

MAYETTA, KANSAS

“Hell With a Railroad Through It”

The tall grass prairie of Eastern Kansas has existed for thousands of years. In years of good rains the grass would reach up as high the shoulders of a man on horseback. Trees were confined to strips growing along the creeks due to the fires that were caused by lightening or set by Native Americans. The prairie teemed with wildlife, elk; bear, deer, woods buffalo, turkey, prairie chickens, quail, cotton tail and jack rabbits, and also the predators, bobcats, coyotes and an occasional wolf.

The prairie remained unchanged until the coming of the white man. The land that was to become the site of the City of Mayetta probably was never opened by a plow, and few white men passed over it unless hay was being cut in the slough, or livestock being grazed.

The land was within the Delaware Indian Trust Lands, and these lands having been sold to the US government were opened for settlement in 1854. There were two types of claimants for the land, the speculators and the true settlers. The settlers intended to make a home for themselves and families in Kansas, while the speculators hoped to make a large profit by returning to their homes to the east of the Missouri River and selling the land there. Because speculators ended up owning so much of the land, the economic advancement of Jackson County was hampered, there being so few people living in the county.

Tracts of land were traded for many years in the east, passing from hand to hand as few of the owners actually came west to settle in the county. This may be how William and Elizabeth Lunger, came into possession of 160 acres of land in Cedar Township, Jackson County, Kansas, it being said they traded their hotel in southern Illinois for it in 1881. This is mentioned in town histories and Lunger family recollections, but assessment books for Cedar Township and deed books of Jackson County and other records do not quite agree. When they did move here, in whatever that year may have been, it was said there was a sod house located on their farm just west of the present city, the farm that is now owned by the Gordon Kern family.

In the 1870 US Census the family was living in Peadington Township, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, and in the 1880 census in Pacific Junction, Mills County, Iowa, and in both censuses he is listed as being a farmer and she as keeping house. In Iowa, the son, Edson J. Lunger's occupation is listed as a hotel landlord. So within a decade the family had moved a third of the way across the continent.

The 1881 Plat book of Jackson County shows that the south half of Section 22, Township 8, Range 15, containing 174.70 acres of land was owned by R. A. Blackner. He was not a resident of Jackson County, nor were any Lunger's listed as residents in the US Census of 1880. In the Assessment Roll of 1882, E. J. Lunger owned the east half of the south section, containing about 87 acres, and Blackner the west half. Neither were named in any of the other of the township listings, meaning they were probably not residents of the county.

William and Elizabeth Lunger were present in Kansas by 1883 on a visit to friends near Eureka in Greenwood County. While there their seven year old daughter, Mary Henrietta Lunger, took ill with diphtheria and when they attempted to return to their home, she died while on the road northeast of Burlington, Coffey County on October 18th. The family was traveling by wagon, and the son went into town and purchased a roughly made coffin and Mary Etta was buried in the Stringtown Cemetery, now the Wolf Creek Cemetery near New Strawn.

E. J. Lunger continues to be shown as owner of the east half of the south half of Section 22 in the Assessment Roll of 1884, 47 acres of his land being in cultivation. Again, no listings for any Lunger's meaning that they were not living in Cedar township. The 1885 Kansas State Census taken on March 1, lists the Lunger family as living in Cedar Township. Their son, V. R. Lunger is living with them and the other son, E. J. Lunger would arrive later from Iowa in the first part of December in 1886. There is also a young girl of seven years living with the family at this time, Martha Carpenter. It is said Mrs. Lunger took in six orphan girls over the years to help fill the void left by Mary Etta's death, this may be one of them.

In 1884, the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad proposed to build a railroad through the county from north to south. There was great support for this proposal in the townships the line was to pass through, and on June 22, 1886, the people of the county voted to put themselves in debt for \$100,000, and a bond issue was passed. This \$100,000 did not cover all the cost of constructing the 32 miles of the railroad through Jackson County, only about a quarter of it. Men from South Cedar area were hired to begin the

grading the following week. To start this early, the survey or part of the survey had to have been already accomplished before the bond issue was passed and maybe the railroad would have been built even if the bond issue hadn't passed.

The following deeds were signed in August of 1886: E. J. Lunger and his wife, Mary L. Lunger, of Cass County, Iowa, to E. E. Lunger, his part of Section 22, for the sum of \$500, on August 6, 1886; R. A. Blackner, a widow of Cass County, Nebraska to E. E. Lunger of Jackson County, her part of Section 22, for \$700, on August 10, 1886; A. D. Walker, a widower and James H. Lowell and Kate M. Lowell, his wife, their part of Section 22, for \$1,000, on August 25, 1886, leaving the Lungers in sole possession of the south half of Section 22, and knowing the railroad was going to come through somewhere nearby, owning a mile wide swath of land increased their chances of having the road pass through on their property.

Mayetta is nestled in the extreme northeast corner of the SE quarter section 22, and to the north the land belonged to Thomas J. Whelan. Lunger proposed to Whelan that the track should be laid on the half section line running east to west between them, and the town located on either sides of the track, but an agreement could not be reached, Whelan seemingly wanting the tracks to be laid through his property only.

Elizabeth Lunger won out, probably because she gave the railroad the right-of-way for free, while Whelan wanted payment, and so a deal was struck between the railroad and Lungers that in return for the right-of-way, the railroad would let them establish and name a town along the tracks, providing for the town a depot and side track where cars could be loaded and unloaded while they awaited to be coupled to the train for shipment.

I assume that the cost of building the fill did not exceed that amount of money that was saved by the railroad by obtaining the free right-a-way, as the route could have been built on more level ground on land that was owned other property owners.

E. E. Lunger signed over the right-of-ways to the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad, for \$1 and considerations on August 26, 1886; and again on October 4, 1886. The right-of-ways amounted to about ten acres of land. Also the railroad land was not taken within the city limits and so the railroad escaped having to pay city taxes.

We don't know who first proposed the town, it would have been something that the railroad would have desired, a shipping point located about ten miles south of Holton, just to the east of the Pottawatomie reservation, at about midpoint. Vast amounts of hay could be harvested and shipped off the reserve, the cattle that were brought in to be grazed and fattened each year could be shipped out by rail instead of on a trail drive, and of course there would be the farmer's grain and livestock. One other location in Jackson County was selected for a town, Hoyt about seven miles south of Mayetta, and then two in Shawnee County, Elmont and North Topeka.

I assume that Mrs. Lunger was the dominate member of the marriage, at least as far as town business goes, as her name appears alone or first and her husband's second, on deeds as the owner's of the farm and of the city lots in the town. I feel that she was an astute businesswoman and recognized the money to be made.

The tracks had to take an abrupt turn to the left when coming in from the south in order to enter the Lungers half section, and when it did passed near where two roads crossed, at present day 158th and R roads. This was known as the double crossing place. Travelers coming in from the east to Mayetta then had to cross two sets of tracks, a bumpy and bone jarring proposition in a springless farm wagon, or even in later times driving in an early automobile. Travelers created a shortcut, on the northeast crossroads corner, bypassing the intersection, and it was used until a hundred years and more until later when a landowner complained and the county stopped maintaining the turnoff and it reverted back to being grassland.

The railroad was built in three stages, first the route was surveyed, then the right of way was graded, the bridges over the creeks completed, and then came the track laying crew.

My long-time neighbor Agnes Pasley McNeive told me her father, Henry Pasley worked on the fill for the embankment on the south end of town. He said that there was a pretty patch of slough grass there, and that he and his horses took a tumble down the embankment, but with no serious injuries. He also said that it was God's way of telling him not to work on Sunday, so he drew his pay and went home, never to return. I don't know how much he received for a week's work, but Henry Prinz, who also helped on the Rock Island right-of-way fill, perhaps as a general laborer in the same location, was paid \$1.00 per day and board. A man who provided a team of horses had to have made much more money.

The dirt was moved using a Fresno slip, a dirt scraper that was pulled behind a team; when the handle in back was raised it dug into the dirt, and when full the handle was lowered and the dirt in the scoop was taken to the fill site. Looking at the embankment containing so many cubic feet of dirt, it must have been a job that seemed like bailing out the ocean using a teaspoon. There is a forty-two inch diameter clay pipe under this embankment that proved to be adequate before the town was built, but now there are times that it can not handle the run off during a heavy rain and the embankment acts as a dam.

The town was to be located on a divide, the water draining from the north into the South Cedar Creek and to the west towards Little Soldier Creek. The town was surveyed on October 16, 1886, and the plat recorded on December 1, 1886. C. B. Pasley, of the South Cedar Cross Roads, helped to survey the town site, carrying a surveyors chain, and he also witnessed the moving of the old buildings from the Cross Roads location.

In order to attract settlement in the new town the Lunger's offered a free lot to the first merchant at South Cedar who would move to Mayetta with his building. There was a race between Albert Elliott and Samuel R. Jones, the race being won by Elliott. It is said that Jones' building became stuck at the bottom of a hill and he didn't get into town until a day after Elliott's arrival. The free lot was probably lot 5 on the north side of Main street.

I witnessed Bob Shields move the old telephone building sometime in the sixties or seventies by using the following method; lifting up the building and then placing short pieces of telephone poles under it, letting it down and pulling the building forward with his wrecker and as the building rolled forward the poles that emerged from the rear were put in front, and this continued until the building rolled to its new location north of town. This could have been the method used in the move from old South Cedar, but it is more probable that Samuel Jones and W. L. Munn moved their buildings from South Cedar by putting them on wagons. The first buildings in town were very small by today's standards, particularly the homes, so it would not have been too much of a problem to move a small building using either of these methods.

Sam Jones had lost the race and when his house arrived on the town site he was stuck in Mayetta as his building which was also his home, and his wife and eight children came with him. Unless he wanted to turn around and move back to South Cedar he had to buy a lot or lots. He saw his future was in Mayetta and he purchased 5 lots on Main street on December 1, 1886. Each lot on the business block was thirty foot wide and one hundred and fifty foot deep and cost sixty dollars per lot. Jones' lots included part of a triangle of lots and so not all of his lots were of this size. These lots were mortgaged to the Lungers' in the amount of five hundred dollars.

Since there were to be more than 80 lots on Main street there was the potential for the Lunger's to make over four thousand dollars from the sale of these lots, this was not even counting the money to be made from the sale of the fifty and sixty foot wide lots that were laid out for the residential areas. I don't know what a residential lot cost at this time, but one sold for \$75 in 1907.

The Mayetta Post office was established on December 16, 1886, W. L. Munn, former postmaster at the Cross Roads is mentioned as being the Mayetta postmaster on June 2, 1887, but he had just resigned his post. The town was named Mayetta after the Lunger's deceased daughter, Mary Etta, the name being shortened due to the fact that there was already a Kansas town by the name of Marietta, and the postal service did not want another name so similar.

In May of 1887, assistant postmaster V. V. Lunger had to take the mail all the way to Holton for mailing and to pickup the Mayetta mail, as the Mayetta mail wasn't being sorted in the city of Topeka, and could not be delivered by the train, but was delivered to and sorted in Holton.

A problem had arisen before the name was officially recognized by the postal service, the conductor and train crews referring to the town by a different name, that also being a girls name. It would be sometime after the post office was officially named that Mrs. Lunger could get the conductor and train crew to announce the name Mayetta as being the upcoming train stop.

What an exciting day it must have been when the track laying gang arrived in Mayetta in February of 1887, and a schedule of train arrivals and departures was established. And what entertainment for the children. What child living along a railroad track hasn't done the following; put their ear to the rail to hear if the train was coming, and on a hot summer day when the track rails are shimmering in the hot sun, try to walk the rail like a tight rope walker; place a penny on the rail and after the train had passed, pick up the flattened penny now twice its size. One could almost sense the train before the click-clack sound of the wheels made from hitting the expansion joints between the rails could be heard. When I arrived in Mayetta

in the fall of 1954, children would sit on sheets of cardboard and slide down the grassy embankment, as it was not then overgrown by trees as it is now.

Also at this time there was a 3 a. m. northbound train that passed through town. Each engineer had his own way of blowing the whistle, and they would begin just before reaching Roediger's corner, and then in less than a minute later at Main street. It would wake me up every night until I became adjusted to it, and then when the run was discontinued I would awaken because the sound of the whistle was no longer there.

Not only did the coming of the railroad bring easy transportation of people and goods, it also brought in the telegraph line. People did not have to wait for days or weeks after sending messages by mail and awaiting a reply, and deaths in the family, state and national election returns, and other important news could be delivered on the same day. The depot became the favorite hangout for the loungers of the day.

Mayetta, a thriving trading post of Cedar township in Jackson county, is just four months old. Its existence dates from the completion of the Rock Island route - the C.K.&N.R.R. - through the county, and in this time quite a number of houses of business and homes have changed a pasture field into a bustling little village of seventy-five inhabitants. The town is located on the farm property of E. E. Lunger, and the sale of lots has been under his control. He is doubtless fitted as manager, for he has secured a class of business men who are reliable and we believe, well adapted to building up and holding trade.

Mr. T. E. Ashton has a handsome store room of general merchandise under the control of his son, Frank Ashton, who feels satisfied and confident of a good future for the town. Mr. Ashton also owns the blacksmith shop, where he employs Bert Flood, an excellent workman as his manager.

The firm of A. H. Elliott & Co. is well known to the people of Cedar township, whose confidence they have won by fair, square dealings. They handle a stock of groceries, dry goods, hats and notions.

W. L. Munn, the restaurant and boarding house man, has sold his business to Ohio Miller.

Samuel R. Jones, the ancient Nasby of South Cedar, has located in Mayetta, with a small stock of groceries and notions.

The latest addition to Mayetta's business men is Dr. Dunn, who has just moved from Missouri and established a drug store in the new town. He is a physician and surgeon, and enjoys a lucrative and growing practice.

Among the needs of Mayetta, we noticed and may mention, a good hotel, a hardware store, a lumber yard, and stock and grain dealers. Several prospective citizens have in view the object of supplying these urgent demands.

Mayetta is ten miles from Holton, eighteen miles from Valley Falls and seven miles from Hoyt. It is in the midst of good lands, and within one mile of the Pottawatomie reservation, which lies to the west. With the opening of this reservation the tributary country will be almost doubled, and Mayetta will move forward in prominence among her sister towns. *The Holton Recorder*, June 2, 1887.

In this same week it was reported that a work gang of ten from the railroad had completed building the cow and hog pens, and that the section foreman, Jeff Wood, had just finished building a house on his town lots. It was rumored that the railroad would soon be installing a water tank. Another business in town was a livery stable, operated by Chas. Clark; and John R. Dutt was planning to erect a boarding house, also the people of the Mayetta district had voted \$1,000 to erect a school house.

What a liberation for the people living on isolated farms and in small towns the coming of the railroad brought, a two day trip from Mayetta to Topeka now only took less than an hour, and a day's one to Holton, only ten or fifteen minutes. There were entertainments to be seen in the bigger cities, vaudeville shows, the circus, dances, also honeymoons to be taken away from the old farm or home town in order to escape the chiverie, and more somber events, funerals that could now could be attended.

In July of 1887, the Holton Methodist Episcopal Church Sunday School class organized an excursion to Topeka, where there would be a picnic at Garfield Park in North Topeka. Six coaches were packed with people from Holton and the surrounding areas.

The people continued to arrive in an increased ratio until a half hour before leaving time the ticket agents had all and more than they could do to supply the demand for tickets. At least a half an hour before the train pulled out every seat was comfortably filled, and those who arrived afterwards crowded in as best they could. Those more lucky ones who arrived earlier dividing their seats to those who came in later. A railroad coach is like an omnibus in one particular - there is always room, for one more. At 8:30 the Kansas Central bought some fifty or sixty from the west, Havensville, Soldier, and Circleville, who like the rest, good humouredly, accommodated themselves to the situation.

It was soon apparent to the manager that there were not enough coaches provided, he wired to the superintendent at Topeka to have a coach attached to the north bound freight set off at Mayetta to be attached to the excursion train.

The train pulled out at 9 o'clock exactly, and arrived in Mayetta in due time, where a goodly number from South and North Cedar were awaiting the happy crowd. At Hoyt another large crowd was added, filling the extra car that had been taken on at Mayetta, seats, aisles and platform. Arriving a little after ten o'clock came the first and only aggravating circumstance of the trip. When the train left Holton Mr. Taber telegraphed to the street car manager to have street cars ready to take the entire party to Garfield park. The telegram was not delivered until after the train reached Topeka, and the consequence was that the excursionists had to wait for nearly an hour for the street cars. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, July 28, 1887.

The town stood on bare prairie land and early photos of the town shows only a few of the trees had reached any height. There was a need for shade trees, native trees such as hackberry, elm, oak and ornamental ones like the redbuds, and fruit trees; apple, cherry, peach, and nut trees, black walnut among them. They lost no time in planting them, but it took some years for them to get to a useful size. Over the years many citizens of the town have planted trees that they did not live long enough to see reach maturity. Some knew this when they planted them and planted for the coming generations.

Early settlers of the county remarked on how much stronger the wind blew in the 1850's there being no trees acting as windbreaks. My favorite Kansas joke, one told by early settlers. One day in Kansas the wind stopped blowing and everyone fell down.

A few notes on the infrastructure and living conditions in the town in the beginning. Depending on which point in town a present day survey starts at there can be discrepancies in competing surveys. The main streets run east to west to catch the rising and setting sun, but a cold, strong wind from the north seems to be intensified when it hits the business district block on Main street, between 1st and 2nd streets. The main street is only seventy feet wide, it should have been made much wider to facilitate parking. The streets were just packed, rutted dirt where the weeds grew in the spring and summer time, and became quagmires when it rained and when the snow melted.

The original survey included only the area east to 2nd street and north to Jones street from the right-of-way, the town having the shape of a right triangle. Mrs. Lunger left a blocks' space to the north so the town wouldn't abut on Whelans' land denying him the opportunity of making an addition to the town.

A new survey was taken in 1887, when Lunger's Addition added two blocks on the east and one on the north. Lots 25 and 43, on the north side of Jones street should have remained vacant so 2nd and 3rd streets could have been continued north, but what should have been streets were platted as lots. Mrs. Lunger had a house built on lot 43 making sure there wouldn't be a street there, but at sometime before 1903, lot 25 was vacated and 2nd street continued north. By not continuing the streets, the expansion of the town to the north seemed to have been cut off. This probably was on purpose as the land to the north still belonged to Whalan, and by cutting the streets off, further expansion would have to be to the south or west, on Lunger property. But this did not prove to be the case as the town continued to grow to the north, the plat for an addition on the north side of town, Whelan's 1st Addition being recorded on May 20, 1887, by Richard Whelan, the brother of Thomas.

The town wasn't incorporated until October 23, 1902, and so did not have a town government with city officials that would have to had voted in favor of having Whelan's Addition being annexed to the city, and so it doesn't seem that permission was needed to be given by anyone.

All the following I believe to be probable, but early townspeople had different opinions on how to do things and had different levels of financial resources available, so not all of the following may be true.

The homes were very small, of about fourteen by twenty-four feet, containing two rooms which must have been very crowded at times with the large families of that time period. Some of the houses were not placed in the middle of the lots but were located as near the side property line as close as they possibly could be.

There are some of these small houses still in town that have been added onto, and so are somewhat disguised, but those who look for them can see them. Two of them are on James Street; the house then owned by Chester and Lena Roediger house on lot 11, being added onto in the mid 1950's; the John and Hester Craig house on lot 33, in the early 1960's. After 1900 the small houses were still being built, but some went up to two stories high.

There seems to have been no zoning regulations then, no side and front yard setback regulations and people built as they pleased. This lack of zoning caused a problem sometime around 2008 when the old Christian church was torn down and the steps leading into the church were left, as some members of the

church wanted the steps to remain as symbol of all the happy and sad events that had occurred there, the weddings, funerals, and of the many members who had walked up the steps going in to worship. The steps were right on the street easement and seemed to interfere with the city street work taking place at that time, and the city asked that the steps be removed. There was a contentious zoning meeting to deal with the difficulty and it was decided that the steps would remain, the zoning regulations being so vague and insufficient a good case could not be made for the steps to remain or to be removed, but many hard feelings remained.

The steps were probably so close to the street so that a horse drawn vehicle or an automobile could pull right up the steps and the ladies with their long skirts and the children could get out without getting their clothes or shoes muddy or dirty. Something that started with good intent in mind, but ended up in very bitter contention.

Many of these early houses and outbuildings did not use horizontal lap siding but vertical boards of about twelve inches wide, with a one by two or three inch wide board nailed over the joint, but only on one side or in the middle of the joint, so the boards could expand and contract with the changes in weather without splitting. This type of construction is known as board and batten and uses much less material than lap siding. Care had to be taken to see what way the grain would cup the wood as it dried out, so the cup was to the inside to help keep the cold air from leaking in. There is a photo of the first house built in Mayetta that seems to show this method. There was no insulation in the walls or ceiling, and the house was roofed with split wooden shingles.

Inside walls were lathed and then covered with a coating of lime putty, sand and horsehair plaster, then given a second coat. Horsehair was mixed in with the plaster to help it bind together and keep it from cracking when it dried, and it was prone to cracking, and if it did crack and let in the cold air in one remedy was to paper the walls with sheets of newspaper using a paste made of flour. There was no insulation between the walls and the outside siding.

I recall seeing a building on Main street having the walls re-plastered. It was a scorching hot day and being inside the building the men did not have the benefit of a breeze to cool them. They were stripped to the waist, and sweat was running off them. I was impressed by their workmanship being able to lay the plaster on the walls in such a smooth and even coat. But even at that time drywall had been in use for many years, and plastering was a dying art.

The walls and ceilings could also be covered by boards instead of plaster. Boards could just be laid on top of the ceiling rafters and not fastened. It may be that some houses did not have ceilings installed at all but remained bare up to the roof shingles.

Floors were covered, if covered at all, with home made rag rugs or store brought carpet, under laid with newspaper or straw to provide some cushioning and insulation. Depending on whether the flooring was tongue and groove or just boards butted up against each other, a lot of cold air could leak in.

A metal flu or a brick chimney stood somewhere near the middle of the house, with a wood or coal stove connected to heat the house, there being a difference between a wood or coal stove in that the metal of a wood stove was not able to stand the high heat generated by a coal fire and would often crack. Not only was a coal fire hotter, but it lasted overnight so when you got up the next morning all you had to do is shake down the grate and feed in more coal and then the house would heat up very quickly. The heating was probably only just the cooking stove in these small houses, but as housing improved there could be a heating stove in the living room also.

The stove would have a small reservoir for water so that hot water was available at times. Toast in the morning was made by cleaning off a stove lid with a wet cloth and then putting slices of bread directly on the lid, this with a pot of oatmeal bubbling on the stove made for a good warming breakfast. Coming in from out of the cold, the family members would open the oven door, sit in a chair and put their feet in to warm them. There is nothing more warming on a cold day to remove a chill than to sit or stand around near a hot fire in a wood or coal stove, that is as long as you keep turning.

I have a memory of my father sitting at the kitchen table when I was a toddler, peeling an apple for me. He as everybody else did then tried to keep the apple peeling as thin as possible and in one unbroken continuous strip, it was a challenge. When he was finished he gave the peeling to me and I put it on top the stove and the sweet aroma of apples filled the house. Every man had a pocket knife and it was a rite of passage when a boy received his first Barlow. The girls were taught to make the peelings as thin as possible

when peeling potatoes, there was not so much food that any could be wasted, even the peelings were used, sometimes to make starch, but most of the time for chicken or hog feed.

My mother would bake Irish Soda bread on top of the stove, and cleaned the lid just the same as she did when making toast. This was probably the reason she would get so upset when she caught one of her kids spitting on top of the stove and watching the spittle dance and sizzle around.

As winter approached merchants would order a car load of coal and then advertise that on a certain day the car would be on the siding and customers could come and get a load for their winter use. This way they only had to pay for moving and storing what coal was left after sales had been made. Coal was also used to power the steam engines on threshing machines, cars of coal arriving in town as early as July of 1887. Five carloads were sold within two months time, and was selling for 15c per bushel.

When the stove began to tell its age and look a little begrimed, there was a black stove polish applied that restored its good looks, and this was done mostly when spring cleaning took place. Everyone wanted a "Round Oak" stove as it was the Cadillac of all stoves. Wood ashes served a purpose as a fertilizer, they containing potash that potatoes needed in order to grow. At one time I heated my house with wood and put the ashes on my garden, never since that time have I had such good crops of potatoes. Ashes were also sprinkled on sidewalks when they were icy to improve footing.

Because the lots were one hundred and fifty feet deep there was plenty of room for out buildings that were used for many purposes. Buildings used to store wood and corn cobs that were also used for heating; and tools and equipment, and perhaps a wash house to do the laundry in, and shelter for the livestock. I can't think of any home that wouldn't have a chicken coop for chickens, ducks and other fowl that during the daytime were allowed to roam the yards and neighborhoods until nighttime when they would go to roost and be locked in. Domestic dogs roamed the neighborhoods, and cats, skunks, foxes, coyotes, weasels, and chicken hawks also took their toll of the poultry.

There was a friendly competition about chickens, how many baby chicks had hatched out; and how many survived, when the hens first started laying, how many eggs were laid, just as now days there can be bragging rights as to whom has the first ripe tomato out of the garden. The baby chicks would be brought into the house and kept warm by the wood stove until the chill of early spring was gone. There was a one-upmanship about how many eggs the hens were laying and how much longer they laid than the neighbors hens did.

The fowl did roam the yards and neighborhoods and as they grew older became very tough to eat, that is why a stewing chicken is called that, having to be cooked for a long time to tenderize it. But chickens were not the only fowl raised. One Mayetta man said of his Thanksgiving meal in 1887, that the turkey was so tough that he could not stick his fork in the gravy.

There was one convenience that every home had, an outside toilet or privy set as far away from the house, and as close to the alley as possible. A hole was dug about three feet deep and a two hole privy built over it. Occasionally lime was thrown down the holes to help control the odor. Newspapers, catalogs magazines, whatever happened to be handy were used as toilet paper, and ants, spiders and wasps took up residence during the warm weather. Depending on how tightly the building was built, in winter snow often filtered in through the cracks and covered the seat, and that seat could be really cold at anytime during the winter.

Privies were a favorite target on Halloween night, being tipped over by young men and boys. I can remember reading a story that appeared in the Holton Recorder concerning Senator Pat Roberts who went to school in Holton. When he and other boys went to tip over an outhouse over the owner had either moved it forward or back just far enough that one of the boys or more fell into the pit, and were made to ride home in their underwear on the hood of the car.

Slop jars, thunder mugs, chamber pots, a useful item that went under many names. When one had to go to the bathroom in the middle or late at night, instead of having to get dressed and going out into the cold, it was a good alternative to use, it was kept under the bed and probably not emptied as often as it should have been.

Water had to have been a problem at the start, and there were two answers to that, cisterns and wells. A cistern does not produce water, but is an underground water storage pit for rainwater. Built with a cement floor and walls of brick or rock covered with a layer of cement, and covered with a cement or wooden top with a hole in the middle for a hand pump to be installed. But perhaps some left their cisterns uncovered and that resulted in animals or people falling in. The cistern was painted inside with a lime whitewash that

had to be renewed ever so often at the same time that the cisterns were cleaned of the dirt and debris that had accumulated over the years. This water would not have been used for drinking and cooking, but used for many other purposes.

In 1887, a livery stable, operated by Chas. Clark is mentioned as having a cistern put in. The livery stable was probably on lots 34,36,38, on Main street. When the water lines were being put in sometimes in the late 1950's a cistern was uncovered across the alley to the south on lot 7, that probably belonged to the livery stable, that had to be filled in before the water line could be continued. In case of fire the water could be used by the bucket brigade, and there would be many other uses for water that was not fit for human consumption. The business buildings on the main street roofs were sloped towards the back and gutters and pipes directed the water into the cisterns.

In the 1970's I owned a rental house on lots 38 and 49 on Jones street. I found that it had cistern by the house that had a very clever way of filling it. The downspout had a Y towards the bottom, with a diverter that directed the rain water to the ground or into the cistern. I presume that when it began to rain that the dirt and accumulated debris on the roof was allowed to flow into the yard, and when it had rained for a while, diverted into the cistern. The housewives liked to use the soft water for washing their laundry and also their hair, as it left both cleaner and softer than well water with its mineral contents.

The railroad may or may not have installed a water tank at Mayetta, if they did the volume of water needed and it having to be pumped into the tank that was higher than the engine would have to required something more than a hand pump. Gasoline engines were used for this purpose, the prototypes being invented many countries, but a good four stroke engine was developed in the US in 1876.

Before there could be a gasoline engine there had to be gasoline. The drilling of the first oil well at Titusville, Pennsylvania in 1857, allowed for many innovations to improve the lives of the average small town citizen, among them the development of the coal oil lamp, (kerosene) replacing the candles then in use.

There is a photo of Mayetta, taken on or after 1896, that shows a windmill on a well that is just south of James street. We can give it this date because it shows the Methodist church that was built in that year. The railroad could have also used a similar type windmill in their water tank pumping system.

When the drainage ditch at the entrance of the pipe under the embankment was being cleaned out of trees and brush in 2013, a set of windmill blades was found and it now sets in the City of Mayetta's construction storage yard. It could be the one shown in the photo.

One more note about this photo, it shows the bridge spanning the ditch located on James street. It is a box culvert constructed out of cement and rocks. Field stones that were to be found on the reservation, which were used in many buildings in town, were also used in the construction of the culvert. Rocks were cheaper than cement and the labor to mix it, and I believe that one third rock to two thirds cement was about the ratio. This was also the cement, rock mix used to make the first cement sidewalks.

There was a flurry of well digging taking place in 1887, shallow wells supplying good water were being dug all over town. There were two ways to dig a well, with a boring machine and the other by hand, both being used in town at this time. There was a horse drawn boring rig with a horse hitched to a beam that pivoted around a derrick containing the drill; the horse walking around and around in circles providing the motive power. I assume that there was a clay pipe liner used for the well casing.

The hand dug wells were three to six feet in diameter depending on how much room each well digger needed to swing and use a pick and shovel, and went as deep as they had to until they reached the water table. When water ran in faster than it could be bailed out by bucket the well was considered deep enough. The walls were lined with native rock to keep the sides from collapsing and to keep the water clean.

I am not sure how this well lining work was done but have heard that sometimes it began at the top and the casing was allowed to sink by its accumulating weight into the well, and the workmen would keep adding layers of rock until it reached the bottom. It would be capped by a cement or wooden top or not at all.

In the fall of 1954 I was present when a well was being hand dug a little east of the then grade school somewhere on lots 29, 31, and 33 on the north side of Jones street. It was dug by two workmen who used a pick and shovel with the handles sawn off. There was a windlass and bucket on a rope to lower the workmen down and the dirt up. They lit pages of newspapers and threw them into the well to see if the flame went out or remained burning. If the flame went out there was deadly gas at the bottom of the well,

if it remained burning there was enough oxygen in the well for the diggers to work safely. There has been many a well digger killed by gas at the bottom of a well, and if they couldn't get out in time by themselves no one could go down to rescue them or they would meet the same fate.

The sides could be continued to be walled up out of the well to about a height of three feet, high enough to keep small children and animals from falling in. It could be roofed to keep leaves and other airborne trash out, and to keep the birds and barnyard fowl from roosting on it. A windlass supported between two posts with a crank handle to turn it, and in the middle of the cylinder a rope was tied, the other end to the bail of a bucket. It took some skill to get the water in the bucket, as it could not be just thrown in the well as it would just float there. The bucket had to be in a horizontal position for the water to start to enter it, and at times required several tries and twitches before the bucket was full enough to sink of its own weight. A tin dipper with a long handle could hang by the well for the thirsty. When I still lived in Southern Maryland we moved to a house that had a well like this, but not so advanced.

When we first moved to this house there was an open well with a few rounds of rock around it, not more than a foot high. The bucket set on the curb of the well with a coil of rope lying there with one end of the rope attached to a bucket. The bucket when full was then raised hand by hand and emptied into another bucket to be carried into the house, then replaced on the well curb until the next time it was needed. A cover and a hand pump was added to the well shortly after we moved there, and it was cleaned out before this happened. A man tied off the rope to the bumper of his truck and climbed down using the rope and I recall some of the junk he sent up, old broken dishes, buckets, dippers, etc. I was not old enough to attend school at this time, and had to be told repeatedly to stay away from the open well, which of course I didn't do and couldn't bring myself to do. Sometimes I wonder how I have survived all these years.

In hot weather the water in the bucket in the house would reach room temperature, and if a person wanted to cool down by drinking cool water, a new bucket full had to be brought in from the well. My father had the following way of getting new bucket. "Would you go get a bucket of cold water from the well because you can get colder water out of the well than anyone I know of." He would sometimes follow this saying that when he was a young man he hurt his arm and could not lift it high enough to work the pump handle, and would raise his arm hip high and say "this is as high as I can lift it now," then he would raise his arm way way above his head and say "I once could raise it this high."

The next step up was the hand pump made out of cast iron. There was a round cylinder about two foot long and much wider around than the well pipe and had valve on either end. The pipe was connected to the cylinder about fifteen feet down in the well with a pipe connected to the bottom part reaching into the water. When the pump handle was lowered a vacuum was created and the valves opened upward, the water raised in the pipe and came out the spout, and then the valves closed, keeping the remaining water in the pipe. The valves at the top and bottom of the cylinder were made of leather, and as they became worn, they lost their flexibility and could not keep a tight seal and the water would leak out into the bottom of the well. Then the pump would have to be primed by pouring water into the top opening and fiercely pumping the handle at the same time, until the pump caught. Occasionally a pipe would freeze in very cold weather and spilt, and would have to be replaced.

There are only two hand pumps left in town that I know about, one is located at the lower end of the cities' construction storage yard, the other on the west side of old US 75 north of the Mayetta Oil Company. The latter well is mentioned in the following story.

One day the phones in town rang, the party line ring, and the news was told that the Gypsies were in town. At that time people kept many of their tools used for outdoor and indoor use, such as tubs used for washing clothes hanging on a nail on the outside of an outbuilding. I had no idea what was going on, the townswomen were running around gathering stuff up and taking it into their homes. I was told the Gypsies were in the habit of stealing anything that wasn't nailed down. They had a caravan of old cars, one I remember being a station wagon, and a pick-up truck on which they had built an enclosed van in the bed. They camped just across from town, on the west side of old US 75. There was and is a little house there and at that time that was occupied by the Coleman family, and there was a well along side of the road where they could get their water. Grandma Spohrer was friends with the Gipsy queen and when I entered her house she was sitting there talking to her. Nothing was taken from Grandma's house, but Grandma did give her a lot of the vegetables from a garden I had grown.

Some random thoughts about wells. In cold weather if you got your gloves wet they would freeze to the

handle, and had to be torn away sometimes leaving part of the glove. There is a lip on top the spout and the bail of the bucket was hung behind this so one did not have to hold the bucket as it filled up. There is a well on the alley on lot 33 of James street that was known as the community well and was used in the 1930's during the drought years when other wells in the town had dried up. A few dollars were to be made by carrying water into the house for town housewives when they needed extra water to do the laundry.

Water to do the laundry, a lot was needed and a lot was pumped and brought by buckets into the house. One tub for suds and one for rinsing. The washing machine was the mother, and daughters, if any around, and the washing board with metal ridges set within a wood frame. The clothes would be soaked in hot water, if available, the washing board placed in the tub and soft soap or soap shavings applied, the clothes were scrubbed up and down, up and down the board many times until clean, then wrung out by hand and put into the rinse water. In the rinse water they were sloshed about as many times then wrung out again, and then if in the winter they were hung on lines within the house until dry. This served a double purpose of putting some moisture into the inside air.

Every home had an outside clothes line. Before hanging the clothes a wet cloth would be run down the lines to remove any dirt. Clothes pins were used to hold the clothes to the lines, there being two kinds, a pin type with a round head that had the bottom split into two pieces and a pinch type that gripped the clothes tighter. I have seen the former type used by little girls as dolls, the knob being the head and the bottom the two legs, pieces of cloth wrapped around them for clothing, held on by rubber bands. Underwear was hung on an inside line, hidden from the public view. One of the pleasant sides of hanging the clothes outside was gathering them in at the end of the day as they had the fresh odor of the outside air, and if such a thing is possible, of sunshine, and another was to see and hear them flapping in every little change of the breeze. What a difficult, demanding life the ladies of the day lived, always too much to do and too little to do it with.

It was not until the late fifties and early 1960's or 70's that city water and sewage systems were installed, and until this time people still had to bring in their water from the pump and make their daily trips to the little house at back. People may have wanted modern water and sewage systems in our town, but we are a poor town, and the money was not available until the state and federal governments began making low interest loans and grants. There was opposition from many as the individual home owner had to pay to run his water lines from the water meter and then his sewage lines from the cities sewer lines into the house, and to install a bathroom. Many of the town residents were elderly, retired farmers and their wives who had moved to town in order to have access grocery stores and the other amenities to be found even in such a small town as Mayetta. It had to have been financial hardship on them.

First the water lines were installed in 1958, and since water has to be available in order to have a sewage system, the sewage system came a few years later when the people had a chance to adjust to the idea of more taxes and more expenses to connect to the sewage line. The streets and yards were torn up by both installations for about a year or two, and people got tired of all the inconveniences of utility construction, the piles of dirt, the mud, the torn up yards and sidewalks, the closed streets and alleys.

Some homeowners installed bathrooms with the coming of water and ran drain lines into septic tanks in their yards. Our sewer lines were installed in the 1960's or 70's and when a natural gas company shortly afterward offered to install their lines in the city, it was turned down because of all the inconveniences involved, and that is why Denison has natural gas to heat and cook in their homes, and Mayetta does not. There is also a possibility that since a propane business existed in town and many homes in town used propane, that this may have somewhat influenced the decision.

Mayetta is not and has never been a town where the people have a surplus of money; middle income and lower income people live here; a money poor town in a money poor county. In 1999 the median income for citizens of Mayetta was about \$13,000; for Jackson county, \$17,000; for Kansas, \$38,000 and for the United States, \$42,000; 20% of the city population were living in poverty. There has been a vast improvement in the last fifteen years, poverty is now at about 8% and the median income is about \$38,000, still about \$10,000 less in each step of the other governmental entities listed above, but a marked improvement.

A few other items I want to mention before I get back to the beginning of the town and that is storm shelters and gardens. The storm shelters, root cellars, or "caves," were holes in the ground were rocked with field stones or brick, and the roof covered with dirt; a place to go when a tornado threatened. If you have ever noticed the one in "The Wizard of Oz," and when Dorothy could not get into that cave in time; that's

what the shelter looked like. There is at least one surviving storm cellar in town that is located behind the house at 307 Main street. It is a fine example of one and was built by a craftsman who knew his trade.

It is sad to say that the root or storm cellars a hundred years ago gave better protection to the citizens of the town against tornadoes than the protection the citizens of the town have today. Now there are a few basements to go into, and at one time in the past someone from the Catholic church would open the basement to people during threatening weather, but that does not happen anymore.

I have only seen a tornado or tornadoes near town once and that was sometime in the 1960's. It had been raining that afternoon, but had stopped, the sky was overcast, and I had just gotten home from work.

All the neighbors were standing around outside and looking anxious and worried, and said that there was a tornado nearby. Everyone went to the nearest cave which was on lots 66 and 68 on Main street, the house there belonging to Glen and Nellie Freed. Many went into the cave, but as I found it full of water over the top of my shoes soon came out, and joined the rest of the people searching the sky. There were three tornados on the ground to the east of town and were moving northeast. They were very thin and rope like, and at least one hit a building as you could see the debris rise up around the funnel. It wasn't until later that we learned there was a much larger one closer to town on the southwest, but we were not aware it because everyone was intent in watching the ones in the east, and didn't know about it until told much later.

With the coming of spring there was a hunger for fresh vegetables or some sorts of greens, greens that could be picked from lawns in the front or back yards, such as water cress or dandelion leaves. At that time there was also an annual spring rite that a tonic of some sort had to be taken to cleanse and thin the blood of accumulated toxins that had built up during the winter. This was usually a large spoonful of sulphur mixed with molasses. It tasted very gritty, like a spoonful of sand, but it was presumed to be helpful and only had to be taken once a year.

Everyone grew a garden. It would have been plowed in the preceding fall of the year and the dirt would be soft and mellow from the constant freezing and thawing of the ground. The first vegetables to be planted were potatoes and peas, again it could be of a competitive nature, the first to have a meal of peas and new potatoes having bragging rights. I have seen in my lifetime whole town lots planted to sweet corn. There could be a second planting of potatoes later in the year so they could be stored for winter use. Some root vegetables such as potatoes, sweet potatoes, turnips, parsnips, rutabagas, along with cabbage and apples could be stored during the winter in root cellars or in a cold place in the house, which couldn't have been too hard to find.

In October of 1887, William Lunger was in town bragging on his two sweet potatoes that measured eighteen inches each. This is a type of tradition that continues on today, photos being published in the Holton Recorder now days, showing the biggest or oddest shaped vegetables that were grown during the year.

My brother-in-law's grandmother, Mrs. Nellie Spohrer, lived on the southeast corner of 2nd and James street in a five room house, one of the larger homes in town. The larger two rooms to the south taking up more than half of the house were the kitchen and living room. The three smaller ones on the north side were of equal size and the two outer ones were used as bedrooms and the middle one as a storage room, the door to this room never being opened to the heat and was always kept cold. She kept her vegetables in there and some canned items in glass jars, but it never occurred to me to wonder how she kept the jars from freezing and bursting open in sub-freezing weather, perhaps she cracked the door open. She had a large cream colored porcelain crock with lid, in which she kept fried pork chops and other cuts of pork. She would fry them in lard and put them in the crock covering them with lard until they became a solid mass. Doing this and being in a cold room preserved them. When she pried them out for a meal she refried them and crisp, crunchy and tender can't begin to describe them. The secret to their crispness and also French fries from a fast food place are the same, frying them once and then after letting them cool down, frying them once more.

My first few months in Kansas, in the spring of 1954, were spent in Topeka, living at and working at the Chief Drive-in theater, which was located on 37th street where the Wal-Mart store now stands. I would come up to Mayetta in the summer months and mow the lawn for Mrs. Spohrer and do other chores. Mrs. Nellie Spohrer was a Kansas pioneer woman and she needs no more accolade than that. There was so much I could have learned from her, but this 15 year old boy, being self absorbed, was not much interested in what older people thought and knew.

She would cook delicious meals for me, including her famous fried pork chops, and at night I slept in one of the small bedrooms on a cornhusk mattress with homemade quilts for covers. This took some getting used to, as every time I turned over it sounded like someone walking through a pile of dry leaves in the autumn time. The mattress was very thin and the husks moved around inside as you turned over, so that at times you were just sleeping on the bare metal bed springs.

In the winter time there was no heat in the bedrooms, and when you awakened in the morning you could see your breath in the air. You did not sit on the side of the bed thinking things over, but got dressed immediately and made for the kitchen to get warm by the stove, or fire up the stove if you were the first one up. It took quite a while until your icy cold shoes warmed up just from the warmth of your feet. And now on to town history.

In June 1st, 1887, the citizens of the school district voted to build a new school. There were three opinions on where to build it; north of town, south of town, and in town. Mrs. Lunger stepped forward and donated lots in town and that settled the question. Miss Carrie Naylor was the first teacher at a salary of forty dollars a month.

In early June of 1887 a large herd of Texas ponies passed through town. Frank Ashton and C. C. Clark purchased a span, and the town enjoyed a good laugh watching them try to harness them. Although herds of Texas ponies being driven through Kansas and being sold along the way was not a common sight, it did happen occasionally. It could also be that after the cattle drives from Texas were over they sold their strings of horses, instead of taking them back to Texas.

There is tendency to think that Texas cattle drives began in the late 1860's and early 70's with shipping points in southern Kansas, at towns such as Abilene and Caldwell, but they began many years before this. There were drives into Missouri in the 1850's but they were stopped because of Texas tick fever, and as time passed the tick line that Texas cattle could not pass, moved westward into Kansas. As early as 1856, there were trail drives to Waterville, Marshall County, Kansas, a railroad point, and they lasted until the late 1860's.

It was not all work and no play; the Alexander's had a big dance in January; a strawberry and ice cream festival was held on June 5th at the M. E. church, bringing in seventeen dollars in proceeds. Republican and Democratic organizations held their meetings in Mayetta. A debating team was started. A dance took place on Thanksgiving night. The people met for church services held in the school house.

There was quite an excitement in town the other day. Two strangers were trying to trade a team of mules to Mr. Peachy for a team of horses. The trade was all agreed upon and Peachy and one of the men went into Elliott's store to pay the difference but before Peachy got his money the man who went into the store with him wanted to go out and see his partner and when he got to the wagon he jumped in and started the horses on a run, virtually stealing the team in broad daylight. Peachy, O. E. Miller and E. J. Lunger started in pursuit. They found the team in Holton and the sheriff seized the team but the men made their escape. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, August 31, 1887.

The wreck on the railroad caused a great many cars to be massed at this station. It was a close call for those that worked the ditcher engine, and it seems almost incredible that only one man was hurt and he not seriously.

Mr. Fox, of Meridian, is stacking hay all over town and covering it with wagon sheets. On account of the wreck he could not get cars to load in. He expects to ship two hundred tons into St. Joe. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, October 19, 1887.

Under the car wheels. A brakeman on the Rock Island ditcher was killed Tuesday evening at Mayetta: the circumstances of the case were as follows: the deceased jumped off the train to change the switch, and stepped back on the other track, when a backing train struck him, killing him instantly. ... the coroner brought the body to this city for burial yesterday, and shortly after it was buried in response to a telegram from his friends in St. Joseph, the remains were disinterred and sent to that city. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, November 3, 1887.

A railroad ditching machine did just what it says it does, digs drainage ditches along side the railroad tracks. The reporting of this accident is so garbled its hard to say exactly what happened. The mans' name was either Gass or Gash; the accident took place at Mayetta or at the bridge at Joe Seeks, north of Mayetta. This was the first of many train wrecks at or near Mayetta.

The early success of Mayetta owes a lot to the Prairie Band of Potawatomie Indians. Every happening that effected the Indians, affected the white people in the Mayetta area. As I heard of in a similar situation, of it being said, "one could not eat a cucumber without the other one burping." Being located near the

middle of the east end of the reservation brought a large amount of their trade to the stores in town and they also used the railroad for travel as much as the white people did.

Then there was the matter of Prohibition, the sale of whiskey to the Indians or whites being illegal. Mayetta became known as the town where anyone could get a drink at anytime. It was usually sold at the livery stable, to whites and to Indians, and both abused its use. The sale of bootleg whiskey did not just happen in the city of Mayetta, it was true in every city in Kansas. There were those who liked to drink, and those who didn't, and those who didn't drink didn't want anybody else to drink either. The Indian could not purchase alcohol before, during and after Prohibition, according to federal law.

Quite a sad accident occurred last Thursday as Mrs. E. E. Lunger and Mrs. Wm. Raisch were driving south of town. Their horse became frightened at some drunken Indians who were lying in the road, turned around, upsetting the buggy and throwing the ladies out. Mrs. Raisch was injured in the back, but not seriously. Mrs. Lunger was thrown on her head and face, injuring her seriously. She was unconscious for three hours. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, November 23, 1887.

Shooting matches are all the rage here now. The Coleman boys seem to be the best shoots, but there is one thing that seems to be prevalent at all our shooting matches, that great curse, "bug juice." We noticed some four or five drunken men at our last, and one of the men, Thomas Whalen met with a sad and may prove fatal accident. While staggering around through Mr. Clark's livery stable he fell into a stall containing a spirited horse and so frightened the horse that he trampled upon and kicked him until he was taken out insensible. The doctor was brought, but how bad he was hurt we at this writing unable to say. We supposed our gentle hint in our last would have been sufficient and also County Attorney Robison making a raid and capturing one of the whiskey venders together with a lot of the vile stuff we thought would surely have at least put a check on the traffic. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, December 15, 1887.

There was another shooting match on Cedar creek last Saturday. The largest part of the crowd was drunk. It is a shame and a disgrace to the community in the way these shooting matches are conducted.

There were some drunken Indians returning from the shooting matches who stopped in town. They went into the corner store and had their own way and did as they pleased, running two or three boys out with revolvers.

It would be a very good scheme for some of the officers of the law to come around a day or two before a shooting match and examine the boxes that are sent here for the different parties. Those boxes look as if they would hold a gallon jug and a handful of straw or hay. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, December 21, 1887.

Within a year's time the town had grown to a population of about one hundred, had a railroad depot, 21X50 feet, ran by H. S. Logan; a post office; four general stores, two blacksmith shops, one drug store, two hotels; two millinery shops; one livery and feed stable, one bank; one broom factory; one hardware store; one lumber yard; a furniture store; two restaurants; a jewelers' shop; one real estate agency; a drug store and two physicians, and had become a popular railroad shipping point. From pasture or a corn field into a booming town.

The livery stable served needs other than just supplying whiskey. Town people that did not want to keep a horse and rig would rent one when needed; traveling salesmen and other transients needed transportation, and the livery made good money in running the Indians out to their homes after they got off the train. Again there was some taking advantage of the Indians, charging them whatever the livery stable driver could get out of them, and in at least one case, trying to rob them. You will read later of a blotched, attempted robbery that resulted in the death of two white men.

There was a shortage of rental housing in town, and single men would probably rent space in a boarding house or in a private household, families and others in the hotel. Every spring there was a large influx of traveling salesman that invaded the neighborhood, that would rent a rig from the livery and stay at the hotel. Farmers complained that they couldn't do their field work done because of the many salesmen that were always interrupting them. Fruit tree and lightning rod salesmen seemed to be the ones that were most unwelcomed by the men, but I think the ladies and young children would enjoy these visits, helping to relieve the isolation and boredom of farm life.

The Tenth Commandment: You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor. Exodus 20:17. There were those who did covet the Prairie Band reservation and wanted to take it away from them. It seemed that they were also taken advantage of in many of their dealings with the

white man, such as the leasing of reservation land for haying and grazing purposes.

It was along in the early seventies when Holton was not a very big town. We had secured a railroad (the Narrow Gauge), and had settled the county seat question by building a county court house. Notwithstanding these improvements, Holton was still a small town, with nothing very big about it except the aspirations of its citizens.

Having secured a railroad and a court house, these aspiring citizens, began to look around for more worlds to conquer. So one night a public meeting was held in the court house for the purpose of devising ways and means for the purchase of the Pottawatomie Indian Reservation, a tract of fine land eleven miles square, lying southwest of town, the northwest corner of which was three miles due south. This reservation, which was owned and inhabited by the prairie band of Pottawatomie Indians, and some coyotes, was considered an eye sore to civilization and a barrier to our growth and prosperity. These red men of the forest, or more literally speaking, of the prairie, like the lilies of the field, toiled not, neither did they spin, and yet Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like them - not exactly like them.

At this meeting the proposition was seriously considered and discussed, to purchase the reservation. I did not attend the meeting, being unavoidably detained away by business. I presume my absence was the cause of my being appointed, along with four others, to go down and interview the head men of the tribe and see what could be done.

At this period of the country's history, the people generally, and especially the politicians, did not consider the Indian had any rights which a white man was under obligation to respect. I will say, however, that I do not believe very many at that meeting wanted to cheat the Indians out of their land. Some of them, in their remarks, admitted that they were moved by perfectly honest motives and were in favor of paying the owners all their land was worth.

Well, when the day dawned on which the committee had agreed to visit the reservation, a member brought around a buggy for me. I do not considerate it fair to the gentleman's memory to give his name, but I will call him Judge. Calling a man Judge in Kansas in those times did not give much information about his identity. When I arrived in Holton a few years previous, I think about every third man was introduced to me as Judge somebody. There was Judge Cowell, Judge Hitchcock, Judge Broderick, Judge Hoaglin, Judge Hopkins, Judge Stone, and I will not undertake to say how many more. At that period the judges dominated in numbers and influence all the other classes combined. Since then the colonels have increased, so that it is the question now of which are the most numerous. It has been an interesting and pretty close race with politicians against war veterans and auctioneers combined.

Well, the Judge and I, after threading a good many tracks across the prairie, with doubt and uncertainty, arrived at the Mission to find the agent whom we had been in correspondence had flown the coop. He evidently feared getting mixed up in the business. We also discovered before long that the other three members of the commission had contracted cold feet and at the last moment discovered that business matters absolutely demanded their presence at home.

However, we found all the head men of the tribe who controlled affairs, on hand with Eli Nadeau there to interpret. They were evidently loaded for bear, when as a matter of fact they should have been loaded for rabbits.

The Judge insisted that I should do all the talking. About this time it began to percolate through my more or less impervious cranium that I was performing the part usually assigned to the goat.

That, all the same, was an interesting meeting. A dozen or more Indians ranged around the council chamber. Dignity, reticence and Indian wisdom seemed to permeate and fill the very atmosphere. The pow wow lasted for about an hour, and long before it was through we were convinced that the honest, conscientious resolves of the Holton people not to cheat the Indians out of their reservation was entirely superfluous.

It was nearly five o'clock before we got into our buggy and started on our twenty-two mile trip to Holton. Well, we hadn't any reservation in our pockets, but as we had a couple of scalps of our own, we regarded ourselves as pretty lucky. As we were driving some two or three miles out, I said, "Judge, how much money have you in your pockets?" He looked startled like, as though he thought I was going to hold him up, but seeing I had no dangerous weapons, he laughed and said, "Oh, about \$1.75; why do you ask?" I answered, "It has just occurred to me that it is slightly humorous, not to say ridiculous, for two fellows to start out with only \$4.75 to buy 77,000 acres of good Kansas land."

It was dark when we crossed the Little Soldier at a different ford from where we had crossed it going down. I have visited the Mission a number of times since, and I have no recollection of crossing that stream twice at the same ford. Before it was fenced up the reservation was the easiest place to get lost that I have ever traveled over. After crossing that stream we had traveled only two or three miles, when the road petered out, and we were lost on the prairie. Neither of us were much versed in astronomy, but we knew enough to locate the North star, and with that for a guide we directed our course northeast. When we came to where the ground was rough and hilly, we took turns walking ahead to avoid gullies and sink holes in the draws. Once we had to change our course and travel a mile or two out of our way to get across the head of Cedar creek. Then it began to cloud up and our guiding star disappeared, but fortunately about the same time we struck a well traveled road and as good fortune would have it we took the direction that led us to Holton, where we arrived about midnight, pretty tired but thankful that we retained our scalps, and with a firm resolve never again to dicker for another Indian reservation. ("When we

Dickered for an Indian Reservation," *The Holton Recorder*, October 23, 1913.

Some twelve or fifteen years after the events of the story related in last week's Recorder, a company consisting of politicians and business men, mostly politicians, of Topeka, was organized with the object of leasing the Pottawatomie reservation. This body of as fine land as the sun shines on of 78,000 acres, was nine-tenths of it virgin prairie that had been unweeded by plow or cultivator, and where the succulent blue stem prairie grass, the best cattle food on earth, grew and waved in great luxuriance. The Indians did not have one-twentieth enough stock to use up this fine pasture, and the only use that was made of the surplus was by the farmers living around and within two or three miles, who pastured their small herds and occasionally put up a few stacks of hay, for which privilege they paid the dusky owners a small stipend.

The Topeka contingent knew all these facts, hence their longing to get control of it. They concluded to lease it, and having in their organization a number of the shrewdest politicians in the state, including a member of congress, they had little trouble convincing the head men of the tribe that it would be of great financial advantage to the tribe to lease to them all the surplus land the Indians did not use, owing to their stand in with the authorities at Washington, neither did they have much trouble in having their lease approved by the Interior department.

The next move was to make a wire fence around the reservation. Up to this time the proceedings had been conducted with great secrecy, but when they commenced building the fence, the farmers and stock men living bordering on the reservation, and a few Holton business men who did business with the red men, began to sit up and take notice. Some of the Indians, too, who had not been consulted and felt they had not received their share of the inducement, felt aggrieved. But no one could see how the catastrophe could be avoided or headed off, at least no one proposed a remedy, and the building of the fence proceeded until several miles on the east side were completed.

One evening a number of Indians, or men who donned the Indian garb and looked like Indians, were discovered picnicking at a grove not far from where Mayetta now flourishes like a green bay tree. They wore a quiet determined look, in addition to their Indian dress.

The next morning it was discovered that several miles of fence was a wreck. The wire was cut in clothes line length and the posts burned to ashes. The Topeka company made a big row about it and threatened all sorts of prosecution and dire results to the guilty culprits, but it was then, as it has always been, is now, and I presume will always be, "Catching before hanging," there wasn't a single arrest made. If there had been, we have a suspicion that the arrested had it arranged to prove such an alibi as would have cleared them before any Jackson county jury that could have been summoned.

That Topeka company, like the committee that figured in a former story, knew when they had enough, so the fence building was never resumed, and the lease was terminated. "Another Reservation Story," *The Holton Recorder*, October 30, 1913.

On February 8, 1887, the Dawes Allotment Act was signed into law whose purpose was to assimilate the Native Americans into the white man's way of life. It was felt by many that this was the only way that they could survive in the white man's world. Others felt that the act was a plot to get hold of reservation lands; probably both view points were true to some extent.

The reservation lands were to be allotted to individual members of the Pottawatomie Prairie Band, 160 acres to heads of families and lesser amounts to single people and orphans, thus encouraging them to become farmers. It was also supposed to break down tribal bonds, and reserved some of the leftover land for tribal uses, the remaining land to be sold to white settlers. All this was to be done without tribal consent, and if after four years individual members of the tribe still hadn't chosen their allotments, an allotment would be chosen for each one of them by the US government. Everyone who accepted the allotment and lived on one was to be given US citizenship, but the Potawatomie's also became subject to state laws. The Potawatomie's began taking their allotments in May of 1892, which were to be held in trust by the Indian Bureau for twenty-five years. The 1903 Jackson County Atlas shows that almost all the reservation land had been allotted by that time.

This forced allotment of land did not set well with many of the Prairie Band, as years before the Potawatomie's had split into two groups, the Citizen Band who wanted to live as the white's did, and the Prairie Band who wanted to keep their old culture. The Citizen Band had sold their part of the reservation and moved to Oklahoma, the Prairie Band stayed on in the diminished reserve, living their old way of life.

When the tribe split in the late 1860's, the people at that time, for the most part, lived along Big Soldier Creek in bark wigwams, and had kept their language, customs and their way of life, and they did not want to change. An interpreter was needed to speak with them but I assume that some could also speak English. They received government payments twice during the year from annuities that were established with the

money the tribe had received from prior sales of their lands, but it doesn't seem to have been a large amount.

Also about this time the tribal administrative offices were moved to Nadeau in the southwest corner of the diminished reservation. Often referred to as the Mission, the Potawatomie Indian agent was located there, also a post office, a boarding school where the pupils were taught English, farming and the manual trades, and there were various support buildings, such as a blacksmith shop, dormitories and barns.

At the request of Geo. W. James. Esq., we, with several others, attended, last Monday, a council of the leading men of the Pottawatomie Indians, which was held near the New Mission, on their reservation. This council was called by the chiefs of the tribe, at the request of the Secretary of the Interior and was one of the gravest, and of the most concern to the Indians ever held on this reservation. It was for the purpose of allowing members of the tribe to express their sentiment relative to their remaining under the control of the Department of the Interior or be transferred to the War Department. Maj. M. H. Newlin, through his interrupter, Mr. Nadeau, presented the matter to the Indians, and after a few short speeches by the chiefs and the medicine man, a vote was taken, which was unanimously in favor of remaining with the Interior Department, they having some fear and doubts as to the practicality of placing themselves under the charge of the "Great Father's braves."

After the vote was taken, Mas-quas, for the chiefs and tribe, made the following and concluding speech, which he desired interpreted and sent to the "Great Father" at Washington.

Chiefs and others have stated 'we feel happy and pleased to have a choice to elect how they should be controlled.' I have heard the opinion of the chiefs who say that at the time peace with us was made they were glad that we inferred from them (the President and commissioners) that we would be as one people, as long as the earth should exist; that the President would be our father who promised to look after our rights; that the day would come when his wards would be settled all over the face of the earth and for all time the president would protect them in possession of our property. Therefore, the chiefs were satisfied and are now satisfied that such has been done. I am, indeed, ignorant as to how we shall be treated of we turned over to his (the President's) braves for protection, therefore I would rather remain as at present, under the care of the Interior Department., where I fell satisfied I will receive full protection and encouragement, and were my property will not be squandered, but saved for our children and our children's children for all time to come. I do not wish to make new rules or contracts, but desire to remain under the guardianship of the government as stipulated in our treaties, and as have been exercised in the past."

Mr. Newlin endeavored to persuade the Indians to have a picture of the council taken, but, after mature deliberation, it was concluded by them that it would be better if not done.

At the time the proposition to turn the Indian bureau from the Interior to the War department was first proposed in Congress, we expressed ourselves as in favor of the latter, but we are lead to believe that the Pottawatomie Indians acted wisely in their decision, in as much as but few tribes have the cautious, shrewd and honorable agent that the Potawatomie's, Kickapoo's, Chippewa's and Christian Indian have.

Four hundred and twenty-seven Pottawatomie Indians now occupy a reservation eleven miles square, or 77,357 acres, situated within the limits of Jackson county, which was obtained by them through the provisions of article 4, of the treaty of 1846, made and concluded at Council Bluffs, Iowa. The article stipulates that "*the land shall remain their land and home forever.*" The Indians paid the government \$87,000 for this body of land. These lands are of the best in the state.

These Indians have placed to their credit on the books at the department, \$600,000, drawing 5 per cent interest, which fund was derived from treaties made in the year 1795 to 1846.

The number of acres under cultivation is 1,600, which is made into 101 farms; ranging in size from 4 to 60 acres; 900 acres are in corn, which is generally well cultivated; the balance sown in wheat, oats, and used as gardens. They have 1,000 head of horses, ponies and mules; 57 sheep; 600 cattle; 1,200 hogs, and a large quantity of poultry. Each farm has a team of horses, wagon, and tolerably good farm implements. The farms are usually fenced with an eight-rail worm fence, and is stock proof. Five years ago there were but few houses on the reserve, and they were pretty much occupied by white men, while now there are 101 exclusive of those of the agency. There is an orchard on every farm. Considerable stock and produce is sold each year by these Indians.

The school and boarding house, under the charge of Mr. and Mrs. John Newlin, was started five years ago, and these, together with the school farm, have acted as a stimulus to spur the Indians on to more active farming and to the obtaining of an education, which they are beginning to feel the need of. The farm attached to the school contains 63 acres, which the school children cultivate; and indeed it shows a master touch - the corn looks well and is clean, while the garden is one of the finest we have seen this year. The boarding, school, laundry, milk and smoke and blacksmith buildings and barn were built by and now are the property of the Pottawatomies. They cost something over \$12,000. The council house is the only building on the reserve belonging to the government.

The average daily attendance at the school, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1878, was thirty pupils, and they are making fine progress too.

As all our readers know, we have from time to time, through the columns of the Recorder and in private

conversation, urged our citizens on, that the removal of the Pottawatomie Indians be effected, yet we must say that under the management and care of Maj. Newlin, the efficient agent, and his family, and George W. James, the gentlemanly clerk, the Indians have, within the last five years made rapid strides toward progress, civilization and Christianity. ("Pottawatomie," *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, August 8, 1878.)

Soon after the allotment of land began, loads of lumber were noticed to be heading west out of Mayetta to be used for the building of houses for the tribal members who had accepted their allotments, although in 1903 some of the people still chose to live in wigwams. There was also a movement of white farmers onto the reservation, having rented Indian allotments to farm on.

The passing of James V. Blandin, a member of the Prairie band of Pottawatomie Indians, occurred at his home on the Reservation on the morning of the 17th, instant, and was buried at Holy Cross on the morning of the 18th. Mr. Blandin was a man of more than ordinary ability and the official interrupter of the tribe for many years. The writer of this notice was the agent of the Pottawatomie agency during the stormy period of the allotments of lands made to Indians of the Agency, and Mr. Blandin was the friend whom he relied on in this time of stress and always found him true to his trust as advisor. He would never betray his Indian friends, but his knowledge of the Indians' character was such he saved the agent from many of the pitfalls that he may have dropped into. Mr. Blandin was adopted by the tribe when a boy and was always carried on the rolls in full membership, receiving all the benefits conferred upon the tribe by the Government, receiving allotments of land for himself and family. He and the late George W. James were outstanding figures in the tribe and both enjoyed the full confidence of the chief and council which included the best and strongest men of the tribe. The passing of these two white men and the chief Shaughnes-see, Masquos the speaker, and Kack-kack the brave, marked the end of the ages old customs of the rule of the Indian chief and his council. These two white men were friends of the agent and always he had their advice and council in his efforts to build up and increase the efficiency of the school, encouraging the older Indians to send their children, thus aiding the teachers in their efforts to civilize and prepare them for the new conditions which they must adopt. If they had never contributed their influence for any other object this alone accounts for much. J. A. S. *The Holton Recorder*, July 20, 1922.

A war cloud about the size of a football hovered over the reserve last week, and as a result some of Uncle Samuel's charges may again get the opportunity to languish in the "Bastile" over at Ft. Riley, undergoing a sort of civilizing leavening.

The trouble grew out of some hay land being leased by the Indians to some whites, and afterwards a few renegade Indians driving the hay makers away, threatening their lives. Ever since the allotment of land took place on the reserve there have been a few Indians who have been lawless and desirous of creating a disturbance. The police, however, have been able at all times to keep the unruly ones in check. The ring leaders of this trouble have been Mat-We-Aish-We, Wak-Wa-Bush-Cuk and Wak-E-Tah. At least two of these have already seen the inside of the prison at Ft. Riley, and it is not unlikely they'll renew their acquaintance with the place. When they drove away the haymakers Under Sheriff Reasoner and Chief-of-Police Charles Shepard went down to arrest the belligerents, but were met by the above named Indians with a number of followers, all armed with Winchesters. The agent was informed of the turn of affairs and telegraphed immediately for orders for the disposal of the cases. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, July 30, 1895.

The war cloud on the reservation has blown away, and after all the noise, it seems the only trouble was that some parties were cutting hay on unallotted land in opposition to the wishes of some of the Indians, and it looks pretty plainly now as through someone had been trespassing upon the rights of poor Lo. I am informed that a few of Uncle Sam's troops are now at Hoyt to quell the disturbance. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, August 8, 1895.

July 29 [1895]. When Matarash, a Pottawatomie, resisted arrest after difficulty with whites over hay-cutting rights on the reservation, it was found that local authorities had no jurisdiction. After communication with the Commissioner of Indian Affairs at Washington Mararash signed a peace bond. Rumors of war paint and dances had caused the organization of a company to "protect the State House." (Annals of Kansas, Vol. I, 1886-1925, page 196.)

It would seem that a permit to lease a hay field or to harvest hay on the reserve was needed, and I don't know what the cost for that was, although it was probably a nominal amount. In October of 1887, a Mr. Fox, from Meriden, was in town buying up hay and because of the train wreck was unable to get all the cars he need for shipment. The hay was stacked all over town and covered with wagon tarps. He expected to ship two hundred tons to St. Joseph, Missouri. In August of 1888, the US government, for some unstated reason, suspended hay cutting on the reservation.

I made the mistake of going with my neighbor one day to bale hay on his aged parents farm. We used an old antiquated baling machine, the type that would have been used to bale hay in the late 1800's, being powered by a steam engine. A person who ran a steam engine was called an engineer, whether it was a railroad engine or one used in the harvest fields.

The baler was stationary and the loose hay brought in on a wagon and pulled up alongside the baler. A belt about eight inches wide was hooked up to the pulley on the baler and ran to the old John Deere's power takeoff. At times the belt became slick and slipped and syrup from a jug of Karo syrup was poured on it. The hay was feed by pitchfork into an opening in the top and was compressed into square bales, and there was a constant thump thump as the piston compressed the hay. Someone had to sit at the outlet that the bales came out and place boards between the bales and wire them, but I am not sure how this was done as I was too busy trying to keep the hopper full of hay.

The Indian agent also leased grazing rights on the reserve at one dollar a head. In April of 1888 it was reported that thousands of heads of cattle were being brought onto the reservation to graze for the summer. Cattle were selling at \$1.34 per hundred weight in the fall of 1888, so there was a good profit margin.

Since the county commissioners enacted a general herd law, farmers are having considerable trouble in finding pasture for their cattle, and the question is being asked everyday why do we need a general herd law after working hard for twenty-five or thirty years to secure good fences, and now to have law that imposes a penalty of \$1 per day for every head of stock that runs out, it seems is working a great hardship, and is liable to be the cause of a great deal of trouble and expensive legation. True, the country is being all fenced up, and there is very little pasture outside, but here along the reservation farmers heretofore have had the privilege of paying the Indians \$1 per head and allowing their stock to come home nights, but now as the law is farmers have got to pay herders from \$2 to \$2.50 per head, consequently there is very little money in raising cattle. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, May 2, 1889.

At a regular meeting of the Mayetta Farmer's Alliance, [forerunner of our present day Co-op's] held March 22d, the following resolutions were adopted: First: - that whereas the great cattle syndicates who have heretofore been permitted to use the public domain for free and indiscriminate grazing purposes to the great detriment of cattle raising farmers, inasmuch as the said syndicates have leased said public domain for almost nothing, which enable said syndicates to put their cattle on the market at less than one third of the cost that the same kind of cattle cost the farmer, and

Whereas, the great industry of cattle raising by the farmer is being forced to compete with range cattle ... believe that the removal of the syndicate cattle from the public domain will result in a great good to the interest of the farmers of the west and to farmers in general. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, March 27, 1890.

Because the town was not incorporated there were no town officials, and so no city marshal, the only law available at the time were the Cedar Township justice of the peace, and the township constable. Of course there was the county sheriff, but he was a long ways away. It was helpful when there was a theft that the telegraph could be used to notify Holton or Topeka, if fugitives happened to be escaping in those directions. For the most part law enforcement devolved to the individual citizen. Fist fights in town were common way to settle disputes, I having heard of and have seen them taking place in town when I was a young man.

There was rowdy behavior by some of the young men, especially during church services. They would ride by the churches firing their revolvers, yelling at the top of their lungs They sometimes entered the churches creating disturbances by using obscene and profane language. (A friend of mine would have said propane language.) Occasionally they resorted to acts of vandalism and theft, stealing lap robes, buggy whips, horse blankets and harness, or cutting harness up. At times worshipers would come out of church and find their teams and wagons gone, being taken for a joy ride, as cars are stolen and used nowadays. When people returned home from church or from other places, some found their homes ransacked and valuable items missing. Isolated farmsteads have always been an easy target for thieves.

