



Andy Sharkey family: Luann, Susan, Harold and Andy

the table was cleared, out came the scrub bucket, with soap and lye in the water and the scrub brush. On hands and knees the hardwood floor in the kitchen got scrubbed white. The stove got a good Bon Ami shine.

"Andy got a job on a gravel crusher, and Dorothy and I got jobs in Winnett. I got a restaurant job, and Dorothy worked at the Montana Hotel for Mrs. Millsap. We both stayed at the hotel. After the crusher job ended, Andy went to work on the resettlement program, tearing down houses and fences on the land the government bought.

"That fall, 1936, Louisa and Andrew passed away; Dorothy and Margaret moved. Andy bought the home place in 1938, and later the Woods, Bessay, Peterson and Windsor homesteads. He leased the Dinwiddie place. Pete Duncan deeded his place to us, when we agreed to care for him for the rest of his life. Tony Buxbaum passed away and we bought his place from his brother, Joe.

"We bought our first tractor and two-bottom plow from Eddy Stauffacher for \$75. Every morning Andy went to the field and hand-cranked that tractor for hours to start it.

"Electricity came and 'lo and behold' we threw out the coal and wood stoves and got electric stove, refrigerator, furnace, running water, and best of all, a bathroom. Running water was not only a wonderful convenience, but it also allowed us to fix the yard and plant trees and grass.

"Harold Lee was born in Roundup in 1939. When he was about four years old, he and I were taking a nap. When I awoke, Harold was not in the house. I looked toward the field where Andy was working and saw a hat

bobbing along. Harold had dressed himself in rubber boots, a heavy winter coat, and straw hat and gone to help his dad. He looked so comical on such a hot day. Harold loved to climb. Mabel Redd would keep him sometimes when we needed to leave, but she soon refused after he climbed her windmill tower at the age of five.

"Luann was born in 1949 in Lewistown. One time Luann and her friend, Sylvia Quigg, drove the car down the railroad tracks and knocked the muffler off. Andy put a new muffler on the car and then one morning I saw Luann, with a crowbar, hitting on the bottom of the car. I asked her what she was doing and she sneakily said, 'I'm knocking the mud off.' She later admitted that she was knocking the tailpipe off so the car would roar.

"Andy took in range bulls to feed for the winter. In the spring of 1964, he went to feed the bulls. He was going into the barn to get the cake to feed them and a young Angus bull was standing in the doorway. Andy gave the bull a slap on his hind quarters and the bull kicked him, breaking two bones in Andy's leg. His leg was dangling by muscle and skin, but he dragged himself to the pickup and drove the ¼ mile to the house. I was not home, but when I came home, Andy had crawled as far as the porch steps. Many, many months of treatment followed, but the leg never got well."

Andy passed away in 1985. His body was cremated and his funeral was held in Flatwillow Hall, with burial in the Flatwillow Cemetery.

Harold has an insurance agency in Missoula.

Luann Sharkey and Russ Knutson were married in 1967 in Winnett. Luann relates: "Our first four months of married life were spent on a big wheat farm near Square Butte, Montana, in Judith Basin County. When Russ found a job at the N Bar Ranch, near Grassrange, we were both much happier.

"The biggest occasion while we were at the N Bar was the birth of a baby girl, Shelley Elaine (1968), at Billings, Montana. In 1969, we moved to the Sharkey Ranch at Flatwillow, and went to work for my father, Andy, for \$350 a month. It was the third generation of Sharkeys on the place. In 1971, we were blessed with our second daughter, Robin Rene, born in Billings.

"From 1974 to 1980, we leased the ranch from Dad and we all put in long, hard hours. The girls and I were the only help. Shelley loved to work outside and became an accomplished horsewoman. She worked, on a daily basis, for the neighbors helping gather and brand cattle. In the summer of 1985 we 'rode the rodeo circuit.' Shelley placed second in break-away roping at the District High School Rodeo.

"Robin was our sheepherder. She and I raised 52 bum lambs one spring (she was about four). The lambs got mixed up at one feeding and I didn't have a clue as to which one had been left out. Here came Robin with the unfed lamb. I asked her how she knew that was the unfed one and she looked at me and proclaimed, "Cause his

mouth is dry!" (See also KNUTSON — Winnett)

SHARP, William (Sec 32-12-26) (Land to Cook-Harms-Eliasson)

SHAW, W. S. (Sec 19-12-25) W. S. Shaw was one of the earliest settlers on Flatwillow Creek. There is a record of him buying land from the Aztec Land and Cattle Company in 1883. Aztec Land and Cattle Company owned a large amount of land in Montana, although they never operated in the state. The land was granted to them by the United States Government in lieu of, or as payment for, land the government had taken from them in the State of Colorado.

W. S. bought the Carl Lindstrom place from the bank, after Carl Lindstrom went broke in 1904. In 1908 he was interviewed by the *Roundup Record* and was full of enthusiasm about the future of the area. In 1910 he lost the place to the Hilger Land and Realty Company. They renamed it The Flatwillow Land Company.

The Shaws had two children listed in the 1899 school census: Bernie (1891) and Leota (1893).

Hazel Richardson Gamel gives the following description of the ranch: "The Shaw Ranch had pretty buildings and white-washed fences. At one time the Arnold family (homestead neighbors of ours) took the job of cooking on the Shaw Ranch."

SHERMAN, I. G. (Sec 26-13-26) I. G. Sherman came to the Flatwillow area in the 1890s. He married Mattie Lawrence in 1895. They operated the store and hotel left to her by her husband. Mattie had homesteaded some land on the creek, that she later sold to William Coburn. The rest of the place, both the Sherman and the Lawrence ranches, were sold to James Wilson in 1922. In 1908 the Shermans moved to Billings where Mattie became active in education. Perry Baker managed their ranch for a number of years, and the Millsaps managed the hotel.

