

Whoop from that and carried that nickname in Winnett for a long time. I am still called that by a few of the old-timers once in a while.

"Dorothy Lancelle and I were married, and we lived in Missoula until 1942 and then in Spokane until April of 1944. At that time I volunteered to be drafted into the Army, and we moved to the Lancelle Ranch. Connie had been born in Missoula on April 24, 1938; and Joseph Clarence, December 30, 1940. (See also LANCELLE — Flatwillow)

"In the fall of 1962 Mirth Kiehl Petersen and I took over the operation of the Stockman Cafe. She left in 1963 and I moved to town to take over full management. In 1964 Mirth Kiehl retired from the ASCS office and married Carl Hedman. I replaced her as office manager of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service in July of 1964. Dorothy and I were separated by then, and much later, divorced.

"We had a Toastmaster's Club in Winnett, and as I became more used to speaking, I was asked to be master of ceremonies for several functions.

"When the Petroleum County ASCS office was combined with that of Fergus County, I became clerk. I was let go from that office on June 30, 1973, because of a reduction in force. I worked for Douglas Delaney until November of that year.

"In November of 1979, I met my present wife, Margaret. We were married April 19, 1980, and are still together in 1989."

**BASTIAN, Frank** Frank and Pearl Bastian and their children — Mary Lou and Donald — moved to Winnett from Cat Creek in 1933, as Frank had received the position of clerk at the Winnett Continental Oil Company loading racks. Frank and Pearl were involved in many civic and fraternal affairs. Frank was a member of the school board and the town council, and held various offices in Sandman Post of the American Legion. Pearl was very active in the Legion Auxiliary.

Frank held a record that many would treasure. In June of 1947 he was awarded a pin by the Continental Oil Co. in recognition of 25 years of service, during which time he had not been absent from work a single day due to accident or illness.

Mary Lou graduated from Winnett High School in 1945 and took nurse's training in St. Joseph's Hospital of Lewistown. She married Jim Sennett of Lewistown, a postal employee. They have a daughter, Linda. Donald graduated from Winnett High School in 1949, attended Montana State College at Bozeman, and was long involved in automobile mechanics. Donald married Marlene Christerson of Sunburst, Montana, and they have three boys — Johnny, Jerry, and Jackie.

Frank, after a lifetime of apparent good health, succumbed to cancer on January 28, 1952, in Fort Harrison Veterans' Hospital at Helena, Montana. Interment was in the soldiers' plot of Lewistown City Cemetery. On September 2, 1955, Pearl married Leonard Eld. (See also

BASTIAN — Cat Creek and ELD — Teigen)

**BAUER, William** In 1925 William Bauer took over the restaurant in the Moll building formerly owned by Scotty Spears, and in a short time sold it to Charles Williams.

**BAUMGARTNER, Roy** Mr. and Mrs. Roy Baumgartner moved to Winnett in February of 1948. At that time they had three children — Patty, Kay and Candy. Roy was Milwaukee road agent, and they made their home in the depot. While living here, another girl, Janet, was born. Roy was an excellent softball player, and in 1949 was made manager of the local club. Roy and William were brothers.

**BAUMGARTNER, William** Bill was an interim Milwaukee road agent, serving between the time George Pitman left in 1943 and George Beall arrived in September of 1943. Bill later married Virgie Senst of Winnett. (See also SENST — Winnett)

**BAYER, Theodore** Mr. Bayer homesteaded in the Brush Creek area, but when the town of Winnett burst alive due to the oil boom, the *Lewistown Democrat News* engaged him to cover the oil fields and the town of Winnett for news articles.

He proved up on his homestead in April of 1921, but left for Manhattan, Kansas, in September of the same year to attend Kansas State Agricultural College.

**BAYLES, Lee** "Our stock is New, Fresh, and Desirable" was the statement in the ad of the Jewel Cigar Store when the cigar store was established August 6, 1921, in the Winnett Theater. Lee Bayles was proprietor.

**BEACHAM, Harold** Harold was a mechanic. In May of 1927, he leased the Winnett Theater building from J. A. Dugan and established a machine shop and garage.

**BEALL, George L.** George Beall was born in Indiana April 10, 1881, and grew to manhood there. He came west in 1900 and was a railroader at Bozeman, Deer Lodge and Ringling. In 1925 at Deer Lodge, he was married to Jessie Talbott, and to this union six children were born. His wife by that marriage died in 1932. In 1927 he had gone to Hilger, Montana, where he was ticket agent for nine years. He married Marie Schaeffer in 1941. In September of 1943, he moved to Winnett, where he became railroad agent for the Milwaukee station there. Ill health overtook him, and he died at St. Joseph's hospital in Lewistown on Friday, January 12, 1945.

**BEATON, Harry** (W. T. 9-9-21) "With two men on bases and two men out, Harry Beaton stepped up to the plate and knocked the ball a couple miles out towards Flatwillow." It was a game between Roundup and Winnett. In the last inning, Roundup was ahead 8 to 7 until Harry took the bat!

**BECK, Nick** (W. T. 7-8-21) "The latest industry to be established in Winnett is a modern bottling works factory to be located on Broadway, south of the first Aristo. The new brick-veneered building is being rushed to comple-

tion and will be ready for installation of the machinery within ten days.

"Nick Beck, who recently arrived from Seattle, will be the manager of the new enterprise. Mr. Beck is skilled in this line of work, having followed it for a number of years. With the big field for an institution of this character and the management back of it, nothing but success is spelled for the Winnett Bottling Works.

"The firm will manufacture carbonated drinks of all kinds. The machinery installed is modern and complete in every detail. Arrangements are being made to also operate an ice cream factory in connection with the bottling works as soon as the business warrants."

