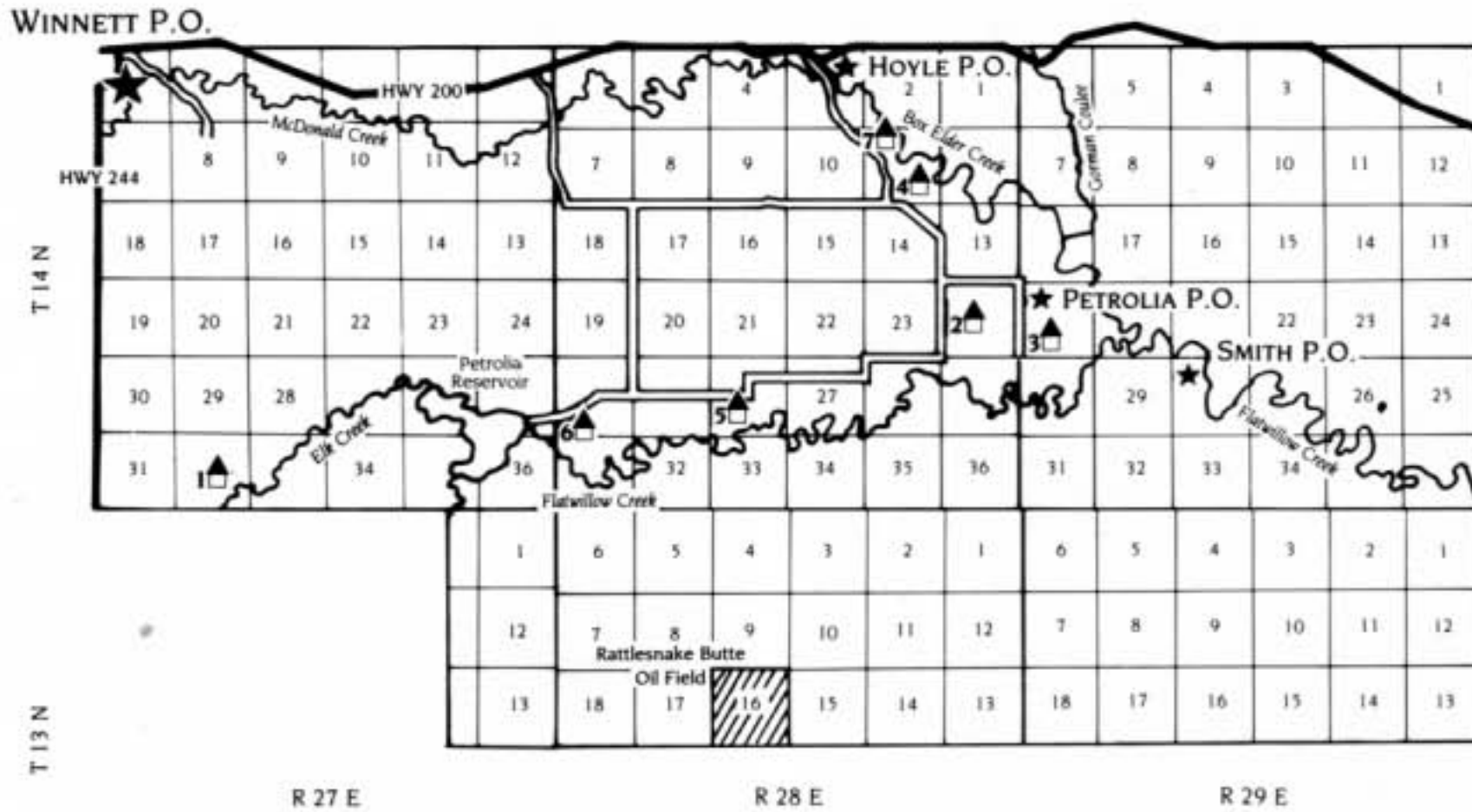


# Petrolia – Hoyle – Smith Rural Southeast Winnett



- SCHOOLS**
1. Bratten (Beer)
  2. Circle Bar (Ingebot)
  3. Petrolia (Offseth, Circle Bar)
  4. Pilgrim (Box Elder)
  5. Pilgrim (1961) (Box Elder)
  6. Pilgrim (Jerue)
  7. Pilgrim (Solf Home)

