

was always an outdoor man. He was never happier than when hunting, fishing, camping or trading horses. Tom never wavered in his loyalty to his native state nor in his pride of his father who had played such a vital role in its early development."

Survivors were a sister, Mrs. Sadie Jones of Edmonton, Alberta; a stepson, Fred Coburn of White Sulphur Springs, Montana; a grandson, Tom Coburn of White Sulphur Springs; a nephew and a niece.

Tom's wife, Mabel Trotter Coburn Berkin, died in 1934 after a lingering illness. Her mother, Sarah Trotter, lived with them for many years on their ranch on Flatwillow and preceded her daughter in death. After Mabel's death, Tom petitioned the court to allow him to sell some of the estate to settle medical bills. This was granted and he sold part of his holdings to Ed Lambert and entered into a partnership with him on the remaining portion.

BERKVAM, John (Sec. 13-13-25) John Berkvam homesteaded in Yellow Water Basin about 1911. He and his wife, Anna Winjun, had nine children, all of whom were born in Minnesota. In 1913 John brought his wife and two younger children, Georgia and Vera, to Montana. Clara came a little later and stayed in Winnett where she went to school and worked for a family helping care for their twin boys, Bottolf (Bob), one of the older children, homesteaded adjoining his parents.

Georgia and Vera went to school in Flatwillow until 1917, when a school known as Yellow Water Basin School opened south of present-day Yellow Water Reservoir, not far from their home. It was located on the Joseph Hallen property about two miles east of the Berkvams. Georgia, Clara and Vera all went to high school in Winnett, although Vera went to Fergus County High School for two years, also. She graduated from Winnett High School in 1927. Mrs. Berkvam worked at the dormitory when Vera stayed there.

The following article appeared in the Winnett Times on June 7, 1926: "J. J. Berkvam, of Flatwillow, filed a petition for the nomination for assessor Wednesday and will make the race on the Republican ticket. Mr. Berkvam homesteaded in the Yellow Water district in 1912 and has been a resident of the county since that date. He is a bookkeeper by profession, and prior to coming to Montana he acted as the field deputy assessor in Minnesota for four years.

"He served for ten years on a creamery board, five years as secretary. The creamery did a \$50,000 yearly business. He also organized a Farmers Telephone Company with 200 miles of line. He served for two terms as alderman of Albert Lee, Minnesota, and has also acted on school boards, township boards, etc. Three of his four sons served in the World War. Mr. Berkvam has a large number of friends who will interest themselves in his candidacy." John was narrowly defeated in November by K. E. Park.

Mrs. Annie Berkvam died in 1927 at the age of 61. She is buried at the Flatwillow Cemetery.



Georgia Pentecost Buckmaster



Vera Berkvam Foster

Clara married Carl Grow and for many years they lived in the Flatwillow community. They had three children. Bob moved to the state of Washington. Georgia married Roy Pentecost, and Vera married a Mr. Foster. The Fosters had one son.

Gerald never married. He lived on the Yellow Water property for a number of years after his folks left. He farmed a little, raised a few pigs, trapped coyotes and, some say, made homebrew. The brew was popular at Flatwillow dances where "the men liked to stand outside the hall and enjoy a drink, but the ladies stayed inside!" Gerald was nicknamed "Rattlesnake Pete" because he worked for a time at the Rattlesnake Butte oil field as a watchman.

Vera remembers an incident when she was about ten years old which happened at the Flatwillow store. A team of horses was tied to the outside stairway of the store when Vera walked in front of them and frightened them. They jumped and a hoof came down on her head, knocking her to the ground, and a spike went into her knee. There was no doctor to go to, so the wound was cleaned with peroxide. Luckily, she survived.

Georgia and Vera, in 1988, are 83 and 80 respectively. They both are widows in Anaheim, California.

BERNHARDT, Hubert (Sec. 14-12-27) (Land to Houtrouw-Pet Co-Wilson-Neb Feed Co-FCC)

BERVEN, John (Sec 28-13-25) After emigrating from Norway, John Berven, Tom Reisater, and Helge Hus came west from Iowa to Billings by train in 1898. They were on their way to Alaska when they heard of the homestead land available north of Billings, Montana. They each took out a homestead in the Flatwillow area. In 1912 John Berven's brother, Ole Berven, came to help his brother and also proved up on a homestead. The brothers owned and operated a sheep ranch together until 1935 when Ole died of tick fever.

John Berven married Lillian Youderian Reisater January 30, 1918. Their only child, Helen Louise, was born November 2, 1919. The family lived on Pike Creek where John operated a sheep ranch until 1937 when their home burned. They bought the Martin Gavel house in Winnett and lived there while Louise went to high school. They later bought the Markland property, moved the house from the Carl Grow homestead, and lived and ranched there until their deaths.

John Berven was the mail carrier from Winnett to Flatwillow from 1928 until 1936. He served as trustee on the District #26 school board. He hauled coal and wood and feed for the horses for the school and helped with repairs when necessary.

Louise Berven Cook wrote: "My mother, Lillian Youderian, her sister Josephine, and brothers Edward, Leo, and William took out homesteads in Garfield County after working at the George Wright Ranch on Flatwillow Creek. Mother was married to Tom Reisater in 1913. He died in 1916 from cancer and she continued to live on the place. Her sister Viola later homesteaded near them on Pike Creek."

Ole Pugrud, John's cousin, told this story about John. The Berven house was burning and John knew there was no hope of saving it. He went in to save what he could, but couldn't decide what was the most important thing to save. He saw the china closet and knew that Lillian loved her pretty dishes, so he decided to save them for her. He opened the window and carefully threw the dishes out the open window. He worked in the fire as long as he dared, then went outside. Only then did he discover that all the pretty dishes had broken in the fall.