SHIELDS, Warren (Sec 21-12-25) Warren, son of Edward and Emma Shields, was born in Wisconsin. He moved in 1912 to the Lake Mason area. In 1924 he married Verna Sessions. Warren and Verna moved onto the O. M. Green place in about 1949. His brother, Raleigh, was a game warden; his sister, Lottie, was Mrs. John Hughes. He had a daughter, Jean, who married Don Kimmel and presently lives on the ranch, and a step-daughter, Helen, who married Pat Mang.

SIBBERT, Henry (Sec 13-13-26) After leaving the Elk Creek area in the early 1940s, Henry Sibbert bought the Herman Bott place from the Porter Hays estate. He, his daughter Lillian, his son John, and grandson Donnis Doman lived there until Henry's death.

John Sibbert married Emma Rabern in 1955, and they operated the ranch until they retired and moved to Winnett. They did extensive rebuilding on the house and had many neighborhood parties there. When they retired, they turned the place over to Donnis Doman. (See also SIBBERT — Teigen and SIBBERT — Winnett)

SMITH, Frank (Sec 19-13-27) Bernice Johnson Smith submitted the following account: "Frank Smith homesteaded in 1914 east of Flatwillow and worked at various ranches.

"In 1916 he enlisted in the Army and served in the trouble with Pancho Villa and Mexico. In World War I he served with the Field Artillery in France. After the Armistice, he was in the Army of occupation in Germany until 1919. Because of his Army service, he could prove up on his homestead without living on or farming it.

"In 1926 Frank Smith and I were married. We lived in the John Reams house until Harry Tripp bought it. We then moved to the Bishop Place, down creek from Flatwillow. Three children were born while we lived there: Dennis (1926), Mavis (1928) and Aleta (1930). In 1931 we rented the Von Lindern place and lived there until 1937. Every fall we laid in a supply of flour, coffee, etc. to do for the winter, as there would be no more work and no paycheck until spring. A five-gallon can of cream, sent by stage to Winnett and by train to a Lewistown creamery, brought us a whole dollar in the 1930s.

"Christmas was a big event. The two schools put on a program at the Hall, where a tree had been decorated. Members of the community donated money and O. H. Redd, the storekeeper, bought candy and nuts. Jim Wilson always gave a crate of oranges. Everyone got a sack, and two of the happiest people that got sacks from Santa were a widower and his grown son. Each child received a gift.

"We enjoyed the Flatwillow Community Club dinners and card games once a month, dances each month, and a rodeo and dance once a year in the '30s. Fourth of July picnics and farm sales were gathering places for people far and wide. Mrs. Hallie Tripp furnished music for the events. She formed a rhythm band with the children and put on a 'Tom Thumb Wedding' in 1935.

"The years in Montana had their ups and downs as they do everywhere. There was a friendly community spirit with neighbors helping each other in many ways. This made many friends and happy memories. We had one more son — Emmett (1934) — before we left Montana. Later we had Lynn (1942) and Neal (1944).

"Since leaving Montana we have lived in the Spokane valley, Washington, where our children received their educations. Frank worked the last 15 years for Kaiser Aluminum, retiring in 1961. He passed away in 1963. One daughter, Aleta, passed away in 1976 in Shreveport, Louisiana. The family has grown from six children to 10 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren."

STORM, Otto (Sec 34-12-27) (Land to FLB-Dixon-Pet. Co.-Wilson Sheep-Neb. Feed-FCC) Otto Storm married Gabriella Stone. She had two daughters: Rhea (1900) and Lois (1907). Rhea married William Mead and lived in Cat Creek. From an oral interview with Rhea Mead McDermott: "My stepfather, Otto Storm, had homesteaded out in the Howard Coulee area in about 1911. We (Mother, Lois and I) had spent the winter in

Lewistown, Montana. In the spring, I rode the horse and herded our few horses down from Lewistown. The rest came by team and wagon. We made it to Grassrange the first night, then we trundled on down to the ranch. My grandfather, Winifred Stone, was with us.

"It was eight miles from our ranch down to Flatwillow to school. I rode that twice a day until I got through the eighth grade. My sister stayed with Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Rutledge while she went to school at Flatwillow. I don't think our schooling was different from anyone else that lived in the country at that time — kind of hit or miss when you could get a chance to go. A school was started on Howard Coulee. It was a little cabin, close to us, and Leota Ellis was the teacher. She had started teaching in Oklahoma at the age of 15.

"My grandfather sent me to Portland to high school for one year. When I came back, my family decided that I would be a teacher, so I went to Lewistown to go to summer school. You see, I just had eighth grade education, plus one year of high school. My training was in commercial courses. I came back and taught the rest of the summer at the Lone Prairie School. By then I was getting so good, you know, I got the Joyce School and taught there for two years (Ed. as Rhea Kretzer).

"My grandfather, Winifred Stone, died in 1918, and was buried at Flatwillow.

"When Mother died, I was staying with her in an apartment in Lewistown. She had been sick, went into a coma, and just lay there for four or five days. Her heart was pumping, but that was all. Finally on New Year's Eve she died. It was snowing and blowing and we brought her body by train to Winnett. She is buried at Flatwillow. After Mother and Grandfather died, Otto left the homestead and went to live with my sister Lois."

