

# Phelps Helps



Volume 11, Issue 3

Fall 2002

## President's Message

This summer has been busy for my husband and me, as we have been getting ready for a sale for a cousin who was 99 years old. Going through and packing up every piece of a relative's belongings is a awesome task. For someone like me who loves genealogy and history it was also a great exciting opportunity. I went through the stack of obituaries, death cards, hand written histories, photographs, autograph books, death letters lined in black and old cards etc. What I found was priceless to me. I think my cousin would have been pleased that those items were so much appreciated.

One of our first lessons in learning to do genealogy is searching at home. In this case it wasn't my home or my parents but a second cousin. Perhaps you have a family member that is the historian in your family. Take time to visit. You will both benefit sharing your family stories. Hopefully you will find some details of your family history that would have gotten lost forever had you not gone for that visit.

Your President, Sandra Slater

## Longtime Member Dies

Lois Gitt, charter member of the Holdrege Area Genealogy Club, died August 7, 2002. Lois served as president of the Club in 1980s. She had done much research in the Sacramento area of Phelps County. She donated the scrapbooks to the library, a few years ago. Many people have enjoyed looking through them. We have received some memorial money and will buy another Wilcox newspaper microfilm in her memory. Lois lived near that community for many years. Anyone wishing to make a donation in her name, can make out the check to Holdrege Area Genealogy Club and send it to Box 164, Holdrege, Nebraska 67848. We will be sending a card to the family.

## Everton Workshop Cancelled

Everton Publishing has contacted us, stating that will no longer provide workshops for organizations. We were disappointed, as we have been making plans for this workshop for over a year. We are hoping that we may do some other kind of workshop in the future.

**Meetings held at the Phelps County Historical Museum on the first Monday of the month at 2:00 PM.**

**The public is welcome!**

Visit us on the Web!  
Phelps Helps Web Page via  
<http://www.alltel.net/~ps60313>



### Inside this issue:

Microfilm Additions	2
Harlan County	2
Illinois Records	3
New Members	4
New Books	
Loomis Articles	5
Funk Articles	8

# Microfilm Additions to the Library Purchased by Holdrege Area Genealogy Club

- The Ragan Weekly News September 27, 1895 through February 21, 1902
- The Ragan Weekly News February 28, 1902 to September 19, 1902
- The Wilcox Post starting January 5th, 1893 through December 28, 1894
- The Wilcox Herald starting April 5, 1895 to March 14, 1902
- The Wilcox Herald March 21, 1902 to January 14th, 1904, some through January 12th, 1906
- Elm Creek Beacon starting with June 10th, 1898 through October 13, 1899
- Elm Creek Beacon starting with October 29, 1899 through January 9, 1903
- Elm Creek Beacon starting with March 15, 1906 through April 25th, 1913

## 1930 Nebraska Federal Census

Our club has purchased 11 rolls of the 1930 Federal Census for Nebraska. Counties included on these 11 rolls of microfilm are - Adams, Antelope, Arthur, Banner, Buffalo, Butler, Chase, Custer, Dakota, Dawson, Dundy, Franklin, Frontier, Fillmore, Furnas, Gage, Garden, Garfield, Gosper, Grant, Greeley, Hall, Hamilton, Harlan, Hayes, Johnson, Keith,

Keya Paha, Kimball, Kearney, Knox, Nemaha, Nuckolls, Pawnee, Perkins, Phelps, Pierce, Platte, Polk, Saline, Richardson, Red Willow, Rock, Valley, Wayne, Wheeler, Webster, York. If any of our club members have a need for a county other than those listed above, please let us know.



## Harlan County, Nebraska

Information from the Alma Herald, January 5, 1882

ALMA'S PROSPERITY, The Item Friend of "The Herald Office Makes Some New Year Calls" This Business of Alma on the Boom Cheering Prospects for the Come Year

On last Monday Morning, January 2nd, 1882, the "Meek and Lowly" knight of the faber from The Herald office armed himself and look up a line of march around town for the observation of the growth and prosperity of Alma.

