

## Doctor Ira, 83, in Enforced Retirement

(Continued from page 1.)

relief. He is suffering from the rare Puget's disease, which he describes, for the layman, as a honeycombing of the bones. But his memory treasure is rich with stories of being a country doctor.

He established his first office in the corner of the building which now houses the Lynch-Herald-Enterprise.

There was no drug store here in those days and it was necessary to go to Niobrara for medicine. But eventually a small hospital was built. Quite a few years were to elapse before the present Sacred Heart hospital came on the scene.

Doctor Ira's round-the-clock mercy missions frequently took him into Holt county. This meant fording the Niobrara (there was no Redbird bridge in the early days). He would drive his team to the river where Bill Wilson, sr., would meet him with a saddle pony.

The grey, soft-spoken doctor

recalls the time he was called to the Coral McElhaney home near "old Dorsey", where young Ted McElhaney (now district court reporter of O'Neill) had cut his arm. Without anesthetic, doctor was obliged to sew up the lad's wound.

### Three-Day Call

One of the most difficult trips, the doctor recalls, was a call made to the Tuck home on Steele creek where Mr. Tuck operated a grist (flour) mill. Mrs. Tuck was in need of medical aid, a blizzard was raging, snow was deep and Doctor Ira set out in a bobled, crossing the Niobrara on the ice.

Thomas James, who lived on the Crow ranch, rode horseback alongside because he knew the landmarks better than the doctor. It was a veritable sea of snow and ice. Mr. Tuck came part way back for help escort. Enroute back, Mr. James removed snow-laden branches from the trail in order that the team could get through.

Three days later Doctor Ira was back at his office.

This country doctor was the proud owner of the first automobile in Lynch. It was a snappy two-cylinder Holman with a rope drive. Top speed was 20-miles-per-hour. Folks would come for miles just to see the thing. Farm kids would carry the shiny brass on the headlamps.

Despite all the advance notice of the Holman, the doctor would never set out in it alone. He found it practical to take along a mechanic.

Boyd county hills were tough to negotiate. The engine would "die" about half way up the incline. The mechanic would scurry out and block a wheel, crank her up, and carry on.

There were times Doctor Ira might have saved some time (and wear-and-tear on the nerves) if he had walked the distance.

Courtesy of the highway and the law provided that a car must halt when meeting a team of horses. There was always a risk



## Reorganized Jaycees Elect Officers

New officers of the reorganized Junior Chamber of Commerce chapter here are: Seated—Frank McKenny, director; Duane McKay, president; Bud Godel, treasurer; standing—Ed Thar-nish, director; Elroy Lieb, secretary, and Ted

Kyster, vice-president. Allan VanVleck is retiring vice-president. State Jaycee Vice-President James Borland spoke at the O'Neill reorganization meeting.—The Frontier Photo.

of a runaway. This meant more cranking of the sputtering two-cylinder job. The engine would get overheated easily, too. More delays.

### Soldiers Unruly

In the early era the soldiers from Fort Randall would drift into town, especially around pay day. Occasionally, there'd be some rough stuff (usually among the soldiers) and Doctor Ira would be called out with his sewing kit.

One old soldier, who quit the military and began farming, believed that he could bring a stop to the roughness in the town's saloon. The effort failed and Doctor Ira had to sew the man up one Saturday night.

Ray Sedivy quit running the saloon because of the trouble. Ultimately, George Sedlacek brought the situation under control. He kept several spokes from a wagon wheel within easy reach. Occasionally, he used a spoke to restore order. The remedy worked.

"Some of the soldiers at Randall were mighty fine fellows, but there would always be two or three of them who would manage to get into trouble after a visit to the saloon.

"Several of the soldiers quit the army after Randall was disbanded and established homes. They became good farmers and raised fine families," the doctor recalls.

A medical officer at Randall ultimately rose to be surgeon-general of the army during World War I. Doctor Ira spent 18 months in France and Germany as a major in the medical corps.

