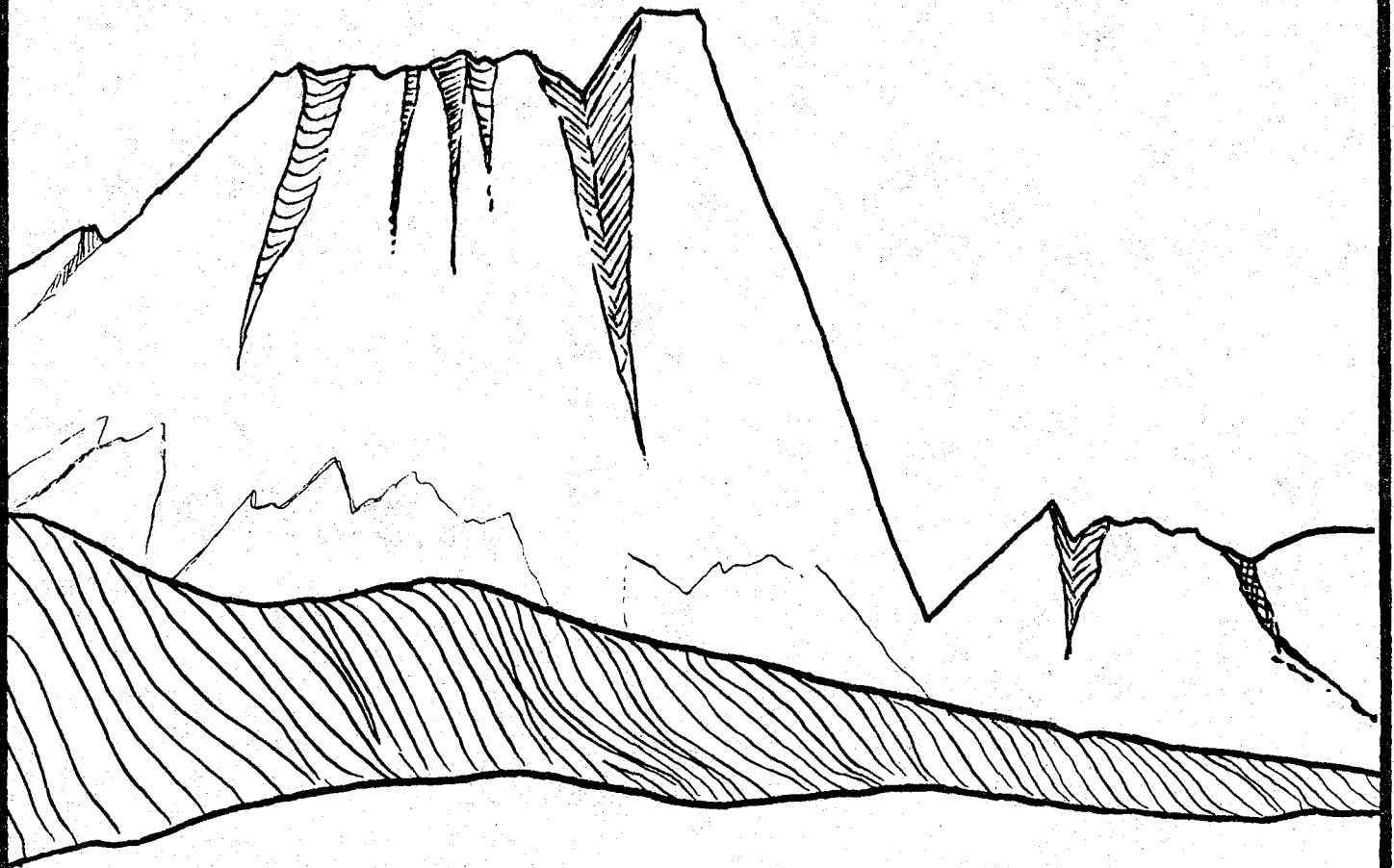


# Broken



## Mountains

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
BOX 261, CHESTER, MT

The Tri-County  
Searcher

vol. 4 no. 2

# The Tri-County

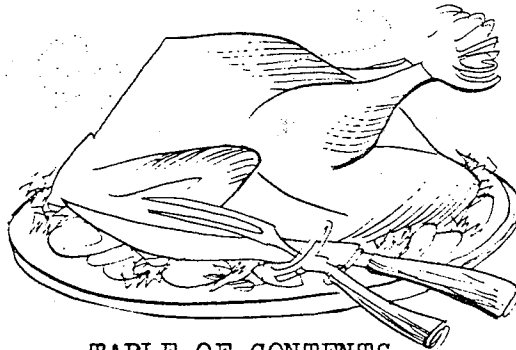
# SEARCHER

Published by the Broken Mountains Genealogical Society

SEPTEMBER 1983

CHESTER, MONTANA

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 2



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## THE TRI-COUNTY SEARCHER

September 1983

Volume 4 Number 2

President: Mrs Helen Ann Aaberg

Vice President: Mrs Alice Shepherd

Recording Secretary: Mrs. Deanna Standiford

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\*\*\*\*\*

MEMBERSHIP: Annual Dues (Payable March 1) \$10.00 for Individual membership, \$15.00 family membership. Honorary membership are given to Senior Citizens. Members are entitled to free query privileges and to one year subscriptions to the "Tri-County Searcher" published March and September.

Subscriptions to publications is \$4.00 per year and \$2.00 for back issues. Those wishing to submit queries can at the rate of 5¢ per word. Send Queries to: Broken Mountains Genealogical Society, Box #261, Chester, Montana 59522.

MEETINGS: Meetings are held the first Thursday of every month except July and August, at the Liberty County Library, Chester, Mt. At 7:30 p.m.

GIFT and DONATIONS: The Society welcomes donations of cash or other material particularly genealogical. Contributions, gifts and donations are deductible for Federal Income Tax.

\*\*\*\*\*

FOR SALE: I have a few copies of the family history I compiled on the TEALEY, LANGEL, McCANN AND SHIPMAN families who settled in the Chippewa Valley of Wisconsin, later moving into northern Montana where they were eventually to become related by marriages. It covers many generations in each family. The book contains 325 pages, has many pictures and is contained in a good pressboard cover. I will mail anywhere for \$20.00 postpaid. Send orders to Ruby Langel, Box#252, Chester, MT. 59522.

Pat Ludwig's Genealogical Find

Genealogically speaking this summer has been great for one such genealogist. A whole new family line has been opened up with many new friends and relatives ready and willing to help.

Let me tell you how this all happened. After spending about 3 or 4 years exchanging names, dates, and pictures with my husbands family, I decided to put that volume on the shelf and work on my own side of the family. Since my mother is still alive as is an older sister, I was able to fill out many pages on one side of my family but I was equally curious about my father's family.

This was not so easy. My father's immediate family had all passed away 25 to 30 years ago including Dad so I had to find some other relative or friend who knew the family. Since their family had resided in Butte and we also had about 30 years ago I recalled the last name of some cousins my dad visited with. I asked a friend to secure a telephone book from Butte and was pleasantly surprised that the family was still in Butte. So I wrote to this person. A couple weeks went by and finally I got a letter from the wife of the "cousins" I had written to. She informed me that he had died a few months earlier and she didn't know much about the family - but she did send me addresses of 2 more cousins in the Seattle area where most of the family had been living. Immediately I wrote to both of them as I was surprised there were other cousins.

Two days later I received a letter from a lawyer in Seattle. I was a link in legal proceedings to determine heirs for a brother of my dad's mother (a grand-uncle).

This fellow had died earlier in the year. One petition had been filed with the final probate to be June 24. My grandmother was listed, but with no living heirs. In 20 days I was sent a very nice check as my brother and I were awarded one fourth of the estate since we were the only living heirs of our grandmother. What a surprise and so well appreciated as we have several college age children between us. But just as important is the fact that several of these cousins are now corresponding with dates, pictures and a whole new circle of relative and friends. Just to trace all these leads will take the next year or two and swell another volume.

## WHITLASH MONTANA CEMETERY

Originally part of a Homestead Patent belonging to Frank Herrington, the land parcel was signed by Pres. Theodore Roosevelt on June 19, 1907. Later it was deeded to Frank & Cecelia Lowe who sold it to Myrtle Johnson who in turn ceded 1.06 Acres in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec 6 Twp 36N Rge 4E to the Whitlash Cemetery Ass'n on April 21, 1949. Located approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile West & North of Whitlash, Montana. Burials include the following:

ALLEN, Ed  
Missouri  
Cpl. 304 Trench Mortar Btry  
Sept. 20, 1898-Feb 14, 1946

ALVORD, Pearl  
1879-1955

AMEZDROZ, Caroline  
Wife of Louis Amezdroz  
Born 1867 Died 1909

BANKS, Bert  
\_\_\_\_\_ 1908

BANKS, Clate  
\_\_\_\_\_ 1908

DAFOE, Mable Mae  
1920-1978

DEMAREST, Harry  
1879-1972

DEMAREST, Amelia  
1894-1980

ENGLIS Boy ?  
\_\_\_\_\_ 1908

HOFFNER, Harry  
Father  
1887-1970

HOFFNER, Ruth A.  
Our Infant Daughter  
1925-1926

IVERSON, Anna M.  
1875-1950

IVERSON, Carl S.  
1891-1962

KING, Clarence  
\_\_\_\_\_ 1901

KEMBLE, William  
Nov 28, 1845- Jan 30, 1917

LAUENER, George E.  
1899-1968

MOOR, Harrison  
\_\_\_\_\_ 1926

OLCOTT, Eugene K.  
Montana EM3  
U.S. Coast Guard-Res.  
June 22, 1931 - Nov 2, 1952

O'SHEA, Mrs. Mike  
\_\_\_\_\_ 1918

PRICE, Harvey  
Son of Harvey & Charlotte Price  
Born Nov. 11, 1908  
Died Jan. 2, 1909

