

Monday August 3, 1953 and he was buried in the River-view Cemetery at McCook. He was survived by two daughters: Mrs. Hazel Armstrong and Lucille, as well as two sons D. A. and Charles.

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HENRY GALE

was born near Bellevue, Ohio on July 14, 1837 to Franklin and Sally Ray Gale. In response to President Lincoln's first call for volunteers in 1861, he enlisted in the Eighth Ohio Volunteers for a period of three months. He re-enlisted on September 30, 1861 in the 55th Ohio Volunteer Infantry and was discharged on account of disabilities on April 23, 1863. He was united in marriage to Nellie Earl at Beaver Dam, Wisconsin in 1866, and they had six children, four daughters; Marion, Hattie, Sallie and (?) and two sons; G. R. and H. F.

The family emigrated to Nebraska in 1884 and filed on a homestead in Driftwood precinct. In 1902 he retired from the farm and they moved to McCook, where he resided till his death on November 16, 1920 and was buried November 18, 1920 in the Longview Cemetery at McCook.

Wife of HENRY GALE

NELLIE EARL

was born at Rutland, Vermont on November 7, 1841. She was the youngest daughter of Horace Earl, and was a descendent of one of the oldest families in New England. She was educated at Utica and Herkimer New York where the family resided during the early part of her life. After a brief residence in Pennsylvania, her family moved to Wisconsin. She was united in marriage at Beaver Dam, Wisconsin on December 12, 1862 to Henry Gale, a Civil War veteran. They moved to Driftwood precinct, Red Willow County in 1884. There they were to endure the privations and hardships incidental to homesteading in those early days. She was to make good use of her skill in nursing and with the needle. She assisted at the many entrances to and departures from the life among the homesteaders. She freely offered her services to the afflicted as unhesitatingly as did the country doctors. Since she had no set scale of fees, she accepted anything tendered in return for her services. However, on most occasions, she refused payment feeling that they needed the gift more than her family. She found more pleasure and satisfaction in giving than in receiving. She observed a rigid code

of ethics, was a faithful wife and a tender and loving mother. After a long and useful life, she departed this life on March 6, 1924 at Eckley, Colorado at the home of her daughter, Marion, and was buried on March 8, 1924 at McCook, Nebraska.

JAMES M. GAMMILL

was born on October 14, 1843 at New Lisbon, Ohio. He enlisted June 3, 1863 in Company M, Third Iowa Cavalry, and served in this unit until the end of the Civil War. He was discharged at Atlanta, Georgia, where he had followed General Sherman on his March to the Sea. His marriage to Theresa Allen came on December 4, 1878 and they were the parents of nine children. The family moved from Pleasanton, Iowa and settled in Frontier County in the early 1870's. The family moved to McCook, and he departed this life on June 2, 1931. He was buried at the Bartley Cemetery on June 3, 1931.

ELIAS GANAGA

was born in William County, Ohio on February 3, 1839. He was married to Ellen Crockford on January 28, 1869. To this union were born five children: one son and five daughters. He enlisted in the 55th Ohio Infantry in 1864, and was in the service till the end of the war, receiving an honorable discharge. They moved to Nebraska in 1870, and located in Red Willow County in 1872. He died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Ida Miles, on Thursday, April 3, 1913, in Elwood, Nebraska. He was buried Saturday, April 5, 1913 in the Cedar Grove Cemetery in Indianola, Nebraska under the auspices of the G.A.R.

ALEXANDER TRABER GATEWOOD

was born December 12, 1852 at Malden, West Virginia to Robert Gatewood and Julia Jones. His father was a forty-niner and crossed the country to California as a captain of a wagon train and returned home on a sailing vessel by the way of Cape Horn. On his return home, he engaged in the salt manufacturing business in Malden and among the slaves who worked for him was Booker T. Washington, who learned his a b c's marking salt barrels. Alexander was perhaps one of the few men in this section who possessed a slave of his own. As a child, he had seen slaves bought and sold on the auction block. Even at that age, he realized that traffic in humanity was wrong. At an early age, he moved with his parents to Cincinnati, where he received his early education. At the time

