

Cass Countyman of the Week

Rex Young, Auctioneer, Has Told, Lived Many Tall Tales

By Ruth Miller
Nehawka, Special
Correspondent

Somewhere between the categories of fishing and shopping is the Midwestern farm sale.

Some go to be sociable, and some go just to see what the stuff brings, but all go. To the farmer, it is the best place to find a friendly neighbor, a good bargain, or some needed gadget.

Presided over by masters of fast talk, these auctions become contests with all the fun competitive spirit of Olympic games. Well known among Cass County farmers is Rex Young of Plattsmouth. His special brand of humor has permeated—or perhaps created—the auction atmosphere for a good many years. He has on his books the name of every man he has sold for and the numbers run well into the thousands.

Rex has cried many sales since his first in Beach, N.D. on Nov. 25, 1911.

That first sale bill, now a framed memento, offered "free lunch and horse feed at noon."

Mr. Young's parents came to Cass County in 1854 from Iowa. "Prairie Jake" Vallery, whose plow broke sod for a good many early settlers, owned the only house west of Highway 73-75 at that time.

The log cabin Youngs built near Rock Bluff now stands on the Young Cemetery 6 miles south of Plattsmouth. The cabin listened stolidly to the shouts of seven children and again to the stories from McGuffey's Reader for it was also Cass County's first school.

Mr. Young has cemented the

outside to halt deterioration but the inside remains the same.

The Young Cemetery stands high on a hill just off the highway. To every side a view of green fields and hazy oak timber presents a peaceful panorama. The responsibility of caring for this cemetery has fallen to Rex Young.

The cemetery is platted with the list of lots posted inside the cabin. Three Indian War veterans—Samuel Latte, Francis Marion Young, and Lewis Harvey Young—are buried there along with seven Civil War veterans.

Rex has held a variety of jobs in his 74 years. Farmer, storekeeper, mailman, and deputy sheriff are just a few of them. As a mailman from Murray he had a team of mules which "you couldn't hardly whip past a mailbox."

One day, just as the mules started to pull out to a mailbox a bird flew up. Rex was walking behind the wagon and couldn't stop the spooked team.

Just as he became reconciled to the fact that a long walk to town was in store for him he came to Mrs. Baxter's mailbox where the team had pulled out and placidly waited for the disgruntled carrier to dispatch the United States mail.

The Youngs sold the old homestead in February, of 1920, and moved to Plattsmouth. Just across from their modern home stands "Little Jenny Wren" a cabin where the Youngs store Rex's pioneer relics and to house extra guests.

Rex served under Bert Reed and again under Sheriff Stewart as deputy sheriff of Cass County. He served as acting sheriff for 1 1/2 years during Sheriff Reed's illness.

But auctioneering had been his ambition since boyhood. His wife, Pearl Henton of Mynard, remembers him as a schoolboy with a wild imagination who would sell empty bottles to the highest bidder.

A few years ago Rex had the thrill of a lifetime when he sold a \$1,200,000 feeder calf sale. He started selling at 9 a.m. and never quit till 4 p.m. The highest price was \$92.50 a hundred pounds. Four thousand five hundred head sold with most in singles and small bunches.

In 1957 Rex was named president of the Nebraska Auctioneers Association. He has been active in the association for many years, holding several offices including the vice presidency.

Later in the fall Rex plans to celebrate 50 years as an auctioneer. "Cass County has been good to me," he says. Now he hopes to entertain his Cass County friends.

Rex has some special rules which have made him one of the state's favorite auctioneers. Some of his precepts are:

Never deceive a man in the ring.

Talk rapidly but speak plainly.

Conduct a sale in such a way that you would be happy to have your own mother stand there and hear all you say.

Although Rex lists as one of

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ROTARY DISCUSSION—District Governor of Rotary Harry Voss, left rear, and officers and committee chairmen of the local Rotary club met Tuesday to discuss club activity. Among those attending the meeting which preceded the regular club session

were, clockwise from left: Walter Gleason, Harold Edwards, Voss, Plattsmouth Rotary President Bob Cappell, Lester Dalton, I. L. Kocian, Clem Woster and Lyle Grove.

