

AARCHUS, John (Sec 34-19-27) John Aarchus was an early homesteader in the Dovetail area. He married Altha Payne, daughter of Guy and Mamie Payne. His land is now owned by Lee Iverson.

ALLEN, Conrad I. (Sec 24-18-25) Conrad I. Allen homesteaded four miles west and one mile south of Valentine. Mr. Allen was a bachelor who moved to Washington after he proved up on his land.

ARNEY, Edward Edward Arney was a bachelor who lived on Sage Creek about six miles southwest of Valentine. In the fall of the year, he ran a threshing rig to thresh for the neighbors around him.

ATKINSON, George F. (Sec 28-18-26) George Atkinson lived near Edward Arney on Sage Creek.

BARNETT, Harry A. (Sec 3-17-26) Harry A. Barnett was born in 1880 at Greene, Iowa. Grace E. Gallagher was born in 1895 at Leavenworth, Kansas. Harry and Grace were married in 1916 in Lewistown, and came to the Valentine area where they took up a homestead.

Harry supplemented their farm income at different times by hauling freight with team and wagon.

Harry and Grace had three sons — Edwin, Austin and LeRoy. The boys went to school at the Long School and all graduated from Winnett High School.

Harry acquired several adjoining homesteads as the neighbors left the area. Grace died in 1936. Harry married Amelia Luebke Kelley in 1945. He died in 1949. Both Grace and Harry are buried at the Winnett Cemetery. At Harry's death, the three sons inherited the place, then formed a partnership to run it.

Edwin Barnett married Lola Mae Appel in 1950 and



Harry and Grace Barnett with Edwin

they lived at the homestead. In 1963 Ed and Roy bought out Austin's share in the partnership, and in 1967 Edwin sold his share to Roy and retired to Lewistown. Edwin and Mae are both buried at the Sunset Memorial Gardens near Lewistown.

Austin Barnett was a medic in Germany during World War II. He married Carol Tull and they have four children — Ronnie, Wanda, Lester and Lonnie. They are now (1988) living at Kalispell.

LeRoy Barnett was in field artillery in Germany through the Korean War. He married Nikki Brading and they have four children — Tom, Laura, Ted and Harry. In 1967 LeRoy bought out Edwin's share of the partnership so he had full ownership of the ranch. He and Nikki retired, leased the ranch, and are now living in Winnett. (LeRoy Barnett)

BEAN, Benning M. (Sec 28-18-26) Bennington M. Bean was a skilled carpenter from Vermont. Mr. Bean met and married his wife, Mary E., who was from Boston, Massachusetts. The Beans were early settlers in the Grassrange area. (See also BEAN — Teigen) Mr. Bean was a sheepman as well as a U. S. Commissioner.

Bean's ranch house was long, made of huge logs, whitewashed, and had red trimmed windows and doors. There was one building just to store groceries and it was well stocked. There was a large bunkhouse for the men and a blacksmith shop.

Ben built a large windmill of wood and had rigged it to saw large logs into firewood. It worked very well. Bernard Lewis remembers seeing it in operation many times.

In the dining room, Mrs. Bean had a pigeonhole case for the few mail patrons. The dining room table was always set with at least fifteen places, as the Bean Ranch ran many sheep at that time, and had a big crew of men working there. One of Mrs. Bean's hired helpers was Elsa Murphy, who later married Harry McLaughlin and lived west of Valentine on the north Roy-Valentine road.

Mrs. Bean told young Bernard Lewis in 1912 how she started the post office at Valentine. Bernard quotes her as saying, "Bernard, you remember what I tell you, always. This is how I started the post office. I was a young woman and could ride sidesaddle with the best of women. I had a horse named Cody and he could run with the best of horses.

"We had settled here on Blood Creek at 'Blood Creek Crossing' on the old freight road from Musselshell's steamboat landing which took off goods bound for the gold fields in southwestern Montana after gold was discovered in the 1860s. I would pick up the mail at Edgewater, some fifteen or so miles south and bring it back here for the neighbors. The government required a time like that before they would let a contract with government pay. I did this free for several years. The government finally asked me what name I wanted to call my post office. I thought, 'I'll name it Valentine, since the Valentine Springs are only a little way north in the pine



Mrs. Ben Bean, Mrs. E. Sanford and Mrs. Sandy Williamson

hills on the old freight road where teamsters camped and watered their stock in the freight days.' I understand the Valentine Springs were discovered by explorers years ago on Valentine's Day but the date has been forgotten."

Mr. Bean died in the early 1930s in Rochester, Minnesota, and Mrs. Bean returned to Boston, her old home, and spent the rest of her life there.

BERG, Gurin K. (Sec 13,14-18-27) Gurin Berg was born October 21, 1888, at Etne, Norway. Helen Josephine Bergoust was born June 29, 1898, at La Crosse, Wisconsin. They were married November 18, 1917. In about 1917 they moved to Dovetail and took up a homestead. They left the homestead in 1921 and returned to Lewistown. Gurin worked in the Lewistown area until 1929 when the family moved to a ranch in the foothills of the Snowy Mountains. They ranched there until 1958 when he retired and they moved to Lewistown.

Bergs had eight children — Bernice E. (July 17, 1919), Jean B. (Ruzicka) (September 23, 1921), Donald Ole (July 26, 1923) Robert Gurin (June 9, 1925), Curtis Albert (March 14, 1927), Richard Charles (October 7, 1930), Rosemary (Pospisil) (March 15, 1933) and Carol Ann (Sanford) (June 15, 1942).