of his residence in Cincinnati, his parents operated a hotel in the city and it was his privilege to see many of the great personages then engaged in the Civil War, including Abraham Lincoln, General Grant, General Sherman, General Earley, General Logan and John Hunt Morgan, the guerilla. In 1868 or 69, he entered the office of a dentist in Cincinnati as an apprentice and took such subjects as an apprentice (as were necessary at that time) in a medical school in order to qualify him to practice dentistry. The requirements at that period were limited and on completion of them he practiced in Cincinnati for a short period. He then went to Missouri to his brother's, who was practicing medicine. After a brief stay in Missouri, he went back to Cincinnati and in 1873 came to Nebraska. The group of pioneers, with whom he traveled, were led by his brother-in-law, John J. Cozad. The town of Cozad, which was named after his brother-in-law, stands on the site of his old homestead. He established the first newspaper and called it "The One Hundredth Meridian". He was also engaged in the drug business for many years in connection with his dental business. It is probable that for many years, he was the only dentist in the state west of Hastings, and he was called upon by people from long distances in those days. He was the first Postmaster in Cozad and was prominently identified with it's developments for many years. He was one of the first dentists in Nebraska to register with the State Board of Health, and his first license was numbered either 5 or 14. He must have let his license lapse, because in 1896 he was given another license number 145. He was married to Deborah Francis Burgess on October 27, 1884 at her home in Lebanon, and they were the parents of seven children. The family moved to Arapahoe in 1900, and then to McCook in 1908. He retired from practice in 1927 because of ill health. He took great interest in politics and was a strong partisan. He was affiliated with the Democratic party all of his life. He was a personal friend and great admirer of William Jennings Bryan. He was honored by his party, by being it's nominee several times for state offices, among them Lieutenant Governor and Secretary of State, which he lost by only thirty votes. Dr. Gatewood passed away on September 25, 1928 after a long illness at his home in McCook. He was buried Thursday, September 27, 1928 in the Memorial Park Cemetery.

CHARLES ALLEN GAY

Canadian born Charles, his wife, Betsy, and son, Walter and family came to Decatur County, Kansas in March of 1884 and filed for a homestead in Grant township. The homestead was five miles south of the present site of Lebanon, Nebraska and lay between the Sappa and Beaver Creeks and because of difficulty in fording the streams, Lebanon was to become their place of business and marketing and was also their mailing address.

Charles was born March 17, 1825 in Ontario, Canada and was of English descent. In 1852 he accompanied his parents, brothers and sisters to the United States where they settled on a farm in Erie County, Pennsylvania. On November 27, 1856 he married a young neighbor girl, Betsy Ann Cheeseman. Betsy, the daughter of Nicholas and Emily (Palmer) Cheeseman, and of French extraction, was born July 24, 1839 in Waterford, Erie County, Pennsylvania. Charles and Betsy had only one child, Walter Algenus, who was born on September 24, 1857.

On September 3, 1864 Charles enlisted as a private in the newly formed F Company, 211th Regiment, Infantry at Waterford. On the 16th, Company F joined with other companies of their regiment at Camp Reynolds near Pittsburg and moved out for the front lines. On September 20th, only 17 days after being recruited, Company F was placed in the entrenchments at Bermuda Hundred, Virginia and, almost immediately, ordered onto the parapets, in full view of and in point blank range of the Confederate guns. Two men of Company F were killed instantly, shot by a single bullet. This maneuver was to draw enemy fire while a storming party was moving out to attack enemy lines. On April 14, 1865 while on the march at Black and White Station, Virginia, Charles became very ill after drinking bad water and was hospitalized for the next five weeks at a hospital in Fairfax Seminary, Virginia.

Following the war the family moved to Ohio where their son Walter was married, then to Missouri and finally to the Kansas homestead. They made this long and tedious journey in covered wagons drawn by yokes of oxen which were later used to break the sod for farm and home. The homestead site Charles selected already had a soddy which had been built in 1879 and a very good 90 foot well so the family was fortunate to have a house in which to move in. Son, Walter and his family lived with them until March of the next year when they moved onto their own homestead.

