



One Hundred Years of Living

Indianola, Nebraska



1873 - 1973

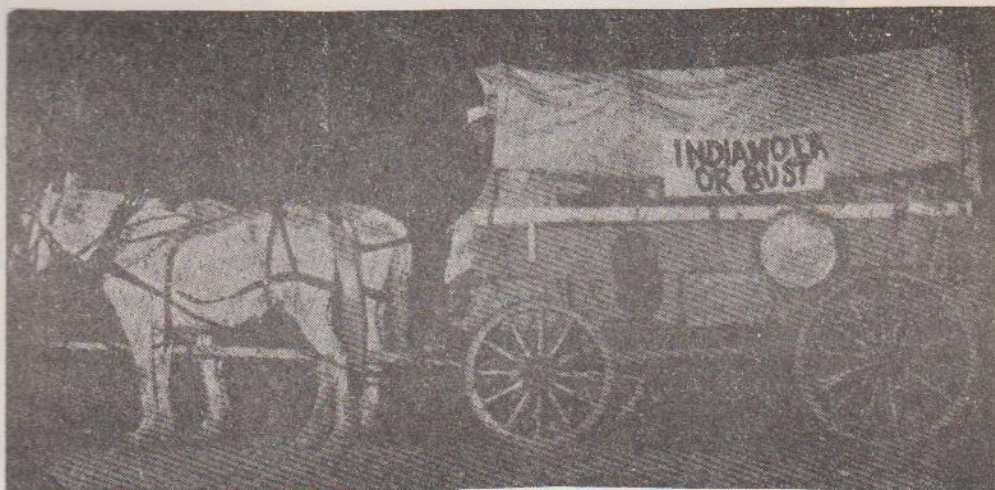


THIS SOUVENIR BOOKLET IS DEDICATED

TO

THE OLD SETTLERS

God Bless Them



Red Willow County Legally Conceived One Century Ago

One hundred years ago, today, Gov. Robert W. Furnas signed his name to a proclamation calling an election in the then-unorganized county of Red Willow. In commemoration of the occasion's centennial, the GAZETTE is reprinting the original proclamation in its entirety. The words, recorded March 27, 1873, follow:

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, a number of the citizens of the unorganized County of Red Willow have united in a petition asking that an election be called for the purpose of choosing County officers preliminary to the organization of said County.

Therefore, I, Robert W. Furnas, Governor of the State of Nebraska, by virtue of the authority in me vested do hereby order an election be held in said County at Red Willow at such store or residence as the Judges of election herein named shall designate, on Tuesday, the twenty-seventh day of May, A. D. 1873, for the purpose of choosing three (3) County Commissioners, One (1) County Clerk, One (1) County Treasurer, One (1) Sheriff, One (1) Probate Judge, One (1) Surveyor, One (1) County Superintendent of Schools, One (1) Coroner, three (3) Judges of Election and two (2) Clerks of Election.

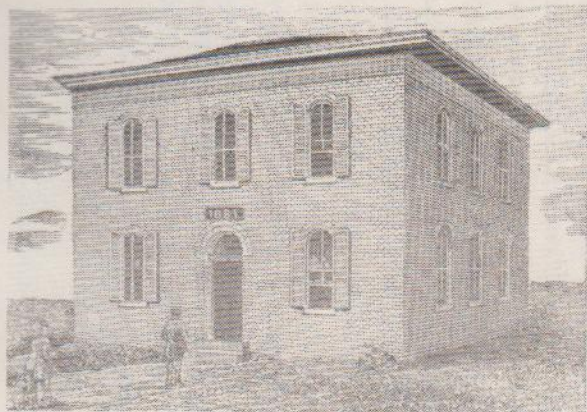
And I do further designate and appoint Washington M. Hinman, Edward S. Hill and Leslie H. Lawton as Judges, John Byfield and Joseph Berger as Clerks to conduct said election in accordance with "An act for the organization of Counties" approved June 24th, 1867 and the election laws of this state.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska, Done at Lincoln this twenty-seventh day of March, A.D. 1873.

*Robert W. Furnas,
Governor*



The home of Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Harrison and Ida Harrison, this building once served as Red Willow's County Jail. It has been a residence since the county seat was moved to McCook. The present structure has weathered the years and still carries a strong resemblance to the original jail.



In 1881, the brick court house was built at the foot of the hill to replace the original frame structure on main street. No longer needed as a public office, the top story was removed and the brick used to build the home directly east of it.

The court's final decision to move the County government from Indianola to McCook, was handed down on April 15, 1896. The commissioners met on April 20 for a final session at Indianola, and adjourned

On the 23rd, the board met and entered into an 18-months lease for rooms in the C. W. Meeker building for temporary county use. Here the county records and the offices remained for about two years, until the new building promised by McCook could be built.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING:

CERTIFICATE
No. 41

Wherras John H. Holborn of Red Willow County Nebraska according
has deposited in the GENERAL LAND OFFICE of the United States a CERTIFICATE of the REGISTER of the LAND OFFICE at North Platte Nebraska
whereby it appears that FULL PAYMENT has been made by the said John H. Holborn

to the provisions of the Act of Congress of the 24th of April, 1820, entitled "An Act making further provision for the sale of the Public Lands," for the north west quarter of the north west quarter of Section thirty four, the north half of the north west quarter, and the north east quarter of the north west quarter of Section four teen in Township three north of Range twenty seven west, in the district of lands subject to sale at North Platte Nebraska containing one hundred and fifty nine acres and ninety hundredths of an acre.

according to the OFFICIAL PLAN of the Survey of the said lands, returned to the GENERAL LAND OFFICE by the SURVEYOR GENERAL, which said Tract has been purchased by the said John H. Holborn

Now, know ye, That the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in consideration of the premises, and in conformity with the several Acts of Congress in such case made and provided, HAVE GIVEN AND GRANTED, and by these presents DO GIVE AND GRANT, unto the said

and to his heirs, the said Tract above described, to have and to hold the same, together with all the rights, privileges, immunities, and appurtenances, of whatsoever nature, thereunto belonging, unto the said John H. Holborn and to his heirs and assigns forever.



In testimony whereof, J. Pulyses Grant, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, have caused these letters to be made Patent, and the Seal of the GENERAL LAND OFFICE to be hereunto affixed.

GIVEN under my hand, at the City of Washington, the 10th day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy five, and of the Independence of the United States the thirty ninth

BY THE PRESIDENT: W. Grant
By J. A. Holborn Secretary

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION.

Acres, Blackmar & Co., Printers, Burlington, Iowa.

STATE OF NEBRASKA.

Red Willow County, } ss.
Red Willow County

At an election holden in *Red Willow County*
on the *14th* day of *October* A. D. 1873,

Edgar, P. Hull
was elected to the office of *Probate Judge*
for said *Red Willow County* for the term of

and until his successor is elected and qualified.

And he has qualified by giving bond and taking the oath of office as required
by law.

As witness my hand and Official Seal this *10th*
day of *January* A. D. 1874. *D. J. Mantuck*
County Clerk



STATE OF NEBRASKA,
Executive Department,

LINCOLN, *Feb 14* 1873

Capt. C. S. Hill
& others, Red Willow

Dear Sir

Your favor of the 19th ult ^{just} is at hand I notice what you say in relation to arms & ammunition for your organized company. I have written to several parties in your neighborhood about same matter. I regret to say that the State has no arms at its disposal. You are doubtless aware that we have no militia law - no mode prescribed for the distribution of arms. It would afford me great pleasure to accommodate you if within my power. Orders have been given by the Government to have the Indians go back to their Reservation. *War* Ord. Comd'g Dep't of the State has sent 2 Companies to your Country to protect the settlers. Congress has been petitioned to establish a post there. I think you need be under no apprehensions

Respy &c
Robt. W. Furnas, *pro*
Governor



CHRISTMAS, 1881

Dedication Ball

AT THE
NEW COURT HOUSE

-IN-

INDIANOLA, FRIDAY EVENING, DEC. 23, 1881.

Committee on Invitation.

W. Z. TAYLOR, Culbertson; M. H. CAVENAGH, Danbury; T. F. BAR-
COCK, Cambridge; FRED BOEHNER, Arapahoe; W. L.
McCLARY, Stockville; S. H. COLVIN, Fairview;
C. D. CRAMER and C. S. QUICK,
Indianola.

Gentlemen and Ladies are cordially invited
to attend.

HISTORY OF THE OLD SETTLERS PICNIC

Gathering every year to renew old friendships and acquaintances, the pioneers who aided in the early development of Red Willow county meet in the annual Old Settlers' picnic at Indianola.

The re-unions have been conducted for the past 71 years. Started and operated first by the Red Willow Old Settlers' association, the affair has of late been the project of the Indianola community. It was founded by the late Kate Thomas. At first there was no regular date set, but it was usually held in August. Now it is set up so that the third Thursday of August is the date to remember.

In the earlier Old Settlers' Picnic, contests and programs were arranged for the veterans. Old Partners vie for honors at horseshoe and other battles settling disputes of physical prowess that have lived through the years.

Speeches by the early pioneers or their descendants were scheduled on each occasion to honor those who returned as well as those who were unable to sit on the benches during the occasion. Younger citizens of the county and those who had descended from the original stock, did their bit to make the old timers feel that their struggles were not in vain.

In 1973 for our centennial, we've planned a big day of intertainment, for everyone from the small fry to the "old settler". There will be such things as:

THRESHING MACHINE EXHIBITION

FREE BAR-B-QUE

BUSINESSMAN'S PIE THROW

PARADE

OLD SETTLERS MEETING-GYM SENATOR LEWIS

HORSE SHOE PITCHING CONTEST

BALL GAMES

MOTORCYCLE EVENT

FROG JUMPING CONTEST

STAGE SHOW AND DANCE

CRAFT AND HOBBY SHOW

HORSE SHOW

RIFLE AND ARCHERY CONTEST

Hope to see you there.

VERSION OF RED WILLOW COUNTY TAKEN FROM

"HISTORY OF NEBRASKA"

In the fall of 1871, a company was formed in Nebraska City for the purpose of making a settlement somewhere on the Republican Valley.

A company was incorporated with a capital of \$100,000 of which 5% was at once paid in. The officers were as follows: President, Royal Buck; secretary, B. M. Davenport; treasurer, J. D. Patch; directors: Dr. J. N. Converse, John Roberts, W. W. Jones, John F. Black, Samuel Tate, J. D. Madison and V. S. Utley.

On November 4, 1871, the Board of Directors ordered Royal Buck to organize an exploring and locating party from among the directors and stockholders, the party to consist of not less than 10 members with Lathrup Ellis as engineer and surveyor, to proceed to the Republican Valley to select a location and to survey for a town.

Accordingly, Royal Buck set to work at once to organize a party, which, besides himself, consisted of John Roberts, J. F. Black, John Longnecker, William Byfield and others. Preparations were at once made for the trip and two wagons were loaded with provisions for thirty days and placed in charge J. M. Davis and L. K. Sittler, who were ordered to proceed to Sutton. This they did and on the 9th of November, the remainder of the party left Nebraska City arriving at Sutton the next day. On the 11th, they started for the West. They arrived on the 22nd.

They spent the next day making examinations and selected a site on the east side of Red Willow Creek. But upon making some surveys, was found to be a school-land section so they selected the site on the west side of the Creek.



After the examining and locating party returned to Nebraska City and made their report, the company resolved to at once take measures to induce settlement. John Roberts was employed at a salary of \$100 per month to serve as Superintendent of the affairs of the company. Proceeding upon his duties, a town was at once laid out, modeled after the city of Lincoln, Nebraska. The town site was large, wide streets were laid out and named, then it was filed in the United States Land Office at Beatrice.

The State Legislature was in session and a bill was framed to organize a county, 24 miles north and south and 30 miles east and west and its name should be Red Willow County. John Roberts, the superintendent, was sent to Lincoln to lobby and get his site through the legislature. Though Roberts tried hard, he failed with the idea at that session. Then the company tried to get a United States Land Office at the site of their new town, but in this they were unsuccessful.

A newspaper designed more especially to advertise their county plan, was started by the company in 1872 and called the Red Willow Gazette. The paper was edited and published in Nebraska City and lots of editions were sent East to advertise the advantages of the proposed county of Red Willow to all who contemplated settling in Nebraska.

In the spring of 1872, W. W. Jones was sent to survey the town site as platted, into lots. But nothing ever came of this. Dissensions arose and the funds of the company failing, and none desired to invest anymore in a scheme where the prospects were a gamble, the company failed and was dissolved. In 1873 the site was contested and some of the members of the company re-homesteaded the site.

In the spring of 1873, quite a heavy immigration commenced. Indianola was officially named the county seat on May 27, 1873 and surveying of lots began.

The following are letters sent to General
Livingston:

Oct. 2nd., 1869

Dear Sir:

I found Buck's lines not run. My only recourse was to run them. I randed south to the state line, then ran a line meridian north 24 miles, then randed east on the parallel. Found no sign of Buck until I came to the standard corner east. Found then alot of stakes evidently cut when the bark would peel freely. Traced up his wagon tracks about 3 miles and found where he had camped on a creek evidently two nights on the north side and one night on the south side, which was all the trace of him I found except a water keg at his second camp. I will not remain here long. My escort has left me as their time was up and rations exhausted. I applied for another. If I do not get it, I will have to leave contract unfinished, as I cannot finish it without an escort, as the country is full of Indians. We have had to fight our way through all this trip, even with an escort.

Your friend,
W.E. Daugherty

North Platte, Oct. 11, 1869

Dear Sir:

I recieved word yesterday that General Duncan had captured some stock from the Indians, and I went to McPherson today thinking that I might find my mules, but all I got was my tripod legs.

While there, Lieut. Hayes informed me that Lieut. Haskins found, he supposed 30 miles from McPherson S.E. or East of South, two tripods and camp equippage and some canned fruit. This was eight days ago. The camp had the appearance of being deserted. He also saw parts of the wagon. I think from his description of the country and the time he was traveling from there to Platte river that the distance was nearer 50 miles than 30, and that it was on the same creek that I was where he had camped.

The early history of Red Willow county is a tale of the affairs of true pioneers and their trials and hardships in developing the communities. Few men remain who can relate with authority, the happenings that brought about the transformation of barren prairie to fertile fields.

The facts below were compiled by George C. Hill after many months of research and publicized in May of 1927.

The occupation and development of the great western two-thirds of the nation is, to my mind, the great American epic; not more thrilling, perhaps, than the settlement and progress of our forefathers along the eastern coast, but of far more interest to us of the midwest. The greatest day in history, for western men and women, was the day upon which our great president, Abraham Lincoln, stood on the bluffs of the Missouri River and pointing his finger west-ward said, "Build the Union Pacific Railroad to the Pacific Ocean from this point". That order was carried out with many hardships and loss of lives but it was finished.

Washington Hinman brought a portable saw mill from North Platte and located it in a grove of timber about 3 miles southwest of where Indianola now stands. The mill was a great help in furnishing rough green timber for the settlers. For that reason, there were few sod houses around Indianola.

In the spring of 1873, Governor Furnas appointed E. S. Hill, Washington Hinman and Leslie Lawton, special commissioners to call for an election to locate a county seat, for Red Willow County and temporary county officers. This election was held on May 29, 1873, in a log house on the claim of William Morris, now the J. J. Hadley farm, in the valley some three miles west of the present city of Indianola. Personal notice was given each elector by one other of the Governor's commissioners. The vote cast was practically 100% of the eligible voters, 63 in all.

