



**A History
of the
Settlement
of
Scotia and Vicinity**

By

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EARLY SETTLERS OF SCOTIA AND VICINITY

Scotia and vicinity was settled by people who were seeking new homes. Many came from eastern states, who joined immigrant trains, or trekked overland in covered wagons drawn by oxen, sometimes horses—to find a new home on the unsettled and unspoiled prairie. After the railroad was extended westward some came by train. Some came directly from foreign countries.

The government did much to encourage the settlement of the West. The Homestead Act, under which so many became land-owners in the West, was enacted by Congress in 1862, and provided that "any person who was head of the family or 21 years of age, a citizen of the U. S., or who had announced his intention of becoming such, was entitled to a quarter section of land. Five years of residence on the land, payment of certain fees, the building of various improvements, and the cultivation of the land were required before final proof could be made and patent received from the government." To further encourage the settlement of western lands, the Act was extended in 1873, and concessions were made to soldiers and their dependents. Land could thereafter be acquired under a Preemption, the Homestead Act, a Timber Claim, or a Soldiers Homestead.

Another Act passed by Congress which had a long and far-reaching effect was a bill passed on July 1, 1862, granting to the Union Pacific Railroad some 12 million acres of public land to aid in constructing a railroad from the Missouri River westward to the Pacific Coast.

On July 2, 1864, a similar Act was passed by Congress "to aid in the construction of a railroad and a telegraph line from the Missouri River to the Pacific Coast and to secure the government the use of the same for postal, military, and other purposes." Authority was given to the Burlington and Missouri Railroad, a corporation existing under the laws of the state of Iowa, to extend its road through the territory of Nebraska." The grant included "every alternate section of public land designated by odd numbers to the amount of ten alternate sections per mile on each side of said road of the line thereof, not sold, reserved or otherwise disposed of by the U. S., and to which preemption or Homestead claim may not have been attached."

Some one hundred eighty thousand acres of land granted to the Burlington lay within the borders of Greeley County. The selection, operation and sale of it was in charge of William Stieger, land agent for the railroad company.

Grant tracts of these western lands were offered at an extremely low price to prospective settlers, from \$1.25 to \$1.50 per acre until the country began to settle up, when prices advanced. The railroad companies not only needed to finance their building operations, but were eager that the territory through which they operated became settled, and thus their lines would show a profitable revenue. The railroads did a great deal of advertising, and maintained immigrant agents in the large eastern cities, who advised

and directed immigrants from Europe to suitable locations in the West.

Thus began an influx of early settlers. Some of the men who came were Civil War veterans who took advantage of the Homestead Law, others were well-educated college graduates. Some had money, others had none, but all were endowed with the pioneering spirit. A number came directly from Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Ireland, and other foreign countries. All cast their lot in the building of this new country, often suffering hardships, loneliness, and privation. For some their spirits remained undaunted, others became discouraged and returned to their old homes and friends.

It is a well recognized fact in the history of America, that the church was the foremost leader in the colonization, in the early days of this new country.

The different denominations often paved the way for the migration of their members into the unsettled parts of this new country, and the Loup Valley was no exception. They brought with them their deep religious convictions and their undying zeal for education, so among the very first establishments, after their homes had been built, were the churches and the schools. Trees were planted, the young and old participated, because a shady nook was at a premium on the prairie.

The first claim in the county was that of Alcie P. Fish, who filed his papers in 1871, on a homestead in the southwestern part of the county. The area includes the Madge Van Skike, Ronald Tuma and Vic Pearson farms.

In the same month and year, a party arrived from Washara County, Wisconsin, to seek a location for a colony of Seventh Day Baptists. C. P. Rood, N. B. Prentice, Amos Travis, and C. H. Wellman made up the group. Only Mr. Rood returned a favorable report.

He liked the valley on every side as far as he could see it from "Happy Jack's" peak. His report was sufficiently glowing to impress his neighbors and friends, and in November of that same year he returned bringing with him to view the land his brother W. H. Rood, his son-in-law Mansell Davis, and John Sheldon. Mr. Davis and Mr. Sheldon at this time filed upon land on the west side of the river, adjoining Valley County, on November 6, 1871—being the first to file on land on the west side of the river.

John Kellogg, accompanied by S. C. Scott, Alonzo Shepard, and Daniel Benson came to the area in August 1871, coming from Platte County near Columbus by the Overland Route. All took homesteads in the area west and north of the current town of Scotia, most of it lying next to the river. In April 1872, Mr. Scott and Mr. Shepard returned to the area having gone to Columbus after their families. A. M. Stewart accompanied them and all established their homes in the same area west and north of Scotia.

In December 1871, Mr. and Mrs. James Wallace arrived to take land. Mrs. Wallace was the first white woman in the county, the other families coming in the spring of 1872.

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Other settlers who arrived below the river were George Hillman, L. C. Scott, E. B. Fish, Lewis F. Phillips, Harvey Grosse, and A. J. Gillespie.

At this time a postoffice, known as Lamartine, was located here on April 17, 1873, with A. P. Fish in charge. Other early arrivals were the families of John V. Alderman, Whiteford, Wm. Harris, Fred Hinzman, Ben Mullenback, Thomas Townsley, Oscar Babcock, and T. C. Davis. Among the arrivals in the late 70's and early 80's were the families of James Harlow, Galvin Crain, Patrick Cayne, J. J. Bean, David Moore, Horace Moore, Simon and Jess Bilyeu, George Small, Joshua Tolbert, Alfred Hillman, John Buchan, Al Barker, Elias Jeffres, George Rutherford, H. Calvin, John Daugherty, the Hayden brothers, Thomas Watson, John Vairy, Bennett Morse, Fred Meyer, David Locker, John Phillips, B. F. Griffith, Wm. Halpin, George Stubblefield, James Hamilton, Maurice and Richard Johnson.

Among early settlements were the Seventh Day Baptists in and around North Loup, the German Lutherans east of Scotia in the Fish Creek area who had a preaching station in the community in 1881, the Evangelicals who organized their church on Fish Creek in 1880, the German Methodists also on Fish Creek in 1879, the Episcopal Methodists in the Lamartine area, organized by Rev. George Hillman in 1873. A little later a Catholic, and a Presbyterian church were also organized in Scotia.

SCOTIA, ITS BEGINNING AND ITS GROWTH

The settlement of Greeley County for the first five or six years was restricted to the southwestern part of the county near what is now Scotia and vicinity.

A small group of men began the process of organizing their county and elect officials. The organization was effected in the fall of 1872. A meeting was held in the home of George Hillman. They made application to the acting Governor, Wm. H. James, who issued a proclamation ordering an election to be held on the 8th day of October, 1872.

The election was held at Lamartine postoffice, where Elihu Fish was at that time postmaster. Thirteen votes were cast and the following officers were elected: A. P. Fish, T. C. Davis and Alonzo Shepard were elected commissioners; E. B. Fish was elected clerk; S. C. Scott, treasurer; G. W. Babcock, sheriff; George Hillman, judge; Mansell Davis, surveyor; John G. Kellogg, superintendent; and C. H. Wellman, coroner.

The next meeting, to determine the location of the county seat, was held at the Lamartine postoffice on January 20, 1873. All business on the organization of the county, and the calling of an election for the purpose of selecting a county seat was transacted. At a special election, held on February 11, 1873, eighteen votes were cast of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 23, Township 17, Range 12, and seventeen votes were cast for the NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 9, in the same Township and Range. Lamartine won by a vote of one.

On October 7, 1873, the county was divided into two precincts. The southwest corner of the county lying west of the North Loup River was called Five Springs, and the part of the county lying east was called Lamartine. In April 1874, the name Five Springs was changed to Adell.

The question of changing the county seat from Lamartine was submitted in 1874, but as no choice was made, another special election was set for November 15, 1874, when the site of Scotia was selected. This new location was more centrally located for settlers in the Loup Valley; there were as yet no other settlements in the county.

Although the first plat of Scotia was not recorded until 1879, a few people settled here. For a long time Scotia, so named by S. C. Scott, who donated this ground for the townsite, with the understanding it was to be named Scotia for his homeland, Scotland, wasn't really a town. In the fall of 1875, a small courthouse was built. This humble structure also served as a school house.

Judge John J. Bean located at Scotia in May 1876, and commenced the construction of a hotel. That same year Sam Scott moved the postoffice from his farm in Lamartine into Scotia, and relinquished it to Mr. Bean—who was regularly appointed postmaster in 1877.

(The following is a description of the plat and dedication original Scotia—Book 1, p. 266, of Deed Records).

The town site of Scotia, Greeley County, Nebraska is situated in the NW¹/₄ of NE¹/₄ of Section 9, Township 17, North of Range 12, West of the 6th Principal Meridian. Commencing at the quarter section on the North side of section 9 and running thence east 693 feet. Thence south 1023 feet, thence west 693 feet. Containing 16 and a fraction acres, also containing six blocks which are 264 feet square except a 20-ft. alley running North and South through center of blocks. Each block contains 16 lots which are 33 feet by 122 feet and run East and West. Streets—Main Street running North and South is 33 feet wide. Greeley and Indian Streets are 66 feet wide and run east and west. All angles are right angles, the variation is 13 degrees and 30 minutes east.—Dated: February 5, 1879; Filed: April 1, 1879.

In October 1877, two young men from St. Paul, Nebraska, established the Greeley Tribune in Scotia, which became the Greeley County Newspaper and did much to advertise the county and Scotia. These two young men were E. O. Bartlett and A. B. Lewis.

W. W. West of Grand Island opened the first general merchandise store in March 1878 under the management of Ed Wright.

The railroads were beginning to exploit their lands in the North Platte country rather freely by this time. To promote this, the B and M in Nebraska built a small migrant house in Scotia. David Moore had charge of this home. He had great faith in the possibilities of the beautiful Loup Valley.

Scotia was still a straggling, haphazard village. In 1878, Lee R. Doane platted the site into a systematic arrangement. A slow growth of the town commenced. In 1881 the population was still

fewer than 100 people. There were just a few business houses but they had good trade.

In the spring of 1881, rumors of a railroad were rife. The Union Pacific would extend northward from St. Paul to North Loup and on to Ord. On April 8, Ord voted the Union Pacific bonds for \$5,000—and North Loup voted the sum of \$4,000. This was to be an inducement to hasten the building of the railroad. Within a year the railroad was extended to North Loup—it was a joyous occasion when it entered the town of North Loup, but Ord had to wait until 1886 for the tracks to be laid that far.

Scotia was by-passed—the railroad tracks did not extend into Scotia. Freight and passengers were ferried across the river until a bridge was built in 1883.

In 1883, the Union Pacific built a spur into Scotia and confidence was again buoyed, for was not Scotia the only railroad town in the county? Things remained quiet until 1887 and the town grew slowly but surely. Then like a flash from a thundercloud came the news that the B & M was building across the county passing through O'Connor. This was bad news, indeed, for Scotia. O'Connor had for some time been much interested in becoming the county seat, the Burlington and Missouri (B & M) was planning to build a railroad in this area. Again hopes were high. By April 1, grades were beginning to take form all along the route and the whole valley rejoiced. But the B & M line would run from Central City to Greeley Center and on to Ord leaving Scotia out in the cold. Sixty mule teams and 100 men with an abundance of new implements arrived and the building of the railroad began.

The coming of the B & M was important in more ways than one. It was feared that Scotia would lose the county seat. Greeley Center, near the center of the county, lay in the path of the B & M. This could settle the county seat controversy—Greeley Center would probably become the county seat.

One of the greatest drawbacks in the settlement of a new section of the country was a lack of transportation. The settlers early found it impractical to stray very far from a railroad base because they had to depend upon this as a depot to supply them with the necessities of life—and in return to take their grain and livestock to market. In 1872, and for many years thereafter, pioneers had to cart every pound of provisions and lumber from Grand Island. This was often a direct cause of hardship and materially retarded the development of the Loup region. Trips to and from Grand Island often took days by wagon and horses—and the changeable weather was always a source of worry for those at home and those en route. So it is understandable that the pioneers rejoiced when the coming of the railroad was announced.

For some years the county had been rapidly filling up with settlers. The first settlers at the center of Greeley County were Irish and were settling near O'Connor. The first settler near the center of the county was James L. Reed who came in 1876. By 1881, a great number of Irish Catholics settled near O'Connor. The Irish bought up vast tracts of land in this area. 25,000 acres were

purchased near O'Connor and the town was platted near the center of the county.

The census of 1880 gave Greeley County a population of 1,461, many of whom had to travel 25 miles or more to reach the county seat at Scotia. Again the same old question of the location of the county seat became an issue. Dissatisfaction with existing conditions grew with the increase in upper county populations.

A new election was called for December 6, 1881, and resulted in O'Connor receiving 196 votes and Scotia 171, and the county poor farm 33.

Fortunately for Scotia a two-thirds majority was required for removal of the county seat and so for a time Scotia was saved.

Then in 1887, the B & M built a new town and called it Greeley Center. It soon became the political center of the county.

Scotia made one more desperate effort to keep the county seat—this came as a gift to the county—a new courthouse built by Scotia Precinct at a cost of \$5,000 in 1887. But in the fall of 1890 the end came. Greeley Center won the election and became the county seat. It is said that "there was considerable ill feeling and personal animosity during the following years."

Scotia now stood face to face with hard times. She had lost her chief point of prestige. The new courthouse stood empty, and prominent families moved to Greeley. Scotia's population decreased seriously. But some men, who had an abundance of faith in the future, decided to turn the courthouse into a Normal and Business College, and did very well until circumstances forced it to close. Young people all up and down the valley attended the college.

Then came abundant crops and Scotia rallied—new and modern homes were built in town, the population increased, and became a wealthy residence town. Her future was assured—and the first comers had not come in vain.

AS I REMEMBER IT

With Scotia celebrating its Centennial this year, I thought a few people might be interested in my memory of Scotia's main street at about the turn of the century and the earlier 1900's.

I so well remember on the corner where the community building stands was a tin shop, called that because stove pipes, eaves troughs, etc. were made there. The shop was run by Mr. Jim Cantwell. As a boy, I found that place interesting. Just south of the tin shop was a store handling mostly groceries. It was run by Mr. Wilcox for a few years, then R. G. Applegarth and after several more years it was sold to J. M. Carlyle and he in turn sold it to the Tucker Bros. They had it as a grocery and music store. This was the store later known as the Landgraf building.

The building just south of that housed another grocery store. This one was managed by Charley Cornell and Albert Schilling, a brother of the well known late Arthur and Earl Schilling.

The present Register office building, as I remember, was built some years later by Fred Miller and used as a photography shop but he lived only a short time after that. As I remember, the post office (George Sprecher was postmaster, then T. W. Cook) in the next space to the south and later used as a law office by B. F. Griffith and still later as a harness and shoe shop run by George Urich was the same building Dr. Reeves used while he was in Scotia.

A little grocery store run by Robert Sharp stood on the corner in a little of the space where later the Frank Daudt opera house and general store was built. Albert Werner operated the grocery store in the Daudt building until he sold the goods to Ed Badousek and he in turn sold to the J. C. Schoemakers.

Across the street to the south, still on the east side of the street, was a frame building used as a bank, as I recall. While I don't remember the banker, I believe that he was the father of the well known late Judge Scott.

Next to the bank T. J. Stoetzel had his real estate business and south of that was Miller Hardware run by Harry Miller and his dad. Then came the "Stone Store," (now Steffen's Garage) where Ed Wright and his father-in-law, J. J. Bean, operated a general store. Later Ed Bredthauer and Wm. Fillinger had an implement and hardware store and then Bailey and Detweiler handled just implements in this same building. Still later Henry Bredthauer had a grocery store there.

From that store there were vacant lots to where the present elevator stands except for a frame house that stood where the Scotia Co-op Creamery was later built up and which now belongs to the fire department. As I recall, the creamery was built up possibly shortly before the 1920's. This was a thriving business for Scotia for a number of years. Farmers delivered eggs and cream from the surrounding area and dividend checks were given each year when the annual stockholders meeting was held. (While the business operated, butter was manufactured there).

There was an elevator at the site of the present one and it was managed by W. B. Weekes who also bought and shipped out livestock. This elevator later burned down and the one now standing was built up. As I remember, it was built by "Farmers Union Co-op" and went by that name for a number of years. One thing I remember was that it was being built at the close of World War I.

Another elevator, called Omaha Elevator Co., managed by T. W. Cook, father of the late Harry Cook and Guy Cook, stood a little ways south of the depot and just across the street west from Scotia's present one.

The depot that was recently removed was already there and was built I believe, in the late 1880's.

The Mr. Weekes who had operated the burned down elevator had a small building a short distance east of the depot and he used it as his office in managing the elevator and livestock busi-

ness. As I remember, he continued to buy and sell livestock after the elevator burned.

There was a lumber yard just north of the Weekes office and George Fitzsimmons and Sam Graham managed this business, also selling farm machinery. They operated there until they built up the building where the present lumber yard is. Sam Graham did not continue in the business when it moved to the new site and it was run by Fitzsimmons alone. Later it was bought from Fitzsimmons and operated by J. G. Seefus and son, Philip.

To the north of the west side lumber yard was a saloon run by Henry Kreuger. Several different parties operated the saloon in the following years. I remember Bill Riley was one of them. When prohibition came in, this building was used by A. C. Beck and a Mr. Harms as a carpenter shop. A little later Mr. Beck gave up the carpenter business and went into automobile sales and service with John Ries putting up the building where Jim Bryson, for a number of years had his implement business, and which now houses the school buses. On this corner a blacksmith shop run by Wm. Cooper was operating but the building, of course, was disposed of in some way to clear ground for the Beck and Ries Automobile business. The carpenter shop vacated by Beck and Harms was then used by J. R. Mitchell as a carpenter shop.

Across the street to the north in the block where the tavern, cleaners, cafe, hardware, bank, etc., now operate, it is rather vague to me what was there in earlier years but the Register office (paper edited by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Waldrip, as I remember) was someplace on that west side, also a bakery and a cafe, I believe, and Carl Moss had a jewelry store. I don't remember at all what was in the space where the hardware store and bank are now. I recollect more clearly what was in the next block across the street to the north on down to where the Dulitz filling station stands.

The livery barn took up the space where the postoffice and Bredthauer-Anthony store are presently. It was operated by Uri Tolbert. Next to that was a harness shop. G. C. Still managed that. Another man, whose name isn't clear to me was with Mr. Still in the harness business.

Next to this shop was a frame building in which M. M. Hicks had a drug store.

Fred Stanner's home and meat market was also along there and then the lots were vacant, as I remember, between the meat market and the corner where the Dulitz filling station is located. On this corner there was another grocery store. Mr. J. D. Watts, who was an older man with a long white beard operated this store. As a boy, I thought of this man's appearance as having a close resemblance, of my image of Santa Claus.

I also remember west of the livery barn was a blacksmith shop run by Jim Curry. He later sold it to George Biskeborn and John Shadle. They were together for 3 or 4 years and then George went back to farming and Shadle continued alone. John Carlson later ran the blacksmith business. This is the same building people will

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remember that Glen Yost and Marvin Sautter started blacksmithing in later years. That building as many other old buildings has been gone for a number of years.

These are my recollections of business places of early Scotia. I'm sure memory doesn't serve me correctly on all of it and other older citizens probably remember it differently. It would be interesting to hear what their remembrances are of main street in early Scotia.—John Rodgen



Looking toward Scotia from a plane atop the Chalk Hills. The North Loup River winds along the base of the hills. Encircled is location of Chalk Mines, just a few steps away from Highway 11.

“HAPPY JACK” SWEARENGEN

The area that now comprises Scotia and vicinity appears to have been first inhabited by a legendary figure, “Happy Jack” Swearengen, who lived and trapped up and down the Loup Valley before 1869. For a time he lived on the peak which bears his name in the chalk hills south of Scotia.

When the first settlers reached the “Big Bend” in 1872, they encountered an odd character living in a habitation, half dug-out, half log hut, perched on the side of a prominent bluff, “Happy Jack’s Peak,” well concealed from the eyes of roving Indians.

He was a large muscular man standing seventy inches in his mocassined feet. He had keen blue eyes, blond hair that fell in waves over his broad shoulders and massive chest. Such was Jack Swearengen, popularly known as “Happy Jack.”

He was an honest frontiersman who was always cheerful, and willing and ready to walk for days guiding strangers in the North Loup Valley. Giving was said to be his weakness—many times he went hungry so that some poor fellowman in want might be fed. “Happy Jack” has with justice been called the “Pathfinder of the Loup.”

When the first settlers arrived he became their guide and adviser. As soon as a settlement was assured, he again took up the trail and became their outpost on the Calamus River.

He was a government scout, and he alone should be given credit for running to earth the notorious horsethief, “Doc Middleton.”

The first white custodians of the Loup were trappers and scouts. It was while “Happy Jack” became the settlers outpost on the Calamus that the Sioux Indians almost killed him. They took him captive and kindled the fire for a slow roasting alive, when for some unknown reason wiser council prevailed and he escaped with his life, upon promising that he would never again be seen in “Indian Country.”

In 1872 he filed a claim almost opposite the site of Fort Hart-suff. Here he lived for years in a dugout on the picturesque canyon known thereafter as “Jack’s Gulch” or “Happy Jack’s Canyon.” He was a government scout with an enviable record.

In 1879 he was removed by a brother to the old family home in Ohio—because he had become distrustful of people, and imprisoned himself in the old dugout, where no one cared to approach except his old friends and neighbors, the Goodenows.

When his father died, he left an estate worth \$40,000. Thus the old trapper and scout lived in easier circumstances for the rest of his life.

CHALK MINE

Scotia had the only chalk mine in the state but few people were aware of it. It was located in the Chalk Hills two miles south of Scotia on what is now the main highway to Grand Island.

The mine was active for over fifty years. During its operation thousands of carloads of chalk were shipped to Omaha for processing. The mine was owned by the United Mineral Products Company of Omaha.

The chalk rock was used in 71 different products, including paint, chalk for blackboards, in cattle feed, chicken feed, for fertilizer, for road beds, for bentonite used in candy. It was also made into polish for cleaning silverware, brass and all kinds of cooking utensils. Another use was a rip rap along the banks of rivers where floods occurred. Many pioneer houses had foundations of chalk rock, and sometimes the entire walls of a house were made of chalk rock that lasted almost indefinitely.

Two of Scotia's early business buildings were made of this rock—one of these buildings is still in use—almost a hundred years old.

The hill from which the chalk was taken is the tallest in Greeley County, and three towns can be seen from its top—Scotia, North Loup, and Cotesfield. The top of this hill is called "Happy Jack's Peak" so named after "Happy Jack Swearingen," a scout, trapper and hunter up and down the Loup Valley before and just after it became organized territory. He lived on this hill for a time.

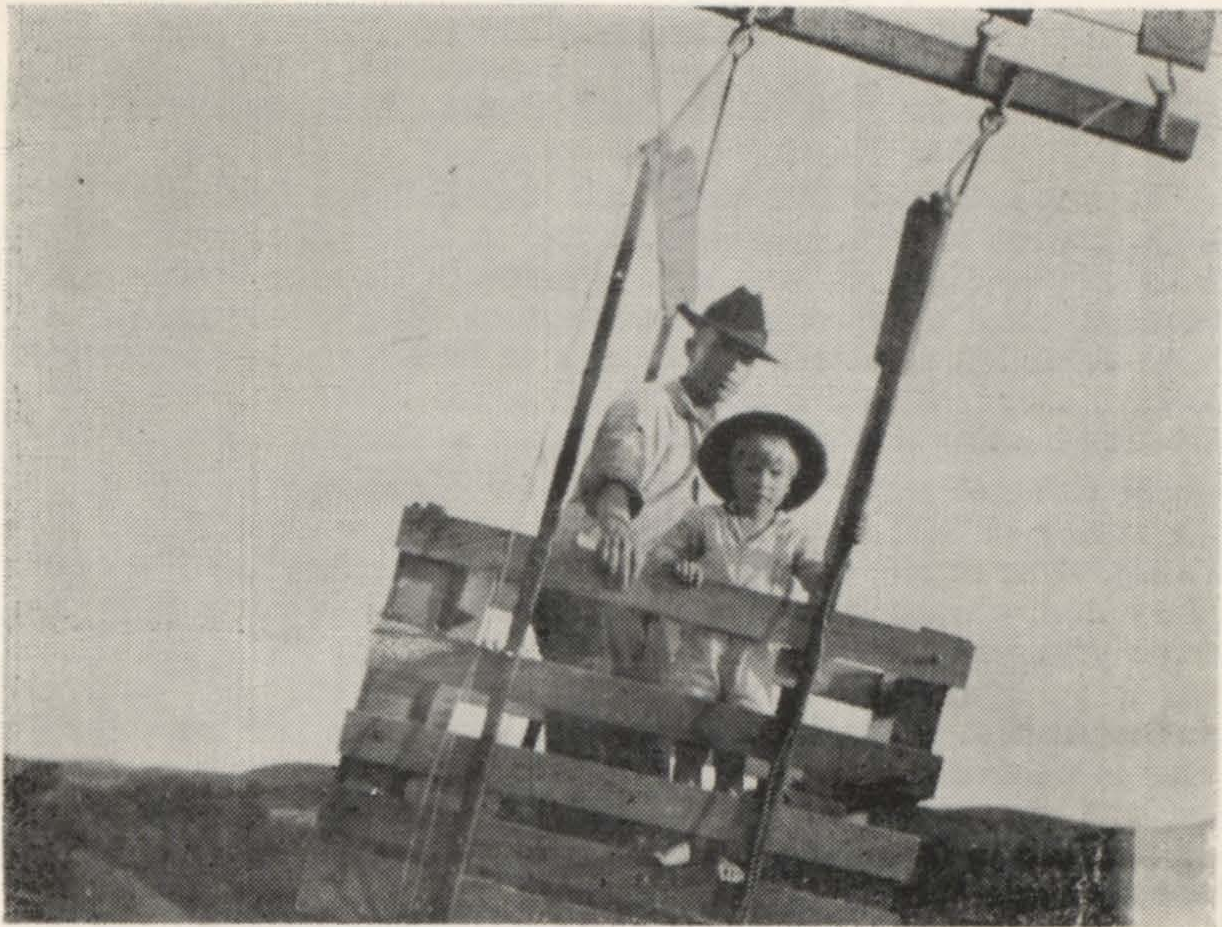
The chalk formations were between six and seven feet deep and they start at least 200 feet down from the top of the hill. The chalk was found just below a soapy sand formation and continues downward until it strikes a thick layer of silica.

The miners cut back at the top of the silica, placed their charges between the silica and soapy sand in blasting out the chalk. It was then loaded in a specially built truck and hauled to a ventilated crib a mile from the mine and above the railroad tracks. The chalk was left there to dry for a week or two before it was loaded into a railroad car and shipped to Omaha where it was processed.

Two main entrances permitted access to the mine and there are three shafts, each at least 300 feet long. In addition there are numerous subsidiary tunnels which run in all directions from the main shafts. The shafts and tunnels throughout the mine are six and one half feet deep and 14 feet wide which permitted a specially built truck to go anywhere inside the mine.

Only two men worked the mine for a time before it closed. They put out a carload of chalk every two weeks. It closed sometime after 1943 or 1944.

A number of people remember the cable car Scotia once had in the chalk hills. It ran from the top of one hill to the top of another hill on a wire stretched between the hills over a large canyon. It is said that there was an accident and someone got hurt. After that the cable car was discontinued. The man who built the cable car was named Van Horn. It was in operation in the early 20's.



Jesse Bonsall and son, Dean, on Scotia's old cable car.

About this same time there was a zig-zag toboggan built down the side of one of the hills where young people enjoyed this sport.

Mr. Van Horn built a lime kiln near the opening of the chalk mine. The grates were placed on rocks, then the lime was put on top of the grates, and a fire was built beneath the grates. When Mr. Van Horn crawled underneath the grates to light the fire they caved in and killed him. That was the end of the lime kiln.

Today, in 1973, there is a picnic site at the opening to the mine, and just recently a State Historical Marker was dedicated at the Chalk Mine.

EXCERPTS FROM THE PAST

During periodic epidemics, doctors of the village would be on the road day and night, riding horseback, driving buggies, or two-wheeled gigs through snowdrifts, mud, floods. Sometimes he would spend all night beside the bedside of his patient—often he was so worn out and tired that on his way home he “gave the horse his head” and snatched a few winks of sleep.

Prairie chicken, quail, deer, and antelope were killed by sportsmen who came to hunt, and pioneers killed off huge herds of deer, antelope, and buffalo.

Many kinds of trees, berries and other fruits grew wild along the river—chokecherries, wild plums, currants, wild gooseberries, etc.

BIOGRAPHIES AND REMINISCENCES OF EARLY SETTLERS

Excerpts taken from letter from Portia (Kellogg) Anderson to Joan (Van Skike) Meyer:

It was in Illinois that the Scotts and Kelloggs first met. John Kellogg went to Nebraska in 1869 and at first settled near Columbus. Alonzo Shepard, who was married to Carolyn Scott's sister, Cordelia, must have come about the same time. In August of 1871 S. C. Scott left Illinois for Nebraska to look for a homestead. So J. G. Kellogg, Alonzo Shepard, and A. M. Stewart joined him in his land hunting trip and all took claims in Greeley County.

