

DODGE CITY AND FORD COUNTY, KANSAS 1870-1920 PIONEER HISTORIES AND STORIES

Henry W. Poteet on May 12, 1979. He died unexpectedly October 18, 1979. There were no children. She operated Karla's Letter Shop in Dodge City from 1964 to 1989, selling and publishing an annual Dodge City Guide Book, printed by Herbert Etrick Printers of Liberal, Kansas. Karla Poteet continues to live in Dodge City in the family home.

Milo (Mike) Etrick and Ethel Mae Watkins were the only siblings of Fred and Mary Etrick to have children.

Children of Milo (Mike) and Marge Etrick

Paul Frederick Etrick (born December 28, 1930, Dodge City, upstairs over the Etrick Print Shop at 316 W. Chestnut, now W. Wyatt Earp Blvd. Dr. Melencamp was the attending physician). Paul graduated from Kansas State University in 1952, with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, served in the U.S. Army (1952-54) and received a Printing and Advertising Management Degree from Carnegie Institute of Technology (now Carnegie-Mellon Institute) in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1958. Paul started his advertising agency/printing plant in Garden City, in 1958.

Paul married Paula Jean Able (born June 10, 1938, Decatur, Texas) on January 31, 1959, at the First Presbyterian Church in Dodge City. After their marriage, Paul and Paula moved to Dodge City establishing businesses (Etrick Advertising) in both Garden City and Dodge City.

Paula, a writer and public relations consultant, was Society and Community Editor of the *Dodge City Daily Globe* and Area Correspondent for the *Hutchinson News*. She received an Associate Degree in Communication Technology from Dodge City Community College in 1987. She was Director of Public Information for U.S.D. 443 and received national awards for public relations work, in 1989 and 1990. She received a Bachelor's Degree in Human Resources Management from Friends University in Wichita in 1991. She attended Fort Hays State University, where she was Director of the News Bureau and taught journalism students. Paula completed a Master's degree in Communication at Fort Hays

State University in 1996.

The Dodge City Chamber of Commerce commissioned Paul to produce the Official Dodge City Map. Paul and Paula collaborated on the map and have periodically updated the document to reflect changes in the city. This award-winning map received recognition from the American Cartography Association and inclusion in a permanent collection of American maps. They created a Ford County Map, numerous historical books and brochures. Their Dodge City Coloring Book has been distributed internationally.

Paul and Paula have two children: Michael Austin (born June 4, 1962) and Deborah Michelle (born October 13, 1963). Both children were born at St. Anthony Hospital in Dodge City.

Michael married Laurie Ann Johnson of Tacoma, Washington, (born October 31, 1964, Arcadia, Wisconsin) on May 20, 1989, at the Little Church on the Prairie Presbyterian Church in Tacoma. Michael received Associate Degrees in Applied Science and Fire Science Technology from Dodge City Community College, and attended the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley. Laurie Ann, a graduate of the University of Puget Sound, has a Bachelor's Degree in Asian Studies with minors in religion and art. Michael is a professional mountain climber who climbed Mt. McKinley (Denali) in Alaska, the highest mountain in North America. They have established their businesses, Impact Adventures and Vertical Visions, in Estes Park, Colorado, where they live.

Michelle, a professional woman, received an Associate Degree in Communication Technology at Dodge City Community College, a Bachelor's Degree in Radio and Television Broadcasting and Kansas Teacher Certification at Fort Hays State University. Michelle received a Master's Degree in Speech Communication in 1992 from Fort Hays State University and has completed graduate study in English.

Mary Patricia married Leo Hanneman (born July 21, 1930, Garden City). They have three children: Patricia Sue, Lee Ann, and Jenifer Jo. Patricia

Sue (born July 2, 1956), married Don Pile, July 7, 1979, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Garden City. They adopted a daughter, Kasey Elizabeth (born April 9, 1986) a week before she was one year old. They adopted Sadie Ann (born June 15, 1993) on June 26, 1993. Lee Ann (born June 11, 1959) married Larry Broussard, June 29, 1991, in Tallahassee, Florida. Jenifer Jo (born November 22, 1961, Garden City) has a son, Shelby Ryan Hanneman (born January 11, 1986) in Garden City.

Sara Susanne Etrick (born September 14, 1938, Garden City) married Robert Lee Minter, January 27, 1957, at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Garden City. They divorced in 1970. She married David Pollard Caldwell, January 8, 1972, at The Colonial Church of Prairie Village, Kansas. They had one child, Jenny Sue Caldwell, born June 3, 1974, Garden City, Kansas. They divorced in 1992. Sue received her Bachelor Degree in Management and Human Relations at the MidAmerica Nazarene College in Olathe, Kansas, in 1991. She is in real estate. Sue and Robert had two children Chris Lee Minter, born October 3, 1965, Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Cari Susanne Minter, born December 2, 1966, Garden City, Kansas. Chris was married October 3, 1987, to Lisa Deaune Keathly (born May 9, 1966), Joplin, Missouri, at First United Methodist Church, Olathe, Kansas. They live in Lawrence, Kansas. Cari lives in Chicago, Illinois, and is with the American Bar Association as an Administrative Assistant.

Joseph Field Etrick (born April 4, 1948 St. Catherine's Hospital, Garden City) married Barbara Richman (born February 15, 1952) on July 2, 1977, at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Garden City. They now live in Modesto, California.

Etrick family members who held lifetime memberships in the Ford County Historical Society include Carl Etrick, Herbert Etrick, Mike Etrick, Ethel Watkins, Karla Poteet, and Paul and Paula Etrick. Karla Poteet served as recording secretary of the group for many years.

Paul Etrick

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RICHARD WILLIAM EVANS, SR.

Richard William Evans was born in Caernarvonshire (Isalit Frawr), Wales, in 1837. This is one of the most rugged and retired spots of North Wales. His father, Edmund Evans, was a Presbyterian minister who moved his family from Wales to Jo Daviess County on the Apple River in Illinois, in 1853. Richard's mother was Mary (Wilson) Evans. Richard was the fifth of eight children. The children attended country schools.

At a young age Richard accepted a position as messenger boy on the steamer Galena, which was plying the Mississippi River. A few months later he went to Dodgeville, Wisconsin. Later he worked for a short time in a general merchandising establishment.

In 1859, Richard and his brother, Griff, got work with the Union Pacific Railroad and moved to the Pikes Peak area. They stopped working for the railroad and set up a little store in the town of Central City, Colorado. This was a trading post where they met and did business with the miners, prospectors, and early settlers in that community.

They also engaged in mining and claimed to have walked over the site of Cripple Creek many times previous to the big gold strike there.

Richard and Colonel Hardesty, another early settler of Dodge City, were panning gold from the mountain streams in Colorado when the Civil War began. In 1862, Evans went to Denver with several miners and enlisted in the Cavalry. He rode with the 2nd Colorado Cavalry, known as the White Horse Regiment, since all of the men rode white horses. He served in Company E until June 19, 1865, when he received an honorable discharge at Fort Riley, Kansas. His regiment engaged in a number of battles and his discharge gave him honorable mention for his part in the battles of Cabin Creek, Honey Springs, Independence, Missouri; Camden Point, and Westport Landing, where he was wounded in battle.

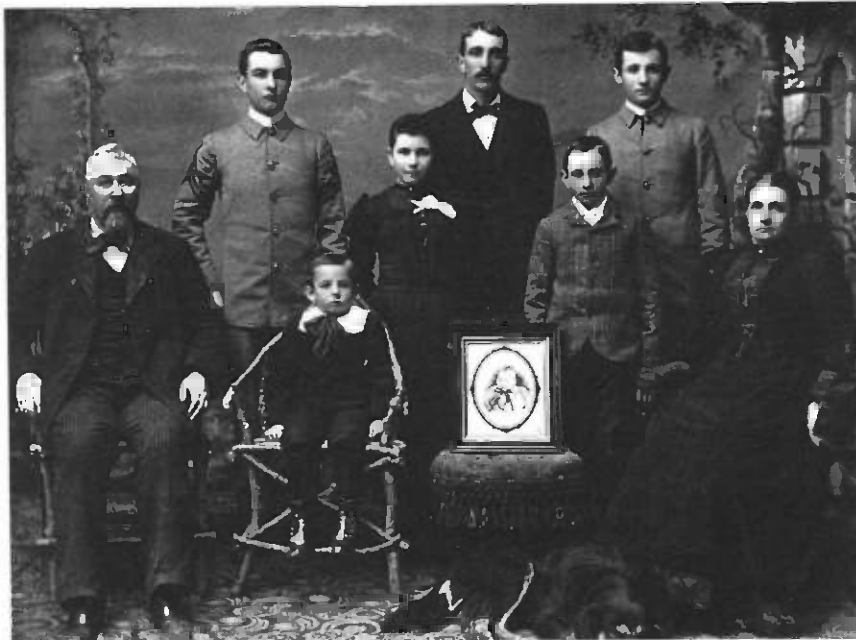
After his discharge from the army, he worked at Odgen and Ellsworth, Kansas, and later moved to Hays, Kansas, where in 1868, he bought an interest in a mercantile establishment, later buying out the partner. As he carried on extensive business with buffalo hunt-

ers, he became well acquainted with Buffalo Bill.

While Evans was engaged in business in Hays, A.B. Webster was employed as a clerk. In an altercation with a cowboy, Webster shot and killed the cowboy. The group of cowboys with whom the dead man was associated, upon hearing of the killing, were determined to get revenge. The cowboys gathered together on the south side of the tracks and started for the store. Evans, realizing that they had no chance in the store, closed the store and he and Webster took a stand on a corner to avoid a rear attack. About the time that the cowboys came within range, Wild Bill Hickock, City Marshall, appeared on the scene. Wild Bill drew his guns and was ready to go into action with Evans and Webster. When the cowboys saw the Marshall, they no longer had any desire for gun play and rapidly withdrew. As a result of this incident, Hickock and Evans became warm personal friends.

In 1869, President Grant appointed Evans Postmaster at Hays City, then the distributing office for the southwest and western forts. He resigned in 1871, because of political troubles. (He had supported the wrong candidate for congress.)

Richard W. Evans, Sr. and the beautiful Sarah Anne Old were married in Woodbine, Illinois, November 14, 1870, by F.R. Musten, clergyman. Sarah Anne was born in Weston, Illinois, September 26, 1848. Her parents were James Sr. and Elizabeth Old. Sarah Anne was the only member of the Old family born in the United States. The family came from Cornwall, England. They settled in northern Illinois in an English community close to the Welsh settlement. It is evident that at some time Richard and Sarah Anne had met, because after he had been in business at Hays, he had occasion to go east on a buying expedition. Before leaving, he had written Sarah Anne a letter telling her that he was going to be in Chicago and was going to visit his old home. When he returned to Hays, he would like to have her accompany him, which was his way of proposing. They were



R.W. Evans Family. Back row, left to right: Paul, Mamie, Harvey, Richard W. Jr., and Lloyd. Seated: R.W. Evans, Walter, photo of baby sister that died in California, and Sarah Evans. Paul and Lloyd were both cadets at the St. John Military School in Salina at the time this photo was taken.

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married shortly after that and returned to Hays to make their home as he was still conducting his business there.

In August 1872, Evans, R.N. Wright, C.F. Zimmerman, and A.B. Webster and their wives borrowed wagons from the U.S. Army and came south. General Custer and nineteen of his soldiers served as armed escorts from Hays to Ft. Larned. Later they came from Larned to Fort Dodge and finally to what is now Dodge City. On the first night as they were preparing to make camp, Webster took a sack and said that he would go out and gather some coal. The recently-married Mrs. Evans, who had come from her home in Illinois and who was not familiar with the ways of the west, looked over the prairie and wondered where he would be able to find coal, but made no comment. On his return, Mr. Webster dropped the sack that he carried. Mrs. Evans asked him where the coal was that he had said he would gather. Kicking open the sack, out rolled a bunch of buffalo chips. Webster, pointing to them said, "There is prairie coal, my dear Madam."

Evans sold his business in Hays and moved to Dodge City where he engaged in mercantile business. He bought buffalo meat and hides, and shipped them to eastern markets. He had a most profitable market in New York for all of the hides that he could buy and ship.

When Queen Victoria's son, Prince Edward came to America, he went buffalo hunting in the west. He enjoyed himself and thought that buffalo hides were the ultimate. When he returned to

New York, he started a fad for them. Being an entrepreneur, Evans and his friend, Colonel Hardesty, took a train load of the hides to New York. They had a private railroad coach this trip. They really enjoyed New York. They sat in *loges* at the theaters, lighting cigars with paper money to impress the chorus girls. When he returned home he took Sarah Anne, his wife, an elegant gold-colored dress of velvet, complete with train, bustle, leg o' mutton sleeves and fringe. She was not impressed. She asked if she were supposed to wear it on the muddy sidewalks of the town. The dress can be seen at Boot Hill.

When setting up her household, which was in a plain wooden building in the rear of the store, Mrs. Evans insisted that the head of the very large ceiling-high, walnut bed be placed with the head nearest the space between the store and the house. When asked why she wanted it in that manner, she explained that there would be one more board that bullets would have to pass through before hitting one of her sons. This lovely ceiling-high walnut bed is still in use in the family.

Sarah Anne became very tired of opening her door onto Tin Pot Alley (Wyatt Earp) to find a drunken cowboy or two "sleeping off" the revelry of the night before. It was even worse when the crumpled form turned out to be a corpse, which was sometimes the case. She and her neighbors banded together and complained to the business men and law officers, demanding that they dispose of such bodies before dawn.

Later the Evans family built a fine home at the corner of Avenue A and Military Avenue, where the Skaggs Motor Company now stands. From its large front window Mrs. Evans could watch the activity of the town. This new home was such a show place that several of the

young ladies of the community asked permission to be married in the beautiful and spacious parlor.

During the time that Richard Jr. was serving in World War I his wife, Clara, kept his office open and their younger daughter, Virginia, remembers going to Grandmother Sarah Anne's home after school. Grandmother was always the English lady and very properly served tea and sandwiches for the two of them, while she told stories of England and earlier days in Dodge City. She had been a skilled horsewoman.

Sarah left her family a little black pitcher in which was this note: "In 1925 this pitcher was 306 years old." The year Grandma Evans died, she said it was Catipusha ware. Her great grandfather was a sea captain and he had purchased it in the Orient. Its handle is a perched falcon. The feet form the top of the handle and the tail forms the lower part of the handle.

Richard Evans, Sr. was a member of the original Township Company that organized Dodge City. Later he became interested in banking and was associated with the first bank known as The People's Bank. He was cashier in the First National Bank of which A.T. Soule was President and W. W. Munsell, Vice-President; he was cashier of the Bank of Dodge City of which G.M. Hoover was President. Evans was an organizer and director of the State Bank of Dodge City. He was elected November 6, 1883, to the first of two terms as Ford County Treasurer; he was postmaster at Dodge City under President Harrison and served as mayor. He was associated with the group that built the first toll bridge over the Arkansas River. He was owner of the grounds used as athletic fields at the west end of the park and later sold it to the city at a very nominal amount.

Richard William Evans, Sr. died in May 1912. His wife, Sarah Anne, died July 20, 1925, in Dodge City. Both are buried in Maple Grove Cemetery.

The Evans Family Genealogy

Richard and Sarah Anne were the parents of seven children, five sons and two daughters: Harvey L., born September 25, 1871, died January 24, 1936,



The Evans brother, sons of Sarah Ann and Richard Williams Evans, Sr. Back row, left to right: Lloyd, Paul, Harvey. Front row: Richard William, Walter.

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m/1 December 28, 1897, by J.D. Phillips at Pueblo, Colorado, Katherine Handwern, m/2 Mattie A. O'Leary, September 10, 1909, at Hutchinson, Kansas, one child: Sarah Anne Evans Hartman, born June 10, 1911, Kansas City, Missouri (daughter of second wife, Mattie); **Paul H.**, born August 14, 1874, died June 28, 1930, married Bertha Johnson, Chicago Illinois; **Lloyd S.**, born October 19, 1876, died July 22, 1910, married by Rev. A. Margrett-Watford, August 2, 1895, in Canada, Millie Gott, one child: Pauline Marian Evans, born March 25, 1896, Dodge City; **Mamie E. (Mary, Merry)**, born April 19, 1878, died February 20, 1904, married September 30, 1903, Dodge City, John R. Miller; **Richard William, Jr.**, born June 12, 1882, died October 13, 1971, married December 22, 1904, Dodge City, Rev. McGill, Clara L. Sturgeon, two children: Marjorie Sturgeon Evans, born February 25, 1906, Dodge City, Kansas, and Virginia Katharyn Elizabeth Evans, born December 21, 1910, Dodge City, Kansas; **Lucy**, born January 26, 1886, died August 11, 1886; **Walter**, born October 5, 1887, died April 30, 1954, married December 14, 1908, Kinsley, Kansas, Rev. Cunningham, Dessa Colver, one child: Elizabeth Mary Evans, born September 21, 1912, Hutchinson, Kansas.

Two sons of Richard, Sr. and Sarah Anne, Paul and Lloyd, attended St. John's Military School in Salina. Richard, Jr. graduated from the University of Kansas Law School and served for 23 years as Judge.

The Old family included James Old, Sr., born October 21, 1807, died February 10, 1874; her mother, Elizabeth Old, born April 3, 1809, died October 27, 1882; their children: Grace Old Powning, born July 31, 1831, died January 6, 1900; Henry Old, Jr., born October 5, 1834, died June 10 1890; James Old, Jr., born April 20, 1839, died January 7, 1903; John, born February 6, 1841; Charity born January 16, 1845, died September 3, 1902; Sarah Anne, born September 26, 1848, died July 20, 1925.

Virginia Ladd

RICHARD WILLIAM EVANS, JR.

Richard William Evans, Jr. was born in Dodge City, Kansas, June 12, 1882. His parents were Richard William and Sarah Anne Evans, pioneer citizens of Dodge City. His father was a member of the original township company that organized Dodge City, an early day banker, mayor, postmaster and businessmen having owned a general mercantile store.

The Evans first home in Dodge City was in the rear of the store on Chestnut (Wyatt Earp), later they built a fine home at the corner of Avenue A and Military Avenue. Young Dick attended the Second Ward School on Central Avenue. At an early age he had positive proof that "people were really buried on Boot Hill." The graves of two were uncovered there, and one head was pillowed on a boot and the other was not. This meant "that one had friends and one didn't," he was told.

The Evans family had a general store in Dodge City, and much of their merchandise was traded for buffalo hides. While awaiting shipment, these hides were piled on each side of the store and often served as shields when bullets flew along the street among gamblers and cowboys. As a boy he often heard his mother defend the "chivalrous cowboys." If anyone made a pass at a respectable woman, "they'd shoot him."



Richard William Evans, Jr.
and dog, Rover.

Cowboys stepped from the wooden sidewalks when a woman passed. It was the gamblers who started the fights, not the cowboys. She often said she "felt safer when the cattle drives were in town."

Young Richard was captain of the "First Super Bowl Champs," the football team that defeated a Dodge City town team, 6-0. The coach was Dr. Wm. Westwood, Presbyterian minister. Others besides Captain Evans were C.A. Milton, Ray Kirkpatrick, Walter O'Neil, W.J. Tarbox, A. Jones, Fred Streator, Willie Imel, Charles Kaump, — Goodrich, Ed Matheny, Edward Stubbs, W.B. Miller and Jack Schall.

In 1904, he received his coveted law degree (L.L.B.) from Kansas University, but it was blank. And therein hangs a tale. When graduation time neared, each student was told to pay \$10 for his diploma but the future lawyers felt that had been paid when they matriculated. So they banded together and, abetted by the first dean of the law school, Uncle Jimmy Green, they finally won out, but not in time for their diplomas to be imprinted. Blank ones were presented at graduation and the completed ones mailed to them later. As for Uncle Jimmy Green, his is a revered name among those early law students. He was a friend of all the students, always ready to help. There is a statue of him on the KU campus and all of the students chipped in to have it made.

Following graduation, Evans and a friend had plans to go to Alaska, but that was not to be. His mother was ill and his father needed him at home, so home he went. On December 22, 1904, he married Clara Luvilla Sturgeon, who was to share her life with him for 62 years until her death in 1966. They had two daughters, Marjorie, Mrs. Albert E. Haas, of Kansas City, Missouri, and Virginia, Mrs. Lambert Ladd, of Eureka, Kansas. He often said with pride, "My daughters and granddaughters are all Kansas University graduates, too!"

His first law office was in a little wooden building at the corner of First Avenue and Walnut (Gunsmoke). Here he worked for several years, building up his practice and serving as secretary

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Richard William Evans, Jr., student of law, Kansas University.

to the Masonic Lodge. He served as police judge in 1905, and was then elected county attorney for two terms. When the probate judge died, Evans was appointed judge by Governor Ben Paulin. When the county court was established, he served as its first judge. For 23 years, he served as judge, and many of his long-time friends still called him "Judge." He continued to practice in Dodge City until well past his 60th year as an attorney.

Richard had a very distinguished career as a Mason as well. He first joined the Lawrence, Kansas, lodge when he was a student at KU and then transferred his membership to the Dodge City Masonic Lodge of which his father was a charter member. He was secretary for the local St. Bernard Lodge from 1905 to 1910, and later from 1915, for many years. Judge Evans was a master of the local lodge in 1914, and Grand Master of the Kansas Lodge in 1932. He also was Grand Commander of the Kansas Knights Templar in 1953, and Prior of the Knights of York Cross of Honor in 1916; Sovereign of the Red Cross of Constantine; the oldest High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons and the oldest Grand Master of the Council of Kansas of Royal and Select Masters.

Judge Evans served for 33 years on the local Public Library board and was Scoutmaster of the first Boy Scout troop organized in Dodge City. He was a member of the First Christian Church, a Church Deacon for many years and Sunday School superintendent for 15 years.

Richard and Mrs. Evans celebrated both their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1954, and their 60th in 1964, before her death on November 1, 1966.

After a long illness, Richard William Evans, Jr. died October 13, 1971. He is buried in Maple Grove Cemetery in the Evans family plot beside his wife, parents, brothers and sisters.

Virginia Ladd

JOSEPH FELKEL

Joseph Felkel, his wife, Paulina Mueller Felkel, and their daughters came from Austria, in the 1870s, and homesteaded northwest of Dodge City. They came with the Peter Mootz family, who were the parents of Gussie Mootz. Joseph was a boot maker, and his shop was on Front Street. He was the father of John Felkel, my father-in-law.

His son, John, was born in 1883. He owned the homes at 807 and 809 Second Avenue. My husband's brother, Eugene, inherited the house at 807 and my husband, Francis, inherited the house at 809.

Francis sold the little house, and it was moved. Under the house was a pile of wood, and under the wood was a wooden boot 34" high, 12" wide and 2" thick. It has "J. FELKEL" printed from bottom to top. It has two wrought iron holders at the top to hang the sign. It is in perfect condition. Francis brought the boot home with him after attending Eugene's funeral in 1970.

We have a picture of the north side of Front Street, taken in about 1879. The boot is in the picture next to the Mueller Boot Shop. The Dodge House is in the picture and a wagon and team of horses is seen in the middle of the street. This picture is also in a building in the Front Street Replica.

The picture and the boot are the topic of conversation when visitors are here.

It was always amazing to us that the boot was hidden for so many years and no one knew it was there. Francis died in July 1992.

Carol Jean McCollom Felkel

JOHN JOSEPH FELKEL

John Felkel was born in Dodge City, Kansas, in August 1883, to Joseph and Paulina Mueller Felkel on a homestead northwest of town. He and his wife, Dulcena, had two sons; Francis, who married Carol Jean McCollom and Eugene. John went to school on Boot Hill. Later he worked for Ernest Sturgeon and learned candy making.

He and his wife, Dulcena, opened the Palace of Sweets, a cafe and candy shop in about 1909. It was located at 405 Second Avenue, where the old State Bank of Dodge City was for so many years. I have the contract which shows that Ira Beck sold his share to John on March 21, 1910. So he was a partner.

Later they moved the business to the 600 block of Second, south of the alley near where the big bank is now. It was called Felkel's Inn.

M.M. Gwinner had been in the confection business for 20 years. He sold out to Ernest Sturgeon who was in the business for eight years. Mr. Gwinner wanted to be in the confection business again and wanted to be a partner with John and Dulcena. They did not want the partnership, so Mr. Gwinner bought the building. That was the end of Felkel's Inn. John did not retire as the article in the paper said. He was the candy maker for Gwinner's Restaurant. All you old timers remember the delicious chocolates and candy Gwinners sold. John Felkel made it all. He was still there after Gwinners was sold. The building burned, and that ended his candy making!

John Felkel died in 1959. He was the father of my husband, Francis Felkel.

Carol Jean McCollom Felkel

THE FLETCHER FAMILY

The name of Fletcher is an old and honored name. Those sturdy immigrant ancestors who bear this name can be rightfully proud of their heritage. The Fletcher name originally was given to

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the makers of arrows in the mist of European antiquity. While the origin of the name may seem surprising, its significance today lies not in a literal interpretation of its initial meaning but in the many things that have happened to it since it first came into use. Handed down from generation to generation, the surname grows, and is inseparably associated with the achievement, the tradition, and the prestige of family.

The Fletchers of Ford County were Scottish, English and Chickasaw Indian descendants who have been traced thus far to Maine. Later the family migrated to Massachusetts with an uncle, Samuel Fletcher, an 1857 graduate of Brown University. The Civil War interrupted his life. Samuel enlisted and through a series of promotions advanced to Captain of the 15th Massachusetts Regiment. During the Battle of Gettysburg he was shot through the face and left for dead on the battlefield for three days. His remarkable constitution kept him alive. He returned to active duty to continue his military career after a medical leave of absence. For his bravery he was presented with a saber. Later the constituents of his area recognized his leadership ability and elected him as their representative to the Massachusetts state legislature.

While Samuel was leading Union regiments, another brother, Josiah Spring Fletcher, father to Frank Lyon



Frank Lyon and Belle (Comstock) Fletcher.

Fletcher, migrated to Kansas. The family settled in Douglas Co., Kansas, located at the beginning of the Santa Fe Trail. Both Clara and Frank were born in Baldwin, Kansas; Clara, on February 13, 1858, and Frank Lyon Fletcher, on August 16, 1861. He died in 1926, in Ford Co., Kansas. Two other children were fathered by Josiah Spring Fletcher, George and Jim Fletcher. The only other information known about Josiah Spring is his death on April 4, 1866, and his burial in the Pioneer Cemetery, Baldwin, Kansas.

One of Frank Lyon's earliest memories was Quantrill's raid on the Fletcher home and their setting fire to the porch. The family escaped to the corn field to hide and were able to return in time to save the house. During this encounter, Quantrill or one of his raiders inadvertently left a rifle which Frank Lyon had in his possession for a number of years.

It is unknown why the family relocated to Jerico Springs, Missouri, but in 1885, Frank Lyon married Belle Comstock. She was born 1863, in the Indian Nation, Chickasaw, and died in Ford Co., Kansas, in 1957. To this Protestant union seven children were born, all living except Frank, who died in infancy. In 1893, Frank Lyon and Belle and their young children moved from Jerico Springs to Westphalia, Coffey Co., Kansas. The nature of this move is unknown, but, in the early 1900s, the growing family moved further west by covered wagon to western Kansas. Prior to this move, Frank Lyon and brother George scouted western Kansas and found it to their liking.

According to oral history, the howling winds, lack of trees and color from flowers in the early 1900s was the most shocking adjustment to some family members who moved from eastern Kansas to the western part of the state. George, an explorer, rancher, and horse lover, raised race horses. He moved to Colorado settling in Jefferson, leaving Frank Lyon to attend to his first homestead, which was in the vicinity of the Kiowa/Ford County line east of Bucklin, Kansas. Later Frank Lyon moved south of Kingsdown. Brother Jim, resided in Bloom and married

Mary Hacker. They had no children. Sister Clara Fletcher married into the Foskuhl family and lived in Ford, Kansas.

Frank Lyon farmed and was a stockman by trade. Those who associated with him gave him great credit for his keen ability to judge cattle weight. He was noted for being a "walking scale" and would buy cattle by the head rather than by the pound. The price during this time was two to four cents for a pound of cattle on the hoof. Frank was a devoted Christian and was held in the highest esteem by all who knew him. Truth, honesty and virtue were the three main links of his life. He was well liked and respected by all for his rugged character and honesty. Always busy, he attended to his own affairs yet was courteous and neighborly. The sons of Frank Lyon Fletcher continued his tradition of buying and selling cattle and horses and farming wheat after the death of Frank Lyon on December 2, 1926.

A tribute, recorded in 1965, in the memoirs of a longtime friend, Laurel March, states: "The Fletchers have had a major part in the legendary story of Kansas. I wonder how many tons of wheat and beef all the Fletchers have produced in the half century or more. And then to convert this to hungry mouths and empty stomachs. And you all should take great pride in your contributions to humanity."

The descendants of this pioneering family are presently living in Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Texas, Washington State, Kentucky, Illinois, Wisconsin, Oklahoma, Arkansas, New Jersey, California, Nebraska, Rhode Island, and Hawaii, in addition to Kansas.

The children of Frank and Belle Comstock Fletcher were: William, John, Mary, James, Josiah and Bessie. **William Erving Fletcher**, born 1887, Jerico Springs, Missouri, died 1959, Ford Co., Kansas, married February 9, 1908, Minnie Huseman; **John Rankin Fletcher**, born 1890, Jerico Springs, Missouri, died 1965, Ford Co., Kansas, married December 28, 1910, Rhoenia Young; **Mary Elizabeth Fletcher Crabb**, born 1893, Jerico Springs, Missouri, died 1947, Ford Co., Kansas,

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married July 22, 1914, Harvey Crabb; **James Elonzo Fletcher**, born 1895, Anderson Co., Kansas (Coffey Co.), died 1958, Ford Co., Kansas, married May 29, 1917, Ruby Hugenot; **Josiah Spring Fletcher**, born 1898, Anderson Co., Kansas, died 1983, Ford Co., Kansas, married July 5, 1920, Alice Hammer; **Bessie Fletcher Drennan**, born 1902, Anderson Co., Kansas, died 1988, Ford Co., Kansas, married March 19, 1919, Ralph Drennan.

All of Frank Lyon Fletcher's children are buried in the Bucklin Cemetery, Bucklin, Kansas, with most in the family plot with parents Frank Lyon and Belle Comstock Fletcher.

Sherry Fletcher

THE FRASURES AND STEELES

My Ford County grandparents came here in 1887, from Kentucky. Robert P. Frasure was born in Floyd Co., Kentucky, in 1859. My great grandfather had gone to the Gold Rush with a new covered wagon, 50 pounds of salt, 50 pounds of sugar many other commodities and \$300 in gold. He was last heard from when he crossed the Mississippi River at St. Louis. Grandmother thought that either the Indians or someone had waylaid him for his rig. She was afraid to go with him as she had six children.

My grandfather, Robert Frasure, married Millie Jane Stratton there in Kentucky. Gene Stratton Porter, the author, was a cousin of my grandmother. They wrote letters to each other for years.

Grandfather made his living by logging. The Frasures had a lot of timber.

My great grandmother let her son, Robert, hire 59 men to log all winter. When the snow melted, they floated the logs down the small creeks to the Big Sandy River, then to the Ohio River, where Granddad rode them to Cincinnati. He sold the lumber, paid off the men and the grocery bill they had charged and had over \$3,000 clear. He said, "Millie Jane, we are getting out of here." Their Kentucky land was very rough—next to West Virginia. He bought tickets to Newton, Kansas. On the train was an individual from Dodge City. He told Grandfather to not stop at Newton as it was too thickly settled but to go out to God's country at Dodge City. He purchased a half section on S5 T28 R23 of Ford County. He built a house and seeing no one occupying so much of the land from the Mulberry Creek for ten miles west, he fenced an area ten miles long and seven miles wide at the widest place. He went all along the Arkansas River, including what is now Wilroads Gardens. He and Bob Wright ran cattle in this area.

There were three homesteaders in his pasture. There was the Sizelove (an old soldier) place; later it was called the Dowling place. The Wagner place was later called the Bowman place. The Bowmans had a tree claim besides their regular claim. Some of their original mulberry trees are still living. The other homestead was the Mann place, later known as the Dawson place. Grandfather fenced all three places out so his cattle wouldn't bother the settlers.

