

Fullerton's First 100 Years (1879-1979)

INTRODUCTION

The Fullerton Centennial Book Committee spent many hours in research to compile, within the pages of this volume, a record of some of the early history of Fullerton and the surrounding rural community. We view this Centennial manuscript as a small contribution to the preservation of our town. Hopefully future generations, from time to time, will amend and add to this historical collection.

This book represents more than two years of research and production. It is our hope that this booklet will serve as a preservation of those virtues our forefathers held most dear - love of God, our country and our fellow man.

We wish to express our appreciation to the many individuals who supplied information and especially those residents and friends for the loan of cherished old photographs for use in this book. We could not use everything that was submitted, but endeavored to edit and compile a substantial amount of the material to cover as many aspects of the first 100 years of the community as possible.

1979 CENTENNIAL BOOK COMMITTEE

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Note: In the interest of consolidation, all photos of people can be found here and are also linked to the individuals in the book,

Discovery of Nebraska

Nebraska remained unnoticed until the Lewis-Clark Expedition came up the Missouri River in 1804. They barely ventured west before declaring the land unproductive. Lieutenant Zubulon M. Pike exploring through southern Nebraska along the Republican River in 1806 predicted the plains would be compared to the deserts of Africa. Trappers and fur traders from St. Louis were the first to explore the Platte Valley. Major Long, Captain Bonneville and General Fremont led their forces through the state. A part of Missouri Territory, Nebraska was a part of the Louisiana Purchase. In 1812, Nebraska was designated Indian Territory.

In 1820, soldiers were sent to the frontier town of Council Bluffs to build Fort Atkinson as part of a plan to protect the fast growing fur trade and protect adventurous frontiersmen daring to penetrate the Far West.

The soldiers turned farmers and in the next five years proved that the "Great American Desert" could bloom.

In 1846, a group of Mormons moving west from Nauvoo, Illinois, paused on the west side of the Missouri River and built winter quarters about six miles upstream from the present site of Omaha. The Mormons, like the Pawnee and Nebraska Indian tribes turned to bricks of sod, and jokingly called them "Nebraska Marble".

The dugout variety was the most satisfactory of soddies, constructed on a ravine or hill usually facing south away from the wind. Hardly luxurious, soddies provided shelter, until the end of the era, about 1900. However, sod houses still exist and are occupied in some parts of Nebraska.

Nebraska was organized as a territory in 1854 with boundaries from the Missouri to the Rocky Mountains, including portions of the present states of Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota and Montana.

The geographic boundaries of Nebraska were reduced before it became a state in 1867. It lies on the west bank of the Missouri River between the 40th and 43rd parallels of north latitude. The extreme western boundary is near meridian 104. The state's width, from north to south is 208 1/2 miles, and its length from east to west is 413 miles. The state has an area of 76,840 square miles. The elevation in the extreme southeastern part of the state is 842 feet above sea level. The Wild Cat Mountains in Banner County, the highest elevation in the state, rises 5,038 feet above sea level.

The Mormons eventually moved on to establish the famous Mormon Trail, running north of the Platte River. This trail carried

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most of the Mormons west to Utah. It was also to acquire the deep grooves of wagon trains heading for Oregon and the Gold Rush of California. Emigrants used the route and many settled throughout Nebraska territory and established many of the communities that exist today. Through the Platte Valley the Pony Express galloped its way to fame in 1860-61.

Indian trouble, disastrous blizzards, famine and disease took their toll as the wagons pushed across Nebraska during those years before statehood. But the "highway" to the West remained open and with it the social and economic structure of Nebraska unfolded.

It wasn't until the long-awaited transcontinental railroad became a reality two years before statehood that much of the uncertainty of life was removed.

The railroad, and the Homestead Act of 1862, allowing citizens to file for public lands, provided the final momentum to statehood. On March 1, 1867, Nebraska became our 37th state.

Within its new borders a stubborn land was yet to be conquered and some of the most important and bloody Indian wars were yet to be fought. Long after the West was settled, Nebraska remained a frontier, but its future was ensured.

The prairie would eventually give away to productive farmlands. Sod houses would be replaced by durable, comfortable and modern homes, the dusty, rutted wagon trails would be paved and expanded to handle the ever-flowing traffic.

The healthy, prosperous state of Nebraska today is a tribute to its pioneer spirit.

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The history of Nance County and thus of Fullerton is rich in its heritage of the vision and far-sightedness of its early inhabitants. It is a history filled with conflict, hardship, successes and failures. It has all the earmarks of the problems confronting any new settlement on the edge of the ever-advancing frontier line. One unique element of this early background is the Indian and his efforts to mold Nance County into a secure settlement.

The Pawnees are one of the great mysteries of prehistoric America. Unlike other Indian tribes, they have no legendary history which identifies them with early occupants of other parts of the country. And, their customs and traditions are unlike those of other tribes. They claim to have been created right where the palefaces found them and to have descended from the union of the morning star and evening star. For nearly 500 years these savage warriors are known to have offered annually the most beautiful young maiden of their race or of captive tribes as a sacrifice to their great ancestor, the evening star. The sacred pit where

these maidens were buried was found in the Indian Hill vicinity near the southwest corner of Nance County. The Skidi clan of the Pawnees were the only Indians in

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North America, north of the Rio Grande, who practiced human sacrifice.

The Pawnees were first heard of through the Illinois, the name being of that language. They were a versatile people who hunted and were industrious farmers, cultivating beans, corn, melons and other crops.

There was a sort of treaty in 1832, by which a right of way was granted to immigrants on the south of where the Indians were supposed to have prior rights. The line was to be the Loup River, but of course there was no real supervision or control, so the Indians roamed more or less at will, though they did, in 1839, cross to the north of the Loup. Two bands made their villages south of the Cedar which at that time was known to them as "Willow Water".

In July, 1843, some 700 Sioux attacked the Pawnees near Plum Creek, killing approximately 70 or 80 Pawnees. Immediately after the battle, the Pawnees left for their summer hunt and upon their return all four Pawnee tribes met at their village near the mouth of the Cedar River.

For hundreds of years Nance County had been the territory of the Sioux. They were skilled hunters and ferocious warriors who deeply resented encroachments on what they believed was their territory. However, in spite of this, under a treaty dated September 4, 1857, during the administration of President Buchanan, the Pawnees sold much of their land to the federal government, and were given in return the tract of land comprising the present territory of Nance County, with the exception of a few sections later annexed on the west. Fear of the Sioux discouraged the Pawnees from taking immediate possession of their newly-acquired reservation, and they

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continued to make their settlement near Fremont, taking their usual buffalo hunt upon the plains during the summer, and exercising great care to avoid their enemy, the Sioux.

As early as 1840, near the present townsite of Fullerton, the county began to acquire an appearance of civilization, because missionaries appeared from time to time, and there were a few scattered settlers.

On May 11, 1857, four months previous to the grant of the reservation to the Pawnees, a band of Mormons, consisting of 110 families, led by H. J. Hudson settled upon a tract of land comprising a large part of the present townsite of Genoa, near the junction of the Beaver and Loup rivers. These people were from England, Scotland and Wales. On coming to America, they first settled near St. Louis, Missouri, but were persecuted because of their religious beliefs. They were caught up in the conflict in the Mormon Church at the time and chose not to follow Brigham Young as the leader of the church. They were anxious to obtain homes in a locality where they would be free from the trials of religious persecution.

The little group endured many hardships. They had few work animals and these were kept busy breaking up the prairie sod, while men and women worked together to construct crude homes of sod and logs. The settlers decided to erect a sod fence around their settlement, and a wall five miles in length and six feet high was constructed. After breaking all the sod in this enclosure, the settlers decided to enlarge their efforts and selected a site near the mouth of the Cedar River, where they broke about 300 acres of prairie sod. Some of the "dead furrows" of this breaking could be seen about one and one-half miles northeast of Fullerton well into the early 1900's.

In the summer of 1859 the Pawnees, unable to provide for their needs on their usual territory, plundered the Elkhorn Valley in a series of raids. They were reported as being in a "half-starved condition" and consequently in a mood to commit acts of thievery or violence that might give them temporary relief from their problems. A citizens' committee appealed to Governor Black for aid, but the Governor being absent, Secretary J. Sterling Morton was called upon to act in his place. Morton called upon Col. Charles May,

Commandant at Ft. Kearney, for troops; but in the meantime Major General John M. Thayer set out for the scene of the trouble as the head of the light artillery company of Omaha. He was joined three days later by Governor Black and a portion of Company "K" of the U.S. Dragoons. Gathering south of the Elkhorn, near Fremont, they were later joined by volunteer groups from Columbus.

The results of the military actions can best be summed up by examining the report that General Thayer wrote describing the campaign.

"The troops came upon the Indians and the Indians surrendered. The line was formed, the cannon planted and the chiefs of all the different bands came forward, throwing down their arms and raising white flags. The interpreter was directed to communicate with them, and they asked to have a council. They acknowledged that their young men had committed these depredations, offered to give them up, and did surrender six of them. Two of them were shot while trying to escape the next day." Eight of the marauding Indians were killed by the settlers, but no whites suffered death in the historic so-called "Pawnee War".

In the 1857 treaty, the Pawnees ceded all their lands from the Niobrara on the north to the Platte on the south, and from Shell Creek on the east to the Rocky Mountains on the west - with the exception of the territory comprising Nance County - for a consideration of a yearly annuity of \$22,000 in cash plus numerous educational and vocational training programs. The tract of land retained by the Indians was, until 1879, familiarly known as the "Pawnee Reserve", and was always considered by these Indians the very cream of their broad possessions.

Late in the summer of 1859, after the Pawnees had finished their annual hunt, and after the so-called "Pawnee War" on the Elkhorn, the tribe decided to locate on their reservation, and accordingly a government agent was appointed to plan with the Pawnee in providing suitable winter quarters. In September, 1859, 3,100 Indians - all that was left of the once celebrated Pawnee tribe - arrived at Genoa with the agent and other employees of the government.

H. J. Hudson and the Mormon settlement at Genoa at once made overtures of peace to the Indians through their agent. His idea was that, having settled on a portion of the land given to the Indians before the treaty was made, it was the duty of the government to protect the settlers in their possessions and remunerate the Indians by an equal or greater amount of land in some other area. The agent informed Mr. Hudson that the Indians demanded their entire territory, and unless the site of Genoa was speedily vacated they could not be restrained and bloodshed might be expected.

The little band of Mormons left their homes and relocated three miles southeast of Genoa. They quickly built rough sod houses and gathered large quantities of hay for feeding stock during the rapidly approaching winter. Just when everything had been made relatively secure against the winter snows, a prairie fire whipped by gale-like winds destroyed all they had. The colony disbanded. Some went to Utah; others returned to the East; but a large number settled in and about Columbus, Nebraska.

Directly after the departure of the Mormons from Genoa the Pawnees set up their village just southwest of the present site of Genoa and within the sod enclosure built by the Mormons.

In 1863, the government decided to put up a school building in which to educate the young Pawnees in the "arts and sciences of civilization". Upon the completion of the school building, a dinner was given by the agent to dedicate the new structure; and while all hands were having a feast, a large force of Sioux warriors, intent on plunder, rode into town. Thirty Pawnees were killed in a cornfield east of the school house while trying to save their ponies, and one soldier was killed in the fight that followed.

In the summer of 1870, the Sioux and the Pawnee had a pitched battle at the mouth of Cottonwood

Creek, and from 200 to 300 Pawnees were buried on the battleground the following day. A short time later, while nearly 300 Pawnees were hunting in the Republican Valley, they were pursued by a band of Sioux, surrounded, and literally cut to pieces, only two or three escaping. It is quite clear that the Pawnee had little chance to live secure and unthreatened lives in Nance County.

In addition to threats from the Sioux, the Pawnee were constantly annoyed by the settlers from Merrick and Hamilton counties, who were attracted by large areas of cedar and oak timber along the Cedar River. Occasionally as high as 20 teams of woodcutters would be in the timber at one time, and the Indians, concluding it was an unwarranted infringement upon their rights, planned to punish the offenders. One day in mid-winter, a large number of men from near Central City were devastating a choice piece of forest about a mile west of the town site of Fullerton, when a group of about 200 swooped down on them and captured a number of the group. It was reported that they would have been literally cut to pieces if they hadn't offered their most vehement promises never to show up in the area again.

In 1873 the Pawnees became tired of the reservation on account of the repeated and continued devastations by the Sioux and the destruction of their wooded possessions by the white settlers in Platte, Boone, Merrick and Howard counties, and asked to be removed to the Indian Territory now Oklahoma. Their request was granted, and in 1874 a part of the tribe was removed to the Territory of Oklahoma. In 1875 these were followed by the remainder, who were conducted to their new location by the agent, William Burgess. It was stipulated on their removal that the reservation lands should be sold for the benefit of the Pawnees; and on April 10, 1876, a bill passed by Congress requiring the land to be appraised and in due time offered for sale to the highest bidder, and not to be sold below its appraised value, was duly approved and a board of appraisers was

appointed. Thus Nance County is unique in that almost no homesteading was to take place here. All land had to be purchased by settlers or by investors for resale.

On April 25, 1876, Robert Compton and Lee Goddard settled at the mouth of Timber Creek and built a dug-out. They brought a large herd of cattle to feed on the luxurious grasses of the valley.

In July, Randall Fuller of Faribault, Minnesota, enroute to Colorado with a large herd of cattle, came through the reservation, and like Compton and Goddard, was extremely impressed with the many excellent features of the country. He decided to locate, and established his headquarters in the little nook below and a little east of what was formerly known as Buffalo Leap (now known as Lover's Leap). Here he built a small frame shanty.

The only thing that gave him much trouble was an army of fleas that pestered him nightly. They attacked him from all quarters, and filled him with an almost desperate anguish. When he was unable to endure the pests any longer, he went to Columbus and had a huge sack constructed, a little less than 12 feet in length, with a puckering string at the mouth, and when evening came he would crawl into "the sack", draw the puckering string tightly about his neck and snore defiance to the fleas and bed bugs until morning.

In August, 1876, the Crow brothers, Hart and Ed, with their sister, Mrs. H. H. Knight, all from Douglas County, Minnesota, reached Grand Island, enroute for Dawson County, and finding grass too poor for feed for their stock, retraced their steps by way of St. Paul to the reserve, where they found Mr. Fuller herding his stock on the present town site of Fullerton, who directed them to a fine location for the stock-raising business among the bluffs.

In the fall of 1876, shortly after the arrival of the Crow brothers from Minnesota, Andrew Johnson and a Mr. Knudson, from near Madelia, Minnesota, struck camp on the east side of the Cedar, Johnson about a mile above the site of Fullerton, and Knudson two miles. Hans Anson, a son-in-law of Johnson, settled at Council Creek. W. A. Davis also pitched teat at Council Creek, and commenced improvements by building a combination residence - a cross between a log cabin and a dug-out. Mr. Derrick located seven miles northwest of Genoa. James Scully, a well-to-do stockman, came onto the reservation that fall. This was the full extent of the settlement made in Nance County during the year 1876.

Late in the fall Randall Fuller returned to his home at Faribault, Minnesota, leaving his stock to be

wintered by S. Y. Coffin of Platte County. In the winter, O. H. Crow and his sister, Mrs. Knight, returned to Minnesota, leaving Ed to care for the stock.

Another influx of immigration struck the reserve in 1877. In the spring of that year Clark Cooncey located his ranch on Council

Creek, and Andrew Erickson squatted near the mouth of the Cedar, on the east side. In September, Frank Hodges settled on the farm just below the mouth of Timber Creek. Eric Nelson and Andrew Thompson located between Council and Plum Creeks. In October, Henry L. Vandewalker, Frank S. Gay, William Barton and Jacob Piatt, with their families, comprising in all 16 people, settled on Timber Creek, around what was called the "big grove", being the largest body of timber in the county.

On August 16, 1877, the board appointed to appraise the reservation lands sent in their report to Secretary Schurz, by whom it was approved, November 17, 1877. The land was appraised at from \$2.50 to \$6 per acre.

In the summer of 1877, O. H. Crow returned from Minnesota, accompanied by his brother, Elmer. They brought a small herd of cattle. Randall Fuller also returned bringing another herd to summer on the rich grasses of the Loup and Cedar valleys. D. A. and George Willard, with an eye to the future, took squatter's possession of the town site of Genoa. The winter of 1877-78 was exceptionally open and mild, which made things much more tolerable for the settlers on the reserve.

Despite the mild winter, few of the settlers prospered. The nearest attainable market place was Albion, and Columbus was the nearest railroad point. The settlers traded fence posts with the farmers of Boone County at the rate of a load of posts for eight or ten bushels of wheat, which they would take to the Albion mill to be ground. Bob Compton furnished the settlers with plenty of juicy, grass-fed pork, and all who possessed firearms helped themselves to rabbits and prairie hens. Potatoes were hard to get, but cornmeal was plentiful, and milk flowed freely. Money was scarce, and Bill Bowman, claimed that "on his word as a Christian gentleman", for one whole year the closest thing to currency in his possession was a three-cent stamp.

Timber, as well as lush grasses, was one of the major assets of early Nance County. As early as the spring of 1875, news reached the Interior Department at Washington that the settlers of Merrick, Platte and Boone counties were stripping the reservation of its most valuable timber. Deputy U.S. Marshal Ball of Omaha was directed to take action against them and bring them before the U.S. Circuit Court, then in session in Omaha. The order was quickly obeyed, and more than 40 wood gatherers were rounded up for trial within three days. Several were captured in the very act of cutting down the timber. Others were drawing it home, and a few were arrested wholly on suspicion. The men boarded the train at Columbus enroute for Omaha. Each man expected that his neighbor would furnish testimony against him, but a general understanding was reached

before they struck Omaha, and when the day of trial rolled around, out of the 40 culprits who were called upon to testify, not one could testify of his own knowledge that a stick of timber had ever been unlawfully taken from the reservation land. And, a few pleaded guilty to the charge of taking loads of wood from other parties whom they supposed had procured the wood in Howard County. The result of the trial was the acquittal of all concerned, with a severe reprimand. On reaching home many of them immediately set out for the reservation after more wood.

During the fall of 1877, Randall Fuller secured the services of J. C. Knapp of Merrick County to make a survey of the original town site of Fullerton. Shortly before this event the Cedar settlement had been reinforced by the arrival from Minnesota of Martin McCrellis and family, who took up their abode with Crow

Brothers, but shortly moved to Fuller's ranch. Most of the settlers constructed crude "dug-outs" or "soddies". Several persons put in their time in November and December husking corn on shares south of the Platte River and by this means a fair supply of grain was provided for the stock. Those who assisted in the labor of transporting the corn over the unfrozen Loup, or via St. Paul, a distance, round trip, of over 100 miles expressed the opinion that every ear was "well earned".

As was earlier recalled, the winter of 1877-78 was remarkable for its mildness. The ambitious "squatters" improved their "spare moments" by laying in a supply of firewood and building timber, as the numerous ravines abounded with small groves. Nothing created any social opportunity save now and then a genuine country hoe-down at Compton's ranch, in which old and young took animated part. Bill Bowman, John Foster and others scraped the violins on these joyful occasions; and while the music was not remembered as being the most aesthetic, it was loud, and strong and durable, and the "time" was perfect.

Toward spring the settlers began to feel uneasy in regard to how and when the lands were to be disposed of and a petition was sent to Congress asking that they be opened for homesteads. But in April the edict went forth from the Department of the Interior that the Pawnee Reservation lands would be sold at auction at Central City, commencing the 15th of the next July. On the strength of the belief, or hope, that no one would bid against them for the lands upon which they had squatted, the settlers began making improvements of a permanent nature. A large amount of breaking of sod was done before the sale.

In the spring of this year, O. E. Stearns took formal possession of the land adjoining the town site on the east. Charley Wier, who came from Minnesota a few months later, claimed the land upon

which Mr. Stearns was located. It was the ground that he had selected the year before; but, as he could furnish no evidence in the way of improvements to justify his claims, Mr. Stearns concluded to exercise his sovereign right of "eminent domain" and "allow Mr. Wier the privilege of selecting some other spot".

Conflicts and disasters were to play a common role in the history of the Fullerton area. One of the greatest fears of the early settlers was of prairie fires. One day in April of 1879, when the wind was blowing strongly from the southwest, a careless traveler in the Loup Valley started a fire which swept with terrible velocity over the divide, directly onto the Crow boys' big ranch. Hart Crow was at Genoa that day, it being his turn to bring the neighborhood mail, and Ed was alone. As the fire passed over the bluffs above the ranch a young man who had seen the approaching smoke arrived upon the scene, and these two persons made a desperate but unsuccessful attempt to stop the flames. Their large herd of cattle happened to be at a safe distance, but the horses and hogs about the sheds were liberated with great difficulty. A fine young mare had been hitched to a sapling a few rods away, where she seemed perfectly safe, but the heat from the flaming sheds became so intense that she was roasted alive. Several attempts were made to cut the animal loose, and each proved futile on account of her rearings and the inability of the men to endure the heat for more than a few seconds at a time.

All the household goods, rifles, saddles, harness, wagons, implements and tools went up in smoke. The fire was whirled over the river and all the hay in the meadows vanished in flames. The total loss was nearly \$1,000. That night Ed and Hart slept beneath the roof of a neighboring "soddy", homeless.

On the 15th of July - the opening of the land sale - the settlers of the reserve were on hand at Central City to secure

possession of the lands upon which they had squatted. They were to be sold at auction, one-third down, the balance in two equal annual installments, interest at six percent. It was rumored that a syndicate of eastern land speculators would be on hand to bid against the settlers, and a good deal of uneasiness was felt by those who had ventured to make improvements, but the scare proved to be without much foundation. The

settlers bought their lands at the appraised value.

The Willard brothers, D. A. and George, purchased the town site of Genoa and all the government buildings, except the "big brick", for \$3,500. Randall Fuller bought seven quarters, including the original town site of Fullerton. Other settlers secured from one to two quarters, with the exception of a few who decided to wait awhile. Frank Hodges bought a half-section below the mouth of Timber Creek. The sale lasted four days, and a comparatively small amount of land was disposed of.

In the latter part of July, from excessive rains in the northern part of the state the Cedar River became a seething flood, and for a week it was impossible to cross with a team of horses. O. E. Stearns operated a small ferry boat for passengers at the old ford northeast of town, but horses had to swim. A short time after the flood subsided malaria fever appeared in several families living near the river. Alfred Bixby was stricken down with congestive chills, and died on the 21st of August, aged 68 years. It was the first death of a resident white person on the reserve. The funeral services were held on the 23rd, Rev. J. N. Dressler of Merrick County officiated.

Shortly after the land sale, Luther Hull, John Simons and sons, George W. Davis and others, made settlement on Timber Creek, and Wylke Durkee secured a quarter-section in the Beaver Valley and took immediate possession. During this year the first white child was born on the reserve to Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Williamson. Rev. C. Starbuck, a Congregational minister, dispensed the Gospel to the few settlers in and about Genoa.

More prairie fires damage the reserve from time to time. George McChesney lost his entire crop of hay twice in succession, but instead of giving up, kept right at work cutting frost-killed grass; and what the hay lacked in quality he made up in quantity, so that his stock lived through the winter adequately.

A brother of O. E. Stearns had located at the mouth of Plum Creek, just in season to secure hay for wintering 100 head of cattle, when a heavy fire swept down from the northwest and burned every stack on the farm. Scully also lost heavily, and the same fire, continuing in an easterly direction, destroyed thousands of dollars worth of property, and burned two persons to death, a mother and child, in the Shell Creek Valley.

Communication was difficult at its best in early Nance County, and always painfully slow. The nearest post office being Genoa, the settlers of the town-to-be along the Cedar took turns at carrying the mail. In the winter of 1878 the Cedar River post office was established, with O.E. Sterns as postmaster. The government refused, however, to furnish a mail carrier, though it did issue a sack for carrying mail. Everyone on the reserve who could possibly be mustered into the service, was sworn in as mail carrier, but for a small consideration Johnny Johnson was hired to perform most of the service. On April 15, 1879, Frank S. Gay received his commission as postmaster of the newly created Redwing post office in another part of the reserve.

As the time approached for the convening of Nebraska's lawmakers in Lincoln, the question of what disposition would be made of the reserve became an all-absorbing one. Some thought it would be sliced up like a piece of cake and apportioned to the several adjoining counties. Merrick County wanted all south of the Loup. Boone County would like the balance, but there was opposition to that particular division because the annexation of any new territory on the south, would endanger the stability of Albion as the county seat. Also, many prominent citizens there stood to lose wealth by the probable resulting decrease of real estate values there. The majority of the residents there, thus, were in favor of making the reservation into a county itself. Building on this conviction, George Willard canvassed the reserve for the purpose of raising funds to engage in an active lobbying effort in the legislature to enact a bill providing for a new county. Over \$100 was subscribed by the citizens.

Among those who visited the reservation in the fall of 1878 were Brad D. Slaughter and J. H. Edgington. Mr. Slaughter was living in Lincoln at the time, and came out to look the reserve over with a view to locating. He was very favorably impressed with the "lay of the land", and fully decided to become a resident in case the territory was organized into a county, instead of being sliced up and divided among the neighboring counties.

J. D. Edgington, who at the time owned a large farm not far from Council Bluffs, Iowa, came out partly to view the country, and largely to hunt deer, which at that time could be found in large numbers on Timber Creek and its branches. He was very successful in his hunt, "killing a wagon load of them" in a few days, and was so impressed with the many advantages the county offered for farming and stock-raising, the beautiful scenery and remarkable "fine wagon roads for so new a county", that he decided to sell his Iowa possessions at the earliest opportunity and move to "God's country".

In view of the prospect that a new county might be organized from the reservation, the Willard brothers, in January of 1879,

circulated a petition in and about Genoa to the governor, asking that the temporary county seat be located at Genoa, that C. D. Rakestraw be appointed temporary clerk, and that the new county be named Delane, in honor of D. A. Willard, chief owner of the town site of Genoa.

About this time Randall Fuller returned from Minnesota, and having been informed of the status of affairs, circulated a petition in the Cedar and Loup valley asking that the temporary county seat be located on the northeast quarter of Section 14, Township 16, Range 6; that A. L. Bixby be appointed clerk, George W. Chesney, Orson E. Stearns and Andrew Thompson be appointed commissioners pro tem, and that the county be called "Nance", in honor of "His Excellency the Governor". The idea of naming the county after the governor was suggested to Mr. Fuller by Alfred Bixby the previous summer. O. E. Stearns accompanied by Mr. Fuller, carried the petition to the governor in person, and Mr. Stearns, who was acquainted with the governor, presented the case to him in such a manner that he was left in little doubt as to what advantages would result from the county's organization. B. D. Slaughter, who was chief clerk of the Legislature's House of Representatives at this time, drew up the bill for a new county, and realizing the popularity of the governor, inserted a clause in the bill that the county was to be named after him, thinking thereby to capture votes for the measure. His expectations were realized, for the bill passed on February 4 with but one dissenting vote.

In May of 1879, B. D. Slaughter and his father made a trip to the reserve, now soon to become Nance County, and on the 19th of May at the residence of O. E. Stearns, an agreement was entered into with Randall Fuller for the purchase of half-interest in the town site by Mr. Slaughter who then returned to Lincoln and brought his wife out to see the country; traveling several hundred miles back and forth across the North Nebraska regions before reaching the Cedar at the new town site. They reached here June 18, and at once made a contract with Fuller for a half-interest in the northeast quarter of Section 14, Township 16, Range 6 West of the 6th principal meridian (now Fullerton).

On the 21st day of June, the board of commissioners appointed by the governor met and read the following order:

"Whereas, a large number of citizens of the unorganized county of Nance have united in a petition asking that the said county be organized, and that Orson E. Stearns, George S. McChesney and J. W. Whitney be appointed a board of county commissioners, and that DeWitt Eager be appointed special county clerk for said county, for the purpose of forming a permanent organization, and that the Northeast Quarter of Section 14, Township 16, Range 6

West, be designated as the temporary county seat of the said county of Nance, and it appearing that the said county contains a population of not less than 200, and two or more petitioners are taxpayers and residents of said county; Now, therefore, I, Albinus Nance, Governor of the State of Nebraska, in accordance with the memorial of said petitioners, and under and by virtue of the authority in me vested, and in pursuance of the statute in such cases made and provided, do declare said county to be temporarily organized for the

purpose of permanent organization, and do appoint and commission the persons above named as the special county commissioners and the person above mentioned as the special county clerk, and do declare the place above named and described as the temporary county seat."

A short time after this action, an influx of people began to pour into the new settlement near the confluence of the Loup and Cedar rivers. Some actually camped along the rivers until suitable shelter could be built.

Randall Fuller went to work immediately erecting the first building in what was to become the City of Fullerton, the old Pawnee land office of Slaughter and Lindsay. In working on this building the scaffolding broke and Mr. Fuller fell about 12 feet, striking his head and shoulders, and receiving injuries from which he never fully recovered. The next house was put up by Jacob Smith, who had purchased a nearby farm. This was followed by J. W. Dresser's store building, erected by himself, H. E. Reynolds, (the first contractor and builder in the town), W. C. Phillips and a Mr. Seeley. The cellar was excavated by two of Andrew Thompson's sons, at 75¢ each per day - high wages at the time. N. C. Judson then constructed his store, and Mr. Slaughter, while on his second trip to the county seat, made arrangements to have another structure built. In the latter part of June, M. S. Lindsay, a young graduate of a law school, came from Waco, York County, to grow up with the new country. There being no opportunity for a lawyer at the time, he took a job with Tiffany and Dresser as cook, afterward worked through harvest in Polk County and haying in Nance, then entered into co-partnership with Mr. Slaughter in the land and law business combined.

About this time Dr. J. S. Christison, finding Columbus a little too thickly populated with "saw bones", decided to locate in the new county, and settled at Genoa. He was the first physician to locate in the county.

In the latter part of August, Mrs. Tiffany commenced keeping a boarding house in the building owned by I. A. Beagle, and occupied by Wilson Brothers as a store. In September the first school meeting

was held in front of the old Pawnee land office. Those present were Slaughter, Tiffany, Dresser, Noah Judson, Hosea Judson, Rev. R. G. Adams and Jacob Smith. Arrangements were made whereby Hosea Judson agreed to build a school house, on the condition that Fuller and Slaughter should donate a lot, which was done, and the building constructed. Miss Cora Judson was engaged to teach the school, at a salary of \$2 per student for the term.

Also in August, John N. Reynolds, an attorney at Columbus, put up a building in town and S. L. Sturtevant built a store which he stocked with groceries and dry goods. Samuel Buckner, Fullerton's first Jewish resident, engaged in a small general merchandise (sic) business in the Beagle building. Later in the fall C. H. Gilmore located and erected a building to be used as a restaurant and dwelling, which he also stocked with drugs.

During this period in Nance County's history the question of the permanent location of the county seat was agitating the minds of the residents in the rival villages of Genoa and Fullerton, and the Willard brothers for Genoa and Brad Slaughter for Fullerton were working diligently to secure the quota of "actual settlers" necessary to make their "election sure".

The first political convention ever held in Nance County was called at Genoa, on September 10, 1879, to nominate candidates for the several county offices, to be elected the ensuing November. In October, Fullerton held a similar convention and put in nomination their candidates for the same county offices. The results of all these activities were reported in the last week of October in the first edition of the Nance County Journal. It was begun by A. E. Verity with an old newspaper outfit including a wooden press. The six column folio had a subscription list of 50.

Tuesday, November 4, 1879, the first election in Nance County was held in due form, and among the results was the following vote for county seat:

Fullerton 89

East side of Cedar River 15

On Monday following the election, the county commissioners met at the Pawnee land office to canvass the returns. During the interval between the election and the date of this canvass, M. S. Lindsay applied to Judge Donaldson of Merrick County for a writ of injunction to prevent a count of the returns of Genoa on the grounds of fraud. When Genoa's vote was reached, the writ was served, which suspended further action for the time, and the board adjourned.

On the 10th of December, in the district court of Osceola, Judge George M. Post issued a peremptory mandamus commanding the commissioners of Nance County to meet and canvass the entire

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returns, including the votes of Genoa precinct which were excluded by the injunction. In pursuance of the order the commissioners met on the 13th of December to finish the count, which they did, but the result was not made public at once.

C. D. Rakestraw, the temporary county clerk by appointment from Governor Nance, resigned. The commissioners then unanimously appointed J. N. Reynolds to replace him. After this appointment the recount proceeded and when the count was completed, the vote for county seat was:

Genoa 56

Fullerton 89

East side of Cedar River 15

It should be noted that similar changes took place in the voting for county commissioners resulting in Fullertonites being elected to the County Board of Commissioners.

In conformity with this result, which was brought about by throwing out 42 votes from Genoa precinct, it having been roughly estimated by the Commissioners that it represented "about" the number of illegal votes cast at Genoa, and "just" the number necessary to make the election of the Fullerton ticket complete, Clerk Reynolds issued certificates of election in accordance with this result, and the county government was declared to be complete and in running order. In the meantime the candidates of the Genoa ticket, relying on the face of the returns as lawful evidence of the rightness of their intentions, were sworn into office.

On January 5 the new board met pursuant to adjournment, with Burgess and Patterson present. They were arrested and taken before justice Edgar Tiffany, who released them on their own recognizance to appear the following Tuesday and answer to the complaint of usurpation of office. They didn't appear.

On the 13th of January, both boards met in regular session. The Fullerton commissioners held their session in the old Pawnee land office, the Genoa board tried to get the use of Josh Brown's store. Failing in this, they sought refuge in the bar room of the City Hotel, then kept by George Rogers, and on being refused, they went to George Odell's livery barn where they began their meeting in a vacant stall. Having just begun their meeting, they were arrested by W. H. Bowman "in the name of the commonwealth of Nebraska" and taken before Judge Lindsay. Andrew Thompson was brought to trial on the charge of usurpation of office and after a due trial, a fine of \$150 was imposed, and the prisoner ordered remanded to the jail at Central City until the fine should be paid. The judge finally agreed to suspend the fine if Mr. Thompson would pay the costs, amounting to \$11, and give bonds in the sum of \$5,000 not to appear in the role of a county commissioner again or call the board together as its

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chairman. The bond was executed and the prisoner was released. Thus ended a spirited conflict between Genoa and Fullerton in the race to become the permanent seat of government of the newly formed Nance County.

With the settlement of the county government affairs and the arrival of spring in 1880, Fullerton experienced a boom that has been equaled in few instances in the State of Nebraska. As a business place it was but one year old, and yet it had a population comparing favorable with any of the old cities in the vicinity. Although the county was not as well settled as those surrounding, nearly all kinds of business were represented.

In 1880, Dr. J. F. Johnson moved from Hamilton to Nance County, and resided here until his death. In 1881 and 1882, J. N. Reynolds, A. Edgington and J. H. Fee moved here and laid out the additions which bear their names. Although lumber and all goods were freighted overland, building was carried on expeditiously. John Russell and family came to Nance County in 1882, hauling household effects across the country from Lincoln and fording the Loup River.

The only serious epidemic the people of the county ever experienced was the outbreak of diphtheria in 1884, when 30 succumbed (sic) to the dreaded disease. There were many cases in this territory during the season, and the efficient medical service of the county's two pioneer doctors was credited with the prevention of far greater loss of life.

The next few years saw Fullerton grow rapidly. Slaughter and Lindsay continued to be the agents for the sale of the Indian lands, with Mr. Lindsay acting as county judge. N.C. Judson, the oldest merchant of the place, carried a complete stock of groceries, and was appointed postmaster, operating that office in a corner of his store. Numerous, more diversified stores began to open their doors. By 1888, the town boasted over 40 businesses and professional offices and was about to graduate its first high school class.

Fullerton had weathered the test of Indian conflict, prairie fires, epidemic, and political rivalry. Like all frontier towns had to, it met and overcame each of them with courage and determination. It sustained the pioneer ethic of hard work and nurtured an optimistic eye for the future which lingers into the 1980's, and shows every promise of being perpetually maintained.

- Compiled and written by Rodger Bassett.

BIOGRAPHY OF RANDALL FULLER FOUNDER OF FULLERTON, NEBRASKA

Randall Fuller, founder of the City of Fullerton, Nebraska, was born in Shaftsbury, Vermont, on June 16, 1823. He believed his ancestors, Samuel and Edward Fuller, were among the passengers on the Mayflower, landing in 1620. Among the artifacts on display at Plymouth Hall is the Fuller cradle and the names of his ancestors are engraved on the monument to the pilgrims at Plymouth, Massachusetts. Fuller's grandfathers on both paternal and maternal sides participated in the Revolutionary War.

When Randall Fuller was three years old, being the fifth child in a family of 12, his parents moved from Vermont to Ohio, and he first went to school there in a little log school house. They lived in Ohio for two years before they moved to Michigan, near White Pigeon, where Fuller again attended the common school.

In 1837, the family decided to move farther west and made a settlement on land that is now the site of Waukesha, Wisconsin.

There for a short time, Fuller attended school and worked to assist in supporting his family. By working morning and night for his board he was able to attend Waukesha Academy for a few terms. He quit school to organize an expedition to the California gold fields, and in March, 1849, his party left Waukesha, passing through Illinois and Iowa, and on May 1, reached Council Bluffs, Iowa, then a major Mormon settlement.

At Council Bluffs, a number of people joined the party and new supplies were obtained. The company of

25 people began the long march across the plains. They crossed the Missouri River where Omaha is now located. There were few white settlers west of the [Home of Randall Fuller. Used as Wesleyan University.](#)

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river, and the Indians were plentiful, giving the travelers much trouble by stampeding their cattle. In Nebraska, other companies bound for the same destination swelled the party to about 150 men, women and children. The party was organized in military style, officers and guards appointed, and the journey was continued without trouble until the Loup River was reached. Here a day was consumed in crossing. Some wanted to rest for a day on the west side, others were opposed to delay. The party split into two halves each going their separate ways.

A direct quote from Randall Fuller's diary and daily log book gives his account of his first view of the territory which was destined to become Nance County. The portions of the diary are the entries for May 15, 16 and 17, 1849, approximately two weeks after leaving Omaha. Their progress was about 20 miles per day. The words, (and the spelling) are his own.

May the 15th we went 19 miles. There was six horse teams in our company and they got a head of us and we did not catch them and they camped alone and about midnight they were attacked by the Pawnees Indians. The Indians shot their arrows at the yard and at the wagons. Their arrows were men asleep in the wagons and the arrows and bolletes went threw the wagon covers and box. And the yard give the alarm to the company and as soon as they got up and fired at them they dispersed and their was no one hurt. They found fore arrows, one sticking in the fely of the wagon wheel and one bollet in the end board of the box. The arrows had steel in the end of them and fethers in the other end to make them go strate. After these men were attacked they returned back to us. We went today to Looking Glass Creek. We found wood and good water.

On the 16th we went from Looking Glass Creek to the old Pawnee Village and their camped beside the river. This village was destroid by the Sews. Here we found wood. This river is the Seder River. The river is seven rods wide, one foot deep. The old Pawnee Village is situated on the north side of the river and it has ben a large vilage in its day. We saw today two misionary houses partly down and no one liven in them. The distance that we performed today is 22 miles.

And on the 17th we went to the Loup fork and camped. We found wood here. And in the morning on the 18th we crosed it. We drove into it above the old ford and went up stream and cept on the sand bars. We raised up the boxes of the wagons about fore inches and the water did not come into the boxes. A wagon dros (draws) vary hard on the quick sand. The sand runs out from the wheels and the wheels settles down. The river here is about three quarters of amile wide. Before crosing this river go in and

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find where the sand bars run. They change every year. And we laid over here the rest of this day.

The Fuller party reached Weaverville, California, on August 12, 1849. He was offered jobs but decided to try his hand at mining, finding moderate success with his gold mining, and making between \$25 and \$75. He found this inadequate because of such expenses as eggs, potatoes and flour at \$1 per pound. He made an unsuccessful try at ranching, but due to Indian problems decided to return to the East. He listed such adventures as "lassoing an elk among a drove, and running off a big grizzly bear that came one night to my camp".

To return home, he took passage on a steamer at San Francisco going by way of Central America, the Nicaragua route, 31 days to New York, then to Niagara Falls, New York, and from there to Detroit in the dead of winter. Railroads were few in those days, none west of Milwaukee.

After visiting his parents, Fuller decided to form another wagon train for California. In his own words he gives an account of this and four other such trips.

In the spring of 1852, I formed another train of passengers and cattle for California. On this trip, had several fights and narrow escapes with the Indians up the Platte River, at one time they running me back to camp while I was ahead looking for a camping place. They followed me and crossing the road in front of the camp would not allow us to go on. We had to fight and killed several. They then made peace with us, showing us a medal given them by Andrew Jackson (a medal with Jackson's picture given to indians by the government on various occasions) and allowed us to go on, arriving in California in the month of August where I put my cattle onto the ranch. Saw also on the Platte River thousands of buffalo, country black with them. After this they all went north. The fall of 1853 returned again to Wisconsin where in the Spring of 1854 I piloted another large company of passengers at \$100 dollars apiece to the gold fields of California. Returned in the summer of 1855, where in the fall of that year I was married at Mayville, Wisconsin, to Esther W. Reed. We then moved to the almost unsettled territory of Minnesota to begin life and settle down. But the old love of travel and adventure asserted itself and I yielded to the urgent requests of parties who wished me to pilot them to the glittering fields of gold whose wealth still seemed inexhaustible, and in the spring of 1859 I made my fourth trip. Returned that fall to home and family, Faribault, Minnesota, but in the spring of 1860 made my last and most dangerous trip to California going with passengers to those gold fields at Denver, just opened, but finding them

Randall Fuller Mrs. Randall Fuller

disappointing we went to California Gulch where Leadville now stands. Then I came back to Denver, advertised for passengers and left the place in June. Returning home in the fall and quietly settled down for a few years.

In Minnesota at that time the Indians were quite troublesome, and killed many of the settlers. Mr. Fuller organized a company, and was commissioned captain by the Governor, to fight the Sioux at the time of the massacre near Faribault. Afterward, he saw 38 of the "red troublemakers" hanged at Mankato.

During his many trips over the plains he was attracted to the site of Fullerton, then part of the Pawnee Indian Lands. The old Overland Trail passed near by this point, and in 1876 he moved there and settled on the land where Fullerton now stands, and started a cattle ranch. In 1877 he platted the town, and named it after himself. Its growth was small until the building of the Union Pacific branch line, when it became an important point, and upon the organization of Nance County, was made the county seat.

Fuller bought 2,200 acres of land when it was sold by the government in 1880. The townsite he platted contained 80 acres. At first he gave away business and residence lots to those who would build. When the location of the county seat was made at Fullerton, Mr. Fuller gave 60 acres, which were sold and the money used to build the court house and he also furnished the site for the building. He also furnished all the sites for the churches.

On the land which Mr. Fuller purchased at first was located a 40-acre tract of oak undergrowth. He watched this tract carefully and with care the underbrush grew into a stand of fine oak trees. The bluff above the trees had a drop of 283 feet and in the early days was known as Buffalo Leap and later as Loon's Leap, the latter name coming from an Indian legend concerning a Pawnee chief and his

sweetheart, who jumped to death at that point. In 1897, Mr. Fuller gave the use of these grounds for the purpose of holding chautauquas, and this grew to be one of the most popular and largely attended of any of these events in the state, lasting from 10 days to two weeks and advertised widely as the "Fullerton

Chautauqua" featuring such attractions as William Jennings Bryan, Billy Sunday and a full three-ring troop of the Barnum and Bailey Circus.

The town was always a source of much pride to its founder, who built his home on a hill overlooking the country for many miles, naming it "Fuller Heights". There he lived his declining days, socializing with friends and relating his pioneer days. He was always fond of travel, and visited many parts of the world. He accumulated a comfortable fortune, and was able to live at ease in his old age. He was a Republican, always liberal in his views, and an extensive reader. He never joined a club or a society, but attended the Baptist Church. He raised a family of three children.

Mr. Randall Fuller died on February 26, 1901, and is buried in the Fullerton Cemetery.

- Written by Rodger Bassett.

THE KU KLUX KLAN IN FULLERTON

As Fullerton enters the decade of the 1980's it seems difficult to envision a time in the past when the town was a center for a fraternal organization which had historically been one of the most-bigoted groups the U.S. had known. In an era of pre-depression politics the Ku Klux Klan became a well-organized part of the lives of some of Fullerton's citizens. The W.A.S.P. (White-Anglo-Saxon-Protestant) values of the Klan were not nearly so pronounced in small rural Nebraska settings as they were in the South, but their very presence stands as a reminder that there is no immunity of time or place to the elements of hatred and bigotry which surface from time to time across the nation.

The following "history of the Fullerton Klan" appeared in the July 21, 1928, issue of The Fellowship Forum, the National Fraternal Weekly of the Ku Klux Klan. It was a special "Nebraska Edition" filled with Klan happenings around the state. The paper billed itself as "A National Weekly Newspaper Devoted to the Fraternal Interpretation of the World's Current Events". The current event they were focusing on in this issue was the 1928 Presidential elections in which the Democratic Candidate Al Smith was running against the Republican Candidate Herbert Hoover. Why all the fuss???? Al Smith was Catholic and thus the enemy of the W.A.S.P. ideals of the Klan.

From: The Fellowship Forum (National Fraternal Weekly of the Ku Klux Klan), July 21, 1928.
Fullerton, Nebraska - The Fullerton Klan was

organized early in 1924 with a large membership as a result of out-door meetings attended by hundreds of men. It has steadily grown from then until the present. It became a chartered Klan in September of 1926. It is now the home of Nance County klansmen with its large membership from every section of the county.

Its officers are men whose moral and Christian standards are of the highest type, men of education and splendid judgment who hold sacredly their responsibility to their country and their God. The membership is very largely made up of men who are church members and are regular in their attendance at Divine worship. Scores of these klansmen have been converted and joined the church. They are also active in other social, patriotic, civic and fraternal groups, where their influence for good is felt.

The Fullerton Klan has experienced no friction, has distributed charity on several occasions, both inside and outside the membership. It has a large 16-foot electric cross that has been taken to other towns adding to the attractiveness of klan meetings. This cross was shown to good advantage on occasion of the visit of the Imperial Wizard to Nebraska.

The Fullerton Klan has never failed to be represented at all province and realm meetings. From its membership a realm keeper has been elected as a delegate to an Imperial Klonsvocation. One of its officers is often invited to make addresses at other klan meetings. He has gone to over 50 cities and towns for this purpose in the last few years, always preaching the klan doctrine of Americanism and Protestantism.

Last February one of the Fullerton members while in Washington, D.C., visited The Fellowship Forum

and was shown through the plant by James S. Vance, who was very kind and courteous. This member also visited Senator J. Thomas Heflin and gave him a written message of sincere appreciation and endorsement of his splendid and heroic work he is doing for Americanism and Protestant Christianity. The senator sent letters of appreciation and good will to each signer of the message.

The Fullerton Klan has gone through severe and unfair persecution. Members who have been suspected of being klansmen have been blackballed and boycotted, meetings spied upon, its purposes knowingly misrepresented, its work grossly misjudged and other members denounced in signed articles in the local press.

A so-called Protestant minister has used his pulpit and the radio to denounce and misrepresent citizens who make up the klan here and elsewhere, all to no avail. One professional man on a visit to Europe writing a letter to

the local paper told of an outbreak among the Communists and bolsheviks and likened it to the Ku Klux Klan of America. This sort of false propoganda is letting up some now. The klan has gone on ignoring such attacks, and devoting its efforts at creating an American mind, proving the righteousness and sincerity of its cause and adding to its manpower from month to month.

The W.K.K.K. (Women's Ku Klux Klan) has a very strong organization here, meeting each week. It is well-officered by intelligent women of this place. They have won silver cup prizes at realm and province meetings with their patriotic programs.

The Fullerton Klan owns its own klavern, has a roomy auditorium, hall, lockers, office and rest rooms completely equipped. The inside walls are adorned with portraits of great Americans; the flag and the cross have prominent positions. The women gave a new piano and Old Glory floats from a flag staff in front of the building.

Since the nomination of Al Smith many are coming to the klan here and saying: "Now you klansmen do your stuff and we to a man will do our utmost to keep this Roman, this nullifier and booze Tammanyite out of the American White House".

The article was almost certainly written in Washington, D.C., where the paper was published. News items were regularly sent in by many local Klans. It might be of interest to note the membership requirements for the Klan.

1. *Knights of the Ku Klux Klan* -

For male, white, Protestant, native-born Americans of good moral character over 18 years old.

2. *Women of the Ku Klux Klan* - For white, Protestant, native-born American women of good character over 18 years old.

3. *Junior Ku Klux Klan* - For white, Protestant, native-born American boys from 12 to 18 years old.

4. *Tri-K Girls* - For white, Protestant, native-born American girls from 12 to 18 years old.

5. *American Crusaders* - For white, Protestant, naturalized American citizens of foreign birth.

- Written by Rodger Bassett.

"THE LEAP"

Legends, myths, and romantic accounts of a bygone era surround a very special place that looms large in any glance backward at Fullerton's historic past. "The Leap" has played a significant role in the growing up of generation after generation of Fullerton's children.

It was prominent in Indian lore. It was the backdrop and the setting for three decades of spirited summer Chautauqua shows. It provided a cool green shelter from hot summer winds while the old Chautauqua grounds served the spiritual needs of participants in the Baptist Bible Camp activities for several years. Although now privately owned and known as "Quiet Oaks," it still furnishes opportunities for social gatherings and a chance to walk under the majestic oaks and enjoy the beauty . . . and just maybe to contemplate the rich history that seems to emanate from the very earth itself.

One early reference to this place used the name "Buffalo Leap". It was not uncommon for Indians to drive small herds of buffalo off such cliffs as a highly effective hunting technique. The name "Loon's Leap" was also a common name, coming from an Indian legend concerning a Pawnee chief and his sweetheart who supposedly leaped to their deaths from the highest point on the rim of the formation. "The Leap" was also known for a time as Cedar Bluff, and under that name played a noteworthy part in the history of Fullerton and of the State of Nebraska. The earliest recorded history of this area was written by Mrs. Elvira Gaston Platte, and published by the Nebraska State Historical Society in 1892. Mrs. Platte was an old-time missionary pioneer who, along with a tiny group of family and like-minded companions, first "set foot on Nebraska soil" on June 24, 1843. They settled along Plum Creek and seemed to develop a good relationship with the Indians. This group held the first formal 4th of July celebration known to have been held in the state at the bluff overlooking the Cedar River, then known as the Willow Creek.

Her words best describe the event.

"We of Plum Creek were off very early in the morning (of July 4, 1844) for a ride to Willow Creek settlement, five miles away, where we were to breakfast with our friends the Mathers. Five children belonging to the different mission families were my pupils for that season. These were fitted with regalia, and Henry M. Allis was banner bearer for the occasion. Our point of rendezvous was Cedar Bluff, a height overlooking the Willow (Cedar) where Fullerton, Nance County, now stands. The young men of our party, with the aid of two Indian boys who accompanied us, built a bower of cedar branches from

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the trees near by. Our banner was planted on the edge of the precipice 200 feet from the water below, and our little company gave themselves up to the enjoyments of the hour, feasting our eyes on the wondrous beauty of the landscape before us. Blessed above most county seats is that of Nance County for views of delight. After leaving that region my heart always turned to that spot as the most desirable for making a home."

"After an hour or two spent in rambling and chatting our company was called to seat under the bower, where was spread a collation very inviting to hungry wanderers. Before eating we had a short exercise, and though I do not find it recorded in my journal, I have the impression that L. W. Platte read the 'Declaration of Independence' and Mr. James Mathers gave a short oration. During the exercises 'America' and an original poem were sung, prayer was offered, and before partaking of the feast the blessing of the Almighty God upon us was invoked by Mr. Allis. On our return home the large residue of our feast was left at the Indian village for the old and infirm who were unable to go on the hunt".

The more recent title of "Lover's Leap" had its beginnings in 1857 when a small party of five people camped beneath the Leap

while on their way west. The party had come from Illinois and consisted of John Edgington, his wife, and daughter Nellie, accompanied by two brothers, Frank and John Wickland.

Frank and Nellie were engaged, and would have married earlier if Mr. Edgington hadn't insisted that Frank achieve "a start in life" first. The prospect of a homestead and the "challenge of the west" brought them to where they camped that night.

The oxen were unhitched from the two wagons and the men caught fish from the Cedar River which then ran almost directly beneath "The Leap". While they were eating they watched a small herd of deer become suddenly spooked and run wildly away from the river where they'd been drinking. A dog ran from the bushes and looked behind him as if to see his master follow.

The little party was sure Indians had discovered them and prepared to stay on guard all night. About two in the morning a single Indian sneaked into camp to scout the situation and, being revealed by a cloud moving away from the moon, hurried back into the bushes.

Shortly thereafter the Indians attacked and captured the five pioneers. The livestock was killed, the wagons were burned and the Indians indicated their intentions of killing the people. The chief indicated that Nellie was to be spared, presumably as "His Squaw".

Frank Wickland offered a frenzied protest to the chief and Nellie herself requested death with the rest of the prisoners. Angry at this, the chief derisively said that if the young man was so brave and wanted to take such good care of the woman he could have her if he would ride "down the bank". The "bank" (Leap) had a drop of 283 feet around the turn of the century, and the constant cutting of the Cedar River kept it steep and sharp.

Frank astounded the Chief by agreeing to the bargain with little hesitation. He extracted a promise that the rest of the party would not be harmed and climbed on an Indian pony. His hands were freed, and among cries and tears from his companions he was led to the top of the hill. He rode over the brink and fell to his death in full view of the rest of the party. The Indians silently released the party and left. Frank was buried near where he fell and the party left when morning came.

Early settlers perpetuated this story and it was reportedly confirmed by some of the survivors who returned some years later.

"Lover's Leap" and the land around it was purchased by Randall Fuller in 1878 during the sale of the Indian lands when the Pawnee were sent to Oklahoma. Fuller cared for oak undergrowth and eventually a 40-acre forest of fine oak timber was the result. In 1897, Mr. Fuller gave the use of these grounds for the purpose of holding Chautauquas. For years thereafter, it was known as Fuller's Park and was open to the public nearly all year-round.

A Chautauqua is a festival-like gathering of people to socialize and to be entertained by traveling musicians, actors, lecturers, evangelists, politicians and circuses. The event lasted from 10 days to

two weeks and featured afternoon and evening shows of great variety.

The camp grounds were alive with people each paying about \$2.50 for "season tickets" or 50¢ for a single admission. Many people built summer cabins in the cool shady area, but most people just rented a tent for the two weeks (\$4.50). The price was \$8.50 if one wanted a board floor. Meals were served from a big circus tent and there was all morning to relax, or take a leisurely boat ride down the placidly lazy Cedar River. (One could rent a rowboat for 50¢ or get a ride on a bit larger boat for 25¢.) Forty to 50 tents were usually erected at first, with dozens added as necessary. Campers, along with the local daily admissions, created crowds in the hundreds to watch the performances or hear the debates echo off the curved walls of "Lover's Leap". One could even take a dip in the "swimming pool" provided for the campers or even play

tennis on the temporary courts.

Chautauquas were held all over the U.S., and the Chautauqua circuit lined up a certain number of very famous people along with entertainment acts to increase crowds and further the educational as well as the entertainment goals of the organization.

Fullerton hosted such celebrities as Billy Sunday (the Billy Graham of his day); William Jennings Bryan, three-time presidential candidate and Secretary of State under President Woodrow Wilson; the Hon. Josephus Daniels, Secretary of the Navy during WW I; and Lillian Gish, the silent movie queen who starred in the first full-length silent movie "Birth of a Nation". Ringling Brothers circus did two performances here, as did off-Broadway plays and touring vaudeville acts.

By 1917, the Fullerton Chautauqua Association had purchased another 90 acres of land to expand its facilities. They had acquired ownership of the original site from the Randall Fuller estate and had put themselves into excellent financial shape. Excursion trains had nearly been replaced by auto transportation and more participants meant greater needs.

WW I brought a patriotic theme to the program for 1918. Soldiers and veterans in uniform were admitted free. A spur-of-the-moment demonstration of patriotism was displayed by placing

dummy figures of Kaiser Wilhelm and General Von Hindenberg in a seven-passenger touring car and setting it to run off "The Leap" at a high speed. The event seemed to please on-lookers greatly.

People from several states came to spend their vacations at this, the largest Chautauqua in Nebraska, and "the best one between Omaha and Denver". Excursion trains arrived three times daily during the Chautauquas of the 1912-1920 era. They came from nearly every direction. Round trip fare from Columbus, for example, cost \$1.40 and took 1 1/2 hours one way. The town furnished cars to take participants to the camp. The three hotels filled quickly as all the tents were rented. Rooms were \$2 per day.

Restaurants were packed, and town kids sold lemonade and "other refreshments" to the thirsty and impatient people who walked from downtown to the camp for the afternoon show. Literally thousands of people attended during each Chautauqua season. The atmosphere was one of excitement and anticipation. Friendly people greeted friendly people and enjoyed the beauty, each other, and life in general.

The three-decade span of the Fullerton Chautauqua Association (1898-1929) gave much to Fullerton. Besides bringing tourism and an element of fame, it reflected the admirable character of the people of the community. The non-profit organization provided much more than entertainment to the people. Any surplus money left over each year was donated for the building of roads and public works to bring improvements.

The automobile, which was such a help in swelling attendance of the yearly festivals at first, became the eventual instrument of its decline. The better and more reliable cars of the late 1920's permitted longer trips and the prospect of a vacation trip to the mountains, "back east", or even the coast was within nearly everyone's grasp. The luster of the once-great Chautauqua shows slowly dimmed. They became shorter and less well-attended. They began to incur financial losses and finally faded away into history; tucked neatly away in the treasured memories of those who knew and loved them.

- Written by Rodger Bassett.

HOMELESS COURT HOUSE BEAR FINDS HOME NEAR NORFOLK

(Reprinted from the October 8, 1953, issue of the Nance County Journal)

Bruin, the court house bear, after startling strangers for many years from his position on a stair landing at the Nance county court house in Fullerton, is about to become an open-air bear again. He will be a roadside attraction on a highway near Norfolk, where tourists can take photographs of each other in his company.

Bruin came to Nance County some time in the late 1890's after he was bagged by a party of local hunters in Wyoming. The party, Theo Kock, John and Joe Edgington and John Hardwood, had the skin stuffed and Bruin, posed in an erect and life-like attitude, was a fixture in the lobby of the former Farmers State Bank for many years. The closing of the bank left the bear without a home, and he was adopted by the county board at that time and set up on a stairway landing at the courthouse. Moths worked on the once luxurious coat and Bruin began looking a little more threadbare year by year.