**BECK, Rudolph** Rudy Beck was born May 15, 1879, in Hostenbock, Germany. Freida Wulle was born in Heilbron, Germany, on May 4, 1883. It was there that she was married to Rudolph Beck in 1904. In 1911 the Becks came to the United States and settled near Wenatchee, Washington, for a time before moving to the Winnett area and homesteading in Sec. 14-14-26

Rudy proved up on his homestead and built a slaughter house there to accommodate the meat market which he established in the town of Winnett. The market, commonly referred to as the Enterprise Meat Market, was situated in Block 17 facing Main Street.

In the summer of 1920, Rudy, foreseeing a boost in business due to the oil boom, built a new meat market. He contracted with Clarence Napper for the construction, who in turn, subcontracted John Valach for the labor or brick work. The following contract form has been preserved by Frank Valach of Lewistown, Montana. (Frank is the son of the late John Valach.)

"Winnett, Mont, June 11th, 1920

"THIS AGREEMENT made and entered into between Clarence Napper, party of the first part, and John Valach, party of the second part, for the consideration of payments as hereafter stated, the party of the second part agrees to furnish all labor required to construct the brick and tile building, for Rudolf Beck, at Winnett, Montana, in a good and workmanlike manner, buttering the joints thoroughly, and doing everything that will tend to make it a first class job.

"Further, the front of the building is to be laid up with three-quarter-inch raked joints, as shown on plans and drawings.

"Also the premises must be left clean, and the brickwork on the front must be washed down and left in good first class condition.

"Party of the second part, also will erect his own scaffolds and do all work in removing same leaving the premises clean.

"Party of the first part, agrees to pay to the party of the second part, the sum of Four Hundred Fifty dollars, (\$450.00) as the work progresses, for the laying of all brick and tile in the above Rudolf Beck building according to this agreement, and the plans and drawings furnished by him, and payments not to exceed 85% of the amount of the work actually done. Final money to be paid when the work is all finished satisfactory and accepted.

"Party of the second part agrees to have the

above work completed by the twentieth of June 1920, weather permitting.

"In witness hereof, we have here attached our signatures this 12th Day of June A.D. 1920."

Signed by Clarence Napper and John Valach —  
N. D. McIver as witness.

The new building was on Lot 3, Block 16, and was sold, along with the meat business to Frank Boeckman and J. Otis Mudd, who then operated the Enterprise Meat Market until the building burned in September of 1929.

Rudy had been chosen alderman of the town of Winnett in 1919. Having disposed of his meat business, and with the demand for construction work in the town due to the oil boom, Rudy went to work as a carpenter.

(Ed. Although positive information is lacking, the following is presumed to be a resume of Rudy's business activity. It was gathered from memory of former residents and bits and snatches from the *Winnett Times*.)

After the new Aristo was established in 1921, Rudy bought from William Dickson the first Aristo building (which was on the northwest corner of Block 16 facing Main Street). Rudy then operated a cafe and confectionery there, naming the building the Palm Garden. In 1922 the *Winnett Times* reported that one of the first radios to be installed in Winnett was coming in loud and clear in the Palm Garden Restaurant! In February 1923 Rudy leased the back portion of the Palm Garden to the American Legion. That organization established what they called the American Legion Gym. In it were boxing and wrestling rings, punching bags, and other exercise equipment — for the use of bona fide Legion members and their families.

Later that same year, Rudy moved his cafe and confectionery and installed two bowling alleys in the Palm Garden. The name was changed to Olympic Bowling Lanes. (W.T. 11-2-23) "The alleys were opened for business the forepart of the week; since then, many of the population of Winnett have been taking the kinks out of their backs and putting cramps in their fingers at the old tenpin game." A bowling tournament with Roundup players was held in Winnett in April of 1924. The winning team members were: Sullivan, Crepps, Frank Nelson, Nate Wells, Hillius and Waldrop (relief man for both Nelson and Wells). The Roundup squad were highly complimentary of the fine condition of the lanes as maintained by Rudy Beck.

Rudy's confectionery had been moved two doors east between the Enterprise Meat Market and the Arcade, and that became the second Palm Garden. In December of 1924, Elmer Eager leased the Olympic Bowling Lanes building from Rudy Beck and conducted a store there for three years. The Palm Garden restaurant remained in business, operated by Rudy or lessors until 1928, when the building was leased to James Shipton as a soft drink establishment.

In January of 1928 Mr. Eager relinquished the lease on the corner Beck building. The building was then sold to Mable Towne, and she established therein the Love Bird

Cafe.

The Becks had just completed a new residence and garage in the same block as their heretofore business when the disastrous fire of September 1929 destroyed not only their home, but the entire block of businesses, including the Enterprise Meat Market. Since the former proprietors of the Enterprise did not wish to re-establish themselves, Rudy decided to again enter the meat business. He set up the Winnett Meat Co. in the Moll building. In about 1931, he sold his meat business to George Waldrop of the Winnett Mercantile. Becks moved to Washington state. Rudy died there in October of 1932. Death was attributed to a carbuncle on the back of his neck which poisoned his spine and lungs.

Freida, in company with her brother, John H. Wulle, moved to New York in 1934 and opened a sanitarium that specialized in the treatment of diabetes and Bright's Disease. Freida was president of the Cherihurst Medical Co. which specialized in a medicine to treat the two diseases. In 1937 Freida and John Wulle returned to Winnett and made their home on the Rudy Beck Ranch. Freida died in September of 1940.

**BECK, Russell** Russell came to Winnett in August of 1943 as Milwaukee road agent.

**BECKER, Cynthia L.** In the late 1940s Cynthia bought the old school dormitory from the C. V. Allens and rented sleeping rooms.

**BEEBE, Edgar** Edgar was a long-time resident of the Winnett area, having been employed by many ranchers as a sheepherder and as a good all-around handyman. He and his wife, Jane, (as reported on the census) were the parents of four daughters — Mable (1932), Dolly (1934), Elsie (1935) and Edna (1933). They also had a son (no name or birthdate available).