**Legend:**

- ▲ School
- ★ Post Office
- State Highway
- County Road
- ... Trail (1986)
- ++++ Railroad

0 1 2 3  
MILES

N

PETROLEUM COUNTY



*Petrolia baseball team (Alvin Ingebo, seated fifth from left)*



*Atop one of Petrolia's conical buttes*



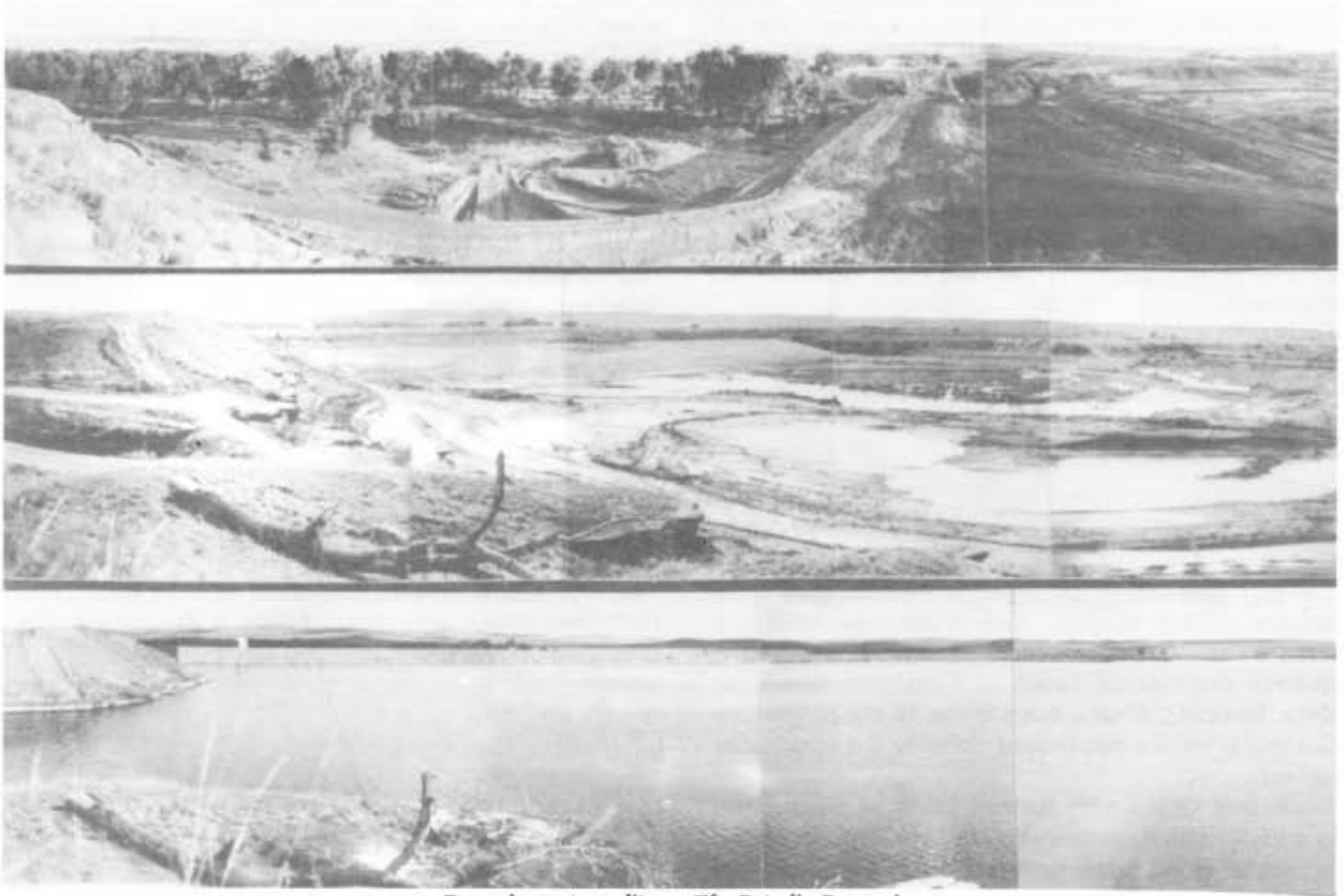
*Merten grain in the early 1920s*



*A good supply of wood. Lela and Les Thompson at the Fisher place*



*Three young herders and their flock (1914)*



*From dream to reality — The Petrolia Reservoir*

## Petrolia, Hoyle and Smith

It would appear that, in a beginning era, the present Petrolia area was covered by a huge inland sea. Along the cutbanks of Box Elder and Flatwillow creeks petrified bodies of huge sea turtles can be found. The turtles apparently were stranded there and covered by a heavy layer of silt when the retaining wall of the great sea gave away.