The first obstacle met was the solid and substantial firm of SMITH AND ROBERTS General merchants, who ushered us into their new and large store on the corner of Main and John Streets, 21x62 feet, which is filled

**NOTE:** The Phelps Helps Newsletter highlights Harlan County in this section. With many of our subscribers interested in and from Harlan County, and since Harlan County is a connecting county to Phelps County, the Phelps Helps will publish history information on Harlan County.

with dry goods ready made clothing, boots and shoes groceries, crockery. They report as follows: "We carry in our store this winter a stock invoiced in \$5000 and will shortly add to our already large stock. We have also a large stock of lumber and coal, set of Fairbanks scales, 4,000 lbs. Capacity, for the accommodation of the public. Take in exchange for goods produce and allow our patrons the highest market price.

**MITCHELL AND GASKILL**—Meat market and packing house, a new enterprise only lately started. "We have now on had ready packed about 6,000 pounds of choice hams and shoulder. We are now prepared to commence corning beef and soon expect to supply the market and

(Harlan County Continued on page 7)

# Illinois State Marriage and Death Records On the Internet

ILLINOIS STATE AND MARRIAGE (1763-1900) AND DEATH (1916-1950) RECORDS ARE ON THE INTERNET FOR DEATH RECORDS AND MARRIAGE RECORDS SEARCH



<http://www.sos.state.il.us/departments/archives/databases.html>

I wanted our members to be aware of this important resource when researching your relatives. Many of our Swedish Phelps county residents have resided in Illinois before coming to Phelps County. This database is free. You can order uncertified death certificates free off the Internet. I have ordered a death certificate from Illinois and received it. This may take awhile because they have been overwhelmed with requests. There is a small fee for marriage records. There are many other records I haven't mentioned here.

## From an Old Soldier -

**His Heart Turns to Grover Post at this season. From Holdrege Newspaper May 31, 1906.**

Beasley, Texas, May 16th, 1906  
Mr. E. W. Cone, Holdrege, Nebraska

Dear Friend and Comrade:

Yours on the 17th Instructions were received a few days since and was very glad to hear from you; also of the comrades whom you mentioned in your letter.

You spoke of Maude being lots of help to us in your letter. Maud is dead and buried. She died the 12th day of last September. She was married two years ago last February to Frank Schmersahl, who I presume you remember so you see we are alone in our old age. We are living on a farm. Maud's husband is with us, as he had a farm rented before she died.

I have transformed my place into a rice farm, in the place of corn and cotton. We grow some oats, and corn enough for feed, but rice is the principal crop.

We have a farm of 696 acres. This country has improved since you left here. Land is worth from \$15 to \$40 per acre. In some cases rice land is as high as \$60.

We are both reasonably well for our age.

Well you called attention to Decoration Day. There has never a Decoration Day

passed since I was with Grover Post, that I have not thought of our comrades, and wondered how I would like to be with them, and wondering how they were spending their day, and how I would like to be with them on one more of those occasions. I hope and trust that I may spend one more Memorial Day with the few remnants that are left at Holdrege.

Will you please look over the graves of our children in the Industry Cemetery and let us know what condition the little monument is in, and if it needs any repairing.

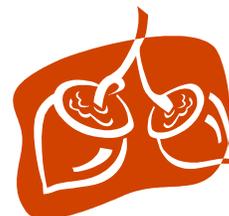
Does Comrade Funk still live there? I will close for this time. Hoping that you will have a fine time on Decoration Day, and that you will carry out the ritual program. I am