From Hallie Tripp's memories: "In the fall of 1921, Harry applied for and got the Joyce School. We (Harry, Ralph, Rich, Ruth and I) moved into the teacherage. It was about 12' x 14'. Winter began early and was severe. Mrs. Storm died in Lewistown, and her burial was to be at Flatwillow. They sent her body down on the train to Winnett. It didn't get here until late afternoon, so the preacher refused to come out to Flatwillow from Winnett. Mr. Joyce had taken me to the funeral so I could play for the services. Because there was no preacher, the family asked me if I could remember any appropriate Bible verses and say a word or two, so I did."

STOUFFER, Bert (Sec 5-13-26) Bert and Betty Stouffer homesteaded just east of the present-day Yellow Water Dam along the commonly traveled road. Sunday school was often held in their house with their son, Dent, in charge.

In the late 1920s the Stouffers left their farm. Dent went to Cat Creek, where he married Ada Town. (See also **STOUFFER — Cat Creek**)

STRAW, C. (Sec 32-12-25) (Land to Brooks-USA)



Bill Stroup, Bud McFadden and Glen Stroup

STROUP, Glen R. (Sec 10-13-26) "Punch" Stroup, as everyone knew him, came with his parents from Missouri in 1913 when he was 14 years old. Like his brothers, as soon as he was old enough, he took out a homestead in the Yellow Water area. His homestead was on Yellow Water Creek, about three miles below what is now Yellow Water Dam.

Audrey Cleo Holmes came to Montana from Kansas as a young school teacher. She taught at the Stroup School and lived with the Stroups. Wilma Stroup was one of her students, and she tells of Glen and Audrey's marriage:

"It was February 17th, I remember, because it was on Dad's birthday. Glen came to the schoolhouse after school was out and said to me, 'You go home and tell Ma that Glen and Audrey are getting married. She is going to have a fit — she'll probably faint — but go on and tell her anyway.' So it was up to me. I was in the seventh grade. Sure enough, she had a fit, but they had already gone to Roundup and were married!"

"Punch" and Audrey lived on their homestead, and Audrey taught at both the Stroup School and the Upper Flatwillow School. They raised two girls, Helene and Marjorie. The girls went to school at Flatwillow — a long drive in those days — and to high school in Winnett. Helene became a counselor and Marjorie, a surgical nurse.

In November 1946 the Winnett Times reported Glen had had his share of poor luck for the week. The article stated: "He came to town with a team of horses and a wagon to take home a load of stock feed. He stayed in town overnight but the team didn't, striking out for home during the night minus harness and wagon! Adding to that trouble, "Punch" lost his wallet on the street, it containing \$20 in bills and the usual identification papers. He'll gladly pay a reward for the return of the wallet, but is too mad at the horses to say much about them."

The Stroups left the Winnett area shortly thereafter. Glen Stroup died in 1972. He and his wife, Audrey, who died in 1971, are both buried in Columbia Falls, Montana.

STROUP, Oliver S. (Sec 8-13-26) Oliver and Annie Stroup and their family came from Mound City, Missouri, in 1912. They spent a year in the Judith Basin and then moved to the Yellow Water country where Oliver and his four sons — William, George, Glen and Hillary — all took up homesteads. Oliver and Annie lived on their homestead until his death in 1933. Annie died in 1958. They are both buried in the Flatwillow Cemetery.

William, the oldest son, married Katherine Adam. After the oil boom, he worked in Cat Creek and later ranched on the Musselshell below Cat Creek. A write-up of their lives can be found in the Cat Creek section of this book.

Hillary did not marry. He died of pneumonia in 1923 and was buried at Flatwillow.

George served in World War I. He married Doris Trimble and moved to Rochester, New York, where he worked for General Electric. The couple had one daughter, Sally.

Glen married Audrey Cleo Holmes in 1928 and continued to live in the Yellow Water area. A separate account is written of his family.

Wilma was the youngest in the family and the only one of school age when they lived in the Yellow Water area. They lived in a four-room house with a lean-to on the south side and an upstairs. The house was located about one and one-half miles below the present-day Yellow Water Dam

Wilma rode a little grey pony to the Yellow Water Basin School which was south and west of their place about four miles. For two years she attended school in Cat Creek. She and her mother moved to Cat Creek and lived with her brother, William, during the school term. Next, she attended the Walker School, which was north of Yellow Water Dam, and then finished at the Stroup School on the school section north of the present-day dam.

Wilma has written several stories of those days on the homestead. She told of going to Winnett to get groceries and supplies. On the way to town, the team ran away and spilled the cream which they were going to sell in Winnett to pay for the groceries. They went back home without groceries.

She also remembers, "It was always a big day when we went to town. Dad and Mom would buy what they needed and always bought some bologna and cheese and crackers for a lunch on the way home. In the winter Dad would go to town by himself in the lumber wagon and get home late. I would listen for him to drive into the yard, as he always brought me a big bag of candy. Mom would put it in the cupboard, and each day I would get some. It was a long ways between trips to town."

Even though Glen was fourteen years older than Wilma, they were great buddies. They both loved horses and Wilma tells of helping Glen break a little roan horse. Glen got on the horse in the corral, and it really bucked — he lost his pipe and his hat — but he stayed on and rode him around the corral. After the ride, he peeled the saddle off and hung it up, and Wilma wrote: "I was standing there

gloating because I was so happy Glen had got the best of the horse. Glen swung the corral gate open and the horse raced out. As it passed Glen, it kicked him in the face and broke his nose!

"The blood started to spurt, and he sent me to the house to get a pan of water and a rag, and he said, 'Don't tell Ma, she'll come out and faint.' (Mama always fainted when she saw blood.) I got the bucket of water and the rag, but the more he held his head down, the more it bled. Mom and Dad couldn't drive the car; we had a Whippet car, which was quite an up-and-coming car in those days. Glen said, 'I think you're going to have to take me to Lewistown, Pard.' Now, mind you, I was just a little girl, probably about eleven years old. He put pillows in the car so I could see out, and away we went to Lewistown. We went to Dr. Attix. He put splints in Glen's nose. Oh! Was his nose blue! Then we got to stay all night in Lewistown, and I got to see a circus. Quite an experience!"