He was removed some time back and stored in a local barn. He was transported to Merrill Park to add a natural touch to the scenery. He was gradually becoming the bear nobody wanted and abandoned at a roadside, was secured by Bud and Marvin Furby and spent a few weeks at Bud's place.

Recently Oswald Reiche of Norfolk heard about the homeless bear and came last week to examine it because he thought he would have a good home for it. Mr. Reiche and Bruin left together, both looking happy.

NEWSPAPERS IN FULLERTON - 1879-1979

The Nance County Journal was the first newspaper started in this section of the country. The first number was issued in October of 1879, by A. E. Verity, and was six column folio.

In the fall of 1880, J. K. Calkins bought a half-interest in the newspaper, and in January of 1881, J. F. Bixby bought the remaining interest. The firm name then became Calkins and Bixby. In September of 1881, the name of the newspaper was changed to The Lariat, but after two months the old name was resumed. The newspaper also changed to a seven column format. It was Republican in politics. In 1882, A. L. (Doe) Bixby purchased Calkins' interest, and the firm became Bixby Brothers. Later the Bixby's sold to M. H. Barber, who ran the newspaper until about 1896, when it was sold to a stock company. The stock company had several men as editors for the newspaper, one being H. Burtman, who after several years bought the newspaper. It was later sold to W. L. Dunten. During Dunten's ownership of the newspaper the name was changed to the Fullerton News-Journal.

The Nance County Republican was first issued in Fullerton on October 22, 1881, by J. N. Reynolds. After an existence of about three months, it was sold to John C. Thompson and apparently

suspended publication a short time later.

Another competing newspaper in the community, The Telescope, was edited by J. S. Shurk from March 14, 1884, to February 25, 1887, then discontinued.

The first Democratic newspaper in Nance county, the Fullerton Post, was begun by J. W. Tanner. The first issue appeared on June 8, 1888. Mr. Tanner sold his interest in the Post in 1902, and the newspaper was operated under the management of Dopf and Taylor. Later it was sold to Wolfgang Schmidt.

In 1924, W. H. Plourd purchased the News-Journal from W. L. Dunten. In September of 1928, Mr. Plourd purchased the Fullerton Post from Wolfgang Schmidt, and consolidated the two publications to again form the Nance County Journal. It has since operated under that name.

In September of 1945, the Belgrade Herald suspended publication and the subscription list was acquired by the Nance County Journal. The newspaper yet today carries a Belgrade News section.

The present plant of the Nance County Journal, located on 4th Street, was built in July of 1946. Oldtimers in the community have stated that the first newspaper office in Fullerton, shown in the photo on the

preceding page, was situated very near this same location.

On April 1, 1961, Mr. Plourd sold the Nance County Journal to Mr. and Mrs. Clarence S. Hebda, who are still co-publishers of the newspaper. Mr. Hebda had been employed by the newspaper for 15 years prior to purchasing it.

The 100th anniversary of the newspaper was observed during 1979 by the co-publishers through a number of activities. A special logo was designed and used in issues published throughout the year as well as on all of the firm's printed stationery. A coloring contest was held for elementary school children at Easter, and prizes were awarded. An essay contest with the topic, "What The Journal Means To Me or My Family", was sponsored with \$100 in cash prizes being awarded to three winners. A float, displaying an early day printing press and depicting printing procedures at the turn of the century, was a first place divisional winner in Fullerton's Centennial parade. A special souvenir publication of "Pages From The Past" was distributed from the float. Copies of the publication also were mailed to all subscribers. Throughout the anniversary year, a page from early day files of the newspaper was featured each month.

Since early files of the newspaper printed in Fullerton are not complete, it was not possible for the Centennial Book committee to do research for historical highlights. However, since 1924 when the Journal came under the ownership of fewer individuals, files are more complete and the following is a resume of events which made history to the present day.

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EVENTS THROUGH THE YEARS

1924 - December of 1924 was the coldest December the state had known for the past 48 years. The mean temperature was 15.7 degrees.

1925 - The Krasne Store advertised men's Easter suits for \$37.50; dress shirts, from 98¢ to \$1.95; men's dress hats for \$.95; and socks for 15¢ per pair. The Nance County Board of Supervisors voted to spend federal aid funds for graveling the east-west highway in the county. In a few years, it was observed, that Nance County would definitely be "out of the mud". J. R. Bitner was a delegate from the Fullerton American Legion Post to the Legion national convention in Omaha at which President Calvin Coolidge was speaker. President and Mrs. Coolidge arrived in Omaha by special train from Washington, D. C. There were 70,000 from outside Omaha in attendance.

1926 - Miss Jessie Kreidler filed as a candidate for county superintendent of schools after having taught for a number of years in town and rural schools. Each of the 69 School Districts planned to donate \$20 to erect an educational building on the Nance County fairgrounds.

1927 - Residents of Fullerton were able to talk by telephone to all points in England, Scotland and Wales. The charge was \$81 for the first three minutes, and \$27 for each additional minute. A 24-hour advance notice for placing calls with the telephone company was advisable. A tractor, which could plow alone without human guidance, was demonstrated at the Nebraska State Fair. The spectacle in itself was awesome enough, but when the onlookers realized that here was an invention that would soon revolutionize farming, the immensity of the affair became apparent. Grocery stores and barber shops in Fullerton, which were open every evening of the week, made an agreement that the grocery stores would remain open only on Wednesday and Saturday evenings and barber shops would be open Wednesday, Friday and Saturday evening. A course in vocational agriculture was being offered in Fullerton high school, under the direction of R. E. Weir. The Fullerton Drum and Bugle Corps won a prize as best in the state at the Nebraska American Legion convention in Lincoln. Fullerton defeated groups from

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Omaha, Lincoln, Beatrice, Columbus and Schuyler to take the prize. B. L. Anderson was drum major for the Fullerton group. Scoring was on appearance, music, rhythm, cadence, and percentage of enrollment.

Fullerton Drum and Bugle Corps

Top row, L-R: B.L. Anderson, Bill Russell, Clyde Dean, Keith Trotter, Jake Bitner, O.S. Finch, Louis Mattea, H.A. Elmore, Hewett Anderson, Cowgill Adkison. Bottom row, L-R: Jack Mills, Harry Blackman, Leonard Fitch, Fred Kremer, Dr. Barstow, Leonard Hashburger, Mike Kearney, Gus Saville, Theo. Wozniak, Eddie Downing.

1928 - The Farmers State Bank was forced to close, and was being operated by the Guaranty Fund Commission. While the failure of the bank was an inconvenience to depositors, it didn't seem to create a great amount of excitement. Those in charge were optimistic in their hopes of giving depositors the quickest possible (sic) settlement. The cornerstone for Fullerton's new \$150,000 high school was laid in ceremonies held on July 8, 1928.

1929 - Fullerton lost two businesses in the same week. The Penney Company, established 45 years ago, closed its doors after conducting a going-out-of-business sale for several weeks. The store was one of Fullerton's oldest. The Golden Rule Company took over operation of the store. A night fire destroyed the Krasne Store building and contents. Several adjoining buildings were damaged by the blaze. Fire departments from Genoa, Belgrade and Central City assisted Fullerton firemen and townspeople in battling the blaze which at one time threatened a half-block area. Over 1,000 attended dedication ceremonies on April 1, 1929, of Fullerton's newly completed high school. Miss Chloe Baldrige, from the state superintendent's office, and guests from Hastings College, the University of Nebraska Teachers College and the Lincoln Journal were speakers. Supt. J. R. Bitner; W. H. Plourd, member of the board of education; and Jessie G. Kreidler, county superintendent of schools, also were speakers. The building was considered one of the most efficiently planned in the state. The Belgrade Bank closed its doors. A rumor was started that the bank was in serious financial trouble, as was the case with many Nebraska banks, causing an immediate run on the

bank by depositors.

1930 - The population count for the 1930 census was taken in Fullerton by Mrs. Harold P. Krause. The City showed a gain of 92 to 1,687, from the 1920 total of 1,595. Genoa and Fullerton businessmen met at Fullerton with representatives from the Niobrara Commercial Club which was sponsoring the building of a bridge across the Missouri River at Niobrara on the K-N-D highway, creating a direct north-south highway which passed through Fullerton. J. T. Russell was named a director from the Fullerton community on the Nebraska-Dakota Bridge Corporation. The proposed bridge would be a toll bridge and was expected to be paid for by toll charges in 12 years. The Fullerton Lions Club voted support for the project.

1931 - An open house to observe the 50th anniversary of the First National Bank was attended by 3,000. Two orchestras provided entertainment, refreshments were served and favors given. The bank began in 1881 as the Nance County Bank, changing to the First National Bank in 1883. More than 200 delegates and other interested persons attended a state convention of the Nebraska Christian Endeavor Union held in the Presbyterian Church here. Among program speakers were Samuel R. McKelvie, former governor of Nebraska; Judge G. F. Robinson, Nance County court judge; and Judge Bayard H. Paine, associate justice of the Nebraska Supreme Court. Among resolutions adopted was a declaration that the Union be in hearty accord with the movements for law observance, disarmament and world peace. The Fullerton American Legion Post announced sponsorship of a local drive for relief of more than 1,000 destitute families in the seven drouth and grasshopper stricken counties.

1932 - Employment was given to 164 unemployed persons in the county opening highways and county roads and clearing City streets of heavy snow. The Fullerton board of education reduced teacher and janitor salaries and reduced the number of each to affect a savings of \$7,500. Supt. J. R. Bitner voluntarily took a

\$500 reduction in salary. Further reductions in expenditures were achieved

through a reduction in the purchase of books and supplies. The reductions were necessitated due to a drop in tax collections because of hard times. More than 4,000 attended "Fullerton Day" at the second annual Nance County Homecoming picnic, sponsored by the Chautauque Park Board. J. H. Kemp, chairman for the local Red Cross Chapter, directed the distribution of 150 barrels of flour and over 2,000 yards of various fabrics to be sewn into clothing for the needy in the county. The Fullerton Welfare Society was organized by representatives of 21 local lodges, clubs and societies to distribute donations of clothing and money to needy in Fullerton.

1933 - Governor Bryant announced a State Conciliation Board to work with local Conciliation Boards in each county to arbitrate farm mortgage indebtedness problems. The Columbus-Genoa Loup Canal project was one of only five proposed power and irrigation projects that received state approval. The two-year project was expected to employ 1,000 persons presently unemployed. A \$600,000 loan for the project was approved by the Federal Public Works Administration.

1934 - The Fullerton Lions Club honored veteran physician Dr. F. W. (Wad) Johnson as Fullerton's "First Citizen". A graduate of the Omaha Medical College, Dr. Johnson began practice in Fullerton with his brother in 1894. A CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) Camp was opened at the Chautauqua Park grounds here for 200 men who were employed on the Plum Creek soil erosion project in Nance County.

1935 - Weather extremes were noted. January had temperatures of 15 degrees below zero, and March brought a slight earthquake, abnormal 82-degree temperatures, followed by a severe dust storm, a swift temperature drop and snow. April and May had severe dust storms. Unusual weather occurred in June when temperatures dropped to 45 degrees, followed by heavy rains which caused some flooding. WPA funds were used to build an amphi-theatre on the new fairgrounds, located north of the Fullerton City Park. Farmers favored the continuance of the Corn-Hog Plan. Corn loans were at 45¢ a bushel. A fire, which started in the Lothrop

Bakery building, did much damage to the Bake Estate, the Diers Estate and the Fullerton National Bank buildings. A fire destroyed the Fullerton Elevator and Mill, south of town, as well as the nearby Standard Oil Company warehouse and three storage tanks.

1936 - The year began with raging blizzards and severe cold which continued into February. Traffic was nearly at a standstill. Even the trains failed to make their runs. Flooding in March washed out the roadbed near the depot. Drouth developed in late summer with heat waves of 116 degrees registered. Dust storms, along with the heat, caused illnesses. Grasshoppers, which menaced crops, were fought with a carload of poison supplied by the government. Drouth aid was sought. As late as November, dust storms scourged the community. WPA projects were approved for Fullerton, and 400 men were employed until the program was discontinued in December. The Old Age Assistance program was inaugurated. The more popular federal soil conservation program replaced the invalidated AAA. Farmers organized to secure electricity in rural areas. The Fullerton School observed its golden anniversary with programs, a picnic and a banquet. Fifty-four seniors received diplomas in commencement exercises at which Walter Pillsbury, a professor at the University of Michigan and a former student, was speaker. World War veterans received payment of baby bonds, and at least \$27,000 was paid to local residents. Death came on May 11 to Dr. F. W. (Wad) Johnson, who had been named "Fullerton's First Citizen" by the Fullerton Lions Club. The County Fair highlight was an appearance by Governor Roy Cochran.

1937 - Blizzards and snow-blocked roads crippled traffic in the county, and on January 26 Fullerton was

designated "the cold spot of the state". Dust storms in March halted traffic on highways. Although spring had near normal rainfall, record-breaking heat waves came in July and August and grasshoppers again were a menace and drouth aid was requested. Nance County experienced a mild epidemic of sleeping sickness among horses. The disease also affected a few residents, but all recovered. The January 30 birthday of President Franklin D. Roosevelt was commemorated with a Ball, with profits going to the March of Dimes. Since the observance fell on a Saturday, local stores, which normally remained open for business much later, closed at 10 p.m. so that store employees and owners could attend the Ball. By May, a federal regulation required all employees to have Social Security numbers, and in September all drivers were required to pass an examination to secure a driver license. A Community Club was organized in Fullerton to promote better trade relations. A Pancake Day was the first project sponsored by the club. A new business was opened in Fullerton in July when a refrigerator-locker system was opened. Farmers in the county took

much interest in a pasture improvement contest and a corn husking contest. The Nebraska State Highway Patrol made its first appearance in November. Residents could find entertainment at a local theatre where they not only viewed feature films, but also a cartoon and news reels.

1938 - It was another year of drouth in Nance county, with the grasshopper population so great an organized fight was waged. There were 367 farm grants issued in Nance county even though the property assessed was valued at \$13,442,510. A contract for rural electricity was sought, and a natural gas line came to Fullerton. Irrigation prospects were initiated in the Cedar Valley. Citizens rejoiced because the Fullerton to Palmer Highway was graveled. The community was improved by the purchase of 3,000 trees by the City Council with the labor for planting to be provided by the WPA. In an effort to attract retail business, Fullerton merchants provided Wednesday evening entertainment and held a public celebration of the first airmail letter to arrive or be sent from here. Another first for the county was an open pheasant season. Fullerton's oldest Civil War veteran, Jefferson Meyers, 91, attended an old soldiers' reunion at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The Fullerton Business Women's Club held their annual Christmas party for children in the community, and 43 businesses extended Christmas greetings in the Journal.

1939 - Nearly spring-like weather was enjoyed by residents in January, but February brought extreme variables of temperatures and a traffic-stopping snow at the end of the month. March, also, was a month of extremes, and April had dust storms - a forerunner of the drouth which followed in late summer. Farmers again were eligible for drouth relief. Plans were made early to combat grasshopper damage, and farmers asked for and were granted a closed season on pheasants since it was determined that the pheasants, were instrumental in destroying the grasshoppers. Highway 14 south of Fullerton was straightened and surfaced with an oil mat. WPA projects included the graveling of a road from south of Fullerton to Genoa and the manufacture of concrete culverts. The sudden death of G. F. Robinson in April brought an end to his 30 years of service as county judge in Nance county. The annual county free-gate Fair was held in August, with the featured attraction being the White Horse troop from a ranch near Stuart. Nance county had 67 rural teachers. A Food Stamp plan for distribution of foodstuffs to relief clients was endorsed by Fullerton organizations. Another weather oddity occurred in December when on the 12th a "Black blizzard" plagued residents. A Christmas carnival was held with proceeds to go to charity and the usual program and Christmas treat distribution was held. Home lighting contests were popular at Christmas time.

1940 - January again brought snow and blocked roads, with 17

consecutive mornings when temperatures were below zero. Efforts were initiated in February to feed the pheasants and other birds due to the heavy snow and cold. Late summer brought crop-wilting drouth, with July having temperatures over 100 degrees on seven consecutive days. August was cool, but September

and October had heat, wind and dust. A blizzard on November 11 cancelled (sic) Armistice Day activities, marooned travelers and broke power lines. Rural residents were elated when in February electric service was turned on in 275 rural homes in Nance and Boone counties. A county land use committee was formed to unite all the 14 groups working with agriculture in an effort to improve local farm conditions. Fullerton residents were treated to a rare astronomical event which occurs not more than once in a century when five planets - Jupiter, Venus, Mercury, Saturn and Mars, hung like lanterns in the sky. The Loup river bridge was closed to vehicles in March when piling was damaged by floating ice and the bridge was declared unsafe for traffic until repairs could be made. Citizens provided transportation into town for those parked at the south approach to the bridge and walked across. Nance county was one of the first counties to participate in the distribution of surplus commodities by use of federal food stamps. Plans were initiated to secure a soil conservation district. The Business Women's Club took over the care of the City Park, and the Community Club sponsored free bingo games with merchandise prizes. A ruling made it compulsory for all grocery stores to remain closed on Sundays. The KND (Highway 14) south of Fullerton was newly surfaced with an asphalt mat coating. The free gate County Fair attracted a record attendance for a mystery wedding at which Miss Opal Stern and Leslie Boardman were married. The machinery for the nation's first peacetime draft was started on October 16. All men, between the ages of 21 and 35, were required to register. Registration numbers were assigned, and the first drawing was held on October 29. Alien registration was required, and 57 aliens were registered and finger-printed here. The county's population was set at 7,651, and since it was under 8,000 the office of Clerk of District Court was abolished.

1941 - The year began with the best subsoil moisture in a long time. February brought flooding which damaged the stockyards, railroad property, sale barn and football field in the north part of Fullerton. Flooding also occurred in June, September and October. A gravel pump in the Cedar river was swept away in October. Because of heavy poultry and young livestock losses, county-wide coyote hunts were organized. As many as 400 men participated. There were 70 rural schools in Nance county, and they were the locale for P.T.A.'s and Literary Societies which provided entertainment for many. Various projects were offered to the people of

Fullerton and surrounding areas some of these included a trade school for young men, with no expense to participants; a defense training class for men, from 17 to 25; a mattress project for low-income families which permitted them to make their own mattresses for \$1; a supervised playground and recreational activities; a City horse shoe tournament; and a Community Day. A soil conservation district for land north of the Loup river was formed. Oil testing was tried in the western part of the county. An irrigation plan was assured and the new farm program was set to increase food for defense. Nance county had a draft quota every month during the year, and many activities were geared to the defense effort, including a drive for scrap aluminum. Many housewives sacrificed pots and pans. Old license plates had to be turned in before new ones would be issued. The Red Cross collected scrap paper, and rubber rationing was begun. Manufacturers of women's silk hose were closed down, so there was a big rush to buy extra hose, but limits of one or two pair per customer were imposed. The sale of defense bonds was organized. WPA projects were losing men to private jobs, but two projects, graveling and grading roads from Genoa to Belgrade and a project six miles north of Genoa were still in operation. There were 64 businesses which offered Christmas greeting advertisements in the Journal.

1942 - The new year was ushered in with severe cold and blizzards. the temperature was below zero the first eight days in the year. High winds and dust storms occurred in April, but rains came in May. Although a heat wave came in July, the corn crop in the county yielded the best since 1931. Because of the continuing wartime draft, farm labor was in short supply and a school holiday was declared in October so that students could assist with the corn harvest. Early in the year a county Defense Council was organized. On February 8, wartime conditions began when residents first experienced Daylight Savings Time. A new registration for men, between the ages of 20 and 44, was held in February. In April, those between 45 and 65 were required to register for the draft. Many people gave up card parties and club activities to sew and knit for the Red Cross war effort. A victory garden program was launched, and there were campaigns to sell war savings

bonds. Sugar and coffee were rationed. There were drives to collect scrap metals. One such drive netted 504,657 pounds. By November, gasoline rationing was ordered, and on December 14 Fullerton experienced its first electrical "black out". The Chautauqua Park was sold to the Nebraska Baptist State Convention.

1943 - It was considered a drouth year. February was the driest on record. The spring was unusually cold, and the fall and winter were dry. A farm Mobilization Day was requested by

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President Franklin D. Roosevelt on January 12. Rationing of 200 grocery items as well as gasoline, tires, fuel oil, incubators, brooder and coal-fired heating stoves was in effect. Names of those receiving tires were published, and a motorist could lose their gasoline ration book if apprehended for speeding. No gasoline was available for vacation trips. Campaigns to sell war bonds continued, and scrap metal, including tin cans, was collected for the defense effort. Men of draft age were requested to carry registration cards showing their draft status, and by fall the drafting of fathers was begun. The local creamery produced 213,000 lbs. of butter, most of which was shipped overseas. The war brought other changes. Citizens were urged to buy a supply of coal for winter use in June. Boys State sessions were cancelled (sic). There were no restrictions on the planting of wheat. There was a campaign to enlist women in the Army, and the railroads were under federal control. Polio was on the increase, and suicides were more numerous than normal.

1944 - Wartime regulations continued to govern many activities of residents. War loan campaigns were common, and rationing of food, gasoline, tires and fuel oil continued. An individual selling a used automobile was required to turn in their gasoline ration stamps. Scrap metal, tin cans and scrap paper drives were common. In one drive, the Fullerton School collected 19 tons of scrap paper. A Red Cross work room was opened, and many of the activities were on a volunteer basis. In one shipment, 1000 pair of bed socks, 525 hospital bedside bags and 144 kit bags were sent to servicemen. Women made history in Nance county, when for the first time, seven served on a District Court damage case. Victory gardens were common. Grasshopper poison was available free to farmers, and the county treated all roadsides for the pests. Because of the War, a teacher shortage was being experienced in Nance county. School children collected milk weed silk for use in the manufacture of life jackets. A hardship or emergency were the only criteria allowing anyone to build a new home. Some military personnel were released to assist with the corn harvest. Outdoor Christmas lighting and street decorating was prohibited due to the war emergency.

1945 - There was a continuation of rationing and the drafting of men into military service. A happier event, however, was the beginning of a return of men with discharges from military duty. VE Day was observed with joy. President Franklin D. Roosevelt died, and a memorial service was held in Fullerton to honor the nation's leader. The Fullerton high school basketball team played in the state tournament in Lincoln. Very few fans went due to the gasoline shortage.

1946 - With the continuing return of military personnel, the Fullerton Veterans of Foreign Wars Post and Auxiliary were

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organized. A committee was organized to study the need for and the possibility of building a hospital. However, because of the scarcity of building materials following the war, it was decided to remodel the Hawthorne Nursing Home.

1947 - Gene Beaman and Robert Palmer purchased a residence on North Irving Street, and remodeled it for use as a funeral home. Polio was on the rampage. Due to many people becoming afflicted with the dreaded disease, donations were solicited to purchase an iron lung. There were numerous deaths from the disease.

1948 - The Fullerton Chamber of Commerce was reorganized with nearly 100 percent membership among business and professional people in the community. Fred Petersen was elected president. Harold

Williams was vice-president; Dayle L. Rumsey, secretary; and Fred Ward, Treasurer. A \$50,000 bond issue was passed, with the money to be used for remodeling a residence on Germand Street for use as a hospital. Polio continued to ravage the country in epidemic proportions.

1949 - Winter blizzards were termed as the worst on record. Deaths in Nebraska from the cold and snow were listed at 579, and livestock and property losses were estimated at \$236,000,000. Residents in Fullerton and western Nance county were on edge when reports were made of sighting of what appeared to be an African lion or a black panther. There were numerous reports of sighting the animal and of its killing livestock, but no one was able to apprehend the beast. Dr. James C. Maly arrived to set up a medical practice in Fullerton.

1950 - The congregation of Mount Calvary Lutheran Church broke ground in June to build a new church at the corner of 4th and Irving Streets. In July, 10 inches of rain fell in four days, and considerable flooding resulted.

1951 - The Korean War was on, and by the end of that year a total of 492 Nebraskans were listed as war casualties. Of the 87 Nebraskans killed in action, one was from Nance county. Raymond Schweitz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Schweitz of Belgrade, was killed in action in Korea. Dr. B. W. Kramer, a graduate from Iowa University College of Veterinary Medicine, began a practice in Fullerton. Dr. John Hartsaw of Sigourney, Iowa, began a medical practice here. Gene Beaman and Robert Palmer built a new furniture store on Broadway. It was considered one of the largest and finest among small communities in central Nebraska.

1952 - Polio continued to be in the news as the disease again broke out in epidemic proportions. The Korean War also kept residents in a somber mood as 175 Nebraskans were reported killed, 594 wounded and 91 were listed as missing in action. A group of local men purchased an 11-acre tract of land, north of Fullerton, to

provide a landing strip for visiting aircraft and to hanger their private aircraft. The new facility was named C.A.M.P. Airport. Dr. A. Montero, a native of Central America, left Fullerton after practicing medicine here for two years.

1953 - Dr. John Hartsaw closed his medical practice which he had operated here for two years. The Korean War was again brought close to Fullerton residents when Cpl. Robert Kula, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Kula, was killed in action on April 4, 1953. It was a drouth year, and water diversion became an important topic. So important, in fact, that a bus load of interested individuals from Fullerton went to Lincoln to attend hearings on the topic.

1954 - Pfc. Clinton Medberry, son of Mrs. Elmer Miller of Fullerton, died in Korea when a military fire truck overturned. The Twin Loup Reclamation District was organized, and plans for an irrigation project west of Fullerton were made. New floodlights were installed for a new high school athletic field in the southwest part of Fullerton. Polio was again at epidemic proportions. A 4-H building was erected on the Nance County Fairgrounds.

1955 - Drouth conditions marked the weather pattern during much of the year, and residents in parts of the county took part in cloud-seeding activities in the hopes of ending the drouth. In late summer, Fullerton residents had to be restricted on their use of water due to the city's wells being unable to pump a sufficient amount of water. Irrigation drew much attention, and irrigators and the Public Power District were in conflict over water rights from the Loup river. The State Department of Roads began construction of a new route for Highway 14 through Fullerton on Johnson Street. The route formerly had been through the downtown business district. Fullerton paving indebtedness was paid off. Voters approved bonds for the construction of a new swimming pool to be located south of the City Park. Fullerton children received immunization for polio with the new Salk vaccine. Girls were banned from wearing jeans to classes at Fullerton high school. One of the largest crowds to assemble for a business meeting was on hand when over 700 patrons from 10 counties attended an annual meeting of the Farmers Co-op Creamery here. The Creamery had won first prize in a butter-making contest.

1956 - Drouth conditions continued to plague the county so much so that interest in cloud-seeding

programs continued. Nance county was declared a drouth area and farmers received disaster payments. The Cedar river irrigation plan was again revived. In August, the dust was so bad that on one occasion the swimming pool had to be closed. Grasshoppers, again, were a threat to crops. A National Farmers Organization was formed in Nance county. Significant improvements were made in Fullerton when the North

Broadway boulevard was resurfaced and a contract was let for construction of a new additional water storage tank in the west part of town. As a part of the new Highway 14 route through Fullerton, new bridges were constructed over the Cedar river north of town and the Loup river south of town. Governor Victor Anderson attended a ribbon-cutting for the latter upon opening the bridge for traffic. The Nance County Sportsmen's Club was organized, and the county was stocked with pheasants. Much controversy developed when four rural school districts in Nance county requested a merger with the Palmer District. The mortgage for a 4-H building on the fairgrounds was burned. The Farmers Co-op Creamery again garnered first prize for manufacturing the best butter in the state.

1957 - The dry weather of the previous year caused many county farmers to sign up for the Soil Bank being offered by the federal government. By May, however, the rains came and by the end of the year there was above normal moisture so ideas for cloud-seeding were ended. Grasshoppers, again, were a crop menace. The Farmers Co-op Creamery was Fullerton's largest industry, employing 47 people. It had been in operation for 23 years. In spite of objections, a District Court decision upheld petitions filed by residents in four Nance county rural school districts to merge with the Palmer town district. The Union Pacific Railroad Company asked permission for three days per week rail service to towns on the Columbus to Spalding branch line through Fullerton. An organization was formed to oppose such curtailment. A radio-phone relay tower was being built west of Fullerton. A short wave police radio was installed in the sheriff's office. The Fullerton City Council rejected the sale of beer on Sundays. Children, again, were given free Salk vaccine shots for polio. An all-Nebraska unit of Navy recruits was being formed, and Fullerton twins, Delbert and Donald Steinwart, were among the first enlistees.

1958 - Fullerton's Farmer's Co-op Creamery was recognized as a leader in the state in converting whole milk to butter and dried buttermilk powder. During the year, over \$2 million was paid to area dairymen for whole milk which was delivered to the Fullerton plant by a fleet of route trucks. In spite of efforts to keep daily service, rail service was reduced to three times a week. Highway 14, north of Fullerton, and Highway 22, east to Genoa, were being relocated, straightened and blacktopped. Fullerton's high school basketball team earned a trip to the state tournament and was defeated by Minden in a semifinal game in Class "B" competition. Fullerton's Legion and V.F.W. Posts and their Auxiliaries erected a Memorial Center at the Fullerton Cemetery. Jessie G. Kreidler was re-elected county superintendent of schools, although her name was not on the ballot and she had asked to be replaced. The Fullerton Lions Club

began a project of numbering houses and erecting wooden street markers here. A new neon sign on Highway 14 directed traffic to the downtown business district.

1959 - Early in the year, residents heard their first concert from the carillon bells which had been installed at First Presbyterian Church. The Fullerton School District gained enrollment through the merger of several rural districts. For the first time, rural pupils from those merged districts would be bused to the Fullerton School. Instead of a traditional "sneak day" members of the Fullerton high school senior class took an educational tour to Chicago. The swimming pool was a popular recreation area as shown by the over 15,000 admissions that season. Bingo games were legal locally. Governor Ralph Brooks visited Fullerton in March and that fall attended a Horse Show held in the Timber Creek area. St. Peter's Parochial School opened with an enrollment of over 100 pupils. Formal dedication ceremonies for the new school also were conducted in

1959. A new paved section of Highway 22, between Fullerton and Genoa, was opened. Northwestern Bell Telephone Company moved into a newly constructed building at the corner of 3rd and Fuller Streets.

1960 - It was one of the snowiest and coldest winters experienced in this section of the state in many years. The Fullerton Warriors earned a ticket to the Class "C" state basketball tournament, but lost in the semi-finals to Seward-Concordia, the team which went on to win the state Class "C" championship. Fullerton's town baseball team tied for first place in the Central Nebraska Baseball League. Work was begun on the construction of a new elevator by R. R. Christensen at a location north of Fullerton. The new business was operated as Fullerton Elevator Co. by Mr. Christensen. The Fullerton Lions Club installed intersection signs on Broadway as a community service project. There were 26 marriage licenses issued to couples during the year, and only four divorce cases were filed. E.E. Agnew, county resident since 1889, died at the age of 90. J. T. Russell, prominent banker, livestock raiser and farmer, died.

1961 - Fullerton's population, according to the 1960 census, was 1480. Robert C. Brower was appointed as a judge for the Nebraska Supreme Court. Keith Trotter, lifetime resident and county judge for 22 years, died. Sheriff Dave Johnson was shot and killed and his deputy, Aaron Hadfield, was wounded when the two officers went to the farm home of Theodore Heule, southeast of town, and attempted to pick up Mr. Heule on a mental health complaint. The two unarmed officers apparently entered the house where Heule clubbed them and fired a shotgun injuring Hadfield. The two officers took refuge in a barn. Sheriff Johnson was shot in the back as he attempted to run from the barn to his automobile to get his gun.

Hadfield escaped from a rear barn door to notify authorities. Heule drove away from the farm in his automobile and was killed later the same day in a gun battle with law officers near Ellsworth, Kansas. The Fullerton Warriors advanced to the finals in the state Class "C" basketball tournament, but lost in the championship game to Weeping Water. For the fourth consecutive year, the Farmers Co-op Creamery won first place in the state buttermaking contest and also in the process of manufacturing a special butter which was sold on the New York market to the Jewish people during the Passover season. Fullerton telephones were changed over to dial system by Northwestern Bell Telephone Company. Fred Petersen, prominent businessman, died suddenly. George R. Bowman, pioneer Fullerton businessman, died. Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Nathan opened a new coin operated self-service laundry. Plans were announced for the construction of a new post office and federal building. A test oil well was drilled on the Robert Pullen farm, located five miles south of Fullerton. A depth of 3,186 feet was reached, but no oil was found. Several owners donated dogs for training at the Lions Club Seeing Eye School. St. Peter's school received a first place state architect award plaque, one of only six given in statewide competitions.

1962 - James H. Kemp, attorney since 1898 and a widely known member of the Nebraska Bar, died at the age of 90. Mrs. George L. Sheaff, lifetime resident of Fullerton, died at the age of 80. Bryan J. Snyder, retired as postmaster after nearly 28 years of service. Lloyd W. DuRell was named acting postmaster. Charles P. Nixon, well-known barber, died. Dr. Lottie M. Anderson, longtime resident, died. A transaction was completed for the sale of an acreage, south of the Loup river, by Chester Cunningham to the Nance County Sportsmen's Club. Charles E. Peterson, longtime insurance agent, died. The First National Bank was extensively remodeled. The Fullerton Eagles Aerie observed its 50th anniversary. John Knippfals, pioneer resident, died at his farm home at the age of 87. Donald R. Treadway became associated with John M. Brower in the practice of law in Fullerton. Mrs. George R. Bowman and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bowman announced the sale of Bowman's Supermarket to Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Shotkoski. An open house was held by the Fullerton National Bank following extensive remodeling. Mrs. William C. Mangels, pioneer resident, died at the age of 83. Mrs. George Palmer, resident of Nance County for 73 years, died at the age of 84. Sabin oral polio clinics were being held here.

1963 - St. Peter's Catholic Church observed its golden jubilee. Ground was broken for the construction of a new Masonic Temple at the corner of 3rd and Esther Streets. An Eagles Auxiliary was chartered for the local Eagles Lodge.

1964 - A historical marker for the Mormon Trail was installed

along Highway 14 south of town, and dedication ceremonies were conducted. Don Fitzgerald purchased the Mid-City Motor firm from Fred Boardman. Knoefler Honey Company began operation north of Fullerton. Fullerton's Pony baseball team won the Central League championship. The month of July had a prolonged dry spell, and temperatures registered over the 100-degree mark on numerous occasions. A. G. (Gus) Saville retired following 43 years of service as a rural mail carrier.

1965 - Douglas Smoyer, 14, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Smoyer, earned an Eagle Scout award. He was the first winner of the award in Fullerton since the early 1930's when James Corriell was recipient of the honor. A new federal building and post office were being built on South Broadway on a site occupied for many years by the Leininger Lumber yard. Fullerton's high school basketball team qualified for the fifth time since 1958 to play in the state tournament. The team lost to Wood River by a score of 65 to 53. Dr. Kenneth Dalton and Dr. Robert Bass of Genoa formed a corporation and announced plans to construct a 25-bed Nursing Home to be located in the northeast part of Fullerton. Dr. and Mrs. James C. Maly, while returning from a trip to South America in a private aircraft with friends from California and Chicago, were forced down in a jungle along the Amazon during heavy weather when the craft ran out of fuel. Dr. Maly suffered fractures to both legs, and other members in the party also were injured. The group made friends with the natives in the jungle and was taken by boat to a missionary from where they made contact with their family here about their plight. Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd DuRell were killed on April 22 in a highway smash-up while on vacation in Florida. Mr. DuRell was Fullerton postmaster. On November 29, M. J. Schumacher was fatally shot in his hardware store by Alvin Madura, former City policeman. Mr. Schumacher was serving as a member of the Nance County Board of Supervisors and had operated the hardware store for over 40 years.

Apparent cause of the shooting was a dissatisfaction by Madura that his county welfare payment was reduced as a result of regulation changes. Mrs. M. Castle died at the age of 99 on February 22.

1966 - The Fullerton high school track team won the state championship in their class. Sam Brower, Steve Nesbitt, Daniel Bosak, James Maly and Patrick Bosak earned Eagle Scout awards. Rainfall, measuring as much as 12 inches in the upper Cedar Valley, on August 12 caused the Cedar river to go on a rampage as never before seen by oldtimers. The flood waters were running several feet deep and nearly a mile wide north of town. Losses to crops, livestock and personal property were extreme. The Fullerton Livestock Pavilion was inundated by the flood waters, and the Union Pacific depot was swept away by the high tide. No lives were lost, but families had to be evacuated from lowland areas along the river and several residents were saved from possible drowning by heroic rescue teams. The National Guard was called in to assist in an air search for stranded and dead livestock along the river.

1967 - On March 24, the Community Feed and Seed Store elevator was destroyed by fire when it was struck by a bolt of lightning during a severe electrical storm. Damages were estimated at \$100,000. New lighting at the fairgrounds baseball diamond was installed as a combined project of the City of Fullerton and the Fullerton American Legion Post. The Nebraska Centennial was

observed by activities held here during the year. W. H. Plourd, publisher of the Nance County Journal for 36 years prior to retiring in 1961, died December 21 at the age of 74.

1968 - An early morning fire on January 29 destroyed Clara's Cafe, located on Broadway. The cafe re-opened some months later in a remodeled location across the street. A \$270,000 bond issue for a new

hospital carried by a 9 to 1 majority. The facility was built on South Broadway on a tract donated by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Morris. Fullerton earned honorable mention in a National Clean-up Contest. Dr. E. P. Spackman, lifetime resident and retired Fullerton veterinarian died on January 6. W. R. Kellogg, retired Nance county clerk, died on February 23. W. H. Russell, stock raiser and farmer and retired implement dealer, died on October 4.

1969 - In March, ice jams on the Loup river caused flooding and the closing of Highway 14 south of town for a day. Scoutmaster Leo Wolters was presented the Silver Beaver Award, the highest single honor which can be earned by Scout leaders. Mr. Wolters had served as Scoutmaster for 13 years, prior to which he served as assistant for many years. Miss Mildred Jennings retired following 41 years of teaching, 22 of which were in the Fullerton Elementary School. A reception was held in her honor. Army Sgt. Terry Berney was killed in action on October 1 while serving in Vietnam. Mrs. F. W. Johnson, widow of the late Dr. F. W. (Wad) Johnson, died on April 26. Wallace H. Travers, 92, pioneer resident, died on July 20. Two other pioneer residents, Kate M. Crabtree and Mrs. Grover Maybon, died on February 2 and January 29 respectively.

1970 - Patients were moved from the old hospital building to the newly completed Memorial Hospital on South Broadway. A 50-bed addition was being built at Fullerton Manor. Mrs. Arnold Newquist and Mrs. Lyle Newquist opened Newquist Style Shop here. E. M. Black, president of the First National Bank and a longtime community leader, died on April 19 at the age of 71. Irene Swanson, a teacher for 40 years, 26 of which were as a third grade teacher in the Fullerton Elementary School, was honored upon her retirement.

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Mrs. John Knippahls, 91, longtime county resident, died on March 22, and Mrs. Cora Belle Hatten died at age 99 on May 26.

1971 - Richard and Robert Santin, twins afflicted with muscular dystrophy (sic), were named recipients of a national handicapped workers award and went to Washington, D. C., to receive the award from President Richard M. Nixon. Residents donated money to a fund to send Miss Jessie G. Kreidler, retired county superintendent of schools who was instrumental in the early education of the Santin brothers, to Washington to attend the presentation ceremony. Edward L. Dubas, son of Mrs. and Mrs. Steve Dubas, was elected president of the Nebraska Future Farmers of America Chapter. The Nance County Historical Society was organized in August.

In the Rose Garden of the White House, President Nixon congratulates Richard and [Robert Santin](#) (seated L to R), of Fullerton, Nebraska, after they received the President's Trophy as Handicapped Americans of the Year. With them is Harold Russell, chairman of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped. Although severely disabled by muscular dystrophy, the Santin twins run a successful two-way communications installation and service business. They received the award on Thursday, April 15, 1971.

1972 - J. Alf Brown, 91, longtime resident in the Palmer area, died on January 28 at St. Paul. He was believed to be the oldest native born resident of Nance county. Mrs. Frank (Albina) Santin, pioneer resident, died at the age of 93 on January 4. William F. Downing, longtime resident and former member of the Nance County Board of Supervisors, died July 19 at the age of 93. Frank G. Arnold, 88, died on December 13. He was a Fullerton resident since 1902 and a longtime businessman in the real estate and insurance fields. Fullerton was recipient of a national community improvement

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award. A scrapbook, prepared by Mrs. Volley Thomas and Mrs. E. M. Black, showed improvements

consisting of street improvements; opening of new businesses and business fronts being redecorated; new outdoor Christmas lights added in the downtown area; the removal of Dutch Elm diseased trees; a free tree replanting program; clean-up projects undertaken at the City Park and the fairgrounds baseball park; and a painting for the downtown area of the "Leap" by the Delineation Club. Work began on the construction of a new building for the Klip and Kurl Beauty Salon. A new fire hall and city office building was constructed at the corner of 2nd. and Fuller Street and the old City Hall on Broadway was torn down. New restrooms and

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picnic shelters were constructed in the City Park. A new metal building was constructed at the school's athletic field for the housing of buses. The former Evangelical United Brethren Church was donated to become a museum for the Nance County Historical Society at Fullerton. A mobile classroom was installed at the Fullerton School. The congregation at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church burned the mortgage on the church building and broke ground for a new parsonage. The Patriot Inn Motel was opened here. Bill Trotter was seriously injured in an early morning explosion and fire which destroyed his home in the downtown area. A natural gas leak was determined as the cause of the blast.

1973 - Fullerton received an award in the Department of Environmental Control and Governor's Council to Keep Nebraska Beautiful Contest. The Fullerton Chamber of Commerce opened a drive to raise \$3,000 for construction of a new tennis court. Young people in the community participated in fund-raising projects to assist the project. Kemp Country Club observed its 50th. anniversary by honoring longtime members. St. Peter's Parochial School here closed its doors. Mr. and Mrs. James Kontos, who had operated the Modern Cleaners here since 1923, announced their retirement and closing of the business. Edward L. Dubas, son of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Dubas, was awarded an American Farmer Degree. Wood's Saw Mill, Inc. began operation near Fullerton. John Barklind was honored with a community service award for his many hours of community service

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during 1972. Nance County Historical Society Museum opened. Roofing of the museum was painted and a new sign completed. The museum was dedicated on May 27. A 4-H team, coached by Harold Dissmeyer, placed 3rd in an International Land Judging Contest. Members of the team were Glen Zywiec, Jim Kramer, Mike Voichahoske and Scott Russell. Fullerton Chapter AG P.E.O. commemorated its 70th anniversary. Wayne's Clothing, a men's and boys' clothing store, opened in June. A new Nance County court house was in the planning stage. The Tot Shop, a boys' and girls' clothing store, opened in November. An improvement program was suggested for the school. A \$1,120,000 bond election was held December 18 and passed with a margin of five votes. Stella Krug, 93, lifelong resident of Fullerton, died March 3. A project, Sugar and Spice Nursery School, opened in September 1961, continued to grow

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in 1974. A storm sewer project, costing \$53,118.56 was completed in Fullerton. The project ran from the intersection of 3rd and Fuller Streets, northerly and easterly to a point where it emptied into the Cedar river north of Fullerton Livestock Sale Barn. The Fullerton Lions Club held a 50th Anniversary observance. The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission gave approval to a \$23,000 in a grant-in-aid. Over \$5,000 had been raised locally for the construction of a tennis court. The Fullerton Area Chamber of Commerce made an effort to buy the Camp Merrill site. It had been owned by the Nebraska Baptist State Convention which

wanted to sell it so as to build a camp elsewhere. Drought losses in Nance County were listed at \$13,029,199 for 1973. Fullerton began to plan for Bicentennial activities. Bus Service by United Motor Ways was discontinued in September because of a loss in operations claimed by the bus firm. Work on the new Nance county court house and the new Fullerton School addition was begun. Mrs. Estella M. Jennings, 93, died September 12. The theme this year seemed to be community improvement. Most organizations cooperated in a great effort in many ways to improve the town. Many lasting Bicentennial projects were begun. Brogan Drug Store closed. Philip Morgan built a new office on main street. Oscar Mangelsen, 94, died September 15.

1974 - In January, Fullerton received official recognition from the American Bicentennial Administration designating it as a Bicentennial community. The flag received for this designation was flown from a pole erected in a planter at the Historical Society museum here as a heritage project. Other projects which were to qualify Fullerton for participation in the nation's Bicentennial were the planting of a tree for each Fullerton high school graduate in 1976 and the observance of Bicentennial Sunday in all churches in the county on the first Sunday in July. Miss Margaret Russell was named Nance County Bicentennial committee chairman in July of 1974, and activities were begun that year at the Nance County Fair in the distribution of literature about the upcoming Bicentennial. Fullerton committee co-chairmen were Mrs. Fred (Nellie) Forbes and C. H. Hosler. LaVerne Faaborg was vice-chairman, and Mrs. Keith (Maude) Keller was secretary.

1975 - A special Bicentennial flag raising ceremony (sic) was held in the downtown area on May 6. Residents were asked to complete suggestions for Bicentennial projects. A silver bicentennial souvenir coin was given for suggestion judged most appropriate.

1976 - Nance county's Bicentennial baby, Brenda LuAnne Steinbach, was born on January 17 in Memorial Hospital to Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Steinbach of St. Edward. A Bicentennial Pageant, "I Love America", was given by members of the Community Choral Group, church choirs and others in the community on May 23. Fullerton

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participated in a simultaneous nationwide ringing of bells at 1 p.m. CDT on July 4 to herald the country's entrance into its third century. The old Nance county court house was demolished in February, and dedication of the newly constructed court house was held on May 30. The Sportsmen's Club began erection of a new metal 60-ft. x 82-ft. building on its grounds south of the Loup river. Mid-American Dairymen, Inc., which had acquired the Farmers Co-op Creamery here, announced closing of its milk plant here May 1. About 90 interested residents attended a town hall meeting designed to give residents an opportunity to identify problems, offer suggestions, find solutions and determine directions for growth and development of the town. The Fullerton high school Alumni Association was reorganized, and a banquet and program attracted 1162 alumni and spouses. C. S. Hebda was alumni president. This

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was the first alumni reunion in over 35 years, and was listed as one of the continuing projects of the Fullerton Bicentennial Committee. On August 14, St. Peter's Parish hosted a representative of the Bishops of Poland, who was visiting in the United States. Bishop John Oblak of Olsztyn, Poland, celebrated a Mass here during which a 40 voice choir sang Polish hymns and a sermon was delivered in the Polish language. Many of the participants were attired in traditional Polish garb. The J. M. McDonald Store was closed after being in business here since 1929. Two new business, Research-O, operated by Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Meyers, and R&A Mr. Automotive, operated by Mr. and Mrs. F. S. (Red) Steele, were opened. Fullerton was among finalists in a State Community Improvement Program. A \$50 check and a framed citation were received by the community in recognition of the honor. Dr. J. L. Seberg, who had operated a dental practice here for 40 years, announced the sale of the practice to Dr. Glenn Hadenfelt. Mrs. Mabel Workman, 99, longtime

resident, died on October 1. Ralph E. Barber, 90, lifetime resident, died on April 26.

1977 - A housing survey was conducted to determine need for low-income federally subsidized housing here. On April 5, the City

Council adopted a resolution creating a Housing Authority for implementing and supervising such a project. After the results of the housing survey were in, the Housing Authority planned to apply for funds to construct a low-income facility. A new elevator was being built by the Farmers Co-op Association to add storage capacity at its site in the northeast part of town. Notification had been received of approval of a 50-50 matching grant for improvement and replacement of lighting at the fairgrounds baseball diamond. A one-room school house was moved from west of Fullerton to the museum grounds here, restored, and equipped to its early day likeness.

1978 - The Fullerton Chamber of Commerce sponsored a downtown beautification project of placing trees in planter boxes along the curbs of Broadway. An industrial facts booklet and community profile was prepared by the Community Improvement Committee, the Chamber of Commerce and Loup Power District. Camp Merrill, located at the northwest edge of town, was purchased from the Nebraska Baptists by Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Whited, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Whited, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Cunningham and Mr. and Mrs. Dave Cunningham, and was renamed Quiet Oaks. C. H. Hosler, retired president of the Fullerton National Bank and chairman of the board, died on September 28. The City Council and Housing Authority accepted a low bid by Mid Continent Builders of Missouri Valley, Iowa, for constructing a low income housing development on North Broadway, across the street west of the City Park.

1979 - Centennial events in 1979 were a logo contest among Fullerton high school students for creating a commemorative logo. Jerome Dubas was the winner of a \$50 prize given by the Fullerton Chamber of Commerce. In April, an oldtime "General Store" was the theme of a baazar (sic) held as a Centennial fund raising project. Plans were made to print a Centennial souvenir booklet. A Centennial

[1979 Centennial Photo](#)

Horse and Buggy Days was held on June 23. Only horse drawn vehicles and riding horses were allowed in the business district, from 2 to 5 p.m. Street dancing began at 7:00 p.m. Kangaroo courts were held, plus judging of Beard and Centennial dress contests. July 8th a Centennial parade was held with a barbecue followed by a drawing for a special Centennial pistol. An Anything Goes contest was sponsored by the Centennial committee at the Nance County Fair. Fullerton won a third place Environmental Action award in the Keep Nebraska Beautiful Contest. A cash award of \$50 and a plaque were received. Fullerton was in the finals of the Nebraska Community Improvement Program and received honorable mention. The First United Methodist Church observed its 100th anniversary on June 17. New metal street markers arrived and were installed by members of the Lions Club.

[Lions Club installing new street signs](#)

History of Churches

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

On August 27, 1882, a group of dedicated Christians gathered to form a Presbyterian church in Fullerton. They met in the chapel of Nebraska Wesleyan University located on a hill in the northwest part of town. Under the guidance of Reverend George L. Little (Synod Missionary), they organized First Presbyterian Church. The charter members were: Mrs. M. G. Cowgill, Maude Cowgill, Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Lindsay, Mrs. L. M. Mulford, John Paton, William Paton, Joseph Reynolds, Mrs. Hester Reynolds, J. S. Shuck, Mrs. Annie Shuck, Mrs. Jane Spackman, Hester Spackman and Hannah Spackman. Mr. John Paton and Mr. John Shuck were ordained as the first Ruling Elders of the church. The membership grew rapidly in the following years: 1883, 22; 1884, 38; 1885, 30; 1886, 26; 1887, 14; 1888, 17.

As new members were added to the roll with each passing year, the congregation began to fill the first building, erected just north of the present high school in 1883. This building was used until 1912 when the church on its present site was completed and dedicated. William F. Downing, a member of the Church Building Planning Board, suggested that the edifice (sic) be modeled after one he had seen in Texas. The architecture follows a Trinitarian theme with three sections for seating, three circular windows included in each wall and three walkways around the front pillars.

Many can recall seeing as many as 800 people at the two services held each Sunday. Members came to church in lumber wagons and surreys before the use of automobiles. Tradition has it that the fall program began with an annual church dinner sponsored by the women of our community of faith. Tables were laden with tempting foods and decorated with autumn flowers. Rare, indeed, was the Presbyterian family who did not attend. Many of our members participated actively in the services of worship held among the oaks at a site northwest of town. On one occasion, the noted evangelist Billy Sunday was a keynote speaker.

The first manse was located on the southeast corner of 6th and Division. It was replaced by a ranch-style home located just south of the church in 1957. The lot on which the manse now stands was once the site of a small cabin and playground. The cabin was built in 1926 and was used for various children's activities. Fifteen men from the church formed a Children's Cabin Committee and signed their names to a note for \$450 with which they purchased building materials. The cabin was erected with voluntary labor. A stone fireplace along one wall was the only source of heat in the winter. Totem poles decorated the lot boundary. Each child had a pole on which a record of his/her participation in church activities was kept

in brightly colored symbols. The children competed to be the one with the most colorfully decorated totem pole at the end of the year. Programs for children and youth were entitled Friendly Indians, Friendly Indian Maidens, and Pioneers.

There are no living Charter Members, but the fruits of their labors and sacrifices, of their hopes and prayers, of their vision and purpose continue even unto this day. Those in our church family who have been members for at least 50 years are: Mrs. Mabel Hess (1/20/02), A. L. (Pete) Russell (2/8/08), Mrs. Alice Kellogg (4/25/09), Louis Vaughn (4/25/09), Mrs. Clara Rishel (5/26/12), Mrs. Lydia Waggoner (4/12/14), Mrs. Nina Cunningham (11/21/15), Miss Faye Fitzgerald (11/21/15), Mrs. Mildred Knowles (11/21/15), Mrs. Jessie Russell (11/21/15), Roy Russell (11/21/15), Mrs. Fannie Baldrige (11/2/19), Mrs. Ellen Sprague (7/10/20), Mrs. Margaret Downing (7/10/20), Mrs. L. B. (Margaret) Whitaker (1/3/21), Mrs. Gladys Smith (12/3/22), Mrs. Lillie Horn (1/21/23), Miss Lucille Fitzgerald (4/17/27), Robert Palmer (4/17/27), Arna Peterson (4/17/27), Miss Margaret Russell (4/17/27), Mrs. Nora Anderson (3/29/28), Mrs. Alma (Harry) Russell (3/29/28), Mrs. A. L. (Grace) Russell (3/29/28) and Mrs. Hannah Russell (3/24/29).

The first pastor of the church was the Reverend J. C. Irwin from Cedarville, Illinois. He was installed on October 11, 1885. Over the years the church has been served by 21 pastors: J. C. Irwin, A. J. Montgomery, F. M. Weeks, D. I. Conkle, G. A. Ray, R. H. Houseman, Wm. H. Cooper, J. K. Driver, S. J. Megaw, D. S. Honsaker, C. E. Kircher, I. Askine, J. M. Pattison, S. G. Kessler, B. F. Grussing, T. G. Atkins, Carl Sandberg,

H. J. Svoboda, N. J. O. Boomgaarden, J. D. Barklind, and J. R. Hawthorne.

Since 1882, 1945 people have been received and enrolled as members. It is fitting to honor and recognize those now active and serving the church and those who have entered the Church

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Triumphant. The church has served the community of Fullerton for 97 years. This past history is a foundation upon which greater service in the coming years will be built.

MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

The first worship service of the group that eventually became Mt. Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church was conducted on Sunday, September 2, 1934. The attendance was 50. The congregation was officially organized on May 12, 1935. Charter members were: John E. Post, Leroy Halverson, Willie W. Johnson, Walter J. Rehan, John Kinen, N. M. Ruff, B. W. Luschei, John Filbert and Walter H. Hartman. Rev. Alex Holm of Platte Center was the presiding pastor. Vicar R. E. Schultz was present.

The group looked into purchasing Harmony Hall where they had been meeting, but rented St. Alban's Episcopal Church. They worshipped there for the first time on April 19, 1936. The first Mission Festival was held on September 27, 1936.

Mt. Calvary's first called pastor was Rev. John Daniels. He was installed on March 14, 1937, although he had served the congregation since 1936. On August 15, 1938, Rev. Daniels accepted a call to Wyoming. First, Rev. Panning of Central City served as vacancy pastor, and then Rev. Makens was serving by April of 1942.

Annual woodcutting bees for wood to heat the church began in 1938.

On May 6, 1942, the congregation requested a resident pastor from the District Mission Board of the North Nebraska District of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. He was also to serve at St.

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Paul's Lutheran at Monroe (Looking Glass). That year Rev. Arthur Gerhardt began serving Fullerton and Monroe. He left in January of 1944.

In the fall of 1944, Rev. B. F. Meschke accepted the call to serve the congregation.

In 1946, the parsonage was acquired at the southwest corner of 4th and Fuller Streets. The congregation was incorporated in May of that year.

On April 30, 1950, the voters decided to buy two lots west of the parsonage on the southeast corner of 4th and Irving Streets and to build a basement church 32' by 50'.

May 17, 1951, the congregation granted Rev. Meschke a release to accept a call to Norfolk. Rev. Kautch and Rev. Knipenburg served as vacancy pastors. Rev. Hugo Leimer was called in September of that year and served until he resigned on January 1, 1961.

The first Vacation Bible School was conducted in 1952. In January of 1954, the congregation became independent of subsidy from the Mission Board.

Leroy Halverson served as an elder continuously from 1935 to 1958. D. H. Ulferts served from 1936 to 1963. Clarence Frenzen, from 1938 to 1977; and Paul Anderson, from 1958 to the present. Mrs. Clarence Frenzen has been church organist since 1938.

On April 26, 1962, it was decided to build the present building which was dedicated on November 4, 1962.

Rev. Schubarth served as vacancy pastor after the resignation of Rev. Leimer.

Rev. Lloyd Sprick became the pastor late in the summer of 1962. Under his leadership a Walther League was organized. He accepted a call to Kansas, on February 13, 1966.

In 1966, the dual relationship with St. Paul's at Monroe was terminated. Rev. David H. Schmidt was ordained and installed as pastor in August of that year. He served until October 1973.

On February 20, 1972, the voters decided to build a new parsonage south of the church. It was dedicated on November 15, 1972.

Pastors Wagner, Luttmann and Schlegelmilch served the congregation in various capacities during the vacancy after Rev. Schmidt left. On August 25, 1974, Rev. Keith Holste was ordained and installed as pastor.

In 1977, a revised constitution went into effect which provided for women's suffrage and a church council, limited terms of office, and initiated standing committees for education and youth, mission and evangelism, and stewardship.

In 1979 voters assemblies, Ladies Aid meetings, Walther League activities, Couples Club gatherings, Sunday and weekday Bible classes, confirmation classes, regular weekly worship, and projects by the various committee characterize the congregation.

A total of 240 baptized members and 186 confirmed members are claimed by the congregation in 1979.

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THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The history of The First United Methodist Church is closely entwined with the early development of Fullerton and Nance County.

After the Pawnee Indians were removed from the area now known as Fullerton in 1875, the land was offered for sale by the United States government in 1877. Among the earliest settlers of this reservation land was Rev. R. G. Adams, a Methodist preacher, who bought a quarter section of land from O.E. Stearns on August 26, 1879. The deed recorded in the name of Pauline M. Adams was the first filed in Nance County. Rev. Adams was joined on his homestead by his brother, Charles, who was a carpenter and built many early Fullerton homes. He later became a mail carrier.