Yours truly, S. Latta



# New Members & Their Queries

1. **Glenn and Elizabeth Crouse**, 262 Bonners Point Rd., Wetumpka, AL 36028-5858  
We are searching for additional information on Glenn Wilson Crouse who married first wife unknown, second wife was Violet Larson.
2. **Jean Minick**, 408 E. Washington, Hoopeston, IL 60942  
Researching the Hendrickson, Edlund, Cederblade, Carlson, Anderson and Elison families of Phelps County, Nebraska, who are all related to each other.
3. **Mary M. Worthington**, P. O. Box 423, Roseville, IL 61473-0423  
Looking for additional information and relatives of Charles O. Olson. I have a letter written in May of 1917 from Charles O. Olson. It is written to my grandfather, Henry Olson, after Charles returned from my uncle's funeral. Each sheet had a different letterhead from insurance companies and the letterheads state that Charles O. Olson is the agent in Holdrege, NE. Charles is a nephew to my grandfather and the family has lost connections with of his descendants. I am the granddaughter of Henry Olson and Mary Bollends. My Mother's name is Mae (Anna Mae).
4. **John Hunt**, 5811 Tioga RD. N. W., Albuquerque, NM 87120-2361  
Researching the Anton Peterson family of Phelps County.
5. **Janet Kress**, 11708 Prairie Hen Lane, Austin, TX 78758-3508  
Researching the Martin Piska and Johanna Coyle Piska family. Their children include Mary Ellen, Bernard James, John, Laura, Anton A., Benedict Arnold, Clara May, Anna May and Walter Martin.
6. **Frank Fick**, 2600 Eastman Lane, Yreka CA 96079-9570, (530) 842-5337  
Email buddyfic@inreach.com  
I am trying to locate members of my father's family in Nebraska. I am looking for any family of Oliver F. A. Fick, born 1888 in Orleans, Nebraska to Otto Fick and Minnie Sasse-Fick. Oliver died on October 1939 in Williams, Ore. At age 51 years. His Obituary lists: His mother - Minnie Sasse/Fink/Romine Williams, Ore. A Sister Ella Jansen of Oxford, Neb. A daughter Thelma Wickett of LasVegas, Nev. A daughter Bettie Strong of Inglewood, CA His wife Katherine Fink of Williams, Ore. Oliver F.A. Fink and wife Katherine were married in 1936 in Iowa and moved to Williams, Ore. shortly after they were married. They had two sons, Oliver Fink born Jan 1938 and Frank Fink, born in March of 1939. I was 8 months old when our father died. Most of the information I have is from some Masonic records and old correspondence we found in our mother's papers. I would appreciate hearing from any member of the family.



# New Books in the Library

## Given by Ada Hinson

Holdrege City Directories 1985,  
1989, 2000

## Given by Don and Bernice Lindgren

Holdrege City Directories 1991,  
1992, 1994, 1996, 1997, 1998

## Purchased By the Holdrege Area Genealogy Club

1964 Atlas of Frontier and Gosper Counties  
Hope Lutheran Church, Smithfield,  
Nebraska

100 Anniversary of Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church 1891-1991 Hope Lutheran church Smithfield, NE 1891-1991 A leaf from my Family Tree, A jolly Swede name Axel Vigert, written by Robert Wigert

## Given by Al and Faith Achterberg Family

University of Nebraska Directory of Alumni 1873-1936  
Where the Buffalo Roamed - Nebraska Centennial 1867-1967, Sto-

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

ries of Early Days in Buffalo County, Nebraska Tales of Buffalo County, Nebraska Vol. III First National Bank of Holdrege, 100 Years 1884-1984 The Purple and Gold Holdrege High School Year Book 1951 Holdrege Nebraska 1883-1958 Souvenir Historical Booklet Soil Survey of Phelps County, Nebraska 1973 Nebraska Weeds 1947 Nebraska Weeds 1960 The Eagles, Wilcox, Nebraska Year Book, 1967 Three Nebraska Educational Directories 1924-1925; 1933-1934; 1934-1935 Zoning Plan book of the City of Holdrege, Nebraska No. 365 Holdrege Centennial Coloring Books 1883-1983 Nebraska History Quarterly, January-March 1941 Given by Marilyn Peterson District Records for Directors Use, School District 25, Gospel, County, and Nebraska 1884

