

BOWEN, D. W. The Bowens were very early settlers west of Teigen on McDonald Creek. W. C. Burnett of Giltedge was a top hand working for the DHS Ranch in the 1880s. In the story of his life which was published in the *Montana Magazine of History*, Spring 1953, he is quoted as saying:

"The first settler to come on the open range was in 1882. We were working a roundup on McDonald Creek where Mons Teigen's ranch is now. A covered wagon drove up and I rode out to see what he wanted. He had a wife and a couple of kids and said his name was Bowen. He said he got burned out in California and lost all he had and had come to Montana looking for a ranch. He asked me who the land belonged to and I told him, 'Uncle Sam.' He drove down on the creek and camped.

(Later) "Coming from Miles City with the outfit, on Willow Creek north of Musselshell, we spied a couple buffalo and thought we would kill one and get some fresh meat. We lit into them on our horses. Going over a rise on the prairie right in front of us and the buffalo, was a man on the running gears of a wagon; one of the buffalo ran across the wagon, broke the reach, and the team ran away with the front wheels leaving the man with the rear axles. We quit the buffalo, caught his team, roped up his reach and he went on his way happy. It was Bowen on his way to Junction for lumber to build his cabin."

In later years a school was opened at the Bowen Ranch, and in 1917 a new building was built for the school and Miss Ward was the teacher. There was also a community hall at Bowens. Mrs. Bowen served as midwife and nurse in the neighborhood. The Bowen's daughter, Mary, was married to David Foreman. (See also FOREMAN)

BOYD, Frank (Sec 6-15-25) Frank Boyd was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, in 1850. During his childhood, he lived in several states including Missouri and Ohio. While still a young boy, he served as an aide to his father who was a captain in the Civil War.

Frank married Mary McElroy in 1872 and they lived for many years in Plattsmouth, Nebraska, where Frank was employed by the Burlington Railroad. The couple had three children, two of whom died in young womanhood. Their son, F. L. "Roy" Boyd, came to Montana and was a mechanic at Cat Creek for a time. (See also BOYD — Cat Creek)

The Boyds came to Montana in 1913, and Frank homesteaded near Teigen. They became proprietors of the Teigen Hotel after it was built by Mons Teigen in 1917. An incident at the hotel was reported in the *Grass Range Review* on February 17, 1921. It seems Mr. Boyd objected to the peddling of moonshine at the Teigen dances, and he ordered two young men off the premises for being involved in such doings. The men, Elmer Minor and Oscar Hagen, proceeded to beat him up. According to the newspaper article, "Roy Boyd appeared on the scene about this time and as a last resort, threw his flashlight through the windshield of their car at which time he became the object of a wild shot. This happened

about 2 a.m. Saturday morning.

"A posse, organized by Mr. Boyd, who had no idea of stopping until he got them or had aided in their apprehension, guarded a few of the roads they would be likely to travel, but the fugitives wisely headed for Winnett, passing through there about 4 a.m. Deputy Sheriff Turner, who was in Grass Range at the time, joined in the chase Saturday morning, being joined by Sheriffs Smith and Shepherdson.

"It was learned that Minor and Hagen had crossed the Musselshell and after an all night drive they were finally taken at the Bill Powell Ranch on Lodgepole in Garfield County. Both men were asleep when taken and thought the trouble had been forgotten by that time . . . both men are now in the county jail."

In 1924 the Boyds moved a building to the Teigen townsite and opened a store. Mary Boyd had been appointed postmaster in 1919 and the post office was moved into their store. (The post office remained in that location until 1986 when, as a Community Post Office, it was moved to the Teigen Ranch headquarters.

Frank died in January 1925. Funeral services were held for him in the Teigen Hotel, and he was buried in the Winnett Cemetery. Mrs. Boyd sold the store to Mark Kelley, and he became postmaster in 1928.

BOYD, Thomas J. and William R. (Sec 13-14-25) ("The Boyds in Montana," submitted by Roul (Boyd) Tunley. Mr. Tunley is a professional writer who has had several books published and numerous magazines articles printed.)

"Growing up in New York City, I always looked upon Montana as a place brushed with magic. It wasn't just that it was a part of the Far West, although it certainly had that appeal to a small boy. No, it was because that was where my two uncles, William and Thomas Boyd, were living out a dream life. Or so it seemed to a youngster forced to find his pleasure on the mean, macadam streets of a huge city.

"The Boyds, my mother's brothers, never achieved success in the conventional sense, but they certainly knew how to live. At least to my way of thinking. Born in Chicago, they took off for the Klondike to find gold several years after the Gold Rush. They were too late, of course, but that didn't matter to them. Success wasn't necessarily the goal; it was the *pursuit* of success that mattered. Montana was very much a "pursuit." Sometime after the Klondike adventure and before World War I, they decided to homestead 320 acres in Petroleum County. For the first several years, crops were bountiful — as they were for everyone. After all, the rich soil had never been tilled. And there was sufficient rainfall to help. But after that, crops became so scarce that agriculture was no longer possible. That didn't mean the end of the Boyds in Montana. They decided to divide their time between Eugene, Oregon, where their mother and sisters lived, and their Montana home near Winnett. They engaged in various enterprises to make this lifestyle possible.

"To me, the most important of these enterprises was when my Uncle Bill became a fireman in Lewistown. I was a very small boy when this happened, but I remember it immediately determined my career. I think I was strongly influenced by the vision of my uncle sliding down those poles in firehouses. I remember writing him and asking if he could arrange for me to slide down a pole in the Bronx in New York City. He told me just how to achieve that goal — by going to the local fire station, etc. — but somehow it never came about, and eventually I had new career objectives.

"The next big event in my life was the death of my father. I was 14 at the time, and my sister, mother, and I were left almost penniless. We all got jobs of one sort or another and survived. But the thing that sustained us in these difficult years was Montana. When things got threadbare, my mother would say, 'Never mind. My brothers in Montana are going to strike it rich with their oil well, and we'll never have to worry about anything again.'