John Berven, son of Jarand Maakestad and Eli Huse, was born in 1871. He had seven sisters and two brothers. John died in 1952 and was buried in Flatwillow Cemetery.

Lillian Youderian, daughter of William Youderian and



John and Ole Berven

Bertha Schulz, was born in 1887 in Wisconsin. She had three brothers and two sisters all of whom lived in this area at one time. She died in 1950 and is buried in Osseo, Wisconsin.

Louise Berven married Frank Gjerde at Lewistown in 1942. Of this union three children were born: Frances (1943), Sylvia (1944) and John (1946). In 1962 Louise married Jack Cook and she lives in Augusta, Wisconsin (1989).

BERVEN, Ole (Sec. 30-13-26) Ole Berven, son of Ola Jarandson Maakestad and Eli Huse, was born in Norway in 1890. He came to Flatwillow in 1912 and homesteaded. Ole never married but ran a sheep operation in partnership with his brother John. Ole died in 1935 from tick fever and is buried in the Flatwillow Cemetery.

BESSAY, Robert (Sec. 24-12-26) (Land to Insurance Company — Pet. Co.-Buxbaum-Buxbaum-Sharkey) The Bessays had no children but were very active in community affairs. He was a member of the Bessay, Joyce and Baker Sheep Company. In 1931 the Bessays moved to Washington with Mrs. Bessay's parents, the Charles Websters.

BISHOP, Sam (Sec. 24-13-26) Sam Bishop homesteaded in 1911. Herman Bott and Lars Pugrud were his neighbors. He owned a good line of machinery and also a threshing machine. It was cheaper to hire him to plow the homesteads than to buy plows and horses, so many of the homesteaders hired Sam. Sam loved to visit and a small exaggeration didn't bother him either. Neighbors used to say, "if Sam says 'good morning' — you'd better look at your watch." Sam lost the place to an insurance company in 1926 and moved to Lewistown, Montana.

BLEE, Ralph (Sec. 20-12-27) (Land to Pet. Co. to USA)

BLODGETT, Alson (Sec. 15-12-25) (Land to Pet. Co.-Green-Daugherty-Hughes-Kimmel)

BOGCESS, Orvie (Sec. 8-12-27) (Land to ins co-Duncan) Orvie E. Boggess was born in 1873 in Springfield, Illinois. He married Leatha L. Fulton. Leatha died in 1919 and Orvie died in 1934. Both are buried in the Flatwillow Cemetery. They had five children: Archie (1897), Lyle (1900), Roy (1906), Edith (1912) and Baby (1915) stillborn. Archie died in 1915 and he and the infant are also buried at Flatwillow.

Edith Boggess Barnett contributed the following memories: "My mother came to Montana by rail (The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul). She shared her car with Mrs. Earl Tannehill. They each brought their household goods, farm machinery and milk cows. Leatha Boggess had three small sons and Louise Tannehill had two children. They unloaded at the old Musselshell siding.

"My mother was a leader and had ability to organize and pull the people together. She worked very hard for the community, school and church. There were none of these and most of the people were strangers. The Flatwillow Memorial Cemetery was obtained by her and two others. She was a very talented lady, a loving wife and mother.

"My father was very enterprising; he bought and sold livestock. He had worked for the largest horse and mule market in the world before coming to Montana. He helped build the new Flatwillow store and Flatwillow Memorial Hall. He was always ready to help with the lambing, threshing and cattle drives. He helped build the school and do the other things needed to build a new community in a very raw and wild land. The lumber for our new house was hauled from the sawmill in the Snowy Mountains by team and wagon by my father and his two small sons.

"Orvie was always ready to help his neighbor no matter what it might entail or when. His word was his bond. He was active in community affairs, especially the country dances. He was a good auctioneer and square dance caller. He was always interested in politics, a good Christian, a loving husband and his three children were his life.

"Orvie and his daughter, Edith, moved to Billings, Montana, in 1927, and he stayed there until his death."

The school records of District #26 on May 16, 1925, state: "Necessary business attending the school site for Oliver School was transacted. Notices of bids for moving schoolhouse were put out." "June 27, 1925, Orvie Boggess was given contract for moving schoolhouse and putting it on a foundation for \$125." (This school is also referred to as the Upper Flatwillow School).

Lyle Boggess married Meta Corth, daughter of Frank Corth, in 1921. They had five children: Lyle (1921), Robert (1924), Normand (1926), Mildred (1927) and Don (1929). They stayed on the place until 1929 when it was taken over by the insurance company. Later it was purchased by Pete Duncan.

BONKOWSKI, Lebrecht (Sec. 31, 32-13-25) (Land to USA)

BORGESON, Claus (Sec 31-12-26) (Land to Montana Land Company-Blomstrom-Harms-Eliasson)

BOTT, Herman (Sec. 10-13-26) (Land to Hays-Sibbert-Doman) Herman Bott was born in Nebraska in 1871. He came to Montana and homesteaded on Flatwillow Creek where he lived until his death in 1927. Donnis Doman presently (1989) lives on this place.

In 1922 he built a new home and was very proud of his place. He raised garden produce, alfalfa seed and corn. He had extensive meadows that he irrigated.

At one of the first Flatwillow rodeos, Herman came up to a group of ladies and advised them, "If a bull gets loose, don't worry — just stand your ground. You see, a running bull is blind, so all you have to do is step aside and he will run on by." As he was walking back across the makeshift arena, a bull did get loose and headed for Herman. Herman was very fleet of foot in seeking cover!

Herman contracted Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever and died in 1927. His body was returned to Nebraska for burial.