The second year on the farm a 8 foot square soddy milk house was built. In the fall of 1886 the old

sod house was replaced with a new one with a timber and sod roof, plastered walls, 4 windows and 2 doors. A sod stable was also built. Oats, millet, corn and potatoes were grown. Later the farm was sold and they moved into their son's home to help care for their grandchildren, following the death of the mother.

Charles died on September 23, 1896 and was buried in the little country cemetery near Lyle, Grant township, Decatur County, Kansas. Betsy Ann made her home with her son until her death on February 12, 1908 at Lebanon, Nebraska. She was buried beside her husband.

CHARLES ALONZO GAY

was born March 24, 1880 in Stokes Mound, Stokes Mound Township, Carroll County, Missouri, the son of Walter Algenus and Elsie Madora (Main) Gay. When he was four years old his family moved to Kansas settling on a farm 5 miles south of Lebanon, Nebraska.

Altho Charles was only 7 when the railroad came up the Beaver Valley he could remember it vividly. He remembered going to the Burgess sod home, which was also the Lebanon Postoffice and trading post, before the railroad came through. He remembered the excitement of the new railroad in 1887 and the Burgess family building a new frame post office 2½ miles west of the old soddy. But most of all he remembered and talked about the grass. "You can't imagine what it was like - grass shoulder high, everywhere, and in the middle of it all a railroad and a new frame post office - the beginning of a new town."

Charles attended a soddy school at District 65 in Grant township, Decatur County, Kansas. The district had been organized in 1886 and his father, Walter Gay, along with W. S. Fasick and Harland Snyder served on the first school board. School was held for 12 weeks and the teacher was paid the handsome salary of \$15 a month. This soddy school was built on the bank of a canyon that the early settlers called Jericho Draw and the school was called Jericho. Later Walter helped build a frame school house south of the soddy and his grandchildren attended this school. It was called Jolly Hills.

When Charles was 9 his mother died and his grandparents helped raise him.

On August 28, 1901 he married Olive Pearl Cheney at Oberlin, Decatur County, Kansas. She was born on January 6, 1884 near Ft. Dodge, Iowa and was the daughter of Thomas Robert and Sarah Nellie Cheney.

They began married life in a dirt floored soddy

north and east of his parents homestead but soon moved to a larger one with wood floors when their first daughter, Elsie Alfreda was born. Eventually they moved to the parental homestead and later to a farm near Lebanon, then into Lebanon where Charles operated a dray service.

Pearl died at her home in Lebanon on November 3, 1937 and Charles at the home of his granddaughter in Lebanon on April 8, 1944. Both are buried in the Lebanon Cemetery.

Their 9 children who were all born in the general area are: Elsie Alfreda, who married Francis Lloyd McCashland; Freeman Delor who married Pearl Magers; Truman Algenus (Pete) who married Clara Weatherwax; Clare Orin, who married Hattie Magers; Wyna Mae, who married Theodore Helt; Ona Olive, who married Claude Huff; Clifford Charles, who married Alrela Wagner; Helen Irene, who married (1) Burdell May (2) Raymond Geeron; and Glenne Ardene, who married Marvin Stephens.

WALTER ALGENUS GAY

was born September 24, 1857 in McLallans Corner, Washington Township, Erie County, Pennsylvania, the son of Charles Allen and Betsy Ann (Cheeseman) Gay.

Sometime after 1865 Walter's parents left Pennsylvania, settling in Elyria, Lorain County, Ohio, where Walter graduated from high school and was married on June 12, 1879 to Elsie Madora Main. She was born May 9, 1857 in Michigan. They were in Stokes Mound, Carroll County, Missouri in March of 1880 when their first child, Charles Alonzo was born and in Jasper, Jasper County, Missouri on January 7, 1883 when their daughter Cora Ann was born.

In March 1844 Walter's family and his parents arrived in Decatur County, Kansas, settling on the homestead taken by his parents. On September 20 1844 Walter filed for his own homestead on a quarter in Grant Township and in November filed for a quarter section tree claim. That fall Walter built his soddy which was a large one with one room and two smaller rooms for a total of 64 feet long. The roof was of timber and sod, the walls were plastered and the floor was dirt but was later replaced with a rough wooden floor. He put down a 105 foot well and in March of 1885 they moved in. He then built 2 sod stables that were 16x30 feet, corrals and sheds and dug two caves for food storage and protection from summer storms.