**Estate of Marvin Brubaker**

Descendants of John and Amy Myers  
Brubaker 1750-1995

**Given by Mary Lou Abramson**

The Cardinal Alma, Nebraska Year book 1948-1949

**Donated by Bev Titkemeier**

Blizzard 1949  
Whiteout 1996  
In All Its Fury, The Great Blizzard of 1888

**Donated by Helen Warren , Tulsa Oklahoma**

C. Albin Lundvall, P. O. Clerk Holdrege Post Office, a 1907 listing of all post offices in the United States.

**Donated by Linda Davey**

The 1910 Federal Population Census catalogue

**Donated by Douglas McNeil**

LETTERS FROM GEORGIANA HALL ELLIOTT 1879-1913. Her husband was Allen Elliott and they moved from Harvard, Nebraska to Harlan County, Nebraska  
Genealogical Handbook of German Research

## Brick Mason's Directory of Loomis, Nebraska Businessmen— Date Unknown

If I want a good clean shave, I go to Harry Bloom. His shop is always crowded and the people can't find room. Axel Vegert drives a route when roads are smooth or rough: he shakes the lines, says "Giddap, Bill," and takes a hen of snuff.

S. R. MC---he prints our news, and does it doggone well. The title of the frontal page reads "Loomis Sentinel." His son George does the job work and he does it to a T. He does it neatly, quickly, for a very modest fee. Mart Bloom is very busy: he is always on the run, and if my wheat tests 69 pounds he call it 61. Dan Morgan is a newcomer, and he works very hard. When he's not eating or asleep he's at the lumberyard. Dave Johnson and John Holm sell Prunes and flour made from wheat. If they refused me credit, there'd be days I couldn't eat. Bill Shirley buys old Bossie's

cream-- It's the business of his goods for cash; you've got to have the tin." His prices they are very low, and he throws some music in. George Mills is the Q' agent here and cusses freight train crews, He hands cut lots of packages, but none of them are booze. Mr. Swartz his pleasure takes in driving his big car. There's nothing he likes so well, except a good cigar. Malcom A. is the butcher who so neatly waits on you. He's always there to greet you when he hasn't got the flue. Frank Johnson is his partner and he does not work for wage; but when you make the sausage, Frank, put in a little sage. Gust Carlson is our postmaster and dishes up our mail. He's lived in Holdrege and lives here, but never been in jail. Gus Hanson is a jolly boy and doesn't get on his ear. At all the swell pia-socials he is

(Directory Continued on page 6)

(Directory Continued from page 5)

always auctioneer. John Nylander repairs the well for people far and near. He does it out of pity' cause the people can't get beer. Harve Pearson on a wagon sits and drives for Standard Oil; and if you cuss the company, Harve's blood begins to boil. Charlie Bragg, he carries mail, has letters by the bunch. He likes his patrons very well---they ask his in to lunch. A fairy met Walt Abrahamson and offered him a wish. Walt never took a second thought, just said; "I'll take a fish." Lay up your money, save you cash, and do not be a dub: step in the bank, let Mr. Peck explain his Christmas Club. When the sun is shining Andrew Stanley makes his hay. He sells the Paige, a darn good car, also the shev-ro-lay. Emil Spongberg works real, real hard and earns his room and board; sells gasoline and auto jacks, and sometimes sells a Ford. Verne Magneun, our youngest merchant, never smiles on skirts," but he gives you darn good bargains if your wanting shoes or shirts.. We go to Gasaway for candy or for lunch a hunk. He has a dandy line of drinks, but they won't make you drunk. Al Johnson bids way up on grain and always treats you right. He eats three square meals every day and goes to bed at night. Adolph Linder pounds hot iron and also pounds a drum. He believes in keeping busy and he hats a trap or bum. Charles Ericson, our druggist here, will

cater to your ills; if quinine will not make you well he gives you liver pills. "Commercial Hotel" reads the sign; Chris Anton is the landlord. He rents rooms to the traveling men, but will not give them board. John A. McGuire is not for war--his thoughts are far, far higher--yet he sells guns, entrenching tools and carloads of barbwire. Elmer Bolen is a smith (the Prefix word is black). He likes Missouri and he says that he will soon move back. McConaughy by Herb Adkihs is represented here. Herb buys a barley, wheat and oats or corn in the ear. Mr. Modig just moved here and hauls goods by the dray. He wishes he'd come sooner but he couldn't get away.

