

# ILLUSTRATIONS



J. F. THIELBAR,  
B. F. D. No. 1,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



GEO. W. KEYS,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



ANNE E. TOP,  
Former Superintendent of  
Schools,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



R. ROSS RILEY,  
Photographer,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



OTIS L. BENTON,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS

Otis L. Benton drove into Oberlin in a covered wagon in 1886, at the age of 19. His home has been in Oberlin ever since. He has constantly been for Decatur County and Western Kansas, and has contributed, probably, more than any other man to the development of this part of Kansas. Always an inveterate worker, he has achieved success in a financial way, and is today one of the wealthy men of the State. He is at this time President of The Benton & Hopkins Investment Company, one of the largest and oldest investment companies in Kansas. He is also President of the Oberlin National Bank, both institutions being located in Oberlin. Mr. Benton is also President of several other banking institutions tributary to Oberlin, in Decatur and adjoining counties.

He has had many flattering offers to accept promising business positions in large cities, but his affection for the town he has helped to build in the midst of the country he loves has prompted him to remain in Oberlin, where he owns one of the most beautiful residences in the whole state, surrounded by handsome trees and beautiful flowers of his own planting and cultivation. Mr. and Mrs. Benton devote three or four months out of the year traveling, having visited the various climates and beauty spots of the United States, besides having spent one season abroad. About nine months out of the year, however, are devoted to supervising his many business interests, and training his boys, who are interested with him in his several financial institutions; to the responsibilities of the extensive business he has built up during the past 35 years.



E. I. SEAVEY,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



J. E. LOVE,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS  
Mr. Love is a Pioneer, having settled in Decatur County in 1878, or five years prior to the Indian uprising in 1878.



JOS. PETRACEK,  
JENNINGS, KANSAS.



J. P. ROUSE,  
JENNINGS, KANSAS.



W. LIEBERKNECHT,  
JENNINGS, KANSAS.



J. W. RAULSBACH,  
Representative 192nd District,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



CARL E. MILLER AND SISTER,  
R. F. D. No. 2,  
NOVIATUR, KANSAS.



MR. AND MRS.  
E. E. FIECHTER,  
LEBANON, NEBRASKA.



MR. AND MRS. A. D. MCLEOD,  
Pioneers of Decatur County, having settled in the County in 1880,  
JENNINGS, KANSAS.



HARRY L. HEATON,  
Former County Clerk.



R. A. MARKS,  
Register of Deeds,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



W. E. VAN VLEET AND FAMILY,  
DANBURY, NEBRASKA.



MR. AND MRS. JOHN HUFF,  
LEBANON, NEBRASKA.



R. A. MARKS, REGISTER OF DEEDS; G. NELSON'S CLERK; G. W. GARDNER, SHERIFF,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



C. W. ORR AND FAMILY,  
KANONA, KANSAS.

# ILLUSTRATIONS



D. W. MORTON AND FAMILY,  
R. F. D. No. 2,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



OFFICIALS AND FORMER OFFICIALS OF  
DECATUR COUNTY.  
Left to right, top row—E. M. Brooks, County Super-  
intendent; H. L. Haden, Register of Deeds; Miss  
Iva Miller, Court Clerk; Miss Jennie Barnard,  
Treasurer; Miss Nettie Leake, Deputy Clerk;  
J. F. Peters, Attorney; R. F. Landau, Register of  
Deeds; C. W. Bainter, former Sheriff. Lower row,  
seated—J. C. Lathrop, Probate Judge; H. L.  
Henton, former Clerk; Everett Eiler, Commis-  
sioner Second District; John A. Foley, Commis-  
sioner First District; P. F. Johnson, Commis-  
sioner Third District; Thos. E. McKay, Engineer.



OBERLIN BALL CLUB, DECATUR COUNTY  
LEAGUE, 1921.  
Left to Right, Upper Row—Jay E. McKinzie, Clar-  
ence Marsh, Harry Engstrom, Ray Bidsell, El-  
mer McKinzie, Claude Burchett, Geo. Nelson,  
Jow Dowden, Fred Johnston, Everett Behn.  
Lower Row, Seated—Geo. Johnston, Umpire;  
J. J. Scott, Manager; L. E. Graham, Secretary.



MR. AND MRS. A. E. HEGREE,  
KANONA, KANSAS.



ORIGINAL SOD HOUSE ON THE HOMESTEAD  
OF J. A. SHIRLEY,  
NORCATUR, KANSAS.