Frank Algenus was born January 2, 1886. In 1889 Walter had 100 acres broken and 45 acres backset.

He had a twine binder, mower, rake, grain drill, cultivator, plow, harrow, 3 horses, 2 mules, 12 head of cattle, 14 hogs and 40 chickens. On the tree claim he had ten and a half acres planted to ash and box elder and 85 or 90 acres broken out and in cultivation.

On April 12, 1890 Elsie died. Three young children ages 9, 6 and 3 were left. Charles Allen and Betsy sold their land and moved in with the family to help raise their grandchildren. This was the beginning of another great drouth cycle, the rough hard years of the nineties. Walter left his family at home and went to Washington and Oregon where he worked in the timbers and as a carpenter. On his return he built a new frame house on the farm.

Walter's father died, the children grew up and in 1906 Walter bought a home in Lebanon, added three more rooms to it and he and his mother moved to town.

Betsy was a devout christian, a deeply religious woman. Revival meetings, called "Come Outers", were held near the small town of Devizes in Norton County, Kansas and people came from near and far to attend them. Entire families would camp out for a week at a time while the meetings were held. Betsy never missed them. Early day Lebanon residents remembered Betsy in her small buggy, pulled by a spotted pony, following the trail that angled south and east of Lebanon, up and over the hill on her way to another "Camp Outer".

After Betsy died in 1908, Walter again returned to carpenter work, also spending a few years back on the farm. He was living in Lebanon when he died on December 2, 1929. Both he and Elsie were buried near Lyle, Kansas beside his parents.

The oldest child, Charles Alonzo, married Olive Pearl Cheney and always lived in or near Lebanon. Cora Ann married William Nickolson and lived in the general area. Frank Algenus married Nora Ellen Watson and eventually moved to Colorado.

(The foregoing three Gay stories were written by Betty McCashland Orvis.)

ALEX P. GOCHIS

was born in a little village outside of Athens, Greece on September 30, 1897. He married Whileminia Jankow and had four daughters, Jean, Mary, Suzanne and Cathie.

He came to America at the age of 13 by himself. He had read in his history books the opportunities, wealth and future in America and he dreamed that

someday he would have his own business in America. He worked hard as a waterboy in New York City for the railroad, as a bus boy in a hotel in Kansas City, Missouri and finally became a manager of a fountain in a drug store in Alliance, Nebraska. After work at nights - he taught himself to read and write in English.

After saving hard, he decided to go to McCook and start his own business. Through determination, hard work, and the help and faith of many friends, he started the Olympia on West B Street. Later he built the Olympia Building at 110 Norris Avenue. He was in business for 50 years before his retirement in 1967.

Alex became a naturalized citizen of the United States in 1929. He was more American than a great majority of people with ancestors who dated back to the founding of America. He was proud to be an American and wanted everyone to know it; as many of you probably remember, some of the paid advertisements in the McCook Daily Gazette pertaining to democracy and paying tribute to all the servicemen from Red Willow County. He was from a generation and breed that made America great.

He missed being in World War I because he was too young and he was too old for World War II.

He felt he wanted to do something for our country and decided he wanted to sell War Bonds during WW II. Everyone said he could not, as only banks and post offices issued them. He was a determined little Greek so he wrote President Roosevelt and after letters and phone calls, he was granted his wish and even received the Federal Seal. He issued many thousands of dollars worth of War Bonds.

He was a member of the Masonic Lodge, a lifetime member of the Elks, life member of Rotary, Order of Ahepa, Eagles and a member of St. Alban's Episcopal Church.

He loved children and had many school kids work for him and helped a few through McCook Junior College. He was active in the YMCA and Chamber of Commerce.

Alex passed away in McCook on May 19, 1970, and was buried in the Memorial Park Cemetery on May 22, 1970.