Richard Elliott received a very severe wound on the side of his head, which might have proved fatal. The circumstances are as far as I can learn are that Chas. Miller on Saturday, about twelve o'clock, came to Mr. Elliott's store inquiring for Mr. Elliott, and in a settlement about some business matter angry words followed and Mr. Miller struck Mr. Elliott on the head with a crow bar, inflicting a very ugly wound. Mr. Elliott went to Holton Saturday evening to have his wound dressed. Those crowbars are dangerous weapons to strike a man with, and it might have been a great deal worse. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, September 6, 1888.

Some excitement has been caused in our neighborhood by the arrest of John Denman and John Rook, two

hucksters, living at Topeka, for stealing chickens and turkeys. Compliant was first made against said parties before Justice Chase by J. W. Lewis. In the absence of the regular constable, Mr. Lewis and J. M. Robinson were deputized to serve the writ, and after a while returned with the information that their horses had given out, and they had to turn back without catching the thieves. Then the regular constable was sent to Topeka, where the parties were arrested and brought back and arraigned before 'Squire Chase. Now there was a sensation indeed when it was discovered that the first named deputies had overtaken the thieves and compromised the matter by taking some \$24 in cash and a watch; the whole value being \$30. Lewis and Robinson gave up most of the money, realizing no doubt that honesty is still, as of old, the best policy. Messrs. Deman and Rook were by the squire committed to jail, and are now incarcerated in the Jackson county bastille in default of a fine of \$20 and costs, in all amounting to \$40. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, March 7, 1889.

Quite an excitement was created in our quiet village on the morning of the 5th when it was discovered that some one had appropriated V. R. Lunger's new cart, which he had purchased a short time before. It was first thought that someone had removed the cart simply for a joke, but on investigation it was discovered that the cart had been drawn off by a horse and gone in the direction of Topeka. Later it was learned that Cal Crane had lost a set of single buggy harness and that Wm. Miller had lost a new saddle, and still later it was learned that Pat Gary had lost a horse from the reservation, and it is thought more than likely that this horse drew Mr. Lungers's cart away, and the thief or thieves that stole the cart also stole the horse, harness and saddle. It is evident that the thief or thieves need the attention of the law.

I understand that a certain party who had been living with the Indians for some time, was a few days ago summarily ejected by one of the Indian police, and the said party is no where to be found in this neighborhood, consequently strong suspicion is being attached to him as the party who did the stealing lately. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, June 30, 1889.

Quite an excitement was created in our quiet burg when it was discovered that some thief or thieves had stole a number of ready made pants from the store of T. E. Ashton, belonging to R. W. Sweet, who is now in Chicago. The circumstances are as follows: On the morning of the 19th inst. While the section hands of the railroad were at work south of here three young men came along and offered to sell the section hands some ready made pants, which led them to examine the pants, and some of them were familiar with the cost mark of R. W. Sweet detected Mr. Sweet's mark on one of the pair of pants offered for sale, and the pants being offered at such extremely low prices naturally excited suspicion that all was not right, and the foreman immediately reported the facts to T. H. Igou, and that gentleman upon investigation, found he was several pairs of pants short. He immediately swore out a warrant for the arrest of the guilty parties, and Constable R. P. Whalen, in company with Harry Reist, his deputy, started in pursuit of the thieves, and about eleven o'clock, at the town of Hoyt, arrested the guilty parties, who gave their names as John Rodney, Cyrus Perkins and John Harper, and brought them to Mayetta to answer said charge. After the trial in our J. P. court they were found guilty and sentenced to pay a fine of ten dollars and costs and to be imprisoned in the county jail thirty days. They were sent in the care of two constables, but somehow two of the rascals made good their escape. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, March 27, 1890.

In order to make homemade ice cream, lemonade and for the butcher shop to preserve the meat during hot weather, ice was needed. The Polar Ice Company of Mayetta had been formed by February of 1889 and had about forty tons of ice on hand. It would have been cut from a body of water such as a creek using hand saws, and was stored in a building and was insulated with sawdust. It ranged from five to eight inches in thickness.

I don't know when the first death in Mayetta took place, but there were deaths taking place in the area from typhoid fever, and in April of 1889, an outbreak of measles and mumps was prevalent, forty cases being reported in and around Mayetta.

There were four options for local burial; the Stanley Cemetery, two and one half miles south and one west of Mayetta; Cedar Grove Cemetery, three and a half miles east of Mayetta, where many of the early settlers of the Cross Roads area are buried; the Brick Cemetery located one mile east and about six miles north of Mayetta and if you were Catholic and wanted to be buried in a Catholic cemetery, the nearest one was Mount Calvary, west of Holton. There was no embalming available in the area at that time, so burials took place as fast as possible. Ice was sometimes used to prolong the time before the burial took place.

The ladies of Mayetta have organized a sewing society called the Willing Workers. The officers are as follows: President, Mrs. E. E. Lunger; vice president, Mrs. Wenner; secretary, Mrs. F. E. Ashton; Mrs. J. W. Lewis. The society meets every Thursday at the Mayetta school house. All the ladies are invited to attend.

Decoration day ended in a very unbecoming and shameful manner at Mayetta, caused by a portion of the male

inhabitants imbibing too freely of whiskey, or a very injurious kind of cider. A large amount of profane language was used in one or more instances and women were very scurrilously spoken to. For a few weeks we would suggest that this would be a good locality for the grand jury to work in. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, June 6, 1888.

The dogs of this vicinity are taking all the old tin cans out of town, and they are not slow in getting out of town either for the cans are always tied to their tails. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, June 20, 1888.

Mayetta had its first blaze on the 10th. Burt Wilson had his house and all its contents burned. The circumstances, as far as I can learn are as follows: Mr. Wilson and his wife went on the reserve to cook for his brother, who is making hay there, taking with them their cook stove and a few of their household goods, such as would be needed at the camp, and left an old man in charge of the house, by the name of John Harr, and it seems he wished to make a cup of tea, and lighted a fire in the heating stove, and there being no flu in that part of the house, and the stove having a very strong draft, the shingles ignited from the heat of the pipe and the whole house was soon in a sheet of flame. As it happened at about 2 o'clock, and the wind was blowing a heavy gale, and there was very few men in town, nothing could be saved. The loss falls very heavily on Mr. Wilson, as there was no insurance on the building, and as Mr. Wilson is badly crippled, it behooves our generous citizens to see to it that his loss is made good. No blame is attached to Uncle Johnny Harr, or any one, but this demonstrates the fact that it always pays to build flues. I understand Mrs. Lunger is circulating a subscription paper in behalf of Mr. Wilson, and is meeting with good success. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, September 6, 1888.

Other events that happened in 1888 were, two hundred teams were in town on a Saturday in mid March; eight inches of snow fell on November 14; Lafe Crane gave a free dinner on Thanksgiving day for forty or more of his neighbors.

At this season of the year it is always in order to remind our citizens of the necessity of cleaning the streets of the rubbish accumulated there during the winter and spring. No one needs to be told how a general cleaning up of the streets and yards adds to the general attractiveness of a city and gives a good name abroad. We need to exercise an earnest public spirit and should take a strong interest and pride in the development of our pleasant little village. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, May 2, 1889.

Cleanliness of the town was important to some, but not others, and with the coming of spring a general cleanup was needed; piles of manure, garbage, tin cans, trash of all kinds littered the alleys and streets. It must have been very aromatic, and a local correspondent remarked on the enormous amount of flies in town. There had to have also been a large rat population. Because of all the spilled grain on the ground there were huge flocks of birds in town, numbering in the hundreds, if not thousands. Lack of sanitation was not only a Mayetta problem, having read that when watermelons were finished being eaten by the workers in The Recorder newspaper office in neighboring Holton, they would just toss the rinds out of the back windows into the alley just as others on the block did.

On the evening of the 19th instant Mayetta's witnessed the heaviest rain and hail storm we have seen in several years. It commenced about 6 o'clock, and for about half an hour the hail and rain came down in torrents. The hail stones were not very large, but they covered the ground to a depth of two or three inches, and did great damage to listed corn, washing it out and burying a great deal of it out of sight. Very little wind accompanied the storm, or it may have been worse. As it was there no one was hurt, but I understand V. R. Lunger was pretty severely pelted by the hail while running to his cave, but he was able to be on the streets next morning, not looking much worse for his narrow escape. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, May 23, 1889.

At a meeting held in the Mayetta school house on the evening of the 10th, it was decided that we celebrate the coming fourth in grand style. C. C. Clark was chosen chairman and Harry Reist secretary. The programme is as follows: Reading of the Declaration of Independence by Elbert Winner. Addresses by John F. Lee, of Holton, E. P. Jones, J. W. Williams and others. Committee on the program: John Kelly, Almon Durkee and C. C. Clarke. The following officers were elected for the day: President, C. C. Clark, secretary, Frank Ashton; treasurer, Harry Reist, marshal, Pat Fahey; assistant marshal, Chas. Renfro. The best band music will be furnished, and there will be splendid singing by the South Cedar glee club. Dinner at 1 p. m. After dinner is when the fun commences.

There will be one of the most novel foot races ever witnessed - four men running on two legs. Also glass ball shooting, sack races, wheelbarrow races, climbing a greased pole - for which the successful one will receive a nice prize.

For those who wish to trip the light fantastic toe there will be built a large and commodious platform built. In fact there will be everything incidental to such gatherings as will excite the mirth of both young and old. We have made

arrangements with the Pottawatomie Indians to be present in their full Indian costume and perform their noted war dance. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, June 13, 1889.

The Mayetta Brass Band was formed in May of 1889 and played at the Fourth of July celebration, which was attended by many people from Topeka and Holton. Since the dance platform was still in place another dance was held two weeks later.

Other events that happened in 1889 included a play called "The Turn of the Tide, or Wrecked in Port," was held at the Mayetta school house in March with admission prices of 15 and 25 cents; Fahey Brothers had three head of cattle killed when they wandered off the reserve and were hit by the trains' cow catcher; the Rev. Charles M. Sheldon of Topeka, who would go on write the best selling book, "In his Steps," in 1896, lectured at the Mayetta school house on December 10th and 11th, on "Two Ways of Life: Which Will you Chose"; a carload of potatoes and corn and other food stuffs were donated by the people of the Mayetta area for the relief of the people of Stevens County, Kansas who were suffering from a severe drought.

Quite an excitement was created among our sporting men last Thursday, when it was discovered that one of the Pottawatomie Indians' prairie wolves [coyotes] had strayed a little too near our railroad depot, whether in search of a small fox or fat fowl" is not known; but anyway the temptation was too much for our young sportsmen. About twenty together with a half dozen dogs, started in hot pursuit of his wolfship. After running him all day, and many times sure they had him, at sundown the animal somehow escaped their clutches, and they all met on a certain hill, very tired. But as tired as they were, they passed the following resolutions:

Resolved, "That the next wolf that comes loitering around our depot trying to steal our little foxes, we will shoot him on the spot." *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, February 6, 1890.

The farmer's alliance men will please not tear down the window curtains at our school house. If they want to darken their windows, they must furnish their own curtains and clean out the school house after they get through with their meetings, as our lady teacher does not propose to clean up the tobacco juice and dirt which they make. each meeting.

The wolf hunt last Friday was not very well attended. There were about six or eight boys from Holton who would curse everybody they saw and draw their revolvers and point them at strangers. Such boys as these ought to be lashed with a whip until there is not an inch of hide left on them. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, April 9, 1890.

Last Thursday six wagons passed through here from Oklahoma, trying to get back to Nebraska, and for genuine destitution we have never seen anything equal to it. The were entirely destitute of everything to sustain life. The generous people of Mayetta took up a collection and purchased them a good supply of provisions, and sent them on their way rejoicing. ...

The citizens of Mayetta are much gratified to learn there is a bright prospect for the opening up of at least a portion of the Pottawatomie reservation for settlement, which will benefit the county in general and Mayetta in particular. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, September 4, 1890.

Other news from 1890: In May one hundred tickets were sold to Pottawatomie Indians going to Topeka to receive their payments; a baseball game in July between Mayetta and Birmingham was won by the Mayetta team; the railroad was improving their stock yards and widening the switches in October.

Snow fell on the 1st to the depth of about ten inches, and drifted in some places to the depth of six and eight feet, which rendered travel well neigh impossible, except on foot. The storm was the worst we have witnessed in many years, but while the snow did considerable damage, yet the great benefit we expect to derive from it will amply repay all damage done by replenishing the stock water, and in the preservation of the beautiful wheat prospects.

We are credibly informed that an Indian by the name of Mat-che, living on Little Soldier, was frozen to death, and the circumstances show conclusively that the Indian died more from the effects of poison whiskey than from the effects of freezing. The circumstances as nearly as we could learn that the Indian Mat-che, in company with another Indian, drove into Mayetta Wednesday morning in a one horse cart, put their horse in a livery stable and took the first train to Horton. They returned late in the evening in a beastly state of intoxication, and bringing with them a jug of firewater. Just at dusk they left for their homes on Little Soldier, and when within a few hundred yards of Mat-che's house the two Indians began to crave something more pure than fire water, and alighted from their cart and went to a small stream to quench their burning thirst. When they returned the other Indian, whose name I failed to learn, claims Mat-che was so drunk as to unable to stand or walk, and he himself was nearly as bad, hence he could not succeed in getting him into the cart. He remained with Mat-che until he was found dead, or at least until all the whiskey was gone, and then gave the alarm. What kind of place is Horton anyhow? *The Holton Weekly*

Recorder, January 8, 1891.

Owing to drifted snow roads are almost impassable. The railroad snow plows were brought into use again last Thursday. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, January 14, 1893.

Quite a serious accident, which might have proven fatal, happened to a passenger on the Rock Island Saturday morning. The circumstances as near as I could learn were that while the 6 o'clock passenger train, east bound, was running at a pretty high rate of speed, south of Mayetta, a passenger by the name of Michael O'Brien went out on the platform and by some means lost his balance and fell overboard and dislocated his shoulder and received some bad cuts on his head. The conductor, after finding there was a man overboard, stopped the train and backed up to where the man had fallen off, but failed to find him. The section hands immediately went out and found the man about a quarter mile east of the track, wandering around in a dazed manner, and brought him back to the station. Dr. Scott was telegraphed for and came immediately and as soon the man was as comfortable as could be expected under the circumstances. Much credit is due to Wm. Lunger and wife for their kind services rendered the wounded man, who is now in a fair way to recover, and is resting comfortably at the Mayetta House. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, February 5, 1891.

The poor Indians only received \$60 per head last week. They got their pay in checks this time. The merchants say it is the best way, as they have to cash the checks, and get the full amount of their bill. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, February 25, 1891.

Quite a sensation was created in this neighborhood on the morning of the 20th. The circumstances as near as we could learn was as follows: John Tork, who lives about three miles southeast from here, had been having some painting done on the inside of his dwelling, and the smell of paint being pretty strong in the room, he had left the windows open for ventilation, and about 2 o'clock the wind began to blow pretty strong and Mr. Tork got up to close the windows when he heard a strange noise, which he supposed to be cats fighting, but on listening a little closer he became convinced that the noise resembled a child crying, and came from the direction of the barn. Seizing a lantern he made haste in the direction of the noise, and what was his horror to find there lying on the ground, and right among his hogs and horses, a little female baby, almost chilled to death, left there by some unknown fiend or fiends to be devoured by the swine or trampled to death by the horses. The child, who is about three months old, was wrapped in an old shawl, with a piece of paper pinned to it bearing the inscription "Emma Cofman," and also had with it a nursing bottle partly filled with milk. How long the little innocent child had lain there now one knows, but it must have been for some time, as the hogs had rooted all around it and covered its little face with straw, and it was almost frozen. Mr. Tork took the little friendless waif into his house, and by the kind attention of Mrs. Tork, whom we must now designate as its godmother, is now doing as well as to be expected. Who the real parents are will be in all human probability remain shrouded in mystery; but one thing is certain, the child could not have fallen into more kind or sympathetic hands than Mr. and Mrs. Tork. When we started to write up this incident we had no idea of making a fairy tale, but I fear my readers will somewhat construe this paragraph in that light, but when they are fully convinced of the absolute truth of this story they can refresh their minds with the story of the good shepherds who were feeding their flocks had made a similar discovery, and here we must liken Mr. Tork to the good shepherds and Mrs. Tork to the godmother.

Later. - In regard to the infant that was found by Mr. Tork in such mysterious manner recently: the child's mother came up from Topeka this morning and claimed it. Her name is Mattie Chilson, daughter of Philander Chilson, who used to live here. In a short interview with the young woman, who is about eighteen years old, we elicited the following statement from her. First, that the child in question was hers; second, that the child was taken from the Orphan's Home, in Topeka, without her knowledge by some person unknown to her. The young woman boarded the noon train with her child, accompanied by Mrs. Tork and her brother, Lafe Crane. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, March 26, 1891.

There is a certain party living in this town who is either mentally deprived or chuck full of pure cussedness. He is everlastingly keeping up a turmoil with his neighbors, going around town with a pitch fork or some other weapon in his hand and threatening to kill or terribly maim some of the most peaceful inhabitants of this place, frightening the ladies terribly and calling on old and infirm widows with threatening letters written notices to let property, which was their own, under the pain and penalty of the law. Will some one please inform us whether strange freaks of the kind indicate a softening of the brain or is it plain cussedness. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, May 21, 1891.

Did some one say it rained on the 13th or have we been dreaming. About three inches of water was running through the streets of Mayetta Saturday evening, which will retard farmers in cultivating corn. S. R. Jones' barn was struck by lightening during the heavy rain storm Saturday evening, but did little damage. ... During the storm Saturday evening the cupola on the Mayetta school house was struck by lightening and the bell knocked down,

damaging the building to the extent of about \$50. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, June 18, 1891.

Just when mankind begins to feel smug and secure, Mother Nature has a way of showing who is really in charge. There being no way at the time; a scientific way other than the barometer, of forecasting what the weather was going to be like, the unexpected always had to be expected. From hundreds of years of watching the weather people observed certain signs that gave some warning, and they gave birth to such sayings as: If the sun sets clear on Friday night it will rain before Tuesday morning; A cricket singing on the hearth means that copious rains will flood the earth; If the sun sets clear it will not rain before morning.

When I have returned from trips to the east of the Missouri River I am always struck by how the trees are so much shorter out here on the tall grass prairie; our largest trees here being the size of modest sized ones in the eastern forests. Because a man on foot, on horseback or driving a team caught out on the prairie during a storm was the highest point on the prairie, he was the most likely target of lightning strikes and people were killed.

A winter blizzard that caught people away from home was unpredictable. Country school houses were built in locations so that pupils would not have to travel more than two or three miles on foot each way to and from home. Think of the responsibility the teachers had in sending the children home when a blizzard was imminent or in progress, wondering if they should send them home or keep them, not sure if they were doing the right thing. Families or individuals returning from church, town, or from visits to friends and relatives were often caught unaware and had trouble reaching their homes. Some Indians who were caught out on the reserve, away from home during a blizzard or intensely cold weather, froze to death.

Quite an excitement was created here Saturday evening. When a freight train No. 31 pulled into Mayetta, it was discovered that a car containing freight was on fire. It seems that contrary to orders five barrels of gasoline had been loaded into the car and had in some manner become ignited. The car was uncoupled and left standing on the side track in a smoldering condition until Sunday evening, when the regular freight came along and pulled it to Horton. One of the brakemen on train No. 32 had his face badly burned by opening a door of the car. It was lucky there was no explosion. Messes Elliott and Ashton had considerable freight on the car, which was a total loss. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, September 10, 1891.

Quite an excitement was created here about 12 o'clock last Thursday. Just as the south bound freight train passed Mayetta it seems that sparks from the smokestack set fire to some prairie grass, and the wind, which was blowing a heavy gale, rapidly spread the flames to a pasture that adjoins Mayetta, and but for the efforts of about fifty men, women and boys in fighting the fire, now one can estimate the great damage that might have been done, for had the fire crossed the road and entered the corn field north of the pasture, no human effort could have staved its progress. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, November 5, 1891.

At a horse race on the reserve today between Lafe Crane and a man from Nebraska some horses changed owners on the bets. Betting your horses on something you are not sure of, is very foolish, boys. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, November 11, 1891.

Other news from 1891: In March there was a shortage of cattle feed, hay and fodder, not only being scarce, but also expensive; in April the US government began to survey the reservation in preparation for the allotment of land to individual Indian owners; another grass fire in December was caused by sparks from the engine's smokestack.

On January 21, 1892, three inches of snow fell and it was fifteen below zero, and on the 28th, it fell to twenty below. The frigid temperatures did not stop the young men from having a little fun.

Last Thursday morning ten men and about twenty dogs assembled on the reservation for the purpose of a grand wolf hunt, and after skirmishing around for quite a while they finally succeeded in starting one of the largest sized coyotes, and then the fun began, which lasted about six hours, his wolfship being hotly pursued by four trailing hounds, covering area of territory of about ten miles. Then with the assistance of several grey hounds, the animal was captured and quickly dispatched, and brought in triumph to Mayetta to receive the prize of \$5 offered by Edward White for the first wolf brought into Mayetta. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, January 28, 1892.

Hayden Shingleton says that his open well, twelve feet deep, had ice on it an inch thick Tuesday morning. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, January 26, 1892.

Noble Chase had a very narrow escape from burning up in the hardware store the other day. By some means he

caught fire on his back and was all ablaze but prompt measures saved his life for which we are truly thankful. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, February 10, 1892.

The recent order from Washington, forbidding cattle to be herded on the reservation, has caused great disappointment as several parties had already contracted for cattle to herd in the coming year. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, April 28, 1892.

Uncle Sam made the noble red man happy last Thursday by paying each one twenty-nine dollars. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, May 4, 1892.

The south bound passenger and mail train was partially derailed four miles north of here about 11:30 a. m. Saturday. There was no material damage done, but considerable annoyance to passengers, both on that train and the northbound train, as they were compelled to wait several hours before the derailed train could be righted ...

A dime museum entered our quiet burg Friday and pitched their tent and immediately began to display what they claimed to be the greatest living wonders, but which consisted of a talking parrot, a few horned toads and an alligator. Wonder how all these small shows find out when Mayetta has a surplus of small change? *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, June 23, 1892.

A sneak thief entered the house of Wm. Lunger while E. E. Lunger was at her son's, and upset things generally, helping themselves to lunch and taking several keepsakes left by their friends who have been dead and gone many years - a pearl handled knife, a quarter with a hole in, taken from a dead child's neck, a Mexican dollar, a purse over forty years old and other things to numerous to mention. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, July 6, 1892.

A dime menagerie entered Mayetta Saturday evening and exhibited on the streets. It consisted of three bears, one mink and three goats. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, November 24, 1892.

Those boys who are making a practice of raiding watermelon patches, and especially a certain old gentleman's patch, who is now past 80, should feel ashamed of themselves to go stealthily at the dead of night and steal the products of the labor of one so old. If they have any humane principles they will go to the old gentleman and make an honest recompense to him for what they have wronged him out of. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, August 26, 1892.

Sunday morning a wreck occurred on the Rock Island in which one man lost his life and another was badly injured. The facts as near as we can learn are as follows: About 2 o'clock Sunday morning engine No. 805, attached to about fifteen loaded cars, north bound, when about two miles north of here and running at a pretty high rate of speed, without any warning that another train was on the track, ran into engine no. 491, also attached to a train of freight cars. Both engines were totally wrecked, several cars demolished and a great amount of property destroyed, including among other things three car loads of wheat. With the prompt arrival of the wrecking train, together with the assistance of the section hands, the track was soon cleared and the trains were running on time. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, September 14, 1892.

Halloween night was observed to the fullest extent by some of our young sports. Wagons, buggies and every conceivable farm implement took a sudden rise. Some rose so high as the tops of houses. Fine sport, this. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, November 10, 1892.

Deputy Sheriff Williams, of Holton, came down to Mayetta last Tuesday evening and arrested George Cook, charged with selling whiskey in violation of the prohibitory law. Mrs. Peters, was also arrested in Holton, managed to slip away from the officers and remains at large, but she can easily be recaptured, and we sincerely hope she may be, for if ever a person richly merited the full extent of legal punishment that person is surely Mrs. Peters. ...

Quite a mad dog scare was indulged in here recently. The facts as near as we could learn were that a dog belonging to D. P. Clark, who lives north of here, became rabid and started off on a biting tour, snapping at everything that came in its way. First biting a horse for Mr. Clark, he started south and bit a great number of dogs along the road, and finally turned up in Mayetta and bit several dogs there. The last seen of the cur he was wending his way southward, snapping at everything that came in his way. At this writing we have not heard of anything that was bitten showing any signs of being rabid. Why the cur was not immediately dispatched is something we can not understand. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, January 19, 1893.

There was nothing that struck such fear in people's hearts than the cry, "mad dog," unless it was one of fire. A rabid or mad dog would bite everybody and every animal on sight, and would continue on until killed. Before 1885, when a vaccine was developed by two Frenchmen, Louis Pasteur and Emile Roux, the bite from a rabid animal brought almost certain death, an agonizing one taking many days or weeks of

torment. There being no treatment for the rabies, or hydrophobia, before this time that worked, many of the people of the day believed in mad stones which were hairballs from the stomach of some animal that were applied to the bite, the better it adhered the more effective it was believed to be in drawing out the poison. The mad stone was also used in case of snake bite, but some just preferred a big shot of whiskey.

Quite a sensation was created here last Tuesday by an alarm of fire coming from the house of S. R. Jones. The cause of the fire as near as we can learn was this: The weather being very cold, someone of the family had started a fire in a bed room, upstairs, and the stove being very hot some bed clothing near it took fire, filling the whole house with smoke, and naturally everyone supposed the building was on fire, when in fact it was only the clothing that was burning. The alarm of fire soon brought all the citizens of Mayetta to the rescue, and our bucket brigade soon extinguished the fire, but not until considerable damage had been done to the building and contents. I am informed that the building was insured ... *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, February 16, 1893.

On the morning of the 25th, between 3 and 4 o'clock, the store of S. J. Elliott was discovered to be on fire, and too far gone to save. Nearly everything, including the post office and fixtures, was burned up. The dwelling house that stood near the store also caught fire and was consumed, but considerable of the furniture was saved. The citizens rendered every assistance possible, but the flames had gotten under too great headway to be extinguished. Loss, including buildings and goods, about \$2,500, insurance \$1,000. How the fire originated is a mystery. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, March 2, 1893.

Artificial chicken hatching seems to be superseding the old hen in this community to a considerable extent. Our operator, Mr. Huston has hatched about 600 little chirpers with his incubator. Wm. Holscow is also running one, and soon intends, so he informs us, to enter upon the poultry business on a large scale. He informs me that he will soon have five incubators in operation and devote his entire time to the poultry business. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, May 11, 1893.

Four carloads of cattle were unloaded here the past week. They were raised in the southern part of New Mexico and taken out on the reserve to fatten. It is stated that this is only the beginning of what is coming. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, August 24, 1893.

We already hear of several Mayettites who are now on the way home from the [Cherokee] Strip, fully disgusted with the whole community there. Just as we expected. How strange it does seem that some of our oldest citizens, who own large farms here, land too that is far superior to any land in the Strip country who will endanger their lives and health in trying to secure some of the much coveted red dirt. But it is a pretty good saying that if some men owned the whole world they would still try to secure a potato patch outside. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, September 21, 1893.

Little Daniel Isaacs, son of Robt. Isaacs, while out rabbit hunting last Wednesday met with an accident which will undoubtedly render him a cripple for life. The circumstances of the accident as near as we could learn were that he had run a rabbit into a brush pile and had laid his gun down with the hammer drawn back and was kicking in the brush to start the rabbit out, and somehow discharged the gun and the front part of his foot received the full charge, resulting in the lost of at least half of his foot. Dr. Scott, of Holton, was called and amputated and dressed the shattered limb. At last accounts the boy was in critical condition and doubts of his recovery are entertained. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, December 14, 1893.

The little son of A. D. Jones met with a severe accident last week, the circumstances of which as near as we could learn were that Mr. Jones was clearing up a piece of land and his boys were helping him, and while one of the boys was trimming up some brush the little fellow happened to get too near Mr. Jones, whose axe glancing, hit the boy in the forehead just above the eyes and cut a gash to the skull, which might have proved fatal. Dr. Robson was called and dressed the wound. ... *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, January 1, 1894.

John Licklyter while crossing the railroad track with a load of corn at the depot Monday evening, had quite a narrow escape with his life and team. The circumstances as near as I could learn was that a freight train was on the side track switching cars, and there being an opening between the cars, and the train standing still, Mr. Licklyter naturally thought there would be no danger in crossing, but just as he had got fairly on the track the train backed up and struck his wagon broad side, mashing it to splinters, but luckily Mr. Licklyter had the foresight to jump just as the car struck the wagon and himself and team came out of the wreck unharmed. Some damage was also done to the car, which was partially derailed. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, February 22, 1894.

Some people enjoy turning their hogs loose to destroy the neighbor's yards and gardens. *The Holton Weekly*

Signal, April 4, 1894.

Mr. Oliphant, our genial postmaster, expects to supply the vicinity with sweet potato, cabbage and tomato plants, as he has them all, growing in his hot bed. ...

Potatoes planted may be frozen in some places, but not in Wm. Lunger's garden. They are all right there and have long sprouts on them. His peas are out of the ground, green and nice as also is his lettuce and onions. His tulips and March cups are growing finely.

The mail train south Friday noon set fire to the dry grass in Knowland's field and the high wind fanned it till it spread into Ad Wright's field, burning his barn, corn cribs, several hundred bushels of corn, some hay, and everything else except the house, which was barely saved. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, April 11, 1894.

A Mr. Irwin, from Arkansas, was in town looking after his father, John Irwin, who lived about two miles south of here but has been gone some twelve or fourteen years. The son says he has written but always directed to South Cedar and never got an answer. All he found was his mother's grave. He seemed to be a smart, intelligent man. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, June 20, 1894.

Quite a circus performance occurred at Mayetta last Monday night about 1 o'clock. One of our prominent citizens, James Lunger, had been attending the races at Holton, and it seems had imbibed too freely of some kind of Holton tangle foot, and arrived in Mayetta at the dead hour of night when everybody was enjoying their sweet slumbers, and immediately began to play cowboy. He soon had this little village, as he supposed, under his control, and, all alone, proceeded to paint everything red, making night hideous with yells that could be heard for miles around, riding his horse up and down the sidewalks, breaking windows and even defying the officers to arrest him. *The Holton Weekly Recorder*, September 6, 1894.

In March of 1895, Mayetta and vicinity sent a railcar load of corn, oats, flour, meat, potatoes to Sherman County people who were suffering through a drought. By this time the town had experienced a steady growth, new houses and business buildings being built and existing ones being added onto. A flock of sheep had been brought in to graze on reservation land, two scales to weigh livestock and grain were in place. Some farm produce that are not a products of present day Jackson County were being shipped out, oats, flax and apples. The railroad still had not installed a water tank, and people were wondering why not.

Ohio Miller went to Missouri and purchased 25 head of the finest Milch cows we have seen for some time to furnish milk for the Mayetta creamery. *The Holton Recorder*, February 11, 1895.

While boring for water in Robert Mitchell's well when about thirty feet down the auger brought up a chunk of coal as big or bigger than a man's fist. Who know but what we have coal and gas at our own doors. ...

The exhibition and negro minstrel show performance produced by the young folks of Mayetta last Saturday night was a grand success. The negro minstrels were excellent, and was the most prominent feature of the evening. Rev. Snowball delivered a stump speech equal to any produced on any stage. Much credit is due to each one who took part in the exhibition. The net receipts were \$20.00. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, February 6, 1895.

A wagon load of sweet potatoes were in the town Thursday. They are cheaper than Irish potatoes. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, April 3, 1895.

Car load after car load of posts are being shipped into Mayetta and taken out on the reservation to fence the pastures with. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, April 3, 1895.

Mr. Garber informs me he is now receiving 1,500 gallons of milk a day at the Mayetta Creamery and is now running six days a week. *The Holton Recorder*, April 15, 1895.

Like the home based chicken and egg production, the sales of milk and cream were an extra source of income for the small town and farmer producer, and although small in individuality, it added up into a big national business.

A man with his wife and eleven children destitute looking children passed our place last week from Oklahoma, trying to make their way back to Iowa, their former home. They had gone to Oklahoma with considerable money, but had spent it all in trying to secure a claim and were compelled to leave or starve. *The Holton Recorder*, May 23, 1895.

More fun at Mayetta - another school bond election. *The Tribune*, July 19, 1895.

There were eight schoolteachers at Mayetta, last Friday, but we are informed that the lucky ones who get the prize were Mr. Jackman, of Whiting, and Miss Agnes Cowell, of Holton.

The Rock Island railroad have been prospecting for water at Mayetta, and after reaching the depth of seventy-eight feet struck abundance of water. We are informed that they will put in a large well in the near future. *The Tribune*, August 1, 1895.

Another bond election at Mayetta, today. Oh! the fun they are having over this new school-house, and they say they are going to fight it out on this line if it takes all summer." *The Tribune*, August 9, 1895.

There are a lot of young scoundrels in this community who are in the habit of making night raids on hen roosts, watermelon patches, bee hives and grape vineyards, who ought to be at this time in the penitentiary. In the interest of honest toilers who work hard year in and year out to see the fruits of their labor carried off by these petty thieves, we now have a word of warning to all such that patience has long ceased to be a virtue, and if these young rascals receive a load of shot they may thank their own misconduct for the same. *The Holton Recorder*, August 29, 1895.

Jeff Starkey commences the building of his new house next Monday, which will make the fifth dwelling that has been built in the last few weeks. *The Tribune*, September 3, 1895.

Quite a conflagration at the Mayetta depot last Monday night. The circumstances are as follows: While a son of Mr. J. Chub, of Hoyt, was unloading a wagon load of bailed hay into a car just south of the depot, about half past seven, his lantern, which was hung on the car exploded and set the hay on fire in the car, which immediately ignited the hay on the wagon. The frantic boy started his team on the run up town with the burning load of hay and came very near driving his team into S. R. Jones barn. The car load of hay as well as the hay on the wagon was consumed. It was with difficulty that the team was rescued from the burning wagon and the boy was considerably burned in taking the team from the wagon. *The Holton Recorder*, October 31, 1895.

Mayetta now has thirty dwelling houses, two general stores, one hardware store, one drug store, two blacksmith shops, one meat market, one hotel, lumber yard, livery stable, creamery, post office, barber shop, restaurant, a graded school and one hundred and forty-six inhabitants. A livelier place can not be found on God's green earth. *The Tribune*, December 6, 1895.

In November of 1895, a telephone line from Holton to Mayetta was completed, but was not hooked up until April of 1896, when telephone workmen arrived and established connections at J. L. Lasswell's store and dwelling house.

Two little boys came to Mr. Yeakley's a few nights ago and asked the privilege of staying in overnight, which was granted. They had not been there long before an elderly gentleman came in and they noticed the boys looked so at one another. Pretty soon the boys said how-you-do Pa and commenced to cry, and it came out that last Sunday they wanted to go on the ice skating and their father objected and that they left home because they could not have their own way and after being out by themselves for a week were glad to go home again. They were 159 miles from home. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, January 15, 1896.

Crane's new hotel and the Christian church have received a coat of paint which adds materially to their looks. *The Tribune*, May 6, 1896.

I understand there was a vigilance committee organized at Mayetta Friday night for the protection of property, and to assist the officers of the law in enforcing the statutory provision against crime and misdemeanors. If this is the purpose of the secret oath bound organization, well and good, but if it is to become like unto its predecessors and merge into a Ku Klux Klan or band of White Cappers, then it becomes un-American and un-Republican, and is simply a band of Anarchists and outlaws, as guilty before the law as the culprits themselves. That the laws against larceny and misdemeanors have been willfully violated in this community admits of no doubt, and it is the solemn duty of every loyal citizen to assist the officers of the law in bringing all law breakers before the courts of justice ... *The Holton Recorder*, May 7, 1896.

Within the last six months there has been fifteen new houses built, addition to the school house, two churches underway besides barns and corn cribs. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, May 20, 1896.

A good many Thursday night were back to the primitive days of Kansas and dwelt in caves, others slept and never knew the wind blew and it rained. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, June 10, 1896.

Most everyone went out on the reserve Sunday to see the growing corn and because it was a nice day. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, June 17, 1896.

The Protestant churches were built in 1896, one being a community church where the M. E. church now stands. Mrs. Lunger, a leader of the church, was influenced to join the church with the M. E. Conference with headquarters in Topeka. Her generosity was again to dominate the scene by her final payment of \$400 to give a clear deed to the church.

The Christian Disciples formed a church of their own, causing a division among the town's people. That had a very disquieting effect on Mrs. Lunger, a United Brethren. She began a serious study of the Bible, and eventually, became the preacher of both churches at scheduled services. Helen Robb, *The Topeka Capital-Journal*, May 3, 1970.

Both churches were completed in 1896, the Christian church having 350 people attending the dedication, and the Methodist probably as many. It was not until later that the seating for both churches arrived, and then had to be painted before being used. Whatever the differences in beliefs between the two denominations were they couldn't have been too great, because the Protestant churchgoers attended one church one week, and then the next week the other one, also Mrs. Lunger preached in both churches

The program of the Fourth of July celebration. 1, music by the band; 2, song, "America"; 3, reading of the "Declaration of Independence" by Mr. Horn; 4, song, "On, on the boys came marching"; 5, music, whoop beat blindfolded, Mr. Luchus; address, Mr. P. S. Elliot; 7, duet; 8, music, by band; 9, address, Mr. Chas. Sievers; 10, song, "Oh wrap the flag around me boys"; 11, music by band; 12, address by S. G. Elliott; 13, song "Battle Hymn of the Republic." All acquitted themselves credibly. *The Tribune*, July 10, 1896.

They have just dug and completed a nice cistern at the Mayetta school house. Noah Sanderson doing the work. *The Tribune*, October 9, 1896.

The Mayetta school will give an entertainment Friday night, November 14th. Admittance 10 and 15 cents; the proceeds to go towards paying for the cistern lately put in at the school house. Come one and all and help them out. *The Tribune*, November 13, 1896.

The demand for cats can be supplied at this point. We can easily furnish a car load of cats from this burgh, they are all colors and fat and fine. Our boys are determined to bring the first load to market and if there is a demand for dogs we can supply that market too. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, February 3, 1897.

A goodly number of yards have been sodded with blue grass, and shrubbery and trees planted which will add greatly to the looks of the town. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, April 20, 1897.

Honey is very plentiful this summer. There is so much white clover that it is of a very fine quality. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, June 23, 1897.

Almost every business house in town is minus of window lights and nearly every house leaks more or less. Carpets wet and ruined the past week are numerous. The house that is not damaged more or less is an exception. There was an immense amount of water fell and the wind blowed a gale all the time, hence, a large amount of damage done.

Those that have more cockle burrs than corn must feel discouraged and their only hope is to pull them by hand as it will be impossible to go on with cultivator and horses for several days. There are several fields of corn that have never been tended yet and such farmers are these who think farming don't pay, and such farming don't. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, June 30, 1897.

I made the town of Mayetta for dinner and was met by the genial landlord of the Crane Hotel. I suppose that is the name of it, for I noticed the picture of a crane about a foot long, and joining on the bill is the word "Hotel." (I don't mean a picture of the landlord), and after sitting down and partaking of a first-class dinner, I stepped across the street and met Mr. J. R. Douglas, the butcher, whom I found to be a very pleasant gentleman; but I thought my chances (for a subscriber) were slim when he informed me he was acquainted with the associate editor, Mr. McConnell, and knew his mother before him, and was acquainted with his brother J. W., of Denison, and then I gave up all hopes of getting him for a subscriber, but imagine my surprise when he told me that for the sake of their good old mother he would subscribe to the paper. From there I stepped in on F. M. Powell, the Mayetta barber, and put him down as a subscriber for *The Tribune*. Mr. Powell is one of those genial good fellows that always has a good word for everyone and tends strictly to business and has succeeded in working up a good trade and holds it. I called on my old friend Jess Lasswell and tried very hard to get him to mend his ways and read a good old Republican

paper, but he declared he had stopped every paper but the Signal and was not able to take any other. I told him if he persisted in taking nothing but the Signal he would soon not be able to read at all, let alone taking any other paper, and left him, but really Jess is to nice a man to be a Democrat. *The Tribune*, July 2, 1897.

We are informed that some kind of kangaroo court was in session Saturday night, rather Sunday morning, at Mayetta, and that the court and all were filled to overflowing.

The man who will gain the confidence of a hotel keeper and get in debt \$30 or \$40 for board and washing and then skips out without paying a cent deserves the condemnation of all honest people.

It certainly is extremely humiliating to honest, law-abiding citizens to see the courts of justice and its officers prostitute their sacred oaths of office in the interests of outlawry and disorder, but such seems to be the popular idea. *The Holton Recorder*, July 22, 1897.

Mayetta is a thriving little city of eleven summers, situated on the Rock Island R. R. in the south part of the county. Her citizens are especially noted for their energy and push. From all reports and appearances it is one of the best trading and shipping points in Jackson county.

Coming in town from the northwest, my first observation was the churches and school house. Mayetta has two churches - The Methodist and the Christian. On next Saturday evening and Sunday morning will be the regular services at the Methodist church and every two weeks thereafter. Epworth League 7:30 p. m. every Sunday, and S. S. school 10 a. m. - Chas. King, supt. Rev. Cook holds morning service at the Christian church every two weeks on the Sundays alternately with the service at the Methodist. S. S. 10:30 a. m. - Will Kelly, supt. The school board, consisting of Messrs. Noah Sanderson, Ross Strawn and Wm. Lunger, has made a good choice in their selection of teachers for the coming year in the Mayetta school. They re-employed Miss May Woodburn as principal, and Miss Agnes Cowell in primary department

Mayetta has two good hotels. The Crane Hotel is a new building, and has a good trade. It is centrally located., and well equipped, Lafe Crane, prop.

The other hotel is under the management of William Cox. It is located near the depot and does a good business.

The meat market is owned and controlled by J. R. Douglass. He has all kinds of fresh and salt meats, and pays the highest market prices for hides.

The Kansas Creamery Co. has a good plant in Mayetta. They received at present about 2500 pounds of milk daily. The chief work done here is separating the cream from the milk. F. G. Peebler is the business manager in Mayetta.

Charles Krone has the lunch counter and restaurant. He is also a first class bricklayer and plaster.

Dr. R. Robson, physician and surgeon, is six years a resident of Mayetta and needs no recommendation. He has a small drug store but carries it well filled with a choice selection of drugs.

W. P. Brockett M. D. is an energetic young man and a successful practitioner. He is a collegiate graduate as well as a graduate of Medicine. He has spent four years in medical school.

Jennings & Co. has a good stock of groceries, carries also gent's furnishing goods, buys hay, etc.

S. R. Jones, the general merchant, dealer in dry goods, groceries, boots, shoes, hay, grain, patent medicines. Highest market prices for farm produce.

A more accommodating liveryman you will not find anywhere than the Mayetta man, W. Miller. He owns a good stable, and has a fine set of turn-outs. His prices are reasonable and his work satisfactory.

The latest improvement of Mayetta is the store building of Jess R. Lasswell. He has up-to-date conveniences throughout, and the finest set of hardware fixtures in the state. He carries a full and complete line of hardware and lumber. Standard and Avery Implements, Hinney buggies, and in fact anything a farmer or mechanic would want in the line of hardware, lumber, machinery, harness, etc.

Mayetta has two good blacksmith shops, both of which are kept busy. George Hill with T. J. Starkey as assistant does all kinds of blacksmith and repair work, and will give strict attention to any special orders.

H. M. Reist and T. J. Waters assistant, does a general blacksmithing and wagon work. Steam plow grinding a specialty.

F. M. Powell, the union barber, does all kinds of tonsorial work. He is always ready to give you a clean smooth shave and the latest style hair cut.

M. & A. Sarbach have a well stocked general store - boots, shoes, hats, caps, etc.

The following energetic and prosperous citizens of Mayetta ordered The Recorder traveler to place their names in the already large list of Recorder readers: Wm. Miller, Lafe Crane, J. W. Lewis, A. J. Carrel, J. C. Kistner, Jess E. Lasswell, W. T. Jury, Jeff Harris, William Cox, A. J. Malott, James Jury, Dr. W. F. Brockett, L. Finch, R. A. Isaacs, C. Franklin. *The Holton Recorder*, August 12, 1897.

Arthur Long has moved his house back from the street making his lawn larger. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, September 15, 1897.

It was reported that there were three joints operating in Mayetta, consequently officers Black and White drove

down there last Saturday in joint pursuit. They first raided the butcher shop, where instead of finding a meat market supplied with elegant sirloin, porterhouse, mutton chops and such, they found one small joint of meat and whiskey - more whiskey than meat. They confiscated the liquor, and while thus engaged the other jointists evidently received warning of danger and hid away their goods. There were plenty of fellows loafing around ready to give the warning and probably willing and anxious to assist in putting the goods out of sight, so that by the time the officers entered the livery stable all the evidence of a joint in that locality was a corkscrew. A building used as a bakery and lunch counter was then searched with still poorer success.

All three of the offenders were arrested and brought before Judge Barker, where they were released after giving bail of \$300 cash each to appear before the same justice of the peace, the butcher on the 27th, the baker on the 28th, and the jockey stick maker on the 29th of this month. This report is from Black and White testimonials. *The Tribune*, October 15, 1897.

A mad dog scare was indulged in at the school in district No. 35 on Friday morning. A dog belonging to Mr. Strawn made his appearance in the vicinity of the school house Thursday evening and acted in a way that caused people to think he had the symptoms of hydrophobia, and several young men chased him with shot guns Thursday night, firing a few shots into his canine pelt without any seeming effect. But just before noon Friday he was seen in close vicinity of the school house, which considerably excited the scholars and teacher, who, arming themselves with clubs and rocks and one revolver and a shot gun, and firmly resolving that the brute must be slaughtered on this line if it took all winter, sallied forth and perforated his pelt with 22 caliber revolver balls, bringing him down. They were about returning to school, supposing he was done for, when someone noticed signs of returning life in the beast, and Leonard Page stepped up to the dog with his shot gun remarking the only genuine good dog was a dead dog, placed the muzzle of his gun within a few feet of the dog's head and blew its brains out, thus ending the mad dog scare. *The Holton Recorder*, December 2, 1897.

Our nimrods are getting in their work to perfection, catching jack rabbits and cotton tails and killing quail. We heard of some of our most expert hunters having already caught 100 rabbits. ...

Another indication of the returning prosperity is the fact that this community is now being invaded by a host of patent medicine agents, book agents, insurance agents, and, in fact, agents of every conceivable description. ...

A company of faking gypsies camped here a night or two last week, telling fortunes for the sum of 50c a head and exhibiting two mountain lions, trading horses and gobbling up some of the loose change of the credulous and those who have money to throw at the birds. *The Holton Recorder*, December 16, 1897.

A show wagon came through Mayetta Sunday, and had on exhibition what is known as the Kansas fat girl. She was 8 years old and weighed 200 pounds. *The Holton Recorder*, May 12, 1898.

About fifty Indians went south, or to the territory Monday; they had a car all to themselves and luggage. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, June 8, 1898.

An "Uncle Tom's Cabin" company arrived here to-day. They will show in a large tent and have a good band, which made a favorable impression by rendering some good music. *The Holton Recorder*, July 7, 1898.

During the year 1898 there was shipped from this place 132 cars of cattle, 360 cars of hay and 49 cars of grain. Since the present agent, V. R. Lunger has been in control of the station, he has shipped 3,383 cars of freight, all previous agents shipping 1,222 cars, making a total of 4,605 cars of freight shipped since the station was located. It can readily be seen that Mayetta has not been idle in the year 1898, during the reign of McKinley and prosperity. *The Holton Recorder*, January 12, 1899.

Sunday morning beat all records the thermometer down to 32 below zero. Friday night and Saturday was colder than Greenland's icy mountains. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, February 15, 1899.

Geo. Ross nearly froze to death while coming from Holton Wednesday. He became so badly frozen that he was compelled to call in a physician. *The Tribune*, February 17, 1899.

On Tuesday I took a drive to the thriving city of Mayetta and after supper I called on Dr. W. P. Brockett, who owns a drug store in connection with practice. The doctor came to Mayetta about two years ago and started in to win a practice on his merits and the strength of his ability. His large practice speaks for his success. He is also a surgeon and has the reputation of being skilled in his profession. He gave me his name as a subscriber, also a good order for printing. The doctor is rather modest, and as I am inclined that way myself I took quite a fancy to him and felt that I had met a congenial spirit. I was somewhat loath to leave him.

Mr. John Ready was my next victim, and as I had heard that he was a good old Missouri democrat that had to be show, I approached him very gently. I found him to be one of those good-natured, jolly fellows that was glad to

read a paper of any political faith that gave him the most news about what was going on in the county. The result was that he took The Tribune. Mr. Ready has a harness shop and is always READY to wait on his customers. He has just what they want, and in connection with this he is a practical workman. He tells me that his business is increasing daily and Mayetta people and vicinity are glad to have the benefit of his knowledge.

I next peeped into the window of Frank Powell's barber shop, and when I got sight of that genial countenance with a smile all over his face, I could not resist the temptation and modestly asked him if I might come in. And he said yes, if I would allow him to subscribe to The Tribune. I could not refuse Frank a little request like that, and he looked much more contented when I left him. Everybody goes to Frank when they want a good shave.

I noticed that Fred Waters had been building a large and commodious blacksmith and wagon shop. I made a straight shoot for the young man, and found him just in the mood to meet a Tribune representative. When I said wilt thou? He wilted, and I had hard work to get him pacified and wait until the paper was issued, he was so anxious to read it, for he said he was tired of borrowing. Mr. Water's shop is another new enterprise that the people of Mayetta and surrounding country are glad to welcome, for they have now three blacksmith shops and still they all seem to be busy. Mr. Waters told me that he was putting on new shoes for two dollars a team and was doing other work in proportion to that price, and the people are taking advantage of the opportunity. He deserves success.

Next I made for Dr. Robson's office, as he as usual met me with a kind smile. I explained that money, perseverance, skill, and above all, brains, had built The Tribune up to that plane, where (with the possible exception of the Mail and Breeze) it was the leading weekly paper in the state and therefore the great medium which all business firms and professional men were advertising. He meditated a moment and after he recovered from his surprise asked me if there were any other papers published in Holton? Of course I told him there were and that they were all right as far as they went, but people did not expect them to keep pace with The Tribune. He subscribed. The doctor has been located in Mayetta for a long time and while he does not say much he thinks a great deal, and the success that has attended him in his large practice has given him the name of the old reliable. He is well read and has good judgment with it, so that Mayetta has two good physicians.

Mr. F. M. Scholes another newcomer, who is just completing a very nice new residence is a pleasant gentleman, well informed and adds another good citizen to the town, also another subscriber to The Tribune.

I had heard something of the success of the new store which Mr. F. W. Jennings is proprietor, and as I stood and watched him waiting on his customers I imagined I could explain the secret to his success. I was not mistaken, for when I got an opportunity of speaking to him I found him just as pleasant with me as he was with those who had money. He seemed willing to branch out in any enterprise that would add to his business interests and gladly subscribed to The Tribune. Mr. Jennings carries a very nice line of goods, including dry goods, boots, shoes, and groceries. He pays the highest prices for all kinds of produce, and gives good weight. He is a man that is a pleasure to trade with.

I finally succeeded in getting the gentlemanly gent, V. R. Lunger, to look after his interests enough to take The Tribune and I think he was ashamed of himself that he had not done so before. V. R. has become a fixture in Mayetta and I doubt if the Rock Island wouldn't have to close up business if they should change agents for every one likes to do business with some one they have confidence in. He acts like he was going to stay for he has erected one of the neatest residences in the city; beautiful in architecture and convenient as it is beautiful. He has worked for it and accomplished that end.

As soon as I got an opportunity I struck a bee line for Jess Lasswell's place of business and I was glad to meet him looking pleasant. The editor will remember that I labored faithfully with Jess for a long time to convince him of the error of his way, and while a great many less patient than myself would have given up in despair, I stayed with him when more than a year ago, he repeated and subscribed to The Tribune. I was encouraged to hope and afterwards when he got to advertising with us I expected to hear great things from him. Our hopes have all been realized for today he stands at the top round and I don't think there is a firm in Jackson county doing more business than Jess Lasswell. He has a building about 80X100 feet in dimensions. He has it filled with new goods from floor to ceiling, he keeps hardware, tinware, stoves, buggies, wagons, farming implements, fencing and lumber, in fact a man to see his stock of goods would imagine he kept a little of most everything except red liquor, and his modestly would prevent him from saying anything about that even if he did have a little on the side. The way he has built up his business has been by honest, fair dealing. He has worked for his success and everybody has confidence in him. When he tells you anything you can rely upon it. The only thing you can say bad about Jess is that he is a democrat and I think he is just as ashamed of it as we are. I am not going back on a man for a little thing like that.

We put up at the Crane hotel which has J. A. Cooper for proprietor, and in connection with the hotel he has added a livery and feed stable. Mr. Cooper is a genial landlord and has his house fixed up in fine taste, his beds are clean, his table is good and he makes you feel at home; besides he has some good turnouts for the accommodation of his patrons. He is now a reader of The Tribune and has some very fine work in printing which was executed by job office of The Tribune.

Miss Narcissa Jones felt that she could not be happy without having The Tribune to read and kindly gave me her name as she is a great reader and likes to read the best.

Mr. Harry Reist has also built a very fine residence which he has every reason to look upon with pride. There are several others that are being built besides a large addition to the creamery, where they have put in new machinery and will soon be running in full force. *The Tribune*, March 10, 1899.

George Elliott's cattle stampeded during the storm Friday and the boys were out in most of the storm. They report that it was terrific - hail stones as big as hen eggs were picked up the next morning. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, March 22, 1899.

One of the most atrocious murders ever recorded in the annuals of Jackson county was committed between Mayetta and Hoyt on Sunday afternoon about 1:30 p. m. Henry Sanderson had been given a home under the roof of W. H. Fleischer the past few months. He formerly lived with his parents in the Indian Territory and since he came back to this county he has often taken up his abode with the Pottawatomie Indians. He was sort of a dare devil and through desperate acts while in the territory he had become hardened and did not seem to realize the true meaning of crime. It appears during his residence with Mr. Fleischer he became infatuated with one of Mr. Fleischer's daughters, Miss Myrtle, who is but fifteen years of age, and several times made efforts to secure her confidence, but his unwelcome advances were scornfully spurned by the young girl. It is said that Sanderson several times threatened violence but not much attention was paid to his wild remarks. On Sunday afternoon about 5 o'clock, or shortly thereafter, he came home from Hoyt, seemingly all tight.

Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Fleischer of Arkansas City were visiting at W. A. Fleischer's. Dennis Donnelly and wife were spending the afternoon, Mrs. Donnelly being a daughter of W. A. Fleischer. When Sanderson arrived home from Hoyt, Myrtle Fleischer and Mrs. Rudolph Fleischer were in the cow lot milking. They had finished milking and were starting towards the house with the milk. Mr. and Mrs. Donnelly had stepped out on the back porch to go to their team, which was hitched near the barn, intending to start for home. Sanderson had some time previous borrowed a 38 Winchester rifle from James Marshall who stays with Mr. James, living across the road from Fleischer's. Looking out the window he, Sanderson, rather suddenly turned to Mr. Fleischer asking for the rifle. Fleischer asked him what he wanted with it, and he replied, "I want to take it home." The weapon that was soon to do a deadly mission was handed to Sanderson by the father of one of his intended victims. Stepping out on the porch he cocked the gun. Here he met Mr. and Mrs. Donnelly. At this time James Marshall, the owner of the rifle, rode up to Fleischer's barn intending to put his horse away, as Mr. Fleischer was renting him a stall. Donnelly started with Sanderson toward the barn, but just before meeting the women that were coming with the milk, Sanderson made a spring away from Donnelly toward the women. Going up to Mrs. Fleischer he pointed the rifle at her, the muzzle nearly touching her side and fired. Mrs. Fleischer dropped to the ground shot through the abdomen. He quickly turned to Myrtle, who had started to run, and began firing after her, but his shots went wide of their mark and she reached the house in safety. W. A. Fleischer hearing the first shot ran to the window and seeing what was going on got his shotgun and started after the murderer. Sanderson, after firing three shots at the girl turned and fled towards the creek, back of the barn. When Mr. Fleischer started in pursuit, as he passed Mrs. Fleischer, who was still lying on the ground, she called to him not to follow as he would be killed; she also said "don't kill him," making a plea for her slayer's life. When Fleischer got to where Marshall was, Marshall plead with him not to go after him because Sanderson had a Winchester which would carry further than his shot gun. On the edge of the bank of the creek, about seventy-five yards away, Sanderson was standing with his rifle in readiness to shoot anyone who would pursue. Mrs. Fleischer was taken to the house while Marshall mounted his horse and started to Hoyt to summon medical aid. He also swore out a warrant at Hoyt for Sanderson's arrest. Mr. Rudolph Fleischer at the time of the shooting was in the house asleep.

The hardened villain ran across the fields towards Mayetta, but his pursuers, who had mounted horses, overtook him about a mile this side of Mayetta at the farm of Mr. Smith; an uncle of Sanderson. Here Sanderson intended to take refuge in the barn, but those in pursuit were almost upon him. He turned, raised his rifle and ordered them not to come a step nearer. He then ran behind a hay stack where he found that one of his cartridges had become fastened in the rifle. Realizing that he had no time to lose, as they were rapidly coming down upon him, he struck the butt of the rifle on the ground to loosen the ball, but a loud report and a deep groan told them that the rifle had discharged and wounded Sanderson. The ball entered his arm below the elbow, completely shattering the bone. It was no trouble to arrest Sanderson then. He was taken to the hotel at Mayetta where two physician's attended to his wound. The sheriff was notified of the terrible deed and the whereabouts of the assassin.

The crowd that has gathered at Mayetta was beginning to be very loud and fears were had that lynching might be resorted to, but after Sheriff Haas arrived he had no trouble in getting his man to Holton safely. He was taken to J. Horr's restaurant where better medical attention could be giving him than in jail, also on account of the jail being filled. Isaac Briggs was placed in charge of Sanderson who attended to his needs.

The tone of Sanderson, when conversing with some of our business men about the murder, was such that showed his brutal nature. He seemed to gloat over his crime. He also said that in the territory this would be called a very tame affair, that down there it was nothing to shoot a person. People there didn't get so excited over such matters

as they do here. The man did not seem to be the least sorry for his atrocious deed.

All day Monday there were rumors that the murderer would be lynched, but reports came from the neighborhood of the scene of the crime that everything was quiet. The prisoner was left alone with Mr. Briggs, his nurse, for the night. He went to sleep and apparently slept soundly until ten minutes after two in the morning Briggs heard sounds on the outside as if someone was approaching the house. The truth flashed upon him in a moment that it was a mob to lynch the man he was nursing. He awoke Sanderson and told him a mob was on the outside. The murderer arose to a sitting position in the bed and stared wildly as he heard the cries from frenzied men on the outside, demanding admittance. Sanderson, realizing the situation, quickly asked, "Is there no place to hide so they cannot find me?" Briggs told him he did not know of any place, and waited for the inevitable. The mob first went to the dining room door in the rear of the building and demanded that Mr. Horr open the door. Mr. Horr was slow in complying with their request, whereupon threats of shooting him and breaking down doors followed. Horr opened the door and before him stood two men with revolvers pointing directly at him; behind them were about thirty more armed men. He was ordered to throw up his hands and march out through the snow and open the door of the room that Sanderson was in. They also said to him, "You must go with us." He plead with them that it would mean his death as his health is very bad and it was impossible for him to go out in his night clothes. His remonstrance's were of no avail, until finally one of the mob, who seemed to know Horr, spoke up saying, "Mr. Horr is telling you the truth; the man is not able to go out." Just then a terrible crash was heard, the men had broken down the door of the room in which the murderer was locked. All but two deserted Mr. Horr and rushed into the room to help get out Sanderson. But the two kept Mr. Horr standing there holding his hands above his head until Sanderson was taken out. Briggs says he turned down the light as soon as he heard the noises, intending to flash it when they entered, but he did not get the opportunity. He paid no attention to demands for admittance, but kept quiet. When the door flew open they told him to throw up his hands and simply said, "We want to take away your man." As many as could get around the bed got hold of Sanderson and hustled him out and down the alley, back of the State Bank where several were waiting with a wagon in which they threw him. Sanderson met the irate mob without a word or murmur and had not uttered a sound within hearing distance of Mr. Briggs. Mounting their horses and several wagons they started south on Pennsylvania Avenue.

The night watch, Ed. Ernest, learning of what had happened at once notified the sheriff and others. M. D. Asher and the officers then followed the tracks of the wagon which left the alley back of the State Bank. On reaching the bridge across Banner Creek, south of Mayor Pomeroy's, they found Sanderson hanging to a rope, which was tied to the top beam of the truss of the bridge. His neck was broken. Here ended the terrible tragedy that sent two souls to eternity.

The mob did not consume over five minutes in securing its victim. They took Sanderson as they found him - . nothing on but a sweater. They wrapped the blanket around his legs then tied his left hand and his feet, in which manner they threw him over the bridge and left him dangling at the end of about twelve feet of rope. The body was brought to Holton in M. D. Asher's wagon and taken to the undertaking rooms of J. F. Meck, but was afterwards moved to the city building, when Coroner Dr. A. B. McCandless impaneled a jury and held an inquest. On account of the large crowd gathering it was decided to go to the court house, where the following witnesses were examined: Sheriff Geo. N. Hass, Ed. Ernest, M. D. Asher, Jesse Horr and Isaac Briggs. H. C. Tucker, Frank Scott, J. L. White, W. D. Kuhn, N. Mullinger and R. J. Horn composed the jury, after hearing the evidence, returned the following verdict: "Henry Sanderson came to his death at the hands of unknown parties." It is not known who the men were who composed the mob but it is supposed they were from the south part of the county. Noah Sanderson of Mayetta, an uncle of young Sanderson took charge of the corpse and undertaker Meck prepared it for burial. The funeral was held in this city on Wednesday at 10 a. m.

Mrs. Fletcher lived until Tuesday morning at about 2 o'clock. She expired at about the same time that her assassin was sent to his doom.

Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Fleischer lived in Arkansas City, Kan., and at the time of the murder were visiting at W. A. Fleischer's. Mr. R. Fleischer is an engineer on the Santa Fe R. R., running between Arkansas City and Purcell, I. T. Mr. and Mrs. Fleischer were married only about two months ago. Her parents live at Purcell. She was about 18 years old.

The funeral of Mrs. Fleischer occurred at the home of W. A. Fleisher on Wednesday morning. The remains were taken to North Topeka where they were interred in the Rochester cemetery.

The families and relatives of both sides have the sympathy of the entire community in this very unfortunate circumstance. The Fleischer family is highly respected in the vicinity where they live as well as by all their acquaintances in this county. Sanderson has many relatives in this county who are among the best citizens. His parents reside in Oklahoma having moved there from this county at the opening of that territory. *The Tribune*, March 31, 1899.

The snow Monday made the roads almost impassable. The wagon wheels were almost solid with mud. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, April 12, 1899.

Thursday morning, as an Indian came to town, he saw a woman rambling aimlessly in Wm. Lunger's corn field and noting her strange actions, immediately reported the fact to J. R. Lasswell, who upon investigation learned from the woman that she on Tuesday evening escaped from the Topeka insane asylum, and immediately took her in charge and took her to the hotel and telephoned the authorities at the asylum, and received word to hold her and they would send for her. On the evening train a gentleman came up and took the woman back. She gave her name was Mrs. J. Marsh, of Clifton, Washington county, and said she had a husband and five children living there and was trying to make her way back to see them. She said she was 32 years old, and had been in the asylum for some time. Hers seemed to be a hopeless case of insanity. *The Holton Recorder*, May 18, 1899.

Your correspondent this morning made a house-to-house canvass of Mayetta to ascertain the number of inhabitants, and find there are 240, and the number constantly increasing. Nearly every day some new comer arrives. A. D. Jones has the banner family with ten members, while Dr. Robson is a close second with nine. Five other families have eight, and fifty-five families range from two to six in number. A little over two years ago our population did not exceed 100. So you see we are on the up grade of prosperity looking into the time in the near future when we shall be able to incorporate and become a city of importance. *The Holton Recorder*, June 15, 1899.

A man living near Denison has been for some time keeping a hired girl employed to assist his wife with the housework, but he has no hired girl now.

A few evenings ago a young man from Mayetta called at our hero's home and began to remain over night.

Some time in the night the host discovered that his guest was absent from his room, but present through some unaccountable means in another room. He fired the guest and hired girl from the premises unceremoniously.

A few evenings later the hired girl's steady called to see her but she was gone and the farmer informed him why.

Between 11 and 12 o'clock that night the Mayetta man returned, accompanied by the hired girl, another girl and the hired girl's steady. They called the man out and the Mayetta man asked him why he told such a story about him. The reply was, "Because it was the truth." "You're a lair," cried the Mayetta man, whereupon the farmer proceeded to lick him with quickness, dispatch and a powerful fist.

The next day our hero went before the Justice of the Peace Montgomery, had himself arrested for assault and battery with intent to lick, paid the fine and costs, which were not as heavy as they might have been had the other fellow made the complaint. *The Tribune*, July 7, 1899.

An article appeared in last week's Tribune headed "Had himself Arrested." The story as we published it we received from the justice of the peace as it was given to him. The first of the week a lady with her two daughters called at this office and gave us the other side of the story. It appears one of the girls was working at that place but left to go home to do some sewing. She sent her sister to take her place, on Saturday evening of the same week sent a boy after the money due her. While the boy was there a storm arose and as his horse was unmanageable in a storm he concluded to stay. He was not shown a bed as there was none, exclaimed the girl. She said "we both sat in chairs in the kitchen all night." They also claim that in the morning they both left. That the man did not "fire them out." The reason for this the girl says is because both the man and woman were greatly incensed because the boy came for the money for her sister. He is her cousin and they did not treat him right and so she did not care to stay with them. Instead of having himself arrested for assaulting a man they claim it was only a boy. The fight took place the following Monday night. They also make the claim that the man admits that he did not fire the parties out of the house as he was sleeping, when they left in the morning. ... Petty differences and neighborhood gossip have probably much to do with painting things much worse than they really are. *The Tribune*, July 14, 1899.

Mell Schermerhorn of Hoyt had his wagon tent and various other articles stolen last Saturday. He tracked the thieves up near Mayetta and called up Justice Wright who issued a warrant to Constable Hill who went and arrested the thieves, a colored gentleman and a white woman who were traveling through the county in a mover's wagon. They were taken before Justice Wright plead guilty and paid their fine, and went on rejoicing. *The Tribune*, July 21, 1899.

The people of the Christian church have had four gas lamps put in their church, which will give them much better light than the coal oil lamp. *The Tribune*, July 27, 1899.

Last Saturday, the U. S. marshal, of Topeka, came up here armed with a U. S. warrant for the arrest of Wm. Miller and Wm. Cox, charging them with the crime of selling whiskey to the Indians, and arrested them and took them to Topeka, where I am informed they were both held to answer the charge before the U. S. Commissioner, July 8, 1899, and their bonds were fixed at \$400 each. Wm. Miller gave bond and returned home Sunday morning, but at this writing Wm. Cox is still in jail. *The Holton Recorder*, July 29, 1899.

Asbury Hicks, the Holton jointist, who came here some time ago and tried to fool the people with his meat sign, shook off the dust of his feet against the people of Mayetta and left this morning in disgust. He said the weather and the law-abiding citizens had become entirely too sultry for him.

The large beer chest that has been on exhibition for several days on the depot platform I understand is the property of Asbury Hicks and is intended to be set up in the Mayetta meat market, so that our Mayetta people can be accommodated with fresh, cool keg beer, which certainly is the cheekiest thing that ever occurred at this place, and will surely come to grief.

Sheriff George N. Haas and Deputy P. M. Haas came down from Holton Saturday evening and made a raid on our jointists, and captured 4 cases of beer and one keg of whiskey at the livery barn of Will Miller, but failed to find anything at the meat market, from the simple fact that the stuff had all been taken to the reservation, where there was a horse race, by the proprietor Hicks to serve out to both Indians and whites, I suppose.

Wm. Cox, the former proprietor of the meat market, was arrested and taken to Holton, but somehow the sheriff did not find Miller, but later in the evening Constable George Hill arrested him and took him to Holton. Cox was turned loose, but Miller held for trial.

Later: We learn that Wm. Cox gave bond for his appearance in justice court, at Holton. *The Holton Recorder*, August 10, 1899.

The large beer chest that was shipped here by Asbury Hicks is still waiting on the depot platform awaiting removal. If it was just after the November election we would suggest to the boys that it would make a very suitable bonfire. There is also quite a shipment of beer and whisky laying at the depot awaiting Hick's further orders on which demurrage is being charged.

Sunday evening an old Indian by the name of John Walker was in town on some business and a young man by the name of Joseph Jacobs, while in a state of intoxication abused the old man and beat him over the head with a revolver and badly bruised him up, and I am informed he fired the revolver at the Indian a time or two. All of this cursedness originated from the livery barn of Wm. Miller, the only joint now running at Mayetta. *The Holton Recorder*, August 17, 1899.

The hay haulers went on strike the last of the week. They were getting sixty cents per ton and wanted seventy five. The sensible people that had families to support did not join the strike. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, November 29, 1899.

Lenora Martin Singer was born June 18, 1896, the daughter of James and Melvina Martin. She had six brothers, Everett, Clarence, Jess, Tommy, Wade and Claude, and two sisters, Nellie Robison and Etta Fisher. When Lenora was three years old, the Martin family moved from a farm near Meriden, Kansas to Mayetta and ran the hotel. It was located on Main street and was a two story building. The upper floor was for guests. Just across the street from the hotel was Carter's Store and their daughter, Nell, was Lenora's good friend. She would help wait on customers, then they would get under the counter, fill their apron pockets with candy and hurry off to play. Their toys and dolls were mostly all home made. Their dresses were long to the shoe tops, just a few inches above their ankles.

Carrie Nation came to Mayetta and held a meeting at the Mayetta Methodist Church and Lenora's mother held her up and Carrie kissed her and said, "Don't you ever smoke, and don't you ever drink liquor!" Mayetta did not have a saloon.