The temporary county officers elected at this time were: E. S. Hill, judge; I. J. Starbuck, clerk; George Hunter, sheriff; J. E. Berger, treasurer;

G. B. Nettleton, county superintendent of schools; William Berger, William Fitch and B. F. Bradley, commissioners.

During the summer of 1873, D. N. Smith, President of the Republican Valley Land Association (organized by the railroad) came to purchase land from the early settlers. He entered into bonds of \$10,000 to deed to the county 100 lots for the location of the county buildings. He entered into a contract with E. S. Hill whereby Mr. Hill was to deed 80 acres of his land to Mr. Smith's company, and after the same had been platted for a townsite, Hill was to receive one-fourth of the lots in payment for the land. These arrangements were carried out faithfully, and the sale of lots began.

To set operations in motion, the Town-site company agreed to build and donate the use of a court house. It was built about 200 feet south of the present Lord's Hardware. The building was a frame structure 16 by 24, one story and served the purpose of town hall, community meeting place and church as well as the courthouse. The hotel was a one story building at first but was changed to three stories as time went by. The store was build on the west side and still stands as the old hardware building now. The lumber and other materials for these buildings were freighted from Plum Creek, now Lexington, Nebr.

At the end of 1873, these three buildings made up the entire business section of the town.

The territorial limits of Red Willow county, as defined by the legislature were the same as they now exist, 24 by 30 miles.

Indianola received its name at the suggestion of Issac J. Starbuck in honor of his home town, Indianola, Iowa.

One of the first things on the agenda of the county officers was the purchase of a stove. There was not a single stove for sale nearer than Lowell, Nebraska. The county had no funds; no taxes to be assessed. So you can imagine the feelings of the officers as they sat in the court house that chilly day without a stove or money. And to make their troubles more depressing, there was the added doubt concerning the new

county's credit with the merchants in Lowell.

On October, 30 1873, the County Board instructed the clerk to negotiate for the purchase of a stove for county use. They offered a "Certificate of Indebtedness" for the stove for 80 cents on the dollar and the Lowell merchant accepted.

Some of the county's "Firsts" were: First wedding performed by E. S. Hill when he married William Fitch and Estelle Nettleton. The first death was that of a child, Lena Oversacher; the first man to die was Mr. Thomas who was killed by lightning while feeding a calf; the first birth was Edna, the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Williams; the first postoffice in the county with Royal Buck as postmaster; the first tax levied on July 6, 1874 containing the following: 5 mills for county, 6 mills for state, a road poll of \$2 was imposed on men under 50 years of age, payable in cash or with one day's labor; also, a road land tax of \$4 per quarter section, likewise payable in cash or labor at \$2 per day.

It is told that the success of the new community was due to the fact that the leaders were Christian men and women. Sunday School classes were started both at the Red Willow camp and Indianola. A minister named George McElroy homesteaded north of town and began preaching in tents, dugouts, log cabins and in the court house.

During the year of 1873, the settlement of the county had been great and a great deal of the choicest lands were taken up along the streams of the county.



EARLY POST OFFICES AND MAIL ROUTES
FOR
RED WILLOW COUNTY

The first post office in the county was established at Red Willow and Royal Buck was appointed postmaster in April, 1872.

The second office was Indianola, established in the summer of 1873. It was housed in the first court house built by the land company about 100 ft. south of Lord's Hardware.

APPOINTMENT DATES OF POSTMASTERS

Red Willow	4-22-1872	Royal Buck
	8-22-1881	George Leeland
	5-20-1884	Mrs. E. Helen
	8- 1-1900	M. B. Filey
	8-31-1912	Mail to McCook
Discontinued		
Indianola	6-25-1873	Alfred Shaw
	1-22-1874	Phillip Allison
	6- 7-1875	G. Seward Bishop
	5- 2-1876	Oliver H. Coob
	10- 9-1876	George H. Jones
	9-24-1879	Robert Creswell
	9-23-1880	John J. Mallon
	4-17-1882	M. Y. Starbuck
	1-30-1883	G. S. Bishop
	8-13-1885	Michael Cavanaugh
	8-17-1889	Elias Peterman
	1-19-1890	Wm. H. Smith
	1-15-1895	J. V. Harrison
	1-14-1898	Wm. A. McCool
	7-16-1914	Ralph Duckworth
	12-19-1923	Benjamin Smith
7- 1-1926	Adelaide Rollins	
8- 5-1935	B. A. Quigley	
8-27-1954	Russell J. Dow	
8- 5-1973	DeVona Kelly	



PROGRESS OF THE COUNTY

During the year 1873, the choicest lands had been taken up and the crops were fair.

In 1874, the grasshoppers appeared and cleaned out the crops. Aid from the East had to be brought in to suffice until harvest the next year.

Everything passed quietly during 1875 but the crop yield was light.

The first District Court was held April 28, 1875 with Judge Gaslin presiding. A very short docket and soon disposed of. The grand jury found no bills of indictment and the judge, in discharging the jury, said he was not aware that during the four years the county has been organized any criminal cases arising in the county have been tried elsewhere, and the fact that no persons are held on bail and the grand jury find no bills is a high testimonial in favor of the moral character of this people. It is also proper to add in connection that only two fines for violation of law have been adjudged and collected in the county, one for \$10 and the other for \$15.

In 1877, a very good crop was planted and the yield was fair to average.

A great addition to the population was made in 1878 and a large crop was planted and a fair average yield.

In 1879, the railroad was nearing the county and a big influx of immigrants arrived and took up most of the vacant land.

In the spring of 1880, the railroad was finished as far as Indianola and this was the terminus for a while. This caused more new settlers and in June the population was upward of 3000. In the fall, R. B. Daley was elected representative in the legislature from this district. This was the first time the district had a representative.

A bridge across the Republican at Indianola was built in the spring of 1881. The crops were poor and the railroad having extended through the county the excitement died down and progress was at a standstill. The settlers were fast learning that they could not depend on crops alone so resorted to bringing in stock to supplant their crops. The raisers made money and those who could support it, brought in more stock.

EXCERPTS FROM GEORGE HILL'S STORY

The question of removing the Court House took six years to settle with McCook finally winning the election.

It is an outstanding trait of American charcter, notably apparent in the pioneers of the West, that men will fight hard and go to extreme lengths in their pursuit of their desires and the attainment of their ends. The earliest settlers of the county displayed this intense determination to retain possession of so coveted prize as the County seat.

With the arrival of the B & M railroad in 1880 the rapid and permanent settlement began. Indianola, already a lusty town was the terminus of the railroad and the county seat. After pausing a year at Indianola, the railroad was extended to Denver and the location of a division point and repair shops came up for consideration. Indianola and Culbertson were both contenders for the prize, but failed and through the efforts of H. C. Rider, one of the early settlers of McCook, the railroad decided on McCook.

With the advantage of the railroad influence and a large shop and train force of employees, McCook grew rapidly and soon became the largest town in the county.

In a few years rumors were heard of a move to have a county seat election. Both sides did everything possible, legally to promote their side of the conflict.

Relocation of a county seat requiring by law, three-fifths of the total vote. The election was very close and the results hinged on an interpretation of the law governing the discrepancy of 31 ballots. The final decision gave McCook the county seat.



REPERCUSSIONS OF MASSACRE CANYON

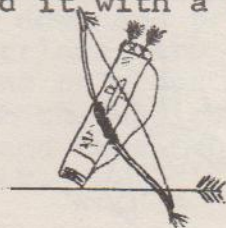
By E. S. Hill

One morning in August, 1873, I was sitting in the open door pulling on my boots, when a cavalcade of defeated Indians came along the wagon trail. They rode up to my house and scared my wife and neighbors who was visiting. J. W. Williams, a trail agent rode up and made the Indians go back to the trail, as he seemed to have the authority over the Redmen.

The Indian fight at Massacre Canyon furnished the starting point for the Indianola cemetery. Casualties among the Pawnees were very heavy, especially among the squaws and papooses. Among the number left on the battlefield for dead was a young squaw whose child had been killed. She herself was wounded but had managed to crawl to the trail and was picked up by a hunter with a team and wagon. The trail led to a house occupied by L. B. Korn living about one half mile west of what is now Indianola. The hunter prevailed on Mr. Adn Mrs. Korn to take charge of the failing squaw and do what they could for her. The squaw could speak and understand a few words of English.

The squaw was unwilling to go into the house and she was provided a shelter under a wagon near the house. Dr. J. S. Shaw, a doctor living on a homestead, was summoned and he attended the squaw faithfully. From the first, it was seen that the squaw could not recover and after several days of intense suffering, she passed on to the Indian's Happy Hunting Grounds, among strangers with her sad fate probably never known to her people.

A rude coffin was constructed out of rough boards and she was laid away on a high knoll overlooking the Republican valley. The grave was located on land that is now owned by J. P. Reiter of Indianola. The grave was marked with wooden posts and a rock until interested Indianola citizens surrounded it with a nest iron fence.



EXCERPTS FROM G. C. HILL'S HISTORICAL SKETCH

The prairies were white with buffalo bones, and the living buffaloes could be seen at any time of the day in immense herds, traveling to the river for water, and then scattering in all directions to graze on the limitless prairies. I can see them yet, great humped, shaggy animals, now motionless, now in swift flight, with some hunter in hot pursuit.

Another memory that lingers is the terrible fires that often swept across the country. They were the most dreaded of all dangers that beset the settlers. Many a time we had to fight these fires to the point of physical exhaustion to save our homes and fields.

The year of 1876, when the scant crops were looking their best and most promising, was the year of the greatest grasshopper plague. The pests suddenly appeared in great clouds that obscured the sun and for two days were present in such numbers that the sky looked black. Suddenly they alighted and attacked the growing crops in such numbers that everything was eaten to the ground in one day with stumps partly gone. Not a vestige of green leaf or stock remained. So greedy were the hoppers that wood-handled tools were gnawed until unusable. Some three inches in length.

Then there were the hot winds and dry summers. Scientists tell us that climate does not change. I cannot believe this as I am positive we have never seen in recent years, such extreme climactic conditions as were common in those early days.

Red Willow County passed through the "horse-thief" stage of development, when the theft of a \$10 horse was the blackest crime a man could commit. I recall these hectic years when a certain set of hard-boiled men terrorized the community and considered themselves above the law. Innocent men were sometimes suspected of their crimes and some had to leave the country.



A TRIBUTE TO THE PIONEER MOTHERS

The bravest battles that ever were fought,
Shall I tell you where and when?
On the map of the world you will find it not--
It was fought by the mothers of men.

Not with cannon or battle shot,
With sword or mightier pen;
Not with powerful word or thought
From the lips of eloquent men.

But deep in some patient mother's heart
A woman who could not yield,
But silently, cheerfully bore her part,
Aye, there is the battlefield.

No marshalling troops, no bivouac song,
No banners to flaunt and wave,
But oh, their battles, they last so long,
From the cradle ever to the grave.

Author Unknown



The following is a newspaper clipping dated Oct. 1874.

At this dedication there was read also, the "First Report to State Superintendent":

October, 1874

Mr. J. M. McKenzie:

Our county was organized only a year ago last May.

I have labored under peculiar difficulties for one year, the 14th of this month. Have succeeded in some respects, but the great want is school houses; we have no money to build with. We have but one in the county. It is of sod, 16x20 in the clear. Five of the other districts voted to build, but the grasshoppers have caused a delay.

The text book question causes me much anxious thought, and I am yet undecided what course to pursue. The settlers are from all parts of the Union and have brought with them such books as they had. Consequently we have a great variety and they nearly all feel too poor to get new ones. I believe it would be well for each district to purchase and own the text books allowing the scholars to use them. There could then be a uniformity of books and parents having large families would not feel the burden.

I believe we must enforce attendance by law. Some parents seem to think they are doing the teacher a kindness in sending their children regularly to school or not even sending them at all. Generally, however parents and officers take a deep interest in the education of their children.

We hope to do much the coming year.

Respectfully yours,
G. B. Nettleton,
County Superintendent



The following is a newspaper clipping about the first Christmas out west.

OLDEST SETTLER'S FIRST CHRISTMAS

Buffalo Meat and Regular Fare in First Yuletide Celebration County

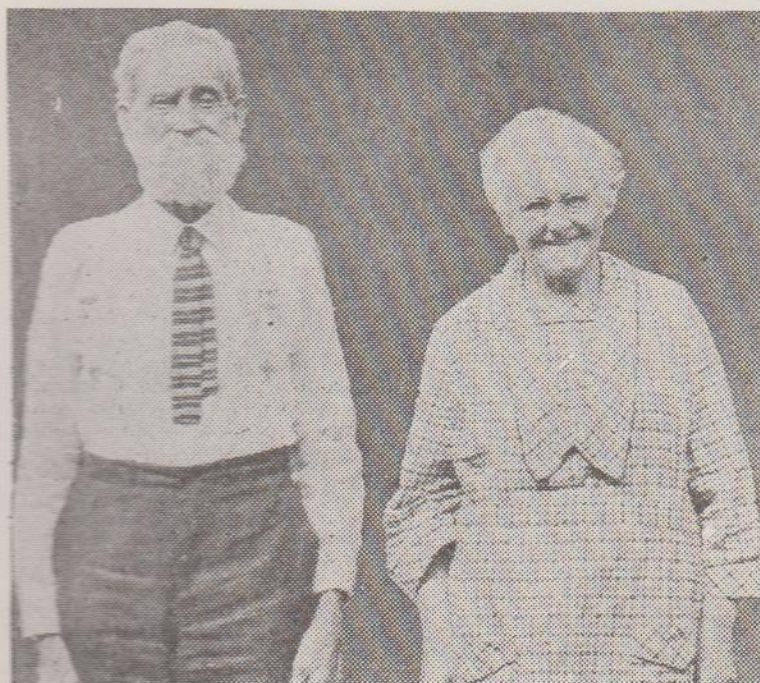
E. S. Hill 93-year-old pioneer settler in Red Willow county residing in Indianola, told this morning of his first Christmas spent in Red Willow county in 1872, with nothing outside the usual fare for the Christmas dinner and 120 miles from the nearest source of provisions.

"There were eight adults and three children," said Mr. Hill, "representing four families and nearly all the people in Indianola or in the county at that time." At present there are five of those 11 people alive. Besides Mr. Hill, Mrs. Hill, their son, G. C. Hill of McCook, Mrs. A. N. Little of Los Angeles, and L. B. Korn of West Plains, Mo.

Mrs. William Berger planned the dinner and invited the group to the meal, to which each of the housewives contributed the best of her means, but which was then only the most meagre of fares, and similar in every way to the every-day meal of the early settler here. Buffalo meat as the entree was the only article on the menu recalled by Mr. Hill.

"The Berger's lived southeast of Indianola and we had to cross the Republican to get to the farm," Mr. Hill said. "As it was bitter cold the party made the crossing on the ice of the river, there being no bridges. At that time there were probably six or eight families in Indianola."