Mrs. Berg died November 5, 1959, and Mr. Berg died November 18, 1975. They are both buried in the Lewistown Cemetery. (Jean Ruzicka, daughter)

BERG, John (Sec 11-18-27) John Berg was born in Vada, Norway, on November 3, 1884. He came to the United States in 1905 and worked for Ben Hill, Swend Holland and Mons Teigen. In 1914 he took up a homestead near Dovetail. In 1918 he moved back to the Lewistown area. He married Sigrid Hill after the death of her husband, Bill Hill, in 1920. They had one daughter, Eileen, who lives in Lewistown. His homestead is now part of Robert Weingart's ranch. (*Heritage Book of Original Fergus County Area*)

BEVIS, Harlan M. "Harlan M. Bevis, originally from Indiana, and Adeline Summers, originally from Wyoming, were married in Washington.

"In 1913 my dad came from Washington to the Valentine area to visit friends to check on 'Free Land for Homesteaders' and to see if he wanted to get some of the land. He liked what he saw and filed on a homestead about 4½ miles northwest of Valentine. The next year we all moved to the homestead — my parents and five kids. We came by train to Roy and then by team and wagon to Valentine. We only brought our baggage, no furniture, no machinery, no livestock. Later the folks ordered some things they needed and we would go to Roy to haul them home.

"I can still remember that 12' by 16' cabin sitting in grass about three feet tall. It was a tar paper shack with a box-car roof. By tar paper, I mean the cabin was constructed of boards, covered on the outside by tar paper that was kept on by lath. The best that could be said was that the tar paper did hold out the wind, but the cold came right on through. Later we added another room built the same way.

"Many a time, I woke up in the morning and the bed clothes would be frozen to the wall. Your breath would condense and freeze against the boards. Of course there were enough of us kids that I usually slept with the brothers and on the outside of the bed.

"We used to burn wood for heat, and those cold winter days sure took a lot of wood to keep any warmth in the house.

"There were six of us kids — James (1903), Lester (1907), Charles (1909), Oscar (1913), John (1915), and Mona (1918)." (Lester Bevis)

BEVIS, Lester Lester Bevis, son of Harlan and Adeline Bevis, and Dorothy Messenger, daughter of Frank and Delia Messenger, were married in 1925.

They lived on the Johnson place, near Ray Marr, when they were first married. Later they moved back to the homestead near Valentine, and then to a place about ¾ mile from Valentine when their children began to reach school age. The children walked to school most of the time as they were so close.

The following was submitted by Lester Bevis: "When we were living on the Johnson place, I was hauling building supplies from Winnett for the hall they were building at Valentine. When I got back to Valentine, my brother told me that I had been hailed out. I lost a beautiful field of rye, all the grass, and the roof was torn up. The hail didn't hit anyone else, but it sure wiped me out. Since I didn't have any hay to cut or grain to harvest, the neighbors, who had promised to work on the hall, hired me to work in their place while they got their harvest taken care of. I spent the rest of the summer and fall working on the hall.

"I always did a lot of hauling for the neighbors, first with teams and wagon, later with a Model T truck, and, as I could afford it, with later bigger models of Ford trucks. I

liked cars and trucks, and guess I sort of grew up with them, and learned how to keep them running. I still like 'mechanicking,' and do quite a bit of it.

"One time Dorothy and I decided to go to a dance over at Little Crooked Creek. We started out about dark, and as we started down into Antelope Creek, a thing loosened up on the tie rod and turned over, which reversed the direction of the steering wheel so that I was steering left and going right, so of course we ended up stuck. A guy came along on a horse. He tied a rope from the car to the horse and pulled the car out. We went slowly on to the dance.

"In the morning, just about daybreak, we started for home. There was a big old pitch post sitting out on the flat all alone, and darned if that jigger didn't slip again and we ran smack into that post! Dorothy was so mad she threatened to get out and walk home, but I finally fixed that problem. I slid the jigger back where it belonged, found a piece of pipe that I fastened below it so it couldn't slip again, and we went on home.

"One time we decided to go to a dance at Dovetail and it was muddy. The car didn't have any lights so we hung a lantern on the front and took off. We would get stuck on those sharp little hills, and then would have to get out and push.

"By the time we got to Dovetail we were mud from head to toe. We had a great time at the dance, but going home the lantern fell off and we ran over it. I could tell you lots of stories about the trials and troubles with cars or trucks, as I think I lived through a lot of them.

"We moved to Cat Creek in 1941, and took over the Cat Creek to Winnett mail route. We carried the mail for over thirty years. I set up a repair and welding shop at Cat Creek and repaired machinery and tractors and all manner of things for many years.



Dorothy "Dot" and Lester "Les" Bevis — 60th Wedding Anniversary in 1985

"I was County Commissioner from 1966 to 1978, and was an instigator to get a bridge across Flatwillow Creek at the mouth so that people could travel up river without wondering if they could cross Flatwillow. They might have to worry about the mud, but they now can cross the creek, if they can get to it."

Dorothy and Lester had six children: Marian, who married Forrest Tindall, now lives in Las Vegas; Joe, who married Mary Lou Coffey, and they now live at Bowman, North Dakota; Earl, who married Leila Moir and lives in Lewistown; Burt, who married Judy Ziesmer and lives in Winnett (See also BEVIS, Burt — Winnett); Harry, who married Betty Darden, died of cancer, wife Betty still lives in Winnett (See also BEVIS, Harry — Winnett) and Helen, who married Arvon Fielding and lives at Kalispell, Montana.