Carlson Brothers buy livestock----the squarest boys I know. They push your steers into a car and ship them to Saint Joe. I'll paint your house or hang your paper, Mandys Oman said, and if I cannot please you, you may knock me in the head. Johnson Brothers buy livestock. They pay out lots of dough. If you have anything to sell just phone and let them know. Bob Weissenfluh does plastering and lays carloads of brick. He hasn't time to take a chew or never lays off sick. O. B Adkins, Chief of Police, the evil doers fear. He sneaks up when they're doing wrong or grabs 'em by the ear. L. M. Arson is the dean of all our businessmen. He started here so long ago that no one know just when. BRICK

## Member Donates "The Swedish Emigrant" CDs



We appreciate the donation of the Swedish Emigrant C D's given by Glenn Harrington, 205 Hancock St., P.O. Box 38, Grand Lakes, Colorado 80447. Holdrege Area Genealogy Club will search this CD at a nominal fee. If interested contact us. Below is an explanation of what the CD contains.

**EMIHAMN**—This includes 1.4 million Swedish emigrants who left Sweden to the U.S. from the following ports. Information given is name, gender, fellow travelers, profession/title, age, birth,

parish or home parish, county, destination in North America, date if emigration, port of emigration. Gothenburg 1869-1951 Malmö 1874-1928 Stockholm 1886-1940 Norrköping 1859-1922 Kalmar 1881-1893 Helsingborg 1929-1950 Copenhagen 1868-1898 Hamburg 1850-1891

**EMIBAS GOTHENBURG**—This database includes 53,000 emigrants who were registered in Gothenburg, Sweden. (Includes 16 parishes). Information includes name, gender, civil status, profes-

(Continued on page 7)

*(Swedish Immigrant CD Continued from page 6)*

sion/title, destination, fellow travelers, date of birth, birth parish and county (LAN), home parish and address, parish from which a person came before moving to Gothenburg, the time for that move and in some cases parents.

**EMISJÖ**-This database includes 17,000 seamen, registered in the merchant marine offices in Gothenburg, Stoömstad, Lysekil, Uddevalla and Marstrand. Information includes name, birth parish, date of birth, county, home parish, county, vessel, port, country, specialty/rank onboard ship, time cause, and source code.

**EMIPASS**-This database includes 16,000 records from excerpted passport registers, census figures 1851-1860, passport registers from Landskansli in Göteborg. Information includes name, age, home parish, county, profession/title date of departure, destination and source code.

**EMISAL**-This database contains 242,000 passengers on the Swedish America Line

1915-1950. Includes name, marital status, title or profession, place of residence, country of residence/birth, county, date of departure, vessel and ports of call. American wife's first name often missing.

**EMIVASA**-This database includes more than 43,000 persons who are or have been members of the Vasa Order of America 1896 and on. Includes name, date and place of birth, county, profession or title, state, address, date and place of death, lodge number and inclusive years of membership.

**SAKA**-This database contains inventory figures of 2,000 Swedish-American Archives from 1842-1967 which have been microfilmed by Swedish Emigrant Institute in Våxjö. Information given is place, county, state, congregation, year of founding, denomination.

**VESSELS**-This database includes information about Wilson's line's regular and added emigrant steamers on route to Gothenburg to England between 1850-1914. This includes photos and names of ships.

*(Harlan County Continued from page 2)*

thus do away with shipping from the east what people have been obliged to have at high price. We pay the highest prices for beef, pork etc. Mr. Gastkill will build a dwelling house in the spring.