Rev. Adams is listed among those attending the first school meeting in September 1879, to draft an agreement for the provision of a school house and teacher. Also in September, Rev. Adams was elected temporary secretary of the first County Central Committee.

Most significantly, however, Rev. Adams was the first pastor to hold religious services in the area, and upon the organization of the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Fullerton in 1879, it was the first church society in Fullerton. Listed as co-organizers of the church were Mrs. B. D. Slaughter, Mrs. Martha Reynolds, Mrs. Rogers, Mrs. O.E. Stearns, Will C. Phillips and Mrs. R. G. Adams. At the end of his year of preaching there were 38 members in the congregation, and 50 Sunday School pupils.

After Nebraska Wesleyan University was opened in Fullerton in October 1881, Rev. Adams served on the first board of trustees for the school.

Until 1883, when the first Methodist Church was built in the northwest part of town, services and Sunday School had been held in the Wesleyan University Chapel. Over 100 persons attended the dedication festivities of the new church and picnic at the Wiltz

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Grove, south of the Cedar River.

In 1886, two lots of land at the corner of 3rd and Irving Streets were donated to the church by D. W. Randolph. A new church was erected here and is near the site of the present church. The pastor at this time was Rev. W. H. H. Pillsbury, who would again serve the congregation from 1893 to Sept. 1895. Rev. Pillsbury was held in high esteem by the community for his services to the church and as a county official. The hill west of town is named in his honor.

Rev. Pillsbury was instrumental in the organization known as the Fullerton Association of Organized Charities, formed in July 1894. The goal of the organization was to provide assistance to area families most severely affected by the drouth and scorching winds which had ruined the year's crops. Rev. Pillsbury was elected as president of the group. He died in December 1895 and is buried in the Fullerton Cemetery.

What was to eventually become the Fullerton Chautauqua Assembly, originated with a group from the Epworth League of the Methodist Church holding a Vesper Service near the Leap as an alternative to sitting in a hot church. Others were invited to attend Vesper Services there and soon it became a very popular church meeting place. Thus, the Central Nebraska Assembly was organized in 1899, setting up a daily program of bible school, lectures and evangelistic services, along with music and entertainment. Though organized and led by the Methodists, the entire town of Fullerton worked in cooperation, and so in 1904 the Assembly was formed.

The two-week summer Chautauqua program continued for almost 30 years, during which time many cottages were built on the grounds to accommodate the visitors and participants. Since it was the only Chatauqua in Nebraska for several years, there were times when additional tents were needed to shelter the overflow crowds. The last Chautauqua was held in 1929. Later the camp was purchased by the Nebraska Baptist State Convention and was known as Camp Merrill. Today the area is under private ownership, and is known as "Quiet Oaks".

In 1907, the old Methodist church building was moved from the north corner location to the south corner of the block where the new brick church was later built in 1908. The cornerstone for the new church was laid in early 1908. Within the stone was laid a Bible, presented by Abraham Palmer who was a new member of the church. The \$17,000 church was also dedicated in 1908.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Kemp was the first couple to be married in the new church in 1909.

The following year the North Nebraska Conference was held in Fullerton.

Rev. John Grant Shick began his term as pastor in 1912. During his ministry a revival was held following which 40 persons were received into membership. He also preached many sermons on the temperance theme and strongly urged the voting members of the congregation to use their ballots to whatever advantage to close Fullerton's two saloons.

Many of the ministers who followed in later years were eloquent preachers and good church financiers, which helped the church remain strong in witness and worship.

When the church observed its Golden Anniversary in 1929, many fine accomplishments were recognized. Rev. Merrill B. Carman was the minister at this time and had been for seven years. The evening he was to preach his farewell sermon to the congregation, September 13, 1931, he suffered a stroke and died.

On March 4, 1934, an \$800 pipe organ was purchased from St. Paul Methodist Church in Omaha. A dedicatory recital was held and attended by several hundred persons. Choir vestments and new hymnals were also purchased in the next two years.

Two special campaigns were initiated in 1933 and 1934.

A religious census was taken in Fullerton and the surrounding area to determine homes for visitation by the congregational members. Those not listed as being active in their faith were encouraged to accept Christ and unite with a church of their choice. As a result of this program, over 70 persons did come into the Methodist church fellowship.

The other campaign emphasis was on regular church attendance.

As a result of the Uniting Conference held in the spring of 1939 at Kansas City, Missouri, the Methodist Episcopal Church changed its name. The Methodist Episcopal Church, the M.E. Church South and the Methodist Protestant Church merged under the name The Methodist Church. It was also in 1939 that the Pleasant Valley Methodist Church building was sold, and some of the proceeds used

to reduce the Fullerton Methodist Church debt.

Before his death in August 1944, Rev. George M. Carter, started a layman evangelism program, which again resulted in many persons being converted. Pastor Carter is buried in the Fullerton Cemetery.

Although original investigations were started into the building of a new parsonage in 1944, it was not until two years later that work actually began on a new parsonage. The old parsonage was sold for \$1,500. The congregation bought Harmony Hall for \$645 and planned to use the lumber from this building and from a barn on the property in the construction of the new parsonage.

However, just before excavation work began, it was made known that the church furnaces needed to be replaced. Fortunately an energetic and faithful member, Ted Bard, volunteered his labor and expertise and was able to make extensive but very satisfactory alterations to the furnaces, so that they could be kept in use.

In the meantime it was decided not to build a new parsonage, but rather to purchase an existing house for \$7,500. Rev. D. E. Cannaday and his family moved into the parsonage in October of 1947.

Several additions and improvements were made in the church in the 1950's. The baptismal font was donated by the LaVern O. Williams family and hymnals were presented by Joy, Helen and Mary Lou Heal. Fellowship dinners were prime fund raisers of the times and an active visitation program brought in over 40 new members.

The church observed its 75th anniversary in 1954.

Through mergers in 1968 and 1969 of the Evangelical United Brethren Church and the Methodist Church, the name was changed to the United Methodist Church.

For the years 1975 to 1977 the Fullerton and Genoa United Methodist congregations were served by the same pastor.

In June 1977, the North Star Evangelical Church became part of The United Methodist Church at Fullerton.

So it was, on June 17, 1979, the 100th anniversary of The First United Methodist Church was observed at Fullerton. The 296-member congregation could be rightly proud and thankful for the many pastors and lay persons, who through their faith, hard work and endurance through the years, had contributed to the church as it stood that day.

A complete list of pastors is as follows:

Rev. Robert G. Adams	1879-1880	Rev. J. W. Jennings	1895-1897
Rev. R. B. Wilson	1880-1881	Rev. T. C. Clendenning	1897-1898
Rev. J. J. Fleaharty	1881-1883	Rev. C. A. Mastin	1897-1898
Rev. E.G. Fowler	1883-1884	Rev. N. A. Martin	1898-1899
Rev. N. H. Gale	1884-1885	Rev. Lewis Campbell	1899-1900
Rev. E. L. Fox	1885-1886	Rev. A. L. Mickel	1900-1901
Rev. W. H. H. Pillsbury	1886-1887	Rev. J. M. Bothwell	1901-1904
Rev. J. W. Robinson	1887-1888	Rev. J. L. Vallow	1904-1906
Rev. G. W. Martin	1888-1889	Rev. J. B. Priest	1906-1907
Rev. Thos. Wolcott	1889-1890	Rev. E. C. Wright	1907-1909
Rev. N. A. Martin	1890-1893	Rev. A. G. McVay	1909-1912
Rev. W. H. H. Pillsbury	1893-1895	Rev. John Grant Schick	1912-1914

Rev. G. W. Abbot	1914-1918	Rev. E. A. Weber (5 weeks)	1946
Rev. A. D. Davis	1918-1920	Rev. D. E. Cannaday	1946-1949
Rev. Frank Shacklock	1920-1922	Rev. Lawrence Boyer (3 mos)	1949
Rev. C. E. Connell	1922-1924	Rev. Charles E. Funk	1949-1954
Rev. M. B. Carman	1924-1931	Rev. Ernest A Gaither	1954-1959
Rev. E. M. Reed	1931-1932	Rev. Theo J. Krumrey	1959-1961
Rev. Richard E. Carlyon	1932-1936	Rev. Norman L. Crouse	1961-1965
Rev. Reuben Staniforth	1936-1938	Rev. Thomas Rehorn	1965-1968
Rev. J. A. Moorman	1938-1941	Rev. Lisle E. Mewmaw	1968-1975
Rev. L. D. Carpenter	1941-1943	Rev. Robert D. Linder	1975-1977
Rev. G. M. Carter	1943-1944	Rev Audrey M Scott	1977
Rev. Dale K. Westadt	1944-1946		

EVANGELICAL PEACE/LUTHERAN CHURCH

As the various ethnic groups brought their language and customs to the prairie wilderness, so did the early German settlers near Timber Creek also bring their religion. Their Lutheran worship services were first held in a rural school house, located in South Branch township. With the help of Reverend A. Finkbeiner, then pastor of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church at Cedar Rapids, the new congregation of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized on January 3, 1898. Henry Tiemeyer, Louis Schomburg and William Schwensen served on the first church council. The Red Wing school house would later be used to accommodate the growing congregation.

By 1907, it was evident that the congregation was ready to begin construction of a church building. A five-acre tract of land for the building site and cemetery was purchased from C. D. Hellbusch for \$180. Volunteers assisted Ed Asch, a Mr. Lorenzen and Louis Schomburg to complete the \$2,000 church structure.

On January 21, 1908, the long-awaited goal of having their own house of worship was realized, and the congregation was incorporated. Formal dedication services were held on April 26 of the same year. Pride and practicality influenced further improvements to the church and the grounds, one of which was a pot-belly stove placed in the center of the church in 1908. Those gathered around the hot stove reportedly kept warm on one side while being uncomfortably cold on the other side.

Another traditional addition was made to the church in October of 1915, when a 1,000 lb. bell was installed. Over the years it announced the beginning of worship. There was also a time when the bell was rung at 6 o'clock on Saturday evenings as a reminder of the following day's worship and to toll the news of the passing of a member to his final reward.

Segregated seating was observed inside the church, with the ladies occupying the pews on the east side of the aisle, the men on the west side and the children similarly segregated in the front pews. In addition to being attentive to the worship, the ladies were to keep watch over the horses at the hitching posts east of the church and relay any problems to the men. This seating arrangement continued

to the late 1930's.

All the meetings and services of the church were conducted in German until about 1920. It appears that the first English sermon delivered in July of 1918 at a Mission Festival, led the way for the common use of English at worship, in the Sunday School and for Confirmation instruction. On April 21, 1930, with the

approval of the congregation, the minutes of meetings also were begun to be translated, and on October 23, 1938, it was voted to have the meetings held in English only.

From April 1939 to well into the 1950's monthly German services were offered.

The Peace congregation voted to become self-supporting in April of 1925 and called as its first pastor Reverend Weltner. A parsonage costing \$5,000 was built the same year, under the direction of Herman Loescher.

Even as Peace Lutheran saw to its own needs, it held mission work, both foreign and local, as a vital obligation to be funded. As a result yearly Mission Festival days were held in the Badje pasture along Timber Creek, 2 1/2 miles east of the church. A pulpit was built and seating was assembled to accommodate the crowds of guests who would come to hear the guest speaker and give generously to the mission outreach. Even the reed pump organ was transported to the field. The ladies of the congregation provided the food for the co-operative noon meal and ice cream, candy and other treats could be purchased at the make-shift concession stand.

Through the difficult years of the 1930's, the congregation held together, but it was not until 1946 that enough funds were at hand to begin work on building a basement under the church. Severe

winter weather halted the half-begun work, which was not completed until the spring of 1947. However, once completed, the basement had kitchen facilities and room for the Sunday and Vacation Bible School classes. In addition to the basement, an addition was made to the sanctuary, providing for a chancel and sacristy.

By the time Peace Lutheran observed its 50th anniversary of the building of the church in 1958, the congregation had seen many changes in the building and in the service customs. However then, as today, it remained a close-knit "family" congregation.

Under the pastorate of various ministers, Peace Lutheran has continued to make interior and exterior improvements and additions since its golden anniversary in 1958. The meeting room and serving area were added in 1970 at a cost of \$7,000 and the placement of a stained glass window over the front door are two of the many such improvements. A number of improvements also have been made to the parsonage, adjacent to the church.

Under the present pastorate of Rev. Robert Reimer, a folk liturgy is used on alternate Sundays and Holy Communion is offered each Sunday. To enable a more active participation of the congregation in the service, almost all of the liturgy and hymns regularly used have been transposed into lower keys by Mrs. Onno (Dorothy) Ahlers.

As the congregation prepared to give thanks for 80 years of existence on June 18, 1978, members of the congregation responded with gifts of money to provide new carpeting for the aisle and chancel area as a token of gratitude to Almighty God.

On its 80th anniversary the Peace Lutheran congregation consisted of 162 baptized members and 116 communicants.

As an original member of the Iowa Synod, Peace Lutheran came under the direction of the American Lutheran Church in 1930 when the Iowa Synod merged with two other Synods. Twelve years after the 1960 merger of the American Lutheran Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church and the United Evangelical Lutheran Church, Peace Lutheran at Belgrade and St. John at Cedar Rapids severed their affiliation with the newly formed American Lutheran Church. As co-operating, independent congregations, Peace Lutheran and St. John began a mission outreach at St. Edward, now known as Faith Lutheran Church. In June of 1973, the three congregations of Peace Lutheran, St. John and Faith affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

Pastors who have served Peace Lutheran are Rev. A. Finkbeiner (1898-1900); Rev. L. Kostbahn (1900-1903); Rev. R. Streeb (1904-1909); Rev. Hansche (1909-1910); Rev. C. Landdeck (1910-1913); Rev. H. Neemann (1914-1922); Rev. P. Weltner (1923-1938); Rev. J. Ackermann (1938-1941); Rev. J. Brinkmann (1941-1944); Rev. J. Hafermann (1945-1946); Rev. O. Zeilinger (1946-1952); Rev. K. Schettler (1952-1963);

Rev. E. Blobaum (1963-1965); Rev. H. Feistner (1966-1968); Rev. R. Reimer (1969-present).

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PEACE LUTHERAN CEMETERY

After the ground was purchased for use as a cemetery in 1907, the first person to be laid to rest was Louis Schomburg, a carpenter who had worked on the church building; but who did not live to see it completed. Heinrich J. Hellbusch is the oldest person buried there. He was born at Oldenburg, Germany, on December 21, 1829, and was the father of Henry, C. D. and George Hellbusch. At the time, family lots of six grave sites cost \$5, and single grave sites cost \$1. The gate, placed in the late 1940's, still marks the cemetery entrance.

ST. PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

The earliest history of what later became the Parish of St. Peter at Fullerton is hidden in obscurity. The first Missionary known to have labored in the Timber Creek area, northwest of Fullerton, as early as 1884 was a Franciscan Father from Columbus, by the name of Father Boniface. He was succeeded by Father Devoes from Spalding. After him came Father Hayes and Father O'Reilly from Albion. Other priests who ministered to Catholics in Nance county were Fathers Geary, Vermeulen, Mulligan, Lordemann and Nepper, to mention a few.

A small mission church was erected in 1887 at Fullerton, under the guidance of Father Geary of Central City. No records are available to estimate the cost of construction of this frame structure which served the Fullerton congregation until 1923.

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In 1913, Father Paul Wiese was named the first resident pastor at Fullerton, thus establishing: St. Peter's as a Canonical Parish. In that same year, Father Wiese guided the construction of the first rectory, a two-story frame building, which was completed in 1914 at a cost of approximately \$5,000. The structure still stands on the church grounds today.

In September 1915, Father Wiese was succeeded by Father John S. Palubicki, who remained until August of 1918. Father Felix Gebauer then became pastor and remained until September 1920 when he was succeeded by Father Virgil Walkowiak.

Under Father Walkowiak's pastorate, it became evident that the Mission Church could no longer accommodate the growing Parish; thus, in 1923, plans were completed and the cornerstone for the present church was laid by Archbishop Harty. The church was built at a cost of \$80,000, and was reputed to be one of the most beautiful churches in Central Nebraska.

Father Frank Kubiszewski was assigned as pastor in September 1936. Upon arrival, he found that due to crop failures and other circumstances the Parish was \$40,000 in debt. Under "Father Frank's" guidance, a Cow Club was organized through the men of the Parish and various activities were conducted to reduce the debt and save the Parish from failure.

Through help in 1939 of the late James and Leona Rice, a Parish Hall was built on the north edge of the church grounds. The building was used for various fund raising activities in the Parish and the community to reduce the church debt. Some years later, the Parish Hall was moved to church property, across the street east from the church square. The building was eventually sold at auction and moved to the Mike Chmiel farm northeast of town.

All but the first pastor of the Parish joined parishioners in September of 1938 to recall the pioneer work and sacrifices of the previous 25 years at a three-day celebration of the silver anniversary of the

establishment of the Parish. When "Father Frank" left the Parish at the end of 1946, the financial debt had been reduced to \$13,800. The Parish by then had acquired the entire square block of property, between Esther and Ida Streets and North 3rd and North 4th Streets.

Assigned as pastor for the Parish in January of 1947 was Father Stanley F. Pieczonka. He immediately stirred up interest to pay off the remaining debt, and on September 23, 1947, a mortgage-burning ceremony (sic) was held.

With all effort turned toward the eradication of the Parish debt in previous years, it was now time to begin repairs and improvements to the church property. A new heating system was installed in the church, the exterior was thoroughly renovated in 1949 and in 1950 new art glass windows were installed. Also in 1950, a massive interior decorating project was begun. In 1951, the Parish plant was converted to natural gas heating. A new electric organ was purchased in 1952 and the following year new asphalt tile was placed on the floors of the church and padded cushion kneelers were installed.

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Improvements also were made to the rectory during that period.

Assigned as the seventh pastor at St. Peter's on September 23, 1956, was Father John S. Michalak. With the buildings of the Parish all in good repair, a building fund was inaugurated and efforts were turned toward the goal of a Parochial School. After considerable study and meetings to discuss the project, a decision was reached to proceed with the construction of a new school and rectory. In early 1958, an architectural firm was engaged to draw plans for the improvements. On September 28, 1959, ground was broken for the \$127,906 construction project. Laying the cornerstone for the school in a ceremony on December 28, 1958, was Father Virgil Walkowiak, the oldest living former pastor of the Parish.

The one-story brick and masonry (sic) school is situated between the church and the old rectory. It contained six classrooms, a lobby, offices, waiting room, supply rooms, lavatories and a boiler room. The new rectory, also a one-story structure, connects to the church from the north by a glassed-in passageway. The old rectory was converted into a Convent to house the Sisters of the Resurrection, whose headquarters are in Chicago, who staffed the school. The doors of the new school were opened to 134 children in grades 1-8 on August 31, 1959. A dedication of the new school and rectory was

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held on October 11, 1959. The school was closed in the summer of 1976 when the Sisters could no longer be obtained to staff it. The school since has been used for Parish CCD instruction and remodeled into a Renewal Center for use for social functions in the Parish and community.

Father Richard Wolbach was assigned as pastor for the congregation in 1966, replacing Father Michalak. Father Wolbach served until December of 1971.

In January of 1971, Father Richard Ciurej became the pastor of St. Peter's Parish. It was during Father Ciurej's tenure that another massive redecorating and improvement project took place in the church. New altars and sanctuary lighting were installed as was aisle and sanctuary carpeting. The interior of the church also was repainted.

Coming in June of 1979 to replace Father Ciurej as pastor was Father Thomas J. Sellentin. He remained until June of 1980 when he was placed (sic) by Father Nelson Newman.

At this writing, the Parish has over 900 souls. It is continuing to grow and be a viable part of the community.

STS. PETER & PAUL CHURCH - KRAKOW

Early information about the beginnings of Sts. Peter and Paul Parish at Krakow is very meager. The little

that is known is derived in large part from the memoirs of those who were associated more or less closely with the Parish during its early years.

The following is from some records from St. Stanislaus Parish at Duncan, Nebraska.

The first Polish settlers of this district (Duncan) arrived directly from Europe as early as 1869. The first Mass was said in the Duncan Church on Christmas of 1882 by Father Anastasius Czech, O. F. M. From this was created a new Parish at Krakow, two miles south and west of Genoa, Nebraska. About 69 families were cut off from the Duncan Parish in 1893. On July 4, 1893, Father Czech had a meeting at the Vitalis Borowiak farm, with 69 family heads being

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present. A site on the John Szatkowski (Shotkoski) farm was selected for the church and two acres on the Simon Czarnik farm was selected for a cemetery. The name of the new church is to be Sts. Peter and Paul - Krakow.

On June 11, 1895, Father Czech was given permission to borrow \$1,000 for erection of a Sisters' house at Krakow. Since the Parish was not incorporated, the pastor signed the notes, and at a meeting on June 20, 1895, the Parish agreed to build the Sisters' house and consented to the loan. On September 26, 1895, a meeting was held at the residence of Rt. Rev. Richard Scanell, Bishop of Omaha, for the purpose of incorporating Sts. Peter and Paul Church of Nance County, Nebraska under the provisions of the laws of the State. Trustees for the Parish at that time were Stanislaus Szymowica and John Podraza.

Although several of the families who had settled in this vicinity had come from Krakow, Poland, a greater number, according to reports, had come from Tarnov. Because there already was a place in Nebraska called Tarnov, the new settlers of this territory decided to call the place Krakow (Cracow) after the large city of Krakow in Poland.

Since no church was erected until 1894, Sunday Mass was celebrated in the home of Martin Borowiak, who resided northeast of the present church. Here, too, in 1893, in the Borowiak home, the Sacrament of Baptism was administered by Father Czech to four infants: Steve Czuba, John Czarnik (Tarnick), Anastasius Borowiak and Benedict Szatkowski. The first wedding of the Parish, that of Mike Sock and Eva Szymowicz was performed by Father Czech in the home of Vitalis Borowiak, southwest of the Martin Borowiak home.

In 1894, the first church was erected just east of where the present school is located on the Parish grounds. One of the first additions to the church was a reed organ. About a year later, an addition was made to the rear of the church building which served as living quarters for Father Wegrzynowski, from November of 1895 until June of 1897.

Just south of the first church, a convent for Sisters was erected in 1895; but since there were no Sisters, as yet, the building was used as a boarding house for the lay teacher and the children who attended the school.

In 1898, the Franciscan priests relinquished the Parish to the diocese. Father Augustyn became the first (diocesan) pastor.

In 1901, construction of a new church was begun. The site for this new building was to the south of the first church. The new church was dedicated in 1902.

Frank Zaucha, who accepted the teaching position at the school, apparently, also took over the cooking and housekeeping for the pastor. He retained this position for about three years. Following him, during the pastorate of Father Augustyn, was another lay teacher, Frances Trybanska. She taught at Krakow for about two years. Following her, three Franciscan Sisters from Lafayette, taught

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in the school. Their tenure is not certain. In 1908, the Sisters of the Resurrection from Chicago came to staff

the school. The first Sisters assigned were Sister Theodore Kierpowski, the first Superior and organist; Sister Michaline Graczyk and Sister Petra.

From the beginning of the Parish, various pastors served comparatively short terms. In 1907, a young energetic priest, Father Edward Soliwoski, was appointed pastor. Joe Shotkoski and others moved him by team and wagon from Elba. Since there was no rectory, Father Soliwoski lived in the church sacristy, as did his predecessors.

A rectory was constructed in 1909.

Father Ed also was appointed to serve the mission church at Silver Creek. He made his trip every Sunday to say Mass at Silver Creek, from 1907 to 1918, by horse and buggy.

An ice house was built on the Parish grounds to store food for the pastor and Sisters in 1912 or 1913.

In 1922, a new school, boarding house, Sisters living quarters and chapel were constructed. The first church, which up to this time had served as a school, was torn down.

In 1923, a basement was excavated under the church, and a heating plant was installed in the basement. A large barn was built on the grounds in 1925 to house teams of horses, driven to services by Parishioners. These buildings were dismantled in the mid-1950's.

In 1927, a new addition was made to the church. It was extended to the north to provide a larger choir loft and vestibule. Two steeples were constructed on the church to replace the single one.

During the years of the depression, very little had been done in the way of improvements to the church property. In the late 1940's and early 1950's, members of the Parish organized fund drives and raised over \$20,000 which was used for various interior and exterior improvements and repairs to the buildings and grounds as well as to the cemetery. A Delco system, which had been used to generate electric power to the buildings, was replaced in 1948 by commercial electric power. Some of the improvements were made through memorial donations from families of longtime members of the Parish.

Father Soliwoski died in March of 1956, at the age of 86 after serving the Parish for nearly 50 years.

On April 5, 1956, Father Stefan Flisiak succeeded Father Soliwoski as pastor for the Parish. Father Flisiak continued with improvements and renovation plans in the church, school, Sisters' home and rectory. Two school buses were purchased in 1963 to transport pupils to classes, new playground equipment and other school furnishings also were purchased. Since pupils no longer boarded at the school, the dormitories were remodeled into living quarters for the Sisters. The school basement was transformed into a dining room, with kitchen, to accommodate social functions. New wells were dug on the grounds and numerous other improvements were carried out.

With the approach of the Diamond Jubilee of the Parish in 1968, it was decided to build some outstanding structures as a token of gratitude for the 75 years of the existence of the Parish. Erection of a new rectory and social hall was completed between May and October of 1967. The Diamond Jubilee of the Parish was held on August 18, 1968.

Due to the lack of Sisters to staff the school, it was closed at the end of the 1977-78 term.

As of December 31, 1979, the Parish contained 80 families. Its picturesque setting in quiet rural surroundings is a tribute to the agriculture community which it serves. The church is one of only a few which today can be found with ornate altars and other church furnishings which were installed at the time of construction at the turn of the century. Pastors serving the congregation:

Father Anastasius Czech, O. F. M. (Founder in 1893)

Father Ladislaus Czech, O. F. M.

Father Rembert Stanowski, O. F. M.

Father Marcellinus Kollmeyer, O. F. M. (Parish was incorporated on September 26, 1895)

Father Wegrzynowski, O. F. M. (First resident pastor - November, 1895, to June, 1897)

Father Remigius Berendt, O. F. M. (July, 1897 to September, 1897, and December, 1897 to October, 1898)

Father B. Radka (September, 1897 to December, 1897)

Father Augustyn (diocesan priest) (November, 1898 to March, 1906)

When Father Augustyn left, in March, 1906, again the Franciscan Fathers took over the parish to July, 1907. During this time the following Fathers were at Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, Krakow: Father Marian Glahn. Father Theobald Kalamaja, Father Rembert Stanowski, Father Ladislaus Czech, Father Cyrill Mitera, and Father Dionisius Czech.

Father Paul Knappek (diocesan priest) (became pastor in July, 1907 and served the parish to September 1907)

Father Edward Soliwoski (diocesan priest) (September, 1907 to March, 1956)

Father Stefan Flisiak (diocesan priest) (April, 1956 to the present time)

EVANGELICAL UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH

This congregation was first known as the Fullerton Evangelical Church, later the United Evangelical Church and still later the Evangelical United Brethren (E. U. B.) Church.

The Fullerton Mission was organized and made a part of the Platte River Conference held at Blue Springs, Nebraska, in 1900. Rev. L. G. Brooker, Conference Evangelist, held the first tent meeting in the 700 Block of South Broadway, resulting in a class of nine members. When the weather was too cold, the class was permitted to meet in the court house. Rev. Brooker was assisted in the early days by Brother Stimson and Sister Mary V. Hall.

Under the pastorate of A. Essley, a church was built in Fullerton and dedicated on July 8, 1900. The Morning Star Church was built about two miles southwest of Fullerton on the Loup Valley road, and was dedicated on February 10, 1901. Bishop Dobbs was

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the presiding officer at both dedications. Bishop Dobbs later was one of the missionaries to China. W. L. Dillow took charge of the Mission for nearly two years following the resignation of Rev. Easley. During those early years, numerous revival services were held to attract new members to the two churches.

In 1903, Rev. E. E. McVicker became pastor for the two Mission churches. Rev. Charles Beller became pastor in 1904 resigning in December 1905 due to ill health. Rev. T.L.C. Suhr, who was soon to become a Missionary to China, replaced Rev. Beller. It was at this time that the Morning Star Church was closed. Rev. Lohr came to serve the congregation in 1906. During his pastorate he also had services in the Plum Creek School. Rev. T. M. Evans served the church from 1909 to 1912.

Rev. Lohr returned in 1912 to serve until 1917. He no longer conducted services at the Plum Creek School, but instead went to the Mason schoolhouse, located southwest of town on the south side of the Loup River. In 1916, a new South Side Evangelical Church was dedicated by Bishop Swengel. It was constructed near the Otis Nesbitt farm for a cost of about \$2,500 and was paid for entirely by the time of its dedication. Rev. Heiwitt was pastor for the churches from 1917 to 1918.

When Rev. Lohr returned in 1918, membership in the church was 187, and \$3,000 was raised to pay off the last debt. He served until 1922, when Rev. Garries became pastor. It was that year the church merged with the Evangelical Association. F. C. Ebinger was assigned as pastor in 1929. A small house next to the church had been purchased some years earlier for \$1,300. It and the old

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parsonage were auctioned off for \$265 and \$250 respectively, and a new 8-room parsonage was built near the church. Mrs. Nye held a \$700 mortgage at 3% on the indebtedness of the new parsonage.

Rev. James Arnold served the church from 1931 to 1933. Wood cutting projects were held to provide fuel during the depression years so that money was available for church repairs and to pay the debt on the

furnace. Serving from 1933 to 1935 was Rev. Marchand. Rev. Ahlers came to serve the church in 1935, but stayed only a short time because the climate did not agree with Mrs. Ahlers and they moved to California. Rev. Breaw came from North Dakota to fill the pastorate.

In 1937, Rev. Milford Vance was assigned to the Fullerton and Fairview churches and served until 1944. The Fairview Church soon closed, and Rev. Vance held services at the North Star Church instead. A piano and chairs from the Fairview Church were brought to the Fullerton church to use in Sunday School work and for the Youth Fellowship. The South Side Church had already closed, but Rev. Longnecker, who formerly was in the ministry and resided in that area, continued to preach there. Mrs. Vance organized a large youth choir with the assistance of the Misses Ysobel and Janice Ridell. Mrs. Vance died of Addison's disease while residing in Fullerton, and Ysobel Ridell died about two years later from cancer. Janice Ridell later became a college teacher in California.

Rev. F. C. Weber served the Fullerton and North Star churches in 1944 and 1945. He also served the Presbyterian congregation at Fullerton which was without a minister. During Rev. Weber's stay in Fullerton, a son was killed in World War II action in Germany. Many improvements were made at the Fullerton church and parsonage during Rev. Weber's pastorate. Leo Aldis Galloway donated a large Bible to the church.

From 1945 to 1948, Rev. Thomas served the congregations. Many improvements continued. Special donations were made by Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Cunningham and the Louis Burger family. Rev. Swanson served the congregations for a short time during 1948. In October, of 1948, Richard Urbach, a student at York College, held weekend services at the two churches. Two more students, Jack Atkinson and Edgar Shrader, served the churches from 1951 to 1953.

Rev. C. R. Anderson served the two churches from 1953 to 1956, and Rev. Bornemeier was the next minister, for a year, 1956-57. He enjoyed woodworking and made an altar for the Fullerton church and an altar and pulpit for the North Star church. In 1957, Rev. Jones was assigned to serve the two churches. Though reaching retirement age in 1962, he continued to serve as superannuated minister with reduced pastoral duties until 1969. Rev. Zemanek, a Methodist minister, became pastor in 1969 and served

the two churches until reaching retirement age in December of 1970. On February 9, 1971, District Superintendent C. Edwin Murphy presided at a special conference in regard to closing the Fullerton church. A decision was reached that a closing service would be held on February 21, 1971. This was the last service held in the Fullerton Evangelical United Brethren Church. At a later date, all E.U.B. congregations were united with the Methodist churches, and the union became The United Methodist Church.

The Fullerton church parsonage was sold, and the church and grounds were given to the City of Fullerton for use as a museum. In May 1973, the museum was opened by the Nance County Historical Society and is supported by memberships and donations. The grounds are planted and maintained by members of the Fullerton Flower Belles. An iron fence, formerly on the old Memorial Hospital grounds in the west part of town, was moved by members of the Fullerton Lions Club and erected on the museum grounds. An old school house also has been moved to the museum grounds and restored.

THE NORTH STAR CHURCH

In 1894, Rev. J. W. Nye took up this appointment and called it the Fullerton Mission. The first class was organized on December 8, 1895, by Rev. T. J. Fink, the Platte River Conference Evangelist. It consisted of 40 members and was called North Star Mission. Rev. L. Lohr was the first pastor. In 1896-97, Rev. Ira McBride served as pastor.

A church was built and dedicated on January 23, 1898, by Bishop Dubs of Chicago, as The North Star United Evangelical Church of Nance County, Nebraska. In that year, Rev. Fremont Devol was appointed to the mission and also took up another assignment 12 miles north of Fullerton. The parsonage was built during the 1899-1901 pastorate of Rev. George H. Stimson. Rev. Lohr returned to serve 1902-03, and Rev. Henry Wood was pastor from 1904-06. In 1907, Rev. E. L. Case was pastor. In 1908, Rev. Gumm was

appointed but did not come to the work and Rev. W. T. Randolph was appointed to take charge. Rev. Randolph was returned to the field in 1909.

Rev. McBride returned to served from 1910-13. It was during this period that in 1911 North Star Mission was made a Station. In 1912, a class of 35 members was organized as Mt. Zion United Evangelical Church of the North Star charge. A Union Sunday School also was organized at Pleasant Ridge schoolhouse with regular preaching services.

From 1914 to 1916, Rev. H. C. Farley served the charge. In 1914, a porch was built on the church and a generator was installed

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to provide lights. In 1916, the North Star Mission became self-supporting. During the same year the church was wired for electricity to be supplied from a nearby general store. On August 8, 1917, a severe hail storm broke all the windows on the north side of the church and destroyed crops over an eight mile strip.

Rev. Lohr returned in 1917. The Mt. Zion class was discontinued. Rev. R. W. Garrison served from 1918-20. In 1919, the Belgrade class (Fairview) was added. Rev. R. S. Welch served from 1921-23, and Rev. C. F. Weidensaul came in September of 1923 to serve nine months. Rev. Lohr returned during 1924-25. In 1924, the garage was built, and in 1925 the church was remodeled at a cost of \$2,500. Rev. S. M. Dillow was pastor in 1926. He also served Fairview, Belgrade.

Serving from 1927-33 was Rev. F. H. Stevens. On October 31, 1928, the church burned to the ground. Services were held in the schoolhouse until a new church was constructed. The new church was dedicated on June 23, 1929, by Bishop M. T. Maze. In 1930, the parsonage was repaired and a new garage was built because of storm damage.

During the pastorage of Rev. H. E. Kramer, 1934-35, a 36-inch church bell was dedicated on July 4, 1935. Rev. Howard Huddel served during 1936-37. In May of 1937, the Nebraska Conference had united this charge with Fullerton and was served by Rev. M. G. Vance.

In succeeding years while the North Star congregation was served by pastors from the Fullerton church, numerous events occurred until 1971 when a merge was made to form the United Methodist congregation. In 1945, a 50th anniversary of the North Star church was observed with Bishop Stauffacher and District Superintendent Rembolt as guest leaders. In 1955, the parsonage was sold and the money received was used to remodel the church basement. New chancel furniture was secured and dedicated in May of 1957, and new hymnals were also purchased. On October 11, 1970, a 75th anniversary of the congregation was observed.

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HISTORY OF THE FULLERTON CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

(The following history of the Fullerton Cemetery was prepared from the records of the organization.)

The first meeting for the organization of the Fullerton Cemetery Association was held on February 13, 1885. The organizers were Lewis Webb, James Fee, James Clayton, Clarence Brady and E. B. Spackman. About 10 acres of land were purchased west of Fullerton for the cemetery ground, and Mr. Brady and Mr. Spackman were the committee which laid out the grounds into nine blocks with an average of 70 lots to the block. Most of the lots were 15-25 feet, large enough for six graves.

People were invited to move bodies from other cemeteries to the new cemetery and lots were offered at half-price for a limited period. The prices of lots were \$10 and \$15. Some bodies had been transferred from the Pleasant Valley cemetery to a location on the hill west of Fullerton and these were transferred to the new

cemetery in 1895.

Lewis Webb was the first president of the Association. Others who followed in this position through the years were M. B. S. Odell who served for over 30 years, Dr. F. W. Johnson, Frank G. Frame. M. C. Leach is president at this time.

W. S. P. Eyler became secretary in 1923 and served until 1947 and J. P. Whitney was elected to the office. E. R. Tranbarger had been secretary since 1949.

In 1899 it was decided to make an assessment of \$2 a lot for the purpose of raising a fund for upkeep, for fencing the grounds and erecting a windmill and to pay a sexton on a part-time basis.

George Harding was employed as the first full-time sexton, in 1916 at a salary of \$60 per month. The complete fence and metal gates and arch were bought in 1917 at a cost of \$467. Seeing the need for more funds, the Association amended their Constitution in 1917 providing for perpetual upkeep of lots upon the payment by the owners of \$100 per lot. This replaced the annual assessment of \$2 per year. This perpetual-care assessment was later reduced to \$50 per lot. A small surplus accumulated in the treasury and this was placed at interest in certificates of deposit and government bonds. In May of 1928 some of the Liberty Bonds held were sold and proceeds invested in a first mortgage on land north of Fullerton in the amount of \$4,000 at 6 per cent interest, 40 acres of the land taken over by the Cemetery board as the interest could not be collected. This made the total cost of the land \$4,615 and it was sold later for \$4,920. The proceeds were invested in U. S. Savings bonds.

In 1927 five additional acres of land adjoining the Cemetery were bought from Mrs. Addie Scott for \$1,250. This land is now being used as more space became necessary.

Many of the old records were in incomplete form. Secretary, E. R. Tranbarger, began in 1949 the bringing of these records up to date. He also prepared a plat map showing the location, occupancy and ownership of all lots. This had been a long and difficult task in

searching the records, as some of the older graves were unmarked. A complete record of interments has been brought up to date and is now being kept. There are 4,000 burials that have been made since the Cemetery was started. This Cemetery now has probably as complete and accurate a set of records as will be found anywhere.

In 1951, Ralph Cunningham was named sexton, replacing William Marshall who held the position for 22 years. Mr. Cunningham resigned and Floyd Schulte was named sexton.

FULLERTON P. E. O. CHAPTER

Chapter AG was organized on June 26, 1903, by Mrs. H. Grace Thomas, state organizer. Seven initiates and one dimitted member formed the Charter list. First officers were: Mrs. Ella Paton, president; Mrs. Elinor Kemp, vice-president; Mrs. Anna Barber, recording secretary; Mrs. Cora Harris, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Catherine Koch, treasurer; Mrs. Lillian Spear, chaplain; and Mrs. Olive Mangels, guard. Miss Ella Prentice, Chaper "T", Clay Center, Nebraska, was the dimitted member.

AG's Charter was presented on June 8, 1904, during Nebraska Grand Chapter convention at Broken Bow. Since its organization, 111 women have been initiated into Chapter AG, and 14 members have been received by dimit. The March 1, 1972 membership list consists of 31 resident members, nine non-resident, and one inactive.

Elinor Kemp was Nebraska state treasurer, from 1915 to 1917, and state organizer, from 1917 to 1919. She organized Chapters BX, Omaha; BY, Lincoln; BZ, Gordon; CA, Valentine; CB, Ravenna; and CC, Seward. Concerning her experiences she wrote, "I have traveled 5,645 miles in temperatures varying from 25 degrees below zero to 104 degrees above; trains late, but no matter what the weather or hour, always a smiling P. E. O. sister waited to welcome me. I have visited every Chapter in the state, and no finer women can be found anywhere."

Chapter AG hosted the 26th annual convention of Nebraska Grand Chapter in June of 1915. State

President, Miss Rose Owens, presided. Honor guests were Miss Edith Prouty, Supreme Chapter president; Mrs. Helen M. Drake, Supreme Chapter organizer; Mrs. Carrie M. Peterson, past president of Supreme Chapter; and two past presidents of Nebraska, Mrs. Ida B. Johnson and Mrs. Bertha Clark Hughes. Mrs. Bernice K. Tillet present custodian of articles of historical value was a convention delegate. Convention center was the Presbyterian Church, and delegates housed in private homes.

Rain fell continuously during the convention, breaking a long Nebraska drouth. Humorous stories were told concerning long skirts trailing muddy, unpaved streets, and of B. I. L. drivers with cars bogged down while transporting P. E. O.'s to and from the train depot. In spite of the rain, a fine convention was reported.

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NANCE COUNTY POST OFFICES

There is no complete history of the Fullerton post office.

The first post office was established in the home now occupied by the Roger Brown family at the east edge of town. O.E. Stearns was the first postmaster and the post office was first known as the Cedar River post office. Uncle Sam refused to furnish a mail carrier but did allow the use of an old sack. Many citizens were sworn in as carriers but a Johnny Johnson did most of the service.

Early in 1879, M. K. Steinbeck became postmaster and opened a flour, feed and grocery store in connection with the post office.

In 1881, N. C. Judson carried a complete stock of groceries and had the post office connected with it.

The order of succession of other postmasters is not established but names included W. C. Jacobsen, N. B. S. O'Dell, S. L. Sturtevant, L. W. Morgan, J. W. McClelland and Joe Storch. Charles Anderson was postmaster from 1917 until Frank Frame took over in 1921. Mr. Frame served until July 1, 1934, when Bryan Snyder became postmaster. Mr. Snyder served nearly 28 years, retiring on March 31, 1962. Lloyd DuReil was appointed acting postmaster and served until his death on April 22, 1965. Lawrence E. Wozniak was then appointed acting postmaster and was appointed postmaster on August 30, 1965, and is now serving.

Various other post offices were established in Nance County during the winter of 1897. The Tekousha was established with Frank Hodges as postmaster. This was in Cedar township, near the District No. 53 school. The same year on April 15, Frank S. Guy received his commission as postmaster of the Red Wing post office which served the Timber Creek area.

In 1880, Henry Knapp operated a post office and grocery store in the Pleasant Valley area. The building is now used as a grainary (sic) on the farm occupied by David Cunningham. It was known as the Omra

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post office.

The Olive post office, in the northwest corner of the county, was in operation from July 1884 to November 1902. Thomas O. McIntyre was the first postmaster.

Mr. Brown was postmaster for the Glenwood post office and there was a post office near the District No. 5 school house called Lone Tree and one near the District No. 2 school house, called Westgard. Names of postmasters here are not available.

FULLERTON LIONS CLUB

The Fullerton Lions Club is the only service club in Fullerton. It was chartered on April 30, 1924, and was saluted for being the third largest club in Nebraska at that time. It has continued since, and currently has a membership of 35. Two of its members, J. R. Bitner and E. R. Tranbarger, served as Lions District

Governors.

Among the first projects planned by the club after being chartered were establishing a youth center clubroom and holding a banquet to honor the high school football team.

Among other projects sponsored through the years were: promoting a successful movement for re-flooring the old Loup river bridge, assisting the American Legion in a drive for two carloads of foodstuffs for drouth areas, leasing a local football field in the community, sponsoring a testimonial dinner for an outstanding Fullerton citizen and promoting highway improvements. The Fullerton Club sponsored the organization of the Spalding and Albion Lions Clubs. It has sponsored Fullerton's Christmas Lighting Contests and been in charge of the distribution of Christmas treats for youngsters and food baskets for the needy and shut-ins for the holidays.

In 1944, the club erected a military Honor Roll listing men and women serving in the Armed Forces during World War II. Also to aid the war effort, the club assisted farmers in the harvest fields because of a manpower shortage and sponsored a collection of scrap paper and metals. It has been the sponsoring organization in the Community for the Boy Scouts, backed proposals for irrigation projects, an airport, a swimming pool and contributed to landscaping grounds at the new municipal pool. The club has worked in cooperation with other communities in retaining mail service.

The club has raised funds to fight polio, aided victims in a tornado stricken area, purchased a resuscitator for the swimming pool, collected discarded eye glasses for the needy and has participated in programs to supply dogs for training as Seeing Eye leaders.

A major project has been a numbering system for houses and businesses and the installation of street markers in the business and

residential areas of Fullerton. After installing wooden street markers in the mid-1950's., the club, in the town's Centennial Year, has completed a project of replacing the wooden markers with metal glow-in-the dark signs. The project was done at a cost of over \$3,500, plus a great deal of donated labor and supplies.

The club had a special observance of its 50th anniversary in 1974. It is anticipated it will remain a viable part of the community in the years to come.

FULLERTON PRODUCES A MASTER CRIMINAL

Maybe there is something special about motivating young people who grow up in a small town, one of whose best-known "graduates" in a nationally-recognized practitioner in a difficult craft. Especially if the craft is counterfeiting!

Not that Fullerton didn't produce other leaders; but William Watts, the counterfeiter, was in a class by himself.

The lengthy story about his capture, in *Newsweek Magazine* dated September 30, 1935, said that Joseph Murphy, assistant chief of the U.S. Secret Service, exulted "because his agents, had, at last, captured the country's ace counterfeiter who was responsible for nearly \$1,000,000 in spurious money -- second-greatest flood of 'queer' in the Treasury's records" (at least, up to that time).

Watts was so skillful that Henry Morgenthau, Secretary of the Treasury, fooled his underlings with it, as a training exercise. Watts' name and skill were known to the Treasury long before his capture.

Nothing in his early background indicated that he might, some day, become a criminal.

His parents were solid citizens, who lived unpretentiously in a two-story red brick house in the southwest part of Fullerton. One summer, when I was on vacation from Hastings College, I plowed their cornfield, for \$2 a day, behind a one-horse walking cultivator.

Newsweek observed that counterfeiting attracts strange recruits -- tearoom proprietors (sic), aviators, merchants, physicians, auditors and Sunday School teachers. Watts fit the pattern. Until 1920, he ran a drug store in Fullerton.

The Secret Service traced his criminal career to prohibition, when he sold illicit liquor. He wanted fake

labels for his bottles, so he learned how to engrave imitations. Before long, he discovered that the sideline was more profitable than bootlegging.

Counterfeit money was the next easy step. According to *Newsweek* Watts mastered the technique so completely that experts had difficulty distinguishing his bills from real currency.

To his pursuers, he long remained a phantom. He had no women friends, and no vices such as those which eventually betray most culprits. Of the small army of people who passed out his "queer", only the top men ever saw Watts.

He was eventually cornered in Union City, New Jersey, after a clerk in an engraving supply house told Secret Service operatives that "there's a man buying engraving material; and he's not in the trade".

At 7 o'clock on a September morning in 1935, federal agents tiptoed up to his door and knocked. To a sleepy, "Who's there?", Captain William Houghton, chief of the Secret Service's New York division, answered, "The milk man". The door opened. William Watts, alias E. A. Martin, alias E. A. McMillen, stared into the muzzle of a gun.

But the Treasury Department had pounced on Watts too late to prevent Saratoga race track bookmakers from many dizzy spells. Throughout the 1935 Saratoga season, bogus money bombarded the bet takers, driving many of them out of business. Profits faded into heaps of worthless green paper.

In the haul when Watts was captured was a loaded 38-caliber pistol, \$63,000 in fake 20's and 100's, engraving machines and presses, chemicals, inks, forged whiskey labels, fake Canadian liquor stamps, negative and plates for producing currency, an original device for imitating silken threads in bank notes and sacks of bill-sized paper.

Even though the Watts capture was covered extensively in newspapers and magazines, and in "March of Time" on the screen, there was almost no awareness of it in Fullerton, Nebraska.

Possibly this was a small town's way of protecting his modest and law-abiding family.

Written by Dr. Frank McIntyre

One final note on the William Watts story. When my English classes were gathering data about FHS graduates, to be published in an alumni directory in 1936, we listed (in his class of 1906): "pharmacist, address unknown".

We didn't explain that he was in a federal penitentiary.

THE "HORSE CREEK MURDER MYSTERY."

Bizarre and notorious as it was, the Watts counterfeiting story wasn't the most sensational crime story in Fullerton's history.

Years earlier (about the time I was born, in 1909, or earlier), the "Horse Creek Murder Mystery" broke, and provided lurid copy for periodicals and the press throughout the nation.

My memory of this bloody story is fuzzy; and it is based on reading accounts in early issues of Fullerton newspapers.

As I recall the details, five people in a single family were brutally murdered, on a farm on Horse Creek, about a dozen miles west of Fullerton. Some were shot with a shotgun; and at least one or two were bludgeoned, or axed, to death. One was slain in a hog lot, where the animals had consumed part of the corpse before a neighbor stumbled onto the scene of the massacre.

A hired hand disappeared about the time of the murders. He was said to have rented a rig at a livery stable in Fullerton, and dropped out of sight forever.

The two names associated with the crime were Percival and Furnival. I don't recall which was the name of the victims, and which was that of the suspect. At the time, newspaper accounts of the slaying gave complete, gory details of the scene and the principal characters in the drama.

Years after the multiple murders on Horse Creek, the sheriff of Nance County (I believe that it was August Johnson, in the '30s) received a letter from California, asking if there were still a reward available to a person who submitted evidence leading to the arrest and conviction of the culprit in the "Horse Creek Murder Mystery" caper.

Sheriff Johnson conducted a perfunctory "investigation" by letter, about the inquiry. No relevant details were disclosed. County officials weren't strongly motivated to follow a long-cold trail about a crime which had faded from memory years earlier.

I was personally intrigued by this development; so I re-read old accounts of the ghastly crimes. As an English teacher, I was impressed by a unique style of expression, both in the letter to Sheriff Johnson and in a note written years earlier by the missing hired hand, published at the time when interest in the murders was high. I concluded that the writer of the letter in the '30s was actually the missing suspect.

He is undoubtedly dead now. Whatever his involvement, he will have taken his secret to the grave.

One small detail might be mentioned. In some of the newspaper accounts at the time of the Horse Creek murders, there was a suggestion that the hired hand had a secret "yen" for his employer's wife; and that the family of victims was related, remotely (sic), to English nobility.

Written by Dr. Frank McIntyre

Family Histories

JOHN DUBAS SR.

John Dubas, Sr. was born June 6, 1858, in Poland to Joseph Dubas and Marchiana Pырchla Dubas. He came to the United States sometime before he was 18. He worked on the railroad at Duncan, NE and then farmed in Polk county. He moved to Nance county before 1897 to a sod house north of where Charles Lesiak's live now, east of Fullerton near the river.

He married Marcyanna Iwan on February 6, 1888, at Duncan, NE. She was born in Poland in 1872. She came to the United States in 1878. Their children were Joseph, Frank, John, Adeline, born in the sod house east of Fullerton, and Mary also born in the sod house. Two children died in infancy. Marcyanna died in February 1900.

John married Maryanna Bosak on July 29, 1900, and moved west of Fullerton in 1919 and then to the North Star area in 1911. He was naturalized a citizen September 14, 1906. They moved into Fullerton in 1936. Their children were Charles, Walter, Carroll, Henry, Sophia, Clara, Edward, Cecelia, Ellen, and Louis. Three children died in infancy. Maryanna (Bosak) Dubas died in 1948, and John Dubas died September 25, 1950.

Joseph Dubas was born on December 6, 1888, in Platte County Ne. Monica Valeria Czaplа was born on March 29, 1896, in Platte County, Nebraska. Their children are Frances, Mrs. Norbert (Valerie) Wozny, Joseph J. (deceased), Virgil, Anna and Raymond A., all of Fullerton.

Marcyanna Mary Dubas was born on October 29, 1927 in Nance county Nebraska. She attended Fullerton public schools and graduated and took some education at the University of Nebraska Lincoln. She married Edward Frank Voichahoske on October 25, 1954, at Fullerton, NE. Their children are: Michael Edward, Nadine Marie, Allen Francis, Donald Joseph, Lori Susan, and Patrick Kevin.

Frank Voichahoske was born on June 15, 1875, in Poland. He came to the United States and was naturalized on October 13, 1921. Catherine S. Malek was born on March 31, 1889, at Tarnov, NE. Their children are: Mary (deceased), Joseph of Belgrade, NE; Dennis M. Voichahoske, and Bernard Voichahoske of Fullerton; Esther Casey (deceased); Norbert (deceased); Alice (deceased); Elenore Nelson of Loomis, NE; Irma Jean Brown of Louisville, NE; and Edward Frank of Fullerton, NE. Edward Frank was born on June 4, 1922, at Raeville, NE. He attended rural Boone county schools and St. Edward high school where he received a diploma.

Valeria Leona Dubas was born on May 26, 1920, in Nance county Nebraska. She graduated from Fullerton high school. She married Norbert Frank Wozny on June 24, 1942, at Fullerton, NE. Their children are: Roger Joseph, Brian Thomas, Rosalla Mae, Paul Edward, Mark Allen and Timothy Gene.

THE McNEFF FAMILY

The name McNeff according to our great grandfather, Thomas George McNeff is Scotch Irish.

The Scotch Irish were people of northern Ireland, who were descended from Scotch settlers. Some of them migrated to the United States, before 1841. The earliest known facts about the McNeff family came from the 1850 census of Indiana from Morgan County, which lists Thomas McNeff age 49, occupation farmer. Value of real estate \$4400, born in Kentucky and his wife Mahala R., age 37, born in North Carolina.

Thomas George and his wife Mary (Foote) settled on a farm near French Lick, Indiana. Five children were born to them, Phillip, William Luther, Leon, Addie and Sadie. William Luther was born September 28, 1870.

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Their farm was a small one, partly wooded on which they raised mostly corn, tobacco, and a few pigs. They also had a few hounds. William said their living was mostly hand to mouth much of the time. The McNeff family moved to Nebraska in 1892 in time for the drouth year of 1894. They settled about 10 miles west of Fullerton. Thomas George went by the name of George. He always wore a moustache. He had a fine tenor voice and sang in the choir at the North Star Evangelical Church. He passed away in Fullerton in 1919. Unknown to his family he had been supporting a missionary in China and had not revealed this to his family even when they complained of being poor. After his death, the missionary society wrote asking why the support had stopped and so the family discovered.

His son Phillip become a railroad station agent at Menona, Iowa. His sons William and Leon became farmers.

One fall they were farming in Boone county Nebraska, and decided to burn a small area to pile their corn. They first got well prepared to put out the fire with wet sacks. When a large area had been burned William said, "That's big enough", "let's put it out". Just then a whirl wind came from no where twirled thru the fire and scattered it out across the prairie for a quarter of a mile. The resulting fire burned a lot of prairie and 40 hay stacks. It took 200 men to put it out. The owner of the hay stacks told William he would have to pay for the hay stacks. A very worried William went to see a lawyer and asked him "what'll I do, I don't have any money". The lawyer advised "Just stay away from him for a while and he'll forget it".

Leon McNeff used to play the harmonica, also at community gathers at

[Wedding picture of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. McNeff.](#)

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rural District 50 school. In response to popular demand, he would play and sing folks songs and humorous songs for example, "With the wife's cold feet in the middle of your back, there's no place like home" & etc., also Jonah and the Whale.

Some how William started a correspondence with Emma Somers, a housewife's helper in Denver, Colorado. They became engaged by mail, and he sold a load of pigs and traveled to Denver to marry her although they had never met face to face before. A humorous incident happened when they met. She said, "your teeth look like you chewed tobacco". (he did and never quit the rest of his life.) He answered "That's scurf", (scurf is a film, such as a film left by chewing tobacco). They were married in Denver, Colorado,

October 9, 1899, and moved to the farm south of North Star presently owned by Robert McNeff.

Emma Somers had been born in Chicago, Illinois and the family moved to Argonia, Kansas. Her parents were George Koahler Somers, who was born in Germany and Anna Katherina, whose maiden name was Aver, and who was born in Switzerland. They were married September 12, 1865, in Washington D. C., both members of the Presbyterian Church.

George Koahler was a cabinet maker. He built bridges for the confederacy during the Civil War. His wife Anna came from a family of union sympathizers because among her daughter Emma's possessions was found a hand written copy of the "Battle Cry of Freedom" beautifully written and embellished with the design enclosing a sketch of an eagle and signed "Miss Aver, Washington, D. C. August 31, 1863". Mrs. Anna Somers visited in the home of her daughter Mrs. William McNeff many times as late as in 1920.

William and Emma McNeff had eight children: Four boys and four girls. Muriel Ruth (Barnica), Fern Marie (McCray), George Edward, Vivian Luther, Marjorie Belle (Bennett), Lee Roy Jennings, Helen Cathrine (Grapes), and Raymond Arthur. In order to support a large family, William found it necessary to farm a large amount of land. The children grew up in an atmosphere of hustle and hard work. The boys especially had little time for play during the summer. However Sundays were for recreation and church going and the family always attended the North Star Evangelical Church.

They were lucky to grow up in one piece. In a large family of eight it was hard to keep them out of mischief. For example Vivian was four when his father drove into the farm stead with a team of horses pulling a load of coal in the wintertime. Vivian ran to the moving wagon in an attempt to climb on the step. He slipped and fell and the wheel ran over his stomach. (He was after a sack of candy, which his father brought to be divided among the children). His father carried him to the house and told his mother, "I've killed Him" . . . but he was only knocked out, frozen ground had saved him.

William used to play the violin. He could hear a piece of music at the Fullerton Chautauqua and go home and play it.

The William McNeff Family lived on the farm South of North Star until 1911, where seven of the children were born. In 1911, they purchased the farm presently owned by Raymond McNeff and where Raymond was born. The reason being so the children would be close to school. The "L" schoolhouse was in a corner of the farm, where all the children attended and graduated from the eighth grade.

They built the present house on the farm in 1917. A Gordon Van Line home, a precut house being shipped here in a railroad car, costing \$1100 laid down.

While living on this farm all the children attended Fullerton high school, and were married and established homes of their own.

In 1936, they retired and moved into Fullerton, where they attended the Methodist Church. In 1940, they bought the Kemp house across the street from the Evangelical Church, now owned by Kurt Liesch.

William McNeff passed away in Fullerton on September 16, 1954, at the age of 83 years, 11 months, and 18 days.

Emma Sommers McNeff passed away in 1965 at the age of 90 years, 11 months and 28 days.

WOLTERS

Herman John George Wolters came to the United States when he was five years old. He was born July 27, 1875, in Hamberg, Germany, to George and Katherine Marie Wolters. He married Matilda Marie Louise Schultze. To this union was born eleven children, Leo George, Irene Leona Johnson, Gladys Elizabeth Scofield, Gerald Fred, Harry David, Lawrence William, Frederich Schultze, Ernest Carl, Greda Marrie Denney, Vivian Rose Elmore.