When they decided to retire, Lester and Dorothy moved into Winnett in about 1982. They were getting to the "bragging age" and had enjoyed good health most of the time. Les died in 1989. (See also BEVIS — Cat Creek)

BEVIS, Walter (Sec 20-18-26) Walter and Stella Bevis and family came to the Valentine area from Washington in about 1915. They had six children — Paul (1900), Esther (1902), Francis (1904), Fern (1905), Della (1906), and Gladys (1916). When they left Valentine, they returned to Washington.

BONINE, John (Sec 20-19-28) Mr. and Mrs. John Bonine homesteaded in the Dovetail area. In 1920 they moved to Winnett where John set up a dray business.

BROWN, John T. (Sec 3-18-27) John T. Brown (February 4, 1887, in Idaho) and Freda Carolyn Berg (August 8, 1887 at Salmon River, Idaho) were married in 1916. They moved to Dovetail in 1916 and farmed there until 1936 when the government bought the farm. They had two children, Margaret and Billy. Margaret went to school at Dovetail through the eighth grade, then graduated from Winnett High School in 1936. Billy attended the Dovetail School for seven years, at which time the family moved to Colville, Washington. (Margaret Brown Berg, daughter)



Ladies afternoon out! In front of John Brown's house — Mrs. Charley Myers, Mrs. Guy Payne, Mrs. Gotzinger, Hattie Hogan, Mrs. Ray Marr, Mrs. John Brown, Grandmother Brown, Mrs. Tom Iverson. Children: Beth Myers, Harry Myers, Margaret Brown

BUSBY, William J. (Sec 32-18-25) William J. Busby and wife, Mary, moved from Valdez, Alaska, to Auburn, Washington, then moved to the Valentine area to homestead in 1912.

They had seven children: Elizabeth (1902), William (1904), Amelia (1906), Arthur (1908), Cecil (1910), Raymond (1912) and Wayne (1920). (School Census in 1915 for District #122, Fergus County) William moved to the Brush Creek area in 1926. (See also BUSBY — Brush Creek and Winnett)

Amelia "Amy" married Robert Covert in 1927. Elizabeth "Bessie" married Frank Sheldon. They lived in Winnett and Cat Creek before moving to Spokane, Washington. William C. married Katherine Donkellar in Washington. (W. T. March 1930) "Arthur Busby and Miss Cora Nordahl were married in Lewistown. The bride is the popular and talented teacher of the Mitchell School in east Cat Creek, and the groom is a popular local youth who attended the Winnett High School a few years ago."

BUSENBARK, Albert Merlin (Sec 29-18-26) Merlin Busenbark was born in 1911, at Collinston, Utah, to Albert and Mary Busenbark. Ruthelma Adams was born in 1921, at Sun City, Kansas. Merlin and Ruthelma were married in 1939.

They moved from Halfway, Wyoming, to the Bohemian Corners in 1947. Later they bought the Trimble place at Valentine and have lived there for many years. Merlin and Ruth have five children: Merl Lee (1941) served in the Army in 1959 in Germany. He married Gladys Carrell and they live at the ranch. (See BUSENBARK, Merl) Samuel Alfred (1945) served in 1964 in Germany, in Korea and in Vietnam. He married Judy Habutzel. They have two children, Joshua and Bree, and live in Billings. Robert Richard (1949) served in the Army in 1967 in Vietnam. He married Pat Shatzer. They have one child, Sara Ann. He is the sheriff of Petroleum County (1989). Julia Rae (1962) married Larry Van Dyke. They have one child, Charisse, and live in Bozeman. Linda Nan (1964) married Justin Brennan, and they live in Circle, Montana.

The last few years Merlin and Ruth have spent the winters in Arizona and enjoyed living on the ranch the rest of the year, until their house burned in December of 1988. They began building a new house in Lewistown, Montana, in the summer of 1989. (Merlin and Ruth Busenbark)

BUSENBARK, Merl Lee (Sec 6-17-26) Merl Lee Busenbark, son of Merlin and Ruthelma Busenbark, was born in 1941 at Garland, Utah. He came with his parents to the Bohemian Corners in 1947. In 1949 his father bought the Bill Trimble Ranch in the Valentine area, so they moved to the new home. Merl attended the Bohemian School for one year, then finished the grades at the Long School. He graduated from Fergus County High School at Lewistown.

Merl joined the Army and served in Germany during the Korean War. After he returned from the service in 1962, he married Gladys Carrell (1945), daughter of

Ambrose and Annette Carrell.

After working on several different places, the young couple returned to the home ranch in 1970 to help Merl's parents and now they manage the place for them.

Merl and Gladys have one son, Ben Merl. Ben attended school at Winnett, graduating from high school in 1986. He went on to Vo-Tech at Helena, and now has his own agricultural equipment repair business, based at the home ranch. (Gladys Busenbark)

BYHOLT, Arthur (Sec 35-19-27) Arthur Byholt returned to the East after he had proved up on his homestead. He continued to own this land and his brother's land until his death, when Lee Iverson purchased it from his heirs. Arthur never married.

BYHOLT, Sam (Sec 34-19-27) Sam Byholt proved up on his homestead. He joined the group of young men who left Dovetail to join the service in World War I. He was killed in action in France. He willed his homestead to his brother Arthur.