S. C. Scott went back to Illinois for his family and it was in the spring of 1872 that they made their way up the North Loup Valley. The family consisted of father, mother and five little girls. Mary Ann, always known as Molly, Belle, who is my mother, and three younger—Susie, Dessie, and Carrie. I am sorry mother did not write down the story of those earlier years. She said her mother had T. B. and the doctors had not given her more than a year to live. But somehow the rigors of pioneer living agreed with her and she lived until 1888. Just one year after they had been on the road, in April of 1873 there occurred the famous blizzard. It was on Easter Sunday and the morning was warm and sunny. The family was living in their first home which was part sod and part dugout. There was also a barn which sheltered their cows—five and a calf, if I remember rightly. The family plan was that the butter which the cows would furnish could be sold to the soldiers camp some miles below, and would thus provide for their food. On that Sunday morning two young girls whose family had just settled near Scotia walked up in new white dresses to visit the Scott girls. They were German and could not speak English. The storm came on in such a force that grandmother could not let the girls go home, so they all stayed in bed to keep warm. There was a fire in the house but the snow would melt and run down so it was best to stay in bed.

The storm lasted three days. The snow covered the shed where the cattle were and grandfather feared they would suffocate so he turned them all out hoping they would find shelter in the hills. Fortunately one cow and calf were left in the shed and survived while those turned out all perished. So instead of butter to exchange for other supplies, the milk from one cow had to feed the calf and the Scott family. They had a large quantity of corn meal on hand and literally lived on cornmeal mush and milk.

Grandfather Scott acquired a post office in his home and named it Scotia, the poetic name of his homeland Scotland; also he was the first postmaster of Scotia. Some years later, after the homestead had been proved up the Scotts built the house, which I think is still standing, just south of Mt. Hope Cemetery. The cemetery land was acquired from Scotts, and I know my father, John Kellogg, set out trees on the land. In the days I lived there, it was thought, a beautiful place.

ALONZO SHEPARD

On August 14, 1866, Alonzo Shepard was married to Miss Cordelia Raydure, a native of Meadville, Penn., daughter of John Stafford and Desolate (Quigley) Raydure.

In the fall of 1871, Mr. Shepard acquired a quarter section, under the homestead act, near North Loup, in Greeley County. In 1872, he and his wife and daughters moved to the homestead, where they remained until 1890 when Mr. Shepard retired and moved to North Loup.

Mr. Shepard took a foremost position among the early settlers, as an energetic farmer and public spirited citizen. He experienced all the trials and hardships of pioneer life in the west. He always took an interest in the development of the community and aided materially in the advancement of public enterprises. While living in Greeley County, he served as county commissioner.

Mr. and Mrs. Shepard have two daughters, Maud, who is a teacher, and Marion whom they adopted. In social and educational lines, the family attained considerable prominence.

Like most of the pioneers of the west, the Shepard family lived in a dugout, this one having a log front and a sod roof. A year later he built a two-story log house with a basement. The logs which were hauled from Cedar Canyon, near Burwell, some 30 miles distant, were covered with siding and plastered inside.

JOHN G. KELLOGG

John Kellogg was born in Illinois January 15, 1846, the third child of six born to Asahel and Eunice (Heald) Kellogg.

About April, 1869, John, with Cornelius Benson, and Alza and Edwin Stewart, left Lake County for Columbus, Nebraska. They purchased horses, wagons and household goods, etc., and loaded a railroad car, coming by rail to Council Bluffs. Here they unloaded and ferried across to Omaha. From Omaha to Columbus they went the overland route with their teams. Upon reaching the river at Columbus, they discovered there was no wagon bridge. However, they succeeded in running the wagons across the railroad bridge by hand and swam the horses across, saving the railroad charge of \$20 from Columbus to Duncan, which meant a great deal at this time.

Daniel Benson and family, who were from the same locality in Illinois, joined him at Columbus. Mr. Kellogg took a pre-emption claim in Platte County, but in August, 1871, in the company of Alonzo Shepard, Alza Stewart and S. C. Scott, came to the North Loup Valley, taking homesteads near what is now Scotia and North Loup. They all located their claims on the east side of the river, in what is now Greeley County, which at that time was not organized. Mr. Kellogg took his land in sections, 29 and 32, T-18, R-12, most of it lying next to the river.

The original homestead remained his home until 1878 when his father, Asahel, and sister came to take a homestead on Sec. 32-18-12. His father lived there until 1896.

After the arrival of John's father and sister, he made his home with them until his marriage on January 3, 1879, to Miss Belle

Scott, daughter of Samuel C. and Caroline (Raydure) Scott. It is recalled that Mr. Scott came to the county in 1871, while Mr. Benson settled first in Valley County, coming to Greeley County in 1873.

The Kelloggs took up residence on the Asahel Kellogg farm when they were married.

Mr. Kellogg passed through the hardships of early pioneer Nebraska and was one of the few who stayed on the homestead through the years of adversity. He acquired over 700 acres of land, well-equipped grain and stock farm, and became one of the most successful farmers in the area.

Mr. Kellogg was the first county superintendent of schools in Greeley County and his wife was the first teacher; her pupils were five little girls and she being only 14. However she had passed the exam for teacher.

Mr. Kellogg served the county as commissioner and as supervisor for his township on the county board. The family was for years closely identified with the business, social, and educational life of this area.

MANSELL DAVIS

In September, 1871, Mansell Davis was married to Miss Mary Rood, daughter of Charles and Marianne (Thorngate) Rood in Dakota, Wisconsin, and at the end of this month, Mr. Davis, with his wife's father and brother and a young man from the same town, John Sheldon, made an overland trip to the North Loup Valley. At this Mr. Davis made a homestead entry on 150 acres and John Sheldon took a homestead one mile north of Mr. Davis'. This was on the west side of the river in Greeley County. They returned home and the following April entered the Valley again. Mr. Davis built a dugout which served as a home for the first year, and then constructed a log cabin, hauling the logs from Cedar Canyon near Burwell. His father, Giles, took a homestead nearby and was at one time county surveyor.

Mr. and Mrs. Davis had three children—Horace, who later served as editor of the Ord Journal, Ainslie, who was later editor of the Leader-Independent of Greeley, and Mary. Mr. Davis served the public as county surveyor and also served as county superintendent of schools.

One of his severest experiences during the pioneer days was during the blizzard of January 12, 1888, when he made his way home, afoot, from North Loup, while many men lost their way when going only a few rods.

EDWIN STEWART

Edwin and Annie (Young) Stewart were married in 1825 in Illinois. In the spring of 1881 he came to Greeley County where he homesteaded 80 acres and timber-claimed 80 acres joining near North Loup, living there until 1905. Mr. Stewart served as director of his school district in Greeley County several years and for six years justice of the peace. His brother, Alza M. Stewart, took one of the first homesteads on the Greeley-Valley County line.

During pioneer days, Mr. Stewart batched for a time in a dug-out with log sides covered with a clay roof. He was a member of the government survey party in the middle Loup Valley where they spent at least one day without water. Buffalo were plentiful in the 60's while deer and antelope ran in herds on the prairie. Few realize that within the span of one life time such transformations in the west were made.

DANIEL BENSON

In 1869 Mr. Benson, his wife and two daughters came to Platte County, Nebraska, after having served in the Civil War. After residing there about 4 years, they moved to Greeley County in 1873, homesteading a section of land north of Scotia where he resided until his death in 1899. He and his wife had seven children—Minerva (Mrs. J. A. Jeffres), Kate (Mrs. George Jeffres), Ida (Mrs. H. E. Conway), Roy and Leslie, twins; William and Cornelius. Mr. Benson was treasurer of his school district for many years.

The Bensons can boast that their homestead was the scene of the first wedding in Greeley County in 1874, between Aaron Bradt and Clara Harlow. Another story told by the Bensons referred to a bad storm during the 70's when little Ida, one of their children, was blown away. Six hours later she was found unconscious, but suffered no permanent injury.

ALCIE P. FISH

Alcie P. Fish, (also known as Asa) has the distinction of being the first settler in Greeley County. He was born February 18, 1822 near Brockport, New York. When he was twelve years old his father died and he was compelled to shift for himself. In March, 1843, he married Esther E. Williams near the Niagara Falls. In 1848, they moved to Lorraine County, Ohio, where their son, Elihu B. Fish was born. In 1850, Mr. A. P. Fish came to Fon Du Lac County, Wisconsin. In 1861, he enlisted in the First Wisconsin Cavalry where he served until his discharge in November, 1864. In October, 1871, he came to Greeley County and pre-empted a claim. His son followed the next spring and homesteaded. Mr. Alcie P. Fish was one of the first county commissioners. Indeed, the first election was held in his home. His son was the first county clerk of Greeley County. In the fall of 1879, the younger Fish married Miss Julia McMillan. The father moved to Scotia in 1887 and died three years later.

GEORGE HILLMAN

In 1853 George Hillman was married to Hannah Jenkins. In March of 1872 they brought their three sons and four daughters to Greeley County, arriving in April. On May 10, 1872, he preached the first sermon by a Methodist minister in the valley, the service being held in the home of John Van Skike, about 1½ miles north on the east side of the river from the Cotesfield bridge. Captain Munson sent an escort to guard them from Indians.

He made many trips on foot from his home (the former Jess

farm) in Lamartine, to Munson Creek, south of Cotesfield to preach to the soldiers and homesteaders.

In November, 1872, 18 Pawnee Indians came to the Hillman home and asked for breakfast. The Sioux Indians had stolen their ponies and hunting equipment. Mrs. Hillman fed nine and by pre-arrangement, they sent the others to be fed by Mrs. Fish (Mrs. Francis Van Skike farm). A year or so later, George and his son on a pack horse and Doc Gillespie left early one morning on a deer hunt. Sunrise found them in sight of the creek valley north of the present town of Wolbach, where they spotted a large band of Indians. Mr. Gillespie said if they were Pawnee they would be friendly; if Sioux they were as good as dead. Since M. Gillespie had the smallest family, he said he would ride into camp. On checking he found them to be Pawnee. (The 1874 census shows 2,376 Pawnee, and Hillman said it seemed most of them were there that morning). Some of the Indians whom they had fed recognized him, and loaded them with fourths of deer and antelope meat. Why were so many there that morning? The reason was the previous year while the Pawnee were hunting meat for the winter, the Sioux had come and stolen some young Pawnee girls, so a year later, when the Sioux were out hunting, the Pawnee went to get them back. They found all but six, so took six Sioux girls for those missing. They were that far after an all night ride from the north.

One time in the fall of the year, Mr. Hillman went south to the river to cut wood with his dog, Rover, as usual. While he cut wood the dog looked over the willow patch. Soon there was a commotion and Rover came racing after a large mountain lion making for a big cottonwood. It paced back and forth on a large limb about 15 ft. above ground. George crossed the river for Mr. Gillespie and his rifle, but he was out hunting. Rover finally gave up and came home in time for breakfast.

The settlers made a good fire guard around their homestead each fall. One morning as far as the eye could see, the east side of the river was black from a night prairie fire. They suspected the Sioux had tried to burn them out.

Later the Hillmans moved on to Hays Spring in 1888, but not before he had joined many young couples in marriage.

As mentioned to Austin Nurton in letters from there at Hays Spring to Scotia, the Indian scare was quite real for a time. The government had given the Indians Winchester rifles to hunt game and they were using them to raid the settlers, as game was scarce. It was about this time that the soldier, Marion Littlefield, was killed by a Sioux north of Burwell near where George Hillman's brother, Alfred lived.

CHARLES H. WELLMAN

In May, 1872, Charles H. Wellman came with his wife and one son to Greeley County, homesteading 160 acres of land in Sec. 31-18-12, living there for six years before moving to North Loup. The nearest trading post in those days was Grand Island. The Wellman family endured the many hardships of pioneer life. Grasshoppers

devastated their crops the seasons of 1876 and 1877. The three-day blizzard of April 12-14, 1873, will long remain in memory. Mrs. Wellman kept the boy wrapped in blankets by the fire to keep him from freezing. For the first six years they lived in a log house which was swept away in a flood in the spring of 1879.

DAVID MOORE

David Moore, father-in-law of George McAnulty, was born in Ohio in 1827. He was a Quaker. As a boy, he knew Lincoln and often heard him address a jury at Delavan, Illinois. Later, his parents settled in eastern Iowa. Here he met and married Louise Standish in 1848. He served throughout the Civil War in Co. K, 24th Iowa Infantry. He was with this regiment in some of the hardest fought battles of the war. He came to Nebraska in June, 1873, and settled one mile east of Scotia, where he resided for twenty years. In 1893, he moved to Scotia. He was admitted to the bar in 1881 and practiced law for some years. In early days, his home was noted for its generous hospitality. He died November 25, 1904, at his home in Scotia. He had three children, Horace, Dr. Milan Moore, and Lillie (Mrs. George McAnulty). Mr. Moore was a Commissioner and a Notary Public. He kept the immigrant house for several years, then became land agent for the B and M railroad. He sold large tracts of land for the railroad. J. M. Bookwalter of Ohio in the early days spent two weeks with Mr. Moore, selecting tracts of railroad land in Greeley and Valley Counties, acquiring about 40,000 acres, which later sold to the settlers for a tidy profit.

GEORGE W. MCANULTY

Mr. McAnulty was born in Pennsylvania in 1852, and being orphaned early in life, was placed under the guardianship of Isaac Pershing, an uncle of World War General John J. Pershing.

He came to Nebraska in 1873, and took a homestead two miles south of what is now Burwell. There, he became involved in the Indian troubles and enlisted in the Infantry at Fort Hartsuff. He was discharged in 1880.

That year he married Lillie Moore, a descendent of Miles Standish. In 1882, they came to Scotia, settling on the farm east of Scotia, now owned by Laverne Jess. At one time, he published the Greeley County Graphic in Scotia. He had a prominent part in many affairs including Republican politics. He lived on the farm until sometime in the 1930's. His children were Fred, John, and Louise McAnulty Rasmusen, who recently passed away in Wyoming.

FILERS (ALSO SPELLED FEILERS)

The Filer family settled to the northeast of Dan Wegner's place. They were German and Mrs. Filer spoke nothing but German. Later, they moved into Greeley and no one seems to know of the whereabouts of their descendents.

HISTORY OF THE WM. AND LESLIE SCOTT FAMILY

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Scott came from Wisconsin to a homestead southeast of Scotia, now occupied by the Don Hughes family. This was the spring of 1872. They were accompanied by their unmarried son, Leslie Scott. Leslie took a homestead near the present Roy Knapp farm south of Ord. He quickly made a dugout in a nearby hill for his home, and began helping his parents build their home of cedar logs. The logs were floated down the river from the Burwell area and then hauled in wagons to the homesite. They built a comfortable home (two rooms) of these logs.

About this time Indians had congregated near the present town of Wolbach, and began to object to the settlers coming into the Loup Valley. Leslie began to be concerned about the welfare of his parents should the Indians attack, so he sold his homestead in Valley County and moved here to be with his parents. Later he married Josephine Clement who had come here from Missouri with her parents, Moses and Nancy Clement.

Leslie and Josie made their home with his parents and Josie began teaching school at the school later known as the Groetzing School. As she was able to save money, they added rooms to the house, making separate living quarters for Leslie and Josie. By this time more lumber was available in the area. Wm. Scott was a carpenter by trade, and with the help of Leslie was able to enlarge the home as money was available.

Later, Leslie and Josie had a son, E. Lloyd Scott. The entire Scott family continued to live here until 1912 when the Wm. Scotts died within a week of each other. They were both in their 80's; happy to have lived to see their first grandchild, Merna Scott Keep. She was the first girl child born to the Scott family for generations.

Several years later the Leslie Scotts retired and moved to Scotia. Lloyd and his family continued to live on the farm. After the death of his wife, the former Jessie Reams, Lloyd continued to live there for a few years, when the farm was sold to Earl Hughes. Although remodeled, the house is the same one, with the cedar logs as good as when they were placed there about 100 years ago.—(Prepared by Merna Scott Keep)

THE STORY FAMILY

Mr. and Mrs. Alonzo Story were married October 24, 1875 and in 1891 came to Scotia where they remained until 1912. They ran the mill while in Scotia. They had four children—Lloyd, Alta, Hazel and Nellie.

On March 6, 1895, their daughter Nellie married W. M. Gillespie, who had come with his parents to this area in 1872. They lived in and near Scotia before moving in 1931. They had three sons—Guy, Alonzo and Myron.

Excerpts from a letter, D. A. Gillespie to Joan (Van Skike) Meyer:

Andrew J. Gillespie, who lived to the age of 101 years, died at Scotia, and is buried at Cotesfield, was my great-grandfather. He was the father of 15 children. A group picture was taken when

his 100th birthday was celebrated in Scotia in 1905. I was about five years old. He came to the North Loup Valley in 1871, his homestead being on the river just below where Cotesfield is now.

He was 66 years old when he migrated from Iowa to Nebraska. He and his eldest son, James, (who is buried at St. Paul), ran a stage line from St. Paul to the forks of the Calamus and North Loup rivers in those early days hauling mail and passengers. I remember my father "Bill" Gillespie, telling that his mother handled the mail at their place before the town of Cotesfield existed. He also told of going to school in a dugout in the creek bank where Cotesfield is now, to his Uncle "Doc." His full name was Dr. Andrew Jackson Gillespie, M. D. One of his daughters is still living in California. She is 90 years old.

Doc was the seventh child of Andrew James, and was married to Martha Emma Bilyeu, the sister of Jesse W. Bilyeu; also an old timer who homesteaded at Scotia in 1877. To make the picture more clear, both families were raised in Bond County, Illinois, so the relationship started there, long before they came to Nebraska. There are probably some in Scotia yet who remember the family of Joseph Bilyeu and Maggie West and their children. Glen and Pearl are the only ones left. Pearl married "Bus" Anderson and Glen and I are brothers-in-law; having married Urich sisters. With the Bilyeu family records we find the two families related in the 1800's as great-grandfather Andrew J. and Glen's great-grandfather, Joseph were brothers-in-law also. Seven of Andrew J.'s children and families lived in Greeley and Howard County in the early days. My grandfather, William Moore Gillespie Sr. had his homestead on the river, adjacent to the road where the Cotesfield river bridge is now, on the west side, south of the road. Doc used to live on the east side of the river in the Lamartine community just north of the old Morgan Krebs place on the river, and one of their children was buried in the pasture on the river. My folks also lived on this place and I remember the tombstone and the little fence which time has obliterated. I also remember reading an account in the Scotia Register files where "Doc" took the minutes at the Lamartine meeting held to organize the county.

Last summer the Nebraska Historical Society published an account of the 1,000-mile horse race from Chadron to Chicago in 1893 in which Joe Gillespie was named the winner. Joe was Andrew J.'s 13th child. (It will be recalled that Doc Middleton also was in this race).

In mother's news clippings dated February 27, 1902, is this: "William Gillespie, Sr. has purchased the general store of Robert Sharp, and will become one of Scotia's business men."—March 20, 1902 — "Wm. Gillespie, Sr. moved from the farm to Mike Sautter's house." This of course, was grandfather.

The Rev. G. Hillman also came to Nebraska from Iowa. This note from grandfather's Bible of the family record might be of interest: "William Moore Gillespie, Sr. and Delilah G. Strohl were united in marriage at Centrailia, Iowa, March 15, 1853, by Rev. Z. B. Taylor; witnessed by Rev. George Hillman and Sarah Hinck-

ley." Sarah was William's sister.

Next is mother's family, the A. B. Story family. Alonzo Benjamin Story came to Nebraska from Dakota territory and ran the Scotia Roller Mill just south of town about 1½ miles. This was around 1890 as mother stayed in Dakota and went to school, arriving at Scotia in 1892, where she taught school in old District 48 or the Martin Sautter school. Some of her pupils were Shadles, Sautters, Voorhees, Farrells, McAnultys, Storys, Van Skikes, Popes, Hesler, Giles, Nagles and Woodworths.

ED WRIGHT

Mr. Wright was born in Delaware February 17, 1857. He went to Kansas in 1876 and engaged in the manufacture of cheese, then came to Nebraska in 1878 to manage a general merchandise store for W. D. West of Grand Island, opening in March of that year. This was the first store established in Greeley County. John Burton recalls this being where the old Gamble Store was. On May 14, 1882, he married Miss M. J. Bean, daughter of Judge J. J. Bean. Both Beans and Wrights are buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery. For years some of the Wrights came to decorate the family graves.

There is an interesting story in connection with Ed's store. In his thinking about building the store, he was dissatisfied with the crude adobe huts and old log houses that were the architecture of Scotia. Being a man of ingenuity, he decided to try chalk as a building material. For two months he dug slabs of chalk and sawed them into bricks. He hauled them to town and constructed the store by putting the bricks together with cement.

The Wrights had three sons and they all ran the store. Mrs. Wright and the boys continued after Ed died. Later the chalk buildings that were constructed side by side housed the Beck Garage and the other for storage by the Bredthauer Motor Co., currently housing Steffen's Garage. Only one other chalk building any one knows of is one at the John Burton farm, a mile south of town. It was a residence, then a barn. It has now been pushed in because of crumbling. Several homes have had chalk foundations which have either crumbled through the years or been eaten by the chickens or pigs.

The chalk mine is now a state wayside site, one of this area's busiest tourist attractions. This mine is part of our town's legacy, the only town we know that has a building of chalk.

JUDGE JOHN J. BEAN

Judge John J. Bean, farmer, Greeley County, and attorney at law, located at Scotia in May, 1876, and engaged in farming and keeping hotel; was the first Postmaster in the place, taking the office in January, 1877, and holding same for five years; elected County Judge in the fall of 1879. He located his land in the Scotia Precinct, Greeley County, on Section 4, Township 17, Range 12. His home was near where the Alfred Peterson home is. Picnics were held in a grove of cottonwoods just back of the house.

He was married in Wautoma, Wisconsin, April, 1862, to Miss Betsy J. Van Allen, of Dunkirk, Erie County, New York. They had two children—Mary J. and Willie J.

THEODORE J. STOETZEL

Mr. Stoetzel was 12 years old when the family moved to Nebraska. He lived on the farm as a boy, attending five years away at school in Indiana. In 1883 he married an Illinois girl and taught there one term. In April of the following year, he and his wife moved to Scotia, Nebraska, where after one year on the farm, he took up educational work. In 1885, Mr. Stoetzel was elected county superintendent where he served four years and was principal of the Scotia Schools for three years. He was then connected with the Normal School in Scotia for some time, during which time he became widely known as an educator and was guest speaker for adjoining counties. He served another term as superintendent later.

In 1901, he gave up school work in order to engage in real estate and insurance.

Mr. and Mrs. Stoetzel raised six children, as follows: Bessie, Mayme, Susie, Georgia, Henry W., and Charlotte.

GEORGE W. FITZSIMMONS

Around 1888, George Fitzsimmons came to Scotia, Nebraska, engaging in lumber, furniture, and implement business under the firm name of Fitzsimmons. In 1892, Mr. Fitzsimmons purchased the Graham interests and continued under the name of Fitzsimmons., G. W., regarded as one of the most successful merchants in this section of Nebraska. The Fitzsimmons were members of the Presbyterian Church in Scotia until it disbanded and they joined the Methodist. He was noted for his progressive ideas on educational topics.

Lottie and George had four children—Clinton, Edna, Dorothy, and George Jr. Clinton was the son connected with the G. W. Fitzsimmons & Son, adding the Overland Auto Agency to the business line.

J. W. BILYEU

J. W. Bilyeu was born September 20, 1841, in Clinton County, Illinois. When twelve years of age, his parents moved to Bond County, Iowa, where Mr. Bilyeu grew to manhood. On August 12, 1862, he enlisted as a private in the 130th Illinois Infantry. He was present at the siege of Vicksburg. Upon his discharge in August, 1865, he returned to Bond County. On March 22, 1866, he married Miss E. C. File of Bond County. In the fall of 1877, he came to the Loup country and homesteaded near Scotia. In 1904, he purchased property in Scotia.

S. W. BILYEU

S. W. Bilyeu, Postmaster and dealer in general merchandise in Scotia, opened the mercantile trade January 9, 1882; carried a stock of about \$2,500; was appointed Postmaster in May, 1882; located in Lamartine, Greeley County, October 1, 1875. He taught school in the winter and farmed in the summer until 1877, when he was elected County Clerk of Greeley; he was re-elected in 1879. He was born in Clinton County, Illinois August 17, 1844; lived in his native state until August, 1862.

He was married in Bond County, Illinois in 1865, to Miss Ella Harris of St. Louis, Missouri. They had four children—Milo D., Frank S., Nellie E., and LeRoy V. His wife died in the spring of 1875. He was again married in Merrick County, Nebraska, February 19, 1877, to Miss Flora Donaldson of Burlingame, Nebraska.

Excerpts from a letter—Winnie (Baker) Bartz to Mrs. Jess Meyer:

My parents (George Albert Baker and Louisa Jane Stuart) were married by the Rev. George Hillman, Scotia's first Methodist minister in the little Methodist parsonage, on May 1, 1888. I came along the following fifth of March.

The Stuart family, except the eldest daughter, had arrived from Stroud, England about two years before to make their home in Nebraska, locating in the hills northwest of Horace. One of the tragedies of the early years was the death of the mother, Jane Stuart, in one of the terrible prairie fires of those early days. Louie, as mother was affectionately called, left her work in Hastings, England, as soon as the word arrived to be with her father and mother, the two sisters and two brothers—aunts, Ada and Alice, and uncles, Harry and Alfred. (An account of this is in Edith McDermott's book, *The Pioneer History of Greeley County*).

Mother was a city girl, not used to farm animals. One day when mother was alone, the cow came and looked in the open door. It frightened mother so badly, she crawled under the cupboard to escape the "beast" and remained there until father rescued her.

Among the pioneer teachers of the county schools in the 80's and early 90's was one Maud Shepard, daughter of Alonzo and Delia (known as Aunt Deal), actually Cordelia Shepard, who homesteaded in Greeley County in the early 70's. Maud, queen of teachers, we called her, taught for years in both Greeley and Valley County around Scotia and North Loup. Her salary was \$25.00 a month. The school, I, Winnie Baker Bartz, recall most vividly, was the joint District 50, of the two counties, in the beautiful North Loup Valley, known as the "Bartz School." Most were settlers from old Germany. Among them, besides the Bartz, were the Kriewalds, the Schoenings, and the Gebauers. Paul Gebauer, Sr., a trained carpenter in Germany, built the first school house there, known now as Riverdale.

Another noted teacher of those early days was Ada Stuart, whose mother, years before, on April 1, 1886, had perished in a prairie fire. Miss Stuart had prepared for teaching in the Normal school in Scotia. Aunt Ada was my first teacher in the Bartz school. John Kriewald of North Loup, was also among her scholars—who would remember Billy Butcher, then of Scotia, early harness maker, Jim McMillan, and Dr. Burdick.

Winnie remembers when in 1897 her father took her and her sister to see "Uncle Tom's Cabin" in Scotia.

W. S. FREEMAN

W. S. Freeman was a brother of the famous Minnie Freeman, known as the "Nebraska heroine" during the Blizzard of 1888 for her efforts to save her pupils by tying them together with twine and guiding them to the nearest settlers home $\frac{3}{4}$ -mile away. On August 31, 1876, he married Mary A. Scott (Molly) who was born in Kentucky but came with her parents, S. C. Scott and Caroline, to this area in 1871, the eldest of the five daughters of this prominent pioneer family.

The Freemans had one daughter, Winnie. They lived for a few years on the land on the west edge of Scotia before moving on to homestead in Colorado.

Molly's other sisters were Dessie, who married Will Reed. Their son, Zora, had property on the west edge of Scotia in 1900; Susie married Arthur Lewis and died leaving a daughter, Cecile. Mr. Lewis worked with an early newspaper; Belle married John Kellogg, early educator and pioneer; and Caroline, who married Charles Van Skike, an early pioneer farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Kellogg had six children—Grace, one who died in infancy, Mary, Florence, Asahel, and Portia.

The Van Skikes had seven children—Edward, Carl, Mary, Walter, Maud, Francis, and Fred.

CHARLES VAN SKIKE AND BROTHER, JAMES

Charles Van Skike was born in Indiana October 4, 1860, the third child of six born to David and Margaret (McCallip) Van Skike.

In the spring of 1879, David Van Skike, with his wife and five of the children came to Howard County, Nebraska, meeting there his son, James, who had gone first. Mr. Van Skike also had three brothers who settled there in 1872, being the original homesteaders on their land. He joined them and purchased railroad land on the county line between Howard and Greeley Counties.

Charles remained on the home farm with his father until about his 24th year. In November, 1888, he married Caroline Scott, youngest daughter of the S. C. Scotts, one of the oldest settlers in the county.

In the fall of 1892, Charles purchased 80 acres in Sec. 33-18-12, and later became the owner of the Fairview Stock Farm. He and B. C. Fischer also operated a hay baler and shipped hay.

His first dugout in which he lived three years had a dirt roof and floor. The second residence, a sod house with a board roof, was occupied two years while he built a good frame building.

The Charles Van Skikes had seven children—S. Carl, J. Walter, Mary, Francis, Fred, Edward, and Maud.

Charles' brother, James, ran a harness shop in Scotia from 1877-1894. He was proprietor of the hotel from then until 1898. He was active in civic affairs, traveling to Lincoln in 1897 with Sam Graham, A. B. Story, M. M. Hicks, Supt. T. J. Stoetzel, and Attorney J. R. Swain to fight for the normal bill.

CARL KRIEWALD

Carl Kriewald came to Greeley County in 1884, joining his uncle, John Kriewald, working for him and others in the area until 1888 when he took his own homestead on the Valley County line. In the spring of 1908 he and his family moved to the old Benson homestead in Greeley County near Scotia, one of the first to be worked in the North Loup Valley. Mr. Kriewald lived in a sod house for a time and the first son was born there. This couple had five children—John, Silas, Samuel, Earl, and Mary Alvina.