Grandfather Robert Frasure and Bob Wright (the donor of Wright Park) had

another ranch between the Mulberry and the Bragg Ranch. The Mulberry School was attended by my mother, Nora Frasure, and her sisters in the 1890s. I have the original school records which were given to me by Guy Wooten when he went to Washington. My grandmother had to watch the cattle on the Mulberry as my grandfather was hired to be foreman of the Ward or Lord Ranch across the Arkansas River, reaching nearly to Wright, Kansas. Grandfather had to nearly swim his horse every day as he went to check on the cowboys. There were a good number of Kentucky people who helped and some relatives.

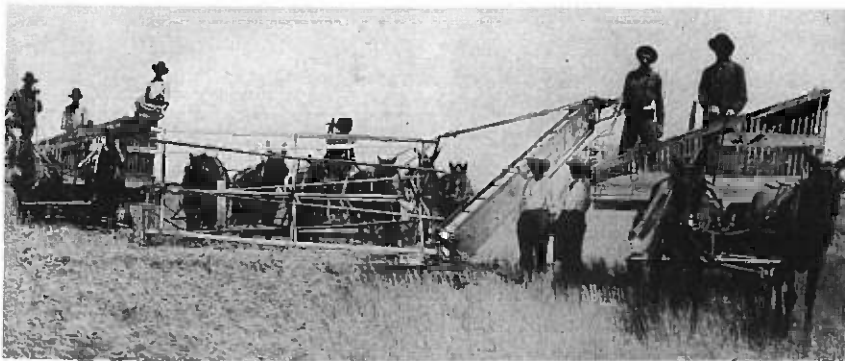
As the settlers began to file on claim in the pasture land, Grandfather had fenced, he decided to plow up some that he had.

One day, a man, August Snook, stopped by my house on NW 1/4 S5 T28 R23, Ford Township. He said, "I just wanted to tell you, where your house sets, I broke that land with a walking plow for your Grandfather Frasure in 1892." So this land is 101 years old. He said he had 75 cents a day from sunup to sunset.

Later my Grandfather hired Emery Beck with a big steam engine to break 1,000 acres with a huge disc plow. The wheat made 40 bushels to the acre on that new land. Later, Granddad had two threshing rigs which he used to thresh for neighbors and others. Some never paid a penny on their threshing bill and Granddad said they had a lot of kids and needed the money.

I could tell other instances, like the one where they were about to lynch a party for whipping his son with a black snake for leaving the gate open so that the cattle got out. Cool heads saved the man as Grandfather, with his Kentucky boys, stopped the small group.

My other grandfather, John Steele, homesteaded in Ness County before it was surveyed. He was eaten out by the grasshopper in 1874. There was no sun for three days because of the grasshoppers. He sold his homestead in 1878, for \$75. Later he settled at Sedgwick, then came to Hodgeman County in 1885 with 1,115 head of cattle. The blizzard



Harvesting 1911, north of Dale's house, seven miles west of Ford. Averaged 20.5 bu. per acre.

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of 1886, left him with 11 head on the Santa Fe Tracks west of Offerle. His ranch was southeast of Jetmore.

Dale Steele

THE FRAVEL FAMILY

Phillip Fravel was born and lived in Bingen-on-the Rhine in Rhenish Bavaria, Germany near Kaiserslautern. He owned several tracts of land on which he raised hogs. He married Catherine Reiss whose family owned several hotels. The Fravels came to the United States in 1848. The trip took 50 days and they were running short of food and supplies before they landed at New York City. With them were their children, Daniel, Catherine, Peter and Caroline, who were all born in Germany.

They lived in or near Buffalo, New York, for several years and their sons, John and Henry, were born there. Phillip received his citizenship to the United States on October 11, 1853, and it states that he had lived within the U.S. for five years at that time. Phillip and his family then moved to Winslow, Stephenson Co., Illinois, and purchased land there. William Edward Fravel was born there in 1854. Three of their children married while they were living there as well. Catherine Fravel married Valson Wire in 1856, Peter Fravel married Lucy Harmon in 1862, and Caroline Fravel married Frank Klinge, Sr. in 1862.



Pictured are Mr. and Mrs. Peter Fravel on the left, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Fravel on the right, and Mrs. Caroline (Fravel) Klinge in the center. The photo was taken October 1, 1892.

Catherine Fravel Wire passed away there in 1870, and the whole family moved on to Howard Co., Iowa, with the exception of Valson Wire and his children.

Phillip's wife, Catherine, died in December 10, 1875, and was buried near Cresco, Iowa. Phillip Fravel made his home with his daughter, Caroline Klinge and her family, then later came

to Kansas to stay with his son, William E. on a farm in Pleasant Valley Township, where Will had settled. Phillip died September 17, 1895, aged 88 and was buried in Pleasant Valley Cemetery north of Bucklin, Kansas. His son, Peter Fravel, felt that his father should be buried beside his wife in Iowa and so the following spring, 1896, he came from Cresco, Iowa, to Kansas with a team and wagon, picked up the coffin containing his father's body and took it back to Cresco, Iowa, where Phillip was buried beside his wife, Catherine. The round trip was over 1,800 miles and must have been a hard and emotional experience.

WILLIAM EDWARD FRAVEL

William Edward Fravel was born in Winslow, Stephenson Co., Illinois, on August 17, 1854. He was the youngest son of Phillip and Catherine Reiss Fravel. William Fravel made his home with his older brother, Peter Fravel for a time after the death of his mother. He then worked on the railroad in Nebraska before he came to Kansas and homesteaded. He went to Halstead, Kansas, and for two years he was in the "Gent's Furnishing" business. He then came to Ford County with a group of young men and homesteaded in Ford County. He began farming in 1885, when he came to Kinsley with a team and wagon and brought his belongings from Halstead. He arrived in the fall of that year.

He married Annie Louesa Stuart on December 15, 1886. She was the daughter of Daniel Stuart and Mary Cassaline Pyle Stuart who was born in Elgin, Illinois, on July 27, 1859. They lived on the farm in Ford County for several years. During this time they were having hard times financially, as was everyone else. According to his son, Donald Fravel, William, went to the bank in Bucklin and tried to borrow enough money to buy feed to carry the cattle through the winter. The banker said he would like to do it but that the bank simply did not have any money left to lend to anyone and he did not have enough money to carry his own cattle through the winter either. The two men made an agreement and William



Phillip Fravel



Catherine (Reist) Fravel

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moved his cattle to the banker's farm. The banker looked after both herds while William went to Garden City, Kansas, where he had a friend who gave him a job helping to build the now well-known Windsor Hotel. The money he made on that job was enough to provide for his family and to buy enough feed for both his cattle and the banker's cattle who took care of his stock so he could leave home and take the job. So his work really cared for both families at a time when things were really rough.

Their son, Walter Stuart Fravel, died on October 12, 1893. The family moved to Kinsley, Kansas, in 1897, where Mr. Fravel had a dairy herd. He sold milk and cream around Kinsley and owned a feed store and continued to farm for 27 years. His granddaughter, Gracia Ward Maricle tells the following story:

"My grandmother told us the story of Grandfather's trip into Dodge City from the farm with a wagon load of oats to sell. When he learned that the oats would bring 35 cents and the livery bill for the team of horses would be more than that, he just drove home with his oats."

He was a County Commissioner for 16 years and was a booster for the Chautauqua programs which Kinsley sponsored for a number of years. Mr. Fravel sold his business in 1921. *The*



Mr. and Mrs. W.E. Fravel, Sr.

Kinsley Graphic at the time of the transaction said "In all those years of strict adherence to the business, coupled with fair and honest dealing, witnesses watched a business grow from one of small pretensions, to one of considerable magnitude."

He was noted for activity in every civic move, giving his time and means, without stint, to carry them out. He was a charter member of the Modern Woodmen of America and also belonged to the Brotherhood of American Yeomen and the Knights of Pythias.

To Mr. and Mrs. Fravel were born nine children: Mildred May, Jessie J., Walter Stuart, Paul Eugene, William Elam, Gladys Lucille, Helen Elizabeth, Alice and Donald Stuart Fravel. Gladys, Helen, Alice, Bill and Donald were all born in Kinsley. Walter was born on the homestead in Ford County along with Mildred, Jessie and Paul.

Alice, the last of the children, died in Kinsley in June 1992, and is buried in Kinsley. Kent Fravel, the last direct descendant of William E. who bears the Fravel name, lives on the old homestead between Ford and Bucklin.

Jessie Fravel, his daughter, was a teacher for several years and served as County Superintendent of Edwards County for three terms. She then went into the insurance business and was retired at the time of her death in 1974. William Elam Fravel owned the Fravel Motor Company in Kinsley, Kansas, for 31 years and his brother, Donald, was employed there. Paul Fravel ran the family farm in Ford County. Helen Fravel Heckathorn was the society editor and bookkeeper at the *Kinsley Mercury* office. Alice Fravel Bowers lived in Los Angeles for many years but moved back to Kinsley to retire and Mildred Fravel Barbarick lived in Neosho, Missouri. Gladys Fravel Ward lived in Dodge City and later Garden City where she died in 1979. Mr. Fravel died at the home place on July 27, 1932.

"A wonderful husband, father and citizen has gone from us, but the good kind consistent life he lived will remain fresh in our hearts and memories. To have lived in one community for al-



Peter Fravel and son, Julius, Cresco, Iowa.

most 40 years and to have everyone who knew him respect him, and to have a host of friends who gave him a deep affection was the mark of a fine life which Mr. Fravel lived. Loyal to his friends and to Kinsley, he was generous in his spirit toward all whom he knew. He left a fine family of children who will carry on the teaching they learned in the home which has meant so much to them all. As a public official, as a businessman, and in his family life, Mr. Fravel measured up to the high mark of a man of ideals."

Juanita Jones Gulick,
Granddaughter of Alida Wire Miller
Gracia Ward Maricle,
Granddaughter of William Fravel
Kathleen Minner Davis,
Granddaughter of Lillie Wire Argabright
Marceline Hoffman,
Granddaughter of Nellie Wire Dewell

THE STUART FAMILY

ANNIE STUART FRAVEL

Daniel Stuart and his wife, Mary Cassaline Pyle Stuart arrived in Ford County, Kansas, in 1883, and homesteaded sixteen miles southeast of Spearville between Ford and Bucklin. Their journey began in Morris, Illinois, where Daniel was a dealer in livestock and Mary, the daughter of a judge, was a school teacher. The Stuarts were married in Illinois, in 1867, and were the parents of seven children, three of whom died while they were very young. The four surviving children were Annie Louesa, Charles, Birdie and Roy. Annie married William Edward Fravel, another Ford County pioneer, and later moved to Kinsley, Kansas. Charles and his wife, Erma, lived in Dodge City,

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later moving to Los Angeles. Birdie Stuart Rupert spent her adult life in Choctaw, Oklahoma, and Roy V. Stuart and his wife, Lula, lived for many years in Ford, Kansas.

Daniel Stuart, the son of David and Marjorie Fife Stuart was born April 30, 1840, near Toronto, Canada and died at Kinsley, March 9, 1927. He moved with his family to Illinois when he was a child and grew up on the family farm in Grundy Co., Illinois. In 1880, Daniel and his family left Illinois in a covered wagon for the gold fields of Colorado, settling in Alma on the western slope of the Rockies. Three years later the family headed east again in search of a lower altitude and a more stable life. While camped one night near Spearville, the Stuarts found old friends from Illinois who urged them to file a claim in Pleasant Valley which they did.

Daniel was a wiry Scotsman with an optimistic outlook who loved the adventure of moving west and enjoyed his life here. Family stories indicate that his wife, Mary, might have been contented to stay in Illinois where her life would have been more comfortable and secure. She died February 5, 1919. Daniel and Mary spent their last years in Kinsley with their daughter, Annie, in a cottage built for them on the Fravel place.

Gracia Ward Maricle
See the Wire, Argabright, Dewell and Miller
family stories.

HORACE L. "LUTE" FRY AND AGNES SWARTLEY FRY

Horace L. "Lute" Fry was born in 1891, near Butler, Bates Co., Missouri. In 1902, he moved with his family to Rich Hill, Missouri. Following his graduation from the University of Missouri he headed west. He worked as a printer in Bucklin, Liberal and Spearville, Kansas. While living in Spearville in 1916, Lute met Agnes Swartley, who later became his bride.

It is interesting to note that both Lute and Agnes were descended from colonial Pennsylvania families and went to their graves not knowing that their families had known one another two centuries before. Their paternal ancestors were followers of the Anabaptist move-

ment which included those of the Mennonite faith. Records show that an ancestor of Agnes (Swartley) Fry witnessed a will of a family member of Lute Fry before 1766.

During World War I, Lute Fry served in the U.S. Navy for 15 months. He was a hospital corpsman at Great Lakes Naval Training Station during the deadly influenza epidemic. He later made eight round trips to France on a ship which was bringing home the soldiers of the American Expeditionary Force.

The family of Agnes Swartley moved to the Huth place north of Wright, Kansas, in the spring of 1912, from Halstead, Kansas. Her parents were John Ruth Swartley and Catherine (Rich) Swartley. Her parents had met and married in 1895, while her father had operated a creamery in Halstead. Their children were: Lydia, Blanche, Agnes, Warren and Harold. The Swartley family also reared Mildred and Iva Charbonneau.

The family attended the Methodist Church services held at Wright, Kansas, by the pastor of the Spearville Methodist Church. Their first acquaintances were their neighbors, the W.B. Warner family, who lived a few miles away.

Blanche, Agnes and Warren Swartley attended high school in Spearville, Often making the journey from Wright to Spearville on the train. In those days, the rural pupils boarded in town, bringing their food from home. Among the other pupils from the rural area who attended high school in Spearville during that time period were members of the J.L. Braddock family, the Warner family and the Brehm family. Three of the Swartley children graduated from Spearville high school: Blanche (1914), Agnes (1915), and Warren (1916).

Agnes Swartley took the Normal Training Course in high school and taught for five years in Ford and Finney counties. In 1918 the Swartley family moved to a farm 21 miles northeast of Garden City.

Lute Fry and Agnes Swartley were married on May 8, 1920, in Garden City.

Following their marriage they made their home in Topeka where Lute was working as a proofreader for a large printing firm. When Lute learned that *The Spearville News* was for sale, he took his savings and all he could borrow to purchase the business from I.C. Rosa in May 1921. As he and Agnes stepped off the train, a south wind blew dirt from Main Street into their faces. They soon heard that the two leading mercantile establishments had announced they were closing their businesses. They were discouraged by the news, but they stayed.

It didn't take long for Lute and Agnes to resume former friendships in Spearville. Lute had joined the Spearville Masonic Lodge in 1917. They belonged to the Methodist Church and became Presbyterians when the two struggling groups became the Federated Church in 1923.

One of their first employees at the newspaper was Jay Baugh, a high school student from Kinsley, Kansas. Karl J. Torline was a "printer's devil" in the fall of 1921. Clinton Anschutz began working as the Intertype operator and printer about 1922 staying on until 1944. Clint lived with the family for several years.

During the '20s Lute served on the city council, the Board of Education and as chairman of the building for the present Federated Church (1929-1930).

In 1924, Lute and Agnes purchased the home that Asa T. Soule had built in 1884, for his nephew, Eugene Soule. After purchasing it, Lute and Agnes remodeled it, installing electricity and plumbing. Agnes often recalled that Mrs. Soule had proudly pointed out, when they were looking at the house, that the basement steps would slide out so the underside could be scrubbed. (Agnes never did). They sold the home in 1943.

Agnes sang soprano and directed the Federated Church Choir from 1932 to 1972. She had only eight piano lessons as a child. She became a piano teacher in 1948 and declared that giving piano lessons was one of the high points of her life. She continued giving lessons into her mid seventies. In the 1940s

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Agnes learned to run the Intertype, fed the big cylinder press and wrote occasionally for the newspaper.

The newspaper prospered and branched out to include a newspaper at Ford, Kansas, called *The Ford Progress*. Publication ceased there during the Great Depression of the 1930s. Lute Fry wrote his popular column, "Riding Around With the Horse Editor" in *The Spearville News* from 1932 until his death on September 12, 1971, in Great Bend, Kansas. His burial was at Silent Land Cemetery in Spearville.

Agnes moved to Pueblo, Colorado, with her sister, Blanche (Swartley) Olsen, in 1972. Agnes (Swartley) Fry died there on November 11, 1990. She was returned to Spearville for burial at Silent Land Cemetery.

Lute and Agnes were a part of the southwestern Kansas scene for more than a half a century. They had three daughters: Eleanor Fry, a feature writer and editor (living in Pueblo, Colorado, in 1994); Kathryn "Kasey" Fry, a retired school teacher (living near McCall, Idaho, in 1994) and Helen Lou Fry (married Richard Wiens), a teacher and church organist (living in San Luis Obispo, California, in 1994). Helen and Dick Wiens have two daughters, Sara Wiens (m/1 Clapp; m/2 Medzyk) and Gail Wiens (married Root) and a grandson, Ian Root.

Blanche Swartley Olsen is the only surviving member of the Swartley family. She is 98 and is living in Pueblo, Colorado, in 1994.

Eleanor Fry, daughter of Lute and Agnes Fry

THOMAS FRANKLIN GARNER

An extensive ranch man and livestock breeder since early manhood, Mr. Garner played a large part in the development of the West. In the later years of his business life, he developed extensive ranch holdings in Mexico, and he also owned both farm and business property in Dodge City. For many years, he was in partnership with his son, H.L. Garner, but retired from most of his activities in 1919, selling his son his interest in much of their properties.

Mr. Garner was born in San Bernardino, California, the oldest of a family

of eight children. One brother and all four sisters survived his death, all living in that community. He was married in Los Angeles, on March 29, 1884, to Ella F. Brown who died in Dodge City, October 14, 1938. After their marriage, they went to a ranch at Peach Springs, Arizona, and managed ranching properties there until Mr. Garner moved his family and thousands of head of cattle to Dodge City, in 1898, to escape a severe drought. The family has lived here since.

Mr. Garner helped in construction work of Santa Fe lines in Colorado and in Arizona and worked on the Denver and Rio Grande line. The Santa Fe built a spur to his ranch to help handle his cattle shipments in Arizona, and when the drought came, the Santa Fe furnished his water by rail shipment at \$15 a car on the spur.

He shipped cattle into Dodge City, in 1896, and two years later when he moved here he brought thousands of head of cattle by trainload to Dodge City to put them on pasture south of Dodge City down near Ford and over the country. He was joined here in 1899, by H.L. Garner a year after the rest of the family had moved here.

T.F. Garner's children were: Bessie Garner Castanien, Edna Mae Garner Wilkinson, Hazel Garner McMullen, Benjamin Franklin Garner, Harvey Lewis Garner.

"Hazel Garner married Wilson M. McMullen. They rented the house next door to the Home of Stone from Louis Schmidt. Later when T.F. Garner became ill, Hazel and Wilson moved into the T.F. Garner home to care for Mr. Garner. Mr. Garner lived at 708 Avenue A. He built the house at 708 and also 710 Avenue A."

Jeanne McMullen Summerford,
Excelsior Springs, Missouri
Granddaughter of T.F. Garner

THE ELEPHANT STABLE

T.F. GARNER, PROP.

from *Western Resources*, 1901

As you alight from the Santa Fe overland railway at Dodge City, Kansas, among the first things that attract your attention is the huge sign of an el-

ephant that is conspicuous upon the front of a large livery barn of some 80' x 125' ground space and containing twenty head of as fine driving horses as you will find in western Kansas. This stable, run by T.F. Garner, is managed upon strictly business principals, and although it has been running only one month under present management the business is thriving and the barn has about all it can well attend to. The drivers of this stable are thoroughly acquainted with the ranches and farms in the vicinity and you can do not better than patronize this flourishing stable. Mr. Garner is the owner of extensive cattle ranches in Arizona, but takes great interest in Dodge City, Ford County, Kansas. This business is for sale. Write direct to owner. Stable is outfitted with new rigs and is strictly up to date.

Note: T.F. Garner purchased the Elephant Stable from H.B. Bell about 1900.

"Whenever a circus would come to town my Grandfather, T.F. Garner, would let the circus plaster their posters and advertising all over the stable's outside walls. Of course this was for complimentary tickets for his nine grandchildren."

Frances Evelyn Garner Hahne,
Dodge City, Kansas
Granddaughter of T.F. Garner

HORSE MALADY IS RECALLED

T.F. Garner Kept Busy 25 Years Ago Treating Animals

T.F. Garner has been particularly interested in recent "25 Years Ago" column in the *Globe*, dealing with a horse epidemic that swept the country in 1912, because he was a practicing veterinarian here then and managed to save some of the horses.

State college and board of agriculture veterinarians here then called the disease spinal meningitis and tried to doctor for that, but Garner said they were unable to save any of the horses because the disease was not spinal meningitis.

He said the year was very wet and pastures were filled with ponds and lagoons of water. Some sorts of poisonous insect hatched around the pools and

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spread into the grass and finally were blown into all growing crops. Mr. Garner, after he saw some of the sick horses, recognized it as the same disease he had seen among horses in Arizona, in 1885, and began telling farmers to get their horses off pastures and into corrals and to feed them nothing but wheat straw or feed that had been taken out of the fields before the epidemic began. He saved a lot of stock for Jack Vance that way, after the disease had started there.

He said everyone who did that saved their horses. In some instances, farmers whose horses were dying of the disease followed his advice and immediately controlled the disease, and then either turned back to pasture or sent out and cut growing feed for them, and the disease immediately began again.

A merchant's delivery system in Dodge City then was using horses and mules and the owner asked Mr. Garner what to do to save his stock. He put them in corrals and bought hay that had been put up in stacks before the disease began, and reined them up so they could not graze at stops along the street in town, and never had a sick horse. Mr. Garner recalls dozens of incidents in which men saved their stock by following his advice or lost it by failing to, after he recognized the disease.

Dodge City Globe, 1937

Jeanne McMullen Summerford
Frances Garner Hahne

THE PIONEERING GARRETTS

The first trace of the family, whose surname has changed through the centuries from Gherardini in Florence, Italy, to Gerrard, Guerrant, Garratt and finally Garrett, is of the pioneering ancestors of the present Garrett families who traveled from Italy to the Normandy countryside in France and later to England. Some of these moves were hundreds of years apart, as was the case in both France and England. They arrived in England in 1066, with William the Conqueror.

During their years in England they became Quakers. It was because of this religion that they eventually left England for America with William Penn in 1684. In America as part of William

Penn's colony they settled in Pennsylvania. Eventually, however, they followed the emigration trail westward. The family history, *The Garretts in America*, compiled by Dr. Harley F. Garrett of Oxford, Mississippi, shows them in New York, Wisconsin, Iowa and later in Kansas.

The records show that the Garretts spent time in Hays, Kansas, before Dr. Garrett's grandfather "filed his claim" and pitched his tent in Bazine, Kansas, where the Congregational Church would later be built. This grandfather, Benjamin Franklin Garrett, was born April 5, 1832, "in a little log house in the midst of the big woods," near Pughtown, Pennsylvania. Benjamin's son, Fred Albert Garrett, Dr. Harley Garrett's father, was born September 19, 1872, near Bristow, Iowa. Benjamin F. Garrett made a name for himself in Ness County, becoming County Treasurer in 1880, and Probate Judge in 1895. He commuted by train from Ness City, the county seat, to his home in Bazine, ten miles to the east, each weekend.

Meanwhile, his son, Fred, after many youthful adventures farther west, returned to Kansas. He worked in a creamery in Heizer, Kansas, in Barton County. A young lady, Blanche Coss, who lived on a farm near Heizer, after

discovering the handsome young man who had started working at the creamery, always put on her best gingham dress and insisted on taking the cream to town. Eventually, she and the handsome Fred Garrett were married, November 1, 1899.

The couple lived in Barton County for 12 years. Their three children were born on the farm near Heizer that they rented from Blanche's father. Their oldest child, Nellie Fae (later known as Faye) was born March 29, 1901. Frank Albert was born January 24, 1904 and Harley Fremont on July 17, 1905. In 1912, after Blanche Garrett's father died, the family decided to move to a farm which they had purchased in Ford County. They came in wagons and header-barges, driving the livestock 90 miles across the prairies to the farm on Duck Creek, nine miles north of Dodge City.

Harley, the youngest son, has vivid memories of this journey west. He was amazed that there were very few farm homes along the way. In a very few years, as settlers moved in, the scene was drastically changed. One of the wagons did have a covering, of sorts, so Harley always bragged that he crossed the prairies in a covered wagon. After enduring a hard winter in an in-



Taken in the summer of 1914 or 1915, at the Garrett home on Duck Creek, Ford County, Kansas. Front row, left to right: Harley Garrett, Charles Dotson. Second row: Mrs. Blanche Garrett, Dora Hall's sister, Frank Garrett, unknown. Third row: Dora Hall, Bertha Elliott. Fourth row: Cecil Campbell, Mr. Cobb, Edna Lockman, Floyd Davis, Maynard Holm and Cecil Aubushon.

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Harley Garrett, Sr.

adequate old house, Fred built a new, two-story home during the summer of 1913. Then tragedy struck, which was to change radically the lives of the family. Fred Garrett died following a gall bladder operation. January 27, 1914, at the age of 41 years. At that time Harley was eight and a half years old.

The death of the father in the Garrett family brought to the surface the truly heroic stature of the mother, although it was mostly in later years that the Garrett children realized the real strength and courage of their mother, Blanche (Coss) Garrett. With sheer strength of will, hard work and self-sacrifice, she shepherded them through the next six years. Hers is a splendid example of the strength and courage of the women who made homes and raised families on the windswept plains.

She paid off the remaining debt on the farm with the little insurance money; and with her reassurances, her children were gradually able to forget their anguish and terror of uncertainty after their father's death. As a family working together, they set about milking cows, separating the cream, which Blanche took to town twice a week in a buggy for "pin money," feeding calves and pigs the skimmed milk, and doing the other endless tasks of feeding and tending the livestock and general farm chores.

Dr. Garrett's description of the Garrett children's life on the farm could

be that of almost any children of those early days. They walked a mile to the Belle Center school. They attended Sunday School in the school house as well as school social and pie and box suppers. There was the Literary Society once a month, at which they each had to "speak a piece" or take part in songs and dialogues. Then, of course, there were the Christmas programs and Last Day of School dinners, with a program and usually a ball game following. During the winters, they skated on creek ponds, hunted jack rabbits and cottontails, trapped skunks, civet cats, muskrats, and an occasional mink, raccoon, or possum. Summers brought swimming and fishing in the same ponds, riding ponies and enjoying wild choke cherries, wild plums and hackberries along the creek. Friends of Faye often gathered at their home on Sunday afternoons for taffy pulls, parlor games and picnics. So, growing up on the farm brought invaluable privileges and happy times thanks to their courageous mother.

When Faye was ready for high school. She and two of her friends, Eva Dotson and Helena Stevens, roomed together in Dodge City, but in 1919, when Frank was also ready for high school, Mrs. Garrett, who was determined that her children should have good educations, moved into town. She sold the livestock, rented the farm and bought a modest home at 904 Avenue B in Dodge City. Faye married the next year, but the two boys continued their education while working as many part-time jobs as possible. Both were able to graduate from high school with honors, and though it was a continual struggle always with part-time jobs, the two of them were able to graduate from the

Kansas State Teachers College of Emporia, again with honors, after which both began long and successful teaching careers.

Blanche (Coss) Garrett died November 11, 1952, at 72 years of age after seeing her dreams for her family come true, seeing her children reach heights of success that not even she could have imagined. Her daughter, Nellie Fae (called Faye) chose to be a wife and mother rather than going on to obtain advanced college degrees. At age 19 she married Earl Vance, the son of a prosperous farmer in northwest Ford County. His family is remembered as having one of the first automobiles in the county back when 35 miles an hour was a reckless speed.

After a few years, Faye and Earl moved to Napa, California, where Earl worked in the U.S. Shipyards for the rest of his life. Their son, Donald, grew up in Dodge City, but after service in the U.S. Navy, he, too, found work in the shipyards at Napa. Their daughter, Doris Ann, being seven years younger, graduated from high school in Napa. Faye died in 1957, and Earl in 1961. Their son, Donald Vance, has two children, Sandra and Gary and two grandchildren. Doris Ann married Walter B. Selby and has two sons, Stephen Walter and Dan William. The Selbys live in Napa, but are making plans to retire to a resort area in Lake Co.



Golden wedding anniversary of Harley and Orrisa Garrett, Oxford, Mississippi, August 24, 1980. Left to right: Linda, Bill, Jeannice, Orrisa, Clay, Linne, Mike, Harley Sr., Harley Jr. Inset: Chad.

DODGE CITY AND FORD COUNTY, KANSAS 1870-1920 PIONEER HISTORIES AND STORIES

Fred and Blanche Garrett's son, Frank Albert, graduated from KSTC at Emporia, (now Emporia State University) in 1928. With a degree and teaching credentials he began a teaching career that lasted 39 years, most of which were spent as principal of Woodrow Wilson Elementary School, Manhattan, Kansas. In 1966 he was honored as Master Teacher of the Year. In 1933, he married Rosa Lee Ricklefs. They had two sons, Fred Albert, who is a very successful dentist in Houston, Texas. He married Diane Fain, and they have two children, Kimberly and Frank Fain Garrett. The second son of Frank and Rosa Lee Garrett, John Irwin, married Carolyn Groth, to whom were born Brian, Joel and Mary Rose. John Irwin received his Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Electrical Engineering and he has advanced in his profession to be vice-president of an electrical manufacturing firm in Ogallala, Nebraska.

Harley Fremont Garrett, the youngest in the family of pioneering Garretts, Fred and Blanche, married Orrisa Rhodes on August 24, 1930, after receiving his bachelor's degree at Emporia that spring. Orrisa, who also graduated from Emporia in 1928, taught at Elmdale two years, and several more years. Harley served as administrator and teacher at the SBA School for Orphan Children at Topeka for six years, and six years as principal of the Holton High School, completing his Masters at Stanford University in 1934. After three more years in administration, and three years as Assistant Professor of Guidance and Counselor Education at Ft. Hays State College at Hays, Kansas. He completed his Doctor of Education degree at the University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, in 1948, and the next year began his 24 year tenure at the University of Mississippi, heading the graduate program in that field.

Space does not permit the mentioning of all of this determined and ambitious man's struggles, accomplishments, and honors, but they were many. He and Orrisa are the parents of two children, Jeannice, born in 1935, and Harley, Jr. born in 1939, both of whom

have distinguished themselves in their chosen fields.

Jeannice married Wilbur Woodson Russell, Jr., September 22, 1957. After she graduated Cum Laude, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Speech and Theatre, and he with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering in 1957, he became associated with General Electric. After steady promotions, they now live in Hendersonville, North Carolina, where he is Plant Manager of General Electric and she is active in Little Theater, DAR and a number of civic and social organizations. They have two sons, Chad and Clay.

Harley Jr. married Linda Faye Allen, July 9, 1961. Following his Air Force ROTC and a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Mississippi, he has had an outstanding career in the Air Force. He has received honors and promotions until, at this writing, he has been promoted to Colonel and assigned to the Pentagon to work on all new operational requirements of the major Air Force Command. Colonel Harley Jr. and Linda are the parents of two children, Michael Allen and Linne Michelle.

Although there are no new lands to explore and conquer, the descendants of the earlier Garrett families have found new fields of conquest in education and industry. These young people are making strides toward carrying the Garrett name quite proudly into the future.

from "The Garrett Family in America"
Harley Fremont Garrett

JOHN THOMAS GOFF AND

MARY TRUJILLO GOFF

Reyes Juan Trujillo and Polly Quintana were married in 1866. One of their six children was Mary Euphemia, born March 16, 1876, in New Mexico.

John Thomas Goff was born in Kentucky on March 31, 1863. He came to Kansas in 1880. He filed a homestead claim on the W 1/2 of the SE 1/4 of Section 12 and the W 1/2 of NE 1/4 of S13 T29 R 26 in Ford County. This was established on May 27, 1890.