Into this sea flowed two mighty streams which formed a huge delta of gravel, sand, rocks, and clay. Petrolia Bench is a gravel terrace with very thin topsoil in most places. The terrain is hilly and broken with short streams. The surface, where it has not been leveled, is uneven and is marked by humps where sagebrush flourishes and hardpan spots where nothing grows.

In the late 1880s, sheepmen, then cattlemen and men interested in raising horses began to settle the area. Home ranches were built near creeks where water was available for households, livestock and irrigation of hay meadows. There were no fences; the range was open and for the taking.

With the railroads came immigrant trains, and locators began advertising homesteads in Montana. Locators

didn't know or care what kind of land these poor pilgrims might settle on. Some people were warned that they couldn't make a living on 160 acres in this country, but they wanted land and didn't listen. Many were disappointed with their holdings and soon sold out to others with more favorable locations. During wet years, everything looked exceedingly good. Then came the drouth years when crops failed and severe winters killed off stock. Many gave up and left, often letting their land go for taxes. Therefore, many names are recorded as being property owners in the area even though they did not stay very long. Those who were tough enough to stay should be called "survivors." They deserve great respect!

Some farsighted settlers observed that, with water, the land could be made more productive. Before 1920 Alvin Ingebo and Swain Myrdal actually surveyed a ditch to the Flatwillow Creek upstream from the Ingebo place. In the late 1940s some of the Petrolia Bench residents decided to try to get the state to finance a dam and irrigation system on lower Flatwillow Creek, so they established an irrigation district. A committee of local men went to Helena in April 1949 to discuss the proposed dam with



the State Water Conservation Board. The project was approved but not funded until 1950. The site chosen was near the confluence of Flatwillow Creek and Elk Creek.

In the spring of 1950 the State Water Conservation Board set up an office in Winnett with L. W. Tooley as resident engineer. Haggerty-Messmer of Bozeman was awarded the dam construction contract on June 1, 1950. The company was low bidder with a bid of \$252,695. Fifty-year term repayment contracts were signed by the water users.

Forty men were employed to do the earthwork and 16 men were employed for cement work. When the dam was completed in the summer of 1951, it was approximately 900 feet long and 55 feet high with a storage capacity of

about 8800 acre feet of water. It covered 435 acres of land. A main canal 5.3 miles long was constructed, as well as two lateral canals — one five miles long, the other two miles long. In later years the main canal was lined with concrete.

The Soil Conservation Service surveyed hundreds of acres of land so that the farmers could level land in order to use the irrigation water. Some land is still (1988) being cleared and leveled. Fortunately federal cost-share funds have been available for much of this work.

Without the irrigation project, the Petrolia Bench-Box Elder area would not be nearly so valuable nor productive.

## Post Offices

The first post offices to serve the Petrolia area were Flatwillow (1883); Baldwin, near present-day Melstone (1897); Weede (1901) and Mosby (1904). It was a long trek from the Petrolia Bench to Flatwillow, Weede or Mosby, however. What a boon it was to the community when postal service was moved closer to the community it served!

Smith Post Office, with Samuel Smith as postmaster, was approved on Valentine's Day in 1911. The post office was located at the Smith farm just below the junction of Box Elder Creek and Flatwillow Creek. The office kept this name although the location was changed several times, and there were different postmasters. Its last location was on the Isaacson place (Sec 14-14-28) with John Isaacson as postmaster. The community was served there until December 15, 1920.

On June 24, 1921, the name became the Petrolia Post Office, and Clara Svejkovsky was the first postmaster. The location was moved about some, starting in the former Chris Afseth homestead house in Sec 19-14-29. A. K. Ingebo was postmaster until the office was closed June 31, 1926.

In about 1919 a townsite named Petrolia was laid out, but it did not develop into a town.