BOWEN, Richard E. (Sec. 22-12-25) (Land to Iverson) Richard E. Bowen bought the ranch on Flatwillow Creek

known as the Shaw Ranch from the Federal Land Bank in 1929. The Winnett Times provided the following information in 1948: "An amended inventory and appraisal of the estate of Richard E. Bowen, filed with district court, places the value of the estate at \$103,239.00. Robert M. Bowen of Billings, son, is administrator of the estate. The inventory included lands in western Petroleum and eastern Fergus counties, livestock and equipment. The ranch is now operated by Henry Algra. Appraisers for the estate were Andrew Iverson, Harley Neel and T. R. Biggerstaff. Bowen passed away in March 1947."

Vic Koetitz operated the ranch for a time before 1944; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Algra operated it from 1944 to 1964. In 1964 Bowens sold the ranch to Andrew Iverson.

BRADY, Charles and Frank (Sec. 34-13-27) (Land to Brady-FLB-Pet. Co.-Wiggins)

BRADY, Daniel (Sec. 2-12-27) (Land sold to Brady — Pet. Co.-Wiggins)

BRADY, John (Sec. 34-13-27) (Land to Brady) John and Bertha Brady lived about a mile east of Wiggins' and sent their children to Upper Flatwillow School. They had six children: Mabel (1917), Charles (1921), Myrtle (1923), Alvin (1924), Irene (1925) and Calvin (1927). Mrs. Brady was a dark-haired happy lady. In 1934 the Bradys had a sheriff's sale and left.

BRAHS, Bernice (Sec. 3-12-27) Walter William Brahs, son of Frank and Emma Bast Brahs, was born in 1888 in Henderson, Minnesota. He was married to Bernice Loretta Spurlock, Bill Wiggins' sister, in Winnett in 1916. The Brahs left Montana in 1929 and moved to Oregon. He had an auction business in Grants Pass, Oregon. They had three sons: William, Bruce and Frank; and one daughter, Elizabeth E. Ayers.

BRAITHWAITE, Christopher (Sec. 29-12-26) (Land to Wade-Lambert-FLB-USA) Hazel Braithwaite Wilson submitted the following information: "Christopher Braithwaite and Ella Engle were married in Bloomington, Wisconsin, but shortly loaded their goods in a wagon and moved overland to Canton, South Dakota, where they settled. My father became a grain buyer and part-time farmer. There were seven children in the family: Nettie Ethel (1884), Fred LaVern (1886), Raymond Earl (1889), Charles Roy (1891), Bessie (1897), Hazel (1899) and Val C. (1901).

"In 1910, we (father, mother, Roy, Bessie, Hazel and Val) and three other families (Richardsons, Glazes and Wagners) got emigrant cars and moved furniture, horses, cattle, sheep, and some chickens to Montana. We were on a homestead 25 miles north and two miles east of Roundup, Montana, on what was called Flatwillow Bench. We and the Richardson family settled on the same section of land, just north of the 'Little Wall.'

"The four families had purchased a huge Hart-Parr tractor, and it plowed up many acres all over the country for crops. We were there for five years when some men from Roundup talked my father into moving into town, so he

could run the new Farmer's Elevator which was just opening in 1915.

"The Glazes and Wagners had already left for Oregon. Richardsons left in 1917 and ended up in Texas.

"At one time there were 23 pupils in the Wallview School. There was good attendance at the Wallview Church which the settlers had built in 1915. The Wallview Cemetery still marks the spot where the church used to sit. My father and J. J. Richardson were the prime pushers for a school and church. My mother and Mrs. Gene Fassett collected donations for the church.

"Our first teacher at Wallview School was Dora Skipper. She rode a horse three or four miles to the schoolhouse. Miss Lena Houtrouw, a young woman who was visiting her brother and the Emil Zimmermans, taught for a year. Harry Tripp, from around Flatwillow, taught one year; he was an excellent teacher. Fred Grodeon taught, also. He had a homestead several miles southeast of us. Mr. Grodeon also taught Homer Richardson and me our first year of high school. He, too, was very good — I passed all my tests to receive credits in Roundup High School. I had to do some extra work in science.

"My sister Nettie was married before we moved, and lived in Bismarck, North Dakota. Fred was crippled and never married. He lived with Bessie in later years in Virginia. Ray became a casino owner. Roy was a mechanic and spent his life in Roundup. Bessie went back to Bismarck to live with her sister Nettie and go to school. She became a teacher, married and moved to Virginia. Hazel became a teacher and stayed in Montana, mostly in Roundup. Val became an auto dealer and moved to California."

BRENIZER, Jasper and Mattie (Sec. 7, 17, 18-12-25) (Land to USA)

BRINEGAR, John L. (Sec 1-12-25)(Land to Moreland-Coleman-Pet Co-Bowen-Iverson)

BRINEGAR, Mitchell (Sec 1-12-25) (Land to Thum-USA)

BROOKS, William (Sec. 34-12-25) (Land to Brooks-USA)

BROWN, Charles (Tom) Tom and Helen Brown came to the area to work for Helen's mother and step-father, Warren and Verna Shields, on their place on Flatwillow Creek. The Browns had two daughters: Sheri (1946) and Gloria (1956). Helen and Tom were divorced, and Helen married Pat Mang.

BROWN, Clay (Sec. 2-12-25) (Land to Daugherty-Hughes-Kimmel) Harry Clay Brown was born in 1885 in Princeton, Missouri. Mary Hayes was born in 1892 in Lineville, Iowa. They were married in 1911 and blessed with two children: Lester (1912) and Leland (1914). The family came to Montana in 1917 from Iowa. Five more children joined the family in Montana: Elsie (1920), Edna (1923), Wesley (1925), Harry (1926) and Alvin (1935).

They homesteaded in the Pike Creek hills area, about



The Clay Brown family about 1920: Clay, Mary, Leland, Lester, Elsie and Edna, the youngest (in front)

one and one half miles west of the Lone Prairie School. In about 1920 they moved to the Richardson place near Wallview. They farmed and raised cattle and sheep. In later years Mary moved to Winnett for nine months of the year so the children could attend school.