Marguerite Louise was born May 4, 1911 at Fullerton, Ne. She married Ernest Glenn Hopwood, on April 8, 1931, at Fullerton, Ne. To this union was born four children. Ruth Marie Hagman, now of Broken Bow, Ne; Glenn LeRoy, now of Colorado; Rolland Eugene, now of Missouri; and Patty Kay now of Grand Island, Ne.

RUBEN DAVIS BUMGARDNER

Ruben Davis Bumgardner was born November 27, 1848, at Otter Creek, Iowa. He married Justine Reynolds born February 13, 1850 at Linn County, Iowa. They were married April 2, 1871 at West Prairie, Iowa. They moved to Washington County, Nebraska in 1882, then came to Nance County in 1892 and lived on a farm 6 miles north west of Fullerton. They had four children: Preston L. Bumgardner of Ericson, Mary, Mrs. Miles Bishop of Fullerton, and Ida and Lenora at home. Ida and Lenora worked like men and did the farming. Their father, Ruben, died in 1919. His wife died September 5, 1934, at the age of 84 years.

Ida and Lenora continued farming until 1944, when they had a farm sale and moved to Lincoln. They helped raise the 3 children left by Iva and Jess Richards. Ida did house cleaning in Lincoln for people. Lenora passed away in December 1952. Ida continued living in Lincoln until she came to Fullerton Manor in Fullerton to live in 1973.

[Ruben Dean and Justine Bumgardner \(sic\).](#)

MILES LOFTUS BISHOP

Miles Loftus Bishop, son of Robert and Elizabeth, was born near Graham, North Carolina on August 1, 1868. In 1895, he came to Nance county and lived on a farm 5 miles north west of Fullerton. He married Mary Jane Bumgardner on

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April 7, 1896. To them was born 9 sons and two daughters. Preston Bishop of Belgrade, Alber of Greeley, Robert of Elba, Iva Richards of Cedar Rapids, and Earl, Roy, Jessie, and Alice Sidders of Fullerton. Three sons died in infancy.

Miles lived on the same farm 62 years. In 1930 (August) he lost his wife and daughter, Iva, 3 days apart. A double funeral was held for both at the Methodist Church in Fullerton. Iva's husband, Jess Richards, was in an Omaha Hospital in critical condition with a broken leg and other injuries he received while going home from threshing grain near Cedar Rapids. He was riding a horse and leading another, when a car ran into him. He was so bad he didn't know about the deaths of his wife and mother in law for several weeks after. The three Richards children were raised by aunts, Ida and Lenora Bumgardner, who lived up a hill from the Bishop Home.

The only survivors of the Bishop Family living now are Alice Sidders of Fullerton, Roy Bishop of Fullerton, and Robert Bishop of Omaha.

Jessie Bishop was killed in World War II in France in 1944. His body was shipped back for burial two years later.

[The Bishop Family](#)

Back row: Earl D. Bishop, Ivy I. Bishop, Albert Bishop, Roy M. Bishop. Front row: Alice May Bishop, Father, Miles L. Bishop, Robert N. Bishop, Mother, Mary J. Bishop, Woodrow W. Bishop, and Preston S. Bishop.

MILFORD SIDDEERS

Milford H. Sidders and Alice May Bishop were married at York, Nebraska in 1933 and Phyllis Ann was born in 1935 at Fullerton, Nebraska. She married Tom E. Rikken in 1956 at the Methodist Church. They have one daughter, Jo Lynn, born in 1962 at Wichita, Kansas. Sharon Kay was born in Fullerton, Nebraska

in 1946 and she married Jerry Horn in 1964. They had two daughters, Kelly Jo and Kristi June. In 1970, she married Richard Steckel and had a son, Bobbie.

MICHAEL C. FITZGERALD

Michael C. Fitzgerald came to the United States from Ireland when he was 16 years old with a brother. In 1876, he was united in marriage to Clara Mitchell of Champagne, Illinois. In 1888, they moved to this area with six daughters. Mrs. Fitzgerald died in 1943. The family lived on a farm just north of Fullerton before retiring to Fullerton.

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[Michael and Clara Fitzgerald](#)

The Fitzgerald Children are listed below with their families.

MABEL (1877-1976)

Married William E. Smith

Three sons:

Cecil of Dunning, Nebraska married Nellie Castle of Fullerton. They had 4 children, among whom is Paul Smith of Fullerton. He married Fern Sonderup and they have 5 sons.

Forrest (deceased) had 2 children. He married Irene Finch of Fullerton.

Bay (deceased) single

Second Marriage Married R. L. Workman

1 daughter Geraldine (Mrs. Thomas Hughes) She had 2 children.

NELLIE M. (1879-1949)

Married N. L. Crawford

Three Children

Harold (deceased) single

Lynn (deceased) 2 children

Mildred (Mrs. Archie Stalnaker) 4 children

ESTELLA (1881-1974)

Married Marshall Jennings, died 1935.

Four Children.

Vera (Mrs. John Wolles) 3 sons

(John Deceased in 1979)

Clarence, married Myrtle Jenning

Hazel. Deceased 1978

Married Dexter J. Hoy Deceased 1966. They had 3 children:

Alvin, married Phyllis Grotelueschen of Fullerton. They have 5 children.

Fredabelle, married Max Swanson, Belgrade. They have one daughter

Billy W. Married, US Navy Career

Bethel, (Mrs. Frank Hoefer) McAllen, Texas Mr. Hoefer is deceased.

ETHEL: (1883-1965)

Married Albert Pepper

Two daughters

Mrs. Irene Hust, Fullerton

Lucille, Married Frank Kimble, Fullerton.

EDITH: (1885-1947)

Married Will Minor

Six Children

Clifford, Ona, Gerald, Evelyn (deceased) Ron and Maxine

INA: (1887-1977)

Married Laird Cordell Sidders

Three Children:

Milford: Married Alice Bishop, two daughters.

Helen, married Roy Bishop, three children.

Genevieve: Married Harold Anderson, 4 children.

JAMES REED

James Reed was the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Reed. He was born June 3, 1884, at Harlan Iowa. He attended a country school near Harlan. He with his parents came to Fullerton, in 1905, by covered wagon. He married Lela Main at Columbus, Nebraska on April 2, 1910.

Lela Main, the third child of Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Main was born February 19, 1884, at Lamont, Iowa. At the age of four she moved with her parents by covered wagon to the vicinity of Kimball, South Dakota in 1888. In 1889, she accompanied the family to move to the farm near Belgrade, Nebraska. She attended school at Kimball and also at Belgrade.

In 1907, she moved with her family to Custer county, Nebraska. She and Mr. Reed had met while she with her parents were living near Belgrade, and he was farming and living in the vicinity with his parents. In April, 1910, he journeyed to Custer County and they returned to Columbus by train to be married. They then lived on several farms in Nance County. Later they became owners of their own farm.

Their two children were Doris Reed (Hawthorne) of Fullerton, and Vane Reed of Grand Island.

In 1952, Mr. and Mrs. Reed retired from farming and bought a home in Fullerton. He was employed part-time by Dr. B. W. Kramer, a veterinarian.

Mr. Reed passed away May 25, 1957 and Mrs. Reed passed away November 24, 1973.

[Mrs. James Reed, James Reed,
Vane Reed and Doris Reed.](#)

CHARLES HAWTHORNE

Charles Hawthorne and Doris Reed were married August 3, 1928, at Columbus Nebraska. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1978. They farmed until 1939, when they moved into Fullerton, where Mr. Hawthorne

did commercial trucking and later had his own cornsheller and picker sheller. He retired in 1972.

They are the parents of 5 children, several grandchildren and a great grandchild.

Their children are:

Mrs. Vivian Kolm, Cedar Rapids, Nebraska
Mrs. Bernadine Batenhorst, Cedar Rapids, Nebraska
Lyle Hawthorne, Dumas, Texas
Russell Hawthorne, Albion, Nebraska
Larry Hawthorne, Fullerton, Nebraska

Charles Hawthorne was born to Mr. and Mrs. George Hawthorne near Silver Creek, Nebraska, April 10, 1904. He attended a public school near his home and worked on the Merchiston Ranch and later the Kent and Burke Ranch.

Doris Hawthorne was born to Mr. and Mrs. James Reed on February 17, 1911 in Boone County. She with her parents moved to a farm in Nance County in 1913. She was enrolled in the Cradle Roll Sunday School Class, held at the Merchiston School house. Mrs. George Hoag was Cradle Roll Superintendent and Will Hilton Superintendent of the Sunday School.

She also attended the Merchiston School until in 1924, the family moved to District 20.

[Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hawthorne's
50th Anniversary](#)

GEORGE ALBERT UZENDOSKI

[Uzendoski Family](#)

George Albert Uzendoski was born in Poland in May 1879. He came to the United States with his parents when he was 7 years old.

Michael and Agnes Barzz Uzendoski along with Brother Pete and sisters Anna, Catherine, and Mary settled near Duncan area.

George Uzendoski married Bernice Knopick at Duncan, Nebraska and moved south east of Fullerton, and later in 1918, moved to Reimers Ranch, which has been the Family Home since.

Six Children were born to them: They are:

Helen Uzendoski Micek, Mrs. Joe Micek
Marion Uzendoski Stetz, Mrs. Frank Stetz
Natalie Rose Uzendoski, Mrs. Ed Ksiazek

Sr. M. Alberta (Monica)
Sgt. Stanely Albert Uzendoski
Mike Uzendoski married Rose K. Choyeske

Mike and Rose now live on the home place. Their children are as follows:

Natalie Rose, Married Robert A. Sobraske
Emily June Uzendoski, PHD Education
Dr. Donald M. Uzendoski, Children specialist
Michael S. Uzendoski, Dr. Rep. IFG Leasing Co.
Virginia Lee Uzendoski, Rinkevich
Michelle Ann Uzendoski

SHOTKOSKI

The family most familiar to your area would be the Shotkoski's. The name was originally spelled SZATKIWSKI. I do not know when Gregory and Agatha Szatkowski came to the United States, but they evidently lived around the Krakow area in the early 1900's.

Their son, Andrew, later known as Henry, was born in Pilzno, Poland in 1855/6. Most of the information I have about him can be found in his obituary. He came to America at the age of 24 and worked with the railroad in Kansas, Colorado and Nebraska. In 1884/5 he married Sophia Paproski at Tarnov, Nebraska. Sophia Paproski's family was from the Columbus area. Her parents Andrew J. and Mary Anna Galus came to the United States in 1874 with their three oldest children, and continued to raise a large family. Sophia was born in Tarnov, Poland in 1869.

[Henry and Sophia Shotkoski](#)

Andrew, or as he was better known, Henry, and Sophia had 12 children - ten of whom lived to maturity and had families of their own.

Frank, born 1886 - died May 1979

Joe, born 1887 - died August 1979

George (Albert), born 1891 - died February 1976

Mike, born 1893 - died October 1975

Mary (Mrs. Frank Torson), born 1895

James, born 1897

Henry, born 1899

John, born 1902

Vera, born 1904 (Mrs. Alex Sliva)

Edith, born 1909 (Mrs. Joe Krzycki)

(All of these children were born in Nance county, Nebraska.)

Most, if not all of these children, raised their families, or at some time lived in Nance county.

BOROWIAK

The Borowiak family is also well-known in the area. Evidently there were two men by the name of Martin Borowiak, but I have not been able to determine if the younger Martin (who we trace to) is in fact the son of the older

one. Martin and his wife Katherine Tomelski, came to America in 1879. Three of their children - Sylvester born in Austria/Poland; and Victoria and Anton, born in Nebraska - grew to adulthood. Martin was naturalized a citizen of the United States on September 21, 1906.

In 1900 the Martin Borowiak family lived on a farm in Prairie Creek Township, Nance county. Victoria Borowiak, daughter of Martin, received her early education in schools near Genoa, Nebraska. She married John Krzycki in 1905. Three of their five children were born in Nance county (Lonnie, Edwin and Louie).

Barbara (Mrs. John Shotkoski) and Joseph, even though they were born in Platte county, lived for many years in Nance county.

FISHER

Jennie Fisher, the third daughter of Mary Francis and Bailows Fisher, was born near Big Rock in Scott county Iowa on November 15, 1879. She grew to womanhood in Iowa and moved with her family to Jewel County, Kansas on November 30, 1898. She married W. E. Allington at Mankato, Kansas. Except for a short period in Iowa the family lived on farms in Kansas until 1928 when they moved to Nebraska where she had since resided in the North Star and Fullerton areas. The couple observed their 50th wedding anniversary in 1948. W. E. died March 10, 1954. Their children, Lela Swanson, Irene Porter, Clyde, Orvill, Ruby Ostrander, Guy, Cecil, Peral Gleason, Glenn, Mildred Sharman now deceased. Jennie died November 15, 1978 at 99 years old.

WOZNY

Norbert Frank Wozny was born July 16, 1912 in Nance county Nebraska to Francis Steven and Josephine F. Nowicki Wozny. He attended rural Nance county schools. He married Valeria Leona Dubas on June 24, 1942 at Fullerton Nebraska. They have farmed in Nance county. Norbert has three brothers, Louis S, retired farmer of Fullerton NE, Bernard L., Auditor, Grand Island, NE and Raymond W. of California. Norbert and Valeria have six children, Roger, Brian, Rosella Mae, Paul, Mark and Timothy.

HUBERT McCRAY

Hubert McCray was born September 2, 1887 at Rising City, Nebraska, to Robinson and Frances McCray. In 1905, he came with his family to Nance county, where they engaged in farming. He married Hattie M. Stark on February 28, 1917, at Wolbach, Nebraska. After their marriage, they made their home on the family farm near Fullerton.

On September 12, 1957, Mr. McCray passed away. Mrs. McCray continues to live on their farm with their son, Robert.

Mr. and Mrs. McCray had six children: Everett of Fullerton, Doris (Berney) of Arvada, Colorado, Louise (Wondercheck) of Fullerton, Robert of Fullerton, Leila (Cyza) of Alliance, and Kenneth of Wolbach.

LEONARD WONDERCHECK

Leonard Wondercheck and Louise McCray were married on October 11 1943. They have four children: Lana, married Michael Gonsior of Central City. They have two children Scott and Shelli. They live in Fullerton. Ronald married Sharlene Jarecke and live in Columbus, Nebraska. They have two children: Terra and Ryan .

Harold lives in Fullerton and Wayne lives in Fullerton. He is married to Evelyn Urkoski and have two daughters, Renee and Jessica.

I. A. NILES

I. A. Niles and wife Mary (Waln) Niles came from Riceville, Iowa to Fullerton, Nebraska in 1894 with their four children, Ruth, Edwin, Blanche, and

and 160 acres pasture reaching to the Loup River.

1894 was the year of the drouth and there was a complete crop failure in Nance county. This meant a very difficult time for the Niles family. They came in a covered wagon with as little in furnishings as they could possibly get along with.

In 1899, Sarah (Niles) Anderson was born on the farm South of Fullerton.

I. A. Niles and wife paid for that farm South of Fullerton, had good equipment, had built on to the house and I. A. had gone into the thoroughbred Belgian horse business. He had plenty of those 2000 lb. horses. Some purebreds and some halfbreeds.

I. A. Niles had an Uncle (Nat Niles) living South of Fullerton before he came to Nance county.

They sold the farm in about 1917 and bought the residence and acreage in the northwest part of Fullerton from Mrs. Critchfield and moved to town bringing 1 team of Belgian mares, a wagon and a little more equipment. That place now belongs to Miss Levetta Hosler. It was a great place for Junior and Senior parties in 1917 and 1918.

GEORGE HAWTHORNE

George Hawthorne and Clara Parker were married October 28, 1889 at the home of her grandparents near Silver Creek, Nebraska.

Mr. Hawthorne was born to Mr. and Mrs. George Hawthorne, Sr., August 7, 1868 at Lexington, Illinois. He came with his family by covered wagon when he was sixteen years old to Nebraska. They settled near Silver Creek. He bought land and built the building. After he and his bride were married, they lived there and raised nine children. In the spring of 1918, they sold the farm and bought land near Big Sandy, Montana. The family moved, shipping their livestock, machinery, and automobile by rail. The father and boys rode in the stock car with the livestock. The mother and daughters rode in the passenger coach.

[George and Clara Hawthorne, 50th wedding anniversary.](#)

Due to the mother's health, they moved back to Nebraska, and farmed in Nance and Howard counties. Their youngest daughter was born during this time.

They moved into Fullerton in 1931. Mrs. Hawthorne was born to Mr. and Mrs. Willard Parker at Lebo, Kansas, September 22, 1886. Besides raising a large family, she helped in homes caring for the sick and assisting deliver the new babies. She operated a nursing home in Fullerton for several years. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on October 28, 1948, at their home. She passed away August 21, 1972, and he passed away July 2, 1954.

Their children are:

Mary Meyer, Earl Hawthorne, Charlotte Eckstrom, Lilly Rodwell, Charles, Clifford, Sam, Lavern, and Cecil. George Hawthorne, III passed away in 1968.

BRIDGLAND

William David Bridgland was born November 27, 1860 in Tippecanoe county, Indiana. In 1879 his family moved from Iroquois county Illinois to Nebraska. The first four years was on a farm on the Loup Valley about 10 miles Southwest of Fullerton moving from their farm near North Star were they had resided.

Augusta Bridgland was born January 2, 1874 or 77 at Calhoun, Nebraska. To William and Augusta were born six children. Arthur Paul, Jessie, Frances, Esther, Viola and Thomas, now deceased.

Arthur Paul was born May 13, 1897 at Fullerton, Nebraska. He was educated in District 50 from 1904 to 1912. He worked as a mechanic for Nelson Barber and Sheaff & Sons and later farmed. He married Dora Elizabeth Taylor on March 3, 1920 at Central City, Nebraska. They moved to Benson, Minnesota where they

still reside. They have two children. Darwin Arthur married Lucy Marie Cox in St. Edward, Nebraska. They live on a farm in Benson, Minnesota and have three children. Edward Richard married Barbara June Williams. They have three children.

[Daniel and Ann Bridgland](#)

TAYLOR

Isaac Taylor was born September 20, 1855 in Preston, England. He came to the United States in 1884 at the age of 29. On April 28, 1887 he was married to Dorothea Winchester in Illinois. In 1888 they moved to Fullerton, Nebraska where they had 10 children. Alice H. Scott, now of Grand Island, George T. Taylor, now deceased, Margaret A. Campbell, now deceased, Lena M. Bosselman, deceased, Edward O. Taylor, deceased, James I. Taylor, deceased, Dora E. Bridgland, deceased, Mary E. Dodds of Mesa, Arizona, Martha M. Jackson Ericson, Nebraska and Iva M. Gordon, Omaha, Nebraska. Dorothea Winchester Taylor died July 20, 1904 in childbirth. Isaac died near Ord, Nebraska December 9, 1931.

CHARLES H. ADAMS

Charles Henry Adams and Cornelia Frances Flasher were married August 8, 1866 by a Methodist minister in Troy, New York. They came to Fullerton in the early 1880's. Their children were: Charles William, 1867, Troy, New York,

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Robert Grant, 1870, Troy, New York, Julia Estelle, 1872, Troy, New York, Maude Alice, 1874, Troy, New York, Ruth Emma, 1877, Troy, New York, Florence Jessie 1879, Troy, New York, Chester Arthur, 1881, Troy, New York, Mable Grace, 1883, Troy, New York, Evangeline 1886, born in Nance county Cedar Township. Mrs. Adams died on September 12th at the age of 43 years, 7 months. She is buried in the Fullerton Cemetery.

Charles was a postal clerk in Troy, New York. In Fullerton he drove a bus from depot, was custodian of church, choir singer and mail carrier north of Fullerton.

Charles married Mary Alice Gleason. Their children were Mildred, now living in Orange, California, Dorothy living in York, Nebraska, Evertt deceased, Merion living at St. Edward, Ralph living at 29 Palms California. Bertha Esther was born April 19, 1899 at Fullerton, Nebraska. She was educated in the Fullerton schools and became a teacher and taught 1916-1917 in Greeley, Colorado. She married Harvey H. Allard on September 2, 1917 at Fullerton, Nebraska. She now lives in Wolbach, Nebraska.

Mildred went to school in the third grade in the old Methodist Church, while the present church was being built. Jessie Kriedler was the teacher. Chester Adams, son by a first marriage, fought in the Spanish American War. Everett Adams was in the 2nd World War and fought under General Patton. Charles Allard Grandson of Charles Adams fought in the Second World War. Robert, son of the 1st marriage was the first minister and started the Methodist Church. Mrs. Allard could not find any record about the store. She said "He may have helped his son Will Adams get started. The Store Building was just south of the Fullerton National Bank and was called the Racket Store. Mrs. Allard has four children. Lucille Viola born May 13, 1919 in Greeley county; Charles Nelson born May 3, 1920 in Greeley county; Aleatha Mary born on November 29, 1922 in Fullerton, Glenn Harvey born January 19, 1924 in Fullerton.

[Charles and Mary Adams](#)

WILLIAM P. HATTEN

William Price Hatten was born in Atchinson county Northern Missouri on November 5, 1861. He came to Nance county in 1889 in the fall with his wife Emma Houts Hatten who was in poor health. They came because of her health, they thought the climate would be better. They had lost a son prior to the move. They camped in the yard of S. H. McClure three miles northwest of Fullerton. The next fall Emma went back to visit her folks in northern Missouri and took sick and died on Thanksgiving Day, November 27, 1890.

Mabel Hatten Hess was born February 4, 1890 on a farm three miles north of Fullerton and after her mother died, her grandmother Mrs. W. H. Hatten of Hamburg, Iowa came and took her back to Missouri.

William Hatten married the second time in 1893 to a niece of S. F. Rolph, who was in the grocery business in Fullerton. Bell Fisk was a teacher from near Clarks and she had come to this area from Olean, New York.

To William and Bell there were four children born: Dean Allen, married Lillian Blaufield, Fred Everett, married a Cedar Rapids girl, Leta King, Richard Fisk, married a Denver girl and Louise. Louise was killed in an automobile

accident in New Mexico. Mabel had come back from Iowa and lived with them in 1900.

William was elected county Treasurer and was later employed in the Fullerton National Bank where he was an officer for many years. Mabel was married on January 13, 1915 to Carl Henry Hess, by Rev. W. H. Cooper. His daughter Audrey played the piano during the ceremony. A few close friends were there and a wedding breakfast was served by her parents.

Mabel later operated what was formerly the Adams Racket Store and called it the Hess Cash Store. They sold a few groceries, work shoes and novelties. In 1927 Carl bought a cabin out of the park at the cost of \$50 and the moving cost more than the cabin. He installed one machine, mammoth incubator with a capacity of 12,000 eggs. Only one third were set at a time, so it was a continuous operation. It was increased to 36,000 later. Carl died October 31, 1954. He was operating the Fullerton Hatchery. Carl belonged to Masonic Lodge 191. Carl and Mabel belonged to the Presbyterian Church and Order of Eastern Star. They had hoped for children but none came so they filled their home with teachers and office workers until salaries were much higher. Inez Rundall Cradick made her home with the Hess's during the four school years of high school and that was her weekend home during the four years she taught school in Nance County. Done Rundall stayed a short time as did Tom Rundall.

JULIAN M. BROWER

Family of Julian Martin Brower as recalled by daughter, Maree Brower Cooper.

Julian was born in August, 1887. He was the second child, first son, of Martin I. Brower and Ella Clark Brower. He graduated (or not?) from Fullerton High School in 1905. He with other members of his class refused to give an oration at that time required of all graduating seniors. In this stance he evidently had the support of his father, however, diplomas were withheld from those not giving orations.

After leaving school he was taken on a long trip to the west coast by his father. The two of them traveled extensively in California that summer (one year before the San Francisco earthquake of 1906) visiting friends and relatives as they went.

Julian worked one year near Worland, Wyoming, on land owned then by his Father. He returned to Nebraska to attend Business College in Lincoln. Later he became associated with his father in the Fullerton National Bank, becoming president of that bank upon the death of his father in 1920. He served as president 36 years retiring in 1956.

Julian married Elsie Nissen of Aurora, Nebraska, in 1916. Elsie had been employed as clerk and buyer for the Krasne Department Store in Fullerton. They had two children: Maree 1917, Robert 1919.

Robert attended University of Nebraska where he studied petroleum geology. He left school a few units short of graduation to enlist in the Navy Air Corps, when it had become apparent that the United States was about to become involved in World War II. He served in the States, in the Aleutians, and was later based on

Okinawa. His plane was shot down off Okinawa in the summer of 1945. He had met and married Ben Rockefeller of Seattle Washington, while he was in the States. Their son, Peter Robert, born to them December 1944, was never seen by Bob.

Maree attended the University of Nebraska, and graduated from Hastings College, Hastings, Nebraska summa cum laude. She served with American Red Cross overseas during World War II: New Guinea, Biak, The Philippines, Japan. She returned to get her Master's Degree in Social Group Work at Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio. She married Eugene L. Cooper, son of Leland and Hattie Cooper of Fullerton, Nebraska, in 1950. They had three children: Robert Jean, 1952, Sandra Maree, 1955, Michael Julian, 1958.

Their family moved to Fremont, California, 1960. Elsie died in 1962. Julian now lives in Fremont, California, near the home of his daughter. November, 1979.

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E. L. and VIRGINIA CHRISTENSEN

Elmer and Virginia Christensen moved to Fullerton, May of 1946. Elmer was born June 2, 1912 at Minden, Nebraska. Virginia Elaine Jorgensen was born November 16, 1916 in Upland, Franklin county Nebraska. They were united in marriage, April 10, 1937 at Minden, Nebraska. To this union was born three boys, Steven, now of Hilo, Hawaii, Val of Joplin, Missouri and David of Lincoln, Nebraska.

L. W. HEAL

Louis William Heal and Clara Jeannette Shuck Heal owned and operated Theatres in Superior, Ravenna and Fullerton, Nebraska for many years. To this union was born four children, Neal Louis, died as a baby, Joy Jeanette, now Atkins, San Jose, California, Helen Lillian, now Bake, Portland, Oregon and Mary Lou now Gdowski of Fullerton. Mary Lou married Edmund I. Gdowski, May 28, 1952, in Fullerton, Nebraska. They have four children, Nancy Jane, Patricia Eileen, Kathleen Louise, Thomas Edmund. Ed and Mary own Gdowski Ins. of Fullerton.

MATHEAW GDOWSKI

Matheaw Gdowski was born March 30, 1896 near Tarnov, Poland. In 1913 he came to the USA. Ana Kula (Kohler) Czarnick was born January 7, 1898 at Verdell, Knox county, Nebraska. They lived in South Dakota and in Nebraska before settling near Fullerton and farmed. To this union five children were born: Lawrence, now a farmer at Fullerton, Nebraska, Edmund, owner of Gdowski Ins. Fullerton, Nebraska, Ben, a government meat inspector at York, Nebraska. Adam a factory worker at Missouri Valley, Iowa and Angeline, married to Lloyd Hansen, a teacher in a rural school near Fullerton.

T.W.DELANEY

Thomas W. Delaney was born September 5, 1858 in Bureau county Illinois. He married Carolyn Schlitt on August 20, 1890. They came to this area in 1902. He was a farmer. Their children were Joseph Delaney, Estella Steckel, Florence, Sylvia Saville, Francis Delaney.

S. N. SAVILLE

Samual Newton Saville was born November 9, 1867 at Palmyra, Iowa. He came from Iowa to Ord, Nebraska in 1887 and to Nance county in 1900. He was a farmer. He married Tacy Gildow in 1889. Their children were Augustus G., Maude Dickenson, Mary Speicher, Lenna McKay, Jasper. Augustus "Gus" G. Saville was born April 4, 1896 in Valley county, Nebraska. He graduated from Fullerton High School. He

served in the Air Force in France from July 17, 1914 to December 17, 1919. He married Sylvia Delaney on March 4, 1930 at Fullerton, Nebraska. He worked as a rural carrier for the U.S. Postal Service from July 7, 1921 to November 6, 1964 when he retired. One son, William S. was born to this union on December 25, 1930. William now lives at Spalding, Nebraska. Gus was active in the American Legion, VFW, The 40 and 8, Lions Club, Fraternal Order of Eagles, Red Cross. He received the AkSarBen Good Neighbor Award in 1977.

LOWELL KEITH FAMILY

Keith Repair formerly Les Repair is owned by Lowell Keith. Lowell was a mechanic for Les for 13 years before he bought the business in April of 1975. Lowell is the son of Howard Keith and has lived all his life in Nance county. He married Nina Bruna and they have two children, Monte and Gina. They are members of Mount Calvary Lutheran Church.

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THE MATTEA FAMILY

Michael Mattea born in Pilsno, Poland in 1867 and Bernice (Knopik) Mattea born in Krakow, Poland in 1876. After marrying moved to a farm seven and one half miles southeast of Fullerton in 1892.

To this union were born nine children. In the order of birth, they were Louis, Selma, Henry, Theodore, Stephen, Emil, Benedict, Mae and Helen. All of the sons are now deceased. The daughters are now residents of Los Angeles and neighboring communities. For many years, Louis, Stephen and Benedict were Fullerton businessmen operating a Radio and Tire Shop on north main street. Emil was the operator at the Standard Oil Gasoline Station a number of years. Louis was the first radio retailer and authorized repairman in Fullerton.

Benedict, Mae and Helen were graduates of Fullerton High School. Mae being one of the first students of Polish extraction to graduate.

Emil Mattea married Victoria Paproski on September 11, 1929. He was a rural mail carrier and he died in 1972. Their son James teaches in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

THE GABRIEL FAMILY

Joseph P. Gabriel and Eva M. (Bull) Gabriel were born in Polk County, Nebraska and moved with their family to a farm three miles southeast of Fullerton in March 1917. The children Walter, Esther, Margaret and Richard born at Fullerton, were all graduates of Fullerton High School. Walter became a resident of Los Angeles, California in 1941 and affiliated with Southern Pacific Railroad, retiring in 1969. Esther and Margaret married Kuhnel brothers and lived in Osceola and Shelby, Nebraska respectively. Richard after service in the U.S. Air Force in World War II, returned to the family farm in 1945 and died in 1975.

[Mr. and Mrs. Joe Gabriel,](#)
[Richard, Margaret, Walter and Esther.](#)

One remembrance (sic) of Fullerton in March 1917 after several days of rain and the frost leaving the ground, was a trip down main street with the soupy mud hub deep on a spring wagon pulled by horses. When the vehicle came to the concrete crosswalks, it elevated at least two feet in order to cross almost causing the occupants to be thrown out of the vehicle.

Richard Gabriel married Alice Pelikan on May 14, 1947. Their children are Leonard, Dennis, Victoria Christensen, Mariann. Victoria is married to Dana Christensen and Dennis married Hannalea Alley. Dennis lives on the home place.

RUSSELL HISTORY

Wesley, Yorkshire, England is where John Russell, Sr. lived before coming to America. John and Hannah Russell had six sons: William, John, George, Walter, James and Edwin. A daughter, Mary Ann died in infancy.

Mother and her family were what was called an independent family, i.e. could live without working. Having land and income enough to provide them a good living. Mother, her brother, and parents enjoyed a good life.

Father was just the reverse. He was left homeless with a brother (Roger)

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and a sister, (Betty) to look after, he being the eldest. He possessed nothing of this world's goods. He worked in a lead mine until the others could take care of themselves.

Father came to California, around Cape Horn, during the Gold Rush days. The trip took six weeks. He worked two or three years, then returned to England, married and raised his family. Bill and John were born in Redmere, England. The others in Wensley.

The boys were getting a good age and since the Lord (land owner) would not sell Father land, he decided to bring his family to America. He wanted to keep the boys together.

In 1881, October 14, the Russell's with six boys, ages 10 to 25 two other boys (Storey), who lived a mile from us, a domestic (hired girl) named Sarah, and a dog, were ready to leave England.

After the sale, which was of liberal extent, and after Father made eight large boxes to encase our belongings, we left for Liverpool.

We stayed overnight and sailed on the Sardinia of the Cunard Line, the next day.

The crossing took nine days, and it was a rough crossing, so many were sick. The sailors could endure the roughness and went about their work unconcerned. We could see whales pumping (spouting) water in the air, 10 to 12 feet.

[John Russell](#)

At the end of nine days, we all were happy to see terra firma, what we'd been used to, and what everyone wants if they choose to feel secure.

We arrived in Quebec, Canada. Here we transferred to the Grand Trunk Railway. This was a crude train and very rough riding, iron seats with no cushions. This was our first apprenticeship to pioneer life, which we later endured much of. Such a drastic endurance for Mother.

At Port Huron, we rode on a Ferry that took us to United States. Here we took a train to St. Louis, Missouri. With no transportation, city life was not for us. So we left for Allison, Iowa. Father had a friend that left England and had settled in Iowa. We were sorry to find that this friend had passed away a few months before. We stayed here six weeks, all the boys finding work. John and the two Storey boys stayed two years.

We moved on to Lincoln, Nebraska rented a house and stayed awhile.

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From here, Father and Bill left for Grand Island, where the Pawnee Indian Reservation Office was located. They inquired about buying government land. They in turn directed them to Slaughter and Lindsay, an adjunct of Grand Island. They took them to Horse Creek where they bought a section of land, paying cash for it. They had to wait a month to get government patent for it.

Father and Bill came back to Lincoln for horses, harnesses, wagons and supplies. I'll quote prices of the horses we bought. A six year old cost \$160, another for a team \$130. This was not very good. A stud horse

\$156, and a mare \$140. Wagons cost \$50 to \$60 apiece. A set of harness cost \$30. Also bought a pony for \$30.

Mother and Sarah made canvas covers for the wagons. They bought a stove and supplies and we were ready to leave for our new home. The first day we reached Seward, the next Osceola, Clarksville, and then Fullerton. We crossed the Loup River on a ferry. The first wagon crossed safely. The second ran off so we all (boys) got a thorough soaking. Gress was the name of the man who ran the ferry. The Whitneys had the ferry that was west of town, which we used later.

In Fullerton, March 28, 1882, we took rooms at the boarding house which still stands across the street, north of the Library.

A man named Fawsett had charge of the rooming house. He was very kind and found dry clothing for us. Father put the horses in Jim Zibbles livery barn, where Chevrolet garage now stands.

Let me say accommodations were not much in any town. There being only a few houses, no hotels to mention. If Mother and Sarah could get in, we were pleased. Anything went for the rest. There seemed to be ample livery barns for the horses.

As we drove up the Valley, making our own road, Mother said, "This somewhat resembles our English Moors".

We stayed with a family named Shaw's, who had a two story house. Shaws were the closest neighbors to the land we bought. We made our house of lumber, which we bought in Central City. It cost \$15.00 a thousand and was a bit inferior lumber.

Nearly all the houses along the Valley were made of sod, logs, or were dug outs.

In the Spring more families moved into the valley.

In 1884, there was a terrible murder on Horse Creek. (See separate page for the story).

In 1888, about 11:00 in the morning was the worst blizzard of our lives. We drove our cattle to a shelter and never lost a one. Much has been written about this blizzard.

We lived on this farm until 1892. Mother returned to England for medical care, staying several months. She endured many hardships in this Pioneer life. What a contrast to her pleasant life in England. Father and us four younger boys went to Fullerton to live. Bill and John were married and had farms of their own.

We rented the home place for five years to two men, Black and Auld from Iowa.

When Mother returned, Father bought the rest of the Tom Miller place. Tom ran the Post Office at this place and it was called Lone Tree Post Office. This is where Roy Russell now lives.

The next place we purchased belonged to Henry Knapp. This is where I lived for several years. All the land we purchased was from \$2.50 to \$25.00 an acre. Most of the land is still in the Russell's possession.

More settlers were coming, shutting off our herding range. So we decided to fence our land. Buying a car load of oak posts of Colonel Baker of Gingham Iowa. John Reimers told us about this. Then we bought a car load of wire from Ed Kreidler (he was a cousin of Jessie Kreidler). Dudley Barnes worked for Kreidler at the time. He later left Fullerton, but came back again to run a Drug Store till his demise in 1939.

In 1905. we moved to town. I bought and sold livestock for several years.

In 1906, my wife passed away, leaving three small children. We had many, many sad experiences of which I won't relate.

Father passed away February 8, 1901. He lived to be 80 years old. Mother lived to be 75 years old and passing away in 1906.

Edwin Jackson Russell 1871 to 1923

Walter Russell 1867 to 1934

James Richard Russell 1865 to 1934

George Mathew Russell	1863 to 1951
Mary Ann Russell	1861 to 1862
John Henry Russell	1860 to 1936
William Thomas Russell	1858 to 1924

WILLIAM T. RUSSELL

William Thomas Russell and Lillias Laird were married November 21, 1888, at the Laird home west of Fullerton, by Rev. J. C. Irwin of the Fullerton Presbyterian Church. The Laird home, known as Victoria Ranch, was located about six miles east of Fullerton, just west of what was known as Merchiston.

The Russells made their home on Mr. Russell's farm in the Loup Valley, between Fullerton and Palmer, and later moved to their farm just west of Fullerton where Arthur L. Russell lived and Richard L. Russell now lives.

Mr. Russell was a farmer and stockman and a stockholder in First National Bank, where his son John T. Russell was President for more than 30 years and where his granddaughter Margaret Russell is presently employed.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell had four children:

- John T. Russell
- Lillias K. Lillie Mrs. Gilbert D. Griffin
- William H.
- Arthur L.

JOHN HENRY RUSSELL

John Henry Russell was the second son of John and Hannah Russell. He was born in 1860 at Bolton Castle, Yorkshire County, England, and was 21 years old when he came to the United States with his parents and five brothers. He worked in Iowa for two years before joining the rest of the family in Nance county.

J. (Henry) Russell was born October 2, 1892, and lived his entire life in Nance county. He attended school District #5 and Fullerton High School. On January 19, 1919, he married Carrie Belle Epler, a native of Tecumseh, Nebraska. They lived on a farm southwest of Fullerton until moving to Fullerton in 1945. They had one son - John Henry Russell. Carrie died June 15, 1972 and Henry died February 8, 1975.

John Henry Russell was born March 28, 1932. He attended rural schools and graduated from Fullerton High School and the University of Nebraska. He married Ethelene Watson, a native of Shelton, Nebraska, on June 23, 1963. They have two children - Kimberly, born May 27, 1964 and John Calvin, born May 14, 1966. They reside on a farm southwest of Fullerton.

RUSSELL-FORBES IN THE EARLY HISTORY OF NANCE COUNTY.

My mother, Sarah Kate Morrison, was born in Higginville, Kentucky. At the age of three she moved with her parents to Shoals, Indiana. In 1880 she came with her parents, four brothers and five sisters to the same community as the Russell family were now living. My maternal grandparents were Robert J. and Nancy Jane Morrison. My grandfather farmed, raised and sold horses, some of which were secured from the Indians. These pioneer families lived about three miles from an Indian camp ground. The Indians were not happy unless they could trade or steal from the new settlers.

Two of my mother's sisters passed away quite young, one died of child birth and the youngest died with small-pox and pneumonia. They are buried in the valley cemetery, a small isolated plot of ground surrounded by pasture and corn fields.

My mother taught school in this same community. Her school house was crudely made of logs. The winters were very severe in those days, sometimes it was hard to keep the school house warm, but the students wore heavy home made clothing, long underwear and high shoes. Some of her pupils were larger and older than she was.

Sarah Kate Morrison and John H. Russell were married at the Pleasant Valley Church on April 12, 1890. My father had built a two room home on his homestead. It was built of rough lumber, was thinly plastered and was not painted, but turned out to be a very happy home for the new bride and groom. My father farmed, raised cattle and hogs and "fed out" his livestock. To this union, four children were born: Hannah Mae, (Mrs Ed Held, Mother of Anne Held Clark, Gladys Held Kuehn and Avis Jean Laddig) John H. Russell, Jr. Father of John H. Russell, 3rd. Albert E. Russell, father of Albert Russell, Jr. and Patsey Russell Hornby, who is deceased. The youngest and only one of this union living is myself, Nellie E. Forbes.

In the years to come my parents added on to their home. My father built a barn, cattle shed and hog shed on his farm, out of cement blocks which he molded himself. These building are still standing and are in good shape, being so solidly built. This farm is now owned by Albert Russell, Jr. and occupied by Donn Russell and family. John Russell Sr. and his family lived on this farm until he retired.

My husband was the son of Frank V. and Laura Hamilton Forbes. Four children were born to this couple. Dorothy Forbes Kilday, mother of Don P. Kilday, Gary Robt. Kilday and JaAnne Kilday Gerber, Evelyn Forbes Todd, mother of Steven and Jennifer Todd. Robert, father of Sandra Forbes Leininger, Ardythe K. Moeller and Larry Forbes. My husband Fred, fondly known as Freddie was the oldest in the family.

Frank V. Forbes, was the son of John Frederick and Nancy Jane Ayers Forbes. They came from Wilton, Iowa to the Glenwood Community, which joins the Pleasant Valley Community on the west, in 1880 and lived on the land which was later known as Forbes Ranch. They lived in a dug out just south of where their home was later built.

The Forbes' also were farmers and feeders. Grandpa Fred was the owner of a large herd of prized Hereford cows. He raised and sold purebred stock.

The Forbes and Russells were neighbors and good friends, so I knew my husband from childhood. We were only friends, until I grew up and graduated from Fullerton High School with the class of 1928 and was in my first year of college that Freddie really knew I was around. In the meantime he graduated from Palmer High School in 1927 and had started farming on his own. One evening we double dated with another couple. The next Saturday night he asked me to go to the show with him and we started going steady. Two years later we were married on September 10, 1931 at the Methodist Church in Central City, with only the immediate families present.

After our wedding, we left on a honeymoon trip to the Nebraska State Fair. That evening was spent in the honeymoon suite at the Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln. It was just new at that time and was a very beautiful hotel. After a short time at the fair, we visited relatives at Ida Grove, Spencer and Storm Lake in Iowa. Our first night after returning home was spent with Freddie's parents and family. We were welcomed home that evening with an old time chivaree. A crowd of neighbors and friends gathered, some in cars and one kind friend brought his horse and buggy. We were loaded into the buggy and all drove to town (Palmer). We were paraded up and down the street with horns honking and tin cans rattling. Then all went back to the farm where every one was given refreshments of candy bars and apples. That evening when we went to bed, some one had taken the slats out of the bed and filled the covers full of rice The end of a 1931 chivaree! Two evenings later we were given a shower at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Weems. Friends, relatives and neighbors generally made up for all the "devilment" they had done two evenings before.

Freddie and I "started up" on a farm just west of the Glenwood school and church. The farm was owned by Grandpa Fred. Our oldest daughter, Marilyn

was born here. When she was six months old we moved to the Forbes Ranch and, my husband became a partner with his grandfather in farming and raising of purebred cattle. Our second daughter, Dorothy and youngest child, Johnny were born. We lived in a large two story house with a hired man's addition built on. It was a few steps from the smaller home of Grandma and Grandpa Fred. Grandma died and Grandpa lived on in his own home. As his home was so close to ours I kept up his home and he ate his meals with us. There was no staying in bed on Sunday morning, he wanted his breakfast on time 6:30. There was plenty of time to do the chores and get to church. On December 26, 1945, he passed away after being ill just a few days with pneumonia and complications. His death was a great grief to my family. To our children he was the greatest Papoo ever and that is the name they fondly called him when they learned to talk and through the years to come. He was eighty-seven when he died. He was a grand old man and it was his love for his family, especially his great grandchildren, his neighbors, God and the great out doors and his prize cattle that gave him such a long full life.

This ended our happy life on Forbes Ranch, with Grandpa Fred. We moved to the Hadley Farm, just a half mile east and which we had earlier purchased. The place was very run down, and we felt very handicapped at first. We built a new home, elevator, new fences, new windmills and re-modeled the rest of the out buildings. Finally the place became home. My husband farmed, raised hogs and cattle and fed them out. Johnny grew to manhood here and the operation grows.

In 1951, my husband's health began to fail, it was discovered he had a leaking Aorta Heart Valve. In March 1962 he had heart surgery in Colorado General Hospital in Denver, Colorado. Dr. Swann, a world famous heart surgeon performed the rare type of surgery. On June 20, 1963 he passed away very suddenly while driving his jeep to the Loup River, which was close by and which he often did to fish. He was fifty-four years old.

Our family is grown now: Marilyn married Vern Sonderup on October 29 1950. They are the parents of Thomas Lynn and Mark Vern who farm and ranch with their father and one daughter Nancy who is a student nurse in Mary Lanning Hospital, in Hastings. Dorothy married Duane Dudley on April 22, 1950. They have two children, Debra Jane in second year at Nebraska School of Medicine and Douglas Duane, a Junior at Wesleyan University at Lincoln. Johnny married Karen Tibbets of Palmer on October 6, 1960. They have three children, John Jr. who attends Hastings Tech College, Jill Lynn and Jeffery Todd at home.

I lived on a farm close to Johnny and family for eight years, following my husband's death. In 1970 I moved to my present home in Fullerton. He and his family still live on the farm. He has carried on the farm operation his father had to leave. Fred was a Charter Member of Nance county 4-H Clubs.

WALTER RUSSELL

Walter Russell came to Nance county from England with parents, as a young man. He married Elizabeth Morrison and farmed near Fullerton. Retired and lived in Fullerton until death. Their children were Harry, Louis, Blanche and Roy R.

Harry Russell married Alma Erskine and farmed near Fullerton until his death. Mrs. Russell still resides in their house. Their children are Harry W. of Honolulu, Hawaii and Marilyn Chisholm of San Diego, California.

Louise married Walter Hagadone of Cozad, Nebraska and still resides there. They have one son Don also of Cozad.

Blanche married Horace McKeag of Osceola, Nebraska. They lived on a farm near Osceola and raised Black Angus cattle. Both are deceased, no children.

Roy R. married Virginia Held and they live on the home place in Pleasant Valley. Their children are Roberta Frazey of Omaha, Roy Jr. of Omaha, Ralph of Council Bluffs, Iowa, Rogelyn Stevens of Columbus, Nebraska and Ruth Anderson of Norfolk, Nebraska.

George Mathew Russell was born in 1863. He married Kathryn Metcalf and they had three children, Avis Margaret, Florence and John, now deceased. They lived on a farm west of Fullerton, in Loup Valley. Mrs. Russell passed away in 1906 leaving three small children and Mr. Russell moved into Fullerton and bought and sold livestock for several years. Later moved to Los Angeles and lived with his daughters and son. Avis and Florence are retired teachers and make their home in Los Angeles, Laguna Hills Area. George died in 1951.

JAMES RICHARD RUSSELL

James Richard Russell was born in 1865. He married Elizabeth Ludington. Their children were James Lowell, now deceased, Anna Victoria Litchfield, Agnes Eleanor Cooke, now deceased and Lillian Griffin now deceased. James was president of First National Bank from 1913 to 1928. In 1922 he took over the majority stock of the United States National Bank of San Diego and became President of that Bank, but continued to serve as President of the Fullerton Bank until 1928.

EDWIN JACKSON RUSSELL

Edwin Jackson Russell, the youngest son of John and Hannah Russell, was born September 9, 1871 in Wensley, Yorkshire, England. He came to America with his parents and five brothers when he was nine years of age. He would tell of his life in England and going to school there. He remembered the whales on the ocean. He grew up on the farm and loved rural life. As a young man he went away to business school at Fremont, Nebraska. He was a beautiful penman and loved neat small figures in his books. Physically he was probably considered rather short, 5'8" or 9", stocky build and a beautiful head of auburn hair and a fair complexion to go with it. He wore a mustache as a young father.

He was working for his oldest brother, William, when he met Kate Almira Ludington, the district schoolmarm that boarded there. They were married April 9, 1898, in Fullerton, Nebraska. Kate was the third daughter of John W. Ludington and Rebecca Newman. She was born March 25, 1874 at Lone Tree, now Central City, Merrick county, Nebraska.

In about 1903 the Indian Territory of South Dakota opened up for the drawing of land. Edwin, Kate and their two children along with an older brother, James and his family, and a brother-in-law, John Ludington with his family, went up to get land. They did not get land on the first drawing but were able to purchase land from speculators that did, very cheap. James and Edwin started the Rose Bud National Bank of Herrick, South Dakota. They remained there for three or four years and returned to Fullerton.

Upon returning to Nebraska, Edwin and Kate moved to a farm of 160 acres about 10 miles west of Fullerton near the original farm. He farmed, fattened cattle and hogs for market and had a generally busy and full life. There were brothers and neighbors around them for heavy work, for they helped each other when the need arose. Their family numbered five now, two boys and three girls.

The Oldest, (Viola) Marie, was ready for high school so they decided to move to town. This was about 1914. Edwin worked in the bank for a time and in the Fullerton grain Elevator, but could not forget his love for the farm. About 1918 he bought 80 acres two miles west of town. They built a lovely two story home, tile barn and hog house and other buildings on it and moved their family there. He was able to keep his boys busy and each child had a pony to enjoy and care for.

About 1922, Edwin semi-retired letting his oldest son, (Edwin) Clyde, do the farming. His youngest son, Kenneth Ludington died of a ruptured appendix after a short illness, August 16, 1921 at 15 years of age.

Edwin J. died very suddenly December 19, 1923 at 52 years of age. He had been herding some cattle which were out of the fence, down by the river, some distance from the house. He apparently suffered a heart attack. He was able to

get into the wagon and start the team, which brought him to the house. This was a very traumatic experience to the children and especially to Kate.

Kate and her two daughters Kathryn Eleanor and Edith Marion moved into Fullerton. Kate was active in 4-H work, being a leader for several years. She was on the County Fair Board and active in her Episcopal Church. She enjoyed hand work and braided many rugs, she learned to make quilts from wool. She washed, dried, carded the wool and tied the quilts.

Kate spent the last nine years of her life with her daughters Kathryn in Bountiful, Utah. She died October 31, 1961 at age 87.

The oldest child of Edwin Jackson Russell and Kate Ludington, (Viola) Marie Russell married Willis Bell. They had two children Bette Ellen and Ronald. Bette married Donald E. Horacek and had three children. Jerilyn Marie who married Tom Dale Rieken. Ralph Edward who married Jeanne Anderson and Janis Francis who married Walter Jarecke Jr. Ronald Bell married Dea and they have no children. Marie Russell Bell died November 22, 1966. Bette Bell Horacek died May 15, 1976.

(Edwin) Clyde Russell second child of Edwin and Kate was born January 31, 1902. He married (Clara) Blanche Cunningham on November 1, 1923 at Council Bluffs, Iowa. Blanche Cunningham was the daughter of Charles P. Cunningham and Olive Myrtle Bergen. Their children were Ardith Doris, Lenore Evelyn, Madeline Blanche, and Kenneth Edwin. Ardith married Warren E. Granger. They had a daughter Nancy Gail and a son Thomas Eugene. Lenore married Ray Ernest Peregrine and they had three children. A daughter and son died shortly after birth. A son Donald Ray was born November 15, 1955 and they adopted a daughter Janet Kay born April 15, 1963. Madeline married Leo L. Bedke. Lenore and Madeline had a double wedding. Madeline and Leo had three daughters, Cynthia Sue and twins, Jacqueline Jo and Vicki Lea. Kenneth Edwin Russell married Marie Rose (Brase) Lockard. Kenneth is a contractor carpenter in Grand Island, Nebraska. They have three children, Ronda Elaine, Shelly Rose and Randy Edwin.

Kathryn Eleanor, fourth child was born December 9, 1911. She married Paul Pickett. They had one daughter Rogelyn Diane. Paul died and she married Lester C. Bryant. and was divorced. Kathryn married (Delbert) Earl Hess at Salt Lake City, Utah. They have one daughter Linda Karen.

Edith Marion was born January 1, 1914. Edith married William Ervin Clark. They had two sons William Ervin and Robert Jay. She later married Clifton Wolfe and lives in California.

WILLIAM HUGH RUSSELL

William Hugh Russell was born in 1896 at the farm home some thirteen miles southwest of Fullerton in Nance county. His parents were William Thomas and Liliias Kerr Russell. Four children were born to this union: John Thomas, Liliias Kerr, William Hugh and Arthur Laird. The family resided at the Loup River home about ten years. They moved to the farm on Pillsbury Hill after living in Fullerton a few months. Mr. Russell thought the farm would be a better place to raise his family.

William (known as Bill) graduated from Fullerton High in 1915 - and then attended Lincoln School of Commerce. He entered the Army at Leavenworth Kansas in 1918 and was honorably discharged a few months later when the Armistice was signed on November 11th.

In 1925 Bill opened an International Harvester Machinery shop which he managed for nineteen years in Fullerton.

Bill and Hanna Ramsey were married in the Presbyterian church in Grand Island, Nebraska by Rev. Irvin Askine on January 2, 1929. To this union two sons were born - William Lee on October 30, 1929 and Robert Ramsey June 11, 1932. William Lee died September 4th, 1969 - 39 years old.

Robert has a computer business in Phoenix, Arizona. He is married to Mary Lou Rosenquist. A daughter Jackie Lee was born October 12, 1960. A son Craig, by adoption was born September 12, 1968 and came to Bob and Mary, December 23, 1968 - a wonderful Christmas present.

in Nance county lived his entire life here and died here, October 4, 1968 at age 71. He loved Nance county and spent many happy hours fishing and hunting along the Loup and Cedar rivers.

Hanna Ramsey Russell was born February 2nd, 1902 at Streaton, Illinois to Lee William and Bertha G. McAllister Ramsey. The family moved to Kenesaw, Nebraska in 1904. She graduated from Kenesaw High School. (drove a horse and buggy all four years!) She then attended Hastings College and Colorado University at Boulder. She taught in country schools in Adams county for three years, then 5th and 6th grades in Kenesaw two years and two years in Fullerton (departmental in 5th and 6th, 7th and 8th.)

ARTHUR LAIRD RUSSELL

Arthur Laird Russell was born October 7, 1898 to William Thomas and Lillias Laird Russell in Nance County, Nebraska. He attended Fullerton Schools from 1st to 12th grade and then attended Lincoln Business College in Lincoln, Nebraska. On October 6, 1926 he was united in matrimony to Grace Gladys Milby at Grand Island, Nebraska. Grace was born April 20, 1907 at Fullerton, Nebraska.

To this union was born two sons: Richard Laird, September 3, 1930 at Grand Island, Nebraska and Rodney D. on March 19, 1935 at Grand Island, Nebraska.

Arthur (Pete), as he is called, is a livestock breeder and a farmer. He belongs to the Presbyterian Church, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, is secretary of the Twin Loups Irrigation Project and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the First National Bank and Trust of Fullerton, Nebraska.

Richard Laird Russell was born September 3, 1930 at Grand Island, Nebraska. He attended Fullerton Public Schools and graduated from high school He attended the University of Nebraska and received a B.S. in Agriculture. He married Wilma Marie Kindhart on July 10, 1953 at Oakland, Iowa. Wilma was born February 21, 1933 at Oakland, Iowa.

Richard served in the Army from 1953 to 1955 as a Master Sergeant and as Personnel Director at two hospitals at Camp Atterbury, Indiana and Fort Riley, Kansas. He served in the Army reserve for 12 years.

Richard and Wilma have four children, Scott Richard, born October 18, 1955 at Fullerton, Nebraska. Scott is married to Jacque Prosocki and has two children. Kirk Thomas was born September 30, 1957 at Fullerton. Laura Ann was born July 23, 1960 at Fullerton and is now attending the University of Nebraska. Jean Marie was born December 22, 1961 at Grand Island, Nebraska and is a senior at Fullerton High School.

Richard served as a member of the Fullerton School Board for 12 years, and as President of the Nance county 4-H Council 4 years. Served on an Advisory Board at the University of Nebraska four years. He is a life member of the American Legion at Fullerton, is a Fraternal Order of Eagles member and Richard and Wilma were awarded the Ak-Sar-Ben Good Neighbor Award in 1974.

Richard and his family are the third generation to live on the family farm.

Rodney Dewood Russell was born March 19, 1935. He married Patsy Louise Swartz. Patsy was born October 26, 1941 at Osceola, Nebraska to Carl Robert and Viola Helen Bridgland Swartz. Rodney and Patsy have three children Diane Marie born April 8, 1963 and Mark Timothy born October 18, 1965 and Nancy Sue born April 13, 1967.

LILLIAS (Lillie) K. RUSSELL

Lillie Russell was born in Fullerton, Nebraska on March 20, 1895. She married Gilbert Dean Griffin at Fullerton, Nebraska on June 1, 1916. They owned and operated Griffin Cafe in Fullerton. When they retired, they moved to Santa Barbara, California. Mr. Griffin passed away in 1954. Mrs. Griffin stills resides in Santa Barbara, California. Their children are:

Barbara Jean (Mrs: William E. Hayes) Santa Barbara
Jessie Ruth (Mrs. J. T. Rankin) Santa Barbara
Russell Gilbert, Camarillo, California
Thomas Laird, Thousand Oaks, California

JOHN T. RUSSELL

John Thomas Russell was born near Fullerton on September 3, 1890, the eldest child of William Thomas and Lillias Laird Russell, pioneer residents of Nance county.

He grew up on a farm in the Loup Valley west of Fullerton, attended rural school, high school in Fullerton and Stuart, Nebraska and Lincoln Business College. In 1910, he was employed by the Fullerton National Bank, and in 1913 the Russell family became stockholders of the First National Bank. James R. Russell became president, and John T. became bookkeeper and assistant cashier. In 1915, he became cashier and was active in managing the bank, and in 1928, he was elected President and remained in this position until his death November 25, 1960.

On May 26, 1915 he was married to Jessie Whitney of Fullerton and three children were born to them: Margaret, Jean, and John W. (Jack).

J. T. had a strong interest in community welfare and its advancement. He was interested in fields of business, farming and livestock. He was member and Elder of The Presbyterian Church, a charter member of the Lions Club, served on the Volunteer Fire Department and City Council, and was Treasurer of American Red Cross many years and through World War I and II. He served the Bank as its President for 32 years.

Margaret Russell was born in Fullerton, educated in Fullerton Public Schools and graduated from Fullerton High School. She attended Rockford College, Rockford Illinois, University of Nebraska, and graduated from Lincoln School of Commerce. She is employed at First National Bank and Trust and is currently Vice President.

