

PART FIVE - continued

Dad had five years to pay the property off, at which time a Warrenty Deed was to be issued. The deed was actually issued in 1939, so believe that he may have paid the property off ahead of time.

A road had to be built into the property, and Dad made a deal for Rio Grande County to build it. They sent Fred Hawkins with an old Thirty Caterpillar Dozer to build the road. AS I remember the tractor was broke down more than it ran. They finally got the road built and the mill that had been at Del Norte was moved on the property.(the left hand mill)

The property had some of the best spruce timber any where, but it was on a steep north slope. The area was very wet, and as it was steep hillside, things such as the barn had to be built on supports. As this was to be a long term project the site was going to have to have numerous buildings on it. Also the weather was a problem, as there was lots of rain, and snow came early in the season. There was no shortage of good water, in fact there was a problem with too much most of the time.

The first mill set was where they had built the camp. They also had a planer at this location. The mill ran with the old engines that it had before. The planer was powered with an engine from a Thirty Cat. After the first year the mill was moved above the camp to a new site. This would prove to be the left hand mills last site. As the weather was a problem they built a building over the mill, and the mill was not moved out in the winter. When it was moved to the second site, they used an engine from a Sixty Cat. for power. I remember that they were started by using a bar in the flywheel.

In 1940 gasoline engines on the mill would be replaced by steam power. There is an old mine above Stunner called the Pass Me By Mine. There was a boiler still there and it would be moved to the mill. A steam engine was picked up at Hotckiss, and moved to the mill. I am not sure what kind of arrangments were made for the boiler. Dad acquired this mine along with other property for taxes, but do not know if that had been done when they moved the boiler to the mill.

Due to the extremely heavy snow at this site, it was decided that they should make at least one trip during the winter to shovel snow from the buildings. It would prove later that even that didn't save the big building over the mill. The site where the mill was located does not get any sunlight for several weeks during the winter. For some other weeks it does not shine long enough to do much good. The trip in during the winter was a very hard trip, as it was snowshoes for some miles. The road was open to above Jasper where the Summitville road went up the hill. From there on it was snowshoes. I only made one trip in and it was plenty for me. By the time night came I was ready for bed. Note, supplies were left in one of the cabins for the winter trip.

PART FIVE - continued

One thing that had interested Dad for many years was Mexico, and he had a great desire to make a trip down there. In 1939, he decided that it was time to make a trip to Mexico. He started by joining the Pemex Travel Club in Mexico, which gave him access to all the information that he would need, such as insurance requirments etc. As I remember, we went to Kansas for Christmas that year, and then went on to Mexico after the first of the year.

For some reason the folks took John Harris, who lived on property that Dad had sold to him. As I remember, he was pretty cranky but guess we got along with him. Dad's brother Ben and his wife Lena also went along. Ben was a pretty good guy to take along, as he always looked at the bright side of things. I remember stopping in SanAntonio, I guess because we stopped at the Buck-horn saloon, which was a place that had everything. I came across a post card from there recently, and it kind of jogged my memory of the place. For some reason we did not stop at the Alamo, but maybe it wasn't such a tourist attraction that it is today.

I remember going thru some jungle country on the way to Mexico City. I guess the reason I remember it is because one place we stopped for gas and they had a young tiger laying on the window sill. Just like a house cat, except it didn't like for anyone to touch it. Lucky for me it was tied up and couldn't get to anyone.

We went to see the pryamids and various museums in that area. We went as far south as Puebla. Dad had hired a guide as soon as we got to Mexico City, and as I remember he was very good, and kept things moving, and kept us away from the traps.

We had entered Mexico at Larado, and we must have came back out the same way, as I remember we traveled thru the same towns on the way back. One of the towns I remember, because on the way down we found that the town partied most of the night, and when we got up early the next morning to leave they had shut the towns power plant down, and had no electricity. On the way back same town, same problem.

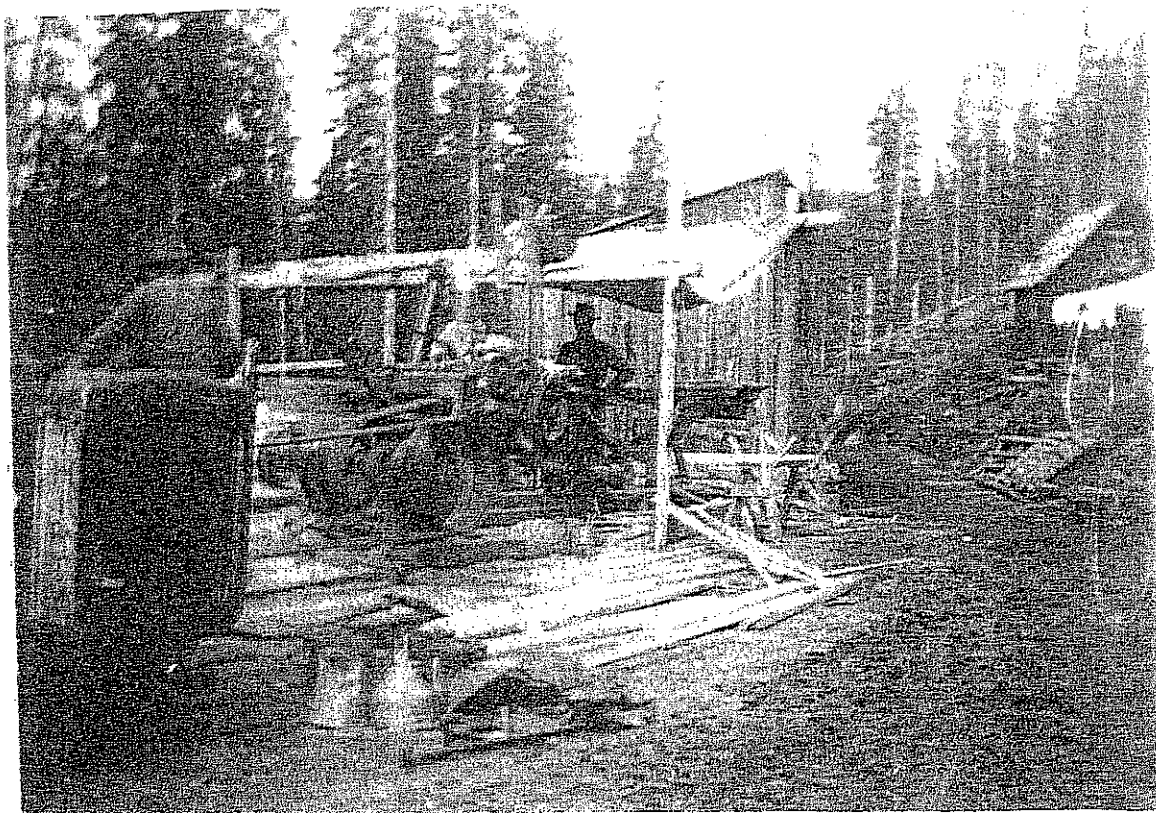
Coming back across south Texas a fan blade came off and went thru the radiator.(a comman problem in those days) As we were in the middle of nowhere, Dad bought a lot of gum, and we all chewed gum so Dad could keep patching the radiator until he could get it fixed. After it was fixed, we had no more problems. I remember that we stopped at Carlsbad Caverns on the way back. I don't remember Ben being along there, so believe that he and Lena must have returned to Kansas after we crossed back into the US.

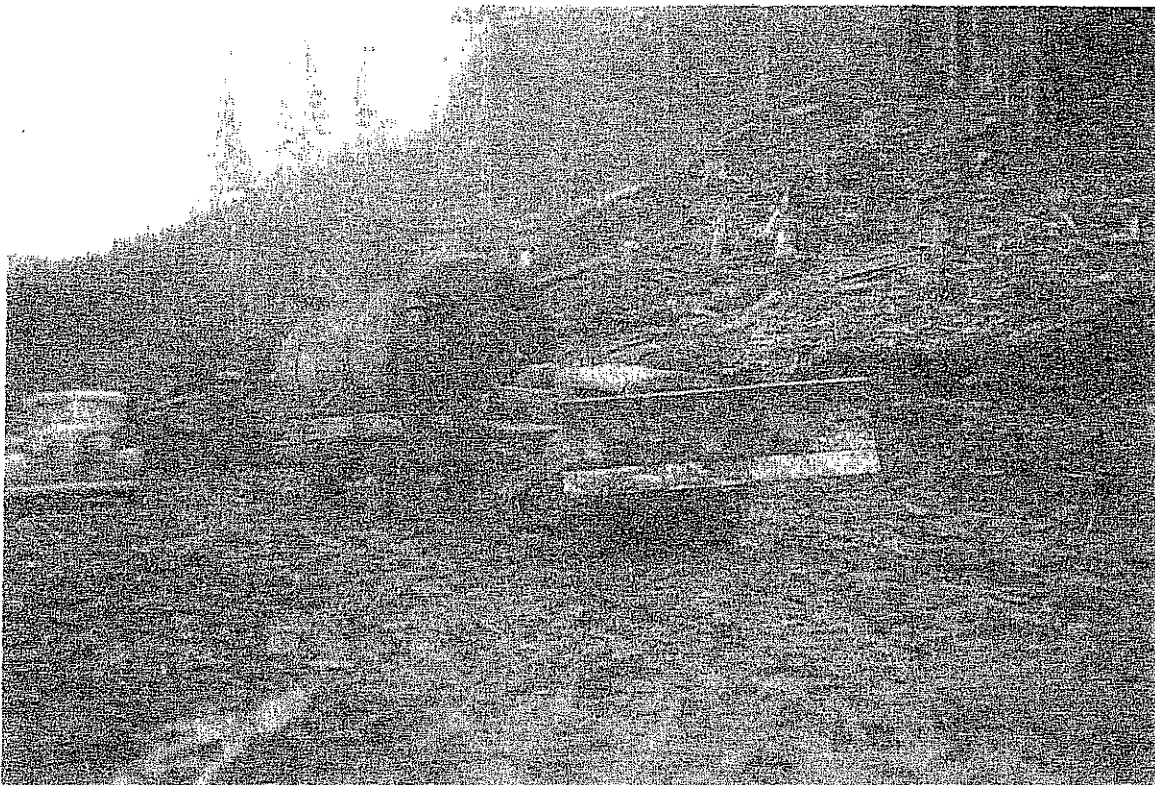
All in all, as I remember, Dad was very satisified with his trip to Mexico. I still come across things that he picked up there.



Top photo is of Charley Johnson with one of the lumber trucks at the first mill site at the Stunner location

Lower photo is of Dad running the planer at the Stunner site. The building directly behind the planer is the barn. As far as I remember this was the last time that the planer was used at the mill. It was moved to the yard in town.





Top photo is Francis arriving at the Stunner mill with the boiler from the PMB mine. AS you can see there is enough mud to go around. The car is the 1938 Chev that Dad bought new. The dozer on the little cat was built by Francis and Lillard Elliot when Elliot first arrived in the valley. The dozer was removed during the war years, as it had some problems. Francis rebuilt it and installed it after the war.

These photos were taken in 1940

Lower photo is of the boiler after it was installed at the mill and before a building was built over it. The big mill building in the background would prove not to stand the extremely heavy snows at that location.





Top photo is of the lower part of the camp at the Stunner location. This was probably taken in the fall of 1940. Snows could come early and heavy. Dad made a trip after lumber and while he was at the mill loading, it snowed so much that he almost didn't get out. When he crossed the bridge at Stunner the snow was level with the banisters on the bridge. They got lumber caught at the mill one fall, and had to leave the truck at Stunner and use the cat and sled to get the lumber to the truck. One trip the cat didn't want to start and Francis said that he and Charley thought they were going to have to stay as it was getting dark. Laddie kept going down the road and looking back as much as to say, come on I'll lead you out.

The lower photo is of the same location during the first part of 1941 when they went in to shovel off the buildings.

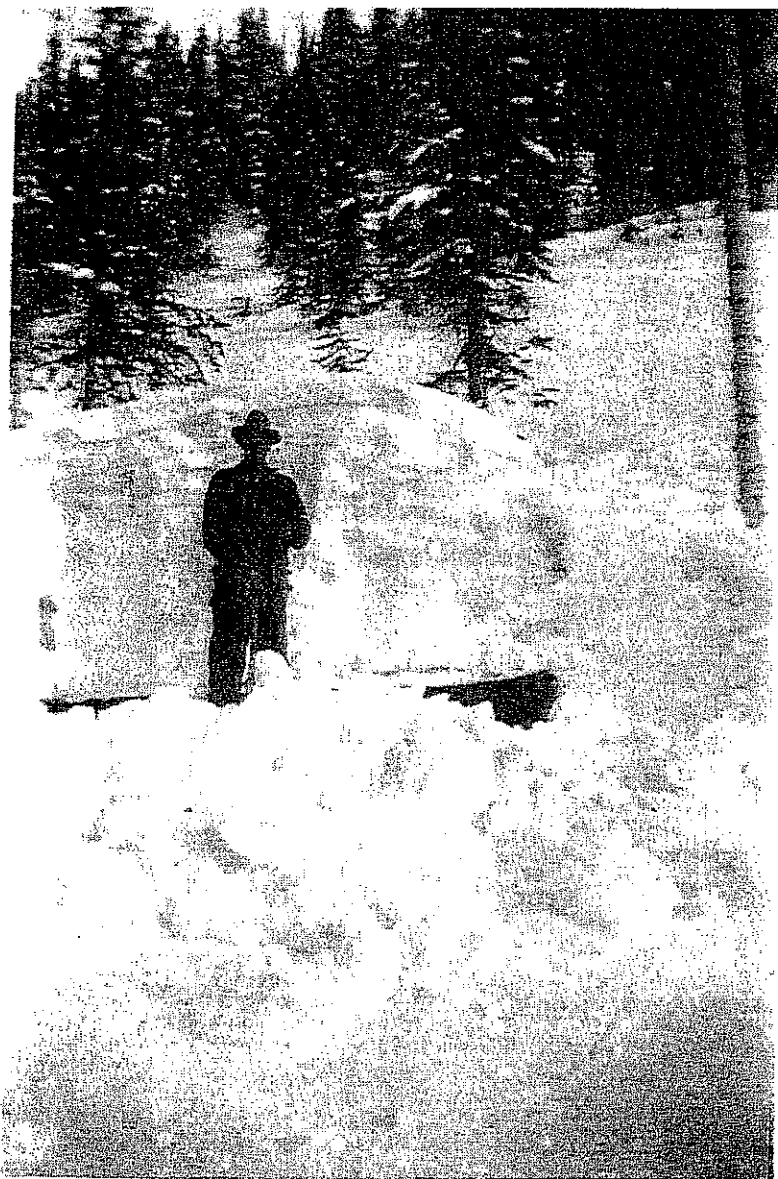




Top photo shows Dad at the left arriving below the main cabin. It is the one to the right, where all the supplies for the winter were stored. I do not know who the person on the right is. It could be Darley, but do not know for sure.

The lower photo is the front of the same buildings. To the left is the main cabin and the hump in the snow is the building that was used for meat and food storage,





The photo at the left is Francis shoveling one of the buildings off. This was soon after the first of the year, so more snow will soon take this snows place.

The photo below is of the lower part of the camp in 1995. The firstmill was to the right of the photo. The main cabin is the pile of broken lumber in the right of the picture. The road in the right side of the picture leads to the upper mill site.(the last one used)



PART FIVE - continued

At this point I will go into some of the property dealings that took place during the early 1940s, and later.

First I must back up and correct something mentioned earlier. I said that a Warranty deed had been issued in 1939 on the 160 acres, and that is true, but I find that the deed was not recorded until 1945, which would indicate that the property was not paid off earlier than the contract called for.

In 1940 Dad entered into an agreement on various properties that were available for back taxes in Conejos County. He formed a partnership with J.A. Rivera of LaJara. I believe that he had known him from the time he lived in the Terrace. Rivera was in the ranching business, or that is the way I remember it. He also had quite an interest in mining. At the time he was County recorder and was in a position to watch the tax roles. He was not able to do anything about it, so he made a deal with Dad to pick up the property that they would both be interested in. Dad would get timber rights, Rivera would get pasture, and Mineral rights, and all other things would be shared equal. It was a partnership that lasted for many years, and I do not ever remember them ever having any problems between them.

One of the first properties that caught their eye was 800 acres south of Jasper on top of Cornwell Mtn. 560 acres was in Conejos Co. and the remaining part was in Rio Grande Co. A deal was made with both Counties and they acquired the property. There was no roads in the area, but the land was ideal for logging if a road was ever built. Around the same time they got some Patented mining claims. In the deal was the old Pass Me By Mine, the Asiatic Mine, and various claims. All in all there were some 36 claims containing aprox. 480 acres in all. Some of the land had fairly good timber and some had very little.

This completed their land deals until 1957 when 5 more claims were added. These were in the same area so went along with the others very well

Nothing was done with any of the aquired property until after the war years. At that time Dad got some more claims in the Jasper area, as well as a 40 acre piece along the main road above Jasper.

In 1945, Dad bought the property that joined on the west side of the home place in Monte. The front of the property went from the NW corner of the home place west to the center of the canal that is west, and followed the canal until it intersected with the west line of the home place. As I recall, it contained about 20 acres. I do not remember how much he paid for the land.(it did not have any water right)

PART FIVE - continued

By 1939 the lumber yard in town had both changed and grown to a larger part of the business. In June of 1939, Dad and Francis had formed a partnership under the name of Bockhaus Lumber Mills, and in March of 1940, Dad and Ralph dissolved their partnership, and Ralph operated under the name of Bockhaus Lumber Co. He would sell roofing products, finish lumber, cement, oak lumber, and other items connected with the business. The mills would furnish native lumber both wholesale and retail.

As the Stunner mill was only furnishing spruce lumber, and as the season was found to be short, there was a need for more timber, and so they found a ranch NW of Pagosa Springs with lots of big pine timber that was for sale. They signed a contract with the Carlin Ranch, and in the fall of 1941 moved a mill onto the ranch. It was to be steam powered, and Dad found a Case traction engine in the valley. Ralph had a semi on the road by that time, and he moved the engine close to the ranch. Dad put the traction engine under steam and drove it the rest of the way to the mill site. He made it to the gate of the ranch where he got stuck. I remember going over with him on a weekend and helping him get it the rest of the way to the mill site. It was a very large engine, in fact it is the only one like it that I have ever seen. It was a compound engine, and as I remember the driver wheels were about three feet across. The engine was located where it was to be used, and the wheels were removed. I remember the wheels laying beside the road into the mill site for several years. As I stated, it was a compound engine, which means that it used the steam twice. First thru a small cylinder and then thru a larger cylinder.

Francis had hired a man by the name of Joe Montano, and he had proved to be a very valued employee. I cannot remember just when he hired him, but he was working for them when they moved the mill to Pagosa. As events were about to happen that no one could predict or control, Joe would prove to be the best thing that had happened to the Bockhaus Lumber Mills.

The timber at the Pagosa site proved to be all that they had hoped for. It was large timber, and was easy to log. The land was fairly level, at least as logging woods went. They did have mud to put up with when it rained, and the area did get pretty heavy snows in the winter. The road getting to the pavement left a lot to be desired when the weather was bad, but all in all it was working out very well, but events were about to happen that would change both Bockhaus Lumber Mills and everyones lives connected with both the mills and the family.

PART FIVE - continued

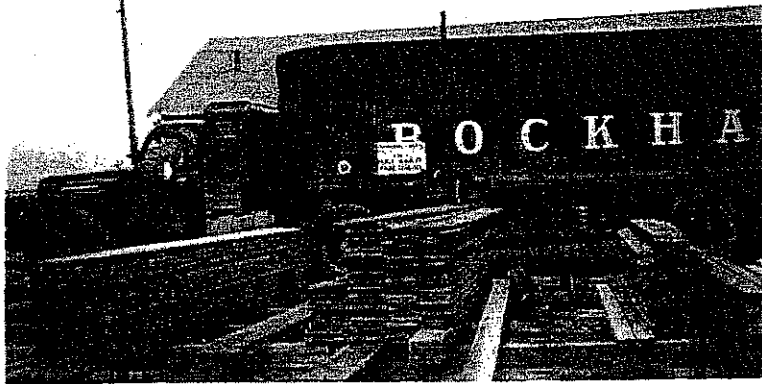
Just as things were getting settled at the mill at Pagosa, the US went to war in Dec. of 1941. In March of 1942, Francis was drafted. The production of lumber was considered a critical industry, and was generally left alone as far as the draft was concerned, but Francis was drafted. Dad tried everything to get it reversed, but nothing worked. One thing that worked against them was that Francis was single. Dad always thought that his troubles with the Lumber Dealers, and the NRA had quite a lot to do with Francis being drafted. As the years have gone by, I have thought about it some, and at this point, knowing what took place during those years, I guess that I have not formed an opinion either way. It was a very bitter time for Dad, and caused an enormous amount of stress.

As the logging was easier, and the weather milder at Pagosa, it was decided not to operate at Stunner. Help became nearly impossible to get, and Joe Montano became Dad's right hand. He did the sawing, and anything else that needed to be done. Production was not great, but the mill kept operating.

Supplies became harder and harder to get as the war progressed. Everything was rationed. Dad could only get, as I remember, about five gallons of gas per week for the car. There was stickers for the windshield of vehicles. The car had an A sticker, which was for a small amount. As I say I believe it was 5 gal. per week. Speed limits were set at, I believe 35 MPH. Meat and everything else was rationed. Most food did not bother the folks, as they always had a big garden and mother canned a lot. One of the items that bothered most was sugar, because of canning etc. During the war was my first encounter with margarine. It could be bought instead of butter, but it was in a bag, and was white. With it came a little food coloring and you could mix it so that it looked like butter. The folks had homemade butter, but did not always have enough to keep up.

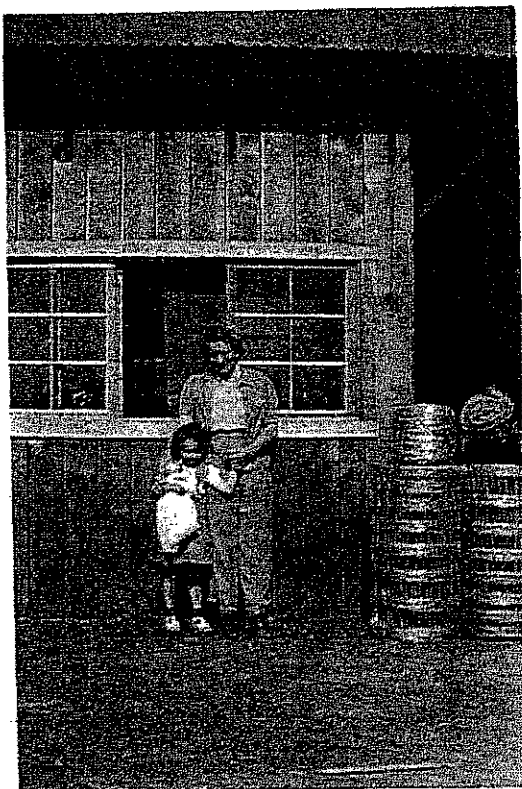
As for gasoline, I don't remember that it was a big problem, as lumber was a critical item, Dad had gas for his truck and for the tractor etc. With a little shuffling he could keep gas enough. A bigger problem was tires for the truck. He could buy tires, but they were synthetic, and didn't usually last long enough to make it worth while to put on.

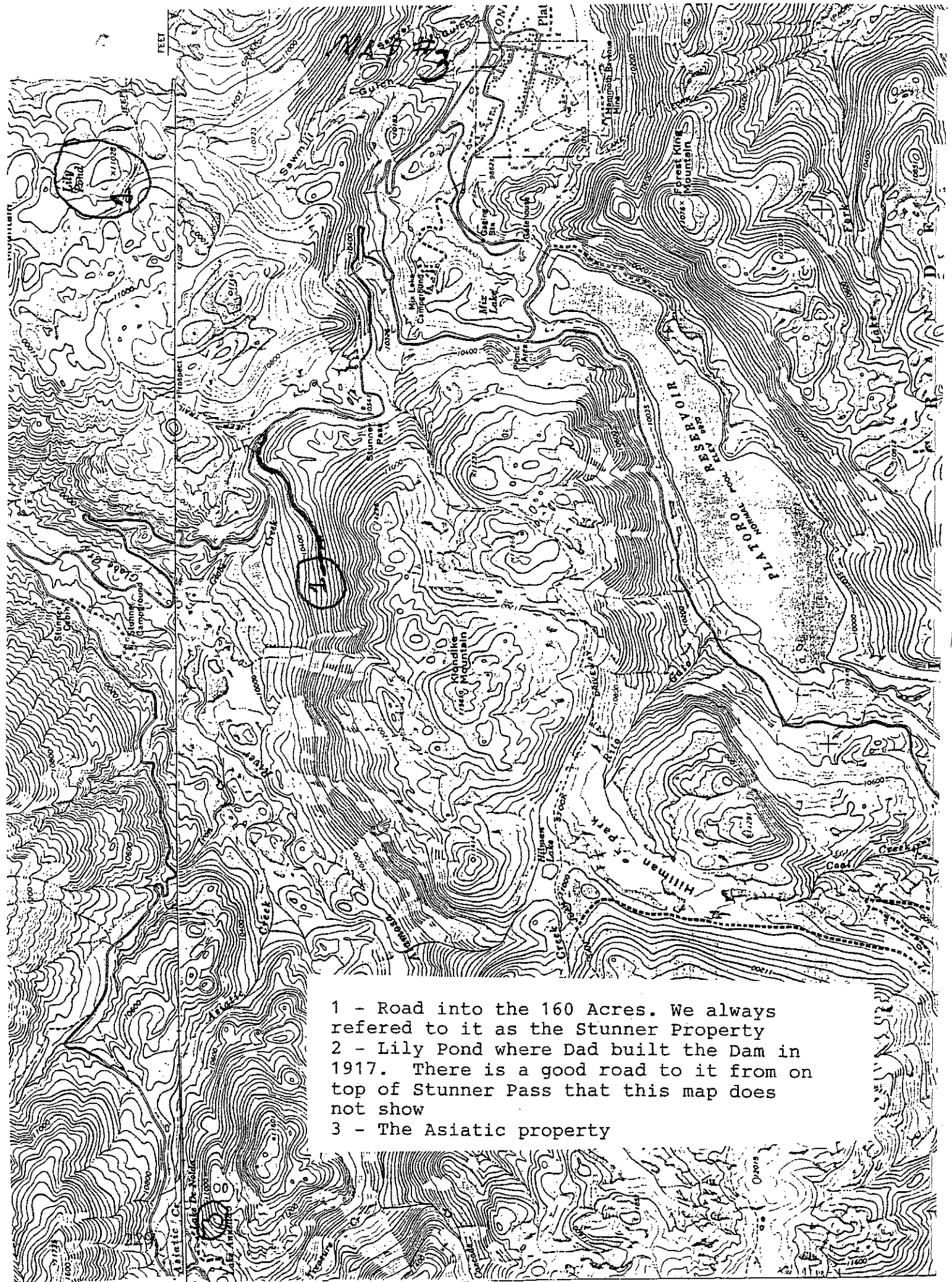
The truck that Dad had during the war was a 1940 Chev. that was bought new by Ralph at the yard. Somehow Dad wound up with it. It didn't have many miles, but had been used pretty hard. It was only the beginning of hard use. Dad didn't always take the best of care of trucks, and parts became hard to get, so all in all the old truck had a war of its own. It was nothing unusual to have to stop and change a wheel bearing on something like that on the way to Monte with a load of lumber. I am afraid that with today's laws that truck would not make it very far before it would be put off the road and the driver locked up. Of course traffic was not a problem in those days, and wore out vehicles were a way of life.



Above - Ralph's long haul truck when he had the lumber yard. Taken in 1941

Below left - Nellie Ford and Phyllis. Taken in front of the lumber yard office in 1941 Nellie was bookkeeper at the yard.
Below right - Ralph, Virgil, Francis, and Phyllis taken during the war.





- 1 - Road into the 160 Acres. We always referred to it as the Stunner Property
- 2 - Lily Pond where Dad built the Dam in 1917. There is a good road to it from on top of Stunner Pass that this map does not show
- 3 - The Asiatic property

PART FIVE - continued

When the war broke out the Chevrolet dealer closed their doors, which put Chev. owners in a bad position. C.L. Reagan had a garage, where the city hall is, or was the last I knew, and he kept parts. Somehow he could get parts that nobody else could get. It turned out to be a good thing for Dad, as he was able to get enough parts to keep the old truck going.

Strange things happened with Dad and the old truck. He had a habit of carrying an old wash tub on the back to keep such things as tire chains, jack, lug wrench etc. He also usually carried a jug of water, because the old truck would get thirsty quite often. Once on the way back to the mill with the empty truck, Dad looked back in the rear view mirror and saw smoke coming from the tub. He stopped and found that his jug of water was acting like a magnifying glass and the sun had set a coat that was in the tub on fire. He was a little more careful with the water after that.

During this period of time, the Stunner mill was left idle. In either 1943, or 1944, the mill was rented out. I remember it, but don't have facts as to who rented. They cut a lot of logs and not all of them got sawed, and were left decked in the woods. During this time of the mill being rented, Ralph went up and did some sawing for them. One thing that I failed to mention about Ralph, was his unusual ability for math. When logs are scaled in a pile, there is an allowance for an overcut. In other words, it is planned that the mill will get more lumber than what the scaling says, depending on how close the sawyer watches the waste. Ralph would watch the lumber coming off the mill and keep track of the board feet in his head. At the end of the day, he knew exactly how many board feet he actually cut. I don't know anyone that could do that.

AS I said the mill was rented, and they cut more logs than they sawed. I don't remember the details of why, but it will play an important part in Dad's lumber operation later.

The mill at Pagosa struggled along, and help kept getting harder to get, as more men got drafted. It looked as though Joe might not get drafted, but in 1944, his luck ran out, as well as Dad's. Joe was drafted and Dad did not have anyone to depend on anymore. It turned out that Joe's luck ran out in more ways than one. He went thru basic and was sent to Europe, where his first battle was the battle of the bulge, and his group was blown out of a boat, and he suffered wounds as well as a bad hearing loss. It was his first and last battle of the war, and he wound up in a hospital in England.

PART DIVE - continued

The war years were not only a time of rationing, but also were a time of saving everything for salvage. Mother always cut both ends out of tin cans and flattened them. All used tires were sold for scrap. I remember that I made quite a bit of spending money gathering up old truck tires and selling them. As I said before, the folks always had a big garden and nearly always had a milk cow and a steer that they could butcher. Dad and I got the idea of raising some hogs, and we had hogs every where. I had one that was raised by bottle and it got to be a pet, or maybe I should say pest. It followed me like a dog everywhere. As I remember, we made a little money out of the hogs.

Dad's old truck kept going, but as I think back, I don't know how. Strange things happened to it. One time Dad had a load of RR ties coming over Wolf Creek Pass, and after he crossed the top of the pass, he went to slow down to shift to a lower gear, and found that he had no brakes. He managed to get it into the lowest gear he had, but he let the clutch out too fast and the clutch fell apart. That left him freewheeling, so he drove the truck into the nearest bank and got stopped. The only problem was that there was a man riding on the load, and he got scared and jumped off and slid into the truck and broke his arm. Just another day in the life of the old truck.

AS I stated before, Ralph had trucks on the road that were part of his lumber yard business. In the early part of the war, the Govt. built camp Hale near Leadville. This camp would become the training ground for the 10th Mtn. Div. that would become quite famous during the war years. Ralph had trucks there hauling building materials from the RR siding to the building area. I don't remember just how long he had trucks there, but must have been a fair amount of time.

The war years took their toll on the business, and before the end of the war Ralph started his shop business in the building that had been built for trucks some years before. He remained in that business for many years. The building was added on to in later years.

As for Francis, he trained for desert warfare, but never saw any action in the desert. He finally wound up in England where he waited for the Normandy Invasion. He had been trained at Fort Knox for tank mechanics, and went with the 3rd Armored Div. thru France, Belgium, and into Germany. He ran a tank recovery unit and saw his share of bad things happen. He returned home in the fall of 1945, and picked up where he left off in the sawmill end of the business.

NEWS LETTER
War Price & Rationing Board No. 23-1
La Veta Hotel Building
Monte Vista, Colo.

Number 1

September 16, 1943

ARMED FORCES DEMANDING MORE GASOLINE FOR INVASION

Allowance of gasoline for passenger cars has been ordered cut 20% throughout the nation on "B" and "C" ration cards. Colorado is now conducting its audit of Ration Boards, and the check-up on the Monte Vista Board was completed by Federal Auditors Tuesday of this week. Motorists will be asked to return stamps to their local board equivalent to the reductions specified. Reductions will also apply to non-highway gasoline, but in both cases sufficient gasoline will be allowed for actual essential use.

USED TRUCK CERTIFICATES

Effective September 15th, buyers and sellers of used trucks, except sales to dealers, must file a certificate with their local War Price & Rationing Board, stating the description of the truck and the specific selling price. No gasoline can be issued to the buyer until this certificate is on file with the Price Panel.

Above, and continued on the following page, is a typical News Letter sent out by the Rationing board during the war years.

Notice on the following page, that members of the armed forces on leave were allowed five gallons for any one leave. Where would that get them in today's world?

COMMUNITY SERVICE MEMBER APPOINTED

Mrs. Dorothy Still has been appointed Community Service Member by the local Office of Civilian Defense to assist the local Ration Board in securing voluntary help for registration and issuance of Ration Books.

LOST RATION BOOKS

Extreme care should be exercised by holders of Ration Books to keep them at all times in a safe place, as the issuance of duplicate books to take the place of those lost or stolen is becoming more difficult, and even under present regulations it takes about 30 days to reissue a lost book.

CEILING PRICES ON POTATOES

The Maximum Ceiling Price for San Luis Valley potatoes during the month of September is \$2.25 per cwt. for USone grade, with a 10¢ per cwt. reduction for Commercial grade, and 30¢ per cwt. reduction for No. 2 grades or lower. The local Ration Board has a full time Price Clerk and any inquiries relative to prices should be directed to Mrs. Mildred F. Scott.

SPECIAL GASOLINE RATIONS

There appears to be much misunderstanding relative to Special Rations of gasoline. Due to the necessity of conserving gasoline and tires, the following information relative to special rations is given for the guidance of the public:

In general, special rations of gasoline can be granted only to move an automobile in connection with a bona fide change of the regular place of residence of the person entitled to the use thereof, or to obtain necessary medical attention or therapeutic treatment.

In addition, in order to procure special rations to obtain medical attention, it is necessary to establish that there are no other means of transportation available which are reasonably adequate, even though such other means of transportation may not be so convenient, and may be more expensive or require more time.

Members of the Armed forces on furlough, where such ration is needed for transportation, may obtain not to exceed five gallons for any single pass, leave or furlough.

BOOK IV TO BE ISSUED IN OCTOBER

Ration Book No. 4 will be issued sometime the latter part of October, the exact date to be announced later. All applicants in the east end of Rio Grande County who are under the jurisdiction of the Monte Vista Board will apply for their books at the War Price & Ration Board office, in the La Veta Hotel Bldg. at Monte Vista.

SPECIAL SHOE STAMPS

In general, adults are not eligible for special shoe stamps, allowing them to purchase shoes in excess of those allowed on Ration Book I, except in cases of those engaged in occupations where the work is hard on shoes or destructive of the material of which they are made.

TRANSPORT GASOLINE BOOKS BEING ISSUED

T-Books for Truck gasoline covering the fourth quarter are now being made up at the Ration Board, and will be mailed to all truck owners to reach them not later than October 1st.

WAR & NAVY
DEPARTMENTS
V-MAIL SERVICE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300



Above is a sample of the V mail during the war years. Service men could sent regular air mail or V mail, which was a photo copy of the letter and shrunk down in size. This christmas card was sent in 1943, while Francis was in England waiting for the Normandy invasion.

The following page is a letter that Dad received from an NBC news man. Dad took exception to the way he described the bread that they were using in Germany. He probably didn't realize how bad conditions were in Germany. Neither did the German prisoners that were in Monte, as they had been out of the war for a long time, and things had changed, and not for the better.

NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY, INC.



A RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA SERVICE

RCA BUILDING · RADIO CITY

NEW YORK 20, N. Y.



(March 1944)

Dear Louis Bockhaus....

Thank you for your kind letter.

You are technically correct about German prisoners NOT receiving their 80 ¢ a day in CASH. No, it isn't actual coins, but it's paper money...scrip as we call it...which is the SAME as money in what it will buy. And if they wait until the end of the war they will receive it in ACTUAL GERMAN marks, if they wish...OR...in much better US dollars !

As for the black bread...you say the use of that term makes it sound awful. What do you think it IS ? I can assure you the present black bread being served in Germany and other parts of Europe IS awful ! It's made of potato peelings and other refuse ! I KNOW because, you see, I have been in Europe much more recently than you have. I only wish that our soldiers and all the rest of Europe had good "RYE" bread, as you call it. That just isn't true. If you were to describe what they are getting to eat that way, you would be misleading people far more than I was. I wish you could have eaten some of the BLACK BREAD...GERMAN black bread...which I have eaten over there !! And so...please don't think I am intentionally trying to mislead people. I am not. I am trying, as you say, to give the truth as nearly as I possibly can !! Anyway...thanks for writing..and if you want to know more about some first hand experiences over there, try reading my war book, "From the Land of the Silent People" which you can borrow from your local library.

Sincerely...

Robert S. Johnson

PART FIVE - continued

During the war years the Govt. had a German Prisoner of War labor camp in Monte Vista. They were there for labor on the farms and anyplace else that they were needed. Dad got to know quite a few, partly because he knew German, and partly because he needed extra help at the lumber yard. I remember that there were some of them around at various times. They liked to come out to the place because both Dad and Mother could talk German, and partly because they were homesick and just liked to get out among the local people. Most of them were really nice guys, but of course they were a select bunch that were put in that camp. War is strange, there the americans were in Germany fighting, and Germans were in this country farming etc. Doesn't make a lot of sense, but that is the way the war was. At Christmas time Dad always cut trees, and he would take as many of the prisoners along as he could. He didn't need that much help, but they enjoyed getting out to the mountains. The camp had some very talented people in it. One of them was a master cabinet maker, and he built cabinets in Mothers kitchen. He picked up various pieces of hardwood etc. around the place and made beautiful things with them. He had very little in the way of tools, but did beautiful work without them. It turned out that one of them was from the area where Dad's Mother was from. The folks used to hear from some of them for several years after the war. One of them that came out to the place was pretty young and didn't know how to drive. He used to practice driving the old truck around the place, and told Dad that when the ocean froze over, he was going to take the old truck and drive home to Germany.

In the spring of 1945, the war in Europe had ended, but of course there was still no help available, so Dad decided that there was logs decked at the Stunner Mill, and he and I would cut as much lumber as the two of us could. Also he made arrangements with Glen Watson in Monte to go up and build another building over the mill. This time it would be one that would stand the snows of that location, or at least they would try.

Dad and Mother and I and my dog Betsy and old Dan went up for the summer. By that time I had turned sixteen, and had bought my first car. I bought a 1918 Cadillac from Ralph for the unheard of sum of \$75.00. It ran good, but it did like gasoline. It was decided that I would not apply for a gas rationing stamp because the war was coming to an end and Dad had plenty of tractor gas, so that is what I used.