**B. M. SIMMS**-Druggist etc. "I have since last January moved into a new building 22x60, on same street. I have tripled my stock and have my store full of drugs and medicines, school books, and stationary, paints, oils, tobaccos, cigars, and pipes, wallpaper, soda fountain, toilets and toilet soaps. Calculate remove the room from my store and carry it up another story, and also to double my stock the coming spring.

**W. L. CAMP**-Maker and repairer of wagons, buggies, millwright etc. "I am always on hand for any loose jobs and flatter myself that I can do better work than any mechanic in the valley. I have rented my store building to a new firm who are now on their way from Illinois and will take possession in a few days. They propose to embark in a full line of gro-

ceries and provisions. I intend to build business house this coming spring.

**C. P. FLETCHER**-Harness maker. "Business has been much better than I could expect. Have now on hand 12 sets of Harness, all of my own make and warranted first class. It is the intention to hire another hand in the spring and increase my business extensively in short time."

**E. A. FLETCHER**-Lawyer and land office. "Have plenty to do, good practice, have Kansas and Missouri property to exchange for property in Harlan county."

**J A. VERBRYCE**-Contractor and builder. "Am now at work on the new school house, have more work and I can get along with. Want to employed a few more hands."

**DAWSON & FLANSBURG**-Attorneys at law. This firm consolidated last fall and have one of the largest legal practices in the county. They are prepared to take in hand litigation of any kind, and their record as attorney's warrant that they will never be without a fair share of business.

# Funk, Nebraska

## A History Written by Jack Vaughn (ca 1950's)



Lying just six miles east of Holdrege is one of the older communities of Phelps County. The story of Funk dates back to the year 1887. During the years may have come and gone but many have stayed and some of the town's first settlers are still here, notably Mrs. L. T. Brooking, Mr. & Mrs. R. L. Burman and Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Garrabrant.

Mrs. Brooking has the distinction of being the first woman to settle in Funk. A happy conversationalist, Mrs. Brooking can't have too much company. "So you're looking up the history of Funk, she said, " Well, you sure came to the right place." Conformably seated she began her story.

The story really began in 1870 when Jenie Munsell was married to L. T. Brooking near Macomb, Illinois where the young couple lived for several years. Then in 1885, they moved to Minden and two years later Mr. Brooking was hired to run the elevator at the new town of Funk. When he went out to look over the place he found the elevator-----nothing else. Before he could move his family to Funk, he had to put up the first dwelling in the town.

The town was platted in May of 1887 and named after a civil war veteran, P. C. Funk, on the oldest settlers in the county. The first two years were lonely for no one else moved to town until L. T. Brooking resigned his position in 1889 and the new manager came to run the elevator. His name was J. K Simpson.

"Once in awhile we had some excitement, though," glowed Mr. Brooking, " Like the first Thanksgiving. It was a beautiful day; just like summer. Then the morning sky began to get dark and before we knew it we had a first class blizzard on our hands. Early in the afternoon the eastbound train stopped to switch off some cars but in their haste to beat the storm they unknowingly left part of their train on the main tracks. They got to Axtell before missing those cars and so started back but another eastbound freight got there first and reduced them

to firewood. There were 18 cars wrecked in that crash. We had the train crews and three salesmen for diner that night. It took a crew of 20 men almost a week to repair the track, clean up the wreckage and collect that trainload of hogs.

At first mail was received by pony express from the Oscar post office several miles north of town but shortly after the Brookings were established the post office was moved to Funk and L. T. appointed the postmaster. He received the salary of \$5 per month for that job. "The mail train came in about eleven o'clock at night," said Mrs. Brooking "and when the weather was bad it wasn't easy." The railroad built a handcar house in '88 but had an agent there only during the rush season. The present depot was built in the summer of 1892.

Mrs. L. T. continued, "Grain was often hauled in by ox-team. It was a beautiful sight. You could see them miles away. It would sometimes be hours before they got to the elevator.