Mary Trujillo and John Goff were married in Dodge City on February 5,

1896. They also established a Timber Culture Claim on SW 1/4 S23 T29 R 26 on September 5, 1903.

They worked the land and raised their family of ten children there. Their children were: Andrew, Gertrude, Sidney, Walter, Eva, Joseph, George, William, Dorothy, and Easton. **Andrew**, born in 1897, lived only two weeks. **Gertrude Miriam**, born March 11, 1898, died November 11, 1976. She married Bud L.V. Turner from Fowler on August 5, 1922. They lived in the Minneola and Dodge City areas. He was section foreman for the Rock Island Railroad most of his life. He died June 3, 1978. They had no children. **Sidney E.** was born January 21, 1900. He died in 1919, during the flu epidemic. He never married and lived his life on the farm. **Walter Ray** was born January 1, 1902. He died October 15, 1954. He never married and spent his life on the farm and ranch with the family. **Eva M.** was born April 18, 1904, died December 5, 1990. She never married and spent her life working on the farm and ranch with the family. **Joseph** was born in 1906 and died the same day. **George Forest** was born August 25, 1910, and died July 3, 1986. He served six months in the Medical Corps during World War II. He never married and spent his life on the farm and ranch with the family. **William John** was born August 23, 1912, died January 16, 1975. During World War II he spent several years in the Air Force stationed on the Aleutian Islands. He lived his life on the farm and ranch and never married. **Dorothy May** was born February 15, 1915, and died November 15, 1975. She never married and spent her life on the farm and ranch with the family. **Easton David** was born April 20, 1919, and died May 5, 1982. He served about four years in the 3rd Armored Division during World War II mostly in England and the European Area. He married Hazel Irene Barton in Juniata Co., Pennsylvania, on November 5, 1947. They spent most of their lives farming and ranching in Meade and Ford Counties. They had four children.

Hazel Goff, from Home of Stone files
See the Reyes Juan Trujillo entry.

DODGE CITY AND FORD COUNTY, KANSAS 1870-1920 PIONEER HISTORIES AND STORIES

M.M. GWINNER

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Moyer Gwinner came to Dodge City, Kansas, in November 1885. Mr. Gwinner had learned the baking and candy making trades and also had attended a business college in Ashland, Ohio. His sister lived in Decatur, Indiana. He moved there and opened a small confectionery. That is where he met and married Carrie Blackburn. Carrie was born November 22, 1863. M.M. soon closed the store and they decided to come west to a new country.

He worked in the bakery which was located on the alley at 904 Fourth for a Mr. Crawford. In a few months he bought the bakery including the lot and he and Mrs. Gwinner lived in a small house behind the bakery.

He baked bread, pies, cookies, and cakes in the morning and then delivered all over town in the afternoon, using a horse-drawn bread wagon. He would ring a hand bell and the women would come out to the wagon and buy bread for five cents a loaf, and pies for ten cents each. People were very friendly and when the oven would catch on fire which it did on several occasions, the neighbors would each come with a bucket of water to put out the fire. He delivered bread to the men working to build Soule College in 1888. Also he

delivered to the eating places on Front Street and in South Dodge.

There were saloons but the town was peaceful then and several churches were well established. Mr. and Mrs. Gwinner brought their "Letters" from Decatur, Indiana, to the Presbyterian Church in February 1886.

Later they opened a business at 503 Second Avenue and sold the bakery goods there, also they sold homemade candies and homemade ice cream. After a few years they moved to 217 West Chestnut. It was called "City Bakery." They sold bread tokens six for 25 cents, each one good for a five cent loaf of bread. This business with the bakery was sold to E.C. Sturgeon about 1907. Mr. Sturgeon continued with the bakery for many years.

In 1914, Mr. Gwinner took over a confectionery and lunch place at 504 Second Avenue called "Palace of Sweets." They carried a large line of homemade candies and at Christmas time one window was filled with candy canes of all sizes. Their Victory Chocolates were very popular as also was their soda fountain. It was a gathering place for the junior and senior high school crowd.

In February 1939, the Gwinners hosted a Junior High celebration. The Junior High Cardinals basketball team won the first tournament trophy since

1932. The game was at Montzeuma and many fans and the 22-piece band were there. But it was at Gwinners that the celebration occurred. Bob Ward brought the Cardinal team into Gwinners to eat. The team included Billy Seaton, substitute guard, who had single-handedly won the semifinal and final games in the meet as the hero of the team. Shortly afterward came the band, making 30 in all ranging from 13 to 15 years old and what they did to the place was enjoyed by everyone except possibly the mop-crew.

There were many occasions like this with the school groups. During World War I, Gwinners put in a plane lunch and regular meals. The name was changed to "Gwinner's Cafe."

Mrs. Gwinner was always interested in the business. In 1920, after finishing college, Donald Gwinner entered the firm. Their employees stayed with them many years. Mr. Gwinner taught John Felkel candy making when he was a young boy. He was with the firm until the very end. Employees usually worked for the Gwinners for many years followed by their children and often their grandchildren.

Through the years Mr. and Mrs. Gwinner took a great interest in community young persons. Boys and girls needing money to continue with their education found jobs at Gwinners. In following up on all of the employees, every one of them have made good citizens. During these years, the daughter, Mrs. Clarence Aten, (Grace), was active in the business and Mr. Aten helped some, too, along with his farming interests.

M.M. Gwinner passed away November 3, 1945. He had been going to the cafe a few hours each day up until two weeks before his final illness.

The family continued with the business until it was sold to Mente Martin in 1948. Mrs. Gwinner remained active and continued to take a keen interest in her friends, members of her family, in her church and in current events. She passed away after a week's illness September 15, 1953, at the age of 89.

From the Home of Stone files.



Martin Moyer Gwinner
1863-1945



Carrie (Blackburn) Gwinner
1863-1953

DODGE CITY AND FORD COUNTY, KANSAS 1870-1920 PIONEER HISTORIES AND STORIES

HENRY GYLES

Henry Gyles was a meat packer in Chicago, with extensive contracts to furnish the government with meat during the Civil War. The close of the war had caught him with so large a supply on hand that falling prices cost him his fortune. In 1869, he brought his family west to Kansas to homestead some free land and to recover his fortune. The family settled eight miles west of the site where Dodge City was founded three years later in 1872. By 1881, the family was living southeast of Dodge City.

One of the daughters, Anna Gyles, born August 4, 1863, in Chicago, was married to George Washington Reighard on January 13, 1881, by the Reverend Mr. Shipc. They went to Chicago for their honeymoon trip. Anna Gyles Reighard's story is included with Mr. Reighard's in this book. She passed away at age 93 on July 19, 1957, in Denver, Colorado, at the home of a daughter, Mrs. George (Dorothy Reighard) Goodwin. Her obituary lists other survivors as her son, George H. Reighard of Dodge City; another daughter, Mrs. Cecil (DeEtte Reighard) Steward of Tulsa, Oklahoma; one sister, Mrs. Lillie Gyles Holley of Huntington Park, California; five grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

Daisy Lockman Plotner
See The George Reighard entry

FREDERICK AND BARBARA HAIN

There is little known about Fred Hain. He was one of the original settlers who came to the Windthorst Community from Cincinnati, Ohio. He died August 6, 1882, and is buried in the Windthorst cemetery. His tombstone tells us that he was born in 1837, and died in 1882. There was no priest present in the parish at that time. There is no record of Fred in the church books.

Government proof of homestead papers for S20 T26 R21 Wheatland Twp., Ford Co., Kansas, show that Fred Hain, a native of Bavaria, declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States on the tenth day of September 1873, and was granted citizen-

ship on the sixth day of October 1875, by the Probate Court of Hamilton Co., Ohio.

Fred Hain, his wife Barbara, son Edward, daughters Eva Theresia and Mary Magdalena established residence on their Kansas farm in April 1878. Two more children were born to the couple after they were settled in their new home. Anna was born in 1880, and Henry in 1882.

The church records show: "Today, January 22, 1880, I baptized Maria Anna Heine, daughter of Frederick Heine from Alsenaw, Bavaria and Barbara Seitz, Rumbach, Bavaria."

"Today, April 5, 1882, I baptized Henry Carl Haine born March 25, 1882. His father is Frederick Haine from Freiburg, Baden, Germany and his wife born Barbara Seitz from Freiburg, Germany."

Barbara Seitz Hain was born in 1846. Since her husband died so early, it was up to her to provide for her family and meet the terms of the homestead agreement and the land patent was issued in her name May 28, 1884.

When the father died, the oldest child, Edward, was 12 years of age and Henry, the baby, was six months old. Here is an example of a real pioneer mother and her children!



Barbara Seitz Hain
1846-1935

Ed Hain (1870-1934) married Clara Temaat (1883-1879) and made quite a name for himself as a businessman, assessor, and banker. Hain's State Fishing Lake is located on land that had been his property. The lake was a WPA Conservation project and was built after Ed's death. It was named in his honor. Ed and Clara were married late in life and there were no children.

Eva Theresia Hain (1872-1920) married Matt Konda, Sr. (1862-1934). Their 12 children were: Mary Magdalena (Mrs. John Shoemaker), Ed Konda, Matt Konda, Jr., Anna, (Mrs. August Beller), Henrietta (Mrs. Roscoe Dean), Rose (Mrs. William Blake), Mary (Mrs. Alphonse Beller) Henry Konda, Steven Konda, Frank Konda, Emma (Mrs. George Lampe) and Miss Clara Konda. Frank, born in 1905, is the only surviving child.

Mary Magdalena Hain (1877-1952) married Stephen Konda (1864-1950). While the rest of Fred Hain's children made their homes in Ford Co., Kansas, Mary Magdalena reared her family near Marion, South Dakota. Several of her



Barbara Hain and family, April 1890. Back row, left to right: Ed Hain (age 20), Mary Magdalena Hain (age 13), Matt Konda (husband of Theresa). Front row: Anna Hain (age 10), Henry Hain (age eight), Barbara Hain, Theresa Hain Konda (age 18).

DODGE CITY AND FORD COUNTY, KANSAS 1870-1920 PIONEER HISTORIES AND STORIES

children still live there. They are Frank Konda, Henry Konda, Leo Konda, Mary (Mrs. Willard Miller) and Miss Margaret Konda. John, Edward, and Mrs. Anna Pompe are deceased.

Anna Hain (1880-1964) married John Novack (1889-1968) and inherited the homestead. After their children were grown, the Novacks sold the farm and moved to Dodge City, Kansas. Their children are Edward Novack, Offerle, Kansas; Henry Novack, Hutchinson, Kansas, Anna (Mrs. Roland Meyers) Offerle and John Novack, Deerfield, Kansas.

Henry Hain (1882-1928) married Anna TEMAAT (1885-1980) Their children are: Martha (Mrs. Frank Konda), Spearville, Kansas; Lucy (Mrs. Lawrence Schmitt), Hobbs, New Mexico; Henry Hain, Spearville; Gertrude, (Mrs. Lawrence Herman), Dodge City and Rita (Mrs. Andrew Naab), Spearville, Kansas.

Grandma Hain (Barbara) died in 1935, aged 88 years.

Henry Hain, Parkview Villa,
Spearville, Kansas

THE HALL AND BRAUCHER FAMILIES

ANDERSON WILLIAM HALL

After his mother's death in 1877, Anderson William Hall and his family left Madison County, Illinois, his travels being recorded in his Bible as follows:

"Anderson Hall lived in madison co Ills. untill the Spring of 1878 when he Remove near Pocahontas Bond co Ills. Lived there untill the Spring of 1882. Move to Fayette co Ills. near Ramsey. lived there untill the fall of 1883. Removed to East St. Louis Ills. Lived there untill September the 17th...1885. Removed to Kansas. Settled 18 miles Southwest of Dodge City in ford county, Township 28. R. 27."

While living in Illinois, Anderson listed his occupation as farmer and with his removal to Kansas, he owned farms in Gray and Ford Counties. During his residence in Gray County, he served as

a Justice of the Peace and, besides farming, he sold land while living in Ford County and in Dodge City where he moved in 1900.

Anderson William Hall was born November 11, 1845, in Madison Co., Illinois. He was the seventh son of Milton and Nancy (McMahan) Hall. Anderson's forefathers had been farmers. His great grandfather, William Hall, had been a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

Anderson W. Hall was a veteran of the Civil War. He was mustered into Company H, 150th Illinois Voluntary Infantry on February 13, 1865, and served with this company in Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee, being mustered out of the army on January 16, 1866.

On December 30, 1869, Anderson Hall and Margaret E. Crowson were married in Troy, Madison Co., Illinois, by Robert Stewart, a Minister of the Gospel.

In 1878, he and his family left Madison Co., Illinois, and eventually settled in Ford County, Kansas, in late 1856.

His wife, Margaret, died from tuberculosis on May 20, 1887, not too long after their move to Kansas. The couple had eight children born in Madison, Bond, and Fayette counties in Illinois: Jacob Wesley, Thomas Mills, Nancy Rosemond, Harrison Horrace, Jules Alva, Rhoda Viola, Arthur Douglas, and Hannah. Two of their children died in Dodge City (Jacob Wesley Hall on August 6, 1898, and Jules Alva on August 14, 1907).

THE BRAUCHER FAMILY

The Braucher family moved to Dodge City in 1885, following the death of Benjamin Franklin Braucher (1841-1884). He was a Civil War Veteran. His wife was Almaretta (Duff) Braucher (1848-1933). Their daughter, Lottie Grace Braucher, was born September 25, 1873, in Logan Co., Illinois. In 1881, the Braucher family had moved from Logan Co., Illinois, to Nine Mile Creek, near Clintonville, Missouri. At the time Benjamin Braucher passed away the family was living in Hartford, Kansas, in Lyon County.

Robert L. Hall

THE FAMILY OF ANDERSON W. HALL AND LOTTIE G. BRAUCHER HALL

Anderson W. Hall's second nuptial tie was to Lottie Grace Braucher when they eloped and were married in Meade, Kansas, on July 29, 1890. From this union came three children: Benjamin Fred Hall (1896-1958), Florence Ethyl Hall (1900-1984) and Harry Hall born 1907, living in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in 1993.

In the late 1890s, Anderson's health began to fail and, because of the association of this failing health with injuries incurred during the Civil War, he and his family were admitted to the Kansas State Soldiers home at Fort Dodge in February 1901. Anderson was a resident of the Soldiers Home at the time of his death on November 22, 1919.

Following her husband's death, Lottie Grace (Braucher) Hall left Fort Dodge and moved to Dodge City with her family. She was employed at Gwinner's House of Sweets for a number of years. She was a member of the Christian Church in Dodge City since 1886, the Dodge City Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star and the Royal Neighbors. While living in Fort Dodge, she was prominent in the Women's Relief Society. She passed away on September 9, 1927, in Dodge City.

Anderson W. Hall is interred along with his sons, Jules and Jacob, his wife Lottie Grace, and a stillborn granddaughter in Maple Grove Cemetery, Dodge City, Kansas.

Children of Anderson W. and Lottie Hall

Benjamin Fred Hall began life on a farm in Gray County, Kansas, located near Ensign, Kansas, on March 10, 1896. He was named after his maternal grandfather, Benjamin Franklin Braucher, and his maternal uncle, Frederick Alan Braucher. He grew up in and around Dodge City and Fort Dodge, Kansas, attending school in Fort Dodge until the age of 14 when rules required that he leave the soldier's home and reside somewhere else. He lived

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with his half brother Thomas Mills Hall on a farm near Bushton, Kansas, and then worked for the State of Kansas at the dairy and as an engineer in the power plant at Fort Dodge.

Ben Hall enlisted in the army and served in France during World War I. He worked in the engineering department of Dodge City, as an automobile refinisher, a farm laborer and a painting and decorating contractor.

Ben Hall married Oleita Sabina Sporn on May 9, 1923, in the farm home of the bride's parents near Larned, Kansas. Three children were born of this marriage (all in Dodge City): Ronald Eugene Hall (1924-1987), a Baby Girl Hall (stillborn, 1925) Robert Lee Hall (born 1932, living in Tucson, Arizona, in 1993) Ben Hall moved his family to Tucson, Arizona, in 1941. His son, Ronald, remained in Dodge City until after his graduation from high school in 1942. Benjamin Fred Hall passed away on November 16, 1958, in Tucson, Arizona where he is interred in South Lawn Memorial Park.

Florence Ethyl Hall was born June 2, 1900, in Ford Co., Kansas. She was working at Gwinner's in 1927, when her mother died. She married Lee Harold Higgins on September 23, 1923, in Dodge City. She lived in Dodge City, Ford County or Fort Dodge from the time she was born until moving to Clovis, New Mexico, in about 1945. She passed away March 2, 1984, in Dodge City.

Harry Hall was born March 29, 1907, at Fort Dodge, Kansas. When he graduated from Dodge City Senior High School he and his family lived at 1005 Fifth Avenue. He married Irene Theodora Perdue on September 17, 1931, in Topeka, Kansas. He lived in Fort Dodge and Dodge City until moving to Albuquerque, New Mexico, in 1939. He retired after over 30 years service with the Santa Fe Railroad and is living in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in 1993.

Robert L. Hall, Tucson, Arizona

THE HAMPTONS, A RODEO FAMILY

The story of this family that for three generations has been well known in rodeo circles, really begins with W.H. Hampton, who was born September 6, 1868, in Union Town, Georgia. When he was two years old, his family moved to Aztec, New Mexico. As a cowboy and stockman, he worked and lived around Aztec, New Mexico, and Durango, Colorado. Later he worked for several years on a ranch on the Smoky Hill River in Gove Co., Kansas.

W.H. came to Dodge City in 1912, and for several years ran a livery and feed barn just north of the Santa Fe depot. He later operated the Bill Kimbrel livery barn on Second Avenue, north of the river. And finally he managed the old Grove Hotel and the livery and feed barn that was in connection with the hotel. This was also between the river and the Santa Fe railroad tracks.

W.H. Hampton died December 30, 1939, at the age of 71, at his son, Leonard "Bud" Hampton's home on South Second Avenue in Dodge City. W.H. Hampton had three children, Bud and Myrtle by his first marriage, and a much younger son, Lee, by his second marriage. Lee grew up in the home of his half-brother.

Leonard J. Hampton, always known as Bud, was born January 31, 1894, in Pueblo, Colorado. He came to Dodge City in 1911, and worked for a while helping to build the branch road to Elkhart, Kansas. Young Bud had grown up on the ranges of New Mexico and Colorado and he found "cow punching" much more to his liking. He spent several years of his life out on the prairies trailing cattle through Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas. His memories of those experiences would fill a book. One drive that he remembers was a herd of 1,000 head all carrying the Pitchfork brand, that he helped to bring from a ranch north of Guymon, Oklahoma, to the Maloney Ranch near Liberal.

Bud's lifelong career as a rodeo rider actually began when he went to a rodeo in Garden City in 1915, when he

was 21. It was there that he heard the other cowboys talking about the Frontier Days Rodeo in Cheyenne, Wyoming. He came home determined that some day he would ride in that show at Cheyenne. His father was running the old Kimbrel livery stable at the time. Bud would watch for someone bringing in a herd of horses to be boarded in the stable until they could be moved or sold. He would ask the owner's permission to ride them as most of those coming in as part of herds had never been ridden. His practice did not take him to Cheyenne immediately but he did get the opportunity to ride with Kennedy's Diamond X Wild West Show out of Ft. Sumner, New Mexico.

Hampton remembers his father's parting advice as he left to ride bucking horses for the show. "Son, you'd make more money if you'd take a four-horse team and a gang plow out and work with them than you will riding in a wild west show."

However, the elder Hampton's comments did not keep young Hampton at home. Bud's riding experience served him well two years later when he joined the army in 1917. He joined a division whose job it was to break and train the mostly mean animals that were sold to the army. In 1918, the army still used thousands of horses in their Cavalry units. Bud remembers that there was a time when they were faced with 32,000 head at an army camp near San Antonio, Texas.

After the war in 1921, Bud had his first chance at Cheyenne's Frontier Days. He later roped and rode in the show several different times. Through the years to come he received many awards at shows all over the west.

In 1965, when Bud was the Parade Marshall in the Dodge City Days Parade he carried the gold card of the Rodeo Cowboys Association. It wasn't paper or plastic but metal. This is an honor given only to those who are still active members when they become 50 years of age. With the gold card the cowboy also receives a life membership. He is exempt from paying dues but entitled to full membership privileges.

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Leonard J. Bud Hampton married Helen Beaman. Through the years Bud and Helen maintained Bud's Motel and Service Station next to the river on the east side of South Second Avenue. They raised their two children, Loretta and Leonard there. But always there was roping and riding in Bud's busy life. It was not surprising that young Leonard followed his dad's footsteps to the corral but Loretta trailed along, too. She also learned to ride and followed her dad to the rodeos doing trick roping and riding at every opportunity.

Bud Hampton, a home town celebrity, one who truly represented the trade that made our town the wild cow town that it was, the Cowboy Capital of the Old West, died February 20, 1984. By that time his son, Leonard, was a well-known rodeo rider himself. Leonard's son, Monte, has the same love for rodeo competition that brought fame in rodeo circles to his dad and granddad. His mother, Mary's, comment was that to watch the interest Monte's young daughters have in horses, it is safe to plan on a fourth generation of rodeoing Hamptons.

Lola Adams Crum

J.W. "JAKE" HARSHBERGER AND FAMILY

In July 1887, J.W. Harshberger "Jake" applied for a grant for 160 acres of land in Ford Co., Kansas, located 17 miles southwest of Dodge City. He came to Dodge City on the train earlier that summer from the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia, leaving that land after the devastation of the Civil War. He and three brothers traveled west to St. Louis, Missouri, where they drew straws to see who would go on to the western states. Jake drew Kansas, Benjamin was to go to Arizona, Joseph to Montana and John to Oregon.

Jake walked to his homestead which he purchased for \$1.25 an acre. He built a sod house and telegraphed for his wife, Elizabeth "Lizzie" Good, and their children to join him. There were five boys and one girl. Their daughter, Leila, later returned to Virginia to marry Walter Switzer, a neighbor of her grand-

parents, George and Elizabeth Hulvey. She lived on the Harshberger family home in Staunton, Virginia. The boys were Paul, Sidney, Roy and Oscar, who died at the age of 11 of complication from the measles. He is buried in the Minneola cemetery.

When Jake's family was settled, he obtained a job in a lumberyard in Dodge City. He stayed there during the week, using scraps of lumber to build light furniture for his family. Then when the day ended on Saturday he would walk home carrying the furniture and a week's supply of food, returning early on Monday.

When he saved enough, he bought a horse to ride to his job and later to use to break out sod to begin farming wheat. That was the beginning.

In 1890, he built a large ranch house, adding to it as his family grew. (It later burned in April 1945.) In April 1898, another son, George, was born. But the dreaded illness of child-bed fever claimed the life of Lizzie, who is buried in the Minneola cemetery. By then Jake was a full-time farmer and rancher giving of his time to his family and community. He donated land to build a school, where he taught children of the community until a full-time teacher was hired. He was a great promoter of education and getting people out to vote, also of revising farming methods to con-



J.W. "Jake" Harshberger



George and Beulah (Schoonover) Harshberger on their wedding day, June 12, 1929.

serve moisture, and of summer fallowing. Jake and his sons also operated a cattle dip for cattle herds that were coming up from Texas to the rail head in Dodge City. The cattle dip was located 12 miles south of Dodge City near Highway 283, where all cattle were disinfected to keep down cattle fever carried by ticks.

Later Jake married Elizabeth Schnapp. They had two children, Cecil and Marie (Sims). Elizabeth had come to Minneola to visit her brother. Later she played the organ in the Christian Church there. In 1928, Jake moved his family, Marie and Cecil, to Los Angeles, California, leaving the ranch to his sons. Roy married Pearl Camp. They are buried in Maple Grove Cemetery, Dodge City. Sidney married Mary Harris. He is buried in Minneola. She later remarried. George was wed to Beulah Schoonover in 1929. George, along with his brother, Paul, who never married, are buried in the Minneola cemetery. Jake died in October 1930, and was buried in the Maple Grove Cemetery in Dodge City. Children of George and his wife, Beulah Schoonover, are: Norma Leis, Ida Heinson, Emmy Gleichman, and George Harshberger, Jr.

Norma Leis

THE HEILAND FAMILY

ERNST HEILAND

Ernst Heiland was born March 22, 1831, in Sorenbauch, Prussia. He came

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Ernst Heiland homestead.

to Illinois in 1851, and settled in Fowler Township, Adams Co., Quincy, Illinois. No relatives came to the U.S. with him. The only known relative was a brother who was a minister (probably of the Lutheran Church), who remained in Prussia. No information as to parents or brother's name is known at this time.

On March 29, 1865, he married Mary Fouse (also found as Fause) at Quincy, Illinois. In a listing on microfilm of the 1870 Census, page 19, Fowler Twp., Adams Co., the family is listed as Ernst, Mary and children: John, August and Henry. (The spelling on the census record was Highland.) A son, Fred and daughter, Mary Elizabeth, were born in Illinois, after this census record.

The family along with several other families left Illinois by train and arrived in Kinsley in March 1877. The Louis Wetzels, Werners and Heitledge families were some that came west at the same time. At that time, Kinsley was the end of the railroad. It was completed to Dodge City and points west in the following years. They made the rest of their journey to Apple Valley in Ford County by wagon. Apple Valley later became Wheatland Township.

Ernst Heiland applied for Osage Land Grant on about February 15, 1878, and actually moved on his claim about March 15, 1878. This is proven by a copy of the land grant.

The Heilands settled in Ford County in Wheatland Township. A post office was established at Noland, Kansas, November 11, 1887. The Postmaster was Robert McGill. The post office was discontinued on January 16, 1893, according to postal records. Bellefont, Kansas, became their post office.

The legal description of the land homesteaded in Wheatland Township is

S34 T26 R21. Other land was added as the family could see their way to pay for it. The homestead is two miles south of the Northern Boundary of the Osage Indian Strip. There were a few Indian raids, but no deaths are known from the raids. An Indian moccasin was found after one of the raid and it has been placed on loan to the Historical Home of Stone in Dodge City.

The Arkansas River is a few miles south of the homestead. It was one mile wide and the only way to cross it was to ford it.

Four children were born at home in Wheatland Township. They were Peter J., Anna Carolina, Emma Marie and Christopher H. Peter always told how he was born in a dugout on April 21, 1878, before the sod house was built. A new home was built south and east of the sod house.

On October 20, 1912, Ernst died suddenly. He was 81 years old. He was buried at Offerle. At the time of Mr. Heiland's death, all of the children were grown and married.

Mary Fouse was born October 14,



Mr. and Mrs. Ernst Heiland and Chris.

1844, in Alsace-Lorraine, France of German parentage. Her parents were Jacob Faust and Catharine Baden from Prussia. Along with her parents, one brother and four sisters, they left their homeland and arrived in Kansas in 1856. Soon after arrival in Kansas, they migrated to Illinois and located near Quincy, Illinois. Soon after settling there, her brother Fred left and the family never heard from him again. It was at Quincy that she met and married Ernst Heiland.

Her sisters were Margret, who married a Meyer; Katherine, who married a Schriber; Caroline who married John Henry Werner, and Lena who married Henry Heitledge. Mary married Dave Bird after the death of Ernst. Mr. Bird was a widower with all married children. Mary was 90 years old when she died on August 18, 1935.

Each of the children received 80 acres of land to start their families on. And some of those families still own that land. In 1963, Peter and his wife Antoinetta passed away and left 40 acres to each of their children. In 1964, Earl and Ethel Heiland bought the other children's land except for Agnes. Then in 1978, Agnes sold her land to Earl and Ethel. They also bought 80 acres from Christopher's wife, Mamie. Mamie's land included the homestead. Earl and Ethel own 661 acres of land which they still farm. Earl is unable to farm anymore, because of illness.

Ethel Heiland, Offerle, Kansas

AUGUST H. "GUS" HEILAND

August H. "Gus" Heiland was born at or near Quincy, Adams Co., Illinois, on January 11, 1868. He was the second son of Ernst and Mary E. Heiland. He married Mary C. Foote on June 1, 1910.

Mary C. Foote was born April 13, 1885, southeast of Jetmore, Kansas. She became a schoolteacher and attended the Normal Training School in Crocker, Missouri, in 1903, and later in Jetmore and Dodge City. She held certificates to teach in Hodgeman, Ford and Stanton Counties. She homesteaded in Stanton County, Kansas, near Menno and taught school at Schockey School in Grant

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August H. and Mary C. (Foote) Heiland taken shortly after their marriage, June 1, 1910, at Spearville.

County, Kansas, then returned to Spearville, Kansas. She worked for a time in the *Spearville News* office and then accepted a position to teach in the Valley Pride School District 47. This school was in the Heiland neighborhood. Richard Bradfield was the County School Superintendent. W. Carl Miller and Mary Hale were associate examiners at the time and signed her teaching certificate. The pupils in 1909-1910 were: Bertha McVey, Iva McVey, Daniel Juttner, John Jenkins, Ray Jenkins, Luther Jenkins, Loren Rodenbaugh, Milburn Rodenbaugh, Elmer Rodenbaugh, Allen Trimpa, Jefferson Trimpa, Bessie Trimpa and Lelia Jenkins.

When school was out, the teacher, Mary Foote, married August "Gus" Heiland. They moved to Bucklin in 1911, and lived there until their deaths. Gus worked for the Rock Island Railroad until his retirement. He passed away March 6, 1963, aged 95 years plus. Mary died in 1968 at the age of 82 years and 10 months.

Mrs. M.W. Tucker, Minneola, Kansas

HELLWARTH-MILLER

Roy Washington Hellwarth, 1875-1948, was born and reared in Celina, Ohio, the son of David Hellwarth, whose father had emigrated from Germany as a young man. R.W. Hellwarth received his degree as Doctor of Dental Surgery from the Ohio College of Dental Surgery in Cincinnati in 1900. Knowing that Dodge City, like other frontier towns, was in need of trained dentists, he moved to Dodge after his graduation to establish his dental practice. He practiced there until his death

48 years later.

Nannie Dunn, 1883-1965, was born in Waterloo, Iowa, but moved with her family as an infant to Dodge City. Her father, Frank Dunn, established a furniture business in Dodge City with Ed Kirkpatrick as his partner. Within a few years, they sold the business to Charles Hulpieu and his brother-in-law, Ed Adam, and the Dunn family moved to Garden City, where Mr. Dunn also had a furniture store and undertaking business.

In 1891, Frank Dunn traveled by train to Oregon where he planned to establish another furniture business and move his family. However, he contracted diphtheria while on the trip and died in the west at the age of 39. His widow in Garden City was left with three little girls to raise. When Nannie Dunn was 18, she moved from Garden to Dodge City, where she was immediately in demand as a pianist and piano teacher. Shortly afterward, her younger sister and their mother, Nora Dunn, also came to Dodge City, where Nora opened a milliner's shop.

Nannie Dunn and Dr. R.W. Hellwarth were married in Dodge City in 1903. Their only child, Janet, was born in 1907. Dr. Hellwarth was active in the Masonic Lodge and in the First Presbyterian Church, where he served as an elder. He was one of the founders of the Dodge City Country Club. In 1922, he served as central district president of the Kansas State Dental Association, in which he was active until his death.

Nannie Hellwarth was the pianist, then organist of the First Presbyterian Church in Dodge City from the age of eighteen until she retired from the organ bench at age eighty. When she was honored by the church at the time of her retirement, she had served as organist longer than any other person on record in the Presbyterian Church of the U.S.A.

Many years after Frank Dunn and his partner had sold their furniture store and undertaking establishment to Charles Hulpieu and Ed Adams, their families would be linked again. A second Hulpieu brother-in-law, John F. Miller,

joined the furniture business in 1904 when the Adams family moved to Texas. Nearly three decades later, John Miller's son, Louis F. Miller (1899-1959) would marry Janet Hellwarth, the granddaughter of the original Dunn partner. As the Hulpieu-Miller Furniture Company, what had been one of Dodge City's first business establishments, would flourish until the 1970s.

Louis and Janet Miller had two children, a twin boy, Lynn Hellwarth (1937-) and a girl, Linda Lou Miller Naylor (1937-1991). Linda was married to James C. Naylor, Jr., in 1960. They settled in the Boston area in 1962, where they remained until Linda's death. They had two children, Nancy Janet (1960-) and James Louis Naylor (1965-). In 1984, Nancy married Danny Hartsoe and became the mother of a son, Ian, in 1986.

Lynn Miller received a Ph.D. degree from Princeton University in 1966. He settled in Philadelphia in 1969, where he became professor and chair of the Department of Political Science at Temple University.

In 1961, the Hulpieu-Miller Furniture Company was sold. Janet Hellwarth Miller then was employed by Columbia Artists Management in their Community Concerts division. In 1969, she moved to New York City, where she continued to work for Community Concerts. She remained in New York for some ten years after her retirement. In 1992, she moved to a retirement community in Doylestown, Pennsylvania.

Lynn Miller

THE HERRON HOMESTEAD

My grandfather, Joseph Herron, and his wife, Margaret Clark Barr Herron, and their four children, the youngest, a baby six months old, came to Kansas by train in the year 1878. He had evidently been thinking of this move for several years, influenced by his nephew, Emery Pease, who had been to Kansas and had painted glowing word pictures of its opportunities.

