

**DID YOU KNOW.....**

A look back at early area history as found in the archives of the Enderlin Historical Society and Museum ..... by Susan Schlecht

*I found the following article in the **March 16, 1911** issue of **The Enderlin Independent**, which would make this news nearly 100 years old!*

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**Moore & Liberty Telephone Co. Elects Officers**

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Last Saturday the annual election of directors of the Moore & Liberty Telephone Company was held in the C. E. Engle building on 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue. A most harmonious meeting was held and all the old directors re-elected, which was a well merited compliment to these gentlemen who have so ably conducted the affairs of the company the past year. The directors as elected are:

J.A. Aasheim, Pres.; Espen Groth, vice pres.; Chas. Christianson, treas.; C.M. Engle, secretary, Geo. Olson, H. Shafberg, Joe Larson.

Hon. Smith Stimmel, a lawyer from Fargo who makes a specialty of corporations and corporation law, was present and made plain several matters regarding the issue of telephone stock which had been troubling the company for some time past. At the conclusion of business the gentleman gave the assembled stock holders a short speech on the life of Abraham Lincoln which was much enjoyed.

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**Sue's Comments:** *The Moore and Liberty Telephone Company must certainly be the oldest business in our city operating with the same name it had nearly 100 years ago!*

*According to the 1966 Enderlin Diamond Jubilee book, page 24, "The Moore and Liberty Telephone Company was reputedly organized because Eberhart Faucett became annoyed at the poor service on his line and, jumping into his buggy, started organizing among his neighbors. In 1906, they bought out the local telephone company and operated as a farmer -owned company for many years, until controlling interest was purchased by Gordon Brown in the late '30's."*

**Watch for more history next week!**