In the fall of '89 Brooking built his own elevator which he operated until the spring of 1893 when he sold out to the Farmer's Elevator Company. They sold to Mr. Titus in 1901.

The third family in Funk was that of Alfred Johnson who came in the winter of '89 and '90 and opened a blacksmith shop. He was followed shortly by Matt Gibson's drug store and in the summer of 1890 the town hall was built. During all of this time Mrs. Brooking operated a grocery store in the front room of her house. Their place soon became a social center in town. "Many' the party we've had for the young people. They danced in our living room. Mr. Brooking played his violin and sometimes I played the old organ. Once in awhile I served dinner for them. I got 25 cents a plate."

It was in '92 that L. T. Brooking built a lumberyard and hardware store which he operated for about a year and then sold

*(Continued on page 9)*

(Continued from page 8)

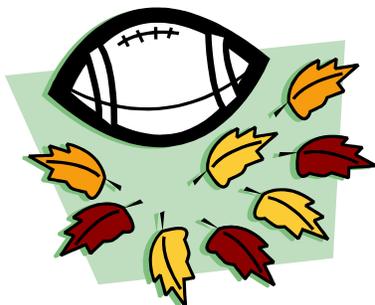
to a man named Marriet. Several years later A. S. Erickson moved from Holdrege to run the Lumberyard. The turn of the century found Mr. Erickson owner of the hardware and grocery store. He was also the postmaster. In 1901 he built his home in Funk and settled down to stay. Later he also purchased the lumberyard

#### FRANZEN FAMILY

Among other names connected with the early history of the town were those of Henning, Fred, Adolph and C. F. Franzen who located in Funk in the early nineties and who have never wavered in their untiring efforts to build up the town. Miss Geneva Franzen, daughter of Fred, still lives in the old home. During those early years Adolph and C. F. Franzen were engaged in the live stock business

#### R. L BURMAN INTERVIEW

Interviewed in the home they built in 1905 Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Burman happily recalled those early days. Mr. Burman served in the Army during the Spanish-American War, serving time in the Philippines under the leadership of Gen. Arthur McArthur, father of Gen. Douglas Mac Arthur. After his discharge in 1903 Burman returned to his home at Axtell, Nebraska, married and moved to a farm northeast of Funk and in 1905 moved into town. He was employed for some time by A. S. Erickson, in the hardware store and the limber busi-



ness. He was appointed assistant postmaster in 1905, a position he still holds.

In 1916 Mr. Burman managed the Farmer's Co-op Store handling general merchandise, and was the company's manager for eight years. "From 1924-1925 I just rested." added Mr. Burman" and then I went into a partnership with Martin Anderson in the grocery business. We also had a post office." In 1932 he sold out to Anderson and retired again. Since that time he has worked off and on in the grocery store for Floyd De Lancy and John Stevens, the present owner. The Burman's son, H. Harley, who was raised in Funk is a buyer for the West Coast division of Sears-Roebuck Company. Their daughter, Lenore, married Guy Blincow and lives in Denver.

When asked for some old stories about the town Mr. Burman's lit up. Mrs. Burman's face darkened. "Now Robert, "She interrupted, "don't you get started on your yarns."

"Well, just one, mother, he said, "Just one". Then he told his favorite yarn. The one about the Halloween, Renzie Franzen and a group of boys piled a lot of coils of woven wire in front of the door of Erickson's hardware store. "I fooled them, though. I just climbed over the pile and unlocked the door and went in and left the mess there." H\_LATE WILBER GARRABRANT

The only brick house in town was by \_\_\_\_\_ Wilbur Garrabrant who started the brick yard in the early 1900s. They still live in this home.

*More on Funk in the next issue of*

*Phelps Helps!*



Old photo of the Orphanage Home at Holdrege, Nebraska. Many more old Holdrege photos will soon be displayed on Phelps County's NENGenWeb Web Page. Please check it out!

[www.rootsweb.com/~nephelps/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~nephelps/)

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