Jean L. Russell Young was born in Fullerton, educated in Fullerton Public Schools and graduated from Fullerton High School. She graduated from Stephens College, Columbia, Missouri and the University of Nebraska and received her masters from Colorado State University, Greeley, Colorado. She taught school in Oakland and Pender, Nebraska and has been in the Voc. Ed. Department of Highland Park, Illinois High School, teaching in both food and fabrics.

John W. (Jack) Russell was born to John T. and Jessie Whitney Russell February 20, 1924 in Fullerton. He was educated in Fullerton City schools and graduated in 1942. He attended the University of Nebraska one semester and enlisted in the armed services in February, 1942. He served overseas and was discharged a 1st Lt. in August 1946. He returned to the University of Nebraska where he graduated with a BA and BS degree in Pharmacy. He married Dorothy J. Davis, August 14, 1949 and has owned and operated Russell Drug Store in Fullerton for more than 25 years. Their children are John Davis Russell born August 4, 1954, graduated from Fullerton High School in 1972 and Hastings College in 1976 with a BA in Business. Timothy William was born May 8th, 1957, graduated Fullerton High School in 1975 and Hastings College in 1979 with a BA in Business.

ELIZAH JAMES BLOYD

Elizah James and Zilpha P. (Bell) Boyd came to Nance county from Green county, Kentucky in February 1920 and farmed in Nance county Nebraska until Mr. Boyd's retirement in 1947. Their children were William J. Boyd deceased, Alice Putnam, Denver, Colorado, Elizabeth Davis, of Fullerton, Emmett deceased, John Marvin of Fullerton, Laura Reardon, deceased and Raymond Boyd deceased.

John William Davis and Elizabeth Boyd were married in 1928. John was engaged in the trucking business and later owned and operated the Davis

Amusement and Carnival for more than 20 years, touring Fairs in Nebraska and Iowa. They had one daughter Dorothy J. who graduated from the Fullerton schools and received her BS in Education from the University of Nebraska in 1951. She taught kindergarten in the Fullerton schools and was married to Jack Russell August 14, 1949.

E. A. GRIFFIN

Emmet A. and Nancey Tilton Griffin came to Fullerton about 1912 from Bancroft, Nebraska. Mr. Griffin was a jeweler. They had 4 sons:

Fay A. Griffin, a pharmacist. He and his wife Vera Cooper Griffin of Des Moines, Iowa owned and operated Griffin Drug Store in Fullerton many years. Their son William J. Griffin now lives in Santa Barbara, California.

Hugh Griffin who with Gilbert started Griffin Cafe and then he later moved to Oregon. His wife was the former Alta Ely.

Guy Griffin owned and operated a theater at Plattsmouth, Nebraska.

Gilbert D. owner of Griffin Cafe.

JOHN LAIRD

John Laird was born in Scotland in 1821. He married Lillias Kerr in 1854 and after her death came with his three children John, Lillias, and Margaret, to the United States in 1884. Mr. Laird and his son, John, farmed east of Fullerton and their ranch was known as "Victoria Ranch", located near Merchiston. The Laird's brought beautiful Clydsdale horses from Scotland to Nebraska and raised Hereford Cattle.

John Laird and his sister Margaret moved to Stuart, Nebraska, where John was a rancher and stockman. Lillias Laird married William T. Russell and resided at Fullerton until her death in 1946. Margaret Laird returned to Fullerton, after the death of her brother John in 1930, and lived with her sister, Mrs. W. T. Russell. Miss Laird passed away in 1950.

JOHN WILLIAM WHITNEY

John William Whitney and Louise Georgianna Riehl were married at Cedar Falls, Iowa, December 1875. In the spring of 1876, they came to Omaha and bought a team of horses and a wagon and drove to Central City, where they took a homestead claim on 1/4 section of land in Merrick county, about 10 miles north of Central City (Prairie Creek area). Later they sold the Homestead claim and bought land near what was then Pawnee Reservation. In January 1879, when the land in what had been Pawnee Reservation was put up for sale, John W. (Jack) Whitney bought 93 acres at \$3.00 per acre, (\$1.00 down and two years time on the rest). They moved to this location on the Loup river which became their home until their deaths, John W. in September 1916 and Louise G. April 1938.

In 1879, they bought the ferry known as the "Black Mariah". This ferry had been launched in the Loup river south and east of what is now Fullerton but because of unfavorable river conditions was moved up river seven miles to the site near the Whitney home. This was the only crossing of the Loup between Genoa and St. Paul, Nebraska, at that time. "Captain Jack", as he was called operated the ferry for about ten years until a bridge was built south of Fullerton.

Many travelers who reached the ferry in the evening were given food and lodging in the Whitney home, which was a small sod house.

One memorable event was ferrying a small circus across the river. The caged animals in wagons were loaded on the ferry, but the elephant was too large so it was made to swim across the river. When the elephant got about mid stream, it decided to stop and play in the cool water, shooting water in the air with its trunk. It took considerable persuasion to move the elephant across the river.

During the time the ferry was in operation, the home of Jack and Louise was known as the "Ferry Ranch" and later was called "Whitney Ranch".

Not only was Jack a farmer, rancher, and ferry boat operator, but also he was one of three temporary commissioners appointed by Nebraska Governor Albinus Nance, for whom Nance county was named. He served in the organization of Nance county and in the location of the county seat and later served one term as Nance county Treasurer. He helped organize the Farmers State Bank of Fullerton, and served as Bank President about 1914-1915.

Jack and Louise had a family of eleven children, nine of whom grew to adulthood, married and with exception of two (Alice Peggy) who lived in California and (Mary Dade), who lives in Sutherland, Nebraska, made their homes in the immediate vicinity of the Whitney Ranch. The children of these families were educated in Nance county schools and with few exceptions graduated from Fullerton High School.

The Whitney's also provided a foster home for 6 year old twin girls: Cleo and Leo Bohannen who were brought to Fullerton on the so called Orphan train about 1906. Cleo and Leo came from Lincoln, Nebraska, under supervision of Miss Bogardus, representative of a Lincoln orphanage. The twins lived in the Whitney home until their marriages. Cleo married Allan Shively of Central City, Nebraska. They raised a family of ten children, lived in Sutherland, Nebraska. Leo married George Smith also of Central City, Nebraska. They had one daughter and lived in Omaha, Nebraska.

Members of the J. W. Whitney family still living in Nance County are Jessie Russell and her daughter Margaret Russell, and son John W. (Jack) Russell, his wife Dorothy Davis Russell and their sons, John and Timothy. Fred Whitney and wife Helen Forney Whitney, their daughter Linda and husband Dale Lesiak and their children (sic) Chris, Jennifer and Nicholas.

MARY ELIZABETH (Dade) deceased married William A. Hossack deceased
John William Hossack
Mary Louise
Jessie Isabel, deceased
James Jacob, deceased
Nellie Katherine

JOHN NICHOLAS (Barlow) deceased Lena Price, deceased
John Franklin
Evelyn Louise, deceased
Ardene Elizabeth, deceased
Barlo Nicholas
Riel L.
William C.

(A)LICE LOUISE (Peggy) deceased Arthur G. Buckner
James Whitney Buckner, deceased

GEORGE WILLIAM BENJAMIN, deceased Nettie Ann Wingerd
Florence Ruth
Helen Georgiana
Josephine Charlotte, deceased
Mark Wingert
Madge Violet
Mary Grace
Paul

WINNIFRED ADELLA, deceased age 7 months

SAM CHARLES, deceased Lessie Myrtle Crow, deceased
John Francis Gladys Beck Milton, deceased

Eleanor
Sam Merton
Georgeanne Milton (step daughter)

JACOB PHILIP, deceased

Joseph William, Dec.

Leslie Philip

Fredric Raymond

Mary Emma

Teressa, deceased age 2 years

Mary Spliechal, deceased

LUCY SELMA

Jessie Edna

Alice Louise

James Leonard

James B. Drury, deceased

ROBERT FRANCIS, deceased

No family

Goldie Lee Trotter, deceased

JESSIE ELLA

Jessie Margaret

Jean Louis

John William (Jack)

John T. Russell, deceased

WM. A. HAMILTON and FRANK FORBES FAMILIES

The Wm. Albert Hamilton family moved from Greeley county, Nebraska to Fullerton in 1900. He was born in Indiana in 1854. He married Sarah Ellen Thompson at Keokuck Iowa in 1859. He had a twin brother and twelve other brothers and sisters. His father was a pioneer Lawyer in Indiana, served as an officer in the Cavalry in the War of 1812. He was quite prominent in politics served as Lt. Gov., a Judge, and in both houses of the Legislature of Indiana., in all he served continuously for 40 years. His wife's maiden name was Albertson and her father had served in Congress from New Albany, Indiana.

The Hamilton's had 5 children - William, who married Lydia Medbery Shull, Laura, who married Frank Forbes, Estella, who married William J. Murray - Dora Mae, who never married, and Joseph Arbor, who was killed in World War I in France. Of these, Lydia Medbery Jackson is the only one still living. She lives at Fullerton.

When the Hamilton's lived in Greeley county he taught rural school. He was teaching when the blizzard of 1888 struck. Rather than endanger the lives of the pupils by trying to get them to safety he left them at the school house with strict orders to remain while he went to the nearest farm house for food and warmer clothing. He brought the supplies back through the blinding blizzard and not a child was endangered. He did not gain the publicity, the lady did who tied her pupils together and led them to safety of a warm house, through the blizzard, but he was considered hero by his family to his dying day.

The older Hamilton children were teen-agers when they moved to Fullerton. Laura and Estella both became rural school teachers. Estella taught several years, married Wm. J. Murray, and was postmistress at Belgrade for a number of years. Laura taught several years, taught in Santin School (west of District 55), Mt. Zion, and Glenwood. It was at Glenwood that she met Frank Forbes whom she married on Valentine's Day in 1906. They were married at Fullerton, then went by horse and buggy to the Glenwood Community. She was the only member of the Hamilton Family to have any children. She and Frank had 4 - Fred L., Robert, Dorothy and Evalyn.

Frank Forbes was the son of John Fred Forbes and his wife, the former Nancy Jane Ayers. They had

come to the Glenwood Community from Wilton Junction, Iowa in the late 1800's. They lived in a dugout until they could get a house built. There were no trees in the valley then but there were still Indians in the area. On a clear day one could see for a long ways. The father would have to go to Fullerton for supplies; there was no river bridge at Palmer at that time. There was a place on the trail near where Zimmer's now live that was the highest spot between Fullerton and the farm at Glenwood. When he would get to that

spot he could see a sheet on the clothesline at home and that was the way he was to learn if all was well at home. They lost three children to childhood diseases for which there were no serum to prevent at that time. Frank and his sister Justa were the only ones to survive.

Justa Forbes married Clifford Lamberson and they lived around Palmer all their married life. They had six children - Leta (Mrs. Harvey Brown), Otis (married Clarice Hoback), Guy (married Pauline Drury), - Lois (married Oscar Hadley) - Maxine, (married Jack Brown), Fay, (married Lois Fisher). Otis and Lois Hadley and Jack Brown are deceased.

Frank's children all married - Fred (married Nellie Russell), Robert (married Wynona Hadfield), Dorothy (married Donald E. Kilday), and Evalyn (married Ernest Todd). Fred is deceased, his children all live in Nebraska - Marilyn (Mrs. Vern Sonderup) at Fullerton, Dorothy (Mrs. Duane Dudney) at Hastings, and John of the Glenwood Community. Bob's children - Ardythe (Mrs. Wayne Moeller), Sandra (Mrs Steve Leininger) of Grand Island, and Larry of Glenwood. Dorothy's children are scattered - Donald P. Kilday lives at Glenwood, Gary (married Eileen Santin) lives at Cincinnati, Ohio, and JoAnne (married Richard Gerber) and lives at Winston Salem, N. C. Evalyn (Mrs. Ernest Todd) lives in San Diego, as do her children, Steve, who is married, and Jennifer who is single.

MOGENSEN

Mads Mogensen was born June 12, 1858 at Kastbjerg pr. Grenna, Denmark. He came from Denmark to McPherson, Kansas in 1881. November 2, 1887, he was married to Mary Gertrude Hansen at McPherson, Kansas. Mary Hansen was born August 2, 1861 at Eskildstrup on the island of Fyn, Denmark. Mary Hansen came from Denmark to McPherson, Kansas in 1882. To them were born three children, the eldest dying in infancy. February 14th 1889 the family moved to Gothenburg, Nebraska and then to Fullerton in March 1902. Two daughters Mabel S., on October 27, 1890 and Annie July 4, 1892 were born in Gothenburg. Mads Mogensen was a blacksmith and learned the trade in Denmark. He won many first prizes on his exhibits at the state blacksmith convention. Some of his exhibits that received first prize were a flower stand, hall tree, bolt chipper and a pair of pinchers. They were all fashioned by him and he took great pride in his work. Mads Mogensen had a half brother Marius and five nephews who live in Lindsborg, Kansas.

In 1930 Mary returned to Denmark for a visit with her two sisters. Her sisters died at the ages of 92 and 96 shortly before she died at the age of 85. On November 2, 1937 Mads and Mary celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Mads died May 30, 1942 and Mary February 15, 1948.

Their daughter Mabel married Ray Arthur Peregrine. They both graduated from Fullerton High School in 1909 and Mabel taught school until she married on November 24, 1915. Annie Mogensen, the youngest daughter of Mads and Mary graduated from Fullerton High School, and the University of Nebraska, received her master's degree at the University of Nebraska. She also did graduate work at Cornell University, University of Wisconsin, University of Iowa, University of Colorado and the University of Southern California. She taught for a time at Hastings High School where she wrote the course in botany for study in normal training schools of the state and was often associated with University professors in their biological science research work making many of the drawings and illustrations for their books. Annie taught bacteriology, botony (sic), and biology at Kansas City Junior College at Kansas City, Missouri for 28 years. She provided inspiration and guidance for many students who later became doctors, research workers and technicians. She made several trips to Europe and visited Danish ancestors. Besides English she knew German, Latin, French and Greek. Annie died November 3, 1954.

PEREGRINE

George Reuben Peregrine was born January 12, 1853, a twin, in Jasper

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county, Indiana to Joseph and Catherine Robertson Peregrine. His twin Frank died in infancy. In 1854 he moved with his parents to Adams county, Iowa. He married Eliza Alvira Delay, January 16, 1872. Eliza Delay was born April 1, 1854. They had ten children, two dying in infancy. The family moved to Nance county, Nebraska four miles south and two miles west of Fullerton on a farm in 1879. Ella, Estella (Stella), Joseph (Jacob), Ernest, Ray Arthur, and Bertha were born on this farm. Eliza Depay Peregrine died June 22, 1918. George Peregrine married Mary E. Vaughn Dec. 8, 1922. Mary E. Shore was born October 5, 1861.

George Reuben died February 13, 1926. George and Eliza are buried in Riverside cemetery south of Fullerton. Mary died October 9, 1938. George Peregrine's brother Charles had the C. S. Peregrine Music Store in Fullerton for a while and taught band in the high school.

Ray Arthur Peregrine was born December 16, 1889. He was next to the youngest child of George and Eliza. He graduated from high school in 1909 and married Mabel S. Mogensen on November 24, 1915. Mabel S. Mogensen was born October 27, 1890. Ray A. and Mabel had two children Maxine Evelyn and Ray Ernest. Maxine married Robert B. Hammond and has three children Evelyn Robert and Carolyn. They live in California. Ray married Lenore Evelyn Russell. Mabel Peregrine died December 19, 1959 and Ray A. died April 8, 1965.

Ray Ernest Peregrine was born August 25, 1923. He attended Liberty Knoll School and graduated from Fullerton High School in 1940. On August 8, 1948 he married Lenore Russell. They both attended the University of Nebraska. Ray farms and raises cattle. They live on the original Peregrine farm which has been in the family over one hundred years. They have two children Donald Ray born November 15, 1955 and Janet Kay Peregrine born April 14, 1963. From his Peregrine ancestors Ray inherited the talent of a beautiful singing voice. Donald Ray Peregrine graduated from Fullerton High School in 1974. He received a State Farmer degree in the Future Farmers of America and attended the College of Agriculture at Curtis. He farms with his father and does cattle feeding. Janet is attending Fullerton High School.

THE CUNNINGHAM GNEOLOGY (sic)

John Cunningham, and Gertrude, his wife, were both born in Canada. They eventually came to Syracuse, New York. They had twin children Philander Bruce and Phileura, born July 4, 1820 at Canton, New York. Have no history on Phileura.

John Cunningham fell from a roof of a barn at a barn raising and was killed when the twins were three or four years old, either 1823 or 1824 in New York state. After his father's death, Philander was raised by his aunt Rachel and uncle Norman Curtis.

SECOND GENERATION

Philander Bruce Cunningham was born July 4, 1820 near Syracuse, New York. Julia A. Cunningham was born January 8, 1821 at East Waverly, New York. They were married May 1, 1844, and celebrated their Golden Wedding May 1, 1894. They had ten children.

1. Myron A. born September 25, 1846 and died September 7, 1918.
2. Phileura G. born January 27, 1848 and died December 29, 1849.
3. James Elmer born August 19, 1850. Married Mary Agnes Kelley. Mary Kelley was born February 15, 1860. James Elmer died May 30, 1900. Mary (Kelley) Cunningham died February 18, 1931.
4. Frank Edgar Cunningham was born Aug. 21, 1852 and died September 18, 1967.
5. Mary Elizabeth Cunningham, born February 25, 1854, died March 1, 1918.

- Married Hugo Vogel on February 15, 1876 and came to Fullerton, Nebraska in 1880.
- Alexander was born May 2, 1855 and died April 7, 1882.
 - Ann Eliza was born April (sic) 5, 1857 and died August 7, 1880.

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- Charles P. was born July 19, 1861 (at Geneva, Illinois). Married Belle M. Divelbiss January 1, 1885. Belle (Divelbiss) Cunningham died August 26, 1895. They came to Nebraska in the winter of 1889 and had five children. After Belle's death, Clara L. Cunningham took care of her brother's children for seven years.

On December 10, 1902, Charles P. Cunningham married Olive Myrtle Bergen. Olive Bergen was born January 18, 1877. They had nine children.

Charles Cunningham died April 28, 1944. Olive (Bergen) Cunningham died May 4, 1953.

- Clara Louise, born August 27, 1863 (never married). Died June 27, 1948.
- Rachel Gertrude, born April 11, 1866 (never married). Died October 17, 1954.

THIRD GENERATION

James Elmer Cunningham and Mary Agnes Kelley (Cunningham) had 6 children.

- May Cunningham married Arthur E. Johns seven children.
Clarence, Thelma married Ace Shermer, Wilma married Bernard Clark, Evelyn married Arthur Tierney, Gerald married Margaret , Marvin married Ann , Shirley married D. Agastino.
- Elmer Bruce Cunningham married Mabel H. Sherman on October 31, 1905. 3 daughters.*
Elmer died in April, 1972, Mabel died Mar. 14, 1978.
Beulah married Peral Lawrence, Bernice married a Brown, and Bethel married a Smith.
- (Benjamin) Ralph Cunningham married Martha Matilda Held on December 25, 1912. Martha Held was born May 8, 1892. Martha (Held) Cunningham died March 5, 1962; Ralph Cunningham died October 28, 1968. 8 children.
 - Lemoyne R. Cunningham was born February 7, 1914. Married Lucille Brockman in June, 1946.
 - Alva Cunningham was born March 31, 1915. Married Grace Weeks in May of 1944.
 - Ruth Cunningham was born January 30, 1917. Married Venoy Mullens in 1938.
 - Norman E. Cunningham was born May 6, 1919. Married Ruth Miller in 1944.
 - Esther Cunningham (twin) born December 23, 1922. Married Bryce Erickson in June, 1946.
 - Chester Allen Cunningham (twin) born December 23, 1922. Married Bertha Vogel on January 17, 1946.
Bertha Elizabeth Vogel was born December 1, 1922.
 - Ivan Cunningham born February 9, 1924. Married Shirley McCray in June, 1948.
 - Arlene Cunningham born March 8, 1929. Married Alden F. Loudon May, 1949.
- Warren Cunningham was born December 25, 1887. Married Leta America Weeks on December 20, 1911.
Leta Weeks was born May 2, 1893.
- Clarence Cunningham
- Grace Cunningham (widow, no family)

Charles P. Cunningham and Belle M. (Divelbiss) Cunningham had 5 children.

- Merton Louis Cunningham, born January 15, 1886, died in May, 1944. Married Mary Irvine in 1908. Mary Irvine was born in 1894. Merton Cunningham died in May of 1944. Mary (Irvine) Cunningham died in November 1949. They had 4 children.
 - Margaret Louise Cunningham born April 12, 1909. Married Franklin C. Williams August 9, 1938. Franklin Williams was born April (sic) 5, 1911.
 - Charles William Cunningham born July 2, 1912. Married Elizabeth Flynn in 1935.

*Elmer & Mabel also had a son - James Elmer Cunningham, who was born in Fullerton, Nebraska on February 6th, 1913

and passed away on January 12th, 1980 in Omaha, NE. He was married to Doris Maxine Grable. They had 2 daughters.

2010: email message from one of daughters.

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- c. Mary Elizabeth (Betty) Cunningham born March 1914. Married Daniel W. Roche in May of 1937.
 - d. Margaret Cunningham married Franklin C. Williams. They had three children: Faith Suzanne, Alison Day, and Marshall Ward.
 2. Charles, born June 30, 1888, died August 29, 1889.
 3. Lester Vogel Cunningham born June 30, 1889. Married Eva E. Downing May 26, 1915.
Eva (Downing) Cunningham died March 26, 1918 had 1 child.
Married Nina Elsie Anderson June 26, 1919. Lester Cunningham died June 21, 1968.
 4. Gladys Merle Cunningham born July 18, 1892 (nurse) died August 16, 1933.
 5. (John) Bruce Cunningham born July 4, 1895. Bruce Cunningham married Edna Lewis.
Pvt. 149 Aero. Sq. Died May 25, 1925. They had 4 children.

Charles P. Cunningham and Olive Myrtle (Bergen) Cunningham had 9 children.

1. (Elsie) Marguerite Cunningham, born April 7, 1904. Married T. Westley Dobson November 22, 1922.
They had three children. Westley died July 9, 1957.
2. (Clara) Blanche Cunningham, born September, 8, 1905. Married (Edwin) Clyde Russell. 4 children.
Clyde Russell was born January 1902. Clyde Russell died February 22, 1971.
Blanche (Cunningham) Russell died September 25, 1976.
3. Alice Louise Cunningham was born August 9, 1907. Married George Theodore Holmstedt
December 5, 1928. They had 2 children.
4. Dorothy Evelyn Cunningham born April 15, 1909. Married Leo Peterson August 22, 1931. The (sic)
had 3 children. Leo Peterson died September 21, 1952. Leo Peterson born February 16, 1910.
Dorothy (Cunningham) Peterson married Floyd Sims on April 16, 1955.
Floyd Sims was born April 3, 1909.
5. Myron Edgar Cunningham (born in Haines City, Fla) born on February 17, 1912.
Married Opal Myers. They had 1 son. Divorced.
Married Velma Sherman Kruger November 30, 1940. They had 3 children. Myron Cunningham
died .
6. Ruth Leona Cunningham born March 19, 1914. Married John Greer April 16, 1935.
They had 2 sons. Ruth (Cunningham) Greer died February 16, 1968.
7. Olive Berniece Cunningham was born January 22, 1916. Married Chester Vernon Frederick
December 10, 1935. They had 2 daughters. Olive (Cunningham) Frederick died May 22, 1940.
Chester Frederick married Beulah Nicklasson October 7, 1941.
8. Julia Rachel Cunningham was born July 6, 1918. Married W. Newman July 2, 1942. Five daughters.
9. Harold Charles Cunningham was born January 10, 1920. (Fighter Pilot in World War II.) Lieutenant.
Married Mona Lani (McGuire) Forst. Adopted her two daughters.

FOURTH GENERATION

Merton Louis Cunningham and Mary (Irvine) Cunningham had 5 children.

1. Margaret Louise Cunningham was born April 12, 1909. Married Franklin C. Williams August 9, 1938.
Franklin Williams was born April 5, 1911. They had 3 children.
 - a. Faith Suzanne Williams was born April 4, 1940. Married Ronald Everett Van Putte July 16, 1960.
 - b. Alison Day Williams born April 5, 1942. Married Douglas Andrew Van Putte July 21, 1962.

- c. Marshall Ward Williams III. was born October 2, 1945. Married Claudia Kesler August 12, 1967.
- 2. Charles William Cunningham was born July 2, 1912. Married Elizabeth Flynn in 1935.
Married Hazel .

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- 3. Mary Elizabeth (Betty) Cunningham born March 1914. Married Daniel W. Roche May, 1937.
 - 4. Lester Vogel Cunningham and Eva E. Downing
 - a. Kenneth Eugene Cunningham born March 26, 1918. Married Grayce Francis Wildman September 11, 1938. Grayce (Wildman) Cunningham was born July 21, 1915. They had 2 children.
 - 4. Lester Vogel Cunningham and Nina (Anderson) Cunningham
 - b. Donald LaVerne Cunningham born October 25, 1922. Married Bethel Lorraine Kellogg March 3, 1944.
Bethel (Kellogg) Cunningham born November 23, 1923. They had 6 children.
 - c. Barbara Jean Cunningham born September 13, 1926. Barbara Jean died April 22, 1953.
 - d. Robert Lester Cunningham born July 6, 1929. Married Fern Elizabeth Kentopp June 8, 1958. Fern Kentopp was born February 12, 1937. They had one son. Fern (Kentopp) Cunningham died January 13, 1962. Funeral January 16, 1962.
Bob Cunningham married Maxene Vivian Harlan Wilkins on October 24, 1964. Maxene Vivian Harlan was born March 7, 1927. They had one boy.
Maxene had two boys from previous marriage.
 - 5. Bruce Cunningham and Edna (Lewis) Cunningham
 - a. Maribelle Cunningham born August 14, 1918. Married Henry William Morrissey on September 12, 1939.
Henry Morrissey was born January 30, 1916.
 - b. Edith Marie Cunningham born May 23, 1921. Married H. Krill.
 - c. Robert Raymond Cunningham born October 3, 19 .
 - d. Helen Lucille Cunningham born September 16, 1924. Married Jay Garrett.

Henry and Maribelle (Cunningham) Morrissey had 3 children.

- 1. Arlene Jeanette Morrissey was born August 27, 1940. Married Claude Edward Hosten* on November 25, 1961. (no information)
- 2. William Edward Morrissey born March 30, 1949. (no information)
- 3. Michael Gene Morrissey born April 8, 1953. (no information)

Charles P. Cunningham and Olive (Bergen) Cunningham

- 1. (Elise) Marguerite (Cunningham) Dobson and Wesley Dobson
 - a. Clell Leroy Dobson was born February 25, 1924. Married Margaret Hall April 10, 1954.
 - b. Naomi Evelyn Dobson was born November 12, 1927. Married William Edward Bibb January 11, 1947.
William E. Bibb was born April 4, 1925. William E. Bibb died .
They had one child Janalyn Gail born April 17, 1956.
 - c. Wayne Theodore Dobson born August 26, 1934. Married Edith Wright October 9, 1952.
- 2. (Clara) Blanche (Cunningham) and (Edwin) Clyde Russell
 - a. Ardith Doris Russell was born June 10, 1925. Married Warren Granger November 2, 1946. Warren Emerson Granger was born August 10, 1923.
 - b. Lenore Evelyn Russell was born December 9, 1926. Married Ray Ernest Peregrine August 8, 1948.
Ray Ernest Peregrine was born August 25, 1923.
 - c. Madeline Blanche Russell born July 18, 1928. Married Leo LaVern Bedke August 8, 1948.

Leo LaVern Bedke was born August 4, 1923. Madeline (Russell) Bedke died August 11, 1962. They had three girls (1 set of twins).

Leo married Marlene VanderVoost Richardson on January 9, 1965.

Marlene VanderVoost was born May 5, 19 . They had two children.

- d. Kenneth Edwin Russell was born June 7, 1930. Married Marie Rose (Mary) (Brase) Lockard July 12, 1955. Marie Rose (Mary) Brase was born October 17, 1936. They had 3 children.

3. Alice (Cunningham) Holmstedt and George T. Holmstedt

- a. Judith Louis Holmstedt was born October 7, 1929. Married Darrell

* 20 Jan 2006 email from Cindi Hooten: Husband's name should be Claude Edward HOOTEN.

Perry Willoughby November 4, 1948. Darrell Perry Willoughby was born June 11, 1924.

- b. Donald Theodore Holmstedt born August 24, 1932. Married Dorothy Reif on August 3, 1958.

Dorothy Reif was born April 17, 1940. Dorothy (Reif) Holmstedt died October 13, 1969.

Married Bonnie (Holm) Royle on August 3, 1970. Bonnie Holm was born May 2, 19 .

4. Dorothy (Cunningham) Peterson and Leo F. Peterson

- a. Leonard Charles Peterson was born July 1, 1932. Married .

- b. Beverley Yvonne Peterson was born February 26, 1936. Married Daniel (Miller) Wiseman. They had 3 children. Beverley (Peterson) Wiseman and Daniel C. Wiseman were divorced in December 1979.

- c. Nancy Diane Peterson was born September 11, 1938. Married Hillerman.

5. Myron Cunningham and Opal (Myers) Cunningham

- a. Allen Edger Cunningham was born March 23, 1938. Married .

Myron Cunningham and Velma (Kruger) Cunningham

- b. Velma Louise Cunningham was born May 3, 1945. Velma Louise Cunningham died

- c. Myrna Joy Cunningham born August 5, 1946. Married Jack Berryhill.

- d. Charles Joseph was born January 27, 1949. Married .

6. Ruth (Cunningham) Greer and John J. Greer

- a. (John) Gordon Greer was born May 15, 1936. Married Marlene Ann Santin on October 17, 1958. Marlene Ann Santin was born November 18, 1936.

- b. Roger Douglas Greer was born June 21, 1941. Married Virginia Schmidt.

7. Olive (Cunningham) Frederick and Chester Frederick

- a. Linda Lea Frederick was born November 1, 1936. Married Rich Everett Adamson on February 4, 1956. Richard Everett Adamson was born March 1, 1935.

- b. Deanna Gail Frederick was born July 25, 1939. Married Kenneth Eugene Hardin September 8, 1963.

Kenneth Eugene Hardin was born March 12, 1938.

8. Julia (Cunningham) Newman and Charles W. Newman

- a. Karen Patricia Newman was born October 17, 1941. Married J. Wilton Smith January 24, 1960. J. Wilton Smith was born October 21, 1940.

- b. Julia R. (Jackie) Newman was born July 10, 1943. Married George R. Emery May 1, 1960. George R. Emery born May 17, 1939. George R. Emery died January 29, 1977.

- c. Merry Jo Newman born July 3, 1946. Married Frank Earl Etheredge February 20, 1968. Frank Earl Etheredge, Jr. was born January 28, 19 .

- d. Sandra Kay Newman born April 18, 1950. Sandra Kay Newman died June 18, 1952.

- e. Flora Olive Newman was born January 21, 1954. Married Bobby Mathews December 21, 1974. Bobby Mathews was born February 2, 1953.

9. Harold Cunningham and Mona (McGuire Fost) Cunningham

Step daughters adopted.

- a. Laurie Jean (Forst) Cunningham was born December 22, 19 .
Married Peter Gevers, Jr on . Peter Gevers Jr was born June 21, 1941.
- b. Livia Gay Forst was born May 19, 1949. Livia Gay (Forst) Cunningham married Kevin Stanley Rosentreter May 9, 1969. Kevin Stanley Rosentreter was born in 1942. They were divorced in

1978.

FIFTH GENERATION

Grandparents - Kenneth and Grayce (Wildman) Cunningham

1. Eugene and Della (Carlson) Cunningham.

Jill Ann Cunningham was born January 3, 1967. Scott Eugene Cunningham was born March 15, 1970.

2. Nancy Cunningham (not married)

Grandparents - Donald and Bethel (Kellogg) Cunningham

Parents - 1. Larry and Jackie (Underwood) Cunningham

Sixth Generation - Debra Jo Cunningham born September 28, 1967. Chris Allen Cunningham born January 23, 1970.

Parents - 2. Michael and Bonnie (Cunningham) Grabowski.

Sixth Generation - Robert Michael Grabowski born July 15, 1976. Rebecca Lynn Grabowski born September 3, 1973.

Parents - 3. Ronald and Beverly (Cunningham) Dwinell, no children.

Parents - 4. David and Dora (Lepant) Cunningham, no children.

Not married 5. Jo Anne Cunningham

Grandparents - Robert and 1. Fern (Kentopp) Cunningham 2. Maxine (Harlan Wilkins) Cunningham.

Mark Robert Cunningham born October 17, 1959. Timmy Scott Cunningham born March 7, 1966.

Stepsons - Billy Wilkins born May 12, 1945. Drew Wilkins born November 24, 1955.

Grandparents - Clyde and Blanche (Cunningham) Russell

Parents - Warren and Ardith (Russell) Granger

Nancy Gail Granger was born Setepmber (sic) 28, 1948. Married Theodore Joseph Appelhanz, Jr. August 17, 1968. Ted Appelhanz born February 28, 1947.

Sixth Generation - Kimberly Kay Applehanz born February 28, 1972. Tonya Lynn Applehanz born August 16, 1974. Mathew Joseph Applehanz born February 28, 1977.*

Thomas Eugene Granger was born August 9, 1951.

Parents - Ray and Lenore (Russell) Peregrine

Linda Lee Peregrine was born and died March 23, 1949. Robert Eugene Peregrine was born and died May 21, 1950. Donald Ray Reregrine was born November 15, 1955. Janet Kay Peregrine was adopted and born on April 15, 1963.

Parents - Leo and 1 Madeline (Russell) Bedke 2. Marlene (VanderVoost) (Richardson) Bedke

Cynthia Sue Bedke was born September 18, 1951. Married Robert P. Menz August 4, 1972.

One child, Neal. Born . Divorced 1977.

Jacqueline Jo Bedke (twin) was born November 26, 1954. Married Byron Russell Yung

August 31, 1974. Byron Yung was born June 13, 1952. One child, Rachel Lynn. Born June 19, 1978.

Vicki Lea Bedke (twin) was born November 26, 1954. Married Charles Schilling April 2, 1977.

From 2nd marriage

Michael LaVern Bedke was born January 4, 1972. Darcie Ann Bedke was born February 2, 1974.

Parents - Kenneth and Mary (Brase Lockard) Russell

Rhonda Elaine Russell was born January 19, 1957. Married Keith Allen DeBraal October 5, 1975.

Susie Jo

DeBraal born June 7, 1976. Christal Renee born November 13, 1979.

Shelly Rose Russell was born January 24, 1958. Married Jerry Fredrick Frenz June 5, 1976. Jerry Frenz

was born March 9, 1955. Timothy Jon Frenz born August 8, 1977.

Randy Edwin Russell was born May 12, 1963.

Grandparents - George and Alice (Cunningham) Holmstedt

Parents - Darrell and Judith (Holmstedt) Willoughby

David Lee Willoughby born October 22, 1952. Douglas Allan Willoughby born October 13, 1954.

Married

Nancy Margaret Smith August 11, 1978.

Parents - Donald and 1 Dorothy (Reif) Holmstedt 2. Bonnie (Holm) (Royle) Holmstedt

Jane Ellen Holmsted born September 24, 1959. Danny Michael Holmstedt

* 14 Oct 2008: Corrections from Nancy Appelhanz < appels4u@aim.com >

Parents - Warren and Ardith (Russell) Granger

Nancy Gail Granger was born September 28, 1948. Married Theodore Joseph Appelhanz, Jr. August 17, 1968. Ted Appelhanz born September 6, 1947.

Sixth Generation - Kimberly Kay Appelhanz born February 9, 1972. Tonya Lynn Appelhanz born August 16, 1974. Matthew Joseph Appelhanz born February 28, 1977.

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born May 8, 1961. Laurie Sue Holmstedt born January, 29, 1963. Carrie Ann Holmstedt born April 22, 1965.

From the 2nd marriage Robert Dean Holmstedt born November 14, 1972.

Stepsons - Larry Michael Royle born August 7, 1968. Greg Royle born November 5, 1969.

Grandparents - Leo and Dorothy (Cunningham) Peterson

Parents - Leonard and Peterson

Dennis Peterson born in 1954. Larry Peterson born in 1957.

Craig Peterson born in 1961. Janel Peterson born in 1963.

Matt Peterson born in 1966.

Parents - Daniel and Beverly (Peterson) Wiseman

Diane (Miller) Wiseman Steven (Miller) Wiseman Kelly Wiseman

Parents - and Nancy (Peterson) Hillerman

Deborah Lynn Hillerman born June 4, 1956. Catherine Louise Hillerman born August 28, 1959.

Grandparents - John and Ruth (Cunningham) Greer

Parents - (John) Gordon and Marlene (Santin) Greer

Diane Marie Greer was born December 28, 1960. Sharon Lynn Greer was born July 17, 1962.

Parents - Roger and Virginia (Schmidt) Greer

Sally Greer was born .

Grandparents - Chester and 1. Olive (Cunningham) Frederick 2. Beulah (Nichlasson) Frederick

Parents - Richard and Linda (Frederick) Adamson

Cynthia Marie Adamson born September 18, 1958. Charles (Chuck) David Adamson born February 7, 1961.

Parents - Kenneth and Deanna (Frederick) Hardin

Jeffrey Scott Hardin born October 1, 1970 adopted.

Grandparents - Charles and Julia (Cunningham) Newman

Parents - J. Wilton and Karen (Newman) Smith

Amanda Jo Smith (twin) born December 20, 1961. Andy Williams Smith (twin) born December 20, 1961.

James Wilton Smith, Jr. born January 25, 1963. Ted Benjamin Smith born March 30, 1965. Patricia

Ann

Smith born February 9, 1973.

Parents - George and Jackie (Newman) Emery

Julia Ann Emery born January 4, 1961. Sherry Elise Emery born September 19, 1962. Donna Sue Emery born July 31, 1964.

Parents - Frank and Merry Jo (Newman) Etheredge

Frank Earl Etheredge, Jr. born January 28, 1969. (Patricia) Rachel Etheredge born January 9, 1971.

Nadine

Merry Etheredge born July 16, 1973. Charles David Etheredge born February 16, 1976.

Parents - Bobby and Flora (Newman) Mathew

Grandparents - Harold and Mona (McGuire Forst) Cunningham

Parents - Peter and Laurie (Forst Cunningham) Gevers, Jr.

Steven Thomas Gevers born May 28, 1973. Bruce John Gevers born July 23, 1974. (Laurie) Dorothy Gevers born August 11, 1978.

Parents - Kevin and Livia (Forst Cunningham) Rosentreter

no children - divorced in 1978.

ARNA A. PETERSON

Arna Agnew Peterson was born April 23, 1915 to Charles Edward and Edith Eleanor Agnew Peterson. His father Charles was Nance county Sheriff so Arna was born in the old Nance county Court House as was his two sisters and a brother. Charles also served two terms as a member of the Fullerton City Council and was mayor when the local city park was established. During World War I, he was chairman of the Nance County Draft Board.

Smith Grimes Agnew moved to Fullerton in 1902 from Pottawattomie County, Iowa. The reason he decided to move here was that he had two brothers William and John, living near Fullerton. He bought two farms in the Loup river

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valley and a whole block in the southern part of town. He sold the east part for homes, but Arna resides in the original house on the west side of the block, which he remodeled - adding an upper story and two colonial type porches.

Myrtle, Gertrude and Laura, daughters of Smith Agnew graduated from Fullerton High School and Kearney State College and were school teachers.

Arna married Helen Laura Heidenreich on June, 18, 1946 at Oshkosh, Nebraska. To this union was born Arna Carl Peterson January 6, 1949 at Genoa, Nebraska and Edward Warren December 14, 1953 at Genoa.

THADDEUS ELLIOT WEEKS

Thaddeus Elliot Weeks was born February 11, 1855 in Illinois. His parents were James Elliot Weeks and Cornelia (Pratt) Weeks. His early boyhood was spent in Illinois. But when he was 11 the family moved from Illinois to Iowa. Reportedly he drove a wagon through from Illinois, accompanied by his brothers Frank and Will.

In 1868 his Mother died. Later that year his father remarried to a lady who also had sons. Friction developed, and as a result my Grandfather left home. He would have been about 14. It is my belief he went to live with his grandfather, George Washington Weeks, who also migrated from Illinois to Iowa and lived in that same area.

During his young manhood days he liked to ride past a certain house and pretend he was drunk. The owner of the house was a stiff-backed old Englishman. He took Grandfather's actions as genuine. And decreed none of his children were to associate with that "wild Weeks boy". But either his warning came too late, or went unheeded, because his eldest daughter Lucy Louisa met, fell in love with, and married Thad Weeks. I am sure she was aided and abetted by her dearest girlhood chum, Isadora (Dora) Imes. . . a first cousin of Thad (and may have been raised by her grandparents too. At any rate there was a life-long attachment between Dora and Thad). Thad married his Lucy on February 19, 1877. . . the eve of his twenty-second birthday. Lucy (Harris) Weeks would have been 19.

Their little girl was stillborn, and unnamed. On May 8, 1879 Lucy gave birth to a son. And died soon after. The son was named Lewis Irvin. He was raised by his grandparents, James and Sarah (Berry) Harris. For five years following Lucy's death, Thad also lived with his in-laws.

About 1883 Thad Weeks left Iowa and came to Nebraska working on a road gang. The gang headquartered at David City. There he met, and later married, Miss Katherine McKee. And shortly thereafter moved on to the Fullerton area. (His second marriage took place in 1884). On July 1, 1885, a son was born to them named Harvey James. The family lived on a farm North of Fullerton. (In 1968 the house was still standing. but may not be now.) When Harvey was 12 there was a baby sister born named Cara. She died in childhood and is buried in the Main Cemetary (sic) in Belgrade.

At a late date, unknown to me, Thad moved his family into Fullerton. Here he worked in a Jewellery (sic) store which burned down. His later years were spent in gardening and beautification of his home. He lived where Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Boatman do today. And there was a picture of him standing beside a flowering bush with a well-kept lawn around him.

I am sure his last year was made happier by the fact that his oldest son, L. I. Weeks, moved his family from Iowa into the North Star area. The younger son, Harvey, lived in the Ericson area. So that both sons were not too far away.

In February of 1924 he had seven teeth pulled at once. Then walked home in a cold drizzle. He became ill, and it ran into pneumonia. He died in May of that year. He is buried by his daughter at the Main Cemetary (sic) in Belgrade.

He had two brothers who also lived in the Fullerton area. Frank Weeks came to Fullerton at a date unknown to me. He married Miss Lydia Riggins in Iowa and began housekeeping with Thad and Lucy in a little one-roomed house. (Which I have seen.) Frank Weeks is the father of Mrs. Garnet (Weeks) Spackman, Mrs. Leta (Weeks) Cunningham of Friend, Mrs. Cornelia Reynolds of Hastings, and the late Mrs. Bula Hagman and Charles Weeks. He also had an

older son, L. D. Weeks in Iowa. Also a daughter, Mrs. Ace Killion of that state. Frank Weeks is buried in Iowa.

It is my contention that when Thad left Iowa he brought his youngest brother along to Nebraska with him. At any rate, Will Weeks came. He later married, Miss Abbie Miller, and lived his entire married life in the Palmer area. They had one son Clarence. He married Miss Bessie Rice of the Mount Zion neighborhood. Clarence had two children. Lucile who married Ted Heck, and William. All of them live in California now. Current addresses unknown to me.

Thaddus E. Weeks is the grandfather of Mrs. Vivian McNeff, Mrs. Ray Milby, Mrs. Milford Swanson all of the North Star area, Mrs. Al Cunningham of Fullerton, and Gerald M. Weeks of Tucson, Arizona. These are the children of L. I. Weeks. Harvey J. Weeks had one daughter, now Mrs. John Bilstein of Columbus. He had three grandchildren.

HISTORY OF AUGUST HENKE AND FAMILY

August Henke was born December 23, 1862, in Oldenburg, Germany, and at the age of fifteen he came to America with his parents and resided in Wisconsin. In his early manhood the family moved to Colfax County, Nebraska. At the age of fifteen he helped haul lumber to build the St. John Lutheran Church at Shell Creek,

a country church about ten miles northeast of Columbus. He married Gertrude Lenz on March 3, 1887.

The Lenz family also came to America from Darnstadt, Germany, and also located in Wisconsin. Later some of the children moved to Colfax County. While living there Gertrude Lenz and August Henke met and were married. Shortly after their marriage they moved to a homestead near Chadron, Nebraska. While living there they became the parents of two daughters, Emma and Minnie. The Indian trouble of the eighties caused them to be dissatisfied. Many times when Mother was alone the Indians (sic) passing through the yard would look through the windows and this frightened her. Due to this situation Mother and the two children took the train to Schuyler, Nebraska and stayed with Father's brother, John, until Father could make arrangements for someone to take the homestead. As soon as he did, he left and the family moved to a farm south of Leigh, Nebraska.

In 1893 when Emma was five years old the dreadful disease of diphtheria (sic) raged through the community. Mother, Emma and Minnie had it and Emma did not survive.

Anna, Lydia and Otto were added to the family while they lived in that community. We lived six miles from a country church, the St. Paul Lutheran. There were no automobiles at that time. Can you feature going to church in a spring wagon, as it was called? It was similar to a wagon box with two seats and no cover over the top. Our parents sat on the front seat and in the winter time the back seat was removed and straw was placed on the floor and covered with a blanket. We children sat on the blanket and used a quilt for a laprobe to keep us warm.

This was a German Community and all the church services were in German. Christmas Eve was always a highlight for the children who always took part in the program. Under the large Christmas tree were the children's treats--; a package containing candy, nuts and an apple.

I especially remember one Christmas Eve when the children spoke pieces and those who were third, fourth and fifth graders sang in German, "O Tannenbaum, O Tannenbaum," which was "O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree" in English. The parents had taught the children their pieces and songs at home and we sang that song that evening. We had no practice together, and when we finished we felt so proud, thinking we had done a wonderful job, but I can imagine it was very entertaining!

We didn't mind driving that distance in the snow, nor the cold, nor coming home late to a cool house. We had only a coal heater and an old-time cookstove to keep the house warm.

While living in the Leigh (sic) community (sic), I saw the first automobile in that

part of the country. We lived by the highway and it passed our place. It was quite a novelty. Topless and horseless it had two seats and the wheels were similar to wagon wheels. I do not recall as to rubber tires. I do know it did not travel the speed of present-day automobiles. I recall that Father went to Leigh that day, and coming home he saw the car coming and got out of the wagon and held the horses by the reins. He said he had a hard time holding them they were so frightened.

The spring of 1906 we moved back to a farm near Shell Creek and lived there two years until father bought a farm about nine miles southwest of Fullerton. We moved there in the spring of 1908 and Fullerton has been our hometown since. During that time we have had many sad memories and many sweet memories that we cherish.

In regard to my grandparents, I don't recall seeing Grandfather Henke. According to a record I found he passed away in March 1897 at the age of 72. I recall Grandmother Henke making her home with Uncle John Henke and staying part time with us. When she stayed with us, she always brought her spinning wheel and a sack full of wool. She would card the wool then spin it into yarn and knit mittens and stockings. She passed away in February 1916 at the age of

I never saw Grandfather or Grandmother Lenz. They were in Wisconsin. I do not remember when Grandmother passed away but Grandfather passed away in 1900.

District 11 was our home country school where we children finished our lower grade schooling. I was fortunate to attend Fullerton High School and graduated in 1914. I took Normal Training, so after high school graduation I taught in rural schools of Nance county. Miss Chloe Baldrige was rural School Superintendent

during my teaching career.

Mother passed away at the close of my junior year in high school in May 1913; Minnie left us in September of 1920; my brother, Otto passed away in August 1935 and Father in May of 1944.

I married David T. Galloway in May of 1920 and we lived on farms after our marriage. We had three children, Leo A., Mildred Jean, and Betty Pearle. Leo Aldis and his wife Ruth received their Ph. D. degree at Texas Tech University in Lubbock and have been teaching at Missouri Western State College in St. Joseph Missouri. Leo retired this year but Ruth is still teaching English there. Mildred became a registered nurse and married Wayne Hilder of Central City. They are parents of three boys and two girls. Betty married a dentist, Walter A. Bennett Omaha and they have two daughters, a son and grandson. Betty is also a registered nurse. Due to a long illness, my husband was in a Veteran's Hospital for years and passed away in January 1966.

My sister, Lydia, married Ralph Morrison and they had two boys. Norris and his wife live in Houston, Texas where they both teach school. They have one son and one daughter. Robert and his wife live in Tallahassee, Florida and have three daughters. Both Lydia and Ralph have passed away.

I still recall my early school days, teachers and playmates. My first grade teacher was a man named Carl Cushman. This is a small world. In the twenties when we lived in the North Star community, Mr. Cushman, my former first grade teacher at Leigh, was teaching in the North Star school west of Fullerton.

Last summer my daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Hilder took me to the places we used to live around Shell Creek and Leigh. The country has changed. The two churches are still there, but Sunday School rooms and basements have been added. The furniture is still the same and the interiors are beautiful.

The first rural school I attended was still there but closed. The others have been moved away. The homes where we lived were still there but remodeled, what an interesting trip!

While living in Fullerton I became well acquainted with Mrs. Donald (Margaret) Leininger and I discovered that her father was a Lutheran minister who served the St. Paul Lutheran Church near Leigh, the one we used to attend. We had interesting visits about people we both knew and through her I located

one of my classmates in Leigh when we toured the countryside last year. What a surprise and such an interesting afternoon!

During my life I have spent 30 years in educational work, first as teacher and then as high school librarian, then in the office of the superintendent Mr. J. Bitner and Mr. Wayne Nicholls. It was a pleasure to work with them. I also enjoyed the years working in the City Library and also the days I helped the County Superintendent, Miss Jessie Kreidler.

W. P. HATTEN

My father and mother moved to Nance county from the state of Missouri. My mother was very ill and they thought the climate here might be better for her health. They traveled from Missouri in a covered wagon and camped in the yard of the S. H. McClure farm for a while until the house was built.

I was born in 1890 on a farm three miles north of Fullerton. My mother died in November of that year and I was sent to live with my paternal grandmother at Hamburg, Iowa. My father stayed in Nance County and in 1900 was elected Nance County Treasurer. In a few years he was working in the Fullerton National Bank and served in different positions at different times.

He, W. P. Hatten () married again to the Belle Hatten that people of Fullerton remember. They had four children: Dean who married Lillian Blaufield, Fred who married a Cedar Rapids girl, Leta King, Richard who was married to a Denver girl. He had gone there to college and played on the basketball team. My half-sister, Louise, was killed in a car accident when returning from state meeting of Osteopaths. She was an osteopath and was serving as treasurer of the state group. I came back to Nebraska and lived with them.

My father wanted me to go to college but I was a little backward about going away from home. I took a post-graduate course in high school in the normal training department. In November of 1910 Lucretia

Connor who was our County Superintendent came to me and asked if I would finish teaching the Irish School near Belgrade. The teacher was getting married so I finished that school year and was rehired for the coming term but before I signed the contract for \$45 a month, Mr. Diers who was in the Diers clothing store here in Fullerton came to me and asked if I would be the cashier and bookkeeper at his store. This interested me more so I didn't sign the school contract but went into the Diers store where I was cashier for about three years before I married Carl Hess, in 1915.

He and his brother has the Hess Shoe Store here in Fullerton. His brother had married Amy Blaufield. They took the shoe store and we went up the street and were in the Hess Cash Store. This store was called the Adams Racket Store which was more or less a dime store but after a while we added dry good and groceries and ran that store for nine years.

I shared my father's interest in the Fullerton Chautauqua. It was one of the largest in the state at that time. It usually ran a week or ten days. The longest one included three Sundays which they found was too long, people couldn't leave their homes and camp out for such long periods.

My father was an officer for years and some of the other men of the community who were interested and active in helping with the Chautauqua were J. E. Kreidler, W. H. Orton, J. W. Tanner, Henry Kellogg, J. H. Kemp, Albert Thompson and others.

Albert Thompson built a home against the bluff and had a storm cellar in the back of the bluff where they would go if we had extreme storms.

The grounds were beautiful with natural oak trees, good grass in some spots but not everywhere. A large dining hall was built and the Secretary's house was built with natural logs that had been cut in the park. A few years later they had cabins built in different locations on the grounds.

Many of the farm families didn't have the tents or cabins but who could

came each day and brought their families. At chore time the ones who did the chores went home and came back for the evening performances.

Sundays saw the largest attendance and some Sundays saw as many as 10,000 on the grounds. The railroad ran special trains on Sunday to Fullerton from both Columbus and Spalding. There were lots of tables where people could eat their picnic lunches and people came for 30 or 40 miles around.

The churches has special services. They had Sunday School and Church each Sunday morning and one of the local ministers would take charge. We also had Billy Sunday and he drew a great crowd.

We had concessions on the grounds. People from the store in town would have let's say an ice cream tent and a grocery store. The dining hall was quite large and served meals for about three hours in midday.

WILBUR RENO AND ALICE HAZEL (HELMS) KELLOGG

Wilbur's father was Sheridan Romaine Kellogg who was born on September 14, 1845 in Bureau county, Illinois. He was one of the twelve children born to Arial and Persis Kellogg. He grew up in Illinois served in the Civil War, married Irene Wetherell in 1869 and came to Nebraska in 1861. His brother, John Newton, had come to Nebraska to claim a land grant near Clarks and six months later Sheridan and his wife followed and settled on an adjoining grant. In 1887 the family moved from the farm into Clarks where Wilbur was born in 1893. The following year they moved to Central City and lived there until coming to Fullerton. They had six sons and two daughters. Sheridan was a maker and seller of brooms. In 1907 he became ill and died - buried at Fullerton.

Wilbur's mother, Irene, was the daughter of Ralph and Clara (Meech) Wetherell who were married in Connecticut and moved in 1846 to Illinois. During the Civil War he fought under "Old Glory". They came from Illinois to Clarks, Nebraska where he engaged in the furniture and undertaking business. Clara died in 1879 and is buried at Clarks. After leaving Clarks Mr. Wetherell went to Fullerton and from there to the Soldier's Home at Grand Island where he died in 1915 - buried at Clarks.

Alice was born to Levi Valentine and Anna Marie (Prante) Helms on August 1, 1893. Levi was one of

twelve children born to Alfred and Louisa (Jones) Helms in Dearborn County, Indiana. Alfred moved to Indiana from Lincoln County, North Carolina. Levi was a teacher/farmer as were others of his family. On December 17, 1904 he was kicked by a horse and died a few hours later leaving his widow and four children: Francis, Edith, Samuel (died 1909) and Alice. Alice lived with her mother until grown and then held jobs as a milliner in North Bend, Syracuse and Belgrade, Nebraska.

Anna Prante was the daughter of Ernest Henry Prante born in 1826 who came from the Alsace-Lorraine district of France and Mary Charlotte (Rahe) who was born in Hanover, Germany in 1829. At the age of sixteen she sailed from Hamburg to New Orleans and took passage on a boat up the Mississippi and Ohio rivers to Cincinnati (sic). The couple were married there on March 23, 1854 and moved to a farm near Friendship, Indiana. Ernest died in 1872 leaving Mary with ten children aged seventeen down. In 1879 she sold the farm and bought land at Peru, Nebraska. The family moved there. Anna married Levi at Peru on April 5, 1882.

Wilbur and Alice were married June 28, 1916 at Central City, Nebraska. He worked in printing shops at Broken Bow, Mason City and at Canon City, Colorado. In November of 1918 they came back to Nebraska and moved to a farm in the Timber Creek area. In 1934 he was elected to serve as Nance County Clerk. The family moved to Fullerton and he remained as clerk until his retirement at the end of 1966. He died in February 1968 survived by his widow, two sons and four daughters.

BADJE

Fred Henry Badje was born November 12, 1874 son of Hans and Maria Badje, in Brunsbuttel, Germany. He came to the United States at the age of 15,

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coming first to Omaha, then to Burt county and on to Nance county to a farm in the Timber Creek area in 1917. He married Anna, daughter of John and Sofia Oltmanns who was born in Germany on March 5, 1882. Mr. Badje was a leader in church, farm organizations and served on the school board of District #7.

There were six children: Fred Badje who married Eva Bennett, John Badje who married Annabel Main, Ann Badje, Peter Badje who married Cecile Crotcher, Marie, married to Herman Hellbusch and Freda Sofia born October 21, 1905 who married Werner Alvin Hellbusch, birthdate July 25, 1905. They had three sons. Twins, Robert Carrol and Richard Darrol, January 14, 1935 and Roger Ray January 2, 1942. Robert graduated from Midland College, Fremont, Nebraska served in the Army three years, married Alice Linqvist and is now with Commercial National Bank and Trust Company in Grand Island. They have a son Darren and a daughter, Lisa. Richard married Donna Lou Steinwart and lives on a Timber Creek area farm. They had four daughters, Barbara, Mrs. Emil Zimmer, Dianna, Mrs. Mark Jackson, Debra, deceased and Laura.

Roger served in the Navy three years. He married Janet Evers and they have five sons. Todd, Troy, Tom, Tim and Thad. They live on a farm in Timber Creek Township.

GEORGE BOWMAN FAMILY HISTORY

George R. Bowman was born to Algetha Browder Bowman and Clinton R. Bowman on January 3, 1893 at Plattsmouth, Nebraska. He was the youngest of three children. George was a baby when the family moved to Albion, Nebraska. He attended school there and completed the eighth grade. He worked for several years for W. B. Martin in a grocery store. In 1915 he bought the store from Mr. Martin and it became "Bowman's Grocery".

In 1917 he married Lillie Marie Hutchison on May 22nd in Albion. Lillie was the fifth child of Carlisle and Mary Lawson Hutchinson, born on February 26th 1897 in Albion, Nebraska.

Her father, Carlisle Hutchinson was born in County Armagh, Ireland and came to this country when he was sixteen years of age. Her mother was brought to the USA from Sweden by her uncle who was a sailor. She arrived in New Jersey when she was sixteen years old and made her home with the Hoffman family who

later moved to Albion, Nebraska. There she met and married Carlisle Hutchinson and raised a family of ten children on a farm in Boone County, Nebraska.

Lillie attended and graduated from Albion high school in 1915. She taught country school for two years until she married George Bowman in 1917.

George sold his store to enlist in the army in 1917 and was sent home with a heart irregularity. He and his bride moved to Fullerton, Nebraska where George took employment with E. B. Penney & Sons general store where he managed the grocery department for several years. Lillie worked part-time in the store also.

