

oke. Upon his Doctor's orders arrangements were made to take him to a Nursing Home. Since there were none in Red Willow County at that time, he was placed in the Platte Valley Care Home in Lexington, Nebraska.

Like Grandfather's Clock, "Blind Sam's" heart stopped suddenly on June 29, 1960. If in the Great Beyond one's hopes and dreams are realized and one's efforts rewarded, then perhaps "Blind Sam, the Roving Minstrel: is a dapper young spirit, jauntily marching down the streets paved with gold, carrying a shining new harp to the Pearly Gates and greeting newcomers with the tune, "When The Saints Come Marching In."

#### BENJAMIN F. OLCOTT

was born in Huron County, Ohio on February 28, 1845. During the Civil War, he enlisted in Company I, Tenth Michigan Infantry, at Flint, Michigan. During the war, he received injuries from which he suffered the remainder of his life, The last twelve years he was an invalid.

Benjamin was married to Deslotine Odell in Huron County, Ohio on February 18, 1868. They moved from Ohio to Brookline, Iowa, where they lived until 1884 when they came to McCook. Five children, two boys and three girls were born to this union.

He died at his home in McCook, on Tuesday, December 3, 1912 and was buried in the Longview Cemetery on Thursday, December 5, 1912, under the auspices of the G.A.R. Post.

#### WILBUR HOWARTH OLDFATHER

was born at Lexington, Nebraska. His family moved to Wood River, where he resided with them for several years. He graduated from the Wood River High School, and then took up a course at the Hastings Business College. In May of 1925 he became a bookkeeper for the Twidale Company at Kearney, and the following year was sent to McCook to open and manage the store here. He was active in social and civic organizations, which included; membership in the Rotary Club, of which he was secretary, and the McCook Chamber of Commerce. He also was a member of the Methodist Church. He is the father of three children; two daughters and one son.

P

#### CHRISTIAN FREDERICK PADE

was born June 5, 1832 in Germany. He learned the cabinet maker's trade in Germany. In 1852, he came to America with his mother, brother and sister, locating at Fond-du-Lac, Wisconsin. He lived there for thirty-three years. Part of that time he worked at his trade and the rest of that time as foreman of the C. J. L. Sash, Door and Blind Factory.

In 1855 he was married to Pauline Arens and to this union were born five children: Emma, Henry, Herman, Bertha, and Minnie. In 1885, he and his family came to McCook and opened a furniture store. Later a mortuary establishment was added.

Christian died on Monday, October 13, 1913, at his home from a hemorrhage. He was buried in the Longview Cemetery on Thursday, October 16, 1913.

#### Wife of CHRISTIAN FREDERICK PADE

##### PAULINE ARENS

was born on May 1, 1833 in Holstein, Germany, then under Danish rule. She came to America with her parents and was married to Christian Frederick Pade in 1855. They were the proud parents of five children. She died at her home in McCook on Monday, July 18, 1927 and was buried on Wednesday, July 20, 1927 in the Memorial Park Cemetery, beside her husband.

#### HERMAN F. PADE

was born February 13, 1859 at Fon-du-Lac, Wisconsin to Christian Frederick Pade and Pauline Arens. He was married to Carrie G. Burrows on February 4, 1886 at Fon-du-Lac. The Pade family moved to McCook in the early days and Herman and his father, in the spring of 1885, purchased the brick building at 310 West B and opened a furniture and undertaking business. This business he successfully conducted with the assistance of his sisters, Bertha and Minnie, his brother Henry, and other relatives up to the day of his death. After the death of his father, the business was moved to Main Street and a mortuary was later opened on East C Street. Herman was a member of the Congregational Church. He also was a member of the Elk's Club and a long time member of the Chamber of Commerce. On the night of December 23, 1932, while mailing a letter at a mail box east of the depot, in the darkness he ran against and fell over the low iron fence and sustained a fracture of the thigh of the right leg. He was taken to St. Catherine's Hos-

pital. Complications resulting from this injury, plus return of an old time injury, made his condition serious. Dr. Herbert Doris of Omaha arrived and operated. The next day another operation was performed but did not improve his condition. He died on December 31, 1932 at the hospital in McCook and he was buried at the Memorial Park Cemetery on January 2, 1933.