Things went pretty well for no more help than there was. I don't remember if there was ever any more than us or not. If there was any other help, it was not for very long. We would skid a pile of logs to the mill with the little Cat, and when we had a good pile we would fire up the boiler and saw them out. Wasn't a very fast operation, but we always had lumber to take to town on the weekend.

PART FIVE - continued

Dad went ahead with his plans to build a new building over the mill, and Glen Watson spent most of the summer with us while building the new building. When it was finished, it was a very nice sturdy building.

We continued to saw what lumber we could, but it was pretty slow going. Dad would park the truck at the end of the mill, and as we could, we would load it with lumber. After it was loaded, it was pulled away from the mill and parked until we were ready to go to town, usually on the weekend. One time after Dad got to town, he complained about an awful smell in the old truck. This went on until he got back to the mill. He said that it was so bad that he had to find out what was causing the terrible smell. He finally pulled the seat out and found that a pack rat had been helping him out. The truck had been parked close to an outside toilet at the mill, and the pack rat had been trading goodies from the toilet for something that was in the truck. They always like to trade something, but it looked that time as though Dad had gotten the worst end of the trade. Anyway the truck smelled better after that.

In August of that year, we went to Summitville and got timber for them for the winter. As we had the little tractor, we could get into some pretty tight places and stack timbers in the buildings at the mines. During the process, I got hit under the chin, and for some time couldn't hardly open my mouth. They still had a store there, and I could eat ice cream, so kept their supply from getting stale. Mother enjoyed staying up there as the house we used had running water and a bathroom. The house in town didn't, so it was a treat for us. When I got hurt, I had left the tractor sitting in a pretty tight place at one of the mines, and Dad went to move it back to camp. I hadn't mentioned it, but Dad never had driven the tractor. For some reason he never did care to. By the time he got the tractor back to camp, he learned to drive it the hard way. Even after that he still never did drive it.

In the fall of 1945, Francis came home from the war. He had left a 1940 Chev. car at home thqt was nearly new. Dad had put it in a storage just off the planer shed in Monte and blocked it up for the duration of the war. When Francis came home, I got to get the car out of storage and drive it at least part of the way to meet him. As I remember he must have come to Pueblo on the train. I remember that getting his car out of storage was a real treat for me.

AS soon as Francis got home, he went right back to the mill. As I remember he went to Stunner and finished the season there. As soon as he could get the time, he gave the old truck some much needed repairs, and the little tractor got a lot of new parts. It had also been thru a war of its own, just like the truck.

PART FIVE - continued

In 1946 the mill at Pagosa was started up again, still steam powered. This would prove to be the year that steam ended at the mills. During the summer of 1946, Francis went to Denver and bought a new Cat Diesel engine. In 1945 late he had bought a fairly new truck in Wyo. from the Govt. so newer equipment was showing up in the business. In 1946, I started hauling lumber over Wolf Creek Pass with the old Chev. truck. It was quite a bit improved, but still left a lot to be desired. I was only 17 at the time, and as I think back that was pretty scary. I wouldn't even drive a truck like that across the street let alone haul lumber over a mountain like that today. The dog that Francis had liked to go along, so he was with me at times. Once about half way up the pass, I had to stop and water the old truck, and all at once the dog jumped off the truck and started barking and running for all he was worth up the road. It took me by surprize as he never did that. I looked up the road and there was a big brown bear crossing the road. I sure am glad the dog stopped when I yelled at him, as I don't believe that he was any match for the bear.

In 1947 the mill at Pagosa was moved a few yards from its old location and its capacity was enlarged. I moved into the larger truck and Francis had another truck and trailer hauling under contract. Between the two of us we pretty well buried Dad with lumber at the yard. Francis decided to start a boarding house for some of the men, and one of the contract loggers wives took on the job. She was pretty young, and as I remember she wasn't much of a cook. I don't believe that she ever had a meal with out green beans and hominy. I was lucky, as I was on the road every day and could eat in town. There were three of us bunking in a cabin togther and my buddies wern't so lucky. On of them was Roland Reinhardt, and the othe was Vernon Schultz. Vernon worked for Francis for quite a number of years.

Late in the summer of 1947 the mill at Pagosa was shut down and we returned to Stunner to complete cutting the logs that were still decked from previous years. They probably cut some more that same year, but do not remember. Roland had enough of the cooking that summer, and he talked his mother into going along to do the cooking. Boy could she cook. We ate pretty good as long as she was at camp. Unfortunatly she was only there for a short time as she returned to town when Roland started college that fall.

When we returned to Stunner that summer, we moved the Diesel engine along and replaced the steam engine, so that marked the end of the steam age at the sawmills.

Francis got married in Dec. of 1947, and in the first part of 1948 we went back to Pagosa to do some logging across one of the meadows on the Carlin Ranch. It had to be done while the snow was deep so the meadow didn't get torn up. That had been a heavy snow winter so Francis's new wife was in for quite an experience.

PART FIVE -continued

Late in the fall of 1946 there was a lot of lumber at the mill in Pagosa. It had been stacked to dry, and Dad and I went over one weekend to pick up a couple of loads. He had his old Chev. and I took the bigger truck. We got there late on a Friday night and the weather was pretty good. We decided to wait until the following morning to load the trucks. When we got up the next morning it was snowing and there was a lot of snow on the ground. We loaded both trucks light and chained up both trucks. The one I was driving was a tandem with all 4 rear wheels driving so I went ahead to break open the road. Dad followed with his old truck. We finally made it into town, and there was no let up in the snow. We both decided that we would leave the chains on as Wolf Creek was reporting very bad conditions. I went ahead and when I got to the top of the pass, I waited for quite awhile and Dad never showed up. I stopped a car and asked if they had seen Dad's truck, and they said that he was stuck just above the road camp. I didn't want to return with the loaded truck so went on figuring that there was help at the camp. When I got home I found that he had been gassed by the old truck and that Ralph had went over to pick him up. The only thing that saved him was that his window was open slightly and when he ran into the snow bank the snow came in the window and revived him. He walked to the camp, but was really sick. Once again he made it in spite of an old truck trying to get him. The trucks in those days had no fresh air heaters. Whatever got in the cab got recirculated. Fresh air heaters were just a year or so away.

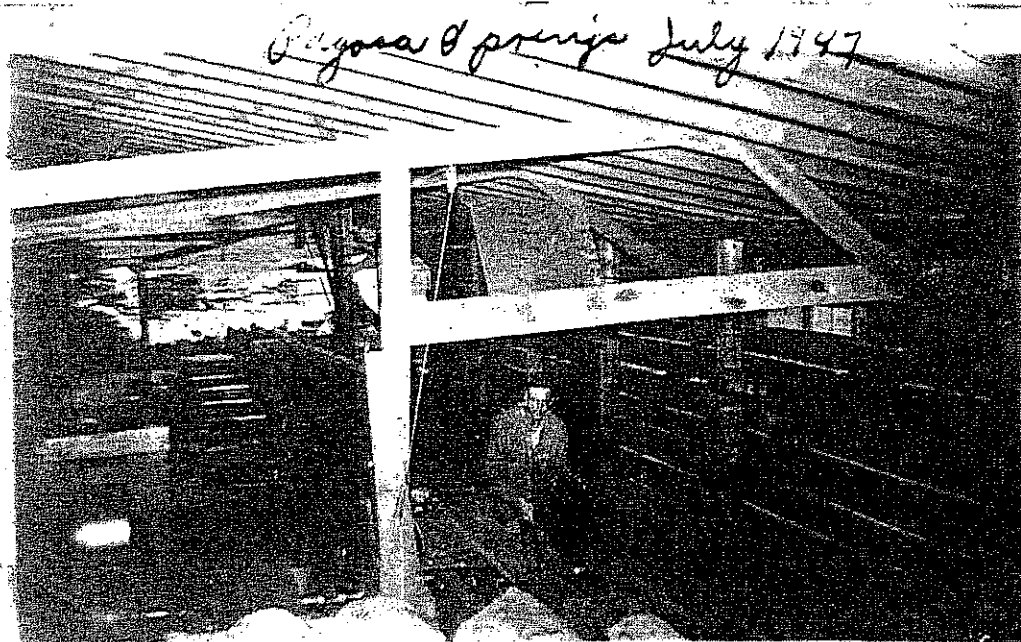
In 1948, I bought a new Dodge truck and got a contract hauling lumber from the mill at Pagosa to the yard in Monte. I bought a bigger truck than they had been using, and it worked out pretty well, or at least for awhile. By late Nov. I had probably about 20,000 miles on the truck when I had a little problem. I left home probably about four in the morning to pick up a load of lumber. It was really cold that morning, well below zero. The heater didn't work that well going down the west side of the pass. When I got down off the pass and the engine warmed back up and I got warm, I must have fallen asleep. I woke up just in time to see the guard rail going under my front bumper. I don't remember much after that, but it must have been a wild ride. I came to laying in a fence with the truck side of me, and I still remember the front axle laying side of the truck. Some people from out of state picked me up and took me into the clinic in Pagosa where I got patched up. I knew the patrol and he told me that to be so unlucky, I was the luckiest one he had seen in awhile. He told me that there were two big pine trees just ten feet apart and I had made it thru between them without touching either one. He told me later that he wished they would have checked me for carbon monoxide poison. Again no fresh air heater and the truck did have an exhaust leak.

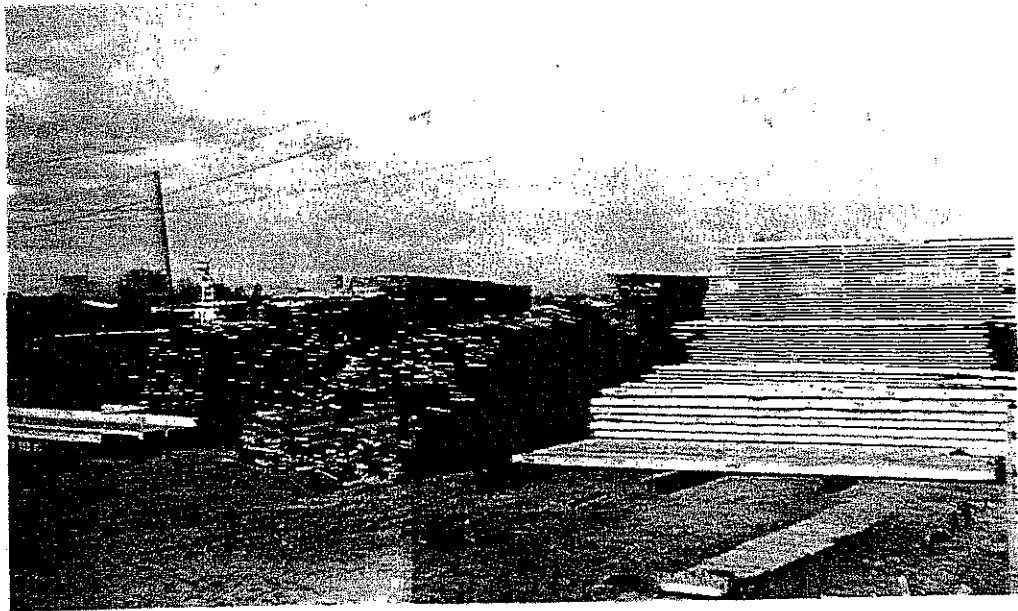
*Mill at Pagosa Springs
July 1947*



Above - Looking toward the Carlin Ranch from the mill at Pagosa after it was moved to its new location in 1947.

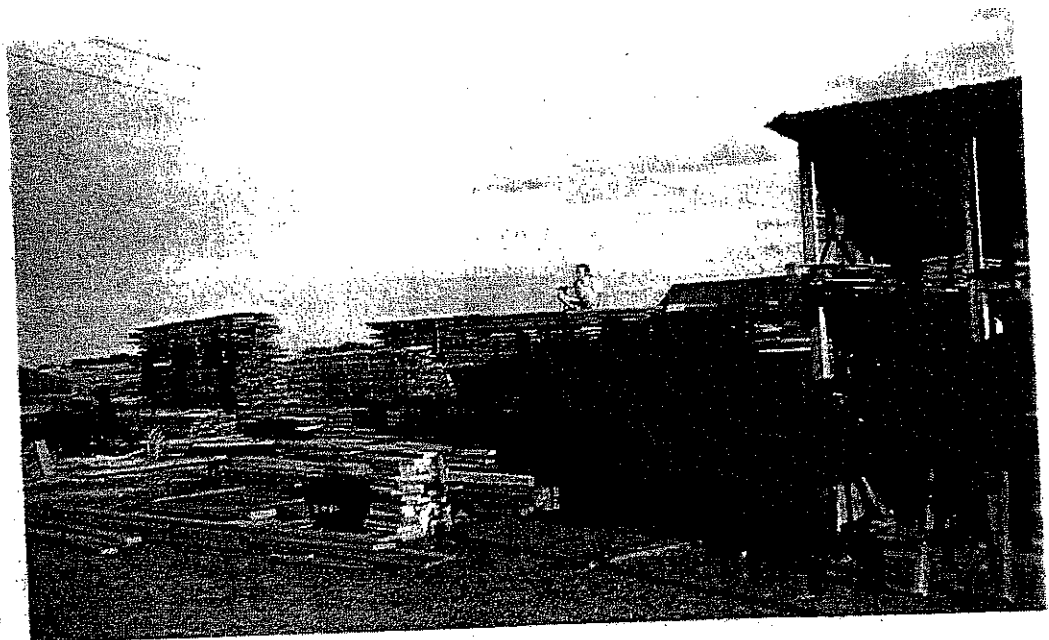
Below - Inside the mill in 1947. Francis was filing the saw.



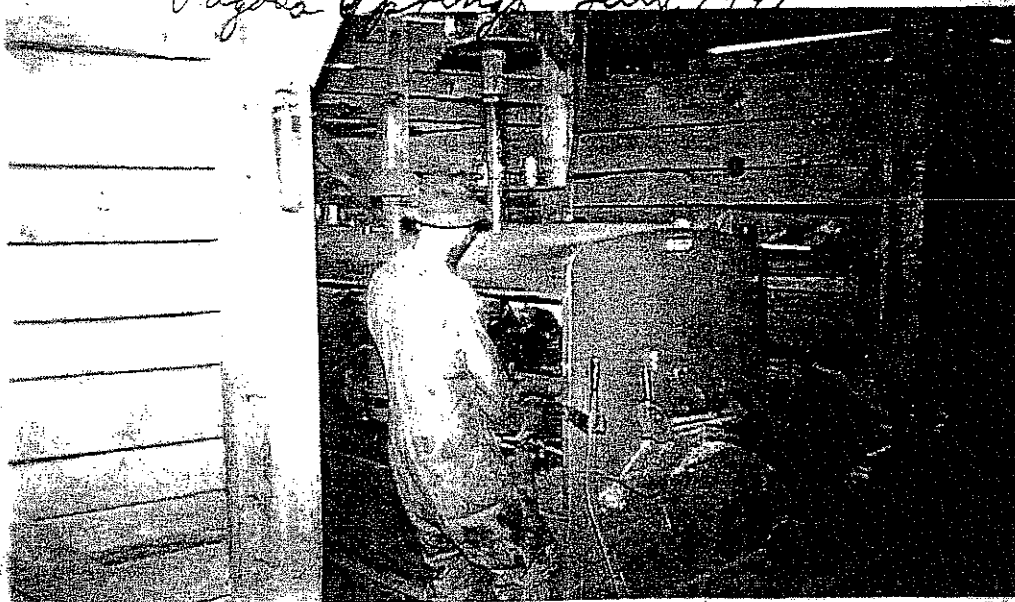


Above - Pile of lumber that the contract hauler had left sometime during the night. During the summer of 1947 the yard at Monte was pretty well covered up with lumber from the Pagosa mill.

Below - Phyllis on top of one of the lumber piles that were stacked and left to dry.



Pagosa Springs July 1949



Above - Francis starting the Diesel engine in the mill at Pagosa.

Below - The same engine being moved into the mill at Stunner to finish cutting the logs that were left there from before.



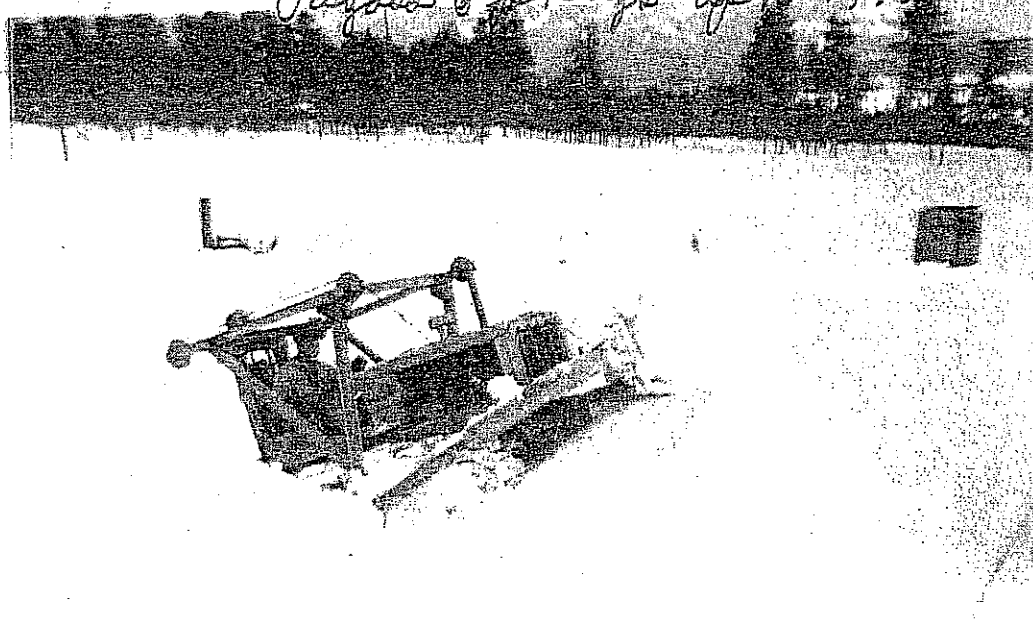


Above - Some of the logs still decked at the Stunner mill (1947)

Below - A load of lumber ready to leave the Stunner mill in 1947. Note-the outhouse to the left is the one that the pack rat shared the contents with Dad during the war.

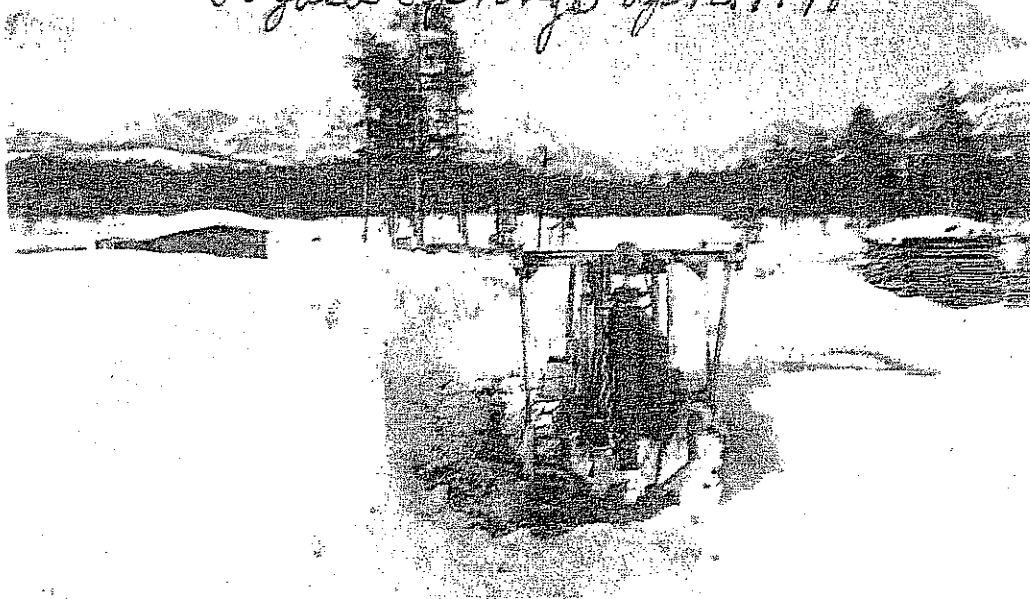


Pagosa Springs April 1948



Above and below - Cleaning up around the mill at Pagosa getting ready to log across one of the meadows at the Carlin ranch. In the top photo in the background is the boiler and engine used to run the mill before the Diesel engine was used.

Pagosa Springs April 1948



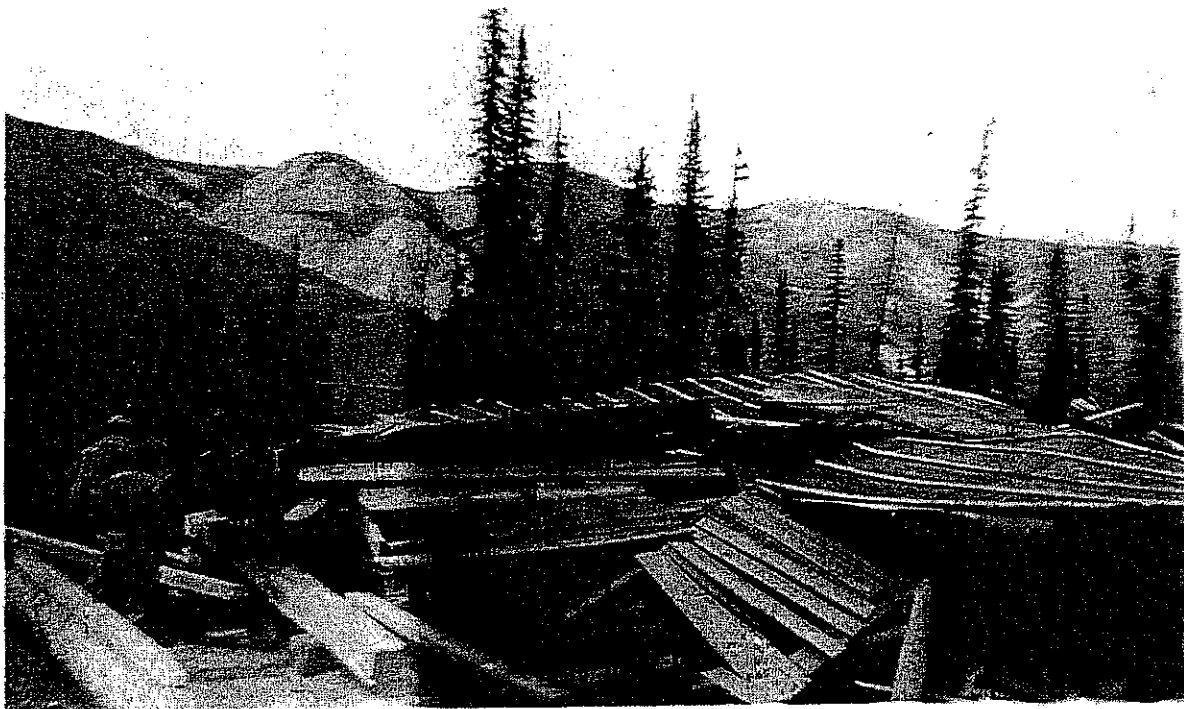
Pagosa Springs April 1948



Above - Hauling logs across the meadow at the Carlin Ranch, spring of 1948

Below - Truck I wrecked in Nov. of 1948





Above - Dad, Francis and Lucy looking over the damage from the winter snow. (Spring 1948) They were never able to build a building over the mill that would stand the winters at the Stunner site. As far as I can remember this mill never operated again.

Below - The same mill site as it was in 1995



PART FIVE - continued

After the war sometime, I am not sure of the date, Dad aquired another team of horses. One of them was named Maggie, and I do not remember the other one's name. They were a beautiful team and worked well in the timber. Dad was hauling them from the hills just above Cat Creek when Maggie's mate lost its balance an fell thru the rack on to the ground and broke its neck. It just about did Dad in, to lose a horse that way. They replaced it with a horse named Mark. He and Maggie would last the rest of the time the mills were around and beyond. They were a great team.

The horses that were from the San Luis Valley liked potatos. Dad would get culls and chop them up and sometimes mix them with grain. The horses thought that was a real treat. He used to take potatos over to Pagosa and the horses over there would not eat potatos no matter how you would feed them to them.

The first year Francis and Lucy were married, Maggie and Mark were at the mill in Pagosa. One day Lucy looked out the cabin door and Maggie was on the porch. It almost scared Lucy out of her wits. All Maggie wanted was some potatos.

The timber at Carlins was about gone and the mill at Pagosa was at the Palisade Lakes above the Carlin Ranch and was also just west of town in Pagosa where Francis had bought Property. Dad had very little to do with the Pagosa operation if anything and concentrated on the Valley side of the operation. He had a small portable mill that he used various places. He finally built a heavy frame for it and built a building over the engine and mill part. He could them simply load it on a truck and move it to another location. It was powered by a White engine from a surplus Half Track. He finally had something built by White, and it worked out pretty well.

This little mill was on some of the property near the PMB Mine in 1949. Dad and I were both there, as well as mother. We stayed in an old school bus that Dad had picked up. That same year or around that time he hired Claude McKenzie that had worked for him years ago. The main telephone line used to go thru that property, and we cut the timber along it. The wind caught a tree and put it thru the line. The telephone men came out to fix it and one of them was pretty upset, as that cut off teletypes etc from Frontier Airlines. Dad's answer was, OK we'll leave the trees next to the line and this winter when they blow down you can come out and fix the line. That pretty well settled him down, as the winter was a real problem in those days. That was before snowmobiles. They had line cabins in the area, but it was snowshoes to get to the cabins. We never hear much from the phone Co. after that, in fact they came out after that and helped clear the timber along the line.

PART FIVE - continued

Thru the years, Dad had sold cedar posts. I find notes from the time he was living in the Terrace, where he had cut posts and sold them.

He cut posts around the Arboles area for a number of years. I cannot put a date on when he started there, but do know that he bought or cut posts from that area during the war years. I remember one year he also hauled pitch stumps out of the Pagosa area. They were bought by people in the valley with fireplaces.

I remember one time Dad was making a deal to get posts from a place near Arboles that was owned by an old batchler. The area around there is pretty dry, and Dad had neglected to take any water with him that day. As they were looking around, Dad asked the old fellow if he had any drinking water. He said that the water was not fit to drink, but he had some goats milk that was cool. Now Dad was not a big fan of goats milk, but thought he would give it a try. He was about half way thru, when the old fellow said, You might be a little careful and watch for hairs. My strainer has a hole in it. Dad said that was it for the goats milk, he had all he wanted.

After Dad made his little mill portable, and again I cannot be sure of the date, but it must have been the spring of 1950, he moved the mill to the Arboles area. He had been thinking for several years that he could sell some squared cedar corner posts. I believe that Claude McKenzie went with him. He cut quite a bunch of them and they did sell pretty well. I remember Mother was over there with him, and they stayed in the little portable cabin that Dad had built. Dad saved all the lumber, or actually it was rough edge lumber, and thought it would be good red cedar lumber. It turned out that it was not very good lumber, and most of it was never used for lumber.

The area around Arboles was of interest to Dad for other reasons as well as for posts. He had always had a great interest in old Indian Ruins, and that area had a lot for him to look into. At various times he would find old timbers from a ruin and cut it and study the tree rings. This was something else that had always interested him. He always said that he could tell a lot about the times from tree rings. I remember a big tree that was along the road below Jasper that had a big blaze that Dad always wanted to cut a piece out of and study. After his heart attack, we were up there, and the Forest Service had cut that tree. Dad and I and Mavis were together and Dad decided that we could load the piece in the pickup. April was along, and she was just a little girl. She stayed in the pickup while we loaded the log. We finally got loaded, and found that April had taken the key and we never did find it. We had to hot wire the pickup, and by that time Dad was pretty tired. We made it home with no problems, but I don't know if he ever did get to study the tree rings on that log.

PART FIVE - continued

In 1950 Dad made a deal with Claude McKenzie to operate his mill for him. They set it on one of the claims above the PMB mine that had quite a bit of good timber on it, It was easy to log and would hold the little mill for a season. It would prove out to be a very sucessful season.

Also by 1950, Dad began looking at what could be done with the 800 acres of timber on top of Cornwall Mtn. First of all a road would have to be built and that would be a major problem. He had his old friend Darley give him his views on the matter. Darley told him that he could lay out a road that was not terrible steep by coming in from below somewhere to the east. I have never known just what route he suggested taking. As it turned out it didn't matter, because Dad had his own version of how the road would be routed. He looked at the Mtn. from Jasper, and told Darley "I want the road to go right up that side of the Mtn" Darley told him that he could lay out a road there but it would be mighty steep. Dad said that was where he wanted it because that was the shortest way, and Darley agreed.

To build such a road was going to be pretty expensive and who could build such a road. First things first, it had to be laid out and right of ways had to be acquired. It had to go thru private property and forest service land both. The private land belonged to the old Marion Mining Co. that had long since closed, although some equip. etc. was still on the property. The road was laid out and right of ways were done and recorded. Now the problem of how to pay for the project.

In 1950 Francis bought a new Cat D6 to replace the old faithful Twenty Two. One of the first jobs for it was to build a short road for Dad where Claude was sawing. This was to be for the next years operation. I had by this time gone to work for Ralph but went up to build the road. It was in Nov, and had been a very open fall. We took the Cat up to Stunner and unloaded it and I took it on up to the mill doing a little road work along the way. I didn't get all the way to the mill the first day so walked on up and stayed all night with Dad. The next morning we woke up to close to 2 feet of snow. I had went up not quite prepared for that kind of weather. The road building was dropped and I spent the next few days keeping the road open so they could get the lumber out and the mill moved. We moved down to just above Jasper where Dad wanted to build a road up to some claims that he had that had a lot of good Douglas Fir timber on them. Darley came out to lay out the road and started up thru the timber, and everything was going fine. Dad looked at the shortest way and wanted the road there. Darley said we couldn't build it there, but started to lay it out. Sure enough I worked for a day and couldn't get thru the rocks. Darley asked if Dad would like to go his way now, and Dad agreed.

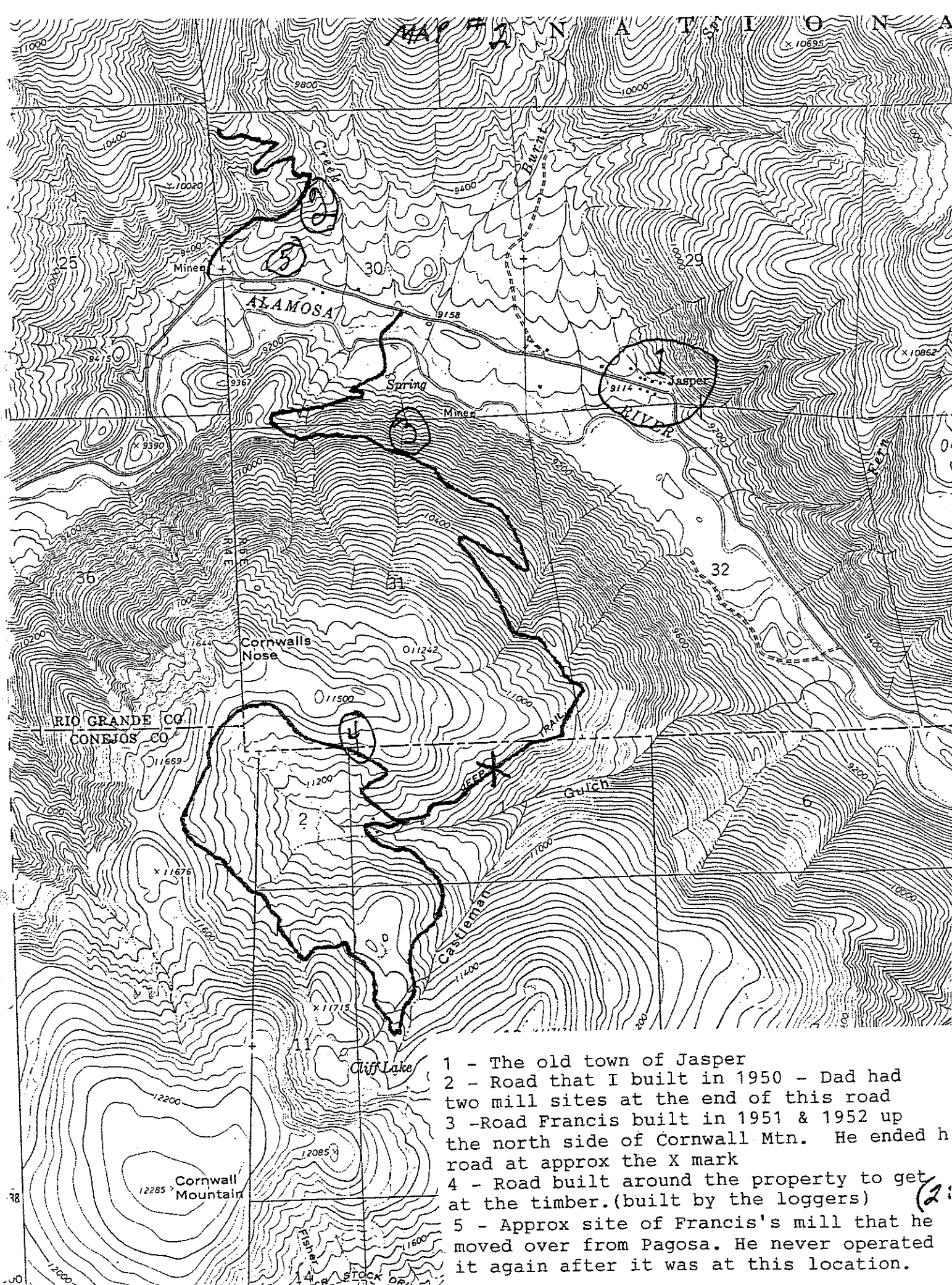
PART FIVE - continued

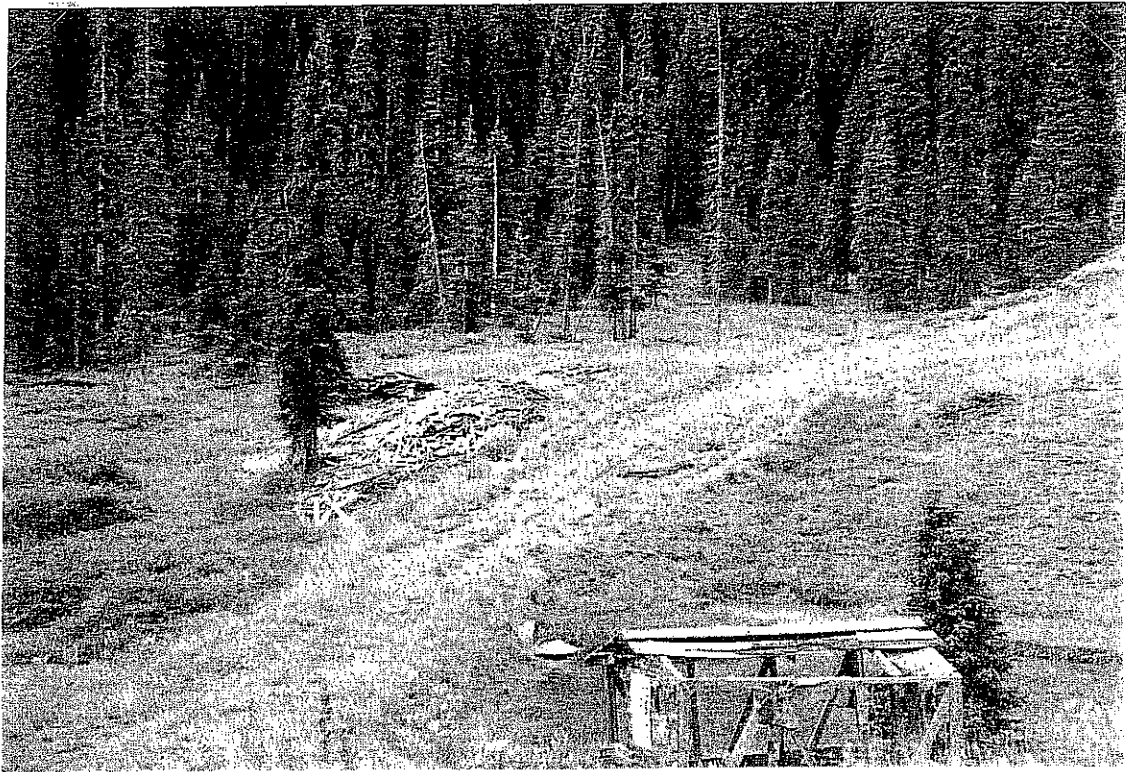
I built probably two miles of road and it was a whole new experience for me. I had built some road, but not like this one, as it had switchbacks and other things that I had never built before, but with the nice new Cat and a little common sense we made it. I was over the road a couple of years ago and it is still in pretty good shape.

Claude ran the little mill on two different sites for two years and it turned out to be a pretty good operation. In the fall of 1952 Claude moved to Farmington N.M. and again Dad had no mill operator.

Francis moved his mill to Jasper in 1951, or at least that is the year as I remember it. I asked Francis, and he is like me and can't keep his years straight. He tried to get enough logs from the various properties that Dad had, but his mill took more logs than they could get. Most of the property had timber, but did not have enough to satisfy the hunger his mill had for logs. During this time he had Maggie & Mark and he used them so many different places that all you had to do was open the tailgate of his pickup, and Maggie would climb in. Those two horses were the greatest pets anywhere.

During this period of time there was a big mill operating in the town of Antonito, which was owned by a man by the name of Leon Perry. I believe that he was from S. Carolina, at least that is what sticks in my mind. Dad had been in contact with him and he wanted to look at the timber on Cornwall. Somehow I got elected to take them in one Sunday. The only way in was over the top from Kerr Lake. I had never been there, but was assured that it would be no problem. They rented some horses from Sky-line Lodge in Platora and we proceeded. Now be assured that I am no cowboy or have I ever wanted to be. I soon found out that the ones I was taking along were not cowboys either. I also found that dude ranch horses were not the greatest horses either. They had their own speed and that was slow. Anyway we proceeded and went where we had been told, up over timber line and down into the property. To my great surprise we came out at the right place. Perry had gone ahead of us as he was anxious to look at the timber. I kept noticing that it looked as though he was leaning over some what and it seemed that he was getting worse. All of a sudden the saddle slipped and he was 90 degrees to the horse. We all got a good laugh, but for some reason he never saw the humor in it. He was at a loss as he had no idea how to tighten the saddle back up. As I said I am not a cowboy, but I could figure that much out. No more problem after that. He liked what he saw of the timber, and we made our way back out. I said that dude ranch horses only had one speed. That was true until they headed home and then you couldn't hold them back. They knew where they were going and they were in a hurry to get there.