In 1922 (?) George and Everett Black formed a partnership and bought out the Bailey Grocery store in Fullerton. In 1924 George bought out his partner and assumed full ownership of "Bowman's Grocery." Later George bought a small farm and started a dairy herd. He operated a dairy and his grocery store until 1950 at which time he sold out his dairy business.

George was a charter member of the Fullerton Lions Club, the Tatters Club, he helped promote 4-H Calf Club and was active in many civic affairs. He was an elder and trustee of the Presbyterian Church. Lillie helped keep the books at the store and dairy as well as raise their only son, Robert.

George Robert Bowman (known as "Bob" or Robert) was born on January 3, 1923 in Fullerton, Nebraska. He attended high school in Fullerton and graduated in 1940. He attended Hastings College. In February 1943, he enlisted in the Army. In November 1943 he married Margaret Pauley in Hastings.

He attended O.C.S. in Columbus, Georgia (Ft. Benning) and graduated a 2nd Lt. in the Infantry. He served in the medical corp the air corp and the infantry and after spending a year in Japan, was discharged a 1st Lt. in 1946.

He was in partnership with his father in the Bowman Grocery Store until

his father's death in 1961. He sold the store to Leonard Shotkoski. He became a franchise dealer for Westland Homes Corp, of Hastings, Nebraska until his death on December 28th, 1979.

Surviving are his wife, Margaret, a son Charles of Hastings, two daughters, Barbara Hein of Atlanta, Georgia, Jayne Pickrel of Fullerton, his mother, Mrs. Lillie Bowman and four grandsons.

DODDS

Harold LeRoy Dodds, July 1, 1921 was born in Nance county. His parents were Elmer Wesley and Edith Emma Shoening Dodds. He attended Nance County rural schools and Cedar Rapids High School. He served in the U.S. Army from September 1942 to November 1945. On June 3, 1947 he married Wilma Ellen Schweitz, born March 12, 1927, daughter of Herman Rudolf and Martha Hellbusch Schweitz.

Harold has a sister, Irene Dodds Schlemmer, Omaha, Nebraska and a brother Orville Dodds of Stromsburg. Wilma has a sister Edna Gallo of Kansas City, Missouri, brothers, Ernest Schweitz of Oakland, Nebraska and Theo. Schweitz of Fullerton. One brother Raymond Schweitz, died in the service of his country on May 23, 1951 in Korea.

Harold and Wilma live on a farm in Timber Creek Township. They have 3 sons. Larry Dean Dodds, April 30, 1948 married Linda Carol Herr. They have three sons, Luke, Ben and Mark. They are farmers in Timber Creek Township. Randy Lee Dodds, March 21, 1952 married Colleen Trofolz. They have a son William and live on a farm in Timber Creek Township. Carroll Ray Dodds, April 19, 1955 married Debra Fitzgerald. They have a daughter, Shannon and live near Brewster, Nebraska.

HOFFMAN

Fredrick August Hoffman was born in Breinstein, Germany, April 25, 1875 and came to the United States settling in Butler county. He married Marie Elise SauerMann, who was born in Oltenfliesh, Germany July 7, 1881. They lived in Butler county until coming to Nance county to live on a farm in Timber Creek Township until they retired and moved to Belgrade.

There were three children:

Olga Elise Hoffman born March 26, 1907

Karl Oscar Hoffman born February 18, 1909

Ella Mae Hoffman born May 17, 1923

Olga married Theodore Hellbusch. They lived on a farm in the Timber Creek Area. There were five children Bette, Donna, Karl, Marion, and Dan. She died in 1977.

Karl married Hermina Helen Hellbusch on January 24, 1940 and lived on a farm in Timber Creek Township until retiring and moving to Belgrade in 1978. They had two children Leah and Leonard. Leah married Galen Malander and has three children. Leonard died in 1964.

Ella Mae married The Rev. John Ackermann who was a pastor at Peace Lutheran Church. She is now a widow living in West Branch, Iowa.

BALDRIDGE FAMILY

William Baldrige, the ancestor of the American branch of this family, was born in the Province of Ulster, Ireland, in the year 1689. On the 16th of June, 1714, in the Parish of St. Andrews, in the county of Tyron, Ireland he was married by James Ancar, Vicar of the Established Church of England, to Jannette Holmes, who was baptized in the Parish of St. Giles, Ireland, County Down, by Alfred Mooney, Vicar, July 9, 1694. She was the daughter of James Holmes, who married Margaret Jennings and through them the Baldriges in America claim a portion of the "celebrated" Jennings estate.

James Holmes died in 1727, and in his will duly proven in the Register's office in Belfast Third Division Court, on June 14, 1727, wherein he devised to

Jeanette Baldrige, his daughter, the sum of two hundred thousand pounds, from the funds in trust for her and her heirs, and also all dividends in the South Sea Company and her mother's legacy in full without deduction.

William Baldrige and Janette and family came to America in the ship Queen Margaret about the year 1745 and landed in Philadelphia. Their family consisted of three sons and three daughters some of whom were married and had families. At that time Little Brittain and adjoining townships, in Lancaster county, were settled almost entirely by Scotch Irish Presbyterians, and it is quite probable among the number were some relatives or neighbors at the home they left in Ireland. William Baldrige and his family settled in Little Brittain township where he took up several hundred acres of land near the center of the township, on which he resided until his death in the year 17 . Janette died a few years before her husband.

The oldest son John Baldrige married Rebecca, daughter of Clark, in Coleraine, Londonderry, Ireland, before they came to America. In 1749 he purchased several hundred acres of land in Bart, now Eden township. At that time he was living upon a farm in Martick township, now Providence, which he purchased a year or two before his other purchase. He died in Martick township in July, 1766 leaving a widow Rebecca and several children.

Rebecca married again to Aaron Boggs and they removed to Rutherford county, North Carolina. All but two of her children went with them. A son John Baldrige married Jane M. Janes, September 30, 1834 in Burke county, North Carolina. She was born December 7, 1818 in Rutherford county, North Carolina. Rebecca died at the remarkable age of 110.

During the winter of 1834 John and Jane emigrated westward and cast in their lot with the pioneer settlers of Jefferson county, Illinois, locating on Walnut Hill Prairie where they remained until March 11, 1847 when they moved to a farm on Section 18, Grand Prairie Township.

Twelve children were born to Mr. and Mrs Baldrige. A daughter Rebecca J. married David P. McCullough, a wealthy farmer residing near Irvington, Illinois, on March 27, 1856. She passed away July 22, 1910 and he died November 3, 1910. To this union were born 8 children, two of whom died in infancy. The others was Ada, Mary Alice, S. A., T. E., O. J. and Minnie Jane. Minnie Jane was born January 13, 1862 at

Irvington, Washington county, Illinois, and died August 20, 1947 at Wolbach, Nebraska. She married John Wesley Jackson, November 17, 1881 in Centralia, Illinois. John Wesley was born November 17, 1855 in Centralia and died March 3, 1941 in Wolbach Nebraska. To this union were born 9 children, Eula Pearl, September 4, 1882, David Cleveland January 4, 1885, Robert Benson January 11, 1887, Drew Leftridge October 1, 1889, Infant son February 13, 1892, Fred Sterling July 8, 1893, Harrie July 29, 1895, Alice January 15, 1897 and Carrie Rebecca April 20, 1904.

John Wesley Jackson married Minnie Jane McCullough November 17, 1881 at Irvington, Illinois.

Three children, Bula Pearl, D. Cleve and Robert were born at Irvington, The family migrated to Nebraska in 1887 where six more children were born.

They were Drew, Erela, Fred, Harrie Alice and Carrie.

They first settled in Prairie Creek township near Fullerton where they experienced the great blizzard in March of 1888. The family was fortunate in all being near home when the storm struck. During the three days of the storm John stretched binder twine to the barn so he would not get lost feeding his small amount of livestock.

The family later moved to Howard county then returned to Nance county. At one time they lived a short while in a sod house about 6 miles east of Wolbach and Indians were frequently seen.

About 1908 John and Minnie purchased their own farm in the Olive district of South Branch township in northwest Nance county.

John died March 3, 1941 and Minnie died August 29, 1947. They are buried in the Fullerton cemetery. Two daughters are still living. Mrs. Ivan (Alice) Bierly lives at Junction City, Oregon. She has seven children located in Texas,

Florida, California and Oregon. Mrs. John (Carrie) Caudle lives in Los Angeles, California and they have a son Howard who lives at El Toro, California. A daughter of Drew, Mrs. Lee (Dorothy) Morris lives at Anaheim, California. Robert had two daughters, Mrs. Maurice (Elva) Cantral and her husband live on a farm near Palmer. Mrs. Melvin (Elma) Nesbitt and her husband live in Fullerton. The son of D. Cleve, Darwyn Jackson, and his wife live in Omaha, Nebraska.

Mrs. Elma (Melvin) Nesbitt has three children. Janet, Mrs. Alvin Wemhoff lives on the family farm at Belgrade, Nebraska. Has 2 sons. Roger married to Deborah Shotkoski lives in Grand Island. Karyn, Mrs. Kenneth Wetovick lives on a farm near Fullerton, Nebraska.

Marilyn, daughter of Elva (Mrs. Maurice Cantral) is married to Lowell Foland and lives on a farm near Belgrade, Nebraska. Has three children.

The Baldridges and the Barbers arrived on the Nebraska scene not too long after Fullerton became an official town. It was the fall of 1885 when Willis and his parents and sisters came from Centralia, Illinois, to make a home in the hills west of Fullerton. Pearle Barber and her father, and her brother Nelson came a year or two later. Grandpa William Barber had moved to a farm east of Fullerton, and not too long afterwards his son William and family arrived in a covered wagon from Kansas.

Land promotion in Illinois for the newly opened former Indian reservation must have been very good, for there was a fairly large group of settlers, including several Baldridges - brothers and cousins - plus Copples, Beals and others, who migrated to Nance county.

Letters from Grandmother Baldrige to her parents back home tell what it was like to be a pioneer in Nebraska in the mid-80's. "I think this is too fine a country to leave, but I don't know yet whether it will hold us more than a year or not. I would be willing to stay. The rest would if the diptheria (sic) don't prove to be a regular visitor here. But if it comes here every winter, I don't think I would like to stay and risk it. It is at St. Paul, about 40 miles up the Loup so bad that they had to stop the schools. I believe the scarlet fever goes with it. We keep a safidity around the kid's necks all the time." Another excerpt says, "The boys are all husking corn but Joe (Grandfather Baldrige) had to go out to Jim's farm to take care of his thrashed oats. Chas. (Copple, probably) is huskin for 2 1/2 cents per bu."

On January 10, 1886, she writes, "It was pretty cool, 26 degrees below zero. We don't have much frost

on the walls. A little in the kitchen. I think them that sits by the cook stove is the ones that have to sweep frost down off the walls. It is caused by the tea kettle steaming all the time."

Willis and his family didn't stay very long on the farm, moving to town where his father had a general store in the building which currently houses the Kansas Nebraska Natural Gas Company.

Meanwhile the Barbers had added two sons, Morris and Allen. "Ole Doc Barber" was a well-known figure in the community attending the sick and injured at any time of day or night. The old barn behind the house (now there is a high school parking lot where the house once stood) had a team of horses and a buggy ready to go at a moment's notice.

Pearle graduated with the class of 1900, but Willis left high school when he was fifteen and along with several other local youths, joined the army to go fight the Spanish in the Philippines. Nelson Barber was one of the "boys" as well as Lewis Kremer, Loren Taylor, and the Storches. This hitch in the army furnished Willis with tales of adventures the rest of his life.

When he returned from the wars, he was "taken" by the black-haired Pearle and even tried to court her on Sunday evening after church. "If you can't take me to church, you can't take me home," Pearle said. Apparently the challenge was met, for in 1901 these two 18-year-olds were married, and a long happy married life followed.

Nearly everyone who remembers them associated Willis and Pearle with two things: the bakery and music making. As for the former, the good whole wheat bread, 10-cents a dozen doughnuts, three for a quarter (dozen, that is) fruit cookies were in a class by themselves. But all that stopped in 1944 when

the scarcity of sugar and other important baking ingredients became discouraging, and the bakery was closed for good.

Musically, Willis and Pearle sang together and separately in many of the local singing groups. As a duet they furnished comfort to many bereaved families with their singing of "In the Garden," and other old hymns at services of church and at home.

Margaret and Joe arrived in due time, and when they were old enough to hold their horns, the four Baldridges became a family band. Band practice was a regular nightly event in those days, but when a good radio program came on at 8:30, it was time to put up the instruments and gather around the old Atwater Kent and listen to Jack Benny, The Lux Theater or the Railroad Hour. Programs printed around that decade of the 30's will find the "Baldridge Ensemble" playing for all kinds of Banquets, church services, and celebrations wherever some background music was needed.

After Joe and Margaret graduated from high school, they both attended Hastings College where Margaret prepared to become a teacher and Joe studied chemistry. Joe graduated from college and soon joined the Navy where he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant J. G. Margaret graduated and started out her teaching career at Sargent, Nebraska at the annual salary of \$845. In 1940 she moved to Auburn, Nebraska, where she taught for the next seven years.

Joe married a young lady from Minden, Nebraska, whom he had met at Hastings College. Her name was Mary West, and eventually they became the parents of Jim, Kathleen, Peggy, Jeannie, and Nancy. Joe had taught school in Minnesota for one year, but decided a career in education wasn't for him. Therefore he went back to college (Kansas University) earned his Masters degree in chemistry, and shortly moved to Mentor, Ohio, where he joined a large chemical company, Diamond Alkali, based in Cleveland. Joe and his family have lived in Ohio since then. He retired in 1978 and now spends his time on any one of many different hobbies. However, antique cars take most of his leisure. It will surprise no one who remembers the early Baldridge cars to learn that a 1929 Essex and a 1951 Hudson as two of the models that take up a lot of his time.

Margaret earned her Masters just before going to Omaha to teach. For twenty-four years she taught at Technical High School where Anna McClelland was her department chairman for some of that time.

Margaret began her thirty-second year in Omaha in the fall of 1979. She teaches at Burke High School which is at 120 Street and Dodge. Anyone entering Omaha from the west will go by there.

Margaret spends her weekends and summers in Fullerton where she still lives in the old family home where the Baldridges have lived since 1921. When she retires from teaching, she will come back to Fullerton to enjoy good rural living once again. In all probabilities, Margaret will continue growing roses and other flowers in her yard in the summers, and in the winters she will sit by the fire and say a prayer of thanks that she isn't having to negotiate the hills of Omaha to drive to school on icy winter mornings.

THE J. P. WHITNEY FAMILY HISTORY

Jacob Philip Whitney was born in a sod house on the Whitney ranch near Fullerton, son of John W. and Louisa G. Whitney, 10 April 1886. He spent his early years on the ranch and attended country school and graduated from Fullerton High School. He married Mary Splichal 5 June 1912 in Fullerton, Nebraska and shortly after made his home approximately 1/2 mile south of the Whitney ranch. Mary Splichal was born on a farm near Clarkson, Nebraska and came to Fullerton to clerk in Diers merchandise store prior to her marriage. She was born 20 July 1885, daughter of Frank Splichal and Katherine (Kominek) Splichal of Clarkson, Nebraska. She died 27 June 1971. Buried in Fullerton cemetery. "Jake", as he was known, spent a couple of years in the oil fields of Texas prior to his marriage. His years on the farm were spent in raising livestock and crops and establishing a sizeable dairy herd. During his time on the farm he served on the school board, and served as a fieldman for the Agriculture Adjustment Administration. He was active in starting the Fullerton Cooperative

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[Frederic, Joseph, Leslie, Jake, Mary and Mary Whitney.](#)

Creamery and Oil Station. He retired from farming in 1946 and moved to Fullerton where he took an active part in church and community activities. For a time he was water commissioner of Fullerton, and served on the Nance County Selective Service Board. Mary Whitney was a member of the Presbyterian Church, Ladies' Home Circle and the E-Z Club. Born to Jake and Mary were three sons and one daughter - Joseph William, Leslie Philip, Frederic Raymond and Mary Emma.

Joseph William Whitney was born 25 March 1913 in Nance county and died 17 December 1971 in Aurora, Nebraska. Burial in Fullerton cemetery. He married Margaret Kathryn Toning 9 January 1937 at Fullerton, Nebraska. She was born 21 May 1912 in Newman Grove, Nebraska and died 28 October 1968 in Fullerton, Nebraska. Buried in Fullerton cemetery. She was a daughter of Andrew Toning and Ran Dena Alletha (Strand) Toning. Margaret loved to sing, and sang in the United Methodist Church choir for years. Joe married Eda Gilson after the death of his first wife. He spent most of his adult life in the Farm Management business in Central City, Nebraska. Joe and Margaret had two daughters and one son - Mrs. Bruce (Diana Jo) Neujahr of Moraga, California, Mrs. Glade (Carolyn Sue) Snoberger of Aurora, Nebraska and William James of Topeka, Kansas. Bruce and Diana Neujahr have a son Michael Bruce, and a daughter Kathryn Elizabeth. Glade and Carolyn Snoberger's children are two daughters, Pamela Jo and Ann Lynn, and a son Matthew Clark. Children of William Whitney are Karen Eileen and Zed Aaron.

Leslie Philip Whitney was born 8 May 1914 in Nance county, Nebraska. He married Jean Marjorie Smith 22 October 1939 in Nance county Nebraska. She was born 12 March 1915 at Riverton, Iowa, a daughter of Ross Curtis Smith and Mary Dell (Throne) Smith. Leslie and Jean live in Grandview, Missouri. Les was a Personnel Officer for the government. They have two sons - Ross Phillip of Raytown, Missouri married to Barbara Ann Brown, and Dennis LeRoy of Grandview, Missouri. Ross and Barbara Whitney have two children - a daughter Dana Lynn and a son Stephen Philip.

Frederic Raymond Whitney was born 28 June 1918 in Nance county, Nebraska. He attended the same rural school that his father attended, the Fullerton High School, and the University of Nebraska. He taught Vocational Agriculture in Rushville, Nebraska where he met Helen Irene Forney. Helen was born 22 July, 1922 in Alliance, Nebraska, a daughter of Hubert Harvey Forney and Ruth Augusta (Orr) Forney. Fred and

Helen were married 16 June 1941 in

Fullerton, Nebraska. Fred served in the U.S. Naval Air Force during World War II. Following the war they moved to the family farm in West Newman Township, Nance County, Nebraska Fred is engaged in crop and livestock production. He is a member of the United Methodist Church, has served on the local school board, the co-op board and the 4-H Council. Fred and Helen have three daughters - Mrs. Jerrold (Janice Irene) Hibbs of Smithfield, Nebraska Mrs. Terry (Marilyn Kay) Grotelueschen of Longmont, Colorado, and Mrs. Dale (Linda Marie) Lesiak of Fullerton, Nebraska. Jerrold and Janice Hibbs have 3 sons - Bradley Arnold, Bryan James and Patrick Jacob. Terry and Marilyn Grotelueschen have three daughters - Robin Michele, Renae Sue, and Renell Lea, and a son Jason Paul. Dale and Linda Lesiak have children Christopher James, Jennifer Sue, and Nicholas John. They live on a farm about seven miles southwest of Fullerton in Nance county. Dale was born 5 September 1951 in Central City, Nebraska to Louis Lesiak and Bernice (Jaswick) Lesiak. He attended rural school, Fullerton High School and Central Technical Community College at Hastings, Nebraska. On 20 November 1970 he married Linda Marie Whitney, who was born in Fullerton, Nebraska 20 February 1952. She attended rural school, Fullerton High School and University of Nebraska. In March, 1972 they moved to their present farm home. They are members of St. Peter's Catholic Church, and Dale is a member of the local school board.

Mary Emma Whitney was born 29 November 1920 in Nance county Nebraska and married Edmund Henry (Bill) Wynne 10 November 1941 at Blair Nebraska. He was born 15 July 1920 in Schuyler, Nebraska, son of Edmund Henry Wynne and Helen Elizabeth (Adkisson) Wynne. He is retired from the U.S. Navy. They live near Reinholds, Pennsylvania and have two children - David Cowgill of Chula Vista, California married to Georgine Patricia Antolick and Mrs. John (Mary Helen) Cuper of Williamsburg, Virginia. David and Georgine Wynne have two children - Patricia Jane and Michael David. Mary Helen and John Cuper have a son Jonathan Wynne.

FRANK AND GERTRUDE EUSE

Frank and Gertrude Schneider Euse moved from Scribner, Nebraska to Fullerton, Nebraska in 1907. They purchased the farm 3 1/2 miles Southeast of Fullerton, and raised 7 children:

Leo (Martha Pelster) Broadwater, Nebraska

Hermine (Jay Laughrey), Chadron, Nebraska Colleen, Karen, Diane, Penney

Dr. Vincent (Cheryl), Carson City, Nebraska Jenny, Jay, Clinton

Peggy (Deceased 1958)

Francis (Charles Bingell) (Francis, deceased 1974, buried Standwood, WA.)

Rebecca (Alfred Marti) Stanwood, Washington Christopher, Joseph

Ted (Nancy) Stanwood, Washington Rene and Amy

Judy (Ronald Kessler) Marysville, Washington 2 children

Edwin (Loretta Stachura, deceased) (Eva Scow) Shelby, Nebraska

Marilyn (Keith Houdershedt) Shelby, Nebraska Roger, Cristine, Roy

Norman (Karen Smith) Silver Creek, Nebraska Bryan, Angela, Troy, Thad, Cori

Edna (Ed Starostka) Seattle, Washington

Harold - San Francisco, California

David (Joy) Seattle Washington Richard, Roberta, Michael, Susan

Timothy - (Donna) Seattle, Washington Thomas, Paul, Jon

Jacqueline - (Sean Corr) Fairbanks, Alaska Hilary and Andrew

Raymond (deceased 1969, buried Seattle, Washington) Bette Seattle, Washington

Cathy (William Brady) Seattle, Washington Peter

Mary (Chris Druro) Seattle, Washington

Franklin (Evelyn) live in Seattle, Washington

Gary Seattle, Washington Zachary and Benjamin
Carol - Fairbanks. Alaska

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Diane - Seattle, Washington

Helen (Fred Wolfe, deceased) (Bob Clark, deceased) Seattle, Washington

Dick (Helen) Bothell, Washington Frederic and Oliver

Annette (John) Sumner, Washington John and Carolyn

Celeste - Seattle, Washington

Frank Euse arrived in America from Germany 1888 and worked in the steel mills in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, moved West, worked for the railroad and helped to install the track to the Black Hills. He farmed in Dodge county, Nebraska and then settled in Fullerton to later retire in Seattle, Washington. He sold his farm to Joe Lesiak about 1943. He is buried in Seattle, Washington. Gertrude Euse came to America in 1890, lived near Scribner, Nebraska moved to Omaha, worked in the Smith Overall factory; married Frank and moved to Fullerton, Nebraska. She died in 1931 and is buried in Fullerton, Nebraska.

ARLINEUS BROWER (1811-1895)

Arlineus, the patriarch of the Browsers that were to live in Nance county, traveled with his son, Martin Irenius, in 1880 from Pontiac, Illinois to view and purchase 28 quarters of the Pawnee lands offered for sale by the federal government. Arlineus and his wife Mary moved permanently to Fullerton to make their home in 1884, following by two years the move of son Martin and daughter Annie and her husband Joseph Wright McClelland. At the age of 73 Arlineus started a real estate business, buying, improving and selling farm land. He died in 1895 at the age of 84 from injuries sustained from a fall from a horse he was breaking. Mary died in 1892.

Arlineus, son of Abram Brower and Phylothia Webster, was born in Herkimer County, New York, 1811. He moved at age 20, in 1831 to Ashtabula county, Ohio where he owned land and a number of businesses. He married Sally Turner in 1835 with children Imogene, Sylvester, Sarah and Abel K. and, upon her death, married in 1845 Mary Marther (b 1826) with children Martin and Annie. The latter three children lived in Nance county. In 1862 following a fire that burned all his businesses to the ground, Arlineus moved his family to a farm near Pontiac, Illinois where he farmed until the winter of 1875. He then moved to town for nine years of retirement before starting business anew in Nebraska in 1884.

[Arlineus Brower 1811-1895](#)

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MARTIN IRENIUS BROWER (1847-1920)

Martin I, youngest child of Arlineus and Mary Marther Brower, settled in Fullerton in 1882 two years after his initial trip to Nance county to purchase Pawnee lands. He lived with his sister Annie M. and her husband Joseph Wright McClelland until his marriage in 1885 to Ella Lucretia Clark in Owego, New York. She was a telegrapher for the Erie Railroad in Union and Western Union in Owego and the youngest of ten children of Ezeckial Hyde and Nancy Williams Clark. Martin and Ella had three children: Mary Letitia (1886), Julian

Martin (1887) and Robert Clark (1896), all born in Fullerton.

Martin was born in 1847 in Brower's Corner, Ashtabula county, Ohio; grew to manhood in Pontiac, Illinois; was graduated from Lombard College, Galesburg, Illinois in 1871 after which he "read Law" with Judge Payson of Ottawa, Illinois. He was appointed Master of Chancery in Illinois and was admitted to the practice of law in the Nance County Bar in 1884. In Fullerton he had a law practice and was an abstractor but his main interest and source of income was that of a loan agent for New York and Illinois friends at 2 1/2% commission.

He was elected to one term as Nance county judge for the Populist party. Although the top votegetter on the Prohibitionist party's slate of candidates, he twice was defeated as the party's candidate for Nebraska Attorney General in 1880 and 1892.

In 1900 the Fullerton National Bank was organized with Martin Brower installed as its president, mainly because of his large clientele of private loan customers. Eventually acquiring majority control of the Bank, he continued as president until his death in 1920, when his son Julian succeeded as president and son Robert, vice president of the Fullerton National.

Also living with the Browsers were Ella's two maiden sisters, Frances and Lucy Clark. They did the housekeeping and cooking, enabling Ella to devote her time to the causes of the WCTU and the Prohibitionist party. Frances and Luch died in and 1934 while Ella lived until 1942.

[Martin Irenius Brower 1847-1920](#)

ROBERT CLARK BROWER (1896-

Robert Clark Brower was born in 1896 in the family home in Fullerton, the youngest of the three children of Martin I. and Ella Clark Brower. He was graduated from Fullerton High School in 1914, attended the University of Nebraska and was graduated from the University of Michigan in 1919 with a law degree. After being admitted to the Nebraska Bar, he joined the law firm of Noffsinger and Walchle in Kalispell, Montana. Here he met a dental hygienist and Denver University graduate, Lenore Sussanah Heyrock, who was born in Cavalier, North Dakota in 1899, the daughter of John K, and Sussanah Schluchter Heyrock. Robert and Lenore married in 1923 in Billings, Montana,

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later becoming the parents of three children: John Martin (1924), Helen Jane (1925) and Thomas Dale (1928).

Robert returned to Fullerton a year prior to his marriage to become the partner of J. H. Kemp in the law firm of Kemp and Brower, an association that continued for 28 years. Also in 1922, Robert was elected vice president of the Fullerton National Bank, a position he held until the bank was sold by the Brower family in 1956.

In 1951 with his son John, Robert founded the law firm of Brower and Brower (known today as Brower, Treadway, and Bird).

[Robert Clark Brower](#)

Robert was appointed to a two year term in the Nebraska legislature in 1953 and was re-elected in 1955. In 1960 he was appointed to the Nebraska Supreme Court in Lincoln by Governor Frank Morrison, and served in this position until reaching the mandatory retirement age of 70 in 1967. Judge and Mrs. Brower made their home in Lincoln for two more years before retiring to the milder climate of Sun City, Arizona.

He served the city of Fullerton as city attorney for twenty-five years and the county as county attorney one term. He was a charter member of the Lions Club.

Robert's sister, Mary Letitia Brower, was a career teacher and taught in Fullerton and Bloomington. After obtaining her Master's at UN-L in 1917 she taught history in Hastings High School until retirement at the age of 65. She died in 1968.

JOHN MARTIN BROWER (1924-)

John Martin Brower, attorney and lifelong resident of Fullerton, was born in 1924 in Grand Island, son of Robert C. and Lenore H. Brower. After graduation from Fullerton High School and a semester at Doane College, he served three years as a Navy radioman in World War II from 1942-45. He then attended the University of Nebraska, receiving his law degree in 1951.

In 1949 John and Margaurite Emily Leonard were married in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Born in 1926 in Boise, Idaho, the daughter of W. V. and Dorothy Leonard, she was a graduate of the University of Colorado and a registered nurse at the Lincoln Veterans' Hospital in Lincoln at the time of the marriage.

The couple moved permanently in 1951 to Fullerton where John joined his father in the law firm of Brower & Brower, serving sixteen years as city attorney and twelve as school board member. The law firm has expanded in recent years to St. Edward and Albion with the addition of partners D. T. Treadway in 1962 and Larry Bird in 1972.

Born to this couple were four children, the fifth generation of Browsers to reside in Nance County: Sam Robert (1951), 4th generation attorney, and partner in the Omaha firm of Swarr, May, Smith and Anderson and married to Deborah Coe in 1979; Carol Ann (1953), a nurse clinicial (sic) specialist with the San Diego Veterans' Hospital; Janet Lenore (1955), a health environmentalist with

the Boulder, Colorado health department; all graduates of University of Nebraska and Joseph Paul (1962) in high school.

Siblings of Robert Brower are Helen Jane who married Lincoln architect and UN-L professor James G. Porter, and has five children Marsha, Linda, Julia, Clark and Stacia: and Thomas Dale, Scottsbluff attorney who married Jean Wooden of Winnetka, Illinois and are parents of Beth, Mike and Mark.

FRENZEN

Hans Frenzen was born in Schlieswig-Holstein, Germany, on September 3, 1853. He came to America in 1879 at the age of 26 years. He was married in 1880 in Manilla, Iowa to Celia Grage. They came to Nebraska and settled on a farm north of Central City, Nebraska, where they lived for 13 years. Then Mr. Frenzen brought his family to Nance County, Nebraska in 1901. They settled on a farm 5 1/2 miles northwest of Fullerton, Nebraska onto a beautiful farm nestled under the Bluffs to the west of it, and with the lazy Cedar River winding on its way along the east side. There were 497 acres of land in this farm with part of it in pasture and the rest in good rich farm land. It was irrigated out of the Cedar river.

To this union were born eight children: Louis, Henry, Frank, Edward, Anna, Emma, Lavidia and Arthur. Mrs. Hans Frenzen died in 1906. She was born March 4, 1862 and died on February 25, 1906. Mr. Frenzen had two sisters: Mrs. Henry Kuhl, Hamburg, Germany, Mrs. Bonnie Jensen, Iowa. Mrs. Kuhl had two daughters, Emma Huhl Hahn, Hamburg Germany; Minnie Kuhl Hamburg, Germany. Mrs. Frenzen died at the age of 44 years, but the father with the help of the children kept the family together - put them all thru school except Anna who had to take care of the home, and did the best he could until he passed away on January 17, 1932. Louis died in early childhood. Henry was born in 1882 and died in 1927 in Grand Island, Nebraska. Frank Frenzen was born on August 14, 1886 and died on May 21, 1970 at his home in Fullerton. Edward Frenzen was born on November 27, 1889 and died on May 20, 1964 at his farm home at Fullerton. Anna Matthieson was born on April 6, 1893 and died on August 25, 1969 at her home in Grand Island, Nebraska. Emma Hadfield was born on February 4, 1896. Lavidia Mason was born on July 25, 1899. Arthur was born on July 4, 1902.

After the death of the father Edward stayed on at the farm and farmed it in partnership with Robert Mason (Lavida's husband.) But at Edward's death in 1964, the estate had to be settled, and so the family home of 63 years, The Frenzen Farm was sold. The Survivors of the original (sic) family are Emma Hadfield, and Lavida Mason both of Fullerton, and Arthur of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Robert (Red) and Lavida Mason had four children: Robert William - who died at the age of 5 years December 19, 1931 to June 5, 1936. Twin sons Larry Edward Mason born February 17, 1938. Wife Joyce Stetz born October 4, 1943 and child Shelly Marie born October 15, 1965. Garry Edwin Mason born February 17, 1938, wife Mary Lou Mason born June 15, 1937, child Kelly Suzanne born September 3, 1958 who is married to Dennis Michael Zarek born October 6, 1951.

Donna Rose Mason born September 10, 1925. Donna was married to Nelson Crull Weller born, September 13, 1923. Their children are Jack Ray Weller born December 16, 1947, married to Cindy Nesbitt, born August 22, 1950. Their child is Scott Allen Weller born September 15, 1969.

Randy Lee Weller July 5, 1949, wife Lisa Marie Vulpetti March 18, 1949. Child Pia Marie Weller, born March 18, 1975.

Teri Linn Garcia January 28, 1954, husband Frank Garcia June 11, 1947, children Stephani Shawn July 31, 1976, Christopher Michael December 23, 1978.

Shawn Rene Weller born April 9, 1957.

Larry Edward Mason and Garry Edwin Mason and their families are living at Fullerton. Donna Rose Weller is living at Genoa Nebraska. Jack Weller and family are living in Longmont Colorado, Randy Weller and family live in Baltimore, Maryland. Teri Linn Garcia and family live in Clarksville, Tennessee. Shawn Rene Weller is a Senior Airman stationed in South Carolina.

SWANSON

Swen Peter Swenson, (changed to Swanson), was born in Sweden on December 7, 1843, and died December 11, 1911, in Nance county, Nebraska. He was about three years old when he came to the United States with his parents. They lived near Knoxville, Illinois. In 1862, he joined the North Army in the Civil War. He was mustered out in 1865, at Nashville, Indiana. Following the war, he married Ellen Olson on March 16, 1867. She was born on November 7, 1843, in the Province of Shone, Sweden and died in Nance county on May 6, 1904. She came to the United States in 1866.

The couple lived near Knoxville, Illinois, until 1871, when they moved to Iowa. In 1891, they came by covered wagon to the North Star area in Nebraska where they established a farm home. They were the parents of eleven children.

Fred, who married Martha Thomason. They had one daughter, Irene.

Albert, who married Ella Kennedy. They had ten children: Ruby (Mrs. A. J. Larson), Bernice (Mrs Grant Olson), Ina (Mrs. Gerald Malander), Floyd, Gladys (Mrs. Gordon McNary), Ailene (Mrs. D. E. Bright), Alberta (Mrs. Donald Arrasmith), Alan, Max, and Wayne.

George, who married Amelia Nelson. They had two children: Virgil and Lois.

Charles, who married Bertha Kemp. They had three children: Eldo, Carl and Vera.

Edwin died in 1899.

Stella, who married Gus Erickson. Three children were born, Hazel, Helen and Frances.

Anthony, married Mayble Lader. They had three children: Vivian, Lucille and Evelyn.

Esther married F. L. Rumsey. They had two children: Dayle and Thayne.

Milton who married Minnie Lohr. They had two children: Milford and Robert.

Joseph who is not married.

Rueben who married Nellie Anderson. They had two children: Mildred and Ruth. His second marriage was to Lela Allington, in which two children were born: Donald and Leland.

The Swen Swanson family and some of their descendants lived in the North Star area from 1891 until 1973. Albert, George, Milton, Rueben and sister Esther Rumsey lived on farms near the North Star church

and store. Fred and Joseph operated the North Star store from 1914 until 1941.

THE FRANK L. RUMSEY FAMILY

Frank Leslie Rumsey was born in Ohio August 14, 1843. His boyhood was spent in Ohio, Minnesota and Union County Iowa.

In August 1862 he enlisted as a Soldier in the Civil War, he served for three years in Co "H" 29th Iowa regiment.

After the war he resided in Iowa and Kansas until 1877, when he moved back to Iowa Garfield Township, where he resided for 30 years, except for a short time in Red Oak, Iowa.

He was married May 4, 1869 to Sophia Hinton near Albie, Iowa. They moved to Kansas in 1870, returning to Monroe county, Iowa in 1876, then in 1877 to the present home in Garfield Township.

His first wife passed away and in 1903 he married Lille V. Manning. He was successful in farming and stock raising and was an extensive land owner

Six children, five sons and one daughter were born to Frank and his first wife Sophia. They are in order of age as follows:

Edward and wife Lillie, residing in Wheatland, Wyoming at the time of his death, they raised four children, Harold, Hazel, Pearl and Frank.

Fred and wife Bertha, residing in Elliott, Iowa at the time of his death, they raised three children, Edith, Doris and Opal.

Samuel and wife Nell, residing in Los Angeles, California at the time of his death, they had no children.

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Elva and husband Lou Crum, residing in Hawthorne, California at the time of her death, they raised four children, Evelyn, Frank, Bernice and Marcella

Frank (Les) and wife Esther, residing in Fullerton, Nebraska at the time of his death, they raised two children Dayle and Thayne.

Charles R. and wife Bonnie, residing in Long Beach, California at the time of his death, they raised three children, William, Ruth and Maxine.

Dayle and wife Rosa, live in Fullerton, Nebraska at this writing. They have one daughter, Dixie Zabka and two granddaughters, Melissa and Monica, a son-in-law, Greg Zabka, who is a Funeral Director and they live in Seward Nebraska.

Thayne and wife Helen, live in Bountiful, Utah. They have four children, Fred, Marie, Thayne Jr. and Sylvia.

F. L. (Les) Rumsey was born January 9, 1879 at Red Oak, Iowa and died June 10, 1959 at Fullerton, Nebraska.

His boyhood was spent in Iowa. In 1899 he came to Nebraska settling in Nance County. He lived in Nance county all but 14 years when he and his wife Esther lived in Ainsworth, Nebraska.

The early part of his residence in Nance county was spent as a farmer in the North Star area, where he was active in community affairs. He served on the Nance County Board of Supervisors, also was a member of the Nance County Fair Association and the Farmers Co-op Oil Association.

Before retiring in Fullerton, Nebraska he spent 30 active years representing the State Farm Insurance Companies in and around Fullerton and Ainsworth, Nebraska

Les Rumsey's son Dayle and wife Rose reside in Fullerton and Dayle, like his father represented the State Farm Insurance Companies for 30 years before retiring in 1974.

P. R. COPPLE

Plenna R. Copple was born July 29, 1876, son of Charles and Lucy Melvina Copple, at Centralia, Illinois.

In September of 1885 the family of which he was a member arrived in Nance county, Nebraska. One year

later they moved to the farm known as the Copple Homestead west of Fullerton. It was in this community that Dr. Copple was graduated from the Fullerton High School and grew to manhood. He taught school in this county one year. In 1898 he went to Anderson, Indiana, where he attended Anderson Normal University for a year. In 1899 he entered Northwestern University in Chicago, and received the degree of Doctor of Dentistry in 1902. In this same year he was united in marriage to Miss Goldie Grace Tranbarger whom he met while attending Anderson University. To this union was born a son, Kenneth Eugene, who died on January 5, 1911.

Following his graduation, Dr. Copple engaged in the practice of dentistry at Greeley, Nebraska, Gas City, Kansas and Central City, Nebraska. In 1906 he located in Fullerton, where he practiced his profession for 39 years.

During his many years as a citizen of this community, he was a leader in all community activities, both secular and religious. For twenty years he had been a member of the Fullerton Lions Club, being charter member and serving as the club's first secretary. He was an active member of the Community Club, and served as its president. He was a past Worshipful Master of the Cedar River masonic lodge, and a member of Eastern Star Chapter 191.

HERMAN SCHWEITZ

Herman Rudolf Schweitz was born to Anna and Rudolf Schweitz in Waterruch, Germany on August 14, 1893. On March 22, 1909 he arrived in Baltimore, Maryland, bound for Chicago. He had been hired in Germany to work for the Armour Meat Packing Company. When Mr. Schweitz arrived in this country, he was only sixteen and could not speak any English.

In 1911, he moved to Platte County, Nebraska to farm and in 1916, settled in Nance County. On February 18, 1917, he married Martha Hellbusch

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and they farmed in the Timber Creek area until 1970, when they retired and moved to Fullerton.

They are the parents of five children:

Ernest Herman married to Doris Elaine Blaser, lives on a farm at Oakland, Nebraska. They have four sons: Ronald Ernest, Terry Paul, Arlan David and Kenneth Dale.

Edna Helen Gallo lives in Kansas City, Missouri has three children Connie Jean, Robert and Michael.

Theodore Rudolph married to Norma Marie Wagner lives at Fullerton. Theodore owns and operates Schweitz Equipment Company, Inc. They have five children Judith Lynn, David Theodore, Susan Marie, Dallas Herman and Kristine Ann.

Wilma Ellen married to Harold Leroy Dodds lives on a farm near Belgrade, Nebraska. They have three sons, Larry Dean, Randy Lee and Carroll Ray.

Raymond Karl killed May 23, 1951 in the Korean War.

THEODORE SCHWEITZ

Theodore Rudolph Schweitz son of Herman Rudolph and Martha Hellbusch Schweitz was born February 10, 1923, at Belgrade, Nebraska.

On April 30, 1945 he married Norma Marie Wagner, daughter of Frank Trogott and Elsie Anna Klein Wagner, at Peace Lutheran Church Timber Creek Belgrade, Nebraska.

Mr. Schweitz completed his tour of duty with the United States Army in December 1946. He then returned to Timber Creek to farm. His farm consisted of 160 acres and he also rented an additional 160 acres. In October of 1954, he became a representative of an artificial insemination company, and serviced Nance county and part of Boone.

Mr. Schweitz had already included other aspects of the dairy business when in 1953, after completing a training course in Chicago, Illinois he became a certified Surge Dealer. He continued to operate from his

farm, with just one truck and only part-time help until 1962. At that time, he moved his business to its present location in Fullerton.

They are the parents of five children:

Judith Lynn Schweitz was born at St. Paul, Nebraska, December 15, 1947. She graduated from Fullerton High School May 1966. She graduated from Dana College, Blair, Nebraska with a Degree in Elementary Education, graduated in Omaha with a BS in Education. She taught five years in the Millard Elementary School. She is presently employed as a Medical assistant for a surgeon at Austin, Texas.

David Theodore was born at St. Paul, Nebraska, December 7, 1948. Graduated from Fullerton High School May 1967. He graduated from University of Nebraska-Lincoln June 1971, with a B.S. Degree in Economics. January 1972 he enlisted in the United States Army O.C.S. September 8, 1972 he married Janice Lynn Schuki at Lincoln, Nebraska. He completed his army duty November 1975, as 1st Lt. Spent three years with 1st National Bank Lincoln, Nebraska with trust and correspondent banking. They are now living at Broken Bow where David is President of Security State Bank.

Susan Marie was born May 28, 1952, at Fullerton, Nebraska. She graduated from Fullerton High School May 1970. She attended University of Nebraska-Lincoln and graduated December 1974 with a Bachelor Degree in Textiles. She is presently employed as accountant for Woung Travel Agency, Dallas, Texas.

Dallas Herman was born July 18, 1955 at Fullerton, Nebraska. Graduated from Fullerton High School May 1973. He graduated from University of Nebraska-Lincoln May 1978 with a B.S. Degree in Agriculture. The same day he was commissioned into the Army as 2nd Lt. May 20, 1978 he married Deborah Dawn Roeske at Lincoln, Nebraska. June 1, 1980, he will have completed his tour of Army duty. At that time he plans to move back to Fullerton, Nebraska, and be associated with Schweitz Equipment Company, Inc.

Kristine Anne was born April 4, 1962 at Fullerton, Nebraska. She will

graduate from Fullerton High School May 1980. In the fall she will enter University of Nebraska-Lincoln and major in pre-law.

DONALD R. AND GRETCHEN A. TREADWAY

Donald R. and Gretchen A. Treadway, with their eighteen month old daughter, Ann Catherine, born January 3, 1961, moved to Fullerton on June 24, 1962, following Don's graduation from the University of Nebraska School of Law, to be associated in law practice with John M. Brower. A home built by Mel Fox at 617 Carl Street was purchased and the family lived there until January 3, 1970, at which time they purchased the Gene Beaman residence at 106 North Johnson - a home originally built by the Critchfield family in the late 1890's. While living on Carl Street, two sons were born - Thomas Lecron on Janaruy (sic) 30, 1963, and Steven Paul on July 1, 1964. Over the years, the family has been involved in many civic, church and governmental activities. In 1968, Don was elected to serve as Nance county Attorney, which position he held until his resignation in 1979. He has also served as president of the Lions Club and the Junior Chamber of Commerce, has served as City Attorney and is active in golf and tennis activities. At the present time, he is a member of the Nebraska State Bar Association, the University of Nebraska President's Advisory Council, the Board of Counselors at the University of Nebraska Medical Center and is Chairman of the Board of Governors of the University of Nebraska Medical Center Hospital and Nebraska Psychiatric Institute. Don graduated from Kearney High School in Kearney, Nebraska in 1951, after which he attended Kearney State College where he was a member of the Antelope's Basketball team. In June of 1953, he served in the U.S. Army in Korea. After his discharge in 1955, he enrolled in the University of Nebraska in Lincoln where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree from the College of Business in May of 1957. On September 15th of that year, Don and Gretchen A. Lecron were married in Kearney, Nebraska and then made their home in Lincoln, Nebraska where Don took a position as Sales Representative with Continental Oil Company and Gretchen worked as a medical secretary. In September of 1959, Don entered the College of Law and graduated in June of 1962 with a Doctorate in Law Degree.

Gretchen has been an active member of the United Methodist Church in Fullerton, serving in a number of capacities. In 1964, she assumed the responsibility of director of the adult choir and maintains that position (sic) at this writing. As a member of Fullerton Chapter No. 191 of the Order of the Eastern Star, she served as Worthy Matron in 1971 and was appointed Grand Page in 1972, Grand Esther in 1973 and served as Grand Representative of Wyoming in Nebraska from 1974 to 1976. At present, she is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children in Fremont, Nebraska. In 1964, she was instrumental in organizing a Community Choral Group which has performed off and on over the years for special occasions and was involved in the formation of the Mobile Meals Committee and the Fullerton Good Neighbors. She is also Past President of Chapter AG, P.E.O. Gretchen graduated from Kearney High School in 1955 and that fall began working toward a BS Degree in Nursing at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

McINTYRE

Thomas Oliver McIntyre and his wife (nee Catherine Amanda Dean) were both born in 1825, near Cooperstown, Otsego county, New York. They moved with their family to Jones County, Iowa, at the end of the Civil War (1866); thence, in the 1870's, to northwest Nance county, Nebraska. They lived in a sod house briefly until they completed a "modern" structure (which was destroyed by fire prior to World War II).

In the latter part of the 19th century, a postoffice and small store was located in the McIntyre home, about 25 miles northwest of Fullerton. This place was identified on early Nance county and Nebraska maps as Olive (a corruption of the middle name of Thomas Oliver). The Olive school (district 13) still bears this identification, and is still in operation, although it was moved from its

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original location a few years ago.

Thomas Oliver McIntyre died in 1902; and his wife, in 1907. Both are buried in the Sunset Cemetery in Cedar Rapids.

Two branches of the family, headed by sons of Thomas Oliver and Catherine Amanda, located in this part of Nebraska

One branch located in Wolbach, and was in the furniture, hardware and undertaking business for years. Several descendants still live in or near Wolbach.

A second family branch, headed by C. Morris McIntyre, moved from the family farm ("Olive") to Fullerton in 1918, and lived until 1923 in a rambling house of mildewed elegance known as "Peyton Heights," on a hill in the west end of Fullerton. In 1923, they moved to a farm on the "point" about a mile east of the city limits. They retired from farming in the 1930's and moved into Fullerton. C. M. McIntyre died in 1955; and his wife (Anna Elizabeth) died in 1970. Both are buried in the Fullerton Cemetery.

Descendants of C. M. and Elsie McIntyre now live in California, Texas, Washington and Idaho.

McCORMICK

Frank McCormick and Mary Ellen (Stewart) McCormick moved from Iowa to Nance county in 1899. They settled near the Mount Pleasant School. They farmed in the area until about 1916, at which time they moved into Belgrade where they spent their remaining years.

Their oldest son, Francis McCormick, who is now 95 years old, was a member of the Nebraska Legislature in the early 1930's. He represented the Greeley county area, as he owned a department store in Wolbach at that time.

O. D. BARR

Orland D. Barr and his brothers Lev and Charles of Mahaska County, Iowa were hired by a friend to come to Fullerton, Nebraska approximately in 1883 to break prairie. After breaking prairie in Nance and nearby counties, Lev Barr worked in a brick kiln and helped lay bricks in building the Knapp Hotel in Fullerton. Lev located in Enid, Oklahoma and established a cement block business. Charles went west and disappeared. Their father, Jehu Barr lived in Fullerton for several years and built the hospital, Mount Jehu, which burned down about 1922.

Orland (also known as O. D. or Ollie) went to work for Ed Gould and worked on Merchant, Plum Creek, Bert and Kent and Woodline Ranches. Woodline Ranch was located on the old fairground. O. D. trained some of the world record race horses. He purchased Elkhorn Farm, east of the old fairground from Mr. Gould and his sons Orland Wesley and Harold Jehr Barr still farm it.

After working on the ranches for 19 years, O. D. rented Elkhorn Farm and managed the Hord Grain Elevator at Wolbach, Nebraska for several years. He married Clara Grace Morris, October 5, 1910. When the Dr. told him he would have to get away from the dust in the elevator, the family moved to Elkhorn farm, March 1916, and he farmed it until his death May 24, 1943.

Another son, Leonard, is retired Personnel Director of United Grocery Ltd., Richmond, California and now lives at Fremont, California. His daughter Margaret, a retired Civil Service employee, lives in Kansas City, Missouri.

OWEN

W. L. Owen was born at Memphis, Nebraska, March 10, 1880. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. Levi Owen, farmers. They moved to Missouri, when he was a young boy. Then they moved back to Saunders County. He married Hulda Gustafson on February 22, 1905. Her parents were Mr. and Mrs. Carl Gustafson who were born in Sweden and came to the United States to Omaha, Nebraska as young adults.

They lived at Memphis Nebraska, engaged in farming until 1910, when they moved to Garfield county for four years, after which they moved to Genoa.

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In 1919, they moved to a farm northeast of Fullerton. They lived on several farms north of Fullerton until 1947, when they moved into Fullerton. They had three sons: Virgil, Leland and Archie, and one daughter Ruth.

W. L. Owen died at the Fullerton Nursing Home, July 27, 1969. Hulda Owen is 96 years of age and has lived at the Nursing Home the past 6 years.

J. W. PENRY

John William Penry was born to James Monroe Penry on May 5, 1866 at Red Oak, Iowa He came to Nebraska in 1885 by covered wagon to break prairie and settled on Horse Creek, about 12 miles west of Fullerton, where he built a house. In the big blizzard of 1888 he got to Valley, Nebraska where he put his horses up and stayed until the storm was over. He made the trip back several times and in 1890 he married Minnie Peters, born July 1, 1875 at Red Oak, Iowa, and brought her to the place he had built. Their wedding date was February 28, 1890.

To this union six children were born. Esther Amelia, December 15, 1890 at Red Oak, Iowa, Daisy Pearle, April 7, 1892 at Fullerton, John William, May 30, 1893 at Fullerton, Nettie Ruth, November 17, 1895 at Fullerton, Nebraska, Ada May, April 9, 1897 at Belgrade, Nebraska and Richard Earl, June 10, 1912 at Belgrade.

After living there for seven years they moved near Belgrade. In 1908 they bought a farm 2 1/2 miles from town and in 1917 they built a fine new house, which is owned by their youngest son Doctor Richard Penry of

Hebron, Nebraska.

[Mr. and Mrs. John William Penry](#)

The oldest daughter, Esther Walker lives at Arnold, Nebraska, she is 89. Pearle Woods lives at Desert Hot Springs, California. John passed away in 1970. Nellie McBride lives at St. Helens, Oregon. Ada Becker lives at Sacramento, California. Dr. Richard Penry lives at Hebron, Nebraska.

Mr. J. W. Penry lived to be 94 years old and Minnie Penry lived to be 59 years old.

HENRY BEECHER WARD

Henry Beecher Ward was born May 21, 1857 in Randolph county Indiana. He moved to Nance county in 1880. In 1882 he married Adena R. Pierce of St. Anthony, Iowa. Adenia R. Pierce was born June 22, 1863 in Marshall county Iowa.

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To this union were born five children, Pierce - deceased, Ray E. deceased, Dwight E, deceased, Fred October 8, 1888 - died January 12, 1959. Gladys, Mrs. Bert Hunt of Bellflower, California.

Fred married Nettie Ruby on May 12, 1815. Their two children are Ruby, married to LeRoy Cople and lives in Gothenburg, Nebraska and Genevieve married Don W. Steffen and lives in Des Moines, Iowa. Nettie is at home at 311 Germand in Fullerton.

JAMES ROBERT RUBY

James Robert Ruby was born on April 7, 1863 at Harmony, Pennsylvania. In 1884 he homesteaded in Sheridan County, Nebraska. In 1887 he married Sarah Mary Graham at Gordon, Nebraska. She had been born July 29, 1861 in Washington County, Pennsylvania.

In 1895 they moved to Nance county where they lived the rest of their lives on the same farm. They had three children, Ethel, who married Phil Drury, Nettie was born on June 4, 1893 at Gordon, Nebraska. She married Fred Ward. Harry G. Ruby, who married Pearl Campbell.

James Ruby died July 7, 1949 on the farm near Fullerton and Sarah died July 19, 1954 on the farm near Fullerton.

B. F. SEELY

B. F. Seely (Frank or Jack) came to Nebraska from Alton, Illinois. He married Mary Ann Feeney in Schuyler, Nebraska in November 1883. They moved to Fullerton and purchased a square block of land in the northern part of town from Randall Fuller.

He was a brick mason and built a number of business buildings in Fullerton and surrounding towns including the buildings now occupied by Whited Implement, Russells Drug, and Gonsior Floral. A residence he built in the south-west part of town for Ed Watts is now owned by Walter Dubas at 7th and Johnson streets.

Frank and Mary Ann had eleven children, a baby girl, Mrs. Ernest (Dilla) Shull, Mrs. Authur (Nellie) Finch, Mrs. John (Anna) Meacham Morrell, Fulton Francis, Leo Austin, Frank Waldon, Hugh, Walter, Mrs. Charles (Pauline Elaine) Owens, and Mrs. L. B. (Margaret) Whitaker. Frank and all his sons were called "Jack."

The youngest daughter, Margaret, and her husband, Bert, bought a parcel of land from her father in 1926 and moved into a cabin from the Chautauqua park as their first home. This building has been added to and remodeled several times throughout the years. It sits on the site of the home of the Jack Soddors family

which was destroyed (sic) by a cyclone in August 1907.

L. BERT WHITAKER

Frank Marshall Whitaker was born in Illinois. He homesteaded in South Dakota in 1906 and purchased a farm in Cottonwood township, Nance county, Nebraska in 1920, now owned by Art Webb.

Frank married Emma Krug in December 1899. They raised eight children; Mrs. Oscar (Voilet) Larson, Leonard Bert, Mrs. Elmer (Carolyn Kate) Meth, Worthy Lee, Mrs. Musadora (Peggy) Hullinger, Busse Stewart, Mrs. Melvin (Hazel) Kruze Richmond, Colin Bruce and William Howard.

L. Bert is the only one still living in Fullerton and is the semi-retired owner and operator of the Fullerton Planing Mill.

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JAMES H. KEMP

James H. Kemp, a native of Virginia, where he attended William & Mary College at Williamsburg, came to Nebraska as a young man and received a law degree from the University of Nebraska in 1898. That same year he began the practice of law in Fullerton and later became associated with Robert C. Brower in the legal firm of Kemp & Brower.

In 1909, he married Elinor Orton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Orton, a pioneer Nance county family. Mrs. Kemp died in 1959.

During his residence in Fullerton, he served as city and county attorney, was a member of the board of education, served as a director since 1915 and in 1919 was named vice-president of the First National Bank here. He was the first president of the Fullerton Lions Club. As a member of the Nebraska Legislature, he was presiding officer of the senate in 1913. He was a candidate for governor of Nebraska and also was a candidate for U.S. Senator. He was a member of state and national bar associations.

Mr. Kemp was one of the organizers of the local golf club, which was later named Kemp Country Club in his honor, and he was the donor of the annually-presented Kemp Trophy. Mr. Kemp donated the tract of land which is today's golf course south of town.

At the time of his death, on February 19, 1962, at the age of 90 years, he had extensive land holdings in Nance county.

ROBINSON McCRAY

Robinson McCray, son of Philander McCray and Margaret Jane Simpkins, was born June 12, 1855 in Van Buren County, Iowa and came to Nebraska in the early 1870's. Frances Amelia Shrader, daughter of Soloman Shrader and Catherine Catherman was born December 3, 1860 near Lanark, Illinois, moving to Butler County, Nebraska in 1874 with her parents.

Robinson and Frances (nicknamed Rob and Annie) were married at Osceola on February 7, 1882. They began their domestic life on a farm in the Rising City/Surprise area and prior to moving back to Osceola in 1903, became the parents of the following children with birth date of each as noted: Edith Alberta December 1, 1882; Myrtle February 18, 1884; Hubert Marcus September 2, 1887; Ralph C. June 24, 1890; Fred Lester December 20, 1894; and Neil Herndon Janaruy (sic) 16, 1897.

This family moved to the "west end" hills of Nance County in the spring of 1905. They left a farm located six miles northwest of Osceola because the area had been deluged with heavy rains for a couple of years and Mr. McCray became disgusted trying to grow crops on "swampland".

The move made via emigrant train was a tremendous task, as all farm implements had to be disassembled before loading, household furnishings packed and cattle driven to the railway station. Robinson, with sons Hubert and Lester, rode in the cattle car to care for the animals enroute. On arrival at Wolbach, the three McCrays stayed at the hotel and it took nearly a week, with many new neighbors helping

to get everything moved from the rail station to the farm. Since the weather was unusually cold, the cookstove was the first item moved into the house. A new neighbor, the Peterson family, invited Robinson and his sons to stay with them until Mrs. McCray with daughter, Edith, and youngest son, Neil, arrived a few days later. Their son, Ralph, remained in Butler county with his Grandfather Sharder. Their second daughter, Myrtle, continued her teaching position in the Osceola area.

When the McCrays moved to Nance county, a great deal of the land was still prairie grass and this sod had to be broken before the first seed crops would be planted. Several families in the Palmer area were still living in sod houses. Prairie fires were a constant threat. In later years, Robinson preferred to forget that he accidentally started a small fire while trying to burn worms out of some wild plum bushes.