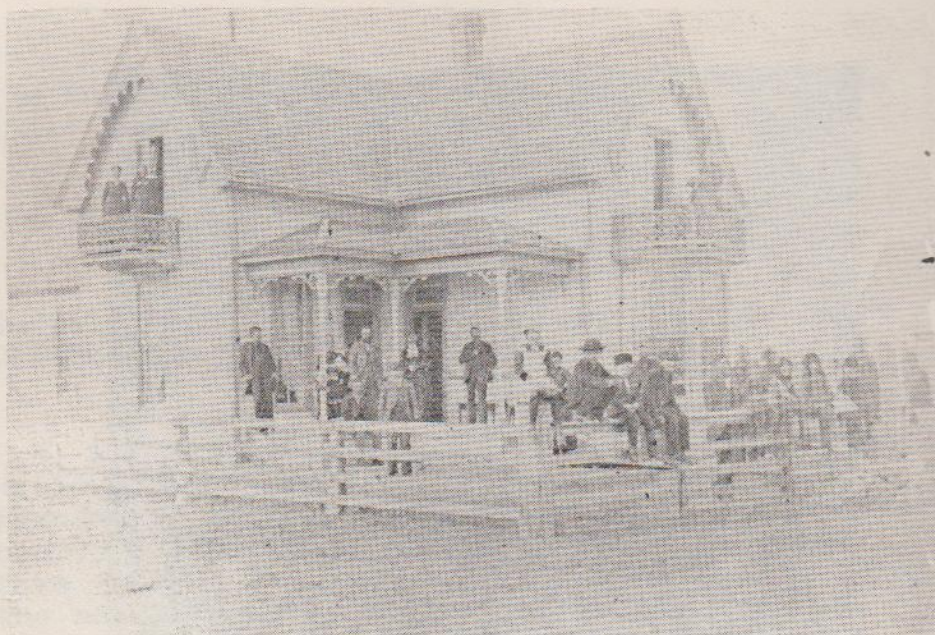




FIRST COUPLE MARRIED IN COUNTY
TO OBSERVE WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Fitch, early day residents of Red Willow county and the first couple to be married in the county will celebrate their fifty-fifth wedding anniversary at their home, 1360 Smith street, Kingsburg, Calif. March 26.

Mr. and Mrs. Fitch were married at the home of Mrs. Fitch's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Nettleton, by E. S. Hill, the first county judge of Red Willow county. Judge Hill, according to his son, G. C. Hill, who was one of those present at the ceremony, had to make the trip from his home to the Nettleton home in an old spring wagon. As the Nettletons lived about four miles south of McCook, the Republican river necessarily had to be forded. The wedding took place in the home which was first built on the Nettleton homestead, partly sod and partly log. Mr. Fitch himself was a homesteader and was running a small store in addition to maintaining his farm. He still has possession of his homestead, which is now occupied by his son, Carol.



B. A. Quigley's home built in the early 1880's by J. S. Phillips. The photo was taken at a Thanksgiving Day dinner in the mid 1880's. Included in the pictures are: John Welborns, E. S. Hills, J. S. Phillips, who came here in 1879, C. S. Quick and C. A. Hotze.



Front view of E. S. Hill house. It was torn down in July, 1973.



JOE MCKIVER FEED BARN

This was located just east of the Norman Hotel, the Carpenter Funeral Home now stands there.

Pictured with his horses is Joe McKiver and in the background from right to left: Joe Dolan, Elmer Thompson, and Jim Donley.



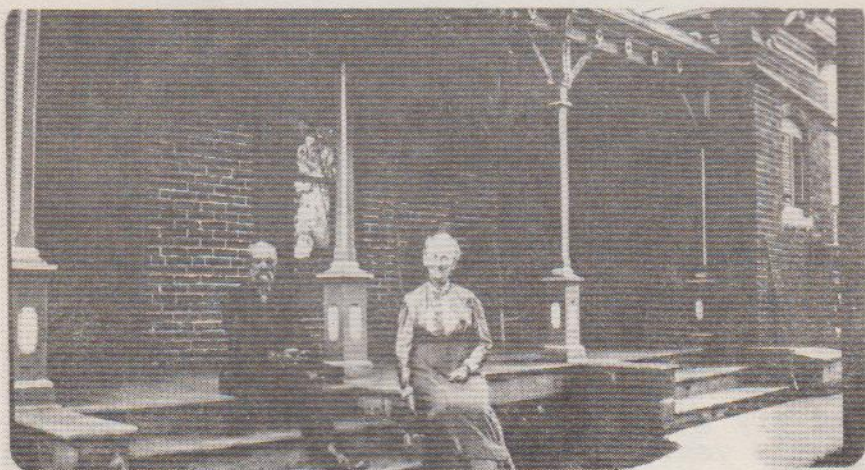
Built in 1881 by W. H. McCartney, this building has served many purposes over the years. It has housed dry goods and general merchandise during the early years. Joe Uerling had a grocery store here adding the meat locker in 1942. His son, Jerry, currently owns the Uerling Locker.

The upstairs was used as Indianola's Opera House and for many community and school affairs. Later it was used as living quarters. The top story was recently removed during remodeling.

I know of no more fitting close to these remarks, than the reading of some lines of a local product and a very good friend of mine, William H. Hotze. If you can find the poem he wrote called, "The Professional", you will see he was qualified by early environment and observation to pen a true picture of the early settlers. Photo taken 1920.



Mr. & Mrs. E. S. Hill and their grown children George and Lena



Mr. and Mrs. Hill in front of their once lavish home which was a landmark in the early days. This building stood for almost 100 years and was razed in July, 1973.

A Pioneer

Mrs. Lucy W. Dunning Has Thrilling Experience When Moving Here

By MRS. A. A. WOLF,
McCook, Nebr.

She was born in Ohio when that State was young and a teacher's report dated 1856 shows she was a teacher. Later she married and that same week headed for far off Nebraska territory, driving through with her young husband in a covered wagon.

They settled in Richardson County, Nebraska and started a new home there. Just two weeks before her fourth child was born, the husband went out of the door laughing only to drop dead a minute later.

Work for women was scarce in this new land and especially for one with four small children. A teacher's certificate in long hand dated 1864 shows she took up her old vocation. Her school room was her one room log cabin, and the books, those each child could bring, for several years or until the older children were of age to take land she taught both in her cabin, and in the village schools of Salem.

As soon as the oldest girl and boy could take land she started west again to Red Willow County, traveling in a covered wagon.

There was a gang known as the Dalton gang, which was the fear and terror of those coming west, for it seemed as though

at least their horses gone.

They came on, settled in Red Willow County, and a certificate dated 1878 granted her the right to teach in the new homeland of Red Willow County. They landed in Indianola the night of the Indian scare in 1878. She and her family with the rest of early settlers helped to build and develop the town of Indianola.

She was one of the earliest teachers in Red Willow County, her daughter was the third teacher in Indianola and her granddaughter spent nearly ten years in the school room.

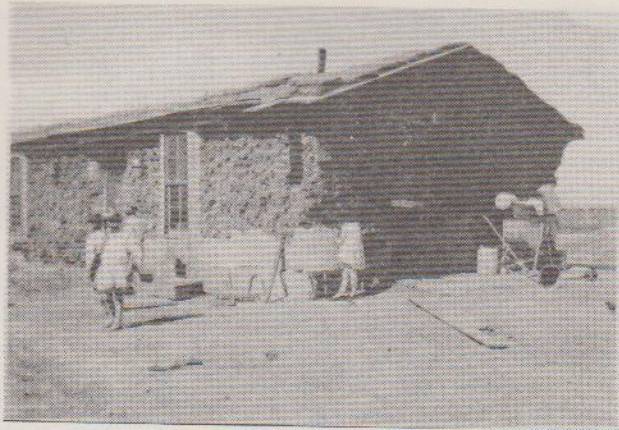
Her name was Lucy W. Dunning.

I have the school report dated 1856 as mentioned, also a certificate in long hand, 1864 before Nebraska became a state, a certificate, 1876 in form and also one dated 1878 in Red Willow County. She was my grandmother.

I have a certificate dated 1898 for my mother, Kate Dunning Thomas and my own certificates. These papers all go to the teacher in our family and our oldest daughter plans to be a teacher.

She is a graduate of the M. J. C. and expects to attend the State University this winter.





EARLY ACCOUNT OF THE DERRICKS

For the first time in 50 years, Fred Derrick, 84, is living in a frame house. Until recently they had lived in a sod house north of Indianola.

Heavy rains this spring deluged the earthen house, causing the heavy blocks of sod to wash away, so Mr. Derrick and his wife, 72, decided it was time for them to "retire" to a frame house in Indianola.

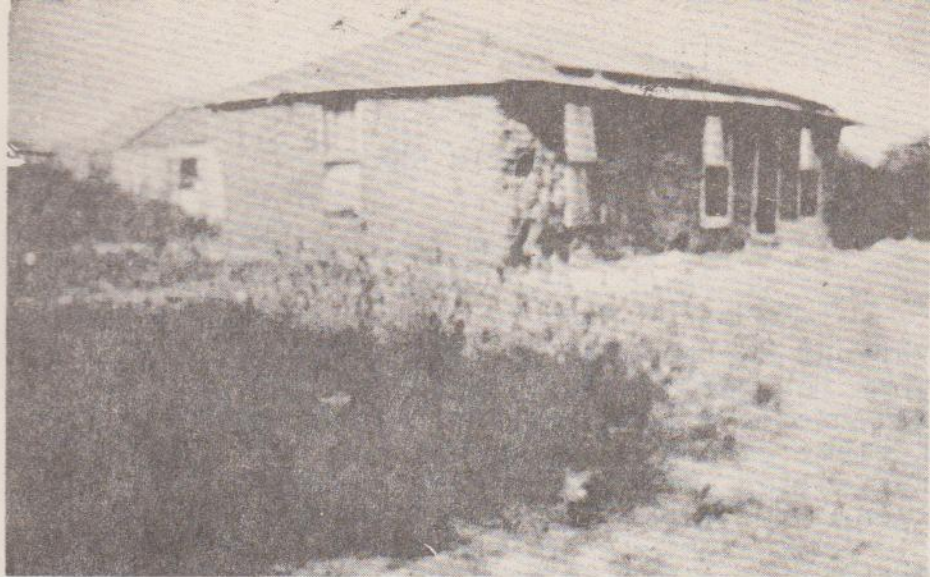
Well known throughout the Southwestern part of Nebraska, Fred Derrick was known for his witty remarks and humor. Equally popular is Mrs. Derrick who is an intelligent and interesting conversationalist. Although she had spent the greater portion of her life in a one-room soddy, she expresses no regret that her mode of life has been lacking in modern conveniences.

The Derricks have reared 12 children, including an adopted son, William Derrick, who was called into the army lately. There are 28 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren to keep the Derricks interested in the younger generation.

One grandson, James Brisby, was a survivor of the Lexington which sank in the Battle of Coral Sea.

On the farm, the Derricks entertained neighbors and relatives frequently. Once there were 80 relatives gathered in the one-room soddy for a dinner of turkey and chicken.

The Derricks were the Grandparents of Mrs. Edgar Frank of Indianola.



This sod house, built by John and William Byfield near Red Willow Creek in 1872, was occupied until 1932. This picture of the old Byfield soddie was taken sometime between 1915 and 1920. The house marked one of the earliest settlements in what was to become Red Willow County.



John Byfield, one of Southwest Nebraska's earliest "retail merchants," was born Oct. 22, 1842, in Canada, and died Feb. 2, 1906, in Oklahoma City, Okla. From 1872 to 1876, his trading post of Red Willow Creek was an important establishment to the lives of homesteaders and hunters in the area.



In about 1870, John and William Byfield, two of Red Willow County's earliest settlers, were manufacturing Byfield organs at Nebraska City. They arrived at Red Willow Creek in late June, 1872, and built a sod house just north of the Republican River. Shortly thereafter, John established a trading post on the Willow which catered to settlers and buffalo hunters.

LONE INDIAN GRAVE

Far out---a stretch of western plain
That for long years unknown had lain,
Till settler came to stake his claim.
A river gleams on sandy bed
Reflecting sky, deep blue overhead,
Along its course did buffalo tread.

The hills roll back on either side
Along the valley three rifleshots wide
To meet the crest of high divide.
Deep canyons lead down through twist and bend
With bottoms parched dry throughout their trend,
Their treeless banks at the river end.

Long creeks flow in some miles between,
Their course well marked with fringe of green,
In their deep beds cool water sheen.
To one of these brave settlers came,
Long tedious trip, but came the same,
To found a town, Indianola by name.

Wild Indians roamed the hunting ground,
The Siouxs, Pawnees within their bound
Till young Sioux chief shot dead they found.
White hunters had--it was their belief,
Their ponies stolen by this chief
And shot him for the common thief.

When hunters saw whom they had slain
At end of season on the plain,
They fixed it so Pawnees were blamed.
Old grudge of Siouxs now burst in flame,
They swore revenge; next season came
And crafty Siouxs played well their game.



On buffalo hunt, each tribe took turn,
The Pawnees first, their meat to earn,
Sioux scouts stole out of camp to learn.
In August in early "seventies"
Sioux warriors bore down upon Pawnees,
For white men's deeds their scalps were fees.

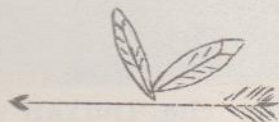
A morning ride from settlers town,
The Frenchman fork comes winding down
To join the river on hunting ground.
And up that stream an hour's trot
The Pawnees chose a camping spot,
Unwarned of any deadly plot.

At early dawn, Pawnees asleep,
The Siouxs full charge on camp did sweep.
From lodge in vain did Pawnees leap,
Confused, outnumbered, dazed, they fled.
Left squaw papoose, the maimed and dead,
And eastward on their ponies sped.

For thirty miles, a running fight--
The remnant was a dreadful sight,
No rest for them till coming night.
"Heap Sioux kill heap Pawnee, squaw, papoose"
One old man wailed, gray head did shake
And sobbed as if his heart would break.

Lone squaw was left at settler's door,
Six weeks she lived, and breathed no more.
Was it from wound, or grief she bore?
They laid her there far from teepees,
On bluff high above the trees.
They died for us, those poor Pawnees.

By William Hotze.

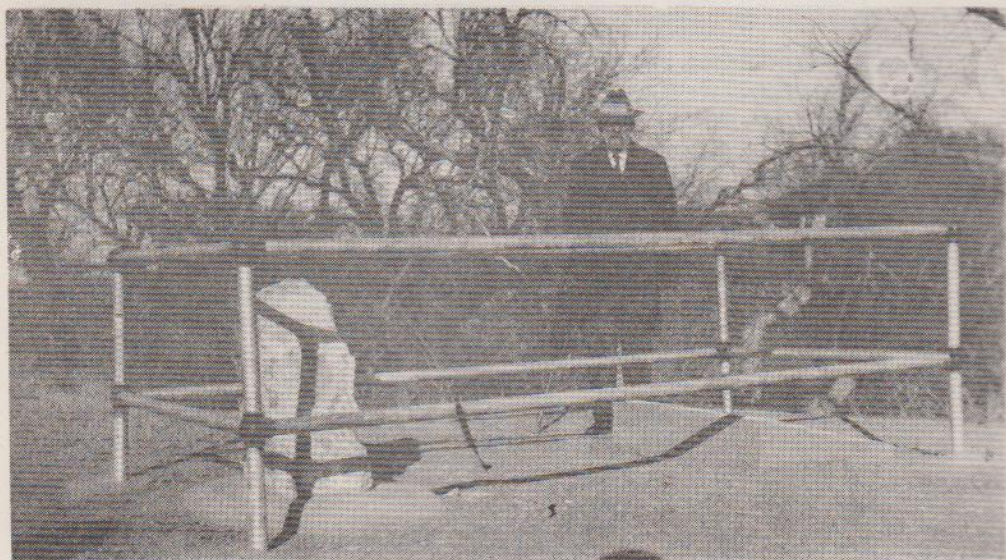


Every town has its legend, and Indianola is no exception. And like many other communities its legend centers about the naming of the town.

Actually Isaac Starbuck named Indianola after his hometown in Iowa, but the legend grew that the town was named after a Pawnee Indian maid named Ola.

There was a wounded Pawnee woman who died in Indianola but the town wasn't named after her. The maiden was taken to the L. B. Korn residence where she died.

"I helped bury the woman and later was asked to verify the story. I dug up the grave and took the skull to town and that convinced the doubters. When I replaced the skull I marked the grave with a big stone. In 1922 a permanent cement marker with the facts of the incident was placed over the grave and an iron fence put around it."