Lester married Evelyn Lewis and had one son Rolla. (See also LEWIS, Marvin — Blakeslee) Leland married and had three girls — Lucille, Carol and Doris. Elsie married William Graves and had three children — Virginia, Larri and Bill. Edna married Dale Lee and had six children — Ann, Karen, Debbie, Theresa, Sandie, and John. Wesley married Marie Green and had six children — Gregg, Del, Chuck, Jerry, Laura, and Stacey. Harry married Betty Keuhn and had three children — Cheryl, Alan and Janice. Alvin married Jan Rose and had two children, Paula and Peter.

The Browns moved to Fairfield, Montana, in 1937 under the resettlement program. Clay passed away in 1954 and Mary in 1982. Following Clay's death, Mary sold the farm and moved in to Fairfield.

BROWN, Gertha (Sec 30-12-25) (Land to Dryden-Scholes-USA)

BROWN, Riley (Sec 2-12-25) (Land to Blodgett-Green-Hicks-USA) Riley and Fay Brown were married in Wilder, Missouri, in 1913. Riley came to Montana in 1915 and filed on a homestead eight miles west of Flatwillow. He sent for Fay and son John to join him on the land.

Riley worked on the Shaw Ranch and walked to work each day. Fay returned to Missouri every time a baby was due so John (1914), Alice (1916), Fern (1918) and Theo (1920) were all born in Missouri. The family moved to Winnett in 1921, where John and Alice went to school. Riley operated a dray in Winnett until 1924, at which time they moved to the Austin Saylor Ranch near Grassrange, Montana. While in Winnett, Donald (1922) and Helen (1924) were born. Charles made his appearance in 1926 in Grassrange and Dorothy Jean (1932) and James (1935) were born in Giltedge, Montana.



Riley and Fay Brown

BUCK, W.E. W. E. Buck filed very early water rights on Yellow Water Creek. His filing states that on August 10, 1883, he filed for rights for his land located "two miles above the crossing of the Maginnis Road on Yellow Water Creek."

BUNDY, Oscar W. (Sec 1-12-26) (Land to Hackett — USA) In the Flatwillow Cemetery there are two graves which bear the following inscriptions: Oscar Bundy born 1831, died 1918; Oscar W. Bundy born 1864, died 1919.

Marguerite Hansen writes: "Mama sat with Grandpa Bundy so Mr. Bundy could work in his blacksmith shop. Mrs. Bundy was the cook at the Clement Ranch. My folks helped lay Grampa Bundy out. Papa went to Roundup and got the coffin. Grampa Bundy was buried in the Flatwillow Cemetery."

BUXBAUM, Anton (Sec 12-12-26) Anton (Tony), son of Matt Buxbaum, was born in 1882 in Austria. He came to Montana in 1906 and worked in the Aldrich Coal Mine near Livingston. He homesteaded near Flatwillow in 1909. He was a bachelor working on his own place and helping on threshing crews. He drove the mail route to Winnett for many years.

Susan Sharkey relates: "One time Ralph Tripp decided to catch a ride on the mail stage home from Winnett. The snow was deep, so Tony was using a team and buggy to haul mail. The route went out through Yellow Water Basin and back into Flatwillow by way of Pike Creek. Due to the depth of snow and the cold, they walked most of the way home. Ralph said it would have been only half as far if he would have walked straight home from town.

"Tony lived in a one-room house just west of the Sharkey homestead. He always kept it tidy. He kept a gun by his bed and trusted no one. He had been in the army in Austria.

"He built a barn for his horses and when he would whistle his horses would come to him. Later he bought a Frank Joyce section and raised some cattle.

"Tony talked broken English. One time he told us that he had sent an order of a 'maddress,' a 'vaffler' and a 'cuppert.' It wasn't until the order came that we understood. He received a mattress, a waffle iron, and a cupboard.

"He had a granary with a basement. The floor, walls and ceiling of the basement were thick concrete. It was here that he made moonshine. After Andrew Sharkey Sr. made some wine of grapes and chokecherries. Tony would take the mash to his granary and make moon out of it. He would put the mash in a vat and bring it to a boil. It ran down a copper tubing through a 50-gallon barrel and finally out of the tubing at the bottom. It took quite a while as it dripped very slowly. He had to keep it at a boil and at a certain temperature. This meant a lot of fire tending to keep it from flaming or exploding.

"As a kid, Andy (Sharkey) remembers seeing Tony out in his yard just singing and yodeling away. He couldn't figure out what he was so happy about all the time. In later years he found that this was Tony's reaction to moonshine.

"When Tony died he was buried in Flatwillow Cemetery. He left his place to his brother, Joe, who lives in Pennsylvania. Joe sold the place to Andy Sharkey."



Anton Buxbaum

BYFIELD, William (Sec 3-13-26) The children in the area where William Byfield lived were fascinated but a little afraid of him because he lived alone in a dugout on a hill north of Yellow Water Creek and never visited anyone. To them he was a mysterious hermit who lived in the hills, and because there is little else known about him, he remains just that today!

The 320 acres William owned eventually reverted to the county for taxes and is owned by the Kings today (1989).

BYRNE, Peter (Sec 29-12-26) (Land to Hanley-Berger-Sharp-Cook-Harms-Eliasson)

CAIN, Aaron and Bernice The Cains had two children who attended the Lone Prairie School in 1927-1928: Laura (1911) and Blanche (1913).

CANFIELD, Oscar Oscar Burton, the son of Oscar and Cynthia Canfield, was born in 1874 in Salt Point, California. In 1900 he married Clara Garrett in Clarkston, Washington. The couple came to Montana in 1909 and to Central Montana in 1924. They settled south of Grassrange, and in 1941 they moved into the town.