Museum Damage Worse Than First Assessed

Mrs. Alice Perry, president of the Cass County Historical Society, said there was more damage to the Museum from the June 23 fire, than was thought at first. She said there was quite a bit of damage to the furnace and that the cold air ducts had collapsed.

"Fans are now being used to dry out the grounds under the Museum," she said.

"Young & Jose are doing the repair work on a labor and material basis," Mrs. Perry said.

The Society hopes the building will be "good as new" by Sept. 1. The Korn Carnival Week has been set as the date for re-opening.

There was no July meeting of the Society due to the hot weather.

Curt Salberg, 5, Weeping Water, Dies

Curt W. Salberg, 5, of Weeping Water died Tuesday evening at Bryan Memorial Hospital. He had been ill 10 days.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Salberg of Weeping Water, survive.

Funeral services will be Friday at 2 p.m. at the Weeping Water Methodist Church. Burial will be in Avoca Cemetery, Avoca.

Fusselman Funeral Home of Louisville is in charge of arrangements.

'Minor Victories Important In World Scheme,' Rotary Told

Coming face-to-face with society's little problems, grappling with them and winning small victories may be the key to solving the world's big problems. Rotary District Governor Harry Voss of Council Bluffs said here Tuesday.

He was speaker at the regular club meeting at the Lions Community Building during the governor's annual official visit to the club.

Voss said "we need something close at hand to keep our eyes upon" in the face of the great

social, political and economic problems which beset the world.

"If world peace and the brotherhood of man seem elusive, we can look closer to home and do something about the little things, for instance, that make Communism possible," he said.

By breaking the big problem down into segments, we can do something about it; what happens in Plattsmouth is important as it affects the whole area of human relationships," he said.

Voss was introduced by Club President Bob Cappell. Cappell, other club officers and committee chairmen had met with the governor earlier in the day to report on club activities the past Rotary year.

Marion Stock Is Comptroller Of Solar Co.

SAN DIEGO — Marion J. Stock, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Stock, Murdock, Neb., has been elected comptroller of Solar Aircraft Co., a subsidiary of International Harvester Co.

Prior to assuming his new position, Stock was an internal auditor for International Harvester. He was originally employed by Harvester in 1940.

Stock was graduated with distinction from the University of Nebraska with a B.S. degree in Business Administration. He was a member of Beta Gamma Sigma, honorary business fraternity.

From 1943 to 1946, he served as a lieutenant, junior grade, in the U. S. Navy in the Pacific area.

Semi-Truck Fire Wednesday Night

The Plattsmouth Volunteer Fire Department was called out Wednesday night to put out a fire in a semi-trailer near the Oreapolis overpass north of here.

Fire Chief Joe Kruntorad said a fuel tank used to supply a refrigeration unit had broken loose and was dragging on the pavement on Highway 73-75. Before the Red Ball Lines driver noticed it, sparks had ignited the tank.

The truck had 32,000 pounds of dry ice aboard bound for Omaha.

Rites for Mother Of Mrs. Tesch

Funeral was Tuesday at Newcastle for Mrs. Harvey Rahn, 64, mother of Mrs. Fred Tesch of Plattsmouth.

Mrs. Rahn died Saturday at Newcastle.

Her husband, Mrs. Tesch, another daughter, Mrs. Warren Emery of Anthon, Iowa, and four grandchildren survive.

THE BARCAIN TRAIL LEADS Classified

Ridikulus Day Scheduled for Aug. 4

People who shop in Plattsmouth will find a number of surprises in store for them next Friday, Aug. 4.

The day is Ridiculous Day and the merchants committee planning the event promises a number of innovations they feel sure will be appreciated by shoppers and visitors.

The day will start with a Ridiculous Parade at 9 a.m. in which every merchant is urged to join. Merchants and their sales people will parade in grotesque costumes.

Switch Blew Up To Cause Power Outage Wednesday

The electric current outage here Wednesday afternoon was caused when a switch at the substation south of town "blew up," Ernest Elliott, Consumers Public Power District manager here said today.