Wife of FLEMMING M. GRAHAM

ELIZABETH S. MILLEN

was born June 29, 1837 at Bloomington, Indiana. At the age of ten, she moved with her parents to Troy, Tennessee, where the family was to remain for only

three years. From there they moved to Adams County, Illinois. On the 4th of March 1858, she was married to Flemming M. Graham, and to this union four children were born. In the fall of 1880, they moved to Red Willow County, and took up a homestead, seven miles northwest of Danbury, which was to be her home for the next forty-five years. Her husband died on October 19, 1888, and the G.A.R. Post in Danbury was named after him. In 1901, she was overtaken with deafness and a lameness, and was obliged to use crutches. Throughout all these years, she bore her afflictions bravely and never felt like giving up. In fact, she insisted on doing her own housework as far as possible, and was always glad to welcome visitors. In May 1926, she met with an accident, from which she never recovered. She passed away, Tuesday, June 22, 1926 at her home in Danbury. She was buried near her husband on Thursday, June 24, 1926 in the Danbury-Marion Cemetery.

SAMUEL L. GREEN

moved to Indianola, Nebraska in the early days, where he was engaged in the drug store business, in addition to the practice of medicine. His splendid executive ability was recognized by the Republican party and he served two terms in the legislature with credit to himself and his constituents. Later he moved to McCook and conducted a drug store. He was always willing to spend his means freely for the best interests of our city. He was one of the prime movers in the erection of the Union Block, which stood as a credit for our city, but was not a profitable venture to its promoters. Dr. Green had served the city of McCook as its Mayor in 1889, and at the time of his death, was serving his second term as County Judge. His death came on January 29, 1905 in McCook and he was buried February 1, 1905 in the Longview Cemetery. He was survived by his wife and two daughters, Cora and Bertha.

VERNON VAL GREGG

was born 1885 on a farm near Greenwood, Nebraska. At the age of thirteen, he moved with his family to another farm, this time near Havelock. He graduated from the Havelock High School, and remained on the farm until he was twenty-three. At that time he went into the furniture business for himself at Havelock. He remained in that business for twelve years, adding in the meantime his practice as an undertaker and funeral director. After disposing of his interest at Havelock, he traveled for two years in the business

of closing out furniture stocks. He spent three years on the west coast as an employee of a furniture manufacturing concern and was connected for a time with a finance company. He then returned to eastern Nebraska and for two years owned and operated a cleaning plant in Lincoln. In 1927 he came to McCook and opened a furniture store on East First, later moving to another location on Main Street. He retired in 1946. He was a member of the First Congregational Church, The Masonic Lodge, the Chamber of Commerce, A Shriner, and the Eastern Star. He was a past president of the Rotary Club, and had served on the McCook Board of Education. He passed away at St. Catherine's Hospital in McCook on Friday, May 21, 1954, and was buried in the Memorial Park Cemetery on Monday, May 24, 1954. He was survived by his wife, Esther, and three children: LaVerne, Madlyn, and Donald.

MAURICE L. GRIFFIN

was born March 17, 1856 at Dunganvan, Waterford, Ireland. He came to America in 1879. He was married to Ellen Coyle in October 18, 1889 and they were the parents of one daughter. He entered the Burlington Mechanical service in McCook. He was a skilled wheel lathe operator. He passed away in Hastings, Nebraska on October 17, 1941. He was returned to McCook and buried in the Calvary Cemetery on October 20, 1941.

PETER GROVES

was born May 25, 1839 in Germantown, Pennsylvania. He was married to Loretta Augusta Flock in 1859 in Iowa. He served with the Fortieth Iowa Regiment in the Civil War. They came to Nebraska and settled in Coleman Precinct, Red Willow County. He died at his home twelve miles north of McCook on May 6, 1895 and was buried in the Longview Cemetery. He was a member of the McCook G.A.R. Post and the Woodman Lodge. He was survived by his wife, Loretta, and one daughter.

Wife of PETER GROVES LORETTA AUGUSTA FLOCK

was born on November 10, 1841 at Tipton, Iowa. She was married to Peter Groves in 1859 in Iowa. The family came to Red Willow County and settled in Coleman Precinct. Her husband Peter died in 1895. In June 1902, she was united in marriage to John Betz at McCook, and he preceded her in death in 1920. She died at her home in Culbertson on Tuesday, June 2, 1931 and was buried near her first husband in the Riverview Cemetery on Wednesday, June 3, 1931.