COL. B. F. GRIFFITH

Col. B. F. Griffith was born in Monroe County, New York in 1845. When but five years old, his parents moved to Pennsylvania which became his home. In August, 1861, he enlisted in Co. H., 105th Pennsylvania Infantry, and as a member of that regiment, he fought through four long years. He certainly did his part in this great rebellion, having fought in many of the greatest battles of the war, Fair Oakes, Seven Pines, Second Bull Run, Antietam, Fredricksburg, Chancellorsville, Wilderness, and Gettysburg. In the last named of these battles, he was severely wounded in no less than three places, and afterwards spent sixteen months in the hospital. After having been discharged, he returned to Pennsylvania, where he lived until 1878, when he came to this valley. Mr. Griffith was a lawyer, having been admitted to the bar in 1882. He was twice elected County Attorney of Greeley County. Mr. Griffith settled on Fish Creek on the place now occupied by Sidney Allison. Later, he moved to Scotia and opened a law office.

FRANK E. BROWN

One character that must not be left out is Frank E. Brown, otherwise known as "Brownie." He worked as a hired hand for the farmers about the Scotia and Fish Creek neighborhoods, and was a kindly man without family ties of any kind. His means of transportation was a bicycle which he rode about the neighborhood on Sundays visiting and collecting bits of gossip. He owned an eighty of land east of the Fish Creek school which was later owned by the Martin A. Sautter family.

BEN MULLENBACH

Ben Mullenbach was an early citizen of Scotia, seemingly without relatives. He lived down back of what was the sale barn. He raised hogs and had a barrel on a cart in which he gathered garbage for his hogs.

AMBROSE RINEHART

Ambrose Rinehart was another citizen remembered by old timers. He had a rig in which he drove about the countryside. He was a bachelor, a brother of Mrs. Warden. He owned 80 acres where Jack Keown once lived.

JOHN RIES

John Ries was born in 1864, at Sheboygan, Wisconsin, and came to Scotia in 1903. He first lived on a farm (Earl Morrow place) for three years, then sold it and bought the Fred Stanner meat market. He later ran the pool hall—after which he and Al Beck of Crete built the brick garage and managed the Ford Agency. He died in 1924. His father was a homesteader near Scribner, Nebraska in 1888. John Ries married Amelia Haun in 1891. They had three children—Theresa, Mildred, and Clara.

WILLIAM B. WEEKES

William B. Weekes was an early day business man in Scotia, dealing in grain and livestock. He was born in Cairo, Illinois, November 5, 1859, and was of English ancestry. His father, Thomas Weekes, was a soldier in both the Mexican and Civil Wars, was mortally wounded, taken prisoner, and died in Libby Prison. The mother of Mr. Weekes cared for her children as best she could and gave them a common school education. Before he was sixteen, with an old brother, Charles Weekes, William came to Nebraska and settled upon a homestead in Greeley County. This was in 1875. In politics, he was always a Republican, serving as Treasurer of Greeley County, 1886 to 1890, and in 1891 as a member of the Board of Supervisors. He was a Mason, a member of the Woodman Lodge, and the Tribe of Ben Hur, as well as a Methodist. He married Nora Whitehead, June 12, 1881. There were six children, Charles W., a doctor; Edward and Edgar, twins; Chester, Cecil, and Edith.

ALBA WEEKES

Mr. and Mrs. Weekes were married in 1880 and in 1893 they came to the Lamartine community. They spent the greater part of their lives in and around Scotia. Mrs. Weekes was living with her sons, Guy and George, at the time of her death in 1938. Mrs. Weekes left five children and two step-children—George, Guy, Glen, Ferguson, Mrs. Harry Cook, Fred, and Mrs. Louise Whitney.

T. B. LYMAN FAMILY

T. B. Lyman settled in 1879, on the land that was known as "Lyman's Bluff." East of Scotia, the Bluff was a place for outings and picnics in the earlier days. Mr. Lyman raised Shropshire sheep, Shorthorn cattle, Poland China hogs, and had a dairy. His son, Harry, lived on the place and reared his family there. His death occurred on this place. Harry's daughter became a nurse and she and the other children left Scotia.

JEREMIAH PRIDEMORE

Mr. Pridemore was born in Lawrence County, Indiana, April 24, 1833. In March, 1859, he married Miss Sarah File of Bond County, Iowa. He served in the Civil War and after discharge in September, 1864, he lived in Bond County until coming to Greeley County in 1877. He settled on a homestead just north of the present Don Hughes farm,

ANDREW GARDINER

Andrew Gardiner was born in Buffalo, New York in 1849. When but a child he moved to Green Bay, Wisconsin, where he lived till 1861. At this time, he changed his residence to Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin where he lived until he came to Nebraska in 1878. Mr. Gardiner has always been a farmer, although in early days he used to spend the winters trapping. He worked on his farm about eight miles southeast of Scotia until 1904, when he retired from active labor and moved to town.

JAMES L. WALLACE

The first white woman in Greeley County was Mrs. Viola Wallace, wife of James L. Wallace. She arrived with her husband in December, 1871. They settled on the creek which today bears their name, "Wallace Creek." A brother of Mrs. Wallace, George Wallace, came with them, taking an adjoining claim. Mrs. Wallace was a lady of education and refinement, born and educated in the southern city of Norfolk, Virginia. Mrs. Wallace was a brave little woman and bore the great change from the luxurious home in the city to a settler's cabin on the extreme frontier with a wonderful fortitude. Later Mrs. Wallace (then Mrs. Thomas Grandberry) lived at Long Pine, Nebraska.

AUGUST, FERD GEBHARDT

August Gebhardt came to Scotia from Odell, Illinois in 1881, at the age of 21 years. He established a feed lot at the south edge of Scotia, just south of the depot. His brother, Ferdinand, came a year later and worked in the lumber yard at North Loup for a time. Their sister, Mary Gebhardt, followed, and kept house for them for awhile. She met and married George Scott, who was working in the bank in Scotia. Their marriage was the first performed in the Scotia Methodist Church. Scotts lived in a home where the Roy Foxworthys now live for some years. They moved to Greeley where George Scott was County Judge. They had four children and their son, Jesse Scott, was also County Judge for 50 years.

August and Ferd continued in the cattle and hog feeding business. August would ride horse back into the west and north and bring back cattle he bought to feed out. In 1893, they bought their first quarter of land, the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 17-17-12, and known as the Park. They put tile in this to drain it, as they do in Illinois. They bought it from James T. Atwell for \$1500. In 1896, Ferd received the deed for timber claim, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 20-17-12, from the U. S. government, Grover Cleveland, President. In 1897, August received the deed, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ 20-17-12, from the U. S. government, Wm. McKinley, President. They moved there and raised cattle, hogs, and horses, and fed out many head of livestock. Ferd took a car of hogs by UP to Omaha, and this was the first carload of hogs sold on the Omaha Livestock Exchange.

In 1900, August Gebhardt and Mary Kepple were married and they continued to live on the timber claim for six years. In August, 1900, F. & A. Gebhardt bought the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of 17-17-12 for \$1600

from the Peoples Bank. This had been railroad land and belonged to the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Co. and then to the Chicago Burlington & Quincy R. R. Co. A Mr. Craig owned it for a time also. They began to build on this place for a permanent home. The house was shipped precut from Washington state to Scotia in a freight car on the U. P. railroad, and was built by a crew of carpenters, Hugh Clement of North Loup as contractor.

The family who were Ferd, August and Mary and children, Jo (Mrs. G. Kreymborg), Ferne (Mrs. Lou Stillman), Brick (H. F. Gebhardt), and Dorthea (Mrs. G. Musser), moved into the finished house in 1906. Otto W. or Dyke, was born in the house in 1908, and is still living there. Imogene (Mrs. Steve Dillon), Greeley, and Peggy (Mrs. Chas. Jones) were the rest of the children born to August and Mary on the home place.

F. & A. Gebhardt were industrious pioneers and acquired 1100 acres of land in Greeley County, and farmed and fed cattle and hogs. August served on the Scotia School Board and was instrumental in the first consolidation of the districts. He was sent to Illinois to study their plan and worked hard for the new school system.

Greeley and Ida live on the 80 he bought from the estate in '48, and Dyke and Clara live on the home place which they bought along with the Park and the 320 acre pasture or timber claim, also in '48.

August died in 1927 at the age of 67. Ferd died in 1936 at the age of 78. Mary died in '48 at the age of 75.

Henry F. Gebhardt, the father of F. & A. Gebhardt, came from Germany with his wife and family to Illinois and was a bootmaker and had his own shop in Odell, Illinois. The others in the family were Augusta, Theodore, Fred, William and Charles. Augusta went to Oklahoma City where she lived. The others stayed in Illinois.—(Contributed by Mr. and Mrs. Dyke Gebhardt)

MAURICE AND RICHARD JOHNSON

Maurice settled in the Horace area on Sec. 9-18-12, recording it in 1885. Richard Johnson settled in Wallace Creek, Sec. 22-18-11 in 1883. These men are the brothers of William; the father of the late Warren Johnson. Mr. and Mrs. John Gray, who settled closer to the Greeley area, were Warren's aunt and her husband.

CANTWELL

Thomas L. Cantwell is the son of T. C. Cantwell early pioneer mentioned in Lillian Moore's diary. He was born in 1888, the year of the big blizzard. He recalled in the horse and buggy days the train had to stop at the bridge and let the buggies cross first. He remembers well the older settlers of the area in the late 1890's. He is currently in the V. A. hospital in Hot Springs, S. D.

DAVID W. LOCKER

David Locker, son of John L. and Harriet (Glass) Locker, was born in Ohio December 18, 1846, the eldest of seven children.

Mr. Locker served in the Civil War, receiving his discharge August 3, 1865. He learned the carpentry trade and worked at this for 12 years. Realizing the greater opportunities of the west, he went to Kansas in 1871, then Indian territory, then Arkansas, and finally decided to locate permanently in Greeley County, Nebraska, taking a homestead of 160 acres and a timber claim of usual size adjoining in Sec. 6-17-11.

On January 24, 1880 while living in Indiana, Mr. Locker married Miss Mary Brandt from Germany who had come with her parents to the U. S. when only three.

Mr. Locker was associated with all movements of public interest from his first arrival. He built many homes in the area making good use of the trade learned as a young man. Their own home became the unofficial stopping off place of people coming to the Fish Creek area to settle; in fact he met many in Grand Island and helped them get settled in their new homes. He was instrumental in organizing School District No. 12, serving on the board 14 years. He was also supervisor on the county board at one time and served as president of the Scotia Independent Telephone Co.

The Lockers had four children—Edward, Ella, who married Henry Thurnagle, William, and Anna, who married Art Schilling, and currently resides in Scotia.

HENRY SCHILLING

Mr. Schilling was born in Illinois March 17, 1848, the third of seven children born to John and Hannah (Heiser) Schilling. On May 5, 1870, he married Sophia J. D. Meyer, a native of Germany. In the spring of 1882, he and his wife and three children came to Greeley County, Nebraska where he purchased 160 acres in Sec. 31-18-11, from the B & M railroad. The Jess Meyer family currently reside there.

In 1900 Mr. Schilling purchased 70 acres joining the city limits and moved there.

The Schillings had five children—Edward, Sarah, who married Luther Pope of Scotia, John, Louis and Matilda. John is currently residing in the St. Paul rest home.

During the dry year of 1894, nothing matured on the place, and two or three times the crops were ruined by hail. In the blizzard of '88 he had just returned home and was unharnessing the horses when the storm struck. By means of trees on the way, he made it to the school and brought the children safely home. This was the worst storm he had encountered.

JOHN SCHILLING

John Schilling came from Cedar Lake, Indiana in 1882. He was married to Lucy Meyer, a sister of Mrs. Henry Schilling and Mrs. Martin Schoemaker and Fred Meyer. They settled on the farm where Earl Schilling lived before moving to Grand Island. The children were Albert, Arthur, Fred, Lillie, and Earl. John died in 1892, and the mother kept the family together.

MICHEAL SAUTTER

Micheal Sautter and his wife, Mary, lived northeast of the old District 30 school. They had no children, but when Martin H. Sautter lost his first wife, they took Bertha to raise. Unfortunately, she died when only eight years old.

JOHN SAUTTER

John Sautter, known as Teacher John, lived where the Vernon Moodys now live. He was born June 26, 1852, and died November 6, 1933. When he and his wife, Ernestine, retired they built the house where Faye Bredthauer now lives. There were two sons, Arthur and Henry. Arthur was rather crippled, and the town house was built low so he wouldn't have to climb steps. Henry married Edna Siekmann, and stayed on the farm until some time in the thirties, when they moved to Missouri.

JOHN SAUTTER

John Sautter, also called Red John, lived where the T. C. Keowns later lived. This is now Dinsdale land. His first wife was Rosie Hepp. They had no children, but Harlan Scheefer was a foster child. After his first wife passed away, he married again, and became the father of a son, Robert, who perished in a gasoline transport accident.

J. C. SAUTTER

J. C. Sautter, known as Little Jake, came to Nebraska with his brother, Martin H. Sautter, and they took rights on the NW $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 30, 18-11. First, they lived in a sod house. Later, he bought his brother's rights to the farm. On November 19, 1884, he married Emma Richard or Richards at Osceola. A frame house was built in 1886. He was born January 28, 1859, at Crown Point, Indiana, and died at Scotia on May 12, 1930. His children were William, Ben, Albert, Edwin (deceased), J. Y., Elmer (deceased), Leonard (deceased), Esther (Mrs. George Meyer), Zena (Mrs. George Barnes), Fred, and Luella (Mrs. John Gydesen).

MARTIN H. SAUTTER

In 1879 Martin H. Sautter decided to come to Nebraska. He and his wife, the former Ida Nimetz, drove from Indiana with a team and covered wagon. In later years, he liked to tell how he missed becoming a millionaire. Coming through Chicago, passing the corner of Michigan Boulevard and State Street, a store-keeper on that corner wanted to trade him the store for his outfit. Determined to come west, he wouldn't trade. That location is now part of the famous Chicago Loop District. Eventually he settled on land where the Mark Wagners now live. His first family consisted of Martha, Jess, Lillie, and Bertha. Later, he married Emma Becker and their children were Dan, Earl, Susie, Harry, Guy, Lloyd and Russell.

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GEORGE C. SAUTTER

George C. Sautter was born in Wittenberg, Germany, and came to America when but three years old. His parents spent some time at Detroit and Chicago, but later moved to Indiana where the boy grew to manhood. He came to Fish Creek in Greeley County in 1877 and homesteaded there. He married Anna Brandt of Indiana, a sister of Mrs. Dave Locker. None of his children are living. Mrs. Lillie Sautter Weekes was a foster daughter. The Sautters remained on the farm until 1898 when they moved to Scotia. Their farm is the one the Robert Smiths now reside on. They built the Scotia residence where the Kellers now live.

HENRY, SOPHIA NAGEL

Henry Nagel and his sister, Sophia (Mrs. Martin A. Sautter), came from Iowa in 1887, to take a homestead in Fish Creek precinct. They lived near the main road which crossed the county from east to west, and could watch the immigrant wagons and pioneers as they crossed the hills looking for land and a new abode.

Martin A. Sautter married Sophia Nagel. The Sautter children were Hattye, Calvin, Carl, and Oscar. Calvin moved to California when a young man. Both he and Oscar have passed away. When Hattye and Carl retired, they moved to North Loup where they maintain their home.

MARTIN SCHOEMAKER

Martin Schoemaker came to Nebraska to investigate in 1880, having been encouraged by his brother-in-law, Fred Meyer. Liking the country, he bought 160 acres of railroad land for \$4 per acre.

There were several families living in the neighborhood besides the Fred Meyers, these being the Rodgens, the Schutlers, and the Dave Lockers. Martin decided to build a frame house. The material was hauled from St. Paul by wagon. Dave Locker was the carpenter. The neighbors helped. In 1882, Martin went back to Iowa for his family, who came as far as St. Paul by train. This house was the first frame house on Fish Creek. It was on this farm that Irvin Schoemaker was born in 1888, and on which he still lives. The other children were John, father of Roy; Martha, (Mrs. Fillinger); Sophie, (Mrs. Cook); Hattie, (Mrs. Hehn); and Ed Schoemaker.

HERMAN HENRY MEYER

Herman H. Meyer was born in Hanover, Germany July, 1856. He came to America at the age of 14 with his father, settling in Indiana. In 1878, he came to Iowa and in 1881 came to Greeley County, Nebraska. After working a short time for Mr. Locker, he acquired the land where his youngest son, George, now resides. In 1888, he married Emma Rebecca Phiepho, who was born in Illinois, and brought her to his Nebraska farm. To this union were born nine children, four dying in infancy. The other children were—Art, who married Martha Wegner; Elmer, who married Gladys Meyer; Raymond, who married Clara Chadwick; George, who married Esther Sautter; and Elsie, who married Elmer Sautter. They resided all their married life on the farm with the exception of three years in the town of Scotia.

FRED MEYER

Fred Meyer was born in Hanover, Germany and came to the United States with his parents on a sailing vessel, taking six weeks for the crossing. The family settled near Crown Point, Indiana. When the Civil War broke out, Fred joined the 9th Illinois Cavalry, serving the full four years, part of the time at the siege of Vicksburg. After service, he returned to Crown Point and on March 28, 1867, married Lovina Locker. After several years there, they moved to Joliet, Illinois, from where, in 1878, they came to Nebraska with their three children, Hattie, Martha, and David. They came by train to Grand Island, where they were met by David Locker. Coming by ox team to Fish Creek, one of the oxen played out southeast of what is now Scotia. George Hillman, grandfather of Ernie Norton, came to the rescue with his ox team and pulled the wagon to the Locker place, the farm where Richard Meyer is now living. They stayed at the Locker place until their house, an adobe, was built. The logs were cut and hauled from the Cedar canyons near Burwell. It wasn't until fall that they moved to their own place. This farm was in the Meyer family 94 years, when it was sold and Fred and Ted retired.

MILNE FAMILY

George Milne relates an incident of this first snow on October 16, 1880. The Milne family had driven a pair of oxen overland from their home in Washara County, Wisconsin, arriving at the home of B. F. Griffith in Fish Creek on the 12th of October. The small sod house on the homestead was taxed to capacity, so the two Milne brothers, George and "Hub," were assigned to sleep in the barn, a dugout in the side of a twelve foot bank. A span of horses and a bin of new wheat which was stored there filled the barn. The boys took their blankets and made their bed on top of the bin of wheat. It was very dark inside when the door was shut, but the boys slept soundly, only to discover in the morning that the door of the barn would not open. They waited for someone to come to open it and let them out, but no one did. The horses got restless too, so the boys felt around in the dark, fed the horses some wheat, and ate some themselves. About four o'clock in the afternoon, they heard voices and presently the door of the barn opened. Then they discovered the snow, which had filled the canyons, had buried the barn.

The farm the Milne family settled on is now occupied by the Dwight Johnson family. Mary "Mate" Milne married Sam Bevier and for a time they lived on a place north of the Milne homestead. Later Sam Bevier worked on the Scotia Register. George Milne later married Hattie Meyer.

SCHUTLER FAMILY

The Schutler family settled on the land that Paul Schmidt lives on at present. They were charter members of the Evangelical Church. They had two children, Mary and Fred. Mrs. Schutler is buried in the Salem cemetery. At a later time, Barney Yax, father of Bud Yax, lived on this place.

After the Schutlers and the Yaxs, two bachelor brothers, Chris and Fred Bremer moved on to this farm. Later, Fred married a woman from Clay County and became the father of two daughters, Esther, now Mrs. Albert Madsen, and Rose, Mrs. Paul Schmidt, now deceased.

GEORGE HOKE

George Hoke came from Iowa in 1883, crossed the North Loup river on the old ferry, then worked for the Dave Locker and Fred Meyer families. He married Martha Meyer on March 8, 1897, and built the place that was south of the Consolidated Fish Creek School. Helen Hoke Krebs is their only child. George had one of the first cars in Greeley County. Meeting teams on the way to and from town was quite an ordeal as the horses were very frightened of the new vehicle. He held the agency for the Mitchell cars for a time. His apple orchard produced apples for years, and he was known for his good watermelons.

ANTON HEPP

Anton Hepp arrived in Greeley County in October, 1882, from Crown Point, Indiana. They broke sod the first fall and let it rot all winter, so that they could plant corn in the spring. Crops were good until in 1894, when the hot wind burned all the grain and ruined the corn. Mr. Hepp was forced to sell good cattle for as little as \$12.00 a head, because there was no feed for them.

The Hepp farm was in the mile east of Harlan Gydesens, on the north side of the road. All traces of the buildings are long gone. Mr. Hepp is buried in the Salem cemetery. He was a Civil War veteran.

HENRY HERMSMEYER, SR.

Mr. Hermsmeyer was born in Germany in 1839. He, with his wife, Christina, and four sons, Henry, 12; Fred, 10; Charles, 6; and Conrad, 4; immigrated from their home at Longenhousen, near Detmold, Germany, to the United States in February, 1884. Mr. Hermsmeyer's two sisters, Henrietta and Wilmine, accompanied them.

Mrs. Hermsmeyer's brother, Henry Carter, also a native of Germany, already living in Nebraska, had encouraged them to come to this area. Mr. Hermsmeyer first chose a homestead in Garfield County, Nebraska. Later they moved to the Fish Creek community east of Scotia, Greeley County, Nebraska, traveling with team and wagon and driving the livestock.

All members of this family lived the remainder of their lives on various farms near Scotia. Mr. Hermsmeyer, Sr., died in 1930 at the age of 91 years.—(Contributed by Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Hermsmeyer).

MILLIGAN

Milligans first settled on the place southeast of what was the William Winter place. There was a young son, who, with Dave Meyer, son of Fred Meyer, decided they would run away and go out West and become cowboys. Each teenager had a horse, a saddle, and very little money. They took off, to the distress of their parents. After dark one evening, when the boys had been absent several days, Mrs. Milligan was bemoaning the fate of her boy when the father calmly remarked, "When they get hungry enough, they'll come back." All the while, the son was sitting beneath the window outside listening to their conversation.

EUGENE RODGEN

When Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Rodgen came to Fish Creek, as bride and groom, they got off the train at Scotia, were ferried across the river and started to walk to David Lockers place, but were caught in a rain storm. The bride was carrying an umbrella, so they put it up and slept all night under it, in the prairie. A few years later, the Rodgen family was snowed in for several days, in the dugout in the south side of a clay hill, but were rescued by neighbors, who shoveled the snow away from their door. When Mr. Rodgen built a house, he put it up on a hill so that it could not happen again.

Their children were John and Minnie, who now live in Grand Island, and Hattie Boettger, who is now deceased.

WILLIAM WEGNER FAMILY

In 1883, the William Wegner family, two sons, Louis and Herman and daughter Anna, (Mrs. George Sautter), arrived in Merrick County from Germany. Within a few months, they came to Greeley County to farm a piece of land owned by a cousin, Rev. Herman Wegner, a circuit rider preacher. They drove three teams overland. Shortly before leaving Merrick County they purchased a team and wagon for \$400.00 and gave several notes in payment.

Arriving in Fish Creek, they stopped to water their horses at a creek. A man with an ox team drove by. He was Eugene Rodgen, a future neighbor. They remained with the Schoemaker family until their sod house was finished.

The first Christmas, the family having no money, the father sadly remarked he was afraid they would have no bread to eat. With true Christian faith, the mother insisted the Lord would provide for them, even though the father declared miracles did not happen. However, they did have their bread. A son, who was working in Merrick County had paid off one of the notes and the banker said he had \$5.00 left. The boy told him to send it to his folks. It arrived before Christmas and the father went to town and bought a sack of flour, a pail of syrup, and a lantern so he could see to harness his horses before daylight when he was helping the neighbors husk corn. The family later purchased a tree claim and improved it well. This is the place where Dan and Donald Wegner live now. It has always belonged to Wegners'.

WILLIAM HALPIN

William Halpin settled on land south of the Fish Creek Church. Here his children were born and grew up. He lived here until his passing.

A tragic accident took the life of a daughter, Maggie. The young folks of the community went to Ericson on an excursion after the first dam was built. They went to Greeley and took the train. While at the dam, Miss Halpin fell in the water and drowned—a sad ending to what was to be a happy time. Kathryn married John Burns and they lived on the home place until they moved to Scotia. Jack (John) married a Gray girl and they lived east of Fish Creek Church. Will was a son who never married. He stayed on the farm. One daughter, Mrs. Barney Yax, passed away, leaving a little baby son, LeRoy (Bud) whom the grandparents took to rear. At present, a great-granddaughter, Mrs. Maxine Yax Rasmussen and her family are living on the old home place.

GEORGE KLEIN

The George Klein family came to Indiana from Wittenberg, Germany, in July, 1881. In September of the same year, they came to the Fish Creek Community, east of Scotia. Mr. Klein was one of the organizers of the German Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod, in this community. He and several other families—the Henry Schmidt, Frank Daudt, Gottlieb Fox, Carson Miller (Carten Moeller), John Jaegers, Rudolph, and the Tiedran (Tedorhn) families comprised this settlement.

The Klein children were Christ, George, Martin, Henry, Charles, John, Martha (Bremer), and Mary (Bredthauer). Mr. Klein and a small Klein child were buried in the cemetery in the community, but the bodies were later moved to the Scotia Cemetery.

FRANK B. DAUDT

Frank Daudt was born May, 1869 in Schoenfeldtz, Germany. He came to America in 1885 with his parents who settled on a farm near Scotia, southeast of the Dan Wegner place on the east side of the road, where he lived four years before moving to Greeley where he lived until his death in 1938. He is buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery near Scotia.

JOHN N. KEOWN

Mr. Keown came to North Loup in 1895 and then moved to a farm near Scotia, currently owned by "Keeb." He lived there until 1930. He and his wife had eight children—Curran, George, Clyde, Ada, Vena, Ophilia, Charles, and Jack.

J. B. BEEBE

One of the most prominent figures on the Loup River from '71 to '77 was "Doc" Beebe. Dr. J. B. Beebe came in 1871, and for years "Beebe's Ranch" was one of the best known places in the Valley. His wife and daughter, Susie were notable pioneer women. In 1890, Mr. Beebe went to Oregon where he died several years later.

FRANK PHILLIPS

Mr. Phillips was born on the place known as the old Voorhees place (Section 24, T 17, R 12), currently owned by Robert Vogeler. This was on November 28, 1873, making him the first child born in the area. Mr. Phillips recalled on a visit to the area in 1939 that his parents left this area in 1874, when he was less than a year old, leaving during the early grasshopper scourge, when the hoppers ate everything in sight including the fence posts. In 1873, Louis Phillips, his father, served as county assessor, Mr. Fish finishing his term when he left in 1874. The courthouse then was the old Lamartine school, District 1. Mr. Phillips visited this also, his father, Louis, having helped build it, along with Mr. McAnulty, who was then but a youth, and David Moore. J. V. Alderman was the contractor. This building is credited with being the first frame building in the area. In 1939, was a dilapidated house, having been moved across the road in later years for a home.

(Frank Phillips, millionaire oilman from Oklahoma, visited the place of his birth in 1939, visiting Gov. Cochran the next day, leaving a generous gift to advance Boy Scout work in Nebraska).

(Mr. McAnulty's wife, Lillian Moore, was a second cousin of Mr. Phillips, one reason for his visit here).

LEMUEL AND MARION BONSTALL (By Jesse and Jennie Bonsall)

Jesse's parents came from Iowa. Mrs. Bonsall's parents were the Elisha Rogers. The elder Bonsalls settled first on what is now the "Keeb" Keown place east of town, somewhere around 1885. One daughter, Hattie or Harriett taught in the upper grades at the old school in Scotia.

The place the Jesse Bonsalls are residing at was purchased from the CB & Q railroad in the spring of 1887. Jesse's folks purchased it from a Mrs. Cluny, later Sharp, and last she was married to "Black Jake" Sautter. (When Sharp was her name, she and Bobby Sharp ran a little store where the former Schoemaker store, now Carl's IGA store is now located).

E. A. NURTON

E. A. Nurton was a much traveled man. He was born in Dubuque County, Iowa, February 19, 1856, and here he spent the first twenty-one years of his life. On September 1, 1877, he and his father bought one and one-half sections of railroad land five miles from Scotia. In the fall, he returned to Iowa and the next year worked his father's farm. However, in the fall of 1878, he returned to his land in Nebraska. In 1879, he again went back to Iowa and worked nine months for his uncle. Then again he returned to Greeley County. On February 6, 1883, he married Miss Emma L. Woodward of Dubuque, Iowa. In 1886, he moved to Ord only to leave in 1888. The next year, however, he sold his farm property and moved to Scotia.

C. M. KREBS RECALLS EARLY DAY HISTORY

(From 1966 Scotia Register)

I refer to myself as a lifetime reader. In 1895 H. C. Waldrip, an old Civil War vet, started the Scotia Register. In the same year I was born in the vicinity of the first county seat of Greeley County, Lamartine District No. 1.

1915 was the last summer I spent at Scotia, at that time, believe it or not, I got permission from my Dad to leave home, get a college education. There surely must be some kind of way to make a living other than milking Holsteins, following a harrow and walking cultivator, and pitching hay and bundles of grain. Nowadays at half that age children and grandchildren declare themselves.

My grandfather, R. R. Krebs, bought a farm 7½ miles southeast of Scotia in the early 80's. This is near the Joy Jacobsen farm, part of Sec. 36-17-12. He built a granary, then the next spring migrated to Scotia. He came with the immigrant car; my grandmother with the children by passenger train. They got off the train at Scotia Junction, were ferried across the river, and spent the night at Clark's Hotel.

Dad said he thought they were really in the wild and woolly west as that evening old pioneer sheriff of Greeley County, Jeff Van Skike, came through the lobby with an old 45 colt in his gun belt.

My maternal grandmother Kelly was a Civil War widow who migrated to Scotia and had a farm in the vicinity. Uncle Jim Kelly lived on the farm several years that had Happy Jack's Peak and the quarry. At one time a lot of the North Loup Valley could be seen from the top of the hill. As a child, I remember visiting at Uncle Jim's before 1900, many times.