#### ERNEST MILFORD PARKER

was born in 1879 at Tupper's Plains, Ohio, the son of Madison Ambrose Parker and Martha Nickerson Parker. He attend the Owl Hollow School and the Ohio State University. He worked as a law enforcement officer for the Texas Rangers and was later employed by the American Detective Association of Indianapolis, Indiana. He came to western Kansas in 1896 on a murder case and stayed on teaching school in Phillipsburg and Bird City. He married Lenna Belle Ashton (born in 1883) of Danbury, Nebraska. In 1905 he was employed by the Union Pacific Railroad at Grand Island, Nebraska. In 1907 they returned to the Ashton homestead to farm many years. Mr. Parker was a progressive farmer and stockman and helped to organize the first Equity in the area. He was one of the first in the area to farm with a tractor and harvest with a harvester-thresher. To Ernest and Lenna was born only one child, a son, Raymond Ashton Parker. Ernest Milford Parker died in 1955 and his wife, Lenna Belle Ashton Parker died in 1958. They are both buried in the Danbury-Marion Cemetery. He was an active member of the community and a member of the Presbyterian Church, the Masonic Lodge, York Rite, Scottish Rite and the Shrine.

#### RAMOND ASHTON PARKER

was born in 1906 at Grand Island, Nebraska, the only child of Ernest Milford Parker and Lenna Belle Ashton Parker. Ramond married Edna Elizabeth Messner (born in 1906 the daughter of Chauncey Samuel Messner and Alice Maud Ruby Messner) in 1924. They have three children: Gayle Ashton Parker married A uretta Marilyn Welborn and live at Littleton, Colorado; Carolyn (Connie) Fern Parker married Norval Earl Bowen of Omaha, Nebraska; and Duane Messner Parker who married Mary Katherine Deardoff of Denver, Colorado.

Ramond and Edna were farmers living on the Ashton and Messner homesteads until their retirement into Danbury in 1979. They are members of the Order of the Eastern Star and the Presbyterian Church.

#### ISAIAH RUSSELL PATE

was born on May 11, 1842 near Kitanning in Armstrong County, Pennsylvania to John and Mary Ann Pate. They left Pennsylvania when he was 14 years of age, and traveled through Illinois, Arkansas, and Kansas, finally coming to Nebraska in 1884. He was united in marriage to Lulu Teeter of Bartley on February 24, 1889. To this marriage was born seven children, three sons: Ira S., John and Ray; and four daughters: Bertha, Jennie, Agnes and Mrs. Ray Miller. They moved to Hitchcock County, where they took up a homestead and resided for several years. After retiring from the farm the moved to McCook, where he died on August 25, 1935. He was buried on August 26, 1935 in the Riverview Cemetery. Lulu Pate died in 1947 and is also buried in the Riverview Cemetery.

#### THOMAS J. PATE

was born in Butler County, Pennsylvania on July 23, 1840. During the Civil War he served in the Ninety-Fourth Illinois Regiment. He was married in 1867 to Nancy Withrow in Illinois and they were the parents of three children: Otto, Delbert and Myrtle. They came to Red Willow County in the spring of 1886 and homesteaded seven miles northeast of McCook. After proving up on their homestead they bought and moved to a place just outside of McCook. He was a member of the Local G.A.R. Post.

Thomas died at his home on Wednesday, November 7, 1906 and was buried in the Riverview Cemetery on Friday, November 9th.

#### FREDRICK A. PENNELL

was born in Tama, Iowa on December 18, 1867. He moved from Tama to Ainsworth, Nebraska, where he made the acquaintance of H. P. Sutton. Mr. Sutton later made arrangements for Fredrick to come to McCook. While in Ainsworth, he met Mary Jane Smith and they were married on February 27, 1890. They were the parents of one daughter, Leah. In 1892, the family came to McCook and he took a position as bookkeeper at the First National Bank. Mr. Pennell worked his way up in the bank to the position of cashier, which he held for twenty-six years. He continued as a director of the bank until his death. In later years, he owned and operated the McCook Universal Motor Company, in a partnership with Mr. Sutton. Through all this time, he was a most active member of the local music circles and worked in close cooperation with Mr. Sutton as a member of the Mc-

Cook band. He was an active member of the Elk's Lodge, and the Knights of Pythias. He was at one time the Chancellor Commander of the local Knights of Pythias organization. He retired from active business in 1933.