A few years later Oscar made a down payment on 560 acres of land adjacent to Yellow Water Dam. B. L. Cully was a business partner in the venture. B. L. (Burton) was a nephew of Mrs. Canfield and was reared and educated by the Canfields. He served in World War II, and after the war, came to Winnett with his wife and worked as a mechanic in Dunlap's Garage.

In 1948 Mr. and Mrs. Tom Woodworth moved to the Yellow Water property to manage it for the Canfields. Pete Tunnicliff acquired the property in the early 1950s.

Mr. Canfield died in August 1950 and was buried in the Grass Range Cemetery.

CARLBERG, Alice (Sec 10-12-26) (Sold to USA)

CARLSON, Carl (Sec 18-12-25) (Land to Carlson-Pet Co-Green-Daugherty-Hughes)

CARMICHAEL, Walter and Edward (Sec 5-13-25) The Carmichael homesteads were on the very western edge of what is now Petroleum County just south of Yellow Water Creek.

Walter and Bessie Carmichael had four children — Walter (1905), Orville (1906), Richard (1908) and Clota (1909). Pauline Hume Blucher remembers visiting her shy cousins. She wrote, "One time I remember visiting Aunt Bess and Uncle Walt. They had three boys and one girl. One boy named Orville would hang from the rafters and stare at the company!"

The Edward Carmichaels had three children for whom a record has been found. They were Mary Louise (1912), Edward Brooks (1917) and James John (1918).

The school-age children of these families went to school in Battrick until a new district was formed in 1917. The school district encompassed land in both Fergus and Petroleum counties. The school, known as the Carmichael or Bender Creek School, was just inside Petroleum County.

CARPENTER, Bruce Bruce Carpenter and his wife were the last managers of the Nebraska Feeding Company. They replaced Bud and Ruby Jones in 1982 and stayed for about two years until the place sold to the First Continental Corporation.

CARTER, Albert (Sec 28-12-25) (Land to Heaton-FLB-Green-Daugherty-Hughes) According to the school census for District #106, Carters had one child, Carl, born in 1917.

CARTER, Rolla (Land to Johnke) Rolla Carter came to Flatwillow in 1909 and homesteaded in Sec 5-12-27. He was born in Holden, Missouri, in 1889. He had been driving stage in Yellowstone Park for four years and working in Billings, Montana, in the sugar beet plant in the winter. His father wrote and told him about the land available to homestead in Flatwillow. He married Nina Walker, daughter of Ed and Ida Walker, also homesteaders.

The following are memories of Nina Walker Carter: "After Rolla and I had dated for about a year, we decided to get married. We drove a team of horses hitched to a buggy as far as Grassrange, Montana. There we caught the train to Lewistown where we were married on Ground Hog Day, the second of February 1915. There was a lot of snow in Lewistown, but the sun was shining and it was a beautiful day. We stayed over the next day, did some shopping and then went home the following day.



Zella Carter and Mildred Wadman at the Winnett High School dorm in 1936

"Roll and two friends had been planning on going to the mountains to get logs for each to build a three-room house. When we got home, they all left and I stayed home to do the chores, one of which was leading two milk cows to water each day. The men were gone for two weeks. That's how I spent my honeymoon!

"When they got home, they were so thrilled to think they had got such a nice bunch of house logs. They'd marked them and then left them until spring. It was quite customary to do this and they felt the logs were perfectly safe. When they went back in the spring to get them, somebody had stolen every one! They often laughed about it years later, saying they'd gone and gotten enough logs for somebody a nine-room house!

"We lived on Roll's homestead and leased mine out. Mine had a lot of pasture ground and in those days it was open range. Everybody around had stock, so the range was used by everybody. We were 14 miles south of Winnett.

"All of our children were born on the homestead: Roberta Jacque on January 2, 1916; Zella Louise on May 18, 1918, and James Fairman on May 4, 1927. I had a registered nurse with me when Jacque was born, but we finally had to call the doctor. With Zella and Jim, we had a registered nurse come, but we pulled a fast one on her and had them before she got there. Everything went well." (According to Zella, the doctor was Dr. Alexander and Alice Rutledge was the midwife.)

"When Jacque first started school, she rode four miles on horseback. She was a good rider and was always in a horse race! One day the stage driver ran into Roll in town and told him he didn't want to be tattling — but Roll's little girl was meeting him on the road each night when he'd be coming with the stage and she from school. (By this time, the stage was an old truck.) She'd get in front of him with her horse and wouldn't let him pass. Every time he tried, she'd cut over in front of him. Needless to say, when Roll got home he put a stop to that!"

Jacque married George Bratten and lived in Winnett until George entered the Marine Corps. They moved to Bremerton, Washington, and were later divorced. She married Jack Huff in Bremerton, and they had two children, Rolla Park and Wilma. Jack was a Navy man, so they lived in Japan, in Spain, on the East coast, and on the west coast, settling in Indiana where Jack was a Navy recruiter.

Nina continues: "Jacque liked to do the housework, but Zella didn't want any part of that! She liked to tag after Dad. Zella loved to dance! She wanted to be the first one there and the last one to leave. One day when there were potatoes to plant, Roll told the girls that they couldn't go to the dance that night unless the potatoes got planted. They grabbed the bucket of potatoes and away they went to the garden. In a very short time, they were back with an empty bucket, saying the potatoes were planted.

"Roll didn't see how the job could be done as they hadn't been gone long enough, but they insisted it was. When the potatoes came up, the picture of the potato

planting was quite clear. In one hill there were dozens of vines and then there wouldn't be another plant for several feet and so went the rows! But, they'd made it to the dance that night on time!" (Zella's comment: "What kid today was taught to dance at the age of four by their dad?")