Above - The remains of the 1950 Mill site above the Pass Me By Mine. (taken in 1995)

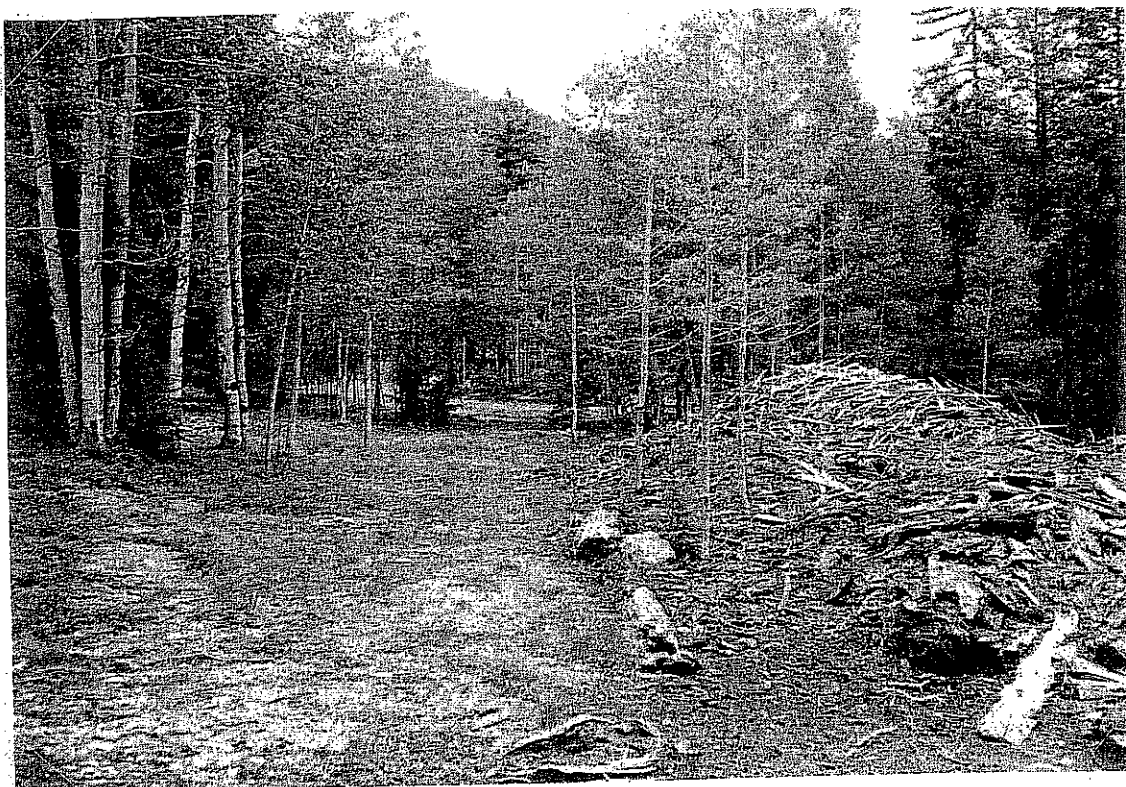
Below - Part of the road I built in 1950 north of Jasper. (see map #2)





Above - Another view of the road built in 1950.
(taken in 1995)

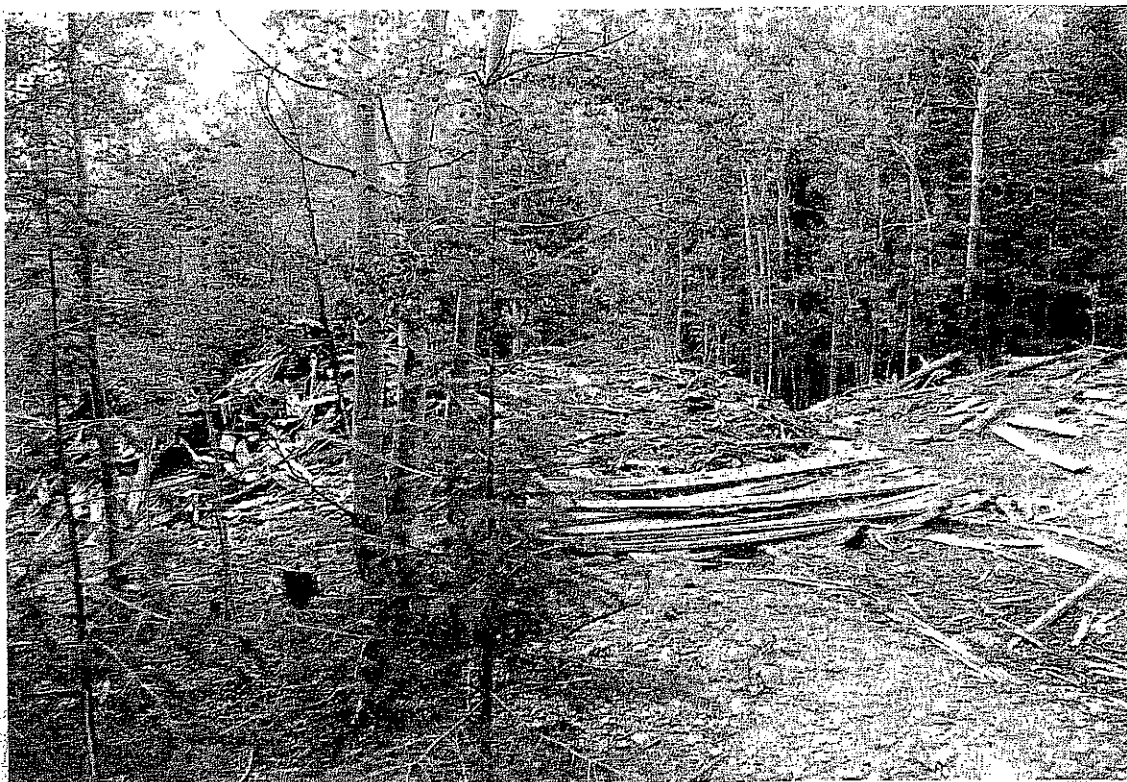
Below - The remains of the first mill site north
of Jasper. Mill was at this site the winter of
1950 and most of 1951. (taken in 1995)





Above - Taken in the winter of 1952 at the upper mill site north of Jasper. They had finished cutting the timber at this site and left the mill there for the winter.

Below - the same location taken in 1995.



PART SIX - The beginning of the end of the lumber business

As things progressed we can see that the end was coming for the lumber business as far as Bockhaus family was concerned.

In Nov. 1951, Dad signed an agreement with Leon Perry for the sale of the timber on Cornwall Mtn. He was to pay \$1500.00 down and another \$1000.00 upon completion of 1/2 of the road. By the time the road had reached the first mill site, he would put up a total of \$5000.00. This assured Dad that he would have at least some of the money to build the road.

Francis agreed to build the road. He was probably the only one that could build the road at a cost they could afford. He started the road late in the summer of 1951, and completed the job in 1952. It was a major project for one man with only a Cat for equipment. The road was 4 miles of 18% grade and built on a steep north hillside, with one section of difficult rocky conditions. As I look back, I doubt if Dad could have ever found anyone that could have done the job as well and with the min. amount of equip.

In Oct. of 1952 the contract between Dad and Perry was cancelled. They could not reach a mutual agreement over something, but at this point, I am not sure what it was. Dad had until July 1953 to complete paying Perry back most of the money. In Oct. there was an agreement signed for the sale of the timber to Ted Moen, who was logging for the mill at South Fork, Orville Jackson, who owned Jackson Lumber in South Fork. The agreement between Dad and Perry was released the same month. In Feb. of 1953, the contract was assigned to Earl Pearcy, who would be the one to finally log Cornwall Mtn.

Shortly after the road was finished, I went with Bill Poley, who was the forest ranger at that time, and his remark was, "I never did believe that a road would be built up here, but if it was, it would be built by a hard headed Swede, or a bull headed Dutch man."

After Francis finished at Jasper, he never operated his mill again. It was later sold and moved south of Pagosa, where Francis and I had a partnership logging for his old mill. This lasted thru the winter of 1952 and 1953. It turned out they didn't pay their bills and so we didn't make much out of it. I returned to operate Dad's little mill in the summer of 1953.

Francis operated an earthmoving business in Pagosa, and later had the Gopher Hole Gift shop and Cafe. He later operated a Bee supply business for as long as he was at Pagosa.

PART SIX - The beginning of the end of the lumber business

As things progressed we can see that the end was coming for the lumber business as far as Bockhaus family was concerned.

In Nov. 1951, Dad signed an agreement with Leon Perry for the sale of the timber on Cornwall Mtn. He was to pay \$1500.00 down and another \$1000.00 upon completion of 1/2 of the road. By the time the road had reached the first mill site, he would put up a total of \$5000.00. This assured Dad that he would have at least some of the money to build the road.

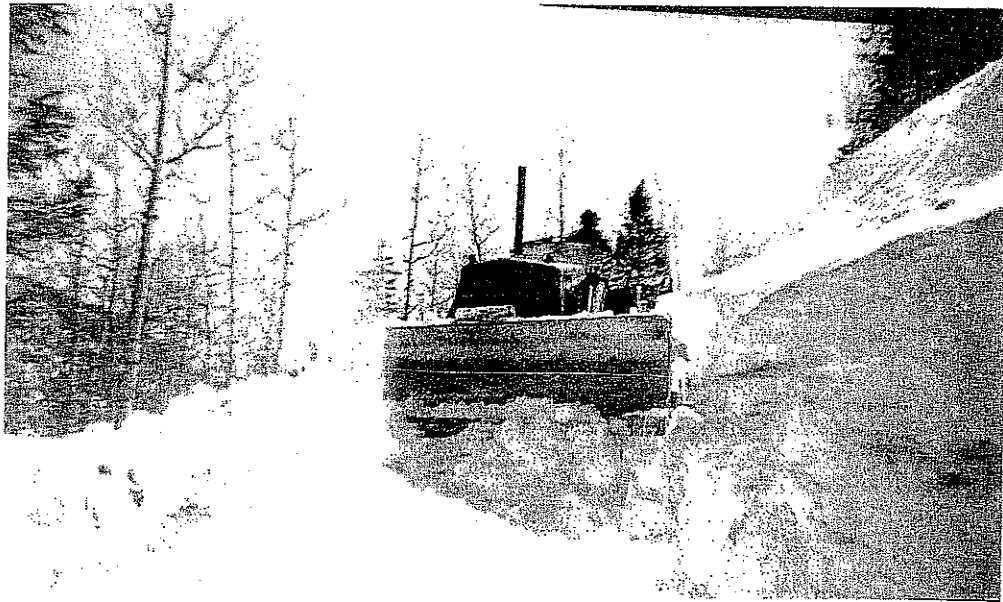
Francis agreed to build the road. He was probably the only one that could build the road at a cost they could afford. He started the road late in the summer of 1951, and completed the job in 1952. It was a major project for one man with only a Cat for equipment. The road was 4 miles of 18% grade and built on a steep north hillside, with one section of difficult rocky conditions. As I look back, I doubt if Dad could have ever found anyone that could have done the job as well and with the min. amount of equip.

In Oct. of 1952 the contract between Dad and Perry was cancelled. They could not reach a mutual agreement over something, but at this point, I am not sure what it was. Dad had until July 1953 to complete paying Perry back most of the money. In Oct. there was an agreement signed for the sale of the timber to Ted Moen, who was logging for the mill at South Fork, Orville Jackson, who owned Jackson Lumber in South Fork. The agreement between Dad and Perry was released the same month. In Feb. of 1953, the contract was assigned to Earl Percy, who would be the one to finally log Cornwall Mtn.

Shortly after the road was finished, I went with Bill Poley, who was the forest ranger at that time, and his remark was, "I never did believe that a road would be built up here, but if it was, it would be built by a hard headed Swede, or a bull headed Dutch man."

After Francis finished at Jasper, he never operated his mill again. It was later sold and moved south of Pagosa, where Francis and I had a partnership logging for his old mill. This lasted thru the winter of 1952 and 1953. It turned out they didn't pay their bills and so we didn't make much out of it. I returned to operate Dad's little mill in the summer of 1953.

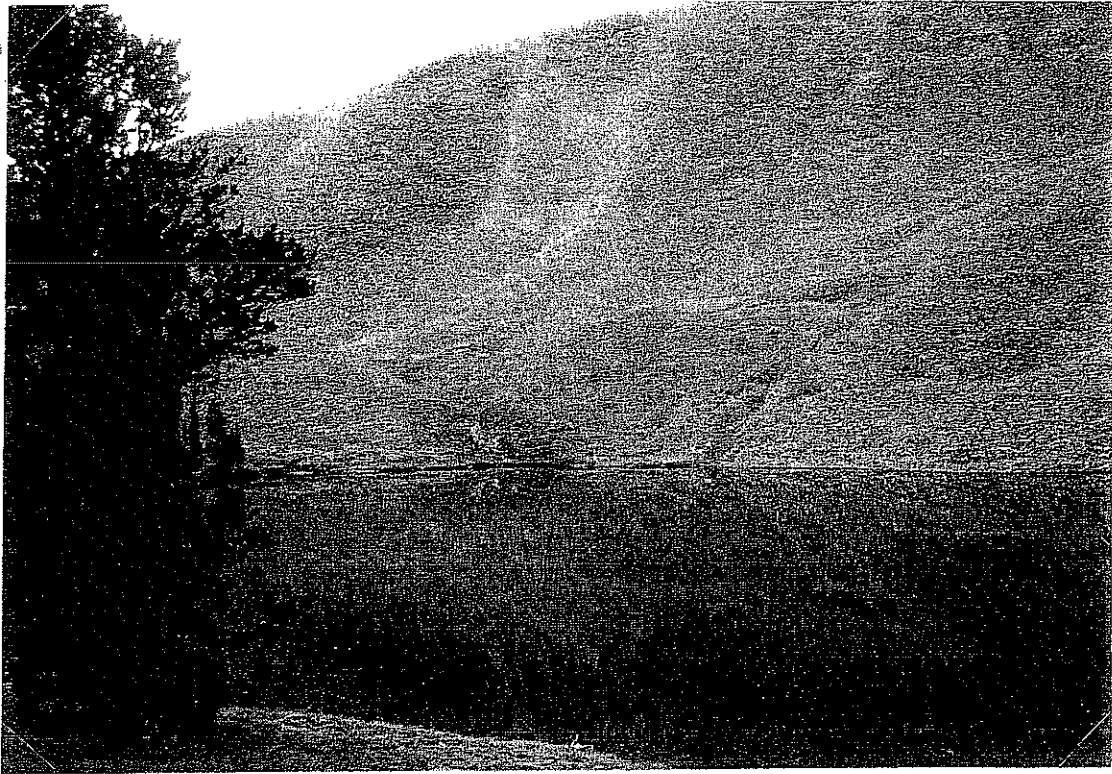
Francis operated an earthmoving business in Pagosa, and later had the Gopher Hole Gift shop and Cafe. He later operated a Bee supply business for as long as he was at Pagosa.



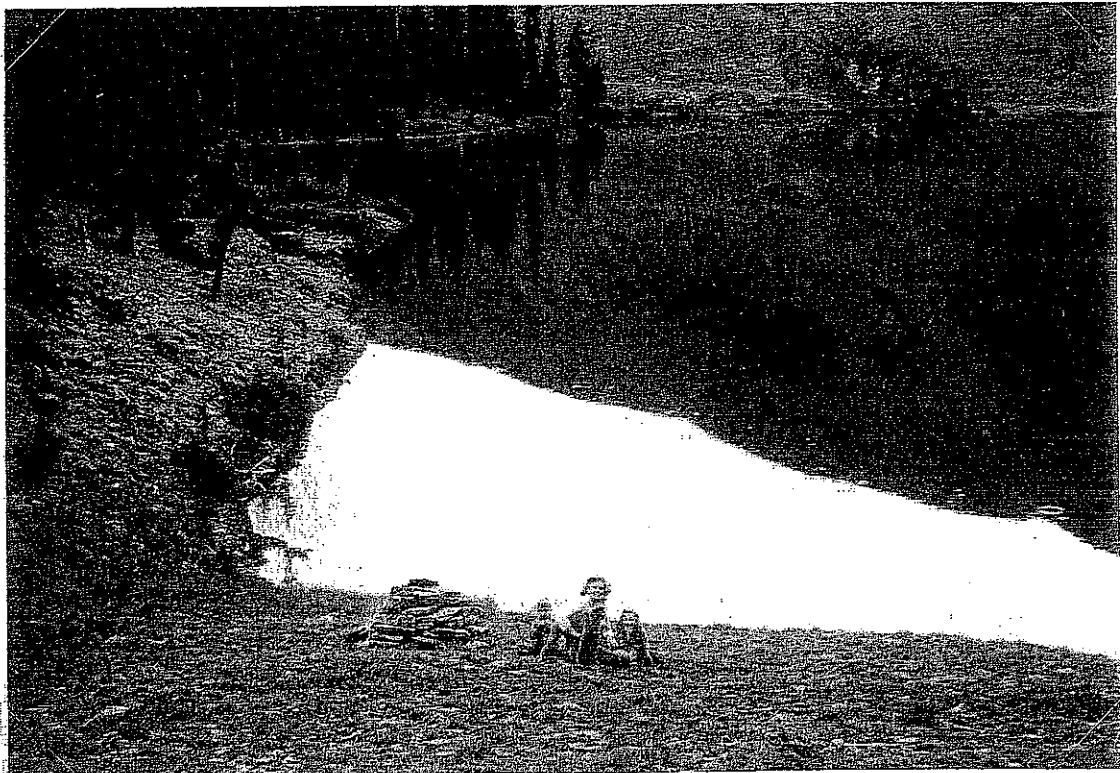
Above - Taken in the spring of 1953. Percy wanted to clean the road so it would dry before he moved into the timber. This photo was taken at the same spot as the previous pictures. I was taking my turn at running the Cat when this picture was taken.

Below - taken farther up the road. Shows the road as it looked before we started plowing the snow off.





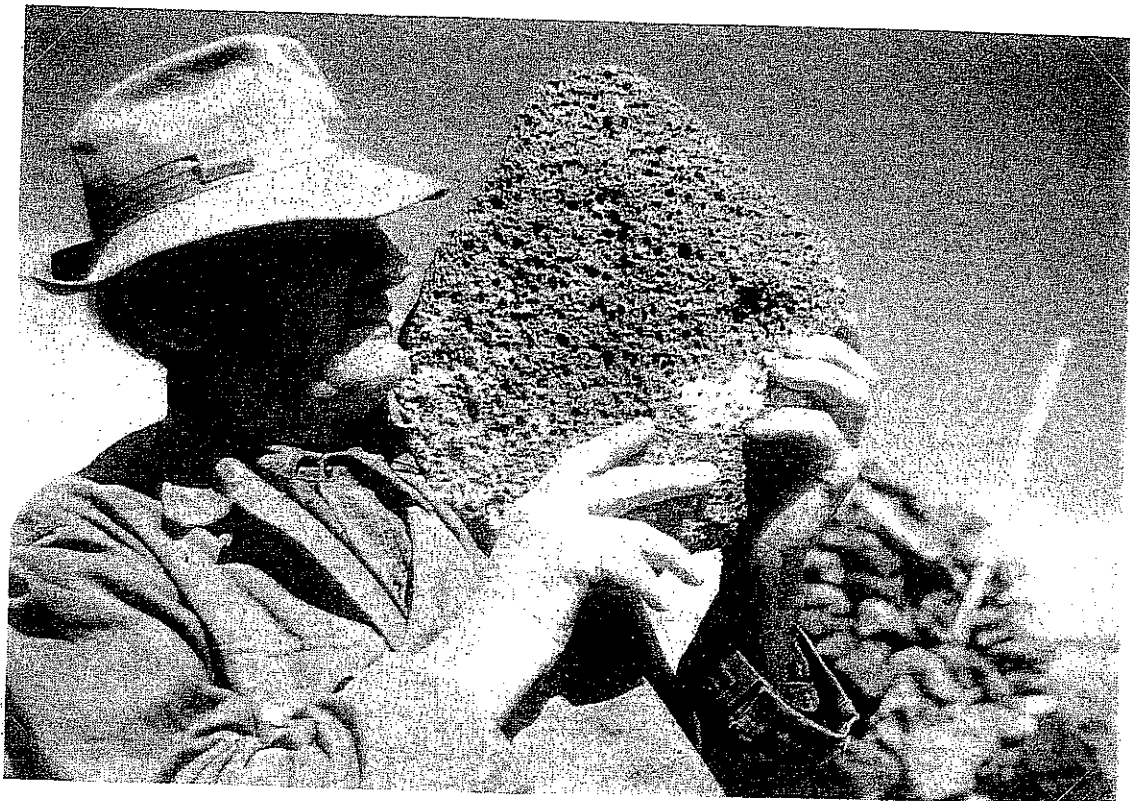
Above and below -Two views of Cliff Lake on top of Cornwall. In the lower picture Alan, Mavis, and April are sitting beside a mound of rocks. This is a witness corner for the actual corner which is in the lake. To the left of the photo is part of the 800 acres, that was owned by Dad.





Above - Dad standing in the timber on top of Cornwall before any timber was cut. There was no road into the property at that time.

Below - Taken above Cliff Lake on one of Dad's trips walking into the Cornwall property. He was interested in the rock formation above the lake.



PART SIX - continued

The summer went pretty well at the little mill. There were very few big problems, just the usual amount of small ones. One of the men there knew how to operate the mill, and I let him saw while I was off tending to some other business. The saw blade we were using was a little touchy, and he let a blister get in. I had to make a trip to N.Mex. to get it fixed. Those large saws are pretty hard to handle if things are not right. When they are not running they are pretty floppy, and you would think for sure they would never cut. After they are up to speed, they stiffen up and are OK. If one gets a hot spot, (blister) they have to be hammered back to the proper tension. There are very few places to have that done. Actually Ralph tried doing some and he got pretty good at it. You have to know what the steel in the saw is going to do. If the one who is doing the hammering knows his stuff, there will not be any marks on the blade when he is done. Today there is probably better ways to do the job, but in the 1950s that was the only way.

Another time I had been to town with a load of lumber and got back to the mill around noon. As I got close to the mill, I saw the little tractor sitting on the hill pouring black smoke. I walked up to see what was going on and was told that they were hooking up a load of logs to it, when the brake released and the tractor rolled down the hill and landed bottom side up. They took the horses and pulled it back on its feet and had just gotten it started when I showed up. One of them said that the oil was running out of the transmission, so he caught it in a bucket and poured it back in. I never did ask how clean the bucket was, I was sure I didn't want to know.

As I stated before, I had Maggie and Mark there. We had built them a nice shelter in some trees, and fed them hay and grain when they were being used, in fact grain even when we weren't using them. When they were not being used they ran loose and they had plenty of good grass to feed on all around the mill. That worked well during the week when we were there, but on the weekends they had their own idea of where they liked to be. Every Monday morning I would have to go down close to Stunner and lead them back. They had a favorite place across the river where they would always go. Never had any trouble getting them, in fact they would usually come to me when they saw me coming. I couldn't see any difference in the grass, but they must have thought it was better. I have to admit, they did have good taste when it came to picking a place to run off to.

• That turned out to be a year when we had early heavy snow, and had a little trouble getting things out. The mill stayed until the next year. When it snowed heavy, Maggie and Mark were no where to be found. I tracked them up higher, and when they saw me they came running. There was about 18" of snow, and they didn't have anything to eat. I have always wondered about horses after that.

PART SIX - continued

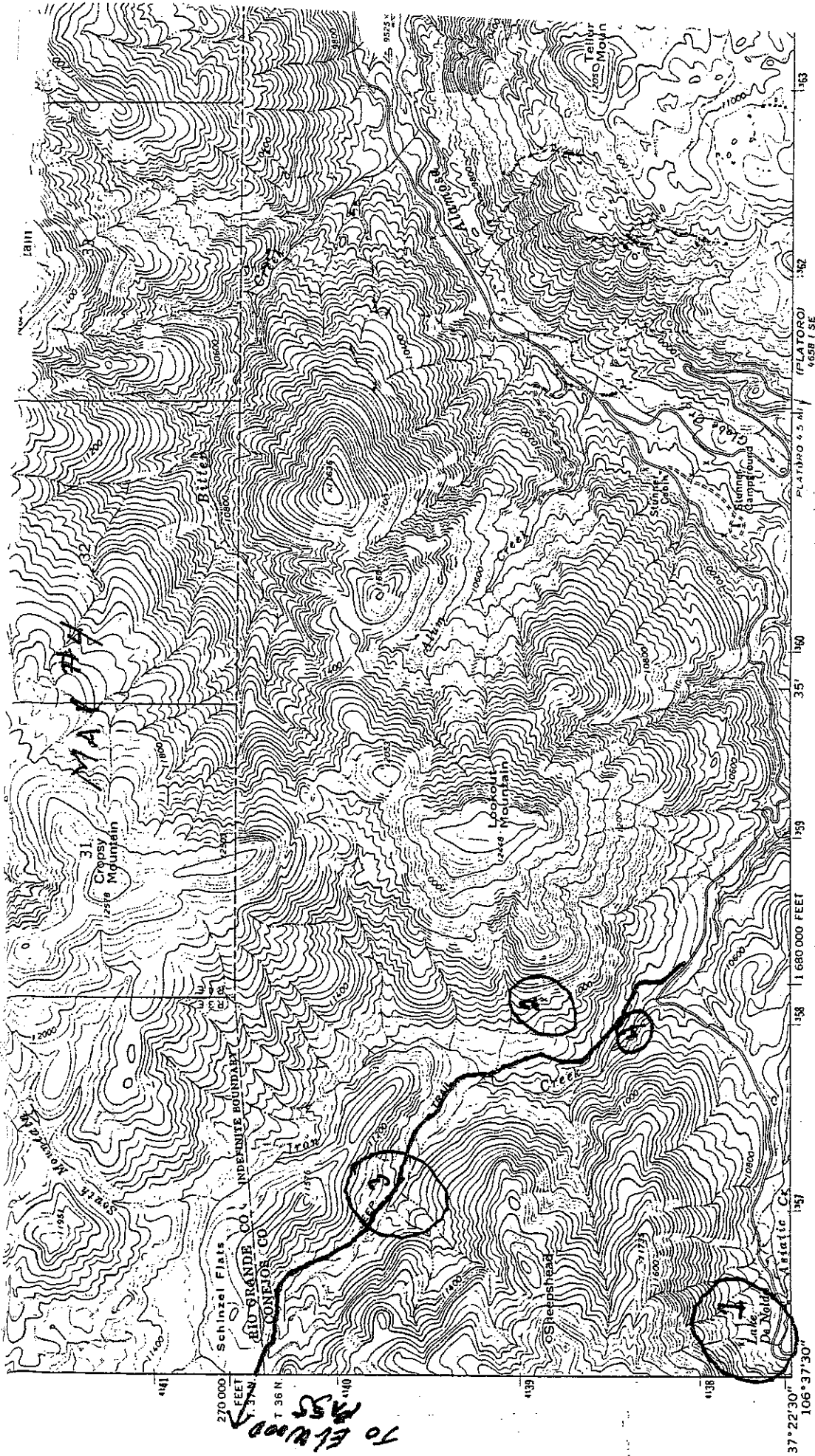
Maggie had another trick that took a little getting used to. I don't know if she did it to anyone else or not, but when I would be putting the harness on her, and was working by her front foot, she would stand on my foot. Try as I might she would not lift it off. In fact she would look at me as much as to say, gotcha. It took a couple of times for me to get wise to her, and if I hadn't been around her for awhile, I would forget, and would have a sore foot again for awhile.

By the time fall came around, we had a pretty good amount of lumber stored at the yard. Thru the fall and into the winter we had pretty good luck selling. Lillard Elliot took a lot of lumber and ran thru the planer he had. In fact during the summer when I found that he was going to plane quite a bit of it, I changed the size I was cutting so it would come out the right size after being planed. When we began to run out of some sizes of lumber, he wanted to get us to cut more.

Dad and I had looked at what to do about operating the mill the next year, and between us we decided not to try. I went to Los Angeles in Feb. of 1954 to attend school, and Dad sold the little mill to Pete Lucero, who lived below the Terrace resevoir, close to where Dad had had a mill after moving off the cliff site. The summer of 1953 turned out to be the last time any mill was operated by Bockhaus Lumber Mills.

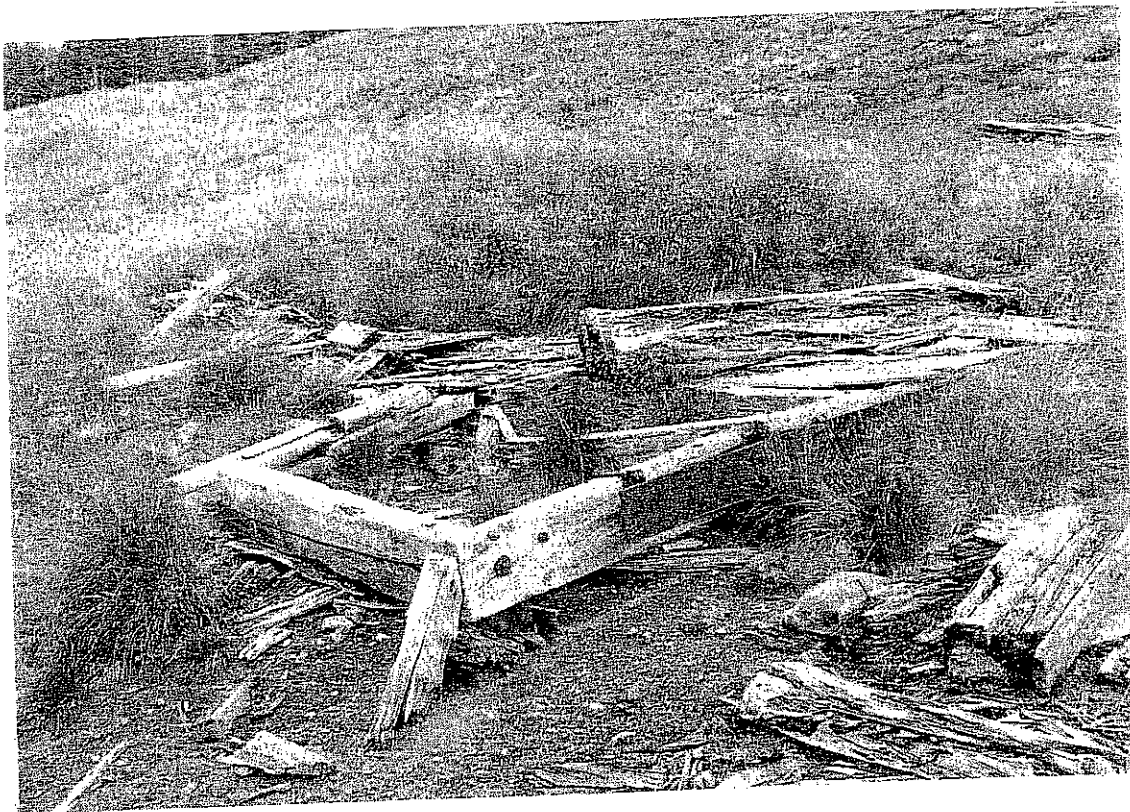
As for Cornwell Mtn. Earl had a fairly large mill on some of Dad's property in 1953. They cut, as near as I can remember, about 100,000 board ft. per week thru the season. Ted Moen and his son did the logging. Earl had a partner by the name of Hoyt Brown. After they shut down that fall he went to Calif. and worked in the oil field near Long Beach, in fact I went down and visited with him while I was going to school out there. I don't remember that he ever returned to the valley and the last I heard he was logging near Norwood, Colo. That was many years ago. After the first season, Earl operated his mills in the woods. I don't remember if he had a mill of his own, or if he contracted, or both. He later had a mill down lower, and did some logging off the 160 acres near Stunner. Moens also had a mill near Stunner at one time and logged from both the Forest Service and some off the lower part of the Stunner Property. Earl did his logging from the Stunner place up high near where it topped over the hill. That area had not been logged at all during the time Dad had his mill on the place.

Dad had started checking timber in N. Mexico some time in the early 1950s. I cannot remember just what year he started that job. It got to be a bigger job each year and had to have help with it. The money was good, but it was a job with a lot of hard work.



- 1 - The Asiatic Mine Property - Lake De Nolda was named by Baker
- 2 - Location of the Pass Me by Mine
- 3 - Location of the 1950 mill site and also the last mill site in 1953. This was the last mill operated by the Bockhaus family.
- 4 - Location of a 1949 mill site.

Note - the road outlined here is part of the road built by the US Army after the Civil War. It went on to Fort Lewis which was located at that time at Pagosa Springs.



Above - All that remains of the last mill set.
This location is just a few hundred feet north
of the 1950 site. (see map #4)
(taken in 1995)

Below - Taken from the mill site, looking up -
the road built after the Civil War by the US
Army, on their way to Ft. Lewis. (Pagosa Spgs.)



PART SIX - continued

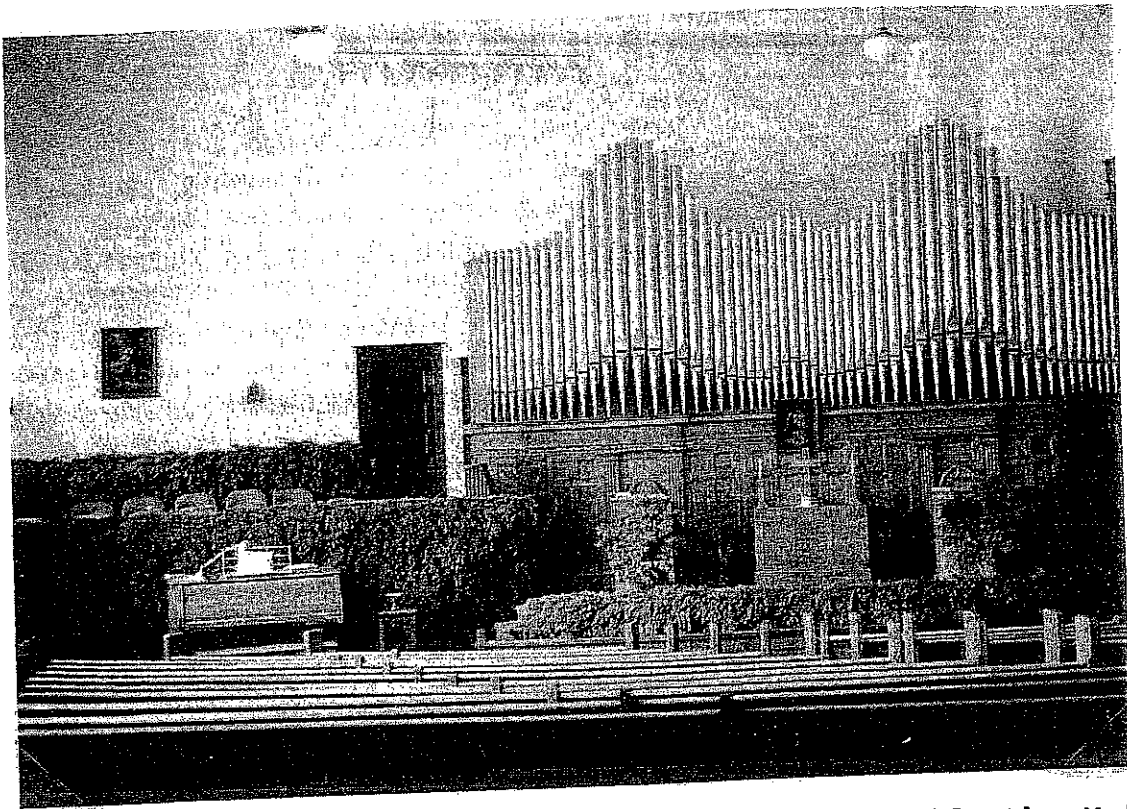
During the later years that Dad checked timber, he had Leroy Roelfs with him. That took a lot of the load off of Dad. As I remember, they had some kind of partnership worked out, I do know that Leroy made more money there than he had made in a good number of years. He and Dad seemed to get along pretty well together.

As Dad was tied to the job in N.Mex. he had to depend on Earl Pearcy to live up to his contract on Cornwall. Earl turned out to be completely honest and never lied about anything going on. The first year things in the woods got pretty hectic, as they had a lot of men logging, and they could have possibly done a better job. After the first year, the mills were in the woods, and things did not operate at such a hectic pace. They probably did a better job from there on.

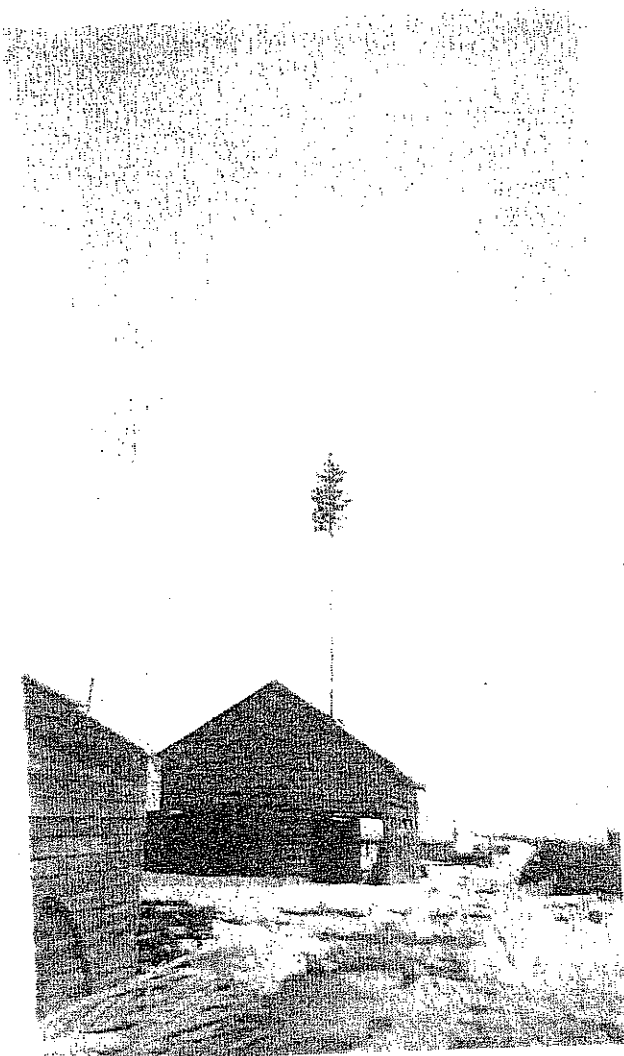
Dad enjoyed his job checking timber, and always felt good about the job. It made him feel that he had done something worth while. After some of the failures of years past, it seemed that at last he was doing something important. As we can see, he had done some pretty worthwhile things in the past even though sometimes they didn't always turn out the way he would have liked for them to.

As dad was well past 65, he drew what Social Security he could during the winter, and didn't try to work at anything else. He continued to cut Christmas trees as he had for many years. That was something that he always enjoyed doing. He always said that others did their Christmas shopping, and he did his Christmas chopping. All thru the years, he furnished the churches in town with trees free of charge. It didn't matter what church it was, all they had to do was tell him how many and what size they would like, and he would get them. He felt that was his gift to the churches at Christmas. He always decorated the Methodist Church in Monte with trees and boughs. It always turned out very well.

Dad did best with trees when the snow was heavy in the mountains. The years that there was very little snow, more people went out and cut their own. I remember one year there was such deep snow that he didn't know if he was going to get out to cut trees or not. Ralph had turned up with an old truck that had been used on the ore haul from Summitville. He built a plow on the front of it, and plowed the roads to the tree cutting area. It saved the season for Dad that year. As I think back, I don't know why Ralph had that truck. It was a Relay brand. As far as I know, they were only built for a few years in the late 1920s, and into the early 1930s. I ran across that information at a truck museum in Iowa, and they had information on the Relay trucks. Ralph was always turning up with odd vehicles. That is how I wound up with my 1918 Cadillac. He had bought it and I bought it from him. In 1947, when they took the equipment from the mine at Jasper, there was a 1929 model A truck stored there, and Ralph bought it. It had been used to haul wood to the boilers. It still had the original tires, and only 5000 miles. Of course they were hard miles, and the truck was well used up.