In 1942 Edgar and the family moved to Geysler, Montana, where Edgar was employed as herder for the Hill Bros. Ranch. Edgar was given Christmas day off to spend with his family, but returned in the evening to the sheep camp. All appeared well the next morning at the camp, but by noon the sheep were scattered, and the owner, investigating the cause, saw Edgar's two beautiful collie dogs running to the top of the hill and then back to the bottom, but not near the sheep. They would slowly approach the top of the hill and look toward a trail to see if help might be coming.

As the men with two cars approached, the dogs bounded forward to meet them, seemingly with joy that help had come, but also with uncertainty. Then they bounded back to where Edgar lay, and where he had probably lain throughout the night. There were evidences that the dogs had laid beside him. Edgar had suffered epileptic attacks previously, and without help, had probably succumbed to the cold. The dogs were tenderly placed in one of the cars and given a ride out of the field. Edgar had been a kind master, and a loving father and husband who had cared for his family to the best of his ability.

**BEECHER, C. E.** C. E. Beecher, in charge of the government bureau of mines, moved his office from the Winnett Block to the new offices one block south of the schoolhouse in July of 1921.

**BELL, Lafe** The E. G. Lewis Oil Development Association of Winnett had Lafe Bell as one of its developers. He left Winnett in April of 1921 and went to Greybull, Wyoming, with the same company.

**BELLOWS, W. F.** Mrs. Bellows was very active in the work of the Community Sunday School in 1920. The Bellows family moved to North Dakota in July of 1921.

**BELSTAD, Harold** Harold Belstad was born in Van Hook, North Dakota. Ethel Marshall was born in Chester, Montana. They were married and became the parents of Marsha, Monty, Pamela and Kay Colleen.

Harold sold his farm in North Dakota, and the family moved to Winnett just before the big snowstorm of the first week of April in 1955. They moved into the house in Block 10 which was behind the original Northrup Barber Shop.

Harold went into partnership with Lloyd Berg in Winnett Motors. They also had the Ford dealership for this region. The building used had previously housed Winnett's City Light Company

The partnership was dissolved in 1964, and Harold operated Cliff's Auto Service until the spring of 1967, when he opened his own shop, Harold's Auto Service, in the former Ford Service building.

In 1971 Belstads built a new garage on the lots where the Broadway Garage, Dunlap's, and Cliff's Auto Service had been located. After sixteen years comprised of many long days, Harold retired and the garage was sold to Bud and Donna Rabern in April of 1987.

All four Belstad children graduated from Winnett High School — Marsha, in 1968; Monty, 1970; Pamela, 1972; and Colleen, 1973. Belstads have lived for many years on South Broadway Avenue in Winnett and have made many fine improvements to their home.



Harold Belstad family: (back row) Colleen, Pam, Monty; (front) Marsha, Ethel, Harold



*William Bennett*

**BENNETT, William** William Bennett was born in Minnesota December 8, 1884. He received his early education there and attended the University of Minnesota for one year, studying law. He later became a banker and real estate dealer. Florence Van Lauber was born September 28, 1889, in Saint Paul, Minnesota. Bill and Florence were married February 28, 1911. They had two children, Virginia and Gordon, when they arrived in Winnett in 1922. Robert and Betty were born in Winnett in 1925 and 1927 respectively.

Mr. Bennett conducted a real estate business and was manager of the elevator during the family's first years in Winnett. In 1926 he established and managed a cream station for the Armour Company in a portion of the furniture store that was west of the Winnett Mercantile store. He also trucked and delivered coal and farmed on Buffalo Creek north of Winnett.

In 1929 Florence, known as a kind wife and mother and also as a thoughtful, pleasing and artistic neighbor, passed away with the birth of their fifth child. The child did not live either. Funeral services for both were held in the Methodist Church with Rev. E. D. Swisher officiating. Burial was in the Winnett Cemetery.

In 1924 Bill became clerk of School District #159 and held the position until 1950. He became clerk and treasurer for the Town of Winnett in 1927; and, except for one and one-half years spent as mayor, held the clerk position until June 1, 1957, when he resigned. But still he was not through as a public servant. When a library board had to be named to care for the Martha Hamilton public library endowment and to arrange for library housing, Mr. Bennett was chosen as a library board member. He served until his death on June 13, 1960.

Funeral services were held in the school gymnasium with the Rev. Harold Tannehill officiating. He was assisted by Rev. Wilbur Armagost of Roundup and W. S. Cramer of Hinsdale. Mr. Cramer had formerly been in charge of the Community Chapel here, of which Mr. Bennett had been an active participant. Burial was in the Winnett Cemetery.

Gordon died while attending Winnett High School. Virginia graduated from Winnett High School in 1931 and from the University of Minnesota in 1941. She served as a secretary at Montana State College of Bozeman, and for the U. S. Civil Service in St. Paul, Minnesota, and Washington, D. C. She was married, lived in California, and passed away there. Robert graduated from Winnett High School in 1943, and Betty, in 1945.

Betty wrote as follows: "Those of you who remember Bob will remember him as quiet and hardworking and as a good student. He really hasn't changed all that much! Bob lives in San Mateo, California, still an administrator with the San Mateo College system. He writes programs for the college, usually related to job rehabilitation, and these are funded either by the state or federal governments. So he is basically a writer and does a part of the counseling with those who are in the process of job change. He greatly enjoys his work. We see each other fairly often. He has a beautiful home.

"Bob has five children — two daughters and three sons. The three older children are married. He has two younger sons, Steve and Bill, who attend school and live at home. Bob's wife, Jean, is an elementary schoolteacher. Bob has four grandchildren.

"Those of you who remember me will remember me probably on my bike delivering papers or trudging back and forth to school from our house across from the telephone office. Because our mother had died and I was not off working with my dad, I was somewhat of a town



*Betty and Dick Dyk*

project to try to get raised. The Hodges were definitely my second set of parents. I give Inez much of the credit for helping me keep myself intact emotionally those early years with no mother and often no one at home when I needed someone. What a gem she was!