Joseph Herron was born December 8, 1834, and was a teacher in Washington Co., Pennsylvania. His grandparents had come to this country from Ireland

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sometime before 1775. They were weavers, and as such, were in great demand in the industrial development of this country.

Margaret Barr had been a pupil of Joseph Herron. Her parents were Robert and Margaret Jackson Barr. She was also of Irish descent. She was born December 9, 1847—13 years younger than he. She had been the object of a lot of teasing in school because of his obvious favor. We have the fly-page of a little Bible he had given her, on which he had written some of his thoughts regarding her. Her brothers and sisters teased her so badly that she clipped the page out of the Bible and threw it into the fireplace. One of her sisters rescued it, but you can still see the burned edges! She was married at 19 years of age, on February 7, 1867. They were members of the Pigeon Creek Presbyterian Church in Washington Co., Pennsylvania.

Margaret was the third oldest of 13 children and had always had to take a great deal of responsibility for the younger children. Her father, Robert Barr, died on November 21, 1872, in a tragic accident. We have the newspaper clipping telling of this incident. He had gone to a coal bank to buy coal for the family's winter supply. While the wagon was being loaded it was locked, but in the midst of the operation, the



Joseph Herron and his wife, Margaret Clark Barr Herron. Taken in 1893.

horses started up. Robert sprang to catch the lines, and in doing so threw off the lock-lever, which struck him on the side of the head with such force as to knock him down between the wheels, which ran over him, injuring him fatally. Because of this accident Joseph Herron promised his wife they would not leave Pennsylvania as long as her mother lived, so she could help care for her younger brothers and sisters. Margaret's mother died March 1, 1877, so Joseph and Margaret made plans to make the move to Kansas. They were now the parents of four children who accompanied them: Robert Barr Herron, born April 24, 1870; James Hopkins Herron, born September 15, 1872; Margaret Anna Herron, born October 1, 1874, and Mary Dickey Herron, born January 14, 1878.

The Herrons and his nephew, Mr. Pease, boarded the train in Pennsylvania and came to Kinsley, Kansas, where the Herrons lived for two years on a tree claim. They applied for Homestead Land of 160 acres in Ford County and received final papers in 1887, issued by the Garden City, Kansas, Land Office and signed by President Grover Cleveland. The nephew decided Kansas weather conditions were too severe, so he went back east to Iowa. Grandfather was financially unable to move any place else, so lived on the homestead four miles northeast of Spearville, Kansas, for the rest of his life. Their mailing address was Bellefont, Kansas. They erected a two-story frame house, with a kitchen and bedroom downstairs, and two bedrooms upstairs. In the winter, snow filtered through the cracks onto the beds, and they used heated stones wrapped in flannel to warm their feet. There was a cellar underneath the house for storage of food-stuffs, and protection from such storms as occurred often in the plains area.

The years were hard ones for them, but they learned well the lessons "make do" and "do without." Persistence and frugality saw them through. Two more sons were born into this family on the home place: Joseph Alphonso, born November 1, 1881, and William Hector, born September 13, 1884.

The Herrons were wheat farmers, but also kept cows, chickens, sheep, and raised a garden for their food supply. A promising development was the Soule Canal which ran through the area, bringing water from the Arkansas River to the various farmsteads. The men in that locality worked on the big ditch, but it was not much help to them. The water was usually all gone long before it reached north of Spearville.

Their trips to Dodge City or Kinsley for supplies were few and far between. It took from dawning until far into the night to make the round trip by horse and spring wagon. Beside that, they had very little money with which to buy anything. For "coffee" they roasted wheat and then boiled it and drank the liquid. Its only merit was that it was a hot drink. For salads they used dandelion leaves or lambs quarter. Their soap was made from lye and cracklings. During summer months one child was responsible for each meal to keep the flies away from the food on the table. Cooking for "threshers" was a monumental job each summer for the women.

Grandmother and the girls made most of the clothes for the family. They raised sheep, sheared them, picked burrs and trash from the wool, washed it, carded it, spun it into thread and wove it into cloth and blankets. They also knit stockings, mittens, and sweaters for winter usage. Five men needed many shirts, so my mother became quite proficient at making button holes, by hand, of course. A highlight of their year was the visit of the "notions" itinerant salesman. He sold buttons, laces, snaps, hooks and eyes, and ribbons, besides bolts of cloth from his wagon. One time he told Grandmother that he had a "shape" in his wagon. She was delighted to think that she could buy a dressmakers model on which to fit her dresses. She went out to his wagon to see it, but soon discovered it was a "sheep" which someone had traded him for some of his "pretties!" I still have some of the laces, buttons, and other dress decorations that they bought from these salesmen!

There was no doctor in their house for years, nor did they visit any doctor

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unless it was a dire emergency. For chest congestion, Grandmother boiled onions and made a poultice to put on one's chest. Wool flannel was worn over the chest area to keep it warm. A teaspoon of sugar with a little kerosene to moisten it was given to "cut" phlegm. A good spring tonic was sulfur and molasses. Sassafras root was a popular blood thinner to prepare one for summer's heat. I have experienced some of these treatments myself.

On the almost treeless plain, wood for fuel was hard to get, so they burned cow chips. Grandfather, who was very handy at carpentering, made the children a little wagon. They ranged far and wide searching for cow chips to fill the wagon, which they took home and used for fuel. The railroad went through the area about a mile and a half from their home. Kind employees would toss off a few lumps of coal to the children. They would hurriedly gather it, and if it was too much for one load on the little wagon, one child was left to stand guard over the "treasure" while the others transported part of it home, then came back for the rest.

Church was important in the lives of these Scotch-Irish Presbyterian settlers. For a time they held services in the school house. Then a Presbyterian Church was organized in Spearville and they were faithful members. Grandfather was very strict in "Sabbath" keeping, and gathered his family about him each Sunday afternoon to study the catechism. I still have the book he used. There was no field work allowed, no visiting was done, and there was no playing of games—not even whistling by the boys. The day was spent doing only necessary chores, Bible reading and study, and quiet contemplation. Hospitality was a part of their religious faith. They often entertained itinerant preachers, giving them lodging and food in return for their conducting services.

Education was very important to the Herrons. They attended School District #9, about two and one-half miles from their home. The kids had a little mule they rode to school which would carry several children at a time. When they



Joseph Herron children in 1893. Standing, left to right: Margaret, Joe, Mary. Sitting: James, William and Robert.

got to school they would dismount, turn the mule homeward, and he would trot off home to his own stable. Of course the children had to walk home in the evening, but they never seemed to mind. On bad days Grandfather would come after them in the wagon!

Friday afternoons were very special—devoted to giving readings, singing, spelling bees, ciphering matches, and the older children would practice plays to be given at Literary Society Meetings. This group met nights, and included the whole community. Sometimes the men would debate timely issues of the day, and the women and girls gave recitations and plays. Grandfather had brought most of their books with him from Pennsylvania. Each child used the same books, whenever their brothers or sisters finished with them. Every teacher usually arranged a Christmas program with an orange (the only one the kids had seen since last year) and a little candy for each pupil. One year the teacher had told my mother she could go into the sixth reader if she had a book. Grandfather said, regretfully, he had no money for books. At the Christmas program mother's name was called. She got her Sixth Grade Reader! Grandfather had sent for it to surprise her. She

hugged it to her and would not put it down. I still have that book. Books were so treasured that the students made paper covering for them to preserve them, and I have some of those, also. For writing paper they used any scraps that they might find, but slates were used almost exclusively to save money that might have been used for paper.

In the evenings the family could sometimes find time for games. Checkers, carom, and croquinoie were popular board games they enjoyed. They also got game cards out of Lyons coffee, when they could afford it. These were played with buttons or pieces of corn for markers.

As time passed, the young people became young adults. Five of the Herron family became teachers. They would attend teachers' normal training at Third Ward School on Boot Hill. After they completed the prescribed course of study, and passed the test, they could get a certificate, allowing them to teach in the rural schools of Ford County.

Grandfather Herron died on March 23, 1900. He had hauled two loads of rye to the Spearville elevator, which the two younger boys had loaded. He helped unload the last load, and started home. He was evidently overheated and the ride home chilled him. He became ill and the doctor was sent for. Nothing relieved his condition, and he died of lung congestion, probably pneumonia. The newspaper clipping of his obituary stated: "The funeral was held at the family residence, and was attended by the greatest number of people of any in this locality in recent years."

He was well known and well liked, and a respected member of the pioneer community. He had made wooden coffins for early settlers who could not afford to buy ones for their family members. He and Grandmother even lined them, making them as nice as possible, and never thought or charging anything for this labor of love to their neighbors and friends. Everyone was having a rough time, and each one helped the others as they could.

After Grandfather's death Grandmother moved into Spearville with her daughter, Margaret, who cared for her

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until her death on February 22, 1913. She lived 13 years longer than Grandfather, so they died at the same age. 66 years.

Robert, the oldest son, married Ella Davis and they lived on the Davis farm south of Spearville. Their sons still own this farm and until recently were active farmers, and school teachers. Ross now lives in Hutchinson, and Wayne resides in Kinsley. Robert died May 14, 1942.

James married Jennie Johnson. Her father was a minister of the Presbyterian Church in Spearville, at about the turn of the century. He preached Grandfather's funeral service. James and Jennie moved to Kansas City when he became a mail clerk on the trains running from Kansas City to Dodge City. Every fourth weekend he laid over Sunday in Dodge City so the Herrons had a family reunion every month for several years in the 1930s. Their son, Leroy, lives in Benton, Missouri. James died February 15, 1956.

Margaret taught school, and after her mother's death she moved to Dodge City, where she married Frank Newlin Jones, a Santa Fe employee. Their daughter, Esther, also taught school for many years at Ingalls, Kansas, and Dodge City. Margaret's death was May 18, 1951.

Mary married a man of the same last name, Charles Herron, and moved to Cimarron, Kansas. He farmed and was manager of elevators at Cimarron and Ingalls. Their son, Raymond, is now deceased. Mary's death was December 9, 1957.

Joe married Iva Offerle, whose father was founder of Offerle, Kansas. Joe moved to a farm a couple of miles west of the original homestead. Joe died March 12, 1951. Their son, Cecil, lives on this farm today. Another son, Glenn, lives in Lexington, Kentucky.

William married Sylvia Carr of Emporia, Kansas. She came to Ford County to teach school. They lived on the original homestead until his death on June 28, 1952. Their daughter, Ellen, was also a teacher in Cimarron and Spearville high schools. She now lives in Morgan Hill, California.

The old homestead was sold, and all the buildings have been torn down. The last time I viewed the place, only the water pump was standing.

Joseph and his wife, Margaret and three of their sons, Robert, Joe and Will and their wives are buried in Silent Land Cemetery, Spearville along with other family relatives. James is buried in Kansas City; Margaret in Maple Grove Cemetery in Dodge City and Mary in

Cimarron, Kansas.

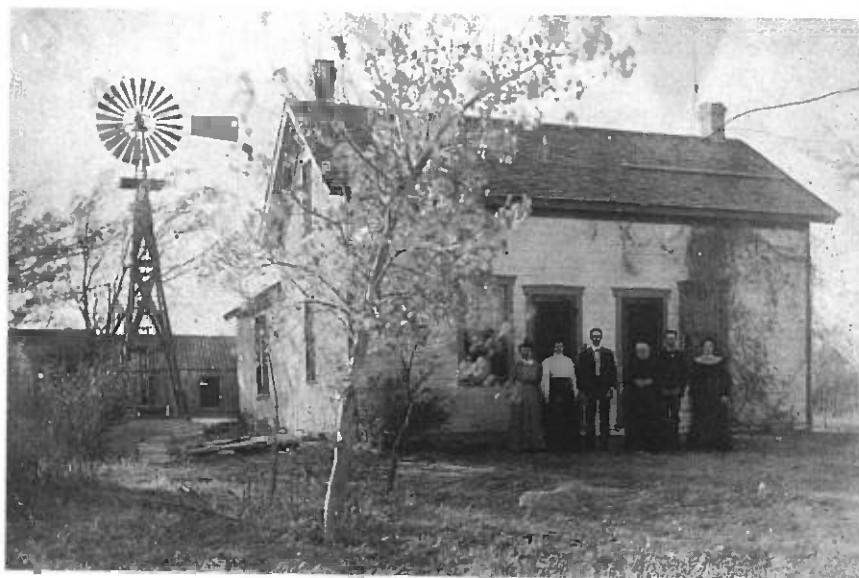
Although the original members of the Herron family have passed on to their eternal rewards, their characters shine through in the recalling of their contributions to the settlement of this great area of the country. They were typical homesteaders who not only experienced the hardships of pioneer days, but also experienced the pleasures of homesteading. Their integrity makes those of us who remain proud we can claim them as our ancestors. Their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren can be eternally grateful that they have inherited this legacy of strength, built up through each succeeding generation! They lived in a unique period of history, and we thank them for sharing their heritage with us. They were upright, God-revering people and of such, will our Nation survive.

Esther Smith

HARRY AND AGNES M.

MORRISON HERZER

Agnes M. Morrison, who was born September 2, 1873, at Youngstown, Ohio, came to Kansas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.J. Morrison, at the age of 12. They settled first in Ford and then moved to a farm nearby. Agnes attended schools in Ford and then schools in Ford, Concord Township and in Spearville. She taught school for several terms.



Our Old Home four miles northeast of Spearville, taken in 1904. Left to right: Ella (Mrs. Robert) Herron, Margaret Herron, Joseph Herron, mother Margaret Clark Barr Herron, William Herron and Mary Herron.



Agnes (Morrison) Herzer

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She was married to Henry B. Herzer at Ford, in 1897. They lived there until 1902, when they moved to Dodge City where Mr. Herzer was a merchant. They were members of the Presbyterian Church and Mrs. Herzer was active in the women's group and in fund raising for the present church. She served on the city library board for 28 years and was considered the chief force behind creation of the Children's Library. She was a member and matron of the Order of Eastern Star and member and oracle of the Royal Neighbors. She was a charter member of the American Legion Auxiliary, president and board member, and was an active member of the Atheneum Club.

They had three sons, Harry B., of Dodge City; D.L., of Ramona, California; and Charles M., Kansas City. Mr. Herzer died on June 1, 1941, and Mrs. Herzer on March 28, 1963 at Fort Dodge, Kansas. She is buried in Maple Grove Cemetery. Harry B., who married Edna Beltz, died January 1, 1973, and his widow died on February 17, 1984, at Dodge City. They had three grandchildren and three great grandchildren, none of whom now live in Ford County.

Betty Braddock

AUGUST AND MARY AGNES

HESSMAN

August Hessman was born in Prussia in 1847. Mary Agnes (Zerhusen) Hessman was born in Aldenburg, Germany in 1850. They came to the U.S. on October 6, 1864, soon after their marriage. From New York they went to Cincinnati, Ohio, and then to Kentucky where they lived nine years.

In 1876, August and Mary Agnes and their two children came to Kansas. They took a claim for a homestead near Windthorst, Kansas, where they remained until their deaths. August died January 25, 1890, and was buried in the Windthorst Cemetery. He was the first to be buried in this cemetery. The land for the cemetery was given to the community by Henry Fredelake. Elizabeth Zerhusen, the mother of Mary Agnes, was born in Germany, in 1809. She died



August Hessman



Mary Agnes (Zerhusen) Hessman

in Windthorst, in 1892.

The Hessman children were Sophie Riedlinger, Antoinetta Heiland, Rose Fox, Josephine Fox, Henry Hessman, and Mamie Heiland. Their son, Henry, lived on the farm from 1887 until his death in 1948.

Henry Hessman had married Josephine Kehl, in 1916. Their five children were Marie, Lucian, Rosalia, Henry and Adline. Their son, Lucian, is still living on the land that his grandfather, August, homesteaded in 1876, at the time of this writing in 1993.

Lucian A. Hessman

THE HESSMAN FAMILY OF FORD COUNTY

WILLIAM HESSMAN

William Hessman, 19, his brother, August Hessman, and an unnamed sister came to the United States from the Hesse-Kessel province of Germany, in the year 1851. They landed in New York and migrated to Ohio where a large contingent of German people lived, including families which eventually settled at Windthorst, Kansas, in Ford County.

The Hessmans did not come in that migration to the western plains but remained several years longer in Ohio. The brothers were stone masons and saw their trade was in demand in the newly developing Midwest.

William met and married Johanna Hursman who came with her family from Holland. The couple had several children in Ohio and neighboring states before heading west. Philemenia or "Minnie" was born in 1859, in Cincinnati. Rosa Mary and a third child were born in Cannelton, Indiana, and in 1860, Frank was born at Covington, Kentucky, right across the Ohio River from Cincinnati. Two more sons came in 1872 and 1873, at Cannelton. Johanna stayed there while William followed construction in towns and cities. Of the 13 children born, seven in Kansas, only six survived to adulthood.

The exodus of the German people from Ohio to Windthorst was in 1878. Eight-two families arrived by train. The railroad put on extra cars according to the account in the 1878 *Ford County Globe*. The Hessmans stayed on but soon followed their fellow immigrants to Kansas in a covered wagon. August lived just one year in the new territory and is buried in the Windthorst cemetery.

Although Johanna homesteaded in northeast Ford County, William and family went to Dodge City where his skills as a stone mason were renowned. The two oldest girls, left behind to remain with grandparents, eventually joined them. The couple settled a claim north of Dodge City on the Sawlog

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William Hessman

Creek. William continued work as a stone mason first in rebuilding original sod buildings at Fort Dodge. These stone buildings are still there, many in use at Fort Dodge.

His son, Henry, accompanied him on building projects at the Fort and the Sturm Ice House located at Central and Spruce, site of the present post office. The structure, built of wood and stone burned a few years later. Sturm did not rebuild but donated the Sawlog stone to the Episcopal congregation where a new church was constructed in place of one of the original all-denominational churches in the city at First and Spruce. William was retained to do stone work by the Episcopal church where the letter "H" still can be seen etched in the mortar.

In 1879-1880, the fine home now known as The Home of Stone and operated as a museum, was built for John Mueller of Dodge City. While Henry and John and the girls of the Hessman family continued to help their mother on the farm, Frank and Barney accompanied their father on this project. The sons described the precise work done as the stones were quarried from the Sawlog area, but so that every stone fit in one specific place like a jigsaw puzzle. The Adam Schmidt family pur-



Johanna Hessman

chased the home from the Muellers who returned to Missouri about a decade later. Their children, Henry (Heinie) and Elma, did not marry and continued to live in the family home. Elma, who survived Heinie, died in 1972, and the house was deeded to the Ford County Historical Society in 1965.

The Hessman family stories reveal

that while Johanna worried and fussed about crops, the weather and keeping up the farm work, William was a happy-go-lucky but hard worker and craftsman. He was often gone on a project when Johanna hustled her brood together to bring in crops. One event that stood out in their minds was when their mother, a staunch and strict Catholic kept her children home from Sunday Mass. The corn crops, were threatened by weather conditions and had to be brought in.

William was also known for his yodeling talent. In Hessman family annals, it is recorded that he would rise from his bed at 6 a.m. each morning to do his chores, yodeling across the hills and fields, so even neighbors a mile or more away could hear him.

A small pox episode is remembered in the family. Two of the children died during this tragic time. Frank and Barney had small pox but survived. The family was quarantined and the children remember that neighbors left food on the porch and hurried off.

The surviving children grew up and married, and some moved on to other areas. Minnie married Oliver Steinman; Rosa Mary, George Anso Pinney; and Frank married Matilda Nuce in 1891.



The Hessman Family. Back row (left to right): John, Mary Rosa, Minnie, Frank. Front row: Barney, parents Johanna and William, Henry.

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John married Bess Irvin Harshberger and Barney married Grace Rall. Frank, Rosa and Barney were the only ones who had children. Frank had one girl and 11 boys; Rosa, a boy and two girls; and Barney, a son who died at three.

Frank's family had the most impact on Ford County, family history shows, so this narrative now follows Frank and Matilda's dozen and their offspring. The parents, William and Johanna, are buried in Maple Grove Cemetery, Dodge City.

FRANK AND MATILDA HESSMAN

Frank and Matilda Ann Nuce were married in November 1891, at Dodge City. Frank worked for the Santa Fe Railroad where he was paid \$1.10 a day. Their home was south of the railroad tracks parallel to today's Wyatt Earp Boulevard. Their first child, Anna Josephine, was born on November 18, 1892, in Dodge City. The famed Dr. T.L. McCarty delivered their only girl.

The rest of their children (11) were boys and many a legend has grown up around them. They are William John, born August 6, 1894, Alva, Oklahoma; Edward Charley, October 15, 1896, Alva; Paul Joseph, October 2, 1898, Alva; John Henry, November 16, 1900, Alva; and Joseph Frank, March 19, 1903; George, June 10, 1905; Harry Herman, August 31, 1907; Frederick, May 28,

1910; Thomas Anthony, October 7, 1912; Bernard Herman, June 30, 1916; and James Peter, May 5, 1919, all born in Dodge City.

The Cherokee Run

In 1883, Frank and his brother-in-law, Tony Nuce, decided to make the Cherokee Run into Oklahoma, then Indian Territory. At the time it was declared that any male of 21 or older could make a claim of 160 acres, first come, first served. The conditions were that the claim had to be improved and the homesteader had to be a resident on the land for five years before a deed was granted.

The pair discovered good land and a creek not far inside the Kansas border about 20 miles north of Alva. After they placed their stakes, the government agent informed them they had filed for the same 160, but a young man nearby was willing to give up his stake for \$25 cash, so they had adjoining claims with a creek on Frank's piece. They built sod houses, and Frank replaced his a few years later with a wood frame home. Matilda and little Ann joined them and they lived in the Territory for eight years. During that time the first four sons were born.

Then in 1901 Frank sold his land and bought 480 acres in Ford County six miles north of Dodge City, all pasture land. That April they came home again,

moving in three "mover" wagons, similar to a Conestoga. Frank's father, William and a neighbor, Mr. Conley, came to help them move. Their entourage included 50 head of cattle, two colts and a saddle horse, and teams to haul the wagons. Before they could leave, however, the county sheriff arrived and demanded that Frank pay taxes for the year of 1901. Frank obliged and they started out. First came the cattle and colts tied to the saddle horse. Frank and the two oldest children, Ann and William, took turns riding the saddle horse and driving the cattle. Then came the wagon. Matilda's wagon included crates with eighteen chickens and one rooster. Tied on outside the wagons were a large table, two benches and a large chair. This furniture was hauled off and set up for every meal on the trail.

The first night a cow had a calf. It was too weak to walk the whole way so it was bedded down in Mr. Conley's wagon with the mama cow plodding alongside. The worst thing that happened, as the children recalled in later years, was crossing a patch of earth scorched by a prairie fire that had just gone out. The patch, about ten miles across, was black and full of cinders but they had to cross it so the cattle had grass before they spent the night. The children recalled the heat and their black faces, streaked with white, as their eyes were filled with tears from the cinders and ashes that blew in their faces.

Most days were tiring but the evenings were enjoyable for the children. After their meal and the chores were done, they sat around the campfire for a while and listened to stories told by the grownups of earlier adventures. The trip took seven days and the last overnight was spent at Windthorst so the adults could go to Sunday Mass before moving on to their new farm north of Dodge City.

However, their plans were interrupted because a man, Frank Mandy, claimed he leased the land from the government for his long-horned Texas cattle, and they couldn't move in. He threatened to call the sheriff. For the next four months, when the Hessmans tried to move on to their land, the sher-



Frank Hessman



Matilda Hessman



Matilda Nuss Hessman as a young girl.

iff was called to run them off. However, when the Hessmans discovered Mandy's men working on the place, Matilda took her broomstick after them.

When the lease was up, Frank Hessman got his land. By then winter was near, so he built a chicken house first of all, then a barn for the livestock. Since their house was not ready, the family lived with Frank's sister, Minnie, and her husband for about a year. The children started school in the fall at Bell Center.

After 16 years on the farm, Frank and Matilda bought another farm, five miles west of Dodge City. The family moved to this place, except for the three eldest who continued to live on the original 480 acres for the next four years.

The Hessman Baseball Team and School

Growing up on the farm five miles west of Dodge City near Duck Creek, Ann and her 11 brothers attended a school taught by legendary Miss Gussie Mootz. She often said "I'd never have made it if it hadn't been for their sister, Annie, who helped keep them in line." Annie would pack each a lunch, load the wiggly boys in the wagon and drive

them to school. She always stayed at the school until classes were over, even after she finished her own education there, assisting the young teacher. The boys were known for their mischief making and their love of baseball.

They played the game at school during recess and every evening after the chores were done. They played "Ol' Cat," a simpler version of baseball that could be played with almost any number of players. Generally Mother Matilda joined in the long-running game when her work was done.

There were just three regular "bases" for this kids' game. The pitcher's box, home plate and first base. The pitcher [threw] the ball until the batter hit it. If the fielders did not catch the ball or the batter wasn't put out racing to first and back to home, he continued at bat.

As the boys grew up they began to play regular ball by the rules and formed a team called the Prairie View Ball Team. Since all the members of the team were Hessman brothers, it was generally known as the Hessman Team. The boys and men continued playing as they matured, went to service in World War I and II and returned, married, had children, or until they moved away. Legend has it the best part of the game was the fight that followed, whether between the brothers or some rival team, no matter who won the contest. This cannot be proved, but that may be why they had to find an outside manager.

In 1924, there were ten Hessmans on the team. Ed was the pitcher by tradition, Joe, the catcher, and the others had various places in the infield and outfield, or on the bench. Tony took over pitching duties when Ed moved to Missouri. Youngest son, James, got in fewer years for he had to wait his turn to fill in as older brothers moved on. Bill always played if there was a game going, it was said. On his 80th birthday he put on his old ball suit and played with his grandchildren.

"Let's play ball," is always the call when a family reunion dinner is over. Grandsons and granddaughters, greats and great-greats carry on the tradition.

Frank Hessman died in 1931, and Matilda moved to Dodge City across from Boot Hill in what is now the Teachers' Hall of Fame. Her grandchildren remember Grandma, Lillian Mae Hessman Fitzsimmons remembered staying with her grandmother during her high school years. She remembered Grandmother Matilda always had dinner at 5 p.m. and retired at 9 p.m. She taught her grandmother to embroider and Grandmother, who was 73, taught her to knit.

Matilda Nuce Hessman died in 1952. Most of the Hessman family continues to live in the area William and Johanna chose to make a life and living for their family. At a recent reunion in Dodge City, more than 100 Hessmans gathered to recall old times and "play ball."



The Hessman Team poses for their only sister Ann, the photographer. Back row, left to right: George, Joe, John, Paul, Ed and William. Front row: Jim, Ben, Tony, Fred and Harry.

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A New Generation

Bill and Ed moved out of the older family farm home after a disagreement in the family. On October 5, 1921, Ann married Clifton Aubuchon and soon after, moved with her husband to French Village, Missouri.

The Aubuchons had two children: France Beatrice Aubuchon and Clyde Henry Aubuchon. France was born September 17, 1922, in French Village and is married to Alvin J. Rougely, Jr. They have two children. Clyde was born February 8, 1925, in French Village and died February 21, 1986. He was married to Eileen June Christopher on June 16, 1927, in Missouri. They had seven children.

At age 85 Ann helped compile the Hessman family record.

William John Hessman

William John, the oldest son and second child of Frank and Matilda Hessman, married Gladys Trent on June 5, 1925, in Garden City, Kansas. He bought a farm from a man named Kurth and rented 320 acres from Christ (Kris) Neiber on the old telephone line north of the town. For a time his brother Ed and his wife moved in, but they found the house too small for two families. Bill and Gladys sold out to Ed and Neola and bought a cookshack for their abode. It was moved to the farm place of Gladys' family. Bill went to work for a local rancher, Bud Webb, and the couple then lived on the ranch for two years.

Bill and Gladys bought a farm at Bloom (420) acres in April 1928, which had 320 acres in pasture. He also rented extra crop land. Though Gladys found the place an ideal farm, Bill was eager to get back to his old area and in August bought 320 acres in Hodgeman County, a quarter mile from Ford County and Gray County. He rented additional land and the couple and their family lived there many years. Bill died at 88, still on the farm. Gladys continued living there for 10 years more and in 1993, still owns the original 320 acres.

Five of their eight children were born on the farm with the help of a doctor who came from 20 miles away, usually



The Hessman Family. Back row (left to right): Joe, Paul, Edward, Anna, William, John. Front row: Fred, Matilda, Ben, Tony, Frank and Harry. George is in the center. The youngest son, James, is not pictured.

too late to assist in the delivery. Their youngest was born in a Dodge City hospital. Their children are: Rosemary Rinne, born February 24, 1926; Lillian Mae Fitzsimmons, born January 27, 1928; Wilma Jean McCollough, born March 25, 1929; Robert William Hessman, born December 29, 1930, died February 1, 1983; Ruby Joanna Cook, born February 24, 1933; Darlene France Hooker, born August 4, 1938; Franklin Charles Hessman, born April 26, 1940; and Sandra Gail Davis Droste, born August 23, 1946.

Gladys recalled the dirt storms which struck the southwest area of the country in 1931, as very frightening. The dirt storms were so thick that schoolchildren found their way home from school by holding on to barbed wire fences and to each other. At night their mothers put wet sheets on the windows and doors and the children wore masks to bed to help keep out the dust. But through it all, she recalled that families were cheerful and their parents found a way of making things happy and finding something to laugh about to keep up their spirits, awaiting the next spring and summer crops.

She told of new dresses for the girls made from material costing three or four cents a yard. Later the Co-op used cotton material for feed and flour sacks and the depression children had dresses and shirts to wear to school made from this

lowly fabric.

Gladys and Bill had 29 grandchildren, 43 great grandchildren and four great-great grandchildren by 1993.

Edward Charley Hessman

Edward Charley Hessman, the third child and second son of Frank and Matilda Hessman was born in a sod house or dugout on October 15, 1896, in Alva, Oklahoma. He was three when the family moved by covered wagon back to the Dodge City area.

During World War I, he served a hitch in the infantry at Fort Riley, and returned to farm with his brothers and father. He married Neola Rosa Pottorff in Dodge City on February 23, 1923, after meeting her at one of the Hessman Team ball games. She was the daughter of a pioneer family, Arthur and



Ed and Neola Hessman Family. From left: Dale, Ed, Helen, Charles, Neola, Shirley and Betty.

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Ed Hessman drives the binder while three brothers work the wagon. Circa 1920s.

Fanny Pottorff. They moved to Ford County near Sawlog Creek when she was small.

Neola recalls hard work and long hours as they raised four children, Helen, Betty, Dale and Shirley, on a farm located 19 miles northwest of Dodge City. Still Ed found time to pitch for the Hessman Ball Team and to take his children fishing and hunting. He had a strong love of the outdoors and sports and tried to instill a love of the earth in his children.

The family struggled through the vicious dust storms of the '30s and were caught out on the famous "Black Sunday," on their way to visit their mothers in Dodge City. On their drive a strong wind came up and suddenly the world turned black. The headlight could not penetrate the darkness. Ed slammed on the brakes and told everyone to pray. The black went away as fast as it came up, but it seemed ages, according to Neola.

The family moved to Missouri, in 1939. They continued farming and although it was still hard work, the dust storms had not followed them. A fifth child, a son, Charles, was born in Missouri, with a mop of red hair, a Hessman trait.

In 1957, the family moved back to Dodge City and Ed died December 2, 1966. Neola died on May 25, 1972. There are 14 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.

Paul Joseph Hessman

The fourth child of Frank and Matilda is Paul Joseph born October 2, 1898, at Alva, Oklahoma. In December 1926, he married Lillie Fern Wasson at Kinsley. The couple had seven children. Except for several years at

Deerfield. Paul and Farn lived most of their married life in or near Dodge City. Paul died December 18, 1974, and Lillie on November 17, 1991. They are buried in Dodge City. Their children are: Harold Eugene, Mary Ann, Pauline Fern, John Wilbur, Ronald David, Richard Paul and Emma Irene Rogers. There are 14 grandchildren and several great grandchildren.

John Henry Hessman

The fifth child of Frank and Matilda was John Henry, born on November 16, 1900, at Alva, Oklahoma. He married Florence Frances Webb on September 12, 1927. They had one son, Doral Loren born October 19, 1928. John Henry died May 31, 1929, and is buried in Dodge City. There are four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Joseph Frank Hessman

Joseph Frank was the sixth child of Frank and Matilda Hessman. He was born on March 19, 1904, at Dodge City, Kansas. He married Florence France Webb-Hessman on October 29, 1930. The couple farmed in the Dodge City area all their lives. They had five children: Donald, James, Patty Jo, Marilyn Wooley and Carolyn Noggle. Joseph died July 8, 1961, and is buried at Dodge City. There were seven grandchildren.