ROSS, Allen  
1878 - 1957

SCHAFER  
William H.  
July 24, 1881  
Sept 10, 1968

MARY  
Dec. 12, 1893  
July 1, 1970

WAITE, Patricia A.  
Our Daughter  
Apr. 10, 1950 - Dec. 2, 1963

WATSON, Sam  
1877- 1939

WICKLANDER, Hannah - Mother  
1834 - 1923

## TAKEN FROM THE LIBERTY COUNTY COURT HOUSE FLAP BOOK

## CHESTER, MONTANA

(Filing dates have been omitted)

GRANTOR	GRANTEE	DATE OF INSTRUMENT	KIND OF INSTR:	WHERE RECORDED BOOK/PAGE
Barclay O.R.	Alfred B. Hamilton	9, 20, 1888	Deed	A 23
Barclay Otis R.	James Gibson	11, 19, 1888	"	A 24
" "	Jacob Schmidt	11, 19, 1888	"	A 26
" "	James Gibson	11, 26, 1888	"	A 25
" "	Nellie W. Carson	11, 28, 1888	"	A 28
" "	Alfred B. Hamilton	4, 9, 1889	"	A 38
Baker, Hiram S.	Harry Debin et al	6, 4, 1889	"	A 15
" "	John Becker	6, 4, 1889	"	A 15
" "	R.S. Tingley et al	6, 4, 1889	"	A 15
Buckland, Roland W.	Charles H. Boyle	11, 16, 1889	"	A 51
Barr, Fred A.	F.D. Kingsbury	9, 14, 1889	"	A 106
Barclay, O.R.	James J. Nolan	5, 15, 1890	"	A 61
Barron, George G. et al	Charles E. Conrad	9, 26, 1890	"	A 86
Barclay, O.R.	Arthur A. McCauley et al	10, 2, 1890	"	A 82
" "	James Nolan et al	10, 2, 1890	"	A 82
" "	" "	10, 2, 1890	"	A 84
" "	Arthur A. McCauley	10, 2, 1890	"	A 84
" "	F. D. Kingsbury	10, 6, 1890	"	A 85
Boyle, Harry S. et al	Charles H. Boyle	6, 8, 1891	"	A 111
Boyle, Charles H. et ux	Rowland W. Buckland	9, 20, 1892	"	A 130
Baker, Joseph A.	Ferd. D. Kingsbury	7, 8, 1893	"	A 141
Blankenbaker, Robt. N. et al	" "	10, 22, 1893	"	A 143
Buckland, Roland W. et ux	Kyle Price	1, 7, 1896	"	A 147
Brigham, Orin P. et ux	Phillip White	1, 31, 1896	"	A 156
Baker, Joseph A.	Sweet Grass Marble Co.	8, 11, 1891	"	A 167
Burns, John	Sarah E. Smith	12, 15, 1890	"	A 238
Banner, Byron	Joseph Milligan et al	12, 18, 1900	"	A 259

GRANTOR	GRANTEE	DATE OF INSTRUMENT	KIND OF INSTR:	WHERE RECORDED BOOK/PAGE
Banner, Byron	A.B. Johnson et al	12, 18, 1900	"	A 259
Brown, Ira etal	R.L. McCullok	12, 6, 1900	"	A 262
" "	J.T. Mills Jr.	12, 6, 1900	"	A 263
Barnes, Rodney A.	Ira Brown etal	12, 14, 1889	"	A 265
" "	Ira Meyers et al	12, 14, 1889	"	A 265
Brown, Ira et al	J.T. Mills Jr.	4, 15, 1901	"	A 272
" "	" "	8, 10, 1901	"	A 273
Bourne, Geo.B. etal	Lars Embretson	11, 1, 1901	"	A 251
Beattie, John et al	John Beattie Decd.	12, 31, 1886	"	A 278
Brown, Ira et al	J.T. Mills Jr. etal	3, 25, 1902	"	A 281
" "	R.L. McCullok etal	11, 25, 1902	"	A 281
Black James	Rosalie M. Bourne	3, 10, 1902	"	A 255
Butler, Horace E.	Sarah E. Whyte	5, 10, 1902	"	A 331
" "	Livingston Crichton	5, 10, 1902	"	A 330
Burns, John	Hiram F. Smith	1, 24, 1903	"	A 347
Barnes, Rodney A.	Ira Meyers etal	12, 13, 1902	"	A 353
" "	Robt. L. McCullok etal	12, 13, 1902	"	A 353
" "	John T. Mills Jr. etal	12, 13, 1902	"	A 353
" "	Ira Brown etal	12, 13, 1902	"	A 353
Brown Ira etux	John T. Mills Jr.	8, 8, 1903	"	A 307
Bourne, Geo. B. etal	Lars Embretson	11, 9, 1903	"	A 311
Burton, Elizabeth	Samuel MacDougall	7, 21, 1903	"	A 375
Burton, Edward	Marien MacDougall	7, 23, 1903	"	A 374
Brinkman, Wm.H.	James Townsend	6, 17, 1904	"	A 386
Broch, William O.	L.D. Pugsley	5, 23, 1905	"	A 403
Burton, Elizabeth	William Dohrs	11, 13, 1905	"	A 413
Beattie, George etux	Annie L. Young	12, 13, 1905	"	A 507
Beaniguard, Ethel S.	Laird Bros. etal	8, 8, 1906	"	A 524
Banks, Harry G.	R.F. Kerr	10, 1, 1906	"	A 590
Banks, John M.	" "	10, 27, 1906	"	A 591
Branson, Alfred M. etux	Lucie E. VanVeen	7, 14, 1908	"	A 615
Brinkman, Charles etux	Lewis Mumper	7, 18, 1908	"	A 616
Brinkman, Annie B. etcon	Laird Bros	12, 22, 1908	"	A 636
Brownlee, Arthur W. et ux	Erick A. Engstrom etal	3, 27, 1909	"	A 637
" "	Manley Lattimer etal	3, 27, 1909	"	A 637

GRANTOR	GRANTEE	DATE OF INSTRUMENT	KIND OF INSTR:	WHERE RECORDED BOOK/PAGE
Banks, Pell	Albert A. Lehrman et al	3, 30, 1909	Deed	A 640
Biggs, Clarence E.	Alfred C. Strode	6, 28, 1909	"	A 692
" "	Martha M. Kremkan	8, 23, 1908	"	A 700
Bourne, George B. et al	H.C. DeLaney	8, 17, 1909	"	A 701
" "	James E. Hamilton	9, 4, 1909	"	A 703
" "	Ira Brown	9, 14, 1909	"	A 708
Brosnan, Edward	Lot A. Nutt	10, 2, 1909	"	A 522
Bourne, George B. et al	" "	8, 25, 1909	"	A 709
Biggs, Clarence E.	Nathan B. Wladner	11, 1, 1909	"	C 13
" "	Henry C. DeLaney	11, 11, 1909	"	C 26
Bourne, George B. et al	H.E. Loranger	9, 14, 1909	"	C 29
Biggs, Clarence E.	Myrtle Cascaden	11, 30, 1909	"	C 62
Bourne, George B. et al	Shebal Rehal	10, 22, 1909	"	C 105
Biggs, Clarence E. et al	John C. George	1, 28, 1910	"	C 120
" "	Clarence W. Erickson	1, 20, 1910	"	C 128
Burton, Walter J.	Oscar Johnson	4, 22, 1910	"	C 171
Biggs, Clarence E. et al	Samuel E. Lowary	2, 8, 1910	"	C 182
Brown, Ira et ux	Henry Schniter	3, 19, 1910	"	C 183
Berglin, J.O.	Lewis Mumper	5, 14, 1910	"	C 186
Biggs, Clarence E.	Etta Mae Melvin	5, 5, 1910	"	C 189
Berglin, J.O.	John M. Ragan	6, 6, 1910	"	C 197
" " et al	Arthur A. Curtis	6, 7, 1910	"	C 198
Berglin, J.O.	Louis Barzea et ux	6, 15, 1910	"	C 204
<del>Biggs, Clarence E. et al</del>	<del>Elizabeth Berckman</del>	<del>5, 23, 1910</del>	<del>"</del>	<del>C</del>
Berglin, J.O. et al	Katrina Heimbigner	6, 16, 1910	"	C 222
Bicknell, D.E. et ux	Lewis Mumper	8, 20, 1910	"	C 229
Berglin, J.O. et al	Adolph O. Lee	7, 6, 1910	"	C 235
" "	Rosa Brouillard	10, 7, 1910	"	C 240
Brosnan, Edward	Ernest S. Albright	10, 2, 1909	"	C 246
Berglin, J.O. et al	Chester Trading Co.	11, 17, 1910	"	C 258
Bragg, Alfred G.	Axel Flink	12, 3, 1910	"	C 303