Another post office, known as Hoyle, served the Box Elder Creek area for a very short time. The office was approved July 14, 1916. Mary Hoyle was postmaster until its closure August 31, 1918. A small townsite named Hoyleville developed near the confluence of Box Elder and McDonald creeks. Groceries could be purchased, and Len Hoyle had a filling station and barbershop there.

The homestead rush of the early teens brought many people to the area who used the services of these early post offices.

For a time, Emma Hanson, Pearl's Ingebo's mother, was mail carrier for the Winnett-Petrolia Route. John Beck finally underbid her, and soon after that the post office closed. With the advent of automobiles, people went to Winnett for their mail.

In 1987 a rural delivery connected with the Jordan mail route was established. John Phillips is the carrier. The community really appreciates this convenience.



*Petrolia gathering — Reverend and Mrs. Aiton on left. Early postmaster, Andrew Ingebo, at far right.*



Weede address (1909)



Smith address (1917)

## Schools of the Petrolia Community

District #121 was formed from the western part of District #107 February 28, 1914. John W. Beck, S. K. Myrdal, and L. A. Jerue were the first trustees in 1914-1915.

The very first school in the community was held in a small log cabin on the Ingebo homestead. Pearl Hanson was the teacher from May 24, 1914 to August 21, 1914. There were 27 students registered.

Gertrude E. Robinson taught the first Pilgrim School from June 1, 1914 to August 21, 1914. Also teaching were Nels Fradd and Clara Chesley. There were forty children registered in the district when it was formed, so the need for two good school buildings was evident.

Cottonwood logs were sawed at the George Ingebo sawmill to use in building the two schoolhouses — Circle Bar School and Pilgrim School (Jerue). These buildings were so strong and well-built that they later withstood being moved from place to place in the community to be nearer the greater numbers of children.

Martha Freed was the first teacher in the new Circle Bar School in Sec 24-14-28, and Louisa Wilson was the first at the new Pilgrim School in Sec 30-14-28.

Some of the children who attended the early Circle Bar School were as follows: Jack and Rose Beck; Lella and



Entertaining Gertrude Austad, a schoolteacher

Phyllis Grobe; Leslie and Vernon Thompson; Erma, Wesley, Arnold, Archie and Ona Hansen; Evelyn and Bud Myrdal; Alden and Clara Aasrud; Albert Shafer's children, Lula and Orval; Fred Shafer's children, Caroline, Maude, Dorothy, Laura, Albert, John, and Charles; Lillian Isaacson; Thorville Wingard. Some attended for only a short time, as people were always moving on.

Early attendants at the Pilgrim School in the western end of the district were as follows: Hattie, Myra, and Ray Bohn; Clinton, Lloyd, Anna, Wesley, and Russell Hassett; Leda, Bertha, Ernest and Otto Henschel; Florin Baldwin;



Recess! Game: "Go in and out the windows"





Schoolchildren: Wesley Hansen, Robert Nelson, Vern Thompson; Arnold Hansen, Thelma Campbell, Lila Campbell, Willie Campbell, Lella Grobe



Martha Cornue, teacher, about to leave for school

Tom Toomey; Ruth and Lola Freed; Gracie and Stella Smith, daughters of Zion City Smith; Charlie and Dewey Young.

The Circle Bar School sat in its given location until 1919. Then it was moved to the Petrolia townsite which was laid out on section 19 just east of the section where the school had been built and became known as the Petrolia School. Many of the same students attended there.

As the children of the community grew up, the decision was made to close the school, and from then on school was held only in the Pilgrim School. This school was moved to Solfs' place on Box Elder Creek after Mrs. Solf had tried having school in her home for one year. It sat just below the Solf hill near the county road. In the 1950s Whisonant, Saylor, Trump, Retterer, Solf and Moore children attended. It became known as the Box Elder School, and remained that until its end.

When the Solf children and others on Box Elder were grown and flown, the school was moved back near its original location on Sec 20-14-28. The school remained at that site until it closed and the district consolidated with the Winnett Elementary District #159 in 1966.

In 1966 a bus route was begun with Mr. Hugh Grove as the bus driver. The county pledged to keep the road open



The children built bird houses: Bob Nelson, standing with large house; behind him, his sister, Hulda, Rose Beck, and unknown; center, Thorval Wingard; Jack Beck with fancy house; Seated: Vern Thompson, Orval Shafer, Les Thompson



Local teacher, Pearl Hanson Ingebo

for the bus route. This service has been well accepted.