"When I left Winnett 43 years ago, I did not want to be a schoolteacher, and I did not want to marry a Montana farmer. I retired this year from 22 years of teaching school and am still happily married, 37 years later, to my Montana farm boy. Dick Dyk was raised in Manhattan, Montana, in a strict Dutch farm home, the youngest of six small children when his mother died.

"Dick has been in the ministry all of these years. Our first ten years as missionaries were in the jungles of Venezuela. Four of our five children were born there. Teaching was truly incidental in my life, only a practical necessity to help with the needs of our children.

"We look forward to coming back to Winnett to visit. When you grow up in a small town in Montana, that love for the people and prairies of Montana never leaves. Our new home that we chose in Canyon Lake, California, South Riverside County, resembles the beauty of Winnett and central Montana, except that it has finger lakes, and our home looks out over the water."

**BENTLEY, Henry** Henry Bentley arrived in Winnett with a contingent of CCC boys in the 1930s. He, the son of Mrs. Mae Bentley of Allen, Kentucky, and Marie, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred C. Ranf, were married March 11, 1939, in the Winnett Methodist parsonage. Rev. Ellen Rose officiated.

"Benny," as he was known, worked for the Milwaukee railway for a time in Winnett, then joined the Army, and was in training in the Army railway division in Texas when he was called to overseas duty. He was about to become a father when he was shipped overseas. In the black-out-of-communication time period, when no letters could be sent home, Marie, the expectant mother, was deeply concerned. Then on June 10, 1943, she heard from him — he had arrived safely somewhere in Africa! Daughter Toni Kay made her appearance that day!

When Toni was born, Marie described in detail to Benny, overseas, just what his daughter's facial expressions were. Benny gave the written description to a soldier friend of his, who was an artist and portrait painter. The artist drew Toni's picture. Benny sent the picture back to Marie to have it checked for accuracy. It was an exact replica of the little child's face!

Benny served in the armed forces overseas until 1945. Upon his arrival home, he was employed by the Continental Oil Co., and he and his family moved to Cat Creek, where Marie became the cook in the Continental cookhouse. In 1948 they returned to Winnett, as Benny was employed at the Continental loading racks in Winnett. In 1951 another little girl was born to them. She was named Debra Lee.

Marie was an expert at working with youngsters in church and other social groups. In September of 1955,

Toni won first place in a national contest which was sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary. In the contest, girls had to write an essay explaining how people lived in another country, what they did for recreation, and what their customs were. Also, the girls had to dress a doll, exhibiting the clothes worn in the country depicted.

Marie had dreamed of one of her local girls winning a national honor sometime. In 1955 Toni won first locally, first in the district, first in the state, and joy of joys to a hard-working and very ill mother, first in the nation! It was a great honor to bestow upon a mother who was to die and leave her daughters, Toni (12 years old) and Debra (4 years old), a little more than a month later, on October 28, 1955.

In May of 1957 Benny married Elsie Petersen. Benny died September 15, 1960. (See also BENTLEY — Cat Creek)

**BERG, Andrina** Mrs. Andrina Berg was the mother of Lloyd, Jadie and Lynn Berg. She lived in the Schreier house in October of 1962.

**BERG, E. M.** E. M. Berg, born September 6, 1892, in Stanley, Wisconsin, came to Montana with the homestead rush. He and his family reportedly homesteaded about four miles east of the town of Winnett. Mr. Berg was the publisher of the *Winnett Times* from 1917 to May 1921. He was elected school trustee of District #159 in April of 1921. Mrs. Berg was president of the Ladies Aid in 1921. In June of 1921 Mr. Berg went to work for the Basin Lumber Co., but in July the family moved to Billings where Mr. Berg worked for the *Billings Gazette*. However, they did not sell their home here until 1929 when they moved to Ashland, Oregon. Mr. Berg had an interest in the paper there. He also published the *Enumclaw Herald* from 1929 to 1934. He died at Bridgeport, Washington, in 1948. His son, Robert, and family visited Winnett in 1968 and called at the old family home at 109 South Moulton Ave.

**BERG, Jadie J.** Jadie J. and Encel Lynn Berg were partners in Berg Motors, which opened in the old City Light Company building in the 1950s. After only a months' preparation, the brothers were open for business. Having obtained a sub-dealership through Hoiland Motors of Roundup, Montana, their garage was also headquarters for Ford sales and service. They were equipped to do repair work on all models of cars and trucks. They sold Standard Red Crown and White Crown gasoline.

In August of 1960 Jadie Berg opened Jadie's Carter Service on the corner of South Broadway and West Main. He married Lois McGiboney, daughter of James and Leona McGiboney. The couple had two children, Darlene and Jody. Jadie enlarged the station by connecting a building to it for a family home. After running the station for several years, the family moved to Livingston, Montana.

**BERG, Lloyd** Lloyd, his wife Janet (a sister of Ethel Belstad), and daughter Lana Joyce, six years of age, moved to Winnett in May of 1952. Lloyd opened a garage and general repair shop in the old City Light Company

building. Debra Berg was born after the family's arrival in Winnett.

In 1960 Bergs built a new three-bedroom home at 1 East Wheeler Street. In 1963 they sold their home to Mr. and Mrs. Claude Sims of Cat Creek and purchased a new mobile home. In November of 1964 the new mobile home burned, and daughter Debra suffered burns as a result.

The Bergs left Winnett and Janet and Lloyd were divorced. Lloyd died December 21, 1980, in a Great Falls nursing home.

Lana married Everett Lane and they had a daughter, Barbara. Lana and Everett were divorced, and Lana married George Stewart. They had two children, Jana and Barry. Debra married Victor Hansen, son of Harriett Bailey Hansen. They had three children — Laurie, Sheryl, and Janelle.

**BERG, R. L.** R. L. Berg operated the Winnett Barbershop in 1954.

**BERRY, Harold W.** (W.T. 7-8-21) "H. W. Berry, proprietor of the Winnett Theater, which is under construction east of the Winnett Block announces that the new building will be completed and opened to the public August 1.