Fredrick Pennell passed away in McCook on Saturday, August 24, 1940 and was buried in the Memorial Park Cemetery on Tuesday, August 27, 1940. His wife, Mary Jane died in 1968 and is also buried in the Memorial Park Cemetery.

Wife of EDWARD M. PENNINGTON  
ANNA M. ORR

was born January 11, 1870 at Monmouth, Illinois. When but a girl of ten years, she moved with her parents, in the spring of 1880, to a homestead south of Wilsonville, Nebraska. She lived there until her marriage on April 9, 1890 to Edward M. Pennington. To this union five children were born. Her parents were both of Irish descent. Her mother passed away in 1898 and her father in 1923. Anna was a member of the Presbyterian Church in Lebanon for thirty years, and also a member of the Rebekah Lodge and the Order of the Eastern Star. She passed away at her home in Lebanon on, June 8, 1926. Her funeral was held on Wednesday, June 9, 1926, and her remains were laid to rest in the Lebanon Cemetery.

FRANCIS MARION PENNINGTON

was born in Scotts County, Arkansas on February 26, 1845. He enlisted in Company I, Eleventh Illinois Calvary on April 1, 1864, and served until the close of the War. He returned home and lived in Illinois for three years and then moved to Hawk County, Iowa where he married Mary Francis Coon on September 28, 1870. To this union was born two sons: Allen E. and Ira. The family moved to Red Willow County in 1879, settling on a homestead near Lebanon, which was their home for nearly thirty-five years, when they moved to Lebanon. He died at his home on January 20, 1912 and was buried in the Lebanon Cemetery, on Monday, January 22, 1912. His wife, Mary Francis Coon Pennington died in 1917 and is also buried in the Lebanon Cemetery.

PAUL A. PERRENOUD

was born in 1865 at Sagne, Switzerland. After coming to America he settled first in Iowa and then in this area, to try farming. Weary of that, in September of 1902 he joined the Burlington Railroad mechanical force and worked at this trade until his re-

tirement in 1931. He passed away April 3, 1936 in McCook, and was buried April 4, 1936 in the Memorial Park Cemetery. He was survived by one daughter, Nellie.

EDWARD FALSTAFF PETERSEN

was born 1885 at Chicago, Illinois. His family moved to Colorado where he was raised and educated in Denver. He started the laundry business, when at the age of seven he started to deliver laundry in a boy's coaster wagon. After graduation from school he was employed in the Denver Laundry, where he met William H. Hill. In 1920, he came to McCook to join Mr. Hill in the operation of the Ideal Laundry. The laundry in those days employed but seven people and was housed in a small building. In the years since, the plant has been enlarged to employ more than forty people and a large dry cleaning plant has been added. He was widely known in the laundry field and took an active part in both state and national laundry owners associations. He was also a member of the National Cleaners and Dyers group, and in 1928 served as president of the Nebraska Laundry Owners Association. He was active in all civic affairs since his arrival in McCook. Beside his activities in the McCook Chamber of Commerce and other civic bodies, he was one of the organizers of the Associated Charities and acted as president of that organization several years. He was the third Exalted Ruler of the local Elk's Lodge, and a member of the Masonic Lodge. He was married to Christina Bergetta Jensen and they were the parents of two sons: Edward F. Jr., and Kenneth. He passed away in McCook and was buried in the Memorial Park Cemetery on October 10, 1957. His wife, Christina died in 1968 and was also buried in the Memorial Park Cemetery.