Above - Taken inside the Methodist after Dad had decorated it for Christmas. Probably in 1950 or 51



Left - Dad's Christmas tree. It was lighted and could be seen for miles at night. 1948

PART SIX - continued

Dad continued checking timber thru the 1956 season. In 1955, there had been a bad fire thru some of the timber area, and as I remember Dad was involved in the damage settlement with the owners and the mills. I do not remember if there was a lawsuit or not. I do remember going down there with Dad and taking some pictures of the area. I do remember that it was a pretty sad sight, as it is with most forest fires.

Dad suffered a major heart attack in the spring of 1957. He was not working at the time. The doctors gave him very little hope of pulling thru, but after some time in the hospital, he was able to return home. He had other stays in the hospital, but kept going although he never regained his health. I have been trying to remember, but I believe Leroy Roelfs went back to check timber for awhile after that. Anyway that was the end of Dad's working days. Within a couple of years, he was able to get back to the mountains but only for a short time. I will go into that when I tell of the disposition of the property. Dad wanted to go to Denver and talk with a Dr. who had been in Monte years before and so as I was living in Denver, we made an appointment with him. Dad just wasn't sure the doctors in Monte were doing all they could for him. After a visit with the Dr. in Denver, he felt they were. He was assured after an exam that he was probably in pretty good hands.

Mavis and I were married the summer of 1957, and we were in Monte pretty often, sometimes as often as every couple of weeks, so we kept pretty close tabs on how Dad got along. Mother did just as she had always done, and made the best of things. She did a fine job of looking after Dad. I am sure she had a lot to do with him lasting several years more.

In the winter of 1960-61, Dad thought that maybe a change to a lower elevation might do him some good. He had the family in Kansas rent them a house in Halstead, and Dad and Mother spent the winter there. Sometimes, I wonder if maybe he might have been a little homesick for the rest of the family as well as wanting a change for the winter. As I remember, they flew back and Mavis and I took the car back for them. I do remember that Mother was past 75 when she took her first plane ride. She seemed to adapt to flying pretty well, as she flew several times after that. While in Kansas, Dad had another bad spell, and it looked as though he would not pull thru that one. Ralph was back there, and had started making plans for him to be shipped back home for the funeral. Within a few days after that he started getting better, and in the spring they flew to Denver, and we took them home for the summer. Actually he had a pretty good few months during the summer.

One thing that I failed to mention, was that while they were in Halstead, they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. It was pretty nice that they could do that where they were married so many years before.

PART SIX - continued

By the fall of 1961, Dad was not doing well at all. He was not getting enough blood flow to the brain, and his thinking was at times pretty well confused. Mother finally could not handle him and he was moved to Center, to a rest home. It was actually in a private residence that had been made into a rest home. It was operated by Mrs. Hagen. He was not there very long, but do not remember just how long. He was not able to recognize people at times, and other times was very good. I had made one of our many trips to the valley one time, and I went to see him. He was very alert, and we had a very good visit. We discussed many things, and he talked about dying. He assured me that he was not ready to die, but if that was what was in store for him he would have to accept it. I left rather depressed, but happy that he was alert and that we had such a good visit. It was only about a week later that he passed away, and was buried in the Monte Vista Cemetary. He was buried near trees that he no doubt planted many years before.

Mother went to Pagosa, and spent a little time with Francis & Lucy, and spent Christmas with us in Denver. I have been trying to remember, but believe that she went to Halstead and stayed with her sister for awhile. My mind seems to fail me at times and I cannot remember simple things.

In 1962, we moved to Monte and bought the house from Mother. She lived in an apartment in the back of Fern Devine's house on Washington St. for sometime. She later moved to an apartment on Adams St. that suited her much better. She seemed very happy in the second place. She had given up driving sometime before. She was never the worlds greatest driver, and as she got older she just couldn't seem to handle driving. She was at our place, and as she pulled ou of the parking place, she ran into a tree. She decided that was the time for her to give up driving. She learned to drive late in her life and never did completly get the hang of it.

Mother always liked to go to the mountains, just to get out, and she liked to go places where they had lived and worked. Some time aroud 1965, we decided to go to the old Pass Me By mine. We had a camper, and took it. Just before you get to the mine there is a very steep hill, and while going up it we broke an axle in the old truck I had. I looked things over, and decided that I could let it roll down into a wide spot and if I could roll out of that spot, we could roll all the way back to Stunner. We tried it and sure enough we made it all the way back to Stunner. I caught a ride back to town to get the car, and towed the pickup home. I caught all kinds of guff about getting my mother in such a spot. She just passed it off and said that she kind of enjoyed the day. It rained while they waited in the camper, and she thought that was pretty nice.

PART SIX - continued

While Mother was living in the second apartment, it was handy for April and Alan to go there after going to a movie. We would leave April there once in awhile when we were gone. We tried to leave Alan, but Mother couldn't keep track of him. She enjoyed April, because she would do homework or just sit and read. It gave mother much needed company, if it wasn't for to long at a time.

Mother would never admit to liking dogs, but in her apartment she always kept little tidbits for our dog Mopsy. Mopsy would run into the apartment and sit and look at Mother. She would then run to the refig. and if Mother didn't come out, she would go back and bark at her. Mother didn't fool anyone, she liked dogs more than she ever admitted.

Alan and his cousin Larry used to be around town, and they would stop by Mother's, and have ice cream. Alan always said that they invented ice cream with M&Ms at mother's place. He still talks about that now.

Mother finally decided that it was time for her to go to a nursing home. She got along pretty well at first, although it must have been pretty hard for her to adapt. I believe that it was in 1976 that she fell and broke her hip. She went to Durango and had a hip replacement. She was never the same after that. They tried to get her to walk, but she just wouldn't, and it was decided not to push it. For awhile after the hip replacement, she was completely out of it. She didn't know where she was or what was going on. I thought that was it and one day she just snapped out of it. Everything was clear and back to normal. As time went on, she kind of drifted out of reality. I always thought that it was due to the fact that she could no longer see good enough to read or watch TV, and she did not hear very well. I think her brain just shut down from lack of use. She lived to see her 100th birthday but am not sure she completely knew what was going on. I have always felt that she probably lived longer than she really wanted to. She died 4 months short of her 101st birthday.

Two things sum up Mother, I believe. One was a statment of Dad's one day as he watched her walk away from the car where we were sitting. He said "if there was ever an angel on earth, she is it" The other one was said by Lillard Elliot at her burial. He said, "They are buring the finest woman I have ever known"

Dad died October 27, 1961
Mother died May 22,, 1985



Dad and Mother's final resting place in the Monte Vista Cemetery. Dad probably planted most of the trees around where they are buried.



Above - Dad, Mother and Mrs. Critchett on top of Wolf Creek Pass, probably in 1951. Rev. Critchett was pastor of the Methodist Church at that time.(he took the picture)

Below- Mother with April and Alan at our place east of Denver around the 1st of Jan. 1962.



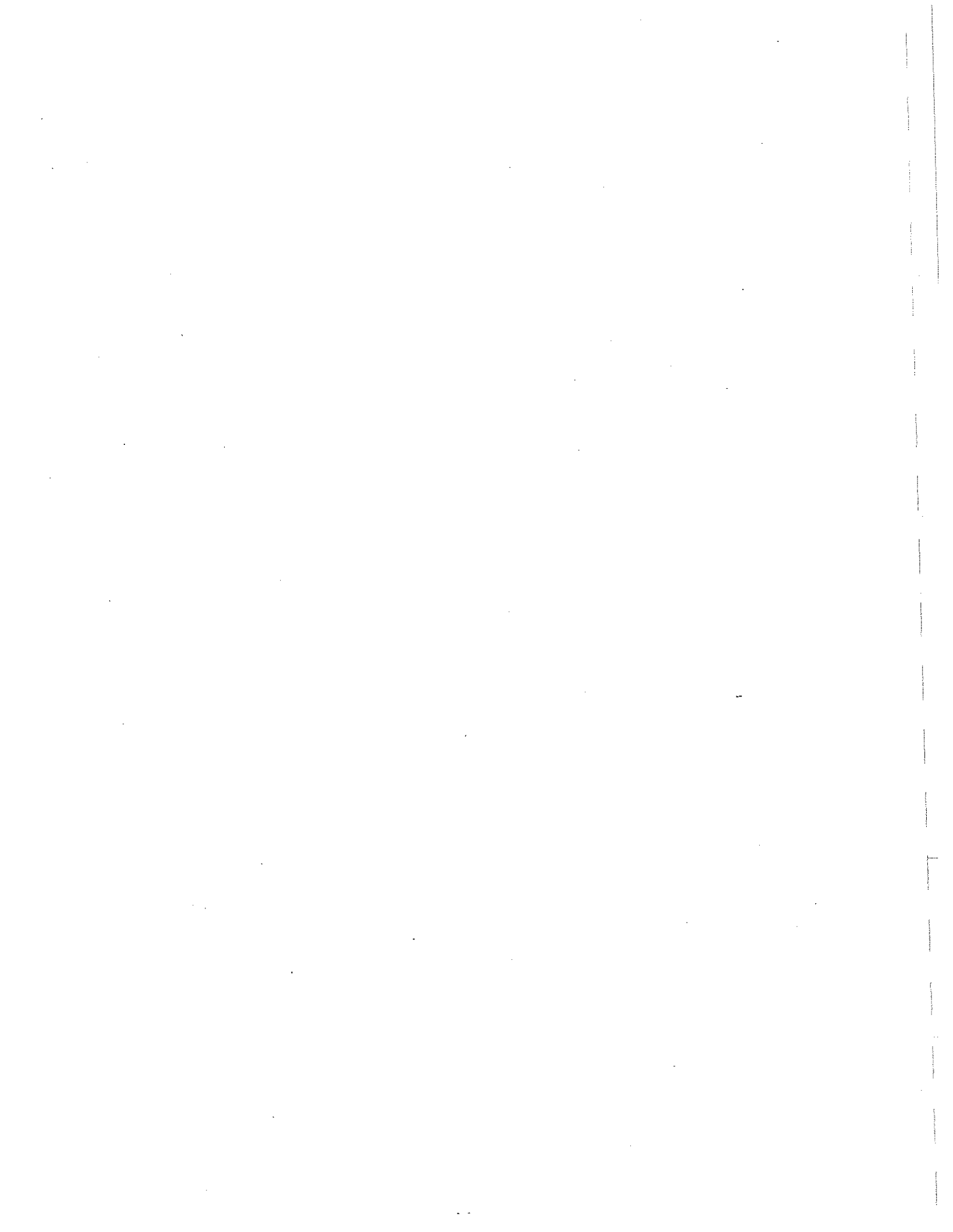
PART SEVEN - A POTPOURRI OF MISC. STUFF

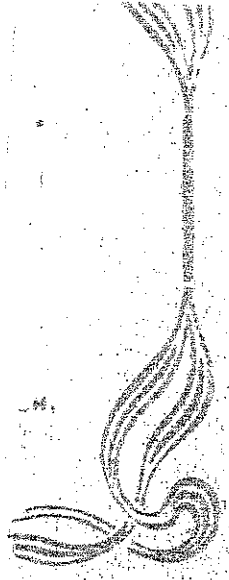
In this last section I have put some misc. things that I didn't fit in before. There are a couple of items concerning some Bockhaus names I found while doing research in Iowa. Later found that there is no connection to our family.

There is information about some people that drifted thru the area and Dad kind of adopted, or maybe they kind of adopted Dad, don't know which.

Also in this section I have gone into the disposal of Dad's mountain property. Some of it was disposed of by Dad and some after his death. Some of it became pretty complicated because of partnerships.

The last part is a history of the Hessel family as well as other information about relatives of the Hessel family and others in the area. (Clay Co. MO) Who the Hessel family was is explained at the beginning of the information.





from his visit with ... Pennsylvania.

Frank Martin went to Iowa City to attend the wedding of an uncle. Chas. Packwell of Watertown, S. D. visited at the Cottrell home this week a while on his way to his home in Belle Plaine.

Misses Mayme and Mattie Hardacre returned to their home at Watonda, S. D. this week to spend vacation with their parents.

Geo. Phelps and wife and Chas. Whitnall and wife spent Sunday in Sioux City.

Mrs. Geo. Snyder died at her home in Storm Lake Tuesday. The remains will be interred in the Kingsley cemetery Saturday. Funeral services will be held at the Christian church.

The ball game between Kingsley and Salix resulted in a victory for Kingsley. Score 3 to 2.

In a game of ball between the Kingsley Kids and Amherst, Kingsley won with eight scores while Amherst got but one. The game was umpired by one of the Salix nine. That team playing.

Funeral notice for Frank Bockhaus. Have not connected to our family where she expects to Frank Meyers of S.D. was married to a Bockhaus no connection here as yet either.

AKRON.

From Register-Tribune.

The commodious new pavilion at the Boat club grounds up the river is completed.

Mr. and Mrs. August Hitzeman, south of town, have much sympathy in the death of their baby boy, aged about seven months, on Sunday evening, June 17, 1906.

Rev. Fred Menke, pastor of the Akron and Oberlin German Lutheran churches, left Tuesday for Morris, Minnesota, to attend the annual meeting of the Ohio District Lutheran senate, which will be in session two weeks.

The matter of a sewer system in the business part of town was worked up in good shape last summer and seemed a sure thing but the important project has somehow dropped out of sight. Sewerage is about as badly needed by Akron as any other one thing and now is a good time for the council to resume action.

John Goodier, of LeMars, who has been doing carpenter work near Rable, was a visitor the first of this week at the home of his step son, C. M. Hillier, and with old time friends here.

Invitations have been issued to the fifty-fifth wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. John Sellberg, pioneer residents of Union county S. D. at their home farm home, Park Lake Farm, in Sioux Valley township, Sunday afternoon.

Sunday last.

MERRILL.

Special Correspondence.

John Measner and Nick Anton went to White Lake, S. D., last Tuesday to look at land.

Mrs. Frost was a LeMars visitor Wednesday.

Mr. Sullivan of Anthon was visiting friends here last week.

C. J. Duffy was a passenger west Saturday night.

There is a case of scarlet fever in town.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Myers of White Lake, S. D., are down to attend the funeral of Mr. Bockhaus.

Otto Kastner of Ellendale is visiting in town this week.

Word has been received that Miss Frost and Miss Simpson arrived safe and well in England.

The Illinois Central has put in a new unloading chute at the stock yards.

Tom More has put up a wind mill on

leaver left for Sioux where she expects to

(Sioux City was visited last week.

Kulbroke of Sioux City are visiting at the Frost home.

Rhoda Bagboe of Leeds is visiting at home this week.

Miss Gaston of LeMars is staying with her friends the Miss Platchers.

Charlie Morehead of Adaville took the train to James Saturday.

Mrs. Mertens was a LeMars visitor Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Basher of Remsen were visitors at the Mertens home last week.

Frank Bockhaus who died Thursday was one of the oldest Merrill citizens. He was well respected by everyone. The funeral was held here Sunday and was largely attended. The sermon was preached in German and English. He was aged 62.

Henry Bockhaus of Perkins was here to attend his brother's funeral.

Mr. Adams was a Sioux City passenger Saturday.

Little Dave Roberts was visiting his grandparents in Sioux City over Sunday.

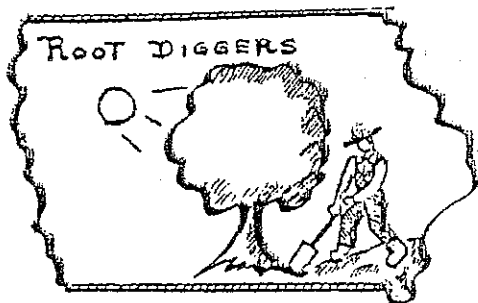
REMSEN.

From the Bell-Enterprises.

Fred returned the first man, reports that the apple crop will not be so plentiful this summer. Mr. Herman has twenty-two acres of it. 274

Steph H. Kingman of Boston was in town Sunday visiting old time friends. Mr. Kingman is a

LEMARS SENTINEL 26 June 1906 P. 1 Col 4



Northwest Iowa Genealogical Society

LeMars Public Library, 46 First St. S.W., LeMars, Iowa 51031

Dec 13, 1994

Misc. information about some Bockhaus' around LeMars, Iowa. Have not been able to connect to our family as yet. Kathy Henderson of Omaha, Ne. has been looking for info. about Kate Haas listed here as she is a sister to Kathy's Grandmother. There was a Mary Bockhaus married to a Frank Meyers that I believe was a daughter of Mary Bockhaus.

Virgil Bockhaus
2326 H Rd
Grand Junction, CO 81505

Dear Mr Bockhaus:

Sorry about the delay, our library was closed for remodeling....

I have enclosed the marriage record that you requested, also the articles on the death of Frank Bockhaus.

1900 Federal Census Plymouth County, Iowa Washington Twp page 184B

GEORGE BOCKHAUS Head of household born June 1850 age 49 married 25 yrs
born Germany father & mother born Germany came to US 1876
in US 24 yrs naturalized can read, write & speak English

Mary wife Aug 1849 age 50 married 25 yrs born Ireland father & mother born

1910 Federal Census Plymouth County, Ia Plymouth Twp page 188

MARIE BOCKHAUS Head age 75 widowed mother of 3 children, 1 living
born Germany father & mother born Germany To US 1877 Housekeeper

Haas, Kate Foster daughter age 17 single mother of 1 child, 1 living
born Iowa father & mother born Germany

Meyers, Jennie Grand child age 5 born South Dakota father born Lux mother
Richter, Joseph Boarder age 45 single born Ger father & mother born Ger

to US 1894 Railroad laborer
Wallace, Harvy Boarder age 26 single born Ill father born MO mother born Ia
Plasterer

Haas, Hans Foster child age 1/12 born Ia father born ?? mother born Iowa

There were no Bockhaus' listed in the Plymouth County, Iowa cemetery files
No Bockhaus' listed in the O'Brien County Cemetery file

The following is from the Sioux County, Iowa Cemetery file:

BARBARA BOCKHAUS born 15 Mar 1850 died 19 March 1922 same stone Henry

HENRY BOCKHAUS born 1 May 1843 died 17 Oct 1920 same stone Barbara

both the above were buried Hope Cemetery at Hull, Iowa

we have very little info on Sioux County but sometimes obituaries did appear in
the LeMars newspapers for Hull

checked the History of Plymouth County, Iowa by Freeman and found NO Bockhaus'.

Thank you for sending the \$15.00, we use any money we get to further our research
library.

Sincerely,

Petty L Winterringer
Northwest Iowa Gen Soc
46 1st St SW
LeMars, Iowa 51031

PART SEVEN - A POTPOURRI OF MISC. STUFF

Through the years it seemed that whenever someone came drifting thru Monte and needed a job or some help, they always seemed to find Dad. He would pretty nearly always help them out. At times it seemed there was always someone working around that Dad had given a job to. At times I know that Mother was not always in agreement with Dad on that subject, and I always was of the opinion that he at times went to far, but as I look back on things, I now believe that he probably did the right thing. When the Spanish speaking people would be down on their luck, they knew that Dad could be trusted to help them. I remember many times when he would go to the bank and help them with a loan. I don't know how many times he must have been let down, but he still helped them. Some years after his death, I was at one of the local coffee shops in town, and someone that knew Dad told me that someone needed to pick up where Dad had left off helping people. I have often thought about that remark, and would have to believe that of all the things that Dad did, and didn't feel like he had been successful at, he was after all a friend to the less fortunate, and that probably made him more of a success at life than anything else.

I often think back to the days of the lumber yard when they sold a fair amount of lumber in Lariat. If Dad or Ralph went around looking for someone and they were driving a car no one knew where anyone was at. If they went to the same house when driving one of the lumber trucks, the same ones knew where people were at. It came down to the fact that they didn't trust most people, but they did trust Bockhaus'. Somehow that doesn't seem to bad a memory

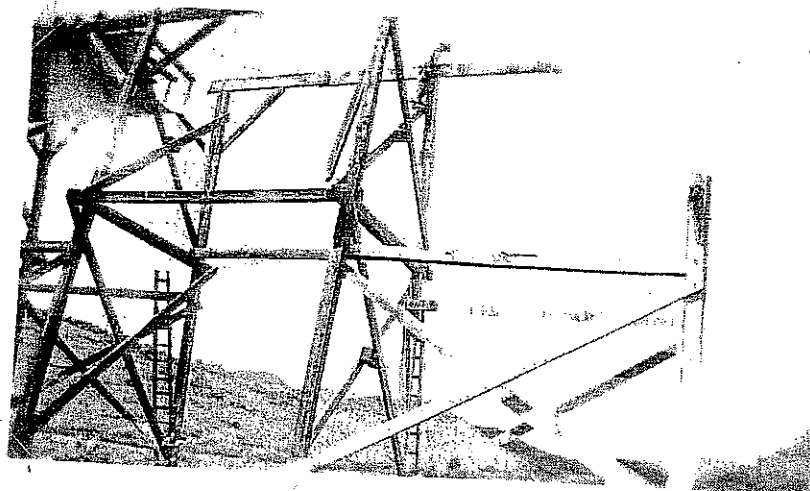
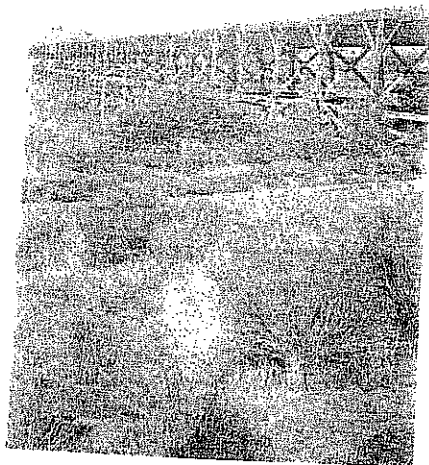
I will mention a couple of men that Dad got acquainted with thru the years. The first one was a man by the name of J.B. Gregory. He was from Illinois, or at least that is the way it sticks in my mind. He came there around the end of the war, but do not remember for sure about the date. He wanted some work, and preferred to do work by the job. At the time the Pass Me By Mine still had a big building that used to be a boarding house. Dad wanted to tear it down and salvage the lumber. Gregory thought that would be just the thing for him, and took the job. He stayed up there and salvaged the lumber. He did a great job. Dad got a lot of good lumber from the building. Later Dad bid on tearing down a big flume above Del Norte, and Gregory again took the job. They salvaged a huge amount of timbers and metal from the job. Some of the timbers were used when Ralph added on to his shop. The metal was used various places. All in all it turned out to be another very successful job. In 1947, the mine at Jasper had removed most of the equipment that was left from their operation, and Dad made a deal to clean up some of the buildings etc. There was a lot of big timbers and various other lumber, so Gregory again took on the job. He stayed at the mine in one of the buildings that was left. He worked in to the late fall, and it got pretty cold. He said not to worry he was fine. Dad went up to check on him and found him in the cabin he was staying in. He had died sometime probably a day or two before Dad got there.

PART SEVEN _ continued

As Gregory seemed not to have any relation that anyone could find, Dad made arrangements for him to be buried in the Monte Vista Cemetary. Later he sold what he could to pay for it. He tried to get enough money to buy a head stone, but I do not remember for sure if he did or not. I would guess that he did.

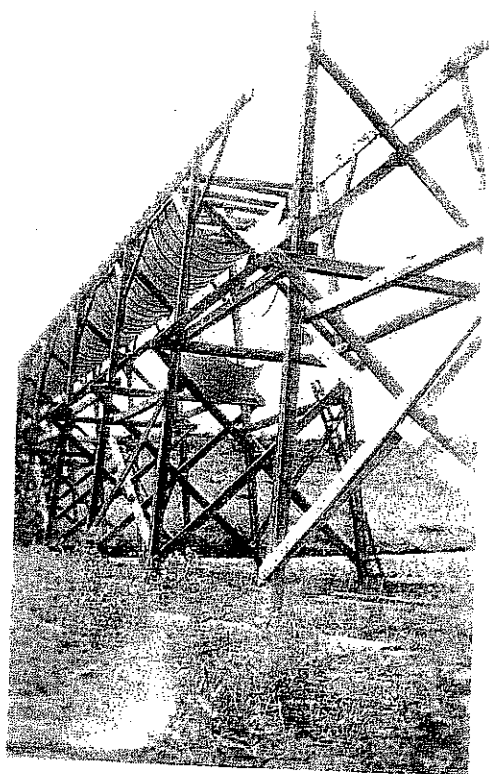
Some years later Dad came across a man camping above Stunner. His name was Elwood Smith. He had a World War 2 army ambulance that he had made into a sort of camper. He stayed around the area for many years and got to be a very good friend. After Grgory had died, Dad had taken an old Willys truck that he had and stripped it down to the frame, and made a pretty nice portable cabin on it. After the last mill was shut down, Dad let Smith live in it. He moved down just above Jasper. Later DAd needed the cabin in N.M. Mexico, and removed it from the old truck frame. Smith got some lumber from Earl Percy and built him another cabin on the old chassis. He lived at Jasper for several years. After I got married and had a family, we got to be very good friends with Smith. He liked our two kids a lot, and they loved him. They called him Sniffy. He always had hershey bars for them whenever they came up. Smith worked some whenever Dad needed something done around the area, and it just seemed natural to have him around. In 1961 he had a heart attack, and Headlee Wright took him in to Monte to the hospital. He seemed to get over it and was realeased. Mother was with Francis and Lucy at Pagosa and let him stay at the house for a few days. When they came home, they found Smith had had another attack and died at the house. It was quite a shock for mother, as it was just after Dad had passed away. Smith was buried at Crown Hill in west Denver next to his mother. He had some sisters there, and in fact came from a very nice family. No one could understand just why he went off to live in the hills by himself. He just wanted to get away from things it seemed. He was going to come to Denver and be with us that Christmas, so it was a real let down for our kids. They thought he was the greatest person they had ever known.

One other one that comes to mind is an old Russian that showed up. He wanted a place to build himself a small house. He was a carpenter by trade, or at least that is what he said. Some how he talked Dad into letting him build southwest of the house out in the field. He built himself a pretty nice little house. He always said that it was built just like a real construction job. (his name was Wally Gall) He was differant than most, but he was a fair carpenter. He hadn't mastered all phases of construction as Ralph found out. He had him help with the building of his office, and he handed him an expansion bit and told him to drill a hole for the lock. When he was done the hole turned out to be to big. Wally's answer was, well I drilled it the size of the bit. He didn't know that he had to adjust the bit. He later sold his little house to Dad, and he moved it south of the house. It became known as the little house. Its was still there the last I knew.



TOP LEFT - A view of part of the flume above Del Norte before they started tearing it down.

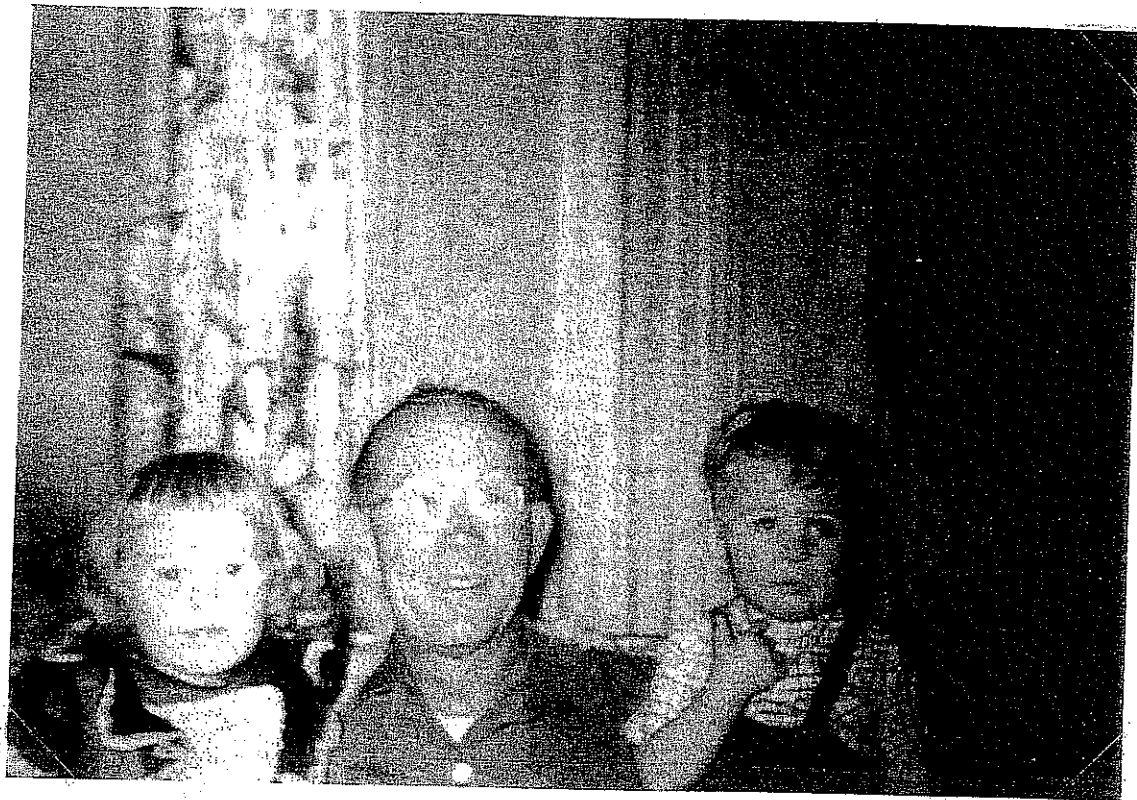
LOWER LEFT - Part of the flume that they have started tearing down.



UPPER RIGHT - This photo is of J. B. Gregory working on the tear down of the flume. A big job that he handled well. I have not been able to put an exact date on this, but believe it was 1947, but it could have been started in 1946.



The picture above is of J.B. Gregory.
It was found among his things after his
death. As far as I know it was taken in
Illinois. Do not know who the child
in the picture is.



Above - April and Alan with their friend Elwood Smith.
(SNIFFY)

PART SEVEN - continued

When Summitville closed down in 1947, they had a mule they had used in the mines that they didn't know what to do with. Ralph told them that he would take her, and turn her loose in Dad's pasture in town. (her name was Molly) As it was getting late in the fall, they told him that they would leave plenty of food in case it snowed before he got in to get her. We took one of Francis' log trucks to get her, and even though it was a six wheel drive and chained up, we didn't get all the way in to the mine, and had to walk the last couple of miles. When we got to the tractor shed where she was supposed to be, she was gone. We began to follow her tracks and she had already gone out. She was later found south of town in a farmers field with some of his livestock. She was smarter than we were. She knew she didn't want to be up there in the snow. Ralph took her home and turned her loose, but she didn't live very long after that. Just couldn't take retirement I guess.



The top photo at the left shows how it looked in Nov. 1947 when Ralph and I walked into Summitville to get Molly.

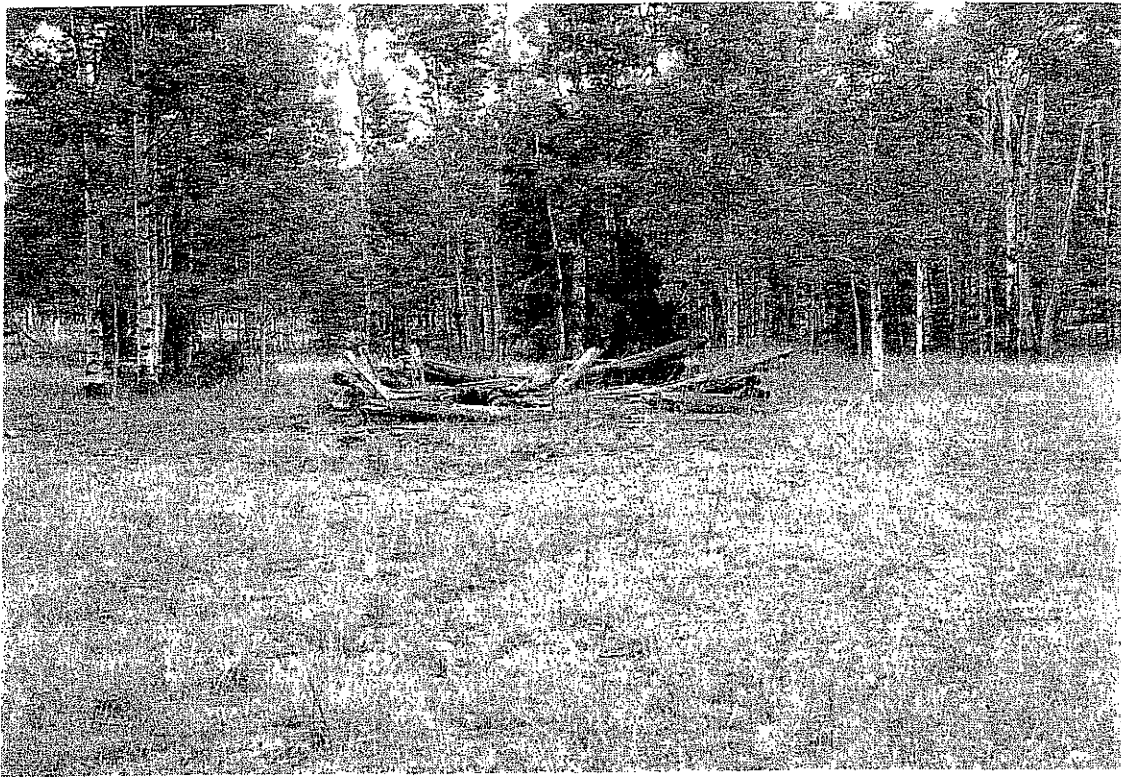


The lower one shows Ralph in front of the tractor shed, where Molly was supposed to be.



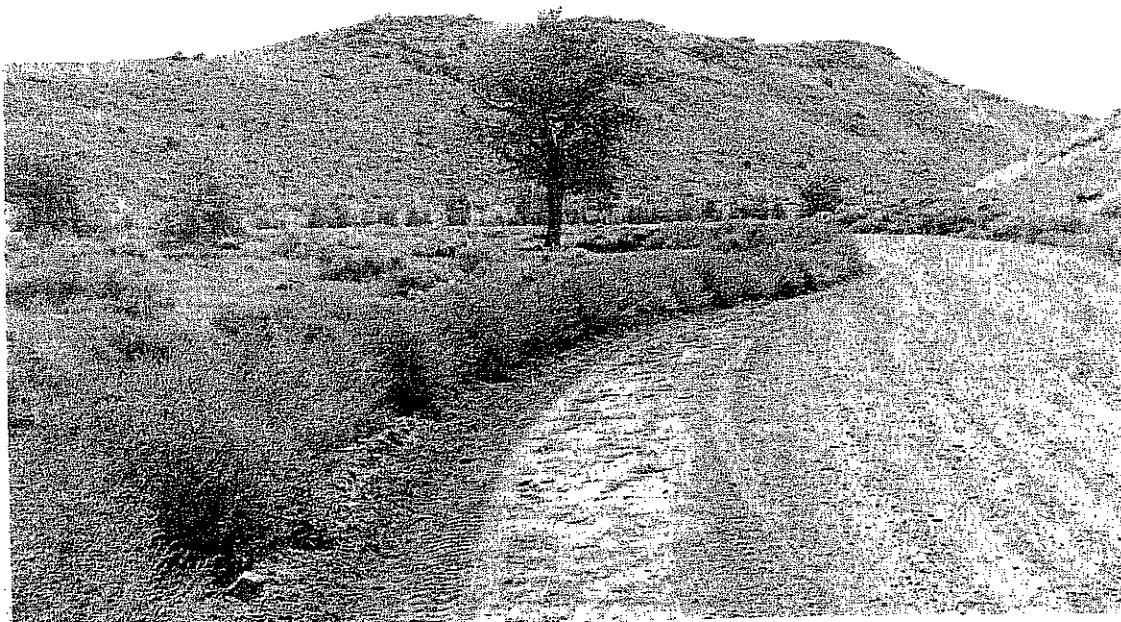
Thanksgiving 1956, at Pagosa Springs.
L to R Francis, Lucy, Richard, Mother, Dad, Mary,
Phyllis, Shirley, Ralph, and Larry.

The house is the one Francis was building with logs
from the mill above the Pass Me By Mine. The
building is still there. I believe it is a Real
Estate Office.



Above - All that remained in 1995 of a cabin Dad & Mother stayed in when Dad worked at Jasper in the 1920s.

Below - Dad & Darley were coming down Cat Creek, when they spotted a cub bear. He climbed the tree in the picture, and Dad got up in the tree with it, and poked it with a stick. We have always since called the tree "Dad & Darley's Bear Tree."



PART SEVEN - continued

I stated before when we were at Summitville during the war, we stayed in a house with running water and a bathroom. The folks never had a bathroom until later. They had bought a pump, but it was not used until after the war, when Francis hooked it up and Mother had running cold water in the kitchen. In 1947 Lillard Elliot built a new back porch and added a bathroom. For the first time they had hot and cold water, and an indoor bathroom. That bathroom was always Dad's pride and joy.

After I went to work in Ralph's shop, Dad kept the truck that I had bought. It was rebuilt after the wreck, but always gave trouble. It was a case of the insurance Co. rebuilding one that should have been junked. In either late 1951, or early 1952, Dad traded it in for a new 1952 Dodge truck. It was the first time he hadn't bought a Chev. He liked the new truck so well that he thought he would buy a new Dodge car. They were planning a trip back to Kansas, and Dad told Mother that he thought they ought to buy a new car before they went. Mother was pretty pleased about that, as the old Chev. was getting pretty tired. When the time came to buy a car, Dad had thought about it and decided that the old Chev. would make one more trip. Now I never saw Mother get upset very many times, but that was one time when she put her foot down. She informed Dad that if he didn't buy a car as promised, she was not going to Kansas. I think it took Dad by surprise, and he bought the new car. I remember when he went to the bank to borrow the money. The bank at that time was rather close with their loans, and Dad told them he was buying a new car and needed to borrow the money. They said that was no problem, until Dad told them that he wanted the money on a straight note, with no mortgage on the new car. They said that they didn't do business that way, but when it was all over, Dad got his way. It was the last car the folks ever bought. After Dad passed away, mother continued to drive until she had an accident, and decided that she had better give up driving. I was glad that she did, as she had learned to drive late in life, and was never the best driver in the world, and as she got older she didn't get any better. At least she gave up driving on her own, and didn't have to be forced to give it up.

Mother was always very mild mannered and very seldom got visibly upset. As I stated she got her dander up over the new car, and I remember one other time. She got very upset about a group from one of the churchs coming around. She kept hinting that she wasn't interested, but they kept coming anyway. One day they came to the door, and she made up her mind that was it. By the time she got thru with them there was no doubt in their minds that they were not welcome there. She always said that she felt bad after that, but at least they were not bothering her anymore.

PART SEVEN - continued

As I stated at the begining of this section, it is just things that came to mind later, and is not in any kind of order, and not about anything in particular.