He said they had been "suspicious" of the switch because of an apparent flaw in porcelain and had energized it with extra current to test it. When it went out an arc was started and the only way to break it was to "kill" the town, Elliott said.

The outage lasted about 10 minutes until the other side of the double transformer supplying the town was put into use.

A new switch, a \$700 item, was ordered immediately and is on the way by rail from Chicago. It is to be installed late today or Friday.

Louisville Mayor Took ARADCOM 'Understanding Tour'

6TH MISSILE BATTALION, Omaha Air Force Station.—Local community representatives were to return tonight from an "Operation Understanding" trip sponsored by the 6th Missile Battalion (NIKE HERCULES), 43rd Artillery on behalf of the Army Air Defense Command (ARADCOM), Colorado Springs, Colo.

Among eight persons attending from this area was Joseph F. Hon Mayor of Louisville.

The party left Omaha and Lincoln, via military aircraft Tuesday morning for Fort Bliss, Tex. Tours included Fort Bliss-Army Air Defense School, McGregor Range-observe firings of Nike Ajax and Hercules by crews conducting their Annual Service Practice and White Sands Missile Range-Nike Zeus facilities. Briefings were concurrent with the various tours.

The purpose of the trip was to enhance communities' understanding of the Air Defense mission and specifically to realize the importance and necessity of the Nike Hercules Battalion in Eastern Nebraska and Western Iowa.

Resolution OKs Paving District

The City Council Monday night passed a resolution declaring an ordinance establishing a street improvement district for 3rd Avenue from 12th to 14th Streets in effect.

Objections to the district, created by Council action, amounted to 475 front feet, less than the more-than-50 per cent needed to block the improvement. Total front footage of affected property is 1,157.

The Council also passed a motion repealing an ordinance which had sought to establish a paving district for Lincoln Avenue. Objections to the proposed improvement totaled 170 front feet more than the more-than-50 per cent needed to block the proposal.

A motion was passed by the Council to purchase 20 more new parking meters to replace worn out mechanism. Money will come from the parking meter fund.

The matter of the type of paving to be installed in Ideal Heights Addition was tabled until next meeting.

Council President L. W. Moore presided at the meeting in the absence of Mayor Grant Roberts who is on vacation. The meeting was adjourned shortly after 9 o'clock and was one of the shorter ones in recent years.

County Budget Hearing Draws No One, again

Cass County residents once again gave tacit approval to the county budget as proposed for the 1961-62 fiscal year, by staying away from the official budget hearing held Wednesday afternoon.

The Board of Commissioners met at its rooms to consider the proposal and to hear any objections or suggestions taxpayers might offer.

No one attended the hearing, except the Commissioners and County Clerk Chas. Land who prepared the budget estimated. The Board spent the remainder of the afternoon reviewing askings of the county's elected officials to run their offices for the fiscal year.

The Board has until Aug. 10 to act on the budget and set the mill levy for the year.

Commission Chairman Melvin Todd of Union remarked after the hearing that never in his tenure of office had anyone attended the official budget hearing held annually.

Troop 368 Court Of Honor Tonight

St. John's Boy Scout Troop 368 will hold a Court of Honor at the Parish School Auditorium tonight at 8.

Parents are urged to attend the Court which is also open to the public.

Lunch will be served following the awards.

Bad News Time Nears for State's Property Owners

By Melvin Paul
Statehouse Correspondent
The Nebraska Press Association LINCOLN—Nebraska property owners soon will learn what they will have to pay in state property taxes for 1961.

The State Board of Equalization probably will set the state levy July 31. It must be certified out to the 93 counties by August 2.

State taxes actually make up only a small share of the individual property owner's annual tax bill. Local, school and county taxes account for a much larger bite.

This year the state tax levy is expected to increase slightly. One factor assuring this is a 17 mill increase voted by the Legislature to the State Park levy boosting it from .13 to .30 a mill.

Fixed state levies are known at this time. They will account for 2.25 mills or \$2.25 in taxes for every \$1,000 assessed valuation of property.