Oliver Stroup was one of the promoters of Yellow Water Dam, though he did not live to see it built.



Marjorie Stroup, Wilma Stroup (McFadden), Glen Stroup, Mrs. Annie Stroup and the three McFadden children, Betty, Jimmy and Billy

Wilma graduated from Winnett High School in 1933 and married Melvin (Bud) McFadden the following year. Those were depression years and things were pretty bleak. The Stroups were not able to hold on to their property after Oliver died in 1933. Bud and Wilma finally rented the Morgan place for \$10 a month, and Bud got work on the W.P.A. He was gone all week and Wilma was alone on the place. She wrote, "We had a black Plymouth, and I got in it and tried to go to town and tore the rear end out of it. There was a snow bank as high as the car by the next spring. From then on, I rode horseback to Winnett to get the mail — about eight miles.

"When I ran out of wood, I went out and chopped posts off an old fence. The neighbors laughed and said they could tell how deep the snow was by where I cut the posts off! Our pastime weekends was hunting coyotes.

Sometimes, we hunted them with greyhounds. A neighbor, Jim Markland, had the hounds. We got \$5 for the pelts."



Wilma Stroup with "Jiggs"

Bud and Wilma moved to Sweetgrass, Montana, on the Canadian border, in April 1938, where Bud got work. Later they moved to Kevin, Montana. They raised three children — Billy, Jimmy, and Betty. The McFaddens celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1984.

STRUBE, Robert Robert Strube and his wife, Lola White Strube, are listed in the school census with four children: Robert (1955), Thomas (1957), Gary (1958), and John (1960).

STUART, W. R. Walter Stuart was among the first to file water rights on Yellow Water Creek. The record of his filing is in the White Sulphur Springs Courthouse in Meagher County. It is dated November 21, 1884, and calls for "25 inches of water to be diverted from the North Fork of Yellow Water Creek on the north side of the creek about three quarters of a mile from where the Maginnis Road crosses the north fork."

SUTTER, Ely (Sec 9-12-26) (Land to USA)

SWIFT, Walter (Sec 26-13-25) Walter was a brother to Amanda Swift. He didn't establish a permanent home in this area. He sold his place to his sister, Amanda. Walter moved to a place just north of Winnett. (See also SWIFT — Brush Creek and Winnett)

TANNEHILL, Henry Earl (Sec 4-12-27) Henry Earl Tannehill married Louise Ellen Gerber in 1903. They had three children: Laveta Ruth (1904), Harold Earl (1906), and Donald Earl (1913). The following are Harold Tannehill's memories:

"The curlew, coyote, antelope, sage hen, jackrabbit, and rattlesnake were all abundant on the Flatwillow homestead. The following report is related to the best of my memory. I know of no living person who can confirm dates, etc.

"Early in the summer of 1911, my mother, Louise Ellen Gerber Tannehill, my sister Ruth, and I spent part of the summer at my maternal grandparents' ranch near Olds, Alberta, Canada. During this time, my father, Henry Earl

Tannehill, was building a homestead 'shack' near the Flatwillow Post Office.

"Traveling by train, the three of us arrived in Musselshell, Montana, late in the afternoon. As the train came to a stop, I remember seeing my Dad standing on the platform beside a very beautiful log depot. We stayed at the hotel that night. Papa had left his wagon in Flatwillow and ridden horseback to Musselshell. To prevent our riding in a wagon over the bumpy road, we took the stage to Flatwillow. There was no bridge across the river, making it possible for the stagecoach wheels to soak up the water — a big benefit!

"Arriving in Flatwillow, we were soon on our way to our new home. It was well planned for one room, which became three rooms! Strong, number nine galvanized wire was stretched across; curtains, hung from harness rings, made divisions forming a kitchen-dining-living area at one end and two bedrooms at the other end.

"Life on the sagebrush and cactus quarter section started early the next morning. I was eager to ride 'Pinto,' an Indian paint pony; Ruth was anxious to make sure that her doll and cradle had made it safely in the immigrant car from Missouri.

"Roll Carter's place joined ours to the west; our fence line was near Roll's concrete water tank. Roll, being a bachelor then, often ate at our house. Roll soon married lovely Nina Walker. Years later, I was honored when they asked that I officiate at his funeral service in Laurel.

"As a lad, I remember seeing the men checking harnesses at a grave site near Flatwillow. They were looking for newer leather lines, to be used in lowering a casket into a grave. The older leather lines had been mended with copper rivets and would not be suitable. The casket was made of new pine boards and unpainted.

"A number of the homesteaders started a Sunday school in the Flatwillow schoolhouse. I remember a few of their names: Wilsons, Rutledges, Boggess, Hostetler. Roy Boggess and I were about the same age and visited each other when we could.

"George Davis and his wife operated the local store; George was also the postmaster. I did not see George Davis from 1913 until 1946. Seeing his name on a Billings hospital register, I wondered if he could be the Flatwillow storekeeper. It was him all right! George Davis was a Christian man, and later when I was walking down the hospital hall, he called me from his room. I entered his room — a doctor was looking for a vein in his left arm and a nurse was holding his hand. George extended his right hand to me and said, 'Harold, pray for me, I am dying.' I took his hand, and I prayed. His hand gripped mine until I said, 'Amen.' Then his hand went limp. The doctor and nurse continued to concentrate on his arm until I said, 'I think he has gone from us.'