GRANTOR	GRANTEE	DATE OF INSTRUMENT	KIND OF INSTR:	WHERE RECORDED BOOK/PAGE
Brownlee, Arthur W. et ux	E.A. Engstrom	9, 5, 1910	Deed	C 308
Berglin, J.O. etal	Mrs. Ingeborg A. Ness	2, 10, 1911	"	C 285
Bourne, George B. et al	C.F. Baker et al	10, 29, 1909	"	C 291
" "	" "	10, 29, 1909	"	C 290
Berglin, J.O. etal	Mrs. Margaret Fugle	10, 8, 1910	"	C 298
Breckenridge, Geo.H. et ux	Piper Howe Lbr. Co.	2, 23, 1911	"	C 316
Brown, Ira et ux	Walter G. Briggs	4, 5, 1911	"	C 317
Bourne, George B. et al	Myron Stratton	3, 28, 1911	"	C 355
Bragg, Alfred G.	A.K. Prescott	7, 15, 1911	"	C 369
" "	" "	7, 15, 1911	"	C 323
Berglin, J.O. etal	Wesley E. Stoddard	6, 16, 1910	"	C 372
Burton, Walter	Erick A. Engstrom	8, 17, 1911	"	C 375
Brosnan, Edward	Daniel H. Kilroy	7, 10, 1911	"	C 374
Boyle, Chas. H. Clerk D.C.	First St. Bank Chester	9, 9, 1911	"	C 328
Berglin, J.O. etal	Presbyterian Church	9, 18, 1911	"	C 377
" "	" "	9, 18, 1911	"	C 378
" "	School Dist. No. 33	9, 19, 1911	"	C 382
Bickle, Geo. Chouteau Co. Shrf	William S. Goodyer	10, 5, 1911	"	C 336
Brinkman, Herman	John C. Brinkman	11, 22, 1911	"	C 392
Biggs, C.E. et al	Rodgers Templeton Lbr. Co.	2, 10, 1912	"	C 351
Biggs, C.E. & Johnson et al	Clarence E. Biggs	2, 7, 1912	"	C 402
" "	Harry S. Johnson	2, 7, 1912	"	C 403
Begnelin, August	Leonard D. Eugsley	3, 5, 1911	"	B 6
Biggs, & Johnson et al	Harry S. Johnson	3, 2, 1912	"	B 6
Breckenridge, Geo., H.	Caroline Breckenridge	7, 20, 1912	"	B 14
Breckenridge, Caroline etcon	Alvan H. Layton et al	7, 24, 1912	"	B 15
Bickle, Geo. Chouteau Co. Shrf.	L.C. Strauss	1, 2, 1912	"	C 418
Biggs, Walter G. et ux	Mrs. Alphreta E. Biggs	5, 10, 1912	"	C 421
Berglin, J.O. etal	Mable A. Tasker	11, 27, 1912	"	C 432

GRANTOR	GRANTEE	DATE OF INSTRUMENT	KIND OF INSTR:	BOOK/PAGE
Berglin, J.O. etal	Harry A. Tasker	11,27,1912	Deed	C 433
Brosnan, Edward	Alfred C. Strode	11,21,1912	"	B 30
Biggs, C.E. et ux	M.R. Crist	12,14,1912	"	B 32
Berglin, J.O.	John Rocks	12,17,1912	"	B 33
Bingham, James N. et ux	Achsa M. Bingham	1, 8, 1913	"	B 35
Buckmaster, Charles	Amelia Buckmaster	2, 19, 1913	"	C 455
" "	" "	2, 20, 1913	"	C 455
Burns, Ira et ux	Thomas M. Sanby	4, 17, 1913	"	B 52
Bohlig, E.C. et ux	Joe Rehal	4, 15, 1913	"	B 62
Barzee, Clark L.	Anna Barzee	10, 9, 1913	"	D 25
Barzee, Anna	Louis Barzee	10, 9, 1913	"	D 24
Braggs, Alfred G.	A.C. Gough	12, 4, 1913	"	D 64
Barzee, Louis	J.M. Burkhart	1, 8, 1914	"	B 106
Bilden, Lewis et ux	Arnt H. Anderson	11,28,1913	"	B 109
Berglin, J.O.	Wm. F. Honneywell	1, 17, 1914	"	B 113
" "	The Sheldon Co.	1, 17, 1914	"	B 114
Biggs, Clarence	Mrs. Myrtle B. Biggs	5, 1, 1914	"	D 128
Boudah, Elizabeth et con	Lillian O'Brien	1913	"	D 135
Barnett, June etcon	Francis Laird	1, 28, 1914	"	D 137
Banks, John M.	Albert A. Lehrman	10,20,1910	"	B 164
Benton, Allen	Oscar D. Sevier	7,31,1914	"	B 171
Bonine, George J. Referee	Sarah Cox	9, 1, 1914	"	D 155
Barzee, Clark L.	Wm. M. Siegmund	9, 19, 1914	"	D 159
Buelow, Albert H. et ux	Otto Buelow etal	10, 1, 1914	"	D 333
" "	Banking House of A. Buelow	10, 26, 1914	"	D 170
Bourne, George B. et al	Martin Winess	11,27,1914	"	D 171
Barsness, Mrs. A.E.	Martin A. Snippen Cyrus Minn	11,12,1914	"	B 227
Boyce, Robert M. et ux	Eli C. Tolley	12,23,1914	"	B 232
Buelow, Charley et al	Banking House of A. Buelow	10, 26, 1914	"	D 185
Bingham, Nelson H. et ux	James N. Bingham	12,30,1914	"	B 243

GRANTOR	GRANTEE	DATE OF INSTRUMENT	KIND OF INSTR:	WHERE RECORDED	BOOK/PAGE
Berglin, J.C.	Conrad Heimbigner	2, 27, 1915	Deed	B	245
" "	S.A. Robertson	2, 9, 1915	"	D	200
" "	Gust Carlson	2, 18, 1915	"	B	253
Bilden, Lewis et ux	Thor Brandvold et al	3, 16, 1915	"	B	263
Barnes, G. Adams	C.F. Morris	12, 11, 1914	"	B	282
Benton, Earl	Emma Miller	6, 5, 1915	"	B	283
Buckmaster, Charles et ux	E.J. Blanchard	11, 11, 1912	"	B	282
Bower, Josiah et ux	Edwin DuBoise	6, 25, 1915	"	B	289
Blevins, Emory Lee	Thomas P. Strode	8, 16, 1915	"	B	301
Briggs, Nora J.	Alpharetha M. Briggs	9, 4, 1915	"	B	306
Bourne, George B. et ux	William Knight	9, 7, 1915	"	D	248
Burton, Walter J.	E.A. Engstrom	11, 11, 1915	"	B	330
Berglin, J.O.	Chester State Bank	11, 23, 1915	"	B	336
Bevan, Edwin J.	Anna B. Bevan	12, 16, 1915	"	B	349
Barzee, Anna	Clark L. Barzee	12, 24, 1915	"	D	279
Blanchard, Homer J. et ux	Chester State Bank	12, 22, 1915	"	B	359
Briggs, Fred	L.D. Pugsley et al	1, 6, 1916	"	B	363
Browne, David G. et al	Laird Land & Livestock co.	12, 30, 1915	"	D	284
Ballard, Ira	William F. Watters	1, 11, 1916	"	B	367
Bishop, Earl H. et ux	Julius A Linch	1, 8, 1916	"	B	371
Beebe, Naomi M.	Guy E. Quiggle	2, 7, 1916	"	D	300
Biggs, Mrs. Myrtle	Maurice Spangler	9, 18, 1915	"	B	390
Bourne, Anable	Wistar Erickson	3, 6, 1916	"	B	392
Bilden, Julia T. et con	A. H. Anderson	3, 6, 1916	"	B	395
Bourne, George B. et ux	William J. Rhyner	3, 15, 1916	"	B	398
Burton, Walter G. et ux	Chester State Bank	3, 3, 1916	"	B	402
Berglin, J.C.	Peter Kroone	3, 21, 1916	"	D	310
Bourne & Hamilton	Lucy Heintz	3, 23, 1916	"	D	310
Buelow, Albert et ux	C.O. Myhre	2, 15, 1916	"	B	416
Beamguard, Ethel	Thomas P. Strode	4, 1916	"	B	417
Bonar, James M. et ux	Maitland Gregory	4, 7, 1916	"	B	422

GRANTOR	GRANTEE	DATE OF INSTRUMENT	NAME OF INSTR:	WHERE RECORDED BOOK/PAGE
Bonar, James M. et ux	Andrew Mattson	4, 7, 1916	Deed	B 423
Blades, Elizabeth J.	T.P. Strode	4, 29, 1916	"	B 426
Brinkman, Charles H. et ux	Salmon C. Shamey	5, 11, 1916	"	B 429
Biggs, C.E. et ux	Habib Rehal	4, 14, 1916	"	B 430
Bucki, Francissek et ux	Joseph Rajewski	4, 15, 1916	"	B 433
Brady, Nathaniel	Mary Henry	4, 8, 1916	"	B 439
Bolley, George W. et ux	J.L. Potts	6, 21, 1916	"	D 336
Banking House A. Buelow	Charley Buelow	6, 26, 1916	"	D 338
Baldwin, Elizabeth A.	Edward Vath	6, 12, 1916	"	B 465
Brinkman, Charlie et ux	Chris L. Peterson	6, 12, 1916	"	B 472
Burkhart, J.M.	Ethel Hess	8, 5, 1916	"	B 483
Bognis, Thomas	James Bognis	7, 26, 1916	"	B 485
Brown, Harriet N.	Clarence P. Conway	9, 12, 1916	"	B 491
Boyajian, Krikor	Per G. Wesslen	9, 18, 1916	"	B 500
Beard, William C. et ux	Wm. R. Raborn et ux	1, 15, 1916	"	D 377
Bodding, Andrew	John Sletten	10, 4, 1916	"	B 509
Brutzman, A.J. et ux	Security St. Bank Havre	10, 4, 1916	"	B 510
Berg, Nels et ux	Hans K. Solberg	10, 9, 1916	"	B 516
Bailey, Frank L.	E.B. Hovee	10, 5, 1916	"	B 524
Bourne, George B. et ux	William Knight	11, 1, 1916	"	B 537
Berglin, J.C. et al	Dan L. Buhning	3, 8, 1916	"	B 546
Brurud, Emil C. et ux	County of Hill	10, 20, 1916	"	D 393
Buskerud, J. Henry	John M. Carlson	11, 18, 1916	"	B 556
Briggs, William G.	George Bump	12, 2, 1916	"	B 587
Bauer, Mary D.	H.J. Moes	11, 4, 1916	"	B 588
Berry, James T.	Laura A. Erickson	12, 6, 1916	"	B 593
Boggs, C.C. et ux	J. Henry Wilson	12, 7, 1916	"	B 597
Burkhart, J.M.	Daisy B. Metcalf et al	12, 26, 1916	"	E 19
Burkhart, J.M.	Alfred C. Stroce et al	12, 26, 1916	"	E 19

