



On the Road With The Herald Traveler

(JOHN O. BAYNE)

Friday morning, after the great rain of Wednesday night, we continued our exploration of this great and glorious country. As we sped north we came upon C. M. Harigle, whom we had missed on our previous trip past his place, but this morning we found C. M. at work along the road and had a nice visit with him. Mr. Harigle came from Ohio this spring and likes this country very much better than Ohio where, he says, it rains too much and the mud is too deep. In our conversation he told us about one field of corn that he raised last year in Ohio that he hired out and partly husked that cost him \$2.50 more than he got out of it, besides all the work done by himself, and there was a good crop raised, too. Mr. Harigle is farming thirty acres to oats, thirty to spuds and 110 acres in alfalfa. He also raised spuds there, getting sixty bushels per acre of poor spuds. Mr. Harigle is not as new to this country as he might be for he used to ride the range when this country was new and went west a few years ago and did not like what he found, so had to come back to a good country.

F. M. Russell, who lives one mile west and two miles north of town is one of the old timers, having come thirty-one years ago from York county. He pre-empted a one hundred and sixty acre farm and lives on it today; the first man that we have found who was living on the original homestead. We have found several who still own the old homestead, but have moved off. Mr. Russell owns three hundred and twenty acres, has good improvements and plenty of this world's goods but is thinking of quitting farming. He is the father of our county superintendent of schools.

F. L. Westlake came to this county six years ago from Cass county and likes it very much better here; in fact, we don't think you could drive Fred away now, for he does not have to batch any more. We went to see him last week and he was away getting married, but Friday we found him at home and it is safe to say he will be found sticking around from now on.

From Mr. Westlake's we drove to Berea and the first place to stop was at the new home of T. A. Hawkins, who came out from Iowa four years ago and bought the land where now stands the city of Berea. He owns one hundred and six acres that he did not sell for lots to build on. Tom tells us that he has farmed in Iowa, Oklahoma, North Dakota and South Dakota, and says that this is the best and easiest place to farm he ever saw and that he would not trade the land he owns here for any land he knows of in Iowa. He is farming one hundred and thirty acres to wheat—and it is in fine shape—fifteen to oats and twenty-five to spuds.

We have been unfortunate most all our life, but today we were in luck for once. While we were talking with Mr. Hawkins he and Mrs. Hawkins invited us to go and have dinner with the school as they were having a picnic dinner, as it was the last day of school. There were some men there we wished to see and we had some excuse for going, so we went and oh, what a dinner we did have. To tell the truth, we did not feel as good after as before dinner and Sam Mundt, Tom Hawkins and Robert Mundt and some others we might mention will not want anything to eat for some time. Well, everyone had a good

time and it made us think of the days many years ago. There was ice cream and cake and everything that was good to eat. The two teachers did everything to have everyone have a good time and everyone thinks that they have the best teachers there is to be had, and we agree with them. Miss Nation is starting Tuesday for Des Moines for her summer vacation and Miss Swanson is going to Chadron to summer school, but we understand they both are coming back to teach this fall.

Lew Lawer came to Berea two years ago and bought one hundred and sixty acres of good soil and has it nicely fixed up. He paid seventy-five dollars and could have sold for one hundred, but it is not for sale at any price. Last year his wheat made twenty-six bushels per acre and sold for two dollars. He raised fifteen hundred and sixty bushels. Lew says he would not trade his farm here for the same size farm in the best part of Iowa. His spuds last year made from one hundred and thirty to one hundred and forty bushels per acre.

Harvey Cass came to Berea two years ago from Iowa and bought five lots and has a nice house and everything fixed up fine. Harvey is a plasterer and a brick mason and works at his trade all the time and says that he can do better here than he could in Iowa, and he would not go back, for this country just suits him.

C. H. Cass came here from Iowa four years ago and started the first store in Berea and is doing well. He has about a three thousand dollar stock of general merchandise. He also runs the postoffice and is well satisfied here.