"My first school teacher was a very beautiful lady, whose name was Hallie King. She later married Harry Tripp. I did not see her from 1913 until 1952, when I ministered in a church service in Winnett. I learned that

the accomplished pianist was the former Hallie King, my teacher.

"After leaving Flatwillow, my family lived in Missouri, where my beloved Dad was trying to make enough money to return to Montana. My father's desire to return was not to be, for on December 18, 1914, he was killed in a car-train accident. We later moved to a ranch near Roundup, when my mother married James Tannehill (one of my Dad's brothers) in 1918. They had two daughters: Mary Virginia (1919) and Betty Louise (1921).

"The homestead was in the name of Henry Earl Tannehill, and having bought the equity from other family members, it has been in the name of Harold Earl Tannehill for many years.

"On our last visit to the homestead, I recalled how in the winter of 1912, my horse and the Hostetlers saved my life. It was sub-zero weather and I wanted to visit our neighbors. So, poorly clad for the cold weather, I rode bareback down the road to their house. Being overcome with extreme cold, I was unconscious on arrival at their door. My horse walked right up to their door, and he snorted. With no radio or TV blasting, my friends heard the snort, took me in, and tenderly thawed me out. Mr. Hostetler rode my horse to our place to report that I was safe in their home.

"My sister Ruth, who lives in Tacoma, Washington, and I are the only living members of the family. Donald died in 1979."

Harold Tannehill died in February of 1989. He sold the homestead to Stanley Wiggins shortly before his death.

TEICH, Rose (Sec 33-14-25) Rose Teich was a widow who homesteaded 320 acres of land along the old Ft. Maginnis-Junction City road not far from the Rowley ranch. She had a son nicknamed "Hidebound" Teich, and a school-age son named Milton.

They lived very near the Yellow Water School, and the school was sometimes referred to as the Teich school. A former student of the school recalls Mrs. Teich would stand in her doorway and call, "Mil-l-lton," in a high-pitched voice; and then poor Milton was teased by the rest of the pupils mimicking his mother.

THOMAS, Ben Ben Thomas, son of Toliver and Innis Bail Thomas, was born in Post, Texas, in 1927. In 1947 he married Dulcie Rabern, daughter of Dick and Emma Satee Rabern.

Ben and his wife came to Flatwillow with Dulcie's parents in 1951. When Dick Rabern became sick, Ben took over management of the Nebraska Feeding Company for several years.

During the time that Ben and Dulcie were on the ranch, all the cattle were shipped out of Musselshell, Montana, by rail. This meant that every fall they would gather the 2000 yearling steers and trail them to the railroad, 35 miles from the home ranch. They would start at the headquarters, gathering bunches and moving them in a southeasterly direction, about three weeks before shipping date. This allowed the steers to graze their way

along, ending in the pasture closest to Musselshell. From this pasture, they would take 500 at a time into the stockyards (500 was the limit the yard would hold) and load them on the train. They would then go back for the next 500, making four trips in all.

Ben and Dulcie remember many humorous and not so humorous experiences that happened on the trail drive. One experience they will always remember, because they nearly lost the steers, the horse remuda and their help. They had a Canadian, named Nick, for their horse wrangler. Ben had shown him where they would have the steers gathered by noon, and where he was to have the horses, so they could have fresh mounts. It was a cold windy day and the steers were edgy. By noon the horses were worn out from controlling the herd, but Nick wasn't at the appointed place with the fresh horses. The cattle were so restive that no one took time for a warm meal. Dulcie made sandwiches and rode around giving them to the men.

When evening fell and Nick still hadn't brought the horses, Ben told the riders to keep circling the cattle, and he and Dulcie went looking for the horses. They finally found the remuda in a Goffena corral, but no Nick. It took them the rest of the night to trail the horses to the steers. The men and their mounts were exhausted, but they had been able to hold the steers.

As they were changing horses, Charlie Hall, who lived about a mile from where they were holding, came up and told them that Nick was at his place, passed out. It seems he had gotten tired of trailing the horses, corraled them and came on to tell them where they were. However, he arrived before the herd, and being cold he went to Charlie's to warm up. There he found a whiskey bottle and emptied it.

Later, as Nick rode up to the cattle, the men made it clear to Ben, that either Nick got his check; or Ben, Dulcie and Nick would have the job of finishing the drive alone.

Ben and Dulcie had five children: Sandra was born (1948) in Dayton, Washington. She married Mikie Schmidt and they have three children — Tracy, Bobby and Michael. Richard (Dusty) was born (1954) at Billings. He married Katie Provert and they had a son Austin. Dusty was killed in a car wreck in 1986.

Ginger was born in Dalhart, Texas (1958). She married Steve Moore and they have two children — Stephany and Lincoln. Scott was born in Hereford, Texas (1964). He married Angie Dickinson and they have one daughter, Amanda. Sheridan was born in Hereford, Texas (1965) and married Jon La Framboise. They have a son, Dane.

THOMSON, Dr. Phil Phil came from Texas to go to college at Bozeman, Montana. He came to Petroleum county as a hunter in the 1960s. He became acquainted with the Pugrud family and has never missed a year hunting on their ranch.

In 1987 he moved the original Tripp house up on the rimrock on the Nettie Oliver homestead near the Bishop Trail. He and his wife, Peg, have put in electricity, had a

water well drilled, and are going to make a summer home of it.

As a doctor, Phil specialized in burns, and at the present time (1988) is employed in the Burn Clinic in Ann Arbor, Michigan.



Jake and Lizzie Thum

THUM, Jacob (Sec 13-12-25) The following was contributed by Goldie Darnell Mang (foster daughter).