"The structure is of brick and tile with an exceptionally pretty and artistic front. Its dimensions are 100' by 36', and it will cost \$25,000 when completed and all the modern fixtures installed. A hardwood floor will be laid so the building can be conveniently turned into a dance hall at any time. Two modern picture machines will be installed so there will be no stop for change of films. Power will be furnished by the city light plant, which will be in operation by August 18.

"The two splendid storerooms in the entrance have been rented by Lee Bayles of Winnett and Searl and Kennedy of Butte. The former will conduct a tobacco store, and the latter firm, a confectionery and fountain.

"H. W. Berry, the proprietor of the new Winnett Theater was, up until a year ago, proprietor of the Liberty Theatre at Butte. He has unlimited faith in the future of Winnett and the Winnett oil fields . . . With twenty years experience in the show business, he has chosen Winnett as the best location for a theater in the entire northwest."

In January of 1923, Harold married Anita Sarah Sanders. October of 1923 found Mr. Dickson, of the Aristo Theater, leasing the Winnett Theater. W. E. Dickson and Harold Berry agreed that though both could make a living, neither could make a profit while both theaters were operating.

**BERRY, Dr. Kent W.** (W.T. 4-22-21) "Dr. Berry of Miles City arrived here the latter part of the last week and has affiliated himself with Dr. Alexander for the practice of medicine. Dr. Berry comes here from Miles City, where he has enjoyed a large practice and (was) recommended as a physician. His family will arrive as soon as a suitable place of residence can be secured." When Mrs. Berry ar-

rived the next week, they moved into the George Pullin residence.

In July Dr. Berry, in company with a dentist, Robinson, opened offices in the Hover building; then in September Dr. Berry moved his office to the second floor of the Winnett Block. During his practice here, two registered nurses, with Dr. Berry as surgeon, opened a hospital in the Park Hotel building. Dr. Berry left Winnett in about 1925. (See also NICHOLSON)

In September of 1938 Dr. Berry was implicated in the kidnapping of Irving Baker of Olympia, Washington. (W.T. 1-13-39) "Dr. Kent W. Berry and three other men received life prison sentences today for the kidnapping and torture last August 19 of Irving Baker, retired Coast Guard officer, accused by the physician of attacking pretty Mrs. Berry, the third wife of the doctor." The four men were convicted of taking Baker, 37, from his home to a gravel pit outside Olympia, where Berry beat him in revenge for what the physician said was a sexual assault upon Mrs. Berry July 4, 1938. Baker denied it.

Dr. Berry's story has a happier ending. Dr. Berry was granted a parole after serving ten years of his sentence. The parole was granted on recommendation of the warden. His release was also recommended by the Walla Walla County Medical Society and by prominent physicians throughout the state of Washington.

During his term in the penitentiary, he doctored other prison inmates, and by his medical and surgical skill, saved more than sixty lives. At times he was called for consultation with private physicians in cases outside the prison walls. As a prisoner, and using his skills inside the prison walls, he had saved the state at least \$300,000 in professional services.

The chairman of the State Board of Prison Terms and Paroles believed that Dr. Berry could easily assume his place in society and would have no trouble in resuming his practice. It was reported that the first thing he did upon release was to call on his 88-year-old mother. He had not seen her for eleven years.

**BERRY, Roy** When A. B. Frix, rig building contractor, moved his main office to Billings, Roy Berry was put in charge of a rig building crew here. A son, Gilford Leroy, was born in August of 1921.

**BEVIS, Burton** Burton B. Bevis, son of Dorothy Messenger and Lester Bevis, and Judy L. Ziesmer, daughter of Alberta Coffey and Stanley Ziesmer, were married on May 25, 1958, in the First Lutheran Church of Winnett. After the wedding they made their home in the community of Cat Creek, where Burt was engaged in business with his father doing dirt construction, concrete and gravel work, and running a service station.

Their first son, Bryon Keith, was born on March 25, 1959, followed by Michael Wade on March 24, 1961, and Donald Wayne on May 4, 1963. Donald passed away in the Lewistown Hospital on August 4, 1965, after being bitten by a rattlesnake while playing in the yard at the family home in Cat Creek. Patricia Jo was born to Burt and

Judy on November 25, 1966.

During the spring of 1972, Burt and Judy purchased the former Kenny Bratten home under the rimrocks in the Rimrock Addition of Winnett. After extensive tearing down and rebuilding, the family moved from Cat Creek into their new home in Winnett during the Christmas-New Year holiday. At this time Burt's father retired, and Burt took over the family business with the help of his own two boys, who spent their summers and free time working also.

Judy became postmaster in Cat Creek in 1962 and then manager of the Cat Creek Rural Station until moving to town in 1972. After settling in Winnett, she worked for a year at the local hardware and then was hired at the school as day-librarian and later as the school secretary, a job she still holds (1989).

Bryon was married for a time and is the father of one son, Austin Bo Bevis (12-30-79), who lives with his mother and attends school in Roundup. Bryon lives in Winnett and is still working with Burt in the dirt construction/pipeline business.

Michael was married to Traci Welter, daughter of Nick Welter, on June 15, 1980, in Winnett. Michael and Traci live in Billings where both are employed. They have no children.

Patricia was married to Dwane Kiehl, son of Janet Weingart and Jack Kiehl (grandson of Walter J. Winnett), on August 10, 1985 in Winnett. Patti and Dwane lived in Billings for a year while both attended school. Returning to Winnett, they live on the Kiehl family ranch on Petrolia Bench, and Dwane is engaged in ranching with his parents and brother. Patti and Dwane have two children — Cassie Rae (1987) and Preston Scott (1989)..

Burt and Judy enjoy their jobs, but are waiting for retirement. This past year they have purchased a motor home and enjoy traveling in it, but would like to do more. They are active in community affairs and take part in everything that comes along.