In their time, the schools served as a community center for socials, dinners, school programs, dances, and other meetings. Modern transportation changed this need. In later years the Rancherette Club sponsored dinners in the Box Elder schoolhouse, and everyone in the community attended them.

Clinton Hassett bought the Pilgrim schoolhouse and teacherage, moved them to his place, and made a home for the Henry Braaten family. Anna Solf purchased the Petrolia (Circle Bar) building, and had it moved to the Solf place on Box Elder.

# Rural Southeast Winnett



*Velma Woodard Merten and Rose Merten Bratten looking down on the town of Winnett*

Many of the early settlers in the area south and east of Winnett could, by journeying to the north or the west, peek down upon the growing town of Winnett, Montana, from the top of a spectacular rimrock which separated their lands from the townsite. Their land holdings were on, or drained toward, McDonald Creek on the north or Elk Creek to the south. Good sandy soil greeted the early homesteaders here.

Postal service for these families was provided by the post office in Winnett after October 1910. Before that time, they were obliged to journey to Flatwillow, Montana.

The only schools available for the youngsters before 1913 were the Flatwillow (after 1889) and the Winnett schools (after 1906). The Bratten School under Flatwillow District #26, was so named when Mrs. Ward (Stella) Bratten taught a session in her own home located in Sec 32-14-27, from September 1913 to March 1914. Amanda Swift was the teacher in a log cabin nearby on Elk Creek for a summer session in 1915. After 1916 the area became part of the Winnett Elementary District #159 and school was provided in several locations under various names — Bratten School, Beer School, and Elk Creek School.

Amanda Swift reported on the first public schools in the Winnett Times on March 30, 1917. She wrote, "Two school rigs have been bought and drivers hired to bring the children from the south and western parts of the district to Winnett." No doubt some children in this area were affected.

The Beer School petitioned to send their students to Winnett in 1923. Presumably that is the last year school was held in the area.



*Anton and Julia (Ingebo) Aasrud and son, Alden*

**AASRUD, Anton** (Sec 18-14-29) Anton Halverson (later to be known as Aasrud) was born in Hummelvik, Norway, on August 19, 1878. He came to America and acquired a homestead in the Petrolia area in 1910. He and Julia M. (Tillie) Ingebo were married in 1913 and lived in his little two-room log cabin until 1921.

Their first child, Alden, was born in Roundup, Montana.

Clara, their second child, was born in the homestead cabin and is thought to have been delivered with the help of Dr. J. L. Alexander.

In 1921 Anton built a new two-story house which consisted of a kitchen and living room downstairs and three bedrooms upstairs.

At Christmas their home was often the setting for a family slumber party — adults filling all the beds and wall-to-wall children on the floor. The Birminghames, Alvin Ingebos, George Ingebos and the Whites would all congregate there.

Anton farmed and raised turkeys, cattle and sheep. During a short period in the 1920s, he supplemented his income by working at Cat Creek on the Brown lease. Clara and Alden then attended the Brown School and Cat Creek School. He also carried mail for the Petrolia Post Office for a time.

About the time that Clara and Alden started high school, Anton had the family name legally changed to Aasrud. Carl was born in 1927 under that name.

Misfortune slipped through the door for this family in 1928, when Tillie was found to have cancer of the breast. She went to St. Joseph, Missouri, for treatment; but, without the medical science of today, treatment was not successful. She was courageous, however, and in the fall of 1929, rented a house in town and took in several high school boarders so that her own children, Clara and Alden, could attend high school.



Misfortune again struck, and this boarding venture ended abruptly when, in the spring of 1930, Clara became critically ill with rheumatic fever, requiring a long hospitalization and much care at home. Clara finally recovered but found herself graduating from high school in 1934, two years later than her former freshmen classmates.

In the fall of 1934 Clara attended Eastern Montana College for one year. The next year she **remained at home** to care for her very ill mother and her little eight-year-old brother, Carl. Tillie's cancer had spread relentlessly, and she passed away at home on October 29, 1935.