The first car Lenora remembers seeing belonged to the Jones'. It had one seat and an open top. The riders wore long tan dusters, and their hats were tied down with the same color tan ties as their dusters.

Mrs. James Martin, Lenora's mother, took care of sick persons for miles around, including new babies and their mothers. Later, the Martin family moved from the hotel to a ranch on the Pottawatomie Indian Reservation to care for a herd of cattle that belonged to Frank Morrow. At that time there were no fences, bridges, and the roads were just trails over the hills and valleys. There was only one school there, the Mission school. The Martins were the first ones to have a telephone. Sunday School and church were held in the Blandin School and Mr. Martin brought the first Christmas tree for the Blandin School having it sent up from Topeka. Cranberries and popcorn were strung and paper chains were made for the tree, and lanterns were hung in the school room. It was a beautiful sight, and made so many happy. (Lenora Singer. "Lenora Martin Singer." *The Pioneer Spirit Lives Mayetta Centennial*. 1886-1986. KES-PRINT, INC. 8419 W 72 Terrace/ Shawnee Mission KS 66204.)

Those young men who live south of here and who left church Sunday evening with their horses in a dead run, whooping and yelling, imagined they were performing something smart. I suppose they imagined they were cowboys in the wild west, but to law and order people they appeared to be nothing more than young Smart Alects who needed a wholesome dose of the law to remind them that there is a law against running horses on the public highways and yelling like wild Indians. These young men are known to the writer and this is written as a gentle hint. *The Holton Recorder*, January 11, 1900.

There was a serious accident Sunday night. A crowd of boys, who, it is supposed had imbibed considerable Mayetta joint water, raced the horses at a furious rate, passing the people who were on the way home from the lecture. A team driven by Will Cooney, frightened at the stampede, became unmanageable, dashed forward and plunged into a buggy occupied by Mike Paders and Miss Lucy Boling. A horses' foot became entangled in the running gears, the vehicle was overturned and the occupants thrown violently to the ground. Mr. Paders was not badly hurt, strange to say, though a horse stepped on his breast. Miss Boling's wounds were more serious. The flesh was torn from her lower jaw, a gash was cut in her forehead and she remained in an unconscious state more than an hour. She was tenderly cared for by friends and was able to return Monday with her father, J. W. Boling, to her home two and one half miles northeast of town. The horses and buggy Mr. Paders was driving was a rig belonging to Mr. Cooper, the liveryman. The team ran away and after damaging the buggy considerably, got loose from it and was not found till some time the next day. Dr. Drew in his lecture made some good illustrations of the evils resulting from drinking intoxicants and of the baleful influence exerted by the saloon and joint. He little, thought an illustration as apt and more impressive than any he used would be brought before the public so near and so soon. *The Tribune*, January 26, 1900.

The ponds and creeks are frozen solid and if it does not thaw soon water for the cattle on the range is likely to be scarce. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, February 21, 1900.

The roads running east and west are blocked over with snow drifts. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, March 7, 1900.

The wind blew a terrific gale all day Monday. There was a big prairie fire and several stacks of hay were burned. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, March 28, 1900.

Last week several men working on a ditch at Mayetta, came near losing their lives. The ditch is being dug for the purpose of laying pipe to the new elevator and at one place leads through a heavy embankment. While at work the ditch caved in and almost buried the workmen. Assistance was called for and the men were rescued, but it took some digging to release them from their dangerous position. Grant Banks, (colored) of this city, was one of the men buried in the dirt. He was laid up for a few days, but is out again. *The Tribune*, April 16, 1900.

Messers. Thompson & James, who have just completed a fine elevator at Mayetta, inform me that they are now ready to receive all kinds of grain and will pay the highest market price. This elevator has a storage capacity of over 13,000 bushels and cost the firm \$3,500. The elevator will be in charge of Henry C. Cobledick, our townsman, who hopes that by fair and honest dealing to gain the confidence of the farmers in general and every body in particular. *The Holton Recorder*, April 26, 1900.

This first elevator was built on the railroad right-of-way smack in the middle of the west end of Main street so that people entering the town from the west had to either go around it on the north or on the south side. Some time after 1903 it was no longer located there, probably because it burned down, or perhaps removed for other reasons, and traffic from the west was such as it was not rebuilt in the same location.

The elevator had a corn sheller so that corn no longer had to be shipped out in the ear, and a grinder to process grain for stock feeding was installed at later time. The corn cobs also made an alterative source of fuel for wood stoves; they burned very hot, but unfortunately burned up as fast as they did hot.

It was a sad time for me when the elevators began to be dismantled, due to the fact that the Jackson County Farmers Co-op could no longer afford to keep them open. I watched them go down piece by piece, the last piece being the rectangular tin-clad, also known as the ironclad, multi-story one, the one I think must have been one of the first built. I was coming home from Holton and as I turned onto 162nd street I saw a bulldozer that was hooked to a chain hooked into a hole in the wall about two thirds of the way up in the elevator, and then the dozer moved forward and down it came. The ground did shake when it hit.

To me there are only three losses to the town that have equaled the loss of the elevator, and that was when the railroad was discontinued, when Mayetta High School burned down in 1976, and when the Mayetta Grade School closed and its pupils were moved to Hoyt. Lets hope that the post office doesn't close, as the town can not afford very many more losses of this magnitude, every loss is one less reason for the towns existence.

During the time the elevator was being torn down I was on vacation and at my sister's house across the street from mine. Looking out the window I at first thought I saw a lot of squirrels playing in my yard, on second look I saw that they did not have bushy tails, but they were rats that were as large as squirrels. I ran over and grabbed my shovel but there were too many of them to kill, and the survivors ran under my cement stoop at my kitchen door. I blocked off all sides around the stoop except for one opening and put boxes and

boxes of De-Con in until all the rats were gone, I presume they were gone, as the last boxes remained full. The rats had to go somewhere when their food supply had vanished along with the elevator.

On last Thursday May 14th, a train composed of twenty cars of corn passed through Mayetta enroute to India the cars were nicely decorated with banners and flags, on the banners it read, Kansas corn, a part of the 1,000,000 bushels sent by Kansas to starving India. The train stopped here about twenty minutes on account of a hot box, about fifty or more people were at the depot to see the train. *The Tribune*, June 1, 1900.

A destructive wreck on the Rock Island railroad occurred here about two o'clock Tuesday morning. While engine No. 95, with a train loaded with steam threshers and separators was coming into the station at Mayetta at a speed of about forty miles an hour, the switch being open the train ran onto the switch. When the engineer saw the situation both he and his fireman jumped off and the train plunged into two cars that were standing on the switch loaded with ties and badly damaged the engine and totally demolished the car loaded with steam engines and separators destined for the wheat belt, and badly damaging the threshing machinery. Luckily the engineer nor fireman were much hurt, but a tramp who was on the wrecked train was pretty badly hurt, having two ribs broken. The accident is shrouded in mystery as the switch gate both at the north and south end of the station was open and locked and I understand the switch lights were all out. Mr. Sullivan Roach, superintendent from Horton, came down with a wrecking train Tuesday morning and was all day clearing away the demolished cars and machinery from the track. *The Holton Recorder*, June 21, 1900.

About a hundred people were at the depot to greet Governor [Teddy] Roosevelt as he passed though on his special train. *The Tribune*, July 13, 1900.

Quite an interesting site was witnessed at Mayetta yesterday when two men from Topeka came through upon an automobile propelled by a gasoline engine, which caused us to wonder what the next move in the way of Yankee invention would be. *The Holton Recorder*, August 12, 1900.

Harry Cobeldick attended the Bryan blow out in Topeka last week and he, with several others, were holding on the railing around the speaker's stand, when the railing gave way throwing them to the ground a distance of about ten feet. Harry did not light very graceful and the consequence was, he did not come too for about five hours. As soon as the accident occurred, they gave him a ride in the ambulance to Christ's hospital where he was tenderly taken care of for two days. Harry came home badly crippled in the shoulders and head, and at this writing is getting along nicely. Harry says the accident would not have occurred if it hadn't been for the Republicans trying to get too close to Bryan so they could hear the pop doctrine propounded. *The Tribune*, August 31, 1900.

Owing the epidemic of diphtheria prevailing here the Curtis meeting had to be postponed. The epidemic, we hope, will soon be brought under such control that we may have Mr. Curtis or some other good Republican speaker address the people of Mayetta on the leading issues of the campaign. *The Holton Recorder*, October 3, 1900.

Mr. Lunger took a load of apples to the cider mill at Holton and paid for one hundred and twelve dollars of cider being made. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, October 10, 1900.

After four weeks of quarantine the people of Mayetta have resumed church going and commenced school once more. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, October 24, 1900.

There are no new cases of diphtheria or whooping cough, and we have reason to believe that both diseases have run their course ... *The Holton Weekly Signal*, November 7, 1900.

Friday was an unlucky day for several round here. A man that was unloading corn was carried down the dump. The section men very nearly had an accident, but escaped with only the push car being thrown from the track.

Mrs. Jennie Lasswell filled her gasoline lamp too far, and when she lit it the fluid caught fire. Having left the room the children called her, and upon returning she found the paper on the ceiling burning. She called fire and it was soon put out. It was a pretty good scare. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, November 21, 1900.

Some of the children who had the diphtheria have some trouble about their speech, or talk like children who are just learning to talk. ...

The corn wagons were jammed in Wednesday till it looked like a sea of corn. A belt had broken and while it was being fixed every body brought a load of corn to town.

Willie Long ruptured a blood vessel in his stomach Saturday, when in town with a load of corn. He bled profusely. The doctor attributed it to over exertion. His family say that he has not been very well for the last two weeks, but had been picking corn all the time. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, December 17, 1900.

A Pottawatomie Indian by the name of Joe Butler was frozen to death on the reserve Monday night. It appears that he started home from Mayetta and got as far as an Indian's house on Little Soldier and got stranded within a hundred yards of the house. He was dead when found. Butler had a white woman for a wife. The supposition is that he had imbibed some what too freely of fire water. *The Holton Recorder*, January 7, 1901.

The elevator proves too small for this year's corn crop, so it is to be enlarged. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, January 7, 1901.

The masquerade ball given by the Woodmen of this place Friday night started in to be a very pleasant and enjoyable affair until Holton boot leg whiskey came upon the premises and poisoned the minds of several of the dancers, and then a free-for-all fight ensued. The fight was started by a young man by the name of John Hitt, who after filling up on rot gut had some words with one of the dancers and drew a revolver and fired four shots at him. Luckily no one was hit. This immediately brought an end to the dance, and Hitt was arrested and committed to the county jail to await preliminary examination, which will be held Saturday at 1 o'clock, on a charge of assault with an intent to kill one Jeff Harris. Another crowd who were equally drunk as the man who did the shooting repaired to the Mayetta hotel where a rough-and-tumble fight occurred, and a most disgusting scene was enacted by a set of drunken young men, most of them wearing masks. *The Holton Recorder*, January 31, 1901.

The blizzard that commenced Friday continued Saturday and Sunday and the snow drifts looked like young mountains. There is no doubt that twelve or fifteen inches of snow fell in the three day storm, but the wind piled it up in such a way that the east and west roads are almost impassable. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, February 6, 1901.

William Cooney lost seventeen fat hogs during the blizzard last week, they piled up in their bed and smothered to death; the hogs were worth about two hundred dollars. *The Tribune*, February 15, 1901.

On last Thursday afternoon our attention was attracted by a man rushing down the street at break neck speed frantically waving both arms and yelling Whoa! Whoa! Whoa! at the engineer of the passenger train; luckily the engineer saw the man coming and stopped the train for him to get on; it was only Milt Asher, and he had got into an argument and had forgot all about the train until he heard it pulling in. *The Tribune*, March 1, 1901.

In the fall of 1886, when the Rock Island railroad was pushing its way through Jackson county, there were no towns on its line between Holton and Topeka. This necessitated the laying out of town sites. And the first station was made nine miles south of the county seat and named Mayetta. The site chosen for the town was on the farm of E. E. Lunger, three-fourth of a mile from the Pottawatomie reservation near the east line of which the railroad followed for the whole width of the reservation. At first the original townsite contained only six blocks lying on the east side of the right-of-way, with Main street running east from the depot. The location was on rolling round, gradually rising east and north, and well chosen for convenience and beauty. Around it, especially on three sides, were fertile farms, and on the west the immense grazing and hay lands of the Indians. With these surroundings, Mayetta became at once a shipping point of considerable importance. The town was named by Mrs. E. E. Lunger, in remembrance of a deceased daughter, Maryetta.

The townsite was laid out in November of 1886, and that same month A. H. Elliott and S. R. Jones moved their store buildings from South Cedar, a small place two and a half miles east, to Mayetta, the former arriving a few days before the latter, both immediate commencing to do business in the new town. Wm. Munn, who also had been doing business at South Cedar, started shortly after to move his building, but was caught by cold weather between the two places, where the building remained until the early spring, when it finally reached its permanent abiding place. Wm. Munn had been postmaster at South Cedar and became the first postmaster at Mayetta, with V. R. Lunger, as his assistant. Of the first businessmen S. H. Jones is the only one still there. The building moved by A. E. Elliott some years later burned down, and Mrs. Elliott moved away, his present location not being known. Wm. Munn is in business in Oklahoma. The first new business house erected was by Ashton & Co., who commenced building in December of that year. The railroad reached the town in February of 1887, and the hopes of the early citizens was fully realized.

That winter Charles C. Clark started a livery table and meat market. He afterward moved to Holton and now lives in Leavenworth county. Bart Flood opened the first blacksmith shop and E. J. Lunger commenced dealing in lumber and coal. The first residence was built in the spring of 1887 by Jeff Woods, a section boss on the railroad.

Like every new Kansas community, a school house is one of the first essentials, and in the summer of 1887, one was built in Mayetta. The growth of this place since its start has not been rapid, but there has been a constant increase and improvement each year witnessing new buildings and additions to older ones. With age the houses have been improved by paint and their surroundings rendered more attractive. The present population is about 300.

In 1888 E. E. Lunger laid out an addition to the original townsite, adding six more blocks. On these lots many

new residences have been built. In 1896 the erection of two new churches was commenced, one by the Christian and the other by the M. E. denomination. That summer both were completed and dedicated, the former a few weeks in advance of the later. The pulpit of the M. E. church is supplied by Rev. T. E. Coole, and that of the Christian by Rev. Sloan, of Topeka.

The schools are conducted by E. D. Woodburn as principal and Miss Mary Goodrel as primary teacher. 123 scholars are enrolled. There is a strong lodge of Modern Woodmen and also one of the Knights and Ladies of Security. There is a good society of the W. C. T. U., and both churches have well organized ladies aid societies.

Mayetta has no municipal organization. It is part of Cedar township, of Jackson county, and depends upon the township officers for the enforcement of order in its limits. The present resident justice of the peace is E. J. Lunger, and the constable is George Anderson.

The R.I.R.R. has a neat depot building and the road has enjoyed a large amount of shipping business out of this point, the average number of cars of hay, grain and stock per year running 575 to 600. For seven years V. E. Lunger was the agent of the company at his point, and for the past two years S. W. Lahr has been in charge with Harvey Wright as an assistant.

Like all communities Mayetta has a good many citizens and some that are not so beneficial. The majority of the people, however, are energetic, honest and industrious, and work for the upbuilding of their town. There have been occasional disturbances, but they were generally engendered by outsiders and not residents of the place. Last spring, a year ago, the businessmen entered into a league to clean out the joints that had been running for sometime, and were successful in their efforts, since which time no liquor has been sold in Mayetta.

As a business point Mayetta is improving. For many years the reservation cut off all trade, except with the Indians, from the section of the country lying west of town, and but little benefit was derived from this direction. While much hay was brought in for shipment there were few individuals to trade. For the past two years much of the land on this reservation has been leased to parties for farming purposes and many settlers have moved in, thus increasing the general patronage of the stores. This will continue to increase as the land becomes better settled. The general country around the town and within the radius from which it would actually draw trade is good farming land and is becoming well settled with thrifty farmers, giving future promise of future growth and prosperity for the place.

The oldest resident business man in Mayetta is S. R. Jones, who moved the store and building from South cedar in November, 1886. He is one of the early residents of Jackson county, and had been in business at his first location for fourteen years before his removal. He is a dealer in general merchandise and also buys hay and grain. Last year he handled 2,000 tons of hay, and brought 22,000 bushels of corn. This year he intends to quit the hay and grain business, having turned that branch over to his sons, S. R. Jr., and Albert J., who have recently engaged in the general merchandise business for themselves. Mr. Jones has a residence adjoining his store, and has always been assisted in his business by members of his family.

In December, 1886, Thomas E. Ashton and his son, Frank, commenced the erection of a store building in Mayetta, which was completed in time to receive the first car load of goods shipped to that place by the railroad in February, 1887. The load of goods was checked out to the firm by H. H. Allen, general superintendent of the road, no agent having yet been installed. This firm continued in the general merchandise business until March 1, 1896, when they sold out to Max and Albert Sarbach, of Holton. On June 1, 1900, Thomas E. Ashton moved his hardware store from Holton to Mayetta, and again commenced business in that place, with his son, Frank, as manager. Their stock has been increased until their double store room and warehouse is filled with a full line of hardware, stoves, tinware, barb-wire, implements and vehicles. Frank Ashton, the manager, also deals in hay, having large leases of hay and pasture land on the reservation. He also ships hay from Holton, Circleville and Denison. During the last ten months he has shipped out of Mayetta 125 cars of this product. The post office, with W. D. Woodburn as postmaster, is kept in one of his storerooms. His clerks are Mead Early and Miss Elsie Ashton, the latter also being assistant postmaster. During Frank's residence in Mayetta he has built two residences.

The oldest resident blacksmith in Mayetta is Harry M. Reist, whose shop is at the east end of Main street. He moved from Birmingham twelve years ago, and has been working at this trade for thirty years. All kinds of work in iron and horseshoeing can be done at his shop and he enjoys a good patronage. Mr. Reist owns two residences, one in the town, and the other, southeast. He has a neat home and four acres of ground. He is largely engaged in the raising of fine poultry and thoroughbred hogs.

In the spring of 1892 Jess R. Lasswell began his business career in Mayetta by opening a hardware store and lumber yard. He start was made in a small building 16X30 and the growth of his business is best illustrated by the improvements made in his business property. In 1897 he built a new store room 42X80 for his hardware, stoves, implements and vehicles, and made large additions to his lumber sheds. His hardware store is neatly furnished with hard wood shelving of the most modern and improved pattern, making his store a model of convenience and handsome in appearance. In 1900 he built a two story store room adjoining his other business property, 24X80, the lower store of which is occupied by Geo. W. Wark, and the upper room is used by Mr. Lasswell for his buggies, carriages and spring wagons. He deals largely in hay, having the largest hay barn in the state, holding 1,500 tons. He has shipped as high as 500 cars of hay in one year. He has built a neat residence in the town. His clerks are Geo.

Wright, who has been with him for five years, and V. R. Lunger for the past two years.

On March 1, 1896. When Max and Albert Sarbach purchased the building and general merchandise business of Ashton & Co., they placed S. Heyman in charge as manger, which position he has ever since held, and the business has prospered under his charge. They have a large stock of general merchandise, suitable for that trade, and handle all kind of country produce. Mr. Heyman is an uncle of the Sarbach boys, and came from Germany some six years ago. He has very quickly adapted himself to the business methods of this country and gained a knowledge of the language that enables him to trade with his customers without inconvenience. His son assists him in the store.

The place where the citizens of Mayetta get shaved and have their hair trimmed is at the shop of Mr. F. M. Powell, the only one in town. He has been in Mayetta seven years and enjoys a good trade. Last summer he erected a new shop near the west end of Main street, which he has neatly furnished. He runs two chairs, the second one being presided over by James Harrington.

The only exclusive harness shop is owned and operated by John Ready, who came to Mayetta from Collins, Mo., in 1898. Mr. Ready is an old and experienced workman, having learned his trade in Baltimore, Md., forty-four years ago. He carries in stock all kinds of harness and saddles and leather goods for horses. Will make you a splendid set of hand made harness, or repair your old ones in an workman like manner. His business is a home industry that ought to be encouraged by a liberal patronage.

The drug store of Mayetta is owned by Dr. W. P. Brockett, who four years ago brought out the store of the late Dr. Meyer. In 1899 he erected a new two story business room on First street, just north of main. The lower part of this building is used by him for his stock of drugs, chemicals and medicines. He has it neatly shelved, painted and papered, with a handsome prescription case in the rear. The upper story is rented by the Modern Woodmen of America for a hall. In addition to his store the doctor practices his profession. He came from Topeka to Mayetta, being a graduate of Washburn college and of the Kansas Medical college.

The meat market and restaurant of Mayetta is owned by Noah Sanderson who on March 1, brought the business from Thomas P. Carter, and also the building. Mr. Sanderson is an old resident of this part of Jackson county, having for twenty years been a farmer. Seven years ago he moved to town and purchased the farm adjoining the town site on the north, and then engaged in buying and shipping stock. He keeps fresh meat on hand at all times, and will also furnish a meal or lunch to the hungry in a neat little room fitted up for that purpose and adjoining his meat market.

The blacksmith shop on the west end of main street, is owned and operated by Fred Waters, who has been in Mayetta for the past six years, and in business for three years. He built his shop and enjoys a good run of patronage. He does all kinds of blacksmithing, plow work, horse shoeing, and in addition will do wood work of all kinds for vehicles or implements. His helper is George H. Anderson.

The neat and handsome appearance of many of the buildings of the place is due to the work of J. W. Boling, painter and paper hanger. He formerly lived in Holton and has been in Mayetta for the past four years. He reports that he has all the work he can do at his line.

In 1896 L. F. Crane erected a two-story hotel building in the east part of the town on Main street. Two years ago Mr. J. A. Cooper took possession of this and served the traveling public for over a year. He then sold out and was absent for about eleven months, but returned in October and again assumed charge of the place, which he christened the "City Hotel." It is neat and commodious, and makes a good stopping place. He also runs a livery stable in connection with his hotel.

Some years ago a creamery was started in Mayetta by E. N. Garber, which was soon after brought by Albert Hunter and Frank Winner, who now own the same. During the winter months it has been closed but will be opened again soon. It has always done a good business and furnished surrounding farmers with a good market for milk. A feed grinding mill is run in connection with the creamery.

While there has been a large amount of grain brought and shipped out of Mayetta ever since the town and station was established, yet there had been no convenient facilities for handling grain until last year, when Thompson & James, of Holton, erected a new elevator, with all the latest improvements for dumping, shelling and handling corn and loading the grain. This elevator is equipped with an Otto gasoline engine, and has the capacity of from 12,000 to 15,000 bushels of corn. Harry Cobledick is in charge.

No man is better known in the east and south part of Jackson county than G. B. Wark. For ten years he was in the general merchandise business at Birmingham. Last year he sold out at that place, and on September 1 opened up a new store in the building erected by Jess Lasswell in Mayetta. His stock comprises a full line of dry goods, groceries, notions, ladies' and gents' furnishing goods and boots and shoes. Mr. Wark is an experienced business man, which enables him to buy with advantage and sell at reasonable prices. He takes in exchange for goods all kinds of country produce. He is assisted in his store by his daughter, Mary, and his son, Joseph.

The oldest resident physician in Mayetta is Dr. R. Robson, who has been practicing his profession there for the past eight years. He enjoys the respect of the people of that community. His office is on Main street just east of S. R. Jones store.

In February of this year Albert J. and S. R. Jones Jr., brought out the general store of F. W. Jennings, and have continued the business at the same stand on east Main street. New goods have been added, and they are prepared to

serve the public with anything usually kept in a general store. Country produce will be taken in exchange for goods. The proprietors are the sons of S. R. Jones, the oldest merchant in Mayetta, and have assumed charge of the hay and grain business heretofore conducted by their father. They are energetic young men and will no doubt succeed to a good business.

E. J. Lunger is one of the oldest residents in Mayetta, and is now engaged in buying and shipping stock.

Wm. Miller is proprietor of a livery stable and is prepared to furnish the public with good rigs, or feed horse for transients.

In a few weeks a new millinery store will be opened in Mayetta, by Misses Maggie Roggenback and Blanche Hawn, in the Flagel building on east Main street. A skirt factory will be operated in connection. Miss Ruth Jones will be an assistant.

Among the new improvements to be made in the town this coming year, the most substantial will be a stone business block by Geo. Elliott, which will be erected on east Main street. It will be a double store 60X80 and two stories high, and will be a valuable improvement to the town. Plans and specifications have been drawn and the work will commence as soon as the weather will permit. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, March 13, 1901.

A mail route was established here last week running north and east of Mayetta. The route will be about twenty-five miles long, Albert Hunter will be carrier with Robt. Mitchell as sub-carrier. *The Tribune*, March 22, 1901.

Whiskey got the upper hand of two men Sunday morning, and they pummeled one another till they were a gory looking mess of humanity. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, April 3, 1901.

Pasture land is becoming scare here even on the reservation, on account of so much of the prairie being broken up. This is just what we predicted several years ago when there was such a scramble on the reservation to break everything up for corn, consequently pasture land is now just about as valuable as farm land.

In looking around our Mayetta blacksmith shops we noticed that they were all very busy with work on all kinds of farm tools, and that it was almost impossible for our two smiths to secure hired help enough. H. M. Reist is working two hands and Fred Waters three. Mr. Waters has a woodworkman and painter who are kept busy in connection with the blacksmith work. *The Holton Recorder*, May 9, 1901.

The painters are painting the depot, out buildings and telegraph poles, and making things look neat and nice. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, May 15, 1901.

The Indians are to be quarantined on account of small pox; there are several cases on the reservation.

The gramophone, a grand, new and novel entertainment. A choir invisible, and unrivaled musical feast; perfectly reproduces the human voice, just as loud, clear and sweet as life. The numbers rendered will be first class; speeches can be heard as far as the original. Be sure to bring the children, it will please them. Come out one and all and assist a good cause. Adults 15 cents, children 10 cents. To be given for benefit of the M. E. church, Mayetta, June 1. Doors open at 7:30. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, May 22, 1901.

Jimmie Long got hold of some cartridges and matches and blew his thumb and two front fingers off, scarring his face and probably blinding one eye. It was a close call for the little fellow. *The Holton Weekly Signal*, May 28, 1901.

It is extremely humiliating to law abiding citizens to have a peace officer who would absolutely refuse to have an escaped criminal arrested and returned to jail, especially when he knew the escaped prisoner was here, was drunk, was raising a disturbance and beating his wife. And that same peace officer could and did go to that same escaped prisoner in a secret place and there take his acknowledgment to a deed for some real estate, knowing full well that he has three times escaped from justice, and yet that is what our Mayetta justice of the peace did.

In looking over *The Recorder* we notice an account of how Asbury Hicks and Bill Miller made their escape from the county jail at Holton. As they had twenty-four hours in which to make good their escape before the officers discovered they were gone, and as Sheriff Perkins was out of town and Deputy Sheriff Haas was too busy with court business to attend to the prison and the young man who carried meals to the prisoner visited the jail morning and noon but did not notice that the cage was empty until Tuesday evening, and that Deputy Sheriff Haas when notified that the jail was empty made an investigation of the premises and found the door to the cell unlocked, making it a very easy matter for the prisoners to escape. All of this indicates one or two things: criminal carelessness or a perfect willingness for these two desperadoes to escape. A great majority of the citizens of this community are inclined to the latter opinion. Now lets see how bad the county officials wanted these criminals recaptured. About 11 o'clock Tuesday night Miller and Hicks came to Mayetta riding one horse, both heavily armed, and preceded to paint the town, and kept it up all night. About nine o'clock next morning a brother of Miller's wife came down town and stated that Miller was then beating his (Miller's) wife. I immediately went to the phone, called up Holton and asked

for Sheriff Perkins and was informed that he was out of town. I then called for Deputy Haas and was told he could not be found. I then called up the county attorney and asked him if he knew that Hicks and Miller had broken jail and he told me that he had just heard of it. ... The attorney told me that I had better see the sheriff, and I informed him that I could not either get the sheriff or his deputy, but that we had a constable here and if it would be alright for him to arrest Miller and bring him to back to jail, and again he said that I should better see the sheriff ... *The Holton Recorder*, June 6, 1901.

Considerable excitement was created in Mayetta Sunday evening by some Gipsy women, who were camped near town. I am informed the undertook to hold up some boys who visited them. One of the women was arrested and fined one dollar. They were then permitted to continue their journey glad to escape further prosecution. ...

Mrs. Carrie Nation while here indulged in a great deal of handshaking and gave some good motherly advise, but when she accosted our justice of the peace and extended her hand to him with a "God bless you brother, it does me so much good to shake hands with an old, honest hard-working farmer," here is where the laugh comean, but we have not heard of our J. P. setting up the cigars to the boys yet, for I suppose his dear friend had advised him that that would be extremely sinful.

Well, the Nation was here last Wednesday and Thursday. We refer to Mrs. Carrie Nation, the joint smasher. I am informed she smashed one pint bottle of whiskey and visited a jointist's residence and belabored him in grand shape. Mrs. Nation's main object here seemed to be to sell her paper and pictures and little hatchets and to make acquaintance of the people in general and the whiskey venders in particular. She attended the Epworth League convention Wednesday night and indulged in a general handshake. We are informed she made good sales, of her paper, hatchet and pictures. She took the noon train Thursday for Topeka and went her way rejoicing. *The Holton Recorder*, June 20, 1901.

The famous crusader and joint smasher, Mrs. Carrie Nation, very unexpectedly dropped into our city last Wednesday evening. The excitement was high during her brief stay. Upon her arrival she immediately went to the hotel and took supper. After supper, Mrs. Nation thought a little stroll through out city might settle the hearty supper which she had partaken of. She strolled leisurely in a northeasterly direction, probably in hope of sighting a heard of joint, but her hopes were blighted, as she found none, then she made her way back to the business portion of town and gave some of the boys a little private lecture on the evils of rum. Mrs. Nation did not come here to smash, she was here in the interest of The Smasher's Mail. She sold several copies and a number of pictures and hatchets. It was very funny to see some of the boys trying to keep out of her way. *The Tribune*, June 21, 1901.

The fourth passed off very quietly with no casualties or excitement until about 7 o'clock in the evening when the fire-cracker brigade were getting in their work. Then it was discovered that the Sigmon Heyman store building was on fire, having caught from burning fire crackers under the side walk, which when discovered was rapidly burning on the east end of the building and but for the heroic efforts of the bucket brigade the business part of Mayetta would in all probability now be in ashes, all to please the small boys, notwithstanding they had been frequently warned about the promiscuous use of any kind of fire on the streets owing to the extreme hot weather and high wind. Carpenters were immediately set to work to repair the damage, which I am informed will not exceed \$50.

Sheriff Steve Perkins came down here Thursday morning and interfered with some people's way of celebrating the glorious Fourth by capturing a large barrel of bottled beer and having it consigned to his address at Holton to be dealt with according to law. I am informed that he also escorted W. T. Davis to Holton. Davis' name appeared on the head of the barrel. The wet goods had previously been delivered to Davis at Hoyt, and I am informed that packages of the same kind of goods have been recently shipped by the same party at Birmingham. A pretty smooth way of this of trying to deceive the people of Mayetta, but it wouldn't slide always. Wednesday morning, I am informed, a drunken Indian came from Wm. Davis' house, walking down the main street of Mayetta with a bottle of beer on one hand and a bottle of whiskey in the other exclaiming, "Wa net, Ball Davis! Wa net, Ball Davis! Heap Fourth July!" *The Holton Recorder*, July 11, 1901.

Last Tuesday, almost at the same time of day that Willie Fitzgerald was struck by lightning, O. F. Winner and his boys were working somewhere on his farm and it seems they had just unhitched their team and started for the house and the boys had just alighted from the horses, whether to open the gate or for some other purpose the writer did not learn, when one of the horses was instantly killed by lightning, and Mr. Winner and his boys received a slight shock from the same stroke, and the other horses so badly shocked it is doubtful if it will recover. ...

Last Tuesday about 11 o'clock while Willie Fitzgerald was herding his father's cattle near home during a thunder storm he was struck by lightning and both he and his horse were killed instantly. When dinner time came and Willie failed to come home a search was instituted and he was found dead still in the saddle with his feet yet in the stirrups, and both rider and horse dead. Willie was a boy of about fifteen years ... *The Holton Recorder*, August 22, 1901.

The old fashioned people who used to carry potato around for the rheumatism can't do it this year on account of the high price of that particular kind of fruit. *The Tribune*, October 4, 1901.

We notice some herds of cattle coming in from the reservation in far worse condition than they were taken out in the spring owing to the scarcity of grass and water. *The Holton Recorder*, October 10, 1901.

When it comes to little boys picking up on the streets bottles of joint whiskey dropped by drunken Indians, then it seems there is an urgent need for another Carrie Nation uprising. But that is just what is occurring here in Mayetta. This morning we heard a little boy laughing and telling how he saw a drunken Indian standing before the leading joint drinking whiskey out of a bottle, and that he heard the joint keeper admonish the Indian to hide the bottle for there was someone watching. Isn't Mayetta becoming a model town in which to raise up boys? Shame on such contemptible jail birds. A life sentence in the penitentiary is what they need. And our township and county peace officers - Oh, well we haven't got any, that's all. *The Holton Recorder*, October 24, 1901.

Well, the patience of Mayetta citizens was exhausted Wednesday evening by a lot of drunken Indians prowling around, using all kinds of profane and obscene language regardless of the presence of women and men. Several of the most stalwart young men procured rawhide whips and poor Lo received an invitation to leave town, which they refused to do, when the whips began to play and the Indians began to dance, and soon had urgent business on the reservation, but not until they had received a good thrashing, which no doubt was richly merited. But the whippers did not go far enough. They should have applied the lash to some white men here who sold them whiskey, for no one will doubt that these fiends are ten times meaner than the Indians whom they made drunk. *The Holton Recorder*, October 31, 1901.

Other happenings in 1901 were: An anti-liquor crusade occurred in Holton in February when a large crowd of people smashed windows and created general havoc in stores and places that sold whiskey and beer; Asbury Hicks' joint was one of them; a Negro minstrel show was given in the Woodman Hall in March; the first rural route delivery out of the Mayetta Post Office began on May first; there was a severe drought that did not end until it rained in August, a rain that came too late to save the crops.

Mayetta was discovered in the fall of 1886 by Wm. Lunger. The town was surveyed and platted by County Surveyor M. Z. Jones. The first inhabitant was A. H. Elliott, who conducted a store. S. R. Jones and Wm. Munn were also on the grounds among the first during the fifteen years of the existence of our city. The former is here yet with a general merchandise store. The population of Mayetta has increased from nothing to about three hundred people.

Our city has a graded school and two churches, Methodist and Christian, each of which has a large number of members.

We have two secret orders viz. the M. W. A. with seventy-five members and the K. L. & S. with forty members.

In Mayetta there is one creamery owned and operated by O. F. Winner.

The different kinds of business and proprietors are as follows: blacksmith shop, H. M. Reist, proprietor, who has an up-to-date shop and has it equipped with the very latest machinery. Harness shop, Jno. Reddy proprietor, has a full line of harness and does all kinds of repairing. Hardware and implements Frank Ashton proprietor, carries a full line of goods needed in the hardware and implement trade. M. & A. Sarbach, general store, S. Heyman manager, carry a full line of all kinds of goods belonging to a general store. Barber shop Jno. Lehman proprietor, has a first-class shop and is a first-class artist. Blacksmith shop, T. F. Waters proprietor, who has a first-class shop which is equipped with all the latest improved machinery. Hardware and Lumber, J. R. Lasswell proprietor, who carries a full line of lumber and hardware also a complete line of buggies, wagons and implements. Mayetta State Bank officered by the best men of this vicinity. The bank was a very much needed institution and has a large patronage the capital stock is \$5000.00 with over \$18000.00 deposits. General store G. B. Wark proprietor, carries a full stock of everything in his line. Restaurant E. Licklyter, proprietor, also serves meals and does a good business in his line. Post office S. R. Jones Jr., P. M. General store Albert Jones, proprietor, has a full line of up-to-date goods and is always on duty to wait upon his many customers. Hotel, J. A. Cooper, proprietor, a first-class house with livery in connection. Drugs R. Robson, proprietor, carries a full line of drugs and has a good practice. Livery Henry Tork, proprietor, who is always ready to take care of the public needing anything in his line. Drug store Dr. W. P. Brockett, proprietor, a full line of up-to-date drugs always in stock. The doctor also has a large practice. Tonsorial parlor J. E. Harrington, proprietor, who has a fine trade and is a first-class workman. Our city also has a first-class elevator, owned by Jack Thompson of Holton, and operated by Chester Moore, who always pays the highest price for grain.

Mayetta as a shipping point is second to none in Jackson county. During the past fifteen years the Rock Island

has handled over twelve thousand cars of hay, grain, stock and merchandise in and out of this place. During the year of 1901 our business men did over \$150,000.00 worth of business. *The Tribune*, January 31, 1902.

Wednesday evening a jolly and good natured set of young men and women with several sleighs passed South Cedar school house. To have heard them one would have thought pandemonium had broken loose sure enough. Added to the jingling of sleigh bells was the noise of tin horns, cow bells, tin pans and in fact everything that would make a noise was brought into requisition. Vocal singing was also indulged in by many joyful voices. Altogether such innocent enjoyment by the young people is highly appreciated even by a boy of 66 summers, for it carries us back to our own boyhood. *The Holton Recorder*, February 3, 1902.

E. J. Lunger and Wm. Cooney are contemplating the erection of a building to be sixty feet wide by one hundred feet long, to be used as a skating rink. The carpenters are figuring on the bill and this building if erected will be completed by May first. Skating rinks used to be a big hit about fifteen years ago, and are beginning to come back into style again, and the first to open up one will be the one who gets in on the ground floor. *The Tribune*, March 14, 1902.

A case of small pox is reported at Mayetta. A little boy of Mrs. George Medlock, I am informed has the disease but in a mild form. I am informed the county physician came down from Holton last week and quarantined the residence of Mr. Medlock and it is to be hoped the disease will be kept from scattering but as long as pesky Indians are permitted to come to Mayetta broken out with this loathsome disease, it seems an up hill business to keep the disease from spreading for I am informed it was from an Indian this boy caught the disease. *The Holton Recorder*, May 8, 1902.

Later we hear that Mrs. George Medlock, mother of the little boy we reported ill last week, was taken with the small pox and their residence is still under a rigid quarantine, and some are talking very seriously of having the town of Mayetta quarantined. If only the pesky Indians could be quarantined for at least six months it would be a grand thing.

The egg social given by the Mayetta Epworth League Saturday evening at the residence of John Miller was a decided success in every particular. There were thirty dozens of eggs donated for the Bethany Hospital at Kansas City, Kan. *The Holton Recorder*, May 15, 1902.

Fred Waters made a coffin for an Indian who had died lately. He was buried sitting up. He was an old Indian and one that had kept away from the joints. *The Holton Signal*, June 11, 1902.

The young man who was hit by a stone, thrown by one of the toughs, is still unconscious. The toughs thought that the merry go round was brought here that they may have free rides, the owners thought different, hence one of them is severely hurt about the head and we hope the perpetrators will be brought to justice. *The Holton Signal*, June 18, 1902.

Mr. Cooney had a dog go mad one day last week and it lived but a short time. One of his neighbors also lost a cow as the result of a visit of a mad dog. It is not known how many more animals were bitten. *The Holton Signal*, June 25, 1902.

There is considerable excitement here in regard to some land on the reservation known as allotted dead Indians land and I am informed several parties have made purchases, but under what title we are at this writing unable to say. *The Holton Recorder*, June 26, 1902.

Thanks to those who were instrumental in closing the billiard hall. It was a disgrace to our good name. Let the good work go on. *The Holton Signal*, August 13, 1902.

Quite a sensation occurred at Mayetta this morning, the circumstances of which are about as follows: A big strapping pugilistic, looking young man by the name of Jones or Lloyd some time ago came to this village and for some time loitered around a certain place kept as a restaurant and hotel without any visible means of support and was frequently seem to enter this place with women of questionable virtue and although the warning had been frequently sounded through the columns of The Recorder that suspicion pointed to the fact there was such a thing in Mayetta as a house of ill fame, no attention was paid to the warning by the peace officers and the patience of the good people of Mayetta having been exhausted, about twenty-five of our best citizens came to the conclusion that matters along this line of infamy had gone about far enough and I am informed that a committee waited upon this aforesaid man and notified him to leave town and take along with him a certain woman and not to hesitate upon his going and to go at once. He seemed to be in no hurry about going whereupon several buggy whips were procured and Jones or Lloyd as the case may be before the committee got through using these buggy whips on his person he

certainly came to the immediate conclusion that there certainly was going to be a hot time in the old town tonight and he left immodestly on foot not being permitted to hire a rig or take a train ... *The Holton Recorder*, August 28, 1902.

It is a fact, though a strange one that the farmers who live near Mayetta when they have hogs to sell take them to some market further away instead of going to Mayetta with them. The reason is that they nearly always find a better market getting from twenty-five to thirty-five cents more per hundred than in Mayetta. I wish some one would explain it to me. Stock-buyers will pay and why don't they pay better and thus compete with their neighboring market? We submit the question to them for their careful thought and reflection. *The Tribune*, October 3, 1902.

The Mayetta city election passed off very quietly last Thursday with a very light vote polled, there being just 41 votes, caused by the fact that there was just one ticket and no opposition. The following city ticket was elected: mayor, C. D. Oliphant; police judge, Dr. W. P. Brockett; councilmen, S. Heyman, Frank Ashton, S. R. Early, Jess R. Lasswell and Fred Waters. *The Holton Recorder*, October 30, 1902.

Under our new administration or incorporation of this city will be the envy of some of our local country villages: Mayetta was incorporated Oct. 23rd, [1902] ... the council meets regularly and is kept busy framing ordinances for a good clean city government, and one thing sure, if the councilmen are left alone, they will have everything in good respectable shape in time; but the public must learn to understand that we can nor have our city laws in working order from the first start, but it will take some time and untiring work to get our laws in shape to please everybody. We are now busy building a nice little jail to place those who do not comply with the laws of our city. One good way for the public in general to help make our city government good, is to say Amen to what our city officials do, and not always be growling and chewing the rag, when they do a thing but come up and pat them on the back and say, you are all right; if you can't say anything encouraging why keep still and say nothing. Our officials are all good and reliable men and know what is best for our city; all of them are first-class citizens and will endeavor to make good laws and maintain them. They don't expect to jump right out and make all build sidewalk, street crossings and pave our streets this winter or next summer, but will do these things as soon as them can find convenient; they don't expect to close up the joints (if there are any) tomorrow or next week, but give them time and them may possibly move them. *The Tribune*, November 28, 1902.

The mammoth corn crop just now being harvested and sold is bringing more money to this community than any previous crop ever brought in the history of the county, which certainly ought to make money matters easy here for some time to come.

Mayetta now has a perfect set of city ordinances and it certainly behooves every lover of law and decency in and around Mayetta to lend their influence to the city officers in their effects to enforce them and thereby fully realize the full effect of what we have been contending with for the last ten years. *The Holton Recorder*, December 4, 1902.

City Marshall Noah Sanderson escorted an Indian by the name of Frank Moore last Friday to Holton city jail for being in contempt of the Mayetta city police court, to await the trial of the city of Mayetta against Eli Licklyter, charged with keeping a place of nuisance and selling liquor to Indians and the case is set for hearing today ...

Police Judge's court was in session this afternoon hearing the case of the city of Mayetta against Eli Licklyter charged with selling one Frank Moore, an Indian, liquor and also for keeping a house of nuisance. After examining three witnesses, the Indian, the City Marshall and the liquors themselves, the defendant was found guilty on both counts and was assessed a fine of \$200 and to serve 60 days in jail. ...

There must be a coal famine at Denison as we notice teams every day hauling coal from here to that place. ...

There were 94 loads of corn weighed over the elevator scales here Saturday, besides about 40 loads that went out to other parties. What town the size of Mayetta can beat that for one day's receipts. ...

Our Mayetta butchers are gently reminded that it is a violation of the statute laws to dump hog hides and offal on or near the public highways as has been going on about 1-1/2 miles northeast of town. It has, so I am informed, frightened some farmer's team and came near causing a runaway. ...

Cleveland Licklyter was arrested here last Tuesday charged with selling liquor to an Indian whose name we did not learn and his case was set for hearing on Friday, January 8, 1903, before Police Judge W. P. Brockett and the case was called at 1 o'clock p. m. Attorney Rokes of Holton was the prosecuting attorney for the city, and there was no attorney for the defense, and after the examination of the Indian who testified in plain language that he brought one quart of whiskey from the defendant and paid him for the same \$1.25, and that said whiskey was brought at the restaurant of the defendants' father, Eli Licklyter, in the city of Mayetta. Further evidence was introduced in open court to corroborate the Indian's testimony and nearly a full quart of red liquor that the defendant had sold the Indian, after hearing the evidence the court found the defendant guilty on one count and sentenced him to serve 30 days in jail. Of course the usual appeal was taken, seemingly for no other reason than to kill time and the hopes of either bribing or getting the witnesses away. *The Holton Recorder*, December 11, 1902.

The Leavenworth Times prints the following dispatch from Washington, in reference to the sale of inherited Indian lands on the Pottawatomie and Kickapoo reservations, and the connection of Congressman Curtis therewith. D. R. Anthony, of the Times, is a bitter enemy of Curtis, and the facts given may be colored largely by prejudice, but there is no doubt the sales heretofore made have been held for investigation. The dispatch to the Times says:

The secretary of the interior, acting upon information thorough the commissioner of Indian affairs, has absolutely annulled and declared void all sales of inherited Indian lands on the Kickapoo and Pottawatomie reservation in Brown and Jackson counties. Not only have the deeds to these lands been refused, but the department officials are now investigating serious charges against Indian agent W. R. Honell, who was appointed by Congressman Curtis, and through whom the sale of every piece of Indian land had to be made. No bidder on lands on the reservation could have his bid submitted to the department for approval or rejection without the endorsement of Agent Honell. Reverend Gates, minister residing near Horton, and who is well acquainted with the affairs of the Indians on the reservation, has filed some of the charges, but there have been many protests made by the residents of both Brown and Jackson countries, because of the manifestly unfair manner in which the sales have been conducted. It is understood that the lands have been sold by Agent Honell at a ridiculously low price to a syndicate of Brown county and Topeka politicians. The fact became so well known and gave such a strong odor of fraud and political corruption, that the secretary of the interior promptly annulled the sale of every individual piece of land. The friends of Curtis in Washington have been strenuously endeavoring to keep the action of the secretary of the interior as quiet as possible, but the condition of affairs has leaked out, and Curtis finds himself in anything but a comfortable position. It is estimated that the profits of the syndicate of politicians backed by Curtis in this one Indian land grab would have been over \$50,000 if the department of the interior had allowed the deal to slip through. *The Holton Signal*, December 17, 1902.

The jail is going up fast these days. But by the looks and appearance around our city we don't need any jail as we have not seen a drunk for this long time. This speaks well for the town and officers showing they are still on guard. *The Tribune*, December 19, 1902.

State and Federal censuses did not enumerate the townspeople of Mayetta as a separate entity until after 1902 when the town was incorporated, so we do not have censuses for the years before 1910. I believe that the town had to have a certain level of population before it could be incorporated and it had not reached this point until late in 1902. There have been at most times more than three hundred people living in the city, but probably not over four hundred at any time, the housing not being able to sustain a town of any greater population. Another possible reason that the town had not been incorporated sooner was that there was some resistance due to the fact that the citizens would have to pay city taxes.

The town had been incorporated by October 23, 1902, bringing many benefits. A city dog tax was levied to help control the dog population; taxes were levied for internal improvements; the city officials started building a jail in December and sidewalks were being built in the business district. The city now had its own laws and law enforcement, not having to rely on the county sheriff's department or that of Cedar Township. It would be easy to blame the lawlessness on lack of law enforcement on these two entities, but this not fair, as the problem of public drunkenness was so great everywhere that it overwhelmed the legal system so that a change in the culture needed to take place before it was under control, if it can ever be said to have been or to be under control.

The city had a population of 328 in 1910; 309 in 1920; 296 in 1930. A primary factor in the city not growing was a lack of housing. As an example, the principal of the Mayetta High School in the 1920's could not find housing in town and had to commute daily by train from Holton. R. L. Miller, that astute businessman seems to have recognized that housing in town was needed had built four rental houses, but this was the exception.

The city can grow by encouraging the building of housing within the city limits and annexing adjoining property. Since most of the residential lots are only 50 foot wide, with a 10 foot side set back from neighboring lots, it is difficult to build the size home on these narrow lots that people want to live in today. There has been opposition to annexation by people whose land abuts the city limits, not wanting to pay the city taxes, but they have been more than willing to ask to hook up to city water and sewer lines, and in many cases they were allowed to do so without being annexed.

Mayetta needs more people wanting to make Mayetta their home, feeling a connection to the town and wanting the town to prosper, and more new houses giving the city a larger tax levy to make improvements thus encouraging population growth in town.

Notwithstanding the inclement weather the Mayetta city jail is going right up, and it really does seem to have something of a moralizing influence upon our city. *The Holton Recorder*, January 1, 1903.

Our city dads formed in marching order last Monday evening and called upon every joint in town and politely informed each jointist that the time had come when each and every one of them must close up shop, and that they were making a grave mistake in abusing our worthy town marshal for doing his plain duty, and that he would be upheld in his manly effects to close every joint in town. It seems to have had a salutary effect. *The Holton Recorder*, January 29, 1903.

Last Wednesday was pension day with the old boys who wore the blue and notwithstanding the cold day quite a number appeared at Mayetta early in the morning to have their vouchers filled out. ...

The Mayetta Camp of Modern Woodman today exemplified a true Christian spirit by going to the timber with their axes and teams and spent the day chopping and hauling wood for those families that have been stricken down with sickness for some time, and further those members who could not join in the wood chopping and hauling will donate liberally with corn and hay for the stock of the sick and other necessities of life for the afflicted families. *The Holton Recorder*, February 12, 1903.

The city limits have been extended south and west to take in the Rock Island depot and Mr. Huff Smith.

People who want to keep their dogs must be prompt in paying their tax and receiving their tag. The marshal has orders to kill all dogs without tags.

At the council meeting on night the final adoption of the sidewalk ordinance was laid on the table until the next meeting. *The Tribune*, May 8, 1903.

The North Topeka refugees in Mayetta may be found at the following homes: Paul Hare at Mrs. E. E. Lungers, Mrs. Hare and daughters, Vern, Alameeda and Ruth at Dr. Brocketts, Mrs. White and daughter, Annis, at Mrs. Moore's; Mr. Beazley and wife and two children at Bert Harrington's. *The Tribune*, June 12, 1903.

Huge amounts of ran fell in the Kansas River basin west of Topeka, and the town was flooded on May 29, 1903. People in North Topeka became stranded when part of the Melan Bridge that crossed the Kansas River was carried away. Fires broke out when debris from burning buildings were spread by the waters to nearby buildings. Four thousand people were displaced and thirty-eight lost their lives.

Because the people of North Topeka could not escape to the south their only recourse was to the north and that is how some of them ended up in Mayetta. The Kansas River flood of 1903, and those occurring in later years, led to a flood control plan for Topeka, that began under the New Deal in the 1930's.

Our city marshal, Noah Sanderson, made a raid on the Henry Tork livery barn Sunday and arrested Henry, John and George Tork charged with selling liquor and keeping a place of nuisance. All gave bond in police court for their appearance on Friday, April 10. Quite a lot of wet goods were captured consisting of beer, whiskey and the necessary paraphernalia requisite for running regular joint. *The Holton Recorder*, July 30, 1903.

While driving into the city of Mayetta, especially up through Broadway, we were surprised to see such improvements. The first to notice was the enlarging of the H. M. Reist blacksmith shop which was necessary on account of more room to accommodate the large amount of trade he has been having in the past year and in the future to come. The next was the City Hotel, Noah Sanderson proprietor, with its new coat of paint put there by August Winters of Mayetta, the best painter. We did not venture into the interior of the hotel for several reasons, the one was we know what was customary in our native country when we put up at such a fine hotel, and the other that we had just come from the home of our friend J. A. Boltz and son where we most royally entertained, both ourselves and team. As we were driving up Broadway we noticed the fine sidewalks which are a credit to the city but there was something that we did not notice that we used to read so much about in Scribbler's letters, i. e. the drunks. What become of them or where they got to I don't know, but one thing I do know the people were quiet and orderly. To our left we spied the fine livery barn, W. E. Davis proprietor. From the drive in and out that we noticed in the short time we were there gives us no reason to believe his barn is none too large. To itemize every place of business would make our letter too lengthy, but while driving through town we noticed every one busy at his place of business and no place to hitch our team so we drove into the alley and hitched to Heyman's & Son's corn crib and made our way into their store were we found the usual trouble, crowded with people waiting their turn to be waited upon. As we struck the sidewalks and cast our eyes over the city we noticed the J. R. Lasswell block, State Bank, Jones store, the Shumway restaurant all having the appearance of doing a good business; the last to notice was the Jackson blacksmith shop from the teams hitched on the outside it was evident that he was also doing a good business. We now concluded to leave town and make room for those who had more business than we had. *The*

Holton Recorder, July 30, 1903.

Some one is trying to poison all the dogs in Mayetta, by the number that have been found dead lately, some miscreants took their spite out on Wm. Davis by shooting his valuable bulldog. ...

Police court is dull, dull, dull, there seems to be plenty of booze changing hands, and plenty of drunks on the street, especially last Sabbath. Our city fathers must be taking a much deserved rest to talk over their raids and findings. *The Tribune*, September 4, 1903.

Quite a blaze occurred here Thursday morning, about 4 o'clock. A barn occupied by Frank Ashton caught fire from some cause which in all human probability will never be known. The fire originated, so I am informed, in the upper part of the barn where there was a considerable amount of hay stowed away but if there was any person sleeping in or about the barn no one knows of the fact. About half past three or four a young man by the name of Milt Jones discovered the building on fire and gave the alarm and just before the building fell in he succeeded in rescuing three ponies and by that time the citizens of Mayetta had turned out and formed quite a bucket brigade to protect the large barn and fine dwelling house of S. R. Early. The barn of Mr. Early was also on fire having caught from the former building, but the flames had got too far a start for them to save Mr. Early's barn and they turned their attention to Mr. Early's beautiful residence and by hard efforts in keeping the entire side of the building thoroughly wet they succeeded in saving the dwelling house but with little damage, but the two barns with the greatest part of the contents were a total loss, with the exception of the three ponies of Mr. Ashton's that the young Mr. Jones got out. All that Mr. Ashton had in his barn was a total loss consisting of about three hundred bushels of corn, oats and quite a lot of baled hay together with three sets of harness, two saddles, buggy and many other useful articles. Mr. Ashton estimates his loss to be about \$350 with no insurance, Mr. Aston not being the owner of the building. The building belonged to Mrs. Mary Page and was insured for \$100. I am informed that most of Mr. Early's harness, buggy and tools were rescued, but all his crop of tame hay and oats and quite an amount of wheat and corn was burned. Mr. Early is not here to estimate his loss but from what we know and have seen of his barn I should think his losses would not fall short of seven or eight hundred dollars. I am informed he carried a \$400 dollar insurance policy on his barn and if this is all he carried it will not make him more than half whole in his losses. This is the worst fire that ever occurred in Mayetta, but bad as it is it might have been a great deal worse for if the wind had been blowing from the south ... *The Holton Recorder*, September 10, 1903.

The correspondent for the Tribune here certainly must be misinformed in regard to the dog killing that occurred here week before last. There may be some miscreants living in Mayetta and doubtless are especially the whisky venders who ply their nefarious vocation by stealth. But as for the dog killing it was done in the open and by reputable persons for when dogs, be they ever so valuable, leave their own homes and worry and terrify neighborhood's cows and calves it is high time they met their end. *The Holton Recorder*, September 10, 1903.

Eight men realized that the way of the transgressor is hard, when they thought to make the ordinance against playing poker null and void. *The Holton Signal*, October 14, 1903.

Coal is six dollars a ton, and there is none to be had. What will the poor man with out work do. ...

The car load of potatoes that came the first of the week have mostly been sold to the farmers at eighty-five cents a bushel. They came from Colorado. *The Holton Signal*, November 11, 1903.

Jake Heyman discovered a new bee hive lately, located between the weather-boarding and lathe just opposite the point where the telephone cable enters the building. Upon investigation 45 pounds of honey was extracted at the cost of a few bee strings. *The Tribune*, November 20, 1903.

The young men of this vicinity organized last Saturday to go out and cut some wood for Maggie Long. This speaks well for the young men of this neighborhood and it shows a good christian act. *The Holton Recorder*, January 21, 1904.

The corn cobs, in the elevator became so hot that they began to smoke and then there was a hustle to get them hauled away. Several teams worked all afternoon Sunday. *The Holton Signal*, January 27, 1904.

Messer's. Sanderson, Cooney and Heyman, and son Jake, are having their ice houses filled up. Fremont Reynolds has the contract for putting up the ice. It is the finest lot of ice we have ever seen for many years and will average 10 to 12 inches thick and is perfectly clear, almost equal in clearness to the manufactured article. Cooney and Sanderson put up 75 tons and Mr. Heyman and son 15 tons. It looks like this amount ought to supply the town and surrounding country the warm days of next summer. ...

There a quite a number of cases of whooping cough among the children and some older ones in our town and

vicinity. *The Holton Recorder*, February 4, 1904.

Last Sunday a party who were building and raising telephone poles in Mayetta cut a farmer's line that happened to be in the way, after they raised the wires four feet. Now all people make mistakes and one great mistake was in not giving the miscreants the fullest extent of the law. This information is not my own, but is backed by over twenty influential families east and south of town. ...

The Telephone company have begun to put electrical fuses on all of the phones of the system to guard against injuries by lightening. *The Holton Recorder*, April 28, 1904.

Mayetta gained the reputation as being a lawless place, whether deservedly so or not it didn't much matter, once the town was seen in a negative light it would always be judged in a negative light. Two reasons that enforced this belief were that when the Potawatomie's got on the train at Mayetta to go to Horton to visit their brothers, the Kickapoo's, or to go to Holton or Topeka and some got drunk and unruly there, the local newspapers always referred to them as the Mayetta Indians or the Indians from Mayetta, as if Mayetta was in some way a subdivision of the tribe, instead of just being the embarking place for them.

When the name Mayetta was said, the words Indian and reservation always popped up into people's minds; the Pottawatomie Indian Fair and Mayetta Rodeo, the Mayetta Indian baseball team, the Mayetta Indian Agency. There were one or more positive aspects of this, one being associated with the Mayetta Indians baseball team. One of the finest local ball teams of the day, with many talented players.

As an instance of how this association lingered on, in the 1960's when my brother-in-law worked in Topeka he was given the nickname of Indian in his workplace, not because he was an Indian, but because he lived in Mayetta.

Nobel Chase, who signed his letters "Scribbler," was the Mayetta correspondent for *The Holton Recorder* for at least twenty-five years. He was an opinionated man and strongly stated his viewpoints in his letters, reporting every negative event that happened in town in detail. At one time some of the business men in town visited the editor of *The Recorder* and asked him to stop printing all the negative news "Scribbler" sent in as it was hurting the town. About this time he quit *The Recorder* and started writing a column for *The Tribune*. He was an old Union veteran of the Civil War and he was fearless in his reporting and personal life.

Other towns and locations had their criminal element but their correspondents weren't as vocal in reporting about it or anything else that would cast them in a negative light. I know of one area correspondent that went as far as not reporting the deaths taking place in his neighborhood.

We only speak the sentiments of the law-abiding and respectable citizens of Mayetta, when we raise our voice against the unjust and false impression that seems to prevail among the respectable citizens of our neighboring towns that Mayetta is full of lawless, disreputable people, thugs, bootleggers and libertines. We have heard these assertions shouted in our ears till we have determined to come to the defense. Never was a greater injustice done to a town. This impression has been formed, no doubt, from the testimony of witnesses in the criminal cases brought up in court and by newspaper reports, etc. There is no more law abiding, peaceful and self respecting people in the State of Kansas than we have in Mayetta. Unfortunately we have a few bad characters and lawless fellows in Mayetta, as all towns have, who, If you take the pains to investigate, are always the parties that cause these reports, but we hope our town will not be judged by their misdeeds for we are making it a hot place for them to stay, and feel sure that law and order prevails and the citizens of Mayetta intend to make it so hot for evil-doers that their residence here will not long continue. The law-breakers will please take warning. We have as good a business town as any in Jackson county and if you wish to engage in business come to Mayetta and investigate, and please do not be mislead by any report you may hear. Our town is growing. Many new residences are being erected and business blocks are going up and new business men are coming in. We have two good churches, Christian influence and good schools, good clean hotels, and good railroad privileges. Come to Mayetta and investigate and we will treat you as well as you can be treated anywhere. *The Holton Recorder*, May 26, 1904.

Several of the boys went to the wheat fields [western Kansas] some time ago. They have most all returned and report the harvest over and threshing has begun. The boys all seemed glad to get back home after being gone so long. ...

Word was received here that a band of horse thieves were on the reservation for which a handsome reward was offered. A number of the young, brave heroes of the town immediately gave chase. One party of them came back and reported that they found where they had ate their dinner and the direction they had taken, but they were too late to overtake them. Another posse came back and reported that if they had been in the other fellow's place they would

have captured them. They had a 32 calibre single action revolver and a pair of knucks. Anytime you have any work along this line, call on or write to our chief detective, M. D. Jones or his assistant D. F. Robson. *The Holton Recorder*, August 11, 1904.

Mayetta. Ed Davis, who was mysteriously shot on the reservation about four miles from town near Ora Grinnel's place last Tuesday night, about 8:30, died Thursday at 8 p. m. at his home in Mayetta. Ed was 27 years of age, had lived in this community all his life and is well known. For the past few years he has run a livery stable in Mayetta in connection with his father. ...

The circumstances surrounding the shooting in Mayetta, as told in last week's Recorder, are very peculiar. The story as told and generally believed at Mayetta is, that the scheme was made to rob the Indians, who were supposed to have money with them. Ed Davis was to drive them, as he did, to a certain point, and there the other man, Isaacs, met them and presenting a revolver to the Indians demanded their money. So far the plan was carried out, but the Indians resisted, and in the scuffle Ed Davis was shot with a ball intended for the Indian. The latter ran away, and Davis drove back to Mayetta, fatally hurt. Isaacs, according to theory, rode back to town another way, and attempted to inflict a flesh wound upon himself, in order to avert suspicion. Here again the plan miscarried and he shot himself seriously and in such a manner that it is thought to be improbable that anyone else could have inflicted the wound. He then threw away his revolver which was found the following day. This is the story as told. Just how much or how little the officers believe of it, or how much can be proven, we do not know. At any rate Davis is dead, and Isaacs, who is recovering, is under arrest here in Holton. *The Holton Recorder*, September 22, 1904.

Another highlight in the history of Mayetta is the shooting of Ed Davis, a young livery driver, in which Lunger calls a faked holdup.

Davis, 27 at the time, was driving an Indian to the reservation. Previously, he had made arrangements with Eli Isaacs to rob the Indian at a secluded spot about a mile and a half from the city.

While the present growth around the scene doesn't suggest its appearance in those days, it is easy to see how a holdup would be possible.

The arrangement between the holdup artist and Davis was common practice among some livery men in those days, Lunger recalls.

But for some unknown reason Isaacs got excited. He shot Davis in the back and raced away. About another mile away, while riding hard, Isaac's gun went off, sending a bullet in his leg. The horseman-robber managed to get back into the city. He used the tale that he had been shot when two men attempted a holdup with him.

Davis was rushed back to the city and held on to life for a day or so. However, he died within a week. No record is given for what happened to the Indian.

A short time later, Isaac died too, of blood poisoning. On his death bed, he admitted being the hired thug who came up from Topeka to set fire to one of the competing livery barns and several to other misdeeds. *The Topeka State Journal*, April 24, 1954.

Ohio Miller of St. Louis was on our streets a few hours Thursday on business and took the 11:30 train to Topeka accompanied by his son Clyde, who has been visiting with his grandparents and other relatives for some time. Clyde is employed now with the Cummings Wild West show and Indian Congress at the World's Fair. From Topeka he will go to Kansas City where he gives an exhibition of Bronco riding Friday. He will then return to St. Louis to stay for a month or six weeks and then he leaves for the Island of Cuba where he is to fill a month or more of engagements. This will make a long trip for Clyde and many thousands of miles traveled. *The Holton Recorder*, September 22, 1904.

We failed to get this item in last week from some cause or other. Last Sunday night some low down scoundrel who is beneath the notice of the respectable people of the community tried to take his spite out on somebody at the Christian church while church was in session. He cut Henry Dryer's new set of harness all to pieces. The harness had only recently been purchased from Sears, Roebuck & Co., and was a good one. I think it is about time to organize a committee to look after such parties. *The Holton Recorder*, November 3, 1904.

People in the rural areas around Mayetta began to join together to build their own telephone systems. They cut the poles from their own timbered land, purchased the wire and insulators, ran the lines and installed the phones in the farm houses. At some time all the lines converged in Mayetta and a switch board was installed in the Sanderson Hotel. There were connections to neighboring phone systems and long distance service by way of a Bell Telephone line.

In April, 1905, Dr. Robson announced that he had installed a telephone and could be reached at home any time of day or night. If there was a serious illness in a rural family home, no longer was it necessary to hitch up a buggy or wagon, or saddle a horse and go all the way into town to get a doctor, this probably saved many lives.

When I first moved to Mayetta in 1954 the same type of telephone system that was in place 50 years previous was the norm, an oak telephone box that hung on the wall. A mouthpiece to speak into and a receiver on a cord that was held to the ear, and a crank that was turned in order to ring in at the telephone office. It was powered by a large battery within the telephone box.

You would ask to be connected to a person, but because the telephone office was located on Main street where the operator could look out the window and see the traffic pass by, often as not she would tell you that they were not at home as she had just seen them drive up Main street, or that the family had just left town headed west toward to Holton, or their car had just stopped in front of the Post Office and she would ring them there.

If you were on a party line each home had its own ring, such as two long and one short, and there was a party line ring telling all the people to pick up their phones if there was a message of interest for all, such as a fire alarm. Having said this, every time the phone rang on a shared line there were some that picked it up just to listen in on their neighbors business, and you could hear phones being picked up every time you received a call. Every time a phone was picked up the signal became weaker and weaker and whomever's call it was often had to tell people to hang up as they could not hear what was being said. Believe it or not there were those who were listening in that were offended by being told to get off the phone.

It was in the 1960's when the telephone system was sold and dial system was installed. There had been some upgrades prior to this time, individual phone lines or fewer people on each line, and new telephones. The last ones before dialup were black bakelite plastic hand sets that set on a table, but still had a crank in the place of where the dial was on the dialup phones.

The local telephone system that has served Mayetta for many years has been sold, and instead of ringing the phones on their wall and giving the number to central, subscribers will be dialing digits.

Miss Fannie Robson, who began working at the Mayetta exchange as afternoon operator in 1909 and has been chief operator since 1924, is going to miss the close daily connection with the town. She was born in Mayetta and has lived there all her life, on the same site, but in two different houses.

The people are going to miss her even more than she misses them, for Fannie-everybody calls her Fannie, including the town kids and the Indians on the reservation-gives service above and beyond connecting one number with another. She is the nerve center of the town. The telephone office is in a gray stucco building next to the elevator.

The 120 "drops" on the Mayetta switchboard include 20 farm lines with from 10 to 12 on each line. She knows the ring of nearly all the 200 telephones on the exchange and knows the voices of many of the subscribers. Promptly at noon, Fannie blows the siren to announce midday. Should there be a fire, she will announce it with a different kind of siren wail. A coal oil lamp stands ready to give light if electricity should go off.

Miss Robson's father, a doctor, came to Mayetta towards the end of the last century with his wife and five small children. Three more were born and the family reared a nephew in addition to their own eight. Fannie lives in the big red brick house built by her father, who for many years was the only doctor in Mayetta. The town at present has no doctor. Dr. Robson died in 1941.

Most of the phones on the Mayetta exchange are wall models. One woman traded a bedroom dresser for hers in 1944. The Company was started by a group of people who decided they wanted phones and put up the lines themselves. There was a long distance connection in a barber shop, through Southwester Bell lines.

The company has been sold to Howard Kendall, who owns several other small systems. It may be a couple of years before the change to dial is made. "There is something fascinating about a telephone exchange," Miss Robson said. "Anyone who has worked in one keeps coming back. I love the work and I'm going to miss it." *The Topeka Capital-Journal*, August 5, 1962.

A rural telephone line running southwest of town about seven miles has finally been built. Lewis and Will Dryer, Mrs. Rosa Matthews, Geo. and Levi Ray, Bennie Salts and a few others whose names we failed to learn will be on this line. The Dryer boys and Mr. Ray have been working for some time on this line and it was mainly to their efforts that it was built. It will connect in the city with the Hotel Sanderson. *The Holton Recorder*, December 1, 1904.

There is considerable sickness in this locality just now. It is mostly stomach trouble and is attributed to the impure water. In most wells the water has reached the lowest depth and is so impure that a scum forms after it has stood awhile. The continued dry spell has brought about these conditions and it can be helped only by a good soaking rain that will soak the ground. (Boil the water; - Editor.) *The Holton Recorder*, January 12, 1905.

One of the Medlock boys, while at the dance Friday night had his horse and buggy stolen from the hitch rack right

in front of the City Hotel, and the next day sometime the thieves were caught in Topeka by Sherriff Lucas of Shawnee county. As we understand the parties live in Shawnee county and that was their home. Mr. Bateman was notified at once that they had captured them and to come and get them. Mr. Bateman took the night train Saturday evening for Topeka and brought them up the next day and placed them behind bars where all thieves belong. *The Holton Recorder*, January 26, 1905.

As the newspapers that were being printed in larger towns prospered, they upgraded their printing presses and sold their old ones to people who wanted to begin in the newspaper business, who then located in smaller towns. The Mayetta News relied on local business advertisements and subscriptions, but when the income from these sources were not enough to make a living, or when another small town made them a better offer, they were gone. The Mayetta News was published from July 20, 1904 to February 24, 1905, J. S. Martin, editor.

Some one, (and the best part of is, that we can put our finger on the chap,) has been so very kind as to help the editor use his coal last week. We intend to fill a chunk with dynamite and place it where the gentleman can reach it. Dina might here an explosion some of these nights.

Frank Morrow, while trying to break a western horse to ride, this week, was struck on the nose by the saddle horn in such a way as to split that member wide open. Frank had the rent stuck together and is out and around again as though nothing had ever happened.