Burt spent nine years as a member of the Winnett School Board, spent some time on the Winnett City Council and will retire in 1989 after eight years as mayor of Winnett. With their children all having homes and families of their own, the house is empty a lot, but their time together, and with their children's families, is enjoyed to the fullest. (Judy Bevis) (See also BEVIS — Cat Creek)

**BEVIS, Dan** Dan, a son of John and Nedra Bevis, and his wife Donna came to Winnett in 1967. They lived in the house at 101 North Lepper Avenue. Dan was employed in Clark's Pay 'N Save for one year. He then leased the Stockman Cafe from Carl Pinkerton and had it open and ready for business on November 2, 1968. The couple had one son, Scott, and two daughters, Vickie and Kelly.

**BEVIS, Harry** Harry Bevis was stationed at the Naval Base at Corpus Christi, Texas, when he met Betty L. Darden. They were married in 1953 and remained at Corpus Christi until Harry was discharged in 1955. When they returned to Montana, they made their home at one of the



*Harry Bevis family*

company houses at the Farmers Union Oil Field near the Musselshell River.

Harry later went to work for his dad, Lester Bevis, at the Cat Creek garage. In 1961 they moved to Winnett, and Harry went to work as an auto mechanic at the Conoco station for Clifford Cook. Later he worked as a lineman for McCone Electric Cooperative. In 1968 he was diagnosed as having cancer, and he died in 1970. He is buried at Lewistown, Montana.

Harry and Betty have three children — Wesley "Butch" (1955), now living in Chinook; William "Bill" (1957), now living in Lewistown; and Susie (1959) now living in Lewistown. After Harry's death, Betty stayed in Winnett to finish raising the children, and she still lives here. (Betty Bevis) (See also BEVIS — Cat Creek and Dovetail)

**BEVIS, John** John Bevis was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harlan Bevis. He was born at Whites, Washington, but moved with his family to Montana, when they homesteaded at Valentine. (See also BEVIS — Dovetail) While still in his teens, he returned to Washington where he lived for several years. He later worked as a machinist in Alaska and California. He was married to Nedra Day, August 17, 1935, at Seattle, Washington. They had two sons, Dan and Mike, and a daughter, Jane.

In 1968 and 1969 he was associated with C. M. Bevis and Associates in Marine Supply of Tacoma, Washington. 1970 found him returning to Winnett and buying the Bevis Trailer Court. He was afflicted with cancer and died April 28, 1971, at Central Montana Hospital in Lewistown, Montana. Nedra Bevis died the same year in July at Sacramento, California.

**BEVIS, Michael** When Mike and Barbara Bevis came to Winnett in February of 1968, they made their home at the corner of Millsap Street and Moulton Avenue. Mike

worked at the Bevis Trailer Court and also with Les Bevis at the Cat Creek garage. In February of 1969 the couple returned to Carmichael, California. Mike and Barbara have four sons — Michael, John, Eric, and Lester.

**BEYL, Don** Mr. Don Beyl was hired as Winnett's water commissioner in September of 1962. He and his wife made their home in Gullicksons' two-room house. Before coming to Winnett, Mr. Beyl was employed in Billings by General Motors Acceptance Corporation. Being unable to comply with the requirement of securing bond in order to collect water service fees, Don resigned in November of 1962.

**BIGMAN, Carleton** Carl Bigman lived with the David Iversons and attended Winnett High School in 1970.

**BISHOP, C. B.** The Munroe Hotel, east of the post office, was erected by two young men — Munroe and Bishop. Mr. Bishop was captain of the Winnett Gun Club in July of 1921.

**BIXENAUM, Otto** In company with "Jim" Shafer, Otto Bixenaum took over the Gusher Bar from Maurice Egan in September of 1946. In turn, it was re-sold to Alfred and Howard Andersen on March 4, 1947.

**BLACK, Lynne W.** In the general election of November 1932, Otto Moore was elected sheriff of Petroleum County. He chose Lynne Black, of Kelley, as his deputy. The Blacks with children — Muriel, Jack, James, Joe and Joan, moved to Winnett the first of January in 1933. Gladys L. was born in Winnett on April 29, 1935. Lynne was later elected sheriff and held other county and federal government supervisory positions until the fall of 1945.

In 1945 the family moved to Hamilton, Montana, where Lynne worked in a pole yard plant. In 1952 they went to Libby where Lynne again worked in a pole yard until his retirement. They moved back to Woodside, Montana, and later to Missoula, Montana. They made many trips to Apache, Arizona, for winter months. Lynne passed away January 18, 1979, and was buried in Hamilton, Montana.

Mrs. Black, after being one of the liveliest at the "Kelley Kids" and Winnett High School reunions of 1979, passed away on October of the next year, 1980.

Muriel graduated from Kelley Grade School in 1932 and Winnett High School in 1936. After graduation she worked for the Burt Sisters' Telephone Co. in Winnett. In 1940 she married Carroll Munson of the Kelley community, and they lived on the former Munson Ranch. While living there, Paul E. and Norman D. were born in the Roundup Hospital. In 1944 they moved to a ranch near Hamilton.

Later Carroll worked in a pole plant in Libby until 1961, when they moved to a mini-farm in Ashland, Oregon. There he was groundskeeper for the Ashland School District until his retirement in 1976. Muriel raised garden and kids. She became a teacher's aide for 11 years until her retirement in 1979. In 1987 they sold their mini-farm and now live in Ashland. Their other children were



*Black family: (back row) Mr. Black, Jack, James; (middle row) Mrs. Black, Muriel; (front row) Gladys, Joe, Joan*

Annette, Keith, and Charlotte.

Jack graduated from Winnett High School in 1937. During a time in the service of his country, he married Margaret Hagen, who had graduated from Winnett High School in 1938. Jack worked as a carpenter in the Bitterroot Valley, and Margaret performed secretarial work for some of the banks and also for Rocky Mountain Laboratory in Hamilton. They had four children — Steve, Marty, Jeri and Donna. Steve and Marty were killed in separate car accidents. Jack and Margaret are semi-retired and are living on a ranch near Vaughn, Montana. Margaret's mother also lives there.