These levies are set by the Legislature and include \$1.10 per \$1,000 for the state Institutional Building Fund; 25 cents per \$1,000 for the University of Nebraska Medical Levy; 50 cents per \$1,000 for the Teachers Retirement Fund; 30 cents per \$1,000 for State Parks and 10 cents per \$1,000 for Agricultural Research.

The remainder of the state levy is the General Fund Levy. In 1960, the total state levy was 8.43 mills or \$8.43 per assessed valuation. Of this, the General Fund portion was \$6.35.

The General Fund Levy provides about 60 per cent of the amount required to keep the General Fund solvent. The other 40 per cent is derived from miscellaneous taxes and receipts such as motor vehicle fees, cigarette and liquor taxes, head tax, etc.

Drivers Licenses

Despite all the publicity during the closing days of the recent legislative session, much confusion still exists over what type of driver's license Nebraskans need this year.

The answer is simple. Motor-

ists will renew their operator permits beginning September 1 for a 2-year period just as they have in the past. There is no change whatsoever in driver's licenses or how they can be renewed.

The confusion is the result of actions within the Legislature. A bill was signed into law calling for colored photos on the new licenses.

Controversy erupted when charges were hurled that specifications for the photo equipment were rigged. As a result, the last bill introduced, LB 737, was amended on the floor and passed repealing the colored photo bill. This restored the situation to where it has been in the past.

Interstate Highway

Some time in August, probably after the 11th, travel between Omaha and Lincoln will be far different than it has been in the past.

The State Highway Department plans a formal opening for the Interstate Highway connecting Nebraska's largest cities. The formal ceremonies accepting the highway and opening it all the way to public traffic, are tentatively scheduled for August 11.

After that motorists will be able to zoom between the two cities on a divided 4-lane highway at speeds up to 75 mph, the limit set by the Legislature this session.

Short stretches of the highway are now open from Omaha to the Gretna Interchange and from the Lincoln Air Force Base Interchange to the Waverly Interchange.

Big Blue & Elkhorn

Tentative approval has been given by the Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation Committee to a work plan which would shape a program for conservation in the Elkhorn and Blue River Basins.

The Federal Bureau of Reclamation, Army Corps of Engineers, Soil Conservation Service, State Department of Water Resources, University of Nebraska and the State Conservation Committee will shape the final program.

Among the things which will be considered in the study are erosion, flood control, ground water supplies and drainage. If the federal agencies in-

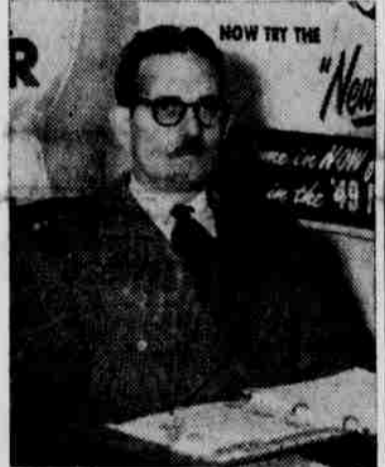
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THE WEATHER

July 24, 25, 26, 1961

Date	High	Low	Prec.
Monday	85	60	.00
Tuesday	89	70	Tr.
Wednesday	86	73	.00

Forecast High in upper 80's; low mid 60's. Scattered showers. Sun sets tonight at 7:47; rises Friday at 5:15 a.m.



Jerry Eiting

B. H. G. Eiting Motor Vehicle Dept. Director

B. H. G. (Jerry) Eiting of Lincoln, 56-year-old executive secretary of the Nebraska Limestone Producers Association, Tuesday was appointed state director of motor vehicles.

Eiting succeeds Alvin N. Scissors, who died July 16.

Eiting's appointment was announced by Gov. Frank Morrison's office.

Born in Butler County, Eiting was graduated from David City High School in 1922 and attended Creighton University in Omaha for two years before going to work as an automobile salesman in 1928.

Since that time he has been a district dealers representative and later a sales training executive for Ford Motor Co.