"It was not idle fantasy. In 1923 the Boyds, along with some partners, drilled for oil. The venture, like all Boyd ventures, didn't quite pan out the way they planned, but that wasn't too important. They'd made a start as oil barons, and for years, the *hope* was there. It not only sustained them but ourselves in New York. One of the local papers in Montana said that at the time of the first drilling, the Boyds and their partners stood an excellent chance of joining the ranks of the 'super rich,' and we never doubted it for a moment.

"As time wore on, the Boyds spent more and more time in Oregon and California, but they never abandoned Montana. They came back frequently and when they weren't hunting for oil, they were hunting for antelope. First, Tom Boyd died. Then late in his eighties, Bill left us too. That was 20 years ago.

"But that wasn't the end of the Boyd connection with Montana. That young boy in New York, now grown into a middle-aged writer, found that his uncle Bill had left him those 320 acres near Winnett. He went out there, walked over the treeless land, sifted through the shards of what had been the Boyds' cabin, and realized that to be productive in this day and age, the land must be part of a much larger ranch. And so he sold his acres to his neighbor, Joe King, retaining the mineral rights in case that oil dream should ever become a reality. However, he didn't wish to sever his connection with a place whose image had nourished him during so many of those growing-up years. In this, he was aided by Joe and his wife, Marj, who agreed to sell him ten acres close by a small stream that even boasted a few brave trees. With this, the Boyds still continue to be a part of the land known as the Big Sky, a relationship that still goes on after some eight decades."

BRADBURN, Frank Frank and Mary Bradburn had one child, Sarah (1903), listed in the District #134 school census in 1917.

BRIDGES, Cola (Sec 21-14-26) Cola homesteaded about a mile north of Elk Creek, three miles west of present Highway #244. "Colie," as everyone called him, was born in Monroe County, Missouri, on March 1, 1876, and came to Montana in 1901. On April 30, 1902, he married Julia Crosswhite at Pony, Montana. The couple, with their two children, Zeta (1907) and Alberta (1909), came to the Winnett area in 1916. Colie was known as a cheerful handyman in the community who was always able and willing to help his neighbors.

The Bridges moved to Lewistown in 1920 and back to Winnett in 1941. (See BRIDGES — Winnett)

BRIGGS, William William Briggs homesteaded west of Teigen about four miles, just north of the highway crossing known as Briggs Coulee. He and his wife had five daughters and two sons — Jenny, Velma, Verna, George, Helen, Hazel and James (Jiggs).

William was a popular fiddler in the community who played for many a dance. He also played the drums, and, as his children grew up, they too played musical instruments for dances. Jenny played the drums and Velma (Happy) played the piano. Velma married Raymond Carr. (See also CARR)

The Briggs family moved to the Bitterroot Valley.

BRITTON, Columbus (Sec 7-14-26) Columbus Britton filed his final homestead papers in 1919. After he died, his widow, Ida, married Alfred Davis, whose homestead joined theirs. (See also DAVIS)

CARR, Clarence (Sec 25-15-25) Clarence Carr homesteaded north of McDonald Creek about six miles east of Teigen. He and his family moved to Teigen in about 1925. Clarence carried the mail from the train to the post office, and he and his wife operated the Teigen Hotel and fed the Campbell drilling crew which drilled the Teigen No. 1 well during the summer of 1925.

Clarence and Helen celebrated their eleventh wedding anniversary in February 1925 while living in the hotel. The Carrs had three children — Merritt (1915), Lawrence (1916) and Irene (1919).

In June 1926 the Clarence Carrs moved to Washington, where they made their home the rest of their lives. (Clarence and Thomas Carr were brothers.)

CARR, Sam Sam and Jessie Carr had the following children listed on the school census — Thomas (1905), Donald (1906), Harold (1908), Roy (1910) and Ivan (1915). It is not known if they were related to Clarence and Thomas Carr. Two other Carr names appear on land deeds in the county — Oliver and Edward. Their relationship is not known either.

CARR, Thomas A. (Sec 4-14-25) Viola Carr Hill submitted the following article. "My parents, Thomas A. and Addie Knapp Carr, came from Webster, South Dakota, to Moore, Montana, in 1910. They lived there for a year, and my father worked for Venge Long. A son, Raymond (1909), had been born in Webster, South Dakota, before they came to Montana. While they lived in Moore, a

second son, Joseph (1911), was born.

"In about 1912 Dad took up a homestead 3½ miles west of Winnett. That is where Glenn (1913), Opal (1914), Viola (1915) and Frances (1920) were born.

"My dad started building roads in about 1913. He built the streets in Winnett and many roads in the country. (Note: W. T. 9-2-1914 — 'Winnett streets have all been graveled from end to end, and a crew of twenty teams are now working on Broadway.') During this time my dad also operated a livery stable in Winnett. This barn was in the area between the present (1988) Times Office and the Jim Davis house.

"We children went to school at a country school about a mile north of the homestead. Another family by the name of Dalsmon had children in the school also. When I was in the third grade, we went to Winnett for school. We rented a house in town during the school term and moved back to the country in the spring.

"My dad did a lot of road contracting in the 1920s. (Note: W. T. 3-30-28 — 'Local contractor enters successful bid for a big State Highway contract. Tom Carr, who has built miles of good road in Petroleum County and Fergus, gets contract for road between Lewistown and Grassrange. The contract calls for 9.381 miles in Fergus County on the Lewistown — Grassrange road at a contract price of \$30,266.01. Mr. Carr's friends are congratulating him on securing the contract.')"



Thomas and Addie Carr

"We would all go with him in the summer when he had a road job. Mother and we girls cooked for the men. We had two houses on wheels. We used one for cooking and one for sleeping. (Note: W. T. 4-20-1928 — 'A new and roomy sleeper has been added to the already extensive layout belonging to Tom A. Carr and will be used in connection with his road work this summer. It has all the necessary fixtures, even to a fine coat of paint. This road sleeper was built by the Carrs at the Monarch Lumber Co. yard during the past week.') The three boys helped on the road crew. That was the day of horses and fresno scrapers, a lot different than it is now.