George Hessman

George was the seventh child of Frank and Matilda, and was born in Ford County, June 10, 1905. George was a bachelor and farmed all his life, except for the years he spent in the U.S. Army. He was a fisherman and enjoyed his nieces and nephews and loved talking to them and others. He died on July 31, 1986, at Dodge City and is buried there.

Harry Herman Hessman

The eighth child of Frank and Matilda was Harry Herman who was born on August 3, 1907, in Ford County, Kansas. He married Mildred Arbogast on November 19, 1932, at Dodge City. The couple had four children: Harry Dean, Charles, Barbara Lotton and Karen Dunham. The couple lived for 21 years on the home farm where Harry was born until he retired. The children attended Prairie View School. In 1953,

the couple built a home just off the Fort Dodge Road and Butter and Egg Road. On November 19, 1992, Harry and Mildred celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. They had 14 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Frederick Hessman

Fred was the ninth child born to Frank and Matilda on May 28, 1910, in Ford County, Kansas. He married Roberta Nelle Herman who was born at Water Veliet, Michigan, on August 16, 1934. Fred farmed all his life in Ford County. He died on December 23, 1991, and is buried in Dodge City. The couple had eight children: Francis Robert, Joanna Ruth Nicholas, Judith Marie, Linda Susan Cartwright, Gerald Leroy, Thomas Fredrick, Michael Joseph and William John. There are 24 grandchildren.

Thomas Anthony Hessman

Thomas Anthony Hessman, "Tony," was the tenth child born to Frank and Matilda at home in Ford County on October 7, 1912. He married Wilma Agnes (Billie) Tenbrink on January 27, 1949. Their children are Stephen Anthony, L'Jean Marie Dixon and Susan Gayle Gier.

Tony worked delivering beer when he married Billie. Gradually they were able to go into farming, moving to a place five miles west of Dodge City in 1958. The parents moved to Dodge City in 1976, when their son took over the farm. Tony died October 19, 1984, and is buried in Dodge City. There are 10 grandchildren.



The T.A. (Tony) Hessman Family. Back row, left to right: L'Jean, Steve, Sue. Front row: Billie and Tony.

Bernard Herman Hessman

The eleventh child of Frank and Matilda was born June 30, 1916, at Dodge City. He married Grace Christine Wilcox on June 18, 1947. Their children are: Charles McKinney (Stepson), Berna Joy Bushell, Clifton (Tim), Marilyn Butler, Richard and Patrick. There are eight grandchildren. Bernard (Ben) farms north of Dodge City on Duck Creek. He was in the armed services during World War II.

James Peter Hessman

The twelfth child, making an even dozen, for Frank and Matilda was James Peter, born at Dodge City on May 5, 1919. He moved to California where he married Mary Wanda at Redondo Beach on September 27, 1941. He served in the Army during World War II from 1943 to 1945. Unlike his brothers he did not farm but worked for a tooling firm. He died in January 1993. The couple had six children: James, Ronald, Frederick, Mark, Brian, Kevin, retaining the family tradition of sons. There are three grandchildren recorded.

Gladys Trent Hessman
See Charley A. Trent entry

BEN HODGES

SELF-STYLED DESPERADO

The more articles a person reads about one unforgettable character, the more confused that reader may become. One very colorful fellow who came up the Texas cattle trails to Dodge City in the days when the long horns were driven to the Kansas railheads was Benjamin F. Hodges. The local historian, Heinie Schmidt, remarked that "Ben occupied a pedestal by himself. There was not a single other character in his class."

One of the most undisputed facts is that Ben Hodges came to Kansas in the spring of 1872, with a herd of Texas cattle driven by W.D. (Doc) Barton of Ingalls, Kansas. Barton described Hodges as "... a worthless, shiftless, no-good." He came as a cook's helper on the trail.

Although there are several tales describing Ben's ancestry, the one that seems the most plausible is that he was

part-Mexican and part-Negro. The story is that a high-class Castilian girl was swept off her feet by a handsome young Negro. In spite of her parents strong disapproval, she did marry him and little Benjamin was their son. The young lady was eventually persuaded to leave her husband. Young Ben was mistreated by his high-class relatives who felt that he was a disgrace to their fine family. With this background it is not surprising that he ran away at an early age.

Where but in Dodge City could a half-breed, who was known to be a liar and a thief, manage to live his entire life, supported by the people of the community and finally buried by them and even later be supplied a tombstone by their descendants. People who knew him, knew better than to believe the wild tales that he told but he was often known to make his claims to land or cattle so convincing that he was able to obtain letters of credit and bankers endorsements in order to obtain money from strangers or newcomers. But he could never establish his claims or repay any of the loans.

Ben loved to brag about having descended from one of the finest Castilian families of Mexico. When rumors were heard that thousands of acres of range land in New Mexico were part of an old Spanish land grant and that the grant was still valid, several of the local cattlemen facetiously suggested to Ben that the land might have belonged to his family. They did it as a joke but it was enough to set Ben's imagination on fire.

Ben made a trip to Texas and returned with a number of documents showing him to be a legitimate claimant of the grant as well as the representative of other claimants living in San Antonio. Armed with these documents he found a local lawyer willing to take the case and draw up papers for the claim. His seeming sincerity and apparent honesty brought out men who were willing to "buy in" to his claim. He also won the support of undecieved old-timers who enjoyed watching the hoax develop. Of course, his claims could not be proven but Ben enjoyed the prestige of being an heir apparent as long as it lasted. In the years that followed he



Ben Hodges

continued to brag about the vast acreage that those "wicked" people had taken from him.

Although in later years Ben did learn to print his name, it is a shame that a man with as extraordinary imagination such as he had did not learn to read and write. He could have written stories that would have made Ned Buntline and other eastern writers of wild west stories tame by comparison. In his mind his ability to lie and steal and to get by with it, was something to be proud of. He loved to tell tall tales about how bad he was or had been. The fact was, however, that his lies were to build up his ego and his stealing amounted only to petty thievery. He was known to have hidden a few cattle and horses away until a reward was offered and then suddenly "find" them and claim the reward. One time, however, a dairyman's whole herd was stolen and Ben was brought to court. He had no money, no lawyer, and a bad reputation.

Ben pleaded his own case. After all of the evidence had been presented, he arose to address the jury. He talked for two hours, sometimes making them laugh, sometimes becoming serious and indignant. "What! Me?!" he cried, "the descendant of old Grandees of Spain, the owner of a land grant in New Mexico embracing millions of acres, the owner of gold mines, and villages and

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towns situated on that grant of which I am sole owner. to steal a miserable, miserly lot of old cows? Why the idea is absurd. No, gentlemen. I think too much of the race of men from which I sprang, to disgrace their memory."

He was persuasive, bewildering and entertaining. When he finished his pleading, he had won the case. The jury brought in a verdict of, "Not guilty."

A few days later the missing cattle came home. Ben had stolen them and driven them about 50 miles away but he had left them unguarded and they wandered back home. Fortunately for Ben they returned after he had been acquitted.

Because of Ben's good nature and ready smile and his refusal to hold a grudge against anyone, no matter how much they teased or threatened him, the townspeople accepted him even to supplying his every need as he grew older and more helpless. He lived for years in a little shack on the south side of town, near the river. As long as he was able he raised a garden and fished on the bank of the Arkansas River, which in those days actually had water in it, where fish could be caught. Few boys grew up in Dodge City who had not sat on that bank and listened by the hour to Ben's fascinating tales.

The police made him an "Assistant Deputy" and allowed him to carry a gun, minus the firing pin, to protect himself from his imaginary enemies. For years he made his rounds of the stores in Dodge City every day. He always carried a basket on his arm. In the bottom of the basket under a black cloth lay his faithful firearm. As he shuffled from one store to another he collected his food for the day. The butcher at the Stubbs grocery store and the baker at Farley's bakery always saved back something "for Ben," as did the clerks in several other stores. Sometimes he just helped himself to this or that, but the store keepers never seemed to see him. "After all," they would say, "he only took what he needed."

Thus it was that this self-styled desperado was fed and clothed by the people who knew him. Stories told about this one and only and most un-



Tombstone purchased for Ben Hodges by the children of those who knew him well.

usual pioneer would fill a book. Many of these stories are on file in the Home of Stone in the records of the Ford County Historical Society.

We will never know whether his shuffling footsteps were caused by law men who caught him stealing horses or by rickets that had crippled him in childhood. Most people believe that the former story is true and that instead of hanging Ben they had cut the tendons above his heels as punishment.

One thing that the townspeople knew was that Ben was a faithful Catholic, who had shuffled up the long hill year after year to be greeted by the kindly Father Handley when he arrived to attend Mass. When the old fellow died, at or near 100 years of age on March 10, 1929, his friends who had accepted him as he was could not bear to see him buried in a pauper's grave. They collected money to buy him a respectable coffin and had him buried in the Catholic cemetery among his friends who had gone before him. Two hundred or more of those who had befriended him gathered at the Sacred Heart church to honor him in death as they had accepted him in life.

There was no money for a tombstone at that time but on May 5, 1965, the descendants of those friends dedicated a fine new stone to Ben Hodges, Self-Styled Desperado. The stone had been bought with money collected from those who knew him and had listened as children to his fabulous stories.

Information was taken from clippings and articles in the files of the Ford County Historical Society at the Home of Stone.
Lola Adams Crum

GEORGE M. HOOVER

George Merritt Hoover, a Canadian, arrived July 17, 1872, at the site of the future Dodge City. He and his partner John McDonald opened the first business, a saloon, not even in a building but with only a board laid atop two stacks of sod supports. Over the months he expanded into a wholesale liquor business which extended into Indian Territory and Texas. Hoover was the first elected mayor of the city and served three later terms as mayor. He was city councilman and county commissioner several times. In 1882, he opened the town's first bank, the Bank of Dodge City. When Fort Dodge was closed in 1882, Hoover was a member of the legislature and, in 1883, he introduced the bill to use the fort as a State Soldier's Home. In every enterprise that related to the welfare of the city George Hoover played a leading part.

He and Margaret Carnahan were married in 1875. She was a gracious hostess and active in the social and charitable work in the city. Margaret raised flowers and had a greenhouse at their home on the corner of Central Avenue and Military. The Hoovers raised a foster son, George Curry, who had come to Dodge City with his widowed mother and three brothers. When Mrs. Curry died in 1878, the boys were taken in by town families. George became one of the Roosevelt Rough Riders and later was governor of New Mexico.



Mr. and Mrs. George M. Hoover.

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Margaret Hoover died in March 1917 and George in July 1914. Hoover had said that he made his money in Dodge City and would leave it here. He bequeathed a trust of \$100,000 to the city, the interest to be used for the beautification of the city and the cemetery. He left \$1,000 to each of the six churches and a sum of \$10,000 to build a city auditorium in Wright Park—Hoover Pavilion.

Betty Braddock

THE HORNUNG FAMILY

Information for this article was taken from the family history written by Michael Hornung who died on June 8, 1988, at the age of 80 in Spearville, Kansas. His wife, Rosa (Heiland) Hornung lived the remainder of her life in Spearville, passing away in 1995.

Michael and Rosa's children are: Richard Hornung, Alethea (Hornung) Keeley; Ronald Hornung; Karin Hornung; Phyllis (Hornung) Stephenson Jones, Donald Hornung and Michael Hornung.

The first Hornung to arrive in Ford County was Anton Hornung. He came to the Windthorst settlement shortly after it was established in 1878. His brother, Christian Hornung, followed in 1884, with his wife, Helena (Eckstein) Hornung, their five children: (Theresa, Mary, Edward, Andrew and Albert) and his 77 year-old mother, Anna Marie (Shaffer) Hornung.

It was Anna Marie (Shaffer) Hornung, who had made the decision to leave Werbachhausen Baden, Germany (where Catholic Church records date back to 1774 on the family) and come to America, in 1855. Her husband, Andreas Hornung, had died five years earlier in Germany (1849). They had five children: three sons; Anton, Christian and Michael and two daughters, Dorothea and Marie Theresa. No record has been found on Dorothea since her birth in 1837. It is not known if she was living and came with the family or not.

The family arrived in Cincinnati, Ohio, by the St. Lawrence River and Lake Ontario route where they lived during the Civil War years. During that time they prospered as Christian was a



Helena and Christian Hornung and their children (from left): Andrew, Edward, Mary and Albert

wagon wheel fabricator and had plenty of work because of the demand for wagon wheels and cannon carriages. However, their prosperity was not all joy. Michael was killed at the Battle of Vicksburg in 1863; Anton was discharged with a medical disability. Their

economic success was short-lived and after the war a depression set in and jobs were at a minimum, especially for newcomers who suffered difficulty speaking a new language.

The Santa Fe Railroad had completed its line through Kansas and was



Andrew and Elizabeth Hornung family taken about 1926. Front row: Christian, Andrew Sr. holding Andrew Jr., William, Elizabeth and Anthony. Back row: Martha, Michael, Justina and Bernard.

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Michael Hornung family, Back row (left to right): Michael Jr., Donald, Ronald, Richard. Center row: Karin, Rosa, Michael and Phyllis. Front row: Alethea.

looking for people to buy the land the U.S. Government had given it for the project. The government lure was 10 miles of land on each side of the track consisting of every other section. In other words, 10 sections of land for each mile of track.

In 1876, the Aurora Colonization Society was formed in Cincinnati, Ohio. In 1877, a Mr. Schmidt of the Santa Fe visited the group to sell them on the merits of the real estate that was available for purchasing southeast of Spearville. This led to a group of German-speaking people leaving Cincinnati and coming to establish the Windthorst Community in 1878, in eastern Ford County.

Anton Hornung arrived around 1878, and Christian Hornung, with his family and mother, came to Windthorst in 1884. Undoubtedly, their close relationship with friends speaking the same language and belonging to the same faith helped them endure the hardships on the frontier. Indian scares, drought, prairie fire, hail and snow storms made their lot miserable to endure. A prairie fire on March 28, 1896, that started

from Anton Hornung's chimney burned to near Kinsley before the wind turned it into the Arkansas River. The snow storm of 1886 was so severe, according to my father (Anton) that they had to burn some of their meager furniture to keep from freezing to death.

Anna Marie (Shaffer) Hornung, born October 19, 1807, in Germany, passed away on March 8, 1887, at Windthorst, Kansas.

Anton Hornung was born May 4, 1833, in Germany, died on May 8, 1913. He was single and a farmer.

Christian Hornung born October 10, 1834, in Germany, died on November 6, 1899. He was a farmer and wagon wheel maker. He married first to Marie Ana Merz on February 15, 1865, in Cincinnati, Ohio. They had one daughter: Theresa Hornung, who was born May 12, 1866, and died August 8, 1945. She married Otto Boedecker on September 19, 1887, at Windthorst. They lived in Pueblo, Colorado. Her husband worked for Standard Oil.

Christian's second wife was Helena (Eckstein) Hornung, born August 19, 1846, died February 15, 1917. They had

four children: Edward, Mary, Andrew and Albert.

Edward Hornung was born March 29, 1876, and died December 9, 1940. He married Clara Torline on June 12, 1907, in Windthorst. He was engaged in farming and livestock near Spearville.

Mary Hornung was born March 24, 1877, and died February 6, 1958. She married William Torline on April 12, 1899, in Windthorst. Her husband was a farmer, thresher and carpenter near Spearville.

Andrew Hornung was born May 9, 1880, and died July 30, 1970. He married Elizabeth Droste on June 7, 1905, in Windthorst. He was a farm and livestock operator near Spearville.

Andrew was the father of Michael Hornung who wrote the history of the Hornung Family. Albert Hornung was born June 1, 1882, and died November 5, 1936. He married Emma Droste on October 23, 1907, in Windthorst. He was a farmer and well driller near Spearville.

All the first generation of Hornungs were buried at Windthorst. The next generation were also buried at Windthorst except Ed and Clara Hornung, who were buried at Spearville, and Otto and Theresa Boedecker, who were buried at Pueblo, Colorado. All the children of that generation were married by 1908 and all raised large families.

Michael Hornung states, "Helena (Eckstein) Hornung will always be remembered by me for the way she cherished her grandchildren at Christmas. She was a stern, but loving woman. (I can remember a spanking from her.) Grandma Hornung was also a midwife and helped many a baby into the world, including many of her grandchildren. I have been told that she had charismatic powers. Anyway, she was a person I have beautiful memories of and hope that future Grandma Hornungs can give to their grandchildren the same privileges she gave to hers. I know that my mother and wife have tried to carry on her tradition.

All the Hornungs from Windthorst and Spearville are related and represent

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the 6th and 7th generations of Hornungs in the United States.

Michael Hornung
Adapted by Karin Hornung

THE FRANKLIN V. HULL FAMILY

Franklin Voce Hull was born in Tioga County, New York, September 29, 1844. He enlisted in the 20th New York Artillery at the age of 17, soon after the Civil War began. He later served in the 31st Pennsylvania Militia. He did duty at the Battle of Antietam and was also present at the Battle of Gettysburg.

Although no marriage record survives, Frank V. Hull and his sweetheart were married during the Civil War. Letters that he wrote after he went into the army were addressed to "Miss Julia Stone"; later he addressed them to "Mrs. Julia Hull." Julia, whom he always called "Nellie," was born in Litchfield, New York, July 15, 1845. A milliner by trade, she was the daughter of Aaron and Pamela (Cahill) Stone. After Frank's discharge from the army, they lived in Athens, Pennsylvania, where he worked in a jewelry store. Their son Walter Horace was born in Athens, March 22, 1870. When the boy was eight years old, Frank left home to go west. Doctors advised him to go to a drier climate to seek relief from bronchitis he had contracted during the war.

Hull arrived in Topeka, Kansas, in March or April 1878. Although he could have bought land near Topeka for less than he later paid to prove up a homestead in Gray County, he was not satisfied to stop short of his goal—western Kansas. He took his time traveling the old Santa Fe Trail route across the state. Riding a horse he bought along the way, he finally arrived at Cimarron in July. There he was told that gathering buffalo bones was a quick way to get ready cash. Taking that advice and finding the dried bones plentiful, he spent the rest of the summer camping out on the prairie. The dry, warm air of the High Plains almost completely cured his bronchitis. At the same time, he fell in love with the wide open spaces and decided that this was where he wanted to make a home for his family. With money from the sale of bones, he filed on a homestead in the fall of 1878.

After two years of hard work, Hull felt that he could support his wife and son in this new country. Julia and Walter arrived May 15, 1880. As they rode in a buggy toward the homestead, Julia was surprised when she saw the short grass of the prairie. She had imagined buffalo grass as being tall enough to hide a buffalo.

In his frequent letters Frank had tried to prepare her for what to expect in this new country. He had described his pio-

neering experiences as well as he could. He had told her about the Indians' visit, but the stark reality of what life on the wild plains could be hit her for the first time as they drove into the yard and saw the charred remains of his first homesteading shack. Indians, escaping from the Oklahoma reservation, had burned it in 1878, as they made their way back to their old home in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

The little milliner from the east, though shocked and surprised at her new surroundings, found an inner strength that matched that of her plucky husband. Together they built a home in a new land, and eventually became leaders in their community. Frank filled several different county offices through the years. For almost 40 years they lived on the northeast quarter of S2 T26 R27 of Gray County, the land Frank had homesteaded in 1878.

The Hull's son, Walter, grew up on the homestead, working with his father, raising cattle and acquiring more grazing land through the years.

Walter Horace Hull married Agnes Griffith, the daughter of Zenas and Lucinda Griffith. The Griffiths had come to Kansas from Old Salem, Forsyth County, North Carolina. They had lived for a year or two in Missouri before coming to Kansas. They were parents of 12 children. Agnes was the sixth child. Her older sister Martha Elizabeth (Mattie) had married O.N. Nevins. They had homesteaded in Royal Township of Ford County a few years earlier.

Walter and Agnes lived on a farm in Gray County, five miles east of Cimarron, facing the road that later became U.S. Highway 50. Their first son, born April 10, 1895, lived only nine days. Franklin Griffith Hull was born December 25, 1905, and Walter Horace, Jr. (Victor) was born September 25, 1914. Walter continued to work with his father on the ranch while Agnes taught school. She taught in rural schools in Gray County and later in Ford County. Both Franklin and Victor were taught by their mother part of their grade school years. Victor told of spending much of his childhood with his grand-



Franklin Hull



Julia Hull

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Victor Hull dressed for a parade in a Civil War Union soldier uniform, similar to the one worn by his grandfather, Franklin V. Hull, during that war.

parents, Frank and Julia Hull, whom he and most of their acquaintances called "Mammy" and "Daddy." Victor learned to appreciate history, especially Civil War and pioneer history, from his grandfather. He would listen to, and almost live again, the early-day experiences of his grandparents. His grandmother, Julia Stone Hull, died August 28, 1929, age 84. Frank Voce died three years later, February 21, 1932.

In 1918, Walter and Agnes Hull purchased a home at 1011 Second Avenue in Dodge City. It was later moved to 1100 Second Avenue to make way for the new public library. The purchase of this home enabled their older son, Franklin, to attend high school in Dodge City. After that the family spent the school year in Dodge City and the summers on the Gray County ranch until Walter died July 18, 1924.

Franklin graduated from high school in 1923 and attended both Purdue and Kansas Universities. He married Dorothy Bryne Fedlock, who had also attended Kansas University. Franklin and Dorothy moved to San Bernardino, California, where she received a master's degree at Claremont College. She became a secondary school teacher and counselor. They were the parents of two children, Patricia Ann, born in 1931, and Walter Byrne in 1935. Franklin died in California, December 5, 1950, at the

age of 45.

Franklin's younger brother, born in 1914, and named Walter Horace, Jr., explained how he became "Victor," a name by which he was known throughout his life. Few people knew his true name. When he was only a few weeks of age a neighbor jokingly said, "He looks more like Victor Murdock" (editor of the *Wichita Eagle* at the time). Surprisingly, the name stuck and he was always known as Victor Hull, except on legal records, when it was Walter Victor. Even his death certificate was filed as Walter Victor, not Walter Horace Hull, Jr.

Victor grew to adulthood in Dodge City. He had never been strong as a child and health problems continued during his life. At a very early age he began running errands for the old Postal Telegraph System and then became a full time messenger. Later he worked at several jobs in Dodge City, the most notable of which were those of guide at the Boot Hill Museum and the position he held for several years at the City of Dodge City's shops. He retired from there in 1984.

Victor, with the love of history instilled by his grandfather, became the unofficial town historian. He researched and studied Civil War and local history. His interest in the past did not end with recorded facts. He was also an avid collector of articles and souvenirs of earlier days. His antique collection at the time of his death, November 6, 1994, filled not only his basement apartment but every room in his house at 1100 Second Avenue. After his death his antiques sold at auction for \$91,000.

Information obtained from Hull family records and interviews with Victor Hull
Lola Adams Crum

JOSEPH NORTON HULPIEU

J.N. Hulpieu was born in Iowa Co., Iowa, on September 16, 1875, and in 1886, he moved to Garden City, Kansas, with his family. His father died in 1901 and his mother in 1902. He then worked for Finnup's Hardware Store in Garden City. On April 12, 1904, he married Eliza M. Zigler and that fall moved to Dodge City. They lived with

his brother, Charles and his two children Julian and Angie, first on Avenue A, and then on Second Avenue. In 1907, Joe and family moved into a house next door that he built. From the front porch of this house he watched the many dramatic changes in Dodge City until his death in 1963.

Charles was connected with the Kirkpatrick Furniture and Undertaking establishment. Charles became owner of the firm and was joined by Joe and a brother-in-law, John Franklin Miller. The business was known as the Home Furnishing Company and maintained a funeral parlor as both Charles and Joe were funeral directors. Later the funeral parlor was moved to a new building on Sixth Avenue and the firm became Hulpieu-Miller Furniture Store. The building fronted on Chestnut Street (now Wyatt Earp Blvd.) reaching back and also fronting on Walnut Street (now Gunsmoke St.). The space is now part of the Fidelity State Bank.

Joe and Eliza were active in the Methodist Church. For several years, Joe was with Company K, 2nd Regiment Kansas National Guard and was 1st Sgt. when the company was disbanded at the start of the Spanish-American War. They were active in all branches of the IOOF Lodge and Modern Woodmen of America Lodge. Joe was a member of the Chamber of Commerce of Dodge City, the Dodge City Lions Club and served as president. He was troop committeeman of the Boy Scout organization. He served as Coroner of Ford County for 22 years. At one time, he raised pure bred goats and pure bred rabbits. After retirement Joe and Eliza traveled to every state in the union and some foreign countries and enjoyed photography.

Three daughters were born to this union. Margaret Hulda (Hulpieu) Robb was born January 29, 1905. She graduated from Southwestern College at Winfield, Kansas, with a B.A. degree. She traveled with the violin choir during college. She followed a teaching career for 40 years. She married Clarence Robb in 1944. He died in 1952.

Esther Lillian (Hulpieu) Irvine



Joe and Eliza Hulpieu

Colyn was born April 15, 1906, received a B.A. degree from Southwestern College at Winfield, Kansas, and A.M. degree from Kansas University. She held positions as technologist and radiological technician. She also did extensive genealogical work until her death in 1973.

Josephene Elizabeth Hulpieu was born August 5, 1907, received a B.A. degree from Southwestern College at Winfield, Kansas, and a nursing degree from Bell Memorial Hospital and followed a nursing career until she returned to Dodge City.

Joe Hulpieu tells more of his family history. His grandfather was Edward Louis Hulpiau. He was born December 16, 1803, in Waterliet, Belgium. He moved to Assende, Belgium and married Johanna Dhaenes. He was a cartwright by trade. In 1849, they and their six children emigrated to the United States and settled in a portion of Buffalo, New York, known as Black Rock. There, three more children were born. They all worked for Pratt & Co., a rolling mill and nail foundry. In 1869, Edward and his son went with a group of church picnickers to Niagara Falls. While the others were eating, he went out to look at the fall. Edward was gone so long they went looking for him. They found him lying 96 feet below on the

rock. It is not known what happened, if he got dizzy or he got too close and the ground gave away.

Norton Hulpiau was the oldest son of Edward and Johanna Hulpiau and was born in Belgium September 24, 1837. He came to the United States with his parents, in 1849. A few years later he had a rifle made to order for his own use. This was a cap and ball muzzle loading rifle and a great improvement over the flint locks generally used at that time. With this gun he started out on a hunting trip through the forests along the south side of the Great Lakes and finally wound up in Iowa. There he met and married Sara Caroline Jelly on October 4, 1861, in Iowa City. She was born September 11, 1842, near Galena, Illinois, and moved to Iowa with her parents about 1850. Ten children were born to this union in Iowa.

Norton had never gone to school and could neither read nor write. Sara Carolyn had enough education to give him a start and they studied at any spare time until he could transact any ordinary business. It is thought that it was during this period that the spelling of their family name was changed from the original Hulpiau to Hulpieu.

Joseph Norton, "Joe" was the seventh of these 10 children. He was born in Iowa, September 16, 1875. It was in

January 1884, that his father, Norton Hulpieu, and his brother, Charles, started west looking for land on which to homestead. They started their trek in a covered wagon, driving four horses with a stallion tied to the back, but no mind as to where they would stop. They entered Kansas, looked over the land as they traveled as far west as Lakin and then turned back to Garden City, five weeks after they left Iowa. They settled on a homestead six miles north of Garden City.

Here Norton and Charles cut sod and built a dugout for living quarters for the family. The dugout was built into the south side of a hill with the north end almost completely underground. Charles worked as a cowpuncher on a ranch.

The rest of the family came to Kansas in the spring of 1885. Joe noted that the trip from Washington, Iowa, to Garden City was made in an immigrant freight car on the Santa Fe Railroad. The car was loaded with household good, farm machinery, two cows, two horses, a dog and three boys; himself, his brother, Jim and Frank Wolf. A sister, Elizabeth, two years old, noted later that she had a very good time on the train.

One of their pioneer experiences will never be forgotten by any member of the Watch Night Party planned by daughters, Tillie and Rilla. They had invited about 20 young folks to the Ranch home. Mr. Hulpieu came to town with team and wagon intending to take home his daughters, Tillie and Rilla who worked in Garden City, and son, James, who worked in Lakin, and a load of coal. But there was no room for the coal when the jolly group of young folk were stowed away. There was a fine mist falling when they left Garden City and by 10 o'clock, one of the great western blizzards was raging and continued for two days. About 30 people enjoyed that Watch Night Party from Thursday until Sunday afternoon.

For a number of years the Hulpieu farm was known as the half-way house or the seven-mile house. Most of the small towns to the north had to have their supplies hauled to them in freight wagons. Many of the freighters would

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reach the house in a day's drive, stay the night, and drive in to Garden City, load up and be back to spend the night again, rest and feed the horses and get a night's rest in the barn loft. The stage coach also stopped there for rest periods. Buffalo Jones often stopped there and ran his buffalo into their corral.

Education in those times consisted of a few months during the winter in a country school. The first school he attended in western Kansas was a building 9" x 12" that had been built for a granary. He said that he was allowed to go to school if he was permitted to watch his father's cattle through the window.

His first work was herding cattle. Later he had a pony. As soon as Joe was able to hold a gun to his shoulder, it became part of his job to supply meat for the table in the form of rabbits, ducks, snipe, prairie chickens, curlews, and an occasional goose. Trapping coyotes was a pastime.

In later life he was quoted as saying: "Even with cars and airplanes the fastest ride I ever had was in a two-wheeled cart behind a run-away outlaw horse that I was trying to break to drive. The horse had tried everything he knew to get away from the cart and finally decided to just run away with us. So he took the bit in his teeth and headed out across the open prairie at a speed that I did not believe possible. The cart would hit a bump and bounce into the air, only to hit the ground again and bounce again until we seemed to be flying instead of riding. For about three quarters of a mile my coat tail was sticking straight out behind and my hat was gone. But that was some ride!"

Josephene Hulpieu

ELIZA M. ZIGLER HULPIEU

Eliza Magdalena Zigler Hulpieu can trace her history back to John Glick, Sr., born 1725, who left Europe from Basel, Switzerland and landed in New Jersey before settling in the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia about 1799. He was an Elder of the Church of the Brethren (German Baptist).

It was about 1860, that a group emigrated from Virginia to Northwest Mis-

souri. Included in the group were Lydia Josephine Miller, also Isaac W. Zigler. They met and were married at Forest City, April 20, 1862, and made their home near Craig, Holt Co., Missouri. Eliza Magdalena was fourth of the 10 children born to this union. In 1886, Isaac Zigler and his son, Solomon, went by covered wagon to Garden City, Kansas, and settled on a homestead and timber claim 20 miles northwest of Garden City. Later the rest of the family came by train. They lived in a dugout until they could build a house. The country was not productive so Isaac went to Denver, Colorado, and worked at his carpenter trade for some years. Lydia stayed on the homestead with the children. Eliza was the oldest girl and had much of the care of her sisters. When Isaac returned they moved four miles west of Garden City where they lived until Isaac died in 1902. Eliza married Joe Hulpieu on April 20, 1904, and moved to Dodge City.

Josephene Hulpieu

THE WILLIAM HUNT FAMILY FOUNDER OF THE WRIGHT COMMUNITY

William Hunt's name appears first in a list of five founders of Wright, originally called Ridgeway, on the charter of incorporation, dated 1887. Hunt was typical of the settlers who came west in search of fame and fortune, restless and often moving on. He was born in Reigelsvill, New Jersey, in 1851, the third son of William Hunt, whose forebears had come from England in 1652.

They settled on land near the famed Delaware River Crossing known in U.S. history as Washington's Crossing. The family kept the General's horses during the winters of 1778-79, pasturing on their meadowland. Family records show they had a good reputation for their part in the War of Independence. George Taylor, a signer of the Declaration, was an ancestor of Hunt's.

Hunt left his home to come west, settling first in Exeter, Nebraska, 60 miles west of Lincoln. He married Sarah Songster of Exeter, whose family also originated in the northeast. They

lived six years on a homestead before moving to western Kansas in 1887. The couple came by covered wagon with their four children, William, Jr., Maude, Sophia and Laura.

Hunt bought a large portion of land seven miles northeast of Dodge City along the Santa Fe Trail. He built the first permanent building in Wright, after platting the land, a large hotel and a creamery and a barn on the north side of the Santa Fe tracks. The hotel housed a post office and grocery store, and was an official stage coach stop. He had a corner on every business including lot sales, other than the railroad depot.