ANDREW PHILLIPS

was born in Pennsylvania on May 22, 1845. He moved to Iowa with his parents when he was thirteen years old. At the age of Seventeen, he enlisted in the Union Army in Company F, Twenty-fifth Iowa, under Captain Allen, and served through the War and received an honorable discharge. In 1874 he was married to Katherine M. Schook and to this union were born one son, George, and two daughters; Nellie and Ida. In 1884 they moved to Nebraska and settled in Hayes County, where he homesteaded and they lived until 1900 when he moved to McCook. He died in McCook on Friday, August 31, 1906 and was buried in the River-view cemetery under the auspices of the G.A.R. Post.

Wife of ANDREW PHILLIPS  
KATHERINE M. SCHOOK

was born March 15, 1850 at Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania. At the age of sixteen she moved to Louisa County, Iowa. In 1874 she was united in marriage to Andrew Phillips, a Civil War Veteran. She was the mother of three children. They moved to Hayes County, Nebraska in 1885 and to McCook in 1901. She passed away Monday, February 22, 1932, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Donald Snoke, in McCook. She was buried on Wednesday, February 24, 1932, in the River-view Cemetery.

JASPER S. PHILLIPS

was born February 12, 1854 in Marion County, Indiana. He was married on May 10, 1877 at Manchester, Ohio to Louisa A. Connelly and they were the parents of seven children. In the spring of 1879 they moved to Indianola, Nebraska, where he resided for the remainder of his life, except for the one year he spent in Missouri. He was one of Indianola's pioneer businessmen, alert and enterprising. While in the beginning of his career as a contractor and builder in Indianola he was associated in a partnership with his constant friend, Robert H. Thomas. He constructed the first house in Indianola, and the first court house, as well as the first bank building in Red Willow County. Since then, his avocations were diverse; dealing in hardware and furniture, practicing law, and editing the Indianola Courier and the Indianola Reporter. At the time of his death he was proprietor of the People's Store, in connection with which he conducted an undertaking business. He passed away, Thursday, May 19, 1910 at his home in Indianola, and his body was laid to rest in the Indianola Cemetery.

W. S. PHILLIPS

was born on March 3, 1867 at Fairbury, Illinois. When he was a year old his parents moved to Pennsylvania, and when he was two, they moved to Nebraska, settling at Beatrice. He lived there until the age of fourteen when his father, Harry Phillips, came west with the Burlington Railroad, for whom he purchased right-of-way land. His father took a homestead near McCook. Al Rider, son of H. C. Rider was a good friend of his. Their house was erected before the townsite of McCook was surveyed. A well, one hundred and twenty-seven feet deep, from which the only good drinking water for miles around could be obtained, was dug near the house. The material for the house, a one and one-half story building, was brought to

McCook on a railroad flat car at the end of the construction train of the Burlington Railroad, which at that time was extending its track westward. It was unloaded at the track at a point near where the depot now stands. It was then carried to the site of the house. Both his father and an uncle were employed by the Burlington. The line of the road had been graded as far west as Culbertson and the track had been laid, but the roadbed had not yet been ballasted. He worked with A. B. (Wicked) Smith and his gang when they surveyed the townsite of McCook. He worked with them carrying chain and stakes. He killed his first antelope while hunting in the country northwest of McCook. Many a time he had sat on the site of the Keystone Hotel and watched antelope, buffalo, and other wild game grazing on the hills across the valley south of town. Shortly after he arrived in McCook, the first saloon was built by Tom Quigley. It was built on Main Street on the east side. The second building to be put up was the National Hotel, which was erected by L. D. Colvin. The third building was erected in the 300 block on Main Street and stood near where the offices of John E. Kelley & Son were later located. After that the Burlington Depot and round house were built. These were the only buildings at the time of his departure.

Mr. Phillips nickname of El Comanche was given to him by Jew Jake, a trader who had a post on the Belle Fourche River in Wyoming. At that time, El Comanche was killing meat for the Gillette Construction crew of the Burlington Railroad, which was laying track at the time from Grand Island, Nebraska to Billings, Montana. The trader noticed his peculiar method of camping, which resembled that of a man named Comanche and that is when he began calling him Comanche. Later, when Mr. Phillips began his career as an author, he adopted the name, after changing it to the Spanish, El Comanche, as a nom-de-plume, or pen name.