Little Carl Bertsch was examining a new washing machine last week and pulled the stopper out, just after Mrs. Bertsch had filled the washer with boiling water, which poured out over his shoulders and arms, burning him quite badly. He was soon doctored up and is now getting along all right. *The Mayetta News*, February 24, 1905.

Robert Miller, one of our rustling cattle raisers brought one year ago last fall in Oklahoma 50 head of steers that cost him \$2.25 per hundred and roughed them through winter and grazed them through summer and corn fed them for four months and sold them in Kansas City for \$4.75 per hundred. *The Tribune*, February 24, 1905.

Denison and Mayetta both nominated ministers for mayors. Mayetta elected their minister but Denison did not and Mayetta has never been considered a moral town either since Rev. Parrlett said "that all the difference in Mayetta and hell was Mayetta had the advantage of a railroad" ... *The Tribune*, April 17, 1905.

We have been informed that "Ironquill," the Denison correspondent to the Tribune has advertised Mayetta in his items as a "Hell with a railroad through it, thus saith Parlett," and says that Mayetta has never been considered a moral town. In the first place, those were not the words of Parlett, and in the second place, Mayetta has just as many straight, moral men and women in it as any town of its size in Jackson county or the state of Kansas. Just because there has been a few, and all towns have them, who persist in tearing down instead of building up a community, does not make all that are in the town immoral or corrupt. Some whiskey has found its way into Mayetta, 'tis true, but where is the town where it has not? If Mayetta was such an immoral town, Rev. Long would have had opposition for mayor. We are all civil people over here and welcome any one to our town and our churches and our society, who wishes to be likewise. *The Holton Recorder*, April 13, 1905.

The Reverend Parrlette was reported to have made the above statement when he exited the Methodist church after preaching the Sunday service and found out that someone had stolen his buggy whip.

The Mayetta Cemetery Association has been chartered and has brought two acres of land from D. W. Stanley, known as the Stanley grave yard. They have put in a good woven wire fence around it and laid it off in lots and intend to look after it in good shape. They wish those who have friends buried there to notify E. J. Lunger, secretary, so he can make a record of it. The following are the officers: President, C. D. McAlexander, Treasurer, John Bertsch and trustees A. J. Carrol and Frank Smith. *The Holton Recorder*, April 20, 1905.

A second rural mail route had been added by May of 1905. There have been as many as six routes out of the post office, and at the present time there are three. While small post offices in small towns are being closed or their services reduced, it seems the only thing that keeps ours viable is the high volume of mail to Prairie Band Potawatomi's Administration Office, and to USD No. 337.

The telephone meeting was held last Monday night for the purpose of settling up all financial business. Miss Louie Sanderson was chosen unanimously for the central girl for the coming year. Miss Louie has given excellent satisfaction in the past and the people showed there appreciation of it by being for her. She will be off from Sunday at 1 p. m. until Monday morning at 6, except in the case of emergency. ...

The wind must have blown terribly hard on the Reservation then other day as we were told by a man who is truthful, that it blew down two miles and a half of fence wire for Wm. Cooney. This is the first time we ever heard of wind blowing down fence wire. *The Holton Recorder*, May 25, 1905.

Sanderson and Neyman have ordered a new 50-drop switchboard for their farmers line. ...

Mayetta young people (and some of the older ones too,) have been enjoying the pleasant pastime afforded by a merry-go-round, the past few days. ...

Mayetta, Jackson County, Kansas, is well situated on the high rolling prairies, and is one of the substantial and flourishing towns of the northeastern part of the state. Population 350. Average death rate about one per hundred - or less. 23 miles from Topeka. 80 miles from Kansas City. 7 miles from Holton. 70 miles from St. Joe. It is located on the St. Joe branch of the St. Joe division of the Rock Island system, running from Topeka to St. Joe. Four passenger trains and four local freight trains daily. Mayetta has, 1 newspaper, *The Mayetta News* \$1.00 per year; 1 meat market; 1 elevator; 1 bank - capital stock \$24,000; 1 creamery; 1 lumber yard; 1 drug store; 2 blacksmith shops; 2 churches; 1 Public School; 3 general stores; 2 hardware stores; 1 livery stable; 2 restaurants; 2 hotels; 2 Notaries Public; 1 shipper of livestock; 1 railroad; 1 real estate agent; 2 barber shops; 1 dray; 2 painters; 1 millinery store; 1 hay buyer; 1 Justice of the Peace; 1 harness dealer; 3 physicians; 1 fire insurance agent; 1 lodge hall; 1 local telephone exchange; 1 Bell telephone in town; 1 implement dealer; 3 lodges; 2 young people societies. ... there are no machine shops, round house, factories or other boom timbers in town. Its wealth is based upon the soil. The country surrounding Mayetta is one of the most productive agricultural regions on the state. *The Mayetta News*, July 27, 1905.

During the storm Thursday night there were somewhere near 3000 birds killed in Mayetta. Most of them were drowned. By actual count there were 1400 killed in Mr. Heyman's yard. There may be some who will not believe this statement, but never-the-less it is true. *The Holton Recorder*, August 29, 1905.

The bell the Christian church recently ordered arrived last week and has been placed in position. It can be easily heard all over town and will remove all excuses of the class of church-goers who "had forgotten it was the regular preaching day." The town people have to be reminded of the fact, while the country people attend rain or shine, without an invitation. Such is life in the far west. *The Mayetta News*, October 5, 1905.

Little Aline Lewis lost her doll last Saturday between Heyman's store and Albert Schultz's place. Anyone finding it please notify the Lewis family. *The Recorder-Tribune*, December 28, 1905.

Mayetta gained competition for railroad business when the Union Pacific Railroad ran a line on the west side of the reservation, running from the south through the north end of the county. The new town site of Delia was surveyed on October 22, 1905, and recorded on December 1, 1905.

There was disagreement on what side of the tracks the town was to be located on, on the north side a town to be called Delia, and on the south side, a town to be called David, but Delia won out. The town had all the requisites; a railroad depot, two hardware stores, grocery stores, a blacksmith shop, a livery stable, post office, lumber yard, a restaurant, and a barbershop, even two doctors.

Some businessmen from Mayetta opened stores in the new town, but soon returned to Mayetta. Delia did not have an elevator so corn was piled on the ground while waiting for shipment, to be loaded on box cars with scoop shovels. It took some of the grain shipping business away from Mayetta being closer at hand, but there was another reason that some farmers no longer brought their grain to Mayetta. Chaney Hill, located about eight miles west of Mayetta, where it crosses Little Soldier Creek heading east, was an extremely steep hill for a team and wagon loaded with grain to climb up, and it took many years to get the county to cut the road down and make it passable.

Both R. L. Miller and Albert J. Jones had thousand acre ranches near Delia where they pastured hundreds of heads of cattle. I believe that Delia did not take this stock shipping business away from Mayetta as these two continued to bring in their cattle at Mayetta, and also ship them out from there. Easier to drive a herd of cattle up a steep hill than a wagon full of grain.

The first question farmers ask each other now is, are you through husking, or how much more do you have to husk.

The busiest places about town now are the elevator, lumber yard and stock yards. It makes one feel good to see the fine cattle and hogs and mammoth loads of corn that are coming to market. Some have as much as sixty bushels to one load, using double side boards. This looks as though there were something going on out in the country. ...

Fred Waters has been doing quite a lot of machine work on the steam engine and corn shellers off and on all fall

for Cooney & Ray, which otherwise would have had to go to Kansas City or St. Joe. ...

If anyone wants to see corn piled out on the ground, he ought to come to Mayetta. There is at least ten or fifteen thousand bushels here waiting for cars to ship. *The Recorder-Tribune*, January 4, 1906.

A gay crowd of young people were out skating on little Soldier last Monday night. This most enjoyable sport is not indulged in to any great extent in this community because Mayetta is so far from a river or pond. A roller skating rink would meet with good success here. ...

People of limited brain power fail to realize the worries and cares that a telephone girl has and how many cross people she has to bear with. An hour in the little Mayetta central office would convince the most skeptical that the position is not an easy one and the operator's life is not a dream of roses. A modern martyr is she who is scolded every time a patron's phone won't work or the lines are crossed, or the person wanted can't be rung. A good New Year's resolution for every one would be a resolve to treat your central girl like she was human and not an exchange machine. *The Holton Signal*, January 11, 1906.

The sun first shone pleasantly on the village of Mayetta, Jan. 16, 1887. For the information of those who are not acquainted with the geographical location of Mayetta, we will say that it is bounded on the west by the Pottawatomie reservation; on the east by the Mississippi valley; and on the north and south by the Great Central Plain. It is ten miles south of our county seat, 7 miles north of Hoyt, 20 miles northeast of the capital, 70 miles south of St. Joseph, 85 miles west of Kansas City, 25 miles east of Emmett, and 16 miles south of St. Creek and very near the hub that the United States turns on. Since its birth it has had a steady, prosperous growth until it is now one of the busiest cities on the line. During this short time it has grown to be a town incorporated, having in it three good grocery stores and dry good stores, two hardware and implement and furniture stores, both having a large trade. We also have a fine, large hotel and the proprietor, Mr. Mitchell is always rushed. We also have two good restaurants which are kept busy, and a butcher shop any town would be proud of. It is equal to towns of the second class. We have a first class lumber, lime and cement yard owned by Robert Miller who also deals extensively in grain, hay and stock. Our bank has a capital of \$15,000 and is sound as the government. It has a \$600 burglar alarm which can be heard quite a distance away. Our two doctors are always successful in their practice and we can also boast of two good tonsorial artists. Our liveryman, Mr. Dan Sumpter, is always pleasant and accommodating and is always ready to wait upon his patronage. We have two nice churches, each having a large membership and attendance ready to help the good cause along. Each has preaching twice every Sunday and a good Sunday school. Our school is graded and we have three rooms and anyone that goes to learn can learn. Besides all these we have three blacksmith shops, each having a helper generally the year round and always busy. It would be useless to mention the business of the elevator except that it buys and disposes of thousands of bushels of grain every year over the Rock Island through our station agent, Mr. Lewis. He is very congenial, always cheerful and he understands his business thoroughly and is always at his post of duty. And now in closing, I will say as you see we are wide awake, if you ever come to visit us, do not be afraid to come early as we all see the sun rise and sun set. *The Holton Recorder*, February 8, 1906.

A purse was made up for the young boy whose feet were frozen last Monday night and he was sent to the hospital in Topeka. He was a stranger here. *The Holton Signal*, March 22, 1906.

R. L. Miller has sent several loads of lumber to the reservation for James E. Blandin and Frank Bourboney, who are building additions to their homes. ...

There was a plain clothes man in town last week investigating the liquor traffic at this point. Everything in this world is not what it seems, and sometime a man selling embroidery patterns may look sleepy, but one can never tell what may be hidden behind a blank countenance. A tramp put off at this point three weeks ago was one of the shrewdest detectives in the West. ...

Mayetta is rapidly becoming up to date, the divided skirt is the latest to reach town and by all appearances it has come to stay. *The Holton Signal*, April 26, 1906.

We notice that the chicken and corn thieves are getting in their work again since corn is scarce and hens are 9c per pound. Could anyone be lower than the man who will steal the labor of women. After the women have labored with their chickens, fighting lice, bugs, mites, rats and skunks then some low down, pusillanimous, lazy, good for nothing, thievish brute comes along in the dead hours of the night and steals them. We know of over \$50 worth of chickens stolen in this community. Some of these thieves will be found dead or injured in or near some hen house if this thing is continued. *The Recorder-Tribune*, May 24, 1906.

The cow barn at the Pottawatomie Agency caught fire and burned down Friday of last week. The authorities there investigated the cause and found that it was set on fire by some Indian boys who were smoking in the hay loft. Considerable hay and feed was consumed and the building entirely destroyed.

Superintendent Williams has investigated the cause of the big dormitory fire which occurred early in the spring

and found that the fire was started by an Indian boy about 16 years old. He is now in custody and will probably be sent to the Reform School. The burning of these two buildings means a loss of between twenty and thirty thousand dollars to the government.

The burning of the dormitory will be the cause of a change in the educational policy of the agency. The dormitory will not be rebuilt. Instead the Superintendent has recommended that at least two day schools be started at different points on the reservation and that a cottage be built in connection with each school house in which the teacher and his pupils will live. Both will instruct the Indian pupils in the regular studies of the industrial and domestic arts. *The Recorder-Tribune*, May 17, 1906.

Last Thursday the Pottawatomies' received their semi-annual annuity payment. Each man, woman and child drew fifteen dollars and twenty cents. *The Recorder-Tribune*, May 31, 1906.

One of the worse storms of the season passed through these parts about 4:30 o'clock Wednesday evening, lasting a half an hour or more. Considerable damage was done a mile and half north of town by blowing down a large barn on T. J. Whelan's place and injuring several head of stock which he had in the building. Mrs. M. Z. Jones' house and barn were also damaged, and Robert Follis' chicken house and several other out buildings suffered from the fury of the wind. A blinding rain fell during the entire time and some hail. No persons were injured. *The Recorder-Tribune*, June 14, 1906.

Try a case of soda pop. Call up the bottling works by phone. The case will be delivered at your door. Soda pop is a refreshing drink, healthful and inexpensive. ...

Miss Lucy Davis entertained at a two course luncheon twelve girls in honor of her friend, Miss Visa Winner of Topeka. The table decorations were red and white hollyhocks. *The Holton Signal*, July 5, 1906.

A type of mechanical washing machine had been invented by 1905, one that rotated paddles within a covered tub by turning a vertical wheel, and I believe that there were also wringers to squeeze the water out after rinsing, but they were separate from the washer. The washer's cost was about six dollars, a large chunk out of a working man's weekly wages. These labor saving improvements in housekeeping continued to take place rapidly over a span of many years. These type inventions were to improve the housewife's life, giving her an opportunity to work outside the home contributing additional income for the family.

The Gee Whiz is the only washer that will clean dirty clothes and do it quickly. Only five minutes is required for the dirtiest clothes. See them at Goheen's. *The Recorder-Tribune*, July 26, 1906.

While playing ball at Denison Friday, August Winters had a bad accident. While running on the uneven ground he stepped into a cow track, throwing him to the ground and breaking his leg in two places. He is getting along as well as can be expected. ...

Washing with a Gee Whiz is like plowing corn with two new cultivators. It does the work twice as fast as any other machine.

It has been a long time since we saw so excited a community as this was Wednesday when the soldiers passed west of here. Nearly everybody in town and vicinity and for several miles around hurried to a point half a mile west of town to see them pass. Nearly every man, woman and child for miles around went down to Hoyt, where they were camped that night. *The Recorder-Tribune*, August 4, 1906.

The US Army Cavalry at Fort Leavenworth had training exercises when they would travel by horse overland to Fort Riley. This was high entertainment for the little towns and communities they passed through.

True to their progressive spirit, our citizens got busy last week and as a result, Main Street is now graded, drained and supplied with good crossings. *The Recorder-Tribune*, August 16, 1906.

The following correspondence is interesting as showing the attitude of the Potawatomes, or some of them at least, towards two of the great modern connivances. George Wah-wa-Suck is one of the most intelligent of the Indians, but is evidently not very much advanced in the ways of civilization.

Holton, Jackson Co., 7-9-1906. To the Commissioner of Indians Affairs, Washington, D. C.

My dear Friend: I am going to write you this afternoon that us Indians had a talk of ourselves and I want you to help us, that we don't want the mail boxes in our reserve. We don't want them tall in the reserve. And also the telephone wires. We don't want it. We don't know anything of it tall, us council men, and we want it stopped. We don't want the mail route in the reserve. Our chief of the Pott. Tribe said in 25 years they can do what they want to. When we held a council about the allotment our chief Shoughnishee that day said till 25 years we can do in white

man ways if we want to and we see the time aint up yet but they are trying to put the mail route here and the telephone and we don't want it now. We want to follow our chief's words, what he said that year is all we want today.

And the chief said to the tribe for us Indians to make council to beg not to come headright for 25 more. Well us Indians think everything going wrong nowadays since J. A. Scott been in this office and I want you to answer my letter when you get it soon. Direct to Holton, Kansas. George Wa-Wa-Suck, (Indian) Me Jessup. Nah-gon-be. (Witnesses).

The following reply was sent from the department: George Wah-wa-suck, Indian, Holton Kansas.

My Friend: I am in receipt of your letter of July 9, 1906, in which you protest against the location of mail boxes on the Indian reservation and also amassing the construction of telephone lines.

Your letter has been referred to the superintendent in charge of the Pottawatomie Agency, with instructions to advise you relative to the law governing in the matter of location of mail boxes and the construction of telephone lines.

These are conveniences, however, that will materially assist in raising your people to a better standard of living, and it is not seen that any injury can result by reason of their introduction on the reservation. I hope that you will look at it in this light. You should not oppose improvements of this character as they are all instruments in the advancement of your race and promotion of your welfare. Very respectfully, C. F. Larrabee, Acting Commissioner. *The Recorder-Tribune*, August 16, 1906.

The new telephone line from Mayetta to Nadeau is completed and in excellent working order. Chief Kack-Kack talked to No-zhack-um at long range today and seemed to enjoy the white man's new way of talking. *The Recorder-Tribune*, August 30, 1906.

This January I drove 158th Road west from Mayetta to K Road through the reservation. All the things that distract the eye during spring and summer, such as the trees in leaf, the tall grass, livestock; all the human activity, were gone leaving just the bare prairie. The miles and miles of undulating hills that are visible after the hay is cut and baled gives one a sense of the prairies' once vastness and shows its stark beauty in the wintertime. I began to understand a little of what some members of the tribe felt then, that such things as telephone poles and mail boxes did not belong.

John Harrington commenced picking his apples this morning. He has 600 bushels of fine eating apples. *The Holton Signal*, October 11, 1906.

Ben Cornforth had his right hand and arm mangled in a corn sheller Thursday afternoon. Drs. Smith, Brockett and Robson on were in attendance and found it necessary to amputate just below the elbow. *The Holton Signal*, February 14, 1907.

These road drags are getting to be a great thing on the roads. It would pay anyone to go and see how John Bertsch has fixed up the road from his place toward town. If all you farmers would follow his example it wouldn't be long until all the roads we travel would be good. ...

Mayetta is to have an exceptional musical treat Saturday night, March 2, when the Atchison county High School band of 25 pieces will give a concert at the Methodist church. *The Recorder-Tribune*, February 21, 1907.

The mail carriers are having a hard time this week getting through the mud as we notice that their horses are almost played out by the time they get in at night. The mail carriers sure earn their money. *The Recorder-Tribune*, March 21, 1907.

Planting garden running after the chickens, cleaning house, is the order of business for the women folk now-a-days. ...

Mrs. A. D. Jones is in Topeka. She was nearly prostrated at the news of the death of her son, Milton, who was killed by a train passing over him and a companion. *The Holton Signal*, April 4, 1907.

The Good Roads Movement was began in the 1880's by bicycling enthusiasts wanting the same access to highways and streets that the horse drawn vehicles were accorded. They also wanted bicycle paths to be built along side existing roads and streets, and were for the general improvement of roads. The League of American Wheelmen organization was formed to promote their ideas, and was made up of bicycle manufacturers, riding clubs and the general public who just liked to ride.

These bicycle enthusiasts and their organizations were large formidable groups, there being one million bicycles manufactured each year, and the movement's magazine, the 'Good Roads Magazine,' having a

million subscribers by 1895. They became involved in politics by influencing politicians, and tried to enlist other groups and people to the cause of good roads, but it was hard for them to get support from the farmers and people in rural areas who thought them to be people who were pushing their own agenda, and who didn't want their taxes raised to be used for such a purpose.

The Office of Road Inquiry was formed in 1893 within the US Agricultural Department, and in 1905 was merged with their laboratory for testing road materials, becoming the Office of Public Roads. This office was the beginning of the US Department of Transportation.

The good roads movement slowly gained ground; the US Office of Public Roads experimenting with different paving materials, such as a sand and clay mix, wood bricks and gravel for county roads, and also the use of drags on the dirt roads that crowned the dirt into the middle of the road, just as road maintainers do today on the county gravel roads. They kept the subject in the public's mind through newspaper articles and by lobbying in Congress. Every time an automobile, or horse and buggy, wagon, or even a horse got stuck in the mud a new convert was made, but it was a slow process before enough people were convinced and the tide was turned. This movement did not have an impact on Mayetta at this time but would have in the near future, in the 1920's.

We understand that the express companies have ordered that after the first of the month not a single C. O. D. package or jug will be allowed to be delivered or even stop over night or to visit the town between trains, in Mayetta or any other town in the state. Mayetta has decreed that not a booze agent, boot-legger, or anyone drinking, or using abusive language will be allowed in the town. The air will not be scented with extract of rye within a radius of many miles around the town. Won't this be a glorious old country to live in? ...

The third mail route began here Tuesday, May 16, with Frank Shumway as carrier. Frank will make a good employee for the government and will attend strictly to business. *The Recorder-Tribune*, May 16, 1907.

Mayetta was a busy place Saturday. All the hitch racks, streets and every place was crowded. Mayetta certainly did a rushing business. ...

A good many white folks went out to the burial of a young Indian by the name of Walker who died of consumption. ...

An Indian took Wm. Cooney's team to ride out home. The officers got after him and brought him back to town and put him in the city cooler. *The Holton Signal*, May 23, 1907.

The automobile that Fred Waters is to get will be 20 h. p. instead of 10, and your reporter expects to get the first ride in it. *The Recorder-Tribune*, July 4, 1907.

Fred Waters has received his fine new automobile and would like all his friends call and see it. He will answer all questions regarding same and will let as many as possible go riding in it. We doubt if there is another blacksmith in this county who can sport such an auto. ...

Court was in session Tuesday over three drunk Indians and one white man who got off the train from Topeka. The Indians all pled guilty and were fined \$5 each and costs. ...

Mayetta celebrated the 131st anniversary of the Declaration of Independence in Bird Douglass's grove north of town. A very large and patriotic crowd was present. Everything passed off very nicely in the way or order and entertainment and there was not one serious incident during the entire day. Hon. A. E. Crane was the principal speaker of the occasion. His address was very interesting and instructive and pleased everyone. There were two very interesting ball games played by Topeka Eagles and Mayetta, one in the morning and one in the evening. Something near a thousand people attended these two games and witnessed the defeat of the home team although by a very small margin. *The Recorder-Tribune*, July 11, 1907.

Baseball was indeed the national pastime, football and basketball had not reached the popularity they enjoy today and were secondary sports. The only other sports at that time that were popular and almost rivaled baseball were boxing and wrestling.

Mayetta had ball diamonds in and around town before the diamond at the Mayetta High School was built and after this it seems that it was the primary place to play ball.

All types of teams were formed by townsmen, the fats against the thins; the high school boys against the graduates; the north side against the south side men; the businessmen against the day laborers, the old men versus the young men. No matter your age or station in life everyone had an opportunity to participate.

The big events were when Mayetta teams played against those from other towns. The closer towns such as Denison and Hoyt were the most fiercely contested games there already being an existing rivalry between

the neighboring towns for business, and this carried over to the ball diamond. Town pride ran very high and although individuals of each town could get along very well, when it came competition on the ball field or in other instances it was a different matter. I recall when a Mayetta boy was interested in a Hoyt girl and was dating her, a car load of Hoyt boys came to Mayetta to stop him from stealing their Hoyt girl as they put it.

The visiting team brought along the umpire as this was thought to be more fair, as a home town umpire might favor the home team. This did not always work out as the impartiality of an umpire could not be guaranteed whether he was from the home town or from the visiting team's home town.

The payment to the Pottawatomie last Wednesday of \$230,064.20 is looked on as the first step of the government towards making final settlement with our tribe of Indians. That the government's plan should meet with some opposition among the head men of the tribe is not to be wondered at for since the treaty of June, 1846, the Pottawatomie's have drawn annually in interest \$11,503.21, being 5 per cent on their trust fund, and this divided among the members of the tribe has gone a long ways towards their support. But the decree of congress was final, and when some of the Indians considered refusing to accept their portion of the cash Superintendent Williams urged them strongly to take it, as otherwise it would lie idle in the treasury and bear them not a cent of interest. So last Wednesday saw the finish of the hen that lay the golden egg for our noble red men. However there still remains to the credit of the Potawatomi's two funds, as follows: Education fund, \$76,993.93, from the interest on which the schools are maintained; the general fund, \$107,100.94, the interest on which, \$5,355.08, will still be distributed semi-annually among the Indians. With an annuity of \$8.00 a head and the lease money derived from renting their lands to the whites, the Indians will be enabled to pursue their present plan of living at least until the government takes the next step towards closing its account with them.

The Pottawatomie tribe originally came from Wisconsin. They moved first to Fort Dearborn in Chicago, afterwards emigrated to Kankakee, Ill., and then came to their present reservation in Kansas. At first the reservation the government set aside for them was twice as large as the present tract and embraced a large portion of Shawnee county. Later the government by treaty brought half their land, and the proceeds of this purchase formed the trust fund which was paid to the Indians last week. The reservation then became known as the Diminished Pottawatomie reservation. It is 11 miles square and contains 78,080 acres of the finest farming land. By different acts of congress the land was gradually allotted until now practically the whole reservation is held in severally. Each member of the tribe was given 80 acres. It will be only a few years until the patents will be issued and then the Indians can do as they like with their farms. Some of the Indians are farming on a small scale now and the department is encouraging them constantly to make homes on their allotments and engage in farming and stock raising.

The payment last Wednesday was ordered by an act of congress. Superintendent Williams was directed to pay the money out. Chief Clerk Capt. J. A. Scott made out the checks on the sub-treasury at St. Louis. The checks and receipts were made out in advance. Each of the 600 members of the tribe was given \$348.58. The authorities did not announce the payment until the day before it occurred. It was feared the reservation would be over-run with gamblers and grafters. Business men who had just accounts against the Indians were notified and were present to collect their claims. The whites were on the ground early in the morning, but the Indians were slow in arriving at the agency and it was noon before any considerable number were on hand. The superintendent requested the collectors to take their positions outside the acre lot on which the agency office is located. He probably wanted to give the Indians possession of their cash for a short time. Some after receiving their checks were crafty enough to slip out of the lot in an opposite direction from the collectors, and ride off home without making settlement with their white creditors. In such instances the collectors were compelled to ride the reservation until the recalcitrant's were found. In the majority of cases however the Indians displayed a commendable honesty, and with a submission born of their weaker nature would hand over their checks to their creditors. In many cases not a cent of change came back, for the Indians were in debt more than the payment amounted to.

James Blandin, the veteran interrupter for the tribe, and a man versed in every phase of Pottawatomie history, sat in the office by the side of Capt. Scott and Capt. Bradford and identified the members as they came to the window for their checks. The Indians receipted the government by simply touching a lead pencil, thus making their marks. Payment at this agency takes on some of the features of the annual country school meeting, or a church social. The members of the tribe, young an old, congregate in the lobby of the agency where the old men discuss affairs of tribal import, the women talk over the latest styles in blankets, while the young people gossip about the local social happenings. Everything was orderly Wednesday except when Superintendent Williams was compelled to eject Shobenay from the building for drunkenness and an unbalanced Indian woman was thrown out for making a disturbance. A little more than half the members of the tribe called Wednesday between the hours of 1 and 5:30 p. m. for their checks. Others delayed in coming after their money until a time when their creditors would not be present. As soon as an Indian would get his check he would stroll out into the yard where he would encounter the pleasant countenances of his creditors. That one who had the strongest influence on him would take his check, have

it cashed at one of the improvised banks, take out what was due him and give the balance back to the Indian. Then another creditor would demand his pay and so on until the original check dwindled down to nothing and passed out of the possession of the Indian altogether. Thus the principal upon which the Indian has been drawing interest all these years was dissipated within a few minutes after it came into his possession.

Frank Bourbony, a prominent member of the tribe, is a man of means and an extensive money-lender among the Indians. Being an Indian, he was allowed within the office and thus got first chance at the checks. He had a decided advantage over the other collectors. But the funds seemed to hold out pretty well, and every one of the merchants and bankers reported satisfactory collections. Many old accounts were paid. Many merchants who have been giving the Indians unlimited credit in the past, say they will refuse them credit in the future unless they know them to absolutely good. With their annuities cut off credit will no longer be extended them.

Both Superintendent Williams and Capt. Scott believe that within a space of five or ten years the government will sever its connection with the Potawatomi's. The payment headright money is the first step to that direction. Then the boarding school dormitory which was burned last year will not be rebuilt, indicating that the department will establish day schools on the reservation. Already inherited lands are being sold to white settlers, and when the Indians secure patents to the land the white man will be on hand to buy them up. Then will follow the organization of townships, the establishment of churches and schools, the building of bridges, and the levying of township and county taxes. Then the Indian will be compelled to assume the duties of citizenship, or be driven from his haunts. It may seem pathetic, but it is the march of civilization that is causing it.

Civilization is already getting in its work with the Indians. It is causing the Potawatomi's to desert the old customs so dear to their ancestors. Statistics show that 95 per cent of the tribe wear citizen's clothes. Four hundred of them can use enough English for ordinary conversation. There are 155 dwelling houses occupied by Indians. Soldier Creek is no longer lined with wigwams. Many of the Indians who have taken their allotments are farming in a modern way, while one Indian, Frank Kabance, is sending his son off to an agricultural college. Many of the Indians children are being educated at Haskell and Carlisle. The Catholic religion, being one of forms and symbols, appeals more strongly to the Indians than other creeds. One hundred and twenty-five are church members, Catholics of course predominating. Father Mehan of the St. Marys parish ministers to the Pottawatomies and is held in reverence by them. There is a Catholic burying ground just north of the Mission. The Methodists, under the leadership of Mrs. Cope, built a chapel on little Soldier creek, and held services for a time, but the distance to the Indian's homes makes the mission work uphill business. The Methodists may sell the chapel to the government for use as a day school.

The tribal customs, which have always been the most interesting part of Indian life, are rapidly disappearing. The green corn dance is yearly becoming an event of minor importance to the Indians. The present generation seems indifferent to the weird rumble of the tom-tom. Kack-Kack was recently buried according to the strictest rites and ceremonies, but it was because Kack-Kack was the guiding mind of the tribe and was never known to depart from the tribal customs. The position of chief is also an empty title, and is held now by a figurehead. The council, composed of the brainy men of the tribe elected to office by a popular vote, is no longer of much power or importance. Probably because of these facts many Potawatomi's have already gone to Wisconsin to live where the environs are more congenial. They work in the lumber camps there and hunt and fish in the forests adjoining the reservation. Superintendent Williams has gone to Wisconsin to pay the hundred or more absentees their headright money. Some of the Indian traders accompanied him to be on hand at the payment.

Contrary to the popular theory that consumptives are benefited by outdoor life, it is a fact that the Potawatomi's are dying off from pulmonary disease. Outdoors is a natural home of the Indian, and it is paradoxical that he should be so afflicted. However the disease usually starts by children being gathered in off the reservation and placed in crowded dormitories where almost invariably colds are contracted. Loathsome blood diseases are also prevalent and are doing much to undermine the health of the tribe.

The Indian office at Nadeau stands high with the department. The business conducted there is strictly in accordance with the regulations and Superintendent Williams says the office is ready for the inspector at any and all times. The authorities at Nadeau are doing their utmost to see that the red man gets a square deal from his superior, the white man. The superintendent encourages the Indians to live on their lands, to learn to farm and raise stock, and to prepare themselves for the business and industrial contact into which they will be thrust when the government withdraws its protectorate over them. The Pottawatomi is a man of peace, and even if endowed by nature for a roving easy life, he nevertheless has some qualities that will fit him for citizenship. Two qualities, pride of ancestry and love of offspring, will eventually make good citizens and earnest, self-respecting men and women out of them.

At this time, with the citizenship of the Potawatomi's near at hand, it devolves on the traders and whitemen to see that the Indians are not forced out of their lands and property and reduced to a state of poverty. For is such is the case, when the government releases control, and the reservation is organized into townships, there will be a horde of paupers thrust on the county that will cause endless expense ... *The Tribune*, August 1, 1907.

Robert Mitchell, who has been holding the responsible position of marshal, resigned last week, and his successor has not yet been appointed. A marshal is a luxury in Mayetta as one is almost needless. Mayetta is becoming a very quiet and sober business town. We think the express companies deserve some of the credit for this condition of affairs, since they have refused to ship C. O. D. liquor packages into Kansas towns. Nearly \$1000 a month now remains in this neighborhood that formerly was sent to Kansas City and St. Joe to enrich the proprietors of jug houses and enable them to buy palatial homes, fine clothes, automobiles and live like princes on the earnings of the hard working people. ...

An interesting item would be to hear each person tell how he kept or tried to keep cool last week. As for me it was entirely out of the question. Perspiration would just pour off me from the exertion of fanning in the shade. Some of my neighbors I learn took to the cellars to keep cool and then failed after a little while. It was too hot to work, rest or loaf. *The Recorder-Tribune*, August 15, 1907.

Stafford's merry-go-round is here this week and all the boys and girls are having a good time. ...

The corn buyers here are contracting new corn for 40c per bushel. Just think that one acre will bring all the way from \$10 to \$20, more than half the value of the land. Who says that farming does not pay? We know of some farmers here who will clear more than \$1000 on 160 acres of land above all expenses. Some men get sick of farming because they work early and late and scheme a little. Whoever reads this, please do not be offended, keep in good humor, and by seeing this you are reminded of your back subscription and other sins, please settle with me for the paper and immediately look up settlement for the other.

E. J. Lunger arrived with his seven car loads of sheep from Wyoming on the Mo. Pac. at Holton. They were unloaded and driven down to Mayetta. His flock numbers something over 2100 head of young lambs. Mr. Lunger never does anything by halves. It pays to have a large number. Men who are not afraid to risk are a benefit to a community. *The Recorder-Tribune*, September 26, 1907.

The Superintendent of the Pottawatomie School is in receipt of the following letter from the department:

"The office is in receipt of our letter of Sept. 3, 1907, reporting in the matter of wishes of certain Indians of the Pottawatomie band in Wisconsin to have their allotments in Kansas sold and the proceeds to be derived therefrom used in the purchase of other lands for them in Wisconsin.

By letter of even date Mr. Hill, who first presented this matter to the office, has been advised that if these Indians will file petitions with you for the sale of the allotments in Kansas under the act of March 1, 1907, and the regulations for the conveyance of lands of non-competent Indians, approved by the department on August 15, 1907, the applications will receive consideration. A copy of the regulations referred to is enclosed herewith.

When applications for the sale of lands which have been allotted to these absentee Pottawatomies are made, you will proceed to affect sales in accordance with the regulations. Care should be exercised to see that each petitioner shall agree that the proceeds derived from the sale shall be expended by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs in the purchase of lands for him or her in Wisconsin or elsewhere.

The regulations mentioned provide for the sale of land by sealed bids, for the proper conveyance of the lands and for the care of the money derived from the sales of the lands. All lands to be sold must be advertised in a prescribed manner for sixty days before being sold. *The Recorder-Tribune*, October 3, 1907.

Cooney & Miller have their new elevator pretty well on the way and it will be ready for the new corn crop. Carpenters will be here about Wednesday. ...

The hotels and restaurants have been over run the past week with more than they could do. There never was so much work being done in Mayetta. They work rain or shine, hay haulers, speculators, drummers and insurance men of all kinds. All help to increase the patronage of the three good restaurants and the City Hotel. If by chance you should come to town from near by or from a distance, order your meals in advance by telephone. We would be safe in saying that over a thousand meals were served here last week by the restaurants and hotel. *The Recorder-Tribune*, October 10, 1907.

A small wreck occurred here Sunday evening about six o'clock on the south end of the switch. There wasn't much damage done, I understand. ...

James Thompson took a load of popcorn to Topeka last week which brought him \$40. Who can beat that? Mr. Thompson is a hard working man and is always busy. He informs me that he sold something over 1000 bushels of corn off of that place last year besides what he fed and did most of the work himself. He is a man 73 years old.

There is still plenty of work for everyone that is able to work. The hay frames are now being removed from the wagons and boxes put on with side boards from four to six feet high. If you will listen you will hear the ears of corn fall into the wagons and you can hear the merry whistled tunes of the farmer boys as they go by your doors in the starry night to take care of the mammoth crop.

Business men of Mayetta are expecting an excellent winter from a commercial standpoint. We notice they are all stocking up and our city dray is kept busy from morning until night hauling goods from the depot. A great deal of

building and improvement is going on and will continue through the fall as long as the weather holds good. When the winter comes, of course the work will be delayed until spring, when it will probably open up more actively than ever. Everyone realizes that living expenses are exceptionally high, especially in fruits and vegetables. You can scarcely buy a bushel of apples at any price and potatoes are about the same. So you see it is going to cost some to live. But wages are going up in proportion. You can hardly get men to work for you and if they do they will ask you all kinds of prices. I was talking to a traveling man who makes this road and he told me that Mayetta is the best town of its size he knows of. He does more business here in one day than he does in any other town of the same size in two or three days. Of course we have a good outlet here in the Reservation and another advantage we have this year is the good crop of corn, which at 40c a bushel will make things hum. *The Recorder-Tribune*, October 24, 1907.

We notice that the Cooney & Miller elevator is almost finished and ready for business. This will make it very nice here for farmers to sell their corn and receive good prices for it. ...

The Central Projectoscope Co. will give the Edison and Pathe of Paris Life motion entertainment under the auspices of the Ladies' Aid Society of the M. E. church Friday evening, Nov. 8, 1907. Admission, children 15c, adults, 25c. Everyone invited to attend.

While in Holton the other day we were told that liquor was being sold in Mayetta. We wish to say that this is news to us. If anyone will take the trouble to meet the passenger trains for a week or two, they will find out where the liquor is coming from. They boast of Topeka being a dry town. We can't see it that way, when we see Indians and boys coming back from there loaded down internally with rotten booze. We wish to inform the public that Mayetta is a dry town and has been since the C. O. D. packages were discontinued. *The Recorder-Tribune*, November 7, 1907.

Monday night quite a thick ice froze on still water. Monday was cold and disagreeable with some snow flakes flying. ...

The moving picture show was fine. The pictures that showed evils of strong drink alone were worth the price. It should teach the rising generation to let that which intoxicates alone. *The Holton Signal*, November 14, 1907.

Considerable lumber is going on the reserve. Eight new houses are to be built out there, some for owners of the land, and others on leased land. ...

Fred Waters is rushing his house. If the mild weather continues he will probably have it ready to move into by the first of the month. *The Holton Signal*, December 19, 1907.

The Rock Island is putting in the switch to the new elevator so they can ship out their immense amount of corn they have in store. ...

Mrs. Mary Slattery had the misfortune to lose her watch either on the train or in Hoyt while going home on Saturday evening from Mayetta. ...

A long needed want was supplied Friday when a new crossing was put in from Heyman's store to Albert Jones' store, thus giving the people a chance to get from one side of the street to the other without going the whole block. *The Holton Signal*, January 2, 1908.

We see a large number of farmers plowing every day. Many of them have not missed a day for a long time. And this is January! ...

The north side meat market has oysters and celery on hands. Also pure-home rendered lard, and they make a specialty of sausage. Give them a call and they will treat you right. ...

Some of the business houses on main street were very suddenly vacated one night last week. The occupants thought a San Francisco earthquake had reached Mayetta, but upon investigation it was found to be a skating rink in full swing. The quaking, rumbling noises were caused by the floor coming up and bumping the boys so violently that the plastering on the ceiling dropped to the floor below. ...

Some person of evil intent placed a rock on a wagon load of corn that went through the sheller at Cooney & Miller's elevator last Thursday with the result that the sheller looks like it has been dynamited. This is too common an occurrence at elevators and the corn haulers watch very closely to see that they have no rocks in their corn. *The Holton Recorder*, January 23, 1908.

We carry a full line of fine candies, fruit, nuts and cigars. Get our prices. Blue Front restaurant. ...

The postmaster desires to call attention to the practice of some patrons of the rural delivery of placing loose coins in their boxes each time they desire to dispatch a letter, instead of supplying themselves with postage stamps in advance of their needs. This practice imposes undue hardship on mail carriers in removing loose coins in the boxes and delays them on the service of their routes. The postmaster urgently requests that patrons of rural delivery keep on hand a supply of postage stamps. It is also desirable that rural patrons place in their mail boxes small detachable cups of wood or tin in which to place coins, when necessary in purchasing supplies of stamps. *The Holton Recorder*,

February 6, 1908.

We notice that Fred Waters is very busy just now with his steam saw. He saws up more wood in one hour than a man can chop in two or three weeks. He sawed up a large pile for Albert Schultz and F. L. Reynolds and has many more jobs contracted. Fred is always busy. ...

Miss Eveline Rittenhouse, who is teaching the Pottawatomie school, was in town Saturday doing some trading. We learn from patrons of the school that a very fine school is being taught. This speaks well for the young teacher and we are glad to hear of such favorable reports.

When that gloomy feeling creeps over you, creating what is called the grippe, do not pine or worry, but cheer up. Think of the balmy days of spring and inspect our stock of fresh meats, fish, oysters, celery, lettuce, radishes, etc. Yours for pleasure as well as business. The North Side Meat Market. *The Holton Recorder*, February 13, 1908.

There is a new line of telephone going in from Denison to Hoyt, connecting with central at Mayetta. *The Holton Signal*, February 20, 1908.

Some people say that if we close our business houses on Sunday it will ruin our town. We notice that Holton has her business houses closed on Sunday for some time and it has not ruined the town, we say, let 'er go. ...

The city council meets tonight and we hope they won't forget that 5\$ tax on those worthless bull dogs. ...

While Chris Oldwiler was going over the railroad crossing two miles north of Mayetta last Thursday night, he was struck by the 6 o'clock passenger train, killing one horse, demolishing the wagon and throwing him about twenty or thirty feet high. He escaped with only a few bruises and scratches. He must surely have been born under a lucky star. ...

Ralph Jones, the Mayetta champion foot racer, has arranged a race this afternoon east of town. It will come off about 3 p. m. *The Holton Recorder*, March 5, 1908.

The past week has been dark and gloomy and there has been plenty of mud. Not much traveling except on horseback or on foot. ...

We were informed Monday morning that if we harmed one of those worthless bull dogs we would get our face punched and cut up into small pieces. We don't know that this would be any worse than to be eaten up by one of those worthless bull dogs. ...

The city council met last Monday night and held a long session. They were late beginning on account of two of the councilmen being at a birthday doings in the west part of town. Mayor Sanderson called the meeting to order and appointed E. N. Lyons to act as clerk. Mr. Lyons read the minutes of the last meeting and they were approved and adopted. The main object of this meeting was the discussion of an ordinance in reference to labor on Sunday. The following was the ordinance adopted: Every person who shall either labor himself or compel his apprentice, servant, or any person under his charge or control to labor or perform any other work than the household offices of daily necessities, or other works of necessity or charity, after 9:30 a. m., on the first day of the week, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and fined not to exceed \$25. Provided the restaurants, hotels and drug stores shall be permitted to remain open for business from 12:00 o'clock noon until 2 o'clock p. m. and from 5:30 to 6:30 p. m. The council deserves great credit for doing what they have done to make our city a model town. *The Holton Recorder*, March 12, 1908.

Mayetta is surely a busy town. Not a town in the county except Holton does the business that Mayetta does. And besides it is a law abiding town. You can go along the streets on Sunday now and all business places are closed, no sign of life on the streets and you can hardly see a boy, horse, chicken or dog anywhere. ...

You can see plows moving everywhere in the fields these days and many farmer have almost half of their fields broken up. Good early plowing is the best thing for the fields. It gets the ground in a good mellow condition. ...

Many farmers in this part of the country are trimming their hedges and cleaning up generally. This is a good plan as it makes travel a great deal better, especially at the corners, where the high hedges prevent travelers from seeing if there is anyone coming from the opposite direction. Another bad feature of the high hedges is that they shut off the breeze in summer time. The prettiest way to cut a hedge is to cut it down about three feet from the ground and leave a tree about every rod. This makes the road look nice and neat without hindering the view and gives a little shade for those who want it. The hedge trimming idea is a good one and all farmers should follow it out. When they come to sell their farms they will find that it will make a whole lot of difference in the price, probably from \$10 to \$20. *The Holton Recorder*, March 19, 1908.

We are authorized to announce that any bull dogs caught running at large after night or in the day in the southeast part of town and molesting anything will be shot. Jim Harris. ...

Any person wanting to keep a dog or dogs on their premises inside the corporation limits of Mayetta had better get busy attending to paying the taxes on the precious canines, or their lives - the dogs' - will undoubtedly be cut

short, especially on any large dogs running at large, which is strictly prohibited. City Marshal. *The Holton Recorder*, April 2, 1908.

The base ball season has begun. The Mayetta team went to Denison Saturday and beat the Denison boys 3 to 0.

J. L. Walker, of Holton, has been doing splendid work in Mayetta laying brick sidewalks. He has had some 1700 to lay in the town and all seem well pleased with his work. He will have over 2000 feet to lay in all. F. L. Reynolds will lay about 400 feet for himself. Who says Mayetta is not booming? Think of the new residences that are going up this spring, and the many more that are talking about building! *The Holton Recorder*, April 16, 1908.

The prospect for fruit of all kinds was never better in this community. Peach, cherry, plum and apple trees are loaded down with blossoms, and if anyone wants to see a lovely sight, he only has to go through the orchards. *The Holton Recorder*, April 2, 1908.

One of the biggest rains of the season fell here between one and two o'clock Thursday afternoon, filling all the little streams bank full. Listed corn was washed out and great damage was done to other crops. Farmers were unable to get into the fields for the rest of the week and farm work was at a standstill. ...

June magazines are on sale at Heyman's, 5c per copy.

Fred Swartz has installed a new Edison gas light system, with three 1000 candle power lights, which is about the nicest thing in the way of lighting that we have seen. Call and see them some evening. They make the store as bright as day. *The Holton Recorder*, June 4, 1908.

Clean the filth and garbage out of your back yards as well as out of your front yards and cellars. Don't let the garbage and filth accumulate until it gets so offensive this hot weather that the marshal has to notify you to clean up. ...

While B. Smith, who lives two miles east of here, was plowing in his corn field Saturday he ran into a den of snakes. There were copper heads, bull snakes, rattlers, garter snakes, moccasins and black snakes, all kinds, something less than 500 of them. Mr. Smith turned in and went to killing but when one almost bit him he decided to leave the corn field in their possession and will not return to it very soon. Anyone who does not want to get snake bitten had better keep away from there. ...

All persons living inside the corporation of Mayetta are requested to keep their side walks in repair. If this is not complied with walks that are out of order and in a dangerous condition will be condemned and replaced with brick or cement walks, by order of the city mayor. *The Holton Recorder*, July 23, 1908.

Wm Dittmore and Frank Grinnell and Doc Deaver were out on Soldier fishing Saturday. They caught about 14 fully three inches long.

August magazines are now on sale at Heyman's. Call and get a copy.

J. M. Goheen took the examination before the state board of embalmers at Kansas City some weeks ago and has received word that he passed and is now a licensed embalmer.

After so long a time new roasting ears have made their appearance and vegetables of all kinds now help fill the burden of the family dinner table.

Blackberry picking is still in order but after this week they will be a thing of the past. The demand seems to be larger than the supply, but they are selling here for only 25 cents a gallon, not enough. Counting your time in picking and what you put in scratching chiggers, you don't get anything for your work. *The Holton Recorder*, July 30, 1908.

We understand that the government will erect three new school houses on the Reservation. Cooney & Miller will furnish the material and Frank Strowig, of Holton, has the contract. *The Holton Recorder*, August 27, 1908.

It is too bad to think of a woman standing over a hot stove and working hard all day canning her fruit and then having some low down good for nothing scoundrel slip up in the dead hours of night and steal it from her. This has been done in Mayetta and we have heard of it being done all over the county. We write this to warn others to look out for such thieves, who are going through the county. *The Holton Recorder*, September 10, 1908.

On the Pottawatomie reservation, located twenty miles from Topeka, Kansas, and eleven miles square, you will find 600 Indians. The Woman's Home Missionary Society owns property here valued at \$2,500, consisting of a large room for church services and used as a school room during the week; also three living rooms adjoining, for our workers.

The Indians call it the "church house," but some others call it "the house of refuge," for many times wives and mothers flee from drunken husbands and sons to our missionaries for protection and counsel.

The hope is in the children, and through the day school we aim to reach the parents, for Indian parents are not unlike white parents, displaying quite as keen an interest in the development of their children as do the whites.

Not long ago "Jo," an Indian boy, was in the little town of Mayetta, Kansas, and with another Indian boy went

into a blacksmith shop. The man asked Jo several questions, all of which he answered in English.

The blacksmith turned and said: "Where did you learn to speak English?" Jo replied: "O, I've been going to Steves' school." In one school year children not knowing a word of English learn to read, write, spell, cipher, repeat the Lord's Prayer, the Beatitudes, and the twenty-third psalm, showing that when they have a chance they can do as well as any children. And, after all, that is the meaning of evangelization - giving everybody a chance in this world and the next. ("Woman's Home Mission; Vol. 26, No .1; New York, January, 1909.)

In the mid 1950's I worked for Mr. Albert Jones in his HyClass grocery store, and he did a good business with the Potawatomi's. Many of the older people did not speak English, but Mr. Jones was fluent in the Potawatomie language. Some of the older Indians who came into the store to get groceries seemed not to have much knowledge about money either. They would come to the counter and order five pounds of sugar, and pay for it with a five dollar bill. When they got their change they would see if any money was left and then order a sack of flour, and then pay for it. This went on and on until they ran out of money.

Mr. Jones had me get the cardboard boxes that were left over from the cans of vegetables that were brought in by truck, and he would fill them with sacks of flour, sugar, slabs of bacon, etc., and then mark a price of five dollars on each box. Then when the Indians came in to purchase items they would just buy a box of groceries and this saved much time for the storekeeper.

By 1912 there were three government Indian schools; Witchewah, Blandin and Kewankah, and one ran by the Methodist Episcopal Missionary Society, known as the Methodist Mission school. They were day schools, meaning the children could go home at the end of the school day to be with their families, instead of having to live in dormitories. Blandin had an average attendance of 8 pupils, Kewankah, 13, Witchewah, 11, and the Mayetta Mission school, 15, although the enrollment in the three first mentioned schools were much more than this.

Several citizens of Mayetta and vicinity were arrested for horse racing and gambling on the reserve. Quite a large bond was imposed on some, besides costs. *The Holton Signal*, December 17, 1908.

Mr. Dimm was down this way one day last week looking after the telephone men to see how they are getting along with the line. The company is building a line from Holton to Topeka and from Topeka to Kansas City. They are putting in good heavy poles and cross beams for the wires. It will have about ten wires and when finished will be one of the best lines in the county. There are eleven men working on the line and they can do a lot of work in a day. *The Holton Recorder*, January 7, 1909.

Boys, you can talk about catching lots of rabbits in a short time, but I know a girl that can beat you all. Her name is Ruby Baker, and she went out one evening last week with her dog and was gone only a few minutes and caught two cottontails and a jack rabbit. Who can beat that? *The Holton Recorder*, January 21, 1909.

About a hundred Indians met on the reserve Friday to see about selling their land. Lawyer Tillotson of Topeka, and J. Lunger, notary public, attended the meeting in the interest of the Indians. A fine dinner was served to those present. *The Holton Signal*, February 25, 1909.

Mayetta is still getting to the front. The boys have organized a band of twenty pieces and we hope soon to supply the citizens with plenty of good music. ...

Perhaps we may be a little bit premature, but we wonder why Mayetta can't have a good High School. It would help not only the town but the surrounding country. It would draw families to Mayetta to educate their children. What a fine opportunity it would be to increase our population, add to the wealth of our city and strengthen our churches and social institutions. We think this suggestion is worthy of thought. By the help of business men and farmers it can be accomplished in time. *The Holton Recorder*, April 15, 1909.

James Yeakley had a fine piano shipped from Kansas City last week for his daughter, Miss Jessie. ...

Geo. Boecher, Street commissioner, has been doing some needed work on our streets last week. Frank Early's engine and grader did the work and it was done better and more quicker that it could be done by horses. The streets are in better condition than ever before. *The Holton Recorder*, May 27, 1909.

Cherry and strawberry picking is now in order among the house-wives and we notice some of the men are assisting them, but we have heard no complaining, We think fruit will be a scarce article this year.

The city council wishes the public to understand that there will be no shooting inside the city limits. Anyone doing such will be dealt with according to the law. Mayor Sanderson. ...

The city officers are to be commended on the condition they have placed the streets in. It adds much to the looks

of the town. We hope the good work will continue and branch out and affect the alleys as well as the streets. The alleys are generally made a dumping place for most everything making them impassable except on foot and then very slow. *The Holton Recorder*, June 24, 1909.

Never in the history of Mayetta have there been more buildings going up than this year. All previous records have been broken. Many more buildings are being contracted while contractors are refusing to take any more work until they have finished some of their present contracts.

Thousand of dollars have already been spent on buildings in this city in the past year and yet much building is in prospect, but progress cannot go beyond a certain point because every contractor has his hands full. ...

We notice some of the boys have been turning night into day during the hot weather and are hauling their hay at night instead of in the hot day sun. ...

You can get all school books and school supplies, at our millinery store. Second hand books brought and exchanged. We are glad Mrs. Johnson is going to handle school books, as this has always been neglected which made it very difficult for the children to get their books. *The Holton Recorder*, September 2, 1909.

Who can ask for nicer growing weather than this and still there are lots of people grumbling. ...

We notice Lee Greemore our road supervisor is kept pretty busy these days looking after the roads....

The people of Mayetta and vicinity are certainly prosperous. While down at the stock yards some time ago looking at R. L. Mullin's and others fine bunches of stock, a friend who was with us remarked about the amount of produce that is shipped from this point. He spoke of the stock, grain of all kinds and the eggs and poultry that goes out of Mayetta and wondered what the people did with all the money. In the first place a great deal of it is in the bank here. Then by riding out into the country and viewing some of the finely improved farms you will see where more of it has gone to and if you look at the machinery and farm implements of all kinds that belong to these farms, a great deal more of the money may be accounted for, and perhaps the prosperous farmer may be able to show you a fine driving team and carriage while within the house-wife may pride herself upon velvet carpets and a fine piano.

Besides much is now spent in travel, which some years ago was not thought much of. Most of our soil is fertile and the people are prosperous and consequently are the best and happiest people on earth and there is no place on earth and there is no place we would rather live than right here. *The Holton Recorder*, August 5, 1909.

The long school vacation days are over and the teachers are all back in school rooms for another year of hard work. As the bells that have been silent so long peal out over our city and country it brings back memories of the days when we went to school. These days were the best days of all. ...

We understand that some one from a nearby town was complaining about the weeds here in Mayetta. We know of no reason why the parties would complain unless they own property here. But as far as I know Mayetta has no resident that has not enough energy to keep the weeds down in his own yard. *The Holton Recorder*, September 9, 1909.

After doing a hard day's work at Jim Duffy's farm Bird Douglass and John Ray started south with their threshing outfit and as they were crossing the Licklyter bridge over Cedar Creek about three miles northeast of Mayetta, the bridge collapsed throwing the big traction engine to the creek bed fifteen feet below. Douglass and Ray, who were on the engine, were buried beneath it and were instantly killed. Ray was caught under one of the heavy wheels and his chest crushed in. Douglass was caught and scalded to death by the escaping steam. The coupling broke and the separator remained on the bridge. ... It required a block and tackle to raise the engine and release the victims. ...

The bridge over which the threshers were attempting to pass is an iron and wood structure and had been built only a few years. It was not in bad repair but simply was not strong enough to withstand the weight of the engine. As the engine went through it turned over backwards and hence the men had no chance to jump to save themselves. ...

While Fred Dehart and his hired man were digging potatoes one day last week they ran up against a bull snake they judged to be about 9 feet long, and some other smaller ones. They made their getaway for their lives. *The Holton Recorder*, October 21, 1909.

As we came to town today we noticed that the boys had been celebrating Halloween as usual by having a big time. They had left cows to work like horses, hauled buggies up on the streets, turned hogs out and horses the corn field and such jokes but we guess no one got very angry and everything quieted down and is going on as usual now. Come again boys, next year. *The Holton Recorder*, November 4, 1909.

It is too bad to see people let their horses stand out without blankets these cold days. The cold season will last several months, so get a blanket now and protect the horses. A man who will let his horse stand uncovered on a cold day is no Christian, whether he pretends to be or no. *The Holton Recorder*, December 2, 1909.

Try Germozone for chicken cholera, croup, canker, inflammation of the throat, frosted croup, chicken pox, sore

head, limberneck, and all the diseases of poultry. It is the best medicine today on the market. You can get all such medicines at A. J. Jones'. . . .

Sammy Early, Jr., was over in town Saturday with his black horse, bob sled and sleigh bells, taking all the little boys for a ride. It was a fine sight to see them all enjoying themselves, and put me in mind of when I was a boy and what a great time we had when we went sleigh riding. . . .

While Mrs. Mark Harrison and daughter, Miss Bertha, were sleigh riding Tuesday a week ago, the sleigh turned over at a rough place in the road, throwing the occupants out and injuring Miss Bertha severely. The horses ran away and in crossing the arch bridge near their home, one of them fell over the railing of the bridge some twenty feet, injuring it so badly that it died in a short time. The other horse went on home. Mr. Harrison had just refused \$130 for the horse. *The Holton Recorder*, January 30, 1910.

A wrestling match took place in Mayetta Saturday about 10 a. m. An ex-blacksmith and one of our hardware men wrestled three rounds. The hardware man received two of the three falls. *The Holton Recorder*, February 24, 1910.

The Mayetta Herald newspaper began publication in January of 1910 and ended in January of 1920. There were four publishers and editors during this time period, but the best was in my opinion, Dudley Lunger, a grandson of the founders.

Grandpa Lunger had a very thrilling experience by being entombed in his hay mow last Saturday morning. As his usual custom he ascended into the hay mow to throw down hay for the horses and in doing so he got the area way blocked so full of hay that he could not get out of the mow. But he kept his head and awaited some passerby to rescue him from his imprisonment, which might have lasted a quite awhile but as luck would have it, in a few minutes his son Jim and Tom Ridnour came along and heard his call for help and after much hard work in removing the hay Grandpa was rescued. *The Mayetta Herald*, February 24, 1910.

The Harold is one month old, has upwards of six hundred names on its list, will be increased to a twelve page paper within two weeks on account of advertising demands. We think it is a pretty healthy baby for its age. . . .

Saturday evening, just as the show was closing, the gas lights in Swartz & Lunger's store got the acting fever and began to splutter and cut up in a way no self-respecting lighting system should, but prompt attention confined the near fire to the loss of a couple of mantles and a globe or two. The good sense evidenced by the crowd that gathered at the door in not needlessly raising an alarm is one to be commended. *The Mayetta Herald*, March 10, 1910.

Grandpa Lunger has a narrow escape from a dangerous fire Sunday afternoon as the 4:04 passenger train left the station, the flying sparks set fire to the dry grass. The fire alarm was given in and by quick response and active work of about hundred men they saved the house, if the fire had not been discovered just then the house and everything would have gone, the south wind took it in that direction. Mr. and Mrs. Lunger wish to thank the many men and boys for their kindness in putting out the fire. *The Mayetta Herald*, March 17, 1910.

Two boys from the reform school at Topeka made their get a way from that institution last Wednesday night and were traced by an official of the school to this vicinity Thursday morning. About noon one of the boys were captured here in town and later the other was also caught. They were confined in the city bastille till the six o'clock train came and were then taken back to the tender care of powers that rule the institution where incorrigibles are kept. In these days, when telephone communications covers the whole country wide, escape is well nigh impossible. . . .

Dos Dougherty, his mother and two little girls were coming to town Friday, while just west of E. J. Lunger's place the team got frightened at Dr. Brockett's auto and tipped over the buggy throwing them to the ground violently. The little ones were scratched up, Mr. Dougherty was cut on the face, his leg sprained and clothes badly torn. The old lady escaped without harm. Dr. Brockett stopped and gave the party every attention, both as a gentleman and in a professional way. Horses must be made familiar with the buzz wagons for the country is bound to be full of these vehicles and if your horses are not broke to be afraid of these machines accidents of this kind will be frequent.

Hoffa Smith and Jim Lunger are inveterate smokers, they like the fragrant Havana and like 'em good. Jim Slattery and Wm. Cooney are practical jokers of the brightest calibre and played it on their friends to the limit. Loaded cigars were procured Jim offered his partner one and in a few moments the thing went off with a report that was only succeeded by the merry laugh of those present. Bill Cooney got one of the fixed smokers and hunted up his friend, Jim Lunger, and the same thing occurred with the same merry ha! ha! Now if Bill Cooney or Jim Slattery offer you a cigar watch the corner of their eye and see if they twinkle, you can bet these practical jokers know something and you will too very shortly. *The Mayetta Herald*, April 28, 1910.

Commissioner Betcher had teams at work Monday morning with king drags putting our roads in fine condition. George is wide awake on this road building proposition and would be a mighty good man to have at the head of the road improvements that Mayetta needs. It will take good roads to make Mayetta hump and hustle and a man that

would build them is our man for trustee. *The Mayetta Herald*, May 12, 1910.

Mr. A. Melenson and several of his neighbors are going to run a telephone line off the reserve into town. The line will be about eight miles long. They are here today getting the poles from R. L. Miller. ...

There are no end to the improvements being made in our town. New cement walks are being laid all the time and new buildings erected. Now the school board is getting ready to begin work on our fine new school building. The architect will soon be here to draw up plans and specifications and work will begin at once. It will be pushed as rapidly as possible to have it ready by the time school begins. Our town certainly needs a new school building for the young and rising generation. *The Holton Recorder*, May 12, 1910.

The cornice on W. M. Seibert's old barbershop is a menace to every passer by on the south side of Main street. It is someone's business to see that it is fixed or torn down. ...

Frank Shumway, we are told, is in training for a boxing match. Frank is not copying after the redoubtable Jeffries, but is as genial and pleasant as ever. Anyone who wants to try him out can come on and see if he doesn't come up smiling. *The Mayetta Herald*, May 26, 1910.

If you don't think the women are having anything to do these days, just look at the porches and yards, all of them full of furniture. This indicates that house cleaning is going on inside and shows that the women are as busy as the men. ...

We notice that autos are getting more plentiful every day. They go through here in bunches and always at a high rate of speed. But it will be a long time before they look as good as a spirited horse to me. *The Holton Recorder*, May 31, 1910.

W. M. Seibert's new bath tub caused quite a commotion and somewhat of a sensation a few days ago. A well known character about town was indulging in a lavatory experience, in some way the stopper to drain was released and water commenced to go out with a gurgling rush, forming almost a maelstrom, agonizing shrieks and calls for help issued from the bath room, when Morris reached the room he found the first mentioned party, a perfect replica of "nature unadorned" fuming and frothing, trembling with excitement he finally ejaculated "I came within an ace of being washed away." *The Mayetta Herald*, June 2, 1910.

This week, Friday and Saturday, the firm of Slattery & Smith will hold its grand opening in their new and spacious building. A special display of Velie buggies and Davenport roller bearing wagons is to be a feature of the opening. The new store room, 80X40 feet, is fitted throughout with modern furniture and fixtures presenting an inviting and handsome appearance. The stock carried by this enterprising firm is full and complete in all the various lines.

The trade enjoyed by this firm ranks with the best in our county and in many lines their sales exceed those of any section in this section. James A. Slattery and J. H. Smith are both practical men in the business, farmers themselves, they know what their patrons need and are ever ready to give their best services and judgment to the trade.

This fine growing business was first established some nine years ago by Frank Ashton, he selling out to H. B. Wingate, and last January, J. H. Smith became associated with Mr. Slattery in the conduct of this mammoth business forming the firm of Slattery and Smith.

Since its inception the business has grown and thrived, till today every Mayettaite points with pride to this big store and business as one of the features of our town's pride and hustle. *The Mayetta Herald*, June 16, 1910.

The Slattery and Smith store opening, Friday and Saturday was all that the proprietors expected at this season. They disposed of several buggies and spring wagons and it was a regular procession of farmers hauling off farm tools during the afternoon. The exhibit of a washing machine running on one of the big Davenport wagons was sight to be remembered. They will continue the sale on Velie buggies till and including the Fourth and are quoting pieces that sell goods. *The Mayetta Herald*, June 23, 1910.

Last Saturday, as the local freight was doing some switching in the station yards a small boy of about six or seven years of age was struck by the cars and knocked several feet. Fortunately, the train was backing slowly and the boy lighted on his feet or he would, no doubt, have been ground to pieces. I have many times driven this boy - as well as many others - away from the depot. Parents, if you allow your children to frequent the depot and play around on the railroad tracks don't be surprised to have them brought home on a stretcher. Very frequently I have to drive the children way before I can move the trucks around or unload freight on the platform. There is always some danger in handling freight and heavy baggage, even to the one handling the same, and in a greater degree to others who are standing around in close proximity, probably looking at something else.

I have spoken to some of the parents with the desired result; others do not seem to care or do not have the least bit of control over their children. They must be kept away from the depot and unless parents see they are kept away some action will be taken that will bring results. P. Lewis, Agent. ...

Our friend, John Harris, one of the leading stockmen and breeders is going some. He recently brought a fine Reo automobile, but the plagued thing is not even halter broke and John is having the time of his life breaking it in. We are told by a gentleman whose veracity we have never questioned, that he hauls the vehicle out to the center of a 160 acre pasture and after the field is cleared he is putting in his time teaching it to gee and haw. If the fences hold out J. A. will have the critter broken so he can drive it to town in a few days. We're looking for him. ...

A good many Indians make purchases, giving the merchant an order or request on me to pay the bill from their funds. In many cases the Indian has no funds. I received four orders last week from the same Indian to pay the same money to four different people.

In the future no attention will be given these Indian orders. If an Indian has money and calls upon me I will listen to his needs and give him an order on any merchant he may designate. Then, when that merchant sends me the bill with my order attached he will receive his check by return mail. Very respectfully, G. L. Williams, Supt. ...

Sunday the Mayetta club essayed to play the Oakland Blues but instead of a ball game we were treated to a specimen of rotten umpiring and bare-faced stealing on the part of the Topeka umpire that was almost unparalleled. The Oakland Babies suddenly discovered that they had to catch the 6 o'clock train when they found that the crowd wouldn't stand for the rotten work of their umpire.

The score at the fifth inning was 4 to 2 in Mayetta's favor. Manager Cooney has passed the Blues up and they will not have a chance to play in Mayetta again this season. *The Mayetta Herald*, June 23, 1910.

Our people have been going daily since Wednesday last to the dance ground on the reserve to witness the dancing of the original Americans. Sunday many made the pilgrimage to the grounds to watch the rhythmical movements of these people. The dance of the Indian is a solemn affair; a religious observance that they enter into with all the solemnity of the stoic nature. The whites that go to be amused fail in their purpose as the native American is proud and anything that savors of a grotesque gyrations is wholly eliminated from his dances.

A visit to A. J. Jones' store cellar last Sunday morning thoroughly convinced the editor that the helpful hen was still doing business. Eggs, eggs, eggs in tubs, buckets, boxes and cases were seen everywhere, hundreds of dozens of them, and a visit to the other stores show the same display. The produce business of Mayetta is a big feature. *The Mayetta Herald*, June 30, 1910.

Before the days of chicken factories where thousands of chickens are kept in one building and where their eggs are harvested until the time that the hens stop laying and are then slaughtered, the backyard chicken coop was the nations primary source for eggs and Sunday dinner.

Not only did the family chicken coop supply food for the table, it was also a source of immediate extra income as there was always a market for the sale of eggs and chickens. If a family ran low on money waiting for the crops to be harvested and sold, or if there had been little work for the farm hand or day laborer during the week, there was still a way to put food on the table.

Wives were the primary keepers of the chickens and being so it gave them a discretionary income to buy the little personal things they wanted for themselves and their families. A child who wanted to buy a sack of candy was often given permission by the mother to take some eggs and trade them in at the store.

The term "nest egg" means a glass or porcelain egg placed in the nesting box to encourage hens to lay eggs. The term also may be appropriately used for the money made from the sale of eggs as it was a way of contributing money into a nest egg fund that was needed for a rainy day emergency.

J. M. Goheen finished last week the installing of a bathtub and lavatory together with a hot and cold water system at the residence of S. E. Cathcart on East Main street. Mr. Goheen is an expert in this line of work and several more of these necessities to comfort will be put in by him soon. *The Mayetta Herald*, June 30, 1910.

The Santa Fe ball team came up from Topeka Sunday and won a game from the local team on a rotten decision by the umpire. The score was 3 to 4. Batteries Zook and Wabonsaw and Shiroot. ...

The celebration at the ball ground of the glorious Fourth was a success. One of the largest crowds that ever assembled in Mayetta was out. People came from all parts of the county and there was a large number from Holton attended. In all, there were probably 4000 to 5000 people. The program was carried out nearly as it had been planned. The first was music by the band, followed by two good songs by the male quartet. Rev. T. B. Adell gave an address of three quarters of an hour which was listened to intently. His subject was the story of our country. Then all had dinner and enjoyed themselves to the utmost. The remainder of the day was spent in sports of all kinds that make up a good celebration. Many people look forward the whole year to this day and plan in various ways to have an enjoyable time. *The Holton Recorder*, July 7, 1910.

J. M. Goheen has manufactured a mammoth fly trap that is attracting considerable attention in Carthcart & Co.'s

store. It is a monster with a million fly capacity and a sure catch. Mr. Goheen is thinking of starting a company to manufacture these useful summer ornaments if local capital can be interested in the business. If you buy stock in this invention you get more than blue sky. *The Mayetta Herald*, July 14, 1910.

Fred Waters unloaded a twelve horsepower engine here Thursday which he got in Kansas City. Fred will use this engine threshing, sawing wood, shelling corn, etc. ...

Black berries are being picked by the bushel these days and are selling for fifty cents a gallon. ...

Fred Waters with his engine will start out about Wednesday over the county to begin threshing. Fred has a good outfit and no doubt will do a great deal of work before the season is over. ...

Friday afternoon as Mrs. Tommy Cox and baby and her sister, Miss Nella Davis, were coming into town their horses became unmanageable and started to run. As they turned the corner the buggy was upset throwing the occupants out. Mrs. Cox was not seriously hurt, but the baby and Miss Nella were quite badly bruised about the face and limbs. No bones were broken and the doctor thinks they soon will be alright. The horses broke loose from the buggy as it was turned over and broke the harness up badly before they were caught. ...