"(Note: W. T. 12-13-1929 — 'Tom Carr has completed his State highway contract and has returned to his ranch west of Winnett to spend the winter. Tom states competitive bidding on highway contracts has brought the profit down to a very small margin.') The last job we worked on was from Geysers to Raynesford in 1931. The heavy equipment was starting to come into the construction business at that time.

"We came back to Winnett to live. Dad worked for the county for awhile. He also went to Fort Peck and worked up there for about a year. When the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) came to Winnett, he worked for them as foreman. In 1938 when the camp moved to Lewistown, my parents moved there, where he worked until the camp closed.

"After moving around a bit, they returned to Lewistown and Dad worked for the Lewistown Transfer. After an illness of 18 months, Dad passed away in 1947. Mother continued to live in Lewistown for awhile, then moved to Winnett. She lived in Winnett until poor health forced her to live in rest homes. She passed away December 10, 1966, in Lewistown."

Raymond married Velma "Hap" Briggs in 1930. They had three children, two girls and a boy. Ray passed away August 15, 1954, of a heart attack. Hap was killed in a traffic accident December 1, 1957.

Joseph married Evelyn Martin, who was a music teacher in the Winnett School for several years. They lived in Great Falls and had two boys — Richard and John. Evelyn had a bad heart for most of her life and died after heart surgery in 1968. Joe is presently (1989) living with his younger son in Carnation, Washington.

Glenn married Alyce Kinnick Heggen on August 11, 1933. Alyce was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Kinnick, who homesteaded near Elk Creek. (See also KINNICK) She had a son from a previous marriage who was killed in an auto accident while serving in the Army.

Opal married Edwin Colver in 1934. They were divorced about ten years later and she married Thomas G. Johnston. They live in Freeport, Texas, where he is retired after working as a pipe fitter for Dow Chemical for many years.

Frances attended nursing school in Lewistown. She received her license as a registered nurse and worked in Cut Bank. She married Art Tetrud, but they were divorced and she enlisted in the service during World War

II. She took training in evacuating wounded soldiers and served in that capacity until the war ended. She returned to Great Falls and married Walter Tynes Jr.. They had a son and an adopted daughter. Frances and Walter were divorced, and Frances worked in the Deaconess Hospital in Great Falls for many years. She is now retired and still lives there (1989).

Viola still lives in the Winnett community. She and her husband, Floyd Hill, ranch southeast of town. (See also HILL — Kelley and Winnett)



Thomas Carr homestead west of Winnett. (L to R) Addie Carr with Raymond, Joseph and Glenn on the faithful horse, Rachel



The Carr homestead. Note the fancy entryway to the cellar



The Carr road crew at work with teams and fresnoes



Tom Carr's road crew moving. Notice the cookhouse and the bunkhouse on wheels at the end of the line



Addie and Tom Carr with their children. (L to R) Opal, Glenn, Joe, Frances, Raymond, Viola

CHARBONNEAU, Napoleon Napoleon Charbonneau (1860-1929) and Rosanna Sharron (1866-1945) were married in Illinois on August 12, 1883. They were early homesteaders south of Teigen. Their property is now (1989) owned by Deane Archer.

There were fourteen children in the Charbonneau family — Sam (1884-1965), George (1886), Oscar (1888-1974), Evelyn (1890), Fredia (1892), Lucy (1894), Louise (1896) Lillian (1898-1988), Irene (1900), Arthur (1902), Albert (1904), Esther (1906), Sophia (1909) and Nellie (1912).

Oscar married Zellia Remillard (1884-1963), daughter of John and Minnie Remillard of the Teigen-Grassrange community. They had the following children — Emmett (1909-died at birth); Myrtle Irene (Drake) (1911-1962); Amos Alfred (1912) who settled in Forestgrove; Marie Elia (Terry) (1913); and Leah Minnie (Fitzgerald) (1917).

Fredia married Elric Remillard. (See also REMILLARD)

Louise married Elmer Inglebert. (See also INGLEBERT) Louise and Sophia both helped with the cooking at the Teigen Ranch at various times. Sophia married Pete Daniels of Grassrange in 1927. Irene married Bert Orwick. (See also ORWICK)



Napoleon and Rosanna Charbonneau about 1914

CHEARETTE, Louis (From: "Sheepherders — A Vanishing Breed," by Ann Teigen) "Louis Chearette was a very colorful character. He was a half-blood Indian and spent his life as a herder. At least once a year he would draw his pay, get dressed up in a new suit and big hat and go to town.

"His smile was very flashy, because of many gold-crowned front teeth. He had a high-pitched giggle that ended in a long whistle-like chortle. He loved to tell tall tales, looking his listener in the eye searchingly, in hopes that his story was believed.

"Sometimes the stories were partly true. One of his favorites went like this:

" ' There was a big celebration in Grass Range on the Fourth of July. I was there, riding my horse. A lot of half bloods from out near Tyler were there drinking and whooping and fighting. Jim Charters came to me and said, "Louis, I want you to round up these half bloods and get them out of town. Make them go home." Charters was the Mayor. So I rode around and told them all to get home, and they went. After that they called me Sitting Bull.'

"He would laugh that lingering laugh and look to see how we reacted. He was called 'Sitting Bull' about half of the time.

"Through the hot, dry day, he tramped the range with the sheep — through thunderstorms, hail and wind, and on through wintertime bundled in sheepskin coat and overshoes.

"When he went to town, his friends would race to town to share his 'wealth' and he would be the proud and lavish provider of drinks for all. In other words, he was on top of the heap, at the height of his glory, the big chief Sitting Bull.

"Soon, though, his happiness would plunge; the merriment was gone, his money was gone, his new clothes battered and sometimes torn. He was sick and his head pounded.

"One of his friends would take him home and let him stay until he healed enough to go back to the ranch and work again.

"He had gone to school for a while at Fort Shaw (he called it college), so he could write letters when he needed to. Here is one of his old letters:

" 'Sir, just a few lines i now filling very good i bin sick about a month now i like for you to send my male to Lewistown if i got aney at rach. and allso send me my stamp Book Nober 4 i need it i cant get my shoger and allso if you come to town to look me up i want see you for my income tacks i cant go no ware i not fill like it i am at Tom Wells pase just now

I remen Truly
Louis J Chearette'

"Louis often told about his wedding. He said they were at the altar, and the preacher said 'Do you take this woman for your wife?' and I said 'No,' so that was the end of the wedding.