GRANTOR	GRANTEE	DATE OF INSTRUMENT	KIND OF INSTR:	VOLUME RECORDED	BOOK/PAGE
Bourne, George B. et al	Malvina S. Lakey	12, 25, 1916	Deed	D	414
" "	" "	11, 20, 1916	"	E	24
Brevik, Christ	W.W. Thorne	1, 8, 1917	"	E	27
Bourne, George B. et al	Liberty Hall Co. Whitlash	12, 8, 1916	"	E	49
Batis, Laura	C.E. Stewart	12, 13, 1916	"	D	428
Barrick, J. Alton	Carl F. Hawkinson	12, 13, 1917	"	D	429
Berglin, John C.	William F. Johnston	2, 19, 1917	"	E	82
" "	H.C. Eversmeyer	2, 27, 1914	"	E	64
" "	Fred Zorn	2, 17, 1917	"	E	68
" "	" "	2, 17, 1917	"	E	69
Blackman, Sarah A. et con	Earl P. Scott	2, 7, 1917	"	E	70
Barnes, Milla et con	C.E. Thompson	1, 8, 1917	"	D	434
Brokke, Julius	Oscar E. Drake	2, 20, 1917	"	E	73
Boger, Ellen I. et con	Valentine J. Drougard et al	2, 26, 1917	"	E	78
" "	Charles G. Bentson et al	2, 26, 1917	"	E	78
Buelow, Charley	John H. Haigh Sr.	3, 12, 1917	"	E	81
Blackman, Sarah A. et con	George W. Ross	2, 7, 1917	"	E	102
Buelow, Albert H. et al	John H. Haigh Sr.	3, 15, 1917	"	D	490
Berg, Martin	Bangs Livery Co.	4, 10, 1917	"	E	131
Berg, Asborg et con	M.R. Wilson	4, 16, 1917	"	D	499
Baatz, Nick et ux	Nick Baatz Co.	4, 30, 1917	"	E	140
Bevan, James E.	Ida L. Bevan	5, 2, 1917	"	E	145
Berglin, John C.	James Bozianos	4, 28, 1917	"	E	148
Bickle, Geo. Shrf.	Chester State Bank	5, 8, 1917	"	D	503
Burke, Ernestine et con	Ernest Holzner	5, 26, 1917	"	E	157
Brown, Emma M.,	Anna Hunnewell	5, 8, 1917	"	E	158
Berglin, J.C.	Anna Hunnewell	5, 15, 1917	"	E	168
Bognis, James	Thomas Bognis	5, 8, 1917	"	D	526
Berglin, John C.	Peter Kroone	5, 1, 1917	"	D	531
Bodding, Andrew	John Bodding	6, 6, 1917	"	E	175
Blackman, Sarah A. et con	M. Ross	2, 7, 1917	"	E	178

GRANTOR	GRANTEE	DATE OF INSTRUMENT	KIND OF INSTR:	WHERE RECORDED BOOK/PAGE
Boger, Warren E. et ux	Carl O. Brokke	6, 16, 1917	Deed	D 540
Branham, William	Fred Sweeney et al	6, 20, 1917	"	E 201
Baker, Francis et ux	Michael Dworshak	5, 19, 1917	"	E 203
Brokke, Carl O.	J.M. Reid	6, 23, 1917	"	E 208
Biggs, Myrtle B. et con	Central Mt. Ranchers Co.	6, 29, 1917	"	E 209
Berglin, J.C.	Simon Warrington	5, 21, 1917	"	E 213
Buckmaster, Amelia	C.W. Allen	7, 7, 1917	"	D 548
Brewer, William J. et ux	Martin Wasesha	6, 21, 1917	"	D 550
Berglin, J.O.	Gt. Falls Nat'l Bank	7, 24, 1917	"	E 223
Brandt, Mary J.	Thomas M. Brandt	7, 25, 1917	"	E 229
Bower, Frederick C.	Catherine B. Bowen	8, 20, 1917	"	E 245
Bourne, George B. et al	Fred C. Blair Co.	3, 1, 1917	"	D 556
" "	" "	3, 1, 1917	"	E 247
Bodding, John	Andrew Bodding	7, 24, 1917	"	E 248
Berglin, J.O.	Wencel H. Dolezal	7, 6, 1917	"	E 251
" "	Sheldon Bros.	6, 18, 1917	"	E 252
Bickle, Geo. Shrf.	A.G. Wedge Jr.	9, 7, 1917	"	D 561
Bodding, Andrew	Grover Reip	8, 23, 1917	"	E 259
Bevan, Ida L.	Edwin J. Bevan	8, 28, 1917	"	E 260
Bevan, Anna B.	" "	9, 12, 1917	"	E 261
Byerly, Francis A. et ux	John Stille	9, 1, 1917	"	E 282
" "	" "	9, 1, 1917	"	E 283
Byerly, Charles E.	" "	9, 1, 1917	"	E 284
Bump, George	Henry Kurtz	9, 4, 1917	"	E 290
Bourne, George, B. et al	XY Ranch	10, 9, 1917	"	E 297
Berglin, J.C.	John H. Harmon	6, 30, 1917	"	E 303
Bishop, Earl H. et al	George W. Bishop	7, 6, 1917	"	E 305
Beard, Ruth H. et con	Dakota & Gt. Northern Townsite Co.	4, 19, 1917	"	D 589
Boeckman, Rachael H. et con	" "	4, 19, 1917	"	D 588
Barzee, Clifford L. et ux	William H. & Hazel King	10, 19, 1917	"	E 315

## GROWING UP ON THE PRAIRIE

Written by Irma Hall Vahl

In the early 1900's, my father Charles William Hall and Mother Theresa J. Bauer Hall came to Chester, Montana. Dad's health was not good, so came West to see if it would help him. He had Tuberculosis. Dad worked for the Geo. Bourne & Hamilton Sheep Co. He was a range rider and this Company was located North of Chester near the Hill P.O. in the Sweet Grass Hills. Dad filed on a homestead which was north of the P. O. about 4 miles. Mother worked at the P. O. which was also the Mail Route Relay Station between Chester and Gold Butte. She cooked meals and cleaned the rooms (which were for the passengers and the mail carriers who changed men and their horses). Larry Emerson was the Boss. He hired and fired men. Matt Morgan and Nelson Petterson drove stage from Hill to Gold Butte. Frank Lowe drove from Chester to Hill.



Irma Hall Vahl

Dad's job as range rider required him to carry a 45 revolver. Many times predators were seen around sheep herds, he would bring home or to camp - bum lambs, so Mom would feed them from a bottle. She had a tame one called Billy - he would run up the stairs and wake the men for breakfast, but when he saw Mom with the mop, he was gone.

Mr. Bourne and Hamilton built a large 2 story house not far from camp and in later years I remembered this mansion, as I could see us living in that mansion. But, in later years it was moved to Shelby Mt. by Jim and Bertha Christian. In late 1903, Mother returned to New York and waited my arrival. She returned about one year later, however, Dad in the meantime, was getting a house and barn built on the homestead. Lumber and material had to be hauled from Chester and Fort Benton. Dad had also got a few head of cattle and a team and wagon. Mother returning from the East said the Mosquitos were very bad and very hot weather-she kept me under a net. That winter had been hard - as lots of cattle froze to

death and snow was deep and bad blizzards. After being home for a week or so, I had been bitten by a mosquito and infection set in, so was taken to Great Falls and was in the hospital for some time. Mother had a large garden as I can remember playing in the rich black dirt, while she put in vegetables and Dad carried water from the creek by the house.

In 1907, Dad's health was getting worse. I can see him yet, laying in bed and coughing and I remember I was making more noise than I should and he scolded me for it. I sassed him and he got out of bed and put soap in my mouth - besides a paddling. I sat down behind the wooden rocker and shed a few tears. Our house had only three rooms, a bedroom, kitchen and front room. Not too much room - and very little furniture, mostly apple boxes for chair and Dad made a table. Our stove was a flat top - 4 hole top, a door on each side of oven. A small heater in the front room and our fuel was coal and wood. Coal was hauled from West Butte and also some came from Roundup, Mont. Emil Jeppesen hauled coal by team from West Butte. They were mining not too far from our house, and some folks hauled there, but the coal was a poor grade. There was a mine or two that Mr. Bragg worked on for gold.

Dad left in the Fall of 1907 back to Penna. to his folks where he passed away on Oct. 25, 1908 at Dallas, Penna. Mother, of course, could not go East with winter coming on and she had two horses and cattle to take care of. The winter was a bad one, we had a blizzard that lasted three days so she could not get to the barn to feed or water the stock and our fuel was low. Mother kept me in bed most of the time (I was 3 years of age at the time Dad left home) so Mom had to burn up our furniture to keep warm. A neighbor by the name of Bragg, who was a miner, lived about a mile from us. He would come to see how Mom was getting along. His clothes were patch upon patch and the seat of his pants had 2 large bright red patches. Mom and I would go over and visit him. He had a large wild strawberry patch and "Boy" were they good! Neighbors were at least a mile "as the crow flies". Mr. Bragg gave me 2 black kittens. Mom kept them up in the barn and I would go up there and spend hours playing with them. One day, I decided I was going down to see the John Oswoods - they had 2 girls and 1 boy (Margaret, Tillie, and Burnett). I got Mom's mop stick and 2 cats and took off across the prairie. Mother was frantic, she called and looked everywhere, thought I might have got into the creek and as the sun was setting and a storm coming in, there



she saw me coming with my 2 cats and the mop stick horse.