Gen. John G. ("Blackjack") Pershing, head of the allied expeditionary forces, had been a reserve officers' military instructor at the University of Nebraska when Doctor Ira was studying premedicine at Lincoln

for two years. "Never encountered either one of these two men in Europe," the doctor remembers. "One day 'Blackjack' was inspecting troops. Being the medical officer for a division, I was not required to stay in the ranks, so I passed it up."

Doctor Hoover was the first medical man into Boyd county after it was opened up to settlers. He had a homestead north of Bristow and practiced medicine.

Saturdays were big days in the early history of Lynch. There would always be a few horse races and two or three fights.

### Wife Is Dead

Doctor Ira's wife, the former Florence Elsie Whipple, died five years ago.

He spends many hours reading until his eyes grow weary and then turns to puzzles. He is a member of the Wesleyan Methodist church and regularly attends church. When weather is bad he hears the sermons by tape-recording.

"Modern society is moving too fast," he observes behind a pair of spectacles and with a soft-spoken voice. "Speed and spending are creating a lot of trouble for a good many people. I wish there were possible to turn back the pages on our way of life—except for the progress in medicine. People are living longer, yes, thanks to medicine. But I don't think they are any happier than they used to be."

"Government spending, like the foreign aid and big dams, is all a mistake. I wish they'd come to their senses before it is too late."

Doctor Ira is a modest man. He will always be remembered for his loyalty to his friends, his readiness to help promote any project that would benefit the community and his care and compassion for the folks of his locality.

Plans were immediately made for another get-together in the near future.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Yusten visited on Wednesday, March 6, in Sioux City.

"I want to shake hands with you, doctor," the man explained. "You attended my mother and me the day I was born."

This country doctor, himself the son of a physician, has a son, Dr. Gordon Ira of Jacksonville, Fla. In turn, Doctor Gordon has a son, Gordon, jr., who is practicing at the Jacksonville Medical Center, but soon will enter the army.

Although he is confined to his home most of the time and a pair of crutches nearby give evidence that age and a rare affliction have overtaken him, Doctor Ira chats readily with visitors; he manifests a genuine interest in children; he continually spreads cheer as he has done so effectively down through the years when he carried the little black grip.

## 12 Seniors Make Ewing Honor Roll

EWING—Honor roll for the fourth six-weeks period has been announced by Supt. Lewis Carter:

**SENIORS**  
Judy Cloyd, AAAAA; Virginia McDonald, AAAAA; Russell Napier, AAAAA; Janell Hoke, AAAAA; Alvera Schilousky, AAAAA; Rowena Rotherham, AAAAA; Paul Gunter, AAAAA; Larry Larson, AAAAA; Robert Miller, AAAAA; Bennie Taylor, AAAAA; Bernadine Keeler, AAAAA; Frances Noffke, AAAAA.

**JUNIORS**  
Sandra Schrader, AAAAA; Beverly Rotherham, AAAAA; Darlene Latzel, AAAAA; Patricia Hahlbeck, AAAAA; Marilyn Finley, AAAAA; Vivian Wright, AAAAA; Patricia Wright, AAAAA.

**SOPHOMORES**  
Phyllis Larson, AAAAA; Roberta McDaniels, AAAAA; Larry Rotherham, AAAAA; Lyle Larson, AAAAA; Gloria Schroeder, AAAAA; Donald Hawk, AAAAA.

**FRESHMEN**  
William Bauer, AAAAA.

## Lee, Allen Have Chance Meeting with Townsman

EWING—Sp2 Kenneth Lee of Ewing and Sp2 Stanley Allen of Paxton, formerly of Ewing, both stationed at Kitzingen, Germany, with the army's 10th division, recently spent a weekend leave in Nuremberg, Germany, an old medieval city in Bavaria with about a half-million people.

Upon entering a cafe for a meal, they had a chance reunion with Pvt. Keith Gibson of Ewing.

Plans were immediately made for another get-together in the near future.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Yusten visited on Wednesday, March 6, in Sioux City.