E. S. Hill standing by the Indian woman's grave.

AN INDIAN STORY

Related by William Hotze

In June, 1876, came the startling news of the Custer Massacre at the hands of the Sioux. Then followed the Sappa raid just south in Kansas, when a treacherous band swept through, pillaging, burning houses and killing every man and boy above 15 years of age. The stricken families went back East or moved to nearby settlements. Mrs. Stenner and Mrs. Toogood came to Indianola.

One morning in the summer of 1878, word came that a band of warriors was seen the previous evening on the upper Red Willow heading in this direction. A rider suddenly appeared at our door, Paul Revere fashion and hollered, "Better get things together; come in and help fortify the town".

The news spread rapidly in all directions and everyone responded but John King. "No", John said, "Never was afraid of 'Injuns'. The Lord will take care of me."

Captain William H. Corbin, who served the government during the war and on the plains, took command.

Wagons were arranged around the central buildings, tongues pointing in, trenches and earthworks hastily prepared on the outside. Men went around with pants in boots, with guns of every description. The blue uniform lent color to the scene.

By sundown, livestock and everybody was within the enclosure, everyone but John King. My father went to make the last appeal to him. The veteran hunter was sitting in his door, his Sharps rifle leaning against the wall within and his dog lying without while his supper was preparing on the stove.

"Better come in with us, John", said my father. "Na Charley, I'll hide my ponies down under the creek bank Bruno, my watchdog is alert and I'll turn in after dark with plenty of shells handy. If I'm not around in the morning, you'll find some 'red devils' scattered about, too.

The women and children spent the night in the Stewig hotel, while the men rolled up in blankets, taking turns at guard. Fortunately, no Indians appeared.



WHAT HAPPENED TO THE HERDS OF BUFFALO
Told by John Byfield

I personally know where many thousands went and for what cause.

From the early spring of 1871 to and including the winter of 1875, I killed buffalo for their hides. In all that time I did not earn one cent in any other way. I'm speaking of the great body of buffalo that roamed between the Platte River on the North and the Arkansas on the south.

In the spring of 1871, J. N. Dubois, a hide buyer of Kansas City, flooded the frontier with circulars offering to buy, at a good price, all hides killed anytime of the year. Of course, robe hides were always in demand and the meat was always good in the winter but summer hides never had a good place in good markets.

One writer has said that the real disaster to the buffalo was a terrible blizzard. I agree with him because the blizzard began in Dubois's hide-house in Kansas City, then extended to the manufactureres of Sharp's sporting rifles in Connecticut and finally ended on the Great American Desert.

But there were others on the buffalo range, who were not professionals. Sportsmen from all over the world flocked to the American West in search of the big game. Included in their number was James Bennett of the New York Herald, the Grand Duke Alexis of Russia, Nebraska's judge Elmer S. Dundy and even the Rev. D. B. Perry, newly elected head of Doane College of Crete.

While professionals dealt almost mainly in hides, the homesteaders marketed smoked buffalo tongues and quarters.

Though the Red Willow people lost the county seat the Coon Creekites were forced to buy nails and other goods from my Post. When the Pawnee came destitute and hungry on their way to their reservation, I gave them 30 bags of flour and later I was paid back by the Pawnee agent.

April 24, 1896

"Crescent" New Orleans molasses at the bakery.

We lost the vote. The County records will be shipped to McCook, Weanesday.

A number of hogs were drowned in Coon Creek during the flood last week.

I.M. Smith will box up his stock of goods Monday and quit the store business.

The removal of the County Seat from Indianola is only an incident; it is not a calamity.

A break in the Holland ditch caused the water to flood W. P. Elmer's house doing a great deal of damage.

There will be a ladies exchange at the home of Mrs. Marion Powell, from 2 to 6, P.M. Thursday evening.

A very few pupils will go to McCook on account of moving the county seat.

The school board met Monday evening and elected three teachers for the coming year. Miss Lillie Welborn, Vivian Gossard, and Flora Quick. No better selection could have been made from all the teachers in the county.

Austin Fowler has been doing considerable driving over the county with an agent for the Deering Harvester Company.

Tuesday evening a football propelled by a No. 12 brogan struck W. O. Bond's horse which was tied in front of Beckwith's drugstore and the horse ran home without doing too much damage. Are footballs a necessity on the street?

Our resolution to print nothing but home town ads, caused us to turn down a \$10 patent medicine ad. Are we crazy?

Fred Duckworth sold his house to John Puckett.

THE WEEKLY REPORTER CHANGED TO
INDIANOLA INDEPENDENT
on Sept. 14, 1900

EDITOR S.R. Smith

When Bob Thomas begins the erection of the bridge south of town, the city dads will have to compel him to refrain from talking politics on the streets until he gets it done or the south people won't get a chance to Xmas shop here.

The wildest Democrat in Indianola is A.H. Bell. All you need to do is wink your eye and you get an argument.

We have just heard of the marriage last week, of Louis Longnecker and Nettie Elmer at Nettie's home. These are two of our most estimable young people and the Independent extends congratulations.

J.W. Dolan, H.W. Keyes, Willis Gossard, Will McCool, Henry Crabtree and several other Indianolaites took the star route to the city of the big red stand pipe, to attend the Republican Convention.

Why not commence to agitate the Water Works question along with politics these days? Indianola ought to have Water Works in case of another fire.

Don't live on a dirt floor when you can get a good carpet for 28c per yard at W.H. Smith's.

Mr. Duckworth went to Imperial to look at the Champion Roller Mill with a view to purchase. He is the owner of the Indianola Mill.

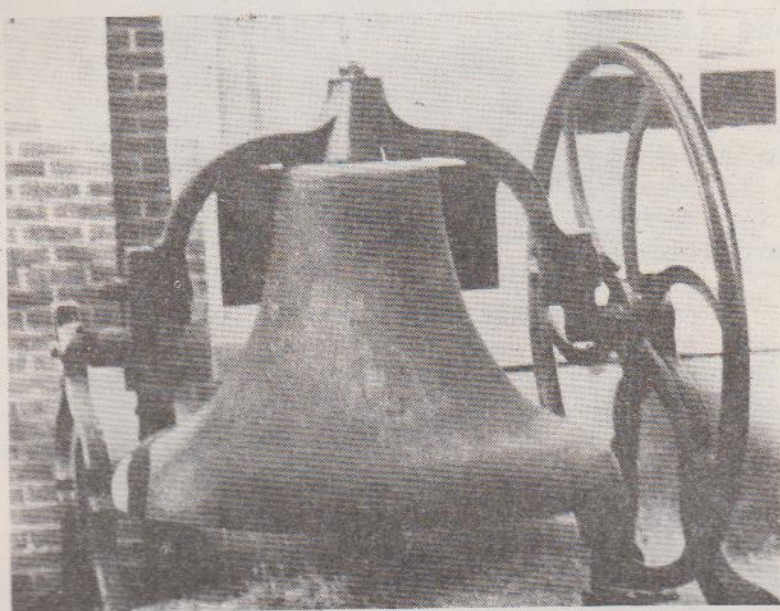
PUBLIC SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT
At Beardslee's Opera House
Wednesday eve

Reserved seats 25c. We are sorry we are compelled to omit the program but don't fail to go. It will be good.

For sale: A lot of second-hand election predictions--among them a first class land-slide for Bryon which may be used in 1904, circumstances and weather permitting.

A Good Populist

**School Days, School Days
Dear Old
Golden Rule Days**



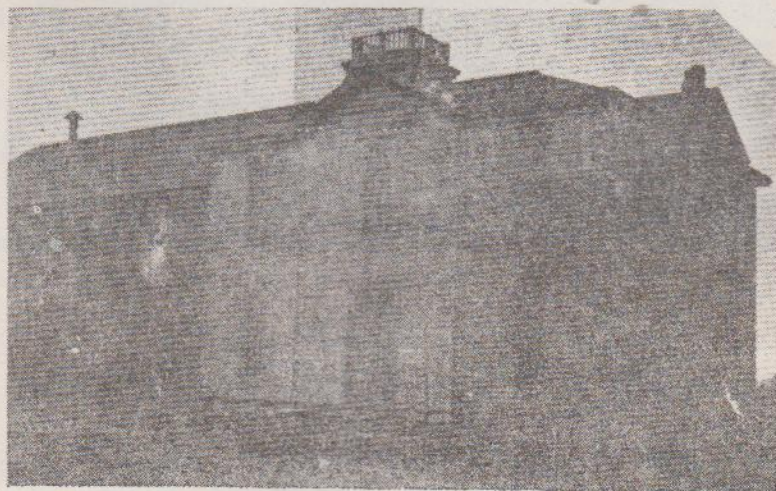
INDIANOLA HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Indianola, Nebraska



MISS KATIE DUNNING

One of the first teachers in Indianola



FIRST FRAME SCHOOLHOUSE

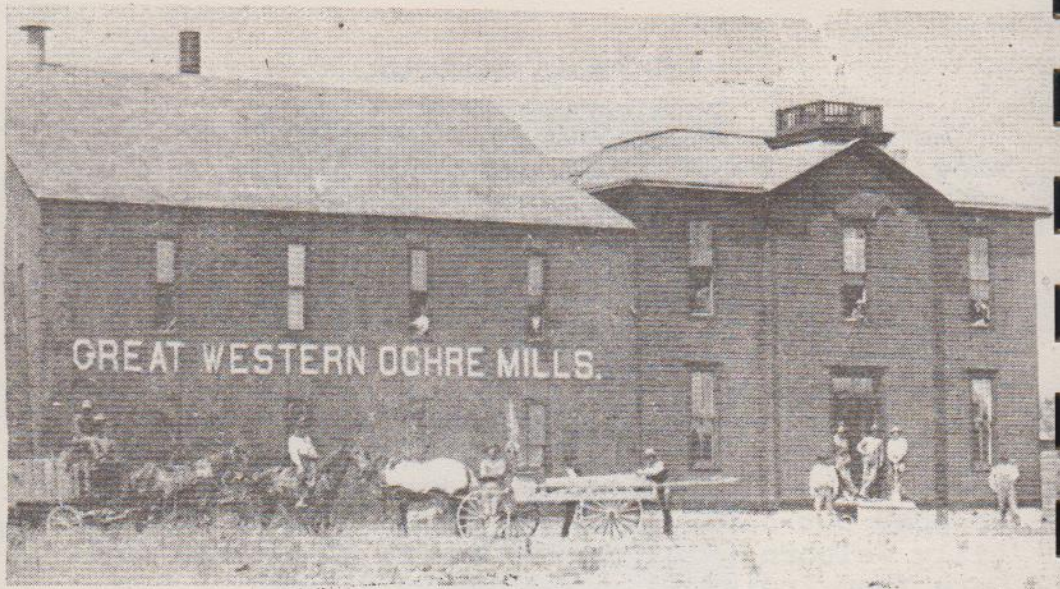
INDIANOLA SCHOOLS

The early years of Indianola's schools was very slow. Some teaching was done at home and some short sessions were held at the courthouse. School was established on a permanent basis in 1877 with Katie Dunning as teacher. Due to expansion of the town, the schooling was held in several larger places until in 1882 when a large, two-story, frame building was erected. Later the Ochre Mills were built alongside.

In 1887, the school was moved to a larger brick building one block southwest. There were three years of high school at this time and many students dropped out before they graduated. Finally, in 1891, Lilly Welborn (Mackechnie) became the first graduate from Indianola.

The present school building is located just south of where the 1887 structure stood. When it was built, the bell which had been in the cupola of both previous schools, was placed in front of the building. It housed the K-12 grade system until the fall of 1969. At this time, the school consolidated with the Red Willow School District. The new system is called Republican Valley. The junior and senior high school students attend classes at the Red Willow school building five miles west of town, and the Indianola school building maintains grades Kindergarten - 6.





OCHRE MILLS alongside first schoolhouse in Indianola.

The Indianola Manufacturing Company began operation of the Ochre Mills in the late 1800's. The Reiter and Schmidt Great Western Ochre Mills manufactured paint and silver polish and employed about ten men from 1900 to 1904.

The cost of transportation in the early days caused the industry to close. The hill on either side of the rode leading north of town consists of a very high percentage of this mineral

1893-4.

—PRICE LIST—

Of The

Indianola

PAINT AND OCHRE

Mfg. Co.

By Dealers In

Mixed Paints,
Dry Colors,
Painters Supplies,
Etc.

OFFICE AND FACTORY,
INDIANOLA NEBRASKA.

16 Price List of Star Paints

DIPPING LACQUERS
For Fancy Tinware, Etc.

Enamel Paints
or
Porcelain Finish.

**Buggy
Paints,**

Coach and Car Colors
in Oil and Japan.

Liquid Slating.

THE INDIANOLA INDEPENDENT
Nov. 15, 1901

SCHOOL NEWS:

Alta Helm has left school. Joe McDonnell has entered school in the grammar dept.

Sylvia Protsman, Vivian Patterson, Lela Wilson and Leona White have been promoted from the 3rd to the 4th.

Arthur Smith, Marian Harrison, Warren Anderson, Verne Short, Nora Silvernail, Fannie Wadsworth, and Jennie Shouse sang a song entitled, "Tes, the Schoolroom."

Those in Miss Hatcher's room who have not whispered for a month are: Ethyl Silvernail, Victor Ough, Bennie Smith, Ray Anderson, Nellie Andrews, Frank McDonnell, Clarence Maetz, Anton Vering, Blanche Crabtree, Bessie Toogood, Frank McNeill, Neal Quick, Ernest Kennedy, Ida Smith, Alice Martz, Milton Strockey and George Rollins.

The song, "We've all got a very bad cold" by Nellie Canaga, Miss Hatcher, Prof Casner and Mr. Hager was fine.

The High School pupils were entertained last Friday afternoon by the reading of "Enoch Arden" by Prof Casner and the "High School Screamer" by Daisy Chinn.

TEMPERANCE RALLY

At M.E. Church, Thursday, March 13.

Open talk-----by President
The Effects of Alcohol and Tobacco
Habit in School----by Prof. Casner
Recitation-----by Zuba McDonald
Saloon a National Crime and the
Reason Why-----by Rev. Halbersleben
Advice to Young Mem---by Rev. Norlin

INDIANOLA SCHOOLS
1912

The Optimist Society of the Indianola High School will give an evenings entertainment in the Assembly room on Friday, January 12, 1912. An admission fee of fifteen cents will be charged. The Program:

Music-----Vocal Solo-----Mrs. Powell
Oration---The Unknown Speaker -----Ruby Ingersoll
Recitation---Engineers Ride on a Piano--Matt Kessler
Farce
 KATTIE'S NEW HAT
 Gaste of Characters

Mrs Murphy-----Stella Weyeneth
Susie Murphy-----Hope Henderson
Maggie Murphy-----Laura Dutcher
Nora Murphy-----Alice Townley
Katie Schneider-----Ruby Ingersoll
Mrs. Schneider-----Sue Duckworth

Music Instrumental---Mabel Lord
Recitation-----Laura Dutcher
Current Events-----Hazel Hayden
Vocal Solo-----Phillis Sargent
Book Review-----Gail Russell
Recitation-----Katie Colligan
Reading-----Winnie Bergin
DEBATE: Resolved that the DEMOCRATS
stand a better show in the coming
Presidential Campaign.
AFFIRMATIVE: -----Bradley Duckworth
 Seth Waddell
NEGATIVE-----Guy Patterson
 Chas. Vandervort

SOME SCHOOL NOTES

We have twelve grades and have maintained a Normal Training class the last two years and have received from the State University, \$350 each year because we had a class of ten.