Mom would take the team and wagon and would go over to see the Joe Roke family, they had 2 boys and 1 girl, Johnny, Tootie and Dick. John Oswood was our closest neighbor. There were about 4 or 5 white women in the area, others were Indian women. There were round circles of stone on several places by the creeks and that was where the Indians had a camp. Teepees were put in the circle. Several bachelors had homesteads, they were Severt Reswold, Jake Oswood, Louis Oswood and Nelson Petterson who bought the Knute Oswood place in later years.

Whitlash and Gold Butte were west of us - also the old Co. Ranch. Gold Butte was being mined for gold. The town composed of Tony Fey's General Store, a hotel - I think the Carrol's had it. Then there was a saloon, livery barn and Blacks Smith Shop. Mother would visit friends at Whitlash - Mrs. Amidroze who was a sister of Mrs. Roke, then there were the Launers, Strattons, Elmer Brown, Demerests, Feys, Christians, Iversons, Morgans, Jeppesens, Forsyths, Harvey Price and Lottie and others whose names I can't remember. Mother took care of Mrs. Amidroze when her last baby was born and she is Louise Greer of Big Fork, Mt. I wouldn't play with the Stratton children because they had runny noses. The Amidroze had 3 girls and 1 boy, Lucille, Louise, Nettie and Fritz. Fritz in later years worked on the Joe Roke ranch for years until he retired and came to Kalispell, Mt. The Fontaines lived on Strawberry Flats, they had 10 children, one girl still in Columbia Falls since 1910. Her name is Rosie Burnett.

Ed Trommer and Mother married at Fort Benton, Mt. 1909. He had several bands of sheep besides stock. He came from Iowa. His wife had died and left 5 children, but they never came out to Montana to the ranch as long as I lived there, which was 8 years.

Mother and I went back to New York to visit her sister there. My aunt bought me a big doll at Macys Store. I enjoyed going up and down the rolling strairs. We then went on to Antigo, Wisc. to see another aunt, Mom's youngest sister, Lydia Churney and Uncle Jack. I stayed with them for several months and went to school. Uncle Jack tried to pierce my ears with a needle and burnt cork, but didn't work out as I crawled under the bed. They had a small girl, Doris, who now lives in Miami, Fla. and later 2 boys were born - Jack who lives in Deltona, Fla. and David lives in Penna.

I do not remember if I came back to Montana with my Aunt and Uncle, but I do know they were at the ranch and Aunt Lydia said they were there in 1910 - Ed Trommer wanted Uncle Jack to file on a homestead, because he needed more land for sheep range. He had one large herd that stayed year around on Horse Creek, where there was water. Nels Petterson and Matt Morgan were the range riders for Trommer, as he had several herds and herders.

In the Spring the sheep were brought to the ranch for shearing, this was done by hand. I felt sorry for the animals because they'd cut them so bad with the large shears they used. They would put me in those big, large sacks to stomp the wool, so it would pack down, that's when I found out sheep had Ticks.

Mother's oldest sister's son came from Wilkes-Barre, Pa. to work on the ranch. He was 16 and had 7 brothers. He was the only one of the family that came out West and his name was George Cerwanka. He worked in the Mill at Bonner for many years, he also filed on a homestead which was south of the ranch near the Fred Swantner homestead and Nick Laas land (He went into the service and when he returned, he married Nina Bernhard - a teacher who taught school in Lothair, Mt. Sam Irvine and wife and Grandad had land just north of the ranch and was the first Trommer P.O. Postmaster. During lambing, branding, farming and haying, these men all settlers were working off and on for Trommer.

Our neighbors, who were settlers around the area were, Callaways, Olsons, Larsons, Holmes, Ira Martin, Stalcups, Braybanders, Noklebys, Markusons, Bolmas, Buckmasters, Hills, Abbotts, Wilsons, Porters, Smestads, Phillips, Gormans, Lees, Rockmans, Swanson, Snuffer, Swantners, Randy (last name don't remember), she lived near Noklebys farm - Gleora Olson - she was my music teacher. She homesteaded in the Grand View Area and came from Grand Forks, N. Dak. Also a fellow who homesteaded near the Holmes Farm - he returned to Kalispell and was Mayor of the city, but do not recall his name. The Children would stop on their way home from school and he'd have cookies for them. In the Horse Creek area, were the Zeans, Bush, Fredricksons, Egglestons, Russels, Prescotts, Hulls, Sheltons and Coon.

I attended the Trommer school (1910), summer school began in March through December. My teacher was Effie Madson and her parents farmed near Joplin. She graduated from school there and took the teachers exams

and passed her test, so applied for our school, she was 16 years of age. Mother was on the school board, so helped her get her first school. The teachers usually board and roomed at the ranch as there was more room. Our house had three bedrooms. The teachers and I would walk sometimes to school and could also ride my pony. It was two miles walking and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  by road. We carried our lunch. Teachers had to do their own janitor work, plus build the fire. I would help if I didn't have chores to do when I got home. Water was hauled by a neighbor in cans. The girls and boys that attended the school were - John, Elmer, Mable and Clara Bolma - Basil Buckmaster, John and Tessie Abbott. Ruth and Willard Rockman, Carloyn Oswood, Alice Larson, Lilly, Dagny, Egbert and Rudolph Nokleby, Amy and John Stalcup, Oilens boy and a Gorman boy. There were 3 teachers besides Effie that taught at the school during my years going there. A Miss Wall, Nettie Star and Vera Hughlett (She married Chas, Bush) from Horse Creek.

Trommer had 3 large stallions. They each had a separate stall. One had a large pen outside to exercise in - one was a Clysdale, a Belgian and a Percheron. I could ride the Belgian as the hired men would help me up on him and I looked like a pea on a walnut. He was gentle, but the other two were more frisky and one would bite if given the chance. I had to help feed them, but thank goodness, I could put the hay through a window from the outside. I also took care of gathering eggs and feeding chickens. We also had geese, duck, and turkeys. Would bring in the cows and on the hired mans day off or he was working away from the ranch, I'd help with the milking. George and I would also help herd a band of sheep, probably on Saturday and sometimes Sunday. One time I sat down in a patch of cactus, my cousin had to help pick out the stickers and the days were hot and no shade. When going to Chester for supplies, Mom would take the team and buggy. In winter we used a sleigh with hay in bottom of the box and a foot warmer or a couple of hot bricks and a big cow hide robe. I always looked forward to going into town, as Mr. Baker who owned the Chester Trading Co. would always give me a string of rock candy or large licorice stick. We would go and visit some friends that Mom knew - Mrs. Crist, she was a seamstress and the Browns and the Lattimores, (I believe they had the Hotel). Mr. & Mrs. Baker and their daughter Helen, would come out to the ranch on a Sunday and have dinner with us. I would help Mom with the dishwashing - I would stand on a small stool my Dad had made for me. The hired men that worked for Trommer through the years were - Hauns Yurman (Carl & Mike's Dad), he couldn't speak English very good. They lived on a

homestead just north and west of Chester. Their house was made out of clay and straw or old hay and there was no floor, the walls were real thick. (I'm told the house still stands). Visiting them one day, I remember Carl, he was very shy - and stood around the corner of the house and peeked around the corner. Mike was a tease. Their Dad, Hauns, one morning at the ranch, played a trick on me and I never forgave him. The wagon was out in the yard and they had steel rims on the wheels. It was a frosty morn and he told me to stick my tongue on it, and of course, I did, it took all the skin off of my tongue and he laughed, but I cried and that ended our friendship. I wouldn't pack lunch to him when out in the field after that. Sveier Rockman, Nick Laas, Brad Skinner were some of the men who worked at times on the ranch.

Being the only child, I had to make my own amusement, so played a lot with my doll. Mom would help me make doll clothes and I had to feed the bum lambs by bottle. In winter I had no sled, so my cousin made me one, but it was too heavy to pull up hill and the runners were without metal, I sometimes used the big coal shovel.

One day in early spring the hired man found twin antelopes, he brought them to the house so Mom and Geo. got busy and built a pen for them. She raised them on the bottle till real large. One night one got out, so we had one for some time and then it was turned out to roam the prairie. There were several herds, we would see them when going to town in a large meadow south of Nick Laas place and also near Matt Morgans farm. I would go and visit Morgans as I liked the baby and would rock it to sleep. In a dug out North of Matt Morgans lived a man, his wife and a little girl. It was near Christmas, so Mom took some food to them, they had nothing much to wear and food was low, so Mom took my doll that my Aunt gave me and gave it to the little girl. After leaving there, I cried most of the way home.



Antelope Mom (Ma Trommer) raised on bottles at Trommer Ranch.

In the late summer, we would take some food, bedding, buckets and boxes and we'd go to the old homestead and camp in the house. Mom loved to pick gooseberries and sometimes we'd find other berries - she'd make goosie berry pie and jams and jellies - they sure tasted good in the winter. One day Mom stepped into a hornets nest and her leg and ankle swelled, so had to go down to the creek to bath it and get the swelling down.

Mother and I would go to Havre by train to visit friends and sometimes I would stay and visit with Mary (McDonough) Bailey. Her husband had one of the first Saloons in Havre, they had a nice horse and buggy, so on Sundays in the afternoon, we'd go for a ride out to the old Fort Assinaboine - Mary had 2 brothers that also lived in Havre and worked for G.N. one was an engineer and other a conductor. Tom and Bess McDonough had a son Tommy and I use to help babysit, in later years they had adopted a girl. Last I heard of Tommy was from Seattle. Mary in later years worked as G.N. operator and in later years married Skinny Enfield. Mary was a second mother to me. There were also the Lorangers, they had a saloon in Chester and Havre, Dr. Almas and Harris families, also the Yeons.