"Once when Louie had his band of sheep near the highway, some tourists stopped and asked if they could take moving pictures of him and the sheep. He was very excited about the incident, saying that he was going in the movies. He would have been an interesting and colorful star."

Louis was born in 1883. He died in 1948. He had worked for Teigens for 40 years.

CLARK, George George and Rita Clark had four children — Marjorie (1911), Glennie (1914), George (1917) and Homer (1920). Rita died in 1925 just before Mr. Clark and his children moved to Teigen, where he worked on the section crew. Though the youngest child was only five, the teacher allowed him to go to school with his brother and sisters.

COMSTOCK, Charles (Sec 24-14-25) Charles Comstock and Ole Olson constructed a ditch in 1910 to divert water from Elk Creek to their land which joined Henry Sibbert to the east. They applied for and received a water right for 480 inches of water in 1914. Mr. Comstock sold his 160 acres to Henry Sibbert in 1918.

CONRAD, George W. The 1918 Polk Directory lists George Conrad as the postmaster and the manager of the Western Lumber and Grain Co. in Teigen. He served as postmaster from July 30, 1917, until February 12, 1918.

DANIELS, Ed Ed Daniels and his mother had property just north of the Teigen townsite. Ed worked in the store for Mr. Peterson until the store burned in 1924. Later he worked for Mr. Seute in Lewistown in his grocery store.

DAVIS, Alfred T. (Sec 7,8-14-26) Alfred T. Davis owned 240 acres of land about a mile south of McDonald Creek near the pine ridge between McDonald and Elk Creek. On April 11, 1919, the following account appeared in the Winnett Times:

"A. T. Davis, who lives southwest of Winnett, came to town Friday for some seed wheat and enough supplies to

last through spring work. Returning home that evening he took the road through the Winnett meadow and started across the bridge over McDonald Creek just above the upper sheep shed and had gotten just halfway across when the structure gave way letting the wagon, team and driver into the water, which was about five feet deep at this place. The entire load consisting of 35 bushels of seed wheat and a large bill of groceries was lost, and it was only by hard work that the wagon was gotten out."

After Columbus Britton died, Alfred married Columbus's widow, Ida. The Britton property, consisting of 320 acres, joined the Davis property on the north and west. The Davis property sold at a sheriff's sale for \$1981.92 in 1926.

DAVIS, Charles A. (Sec 21-14-25) Charles and Elizabeth Davis owned 320 acres of land on "Redmond Ridge" about three miles west of the Sibbert Ranch. The ridge runs between Elk Creek and Yellow Water Creek.

The Davis children went to Pineview School in 1921 and 1922. Their teacher was Mrs. Guy Schellenger. Apparently there was a summer session of school in 1921 because the August 1921 Winnett Times reported that Mrs. Davis entertained the eighth grade graduating class and the junior Sunday school class at a Sunday supper following graduation. Edith (1905) and Veda (1907) Davis entered Winnett High School in September 1921. Gwendolyn (1912), Ruth (1914) and Ida (1918) were younger members of the family. The Davises also had an older son, Stanley, who was born in 1898.

The August 10, 1923, Winnett Times carried a genuine "fish story" involving the Davis Ranch. The full account follows:

"Upon reading the story in the Times last week in regard to the queer fish caught near Miles City, Mr. C. A. Davis, residing about three miles west of the Sibbert Ranch, brought to the Times office Wednesday the queerest fish or animal that ever frequented water. It has four legs and feet, four toes in front and five behind. Like the Miles City fish, it has a long fin running down its back and is covered with a kind of slimy down. In place of fins it has a sort of feathery contraption that it extends while in water and folds to its body when removed from the water. With a head like a cat fish and eyes like a bobcat, it would make a fisherman 'swear off' for keeps if it should come up on his hook. Those who have viewed it proclaim it to be the original and dyed-in-the-wool dry-land fish. Due to its lizard-like appearance no one cares to test it in a frying pan. With its feathery fins, downy hide, and four feet and legs, one could imagine it being a conglomeration of sage hen, catfish, and lizard. Don't take our word for it — come and see it."

The Davis property became part of the Ted Schultz Ranch.

DAVIS, Wallace (Sec 25-14-26) Wallace Davis was born in 1876 in Pennsylvania. He served in the Spanish-American War and married Isabelle (Belle) Moreland in Minnesota in 1901. The couple came to Montana with

their two little girls, Mildred and Alice, in a railroad "emigrant" car shared with the Storys and the Faraghers and all their belongings.

The Davises settled four miles south of Winnett just west of the present highway, where they built a nice home. Mr. Davis was known as "Turkey" Davis, because he ran a large flock of turkeys on his farm. Mrs. Davis taught several terms of school in Petroleum County — one at the Yellow Water School near the Teich and Johnson property northwest of present-day Yellow Water Reservoir. She taught the first year the school was established in a new building. One of her former pupils, Madalyn Walker (Grey) remembers the first day of school because everyone was so happy to have a clean new building to begin the year. The only drawback was the fact there were no furnishings or books!! Mrs. Davis quickly solved the problem — she drew the alphabet in large letters on the floor with chalk and the children, on their hands and knees, traced the letters with beans and began to learn their ABCs!

Mildred and Alice attended school one summer in a log cabin not far from their homestead. Amanda Swift was their teacher. A younger sister, Jewel, was born in 1916. Jewel attended school in Winnett because her parents moved to Winnett for the winters so the older girls could attend high school. Mildred and Alice graduated from Winnett High School in 1921 and 1922 respectively. The Davises left the community before Jewel was high school age.

Mildred worked in the Marti Bros. store in 1921 and Alice worked in the Winnett Mercantile for a short time. After graduation, Alice took teaching credits and taught school at Cat Creek for several years. In 1924 she married Edward L. Canady at the Methodist parsonage in Billings, Montana. Mr. Canady worked for the California Oil Company in Cat Creek where the Winnett Times stated, "he holds an important position."