Jim Black attended the Kelley School until January 1, 1933, then Winnett schools until graduating from high school in 1940. He worked for the Agricultural Adjustment Act until he entered the Air Force in 1942. He and Frances Mae Armagost of Cat Creek were married. They had seven children — one cheerleader (Bonnie Jean) and a basketball team with one over! The boys were Wesley, Ronald, Robert, Kenneth, Douglas and Charles.

Wayne Joseph "Joe" attended Winnett Elementary and High School until 1945 and took some courses at the University of Montana at Missoula. He entered the armed services and, after his discharge, worked at St. Patrick's Hospital. There he met and married Ann Durkey, who was in nurse's training. They had seven children — John, Pat, Lee, Vickie, Pauline, Muriel, Mary — and a foster son, John. Joe instructed Job Corps boys in Darby for a number of years. He next worked at the University. After raising the family, Ann went back to school to receive her nursing degree at St. Patrick's, where she works.

Joan attended Winnett Elementary School until she was in the seventh grade, at which time her family moved to Hamilton. She married Lee Douglas Kuster, and they had three boys — Terry Lee, Ken, and Tim. Gladys attended Winnett Elementary School through the fourth grade.



Then her family moved to Hamilton. She married William Holt, and they had two girls — Connie Jo and Cindy K.

Joan wrote: "I only have childhood memories of Winnett, but they are precious, and I wouldn't trade them for anything. I loved Winnett so much that I don't want to go back and see it now. I want to remember it with a child's eye. I remember the old ball diamond hill! — the greatest sliding place in the winter. We had the 'smooth run' and the 'jump-off side.' Many happy hours were spent there. The ice skating rink next to Sheriff Moore's house. It was great! I learned to ice skate there at age six, as did many others. Then there was the swimming hole that our dear janitor, Mr. Ingebo, helped build so the kids in Winnett could swim. Gladys and I took three lessons as soon as it opened, before it all drained out, and they had problems and couldn't keep it going. So much for the swimming pool!!

"I remember the day Merten's home garage caught on fire, and they had a water brigade from our house across the alley. Jim was on the end of the line and threw a big bucket of water up on the roof just as Pete Anderson poked his head through the roof to yell 'FIRE!' I also remember the bad prairie fires we had — one in which my dad got caught in a truck and nearly lost his life." (Note: Joan did return for a visit in 1989.)

Gladys said: "I think the most interesting thing in Winnett was the way my sister, Joan, and I made a little spending money. Matty Burt, the telephone operator, hired us as messenger girls. When a long distance call came in, she would call us. . . (with our dad being the sheriff, we were one of the few who had a telephone), and we would run to the person's house and tell them there was a call coming in for them at a certain time at the telephone office. We got 25 cents per call." (See also BLACK — Kelley)

**BLAISDELL, Fred** Mr. and Mrs. Fred Blaisdell and two little daughters moved to Winnett the first of February in 1952. Fred, formerly of Boston, Massachusetts, was the instructor of the veterans vo-ag class in Winnett.

**BLANCHARD, H. E.** A new taxi line was established in April 1921. (W.T. 4-8-21) "H. E. Blanchard arrived from Great Falls, Montana, Tuesday and has formed a partnership with J. T. Motari in a new field taxi line, to be known as the Field Taxi. They will have their stand at the Field Hotel. Both gentlemen are married men with families and will erect residences in the city immediately."

**BLANK, Carl** (W.T. 8-5-21) "A deal was made the first of the week whereby Carl Blank and Harry Smith became owners of the barbershop in the Butte Block, purchasing the same from Arthur Bantie, who recently moved it to this location from the basement of the Winnett Block. The new proprietors are experts in their line, and are not strangers here, having worked in this city for some time."

**BLANK, Joe** Mr. and Mrs. Joe Blank lived in the Methodist parsonage while living in Winnett. Joe was a

well driller in August 1954.

**BLUMENFIELD, Jack** (W.T. 10-7-21) "Jack Blumenfield, brother-in-law of Sol Stormwind, is erecting a brick building on the property east of the Hub Clothing Store and will open a cafeteria lunch room. Mr. Blumenfield has had considerable experience in this line of work and will no doubt enjoy a good patronage."

Mr. Blumenfield left Winnett in 1924 for Chicago, where he was a pastry cook for Henrissis restaurant until his retirement. In company with his nephew, Norman Stormwind, and Norman's wife, he paid a visit to Winnett in October of 1982. He was 86 years old at the time, and stated that the only familiar parts of Winnett that he recognized were the rimrocks and the old Joe Shumate saloon building.

**BOATMAN, C. L.** The Independent Pipe Line Company put Mr. Boatman in charge of gauging and connections in the Cat Creek oil field in 1921.

**BOECKMAN, Frank A.** Frank Boeckman was a partner with J. Otis Mudd in the Enterprise Meat Co. The Boeckman family had three children — Ted, Myrtle and Priscilla. Ted graduated from Winnett High School in 1927 and Myrtle, in 1929. Ted attended Montana State College for two years. After the disastrous fire of 1929 in which the Enterprise Meat Co. was destroyed, the entire Boeckman family moved to Dayton, Ohio, where they again entered the meat business.

Ted married Ruth Holdren in 1936. They had two girls and one boy. Myrtle has held business administration positions and was always interested in music. Their sister, Priscilla, also lived in Dayton.

**BOGGESE, Lyle E.** Lyle was the son of O. E. Boggess of Flatwillow. In March 1921 he was employed at the Midget Grill. He married Metta Corth of Roy. (See also BOGGESE — Flatwillow)

**BOHN, Raymond C.** Raymond C. Bohn was born to A. J. Bohn and Hattie Bohn at Crown Point, Indiana, on May 7, 1904. He came to the Winnett area at the age of seven with his parents, and attended the Pilgrim School until the eighth grade. He worked on the Bohn ranches all his life. (See also BOHN — Petrolia)

Hulda "Tillie" Wadman, who grew up in the Ashley country (see also WADMAN — Ashley), was working in a restaurant in Winnett in 1934. She and Ray Bohn were married on September 29, 1934, in Billings. They were married by a Lutheran minister who served in the old folks' home in Billings, as that was the only Lutheran minister they could find. They lived in Winnett in what was known as the Dan Sommerfield house of Block 22 on Moulton Avenue. Ray did trucking during the 1930s, and Tillie continued to work in a restaurant, where she earned \$20 a month and two meals a day.