South of where Ralphs shop was, there is an area that Dad used for a garden spot. Before he used it for a garden, there was a Silver Fox farm there. I believe that Harris raised them, but that may or may not be correct. Before the war fur coats were very popular, and Silver Fox was in high demand. After they no longer raised Fox there, there was a hog farm there for awhile. That was about the time Dad and I raised our hogs during the war. I remember that the pig I had that got to be a pet was an orphan from there.

Somehow I acquired a Silver Fox, and had it after they were no longer raising them there. As with some kids, I didn't always do the best job of taking care of it. Dad thought I should get rid of it and I agreed. We had made arrangements to sell it to a place west of Pagosa, but the day before we were going to take it over, it died. That was the end of my Silver Fox raising.

In the early 1950s, Phillips Univ. from Enid, Okla. was looking for a place to put a summer science camp. Somehow Dad, as often happened, got involved. He helped them get a location just above where Beam had his sawmill. I believe that the property probably belonged to Fassett, but am not sure. The one that was involved from the Univ. was Vernon Baker, also a man by the name of Williams. Baker would become very much a part of dealings with some of the claims above Stunner. I will go into what happened to all of the property shortly.

In the mid 1950s, Dad was contacted by a lumber Co. from Ark. that was interested in locating in Monte. Dad became involved with helping them get located. That was Pleasant Lumber Co. I am sure that there was times when Dad thought that he should not have gotten involved with them, as there was a few problems later. All in all, I guess that it worked out, as they have been there for forty years now. Pleasant will be mentioned some more when I get into the property.

Thru the years, Dad planted trees around town. He planted Blue Spruce and pretty well covered the entire town with them. As far as I know, the Blue Spruce at the old part of the Monte Vista Cemetary were planted by him. I can drive around Monte and pick out trees that he planted many years ago. He would dig them on Forest land and transplant them. I doubt if the Forest Service would allow that anymore. I think it may go back to his days of farming, but he was very succesful at transplanting. He had very few failures.

PART SEVEN - continued

Around the time Ralph's first daughter was born, I tried to get them to name her Susie. Of course no one paid any attention to that idea, so I looked for someone else to carry that name. The folks always had some cattle around, some for meat and some for milk. Around this time one of the cows had a calf and I asked if I could name the calf Susie. As Mother and I were pretty much taking care of the cows at that time, Mother agreed that the new calf would be Susie. Now as Susie began to get bigger she also got pretty spoiled. After she became a milk cow she had a few ideas of how things should be. When it came time to milk her, all I had to do was bring out the grain bucket and she was there. The only problem with that was that she didn't come in to get milked, she came in to eat. You had to be fast when milking her, because when she got done with her grain, she was done with the milking too. She would turn around and walk out and leave you sitting there. If you didn't open the stall for her to get in to be fed, she knew how to open the gate herself and she was in waiting to be fed.

The place in Monte had quite a number of buildings on it, and one of them was a small building that was just across the ditch south of the lumber yard. A man by the name of Bill Barger lived in it. He passed away while living there sometime around 1939. I can't remember the exact date. After he passed away and the building was no longer being used, one end was made into a stall where they could keep a cow. The big advantage to this was that there was electric lights, and in the winter it made it a little better for milking. I remember one cold winter night, Mother and I had finished milking and would leave the cow inside out of the cold, not that it was much better in the building. I noticed that there was a light bulb just above the cows head and I suggested that it might be nice to leave the light on to help keep the cow warm. Of course Mother was not for that idea. Sometime later the light did get left on and I can still hear Mother asking if I had left it on to keep the cow warm. I hadn't, but I don't believe that Mother ever did believe me.

During the time the folks had milk cows, they decided that they needed to get a cream separator. It was on the old back porch they had at that time, and when they first got it, I thought it was great fun to crank it. It didn't take very long to find out that it wasn't as much fun as I first thought and stayed away from that job as much as I could.

Another job that I stayed away from as much as possible was keeping the wood box in the kitchen full. It seemed that it was always empty. The old wood cook stove was great in the winter but not so great in the summer. One of the things I guess I remember most and disliked most was getting the bath tub out on Saturday night and taking a bath in front of the old cook stove. Some things about the good old days were not so good in my memory. One of them was the good old outhouse when it was 40 below outside. I often hear people talk about having a Sears catalog out there, we were not that well off, we had a Montgomery Ward catalog.

PART SEVEN - continued

At this time I will go into what happened to the mountain property that Dad had. Some of it was involved in partnership with others and became pretty complicated, especially after Dad's death. I will start with the 1/4 section known as the Stunner property, as it was probably one of the first to be disposed of.

I need to back up a few years, as there was one thing that took place on that property that was rather interesting, but had nothing to do with the property dealings. Sometime before the war, I believe it may have been either 1939 or 1940, a group of people from the Nazarene church in Monte Vista made a deal with Dad to cut some timber which would be sawed into lumber for a new church. They camped below the mill site on Forest Service land. I have no idea what kind of deal they had, and if they cut some timber from Dad's land or if they cut Forest Service timber. I would guess that they cut from the Forest, but this is only a guess. The minister at that time was a man by the name of Paul Cobb. He later became an army Chaplain during the war. I know that he was in England but do not know what happened to him later. I remember while Francis was in England, he wrote that he had seen, and that part was censored from the letter. Mother wrote and asked if it was Paul Cobb and he said that was right without mentioning any names. That was a problem with mail coming from overseas at that time. Some of the letter might not be there if they thought it was something that shouldn't be mentioned.

As to what happened to this piece of property. As I stated before Ted Moen cut some timber from the NW corner of the land and this was as far as I know in 1955 and possibly 1956. The contract was signed for cutting in 1955, but they may have cut some after that. Earl Percy cut from the upper part of the property, but I am having a problem putting a date on that. I believe that it must have been after he was thru on Cornwall, and that was 1958. In my mind I think that he logged off the Stunner land in 1957 and probably in 1958. Sometime after that, and again my mind fails me, Dad disposed of the property. This was after his heart attack, and he felt that there would not be any more timber taken off the property. He had an offer from someone that wanted to buy, and I remember that we discussed it at some length. He was in bad health and his financial status was not the best, so he sold. As I remember, he received \$4000.00 for the property. I have no idea who it was that bought it, but it sticks in my mind that it was someone from around Wichita, but this may or may not be correct. Dad hated to get rid of any of his mountain property, but it was something that he felt he had to do. I have no idea who owns the property now, but I do know that nothing has ever been done with it. I have been up there several times, and it just stays the same. The buildings of course were all crushed by the snow long ago. The road is still in pretty good shape except for wooden culverts that have rotted out, and the upper end has a lot of trees that have been blown across the road.

PART SEVEN - continued

I will go to the property above Jasper next. Dad had gotten a 40 acre lot just west of Jasper. Jasper Creek runs through it and the main road to Platona cuts across the center of it. During the time that Dad and Francis were in partnership, the land was divided in half. Francis had the west half and Dad kept the east half. Dad also found some mining claims north of this area, and as they had quite a bit of Douglas fir timber on them, he went to Rio Grande County, and made a deal to pay back taxes and get title to them. He made the deal that if he picked up the back taxes, that they would keep the taxes low enough that he could keep them up later, after he had logged them. I was never very well up on these claims, and did not know just how they laid, in fact still do not know much about them.

First, what happened to these claims. As I told before, I built a road into this area in 1950 and Dad and Claude McKenzie cut the timber over a period of a couple of years. Dad kept his end of the bargain, but the county continued with high taxes, and as far as I know the property went back to the county for taxes. During that time there was a lot of prospecting being done around Summitville, and the last I knew these claims were picked up by some of those working that area. At the time Darley was still around and he watched those things and kept me informed as to what was going on.

As for the forty acres, Francis built a pretty good cabin on his half when he had the mill there in the early 1950s. When he moved the mill from there and after the Cornwall road was finished, he sold his half to 2 of the people from Phillips University. The last I knew, they still have the property. The cabin Francis had is still there, but has been moved away from the road. Across the road there is a very nice cabin that is used every summer.

On Dad's half, Earl Percy had his mill on the SE corner the first year he cut on Cornwall. During this time the railroad in Alamosa was getting rid of a lot of Cabooses and a minister in Center by the name of Wisheart had gotten one of them and had no where to put it. Dad finally let him put on the west side of his 20 acres. He told him to put it there and just use it. He told him that they would figure out something later. They made a pretty nice cabin out of it and everone was welcome to use it, which a lot of people did.

While the mill was there, Earl built a cabin on Dad's property. Actually it was just a typical sawmill shack, but when he was done it was left there. During this period of time Elwood Smith moved his cabin on the property near where Earl had his mill. He stayed there until his death in 1961. After his death, and I do not know the date, Ralph took Smith's cabin to the Santa Maria lake above Creede when he belonged to the trout club there. It stayed there for some time, but wasn't up to the clubs standards, and he had to move it.

PART SEVEN - continued

After Dad's death, Mother was at a loss as to what to do with the mountain property. The 20 acres was finally deeded to me, and I first had to find some property lines. Darley was the expert and he started helping me find property lines. We first started with the Jasper property. He helped me find what looked like an old corner and I went from there. The first thing that I found was that the cabin that was left from the sawmill was either partly across the line or it could be completely on the wrong side of the line. The land next to this land was owned by Ted Larick and as we got along pretty well it didn't worry me too much. I considered what to do about the caboose problem, and decided that I would divide up with them. They got 10 acres, and I kept 10. Some of the same family still own the Caboose, and a lot of people still use it including our son Alan and some of his friends.

As for the cabin on the east line, I decided that I would tear it down and use the lumber. We had it pretty well down when Mavis got a call asking why we were tearing down a cabin that belonged to someone else. We found out that the county had put the cabin up for taxes as they had no idea whose it was. After some hurt feelings the county agreed that they owed some taxes back to the one that had been paying. I was talking to Larick about what had happened and being the old cowboy that he was, his answer was to thank him for paying the taxes, and tell him to get off the property.

I kept my 10 acres for several years, and had the idea that I would someday build a cabin there. As the years went by my situation changed quite a bit, and I decided that the 10 acres would have to be sold. I still hate that it is gone, but as the years go by, it is pretty doubtful that I would have ever built on the property. Sometimes things have to be done that we don't want to do, and selling the 10 acres has to be one of them.

The next property I will go into is the Cornwall Mtn. land. By the time Dad passed away, his partner Rivera had also died. That left his share of all the land Dad and Rivera had together in the hands of someone else. Right away there was trouble over the land that was still in their names. I guess that I will have to correct a statement that I made about Mother only getting upset a couple of times that I remember. Well add another, because she told Rivera's relatives how she felt about how they were treating her after Dad passed away. It may have helped some, but not much. There were only 2 properties that were still in the old partnership, and Cornwall was one of them.

PART SEVEN - continued

After Pearcy finished logging operations on Cornwall, Dad was looking at some way to get more out of the property. He at one time thought about doing a cleanup operation and cut more timber, but that didn't prove out. He was contacted by Pleasant Lumber about using the road to move some Forest Service timber to the mill in Monte. Dad made an agreement, but there was one problem. The bridge across the Alamosa river had washed out and would need to be replaced. Most of the bridge was still there and could be replaced without additional material. I had some vacation time that I had to use up, so agreed to stay at the caboose and work on the bridge. Mavis and I and the two kids stayed there for several days while we did the bridge. It was early in the spring as we had to be done before the river came up from spring runoff. (Alan was only a year old)

Dad hired an old employee of his to help, and he brought the truck out every day from town so he could bring anything we were needing. Dad was a little better and made the trip about every day in the car. We got the bridge done without much bad happening. The bridge lasted for quite a few years, but in recent years washed out again.

Pleasant hauled logs off Cornwall for quite awhile, and Dad got a fair income from it. I do not remember just how much he charged, but both sides were happy with the deal.

I had made a deal with Marion Mining to clean up the old equip. and what buildings were left, so we did that while the truck was going into town every day. I had planned on salvaging some of the lumber, but while burning some scrap lumber the rest caught fire. That made cleaning up the building pretty easy, but didn't get much income from the lumber.

As I stated before, after Rivera's death the partnership went bad. Mother was at a loss as to what to do with Cornwall. After Pleasant finished with use of the road there didn't seem to be any chance of further income from Cornwall. Mother was talking about just wanting to be rid of the property, and Ralph told her that if she only wanted to be rid of it, he would take it. She deeded her interest to Ralph. He had no idea what he was going to do with it. As there was a lake on top, he tried fishing there, but as far as I remember never had any luck. He finally had a chance to sell his interest and decided he would be better off without Cornwall Mtn.

I have thru the years lost track of what has happened to the property, but understand that it is still private owned and that there has been some problems with use of the road. People used to go up to the lake, but whoever owns it now has shut off the road. I understand that there is also problems with property owners in the area overaccess to crossing the river to get to the road. At this time, I haven't looked into any of this. I know that there are a lot of new people in the area.

PART SEVEN - continued

At this point, I will try and explain what happened to the mining claims that Dad had. First I need to back up and tell a few things that took place with this property before Dad's death. Both the Pass Me By mine and the Asiatic mine property had big buildings that had been boarding houses when the mines were operating. As I remember they were pretty much identical. The one at the PMB was taken down in 1945 By J.B. Gregory. The one at the Asiatic was not taken down until later. Some of it was taken down in 1946, but as I remember it was not all taken down that year. It was taken down by various parties from town. Dad had sold a piece of land from the NW corner of his west place in town to Claude McKenzie. He built a small house there and some of the lumber came from the boarding house at the Asiatic. Note; this piece of property in later years was acquired by Bill Hamilton, and as far as I know he still has it.

In 1949, Dad and I cut timber from the property around the PMB mine. We got about all that was available without spending a lot of money getting to it. In 1950 Claude McKenzie cut from two claims above the PMB. Francis later cut what timber was available in the area.

The Asiatic property had two lakes on it and was a very pretty area. Dad and Rivera had talked about doing something with the lakes. In 1946 I took the little tractor up and built the east dam up. There was a small dam there, but was not much. We also built a dam at the west lake. I don't remember if there was any dam there before or not. As I remember there was not. WE went back in 1947 and built the dams a little higher. Dad also found out that the west dam was across the line on Forest Service land. At the time it was not much of a problem, but in later years it became a big problem. In 1947 while we were working on the dams, Rivera pulled a few strings and got the state to bring some fish up and try stocking the lakes. The only way that they could do it was to also take part of the load to the head waters of the Alamosa River. At that time the road to the mine property was the road that had been built around the turn of the century by the mines, and as far as the mines it was passable, but on to the river was not much more than a trail. After the state truck unloaded part of the fish at the Asiatic, they went on towards the river. Vernon Schultz was up there with me and we went with the truck to help get the fish to the river. After we went a short distance from the west lake we started across a bog, and of course got stuck. The one that was ramroding the operation from the state was a little under the weather from the altitude and too much beer. His solution was for the driver to unload some of the weight, which of course was water from the fish tank. The driver and both of us objected, but he reached over and dumped most of the water in the mud hole we were already stuck in. A big help he turned out to be. Vernon years later talked about that what a smart move that was. Anyway we got the fish stocked where they were supposed to be.

PART SEVEN - continued

One of the people involved with the Phillips Univ. summer camp along the Alamosa river was Vernon Baker. He was very interested in the claims that Dad had and was trying some way to get an interest in them. Dad at that time was not at all interested in getting rid of any of the property, so Baker went to Rivera. Some how and I still have never figured out how, Baker bought Rivera's half interest in the claims. This took place in 1956, but Rivera kept his mineral right for 25 years, after which he had no claim to the property.

Baker's main interest was in the Asiatic property, which was and still is a very prime piece of property. As I stated before, the road was no bargain getting there, but that was about to change. In 1957, the Forest Service built an all weather road to the Asiatic for future logging. It continued on to the head of the Alamosa River, and also hooked up with the Park Creek road which made a complete loop to hiway 160 above South Fork. Baker made a deal with Dad in June of 1958 to buy his interest in the Asiatic property. I believe that that was around 15 or 16 claims. As I remember he didn't want to get rid of that piece of property, but his health was very poor, and he knew that he would never do anything with it anymore. Thru the years, Baker has inproved the lakes and cleaned up the property, and has built cabins for the family. As I stated before, the west dam is on Forest land, and they gave Baker a bad time. He tried to get a use permit, but they would not cooperate. As the years went by, they hauled logs from the upper Alamosa River, and the long trucks could not make the turn back towards the Park Creek road. The Forest Service needed to go on the Asiatic property and make a loop so the trucks could make their turn. Baker told them no way, unless you issue me a use permit for the dam. After some time a deal was worked out and he had his use permit.

As for the fishing, I have never heard how it is. I would guess that Baker has it stocked, but do not know. There is plenty of good water there. Unlike other mines in the area, this one has good fresh water coming out of it.

A little side item, in 1951, at least I believe that was the year, Francis was doing some logging at the Asiatic, and I took the D6 cat and opened the mine up. A couple of days later, Francis and I went in the mine. We could not get completely to the back because of deep water in the back of the tunnel. Everything is just as they left it when they were mining. All the rail and pipe are in place, and as I remember there was a timber car still on the track. Back in the back it looked like there was some drill machines still there. Of course within a few days the mine closed itself up again. The rail and pipe etc. are all in good shape due to the pure water on that side of the mountain. Not so on the PMB side. I will go into that alittle later.

PART SEVEN - continued

The Pass Me By mine is the larger of the two mines. Both had been owned by the same Co. The PMB had operated first, and was under lookout mountain. The dump shows that it is a pretty long tunnel. The reports that I have heard is that it is about one and a quarter mile long. I have also heard that at the time it was being operated, that it was one of the better tunnels in the state. As far as I know it never produced any mineral of value. Darley claimed that lookout mtn. does not carry any ore, as it was burned out when it was formed. That would explain the colors that it carries. All information that I have ever heard about both the mines, was that they sold a large amount of stock, and made their money from that. That may or not be fact. I do know that they did sell stock.

During the early 1950s it was discovered that there was an unknown amount of old dynamite still stored at the PMB. It had been covered by dirt when the old powder magazine had caved in. As I remember it was dated around 1906. In 1953 Dad became worried about this and contacted the Dupont Co. They sent a man in to look it over. He set a charge in the old powder and set it off. It made a pretty big hole and lifted out one tree roots and all. His comment after that was, if anyone ever asks if old dynamite is dangerous, there is the answer.

The old mine has been caved in at the entrance for as long as I have known anything about the property. It flows a pretty big stream of water, and it is bad. It has so much iron in it that it kills all living things anywhere it flows. We tried several times to ditch it in one direction, but it is only a matter of time before it fills the ditch with solids and goes its own way, killing anything in its way. The water in that area is all loaded with iron. It all flows into Iron Creek, which explains how it got its name. Up higher on some of the claims there is both good and bad water, sometimes coming from the same area.

After Dad's death there was again the problem of what to do with the property. There was only 5 claims that were still in the old partnership. All the rest were in partnership with Baker. That made things a little better, as he could be dealt with. I was in constant contact with Darley, and he was still able to get out and about. We made some trips together and he got me started in the right direction for finding where the claims were. I spent about all of my free time finding the claim corners. Most of the ones with any timber left were in a very inaccessible area. All of the timber had been cut where it was accessible. The Forest Service had laid out sale areas around the claims, and they furnished me with estimates and maps they had made up. At the time they had no plans for any road building in the area, and had no estimate as to when they would have sales in that area.

PART SEVEN - continued

We decided that the first thing to do was to get the partnership taken care of. Several things were suggested, one of them was that Baker might buy the entire group of claims. Baker's main interest was first the Asiatic, which he already owned. As he was a geologist, his other interest was in the mines. After some thought, he declined to buy the entire group of claims. As the Pass Me By property had already had the timber cut, a trade was made. He took the group of PMB claims and mother kept the remaining claims. In some ways this was not a very good trade as the claims that Baker kept had a road thru most of them. It did however clear up the old partnership on all but 5 claims. The remaining claims went to the top of the hill at nearly timber line and went on the other side for some distance. The forest Service had sold timber right up to the private property and it had been logged. That left a strip of timber with a road all the way to the private property. I contacted Orville Jackson in South Fork, who owned Jackson Lumber. As he was a very successful mill operator, I thought that if anyone would be able to cut this strip of timber, he would. We made a trip up to look things over, and he said that he did not feel that the timber was worth him cutting. It was up pretty high, therefore, was not very tall timber and probably ran pretty heavy with rot. The timber that had been cut up against the property showed the same problem. While we were up there, he looked over the other property and looked over the maps of the area. He felt as we all did that the property would not be worth logging until there were more roads in the area. He also was concerned that even with roads in the area, the land was steep enough that logging could be a problem. Even if it was logged, there could be some erosion problems left behind. None of this was a real surprise to me, as I had been over the entire area several time, and felt the same way. The Forest Service had mapped outroads into the area, but had no estimate as to when they would be built. With all of this in mind, the idea of logging the property was pretty much dropped.

After some time had passed, Mother decided that she would like to just get out of her part in the property, and turned it all over to me. As time went on there did not seem to be much of a chance of doing much with any of the property.

A man by the name of Louis Bass from the same area as Baker, was interested in finding a place to build a cabin in the area. We went up and looked over the site where the last mill had been, and he thought that would suit him just fine. I let him have those two claims. He did a little road work and built a very nice summer cabin on the site. The site needed a lot of clean up, he left it the way it was. He said it didn't bother him.

What to do with the remaining claims remained up in the air. They were not accesable. The road thru the PMB property went to far away to be of any help. It was the old road that had been built after the civil war and after it passed the mine it was in pretty bad shape. The lower part of the claims would be suitable for cabin sites, but again no road.

PART SEVEN - continued

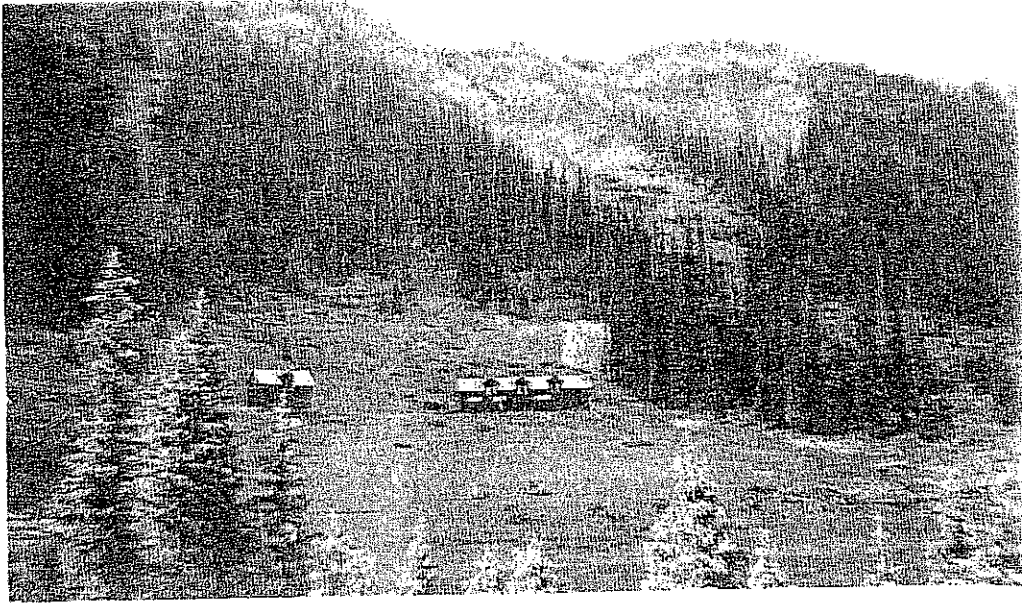
To build a road across Govt. property was getting harder each year, and more expensive.

Taxes on this property had not been a problem, but that was also changing. Conejos County had gotten by for years leaving this property alone. As the years went by they were under more and more pressure to get more revenue. They had no choice but to start raising taxes on this property.

After Bass built his cabin, he became interested in the rest of the property. After some time went by, the rest of the claims were turned over to him. That left only the five claims that were in the old partnership. These were finally turned over to someone from the same area as Baker. At this time I cannot seem to recall his name.

As to what has happened since, not much has changed. After some years, the cabin Bass built went up for sale. The last time I was up there, it was still for sale. I do not know if that includes the rest of the claims or not. As for the five claims, a cabin has been built where the PMB property joins the five claims. Not the most ideal site for a cabin, but guess it has worked out.

The Forest Service has sold timber in the area, and roads were built in the area of the claims. The logging operation has left quite a mess and the roads were closed off after logging operations were finished. After looking at the mess where the area was logged, I am glad the claims were left alone. I doubt if any thing will ever be done with them. They look pretty good left alone.



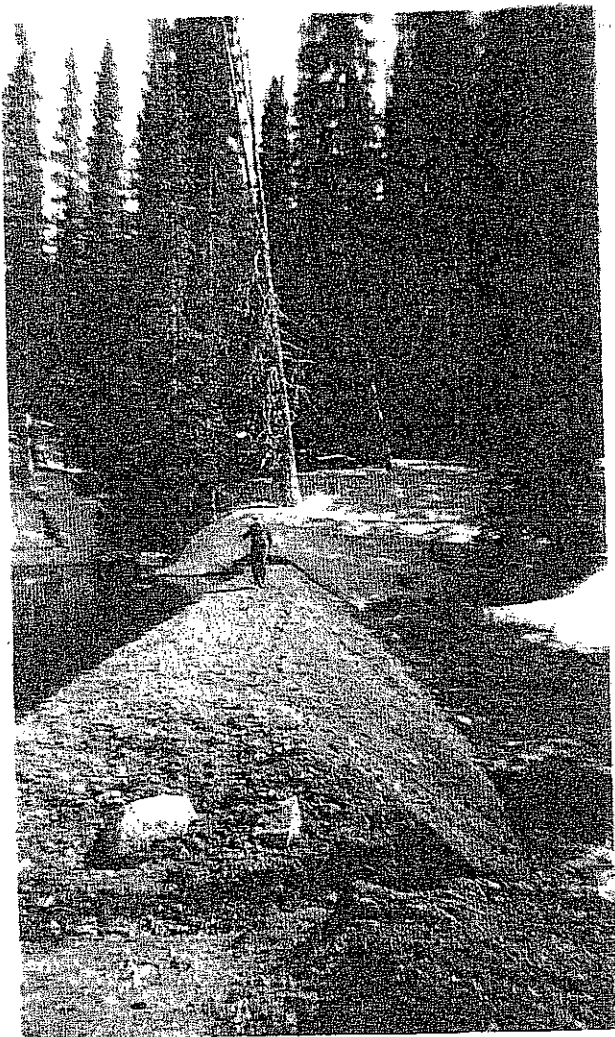
Above - View of the Asiatic mine taken in 1947. The big building was the boarding house, and it was almost identical to the one that was at the Pass Me By Mine.

Below - View of the Dam at the lower lake at the Asiatic. This was taken just after a top coat of fill was added in 1947

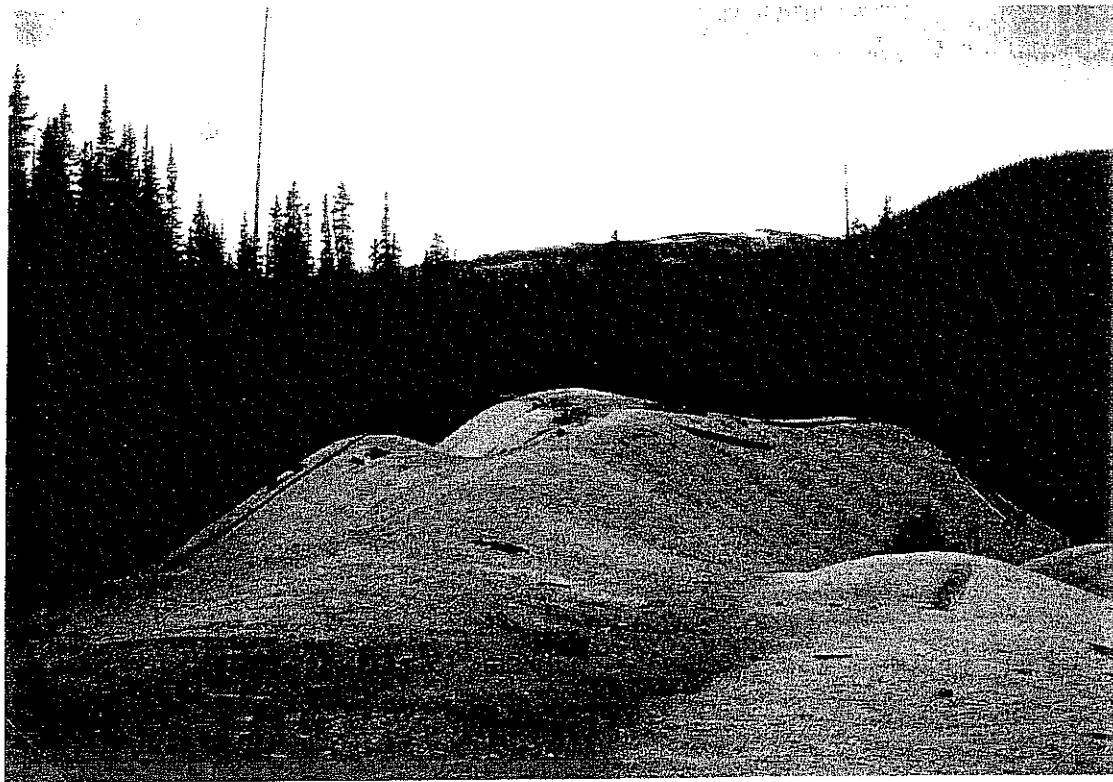




Above - The west Lake at the Asiatic taken in 1947. This lake was later named Lake Annela by Baker in honor of his wife.



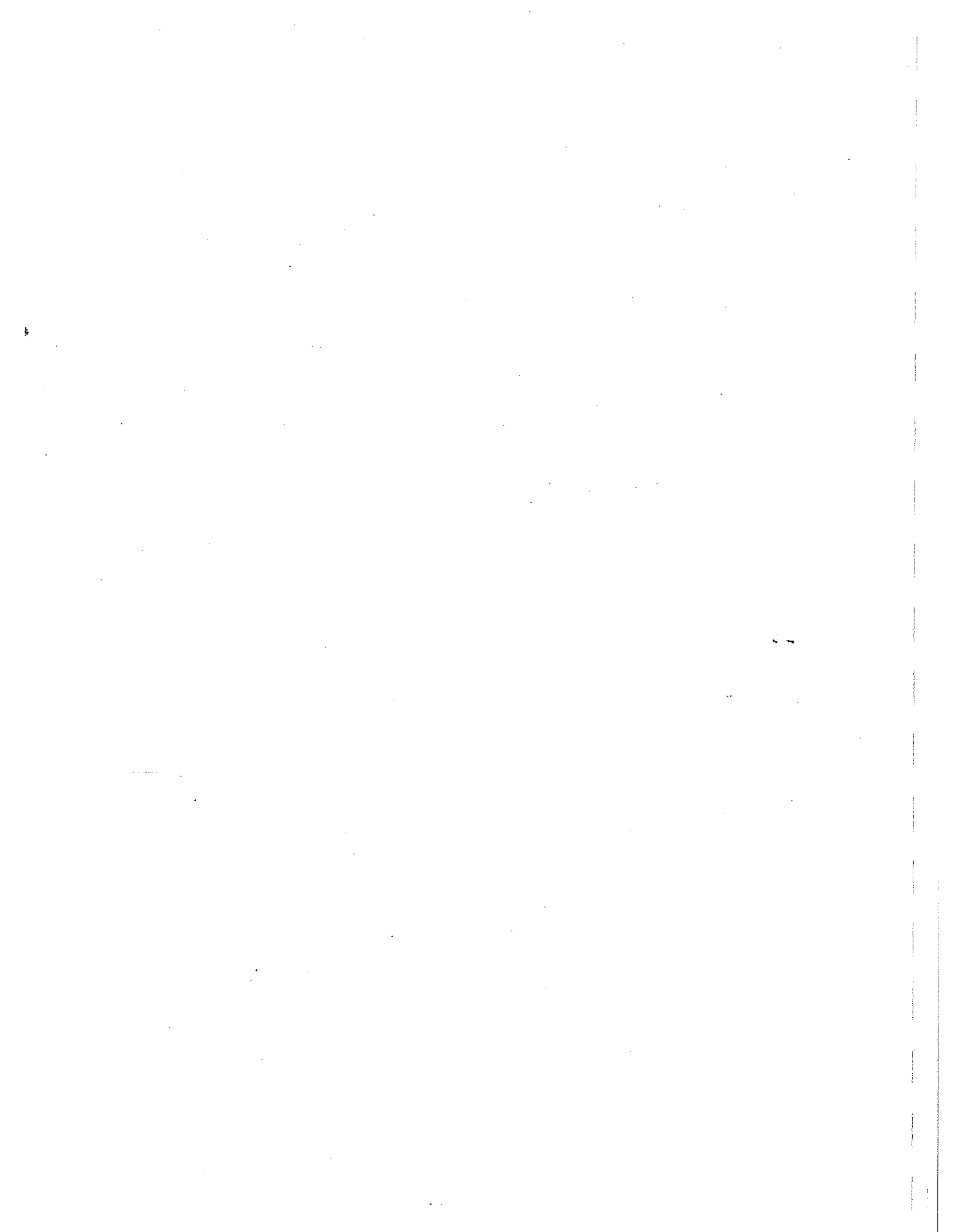
Left - Dad checking the Dam at the west lake in June of 1948. A top coat of fill was added to this dam in 1947 also.



The picture above shows the dump at the Pass Me By Mine. From the looks of the dump there is a very long underground workings. I have heard by some that it is a mile or more deep.

The lower picture was taken from the PMB mine looking across Iron creek to the last big block of Dad's claims. When I was up there in 1995 there had not been anything done with the property.





THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 30, 1956

Dear Mr. Bockhous:

I am more than grateful to you, to Mr. Pearsoll and Mr. McDonald, for combining to send me the beautifully mounted ox shoes to hang in my barn at Gettysburg. I am delighted to have them, particularly because they were found on an old trail in Colorado.

To all of you, my sincere appreciation of your kindness in sending me an intriguing and interesting gift, and for your hope that the ox shoes will bring me good luck.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



Mr. Louis B. Bockhous
Monte Vista
Colorado

Dad, Al Persoll, & O.C. McDonald made up a nice framed set of Oxen shoes and sent them to Eisenhower when he was President. The letter above is the one Dad received from Eisenhower. Note - Eisenhower was familiar with the area, as he used to go fishing with Ted Eckles who was a long time resident of Monte Vista.

\$2.00

1928

No. 83473

STATE OF COLORADO
DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND FISH.

Resident Combined Fishing and Small Game Hunting License

This certifies that Louis B. Bockhaus
whose signature appears hereon and who represents himself to be aresident of Monte Vista, Colorado,
is entitled to fish and to hunt small game in the State of Colorado, in
conformity with law, during the season of 1928.This license is not good after December 31, 1928, is not transferable,
and does not give any protection except to the person to whom issued
and herein named and while in his actual possession.Date July 5 1928Issued by Monte VistaAt MONTE VISTA

Commissioner.

DESCRIPTION OF LICENSEE:

Age 40 Height 6 Weight 180 Sex Male
Color of eyes Gray Color of hair DarkLouis B. Bockhaus
Signature of Licensee.

This License does not authorize transportation or sale.

Upon demand of any officer authorized to make such demand this
License must be immediately produced and an opportunity afforded such
officer to inspect and copy the same.No fee is required for shipments of game or fish within the State,
but birds or fish must bear conspicuously attached (Domestic Certificate,
Form 13).For information concerning fees for Transportation Permits, which
are required for shipments out of the State, communicate with

R. G. PARVIN,

Game and Fish Commissioner, State Capitol, Denver, Colo.

THE SHARPS-SHIMMER MFG. CO., DENVER

Form 479-A

Mr. L. B. BockhausIs hereby Designated a FOREST FIRE WARDEN on the Rio
GrandeNATIONAL FOREST to serve only on such days and
at such times during the season of 1930 as may be necessary in the prevention and
extinguishment of FOREST FIRES and the enforcement of the sanitary regulations pro-
mulgated by the Secretary of Agriculture for the administration of the Forest.He is also authorized to instruct campers and others to use proper care with fire
on the Forest and to require them to leave clean and sanitary camps.5-2-30

(DATE)

R. E. Clark

S P O

FOREST SUPERVISOR.

Above is a 1928 fishing and small game
license issued to Dad, and also a fire
warden card issued to Dad in 1930.

This last section is a history of the Hessel family. I received this information just this summer from Shelley Lindsey, and am very grateful to have received it. (1997) I never knew anything about the Hessel side of the family, so it has been of great interest to me.

As a matter of information, my mother's mother was a Hessel. Her name was Kathryn Hessel. She was the daughter of Conrad Hessel who came to this country from Germany in 1843, and settled in clay county MO in 1847.

In 1949, we made a trip to MO, as mother wanted to visit her aunt Tillie. I have for some time tried to put in place who Aunt Tillie was. I am sure at the time I had it straight, but time had erased that. After looking thru the Hessel information, I at last have it cleared up. Tillie was married to Kathryn's brother Louis. I remember her very well, as she was along in years, as I remember past 80, and she was very active. She still kept house for Anna and Elmer, and she stayed in an upstairs bedroom in the old house. Elmer as far as I know never married. I can't remember if Anna ever married or not. When we were there it seems to me as though Anna may have been working outside the home, but do not remember for sure.

Tillie was really Louise Matilda, but the only thing I ever remember any of the family calling her was Tillie.

I guess the reason I remember the trip back there so well is because I had broken my leg that fall, and had a cast well above the knee. I was on crutches and could not bend my knee. It made for some rather awkward situations at times. Not very far from the farm there was the old home place of the James. That was where both Frank and Jesse were born. Dad found a man in town that was related to them and also sort of looked after the old home place. As it was winter and the place was all locked up, he said for us to go ahead and go out and look around all we wanted. That sounded fine, but I remember we had to crawl thru a fence. That must have been a sight with my leg in a cast and on crutches, but I wasn't about to let that stop me from such an interesting mission. I would guess that the place is a real tourist trap now.

in 1853, locating first in Lafayette county, but settled in Clay county the following year. He died here in 1877 in the seventy-second year of his age. His wife, who was a Miss Brittyann Howe before her marriage, lived to reach the age of 66, dying in 1870. They were both members of the Old School Presbyterian Church, and are buried at Mount Gilead, Clay county, Mo. They had a family of five children, four sons and one daughter; the daughter is dead.

JACOB HESSEL (DECEASED)

(Late of Kearney Township).

On the 13th of August, 1881, died at his homestead in this county, Jacob Hessel, where for over 25 years he was known as one of the highly respected and influential citizens of Kearney township. He was a man who achieved success in life solely by his own exertions and personal worth, and his intelligent appreciation of the conditions and opportunities of life around him. From early circumstances but little or no better than the average of those of the youths among whom he was reared, he rose to a creditable degree of success in life, both in standing and influence. He came of a well respected German family, and was the youngest of five children, born February 14, 1824, in Germany. In 1845 he left the country of his nativity and came to America, locating in Clay county, Mo., in 1846. He was a farmer by occupation, but when the news of the discovery of gold in California reached the citizens of this county, he was drawn into the tide of Western emigrants, and went to the golden coast of that far-off Eldorado, remaining for three years. However, he then returned to Clay county, and here made his home until his death. Successful in the material affairs of life, he had accumulated 216 acres of land, all of which is now under fence, and 160 acres are in cultivation and blue grass pasture. On October 16, 1855, he had been married to one of the fairest daughters of the old Fatherland, Mrs. Maria Bauman, whose maiden name was Moeller. Their family consisted of seven children: William is now in Denver, Col.; Louis is a student at Central Wesleyan College, at Warrenton; Carrie is attending the same school; Mary is living with her mother; Jacob died September 15, 1883; Edward and Henry live on the old homestead and carry on the farming and stock-raising operations. They are enterprising and progressive young agriculturists, and have achieved quite a reputation in the stock business, having sold during the past year two car loads of cattle and one of hogs. Mr. Hessel was a member of the Bethel German M. E. Church. His wife and her children are connected with the same denomination.