Wallace and Belle Davis made their home in California after they left Montana. Mrs. Davis died there in 1935. Mr. Davis died in 1950. They are both buried at El Cerrito, California.

DODGE, E. C. (Sec 34-14-26) E. C. Dodge, a widower, acquired 160 acres from the Flatwillow Land Co. (B. F. Lepper) which he sold, or willed to, Edward S. Dodge in Wisconsin. Edward sold the property to John Hill in 1940, and in 1942 King and Petersen purchased the land.

DOUGHTY, Roland N. R. N. Doughty ran a store and post office about 4½ miles west of Teigen. The Doughty Post Office was established in 1918 and only operated for one year. There was a large school known as the Doughty School at the same location. It was under the jurisdiction of the Grassrange school district.

After his own store closed, Mr. Doughty worked for Clark's General Store in Grassrange. Mr. and Mrs. Doughty celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in 1949. They were living in Minneapolis at that time.

The Doughtys had one son, Neil.

DOVENSPECK, Nelson J. Though the Dovenspeck ranch headquarters were about five miles west of the Petroleum County line, it seems important to include their history in any account of the area, since they were among the very earliest settlers on Elk Creek. They filed water rights on the stream in November of 1882. In the early days their cattle grazed down the creek all the way to the Musselshell River.

Nelson Dovenspeck was in the process of moving permanently to the Elk Creek ranch in 1890 when he was accidentally drowned in the Snake River. His obituary states, "Mr. Dovenspeck had sold his interests in Butte and was about to move to his ranch on Elk Creek. He went to Idaho early in May to drive in some cattle he had sold and while crossing the above named stream lost his life. The river was high and, the current being swift, his horse could not make the opposite shore and in floundering about, horse and rider became separated. From a small island, Mr. Dovenspeck attempted to swim ashore, but the swift current bore him under before he could make the opposite shore. The funeral took place in Deer Lodge last Wednesday. Mr. Dovenspeck was fifty-two years old. For the last twelve years he has been in the butchering business in Butte and at the time of his death, he was worth in the neighborhood of \$100,000. He leaves a wife but no children."

Mrs. Dovenspeck chose to live on the Elk Creek property after her husband's death. With the help of her able foreman, John Rowley, an excellent ranch was developed.

Lucy Dovenspeck died in 1928 at the age of 74. The *Grass Range Review* wrote of her, "Mrs. Dovenspeck has been the active head of the fine ranch property near here. The estate has been variously estimated at from \$150,000 to \$200,000, included in which is fine Butte property, Big Hole Basin land and the 2000-acre ranch here. Mrs. Dovenspeck was a stockholder in the First National Bank of Grass Range. She was loved and respected by all who knew her. Otis Mudd will have charge of the ranch."

The ranch headquarters later became the property of Martin Olson and a portion of the hay land was sold to Ted Schultz.

DOW, Frank (Sec 11-14-25) and **DOW, George** (Sec 12, 13-14-25) George and his son, Frank, each homesteaded 320 acres of land between Elk Creek and McDonald Creek west of Winnett. George died in 1918. Apparently he was a widower and he died without leaving a will. Frank was appointed by the court, over the objection of several of his brothers in Indiana, to administer the estate. This was during a very difficult time, and eventually the property was sold to pay creditors.

Frank and his wife, Ella, came to Montana shortly after their marriage in 1910, Frank coming first and building a house on their homestead, and Ella joining him six months later. Ella had been raised in the city of St. Paul, Minnesota, and life on the homestead was very different and sometimes very difficult. Frank sometimes worked in

Grassrange leaving Ella alone. She had a faithful collie dog for company and to protect her from rattlesnakes. Once a rattlesnake got in the kitchen, however, and she hurriedly put the children up on the table and killed the snake with a hoe!

The Dows lived on their homestead for seven years during which time four children were born to them. Stanley was born in Lewistown, but died in infancy. Harold and Everyll were also born in Lewistown. Myrle was born during an April blizzard with only a neighbor to assist as midwife.

About 1918 the family moved to Lewistown, where Frank was employed by the W. S. Smith Furniture Store and later by the county in the courthouse. The Dows celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 15, 1960, in Lewistown. Both of them died in 1970.

DUDLEY, James James and May Dudley homesteaded west of Teigen on McDonald Creek. They had three children on the school census for District #134 — Doris (1910), Ida (1915) and Ohma (1919). Mrs. Dudley was a daughter of the George Kinnicks on Elk Creek.

EHLEN, Charles Charles Ehlen homesteaded at the head of White's Coulee. After proving up he went to the service. On his return from the war, he did not come to his homestead but stayed in Minnesota working for the railroad. When he did come back, he did not stay very long. He rented the place to Mr. Eld and returned to Minnesota and his job with the railroad. Pete Teigen rents the property now (1988).

ELD, Leonard (Sec 24-15-25) Leonard Eld, born in 1890, homesteaded on the west side of White's Coulee. He served in World War I and after the war returned to his homestead. He worked part time in the Cat Creek oil fields and helped other farmers harvest their crops when he did not have work at home.

Leonard married Inez Anderson in 1931 and they moved a house to his homestead. The couple had one daughter, Lenora. They were separated and Inez married Clinton Hassett.

Leonard was secretary of the Winnett Irrigation Project. He held 80 acres on the project. He was also secretary for the Winnett State Grazing District for a number of years. In 1955 he married Pearl Shay Bastian. In 1959 he sold his property to Peter M. Teigen Jr. and moved to Lewistown, where he lived until his death in 1976. Pearl lives at the Eagles Manor (1988).

ELIASON, Carl (Sec 23-14-25) In about 1912 or 1914 Carl Eliason, who had purchased 160 acres from the U. S. Government under the Cash Entry Act, filed joint water rights with Marie Sibbert and entered into a joint venture on a ditch to irrigate his land. In 1916 he sold his property to Henry Sibbert.

ERICKSON, Julia (Sec 5-14-25) Julia Erickson with her three children — Alice (1896), Elmer (1898) and Ross — homesteaded on the bench south of Teigen. Her younger son used to visit with the two Teigen boys while she

would cook for Mrs. Teigen during the busy seasons. Elmer worked in Lewistown, and Alice went to Seattle. She became ill with cancer and returned to her mother's home. After a long illness, she passed away.