Ray and Tillie later lived in a house close to the ball diamond, and still later bought the house at 109 South Moulton Avenue. Ray continued to truck and also worked

for his father, Al, and his uncle, Charles, of the Petrolia area.

In 1942 Ray went into the sheep business with Ernest Hansen. The Bohns lived at different sheep camps and Tillie did the cooking for lambing and shearing crews. She also milked a cow to furnish milk for 37 bum lambs and her two little boys, Rex and Jimmy. Because of the partnership agreement, she lost the money from sale of her lambs, as she had to make up for the lamb losses that occurred during a terrible spring blizzard.

In 1945 Ray's uncle Charles passed away and left a share of the ranch, including the Petrolia residence, to Ray; so Ray, Tillie, and family moved to the Charles Bohn Ranch.

After moving back to Winnett in 1958, Ray commuted to the ranch until his health failed. After much suffering with cancer, he passed away in 1978. Ray was one of the Petrolia community men who had worked to get the Petrolia Dam construction under way. He was a member of the Winnett school board when the new Winnett High School was built. He also served on the SCS board. He was a member of Eagles Lodge #374 of Lewistown.

Tillie and Ray had three sons — Rex, Jimmy and Jerry. Rex married "Josie" Johnson, and they live on the Charles Bohn Ranch. Jimmy was killed in an automobile accident on December 23, 1959. The scoreboard in the high school gymnasium was given by the Bohn family as a memorial to Jimmy. Each year the Jim Bohn Athletic Award is presented to an outstanding athlete of the school. Jerry married Paula Sinclair and they live near McDonald Creek on the former Al Bohn Ranch.

Tillie continues to live in her home at 109 South Moulton Avenue in Winnett. She keeps herself busy helping others, and is an active 50-year member of the Winnett Methodist Church. She is an expert at arranging receptions and other such social events that require her special "touch of class." She is a Rebekah and worked with the Theta Rho girls. She was a trustee on the Petroleum County Community Library board from 1979 to 1986. She is a member of the Winnett Senior Citizens.

**BOLDEN, W. S.** Mr. Bolden came from Parkersburg, West Virginia, to take over the active management of the local Parkersburg Rig and Reel Co. in May of 1921.

**BOLES, Earl** Earl Boles was born May 20, 1905, in Coalinga, California. Edna Brooks was born in Laramie, Wyoming, in 1911. Edna and Earl were married and had two children, Gilbert and Gladys Ann. The family came to Winnett in the mid-1940s. Earl was associated with Axel Livingston as a well driller. Edna Boles and Mrs. Axel (Margaret) Livingston were sisters.

In 1946 Edna was appointed clerk of the board of Petroleum County commissioners, and in October of that same year the Boles family moved into the original Rasmussen house at 10 South Ashley Avenue. In August of 1949 Earl sold his interest in the drilling company to Axel Livingston. The Boles family moved to Sandpoint, Idaho, where they purchased acreage near the city and

built a modern motel. Edna died April 3, 1964, at Sandpoint. Earl married Lottie Rose in May 1970. Earl died in June 1970.

**BOLTON, William** (See McFARLAND, JOHN — Winnett)

**BONINE, John** The Bonine family moved from their Dovetail homestead in 1920, and John established the Rimrock Dray in Winnett. "John is Still Hauling" read the logo of his ad in the *Winnett Times* of 1921. John and Jessie were the parents of a son, Glen Stanley, according to a 1924 school census. (See also BONINE — Dovetail)

**BOOTH, Edwin C.** Edwin Booth, son of the early-day lawyer, Edwin S. Booth, was born February 7, 1907, in Butte, Montana. His family moved to Comanche, near Billings, Montana, in 1910. He graduated from the University of Montana Law School and was admitted to the bar in 1929. He married Mary K. Maier, a teacher at Cat Creek, on March 24, 1929, in Cat Creek. They moved to Winnett in the fall of 1930.

In 1931 Edwin was appointed public administrator of Petroleum County and so served for two years. He was elected Petroleum County Attorney and served for two years — 1932 and 1933.

Booths became parents of a daughter born in December of 1933. Mr. Booth died in Helena June 3, 1976. He was survived by two daughters and his wife, Mary. (See also MAIER — Cat Creek)

**BOWEN, Dorothy** Dorothy Bowen was born in Akron, Ohio, November 19, 1877. She came to Montana in 1908. She first settled near Lewistown, but in 1913 homesteaded in what is now Petroleum County. (See also BOWEN — Musselshell River). Dorothy taught in the Winnett Elementary School in 1918 and was School District Clerk in 1921.

In 1926 Dorothy operated a beauty parlor on Main Street. In 1927 she managed the Grassrange Theater and became advance agent for the Ellison-White Chautauqua Co. January 1929 found her purchasing the stock and business, and leasing the building of the Love Bird Cafe from Mable Towne. In September the business burned. In December of the same year, Dorothy leased the Savoy Hotel and re-opened it as a modern hotel with a dining room in connection.

When Dorothy was planning to re-open the Savoy, the *Winnett Times* of 12-27-29 stated: "Some of the old timers will perhaps recall the original opening of the Savoy. It was one of the grandest parties ever staged in Winnett. The bar was the longest, the glasses were the shiniest, and the liquor the best served this side of Butte, Montana. This was in the early boom days when Volsteadism (Ed. "prohibition") was not taken seriously and all were bent on fittingly initiating the new hotel. When the Savoy is re-opened under the new management, it will be the ambition of Miss Bowen to make it one of the popular hotels in Central Montana." This business was closed in April of 1931.