## Ed Hoover, 79, Burial at Alford

### Former Businessman at Lynch

LYNCH — Relatives here received word of the death of Ed Hoover, 79, of Norfolk. He died Wednesday, March 13, at his home in Norfolk.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday, March 17, at the First Methodist church in Norfolk with Rev. E. E. Jackson officiating. Burial was in Hillcrest Memorial cemetery at Norfolk.

The late Mr. Hoover was born in Iowa March 28, 1878. He came to Nebraska with his parents at the age of five. His parents homesteaded north of Bristow where Mr. Hoover grew to manhood.

He was married to Frances Bush on August 14, 1900. They lived in the Lynch community for 37 years, both on the farm and in Lynch, where Mr. Hoover was in business. Twenty years ago they moved to Norfolk where Mr. Hoover was a truck gardener.

Survivors include: Widow — Esther; daughter — Mrs. Lalia Finley of Columbus; sons—Delbert of Norfolk and Eldon of Lincoln; 19 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren; sisters — Mrs. Bertha Hayden of Denver, Colo.; Mrs. John McElhose of Fulton, Mo.; and Mrs. E. C. Hayes of Tacoma, Wash.

## Clinton R. Davey Burial at Alford

LYNCH — Funeral rites for Clinton Robert Davey, 46, were conducted at 10 a.m., Saturday, March 16, in Norfolk Rev. E. E. Jackson, First Methodist church pastor, officiated. Rites also were held at 2:30 p.m. at the Methodist church in Lynch. Burial was made in the Alford cemetery near here.

Mr. Davey was born and reared at Lynch. He attended the Lynch schools. He was married to Esther Levi in California.

Survivors include: Widow — Esther; sisters—Mrs. Lola Row-er of Kilgore and Mrs. Hazel Hammerley of Long Beach, Calif.; brothers—Fred of Midland, S.D., and Emmett of Casper, Wyo.

**Books Owned Will Be Told at Meeting**  
LYNCH—The Rural Progressive extension club met with Mrs. Thomas Courtney, at Friday, March 15. Mrs. William Havranek was cohostess.

Roll call was answered with "A Book I Have Read." At the next meeting each member is to bring a list of books she owns with a view toward establishing an exchange.

## "The Magic Touch" Junior Play Title

EWING—The Ewing high school seniors are busy preparing their class play, "The Magic Touch", which will be presented Tuesday, April 9. Mrs. Amber Schlotman is director.

Members of the cast are Paul Gunter, Sharon Rotherham, Linda Tuttle, Frances Noffke, Rowena Rotherham, Russell Napier, Larry Larson, Ray Turner, Judy Cloyd, Bob Miller, Virginia McDonald, Bernadine Keeler, Alvera Shilousky, Dean Kimes and Bob Tams.

The play will include a style show. Taking part in that portion will be Lila Woeppel, Ruth Scott, Rose Marie Ernest, Janell Hoke and Linda Tuttle. There will also be entertainment between acts by the seniors.

Student directors are: Ruth Scott and Ray Turner. The production staff includes: Properties—Marvin Hawk, Laverne Stamp, Francis Huemesser and Dean Kimes; program—Judy Cloyd and Janell Hoke; tickets—Bernie Taylor and Bob Miller; usher—Jack Sisson and David Wright; curtains—Laverne Stamp.

**New Lamp Shades Discussed**  
LYNCH — The Sunshine extension club met at the Lloyd Spencer home on Sunshine Bottom Friday. Three members were absent. Mrs. Gladys Spencer and Mrs. Gerald Lee demonstrated making of new lamp shades. Mrs. Lloyd Spencer presented a book report.

Next lesson will be with Mrs. Harlan Holtz April 11.

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**TWO FLOWING WELLS ON PREMISES**  
One Near Dwelling — One in Garden Area

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION**  
Lots 1, 2 and 15, in Block 14, and All of Block 15, Village of Amelia, Holt County, Nebraska.

**TERMS & CONDITIONS**  
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