Mrs. Erickson was loved and respected by the Teigens. After she sold her homestead, she moved to Lewistown to live with her oldest son.

FALLISHER, T. A. The Polk Directory for 1918 lists a T. A. "Fallihee" as owner of a general store in Teigen. However, a Myrtle A. Fallisher was the postmaster in Teigen from February 12, 1918, until January 11, 1919, and there is reason to believe the name in the Polk Directory was misspelled.

FARAGHER, Archibald H. (Sec 17,20-14-26) and **FARAGHER, Stanley A. H.** (Archie) Faragher owned 360 acres of land south and west of Winnett about six miles. For a few brief years in the early 1920s, the land received a great deal of attention because it was the site of the Oregon-Montana oil development. A brief account of the development can be found in the introduction to this chapter.

Archie and his brother, Stanley, came to Montana from Minnesota. It does not appear that Archie spent very many years farming. For a time he was cashier in a Winnett bank and later was a partner in the Broadway Garage with Mr. H. A. Stenson. He and his wife, Margaret, had two adopted children — Dale (1919) and Jean (1922). The family returned to Minnesota in the 1930s, and Archie was employed by Ford Motor Company. (See also FARAGHER — Winnett)

Stanley and his wife, Agnes, had two sons — Robert and Thomas. They also returned to Minnesota. (See also STORY)

FERGUSON, John John Ferguson built a hotel and restaurant in Teigen in about 1914. Several years later the building burned, and Mr. Ferguson took up land north of Teigen.

There were five Ferguson children listed on the petition for School District #134 — G. C. (1895), Ruby (1897), Mabel (1899), Frances (1905) and John (1907).

FOREMAN, David David and his wife, Mary Bowen, were among the earliest settlers on McDonald Creek in the Grassrange area, near Doughty. In 1897 David was a member of the Finkbeiner school board, the first school in the Grassrange area. He was instrumental in building the first school in Grassrange. He donated logs and hauled them to the site for an 18 by 24 foot building. The Foremans were parents of eight children — Clarence (1887), Julia (1893), Margaret (1894), George (1896), David (1899), Charles (1902), Arthur (1906) and Marion (1914).

In the very early 1900s, David Foreman acquired property north of Elk Creek about three miles east of the present Fergus-Petroleum county line.

The younger David served in World War I. After the war, he lived on the Elk Creek property of his father. He

was married to Roxie Redmond on June 24, 1920. She was a daughter of B. M. Redmond, who homesteaded a couple of miles south of the Foreman place. (See also REDMOND) The trees along Elk Creek provided a favorite picnic spot for the families.

The older David died in 1919, and his estate sold the Elk Creek ranch to L. E. Torinus about 1922. The Foreman brothers owned a threshing machine which was used for custom harvesting. Mr. Fagerland bought the machine in 1921. The same year David Jr. and his family moved to Lewistown. One of Mrs. Foreman's sisters, Jimmie, went to Lewistown with them to go to school and to help them with the new baby which was expected. A baby girl was born to David and Roxie in December 1921.

In later years, the Foremans lived in Monroe, Oregon, where David was mayor. They occasionally returned to visit family (George Foreman and his wife lived in Ennis, Montana) and friends and to hunt.



David Foreman during World War I

FRANCIS, Tom (Sec 18-15-25) Tom Francis held a homestead just north of Teigen. He did some farming and had some livestock. He was a hard worker, working his land till he took sick. He died in the hospital in Lewistown, Montana.

GJERDE, Frank Frank Gjerde was the oldest of the eight children of John and Margaret "Retta" Gjerde. His father came to the Teigen-Grassrange area in 1900 and married Margaret Degner in 1907. She was the daughter of Frank and Elizabeth Degner, who were pioneer settlers on Yellow Water Creek. (See also DEGNER — Flatwillow) The Gjerdes lived west of the Fergus-Petroleum county line on a branch of Yellow Water. The children attended the Kinnick School and Grassrange High School.

Frank married Louise Berven in 1942 (See also BERVEN — Flatwillow) He acquired the former David Foreman place on Elk Creek. The couple had three children - Frances, Sylvia and John K.

Frank and Louise were separated, and Frank continued to live on his Elk Creek property until the 1970s, when he moved to Winnett. Later he retired to Lewistown, where he died in 1985.

GOOS, Fredrick According to Mirth Winnett Hedman, in an article written for the Winnett Times in 1942, Fredrick Goos was the original owner of the Eager Ranch two miles west of Winnett on McDonald Creek. A brand is listed for Fred Goos in the *Directory of Marks and Brands, 1872-1900* with an address of Fort Maginnis. This would indicate Mr. Goos was a very early settler. E. C. Abbott is quoted in the *Lewistown Daily News* in December 1963 as remembering Bill and Fred Goos as being the first settlers on the north fork of Fords Creek which is now known as Brickyard Creek.

HALESY, Cliff Mr. and Mrs. Halesy lived west of Teigen. Little bits of information from the school newspaper, "The Teigen Truth-Teller," indicated Cliff also supplied milk for the community. On January 23, 1925, the paper reported, "The Teigen milk supply was cut off for two days this week while Mr. Halesy's cow went visiting"; and on March 6, 1925, the following ad appeared: "Teigen Sanitary Dairy added to their livestock this week and are prepared to supply all customers. Fresh milk at all hours. No delivery, no rebates."

The Halesys were often guests for social affairs in Teigen.

HALL, Ansyl (Sec 6-15-25) Ansyl Hall visited the Teigen community in 1949. He recalled his homestead days north of Teigen and some of the ranches he worked on. Mr. Hall made his home in Indiana.

HANSON, Victor (Sec 1-14-25) Victor homesteaded between Elk Creek and McDonald Creek about six miles west of Winnett. He proved up on his homestead in 1915, served in the Army in World War I, and returned to the area. He went back to his original home in Wisconsin in 1923, however, and worked there as a carpenter all of his life. He visited his Montana property in 1953, coming from Siren, Wisconsin. Members of the Hanson family still own the land (1988).