Edwin Whitaker is another merchant in Berea. He has been in Berea about a year and likes it fine. Mrs. Whitaker was raised in this county. They like the business very well and are doing well.

Just north of Berea is the home of William Mabin, one of the old timers in this country, who built the first house that was built by settlers in Box Butte county. This was in 1834. He owns one hundred and sixty acres half a mile north of Berea and is farming twenty acres to wheat, forty to corn, ten to oats and ten to spuds. Mr. Mabin has been here longer than any other man we have seen so far and says that crops will grow with the least rain here of any place he knows of.

Saturday morning we started out south of town to see what we could find and who we could see, and the first place we came to was that of H. and E. Beal, just south of town. We found Mr. Beal just starting his Case tractor to go to work. The Beals own all of the South Alliance addition and one hundred and twenty acres of valley land, eighty of which they are putting in to Bliss Triumph potatoes for the southern trade. They are gardening in addition to potato planting and have fifteen acres in sweet corn, one in strawberries, and cabbages and tomatoes. Mr. Beal was at one time a druggist, but says he likes the farm better and thinks this the best country to make money farming that he knows.

James Dickey came to this country before there was any Box Butte county, as it was Dawes county then, and has lived here ever since. Mr.

and Mrs. Dickey live all alone, as their children are all married and gone. They are operating a small dairy and do no farming, having the farm into grass. They own one hundred and sixty acres one mile south of town.

Mike Banhoff came to this county fifteen years ago and is operating a market garden and is doing well. He has twelve acres and cultivates it all for small garden truck. Mike has two acres of onions that are ready to use now and finds ready sale for everything he can raise.

In the few weeks we have been here we have been asked the question several times: "Have you been out to Schilla?" and so Saturday we made a special trip out to see what we could find of interest there, and we were surely well paid for our trip. We found Mr. Schill at home and he had time to show us around. It was quite a job to see all the things of interest on the farm of nine hundred and sixty acres. In the first place we had a nice visit and we learned that L. J. came to this country thirty-three years ago and that he was a poor man when he came here. We also learned, but not from L. J., that he is one of the substantial men of this county. Here we found the best dairy farm we have ever inspected. It is forty feet wide and eighty feet long and is built for twenty-four cows, equipped with the best stanchions and everything up-to-date. On the other side is arranged for seventeen horses and the loft is large enough to hold seventy-five tons of hay. The house is new and modern from cellar to garret and is one of the most convenient houses we have seen for many moons. The front room and dining room are finished in oak and the staircase is solid oak. They have a mantle and a fireplace in the front room and he also has a mantle in the basement, where he has a den fixed up for himself. It is nice enough for a front room in anyone's house. The water supply is the best we have ever seen in any farm house. He has his own electric lighting plant and also an automatic electric pump that is so arranged that if you draw a pail of water it will start the pump and it will pump the same amount, and Mr. Schill tells us that it has never failed to work. Mr. Schill is farming one hundred acres to corn, sixty to oats, and has fifty acres in alfalfa, and he can use all the hay, for he has thirty-five cows and is milking twenty-eight at the present time. He sells all the mill and cream to the Alliance creamery. Take this place as a whole, it is one of the best we have inspected in years.

Monday morning—early, but not bright—we started out to see what we could find in the city, as we did not care to go too far from town the way the mist was coming down, so we confined our labors to close in. The first man we interviewed was Mr. Wolf, Freamuth, who came to this county thirty-two years ago and owns twelve hundred and eighty acres of land ten miles east of Hemingford and a nice property in the city. They are getting ready to move out to the ranch as they do after school each year. Mr. Freamuth is farming one hundred and fifty acres to wheat, fifty to oats, ninety to corn, thirty to rye and twenty to spuds, and has sixty acres in alfalfa, from which he cut three good crops last year. Mr. Freamuth tells us that he homesteaded a part of this land in 1889 and still lives on the homestead. Wolf came to this country without anything but his hands and a good determination, and has made good, for he has the big farm well stocked and it is not for sale.