The contract for the new school house has been let to a firm in Lawrence. It is to be built of brick and stone and will be two stories high with basement. It will be located just a few feet west of where the old one stands and work on it has begun. The old one will be used until the new one is finished, after which it will be disposed of to the highest bidder. *The Holton Recorder*, July 21, 1910.

Harry Cobeldick, who has conducted a butcher shop and market here for several years, has gone out of business. This leaves Mayetta with but one market but as that is a good one the town and country will be well supplied. Many regret to see Mr. Cobeldick retire but lack of patronage made his further continuation in business a losing venture. ...

A. J. Jones has hung his banner across the sidewalk stating that he is a general merchant. It's a fine sign and Mr. Jones is a hustler for trade that will soon promote him from a general to one of the merchant princes of Kansas. Hump and hustle is the watch word in his big establishment where reliable goods are always sold on a small margin of profit. ...

Saturday evening, about 5 o'clock, a crowd of sport lovers gathered at the ball park to witness a foot race between George Darling and Dave Whelan. The purse was \$50 and much local interest was awakened, each of the contestants having staunch admirers. Whelan proved an easy winner, beating his opponent several feet in fifty yards. *The Mayetta Herald*, July 28, 1910.

R. L. Miller purchased Monday from Henry Sinning one of those popular Studebaker autos. Mr. Miller is a gentleman that can use and enjoy one of these modern vehicles. Frank Grinnell will be in line with one next week and then there will be no telling where the thing will stop.

A couple have been stopping at the hotel for a week past and making daily trips to the reservation buying Indian relics and curios. They seem to be doing a good business returning each evening with a carriage load of these things that will prove rare curiosities to easterners and the rising generation.

Cathcart & Co., are keeping up to a high standard of culture, the latest improvement being a large compartment of the most modern construction. Ice boxes for the storage of the various perishable articles sold in groceries have grown to be a necessity and Cathcart & Co., are in line with the best for the purpose. ...

One of the sights of this town is the actions of "Sport," Billy McDaniel's fine dog. He goes about from store to store, delivers notes and brings home goods ordered in a most trustworthy manner, showing an intelligence and care for duty far exceeding that of some humans. Sport is a fine dog and the source of much enjoyment to Mr. McDaniel's and family. *The Mayetta Herald*, August 11, 1910.

We notice that here are home grown watermelons on the market. T. B. Anderson was the lucky one. ...

The automobile has finally reached our town and it has come to stay. R. L. Miller is the first one to purchase and others will soon follow. But there is a class of people whom the automobile works a hardship on, and that is the farmer's wives and daughters. Many of them will no doubt be afraid to drive into town. In fact many of them are afraid to drive at all. When they do venture out they are afraid until they get home again. Now those driving horses should always exercise care and vigilance, while automobile drivers should always be considerate of the rights of others and do everything possible to avoid frightening horses. We believe that most auto owners around Mayetta will be gentlemen and do all in their powers to avoid accidents. So far this community has been free of accidents and this is more than most communities can say. *The Holton Recorder*, August 18, 1910.

A decided improvement is being made in the appearance of our streets by cutting the weeds. ...

The railroad company has about 40 teams and men at work at this place widening the track and doing other work along the line. ...

One of the pleasant features of the picnic was the appearance of the band boys in their new uniforms. These had

just arrived from Henderson & Co., of Pennsylvania. The suits are made of dark blue cloth with gilt trimmings and caps. There are thirteen in all and they add greatly to the attractiveness of the band. Mayetta now can boast of one of the finest uniformed bands in this section of the country. No one questions its value to Mayetta and everyone should take an interest in it and help it along.

The big Woodmen picnic was attended by something like 1500 people. It was the first of the kind held at this place and it sure was a success in every way. All the nearby towns were well represented. People came in on the trains, by autos and buggies and every way they could possibly get here and they were all here to have a good time. Some of the business places were practically suspended in the afternoon and the streets looked lonesome after two o'clock, when every one went to the grounds. People began coming early in the morning. About the only ones who did not go to the grounds were those who served meals to the public. These people worked pretty hard, some of them cooking the entire night before and they earned all they made. The program included a good speech by Rev. C. W. Cooper, of Holton, and music by the band. *The Holton Recorder*, August 25, 1910.

E. J. Lunger, our popular fellow townsman, and one of the best natured and good hearted men, that the sun shines on, now enjoys or rather fails to enjoy a new sobriquet, "Sunny Jim," "Jolly Jim," "Genial Jim," and just plain Jim have all been relegated and "Easy Jim" has taken its place, (people have wondered what that "E" stood for anyway.) And all because our enthusiastic, capable, honest and genial friend was only his own dear self without frills or feathers. Full particulars can be had from Mr. Lunger if you care to ask him and he is in the humor to explain.

Last Wednesday afternoon some one throw a stone and broke one of the large glass plate windows in Heyman's store. There is altogether too much of this promiscuous throwing of clods and balls on our street. The main thoroughfare of our city should not be used as a playground as the danger to life and limb as well as the destruction of property, as in the Heyman case, is always imminent. *The Mayetta Herald*, September 1, 1910.

After having been off twice on account of bad weather the Sunday school picnic finally came off. The weather man gave us a day that seemed to be made to order and, thanks to Mr. Salts, the grounds were in fine condition so that everything was favorable for a fine time. We arrived at the grounds about half past ten o'clock and soon the larger boys were playing ball and the girls and smaller boys using the swings and jumping ropes. At noon the ladies invited us all to partake of dinner as a band of picnickers ever stood up to, or a small boy ever let out the buckle of his belt to accommodate. After dinner the boys chose sides for a ball game, the girls explored the woods and the bottom of the creek, and the ladies tried the strength of the limbs to which the swings were fastened. The children enjoyed the ride home on the hay rack as much as any part of the days amusement. Sammie Early won the chariot race and so the day's excitement closed in a burst of speed. *The Mayetta Herald*, September 22, 1910.

On Saturday, October 15th, the Exchange Bank will open its doors for business. This second of Mayetta's financial institutions has large and handsome headquarters in the George Elliott building. The fixtures are thoroughly modern and make a most inviting appearance.

The opening of this new bank puts Mayetta to the front as a rural banking center. The officers are among Mayetta's oldest residents. George F. Elliott, the president, was born and raised in this vicinity, he was the pioneer merchant of our city and known to all as a conservative and cautious business man. Ray O. Archer, the cashier, was raised on a Kansas Farm and is a self made man. With his self made qualities and by his constant work he has achieved an ability that makes him a faithful and conservative banker. M. A. Bender, the vice-president, is our present county attorney and a man of acknowledged ability and worth. The directors, Vern Lunger, Jake Heyman and Pascal Lewis, are connected with the business interests of our city, and are among our foremost citizens.

The bank starts off with a capital \$10,000, will be conservable managed and offers the reputation of some of our best citizens for its integrity and worth. *The Mayetta Herald*, October 13, 1910.

With the coming of so many autos to Mayetta the next thing on the docket is a Mayetta garage and machine shop.

...

Noah Sanderson purchased through the agency of Slattery & Smith one of those fine 40 horse power Velie autos this week. Mayetta's livery is right up the minute as to its proprietor. ...

Grandpa Lunger had the misfortune to lose a near friend, one that has been a companion to him for ten years, Saturday morning when grandpa went to the door he found her there dead. His faithful friend, "the old gray cat." *The Mayetta Herald*, November 3, 1910.

George Elliott burned off the old grass at his corner on Second and Main Monday. An example that others could follow and improve appearance in our town. ...

Noah Sanderson and his fine forty-horse power Velie automobile have become the popular institution of this town and all in a week. If you want to go anywhere and get there quickly and safely, send for our popular liveryman and you will be accorded a service that is right in line with Mayetta's reputation for having the best of everything. *The Mayetta Herald*, November 10, 1910.

Wm. Cooney while out auto riding with Fred Waters Friday afternoon stopped at Bill Morris's' place for a little visit. Mr. Cooney, who is getting the auto fever in periodical doses, thought that to be an auto crank he had to learn to start the machine, he tried and found the auto had a crank too, one that wouldn't stay put and the result was that William had his right arm broken at the wrist. Mr. Waters took him to Hoyt and later to St. Francis hospital at Topeka where Surgeon Schooley of that intuition properly set the fracture. We haven't interviewed Mr. Cooney on the subject of automobiles since the accident, but it's a safe bet that a fractious mule is a meek and lowly lamb compared to an auto, in Bill's estimation. ...

Mayetta Lodge U. D., A. F. & A. M. met Monday night and initiated several of the candidates into the first degree of the Masonic craft, Tuesday night three more underwent the mystic ceremony and came forth beaming with good fellowship. The future of the order is assured in Mayetta. With a neat and cozy lodge room, officered by men that are true craftsmen, this new institution will ever be a leader in maintaining the high plane that Mayetta is ever demanding and her citizens are keeping up. *The Mayetta Herald*, November 10, 1910.

Inclus was foaled March 14, 1908, and imported from France in August 1910 by Chas. R. Kirk for the Percheron Importing company, South St. Joseph, Mo. Inclus was exhibited at the 1910 fairs and stock shows and took first place in a group of five Percheron stallions of any age seven times. He was winner in the two-year-old class at Kansas State Fair, Missouri State Fair, St. Joseph Stock Show, and American Royal Stock Show in Kansas City. He won five medals, one of which was sent to his new owners. It was won at the St. Joseph Stock Show and is beautifully engraved.

As announced last week this grand stallion was shipped from St. Joseph to Mayetta and shown on our streets last Saturday afternoon. He arrived in perfect condition, the day was fine, and Mayetta was full of people and teams. Nothing but words of praise were heard from the farmers and horsemen who gathered to see a two-year-old horse big enough to weigh nearly a ton and combining all the qualities necessary to the make up of a prize winning Percheron.

The owners - Wm. Cooney, Earnest Robb, M. Fitzgerald and W. A. Cooney are justly proud of "Inclus" ... *The Mayetta Herald*, November 24, 1910.

Joe Wa-pa-so, on returning from a trip to St. Joe Sunday evening, in endeavoring to alight from the 6:00 o'clock train fell between the platform and the coach and had his right ankle crushed. His injury will permanently lame him. It is claimed the train started before he had time to alight. *The Holton Signal*, December 8, 1910.

The day of cheap school buildings is passed. Mayetta wants to be up with the times in its schools as well in every other respect and within the last few years the town has grown rapidly beyond the capacity of the old school building. We all know that the index of a town's prosperity is its schools. There is no future growth or prospect of success in a town that neglects to provide for the education of the rising generation. Mayetta realized this truth, and began some years ago to plan for a building that would be in harmony with the progressive spirit of the town and provide amply for the needs of the future as well as the present. The building which is the outcome of these plans is now almost completed and ready for occupancy. To say that is one of the finest school houses is putting it mildly. It is one of the finest in the state for a town the size of Mayetta. It stands as a tribute to the enterprise of the citizens of the town and an evidence of their appreciation of the needs of education. Mayetta has done some big things but it never did a better thing than build this school house. The reporter wishes to congratulate the school children on having such a fine building and the older people for the generous spirit that made the building possible. The new school house is beautifully located on Jones street and can be seen for miles around. It is modern in every respect, is heated by a splendid heating system and will be equipped throughout with new furniture. It is 43 by 69 feet in dimensions; two stories high with basement under the entire building. It contains four school rooms, cloak rooms, boy's and girl's toilet and superintendents office. It was built by W. R. Carter & Co., of Lawrence, and when completed will cost in the neighborhood of \$14,000. ...

James and Mort James are almost through husking corn. They are anxious to get through so they can hunt rabbits. They usually kill a large number every season and ship them to Kansas City. *The Holton Recorder*, December 8, 1910.

Since the town had been incorporated there had been years of great advancement. The early city dads had a good grasp on what makes for good local government, doing for the citizens what was needed or what they wanted done, all those things that an individual can not do alone, but requires a group consensus or effort. But there were many other conditions taking place at the same time that brought prosperity to Mayetta.

There were years of good rains and abundant sunshine, years of good growing weather for the field crops and for the grass to grow high on the prairie providing good grazing for the livestock and for baling hay,

and as the area farmers and stockmen prospered so did the town. There was so much manual labor needed that if a man wanted a job, and was able to do the job, he never lacked work, and many of the job descriptions of townsmen of the time was that of a farm laborer. There had been some sales of reservation lands to whites beginning in 1907, and more and more reservation land was being planted to corn, and corn was king.

Business houses were now being constructed out of brick and stone instead of wood; cement and brick sidewalks were being poured and laid, and many other general improvements to the city's infrastructure taking place.

Mayetta had its entrepreneurs, men who thought big and were not afraid to take chances, two of them were William Cooney and Robert L. Miller; both operating large ranches of their own on the reserve. Sometimes they worked in tandem, building the Miller and Cooney elevator, the second grain elevator in Mayetta; and in furnishing material for the three Indian schools.

Miller was president of the Mayetta First National Bank, owned the lumber yard, a drug store, mercantile store, provided stock for the Mayetta rodeo, was a rodeo promoter at other locations and engaged in other businesses in town and in the area.

Wm. Bottom, who has been playing horse with Mayetta and its Mayor and Council for months past found Monday that there was a point where forbearance ceased to be a virtue. Monday morning a crew of men headed by our efficient mayor and backed up by the council went to work and put in a cement walk for the public spirited and philanthropic Holtonite whose only interest in Mayetta is to exact the highest possible rent for the occupancy of a shack that is a disgrace to our business thoroughfare and a building that is a fire menace to adjoining property. Mr. Bottom came down stamped about for a moment was led to a place of quietude while the work went merrily on. There are several more pieces of property that may expect the same kind of treatment if they do not hasten to comply with the ordinance that was imposed more than eight months ago. *The Mayetta Herald*, December 22, 1910.

The Cooney & Miller elevator has received many improvements and under the able management of Marcus Gay and assistance of Earl Landon is doing a world of business.

The S. J. Thompson elevator has practically been rebuilt during the year. New machinery installed and under Chester Moore's able management, is a most prosperous concern.

George Hill during the year has succeeded to the Charley Maxwell blacksmith shop and George being a prince of a good fellows is finding all he can do.

The R. L. Miller Co. has been strengthened by the admission of Father Duffy to an interest in the concern. Their fine yards are the mecca of people from miles around and satisfaction in general with Mayetta is well represented in the building material line. Ivan Irwin, the manager is deservedly a universal favorite.

The Bicker block was finished this year and occupied by Jeff Harris and his fine restaurant. The HARRISES know how to cater to the trade and run a place that is a credit to our fair city.

Walter Mathews barber shop is another of the new concerns of 1910 and his place is one of the popular tonsorial establishments of our town.

Roy L. Birkett's neat and tidy drug store is practically a 1910 production, a new and expensive fountain being added during the year and the stock kept up to a high plane of excellence.

The "Gem" barber shop and bath room was built and furnished during 1910 by W. M. Seibert and is all its name calls for, a real "Gem."

The fine big store of S. Heyman & Son has all through 1910 been a real show place of the town. This establishment is a credit to any city and doubly so to Mayetta, both from its commanding location and high efficiency of service offered by its business management.

Frank L. Shumway's new place is one of 1910's latest bidders for trade. Frank is popular and his service is the best possible.

Harry Cobeldick reopened his neat and attractive market last week in the Bottom building and bids for a share of your trade during 1911.

1910 saw Billie McDaniel return to Mayetta and finds him working in his usual skilled manner at his trade.

The Exchange Bank of Mayetta opened its doors to the public in October of this year and our youngest banking institution under the guiding hand of Ray O. Archer immediately became a potent factor in this town and the county's financial life.

The livery business of Noah Sanderson has shown a marked improvement notably the addition of a first class auto service which makes Mayetta stand with the best in the county in this line.

The City Hotel under the management of H. C. Medlock during 1910 has ever been a hospitable home for the traveling public.

During 1910, the firm of Slattery & Smith moved into its present new and commodious quarters. A fine double

store stocked completely with all goods in their line, this firm has been a potent factor in the building of Mayetta. Courteous gentlemen both, they draw to our town people for miles around. No town in Kansas has a better hardware than the store of Slattery & Smith.

During 1901, the firm of Swartz & Lunger was dissolved. V. R. Lunger continuing the business to his satisfaction and to that of his increasing list of patrons.

1910 was a banner year for A. J. Jones, his trade has shown a wonderful increase. A new wareroom was built and goods crowded in and out at a rate that surprise all. A. J. Jones during 1910 has done his share in making Mayetta the talk of this section.

S. R. Jones, Jr. and Mrs. Albert Hunter have opened a variety and racket store in the post office lobby and are enjoying a fine trade.

Frank Grinnell has embarked in the market business the past year and this popular gentleman has proved himself the right man in the right place. His market is a credit to our little city.

The Mayetta Drug Co. is one of the latest bidders for public favor. This fine roomy store with its magnificent fixtures is a source of pride to all and its manager, O. A. Neal, a gentleman that is a past master of his calling.

During 1910, J. M. Goheen has enlarged and improved his fine establishment and his trade has increased by leaps and bounds. House-furnishings, hardware, stoves, etc., have found ready sale at this fine establishment.

Cathcart & Co. in 1910 improved their premises by a fine plate glass front. W. C. Cooney was admitted into partnership in this concern and the trade enjoyed by the firm shown a gratifying increase. The firm of Cathcart & Co. is doing its full quota towards the up building of Mayetta.

The Mayetta State Bank under present able management has grown and prospered during 1910 till with the new year the capital and surplus is increased, \$30,000, a showing that fully establishes the stability and worth of this establishment. In the spring a fine new building will be built west of the present site to house this institution.

1910 saw the establishment of that sterling real estate and insurance firm of Buffon & Landon. These gentleman are among our progressives and are always looking toward our town's up-building.

1910 Mayetta Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons was established of about 35. To the members of

this worthy order, 1910 will be ever looked back to as an epoch.

During the year, two new doctors, Dr. Austin and Dr. Ott, have come to town and with Dr. Robson, the medical profession is well represented.

The building of our fine school is a monument to the progressiveness of our burg. It looms as a beacon to tell all the world that Mayetta stands for the highest and best advantages that a people can hand to posterity.

Last and not least, we trust, was the birth in February, 1910 of the Mayetta Harold. Modesty compels us to refrain from self praise, but look at it as a looking glass in which you can see the best little city in Kansas. *The Mayetta Herald*, December 29, 1910.

Jonnie Miller mourns the wrecking of his bicycle Saturday last. A team became frightened at a passing auto, backed into it and smashed the wheels beyond repair. *The Mayetta Herald*, January 12, 1911.

This weather makes one think about winter underwear and warm blankets. You can get both at Heyman's and Son's. ...

That Mayetta is one of the best towns of its size on the Rock Island is proven by these statistics of business done last year, furnished by our genial and efficient agent, Pascal Lewis. It is only another evidence of what the writer has been contending for years, that Mayetta is up and coming when it comes to its business and is rapidly outclassing towns of its size in Northeastern Kansas. Read the figures: Total station earnings, 1909, \$35,248.20; 1910, \$38,803.30. Increase, 1910, \$3233.120. Average per month, 1909, \$5937.35; 1910, \$3233.61. Ticket sales, 1909, \$8604.98; 1910, \$9365.22. Increase \$760.24. Average per month, \$780.44. Less than carload of freight forward lbs, 1909, 256,727; 1910, 319,069. Less than carload of freight received lbs, 1909, 2124,785; 1910, 2180,403. Average less than carload freight received per month, 1909, 177,065; 1910, 180,700. Average less than carload freight received by day, 1909, 6810; 1910, 6988. Total carloads of freight received 1909, 200; 1910, 198. Total carloads of freight forwarded, 1909, 406; 1910, 449. Total, 1909, 608; 1910, 645. Increase, 1910, 37. *The Holton Recorder*, February 2, 1911.

The council met Monday night in regular session. Bills for the building the Bottom sidewalk were allowed. The mayor was instructed to have the city jail repaired and refurnished. John Eads and Charley Graves were appointed officers on police patrol wagon. The everlasting dog question was up for discussion and the editor gives it you as a gentle hint that the only safe place for a dog in Mayetta is in your own yard at home. *The Mayetta Herald*, February 9, 1911.

The city council and the mayor have decided to remove all the hitch rack from Main street on account of not having room for teams to pass on busy days. The street commissioner is now very busy putting up hitch racks on

the side streets. There will be about 600 feet of hitch racks put up, as fast as they can get at them. ...

Frank Grinnell got a car load of ice one day last week so if any of our citizens got hot up over talking city election they will know where to get the ice to cool off. ...

It is a good sign of spring when you see Hade Shingleton, Jr., out plowing (?) the black dirt up and whistling and singing his merry songs, and his wife setting out pie plants and onion sets and making garden. *The Holton Recorder*, March 30, 1911.

Nearly half a mile of hitch racks have been put in place by overseer George Betcher and we are proud to say they are as through and substantial as any city can boast. *The Mayetta Herald*, April 6, 1911.

October 3, 1903, Mayetta was incorporated and at the present time the business is administered by Mayor N. Sanderson, Police Judge, S. R. Jones, Sr., Councilmen, Jake Heyman, A. J. Jones, R. L. Miller, J. M. and S. E. Cathcart.

Mayetta has two churches, one Christian and one Methodist, which look after the spiritual welfare of the people. Both organizations own buildings that would be a credit to a place of much greater population than Mayetta, which by the last census contains 337 people.

The Mayetta Telephone company, a local organization, is one of the finest in this section. It is owned and managed by men of our town and surrounding country. The company has over 250 telephones installed and reaches out over the adjoining country. The officers are D. M. Johnson, president, who lives out north of town on his farm and is a good man for the place; George Ray vice president E. J. Lunger, secretary, W. A. Cooney treasurer. We have two telephone girls, Mrs. Louie Steward and Miss Blanch Goheen, and both are pleasant and efficient operators.

Our enterprising little city has two banks, one State bank and one National. The First National, recently reorganized and changed from a State Bank, is presided over by R. L. Miller president and W. A. Cooney cashier. The Exchange State Bank, organized and chartered last year is officered by Jake Heyman president and Ray O. Archer cashier. Both institutions are thriving, sound and stable and enjoy the confidence and patronage of the public.

Mayetta has one of the finest public school buildings in the county. It was constructed the past year and is a two story brick structure, modern in every detail. The people are justly proud of the building for without a good school the town would be in the dark.

Fred Swank runs a cream station. He came here just a few days ago and began to do some business. He is a pleasant man to meet with a continual smile on his face, and always furnishes a good market for the farmers' cream.

Our next visit was at H. M. Reist's blacksmith shop. We found Harry and his man very busy. They seem to have an abundance of work to do. Mr. Reist also runs a feed yard in connection. He said his business in that line was also good.

The livery barn is owned and controlled by N. Sanderson. He has a fine barn, splendid livery equipment, and is always ready to take care of transients and home trade.

At noon we landed at the City Hotel, an appropriate time to visit the institution. We met Mrs. Mitchell and her helpers who gave us a hearty welcome. They were so busy we asked no questions, but we noticed at a glance that it was a dandy hotel and a credit to the city.

Mayetta has a newspaper, the *Mayetta Herald*, established a year ago by Mr. Holmes. We understand it has a good circulation and is doing a good business. It is well supported by the business men of the town.

Charles Hard is another one of our blacksmiths and he and his helpers are kept busy constantly. Mayetta is a great town for blacksmiths as the reservation and the country around furnishes lots of work in this line.

Our next stop was at J. H. Spence's. He is the painter and paper hanger. We found him absent and suppose he was out doing some work. He is about the busiest individual on the town site.

Slattery & Smith are running a large furniture and hardware business and we were very much surprised to find such a mammoth stock of goods. Everything was in tip top order and the grade of goods would be credit to much larger city - no better west of the Missouri river.

Our next call was at Frank Shumway's restaurant. It was a busy place, everything neat and sanitary and a splendid place for lunch, confectionary and seasonable delicacies.

Jesse Bunche runs a restaurant, and with the assistance of his wife, caters to the wants of the people. Their place of business had a thrifty air, all were busy, and every indication of prosperity.

We have two good millinery stores, which are owned and run by Mrs. Johnson and Miss Grace Lewis. Both are doing a good business and turn out the stylish headgear seen on the ladies of Mayetta. The reporter didn't linger long here as he had no hats to buy and none to be trimmed over.

We called on V. R. Lunger who has a fine stock of general merchandise. Here we found everything neat and clean and a stock that is strictly up-to-date. We could see at a glance that Vern understands how to run a store. He is always pleasant and agreeable to the people who visit him which is a necessary quality for the successful merchant.

A. J. Jones keeps everything to be found in a well selected stock of general merchandise. We found his clerks busy tying up goods. In addition he buys cream and reports a good business in this line.

At the postoffice we found a novelty store in the same building run by Mrs. Albert Hunter. Mrs. Hunter understands the art of waiting on the trade and enjoys a good business.

The next place of business was the meat market run by Harry Cobeldick. He has a nice shop, with everything neat and clean and Harry was busy and in a good humor.

Mayetta has two fine barbershops, with every thing neat and clean and both doing a good business. One is owned by Walter Mathews and the other by W. M. Seibert.

Frank Grinnell is also running a meat market and he has a nice place and seems to be doing a good business.

J. M. Goheen has a fine stock of hardware and also carries a complete line of undertaking goods as can be found anywhere. Mr. Goheen is a nice man to do business with.

Our next call was at Heyman & Son's who have been in the general merchandise business here for the past fifteen years. Their shelves are filled with merchandise. Every thing is neat and in good shape and we could tell by the looks of the store that Mr. Heyman and his sons know all about how to run a store. They have a good business.

Another valuable asset to the city are our two good drug stores, one owned by R. L. Birkett and the other managed by Mr. Noel. They carry everything in their stocks usually found in a first class drug stores, including wall paper, paints, oils, glass and varnishes. Their trade is very large and extends all over the adjoining territory.

We almost forget Geo. Hill, who is renting a blacksmith shop in the west part of town near the railroad. He has a helper and they get all the work they can do.

Cathcart & Co. have a large stock which includes dry goods and groceries. It is well filled with first class goods. Mr. Cathcart and his clerks were very busy but we found them also very friendly and obliging.

We called at the telephone office and found them in nice quarters but could not ask any questions for the hello girl was too busy answering the telephone to answer us, so we wandered on.

We had the pleasure of viewing the Masonic hall and it is a dandy place. They have a nice hall that is a credit to the town. There are also two other lodge halls here, the Workman and Woodmen.

The large lumber yard is owned by R. L. Miller Lumber Co., just north of the National bank and in the busy part of the city. We found Bob to be wide awake and chuck full of business. We did not need anyone to tell us that he is doing a large business. Irwin Erwin is manager of the lumber yard.

Our next call was at Jeff Harris' restaurant. He has a nice restaurant and confectionary store and feeds a lot of people.

We must not fail to speak of our two large elevators here. One of them is owned by S. J. Thompson, of Holton, C. Moore, of this place has charge of the running of it, and they do quite a large business. The other elevator is owned by Cooney & Miller and they do a large amount of business. They buy hay and grain and pay the highest market price, Marcus Gay is their manager.

Mayetta has three doctors, Dr. Austin, Dr. Ott and Dr. Robson and all have a good practice. Dr. Austin and Dr. Ott are new men but we hear them highly spoken of Dr. Robson has lived here for more than twenty years and is a good doctor and a perfect gentleman in every respect.

This ends our list of business places. In connection with the elevators we might mention the thousands of bushels of grain and the many carloads of stock that are shipped over the Rock Island every year, which is one thing that makes Mayetta such a lively business place. But it is near quitting time and we must bring this letter to a close.

Before doing so, however, we want to say a word in regard to the many fine, commodious business blocks and the handsome and comfortable residences in the town. Much money has been spent in beautifying and improving our town. We are especially proud of the many blocks of cement and brick sidewalk. We have in the neighborhood of a mile and a half completed and material is on the ground for considerable more to be built just as soon as weather permits. The Holton Recorder, April 20, 1911.

The young folks about Heyman's store have laid off a tennis court on the rear lots and its not unusual to see devotees of this entrancing game play these bright spring days. *The Mayetta Herald*, April 13, 1911.

N. Sanderson has placed a whistle on his automobile to let people know he is coming and that means clear off Main street and give him full swing. This will be quite an accommodation to the people. Your reporter came very nearly getting run over by this same car some time ago. If he had had the whistle on, we would have been on the lookout. *The Holton Recorder*, April 20, 1911.

Sunday morning at about 8:30 the barn on Maggie Long place was discovered to be in flames. The cause of the fire is unknown but probably was caused by spontaneous combustion. The whole town responded to the alarm and the work done was valiant and heroic. The barn was a good one with a stable room for seven head of horses, this with chicken house, coal and cob houses made it a valuable piece of property and its total loss to the hard working widow is a severe blow. The narrow alley that separates the barn from Chas. Yeakley property was but a slight protection from the flames and but for the hardest kind of work and good fortune in having the wind where it was, it too would have burned. Mrs. Laird, who occupies the Yeakley property, noticed the flames in the loft and gave

alarm. The gang of railroad laborers in charge of Mr. Gerald did fine service and cleared Mrs. Laird's house of furniture in a few minutes when it seemed that her place would surely burn. The real saving work however was done on the Yeakley summer kitchen and cob house, this was right across from the barn, and was charred and burned but the plentiful supply of water dashed on it saved it and the house.

Too much praise cannot be bestowed on the band of fire fighters, who, notwithstanding Easter garb and neglect of church duty, stayed by and fought and conquered the flames. Mrs. Long's loss was well nigh total. Mrs. Laird and Mr. Yeakley have insurance which will make good their loss.

The need for Mayetta of some kind and system of fire protection is only too apparent. The saving of property Sunday was largely due to work of visiting railroaders under the direction of bosses. What Mayetta should have is a bucket brigade and hook and ladder outfit, then, with officer with cool heads we would be able to meet the usual fire emergency, but with each and everyone a company to himself much effect is misdirected and labor lost. The council at its next meeting will doubtless take this matter up.

As it is we can all "Thank our stars" that it was no worse and redouble our precaution against fire.

The Maggie Long barn was insured for \$50 in the W. A. Cooney agency. Mr. Cooney also had the policy on Mrs. Laird's furniture which was ample to cover all loss.

The Herald has already collected \$60 dollars to help Mrs. Long rebuild her barn, the paper is at this office and any who wish to contribute to the relief of this deserving lady can call on us and so signify. Insure your property. *The Mayetta Herald*, April 20, 1911.

The ball game Friday between our high school nine and Kewankah school resulted disastrously for our local boys. The young braves from the reserve were masters of the situation from start to finish and won handily by the score of 15 to 5. Prof. Winnie's boys are a fine lot of gentlemanly ball players.

Mayetta is a progressive town, way up on the front rank, and the women do the work. Last week a party of the ladies of the north end of the town got a team and wagon and had a regular cleaning up "bee." We haven't been told how many loads there were of refuse, old cans and what not carted away, but there was lots. *The Mayetta Herald*, April 27, 1911.

That many of the Indians of today would be surprised at some of the "Indian" ornaments to be found in the homes of pale faces and that bead work and moccasin making are becoming things of the past are statements made by David Puckkee, a member of the Pottawatomie tribe. Puckkee is a farmer of Jackson county, Kas. He arrived in Kansas City yesterday afternoon and will remain here several days.

"You see a better class of Indians have become civilized," he said. "in the part of Kansas where I lived they spend their money for clothing and anything else they need, but you will not see any trading for knives and beads. The Indians do not care for these things any more."

"Take me. I was a fool and ran away from the Carlyle school before I had learned all there was to, but yet I am not a savage. I am married and have a family. I work on my farm and make good money. I could not live any other way than as the white man does, for I have learned what comfort is."

Puckkee's penmanship is excellent and his command of the English language is good. He is an enthusiastic baseball fan and attends every game played in the town near which he lives. - *Kansas City Journal*. ...

On his way as he nears the northern streams the thing which impress him most is the jungle of vegetation growing everywhere, a testimony to the fertility of western soil. A little of the exuberance shows in the springtime of a country road in Kansas, it might be called halfway from Topeka to Holton, as eastern Kansas has many miles of country roads just like it, also many miles of better roads. Without intending to be disrespectful, the dinky little tin bridges in a state of semi-decrepitude is a typical touch, for more than 25 years bridges of this kind have absorbed more than half the road fund of Kansas. But cement and commonsense are now replacing them with permanent structures notwithstanding their defeats there are a few places to be compared with a drive over country roads in Kansas in the spring or fall of the year, whether you ride behind a good horse or in an auto. No part of the world under cultivation beneath a turquoise sky can present a more beautiful combination of hill and vale, fields and meadow than may be found in Kansas. *The Mayetta Herald*, May 11, 1911.

A mass meeting was held at the court house Monday night to arrange plans to secure the Indian agency which it is said will be moved from Nadeau in the near future. Mayetta is also after the agency and its location probably lies between the two places.

The meeting was called to order by W. T. Beck, and W. D. Kuhn was elected chairman and W. T. Beck secretary. Letters were read from Congressmen Anthony and Curtis in reply to previous telegrams asking that the matter be held up until Holton could be heard from. They stated that there had been no action taken either way on the matter though the commissioner had been thinking something of consolidating the agencies.

The gentlemen also decline to take any action either way and said that it lay wholly with the commissioner where the agency would be located.

It was decided that it would be advisable to send two representatives to Washington to present the claims of Holton to the department, and a committee was appointed to select them.

The committee was also appointed to canvas the other towns of the county and secure petitions in favor of Holton.

As a means to defray expenses of the delegates and incidentals a subscription was taken which was met with liberal response.

The location of the agency means much to Holton. There is on deposit here something over a hundred thousand dollars of Indian money and in the course of the next few years much of the land on the reserve will be sold and the transactions will total over a million dollars. The removal of the agency would also mean the loss of this business to the town. *The Holton Signal*, May 11, 1911.

Will Wilson, who got overheated and was adjudged insane last week, has been taken to Topeka to the home of his brother, O. L. Wilson, and Bert is down there taking care of him. ...

That good board sidewalk, not a broken board in it, that was in front of the city hotel and that was causing so much controversy that there were threats to use the law if they didn't do so and so, was torn up last week and a new cement sidewalk was put in its place, and a dandy one at that. The said parties may now go to sleep and sleep soundly and have pleasant dreams until something else comes up to make a fuss about. *The Holton Recorder*, June 15, 1911.

The members of the Mayetta Cornet band are all together again and getting in some good practice should they be called upon to furnish music for some occasion. ...

Another home which will add materially to the looks of the city is that of C. B. Graves in the Shumway addition in the north part of town. It is modern throughout and is 26X44, one story high, with dining room, parlor, kitchen, three bedroom, closets, bathroom and pantry. The crowning feature of this home is the beautiful porch, 6X54, which runs along the front and east sides of the house. The house will be painted white and is now being oiled and papered by J. H. Spence. *Holton Recorder*, June 22, 1911.

What has been prophesied and thought as bound to occur has happened. Mayetta has been put to the crucial test and tried in the fiery furnace. How well she comes through the ordeal it is too soon to say, but judging the future by the past, all will buckle down to the work and make our little city better than it was before and every effort will be put forth to draw new trade to this town than to lose any through our misfortune.

At just about 12 o'clock Thursday night or Friday morning, the people of the Norton show discovered that the Masonic hall was in flames, they, with the help of an engine in the yard here, immediately sounded an alarm, at almost the same time Sherman Smith discovered the flames and he too sent out the dread alarm of fire. In an incredible short time a very large crowd was on the ground, but unorganized and bewildered, it was some few minutes before anything like an organized effort was made to stay the flames, it was but a moment it seemed after we got to ground, when flames burst through the west window of Masonic hall. Then t'was but a few moments until the whole upper story was a mass of fire. The light partition wall between the drug store building and J. M. Goheen's fine hardware and furniture store offered little resistance to the fire, that and the inflammability of the drug stock, made so hot a fire that the cement block of S. R. Jones' was like the wooden structure on the west, all food for fire.

Frank Grinnell's finely equipped market was near a total loss, the counter, scales, a few tools and books only being saved. The big cooler full of meat and large quantity of lard went up as did his sausage grinder and gasoline engine. Frank's loss was severe and insurance will not half cover it.

Postmaster Jones saved his post office paraphernalia and books as well as the mail, but the merchandise stock of Jones & Hunter did not fare as well, while much of it was carried out, its broken and marred condition makes it of little value.

Dr. Ott lost his library and instruments, much of his furniture and all his personal effects.

The Woodmen and Workmen whose recently equipped hall in the rear of the S. R. Jones, jr., building was really something extra, lost their entire outfit, the workmen even losing their charter and all records.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Stewart while saving considerable of their household goods are still serious losers and many things were lost and burned.

The Mayetta Telephone Company lost all its excellent equipment, the loss was total, there being no insurance.

Mayetta Lodge, No. 293, A. F. & A. M., in whose hall the fire probably started lost an outfit that was well nigh perfect, all the records too were lost. An insurance of \$300 was carried which in no way covers loss.

The Mayetta Drug Co.'s fine store, one that in fixtures and stock was a source of pride to every one was a complete loss. Manger Noel made an heroic effort to save his books but was overcome by heat and was carried from the room in a dazed condition. An insurance of \$1500 was carried.

The J. M. Goheen Hardware and Furniture store was heavily stocked and was one of Mayetta's show places, the loss here was nearly so total that we could mention every article saved in a few lines. Mr. Goheen carried a fine stock, his fixtures were exceedingly beautiful and convenient, his insurance will scarcely reach 50 cents on the

dollar of loss.

Next came the big Cathcart and Cooney store, two big rooms crowded full of general merchandise, also warehouse back and two neighboring cellars full of canned goods and crockery. The little saved from this store is not worth talking about, the only item of much value being their fine cash register. This store carried a stock of nearly \$16,000 and had an insurance of only \$6,500. The young men who carry on the business will open right away in other quarters so that none of the magnificent trade they have built up will be diverted to other channels.

The First National Bank went through a baptism of fire and while the building was seared by the flames and the paint and plaster marred somewhat this strong financial institution came through and is doing business without the loss of anything that pertained to the successful conduct of affairs. On the bank some of the best work of the fire fighters was displayed and that it was saved is much to their credit.

The work of saving the large and fully stocked R. L. Miller Lumber Co.'s yard was almost a miracle, the way they worked on that place was grand and its saving was the means of our still having the nice row of residences that adorn First street. Mr. Miller fully appreciates the work of the valiant fire fighters.

On Mrs. Bickers' block, occupied by the Harris restaurant and hotel and Walter Mathews barber shop hard work was done by tenants and friends, the fine plate glass front in this building was entirely destroyed and wood work about windows badly burned. Messers Harris and Mathews moved out much of their fixtures but are back in quarters doing business with a screen front.

The Seibert building came in for the brunt of the blaze on the north side, the glass front was burned out and the front will have to be rebuilt. The fountain in the Birkett store was blistered by the heat and some stock ruined by water. W. M. Seibert moved out his "gem" barber shop outfit and he and Mr. Birkett worked hard and well to save the north side.

The elegant front in the Heyman building came in for its share of the "hot time in town." Three of the big glass that have made this store the show store of our city, were cracked and broken.

Mrs. Johnson moved out her stock of racket goods and millinery but was fortunate in escaping any fire damage.

The big stone building of Jones & Robson had to bear the brunt of the fire battle and that it did is the only reason there is a building standing on the south side of Main street and possibly in town. Sam Early and the Robson brothers with Harry Fitzsimmons and many more showed they were fire fighters from the ground up the way they fought back the flames on the roof, Dr. Robson was busy directing the forces in his building. The stock of the A. J. Jones store was partly carried out and Mr. Jones ought to come in for some insurance.

Jess Bunch kept his property thoroughly wet and added to the safety of what is left in town.

Slattery & Smith were busy as bees getting their big stock of harness ready for the quick move that was certain should the stone block catch.

The Herald office was busy getting things in shape to move as was also the hotel people. ...

The people are recovering from the stunning effect of the fire and now comes the question, what are we going to do. Is this little city to go forward or back, are you putting your shoulder to the wheel to make Mayetta a better and larger town than it was before the fire.

The escape of Dr. Ott from second story of Jones business was one of the notable sights of the fire. The athletic doctor came down the side of the building like a human fly.

The following persons and firms who suffered losses from the fire hold insurance policies from the W. A. Cooney Agency: S. R. Jones, jr., \$1500. F. C. Duffy, \$3200. J. M. Goheen, \$1250. Cathcart & Co., \$6500. Eliza Seibert, W. M. Seibert, T. J. Harris, Jones & Hunter and First National Bank had small losses fully covered by insurance. Lester Mayor came up from Topeka Sunday morning to visit his grandfather, J. Buche, and while here took a few snapshots of the Mayetta ruins.

Walter Stewart stayed by his property trying to save it till plaster fell and flames drove him out, Walter stayed the limit.

Fremont Reynolds and Harry Reist were also prominent and tireless fire fighters from first to last.

About 200 Holtonites came down on special but arrived with their engine to late to be of service. They have all of Mayetta's thanks however for their good will. ...

We have it from the closest friends of F. C. Duffy in Mayetta that the buildings burned on his property will be promptly rebuilt in a most substantial manner. Father Duffy is too keen a business man to allow the set back of this conflagration to deter him in his kindly efforts to make our little city one of the best in Kansas.

The Mayetta Drug Co. will undoubtedly occupy a part of the Slattery & Smith store temporarily till new Duffy building can be constructed.

R. L. Miller has in view the purchase of a drug store outfit that will be even better than the one destroyed by fire Monday morning.

A. J. Jones lost over \$1000 in the fire. He had considerable stock in ware room burned and much damage was done in removing the goods.

Every man in town feels a debt of gratitude towards his neighbor for services rendered during the fire. The question of the hour is where is the adjuster. *The Mayetta Herald*, June 29, 1911

The insurance of the Jones block was promptly adjusted and work on the rebuilding was started Monday, we are told that the new structure will be an improvement in several ways on the one burned. It is the intent of the owners to put in a pressed brick front, make a wider stairway to second floor and build a structure that will be a credit to themselves and the city. ...

Mrs. V. R. Lunger met with a serious accident Monday morning, she was directing her son Fred where to put oil on the washer and in some way the middle finger of her right hand became entangled in the cogs of the machine and so mangled it that it had to be amputated at the first joint. ...

Last Wednesday the little son of Mr. and Mrs. Lon Page, got to playing with one of those "Daisy" fly killers and in some way pulled out one of the stoppers and took considerable quantity of the poison. Little Gaylord then went and told what he had done, his mother immediately administered antidotes and when Dr. Robson came he was so fixed up so that no bad effects resulted. *The Mayetta Herald*, July 13, 1911.

The Rock Island-Agricultural college wheat train went through here last Monday with seven cars. A large crowd of farmers and their families and a great number town people went down to meet the train and hear what the Agricultural college people had to say. The lecture was good and the methods he told of how to raise wheat are all right, if the farmer would only follow the methods they advised they should surely raise a lot of wheat. After the lecture was over we were taken through the exhibit cars and they attracted much attention. There were the grain graders, fanning mills and smut machines, all operated by gasoline. In another car were the ten or twelve varieties of wheat grown most successfully at the college. We think this institution is one of the greatest in Kansas and if the people would only follow the instructions given by the men from it, they would certainly know how to farm. *Holton Recorder*, July 20, 1911.

The A. O. U. W. will hold their annual picnic in the Mayetta grove Friday, August 25. Amusements of all kinds, including girl's foot race, pie eating contest, boy's race, wild west show, tug of war, women's ball throwing contest and many other kinds will be given. One of the features of the day will be a ballgame which everybody likes to see. In the evening a grand ball will be given. We expect about 2000 people to attend. This will be the only picnic of the season. So come one and all and have a good time with the Mayetta People. ...

The Mayetta Browns again demonstrated their ability by defeating the strongest amateur team of eastern Kansas last Friday. They beat the Soldier team 3 to 2. Sunday they humiliated the strong 316 team of Topeka by a score of 5 to 0. Bartrum, of Mayetta, had the visitors at his mercy. Bartrum and Wishno each hit a home run in the third inning. *Holton Recorder*, August 17, 1911.

Roy Grove met with a severe accident at picnic Friday, a pop bottle exploded cutting leaders of one of his fingers making a wound that will keep him from work for some time. *The Mayetta Herald*, August 31, 1911.

As we go to Mayetta this beautiful Monday morning to gather our news for the paper we can hear the tolling of the bells all over this vicinity calling the little lads and lassies to school. The tolling of these bells sends our memory back to our own school days when we used to go to school, but there were not so many bells to be heard in those days as there are now. Now one is on most every school house in this country of ours. People are going to great expense to have everything nice and handy and the children should waste no time in getting a good education. The time is not very far in advance when you cannot get into any business, or you can not even be a farmer if you do not have a good education. Improve all your time as your school days are fast gliding by and when they are gone it will be too late. *The Mayetta Herald*, August 31, 1911.

The horse shoe pitchers have established new grounds near the George Hill blacksmith shops. *The Mayetta Herald*, September 21, 1911.

Quite a number from this place went to Topeka Wednesday to see Taft and attend the reunion of the old veterans. It does the boys good to get together and talk over the war times. There will not be many more reunions of civil war veterans held. The fighting boys of half a century ago are all old men now and their ranks are thinning fast. ...

The Mayetta Cornet band is taking instruction from Prof, Hayward, of Holton, on Wednesday evening of each were. The membership is encouraging and there will soon be a full band. Don't miss a lesson as the instruction and drill given you are now very important, and one lesson missed will put you behind in the band. ...

On last Saturday night about 11:30 there was a fire alarm given by some mischievous boys or men by ringing the school house bell. We don't think for a moment that they really meant any harm and probably did not take into consideration the thought of frightening people by hearing a bell at that time of the night. But we hope the boys will remember that it has not been a great while since Mayetta had a terrible fire and the church bells and school bells are to be rung in case of fire to warn the people, and never should be rung to deceive people. *The Holton Recorder*, October 5, 1911.

R. L. Miller is always in the front rank when it comes to improving this section, his latest and all trust one of his best ventures is the purchase of 3000 apple trees from Mt. Hope nurseries at Lawrence through the agency of Mr. Charley McDonald. The selection of varieties is the best possible for this section, the land used for his forty acre orchard is in every way suitable for the growing of trees and is well known to you all. *The Mayetta Herald*, November 2, 1911.

Bring your rabbits to the Star meat market. Will pay 40 cents a dozen if not shot up too badly by not less than a dozen shot. *The Holton Recorder*, November 16, 1911.

Otis Lasswell drove through Mayetta Tuesday morning a bunch of 200 head of western cattle that will winter on the W. A. Cooney place. E. "Crow" Robb was on hand to receive the herd and under his direction they were safely yarded. ...

Frank Shumway has the latest novelty in a punching bag. Prizes go on feats of strength and surplus energy can be worked off at a profit. Call and see Frank work the machine. *The Mayetta Herald*, December 21, 1911.

All the schools in this part of the county will have a recess of a week or more to allow the teachers and pupils to get plenty of fresh air and candy and nuts into their systems, as well as to get some good, sound, untroubled rest. *The Holton Recorder*, December 21, 1911.

Rabbits, quail and even wolves come right up to the houses and barns during this cold spell. One of our farmers on the reserve has to stand by with a club to keep the rabbits away while he is feeding his hogs. *The Mayetta Herald*, January 11, 1912.

After having adopted and reared to womanhood two orphan girls, a farmer and his wife, living near Mayetta, have adopted another thirteen-year-old girl which was sent to them by the Children's Home Society. The girl was met at the station by the young woman who a few years ago was also under the care of the society and was given a home through its efforts. The young woman is now married and has a little girl of her own.

"The people who have taken these orphan children into their homes, seldom have cause to regret their action," said Rev. O. S. Morrow, superintendent of the society. "Once in a great while there is a child returned to us, because the foster parents learn through experience that they are not adapted to taking care of children, or it may be that the child is unwilling to come under the discipline exacted. In the great majority of cases, however, the parent and child engender a love for each other akin to that found among parents and their own children.

"The family of whom I speak adopted an orphan girl a number of years ago. She grew to womanhood, was married and went into a home of her own. The lonely feeling caused them to come to our society and get another to take the place of the first one. Now she has gone, for the third time, although the couple are getting old, this feeling could not live alone. The thirteen-year-old girl we sent up there a few days ago leaves us with ten other children who are ready to fill the place of those who have left the family circle. - Topeka Capital.

Mr. and Mrs., Wm. Lunger, to whom the above article refers, found in their last selection a young girl so incorrigible and so different from the young people it had been their fortune to secure that Saturday night the young person was taken in charge by Mr. E. J. Lunger and returned to the intuition from whence she came. All hope that Grandma Lunger secures a desirable charge at her next venture ... *The Holton Recorder*, January 18, 1892.

R. L. Miller had the misfortune to lose about 75 bushels of potatoes in his cellar Friday night and Mr. Morrison also lost a lot. This is quite a misfortune. ...

It is told that a young lady of Mayetta, accidentally got her feet out from under the bed clothing one night and froze them. It is wise to be very careful in this weather. ...

The temperature at our house went down to 20 degrees below zero Friday morning at five 'clock. It was the lowest of the winter and the stock suffered terribly and lots of chickens froze to death. ...

The present cold spell had provided plenty of sport for the boys and girls of Mayetta and they are having the time of their lives. The snow on the roads is packed down good and hard and the sleigh bells are a familiar and joyous sound. Of course the small boy with his long sled rope is waiting for just such an opportunity. Main street is drawing the usual crowd of coasters and the snow is so hard the attention is given to record breaking and many a hard spilt is the result. This kind of weather suits the boys, if it doesn't anyone else, and they all hope it will continue. *The Holton Recorder*, February 8, 1912.

The health officer made his appearance in Mayetta one day last week, looking after the health of the public places of our town and telling the good people what they must do in order to comply with the pure food laws and escape the fines that a set of grafters have placed on the statute books in order to make more government jobs and to increase the taxpayers a little more. It's alright to have laws but we think that when the law gets so strict that some

one must come around to tell people just how they must do and what they must eat and what they must buy in order to keep up with the laws, it looks like a little bit of graft on the side line. *The Holton Recorder*, February 15, 1912.

Sunday about 10:30 it commenced to spitting snow here and by noon it had assumed the character of a veritable Kansas blizzard, and one of the kind you read about occurring years ago. It blowed and snowed all day and all night and as from 8 to 15 inches fell the roads, especially the east and west ones, are well nigh impassable. The carriers have been forced to abandon making their full route and are only serving a portion of their patrons. The railway service has been unusually good considering difficulties they had to contend with. The north side of Main street is still piled high with snow. Several parties have been made up and gone in various directions to shovel out the drifts so farmers could come to town. It was by far the most severe snow storm for a number of years.

A couple of dusky damsels were found trespassing on railroad property Saturday morning by using a box car for a sleeping compartment. On complaint of Agent Harper they were arrested and taken before Judge Jones who after finding that they were hoboes turned them loose bidding them to lose no time in getting out of town. A few moments later a black streak was seen going up the railroad track. *The Mayetta Herald*, February 29, 1912.

A. H. Zerhung was arrested on his coming to town Monday morning and fined \$6.00 including costs by Squire Jones for trespassing on the sidewalks Sunday when he came to town for his mail. The warrant was sworn out by the street commissioner. There is an ordinance in force against driving on sidewalks and as Mr. Zerhug probably didn't think they would enforce it at a time like this, but found they would to the tune of \$6.00. ...

Forty-two of our hardy farmer friends put in the better part of Monday breaking the road from Charley McAlexander's place to town. Dick Rice was the oldest man on the job and after coming to town for dinner went back and worked hard to clear the way. We wish we could print the names of the whole bunch, but it goes without saying, everyone of them is a booster for Mayetta. *The Mayetta Herald*, February 29, 1912.

Tom McNeal, our liveryman, had a car load of hay shipped in last week from Kansas City. This is probably the first carload of hay ever shipped into our town. *The Holton Recorder*, March 12, 1912.

Ordinance No. 57. An ordinance relating to the riding of bicycles, tricycles and velocipedes and the riding or driving of horse upon the sidewalks of Mayetta and providing punishment therefore.

Section 1. It shall be unlawful for any person to ride any bicycle, tricycle, velocipedes, coaster wagon or any other similar apparatus upon any sidewalk in Mayetta. Any person violating this section shall be, upon conviction thereof, fined in any sum not less than \$1.00 and not more than \$10.00 for each offence.

Sec. 2. Any person who shall ride or drive any animal or team of animals upon or across and side walk within this city, except it be at a regular crossings, shall upon conviction, be fined in any sum not to exceed \$25.00. ... J. M. Goheen, Pres. Council. *The Mayetta Herald*, April 4, 1912.

Since the Mayetta sidewalk ordinance stopped us boys riding our bicycles on the sidewalk we have to ride in the street.

And it seems like most everyone takes advantage of us. They will stay in the middle of the street, and will not give us our share of the street. The sides of the street are so rough we cannot go around the people.

I can make the city ashamed of its self, because I keep my five miles of road up in good order, and I will guarantee you that when the roads are fit to travel I always have my roads IN THE BEST OF SHAPE FIRST.

So Mr. Mayetta Council and all who make this their concern, I advise you to keep up your streets as well as I do my roads, and we boys will not ride on the sidewalks. Sammy Early, jr. *The Mayetta Herald*, April 18, 1912.

To whom it may concern, which will be more than one or two parties who have been in the habit of riding bicycles on the sidewalks in the city of Mayetta. We are extremely sorry the gentlemen took exception to the ordinance passed a few weeks ago, relating to the riding of bicycles on the sidewalks as it was not passed to discommode any certain parties but for the welfare of all the people who travel the streets of Mayetta, which are more than the few who have bikes and it looks to any reasonable person that they are more entitled to the walks than the Bike rider, as we want to utilize the walks for the purpose they were built for as there have been several complaints made to us about being run into by Bike riders on the sidewalk this is why we were compelled to take the action that we did in the matter. Now in regard to the streets in our little city will say we would like for anyone to show us any better streets in any little berg three times our size, that will in anyway compare with ours and ours will be better yet before fall. Hoping this explanation will be of benefit to someone. Yours Truly, J. M. Goheen, Pres. Council. *The Mayetta Herald*, April 25, 1912.

Wednesday was a great day on the reserve when the matched race for \$1,000 between the bay mare Luella, owned by George Bland, of the reserve and the bay mare Dottie, the property of Jim Hand, of Sioux City, Iowa, raced the one-fourth mile dash in the Bland pasture. The Hand crowd brought in six head of runners and most any kind of

race may be matched after the big event is pulled off, Two hundred dollars is already in stake holder hands and if the reservation crowd wins there is liable to be a number of days devoted to the sport of kings. *The Mayetta Herald*, May 2, 1912.

The burning cob pile on the right of way kept the town well smoked Saturday and Sunday. *The Mayetta Herald*, May 23, 1912.

The farmers are taking quite a lot of interest just now in dragging the roads. That is the only way to keep the roads up in good shape. You can spoil the roads in a mighty short time by plowing them and we hear a lot of kicking because some use the roads for scouring their plows, especially the road west of Chas. Alexander's out across Big Soldier. Lots of money has been put on that road and it is traveled a great deal. *The Holton Recorder*, June 13, 1912.

Mayor Goheen had city calaboose cleaned last week and as soon as possible afterward three Indian drunks were on the inside looking out with fines against them for \$6.50 each. Two paid but poor John Shaw-ban-nah, the son of a chief, was put on rock pile and for two days did labor in the interest of higher civilization and good roads. Alas, how the mighty have fallen. *The Mayetta Herald*, June 20, 1912.

Owing to the unbearable heat and continued dry weather, a number of farmers here have abandoned their plowing for wheat until it becomes cooler. We hear them say it is almost too hot for the horses to stand in the heat under a boiling sun made doubly hard by a pest of flies. Farmers in this locality say they never saw the files so bad in their lives as they are this summer. *The Holton Recorder*, August 8, 1912.

Now is the time to mow all those big weeds along the roads and in the fence corners. By mowing them now you will prevent the seed from maturing and will improve your farm fifty percent. *The Holton Recorder*, August 15, 1912.

William Lunger, the founder of our city, has been called to the reward of the just. After an illness of nearly six months the messenger of death came Tuesday about 2 p. m. and silently, peacefully and painlessly carried the spirit of this noble man to the land of promise, there to receive the reward that come to those whose life has been truly good. William Lunger was born at White House, New Jersey, on the 12th day of December, 1831. He moved with his wife to Anita, Iowa, in 1874, where he had lived seven years. In 1881 Grandpa and Grandma Lunger moved to Kansas and finally settling on the spot where now stands our beautiful little city. When the railroad came it was named in honor of the memory of their only daughter, Mary Etta. Some five or six years ago Grandma and Grandpa Lunger celebrated their golden wedding and there has seldom been such a turnout of admiring friends and relatives to commemorate such an event. The Lungers were ever prominent in the work of the M. E. church and among the foremost in building and upkeep of this institution. Grandpa performing the arduous duties of sexton up to the time he was stricken with the sickness that resulted in his death and that blustery, snowing morning in March last when his sturdy frame burdened with toil of over four score years, yielded to the strain, and Grandpa wandered home giving us all a timely warning that soon life's journey for him would be a thing of the past. To live for nearly eighty-one years, to be so honored, respected and worthy of emulation and so very seldom obtained. He lived so even, so at peace with all that his goodness radiated as perfume from flowers, the whole world was his friend as he was a friend to the world. The funeral will be at the family residence at ten o'clock today (Thursday.) The Rev. John P. Martin officiating. His grand companion and life's partner, the one who has stood by and with him all through the long vista of years, we bow and offer every word of homage and sympathy, to the two sons, honorable and respected, to the grandchildren and great-grandchildren is extended a mead of condolence that is genuinely sincere. Interment was made in the Mayetta cemetery Thursday morning, the mortal given back to nature, the spirit had winged its flight to a well earned reward and to memory is left a life so perfect so grandly good, so near perfect that we bow our heads, and weep, because our world produces so few so worthy. "Tis seldom a city of Mayetta's class has the privilege of paying a debt of respect to its founder. Grandpa Lunger has ever been an unobtrusive worker for Mayetta, He with Grandma have ever tried to make our little city of more than villagistic account, they have helped the church, the town and newspaper, they were the first in all that was upbuilding, Grandpa's death is only the opening of the opportunity we have to tell how these folks worked to build the hometown. Grandpa was one of the few that "So lived that when the summons came to join the innumerable caravan that moved on, he wrapped the drapery of his couch around him and laid down to pleasant dreams." The widow and family have the sincere sympathy of all. *The Mayetta Herald*, September 12, 1912.

A great many of the farmers are building silos. Every once in a while one sees a farmer hauling out silo material. Farmers are quickly adapting the new methods of farming. *The Holton Recorder*, September 12, 1912.

Mad dog stories are abundant these days of early fall and Mayetta plays second fiddle never. Sunday a large Spitz

stray was round on the sidewalk in front of Mr. Jim Slattery's residence and Al Hohnbaum was called on to kill the mad dog. The canine is gone, it may have been mad we don't know, but it never can be a mad dog again. *The Mayetta Herald*, September 19, 1912.

Indus and his five of his colts won six first premiums and one second premium out of seven times in the show ring. He is owned and exhibited by the Mayetta Horse Co., including Will McKeage, John Harrington, John Herde and Cooney Bros. This speaks well for Mayetta. *The Holton Recorder*, October 3, 1912.

Rev. Cannon, who has been a revivalist among the Ponca Indians, of Oklahoma and the new prospective Missionary here will be at the Mission church next Sunday at 2 p. m. Each lady is requested to bring two chickens, a loaf of bread, two pies and other things that are good to eat. President Ladies' Aid.

Menu for Chicken Pie Dinner. Chicken pie, brown gravy, creamed potatoes, sweet potatoes, pickles, kraut, slaw, jellies, pie, coffee. *The Holton Recorder*, October 10, 1912.

Mrs. E. E. Lunger died at her home in the west part of town, Saturday, October 5, at 5 o'clock. Mrs. Lunger was born in Vermont, October 9, 1830, and died at the advanced age of 81 years, 11 months and 24 days. The funeral was held at ten o'clock today, at her residence and was conducted by her pastor, Rev. J. P. Martin. Mr. Lunger died just about a month ago and since his death, she has been in poor health. For more than fifty years this couple had walked life's pathway together. Mrs. Lunger has ever faced the future with the courage of Christian faith. Her life has been simple, but strong and many hearts were bound to her by her many acts of love. Two sons, V. R. and E. J. Lunger are left to mourn the loss of so great a mother. Burial was in the Mayetta cemetery. *The Mayetta Herald*, October 12, 1912.

As one who is more interested in the building up of the community more than Holton it is with regret we announce the sale of the Champion Sweepstakes winner at the Royal Stock Show, Inklus, to Bruce Saunders and others of Holton. When the ungainly, big legged sorrel colt was brought two years ago by our horse company he little showed the perfection he obtained under the fostering care of "Crow" Robb, his groom and part owner. This horse has developed so that Mr. Saunders, after a trip to Europe, found within eight miles of his home a horse that is the peer of any he saw in France or Belgium. We regret the sale because it takes from Mayetta something that money does not always supply. ...

The past two years or more Mayetta and those who have her future welfare at heart have more of less interested in the removal of the Indian reservation headquarters to a point on the railroad and as Mayetta offered every advantage possible to give it was in the interest of each and all of us that the Agency would be located at or near our city. Father Duffy and R. L. Miller have been upwards of two years working unceasingly that this benefit should accrue to this city, and last Thursday when the word came that Mat-wa-ath-a had deeded to Major Williams for the governments use the ten acres lying just across from Frank Evan's residence our dream of Mayetta's future greatness became an established fact. Agent Williams will immediately proceed to have built several buildings for present use and in the spring will be erected the cottages and residences for all the officials connected with the Agency.

Mayetta nor its people are disposed to crow over the location of the offices here, we always felt that they belong here by right as a more convenient point for Indians and renters, and who are aided and abetted by the stubborn and prolonged endeavor of R. L. Miller, Father Duffy, the Cooney's and many others has met a deserved recognition at the hand of the powers that be, we rejoice. The agency's location at the outskirts of Mayetta will prove a benefit to all our people. *The Mayetta Herald*, October 24, 1912.

Loads and loads of apples are coming into the market. Everyone is wondering how they are going to get their apples picked. Frank Cline, who lives south of town has picked over a thousand bushels and there are several others that have picked as many. The apple crop is immense this year.

Cider Mill. At the Hawn place, five miles southwest of Mayetta. Run every day, new presses and prompt work. Your own cider back. We charge two cents per gallon for grinding. Barrels for sale. Hawn and Ewing. ...

Three Jensen boys picked 222 bushels of apples in seven hours, in the Cline orchard Saturday. They received five cents per bushel. It is a very common thing for the oldest boy to pick 75 bushels a day. *The Holton Recorder*, October 24, 1912.

The big iron elevator erected some few years ago by Cooney & Miller has ever been a shining beacon inviting you to Mayetta. A little more than a year ago Mr. Miller brought out Mr. Cooney's interest. The time necessary to devote to a successful conduct of this institution was not Mr. Miller's to give, his many other interests demanding his time and he feeling that he could not give his many patrons the benefit of better prices that come from a thorough study of market condition has sacrificed one of his big business interests here that our people could have, as they should, the benefit of the highest market, which a man devoted to that branch of merchandizing thoroughly understands, W. D. Kuhn, the owner of the lease and option is right up to the minute as an elevator man, he owns and controls seventeen of the best elevators in this section, and is prepared to carry on the business on a scale further

in advance of any local dealer and can be relied upon to give a market for Mayetta that will be right up to the minute. R. L. Miller should be praised for bringing into this district so through and up-to-date elevator interest. *The Mayetta Herald*, October 31, 1912.

Quite a scrap took place one night last week, in Mayetta. One used as broom stick and the other one used a poker and anything that came handy. We heard of no arrest. *The Holton Recorder*, November 21, 1912.

Since women's suffrage has carried we notice a great change in this community. The Women are out helping top kaffir corn, shuck corn, haul wood and many other tasks that are usually done by the men. In a few years the women will do all the work and the men will have a chance to lie around. What do you think of that?

A great many of the farmers are getting through shucking corn and are getting their cattle in the stalks. They are making every effort to get their work done before the bad weather sets in, as it is about time for that long winter to set in. *The Holton Recorder*, December 5, 1912.

When the cold day comes and the customer is just a happenstance, the clerks, bosses and general coterie of Mayetta's men about town, gather round the red hot stoves in each of our business houses and gas, hot air and all that thereunto pertains, floats forth as freely as tides of old ocean.

At Tom McNeive's, bull dogs are fighting as never before was known and after all the dogs were killed except Newt Moore's invincible one, a race track was started around the stove and the way runners and jumpers, trotters and pacers made their rounds was a revelation to one whose source of information had only been the Clipper almanac and Goodwin's sporting register.

At Slattery's & Smith's they were shooting pigeons, and say, the boys around that stove can shoot some. Some kill rabbits, others quail, and once and a while a bear, deer or any badger is massacred. Each and all can however shoot off his mouth until Jim comes round and is willing to bet that the best man in the house can't climb the pole.

At V. R. Lunger's on dull days we find the proprietor at his books. Vern takes pride in those books and gives them all kinds of attention. Della is busy writing on pink paper with a blue pencil with red lead a note to some disconsolate friend.

In Jones', the whole kit, box and dice, are building garages, buying automobiles, selling farms or threshing. The editor almost brought an auto in Jones Tuesday, the price mentioned was almost within our reach.

At Al Hohnbaum's they were still building that slaughter house and killing hogs and besides they didn't have a real good fire so we didn't stay after 77 hogs were killed.

At the drug store we found that the "old saw" that a new broom sweeps clean worked in Mayetta as well as elsewhere. Roy was certainly sorting over the stock and the doctor was smiling as benignly was usual.

At Goheen's we found the fly screens up and Fountain saving soles as usual. We could see why Fountain was at work, cause our own shoes leaked but those fly screens showed us that we didn't know it all and we didn't dare ask questions, because, well just because J. M. knew why he put 'em up and didn't tell.

We didn't stop at the bank, those fellows ought to be happy, business or no business. They have the money and we have all the trouble we can endure to keep out of the red.

At W. M. Seibert's our genial friend was figuring on how he was to make six days work cover seven days expenses in weather like this. He has declared for a six day week and we all wishing that the start he made will have a universal following. Anyhow in Mayetta.

At the Carthcart & Co. store the hole in the floor was surrounded by men that would sell, buy, market and make more money on corn than all the banks in Kansas ever held, later they were willing to take a fall out of an Indian or two at about 3000 per cent profit. The proprietors kept out of all this argument and simply sawed wood while the geniuses, seers, and know alls told what they didn't know.

At Harry Cobeldick's we found Harry out visiting and as we missed him in trip around presume he is still visiting. *The Mayetta Herald*, January 9, 1913.

To The Editor. We see you left out some of the business men in your hot air article last week and beg to correct the oversight with the following:

The first place we came to was the City Hotel, and we found Mr. Nuzbaum, the insurance agent, sitting by the stove studying the last census report, we said "how is everybody around here?" and he said, "they are all kicking," we said what about?" he said "its not the house, it's the weather," so we told him to be careful and not kick the stove over and went out.

We then crossed the street until we got to the garage and found Harry talking to a couple of fellows who didn't seem to know the difference between an auto and a manure spreader, telling them all the good points of the Mitchell car. We said to Harry, "how do you pronounce garage?" He looked kind of wise to me and said nothing, he thought there might be a cell in it and we left him thinking.

We then came back as far as the Exchange bank, we met Verne Lunger coming out the door and didn't say anything. Frank and George were within talking of what might happen during the next administration, they both

agreed they did not care what Woodrow Wilson done with the tariff as long as he did not interfere with the money question.

Charles Hards and Billie McDaniel were making a lot of noise as we went by, we stopped and listened and heard Charles say, "I do not care how they fix it, I can't put a wheel together for less money and it will be the same old price for putting on a shoe." We noticed Charley Spence standing around outside like he was looking for something and fool like asked him what he had lost. He said when he went away a year ago he put the key under a rock and he was trying to find the rock he put it under.

The next place we came to was Uncle Sam's parcel post delivery, we asked Sammie if he was going to postmaster and he said "consult the Congressional P. O. Directory." We told him we would see him after the consultation and went out.

As we were going by the Racket store we noticed some things in the window that looked attractive and went in, everything was peaceable, there was no racket at all and so we didn't have anything to say.

On the way we dropped into the jewelry store located where the old drug store used to be. We noticed John had all kinds of time hanging around there from Hamilton to the Ingersol and thought it might be a good place to get tick but didn't ask for any and went away.

We stopped at Walter Mathews and looked in, he seemed to have a smile on his face and we went in, we talked about the Sunday closing act. He said he wasn't going to bother his brains much about making ends meet, he said if he couldn't make expenses on Sunday maybe he could visit that day.

The next stop was at the Brick Front. We noticed there had been some changes made here in the past six months and Tommie said he didn't know hardly which paid best, keeping a restaurant or farming.

We then stopped into the Lumber office and there was Ivan looking over his books, of course Ivan can talk and figure at the same time, so we asked him where Bob was and he said he was out at the Ranch figuring on how many cattle it would take to consume four silos, he said John was out in the yard if you want anything, we said we knew John was accommodating alright but would see him later.

It looked a little chilly around the Iron Clad elevator, we found Marcus Gay and Chet looking westward towards the new agency and trying to figure out the building of thirty cottages along the highway between there and the Agency next year.

We stopped on the way at the red elevator and spoke a few words with Guy. He said "those Holton fellows seems to think they know it all but some day they'll find out different."

We was wondering in what kind of a mood would we find Harry Harper, he was figuring on ways and means by which he could suit these farmers and corn shippers but hadn't arrived at any conclusion and so we left him in that channel.

We found Dr. Bliss occupying his new quarters over the drug store and looked very happy, so where there is happiness there is Bliss.

Those fellows at the Shumway old stand are sure hustlers and a fellow don't have to wait long there for anything they want if they've got it.

Dr. Robson was standing at the doorway leading to his office and he said the political outlook did not seem as bad as it might. We found Jesse Bunch putting two soles on one shoe and he said he had to do that in order to save the other sole.

We stopped in at Geo. Hill's blacksmith shop, the only man in town who seems to feel happy under all conditions and circumstances. George said he could not help the condition of the weather any but would keep hammering away until he made the system under which we work better.

On our rounds we met Fred Swartz and from the way Fred spoke of the merits of the Ford car and produced testimonials showing its good qualities, we came to the conclusion there was nothing ahead of it but the aeroplane.