Going to school I had traps to check. Geo. had set them for badgers and kit fox, that helped him with spending money. Ruth Rockman and I would take our ponies and go to visit Zerans on Horse Creek. we would go across country and the gullies would be filled with snow. One time we got caught in a snow storm and our horses were really tired, when we got there -also we'd go out and have races - anything for amusement. One day, we were playing with the calves, we'd grab them by the tail and they'd run, would try to hang on and part of one's tail came off and BOY! were we scared. We put the tail part down a old water hole and took off. Her Dad never did know what happened to that calfs tail - (we laugh about it when we visit) (Poor Ruth was really scared) (She'll probably skin me for telling this).

ED TROMMER (my stepdad) was not a sociable man, never took mother and I to visit our neighbors, social gathings at the school house, Christmas programs or dances. He would go on a spree for a week or 10 days, never knew where. He also gambled, which was his down-fall, and lost the ranch. He came home one time and Mother found a bottle of whiskey in the buggy, so she smashed the bottle. He got the whip and chased us around the yard. We finally got away and went over to our neighbors until it got dark. George had him calmed down by then. Another time, Mother, the teacher and



Trommer Ranch (Picture taken April 25, 1953)

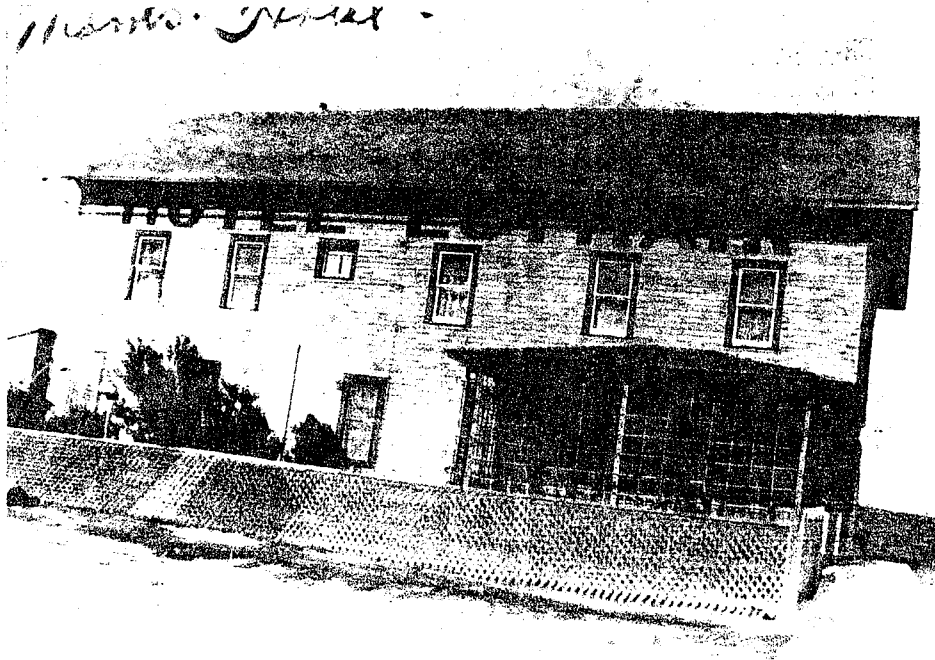
I had gone to a dance at the school house, and in those days they danced until sun up. When we got home, found the kitches, walls and ceiling plastered with eggs. What a mess to clean up!

In 1926 or 1927, Trommer had a sale, I went to it, to buy back my dishes and some of Moms - that were given to us for our birthdays, etc. He would not let Mom take them, some of the neighbors bid them in to be sure we got them back. John Holm bid in my small cups and saucers, also a large cut glass bowl. That was the last time I was at the ranch until summer of 1981. The old log cabin, barn and house are still there - but the creek is gone, the nice trees are dead and I could not get near the house because of weeds and thistles.

In the Spring of 1917 Mother left the ranch and went to work for Ike Diemert, he had the restaurant and hotel in Lothair. That fall Mother took over the hotel and ran it until 1933. The town was growing and settlers were coming in (1916 was the beginning of the land boom). Taylor and Ridgeway came from Spokane and opened a land or real estate office. There were two general stores, DuBoise - sold his out to Chas. Benson, Ed Robinson had the other - a smaller store owned by Mr. & Mrs. Sanford. He was a missionary and had a small Chapel for services, also a Catholic Church and some services were held in the school house. Bank of Lothair

was managed by a Mr. Day and Dick Stille, he married Mary Jo Sisk. She was a music teacher. Post Mistresses were during the years, Mrs. Hughlett, she had 2 girls and a boy. Vera, she was my teacher at Trommer school, she married Chas. Bush from Horse Creek. Mildred worked for G. N. as operator. Mrs. Hughlett was related to the Star Sisters in Galata, Edith Greiner (Irma Nelson) Mrs. Wilsie & Mrs. McLaren. Ralph Wilsie ran the Implement Store, Bob Schwen had the livery stable and dray. Geo. Mitchell ran the saloon, he came from Nome, Alaska, going there in his teens during the Gold Rush Days. Section foreman's were Dicks, they had 2 girls, Kathyrn and Ruth, and Andy Anderson, a single man. Trumbull was depot agent, as was Steve Coram & Dave McLaren. Operators were coming and going, some I remember who stayed any length of time were Pat Mulliken, Alma Hoppen (she lives in Polson) Mary Emfield. Elevator men were - Erickson and Alair, Matkin and later years Glen Standiford. A lumber yard was run by Sam Myre(?) and Barker. Dance Hall - a garage, the mechanic was Rumley(Nick name) Bill. A seaman who was really a character, he came from Ireland through Canada, a friend when you needed one and of many trades. When the war broke out he left and he was never heard from again.

Roy Slater was a carpenter, brother of Mrs. Greiner. Pool Hall was run by Edgar Ballou, Billy Ballou was a barber, Gay Rose was a nephew.



Mother Trommer's Hotel in Lothair

Mr. Jim Whiteley, was also a mechanic, his wife, Ann was a nurse, they had two boys, George and Norman. They came from England, they farmed, but dry years didn't help them, so they moved into town and had a garage. The school had 8 grades and later 1 & 2 years of high school.

Mother added a kitchen and 6 bedrooms to the hotel - she employed at times when business was good. A cook and waitress and a chamber-maid the girls who worked at that time of World War I were, Alice Reap, her sister Lydia and some times another sister Erma. Mrs. Helen Brigger and her mother - also a lady named JoJo. A Mrs. Winters and Alma Zanda were cooks at one time or another through the years.

In the year 1918 - a lot of the young men went into the service - also my cousin Geo. left. Some of these younger men who had bought land left for service. Bert Nelson and brother who helped in the elevators, and many worked on the section crew.

In the summer of 1919, Mother got very ill. The nearest doctor was Dr. Melvin of Chester which is 10 miles east of Lothair, she had inflammatory Rheumatism, Mrs. Whitely cared for her for several weeks. Mother could hardly stand a sheet over her body, she would scream when being cared for, she really suffered and Mrs. Whitely was a wonderful person, stayed by her side for a good many days and nites. Norman Whitely and I had our tonsils removed by Dr. Melvin on the kitchen table. Norman and I were put in the same bed and I was crying and Norman reached over and patted me on the shoulder and said "Irma don't cry, I'll buy you an ice cream cone". In my school days there, I had measles twice, croop, and head lice - seemed to me one summer I had my head in Lard and Kerosene several times. I took painting lessons the summer of 1918. Mother did also, as did several others. Mrs. Chas. Walden was the teacher and really an artist. I still have a picture of mine and one of Mothers that we painted.

In school here are a list of those I knew and some who came and left during my 2½ years in school there:

Mark Wilson	Byron Harris
Glen Standiford	Bill Casper
Muriel Wilson	Freda Doyle
Thomas Porter	Francis Violett
Edward Hutchison	Francis Moran
Dean Gillespie	Jessie Violett



Blanche Smith

Faye Smith

Mary Schroer

Jessie Diemert

Buelah Standiford

June Standiford

Ruth Dick

Kathyrn Dick

Cecil Hutchison

Rose Hutchison

Earl - Claude - Eddy - Billy - Mina - Mable, Ames

Chas. - Willard - Mary Jo - Beatrice - Helen, Trumbull

Teachers I had were:

Nellie McClaren

Nellie Poland

Mr. Gist was a high school teacher and Josie Ferebee grade, they were teachers in later years. Miss Brassfield, she taught for several years and had a home in Lothair and died there, but she wasn't my teacher. In later years, Evelyn Jensen, Mrs. Harvey Olson and Lillian Reynolds -Edwards, taught there. Lillian boarded & roomed with us when she taught in the 30's.

When prohibition came in, Mother leased the Hotel out to Helen Smith for one year and then to a Mrs. Winters for a year. Geo Mitchell had closed the saloon and had leased the Harrington Hotel in Great Falls. He wanted mother to be house-keeper, so we moved to Great Falls. I finished my 7th grade there, took the street car to and from school which was up on Boston Heights.

The next year the new 8th grade school opened on 9th St. and Central. After 8th grade I went to Commercial College, but later went to work in a dime store. All this time, it was what they called Bootleg days, and there was plenty of it especially on the old Bootleggers trail south of Galata into Gt. Falls.

I was very unhappy in Gt. Falls, I had no school chums and living in the hotel was very lonesome. After couple years there, Geo. Mitchell sold out and went into the Pool Hall and Bootleg business. Mother rented a house with several bedrooms. She opened up a boarding house and had that for a year, then the lease was up on the hotel so she returned to Lothair. I stayed in Gt. Falls, went to school part time and then worked.