Scotia and Lamartine are wealthy in pioneer history. The time there was a county election over moving the county seat from Lamartine to Scotia, there was a real heavy vote. Lamartine won that one. I wasn't there when the school district 1 was built but I attended school there until 1907.

HARRY KREBS

Harry Krebs married Jennie Cook (the doctor's daughter) and was a Scotia barber for a number of years. He later became a partner in a funeral home in Boise, Idaho, retiring to Arcadia, California, where both he and his wife, Jennie passed away.

The Morgan Krebs children scattered to different places—Kenneth and Chester remained the longest. In 1969 or 1970, the last Krebs left Scotia when Chester and Helen moved to McAllen, Texas. There had been a Krebs family living in or near Scotia for 85 years.—(Contributed by Zola Krebs Scheidt and Iris Krebs Clark)

KREBS FAMILY

Rueben R. Krebs and wife moved from Warrensburg, Missouri to Scotia, Nebraska with their five children: Morgan L., Corris D., Charles, Myrtle, and Harry in 1885.

In December 1886, Morgan returned to Warrensburg for his bride, Annie Reavis. The senior Krebs family first lived south of Scotia on the farm now occupied by Joy Jacobsen. Rueben built the house there which was considered a very fine place at that time.

Morgan and Annie Krebs lived a few years in a dugout or sod house on a hillside one-fourth mile south and one-half mile east of the present Van Skike home. Two children, Earl and Pearl were born there. After a residence of one year in Scotia (1892) where Gladys was born, the family moved to the farm five miles south of Scotia on land purchased from John Vance's father. Eight more children were born here. The eighty acre Hughes place, where the Lamartine church was built, was added to the M. L. Krebs Riverside Farm.

Rueben Krebs and his wife retired from farming and spent their remaining years in Scotia, passing away in 1914 and 1915.

Morgan and Annie retired in 1919 to the same residence where the Senior Krebs had lived. Morgan lived only two years, but his widow Annie lived to be 94 years old, passing away in 1960.

Corrie or "Code" Krebs farmed south of Scotia for many years. There were five children in this family: Roy, Carl, Clyde, Faye, Gail and Clair. Code retired to Grand Island, Nebraska and later to Boulder where he passed away.—(Contributed by Zola Krebs Schiedt and Iris Krebs Clark)

THE CLEMENT FAMILY

Several of the children of Moses T. Clement and Nancy (Talbert) Clement settled in the Scotia area. This couple themselves lived several years in the Lamartine community near the old Hillman homestead. Their children include Theodore, Henry, Ace, William, Charles, Eliza (Maxwell), Josie (Scott), and Mary (Vance).

Theodore married Eva Millard in 1872 and moved to Nebraska in 1878 where they lived on several places in Howard and Greeley areas before taking a homestead in 1882 in the area of the old Amity School in the sandhills. This couple had six children—(Lucy) Mrs. Hollie Chadwick, (Ida) Mrs. Charles Morrow, (Emma) Mrs. Laten Chadwick, Clarence, Moses and Edward.

Will married a sister of Jeremiah Pridemore and homesteaded what is now near the Marvin Goodrich farm in Sec. 20-17-11.

Eliza came to this area in 1883 and married Wallace Maxwell in 1892. Five children were born to this couple—one who died as a child, Ivan, Earl, (Eva) Mrs. John Jess, and (Ethel) Mrs. LeRoy Yax.

Josie is recorded in the article on the Scott family.

Mary lived several years with her husband, John Vance in the Lamartine community. They had seven children—Nancy, Floyd, Lynn, Murl, twins Millie (Findley) Vance and Bill, and Junior.

GEORGE FARRELL

George Farrell was born in Columbus, Indiana in 1857. In 1870, his parents moved to Caldwell County, Mississippi, then to Howard County the following year. Though only a boy he and a friend went to Kent and established squatter's rights there. Being forced off the land in 1874, he returned home and in 1877 homesteaded the farm known as the Farrell place. The same year he married Emma Bixby.

As a grandson, John Farrell recalls: George homesteaded a timber claim on the land now owned by the Alfred Kluthes south of town. When they moved to Scotia in 1882, they lived for a time where John Schilling now lives and operated a livery stable where Bert Mallery lives; also at the place Elsie Miller now resides. According to a clipping in Lola Burton's scrapbook, George Farrell and George Small also built and operated a livery barn for six years where the Scotia Lumber Co. is now located, selling it to Ezra Burton in the 1890's. Known as the Diamond Front Barn, it was moved to its present location south of the railroad tracks, being used for many years as a sale barn by "Yock" Jensen and Jim Bryson.

George's first wife taught in the first school by the Cotesfield bridge, District 5, Howard County.

John recalls his grandfather mentioning that the town at that time lay mostly north of the current highway or along that area. There was for a time a postoffice located in a store where the old blacksmith shop, Ron's Metal Repair, is now located.

John, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Farrell, grew up on the farm now owned by the Bill Goldfish family.—(Portions contributed by John Farrell, some from "Trail of the Loup").

BURTONS

Ezra Burton owned land where Jacob Lehn is now. That was somewhere about 1891. He also owned a livery barn in Scotia. Later he and his son, Fred, moved to Guernsey, Wyoming, where the son became a State Senator. John Burton, grandfather of the present John Burton, owned land by the creek known as Burton's Creek. He came from Illincis, once moved to Alliance, then back to Scotia. His house was partly made of chalk rock. John's father farmed this land for years until John and his son Leonard took over.

CHARLES BISKEBORN, SR. FAMILY

The Biskeborn family came to Greeley County in 1883 from Iowa. They arrived in the Lamartine community about 1890 to the farm now owned and occupied by Mrs. Roy Fillinger. Two older houses that were on the farm were moved together and a second story was added to make the home where the Biskeborn family was raised. There were six sons and three daughters. The house is still standing and was occupied by the Fillingers until 1968 when they moved to the new house. The house next door, now the Otto Gebhardt, Jr., farm, was also Grandpa Biskeborn's. As the children grew up and married they started farming and lived here

where Grandpa could see they were up and going. Some times 22 families lived in the house at the same time until one was able to buy their own farm and move out on their own.

Chas. Biskeborn was county commissioner for a number of years, and the boys worked the farm. They, of course, farmed with horses and walking machinery. The boys couldn't call it a day until they had completed an assigned number of rows.

Chas. lived on the place until his death in 1927.

During the pioneer days of the Methodist church, several ministers made their homes with the Biskeborn family.

The Biskeborn family is well known by all the farmers in the area whose grain was ever threshed by the threshing machine the family owned and operated. A big thrill for the youngsters was getting to blow the whistle when the steam was up.—(Prepared by Esther Biskeborn Fillinger).

Excerpts from letter written to Joan Van Skike Meyer by Imo Mallery Shadle:

My mother, daughter of Joseph Conway, was six months old when the family arrived in Nebraska at the site of the homesteads in Northwest Howard County on the Greeley County line. It is not far from where you grew up on the old Fish place. They arrived March 30, 1872, after traveling by covered wagon through the winter from Breckenridge, Missouri. Since the homestead had a small hill, they first built a dugout for a home.

Grandmother Conway was a Van Skike, sister of your great-grandfather, David. They, along with three other Van Skike brothers, had homesteads in the area, Jim, Jess and John. Also I remember hearing that Jim and Jess were married to Farrell girls, sisters of George Farrell, Ann and Emma. All the children attended the country school just north of the Cotesfield river bridge on the east side of the river.

NOTES ON THE FAMILY—LOIS (KROLL) FILKIN

Mother, Edith Cooper, was born in Scotia. She also taught school in the area. She and Dad, August Kroll, were married in 1910. The pictures I have of the area are dated then. Mom had four sisters and two brothers—Grace Bredthauer, Mattie Chitty, Laura ?, Luella ? The boys were Pete and George. Grace and Mattie now live in California.

I remember visiting Aunt Nellie who lived on a deadend street and had lots of cats. I was five or six the last time I was there; there was a slight earthquake that night. This was about 1935-36.

Mother died when I was two months old and I just took an interest in her things.

(From the description I would place the house where the fire house is now.—J. M.)

JOHN BRIDWELL

Scotia's only Negro couple were Uncle John and Aunt Dina Bridwell, whose home was across the street west of Scotia's present day school. Both had been slaves. Uncle John had joined the Union Army and served well, receiving a pension in later years. Aunt Dina made lovely patch work quilts, and smoked a corn cob pipe. It was said she could make 'possum and raccoon taste delicious and she was sometimes asked to cook wild game dinners. Uncle John always drove a horse, did some gardening and was a handy man. They cared for some grandchildren, who attended school here. One was Lucille Dority, who returned to Omaha, and Flossie and Cal who are buried in Mount Hope Cemetery.

GEORGE W. STICHLER

George Stichler was born in Iowa, October, 1854. At the age of 25 he came west and settled in Greeley County, Nebraska, about 2 miles northwest of Horace, Nebraska. On April 26, 1883, he married Sarah C. Honeycutt, and in 1907 they moved to Scotia. They had seven children—John, Grace, Sam, Charles, Eva, Alice, and George Jr.

JACOB AND HARRIET AND MARY WATT

The Watt family moved to Scotia in 1885. Mary was in business with her father for a time. On May 27, 1893, she married Uri Tolbert of Scotia. Mary and Uri had four children—one died in infancy, Georgina, Fred and Guy.

THE MAYO FAMILY

The Marshall Mayo family settled in Valley County; however, three of the children lived in and around Scotia. Their second child, Charity, was married to A. C. Ferguson October, 1876. Two children were born to this union—Leonard and Nora, (Mrs. C. D. Krebs). When her first husband died, she lived in Valley County two years, moving back to Scotia in 1891. In 1894, she married Roy Doane, son of the George Doanes. They moved to a farm south of town where they lived until Doane's death in 1932. A daughter, Carrie, was born to this union.

Larkin lived in the Scotia area. He married Ella McDermott. They had a daughter, Gladys, who married Martin Watts.

Charles married Emma Kildow. They are the parents of Thelma who married Bert Mallery of Scotia, whose parents were Steven and Nancy (Conway) Mallery.

Benjamin married Louise Sears. They are the parents of Harriette, who married William Waters. They operated the Scotia Pharmacy until his death.

Polly Ann (Pauline) will be remembered for her stage appearances. The Scotia Register had one time printed an article on her travels and appearances.

(Harriette's step-father, Jack Maddox, for many years ran a theatre in Scotia).

REMINISCENCE OF DELLA (GARDNER) CHADWICK

My parents were Iona and George Gardner. We moved from Scotia in 1921. The other children of the family are Leon, (deceased), myself, Ira, Thelma, and Fern.

Phyllis Freeman's Centennial Seal is very good workmanship. I remember it all so well, such as the school on the hill. (The five of us were born across the street where we were then living). I believe I was seven when father bought a house nearer town. I remember the Methodist church, Landgraf's store, and Clark's Hotel. There was Badousek's store. They built a new house just west of us, and I remember how large we thought it was. We all thought Dr. Weekes had such a nice house, too.

Earl Lincoln's name sounds familiar, and then there was Lem, about a year ahead of Leon and I. Our grandparents, the Benjamin Gardners, lived several blocks west of the Clark Hotel and Uncle Tony (Anton) lived north of them.

I am widowed and live in Phoenix, Arizona. Leon was killed in a hunting accident. Thelma is widowed and lives in Grand Island, soon to move to McCook. Ira, recently retired from Safeway Stores and lives in Broken Bow. Fern remains in Grand Island. Mother lived with her until her death this year. Father died in 1952.

CHARLES LANDGRAF FAMILY

Charles Landgraf and Louise Thom were married in 1901 at Ravenna, Nebraska. In 1908 they moved to a farm five miles south of Scotia. In 1913 they moved into Scotia where they operated a general merchandise store for many years. It was known as the Landgraf store, in later years it was the Gamble store, and was recently razed (1973).

The Landgrafs had five daughters—Hattie, Magdalen, Mabel, Esther, Leona, and two sons, Edward and Charles. Charles died at birth.

Mr. Landgraf's father came to the U. S. in 1835 from Baiers, Germany. He was a Lutheran minister. Mrs. Landgraf's parents came from Rachan Pammern, Germany, to Grand Island. Her father helped build the railroad to Scotia.—(By Magdalen Landgraf Sautter)

Notes from a letter received by Mrs. Jess Meyer, written by Mrs. H. E. Feuquay:

Was interested in the item in the World-Herald since my mother's family, the Colbys homesteaded in the Scotia area when they left Wisconsin. I have a cousin in St. Paul, my uncle George Colby's daughter, the widow of Harry Jacobson.

The cemetery in Scotia must have been the first in the area, as my grandparents, a cousin, and my mother are buried there. Their graves are at the top of the hill on the first crossroad inside the gate. My mother's husband, Dr. Hogan, rests beside her. Dr. Hogan practiced in the North Loup-Scotia area. I am a daughter of her second marriage to George Helbig of North Loup. Best wishes on the centennial.

WILLIAM MITCHELL FAMILY

One of the many pioneer families of Greeley County and Scotia community was the William Mitchell family.

The Mitchell family came to Nebraska from Iowa, in 1883. The family consisted of William Milas Mitchell and his wife Ella Mae (Barnes) Mitchell and several children.

One of their first homes was a dugout and chalk rock home located on Davis Creek north of the present Norris Benson farm. There the family encountered the usual pioneer hardships and were visited many times by friendly Indians.

In 1902 the family moved to the Septer farm in the Wallace Creek area, and the children attended Green Border school.

The Mitchell family in 1917 moved into Scotia village and went into business, that of running a cream station. Mr. Mitchell remained in this business until the spring of 1931 when he retired.

The Mitchell residence in Scotia is the present home of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Anderson.

The family were members of the Methodist church, thus exemplifying their quiet and respected way of life.

Present members of the Mitchell family are Mrs. Myrtle Skadden of Stockton, California, Mrs. Wyllis Nelson of Julesburg, Colorado, and Reuben Mitchell who resides in North Loup.—(By Faye Mitchell Bredthauer)

THE CHRIST WALD FAMILY

Mr. and Mrs. Christ Wald came from Germany to Chicago. Then in 1897 they came to the Scotia vicinity. For a while Mr. Wald helped with farm work. In 1898 they moved into Scotia. They had a son, August, and a daughter, Mina—who married the Rev. Willie, a Lutheran minister.

August Wald was engaged in the carpenter trade at the early age of 16, and helped build many of today's older houses in Scotia. He also helped build houses in all the surrounding towns including Grand Island.

The Christ Walds helped organize the Lutheran Church in Scotia. August Wald and Max Stanner helped build the former Lutheran Church building.

August Wald has lived to see Scotia grow from early days to the present time and notes many changes.

THE LINCOLN FAMILIES

The Elmer Lincoln family came to the Scotia area in the late 1890's from Almond, Wisconsin. They returned to Wisconsin in 1900. In 1908 they returned to make their permanent home. Mr. Lincoln was a carpenter and farmer. They resided north of Fish Creek until 1911 when they moved. Mr. Lincoln was a shoe cobbler and the town cop.

Another early pioneer family was the Robert Lincoln family who came to the Scotia area around 1900 from Wisconsin. They resided in the eastern part of Scotia. Mr. Lincoln was a mailman.

FRED STANNER FAMILY

Fred Stanner was born in Germany in 1861 and came to America when he was 17 years old and settled in Dubuque, Iowa, where he learned the meat trade.

In 1884 he came to Scotia and for many years was proprietor of the meat market. Besides a regular meat trade, he kept fresh oysters and fish in season. He also owned the ice business in Scotia. He was the oldest butcher in Greeley County.

He returned to Germany in 1886 to marry Elizabeth Meyer. They had one son, Max, who for a time was with his father in the meat business, which he later took over. Fred Stanner died in 1912.

Max continued the meat market until 1926, and gave up the ice business in 1949.

He and his first wife, Frieda, had one daughter, Frieda Foster. His wife died in 1938.

He later married Alma Heyden. Mr. Stanner (Max) died in 1966.

The Heydens had moved to Scotia in 1915 from Ord. Mr. Heyden was born in Davenport, Iowa, and Mrs. Heyden was born in Germany. They had five children—Clara, Fred, Alma, Bertha, and Coila.

WM. BREDTHAUER, SR. FAMILY

Born in 1845 in Stein-hude Germany, married Dorothea Vogeler in 1869. They came to the Turtle Creek community near Ord in 1883. In 1903 the family moved to the farm southwest of Scotia. In 1907 they moved to Scotia residing in the home now occupied by Oren Carrs. In 1910 they purchased the land and built the Bredthauer Department Store. Mr. Bredthauer died in 1914, his wife in 1926. Eight children:

David Bredthauer lived in Mira Valley community, was a farmer and cattle feeder.

Lena Bredthauer married Wm. Sommer. He was a carpenter, building their home which is now the Lutheran parsonage. He also built the Pharmacy and apartments above, which they owned.

Herman Bredthauer was a farmer and cattle feeder near Scotia before retiring to Scotia.

William Bredthauer lived one year near Elyria moving on the place vacated by his father in 1907. He fed cattle and farmed. The farm home is now occupied by his grandson, Daryl Holt. They built a home in Scotia on retirement, owned by John Farrell.

Edward Bredthauer operated a hardware in Scotia before moving to Oregon and later California.

Henry Bredthauer—In 1908 he and his sister Amelia opened a general store in the south chalk building, later used by Bredthauer Motor Co. In 1933 Henry took over the car dealership. He built the garage, now used by John Deere dealer. They built the home now owned by Reuben Malmstroms.

Albert Bredthauer joined his brother and sister in the Bredthauers' Department Store. He continued in the store until his death except for the time served in World War I. He built the

home now owned by M. G. Williams.

Amelia Bredthauer married P. J. Seefus. She continued to work in the store, Phillip in the lumber yard and post office. Their son P. J. lives in the home they built. They purchased the building in 1929 which is the post office.—(By Alma Bredthauer Holt and Rose Fuss)

HAMILTON AND STUBBLEFIELD FAMILIES

Jennie Hamilton and her brothers came to Greeley County, Nebraska in 1877 from Iowa with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Hamilton. The J. A. Hamilton family homesteaded in Wallace Creek where the Gerhard Beilkes live. Her brother, Will, homesteaded where Clark and Henry Septer lived, now owned by the Beilkes. Another brother, Tom, homesteaded where Vivian Everett lives, and Robert homesteaded where Leo Kleins live.

Jennie married Ed Cummings and Elton Cummings was their child. After Ed died Jennie married Park Stubblefield, and Ruth was born to this union. When the Methodist church added the beautiful stained glass windows, Jennie and her husband donated a window in honor of her pioneer parents.

The children of this area attended the Greenborder school which was originally on what is now the Mary Krchnavy place, later moved across the road to the present Monica Karre place.

Some names mentioned on a memory book year 1906-1907 are as follows: Edna Louden, Fanny and Mary Krchnavy, John Mitchell, Doris and Ted Sautter, Ruth Bilyeu, Walter, Rose and Clara Lloyd, Lyma, Fred, Clinton and William Beck, Ethel Wells, Blanche and Raymond Marshall, Earl Skadden, Alex and Ted Bilyeu, Clarence and Ernest Hamilton. Harry Beck and Elton Cummings, among others, also attended school here.

When the district consolidated with Scotia District 1, Elton Cummings purchased the school building and moved it on to the place where George Weeks lives now. Later it burned.

When Greenborder consolidated with Scotia, the school board was as follows: M. L. Krebs, director; S. T. Grohosky, treasurer; Martin Michelson, moderator; Dick Farrell, Wm. Skadden and A. Gebhardt.—(Contributed by Ruth Stubblefield Beck).

MALLERY'S ISLAND

Acquiring all the land bordering the island sometime in the period around 1885-1889, L. H. Mallery received a land grant from the United States signed by Grover Cleveland, President, for the island known as Mallery's Island. The property is the Mallerys or at least as long as it remains in the possession of a member of the Mallery family. Bert's grandfather constructed a dam at the area where the island is adjacent to the land and the river did the rest. The island is now a part of the land. In past years this was one of the picnic areas used by Scotia residents. Another was Stewart's Grove, and the Lyman Bluff area. Near the Cotesfield bridge was another good location on Wells' land. Community picnics were common up through the 1930's. Another favorite area was Shepherd's Grove, north of town along the river.—(From the Bert Mallerys).

HORACE AND PARNELL VICINITY

Horace was located at a point where the railroad crossed Wallace Creek. The first agent for the Burlington was Ephraim Welsh. He built the first store and sold the first groceries in the summer of 1888. Aside from the stockyards and the section house no other building was done there for several years. The postoffice was opened in April 1890, with Elias W. Jeffres, postmaster. Settlement along Wallace Creek, however, began as early as 1878. The families of A. W. and George Stubblefield, William Swan and George Rutherford were among the first to locate on homestead. A. W. Barker, J. B. Williams, and the four Jeffres brothers, Elias, Al, John, and Perry were early residents in this vicinity.

In 1881, J. B. Willoughby arrived from his home in England on a visit to his former neighbors, the five Hillman brothers, who had settled near Scotia and North Loup. He liked the fresh air, the freedom and the wide open spaces of this new country, and remained to take a homestead and a timber claim. His first home was a sod house, Scotia the nearest postoffice. Like many of his neighbors, he planted 20 acres of his timber claim to cottonwoods and elms and watched them grow into a steady grove.

One of the early weddings in the vicinity was that of a daughter of the Rutherford family, Kaladora, who was married to William E. Daily December 11, 1878, by Rev. George Hillman. The first year of their married life they spent on land which had been homesteaded by John Winn near Boston Valley. Mail was received at the Jacksonville post office. It was necessary to make occasional trips to St. Paul and Grand Island; whoever made the trip usually brought back mail and provisions for all of the neighbors. Church services and Sunday school were frequently held at the sod house of William Weekes and were attended by the families of Jonathon Crow, Zack Harris, W. S. Freeman, A. M. Thayer, the McAllister family, Mrs. Whitehead and daughters. In 1880, the Dailys moved to a homestead in lower Parnell precinct near Wallace Creek where there were few settlers and the country was still unbroken prairie. Their closest neighbors were the family of William Swain and that of J. B. Paddock, whose wife, Hattie, kept the post office known as Floss, established in March, 1881, in their home. This office was discontinued in August, 1887, and the mail sent to Parnell.

A diphtheria epidemic broke out in the neighborhood in the winter of 1881, and there were several deaths among the children. Neighbors aided each other in nursing the sick. The Daily children all recovered and Mr. and Mrs. Daily helped other families. Mr. Daily sat up 11 nights with one lad whose life was despaired of, but who made, at last a miraculous recovery.

Ezra and Milton Daily, brothers of W. E. Daily, left Galesburg, Illinois, to homestead in Parnell precinct. The former in 1880 and the latter in 1885.

Ira Bishop, who came to Greeley County in 1879, was one of the earliest settlers in Parnell precinct. In 1881 the post office of Parnell was established and Mr. Bishop was the postmaster until his death in the spring of 1889. Freeman Cary was appointed to

succeed him in the spring of that year.

John Price and Julius Kelley were early homesteaders in Parnell. Others were Charles Striker, Charles Hughes, A. R. Lavitt, Fred Brothwell, and L. Clapp. Charles Woodward kept the post office called Acme at his home from 1885 until 1891.

Ross Johnson arrived with his father in 1888, and lived near Horace for a time. A few years later he filed on a homestead in Parnell precinct. He broke prairie on both his father's land and his own and estimates that during the first 20 years he lived in the county he broke at least a thousand acres of prairie in that section of the county, using a grasshopper plow, which was lighter and more easily handled than the old style breaking plow. Ezra Cargill and C. W. Baldwin settled in the eighties in this precinct.

A. B. Acker settled in Parnell in 1893. J. S. Everett came to Greeley County from Cumings County in 1894, trading 20 head of horses to Timothy Poley as part payment on a quarter section of land. He eventually owned 800 acres of land and became an extensive cattle feeder and horse buyer. Mrs. Everett taught Sunday school at Glendale school for 12 years, riding horseback across pastures to reach the school; her baby on the saddle in front and her small daughter holding on the saddle back of her, in the early years.

The blizzard of 1891 is said to be by early settlers almost as bad as that of 1888; the canyons were drifted full of snow and for weeks thereafter, farmers were able to haul hay and corn across them. Many of the older residents were convinced that if it had not been for the comfort and protection of the sod houses during those bad storms of the early days, when fuel was scarce and hard to get, that many people would have frozen to death. — Excerpts from "Pioneer History of Greeley County"

Footnote — Mrs. Major Montgomery told me that Ephraim Welsh had the first post office and that it was in the family several years, she, herself serving as the last Welsh postmaster.



Early day view of Scotia's main street.

NEWSPAPERS OF SCOTIA

Scotia had one of the earliest newspapers in the entire valley—the Greeley Tribune, established by R. S. Buchanen in 1878. For three years the paper was issued as the Republican organ of Greeley County. Then Mr. Buchanen moved his plant to North Loup and founded the "Mirror."

A. B. Lewis immediately purchased a new outfit and re-established the Tribune.

Next appeared the Democratic paper, The Index, edited by R. F. Clayton but it died young.

The history of The Tribune is anything but thrilling. Continuous change in the editorial head and even name tells the story. Thus in the fall of 1885 Hanlin Sawyer came into possession of the plant and changed the name to Loup Valley Gazette. In a brief time it became the property of George McAnulty, who named it the Greeley County Graphic. Late in 1888 Mr. McAnulty sold out to W. T. Faucett who called his paper the Scotia Republican. He published it for two years then sold it to Henry Alnut, who renamed it The Independent. In 1893 W. E. Morgan got possession of it and played a bad trick on Scotia by moving paper and all to Greeley Center. Here he merged the Independent with the old Greeley Leader and called it the Leader-Independent. For almost a year Scotia had to get along without a paper. In 1884 Judge N. H. Parks established the Scotia Herald, a strong, well-edited Democratic paper which continued until 1891 when it also moved to Greeley Center.

Then in 1894 Henry C. Waldrip started publishing The Scotia Register which has since been the only paper in town. After Mr. Waldrip's death, his widow published the paper for a number of years before selling it to the Krebs Bros. The Register was sold to Howard H. Roe in the late twenties. He published the paper until April 1, 1936, when he leased it to M. G. Williams. Mr. and Mrs. Williams bought the Register on April 1, 1941, and are its present publishers.

EXCERPTS FROM THE PAST

John Bridwell was said to have been the best pray-er in the Methodist Church.

Mrs. Bridwell once saved a small child's life by administering a home-remedy. The child had a swelling on his chest. Some thought it should be opened, but Aunt Dolly said not to open it for fear of infection. She sterilized a piece of white cloth and made a poultice of fresh cow-manure and placed it over the swelling. Needless to say, for some unknown reason, it cured the swelling.

Theodore Stoetzel, and Quaker grandfather Enoch Robert Strawn came West in 1883—bought two quarters of land next to the old McAnulty farm. My parents came in 1884, lived in a dugout until a new frame house was built. I recall my mother telling how the mice came out to drink when she was mopping the floor in the dugout. My father was in Scotia and soon became County Superintendent, a position he retained for many years.—Excerpts from letter written by Susie Stoetzel Withycombe.

Main Street

15	14	13	12	11	10	9
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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Greely Street

15	14	13	12	11	10	9
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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Indian Street

69

2nd Street

Street

66

16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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Street

66

33

20

122

33

66

20

122

33

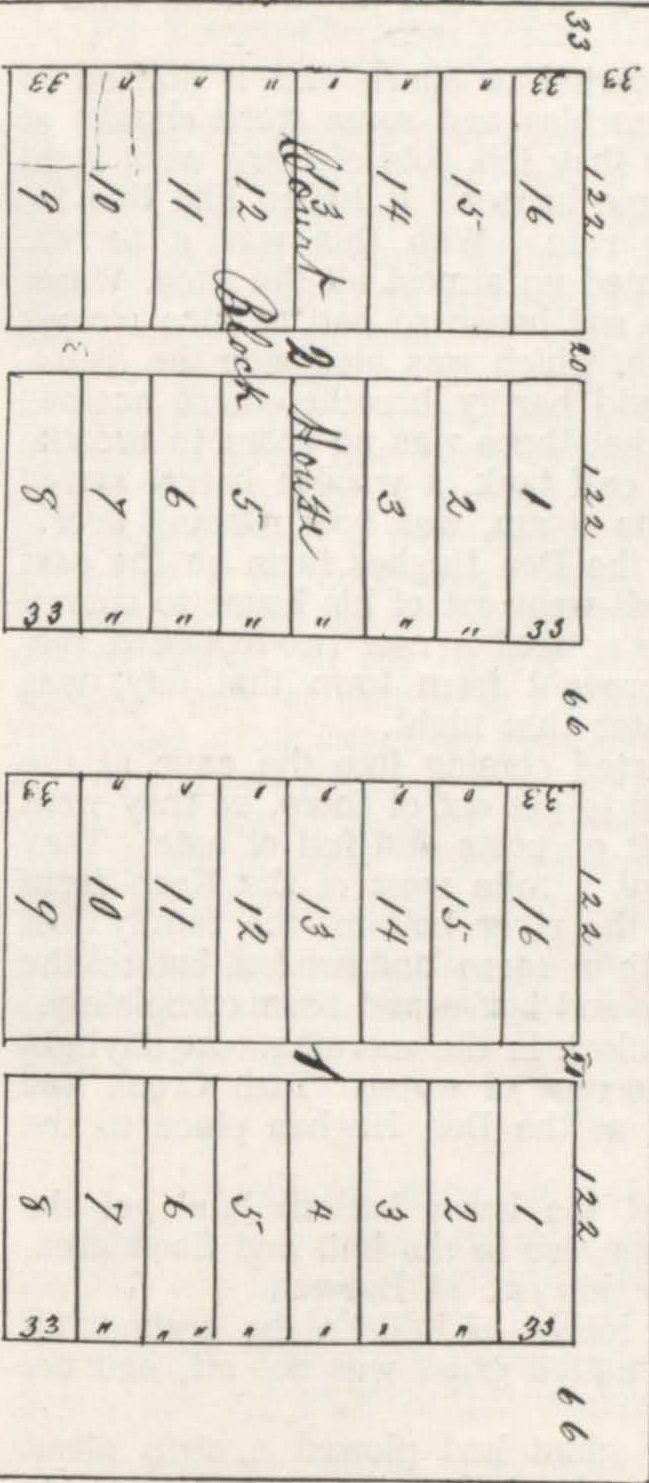
3rd Street

Town Site of

Filed Apr 1 - 1879

Greeley
County
Nebraska

#5



1st Street

THE CLOUDBURST FLOOD

It was on June 5, 1896, in the afternoon that a dark cloud started forming to the west of the Lamartine community. By four o'clock the cloud was so dense that it covered the sun so completely that it was almost like night. The chickens went to roost at four o'clock and every one was aware that some disastrous storm was approaching, a tornado is what they expected, but the cloud just hung there, and formed into a larger and larger cloud until it covered the entire valley.