Zella attended local schools until her senior year in high school, when she moved to Joliet, Montana, with her folks, graduating from there. She married John Hunter, and they have three children: Marlene, Sherry and Randall. John was a construction man and they moved around a lot, finally retiring in 1974 to live in Townsend, Montana.

Nina's memories go on: "Jim was always out of the frying pan into the fire. When he was about two and one-half years old, Roll was building a cow barn. Jim had a little bucket with which he would go around picking up all the old nails. I was out there, too, but finally I went into the house to start supper. The last I saw Jim, he was playing on the platform under the windmill with his bucket and nails.

"I went out to get some potatoes and heard Jim say, 'lookee, Mommy.' I looked around and couldn't see him. Then he said it again, 'lookee, Mommy' — he sounded so far away. Pretty soon, I looked up and there he was at the top of the windmill — 35 feet up! He'd wanted some candy earlier, and I wouldn't let him have any so close to supper, but I called up to him and told him if he would come down, I'd give him some candy. He called back that he couldn't!

"Roll had heard him, and he came walking over — trying to be as calm as he could. He told Jim to stay there and he'd come up and get him. He climbed the ladder and got him safely down — much to my relief! We never did figure out how he got up there, as the first rung of the ladder was over his head. But, Roll went immediately to get his axe and there were several more rungs gone when he was through!"

James left with his parents when in the third grade. He entered the Navy when he was sixteen. He married and had four children — James Edward, Clifford Lynn, Annette and Tina.

Nina recalls more: "Families worked hard together then. Also, neighbors exchanged work so we all helped each other. We cooked on coal and wood stoves. We had a deep well right in our yard, so all the water was hauled into the house. No such thing as running water!

"After threshing, we had to haul our grain with a team and wagon to Musselshell, Montana, which was 35 miles away. Roll would haul coal back. I often think, when I go to iron something, Roll would haul coal 35 miles, and I heated irons on a cast-iron stove! Quite a bit of difference between now and 50 years ago — but, we were happy!

"Nearly everyone on the homesteads were young people like us, just starting out. Everybody knew each other and no one ever locked a door. You might come home and find that while you were gone somebody, riding for cattle or something, had come in, cooked their dinner

and gone on. We were on the homestead until 1936. We bought a small farm in Joliet, Montana."

CASPER, Arthur Arthur Casper and wife, Sophie Landis Casper, were listed in a school census for District No. 26. They had two children, James (1910) and Edward (1912).

CHANDLER, George (Sec 27,34-13-25) (Land to Minato-Minato-Hughes)

CHEESEMAN, Henry (Sec 1-13-26) The Cheeseman family came from Lincolnshire, England. Henry was one of eight children. He was born in Rochester, Wisconsin, on August 16, 1855. His wife, Anna, was born in Maine in 1862. The couple came to Montana in 1909 and operated the famous Banks Ranch at Deerfield. In partnership with James Martin (former Fergus County Clerk of the Court), he bought a fine farm at the juncture of Elk Creek and Yellow Water Creek from Lepper and Garl in 1918.

The Winnett Times carried an article about Henry Cheeseman in its July 9, 1926, issue. Though the article mentions the Cheeseman place as being on Pike Creek, there are no records to indicate Mr. Cheeseman owned property other than their land between Elk Creek and Yellow Water. The article is quoted in part:

"Henry Cheeseman was in from his Pike Creek ranch Monday with a sample of corn which measured 38 inches in height. Mr. Cheeseman stated this corn crop was exceptionally good, that the recent rains, followed by sunshine, caused unparalleled growth. Mr. Cheeseman was especially optimistic about his alfalfa crop, stating it was the best in years and that the first cutting was the heaviest he had cut since farming on Pike Creek, that it was so thick in spots it was difficult to cut with the mower. The second crop is now well on its way with every assurance that it will mature soon enough to permit cutting a third crop."

Mr. Cheeseman was troubled with rheumatism and was forced to leave the ranch. In 1930 he and Mrs. Cheeseman moved to Lewistown where they established a home. Nick Langshausen leased the farm property for a time. Anna died in 1942; Henry, in 1944. The Cheeseman property was purchased by Robert and Orene Raundal.

CHINIS, Edgar (Sec 23-13-27) (Sold to Walsh)

CHIPMAN, H.A. (Sec 4-13-27) (Lost to taxes)

CHRISTENSEN, Lawrence Lawrence and Martha (Toulouse) Christensen had four children listed in the 1949-1950 Lone Prairie School census. Ronald and Donald (1945), Clarence (1947) and John (1948).

CLARK, Clairmont (Sec 10-13-26) (Sold to Mlekush) (See also CLARK — Dovetail)

CLEVELAND, Horace (Sec 35-13-27) (Land to Davis-Pet Co-Naujok-Tripp)

CLEMENT, Hallowell F. (Sec 18-12-26) (Land to Iverson) The Winnett Times printed the following article on the Clement family: "Hallowell F. Clement was born in Bangor, Maine, and died in Lewistown, Montana, in 1935.

He married Isabelle Jordon in 1885. Isabelle was born in Cavindale, Pennsylvania, and died in 1928. They had four children: Douglas, died as an infant; Robert, died of flu in 1919; Donald and Hallowell Jr.

"Hall Sr. received a liberal education, graduating from law school. In 1881 he came to Montana with a brother and took up the land in the Flatwillow Valley which formed the nucleus for what later became one of the largest sheep and cattle ranches in Central Montana. After proving his land and developing his ranch, he practiced law in Billings, Montana. This continued only a short time, after which he devoted his entire time to ranching with marked success. He continued active as a sheepman until 1919. At one time he had as high as 25,000 head of sheep.

"For several years, while his children attended school, the family maintained a residence at Billings, as well as the ranch. In 1915, Hallowell was hurt in a runaway accident, the injuries from which he never totally recovered. A few years later his son Hall Jr. took over active management of the ranch.