CARRELL, Charles (Sec 13-18-27) Charles and Stella Carrell and family came to Dovetail in 1915 and homesteaded on Dovetail Creek just south of the post office. They were joined the next year by Charles' parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Carrell, and Charles' brother, John A. Carrell and his family.

The Carrells had a large family — James (1910), William (1912), Lawrence (1914), Rosella M. (1916), Charles E. (1918), Margaret (1920), Robert (1923), Della (1925) and Dorothy (1927).

When oil was discovered in Cat Creek the family moved to the Brown lease on the Musselshell River. (See also CARRELL — Cat Creek)

CARRELL, John Ambrose (Sec 13,14-18-27) John Ambrose Carrell, the son of William and Mary Carrell, was born May 29, 1880, in South Carolina. Minerva Ellen Rowden was born January 12, 1892, in Osage County, Oklahoma. Ambrose and Ellen were married February 12, 1910, at Hominy, Oklahoma.

In 1916 the couple came to Roy, Montana, in an immigrant train and to Dovetail by team and wagon (See also CARRELL-GARRISON TRIP TO DOVETAIL). They lived in a one-room log cabin until 1921, when they moved to the Cat Creek oil field where John Ambrose worked until 1930. They returned to the ranch at Dovetail until they moved to Winnett in 1938. Farming had been Ambrose's principal occupation.

Ambrose and Ellen had seven children: Charles (Amby), Doris, George, Altha, Archie, Harold and Leta.

Charles Ambrose (Amby) married Annette Rostad.

Doris died of burns in a fire and is buried at Winnett.

George married Virginia Huffman.

Altha married Ralph McKnire. They lived at Thermopolis, Wyoming, and have three children — Eddie, Myrna and Marilyn. Ralph is deceased and buried at Thermopolis.

Archie died at age 20 and is buried at Winnett.

Harold married Hazel Yount and lives at Casper, Wyoming. They have two children, Pamela and Tammy.

Leta married Elwood Ihde and lives at Worland, Wyoming. They have three children — Daryl, Dennis and Regina. (Altha Carrell McKnire) (See also CARRELL — Cat Creek and Winnett)

CARRELL, Theodore (Sec 19, 31-18-28) Theo Carrell was born in February 1870. Lillian Garrison was born January 15, 1870, in Burke County, North Carolina. Theo and Lillian were married in 1912. They came to Montana in 1916 in an immigrant train to Roy as part of the Carrell — Garrison colony. (See also CARRELL-GARRISON TRIP)

"Uncle" Theo Carrell was the sage of the community. He was a great nature student, gardener, and very successful in trailing and trapping predatory animals. One time he trapped a lynx cat that netted him \$20.00; \$10.00 for the pelt and \$10.00 for preparation of the pelt as premium from the fur house. (Ida Rigg — W. T. 3-6-42)

"Aunty" Lillian Carrell was a midwife and available to anyone who needed her help. Theo and Lillian had no children. After Theo died in 1934 and Mrs. Edgar Garrison died in 1935, she moved in with her brother, Edgar Garrison, to help care for the nine motherless children. She died December 12, 1946, and she and Theo are both buried at Winnett.

Carrell — Garrison Trip to Dovetail

Ida Rigg related the following story in an article in the Winnett Times 3-6-1942) "Mrs. Lillian Carrell and Mrs. Ambrose Carrell tell some interesting bits of their experiences in emigrating from the South to Dovetail, Montana, that makes one think of the covered wagon days and the Indians.

"Those that came to Roy by train in one colony awaiting to be transported to their new homes in Dovetail were: Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Carrell; Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose Carrell and two children; Mr. and Mrs. William G. Carrell (father and mother of Ambrose and Theodore); Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Garrison and two children and Grandma Senora Garrison; Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Whisonant and eight children; and Mr. and Mrs. Guy Fox and one child — in all 26 persons.

"Charley Carrell, one of the brothers of Ambrose Carrell, who had come to Montana the year before, met this company at Roy with team and wagon. It being in the early spring and the horses having foraged all winter, the team was weak and not able to travel very fast. One wagon was hardly adequate to accommodate so many. The older persons and small children rode in the wagon, and those who were younger and stronger walked. They walked almost as fast as the horses, and sometimes even preceded the team, and then would rest and wait for the team to catch up, and change about with those who rode in the wagon.

"Lillian and Ellen walked most all the way from Roy to Dovetail, some 40 miles. It took three days to make the trip from Roy to Dovetail in the manner described, and some of them, Lillian and Ellen included, slept on the

ground. It was early March and frost was still in the ground.

"On August 17, 1916, at Dovetail, in an improvised bed out of doors with a tarp canopy, a boy was born to Ambrose Carrell and his wife Ellen. The boy was named William George. On August 19th, two days later, (Grandpa) William G. Carrell, 'old and full of days,' passed away and was laid to rest on the plain where there was as yet no graveyard . . .

"It would take a more versatile pen than mine to do justice to some of the characters that traversed the Dovetail valley a quarter of a century ago. Among the unforgettable characters were Grandmas Garrison and Carrell (you seldom saw either of them without having a baby in arms). Grandmother Carrell counted the days of sunshine as against those that were overcast, and once said to me "this country is hard to beat for sunshine." Grandmother Garrison could stop bleeding of man and beast by reciting a verse out of the Bible by heart, and I never heard of anyone that she didn't cure. When the babies were asleep and the day's chores done, these two grandmothers would beguile the hours by playing Seven Up."