[Back row: Hubert, Myrtle, Neil, Edith and Hubert.](#)
[Front: Grandma McCray, \(Mrs. Rob McCray\).](#)

Rob and Annie did most of their shopping in Wolbach as the trip could be made with a team and wagon in 2 1/2 to 3 hours one way; however, traveling time was increased if a load of grain was hauled to market. A trip to Palmer involved crossing the Loup river over an old bridge which had plank flooring with a space of several inches between each plank. The horses could see the water below and many were reluctant to make the crossing without blinders and some had to be blindfolded and lead by the driver.

"Runaways" with horses were a common occurrence and the McCray boys had a big laugh when their sister, Myrtle, related her "runaway" experience on the way to school. She had failed to completely wrap the silverware in her lunch box and ruts in the road caused the buggy to rattle the metal and scare her horse, Topsy. Fortunately, she managed to hold onto the reins and regain control after a very wild ride. Sister Edith also had quite a wild buggy ride. She and her mother started for town with a couple of crates of eggs to sell. Edith chose the most spirited horse to pull the buggy. While enroute, another traveler coming up behind them desired to pass. Mrs. McCray told Edith to "let him go" meaning around them Edith thought her mother meant to "let the horse go" which the animal did and away they went. Needless to say, when they got to town, they found no market for broken and smashed eggs.

Lester and Neil's first horseless carriage ride was in the summer of 1906, when Mr. Orton of Fullerton took them for a spin in his new red "Brush" automobile.

In the spring of 1916, the McCray family moved to a farm 4 miles west of Fullerton, now known as the "Walsh Farm". The eldest son, Hubert, remained on the farm near Wolbach.

Robinson lost his life in a corn sheller accident in January 1924, at his farm.

Annie and daughter, Edith, remained on the farm until 1942. They moved into Fullerton, where they lived until Mrs. McCray's death in June 1947.

Ancestors of Robinson McCray have been traced to the 13th century in the Highlands of Scotland and include several members of nobility. His English/Irish ancestors emigrated to America in 1657-1687 and his Scottish ancestor, Samuel McCray I, followed in 1730. Mrs. McCray's ancestor, David Katterman, emigrated from Germany to America via the Ship SS. Andrew on September 23, 1752. A "Catherman" family reunion has been held at Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania annually since 1890.

Many McCray ancestors have distinguished themselves by answering the call of their country in times of war by serving in the American Revolutionary (sic) War, Civil War and World Wars I and II.

WILLIAM McNEFF FAMILY

In this centennial year of Nance county when this history is being written the eight children of William McNeff family are all living. Muriel born in 1900, Mrs. Earl Barnica lives in Julesburg, Colorado. Fern, 1901, Mrs. Neil McCray in Fullerton, Nebraska. George, 1902, of LaJolla California, Vivian, 1905, of Fullerton, Nebraska, Marjorie, 1906, Mrs. Bruce Bennett at Oshkosh, Nebraska,

Lee Roy, 1907, at Brule, Nebraska. Helen 1909, Mrs. William Grapes at Boone, Nebraska. Raymond McNeff, 1911 in Fullerton, Nebraska. Those living in Nance County are Fern who married Neil McCray at Council Bluffs, Iowa on December 26, 1923. They started farming in the spring of 1924 on the Dolson farm west of Fullerton in the "L" School District area, where their six children were born. Clifford in 1926, now living five miles west of Fullerton on Ridge farms and has five children, one deceased. Shirley, 1927, Mrs. Ivan Cunningham, on the farm in the valley west of Fullerton has seven children. Wilma, 1929, Mrs. Richard Greer, lives in Lincoln, Nebraska and has 3 sons. Mrs. Roberta, 1930, Flaherty lives in Vallejo, California and has eight children. Melvin, 1932, works in Grand Island, and lives in Alda, has two children. Bethene, 1934, Mrs. Baxter Turner, in Salisbury, North Carolina and has three children. The Neil McCray family lived on this farm almost 15 years until the fall of 1937 when they moved to the Douthit farm four miles west of Fullerton on the Ridge which they bought in 1934. All the children were married while they lived here and in 1960 they built a new home in Fullerton and retired from the farm.

Vivian McNeff married Veva Weeks and they started farming on the first farm of William McNeff, which he bought in 1902, south of North Star on Horse Creek in 1932. Their seven children are Bill McNeff of Minneapolis, Minnesota, Ronald McNeff, Palmer, Nebraska, Ray McNeff, Palmer Nebraska, Marvin McNeff, of St. Paul, Minnesota, Robert McNeff, Palmer, Nebraska, Kathy (Mrs. John Jensen,) Columbia, Missouri, Madalyn (Mrs. Wade Harwood,) Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

Raymond McNeff married Lillian Otlewske in 1936 and they lived on the home place until 1959 when they built a new home in Fullerton, Nebraska and live there but still run the farm. They have one daughter, Sherry (Mrs. Less Garris) whose home is in Lakewood, Colorado.

MR. AND MRS. HARVEY WHITED

Harvey Ray Whited and Ethel Mae Trotter were married March 10, 1915 at the Belgrade Methodist Parsonage.

Mae was born near Belgrade to Thomas Arthur and Susie (McGee) Trotter on March 5, 1894. Susie McGee was born at Oakland, Iowa in 1870 and died at Belgrade, Nebraska August 27, 1937. She was raised in Iowa.

They came to Nebraska in a covered wagon and raised a family of seven, four boys and three girls.

Harvey Whited was born on February 22, 1895 six miles southwest of St. Edward, Nebraska to Wllm and Lena (Rusch) Whited. Lena was Wllm's second wife and three children were born to this union: Harvey Ray Whited and Pearl (Whited) Deaman and Harry. There were two boys and one girl from the first marriage, Ben, Ralph and Grace.

When Harvey was nine years old the family moved to a farm six miles northeast of Belgrade. He attended school in Boone county at District 15 and went to the Pinnacle Hill School.

After they were married Harvey and Mae farmed the home place for one year. But this was sold and they moved to her mother's farm two miles northeast of Belgrade. In 1926 they bought a farm west of Fullerton for \$17,600 and paid down the \$5,000. The company foreclosed and resold the farm for \$3,200.

There were seven bad years and the resulting depression left memories of some very bad times. Fifty head of cattle brought only \$750 and sixty head of hogs brought \$250 with trucking and freight to be taken out of that. In 1932 corn brought ten cents a bushel.

Some families ground their own corn and wheat to use for corn meal and flour. One man walked 4 1/2 miles to a store to buy groceries and potatoes. The potatoes were frozen by the time he reached home again. That year the neighborhood was snowed in for three weeks.

One bill collector came to a neighbor's home and took everything he could find that could be sold. The man was down with a broken leg at the time.

In 1934 and 35 Harvey acted as County Road Boss and hired local men as crews to scoop the roads clear. There were some men with frozen hands and faces. Their lunches were frozen by lunchtime but eaten anyway by men resting on snowbanks. Wages were \$2.00 a day.

Belgrade lost both of its banks to the Depression and Fullerton lost one.

In 1937 the Whited family bought into the John Deere agency and moved from the farm to Fullerton. In 1964 Harvey sold his share of the business to his sons, Leonard and Richard. He still goes almost daily to the store. He especially enjoyed the men's card club that flourished during the sixties. About thirty-five men used an empty building on Fullerton's Main Street as a meeting place.

Mae walks uptown when the weather permits, attends Social Hour club meetings and visits with her friends on the telephone.

The Whiteds have two sons, Leonard and Richard, and two daughters Dorothy and Helen. Leonard Whited married Verda Peterson of Central City. Their children are Robert Whited married to Margie Berlin of Genoa, children: Shawn, Michael, Shannon, Christopher and Jennifer. Roger Whited married Sharon Lockhart. Children Rachelle, Steven, Susan and Scott. Gaylen Whited of Lincoln, Connie Whited of Lincoln. Helen Whited married Eugene Foland and now lives in Newman Grove. Their children: Linda Married Dal Draper of Norfolk. Nila married Marvin Nelson. Children: Jamie, Adam and Amanda. Dale and Pam live in Grand Island. Darrell and Sandy live in Lincoln. David lives in Fort Collins, Colorado. Richard Whited married Grace Travers. Children Belinda, Kevin and Cara at home. Dorothy Whited married Sam King. Their children Jennifer married Gary Beran and they live in Kearney; Donald, Kenneth and Bobby.

W. V. DENTON

Willis (Bill) Varner Denton was born June 7, 1902 at Sullivan, Texas to William Campbell Denton and Lily Alice-Olivine White Denton. Wilma Bowman was born December 21, 1901, at Abingdon, Virginia to Andrew Haskeel Bowman and Clara Josephine Blivins Bowman.

Willis and Wilma were married on December 24 1921 at Harr, Tennessee. To this union six children were born. Lilian Roselie, 1923, deceased 1960, Lois Jean, 1926, William Joseph 1928, Mary Kathleen, 1930, Richard Lynn, 1933, Gloria Ann, 1937.

The couple moved to Fullerton in 1929 from Bristol, Tennessee. They belong to the Methodist church. Willis has farmed, drove a truck and painted for a livelihood. He has also worked as a police officer. Wilma is a member of the Women's Club, Eastern Star, Social Hour Club and Church Circle Ruth.

T. A. SHIVELY

T. A. Shively came out from Iowa in year of 1872 and homesteaded a 80 acres 1/2 mile south of the Nance county line. For his home he made a dugout in side of a hill. He traded and hunted with the Indians and then he went back to Iowa and brought his folks to Clarks, Nebraska. When the train stopped in Clarks his mother had passed away and she was the second person buried at Pierce Chapel grave yard. He and his father loaded the things from the train to a wagon. With a team of oxen hitched to it and headed to the dugout to live. They batched for several years when T. A. Shively got married to Indiana Violet Richard, another homestead family in 1877 at Central City. They made the trip to Central City by wagon and team of oxen. They made their home in the dugout for several years then they moved into Fullerton in early 80's where Mr. Shively carried mail from Fullerton to Genoa by team of oxen and wagon. Later years he moved back to the dugout and started to plow sod for a sod house. He used a wooden plow and his team of oxen. Their house had several rooms. They had 7 children then they built the house that is still standing. There has been 5 generations lived on the farm in the 107 years and 3 generations still living there. There has been 6 generations visiting the farm.

JOHN KELLER

John Keller was born January 30, 1874 at Denison, Iowa and passed away April 12, 1948 at Fullerton, Nebraska. He was one of eight children of Mr. and Mrs. David Keller. The others were Margaret, later Mrs. Richard Kinney, David Jr., Tracy, Richard, Albert, Maggie, Emma and Gracie.

On April 12, 1903, John married Amanda Downs of Grand, Iowa. She was born January 4, 1874 and passed away March 7, 1940 at Fullerton. The young couple came to the Nance county community to farm and lived here most of their lives. They resided at the south end of the main street leading through Fullerton and many people will recall their trips through Keller's yard, down the hill through the pasture to the Loup river to fish or swim.

Along with their farming operations they operated a Dairy at first milking by hand and later adding modern milking equipment.

They had two sons, Clifford Wilbur born February 24, 1904 and Keith Kenneth born March 12, 1909 and passed away July 31, 1972. Clifford married Teresa Stittle of Ravenna, Nebraska on August 4, 1945 and live at Fullerton. Teresa is a registered Nurse. Keith married Maude E. Cooper on January 18, 1936. Maude still lives in Fullerton. To this union one son was born. John Jeffrey born on December 4, 1947. He is married to Donna Jean Plumbtree. They have two children, Jeffrey Keith and Beverly Jean and live at Niobrara, Nebraska.

WALTER W. FITZGERALD FAMILY

Walter W. Fitzgerald, his wife Anna V. (Shiffer) Fitzgerald and their year old daughter, Faye, arrived in Fullerton, Nebraska in 1895, coming here from Nodaway, Iowa. Their first home in Fullerton was what is now 105 Irving Street. Later they purchased a home on the corner of Fifth and Esther Streets in Fullerton, where the family home is still maintained. Three children were born to them there: Ruth L., John F., and Verdilla J. They later moved to a farm near Horse Creek in western Nance county where they resided for several years moving from there to the Sickler Ranch just south of Fullerton. While living there a daughter Ida I. was born to them. Moving back to their home in Fullerton, Mr. Fitzgerald was an assistant to Veterinarian Charles Brown for several years and also fed cattle for the Hord Company.

In 1906 the family moved to Belgrade, Nebraska where Mr. Fitzgerald was employed by the Hord Company, returning to Fullerton in 1910 where he operated the Hord Company elevator. After the elevator was closed Mr. Fitzgerald served as sexton at the Fullerton Cemetery until his retirement in 1939. He passed away in Fullerton in 1941 at the age of 83. Mrs. Fitzgerald continued to make her home in the family home in Fullerton until her death in 1962 at the age of 88.

Faye M. Fitzgerald retired from the Northwestern Bell Telephone Co. in Fullerton in 1959 after 45 years of service, 44 of them as chief operator for the company. She now lives in the family home.

Ruth L. Fitzgerald was also employed by N. W. Bell Telephone Co. and married a fellow employee, William C. Zieg. They were the parents of one daughter, Donna. All three are now deceased.

John F. Fitzgerald was employed by a local men's wear store and later operated his own store in Central City, Nebraska. He is now deceased and his widow, the former Ruth Clayton, lives in Omaha, Nebraska. They have three sons, Darel of Montgomery, Alabama, Donald who operates Fitzgeralds Mid-City Motor in Fullerton, and William of Exeter, Nebraska; and a daughter Patsy Rae now deceased, who was married to Milton Johnson of Omaha.

Verdilla J. Fitzgerald (Mrs. Everett M. Black) was employed at the Post Office in Fullerton, the office of the Nance County Clerk of the District Court and as Assistant Cashier of the First National Bank of Fullerton. She now lives in Fullerton where she operates the Black Sales System. She has two step-children James Black of Pierce, Nebraska and Patricia Black Walgreen RN of Osceola Nebraska; and a son, Navy LCDR Theodore Black of Fort Collins, Colorado.

Ida I. Fitzgerald, a graduate of Kearney State College, taught in the rural schools of Nance county and in City Schools in Madrid, Nebraska, Fullerton, Nebraska and Coronado, California. She retired in 1968 after 47 years in the teaching profession and now lives in Fullerton, Nebraska.

Lucille B. Fitzgerald was employed by the N. W. Bell Telephone Co. in their offices in Fullerton, Nebraska, Loup City, Nebraska and Central City, Nebraska and is now retired and lives in Fullerton.

Louise A. Fitzgerald (Mrs. Frank C. Dudek) was employed as a dental assistant in Fullerton. She and her husband are the parents of four children: Cheryl Dudik of Omaha, Nebraska, Charlene Hoye RN of North Platte, Nebraska, Nancy Brown of Grand Island, Nebraska and John Dudek of Grand Island, Nebraska.

Robert V. Fitzgerald attended the University of Nebraska and George Washington University. He was employed by the Federal Government in Washington, D. C. and later by the Arapahoe Drilling Co. of Denver, Colorado and is now the accountant for the Heynen Lumber Co., Inc. in Fullerton where he lives in the original family home.

RUSH JACOB HOY 1855-1941

Rush Jacob Hoy was born November 13, 1855, son of Ruben and Elizabeth Hoy at Orwigsburg, Pennsylvania (sic) and passed away at his home in Fullerton on October 11, 1941 at the age of 85 years.

[Rush Jacob Hoy](#)

In 1868 he came to Warrenville, Illinois with his parents, where he grew to manhood. In 1878 he was united in marriage to Mary Jane Tart. In 1889 Mr. and Mrs. Hoy came to Nance county with their three children. Ten children were born to them. They made their home on a farm north of Fullerton until 1917 when they moved into Fullerton. In 1930 Mrs. Hoy died.

In 1892 Mr. Hoy began to follow the auctioneer's profession and during the next 31 years became very prominent. From 1918 to 1920 he was associated with C. A. Miller in the real estate and insurance business. His children were:

Arthur 1879-1910

Married Ivy Wolf, 1907 (deceased) Two children: Maybelle (deceased) 2 daughters Maud.

Carlton 1882-1883

Ella 1884-1902

Frank 1886-1950 at Fullerton - single.

Louella 1887-1952 at Fullerton

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Married Ralph Barber in 1908 (deceased) 1977. Two children: Clarence M. (Bus) single Fullerton, Roy E. (deceased) 1977 Elkhorn, Nebraska. Three children. Roger, Rodney. Married Iola Graves
Second Marriage: Timothy.

Rush C. 1889-1913 from farm accident

Clarence W. 1891-1974 at Fullerton

Married Blanche Maybon in 1971 (deceased) Two children: Donald Fullerton - single, Kenneth, Fullerton - single.

Lester 1893-1934 died from injuries of a farm accident.

Married Clara Ellis in 1916, lives at Portland, Oregon. Two children: Fern, Mrs. Walter Larson, Genoa Nebraska. One daughter Jane.

Mary Lee Mrs. Irvine Callison, Portland Oregon. Two children.

Florence 1895-1927

Married Frank Pebley 1921- no children.

Dexter J. 1897-1966

Married Hazel Jennings 1921. Three children: Alvin D. North Bend, Nebraska . Five Children Freda Belle, Mrs. Max Swanson, Belgrade, Nebraska. One daughter: Nancy. Billy W. U.S. Navy Career. Married Shirley Louy, Milton, Florida.

THE WOZNIAK FAMILY

It is to the credit of records faithfully kept that this brief history possible. The Wozniak family originally came from Poland.

Frank and Frances Wozniak owned a prosperous farm on an Island in the Platte near Osceola. As their family grew they decided they should be closer to church and school. Frank then moved his family to Duncan where he ran a General Store. He soon learned that he was a better farmer than businessman and it was the year 1896 that found Nance County District 23 with six Wozniak boys enrolled. Julius was 17, Joseph was 15, John 13, Ladislaus 9, Max 8 and Theo 6. They lived on the farm now owned by Louis Lesiak. In 1901 the farm was sold to William Wetovick and the Wozniaks moved to the Northwest quarter of section 21. Here Frank died at age 85, Francis at age 75 and Joseph at age 51. Pelegia became Sr. Theresa of the sisters of St. Francis. She died in Grand Island. Julius bought a farm adjoining his parents farm where he died in 1940. In 1913

[The Frank Wozniak Family.](#)

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he married Josephine Nowak. They had one daughter Eleanora. Joseph never married. John married Nancy Spear. They lived in Idaho and had one son Harold. Ladislaus married Ethel Kahl. They had eight children: Lawrence, Frances, Dorothy, Margaret, Raymond, George, Charlotte and Helen. Lad died in 1962. Max married Marie Rafferty. They were the parents of one son, Edward and three daughters, Loretta, Mary Lou and Rose Ann. Max died in 1959. Theo married Monica Lesiak. They were parents of two sons and two daughters, Daniel, Evelyn, Richard and Shirley. Theo died in 1976. William never married. He died in 1960.

Of the Wozniaks remaining in Nance county there are Ethel Wozniak, her son Lawrence and daughters Fran Wozny and Margaret Koziol; and Eleanora Lesiak daughter of Julius and Josie Wozniak.

LAVERNE FAABORG

LaVerne Faaborg was born May 16, 1915, on a farm near Boelus, in Howard County, Nebraska. He was the only child of Anton and Helga Jacobsen Faaborg. He attended school at Nysted, District 17, and graduated from Danneborg High School in 1934. He then went to Moler Barber College in Omaha where he attended classes from September 1934 to May 1935. He came to Fullerton in May 1935, on his 20th birthday to work as an apprentice barber for Ernest Lawson. After Lawson closed his barber shop that year, Faaborg finished his apprenticeship at Charles Nixon's barber shop and received his master barber license. In 1937 he opened his own barber shop in a building now where the J & L Tavern is located. He married Adele Luschei of Fullerton at the Fullerton United Methodist Church on July 3, 1938. In June 1942 he left for Army service in World War II. He served with the Ninth General Hospital Unit from New York City in Australia, in New Guinea, the Dutch East Indies and the Philippine Islands until his discharged in December 1945. The couple lived in Grand Island until June 1947 when they returned to Fullerton where he purchased a barber shop from Ted Sample. Faaborg operated a bowling alley from 1950 to 1953. He then opened a barber shop at 414 West Third Street which is still in operation in Fullerton's Centennial Year 1979.

His fraternal and civic memberships include Cedar River Masonic Lodge No. 89 at Fullerton, Fred Philbrick American Legion Post No. 151; V.F.W. Post No. 5759; life member Nance County Historical Society;

Fullerton Area Chamber of Commerce and the Fullerton United Methodist Church. He was organizer and first president of The Fullerton Sportsmen's Club which evolved to Nance County Sportsman's Club.

His two children are Loren LaVerne Faaborg, born November 22, 1947, at Grand Island and Gail LaVerne Faaborg, born May 14, 1950, at Grand Island. Both graduated from Fullerton High School and from the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha. Gail graduated from the College of Nursing with a bachelor of science degree in nursing in 1973 and is a professional registered nurse. Loren received his doctor of medicine degree in 1975, completed a residency in obstetrics and gynecology at the University Hospital in Omaha in 1978. At present he is chief of obstetrical and gynecological services at Dover Air Force Base Hospital at Dover, Delaware, where he will complete his tour of duty in October 1980. He will then join Ernest Bussinger in the practice of obstetrics and gynecology at Scottsbluff in western Nebraska. Loren married Mary Jo Wilkins of Fremont at Fremont on June 6, 1971 They have one son, Jeffrey Anton, born May 29, 1976, at Omaha. Gail was married on July 1, 1977, at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to John Charles Rogers, M D., of Pawnee City. John was a classmate of Loren's at UNMC and also graduated from there in 1975. Mary Jo graduated from the UNMC College of Nursing in 1974 with a bachelor of Science degree in nursing and also is a professional registered nurse. Gail and John live in Rochester, Minnesota, where John completes a three-year residency in obstetrics and gynecology at the Mayo Clinic in October 1980. They plan to move back to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where John will practice his specializations in medicine. At the present time Gail is employed as a public health nurse at Kasson, Dodge County, Minnesota.

ADELE LUSCHEI FAABORG

Adele Luschei was born October 8, 1918, in Platte County, Nebraska. Her parents were Bruno and Hulda Mohrmann Luschei. Mrs. Luschei died in May 1922. Adele came to Fullerton in 1925 with her father, her brother Armin and two sisters, LaVerna and Elaine. Adele graduated from Fullerton High School in 1936 and was employed at the Nance County Journal office from 1936-1942. After her husband left for overseas Army service in 1943 she was employed at the Grand Island ordnance plant until the end of World War II in 1945. After moving back to Fullerton in 1947, was employed in the Kansas-Nebraska Natural Gas Company office at Fullerton from 1952 to 1959. In May 1961 she began her present employment at the Nance County Journal office.

She is a member of the Fullerton United Methodist Church where she has served as church treasurer since October 1968; is a permanent member of the Fred Philbrick American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 151; member of the Fullerton V.F.W. Post Auxiliary No 5759, Fullerton Eastern Star Chapter No. 191 and Eastern Star Past Matrons Club; and the Three H Extension Club. She also is a life member of the Nance County Historical Society and present secretary of its board of directors.

Her children are Loren and Gail Faaborg as listed on the preceding page, with their spouses. Her father died December 25, 1972, and her brother Armin died January 4, 1976. The Fasborgs' first child, a son, Gary LaVerne Faaborg died at birth October 18, 1946.

THE DOWNING FAMILY

Mrs. Will Downing and Elizabeth Downing represent a family well-known in Fullerton for the past ninety-six years. The late Will Downing told of his father's decision to move from Illinois to Nebraska:

[From left to right: Mrs. Martha Dean Downing \(Mrs. James F.\) 1853-1935, William F. Downing 1877-1972, James Franklin Downing 1845-1922, Mrs. Margaret Nunn Downing \(Mrs. William F.\) 1890-](#)

"My father and his two brothers came out to Lincoln in 1881. The first night at the rooming house they met a trail guide who had been leading settlers through a cut-off of the Oregon Trail which passed through Nance county. He told them what fine opportunities there were up here and how good the land was. Nance

county had been a Pawnee Indian Reservation. The Indians had been moved to Oklahoma about 1877, the land surveyed, and settlers were coming in. So they came on up to Genoa where the railroad ended. By livery they came on to Fullerton where they got plats of the near townships and picked out several farms. Then they had to go to the land office at Grand Island to file. Several were already taken but they got three farms up the Loup Valley west of town and one north two miles which my family got (Joe Plebanek place - 1979). We

lived in town about two years while getting the farm broken out and a house built." Will Downing began school in Fullerton, finished grade school at District 18, graduated from Fullerton High School in 1895 and attended the University of Nebraska several sessions.

Mrs. Will Downing (Margaret) first came to Fullerton in 1917 as a teacher of third grade. Some of these students graduated in 1925, the regular class in 1926. She had grown up at Winnebago where her parents, John and Nellie Nunn, operated the trading post at the Indian Agency. She was attending Bellevue Presbyterian College when her father died of typhoid fever and she had to leave college to return home and help with the care of the younger children. She also attended summer school three years at Nebraska Wesleyan and taught at Walthill and Winnebago as well as at Fullerton.

Will and Margaret Downing were married in 1920 and moved to the farm three miles north of Fullerton which was their home for the next 49 years (present owner Lawrence Gdowski). Four children were born: Lloyd who is a psychiatrist at San Angelo, Texas, Elizabeth of Fullerton who has retired from Northwestern Bell Telephone Company, Margaret (Mrs. Kenneth Pierson) of Neligh, and Elaine (Mrs. Verlin Francis) of Wayne. Mr. and Mrs. Downing were always active in the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Downing served as elder for many years and Mrs. Downing was one of the first women to serve as elder. Also Mrs. Downing was twice delegate to the National Presbytery at Purdue, Indiana, in 1950 and again in 1960. Mr. Downing was active also in District 37 and township affairs, was justice of the peace for twenty years, and took part in political activities (a lifelong Democrat). Mrs. Downing was a promoter of extension work and was county chairman of 4-H several years during the 1930's.

Mr. Downing in telling of the 1930's said: "One drouth followed another for eight years and we went to the bottom of what we had and borrowed all we could. When on the very verge of losing our farm Mom was asked to work in the ASC office. She made good there and has been working both at home and outside ever since and saved our home."

The job Mrs. Downing started with was AAA Fieldwoman for the county, which she held from January 1940 to October 1944. The job consisted of going to public schools and any organization to which she was invited to give talks on the philosophy of the farm program. It also necessitated trips to neighboring counties for speeches. After that she spent a year in the county agent's office coordinating club work - getting paid for the same type work she had done in the 30's as a volunteer. Mrs. Downing entered the Welfare office as a caseworker November 1945 and had been county director of welfare 16 years when she retired in 1965 at the age of 75. After retirement she continued to help with various volunteer programs such as March of Dimes, Heart Association, Easter Seals, county museum, etc., and to hold various offices in the church.

Mr. and Mrs. Downing moved to Fullerton in 1969 and celebrated their golden anniversary in 1970. Mr. Downing died in 1972 at the age of 94. Mrs. Downing, 89 in 1979, during the past year visited her sister in Arkansas, spent Christmas holiday with her son's family in Texas, and continues to present programs for the organizations to which she belongs, helps at the museum, and holds open house for her many friends and relatives. She has shared her home at 509 Fuller, Fullerton, with her daughter Elizabeth since Elizabeth's retirement in 1976.

MR. AND MRS. FRANK F. KSIAZEK

Mr. and Mrs. Frank F. Ksiazek were residents of Nance County almost all of their lives. Mrs. Ksiazek (Anna R. Koziol), daughter of John and Kathryn Koziol, was born July 24, 1891 south of Genoa in the

Krakow area. Mr. Ksiazek was born February 22, 1884, near Tarnov, Poland, the son of Joseph and Agnes Ksiazek, and came to the Genoa area in 1897, with his 15-year-old brother. They survived a terrifying storm on the ocean voyage to Galveston, Texas, from where they came to be with their two older brothers and their father who had come to Nebraska in 1893. At that time, there were some pioneers in the community, including their father's sister, who were still living in

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Mr. and Mrs. Frank F. Ksiazek

dugouts, which was a great surprise to him for they had heard such glowing reports of the good life in the New World. In 1898 his mother and two sisters came, so the family was finally reunited.

However, like many others at that time, each had to work away from home usually for farmers who had established themselves in the area longer. Frank, at the age of 13, was hired to herd 250 head of cattle with the help of a pony and dog, for \$7 a month, his wages increasing later to \$15 a month on another assignment. The older brothers were getting around \$18, and of course their board and room. At first the family lived in Genoa, then they purchased a farm two miles west of the Krakow church. Plans were for one son to farm with the father, and the others worked away from home and gave their money to their parents to help pay for and operate the new home place. In 1905, he moved with his parents to a farm five miles east of Elba. Later he and his brother, Stanley, farmed in Litchfield where he resided at the time of his marriage.

On May 5, 1909, Frank Ksiazek and Anna Koziol were married in Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church at Krakow. They farmed in Litchfield until the following year when they purchased a farm four miles north of Genoa. They had the difficult task of moving in the cold and snowy winter which took several days since the cattle had to be driven.

In March 1916, they moved to a farm southeast of Fullerton in School District 23. They immediately embarked on a building program which was not completed until several years later when all old major buildings were replaced. They began with a new barn, and also a garage to house their newly-purchased first car, a Ford. The next project was to remodel the home, but sometime after the builders jacked up the house, as a first step in the process, one corner fell into the cellar. It was thought to be a routine and safe procedure, so the children had been left in the house napping. Fortunately, they were not hurt during this disaster. Plans were quickly changed, the old house dismantled and a completely new house built. During this building time, their new garage became the kitchen where the usual good farm meals were cooked for the family and the carpenters as well since that was the custom. A never used portion of the new barn, which was later to become the "milking parlor" was the family bedroom until early winter when the home was completed. It was said many times that that was one winter when no one had colds. Apparently everyone had become very hardy under the circumstances.

Both were active in the church, school and community. Mr. Ksiazek for a time wrote articles and reported news of the Polish community in the county to the Gwiazda Zachodu (Western Star) a Polish/English newspaper in Omaha. Mrs. Ksiazek took part in the Extension Club, and later when they transferred their membership from the Sts. Peter and Paul Church in Krakow to St. Peter's in Fullerton, she helped organize the St. Ann's Altar Society, becoming its first President and serving for several years. What started as a hobby of baking and

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decorating birthday, anniversary and wedding cakes for family and neighbors, later became a small business on the farm when she baked not only for those near but received orders for wedding cakes from more than 100 miles away. Their five children: Mrs. Frances Prosocki, Mrs. Cecelia McNallan, Edward Ksiazek, Mrs.

Veronica Cuba, and also daughter Carolyn who died in 1915 at the age of 2. This loss was a very sad one for them, as it was for others of the day when there seemingly was no remedy for diphtheria (sic).

After 49 years on the West Newman Township farm, many very good and some very bad during the drought years, they decided to retire. They built a new all electric home in the town of Fullerton, where they moved in February 1965. They continued to enjoy "farming" in a smaller scale now, by growing their own vegetables and many flowers. Mr. Ksiazek died on December 30, 1973 followed by Mrs. Ksiazek fourteen months later on February 28, 1975. They were survived by 4 children, 10 grand children and 10 great grand children. Interment was in the Fullerton Catholic Cemetery.

Son Edward married Natalie Uzendoski in 1941 and they have 4 children Carolyn, Harold, Tom and Dick. They moved south of Belgrade in 1946 after returning from military service in World War II, and started farming. In 1951 when Jesse Moon retired as Belgrade Rural Mail carrier, Edward was appointed and served the route until 1974 when Belgrade and Fullerton route # 2 were consolidated he retired and continued farming. At the present time the couple still live on the same farm but are retired.

Natalie is a registered nurse and worked for many years at the Fullerton Memorial Hospital and was the director of nurses for Fullerton Manor when it was operated by Drs. Dalton and Bass.

CECIL SMITH

In the year of 1888 there were 10 families that came from Fisher and Champaign counties in Illinois. They all came together. There were four McCays, Oris, Orlando, Jack and Palace; John Day, Ben Bateman, Al Trotter, Dan Hinton, Pusey family and my Grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Mack Fitzgerald. My Grandfather was born in Ireland. There were six in my grandfather's family, all girls of which my mother was the oldest. She lacked nine months of being 100 years old, when she died. They lived 5 miles north of Central City. The first year my mother said the kids were never in town.

In 1890 my Grandparents moved on the Wiltze place that Larry Cunningham now owns. My mother went to Cedar Valley School - I went there - my son Paul went there and all of Paul's kids went there. The building will be 100 years old in four years, and has operated continuously since.

The farm was in our family 61 years, always leased and never a written lease. In my mother's family there were six girls - she was the oldest (Mae Workman), Nell Crawford, Stella Jennings, Ethel Pepper Edith Minor and Ina Sidder. There are only two direct decendants (sic) of the original family left now, Van Trotter who lives in the home at Fullerton and Lenna McCay who lives in California.

My mother married Wm. Smith in 1892. He was from Winterset, Iowa. When I was a baby they went to Winterset, Iowa in a covered wagon and lost me out at one point. I was always glad they went back and got me. I had two brothers, Faye and Forest. After my dad left my mother, she later married Bob Workman. I have a half sister in California, Geraldine, married to Tom Hughes. He is a railroader. My brothers are both dead.

I married Nellie Castle in 1916 - soon be 64 years. We lost our first baby, but since had Paul (He married Fern Sonderup) Virginia (she married Wilton Miller). She is Director of the Nursing School at West Nebraska Hospital in Scottsbluff, Nebraska. Dale is married to Georgia Omer. Dale graduated from Juliard School of Music in New York City and now has a conservatory of music in Grand Island. His wife works at the Vet Hospital in Grand Island. Dick is married to Carolyn Miller, a rancher's daughter who works at the Post Office and they live here on the ranch. We have 11 grandchildren and 4 great -grandchildren.

We started ranching on a ranch west of Anselmo which I bought in 1941 and in 1946 I bought the ranch west of Dunning which we now live on. Paul remained on the farm at Fullerton. We will both be 86 years old this year. We were active in church and Masonic and Eastern Star. Nellie was Past Worthy Matron and has her 50-year pin. I was Clerk of Session of Presbyterian Church in Fullerton and an Elder for 35 years, and am Past Master of Masonic Lodge and have my 50 year pin. I am a 32nd degree Mason and all my boys and I belong to the Shrine. I sang in the church choir for 40 years. I also was Worthy Patron of Eastern Star for 15

consecutive years, and when I left I had initiated half of the membership at that time.

NELLIE CASTLE SMITH

Nellie Castle Smith's father was Marshall Castle (born September 18, 1870) in Mercer County, Illinois. He moved with his parents to Seward, Nebraska in 1883. He later moved to a farm in Nance County, ten miles northeast of Palmer, where he married Elizabeth Kiel on October 4, 1893. Elizabeth's parents had come to America from Germany some time in the late 1840's, but were married in America and settled on a farm near Honesdale, Pennsylvania where their eight children were born. Elizabeth was the youngest and was born October 29, 1865.

Their daughter, Nellie, tells an interesting story about the first meeting of Marshall and Elizabeth, who must have been a lively, fun loving girl. She came to Nebraska to visit her brother, Fred, who had moved to Greeley County, in Nebraska but she made so much fun of his sandhill farm that he decided to leave and move to Missouri. They started out, taking all their worldly possessions, but on their way, near the town of Palmer, they met a man on horseback. Elizabeth apparently wanting some fun, thought to herself, "Well I'll never see you again, so I will just wink at you", which she did. However, she was mistaken about never seeing him again, as her brother obtained work with a farmer in that vicinity and remained there, so it ended, as with all good stories, with Elizabeth marrying the man at whom she had winked. Marshall died February 29, 1948, but Elizabeth survived him several years, living until 1965, when she passed away on January 19, at the age of 99 years. Marshall and Elizabeth had six children:

1. Nellie born August 24, 1894, married Cecil Smith in 1916, lived on farm near Fullerton and now on a ranch at Dunning Nebraska. They had five children:
 - a. Son died at birth December 19, 1917
 - b. Paul Eugene Smith born June 14, 1919, married Fern Sonderup September 16, 1951; five children Calvin, Elwyn, Paul Ed, Donn and Carroll
 - c. Virginia Smith married Wilton Miller June 27, 1944. Two children (sic), Cathy and David.
 - d. Dale Smith married Georgia Omer June 22, 1947; three children, Tim, Cindy and Corey.
 - e. Richard Castle Smith married Carolyn Miller August 26, 1956; two children, Laurie and Cindy.
2. William Lemuel born December 14, 1896 died September 18, 1897
3. Elmer born September 15, 1898 married Georgia Campbell, lived at Bennett, Colorado, they have five children:
 - a. Wanda married Joe Davis have 3 children
 - b. Marvin has six children
 - c. Shirley married Clark Beck, lives in Strasburg, Colorado. 2 children
 - d. Philip married and has one son
 - e. Patricia married, has two children, lives in Bennett, Colorado.
4. Vernon Isedore born August 30, 1900 died May 1934
5. Theron Theodore born June 3, 1903 married Bertha Bowder, lives at Roundup, Montana; they have two children:
 - a. Dorothy married George Gracey

-
- b. Donna Bells married and has one son
 6. Ulah born September 23, 1907

DR. J. L. SEBERG

I was born at Upland, Franklin County, Nebraska December 29, 1910. We moved to Elwood, Nebraska in 1923. I graduated from Elwood high 1928. I attended the University of Nebraska for six years and earned a Doctor of Dental Surgery degree in 1936. I bought the office of the late Dr. L.C. Barstow in July and took over

September 1, 1936. Dr. Barstow had purchased an office in Sidney, Nebraska. The office at the time was on the second floor of the present Legion building. I moved to the office where Wayne Nicholls is the next spring. I moved to the office where Dr. Maly is in 1940 and was there until going into service.

Janet Clark, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. G. A. Clark of Elwood, Nebraska and I were married in Elwood, Nebraska May 1, 1938. Janet was employed by the Tri-County in the Hastings office at the time.

Richard L Seberg was born January 14, 1940. He attended school in Fullerton and was graduated from H.S. in 1957. He attended the University of Nebraska seven years and received a Doctor of Dental Surgery Degree in 1964. He and Sheila Howard, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. C. D. Howard of Blair, Nebraska were married in Blair June 9, 1961. He was in the regular Navy three years, 1 year at the Oakland, California Naval Hospital and two years in San Diego before resigning to go into private practice. They now live in New Port Beach, California. They have three children Kevin born September 5, 1963, Gretchen born March 30, 1966 and Suzanne born May 13, 1969.

Diane (Seberg) Myers was born November 16, 1944 at Elwood, Nebraska. She attended school in Fullerton graduating in 1962. She attended the University of Nebraska two years. She and Allan Myers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lou Myers of Estes Park, Colorado were married November 24, 1964. They live North of Denver at Dacona and both work in Denver. Allan at Blue Cross Blue Shield and Diane at Petroleum Information. They have two children. Danette was born September 19, 1965. Shaun was born July 10, 1969.

I had a reserve commission in the Dental Corps and was called into service April 1942. I was assigned to the Med. Det 137th Inf. 35th Infantry Division and spent most of my service with that unit. I was in the E.T.O. 17 months and at the time of my discharge in December 1945 had the rank of Captain, in the Dental Corps. We returned to Fullerton in December 1945. Janet and children had been living in Elwood with her parents for 18 months.

I sold my office to Dr. Glen Hadenfeldt in December of 1976 and after 40 years and three months of practice retired. We intend to continue living here.

My parents were Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Seberg of Elwood. My father had moved from Iowa while a boy. My grandfather came from Sweden in 1856. He served in the Civil War. My brothers are Glenn L. of Elwood a retired oil dealer, Dr. G. Herbert and Dr. John R., dentists in Hastings.

Janet (Clark) Seberg was born in Neligh, Nebraska February 4, 1914. Janet's father Dr. G. A. Clark was born in Central City, Nebraska and practiced medicine in Elwood for 50 years. Her mother Anna (Rollings) Clark was born in Vermont. She attended Peru State Teachers College and taught school before being married. Her brother Richard of Elwood has been in the retail business and lumber business for many years. Her sister Barbara (Clark) Wilson lives in Kalama, Washington. Her husband Jack is a retired plant engineer for Dow Chemical.

Organizations - Lions, American Legion, V.F.W., Past Lions and Chamber of Commerce President, School Board 12 years, Hospital Board 10 years. A number of professional societies and organization. Religion - Protestant.

(HAROLD PAUL KRAUSE)
(no title appears in book)

Harold Paul Krause was born on June 10, 1891, at Albion, Nebraska. He is a graduate of the Albion High School and attended the University of Nebraska,

between 1910-14. On June 4th, 1921, he and Vivian Brengle were married in Ferry, Oklahoma.

Vivian was born in Perry, Oklahoma, on September 15, 1894. She and Harold are the parents of two children: Betty Jean. born March 18, 1922 in Fullerton, Nebraska, and Harold Paul, Jr., born July 27, 1928, at Grand Island, Nebraska.

Harold served in the Army Field Artillery as a private 1st class in Fort Dodge, Iowa, and in France during WWI. He moved to Fullerton in 1920 to be manager of P. A. Krause & Sons Hardware and retired in 1970.

He moved to York, Nebraska in 1978.

Harold is a charter member of the Fullerton American Legion Post 151 and continues his active membership to this day. He is a third degree Mason and was awarded the Jordan medal for his seniority status. He was President of both the Lions and the Chamber of Commerce and was Commander of the Legion. He was active in the Drum and Bugle Corps and the Kemp Country Club.

PETER JOSEPH BALLINGER

Peter (Pete) Joseph Ballinger was born August 13, 1869, at Galena, Illinois. He came to Nebraska in 1888 at age 19 and did farm work. He married Neoma Jane Cooper June 22, 1894, near Belgrade, Nebraska.

Neoma Jane Cooper was born April 16, 1871, the daughter of Tom Thomas Cooper and Emily Jane Dyer Cooper. She came to Nebraska with her family when she was 9 years old in 1880. They forded the Missouri River at Avoca, Iowa. They lived about 3 miles east of Belgrade where Sylvester Swalac now owns. Her brothers and sisters were: Lucettia, Milton Wilder, Ada Ora, Cynthia Charilla, Mary Calistia, Clara Melissa, Kate S., Anna Olivia.

After Peter and Neoma were married a year, Neoma had been teaching and Pete farming, a hot wind blew and dried up the corn. They moved to Colorado where Pete worked in a stove factory. Their children were Leda Mae, Lola Maud, Joseph Warren, Leonard Clarence, Florence Neoma. Floyd Emerson died at 10 months old. They moved back to Fullerton and bought a place north of Fullerton that Delaney's now own.

Leda Mae Ballinger was born July 8, 1895, and was the oldest child. She was going to high school in Fullerton, quit and went to Kearney to State Normal Training School. On September 15, 1915, she married Earle R. Tranbarger.

Lucetta married Ben B. Main and lived on the farm near Belgrade where Ben McKeeman now lives. Their children: Lynn, died in infancy; Glen, killed when kicked by a horse, Emma, Eva and Merna. Emma married Arthur Trotter and lived in Grand Island, Eva married Sylvester McKeeman and lived near Belgrade. Merna married Dr. Wilcox of Kearney and later moved to Colorado. Eva's son Ben McKeeman and his wife Ellen live on a farm near Belgrade and have three children, Eva, William and Robert.

Florence Neoma Ballinger married to Vernon Haun and lives in Grand Island, Nebraska.

Earle R. Tranbarger came to Nebraska to visit in 1909. When he got out here he got a job in the E. B. Penney bargain basement in Fullerton. He then had a chance to be Assistant Postmaster. The Post Office was on the southeast corner of 3rd and Broadway. Joseph Storch was Postmaster. A man had come to Fullerton and started a variety store. He soon advertised the store for sale. Earle saw the advertisement on a card in the Post Office where he worked and he inquired. He bought the variety store in 1914. During the time he was in the store until 1954, he built a new store. He served three terms as City Clerk, and served on the City Council. He was secretary of the Cemetery Association district Governor of Lions Club and president of the Fullerton Lions Club. He died March 18, 1956. Earle and Leda have one daughter, Lucille, who married Alvin E. Burch and they have a daughter, Courtney Jane Burch. Lucille has run a beauty shop in Fullerton since 1937.

Leda Mae Tranbarger married John Kerr on February 14, 1960.

JENNINGS

William A. Jennings and Lucy Emma Whipple were born and married in Wyoming and moved to Nebraska at an early age. They had eight children, seven boys and one girl. Fredrick Groom and Zylphia Jane Ganierd were born in Casville, Wisconsin, Grant Co. They were married in Wisconsin and had three children, two boys and one girl. They moved to Nebraska when the children were 12 years, 8 years and 11 months old.

John Albert Jennings was born June 22, 1879, at Ord, Nebraska, Valley County, son of W. A. and Lucy Emma Whipple Jennings. Olive Hannah Groom Jennings was born December 1, 1879, at Casville, Wisconsin, Grant County, daughter of Fredrick Groom and Zylphia Jane Groom. She came to Nebraska with her parents in a covered wagon at age 11 months.

Both the Jennings and the Grooms moved to Petersburg, Nebraska, and lived there for many years. They moved to Nance County in 1932 and lived since then in and near Fullerton.

At age 17, John Albert Jennings and Olive Hannah Groom were married. They had 10 children, 6 girls and 4 boys. J. A. Jennings passed away January 1, 1947, and Olive died December 15, 1961. At one time they had three daughters, 2 daughters-in-laws and a granddaughter teaching in Nebraska.

McKILLIP

Joseph H. McKillip was born on January 2, 1902, in Boone County, Nebraska. He is the son of Daniel J. McKillip and Ada Robertson McKillip. He has two sisters Edith and Thelma.

His family moved from Humphrey, Nebraska, to Belgrade, Nebraska, in March of 1919 to the Sprague farm just west of Belgrade, now occupied by Ron Scott.

Joe finished his junior and senior years in Belgrade High School and graduated with the class of 1921. His classmates were Sadie Campbell, Helen Clark and Dillard Winn.

He played on the basketball team in 1920 and 1921. The biggest thrill was the night the team beat the Genoa Indian School team on the home floor. That was quite an accomplishment and honor. Dean Halton was the coach.

Some of his high school teachers were the greatest. Professor Riggs, Stella Deaver, Nettie Shively, Miss Hagar and Bess Cooley. Bess Cooley was Spanish teacher, having just returned from the Philippines where she had taught for five years. They made it a real pleasure to attend classes and were real pals out of school as they would join in at our parties and dances.

Belgrade was a prosperous and upcoming town in those days. Just a reminder of the business places that we were proud of were:

From the west side of main street was Charles Pepper's filling station; Carl and Less Cooper's garage; Jess Clark's pool hall; Belgrade Village Hall built by Frank Bressler, the local carpenter; Charles Smith, grocery and dry goods. Next was George McChesnee's grocery store. Also specialized in Red Goose Shoes. Upstairs were the offices of Dr. Glen Fonda, dentist, and Dr. Delaney, M.D. Just west of the store was Colley's lumber yard. Next was Sam Vosburgh Insurance Office; Norcross and Rose Drug & Jewelry Store, Mark Andersen's cream station; Ira and Floyd Irby's Barber Shop, Dad Clayburg's, soft drinks and cards; Farmer State Bank; Ana Foland's grocery store; Orville (Dutch) Kedel's drug store; upstairs was the Belgrade Opera House, noted for home talent plays and good dance orchestras that drew crowds from miles around. Pearl Osborn's dress shop; H. C. Kayton cream station; you could order machinery repairs through our good blacksmith, Tommy Hinton; and Dr. H. E. King's office were some of the other stores on the west side of the main street.

Many stores on the east side of the street were: the Belgrade Herald, Editor Bob Dopf; the Chicago Lumber Yard, A. W. Hetrick, Mgr. later G. V. (Casey) Cahou was manager; Wolcott Harness & Shoe Shop. Belgrade Theater, Delbert Knight showed the latest in good movies; Andrews Implement Store; a

cafe, the U.S. Post Office; upstairs were Lodge Halls for the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs. That building was torn down and now Bessie's Cafe occupies that location.

East of the Post Office was a shed that housed the Fire Department's hose cart. Across the street, the Bank of Belgrade and the Belgrade Hotel, now the BelHorst Inn. There was Nelson and Harris's grocery and dry goods. Harris later sold his share to Olie Nelson and moved to Monroe. Fred Brown's Barber Shop; Van Wormer's Meat Market, was later sold to W. P. (Bill) Hayford, Ralph Wolcott helped Bill in the shop and Bill also supplied Belgrade with ice from an ice house at the bayou. Ben Ainlay's Insurance and Real Estate Office and John Eldrige's Bakery, which was later sold to Mr. and Mrs. Cliff DeLancey and they operated a cafe; Dr. Yocum's dental office and Rolf's Boarding House.

The Hord Ranch was a big asset to Belgrade, managed by Dan Haun. They employed about 15 families, most of them lived in Belgrade. The farmers could always find a ready market for their surplus grains.

Dr. G. W. Jackson was our veterinary. He kept a nice herd of Jersey cows and kept Belgrade supplied with milk. After graduation Joe worked for Olie Nelson in his grocery store. Testing cream and buying poultry and eggs for \$35 a month.

He received his appointment as rural mail carrier on September 5, 1922 and was the proud owner of a new Model "T" Ford. Our winters were quite severe with a lot of snow and the roads had to be all hand shoveled as there wasn't any snow equipment then. Many days Joe shoveled right along with the crews and would go as far as he could, then he would come home at night.

In the spring when the thaws came, the roads were impassable for cars, so the route was made by team and buggy. Those were long weary cold days, often from 8 a.m. until 7 or 8 p.m. on cold days. Many times a mail carrier would have to walk along side of the team to keep warm.

After Joe's mother's death in 1923, his father sold out on the farm in 1924 and moved to Fremont, Nebraska.

Joe joined the Belgrade Fire Department in 1924 and played with the Belgrade baseball team several years. He married Lucille Ainlay on June 1, 1925. Their daughter, Betty Jean, was born at Grand Island, Nebraska, on October 15, 1930.

There are fond memories of the years we lived in Belgrade. Hunting and fishing in the Cedar River, the old bayou and the old duck pond. Joe also ran a trap line through the winter months that proved quite profitable as furs were a good price. He would catch muskrats, mink, racoon (sic) and skunks.

They didn't have gas heat those days and wood was plentiful along the Cedar River. Joe always cut and stored a supply to keep the family warm through the winter.

A vacancy on a longer route caused him to apply for a transfer to Genoa, Nebraska, which was granted. We moved on February 1, 1934.

Joe had an exceptionally good 75-mile route, but after battling the elements for 43 years, 12 years on the Belgrade route and 31 years at Genoa, he decided he had been through enough winters, so he retired on October 1, 1965.

His patrons were always the greatest, always so thoughtful and kind to him and he always enjoyed serving them to the best of his ability.

Joe helped organize the Nance County Historical Society and served as its first president. It has developed into quite a show place for all of Nance County.

Joe's hobbies are hunting and fishing and refinishing old furniture.

PELIKAN

Anton Pelikan was born in Czechoslovakia on April 20, 1883, and died May 19, 1972. He came to the United States in 1891 when he was 8 years old. He grew to manhood in Saline County, Nebraska.

In 1918, he came to Nance County, Nebraska, where he lived on the same farm until 1968 when he

moved into Fullerton. He married Anna Nabity at Central City on November 28, 1923. They had two daughters, Alice and Anna. Anna died at age 7.

Alice married Richard Gabriel on May 14, 1947. Richard passed away on December 6, 1975. Mrs. Pelikan died on October 25, 1975. There are four grandchildren: Leonard Gabriel, Dennis Gabriel, Vickie (Gabriel) Christensen and Mariann Gabriel.

[Mr. and Mrs. Anton Pelikan's](#)
30th anniversary November 1953.

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AINLAY

Benjamin Joseph Ainlay was born in Brussel Ontario, Canada, the son of John and Eliza Jane (Walker) Ainlay. In 1876, the family and their six children moved to Howard County, Nebraska, to a place known as Canada Hill, so called because of the large number of Canadian emigrants living there. They settled on a farm near the towns of St Paul and Boelus. Two children were born to them while they lived in Howard County.

On March 13, 1880, the family moved to Nance County, Nebraska, where they lived for ten years on Timber Creek on a star mail route named Redwing. The means of travel from St. Paul was by horse team and wagon. They had some teams of oxen, which were used to break prairie and till the land. Five more children were born there.

Nance County was a Pawnee Indian Reservation until about that time when the United States government traded the Indians out of it and opened it to settlement as Nance County. John Ainlay, in 1881, purchased a tract of this government land, the deed signed by Chester Arthur, President of the United States - Records Receipt No. 1226. Registered November 20, 1882. The price was \$3 per acre. The family had been living in a "combination dug out" and sod home, and with the help of neighbors, a 2-story house was erected. A sawmill located down the creek furnished the cottonwood and oak lumber.

The first school, a sod and log structure, was built in 1880. Labor was donated by the parents of the district; Ben's father, John Ainlay, who was a cabinet maker and carpenter in Canada; and a neighbor, a Mr. Ellsworth, built the desks and seats. School District No. 9 opened its first term with a large enrollment, including six Ainlay children. Miss Fannie Ellsworth was the first teacher at a salary of \$25 a month. Parents furnished the fuel for the school term. Ben Ainlay often recalled and was grateful for the solid training in the little sod school house District No. 9 Redwing. He spoke of the spelldowns, the debate teams, the box socials and the "musicals". The Ainlay's were a happy family and enjoyed singing.

In 1890 John Ainlay sold their farm to Henry Hellbusch, Sr., and moved to Farnam, Nebraska, in Dawson County. This time the mode of travel was by Burlington Railroad. The oldest son went to the passenger train with the mother and the younger children to help care for them enroute. John Ainlay, Ben and brother Charles traveled on a free pass, with their faithful dog, "Shep", accompanying the car of livestock, machinery and household (sic) effects.

Ben completed his schooling in Dawson County, and attended Lincoln Business College. He was a member of a college male quartette (sic) group and spent some time touring with them in the area. He returned to Farnam, Nebraska, and worked in a bank as a cashier for two years.

In 1901, Ben Ainlay and his bride, Mayme Garven Ainlay, moved to Belgrade, Nebraska, where he opened an insurance and real estate office. An advertisement appearing in the 1902 History of Belgrade, Nebraska, It's

[Ben J. Ainlay](#)

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resources and *Advantages* reads:

B. J. Ainlay, Real Estate and Loans. Improved and unimproved land in Boone and Nance Counties for sale at prices that make gilt-edge investments (sic) and desirable homes. Lands bought and sold. I show you the country free of charge.

This he did, driving a team and a top buggy. As time progressed, a Maxwell car was used.

He was active in community affairs from the beginning. With his ability for meeting people he had a keen interest in promoting and developing the civic and educational welfare of Belgrade, serving on the town board, school board and as a member of the volunteer fire department.

During World War I, he was a loyal worker on the "Home Front", selling War Bonds, organized Red Cross workers and serving as a "Minute Man", who delivered one-minute "pep talks" at gatherings and movie theatres in Nance County and nearby towns. During the severe influenza epidemic at that time, when often entire families were stricken, he delivered hot soup and checked to get help for their care.

As a Republican, Ben Ainlay took an active interest in political affairs and was a faithful worker for the success of the party in Nance County. He served as a delegate to county and state conventions and was chairman of the Nance County Republican Central Committee for many years. He served District No. 50 in the Nebraska House of Representatives, from 1913-1919, and as a member of the Nebrasks (sic) Senate from District No. 9, 1917-1919. He served as director of the Cedar Valley Public Power and Irrigation District. He also served as Nance County Assessor for 10 years.

He retired in 1962 after 62 years in the insurance and real estate business in Belgrade.

He died on January 25, 1966. His hobbies were music, reading, hunting and fishing.

Mayme Morse Garven Ainlay was born in Bradford, Pennsylvania, in 1881, to Anthony and Mary Morse Garven. At 8 years of age, she moved with her parents to Farnam, Nebraska. She attended school there and the Franklin Academy, a Congregational school, in Franklin, Nebraska. She was married in 1901 to Benjamin J. Ainlay and came to Belgrade as his bride, where she spent the remainder of her life.

In addition to raising a large family, she found time to take part in civic and educational affairs. She was an active worker in the Ladies Aid Society, a member of the school board, serving as its secretary for a number of years; in Red Cross work for the local chapter in World War I. She was a charter member of the Priscilla Rebekah Lodge of Belgrade.

She died on August 22, 1950.

Mr. and Mrs. Ainlay are survived by five daughters: Miss Marguerite Ainlay of Belgrade, Nebraska; Mrs. J. H. (Lucille) McKillip of Genoa, Nebraska; Mrs. Harold (Dorothy) Whitehead of Monroe, Wisconsin, Mrs. Helen Vogt of Bettendorf, Iowa; and Mrs. James (Elinor) Kennedy of Covina, California. Their only son, Benjamin J. Ainlay, of Troy, Kansas, died in October of 1979.

THE CHARLES GRAFFT FAMILY

The Charles Grafft family moved from Page County, Iowa, to the farm they had purchased in Nance County, Nebraska, in 1907. They built the house on the farm now occupied by Dick Allington. A daughter, Grace, attended rural District No. 37 while the family lived here. She died in 1908 at the age of 13 following amputation of her leg. They sold this farm and purchased a farm at the edge of the seven hills area of Nance County. This farm is now owned by Clifford McCray.

Following the marriage of their son, Eben Grafft, to Ruby Hadfield in 1911, Mr. and Mrs. Grafft and daughters, Fannie and Stella moved to the home they built at 713 Division in Fullerton.

Mr. and Mrs. Eben Grafft and children moved to Holt County, Nebraska in 1918 or 1919. Stella Grafft married Aaron Hadfield in 1912. They lived in

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Grafft

Nance County, Nebraska, throughout their married life.

Mrs. Grafft died in 1917. Mr. Grafft later sold the home at 713 Division and resided in Oklahoma several years, later returning to Fullerton where he died in 1931.

A granddaughter, Bethel Hadfield Bearce resides in Fullerton.

Fannie Grafft married Frank Baker and lived in Oklahoma.

Earl Grafft married Nellie Bearce and lived in Texas, Missouri and Iowa.