Clara then went to the Anderson Beauty School in Billings. She took the State Board examination and acquired a license. However, she returned to Winnett and worked in the Welfare Department at the Petroleum County courthouse under the direction of Ethel S. Walton Abbott on a part-time schedule for two years; she then worked for Elden Freed in the assessor's office for one year. During this time in Winnett she met, and eventually married, Clyde W. Retterer. They had five children: Jean, Joyce, Julia (Judy), Marilyn and Clyde Jr.

Alden did not finish high school. He continued to live on the ranch with his brother and father until he entered the service in 1941. He served in both Italy and Africa.

In 1943 Anton fell from a haystack and broke his neck. Alden was given an honorable discharge so that he might come back to the ranch where he was desperately needed. In 1959 after Anton had died, Alden wanted to go into construction work, and the Clyde Retterer family ran the ranch until Alden returned in 1960. Alden died of a massive stroke in 1972.

Carl graduated from Winnett High School in 1946. He served in the United States Army for two years, stationed at General Douglas MacArthur's headquarters in Japan. After his discharge, he attended Billings Business College for two years. He was hired as a clerk in the Director of Records office of Petroleum County in November of 1951. In 1954 he resigned and accepted the position of bookkeeper for a heating contractor in Billings.

Carl married Mona June Gee and they have two children, Paul and Julie Jeanette. He is employed now in the Multnomah Office of County Management in Portland, Oregon. (See also INGEBO)



*Chris Afseth family and home*

**AFSETH, Christian** (Sec 19-14-29) The Afseths were early settlers. School was held in their home in about

1914. (The Afseth name was often misspelled "Offset" and this spelling will be found on the chapter heading map.)

**ANDERBURG, Norman** (Sec 8-14-28) Norman Anderburg homesteaded about two and one-half miles southwest of Hoyle. For unknown reasons, in March of 1921 he committed suicide. Survivors were his wife, a sister and a brother. Harvey Cornue was named administrator of his estate.

**ANDERSON, Andrew C.** (Sec 18-14-18) "Red" Anderson was born at Arlington, South Dakota. He attended schools there and graduated from Arlington High School. He came to Montana and Winnett in 1912 and homesteaded about five miles east of Winnett near the Harvey Cornue Ranch. His birthplace at Arlington had been a sod house, so when he settled here he built his own home of sod.

He worked as a steam engineer on threshing rigs in the Petrolia area. Old-timers relate that **Red arrived at one** community gathering with a pet bull snake as a necklace. This may account for the fact that he remained a bachelor!!

He was really a fine, good-hearted man who loved children. He once wrote to Charles Doherty, "I am sure that anyone who has already advanced quite a distance upon the highway of life (even though he be a bachelor) will agree that nothing is as enchanting as a sweet little child."

Red retired from ranching in the 1930s and made his home in Winnett. He was an auctioneer at several local sales. He died in his sleep March 1, 1951, and was buried in the Winnett Cemetery.

**BANNAN, Daniel W.** (Sec 8-13-28) Daniel W. Bannan lived in the more arid land about three miles south of Flatwillow Creek. The following news item was taken from the Winnett Times of 8-26-21: "It is interesting that D. W. Bannan has secured a good flow of water in a shallow well in a section of the country south of Flatwillow Creek where water is hard to find and all ranchers have to drive stock to the creek the year around."

Daniel and his wife, Laura, had a daughter, Mary (1910). (See also BANNAN — Winnett)

**BECK, John W. "Jack"** (Sec 24-14-28) Mr. and Mrs. John W. Beck bought the Circle Bar Ranch in 1912. An article in the Winnett Times of July 18, 1924, stated that: "About twelve miles east of Winnett lays the Circle Bar Ranch, owned and operated by John Beck and his son, Jack. Though an old-timer in the state, Mr. Beck took possession of the Circle Bar property in recent years.

"Shortly after securing the property, Mr. Beck worked out an irrigation project, using the water from Box Elder Creek and now has his entire ranch under the ditch.

"The Circle Bar property is one of the beautiful places in Petroleum County. Great trees grow in profusion all about the property. Large fields of grain and feed are on every hand. One of the first successful orchards in





Jack and Nita Beck

Petroleum County is still bearing a tremendous amount of fruit at the Circle Bar. Not satisfied with mere fruit trees, Mr. Beck has met with much success growing grapes of the Concord variety and has an immense vine now heavily laden with grapes about to ripen.