HENNUM, Leofred (Sec 3-14-25) L. A. Henum owned 320 acres between McDonald Creek and Elk Creek not far from Teigen. In 1921 the Winnett Times reported he had a "milch cow for sale — 3 miles northwest of Sibbert Ranch."

Leofred and his wife, Rosa, had four children on the 1925 school census — Burton (1914), Harvey (1917), LeRoy (1919) and Rosella (1921)

HOLMGREN, Sven (Sec 3-15-25) Sven Holmgren was born in Osthhammer, Sweden, in 1885. In 1904 he came to America and was a lumberjack for the B. C. Railroad cutting ties. He came to Montana in 1914 and homesteaded northeast of Teigen where he raised cattle. One time he shipped a carload of cattle to Chicago. He also raised some good crops of alfalfa seed.

While on the homestead, his niece, Ellen Holien, her husband, Harry, and their daughter, Twila, came to help him. They stayed about seven months. They went to work for the Teigen Ranch in November of 1949, and Twila went to school in Winnett. They worked there until July of 1950. The family returned to Minnesota where they now live.

In 1953 Sven sold his property to the Benes Brothers and moved to Minnesota. He bought 200 acres of land and raised cattle. He lived on his farm until he was 91 years old, when he retired and moved into his own apartment. Two years later (in 1978) he was killed in a pickup accident.

HUFF, Lester Mr. and Mrs. Lester Huff purchased the Teigen store from the Taits in 1970. Their son, Robert, came out later from Mason City, Iowa, to help his folks run the business. Robert's two daughters had come out with their grandparents. Rose and Penny finished their schooling in Winnett. Rose graduated from Winnett High School in 1976, Penny in 1978. The Huffs ran the store and post office until they passed away.

Rose served as clerk and recorder for Petroleum County and later as secretary-treasurer for the Senior Citizens of the county. She married Marvin Beanblossom, an employee of Teigen Land and Livestock Co. They moved to Phoenix, Arizona, along with their three children — Christy, Jennifer and Sam.

Penny went to school in Bozeman and married Craig Davis, a serviceman, moving overseas with her husband for a few years, and now resides in California. They have one child.

Robert and his wife, Erica, closed the business and moved to Phoenix in the fall of 1987. The post office was taken over by Mrs. Joseph O'Meara in 1986 and is now housed in a small building in the Teigen Ranch yard.

HUNT, Dominick (Sec 20-14-25) The *Grass Range Review* reported on July 12, 1917: "Dominick Hunt is soon to wed an unknown sweetheart who does not reside in this locality. We wish him and his assistant homesteader much happiness."

Dominick and Bridget lived on the ridge between Elk Creek and McDonald Creek not far from the Fergus-Petroleum county line.

The *Grass Range Review* also reported Dominick's brother, Patrick, returned to Ireland to make his home.

INGLEBERT, Elmer (Sec 32-15-25) Elmer Inglebert homesteaded on the bench south of Teigen. He later purchased a large steam engine and threshing machine to harvest the grain throughout the area. He married Louise Charbonneau, a daughter of a neighboring homesteader, in 1925. He moved out of the country a few years later.

JENKINS, Jesse (Sec 12-14-26) Jesse Jenkins was a brother of Mary Jenkins Winnett (wife of W. J. Winnett). He came from Missouri to visit in the early 1900s and liked the country so well that he came back and took up land. He also made arrangements to bring his parents,

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Jenkins, to the community, where they also took up land.

JOHNSON, Austin (Sec 5-14-25) Austin Johnson was a one-armed man who homesteaded on the bench between McDonald Creek and Elk Creek. Occasionally he did work for the Teigens.

JOHNSON, Carl Carl Johnson came to the United States in 1908. He worked for Henry Sibbert and then took up land near Teigen. He worked for Teigen Land and Livestock off and on. Carl married Edna Ditzler.



Mr. and Mrs. Mark Kelley shortly after they purchased the Boyd Store in Teigen.

KELLEY, Mark Mr. and Mrs. Mark Kelley purchased the Teigen Store and Post Office from Mrs. Boyd in 1928. The Kelleys had two children — George and Lucy.

Mark was an excellent storekeeper. Following the death of his wife in 1935, Mark ran the store and post office by himself. Later he married Jennie Meserve. (See also MESERVE — Musselshell River) Mark and Jennie were married for five years when Mark died. Jennie continued to run the store and post office. She learned to drive so she could meet the train for the mail, and she did all of the necessary chores by herself. She was a fine lady and was remembered with love and respect by all who knew her.

In June 1946 Mrs. Kelley sold the store and post office to Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Tait. She moved to Spokane, Washington, to be close to her daughters. She lived to be over 100 and died in 1979. (See KELLEY — Blakeslee)



Mark Kelley and his second wife, Jennie Meserve

KELLEY, Oscar (See LUEBKE)

KELLY, Gurn Gurn Kelly was born in 1894 in Barada, Nebraska. He married Vera Creech in 1914 in Pender, Nebraska. The couple came to Montana in 1915. In 1932 they leased the Thomas Ward place on Elk Creek, just east of the Petroleum-Fergus county line. The family lived there for five years. Six of the nine Kelly children went to the Kinnick School — Gurneva, Pat, Agnes, Alta, Bud and Bob. In 1937 the family moved to Winnett, where the high-school-age boys boxed under Shorty Saylor, all with enviable records. Alta graduated from Winnett High School in 1941 and Bud graduated in 1942, the year the family moved to Lewistown.

Mrs. Kelly was known as an excellent cook, and as her daughter wrote, "she almost had to be a good cook with all nine of us to cook for!" She also did sewing and cared for sick people in the community.

Three of the Kelly boys served in World War II. Pat served in Germany; Bud was in Arabia and the Middle East; Mike stayed in the United States. Dick served overseas during the Korean conflict.

Gurneva, the oldest girl, married Art Dengel in 1935. They ranched north of Grassrange and raised eight children — George, Duane, Alta, Harry (Bud), Richard, William, Donald, and Carol. Gurneva died in 1964 and Art in 1977.