At eight o'clock the cloud started to churn and it started to rain and hail, some were like marbles and some were chunks of ice as large as a softball. When they fell, lots of them went right through the roofs of sod and frame houses. It hailed like this for almost an hour with a pouring rain. With this was a terrific thunder storm. The sky was lighted up almost all the time. Water was coming into the C. E. Keep sod house so bad at nine o'clock they decided to go to a new cave, which was alongside the house. It was raining so hard they could hardly breathe—there seemed to be so much water in the air that there was no room to breathe in air. Mr. Keep noticed that a calf tank, a wooden barrel sawed in half that was empty before the storm, was now running over.

About this time, just east of the Don Hughes farm on the east side of the creek, Wallace Maxwell went out of his house to survey the damage of the hail, when he noticed a new two-foot-deep redwood tank which he had just brought from town that day, was running over—it washed away later that night.

At ten o'clock the water started coming into the cave at the Keep farm so they knew they had to get out of there, so they went to a new granary which was built on posts and full of oats. They spent the night there. Just about a mile west of the Keep farm there was a sod house down in the river bottom—the family just barely made it out of there with a team and wagon before the water got so deep it caved in the sod house and barn completely.

It stopped raining at three o'clock in the morning. At daylight the valley was still a swirling torrent of water. Fish Creek had over-flowed from the hills north at the Don Hughes place to the river.

The river now covered all of the lower bottom land yet the next morning, as Davis Creek was also in the hail and flood area, and they had a storm similar to this one at Burwell.

As there were at least eight inches of hail on the ground, all vegetation was cut off, even the native grass was cut off, and not a leaf was left on the trees.

The valley looked like some giant had plowed a strip about three miles wide slant-ways across the valley, the ground was that short of vegetation.

Al Weekes horses were caught on the lower Fish Creek bottom-land—the next day they were found across the river east of Cotesfield. Coufals and some other horses were washed down Davis Creek and were on the east side of the river all safe and sound.

When Charles Biskeborn had come home from town the after-

noon before the storm he had hauled cream and eggs to town, and because of the ominous cloud he had left two or three cylinder type cream cans thirty-six inches deep sitting upright in the wagon. The next morning they were running over. This is the only thing that could give an accurate measure of the rain, but settlers estimated it to be more than that, as it rained two feet in about two hours and that the total raintime was seven hours.

The Biskeborns lived where Esther Fillinger and Otto Gebhardt, Jr. now live, so were high enough to escape the flood waters.

When the settlers first came here, there was a big natural lake on a table land north and east of the Leonard Wells farm. A man by the name of Newhall owned the land that most of the lake was on. So like most early settlers, his first thought was to drain the lake so he could farm the rich lake bed. There was a hill about fifteen feet higher than the lake between it and the valley. This made it impossible to dig through as the only digging equipment at that time was a shovel and a plow. So in 1894, when the lake was at its lowest due to the drouth, Mr. Newhall got a 6" well drill and drilled on a slant through the hill to drain the lake. He had intended to force a well-casing in the hole but money was scarce so he put it off until later. When the flood came with its fury it washed the hole out so big the hill caved in and released the lake which washed out the large ditch which was later called the 'big washout' east of Cotesfield. I have often read about accounts of this being a big crack in the earth, but not so according to C. E. Keep—who had fished in this lake before the flood—and went over to see it a day or so after the flood. And believe it or not, goldfish were in all of these natural lakes in the early days. They were about a foot long and weighed up to two pounds.

As far as I know, George Weeks is the only living person who experienced the flood, so if you don't believe me, better have a talk with George.—(By Harold Keep)

PAWNEE INDIANS VISIT SCOTIA VICINITY

This story was told by the early settlers. In the early eighties the Pawnee Indians frequently passed through the Loup Valley on their way to and from the Niobrara and Elkhorn rivers on hunting expeditions. Often the Indians camped along the Loup River near Scotia and did considerable trading in the village.

One winter, so the story goes, someone shipped in 500 head of hogs to feed with cattle in the stockyards near town.

Cholera broke out and many of the hogs died. As they died they were hauled away to the outside of town. The Pawnees, who were camping along the Loup, appropriated the carcasses and spent most of the winter in the area feasting on the unexpected supply of pork.



PIONEER HOUSES AND PIONEER LIFE

The houses of pioneer days were very different from the houses you see in Nebraska today. The very earliest pioneers settled along the streams. There, where there were trees, they built log houses. Those who came later and settled upon the prairie had only one material with which to build. That was prairie sod. They cut the tough sod into blocks and piled it into walls, covering the top with poles, grass, sod and clay. Openings were left for a small window or two and a door. There were more of these sod houses than of any other kind. They were very comfortable, being warm in the winter and cool in the summer. They were often called "dobies."

Another type of adobe house was made of a mixture of clay mud, dry prairie grass and willow twigs. The willows were cut and hauled from the Loup River near Scotia. Posts for the adobe and sod houses were hauled from the Cedar Canyons near Fort Hartsuff, about 75 miles distant. A hole was dug in the ground and the posts set in about two feet, willows were nailed on the outside and inside of the posts, then a mortar, the consistency of putty, was made of hay or dry grass cut into short lengths, and clay mixed with water. It was often stomped with bare feet until it became like putty. This was poured between the willows. The process was repeated till the walls of the building were completed. When this hardened it was like rock.

The roof was made of poles and wood—sometimes covered with sod. Some roofs were made entirely of wood which was hauled from Grand Island—as were the windows and door frames.

Often houses were made by digging into a hillside. The top of the hole was covered with poles, grass and earth. A space was left open in one end, usually toward the south, which was used as a door. These houses were called "dug-outs." The floors in these were often nothing more than the bare ground.

Several early business buildings were built of chalk rock mined in Scotia's chalk hills. Blocks of this rock were cut and piled one upon the other to make the walls. Then a roof of wood was added. These buildings lasted many years—one is still in use today (1973).

These early settlers worked very hard to tame the prairie—to break land, plant seeds, build houses, churches, schools—and dig wells. The first wells were dug by hand.

All they had was the good Nebraska soil. Out of it they raised all they had to eat and sell. And out of it blossomed the splendid farms, homes, and people we have today.

The first houses of the settlers generally had but one room. A two-room house was something of which to be very proud. The room was usually twelve by fourteen feet in size with a door and one or two windows.

Usually a fireplace or cook stove served for both cooking and heating. Benches and stools were made of logs, too. The mattress was a big bed tick stuffed with straw or hay, and a little later with cornhusks. The house was often so crowded that beds were made up all over the floor.

All clothing, except a "Sunday Suit," were made for work. Boys, and some girls, went barefooted in the summer time. As a rule boys wore but one garment, the outer one. This was fastened over the shoulders by what were called "galluses." In winter they wore big heavy boots and rough woven cloth coats. The girls wore calico dresses, homemade woolen stockings and sometimes homemade knit shawls and rough woven jackets. The men wore heavy overalls, caps, big overcoats (sometimes made of horse or cow hides) or rough woven cloth coats, heavy boots that came nearly up to the knees.

Everyday food consisted of corn bread, fat pork, and in-season vegetables. Rabbits and prairie chickens were numerous, and easy to get almost every day.

"For fun" the children had pets—dogs, cats, calves, colts and chickens. Most boys had a dog that would hunt and drive cattle. A ten-year-old boy usually had a gun. Skating in winter and swimming in summer were the regular thing, whenever water (river, creek) were nearby.

Girls learned to knit, sew, wash, cook and drive teams, for everyone traveled by horseback, wagon or buggy.

For indoor games there were checkers, a string game called "catscradle," and sometimes, the game of authors played with cards. It was something when a family could afford a croquet set. Visitors came from near and far to play the game. Fox and geese was frequently played outdoors when there was snow on the ground. Children were happy and carefree with the whole prairie to roam over.

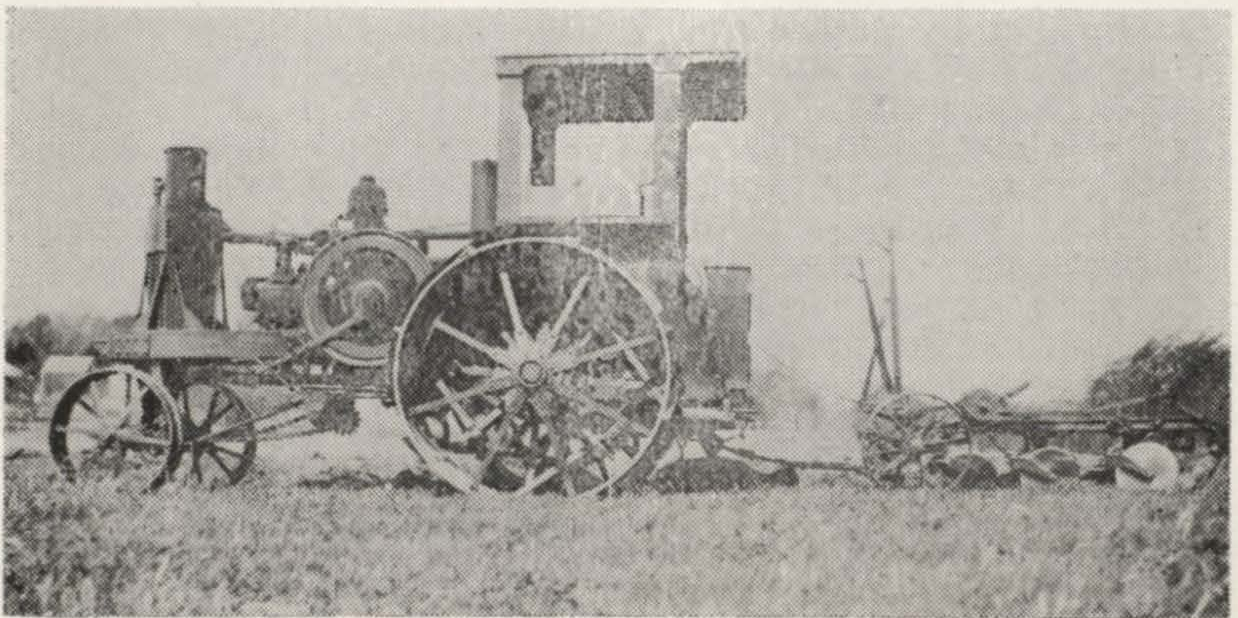
Every frontier farm had a shotgun and usually a rifle, to get meat for the table. Besides these, there were axes, spades, hoes, saws, augers, pitch forks, plows, homemade harrow, farm wagon, and sometimes a buggy. There was a large iron kettle to heat water for hog killing (butchering), and for making home-made soap.



Tallow was kept and candles molded for use during the long winter nights. Later kerosene lamps and lanterns became available.

Almost all homes had sickness. Fever and ague (chills) were the most common. People did not know that this sickness was the result of mosquito bites. They thought it came from the decay of the sod—when it was turned over by the plow. Quinine was the main medicine.

Operations were often performed on the kitchen table—many times by lamplight. Some patients made it, others didn't. Doctors usually rode horseback, or drove a horse and buggy to see their patients in the country. Many home remedies were used by the early settlers.



One of the first tractors in the Fish Creek community.

EARLY ENTERTAINMENT

As soon as a school house was built, it became the center for meetings, "for fun," and for other activities. Programs were staged by the children as well as the adults of the community. Square dancing, round dancing, literaries, music, play-acting, spelldowns, ciphering, readings, monologues, vocal music, and instrumental music were a part of the entertainment which was enjoyed by all.

Later came to the little village of Scotia, such entertainments as chautauquas, lecture courses, minstrel shows, band concerts in the street, and then the silent movies. Some of this entertainment was staged by traveling entertainers and speakers. In early days large crowds turned out to hear the local band's street concert.

The chautauquas were staged by a traveling group in the summer time. They put up a large tent where they entertained every afternoon and evening for a week.

A little later Scotia was fortunate in having an opera house (above a new brick store built by Daudt) where many of the dances and other entertainments were held.

Occasionally a revival meeting was held in Scotia in early days, usually under a large tent. It was at one such meeting that some young pranksters outside the tent got down on their hands and knees and peered into the tent. Who should they see right ahead of them but the town's greatest user of profanity! They decided to have a little fun at his expense, so they stuck him with a pin. He raised up, and just as the minister was admonishing all to give up "the error of their ways" he shouted, "Jesus Christ." "Hallelujah," said the minister, "another sinner has been saved."

Scotia once had a race track in the east part of town (where the Ketchmark family is living at the present time). The people of Scotia evidently enjoyed this sport for later there was a race track south of town (south of the Fred Poss place). McBeth is said to have had the best horses on the track.



Early Scotia baseball team.

THE BLIZZARD OF 1873

The blizzard of April 13, 1873, on Easter Sunday was felt by the settlers. No life was lost but many settlers lost livestock.

THE BLIZZARD OF 1880

The blizzard of 1880 (October 16), was known as "the hard winter." The early storms filled the canyons full of snow—banks often measuring 20 to 40 feet high.

THE BLIZZARD OF 1888

The blizzard of January 12, 1888, has gone down in history as being one of the most disastrous storms in the entire middle west. Great damage was done, thousands of head of livestock perished, and the toll of human life was heavy. The settlers were totally unprepared for the magnitude of the storm.

THE GRASSHOPPER INVASION IN 1874

The grasshopper invasion July, 1874, resulted in the complete destruction of all crops in one day. The grasshoppers came in black clouds so heavy that they obscured the sun. Crops, trees, grass—everything was stripped bare. After two or three days they left. Some settlers became discouraged and returned to their former homes. Those who stayed endured great hardships. Some of the settlers got employment at Fort Hartsuff which was being built at the time.

PRAIRIE FIRES OF 1887 AND 1889

Prairie fires were feared by early settlers. They were alert for signs of fire from early spring to late fall. Telltale signs of a prairie fire were smoke, a reflection of flames in the sky, or fine dust in the air and on the water. Any one of these were heeded warnings for the settlers. Fire guards were plowed around all farm buildings, school houses and hay stacks. In 1887 Austin Nurton lost several hundred bushels of grain and his barn. Mr. Keuhne, John Sautter and Mr. Vairy also lost grain and hay in the same fire.

On Davis Creek, March 2, 1889, A. H. Sweet lost his house in a prairie fire, and the school house was barely saved by neighbors. Firefighters used wet sacks and blankets to beat out the flames.

On April 1, 1887, a prairie fire on the east side of the river brought tragedy to the George Stuart family. There was no bridge there then and people were towed across the Loup in a row boat. Mrs. Stuart decided to visit her aunt, Mrs. John Hillman at North Loup. She decided to walk the two or three miles to her aunt's home. Sometime that morning the Stuart children could smell smoke. The fire passed their place before noon, but did no damage because of the fire guard around the place. In the afternoon the children set out to meet their mother who was to return soon. After they climbed the hill, all they saw on the other side was the black, burned-off grass. They discovered her burned body. She had never reached her aunt's home, but had turned back to try to reach safety. She was buried in April in a blinding snowstorm in the Scotia Cemetery. It is said that the fire was started by hunters who presumably had set fire in the ravines and on the prairie to flush out game. Mrs. Stuart was the aunt of Winnie Bartz.

EARLY BUSINESSES IN SCOTIA

Leading Business & Professional Men in Scotia listed in the 1885 Nebraska Atlas—

J. M. Marsh, cashier, Farmers & Merchants Bank, T. P. Lanigan, president, a native of Pennsylvania, settled in 1867.

W. N. Woodward, lawyer. Settled in Scotia in 1882, native of New York.

A. H. Floaten, merchant. Settled in Scotia in 1883, native of Norway. Dealer in dry goods, groceries, clothing, boots and shoes, hats and caps, glassware, and ladieswear. Country produce in exchange for goods.

A. M. Thayer, settled in 1875. Saloon keeper. Native of New York, choice wines and liquors, billiard and pool tables.

Lewis Herbert, county clerk. Settled in 1877. Native of Vermont.

T. J. Doyle, Jr., lawyer, settled in 1884. Native of Tennessee. Law, loans, real estate.

Thomas Roberts, proprietor of Commercial Hotel. Settled in 1878. Native of Wisconsin. Every convenience for traveling public.

Hamilton & Faucett, settled in 1884. Livery, feed and sale stable. Good teams, carriages with or without drivers, furnished on short notice, native of Illinois.

The following are listed in H. W. Foght's "Trail of the Loup:"

Cooper Bros., blacksmiths and wagon makers. W. T. Cooper came to Scotia in 1892 and opened his shop. E. A. Cooper, a partner with his brother, left shop in 1900—Corner Main and Second Street, Scotia.

Jay L. Clark, came to Scotia in 1885-1887. Engaged in hotel business (Delmont Hotel) for two years, then retired to real estate business in 1887. In 1888 he engaged in the livery business. In 1900 he built the Delmont Hotel, a 20-room house, J. M. Van Skike proprietor.

M. M. Hicks, came in 1896. Opened drug store, carried a \$2,500 stock.

J. S. McMillan, came to Scotia in 1878. In 1893 he engaged in real estate and loan business.

G. W. Fitzsimmons, moved to Scotia in 1891. Dealer in lumber, implements and furniture. From 1891-1902, the firm's name was Fitzsimmons and Graham and was established in Ord as well as in Scotia. After 1901 Fitzsimmons owned the business at Scotia, White Front Main Street, Scotia, Nebraska.

Dr. J. J. Pickett, came to Scotia in 1903. Received his medicine degree in 1885.

Fred Stanner, was born in Germany, came to Scotia in 1884. Was proprietor of the Scotia Meat Market. Had a regular meat trade and kept fresh oysters and fish in season. Also owned the ice business in town. The oldest butcher in Greeley County. Cash paid for hides.

Dee Vinecore, proprietor of Scotia Roller Mills in 1904. Scotia flour and cereal products were rapidly growing in popularity.



—Early Stanner meat market.

J. M. Van Skike, came to Scotia in 1877-1894. Owned harness shop. Carried a good line of harness and leather goods.

Dr. Charles W. Weekes, born at O'Connor, Greeley County in 1882. Came to Scotia in 1885 with his parents. Graduated from Scotia High School. Entered Creighton Medical College in Omaha in 1900 and graduated in 1904. Practiced medicine in Scotia with remarkable success.

Mrs. M. J. Wright, came to Scotia in 1876. Maiden name was Mary Bean, married Ed Wright in 1883, established their store, General Merchandise and Hardware in 1886. In 1896 Mr. Wright died and Mrs. Wright and two sons carried on the business—"theirs is the largest store in town"—stone building, East Main Street, Scotia, Nebraska. Ed Wright built store building from rock mined in chalk hills. Established store, general merchandise and hardware in 1883.

L. J. Troynor, first undertaker in Scotia.

Louis Smartwood, early day druggist.

James McMillen, operated livery and feed stable.

G. W. Scott and T. J. Doyle, law partners.

A. B. Story and John Sheldon, purchased grist mill from John Wertz.

Mrs. Gavin Craig, taught first small one-room public school in Scotia.

Judge J. J. Bean, in 1877, first postmaster in Scotia; also conducted a small hotel.

S. W. Bilyeu, became second postmaster in Scotia in 1882.

Thomas Buckley, located in Scotia in 1883. Opened plumbers shop.

Dr. O. Grothan, practicing physician in 1889.

B. C. Fisher and Charles Van Skike, operated a hay bailer and shipped hay.

Robert Hoy, opened a store.

Miss Minnie Watt, school teacher.

Andrew Cummins, contractor.

P. J. Kerrigan, Deputy in office of county clerk; also clerk of district court.

Miss Dessie Scott, teacher in Reed School.

SCOTIA BUSINESSES

January 6, 1898

Scotia Village trustees, E. A. Hadley, J. L. Clark, Paul Hullhorst, Harry Wright, D. Christy—J. L. Clark, chairman; Milan Moore, clerk; E. M. Humphreys, treasurer; Amos Sumner, street commissioner.

Mt. Hope Cemetery Association—E. P. Fish, clerk.

Auctioneer—Wm. Fellows.

Sorensen & Johnson—harness and saddlery.

J. D. West—County Surveyor and Real Estate Agent; also groceries, notions, candies, etc.

F. Burton (1899)—Dry goods, boots, shoes, hats, caps, full line of groceries.

Michael Sautter (1899)—Jack and stallion.

H. Tedhran—Contractor and builder.

B. F. Griffith—Attorney at Law.

Dr. J. B. Fickes—Greeley County dentist, Greeley Center.

Fred Stanner—Meat Market, fresh oysters, sauerkraut . . . two quarts for 15 cents.

J. D. Watt—Groceries, provisions, vegetables, fruits—eggs in trade.

W. C. Waldrip—publisher, Scotia Register.

A. F. Schilling—School shoes, tailoring, highest market prices for butter eggs, poultry.

L. Clifford—UPRR Agent.

County Officials—treasurer, E. Humphreys; clerk, James Fox; judge, J. B. Barry; attorney, J. R. Swain; sheriff, Marion McBeth; superintendent of schools, A. J. O'Malley; surveyor, J. D. West; coroner, Dr. G. S. Bowen.

Village Officials—treasurer, G. W. Fitzsimmons; clerk George Cooper; chairman, J. L. Clark; street commissioner, Elmer Lincoln; trustees, J. L. Clark, Elmer Lincoln, Robert Lincoln, John M. Sautter.

1902

Dr. Holson, dentist.

Wm. Gillespie & Co.—General Merchandise.

W. B. Weekes—Livestock and grain.

Fred Stanner—Small hams, 13 cents per pound.

Fitzsimmons & Graham—Furniture, well outfit (either put down hydraulic or casing wells). Harry Lyman in charge.

Clinton Fitzsimmons—Bicycle repairs.

Uncle John Bridwell, happy over his yield of wheat—196 bushels from four acres.

Rye yielded 25-33 bushels per acre; Lard 12½ cents a pound.

J. N. Keown—1 mile east of Scotia, all kinds of vegetables.
The buffalo of the plains fast becoming extinct—gold found in Vermont.

1904

Nebraska State Normal School at Kearney will be built of concrete stone at cost of \$50,000.

Scotia Mercantile Co.—Dry goods, clothing, groceries.

Mrs. E. T. Beushausen—Millinery.

Mrs. M. J. Wright—dry goods.

G. W. Fitzsimmons—lumber.

Dr. J. J. Pickett—physician, surgeon.

J. J. Bean—Attorney at Law.

B. F. Griffith—Attorney at Law.

Drs. Cook & Weekes—Physicians and Surgeons.

H. Krebs—Agent for Twentieth Century Steam Laundry.

J. M. Van Skike—Harness & Saddlery.

Harry Krebs—The Columbian Barber Parlor, latest style hair, cutting and blonding, ladies hair dressing, dyeing and blonding.

H. S. Sprecher—Attorney at Law.

Jos. Cernik—Merchant, Tailor.

Scotia Creamery—F. W. Edmunds.

A. E. Janing—Painting and paper hanging.

T. J. Stoetzel—Real Estate, insurance, farm loans.

M. M. Hicks—Druggist.

John Ries—Auction sale.

Bank of Scotia—Capital \$5,000.00, surplus and profits \$2500.00—
H. D. Coe, president; G. W. Fitzsimmons, vice-president; Clarence
Coe, cashier; Vincent Kokes, C. B. Anderson, T. H. Miller.

Drew Pearce—Shoe shop.

Fred Stanner—Meat Market.

J. D. Watt—Groceries.

Henry Kroeger—Saloon.

Millers'—Hardware.

Scotia Roller Mill.

“No houses for rent—suggest that someone build a few.”

Dance at the rink.

Opera house—Class comedians, peerless musicians, vocalists,
dancers, impersonators. *

W. B. Weekes—Mowers, rakes, binders.

Guy Cook—R. R. Agent.

Presbyterian Church—Rev. MacLean; officers, Henry Stoetzel,
Pickett.

Uri Tolbert, Greeley, or J. M. Van Skike, Scotia—Livery barn.

T. W. Cook—Auctioneer.

J. T. Morris—School supplies and furniture.

McMillen & Weekes—Real Estate, farm loans.

Town has grown and improved last several years—1907.

Dr. J. B. Beebe—1871-1877.



First Bredthauer store in old chalk rock building.

BUSINESSES LISTED IN OLD HOTEL REGISTER 1901-1903

J. L. Clark & J. S. McMillen, dealers in real estate, farm lands and town property of every description; taxes paid and collections made; money to loan on good farm security; livery in connection and no charge made where sale is made. Office, West Main Street, Scotia, Nebraska.

R. G. Applegarth, successor to Burton & Burton. Dealer in dry goods, groceries, boots, shoes, hats, caps, etc. A general merchandise stock—East Main Street, Scotia, Nebraska.

Uri Tolbert, commercial livery, Red Front Stable, West Main Street. Feed in connection and prompt attention given to all customers.

George H. Miller, hardware and undertaking; a general stock. East Main Street.

J. D. Watt, for fine fruits and vegetables go to the only place in Scotia. All sorts of candies, fruits, tobaccos, and top line of cigars; also a general stock of groceries. Across the street on the corner.

A. K. Johnson, manufacturer of harness and saddlery; collars, bridles, whips, fly nets, robes, etc. Repairing promptly and neatly done.

H. C. Waldrip, proprietor Scotia Register. Subscription \$1.00 per year. Job press in connection. East Main Street, Scotia, Nebraska.

Col. B. F. Griffith (1878), attorney at law, twice elected county attorney, Greeley County, West Main Street, Scotia.

Henry Kroeger, proprietor of the Exchange Saloon—where you can get all kinds of mixed drinks. Fine wines, liquors, and cigars. Main Street, Scotia.

J. A. Cantwell, manufacturer of tinware, and sheet-iron. East Main Street, Scotia.

W. B. Weekes, livestock and grain dealer, near depot, Main Street, Scotia.

Richard Bond, fine candies, confections, oranges, apples, lemons, fruits, etc. Temperance drinks of various kinds. East Main Street, Scotia.

J. B. Curry, blacksmith and wagon maker. Doane's addition, First Street, Scotia.

Harry Krebs, the only first-class tonsorial in the city. West Main Street, Scotia.

Albert Werner, operated store in brick building.

Rev. George Hillman, came to Greeley County in 1872. He first preached in homes—Captain Munson sent an armed escort to guard congregation from Indians. Elected Greeley County Judge in 1872. Lived near Scotia.

John G. Kellogg, came to Loup Valley in 1871 with Shepard, Scott and Steward. Claimed land above present day Scotia. Was one of organizers of Greeley County and was its first County Superintendent. Married Belle Scott, one of earliest women to come into the Loup, in 1879.

Miss Lou Watt, teacher in Greenborder school.

Father J. F. Hayes, came from O'Connor and held services every second Sunday of the month.

Other businesses mentioned in Register files and Edith McDermott book, "The Pioneer History of Greeley County, Nebraska, are: Andre House, 1897; John Sheldon, merchant, 1879; Stoetzel's Corner.

HOTELS

Scotia had two hotels in the early eighties—both doing a thriving business. The Andre House which advertised, "A table spread with the best the market affords," and the Commercial House, proprietor J. R. Connell, which advertised "Free bus to and from depot and also a sample room."

Jay L. Clark came to Scotia in 1885 and engaged in the hotel business for two years. In 1900 he built the Delmont Hotel, a 20-room house. It was the main hotel in the 1900's. James M. Van Skike was the proprietor, and it was owned by Jay L. Clark. People from practically every hamlet, town, and city in the state, and from many states are registered in its Hotel Register. It was a favorite overnight stopping place for the many salesmen who traveled from town to town by horse and buggy, horseback, or train peddling their wares. Guests without baggage were required to pay in advance. The rates were \$2.00 per day. All money, jewels, valuables, and baggage had to be left in the office, and checks received for them—otherwise "the proprietor will not be responsible for any loss."

The Delmont Hotel was known as the Clark Hotel in later years, and was razed just recently (1973).

EARLY FARMS AND OWNERS

Robert R. Hamilton, S. 26, T. 18, R. 20; 320 acres purchased in 1879, est. value \$20 per A. Grain and cattle.

James Lewis, S. 29, 32; T. 18, R. 11; 320 A., purchased in 1878, est. value \$18 per A. County Judge; grain and livestock.

D. Moore, S. 3, 10, T. 17, R. 12; 320 A., purchased 1873; est. value \$25. per A. Short Horn cattle, hogs, grain.

George Hillman, S. 24, T. 17, R. 12; 120 A., purchased in 1874; est. value \$40 per A. High grade Short Horn cattle, thoroughbred Chester White, Berkshire and Poland China hogs.