Elizabeth Williams

Edith Greiner

Josephine Voitten

Earl Wallace & Carter Children

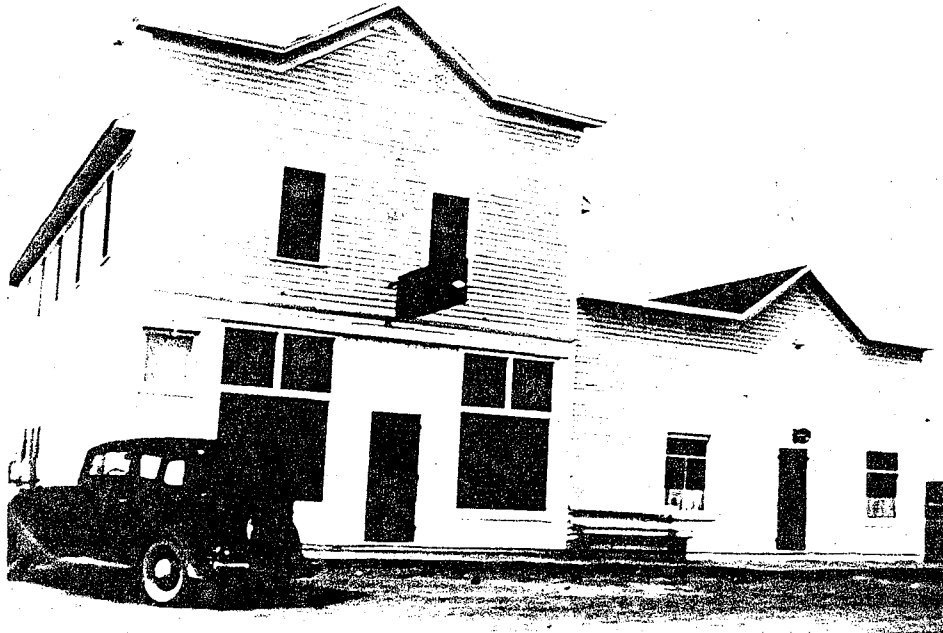
Mable Zelda and Zada Case

Gordon Standiford

Marie and Lila Glen

When the Liberty Theatre opened up, I was one of several girls who worked there and really enjoyed it, the theatre was really nice. Mr. Myrich was the manager, later Bill Steege was manager.

In 1923, I returned to Lothair as mother needed me home to help her out, then the Gibbon-Dempsey Prize fight came to Shelby. The oil boom was on - then later came the drouth - Army worms and grasshoppers and with dry winds and dust storms, all in all was a struggle. We had no electricity, no water, a spring supplied water by hauling it in a tank and put in cisters. In the winter the G. N. supplied water for drinking and cooking. We hauled it in 5 gallon cans. Ice was put up in Winter for our refrigeration during summer (ice boxes) and home made, at that. In summer, rain water was used for washing, Coleman gas lights - kerosene lamps, Mother put in the carbide lights later.



The Golden West Hotel & Bar

Ma Trommer moved her Hotel from Lothair to Chester in 1933. The top part of the hotel was removed in Lothair before it was moved by Otto Shepherd cross country to Chester. This part was made into the bar and she added it on to the north side of the Western Hotel that had been owned by Henry Schneider and it was named the Golden West. Ma Trommer sold the bar & hotel to Larry Aaberg in 1944 or 1945.



Charles Wm. Hall's homestead north of Hill P. O. in Northern Chouteau Co. now Liberty. Picture taken when Irma was three years old. Her dad passed away in 1907 in Hazeltown, Pa. Charles Hall was herdrider for the Bourne & Hamilton Sheep Co., which was south of Hill Post Office.

Some History of Dad, Charles Wm. Hall. Dad was raised in Penna. His father raised race horses. Dad was a jockey. He had four brothers and two sisters. One of my Dad's brother boy, Joe Hall - lives in Shamokin, Pa., as does a sister Helen Witmer. I correspond with them now, up until two years ago, I did not know any of Dads relatives were alive. Dad was married in early life and had a boy by the name of Frank Hall. This became known to me in 1936 when I lived at the head of Whitefish Lake and received a letter from Frank saying he was coming out to see me, he had a boy and two girls. He got as far as Chicago and had to return home because he was too ill to come West.

His daughter corresponded with me for a couple of years and then I never heard from them again. So, I've regretted that I didn't get to meet him and learn more about his family.

Theresa Bauer Hall Trommer: A little life story about Mother. She came from Tachau, Austria with her parents. There were 7 girls and 1 boy. They were on a boat for several weeks. Landing in New York, my Grandfather fell heir to another family of 5 children and their mother. Seems the husband did not meet the family and Grand dad did what he could for them. He worked digging ditches and whatever he could get. They spoke no English, with very little money and in a strange land was indeed a challenge for all. Mother was 9 years old. She attended Catholic schools. She could read and write and speak German. The youngest girl (Aunt Lydia) was a baby. Grand Dad finally settled in Freeland, Pennsylvania. He had a trade, it was making wooden barrels with the metal stays around.



Theresa Bauer Hall Trommer

Mother went to work in the silk mill at Wilkes-Barre, Pa. So her schooling was not too good. She was 12 years old. One day coming home from work, she found a gold band ring, she gave it to her mother. Her mother wore it until her death and then Mother got the ring and she wore it until her death. (1966)

Later years she went to work for a family in New York. They were Jewish. Mother always said they were the nicest, most considerate and very good to their help or servants. One of the boys was a doctor, and had it not been for him, she would have died from an accident. They cared for her and payed all the costs.

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The Owsley Family Historical Society held their fifth annual meeting at the John Marshall Hotel in Richmond, Virginia, 13 May, 1983. Carl J. Owsley of Orlando, Florida was chosen President for the next two years. Mrs. William H. Martin of Seattle, Washington is the Secretary.

Albert W. L. Moore, Membership Chairman

1420 North Spring, Independence, Mo. 64050

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## FROM EARLY NEWSPAPERS RIVER PRESS

Fort Benton, Mont.

May 22, 1889

At Sweet Grass hills, on election day, it stormed. When Under Sheriff Healy left there was snow to the depth of one and one-half feet on the mountains. This is a great blessing to the farmers and stockmen as well as the miners. It will enable those working placer mines to continue work until long into the summer.

\*\*\*\*\*

June 5, 1889

From Under Sheriff M. J. Healy and others who came in from the Sweet Grass Hills Wednesday we gather the following interesting items:

Mr. Matthew Carrol, Major Clitz, David Gilmour, all of Helena, and their associates, have been for some time past driving a tunnel to tap the Copper Glance lode, which is situated on a very abrupt mountain side cut by a deep gulch or chasm. The lead, it appears, dips toward the gulch, and has just been struck at the end of a forty foot tunnel 300 feet from the surface. The tunnel is already into the vein five feet, without finding the inner wall rock. The ore body runs very even, and shows an assay of \$107 silver, and shows \$73 copper value per ton. The owners are highly elated over their find, and without doubt have a veritable bonanza.

Messrs. Hazeltine & Porter are proceeding with the development of the Brown-Eyed Queen lode. They are shipping ore to Swansea, Wales, which runs \$412 to the ton. The cost of hauling to the Manitoba railway at Big Sandy station is \$15 per ton; tariff to New York by rail, \$25 per ton, and by vessel from New York to Swansea, \$3 per ton. The cost of working at Swansea is nominal, so it will be seen that the lucky owners are receiving net about \$350 for every ton of ore shipped.

Larry Emberson is working a force of seven men on a placer claim, using hydraulic power, with forty feet of pressure. He has from eighteen to twenty feet of a face with six feet of wash pay gravel, and is cleaning up \$15 for every ten hours work to the man. As long as the water

CON'T. RIVER PRESS, Fort Benton, Mt.

lasts he will run day and night. It requires but little figuring to learn that he is making big money.

Settlers are coming in thick and fast. They are principally cattle and horse raisers, farmers and some wool growers who are preparing to move their flocks in as soon as shearing time is over.

\*\*\*\*\*

June 5, 1889

The new Teton bridge is nearing completion. It is one massive iron span made after the fashion which spans the Missouri at this point.

\*\*\*\*\*

Miss Jesse McDougall, a charming young lady from Chicago, arrived to-day. She comes on a visit to her friend, Mrs. James Wright, of the Marias.

\*\*\*\*\*

June 12, 1889

Born-- At Fort Benton, M.T. June 4th Mr. and Mrs. Hornback, a son.

\*\*\*\*\*

Capt. John N. Coe, Twentirith infantry, Fort Assinniboine, will serve as inspector of stock to be delivered to the Indians at Fort Belknap June 15th. Gen. Ruger made the assignment.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mr. W. P. Turner, Jr. of the marias, who returned from Tennessee a couple of weeks ago, has just recovered from a spell of typhoid fever. He arrived this morning from his ranch on the Marias and tells us that the three round up parties left Pen d'Oreille coulee this morning for the upper Teton range.

\*\*\*\*\*

Born-- In this city, June 5, 1889 to the wife of T. F. Morgan, a boy.

\*\*\*\*\*

We learn from a gentleman recently from the Sweet Grass Hills that the several mines in that district are being

CON'T. RIVER PRESS, Fort Benton, Mt.

worked to the full extent of the limited facilities at the command of their owners. At present there are 85 recorded claims there and prospects are favorable that the number will be increased considerably before fall. The country in the immediate vicinity of the hills is being rapidly settled by farmers who came with the determination that their products will be consumed by the miners of that section. A number of samples of ores will be sent to Helena to-morrow for assay and the result of their returns will decide in their owners minds the question of extensive improvements and development. A first-class assay office is greatly needed there, as the character of the ore is such that it requires tests other than the mortar and pestle to determine its value. The voice of the people in that new camp is loud in its demands for a post office. It is the general desire of the public that a route be established to that section, a request which it is hoped will soon be granted.

\*\*\*\*\*

June 19, 1889 Mr. R. S. Barnes, of the Sweet Grass, has filed a record of "Marble Chief" lead in the East butte of the Sweet Grass.