CHILDREN OF FRED OSBURN,  
DANBURY, NEBRASKA.



MR. AND MRS. G. BROWN,  
Photo from Adolph Johnson,  
KANONA, KANSAS.



CHAS. D. GILLISPIE AND FAMILY,  
The Family Home and Barn on his Farm,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



HOME OF C. A. WILBUR,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



PHOTO FROM ROBERT KENNEDY,  
CEDAR BLUFFS, KANSAS.



DECATUR COUNTY COURT HOUSE, AND  
SCENE ON MAIN STREET,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



NORCATOUR PUBLIC SCHOOL,  
Photo from J. W. Deeter,  
NORCATOUR, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN BUNNEY,  
R. F. D. No. 3,  
NORCATOUR, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF G. A. JORN,  
NORCATOUR, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF DR. H. J. MORRISON,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



DECATUR COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF H. A. HANSON,  
KANONA, KANSAS.



PHOTO FROM M. T. MUNSON,  
Showing Sod House on the E. W. Tacha Farm,  
Built by E. W. Ford in 1881.



FARM OF JOHN GUENTHER,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF CHARLES ROHAN,  
JENNINGS, KANSAS.



# ILLUSTRATIONS



HOUSE AND BARN OF F. W. ANKENMAN,  
R. F. D. No. 2,  
NOBLETUE, KANSAS.



HOME OF JOS. N. HATCH AND RESIDENCE  
ON HIS FARM,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



HOME AND BARN OF C. W. HANCHETT  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



MR. AND MRS. WISE WIGGINS, AND  
THEIR HOME,  
LEBANON, NEBRASKA.



RESIDENCE OF A. B. FERGUSON AND PIONEER  
SOD HOUSE ON HIS FARM,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



"SLAB CITY FARM,"  
John Tasha, Proprietor,  
JENNINGS, KANSAS.



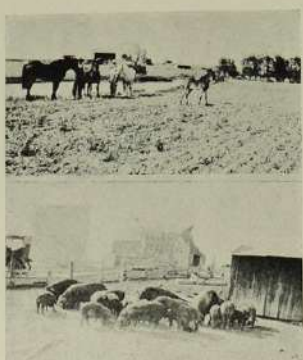
PIONEER SOD HOUSE AND LOG HOUSE.  
The Log House was erected by Sol Rees, prior to  
1877. Photo from M. T. Munson,  
JENNINGS, KANSAS.



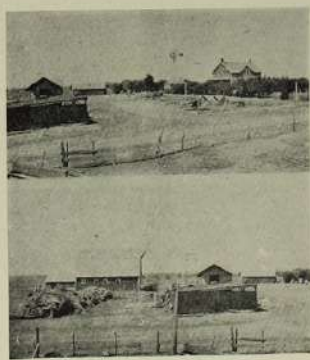
SCENES ON THE FARM OF H. C. VAUROCH,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



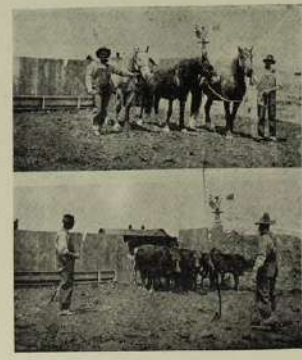
HOME AND BARN OF CLAUD ANDERSON,  
R. F. D. No. 2,  
DRESDEN, KANSAS.



"PLEASANT HILL RANCH,"  
Amel C. Anderson, Proprietor, Breeder of Poland  
China Hogs,  
SELDEN, KANSAS.



HOME AND BARN OF A. N. HICKERT,  
JENNINGS, KANSAS.



PRIZE WINNING STOCK ON THE FARM OF  
A. A. RANDALL,  
JENNINGS, KANSAS.

# ILLUSTRATIONS



HOME OF J. M. WILLIAMS,  
Photo from E. L. Williams,  
JENNINGS, KANSAS.



HOME OF HARRY W. SMITH,  
CLAYTON, KANSAS.



HOME OF JOHN CHAMBERS,  
NORCATUR, KANSAS.



HOME OF E. L. WALKER,  
DRESDEN, KANSAS.



JOS. RUZICKA, SR.,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



HOME OF F. A. BOULLS,  
JENNINGS, KANSAS.



SCENE ON THE ORIGINAL HOME-  
STEAD OF F. F. BLISS,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



HOME OF MRS. EVA CURLEY,  
Elm Tree Farm, R. F. D.,  
SELDEN, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF  
FRANK J. RUZICKA,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF R. A. MARKS,  
Register of Deeds,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



HOME OF M. E. CROY,  
NORCATUR, KANSAS.



