didn't like it because he had to taste it.
- 10) This tape is mainly about the work at a creamery.
- 11) Martin worked in three different creameries in Denmark. He started working in the creamery with no experience with working in a creamery.
- 12) He then went to a creamery on Denmark's second largest island. He then had to go into the army for six months.
- 13) After he got out of the army, he then went home, not knowing he could have gone back to the second creamery again for work.
- 14) Soon after that he decided to come to America.
- 15) He came to America and went to a friend of his who was running a creamery in Wyattville.
- 16) He went from Wyattville to Weaver for 9 years.
- 17) He went from Weaver to Tranbjerg.
- 18) He went to Wisconsin to work and they paid him what he wanted, but he said it was a rotten job. It was near Ellsworth.
- 19) Then he came back to Minnesota.