The greater part of his life was spent in the outdoors. For a time, he tried his hand at newspapering and worked for the Beatrice Express, Lincoln Call, Chicago Inter-ocean, the Seattle Post Intelligencer, Seattle Times, and also did some cartooning. He had visited every state in the union, and had seen every season of the year in each place.

He was married when he was twenty-five and they had three children.

He began his work of studying wild animal and plant life in 1890, and has devoted himself to it. He had never been in one place any great length of

time and attributes his roaming instincts to some of the Delaware Indian blood in his veins. His ancestors came from Wales and settled in New York. During the line of descent, French, Indian, and Scotch blood was absorbed into the family. These in addition to Welsh, flow in the veins of El Comancho. During his career he had mixed with Ojibwa, Sioux, and Blackfoot Indians, and was intimate with the details of life in these and many other tribes. During his life he had known, and associated with, many of the celebrities of the Old Wild West. Among these were, Buffalo Bill Cody and Charles Russell, the cowboy artist. He also was a pal of Emerson Hough, well known author of western stories. The works of El Comancho includes a series of boy's books on wild life and many articles on the same subject. They have been published in magazines such as Outdoor America, Outdoor Life and others. After an absence of many years, he visited McCook on Sunday, June 26, 1927. He talked about some of the changes in the country surrounding McCook. He said no trees could be found north of the Burlington Railroad tracks when he left here, and that those growing along the river were only small willows and saplings. None of the trees growing in the City of McCook were here years ago. His reason for the lack of trees was the fact that the Indians would burn over the country each year to provide good range. He had lived a life of high adventure and some of the outstanding happenings follow: he was caught in a Nebraska cyclone and came through it alive; was once bogged down in the quicksand of an ice-filled river, and escaped only by the sheerest of luck; lived through the grasshopper plague in Nebraska in the 1870's; he had fought Nebraska prairie fires; once ran out of water, while crossing a western desert, and experienced all the tortures of thirst; was caught by an avalanche in the Cascade Mountains, and emerged from the experience uninjured.

When last seen on Monday, June 27, 1927, he was dressed in a picturesque costume of corduroy, black shirt, black silk neckerchief, and pinched crown hat, boarding the train for Lincoln, Omaha, and Chicago.

#### JAMES B. PICKERING

was born in Freeport, Harrison County, Ohio on November 4, 1840. During the Civil War, he served in Company C, Ninety-eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry and was in twelve battles and sixty skirmishes. He was with General Sherman in the March to the Sea.

He was married to Virginia J. Janney at Macomb,

Illinois on September 1, 1870. They were the parents of four children. They came to Nebraska in 1874 and made their home in Gerver Precinct, Red Willow County.

James died at his home on June 24, 1904 and was buried in the Fairview Cemetery south of McCook.

#### WILLIAM H. PLOURD

was the son of Michael W. Plourd, a French-Canadian emigrant, and Emily Tubbs, a native of New York state. He was born in Minona, Iowa on November 2, 1866. His childhood was spent in Mason City, Iowa around his father's blacksmith shop where he developed a love and respect for animals that determined his way of life.

William decided on a career as a doctor of veterinary medicine and graduated from a veterinarian college in Kansas City. His special interest continued to revolve around horses, and he became adept at trick riding. He toured the country in the early 1890's under the show name of "Professor Plourd", giving riding performances which included a four-horse hippodrome act.

He married Elizabeth Ann Hohman in Odell, Nebraska on October 8, 1892. They spent almost three years in Odell, and two of their children, Wilbur and Alfred, were born there. Shortly after Alfred's birth in May of 1895, William closed his practice in Odell, and the family moved to Indianola. They rented land northeast of Indianola and spent the mild winter in a tent.

William's parents and his brother Walter also moved to Indianola in 1896. Michael Plourd and his sons, William and Wallace, established a blacksmith shop which operated under the name of "M. W. Plourd and Sons". William also instituted a veterinary practice in Indianola that was to serve Indianola for more than 50 years.