CONRAD HESSEL

(Farmer, Post-office, Kearney).

Mr. Hessel is another example of what energy, industry and perseverance, when intelligently applied, have accomplished for those of

Written Approx 1887

foreign birth who have seen fit to locate within the boundaries of this country. Like many of the oldest residents of this county who have become possessed of means and gained a competence sufficient to enable them to pass their later years in ease and retirement, is a native of Germany, having been born there February 8, 1821. Other members of this family have also settled in Clay county from Germany, mention of whom is made elsewhere. The youth of Conrad was passed as those of other youths of the country, and when 22 years of age he left the place of his birth and emigrated to the United States, locating first in Ohio, in 1843, and then in 1847 in Clay county, which has continued to be his home for a period of about 40 years. His beginning in this county was indeed an humble one. Poor in purse, and by no means thoroughly conversant with the customs of this country, he commenced at once with characteristic thrift and industry to situate himself comfortably in life, which he has done, though at a cost of many years of hard toil and labor. The fruit of his success is now seen in the handsome homestead which he owns, a beautifully cultivated farm of 525 acres. In 1855 he was married to Miss Christina Heinz, and to them were born seven children: Fred, Kathrina, Elizabeth, Conrad, Louis, Barbara and Christina. Three of these are married, viz.: Frederick married Miss Katie Weber, and is now engaged in farming in this county; Elizabeth, wife of O. H. Weber, also a farmer, and Kathrina, now Mrs. William H. Stein, whose husband is pastor of the German Methodist Church at Hays City, Kas. Conrad is superintendent of the Sabbath-school connected with the Bethel M. E. Church, of which Mr. and Mrs. Hessel and their children are members. His domestic life has been one of great contentment and happiness, and he has reared a worthy family of children. A progressive farmer and an intelligent citizen, he is held in high respect by all who know him.

JOHN L. HODGES

(Stock Trader, Post Office, Kearney).

It was as early as 1826 that the family of which Mr. Hodges was a member settled in Clay county. His parents were among the pioneer settlers of the county, and became well-to-do and highly respected residents of Fishing River township. His father, Judge Hodges, served as an officer in the Black Hawk War, and was afterward elected a judge of the county court for a number of terms. He was one of the most popular men in the county, and was elected by an almost unanimous vote of the people. He died here in January, 1873. His wife, whose maiden name was Louisana Lingfelter, of German descent, died in April, 1881, in her seventy-seventh year. Judge Hodges had a fine farm of some 400 acres, most of which is still in possession of the family. He was a slaveholder before the war and a man of strong Southern feeling, though he took no active part, on account of his advanced years. Still, he enlisted in the State Guard, for home protection. He was an earnest and consistent member of the Old School Baptist Church, as was also his wife. He was quite zealous for the

THE GENEALOGY OF SIX GERMAN-SWISS FAMILIES

A brief account of the lives of 30 German-speaking emigrant ancestors and their descendants down to about 1920, supplemented by individual family histories and trees issued separately. The six family trees are complete through 1972.

Compiled by Orin F. Nolting

The Families

HARTEL	NEUDECK
<u>HESSEL</u>	NOLTING
IRMINGER	WEBER

Contents

Our Ancestors Came to Clay County
Why They Came and What They Found
Their Life as Farmers
The Communities Where They Lived
Their Churches and Religious Life
Serving Their Country in War
Intermarriages and Longevity
The Arley Church from 1890 to 1920
Family Reunions, 1923-1946
Our Genealogy--Scope and Arrangement

Copyright 1973 by Orin F. Nolting

All rights reserved. No part of this report may be reproduced in any form without the specific permission of the copyright owner.

Preface

This genealogy of six families that originated in Germany and Switzerland is offered to descendants who are interested in their heritage. Thirty ancestors who emigrated to this country more than 125 years ago constitute the first generation since little is known about their families prior to departing for America. This general history covers all six families which were bound together by intermarriages. Brief histories of each family, along with family trees, although issued separately are part of this genealogy.

The idea of preparing family trees originated with a review of the extensive vital statistics recorded in a ledger book by my mother, Emelia Hessel Nolting, during the 1930s. In addition to dates of births, marriages, and deaths, she collected letters, clippings, and photographs. The vital statistics she recorded were inscribed on specially prepared forms which were mailed to selected members of the several families. They were asked to check names and dates, fill in missing information, and bring the record up-to-date.

Unfortunately, any records kept by our ancestors have been lost. Some brought their Bibles, but it seems all except the Hartel Bible have disappeared. Information about branches of some families was not readily available. This necessitated a search of public records, correspondence and visits with older descendants, and checking old church records, early newspaper files, and state and county histories. Gathering and piecing together various bits of information made possible the development of a fairly complete genealogy. While this history covers only the earlier years up to about 1920, the family trees are complete (except as noted) through 1972. The arrangement of the genealogy is explained in the last section of this general history. New names will be added with the passing years, marriages will take place, and family members will die. Such changes, together with corrections and missing data, should be reported to the descendant whose name and address is given in each of the family histories. Hopefully, a decade or so from now someone will update this genealogy.

Preparation of the family genealogies, a tremendously interesting task, could not have been undertaken without the assistance of many descendants. I am indebted to my mother, who died in 1944, for the extremely useful information she collected. Grateful acknowledgment is made for the generous assistance of family members who kindly supplied data for several branches of their family trees. Flora Hessel, for example, prepared the entire record of the Jacob Hessel family. I want to express my sincere thanks to them and also to more than a hundred other descendants who supplied data for their families. Finally, I am grateful to my wife, Mamie, for her encouragement and help in the preparation of this record and for typing the final draft.

This genealogy provides a means of ascertaining relationships and also should give us a better appreciation of our heritage. Though many of our forebears have passed away and others are scattered far and wide, all of us share a common legacy of memories and close ties that bind us together.

The Genealogy of Six German-Swiss Families

Our Ancestors Came to Clay County

Twenty-four members and six in-laws of the families in this genealogy emigrated from Germany and Switzerland between 1842 and 1855 and settled in or near Clay County. They formed two German-speaking communities--one at the Bluffs (Mt. Zoar), three miles southeast of Liberty, and the other at First Prairie (later renamed Arley), 10 miles north of Liberty. All of the first and most of the second generation members of four families have died. Many descendants of all six families live in the Arley community and in the Kansas City metropolitan area, while others are scattered round the country.

The first to reach this country were three families from Switzerland: Rudolph and Susanna Irminger and their five children; Jacob and Catherine Marie Weber and two children; and the Henry Miller family with four children. It seems these families met on shipboard during the 40-day Atlantic ocean voyage to New Orleans. Changing to a Mississippi steamboat they arrived at St. Louis in the autumn of 1842. The Webers remained in St. Louis for the winter, while the Irmingers and Millers came up the Missouri River with the intention of going to Weston, but the Irmingers disembarked at Liberty Landing and the Millers went to Andrew County, Missouri. The Miller family is not included in this study, but two of the children later married into the Irminger and Weber families. The Weber family came to Liberty Landing in the spring of 1843.

Four other families came from Germany. Frederick Hartel, age 34, came to First Prairie in 1842. He was followed in 1845 by his parents and four brothers and sisters. Also in the fall of 1842, Conrad Hessel and his sister Eva Barbara emigrated to Ohio. Eva married a Mr. Hoff in 1843 and moved to the Bluffs in Clay County, while Conrad returned to Germany to get his brother Jacob. They made the trip to Liberty Landing on ships by way of New Orleans and St. Louis. William Nolting came from Germany in 1854, followed soon by Herman Neudeck.

Most of our ancestors were young when they emigrated to this country. Nearly two-thirds were under 30 years of age. Of the immigrants, including in-laws, nine were under 20 years old, nine were between 20 and 29, three from 30 to 39, seven from 40 to 49, and two were over 50 years old. Six were born before 1800, 22 between 1800 and 1839, and two after 1840. Abraham Hartel, 68, and his wife Mary Amelia, 67, were the oldest. The youngest newcomers were the five children of Rudolph Irminger, ages 3 to 13; the two sons of Jacob Weber, Samuel 17 and Henry 15; and Herman Neudeck, probably about 10 years old. The elder Irmingers and Webers were from 43 to 48 years old.

The 30 German-speaking immigrants in the six families were: HARTEL (8)--Abraham and Mary Amelia Hartel and their children, Peter, Elizabeth, Frederick, Catherine, and Jacob, who probably came from a small village west of the Rhine River in the vicinity of Worms in the present state of Rheinland Pfalz. Agnes Selle, wife of Louis Hartel, came with her parents from the Kingdom of Saxony in 1853 and settled near Cameron. HESEL (1)--Conrad Hessel and his wife Gottliebin Heinz; Jacob Hessel and his wife Mary Bauman; and Eva Barbara Hessel, who married Frederick Hartel in 1845. Eva was a sister of Conrad and Jacob. The Hessels and Conrad's wife probably came from what is now Baden-Wuerttemberg. IRMINGER (10)--Rudolph Irminger, his wife Susanna Hoppler, and their

five children, came from Switzerland. Rudolph was born in Wildegg 15 miles west of Zurich in the Lenzburg district of Canton (state) Aargau. Three of Rudolph's children married immigrants--John to Katharine Hammel of Darmstadt, Germany; Henry to Anna Frances Miller from Canton Aargau, Switzerland; and Elizabeth to John Brenner from Neuhausen, Bavaria. Anna Frances was a daughter of the Henry Miller family that came over with the Irmingers and Webers in 1842. NEUDECK (1)--Herman Neudeck was born in Germany and came with his parents in the mid 1850s. NOLTING (1)--William Nolting emigrated in 1854 from the village of Eisbergen in Lower Saxony, Germany, and settled at Dalton, Missouri. WEBER (5)--Jacob F. Weber and his wife, Catherine Marie, came from Switzerland in 1842 and with their sons Samuel and Henry settled at the Bluffs. Samuel in 1847 married Anna Emily, daughter of Rudolph and Susanna Irminger, and Henry married Mary Hammel from Darmstadt, sister of Catherine who married John Irminger.

Also prominent in the Arley community was the Neth family that emigrated from the state of Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany. The first was Michael Neth and his wife Margaret and three children (Jacob, Sr., George, Sr., and Conrad), who came to Liberty Landing in the early 1860s and settled in the Arley community. George Neth, Sr. married Catherine Schmitt who had come from Germany in 1854 with her parents, Werner and Gertrude, and the three lived for a time with Conrad and Gottlieb Hessel.

The second Neth family was that of J. George Neth and his wife, Mary Sautter, who were married in Oeschingen, Wuerttemberg, in 1864 and came to the United States in 1888 with their young sons George, Adolph, and Carl. Three other sons (Jacob, Jr., Conrad, and William) had come a few years earlier. Jacob, Jr. worked on the farm of George Neth, Sr., son of Michael. Conrad found employment on the Valentine Moog farm and William worked for a time for Otto Weber. (The Neth family is not included in this report: a family tree and history may be available later in 1973).

Since little is known about the forebears of our emigrating ancestors it seems logical to consider the 30 persons who came from Europe as the first generation. Several slight changes were made in surnames and English equivalents replaced German names. The emigrant Irmingers as early as the 1860s added the letter "n". In recent generations some Hessel and Hartel families have added an extra letter "l". William Nolting's name was Heinrich Friedrich Wilhelm Nolting. He dropped the first two names and changed the spelling of Wilhelm. In other families such given names as Ludwig changed to Louis, Johann Heinrich to John Henry, Maria became Mary, and so on. The spelling of surnames in this genealogy is that used by most branches of the several families.

Why They Came to Missouri and What They Found

Our ancestors left no record of why they decided to leave their homeland and come to Missouri to settle at the very frontier of westward expansion. They were among the thousands of German-speaking people who emigrated during the two decades after 1840. The situation in Germany, however, indicates they came in search of a better life, equal of rights, and more religious and political freedom. They probably were disheartened also by the failure of the movement in Germany in the 1840s to create a republican form of government. Widespread distress, poverty, and crop failures on farms added to their woes. In any event it seems they came with no expectation or desire to return to their homeland.

There is another reason for the German emigration to Missouri. This was a report published in Germany in 1829 extolling in glowing terms the attractions of Missouri as a place to live. It was written by Gottfried Duden, who was born in Mulheim in 1785 of wealthy parents. He believed Germany had an excess of population and he sought to persuade Germans to come to this country where land was plentiful and cheap. Failing in his attempts to obtain reliable information on conditions in this country, Duden decided to make a first-hand study.

Coming to Warren County in 1824, Duden bought 270 acres near Warrenton, Missouri, built a home, and farmed for three years. He returned to Germany in 1827 to sell Missouri to his countrymen. Some typical statements in his report were: "The State of Missouri, on account of its clear sky, is much more conducive to good health than is Germany.....There is no cause for fear of any kind of political hinderance...German immigrants are always welcome here.....Even a foreigner may acquire land."* On the grounds of the county courthouse at Warrenton is a large bronze plaque commemorating the work of Duden "in promoting Missouri as an ideal spot and inspiring a large number of Germans to emigrate to Missouri."

Our ancestors and thousands of other Germans came to Missouri in the 1840s. Missouri in 1821 had become the second state west of the Mississippi River. Clay County, organized in 1822, was on the frontier; what is now Platte County was Indian territory. The first settlers in Clay County probably came in 1819, chiefly from Kentucky, and during the next decade more southerners arrived bringing their slaves. The first land grants were made in the mid-1820s. Liberty, a small village, was the county seat; formal incorporation came in 1829. Three-fourths of Clay County was a wilderness of large oak, walnut, and other trees that sheltered bear, elk, wild turkeys, and deer.

The Missouri River was the principal trade route. On the bend in the river three miles south of Liberty a place known as Liberty Landing was established in 1826 where steamboats could unload and take on passengers and goods. On the bluff overlooking the Landing the federal government in 1836 erected an arsenal consisting of 12 buildings to serve as an outpost or fort. In the 1850s a tobacco warehouse and a hemp factory were built at the Landing.** Mt. Zoar, also called the Bluffs, where our Swiss-born ancestors settled, was about a mile east of the Landing.

Across the river was Independence Landing, a principal point of departure for Santa Fe Trail traffic. Toward the end of the 1830s Westport Landing (at the foot of what is now Grand, Walnut and Main streets, Kansas City, Missouri) became the head of trade to the southwest and Oregon. Among other developments was the imprisonment of Joseph Smith, Mormon prophet, in the Liberty jail for four months in 1838. The first Negro slave auction in Liberty apparently was held in 1835 on the steps of the newly built courthouse. Such auctions were held annually until 1859 or possibly 1861.

* Makers of America-Builders of a New Nation, 1801-1848. Encyclopaedia Britannic Educational Corporation, 1971, p.125.

**Ruins of the arsenal at Liberty Landing are to be found on top of the bluff a short distance west of Highway 291. Below these ruins across the railroad tracks on what was formerly the bank of the river is a large rock where steamboats docked. This landing place was partially destroyed in 1906 by government engineers but two large hooks embedded in the rock seem to prove this was where our ancestors disembarked.

When our ancestors came to Clay County the frontier was about to be pushed westward. The Oregon trail had been opened in 1841 and Kit Carson and Jim Bridger served as guides for wagon trains starting from Westport Landing or other points, going west on this trail as well as on the Santa Fe and California trails. The present site of Kansas City, Kansas, was occupied by the Delaware Indians, and in 1843 the Wyandottes came from Ohio. Westport Landing in 1845 became the port of entry to the Mexican border. From 40 to 50 steamboats a week landed men and goods at the levee for service in the Mexican War (1845-46). But even as late as 1860 Kansas City, Missouri, had a population of only 5,000 compared with 3,000 for Weston. Other happenings in the 1840s include the rains and flood of 1844, the founding of the Liberty Tribune in 1846, the establishment of William Jewell College in 1849, and the gold rush to California in the same year. Two of our ancestors, Conrad and Jacob Hessel, joined a wagon train on the three-month or longer trip. The James boys, Frank and Jesse, were born in the mid-1840s on a farm near Kearney. The population of Missouri jumped from 384,000 in 1840 to 682,000 in 1850.

Their Life as Farmers

Our ancestors supposedly came from small villages or farms in their homelands. Their first concern upon reaching Clay County in the 1840s was to acquire farm land, which the government sold at \$1.25 an acre. Land bought from an earlier settler cost up to \$6 an acre. A 160-acre farm may have had less than 40 acres of tillable land because of the wilderness. The chief crops in the early days were corn, hemp or flax, and tobacco. Farming was hard work--clearing land of trees, building homes, and planting and harvesting crops.

Much of the government land in both the Arley (First Prairie) and MtZoar communities was acquired by settlers during the years between 1825 and 1840. It is believed, however, that Conrad Hessel at Prairie and Rudy Irminger at Zoar bought some land from the government in the 1840s. The largest landowner in the Prairie area was David M. Bevins, born in Kentucky in 1805, who had 5,000 acres. Bevins in the 1850s erected a large brick plantation-type home a mile east of Arley and had quarters for slaves near the house. When Jacob Hessel died in 1881 he had 600 acres. In the Zoar community the largest landowner in the first decade of this century was John Lindau with more than 500 acres. Other large holdings at Zoar in the early 1900s were 300 acres for William Irminger and 240 for Samuel Weber. Fred Hessel in 1920 owned 1,250 acres in the Arley area and his brother Conrad had 440 acres.

Life on the farm did not change much during the several decades prior to the First World War. About the time of the war the farmer's year began in the spring with the planting of corn in early May; cultivated three times, it was "laid by" in early July. By this time wheat and oats were ready to cut with a binder and the bundles were shocked to dry. The threshing season started in late July. A steam engine pulling a thresher went from one farm to another with farmers helping each other with bundle wagons and pitchforks. The bundles of wheat were hauled to the thresher, and the grain was hauled to the farmer's granary. Hearty meals were prepared and served to the workers by the farmers' wives. Meanwhile, hay was cut and stacked or put up in the barn loft. By late August the farmer had a little free time to attend camp meeting at Arley and Chautauqua at Plattsburg. Then in September wheat land was plowed and

disked for sowing another crop of wheat, some of the corn was cut and put in silos, and later the remaining corn was either husked or cut with a corn knife or binder and shocked. Apples were picked, crated, and stored in the cellar.

Miscellaneous farm chores included mending fences; cutting down trees and sawing wood for the kitchen and the "front" room stoves; milking cows twice a day; feeding horses, cattle, hogs, and chickens; and pumping water from wells for the stock. Hogs were butchered in December by the farmer for his own use and hams and sides of bacon were hung in the smoke house. During the slack winter months the farmer had some free time to work on harness in his tool shop, to shell corn, and do other inside work. The farmer's young sons would set traps for skunks, muskrats, and possum. In early spring as weather permitted, the farmer prepared fields for planting corn and thus began another year of sowing and harvesting. Sunday was always a day of rest and going to church; a farmer would not work in the field or do other work on The Lord's Day.

Weather was an important factor in farming. Often there was too much rain at the wrong time, or not enough. Crops could be ruined; wheat in wet shocks might sprout and most of the crop lost. Mud was a part of life for every person. Children walked a mile or more to school on muddy roads and farm feeding lots had deep mud. Roads were often too muddy for wagons and for motor cars as well.

The farmer's wife had a hard lot, what with cooking meals on a wood-burning or kerosene stove, planting and tending a garden, gathering eggs and feeding chickens, and sometimes working in the fields. She also sewed much of the clothing worn by her children and husband. The younger children would assist her with these and many other chores, while the older children worked in the fields and helped with the stock.

Farming was a good occupation up to the very end of the year 1920. During the First World War and for two years after it ended the demand for farm products meant a good income for the farmer. Some farmers acquired additional acreage and most farm families bought their first automobile. The boom came to a sudden halt at the end of December, 1920, and for the next two decades farming was a somewhat less attractive occupation.

The Communities Where They Lived

The prospect of the six-week trip by ship across the Atlantic apparently did not discourage our ancestors. They looked forward to a better life in Missouri. Upon reaching this "promised land" they followed the pattern of other ethnic groups of gathering in small settlements and holding on to their language and customs as long as possible.

At Mt. Zoar, Samuel Weber and Rudy Irminger established homes near each other. Jacob and Mary Weber lived with their son Samuel. Marie died in 1851. The Rudolph Irminger home was about a quarter of a mile to the south near the present Baptist Church. The Henry Weber and John Irminger families also had homes nearby. The first homes were log cabins "chinked with mud" and with clapboard roofs. Cabins had fireplaces and tallow candles gave them light. Generally there was a spinning wheel and hand-braided rugs were spread on the floors. Later the log cabins were enlarged or rebuilt as sawed timber frame buildings.

The Samuel Webers in the 1850s erected a brick house which stood until about 1930 when it burned down. The church built near the cemetery in 1871 was abandoned at the turn of the century when Henry Irminger and Samuel Weber moved to Arley, having lived at Zoar 60 years. John Lindau bought their farms and the Lindau family lived in the Henry Irminger home until sometime in the 1920s when they moved to Liberty. Henry Weber died in 1882 and his wife in 1895, Henry's father Jacob having died in 1874. John and Henry Irmingers' parents, Rudolph and Susanna, died in the mid-1870s and John's wife Katherine in 1894. After John died in 1904, only William, his son, and John Lindau continued to live at Mt. Zoar. The McKamins, who had come from Kentucky or Tennessee, left the Bluffs between 1906 and 1910 to live in or near Iola, Kansas. Members of this family had married into the Irminger and Weber families.

The First Prairie (Arley) farm community had no fixed center until 1877 when the present church was built. The early Hartel home had been located on a hill a short distance southeast of the church site. Frederick and Eva Hartel and later their son Conrad and his wife Elizabeth lived here. From 1845 until sometime in the mid-1860s religious services were held in the homes of members. A two-room building, probably erected soon after the Civil War ended, served as a residence for the pastor and a place to hold church services. This small house across the road from the present church building was used as the pastor's residence after the present church was built in 1877. A decade or more later the small house, remodeled and enlarged by Rudolph H. Weber, became the home of the Conrad Hartel family.

Meanwhile, William Hartel, soon after he married Elizabeth Weber in 1886, built a house one-fourth mile south of Arley. He died in 1895 and in 1903 Samuel and Anna Weber made their home here. The Henry Irminger family also left Zoar about 1903 and lived in the house just south of the Hartel home at Arley. It seems Rudolph Weber did much to develop the Arley community. In the late 1880s he built a two-story frame structure across the road northeast from the church. He and his wife Sophie (married 1891) lived on the second floor and operated a general store on the first floor. A blacksmith shop was built just east of the Weber store.

In 1893 Rudolph, believing a larger store building was needed, erected a brick building almost directly across the road from the church. A three-room apartment was provided above the back of the store building. The Edward Nolting family lived here from 1904 to 1914 and operated the general store which also served as a post office from about 1895 until a rural delivery route was established a decade or so later. The store continued in operation for some years. Business declined, however, and after standing unused for several years it was destroyed by fire in 1949.

Many of the homes in the Arley community also were erected during the period from 1885 to 1900. The Fred Hessel home, for example, was built in 1887. Most of these homes are still in use. During the 1890s the church building was enlarged with the addition of the north wing and the present parsonage was erected. With all this activity, Rudolph Weber in 1893 believed a new name for the community was in order. His sister, Mrs. Fred Hessel, suggested the name of "Arley" in honor of the one-year old son of the Ot Webers. Thus the names of First Prairie and Bethel church were abandoned. The Rudolph Webers in 1901 moved to Kansas City, Kansas, to enter the real estate business.

The Mt. Zoar community was active for six decades, 1842-1903, when the Arley community became the main center of the Hartels, Hessels, Irmingers, Netths, Neudeck Noltings, and Webers. Nearly all of the earlier generation members had been farmers

or married farmers. The Hessel, Irminger, Neth, and Weber families lived to the west and northwest of Arley. Some Hessel and Neth families also had farms to the south and east of Arley while the Neudeck and Nolting families were also to the east. While many descendants of the original immigrants still are farmers around Arley, others have entered occupations and professions that have taken them to all parts of the country. This trend was especially strong after 1920.

The Bluffs also has been called Nebo by some early residents. The importance of this area in the history of Missouri was recognized in March, 1971, when the U. S. Department of the Interior, at the request of the state parks commission, placed Nebo Hill in the National Register of Historic Places.

Arley area residents had close connections with three other communities. One was Mt. Gilead, four miles to the east, where a public school (log cabin) had been built in 1835. Nine years later a church was erected nearby, to be replaced in 1873 by the present brick structure which is still in use. One of the leaders at Gilead was Alfred M. Riley, who was 20 in 1826 when he came with his parents to Clay County from Kentucky. Gilead was the only public elementary school in Clay County to stay open throughout the Civil War. Conrad Hartel was eight years old in 1861 when he came to the Gilead School after the Harsel school southwest of Arley closed. Four years later when the war ended Conrad attended the newly established school a mile west of Arley. In later years (1910-20) Gilead was attended by children of the Edward Hessel, Walter Neudeck, and Edward Nolting families.

Another nearby community six miles to the east of Arley was the town of Kearney founded in 1856 as Centerville. Twenty families lived there at the start of the Civil War but only three were left when the war ended. Kearney began to rebuild in 1867 when the railroad from Cameron to Kansas City was under construction. Fred Hessel in 1890 was one of the organizers of the Kearney Commercial Bank. Arley residents traded in Kearney and came here to get the train to Kansas City and other places until the arrival of the motor car and better roads.

The third community was Liberty, 10 miles south of Arley and three miles northwest of Mt. Zoar. On the first Monday of each month farmers went to auctions held on the courthouse square and to do business with county officers. When the farmers switched from horse-drawn vehicles to motor cars at the end of the first world war, Liberty began to replace Kearney as a shopping center. Some family members lived in Liberty, including several Irminger families, the John Lindaus, and in later years the Albert and Milton Hessel families, Marvin Hessel, and others.

In retrospect, it seems reasonable, at least to this writer, to think of the first two decades of the 1900s as the most memorable years. Many would include the 1890s as well. During all or some of these three decades the Conrad Hartels, Henry Irmingers, and Edward Noltings lived in Arley. Down the road to the south were the homes of Fred Bauman, Samuel Weber, Louis Hessel, Jacob Neth, Edward Hessel, and Henry Hincken. West and north of Arley lived Fred Hessel, Otto Weber, Rudolph Irminger, Conrad Hessel, and others, while to the east were Ben Moreland, Walter Neudeck, and later Edward Nolting. The homes of many of these families, built mainly in the decade or so prior to 1900, are still occupied by descendants.

Their Churches and Religious Life

One of the most cohesive features in the lives of our forebears was the church as a religious and social center. The sustaining force that gave them courage to press on in spite of hardships was their faith in God. Among the prized possessions brought from their homeland was the family Bible. Religion in both the Mt. Zoar and First Prairie (Arley) communities was faithfully practiced in the church and lived in the homes. Daily home reading of the Bible followed by prayer, usually at night before retiring, was a common family custom.

As faithful Christians holding strong religious beliefs our ancestors established churches. In 1845, with the assistance of the Reverend Heinrich Neulsen, the Mt. Zoar German M.E. Church was organized at the Bluffs, the highest point between Kansas City and St. Louis. Charter members were Rudolph and Susanna Irminger, Jacob and Marie Weber and their sons, Henry and Samuel, and also the five Irminger children--Anna, John, Rudolph, Henry, and Elizabeth--all of them from Switzerland. Sunday services were held in homes until 1871 when a small frame church was built across the road from the Samuel Weber home and less than half a mile north of Nebo Hill where the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church had been erected the previous year.

Baptisms and weddings were held in Zoar church, including the marriage of Fred Hessel and Katharine Weber in 1880. For some 40 years it seems the same minister served both the Zoar and Bethel (First Prairie) churches. The Zoar church had an active congregation until the turn of the century. Many had died, and when Henry Irminger and Samuel Weber moved to Arley in 1903 services were discontinued. The church was torn down in 1925 and the church bell became the property of Conrad Hartel.

Soon after the Zoar church was organized, Heinrich Neulsen went to First Prairie to help establish the Bethel German M. E. Church. Charter members in 1845 were Conrad and Gottliebin Hessel, Jacob and Mary Hessel, Frederick and Eva Hartel, Peter Hartel, Nicholas and Katherine Frick, John and Elizabeth Fisher, and Gottlieb and Elizabeth Loeffler--all of whom had come from Germany. Services were held in homes, as at Zoar, for a couple of decades until a two-room house was built on a lot deeded by Frederick Hartel. This house, enlarged in the late 1880s, became the home of Conrad Hartel. In 1876 a committee composed of Conrad and Jacob Hessel and Frederick Hartel was authorized to raise funds for the construction of a church "in the Hartel and Hessel neighborhood." It was decided that subscriptions "unless paid immediately will bear interest at 10 per cent until paid." A total of \$738 was subscribed with the Hartels, Hessels, Irmingers, Webers, Baumans, and Fishers contributing about \$600 of this amount. Jacob and Mary Hessel deeded a half-acre of land for the site and the building was completed in 1877 at a cost of \$730. The church was enlarged by the addition of the north wing in 1895. Four years later the parsonage was erected on an adjoining lot deeded by Fred and Mary Bauman.

The Zoar and First Prairie congregations were part of a circuit of German M. E. churches which in the 1860s included Line Creek (near Parkville), Weston, and Cameron. Weston was later transferred to another circuit, and in 1879 when Cameron was taken out, First Prairie and Zoar were left as a pastoral charge. Prairie (renamed Arley in 1893) became a separate charge in 1895. When English language replaced German after 1917 the German conferences were merged with the English-speaking districts.

Two Kirchenbuchs (church books), now the property of the Arley church, contain minutes in German of quarterly meetings held by representatives of the several churches from 1862 to 1886 except for the last three years of the Civil War. Consideration was given to assignment of pastors, selection of committees, designation of local preachers, finances, and other matters. Minutes of meetings beginning with 1872 show that Central Wesleyan College at Warrenton received the support of the conference, and plans for building churches at Bethel and Cameron were discussed.

A typical meeting was one held at Zoar in 1862. The group elected as trustees John Brenner, Conrad and Jacob Hessel, Henry and John Irminger, Frederick Hartel, and Henry and Samuel Weber. In 1865 after the end of the war several new names appear in the conference minutes through 1886, including Fred Hessel, Fred Hartel, Jr., Jacob Hessel, Jr., Jacob Hartel, John Lindau, William Irminger, John and Louis Weber, Edward Hessel, Otto Weber, Conrad and William Hartel, George Neth, V. Moog, and Louis J. Hessel.

During the 1860s among the leaders at the Line Creek Church were Jacob, Peter, and Mary Bauman; John, Henry, Phillip, Catharine, and Susanna Brenner; Christopher, John, Eva, and Katarina Klamm; and Phillip and Mary Elizabeth Groh (Brenner). Leaders at Weston were John, Philip, Mary, and Catherine Hammel; Henry and John Schreck, and Louis and Catherine Heinz. At Bethel (First Prairie) the leaders were Conrad and Gottlieb Hessel, Jacob and Mary Hessel; Frederick and Eva Hartel; Peter and Fred Hartel, Jr.; John, Carl, Henry, and Nicholas Frick; John and Elizabeth Fisher; and Fred Bauman. Leaders at Zoar church (Bluffs) were Rudolph and Susanna Irminger, Henry and Verana Irminger, John and Katherine Irminger, Samuel and Anna Weber, Jacob Weber, and Henry and Mary Weber. At Cameron: William Stein, Adolph Selle, Carl Meyer, and Jacob Ulrich.

An important event in life, then as now, was the baptism of children. This generally took place within three to six months after birth, and a rather complete record, from 1850 to 1870 inclusive, was kept in two of the old church books now belonging to the Arley Church. The record includes date of birth, date baptized, church (Prairie, Zoar, Line Creek, Cameron, or Weston), name of child, names of parents, and name of the minister.

Considering the role of the church and the Christian faith of our ancestors it is not surprising that a good number were ministers. Three daughters of Henry and Verana Irminger married ministers: Lydia to Elias C. Miller, Drucilla to George S. Roeder, and Emma to Louis J. Hessel. A son of the Irmingers, Louis H., was in the ministry. Among others in the earlier generations who entered the ministry were William Hartel, William Joyce Hessel, Edwin O. Hessel, William R. Hessel, Walter Westover, and more recently Lowell R. Ditzen, Carl C. Hackman, and Elmer Lee Wilhelm. Several girls, in addition to the three already named, married ministers: Irene Hartel to William H. Hackman, Etta Hessel to L.W.C. Emig, Katherine Hessel to William H. Stein, Emma Hartel to John Tuschhoff, and Elsa May Hartel to Frank W. Clelland.

Since pastors generally served more than one church, it was the practice of the quarterly conference to designate local preachers and advisers. Local preachers were lay church leaders who served without salary in the absence of the pastor which included officiating at marriages and conducting funerals. "Advisers" supposedly admonished and encouraged members in their Christian faith. Among those given one or the other of these assignments were Samuel Weber, John Brenner, Henry Irminger, Valentine Moog, and Conrad Hartel. 314

The Mt. Zoar and First Prairie churches had cemeteries close by. The Mt. Zoar Cemetery is the resting place for Rudolph and Susanna Irminger; John and Katherine Irminger; Jacob Weber; Henry and Mary Weber; Edna, daughter of Henry and Verana Irminger; and six children who died in infancy--Juanita Lindau; John, Emma, and Julian (children of the John Irmingers); Martin Hammel; and Cloyd Irminger, young son of Louis H. and Mary Irminger. Across the road are the graves of William Schreck, a minister, his wife Lisetta, and the graves of Christina (two months) and Elizabeth (5 years old), daughters of the Samuel Webers. Mary Hoff, who died in 1877, also was buried nearby. Mrs. Jacob Weber, who died in 1851, was buried in the cemetery of the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church on Nebo Hill.

Many of the first and second generation members of our six families were buried in the Arley Cemetery. Among them are Frederick and Eva Hartel, Peter Hartel, Conrad and Gottlieb Hessel, Henry and Verana Irminger, Samuel and Anna Weber, Jacob and Mary Hessel, Fred and Katharine Hessel, Otto and Elizabeth Weber, Conrad and Elizabeth Hessel, Louis and Matilda Hessel, Rudolph and Christine Irminger, Edward and Emelia Nolting, and Edward and Ida Hessel. An older family burial plot in a wooded area back of the Louis Hessel home contains the graves of Abraham and Amelia Hartel; Jacob and Susan Hartel; and Mary and Lydia Hessel, sisters of Fred Hessel, who died in infancy; and William Neth, brother of George Neth, Sr.

Our ancestors left a legacy of their unwavering faith in God. They were strong in their stand for righteousness. Their actions and voices still ring across the years. Our forefathers' example is our rich heritage. Perhaps this explains why so many descendants are active church members.

Serving Their Country In War

Military service was something our ancestors probably did not expect in this country. But when the Civil War began they joined the Union Forces, even though most Clay County volunteers enlisted on the Confederate side. Among those from the Zoar and First Prairie communities who served the North in Missouri infantry companies were John H. Frick, Carl Frick, Phillip Hammel, Louis Hartel, Conrad Hessel, John and Henry Irminger, Jacob Neth, Jr., Herman Neudeck, and Henry and Samuel Weber. John Frick and Louis Hartel, too young to join up at the start of the war, volunteered in 1864 when they were about 18 or 19 years old. Phillip Hammel, a private in Company B, 17th Missouri Infantry, was shot in the mouth in the skirmish at Lone Jack. Conrad Hessel received wounds in both legs and Herman Neudeck was wounded. But all returned home when the war ended.

The only battle fought in Clay County took place at Blue Mills north of the Missouri River and approximately a mile east of highway 291. More than 3,000 men, about evenly divided between the two sides, were engaged in this skirmish which the Confederates won. Sixty wounded Union soldiers were treated in William Jewell College classrooms and moved next day to Kansas City hospitals.

Guerrilla bands murdered and plundered throughout the war in Clay County. The Office of the Adjutant General in St. Louis in August, 1862, issued an order requiring all able-bodied men to join the state militia in order "to exterminate guerrillas that infest our state." Volunteers were asked to bring their own guns and a "good horse." Apparently our ancestors served in the Missouri state militia.

No state in the Union was more bitterly divided in its loyalties than Missouri. Pro-slavery sentiment was strongest in the west and south parts of the state, while the St. Louis area, where more than half of the inhabitants were foreign born, was strongly pro-Union. Families emigrating to Clay County from Kentucky and Tennessee had brought slaves with them. The German-speaking residents of the county had no slaves. They also knew from their life in Germany that it was not wise to rebel against the government.

The only record of Civil War experience left by our ancestors was written by John H. Frick. He wrote "Recollections of the Civil War", published in the July, 1925, issue of the Missouri Historical Review. When the war started in 1861 he was 16 years old and lived with his parents on a farm six miles northwest of Liberty. He recalls having visited the wounded federal soldiers at William Jewell College after the Blue Mills battle. In July, 1864, when he was 19 he joined the army and served under Captain John Younger. Frick's unit was sent east through counties north of the Missouri River to search for the Confederates who seemed to elude the Union forces. Upon reaching Glasgow, however, they encountered a strong Confederate force which was ready to fight. Frick's horse was shot from under him and his unit was soon surrounded and captured. The captured Union soldiers were taken to Jefferson City where they were put on a train (their first train ride) to St. Louis. Here they were exchanged for Confederates captured by the North and sent home by train which made a short stop at Warrenton. Corporal Samuel Weber inquired at the station "can you tell us where the German institution is?" and Frick reports he saw in the distance the Central Wesleyan College building, CWC having been established only two months earlier.

The Hannibal and St. Joseph R. R. train took the Union boys to Cameron which was the nearest railroad station to Liberty. From here they walked to Plattsburg and rode in wagons from this town to Liberty. Mustered out in March, 1865, Frick enlisted in the Missouri Volunteer Militia and encouraged others to join him, including Louis Hartel, Jacob Neth, and Gottfried Loeffler--all from First Prairie. By this time the Confederates were surrendering, but Frick did not get his discharge until July when he was paid for the total time served.

A half century after the close of the Civil War the beginning of the First World War was a "trying experience" for the German-speaking Arley Community. But when this country entered the war in 1917 among the boys who joined the armed forces were Arley and Henry Weber, Victor T. Frick, Bertram and Clarence Hessel, Herbert Hartel, Victor and James Irminger, Fred Neth (son of Jacob Neth, Sr) and Carl Fred Musbach. Both Victor and Jim Irminger were with the 5th Regiment of Marines attached to the 2nd Division, A.E.F. They fought in the Argonne and at Belleau Woods where Jim was killed on June 23, 1918. Two other men were killed in battle--Fred Musbach and Fred Neth. Victor went on to participate in the battles of Chateau Thierry and Verdun. After the armistice he served in the Army of Occupation at Koblenz for eight months. He had been wounded in the Argonne fighting and was gassed in a later battle. In a letter written at the "front" in 1918, Victor told his mother that Tobe, a mule he had sold the government a year earlier, was hauling water for his company.