The Teaching force this coming year:

Supt. Chas. Herrick of Red Cloud; Prin. Mabel C. Peck of Beaver Crossing; Ass't Prin., Miss Frances G. Rick of Dakota City; Grammar Dept., Bess Robertson of Dakota City; Intermediate, Mrs. W. C. Clark of Indianola; Second Primary, Mrs Carrie Shumaker of Indianola; First Primary Hattie Peterson of Funk, Nebr.

FOURTH OF JULY PROGRAM AT INDIANOLA, 1896

Sunrise Salute-----100 guns

Calthumpian Parade-----10 A. M.

Procession forms in city and marches to grove

AT THE GROVE

Band Music-----11 A. M.

Reading of Declaration of Independence-----Mayor

Song-----By Quartette

Oration-----P. E. McKillip

Band Music-----By the Band

America-----By the Audience

DINNER

Sports Begin-----2 P. M.

Fireworks (furnished by Fred B. Duckworth---9 P. M.

SCHOOL NOTES, Apr. 18, 1902

The examination ranks are as follows:

- 1st grade: Leo Dolan, first; Harold toogood, 2nd.
2nd grade: Wilbur Plourd, 1st; Harlow Porter, 2nd.
3rd grade: Roxie Rollins, 1st; Arthur Smith, 2nd.
4th grade: Joe Suiter, 1st; Verne Short, 2nd.
5th grade: Preston Rollins, 1st; Lottie Schwartz 2.
6th grade: Alice Martz, 1st; Calvin Rollins, 2nd.
7th grade: Nellie Andrews, 1st; Bessie Toogood, 2nd.
8th grade: Forest Harrison, 1st; Mary Thomas, 2nd.
9th grade: Hazel Hatcher, 1st; Cassie Harrison 2nd.
10th gr. : Azubah McDonald, 1st; Anna Vering, 2nd.
11th gr. : Sada Alcorn, 1st; Joe Vering, 2nd.

The general history class have finished Roman and Grecian history and are beginning Medeval and Modern.

Sept. 19, 1902

COUNTY FAIR AT INDIANOLA, Sept 30, Oct. 1, 2, 3.

The Great Fair of 1902 will have biggest and best string of horses of any year.

The greatest number of concessions, the most amusements and attractions, the best ball game.

The finest and latest style merry-go round. Will also have an extra race between two of the best colts in the state.

Have as yet not let contract for furnishing hay, so if you are interested see the Sec.

J. Bernard Hillers, Sec.

Claudia Hatcher left Monday for Lincoln where she will enter the State University.

We will give on year's subscription to the person leaving at the office, between now and Sept.30, the four best potatoes.

Miss May Rider has been assisting at W. H. Powell's store the past two weeks.

Dr. Mackechnie says Mr. Probasco who was injured sometime ago, is doing nicely.

G. W. Wyrick and wife have returned from their trip out in Washington and Idaho.

Amos Hauxwell has moved into Maynard Loomis' house.

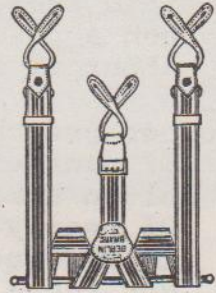
The businessman in Indianola who discourages the Fair, is doing poor business and ought not to be patronized.

Nealie Quick came rolling into town last Monday in his new two-wheeled electric automobile. There is seating room for only "two".

Dress does not make the person. Nor does a clean exterior indicate a clean interior. To be well all organs of the body must work in harmony.

Rocky Mountain Tea, does this work.

THE LATEST MOD IN THOSE DAYS



Weight, 14 oz.



THREE SERMONS

A parson preached, and did it well,
Of brimstone lakes aflame;
It seemed 'twas his delight to tell
Each Sunday of that same.
To hear him people would not go;
Said they, "Our road is rough;
If such a place there is, we'll know
About it soon enough.

Another preached of heaven high,
Of mansions grand and great,
Of golden streets to please the eye,
Of pearly porch and gate.
To him came not the folks who toil,
Nor those who rest, Said these:
Sir, don't anticipate and spoil
Our pleasure, if you please.

One parson, wise as he could be,
Preached boldy of this earth.
The people flocked to hear him; he
Was held a man of worth.
Oft one might hear somebody say:
To him I shall give heed;
He tells me how to live today,
And that is what I need.

Author Unknown





First Uniformed Band of Indianola: In the early 1900's. Picture was taken at the Frank Fritsch home, now the Ed Tines home on Main Street. The uniforms were brand new, and red in color. Bill Herman was director.

First Row (standing) l. to r.: Martin Anderson, Howard Jarvis, Roy Mann, Reuben Finch, Pat Anderson, Joe Reiter, Walt Smith, Alfred Randel, Austin Gamsby, Milton Strockey. Kneeling: Chester Strockey, Amil Hillers, Frank Neel, Gilbert Rankin, Ray Anderson, Earl Allen, Warren Anderson. Seated: Bill Herman, Merle Powell, Jack Harrison, Leon Russell, Kenneth Smith.

E. S. HILL,

COUNTY SURVEYOR

RED WILLOW CO., NEB.

Does a General Surveying Business. Special Attention paid to Locating Claims in Red Willow, Frontier, and Hitchcock Counties. All Orders for work promptly attended to, and Correspondence answered.

INDIANOLA, RED WILLOW CO., NEBRASKA.

A GOOD TEAM AND SPRING WAGON IN READINESS FOR THE ACCOMMODATION OF PARTIES HUNTING LAND, IF DESIRED.



The hotel, being one of the original three buildings built by the Townsite Company has a 100 year history. Under the management of Clark Ward, it was known as the "Indianola House". Around the turn of the century, it was the Cosgro Hotel owned by J. Cosgro. While Bert Norman owned it, several improvements were made including new siding and the removal of the balcony. It was purchased by Elmer Cecil in 1927 and is now owned by Joe Miller.



Mr. & Mrs Bert Norman in the Norman Hotel Dining Room 1911.



When Joseph Reiter was a 16 year old boy he began work with the Wm. McCallum Grain Co. at Red Willow. His transportation to Red Willow was to walk or catch a railroad handcar.

Later, he bought interest in the Smith Elevator which was known as Smith-Reiter. He ran this Real Estate Business until his death in 1935.



1910 ALBANY CAR



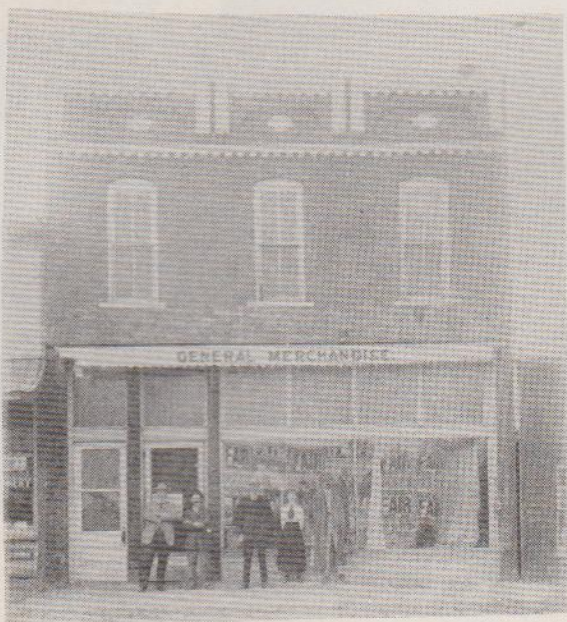
MILLINERY SHOP
Margaret & Marie Reiter



Left to right: Gentleman (name not known) Earl and his two daughters, Margaret and Clarissa.

This is Earl Allen's drugstore after he purchased it from Loton Duckworth. He started working for Duckworth in 1908 and after buying the business, he continued as owner and operator until his retirement in 1965.

The drugstore building was vacant for several years but is currently the shop and office for the Rinehart Construction Company.



This photo was taken in 1912 of Grandpa Duckworth, John Puckett, Bill Reynolds, Faye Silvernail, J.L. Sargent. This is currently the House of Savings.



Frank's original store. L. to R.: Edgar Frank Ruby Frank, Bernie Harrison and a salesman. The Franks remodeled many time and when they retired after 40 years in business, they sold to Jon Woodrum, now the Jack & Jill Food Center. When organizations were in need, Edgar raised money from contributors. He gave dances during the war to raise money for the Red Cross.



Frank W. Deffer came from Lincoln in 1904 to Indianola to be Superintendent of Schools. He held the position for three years.

He and Mrs. Deffer had many business interests here. They ran a furniture store where the Cooper Feed Store is. They moved to what is now the Sughrone Cafe and added groceries. Next move was to the Womans Club building. They added a creamery and produce where the Library is now. He also had a mortuary until his health failed.

J. S. Phillips and his wife were the parents of Mrs. Hazel Deffer and came here around 1878. He was a printer and publisher of the local newspaper called the Reporter.



William Allen



Earl Allen in a parade.

William Allen, father of the late Earl Allen, was a Civil War veteran and early settler. He was partially blind due to a war wound and Earl guided him around town and to veterans' camps. William Allen built Louis Liess's house.



A family reunion at Grandpa Puckett's home. The house, remodeled, is the present home of Mae Karp. Seated Arthur Puckett and two children, Johnathan Puckett with Edith at his side. Grandpa Puckett with Rozella at his left, kneeling are Miles Puckett and Orvie Hamilton. Standing Aunt Effie and her two boys, Aunt Adah and Leslie, Uncle John and Leonadas, Earl Hamilton, Aunt Laura Hamilton and Uncle Jim Hamilton. On porch, Harvey Hamilton, Roy Hamilton, Asa Wolfe, Uncle Will and Aunt Mary Hamilton. Aunt Lizzie, Uncle Will and Frank Rawson



In the fall of 1943, a large group of Italian prisoners were brought to Indianola on the Burlington railway. All lights in the City were turned out and the prisoners were walked up the dark main street to the prison camp. The prisoners numbered over 2000 and at times there were over 600 servicemen employed.

The camp was closed and a short time later the Bureau of Reclamation was opened. It remained there until 1953 when it was moved to McCook. The old buildings were torn down gradually and several of the buildings were purchased by area residents.



Lewis Elmers' in their Maxwell



Dr. W. D. Mackechnie. William D. Mackechnie was born and educated in Canada. After graduation he and some classmates decided to see the "Wild and Woolly West". He got to Holdrege where relatives lived, then on to Indianola.

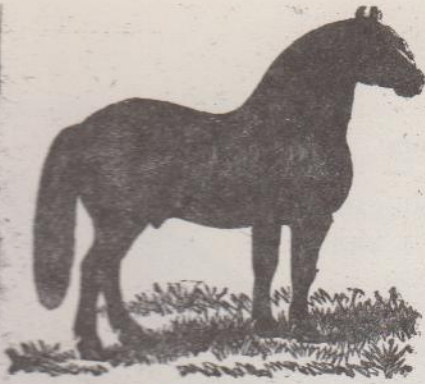
After a few months of practice the bank building had a fire and all his equipment burned.

Helping him to make the decision of staying was a local girl who he later married, Lillian Welborn. They were married November 12, 1900.

From 1899 to 1941 he practiced medicine in Indianola. Following a paralyzing stroke in Dec. of 1941 he never was able to resume his practice. In 1945 he died.

Both Dr. and Mrs. Mackechnie were active in church and community affairs. In 1940 the Indianola Masonic Lodge was about to close due to financial trouble. Dr. Mac bought the building with the provision that the Federated Womans Club and City Library be on the ground floor.

Due to his volunteer service and aid to the injured during the 1911 train wreck, the Burlington R. R. presented him with a lifetime pass on the C. B. & Q.



HORSES AND MULES WANTED

Remember the dates as I will be on the spot rain or shine and show you that I am a real live wire in the horse game.

Edison, Nebr.	Monday, March 11
Arapahoe, "	Tuesday, " 12
Wauneta, "	Wednesday, " 13
Palisade, "	Thursday, " 14
Indianola, "	Friday, " 15
Cambridge, "	Saturday, " 16

Bring in your good horses, I buy them from 4 to 30 years old from 800 to 1800 pounds. I buy the best and pay the highest cash price for any kind of a good fat horse.

Show me your fat horses, mares and mules as I have orders for two loads to ship east and can pay the highest price, buy remember they must be fat to get good old prices,

I am coming to buy horses, not visiting, and have the money.

F. B. Morrow & Co.

Indianola Feed Store.

Phone in your orders for Flour and Feed

Free delivery in the City.

C. H. KING, Prop.



Here are the picture of Indianolians who participated in McCook's 50th anniversary celebration 50 years ago.

Pictures are: front row, left to right; M. C. Lord, Ollie Heaton, Elmer Holthouse, Wes Dutcher, Edgar Frank, Elmer Cecil and Joe Reiter.

Back row; Marion Silvernail, Percy Reed, John Malleck, Byron Spaulding, Lee Paris, Paul Schultsmeier, Howard Caine, Margaret Mackechnie, Jensen, Max Jensen and Ray Kurtz.

The group did represent Indianola in various ways. In the parade, they were especially noticed for their antics.

History repeated itself at the 75th celebration with a similar delegation of Indianola citizens again storming the City of McCook.



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CECIL SHOPPE

GIFTS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

MILLINERY AND HOSIERY

BEAUTY PARLOR

HEMSTITCHING, PICOT EDGING

One card with each 50c purchase, good on Rogers Silverware
INDIANOLA, NEBRASKA

Arch Davidson

INDIANOLA, NEBR.

A. L. Davidson

ARCH DAVIDSON & SON GARAGE

TRACTOR REPAIRING GIVEN SPECIAL ATTENTION
FULL LINE OF ACCESSORIES—For All Makes of Cars
FIRST CLASS AUTO REPAIRING—Prompt Service
OLDSMOBILE SALES & SERVICE

Barnett Lumber Company

INDIANOLA, NEBRASKA

— LUMBER AND COAL —

All Kinds of Building Material

F. W. DEFFER

— General Merchandise —

“WE SELL FOR LESS”

Phone 33

INDIANOLA, NEBRASKA.

Headquarters for Everything Good to Eat

Luther's Market

MEATS and GROCERIES
DRY GOODS and NOTIONS

Phone 1 on 100

INDIANOLA, NEBR.





FIRE DESTROYS OLD HOME

This was the home of the Ed Budke family until it was destroyed by a fire which started from a hot water heater.

From information gathered it was found that the house was over 100 years old. It was built by a man named Holland, who lived in this area and when the California Gold Rush was on, he went to California and was believed to have made a sum of around \$10,000. He came back and built the house.

The lumber used in the house is full dimensional and was brought in by team from Lexington.

It was quite a show place in it's day. Square nails were used, even the finishing nails.

On the deed that Ed has, it reads, U. S. of America by Grover Cleveland, President of the U. S. to L. J. Holland. Dated July 31, 1896. Charles A. Hedges, Bob's grandfather bought it March 10, 1910. It was in the Hedges family until 1962, and is well known as the Hedges place.





Edward Sughroue & Family

Edward came from Illinois at the age of 21 and engaged in farming about 6 miles from Indianola. He resided in a sod house for some time.

Four generations have made their home on this farm which he established in 1892.

He taught school from 1892-1894 and in 1895 he was married to Barbara Tines.

Mr. Sughroue was president of the Federal Land Bank in McCook for 37 years.

In 1909 he was elected Red Willow County Commissioner and held that position for a few terms. In 1919, he was a member of the State Constitutional Convention which re-wrote the State Constitution.



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Go to Puckett's for Golden Sun Coffee.

The R. A. E. C. met at the home of Maude Goben Wednesday.

Chas. Thompson was looking after business at McCook Tuesday.

Edna Phillips of Franklin is here for a visit with her sister Esther.

Mr. Rayer of Exeter was here the past week visiting his brothers and families.