From 1939 to 1947 he managed the O'Shea-Rogers Tractor and Equipment Co., in Lincoln, then became the Ford dealer in Plattsmouth. He sold the Plattsmouth agency in 1957 and moved back to Lincoln with his wife and 6 children last year to assume the post with the limestone producers association.

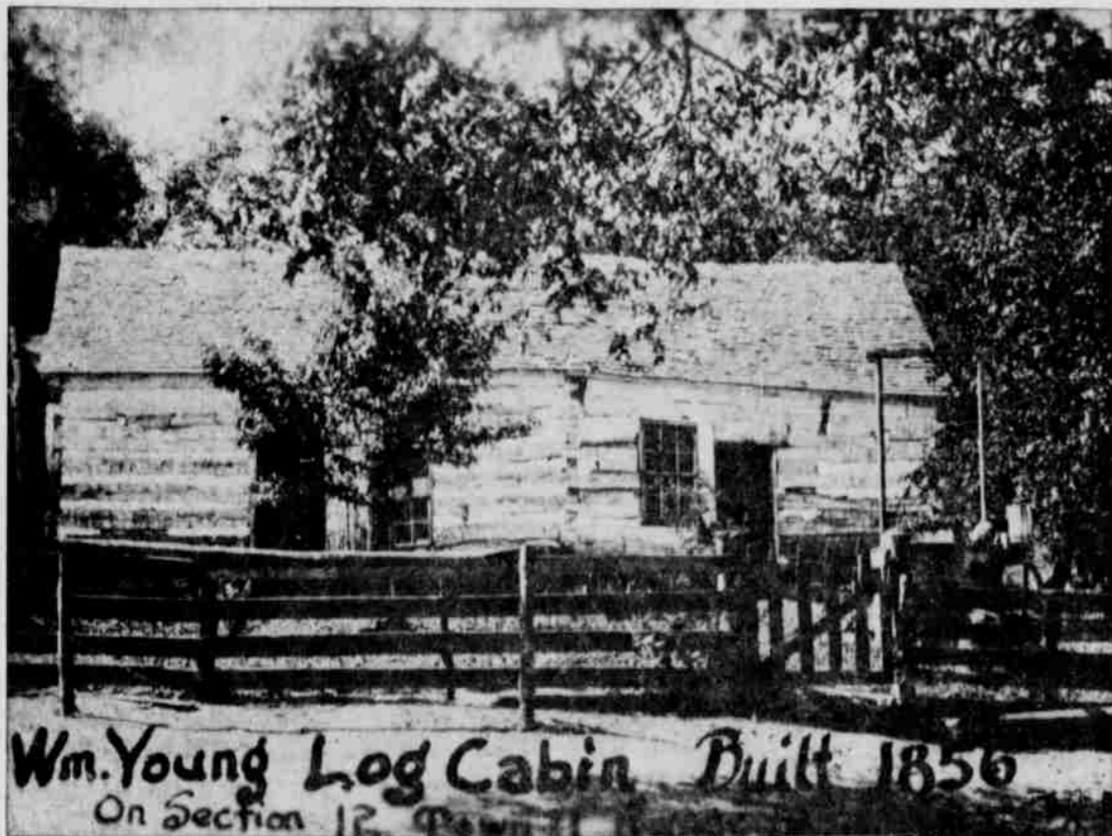
He resides at 7600 Vine in Lincoln.

Eiting interviewed by newsmen at the governor's office, said he plans no immediate change in operation of the Motor Vehicles Department.

Eiting was a member of the Plattsmouth City Council from 1954 to 1956.

Eiting said he got word of the appointment shortly before noon Tuesday after a friend intercepted him on the street and told him he was wanted in the governor's office.

Eiting is past district deputy of the Knights of Columbus, is active in the Northeast Rotary Club and is a member of the public roads committee of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce.



Wm. Young Log Cabin Built 1856 On Section 12

HOME IN 1850'S—This log cabin, now a sanctuary at Young's Cemetery south of Plattsmouth, was the home Rex Young's parents built when they came to Cass County in 1854. The cabin was near Rock Bluff. It was also Cass County's first school.