Jacob Thum came to the United States in 1903 from Benken, Switzerland. He could speak no English, so he had to learn to speak, write and read the English language. He worked for some Swiss people for the first few years. They were hard years for the young man. He told of bitter cold and working with bands of sheep. Many hardships were endured in those first years.

In 1922 he took up a homestead on Flatwillow Creek, just above the Clement Ranch. His cousin, Adelrich "Dick" Thum, also homesteaded (Sec 1-12-25) but sold his homestead and farmed with Jacob, or Jake, as he was known. Records show they acquired other homesteads as well.

In April of 1924 Jake made a trip to Illinois and brought back a bride. Time went on and the dirty '30s came. He lost his home and land for taxes and they moved to Joliet, Montana. When his wife died, he moved to Roundup, Montana. He made his home with Goldie Darnell Mang, his foster daughter, for several years. He died in 1978 at the age of 94. (See also DARNELL)

TIBBETTS, Charles (Musselshell County) Charles Tibbetts came to the Wallview area in 1912 from Homer, Illinois. In 1915 he married Lena Houtrouw in Roundup. She gave him five children: Wesley (1916), Martha (1917), Helen (1919), Mary (1920), and Irene (1925). They moved back to Homer, Illinois, in 1924. Charles died in 1948, and Lena died in 1959. Wesley was shot down over Germany in 1944.

TILLER, Wilbur (Sec 22-12-27) (Land to Pet. Co.-Wilson Sheep-Neb. Feed-FCC) Wilbur Tiller was born

in 1876 in Macon, Missouri. He married Eva Lee Wilson in 1902 at Spaulding, Missouri.

Tiller came to Montana in 1913 and homesteaded in the Howard Coulee area near Flatwillow. Wilbur and Eva Tiller raised a nephew, Robert. Robert married Grace Bachman in 1926, and they had two children: Florence (1928) and Roberta (1930). In 1932 they moved to Lewistown, Montana.

TODD, Fred Sidney (Sec 31-13-26) Fred and his wife, Emma Hawkins Todd, homesteaded in 1909 near her brother, Henry Hawkins, and Fred's sister, Lillis Todd Hawkins. Fred was killed in a horse and wagon accident near Flatwillow. Emma sold the property to her brother, Henry Hawkins. The Todds had two children: Purves and Birdie.

TOOMEY, Anna (Sec 6-12-25) (Land to Tolzey)

TORVUND, Olai (Sec 29-13-25) (Land to Hughes)

TOWNE, Howard (Sec 28-12-27) (Land to Melichar) Due to ill health, Mr. and Mrs. Towne had to leave the homestead and go to Pasadena, California, to live with their daughter, Evelyn.

TOWNSLEY, Arthur (Sec 34-12-26) (Land to FLB-Clement-Iverson) Arthur Townsley came into the Wallview area with a friend, Mr. Davis, from Massachusetts. Arthur was an electrician by trade, about 30 years of age. At Christmas time of his first year here, he returned to Massachusetts and married. He and his wife, Eva, had three children while living here: George (1912), Martin (1913), and Barbara (1916). His place is now part of the Iverson Ranch.

TRIPP, Harry (Sec 25-13-26) (Land to Pugrud) Harry Tripp's oldest brother, Floyd Tripp, came to Flatwillow from Ruthven, Iowa, in 1909. He filed for a homestead and set up his shack north of what is now the Pugrud residence. He persuaded his father, Charles Tripp, and his brother-in-law, Guy Fisk, to come out and take up homesteads in 1910. Floyd worked for B. F. Lepper. They all went back to Iowa, after a short time, and decided not to return.

To the two younger bachelor brothers, Harry and Howard Tripp, this looked like the experience of a lifetime, and the spring of 1911 found them on their way to Montana.

They arrived at Musselshell in April of 1911, with big dreams and a trunk full of staples, clothing, bedding — and a bone china soapdish, that their mother had included. She didn't want her boys to become heathens. They asked at Handel Brothers about transportation and were told that a rig, with driver, cost about three times as much as one without. Since they had worked horses all their lives, they opted to drive themselves. With the assurance that all they had to do was follow the main road, they set off for Flatwillow.

It only took them about five miles to get on the wrong road, and by noon, they admitted they were lost. They

took a road that they thought headed in the right direction and followed it until it finally emptied into a well-traveled road. Here they turned right and got into Flatwillow about dark. Next morning they went out and selected their homesteads, Harry taking his father's site and Howard taking Guy Fisk's. This done, they returned to Musselshell.

They bought lumber for their shacks and hired a freighter to deliver it. He had a wonderful time regaling the greenhorns with Indian stories. They camped for the night, and in the middle of the night the boys were wakened by shots. They thought the Indians were upon them, but no, the driver said, he was shooting pack rats.

They built their shacks, then leased a four-horse freight team and wagon, and went down near Mosby to cut fence posts. Since they had no machinery, they hired Sam Bishop to do their plowing. That fall they followed Sam's threshing machine for the season, ending up near Lewistown, Montana.

They tried many times to dig a well on their homesteads to supply water, but all they got was hot and hungry. Harry, later, had wells drilled.

Money being in short supply, they did whatever they could to earn money or the use of machinery — teaching school, haying, shearing sheep, lambing and threshing. Howard drove stage for a while.

Their father died suddenly in 1913, and the boys went back to Iowa for the funeral. It became obvious that their mother needed one of them to stay and help her run the place. Howard opted to stay. By this time, Harry had become engaged to Hallie King and wished to return.

Harry and Hallie were married in May of 1914 at her folks' home. They spent the next 63 years raising family, teaching school, and building a ranch. They were both active in the Hall work, giving dances, plays, programs, etc. Harry was head of the AAA (forerunner of the ASCS) for 20 years. Hallie taught music in the Winnett High School almost continuously from 1922 until 1949. She also gave private lessons. There is much more, in their memoirs, which are on file in the Winnett library.