Mrs. H. V. Lord of Danbury was visiting relatives in these parts the past week.

Elba Hotze made a business trip to St. Joseph Thursday night and returned Sunday.

Hotze and Galloway are on a trade of that fine house in the north west part of town.

A man by the name of Elliott arrived last week with his goods and will move on his farm north of town.

Frank Lowe sold out his implement business at Steele City last week and is looking up a new location.

Mrs. Sullivan of Eckley, Nebr., who was visiting her folks, the Probasco family, returned home Tuesday.

Mrs. Colligan traded her farm for town property and a goodly amount of cash besides and will soon move.

McClungs old blacksmith shop is turned into a lively little grocery store in which Quick is Proprietor and King is manager.

The Misses Iva and Gladys Utter of McCook were down the latter part of last week visiting the Reiter family.

New Spring styles in boys suits at Puckett's.

Picture Show Friday and Saturday night.

Be sure to read the many ads on the last page of this paper.

Don't be surprised if you have an attack of rheumatism this spring. Just rub the affected parts freely with Chamberlain's Liniment and it will soon disappear.

Henry Spellerburg, cousin to Mrs. Toogood, from Clinton, Iowa and friend Miss Hines, are here for a few days visit with relatives. Mr. Spellerburg is also a nephew of Mrs. Conrad Beck.

Before going to press we want to say that the worst storm of the season has been raging for at least 30 hours, and no indication of quitting, and lots of stock without food and shelter.

We have a list of the 1911 Real Estate taxes for the following precincts—Indianola, Red Willow, Fritsch, Alliance, Bondville, Missouri Ridge and Indianola City. Taxes draw interest after May 1st. State Bank.

Anna McDonald, County Superintendent, wishes us to announce that the County 8th Grade examination will be held in the Indianola Public School building Thursday and Friday, March 21 and 22.

G. W. Hoagland loaded a car of his belongings Tuesday and started for Sheridan County, Nebraska where he has a section of land. His family left a day later. We hope they will like their new home.

Mrs. Silvernail received a message the latter part of last week, that her mother at Adams, Nebr., was not expected to live. Mrs. Silvernail and Nora went at once to see her and at this writing is improving in health.



Church of Christ at Indianola, Nebraska

The Church of Christ got its start in 1898 in Indianola, with a little group of interested Christians. They were without a regular meeting place, but kept on meeting this way, gradually gaining more in number. In September of 1902, they purchased a two story dwelling house or rooming house. A Mrs. Lillie Dutcher and her sister Mrs. Hubert Junker, roomed there and went to school. This building was made into their church and this same church is being used today. They have since remodeled both the inside and outside.

Trustees of the first church were Brother Jacob Randel, Dr. Hoyt and Brother Rodney McDonald.

The years have passed, not without trials and tribulations, and at the same time happy and pleasant experiences. All these things make their little church more dear to them.

At this time, August 1973, Jerry and Cheri Beckenhauer will start ministering their church. He has been Assistant Pastor at Cozad, Nebraska.



The Methodist Church was built in 1878, started with 16 members and H. F. Heckman was the first minister. The Aid Society was organized in 1895, the W.S.C.S. in the late 30's. The W.S.C.S. will be changed to the United Methodist Women in the near future. The League Room was added in 1905 and a basement was put under the church in 1930.



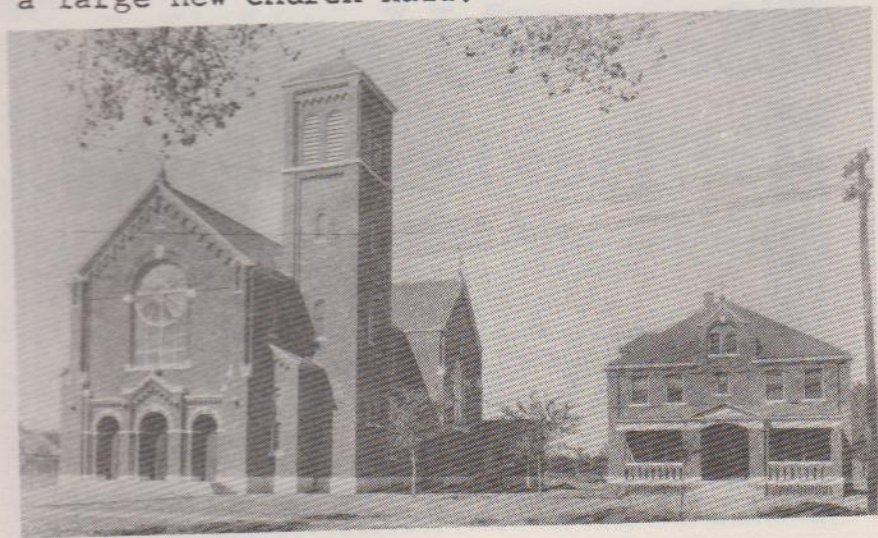
The Congregational Church, which is now the American Legion Post, was built and organized in July of 1875.



It was in July, 1880, when Father Eugene Rhullier came to Indianola and offered the first mass. Among the first to attend mass here were the James Miller family, Mr. & Mrs. Plunket, Patrick McKillip, J.W. Dolan family, and the Martin Anderson's.

For three years, services were held at the J.W. Dolan home, then in 1883, a frame church was built and dedicated to St. Virgilius. In 1919, property was bought and money was being raised for the construction of a new church. For over five years donations were made, then in January, 1925, a letter came from Mr. Dolan who had moved to California several years before: "As I said, my intention is to furnish money for the Church...The Church to cost \$75,000, my limit would be not a great deal more, but not any less." In August, 1926, the corner stone was laid and the Church was dedicated in October, 1927. At the request of Mr. Dolan, the Church was dedicated to St. Catherine.

Recent improvements include a paved parking lot and a large new church hall.



"DOLLAR BILL" says: "If you think clothes don't make any difference in a man---try walking down the street without any.

COMING!
"DOLLAR BILL,"
The Scientific Tailor.

From the Lukone Tailoring Co., Chicago.

Let Him Take Your Measure.

"Lukone" is known for responsible hand-finished individual Tailoring. All goods shown in full length pieces. Remember the date, and place.

N. J. UERLING, INDIANOLA,
NEBRASKA.

Saturday, September 14th.

\$ COME AND MEET DOLLAR BILL. \$



— TWO —

Second-Hand
Heating Stoves

Large enough for School Room use, at a
bargain at

MACK LORD.

FARMERS AND MERCHANT'S STATE BANK,



C. A. Hedges, President
J. R. Neel, Vice President
W. A. Reynolds, Cashier
J. B. Hillers, Assistant.

Read!
Reflect!
Resolve!

Farm Loans

Collections Made
and Checks and
Drafts Cashed
on all Banks.

Every accommo-
dation consistent
with safe Bank-
ing Methods ex-
tended to our
Patrons.

We pay
interest on
time deposits

One Need Not Forfeit

All Life's Pleasure

TO HAVE

A BANK ACCOUNT

Weekly Savings

In Moderate Measure

Will Endow Old Age

WITH A SAFE AMOUNT.

DEPOSITORS ARE PROTECTED BY THE DEPOSITOR'S
GUARANTY FUND OF THE STATE OF NEBRASKA.

The History of our banks was not readily available but to recognize their hand in Indianola's development was essential. Our present Bank of Indianola is owned by Louis Carney.

*We will welcome you
in our Bank*

You will never get a FROWN when you come into our bank, whether you want to deposit or BORROW money! Come in. We will welcome you. We will also welcome your account.

We are always glad to give anyone ADVICE about the security of business ventures or INVESTMENTS, whether he is one of our depositors or NOT.

Do YOUR Banking with US.

We pay four per cent interest on time deposits.

Depositors Protected by "State Guarantee Fund"

STATE BANK,
WILLIAM A. DCLAN, Cashier.

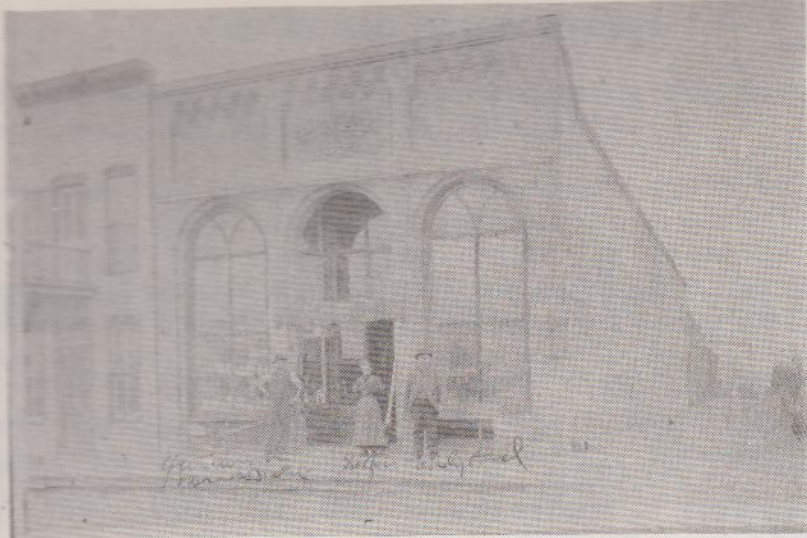


Daniel Harrison shown in his store which was located where the Indianola Bank sits. Daniel married Mary Shea and they had seven children: John, Catherine, Albert, Martin, Joseph, Charles and Bernard. Four are still living; Albert, Joseph and Bernard and still reside in Indianola and John lives in Texas.

Daniel and J. V. Harrison operated this business known as Harrison & Harrison and was opened for business in 1885. On their lot were two other business places.

The next door south was Ed Lee's Confectionery and south of that was Pete Collin's Produce Company.

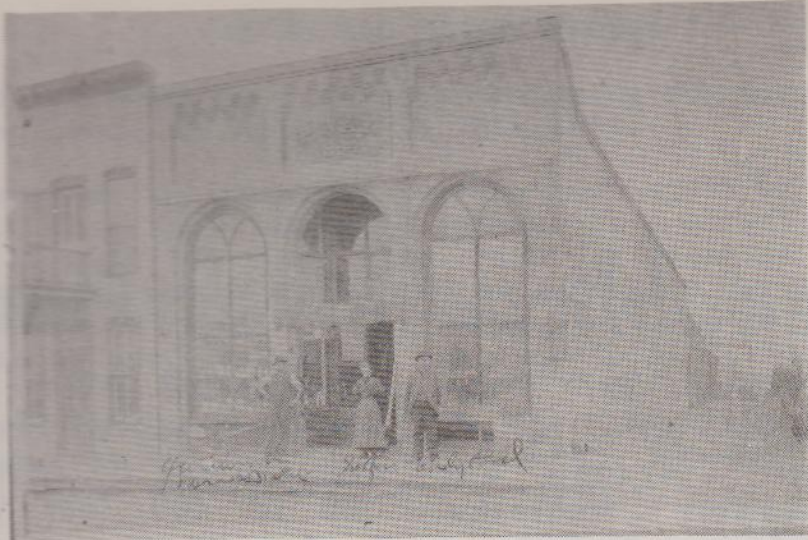
Harrison & Harrison sold out in 1922 to the Farmers-Merchant State Bank who tore down the old structure and built the structure that now stands. They dropped the Merchants and called it the Farmers State Bank.



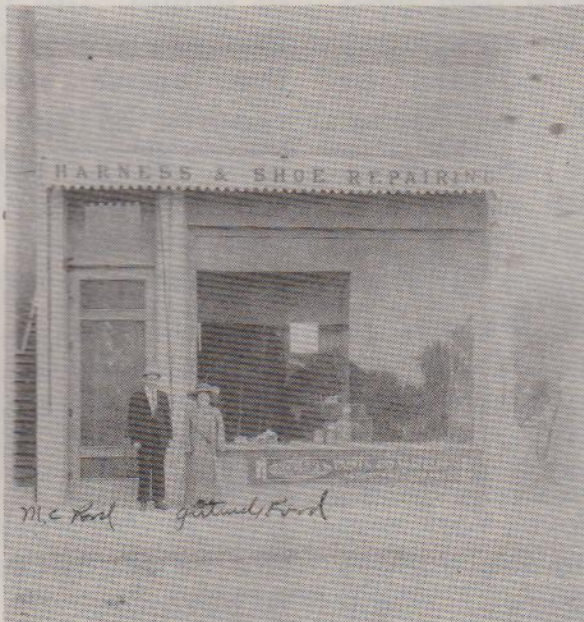
The Lord firm was established in 1884, by Andy Lord. He was father of Mack Lord who owned the store until his death and grandfather of the present owner Clifton Lord. The original building was 20 x 30 feet in size and was a harness shop. The store now comprises numerous buildings and includes hardware and furniture.



After a disagreement with his father, Mack built a harness and hardware store across the street from his father's shop and they went into competition. This building has since housed a Stanley bakery, Dempewolf clothing store, Gambles, Continental Emsco, and is presently occupied by Northwestern Pump and Supply.



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Republican River Flood

On May 30, 1935, torrential rains fell in eastern Colorado and southwestern Nebraska: by early morning of the 31st, the usually peaceful Republican River was running bluff-to-bluff along its upper reaches. When the water subsided two days later, over 100 lives had been lost and many millions of dollars of damage had been done.

After the prolonged drought of the early 30's, the wet spring of 1935 had brought welcome relief to the region. By the end of May, however, the soil was nearing the saturation point. The rains of May 30th, concentrated in the basin of the South Fork and extending into the valleys of the Arikaree, Fren-

chman, Red Willow and Medicine, poured into the main stream — normally 300 to 400 feet wide, turning it into a raging torrent one to four miles wide.

The flood water came as a wall, variously estimated at from three to eight feet in height. The advance of the crest was more rapid in the upper valley, with reports of ten miles an hour above Trenton, at five between there and Oxford, and slowing to 2½ miles an hour upon crossing over into Kansas.

To prevent the repetition of such a tragedy, the federal government has built a series of six dams, five in Nebraska, across the Republican or its tributaries.

WE'VE HAD ENOUGH FLOODS

The following is a newspaper clipping concerning the floods of the past in this area.

Everyone in Indianola is very much aware of the fact that their town was ravaged by a surging mass of silt-filled flood water Saturday evening. No resident escaped being affected in some manner, by this catastrophe, and everyone is now, more than ever before, determined that something is going to be done about it this time. The flood last June, which was the worst in the history of the town, was but a mere trickle beside the one which was experienced last week-end.