CASTEEL, Archie (Sec 4-17-25) Archie Casteel lived near Sage Creek, about five miles southwest of Valentine. He and his wife had three sons, George, Roy and Harry.

(W. T. 2-15-24) "'Dad' Casteel, from the Valentine country, was in Winnett Tuesday evening with a load of fat hogs which he disposed of to the Enterprise Meat Company. When asked as to the condition of the roads, Dad stated that there were no roads, and that he encountered difficulty in making the trip."

"Dad Casteel will be remembered by many Winnett men as one of the staunch supporters of county division in the North country, and also one of the sections' most successful farmers."

CLARK, Clairmont Clairmont Clark, son of Clifford and Maude Clark, attended the Sage Creek School and then graduated from the Winnett High School in 1928. In 1933 he married Alzora Prewitt, born in 1909 to Alfred W. and Alzora Prewitt in Great Falls, Montana.

Alzora was the teacher at the Dovetail School. She reflects, "He always says he was just a green and gawky country boy when he met me, but that wasn't true. I think



Clairmont and Alzora Clark

he had gone with every available girl in the area!"

Clairmont and Alzora started their married life at the Sanford place in Dovetail and lived there several years before returning to the Valentine area. In 1950 they left the ranching business and bought a small grocery store in Roy.

They have two sons — Robert Wayne (1937), who now lives in Missoula; and Gerald Roy (1945), who now lives in Miles City.

In 1953 Clairmont and Alzora moved to Missoula so the boys could attend college there, and have remained in Missoula. (Clairmont Clark)

CLARK, Clifford G. (Sec 20.21-18-25) Clifford G. Clark was born in 1881. Maude Perkins was born in 1883, both in Goodland, Indiana. Clifford and Maude were married in 1903.



Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Clark — 50th Wedding Anniversary

In 1913 Clifford and Maude, with their two children, came west and homesteaded southwest of Valentine on the old Roy-Valentine road. Maude taught school at Sage Creek, District #122, for several years, and Clifford was a Petroleum County Commissioner in the 1930s. They lived on their ranch of 2400 acres for forty years. Clifford and Maude had two children born in Goodland, Indiana — Thelma (1906) and Clairmont (1909).

Clifford and Maude left the Valentine area in 1951 and moved to Roy. In 1961 they moved to Missoula to be near their son, Clairmont and family. Daughter Thelma Clark Caulkins now lives in Alaska.

Clifford Clark died in 1968 and Maude Clark died in 1977. They are both buried in the Lewistown City Cemetery. (Clairmont Clark)

COFFEY, Albert G. (Sec 6-18-28) The following was taken from letters and articles written by Marguerite Coffey Cook, daughter.

Albert Coffey was born January 7, 1884, in Kentucky. Lois Garrison was born March 2, 1891, in North Carolina. They were married June 20, 1911, at Pawhuska, Oklahoma. In March 1917 or 1918 with their two small daughters, they loaded their possessions in an immigrant

car and headed toward Dovetail. "It's a homesteaders paradise," wrote the Garrisons and Carrells, who had ventured forth a year or so earlier. They said, "Spring is here and we are plowing in February."

The train took them to Roy, Montana. At Roy they were met by a typical Montana blizzard, still forty miles from home, and the plow was buried in a snow drift.

A Mrs. George had relinquished her 160 acres after she had built a frame house, not finished inside but liveable. Mr. Coffey took over the place, and this was to be the Coffey home for many years. The Davis Spring was to the north of them. That was where they got their drinking water, along with many of the homesteaders from a large area around the spring.

The house was enlarged by a log house addition later. Marguerite wrote, "I remember getting the house ready for winter. We were not energy conscious, just 'try and keep warm conscious,' although I'm sure it saved on the woodpile to some extent. The first task was to daub the chinks and cracks between the logs. Some people used mud for this, but my dad always bought a sack of cement for daubing, because cement withstood rain and snow better, and was also harder for mice to work out or dig around.

On a warm fall day, he would mix cement, sand and water to make a stiff thick mixture. Using a trowel, he filled every crack full, smoothing it off even with the logs. He worked cement carefully in and around the window and door casings. It dried to a hard, durable, windproof finish. Then he hauled several wagon loads of dirt and banked up the house all the way around. Covered with a heavy waterproofed brown paper, the screen doors became storm doors. The outside of the house finished, the men and boys turned their attention to cutting and hauling a mountain of firewood for the stoves.

Meanwhile the ladies were busy on the inside. They cut strips of discarded overalls to tack along the window



Mr. and Mrs. Albert Coffey



Watermelon time at Coffeys. Front row: Arnold Olson, Twila Coffey, Joe Coffey. Back row: Marguerite Coffey, Guri Ann Iverson, and Alberta Coffey

edge, with a roll between where the windows met. Having no money to buy wall paper, we used brightly colored pages from catalogs and magazines to paste on the inside walls to keep the cold winds from blowing in. The brightly colored pages not only made the rooms bright and cheery, but warmed the cockles of our hearts over and over as we read tidbits here and there."

Martin Rigg had the post office at his place which was near Coffeys. Around 1921 Mrs. Rigg's health was failing, so they had decided to close their little store and have the post office transferred to the Coffey home. Mrs. Coffey was appointed postmaster and the post office remained at the Coffey home until it was closed in 1945.

Coffeys had eight children — Marguerite (1914), Alberta (1916), Joe (1920), Twila (1921), Dale (1923), Madeline (1925), Robert (1927) and Mary Lou (1929).