We next arrived at the place from where we started, the Herald's office, and there was the editor all besmeared with ink fixing the dog catcher on the press and talking to Mr. Gibbons, who lives up on Euclid avenue. We heard the editor say something about the law that fixes people's responsibilities and so we said maybe, he had better see Frank Chase or Bailie Wagoner about it and then went to my dinner.

It being Friday we met Mr. Buehrer in Slattery's & Smith's doorway, he stopped me and said, "I can feel more at home in Mayetta than any other town I visit." *The Mayetta Herald*, January 16, 1913.

The noisiest shiverree on record was given Ira Starkey and his wife last Thursday night at the home of Sherman Smith, by Captain P. Grinnell, Iona Grinnell, Ed Kon, Phil Rice, Mike Hogan and Pat White, this was the bread pan and bath tub band. The Captain played the bread pan and three beat the bath tub and twenty shots were fired. After a hard fought battle and some singing we were invited in, all treated with cigars and other refreshments and then the captain told Mr. Sherman Smith, as he is an expert player on the accordion that we could have a little music, he gave us some fine music and Ona Grinnell seconded on the organ.

Then Mrs. Smith asked Captain Grinnell to dance the polka which he did, to the satisfaction of all, without a partner. All had a good time and wished them a happy life and bid them good night.

P. Grinnell says he don't know any man that has better health than he has, says he will dance a polka test with any boy 21 years of age or under, or will run any man 30 yards that is 80 years old, he will be 85 next month. *The Mayetta Herald*, January 16, 1913.

Our market men are finding the parcel post a convenient and desirable service. Harry Cobeldick is selling his prime extra fine pure pork sausages in mail order packages at a rate that will win him trade. Al Hohnbaum in his meat and provision business is using the parcel post to an alarming extent to those who do not appreciate and know the business acumen of this busy merchant. Al will buy, sell and deliver beef in Topeka, Holton and Kansas City via the parcel post before 1913 is a thing of the past. *The Mayetta Herald*, January 23, 1913.

Our for home hardware store of Slattery & Smith is once more in the head front of improving. They have arranged to have their fine big double front store, 40X146, lighted with electricity from a plant of their own. They have the contract for the lightening of the government buildings and have concluded to give Mayetta her first electric light plant. Next summer you can go to Slattery's & Smith's big store, see the fans go round, the washers hum, and flat iron heat, all by the twist of your wrist. *The Mayetta Herald*, February 6, 1913.

There is still quite a lot of sickness around over the country. Pneumonia, scarlet fever, chicken pox, whooping cough and measles are the most common diseases, but there are a great many other ones too. ...

A large crowd of young people went to the mill pond, Saturday night, to skate. *The Holton Recorder*, February 6, 1913.

You hear of and see a runaway team every day nearly, but Mayetta was treated to the sight of a runaway auto Monday morning. Ona Grinnell's Reo was standing in front of the post office and wouldn't stand hitched. It started off with our friend, Albert Hunter, vainly struggling to catch the bridle rein or electrical department of the vehicle while Frank Grinnell climbed aboard and took the steering wheel. The machine climbed the sidewalk and ran into the vacant lot east of Cathcart & Co.'s store. Its' a good thing that the lot was there. ...

The fire or near conflagration that threatened the A. J. Jones store Tuesday afternoon shows on how a single thread the future of Mayetta is held. The timely whistle of Geo. Duncan's engine together with the valiant work of Mayetta's fire fighters made a showing that is to be commended. But a lesson is learned, flues must be looked after and attended to. A. J. Jones has now men working building a substantial and reliable flue in his store structure and it is hoped others will follow his lead and see that their chimneys are safe and sound. It was a narrow, a very narrow escape from a dreadful fire and every citizen should be interested in seeing that proper precaution is taken against a recurrence of fire from this same cause. Our city needs a system of cisterns at least as a means of fighting fire. *The Mayetta Herald*, February 20, 1913.

After the hedges are cut and pulled up, over the country, it will not look like the same neighborhood. It will look like it did, twenty or thirty years ago. How much better the farms would have been, had there never been a hedge fence. They will tell you that the hedge posts are worth so much money, but look what it takes to cut the hedge and get out your posts. You are liable to get your eyes put out or your clothes torn off you. The men who possess stump pullers charge you all the way from forty to sixty cents a rod to pull it. If a man has 160 or more rods, it would take a lot of money to get it all pulled out. Counting the cost, I would not think the posts would be worth so much after all. *The Holton Recorder*, February 20, 1913.

Slattery & Smith now have their fine store room fully lighted by electricity. They run a small plant of their own store power in receptacles and with the turn of a switch the store with a soft, mellow light. The system they use is fully practical for farm or city houses and business places. The cost of installing is small as compared with safety furnished and is worth the attention of those who want modern connivances in the country. Sewing machines, washers and churns as well as fanning mills and feed grinders can be run by the stored energy. You can do your ironing with an electrical heated iron, do light housekeeping on an electrical stove. Slattery & Smith are sole agents here for this model plant and it will pay you to call and see how nice and clean the machinery performs its work. Maj. G. W. Williams at the agency is installing one of these outfits and doubtless several more will be found in place before summer. ...

For Sale. My residence, the second house southwest of the depot. Over half an acre of ground, set out in fruit and shade trees, as well as some small fruit. Good tiled well at the kitchen door. Two good out buildings painted and trimmed like the house. Four foot woven wire fence set with cedar posts around entire place. House has seven large rooms besides pantry and clothes closet, all papered with best grade of paper. All doors and windows and two porches screened. All north windows stormed sashed and other windows and doors weather stripped. Any one wanting to buy a good home can secure a bargain by writing me at McFarland, Kansas. Pascal Lewis. *The Mayetta Herald*, March 20, 1913.

It takes mighty little to start a town row in in a city the size of Mayetta. Will it help build it up, make it any better,

or increase the value of property? Not all the people in this town can agree on public questions, but why bite each other, and snarl and quarrel about it? Let's be good natured and try to do the best thing for the people in general. This paper has been asked a great many times why doesn't it take a crack at different people; in other words why it doesn't get out and raise a fine lot of hell. ...

Some misguided folks are even trying to drag religious affairs into the city election. This paper believes in the right of free speech, a free press and religious liberty. A man has as much right to belong to one religious sect as another, and the country over there are big, smart, conscientious men in every religious sect, just as there are others who have no religious preference. Mayetta cannot be built up by quarreling, or by scrapping over small issues, or by howling about tiny political differences. What we need is good men in office, men who will endeavor to build up and not tear down. *The Mayetta Herald*, March 27, 1913.

One of the great necessities of any town or city are street lights. A representative from K. C. for acetylene gas plants put up their proposition before the council Monday night. This is up to the people now as the company must have not less than twenty-five subscribers before they will install the plant. The company bears all expense in installing and maintenance. The consumer buys his own fixtures and drop and pays for what gas he uses. It has an automatic lighting system for the street lamps so all the lights can be turned on from one place. The company asks for a franchise for the city. The people of the town should talk over this proposition. *The Mayetta Herald*, April 17, 1913.

Wm. Cooney went to Graham county last week and returned Sunday with 17 head of horses. Jim Cooney and Claude Coakley met him at Topeka and drove them to Mayetta. Will traded some of his Western land for the horses. A good deal of sport was had and enjoyed by all, riding these horses; Dave Whelan being the champion rider.

A boy from Topeka who is on parol, ran away and came to Mayetta. The authorities came Wednesday and took him back. The citizens of Mayetta took an interest in the boy and he will be sent back here if a place can be found for him until school begins after which he would be taken in charge by our good hearted hotel lady, who would sent him to school. The boy's parents are to blame for his troubles. *The Mayetta Herald*, May 8, 1913.

The \$10,000 new agency situated on ten acres of land 3-4 of a mile due west of Mayetta is practically completed. The carpenters and plasterers will be done this week. Mr. Brown and Capt. Scott moved in their goods the latter part of the week. Business can be conducted there at present with some allowance for the inconveniences of the unfinished work. Monday, the first payment was made at the new place and quite a crowd was there even if the weather was rainy.

The building can be easily seen from the Rock Island trains and from our city. They show up well with the body of the houses painted white and the roofs red. There are six houses with the necessary outbuildings for each and a barn with a garage in connection, which will accommodate several automobiles. Major Williams residence is a six room house with plenty of closets and halls, furnished in modern style, hot and cold water, and electric lights. A complete sewage system has been put in to add to the sanitary conditions. The lights are furnished by an individual electric light system run with a gasoline engine. In all, the plans and the carrying out of them, of the agency is modern and attractive to the eye.

The road from the Agency to town is being worked and will be kept in good condition. Mayetta gains much in getting the Agency so close to town, especially the good citizens we are gaining. Mayetta and vicinity extends a hearty welcome to them. *The Mayetta Herald*, May 8, 1913.

Did you ever stop to think what Mayetta has done within her corporation? Towns have stores of different kinds but stop and think of the buildings and improvements of our town of 337 population. We have two banks, the buildings and fixtures anyone one would be proud of; three general stores with the same; three first-class restaurants; one first-class hotel; two up-to-date hardware stores; three implement dealers; two blacksmith shops working overtime; two elevators of 10,000 and 18,000 bu; capacity, one lumber yard, one up-to-date drugstore, one butcher shop with a fresh supply of garden stuff always on hand; two first-class barber shops that do not let the unions dictate to them; one livery barn, one garage, one undertaker and embalmer, one millinery and racket store, one newspaper, one railroad with four daily trains, including Sunday, each carrying mail; post office and four routes; in fact everything that goes to make up a prosperous and lively town. *The Mayetta Herald*, May 13, 1913.

Friday, May 20, is Declaration Day. Why not all take a few hours from our work and pay our respect to the dead. Quite a number are already planning to go to the Mayetta cemetery that day to decorate the graves and beautify lots.

...

Rev. Father McKenna was down from Holton, Saturday. A meeting was held at two o'clock to discuss the advisability of building a Catholic church in Mayetta. Much interest was manifested and time will tell whether our city is to have another improvement in the form of a fine church building. The Catholic Bishop of this Diocese will be in Holton June 4, to administer confirmation to a large class. *The Mayetta Herald*, May 29, 1913.

The lamp post ordered for the crossing at 1st street, has arrived and has been put up. It was lighted Thursday night for the first time and gives a real good light. We did not realize the difference it would make in that part of town. The reflection reaches to the depot, and now if the Rock Island could be persuaded to put a light just north of the depot, that would be another dark crossing benefited. *The Mayetta Herald*, June 26, 1913.

Walter Mathews has installed a hollow wire Coleman lighting system in the Herald office and Postoffice for the editor and postmaster. People now can read their mail without going out into the moonlight. He has also put a system in his residence. Walter is the local gent for the Coleman Lighting Company.

We spoke of J. M. Goheen's nine passenger Ford last week and thought it out of the ordinary, but about the time we got our breath from the story Bob Miller arrived with another. He brought two passengers besides himself, a big tool chest and about 1700 feet of lumber from Reserve, Kan., in his Ford runabout. *The Mayetta Herald*, July 10, 1913.

Tuesday will be remembered as one of the hottest days ever experienced in this section. It was 140 in the sun and 110 in the shade. Even the dogs and chickens had to go to the cellar to keep from smothering. It seemed even hotter than it did two years ago when it registered 112. *The Holton Recorder*, July 24, 1913.

Well, the dry weather continues, and the ground is as hard as it can be. Everybody is thinking about water and pastures.

A great many of the farmers are drilling wells. The water situation is getting to be a serious one. ...

Carload after carload of cattle are being shipped from this station almost every day. Farmers are getting worried about water and pasture and if it keeps on it will be equal to the 1901 year, when cattle were sold at two and a half cents and hogs at three. The drought makes a change in everything. The merchants, bankers, lawyers, doctors and newspaper men feel the change as well as the farmers. *The Holton Recorder*, August 7, 1913.

Jerry Smith, being the lowest bidder has received the contract to haul the coal to the three government schools and the Agency. Fifty tons go to the Agency, sixteen tons of Kewahkah, seventeen tons apiece to Witcheway and Blandin. One hundred tons in all. *The Mayetta Herald*, August 7, 1913.

Lack of rain is delaying plowing for wheat, and unless showers come soon the acreage for wheat put in this fall will be less than the average year. A few people have some corn, a few bushels in spots, but the corn this year is good only for fodder and ensilage. A great number of silos have been built all over the country, and those who have them are filling or planning to do so soon. ...

Droves and droves of cattle are being shipped out everyday, all on account of scarcity of water and feed. It is a shame that the sacrifice is necessary. Cattle are bound to be high next spring. ...

The poor renters who are paying cash rent for their farms' those who paid a high price for stuff at the sales last winter and spring; those who have large store bills, are in a pretty bad fix. They expected to pay their debts with this year's crop, but that has failed. The poor year has put the farmers back about three or four years and it will take them that much time or longer to catch up again. *The Holton Recorder*, August 7, 1913.

The drought was broken by a good shower early Monday morning. Some say that about one half of an inch of water fell. The rain did not extend over a very large territory, only at Mayetta and a few miles on each side. This will help to make good fodder and quite a lot of corn if we get another real soon. Monday evening they had a shower north of town. In all, we know that it can still rain. *The Mayetta Herald*, August 14, 1913.

We understand that baled hay is selling here for \$10 and \$12 a ton. What do you think it will be worth near spring? We are afraid that much stock will suffer for food before next spring. Some are now suffering for both feed and water. It is certainly too bad. *The Holton Recorder*, August 14, 1913.

Friday night we viewed the new electric lights that John Haveley has installed at his place. They are all anyone could ask for and lights the barn and house well. A street light at the front makes the driveway as bright as day, and one in the center of the feed yards adds to the convenience of customers there. He has a three horse power upright gasoline engine and a dynamo large enough to light most of the town. His light is from the direct current at present but later a storage battery will be installed. He is putting in a garage as another improvement and has rearranged the interior of the livery barn to make it more convenient. A first class electrician from Frankfort was here putting in the lights. *The Mayetta Herald*, August 21, 1913.

There is quite a lot of baled hay coming onto the market. It seems hardly right that so much hay is being shipped out of the country when there are prospects of it being needed so badly. We are afraid that the same parties will

have to pay a few dollars more on the ton to get it shipped back to them. *The Holton Recorder*, August 21, 1913.

Movement of grain of all kinds has practically stopped at this station. Farmers are refusing to sell their grain at any price. They say this year is far worse than 1901. One farmer said the other day that the situation was quite puzzling. He did not know whether or not to buy grain and hay and I guess that is the way with most of them. *The Holton Recorder*, August 28, 1913.

A tramp, who was in very weak condition was picked up at E. M. Fowlers' south of town by Commissioner E. J. Lunger. Dr. Seivers was called and took him to Holton. He was in a very serious condition and on examination nothing could be found but a bad case of asthma and strong fumes of carbolic acid. It was thought at first that he had taken the acid inwardly but examination by several showed differently. He could not walk, talk or even eat, though he had been without food for sometime. After the trip to Holton and a few hours rest he began to regain his senses and told what had caused his affliction. On rising that morning he had saturated his clothes with carbolic acid to kill the grey backs, of which he had a goodly share. The fumes from the acid and absorption through the pores of his skin nearly got the best of him. A ticket to St. Joseph was given him and he went on his way. *The Mayetta Herald*, August 28, 1913.

Several have spoken of the waste hay and litter in the alleys. During this dry weather more precautions should be taken to keep the piles of litter cleaned up to avoid the danger of fire. The scarcity of water would make a fire very dangerous. *The Mayetta Herald*, September 4, 1913.

The water question is getting to be very serious. Each day we hear numbers asking and inquiring about new water supplies. The never failing wells are either all going dry or getting very low. ...

The ice situation has come to a climax in Mayetta. This week no ice can be had only in case of sickness. The ice man can only get enough to supply his own butcher shop. He expects to be able to supply his customers again next week. *The Mayetta Herald*, September 11, 1913.

Farmers are busy, cutting up their corn and making every effort to save all feed possible. Some of the farmers are selling off their stock, as they have not enough feed to carry them over. *The Holton Recorder*, September 11, 1913.

The long needed rain, so long looked for, finally came Wednesday about 5 o'clock in the afternoon and continued raining most of the night and part of Thursday. It will be a help to the pastures and the late kaffir corn, but it is too late to the corn any good. It will help farmers to get ready to sow wheat and it will fill up the wells. ...

During the wind storm last Monday after noon the aerodome on Main street was completely destroyed. It was fortunate for the public that Mr. Winn, the manager, was not holding a performance at that time. ...

We see by the papers that there are lots of public sales going on all over the county. Some are selling out and are planning to move to another part of the country and some are selling out because they have no feed to carry their stock over the winter. Some because they need the money to pay rent and taxes with. Taxes are bound to be high. One can tell that by looking over the proceedings of the county commissioners. These are Democratic times. *The Holton Recorder*, September 18, 1913.

An aerodome, or airdome, was an roofless enclosure in which entertainment events took place, such as movies and sporting matches. Canvass or lumber walls were erected high enough so that the public could not see what was going on inside without buying a ticket.

About 8:00 a. m. Monday the alarm was sounded for a fire. A fire had broken out in the basement of the High school building. The town people responded at once to the alarm and saved the building from any serious damage. When Walter Steward, the janitor, opened the building that morning for school the smoke and gas was so bad he could hardly enter the building. He made a search for the source of the smoke and gas and found that the coal bin was on fire. He rang the bell as an alarm and soon plenty of help with water and chemical bottles were there. The fire was caused by spontaneous combustion but had not broken out into flame when discovered. Water was poured into the bin but could do no good on the smoldering coal. The only thing that could be done was to remove the coal. Everyone turned a hand and shoveled the coal into tubs and baskets and carried it out on the school house grounds. There was 42 tons in the bin and by 9:30 all the coal that was afire had been removed. Early during the fire a call was sent to Holton for their chemical engine. The Mayor called the Fire Chief and they were ready to come in a few minutes. The fire did not gain any headway so word was sent to them to wait in readiness for a further call, but were not needed in the end. Holton has always been prompt and willing to answer the several calls we have sent them at different times. The fire had been smoldering several days Sunday several people passing the building had smelled gas and even went to the window of the basement to see if they could see a fire. They discovered there was smoke in the building but thought it came from the furnace. There had been no fire in the furnace this year since school

commenced. \$6000 insurance is carried on the building. The building was erected three years ago at a cost of \$15,000. *The Mayetta Herald*, September 18, 1913.

Plenty of rain, no end to it. It will make good pastures and fill up the wells. A good many of the farmers are sowing wheat. If there is a late fall it will help wonderfully. ...

We notice that the coal burners are laying in a supply. It is a wise plan as there are no cobs to burn this year. We do not think there will be a load of corn sold in Mayetta this year, something that has not happened in a number of years. *The Holton Recorder*, September 25, 1913.

The school house roof is being drained into the abandoned cistern of the school grounds to use in case of fire. *The Mayetta Herald*, September 25, 1913.

A new family of Mexicans have moved into the house cars on the railroad right of way. They came from the scene of trouble in Old Mexico. The children speak real good English. The father is working on the section. ...

Mr. Knier who was struck by a stone thrown by Geo. Coleman, died from the injury. They were trying to get a stubborn mule inside the barn and Coleman throw a stone at it missing it and hitting Knier behind the ear. He lived about a week but was unconscious all the time. *The Mayetta Herald*, October 2, 1913.

The shooting gallery is doing a flourishing business. It sounds like a young war all day across the street. *The Mayetta Herald*, October 2, 1913.

Dr. Robson is having his new cistern put down. It will be twelve feet across and twenty-two feet deep. It will hold five hundred barrels of water and will be one of the largest cisterns in town. Freeze is doing the cement work. *The Holton Recorder*, October 2, 1913.

No longer does the farmer come to town with a load of corn and go back home with an empty wagon and full pockets. The order has changed; now he comes in with an empty wagon and goes home with a wagon of corn and no money. Many farmers drive many miles to get corn as cheaply as possible for feeding purposes. A number of carloads of corn already have been shipped in and we suppose that there will be several more before the winter is past. Very little corn was cribbed in this part of the country last year and that is about all gone. The farmers, generally, sold their corn to pay their rent or other obligations, keeping back just enough to last them for the year. A few who did store their own corn are not selling it. They are holding it either for feeding purposes or for higher prices. The farmers cannot buy corn are selling their stock. *The Holton Recorder*, October 9, 1913.

The saying that the automobile would down the mules, was proven to the contrary Monday, when a big fine team of spirited mules came pulling into town a muddy broken hearted automobile. *The Mayetta Herald*, October 9, 1913.

Monday night, the city council met at its regular appointed time, the first Monday of the month. A goodly number of citizens besides a full council were present. Bills were O.K.ed and orders drawn. The gas light at the hotel was pronounced as not up to the contract. The one at the National Bank was accepted; W. A. Cooney and the First National Bank donating \$35 and the city paying the balance of the \$55 that the light cost. John Havelly appeared before the council with an electric light proposition that sounded well and will be investigated by the city officers. He offers a yearly contract on the following terms. \$110 to install six 60 candle power tungsten lights with 20 inch corrugated shades. The lights to be hung on cables on 20 foot poles with the light over the center of the street. Five would be placed on Main street and one at the school house. He asks \$20 a month to pull the lights to 10 o'clock at night. This would be a 110 volt, direct current plant, the same as the larger cities. *The Mayetta Herald*, November 2, 1913.

Things were very interesting at the Miller elevator for a while Monday morning. Marcus Gay had the engine running, unloading corn when the big drive belt came unlaced, wrapping itself around the drive pulley wheel on the engine. The loose end of the belt was thrown about the engine room knocking and breaking whatever it hit. Rocks were knocked from the foundation and thrown about the room and different parts of the works in the engine room were battered by the flying belts and rocks. The boys could not get into the engine room to shut off the power on account of the flying missiles; so got a long pole and by reaching through the door managed to shut off the gasoline, stopping the engine and things put to right again. *The Mayetta Herald*, December 4, 1913.

John Havelly finished the wiring on Main street Thursday and that evening the lights were turned on for the first time. Although it was a moonlight night the lights showed well for the first trial. Friday the wiring was done to the school house and now all the lights are in perfect working order. This gives our little town a metropolitan appearance and show the progressiveness of the citizens and that we are all boosters. *The Mayetta Herald*, December 18, 1913.

The government has made an offer through Supt. G. L. Williams to the people, residing within the jurisdiction of the several government schools on the reservation. The government will give all these school houses and improvements outright under the following agreement: That the people organize themselves into school districts and support a school for one year, at each of these places to show their good faith. If they do this the buildings will then be given to the districts that were organized. There are three of these schools, Blandin, Witchewah, and Kewankah, all of which have a teacher supported by the government. These buildings were erected within the past three years and consist of a school house, dwelling house for the teacher and his family and other necessary out buildings. The districts outside of these schools have erected school houses and no doubt these other districts will accept this offer. Both the Indian and white children attend these schools. Under the new organization these schools would come under the supervision of the county, the same as all school districts. *The Mayetta Herald*, December 25, 1913.

Sometime around or after the local school closings the Indian children were sent to two schools that were out of state, Grant Institute at Genoa, Nebraska, Chilocco in Oklahoma, and one school of higher learning, Haskell University in Lawrence, Kansas. As the school year approached the children would be loaded on trains accompanied by guardians and taken to these schools, not to see their families again until the school year was over and they returned home. I am not sure when this ceased but in the 1933-34 school year the Mayetta High School had an enrollment of 36 Indian students, many of whom had not attended a public school before.

They were taken so far away from their homes so that they would not have any contact with their native culture. At the schools the Indian students were not allowed to speak in their native tongues, could not use their native names, were not allowed to wear their hair long, had to practice the Christian religion instead of their native ones; so that they were no longer to be an Indian but be assimilated into the white man's culture. Whatever the justification, it was a cruel way to go about educating the children, taking them away from their parents at such a young age. Cruel to the mothers and fathers and other family members, as well as to the children. Many children when returning home could not communicate with their family members, having forgotten how to speak their native language.

Professor R. B. Winnie taught at the Kewankah Indian school on the reservation, and later moved to Montana where he died of small pox. The story of his time spent at an Indian school, perhaps the one at Shawnee Mission, Kansas is probably a fair representation of how the schools operated.

It was sometime in the late 70's that my parents concluded that I was old enough to attend the Quaker Contract School familiarly known as "The Mission." So, one bright Sunday morning we started for the Mission, in the farm wagon, glowing accounts of the school had been given by neighbor boys who had been there. I had learned a few words of the language spoken by the "pale faces" and sorry to relate, would not look well in print; so I was anxious to acquire more of the white man's language, also to learn to read and write; therefore, it was with a light heart that I had consented to go. Arriving at the Mission about noon we had dinner with the Superintendent, and a fine dinner it was, but alas! how different it was at supper. About an hour after dinner my folks started for home. My desire to acquire an education deserted me at that that moment and I gave a yell that would have done credit to my ancestors; I started for the wagon on the double quick with the Superintendent a close second, I was caught by him, then began my first struggle for liberty which ended in my defeat. I was borne back to the building, yelling, scratching and clawing, finally getting a handhold of a bunch of hair hat grew on the Superintendent thereby departing from the ancient custom of my fore-fathers who grabbed the locks of top of the enemy's head, and with the aid of a butcher knife and a neat twist of the wrist obtained the prized scalp. All I got for my efforts was a small bunch of beard, and the best "tanning" I had ever received up to that time. (I have had a few since.)

Next morning I started in school, I was put in the "Card Class" as it was called. Why it was called the card class I have never been able to find out for while the "class" was called to recite it was arranged in front of a black board that extended the whole length of the building, and from floor to ceiling, on which were painted in white letters, word and figures. Our class was composed of all ages, sizes and several tribes; in age, ranging from five years to thirty-five, and in size from a small tot to a Chetopa Young about 5 feet, ten inches in height.

There were in the early days of the school three tribes who attended, the Shawnee, Seneca's and Wyandotte's, and so the school was also known as the S. S. and W. Mission.

The pupils were in the habit of talking the other's language, a Seneca meeting a Shawnee, would say to him in the Shawnee tongue "Ge bah tham mah, Nee kon" - Give me a chew of tobacco, friend. - the Shawnee would reply in Seneca and say "Tan gee" - I have none.

Besides going to school, the boys had to cut wood. It was hauled to the wood yard in logs, each boy of about twelve years and over, had to chop one pile of cook wood and two piles of "chunks." The smaller boys who were

able to wield an ax cut half a pile of cook wood or pile of chucks. This was done during the day out of school hours and woe to the youngster who neglected to cut his wood, the dose was doubled the next day. A pile of wood was an ax handle high and ax handle long. On Saturday double the amount of wood was cut by each boy. Saturday afternoon was a holiday, but those who had failed to cut their allotted portion of wood had to cut wood in the afternoon. Punishment of a trivial nature was meted out by being compelled to cut extra piles of wood. More serious offences, such as fighting, chewing or smoking, or running away from the school, was punished by the application of "hickory oil." A line was established around the Mission grounds known as the "bounds," and it was considered a grave offence to go off bounds without permission.

The boys and girls had several games they played namely, Black man, pom-pom pull away, dare base and twenty-seven, they also played town ball and two or three cornered catch, mumble-peg was also a favorite game, Isaac Jack being quite an expert, Tom Barnett was the champion batter.

At one time the Superintendent kept a flock of hens, and it seems that not many eggs ever got to the kitchen. Whether it was the fault of the hens or the boys was hard to determine, however the Superintendent had a novel way of finding out. He printed a lot of tickets with the words "one egg" on them, he gave a ticket to every one that found an egg, and promised a prize to the one who brought the most in. Bert Walker was the boss egg hunter, at least he used to have the most tickets. I do not remember what his prize was, or perhaps he may still be hunting eggs, as he is still at the "Mission."

The boys used to have a swimming hole east of the Mission, and in the spring and fall it was great fun for them to go swimming after school, they would start on a run from the school and began to undress half way to the creek and were ready to plunge in on arrival at the bank of the creek which was six or seven feet from the water. Occasionally some of the boys would tie the grass across the path to the "swimming hole" and then hide and watch the boys come running down the path, first one and then the other would tumble down until there were ten or twelve in a pile.

In those days we were fed only two meals and a lunch (or "piece" as it was called, in the evening) a day. At piece time the bell rang and we fell in line outside and the cook and assistant came out with dishpans full of bread (I won't attempt to describe the bread) and when all was in readiness the head of the line moved up to the pans and the cook called out to the first one "with or without?" with meant with molasses, or without meant without 'lasses, that constituted our supper. On Sunday it was a little different, instead of "with or without" it was a hunk of ginger bread about four by four inches, the recipe of which was lost when the Contract school went out of existence; as I have never seen the like since I remember how some of us used to go without our cake, having traded our share to some one during the week. "Cake" was quite a medium of exchange being divvied into "whole cake" and "half cake" was current for a great many things from a chew of tobacco to chopping a pile of wood. However those who worked all day were allowed supper in the dining room. (R. B. Winnie, "Recollections of School Days at the Mission," *The Mayetta Herald*, April 27, 1911.)

As has been stated before; the Quakers were in the charge of the Mission and besides giving the "Injun" an education they also looked after the spiritual welfare of said "Injun." Services were held Sunday and Sunday evening and also on Friday evening. Our Superintendent conducted the meetings, and it kept him busy during services to watch the pupils and finally it got to be his custom when leading in prayer to keep his eyes open instead of shut as is customary. Somehow it seemed a very hard matter for the children to be absolutely still and to keep from playing sly little tricks on each other, hence our Superintendent adopted the plan mentioned above. Friday evening was prayer meeting night; only the larger pupils went to prayer meeting and the smaller children went to bed. I remember shortly after I was allowed to go to prayer meeting, I had one of the greatest scares of my young life. It seems the missionaries were not idle in regards to inculcating the doctrines of Christianity to the Aborigines. The boys used to tell what would happen if a boy did not become a Christian. so, on the night aforesaid. I listened very attentively to the talk or sermon, by our Superintendent. I had at this time acquired a pretty fair knowledge of English and so could understand what was being said, his subject was about the "last trump" that would sound on the "last day". He had dwelt upon the wickedness of people in general, then he became some what personal and told how very wicked it was to chew tobacco, smoke, drink whiskey and run away from school, in fact he mentioned almost every wrong that could be committed by a person, and then he told of awful punishment that would be meted out to the unbeliever, then told of how the righteous would be the first to rise up in the air at the sound of the trumpet and would go to the better world, and how the wicked would be left. We were spell bound by his oratory, and after he had finished there was silence which lapsed into a "season of silent prayer," as the Quakers call it. There was a low rumbling outside which might have been the wind; inside all was still as death, when all at once we heard the most unearthly, long drawn out wail between a screech and a whoop, the first thing that entered my poor skull was that it was the "last trump" a sounding. I raised my head to get a glimpse of our Superintendent rising up in the air to meet the "Master" as he wasn't starting I looked around to where the laundress. (Who was a very religious person), sat, to she if she had started. No, there she sat with bowed head; then I looked around still expecting some of the righteous to immediately go up through the ceiling; I was every much surprised that no one had started for "Glory"

and I was beginning to think that I would have plenty of company, when we heard two or three more yelps; then it dawned on into my mind that some of the neighbor's cattle had wondered on the Frisco tracks and the engineer had blown the whistle, to scare the animals off the track. I was greatly relieved to find out it was only the "iron horse" making all that racket. (R. B. Winnie, "Recollections of School Days at the Mission," *The Mayetta Herald*, May 4, 1911.)

The snow and sleet last week made the sidewalks so slick that it was almost impossible to walk on them. Several used small wagons to haul their groceries home in. We know of one wagon turning over and upsetting the load, but luckily no one was badly hurt. After picking up the groceries and loading on the little child, the parties went on their way rejoicing, thankful that it was no worse. ... *The Holton Recorder*, January 1, 1915.

The scarcity of hogs in this locality is something entirely new to our farmers. It was never known before and on farms where there are usually found a great herd of hogs, there is not a single animal. Hog cholera and other diseases, coupled with the scarcity of food and drouth of last year, are largely responsible for this shortage. There will be none to take the place of those lost for a number of months or until another big corn crop is raised. *The Holton Recorder*, January 8, 1914.

Who stuffed the gunny sack in Freeze chimney and put a bucket over the end of the smoke stack, while he was in Topeka. It sure looked like to Freeze like a bad morning for a stove to draw well. Plenty of fresh air was needed after he started a fire and swore the wind was in the wrong direction when the stove began to smoke. It took two trips to the roof before the chimney would draw. *The Mayetta Herald*, January 15, 1914.

Chess is the national game about Mayetta. Several games have been played by mail. Rev. McFarland of Holton, who has had the Jackson county championship, lost it to Dr. Bliss recently. *The Mayetta Herald*, January 22, 1914.

The suspicion of the officers of this town were aroused last week by the large amount of traffic between town and the cars on R. R. rightaway used for living quarters for Mexican families who work on the section. Sunday morning Noah Sanderson, as deputy sheriff, searched the cars and found a suit case containing twenty-one pints of liquor. The three Mexicans who were staying there were taken to Holton and placed in jail and tried Tuesday. *The Mayetta Herald*, February 12, 1914.

One of the Mexicans was found guilty Tuesday of selling two pints of whiskey to an Indian. The other two were turned loose. The sentence on the charge made would be sixty days with a fine. ...

Last week's issue of the "Kansas Farmer" contained an article, with several photographs of the stock and buildings of a few of the many Jackson county breeder's of pedigree livestock. *The Mayetta Herald*, February 19, 1914.

The roads have been in a terrible condition since it has began to thaw. Saturday they were almost passable with a buggy. Saturday night Joe Melenson and Alvin Appier turned their buggy completely over, twice, while coming through the road between town and the agency.

A fire, undoubtedly started by small boys was discovered in the barn at the rear of the telephone exchange Friday. Smoke was seen coming from the barn by one passing, who at once began an investigation, on seeing boys leave the building and found a bale of hay and other litter burning. It had just only been started and therefore had not gained much headway and was easily put out. By the discovery of the fire soon after it was started prevented another serious calamity for this town. *The Mayetta Herald*, February 26, 1914.

They claim that on the reservation in the past six weeks, there have been more horses die than ever before in that length of time. Some cattle have also died. It is supposed that the large number of death among stock is due to the shortage of food and if such weather keeps up much longer there will be many more die. That is mostly what you hear these days, no feed and no money to buy feed and the feeders don't know what they are going to do. Perhaps this will be a lesson to some to save when they have plenty. *The Holton Recorder*, March 12, 1914.

J. M. Goheen has purchased a new hearse of the Saylor & Scoville Co., and will be here in about thirty days. This style of a hearse is of the latest things in that line and will be one of the neatest and finest hearses in Kansas. The top is carved from one piece of wood and all finished in black. A new feature is the automatic carriage for the coffin, doing away with the old unhandy way.

Mr. Goheen has been getting a hearse from Holton but found it necessary to buy one for himself. We will have in his undertaking advertisement in a few weeks a cut of the hearse. *The Mayetta Herald*, March 19, 1914.

While talking personally in Holton last Saturday with J. W. Wendell, manager of the Perkins theatre, we learned that he would start a moving picture show here in town, beginning about Easter. Mr. Wendell is an expert with a machine and will give good pictures. He will make this place two nights a week and will give a six reel show each

time. Mr. Wendell is also planning on having a circuit of shows at the towns adjoining Holton. *The Mayetta Herald*, March 19, 1914.

Harry Reist has installed a compression air tank for blowing up automobile tires. It does away with the old way of pumping up the tires with a hand pump. A tube is attached to the opening on the tire, the air turned on and the tire is soon ready. *The Mayetta Herald*, April 2, 1914.

The carrier on Rural Route two, thinking winter was over and summer was here, had done away with his mail wagon stove. When the cold snap came Friday he had to think up some way of keeping warm during the trip around the route so hit upon a new and unique way by taking Alvin Appier with him. Soon after starting on the trip, at a brisk pace, the boys noticed a large amount of smoke trailing behind them and thought that their cigars were making a great deal of smoke. The cause of the smoke was not discovered until Alvin's overcoat burst into flames. The fire from his cigar had dropped inside his coat setting it afire. The whole front of his overcoat and front of two jackets were burned before he could get them off and the fire extinguished. Now he has about given up smoking. *The Mayetta Herald*, April 9, 1914.

Matt Wa-os-she rather over-stepped the tribal characteristics given to the Indians by the white man and was seen in town purchasing garden tools for his own use. ...

The Saturday morning passenger struck a hand car, that had been left on the track by the telegraph repair men, damaging it beyond repair. It was loaded with tools and repairing equipment. The tools were badly damaged and a telegraph pole they were hauling was broken like a match when the engine hit the car. No one was hurt, all being a safe distance at the time. *The Mayetta Herald*, April 16, 1914.

The city council and citizens met Monday night to hear the Electric Light proposition discussed by Mr. Style, an electrical engineer, of Kansas City, Mo. He came here for that purpose in the capacity of an advisor to the city in the installation of a municipal electric light plant. He took some data and necessary information and if the council decides to proceed with the investigation he will give a complete outline of the installation of a light plant, in details and its cost. Also the cost and expense of obtaining light from Holton. ...

These plans are drawn up by him at his expense unless the city decides to build a plant and then the contract would call for him as the engineer at a commission of the total cost. He guarantees the total cost as given in his plans will not exceed that amount when completed. His proposition was carried over a few days as all the councilmen were not present. *The Mayetta Herald*, April 23, 1914.

As serious problem that his county will have to solve within a very few years is a proper care and disposition of the Potawatomie Indians. The government is rapidly withdrawing its protecting arm from around the redman. Before many years it will close up its agency on the reservation. The Indians are rapidly selling their lands to the whites and just as rapidly becoming citizens of the state of Kansas and the county of Jackson.

It is notorious that the majority of Potawatomie's, as soon as they convert their lands into cash, soon squander their money and become paupers. Of course there are some exceptions. A few of the Indians have developed into successful and useful farmers and citizens, but the majority are the reverse. Unless they leave for other hunting grounds, those who go broke will eventually become charges upon the county, and can you imagine what a financial and social burden that will be.

The government has no doubt done its best to civilize the Indians and prepare them for the responsibility of citizenship. It has tried to educate them. It has protected their money and their lands for a period of fifty years. The churches have tried to Christianize the Indians and have done their full part in carrying them the gospel of true living.

If the Indian has failed to naturalize and assimilate, it is not because the melting pot has not been thoroughly stirred. Yet they are in our midst, and being citizens, they will be entitled to all the rights and prerogatives of citizenship. They are likely to become a white man's burden that weigh down our shoulders. ...

The last annuity payment to be paid the Potawatomie Indians is being given them this week. Each Indian, eligible to receive a share of this money, gets a check for \$236.66. Since the government has established the system of payment annuity to the Indians they have been drawing money regularly several times a year and at different times part of the principal was paid them. A few years ago they each received an annual annuity nearly as much as this payment. With some 600 or 700 Indians on the reservation, the total amount of the payment will be over \$150,000. The payment commenced Tuesday morning and will continue until all are paid. After this payment the only source of income for the Indians will be the rentals from their land. *The Mayetta Herald*, May 14, 1914.

Since Tuesday when the government began paying the Indians their money, it has been a very busy time in Mayetta. The town has been full of people and automobiles lined the curbs everyday. A large amount of money dumped into the place couldn't help but make business flourishing. All the stores and other places of business have

been on the jump and will continue so as long as most of the Indians have any money left. People are here from all parts of the country collecting debts the Indians owe them. On one day nearly every county in northeastern Kansas was represented. The payment commenced Tuesday, the 12th and are still paying. They will probably finish this week. The removal of the agency from Nadeau to where it is now located has been a great boom to this town that is well appreciated by all the citizens.

The checks handed out at the Indian payment were drawn by C. L. Williams disbursing agent for the Treasurer of the United States at Washington, D. C. The amount paid each person was \$236.60 and on each check was printed: Per Capita Payment to Prairie Band of Potawatomie Indians. Up to Tuesday noon, the First National Bank of Mayetta had handled one hundred and seven of these checks and had shipped \$18,000 into Mayetta by express to supply the demand for cash. There is no currency panic this year. *The Mayetta Herald*, May 21, 1914. ...

Harry Harper, the Rock Island agent, as a recreation from his duties and the pleasure he gets from it, is raising chicks at a profit on two lots here in town. Last week he shipped 29 young chickens ten weeks old, averaging over two pounds apiece, to Copin & Co., in Topeka. He receives 25 cents a pound for them and brought him over 50 cents apiece. He had 75 chickens out of his first hatch of a 100 egg setting. All the rest are pullets which he will keep for early layers. Harry has a fine place although on a small scale, for handling chickens. Cleanliness and sanitary conditions are his hobby which has brought him success in chicken raising. He has the White Orpington's two generations removed from the original Kellerstraus White Orpington flock, in which the prize winning "Peggy" hen which took all honors at the International Poultry Show at Madison Square Garden, N. Y. She is valued at \$2500. In the spring of 1910, Mr. Kellerstraus sold to Paderewski, six hens and a rooster for \$2500. The editor visited the Kellerstraus farm in the spring of 1910 and saw the prize winning "Peggy" and those sold to the musician Paderewski, and of what little we know of poultry can say that they looked perfect on every point. ...

The depot was entered Tuesday night and the money draw robbed of \$6.42. From all marks left and the familiarity to the office in entering and leaving the works looks to be a local talent. He entered the window prying it open and with the same instrument pried open the money drawer. After rifling the money drawer he left by the office door going through the waiting room and mashing the glass in the gum machine before leaving by the window. Nothing else was bothered or taken. \$6.00 in silver was in the room within easy reach of the robber but was not touched. He was probably after money and made a hurried search. The R. R. detectives are hot on the trail and will probably find a clue. *The Mayetta Herald*, May 21, 1914.

The order of the Eastern Star, N. D., of Mayetta, received their charter this week and will now conduct themselves under this charter. The number it bears is 383. Twenty members charter this Order, nineteen have already been initiated and fifteen more petitions have been received. They have invested in all the necessary paraphernalia and furniture and hold their meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of each month in the Masonic Lodge room.

Bees robbed by experts while you stand at a safe distance and enjoy the fun. Dan Sumpter and J. F. Reel, two of our business men, contracted the job of a farmer of robbing twenty-five stands of bees. Tuesday night they proceeded to work their contract. After robbing the first hive, the contract looked small to them; after robbing the second hive, they began to swell up over the job and after robbing the third hive they were bigger than the job and quit leaving the farmer to finish the job. The boys will take no more bee hive robbing contracts. *The Mayetta Herald*, May 28, 1914.

A Rock Island detective was here Thursday working on the depot robbery. He found the instrument with which the robber used to open the window and the money drawer. The robbery was made by a bum who had been hanging around town all day. He used one of the switch lamps to see by and left it out of place on the switch. He probably did this to stop a freight to ride out of town on. The tramp was headed north but no further trace of him has been found. *The Mayetta Herald*, May 28, 1914.

There seems to be a common complaint all over this section of the country because of the poor stand of kaffir corn. The fault is with the seed as the ground in most instances was in excellent condition. Most of the seed planted was old seed, but appeared to be of good quality and germinated fairly well when tested. ...

We think the officers of Mayetta should pass a law limiting the motorcycles and automobiles to a certain number miles in passing though town. We think that this should be attended to at once before some person gets killed or hurt, the way they were going here Sunday was something terrible. *The Holton Recorder*, June 4, 1914.

Several of the Mayetta sports have a severe attack of tennis fever. They get up at 5 o'clock in the morning and play until after breakfast, part of the time missing their morning meal. Each evening you can see them at the court at the school grounds. They have a fine court and it is good condition for playing. The terms used as heard by those passing by, who are not familiar with the game sound unreasonable and out of place, but we assure you everything is alright. Those who frequently indulge in this pastime are Dr. Bliss, Bert Harrington, John Miller, Fred Lunger, Dudley Lunger, Ivan Erwin and Frank Poole. *The Mayetta Herald*, June 11, 1914.

Well, they have all the signs up now regarding the speed limit, and all you people who have automobiles and motorcycles better look out and not go beyond the limit, as there is a \$25 fine hanging over your head, and you people don't have any money to lose that way. *The Holton Recorder*, June 18, 1914.

The First World War started in August of 1914, and although the United States remained neutral there were effects that were felt in the US. The war used up men, horses and mules rapidly so Britain and France came to the states to buy replacement horses for their cavalry, and mules to pull their wagons and artillery. This was good for the farmers who had them to sell at the high inflationary prices, but not so good for those who had to buy to replace their horses or mules that had died. This also had an effect in the hastening of the use of gasoline powered tractors in the county that started about this time.

The price of grain also had a tremendous rise, good for the farmers, but not so good when they went to the store to purchase products made of grain such as flour, corn meal, and oat meal. Sugar was also in short supply, as it was in great demand for the war effort, being used in the manufacture of munitions.

J. W. Wendell of Holton will commence Thursday of this week an airdome in Mayetta. He will show twice this week and every week following. He will show twice this week and every week following. An airdome has been erected between the Carthcart and the garage. Mr. Wendell is an expert in this business and will guarantee to give clean clear pictures. Remember that there will be shows Thursday and Saturday nights of this week. ...

The steam engine of the Dave Martin threshing machine blew up last Thursday. Dave is engineer and had just finished throwing coal in the firebox and returned to one side of the engine when the explosion occurred. It blew the crown sheet into the firebox and the door off of its hinges. Steam, hot water and hot ashes poured from the door. It is lucky that no one was behind the engine as he would have been scalded to death. It is thought a weak plate in the boiler was the cause of the explosion. The engine will be repaired and used the rest of the season. Dave has the outfit leased from the Cooney Bros. *The Mayetta Herald*, August 6, 1914.

One of the greatest foot races that ever took place in Mayetta was pulled off Friday night between Trilley Wa-wa-suck and Jerry Smith. It was reported that Wa-wa-suck won the race. *The Holton Recorder*, August 6, 1914.

Sugar on the local market has reached the unheard of price of \$10 per hundred, a price unparalleled in the history of this section, and wheat has reached the dollar mark. The cause of the rise is said to be due to the war in Europe. *The Holton Recorder*, August 20, 1914.

Several came in automobiles Wednesday evening to see the picture show, as was advertised, to be at the air dome, and were disappointed. As it is the city's rule and has been for some years to access all tent and air dome shows a small license fee, unless home talent, and as the operators of this show found they were to be accessed a small fee, we are sorry to say they could not stand it, even though their shows here had been well attended and their admission fee was much higher than other towns. *The Holton Recorder*, August 20, 1914.

Under the management of Victor E. Brown, the Pottawatomie Indians will hold a fair at the same time and place in connection with the Catholic picnic on Big Soldier near the Catholic church on Monday and Tuesday, August 31, and September 1. For several years an Indian fair has been agitated but until this year nothing was done in regard to it. As a big picnic was to be held this month, Mr. Brown thought it a good plan to hold the fair at the same time. He has offered \$150.00 in premiums for agricultural exhibits which include pastries, fruits, vegetables, horses, mules, etc. First and second prizes are offered on many articles ranging from \$5.00 down. No entry fees to be charged except for the horses and mules. No one but Indians are eligible to enter exhibits. Similar fairs are held on other reservations. ...

Koffman, of Topeka, and Beems, of Holton, met in a wrestling match at the airdome Saturday night. Twenty minutes was enough time for Koffman to get the first two falls. ... After a ten minute struggle Koffman succeeded in getting a hammer back hold on Beems which ended in the first round. The second lasted about twenty minutes with Hoffman having a half Nelson and toe hold on Beems. Beems showed grit and did not give up until he was down. The contest was clean. They wrestled for the gate receipts, which amounted to \$22.00. Dr. Bliss refereed the match.

A match will be held in two weeks at the same place between Nagonko, an Indian, and probably Beems. ...

Ray O. Archer is again with Jess Willard as his right hand man. They are in New York at present. Ray often remembers his Mayetta friends with letters telling of his trip and connections with the White Hope. *The Mayetta Herald*, August 27, 1914.

The above is the first connection I can find between Jess Willard and Mayetta. Ray Archer by 1910 was working as a cashier in the Mayetta Exchange Bank.

Jess Willard was born in Emmett, Pottawatomie County, Kansas, just across the Jackson county line, on the west side of the reservation. His father died when he was just a boy, and when he was eleven years old his mother was married to E. L. Stalker. The Stalker and Willard families lived on adjoining farms in Adrian, Jackson County, and after the marriage the Willard family went to live on the Stalker farm. Jess was a farm boy and became a skilled horse handler, proficient in breaking and training horses.

He went on to run livery stables in Emmett and Delia, moved to Oklahoma and became involved in boxing as an amateur, turned professional and later became the world heavyweight champion, defeating Jack Johnson in Havana, Cuba in 1915.

Several horse and mule buyers were here Thursday purchasing cavalry horses and freighting mules for the armies in Europe. They brought several head of cavalry horses.

A bit of observation: While the city street commissioners were having the street gutters cleaned last week, at least five men were standing around watching to every man that was doing the work. ...

Street Commissioner Freeze has had a force of men busy for several days, cleaning the drains under the sidewalks and mowing weeds. The city has taken on a much better appearance. Main street now needs a good grading. *The Mayetta Herald*, September 17, 1914.

Several weeks ago two drunk Indians on horse back rode up and down Main street endangering the lives of any children who might be in the way of their galloping horses. The marshal did all that was in his power to arrest them but they gave him the slip after a hard chase. The indignation of the marshal was aroused and on Saturday, when one of the Indians, Tilby Wah-wahsuck returned to town for the first time he was nabbed by the marshal and arranged before the police judge who sent him to jail where he belonged. No sooner had he been locked up than proceedings were begun for his release without any fine or other penalty, but through the efforts of the marshal, he was kept where he belonged. Now a fine or a jail sentence does this Indian and many others no good.

Last week the street commissioner worked single handed most of the time, cleaning the crossings and culverts because he could get no help and all this time the Indian was in jail, his meals coming from one of the best restaurants in town and paid for from the city treasury. Street crossings have been put in and many more will be put in this year and it takes crushed rock to build them. We would like to prescribe a few days on a rock pile or with a pick and shovel on the street to every Indian who defiles the law and is nestled within the walls of the city jail eating off of the city and prolonging his stay as long as possible because he has a good place to board without earning the same. The Indian broke jail Tuesday night with outside assistance leaving the city to foot his board bill. *The Mayetta Herald*, September 17, 1914.

The Mayetta fans received the reports from the World Series baseball games by innings each day. The reports were telephoned from Topeka as the game progressed and a bulletin was issued at the Harrington Barber Shop. *The Mayetta Herald*, October 15, 1914.

Saturday night, Clyde Miller went to the oil house at the rear of the Ona Grinnell garage, to draw some gasoline for a customer and while doing so very nearly set the garage on fire. Clark Coleman, for whom he was getting the gasoline, was holding a lantern, at what they thought was a safe distance, so they could see to draw the gasoline. A siphon was being used to fill the can. On lifting it from the can gasoline was splashed on the lantern and on Clark's shoes and trousers. His pants were immediately all ablaze and spread to the gasoline tanks and in a flash the whole inside of the shed was ablaze. Clark throw the lantern into a vacant lot. Clyde picked up the blazing oil can and carried it out of the building burning the palm of his hand on the can. They then tried to extinguish the blaze on themselves and were only successful after taking the oil soaked shoes from Clark's feet. The boys did not seem to realize they were in a dangerous place and commenced fighting the fire. Clyde threw a bucket of water on the fire and as the gasoline wasn't very thick on the floor it scattered the blaze so it could be whipped out. Flames were still shooting from the uncapped barrel of gasoline. Clyde smothered them by holding a handful of waste over the opening. Clyde kicked the can of oil over in the lot so it would not explode and the flames reached above the surrounding buildings. Nothing could be done until the oil was burned. It was the thoughtfulness of the boys to stick to the fire after it had been accidentally started, that saved all that part of town from being destroyed as the explosion of five barrels of gasoline would have been terrific. Much praise can be given to the boys for sticking to so a perilous task. *The Mayetta Herald*, October 22, 1914.

Work has begun on the new Catholic church. The rock and sand for the foundation are being hauled this week. The building will be located on the corner lot south of Walter Mathews. *The Mayetta Herald*, October 22, 1914.

Forty-five cars of [cavalry] horses went through this station Friday, on the way to Europe for use in the army. That is in the neighborhood of \$75,000.00 worth of horses. *The Holton Recorder*, November 5, 1914.

A new automobile highway has been marked through the county from the north to the south. It is the county road north from Topeka to Horton and Hiawatha. The commissioners of Jackson county have had the telephone poles painted with the emblem, two white bands with a black one in the center. The commissioners have reason to believe that the commissioner of the counties traversed by this road will cooperate with them and also mark the poles. This will be the only marked road we have extending north to south in the county. *The Mayetta Herald*, November 12, 1914.

W. A. Cooney had his vacant lot on the north side of Main street plowed, with the intentions of sowing it to blue grass in the spring. Weeds have been plentiful on vacant lots and this is a great step in beautifying the town. Others should follow this example. *The Mayetta Herald*, November 12, 1914.

We hear of some hog cholera around over the country. It is too bad to hear of farmers losing their hogs, as high as hogs are and the price of corn to feed them. That is the way it goes with farmers; and yet there are a whole lot of people who think the farmers are getting rich. That is just where they are fooled. ...

Handed in: Some dirty, low, measly miscreant stole Grandma Dryer's beautiful black dress that she has only worn twice; also a new piece quilt, a new comfort, a pair of white blankets and two heavy winter night dresses. Think of the littleness of anyone stealing from an old lady nearly 83 years old, while she was visiting her daughter. ...

There still continues to be a number of horse buyers around over the country. We understand that the army wants 20,000 head at once. We are afraid they won't get them. *The Holton Recorder*, November 12, 1914.

A familiar sight that reminds us of the condition of things two or three years ago is the roads macadamized with corn cobs for miles in all directions from town. During the husking season cobs are very plentiful at the elevators and in years past teamsters were kept busy hauling and dumping them in ditches. In other towns a good price is paid for a load of cobs bringing as high as \$2.50 a load. Here we seldom buy them. ...

S. R. Early, Sr. little dog Fanny, died from eating poison Sunday. The poison was put out for rats. The dog was a close friend of Sam's and where you would see the dog you would know that Mr. Early was somewhere near. *The Mayetta Herald*, December 3, 1914.

Quite a mad dog scare was experienced Tuesday after it was found that a dog which had bitten two persons, was mad. The dog was a wolf hound belonging to Wallace Chase and had followed Chas. Cox to town Sunday. They were playing with the dog in the Battenberg & Cooney restaurant all that afternoon. It seemed rather cross for a dog of that breed but nothing was thought of it at that time. Dave Whelan was bitten on the ankle and James Cooney on the cheek. Walter Steward's blooded bull dog and Newt Moore's Airedale terrier were also bitten. As Chas. Cox was returning home followed by the dog it fought with E. J. Lunger's bull dog wounding it. It also bit a strange shepherd dog. The hound died Tuesday. The dogs bitten are being closely watched and will be shot if they show any symptoms.

As soon as it was known that the dog was mad, the men bitten went to Topeka for treatment by a specialist.

The dogs head was sent to the specialist, Wednesday at noon, for examination. *The Mayetta Herald*, December 17, 1914.

Sunday was the last day of grace for the unmuzzled dogs running at large. E. J. Lunger and Newt Moore killed their dogs that were bitten and several curs running at large have been killed, also. Most of the dog owners muzzled their dogs as soon as they were asked to do so. Three men were appointed to shoot all dogs running at large unmuzzled after Sunday. *The Mayetta Herald*, December 24, 1914.

Our Mayetta expert, J. H. Dryer, has broken the record again, on Christmas day of 1914, while the thermometer stood close to the zero mark, by having large fine new potatoes and cream to eat for Christmas dinner that he raised from the second crop in his garage and dug them up and put them in boxes and buckets and placed them in his cellar to eat at his heart's content this winter. ... *The Mayetta Herald*, December 31, 1914.

R. L. Miller killed 32 head of hogs for summer meat and lard for his ranch. The hogs averaged about 350 pounds, and about 275 gallons of lard was rendered. Just recently 32 fifty pound sacks of flour was taken to the ranch at one time. The number of men he has working for him will soon consume all of this. *The Mayetta Herald*, January 7, 1915.

Cards from Juarez, Mexico, state that, F. L. Shumway has arrived there and is enjoying himself as we all know how Frank can. He says, he will not remain there long. But since, we note that Jess Willard had gone there and of course, we do not expect him home until after the fight. *The Mayetta Herald*, January 14, 1915.

A mover van is camped north of the railroad stockyards. In it are a man, a woman and a little girl. Although the

man's clothing looks amply warm as we see him loafing about the warm stoves in the stores; the woman has been seen carrying water in a five gallon can and doing other heavy labor in the cold without any wraps. The woman has been making daily trips to the near farmhouses asking for milk and things to eat telling them she had a sick family. The farmers have been contributing liberally. Another thing very noticeable is the number of times the man plays the slot machines and the shooting gallery. We are inclined to believe that while the man is toasting himself by a warm fire in a restaurant or store, that the woman is keeping warm the best she can in a covered wagon. We did not hear him ask for work. *The Mayetta Herald*, January 28, 1915.

Frank Shumway returned from Juarez, Mexico, and El Paso, Texas, Saturday. He was sick before he started home and has been confined to the house since his return. He has been bleeding badly from his lungs but was able to be up and about the house Monday. His nose bled all the time while enroute home. He says he will not return for the fight. We are anxious to see him about town and hear of the races. *The Mayetta Herald*, February 4, 1915.

Shumway was a sparring partner for Willard when he was in training for his fight with Jack Johnson at Juarez, Mexico, and it seems that Willard treated him pretty rough, probably cracking some of his ribs causing his lungs to bleed.

Ordinance No. 69. An ordinance relating to the cleaning of sidewalks. Be it enacted by the Mayor and Council of the City of Mayetta. Section No. 1. That each property owner, or his agent, shall remove the snow from their sidewalks within 24 hours after the storm subsides. Section No. 2. If any property owner neglects or refuses to clean their walks as provided for in Section No. 2 of this ordinance, it shall be done by the marshal or some one working under his orders who shall receive for this service the sum of 25 cents for each 25 foot lot cleaned. Section No. 3. The above fees for cleaning shall be taxed to the property and shall by the City Clerk certified under the corporate seal to the County Clerk to be placed by him on tax roll for collection in like manner as other taxes are collected. *The Mayetta Herald*, February 11, 1915.

F. L. Shumway went to Topeka Sunday, to met Ray O. Archer. *The Mayetta Herald*, February 18, 1915.

Willie Flynn, the song writer of Mayetta, will soon receive copies of his latest song, "The New Entrancing Rag." Everyone wishing a copy of the song should call or write him. *The Holton Recorder*, February 18, 1915.

We have never experienced such bad roads as we are having at present. Friday, going to and coming from the Johnson sale, the roads were terrible. Several got stuck and broke single trees and many reported that they were stalled several times coming to town on Saturday and one person who was on horseback had to have the horse pulled out. *The Mayetta Herald*, February 25, 1915.

The grand stand has been torn down and removed from the ball park by W. C. Cooney. It looks as though Mayetta will be without a ball team this year. *The Mayetta Herald*, February 25, 1915.

Mayetta, Kan., March 9, 1915. Editor Recorder: We understand that the square is going to be paved, which will be a fine thing. Maybe the county will not be asked to sprinkle the streets to keep the city lady's sox from getting dirty.

Our kind Democratic commissioners will probably donate to the paving cost. The city should by all means take down the hitching racks around the square to keep the dirty farmers away as far as possible. All Holton needs is their money anyway. We would suggest they put up good racks just outside the city limits. A farmer is used to walking and won't mind walking the rest of the way into town. Even the dirty little Hell hole of Mayetta barred the farmers off the main street and it is just reaping the result. It's just as handy as ever to drive to the depot and get your goods from the mail order house and save one-third the cost. We can do the same in Holton. A subscriber. *The Holton Recorder*, March 11, 1915.

I have lived in Mayetta over 20 years, have taken The Recorder 15 years, and tried to encourage it along. I was here when the hitch racks were removed off main street and we lost no population on that account; but am glad to say it gave us more room for street traffic, which we much needed, and we have no more filth and flies at the front doors, which was a drawback. As far as Mayetta being a hell hole, as was stated in The Recorder last week, and no name signed to the article, as the person was afraid to let the color of his hair be known, the person is too big a coward to come and try making Mayetta a hell hole by disorder any time. *The Holton Recorder*, March 18, 1915.

A family of colored people by the name of Goings, have moved to the Flanders farm on the reservation. They have purchased the farm. They came here from Leavenworth county. They are an industrious family. ...

The Cathcart & Company store has been invoiced and the R. L. Miller Mercantile Co. assumed complete control,

Saturday.

Cathcart & Company, consisting of S. E. Cathcart and W. C. Cooney, has been in the mercantile business in Mayetta for seven years, Mr. Cathcart coming here from Illinois. "Billie" has always lived here and farmed before entering that business.

They purchased the Jess Lasswell stock located on the south side of the street but were burned out in 1911. Within a few days they purchased the S. Heyman & Sons stock of goods where they are now located and have conducted a business there ever since. They have been successful which has been proven by the patronage they enjoyed having retained one of the largest stocks of goods and customers in Mayetta.

The members of the R. L. Miller Mercantile Co., R. L. Miller, Ivan Erwin and Albert Hunter need no introduction as all have been associated in business in Mayetta for the last fifteen years.

R. L. Miller has proven himself equal to the position he will occupy in this company by his success in other enterprises. He once owned the drug store selling it a few months ago. He owns the lumber yard and has conducted it in a satisfactory manner, both to the customers and himself and has made it a success financially. He also owns the elevator located in the north part of town. Besides all these he owns about 1500 acres of land and a big stock ranch where he has thousands of hogs and hundreds of cattle on feed all the time. He is a real benefactor to this town and Jackson county. Mr. Miller is heart and soul for Mayetta and its advancement. *The Mayetta Herald*, March 18, 1915.

Hugh Baker was the first to undertake driving his automobile since the roads have become passable. He drove down Main street Monday and it has been so long since a car has been seen on the street that everybody turned out to see what the commotion was, thinking a circus had come to town. ...

The roads, which have been in the worse condition in the history of the state, are in a fair condition for dragging. The farmers have experienced such impassable roads for so many weeks that they are taking hold and doing as much dragging as possible while it can be done. It will take several draggings to put the roads in good shape again. A spike tooth harrow would do the most good for the first time over the road and will aid very much in drying them so a drag will do good work. *The Mayetta Herald*, March 25, 1915.

Frank Shumway left Monday noon for Kansas City, where he had made arrangements to met Ray Archer and from there both went to Havana, Cuba, to see the Willard-Johnson prize fight on next Monday. They will reach the Island Friday. This will be a fine trip for the boys. A. E. Crane, of Holton, is also going down, but had made no arrangements to accompany them unless he accidentally meets them while enroute. If Willard proves to be the winner, we will see them back with a six cylinder smile on their faces. *The Mayetta Herald*, April 11, 1915.

The city council met in regular session Monday night. All members were present. F. L. Reynolds was appointed street commissioner. Several crossings were ordered put in, the streets graded and the alley south of Main street repaired. A suitable house for the fire engine was ordered built. Several bills were allowed. The city paid the deficiency per month on the marshal's salary. *The Mayetta Herald*, May 6, 1915.

Several of the Mayetta people went to Topeka Saturday to see the champion of the world, Jess Willard, at the Grand. It took two bucks per head for admission. *The Holton Recorder*, May 6, 1915.

Mayetta's new fire-fighting apparatus arrived here Thursday night it was demonstrated by Paul E. Palmer, district manager, of Topeka. A board structure was erected during the day and in the evening many of the city's population gathered to see the engine perform "under fire." Though 25 gallons of coal oil was used on the structure the blaze was a disappointment to Mr. Palmer, owing to damp lumber. But the fire was controlled at will by the little engine.

The apparatus is a 40 gallon double tank chemical engine and cost \$625 delivered. It has 100 feet of hose and other accessories. It is capable of throwing stream from 50 to 75 feet.

Later. At a meeting of the city council Monday night it was decided not to buy the engine at this time. Mr. Palmer will leave the engine here indefinitely. *The Mayetta Herald*, May 20, 1915.

Complaint has came to this office of the careless use of sling-shots or nigger-shooters by small boys. The complainant was nearly hit in the face by a missile and he says if it occurs again the boys will be arrested. *The Mayetta Herald*, May 27, 1915.

Sunday, June 13, 1915, will be long remembered by the Catholics of Mayetta and the surrounding country. On that date the first service in the new church, a High Mass with sermon and benediction, were held at ten o'clock. The organization of St. Francis Parish was begun last fall under the leadership of Father McKenna and to him a great measure of credit is due. When a change of Pastors was made Father Geintz took up the task of building a church with determination and energy that spoke success from the very beginning. And when at the close of the first High Mass was celebrated in Mayetta Father Geintz gave the beautiful little sermon of instruction, thankfulness and

appreciation his countenance told plainer than words could tell that he felt more than repaid for the months of labor and sacrifice.

The church was well filled, more than two hundred being seated and a number of young men standing in the rear. Miss Anna Walsh, organist, and the young ladies of the choir received many deserved compliments for their good work. *The Mayetta Herald*, June 17, 1915.

The fourth was a very quiet day here but there were a few home-gatherings and people ate ice cream and drank lemonade and shot off a few firecrackers and all had a very nice time. ...

The beer keg seems at this time to be in high demand. The empty beer keg that has been sitting around in some out of the way place for many years is now being hunted up and pressed into service by being attached to the binder machines to assist in keeping the machine from going so deep in the mud. It has proven a great help to the farmers in getting in their fields while it is still wet.

Our blacksmith, Billy McDaniel's, and his help hardly have time to eat their meals, as they are so busy attaching beer kegs to the farmer's binders. The past two weeks Billy has put on 119 and at the same time had a whole lot of other work coming in to do. *The Holton Recorder*, July 8, 1915.

The Rock Island, Agent Harper tells us, will soon install electric signals at the depot and the Miller elevator crossing. These signal bells will begin ringing when trains are 2,000 feet away. *The Mayetta Herald*, July 15, 1915.

It would be a great thing for the customers who come to Mayetta to trade if the business people of Mayetta would show their appreciation towards them by seeing that they had a decent place to tie their teams while in town doing business. The hitch rack near the hotel and Main street has for quite a while been badly neglected. The mud and water have formed a deep pool that gives off a bad scent and draws flies and is so close to the hotel that it is an annoyance and a menace to health. The health officers surely wouldn't stand for it. ...

Some of our wide awake farmers have brought cradles to cradle their wheat that the binders can't get to. The old cradle that has been laid away and was used in our grandfathers' and great-grandfathers' time is now being used in several fields; and it means a lot of hard work. They tell me anything to save the wheat that they have worked so hard for and spent so much money on. We know of one man in this county that has lost more than a thousand dollars in small grain, to say nothing about the good old soil. *The Holton Recorder*, July 22, 1915.

We have been informed that some of the Mayetta merchants don't wrap up their groceries very good. Slattery and Smith met a man one cold night last week down in the buggy with his shirt tied around his goods. Mr. Merchants, this doesn't look very good and you better do better next time, as this fellow might report you. ...

The frogs are so bad down here they keep you awake at night. I think that the county should give you a bounty on them so they could get rid of some of them. ...

The farmers are doing everything they can these days trying to save what small grain they have left. It is indeed in bad shape. Any amount of it is moldering and you can smell it as you go along the road. Hundreds of acres in this county will never be cut, as so much of it is laying on the ground. *The Holton Recorder*, July 29, 1915.

About 30 hives of bees belonging to F. Reynolds in the outskirts of town, decided they, too, would get into the war game. And it was for a just cause.

A hog started activities by rooting over a hive and now that porker wishes he was never born. Thousands of outraged, infuriated little bees pounced on Mr. Hog and sent torpedo after torpedo into his withering hulk. Wild with pain and squalling for life he beat for the hole in the wire enclosure but couldn't locate it. Some boys in passing went to the hog's rescue by cutting the wire. But the bees are no respecter of persons and attacked the boys, who are pretty badly "swelled" up as a result. *The Mayetta Herald*, August 19, 1915.

I see by the papers there was considerable work done on the roads Wednesday and Thursday all over the state. It is a nice thing to have good roads to travel over, but we can't make a living altogether traveling on the roads. These roads are getting to be a great expense these times and that is where lots of our taxes are going to and will continue more of an expense every year. If I am not mistaken there are something over 4000 township officers and 315 county commissioners in the state and they are all drawing pretty good salaries - state roads, county roads, mail routes, and township roads. The county roads are looked after by the county commissioners, the trustee, clerk and treasurer of each township are the ones to look after the roads in the township and see that they are kept up, etc. We could go on and say a great deal more about the roads, but will leave that for the other fellow. *The Holton Recorder*, August 26, 1915.

Saturday night while we were still having lots of fun skating, the supports gave way and the floor fell causing quite a scare. It bruised up some, but fortunately no one was hurt bad. *The Holton Recorder*, October 28, 1915.

Now is the time to get ready for winter. The fields, the buildings, the live stock and the crops should be prepared for the long siege of cold weather that comes to the entire country in some degree or another. The time to do these things is right now. The man that makes no preparation for these things for winter is no wiser than the nations which make no preparation for self-defense in the case of the great war. The roadsides should be cleaned of all weeds, the culverts and bridges should be fixed, the fences should be overhauled and all weak posts should be replaced, for the posts cannot be set when the ground is frozen deep. All places should be made warm for the stock so the animals will have warm places to get in. In other words, get every part of the farm, from the least to the greatest, ready for winter, and if you don't you will not be ready when the cold winter comes. *The Holton Recorder*, November 4, 1915.

There must be a disease going around all over the country and in town which is the cause of so many dogs dying, or else someone is poisoning them. These dogs' scalps should be looked after, as they will create a smell after a bit. A party said to me the other day, "they should be looked after and buried." I told him we could stand all such smells as that after we had smelled an old chicken house all summer long on main street. Our people at times had to hold their noses when they went by this place. *The Holton Recorder*, November 18, 1915.

The farmers are all busy these days husking corn. They get up long before daylight so as to start in the field as soon as it gets light. They are making an effort to get through before the cold and snowy weather sets in. Some fields are turning out good and others not. One man we heard of said it took him about all day to gather a load. We don't know how swift a shucker he is, but I took him to be a very good husker from his looks. These crop reporters that are always making reports should get out and look around a little and I think they would change their minds wonderfully. All they are doing is injuring the farmers. ...