SCENE ON FARM OF C. C. UEHLIN,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



C. C. UEHLIN AND FAMILY,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



HOME OF E. P. CHAMBERS,  
LEBANON, NEBRASKA.



RESIDENCE OF C. E. JOHNSON,  
KANONA, KANSAS.



SCENE ON THE FARM OF J. A. AMLIN,  
SELDEN, KANSAS.



HOME OF J. A. AMLIN,  
SELDEN, KANSAS.



HOME OF C. W. AND DEAN ORR,  
KANONA, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF C. EMERY VAN VLEET,  
DANDURY, NEBRASKA.



FARM HOME OF MRS. E. MAVITY,  
NORCATUR, KANSAS.



HOME OF S. K. CHRISTIAN,  
BEKINSON, KANSAS.

# ILLUSTRATIONS



FARM HOME OF E. E. VAN GUNDY,  
NORCATUR, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF MRS. LONA TOWNSEND,  
LEANON, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF WM. HOUSER,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



SCHOOL HOUSE, DISTRICT No. 4,  
Photo from Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Archart,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



"PRAIRIE VIEW FARM,"  
Home of J. F. Thielbar,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



PHOTO FROM R. L. SMITH,  
DRESDEN, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF T. L. HAYWARD,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE ON THE C. D. AWTRY ESTATE,  
Photo from True Awtry,  
CEDAR BLUFFS, KANSAS.



HOME OF J. H. FRICKEY,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF A. W. RICHARDSON,  
KANONA, KANSAS.



HOME OF HENRY BAUMGARTEN,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



HOME OF D. W. MORTON,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF H. D. COUNTER,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF OSCAR JOHNSON,  
KANONA, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF GEO. W. KEYS,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



HOME OF FREMONT CHAPIN,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



HOME OF R. M. MIZER,  
JENNINGS, KANSAS.



PHOTO FROM JAMES D. JOLLEY,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



HOME OF JESS ROBERTSON,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



CORN CROP OF 1915, BY GEO. H. ECKHART,  
IN GARFIELD TOWNSHIP,  
Photo from V. H. Leichter,  
CLAYTON, KANSAS.

# ILLUSTRATIONS



HOME OF JOHN FIALA,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



HOME OF THOS. E. MCKAY,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF ALBERT CHRISTENSEN,  
DANBURY, NEBRASKA.



RESIDENCE OF FLOYD HARSHMAN,  
TRAER, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF PAUL LEITNER, JR.,  
TRAER, KANSAS.



HOME OF PHILIP P. MOLER  
NORCATUR, KANSAS.



"FAIRVIEW FARM"  
Home of J. R. Goodman,  
CLAYTON, KANSAS.



HOME OF H. S. SHAW,  
LEBANON, NEBRASKA.



RESIDENCE OF EMMA BOULLS,  
JENNINGS, KANSAS.



HOME OF CLYDE McLAUGHLIN,  
JENNINGS, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF C. A. ECKHART,  
NORCATUR, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF JOS. PETRACEK,  
JENNINGS, KANSAS.



HOME OF FRANK PACHNEK,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF G. H. TUTTLE,  
CEDAR BLUFFS, KANSAS.



M. E. CHURCH, LYLE, KANSAS.  
Erected in 1882. Photo from C. C. Andrews,  
NORCATUR, KANSAS.



HOME OF R. F. MAGGARD,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF GERHARD BOOR,  
SELDEN, KANSAS.



SCENE ON FARM OF L. H. BARNES,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



HOME OF A. SMALLBERGEE,  
MAMON, NEBRASKA.



RESIDENCE AND FAMILY OF O. G. BELL.  
Mrs. Bell, a Pioneer and Mother of Mr. Bell, is shown  
in the foreground.  
NORCATUR, KANSAS.

# ILLUSTRATIONS



HOME OF MR. AND MRS. E. J. COLEMAN,  
JENNINGS, KANSAS



HOME OF A. H. WAGY,  
MARION, NEBRASKA.



RESIDENCE OF C. C. ANDREWS,  
NORCATUR, KANSAS.



HOME OF B. E. ECKHART,  
R. F. D. No. 2,  
NORCATUR, KANSAS.