Mrs. Lois Coffey died in November 1929, about two weeks after Mary Lou was born. Albert Coffey died in 1967. Both are buried in the Winnett Cemetery. Marguerite "Deat" married Vern Cook. (See also COOK)

Alberta "Corky" married Stanley Ziesmer. Alberta later lived in Winnett (See also ZIESMER — Winnett). Joe married Margaret Livingston. They live at Harrison, Montana. (See also COFFEY — Winnett) Dale died in 1940 and is buried at the Winnett Cemetery. Madalene died in 1926 and is buried at the homestead.

Robert married Winnie Hill. They still live at Winnett. (See also COFFEY — Winnett) Twila married James McCue and they have four children. (See also McCUE — Winnett) Mary Lou married Joseph Bevis and they have four children — Nancy Kay (11-9-50), Stephen Dale (4-17-53), Lester John (7-14-58), and Karen Dorothy (6-20-65). They live at Bowman, North Dakota.

COLD, Elmer (Sec 14-19-27) Elmer and Alice Cold and three children — Dan, Richard and Nancy — came from Ainsworth, Nebraska, to live and work on the Jim Jackson Ranch at Dovetail in April 1952. Jim Jackson was Alice's

uncle. In November 1957 they moved to Lewistown where they still live. They had three more children after they moved to Lewistown — Shonnie, Trent and Keith. (Elmer Cold)

COLE, Lee Lee and Maude Cole had two children — Vernon (1903) and Marie (1907) — according to the school census of 1915 for District #122 in Fergus County.

COLLIER, B. M. B. M. Collier lived about four miles west of Valentine. He was a chiropractor before homesteading at Valentine.

COLLIER, Fred "Fred Collier, well-known resident of the Valentine country, who was brought to Lewistown for medical attention, died yesterday. Death was caused by complications developing from pneumonia. Mr. Collier was about 67 years of age. He is survived by a son residing at Casper, Wyoming; a son in Arkansas; and a daughter."

CONOLLY, John S. (Sec 27-19-27) John S. "Sam" Conolly was born July 27, 1891, at Elk Point, South Dakota. Zell Doughty was born June 4, 1899. Sam and Zell were married May 23, 1913, at Pierre, South Dakota. Zell was teaching at Pierre when she met Sam. They had a son, Franklin, who died at three months old.

"They moved to Idaho where Zell got a job teaching, then on to another school in Wyoming, where Donald was born. He was a tiny baby (weighed less than two pounds), so Zell spent several weeks in bed with him to keep him warm. This was long before the advent of incubators. The baby gained strength and grew so they no longer feared they would lose him.

Conollys came to the Dovetail area in 1916 with Zell's parents, the Wallace L. Doughtys. Zell continued teaching in the local schools, and Mrs. Doughty took care of the Conolly children until they were old enough to go to school. Zell taught at the Dovetail School, the Carrell School and the Conolly School.



Sam and Zell Conolly

At least for one year, she taught four months at the Carrell school and four months at the Conolly school, so that she would be able to offer the chance of school to more children of the area. Getting to the schools could be a problem for the teachers. Zell went on skis, horseback, or with a buggy, depending on the weather. She taught school for 25 years before retiring.

They were good neighbors and always willing to help out their neighbors. Later Sam had a truck and did quite a bit of trucking to help bring in more cash for the family. He also ran the mail route from Valentine to Dovetail at first, then added the route from Valentine to Roy. These routes were run by the Conollys for over 30 years.

There were three more children born to Sam and Zell — Theron, Wayne and Edna Margaret. Zell's mother delivered the babies. Edna died at birth and is buried at the homestead.

Donald, Theron and Wayne went to school at the schools their mother taught. Donald and Theron graduated from the Lewistown High School. Wayne started high school at Winnett, but died of spinal meningitis during his freshman year. He is buried at Winnett.

In about 1929 Conollys sold their homestead on Dovetail, bought up some land, including the old townsite, at Valentine and moved up there. Zell was appointed postmaster, and Sam continued to haul the mail from Roy.

After Don's death in a car accident in 1961, Conollys left Valentine and moved to Winnett. Their health deteriorated and they moved to the Valley Vista in Lewistown in April 1966. Sam died November 2, 1966, and Zell died December 9, 1966. They are both buried at Winnett.

Don Conolly was born October 9, 1915, at Teton, Wyoming. He worked with his father on the ranch. He was a World War II veteran and returned to the ranch when discharged. He married June Marinoff (born July 15, 1930) on July 23, 1948. They lived in one of the houses on



Don and June Conolly

the old town site of Valentine. Don died January 10, 1961, from a car accident.

They had three children — Vern, Gail and Arlee — who all live in Lewistown.

Theron joined the Navy after graduation. He was a retired lieutenant commander in the U. S. Navy and had served in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. He held six commands at sea and two on shore during his 23 years in the Navy. He had been awarded 13 medals and decorations, including the Legion of Merit and the Secretary of the Navy Commendation medal. He had one son, John. Theron died of a heart attack at a Navy base hospital in Elkton, Maryland." (June Conolly)

COOK, A. D. (Sec 21-18-25) A. D. Cook and wife came from Washington and homesteaded near Valentine. They had one son, William F. Cook. William was killed at Pearl Harbor. (Clairmont Clark)

COOK, Clifford (Sec 33-18-28) Guri Ann Iverson Cook submitted the following: "I, Guri Ann, was born January 9, 1914, to Tom and Annette Iverson of the Dovetail area. I grew up on the ranch on Dovetail Creek. I always liked the outdoors and was happiest when I could help my father with some task.