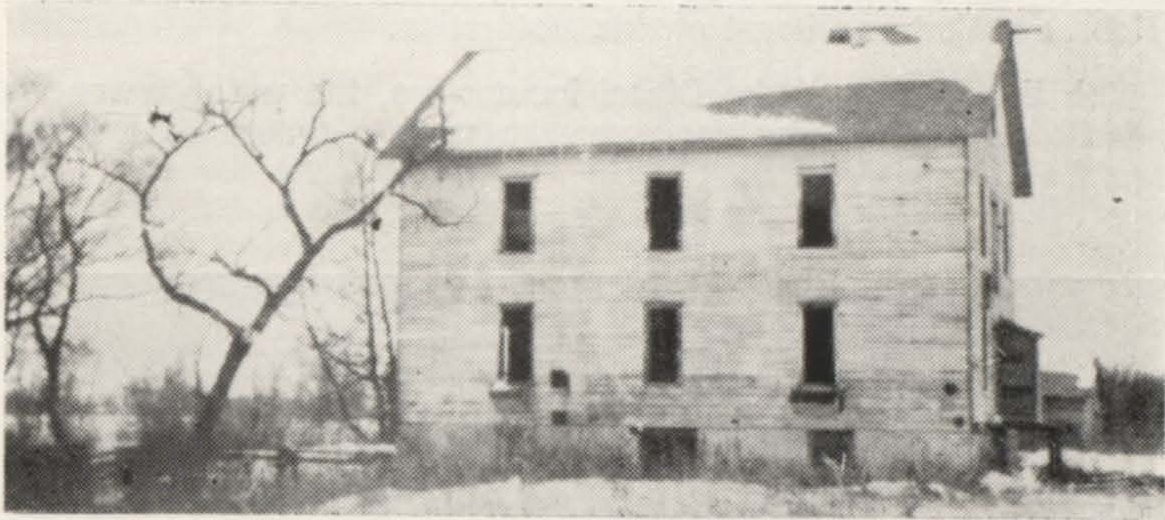
A. P. Fish & Son, S. 30, 31, T. 17, R. 11; 640 A., purchased in 1871; est. value \$25 per A.; hogs and grain. Very first to move onto farm in Greeley County, September, 1872. Very first actual settler in entire valley above Howard County.

S. C. Scott, S. 4, T. 17, R. 11; S. 32, T. 18, R. 11; 480 A., purchased in 1871; est. value \$25 per A. The first to prove up on Homestead in county; hogs and grain.

J. G. Kellogg, S. 29, 32, T. 18, R. 12; 160 A., purchased in 1871; est. value \$25 per A. Cattle, hogs, grain.

A. Shepard, S. 19, 30, T. 18, R. 12; 192 A., purchased in 1871; est. value \$25 per A. Cattle, hogs, grain.

T. B. Lyman, S. 3, 18, T. 17, R. 12; 200 A., purchased 1879; est. value \$25 per A. Shropshire sheep, Short Horn cattle, thoroughbred Poland China hogs, dairy.



GRIST MILL

The first grist mill in Greeley County was built in 1880 by F. M. Hawkins, one and one-half miles south of Scotia—at the bend in the river. Farmers from all parts of the county brought their wheat to be ground into flour. It has been said that the road to Scotia and the mill was well-traveled because of this fact.

“A. B. Story and his father, Zack Story, tore down the old mill and built a larger mill in 1891. Their mill made two grades of flour, 1st and 2nd graham flour on a flint burr, corn meal and buckwheat flour, besides grinding feed for livestock. The mill pond held many attractions. Fishing was always good and so was hunting, and it was used for power. It was later sold to Dee Vinecore in 1908.”—Excerpts from letter by Alta Story Hanna.

BELL TELEPHONE EXCHANGE

Bell telephone exchange was installed by James Votley Scott in 1904. James was a brother of Ed and an uncle of Alice Schudel, Fay and Sid Scott, and Doris Bottrell.

It was housed in a building where Scotia Electric is now located. The exchange was upstairs where Mr. and Mrs. Fielding Scott and Notley lived. Dr. Charles Weekes roomed with them when he first practiced in Scotia. Avis Daily Miller was a telephone girl.

Later B. W. Ammerman acquired the telephone system and ran the company known as the Scotia Independent Telephone Co.

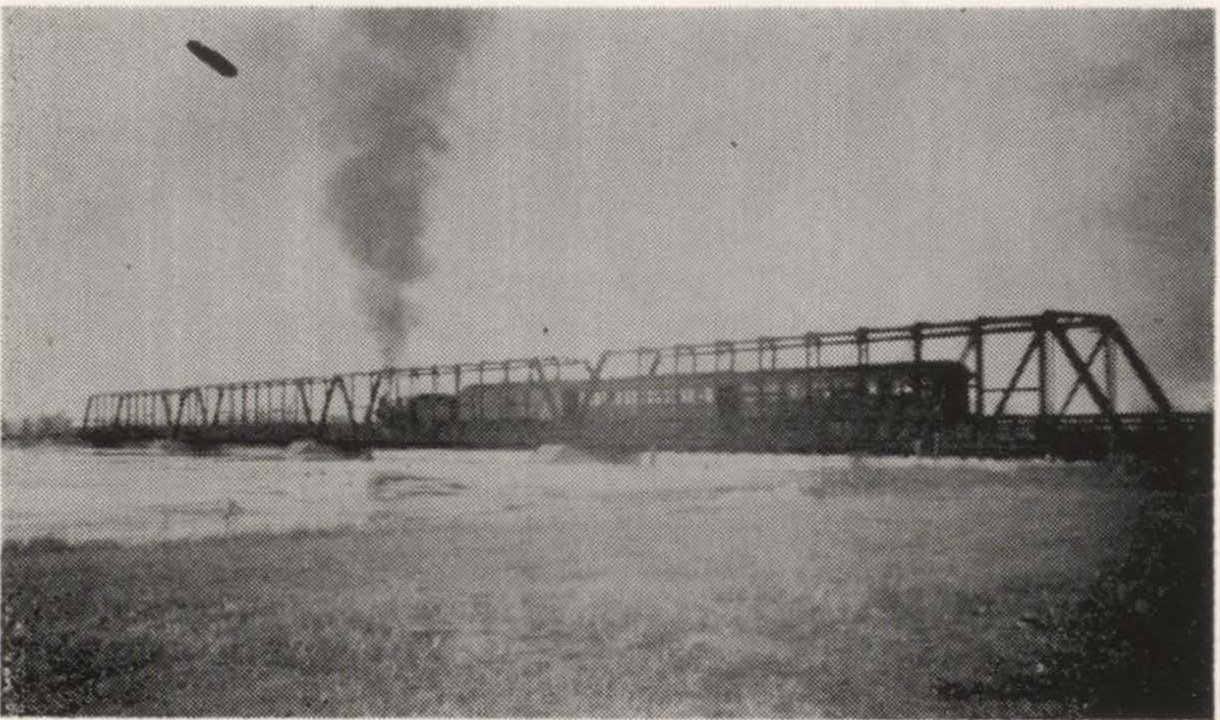
Currently the town is serviced by Rodeo Telephone, Inc.

SCOTIA JUNCTION

Scotia was by-passed by the Union Pacific Railroad when it built its line between St. Paul and North Loup in 1881. Then in 1883 the railroad built a spur into Scotia. At the point where the spur joined the main track they located Scotia Junction which consisted of a windmill and water tower where the steam-engined train took on water.

Scotia is unique in that the train backs into town from the Junction (and it still does at this time, 1973). It is the only town in Nebraska that can boast of this distinction.

With the coming of the Diesel locomotive, the water tower and windmill were no longer necessary so were dismantled in recent years.



Early day railroad bridge and passenger train south of Scotia.



SCOTIA NORMAL AND BUSINESS COLLEGE

After the county seat was moved from Scotia to Greeley Center, Scotia was left with the vacant courthouse building. It was then that some Scotia business men decided to put the building to use by organizing it into the Scotia Normal and Business College. Articles of Incorporation were filed in 1893 with Prof. Horn as mathematics teacher and Mrs. W. E. Morgan the music instructor. Professor George A. Wray headed the school.

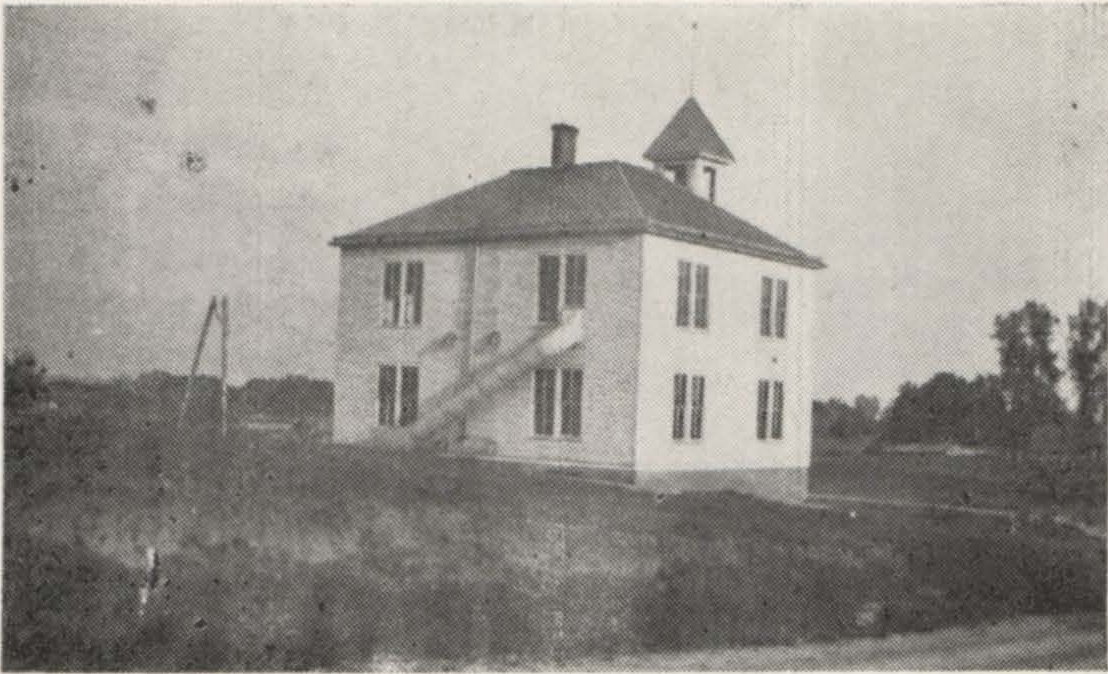
The school was very successful for a number of years. It afforded the opportunity for many of the area's young people to obtain higher education. Students were in attendance from up and down the valley. Efforts were made to have it accepted as one of the state's normal schools, but the bill did not pass.

In 1897 Sam Graham, J. M. Van Skike, A. B. Story, M. M. Hicks, Supt. T. J. Stoetzel and County Attorney J. R. Swain went to Lincoln to fight for the Normal bill. The bill was postponed, according to a telegram received by G. W. Fitzsimmons. Everyone in the area was greatly disappointed, and blamed the legislators from York, who were working for the interests of their own area.

The school closed during the hard times of the late nineties.

Later the defunct college building was acquired by the Ben Hur Fraternity for their meeting house—and was thereafter known as Ben Hur Hall.

During the 1940's the building was razed by W. P. A. workers, and the lumber was used to build the present Recreation Building.



SCOTIA'S OLD SCHOOL HOUSE

The old school house was located in the vicinity of the swimming pool (1973). It had four rooms—two upstairs and two downstairs. It was heated by large stoves with tin jackets around them. Water was carried from the well. Outdoor toilets stood on the school ground.

There were four teachers. At first there were only ten grades, then in 1919 the eleventh grade was added, and in 1920 the twelfth grade was added.

Some former pupils recall the many pretty flowers (flags) that bloomed beside the building.

The new brick school house was built in 1920. The first class to graduate from the new school was the class of 1921. Although the building was not yet finished, the stage was used for the graduation exercises.

In earlier days the old school had a number of colored children in attendance. One teacher in the lower grades employed an unconventional method of punishing the children in her room. She punished the 'naughty ones' by making them sit with the colored child. The children were named Dority—relatives of Uncle John and Aunt Dolly Bridwell.

Excerpts from teacher's record book Dist. 5, Howard County, 1870's and 1880's—includes some Scotia area teachers and residents—loaned by Bert Mallery.

The first pages are missing; the record begins complete in 1875 with Belle Scott as teacher. Pupils were Hazen, Tolon, Van Skike, and Conway families. There were nine pupils in all. Subjects taught and authors include: Reading—Hillard's; Spelling—Worcester's; Arithmetic—French's & Ray's; Geography—Morith-eith's; Grammar—Harvey.

In 1877 Emma Farrell was teaching. New families included the Gillespies, Wentworth, and Charles Beebe, who we believe was Charles' grandfather.

In 1878 Jennie Dudley taught. New families included Hull, Walters, as well as those above. Miss Dudley also taught in 1879.

In 1880 Eva Nye taught and the Wells children were added to the roll; as well as a Nye and Flanders. Eva also taught 1881.

In 1882 Eva Jennings taught; with Jennings, Suydam, and Rutherford as new pupils. She taught May, July and Chas. Coffin taught October-December with Stevens and Quick as new pupils' names. He also taught January-March. A Sonith child and Jakey Wells started this term.

Jennie Wood taught May-July with the Suydam child back.

Dessie Scott taught May-August, 1884 with a Whitney, several Newhalls, Smith and Bennett added to the rolls. She also taught September-November.

In 1885, the last entry, J. W. Jennings taught from September-December.

It should be noted the irregular terms held. The children were taught when work at home was so they were not needed as much. The ages of pupils vary from four years to 18 years. Schooling was hard to get in those times.

Visitors signing the register include such names as Maud Shepard of Shepard's Creek; Mrs. Joe Conway, Mrs. Farrell, Walters, J. Van Skike, Quick, Stephens, Jennings, Higby, Gillespie, Suydam, E. Fish, Parker, all Lamartine; Carrie Scott, Rev. Wood, George Farrell, all Scotia; and Mrs. John Van Skike, Mrs. Conway, Mrs. Jeff Van Skike, Nancy Conway, Mrs. Bassett, Newhall, Smith, Krebs, Gillespie, Quick, Charley Van Skike, all of Mound, Nebr. (This must have been a local name, as these lived in Lamartine area).

FISH CREEK SCHOOL STARTED IN 1879

The first Fish Creek school in 1879 was a dugout a half mile North of the site of the last Fish Creek school—District 2N. The first teacher was Margaret McMillen who lived three miles North of the school. She and her brothers walked the three miles to and from school each day.

Because of an influx of immigrants from Wisconsin, Indiana and Illinois, a new school facility was needed so a sod school house was built on about the same spot. One cold January morning in 1883 the sod school house was on fire. The books inside were burned a little. The teacher then was Frank Wood, son of the Methodist minister in Scotia. Pupils in District 12 in 1879 were Myrtie Griffith, Frank, James and Arthur McMillen, Henrietta, Martha and Dave Meyer, and Mary Sautter.

On January 29, 1920, plans were made to consolidate the two districts and build a larger and more modern building, then add the ninth and tenth grades, and employ three teachers. For a number of years there were three teachers, later two teachers were employed, then in last few years of its existence only one teacher was employed. The ninth and tenth graders were then sent into Scotia. The school was in existence until 1966 when all the children were bussed into Scotia.

**Notes from Jesse and Jennie Bonsall
Regarding the Presbyterian Church in Scotia
Most Taken from Old Ledger**

The Presbyterian Church of Scotia was organized in the spring of 1884 with the following members; some of whom moved, some dropped out and some died:

Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Latham, Mr. and Mrs. John Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stewart, Mr. and Mrs. D. B. M. Shockey, Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Lyman, Mr. and Mrs. Gavin Craig, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Webster, Mrs. Caroline Scott, Mrs. M. Barnes, William Mitchell, J. J. Davies, Jesse March, and Elizabeth T. Beebe.

The church building was where Harriette Waters lives now, being a eight-gable construction. It had a big round glass window in one of the gables.

As you entered the church you went through a fuel room where overshoes and overcoats were left. The church was heated with a large "Big Billy" stove with the pipe running the full length of the building. The entrance was from the south, as the west door had no steps leading into the building and it was three or four feet from the ground.

Jesse's father, Lemuel J. Bonsall, was one of the elders of the church for many years. According to the ledger he was a very active elder, seldom missing church.

Jesse's mother was a Sunday school teacher, also singing in the choir and active in ladies' aid. The children were baptized when young. Jesse was in a class of boys; among them Clinton Fitzsimmons, Willis Hicks, Alfred Beck, etc. There were 10-12 in the class.

By 1894 the church had grown considerably from the charter members; Bonsalls, Fitzsimmons, etc. joining in about 1892. (Noted several of my family on the role also.—J.M.) besides some of the charter members.

A report to the presbytery, April 1894, reads: Sabbath school: membership, 127; officers and teachers, 15; average attendance, 65; scholars who are members of the church, 94; total baptized scholars, 105; contributions support of school, \$95.00; church elders (moderator), George Ray, C. J. Arnold, M. L. Latham, L. J. Bonsall; church—added on examination, 50, by letter, 5; total communicants, 98; baptisms: adult, 20, infants: 8.

In notes of June 4, 1897.

Preaching, 10:30-11:30; Sunday school, 11:30-12:30.

1899—

A call extended to C. D. Williamson to serve this church for one year at salary of \$400.

The last pages of the dispersion of the church have been torn from the ledger; however Jennie notes that some of the lumber was used in the house where Harriette Waters lives and some of the material was sold to the Scotia Methodist Church. Jennie walked within a block of it going to the old school on the hill where

the swimming pool is now. The church had a large bell that tolled the age of the person who had died at each funeral.

Presbyterian Church (1898)—C. D. Cornell, superintendent; Louis E. Mumphrey, minister.

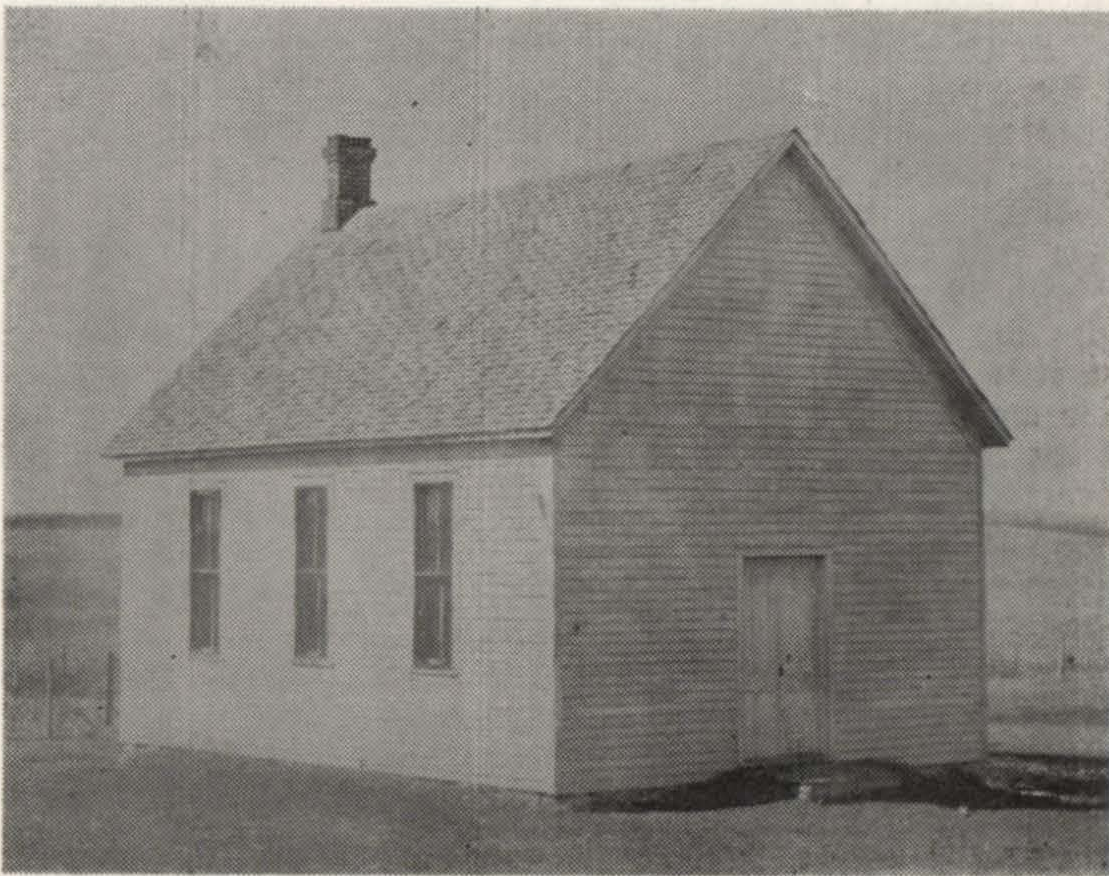
Presbyterian Church (1899)—Minister, Will J. Lowrie.

1897—Presbyterian Church, Evangelistic services, S. F. Graham.

(By Mrs. Clinton Fitzsimmons)

The last recorded membership in the book was August, 1908: Mr. and Mrs. Lemuel Bonsall, Edward Woodhouse, George Fitzsimmons, Theodore Stoetzel, Perry Luce, M. Brockway, Charles Dunkelburger, Charles Bilyeu, Wm. Standish, Harry Lyman, Wm. Scott, H. S. Sprecker; the Mrs. Belle Hicks, Krebs, Sharp, Bundy, Charriet Doane, McFarland, Miss Bessie Stoetzel, Ora Luce, Oscar Luce, Wm. Luce, David Reed, John Bilyeu, Nora Ferguson, Joseph Pinkerton, John Pinkerton, Racheal, Katherine and Robert Pinkerton, Mrs. Mary Wright, James Gillespie, Mrs. Jennie Gillespie, Mrs. Frymire, Mrs. Mahan, Claud Thomas, Mammie Stoetzel, Nellie Sulver, Lula Brockway, Mrs. J. McClain, Robert Lecky, Mary A. Lecky, Susie Stoetzel, Ethel Hicks, Ella Luse, Clinton Fitzsimmons.

Ministers who served the church included: Rev. George Ray, Rev. Thomas Sexton, Rev. L. Humphrey, and Rev. N. C. Johnson.



The old German Methodist Episcopal Church of Fish Creek, which was located $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of the present Salem United Methodist Church, on the south side of the road.



SCOTIA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

100 years ago—August, 1873—the Methodist Episcopal church class was organized in the home of the Rev. George Hillman, a few miles from Scotia. There were but few charter members, Mrs. A. P. Fish being the first class leader. This became the start of the Lamartine church which disbanded and the church sold to the Fish Creek congregation in 1929; members who had worshipped there united with the Methodist church in Scotia. A stone marker marks the position of the church on the old Jess farm currently owned by Clarence Sixel. This was set on the 60th anniversary of the M. E. church.

On June 9, 1873, the first Methodist Sunday school was organized with 28 names enrolled.

In 1876 the first religious services were held in Scotia. They were held in the first Greeley county court house, a very small frame building. At this time both the membership of the church and the Sunday school were somewhat increased from the small beginning.

In 1878 the first school house was erected in Scotia, and church services were held in the new school building for six years—until the erection of our own M. E. Church in 1884.

In 1879 services of the German Methodist Church began in the small Fish Creek settlement. For the first few years meetings were held in the homes or any convenient building. A church was built in 1886. The first pastor was the Rev. F. H. Shultz. Early members were the Charles Biskeborn family, the J. H., the J. C., and the J. G. Sautter families who became members of the Scotia Episcopal Church when the two churches combined in 1925, having attended there since the German Methodist Church east of town burned in 1919.

Early in the spring of 1883 the matter of a church building became a topic of paramount interest in the little town. Many of the first settlers had not entered a real church or heard a church bell in 10 years and it seemed a wonderful thing to plan a real dedicated church. There was perfect harmony in the minds of everyone that they would build a church. There was some little question as to location, plan of building and other minor questions, but the site was finally decided on. And Rev. Woods, the pastor, built a little cottage south of the site, and he and his wife occupied the site during his stay.

In September, 1884, the Rev. Welcome Smith was sent to us. In his youth, before he became a minister, he learned the building trade, and upon coming to Scotia, he at once began the construction of the church. He also built the first parsonage. The church was dedicated late in the summer of 1885. Dr. Shank, our presiding elder, came to officiate at the ceremonies. At that time Dr. Shank kindly presented the church with a beautiful chandelier.

The ladies' aid society of the M. E. Church is older than the church building, and has always borne a heavy share of the social and financial burdens of the church.

The first marriage performed in the church was that of George Scott and Miss Mary Gebhardt in 1885.

In 1926 the proposition of a new church was considered and the Rev. George A. Randall, the new pastor, found the general sentiment of the people to be in favor of using the old building in construction of the new. The Rev. Randall submitted his plan to J. R. Smith & Son and studied the possibilities. His recommendations were considered and accepted unanimously, and the old church was moved to the present location. The site had been purchased by the ladies' aid.

The old church became the main auditorium. To it were added a pastor's study, a choir room, overflow room, and a mothers' room. With this arrangement it is possible to seat 400 people.

Stained glass windows were given by relatives and parishioners in memory of their pioneer ancestors or other loved ones.

Behind the altar are windows presented by the Keystone Bible Class and Willing Workers Sunday School Class.

In the pastor's study are windows in honor of Rev. G. A. Randall by the official board and in memory of F. W. Bintz by Mr. and Mrs. John Bintz and Mrs. F. W. Bintz and family.

In the Sunday school room across on the east are windows given by the Junior Dept. and one by the Senior Dept. of Sunday school.

On the west in the main auditorium are windows in memory of Jessie Everett Vogt by Mrs. J. S. Everett and Mr. R. W. Vogt, given by the Ladies' Aid Society; in memory of August Gebhardt by Ferdinand Gebhardt and Mrs. A. Gebhardt and family; and in memory of J. A. Hamilton by Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Stubblefield.

On the east side are windows in memory of Leslie Scott by Mrs. L. E. Scott and family; Charles Biskeborn Sr. by Mrs. C. Biskeborn Sr. and family; David Locker; Mr. and Mrs. David

Moore by Mr. and Mrs. George McAnulty and Dr. Milan Moore.

In the mothers' room are windows in honor of Mrs. Randall by Women's Foreign Miss. Society; in honor of Mrs. K. B. Acker by Mrs. J. S. Everett; and in memory of Laverna Ruth by Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Ammerman.

In the overflow room are windows by the Scotia Epworth League; Crystal Chapter 43, O.E.S. and Crystal Chapter 191, A.F. & A.M.; and Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Beck Sr.

As the church is entered, the window presented by Arthur Sautter is the first one viewed.

In the 1950's the main basement room and south Sunday school room were combined; the aisles of the sanctuary were carpeted; electric organ added; kitchen remodeled; gas furnace installed; and chancel remodeled. In 1958 the 85th anniversary was celebrated.

A new electric bulletin board, loud speaking system, and new church doors have been added in recent years.

In 1968 we became part of the United Methodist Church when the Evangelical United Brethren and Methodist Churches combined. In 1970 we became part of the Loup United Methodist Parish consisting of Arcadia, Cotesfield, Elba, Mira Valley, Ord, North Loup, Salem and Scotia. The first years we shared a minister with North Loup and are now sharing with Salem. This year on August 12, we will celebrate our 100th anniversary in the service of the Lord.

Our roll of ministers include—Early, before church was built in town: Geo. Hillman, Orson Haskell, Shacklick, Pierson, John Donaldson, Aikman, Esplin, and Merton.

Later ministers, after a church was built in Scotia: Woods, Welcome Smith, S. A. Bear, D. E. Wertz, Lewis Campbell, W. A. Davies, J. M. Dressler, C. F. Heywood, Claycomb, J. S. Green, W. R. Peters, Elmer Day, W. E. Green, M. M. Long, J. F. Webster, Chas. Ford, Geo. Meade, W. N. Mecay, Geo. Hicks, J. O. Cresap, Jesse Monkman, E. V. Price, Geo. Randall, L. A. Moore, N. B. Calloway, W. C. George, Thomas Shepard, L. R. Hansberry, Samuel Mitchell, Carl Harbour, Merle Jones, Clarence Buehler, Stanley Ganzel, Charles Flickinger, Leonard Clark and Don Williams.





SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (Fish Creek)

As early as 1880 worship services were held in the Fish Creek community. They were first held in the homes of the Jake Sautter, Dave Locker, Fred Meyer, Charles Schilling, and Shutler families. Rev. W. Grobe, who served Mira Valley and North Loup, came to lead these services.

It was on April 28, 1882, that Rev. Herman Wegner with Rev. F. Backemeyer, presiding elder, met with these people and organized the group as the "Fish Creek Class." They continued to meet in the sod school house located about 1½ miles north of the present church, on the old Dave Locker farm, now owned by Jess Meyer. Later the group worshipped with Rev. W. H. Althaus as pastor, in the new school house built in 1885 about ½ mile east of the present church.

In 1892 the church acquired two acres of land from Herman Meyer in section 5 for the church building. The church today stands on this site. On July 5, 1892, ground was broken for the first building which Dave Locker helped the members build. On October 30, 1892, the church was dedicated as the "Salem Evangelical Church." August, 1919, following destruction by fire of German Methodist Church, one mile west, several members joined Salem.

This church was served with North Loup and Mira Valley until 1920 when Rev. C. Lewein was appointed to serve Salem as a separate charge.

In the summer of 1923 it was decided to build a parsonage. The building committee elected was: J. C. Schoemaker, John Yost, Irvin Schoemaker, Louis Wegner, Earl Schilling, George Sautter, and Rev. S. M. Dillow. A contract was let to J. R. Mitchell of Scotia. Work began March 25, 1924, and was finished July, 1924. This parsonage still stands and is in service in the town of Scotia.