"126 hogs, flocks of geese, turkeys and chickens keep things moving around the place. Several dairy cows for dairy products are kept on the home property while large herds of range stock are feeding in the breaks. A bee apiary furnishes honey for the ranch force. Mrs. Beck has her own flower garden where many beautiful flowers grow to delight the eye and make beautiful the home.

"A garden of tremendous size contains all kinds of vegetables that are doing wonderfully well. Though the ranch is under the ditch, sufficient moisture has fallen this year so that the water has never been turned on.

"The entire Beck family are enthusiastic boosters of Montana, and Petroleum County in particular, and have met with a degree of success that warrants their optimism and enthusiasm."

"John was one of Petroleum County's first commissioners, serving from 1925 through 1930. He and his wife, Faitha, had two children, Jack and Rose. Another Winnett Times article of 1-2-25 said of Jack: "J. W. Beck Jr., son of Commissioner and Mrs. J. W. Beck, of Petrolia, has the distinction of drawing the first map of Petroleum County. The map is well and cleverly drawn, showing the oil structures, pipe lines, irrigation reservoirs, ditches, railroads, wagon roads and all sections numbered.

"Mr. Beck Jr. was a student of mechanical drawing at the Winnett High School two years ago and has continued his studies at home until he now can put his knowledge and skill to good use. A cut of the map has been obtained, and a number printed, from the sale of which Mr. Beck will receive a royalty."

Jack married Juanita Dewing who had come to the community as a teacher of the Petrolia School. Rose married Anthony Schwarz of the Burgeton community. They had two children — Loron and Lavina. Rose and Tony were divorced, and Rose later married Otto Henschel.

John and Faitha moved to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, in 1934, leaving Jack and Juanita in possession of the place. Jack and Nita followed John and Faitha to Idaho in 1935, and Jack became a carpenter, building many very fine

houses.

**BEER, Dora** (Sec 18-14-27) See BEER — Cat Creek.

**BEER, Vance** (Sec 19,20-14-27) See BEER — Cat Creek.

**BENNETT, Frank** (Sec 20-14-28) Although Frank Bennett homesteaded in the area, news items indicate that he spent a good deal of his time in Lewistown. (W. T. 9-13-1914) "F. C. Bennett came out from Lewistown Saturday night and found about forty of his friends gathered at his home to surprise him. They spent the evening dancing." (W. T. 8-19-1921) "F. C. Bennett returned again to Lewistown last Monday after a short stay at home."

Upon leaving the area, Frank moved to Roundup where he opened a small jewelry store.

**BENNETT, William** (Sec 20-14-28) An obituary from the Winnett Times of December 2, 1921 relates some of the history of this gentleman: "The death of William Bennett at the home of his son, F. C. Bennett, southeast of Winnett, occurred Monday evening. He was in good health and the end came as a result of old age.

"Deceased was 81 years of age at the time of death. He was born in Ireland and came to America when 21 years of age. He had lived in this locality for nine years and was well known. Mr. Bennett had a remarkable mentality and, until the last, kept in close touch with historical and current events. During the Civil War, he worked as a gunsmith for the Remington Arms Co., and his entire life has been eventful.

"Undertakers Creel & Opp, Winnett undertakers, prepared the body for burial and interment was made at Lewistown Thursday where funeral services were held. Two sons survive: F. C. of Winnett, Henry E. of San Diego, and a daughter in New York."

**BLAZIVICH, Dan** (Sec 15-14-27) Courthouse records show Dan's name spelled as in the heading. Newspaper articles and local residents note the spelling as Blazich. Dan was born in the province of Slavania, Yugoslavia, in 1892, and came to the United States in 1908. He settled in Anaconda, Montana, and lived there for several years before homesteading about five miles southeast of Winnett, Montana.

Dan was successful on his dry-land farm — in 1924 his oats yielded between 40 and 50 bushels to the acre, and his spring wheat, 30 bushels an acre.

According to a school census of District #159, Petroleum County, he and wife Amelia were parents of two children — Chris (1929) and Mary (1930).

The family moved to the Bitterroot Valley in 1936. Dan died there in 1962. Survivors named were: son, Chris; daughter, Mrs. William Ottinger of Hamilton; Mrs. Floyd Gerke of Gooding, Idaho; and three grandchildren.

**BOHN, Albert J.** (Sec 7-14-28) Al Bohn was born October 10, 1879, in Chicago, Illinois. He and Hattie Hagedorn were married September 22, 1902, in Crown Point, Indiana.





