



MEET THE VAN HORNS—Harry and Helen Van Horn, their grandson, Alan, and their daughter-in-law and son, Marian and Robert Van Horn. They are shown here in front of the Harry Van Horn home at the ranch southeast of Page.

### Hospitality Is Shown at the Van Horn Ranch

City people driving through Nebraska on Highway 20 may spot the lush, green valley east of the weighing station at the intersection of 20 and 275 but will never know the beauty hidden behind the hills which make up the countryside of the H. A. and Robert Van Horn Ranch.

On this ranch reside two families, Harry and Helen Van Horn and their son and daughter-in-law, Robert and Marian Van Horn. Very dear to all of them is Robert and Marian's son, Alan, who is five years old and ready

for the first grade next school term.

Harry and Helen were born and raised in Knox county, and were married in O'Neill June 20, 1916. They started their married life farming near Verdigre and on the edge of Holt county until 1929 when they moved to their present ranch which they later bought and now consists of 2,000 acres. Only one building still stands from the several that were on the place when they first took over.

It was homesteaded years ago by William Wunder. His son, Emil, still pays an occasional visit. Emil, who lives at Lake Park, to the Van Horns to recapture some childhood memories of the home place. He was 16 when he left there with his parents.

Marian and Robert were married May 31, 1948 and their home isn't too far away from the

school where Robert went for his early education, District 31.

The two couples live in smartly decorated homes built side by side with large expanses of neatly trimmed lawns in between. Harry's house was built in 1950 and Robert's house in 1948. Ornamental shrubs, colorful flower beds and gardens combine to make the place look like a residential area instead of a ranch out in the country.

Harry and Robert didn't plan to go into the purebred business originally. It started in 1937 when Harry bought 15 Hereford cows from the Britton Brothers at Taylor. These cows were purebreds and Robert got interested in their pedigrees and convinced his father that they should register the calves and go into the business of raising purebred Herefords. Later that year they bought 26 cows from George Christopher of Valentine to make up their herd of foundation females.

A drive over the ranch reveals quiet valleys with a lake, and pastures with new crops of frisky calves and fat curly haired cows.

The pastures are divided by fences that are all four wire with posts a rod apart with a steel post every 10th post for lightning protection and good solid corners.

The men do their own work with the capable assistance of Milan Welke, with the exception of putting up 1,200 to 1,500 tons of hay when they have the help of two or three other hands. Their usual ranch routine includes keeping close tab during calving, keeping the out buildings in good repair, riding over the pasture on their horses for constant check on their cattle. Their work is typical of that on most Sandhills ranches.

Being in the purebred Hereford business involves a lot of travel to various states as well as Nebraska to secure other bloodlines for herd improvement. The Van Horns, wives and Alan included, think nothing of driving

wherever necessary to buy Herefords of the highest quality to add to their herd. According to the Van Horns, "Half the fun of running a business like this is the enjoyment of making friends with people who attend these sales and running into the same folks all over the country."

Helen and Marian are well versed on the lines and characteristics of their Herefords and with a practiced eye, check the new crop of calves and discuss their top herd bulls such as F Zato Heir 25, Battle Intense 319, Real Prince Anxiety 371, and D Regulator Domino 23—all well known bloodlines in the Hereford industry. Both women belong to several organizations as well as keeping busy in their homes, helping on the place and accompanying their husbands on trips. They each attend WSCS of the Methodist church and belong to the Nebraska Cowbelles. Marian was recently elected to the executive board of the Cowbelles from District 2. Helen belongs to Facts and Fun Extension club and HOA club.

The big event of the year at the Van Horn ranch is the annual sale, to be held October 24 this

year, at which time the year's work is displayed for approximately 300-400 people. With the help of their good neighbors the Van Horns prepare for this sale which is held in a large tent on the ranch. Lunch is served by the King's Daughters of the Page Methodist church to the sale crowd.

The Van Horns are members of the American Hereford association, the Nebraska Hereford association, the Northwest Nebraska Hereford association, Northcentral Nebraska Hereford association, Holt County Hereford association, Nebraska Stockgrowers association and the Sandhills Cattle association. Robert is past president of the Nebraska, the Northwest Nebraska and the Northcentral Hereford associations.

You may not be able to get these quiet, reserved Van Horn men to talk much about their trophies, or their excellent business reputation, but one thing you can be sure of is a warm welcome and a kind invitation to join them at a meal. The Van Horns always find time to greet their many friends and business visitors.

### NEWHOUSE SUNDRIES

HEALTH PRODUCTS

Cosmetics — Jewelry — Photo Supplies

LIVESTOCK REMEDIES

CHAMBERS, NEBRASKA

Phones IV 2-2236 — IV 2-2946

### Welcome To The Fair

LUNCHES ——— BEER

Air Conditioned

AMOS AND RUBY TAVERN

CHAMBERS CORNER

### SNYDER TRANSFER

LIVESTOCK HAULING

Phone 6331

Atkinson, Nebr.

## EMMET HAY CO.

Dealers and Producers

Hay — Grain — Livestock

Phone 524-R1

Emmet, Nebr.

## ELMS MOTEL

Unit Phones

Air Conditioned Units — Rental TV

Highways 20 and 275

MR. AND MRS. LEONARD OLBERDING

Phone 798

O'Neill, Nebr.

BEFORE YOU ATTEND

### The Holt Fair

Let us put your Wardrobe in Spic-and-Span, "Like New" condition . . . our superior cleaning service will do that for you.

IDEAL CLEANERS

Pickup and Delivery Service

PHONE 775-W

O'NEILL



## Congratulations--

Our heartiest congratulations to the Holt County Fair!

GAS WATER HEATERS, GAS HEATERS  
GAS RANGES

Let us service your home with these modern appliances!

## MOTOR FUEL

(110 Octane)

"World's Greatest Fuel, Most Economy, Cleanest!"

Let Us Serve You

## DANKERTS SERVICE

O'NEILL — Ralph Seger, Phone 410-W

CHAMBERS — Eric Dankert, Phone IV 2-2101