By 1928, it was decided to enlarge and remodel the church building. The building committee, consisting of Louis Wegner, Earl Schilling, George and Ray Meyer, John Rodgen, J. C. Schoe-

maker, and Con Hermsmyer decided to purchase the Lamartine Methodist Church for the remodeling. This addition was completed without conference aid. Dedication took place October 20, 1929, joining the two oldest church buildings in the area.

The 50th anniversary was observed May 8, 1932, during the pastorate of Rev. Reynolds.

In 1946 the Evangelical and United Brethren in Christ denominations merged; hence Salem became Salem Evangelical United Brethren Church.

June 7, 1953, a severe windstorm damaged the building. Under the leadership of the pastor, Rev. W. Lenz, and trustees Ray Meyer and Con Hermsmeyer, the people repaired the damage and added a kitchen, as well as other remodeling. Rededication was November 1, 1953.

April 28, 1957, the 75th anniversary was observed during the pastorate of Robert Holbrook with an enrollment of 120.

In 1965, on June 27, the WSCS celebrated its 50th anniversary. This same year the Scotia larger parish was formed by uniting Elba, Cotesfield, and Salem in September.

During the 60's repainting was done inside and out. The basement floor was tiled and the aisles and chancel were carpeted. On April 30, 1967, during Nebraska centennial, our 85th anniversary was observed, during the pastorate of Rev. George Vavra.

In 1968, on April 23, the EUB and Methodist churches became the United Methodist Church.

In March of 1970, voted to enter Loup United Methodist Parish.

In 1971, new pulpit chairs and carpet in the foyer were added and in July it was voted to dig a well and put in water system with two rest rooms. In 1972 this was completed, and on April 30, the 90th anniversary was observed during the pastorate of Rev. C. Campbell. The offering received was used to purchase trees for Salem and the recreation center in Scotia as living memorials to the past and faith in the future. A tree was also given to help landscape the Scotia swimming pool by the Salem WSCS in honor of Rev. Arnold, who with his son, John, planted and nurtured the trees on the church yard when there was no water at the church. The 90th anniversary was dedicated to the memory of Rev. Vavra and Joni who were serving at Salem at the time of our 85th anniversary and who were killed in a tragic motorcycle accident.

Many great-grandchildren of the charter and early members of this congregation now worship in Salem church, a landmark in the community.

Charter members included Martin Schoemaker, Mrs. Anna Schilling, John J. Schilling, Mrs. Sophia Schilling, Mrs. Mary Locker, Fred Meyer, Mr. and Mrs. Shutler, and Miss Mary Shutler. Several others joined soon after.

Ministers who have served Salem include the Rev. W. Grobe, A. Fisher, G. Alstadt before official organization. Following organization the following served: Rev. H. Wegner, W. H. Althaus, C. Suhr, A. Fisher, O. Radinsky, A. Haas, H. A. Joghens, W. C.

Boelter, C. Fuehrer, A. Kersten, F. Rectlinger, George Hemkin, J. Scherbacher, F. Becker, J. J. Meyer, C. F. Schmidt, C. Lewein, S. M. Dillow, R. M. Reynolds, A. Langenberg, J. L. Arnold, W. H. Lenz, Robert Holbrook, Karl Zieman, Guy M. Savage, Leon W. Mindt, Joree C. Bennett, George G. Vavra, Russell A. Pfeifer, Clarence R. Campbell, and Leonard Clark. Rev. Don Williams is the present pastor.

FISH CREEK CEMETERY

The land for the cemetery was acquired from Herman Meyer at the time the property for the church was acquired. It lies in sec. 5-17-11 running 182 ft. on the north, 231 on the west adjoining the church property, 182 ft. on the south adjoining Highway 22; and 231 ft. on the east. A space of 16½ ft. is left around the outside edge, the alleys are 10 ft. wide, and the lots are 17 ft. square. The original plan is in the county clerk's office since August 6, 1962.

Some of the areas earliest pioneers are buried here. Alfred Borden, 1886; John T., son of the B. F. Griffiths, 1891; and Nettie M., daughter, 1894; Anna, daughter of Eugene and Pauline Rodgen, 1887; Pauline in 1916, and Eugene in 1929; Sarah Mosmy Maxwell, wife of Martin Maxwell, no date; Arthur Henry Daudt, no date; Mary Hetzler, 1900; Walter, son of the Anton Hepps', 1885; Anton Hepp, no date found; Frederick Miller, 1892 and Louisa P. Miller, 1896. Johnnie, son of Herman Meyers', 1889, baby son, 1896, no name or date, infant; Ellen, their daughter, 1905, Herman and Emma both 1925; John Locker, 1905; Clara Biskeborn, 1904; John Schilling, 1892, Lucy, 1926, and Fred, 1910; Louis Everett Gusner, 21 days, no date; Schoemaker, Martin, 1924, Anna, 1919, and Henry, 1901; Sautter, Anna, 1942, George, 1959; Fillinger, John, 1913; Brox, John, 1906, Mary Brox Johnson, 1944 and Edwin Johnson, 1916. There are four Wegner families—Mary, 1946, Carl, 1940, Christina, 1955, and son George, 1913; Wilhelm, 1929 and Wilhelminie, 1927, and Lucy, 1949, and Herman, 1940.

There have been no burials here in recent years, the last being 1959.

PIONEER CEMETERY (EAST OF SCOTIA)

An early pioneer cemetery is located east and south of Scotia in the hills near the former District 30 school house. This part was settled by a group of immigrants, some coming from Germany, others coming from Iowa and other parts of the U. S. They, for the most part, belonged to the German Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod, which was organized in this area in 1884 as a mission station with the Reverend Schroeder as the first pastor. Early members were the Carten Moeller family, John Jaeger family, Henry Schmidt family, and the George Klein family. Other families a little later were the Frank Daudt, Gottlieb Fox and the Rudolph families.

The land for the cemetery was donated by the Henry Schmidt family, and a plot of ground was donated by the George Klein family for the church site. However, the church building did not materialize, so the District 30 school house was built on this site.

Services were held in the homes of members until the school house was built, then services were held in it.

Some early pioneers who are still buried in the cemetery, according to the markers still standing, are: Herman Tedrahn, who died July 29, 1884, at the age of 59 years, 5 months, 9 days; Anna Corner, daughter of James and Anna Corner, who died April 28, 1899, at the age of three months; Carten Moeller, born April 22, 1834, in Holstein on the Rhine, Germany, and died of a stroke on December 24, 1907; his wife, Christena Margareta, born on April 21, 1837, died December 29, 1903.

Others buried here (Markers disintegrated) are: Henry Moeller, Jr., age 15 years (who was first buried on the Charles Goldfish farm, a cedar tree marking the spot north of the buildings)—whose body was later removed to the newly plotted cemetery; a man named Evans or Moyer who is buried in the extreme southeast corner of the cemetery; a young man of the settlement named Jim Waters, who committed suicide (it is said that he was given to excessive drinking). Since suicide was an unpardonable sin in early days, he was not allowed burial inside the cemetery, so his family buried him at night by lantern light immediately outside the fence. However, several years ago, the county re-fenced the cemetery, and now he rests within the cemetery.

George Klein, father of the late Christ Klein, and grandfather of Ella Malottke, also a small daughter of Christ Klein (Ella Malottke's sister), were first buried here, but later their bodies were removed to the Scotia Cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. August Schmidt and their small child (boy) were also buried here, but were later removed to the Scotia Cemetery.

Other reminiscences of this settlement some recall are that Mr. Tedrahn was struck by lightning—others think it was Mr. Corner who was killed by lightning while working on a chimney on the roof of a house on the present Harold Goldfish place.

Mr. and Mrs. Carten Moeller were the grandparents of Mrs. Frank Henke, and great-grandparents of John Farrell. Henry and Bill Moeller were brothers. Henry was the father of Mrs. Frank Henke, Bill was the grandfather of John Farrell.

Henry Moeller once owned the Charles Goldfish farm. They lived in a dugout south of the place where the frame house formerly stood, and was later moved. Mrs. Moeller was a Jaeger.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Schmidt were the parents of the late Otto Schmidt, and the grandparents of Paul Schmidt of Fish Creek.

August Schmidt was the uncle of Mrs. Henke's father.

Mrs. John Sautter (teacher John) was a Jaeger.

Mrs. Frank Henke's mother, Mary Joeger Moeller, came from Stockholm, Sweden in 1879 when she was but three years old—Mrs. Frank Henke was the former Lora Mae Moeller.

In early days several neighbors would go together and haul water from the Loup river to their farm. Even drinking water came from the river. One day the men got a late start, and so it was getting dark when they started home. Coyotes, very bold in early days, tried to chase, and to jump at the horses on the

wagons. The men unscrewed their wagon endgates and took the endgate rods to scare off the coyotes.

Times were often hard in early days and often food was scarce. One winter the Moeller family lived almost solely on corn which was ground in a coffee grinder. It was roasted for coffee, the corn meal made into mush, and into cornbread.

The Filers lived on the Dan Wegner farm, east of the road in a canyon.

Mrs. Henke's father, Henry Moeller, ran a threshing machine in early days—when they were first used.

Alma Bredthauer's father, the Reverend Hellwege, used to drive a team and buggy from Mira Valley to hold services in this Lutheran mission station.

Mr. and Mrs. Amos Henke were married in Scotia in 1888, later lived in Bartlett.—(Reminiscences of Paul Schmidt and Mrs. Frank Henke)



HISTORY OF ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

The present congregation had its beginning as a "preaching station" in the Fish Creek community in 1881. The Rev. E. G. Schroeder had been conducting services in a private home of the locality for several years, when under God's blessing and with the prayer for divine guidance, a small group gathered on August 10, 1884 and at that time organized the first Lutheran Church of the Missouri Synod in this community. The first officers of the newly-organized congregation were Messrs. Christian Jaeger, Henry Schmidt, and Carsten Moeller. The name chosen for this group was "St. Pauls," which then extended a call to Pastor E. C. G. Holm as its permanent pastor, who was also to serve as a missionary in this locality.

This small congregation of 18 communicant members grew and

prospered, so that in 1885 a Christian Day School was opened which continued throughout the winter months. The congregation numbered 30 members at the end of the second year. Services at this time were conducted in the home of Mr. George Klein.

In 1890 it was considered advisable to call a pastor jointly with St. John's congregation of Mira Valley. This arrangement continued until 1914, when a resident pastor was secured by both congregations. In the meanwhile services had been conducted in Scotia, where a goodly number gathered regularly for divine worship and the public hearing of the Word of God. During the pastorate of the Rev. R. G. Hellwege the members of the St. Paul's congregation joined the group in Scotia and reorganized under the name of Zion Lutheran Church.

In 1905 they erected a church building at the cost of \$1500, the members themselves donating the labor. This new House of Worship was dedicated the last Sunday of July, 1905. During the year 1943 it was remodeled and redecorated and a full basement added.

Nine years after the reorganization, in 1914, Zion congregation called its own resident pastor in the person of Candidate E. Wille. During that same year a school building was erected and dedicated to the training of children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and not only in the secular subjects. The following year, 1915, a parsonage was built.

In 1950 the church was enlarged and the school building was attached to the church.

In October of 1958, during Rev. Bellmann's pastorate, the building fund for the new church was started.

Miller property purchased May 5, 1963.

May 19, 1964—Rev. Rosenau was called as pastor in conjunction with the Ord congregation. From 1964 through 1971 Zion Lutheran Church, Scotia, and St. John's Lutheran Church, Ord were served as a Dual Parish with the parsonage located at Ord.

In March, 1966 the congregation voted to build a new church and sell the old church and parsonage.

On April 24, 1966, the last service was held in the old church.

The new church building was dedicated on Sunday, May 7, 1967. This took place during the pastorate of Rev. Rosenau.

In 1971, Zion congregation called its own resident pastor from the graduation class of 1971 in the person of Rev. Allen R. Fruendt.

In the summer and fall of the same year, 1971, the house that was purchased along with the Miller property was remodeled to be used as a parsonage. The parsonage was dedicated in the fall of 1971.

The following have been faithful servants of Zion Lutheran Church over the years from its original founding till the present day: S. G. Schroeder, E. C. G. Holm, A. Groerich, E. Just, H. Wallner, R. G. Hellwege, E. Wille, P. Kisteman, K. L. Rosenwinkel, A. R. Sander, W. L. Ernstmeyer, M. Keller, E. Brohm, A. Wagner, T. Moeller, K. Ernstmeyer, W. Bellmann, S. Rosenau, T. Zimmerman, P. Stohlmann, and A. R. Fruendt.



HISTORY OF THE ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH OF SCOTIA

The first Catholic church in Scotia was built in 1887. Scotia was a mission of O'Connor and Rev. J. F. Hayes was pastor. He and a few faithful Catholics built a brick church. He held services every second Sunday of the month with instructions for the children in the afternoon.

Mrs. T. P. Lanigan was president of the Altar Society, Mrs. Thomas Buckley, treasurer, and Mrs. L. J. Traynor, secretary. Mrs. John Thorpe, Mrs. John Kavanaugh and Mrs. T. J. Doyle were active members.

When Scotia was no longer the county seat the Catholic church lost many of its members.

About 1906 the church was struck by lightning and burned to the ground. Mass was held in private homes and in the Woodmen Hall from 1906 until 1911. Many of the parishioners went to Greeley, O'Connor and Ord.

Father Patrick Manning came to Burwell in 1911 and Scotia was his mission. He could not tolerate having Mass and services in such a slipshod manner and appointed John Ries and Jack Riley to solicit funds for a new church. With the efforts of Father Manning and a few faithful parishioners the present church was built.

A. C. Beck, a contractor from Crete, Nebraska, built the church at a cost of \$1500.00, which is a small sum in this day and age. However at that time, great sacrifices were made by the parishioners to make the church possible.

The church was dedicated in 1912 and the first marriage was that of Dan Sautter and Theresa Ries.

Scotia was again a mission of Greeley in 1915 with Father Feeney and Father McMahan making weekly trips to Scotia. In 1918 Scotia was a mission of Burwell, having Mass every other Sunday. Father M. J. Lawler was pastor from 1918-1921 and then Father (later monsignor) Thomas Murray was pastor until 1928.

Serving Scotia from Burwell was really a trial, the priest traveling dirt, or perhaps mud roads, for more than forty-two miles. If he came by train it was necessary to come on Saturday and remain overnight. In this case, the John Ries family would extend their hospitality though it was an inconvenience for both the family and the priest.

In 1928 Scotia's first resident priest, Father Schneider, arrived and lived in a rented house near the church.

Father Daniel Devine came to Scotia in 1929. He bought a fine residence for a rectory and had the basement of the church excavated for a social gathering place. With these innovations the parish flourished and some of the parishioners helping were the Rileys, Kinneys, Halpins, Yaxs, Burns, Whalens, Murphys, Stegers, Sinteks, Walkowiaks, Adamies, Ries and Sautters.

Then in the dry years of the thirties Scotia had a hard time supporting a priest. Father Devine was followed by Father Robert Maron and Father Muldoon. In 1938 Father Michael Szczesny was appointed to Scotia, serving until 1940. He remodeled the sacristy and landscaped the grounds, planting 100 trees.

From 1940 until 1945 Scotia was a mission of Wolbach and Father Robert O'Neill was the pastor. With the appointment of Father Constantine Shumski to Elba in 1945, Scotia became his mission. He preferred the Scotia rectory and lived here during his tenure.

Father Bernard Cabanski succeeded Father Shumski in 1949, also living here. He redecorated the church, installing new windows and light fixtures as well as remodeling the pews and repainting the walls in beautiful motif. Through the hard work of the par-

ishioners the rectory mortgage was finally paid shortly after the arrival of Father Cabanski.

Religious instructions were held two weeks every summer at Elba. The children were taught by the nuns from St. Libory.

Father Cabanski retired in August, 1971, and continues to live in the Scotia rectory.

Father Robert Karnish came to Scotia in August of 1971. He modernized the Mass, moving the altar to face the people and conducting the service and hymns in English. He drove from Grand Island each Sunday to have Mass at Elba and Scotia.

In August of 1972 Father Karnish was replaced by Father Walter Phelan, the resident priest of Greeley.

June 10, 1973, Father Ted Nekoliczak of Ashton replaced Father Phelan.

Study Club and Altar Society meet every first Tuesday of the month at the home of one of the twenty-five members. New study club books were distributed in February and Father Phelan was nearly always present to help with the questions. Officers are: Irene Murphy, president; Clara Ketchmark, vice-president; Martha Kluthe, secretary-treasurer; and Theresa Sautter, parish representative.

Father Phelan had religious instruction every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., taught by Sister Maria Rey and Sister Rita Marie, with forty-two children enrolled. Mass is said every Sunday at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., and on the first Friday at 7:30 p.m. Sister Rita Marie also leads the singing which has improved very much under her supervision.

In doing research for this history, I found some items concerning the Catholic church in Greeley County and Nebraska as follows:

First Mass in Nebraska at Omaha in 1855

First Mass in Lincoln in 1867

First Mass in O'Connor in 1877

First Catholic church at O'Connor in 1880

Present church at O'Connor built in 1904

The Sisters of Mercy had a boarding school at O'Connor in 1889, housed in a three-story building, however, they also taught a school for day scholars.

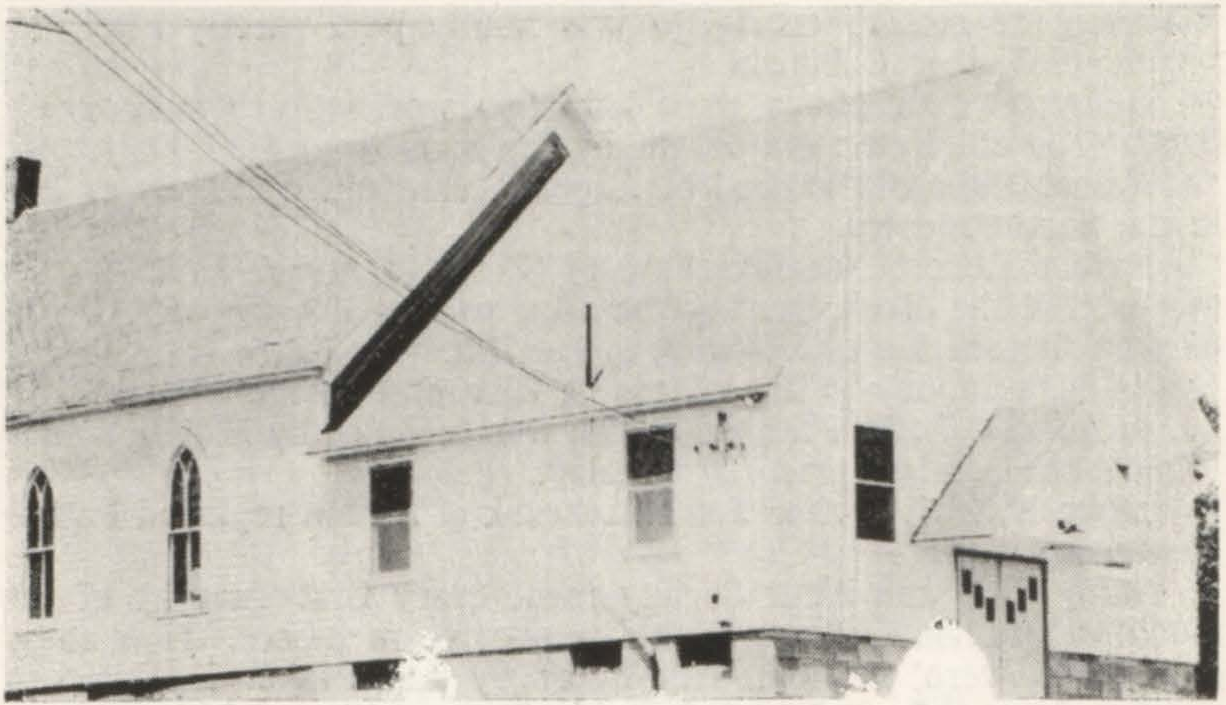
I have the Golden Jubilee supplement of the Nebraska Register and The Pioneer History of Greeley County by Edith McDermott to thank for information and dates for this history.

I have tried to make it accurate and if there are any errors, please excuse them.—Sincerely, Theresa Ries Sautter

EXCERPTS FROM THE PAST

In 1876 it was found necessary to raise taxes—the tax on land was raised to \$4.00 per each quarter section. Poll taxes were assessed at \$2.00 for each able-bodied man.

An elevator, owned by the Omaha Elevator Co. was located right south of the depot—it was struck by lightning and burned.



HORACE BAPTIST CHURCH 1910

HORACE MISSION CHURCH 1973

The organization was formed early in 1910.

Following is a partial list of the families who took an active part in the organization and building the Horace Church, the building was completed and dedicated the "Horace Baptist Church" in November 1910.

E. M. Applegate, William Johnson, Frank Moody, Carl Jensen, John Petersen, William Anderson, Al Jeffres, Ira King, Mark Hansen, James Jensen, and Rev. A. A. Berry who also became the first pastor of the new church.

Three members who served this church faithfully for many years were Mrs. Frank Moody, Sunday School Superintendent; Mrs. John Hoagland, Pianist; and Mr. E. M. Applegate, Deacon.

During the 63 years, 1910 to 1973, the church has had five resident pastors, serving in this order, Rev. A. R. Berry, Rev. Dan Burress, Rev. J. A. Whitman, Rev. G. E. Forssell, and Rev. Walter Grantham.

During these 63 years several changes have been made. The building has been remodeled, redcorated, refurnished and renamed, but the message remains the same.—(Submitted by Walter Grantham)



SCOTIA BAPTIST CHURCH

After a furnace explosion which badly damaged the church building, the Horace congregation purchased the church building formerly used by the Lutheran congregation before they built in a new location.

After extensive remodeling, the church was dedicated July 17, 1966. Part of the dedication reads as follows: "This is a day made possible by Divine providence, cooperative planning, praying and giving. We feel that God has led us all the way, and it is He whom we praise. We are happy in our new location and grateful to our Lutheran brethren for the opportunity to purchase this property and become a part of the Scotia community, where we may proclaim the wonderful message of Jesus Christ."

This church is now known as "Scotia Baptist."

Ministers who have served this church include: Rev. Walter Grantham, who had served at Horace 30 years and this congregation two years, before he resigned as pastor in 1968; Rev. Kenneth Christensen, and Rev. William Wilson, as well as those mentioned in Rev. Grantham's write-up on page 84.

Rev. Robert Pier, present minister, would like us all to remember this passage of scripture from 2nd Corinthians 5:17: "When someone becomes a Christian he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same anymore. A new life is begun!"

MASONIC LODGE

The first Masonic Lodge, Crystal Lodge No. 191, A.F. and A.M., was organized in Scotia, a charter being granted on June 20, 1891. Charter members included William H. Anderson, Alexander B. Campbell, Gavin Craig, Wellington C. Daily, Austin B. Emery, Ratzman Emery, Chester B. Fisher, Harvey L. Ganoe, Benjamin F. Griffith, Ole Grotham, Lewis Herbert, David W. Locker, Emmett Love, Loren H. Mallery, Walter Pearce, Ernest W. Phillips, John G. Phillips, John T. Price, Hiram I. Reed, Elisha Rogers, George W. Scott, Henry S. Sprecher, Theodore J. Stoetzel, N. Lewis Smartwood, James Van Skike, Charles T. Weekes, William B. Weekes, Theodore B. Whitney, Sherwood Wilcox, David F. Williams, Joseph D. Williams, Edward Wright, and Gansello C. Wright.

CRYSTAL CHAPTER NO. 43, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

The Scotia Chapter was organized and received its Charter June 14, 1892. The charter was signed by Nannie Price, Sophia Wright, Elfleda E. Wright, Lenore Hannon, Ella Swartwood, Georgie Grothan, Mary Scott, Emma E. Craig, Mary Hamilton, Kate Reed, Eniesce Stoetzel, Lee R. Love, Nora Weekes, Martha Sprecher, Francis Fisher, Sarah Phillips, Hattie Rogers, Mary Wright, Ella Ganoe, Sarah J. Shockey, Mamie Stewart, Carrie Whitehead, Maria Griffith and Dora Daily.

MT. HOPE CEMETERY

In 1881, the town acquired a cemetery when they acquired the land for the site from S. C. Scott and wife running thus: SW corner of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 4, T. 17, R 12 West of the 6th P.M. and running East 20 rods thence North 40 rods, thence West 20 rods, thence South 40 rods to the place of the beginning, containing five acres.—Signed Jan. 10, 1881 in the presence of S. W. Bilyeu and R. S. Buchanan—county clerk—Bilyeu.

This was part of S. C. Scott's homestead. The original trees were planted by John Kellogg. The Mt. Hope Cemetery Ass'n. was formed with S. C. Scott chairman; E. P. Fish, clerk; J. G. Kellogg, treasurer; with Gavin Craig and A. M. Stewart serving on the board. Some of the first lots were purchased by Mr. Craig, Mr. Fish, and Mr. Stewart. The older section of the cemetery is rich in Scotia's heritage and memories. If any one was ever curious as to my interest in this Scotia history, he need only stroll through the cemetery. The greater share of Jess's and my ancestors lie here and thus our children's heritage.

A few graves date to 1876; five years before the cemetery association was formed. This makes the burial ground almost as old as the town.

"For everything there is a season; and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born and a time to die."—Ecclesiastes 3:1-2.—(Joan Van Skike Meyer)

COUNTY SEAT RE-LOCATION (Who Stuffed the Ballot Box?)

The first election located the county seat at Lamartine, February 11, 1873. The second election on November 18, 1874, located the county seat at Scotia. The third contest was between O'Connor and Scotia, December 6, 1881.

In 1882, the Union Pacific railroad was extended from St. Paul to Ord, then into Scotia in 1883. This gave Scotia a decided advantage over the rest of the county, and Scotia felt secure, thinking that it would be the permanent county seat. Scotia then built a modern courthouse and presented it to the county. The town was steadily growing at this time.

However, the county population was increasing rather rapidly to the east—and Scotia was in the extreme southwestern part of the county. Some people had to travel 25 miles and more to reach the county seat, Scotia. There was much complaint and criticism over this.

The B & M railroad was building through Greeley instead of O'Connor and plans were that Greeley should become a division point on the Black Hills route.

Greeley citizens circulated many petitions among the farmers and the various towns, asking for a special election on the relocation of the county seat. More than the required names were secured. Scotia promptly filed a remonstrance against the petition. The election was held on January 17, and the first returns showed that Greeley lost by twelve votes—a two-thirds vote was necessary.

Several days later the returns were carried from Spring Creek precinct to Scotia, by way of Greeley, by Willis Gould and H. A. Hill, judges of the election. While Gould and Hill ate their dinner at the hotel in Greeley, someone abstracted the ballot box and the poll book. Sixty-one names and ballots were added to the Spring Creek returns. (There was mysterious business in the kitchen, the cook having been persuaded to visit a neighbor).

The two judges proceeded to Scotia, where they spent the night, delivering the returns to the canvassing board on the next morning. When the ballots were opened, the fraud was discovered and Gould and Hill were arrested. T. J. Doyle, Scotia attorney, was appointed to prosecute the case. Gould and Hill telegraphed to Greeley for legal help, and all four village lawyers, M. B. Gearon, J. R. Swain, J. R. Hanna, and G. A. Neuman responded to their appeal. They went to Scotia arriving at midnight.

The old files of the case, in the office of the clerk of the district court, disclosed that the complaint was signed by citizens of Scotia, Lewis Herbert, D. C. Hall, S. Wilcox, A. R. Pearce and Charles McMillian, before T. P. Lanigan, Notary Public.

On the 21st, the case was heard before Judge Parks, a motion had been filed by their attorneys to discharge the prisoners because of lack of evidence that Hill and Gould had committed the crimes charged.

However, the judge found, after listening to the evidence and argument of counsel, that there was a probability of the defendants guilt, and they were held to the District Court of Greeley County.

Patrick Hynes and P. M. Cadegan signed their bond as sureties.

The case was postponed and many witnesses were called for the trial, April 1888.

January 27, 1888, a long account of the trial is given. Hill and Gould were judges of the Spring Creek election, and Daily and Kennedy clerks of the election. They were unanimous in their statements that the election was conducted properly, that 47 votes were cast for Greeley and 13 for Scotia. That the ballots were counted and sealed as required by law. That on the day following the election they went to Greeley Center and a short time thereafter, a stranger appeared at the residence of Mr. Hill with an order purporting to be from him, asking for the precinct poll book. The mysterious stranger was said to be riding a "piebald" pony and headed for Scotia. Mr. Gould went on to Scotia, but arriving late, went to the hotel where he spent the night, but the returns were still in his pocket. The next morning he delivered the returns to the authorities, who proceeded with the canvassing of the votes. It was quickly discovered that 120 votes had been cast whereas only 60 were legal. They summoned Mr. Gould—he indicated his willingness to swear that the returns were false and to do all in his power to correct the "dastardly act that had unknowingly been perpetrated on his charge." The other judges and clerks were summoned and all swore to the correct vote. The Independent states that Mr. Gould and Mr. Hill were upright and honorable men and no suspicion had ever been attached to them before. Insinuation is made that the deed may have been done in the night while Gould was asleep at the hotel in Scotia because his door was not locked. Scotia citizens were highly indignant that any suspicion should be cast on them in connection with the fraud.

In September 1888, the Independent quotes from the opinion handed down by Judge Reese in the Mandamus action, ending with "Writ denied." Thus Scotia won but only for a time. Within two years the question came up again as to the relocation of the county seat, instigated by the Greeley citizens.