"Isabelle returned to her family home in Pennsylvania for a visit in 1928. While she was there she became ill, and Hall Sr. went to be with her. Her condition worsened and word was sent to the ranch for the children to come.

"There was a terrible blizzard raging in Montana at the time this message reached Roundup. Because of the weather, some men from Flatwillow had been stranded in Roundup. They became aware of the situation concerning Mrs. Clement and, at the risk of their own lives, took the message to the ranch. She had passed away by the time the boys arrived. It was this incident that convinced Hall Jr. that a telephone service was needed, and by 1931 there were 13 phones operating in the Flatwillow area."

Hazel Richardson Gamel recalls: "The Clement Ranch buildings were: office and boss's house (combined); bunkhouse for the hands; cook's house which was a big dining room, kitchen and sleeping quarters for the cook and family. When the son Robert married, his house was built at the end of the row.

"Mr. Clement was always dressed up like an old 'southern gentleman.' It was very rare to ever see him riding a horse, he seemed to prefer a team and buggy. He held himself very aloof from his hands, but his son Robert was one of the cowboys.

"Robert was a well-liked young man and evidently very good looking. He went to Hollywood to try out for the movies but came back after a while and told his friends that he was content to be a cowboy. He married, and they built a house at the ranch headquarters."

The following is taken from the *Grass Range Review* of 1919: "Tuesday night two other well-known citizens 'went west.' Mr. and Mrs. Robert Clement, who lived with the former's father on his ranch a few miles west of Flatwillow, took sick on Sunday, November 10. On Tuesday, November 19 at 8 p.m., the husband died. Three hours later the wife also passed away. They had both been unconscious for two days. A doctor from Roundup and a

trained nurse were in attendance during their illness.

"Mr. Clement was a splendid, vigorous, manly young fellow who had the respect and esteem of all who knew him. Before her marriage, Mrs. Clement taught school at Wallview and Ryegate. There are but few sweeter characters in these parts than she was."

Hallowell Clement Jr. married Della Turnell in 1921. They had five children: Joan (1922), Mary Isabelle (1924), James (1926), Barbara (1928) and Sue Zenaide (1932). Hall Jr. lived on the ranch and operated it until his children started high school. At this time they moved into Lewistown.

CLEMENT, Olin Olin, brother of Hall Sr., came to Flatwillow in 1881 with his wife, Ida. They built up a sizable place on the creek in sections 13 and 24-12-25 and sections 18 and 19-12-26. In 1890 they sold out to Hall for \$20,000.

CLEMENT, Ora Ora Clement settled in 1883 in section 24-12-25. He also sold out to his brother Hall.

CLINE, Samuel B. (Sec 1-13-25) Samuel Cline and his wife came from Tennessee along with Mrs. Cline's bachelor brother, Graham Vance. The Clines homesteaded about a mile from the present Yellow Water Dam, north of Yellow Water Creek.

Sam was a preacher and he held church and Sunday School services in the schoolhouse. They raised chickens and turkeys and farmed a small piece of land.

The Clines lived in a two-story house with two rooms on the ground floor and two rooms upstairs. Dorothy Lancelle Bartlett remembers the house well and how cold it was! It was single-board construction and barely kept the wind out, let alone the cold. The Clines moved to Idaho in the early 1920s and the Lancelles moved into the house in about 1925 because it was close to the Walker School. They lived there for several years.

COBURN, William (Sec 3-12-26) (Land to county-Wilson-Nebraska Feeding Co.-FCC) William H. Coburn homesteaded in about 1910 in the Flatwillow area. He was married to Mabel Hoffman and they had one son, Thomas. He was a partner in the COD (Coburn, Oliver and Duncan) Co. They left the area in 1922. Mabel died in 1925.

COGGSHALL, Katharine (Sec 19,20-12-25) (Land to Stoibern-Hollam Co-Cont Land-Zimmerman)

COLEMAN, John (Sec 1-12-25) (Land to Bowen-Iverson)

CONRAD, George (Sec 2-12-26) (Land to El Monte) George Conrad was a mail carrier and an insurance salesman. The Conrad home was on the hill west of Flatwillow, overlooking the creek and the town. Otto and Lois Johnke were living on this place in 1926 when the hall burned down. Later, the Harley Pollocks lived there while their children went to school. The Conrads didn't have any children.

COPLEN (or COPELAND) (Musselshell Co.) Rhea Storm McDermott supplied the following information: "The Coplens moved from Illinois to Oklahoma and then came to Montana in 1911. Their daughter, Leota, taught me in school in Oklahoma and also taught our first school in Howard Coulee. She later married Roy Ellis, a bachelor homesteader who lived with us."

CORREA, Don Don Correa became the manager of the Nebraska Feeding Co. in August 1964. He replaced J. B. Harbour who had been there 10 years. Correa, a native of Texas, managed the Lochhaven Farms at Hayden Lake, Idaho, before coming here.

Correa received a Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Husbandry from Texas A. & M. He served in the Air Force from 1954 to 1958.

Don was active in church work, and it was through this that he met Jo Ann Tripp. They were married in 1965 and left almost immediately for Peru as missionaries. They returned to Montana in 1969 and adopted two children: Daniel (1970) and Esther (1972). They were divorced in 1980, and Don presently lives in Glasgow, Montana.

COX, Albert Albert Cox, son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Cox, was born in 1891 in Rockvale, Montana. He was the sixth of seven children. He came to the Flatwillow area in 1917, working on ranches and hauling mail. He and Nora King were married in December 1919 in Lewistown. They spent two years working the King place because of Sam King's health. There were six children born of this union: Helen, died as infant; David, died as infant; Jim, killed by a car in Great Falls, Montana, at the age of six; Sam; Mary; Betty Lou.