THE GEORGE RIEKEN FAMILY

George Rieken was born at Peoria, Illinois on June 16, 1879. He was the first baby to be baptized in the first Lutheran Church built at Peoria, Illinois. When he was about 12 years old his parents came to Nebraska settling at Humphrey. A few years later they moved three miles north of Cedar Rapids Nebraska, where he grew up. He married Carrie Michael at Albion, Nebraska, on October 2, 1902.

Carrie was born at Belgrade, Nebraska on August 30, 1885 to Henry and Ida Michael on the place where Edward Ksiazek lives now. Henry Michael had the first boarding house in Belgrade, just north of where the post office building is now. She put up lunches for the men who built the railroad to Cedar Rapids.

After George and Carrie were married they lived north of Cedar Rapids in a sod house where they farmed. Later they moved closer to Primrose, Nebraska and that is where some of us had seen the first power driven car and it almost scared us to death.

Mr. and Mrs. Rieken moved to Nance County in about 1907, where George bought 160 acres of land for \$900. Without any buildings on the land, they rented a place south of it with buildings. We lived there for two years. The place was south of the Timber Creek Store, about two miles from where Miss Beverly Abbey lives now.

George had cut the sod for the last sod house in Nance County and built it himself. It was cemented on the inside and had wooden floors and a shingled roof, which made it cool in the summer and warm in the winter. They built a new frame house a short distance from the sod house in 1914. In 1920, they moved to Howard County where more land could be farmed and there was pasture land for cattle. In 1933, they moved back to Nance County and later moved to Boone County where they celebrated their 50th anniversary.

In the picture of the sod house, three of the children are pictured with their father in the back, with the first mule colt he raised. He liked to raise horses and would sell a good many matched teams.

They raised a family of nine children, of which eight are still living. Our grandfather, Henry Michael, helped to get the first Lions Club started in Fullerton and also the Eagles Club. He was into real estate in Fullerton. They left Fullerton in 1938 for California, where he passed away in 1939.

MOORE

John Smiley Moore, grandfather of Nettie (Moore) Myers, was born on February 21, 1829, at Sharon, Ohio. On January 1, 1852, he married Hannah Bigley, who was born on March 13, 1829, at Sharon, Ohio. The following spring they moved to Cascade, Iowa, later moving to Delaware County, Iowa, and stayed there for 21 years. Their seven children were born there.

In February of 1857, two-year-old Nancy slid under the ice on the river near their home, (when the new baby was just four days old) the body wasn't found until spring. The family left Delaware County, Iowa, in a covered wagon to Fremont, Nebraska, in the fall of 1873. Moving from there 1 1/2 years later to a homestead at Pinnacle Hill in Boone County, 4 1/2 miles northeast of Belgrade, Nebraska. A sod house was built and later a frame house was built with the lumber hauled from Fremont, the closest railroad town. This

new house was their pride and joy, but they nearly froze to death the first winter.

On nice winter days they would go to the river in a wagon to cut ice and store it in an ice cave for summer use; they also cut wood for fuel for cooking and to heat the house. They raised vegetables, storing them in the cellar for winter meals.

A tribe of Indians lived not too far away and when the Moore's were at the river the Indians would come over to see what was going on and admire and touch the youngest child, (a little blonde blue eyed girl). One winter when the Indian chief was hunting a blizzard came up. The Moore's heard a knock on their door and opening the door they found a very sick Indian; they took care of him until he was well enough to go home to his tribe. The Indians told them they would never have to circle around the Indian Village to go to town that the Moore's were welcome to travel through their village, but all other white people would still have to circle the village to go to town. Later the Indian chief sent one of their ponies to the little blonde girl because the family had been so good to him. The little girl (Lettie) rode the pony to school each morning then turned it loose to go home.

Some of the large cattle drives went by the Moore section of land. They liked to stop there knowing they were safe from the Indians.

John Moore wouldn't allow any drinking, card playing or other gambling on his place, so the men were always sober and didn't cause trouble with any Indians that might be passing by.

John Moore was one of the founders of the Methodist Episcopal Church at

Pinnacle Hill and with his wife was always active there.

After turning 21 years of age in November of 1885, his son, Joseph Wm. Moore bought a quarter section of land in Nance County, just east of his parents' homestead, from the government for \$8 per acre. Before that it was Indian land and could not be bought or homesteaded.

Joseph Wm. Moore and Carrie Frances Martin were married in November of 1895 and lived on the place for 30 years. They were the parents of four children, Gladys, lives in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, and has seven children; Nettie lives in Fullerton, Nebraska, had five children with the second and third deceased, Voil G. lived only seven weeks; and Ilo the youngest passed away in 1975 at 75 years of age. He had seven children.

Nettie Moore's husband L. R. (Bunch) Myers was a rural mail carrier for 41 years before he passed away in 1967. She taught school three years before she was married.

This is the story of the Moore family who homesteaded in Boone County, but wound up in Nance County.

[Joe Moore, Belgrade, Ne.](#)

WETOVICK

Mr. and Mrs. William Wetovick were married in Plesna, Poland, on May 7, 1885. They left their homeland for America in 1889, when both were in their 20's. Mrs. Wetovick's brother Jon Fyda was to meet them in the Village of Duncan and the train didn't stop, so it took them on to Grand Island, where they spent the night on an open platform until the next morning when the train came back from North Platte.

[Mr. and Mrs. William Wetovick](#)

They lived in a sod house until they moved to Nance County in 1893, 9 1/2 miles east of Fullerton in another sod house. In 1903, they moved 4 1/2 miles east of Fullerton. They encountered floods that came from Prairie Creek, north of Central City, and also dry years. In 1915, they bought 38 acres on the east edge of Fullerton's city limits, and lived there until retiring in 1937. They bought a house one block from the Catholic Church and lived there for 12 years.

They had six daughters and two sons: Mrs. Sophie Boro, deceased; Mrs. Anna Boro of Silver Creek, Nebraska; Mrs. Emily Koziol, deceased; Mrs. Albina Zima of Ashtabula, Ohio; Mrs. Victoria Warloski of Columbus, Nebraska; Mrs. Leocadia Siemek, of Fullerton, Nebraska; August Wetovick, Sr., deceased; and Edward Wetovick of Kearney, Nebraska.

HADFIELD

A. R. (Rangley) Hadfield was born in Waukeshau, Wisconsin. His family later moved to Osage, Iowa. Rangley left home at a young age and drove a freight wagon in Colorado, dressed game for the railroad and participated in a cattle drive from Texas to Colorado.

He came to Nance County around 1876 and purchased a quarter of land in Loup Ferry Township, south of North Star. He bought a grasshopper breaking plow to work his land and helped other farmers to break the sod on their land earning money in this fashion to pay for his quarter and two additional quarters which he acquired.

Rangley married Jessie O. Burke on December 22, 1883. Their five children were Gwendolyn Maybon, Georgie Coakley, Aaron, Ruby Grafft, and Clifford.

Though Rangley was essentially a farmer, he never lost his love for livestock. He had a large herd of cattle and the best horses and mules in the area.

In 1910, Rangley moved to Fullerton and a home was built at 506 Reynolds now owned by Dr. Donn Simonson. Aaron and later Clifford farmed the home place. Clifford lives in Fullerton, with his wife Emma Alvina, daughter of Hans Frenzen. Clifford and Emma have two children, Mrs. Robert (Wynona) Forbes of Palmer, Nebraska, and Clifford Douglas of Belgrade, Nebraska.

Bethel Bearce, a daughter of Aaron, also lives in Fullerton.

ROHNER

Jacob Benjamin Rohner, familiarly known as Jake, was born on April 16 1865, in Sioux City, Iowa. He was a Swiss descendant, his parents having come from Switzerland. He married Emma May Gelston, who was born in Elk City, Nebraska, in 1870. The family came to Nebraska in 1890 and lived near Belgrade, Nebraska, later moving to Fullerton where he was a dealer in farm machinery and automobile sales.

There were two sons, Ralph, born on January 1, 1895. He died on September 1, 1896. Lester Leo was born on May 22, 1904. He married BenDena Monica Zeller and they had one daughter. He is now retired and living in Columbus, Nebraska, where he had owned and operated the Rohner Motor Company, worked for United Finance Corporation and owned and managed the Gottschalk Insurance Agency until his retirement in 1969.

BROWN

Alfred Brown, Sr., was born in Meigs County, Ohio, in 1841. He was the son of John and Mary Hampton Brown. His father and older brother died when he was 13 years old, leaving him the oldest of the four remaining children. In 1861, he enlisted in the Union Army, and fought in the Civil War for four years. He was engaged in many major battles and was wounded once. His younger brother, Harvey, was killed in a battle near Reseca, Georgia, in 1864.

After the war, he farmed for seven years in Ohio before moving to St. Paul, Nebraska, in 1872 with his wife, the former Ruth P. Crowell, and small son, Ora.

They were former neighbors of the Paul Brothers, who founded St. Paul.

The following spring they moved to Loup City, Nebraska, to their homestead. There he farmed, also served as the first Sunday School Superintendent, County Treasurer and County Commissioner, until they moved to Nance County in 1878.

Their farm, which was purchased from the government, was located in the western part of Nance County in the community now known as Glenwood.

It took three days to move their livestock which consisted of 935 head of sheep, some cows, a team of horses and a span of mules. That first fall they put up over 100 tons of hay, using very primitive tools.

Their first house was made of lumber purchased in Kearney, framed in Loup City and then moved to Nance County.

It was a hardship to go to St. Paul after the mail so a post office was established in their home. Also, at that time, a Star Route was formed from St. Paul to Genoa and then they got their mail three times a week. There were four other post offices on the route.

After losing many of the sheep to dogs and wolves, they commenced raising cattle and hogs. He bought more land until he owned 480 acres.

The family consisted at that time of Ora, Evalina, Jr. Alf., Ben and Mittie.

Ora never married. He died in 1944.

Evalina (Wages) died in 1905. Her four sons then made their home with their grandparents.

In 1913, Ruth P. Brown died. Alfred Brown remarried in 1923 to Mrs. Julia Gage of Palmer. He died in 1933 at the age of 92.

Jr. Alf Brown married Ruth I. Niles of Fullerton in 1906. He lived on a farm across the road from the original home his entire life. He raised purebred Belgian horses and did diversified farming. He died in 1972 at the age of 92. Their children were Harvey, Roger, Jack and Ruth Marie.

Jack married Maxine Lamberson and died in 1972. Their three children are Joan, Buster and Barbara.

Harvey and Roger still live in Nance County.

Harvey married Leta Lamberson. Their children are Dyke, Jay R. and Donna who all reside near Fullerton.

Roger married Elsie Jacobsen. Their four children are Bryan, Jean, Robert and Kenneth.

Ruth Marie married Dale Wages, and lives in Montana. Her six children are Dean, Jean, Joyce, Judy, David and Janet.

Ben lived on the home place for many years. He was married twice. His first wife was Myra Carter. His second wife was Inez Gates. His children are: Mildred Ada (Pelican), Beulah (Sterling), Benjamin and Buren.

Mittie married Oscar Hadley. Their children are Oscar and Dale.

FEHRS

John Fehrs, son of Hans and Christina (nee Nitsen Fehrs), was born in Germany on July 24, 1854, and came to the United States May 27, 1881. He lived in Iowa until 1885 before he came to Nebraska. He received his naturalization papers on September 14, 1906. He married on July 12, 1889, Anna Bokelmann, daughter of Peter and Anna Hedwig (nee Vagts), who had also come from Germany. They lived on a farm south of Genoa, one year in the Skeedee area and then came to live in Timber Creek Township choosing this area because of a settlement of people, who had come from Germany and because there was an established Lutheran church. John died in 1928 and Anna in 1924. A brother, Henry, shared their home.

There were five children:

Henry Hans, born June 21, 1890, died February 1947.

Marie Welhemena, born May 24, 1900, died May 25 1900.

Peter John, born February 3, 1892, died August 4, 1918.

Helena Christina, born April 21, 1893, died in 1968.

Herman Carl, born July 26, 1896, died November 1 1970.

Henry and Helena, familiarly known as Lena, lived in the family home and continued to do so after their parents' death.

Peter served in the United States Army in World War I training at Camp Funston, Kansas, and serving as a Private in Company "A" of the 28th Infantry in France, where he gave his life on August 4, 1918. The family always lived with the added sorrow that he never had a furlough to come home after he was drafted.

Herman was married to Helen Naomi Irwin, daughter of Lewis Richardson and Eva Rose (nee Graves) Irwin on October 20, 1935, and they lived on a farm in the Timber Creek area moving to the "home" place after the death of Henry.

On November 23, 1937 a son, John Allen was born. He attended school at District No. 62 and No. 7, graduated from Belgrade High School in 1955, and from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln in 1960. He enlisted in the United States Navy, was chosen for Officer's Candidate School, graduated and served until 1964. He attained the rank of Lieutenant in the Naval Reserve. He married Sharon Kay Hansen, daughter of Louis and Annabel (nee Rieken) Hansen, on October 17, 1964. They have three sons, Troy Allen, born on March 9, 1966; Steven John, born on April 10, 1968; and David Louis, born on October 3, 1969. They now live at Norfolk, Nebraska.

IRWIN

Lewis Richardson Irwin was born on September 21, 1875, in Union Mills, Indiana. He came by covered wagon with his parents, James and Martha Virginia (nee Snavely), to Nebraska in 1878 and lived in Seward County. He escaped possible disaster in the blizzard of 1888 because his riding horse refused to be restrained and took him from a neighbor's farm, at a rapid gait, arriving at his parents' home just before the storm struck.

He came to Nance County with his parents, three sisters, Eva, Gladys, and Etho, and one brother, Willis, in 1901 and lived on a farm near Genoa.

On November 27, 1907, he married Eva Rose Graves, who was born on November 5, 1888, daughter of William Allen and Sarah Martha (nee Pickerel) Graves. She was a Nance County teacher. Lewis died on January 30, 1952 and Eva on December 25, 1958.

They had five children all of whom were Nance County teachers at some time. The children are Leta Ramona, born August 29, 1908, who married Vernon Luther Morris on June 1, 1930. They lived on a farm on the western edge of Nance County until they retired and moved to Fullerton in 1978. Ramona was a teacher for 20 years the last five years being in the Wolbach School. They had one daughter, Linda Lu (Mrs. Jack Sample) and three grandsons.

Helen Naomi born on her mother's birthday, November 5, 1911. She married Herman Carl Fehrs on October 20, 1935. They lived on a farm in Timber Creek Township. They had one son, John Allen, born on November 23, 1937, who married Sharon Kay Hansen. There are three grandsons. Helen now lives in Fullerton. She belongs to Peace Lutheran Church, Peace Lutheran Church Women, Timber Creek Home Extension Club, Nance County Home Extension Council, Nebraska Contest Writer's Association, first life member of the Nance County Historical Society, a charter member of the Fullerton Flower Belles Garden Club, the Fullerton Woman's Club, served on the Fullerton Park, Tree and Recreation Board and the Advisory Committee of Fullerton Adult Education classes and American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 151.

Etho Arlene, born on July 19, 1914, married Marion Howard Wilson on March 30, 1940. They live on a farm at St. Paul, Oregon. Arlene was a teacher in the Salem, Oregon, school system until retiring in 1976. They have one daughter, Marlene Kay (Mrs. John Fox), one son, Douglas Marion, and one grandson and one granddaughter.

Richard Leslie, born on September 3, 1917, lives in Rockville, Maryland. He is now Laboratory Director of the National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. He married Lorella Garton on May 25, 1943, and they have two daughters, Cynthia (Mrs. Jim Power); Martha (Mrs. Kerry Fedderly) and one son, Richard Garton Irwin. There is one grandson.

Virginia Eloise, born on September 12, 1923, lives in Fullerton, Nebraska with her husband, Wm. M. Anderson, Jr., whom she married on June 1, 1946. She is a bookkeeper for Whited & Son's John Deere Implement Co. They have one daughter, Jeanne Eloise (Mrs. Ralph Horacek), and one son, William Lee. There are three grandchildren.

WILLIAM MYERS

William Myers was born December 18, 1854, and in about 1866 came to Nebraska from Calhoun County, Illinois. He resided first at Blair, then Shelton and then in Nance County. He was a farmer, steam boat operator on the Missouri and was a fireman on the railroad. After coming to Nance County, he lived 12 miles southwest of Fullerton on the north side of the Loup River.

Abigail Finas was born March 28, 1861, and in about 1868 came to Nebraska from Greggville, Illinois. William and Abigail Myers were some of the first settlers in Nance County when land in the county had been kept by the Government for the Pawnee Indian Reservation but was being sold to settlers as school land for \$2.50 to \$3.00 per acre. The money was to be used to start schools, so it was called School Land. In 1879, just recently married, they came in a covered wagon pulled by oxen from Shelton, Nebraska. They crossed the Loup River four or five miles west of where the Palmer Bridge now stands on a Ferry Boat run by John Luddington. There were no roads, they just drove across the prairie in the direction they wished to go. They settled on Horse Creek just at the foot of hill country. They had partly hill land and partly valley. They wished to run their cattle in the hills and water them in Horse Creek or the Loup River. They built the first wooden frame house in that part of the country. Others were "Soddies" or "dug outs". They hauled their lumber from Grand Island across the prairie in wagons often getting stuck in the sand south of the Loup River.

There was a Pony Express that brought the mail once or twice a week for 2¢ a letter. One post office was on Cotton Wood Creek, land now owned by Alf Brown; another post office closer to them about 1 1/2 miles on land later owned by George Russell. "Amrow" was the name of one and "Lone Tree" the other. The old post office was still standing a few years ago on land now owned by Donald Cunningham.

There were no houses between their place and the ferry boat landing west of the Palmer Bridge. Pawnee Indians were frequent visitors at the little house asking for food. Prairie fires and grasshoppers were other problems.

Then at the time of the Horse Creek Murder, William was with the posse (sic) that looked for the killer. Abigail stayed at home alone with three small children while the men looked day and night for the killer. She was frightened that it may be their turn next. There were some good times too, when neighbors dropped in for a night of square dancing to William's violin music. New neighbors kept coming into the territory. Some of them were Bales, Lawrence's, and later the Russell's.

They lived on the same farm all their lives enlarging the house as needed to hold ten children. William died in 1922 and Abigail in 1942. Their children were Leatsy Mae, married to Ed McCloud, now deceased. Purl Oscar, married Marie

[Mr. and Mrs. William Myers](#)

Henke, now deceased. George Wesley, now deceased. Emery William, married to Ida Grouch and then to Alice Owens, now deceased. Luella E. of Ft. Morgan, Colorado, Estella Grace, married Harry Gravis, now deceased. Bernice Marie married Harley Scott, now of Ft. Morgan, Colorado. Iva Zerelda married William Fredricken, now of Fullerton. Ina Carolyn married Melvin Williams of Fullerton. Abbie Fern married Guy Gilson now of Fullerton.

Ina Carolyn married Melvin E. Williams on June 24, 1922, at Fullerton, Nebraska. To this union 9 children

were born. Barbara June married Ed Bridgland of DeGraffe, Minnesota. Evelyn Darlene married Elmer Meyer now of Belgrade, Nebraska. Wilford Melvin, married Rachel Peterson, now deceased. Wesley Wayne, married Florence Berst, now of St. Paul, Nebraska. Richard Ray, married Patricia Ohern, now of Genoa. Ralph LeRoy, married Donna Wicht, now of Dannebrog. Melva Jean married Lyle Nicholson, now of St. Edward. James Lynn, married Jeanette Nelson, now of Central City. Carolyn Kam, married Micheal Brannan, now of Norwalk, Iowa.

WILLIAM A. SCARLETT

William A. Scarlett was born in Orange County, North Carolina, on October 9, 1830. When he was 14 years old his parents moved to Indiana where he lived until 1849. In 1849 he crossed the plains with a small party going to California where he gained considerable wealth in the new gold field, later returning to Indiana.

On December 13, 1853, he married Lydia A. Faucett in Orangeville, Indiana. When they heard of the government selling land for \$3.50 an acre in Nance County, Nebraska they immediately decided to come west and look the land over. On March 3, 1879, they left Illinois. They started out in three covered wagons driving cattle and horses making from 13 to 25 miles a day. There were a lot of prairie chickens and wild game along the journey and by baking bread they got along nicely. He bought 492 acres. Buying four places, 160-160-92, giving Tom Scarlett and George Scarlett 80 acres apiece. Ernest Fickwiler buying the 92 acres.

Eight miles west of the town, now Fullerton, which was only a land office and a postoffice at that time, they lived in a cabin on Horse Creek until the house was built. The lumber for the building was hauled from Central City over old buffalo trails and crossing the Loup River on a Ferry.

In the fall of 1880, Almira and four other members of the family went back to Iowa in a covered wagon. Roads had improved, put the team in a stable for 10¢ when starting back to Nebraska went to hotel bought coffee three quarts for 15¢. Slept in a new barn and paid 10¢ for each of them. January 29th., crossed the river at Council Bluffs, Iowa, on ice and camped at Fremont, Nebraska. Then Schuyler and Genoa arriving home safe.

Later William gave a corner of his home place for a building of a school house in 1884, and in 1900 donated more land north of the school house for a Methodist Church. They resided on the 169 acres which they settled on until their deaths. To this union were born eight children, six girls and two boys. William died July 6, 1905, and Lydia died March 6, 1907.

Emily Jane Scarlett was born October 15, 1854. She married W. Eli Lawrence on April 19, 1878. They had four children: Gertie, Arland, Pearl and Lessie. Emily died January 4, 1937 and Eli January 18, 1937.

Evander Thomas (Tom) Scarlett was born in Mercer, Illinois December 25, 1858. He was united in marriage to Arbell Versaw, February 24, 1879, at Altoona, Iowa. Five children were born to this union. Jessie, Olin, Vernie, and Clarence and Clara, twins. Tom died August 3, 1918, and Belle died on December 6, 1945. Their daughter Jessie married Munson Knowles.

George A. Scarlett was born in Mercer, Illinois, on April 20, 1861. He was united in marriage to Nancy Morrison, born June 28, 1881, at Fullerton, Nebraska. Three children were born to this union: Minnie, Charley, Lydia. He died October 24, 1895, and Nancy died January 25, 1948.

Almira Anna was born in Mercer, Illinois, on September 28, 1856. She married Ernest E. Fickwiler October 31, 1888. They had a large home wedding.

Eighty invited and a big feed. Bought their home place, 1/2 mile south of Scarlett's place, in 1890 where they lived until 1911 when they moved to Fullerton.

ERNEST E. FICKWILER

Ernest E. Fickwiler, son of Anna and Chris Fickwiler, was born in Trenton, New Jersey on April 10, 1862. When he was four years old, he moved to Pennsylvania and in 1870 they moved to Blue Mound near

Bloomington. At the age of 22, he decided to go west. He and two other boys started out on January 29, 1885. No one had heard of Fullerton, Nebraska so they could only buy tickets to Genoa. They arrived in Fullerton by train at 12 o'clock at night, staying at the hotel. After the other boys looked around in the morning, back home they went. When he arrived in Fullerton there was a livery barn, hotel, land office, post office, Wilk's bank and Bake's grocery store.

Ernest went to the livery barn and hired a team and driver taking a sled for there was lots of snow. Paid the driver \$1.50. He was gone all afternoon until very late at night. The country was all prairie with very few homes. He drove up the Cottonwood and the places he saw was Judson Loucks, Chas Downing then the Scarlett places. No more until Horse Creek. In less than a week he went out again with Mr. Green on his way to Cottonwood. Stopped and got work at Dan Bridgland. Wages were \$16.00 a month or \$200.00 per year. Started farming the next year by himself boarding with Theo. Lenker. Batched the next year until he married in the fall. Bought six chairs for \$1.00 and they are still in the family. Sold 50 bushels of oats for \$5.00 to buy the wedding ring. People burned corn for fuel in 1895. Corn was 8¢ a bushel. Corn made 50 and 60 bushel per acre.

Four children were born to this union. Clara Eva was born October 11, 1889, on a farm eight miles west of Fullerton. Married John O. Rishel on April 24, 1921. Bought a place and lived a block east of Knowles Garage in Fullerton. John passed away April 19, 1959. Elsie Emma was born June 9 1892. She married Hestle Elmore on August 28, 1949. She died October 14, 1969, and Hestle died September 20, 1970. Effie Mae was born March 12, 1894. She married Allen Moses on August 28, 1949. Effie died July 23, 1957. Lydia Almira was born August 12, 1896. She married Allen Waggoner on February 22, 1928. They moved to a farm four miles north and west of Clarks. They had two children, Donna Jean, born January 18, 1929, married Carl Hoffer and lives in California. Ivan Eugene, born February 10, 1932, married Marilyn Knox on November 2, 1955. Allen Waggoner died September 20, 1949.

Clara worked in the grocery store and as bookkeeper at the creamery for over 15 years. Lydia worked at the Post Office for eight years.

Ida Florence was born in Mercer, Illinois, on November 26, 1863. United in marriage to S. W. Downing on November 11, 1885. Four children were born to this union. Willie, Eva, Ethel and an infant. Mother and baby both died in childbirth on December 21, 1899. She was 36 years old. Billie Downing died February 9, 1923, in Idaho and Eva died in 1918.

Minnie Elizabeth was born in Polk County, Iowa, on December 23, 1865. United in marriage to John W. Reeves on December 13, 1883, at Fullerton. Four children were born to this union. Alta, infant who died, Hazel, infant who died. Minnie died May 7, 1913. John Reeves died July 22, 1935 at Los Angeles, California.

Rose Mae was born in Polk County, Iowa, on May 13, 1868. United in marriage to George W. Moore September 16, 1891 at Fullerton. Six children were born to this union. Vera, Leslie, Ira, Percy, Harry and Ruth. They moved to Idaho in 1902. Rose died November 23, 1923. George died September 19, 1937.

Bertha Ellen was born in Polk County, Iowa, on January 15, 1877, and died March 24, 1877.

MUNSON LIVINGSTON KNOWLES

Munson Livingston Knowles was born December 31, 1873. He married

Jessie Mae Scarlett on September 23, 1896. Born to this union was Leonard F. Knowles, 1899; Ina Mae Newman on June 12, 1903 and Theo. T. Knowles born June 6, 1907. He died December 15, 1955. Munson died April 28, 1941. Leonard married Mildred Richards on August 12, 1919. They have one son Richard Munson, born on January 5, 1924. Richard married Janette Depue on January 15, 1942. To this union was born three children, Barry, February 17, 1945, Beverly, December 31, 1946 and Susan Faye, November 19, 1954. Barry married Cindy Hannuman September 22, 1978, Beverly married Joe Ferguson September 30, 1965 and Susan married Joe Miller April 6, 1974.

MARTIN JOHN SCHUMACHER

Leona Adele Steffes and Martin John Schumacher were married on October 20, 1924, in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Leona was born on December 30, 1893, in Humphrey, Nebraska, to John Thomas Steffes and Lena Marie Edwards Steffes. Martin was born on January 5, 1897, at St. Mary's, Nebraska, to Christian and Helen Schumacher.

Leona attended school in Humphrey, Nebraska graduating from high school. She attended Kearney Normal in Kearney, Nebraska, 1918-1919 and the School of Music in Lincoln, Nebraska, 1919-1920. She taught in Wymore, Orleans and Blair, Nebraska.

Martin moved to Fullerton, Nebraska from Cedar Rapids, Nebraska, in 1923.

Four children were born to this union: Marion Helen, John Martin, Leonard Joseph and Janet Louise.

MR. AND MRS. ART LOFTUS

Arthur R. Loftus was born at Fullerton, Nebraska, on January 23, 1912. He served in the Army during World War II. On May 2, 1949, he married Clara Barbara Steiner at Fremont, Nebraska. She was born on June 27, 1916, at David City, Nebraska, to Frank M. and Margaret M. (Beringer) Steiner.

Mrs. Loftus began an early career in cafe and restaurant work. She worked in the Home Cafe at Genoa for one year, and following its sale in 1942, she came to work as a cook in the Griffin Cafe at Fullerton. She became manager of the restaurant in 1943 and in 1944 she leased the business. She later sold her stock in the cafe to Larry Pachunka. In 1945, she opened her own restaurant, Clara's Cafe, in the building which now houses Wayne's Clothing. The business was later moved to the Griffin Cafe building where it was destroyed by fire. Mr. and Mrs. Loftus reopened the business some months later in the building now the Eagles annex. They operated the cafe there until their retirement in 1978.

They are the parents of a son, LaVern Arthur Loftus, born on May 31, 1951.

CHARLES OTIS NESBITT

Charles Otis Nesbitt was born at Champaign, Illinois, in 1878. He came to Nance County in about 1885 and lived with the G. B. Bateman family, five miles northwest of Fullerton. After working on farms for several years, he began farming on his own in 1898.

He married Ella Peregrine in 1902. The couple farmed northwest of Fullerton until 1909 when they bought their first farm eight miles southwest of Fullerton. The couple had six sons, Merle, Oliver, Edwin, Kenneth, Alvin and Melvin. Kenneth Nesbitt resides in Twin Falls, Idaho, and Melvin Nesbitt resides at Fullerton, Nebraska. The other sons are deceased. Two grandsons, Oliver Nesbitt and Donald Nesbitt, reside in Fullerton.

Charles Otis Nesbitt donated the land for the South Side Evangelical Church and was also very instrumental in forming the church and keeping it going. He taught the Sunday School class as well as firing up the furnace on winter mornings. In later years the church was sold and removed from its original site, 5 miles south and 3 miles west of Fullerton.

Charles Otis Nesbitt died in 1955. His wife died in 1952.

HENRY J. MASON

Henry J. Mason was born on August 25, 1852, in Will County, Illinois. He married Mary Jane Peck on May 28, 1876, at Homer, Illinois. He was a school teacher by profession until coming to Nebraska in about

1884. The couple purchased the SW1/4 of Section 33, Township 16, Range 6 in Nance County, Nebraska. This was part of the Pawnee Reservation. The couple had four children, two of whom died in 1885, and his wife died in 1886.

On April 13, 1892, he married Mattie S. Kimball. To this union, six children were born. They were Guy, Lowell, Muriel, Robert, Lyle and Dolly. The two daughters, Mrs. Maurice (Muriel) Myers and Mrs. Merle (Dolly) Nesbitt; still reside at Fullerton, Nebraska. Lavidia Mason (Robert's wife) also lives at Fullerton. Edna Mason (Lowell's wife) resides in Colorado. Grandchildren residing in Nance County are: Mrs. Dale (Mary) Milby, Mrs. Glen (Alice) Sprague, Mrs. Nelson (Donna Rose) Weller, Larry Mason, Garry Mason, Oliver Nesbitt, Donald Nesbitt, Mrs. Gary (Connie Jo) Loseke and Martin Milby.

JOHN C. AUGUSTUS

An invasion of Army worms in the early 1880's caused the John C. Augustus family to leave their farm near Shattuck, Illinois, and come to Fullerton, Nebraska. They loaded two covered wagons for the long trip. One of the wagons was driven by 11-year-old John A. Augustus, who became known in Fullerton as Art Augustus. Other members of the family making the trip were Argenta, Josulyn, Arthur William and John C. Augustus and his wife Eliza. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Martin, a nephew, and his family followed in a covered wagon. Other families who came to Fullerton from the Shattuck area were the Baldrige's, Donson's and Copple's.

Arthur Augustus grew to manhood and married Lillian Ridell, who had come to Fullerton from Taylor, Nebraska. The Augustus family lived on a farm on the south side of the Loup river in the Whitney neighborhood. Their children Josulyn Valerie, born September 7, 1903, and Dale, born October 2, 1905, attended District 55 school. When the children reached high school age, their parents moved to a farm three miles south of Fullerton on Highway 14.

Dale died of pneumonia on December 4, 1921.

Valeria graduated from Fullerton high school with the Class of 1923 and in 1927 graduated from the University of Nebraska. She taught school in Monroe, Fullerton and Clarks.

On October 7, 1945, she was married to her old school mate, Paul

Standing: Lillian Augustus, (mother), and Valerie Augustus, (daughter).

Seated: Dale Augustus, (son), and Arthur Augustus, (father).

Ludington, a returned World War II veteran. The couple continued to make their home on the farm 3 miles south of Fullerton and later retired and moved into Fullerton where they were engaged in the antique business.

Their daughter, Mrs. Robert (Julie) Becker and family of four children reside at Columbus.

J. A. Arthur Augustus was born on February 28, 1875, at Shattuck, Illinois, and died at his home south of Fullerton on March 31, 1949.

Lillian (Ridell) Augustus was born on January 5, 1881, and died on January 24, 1943.

LUDINGTON AND McMILLIN FAMILIES

My grandfather Ludington came to this area in 1873 and located his farm. Then the family came in a covered wagon from Adel, Iowa, with two daughters. They settled on a farm on the north side of the river in the Merrick county strip, which is one-half mile wide. When Nance County land was sold, my grandfather purchased 60 acres in Nance County adjoining his 160 acres. He operated a ferry boat and a sorghum mill, besides farming.

Their descendants living in Nance County are Mrs. Ray (Lenore) Peregrine, the late Mrs. Donald (Bette) Horacek, Paul Ludington of Fullerton and Mrs. Elmer Lund of Genoa.

My grandfather McMillin and his wife came from Vinton, Ohio, in 1874. They settled in Howard County. When Nance County opened up in 1879, he purchased a quarter of land near Glenwood. The land is now owned by the Forbes family. My grandfather McMillin stayed in Nance County only one year. He planted it to corn. However, ducks ate his corn that year so he moved back to Howard County near Cushing.

Both my grandfathers attended the first political convention held in Nance County. Genoa had a slate of candidates and Fullerton had one, too. The Fullerton candidates were nominated, the last one being for county superintendent. The Genoa candidate had the floor and he was running a filibuster. My grandfather Ludington was sitting on the platform. He took his cane and pulled the speaker down in his chair and held him. The convention chairman then recognized a Fullerton delegate. He nominated Dan Barber who was later elected as our first superintendent.

My parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Ludington came from South Dakota to Fullerton in 1908. We spent the winter in grandfather and grandmother Ludington's home. It was the Brad Slaughter house and stood where Dr. Seberg's home is located now.

Mr. Kellogg, the father of the late County Clerk Wilbur Kellogg, had a broom factory in a two room house on my grandparents' place. I enjoyed watching them make brooms. All the machines were foot-powered. They would let me pedal the machine that wound the wire at the top of the broom.

My brother, Forrest, had pneumonia. The doctor had given him up. Grandmother Ludington brought in a tub of hot water and they sweated him out. The fever broke and he lived.

I remember Minnie (Freeman) Penny. Her husband, Ed, operated a department store in the building from which the Fullco Store now operates. The Penny's took part in politics. Ed Penny was a republican delegate to the national convention which nominated President Harding in 1920. Mrs. Penny was the first state president of the American Legion Auxiliary.

THE HEBDA FAMILY

John P. Hebda was born in Austria in 1871, son of George Hebda and Anna Mlodenska. He married Mary Kolodzei, who was born on September 3, 1875, at Tarnov, Poland, at Columbus, Nebraska on November 6, 1895. She was the daughter of Bartholomew Kolodzei and Katy Chiohan. Among the couple's three sons and three daughters was Steven Hebda, who was born on September

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13, 1904, at Columbus, Nebraska. The family moved to Nance County about 1916.

On February 22, 1927, Steven Hebda married Frances Uzendoski in Sts. Peter and Paul Church at Krakow. She was born on May 8, 1907, in Nance County. She is one of the seven children of Peter and Catharine (Speas) Uzendoski, who were married on May 9, 1899, at Krakow. Peter Uzendoski was born on June 22, 1873, in Poland, and died in Fullerton, Nebraska, on October 14, 1942. Catharine Speas was born in Nance County on October 4, 1881, and died at Fullerton, Nebraska, on May 6, 1969. Her parents were Simon and Maryanna Jaworski and had eight children.

[The Peter Uzendoski Family.](#)

Following their marriage, Steven and Frances Hebda lived on a farm west of Fullerton. Later they moved to a farm about 11 miles south and east of Fullerton where they resided until 1944 when they moved to their present farm, 3 1/2 miles south and east of Fullerton. They are the parents of three children, Evangeline (Mrs. Lowell Nesbitt) of Imperial, Nebraska, born June 24, 1928; Clarence S. of Fullerton, Nebraska, born January 23, 1930; and Raymond J. of Silver Creek, Nebraska, born November 4, 1932.

After graduation from Fullerton high school and serving in the U.S. Navy Clarence S. Hebda married Mary Ann Krzycki, daughter of Joseph and Edith (Shotkoski) Krzycki of Genoa, Nebraska, in Sts. Peter and Paul Church at Krakow on April 7, 1951. Joseph Krzycki, son of John and Victoria (Borowiak) Krzycki, was

born on February 9, 1906, at Columbus, Nebraska and died on March 18, 1979. Edith Krzycki, daughter of Andrew (Henry) and Sophia (Paprocki) Shotkoski, was born on March 5, 1909 in Nance County, Nebraska.

Clarence and Mary Ann Hebda are the parents of six children. Diane Marie born August 24, 1952, and married to Austin Bechtold, Jr., on January 8, 1972, Doris May, born May 4, 1954, and married to Gary W. Allen on June 21, 1975; Debra Margene, born October 7, 1955; Donna Margaret, born March 19 1958; Dwain Mark, born February 17, 1967; and DaNell Monica, born June 8 1969. They have two grandchildren, Andrew Christian Bechtold, born January 23, 1978, and Patty Delrossi Bechtold, born April 20, 1972. The latter is an adopted foster child.

In 1961, Clarence and Mary Ann Hebda purchased the Nance County Journal from Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Plourd. Mr. Hebda had been employed at the newspaper for 15 years prior to purchasing it. After serving in various district press association offices, Mr. Hebda was elected to the board of director of Nebraska Press Association in 1964 and was elected as state president of the Association in 1974. Since 1970, Mr. Hebda has served as Ambassador for Ak-Sar-Ben of Omaha in Fullerton. Mr. and Mrs. Hebda are active in community affairs and St. Peter's Catholic Church where he has been a lifelong member. He has served on the hospital board, been associated with the Jaycees, Chamber of Commerce, Lions Club, Fraternal Order of Eagles and a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He also served 15 years on the Fullerton Volunteer Fire Department. Both are life members of the Fullerton Historical Society.

**Taped by Mrs. Clyde Russell
Mrs. Harry (Sadie) Vogel's Story**

I was born in 1895 in the little square house about 2 1/2 miles up the valley from Fullerton where I had come back to live in 1946 and still call home. My mother, I can't claim to know or remember except for pictures, for I was only five days old when she died. She had come up from Maryville, Missouri with her father's family. The mother and sisters rode the train while brothers rode her Indian pony and drove the livestock across "The Wide Missouri River" on the ice. I recall the peculiar scar on her flank that my father showed me was the Indian brand. Eight years later he allowed me to ride "Old Baldy" to the country school until I was out of country schools, then she was put out to pasture until she died at the age of 33.

Speaking of early schools, not all had schoolhouses. I believe District 11 was held in the home a mile west of Vogel's for a time. Grandfather Scarlett gave the school grounds and church yard for as long as it was used for those purposes. His son, Tom lived farther west as also did the younger son, Clarence, a little farther on. So District 11 was organized.

West of us was District 56, which was built a month later and my mother taught September to Christmas there in 1894. Sarah Marcella Storch and Geo. Franklin Loucks were married June 4, 1894.

Winter heat was furnished through the stove pipe from the room below as was the custom. The stove pipe ran through the ceiling up for another five feet and then go right angled through a wall to take the chill off another room before entering the chimney. How's that for economy? Children weren't allowed to run around for they might get burned or knock the pipe down.

I liked to go to school. It had pretty wallpaper, the only school I recall having seen wallpaper. Lots were whitewashed and years later painted. We used Barnes Readers, Dowman's Reader in third grade, Barnes for the upper grades.

To get back to living - after Mother died my Dad and I lived with his parents and an adopted daughter, Dollie May Loucks, whose mother had died.

I loved to watch Grandpa Loucks churn with a barrel churn, large enough I'm sure to have put me into it. Certainly not a woman-size job. To use, several gallons of cream were put in, locked the lid on - then thumpety-thump, thumpety-thump at a steady rate until it sounded like it was ready to open. Then we could hear the buttermilk go swish after the cream had gathered in to little balls. I must have been a prime nuisance. Grandmother gathered the balls with a wooden butter paddle, poured off the buttermilk, then poured cold water into the churn. That rinsed the butter and made it easier to pick up with her wooden butter

paddle and put it into her wooden butter bowl which was about two feet in diameter. Woe me if I showed up to watch with uncombed hair for a hair in the butter was the baddest thing imaginable. She combed the butter anyway just in case. Sometimes a cow's hair was found but mighty seldom. I liked fresh butter and Grandma wore a heavy thimble, once was enough for the little fingers getting too near, thank you.

I usually found a flower to visit and once a bee was busy there and I received its undivided attention. I went crying to Grandma. She took a leaf from three different fruit trees, bruised them with her cobblers hammer for a poultice on my finger and told me to run out and play. Sure enough it cured.

Women and Men often did their own shoe mending for the family. Mrs. Bertha Loucks had a last, a shoe shaped top on an iron post about a foot high and bought sole leather and tacks; cut the leather to shape it, soaked it a while to soften it and tacked it into place with brass brads. They felt a little clumsy at first but they were okay soon unless a brad had failed to clench properly and pierced a toe instead. Then it went back to the last or was pulled out with pincers or pliers.

Always I was read to in the evening as a little child to get quiet at bedtime. The book Little Bright Eyes is here with me, much worn but no pages gone. It was a gift from Grandma when I was three - three quarters of a century ago. I have had many since but none with so many good lessons to learn. Grandpa ordered The Youth's Companion for me when I was old enough to read it.

Monday evening I went to Grandpa to read the funnies and munch Jonathan apples. At home we sometimes had popcorn; if neighbors came in, there was often a batch of toffee made. I recall one family who had moved away asked us over for hot maple syrup over snow. Now nothing before or since has tasted so good as rolling up the chilled strings on a fork and getting my teeth stuck in it.

I think the prettiest fall picture is a flock of Blue Jays that lit suddenly in a young ash tree that was pure gold. I just heard of the battle of the Blue Jays for the first time. It seems Mr. Vogel had a young orchard bearing nicely. A neighbor, Mr. Scarlett, also had a young orchard and Jays were doing lots of damage. T was back in black powder days. Neighbors saw a puff of smoke, heard the bang and saw the flock of Jays fly up from the other orchard. Then puff, bang! The Jays went back. I hear that went on until the last Blue Jay was killed.

Certainly better than the feuds we hear, of, wasn't it?

In school at District 56 were the Claridges - Ada, Frank and Myrtle. They lived on the Theodore Reimers ranch where Mike Uzendoski lives. Two families were there - Curries with Nettie and Chalmers. Where Hambleton's live now on the Eli Mangus farm with Roy, Ben, Bill, Gerald, and Lollie. At one time a family named McGuire lived at the ranch. I only remember Carl and Alice. Where Kotlarz live now was called the McCurr farm. Living there was the Simpson family, one boy, Rudolph, and sisters, Helen, who played the guitar, Carrie, my own age, and one older sister.

Altha Bake was my first teacher. She married Theo Reimers and lived in a house up on the road where the Zimmer family lives. I always adored her. Olive Bergen followed her and Olive and Charles P. Cunningham were married when I was seven. Merton, Lester, Gladys and Bruce came to school. We carried water for drinking from there. Two went together careful to use two of a size, we got more water that way. At one time Kniphals lived on the ranch and their daughter, Amanda, came to school far later than when I was there. They moved to the Penney place when that house was new and lived there until both of them died.

Ad or Adrien Douthit lived south of the road east of them and Ted and Leonard went to school at 56. Wes Adamson followed them with Edna, Pearl, Bessie and Shirley and I don't remember Tommy going to school there. Across the ditch and east on the north side I remember first the Cole family with Phil and Nettie in school and after them Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Dyer with their son, Paul. I believe Dyer's finally moved to town and the John McAfee family followed them and Gail, Beatrice, Mamie, Bessie and Ethel.

Different ones have lived on Grandpa Loucks farm but none with country school children. On east Ad Douthit moved and Beatty went to high school but "Buster" was younger. His name was Lewis but I never heard him called that!

On north lived a Norwegian bachelor, Chris Johnson, who had the George Sovereign Family live there

and keep house and cook. Their daughters were Bertha (my 8th grade teacher), Bessie Ethel, and Elsie - the youngest who simply wrapped Chris around her little finger with her "fanny, Tris, Tanny". Ethel was older. They were in town district and she married James Avery Bell. Bertha married George Vaughn. Bess was Mrs. Charles Green. Where Cuba's live was the Pillsbury farm and the road leading west up the ridge was called Pillsbury Hill.

And then we come to Grandma Barheit's house where I spent many happy Saturday afternoons so Mrs. Loucks didn't have to bother with me. Mr. Barheit's name was John. Were you aware that the two hills in the west of town were Mt. Jehu and Mt. Royal? Ralph Barber was Mrs. Barheit's grandson. I believe where the CCC home is now was once the town cow pasture, from Main Street east.

Mr. Vogel said that in 1879 he could see nothing but a sea of prairie blue stem as far as the eye could reach. It was horse-high and the Indians could lie along their ponies and not be seen. There were no trees along the river and only one in the bend of the creek behind our house had escaped the frequent prairie fires that burned over thousands of acres. I was horrified to see the big hill blacking over as a fire got away from a neighbor and spread in our pasture.

One night when we were coming home from tending trout lines in the river

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we could see three-quarters of a mile where a sweet clover patch and a ravine were burning. It was a terrifying sight to me for it seemed to be going towards a neighbor's home. We raced home. Harry phoned. "No Thanks! We need no help; we burned that out on purpose". The old fire guard streaks were still visible at that time and I got all the thrill without the danger.

Our love was for big trees and hundreds of others were killed by the elm blight so it seemed terrible to see their whitened skeletons lying about the yards and where the shady places had been in the pastures.

Back when Nance County was made an Indian Reservation the Pawnees were allowed to pick as much land as a man could ride around in a day's time. They picked the best hunting grounds, of course, which may explain its odd shape.

There's an Indian Hill in the west end of the county where hundreds are buried and single graves still come to light as cow paths are washed out by hard rains. That was because the Sioux overran the Pawnee and killed all the women, old men and children. The warriors had left to gather fall fruit while other warriors went to meet the enemy. No Indians were here after Mr. Vogel came except those riding through to do hunting farther west.

Once Freddie, eight years older than little Harry, saw some coming and ran with Harry across the creek to hide in the sweet corn patch where they waited with held breath for they'd heard tales of Indian massacres; but the Indians went on peaceably at that time.

The creek, Colt Creek, was spring fed and running. Mr. Vogel dammed it up above the buildings and put a row boat in which gave many hours of pleasure to anyone with enough time to enjoy it.

In spring, wild roses, elkhorn plant, honey suckle plants, crocus' Indian head, Grandpa's whiskers, vine and wild hock caught the eye of the school child going slowly over the road to and from. Buffalo beans and wild sweet peas were lovely. Canterbury bells were on hand in the pastures for Memorial Day. Some smaller white bells also and some we called Indian paintbrush also the white stars of flowers on grass banks along the river and sand flowers developed their pretty paperlike blooms. They grew along the roads south of the Loup and were much liked for Decoration Day because they never seemed to wilt.

Mr. Julius Vogel, living on what we know as the Dinsdale Ranch, went out one spring day and got a box wagon load of white geese in a day so his wife might have a white feather bed and pillows. The geese were red with mites and not fit to eat but that was life in Nebraska at that time.

The Vogel Brothers would reminisce and laugh heartily but I thought I was too busy to listen. Perhaps Bertha and Helen can remember; they loved to listen to their Grandfather and Uncle.

I have been proud to say that I used all horse-drawn machines on our farm except for a check-row corn planter and lister, but I cultivated acres and acres of corn with a one-row riding cultivator. My dad, my grandpa and I could be heard singing the day long each in his own field. Usually hymns, but Dad put a bit of

swing into it. He had enjoyed playing in home town groups to entertain so he knew a lot I didn't. Also he learned some while in the militia and Nebraska National Guard.

Harry asked if I would like to go hunting one winter day on the river. I guess he thought I should know how time flies hunting. We got up at 3:30. I put up lunch and made a pan of corn meal mush. We ate daintily licking around the edge while it was still warm and soon the pan was empty. Harry had the team to the spring wagon, metal boat on the hay and coffee and sandwiches down. We started trotting down the road. Pat had once gone down one track snarling at a traveler in the other which proved to be a big skunk homeward bound. Pat led the team on to the river without trouble.

We enjoyed the diamond sprinkled sky got to the river while it was still dark. Harry took his gun out to the blind on the ice. I roamed the bank with my camera, found a young Mallard drake with a broken wing which I carried under my arm until Harry was ready to go home and said I had better leave it where it was used to being and it was just doing nicely.

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RECOLLECTIONS BY MRS. MARK ANDERSEN

My father G. F. Malander, who was an early resident of Nance County, was born in Slotto Sweden, to John and Kristina Malander, on February 28, 1867, the same year that Nebraska became a state.

Pictures of their home in Sweden show it as a comfortable place located near a beautiful lake. But for some reason, perhaps a pioneering spirit or because of political difficulties in the country, they decided to bring their family of seven children to America making the long tiring trip in a sailing vessel, of course.

The father and one son came first in 1870 and the mother and other children came in 1871 to Boone, Iowa, bringing the family and belongings to a log cabin near Dayton, Iowa, in a horse-drawn dray. Times were very difficult for the large family. At one time all except two had typhoid fever at the same time, the mother dying. From then on most of the children made their own way in life.

Upon reaching 21, Gus went to Colorado and proved up on a government land, paying \$1.25 an acre. Driving back to Iowa in a "spring wagon" pulled by a team of mules, he stopped overnight at a farm home northeast of Genoa, and worked there for some time.

There he met my mother, Mary Nelson, whose father, Nels Nelson, had come to Nance county from Geneva, Illinois and purchased and improved a home about 3 1/2 miles from Genoa in 1887. Gus Malander and Mary Nelson were married in 1894 and farmed in the Genoa and also in the Plum Creek area. In 1900, they purchased a farm about 2 1/2 miles north east of Belgrade and farmed there until retiring to Belgrade in 1925.

They had three children: Muriel, who married Mark F. Andersen in 1921; Gerald N., who married Ina Swanson of Fullerton in 1925 and later married Clara Johnson of Newman Grove; and Carroll, who died in infancy.

I have very pleasant memories of growing up in the Belgrade area. The town is located on a hillside overlooking to the west the beautiful valley of the Cedar river. A railroad track had been built along the valley from Columbus to Spalding. The work was done for the most part by local people and had not been contracted out. O. F. Andersen had come from Chicago in 1879 and helped in laying the track to Cedar Rapids. Later he owned farms north of the tracks near Belgrade. A combined freight and passenger train made the trip daily and later on, what we called the "motor" carried passengers daily.

In 1900, there were a few businesses and not very many homes but Belgrade did have three churches. The Free Methodist church was in the south part of town. The Friends Church has a minister come from Clarks but was moved later to the Fairview community. The Methodists built a new church in 1893 and a Rev. Trezona was the first minister I remember. The Methodists had a parsonage in Belgrade but shared their minister with the Pinnacle Hill Church.

There was a good-sized school located on the hill side just north of what is now called Bel-Horst Inn. Only 10 grades were offered so many came to Fullerton for their twelfth grade work. I attended the Fullerton School in 1911-1912 and later attended the Nebraska Wesleyan College. I taught school in Belgrade,

Central City and Clarks.

There was no water or sewage system and the water came from back yard pumps. There was no electricity or telephone service.

Some of the businessmen of the time were Mr. Cooley, who came in 1891 and did much to improve all phases of the town. There were also G. S. McChesney, who had come to Nance County in 1871 and later owned a general store; Ben and Chas Smith also a general store. A weekly newspaper was started by Mayfield, later taken over by Bob Dopf who married Mae Ludington.

Some of our farm neighbors were Dave Main, Ed Nelson, John Anstine, Mr. Cedargreen, Henry Rolf, Ben Main, Thomas Trotter and Chas Waisner.

Because of the railroad, the fertile farmlands, the enterprising citizens and farmers the town grew quickly. In 1910 water and electric bonds were voted in. There were at least two general merchandising stores. Dr. Ford and Dr. Bates were our first doctors and after they left Dr. King served us for many years. He

also served in World War I. There were two thriving lumber and hardware stores and two banks. At one time two dentists and the Osborne drug store which was replaced by Kadel Drug.

The Andrew Bros. came to town and started a bank, implement business and later on a Buick Agency. I remember standing in line one Fourth of July Celebration, waiting to pay 25¢ to ride a mile in an automobile. A. F. Kleise had a furniture store and undertaking business. Miss Alice Helms, who married Wilbur Kellogg, operated a millinery store. At one time the Query Harness Shop was a busy place. Will Hutchinson bought local cream and churned butter for shipment which Mark Andersen later took over. There was a telephone office with a "Central".

The town prospered until the long drouth, the great depression and larger use of the automobile.

Gus Malander's son, Gerald, lived and farmed in the Belgrade area until his death in 1975. Now his two grandsons, Gerry Malander and Galen Malander, and their families still live and farm in the Belgrade area.

After our marriage we lived near Belgrade and in town until we moved to a farm near Clarks in 1947. I taught the neighboring school for one year and then taught the kindergarten and first grade in Clarks for nine years. My husband died in 1963 and I came to Fullerton in 1965 Our daughters, Gus Malander's granddaughters, are Mrs. Roberta Christensen of Fullerton, Mrs. Elizabeth De Vol and Mrs. Ruth Toll of Fort Collins, Colorado

Mrs. Gus Malander died in 1958 and he in 1960 at the age of 93. Both had been active Methodist Church members since 1900. Both were members of the Order of the Eastern Star and he a member of the Masonic Lodge. He helped organize the Farmers Cooperative Elevator and also the Co-operative General Merchandise Store and any other activity for the betterment of the community.

HELPED CAPTURE YOUNGER BROTHERS

Stoughton -- Tenets Thompson, of Fullerton, Nebraska who helped to capture the Younger brothers, back in 1876 when the nationally known bandits with the James Boys, were terrorizing the country, is visiting at the home of Abner and Martin Halverson. Thompson is 69 and was but 23 years old when the three brothers, Cole, Bob and Jim Younger robbed the bank at Northfield Minnesota. The Youngers had been forced to leave their horses and were fleeing on foot and stopped to get something to eat at a farmhouse nearby. Tosten joined in the chase as the posse came by and captured the three, six miles west of Madelia.



Men from Nance county, who died in World War II were: Charles Abel, Jesse Bishop, Robert Brower, Austin Davis, Harold Dufoe, Cecil Hickey, Bernard Knudson, Emil Koziol, Jerome Koziol, Irving Larson, Russell Martin, Lawrence Meyers, Cornelius Nelson, Gerald O. Stenzel, Eldon Theel, Bennie F. Urkoski, Joseph Urkoski, Hugo Vogel and Carroll R. Wilson.

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Hans Frenzen was born in Schlessing Holestin, Germany, on September 3, 1853. He came to America in 1879. In 1880, he was married to Celia Grage of Manilla, Iowa. They came to Nebraska in 1888 and settled on a farm north of Central City where they lived for 13 years.

In 1901, Hans brought his family to Nance County. They settled on a farm 5 1/2 miles northwest of Fullerton. The farm nestled under the bluffs on the west with the lazy Cedar River winding along the east side of the farm on its way to the Loup. There were 497 acres of land in this farm with part of it in pasture and the rest good rich farmland. Irrigated out of the Cedar River.

To this union were born eight children, Louis, Frank, Edward, Anna, Emma, LaVida and Arthur. Mrs. Hans Frenzen died in 1906 at the young age of 44 years. Hans Frenzen died on January 17, 1932.

Louis Frenzen died in early childhood.

Henry Frenzen married Anna Wilkins of Grand Island. To this union were born two children, Elsie, now deceased, who was married to Oscar Niemoth of Grand Island. There was one son, Donald.

Ellen became Mrs. Paul Gibbons of Grand Island. No children.

Henry Frenzen died at his home in Grand Island, August 21, 1927.

Frank Frenzen married Lillie Stacy of Central City. To this union were born Clarence, Thelma, Glenn and Donald. Frank died in Fullerton on May 21, 1970.

Clarence Frenzen married Annita Zipf of St. Edward. They are the parents of two sons and they live in Fullerton. Marlin married Judy Basel of Ithaca, Nebraska, July 23, 1961. They are the parents of five sons, Craig, Kent, Scott, Rick, and Kurt, and they live near Fullerton. Galen married Gwen Logan of Diller, Nebraska, on August 25, 1979. They live near Fullerton and are the parents of one daughter, Genna, born on October 3, 1981.

Thelma married Gerald Hanlon of Scottsbluff, Nebraska. They have seven children, Karen, Kenneth, Suella, Kevin, Gene, Marcia and Edward. Thelma lives in Scottsbluff, Nebraska.

Glenn Frenzen married Lorene Dinger of Missouri. They are the parents of two sons, Ronald and Darrell, and one daughter, Judy. Glenn lives in Fallon, Missouri. Ronald is married to Sara Andrews and lives in Michigan. They have a daughter, Ellen. Judy is not married. Darrell is married to Susan West, and has two children, Seth and Amber, and lives near St. Louis, Missouri.

Donald Frenzen married Maxine Moore of Albion. Donald lives in Longmont, Colorado, and has four children, Marlene, Lynette, Cristi and Donald, Jr. Marlene is married to Dave Miller and has two boys, Mark and Lon. They live in Longmont, Colorado. Lynette is not married and lives in Lindsborg, Kansas. Cristi is married to Mike Walles and lives in Oakley, Kansas. Donald, Jr., is married to Judy Augdahl and has two sons, Rick and Brent, and lives in Longmont, Colorado.

Edward Frenzen never married. He died May 20, 1964.

Anna married Walter Matthiessen. To this union were born Darlene, LaVern, Marvin and Wayne. Anna died August 25, 1969.

Emma married Clifford Hadfield and they are the parents of Wyonna and Douglas.

LaVida married Robert Mason. They had four children, Robert, deceased; Donna, Garry and Larry.

Arthur married Arlene Scott and they are the parents of two girls, Dixie and Penny. Arthur lives in Lincoln, Nebraska. Dixie is married to Kenneth Gannon and has three children, Kim, Scott and Dawn, and lives in Lincoln, Nebraska. Penny married Hugh Robinson. They have two boys, Paul and Ward, and they live in Lincoln, Nebraska.

--Written by Anita Frenzen. October. 1979

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