Life was not easy according to stories handed down by the family, for very often Hunt was away on business deals, and Sarah put up the mail, fed and boarded hotel guests, waited on customers in the store, looked after the creamery as well as being on the lookout for unwanted guests who dropped off the railroad cars searching for free meals.

The family continued living at the hotel for 12 years. Meanwhile Sarah had five more children during these years, Blanch, Edith, Priscilla, Gertrude and John Bernard. She also served as schoolteacher at times in the first public school house built by Hunt and donated to the township, about one mile west of the home. After this one-room school was closed and a larger one constructed in Wright, Hunt moved the school to the homestead where it served as a grain bin until recent years.

Two of their children are buried in the Pleasant Vale Cemetery, rededicated and restored in 1964, by George Wiseman, who eventually bought Hunt's land and buildings. It is located at the northwest corner of the Hunt section on U.S. 283.

Drought and depression cut short the boom time for Wright, and the Hunts decided to return to Nebraska. Hunt himself had some business deals to close, so Sarah packed up the covered wagon once again, hitched up Charlie and Dick who had brought them to Kansas, and set out cross-country, with the seven children and Bruno, the faithful dog. Hunt returned home about two years later by train. They had two more

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children, Dennis and Winifred, who died in infancy.

In 1918, Hunt took his family back to his origins in New Jersey, but Sarah did not care for the change and returned alone with the family. Hunt continued to farm and trade horses but died in 1925, returning home to Exeter in a wooden box by train.

Sarah, a true pioneer woman, lived on until 1946, dying at the age of 84, greatly honored by her children. None of the original family are living, but Hunt's grandchildren and great-grandchildren keep alive the stories of their adventurous ancestor, ever the dreamer, always looking for a better life for his family. Sarah, they remember as a quiet woman, a "doer" strong in spirit and resolve.

The family refers to Wright as "Grandpa's town in Kansas," and make visits occasionally to Ford County.

Evelyn Steimel

PETER AND MARGARET

LYON IMEL

Peter Imel and Margaret Lyon were both born and reared in Madison, Indiana. Margaret was born on April 8, 1845. She died in Dodge City, Kansas, March 2, 1922, at the age of 76 years. Her obituary states that she was survived by four living children, Clara, Stella (Mrs. Carl Van Riper), Violette (Mrs. C.M. States), all of Dodge City; her son, Will A., Fairbury, Nebraska; and a brother, Ed Lyon, Madison, Indiana.

Her obituary states: "Mrs. Imel was of Scotch ancestry, and it was a source of great pride to her. She was not a doer of great things, excepting the greatest of all things—rearing a family of fine children. She was a great lover of home and her church, in which she was active until her declining years. Mrs. Imel until only a few weeks ago followed world and local current events through the columns of the daily press, and found much enjoyment in discussing the various political and other developments of the day."

Peter Imel was born about 1847 and died July 29, 1918, aged 71 years. Pe-



Peter and Margaret (Lyon) Imel

ter Imel and Margaret Lyon were married on November 12, 1867. Mr. and Mrs. Imel were among the first residents of Ford County, settling on a homestead on the Coon Creek, south of Spearville and about 12 miles east of Dodge City.

The blizzard of 1886 practically wiped out the cattle ranch Peter Imel had established. In 1895, the family moved to Dodge City, where Peter started a grocery store which was located at the northeast corner of Walnut (now Gunsmoke) and Second Avenue. The family lived at First and Vine and later at 710 Fifth Avenue. The children of Peter and Margaret Imel were Clara, Stella, Violette, Charles, William A., and Mary.

Clara remained unmarried. Stella was married to Carl Van Riper. At the age of 16 or 17 Stella Imel took the County Examination for a teacher's certificate. For her first year of teaching she drove a horse and buggy back and forth each day to teach at Ft. Dodge. The next year she taught in the Sawlog neighborhood. Then she taught eight years on Boot Hill at the old Third Ward School. As a young woman she was active in the Methodist Church where she played the organ and sang in a quartet.

Violette married Charles Morgart States on June 22, 1903. He was a pharmacist and owned the Palace Drug Store in Dodge City for many years. Their children were Margaret States Young (Mrs. Maurice R. Young) and O.B.

"Bus" States. Margaret and Maurice's son is Charles M. Young. O.B. "Bus" married Veneta Slepake, who had lived in Garfield, Kansas. Their children were Sydney and Dana.

Charles, born in Kansas, was married to Cora Startet. He died about 1917.

William A. was born in Kansas. He married Cecil Jennings. Their daughter was Jane (Mrs. Richard Bissing).

Mary married a minister, William Reace, from Chicago. She died in Chicago in December 1920. They had no children.

Margaret States Young
See the William States entry

BERNARD INDIK

Bernard Indiek was born in Germany, on October 24, 1839. At the age of 28, he emigrated from Brehmen, Germany, and arrived in New York on July 20, 1868, accompanied by two brothers, Joseph and Henry. Mr. Indiek applied for naturalization papers October 5, 1872, in Wayne Co., Indiana. Before coming to Kansas, Bernard and Joseph worked for 13 years as metal molders in Richmond, Indiana. They left Richmond because there was no work during the winter months.

Bernard and Joseph came to Kansas and stopped at Offerle. They walked out southwest of town to look at land that was east of the former District #6 School House. Bernard bought 160 acres in 1878, from the railroad. His brother Joseph homesteaded south of



Indiek family (front left): Nettie, Mary, Kate, Ben, Grampa and Henry.

the school house but left before he had proved his homestead and returned to Germany. Henry had returned to Germany earlier, since he did not come to Kansas.

Bernard brought lumber from the east to build a two-room home on the site. Mr. John A. Torline built the home. He lived in a dugout until the home was completed.

In 1881, Bernard married Elizabeth Hennefeld at the Windthorst Church. Elizabeth was born March 19, 1861, in Cincinnati, Ohio. They were blessed with five children.

Mary, their oldest child, was born on September 30, 1882. She married Mr. O.E. Hatch in 1900. Mary and Oscar had four children, Elizabeth, Dorothy, Bernita, and Edwin. Mr. Hatch mainly did carpenter work.

Henry Indiek was born November 11, 1885. He married Alzina Taylor. They had one son, Bernard. They lived on a farm in the Holly, Colorado, area. Later they moved to Portland, Oregon.

Katherine was born March 3, 1890. She married Edward Hattrup in 1914. Their children were Viola and Marion. They also raised a niece of Ed's, Helen Peintner. Ed and Kate lived on a farm in the North Kinsley area.

Ben was born July 20, 1892. He

married Helen Schreck of Tipton, Missouri, on November 24, 1920. They lived on the home place that he later acquired. They took care of Ben's father until he passed away January 11, 1928, at the age of 89. Helen and Ben were the parents of seven children; Esther, Delphine, Berna Mae, Clarine, John, Anthony and Victor.

The youngest daughter, Nettie, was born January 22, 1895. She married John Keilholz in 1922. They had five children, Rosalie, Margaret, Serphia, Susan and Michael. Nettie and John lived on a farm in Linn, Missouri.

Bernard Indiek wanted to homestead some property and had to apply for naturalization papers in Ford Co., Kansas, before he could do this. On November 13, 1888, he filed to homestead the NE 1/4 of S34 T25 R21 and walked to

Larned, Kansas, as that was the nearest government land office. At one time, there was a homesteader on every quarter of land but many left before proving up on the land since it would take 18 months or longer after one filed before you could prove it as certain requirements had to be made before one could get the land. Some preferred not to wait because meanwhile there would be taxes to be paid. A notification signed by President Benjamin Harrison on June 3, 1890, stated that this parcel of land could be claimed by Bernard Indiek. This information was deposited in the General Land Office of the United States at Garden City, Kansas.

When this land was acquired, the house on the south quarter was moved to this site and a porch and bedroom were added to the structure. The south-east quarter of this section was bought in February 1899, from the Alfalfa Irrigation and Land Company.

Bernard Indiek and John Torline (grandfather of the Torline brothers) owned one of the first wheat headers in the community and most farming was done with a team of horses. At one time, some crops were irrigated from the Soule Ditch which extended seven and three-fourth miles east of St. John's Cemetery at Spearville, Kansas.

Mrs. Elizabeth Indiek died on March 19, 1898. This was her 37th birthday. She was bedfast 16 weeks before her death. Women of the Windthorst area took weekly turns coming to the house and caring for her and the children. The family later recalled that they rode to their mother's funeral in a lumber wagon with their grandparents.

Esther Andra
Delphine Peintner



Indiek homestead taken in 1914.

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CHARLES OSCAR JACOBS

Carl Osker Jacobson was born November 9, 1850, at Stockholm, Sweden, and came to the United States in 1859. On the trip over from Sweden, Carl Osker's mother became ill and died. She was buried in the Atlantic Ocean. The family (the father, brothers Jon and Henry, the sisters Christena and Mathilda and Carl Osker) arrived at Castle Gardens (the forerunner of Ellis Island) and were in quarantine for three weeks. The family then went on to Chicago, where the oldest son, Hauness, was living at that time. Later the father remarried a widow lady with children of her own. The children did not get along and that is the reason Carl Osker was sent to Wisconsin. He was apprenticed out to a Swedish dairy farmer in Wisconsin.

When he turned 16, he struck out on his own. He went to Iowa, and then to Riley, Co., Kansas, where his sister, Matilda Anderson, lived. He met Eliza Beth Ann Ketterman, born November 30, 1853, in Blackhawk Co., Iowa, and they married at Alma, Waubunsee Co., Kansas, on March 19, 1874.

In 1879, he, his wife and three small children joined a wagon train bound for California. Their destination was Placerville, California, where Carl Osker had a brother, Hauness.

When the wagon train got to Pawnee Rock, the wagon master decided to stop a few days to rest the oxen and horses and to make any repairs necessary. This stop also gave the women of the train a chance to wash clothes and to bake a supply of bread.

While there at Pawnee Rock, some riders came into the camp and told the people that they had seen strong Indian signs to the west. Eliza and some of the other mothers on the train became alarmed and persuaded their husbands to turn back. Carl Osker took his family back to Great Bend and, while there, found that there was railroad land available near Ellinwood. They homesteaded some of this land and the family lived in the Ellinwood Community from 1879 until 1897.

In 1880, Carl Osker finalized his

naturalization papers and then his name was changed to Charles Oskar Jacobs. He used the initials "C.O." after that. His naturalization papers stated the following, in part: "... I renounce and abjure forever, all allegiance and fidelity to every foreign power particularly the King of Sweden and Norway."

C.O. was fluent in the Swedish, Norwegian, Danish, Finnish, German and English languages. He learned to read and write English after age 10.

In 1897, C.O. and his oldest son, John, came to Ford County looking for land to homestead. They rented some land in southwest Ford County near the Gray County line. He bought a relinquished homestead but either sold or traded it some time in 1899.

He purchased the modern home of a banker named Burnett at 1103-5 Santa Fe Trail Street. There were 20 acres in this property. The land extended to the bank of the Arkansas River. This 20 acres had an orchard of fruit trees, alfalfa, and meadow hay. He purchased a farm and extra land in Gray County, south of the Arkansas River, just south of Cimarron.

In 1904, he moved his wife, Eliza, their son, Winfred, daughters Ida Mae, Martha (Mattie) Matilda (Tillie) and Myrtle, to Dodge City. The girls enrolled at Third Ward School on Boot

Hill. As the girls finished the eighth grade, they went to work. Ida worked at the Bee Hive Department Store, Mattie in the kitchen at the Harvey House and Tillie at the Dodge City Laundry as a bundle girl. Winfred went to work at the Midland Water and Light Plant.

Eliza Beth Ann died September 3, 1908, and was buried at Ellinwood, Kansas. At that time C.O. sold the home in Dodge City and the farm land in Ford and Gray Counties. He took his youngest daughter, Myrtle, and moved to Hutchinson, where Winfred lived. He continued to rent farm land in Ford County and came out each year to tend this farm. He returned to Ford County in 1913, and made his home with his daughter and son-in-law, Fred and Tillie Bailey until his death in January 1915. He was buried in Ellinwood, Kansas. Both Eliza Beth and C.O. were members of the Swedish Lutheran Church.

John Jacobs, the oldest son, moved to Gray County and farmed. He was married three times and died at Syracuse, Kansas, in 1963. Rosa married Frank Burnett. They lived and died at Mullinville, Kansas. Carrie married Cass Stephenson and lived in Gray County until 1912, when they moved to Bourbon County, where Carrie died in 1912. Ida married William Skinner.



C. Oscar Jacobs and his wife, Eliza Beth Ann, and their family, taken in 1908. Back row (left to right): Matilda, Winfred, Myrtle, John and Ida. Front row: Carrie, Martha, C. Oscar, Eliza Beth Ann and Rosa.



Breaking out sod west of Dodge City.

owner of the Skinner Restaurant, located between the Home Furniture Company and Mosher Drug on Chestnut Street. She died at Garden City in 1918, during the flu epidemic. Winfred married first, Leah Burtinett and second, Helen Brown, who had been a Harvey Girl. He died in Denver, Colorado, in 1958, where he had lived most of his life. Matilda "Tillie" married Fred L. Bailey, a farmer, stockman and contractor. They lived in Dodge City where she died January 29, 1973. Martha "Mattie" married train brakeman Emmet Carner. They lived at Pratt, Kansas. She died in 1952. Myrtle married Robert Weldon, a clerk in Stubbs Grocery. They lived and died in California.

Veryle Bailey Wycoff

THE JOHNSON FAMILY

Polly Johnston was the mother of twins, Joseph and Benjamin. Benjamin taught school, dropped the "T" in his name, and married Elizabeth Manley. They started by living with his mother Polly. One day they were doing the morning house chores. Elizabeth was cleaning the hearth and Polly told her to clean the lamp chimney. Elizabeth said, "I will as soon as I finish here," so Polly spanked her for disobeying her. That evening when Benjamin got home, Elizabeth told him what had happened, so Benjamin got neighbors to help and they built a log cabin overnight, moving Elizabeth before he went to work the next morning!

Ben and Elizabeth's children were Ben, Nimrod, Robert Wallace, Malissa, and Rebecca Ellen.

Ben and Nimrod came to Kansas before the Robert Wallace family did.

Ben lived north of the railroad and about one-half mile east of the Ford-Gray County line, and Nim lived north of that and south of where Robert Wallace lived.

Ben's children were John, Charley, and Elizabeth. They went back to Fort Wayne, Indiana, to live. Charley came and visited, and the next year he brought John and was going to bring Elizabeth the year after that, but she was too sick with cancer to come.

Nim's children were George, Myrle, Art and others. (There were either nine or 11.) George died here. Art went to Missouri where he retired. He was fishing in the river for a pastime and got tangled in his trout line and drowned.

Wallace, as they called him (since his wife didn't want him known as Bob), served in the Civil War. He joined the Indiana branch and traveled by boat up and down the Mississippi River between the marches from one battle to another. He served under several different generals. He got a bad thigh injury in one of the battles. Wallace married Catherine Keopple and lived in Ohio, in and around Mercer County. Catherine was raised by her mother's sister, Katy Dubon, as her mother died when Catherine was born. Her father married again and had two more girls.

After Wallace and Catherine were married, Wallace did logging. He greased his wagon wheels every morning with a teaspoon of castor oil each. They moved to different locations to where there was work. Their children were John, Nimrod, Joe (died at age two years) Oscar Benjamin, Wilson Shannon, William Wesley, Robert Wallace Jr. (Bert) and Mary Elizabeth.

Wallace and son John came to Kansas in 1884, and they took a claim in Ford County along the Ford-Gray County line. They prepared a home and went back to bring the rest of the family except for Shannon and Aunt Katy. This was in 1885, and Shannon and Katy came in 1886, as Katy wouldn't live with a family. She said it was wrong, so they built her a small house close to theirs and put a rope attached to a bell so she could pull it for help if needed.

Wallace had over 40 head of cattle. He would watch them come to water—he never counted them, but if one was missing, he knew it and knew which one it was. They had about that many horses and boys from quite a way around came over on Sundays and rode them to see which ones could buck them off. The fastest one they saddled was a small bay mare, and she went so high they could see the top of the windmill below her. She came down on her side, and they never saddled her again!

In Kansas their mail came out of Dodge City. The carrier was Maude Butler. I believe she carried as far as Ulysses. Each person had two bags with his name embroidered on them. He hung one and she took it and left the other with that batch of mail.

Wallace and Catherine turned the farming over to some of the boys and went to Wenatchee [Washington] and got a farm close to where John lived. Wallace and Catherine's home sat along the Columbia River close enough to tie



Catherine (Mrs. Wallace) Johnson.

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boats at the back porch. Wallace sold out there in the fall before he died on June 9, 1919. He helped Oscar put new leathers on his well Christmas Day.

John farmed along the Columbia River, southeast of Wenatchee, and raised horses and cattle. His bull took him down and broke some of his ribs, so he went to the house and got his gun and shot the bull, then called the butcher to come get him.

John married Annie Kufus, a widow with three children (she was a Wyoming rancher's daughter). They had one boy, Robert Blair. Annie's first husband was a Methodist preacher who went to Wenatchee and helped tame the town.

Robert served in World War II and was overseas when John got sick. They sent for Robert, but John died just as Robert's plane landed in Wenatchee. John's widow lived to be 100. Robert and his wife, Lillian, had one son, David.

After Shannon came to Kansas with Aunt Katy in 1886, he and two other teenage boys rode to Dodge City. As they came out the next morning, they saw a dead man lying by a clump of tamaracks. They were going to investigate when a man on the other side of the tamarack said "Move on, he's being taken care of." They moved on, but could never find out who he was or what had happened to him.

Shannon wanted to ride in the Cimarron Strip race for land but was too young. He rode down and watched it. He said they rode over good land that wasn't taken to poorer land. Annie Johnson's cousin, Luis Massler, got land in that race, and rode in the strip parade even when he was 85. He led the parade on his horse. He had arthritis in his knees, so he trained his horse to kneel for him to get on and off.

Shannon served in the Philippines during the Spanish-American War. He married Barbara Mayrath. They lived across the Wagner section from his folks. Later they moved farther east. Their grandson, Richard Johnson, lives there now. Later they lived in California part of the time. Shannon never liked California, he said there were too many people there, but Barbara liked it and

was closer to more of her children. Shannon farmed in Kansas and worked beautiful black horses before going to tractors and combines. Their children were twins who died at birth; Marie (Mrs. Jack Wilkerson); Ellen who died at 11 (from cancer caused by shots after having scarlet fever that left her with earaches); Leo, who married Thelma Sutton and farmed; Robert who worked for the gas company in California and married Ruth Mount from Oklahoma; and Catharine who went to California and married Al Sweitzer.

William stayed with his folks and worked in a blacksmith shop, later running one for several years. He moved along with his mother from Ensign, Kansas, to Wenatchee, Washington. When she fell and broke her hip, they returned to Ensign so her granddaughters could take turns helping her. After her death, William spent time in New Mexico. He later lived in Dodge City where he died.

Bert went to the Philippines along with Shannon during the Spanish-American War. He later married Estella Evans. They drifted for several years before settling in Dodge City. He and his boys drilled wells. Otis and Mike stayed with well drilling until Otis died and Mike's health failed. Their six children were Carl, Mike, Otis, Jewel (Mrs. Reed Wooten), Robert and George.

Mike served in the army in France in World War II. George served in the army in India, Italy and Arabia, also during World War II.

Mary married George Howell. They lived south of the Johnson Cemetery on the Gray-Ford County line in Ford County until their house burned. She raised goats for a while. They later moved to Ensign. George ran a blacksmith shop and Mary ran a store. They separated and later she married Homer George, and they moved to his folks' place south of Kinsley. Mary had no children.

Oscar came to Kansas with the family in 1885. In 1886, he and an uncle and cousin went north of the river and picked up cow chips for fuel. On their way home it was clear and the moon was really bright with a large bright

circle around it and no star in it. His uncle said that meant a storm would hit yet that night, and it did. That was the famous blizzard of 1886, that killed so many animals and people who were caught outside. Oscar said that the pile of chips they stacked by the door was frozen solid to the center and also frozen to the ground with snow. Jack Sutton said that snow came in through the keyhole of the door and made a drift as deep as the key hole to the other side of the room.

Zig Coats relinquished his claim, so Oscar filed on it as a timber claim. Before Oscar sold the land, he deeded the cemetery to East Hess and Fairview townships so no one could destroy it.

Oscar worked at getting the train out of snow drifts between Cimarron and Howell. He also worked on the Soule railroad southwest of Dodge City. He said Calamity Jane worked a team of mules there, too, and said she chewed tobacco and could out-cuss any of the men. Oscar worked at building railroads in Colorado and took typhoid fever. He had train fare home and put it under his pillow, but someone stole it overnight, so the crew took up a collection and sent him home. He also worked in Washing-



Oscar and Annie Johnson, taken shortly after their marriage.

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Grandpa Johnson with Carl and Mike.

ton state at building track and was injured by a large rock. The boss asked him to stay on and promised to put him in a safe place, but put him back in dangerous places. He quit and went home. His foot was badly hurt and he couldn't move fast enough to get away from falling rocks.

Oscar drilled and repaired wells. He built his own rigs, four of them in his lifetime. Oscar drilled Dodge City's first deep well. He also drilled Cimarron's city well and a well for Santa Fe at Rolla, Kansas. They loaded his rig on a flat car at Ensign and brought it back to Ensign. Louis Knotts, a grandson of Louis Messler, helped with the well. Louis was Annie Johnson's teenage cousin, a good worker and a very handsome young man.

Oscar drilled wells for more than 50 years. He drilled two wells for John and Ruby Warner and then one for Eileen Phillips. These were the last wells he drilled. He repaired wells until his death at 83 years of age.

Oscar and Annie M. Wagner were married in Cimarron, in December 1908. Their family has five girls: Mabel McQueen, Eileen Phillips, Ruby Warner, Ethel Penka, and Mary Spurgeon.

Oscar had an alfalfa buller and hulled along the river for several years. He also had a threshing outfit and threshed until the combine took over. He thrashed as far as Ulysses, Kansas (and often late in the season). One year, his mother kept his Thanksgiving dinner for him as she knew he was arriving from Ulysses with his outfit that day.

During his years of threshing, he had several separator operators, Charley Trent and Ralph Frink and others. His crew consisted of him on the steam engine, a separator man, eight pitchers, a water monkey, who kept water hauled to the steam engine, a clean-up man and a cook. The people he threshed for, hauled the grain. The large straw stacks were really good feed for the cattle over winter.

Oscar got his first combine by cutting for Jim Strawn. Some of the cooks were Mrs. Proffitt, our neighbor, Dythel Stevens, Mrs. Phelps from Colorado, and Mrs. James. George Phelps and James hauled water. One day when Mr. and Mrs. James were working, he came in late one day with his load of water, and the men were eating supper already. It made him mad so he and his wife

threw tin cups at each other. Several of the cups lost their handles!

Another cook hoarded groceries and told the men that Annie wouldn't get enough groceries. One night they loaded up the groceries and their two little boys and skipped. Then, during the depression, he wrote to Oscar and wanted a job again!

When Oscar would pull in with the steam engine, he let his girls blow the steam whistle. Once it stuck, and the cattle and horses were locked in the corral—they ran around shaking their heads.

His last trip out, Maude and Zella Prescott were the cooks. That year there weren't enough grain cars on the train to take care of the wheat. If the train left a car, the elevator manager called his favorites and after they hauled what they wanted to, he gave a general ring. By the time the farmers got their team and a load ready, the elevator was full so they couldn't pay Oscar for the thrashing so that he could pay his local help. Maude and Zella had ordered clothing C.O.D. and the orders came and the girls were really in a stew.

While Oscar was cutting for Jim



Dodge City's first deep water well. The official analysis was 99.+% pure. John Miller is pictured with his hand on his knee. Bert Johnson is in the center behind the pipe. Others behind the pipe are Sid Reynolds and A. Gluck, the mayor. In front of the pipe are Holly Forsythe and Oscar Johnson. The drilling rig belonged to Oscar Johnson.

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Strawn to earn the combine, Eileen plowed 30 acres of sod with a six-horse team to pay for pasture. Then when he came home he ran his home-made tractor and Eileen ran the combine, an old No. 3 International with a long lever to raise the platform, which was a large job for a 12 year-old girl. Mabel hauled the grain.

Mabel served in the Marine Corps during World War II at Quantico, Virginia, and Hawaii. Her husband, Fred McQueen, served in the Aleutian Islands. Mabel taught school and she and Fred raced horses and he worked for farmers.

Ruby went to Junior College, then worked for Warners. She married John Warner and they live on a ranch north-east of Dodge City. They have all black stock, black Morgan horses, Angus cattle, black chickens, cats and dogs. They ride in parades with their black and white outfits.

Eileen married Bill Phillips and they had a daughter, Sharon. Sharon had four sons and she and Eileen still live on the home place that Oscar and Annie started.

Ethel married Eddie Penka, and they lived around Minneola, where Eddie worked, then got a farm and spent the rest of their lives there. Ethel and son



Eileen Johnson Phillips

Oscar are still on the farm after Eddie passed away.

Mary and Mabel broke horses for people, then taught school. Mary taught in Gray Co., Kansas, then in Wyoming and Oklahoma. She married Bill Spurgeon, and they lived on a ranch in Oklahoma, where Bill was killed in a horse-tree accident. Mary is still living on the ranch and running cattle. They bought a bridge and built a house with it.

Annie and Oscar raised beautiful Rhode Island Red chickens. They penned and trap-nested them and sold eggs at \$5 to \$25 a setting of 15 eggs and sold the roosters the same way and also sold baby chicks. They showed at poultry shows in Liberal, Bucklin, Dodge City, Cimarron and Hutchinson. The dust storms ruined the poultry business.

During the dust storms, we had milk cows, pigs, chickens to help along with Oscar's well repairs. Annie sold eggs, butter, cottage cheese, cream, and American cheese as well as dressed chickens, pigs and beef at the Farm Bureau market. Even so, it was very hard.

We herded the cattle wherever there was anything for them to eat. Mary was herding north of Ensign when the Black Blizzard hit on April 12, 1935. The dust was so thick you couldn't see anything. A neighbor was herding in the same field, they got off their horses and called to each other to get together. Then when they could see the ground, they walked then waited until they could see the ground again. They had come over half-way home before Oscar and Mabel could travel to meet them with the truck.

These dust storms lasted close to nine years. When it got to where anything grew, the cattle bloated on almost every type of feed. We would have as many as five to doctor every evening and lost several. The pasture had no grass left in it by the time the rains came again.

When we were small children, our toys were nails and store string for fences and steel cylinder teeth out of the separator for horses and devil claws with their horns hooked back for cattle.

I believe we had more fun than children do today with their expensive toys.

Eileen Johnson Phillips

THE JONES AND PLATZ FAMILIES

It was the end of an era. The major cattle drives were coming to a halt in southwest Kansas. The cowboys who rode the trails from Texas to Dodge City were beginning to think of settling down. One of those was Raymond G. "R.G." Jones. He liked the area and filed for a homestead in 1882, near the present town of Ford. He received his patent in 1887.

Jones was one of the founders of Ford. He was a co-owner of the Joe Miller and Raymond Jones Livery and Feed Stable (1884-1889). He was a property owner in Ford and engaged in farming and raising cattle. He served the community of Ford as Councilman in 1891-92 and 1897-99; as Mayor in 1893-95 and Postmaster in 1898-99.

Jones led an interesting life. He was born June 19, 1858, in Dennysville (Washington Co.), Maine, the son of a blacksmith. He came from a prominent family background being a Mayflower descendant through John Alden and Priscilla Mullins. Several of his ancestors had held public offices. One great grandfather was an eminent physician and another was a noted land surveyor.

Seeking adventure, the 15-year-old Jones came west in 1873, to work as a cowhand for a "cousin," Thomas Bugbee, a prominent cattleman, who lived two miles west of Lakin, Kansas, now in Kearny County. The cowhands hunted and skinned buffalo and rounded up wild horses all over western Kansas. They lived in dugouts. Bugbee and his wife, Molly, lived in one dugout while the hired men lived in another. One dugout was used for cooking and as an eating room.

Sometime in the late 1870s, Bugbee moved to Miami, Texas, in Hutchinson, County where he owned a cattle ranch. Raymond G. Jones worked on the Bugbee Ranch and was one of the cowboys on a cattle drive in 1879, to Dodge City. This was probably the first time Jones had been to Ford County, Kansas.

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A favorite story that R.G. Jones told his family: One day he rode into a Texas town when the Marshal came around a corner and shot a man "right out of his saddle." Jones said he decided to continue riding on through that town, because as he said, "It was too tough for me!" Jones continued working on the Bugbee ranch in Texas until 1882, when he settled in the Ford area, southeast of Dodge City.

The Joseph Platz Family

Large numbers of settlers were coming to Ford County. In 1884, Joseph and Mary (Balsley) Platz and their five children, Clara Alice, Cora A., Cassie S., Floyd Emery and Otto Clyde, moved to the Ford area from Liberty Twp., St. Joseph Co., Indiana. A sixth child, Gracie B., was born in 1886, in Kansas and died a year later in 1887. Platz filed for a homestead northwest of Ford.

On November 20, 1887, in the Congregational Church in Ford, Raymond G. Jones and Clara Alice Platz were married. Jones was 29, Clara was 17 and a half. Clara was born May 31, 1870, in Bremen, Indiana, Marshall Co., German Twp. Following their daughter's marriage, the Platz family returned to Indiana, where one more child, Etta Blanche, was born in North Liberty, Indiana, in 1888. Clara (Platz) Jones was the only member of the Platz family to remain in Kansas.

The Raymond G. Jones Family

At the time of his and Clara's marriage, Jones was co-owner of the Joe Miller and Raymond Jones Livery and Feed Stable. He served as Councilman, Mayor and Postmaster during the early years of Ford to 1899. Raymond G. and Clara Jones had eight children, all but one were born in Ford, Kansas. The children were: Ruby M. Jones, born October 1, 1888; Lucy S. Jones, born September 22, 1891; Arthur Clyde Jones, born April 7, 1893; Benjamin Richards Jones, born October 25, 1894; Agnes Mary Jones, born June 14, 1896; Hattie Gwendolyn Jones, born February 16, 1899; Myra G. Jones, born June 26, 1900, in Clarendon, Texas; and Raymond G. Jones, Jr., born March 23, 1908.

Around the turn of the century Jones

sold his property and moved his family to Clarendon, Texas, investing all he had in a venture with Bugbee, his former employer. After it failed, Jones and the family returned to Ford (1905-06) where he took a job working on the Herzer place. The family lived in Ford until 1912-13, when they moved north of Wright, Kansas, to a farm one-half mile east of the site where the Ford County Lake was later built. Jones continued to farm in the area north of Dodge City for several years. Around the fall of 1929, Raymond G. and Clara Jones moved to a farm north of Bloom, Kansas.

Raymond G. Jones died December 8, 1930, in Dodge City, two weeks following a stroke. His widow, Clara, moved to Dodge City and lived there until her death June 4, 1947. Both burials were at Maple Grove Cemetery, Dodge City, Kansas.

Children of Raymond G. and Clara Platz Jones

Ruby May Jones married William L. Deitz in 1907. Immediately following their marriage in Dodge City, they moved to a dugout on their farm five miles north of Bloom, Kansas, living there until the next winter. They built a one-room home in which they lived for three years until their new home was completed. They engaged in farming until 1949, when they retired and moved to Dodge City. The couple celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on March 4, 1967. William L. Deitz died in 1967; Ruby (Jones) Deitz died in 1972. Both are buried at Maple Grove Cemetery in Dodge City. The couple had no children.

Lucy S. Jones married first William Clint Speer. The couple had one daughter, Beatrice Speer who married (1) Orval Howerter (2) Charles Leissring. After Lucy's divorce from Speer, she married second George H. Howerter in 1918, in Dodge City. He died in 1946. The couple had four children: Helen Marie Howerter; Betty June Howerter, who married Clarence Gillen and lives in McCook, Nebraska, in 1993; Wanda Mae Howerter, who married Eugene T. Rutherford; and George Junior Howerter, who married Mary Wasia. He

was living in Cambridge, Nebraska, in 1993. Lucy married third William M. Copeland in 1947; he died in 1967. Lucy (Jones) Speer Howerter Copeland died in 1977. She is buried in Maple Grove Cemetery. One daughter, Wanda Rutherford, lives in Dodge City in 1993.