Dave Martin is carrying around a sprained wrist caused from shucking corn. There are lots of corn huskers that have sore fingers, lame backs, sore wrists and the like. This is the way it is in corn gathering time. *The Holton Recorder*, November 25, 1915.

My very first memories of corn husking were my father waiting in the morning until it was light enough for him to see the "down row," and what loads of corn! But nary a son, son-in-law or grandson ever husked with the ease and speed he did.

My mother would sit and make husking mittens. They were covered with tar when put on (a can being kept in the kitchen warmed enough to pour) to make them wear longer.

And then the scooping! After a man husked his load, he must scoop it off - and that was back misery to most of the huskers.

We had the chores to do, and for weeks this marathon went on. Of course in my own home the impressions are more vivid and lasting. Once for three weeks I cooked for nine (9) huskers with a year old baby to look after. When we patched the mittens, usually running the broom handle through the thumb and finger, using worn out mittens for patches.

And did we dare to ask a favor from the men folks! Their arms were so lame and ached so they couldn't sleep at night. We didn't have rubbing alcohol, but the doctors fixed up a liniment, and then a sprained or near sprained wrist probably laid up the best husker. Sore fingers prohibited milking so the women and children did the milking. Your husband couldn't snap a safety pin for the baby's apparel on account of stiff, cracked fingers.

It wasn't any joke to carry on for weeks, and then mud and snow - teams struck in the field, broken wagon tongues, some neighbors shelling and exchange hauling with teams, which must be blanketed when they got to town as often many loads were ahead, and sometimes the elevator broke down.

At the farm home where the shellers were busy, the women folk served dinner from 11 to 2:00 or later for the haulers. Sometimes the delay necessitated taking dinner at the hotels. We always butchered a hog for the husking and maybe more.

Many a day I missed school to husk corn. Always used a peg husker, a half a mile row seemed never ending.

In a sack in the store room closet hang a lot of thumb husking pegs which are only disturbed at the annual house cleaning. I hope they will be used some near day.

But I have no hankering to get up at 4:00 a. m. to get breakfast as in the old days. We hope the future farmers of America have corn pickers drawn by tractors and unloaded in some easy way. *The Holton Recorder*, November 11, 1937.

Mistake number two; went with my same neighbor, this time to husk corn. I did enough of it to know that I wasn't any good at it; if it had have been in an earlier time period I probably would have been laughed out of the county. All I can recall is that it was very cold weather, and I wore a husking glove strapped on one hand, made of leather with a steel peg on the palm which was supposed to help in taking the husk off the ear. This did not work very well for me.

The wagon had one side that was boarded higher than the other side called a bang board, so that when the corn was thrown into the wagon it would hit the bang board and then fall into the wagon bed. Sore hands when you don't know what you are doing. But at a later time I did have a most enjoyable time husking corn.

Mr. Albert Jones owned or leased a lot of farm property out on the reservation and I spent one week painting an old two room house so he could rent it out. It was located by a creek that was heavily wooded, and the house was surrounded by a corn field. There was a large covey of quail nesting along where the trees met the field, but this was not the only wildlife, the eaves of the house were covered with wasp nests. I had to clean them out before I could paint, and yes a person can run very fast if a swarm of wasps are chasing him. But not fast enough.

After the corn picker went through this corn field in the fall, Mr. Jones would hire a crew to follow it and pick up what the picker had missed. I recall that there were four of us and the amount of corn we picked up that day certainly did not pay for our wages. The trees had turned to their fall colors, it was a cool sunshiny day, but not a cold day, a light breeze rustled the leaves bringing them down in occasional showers; there was the scent of the earth and the corn and the trees and when we stopped for lunch, we ate some of the some of the Paw Paw fruit that was left on the trees along the creek bank.

An older man, I believe that his name was Mr. Green, ran the crew, and he showed us some of the wild plants that could be eaten. I wish I had have paid more attention, as the only one I can remember now is the May Apple. He pulled it out of the ground, and it had a root that was shaped like a donut, or a least this one did. This was on a beautiful day in the fall time of the year. I can close my eyes and almost feel as if I were there at that time again.

Grippe keeps many out of the country schools. One-half or two-thirds of the children are kept out of school. They are afflicted either with the grippe or a mild form of influenza. *The Holton Recorder*, December 30, 1915.

Mayetta has scored and Thos. Whelan is the man who did it. Tuesday was the day set to shoot for the tie off for the Dupont cup at Topeka between T. M. Whelan of Mayetta and Steward of Topeka, and henceforth Mayetta will be known as the home of one great marksman. Tom won the cup, getting 49 birds out of 50, his opponent 48. Tom got 47 of them without a miss, so his nerve must have been just right. Tom is growing old but that don't seem to affect his marksmanship. ...

The skating rink which opened here last week is doing a land office business and producing lots of sore spots and stiff joints. Young and old as well participate in the fun. We understand Dad Harrington has invested in a pair of skates and indulges in secret practice at his home. *The Mayetta Herald*, December 30, 1915.

There were delegations from Holton Denison and Hoyt met with citizens of Mayetta at Robson Hall last Thursday night for the purpose of discussing the question of getting light from Holton. The proposition was explained by Messrs McGee, Kuhn and Hosmer of Holton, Mr. Burns and the mayor of Hoyt, Denison ...

The mayor of Holton, Denison and Mayetta met as a committee, Councilman Erwin acting for Mayor Hafer, who was absent on account of sickness and decided on holding another meeting in Mayetta next Wednesday night. *The Mayetta Herald*, December 30, 1915.

Mayetta is just a bit "swelled" up this week and she has a right good reason for it. She had a distinguished visitor Sunday evening in the person of Jess Willard, the world's heavy weight champion of pugilism - the chap who put Johnson on the blink. And it was not a chance visit, passing through visits nor a picture show visit, but a prearranged visit by the real champion himself who was the guest of our popular townsman, Frank Shumway.

Jess came up from Topeka Sunday evening on the 4:20 train and was met at the station by a number of his Mayetta friends who knew him when he lived near here. News that Jess Willard was in town caused a ripple of excitement. During the few hours the champion was in town he was a guest at the Shumway home. He also called on Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Robb and was kept busy while on the street responding to greetings of "hello Jess," "howdy old boy," etc.

Shumway was Willard's sparring partner while preparing for his fight with Johnson and was at ringside during the bout. Frank is some man, weighing about 260 pounds. When he and Willard were passing a certain residence the lady of the house peered out of the window and exclaimed to her husband "Look what a big man is coming!" The husband refused to get excited and replied dryly, "O, that's Frank Shumway, I suppose, he's the biggest man in town." His wife acquiesced, but added: "Wonder who is the kid with him."

Willard returned to Kansas City Sunday evening where his manager will confer with representatives of the Sells-Floto Show about terms for a 150 day engagement with them. If he signs up with the show people he will get

\$500.00 a day and a per cent. The percent end of it amounts to nearly as much as the salary, as was the case in his engagement with the 101 Show last season.

The champion also signed up Monday in Kansas City for a 10-round bout with Moran in April, Jess to receive \$32,500 or about \$1000 a minute for his 30 minute's trouble. He goes into training at once at Excelsior Springs.

Willard's receipts since he won the heavy weight title amounts to \$214,000. His family now lives in Chicago.

Ray Archer, who was for some time cashier of the Exchange Bank at Mayetta, is Willard's private secretary. *The Mayetta Herald*, January 20, 1916.

Jess Willard, the champion fighter of the world, was in our town Sunday evening between trains, on his way to Kansas City. All his friends were glad to meet him and none of them seemed anxious to match him for a fight, unless it was Hoffa Smith. *The Holton Recorder*, January 20, 1916.

We hear some of the young people are having great times these nights skating on the ice at the old mill dam. By the way, we heard of a school that was dismissed then other day so the children and teacher could go skating. We wish we had such times when we went to school. The education is costing lots of money these days. We pay our teachers all the way from \$50 to \$65 per month in the country to teach school, and we think that they should improve all of their time and not waste one moment in going skating and they should put in every moment they can in the school room. *The Holton Recorder*, January 22, 1916.

Mother earth is being covered these days with a sleet of ice to the depth of two or three inches. It is almost as bad as it was some six years ago, when people lost a lot of stock by them falling on the ice. The ice lasted some six or eight weeks. Lots of people fell and broke their limbs and arms and some died from the effects of the falls. *The Holton Recorder*, February 3, 1916.

R. L. Miller brought an Avery tractor and plows and will try them soon as the ground will permit. *The Holton Recorder*, March 2, 1916.

Well, we notice that Holton is going to have a cleanup day April 7th, and why not Mayetta have a clean-up day at about that time. First start on main street and clean up that old chicken house and go from there to the alleys, and make our city one of the healthiest cities in the country. Of course the people who live right here in Mayetta, or some that come here most every day don't notice it so much. The people who notice it the most are the people who live away from here who pass through our town. They are the ones who will talk about it. *The Holton Recorder*, March 30, 1916.

Charley Wyatt was in town Monday buying lister and other farm equipment. Charley had a snake story to relate. Snakes already, before snow quits flying! And rattlers too. Horrors! But Mr. Wyatt says he heard it turn on its note of warning in some rubbish and finally got sight of its periscope. The battle was on. After the smoke had lifted a writhing form, as large as a stove pipe, lay at Wyatt's feet. But no rattles could be found, which is a puzzle to the victor. The rattler was of the timber variety and must have been five feet long. ...

Jackson county will do its own road dragging henceforth. The county board has purchased a Russell Planer, which has a 26-foot sweep, dragging the entire road at one swipe. It is drawn by a giant engine and operated by two men. The plane itself cost \$625 and will soon pay for itself, saving the county an enormous sum yearly.

This road planer began operations Monday at Hoyt where it was set up, passing through Mayetta during the day. *The Mayetta Herald*, April 13, 1916.

The destructive tornado which swept through this part of the county last Wednesday, in which a number of persons were injured and thousand of dollars worth of property destroyed, should serve to warn every family in town and country the immediate necessary of constructing caves. They are the only safe refuge from the ravages of the cyclone. A number in the path of Wednesday's twister owe their lives to this means of escape.

The twister struck Hoyt at 3:30 p. m. coming from the southwest, destroying four houses and injuring a number of people. ... *The Mayetta Herald*, April 13, 1916.

He was a bay and a high stepper and a good looker and was noted for speed and his name was John. In his day he was driven to church and Sunday school and League by the father, sons and daughters and all the great-grandchildren. He was trusty anywhere you put him, and a little baby could have driven him. When the boys wanted to go and see their best girls they always had the old bay and won't drive anything else. The peculiar record about this horse we are going to tell you is that in this past week he was given away two times and the last time he was given away he came home to his master and looked over the fence and whinnied as much to say he wanted more oats to eat. The master took him out to the barn and fed him and watered him and brushed him up and said I will get rid of you this time. He took him up to town and sold him to a horse buyer. This is the last of the poor old horse that has been in service for years. His record will be remembered when the leaves of the forest begin to fall. *The*

Holton Recorder, April 20, 1916.

W. M. Seibert took E. J. Lunger, the county commissioner, out on the reserve Thursday afternoon to look after some cement bridges, and your reporter went along for the ride and to see the country. We went out about nine miles. It has been some time since I made a trip on the reserve and it is surprising to see what a county road they have out that way. Of course it takes a lot of money to have such roads and keep them up in shape. At the end of our road we saw a cement bridge that some contractor has just finished and it is one of the best bridges that we have seen for many a day. I didn't learn the name of the contractor who put this bridge in, but it was a good one. On our way going out we met an auto load coming to town and they were making about 20 miles speed and Mr. Lunger informed us there were some twelve autos on that road. It is surprising to us to see how the country is building up here. A few years ago not more than 10 or 15 years, they scarcely had any roads at all on the reservation and cow paths were used and led across fields and any way to get there. But now days we have to go the section lines and across some very good bridges - and put 10 or 12 years onto this, they will have flying machines or something else. *The Holton Recorder*, May 4, 1916.

City Marshal Spence took two small tramp small boys to Holton Wednesday to appear before the probate judge. We understand they are suspected of taking some horses from the hitching rack at Holton Tuesday and riding them to Mayetta.

These boys have the appearance of having come from respectable homes and wanted a taste of adventure. They are getting it. ...

A 12-year-old boy, beating his way on the train, met with a painful accident here last Thursday by getting his foot crushed badly. He was taken to the office of Dr. Bliss where his injuries were treated. Dr. Bliss took the boy to his home in Kansas City Friday. *The Mayetta Herald*, May 25, 1916.

From the start of the Mexican revolution beginning in 1910, the U. S. army maintained a strong presence along the border and on occasion fought with Mexican rebels or federalists. On March 6, 1916 rebel General Pancho Villa raided the town of Columbus, New Mexico to obtain supplies. Villa burned the town and killed eight US soldiers and 10 civilians. On March 14, 1916, President Wilson ordered General John J. Pershing of the US Army to advance into Mexico to kill or capture Villa.

President Wilson ordered National Guard units to duty to reinforce the army garrisons on the border. By June, Company B of the Second Kansas Infantry, Kansas National Guard, based in Holton was in camp at Eagle Pass, Texas. They were mustered out and were at home by the first week in November, 1916. Four members of Company B from Mayetta or the Mayetta area were; Claude Myers, Irenous Myers, Joe Hart, and Clarence Grubbs.

Kansas good roads enthusiasts are getting ready the plans for road improvement which will be laid before the next legislature which will bring pledges from candidates for the legislature to support the plans for good government.

The Kansas Good Roads Association and the 365-Day Road Club have arranged the platform for the campaign this summer and next fall. The two clubs are sending copies of the platform to good road workers throughout each county. *The Mayetta Herald*, June 22, 1916.

One afternoon last week Frank Hafer in want of amusement hied himself to the barn accompanied by one of the neighbors, and once there Frank turned up boxes and barrels and the dog got busy and rats of all sizes soon began their trip to the "Happy Hunting Ground." Frank says he had a few hours fine sport and on counting the scalps found that he had added forty four to his belt. Some rat killer, ha. *The Mayetta Herald*, July 6, 1916.

You can almost see the corn grow these days, and the weeds too. They even grow along the sidewalks and up and down Main street. A visitor said to us the other day that in their town they didn't let the weeds grow that way, as that was against the city ordinance. *The Holton Recorder*, July 6, 1916.

As I go around I see several places where weeds are very prominent and it is the time of the year we should not neglect getting rid of those weeds which are injurious to our health as well as the good looks of our property. ...

Well, I see since I wrote my item last week about some weeds growing on Main street, they have cleaned some of them off. If they just keep on cleaning and look after the alleys and chicken houses, the town would be in a sanitary condition and when people come to our town to visit they won't have anything to talk about. ...

Rats, rats; we have never seen the like of them in all our life. The whole country is full of them and they are taking chickens by the thousands. James and Mort Jones with dogs killed 160 Friday and on Saturday Mary Page and family and Lon Page and family killed a great number and a great number got away and started down towards Ed

White's and Bill Dryer's chicken houses. I suppose that the big and little dogs will catch them if Ed and Bill have time to bother with them. *The Holton Recorder*, July 13, 1916.

Mr. G. F. Elliott, Mayetta, Kansas. Dear Mr. Elliott: we are now on the border just one-half mile north of Eagle Pass, Texas, and one mile north of the Mexican border. We are in range of Mexican fire, their camp being just over the hill and a half miles south of our camp. We do not feel any uneasiness, but still things are not very pleasing.

We left Fort Riley at 9:30 Saturday and got here at 1:30 today (Monday) We came through Augusta, Florence, and Wellington, Kans., Guthrie, and Oklahoma City Okla., and through the middle of Texas to about 400 miles north of Fort Worth, Texas. The country in Southern Kansas and Northern Texas is very good but the country here along the Mexican border is something awful. The sand is blowing about 20 miles per hour. There is not a living green thing but cactus and sagebrush. We are all well but feeling a little sore from riding, but hope to feel better tomorrow. We hope to see a little action now at any time. Will write more later, trusting that everything is coming along fine at Mayetta, I remain, Clarence O. Grubbs. My address is Sgt. C. O. Grubbs, Co. B, 2nd Kansas Inf., Eagle Pass, Texas. *The Mayetta Herald*, July 13, 1916.

Editor Mayetta Herald. Thirty days ago the nineteenth of this month the National Guards were called into mobilization camps.

It is interesting to a civilian to know some of the things that have transpired in that time.

On the 21st of June the Kansas Guards were mobilized at Fort Riley, Kansas. On the 26th of June they were mustered into Federal service, and they are known as companies of the 1st and 2nd Kansas Infantry instead of the Kansas National Guards. When the present trouble is settled they will again be replaced as Kansas National Guards. After being mustered into the government service each man was physically examined and any bad defect found at that time, caused the man to be rejected, left at Fort Riley and later discharged.

Following the physical examination each man was vaccinated for typhoid and again received a second shot at Eagle Pass, last Wednesday and the following Friday each man was vaccinated for small pox. We will receive another vaccination for typhoid in ten days.

The second section of the 2nd Kansas Infantry, on which was Co. B, our Holton and Oskaloosa and several other companies left Fort Riley on Saturday, July 1st and arrived at Eagle Pass, Monday noon, July 3rd. Everybody feeling good but glad to get off the train. The meals were cooked by Company cooks on our field ranges, sit in sand boxes. We being more fortunate than the Vermont Guards, we were provided with tourist sleepers. It is one of our pleasant thoughts that we went to bed Saturday night in Kansas, woke up in Oklahoma and ate breakfast Sunday morning in Texas.

Camp Shafer where we are stationed is located about 3-4 of a mile north of the city of Eagle Pass, ½ mile from the Rio Grande river and about ½ mile from the Mexican border. The camp includes about 150 tents, situated like an ancient city, Regimental offices in front of the camp.

Each company's tents are placed in rows like a city block and the streets between are known as company streets in which are held company formations, boxing matches and confidence meetings.

The Days work begins at first call at 5:45 in the morning and reveille at 5:00, breakfast at six o'clock, sick call and fatigue at 6:45 and drill from 7:30 to 11:30; mess at noon. The afternoon is allowed the men for visiting town, sleeping, bathing or washing clothes. Retreat is at 5:00 o'clock, followed by Guard Mount, then mess. Regimental parade is held at 6 o'clock each evening, also. We were told when arriving at Eagle Pass it had not rained for 12 months, but we had only been here scarcely 26 hours until the rain drops began to fall thick and fast and since that date we have scarcely past 36 hours without a shower. Each evening at six o'clock also occurs a sand storm which is non-appreciative. Call to quarters is blown at 9:00; taps at 10 o'clock. No man or officer is allowed out of camp after Retreat or across the bridge into Mexico at nay time. With your eyes full of sand, your clothes full of cactus thorns you lay down to sleep expecting any moment to wake up and hear some one pulling a centipede or tarantula or horned toad out from under his blanket.

With best wishes to Mayetta and all the vicinity, I remain, Clarence O. Grubbs. *The Mayetta Herald*, July 20, 1916.

Converting Arkansas razorbacks into marketable bacon is the profitable task that R. L. Miller, banker and stockman of Mayetta, Kansas, is pursuing. Six thousand of these slab-sided mountain hogs were fattened and marketed during the last year with better results than have attended the efforts of scoffing neighbors who handle only hogs of unquestioned high-bred ancestry.

Mr. Miller conceived the idea three or four years ago that a razorback hog fed on Kansas alfalfa and rape and topped off with a corn ration would bring a good price and be a satisfactory investment. Experience has proved the truth of his theory, and he now keeps a man scouring the Ozark Mountains in southern Missouri and northern Arkansas buying the razorbacks for him. The people of these regions, who have little opportunity to market these thin, speedy animals, are usually glad to sell.

The hogs weigh from eighty to ninety pounds each when first purchased, and are about a year old. Fed for one hundred days on the rations experience has proved best for them, they can be marketed weighing around two hundred pounds, and being smallboned and smooth animals and specially suited for bacon, they bring a price close to the top of the market when scientifically handled.

The demand for the finished razorback is more than equal to the supply, one reason being that the bacon has a gamy taste because of the wild life the hog and its ancestors have led in the woods. The packers market the product under a trade name that bears no hint of the razorback origin, the term "razorback" not being in the highest repute.

These animals are wild and untamed when they reach Kansas and have the same graceful outlines as a two-inch plank. The first consignment shipped was unloaded at Mayetta and a start made to drive them to the ranch. A number broke away. Some of these have never been recovered. To prevent a repetition of this, nowadays they are hauled to the ranch in wagons which are specially equipped with tops to prevent the animals from climbing out. Those familiar with the hog will testify to his acrobatic ability.

When first turned loose in the pasture the first effort of the razorback hog is to escape, but when he finds no fence handy he evidently concludes his freedom is not menaced and in time becomes as lazy as the domestic breed of hogs. If put into a pen less than ten acres in area, however, he will climb the posts or bite the wire in order to get out. He won't get fat because he spends too much time running around seeking egress. In a big pasture, however, he is as easily fattened as a Berkshire. The better profit lies in the fact that the first cost is low and the framework is there upon which to build the needed fat that means dollars and cents upon the stockyards' scales.

Under a diet of rape and alfalfa the bristles and the snout seem to disappear, and while it is a little difficult to teach the razorback to eat corn, once he gets the taste the topping off comes easily. The pigs are all inoculated for cholera when first received, and there has never been a case on Mr. Miller's ranch of the dreaded disease that so harrows the soul of the hogbreeder. (H. T. Hobbs, "Converting Arkansas Razorbacks into Bacon," *Illustrated World*, R. T. Miller, Jr. Dreiet Avenue and 58th St., Chicago 1702 Flatiron Building. New York, Copyright. 1916.)

Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 21. - R. L. Miller of Mayetta, Kansas, marketed twenty car loads of hogs in Kansas City today at \$10.65 and \$10.75 a hundred pounds, approximately \$32,000 for the lot.

The prices he received per hundred pounds are the highest paid this year, the highest ever known in August and except early in 1910, the highest ever paid in this market.

They were sold to the Ehrke Martin Commission company. In the twenty carloads were 1,650 hogs.

According to the Drovers Telegram this is the largest individual shipment of hogs ever sold in Kansas City.

Mr. Miller still has over 800 hogs on feed that will soon be ready for market, and he also received five carloads of cattle Tuesday that he has put on pasture. *The Mayetta Herald*, August 24, 1916.

Editor Mayetta Herald: - Our Dear Friends in Kansas know what we are doing here and of the events that take place sooner than we do here, due to the ingenuity of some of the enterprising paper reporters. You will therefore no doubt realize our utter surprise to hear from home and our friends wanting to know if so and so is true.

The past week has been one of excitement in the Camp of Company B. Monday evening started off lively with the roof of our new mess hall and kitchen caving in. While there were seven or eight men underneath and about 15 on top of it yet only 3 men were hurt very bad. A cut finger, a wrenched back, and a bruised hip were the extent of the injuries.

Wednesday evening news came from the 3rd battalion of the 2nd Kansas who were on outpost about 60 miles down the river that 300 Mexicans went into camp just across the river from the camp of Co. M of the 2nd Kansas. With everyone eager to go to the aid of Co. M companies of the 3rd Infantry of Regulars were taken out in the big auto trucks and we were forced to stay in camp expecting and hoping to be called over the border at any time.

Two days of rest and Friday night we had a gulf storm hurricane which lasted nearly 18 hours. The wind blew at about 45 miles an hour from the South all this time, rain was falling fast. Nearly all the tents were blown down and we were forced to seek refuge, clothes and blankets in hands, dripping wet in the new kitchen and mess hall. The climate being so rare here no one seems to be nay the worse for the wetting and no one has a cold.

The rain spoiled a nice hike of 12 miles scheduled for Saturday. To give you, an idea of the equipment known

as Full Field belonging to a private I will state to you what he owns and is responsible for. The clothing allowance is 31 cents a day and ration allowance, 29 ½ cents a day. Each man wears or carries in his pack, one carrier, one blanket, one poncho, one shelter half, I tent pole, 5 pins, 1 meat can, 1 condiment can, 1 mess pan, 1 knife, 1 fork, 1 spoon, 1 cup, one canteen and cover, 1 shirt, 1 pair shoes, 1 pair of breeches, one hat and cord, 1 bed tick, soap, comb and tooth brush. In the surplus kit bags one has a shirt, a pair of breeches, 2 pair of sox, 2 suits underwear, 1 pair of shoes, 10 O. W. uniform, shoe and leggin laces and extra toilet articles. Shoes cost \$2.81; O. D. shirts \$2.38 and blankets \$4.38 each.

Trusting everyone is as well as usual in Mayetta and best regards to all, I remain as ever, Clarence O. Grubbs. *The Mayetta Herald*, August 31, 1916.

The American Brotherhood of Yoemen held their initial meeting in Robson's hall Saturday night. About 50 charter members were received in the order. *The Holton Signal*, November 16, 1916.

F. L. Shumway was in Topeka several days with Jess Willard and Ray Archer, who are spending a few days there. *The Mayetta Herald*, November 23, 1916.

Rats are getting more numerous all the time. They are taking everything they come to. They are eating things right off the table. Next thing you hear they will be dragging people right out of bed. What next, we do not know.

...

Capt. Billard of Topeka, with his big machine, made us a visit Sunday afternoon about 4 o'clock. He flew around over the city of Mayetta. It was a great sight for Mayetta people. This is the first time we have ever seen such a thing sailing around over us. Mr. Billard didn't leave any word when he would be back. All you could read on the bottom of his aeroplane was his name, "Billard." *The Holton Recorder*, December 7, 1916.

Frank Shumway left Saturday for Chicago to have a mild winter outing with his friend, Jess Willard. He will remain a week. *The Holton Signal*, December 21, 1916.

Jess Willard, world champion, was in Mayetta Sunday a few hours, the guest of Frank Shumway. Jess has a host of friends here who are always glad to see him. He has a summer engagement with the 101 shows. *The Mayetta Herald*, March 15, 1917.

Jess Willard, A. E. Crane and Judge Fred Woodburn were in town Sunday on a short visit. *The Holton Recorder*, March 15, 1917.

The people of Mayetta were busy all day planting potatoes. You could see the women with hoes and rakes and all kinds of tools helping their men folk. *The Holton Recorder*, March 29, 1917.

On April 17, 1917, the US declared war on Germany. On August 5, 1917 members of the National Guard were drafted into service including Holton's Company B. Some men from Mayetta or the Mayetta area enlisted at the start of the war, or were already in one of the branches of service. Some were too young to serve and had to wait until they became of age, others waited to be drafted, and men were drafted at different times, so there were some who went to France in the early part of the war, and others who were in the pipeline in various stages of being trained. Anywhere from 800 to 1,000 young men from the county served during the war time.

Farmers were asked to plant every bit of land that they could plant to wheat and corn to help in the war effort. Taking away so many men from the labor force caused a great shortage of men to work in the fields. Schools went to a six day week so the older boys could get out of school earlier to help, but even with that, some of the field crops did not get fully harvested; apples did not picked, potatoes were not dug. There was lack of coal, but there was plenty of wood to burn if only someone could be found to cut it; this made for a very cold winter for some, but if you lived in town there was always the corn cobs to burn.

There was quite an argument took place Thursday in town at Slattery and Smith's Hardware Store. A German who is traveling all over this county as a drummer and making his bread and butter in the U. S., was arguing for Germany. Those who heard his argument felt very sore over it and say such a fellow should be reported to headquarters. From what we can learn he was an agitator for Germany and some called him nothing but a d__d fool. *The Holton Recorder*, April 19, 1917.

We are constantly urged by our governor to plant and raise garden stuff. What can we do with it, only just enough for me to use. A canning factory at Holton might be an incentive for us to plant and work garden, but as it is, enough for one's own use is all they need. *The Holton Signal*, May 10, 1917.

The postoffice has moved to the Seibert building. There will be many a one who will start down the street for our mail till we get used to it. *The Holton Signal*, May 31, 1917.

We learn that there are lots of people this year putting in large patches of peas and navy beans. The Jones boys, James, Mort and Philbert are going to put in 15 acres and are at it this week, and one of their old neighbors, Mrs. Shingleton, is putting in a very large patch of peas, and they are going to run a race and see who can raise the largest crop. If they don't overstock the market on these commodities they will undoubtedly get a good price for them this fall. ...

Frank Conner has rented land and expects to put in 35 acres of beans. He paid four hundred dollars for the beans to plant 35 acres. *The Holton Recorder*, May 31, 1917.

A large bunch of Holton fellows, most of whom were members of Company B, accompanied by their band and a quintet of male singers, held an enlistment booster meeting in Mayetta Monday evening. They were greeted by a large crowd, who keenly enjoyed the excellent music and gave marked attention to what the speakers had to say.

The purpose of their visit here of these men was to secure recruits for Company B, which lacks in the neighborhood of 50 men of having its full quota of 150 men. They are very desirous of securing these additional recruits before June 5th, Registration day.

The meeting was called to order by W. A. Cooney of this place, who was followed by a number of speakers, among whom were Judge Fairchild and Col. Jones, Civil War veterans, who told of the advantages of joining the home company. By enlisting in Company B now, before the draft, you can stay together during the war period, enjoying each others companionship and helpfulness and making it easier for parents to keep in touch with their boys.

Rev. Bronson of the Holton Methodist church, and Rev. Richards of the Holton Christian church, gave rousing talks. One of the most effective talk was made by the captain of the company, Scott Berrege. The captain got a good one on Sergeant Grubbs of this place. The incident took place while the boys were serving on the Border. While on patrol duty one night the report of a gun was heard near by. The boys made a dash to the point whence came the report, believing the Mexicans were attacking them. Before reaching the pint an exciting voice called for Captain Berrege. It was Grubbs. He was shaking from head to foot when the captain reached the sergeant's side, who was nervously trying to load his gun. "L-o-a-d my g-u-n, Scott, I'm not scared or cold, but I'm so blamed mad." *The Mayetta Herald*, May 31, 1917.

Somewhere on the Border, May 28, '17. To my friends of Mayetta and vicinity: Dear friends: - I have received many letters and cards from my old friends at Mayetta that I feel I cannot answer all of them, so I take this occasion to write the Herald, in hopes they all may read this and perhaps they will not feel slighted if they do not receive an answer to their cards. I believe I would have got them all answered if it had been that (censored) is impossible to do a great deal of writing. Nevertheless I wish to thank all my friends for remembering me and I hope they will continue to do so.

This (censored) is a fierce country. In the first place its very disagreeably hot down here. Second place, it almost never rains, so the sand and the dust is fierce. Third, there is no vegetation of any kind here except sage brush and cactus. The only trees I have seen are a few little elms and cottonwoods which were in the park down town.

But otherwise I like the army life better than I expected. Of course they drilled us rather hard for awhile but that was necessary in order to get so many men into shape in so short a time.

The army feeds better than I has ever supposed. Of course I suppose if we were to get into the trenches it won't be so good, but I've actually gained about 10 pounds in weight since I've been here. I'm what you might call getting fat now. And I've changed in color. I'm tanned so brown that I expect if I were to come back home now I'd be taken for one of these Greasers that are the natives of this country here.

Well, friends, I've written about enough, so I will close, hoping to hear from many of my old friends soon. You truly, Richard P. James. *The Mayetta Herald*, June 7, 1917.

Ought to have seen Bert Peters beat it, with the rest of the women, for the cellar during the storm last week. He is some sprinter all right. *The Mayetta Herald*, June 14, 1917.

Jackson county is organized for the Red Cross campaign. Henry Keller is the chairman of the finance committee and John H. Riley is treasurer.

W. A. Cooney has been asked to manage the campaign in Mayetta and Cedar township. He will appoint committees of men and woman to push this most important work.

Attend the meeting Thursday evening, this week, and think about what the Red Cross is doing. Then your own heart and conscience will tell you how to give aid. *The Mayetta Herald*, June 21, 1917.

Frank Shumway, our popular restaurant man, has received a flattering offer from his old friend, Jess Willard, who, besides being the world's champion boxer, is owner of a big show, now operating in the east. Willard has offered Mr. Shumway the position of advance man for his show. But \$200 per month and expenses has no attraction for Frank, who has a man's job taking care of his restaurant business. *The Mayetta Herald*, July 6, 1917.

Burglars broke into the post office early Monday morning, blowed the two safes and secured about \$125 in stamps.

When Postmaster Lunger went to the rear door of his office to open up Monday morning he needed no key to get in. The double doors were laying on the floor, fragments of the smaller safe were scattered over the room and then

inter door of the large safe was blown open, the outer door not being locked.

The explosion was heard by some living near by, but thought it was an automobile. A few hours before this occurred Marshal Spence was called out by four men, claiming to be from Circleville, who were searching for a car stolen that evening from that place belonging to a Methodist minister. One of the party claimed to be the preacher. So far there is no clue to the burglary. Obviously they are professionals. ...

Dr. Robson went to Leavenworth Sunday where he offered his service to Uncle Sam and took the examination. The doctor is 61 years young and is patriotic to the core and craves to have some active part in whipping the kaiser. What are we going to do for a doctor? Dr. Bliss enlisted some time ago and successfully passed the examination and is ready and waiting for the call. Dr. Austin, too, we understand, has offered his service. *The Mayetta Herald*, July 19, 1917.

C. O. Grubbs closed up his work here as cashier of the Exchange bank Saturday and joined his company at Holton. Company B will remain at Holton a few days and then go to Fort Sill. It is the general impression that this company will see service in France in a few weeks, as they are seasoned soldiers, having served on the border. Mr. Grubbs, who is a Sergeant in his company, has made many friends here who wish him the best of luck and hope to see him back in the bank, after he has kicked the Kaiser's pants. *The Mayetta Herald*, August 9, 1917.

Fred Waters has the agency for one of the best Ford tractor attachments on the market, at a reasonable price. It will plow, disk and harrow your ground; seed and cut it; all with your little Ford. Better call him up about it. *The Holton Recorder*, August 23, 1917.

Last Saturday, September 8, 1917, William Frendenberger, president of the Mayetta Petroleum Co., located the first test well. They hold leases on eight thousand acres and expect to put down three wells. Well No. 1 is in the southeast corner of the R. L. Miller quarter, directly south of town. This territory surrounding Mayetta has been passed on by three geological survey firms and later by the state geologist, whose findings indicate both oil and gas.

Mr. Frendenberger was met here by a representative of the Long Bell Lumber Co., of Kansas City, and placed his order with him to be shipped through the R. L. Miller Lumber Co. here. Material such as was found in stock here is already on the ground. The drilling rig is known as the Standard type, it being the largest size, 85 feet in height and capable of drilling 4000 feet.

Mr. Frendenberger expresses himself as being well pleased with the prospect here and predicts great activities here in the near future. The company has appropriated \$75,000 for three tests here and everything looks bright for Mayetta. *The Holton Recorder*, September 13, 1917.

It is the general talk in Mayetta that R. L. Miller is going to have 300 acres of his cane ground made up into sorghum molasses. This looks like it will make enough molasses to feed the entire army. ...

Chas McDonald is having the misfortune to lose his hogs by the cholera. These times it doesn't take long to lose \$500 of them when hogs are worth \$17.00 per hundred. Chas. said he did all he could to save them, but no remedy helped them.

We understand they are having hog cholera on the reservation. You better have those hogs vaccinated. One hog will pay for the whole bunch. Hogs are too dear to lose now. *The Holton Recorder*, September 27, 1917.

Willie Wiskeno is authority for the statement that four Potawatomie Indian soldiers had reached France. The names of the boys are, Frank Cadue, Orville Aikens, Louis Wabaunsee and Frank Moore. The startling feature of this bit of news is, that the latter was court-martialed and shot in France. *The Mayetta Herald*, September 27, 1917.

Two more of our high school boys have gone to the defense of their country. This time its Clark Robson, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Robson, and Vernon McMurray, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. McMurray. The boys asked to be excused from the school room Monday forenoon just awhile before eleven o'clock passenger train was due for Topeka. Leaving everybody, including their parents, in total ignorance of their plans, they boarded the train to Topeka where, according to the Topeka papers, they enlisted and were assigned to the medical corps and left the same day for Jefferson barracks. Their leaving is worrying their parents and Mrs. Robson is a very sick woman. *The Mayetta Herald*, October 11, 1917.

Preston James is in France. His parents here received word from his last week stating that he had landed safely and was well. It takes a letter about two weeks to reach here from his post in France, so he must have landed in France about three weeks ago. ...

Frank Shumway, at the insistent requests of his old friend, Jess Willard, has joined the latter's big show, now touring the east. Frank was given a responsible position at a fancy salary. *The Mayetta Herald*, October 14, 1917.

Wm. Hale left Monday for Topeka where he will remain a few days and then go to Memphis, Tenn. to join Jess

Willard's Wild West show. Will is the eighth Potawatomi Indian to join the big show. Indians are paid \$10 a week and everything furnished. Frank Shumway and "Crow" Robb have been with the show for some time. Willard was raised in this vicinity and most of these fellows are acquaintances of his. *The Mayetta Herald*, October 14, 1917.

Frank Shumway, who has held a responsible position with Jess Willard's Wild West Show for several months, returned home Friday. Frank likes the work and will rejoin the show next spring. *The Mayetta Herald*, October 18, 1917.

The first snow of the season fell Sunday night. A stiff, cold wind accompanied it, making Monday morning anything but agreeable. The shortage of coal and wood and the failure of our natural gas supply conduced to create a feeling of gloom and apprehension. A ray of cheer was installed in the hearts of those who saw Seibert, in early morn, with a coal hod in his hand, beating it down Main street. The impression prevailed that he was bound for his gas well for a bucket of gas. At this writing details are lacking. ...

Two young Indians imbibed too freely of Hostetter's Bitters here one day last week, became quarrelsome and were landed in the city jail for the night by City Marshal Spence. During the night they punched a hole thru the roof and made their get away. Going as far as Holton they decided to return on the next train and take their medicine - differing, however, from the Hostetter brand. Marshal Spence received them at the depot here with open arms and marched them to police court, where they received a fine of \$18 per, which they paid.

Be it said to the credit of Mayetta they did not get Hostetter's dope here. ...

There is an abundance of wood fuel in this locality to supply every family about here through the winter, but the difficulty lies in the shortage of labor to saw and split it. Farmers have been so busy with their crops that no attention has been given to the wood proposition. But now that the demand is so imperative and the winter a reality, no doubt wood-cutting will receive due attention and the fuel situation relieved. *The Mayetta Herald*, November 1, 1917.

Recollection of bygone days were brought to the mind of the writer, the first of the week, when he visited the sorghum plant of Joe Jones, 2 1-2 miles north of town.

Mr. Jones has made to date something over 1600 gallons of as fine a grade of sorghum molasses as we ever saw. He has about a week's work yet before him. The demand for his product is far in excess of the supply. People come to the factory and offer more than Mr. Jones asks for it, just to get a gallon or more. Contemplating a larger acreage next year by his neighbors, Mr. Jones is going to enlarge and better equip his factory. *The Mayetta Herald*, November 8, 1917.

The farmers are the busiest people there are these days. There is just everything to do. Some we notice haven't got their potatoes dug yet, nor apples picked, and now there is corn to husk and many other things to do. Winter is almost at hand and help is scarce and if you want a hand they are hard to get at any price. They ask you two or three dollars per day, owing to what you want them to do. Some hands are not worth half of that, but that is the way it goes. *The Holton Recorder*, November 15, 1917.

Chester Moore, our city drayman, has gone into the skunk business, or rather the skunk business has gone into his home. Daddy skunk and mamma skunk, without the consent of the landlord, taken winter quarters on the second floor of the Moore home. Except for an occasional frolic the intruders manifest an attitude of strict neutrality. And while they have not made a tender of rent money yet, the landlord has not seen fit to eject them from the premises, which, by the way, shows a tender heart. However, fears lurk in the landlord's breast, fears that his tenants might want to get too blamed neighborly, come down stairs some night to while the time away, get mad because he won't let them make a nest in his whiskers, uncork - lift the lid and start hostilities. *The Mayetta Herald*, November 22, 1917.

Here is pluck seldom equaled: Sunday morning during the raging blizzard and when 10-below zero weather prevailed, when most people were roasting their shins before a red hot stove, two young ladies - Misses Iola and Jewell Burks - living two and one-half miles in the country, walked in to Sunday school. They were on time, too. If these girls were boys of draft age and could get into the trenches in France they would go "over the top" and get the kaiser's, regardless of old Jack Frost. Believe they could do it anyhow.

The old-time Kansas blizzard, with its ever present horns and stinger, swooped done upon law-abiding, peace-loving Kansas, Saturday night. The mercury registered about twenty below. Mayetta and vicinity was fortunate in respect to fuel, there being plenty of wood, coal and cobs. Of course it was hard on stock and very disagreeable for those who looked after them. Most of the state got a big snow but this section got very little. *The Mayetta Herald*, December 12, 1917.

The question of oil in this vicinity is taking on a more concrete aspect the last few days. And interest seems to be increasing instead of diminishing, optimism has replaced pessimism and hopes run aglimmerin'. So far about 10,000

acres of land has been leased in this vicinity and this figure will probably be increased to 14,000 acres within a few days. Mr. Seibert, secretary of the company, is on the go nearly all the time looking after the leasing and other phases of the project needing attention Seibert is a good man for the place too.

At a meeting of the lessors recently, at which two of the big promoters of the east were present, the matter of operations was brought to a focus by the company agreeing to bore or make tangible preparation to that end within ninety days. We understand this agreement is iron clad and carries with it a forfeit.

There are some people who steadfastly express their skepticism and shake their heads doubtfully when the subject of oil is touched. But pitted against this class are reputable geologists and men of almost a lifetime in the oil game, who are staking hundreds of dollars in this field. If these men did not feel almost certain that oil and gas exist here in paying quantities why this expense and trouble?

The logical conclusion is, these men know their business; that Mayetta will some bright morn awake from her days of lethargy and that millionaires will be ground out like cobs from Cooney's elevator. So might it be, so might it be. *The Mayetta Herald*, January 2, 1918.

A thief broke into the editor's cellar Saturday night and swiped about three bushels of potatoes. He evidently is no gentleman, for he took only the big ones, leaving us the runts. Come again brother - just one more time will do. We are prepared to leave a few marks of identification on you and take it from us we will brand your old hide so deep that you may be easily identified as long as you are permitted to inhabit this earthy sphere. *The Mayetta Herald*, January 2, 1918.

Violators of the bone dry law should first ascertain where out marshal lives before pulling the stopper. Ignorance of this fact got two Indians in bad last week. Marshal Spence was resting serenely in his easy chair Wednesday when loud cursing broke out at the back door. Peeping thru the window he saw two men violently tugging at a real demijohn which was wedged in an overcoat pocket. Ready at all times to render assistance in every good work, out vigilant officer darted out and helped to extract the balky devil. Then the men, fresh from Kansas City, were loaded into a car and taken to Holton by constable Graves. ...

There was some excitement Tuesday about 5:30 p. m. when homes were suddenly illuminated and a distinct tremor was felt. Those outside saw a large ball of fire pass thru the firmament, traveling north to east. The daily papers report that a fragment of the meteor fell northeast St. Joseph. ...

Wells, cisterns and streams are failing very rapidly in this section. Very few cisterns have water in them. Owing to the wells and streams failing, farmers are being put to a whole lot of inconvenience supplying water for their stock. Have you stopped to think how long ago since the ground has been thoroughly soaked? The recent snow didn't do the wheat much good, we are informed, most of it blowing off the fields. *The Mayetta Herald*, January 26, 1918.

Harvey Baker, who had the misfortune to break his leg some weeks ago, can verify the statement that Mayetta and surrounding country is one of the best places to live that a man can find this side of heaven. A mans' station in his community is judged largely by the opinion of his neighbors, who gathered gladly at his place last Monday and Tuesday and cut and sawed and hauled his winter supply of wood. Harvey wonders where he would go to find a better bunch of neighbors. *The Holton Recorder*, January 31, 1918.

Has spring arrived for keeps? Could mortal souls ask for nicer days than Sunday and Monday? "Bees am a hummin in da honeysuckle vine," flies made their debut, marbles were doing their business at the old stand. Every car owner was burning gasoline to beat the band Sunday. If this brand of weather continues a few days many farmers will sow their oats. ...

Sunday's Capital had considerable to say about Jess Willard and R. L. Miller having closed a deal for a section of land near Mayetta on which to establish a blooded stock ranch. We have endeavored to ascertain the location of the land referred to, but no one seems to know anything about it, hence we assume it is located "somewhere" in the Capital building. *The Mayetta Herald*, February 6, 1918.

Mayetta had a distinguished visitor last Friday in the person of Champion Jess Willard of Chicago. Mr. Willard motored up from Topeka with R. L. Miller and spent several hours here greeting old acquaintances. It is rumored that he, with R. L. Miller, might establish a large ranch in this vicinity and stock it with blooded stock.

Mr. Willard is undecided about going on the road with his big show this season, owing to the transportation difficulties. His show is in winter quarters at Jacksonville. He has 250 teams of horses with his show and has had them employed all winter in the construction of army cantonments. *The Mayetta Herald*, February 13, 1918.

Was there ever a period in history when mules sold for the high price they are now selling for? Just recently a pair of mules sold at a sale for \$800. It is not an uncommon thing for an ordinary span of mules to bring \$400 and \$500. It occurs to us that a man could engage in no more profitable business than by going into the mule raising

industry. And it may come to the "Muleless" day yet. *The Mayetta Herald*, February 20, 1918.

The Service Flag service held here Saturday night was well attended. Frank G. Richard of Holton gave the address. There were 28 stars, one for each boy of Mayetta and vicinity who have gone to war. *The Holton Signal*, March 21, 1918.

There was a generous response here to the Red Cross call for clothing for the destitute in Belgium and France. After being assorted and baled into six bales, averaging over 100 pound each S. E. Cathcart and Chas. Cooney hauled them to the Red Cross society at Holton. There was also a box of shoes containing 50 or 60 pairs. There was some very good clothing. *The Mayetta Herald*, March 27, 1918.

The Miller Red Cross Auction sale was a great success, making over \$400 besides after the sale was over making \$86 to buy sewing machines for the Red Cross room in Mayetta. The latter was raised by selling hen and chickens and a gallon of kraut. *The Holton Signal*, April 1, 1918.

Quite a number have applied for Liberty Bonds voluntarily. The committee hasn't put forth much effort, but are giving those who want Bonds an opportunity without solicitation. The committee will visit you in a few days if you do not volunteer. This is every American's duty as a patriot to subscribe to the loan, if able, even he must make a little sacrifice. This war has gotten to be a serious matter with us as Americans, and it is up to us to do our utmost.

...

The following boys were called in the second draft from Mayetta: Fred Robson, Robt. Wyatt, Hoke Smith Cadue, Jno. Mitchell, Jno. Wabnum, Roy (Nick) Spangler, Harry Wamego. ...

Mrs. H. M. Reist is the local chairman of Cedar township in the woman Liberty Bond campaign. Mrs. Reist will organize the women of the township and then it is up to the people to make the campaign a success. This work is not only for the women but for the men, boys and girls. Let us wake up before it is too late. *The Holton Recorder*, April 18, 1918.

An emergency call has been made by the U. S. Food Administration for the return of all surplus flour in the hands of consumers and the appeal asks all persons holding more than 30 days supply to turn this back to their dealers before May 15th. ...

Jackson county is soaked at last and a foot of snow was thrown in for good measure. It is the wet, fluffy kind and as this local is being put in type (Saturday) the trees with their green foliage resemble huge snow balls. Everything was adorned with a fluffy cap of pure white. It is the prettiest snow scene witnessed here in years.

Farmers are jubilant, for it almost insures the wheat and oats so far as moisture is concerned. It may kill some fruit, cause some to drag the old heater from its brief repose in the wood shed and get it into action again, make it necessary to dig up our winter underwear and discard our straw hat, but we only wink at these inconveniences and rejoice in the fact that the prospects for the greatest wheat and oats crop were never better. ...

Mayetta and surrounding territory have taken the first steps towards the organization of a large Rural High School District, in accordance with our splendid Kansas school law enacted for this purpose. The map and boundaries of the proposed district have been approved and a poll of the voters is to be made. Petitions, to be presented to the county commissioners, are already being circulated and signed. With a few exceptions the voters sign the petition as soon as presented.

The county school districts are already taxed to pay the tuition of high school students. One of the great beauty of the plan is the strength and large evaluation of Rural High School district, making it comparatively easy to maintain as an accredited high school. It has become a recognized fact that a girl or boy who happens to live four or five miles or even further from town should have the same school advantages as those who live near a city high school. Hoyt and other towns in Jackson county are working on this same proposition and no doubt will be fully organized before the next school term. *The Mayetta Herald*, April 24, 1918.

Surely Dr. and Mrs. Robson have done their bit in this world-war. Besides giving generously of things material they have given of what is vitally nearer their hearts - three of their boys. Monday morning Fred, the last to go, boarded the train for the training camp. Clarke is ready and waiting to go over. Frank has seen years of service - all volunteers. That's not all. Had Uncle Sam not turned him down "daddy" too, would have been in the fray at this very hour. He not only proffered his service, but begged them to accept him. But his age forbid. In the name of all that is fair and just Dr. Robson is entitled to all that remains of "Keezer" Bill after the Sammies get thru with him. The memento would be infinitesimal, of course, but would suffice. *The Mayetta Herald*, May 1, 1918.

Miss Velma Robson is sub on route 2 as mail carrier. *The Holton Signal*, May 2, 1918.

They had a party at the home of Lon Stafford Saturday night, and had plenty of good music. This party was given

in honor of George and Ray Stafford, before they leave for Camp Funston, on Wednesday. A number of friends from Topeka, Holton and Horton were there all had a splendid time. At a late hour they left for their homes, bidding the boys goodbye and wishing them a safe return. One of the boys told me today they expect to get the Kaiser before returning. *The Holton Recorder*, May 28, 1918.

19th Co. 164 D. B., Camp Funston. June 13, 1918. Dear Friend:- I will write a few lines to let you know how I am getting along out here at Funston.

I have become somewhat accustomed to army life and like it first rate. There is nothing bad about it. All one has to do what he is told and he will get along alright. All the boys seem to enjoy themselves. I don't see Fred very often now because he has been transferred.

The army "Y" furnishes stationary, pens, ink, blotters and desks for the soldiers to use in writing home, magazines and newspapers, library books, Testaments and other religious matter, classes in English and French, lectures, musical entertainments, athletics, phonograph, religious meetings, money orders, postage stamps, motion pictures, etc. I don't know what the boys would do without the Y. M. C. A. It makes camp much pleasanter for them. The evenings do not drag along. We can go to one of the huts and enjoy an evening's entertainment free and go away feeling much better than if we had only lain around the barracks.

It is surprising to see how many boys are writing each time a person visits one of the buildings. It has been difficult for me to find a place to write each time I have come here.

I will have to close for this time because I am trying to write and listen at the same time. Respectfully yours, Chas. E. Landon. ...

Will Robson left Saturday noon for Lawrence for preparatory work for army service. This is now the fourth son Dr. and Mrs. Robson have given up to fight for the freedom of the world. And had not his application been turned down the doctor himself would have been in the service long ago. So, in flesh and blood, they have given their all Frank, Clarke, Fred, Will. Hats off, gentlemen, to the Robson family.

A big farewell reception has been arranged for Will. But he found it necessary to go sooner than he had first planned, so the reception was abandoned. *The Mayetta Herald*, May 31, 1918.

Three more of our boys - Charles Cooney, Earl Grinnell and John Cooney, left here Thursday evening for army camps. They, too, were given a rousing sendoff by citizen and country people. V. R. Lunger made a brief talk, in which he said that it was authentically reported that Mayetta gave her departing boys the biggest reception by far than was given by any town to her boys from St. Joe to Topeka. Mr. Lunger further stated that Mayetta should repeat these demonstrations of love and respect to every boy leaving here for army service. *The Mayetta Herald*, June 5, 1918.

Jackson county sent 86 more men to the front Wednesday, and 14 were from Mayetta. This by far the largest number who have gone from this place at one time. A big crowd gathered at the depot to see the boys off. A large number came from the country and all the business places closed their doors and went to the depot. They all gathered at the Red Cross rooms a little after 10 o'clock and marched around the square and to the depot, waving flags. There they bid the boys good-bye and many tears were shed and it was almost impossible for some of the mothers to give their boys up. It does seem sad to think of them having to go, but such things can't be helped. Old Glory must be defended in that far away country. We hear lots of young boys say they would be willing to go. If your reporter was in the draft age and physically able, he would just as leave go or not. *The Holton Recorder*, June 6, 1918.

Four more of our boys - Chas. Cox, Frank Boyles, James and Harry Robinson - left Sunday evening for Puget Sound, Wash., to train for the navy. The boys, like those who preceded them to war from here, were given a rousing ovation by several hundred people. *The Mayetta Herald*, June 12, 1918.

Preston James was recently wounded slightly in the right arm, while fighting Huns in France. Preston has been in the very thickest of the fight at a point where the enemy have been pressing the Allies hard. *The Mayetta Herald*, June 26, 1918.

A great deal of corn is being laid by. Harvest has begun in full blast. Grain is getting very ripe - so much dry weather is ripening it rapidly. Hands are scarce and hard to get. They are paying from \$3.00 to \$4.50 per day, some are asking as much as \$5.00 per day. You can see by this that it is going to cost the farmers a great deal to put their grain on the market. Counting the board and threshing and binding twine at 26c per pound, it is not all profit by any means. ...

We see they are doing away with horses more each day. One of our farmers, A. J. Jones, had his binder pulled with a tractor. Not many years hence, you will see many fields being plowed and all your grain being hauled to market with tractors. They are doing it now in many places. The world is advancing all the time. *The Holton Recorder*, June 27, 1918.

Last Thursday a class of twenty-five completed the course in Surgical Dressings at the Red Cross Room, under the direction of Mrs. N. D. Bailey.

All finished the work with credit and received much favorable comment on the dressings made by the class. On the closing day a large crowd was present and those finishing the surgical work were presented with red crosses to be worn on the apron and coif. These crosses are issued by the government and presented by the instructor.

A picture was taken of the class in uniform and also one of the other Red Cross workers. These pictures, when finished, will be in the Red cross room for those wishing to see them.

The first shipment of surgical dressings was sent to Holton last Friday. They were made by the class and consisted of 1048 pieces, also 185 muslin bandages. *The Mayetta Herald*, July 3, 1918.

Jess Willard and Ray Archer drove into town last Wednesday in Willard's \$7,000 Fiat car. They called on V. R. Lunger and other acquaintances in this vicinity. Big Jess now lives on his ranch near Lawrence. Archer was formerly cashier of the Exchange State Bank and has been closely associated with Jess ever since the latter broke into the fistic game. *The Mayetta Herald*, July 3, 1918.

Jay Anderson, Viggo Jensen and Floyd Fitzsimmons went to Camp Funston Friday to be U. S. soldiers. A number went to the depot to see them off, and wish them all the good luck that comes their way. ...

Viggo Jensen and Miss Mary Hale, both of Mayetta, were married Wednesday, June 26. Herby Johnson took them over to Atchison in his car and they were married there. Viggo is a soldier, and his wife will stay with her folks on the reservation, while he is gone. *The Holton Recorder*, July 4, 1918.

The garages of Mayetta should be congratulated on complying with the closing orders from the government, and all will have to, sooner or later. You can't buck the law. ...

All garage gasoline stations and tire and accessory stores are to be closed promptly at six o'clock on week days and at nine o'clock on Saturdays and will not open at all on Sundays, so you had better provide yourself with extra tubes, gasoline, etc., for Sundays. *The Holton Recorder*, July 11, 1918.

From what we now understand, we are going to have our supply of sugar cut down, and we must submit without a protest, and Uncle Sam's men have to be fed over the waters. We should say, give them all we can; we have no idea what they are going through. Anyone reading some time ago what Mr. Bender had written right from the trenches might understand. Uncle Sam has to furnish supplies regardless of cost, and we will have to do without lots of things before this war is over. As for ourselves, we cannot remember how long it has been since we have tasted sugar in our coffee. *The Holton Recorder*, July 19, 1918.

During the Second World War rationing of sugar also took place. I remember one of our neighbors in Southern Maryland made sorghum molasses that my family used as a sugar substitute. To make the molasses the plant is stripped of its leaves and seeds leaving a long cane. The canes are run through rollers crushing them and the cane sap that is extracted is placed a long shallow metal evaporator pan. A fire is built under the pan, and a long process of evaporation takes place, for every ten gallons of cane sap only one gallon of syrup is produced. The lighter syrup is used for pancakes, biscuits or to sweeten baked goods, but if allowed to cook longer becomes a dark, thick syrup called blackstrap molasses. This is what my father used to sweeten his coffee, one teaspoon per cup.

War at the time of the First World War was not the sanitized war that we are living through today. Today our only contact with a war is an occasional mention on TV of a service man or woman dying, and perhaps on Memorial Day feeling patriotic and waving the flag. In prior wars every home was effected in some way, family members, next door neighbors boys going away to war, and all the people making sacrifices.

The war was financed by the selling of war bonds, six in all I believe. Red Cross Chapters in every county were formed to raise money and the women rolled bandages and prepared lint compresses to put on wounds to stop the bleeding. There were those, who although were too old to serve in the army, volunteered to go to France as civilians and work on the front lines running Red Cross and YMCA canteens for the soldiers.

The people filled small boxes called 'Comfort Kits,' full of items that a soldier could use on the front lines; toiletries, needles and thread, candy, nuts, cookies, church tracts; stocking caps, which were called helmets at that time, what ever the individual sender thought a soldier could use. They enclosed their names and addresses in the packages that were randomly distributed by the Red Cross, and some lasting friendships were formed in this way.

Scrap iron and tin cans were collected for the steel mills; clothes were collected for the civilians suffering from the war. There was shortage of many things, some of which at this late date, would not occur to us.

For instance half of the canned tomatoes produced in the US went to American forces at the front. There was a shortage of pure water to drink, and soldiers resorted to drinking French wine and the canned tomatoes were also a source with which to quench their thirst. The tomatoes also served as a base for a favorite kind of stew or soup the doughboys made called "slum," that with the addition of canned beef called "monkey meat," and whatever vegetables could be found made for a nourishing meal.

Chas. Rees, mail carrier, lost a good horse last Thursday by drowning. As Mr. Rees approached a ford on Little Soldier he found the stream was considerably swollen. Fay Coffin drove up about the same time and decided to try to cross. His team quickly went under and Mr. Coffin, himself, was in immediate danger of being drowned. Charley left his horse and helped rescue Mr. Coffin. Succeeding in this the two men went to the rescue of the team, which had washed down stream ways. They were saved. Meanwhile the Reese horse deliberately walked into the stream and was drowned. The buggy was badly damaged and some mail lost. ...

The election of the Rural High School board was held at the Mayetta school building last Friday at two o'clock p. m. ... It was voted to have a nine months school and that the Rural high school begin at the same time as the Mayetta city school. *The Mayetta Herald*, July 24, 1918.

A telegram from Washington under the date August 14, was received by Mrs. Dudley Lunger, stating that her cousin, Jack Cobeldick, had been killed in action on July 18, somewhere in France. This is the first Mayetta boy to lose his life for his country. Jack Cobeldick was in his second enlistment, having enlisted the first time at Bremerton, Washington, as a marine, in September, 1911. Four years later he received a medal for high standard, with an honorable discharge. He enlisted again as a marine in January, 1916, and was sent to San Domingo, where he saw service before being sent to France early in the war. He was among the first troops to arrive in Paris. At the time of his death he had obtained the rank of first sergeant and also a medal for marksmanship. His brother Frank is also in France, and knows nothing of his death. *The Holton Recorder*, August 22, 1918.

Kansas helped in the fight against Germany by producing a bumper wheat crop this year, but she is about to make a record in helping to sweeten the Allied world, according to information coming to the Food Administration headquarters at Wichita.

She will do it with sorghum molasses. Kansas has thousands of acres, of sorghum producing cane which is raised as feed, but which can produce molasses as well.

The syrup from cane is bound to have a big demand and the farmers who are putting up mills or reopening their old ones with the idea of grinding for their neighbors will make money as well as help in the present sugar shortage. *The Holton Recorder*, August 29, 1918.

Four more boys left here for training camps Friday. John Long, Joe Pierson, Mike Hogan, J. B. Coughlin. Next Friday four more will leave here: Samuel Early, Philbert Jones, Joe Blandin and Oscar Levier. Good luck, boys.

Harry Jones received a letter last week from his brother who is at the front in France. His experience during his week's of continuous fighting is anything but a Sunday school picnic. He writes he has gone three and four days at a time without a mouth-full of warm grub, it being impossible to get warm food at the front. *The Mayetta Herald*, September 4, 1918.

Four more of our boys from Mayetta and one from Denison left Friday for Camp Funston. There was a very large crowd at the depot to see them leave. The Haskell band from Lawrence was here for the fair. They furnished some nice music for the boys. I was surprised to learn that Haskell had such a nice band. We can thank Willie Wapp, president of the Indian Fair Association, for having the band out to give the boys such a nice sendoff, which will not be soon forgotten. *The Holton Recorder*, September 12, 1918.

A letter was received from Corp. Dewey D. Goheen, somewhere in France, stating that he was getting along fine and was perfectly satisfied. It also stated that there was a prize given to the one who offered the best name for their heavy guns, and that he was lucky enough to win the prize. The name he gave for his gun being "Fritz's Nightmare." Another name that was given was "Death Nell," another, "Old Dutch Cleanser." He said the days were still hot, but the nights cool over there. *The Holton Recorder*, September 26, 1918.

France, Sept. 20, 1918. Dear Niece Mabel: - Will try to answer your letter of Aug. 12, received tonight. Sure glad to hear from you. Am O. K. and hope you folks are the same. Suppose you children have started school by this time. How is Jesse making it with his burrow, how many times has he been thrown off! How is Pearl and who does Elsie fight with since I left? Ha, ha. Tell her I fight with the Germans. About 120 Germans came over early one morning in a heavy fog and tried to raid our part. There were about 25 of us. We killed a few, captured some prisoners and sent some of them back crippled. We never lost a man killed. Two boys got wounded. A few days later we went

over the top in our drive and believe me they didn't stop us either. We took several thousand prisoners.

Well, I guess I had better quit talking war. I don't need anything. Uncle Sammie clothes us good. The folks say they have never heard from me and Robson's from Fred. Tell them I haven't seen Fred since our drive, but he is O. K. The army sure agrees with Fred, He is getting fat and the picture of health. Also tell Tork's Bud is O. K.

Well, there is nothing more to write, so I'll quit. Write as often as you can. Private Robert S. Wyatt. Co. D 353 Inf. A. E. F. *The Mayetta Herald*, October 23, 1918.

Somewhere in France, Oct. 6, 1918. Martin Goheen and Family: Dear Friends: - It has been sometime since I have heard from any Mayetta friends. Am in good health and trying to do my bit with Uncle Sam and to help the people in this fair country. And friends I want to say that it is well worth the price we may pay if we save what is left of France from the hunger and lust of the Hun. They are a humble and hard working people and every house here, nearly, has a blackboard to show someone has stayed there.

The American army has a fine morale which is like a big game of football only more serious and when they go over the top, they want to make a gain before they stop. It sure is fine. When we look on the British army in Palestine and know they are leaving the cities and places of interest untouched and then hear of the desolation of the Hun with his blood thirst and the destroyer of homes as well as civilization, laying waste to the field, the village and driving the inhabitants before them as cattle, the true American blood is at the boiling point and wants to see nothing as much as the complete overthrow and subjugation of followers and descendants of Attila of old.

Friends I have had over a year in the army and my old thought hasn't changed. We must go thru to Berlin before we are thru and give them a taste of American thoroughness they will not forget soon, for they will be back at us if we don't dominate and make it impossible for them to do so. So on with the fight. Lets make a good job of it while we are ready and then we can go to rest with a well done for us.

I am in charge of 120 men and if it doesn't keep an officer busy I'm no judge. The Red Cross is surely doing good work, as I am where I can see the results now, See America is backing the Liberty loan as usual. When one sees the shiploads of men, etc., you wonder how it can be, everything moving and getting where it belongs.

Have received one letter from Zellah since I have been here, and I have a baby at home that I have never seen, yet I am here and willing to stay till the last bugle sounds. The sound of taps is one of the sweetest to the tired soldier that you could find possible to hear.

Well, write me a letter. Giving it a month I may get it by Xmas. Sincerely your, Chas. C. Bliss, Capt, 154 Amb. Co. 114 San. Sat., A. E. F., via N. Y. *The Mayetta Herald*, November 6, 1918.

PEACE. No word of mortal tongue is fraught with such significance at his hour as the word "Peace!" Not since the coronation of the Savior of man, the Prince of Peace, has it been received with such glad acclaim by the children of men thruout the uttermost parts of this earthly sphere. Peace on earth once more and peace on earth for ever more, we hope. And the world reposes in the belief that this will be so.

Peace on land
And peace on sea,
Safe for democracy
And liberty!

Right has prevailed. Right has ever prevail and right will prevail throughout the cycles of time. It is the inexorable law of the Most High. The adage that "Right makes right" did not obtain. It was given birth by the Hun and with the Hun has passed into oblivion. "All thing worketh together for those who love the Lord," saith holy writ. At times it has been hard for us to comprehend this declaration. The clouds have been dark and heavy, excluding every ray of sunshine and hope. It has taken precious blood and great treasure, tears and heartaches, but the scripture has been fulfilled to the letter. The approaching Thanksgiving Day should be to us the greatest of all time.

Brave, gallant Americans, French, Belgians, British, Italians, Serbians - bravo. You have fought a good fight. The crown of eternal gratitude is yours.

A rousing celebration and thanksgiving was held on the street Monday evening. While the crowd was large and noisy, it was orderly. After an automobile parade a short program was rendered. Geo. James presided, J. P. Hittle offered a prayer, followed by a short talk by Prof. Kelly. But the thing that aroused the people to the highest pitch of enthusiasm was the eloquent and stirring address of P. S. Elliott. Miss Josephine Slattery made a hit in her recitation. The program was interspersed with patriotic songs by a chorus of girls.

It was a happy bunch and while it was the first peace celebration here, it is devoutly hoped it will be the last one the ages shall record.

If Kaiser Bill had been around here Thursday night he could have formed an idea as to the fate that awaits him. Celebrating the report that peace had been declared quite a crowd gathered on the street to see the torch applied to Bill. He was suspended on a wire which reached across the street. His duds were saturated with coal oil. Harold Robson, khaki clad, applied the torch and soon the flames engulfed him as the people cheered.

When the fake news reached here in the afternoon church bells and school bells were rung, firearms discharged,

dinner bells, dishpans, horns, etc., helped swell the chorus of glad acclaim.

The Robson ranch in Mayetta reverberated from hilltop to hilltop with the strains of music from a masculine throat. No one in this old burg ever heard such singing at the break of day. The staccato tone would die away upon the distant winds, when the report of a gun or ringing of the bells, would send a new thrill thru his soul and the singing would reach a great height of intensity. It was Dr. Robson.

Grandma Dunahugh fired the first gun Monday morning, with shoes unbuttoned and nightcap on. *The Mayetta Herald*, November 16, 1918.

It was nice to hear the old church bells ringing Sunday. It sounded good to hear them calling people to church. It does people good to attend church, after not being able to do so for several weeks on account of influenza. Everything at church is better than before. The people's voices have more music and power, the young and old sing with more vim and energy. The music falls on the ear with a more soothing effect of the new advent of "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men." *The Holton Recorder*, November 21, 1918.

Nov. 7, 1918. Beloved Parents and All: Am O. K. How is everybody? Received letter No. 11 last night, written Oct. 11. Hope you have begun to hear from Fred and I by this time. Has Will gone to Camp Meade yet? And where is Frank?

It looks like "Fritz" may "kick in" by Christmas, doesn't it? It is too late to get a coupon home now, besides there is nothing but pictures I care for anymore. You know you can't send eats, and we may be on the road home before the stuff reaches us. I hope this doesn't hurt your feelings because you can't send me anything, because I really I can't think of anything I want you to send, and I just got back with the company today and have been no place where I could get a coupon.

No, I never met Fred's division any more, but have seen several fellows out of it.

You ask me about the weather here. Well, it doesn't rain "almost" every day here, but it rain every day.

There was a picture of Sue and Mamma in this letter. I sent you a picture in my next to last letter (No. 12.) I've only received one letter in the last two weeks and that was the one from home last night. Will close this for a time. Love to all. Pvt. Andrew C. Robson, Hospital Train 57, A. E. F.

Nov. 2, 1918. Loved ones at Home: Will write you a few lines. I am feeling very good. I weigh 175 pounds now. How is everybody at home now? I hope fine at any rate.

Well, I have not heard from home since the 6th of August. I will get a bunch of mail soon.

Well, hereafter, address my mail as below. I have been transferred from the Infantry. Hoping to hear from you soon, I remain, as ever, Your son, Pvt. Charles F. Robson, Co. D. H. Q. Br., A. E. F., A. P. O. 902.

Dr. Robson had a letter from the boys in France, dated, Nov. 9th, two days before the signing of the armistice. Fred said he bumped into Jay Boyles the day before and that he was a fat as a coon. The boys also said that it was just as well not to send any packages, as they had a hunch that the would be over soon and they would be on their way home by Xmas. *The Mayetta Herald*, December 4, 1918.

November 11, 1918. Dear Folks: Well, I will write you a few lines to let you know I am still going. I just ate eleven flapjacks for breakfast, so you see I am not starving. We are stationed in a town now and are having it pretty easy.

The peace idea looks pretty good now, tho I have not seen a paper for three days, we do not know how it is coming. There are lots of French refugees coming into this town now, who were held by the Germans, but freed by this last big drive. They looked like they had a hard time of it and were sure glad to get back in allied hands.

The band from Holton is stationed in this town and I met several fellows that I knew, but Alba Saunders is not back with them yet, but they expect him back soon. I met one of the Coleman boys from Denison, also Harry Artman of Denison. I also saw Crawford and Bender from Holton and they seemed to be getting along alright.

I do not think this can last more than three or four months more, even if this present peace talk does not go thru.

Well, I will close, As ever your son, Dewey D. Goheen, Bat. C, 60th Art., C. A. C., A. E. F. *The Mayetta Herald*, December 18, 1918.

Nov. 24, 1918. Dear Dad: Well, I suppose you will be eating turkey tomorrow if there is such a thing in the States now and I suppose Mother is fixing up for Thanksgiving dinner. I would like to be there and eat Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner at home, but there is no chance of it this year, but I'll be there Johnny-on-the-spot next year. Now that the armistice is signed I guess the chances are rather good for us all getting back to the old U. S. A. but when G. Q. cans (nickname for the big shells) were dropping around us I was not so sure that any of the battery were going back. They shelled us with 16-inch shells in one of our positions and one barely missed one of our guns and failed explode, but the hole one made that did explode was 40 feet across and 23 feet deep. So you see they dig a regular dugout. Only nine of them came over that morning only three near us. They shelled us lots of times with smaller caliber guns, but this battery has been the luckiest of any battery I have heard of, only a very few casualties and I believe we have caused a few on the other side that outnumbered ours.