Many family members served and some gave their lives in the Second World War, Korea War, and in Vietnam, but since this report covers only the years prior to 1920, no attempt was made to compile lists of names. It is known that family members Glen Hartel, Marv Lohmeyer, and Keith Peters were killed in action in the Second World War.

Intermarriages and Longevity

Our six families from the beginning were brought together by intermarriages as well as through close church connections. This was especially true of the families at the Bluffs and First Prairie. There were 17 intermarriages, the first in 1845 and the last in 1914, between members of the six families during the early generations. These intermarriages are listed by surnames of the women:

Eva Barbara Hessel--Frederick Hartel	1845	Sophie Neudeck--Rudolph H. Weber	1891
Christine Hessel--Philip F. Weber	1891	Tillie Neudeck--Louis E. Weber	1896
Elizabeth Hessel--Otto Weber	1883	Mary Jane Nolting--Louis H. Irminger	1891
Emelia Pearl Hessel--Edward Nolting	1902	Drucilla B. Weber--Conrad Hessel	1886
Lulu Susan Hessel--Ben F. Neudeck	1914	Katharine F. Weber--Fred Hessel	1880
Anna Emily Irminger--Samuel Weber	1847	Elizabeth Weber--William Hartel	1886
Emma Irminger--Louis J. Hessel	1887	" " --Conrad Hessel	1898
Elizabeth Irminger--Conrad Hartel	1878	Ella Lydia Hartel--Geo. F. Neudeck	1901
		" " " --Walter A. Neudeck	1904

There have been a few intermarriages in later generations as, for example, Eunice Tuschhoff (a Hartel descendant) and Floyd Hessel. Some of the Neths intermarried with the Hartel and Neudeck families. Intermarriages during the early generations outside the six-family group were mainly with persons of German-Swiss descent as, for example, the Heinz family of Weston, Missouri; Millers of Bolckow, Missouri; Selles of Cameron, Missouri; Leinharts and McKarnins of the Bluffs; Hammels of the Bluffs and Weston; Baumans and Brenners of Line Creek near Parkville, Missouri; and the Fishers and Fricks of First Prairie (Arley).

First generation families generally remained in the community after marriage, while many members of third to sixth generation families are scattered across the country. Large families of six or more children were common in the first and second generation. Louis J. Hessel (son of Jacob Hessel) was married twice and there were 19 children. William Nolting was married four times and he was father of 13. Other large families were those of Otto Weber, Samuel Weber, and Henry Miller, 11 each; Henry Weber, Sr., 10; John Brenner, Conrad Hessel, and Henry Irminger, 9 each; and Fred Hartel, Fred Hessel, John H. Frick and Julius Kammeyer, 8 each. Third and succeeding generation families seldom had more than four children.

A total of 2,767 descendants and in-laws appear in the six family trees. Of 485 who have died, 97 lived to be 80 or more years old; 38 others over 80 are still living. Forty-couples, including several still living, have celebrated 50 or more wedding anniversaries. One couple, Samuel and Anna Weber, celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary.

Of the 135 family members who lived beyond their 80th birthday, 28 were 90 or more years old, including eight still living. The oldest was Mrs. Rudolph H. Weber (Sophie Neudeck) who was over 99 when she died in 1968. Those over 90 still living are Mrs. George A. Weber 95; Dr. Frank Kampschmidt 94; Albert Moore and Mrs. Gustave Nolting 93; Mrs. Kate Frick Ebeling 91; and Walter Jennings, Rudolph M. Weber, and Mrs. Edward F. Stein 90. The names of those who lived past their 80th birthday and also the couples having 50 or more wedding anniversaries are given in the individual family histories.

Most of the emigrant ancestors of our six families were born 140 or more years ago. Upon coming to Missouri their life on the frontier must have been a great change from that in the old country. But their life-style changed little during the remainder of the 19th century. Twenty-two of the original 30 emigrants died before 1900. The remaining eight died during the first two decades of this century: Mrs. Conrad Hessel, 1900; John Irminger, 1904; Mrs. Jacob Hessel and Henry Irminger, 1907; John Brenner, 1911; Mrs. Samuel Weber, 1912; Samuel Weber, 1914; and Mrs. Henry Irminger (Aunt Franie), 1920. Life on the farm began to change after the First World War when cars and trucks replaced buggies and wagons and the airplane and radio were in the offing. The old way of life had come to an end when the last of our emigrating forebears died in 1920. The trend toward urbanization was underway.

The Arley Church From 1890 to 1920

The Arley Methodist Episcopal Church from 1890 to 1920, and even up to the present time, has been the center of the social as well as religious life of the community. The church building, as already stated, was enlarged and a parsonage built in the early 1890s. A full-time minister served the congregation after 1895. Church records for this period contain data on finances, membership, births and baptisms, marriages, and deaths. It seems the peak year was 1920 when membership reached 150 with 110 enrolled in Sunday School classes. The pastor was paid \$1,350 and \$490 was contributed to home and foreign mission work.

The young people always had an important role at the Arley church. In 1893 a youth group was organized and a constitution adopted. The Jugenbund in about 1896 became the Epworth League. The list of members ranged from 40 to 50, and an attendance record kept. Among the names in the record are Barbara Hessel, Henry Hessel, Louis Hessel, Lulu Hessel, Albert Hessel, John Eisler, Irene Hartel, Homer Hartel, George Neth, Jr., Adolph Heth, William Neth, Edward Nolting, Minnie Neudeck, and Henry and John Moog. Secretaries during the

1890s were Ella Hartel, Emelia Hessel, Minnie Neudeck, Anna Sautter, and Emma Stroeter.

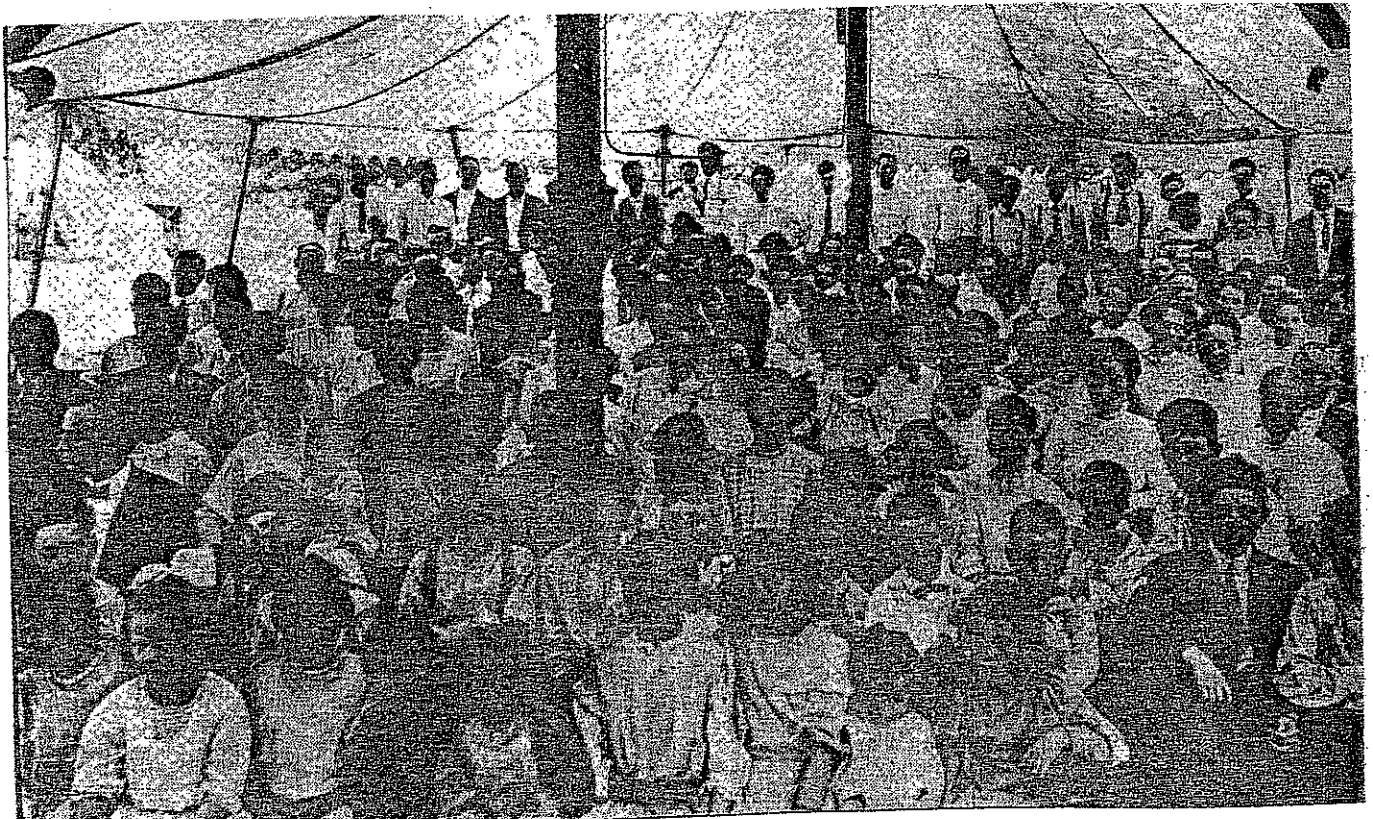
After the turn of the century the church for a number of years conducted summer school instruction in the German language for young people. This was abandoned when this country entered the first world war. Sunday services were also changed from German to English. Many of the young people attended Central Wesleyan College at Warrenton, 150 miles east of Arley. This Methodist school, founded by German settlers in 1864, was supported by German Methodist churches. A close-by Baptist



Arley German M. E. Church, 1908
(photo by Emelia Hessel Nolting)

supported school, William Jewell College at Liberty, did not appeal to Methodist young people. At one time during the years between 1900 and 1910 a total of 17 Arley young people were attending Central Wesleyan College or its academy.

An event of great significance in the Arley community from about 1895 to 1917 was a religious festival held each year about the third week of August. This revival-of-faith meeting sponsored by the Arley Church also attracted people from nearby communities. They came to participate and to enjoy a time of fellowship and worship. These gatherings were eight days in length, starting and ending on a Sunday. They took place in a grove of giant oak trees near the home of Samuel and Anna Weber, less than one mile south of the Arley church. A big white-top tent was put up at the south end of the grounds, seats were laid, and platforms built for an altar and an organ. This was the place for the revival services. Near the north end of the area a kitchen was built and under the trees were two long tables on which to serve meals. On the grounds between the big tent and the kitchen some families erected tents in which to live during the week. Since most of those attending came from nearby farms, someone in each family had to go back to their home each morning and evening to milk the cows, gather eggs, and feed the cattle, hogs, and chickens.



ARLEY CAMP MEETING (1909)--Far left of front tent pole--Rev. Woestemeyer of Arley church, and behind him John Tuschhoff, Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Hartel, Will Bailey, R. H. Irminger, Lulu Hessel, Louella Smith, Henry Moog. Front row: right to left: Helen Weber, Willow Nolting, Clara Weber, Anna Hessel. Second row--third from right: Orin Nolting, Herbert Neth, Allen Neth, Casper Weber, Lawrence Irminger, and Elmer Hessel (partly hidden). Third row--right to left: Bert Hessel, Floyd Hessel, Grace Hessel. Further back between the two poles--Fred Hessel, Mrs. Edward Nolting holding DeWayne (in front of back pole), Victor Hartel. Right rear: Mrs. Fred Hessel, Mrs. Conrad Hessel, and Edith Weber. Perhaps some older family members can identify themselves.

Every morning after breakfast an early prayer meeting and song service was held. Then at 11:00 a.m. and again on some afternoons services were held with visiting ministers giving sermons. About six o'clock a bell near the kitchen announced dinner was ready. The menu included meat, potatoes, cabbage, beans, corn on the cob, pie, cake, and watermelons. The food was served on large platters or in bowls which were passed down the tables. At least four services were held on Sundays. Group singing of religious songs was supplemented by quartets, duets, and children's choir.

Long sermons, usually in German, were followed by long prayers and invitations to come forward to seek forgiveness from sins and renew religious vows. Some members of the regular Arley Church congregation offered prayers seeking forgiveness from their sins, for the welfare of their loved ones and the community, for all things Christian people pray for. The Arley quartet, composed of Albert, Willam, and Clarence Hessel, and Lawrence Hartel, provided spiritual uplift as well as entertainment. Other members of the quartet were Homer Hartel, Olin Hessel, and Willie Bauman. After the last Sunday night meeting the horse-drawn carriages and buggies, along with a few cars, pulled out into the dusty roads to return home. The last camp meeting was held in August, 1917, when some farmers had only recently acquired their first motor car and when the Arley M.E. Church abandoned German in favor of English services. Memories of these camp meetings linger in the minds of those who had the privilege of attending.

Trustees of the German Methodist Episcopal Church at Arley in 1899 were Fred Hessel, Edward Hessel, Conrad Hartel, Rudolph H. Irminger, George Neth, Sr., Jacob Neth, Sr., and Otto Weber. Among the pastors serving the Arley Church (all of German or Swiss descent) were C. H. Schnackenberg, 1892-94; H. S. Hohenwald, 1894-99; Ernest Crepin, 1899-01; John Klein, 1901-07; Edward Asling, 1907-09; William B. Woestemeyer, 1909-12; R. D. Winker, 1912-16; Louis Irminger, 1916-20; and Charles L. Koerner, 1920-26. Peter Hartel was Sunday School superintendent for many years before he died in 1882. Among others who succeeded him were John Weber, Conrad Hessel, and Clarence Hessel.

Family Reunions, 1923-1946

The demise of the annual camp meeting led to holding a one-day family reunion to provide an opportunity for clan members to visit together. But even in the early 1920s it was evident to all that a great change was underway. Some families were moving from farms to towns and cities. Many younger people planned to attend college and prepare for a profession or occupation other than farming. These annual meetings were known as the Weber-Irminger Reunions, probably because these two families were the first to emigrate to this country. However, descendants of the Brenners, Hartels, Hessels, Neths, Neudecks, and Noltings were considered as equal participants because all were related.

These happy meetings, generally held on the last Sunday in July, included a dinner with each family bringing food. German folk and religious songs were sung in German, Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Hartel usually sang a duet, and Mrs. Conrad Hessel and R. H. Weber gave readings remembered from childhood days. Another regular feature was the taking of a group photograph, and those attending signed their names in a record book. Marriages, births, and deaths were reported and recorded in the minutes of each reunion by the secretary. A president and secretary were elected annually, and Albert Hessel, for many years, was master of ceremonies. Among those who served as president were Henry Irminger, Albert Hessel, Marvin Irminger, and Victor Irminger. Secretaries were

Mrs. Louella Moore Robb, Mrs. Albert L. Hessel, and Willow Nolting.

The first get-together was in 1923. It was held at the John Lindau home three miles southeast of Liberty (formerly the home of Henry Irminger). The largest of the earlier meetings were in 1927 and 1928 at Red Oak Inn near Liberty with 300 attending. The 1932 and 1933 meetings were at Winnwood. The 1934 gathering at Brenner Ridge on the farm of John Brenner (son-in-law of Rudolph Irminger) was attended by 150 faithful members; in 1935 at the Arley M.E. Church with 250 attending; and at the 1936 meeting on the William Jewell College campus a high of 300 attended. From 1937 through 1941 between 150 and 200 descendants and in-laws came to the reunions held on the grounds of the I.O.O.F. Home near Liberty to renew contacts and hear talks about the early days.

At the 1941 reunion, with 175 present, tentative plans were made for a centennial celebration the next year, but because of the war the next gathering was not held until July 1946. Attendance was low, only 52, partly because of the polio scare. Other factors were the apparent lack of interest among members of the fourth and fifth generations, many of whom lived in distant states. Thus after 20 reunions the Weber-Irminger gatherings, which always held great interest for members of the first three generations, came to an end.

Our Genealogy--Scope and Arrangement

This brief history of our ancestors has covered in a general way the eight decades from 1840 to 1920. Unfortunately, information about events in the lives and work of our forebears prior to 1900 is very meager. Our ancestors supposedly brought family Bibles from their homeland, but it seems all except the Hartel Bible have been lost. Thus a good source of vital statistics is not available. Surprisingly, some family members had no knowledge whatever of their ancestors who came to this country. This is one of the reasons for the preparation of this genealogy which enumerates by generations the descendants of our emigrant ancestors, following the blood lines of the forefather of each family.

This genealogy treats our emigrant ancestors as the first generation because it is futile to trace our progenitors prior to the advent of the family to America. An attempt was made with the Nolting family on a visit to the village in Germany where William Nolting was born. In nearby Hannover the local telephone directory listed more than twenty Noltings and in the smaller town of Minden a dozen more had this surname. Since church and public records are available as far back as the 15th century, anyone with determination and time to devote to such a task would undoubtedly be rewarded with success.

The preparation of this genealogy began in early 1972 with the idea of making family trees. But tracing names and vital statistics for five or more generations resulted in long lists which seemed rather barren and uninteresting. Clearly, ancestors are more than names and dates. They are personalities; their physical makeup as well as their philosophy, ambitions, and good and bad qualities have to some extent been inherited by descendants. Thus it seemed desirable, in order to make the genealogy more interesting and useful, to include some historical and biographical data--such as their place of origin, when and why they came to Missouri, where they settled and how they lived, their vocations, their religious concepts, and who their children were and what became of them. The chase for family facts, while intensely interesting, lead over wearisome

ways. For example, many hours were devoted to a search for data about three of the children of Abraham and Amelia Hartel with only partial success. Fortunately, however, thanks to the cooperation of many family members, fairly complete data on names of descendants and in-laws and vital statistics about them were compiled. A search of church and public records, cemetery records, family records and letters, and correspondence and interviews with dozens of descendants in all parts of the country provide clues and bits of information which have been pieced together in this general history. This approach enables present generation members to look at their ancestors in the context of the times in which they lived and, also, hopefully, also adds a human touch to the long lists of names in the family trees.

A genealogy is built on names of people, and their names and their families are a most precious property. Given names in most instances include middle names. For female in-laws maiden names are shown. The line of descent in each family is arranged in a manner that keeps family units together through succeeding generations of each of the children of the emigrant ancestors. The family trees enable anyone to determine relationships by blood or marriage. The order in which names are listed should enable anyone to prepare a "tree" for his own family from his immigrant ancestor down through several generations to the present. Several kinds of printed forms are available for this purpose.

Family trees in this genealogy follow the blood stream of the male ancestor. For example, the Hessel family tree begins with two brothers, Conrad and Jacob. Their sister, Eva Barbara, who also came from Germany, married Frederick Hartel and she is included in the Hartel family tree. Conrad's name is listed first, followed by dates of his birth and death. Next is the name of his wife and when she was born and died. The third line shows the date of their marriage, followed by names and dates of birth of their children. For children who died unmarried the date of death also is shown, and children (in more recent generations) of marriageable age are indicated as (S).

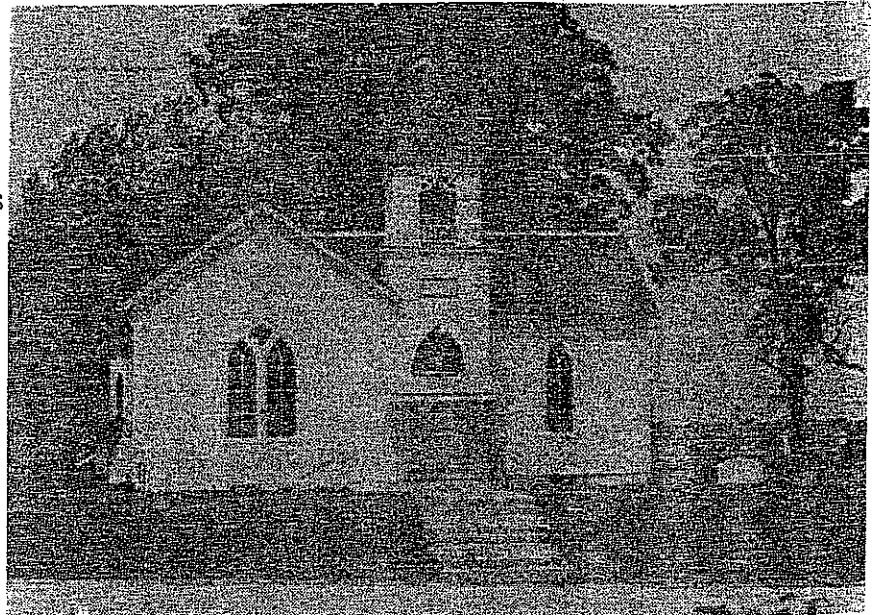
The third generation starts with the marriages of children of the second generation, in this example the children of Fred (oldest son of the Conrad Hessels) and his wife Katharine. Referring to the Hessel tree it is noted that Fred Hessel's name is capitalized and underlined in the second generation. Below is the third generation with the name of their oldest child, Emelia Pearl, who appears in the Nolting family tree. Each of the other children of the Fred Hessels follow in order of birth, showing who they married and their children. The name of each of the Fred Hessel children is underlined in order to enable one to identify family units. This arrangement of the family tree involves repeating the names of children when they marry. If they or their spouses have died, dates of death are given here. When a new family is formed, the first spouse listed is a family descendant and second an in-law. When no children are listed following a marriage the couple is childless. The notation "further data unavailable" indicates information on children or marriages could not be obtained either because descendants could not be located or family members failed to respond to repeated requests for missing data. The abbreviation "c" is for circa or approximate, and "div." divorced. Errors in names and dates should be reported, together with missing data and additions, to the family member whose name and address is given at the end of each of the six family trees.

The six family trees in this genealogy include 2,767 descendants and in-laws. The Weber tree is the largest with 945, followed by Irminger with 571, Hessel 538, Hartel 454, Nolting 165, and Neudeck 94.

A Personal Note

Several family members who responded to my inquiries for information for the "trees" asked about my life work and my relationship with the other families included in this study. After graduating from the University of Kansas, I received a fellowship for graduate study at Syracuse University and special work at the Institute of Public Administration in New York City. From 1929 to 1956, I was assistant director of the International City Managers' Association with offices on the campus of the University of Chicago, from 1956 to 1967 executive director of ICMA, and after retiring I worked full-time for another year doing research and writing for the Association.

From 1968 to 1971, I was special assistant to the president of Public Administration Service, a nonprofit consulting organization on the University of Chicago campus. During these three years I was also consultant to the American Library Association, taught a course in local government management at the University of Chicago, and made an extended trip in 1969 to Australia and several Southeast Asia countries to do some work for the U.S. Department of State in Bangkok, Manila, and Seoul, along with lecturing for three weeks at universities in Taipei and Tokyo.



Arley United Methodist Church
(photo by DeWayne Nolting, 1969)

During the years from 1953 to 1971, my wife and I made 21 trips to Europe and three to the Middle East to study local government, visit with local officials, and participate in many national and international conferences, including those of the International Union of Local Authorities (The Hague). I was the United States representative on the Executive Board of IULA for 14 years, serving as senior vice president from 1967 to 1971. (More details are in Who's Who in America, 1962-63 to date). After 42 years in Chicago my wife and I retired again and moved to Shawnee, Kansas, at the end of 1971. Most of my spare time in 1972 was devoted to preparing this report and family trees.

My mother, Emelia, was a daughter of Fred and Katharine Hessel, and my father, Edward, was related to the Hartels and Irmingers. His mother was the daughter (by her first marriage) of Eva Barbara Hessel Hoff, who married Frederick Hartel in 1845, and one of his sisters, Mary Jane Nolting, married Louis H. Irminger in 1891. My mother's sister, Lulu Hessel, married Ben F. Neudeck.

Note. Among sources consulted were the files of the Liberty Tribune and the Kansas City Star; record books of the Mt. Zoar and First Prairie churches from 1850 to 1886; and Historical Sketch of the Arley Methodist Church. The Liberty Tribune, 1947. 16pp.

Additional copies of this report may be obtained from Orin F. Nolting, 323 6601 Blue Jacket Avenue, Shawnee, Kansas 66203.

THE DESCENDANTS OF CONRAD AND JACOB HESSEL

By Orin F. Nolting

The history of the Hessel family begins with two brothers, Conrad and Jacob, and their sister, Eva Barbara, who came from Germany. They may have lived in Wuerttemberg but there is no record of either their domicile or their parents. Conrad was 21 and Eva 27 in 1843 when they crossed the Atlantic and came to Ohio. Eva soon married a Mr. Hoff, and in early 1844 Conrad went back to Germany to get his brother, Jacob, aged 20, while Eva and her husband moved to Mt. Zoar, better known as the Bluffs, near Liberty, Missouri. Eva's child, Mary, was born at the Bluffs in June, 1844, and her husband died a few weeks later. For nearly a year after Mary was born, a neighbor girl, Anna Irminger, 15, helped Eva take care of Mary.

In the spring of 1845, Conrad returned with Jacob by ship to New Orleans where they chanced to meet Abraham Hartel and his wife and four children who were going to First Prairie (later Arley) where their son, Frederick, had settled three years earlier (see Hartel family history). The Hessel brothers happily gave the Hartels some news which they apparently had not received, namely that their sister Eva was to marry the Hartel's son Frederick in July. The Hartels and Hessels travelled together by ship up the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers to Liberty Landing. They came to First Prairie, and when Eva married Frederick Hartel she and her year-old daughter, Mary, came to First Prairie. (Mary was 23 in 1867 when she married William Nolting; see Nolting family history).

Conrad and Jacob Hessel in 1849 joined a wagon train in the gold rush to California. On the western plains, a fellow Missourian by the name of Fail became exhausted from lack of water and was left behind to die. Some hours later water was found and the Hessel brothers carried some back to Fail who was revived sufficiently to rejoin the train and later returned to Excelsior Springs, Missouri. Upon reaching California, Conrad sold his ox team at a good profit. Conrad and Jacob apparently found gold because after they returned about two years later they acquired much land in the First Prairie community. Conrad bought some land from the government at \$1.25 per acre.

Conrad 34, and Jacob 31, were ready to marry and settle down by 1855. Conrad had been informed about a "nice lady at Weston who would make a good wife." Gottliebin Heinz, 25, born in Wuerttemberg, Germany, had emigrated to Weston, probably in the early 1840s, with her parents and several brothers and sisters. Conrad, according to an old record, "drove out to Weston in a wagon and got her."

Conrad and Gottliebin had nine children, two boys and seven girls. Two of the girls died in infancy, and Barbara, who died in 1950, aged 84, was a nurse for many years. The oldest, Frederick, was 24 in 1880 when he married Katharine Weber, daughter of the Samuel Webers at the Bluffs. Fred and Katharine had eight children, two of whom died when they were three to four years old. Emelia, the oldest, married Edward Nolting, a farmer, and Lulu married Ben Neudeck, who had a position with the municipal utility department of Kansas City, Kansas (see Nolting and Neudeck family trees). Of Fred Hessel's four sons, Albert, a farmer, married Luella Smith, a minister's daughter. Moving to Liberty and later to Kansas City, Albert was in the real estate business and active in the work of the Methodist church. In Kansas City he was with Swift and Company for many years before he retired. He was for 15 years secretary and later treasurer of the Kansas City Missionary Society and assisted in founding several new churches. Milton, also a farmer at Arley, married Nettie Zimmerman of Lexington

Missouri. The family moved to Liberty in 1934 where he was active in the real estate business and operating the farm at Arley. Milton was president of the Federal Land Bank Association of St. Louis when he died in 1954. Olin graduated from Central Wesleyan College in 1910 and attended the College of Medicine, Washington University, St. Louis, one year. Upon visiting California in 1913, he decided to settle in Los Angeles, and the next year he married Marguerite Bricker. He was with the Paul G. Hoffman Studebaker Company 20 years, becoming vice-president. Leaving this company in the mid-1930s, he had his own Studebaker agency in Beverly Hills for 18 years before he retired. He has been an active worker in the Temple Baptist Church in Los Angeles for 58 years (deacon, trustee, and Sunday School teacher). He was a founding member of the Beverly Hills Y.M.C.A. and served on the board for 50 years. William, fourth son of the Fred Hessels, who married Anita Schroeder of Illinois in 1921, was a Methodist minister in Vermont, Arizona, and California for many years before he died in Pasadena in 1961.

Fred Hessel, like his father Conrad, was a leading farmer in Clay County. At one time he owned 1,250 acres of land. He was a founder of the Commercial Bank of Kearns and was for many years its vice-president. At the time of his death in 1931 at the age 75 he was president of the Federal Farm Loan Board of Clay County and the oldest mem



CONRAD AND GOTTLIEBIN HESSEL FAMILY (c.1890 or later)--Front row, left to right Gottlieb born 1830, Conrad, Jr. 1862, Elizabeth 1860, Frederick 1856, and Conrad 1821. Top row: Kathryn 1857, Barbara 1866, Louis 1864, and Christine 1869. Mary 1859, and Lydia 1870, died in infancy.

of the board of directors of the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company. He had been a member of the board of the Arley Methodist Church for fifty years. The Hessel home was a favorite gathering place for relatives. Sunday after church it was not unusual for 20 or more relatives to be there for dinner. Only two members of the Fred Hessel family are still living--Lulu 89 and Olin 84; and in-laws Mrs. Milton Hessel 80, Mrs. Albert Hessel 84, Mrs. Olin Hessel 77, and Mrs. William R. Hessel 76.

Kathryn, the second child of the Conrad Hessels, in 1880 married William H. Stein, a German Methodist minister. They had eight children. Two died before they were a year old. Edward was a farmer; William, a furniture dealer; Arthur, a cattle rancher; and Milton a truck driver. Emma married Louis Bockhaus, a lumber dealer; and Luella's husband, Will Lohmeyer, was a wheat farmer in Kansas. Of the six Stein children, Emma 86, William 82, and Arthur 80 are still living.

Conrad, a farmer at Arley and fifth child of the Conrad Hessels, married Drucilla Bertha Weber in 1886. They had five children. Clarence, who married Elsie Wilkerson, was a farmer. He later had a funeral home in Kearney for about 12 years after which he was a carpenter in North Kansas City. He was 83 when he died in 1971. Etta married Laurence W. C. Emig, a Methodist minister in Massachusetts; Marvin, who married



326 FREDERICK AND KATHARINE HESSEL FAMILY (1903)--Front row: Emelia 22, Frederick 47, William 12, Katharine 45, and Olin 14. Top row: Milton 16, Lulu 20, and Albert 18. Elmer and Estella died in infancy.

Marguerite Mitchell, had a funeral establishment in Liberty and later was with a furniture store in Kansas City; and Bertram, who married Winifred Middleton, had a farm at Arley. Of the five children, only Etta, 83, survives, and of the in-laws Mrs. Clarence Hessel and Mrs. Marvin Hessel are still living. Louis, another son of the Conrad Hessels, a farmer at Arley, married Louise Matilda Smith. They had two children, Anna and Elmer, who continued to live at the home after their parents died. Elmer died in 1972. Louis died in 1947 and Louise in 1952. Two of the Conrad Hessel daughters married brothers--Elizabeth to Otto Weber at Arley and Christine to Philip F. Weber of Edwardsville, Illinois. These two families are in the Weber family history and tree.

Jacob Hessel, brother of Conrad, was 31 in 1855 when he married Mrs. Mary Bauman, 29, of the Line Creek community near Parkville, Missouri. Her husband, Peter, had died a year or so earlier, and their son, Fred, was one year old when Mary married Jacob. Mary's maiden name was Moeller and old church records give her first and middle names as Maria Amalia. Jacob and Mary had seven children, three of whom never married--William and Carolina who lived in Denver until they died in the mid-1920s, and Jacob, Jr., who was 25 when he died in 1883. Their son Edward, a farmer at Arley, married Ida Stroeter in 1891, and they had six children. Leonora, the oldest, taught in high schools and college for about 25 years before she was married in 1940. Bernice, Grace, and Flora, retired and unmarried, live in Kansas City, Missouri. Bernice did some teaching; she and Grace were employed by Kansas City business firms.



AT THE FRED HESSEL HOME (1912 or 1913)--Front row: DeWayne Nolting, Herbert Kammeyer, Mrs. Henry Irminger (Aunt Franie), Orin Nolting, Willow Nolting. Second row: Albert Hessel, Mrs. Julius Kammeyer, Mrs. Joseph L. Rea, Mrs. Conrad Hessel, R. H. Weber, Mrs. Fred Hessel, Mrs. John Lindau, Mrs. Henry Miller, and Lawrence Shannon. Top row: Anna Irminger, Mrs. Albert Hessel, Ben F. Neudeck, Lydia Hessel (partly hidden), Lulu Hessel, Marguerite Mitchell, Marvin Hessel, Mrs. Edward Nolting, Edward Nolting, Mrs. R. H. Weber, Lorenzo Lindau, Ed. Stein, Fred Hessel, John Lindau, Lulu Lindau, William R. Hessel, and Conrad Hessel. This gathering honored six daughters and one son of the Samuel Webers (second row).

Flora taught music and business in high schools in Missouri, Oklahoma, and Kansas for 40 years. Mabel married Everett Smith who was a farmer and later worked in the Veterans Hospital in Kansas City. The only son of the Edward Hessels, Floyd, a farmer who lives in the home place near Arley, married Eunice, daughter of John Tuschko a minister.

Louis J. Hessel, another son of the Jacob Hessels, was a Methodist minister. His first wife, Emma Martha Irminger, was a daughter of Henry and Verana Irminger at the Bluffs. They had seven children. William Joyce was a Methodist minister in Chicago for many years, and Edwin a Methodist minister in South Dakota. Sylvia Marie was a nurse at Cook County Hospital in Chicago and at Leeds Hospital in Kansas City. Louis and David were farmers near Oklahoma City. Drucilla lived at home and Emma Lydia lived with the Fred Hessels at Arley. She was a teacher until her marriage in 1926 to Lowell W. Howard, a teacher in the Colorado school system. Mrs. Louis J. Hessel died in 1904 at age 39, and in late 1905 Louis married Flora Ramseier, age 20. They had 12 children. Herman died at age 2 and Alvin at 20. Lillian, unmarried, died when she was 43. The nine remaining children married, and only Otto has died. No information about their occupations is available. Reverend Louis J. Hessel was 72 when he died in 1934 and his second wife, Flora, was 77 when she died in 1962. (continued on page 16)



EDWARD AND IDA HESSEL FAMILY (c.1902)
Ida, 38, holding Grace 7; Leonora 10; Edward 42, holding Mabel 4, and Bernice 8.
Floyd was born in 1903 and Flora 1906.



Mary Hessel 1865-1921
Henry G. Hincken 1862-1927
Wedding picture 1892



Mary Albright 1868-1951
Henry Hessel 1867-1958
Wedding picture 1896

THE HESSEL FAMILY TREE 1821-1972

Includes 538 descendants and in-laws of whom 77 have died. Names of the children of Conrad and Jacob who married are capitalized and underlined, and the names of their grandchildren who married are underlined. Unmarried family members are designated (S). For explanation of the scope and arrangement of the family tree see the report entitled "Descendants of Six German-Swiss Families", p.17.