On August 12, 1890 an election was held—this time Greeley won and became the county seat. This had been a contest between O'Connor and Greeley. Scotia had tired of expense and controversy and withdrew, and made little effort to conduct a campaign. Greeley, not to be outdone by Scotia, built a two-story, brick court house costing \$5,000.00, complete with vaults and jail, the money having been raised by popular subscription. In the election Greeley had received 764 votes, O'Connor received 424 votes, and Scotia received but three votes.—Excerpts from Edith Swain McDermott's book, "The Pioneer History of Greeley County."

EXCERPTS FROM THE PAST

In 1880, there were sixteen school districts in the county. The teacher's pay ranged from \$15.83 to \$56.74 per month.

The very early Methodist Church in Scotia was located several blocks south of the present Ella Malotke place. It was a small building.



Pictured are "Nigger Amos" Harris and his wife. "Nigger Amos" accompanied the "Doc" Middleton gang for a time. Later Amos left the gang, settled on a ranch in the northwest part of Greeley County and became a respected citizen.

"DOC" MIDDLETON COMES TO TOWN

"Doc" Middleton, a notorious horse thief and outlaw of the early eighties, whose rendezvous was on the Niobrara River, it is said, once visited Scotia. He and his gang set up camp within the town, and with their drinking, shooting and general carousing, terrified the people but no one was in anyway hurt by their antics. He was usually accompanied by "Nigger Amos," a young and powerful negro, who had cooked for several cattle outfits before he joined the Middleton gang.

CIVIL WAR VETERANS ROSTER IN SCOTIA, 1887

S. C. Scott, G. P. Southerland, D. Benson, Jeremiah Pridemore, D. W. Locker, William Fuller, D. M. Van Sant, Moses Honeycutt, William H. Burgess, Fred Meyer, Martin Sautter, James P. Cooper, S. Wilcox, Amos Sumner, R. A. Standish, Charles Watson, Joseph Drawbridge, James Lewis, John Bridwell, H. S. Sprecher, O. J. Wright, James Van Skike, L. H. Mallery, D. W. Greenfield, J. W. Bilyeu, William Vance, J. Story, R. R. Krebs, J. J. Bean, and Anton Hepp who is buried in Fish Creek Cemetery.

The Civil War was but a scant six years in the past when the first settlements were made in Greeley County, near Scotia. Four-fifths of the first settlers in the Loup Valley had been soldiers in the war and were devoted to Abraham Lincoln and his political objectives. Politically, Greeley County for the first years of its existence was principally Republican. In 1876, Tilden, the Democratic candidate for President, received only three votes in the county, while the Republican candidate, Hayes, received thirty-eight votes.

PARNELL ROSTER IN 1887

Freeman Cary, George W. Babcock, Nicholas Neal, Ebenezer E. Howe.

B. F. Griffith included in Greeley Roster 1887.

HORACE ROSTER IN 1887

John Vanosdall, A. W. Simpkins, George E. Dennis, J. J. Wetzel, B. A. Delong, W. H. Swan, A. M. Stewart, J. L. Reed, Ed Stewart.

EXCERPTS FROM THE PAST

“George McAnulty was himself no mean Indian fighter and soldier, and was honored as one of our most substantial pioneers.”

The very first file on a claim in all Greeley County was by Alcie P. Fish of Fish Creek whose papers were executed in October 1871. About the same time, the grand old patriarch, S. C. Scott, settled north of Scotia. Alza M. Steward took a claim across the line in Valley County.

A map of Greeley County in 1882, shows that there were ten postoffices in the county—namely: Spalding, Troy, Leo Valley, Floss, Ellsworth, O'Connor, Eldorado, Chase, Lamartine, Summit.

Mathew Mullen dug a well 165 feet deep and at the depth of 145 feet dug up a petrified bone of a very large animal “believed to have been ten feet tall.”

A horse-drawn sprinkler was used to settle the dust on Scotia streets.

On July 4th the Greenfield Hotel burned.

In 1878 farmers put in their crops in February. The crops were good and so were the prices. Wheat was never less than \$1.00 a bushel.

A county safe was purchased in 1877, and warrants were issued to pay for it.

FIRST RECORDED FILINGS ON LAND IN SCOTIA AREA

The following records are the first recorded filings on the land in the Scotia area. These are from the patents given the railroads in 1872 to about 1900.

These are not always the first homesteader, as some abandoned the land before they had "proved up" on the homestead and someone else pre-empted it. Some neglected to have the claim recorded for several years so the dates are not an accurate record of when the family came to this area. We felt it to be interesting, however as the most complete we could acquire. We hope you will find your family mentioned here.—JM

Horace

Sec. 1; Twp. 18; Rge. 12

- W. D.—Elvina & James Jeffres, 1886
- W. D.—Liston D. Cory, 1892
- W. D.—Oscar Jacobson, 1879
- W. D.—B. P. Jeffres, 1897

Sec. 2-18-12

- F.R.R.—John J. Wetzel, 1886
- F.R.R.—Milton J. Daily, 1884
- F.R.R.—Henry E. Davis, 1881
- F.R.R.—Cyrus B. Blue, 1890

Sec. 3-18-12

- Patent—B&M Railroad, 1872
- W.D.—C. W. Wycoff, 1886
- F.R.—G. W. Stichler, 1885
- F.R.—John Salmon, 1885
- W.D.—C. W. Wycoff, 1886

Sec. 4-18-12

- F.R.R.—W. H. Swan, 1887
- F.R.R.—G. W. Stichler, 1890
- F.R.R.—G. A. Baker, 1888
- F.R.R.—W. H. Swan, 1887
- F.R.R.—G. W. Stichler, 1890
- Patent—W. H. Swan, 1892

Sec. 5-18-12

- Patent—B&W Railroad, 1872
- Deed—John Salter, 1900

Sec. 6-18-12

- F.R.R.—Paul Gebauer, 1887
- F.R.R.—R. W. Bancroft, 1885
- F.R.R.—W. Henderson, 1887
- F.R.R.—R. W. Bancroft, 1892
- F.R.R.—Joseph Krems, 1890

Sec. 7-18-12

- Patent—B&W Railroad, 1872
- Deed—Krems, 1893
- F.R.R.—G. Hayden, 1887
- Deed—A. E. Caldwell

Sec. 8-18-12

- F.R.R.—Isaac J. Moody, 1884
- F.R.R.—Isaac J. Moody, 1885
- F.R.R.—Ada A. Spearhawk, '87
- F.R.R.—F. Olsen, 1902
- F.R.R.—L. H. Bussen, 1888

Sec. 9-18-12

- Patent—B&W Railroad, 1872
- Deed—J. Bookwalter, 1885
- Deed—J. Houn, 1905
- F.R.R.—Maurice D. Johnson, 1885

Sec. 10-18-12

- All F.R.R.—M. Johnson, 1883
- G. W. Stubblefield, 1883
- B. DeLong, 1884
- J. S. Moody—1888

Sec. 11-18-12

- W.D.—J. Bookwalter, 1880
- F.R.R.—G. W. Jeffres, 1886
- F.R.R.—E. Stubblefield, 1885
- WD.—J. A. Jeffres, 1886-1887

Sec. 12-18-12

- All F.R.R.—W. Taylor, 1884
- J. Stubblefield, 1885
- Nancy Barker, 1884
- E. H. Stubblefield, 1888

Sec. 13-18-12

- W.D.—H. L. Hillman, 1884
- W.D.—G. P. Carr, 1896
- F.R.R.—A. W. Barker, 1888
- W.D.—A. Pittman, 1889

Sec. 14-18-12

- F.R.R.—A. W. Barker, 1885
- J. J. Jeffres, 1884
- E. W. Jeffres, 1882-1886

Sec. 15-18-12

- W.D.—Neils Jensen, 1886
- F.R.R.—S. D. Hogen, 1885
- W.D.—J. Bookwalter, 1880

Wallace Creek**Sec. 16-18-12**

W.D.—T. Whalen, 1905
Deed—A. Blombeck, 1909

Sec. 17-18-12

W.D.—Ira Lewis, 1882

Sec. 18-18-12

F.R.R.—J. Harlow, 1880
F.R.R.—J. A. Jeffres, 1889
Patent—A. M. Stewart, 1883
F.R.R.—H. N. Colby, 1882

Sec. 19-18-12

Patent—Benjamin Shepard, 1873
F. receipt—M. Shepard, 1885
W.D.—Octavia Wright, 1888
Patent—Daniel Benson, 1875
F. receipt—J. M. East, 1893
F.R.R.—Edwin Stewart, 1880
F. receipt—Cordelia Shepard, 1888

Sec. 20-18-12

F.R.R.—Sherman Fuller, 1903
Patent—John Blombeck, 1893
F.R.R.—F. Spearhawk, 1887
W.D.—Mary Thompson, 1889

Sec. 21-18-12

W.D.—John Bookwalter, 1880
W.D.—S. F. Benson, 1880

Sec. 22-18-12

F.R.R.—Heirs of Wm. Jeffres, 1890
F.R.R.—Elizabeth Jeffres, 1887
Patent—Richard Johnson, 1883
F.R.R.—Darius Johnson, 1881

Sec. 23-18-12

W.D.—John Bookwalter, 1880
W.D.—Charles Locke, 1894
W.D.—Jennie Hamilton, 1888

Sec. 24-18-12

F.R.R.—A. Phillips, 1886
Wm. Negley, 1884
John Hamilton, 1886
Jacob Sautter, 1886

Sec. 25-18-12

W.D.—John Bookwalter, 1880

Sec. 26-18-12

Patent—Nancy Hamilton, 1889
Patent—Wm. Hamilton, 1883
F.R.R.—Robert Hamilton, 1884
F.R.R.—Henry Hermsmeyer, 1901

Sec. 27-18-12

Cert. purchase—H. I. Reed, 1883
F.R.R.—Emma Calvin, 1887
Cert. purchase—R. Hamilton, 1884

Sec. 28-18-12

F.R.R.—C. J. Jenner, 1886
F.R.R.—L. C. Vandenburg, 1886
F.R.R.—R. A. Spearhawk, 1889
Patent—S. Sprecher, 1886
F.R.R.—W. A. Spearhawk, 1886

Sec. 29-18-12

Patent—J. A. Kellogg, 1880
W.D.—S. F. Benson, 1880
F.R.R.—T. M. East, 1888
F.R.R.—C. Lindwald, 1885

Sec. 30-18-12

W.R.—Edwin Stewart, 1879
Patent—Alonzo Shepard, 1880
F.R.R.—H. Burdick, 1881
F.R.R.—Martha Mann, 1884

Sec. 31-18-12

Patent—Alonzo Shepard, 1880
F.R.R.—Denton & Kilbourn, '85
W.D.—O. C. Horrower, 1884
W.D.—W. Townsend, 1886
W.D.—Colby & Miller, 1892
Patent—C. H. Wellman, 1881
W.D.—F. Miller, 1892

Sec. 32-18-12

Patent—Asahel Kellogg, 1889
F.R.R.—S. C. Scott, 1879
Patent—John Kellogg, 1880
Patent—C. H. Wellman, 1881
Patent—Susan Rosenburg, 1886

Sec. 33-18-12

Deed—Chas. Van Skike, 1906
W.W.—Martha Sprecher, 1905
W.D.—S. M. Axtell, 1888
W.D.—John Bookwalter, 1880
W.D.—H. W. Axtell, 1888

Sec. 34-18-12

F.R.R.—Henry Calvin, 1880
F.R.R.—Ed Whalen, 1883
F.R.R.—John Beck, 1883
F.R.R.—J. Crimmin, 1883
Patent—D. A. Roger, 1898

Sec. 35-18-12

W.D.—John Bookwalter, 1882

Sec. 36-18-12

T. F. Mahoney—no date

Scotia Township

Sec. 1-17-12

Railroad to Bookwalter, 1880

Sec. 2-17-12

F.R.R.—J. Phillips, 1884

F.R.R.—John Wagner, 1887

F.R.R.—J. Drawbridge, 1882

F.R.R.—Daniel Weston

Sec. 3-17-12

F.R.R.—Johann Wegner, 1885

CB&Q to T. B. Lyman, 1885

F.R.R.—David Moore, 1885

F.R.R.—Geo. W. Scott, 1887

W.R.—Fedelia Rogers, 1891

Sec. 4-17-12

F.R.R.—J. J. Bean, 1881

F.R.R.—Erford Wadsworth, 1883

F.R.R.—G. W. Babcock, 1874

Patent—Erford Woodsworth, '83

Patent—John L. Means, 1878

Patent—Geo. W. Babcock, 1874

Sec. 5-17-12

Patent—S. C. Scott, 1876

Patent—Mansell Davis, 1880

Patent—John Sheldon, 1880

Deed—P. J. Nichols, 1887

F.R.R.—John Werts, 1888

F.R.R.—Nicander Babcock, 1888

Susan Bond Rosenberg,
1890

Sec. 6-17-12

John Furrow, John Sheldon,
Sarah M. Jones, Marton Elliott,
Nicander Babcock

Sec. 7-17-12

Mansell Davis, Leonard Stich-
ler, Charles Arnold, J. K. Boh-
rer, L. H. Mallery

Sec. 8-17-12

Mansell Davis, James Rosen-
burg, John Werts, Gotfried
Weismuller, Jonathan Britt

Sec. 9-17-12

John L. Means, Leland L.
Doane, Heinrich Grosse, Joseph
Bant, Abram Axtell

Sec. 10-17-12

Horace Moore, Robert Bu-
chanan, Heinrich Grosse, David
Moore

Sec. 11-17-12

John Bookwalter, Geo. Mc-
Anulty, John W. Sautter

Sec. 12-17-12

Erford Woodworth, Abram
Axtell, Lavina Woodworth, John
Sautter

Sec. 13-17-12

Simon W. Bilyeu, John Book-
walter, Henry Kirkman

Sec. 14-17-12

Bennett Morse, Thomas Wat-
son, John Vairy, Martin Sautter

Sec. 15-17-12

James Wallace, George Far-
rell

Sec. 16-17-12

James Curry & John Werts,
Geo. Farrell, L. H. Mallery,
E. L. Van Horn

Sec. 17-17-12

John Bookwalter, Frank
Wheeler, James Atwell, Gavin
Craig

Sec. 18-17-12

Esther Davis, T. B. Lyman,
Matthew Mullin, Abner Davis,
Charles Arnold

Sec. 19-17-12

Frank James

Sec. 20-17-12

Alma Sweet, Daniel Rogers

Sec. 21-17-12

Chas. Rogers, T. Blanchard,
Ferdinand & August Gebhardt,
William Weeks

Sec. 22-17-12

Burnadus Mullenbeck, Abram
Cook, Susan Story, Jesse W.
Bilyeu, T. B. Simpson, Clarence
Gillespie

Sec. 23-17-12

Robert Nurton, L. J. Bonsall,
Ira Lewis

Sec. 24-17-12

Lewis Phillips, Harmon Ren-
shaw, George Hillman, Uri Tol-
bert

Sec. 25-17-12

A. L. Claypool, Robert Nur-
ton, Uri Tolbert, Charles Biske-

born Sr.

Sec. 26-17-12

John V. Alderman, John Buchan, Andrew Gillespie, Simon W. Bilyeu

Sec. 27-17-12

John W. Bookwalter, Z. Story, John & Joseph Herman, Morgan Krebs, Arthur Orendorff

Sec. 28-17-12

Almeda Cook, Reuben Davis, Edwin Hadley, Eugene Merrill

Sec. 29-17-12

Ernest A. Hamill

Sec. 30-17-12

Moses Honeycutt, Cyrus Sadler, Austin Sumner, Aretus Dunn

Sec. 31-17-12

Ernest A. Hamill

Sec. 32-17-12

W. C. Sadler, L. L. Doane, James Moore

Sec. 33-17-12

W. R. Seuthard, Ernest Hamill

Sec. 34-17-12

Charles Milisen, John J. Davies, Oliver P. McIntire, John H. Weir, Charles Barnes

Sec. 35-17-12

Rueben R. Krebs, Mary A. Herman

Sec. 36-17-12

R. R. Krebs, Andrew Nave, E. B. Fish, J. H. Kroeger

Center Precinct

Sec. 19-18-11

W.D.—John Bookwalter, 1880
W.D.—Charles McMillan, 1892
F.R.R.—Jacob Sautter, 1885

Sec. 20-18-11

F.R.R.—T. W. Thompson, 1886
F.R.R.—Anton Hepp, 1889
F.R.R.—Henry McMillan, 1888
F.R.R.—Charles McMillan, 1885

Sec. 21-18-11

W.D.—John Cannon, 1892
W.D.—Robert Milne, 1892
W.D.—Alexander Phillips, 1892

Sec. 22-18-11

F.R.R.—M. Fitzgerald, 1884
Margaret Smith, 1885
John Cannon, 1883
John Carr, 1892

**Sec. 23 to Sec. 27-18-11
(Out of Scotia Territory)**

Sec. 28-18-11

F.R.R.—Geo. Lincoln, 1884
Alexander Phillips, 1890
Henry Milne, 1893
John Byrne, 1890

Sec. 29-18-11

W.D.—W. J. Quan, 1880
James Lewis, 1888
John Bookwalter, 1880

Sec. 30-18-11

F.R.R.—Henry Thorpe, 1889
Patent—Jacob Sautter, 1890
F.R.R.—Fred Meyer, 1892
Patent—Fredrick Meyer, 1884

Sec. 31-18-11

W.D.—Henry Schilling, 1888
W.D.—Martin Westphol, 1883
F.R.R.—Levi Locker, 1888
W.D.—David Locker, 1886

Sec. 32-18-11

F.R.R.—Albert Lincoln, 1883
F.R.R.—James Lewis, 1884
F.R.R.—B F. Griffith, 1884
F.R.R.—Frank Brown, 1894
Patent—W. H. Thurnagle, 1898

Sec. 33-18-11

W.D.—John Dycke, 1888
Peter Brodine, 1898
Henry Nagel, 1894
John Bookwalter, 1880

**Sec. 34-18-11 — Sec. 36-18-11
(Not Scotia Territory)**

West Half of

Fish Creek Precinct

Sec. 4-17-11

F.R.R.—David Millihen, 1884

Sec. 5-17-11

W.D.—John Bookwalter

Sec. 6-17-11

F.R.R.—John Phillips, 1881

Sec. 7-17-11

W.D.—George Sautter, 1878

Sec. 8 17-11	William T. West	24-19-12
F.R.R.—Wm. Halpin, 1886	John B. Paddock	
Sec. 9-17-11	Milton J. Daily	
W.D.—John Bookwalter	Clifton A. Darrin	
Sec. 16-17-11	W. J. Quan	25-19-12
No name recorded yet	Eliza A. Polk	
Sec. 17-17-11	Wellington E. Daily	26-19-12
W.D.—John Bookwalter, 1880	Seth Smith	
Sec. 18-17-11	James B. Williams	
F.R.R.—Ralph Skag, 1881		
Sec. 19-17-11	W. J. Guan	27-19-12
W.D.—John Bookwalter, 1880	John W. Bookwalter	
Sec. 20-17-11	David Remick	
F.R.R.—William Clement, 1886	Ira H. Hillman	
Sec. 21-17-11		
W.D.—J. Bookwalter, 1880	Hugh H. Hillman	28-19-12
Sec. 22-17-11	David W. Greenfield	
W.D.—Schmidt	Francis M. Squires	
Sec. 28-17-11	Robert Sharp	
F.R.R.—E. Tedrahn, 1888		
Sec. 29-17-11	Zorah E. Patrick	29-19-12
W.D.—John Bookwalter, 1880	J. G. Miller	
Sec. 30-17-11	Robert Sharp	
Patent—Elihu Fish, 1881		
Sec. 31-17-11	Louis D. Pearce	30-19-12
Patent—Loring Gaffy, 1879	Charles Smith	
W.D.—Esther Fish, 1882	James M. May	
Sec. 32-17-11	James W. Cook	
F.R.R.—B. Gardner, 1885	Wm. C. Whiting	
Sec. 33-17-11		
W.D.—David Remick, 1883	Lorin & James M. May	31-19-12
	John Salter	
<hr/>		
S½—Parnell—T. 19; R. 12		
(Scotia's Territory)		
David Remick	19-19-12	Lewis H. Bressen
Rueben L. Walker		Lafayette F. Spearhawk
		Hector Hillman
Charles Stuart	20-19-12	Leslie J. Benson
Mark Williams		
Enoch R. Strawn		John W. Bookwalter
		Robert W. Foster
W. J. Quan	21-19-12	John Hillman
Louis E. Kuhne		Willis H. Swaney
Wellington Thornton	22-19-12	John E. Hillman
Marcellis B. Gates		Joseph D. Willoughby
William T. McLain		Ezra P. Daily
David W. Greenfield		
David Remick	23-19-12	W. J. Quan
William McLaughton		John W. Bookwalter
Samuel N. Wolbach		
		State of Nebraska
		36-19-12

EXCERPTS FROM THE PAST

In October 1882, Anton Hepp and Ignatius Bixeman, brothers-in-law, arrived from Indiana. They broke sod the first year and let it rot all winter, so they could plant corn in the spring. Crops were good until 1894, when hot winds burned the crops. Mr. Hepp was forced to sell cattle for \$12 a head because there was no feed for them.

Maps of the county were acquired in 1873.

Scotia once had a cheese factory, a small stone (brick) building along the road west of town on the north side of road. It was later made into a dwelling and was known as the Wetzel house. The factory was in operation in the early 1890's.

Watts ran a grocery store that stood where the Dulitz filling station is located today.

Scotia once had a brick factory located up Wallace Creek. It is said that the bricks in the Pete Foxworthy house were made in this factory.

There is a grave or perhaps several graves directly north of the electric sub-station (north of the Otto Gebhardt, Jr. farm) in the valley. The grave or graves north of the station are in a pasture across the road. It is remembered by some that there once was a small grove of trees nearby but today there are only a few trees left. One grave is located on the east slope of the hill. A man named Jube Shay, who was hauling hay and was killed in an accident, is buried here. His was the first white man's grave in Greeley County. One grave is that of a child of five months. Her body was later moved to the Scotia Cemetery.

The Bredthauer Store was once located in the building housing the Steffen Garage today (1973).

Amelia Bredthauer Seefus and Bertha Heyden were early organizers in the Lutheran Church in Scotia.

Fred Stanner donated some of the land for the former church site (Lutheran) in Scotia.

Fred Burton purchased a graphophone for his store which he purchased, April 20, 1899.

On October 4, 1874, the County Clerk was instructed to buy a stove and two cords of wood for the court house.

The Greeley Tribune in 1878 printed 500 copies of the Immigrant Edition of its paper to be distributed in eastern U. S. cities.

In 1884, the first bank was organized in the County—The Greeley County Banking Company, Lee Love, president; George W. Scott, cashier.

On September 2, 1884, the Merchant's Bank was opened, T. P. Lanigan, president; J. M. Marsh, cashier; D. C. Hall, T. C. Phaelan, A. H. Floaten, Lewis Herbert, directors.

Mr. and Mrs. Halpin, who came from Boston, Massachusetts, were early Fish Creek settlers. They had two boys and a daughter was born shortly after the Philips child was born.

L. L. Doane marketed ten carloads of hogs.

Shepard's Grove on the east bank of the river was a favorite picnic area.

EXCERPTS FROM THE PAST

In 1883, Henry McMillian, an early settler near Scotia, urged his cousin, Dr G. S. Bowen, who had just graduated from medical school in New York City, to come to Greeley County. He arrived via the new railroad late at night. When he saw the country the next day he decided to return to the east. However, L. H. Kuehne, the druggist, prevailed upon him to stay for a few weeks. He later located at O'Connor.

The mill, the railroad, and the county seat gave Scotia a decided advantage.

The long trips by ox teams and horses that were made to Grand Island, Columbus, etc., came to an end with the coming of the railroad.

On June 6, 1883, petitions were filed asking that the Village of Scotia be incorporated. The petition was granted by the County Commissioners. Among those who signed the petition were T. P. Lanigan, A. H. Floaten, D. C. Hall, Lewis Herbert, J. M. Marsh, W. E. Hannon, H. G. Bell, Lewis Smarwood, Charles Andre, D. B. Shockey, A. B. Lewis, E. E. Lincoln, G. C. Paxton, D. W. Greenfield, George Farrell, G. W. Scott, Richard Riley Patrick Tracy, Amos Sumner, W. L. Johnson, James Van Skike, B. C. Fisher, and Robert Hoy—Original Petition, Office County Clerk.

Albert Werner operated a store in the big brick building.

J. M. Bookwalter of Ohio in an early day spent two weeks with Mr. Moore, selecting land in Greeley and Valley Counties, acquiring some 40,000 acres for \$1.00 to \$1.50 per acre. He then resold it to settlers for a profit.

Arthur L. Orendorff, a manufacturer from Illinois, purchased forty-five quarter sections of railroad land through Mr. Moore's agency. The land was located in Greeley, Howard and Valley Counties. He established a ranch and engaged in cattle raising—running them on the range.

A few good crops, and the sod houses, sheds, and barns gave way to big barns of wood, followed by fine houses, many with an upstairs, and other fine farm buildings were built.

Mrs. Gavin Craig was the first teacher in Scotia.

Scotia came into existence in 1874, it developed slowly, having only three buildings in 1877, was the first town in the county.

Scotia's first postmaster was Judge J. J. Bean in 1877, who also conducted a small hotel.

Edward Wright managed the first store in the chalk rock building in Scotia—it opened for business in March 1878—and was owned by W. H. West of Grand Island.

J. N. Scott installed the first telephone system in Scotia. He was the uncle of Alice Schudel).

Ole Grothan was in business in Scotia in the early 80's. He sold pumps.

County population from Secretary of State's report: 1874—209; 1875—227; 1880—1,460. Estimated Presidential vote in 1884—3,515.

Fred Burton had a general merchandise store in the late 1890's in the old Gamble building recently razed (1973).

EXCERPTS FROM THE PAST

The Big Brick Store was built by Frank Daudt in 1904. He managed the Opera House (upstairs) and rented the lower floor. At one time the North part of the store was a meat market run by Mr. Stanner. The first store in the building was managed by Werner. Later Bud Badousek purchased the building. Roy Schoemaker and his dad operated a store in the present Lincoln Dry Cleaning building in 1918-1919 before purchasing the Big Brick Store from Mr. Badousek in 1920. The Roy Schoemakers operated the store until the Earl Lincolns bought it. At the present time (1973) Carl Kaslon is managing the store and it is known as Carl's IGA.

The apparition in the Chalk Hills! In early days some superstitious people believed that there was a ghost lurking in the Chalk Hills. It is said that some of the rock had a mixture of phosphorus in it. At night when the moon beams danced over it, the moon shining on it at a certain angle, the phosphorus became illuminated and the eerie specter had a ghost-like appearance. The ghost supposedly was protecting money hid in the Chalk Hills.

Graduation exercises, silent movies, dances, lectures, etc., were held in the Opera House (upstairs) of the Big Brick Store in the 'teens.

The first telephone was installed in the upstairs of a drug store on the corner, occupied by Ethel Hicks Ryne. It was hard to make people realize that they didn't have to yell at the top of their voices to be heard on the other end.

1874—Sioux war cry—said by Mr. McAnulty, to be the most blood curdling sound imaginable.

Australian ballots were not in use in elections until after a bill providing for their use was passed in January 1891 by the State Legislature. Hence many disputes arose after elections.

In early days traveling medicine shows with horse and wagon never failed to draw attraction. The gaudy painted sides and end of the boxed-in wagon were let down to form a platform, which was lighted by sputtering gasoline lights that flickered and flared while two or three performers sang negro dialect songs, cracked ribald jokes, or staged a play. Between acts cure-all medicines were sold, "positively guaranteed to cure any disease from dandruff to rheumatic fever." The medicines consisted of liniments, snake-oils, and salves. "His magnetic personality and persuasive voice fairly hypnotized the dollars out of the pockets" of many in the audience.

Negro Minstrel shows were other popular entertainments; traveling bears or other animals were used to give street performances.

Favorites in a community were baseball and horse racing. Practically every small town supported a baseball team in the late eighties and early nineties.

After the era of the ox team had passed, good work horses and fine driving teams were the pride of their owners — and much rivalry existed between various owners.

The first school in the County was in the Lamartine district in a sod house—the teacher of the first school was Belle Scott.



This German Methodist Church was located one mile east of the present Fish Creek Church. It burned in 1919.

EXCERPTS FROM THE PAST

The first examination for teachers was held at the home of Samuel C. Scott on April 25, 1873. His daughter, Miss Belle, passed the test and received a second grade certificate. Several others also passed the test.

In early days, before the railroad, there was a large two-story hotel and a very big barn in the vicinity of the Wells (Leonard) place. A small corner of the hotel foundation is still visible, having been saved when the building was razed. It was in this area that the river was forded by wagon trains. Caravans of settlers traveled through this area, making their way up toward Ord, then followed a valley through Montana on their way to Oregon.

Flag hill— the tallest hill in the valley is located east of the Cotesfield bridge.



EXCERPTS OF THE PAST

Behind the Wells farmstead on a high hill east of the place, the Indians used to hold pow-wows. The early settlers in the area feared the Indians, but long after the Indians had left the area, some of the settlers climbed the hills to see what they could see. They found many arrow heads, and an Indian grave. Because of the earlier largely attended pow-wow held there, it was presumed that it was the grave of an Indian chief.

Wm. Bredthauer Sr. built the Bredthauer Store in 1910.

In 1894 the County paid a bounty of \$3.00 per scalp for wolves. 328 scalps were brought to the court house in one day. They molested livestock, killing chickens, little pigs and calves. It is said that sometimes a wolf would chase or jump at horses hitched to a farmer's wagon.

At one time in early days there was a hotel on the present C. V. Linson land in the valley. There was also a large livery barn located here. The first people to live on the place after the buildings were no longer used by settlers, were the Clement family.