Al was the first deputy sheriff of Petroleum County, serving under Perry Baker.

Sam was born in 1924. He received his education in Washington State. He joined the Navy in World War II



Nora and Al Cox

and served until 1946. When he was discharged, he came to the Winnett area and worked for two years. He married Helen Brzezinski in 1949, at Libertyville, Illinois. They had three children: Gary, Barbara and Mary. Sam came back to Flatwillow every year, as long as his health would allow, for a hunting and visiting vacation. He passed away in 1988.

Mary was born in 1922 and educated in Washington. She married Vernon Alexander, a Navy pilot, in 1944 at Vancouver, Washington. Vernon's plane went down in Puget Sound in 1950, with no survivors. They had two children: Judith and Keith. Mary then married Wesley Boyer and they had one child, Joyce. In 1964, for reasons unknown, Keith stabbed his mother, Mary, to death.

Betty Lou was born in 1927. She became a registered nurse and worked in a Portland, Oregon, hospital. She married Joseph Bryde, a career Army man, in 1953. Of this union five children were born: Joseph, Paul, Mary, Molly and Margaret. After retirement from Army service, the couple made their home in Wichita, Kansas.

COX, Raymond Raymond and Beatrice (Ingalls) Cox had a boy listed in the 1959-1960 Lone Prairie census: Rickie (1959).

CRAWFORD, William (Sec 21-12-27) (Land to Dixon-Pet Co-Wilson Sheep-Neb. Feed-FCC)

CROUSE, Charles (Sec 31-12-25) (Land to Grilk-Lindsay-USA) Charles and Lotta Crouse had five children listed in the school census for District # 106: William (1907), Alice (1911), Emily (1913), Floyd (1915) and Edward (1917).

CROWLEY, Clarence (Sec 17-13-27) (Lost to bank)

CROWLEY, George (Sec 10-13-27) (Sold to O'Reilley)

DAILEY, James (Sec 18-12-26) (Land to Berkin-Pet Co-McEneaney-Melby-Hughes)

DARNELL, Samuel (Sec. 33-13-25) (Land to Wilson-Rockwood-Pet Co-Hughes) Goldie Darnell Mang contributed the following information:

"Samuel Thomas Darnell and wife, Myra Della Kepford, worked in timber in Washington before coming to Montana to homestead in 1914. They brought with them five children: Marie (1903), Holbert (Bert) (1905), Lonny (1907), Ora Arthur (1909) and Ivan (1912); also eight head of Percheron horses and two wagons with lumber for building all the buildings. Samuel brought his blueprint for the home he wished to build, along with the tarpaper, nails, shingles and everything he would need to build the home, barn, chicken house, and outhouse. He and a son built all the buildings on their 320-acre farm.

"The name Darnall was changed to Darnell when the children started to school. They walked three miles to school at first, then a school was built ¼ mile away.

"Myra died in childbirth in 1919. Samuel later moved to Oregon where he passed away. Two children were born at Flatwillow: Goldie (1915) and Burl (1919).

"Burl was adopted by Charles and Ipha Grow, fellow

homesteaders, and was raised in California. Goldie was raised by the Jake Thums."

The Winnett Times (1921) reported the following story: "Lonny, 13-year-old son of Samuel Darnell, was severely burned in an attempt to start a fire with crude oil. The father wasn't home and a younger brother helped Lonny roll in mud to put out the flames. His father and brother saw the smoke and hurried to the house. They loaded him and took him to Lewistown to the doctor where he died from the burns. The home, an eight-room, two-story dwelling, burned with contents."

Goldie married Anthony Mang in 1934. They had one son Anthony Augustus (1935). They made their home in Roundup, Montana, where Tony worked as a mechanic.

DAUGHERTY, E.D. Ed Daugherty was born in 1896 in Georgetown, Nebraska.

He bought the O. M. Green place in 1946 according to the deed transfers. He stocked it with 650 steers. His son Paul and daughter Eleanor came with him from Texas. Eleanor was a school teacher and taught the Lone Prairie School. She married J. B. Harbour. Paul worked on the place and married Tressa Monsma. Paul and Tressa had two sons — Robert (1947) and Johnny Paul (1949) — while they lived in the Flatwillow area. They moved in 1950 when the place sold to John Hughes Sr.

DAUM, Jacob Jacob Daum, son of Raphael and Rose Daum, was born in 1910 in Regent, North Dakota. As a young man, he moved to Edgar, Montana, where he farmed and ranched until 1948. He married Emma Steffan in 1928, and they had eight children: Bill, Dick, Ted, Gene, Ronald, Jack, Donna (Mrs. Bud Rabern) and Ramona (Mrs. Kenneth Barnes).

Jake and Emma and family moved to the Fraser Ranch (Lepper Ranch) in 1949 and lived there for 23 years. Jake retired in 1972 and the couple moved to Roundup, Montana, where they lived until his death in 1982. Emma then moved to Winnett where she lived until she died.

While Jake and Emma were on the ranch they had numerous hired men with various talents — and lack of talents! Jake always raised lots of hogs; some were confined and the rest ranged all over the creek bottom. One time, one of the children decided to play a trick on the hired men. He went through the bunkhouse and emptied all the booze bottles into a bucket, refilling the bottles with water. When he had finished, he dumped the bucket of booze into the hog-slop bucket.

At this time, Jake had a young chore boy working for him. That evening he took the slop buckets to the hog lot and dumped them into the trough as usual. He then went to get their grain. When he returned with the grain, the hogs were staggering all over the lot and squealing loudly. He dropped his bucket, ran across the footbridge and into Jake's house yelling that the pigs were bewitched. He was so terrified that he left the ranch that night.

Another of Jake's men went to town one night and had a big party. On his way home, in the early light, he ran in-