CONRAD HESSEL 2-7-1821 d.10-27-1897
Gottlieb Heinz 4-11-1830 d.1-15-1900
Married June 14, 1855

Frederick 4-29-1856
Kathryn 7-7-1857
Mary 11-29-1859 d.in infancy
Elizabeth 12-17-1860
Conrad 8-21-1862
Louis 5-31-1864
Barbara 5-10-1866 d.1-1950
Christine 10-6-1869
Lydia c.1870 d.in infancy

JACOB HESSEL 2-15-1824
(for descendants of Jacob and Mary, p.11)

FREDERICK HESSEL 4-29-1856 d.3-7-31
Katharine F. Weber 5-12-1858 d.5-9-47
Married September 30, 1880
Emelia Pearl 8-18-1881
Lulu Susan 6-11-1883
Albert Leslie 4-4-1885
Milton Samuel 2-25-1887
Olin John 1-11-1889
William Rudolph 8-4-1891 1895
Elmer Wesley 5-22-1894 d.11-3-/
Estella Lydia 6-22-1897 d.7-21-01

Emelia Pearl Hessel 8-18-1881
(see Edw. Nolting in Nolting tree)

Lulu Susan Hessel 6-11-1883
(see Ben Neudeck in Neudeck tree)

Albert Leslie Hessel 4-4-1885 d.11-30-65
Luella Claire Smith 10-20-1888
Married December 6, 1911
Marian Louise 8-18-15
Dorine Kathryn 1-17-17
Vivian Barbara 8-30-18
Helen Grace 2-26-23

Marian Louise Hessel 8-18-15
Elmer Lee Wilhelm, Jr. 8-28-17
Married September 11, 1949 (continued)

Mark Lee 7-28-53
Donald Gene 11-20-55

Dorine Kathryn Hessel 1-7-17
Richard Lee Sanders 12-16-16
Married December 23, 1942
Richard Gary 7-7-45 (S)
Pricilla Dee 9-3-48 (S)
Kenton Lee 12-12-58

Vivian Barbara Hessel 8-30-18
Florestan Earl Shull 5-16-16
Married September 27, 1941
David Earl 2-28-46
Thomas Rex 11-27-49
Carole Susan 2-27-53

David Earl Shull 2-28-46
Edna Louise Hays 10-15-46
Married May 3, 1969

Thomas Rex Shull 11-27-49
Rebecca Ann Brownlee 5-26-51
Married August 15, 1971

Carole Susan Shull 2-27-53
Michel Boyd Hamilton 7-1-53
Married February 27, 1972

Helen Grace Hessel 2-6-23
Joe E. Musgrave, Jr. 1-25-21
Married July 5, 1941
Pamela Jo 12-20-46
John L. 4-1-49

Pamela Jo Musgrave 12-20-46
Jerry Frank Bowerman 1-20-45
Married August 26, 1967
Christi Dee 10-1-70

John L. Musgrave 4-1-49
Barbara Sue Able 9-25-47
Married June 13, 1969
Halley Monica 9-30-71

Milton S. Hessel 2-25-1887 d. 11-18-54
Nettie Kathryn Zimmerman 9-21-1892
 Married March 16, 1915
 Dorothy Lucille 11-30-16
 Virginia Lee 6-14-18
 Betty Jean 4-18-20
 Robert Frederick 1-9-24

Dorothy Lucille Hessel 11-30-16
 Edward T. Brant 4-28-14
 Married July 12, 1941
 Jerome Edward 12-1-46
 Joan Lorraine 7-17-49

Jerome Edward Brant 12-1-46
 Colleen Kay Barnhart 2-25-50
 Married June 14, 1969

Joan Lorraine Brant 7-17-49
 Christopher Sherman Kelly 4-7-47
 Married August 7, 1971

Virginia Lee Hessel 6-14-18
 Edward W. Stevenson 12-22-13
 Married November 19, 1942
 John Edward 10-24-47
 Suzan Kay 3-31-50

John Edward Stevenson 10-24-47
 Jeanne Louise VanZant 9-15-47
 Married September 6, 1969
 Julie Lynne 2-27-72

Betty Jean Hessel 4-18-20
 Russell Francis Symes 3-12-17
 Married August 14, 1948
 Cary Allan 2-28-51

Robert Frederick Hessel 1-9-24
 Jane Ramsey 1-7-25
 Married September 16, 1944
 Carolyn Lee 1-30-48
 Steven Ramsey 12-8-51

Carolyn Lee Hessel 1-30-48
 Michael Derouin
 Married January 24, 1970

Olin John Hessel 1-11-1889
Marguerite Bricker 10-9-1895
 Married June 30, 1914
 Sylvia Jean 5-16-15
 Olin John, Jr. 9-24-17
 Harriett Katherine 3-16-20
 Frederick Paul 12-28-25

Sylvia Jean Hessel 5-16-15
 Evan K. Shaw 3-22-09
 Married April 28, 1936
 Sandra 12-30-37
 Melinda 1-23-40
 Susan 2-3-43 (S)
 Evan Kenneth, Jr. 6-13-48 (S)

Sandra Shaw 12-30-37
 Harold V. Allen 12-7-31
 Married June 30, 1957
 Marguerite Jean 5-7-60
 Gerald Evan 11-30-61
 Robert Alva 5-12-64 twin
 John Harold 5-12-64 twin

Melinda Shaw 1-23-40
 Kenneth E. Avery 11-7-36
 Married December 27, 1959
 Kenneth Eugene, Jr. 12-20-60
 Suzanne 12-27-63

Olin John Hessel, Jr. 9-24-17
 Helen McNabb 6-12-17
 Married March 25, 1950
 Olin John III 8-3-51
 Robert Hoy 2-28-53

Harriett Katherine Hessel 3-16-20
 Carl J. Ghormley 12-18-18
 Married September 11, 1941
 Carl Justus, Jr. 11-29-42
 Marguerite 9-14-47
 John Miles 4-25-52
 Thomas Bricker 8-15-53

Marguerite Ghormley 9-14-47
 Thomas John LePley 5-4-41
 Married August 31, 1969

Frederick Paul Hessel 12-28-25
 Mary Jo Gill 5-25-24
 Married February 14, 1952
 Frederick Paul, Jr. 10-15-53
 Ann Patrice 3-14-55

William Rudolph Hessel 8-4-1891 d.10-11-61

Anita Schroeder 10-3-1896
 Married June 28, 1921
 Eleanor Louise 11-28-23 d. 2-14-25
 Miriam Elaine 3-19-26
 Martha Elizabeth 6-23-28
 William Frederick 3-4-34

Miriam Elaine Hessel 3-19-26
 1. John Ramon Slivins 3-30-16
 Married September 4, 1955, later div.
 Christopher Robert 9-30-57
 2. Bernard H. Stark 8-13-26 d. 1969
 Married December 22, 1963
 (Christopher's surname changed to Stark)

Martha Elizabeth Hessel 6-23-28
 William L. Morrison 11-3-28
 Married May 3, 1958
 Tanya 7-12-60
 Kim 8-13-62
 Melanie 12-19-66

William Frederick Hessel 3-4-34
 Eleanor Rea Mulley
 Married January 15, 1967
 David Bruce 12-27-68

* KATHRYN HESSEL 7-7-1857 d.3-15-04
William H. Stein 9-26-1851 d.8-2-38
 Married April 29, 1880

Edward Frederick 3-7-1882

* Emma Barbara 9-23-1884

Mary 9-22-1886 d.9-30-1886

Luella Christine 2-11-1888

William Conrad 3-6-1890

Arthur Louis 4-26-1892

Wesley J. 12-5-1893 d.4-28-1894

Milton August 8-22-1897

Edward F. Stein 3-7-1882 d.12-16-28

Marie F. Oltmanns 10-22-1882

Married March 18, 1915

Margaret Katherine 3-16-16 d.9-3-23

(continued)

Virginia Ruth 8-19-17 d.9-27-30
 Wesley Edward 6-26-21
 Barbara Jean 1-28-26

Wesley Edward Stein 6-26-21

1. Mildred Loreen Mathews 2-3-20

Married March 11, 1940, div. 1953

Carol Loreen 10-11-41

Greggory Edward 4-22-43 (S)

2. Marietta Trimble 10-18-32

Married August 3, 1954

Alan Brent 7-6-55

Julie Lynn 5-30-57

Carol Loreen Stein 10-11-41

Clinton Smith

Married (date unknown)

Bill Clinton 10-24-67

Barbara Jean Stein 1-28-26

Edward William Rose 7-30-15

Married April 15, 1948

Janet Sue 3-2-51

Patricia Jean 5-23-53

Scott Edward 10-6-59

Keith William 12-18-62

Emma Barbara Stein 9-23-1884

Louis B. Bockhaus 10-23-1887 d.10-27-61

Married April 19, 1911

Ralph Lawrence 12-9-12

Francis L. 8-11-17

Virgil W. 4-26-29

Ralph L. Bockhaus 12-9-12,,

Mary J. Behil 9-23-12 d.10-3-8

Married September 11, 1935

Phyllis Ann 3-18-37

Shirley Jeanne 8-9-42

Richard Lee 4-4-46 (S)

Larry Alan 3-8-54

Phyllis Ann Bockhaus 3-18-37

Robert Butts 10-1925 d.3-2-65

Married December 18, 1960

Barbara Ann 3-22-62

E. Robert 7-5-63

John L. 11-8-64

Shirley Jeanne Bockhaus 8-9-42

Donald Tomberlin 1-27-39 40

(continued on next page)

(cont. from previous page)

Married March 31, 1961

Shelly Dawn 11-20-62
David Scott 6-3-67
Michael James 2-28-68

Francis L. Bockhaus 8-11-17
Lucy P. Rash 8-11-18
Married December 7, 1947

Virgil W. Bockhaus 4-26-29
Mavis P. Chart 2-6-37
Married c. July, 1955
April Dawn 7-14-56
Alan William 2-23-58

Luella Christine Stein 2-11-1888 d.10-23-72

Will Lohmeyer 9-18-1884 d.10-12-52

Married March 8, 1911

Carl William 11-7-15
Marvin Edward 3-14-17
Clarence Eugene 10-17-22

Carl William Lohmeyer 11-7-15
Nerine Kinser
Married March, 1937
William James 8-24-39
Marvin Arthur 11-12-44 (S)

William James Lohmeyer 8-24-39
Patricia Thomas 12-35-39
Married June, 1955
Terri Lynn 12-5-56
Michael David 12-31-57
Susan Denise 12-25-59
James Winston 1-10-65

Marvin Edward Lohmeyer 3-14-17 d.6-21-44

Wilma Tonn 10-27-26

Married (date unknown)

Clarence E. Lohmeyer 10-17-22
Barbara Rees 2-15-32
Married (date unknown)

William Conrad Stein 3-6-1890
Emilie (Millie) Oltmanns 2-10-1890
Married July 11, 1917

Mildred Cleo 3-12-20
Audrey Marie 5-23-22

332 Eloise Anita 1-7-25

Mildred Cleo Stein 3-12-20

Eugene Bonham 11-9-15

Married September 17, 1946

Anita Marie 6-27-49
David Ray 12-16-51
Marilyn Jean 1-31-57

Anita Marie Bonham 6-27-49
George Meyers 9-5-48
Married August 30, 1969

Audrey Marie Stein 5-23-22
1. John W. Thacker 7-18-22
Married June 6, 1944, div. later
2. Joseph Feisthammel
Married April 16, 1971

Eloise Anita Stein 1-7-25

1. Donald F. Smith 8-11-22

Married June 15, 1947, div. later

Victoria Lee 5-2-48
Daniel Kirk 9-19-49 (S)
Judith Kay 11-16-51
Rhonda Lynn 11-15-53
Donna Joan 2-2-56
Kevin James 6-23-57
Brian Douglas 12-5-58
Tamara Lorene 3-25-60

2. Adam Ristad

Married in 1966

Victoria Lee Smith 5-2-48

John Peterson

Married August 19, 1971

Arthur Louis Stein 4-26-1892

1. Mabel Wright 4-26-1893 d.5-1960

Married August 22, 1917

Patricia Joanne 5-5-31 adopted
Constance Luella 6-10-35 adopted
2. Lena Nornhausser 5-28-97

Married March, 1961

Patricia J. Stein 5-5-31

1. Joe B. Meyer 1-22-31

Married December 16, 1950, div. later

Pamela Sue 5-6-52
Cynthia Lynn 9-29-54
(surnames to Bowling in 1962)

2. Edwin C. Bowling 1-13-32

(continued on next page)

(continued from previous page)

Married May 5, 1962

Edwin F. 9-16-62

Lori Ann 1-20-65

Constance Luella Stein 6-10-35

William Dean Roller 4-4-30

Married June 20, 1954

Bradford Dean 8-2-56

Milton August Stein 8-22-1897 d.6-18-60

Gladys (surname unknown)

Married (date unknown)

ELIZABETH HESSEL 12-17-1860

(see Otto Weber in Weber family tree)

CONRAD HESSEL 8-21-1862 d.6-6-36

1. Drucilla B. Weber 7-23-1868 d.3-21-1896

Married December 30, 1886

Clarence W. 11-1-1887

Etta Barbara 12-13-1889

Marvin Louis 7-14-1891

Emma C. 7-25-1894 d.6-1896

Bertram Conrad 3-11-1896 -41

2. Elizabeth Weber Hartel 7-20-1860 d.1-11/

Married November 10, 1898

Clarence W. Hessel 11-1-1887 d.5-2-71

Elsie Wilkerson 12-11-1898

Married October 4, 1922

Clarence, Jr. 10-1-23

Mary Jane 7-11-26

Barbara Ann 2-10-28

Clarence (Dutch) Hessel, Jr. 10-1-23

Elma Corrine Shelton 4-4-21

Married April 9, 1949

Laura Diane 9-6-51

Janet Lyn 11-19-53

Scott Weber 11-30-61

Mary Jane Hessel 7-11-26

Lawrence Carpenter Ford 6-9-25

Married October 20, 1947

Dolores Jeanne 1-20-49 (S)

Phyllis Lynn 9-5-51

Dorothy June 3-22-57

Nancy Ann 3-7-60

David Lawrence 11-11-61

Janice Lee 7-12-67

Phyllis Lynn Hessel 9-5-51

Arthur Robertson 1-26-49

Married December 28, 1971

Barbara Ann Hessel 2-10-28

Edward Maxwell Vancil 8-27-28

Married October 27, 1951

Susan Marie 10-16-54

Beth Ann 9-4-57

Etta Barbara Hessel 12-13-1889

Laurence Wm. C. Emig 3-31-1882 d.12-6-70

Married August 29, 1912

Katharine Mary 6-28-15 (S)

Barbara Ruth 10-6-18

Donald Wesley 10-5-20

Laurence Wilson C. 4-10-25

Barbara Ruth Emig 10-6-18

James Bradford Rendle, Jr. 10-17-15

Married April 14, 1942

Cheryl Lee 5-16-45

James Bradford, III 3-24-53

Cheryl Lee Rendle 5-16-45

Russell Benson 4-7-44

Married June 26, 1971

Donald Wesley Emig 10-5-20

Elizabeth C. John 3-4-22

Married September 4, 1943

Leslie Anne 1-27-45 (S)

John Laurence 2-7-47 (S)

Peter Wilson 4-15-51

Laurence W. C. Emig 4-10-25 d.11-22-50

Irene Walton

Married December 20, 1948

Marvin Louis Hessel 7-14-1891 d. 1962

Marguerite Mitchell

Married January 14, 1915

Bertram C. Hessel 3-11-1896 d.6-27-33

Winifred Middleton 7-25-1897 d.6-15-67

Married July 31, 1919

Howard Conrad 4-23-23

Nancy Nell 6-4-26

Howard Conrad Hessel 4-23-23
 Betty Eileen Valdez 7-5-28
 Married February 14, 1950
 David Conrad 3-29-56
 Nancy Ann 11-13-58
 Susan Elizabeth 8-21-60
 Michael William 8-6-63

Nancy Nell Hessel 6-4-26
 Paul Chambers 7-16-21
 Married August 23, 1948
 Paula 5-21-53 adopted
 Julie 4-12-58
 Anne 8-21-61

LOUIS HESSEL 5-31-1864 d.12-18-47
 Laura Matilda Smith 9-1-1873 d.12-31-52
 Married June 16, 1898
 Anna Gottliebe 8-30-1899 (S)
 Elmer Louis 7-13-02 d.12-9-72

CHRISTINE HESSEL 10-6-1869
 (see Philip F. Weber in Weber tree)

JACOB HESSEL 2-15-1824 d.8-12-1881
 Mary Bauman 9-30-1826 d.2-1907
 Married October 16, 1855
 William 9-15-1856 d.2-1925 (S)
 Jacob, Jr. 4-27-1858 d.9-15-1883 (S)
 Edward 4-3-1860
 Louis J. 1-1-1862
 Carolina 12-5-1863 d.1924 (S)
 Mary 2-14-1865
 Henry 7-29-1867

EDWARD HESSEL 4-3-1860 d.3-15-31
 Ida C. Stroeter 1-18-1864 d.7-14-55
 Married January 29, 1891
 Leonora Mae 1-29-1892
 Bernice Emily 7-1-1894 (S)
 Grace Elizabeth 9-2-1896 (S)
 Mabel Louise 11-26-1898
 Floyd William 2-7-03
 Flora Amelia 8-4-06 (S)

Leonora Mae Hessel 1-29-1892
 Herman Jacob Kloefer 2-12-1898
 Married August 1, 1940

Mabel Louise Hessel 11-26-1898
 Everett E. Smith 10-1-1893 d.11-15-63
 Married November 3, 1923
 Beth Elaine 7-1-26
 Ivalee Anna 11-22-30
 Sylvia Louise 6-14-35
 Bernita Eileen 1-23-39

Beth Elaine Smith 7-1-26
 Ruby D. Garrett, Jr. 1-5-16
 Married November 1, 1952

Ivalee Anna Smith 11-22-30
 Edward Yashinsky 6-20-31
 Married January 9, 1954
 Mark Edward 5-5-58

Sylvia Louise Smith 6-14-35
 Bruce Wallace Keller 1-16-35
 Married June 22, 1957
 Bradley Wallace 2-20-59
 Randal Scott 7-15-62

Bernita Eileen Smith 1-23-39
 James Elmore Silvers 8-31-37
 Married May 31, 1959
 Donald James 5-26-62
 Steven Scott 4-18-64

Floyd William Hessel 2-7-03
Eunice Lorene Tuschhoff 1-12-10
 Married May 12, 1935
 Carol Sue 6-4-36
 Mary Lue 8-9-37
 Elizabeth Ann 2-11-40
 John Edward 7-15-43
 Floyd William, Jr. 4-10-50
 Edward Lind 9-28-54

Carol Sue Hessel 6-4-36
 Emery Schattinger 4-30-40
 Married June 12, 1965
 Walter Wade 2-26-67
 Shane Adair 9-13-68
 Clay Emery 11-28-69

Mary Lue Hessel 8-9-37
 Don Allen Wallace 3-10-40
 Married October 7, 1961
 Stephen William 7-2-63 d.7-8-63
 Scott Allen 6-18-64
 Sheila Ann 5-12-65

Elizabeth Ann Hessel 2-11-40
 Donald Ray Ivy 11-1-40
 Married June 9, 1962
 Bryan Keith 2-24-63
 Bradley William 6-15-67

John Edward Hessel 7-15-43
 Kathleen Ellen Nutt 7-14-48
 Married June 13, 1970

LOUIS J. HESSEL 1-1-1862 d.9-26-34
 1. Emma M. Irminger 5-7-1865 d.3-4-04
 Married August, 1887
 (see page 11 for second marriage)
 Ruth Drucilla 6-15-1890 d.8-16-57(S)
 William Joyce 8-1-1891
 Sylvia Marie 4-5-1893
 Louis Henry 7-17-1894
 Emma Lydia 10-17-1895
 Edwin Oscar 2-4-1897
 David D. 9-22-1898

Wm. Joyce Hessel 8-1-1891 d.1-23-60
 1. Lydia Schoffler 9-11-1889 d.2-15-19
 Married July 1, 1914
 Joyce L. 9-16-15
 Borden 8-11-17
 2. Bessie Horn 7-30-01 d.6-1960
 Married December 31, 1934

Joyce L. Hessel 9-16-15
 Sally Winter 4-3-17
 Married March 27, 1940
 Carolin 12-8-41
 Barbara 11-2-46

Carolin Hessel 12-8-41
 David Easterly Moore
 Married September 5, 1964
 Sara Ann 4-11-68
 Brettany 8-4-71

Barbara Hessel 11-2-46
 Barry Blackman
 Married August 30, 1969

Borden Hessel 8-11-17 d.7-14-58
 Ethel Laird
 Married May, 1940
 Lydia Patricice 5-1941
 Bordenia 1943

(continued)
 Borden 1945
 Judy 8-1946
 (further data unavailable)

Sylvia M. Hessel 4-5-1893 d.12-6-56
 Minor C. Gerard 1886 d.1969
 Married (date unknown)

Louis Henry Hessel 7-17-1894
 Anna E. Nabor 7-21-1900
 Married November 15, 1917
 Evelyn Marie 1-19-19
 Darold Hardy 11-15-20
 Ruby Mae 9-25-22
 Lenore Louise 3-15-30
 Albert Henry 11-28-32

Evelyn Marie Hessel 1-19-19
 William Harry Simpson 7-14-21
 Married August 10, 1947
 William Harry 6-12-48 (S)
 Daniel 3-7-51
 Larry 1-10-55

Darold Hardy Hessel 11-15-20 d.5-11-70
 Mary E. Orr 3-1-22
 Married May 13, 1939
 Michael Edward 2-27-40
 Judith Ann 2-8-42
 Shirley Dell 10-18-43
 Kerry Susan 7-18-50
 Kelly Darold 11-29-51

Michael Edward Hessel 2-27-40
 1. Frances Bernadette Swain 10-5-42
 Married April, 1961, div. 1-1970
 Dawn Marie 4-19-62
 David Marshall 6-30-63
 Darold Michael 12-29-64
 2. Judith Mosselman 10-21-46
 Married November 27, 1971

Judith Ann Hessel 2-8-42
 Gary Johnson Crowell 1-7-41
 Married December 23, 1961
 Christopher Hessel 8-4-64
 Amy Elizabeth 4-29-68

Shirley Dell Hessel 10-18-43
 1. Albert William Silvers 2-20-42
 (continued on next page)

(continued from preceding page)

Married June 13, 1961, div. 1966

Randall William 6-3-62

Barbara Lee 11-27-63

Stephen Patrick 12-11-65

2. Robert Waller 9-25-25

Married July 26, 1967, Div. 11-1971

Robert Derek 9-20-67

Mary Elizabeth 5-22-70

3. Robert Trujillo 4-20-43

Married February 18, 1972

Kerry Susan Hessel 7-18-50

Vince Elliot Harris 5-9-49

Married August 30, 1969

Kelly Darold Hessel 11-29-51

Cheryl Lynn Thomas 7-5-53

Married June 13, 1970

Ruby Mae Hessel 9-25-22

Melvin Barstow 1-27-19

Married April 20, 1944

Barbara Ann 7-21-48

James Douglas 6-2-50

Lenore Louise Hessel 3-15-30

John Dewey Hall 9-8-28

Married April 2, 1950

Sandy Kaye 5-11-51

Gregory James 7-14-57

Sandy Kaye Hall 5-11-51

Jerry Crawford 5-12-50

Married September 21, 1971

Albert Henry Hessel 11-28-32

Esther Luckis 12-25-30

Married November 21, 1952

Mary Sue 3-31-54

Candice Kaye 4-5-56

Peggy Kathleen 4-4-58

Emma Lydia Hessel 10-17-1895

Lowell W. Howard 4-2-1900

Married May 26, 1926

Gloria 11-1927 stillborn

Roberta Lou 10-27-29

Lowell W., Jr. 10-10-34

Roberta Lou Howard 10-27-29

Jard A. DeVille

Married June, 1951

Jard Howard 5-15-52

Dorothy Louise 11-9-54

Jonathan 12-23-59

Lowell W. Howard, Jr. 10-10-34

Mary Bertholf

Married c. 1962, div. 1966

Lorri Leann 11-9-63

Michael David 8-4-66

Edwin Oscar Hessel 2-4-1897

Mildred Alice Haussmann 9-30-10

Married June 21, 1934

Marlys Annette 6-9-38

Beth Audrey 6-22-42 (S)

Marlys Annette Hessel 6-9-38

Kenneth Lee Leiter 10-4-28

Married December 26, 1958

Stephen Christopher 12-24-59

Andrew Richard 10-8-63

David D. Hessel 9-22-1898

Cora Swanson 11-17-01

Married March 21, 1921

Dorothy Fern 3-16-22

Helen Elnor 1-30-24 d. 8-14-37

Wesley Dee 6-1-28

Richard Lee 5-6-30 d. 5-7-44

David Clyde 1-31-33

Mary Jane 8-15-36

John Lynn 10-21-38

Dorothy Fern Hessel 3-16-22

John L. Adams 10-9-21

Married December 4, 1943

John Michael 5-11-49

David Patrick 11-5-52

John Michael Adams 5-11-49

Linda Johnson

Married April 3, 1971

Wesley Dee Hessel 6-1-28

Ruby Dierksen 1-3-31

Married July 2, 1950

(continued on next page)

(continued from preceding page)

Helen Marie 6-26-52
 Raymond 1-22-54
 Sharon 1-15-56
 Gary 10-29-58
 Marvin 10-14-63

David Clyde Hessel 1-31-33
 Cletha Jo York 11-11-33
 Married June 3, 1954
 Robin Ann 7-2-56
 Susan Elane 11-5-58

Mary Jane Hessel 8-15-36
 Robert Leland Stanford 11-19-36
 Married May 26, 1958
 Gregory Dean 7-16-59
 Stephen Hale 6-10-61
 Gena Gayle 12-18-64

John Lynn Hessel 10-21-38
 Delone Johnston 12-22-40
 Married February 7, 1961
 John Phillip 8-14-68
 Ashley Ann 10-20-70

LOUIS J. HESSEL (first marriage p. 12)
 2. Flora M. Ramseier 7-14-1885 d. 8-15-62
 Married September 28, 1905
 Otto Paul 8-25-06
 Herman Arthur 10-29-07 d. 4-28-10
 Ella Meta 7-20-09
 Esther Minnie 5-28-11
 Florence Bertha 10-29-12
 Alvin Edward 9-9-14 d. 4-13-35
 Harold Fredrick 8-5-16
 Lillian Evelyn 3-9-18 d. 5-10-61 (S)
 Pearl Clara 4-23-19
 Edna Elizabeth 5-7-21
 Henry Walter 3-30-23
 Clarence Conrad 11-7-27

Otto Paul Hessel 8-25-06 d. 7-10-72
 Cleo Morton 10-21-09
 Married April 28, 1928
 Lawrence Paul 1-9-29 d. in infancy
 Gene James 12-11-29 d. 10-5-72 (S)
 Alice Corrine 3-12-32
 Rosemary 5-2-33
 Pauline Dolores 1-19-37
 Arthur Ray 9-6-42

Alice Corrine Hessel 3-12-32
 Martin Mathews, Jr. 10-14-26
 Married April 27, 1950
 Andrew Gene 10-8-48 adopted
 Marilyn Gaye 11-13-52

Rosemary Hessel 5-2-33
 Frederick Steven Flynn 4-2-24
 Married December 11, 1952
 Steven Michael 1-26-56
 James Joseph 5-25-62

Pauline Dolores Hessel 1-19-37
 David Nathaniel Haynes 3-16-29
 Married November 1, 1952
 David Robert 9-26-53
 Richard Gene 7-1-58

Arthur Ray Hessel 4-6-42
 Vera 4-20-35
 Married November 28, 1968

Ella Meta Hessel 7-20-09
 Edward A. Meench 4-14-1897
 Married March 28, 1928
 Florence Kathryn 10-3-30
 Melvin Edward 8-23-36

Florence K. Meench 10-3-30
 Elvin R. Goodrich 11-28-16
 Married January 16, 1959
 Mark 12-19-60
 David 4-24-62
 Denise 7-31-65

Melvin Edward Meench 8-23-36
 Belva Jo Bowen 8-1-45
 Married April 10, 1964
 Kay Calverene 2-3-65
 Michael Kent 4-13-67

Esther Minnie Hessel 5-28-11
 Ernest F. Frolich 12-28-09
 Married August 14, 1937
 Paul J. 11-11-41
 Carolyn Ann 3-30-43
 Norma Jean 8-13-47

Paul J. Frolich 11-11-41
 Willa Mae Spiva 4-11-44
 (continued on next page)

(continued from preceding page)

Married December 21, 1962

Eden Charmayne 7-24-64
 Melodie Lorece 9-16-66
 Eric Paul 10-17-68

Carolyn Ann Frolich 3-30-43

Ronald Oliver Collins 2-6-40

Married December 11, 1964

Ryan Dwane 9-12-65
 Celina Marie 11-15-66
 Alicia Gayle 8-23-70

Norma Jean Frolich 8-13-47

Samuel J. Chestnut 5-1-48

Married May 6, 1966

Darla Sue 3-26-67
 Angela Renee 8-27-68

Florence Bertha Hessel 10-29-12

Clarence Carl Frolich 6-9-11

Married October 1, 1935

Bernice Jean 7-14-37
 Lucille Irene 6-9-41
 Clyde Raymond 4-15-43
 Donna Nadine 12-2-47

Bernice Jean Frolich 7-14-37

Gene Harris 3-12-38

Married November 23, 1961

Maton Gene 12-27-62
 Pamela Lynn 5-27-64

Lucille Irene Frolich 6-9-41

Leroy Walcher 9-24-41

Married October 1, 1959

Lisa Carol 12-31-60
 Lori Ann 8-17-64

Clyde Raymond Frolich 4-15-43

Roma Kay 10-11-43

Married August 17, 1963

David Clyde 2-9-67
 Roma Renea 9-24-68

Donna Nadine Frolich 12-2-47

Gary Paul Ellis 11-2-47

Married May 13, 1968

Gary Brian 8-16-69
 Stacey Lynn 1-29-72

Harold Fredrick Hessel 8-15-16

Patricia DeLozier 4-22-32

Married, 1955

Harold Fredrick II 11-29-57

Stephen Patrick 7-23-59

Pearl Clara Hessel 4-23-19

Walter G. Seebeck 11-29-09

Married April 23, 1939

Louise Faye 12-23-41
 Doris Lee 1-4-44
 Janele Elaine 11-3-53

Louise Faye Seebeck 12-23-41

Jerry L. Beasley 2-26-42

Married June 26, 1964

Carole Renna 10-12-66
 Jana Michele 5-23-69

Doris Lee Seebeck 1-4-44

Robert J. Stahl 8-8-44

Married September 20, 1963

Karen Denise 12-15-64
 Duane Lowen 4-6-67

Edna Elizabeth Hessel 5-7-21

Ira Weldon Wade 10-3-14

Married October 3, 1943

Dennis Eugene 1-13-47 (S)
 Ira Weldon, Jr. 9-6-48
 Janice Marie 5-10-51
 Allen LeRoy 10-25-55

Ira Weldon Wade, Jr. 9-6-48

Karen Haggard 10-19-50

Married October 11, 1969

Ira Weldon III 2-25-71

Janice Marie Wade 5-10-51

Danny Meek 3-19-51

Married June 6, 1970

Henry Walter Hessel 3-30-23

Lavora Belvin 9-17-25

Married January 24, 1947

Paula Jo 2-10-53

Clarence Conrad Hessel 11-7-27

Doria Alene Jones 1-22-27

Married August 1, 1948

Linda Kathleen 4-30-50
 Charley Allen 9-28-52

Linda Kathleen Hessel 4-30-50
 Wesley Lynn Tillman
 Married January, 1970
 Tricia Neely 9-18-70

MARY HESSEL 2-14-1865 d.9-22-21
 Henry G. Hincken 12-6-1862 d.10-29-27
 Married October 26, 1892

HENRY HESSEL 7-29-1867 d.4-8-58
 Mary Albright 12-26-1868 d.6-7-51
 Married November 11, 1896
 Victor Elias 10-4-1897
 Selma Cleda 9-2-07

Victor Elias Hessel 10-4-1897 d.10-9-70
 Marianlu Chandler 4-18-12
 (continued)

Married November 11, 1943
 Victor Eugene 12-28-44
 Claude Henry 11-22-46

Victor Eugene Hessel 12-28-44
 Linda Kay Shutt 9-14-44
 Married July 30, 1963
 Victor Eugene, Jr. 3-28-64
 Charles Michael 8-12-67

Claude Henry Hessel 11-22-46
 Mary Ann Valente 2-12-48
 Married September 9, 1967
 Tracey Michelle 11-7-69

Selma Cleda Hessel 9-2-07
 Robert Lee Abnot 1-15-07
 Married March 21, 1943

Mary Hessel, sixth child of the Jacob Hessels, was 27 in 1892 when she married Henry Hincken, a farmer near Arley. They had no children. Mary died in 1921 and Henry in 1927. Henry Hessel, seventh child of the Jacob Hessels, was a farmer near Holt, Missouri. He married Mary Albright in 1896 and one of their two children, Victor, was a prominent physican and surgeon in Los Angeles. Selma and her husband, Robert Abnot, live in San Gabriel, California.

All of the children of Conrad and Jacob Hessel and their spouses have died. Of the 40 grandchildren of Conrad and Gottliebin Hessel, 13 are still living and so are 24 of the 27 grandchildren of Jacob and Mary Hessel.

Longevity. Twelve members of the Hessel family lived to be 80 or more years old, and nine others over 80 are still living. Those who have died: Mrs. Edward Hessel, 91; Henry Hessel, 90; Mrs. Fred Hessel, 89; Laurence W.C. Emig, 88; William H. Stein, 87; Louis Hessel, 86; Luella Stein Lohmeyer, 84; Barbara Hessel and Clarence W. Hessel, 83; Mary Albright Hessel, 82; Albert L. Hessel and Elizabeth Weber Hessel, 80. The nine family members over 80 still living are Mrs. Edward F. Stein, 90; Emma Stein Bockhaus, 88; Etta Hessel Emig and Olin J. Hessel, 83; William C. and Emilie Stein, 82; and Mrs. Milton Hessel, Leonora Hessel Kloepper, and Arthus L. Stein, 80.

Six Hessel couples lived to celebrate 50 or more wedding anniversaries: Etta and Laurence W.C. Emig, 58; Albert and Luella Hessel, 54; Henry and Mary Hessel, 53; Louis and Laura Matilda Hessel, 52; and Fred and Katharine Hessel, and Emma and Louis Bockhaus, 50. Among the couples still living, Olin J. and Marguerite Hessel have celebrated their 58th anniversary and William C. and Emelie Stein their 55th.

Additional copies of this report may be obtained from Orin F. Nolting,
 6601 Blue Jacket Avenue, Shawnee, Kansas 66203.

Copyright 1973 by Orin F. Nolting

All rights reserved. No part of this family history may be reproduced
 in any form without the specific permission of the copyright owner.

Our Heritage

The two poems below express the philosophy of our ancestors, and perhaps should have been included in the general history covering all six families, or in the Weber family history. The poem entitled "Life" was written by my grandmother, Mrs. Fred Hessel, probably in the early 1920s. Her brother, Louis Weber, is author of "Memories of Home" written two years before he died.--O.F.N.

LIFE

Our life is like a shadow,
Which soon will pass away;
Or we may say a journey,
We came not here to stay.

Some lives are very, very short.
And some we think quite long;
So many are full of sorrow,
But few are filled with song.

We were put here for a purpose
There is work for everyone.
But if we stand back idly
Our work will be left undone.

Before we leave our room each morning
Let us not forget to pray.
And ask the Lord to bless us
And lead us through the day.

That we may be a blessing
As on through life we go.
Knowing that we shall also reap
Whatsoever seed we sow.

Could we have a bright and smiling face
And a kind word for everyone,
Not mention the faults of others,
But think what have I done.

To make this world grow better
To drive away the gloom,
And lend a kind and helping hand
At morning, night, and noon.

If we see a sister or brother
In need or in despair,
Let us quickly go and help them
And if need be give clothes to wear.

Let's tell them how Jesus loves them
And wants them to be good,
These very words may touch their heart
And cause them to turn to the Lord.

Now, if we would be happy,
Let this our motto be--
Forget ourselves and live for others
And God's glory we shall see.

--Mrs. Fred Hessel

MEMORIES OF HOME

My Home, Sweet Home, near Liberty,
Will always be most dear to me,
Near eighty years have passed away
Since first I saw the light of day;
Oft in my dreams has come the joy
Of being just a farmer's boy.
I hear again the whippoorwill,
He sweetly sings just o'er the hill;
The katydid, with voice so clear,
Proclaims aloud that summer's near.
Out on an oak there sits an owl;
Just now I hear his mighty howl.
The cricket cricks, the skeeter sticks,
This makes me feel like throwing bricks.
Just overhead the flying bats
Are catching unsuspecting gnats.
I take my trusty, faithful gun
And shoot some rabbits on the run;
I stand again with line and hook
Down by the murmuring, crystal brook;
With one well planned and dexterous swish
I jerk my line and catch my fish.
I hoe the beans and plough the corn
And listen for the dinner horn.

Again 'tis eighteen sixty-three,
I enter good old W. J. C.
It stands supreme on college hill,
The pride of Liberty 'tis still.
I teach again the Nebo school
And give my pupils just one rule--
'Tis this: "Be good and do what's right,
And learn your tasks with all your might."
I kneel beside that old arm chair
And lip with joy my evening prayer;
There comes to me, and O, what bliss,
The joy of my dear mother's kiss;
Her eyes grew dim--one summer day
She said "Goodbye" and passed away.
Beneath the sod she sweetly sleeps,
Where evening star its vigil keeps.
And when at last I cross the bar,
I hope that from some heights afar,
Perhaps from heaven's celestial dome,
I'll view again my Home, Sweet Home.

Kansas City, Kas.

--Louis Weber

From The Liberty Tribune, May, 1928

INDEX

A

ASIATIC PROPERTY, 291, 292, 296, 297

B

BACKHAUS,

CATHRINA, 3, 12

DORA, 3, 10, 18

HENRY & DORTHEA, 1, 3, 9, 24

HENRY (Jr), 3, 11, 19, 31, 33

MARY, 3, 14, 73

BANK, 1st. Natl. La JARA, 174, 175, 183

BAUM, 4, 78

GRAVES, 91-94

BEAM, J.W. 153, 172, 202, 203

BEAR TREE, Cat Creek, 283

BOCKHAUS

ALBERT, 74, 77, 84, 85

ART, 4, 76

BEN, 74, 79

BILL, 74, 77, 163, 167

FRANCES, 74, 77 (see also Penner)

GRAVES, 86-89

LOUIS B., 77, 80, 95, 96, 97 First House, 129, Land N. of M.V.
128, 131, 132, 134

LOUIS B checking timber NM, 256, 266, 268

LOUIS B fifty yr. aniv. 268

LOUIS B final years, 268, 269, 270, 271

WALTER, 76, 77, 83

WILLIAM H 3, 17, 18, 19, 73

BOCKHOUS

ERVIN, 1, 25, 26, 27

FRED & FRIEDA, 1, 15, 16, 24

FREDDIE, 1, 25, 26

MILTON, 1, 25, 26

NETTIE, 1, 6, 26, 28, 79

BOSHART, LESTER, 3, 8,

BRUSH CAR, 152

C

CHURCH

METHODIST, DORCHESTER, 2, 5, 30

CORNWALL MTN. 225, 249, 250, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 263,
266, 290

CHRISTMAS TREES 189, 266, 267

INDEX - continued

D

DULITZ

ADOLPH, 1, 3, 12, 29

CATHRINA, 1, 29

DEHNING, 5, 22

DARLEY

WARD, 126

WILLIAM M, 195, 204, 205, 249

E

EISENHOWER(President), 299

F

FALK

EMILIE, 3, 32

ERNST, 34

MINNIE, 130

WILLIAM, 34, 35

FORD TRUCK(model T), 190, 193

FLUME(above Del Norte), 276, 278

G

GALL, WALLY, 277

GERMANY

BARUM, 3, 7

DIRSBUTTEL, 5, 7

GRANT CAR, 193, 194

GREGORY, J.B. 276, 277, 278, 279

H

HALSTEAD, KS, 4, 73, 81

HESSEL, information, 301-328

FAMILY TREE, 329-340

HORSES

FRANK, 208

MAGGIE & MARK, 247, 250, 262, 263

OLD DAN, 203, 208

I

IOWA

DORCHESTER, 1, 5, 20, 21, 22

DORCHESTER, CEMETARY, 23

LeMARS, 1

INDEX - continued

J.

JASPER

CABIN, 283

MINE, 188

PROPERTY, 288, 289

JOHNSON, CHARLEY, 207, 214, 220

K

KUMPH, EDNA, 2

L

LADDIE, 204, 205, 206, 208

LILLY POND(DAM), 159, 160, 161

LOHMEYER

CARL, 98

CLARENCE, 98

MARVIN, 98

WILLIAM, 98, 181, 182

LUJAN, ELLIS, 153, 158, 188

M

MAXWELL CAR, 169, 176, 187

MEXICO TRIP, 219

MINING CLAIMS, 225

MONTE VISTA

HOME PLACE, 196, 197, 225

LUMBER YARD, 226, 228, 241

REALITY, 125, 133

SUGAR FACTORY, 126, 127, 135, 136, 137

N

NAZARINE CHURCH(PAUL COBB), 287

P

PARKSTON, SD, 51

PASS ME BY MINE PROPERTY, 293, 294, 298

PENNER

FRANCES, 5, 80, 91

FRANCES(ARTICLE), 52-72

PHILLIPS UNIVERSITY, 285

INDEX - continued

S

SAWMILLS

ARBOLES, 248
DEL NORTE, 215
JASPER, (Francis) 250
JASPER, (1951-1952) 250, 252, 253, 254
PAGOSA SPRINGS, 226, 227, 230, 238, 240, 242, 244, 247
PASS ME BY MINE AREA, 247, 249, 252, 256, 262, 265
TERRACE RES., 188-192, 195, 197, 198, 202, 208, 209, 210, 211
STUNNER, 215, 218, 220-224, 230, 237, 238, 242, 243, 246, 287
WORL RANCH, 207, 212, 213
SCHOOL DIST. #18, 169, 177, 186
SMITH, ELWOOD, 277, 280
SOUTH DAKOTA HOMESTEAD, 4, 36-50
STEIN
ART, 99
BILL, 98
EMMA, 98, 102
FAMILY, 103, 104
GENEOLOGY, 111-124
GRAVES, 106-110
KATHRYN, 98, SEE ALSO HESSEL
LUELLA, 88
MILTON, 100
WILLIAM H., 98, 101, 105
SUMMITVILLE MINES, 201, 202, 237, 281

T

TERRACE DISTRICT, 138, 139, 140, 141
HOMESTEAD, 142-149, 150, 156, 184, 185
IRRIGATION DISTRICT, 153, 172, 173, 187
THREASHING MACHINE (PATENT), 169, 178

W

WEBER, EARL, 1, 2, 26, 28
WAR YEARS, 227, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234
PRISON CAMP, 236

CONVERGENT GROUP

Boiler from the PMB set up at Bockhaus mill above Stunner. Date either 1940 or 41, not sure which.

The person in the picture you sent a copy of, I believe is my mother. I have the same picture, and have always thought it was her.

Unge