Wallace shared William's attraction to horses, and the two brothers established a racing stable which, during the years of its existence, owned and raced a total of 35 horses. Walter was responsible for the manufacture of horseshoes, jockey saddles, and practically every piece of equipment needed for racing. He became known to horsemen the world over as the inventor of a special type of racing shoe which employed the use of a mold. This shoe was first developed for the Plourd stables and then, because of its uniqueness, was ordered from the stables by racers from Canada to Australia.

William was in charge of the care and racing of

the horses. He traveled to nearly every state as well as Mexico with his horses and jockeys. Among the jockeys was his son, Alfred, whom William considered the best that ever wore the Plourd colors.

The last great racer of the stables was a horse named Indianola who, at the time of its death, had won more races than any other thoroughbred ever foaled in Nebraska. He raced frequently during an unusual career of 14 years. He was injured in a collision during his last race at Don Morez, Mexico and had to be destroyed. The stables were closed and the remaining horses disposed of following Indianola's demise in 1926.

When silent movies became popular, William opened the first motion picture theater in Indianola with Bill Rambo as the first piano player. Later, William's youngest daughter, Nell, provided the background music for the theater. He owned the theater for several years and also, for a short time, one in Chadron, which his son, Alfred, managed for him.

When electricity was desired in Indianola, he purchased the first franchise and his teenage sons, Alfred and Bernard, built the first light plant. They wired the homes in Indianola and assisted their father in the operation of the small light plant. When McCook assumed the franchise a few years later, they helped build the line between McCook and Indianola.

Over the years, he established and operated several clubrooms and recreation parlors in Indianola. He was never content to allow life to pass by without living it to its fullest. In his later years, he would pack up every summer and travel to area fairs, often taking some of his grandchildren with him. His fair booths were an entertainment and enjoyment for him; he never tired of being with people, traveling, and providing entertainment for others.

William and Elizabeth had three sons, Wilbur, Alfred, and Bernard; and two daughters, Gertrude and Nell.

Elizabeth died in 1951 and was buried in the Cedar Grove Cemetery at Indianola. William died in 1953 after a colorful and exciting life and many years of service to the community of Indianola, and was buried in the Cedar Grove Cemetery at Indianola.

#### HIRAM C. PLUMB

was born in Jefferson County, New York on December 14, 1833. He and his parents moved to Dodge County, Wisconsin in 1855, living there until 1859 when they returned to New York. He was united in marriage to

Ellen Mackey on October 8, 1860. He enlisted with the Thirty-fifth New York Volunteers in 1861, and served with this unit till 1863. In 1873 he moved, with his family, to Red Willow County, where he resided until his death on May 11, 1906 at Danbury. He left four children to mourn his death: Mrs. Charles Wade, Mrs. John Ambler, Mrs. Ernest Galusha, and George Thomas. He was buried at the Danbury-Marion Cemetery on May 13, 1906.

#### CHARLES WALKER POORE

was born November 5, 1868 in Newton, Iowa to William H. and Hulda Poore. He was the sixth of seven sons, two of which died in infancy.

The family lived around Newton and Winterset, Iowa, leaving there in 1878 in a covered wagon. Charles often spoke of riding a pony behind and driving the milk cows. They crossed the river at Blair, Nebraska, and traveled south down what is now Highway 15. They spent the first winter at Bee, Nebraska living with an uncle.

The father, William, bought the homestead rights of some land south of Bee. Soon after he passed on, leaving Hulda to raise the five young sons.

C.W. and Frank, the two youngest boys, stayed on the farm the longest to help the mother.

Charles W. Poore and Emma Webster were married in 1892. Four children were born to them; Jay W. of McCook and Hulda Westerhoff of Seward survive. Theda Carter and Forrest Poore are deceased.

C. W. and his family lived north of Seward. He traded a horse and buggy for his first 80 acres of land. From that time on he tried to buy or trade for all the adjoining land. He then became a real estate broker. He sold land all over Nebraska, Minnesota, the Dakotas and Texas. In his trading he would trade for horses, mules, cows and seed corn. He even acquired a hardware store and a Ford Car agency in his trading.

C. W. owned considerable land around the McCook area. He traded a team of mules for his first Buick car, in which he brought his family to Red Willow County in 1916. He purchased the Pate place 1½ miles north of McCook, where the family lived for a number of years. Livestock, farm machinery, furniture, and other items were shipped to McCook in what was then called an immigrant railroad car.