Arthur Clyde Jones served in the U.S. Army during World War I. He was stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas, and Fort Harrison, Indiana. He married Sarah Friesen Plett, in Dodge City, in 1929. They lived near Satanta, Kansas, and Bloom, Kansas, for a few years before moving to Dodge City. Arthur C. Jones worked at the U.S. Airbase west of Dodge City during World War II. The couple had three children: Agnes Fern Jones married (1) Richard Oakes, (2) Gilbert Del Rio; Elmer L. Jones who married Judy Gann, and a stillborn unnamed son. Both Agnes and Elmer live in Tucson, Arizona, in 1993. Arthur C. Jones died in 1954, in Wichita, Kansas, burial at Maple Grove Cemetery in Dodge City. His widow, Sarah, died in 1980, in Tucson, Arizona.

Benjamin Richard Jones served in the U.S. Army during World War I where he was overcome by poison gas, but survived. Following the war he worked on freighter ships going around the world. He was in Australia, New Zealand, Arabia and Alaska, before settling in Shelby, Montana, and later in Casper, Wyoming. He died in 1951 and is buried in a veteran's cemetery in Casper, Wyoming.

Agnes Mary Jones married Will Day Hawkins in Dodge City. They had one daughter, Viola Jewell Hawkins (married (1) Rexford George; (2) Cloyd Boswell and (3) Merrill Linch; she is living in Sun City, California, in 1993). Agnes (Jones) Hawkins died in 1921; burial in Arkansas City, Kansas. Agnes' daughter was raised by her sister, Ruby (Jones) Deitz at Bloom, Kansas. Agnes' grandson, Eston L. George, lives in Bucklin, Kansas. (1993)

Hattie Gwendolyn Jones married Leo Lyman Lockman in 1913, in Dodge City. The couple had three children: Leonard L. Lockman, Ida Fae Lockman (who died in infancy) and Estal L. Lockman. Their family lived northeast

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of Dodge City until 1918 when they moved to Dodge City. Hattie was often asked to sing at "Literary Meetings," the rural community's entertainment in those days. Hattie died July 7, 1948; Leo died in 1957; both burials were in Maple Grove Cemetery, Dodge City. Their sons, Leonard and Estal, served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Leonard married Mayetta Dalton, Estal married Catherine (Higley) Gilbert. Both lived in Dodge City. Leonard died in 1992. Descendants of Hattie Jones Lockman living in Dodge City in 1993, include a son, Estal L. Lockman, and a granddaughter, Daisy E. Lockman Plotner, a daughter of Leonard. More information on this family is included in the Lockman story. Myra G. Jones married Sampson H. Kells in 1917, in Garden City, Kansas. They farmed and lived all their lives near Satanta, Kansas. The couple celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary in 1987. They had two children: Walter H. Kells, who married Lena Faulconer, and Eva Mae Kells, who married Ambrose Fross and lives near Satanta, Kansas, in 1993. Myra died in 1989, in Ulysses, Kansas; burial at Valley View Cemetery, Garden City, Kansas.

Raymond G. Jones, Jr., married Olive Blanch Unger in 1936, in Dodge City. They moved to Oregon in the 1930s, settling in Prineville, Oregon, in the early 1940s, where Raymond was a sawmill worker. The family moved to Clackamas, Oregon, after his retirement. Raymond G. Jones, Jr. died in 1986; burial in Lincoln Heights Cemetery, Clackamas, Oregon. The couple had four children: Hallie Blanche Jones (married Jr. Carl Dixon); Larry Gean Jones, who married Peggy Finley; Jefferson Nile Jones, who married Jennette Spelliero; and Patricia Sue Jones, who married John E. Burr.

Daisy Lockman Plotner

ASA GOULD JONES

Asa Gould Jones was born in New Hampshire on November 11, 1817, and passed away November 25, 1892, in Ford Co., Kansas. He is buried in Silent Land Cemetery at Spearville, Kansas, next to a granddaughter, Etta Mae

Jones, who died of croup as a child and a daughter, Sarah C. (Jones) Curtis.

Very little is known of his early life and only by a lot of record searching have I been able to assemble information about him. From deed records in Washington Co., New York, I discovered that he and Jacob Jones purchased 43 acres of land located in Cambridge Township on April 1, 1838, for \$900. They sold the land in March 1839, for \$1,000. The deed was signed by both Asa and his wife, Caroline, and also by Jacob and his wife. I do not know how or if these two men were related but they probably were.

The census record for Washington Co., New York, states that Asa G. Jones was born in New Hampshire, and that he owned real estate valued at \$700 and worked as a teamster. His wife was Jennett, (Janette/Jeanette) aged 36 years, and it states that she was born in New York. The children were: Alvira C. Jones, 17; James C. Jones, 15; Cynthia S. Jones, 12; John M. Jones, four; and Henry W. Jones, one. The three older children were listed as having been born in New Hampshire and both of the parents born there as well, but the two younger children were born in New York and stated that their father was born in New Hampshire and their mother born in New York, so from this we must assume that Caroline was the mother of the older children and had died some time between 1839 and 1845, and he had remarried and started a second family. The above census record was in 1850. Asa and his family moved to Plainfield in Wheatland Twp, Will Co., Illinois. He purchased the southwest quarter of S19 T37 R9 on March 8, 1855, for \$3,000. This land was sold on January 18, 1878, for \$7,000.

Janette Jones was born November 1, 1815, in Washington, Co., New York, and died on May 29, 1878, in Will Co., Illinois, after a long illness according to her death certificate. She is buried in the United Presbyterian Church Cemetery at Wheatland, Illinois.

Asa purchased the NE 1/4 of S29 T25 R21 in Ford Co., Kansas, from the Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe on February 12, 1878, about three months be-

fore the death of his wife. On the 1880 census, Asa G. Jones was listed as being 72 years old and his daughter Sarah (Jones) Willard, 26, was making her home with him. Sarah married George Curtis after the death of her father and continued to live on the farm until her death.

It has been said by family members that James Chase Jones, the oldest son of Asa G. Jones, had ridden shotgun on a stagecoach in the Catskill Mountains as a young man and since the records show that Asa was a teamster it is quite possible that they worked together on the stage line.

The census record for 1860 for Wheatland, Illinois, shows Asa's family consisted of Asa and Jeanette, a son, John, 15; a son, Charles, eight; and a daughter, Sarah, six. Since there is no son listed by the name of Henry W. Jones, he must have died between the 1850 census in New York and the 1860 census in Illinois.

On March 5, 1890, A. G. Jones co-signed a chattel mortgage with his son, C.W. Jones and his wife for \$245.00 covering a team, wagon, harness and 10 head of cattle to the First National Bank in Kinsley, Kansas. This points up that several members of his family had moved to Ford Co., Kansas, as his son, James Chase Jones had already moved here and homesteaded on the NE 1/4 of S28 T25 R21 and he obtained the NW 1/4 of S28 T25 R21 under the Timber Culture Act of 1873. This property was adjacent on the east to the property purchased by Asa in 1878. James Chase Jones and his family had arrived in Ford County in 1876 and apparently spear-headed the movement of this family west.

Asa Gould was my great-great grandfather and his son, James Chase Jones, was my great grandfather. Charles Augustus Jones was the son of James Chase Jones and grandson of Asa G and James Franklin was the son of Charles A. Jones and was my father. I was born on the old homestead of James Chase Jones and lived there until I started high school when our family moved to Bellefont to make our home.

Juanita Jones Gulick

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CHARLES AUGUSTUS

"CHARLIE" JONES

Charles Augustus "Charlie" Jones was born in Crescent City, Illinois, on July 26, 1870, the son of James Chase Jones and Elizabeth (Middleton) Jones. He moved to Ford County with his parents and a sister, Caroline Jeannette "Nettie" Jones in 1876. They homesteaded six miles east of Spearville, Kansas, where he grew to manhood. He was a farmer, rancher and stockman, raising cattle, horses and mules.

He was married December 6, 1892, to Lenora "Della" Van Voorhis, daughter of Daniel Franklin Van Voorhis and Amelia Marie (Titus) Van Voorhis. Della was born August 6, 1876, and died February 14, 1903. From all accounts, she was a beautiful young lady and a very loving and caring wife and mother. To this union were born three sons, James Franklin "Jim," Leland Wallace "Lee" and Charles Frederick "Fred" Jones. They bought the NW 1/4 of S21 T27 R21 in Pleasant Valley on December 27, 1897, and it became their home for the rest of their lives.

Charlie married Margaret "Ella" Padget, December 21, 1904. They were the parents of a daughter, Hazel Vera Jones.

Charlie got an early start in this country in several things. There is a story about the Jones home place which is interesting in view of the present times.



Lenora "Della" Van Voorhis Jones, 1875-1903.



Charles Augustus Jones (1870-1947) and Margaret "Ella" Padget Jones.

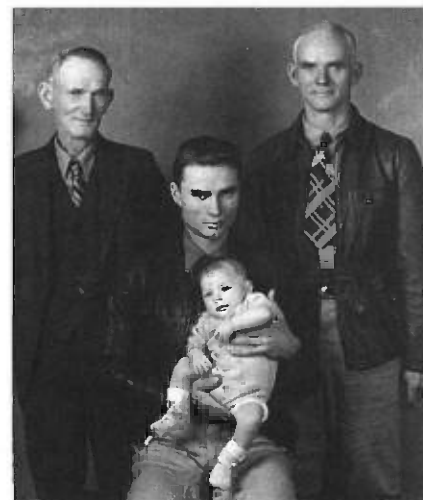
Charlie was a young buck at the time, in 1897, when he started out to buy the quarter of land that was to become his home for the rest of his life. His first stop was Bucklin and he only needed \$600 which could be picked up pretty easily now, with any kind of security at all, but in those days, \$600 was a wad of dough. Charlie didn't lack for credit, which he used very little after getting his start, but the way the story is, there just wasn't \$600 in Bucklin. Charlie's brother-in-law, J.L. Parker, said he thought the two of them together might be able to raise that much money at Kinsley, Kansas, so off they went, got the money, and the Jones home place became Charlie's on December 27, 1897.

Back in the late 1800s, the cattle in Ford County were handled by big cattle companies and Charlie did a lot of work for these companies. They would send a carload of horses at a time and Charlie along with D. Dawson, his half-Indian helper, would break them out. During World War I, Charlie and his boys broke a lot of green (unbroken) mules for the government. Charlie would rope a mule, and frequently have to throw them, while one of the boys would hitch the mule to a wagon, then another to make a team, and with Charlie holding a line on the inside mule, off they would go

on a wild ride until the mules were winded enough to answer the driver a little. Usually the driver would be Jim or Lee Jones. On these rides the wagon bed would be chained to the running gears so it wouldn't roll off on a short turn. Charlie Jones paid as he bought and though he thought times were bad he never lost any land during the poor years because what he had was his and what he could spare was his neighbor's. When ever anyone needed a dollar they knew they could get it at the Jones ranch if there was a dollar around. As long as he lived, Charlie never cared for poor stock. He wouldn't work with a poor mule or ride a poor horse and if the horses he sold were not satisfactory, the buyer was guaranteed his money back. Charlie's reputation for honest dealings brought him business from all over the United States and he sold horses over a wider area than any one else in this territory.

Charlie served many years on the Pleasant Valley Township Board and was also on the Pleasant Valley School Board for a very long time.

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Jones rode in a lot of parades where Charlie was the ranrod, getting the parade lined up ready to go. Charlie and his wife rode in the parade at Dodge City in the spring of 1947, where both were together in their last ride and they were prize win-



Standing (left to right): C.A. "Charlie" Jones, J.F. "Jim" Jones. Seated: Bobby James Jones holding James Dale "Buck" Jones.

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C.A. Jones farm crew.

ners right down to the end.

Charlie passed away at his home in the Pleasant Valley community near Bucklin, Kansas, on August 17, 1947, at the age of 77 years and 26 days. There are not enough men in this world whose memories will linger in the minds of men, but Charlie Jones was a man that will not soon be forgotten by his friends and all who knew him.

Some of my best memories of my Granddad Charlie Jones are when I was still in grade school. He and my Dad, Jim Jones and I would go to the river pasture and check and repair the fences every spring before they turned the cattle out for the summer season on the grass. We used to work, visit and ride horseback over the sand hill pasture that both he and my dad loved so much. I still own part of that pasture and I never go there but that many of these memories return to me. I guess you could say that it is part of my heritage and holds a special place in my heart because of them.

Juanita Jones Gulick

JAMES CHASE JONES

James Chase Jones was born November 8, 1835, in New Hampshire, the son of Asa Gould Jones and Caroline Jones. The family was living in Cambridge, Washington Co., New York, in 1850, where Asa was working as a teamster and James C. rode shotgun on a stagecoach in the Catskill Mountains. In 1855, the family moved to Will Co., Illinois, and farmed there and raised livestock.

He and Elizabeth (Middleton) Jones

were married March 12, 1868, at Geneva, Illinois. Elizabeth was born in England, the daughter of Thomas Middleton and Jennett Middleton. She had immigrated to the United States along with her family when she was about eight years old. They settled in Geneva, Illinois, where her father was a merchant and tailor. The 1860 census states that he owned \$4,000 in real estate and \$2,000 in personal property. The Middleton family also owned real estate in Bremer Co., Iowa. There were two daughters in the Middleton family, Jane J. and Elizabeth, but from other records that have been found it appears there were two more, Sarah A. (Middleton) Taylor and Cinderella (Middleton) Ellis. Thomas Middleton became a United States citizen on No-

vember 3, 1856, in Kane Co., Illinois. Thomas was born December 25, 1818, in Liverpool, England, and died July 28, 1896. Mrs. Jennett Middleton died in 1867, and both are buried in West Side Cemetery in Geneva, Illinois. Thomas was a member of the Masonic Lodge having joined Geneva Lodge No. 139 at Geneva, Illinois, in 1875. His son-in-law James Chase Jones joined at the same time.

James C. and his wife moved to Crescent City, Illinois, where he was a farmer. To this union were born two children, a daughter, Caroline Jeannette "Nettie" Jones and a son, Charles Augustus "Charlie" Jones. Both were born at Crescent City, Illinois.

In 1876, they moved to Ford Co., Kansas, where they homesteaded on the NE 1/4 of S28 T25 R21. He obtained the NW 1/4 of that same section under the Timber Culture Act of 1873. He also owned other property at Bellefont and in the Pleasant Valley Community north of Bucklin, Kansas.

The family had arrived at Offerle, Kansas, in an immigrant car into which they put livestock, wagon, tools, equipment, household goods and furniture as the space in the car would allow them to pack. It must have been a heart wrenching time when they had to decide what they could keep and what they had to dispose of because there was too



James Chase Jones



Elizabeth (Middleton) Jones

DODGE CITY AND FORD COUNTY, KANSAS 1870-1920 PIONEER HISTORIES AND STORIES



James Chase Jones and Charles Augustus Jones, taken in 1904.

little space. They say he loaded their goods in their wagon and headed west out of Offerle for the homestead and that when he got to the northeast corner of the claim he turned his team loose and said that wherever they stopped, he would build his house on that spot, and he did. They had brought lumber and glass windows for the house with them from Illinois. They lived in the wagon until the sidewalls and floors were done and they moved in before the windows had been put in or the roof was completed. Pioneer women really had to be resourceful and brave to deal with their everyday lives.

It was common knowledge that the only house between Kinsley and Dodge City, in 1876, was the home of James Chase Jones. It was located on the Santa Fe Trail. Many travelers found shelter there.

Their daughter, Nettie, often talked about riding horseback as a girl from the homestead a mile west with a bucket of water on each side of the horse to water the trees that had been planted on the timber claim land to keep the trees alive. They had to keep the trees growing or they would not get the land from the government. That had to be a very hard job for anyone, let alone a young girl, and such a never-ending task! It nearly boggles the mind to think of it.

Mr. Jones led a varied and colorful life. He served in the Cavalry with the

Union Army during the Civil War, drove a stagecoach and rode shotgun in the Catskill Mountains, became a farmer, cattleman, drove mule teams on a freighter wagon on the Santa Fe Trail between Dodge City and Santa Fe, New Mexico, and was noted as a fine horseman. He was said to have had some of the finest horses and one of the fanciest buggies around in his day.

He was a charter member of both Mt. Moriah AF & AM Lodge in Kinsley and later of Spearville Lodge #388 at Spearville, Kansas, after having become a member of the Masonic Lodge while living in Illinois.

He had always felt that land in this part of the country would eventually become valuable and he acquired as much as he could manage but at one period of especially hard times he lost some of it for taxes. Most of the land at Bellefont and the grass land he had south of the Arkansas River is still held by heirs of the Jones family. Mrs. Jones died July 8, 1900, and Mr. Jones died October 19, 1923.

Their daughter, Nettie, married Joe Parker and after living in the area for a time, moved to Texas with their two children, Nelle, and a son, Leland. Leland had farmed the homestead for a time while he and his family made their home there then moved to Kinsley where he worked at the Kinsley Bank, later he became president of the bank before he retired. Nelle later married

and moved from Texas to Florida, to make her home.

Nettie (Jones) Parker told of the times when James C. Jones was gone from the family for weeks at a time when he was driving his freighter wagon on the Santa Fe Trail between Dodge City and Santa Fe and his wife, Elizabeth, was afraid of Indians attacking their home while he was away. She would go out in the yard and put down a blanket on the ground behind a big ash barrel where they were somewhat hidden. She would spread out the long skirt on her dress and put one child on each side of her and give them a blanket to cover up with. She sat there all night with a rifle to protect them if need be. She was a crack shot with a rifle, I have been told. They were not attacked, but what a responsibility she had to bear during his absences.

Their son, Charles A. Jones, married "Della" Van Voorhis and lived on a farm two miles north of the Arkansas River on the Bellefont-Bucklin road. They were the parents of three sons, James Franklin "Jim" Jones; Lee W. Jones and Fred C. Jones. After the death of Della Jones, he married Margaret "Ella" Padgett and they were the parents of a daughter Hazel (Jones) Jenkins who lives in California. Fred C. Jones had made his home in California for many years before his death. Lee Jones lived in Spearville for several years, where he operated a dray service, then moved



James Chase Jones

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to eastern Colorado where he ranched and traded horses. Jim stayed in the area his whole life and farmed, ranched and was in the horse business for many years. Jim homesteaded on an 80 acre island in the Arkansas River which is adjacent to the property that was owned by the Jones family. He received the patent February 26, 1920. He married Lois Miller and moved to the old Jones homestead and raised their family there. They later moved to Bellefont when that property was sold. Jim and Lois had three children: Bob Jones (deceased) Melvin Jones of Jetmore, Kansas, and Juanita (Jones) Gulick of Spearville, Kansas. Jim died in September 1960, and Lois passed away in December 1975. They are both buried in Pleasant Valley Cemetery.

Lee W. Jones married Anna Schmehr and they had a daughter, Leona Fern (Jones) Stein. They are all buried in St. John Cemetery at Spearville, Kansas.

A letter written by J. C. Jones to his father, Asa G. Jones of Tamarack, Will Co., Illinois.

Sunday, April 8th 1877

Ford County, Kansas

(Jones Ranch)

Dear Father,

I have at last found time to write a few lines to let you know that we are all alive and kicking except one mule, two gobblers, two chickens & one calf that the cow lost.

I was sick all the way but felt better as soon as I crossed the line into Kansas & have been gaining ever since & worked like thunder ever since. We have been in our house one week, we moved in as fast as the floor was laid before doors & windows were in.

We left Crescent City Tuesday night March 13 got here the next Sunday morning about sunrise did not unload the stock at all on the way. I left the two big Sows & one heifer, the little red one.

I sent you a card as soon as I got here the same night, the children are getting better all the time but cough some yet. The grass is getting good now but grows very

slow, wheat & all small grain looks well, we have had a big rain & things will grow now. The cattle came up full, playing & jumping to night. We will start the plow this week some. Some planted corn last week & some are sowing oats & barley yet.

You may send Charley down after that heifer some time this summer or fall if they don't sell her. I traded the big mares for those mules that were there that Sunday just as we were ready to load & they are a good team, the colts all doing well on the grass. There were 90 excursionist came into Kinsley last Friday. Corn is worth 45 cents. I sold some of my oats for 45 cents for seed. Lumber is worth from 28 to 35 per ft. & very poor at that. The antelope come up near & look at us once in a while. It is splendid weather out every day at work without coat or vest but cool at night. the rest are all in bed. I am very sleepy also & will close.

Write soon.

J. C. Jones

P. S. Lizzie wrote to Sarah as soon as they got here.

love to all

Jim

Offerle, Edwards Co., Kansas

JAMES FRANKLIN JONES

James Franklin "Jim" Jones, the eldest son of Charles Augustus "Charlie" Jones and Lenora "Della" (Van Voorhis) Jones was born September 20, 1893, in Ford Co., Kansas. He and Lois Marguerite Miller, daughter of Thomas Lincoln Miller and Alida (Wire) Miller, were married on November 21, 1916, at Jetmore, Kansas. To this union were born three children: Bobby J. "Bob" Jones, Melvin Jones and Juanita (Jones) Gulick.

Jim and Lois lived in the Pleasant Valley Community, both attending Pleasant Valley School. Jim worked with his Dad on the farm. They later moved to the homestead of his grandfather, James Chase Jones, six miles east of Spearville, where they lived until

1946, when they moved a house onto their property at Bellefont. They made their home there for the remainder of their lives.

Jim was well known in the area as an expert horseman and rancher, farmer, kind and loving husband, father, grandfather, friends to many both young and old, honest businessman and a good neighbor. He especially loved horses and rode and raised good ones. He served as parade marshal for many parades in the area and as ring master for many saddle club horse shows through the years. Jim and his daughter, Juanita won many ribbons in the western pleasure pair classes, riding a match pair of palomino horses. He organized a Quadrille (Square Dance) on horseback in 1934, and they performed it many times. Jim was the square dance "caller" and sometimes rode and "called" at the same time. It started because some of the people at Spearville wanted an entertainment of some kind and Jim said, "Well, I might do a square dance on horseback. That has never been done in Kansas, so far as I know."

The reply was "No, and it still won't be, because it can't be done. Think harder and funnier." Well, it wasn't long after that Jones appeared for Spearville's entertainment with four couples doing a quadrille without getting off their horses. Then he took the performance to the Old Settlers picnic at Ford, Kansas. The following is a quote from the *Dodge City Daily Globe* later that year.

Ford County probably is the only place in Kansas where you could have seen what happened Tuesday afternoon in front of the grandstand. Four couples, eight men and women, behind a tall, lone rider, all on "paint" horses, or if you prefer, spotted Arabian ponies, dashed up in front of the grandstand, made a few maneuvers, which placed the tall horseman in the center, with the other eight horses grouped around him by twos, and while the band played he called a square dance and the eight horsemen and horsewomen went through the

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intricacies of an old-fashioned quadrille on horseback. They were Jim Jones and his Dancing Cowboys and Cowgirls, and they came from the east end of Ford County, and the ponies are all Ford County horses.

The Jones' have raised Arabian Paint ponies for 25 years, mostly to use as cow ponies. They have a lot of black and white and bay and white ponies, and for this performance they borrowed the Riegel Arabian pony, which performed at the fair two years ago. Some of the ponies they are riding are two-year-old colts that had never been ridden until 60 days ago and were broken to ride just for this quadrille at the fair, so the whole thing could be done with spotted horses. The act is so novel that it would be a big attraction any place. When he asked about coming to the fair with the act, Mr. Jones wanted to put it on the pageant stage for a night performance, to have the advantage of the lighting on those pretty spotted horses, but the fair association did not make arrangements for it. Then Tuesday afternoon when Russell Rowland saw the act, he went to the fair board to use it during an intermission in the pageant at night, as the act would be improved 100 percent in appearance by the lights, but was not able to arrange it. After making his contract to play in front of the grandstand each afternoon of the horse races, Mr. Jones received a call for the act at Larned Thursday, in an historical celebration, but could not fill both dates.

Jim received a patent from the State of Kansas for an island in the Arkansas River north of Bucklin, Kansas. It was adjacent to land already owned by the Jones family. Ranching and livestock were always very important to Jim and he was good with both. He used to say that young people were better off to have horsepower under a saddle than under the foot pedal of a car. They didn't



Lois Marguerite Jones (1897-1975) and James Franklin Jones (1893-1960).

get into nearly as much trouble that way, he felt, and they had to develop a sense of responsibility for both themselves and the horses they were using. Many parents brought their children to him at his home and asked him to help them to learn to ride and he always helped them since we never wanted to hear of a youngster being injured because no one had taught them how to handle a horse properly. Sunday afternoons were usually filled with horseback riding, etc. during good weather, as it was long before television, unlimited travel opportunities and so many kinds of organized sport activities. They created their own entertainment back then and I think that in a lot of ways it created a stronger community sense than we know today.

Lois was a good wife and mother and enjoyed raising flowers, doing fancy work and cooking. She belonged to several clubs in the community and enjoyed writing weekly reports of the comings and goings of the folks living in the Bellefont community for both the *Spearville News* and the *Kinsley Mercury*. Jim died September 7, 1960, and

Lois died on December 26, 1975.

Juanita Jones, daughter of James F. Jones and Lois (Miller) Jones was born April 23, 1932, on the farm that was homesteaded by her great-grandfather, James Chase Jones, in 1876. She attended rural grade schools and graduated from Spearville High School in 1950. She married Walter Earl "Walt" Gulick on July 25, 1950. Walt was born August 29, 1929, at Wheaton, Kansas, the third child of Emery and Iva (Walkup) Gulick. They later lived in Terlton, Oklahoma, and Eureka, Kansas. At the age of 15 Walt came to Ford County with friends to find work and stayed. Walt and Juanita are the parents of two children, Cynthia Ann "Cindy" Gulick Halling and Chris Lee Gulick. They make their home at Bellefont, but have pastures in Pleasant Valley where they are engaged in ranching. Parts of their ranch have been in the Jones family for four generations. They purchased the rest in 1965.

Walt has worked in construction, as a truck driver and in the cattle industry. He enjoys restoring antique furniture.

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He is a member of several Masonic bodies, and is Past Master and District Deputy and a Past Worthy Patron of OES.

Juanita worked as a bookkeeper at Kinsley Coop for four and a half years prior to being employed in the Ford County Register of Deeds office on August 2, 1961. In 1970, she ran for election to that office and is currently serving in her eighth term. She is a member of the OES, and is Past Matron and also a member of the White Shrine of Dodge City. She enjoyed many hobbies including reading, genealogy, needlepoint, writing poetry, working with antiques, singing and spending times with her grandchildren.

Cindy attended school in Spearville graduating from Spearville High School, DCCC and St. Mary of the Plains with a degree in Elementary Education. She married Eric Halling in May 1973. Eric is the son of the late Frank Halling and Arlene (Hertel) Halling of rural Hanston, Kansas. Cindy and Eric are the parents of five children: Jim, Tim, Erin, Carmen and Curt. They make their home in Hanston where Cindy teaches sixth grade in Hanston Grade School and Eric works at the natural gas booster station north of Hanston, runs cattle and farms.

Chris Lee Gulick is married to Donna (Drake) Smith. They have no children. Chris has worked on construction jobs, in grain elevator work, farming and for a trucking company as well as working in a feed lot. They are living at Bellefont.

Juanita Jones Gulick

THOMAS AND SOPHRONIA ANN STEPHENS KARNEY

In 1896, my grandmother, Sophronia Ann Stephens Karney, at the age of 41, was one of the few woman rural mail carriers in Kansas. She, along with my grandfather, Thomas Karney, had once a week routes from the Dodge City, Kansas, railhead to post offices in the western part of the state. Sophronia's southwest route took her over narrow dirt roads and lanes to Old Ensign. Tom Karney, as he was called, traveled the



Thomas Karney (1844-1913) married Sophronia in 1886.



Sophronia Stephens Karney (1855-1922)

northern route to Jetmore.

Driving a horse and buggy, they each headed for certain farms which had been designated as "Post Offices" and, contrary to regulations, they as well as other carriers, often brought supplies to the local farmers and their wives. By giving a list each week to the carrier, the farmers were able to get such staples as flour, thread and jar rings for canning without the long trek to town. In addition, prior to telephones, the rural mailman brought news of neighbors, an outbreak of illness or announced a birth in the community. The arrival of the mail then, as now, was a big event in their lives.

Since the round trip for both grandparents was approximately 50 miles, they stayed overnight at one of the post office farms, such as Reinert, Old Sayre, Cave, etc. There they had a good meal and clean bed as well as a place to feed and water their horses, ready for the return trip to Dodge City the next day with the outgoing mail.

Sophronia Stephens Karney was born in Illinois, July 10, 1855, and moved to Kansas in the mid-1800s. Tom Karney was born in Canada and came to Kansas about the same time. The story in the family often told, is that he walked the 26 miles from Dodge City to Jetmore on the day they were married, March 26, 1886. Their first home was a small farm at the corner of present day Military and Avenue P. Their five

children were born there. My mother, Eliza Jane (Jennie) was born April 2, 1887; Mary Emmarine was born October 19, 1888; Charles William was born March 24, 1890; Sarah Ann (Annie) was born November 26, 1891; and John Thomas was born June 7, 1894. Later they attended Second Ward School in Dodge City.

Some 10 years after their marriage, they both became rural mail carriers. And, as the children grew, they often assumed some of the responsibility of the mail route. At age 16, Aunt Mary drove the horse and buggy, making the trip to Ensign for her mother, and taking her young brother, Tommy, along to crack the whip at the coyotes that often frightened the horses. Evidently, Sophronia was strong enough to handle both the horse and whip when a coyote



Fred and Eliza Jane "Jennie" Karney Mallonee

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appeared when she drove the route. My dad, Fred Mallonee, often worked the route for Tom Karney as well.

In the years 1896 to about 1903, which Sophronia and Tom Karney served as mail carriers, they, as others, faced many risks and discomforts of all kinds of weather for about 66 cents per working day. Despite minimum pay and hardships, these two pioneers followed the tradition that "the mail must go through."

The Santa Fe Railway, which had arrived in Dodge City in 1872, built a branch line from Dodge City to Boise City, Oklahoma, in the early 1900s. This track ran through present day Montezuma and meant that the railway could now bring the mail to the larger outlying towns and close down the small farm post offices. Horse and buggy mail carrier services were no longer needed.

After closing that chapter of their lives, the Karneys homesteaded near Montezuma. He died March 14, 1913. Sophronia lived another few years, running the family farm with the help of her children and grandchildren. She died April 13, 1922, at my parents' home in South Dodge City. Both Sophronia and Tom Karney are buried at Maple Grove Cemetery, Dodge City. Their children were: **Eliza Jane Karney**, born April 2, 1887. She married Fred Mallonee, June 18, 1908, Dodge City, Kansas. **Mary Emmarine Karney**, born October 18, 1888, Dodge City. She married Willis W. Parks, June 18, 1908. **Charles William Karney**, born March 24, 1890, Meade, Kansas, died March 21, 1965, married Jewett Mitchell on October 25, 1919. **Sarah Ann Karney**, born November 26, 1892, Dodge City, married Henry Heiko Haken, on August 12, 1914. **John Thomas Karney**, born June 7, 1894, Dodge City, Kansas, married first, Mary Ann Brown August 4, 1915, Cimarron, Kansas, married second, Victoria Young, March 1, 1960. **James Patrick Karney**, died at age nine months.

Marcia Mallonee Brittin,
daughter of Jennie Karney Mallonee

ALBERT WILSON KIMBREL

Albert Wilson Kimbrel, better known as "Irish," was born December 23, 1887, in Ford County, Kansas. He was the seventh child of John Clarkston and Emna Catherine (Adams) Kimbrel. It is said that he got his nickname after his mother remarked when he was a lad that he acted, "Just like an Irishman." In this day it is impossible to know what Emma may have meant by "Irishman," but for better or worse, Albert became "Irish."

Irish was raised in the Concord community, and attended the school which had been built there by his grandfather Adams. In 1909, his parents retired from farming and moved to Dodge City.

On August 27, 1911, he was married to Ruth Louzetta Nugent. Their wedding took place at the home of his parents at 803 Third Avenue in Dodge City.

After Irish and Aunt Ruth, as she was known to everyone, were married, they moved to their farm in the Concord area. They lived on and farmed this property until 1926, when they moved to the town of Ensign, where three of their sons still live. After moving to town, Irish continued to farm his property and was also employed as a mechanic by the Nelson Implement Company.

He was a member of the Ensign Methodist Church, was Past Master of Ensign Masonic Lodge #413, and the OES Chapter of Ensign. Irish died on Christmas Day, 1965, and is buried in Concord Cemetery.