\*\*\*\*\*

Miss Lucy E. Churchill, of Front Royal, Va., arrived this morning to remain several weeks, visiting her brother, Mr. J. F. Churchill, and other friends. She is at present a guest at the hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. C.W. Price.

\*\*\*\*\*

July 17, 1889 Messrs. R. W. Buckland and Richard Oatey came in from the Sweet Grass hills yesterday full of enthusiasm over the result of their explorations. The reports regarding the situation of affairs in that busy mining camp are most encouraging according to the statements made by these gentlemen. They brought with them some fine specimens of ore a sample of which is to be assayed. Mr. Buckland says nothing but capital and machinery are

CON't RIVER PRESS, Fort Benton, Mt., 1889

needed to bring these mines on a plane with those of Butte. The metal is there, and in time the mines in the hills will be recognized among the leading producers of the country.

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Mose Solomon who conducts the largest hennery on the Marias is in the city in the interest of his establishment.

\*\*\*\*\*

July 31, 1889 Mr. Fred Barnes, one of the first discoverers of the Sweet Grass hills, is in the city visiting his old-timer friends. The lucky prospector will return soon with provisions sufficient to last him and his party of workmen all winter. He returns with the best wishes of his many friends for his success in the new mining country.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mr. W. P. Turner of the Marias, left this morning for Butte, where he goes to dispose of 1,400 pounds of butter. He should find a ready market in the great mining camp for his article, as it is of superior grade. Choteau county can furnish every city in the territory with butter, for it is here the cows and facilities for making it are found.

\*\*\*\*\*

Frank Morger is in the city from his Marias ranch. He has several horses of fine quality, among which is the well known Lady Daniel, a half sister to Daniel B., which he prizes highly. It is his intention to enter her in the fall races at Helena, believing her to be capable of winning her share of honors at the territorial meet. Daniel B. is a Benton horse and has become famous throughout the territory for his speed qualities and it would not be a great surprise to hear of Lady Daniel making a startling record next month. Choteau county produces some good horses and is every year sending to the Helena race track a specimen of running stock of which any community may be proud.

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CON'T RIVER PRESS, Fort Benton, Mt., 1889

July 31, 1889 J. L. and J. B. Stark and Thos. Strode came to the city yesterday afternoon from the Sweet Grass hills, where they have large mining interests. They will return with additional facilities for further development of their mines.

\*\*\*\*\*

This morning a party of prospectors consisting of Jno. Haley, Jas. Badkin and M. Mansfield, started for the Sweet Grass Hills where they will set camp and try their luck in those wonderful mines. They are thorough miners and are well equipped with the required facilities to sink a shaft if necessary a hundred feet or more. A Complete outfit of assayer's material is also among the things taken, so the inconvenience of awaiting returns from Helena will not be experienced. It is the intention of the party to thoroughly explore the hills and remain there till snow flies. The result of their labors will be anxiously awaited by the many who hold their faith in the wealth of those mountains.

\*\*\*\*\*

Aug. 7, 1889 Yesterday afternoon Judge Duff united in marriage Mr. Denis Duispis of Great Falls and Miss Adaline Alard, of this city. The happy couple will reside at Great Falls in the future.

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C. B. Toole, late head clerk at the Blackfeet agency, has removed his family to his Sweet Grass ranch where he has large bands of horses and cattle to which he will here after devote his attention.

\*\*\*\*\*

Aug. 14, 1889 Mr. Frank Stiles came down, from the Sweet Grass Hills this morning and is making some extensive purchases for parties in that section. He says the miners there are taking steps for the establishment of a mail route into the mines and hope to be in communication with the outside world within the next two or three weeks.

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CON'T RIVER PRESS, Fort Benton, Mt., 1889

Aug. 14, 1889 Born- On the Teton, August 13, 1889, to the wife of B. L. Powers, a daughter.

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Some fine specimans of silver and copper ore from Sweet Grass were seen today. Some of them will be sent to Mantle and Warren's cabinet at Butte.

\*\*\*\*\*

T. P. Strode is down from the Sweet Grass Hills purchasing supplies necessary to carry him and his party of miners through the winter. He says there will be quite a colony of miners wintering in the hills and that they all have fair prospects to work on.

\*\*\*\*\*

Aug. 21, 1889 Mr. Leonard Pugsley, of Big Sandy, was in the city today. Mr. Pugsley says everything is running smoothly in that portion of Northern Montana and that the ranges there are still green and growing. The RIVER PRESS acknowledges a pleasant call from the gentleman.

\*\*\*\*\*

Died-- At Piegan, Mont., August 8th, 1889, of cholera infantum, Charles L., infant son of Almon B. and Isabel Coe, aged 3 months.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Al Hamilton lode, located in the east butte of the Sweet Grass hills, promises to be one of the best lead producers in that promising mining district. The returns of a recent assay of the ore made in Helena shows 76 per cent, lead and \$4.50 in gold. The sample was taken from a vein twenty feet in width at a depth of fifteen feet. Samples of ore taken just below the grass roots assayed \$6.75, which shows that the value of the rock increases as depth is attained. This property was discovered last summer by Otis Barclay and is now in possession of A.B. Hamilton and others, who are developing the mine, and in the near future will erect a shaft house and improve the facilities for sinking a 100-foot shaft.

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There is talk of stocking the mine and putting in heavy hoisting machinery, pumps, boilers, ect.

\*\*\*\*\*

Sept. 11, 1889 Mr. W. P. Turner, Jr., of the Marias, is in the city today. He informs us that he has qualified as postmaster at Lucille, and is ready to perform his duties as soon as service shall have been established between Fort Benton and that point. For some reason, however, no service has up to this date been ordered. What's the matter with Mr. Wanamaker? Is he aware that an important state election is in progress in Montana? This mail route should be locked after.

\*\*\*\*\*

Oct. 2, 1889 Mr. Frank Styles of Sweet Grass a gentleman who freights from Fort Benton to the mines, carrying the miners their supplies at regular intervals is in the city today. He brings encouraging accounts of mining developments in that region which he says is indisputably one of the best mining sections of Montana.

\*\*\*\*\*

Oct. 9, 1889 Messrs. Thomas Healy, James Ross, Horace Clark, Larry Emberton and Mr. Barnes have all arrived from the Sweet Grass hills during the last few days. They bring favorable reports from that mining region. Development is progressing slowly but surely on numerous mines, which are making a better showing as work progresses. There is no longer any doubt of the fact that the Sweet Grass quartz leads are true fissure veins and in due course of time there will be some bonanza mines opened up that will make millionaires of their owners.

\*\*\*\*\*

Doc. Barclay, a miner from Sweet Grass hills, brought in some specimens of splendid coal from a two foot vein lately discovered in that region. The Sweet Grass region has coal, iron, gold and silver and promises to become a rich mining camp in the near future.

\*\*\*\*\*

CON'T RIVER PRESS, Fort Benton, Mt., 1889

Oct. 23, 1889 The bank of Northern Montana purchased quite a lot of Sweet Grass gold dust during the last few days.

\*\*\*\*\*

Frank Stiles, of Sweet Grass, arrived last night and to-day loaded his team with supplies for various miners in that section. Mr. Stiles makes a regular business of freighting to the mines.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Benton & St. Louis Cattle Co., W. D. Nicholas, David Auchard, Edward Kelly and other owners on the Teton and Marias ranges will ship about thirty cars of cattle from the Fort Benton stock yards to-morrow.

\*\*\*\*\*

Messrs. C. S. Gibson, Kyle Price and Oscar Olinger returned to-day from a trip to the Sweet Grass mines, where they went to look after their property in that section. Messrs. Gibson and Price recently purchased some "feet" from Mr. Horace Clark.

\*\*\*\*\*

Messrs. Gibson and Price brought in some fine samples of ore from the Mountain Cheif Lode, Sweet Grass mining district.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mr. Chas. H. Boyle and wife and Mr. R. W. Buckland and others left for the Sweet Grass mining district this afternoon. The party has two teams and plenty of camp equipage and propose to spend a couple of weeks in that district looking after their mines. They are interested in several promising locations and preparing to continue developments.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mr. T. P. Strode, of the firm of Strode & Stark, prosperous wool growers located south of the middle butte of the Sweet Grass hills is in the city laying in winter

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supplies for their ranch. He also contemplates purchasing some bucks. Mr. Strode also informs us that his wool clip this season averaged over eight pounds to the fleece. As the firm has one of the best sheep locations in the county and are both rustlers, they cannot fail of success.

\*\*\*\*\*

Oct. 30, 1889 Messrs. Burkenbuel and Matt Furnell, of Sun River, have ten or twelve cars of cattle to ship in a few days from Great Falls.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dec. 11, 1889 The use of wind mills on our bench lands is the latest proposition which we consider it our duty to advance. In a conversation with Mr. John Wasesha of Pen d'Oreille coulee yesterday, we learned that he just purchased an Eclipse wind mill of Messrs. H. J. Wackerlin & Co. of this city. He is going to put over a well near his residence on the bench lands for the purpose of raising water for his stock and to irrigate garden stuff. He struck pure water in his well at four-teen feet. It has been proven that water can be found on our bench lands at from 14 to 20 feet. What is to prevent our stockman from sinking wells on good ranges distant from running streams, and putting wind mills on them to raise water? Nothing that we know of. Think of it, then do it.

\*\*\*\*\*

A nice mining deal was made today. Mr. James Ross sold a one sixth interest in the Mountain Chief lead, Sweet Grass hills, to Messrs. C. I. Libby and Wm. Clark for something over \$2,000. The Mountain Chief produces low grade ore in silver, copper and iron, but there are worlds of it, the lead being sixty-five feet in width. Messrs. C. S. Gibson, Kyle Price, R. W. Buckland, Charles Boyle and James Ross are also interested in this lead.

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