He continued to buy land and planted many acres of corn. He sometimes even raised a good corn crop. There would be five or six corn shuckers who lived in the home from the first good frost in the fall, and

the corn was out. Sometimes, if there was lots of snow, this lasted until almost spring. He always associated cards with gambling and would never allow his men to while away the long winter evenings playing cards. Mrs. Poore was heard to remark "I've made a barrel of gravy this winter." She did always have a hired girl to help her. C. W. at times raised a large number of sheep. His oldest brother spent the winter with him and tended the flock. He also raised registered Hereford cattle, and registered Duroc Jersey hogs. He had an imported Belgian Bobbed Tail Horse and a Percheron.

In 1931, he built the first sale barn south of the railroad tracks in McCook. The sales were very different in those days. The commission on a cow was only 75 cents. They would sell from \$15 to \$20 each. Small pigs sold for 25 cents and sometimes you could not give them away. Col. Arnold Schultz was the first auctioneer, then C. M. Matson; later Jay W. Poore and Art Leitner. Forrest Poore was an excellent judge of cattle and a very efficient ring man. The Poore boys from both families worked at the sales as soon as they were big enough to carry a cane and chase a cow.

In 1935, the year McCook celebrated its golden jubilee, C. W. broke a team of oxen and fashioned a covered wagon. He proudly drove it in the parade down Main Street with several grandchildren aboard. The sign on the side was "The Last Chance." C. W. and his bulldog Russ were familiar figures around the sale barn.

C. W. and Mrs. Poore purchased the property at 310 East First and lived there until her death in 1935. He sold the sale barn to his sons Jay and Forrest, Glen Garlic, and Fred Damrow in 1946.

He then bought the Drake Hardware store building and for a number of years followed his first love, trading and buying and dealing in antique and second hand furniture. He maintained living quarters upstairs until the last four years of his life, when he lived at the homes of his sons.

He left a rich legacy to his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. His life proved that with hard work, initiative, foresight, perceptiveness, imagination, boundless energy and desire, you can overcome the obstacles caused by hardship, lack of education, loss of his father at an early age, and the trials that beset all the early settlers. He continued to be an inspiration to his whole family.

Charles was a member of the United Brethren Church in Bee, Nebraska, and to the Masonic Lodge in McCook. He passed away in McCook on March 4, 1954 and was buried March 7, 1954 in the Memorial Park Cemetery.

#### JOSEPH C. PREDMORE

was born in Clearmont County, Ohio on September 25, 1835. He moved to Illinois and was married to Mary Wood on October 19, 1858. They were the parents of six children. In 1862, he answered his country's call and enlisted in the Eighty-ninth Ohio Volunteers and served three years. He and his family moved to Red Willow County in 1884. After being an invalid for two years, he fell asleep on Wednesday, March 5, 1919, never to awaken again. His funeral was held on Friday, March 7, 1919 and he was buried in the Longview Cemetery at McCook.

#### CHARLES PUELZ (PIILTZ)

was born April 10, 1830 at Leipzig, Germany, and grew up as a young man hating the military regime of Bismarck. For this reason, after his marriage in 1854 to Justina Winkler, he brought his young bride to America. After enduring the hardships of a six week voyage across the stormy Atlantic in an old fashioned sailing boat, they arrived at Montreal, Canada. Soon after, they moved to Millerburg, Iowa to be among some German friends. Three of their six children were born there, and he established a good business with his shoemaking and cobbler trade. Those were stirring days, for the country was in the throes of the great slavery question. The wail of the enslaved bondsmen, and the need of the struggling country appealed to his vigorous manhood and although he had a family, he felt that he must answer the nation's call. Bidding his family an affectionate farewell, he entered the Union Army, Company I, Twenty-eighth, Iowa Volunteer Infantry, in August 1862, and gave his adopted nation faithful and heroic service until the close of the War. He eventually was made Corporal and served under General Grant. He received a minor wound during the battle of Gettysburg. He returned home, after the war, to a happy family, but naturally became restless after a short time. Backed with a sturdy ancestry and possessed with the true pioneer spirit, he felt the call of the west, and in 1878, he homesteaded about two miles west of Danbury-Nebraska. Through the years of drought, as well as the years of plenty, he remained steadfast to his traditions and played a part in building the Beaver