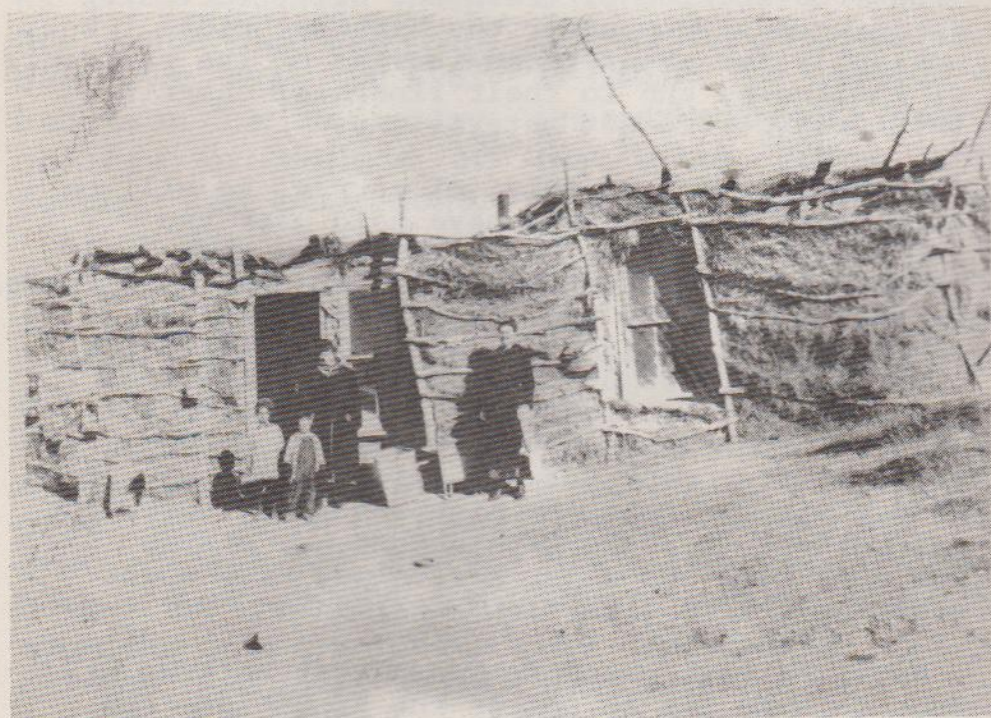
We thought last year, after the high waters which visited our city had filled many basements, and caused considerable damage, that a WPA project was in the offing, which would have cleaned Coon Creek of the dense growth of willows, weeds, collection of trash and silt, including cleaning out from under the highway bridge. But, unhappily for about three-fourths of the residents of Indianola, and to their financial chagrin, this project did not materialize.

In retribution of this, of course, we will be told that nothing would have held back the tremendous amount of water that came down Coon Creek Saturday afternoon, following the heavy rains farther north. We are not in a position to state that it would have, or that it would not have; and furthermore, we do not believe that anyone else in Indianola is in a position to make any such statement, pro or con; although you will find many who are conceited enough and hold their own opinions high enough in their own estimations to argue with anyone, no matter how much time the other person may have spent studying a like situation.

Nevertheless, everyone knows that nothing WAS done to even TRY to remedy the situation, and that is the sad part of it. "He who has tried and failed is better than he who has never tried at all." If the water could have been kept even ten inches lower, by the dredging and cleaning of the creek bottom, more than half of the homes and business houses that suffered severe losses

would not have been damaged. The property damage to one merchant alone would probably adequately finance the building of a dike eighteen to twenty feet in height which would keep the water off the entire town.

We understand that a meeting is being held today in McCook with the main thought in mind, of remedying this constant threat to our inhabitants. Whether this meeting proves to be the nucleus for action along this line or not, of course, only time will tell, but in any event, Indianola people are far from being beaten. This experience has served, instead, as a hardening blow, which will make them more determined than ever before, that the threat of unwarned flash floods from Coon Creek be eliminated.



This straw house was made and lived in by Elmer McChesney and wife. It had a part wood floor.



GEORGE WING FAMILY SAVED BY TREES

Mr. and Mrs. George Wing, Alvy and Lulu and Fred Ray spent most of the time from five o'clock Friday evening until two o'clock Saturday afternoon in some big trees just east of where their home stood.

When the water began rising, they hitched up a team and prepared to drive to town but heard that it was impossible to get past the Coon Creek Flood. They went back into the house again and as the water rose they retreated upstairs.

It finally became apparent that the house would not survive the shock of the raging waters. It moved off the foundations and up against some trees just east.

The family went out of the upstairs window onto the roof of the porch and from there to the trees. Fred Ray caught some wreckage that floated past and made a seat for the women. The house trembled and broke into parts and floated away.

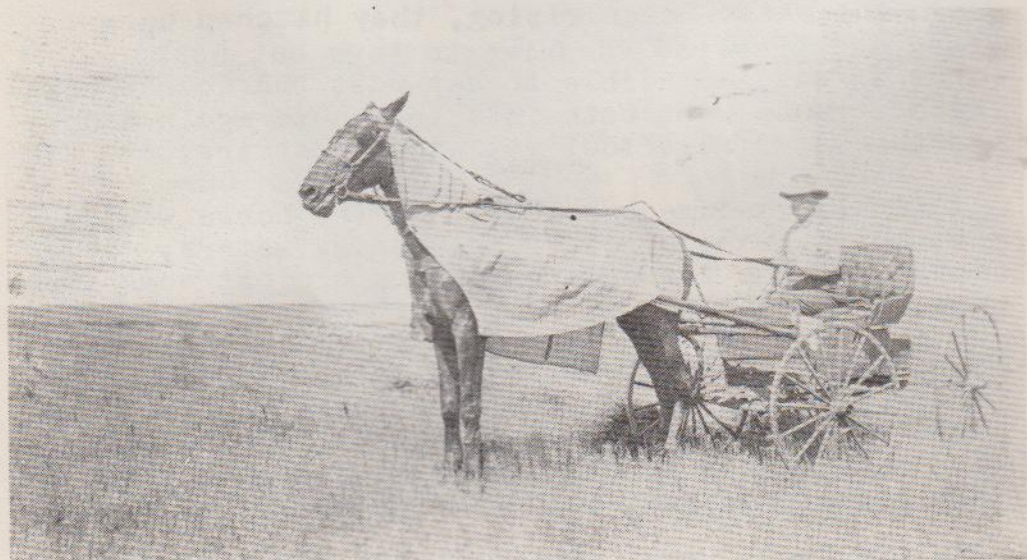
Paul Malleck, Homer Duckworth and Merle Colling took a boat and in dangerous waters brought the parties to land. The farm is now a part of Finnell's island.



Charles S. Thompson came to Indianola from Fillmore County, Nebr. in June 1907. He engaged in farming and real estate. His office was maintained in the Norman Hotel from 1907 until 1919.

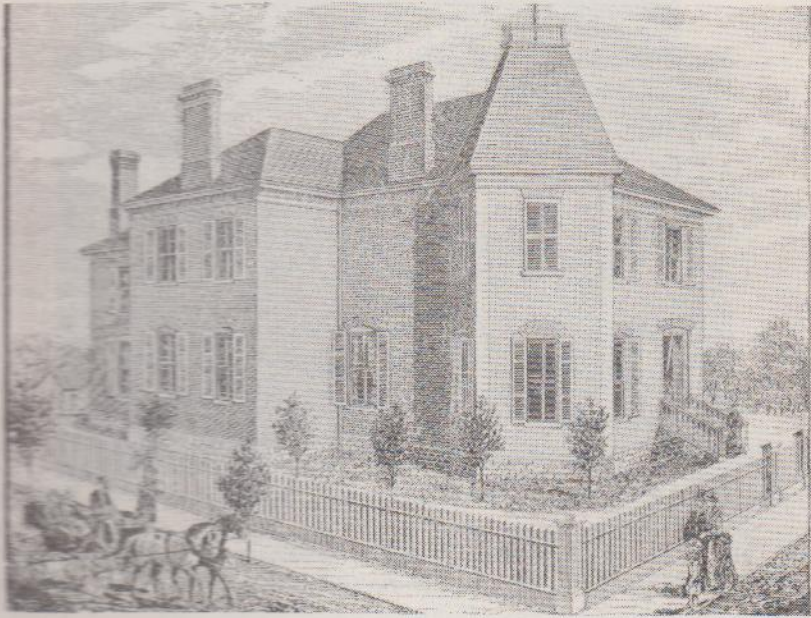
He was a member of the Red Willow County Fair Board and State Fair Board for many years. He served two terms as Mayor of Indianola.

He contributed a great deal to the cattle industry with his pure-bred stock.



Before the Model-T, this was his conveyance. He could be found in other counties drumming-up real estate business with this "slow but sure" buggy and horse.

W. H. McCartney house. This was built in 1881 at the same time as the McCartney building near the Uerling Locker.



Exerpts from an 1885 Red Willow Handbook

Indianola, the capitol of the county, was platted in 1873 by the Republican Valley Land Association. It now has a population of 500.

The representative businessmen are on a solid footing and for the most part, have been well trained in the best ways of trade.

C. S. Quick has a new and finely finished brick store.....carries \$15,000 stocks of general merchandise.....and will this year carry his sales above \$50,000.

Sibbett & Crabtree own and run a well stocked livery, feed and sale stable, are running daily mail and passenger lines between this town and Oberlin, Kansas.....

The drug trade is admirably handled by Geo. Purdum successor to the late Frank Duffy who began trade here in '79.

Photographic art is well represented by E. E. Breece whose work will favorably compare with any in this region.

The immediate wants of the town are a well equipped modern flouring mill.....and a first class creamery.

OLD SETTLERS' 50th ANNIVERSARY



L to R, Aulis Zink, Ariene Elmer, Hazel Deffer, Mildred Zink

LOOKING BACKWARDS
1902

John Crocker sold his farm to Pete Vogue.

O. F. Hayden rented the John Welborn property.

Wm. P. Broomfield and Bessie Endsley were married at the home of the bride's parents.

Bernard Behnke is staying at Fred Crocker's, helping hay.

Henry Shamels and Otto Tiltners took dinner with Korbs.

George Minnick Sundayed at Jas. Malleck's.

Isaac Kurtz spend Sunday with C. K. Dutchers.

Mrs. Wm. Procter called on Mrs. Byron Spalding, Tuesday.

George Burt set out 1000 cottonwood trees.

H. C. Abbott rented the McCallum farm for next year.

Little Margaret Karp visited at August Lehn's.

Mrs. Teel organized a camp of Royal Neighbors.

Mr. Potts moved on the Dutcher place, Monday.

Little Mary Lehn is very sick with la grippe.

Dr. Walter Roland was murdered in a store at Herndon,

Kansas, April 22.

"A Tale of Three Hats" was preformed at the Opera House.

The Congregational ladies were entertained by Mesdames

Hoagland, Elmer and Moore at the Red Willow Grove, Tues.

The parents of Mrs. Andy Lord were here on a visit

from their home in Ohio.

The dissolution of partnership existing between J. C.

Puckett and B. B. Duckworth was announced.

Oren Cramer left for Ontario, Calif., where he expects

to find work and riches.



Asa & Alice: "It's a long way from a dug-out to trans-continental trips in jets". Both have been very active in Red Willow County affairs as well as devout members of the Indianola Alumni as they both graduated here. Mrs. Wolfe could be called "Mrs Archives" as most of the history in this book was taken from her huge source of materials. She was also a representative of the Red Cross and Salvation Army for over 30 years. Mr. Wolfe was County Supt., at three different time spans and just recently resigned on account of health. He filled in as Supt. of Indianola for two years until the vacancy was filled. They still call Indianola their home-town.



HELM HOUSE: The J. F. Helm family arrived in the county in 1879. Mrs. Helm cooked for the railroaders during their stay around Indianola. She has the postoffice in her home from 1881 to 1884. There were twelve children in the family and many reside in the area, at present.

**OPERA HOUSE
ONE NIGHT ONLY
Wednesday, Jan. 10**

E C JONES PRESENTS

**JOLLY
JOYOUS
JOLLIER**

King of Tramps

Band and Orchestra

**A Complete Scenic Production. An Excellent Cast.
Lots of Specialties. The Laughing Comedy in Four Acts**

Prices - 25, 35 and 50 cents.



A community play given in the Opera House in about 1910. It was directed by C. S. Caborn.



SICKENING CRASH CLAIMS 23 LIVES

"My God, Stop the Flier"

These five words flashed across the telegraph at the Indianola station early on the cold, foggy morning of May 29, 1911. Just as the message cleared, the Flier, which was the Burlington's crack No. 9 passenger train, rushed past the station. Seconds later, there was a sickening crash that became the blackest mark in the history of the McCook Division.

The west bound Flier had collided with No. 12, an east bound local passenger train which was preparing to enter the side track a quarter mile west of the Indianola depot.

Twenty-three persons, including the engineers and firemen were killed. Most of the other deaths resulted from the scalding steam which sprayed from both train's boilers.

When the locomotives smashed together, one of the giants fell to either side and a total of 12 cars were derailed.

OLD SETTLERS, DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN

Remember when HIPPIE meant big in the hips,
And a TRIP involved travel in buggies and ships.
When POT was a vessel for cooking things in,
And HOOKED was what grandma's rugs may have been.
When FLIX was a verb that meant mend and repair,
And BE-IV meant merely existing somewhere?
When NEAT meant well-organized, tidy and clean,
And GRASS was a ground cover, normally green?
When GROOVY meant furrowed with channels and hollows,
And BIRDS were winged creatures, like robins and swallows?
When FUZZ was a substance, real fluffy like lint,
And BREAD came from the oven and not from the mint?
When ROLL meant a bun and Rock was a stone,
And HANG-UP was something you did with the phone?
It's GROOVY, MAN, GROOVY, but English it's not,
Me thinks that our language is going to POT.

LONG AGO

My grandpa wore whiskers that reached to his waist,
My grandpa was wrinkled and serious-faced.
He walked with a stoop, and a shuffle was his,
For he always complained of the "blamed rhuematiz."
He smoked a cob pipe that was ancient and strong,
He was snoring at eight, for on sleep he was long.
My grandma knit mittens and sat by the fire,
As straight and as prim as any church spire.
Her hair was in ringlets; she wore a lace cap,
A mountain of darning reposed in her lap.
When grandpa was not feeling quite at his best,
She made him herb tea, and she greased up his chest.

NOW-A-DAYS

Now grandpas and grandmas go out every night,
To some cabaret or auction bridge fight.
My grandpa's suit like the wall-paper sets,
And he dances the twist and smokes cigarettes.
Grandma has peraments and drives her own car,
And her skirts are as short, as her Grand-daughters are.
Old age is old-fashioned and has passed away,
You wouldn't know grandpa and grandma today.

OLD SETTLERS, DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN

Remember when HIPPIE meant big in the hips,
And a TRIP involved travel in buggies and ships.
When POT was a vessel for cooking things in,
And HOOKED was what grandma's rugs may have been.
When FLIX was a verb that meant mend and repair,
And BE-IV meant merely existing somewhere?
When NEAT meant well-organized, tidy and clean,
And GRASS was a ground cover, normally green?
When GROOVY meant furrowed with channels and hollows,
And BIRDS were winged creatures, like robins and swallows?
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OLD SETTLERS GATHER FOR 1925 ANNUAL REUNION

Old timers appearing in this picture with the year they settled here, are, Upper row: O. S. Van Doren, Bartley, '79; P. H. Callen, Bartley, '79; J. W. Gamble, Bartley, '79; Otto Weber, Bartley, '79; F. H. McLain, Indianola, '74; Frank Weaver, Marion, '78; C. A. Hotze, Indianola, '73; A. E. Johnson, Indianola, '90; William Halsey, Lebanon, '73; D. W. Bush, Indianola, '78; Center Row: Mrs. Elizabeth Stilgebouer, Danbury, '75; Mrs. Kate L. Ashmore, Palisade, '79; Mrs. E. S. Hill, Indianola, '72; Mrs. C. A. Hotze, Indianola, '73; Mrs. J. B. Meserve, McCook, '78; E. S. Hill, Indianola, '72; Mrs. O. S. Van Doren, Indianola, '79; Mrs. W. D. Williams, Bartley, '73; Mrs. J. W. Welborn, Indianola, '73; Mrs. S. E. Boyer, Danbury, '78; Mrs. R. E. Hatcher, Omaha, '79. Lower Row: David Beaman, Bartley, '77; Mrs. C. B. Hoag, Indianola, '81; N. R. Teel, Freedom, '84; Isaac Beeson, Bartley, '79; Mrs. Balthazer Lane, Indianola, '79; Mrs. A. E. Boyer, Danbury, '77; James Gammill, Stockville, '73; S. H. Stilgebouer, Marion, '75; Mrs. Rosa Reiter, Indianola, '77; G. F. Randel, McCook, '79.