Just outside of the city to the north is the home of E. P. Woods, who owns eighteen acres where he lives and 640 acres northeast of town. Mr. Woods came here when the city was one year old and has seen it grow from a few shanties to the city that it is today, and says that this is the best country for a poor man to get a start in that he knows anything about.

James Austin has been here only one year, but long enough to like the country better than Indiana, where he came from and where he was reared. James is a machinist and works in the shops from 4 p. m. and is off at 12, and then he has time to farm. He is farming to potatoes and garden and has ten acres of alfalfa. He also is breeding Belgian hares and tells us that he can sell them as fast as he can produce them at 75 cents each, and it seems to us that they are cheap, for they are fine.

R. E. McCool came here twenty-three years ago and likes this country better than any place he has ever lived, and he came from a very good country, too. Buffalo is hard to beat. Mr. McCool is operating two hundred and thirty acres of good soil and has forty acres in wheat, sixty-five in oats, fifty-five in corn and seventy-five in potatoes. R. E. says that spuds are the best crop to raise here, as he raised one hundred and sixty-five bushels per acre last year and sold for one dollar per bushel, and we think that is some money for one crop.

B. F. Frederick is another one of the Burlington employees. He is a clerk in the yard office and is raising Belgian hares. Mr. Frederick came here from St. Joe, Mo., three years ago and likes this country fine. He says that it beats Missouri all hollow. Anyone wanting Belgian hares can get them of him for 75c each.

Harry Smith, who lives just north of the fair grounds, came here from Indiana two years ago and says this beats any country for a young man to get a start in that he ever saw, for wages have always been better here than most any other place and that he would not go back east to live.

R. C. Athey came here from Cedar county nine years ago and likes this country fine. He is a traveling man for the Warren Refining Chemical company, but thinks this is the place for a young man to get a start.

Joseph wisniller came here when this country was new and has seen the

ups and downs of the new country. He has had his fences cut and cattle run off as well as all the small troubles the farmer had to contend with in an early day, but now he has retired and is living in town, has ten lots and a comfortable house and is taking it easy.

F. R. Allen came to this country when Valentine was the nearest railway and they freighted their goods with ox teams from that town. Frank

says he never saw a year yet that a man could not make a living for a family and have some over if rightly managed.

G. H. Simpson has been here for thirty-three years, farmed for fifteen and has lived in town for eighteen. He now is engaged in the truck and transfer business. George came here the same year that Alliance did, but the city has grown faster than he has. George will haul anything any place

you want to go and his phone is 506. M. J. Beal, who is a mechanic for the Miller White Truck company, is having a tussle with the measles at this time, but will soon be as good as new. He came from Missouri two years ago but would not go back as he thinks this country better as there are greater opportunities for a young man.

One dollar is not much to help the Campfire Girls. Do it.

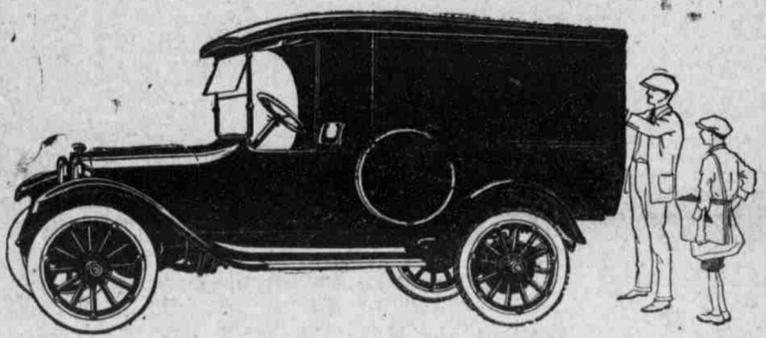


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