Valley community. He continued making shoes and boots for the pioneers and would walk miles to deliver his goods. He was a faithful and interested member of the Masonic Order for nearly sixty years, and was a charter member of the first Masonic Lodge organized in Red Willow County. He also was a charter member of the Boaz Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Danbury. His patriotism was unique and his flag was always hoisted whenever appropriate, coupled with his zeal for his fraternity and re-inforced by his devotion to his church and his God, made him a man to be remembered. He loved the game of Chess, and still played a strong game into his nineties. He passed away at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Nellie Pollock, on Sunday, March 31, 1929, at Portland, Oregon. His remains were returned to his home, and was buried in the Danbury Cemetery with full Masonic Rites.

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### EARL E. QUIGLEY

was born March 16, 1891, in a small sod house five miles north and west of Indianola, Nebraska, on land that was homesteaded by his father, Thomas K. Quigley, in 1872. Earl spent his entire life on the farm of 160 acres. He walked three miles with his seven brothers and three sisters to attend Red Willow School. At eight years of age, he drove four-head horse teams to the Narrows, shocked grain behind the binder all day in hot weather, dust and rattlesnakes. He cultivated, hoed and weeded corn, and finally husked it out before he could return to school in November of each year. There were the chores to do morning and evening, the horses to be fed, cows to milk, and many times, this was done by lantern light in extreme cold weather. Earl learned at a very early age in life to accept new situations, to make decisions of his own and develop a self discipline if he were to survive. He also discovered the inter-relation of the soil and weather and the animals in this relation to man. What he did not have, he would have to make for himself, earn the necessary money to buy commodities or if he did not have the money, they did without. The early years of Earl's life were trials and hardships. His family was often faced by drought, grasshoppers, ten-cent corn, and sometimes this was all followed by the banker taking the mortgaged team of horses or the family milk cow. None of these things were kept from the children. Earl said the gambles of life as a farmer and realized the size

of the stakes, he shared in the privation and worked very hard, but there was also fun for the family. During the threshing season, games were held for the young boys, and as a young man, he played baseball.

During the long winter months, there were many country dances. Earl played a fiddle in a band for community barn dances. Earl was seventeen when his father passed away, leaving the responsibilities of the farm and ranch to him and his mother. Several years later, his mother moved to the state of Colorado due to ill health. Earl remained on the homestead alone, taking over the mortgage. He batched for several years until he met and married Anna Tines of Bartley. Two children were born to this family. Money was very scarce for everyone, especially a man with many debts.

The Dirty Thirties was a tragic time for Earl due to the drought, no crops, and land taxes coming due. He helped make thousands of popcorn balls to sell for one penny each. Also, he produced and delivered the butter, the cream, the eggs, and dressed many chickens to be sold in the community.

As conditions improved, he began soil conservation practices, planning shelter belts, terracing his land, and developing irrigation. He believed very strongly that by using these conservation practices, his land would be left for many generations to use and, hopefully, enjoy for another 200 years.

Earl received the Knights of Ak Sar Ben of Nebraska Pioneer Farm Award for long and meritorious service to agriculture as exemplified by continued ownership within the family of the same Nebraska farm for over 100 years. He was one of only five recipients in Red Willow County of this award. By hard work and determination, this homestead of 160 acres has developed into over 2600 acres, which is still family owned and operated by family descendants.

His philosophy was: Farming, despite its hardships and disappointments, is the most honest and honorable way a man can spend his days on this earth; and by his toil, he is giving more to the world than he is taking from it, which is an honor that does not always come to all men. When he grew old and summed up his days, he was able to stand tall and he felt the pride in a good life that he had lived. He believed that farming makes all of this very possible.

He passed away in the McCook Hospital on October 13, 1970, and was buried in the St. Catherine Cemetery at Indianola, Nebraska on October 15, 1970.