INDIANOLA PAGEANT



THE CAST

The story of the Pageant is told by Stan Matzke, Farm Editor of the Lincoln Journal and Star.

The Indianola community did a great job of reviving memories of the early Southwest Nebraska history when, in connection with the 50th anniversary of the Red Willow County Old Settlers Picnic Association, it presented a historical pageant-play, "The Old Sod Shanty on the Claim".

Written and produced by Ernest E. Spencer, local attorney, the cast of almost 100 was made up of entirely local folk and townspeople.

The action included three acts and ten scenes. There were Indian raids, cattle men, rattlesnakes, drought, disease, grasshoppers, horse thieves, endless toil and starvation threats. Many of the incidents depicted were true to the history of Southwestern Nebraska.

And when at last they had mastered the plains and the rains came and the true future of their venture appeared capable of accomplishment, they celebrated with fiddlin' and dancing.



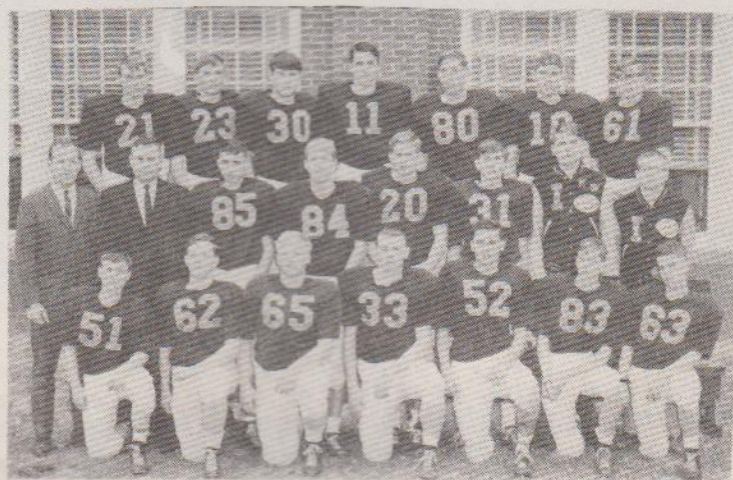
People, who never saw a "coyote hunt", missed one of the most exciting sports. The army of men and boys form a circle extending over many sections of land. Captains, who rode horses, circled the ring of shooters to either slow them down or hasten certain sections in order to meet in the center on a flat field. At some hunts, they had one captain in an airplane that gave instructions. The hides and jack rabbits were usually sold and the money given to the Red Cross. This picture shows only a few of the hundreds that took part.



Earl Allen, mgr. and: Ollie Heaton, Joe Harrison
Joe Uerling, Ed and Mort Suiter, Bradley Duckworth
Jim O'Dea and a salaried pitcher and catcher.

Early athletics included shinny, pullaway, and baseball. Guy Chambers came to Indianola in 1910 and organized athletics by forming the schools first football team. Basketball was also an important sport with the girls taking part in this for many years. Over the years there have been many outstanding athletic teams and individuals attend school here. Current school athletic teams include football, basketball, wrestling, volleyball, girl's and boy's track.

1967 State Champs
8-man football
Coach Felker



3RD ROW: Jerry Liess, Ron Blume, Dan Berg, Tom Stritt, Bob Duckworth, Terry Blackman, Larry Christensen.
2ND ROW: Mr. Jerry Felker, Mr. Jr. Brisco, Dennis Mihm, Ken Winters, Steve Farmer, Dave Vontz, Griff Malleck, Dennis Wilson. 1ST ROW: Phillip Malleck, Mike Sahm, Bob McClung, Nick Uerling, Bud Riggs, Bill Liess, Gary Miner.



The current Republican Valley Grade School.



Indianola High Baseball Team 1913. Front Row left to right: Orville Ritchie, Gail Russell, Bradley Duckworth, Joe Harrison. Back row: Charles Vandevort, Tubby McWilliams, Guy Patterson, C. R. Herrick and George Neumann. Harold Hedges is the one in the center without a uniform.



State Basketball Champions - Class B - 1928
 Row 1: Floyd Thompson, Ora Harris, Gifford Strunk, James Brown. Row 2: Francis Hoole, Jack Reed, Dean McCafferty, Frank Pratt and C. R. Herrick.
 Tournament opponents: Ravenna, York, Plattsmouth and Superior.

1973 CHAMPS

Sporting brand new uniforms purchased by interested businessmen and citizens, the Indianola Baseball teams ran wild with the 1973 league trophy. Honors included both (A) and (B) team first place trophies for the Southwest Nebraska League, Eastern Division, and also the Southwest Nebraska League Tournament.



Pictured for the (A) team from left to right; front: Terry Einspahr, Rick Malleck, Steve Sughroue, Harry Sughroue, Larry Fossen. Back: Kevin McConville, Steve Bryant, Roger Buschkoetter, Dennis Stritt, Bob Brown and Tim Berg. Not shown Buck Wood.



Pictured for (B) team from left to right; front; Dennis Vontz, Don Wood, Dennis Myers, Dean Liess, and Craig Reiners. Back; Mike Malleck, Dennis Liess, Joey Baumbach, Donald Watkins, and Perry Quigley. Not shown Ronnie Stritt.

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Mayor Edgar Frank Chairman;
To Appoint Local
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PROGRESS IN ACTION



Swimming pools are not a new thing in Indianola as we have had three over the last 100 years. The first was owned by W. P. Elmer and located in the area around Joe Uerling feed lot.

The second pool was owned by Nick Lee and located where the Woods Home is now. It operated until after the flood. These were both privately owned pools.

Finally, after many years without proper swimming facilities for the children of Indianola, several interested parties met in July 1967 and initiated plans for a community swimming pool.

It took 5 years but in the summer of 1972 the pool was finally finished and open for business. This was definitely a community effort with \$20,000 of the final cost of \$83,000 being donated while the balance came from State and Federal funding.



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FIRE, FIRE, FIRE: What a fearful word to hear.

The first fully organized Fire Department was initiated in 1933, while Ed Sughroue was Mayor. It was constituted well enough to be recognized by the State Department so insurance rates were decreased. Homer Duckworth was Fire Chief then.

The depression and World War II caused a let-up in the organization until March 27, 1947.

At that meeting a new preamble, constitution and by-laws were written and a strong, sound department was started.

The following attended this meeting: Harold Klocke Rich Mills, Marion Vontz, Ralph Woolman, Dean Guthrie, Jack Duggar, Frank Cesar, Alvy Wing, Harry Schamel, Victor Blackman, Joe Donnelly, Smith Hayden, John Wiseman, Raymond Vontz, Manny Hayden, Harry Vontz, Sumner Paine, Louis Walz, Vernon Peterson, Edgar Frank, Walter Walz, Clarence Stritt, Jack Roth, Willard Elmer, Lawrence Vontz, Russell Dow, Stan Sedden, Dale Garton, Ray Phillips, Francis Uerling, and Leonard Appleyard.

Charter members still active are: Marty Sughroue, Russell Dow, Clarence Stritt, and Alvy Wing.

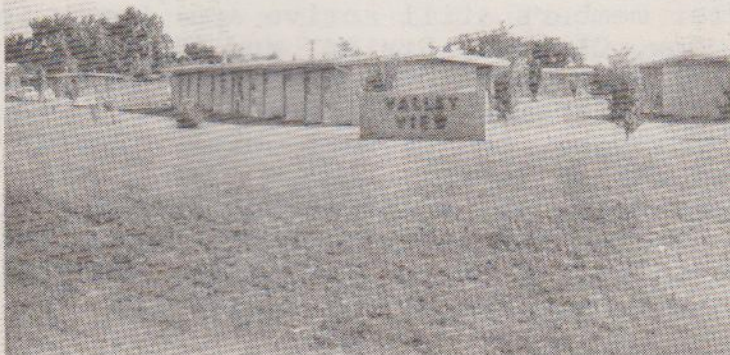
The following have been Fire Chief; Harold Klocke, Vic Blackman, Cliff Grube, Keith Klocke, and Lee Davidson, the present Chief. Harold Klocke was Chief for 25 years.

Marion Vontz, was an efficient secretary for 25 years. Another great asset to the organization is the Auxilliary. They furnish coffee and rolls and add to the social end of the activities.



Pictured as they sign the contract on the new Low-Cost Housing Project are L. to R.: Richard J. Allen, Leon C. Hines, Virgil Christensen, B. A. Quigley, Clarence Stritt, Marion Vontz and Edgar Frank. Standing, Stewart Harrison, D. L. Moffitt and Don Rinehart. On the local Housing Board are Virgil Christensen, B. A. Quigley, Clarence Stritt, Marion Vontz and Edgar Frank.

The group met to sign contracts for general construction work on the project. Time for completion as stated in the contract is 360 Calendar days; to be completed by July 25, 1968. After four years, the landscaping and the overall-plan of the Housing Project, resembles very closely the artist's original conception. The entertainment center ties it closely to the community. The occupants are happy, active, friendly and are good neighbors.



Excerpts

Sept. 28, 1939

M. N. Spencer Lies:

Melvin N. Spencer died on Sept. 20, 1939 in a Lincoln hospital at the age of 72 years. Surviving him are his wife, Sarah, a son Ernest of Indianola; two daughters, Irene at home and Grace Ware of Lincoln; a brother Orson and a sister Edna Dodge, both of Illinois.

Mr. Spencer was one of the early settlers as he came to Nebraska in 1884 and spent most of his time in and about Indianola.

As a pioneer Mr. Spencer represented the true pioneer spirit. Suffering many hardships in his early life, he was always friendly to his neighbors, frugal in the manner of living, temperate in his habits and mindful of the Golden rule. He took an interest in the early politics and development of Nebraska and lived to see many changes in the growth of a country that he first knew as a wilderness.

His son Ernest took up residence in Indianola and was a great booster during his spare time as Attorney-at Law. To hear him laugh was an entertainment in itself. His greatest achievement as a townsman was the writing and directing the well-known Pageant which was given a few years back and will be displayed in another section of this pamphlet.

Mrs. Phil Hertz and baby are visiting a few days at the home of Mrs. Maurice Rayer.

Mrs. Tom Jones and Nellie Marie of Littleton, Colo., Violet Peters of McCook, Mrs. Lawrence Campbell, Mrs. Martin Sughroue, Robert and Roger and Mrs. Maurice Rayer visited with Mrs. George Neumann.

Dr. and Mrs. Mackechnie and Margaret entertained the faculty and their wives and husbands at a picnic Tuesday eve.

Taken from a 1926 Red Willow Directory

LIVE STOCK CLASSIFICATION

ABERDEEN ANGUS

W. A. Blake
G. H. Fichtner
Ed Madden
N. J. Puckett

GUERNSEY

John Haag

HERFORD

J. E. Cecil
H. J. Deveny
Frank Junker
C. S. Thompson
George Tiller

JERSEY

J. J. Carter
L. A. Mackey

SHORT HORN

A. H. Barrows
Charles Beck
Jacob Harsch
Joseph Junker
J. S. Waddell
William Zimmerman

CHESTER WHITES

F. W. Weaver

DUROCS

Herman Bamesberger
Martin Morris
W. C. Randel

HAMPSHIRE

E. E. Quigley
N. J. Puckett
Mrs. Rosa Emrich

POLAND CHINA

George Bresney
B. W. Edwards
J. O. Reiman
John Stoller
C. S. Thompson
J. S. Waddell

ADVERTISERS FOUND IN THE
DIRECTORY

Luthers Market
Allen & Co.
Caine's Store
State Bank
F. W. Deffer
C. R. Livingston & Co.
Cecil Shoppe
Arch Davidson & Son
Barnett Lumber Co.
Mrs. Velta Jones
Ed's Lunch Room
V. J. Yarnell
Farmers State Bank
Indianola Equity Exchange
M. C. Lord
F. M. Plourd Electric Shop
Smith-Reiter Gramm Co.



CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Clubs and organizations are an essential part of any community and Indianola can certainly be proud of theirs:

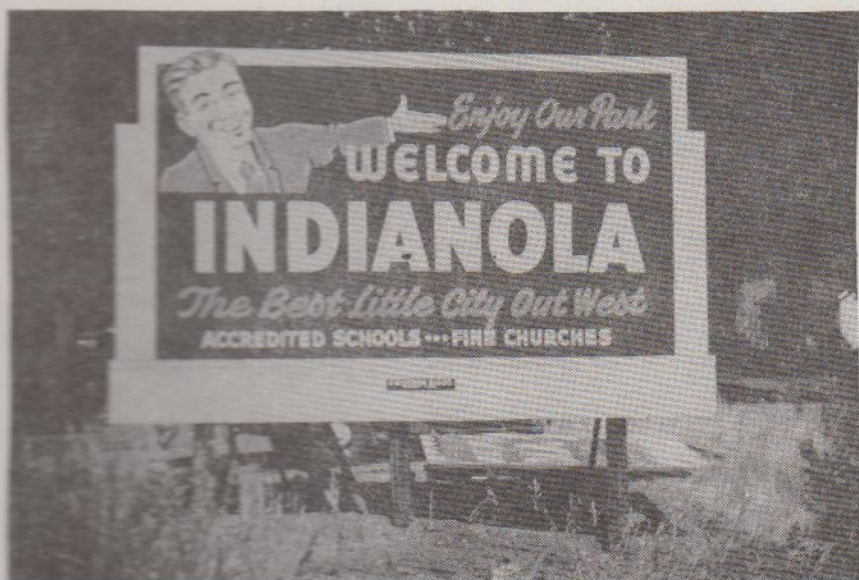
American Legion & Auxiliary
Baseball & Softball
Boy Scouts
Church Organizations
Community-Commercial Club
Coon Creek Coon Hunters
Federated Women's Club
Firemen & Auxiliary
4-H Clubs
Republican Valley FFA
Indianola Saddle Club
Jay Cee's
Masonic Lodge and Eastern Star
Men's Club
Rotary
Social Clubs
V. F. W. & Auxiliary

INDIANOLA AFTER 100 YEARS

Though the population and number of business enterprises have decreased significantly since the early years, the city is moving ahead by providing more and better community facilities. Agriculture and the discovery of oil in the area have enriched the economy of the community.

The following businesses are currently active in the city:

Bank of Indianola
Burlington Railroad
Barber Shop
Burton Ceramics
Carpenter Funeral Chapel
Cecil Hotel
City Liquor
Cornhusker State Telephone Co.
Davidson Gravel Co.
Downey Repair
Frank's Seed and Supply
Gambles
G & L Construction
Hanson Law Office
Happy Hut
Herrmann Funeral Chapel
Hobb's Construction
House of Savings
Indianola Agency
Indianola Cafe
Indianola Construction
I & RW Cooperative Oil Co.
Indianola Feed Service
Indianola Laundry
Indianola News
Indianola Oil Co.
Jack & Jill Food Center
Lee's Body Shop
Lord's Hardware & Furniture
Northwestern Pump & Supply Co.
Quigley Real Estate
Randy's Drive In
Recreation Center
Rinehart Construction
Rocket Inn
Sugroue Construction
Uerling Locker
Uerling Grain
Vontz Farm Supply



DEAR READER:

We hope that you will find this book both interesting and enlightening. It was made possible through the efforts of many interested and dedicated citizens. We wish to thank the many people who donated pictures, history and information.

In the efforts of trying to cover "100 years of living", in such a short time and space, we regret the fact that much material and many "Old Settlers" as well as "new Settlers" have been left out. For this we are truly sorry.

We have displayed a picture of the sign on the out-skirts of town. This was done because Indianola and proximity was the scene and topic of this Booklet.

By no means, do we feel that Indianola held the nucleus of Centennial devotions, but we had to draw a line for expediency and economy sake.

Sincerely,

The Editors