Albert Bohn family: Virgie, Myra, Al, Ray, Mother Hattie, and Hattie

Al worked as a metal pattern maker for machinery before he came west in 1912.

An account of their first experiences can be found in the Teigen — Elk Creek history, the area where they were briefly mislocated. They permanently settled in the Petrolia area.

Son Ray and daughters — Myra, "Mike" and Hattie — accompanied them on this grand adventure. Ray was eight years old, Myra five, and Hattie four, when they arrived here. Al and Hattie never shied from hard work, and it was not long before they had fields of grain and a nice modern home which was situated close to, and on the east bank of, McDonald Creek.

The children attended the Pilgrim School. There are many accounts of their performances in school and community programs. Not to be outdone, their parents, Hattie and Al, won first prize for their graceful rendition of the Spanish Waltz at one community dance. They all loved dancing. The Bohns were a happy, hard-working, fun-loving family. They treated the land well, and the land rewarded them with financial success. Al served many terms as trustee of the Petrolia area schools.

Hattie was a very self-disciplined lady, and her daughters respected her judgement. Myra and Hattie both stated that they never smoked in their mother's presence. Virgie was born in 1921. The older girls loved this cute little addition. In 1947 Hattie and Al purchased the original Hoyle home in Winnett, previously occupied by Al's brother, Charles, and moved from the ranch to town. Myra and James Poulton took over the operation of the ranch.

Al passed away in September of 1959 and Hattie in July of 1962. Ray married Hulda "Tillie" Wadman; Hattie married Merlin Gershmel; Myra married Jim Poulton; and Virgie married Carl Sandman. All have individual family histories.

**BOHN, Charles** (Sec 12-14-28) Charles was born August 24, 1885, in Chicago, Illinois. **Louise Hagedorn** was born March 12, 1873, in Cincinnati, Ohio. Louise and

Charles were married April 7, 1907. They, along with brother Al and brother-in-law William Kindt, came to the country and homesteaded in 1912. (The three wives were sisters.) Charles' location was west and up McDonald Creek about one mile from Al's location. After getting their homestead in order, they built a good modern (for those days) frame house.

They were an industrious couple as attested by an article in the Winnett Times of September 14, 1923: "Besides having splendid crops of corn and grain and an abundance of vegetables, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bohn, residing east of Winnett, have found time to raise 150 turkeys which will find a ready and good paying market around November 29th. The turkeys will, in all probability, bring from \$2.50 to \$3.00 each and inasmuch as one hen has taken care of 40, the production of a few more hens would make the turkey-raising industry one of the most profitable in the county.

"Mr. Bohn was fortunate this year in seeding all the land he owned and could rent in his immediate vicinity and, although he received a slight touch of hail, he will thresh a very good crop. The Bohns came here from Chicago twelve years ago and are among those thrifty, progressive and hard-working farmers who have stuck through the lean years and now see the smile of fortune."

In 1943, after thirty-one years of hard work, Charles purchased the original Al Hoyle home in Winnett which had recently been occupied by Fred Welch. Charles remodeled and modernized the home and he and "Aunt Lou," as Louise was affectionately known, moved into town.

Charles died in July of 1945 and "Aunt Lou" a little more than a year later in November of 1946. They had no children of their own so left their worldly goods to Al Bohn's children.

**BOHN, Jerry** Jerry Bohn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Bohn, was born in September of 1950. Jerry received his education at Winnett, graduating from high school in 1968. Paula Sinclair, daughter of Robert Sinclair and Louanne Woodford, was born in Lewistown in December 1950. She attended grade school at the Mosby and Weede schools and graduated from Winnett High School in 1969.

On September 6, 1969, Jerry and Paula were married in Lewistown, Montana. Shortly thereafter, they moved to Havre, Montana, where they both enrolled in college. By spring, however, it was back to Jerry's dad's ranch, where Jerry helped with the spring planting. The lure of the land must have taken hold, as that is where they have remained.

Jerry and Paula have four children — Chad (1972), Tasha (1974), Tara (1978), and Cody (1980). All attend Winnett schools. Jerry volunteers a lot of time for the physical education programs of the Winnett schools. Paula has been hired as teacher of third grade for the 1989-1990 school term.