Wedding Party for Harry and Hallie Tripp in 1914: The Reverend Myer, Harry and Hallie Tripp, Carl Grow, Mary King, Charlie Grow, Louella Grow, Oscar Rutledge, Nora King, Hattie Oliver, Joe Oliver and Alice Rutledge



The Tripp family: Ralph, Ruth, Jo Ann, Lu, Richard, Hallie and Harry

The Tripps had five children: Ralph (1915), Richard (1918), Ruth (1920), Jo Ann (1927) and Angelu (1929).

Ralph Harry was born March 11, 1915, in Denton, Montana. He started school at the Root School, with his father as teacher. The year was 1921-22. After high school, he attended Intermountain Union College in Helena, Montana. It was here that he met LaVone Semmingson, whom he later married. In March of 1942 he went to work for Grumman Aircraft Engineering Corporation. He was in charge of the designing and development of the Orbiting Astronomical Observatory and also the Lunar Landing Module. He passed away in 1988. The Tripps have three daughters: Virginia Cade, Hallie Stephens, Roberta Raacke.

Ralph used to say: "You might say I was pushed, or pushed myself, into higher education. When the time came for me to go on to college for my master's degree, the depression was in full swing and money was scarce. A friend and I left Flatwillow for Ames, Iowa, in an old Model T Ford loaded with all the essentials for 'making it on our own.' Mother had fixed food for us to eat along the way and we planned on sleeping 'out.' After many tire and engine repairs, we finally got to within about 100 miles of our goal. The old Model T had been getting sicker and weaker and finally it died. Nothing we could do seemed to revive it. As we were sitting there contemplating our plight, a man stopped and offered to push us into the next town. We readily accepted his offer and the next fifteen miles passed with no trouble.

"At the garage we learned that only an engine transplant would cure our mobility problems. Without money, this was an unacceptable solution, as was bus or train fare. We couldn't carry all our belongings and we couldn't bring ourselves to leave anything. Suddenly we hit upon an idea — we pushed the car away from the garage into an abandoned lot. Here we quickly stripped the engine of all useable parts and then took the engine

out, donating it to the other debris in the lot. With the lighter load we were able to push the car back onto the road, and down the road we pushed. Just as we had hoped, another kind soul offered help and we were once again pushed to the next town. Pushing, and being pushed, we finally arrived at Ames — stronger — smarter — and with all our belongings. Thankfully, Iowa is much flatter than Montana!"

Richard Hawthorne Tripp was born October 27, 1918, in Portland, Oregon. Richard attended school at Upper Flatwillow School and Winnett. He joined the CCCs and was stationed in Glacier National Park. He worked mostly in the woods and enjoyed the work and life. He joined the Army in the spring of 1941 and served with an armored division in Germany and France. He was wounded in 1944 and hospitalized in England for a while before returning to Italy. He was awarded the Purple Heart and honorably discharged in 1945.

After discharge, Richard returned to the ranch. His father gave him the McDonald place and a lease on 800 acres of state land. He also backed him in buying cows. He met Marion Tremper when she was visiting her sister, Peg Fraser. They were married in February of 1946.

Richard and Marion had a son, Richard Lawrence, born in 1948, who died of leukemia in 1962. A daughter, Ruth Louise, was born in April 1970. In 1948 they moved the Tom Oliver house to the McDonald place and fixed it up to live in. This house burned, and with the insurance money they purchased the Anton Mlekush house and moved it onto the place. They lived there until 1963, then moved to Winnett where Rich worked on ranches and did handy-man jobs, and Marion worked at Big Sky Lures. They sold their place to the Pugrud children, John and Sig.



Marion, Larry and Richard Tripp

Marion Tremper Tripp, daughter of George and Louise Tremper, was born in 1923 in Helena, Montana. Her mother died when she was five. The Trempers had a cabin on Flathead Lake, so Marion was a very good swimmer. Every time Harry wanted to take his grandchildren fishing, Marion had to go along in case someone fell in. Her garden was also a very good place to dig worms. Hallie and Marion were very close and I'm sure Hallie became as a mother to "May."

May asked Hallie what she wanted for Christmas one year. Hallie replied, "Nothing." When Christmas came there was a large beautifully wrapped package under the tree to Hallie from May. When it was given to Hallie she exclaimed, "May, you shouldn't have!" May answered, "It's exactly what you asked for." It was a beautifully wrapped box — with nothing inside!

Ruth Hallie Tripp was born in Roundup, Montana, on December 24, 1920. She started school at Upper Flatwillow located 1½ miles east of the Tripp home. When she started high school in Winnett, she had to board out. After two years, Hallie started teaching music again, and the family moved to town.

After graduation from high school, Ruth went to Ames, Iowa, and lived with her brother Ralph and his wife, while she attended Iowa State College. She attended one year, then decided to go to Great Falls, Montana, and become a nurse. A few months of this made her realize that she didn't want to live with sick people and, anyway, she had met Isaac Iverson. She and Isaac were married in April of 1940.

Children born to this marriage were: Isaac Lee (1942), Ruth Anne (1944), Rozella Marie (1945), Tom Harry (1948) and Hallie Annette (1950). Isaac died in 1961 and Ruth married Fuller Laugeman in 1970.

Jo Ann was born September 15, 1927, at Blanche Greene's home in Winnett. With seven years difference between Jo Ann and her older sister, this was the beginning of a new family for Harry and Hallie. She attended Upper Flatwillow and Winnett schools, then went on to the University of Montana in Missoula where she graduated with a degree in music. Although all of the Tripp children were involved with music all of their lives, Jo Ann was the only one that pursued it. She accepted a teaching position in the Roundup High School and lived with Dorothy Sharkey Wanchena. After three years in Roundup, she went to New York where she lived with her brother, Ralph, and worked as an Engineering Aide at Grumman.