"One of my fond memories, while growing up, was when my mother and I went in our 'one-horse' buggy on sunny afternoons to visit the neighbor ladies of the community. I remember how neat and pretty these matronly ladies were. They wore long dresses that reached to the top of their 'high top' button shoes, crisply starched aprons, with their hair neatly pinned up in a bun on top of their heads. I also remember what a chore it was to iron those aprons and finish without any wrinkles.

"My first year of school I rode horseback with my brothers, Andrew and Isaac. When I was in the fourth grade, a schoolhouse was moved to the present location of the Dovetail School which made it very easy for me to get to school. Helen Wagar Iverson was my eighth grade teacher.

"I attended Fergus County High School. I had to leave home to stay to go to school at this big school when I was used to going to a school with only 15 students. It was a BIG change!

"I wanted to be a teacher, so after high school I attended Eastern Montana College at Billings. At that time it was a Normal School, with classes scattered in several buildings. While in Billings, I boarded with Delia Cook.

"I taught school two years at the Long School near Valentine.

"I had met Clifford "Bus" Cook when I boarded with his mother, Mrs. Delia Cook. He was born in Corinth, Montana, August 9, 1913, and got his schooling at the Ballantine schools.

"Bus and I were married July 7, 1937, in Billings. Bus had worked on construction for several years. In July of 1938, Bus became partners with my father and my brother, Isaac. This was the beginning of our sheep business. In 1942 we moved the Lars Lund house to our



Bus and Guri Cook

land on the creek about 1½ miles west of the home ranch. This was the first home of our own.

"We continued to raise sheep, some cattle, and did some farming. During this time, I taught the Dovetail School for several years. The coyotes were terrible and really took a toll on our sheep. It didn't matter how close we watched them, the coyotes were always sneaking in and killing the best lambs. It was just more than we could manage, so in 1960 we sold the place to Isaac and purchased the Dunlap Garage in Winnett, which we renamed 'Cliff's Auto Service.' Bus also ran the Conoco Bulk Plant, and drove the Flatwillow school bus for two years.

"We have six children. Ileen married Bob Patrick and they live in Dayton, Washington. Tom married Jean Retterer and lives in Pasco, Washington. Cliff married Judy Retterer and they live in Lewistown, Montana. Anita married Robby Robinson and now lives in Spokane, Washington. Bill is a mechanic at Musselshell Valley Equipment in Roundup. Pat married Jim Ashburn and they live in Sacred Heart, Minnesota. We have eleven grandchildren and thirteen great grandchildren.

"Our children and grandchildren hosted a 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration for us in July 1987. So many relatives and close friends came to help us celebrate that it was a real RED LETTER Day for us.

"There was always plenty of entertainment in Dovetail: dances, baseball, picnics, card parties, school programs, and family gatherings. Sunday school and church services were held at the Dovetail School quite regularly."

COOK, Vern (Sec 6-18-28) Vern Cook, son of Mr. and Mrs. Vance Cook, was born at Sandpoint, Idaho in 1907.

Marguerite Coffey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Coffey, was born in 1914 in Soper, Oklahoma. She moved to the Dovetail area with her parents and attended schools in the Dovetail-Valentine School District.

Vern and Marguerite were married May 22, 1943, in Winnett. They lived in Arizona for six years. They moved

back to the Coffey homestead in 1950, where they farmed until 1964, when they retired. Upon retirement they moved to Lewistown.

Vern had one daughter by a previous marriage, Audrey Vigus, of Butte. Vern and Marguerite had two daughters — Linda (Peterson) of Lewistown and Lois (Carpenter) of Laurel, Montana.

Vern died in December 1978 and Marguerite died in April 1981. They are buried in the Lewistown City Cemetery.

COVERT, E., and COVERT, Robert Mr. and Mrs. E. Covert lived two miles northwest of Valentine. They had three children — Ruth, Nancy and Robert.

Robert Covert married Amy Busby. They lived one mile north of Valentine until they moved to the Bitterroot Valley in 1936. They had four children — Bill, who lives at Corvallis, Montana; Scott, who lives at Hamilton, Montana; Jerry, who lives at Lewiston, Idaho; and Janet, who lives at North Bend, Oregon. Robert died in 1970, and Amy died in 1976. They are buried at Corvallis.

COX, Sam (Sec 1-18-27) Sam Cox, born on Trout Creek, was a son of Samuel and Alice Cox. He was raised in Fergus County and attended schools at Lewistown and Giltedge. He homesteaded in the Dovetail area about 1913. In 1917 he enlisted in the Navy and served for ten years, including World War I. He secured his discharge in 1927 and returned to the Roy area, but never came back to Dovetail. He lived around Roy for several years. In September of 1937 he entered the hospital at Billings, where he died. He is buried in Mountain View Cemetery in Billings. (Obituary, *Lewistown Democrat News*, September 19, 1937)

CTIBOR, John (Sec 5-18-27) Mr. and Mrs. John Ctibor had a daughter, Agnes, born April 19, 1919, according to the District #169 school census for 1920.

DAY, Charles M. (Sec 8, 17-20-27) Charles M. Day was born November 22, 1879, near Beagle Kansas. He left Kansas in 1916 to homestead on the ridge between Crooked Creek and the Missouri River. He married Helena Cormen in 1918. They lived on the homestead for six years and then moved to Hanover, Montana, where he worked for many years. They returned to Kansas after retirement. He died in March of 1956.