HOME OF H. J. HOCKETT,  
DRESDEN, KANSAS



W. E. UFFORD HOMESTEAD, NEAR OBERLIN,  
KANSAS.



HOME OF JOHN HERZOG,  
HERNDON, KANSAS.



HOME OF FRED SEIGENTHALER,  
R. F. D. No. 6,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



HOME OF GEO. P. JEFFERY,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



HOME OF THE NORCATUR DISPATCH,  
J. W. Deeter, Publisher,  
NORCATUR, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF E. H. MAY,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



HOUSE ON THE L. L. MEEK FARM.  
This house was erected in 1900,  
NORCATUR, KANSAS



RESIDENCE OF JOHN HUFF,  
LEBANON, NEBRASKA.



HOME OF A. C. VERNON,  
NORCATUR, KANSAS.



HOME OF HENRY ASBAHR,  
DANBURY, NEBRASKA.



HOME OF GEORGE A. VERNON,  
KANONA, KANSAS.



"PLEASANT HILL FARM."  
Home of E. E. Young, R. F. D. No. 2,  
DRESDEN, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF V. A. ROE,  
CEDAR BLUFFS, KANSAS.



HOME OF LEWIS LEIST,  
DANBURY, NEBRASKA.



HOME OF H. A. HANSON,  
KANONA, KANSAS.

# ILLUSTRATIONS



RESIDENCE ON J. E. WILLCOXON ESTATE,  
Photo from A. W. Willcoxon,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF J. A. STINSON,  
KARONA, KANSAS.



HOME OF W. E. BRAINARD,  
SELDEN, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. R. F. AREHART,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



HOME OF CHARLES BRUNK,  
NORCATUR, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF DON A. KOEHLER,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



HOME OF VICTOR ANDERSON,  
DRESDEN, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF C. F. KIRKENDALL,  
R. F. D. No. 3,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



VIEW OF THE FARM OF A. O. NORRIS,  
CLAYTON, KANSAS.



HOME OF HENRY BRUNK,  
NORCATUR, KANSAS.



HOME OF M. NAUER,  
JENNINGS, KANSAS.



SCENE ON FARM OF W. C. DAVID,  
DANBURY, NEBRASKA.



HOME OF H. H. MILLER,  
NORCATUR, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF ADAM KOEHLER,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



HOME OF LEWIS WENTZ,  
R. F. D. No. 3,  
NORCATUR, KANSAS.



HOME OF R. W. SPIERS,  
R. F. D. No. 3,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



"ELMWOOD STOCK RANCH,"  
Clarence B. Scott, Owner,  
JENNINGS, KANSAS.



"THE LAZY S RANCH."  
Owned by E. S. Staekhouse, R. F. D. No. 1,  
SELDEN, KANSAS.



HOME OF R. F. HASNESS,  
NORCATUR, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF L. W. CILEK,  
JENNINGS, KANSAS.





# ILLUSTRATIONS



HOME OF B. C. SCOTT,  
JENNINGS, KANSAS.



HOME OF GROVE NEW,  
NORCATOR, KANSAS.



HOME OF MR. AND MRS. HERMAN MAY,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



HOME OF HENRY STEFFEN,  
JENNINGS, KANSAS.



HOME OF C. A. ROGERS,  
R. F. D. No. 2,  
NORCATOR, KANSAS.



SCENE ON FARM OF ED. HELMKAMP,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



HOME OF S. A. ECKHART,  
R. F. D. No. 2,  
NORCATOR, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF ELFIE BROWN,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



RESIDENCE OF L. J. HAMPER,  
CEDAR BLUFFS, KANSAS.



SCENES ON "GIBSON HOMESTEAD"  
Thirty-eight years the home of A. E. Gibson,  
R. F. D. No. 1,  
SELDEN, KANSAS.



HOME OF I. L. TAYLOR,  
NORCATOR, KANSAS.



PIONEER SOD HOUSE,  
Former Residence of Roy Chilson,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



HOME AND FARM OF  
OTTO FRIEDEMANN,  
OBERLIN, KANSAS.



VIEW ON THE RANCH OF F. D. SEDUSTINE,  
This Ranch contains 1,450 acres,  
R. F. D. No. 5,  
SELDEN, KANSAS.



VIEW OF THE FARM OF CLAUS THIESEN,  
JENNINGS, KANSAS.



HOME OF IRA WASSON,  
SELDEN, KANSAS.



SCENE ON THE FARM OF I. N. HENSLEY,  
DRESDEN, KANSAS.



PHOTO FROM W. D. MORSE,  
DRESDEN, KANSAS.