Ruth Nugent Kimbrel was born July 28, 1893, in Sedgwick County and moved with her parents, Oscar Kenneth (O.K.) and Louzetta Nugent to Ensign in 1909. After her marriage to Irish, she was very active in the Ensign Methodist Church, W.S.C.S., Farm Bureau and was a Past Matron and Treasurer of the Eastern Star. Ruth was very involved with the youth of the community, especially the 4-H clubs for 28 years, and was also the Ensign news reporter for the *Montezuma Press* for many years. Ruth died November 8, 1976, and is buried next to Irish in the Concord Cemetery.

Irish and Ruth had seven children,

all of whom were born in Ford County. Their eldest daughter, Ida Eleanor (called Eleanor) was born on November 6, 1912. She graduated from Ensign High School in 1929 and went on to get her teaching degree from Ft. Hays Teachers College. She was a teacher in Kansas when on April 17, 1937, she married William (Bill) Larkin Bindley at Ashland, Kansas. Later that same summer, they moved to Eagle, Colorado. In 1940, they moved to a ranch near Woody Creek and another move, in 1946, found them in Gypsum, Colorado, where Eleanor still lives. Bill died January 19, 1987. He is buried in Gypsum.

Bill and Eleanor had two children, Rex, who is self-employed, and lives in Gypsum with his wife, Hope (nee Wendell) and his children, Karen Lee, Ryan William and Kristen Kimbrel Bindley.

Their daughter, Phylis, also a teacher, has recently moved back to the Gypsum area from a teaching position in southern California with her son, Jordan Alexander. She is currently employed as a Spanish teacher by a private concern.

Ruth and Irish's second child, Neal Wilson, was born in June 1916. He died in November of the same year at age five months. Neal is buried in the Concord Cemetery.

A second daughter, Glennis Bernice, was born August 8, 1920, in Dodge City at the home of Aunt Tilda Kimbrel. She was a graduate of Ensign High School in 1939. On Christmas Eve on that same year she married Russell Nelson Seymour. Russell and Glennis moved to Wichita where Russell was employed as a sheet metal technician. He worked for many years until his retirement for the Beechcraft company. After his retirement, they moved to Derby, where Russell still lives. Glennis died July 5, 1992. She also is buried at the Concord Cemetery.

Glennis and Russell had one son, Russell Dennis (Denny) who along with his wife, Jeanne (Gregg) and their children, Jarrod Wayne and Jason Wade, live in Derby. Denny has two adult children, Russell David and Stephanie

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Dawn, from a previous marriage.

The birth of Oscar Kenneth, always called Kenneth, never Oscar, was a very memorable date for the family. January 25, 1925. It started when Eleanor had to be rushed, as rapidly as one could rush by train, to Kansas City, for the removal of an open safety pin she had swallowed. As Ruth was in no shape to travel, Eleanor was accompanied by Irish. Later in the day, with her husband and eldest daughter dashing off on the train, and Ruth in her "delicate" condition, she was informed that her father, O.K. Nugent, had suffered a fatal heart attack. It is small wonder that Kenneth made his appearance that night!

Kenny grew up in Ensign and graduated from Ensign High School in 1943. On October 23, 1944, he married Glora Ilene Odle. Glora is the daughter of Levi and Perle (Dixon) Odle, also of Ensign. Kenneth and Glora began their married life with Kenny serving with the Merchant Marine in the Pacific and Glora living in a girls' dorm at Halstead, Kansas, where she was in nurses training. Kenneth returned home in 1946; however, Glora did not complete her training until 1947. Thus it was that they didn't really begin their lives together until three years after their wedding. Kenneth and Glora have three children. The eldest is Lark Erlene, who married Greg Anton in 1970. Greg and Lark have three children; April Holly, Aaron Wesley and Amanda Ann. Lark teaches school and Greg is employed as a medical technologist at Wesley Hospital. They live in Wichita. Their second daughter is Melody Corine Greene. Melody and her husband, Lawrence (Larry) live in Olathe where she is a speech pathologist and he is retired from the military, but still is active as a Major in the Army Reserve. Their three children are Harmony Hope, Justin James, and Micah Matthew. Kenneth and Glora had one son. He is Dane Kelly (called Kelly), who in 1973 married Pamela Monckton. Kelly is employed as a vice-president of the Star Lumber Company in Wichita. Kelly and Pam have four children: J. Matthew, M. Jeffrey, Stacy Lynn and L. Eric. They currently live in the rural Wichita area.

Kenneth and Glora live in Ensign. Kenny and Glora both retired in 1987. Kenneth held several positions during his working years, and Glora worked 25 years in the nursing profession.

The next son born to Irish and Ruth was A.W.—just that, the initial A. and the initial W. No one knows quite why, but he has always been called "Teen." Some insisted that he was a small baby and on being seen by a child was declared to be "really teeny" and it stuck at "Teen." Teen's name did cause him some problems when he served with the Navy in the Pacific. It would seem that the Navy simply does not quite approve of initials for a full, legal name.

After his return from the Navy, he was married to Martha I. Frazier on February 19, 1947, at Jetmore. They moved to Ensign where Teen was employed by the Ensign Co-op. In 1959, they moved to Mule Shoe, Texas, where they lived until 1961, when they moved to Amarillo, Texas, where they still live. In both Mule Shoe and Amarillo, Teen continued to work for the local Cooperatives. In 1977, he retired, at least for a time. In 1979, he came out of retirement and worked for Shell Oil for eight years when he retired again.

Teen and Martha have one daughter, Mary Elizabeth (Beth) Kimberlin. Beth and her husband, Jim Kimberlin, also live in Amarillo. They are the parents of two adult daughters. Laura Beth, their oldest, lives outside of Oklahoma City and Stacy Marie, who is serving in the Air Force, is stationed in San Antonio, Texas.

Irish and Ruth's third son, Robert Dudley (Bob) was born September 21, 1928, in Dodge City. He graduated from Ensign High School in 1947. In 1950-51, he served as a paratrooper with the 11th Airborne Group stationed at Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

On September 7, 1951, Bob was married to Doris Bales. Bob and Doris now live in the family home in Ensign that Ruth and Irish moved to in 1926. Bob is retired, but Doris continued to work for the Dodge City Co-op in Ensign.

Bob and Doris have three children. Richard Dean (Rick) who with his wife,

Lane (Miller) and two children, Derrick Scott and Heather Nicole, live in Springfield, Colorado. Their daughter, Charlotte Ruth Sroka, and her husband, John, have two daughters, Karen Anne and Janet Ruth. Charlotte and her family live in New Haven, Connecticut.

Doris and Bob's youngest son is Robert Kent. Kent and his wife, Nancy (Schriner) have two sons, Ryan Matthew and Nathan Daniel. Kent is employed by the Ensign Implement Company. He, Nancy and their family live in Dodge City.

Ruth and Irish's youngest son is Laddie Gene. He was born on November 30, 1930. Aunt Tilda Kimbrel was the midwife who delivered all the Kimbrel children. As she lived on South Second Avenue in Dodge City, Laddie explains to everyone that he was born in South Dillon's parking lot, as that was the approximate location of her house.

Many think that Laddie is a nickname, but it indeed is his given name. It seems that he was named for "Aunt" Ethel Gallivan's parakeet. Laddie graduated from Ensign High School in 1948. He received a BS in Mechanical Engineering in 1953 and a Master's in Aerodynamic Engineering in 1959, both were received from Wichita State. In June 1952, he married Alice "Jo" Cramer. They were later divorced and in March 1972, he married Shirley (Stowers) Lund.

Laddie has five children: Terri Jean Houlahan, who lives in Kirkland, Washington, with her husband, Bill, and their two children, Christopher John and Karley Noel; Timmy Lee and his wife, Sarah, live in Renton, Washington, with their two children, Zachary and Garrett; Eric Anthony (Tony) and his wife, Teale, live in Kirkland, Washington, with their three children; Erik, Alicia and Mark; Tracy Jay and his wife, Denise (Riel) live in north Seattle with their two sons, Sam and Max. Tracy is employed by the Boeing Company and attended the University of Washington, where he received a Ph.D. in Computer Sciences. Todd James and his wife, Nicki, live in Memphis, Tennessee, where Todd is stationed with the Marine Corps.

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Shirley also has two sons, James Carl and Richard Whitney Lund. James and Chilli have one daughter, Serena, and lives in the Tacoma, Washington, area. James has one daughter from a previous marriage.

Richard and Karle (Kay) and their four children, Crystal, Jesse, Takota and Whitley, live in Fairfax, Oklahoma.

Laddie was employed by the Boeing Company for 35 years until his retirement. He also spent a year as an assistant professor at the University of Kansas and was also a graduate of the Navy Test Pilot School, where he also taught.

After his retirement, Shirley and Laddie moved back to Ensign from the Seattle area.

Shirley Stowers Kimbrel

JAMES MARTIN KIMBREL

James Martin Kimbrel, always known as Jim, was born December 4, 1883, in Montgomery Co., Missouri. He was the youngest of the five children that John and Emma (Adams) Kimbrel brought with them to Kansas. He was only one-and-a-half-years-old at the time. At age 22, he married Kate Tyler on Christmas Day in 1905. Jim had filed on a claim in Gray County. They moved to this claim after their marriage and lived there until the Martin Kimbrel family moved to Coffeyville in 1908. Jim and Kate lived on the old Martin Kimbrel farm until moving to Colorado in 1925. Their son, Howard Tyler Kimbrel, was born in 1907, north of Copeland but Neola Kathleen was born in 1919, in Ford County. Jim learned the barber trade and his daughter, Neola, can remember how he always kept her hair trimmed to perfection although she was only six years old when he died.

Jim's niece, Bess (Reinert) Stone, remembered Jim as always liking children. Whenever he was visiting at the homes of any of his family, he would be with the children.

Jim had developed a heart condition and decided to move to Colorado in 1925, which proved to be the wrong move to make. Bess can remember how ill he was when they returned to Kansas. The family moved from Colorado to Fowler, Kansas, but Jim never recov-

ered. He died of heart failure February 24, 1926. Kate and her two children lived in Fowler until 1931, when they moved to Copeland. Kate died February 18, 1939. Her son, Howard, died in 1932, in Copeland. He was buried beside his father in Concord Cemetery. The daughter, Neola Kathleen, married Duane Bush and moved to Wichita.

Lola Adams Crum

JOHN CLARKSTON AND EMMA

ADAMS KIMBREL

John Joseph Kimbrel, the father of John Clarkston, was only 14 years old when he came with a brother from Germany. He married Clarissa Hays in North Carolina in 1824. Clarissa A. Hays was born in North Carolina on November 9, 1806. When she was a small baby, her parents had a pet bear. One day the bear took the baby and climbed a tree with her. The bear stayed in the tree with her all day, no matter how anyone tried to coax him down. They held quilts and blankets under the tree all day fearing that the bear would drop the baby. Toward evening the bear got hungry and crawled down the tree carrying the baby. He laid it down and went to eat the food that had been placed nearby. Today, nearly 188 years later, great-great-grandchildren tell their children of "Granny" Kimbrel's day in the tree with the pet bear.

John Joseph and Clarissa were the parents of nine children of which John Clarkston was the youngest. He was born in Henry Co., Indiana, August 7, 1851.

The Kimbrels, as well as the Adams family, moved from Indiana during the Civil War. They, too, moved to Middletown, Montgomery Co., Missouri. It was in Middletown that John Clarkston Kimbrel married Emma Catherine Adams on December 20, 1871. Five of their children, Eddie, Alf, Lelia, Clarence "Dink" and Jim, were born in Missouri.

Free land for homesteading lured John and Emma as well as his brother Martin and brother-in-law, Terrel Adams, to western Kansas. Hallie, the youngest of Terrel and Annie Adams

children to be born in Missouri, recalled that during the train ride to Kansas in August 1885, the older Kimbrel and Adams boys painted the faces of the younger ones with soot from the train smoke that had collected on the train's window sills because they were going out west where the Indians were. She remembered how it hurt when Ma scrubbed her face to get it clean.

The Terrel Adams and John Kimbrel family homesteads were in the same neighborhood. A told and retold story is about the Big Blizzard. When the January blizzard of 1886 caught the newcomers by surprise, John and Emma knew that Annie Adams and her five children, Arthur, Harry, Jennie, Shephard and Hallie were at home alone because Terrel, a harness maker, was working in town 20 miles away. By the end of the second day they became so worried that they put Clarissa "Granny" Kimbrel, whom they had brought with them from Missouri, their five children and what food they had in the wagon and headed for the Adams homestead.

The snow had drifted so high against the house that the door, which opened out, could not be opened and the lower section of the window was below the snow level. They lowered the upper half of the window to get Granny in out of the cold and John then shoveled the snow away to open the door. They stayed until the storm was over.

Of the three Missouri homesteaders, Martin and John Kimbrel and Terrel Adams. John is the only one who stayed on the first piece of land that he filed on and proved up. He and Emma raised their family there. Albert or Irish, Matilda or Tildy and Ida were born in Kansas.

John and Emma Kimbrel's children did put their roots down firm and deep in the land to which their parents had brought them in 1885. None of that first generation strayed very far from Dodge City and from the rural area southwest of there.

Many of the second and third generations have scattered far and wide but when family reunions bring relatives together there are still many direct descendants living in the area whose par-

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ents or grandparents were Kimbrels.

John and Emma moved from the homestead to 803 Third Avenue, Dodge City, in 1910, where they lived until their deaths. Emma died August 4, 1923, and John on February 11, 1929. Both are buried in Concord Cemetery.

Lola Adams Crum

JOHN CLARENCE KIMBREL

John Clarence Kimbrel, known as Dink, was born August 17, 1881, in Montgomery Co., Missouri. He came to Kansas with his parents, John and Emma (Adams) Kimbrel, when he was three years old. He grew up on the homestead and attended Concord School. It is believed that Dink received his nickname because he was a short, "dinky" little fellow as a boy.

As a young man, he grew tired of the farm and moved to Dodge City where he worked on the railroad for several years. On August 13, 1916, he married Mary Angaline Northern. After their marriage, they moved to Ensign where Dink worked in the grocery store owned by his brother-in-law, George Stohr.

A recurring tragedy in the Dink Kimbrel family was the loss of six infants, either at birth or a very early age. The doctors said that this loss was caused by Mary's severe case of diabetes.

After several years in Ensign, the Dink Kimbrel family returned to Dodge City. Dink worked for the State Highway Department, then for Deister's Plumbing as long as he was able. Before retiring, he took a job as custodian at Montgomery Ward's store where his daughter, Myrtle, worked as a saleslady.

Mary passed away October 24, 1944. In 1950, Dink went to Savannah, Missouri, for examination and treatment of skin cancer. He died there October 18, 1950, at age 69. Both he and Mary are buried in Concord Cemetery beside their six infants.

Of the eight children, only Grace Marie, the second child, and Myrtle Josephine, the sixth, survived to adulthood. Grace Marie was born July 24, 1918, and died October 9, 1966, at 48 years of age. She had married Fred

Kirkpatrick in 1942. They were the parents of five children, three of whom survived to adulthood. Dink and Mary's sixth child, Myrtle Josephine, born April 11, 1923, married Willie A. Gibson on August 4, 1956. They had one son, Willie A. Gibson, Jr. Myrtle, 70 years of age at this writing, is still enjoying an active retirement.

Lola Adams Crum

MARTIN AND JOSEPHINE

KIMBREL

Martin and Josephine (Mart and Jo) were the parents of 10 children, five of whom died in infancy. In August 1885, when they decided with their relatives, Terrel Adams and John Kimbrel, to homestead in Kansas, their oldest daughter, Nora, was 23 and married. Mart and Jo were accompanied by Hurley 13, Rosco 11, and Alice, five. William (Bill) 21, followed with his young wife, Matilda (Tilda) on November 20, 1885, and took a homestead near the other relatives.

Mart and Jo farmed the land and raised their family on the homestead in Concord Township for 23 years. These were not happy and contented years for Jo Kimbrel. When their son, Rosco, married in 1900, and brought his bride, Alma Murray, to Western Kansas, she, too, was discontented. By 1908, they persuaded their husbands to move to Coffeyville in Southeastern Kansas. Many of their relatives still live in that area.

Lola Adams Crum

WILLIAM JOSEPH AND

MATILDA KIMBREL

The oldest son of the Martin Kimbrel's, William (Bill), now with a family of his own, remained in Ford County. Their first child was born shortly after their arrival in Kansas. She was born December 1, 1885, and died December 8, 1885. Eleven children were born to Bill and Tilda. Three of the girls died in infancy, but seven daughters and one son survived to adulthood. They were Mrs. Thomas (Stella) Rabourn, Mrs. Emil (Nora) Stohr, Mrs. Harry

(Elva) Swisher, Mrs. Jack (Elsie) Vaugh, Mrs. Edward (Ivah) Groman, Mrs. J.W. (Mildred) Wickman, Mrs. Arlo (Marjorie) Barnes and William (Billy) Kimbrel, who married Mildred Baird before moving to California.

Bill and Tilda lived on their homestead nearly 25 years, engaging in farming all of the time, not always harvesting the crops they planted, but they learned how to survive where many failed and returned to the East. They often kept warm around cow chip fires when there was no coal, just as other families did.

The newspaper account of the Kimbrel Golden Wedding Anniversary in the *Dodge City Globe* stated that on September 25, 1934, Bill and Tilda had lived in their grove of trees, south of what is now (1993) the South Dillons grocery store for 25 years. That section of South Dodge, in those days, was referred to as "the triangle," stretching from where Sunnyside and South Second Avenues intersect to where they stretch apart and meet Sycamore Street over a block apart.

While living in "the triangle," they gave the southeast corner of the plot to the Church of Christ. The little white church was used for many years. It was finally outgrown, and a new Church of Christ was built at 2300 Central Avenue in 1967.

Mr. Kimbrel operated a livery stable for the first five years after coming to Dodge City. In those days livery stables were as important to travelers as gasoline stations are in the late 1900s. For the next six years he operated a merchants' delivery service. After that, he became Chief of Police, serving for eight years, and then as a Deputy Sheriff and special policeman for many years. He carried the Deputy's Commission under five Ford County sheriffs. He was still serving as a night traffic man at 70 years of age.

Mrs. Tilda Kimbrel was a practical nurse until she injured her knee so severely at age 67 that she had to give up helping her neighbors in distress.

In 1937, Bill and Tilda moved to Grants Pass, Oregon, to be near some of their children. Bill died January 17,

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1948, and Tilda, June 23, 1955. Both were buried in the old neighborhood in Concord Cemetery, southwest of Dodge City.

Lola Adams Crum

NOBEL EDWARD KIMBREL

Nobel Edward Kimbrel, always called Eddie or Kid, was born December 11, 1874, near Middletown, Missouri. He was the oldest child of John C. and Emma (Adams) Kimbrel. He came to Kansas with his family when he was 11 years old. Eddie never married. He never settled down to farming, although he did operate a threshing machine doing custom work in the surrounding area for a few years.

Eddie enjoyed seeing new places and meeting new people. He did this at first by driving freight wagons from Dodge City to points in Oklahoma and Texas. When the wanderlust really caught hold of him, he would travel, either by walking or catching a ride, to anywhere that he could. When he reached a place that appealed to him, or where he ran out of money, he would get a job on a farm, herding cattle or tending sheep. These jobs would provide him with just enough money to get by. When he tired of one locality, he would move on to another. His mother always worried about him on these excursions because he never wrote, so she never knew where he would be at any one time. He would return to his parent's home unexpectedly and stay for a while, then he would leave again. Most often on his return trips, he would tell about herding sheep in Colorado or Wyoming.

Eddie rode a motorcycle in his younger days. Around 1920, while riding his motorcycle, he was struck by a car. He was seriously injured and unable to work for many months. The accident put an end to his active life, his travels and his motorcycles. He seemed to become an old man almost overnight.

Eddie had no home of his own. After his parents died, he stayed with different members of his family. He spent most of his time with the families of his two nieces, helping where he could. In 1948, he stayed on the farm of his great-niece, Bess (Reinert) Stone while

she and her husband, Roy, went on a trip to Missouri. The Stone children, Wilda, Wilma and Don, said of Eddie, "He was the sweetest old man. He was the kind of person who was true to the old saying 'he would give you the shirt off his back.' He didn't have a thing, probably because of his generosity. If anyone followed the golden rule, that man did."

Eddie's family and friends remember him as always wearing bib overalls, even to funerals. A new pair probably was his Sunday best. He always wore a mustache and smoked a pipe. He never forgot anything and had a sharp mind. He spent a lot of time telling about his experiences. Don Stone remembers that his great-great Uncle Eddie told the story that when the Kimbrel and Adams families first came to Kansas, there were mountain lions roaming the area. He remembered hearing them screaming at night.

In 1958, Eddie was involved in another accident which put him in the hospital for several weeks. When he was released from the hospital, he spent about a year in the Fulmer Convalescent Home where he died June 4, 1959, at the age of 84.

Lola Adams Crum

WILLIAM ALPHEUS KIMBREL

William Alpheus, always known as Alf Kimbrel, was born February 22, 1877, on a farm in Montgomery Co., Missouri. He was named Alpheus after his Uncle Alpheus, the oldest son of William Wilson Adams, and his mother's oldest brother. He was the son of John Clarkston and Emma (Adams) Kimbrel. He came west at the age of eight when his father homesteaded 18 miles southwest of Dodge City.

Alf married Mary Alice Farris on September 12, 1898. At the age of 16, she was living with her sister and brother-in-law, Tilda and Bill Kimbrel, when Joe Walker, a cousin of the Kimbrels shot into the house at night, trying to shoot Bill Kimbrel, because he would not allow Joe to date his young sister-in-law. Joe did not kill Bill Kimbrel but the shot killed Bill and Tilda's baby. Joe used a shot gun and a

pellet did blind Bill in one eye.

Alf and Alice moved their family to Woodson County in 1908, but, in 1913, they returned to Ford County. Alf continued to farm south of Dodge City, but in 1918, Alice moved into Dodge City where the children could go to school. There were 10 children: Mary, Gladys Marie, Hazel Dee, Paul, Evelyn, Olin, Esther, John, Duane and Daniel. Mary, Gladys Marie and Esther died in infancy.

Alf remained a farmer all his life. He was in failing health for two years and was a patient for three months in the Fulmer Nursing Home, where he died March 18, 1940. The Fulmer Nursing Home was on the southeast corner of Avenue A and Vine Street in Dodge City. Alice worked at the Kansas Soldiers Home at Ft. Dodge for many years. In 1953, she became a member of the home. In 1963, she broke her hip in a fall and died there in the hospital on April 3, 1964.

Lola Adams Crum

ESTELLA MYRTLE

KIMBREL RABOURN

Although Bill and Tilda Kimbrel's children grew to adulthood and married in Ford County, Estella, always called Stella, was the only one to stay in the area. Stella married Thomas J. Rouborn, September 26, 1906. Tom and Stella farmed for many years, but when his health failed they moved to Dodge City. After a long illness, Tom died December 5, 1932. These were depression years and although Velma, the oldest, had married Ralph Rumsey, March 15, 1930; and Merritt, Stella's oldest son, had married Evelyn Booth, April 25, 1931; Stella still had four younger children to raise after Tom's death.

Although the years were hard, strong-willed Stella lived to see those four children educated and in homes of their own. These four younger children were Manford, Doris, Beulah and Duane.

Manford married Marie Shelly. He died in 1982. Doris married Verdie Nickell, April 4, 1939. Doris Nickell is the only one of Stella and Tom

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Rabourn's children who has spent her entire life in the Ford County area, mostly in Dodge City. Verdie Nickell was manager of the Dodge City Cooperative Oil Department for 31 years. They had three children: Ted Nickell, Judy Wilson and Cheri Phillips.

Beulah Rabourn married Orval McHugh, January 6, 1942. Their children, Orva Lee Aldrich and Craig McHugh, were born in Dodge City, but the family lived in Larned, Kansas, after Orval's transfer to that city. Beulah continued to make her home in Larned after Orval's death in 1981.

The fourth of the younger Rabourn children, Duane grew up in Dodge City. He married Laverne Durr in 1945. They had three children: Dulaine Carmichael, Kent Rabourn and Deborah Frotholz. Duane and Laverne live in Tucson, Arizona.

The Rabourn's oldest daughter, Velma, who was married to Ralph Rumsey when her father died in 1932, spent most of her life in Dodge City. They had two daughters, Sharilee Ann and Gail Lynn. Sharilee married Bill Curry in 1951. She and Bill have three children and live in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Gail married Gary Noll in 1956. They have three children and live in Monte Vista, Colorado.

Ralph and Velma worked at various jobs in the early years of their married life, but in 1949, they became the owners of a dress shop known as MiLady's Shop. It was on the corner of Second Avenue and West Wyatt Earp, and was a very popular place for the ladies of Dodge City to shop. For 18 years they were very prosperous and busy, but eventually sold the store because of Velma's health. Ralph bought and operated a mobile home park for six years before retiring. Ralph died April 13, 1984. At first, Velma lived in a senior apartment in Dodge City, but later decided to move closer to her children. At the present time, (1993) she is living in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Lola Adams Crum

JOSEPH AND MATILDA

KIMBREL REINERT

Matilda Josephine Kimbrel Reinert, known affectionately as Tilda, was born July 13, 1890, on a homestead southwest of Dodge City. She was the eighth child of John C. and Emma Kimbrel. Tilda attended the Concord School where her children and some of her grandchildren would later study.

Tilda was 18 years old when she married Joe Reinert, one of the neighbor boys, on March 24, 1908. Joe (Joseph) was born September 20, 1881, in Benton Co., Missouri. After their marriage, Joe and Tilda bought a farm 18 miles southwest of town that would be known to different generations as "the home place."

The Reinert family grew over the years to include five children: Margaret Elizabeth "Bessie", 1909; Leonard Bernard "Pat", 1910; Martha Iona, 1913; Leona May, 1915; and Lelia Normalee Fern, 1925. The four older children began their education at Concord School, but in 1918, Joe and Tilda moved to town so the children would have the advantage of attending the Catholic School (Sacred Heart). The family was away from the home place for about four years. Half of that time the Reinerts spent at 806 Fourth Avenue and half they spent on a farm located just a mile east of the old St. Mary of the Plains Academy. In 1922, Joe and Tilda moved their family back to the home place and the children returned to Concord School. In 1943, failing health forced Joe and Tilda off the farm. They spent their twilight years at their

home on Central Avenue in Dodge City that was always full of children and grandchildren stopping by for a visit. Joe died in 1964 and two years later Tilda followed.

Bessie, the oldest of Joe and Tilda's children, recalled the terrible injustice of being the oldest child—namely having to wash the dishes and the diapers. She vividly remembered learning the hard way that it was better to do the chores right the first time.

"I remember when we lived out north of Dodge that she (Mom Tilda) was always letting the yeast run over and down the sides of the jar. She brought that nasty jar out for me to wash because she had put her yeast starter in a clean jar. I was fed up with doing dishes anyway, so I told Leona to take the jar out behind the chicken house where we had a trash can. I told her to throw it in the can and 'If it breaks, good; if it doesn't, see if you can break it.' Eventually Mom wanted to know what happened to that jar and brought it in and I had to wash it anyway."

Bessie was 11 when the family moved out north of town. She attended class at St. Mary of the Plains Academy even though her Dad took the other children to town to Sacred Heart School. Bess met Leroy Stone when he came to Dodge from Missouri to work for her Uncle Albert. They were married in 1927. Bess and Roy had three children: Wilma, 1929; Wilda, 1932; and Donald or Donnie, 1940. The Stone family lived on a farm south of Dodge for 10 years before moving to town. Those 10 years corresponded to the Great Depression and Bess remembered



Joe Reinert on the header driving the team.

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eating lots of beans, canned meat and graham flour. Eventually there was no money for wages, but Roy continued to work for Uncle Albert because his family was getting room and board. He even worked with road projects for the county during this time. Bess and Roy moved to town in 1953. Roy worked for the City Sewer Department several years, and for the last 18 years before retirement he was employed by the Coca Cola plant. Roy died in 1977 and Bess in 1990.

Pat is the second child and only son of Joe and Tilda Reinert. In 1932, times were hard and crops were poor so Pat went to the Waukomis/Bison area of Oklahoma, to work for some cousins during the summer. While there, he met Dolla Mae Houston, whom he married on September 9, 1933. Soon after they moved back to the home place south of Dodge. Pat and Mae had two sons, Larry, born in 1934, and Ronald, born in 1936. Their daughter, Kathy, was born in 1951.

In the fall of 1936, the family moved back to Oklahoma, where Pat worked for the Markes Implement Agency earning \$60 per month. They stayed until August 1941, when they moved back to Kansas. During those years from 1936 to 1941, Pat returned to Kansas each year to put out the wheat crop. From 1941 until the early 1980s, Pat and Mae farmed and raised livestock on their farm just a mile north of Pat's birthplace. Larry and Ronnie attended a series of country schools, but in 1948, those schools were closed and the pair started going to Ensign High School. Larry graduated from Ensign, but Ronnie finished at the newly-opened Catholic high school, St. Mary of the Plains and continued study at St. Mary of the Plains College. Ronnie was a member of the first graduating class of the high school, and his little sister, Kathy, was a member of the last graduating class in 1969, at which time the St. Mary of the Plains High School was closed. Larry joined the army in 1953 and served almost two years, part of that time in Germany.

Iona, third child of Joe and Tilda, married Floyd N. Buchanan in 1934.

They had one son, David, born in 1935. They also lived on the old home place a period of time. Eventually, they moved to a farm one mile east of Concord School where they lived until retiring in 1978.

Leona, fourth child of Joe and Tilda, married Vernon Burnett in 1933. The couple had two children, Shurley, 1933 and Kenneth, 1936. They lived in the Hopewell community until moving to Dodge City, where they built-up a small family owned manufacturing business.

Normalee, the youngest child of Joe and Tilda married Joseph Konecny in 1949. They had six children: Michael "Mick", 1950; Kathryn "Kathy Lou", 1951; Richard "Rick", 1954; Rock, 1959; Joan, 1961; and Kevin, 1964. They too, lived for a time on the home place. They eventually moved to Dodge City. The entire family remembers getting together neraly every Sunday for homemade ice cream and baseball.

Joe and Tilda's children stayed in southwest Kansas for the most part. The descendants number 15 grandchildren, 39 great-grandchildren and 33 great-great-grandchildren and counting. The proverbial fruit didn't fall far from the proverbial tree as only one great-grandchild is currently living out of state, and only a few grandchildren and great-grandchildren live outside of southwest Kansas. Some are still involved primarily in agriculture, but others have gone on to careers in business, health care, education and fine arts.

The Reinert Family

LELIA MAUD KIMBREL STOHR

Lelia Maud, the fourth child of John Clarkston and Emma Catherine (Adams) Kimbrel, was born May 25, 1879, in Montgomery Co., Missouri. She was six years old when her family came to Ford County to file on a homestead. She attended school in the Concord Community.

In 1901, Lelia Kimbrel married George Stohr at the home of her parents in Dodge City at 803 Third Avenue. The Stohr family had also homesteaded in Concord Township. Lelia and George grew up in the same community, attended Concord School, Concord

Church and went to the same parties and dances. After their marriage they farmed in the same area.

Lelia and George Stohr had three children: Ethel, born September 13, 1903; Ernest Merritt, February 13, 1907; and Gladys, November 19, 1914.

The oldest daughter, Ethel, remembered that when she and her brother Ernest were about eight and six, they had a little spotted pony that their Papa would hook up to a small buggy. Their Mama and Papa would get them all wrapped up and in the buggy to go to the West Union School. When they got to school, the older boys would unhitch the pony, feed and water him, and put him in the barn that was back of the school house.

Ethel remembered that once she and Ernest were riding in a buggy with some older cousins, Mildred and Ivah Kimbrel. The horse "spooked" and began to run away. As she told the story, there were kids scattered half a mile down the road! Mildred held on to the reins while the horse bucked and ran all over the prairie. Finally the horse headed back to the school house and stopped.

After Gladys' birth, Lelia was not well. She and George finally decided to give up the farm and move into town early in 1915. They were preparing to move when Lelia became very sick and died February 8, 1915.

George Stohr had just opened his grocery store in Ensign at the time of her death. Their baby, Gladys, was only three months old when her mother died. The Kimbrel grandparents, John and Emma, cared for her until she was five years old. Ethel and Ernest went to live with their Grandpa and Grandma Stohr.

After Ethel graduated from high school, the three children moved back to Ensign where Ethel helped her father in the store. Ethel married Joe Gallivan August 25, 1931. They had four daughters; Donna Joe, Cleta May, Nonna Gae and Melva Lea. Ethel's father, George Stohr, died July 17, 1931. Her husband, Joe Gallivan, died August 31, 1966.

George and Lelia Stohr's son, Ernest, married Zella Nelson, July 28,