In 1953 Jo Ann became very active in church work, and since that time has been working as a missionary and Bible teacher. She married Donato Correa in August of 1965 and they moved to Peru as missionaries. They adopted two children after their return to the states — Daniel Harry (1970) and Esther Jo Ann (1971). The children make their home with Jo Ann in Raymondsville, Texas.

Hallie Angelu Tripp was born March 23, 1929, in Win-

nett in a house the Tripps had rented for school purposes. If Harry and Hallie hoped for peace and quiet in their middle years, this event insured their lack of it.

Lu says, "I guess we were poor! I don't remember being poor — we always had food, a bed, and a roof over our head. There was always lots of work to be done but also lots of fun things to be done. All we Tripp kids probably owe our education to corn — not the money we got from the sale of it, but the fact that it was there, and needed picking, shucking, shelling and grinding. If you want your child to count the hours until the school doors will open and let them inside, raise corn that must be handled by hand. A summer spent on a horse-drawn cultivator in the corn field will make a student out of almost anyone!"

The shortage of men during the war made it necessary for Jo Ann and Lu to work in the fields and be their father's hired men. This was no problem for Lu because she much preferred the outdoor work to housework, and country life to town life. She attended the University of Montana at Missoula, Montana, for one year. It was 1946, the war was over, the GI bill had passed, and she was probably the youngest student on campus. This combination of circumstances did not add up to an entirely happy year.

In the spring of 1947, when she came home for summer vacation, she met Tom Pugrud. They were married in February of 1948 and in 1951 moved to the Tripp Ranch where they still live. They bought the place in 1975. They have three children: Phillip Thomas, born October 1950 in Basin, Wyoming; John Ralph, born August 1953 in Lewistown, Montana; and Sigrid Marie born September 1956 in Lewistown. (See also PUGRUD — Flatwillow)

TRUMP, Elliott Elliott and Edna Trump were the first managers of the Nebraska Feeding Company. They came to Flatwillow in 1945. (See also TRUMP — Winnett)

TURNER, Charlie (Sec 35-13-25) (Land to Wells-Dickey)

TYSON, Isaac F. (Sec 9-13-26) Isaac and Anna Skelley Tyson came from Missouri and settled on Beaver Creek west of Lewistown. They purchased the Keller property, which had a fine stone house on it. In 1912 Isaac filed water rights on Yellow Water Creek and acquired property along the creek. The Tysons continued to make their permanent home in the Lewistown area, where their two children, John and Hazel, attended school. Mr. Tyson built a slaughter house and operated a butcher shop in Lewistown.

In 1918 the Tysons assigned all their rights to 1400 acres along Yellow Water Creek to the First National Bank of Lewistown. They returned to Missouri. Their daughter, Hazel, married William Duckett, a lawyer who had been blinded in World War I. Hazel was a graduate of Stephen's College.

John, the Tysons' son, went to Kansas where he established a pure-bred hog farm named Walnut Lodge. He founded Tyson Foods, which eventually became one

of the largest grocery corporations in the United States. It is still owned and operated by the family.

Anna Tyson was a sister to Minerva Walker. They were natives of Mound City, Missouri. The Walkers were also homesteaders in the Yellow Water area.

URS, Matthew (Sec 8-12-27) (Land to Carter)

UTLEY, Ed (Sec 34-12-25) (Land to Carter-Arganbright-Owen-Owen-Iverson) This account is taken from "Memories of Yesteryears," by Hazel Richardson Gamel: "One of our neighbors, Ed Utley, was a hunchback from New York. He had taken a homestead and then hired out to Mr. Clement to herd sheep. This was a hard job on anyone, for a herder had almost no contact with the outside world. They lived in a covered wagon, usually a canvas cover, with a bed, stove, table and cupboards. The camp tender would come around about twice a month with food for the herder. Camp tending was Robert Clement's job. We would see him pass in the wagon going to the Red Shed camp.

"After Utley quit herding he was at the claim of some other bachelor boys. One was washing dishes, and Ed Utley was drying. When he started to dry the butcher knife, he jumped at the dishwasher with it. These Lydle boys were big stout guys, and they succeeded in taking the knife away without anyone getting hurt. They saw that he had to be committed, so in a day or two they took him to town and turned him over to the authorities. For several months he was gone.

"One morning I was driving cattle out to graze on a piece of railroad land, and when I looked in the distance, I saw the hunchback coming. At once I quit driving cattle, wheeled my horse around and headed for home to report the news that Ed Utley was back. A freighter came along and gave him a ride before he reached our house, so we did not have to entertain him. I felt a great relief when they passed on by.

Ed was a well-read person, very mannerly and nice. His mother came and lived with him for some time. Reading material was very scarce, there was no radio, and with only the dogs and sheep for company, herders quite often began acting peculiar."

VAN, G. H. These are memories of G. H. Van: "I came to Roundup, Montana, on January 1, 1915. My sister and her husband moved from Roundup to Flatwillow, and I went along with them. Their names were Gustav and Blanche Peters. Later Blanche and her husband were divorced and she married Vernon Porter. Their home was on the ranch just north of the original Clement Ranch.

"I was in Winnett when they celebrated the coming of the railroad. The road leading into Flatwillow and Winnett was very close to Peters' buildings, and I remember that five or six of the men from the Clement Ranch rode past on their way to the celebration. They were very colorful and wore colored streamers around their necks and chaps.

"There was a man named Putman, who lived in Grass-