Alta married Art Meserve. He died in 1987. (See also MESERVE — Musselshell)

Gurn died in 1954, and Vera lived to be 90. She died in 1987.

KIBBE, Harry (Sec 22-14-25) In 1914 Harry Kibbe received a homestead patent for 160 acres of land about a mile southwest of Henry Sibbert's ranch home. The land reverted to the county in 1937, and B. F. Lepper bought the land for \$80. King and Petersen purchased the land in 1942.

KING AND PETERSEN Joe C. King of Lewistown, Montana, and J. C. Petersen of Spencer, Iowa, purchased the vacant Sibbert property from the Lepper estate in 1942. King and Petersen had been in partnership running sheep on a lease of the O. M. Greene place on Flatwillow Creek and were looking for a ranch to buy. After they purchased the Sibbert Ranch, they operated it as a sheep outfit until 1943, when the pressures of the war, hired help, and prices made them decide to go into the cattle business.

In May 1943, King and Petersen purchased 400 longhorn steers for \$52.50 per head and brought them to Petroleum County by railroad. Witnesses say the doors of the railroad car were opened, and the steers took out in every direction regardless of fences! Though most of them were driven to the Elk Creek ranch, several of the

steers were eventually gathered from the open range near Melstone.

K & P added to the original ranch by purchasing from people who had tried to hold on to their Petroleum County property in the vain hope of an oil discovery. Much of the land King and Petersen purchased was without mineral royalty rights. Owners were willing to sell for as little as fifty cents an acre, if they could retain the mineral rights.

Roy Long was hired as foreman for K & P. He and his wife, Gladys, moved into the big, old empty ranch house in 1942. It is questionable whether Gladys would consider those the "good old days!" There were ten to twelve hired men in the summer — occasionally those with wives shared the big house with the Longs. The rest of the men lived in the original log bunkhouse. Sometimes there was a cook to help Gladys, sometimes a hired girl, and sometimes she had the sole responsibility of running the house and kitchen. One cook, who had a feud with a hired man, took a butcher knife and chased the hired man around the yard threatening to kill him. Another woman, who was the wife of a hired man and who was supposed to help in the kitchen, spent most of her time reading movie magazines and pasting the covers from the magazines on the bedroom walls.

These were not easy days. The electric plant, which had furnished power in earlier days, had been dismantled and there was no electricity until 1948. Water was pumped into the house with a gasoline motor from a shallow well, but the water was not drinkable, so drinking water was hauled in barrels from Winnett, Lewistown, or any other handy place. The lovely yard and garden of former years had deteriorated into a maze of dead trees and sagebrush and, worst of all, the house was unbearably hot in summer and cold in winter. A coal furnace was supposed to heat the hot water system, but the bad plaster in much of the house (with cracks and holes open to the board siding), the lack of storm doors and windows, and the uninsulated walls and attic made the large house virtually impossible to heat.

Most of the ranch work was done with horses which necessitated a crew three or four times the size it would take today. King and Petersen gradually began to acquire the necessary tools and equipment to fully operate a ranch. Roy "made do." He cobbled together old equipment, repaired sheds and buildings, and tried in every conceivable way to "get by."

Gladys worked hard to create a home in the barren, empty house. Michael was a baby when they moved to the ranch, and Pat was born in 1942. As kids always seem to do, they thrived and grew. Not only did Gladys have her own boys to mother, but the King boys (Joe, Bob and Dave) were summer workers, and often three or four other young fellows were hired. The war years brought all of the problems common to everyone — rationing of gas, sugar, meat, and shoes, plus the difficulties of finding and keeping hired help. Roy used to say for every hired man actually working, there was one coming and one going!

These years also brought a measure of prosperity, however. Land values increased and the prices received for cattle, sheep, and produce improved. After the war, tractors largely replaced horses, and all kinds of more sophisticated labor-saving machines hit the market. King and Petersen bought the first four-wheel drive Marmon-Herrington car in the county. There were four-wheel drive pickups and station wagons, but the five-passenger Ford coupe was a novelty. Gladys remembers driving to Winnett in heavy snow, with chains on the front wheels. The men in the local pub snickered behind her back because they thought she had made a mistake and put the chains on the front where they would not do any good. The laugh was on them, for they did not realize it was a four-wheel drive car. "High-Pockets" is still in the Kings' old car collection.

In 1949 the first hay baler was purchased. There were days when Roy must have questioned whether it was a "labor-saving" machine. He spent endless frustrating hours in the shop rebuilding weak parts and repairing broken ones!

The cattle ranged in summer on the largely unfenced grazing district. They ran in common with neighbors' cattle to the north as far as Highway #200 and to the south as far as Pike Creek. This meant many days of riding to gather and to cut out one's own stock in the fall. A full-time cowboy took care of the horses, scattered bulls, and doctored cattle for pinkeye and other common ailments. Two or three extra hands were hired to ride in the fall before shipping.

In the summer of 1950, Joe C. King III was married, and he and his wife, Marjorie, came to the ranch to live. It was like living in a boarding house. Gladys, with the help of Joan Solf, efficiently managed the house and kitchen. The house bulged at the seams. Gladys and Roy had an upstairs bedroom, their two boys another. Marjorie and Joe had a room, Bob and David King had another, and two California boys hired for the summer had another. Joan had a small downstairs bedroom. Only one of the seven bedrooms was not occupied. But that was not all — in the bunkhouse five more men slept. Mealtime was regular and orderly — everyone trooped in and took his place and ate heartily!

The Long boys were school-age by this time, and in the fall of 1950 Gladys rented a house in Winnett so the children could more easily attend school. Roy continued on the ranch until spring, but obviously he wanted something more gratifying, and in 1951 he leased the Fuhs place north of Winnett, where the Longs made their home until 1974. (See LONG — Blakeslee)

Joe III became foreman for King and Petersen, and he and Marjorie began to establish a home for themselves in the big, old house.

KING, Joe C., III Joe C. King III was the oldest son of Joe and Hazel King. His great grandfather, Chris King, came to Montana from Switzerland in 1869 and to Central Montana in 1881. Chris and his sons, Joseph and