DOBNER, Thomas H. (Sec 9, 4-18-27) Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Dobner had two children — Raymond (1908) and Rhea (1909). (District #169 school census for 1917-1918-1919)

Mrs. Dobner and newborn baby died in 1920 from the flu. They are buried in Lewistown.

DOUGHTY, Wallace (Sec 29-19-27) Wallace L. (Vern) Doughty was born July 19, 1866, and married Edna Bell, born June 6, 1870, in Bay City, Wisconsin. Originally from Minnesota, they came from Jackson Hole, Wyoming, to Dovetail in 1916. They were accompanied by John S. and Zell Conolly, their daughter and son-in-law.



Wallace and Edna Doughty with grandson, Donald Conolly

"When they arrived at their homesteads, they pitched a tent to live in until the men could get their cabins built. A high wind came up, blew the tent down and scattered many of their belongings. They dug a cave back into a hillside and lived in the cave until the cabins were ready. They lived at the homestead until 1937 when they moved into Winnett.

Mrs. Doughty died February 26, 1940, and Mr. Doughty died in 1942. They are buried at the Winnett Cemetery. (June Conolly)

DRAKE, Arnold C. Arnold Drake, son of Edith and Arnold Drake, was born in 1893 at Plankton, South Dakota. He received his schooling at Plankton, and attended the University of South Dakota at Vermillion. He served with the supply division of the infantry during World War I. In 1926 he moved to the Valentine area in Montana.

Isadeen Sinclair was the daughter of John and Lola Sinclair. (See also SINCLAIR)

Arnold and Isadeen were married in 1928. They lived at Valentine until 1937 when they moved to the Bitterroot Valley with their five children — Lola (1928), Donald (1929), Delmar (1931), Melvin (1933), and Maxine (1935).

Arnold Drake died in 1953 and is buried in the Hamilton Cemetery at Hamilton, Montana. (Isadeen Sinclair Drake Pewitt)

EGELAND, Christian (Sec 20-19-27) "Chris" Egeland was born in Norway on August 12, 1891. He came from Bergen, Norway to Big Timber, Montana, with his father in 1907. They worked on several sheep ranches near there. He served in the Army during World War I. After his discharge, he filed for his homestead in the Dovetail area.

Essie McAllister was born at Two Dot, Montana, November 30, 1895. Chris and Essie met in Lewistown and were married in 1918. Their only child, Clara, was born January 26, 1920. Chris got the deed to his homestead, November 9, 1920, signed by President Woodrow Wilson. (See also McALLISTER — Winnett)

Chris ran sheep with his brother, Karl, who lived on an

adjoining homestead. Chris and Karl sheared sheep for many of the neighbors when the shearing was done with hand clippers.

When Clara was in the first grade, they wintered the sheep on the Trusty Ranch, so she went to school there along the river. She attended the Dovetail School for grades 2, 3, and 4. Her fifth-grade year was the year of the big drouth when everything was so dry that the winds blew the soil and, in places, covered the fences. The family went to Roy to find grass for the sheep and Clara went to school at Roy that year.

Clara finished grade school at Dovetail, after staying part of the time at Iversons where she was closer to the school. Since the school district paid transportation to the students over three miles from school, she received the transportation money, \$15.00 per month. She paid this money to Mrs. Iverson for her board and room. She attended one year at Winnett High School (1936). Egelands left Dovetail in 1937 and lived at Forbes Leslie Ranch at Staff, at Hobson, at Maiden Canyon, and retired to Lewistown in 1959.

Essie Egeland died in 1972 and Chris died in 1986. They are buried at Lewistown. (Clara Egeland Hill, daughter)

EGELAND, Gustav (Sec 32,33-19-27) Gustav Egeland was born February 14, 1900, in Norway. He arrived in the Dovetail area in 1922 and joined his brothers, Chris and Karl, in the sheep operation.

Maria Indrebo was born December 16, 1899, in Norway. She married Gustav on May 6, 1925. They had two daughters, Katherine (1926) and Gladys (1933).

They lived on the Hervatin place (Sec 4-18-27), just north of the junction of the Valentine road and the road from Winnett. They left the Dovetail area about 1928 and moved to the Forestgrove area. Maria Egeland died in April 1973 and is buried at Lewistown. Gustav still lives at Lewistown. (Katherine Egeland Johnson, daughter)

EGELAND, Karl (Sec 20-19-27) Karl Egeland married Myrtle Woods in Winnett in 1926. Myrtle was a daughter of Pearl McAllister and Johnnie Woods of Winnett. (Pearl and Mrs. Chris (Essie) Egeland were sisters.) Karl and Myrtle had two daughters, Patty and Carlita. Patty went to school one year at Dovetail. The family moved to Lewistown in 1937.

Karl died in 1980 and Myrtle died in 1987. They are buried in Lewistown. (Clara Egeland Hill, niece)

ESTES, John (Sec 14,1-19-27) John and Viola Estes moved to Dovetail in May of 1964 from Springview, Nebraska, where they had lived since their marriage in 1945. They had two daughters — Sandra, who had married just before they came to Montana; and Evelyn, who, with a niece, Amber Smith, came to Dovetail with them.

They moved onto the John L. "Jim" Jackson place, purchasing the ranch after Jim's death. The ranch included the homesteads of three uncles — John L., Carl and Dennis Jackson. They had homesteaded in 1913.

John and Viola enjoyed their years at Dovetail raising