I think the most disagreeable part of our work is over, for when we would have to go in position at night with it raining pitchforks, as it was most of the time before the firing stopped, and so dark that you couldn't see your hand before you, not being allowed to have a light of any kind, it was not fun; or like it was the night we came to the front our very first time. We rode all night in the rain on tops of trucks and when we crawled off the next morning we could hardly move, being so stiff and cold, but none got sick over it and most everybody wore the same clothes till they dried. But when a few fine days came all either forgot their experiences or laughs at them.

We were out of luck on sleep when we first hit the front, but are getting plenty of it now.

The only fellow I met that I know over here are the fellows in the Holton band and I was sure glad to see them.

Have no idea when we will get home probably next spring, unless the armistice is a failure which is not probable. This will make two Christmas's away from home. I will sure be there for the next one. Would like to get some pictures of our guns and tractors but I guess there is no chance of it.

Since firing has stopped the weather has been fine and has not rained once, which goes to show that explosions in the air caused so much rain over here. That would be a good plan to try when its dry in Kansas, only it would be too expensive.

Well, I suppose you will get this about Xmas and this will be my Xmas present this year. As ever, your son, Corporal Dewy D. Goheen, Bat. C 60th At. C. A. C., A. E. F.

Sauenay, 11-24-1918. Loved Ones at Home: We have received word that we can write "Dad's Xmas Letter" and it won't be censored, in which we can tell of our life in France, but as I've been here so long there isn't much to say. I haven't been with 57 since Nov. 1, but am living in hopes of rejoining them soon.

We worked on the front during the Chateau-Thierry drive, but have not been near the Front since. We garaged in Paris while working on the Front and had some time. I've been all over Paris. You see there were some days that we didn't go up to the Front. I may have not been in the said danger zone, but I've been near enough to hear the shells moan. You know that at close range they seem to whistle, but at a distance they kinda moan. We were the first train into Chateau-Thierry except a work train, and believe me there sure was some music down southwest of here.

I tried transferring into the artillery three times since I reached France, four times since I left Riley.

I have been to Vichy, where Preston James is, lots of times, but the hospital is so far from the track that I was never able to see him.

The day peace was declared, 21 guns were fired in the harbor of Brest. The boys (our company) told me about it.

The say 57 is down on the track today, but I haven't had time to see yet. If it is I think there'll be one less private at base hospital No. 8.

Well, its 2:30 p. m. and almost time to "chaw." Are Will and Frank home yet? I suppose the guys that didn't have the nerve to enlist are more tickled that she's over than we are.

I landed in France May 23 at Brest. I got on the ship May 9, sailed the evening of the 10th and if the Statue of Liberty sees me after I get back she'll have to make an about face.

Was Fred wounded or knocked off? Here's hoping not.

Oh! Say, I've been in a dozen air raids. Saw one daylight raid in Paris. Will close for this time. Your loving son, Andrew C. Robson.

Bourges, France, Nov. 26, 1918. Dear Folks: Having some spare moments I will endeavor to write you a few lines to let you know that I am still among the living.

Well I do not know of much news to tell you, only that I am longing for the time to come when I can be with you all again.

Did Frank ever get to come home? Say, mother, if you have not started any Christmas presents to me please do not, as I would rather you would keep it and spend it on yourself, as I do not want any more to carry around and I can take better care of them at home.

Well as it is almost time to go to work I had better ring off at this time. Call sister Susan and tell her I am well and give them my best regards for Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Got a long letter from "Finger Bowls" the other day and she gave me her orders what she wanted me to bring back, that is, if I get to go to Paris.

Wishing all a thankful Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, I remain as ever, your son, Pvt. Charles F. Robson.

Pity the mail carriers just now. Just as their very heavy Xmas mail came on a cold snap and bad roads add to their grief. Monday was an old-time blizzard and only one carrier, we understand, made the complete trip and that was Miss Velma Robson. That is what we dominate pluck. But Velma taught school in western Kansas a winter or so where she experienced real full grown blizzards, making this one a puny affair in comparison. Owing to the drifts and belated trains the carriers didn't go out today. ...

Two Mayetta boy's names appeared in last week's casualty list as slightly wounded. They were Claude Myers and Lyman Tapsee. *The Mayetta Herald*, December 25, 1918.

One of the largest deals ever pulled in our town last week, when R. L. Miller sold his lumber yard and five residences to W. R. Canfield Lumber Co. of Holton. They will invoice about Jan. 5, 1919. Mr. Miller has been here in business a long time and has given lots of men employment. They all hate to learn of this deal. But he still owns the elevator and his interest here in the store and also other business. So you see he hasn't entirely quit us. *The Mayetta Herald*, December 25, 1918.

Clarence Oliver Grubbs, only son of Mr. and Mrs. F. O. Grubbs, of Holton, Kan., was born March 6, 1893, near Horton, Kan. He was killed in action in the Argonne Forest, October 15, 1918, at the age of 25 years, and seven months. In 1900 the family moved to Whiting, Kan., where after completing the common school course, he entered the Holton high school, where he was graduated in 1911. After teaching one year at Glenwood, in this county, he took a business course in Topeka, after which he accepted a position in the Kansas State Bank of Holton. This position he resigned after two years, to become cashier of the Exchange Bank of Mayetta, Kansas.

At the organization of Company B of the Kansas National Guard, he enlisted and became First Sergeant during his service on the border. After declaration of war with Germany he went into training with Company B, 137th Infantry, at Camp Doniphan, going overseas in April, 1918. On August 1, 1918, he was sent to officer's training school at Langres, France, and was commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant in the 307th Infantry, 77th Division. When 11 years of age, Clarence united with the Baptist church at Whiting, Kansas. After coming to Holton he entered the Dynamo class of the Christian church ... He leaves, besides his parents, one sister, Clarice, a little cousin, Mabel Baker, who has been in the home since infancy, and a grandfather, O. H. Grubbs, a veteran of the Civil war. *The Holton Recorder*, January 23, 1919.

The flu is getting another start these days. We hear that in some parts of the country they had to close the schools. The season is a bad one. We believe the Mayetta school has missed in all about six weeks. Some of that time will be made up. They teach every other Saturday, so we understand. The principal's room was the only one that taught last week. *The Holton Recorder*, January 30, 1919.

Piled on top of all the other things that had to be endured by the people during this time was the severe outbreak of the Spanish Influenza in 1918. Many thousands died and few escaped being infected; the places where the public congregated were closed, such as schools and churches. It was so contagious that when funerals were held for its victims, the casket would be out put on the porch or behind a window inside the house and the preacher and mourners would stand in the yard and the funeral was conducted from there. The cause of a persons death was often listed as pneumonia, but its genesis was in the flu.

The flu returned year after year for many more years, and some of those that had recovered from previous bouts had been so weakened by the flu that they died when they contracted the flu again.

Flerigen, Germany, Feb. 1, 1919. Dear Friend Reist: I remember I promised to write you, before I left the states, while I was talking to you in your garage.

We are getting along just fine and dandy. All the Mayetta boys are in good health, that are with us in Germany. I was talking to Johnnie Hale last night and he said John Wabnum certainly did get fat. While I was standing there he attracted my attention by his size. Why, you would hardly recognize those boys. Surely the climate must agree with them.

We are having some of that German winter. It is cold just now. During the time I have been here I have seen the sun shine only two or three days.

Will you kindly send us the Mayetta Herald, as we are getting rather lonely for some news. How is Fred Lunger getting along? Tell him I said this is the life, if you don't weaken; also tell him to write to me. Johnnie Hale says he wants Patton to have a big hot pie ready for him when he gets home.

Well I will close, hoping to hear from you in the near future. Our best regards to all. H. S. Cadue, Co. A 353 3rd Inf.; A. E. F. *The Mayetta Herald*, March 6, 1919.

Hondelaincourt, France, Feb. 23, '19. Dear Papa: - I received your letter of Feb. 2, and one from Ira the day before. This leaves me feeling fine and with nothing much to do. I am helping put in wire in the billets for electric lighting. We are having fine weather here now. It is pretty warm and things are beginning to get green. The water in all the streams here is green in color. One never sees a muddy stream, no difference how heavy the rains have been. Some of them are pretty, too. Three fellows and I took a walk along the Rhine-Marne canal today. A branch of it goes through this town. We walked to a place two or three miles from here where it tunneled under a hill for two and a half miles. We started to walk through, but it got so dark that we could hardly see our path, which is almost two feet wide, so we came back. I think we will go back next Sunday and take a flashlight and go through it.

Most of the fellows are busy these days polishing up big shells and having them engraved. I have a 75 and am

going to try to get it home.

We had a brigade horse show yesterday and I was on guard to help keep the crowd back from the ropes. They would get back when I walked along then close up to the ropes behind me, until I came back again, but I managed to keep them on the outside of the ropes.

Several fellows in our company have made application to go to universities over here. I was going to put in one but was about an hour too late. The course lasts until June 30 and costs \$50. Our Y. M. here has books that we can check out, also have magazines.

We heard today that our division was not booked to return before July 1st. Everyone here has the spring fever and we all feel lazy. One can generally find someone in bed in the billet. I didn't get up until 10 o'clock this morning but today is Sunday.

I was glad to hear that you got a new automobile. You can go places in a hurry now. Has Earnest tried to drive yet? The French run their cars awful fast and don't get out of the way for hardly anything. We certainly have a big bunch of trucks with our division. Guess I will close for this time, your son, Pvt. Charles E. Landon, Hdq. Co. 251 Inf., A. E. F., A. P. O. 795. *The Mayetta Herald*, March 26, 1919.

The annual school meeting of the rural high school was held last Thursday, and that of the city school on Friday.

At the meeting of the former no change was made in the board, which is composed of Geo. James, director; M. Fitzgerald, treasurer; W. M. Seibert, clerk. Regarding the building proposition, the board was authorized to go ahead and select a site for the erection of a building. But it was the sense of the meeting that building operations be deferred until next year. It will remain an accredited high school, provided certain conditions are met, mention of which was made in the Herald last week. *The Mayetta Herald*, April 16, 1919.

Certain men, who ought to know better, are circulating the story that we will not receive above \$15,000 per mile federal aid for the building of hard surfaced roads. For their information and the information of others - if any man will go the county engineers office he will find a copy of the federal law there that provides that the first roads built in the state of Kansas will receive 50 per cent of the cost of said roads from the federal government providing roads do not cost to exceed \$30,000 per mile; if roads should cost more, will receive \$15,000 per mile. Now if the residents of this road district are so opposed to hard surfaced roads that they do not want to accept aid, they are certainly working against their own interests. ... A man living in this district signed a petition yesterday for 1,370 acres. None of this land is within one mile of the road. This man knows that the road will pay him a dividend everyday of the year. Please remember that hard surfaced roads are an investment. When you spend your money on things that are gone, that is a tax; but you will have hard surfaced roads with you everyday for your individual and public use. Again remember the building of roads throughout the entire country is a safety-valve that will employ all surplus labor; keep up prices where they ought to be and help pay the national debt. ... This road is not going to cost the land in the benefit district on an average of over 21 cents per acre for the next twenty years, interest included; and if any state aid is granted, the cost will still be less. Now, that is the most anyone will pay. ... *The Holton Recorder*, April 17, 1919.

Mr. Vern Lunger: - Will drop a few lines today. How are you? I am fine and dandy. Having a fine time to boot. Have made 12 trips to Germany and sure like it fine up there. Have crossed the old Rhine several times. Sure is some place. Coblenz, Germany is where our trains most all go. I am conveying trains, is how I get there so often. I just got back yesterday and will go again in about two days. Am now at a station near Newschatau, France.

Well, how is everything around Mayetta? Suppose Freddy is home now, or did he get to come across the pond? He sure is a lucky boy if he didn't, for this is sure some country. Rains or snows about all the time. It don't get very cold and snow don't stay very long.

You ought to see the stores here, sure are some huts. All they have is English walnuts, a few oranges and plenty of souvenirs to get the Yanks money. Yet they have some fine silk work, such as aprons and handkerchiefs.

But the farming beats them all. They put two or three horses and an oxen or two on a plow, one man to use the whip and lead them on, then one man to hold the plow. The don't work their horses and oxen like we work our horses. They hitch one ahead of the other in a single line, the same way on a wagon. You would sure laugh your head off if you could see them at work.

Will close, hoping this will find you all well. Can tell you more about France when I get back. As ever, Cpl. Geo. L Stafford, Co. G, 351 Inf., A. P. O. 796 A. E. F. ...

As has been the custom in the past, the city of Mayetta will have a Cleanup day on the above date, [May 1st] and will haul all trash placed in the alleys. The city will not haul ashes, cinders, manure or brush, but trash of all other kinds will be cared for. ... I want to urge everyone to clean up their back yards alleys, basements and the parking and the alleys adjacent to their property, and to do this is to eliminate one of the greatest causes of disease. ... *The Mayetta Herald*, April 23, 1919.

Mayetta is to have a permanent movie house. J. C. Mulryan has carpenters at work on his fine large room, getting

it into shape for service. The first of February two shows a week will be given.

Mr. Mulryan informs us that he has procured the very best equipment obtainable. The room will be seated with opera chairs and nothing but clean, high-class pictures will be shown.

Mr. Mulryan, as we all know, does nothing by halves, and the public can rest assured of getting the best that's going in filmdom. And it is believed that the public will gladly support it. ...

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Steward returned from Topeka Monday, where they have been employed for several months, and will again make Mayetta their home. Their decision to come back was due to the importunity of local telephone management. Years prior to their going to Topeka Mrs. Steward was operator here and her excellent service was not appreciated until she left. So the board induced her to again assume her work.

The telephone service here has been gradually growing from bad to worse for a long time. But the fault is not due wholly to inefficient operators, in fact little if any blame should be charged against them. The trouble is due to the dilapidated condition of the system. A man should be employed for the upkeep of the system who will give prompt and adequate service with a salary commensurate. *The Mayetta Herald*, April 30, 1919.

A special train was made up at Horton Friday and sent to Topeka to bring a number of our boys home. The Holton band went down on the special to greet the boys.

Of course the full company did not return, and sad to say, many never will return, but we understand about eighty of the company were on the train, besides a large number of Brown county boys.

There was a large crowd at the station to greet and welcome our own heroes - Claude and I. C. Myers and Joe Hart. These boys seen real service and came back home uninjured and looking fine. They are all delighted to be back home.

Duane Goheen returned home Tuesday, looking fine and dandy, having received a honorable discharge from the army. All are glad to see Duane back again. He was one of the first from here to enlist in the service. He saw much active service in France, and at the close of the war, was in command of artillery, after his commander had been put out of action.

Harry Wamego returned from overseas service Saturday morning. It was a surprise to some, for he was reported killed months ago. He was, however severely wounded in both legs by shell fire in one of the war's hottest engagements. He was in the hospital for several months, but shows no signs of his injuries. Harry operated a machine gun.

Mayetta was almost deserted last Thursday, so many having gone to Topeka to see our overseas soldier boys, who were enroute to Camp Funston to be demobilized. So many went that we will not mention names. *The Mayetta Herald*, May 14, 1919.

I haven't heard that the opinion of a woman was asked for on this new road proposition, but as this is an equal rights state, why not the women express their ideas too. I know I am progressive as those advocating this road, but I believe in "safety first," and it is much wiser and better to make the roads safe for a woman to drive over, at least in the daylight and dry weather, than to tax people for super-fine road for pleasure seekers, patrons of garages only. As a resident of Lincoln township, I think our first duty is at home. From the east line of the reserve we have no road running north and south that is open and passable for five miles. Our mail carriers threaten to quit if the roads and bridges are not made better.

We farmers would be obliged to buy wide tired wagons or trucks, and then trading would be done in the largest cities and garages and the post office is all that would remain of the small town. ...

It would seem to me that the building of the court house, plus the taxes the war has caused, is enough at one time in a country where the raising of a crop each year is as doubtful as it is here. We farmers have so little experience with the mud in this section that we are not alarmed because we have some once or twice in a decade. Let us first put our district road in a passable condition for the benefit of Jackson county people before we build one for sightseers. ... Mrs. Chas. Batterson. *The Holton Recorder*, May 22, 1919.

Dr. and Mrs. Robson received notice from the war department, Monday, advising them that their son, Fred, had been gassed and sent to the hospital. This might be unpleasant news, were it not a pretty well established fact that said casual returned from the war zone something like six months ago, and has been carrying mail ever since.

There is going to be a revival of strawberry raising from this time hence in this locality. No finer crop than the present one was ever seen. Every family should have a patch of this luscious fruit. ...

Commissioner Freeze had had several teams with plows and scrapers at work on Main Street. The backbone of the hill in the business section has been cut down 18 inches, and the dirt used in low places on either side of the hill. If the hard road proposition fails to go thru, which now seems unlikely, a concrete crosswalk will be put in between the Jones store and Reel's store. *The Mayetta Herald*, June 11, 1919.

Mayetta is getting ready for the hard surfaced road, having lowered the grade on Main street. All they lack is plenty of good teams and men. *The Holton Recorder*, June 12, 1919.

Several from Mayetta have already reserved seats for the Willard-Dempsey fight. Seats at \$60 per, come high. *The Holton Recorder*, June 26, 1919.

Among the fight fans in this vicinity who will see the Willard-Dempsey bout July 4th are: W. C. Cooney, Chas. Cooney and R. L. Miller. All this sport dope by Willard haters now appearing in the dailies predicting a Willard defeat does not dampen the enthusiasm for Jess or lessen their belief that Jess will win easily. *The Mayetta Herald*, July 2, 1919.

“Billy” Cooney - I, with Robt. Miller, “Chuck” Cooney and Burbonney, sat in a few feet of the ringside during the Willard Dempsey fight. Jess looked like a winner as he smilingly stepped into the ring. Dempsey was serious and apparently scared. Over-confidence in my judgment, the cause of Willard’s defeat. He seemed to toy with Dempsey in the beginning, landing light taps instead of putting every ounce of his strength in them. It was the first jolt to the jaw that got Jess’ goat. It appeared to daze him from that time on. Hot? I never in my life experienced such a hot place. *The Mayetta Herald*, July 9, 1919.

The auto truck for the farm is proving its usefulness in a marked degree this season, and their tribe will multiply at a remarkable rate as the years go by. During this busy threshing season they are plying between threshing machines and markets, one truck doing the work of several teams. Since he purchased his new truck, Frank Grinnell is not able to supply the demand for its service. It, the Jones and Miller trucks are speeding away from early morning till late at night hauling wheat, baled hay, hogs, etc. ...

If the question was asked of our car drivers, “What one thing in Mayetta makes you hottest under the collar,” they would all answer in concert, “That street crossing near the school house.” In making this crossing Sunday evening after dark Billy Cooney said the jolt nearly pitched his boy out of the car. Somebody is going to get hurt there. Why was it left that way, by accident or design? *The Mayetta Herald*, July 23, 1919.

Not all rogues are of the 2-legged variety. Nor has the latter sort any thing on the 4-legged variety for cunning.

Last Saturday J. A. Spohrer, proprietor of one of our garages, was seen to be highly excited. “Where is that pocketbook? Yes, I left it in the desk, and it contains \$40 in money - where is it boys?” The boys whom he was addressing professed their ignorance and joined in the search. Every clue was run down and corner explored. The writer inquired if there were any goats around. “Nope, no goats,” said one of the boys, “but where in the dickens is that pup? Hopes were revived and the search began for the pup whose record for deviltry was well known. Dog was finally located in a patch of weeds, near the garage. The goods were “on” him. But how he managed to get the purse out of the desk is a mystery which his dogship refuses to divulge. ...

Owing to the fact that there is a tent show in town for all week, we have decided to start our picture show tonight and Saturday at 8 o’clock and please remember this.

The picture we are showing tonight is entitled “Her Man,” starred by Elaine Hammerstein. It is a fine dramatic story, splendidly acted throughout the play. The interest is maintained in a logical manner. There is nothing of the impossible, no long arm of coincidence, no artistic license, no 10-20-30 cent melodrama selections. It is a good, clean, virile American drama of the best type. ...

One of the largest crowds seen in Mayetta for a long time was that of last Thursday night, when it seemed the whole country side turned out, for the rink dance. Mayetta has forged to the front in Jackson county as an amusement center. This week a tent show is here. Next week the chautauqua, which is soon to be followed by the annual Indian fair. Besides these attractions are the regular nightly picture shows, skating rink, and weekly baseball attractions. Pay your money and take your choice. *The Mayetta Herald*, July 30, 1919.

An areoplane from Topeka was forced to land near Mayetta, last Friday while on its way from Topeka to Circleville. About 150 people were out to the plane keeping the aviators busy answering questions. The plane was low on oil, was the cause of the forced landing. *The Mayetta Herald*, August 6, 1919.

Tractors have come to stay, like the automobile. When R. L. Miller brought the first auto that came to this town, we predicted they had come to stay and it is the same with the tractor. Farmers are buying them all over the country and doing away with horses. Although its development may be a little beyond the experimental stage, so far as construction is concerned, it is more or less perfected. The tractor has come to stay - no one know what will be next. *The Holton Recorder*, August 7, 1919.

The hitch racks east of the City Hotel have been partly removed and no more hitching will be done there in the future. This is a good riddance as the place was always muddy and dirty and a breeding ground for flies. *The Mayetta Herald*, August 13, 1919.

Next Wednesday is the first day of the big Indian fair which is to be held three miles west of Mayetta, September

3, 4, 5, and 6.

Work on the half mile race track is nearly completed and some of the fastest horses in the state have been booked to race during the fair. Among the other features each day will be the Indian parade in costume; LaCrosse and baseball games; Chariot races; hurdle races; pony express races; bow and arrow contests; tug-of-war, and various other athletic contests.

The exhibitions will include Indian farm products, stock and handiwork. There will be also interesting program for reservation farmers by the state agricultural college. The Haskell Indian band will furnish the music. Refreshments and lunch stands will be on the grounds and there will be plenty of good water and shade.

There will be stunt flying by Lieut. Webber, of Topeka. He will fly a 90 H. P. Curtiss plane and promises plenty of thrills with his fancy flying. Arrangements have been made with Lieut. Webber to carry a special section of The Topeka State Journal, Sept. 4. He will also carry passengers during the four days he is here. *The Mayetta Herald*, August 27, 1919.

Chester Tork can't praise the Sampson tractor too much. He wouldn't go back to the old way of plowing for anything. He plowed something over 60 acres last week with his tractor. *The Holton Recorder*, August 25, 1919.

The pie eating contest and the sack race Monday night at the skating rink were well attended and the audience enjoyed the amusements. The rink management have decided each Monday night a feature night, such as skating races, sack races, barrel races, pie eating contests, and various other amusements. There will be no charges, so come and enjoy the fun. *The Mayetta Herald*, September 3, 1919.

The folks at the Methodist Mission on the reservation are making preparations to entertain the returned war men of the community on Friday night of this week. Special invitations have been sent to all Indian and white returned sailors, soldiers and marines on the reservation so far as known, but nobody should remain away because a special invitation was not received. The affair is open to all, and the "stay-at-homes" should all be there to act as a welcome committee. ...

The elevator that was owned by W. B. Cooney and R. L. Miller caught fire from an explosion last Friday afternoon and burned to the ground. There was about 15,000 bushels of wheat in the elevator which is burned some and damaged badly, but was fully covered by insurance. The building was partly insured. It was built by the late Wm. Cooney and R. L. Miller about 12 years ago and has a capacity of holding about 40,000 bushels. The silo connected with it was also burned.

The old red elevator owned by W. C. Cooney will now be overhauled and renovated for use again. *The Mayetta Herald*, September 17, 1919.

Jess Willard was here with R. L. Miller Tuesday renewing acquaintance with old friends and meeting others. Mr. Miller and Mr. Willard, who are interested in land in this vicinity, will lease a large block of land on which they will bore for oil with their own machinery and resources. If Jess will be as successful in the oil field as he was in the prize ring it will take several years to knock him out. *The Mayetta Herald*, October 29, 1919.

Ordinance No. 75. An ordinance granting a franchise to the W. C. Cooney and R. L. Miller, fixing the rates it may charge for electric energy and contracting with said company for the furnishing of lights to the City of Mayetta, Kansas. Be it ordained by the Mayor and the Councilmen of the City of Mayetta, Kansas.

Sec. 1. That W. C. Cooney and R. L. Miller of Mayetta, Kansas, its successors and assigns are hereby granted the right and privilege for the period of ten (10) years from and after the final taking effect of this ordinance to use the streets and alleys and public grounds of the City of Mayetta, Kansas, for the erection, equipment and maintenance of electric light poles, fixtures, wires and appurtenances for the purpose of transmitting and supplying electric current for either the public or private uses to the city of Mayetta, Kansas and its inhabitants. *The Mayetta Herald*, November 5, 1919.

Mayetta is enjoying a boom. No mistaking this fact. It is apparent to all - visitors and residents alike. Mayetta is on the verge of the biggest boom in its history, if indications count for anything.

Listen: During the past three months the following evidences of growth and expansion are noted: W. C. Cooney and R. L. Miller brought the brick building in which the Smith and Hafer hardware was located. This building is now in process of alteration preparatory for a first class modern garage and filling station. This building will also house the necessary machinery for the operation of a 24-hour electric lighting system. A large force of men are getting the rooms in shape for business.

Smith & Hafer, then brought the J. A. Slattery brick room just east of the First National Bank, into which they moved their stock and are now conducting their business.

Last week Jas. Slattery brought the John Hafer property west of the Exchange bank, which he will tear down next spring or early summer and begin the erection of a modern brick business building. These rooms are now occupied

by the Saunders cream station, the Gilfillen shoe shop and Harry Spence residence.

Furthermore, it is reported that the Farmers Union is contemplating the erection of a grain elevator here in the not distant future.

The old Punch buildings have undergone a complete change, in which is now located the Gregg Café, one of the classiest, strictly up-to-the-minute eating houses in this section of the state; also the Jess Fradley barber shop.

Last, but not least, we reverently hope, is the bright prospect for oil or gas. R. L. Miller and Jess Willard, whose reputation for keen foresight and sound business sagacity is well known all over the state, have leased hundreds of acres of land near Mayetta and expect to lease many more tracts adjacent to their own large possessions for the purpose of boring for oil. These men are not going to rely on professional oil drillers to put down these wells, but are providing their own material, backed by their own resources, which are ample for large undertakings. We are informed that active operations will begin soon. There is a growing feeling that oil will be found. This feeling has been augmented since it was learned that men like Miller and Willard are willing to risk so much in an effort to find it.

So, Mayetta might as well set her pegs for big things, for if oil is found you are going to see the dodgasted boom ever. The need right now is more business rooms and several more residences. *The Mayetta Herald*, November 5, 1919.

We are informed that land owners in the vicinity of where oil drilling operations are taking place are showing a disposition, many of them, to withhold leasing their land for these purposes. It is said that the promoters, Willard and Miller, will have approximately 8,000 acres leased before drilling operations will ensue. Up to this time about half of that number of acres have been secured. It is desired, we understand, that this land be in a block or nearly so. By leasing here and there the required number of acres could be readily reached.

Now the land owner knows his business without any dictations, but it should be borne in mind that if the required number of acres is not secured, there will be no drilling. This would be unfortunate for this locality. For if this concern fails to try for oil because of lack of encouragement it will be a long time before other concerns will come in here and undertake it. These men are well known to us all. They have the capital and disposition to do something. Other parts of the state are clamoring for Mr. Willard to bring this drilling outfit and began work, promising him all the land he needs to begin with.

Let's do a little sober thinking before it's too late and the chance to develop this community's hidden resources. *The Mayetta Herald*, November 19, 1919.

Mayetta is on the boom. Automobiles were packed as thick as they could be in Main Street, Saturday. The Jones Store was crowded all day long. This store has a wonderful business and looks like it was still growing. A few years ago it looked as tho the small town was doomed as automobiles were carrying people to larger towns to trade; it don't look like it now.

Work is progressing on the new electric light plant in Mayetta. The engine room is almost completed and the machinery is expected this week. The city had been surveyed for lines. We will soon be enjoying 24 hour service. *The Holton Recorder*, November 20, 1919.

On Dec. 6th we will present to you Jess Willard in "The Challenge of Choice." Big thought is the only word that anywhere near approaches an adequate description of this mighty production. Mayetta claims Jess. He is our boy and we are all proud of him. Come see Jess in his own 6 big reels. "The Challenge of Choice" is a picture that will call out the reserve. Matinee 3:30, Night 7:30 and 9:30. Admission 25 cents and 50 cents. Mulryan Opera House, Mayetta, Kansas. *The Mayetta Herald*, November 26, 1919.

We notice a number of people these days with long faces, as though some great calamity had befallen them. Upon inquiry we found they had just been to the bank and paid their taxes. If this hard surfaced road goes through, which it will some time, it will be necessary to take a doctor or perhaps an undertaker along with us when we pay taxes. Taxes on land now is equal to the rent paid for the same land some few years ago. When in Holton a few days ago we heard a man say that he was afraid taxes soon would be more than we could handle. *The Holton Recorder*, November 27, 1919.

On July 16, 1919, the United Mine Workers called a nation wide strike asking for higher wages. They had held off having strikes until the war was over. Kansas Governor Allen made a tour of the mines in Cherokee and Crawford counties asking the miners to return to work until a settlement could be made; this they would not agree to do. He then asked for volunteers to go and mine the coal who soon arrived and began to work in the mines on December 1st. They mined some coal but were hampered by the poorly maintained and antiquated equipment, also the extreme cold and wet weather. Many became sick from not having been provided any warm clothing and shelter. The union miners did return to work on December

15, 1919.

The past few days have been real biting winter weather. Never was cold weather more unwelcome. It had been hoped that severe cold weather would be delayed until the coal situation was relived. But it is here and we must make the best of it. This vicinity is more fortunate than most localities, in that we can get wood, and many families have run out of coal already and are resorting to wood for fuel. While there is abundance of wood in the country it is difficult to get it sawed up as fast as the people want it.

One cannot but wonder just how people living in the western part of the state, where there is not a tree for hundreds of miles from which to cut wood. Mayetta, therefore should feel thankful that the situation here is no worse. In Topeka and many other Kansas towns there are no school this week. The situation may get worse, but there is a strong belief that Gov. Allen and his patriotic helpers will produce coal this week.

Two husky Indians entered J. H. Crawford's office yesterday and demanded requisitions for transportation to Pittsburg.

"Sorry, but we are not sending colored men today," replied Crawford, without giving his visitors a close inspection.

"We're not colored men, we are Indians," came back a quick rejoinder. Crawford raised his head and gazed into the faces of Jim Shald and Allan Dale, of Mayetta. They explained they had been in France with Col. Frank L. Travis and that if necessary would go get him to help them volunteer to dig coal. Crawford did not wait for further explanation. He made out the coveted blank. - Mondays Capital. *The Mayetta Herald*, December 3, 1919.

These three men, Albert Hunter, Vern Lunger and Freemont Reynolds - are sustaining the inner man thru the instrumentality of a bottle and nipple - baby fashion. All three have had their teeth extracted, and resorting to the bottle was not occasioned so much being they couldn't masticate their food but because their chin and nose persisted in knocking together. They are a sorry looking bunch and for the life of us we don't see how their wives can tolerate them. *The Mayetta Herald*, December 10, 1919.

The 1920's were years of great optimism, we had won the First World War, some believed by ourselves, and if wheat wasn't selling at a dollar a bushel as it did during the war, so what, a farmer could just open up more land to the plow and make up for it. Almost everyone with surplus funds invested in the stock market and looked forward to becoming rich.

Many changes were taking place, tractors were taking the place of horses and mules, meaning that the hired farm laborer was not needed as before. Getting rid of the horses on a farm also increased the acreage available for crops.

Trucks were supplanting the trains, hauling stock to stock yards and grain to larger cities where they could get better prices. If a farmer could get 3 cents more per bushel for their grain or a few cents more per hundredweight for their stock, they did so, loyalty to the small town businesses did not infer with making a larger profit.

The automobile made as big of an impact as the first arrival of the trains did. Fewer people traveled by train when they could drive their own car. People did more shopping out of their neighborhoods, although Mayetta seems to have kept a rousing business going, perhaps because the merchants offered as good or better products and prices for their goods as Holton and Topeka did.

This was the time that Mayetta began its slow decline, fewer business in town every year onward, but the population remained about the same because it depended on housing, not on how many business houses there were operating in town.

Will Cummings broke all records last year in raising potatoes. He raised something over 300 bushels off of less than two acres, and this year he is going into it on a much larger scale. I expect if he had good luck, he will raise more than a thousand bushels. ...

J. W. Watkins has sold the machinery, fixtures and type of the Mayetta Herald, and it will be moved to Aurora, Kan. The subscription list will be taken over by the Holton Signal. The Herald was established about 1909, but the increase in material has been severe on many small town papers. *The Holton Recorder*, February 5, 1920.

The ex-soldiers have organized an American Legion club and have fitted up a nice club room over the drug store. They have about 50 or more members at the present time and have the club room fitted up with two pool tables and all other necessary equipment for the benefit of the boys. They expect to get a membership of 100 and extend an invitation to all ex-soldier to join. ...

Quite a number of people have been victims of the dreaded flu during the past week. Our postmaster, G. D. Lunger, and two mail carriers, Everett Martin and Virgil Daniels are now able to be around some. Also Alice

Robinson and Laura Shumway. Mrs. Mead Early, son and daughter, Florence have also been quite sick. Also Charles McDonald's children and several others. The school board ordered school adjourned last Thursday and will be closed all this week, after which it is expected the ban will be lifted. *The Mayetta Herald*, February 26, 1920.

The Mayetta Post, No. 224, application for membership was approved on February 26, 1920 by the Kansas American Legion. There were sixteen charter members: Chas. A. Cooney; Claude L. Myers, J. W. Han___, Joseph C. Hart, Joseph Cooney, T. E. Whelan, Andrew M. _oach, Samuel R. Early, Chas. A. Saunders, A. McCauley, Jesse R. Bradley, Justin C. Goodrel, Ray Davidson, Earl Grinnell, Winfred Scott, Andrew C. Robson. All were residents of Mayetta except for Ray Davidson who was from Hoyt. (Kansas American Legion Legion Headquarters, Topeka Kansas.)

There was a car load of lumber shipped from some point in California which arrived here last week. It was about 21 days in transit and when the dray man, Earl Grinnell opened the door to unload there was a hen in the car and seemed to be in a very weakened condition. The supposition that the hen was in the car when it was sealed at point of shipment and kept on laying eggs and eating them on the trip to Mayetta as there were some shells scattered around in the car. During Earl's absence the hen disappeared and probably took up its abode in another car to beat it back to a warmer climate. *The Holton Signal*, March 11, 1920.

Jess Willard and R. L. Miller and Prof. Heyworth stopped in Mayetta a while last week on their way from Holton, where they were investigating the prospects to drill for oil. *The Holton Signal*, March 18, 1920.

We visited the rooms of the American Legion Post last week and found them located very comfortably for entertainment and amusement. The boys have turned the rooms over to the business men one day in each week every month for their special entertainment as a token of gratitude of their help in their organization. Their dance on St. Patrick's Day was well attended and enjoyed immensely by those who participated, and the financial end was very satisfactory to the Legion. At a special meeting held last week, they elected the following officers. Commander, Joe Hart, adjutant, Charles N. Saunders; treasurer, Chas. Cooney; service officer, Jess Bradley; employment officers, Will Robson and Silver Hitchcock; chaplain, Dr. Talbert; historian, Samuel Early; Athletic director, Earl Grinnell; Sergt. at arms, Ed Whelan. *The Holton Signal*, March 25, 1920.

When a lady from the country went out of her buggy to get the hitch rein after arriving in town a hen flew out and she had one more egg than she figured on but one less hen. There was a guy down at the depot watching and he got the hen. *The Holton Signal*, April 8, 1920.

The school children had the time of their lives in Mayetta last week in snowballing. They made one party so mad he felt like whipping the whole outfit. He used language which the reporter would not dare to print. *The Holton Recorder*, April 15, 1920.

An airplane circled over Mayetta Wednesday evening. When it alighted in Earl Landon's wheat field they broke the propeller and had to stay over night at the City Hotel. Thursday evening they succeeded in getting the machine started and went on their way rejoicing. ...

We had the pleasure of meeting Jess Willard and his geologist, Thursday afternoon in Mayetta. Mr. Willard informed us that he is looking over his territory where he is going to drill for oil. We hope Mr. Willard will succeed in his undertaking. *The Holton Recorder*, April 22, 1920.

The Associated Mill and Elevator Company has commenced work on the erection of a 25,000 bushel capacity concrete steel elevator and mill feed house, and promise to be ready to take care of the 1920 small grain crop. This elevator promises a first class market for all grain tributary to Mayetta. ...

The proper city official should keep a close watch on the main street though Mayetta and see that it does not get in such an impassable condition as it was early this spring. Strangers going through town get a bad impression of the place if they strike bad, muddy roads on the main street. Then the business men are bound to lose more or less business from transients if they are compelled to detour to the residence streets in order to get through town. *The Holton Recorder*, May 27, 1920.

Hade Shingleton, one of the largest gardeners in the country, has put out about 1800 cabbage plants and 1900 tomato plants besides all other garden truck. He thinks if the weather is favorable and he has no trouble with shipping, he will not bother with these little towns, but will ship right through to Chicago, with hip and hurrah! ...

The Mayetta Horse company shipped their fine horses to Harding, Neb., last week. They hope to win about 90 per cent of the races in the county next fall. The managers are Newt Moore, Carl Gregg and Clyde Hartwell. *The Holton Recorder*, June 10, 1920.

Frank Grinnell has been hauling 4 or 5 truck loads of walnut logs each day. There will be several car loads shipped out of here this week. *The Holton Signal*, June 24, 1920.

Owing to the car shortage and the labor situation, it may be a week or two before the oil drills and casings get here. All possible efforts are being made by our Oil men to get everything ready at the very earliest moment. *The Holton Signal*, July 1, 1920.

Our postmaster is busy in the harvest field and Mrs. Emma Robson is substituting on Route No. 1, as Will is also busy with his harvest. *The Holton Signal*, July 8, 1920.

Wm. And Felix Carthcart were riding their pony Tuesday and had a rope attached to a little wagon pulling behind, when the rope got tangled in the pony's tail, it scared him and the boys lost control of him but they stayed on and the wagon became detached after which the pony was more easily managed. The runaway caused quite a little excitement on Main street and some thought that Sell's circus was coming to town. *The Holton Signal*, July 15, 1920.

When we were a school boy in knee pants, we very frequently became gallant and fought like a knight of old over some sweet little girl, with golden curls. But after we grew older we became wiser and thought the old rule, supply and demand, found no necessity for risking getting a black eye. However a scrape took place in our little burg one night last week, about 9:30, and as near as we can learn, it was over one of our young ladies. We have not learned who won the girl, but maybe will later on. *The Holton Recorder*, July 29, 1920.

A majority of people in Mayetta take a pride in keeping their lawns and premises attractive, but there are several places where the weeds are allowed to grow 5 or 6 feet high which spoils the beauty of neighboring places. *The Holton Signal*, August 12, 1920.

The school house and grounds when completed will be one of the best if not the best in Jackson county. The rooms are well lighted and heated with steam heat. There is a large auditorium and gymnasium.

The stage setting will be very good, well furnished with foot lights, curtains, wings and lights overhead.

Our aim is to have a piano as quickly as possible for the auditorium. One cozy room at the end of the hall is to be fitted with a sofa and medicine case to be used in case of illness and injuries. The building is ready for the plasters and we hope it will be ready for occupancy in November. *The Holton Signal*, September 16, 1920.

The bricklayers are done and the roof is completed on the new school building, the lathing will be done this week and the plasterers will be here next week. The cement flooring is also nearly done, and other work is progressing nicely. *The Holton Signal*, September 21, 1920.

The Opera house was crowded Saturday night to see the 12th episode of "Elmo the Fearless," and several other good reels and the audience seemed to be very much entertained, of which your correspondent was one. At the same time there was another show taking place on the street adjoining on the north in which, "Herman the Peerless" was the principal actor. Some of the neighbors seemed to think that Herman's gunplay was too dangerous and called out the officers and had him disarmed and placed under arrest. He accompanied the officers to Holton and that ended the play for tonight, but "Elmo the Fearless" will be on the screen next Saturday night again. *The Holton Signal*, October 14, 1920.

Sealed bids will be received up to December 18, 1920, at two (2) p.m.. for the following described property: the building used by the Rural High school in Mayetta, Kansas.

Building is 23X32 feet in size, 12 feet in height, flat roof, covered with 3 ply rubberoid. Inside in finished with plasterboard, building was erected two years ago and first class material used throughout. *The Holton Signal*, December 2, 1920.

The wagon crossing near the depot was repaired last week by the section men. There were also two crossings put down at the corner of James and Third Street and at Second and the North street. C. B. Graves and others did the work for the city. *The Holton Signal*, December 16, 1920.

There was a 50-horse power engine unloaded here last week, and we understand it will be installed to furnish power for private and public electric lights. *The Holton Signal*, January 13, 1921.

Owing to the rains and the snow freezing and thawing, the streets of Mayetta are in a very bad shape. What we need is our streets paved. *The Holton Signal*, February 3, 1921.

There is a continuity in a persons' life, living where there is a changing of the seasons. Year after year the changing of the seasons, each having it own activities dictated in part by the weather; in the spring the flurry of planting crops and gardens; surviving the heat of summer; seeing the beauty of the colorful foliage and the harvesting of the crops in the fall; the cold, the freezing weather of winter to be endured brings a sense that what has been will continue to be. There are those who find this life style boring and too monotonous, but others think it is the good life.

Gardens were so important, not only as source of food, but as a relaxing, enjoyable occupation. Starting when winter was beginning to break, gardeners would sit around the kitchen table diagramming on paper what they would plant, where it would be planted in the garden and how much they would plant the coming spring. They knew that to see a seed grow from literally a speck into a large plant is to watch a miracle in progress. "The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." (Matt. 13:31-32)

Of course the maturing of the garden produce and fruit crop meant a lot of extra work for the women folk, toiling in hot weather over boiling pots of water, canning the vegetables and fruits from the gardens and orchards.

Then when the tomato season began in July, Frank's mother would come over every afternoon just as I was finishing the dinner dishes with a bucket of tomatoes from her garden to help me can some for the winter. I am strictly a morning person, and I hated the sight of those tomatoes and the work they caused because I was so tired! I told Frank that the next year we were going to have our own tomatoes and then I could do my canning in the mornings!

That first spring of 1928, even it was June 15, we set out an early transplant apple tree by the back gate. Frank brought the little tree from a Topeka nursery for twenty-five cents, and was told it wouldn't grow as it was too late in the season to put it out. They were wrong. We were having a cool, wet spring and early summer and the tree got a good start and bore apples for twenty-five years ... When cucumbers began to come on, Frank's mother taught me how to make pickles. I would also slice a cucumber for dinner, but Frank told me he thought they were poison except in pickle form. When I suffered no ill effects from eating raw cucumbers, he started to try them too and soon liked them sliced in vinegar as well as I did.

The second spring, we planted a big garden as we had two lots and plenty of room, and set out a strawberry bed. We had gooseberry bushes in the back yard by the walnut tree and we set out asparagus roots and rhubarb. Frank had not farmed since he was a boy, but he and I were both born farmers, and loved to plant and hoe. Frank hoed all the large plants such as potatoes and tomatoes, but he would ask me to hoe the carrots and beets when they first came up as the plants were so little he was afraid he would hoe them out. (Vera Hamill Hafer, "My Husband, Frank 1884-1960," pages 33-34, Mennonite Press, Inc. North Newton, Kansas.)

Oh yes, we have had just this kind of weather in 1882 but you know history repeats itself. Some of the citizens have made early gardens. Bees are flying around, dandelions are in bloom, robins are singing, one more day of this weather and the frogs will holler, but look out, maybe before this is in print, the snow will be a foot deep. *The Holton Signal*, February 17, 1921.

Mayetta High school won the county championship in basket ball Friday, April 1. The game was played at Denison between Mayetta and Netawaka. The final score was 22 to 20 in favor of Mayetta. This is the second year Mayetta has won the county championship in basket ball. *The Holton Recorder*, April 17, 1921.

R. L. Miller and A. J. Jones had 1100 head of Texas cattle shipped in here Wednesday evening, to be taken to their pasture near Delia. Otis Lasswell had about 400 head shipped in making about 40 cars in all. This is quite a sight to see so many cattle and they were all fine looking cattle. ...

For sale - A Russell tractor 15-30 horse power, in good shape. Just plowed about 100 acres. *The Holton Recorder*, April 28, 1921.

I don't see that a vicious biting Bull dog is a safe ornament, to have in your door yard and very liable to a fine for damage. I got bit by a bull dog last Tuesday while going to paint on a barn at Charlie McAlexander's. I and some of the folks fought the dog away from biting me two times before this happened, but still they were in sympathy with the dog, would not shut it up and wanted their work done. Well as life was too precious and the dog had already bit two other men I know, I left my job. I feel it right that the neighbors would know that such a dog is living and will be on the lookout. J. H. Spence. *The Holton Recorder*, May 5, 1921.

V. R. Lunger's profits on Tuesday were about \$18 less because while he went across the street to the Post office, the time being absent only about two or three minutes, some fellow went into the store and helped himself to about \$18 in silver out of the money drawer and went out the back way, but he left more in the drawer than he took out. *The Holton Signal*, May 5, 1921.

Along about 5 o'clock Monday afternoon a cyclonic wind gathered about three miles west of Mayetta and descended just west of Little Soldier and wrecked the house where Jess Martin and family lived. All the occupants escaped unhurt but badly scared except the mother, Mrs. James Martin who suffered some injuries in the wreck. Dr. Robson went out to the farm and rendered medical assistance. Mrs. Martin remained unconscious at intervals during the night but today (Tuesday) is reported much better and is staying at the home of Mrs. James McCauley and it is hoped that her injuries are not very serious. The cloud after hitting the Martin house, then took a northwesterly direction. Along about 5:20 there was a terrific rain and wind storm came from the west and north and the rain poured down in torrents accompanied by a terrific wind which damaged and tore up several buildings in town among which was the one which we occupy tearing the shingles off of one side of the roof which we are having repaired today. *The Holton Signal*, May 12, 1921.

With the completion recently of a modern up-to-the-minute cave, Mark Fitzsimmons felt doubly secure from the treacheries of tornadoes, hurricanes, cyclones or any other Kansas storm, so he set himself down calmly to await the first invasion of the wind, rain and thunder.

Patience brings its just reward always, and on Monday evening the awaited storm arrived with all its fury, arousing the neighborhood to immediate action. With one accord they went hurrying and scurrying toward Mark's new cave.

Standing room only was at a premium by the time Mark arrived and it was only with difficulty that he gained admission, for every effort he made to open the cave door was mistaken for the efforts of the raging wind and the neighbors held the door even tighter.

Mark says everyone in the neighborhood is as welcome as the flowers in May and there is always room for one more, but he reserves the right to be the one more. ...

Warner Coffin and Henry Mager were in the cyclone and saved themselves by lying down in a hollow, but it whipped them so that the neighbors hardly knew them. They were mud all over. ...

One of the worst storms ever witnessed in this part of the county took place Monday afternoon, May 9, in the way of rain and wind. The water came down in bucketsfull, causing streams to overflow and thousand of acres of soil to be washed away, which will take many years to replace. The water seemed to come down in walls, washing out bottom fields and leaving soil in drifts along its wake. For plowed land it was one of the most destructive floods ever experienced along the streams. Practically all corn planted along the bottom land and all fields that had a slope to them, will have to be replanted. Some estimate about seven inches of water fell. *The Holton Recorder*, May 19, 1921.

The Dillingham boys narrowly escaped being hurt one day last week by colliding with a Ford car with their little express wagon, fortunately the driver foresaw the danger and had the car so completely under control that he was able to bring it to a stop when it struck the boy's little wagon and they escaped unhurt. *The Holton Signal*, July 7, 1921.

The City Council met on Wednesday night in adjoined session from Monday. Several bills were allowed and on motion it was voted to discontinue the city marshal's office temporarily. City Marshal Jurey then offered his resignation as street commissioner. It was the sense of the Council to cut down current expenses as much as possible in order to liquidate the present indebtedness. *The Holton Signal*, July 14, 1921.

Oil found in Mayetta - John Howe, our Rock Island section foreman while cutting and burning weeds on the right a way just east of the depot last Monday set fire to a bunch of dry grass near a pool of water and found that about a barrel of high grade oil had seeped into the water hole which burned fiercely for about an hour. People out in the country who saw the smoke and fire thought that Mayetta was having another big fire. Close watch will be kept on this seepage and if found to be of any magnitude the business men will endeavor to have the oil developed. The Mayetta Oil, Gas, and Mineral Co., will get together at an early date and formulate some plans for future prospecting. Some of our old time citizens have known of this oil seepage for the past forty years but have not, as yet, taken any steps to try to develop any oil in this vicinity. *The Holton Signal*, July 24, 1921.

The North Bros. show gave us a good entertainment last week in Mayetta. They go from here to Wamego and from there they will go to the St. Marys races to show. There are about 30 people in this show. *The Holton Recorder*, July 28, 1921.

R. L. Miller of Topeka, Kansas, and Sam Cooper of Woodward, Oklahoma, have made one of the most unusual

cattle deals of the year. A general interpretation of the contract they entered into is: Co-operation on the part of the producer and feeder to get by the present low market and make some money for each one.

By the terms of the deal, Mr. Cooper delivers from his Oklahoma ranch 1,000 three and four year old steers, to Mr. Miller at his Mayetta, Kansas, ranch, at \$6 a hundred pounds. Mr. Miller will put will put the steers on feed and deliver them to Mr. Cooper any time after March 1, 1922, and not later than May 1, 1922, at Kansas City weights at \$7.50 a hundred pounds. Mr. Cooper pays the freight from Oklahoma to Mayetta and from Mayetta to Kansas City. Mr. Miller is insured \$1.50 margin for full feeding steers from six to eight months and Mr. Cooper believes that the fat cattle market sometime after March 1, will be sufficiently high to net him a good profit. ("The Newest Sort of Cattle Deal." *The National Wool Grower*, Vols. 11 & 12. Salt Lake City, Utah, October 1921. Page 33.)

A young lady going home from school Thursday, on coming to the railroad south of town heard the train whistle for the crossing, and all at once she looked down the road and saw a man coming with all speed in a Ford car on the track. She threw up her hands and warned the man that he was in danger. He happened to put on the brakes and just in time to save himself from being killed or wounded. After the train had passed the man went on and never thanked the young lady for saving his life. Whether he cared anything for his life we do not know. *The Holton Recorder*, October 6, 1921.

Dudley Lunger's Shetland pony walked into a cistern which was about 10 feet deep with about 2 foot of water in it Friday night. When John Hafer was returning from the pasture early Saturday morning he discovered it in there standing on all fours. Dudley had it pulled out with a block and tackle and it was apparently uninjured. ...

Some of the business men here and other held a meeting Monday evening at the Mayetta Motor garage to discuss and decide on the advisability of hiring a night watchman. Notice of this meeting was probably given by sign or word of mouth, we do not understand the sign and being a little hard of hearing we did not get the word and consequentially was not there to express our sentiments. We understand the meeting decided that it was advisable to put on a night watch and these business men present voted to tax themselves with half the salary if the City Council and mayor would agree to pay the other half out of the City Treasury. If it is necessary for the safety and protection of our property and lives at night to hire a night watchman, we would think that the mayor and city council would have the power to do so, and if they so decide, and could find a man to take the job that he would be a good honest law abiding citizen who would be fearless in the discharge of his duties and by the passage of an ordinance, the Council, we believe could give him the authority to arrest prowlers around town after certain hours of the night, if they could not give valid excuses. *The Holton Signal*, November 17, 1921.

We understand that one day last week a colored man was here making arrangements to start a shoe repair shop. We do not have colored help in our town, and don't want any. *The Holton Recorder*, December 8, 1921.

Our marshal, Mark Fitzsimmons, took a couple of shots at a running man one night last week about 2 o'clock. If you don't want your coat tails burned, don't run. Mark will get you every time, as he is a good shot. *The Holton Recorder*, December 22, 1921.

Jones store started a grocery truck out over the country today (Monday), carrying a line of groceries and dry goods. You can trade your produce right at the door for any thing you need in this line of business. Chas. Cooney has charge of the wagon. *The Holton Recorder*, June 1, 1922.

Vern Lunger's hollyhock garden is now in full bloom, we presume. It is the largest one in Kansas as he expects to get from it about \$100.00 worth of seed. *The Holton Signal*, February 17, 1922.

The Reese Presser Greater Minstrels which will be at the Mayetta Rural High School auditorium. April 27, will give a big free street parade at 4 o'clock of that day. You do not want to miss this great treat, as it is free, rain or shine. Free concert on Main street. Billy Jordus and Miss Mamie Smithers, world's famous comedian and famous singer just joined the troupe at St. Louis this week and will be an added attraction. *The Holton Signal*, April 11, 1922.

While going to the harvest field, two cars driven by Philip Spohrer and Donald Patton engaged in thrilling race, which resulted in a terrific smash-up. While rounding a corner about 50 miles an hour Patton lost control of his car. First he swung wildly to the north and then back to the south, narrowly missing Mr. Spohrer which would have resulted in certain death for at least one of the party. Striking the bank it overturned and pinned the two occupants under the car. The cap flew off the gas tank, spilling the contents on Anthony Batteese. His clothing caught fire but a fire extinguisher saved him. Mr. Patton received several injuries, consisting of a broken arm, a collar bone cracked and five ribs broken. *The Holton Recorder*, July 6, 1922.

A lovely day on the Fourth, one of the most ideal days we have seen for a long time. A big crowd found their way

to the celebration at the Pottawatomie Fair Grounds. People came there from all over the country. They estimated the crowd something near 1,500 people. One of the largest crowds that we ever saw assembled on that day. People seemed to have a good time. The ball game between Circleville and Mayetta was a great game. Circleville took the victory from the Indians. There was another ball game between the north and the south sides of Mayetta. The north beat the south side with a large score and they all had a great time. ... There was no trouble of any kind. The little boys and girls and some who weren't so little, had their games of sports. The next big event on the ground is the Indian Fair which will take place about the first week in September. They are now making all kinds of preparation. We understand R. L. Miller will have several cowboys from Oklahoma there to ride cows, steers and wild horses. *The Holton Recorder*, July 13, 1922.

Connie Slattery while swimming in Big Soldier last Sunday stubbed his toe against a sharp substance and on reaching down to ascertain what it was, found a large tooth belonging to some kind of animal, which probably roamed over Kansas thousands of years ago. The tooth is about four inches by six inches with six perfectly developed prongs highly polished ivory. The tooth weights about three pounds. An animal able to carry a mouth full of teeth as large as the specimen found, we would estimate it to be about one hundred feet long and a very vicious creature. ...

There is no need of going hungry in Mayetta, bread was selling at 2c per loaf last Monday. ...

Francis Kitch-Kummie went on the warpath Monday forenoon out on the reservation. He got into an altercation with Charles Cooney who runs a grocery auto truck in the country. Chas. received some cuts and bruises but was not seriously hurt. Francis was taken to Holton and lodged in jail and is there at this writing. Details are meager. *The Holton Signal*, July 20, 1922.

We read in the Recorder last week that Jackson county took the first step in building a hard surfaced road and also what the county commissioners had to say about it and what it is going to cost per mile to build this road. They made an estimate of the cost. I am afraid it would be like when we all voted on the building of the courthouse and what it was going to cost us. We voted a hundred thousand dollars and before it was finished it cost us about three times as much. That's the way it would be in regard to this road. There are a whole lot of people in this world who don't care how much it costs just so they don't have to pay for it themselves.

After they get into this road building, they will say we have got to finish it no matter what it costs. ... Where are we going to get the money? You can travel this country all over and you can't find a farmer saying they are making any money. Taxes are now sky high and wheat less than dollar a bushel and all kinds of produce way down and farms today, any amount of them, are being sold for taxes. *The Holton Recorder*, September 28, 1922.

A host of tenant farmers are billed to give up the ghost this fall and take up other lines of work. Many of them are greatly in debt and in many instances they will not be able to clear themselves when they leave the farm. The last few years have been tough ones for the tenant farmer because of crop failures and lowering prices for all farm products. - Smith Center News. The same is true to some extent in this vicinity and there is not as much competition for land to farm as there has been heretofore. *The Holton Signal*, October 3, 1922.

W. M. Seibert has installed a radio outfit in his house. It covers the middle west from St. Louis to Denver, giving the markets, weather, the results of all athletic activities and a continuous concert from 7 o'clock till 10:30 each evening. *The Holton Recorder*, October 15, 1922.

We notice the boys didn't forget Halloween night. We believe in fun but sometimes they go a little too far. I don't believe in destroying people's property, that sometimes is done on Mayetta. I think there was hardly a little house in town that wasn't turned over and it takes money and time to put these buildings up, besides breaking them up and damaging them more or less. *The Holton Recorder*, November 9, 1922.

Friday evening about 9 o'clock some burglars entered the Jones store by way of the rear door and money to the amount of \$6 was stolen from the money drawer. Greater loss was prevented by Jerry Smith, one of the clerks and Frank Grinnell returning to the store and scaring them away. They made their getaway and took to their heels. The blood hounds were sent for at once and the thieves were tracked down south of town a quarter of a mile near the railroad track. It seems they got into a car and made for parts unknown. ...

By the time this item will be read our elevator will be running full blast. They broke down Saturday with many loads of corn and wheat waiting to be unloaded and it was very bad for the farmers to haul it back home. Ed Hollenbeck, our elevator man, says he is going to do his best to keep things on the move now on. So bring on your grain. ...

Some Topeka sports rode on our sidewalk one night last week in their car. They thought they were riding on hard surfaced roads. ...

Ordinance No. 82. An ordinance directing the calling of a special election for the purpose of submitting to the

electors of the City of Mayetta the proposition of voting bonds with which to construct works for the purpose of supplying said city and its inhabitants with electric lights. ... Section 1. That there be a special election held in the City of Mayetta on the 9th day of January, 1923, for the purpose of submitting to the electors of said city the proposition of voting bonds in the sum of Ten Thousand (\$10,000) Dollars, with which to construct works for the purpose of supplying the City of Mayetta and its inhabitants with electric lights. *The Holton Recorder*, December 7, 1922.

In our letter last week, we wrote a few lines giving expression to our views on the Light Line question and seemly it riled the anger of some of our citizens, although we did not mean any harm for anybody, but it seems a fellow cannot say anything, anymore without making somebody mad. Since then we have learned that the Mayor and City Councilmen of the City of Mayetta passed an ordinance calling for a special election for the purpose of voting on the proposition of issuing bonds in the amount of \$10,000 on the credit of the city with which to construct works for the purpose of supplying the city of Mayetta and its inhabitants with electric lights. We have had a Mayor and Council in the past that made a deal to supply the city and its inhabitants with electric lights and which has cost the city perhaps 13 or 14 hundred dollars in taxes. There is quite a good deal of criticism against that deal. Although the Mayor and Councilmen we had then, in our opinion had as much business ability as the Mayor and Councilmen we have now, that is why I referred to it as a business proposition, and the investing and spending of the funds derived from the sale of the bonds would be under the management of the City Council which management might change every two years and would possibly be a source of friction for quite a number of years, (but possibly we cannot have lights with out some friction), and so I am opposed to using the credit of the city for that purpose without good and sufficient cause. However, if it is the wish of the majority of the voters to favor the proposition, I will gladly bear my share of the cost of the transaction, although I am opposed to the City management of light lines. *The Holton Signal*, December 14, 1922.

Ed Hollenbeck, our elevator man, got badly hurt in the elevator one day last week. In working around the belt, in throwing the belt off, his arm got caught between the belt and shaft and his right wrist was severely lacerated and some bones broken. The doctors think that he will save his hand. He is getting along as well as could be expected although it will be a long time in knitting. *The Holton Recorder*, February 8, 1923.

The City Council met in regular session Monday night, after transacting the usual routine business, the question of prohibiting the sale of milk within the city limits by any person whose cows had not been tested and who had no certificate to show they were healthy, was discussed and the council expressed themselves as being in favor of passing an ordinance to that effect. *The Holton Signal*, February 8, 1923.

We were sitting in our lonely den the other day thinking about what condition the roads would be in, when a happy thought entered our mind as to how easy it would be to raise enough money in a very short time to hard surface the roads and not be a burden on the property owners adjoining the road but would make everybody who owns an automobile help pay for the road. Now this is the thought that flashed into our mind. Have our Legislature pass a law to tax every gallon of gasoline sold five cents per gallon. This tax to be collected at the time of purchase and paid into the County treasurer at the end of each month by the merchant or filling station who sells the gasoline. Of course the customer pays the tax. This revenue together with the Auto Tag license would soon amount to a very large sum and soon enable us to have good automobile roads. If we could collect this five cents per gallon tax it would make the fellow who doesn't live in the benefited zone pay his share of the joy which he would get out of it when he rides over the good roads and the farmers who now live in the benefited zone would be relieved of any zone tax for good roads, and it would also make the fellows who live in the big cities help pay their share as well as his country cousin. There is a hard surfaced road from Elmont to Topeka and the farmers who live along the route can hardly get to use it because of the congestion of traffic from our Topeka cousins out joy riding on it and I will venture the assertion that not one of them contributed a cent to build it either, and it is dangerous for us country cousins to ride on the pavement with our class of cars, (which by the way are paid for) for fear that some of these big city cousins will butt us off the road. We are for good roads of some kind, but do not know what kind is the most practical but we want something that will be of a benefit to every body concerned, and if we could bring this tax of five cents per gallon that each auto owner will consume we can soon have roads which everybody will be proud of. ...

We are informed and it is general gossip in the community that our night watchman, Jimmie Long, was given a free ride by three strangers in an automobile to Topeka on Friday night, where in the suburbs of said city he was given his freedom and advised to resign his job. He returned home on the train Saturday morning. We are not prepared to say whether Jimmie will stay on the job or not as he has talked some of resigning. He was appointed about a week ago following the resignation of Marshal Davidson. *The Holton Signal*, March 15, 1923.

The Mayetta R. H. S. basket ball team played two rounds at the state tournament. In the first round they were

matched against Dodge City, whom they easily defeated. In the second round they were matched against Kansas City, Kans., and were defeated by a score of 54 to 17. However it was some honor for our team to be matched against a team from the largest city in the state and also the winning team in the tournament. ...

Our Marshal, Jimmie Long has concluded to stay on the job notwithstanding the treatment he received at the hands of a few vagabonds. The city council has appointed Councilman Myers to assist him temporarily. They found three young fellows with an empty motor truck prowling around on the streets Friday night at three o'clock in the morning. On being questioned they said they wanted to trade for a truck at the Spohrer garage. On the suggestion of the marshals they got a bed at the hotel where they stayed the remainder of the night. *The Holton Signal*, April 12, 1923.

One of the oldest landmarks of this county is being torn down. That is the home of S. R. Jones, Sr., which stood in back of the Jones store. This cottage was built way back in the seventies at old South Cedar, and was moved in a body on wagons to Mayetta by horses. This was the home where Uncle Samuel and Aunt Sarah Jane raised their family and where are they all now? Only two boys and two girls are living but all doing well. There were no better people than uncle Sammie and Aunt Sarah Jane. It was a home that nobody ever went to and did not find welcome. Botha are dead and gone but not forgotten. Uncle Sammie left a monument in Mayetta that will stand for ages, the old stone building that the Jones store occupy and are doing one of the best business that anyone could desire. ...

One of Paul Eberwein's boys has installed a radio at their home. Now they can sit in their home and hear the news all over the country. They caught a message a few days ago from San Francisco, Calif. What great wonders now and what will the next be. The wireless telephone is about here and it won't be many years until most every home in the country will have such a machine in it. *The Holton Recorder*, April 12, 1923.

Quite a lot of excitement took place in Mayetta Saturday morning about 10 o'clock when seven airplanes soared over our town, not more than a mile from each other. One was so low to the ground that it caused one team to run off and did quite a bit of damage. Another team almost came running away if it hadn't have been for your reporter. All the airplanes were headed for the east. Some thought Uncle Sam started them out on some expedition. *The Holton Recorder*, May 17, 1923.

The grading gang and outfit to do the work on the highway between here and Holton arrived here Sunday morning, and unloaded two cars of horses and mules and three cars loads of machinery and cooking shacks. They will start grading and work towards Holton. *The Holton Signal*, May, 17, 1923.

Mayor McMurray has received a letter from the Commanding officer of the 9th Field Artillery battalion consenting of eight officers, 151 men and 280 horses and mules, stating that they expected to reach this place on June 19th, and camp here. He wanted information in regard of being furnished camping ground, feed, water, etc., and the mayor will assure him of all these accommodations. The people of the community are invited to visit the camp and become familiar with French guns, horses and daily life. The noted jumping horse "Marshall Ney" which they will have with them will be exhibited. *The Holton Signal*, June 14, 1923.

The 7th Division of the 9th Field Artillery went into Camp at the Indian Fair grounds about noon on Monday. They chose to camp there instead of coming into town as contemplated, because the facilities for getting water for so many head of horses was much better there. A large number of people went out to the grounds that afternoon and evening to view the encampment. The battalion are enroute from Fort Riley to Des Moines, Iowa. They travel about 20 miles each day. They went through town about 6:30 Tuesday morning in the direction of Atchison. ...

There seems to be a good crop of gooseberries and the potato crop is quite promising. Home raised potatoes are now on the market. *The Holton Signal*, June 21, 1923.

The electric light plant at Holton has finished their extension line to Mayetta and power was turned on Monday night, June 18. Walter Lutz, the contractor, completed the work as near as he could on schedule time. He had lots of bad weather to contend with and that accounted for the delay in not getting the work done sooner, but now we have it and we are glad of it. Eighteen street lights will be located in the most conspicuous places in town. This is certainly a very much needed improvement to our little city and if you should wish more light on the subject just push the button and you will have it. ...

The Mayetta people had the pleasure of listening Saturday afternoon about 2 o'clock to President Harding's address at Hutchison. But we didn't get it direct from there. The message came by way of Kansas City. Frank Hafer, Leonard Smith and Al Hohnbaum installed an aerial at the hardware store and in this way the people got their message. Part of his speech we could hear very distinctly but there was too much noise going on outside to hear much of it. *The Holton Recorder*, June 28, 1923.

Battery A, 9th Field Artillery, arrived here today at the end of a twenty mile hike from Emmett where they

encamped last night. Men and horses finished the hard trip in good shape. Battery A is part of the battalion of field artillery which camped here recently and are enroute to Fort Leavenworth, having completed their yearly target practice at Fort Riley. ...

R. L. Miller has been busy these days overseeing sowing cane and kaffir corn. He has five hundred acres in. He had all ground plowed and sowed broad cast with wheat drill.

Having finished this job he put his attention to the Rodeo features of the Indian Fair. He says he is going to have a better show than last year. We think that was exciting enough for anybody. He left Friday for the 101 Ranch and other parts of Oklahoma to line up a bunch of real cowboys and cowgirls. He has some contracted for from Shamrock, Texas. *The Holton Recorder*, July 5, 1923.

Holton and the country roundabout had its first view Monday night of the much looked for "fiery cross." It was the forerunner of the Ku Klux Klan. It appeared first on the underside of an airplane which circled the town at dusk, after which ten minutes of gyrations came to earth in a pasture a mile north of town. It next appeared in the form of a flaming cross on a hill southeast of town. Here were congregated what was reported to be several hundred men. An American flag floated within the rays of the flame. Passersbys could hear the strains of the anthem "America."

After the meeting closed several cars filled with white robed masked men left the field and headed south towards Topeka. On the radiators of the cars were illuminated electric crosses. There seems to be no doubt that the gathering was a regular Klan meeting.

Entrance to the pasture where the meeting was held was guarded by robed and hooded men, and no one was allowed to pass into the enclosure save by the giving of a password. What transpired at the meeting is only known to those that are members or prospective members. It is a secret organization. However some who were there say there were over two hundred initiated into the Invisible Empire and that the goal for Jackson county is 1000 members. Organizers have been working here for the past six weeks, so it is said. So the Ku Klux Klan has come to Holton. There was a report that an organizer was here last year and looked the field over. He reported the community at that time was not "ripe" for the Klan. However the soil has been cultivated and there now seems to be a lively demand to join the organization. The initial cost of belonging is said to be \$10.

Every organization meets up with humorous incidents. While the fiery cross was flaming on high Monday night and spreading mysticism and thrills among the people who could view the distant spectacle, some curious boys thirsting for the secrets to be revealed, pitched forward on their stomachs into the alfalfa field adjacent to the meeting place and began threading their way unseen towards the cross, after the manner of the boys of 1918 who negotiated no-man's land. As they approached the light watchers saw a movement in the hay and turned spotlights on the spot. To avoid exposure the boys covered themselves over with hay. For an hour the spotlight covered the spot and the curious boys were compelled to sweat under a liberal covering of new mown hay with the temperature well up in the nineties. *The Holton Recorder*, July 12, 1923.

A reporter of this paper was offered the opportunity Monday evening of attending a meeting of the Ku Klux Klan on a hilltop outside of the city limits. With a natural desire to learn more of this organization and prompted also the reporter's instinctive desire for a news story, the Signal reporter readily acquiesced in the plan and permitted himself to be blindfolded and conducted to the field to witness the ceremony and proceeding. We print herewith the story as furnished by Frank Osterhold, an employee of this office, for the benefit of the readers of this paper who may be interested in knowing what actually takes place at one of the Klan meetings from the viewpoint of a non-member, who is accorded the privilege of viewing the ceremonies.

"About 8 o'clock Monday evening I was approached by a stranger on the north side of the square and asked if I would care to attend a Ku Klux Klan meeting that evening with the usual privileges of a reporter to report what I saw and heard. For some time I have had a curiosity to know more about the Klan and what it stands for and what takes place at these meetings that are so clothed in mystery and secrecy, this coupled with the fact that my reporter's instinct told me that there would be a good story for the readers of the Signal, caused me to promptly accept the invitation.

I was led to a side street and blindfolded. My conductors then took me some distance to an automobile and took me to what afterwards learned was the Hinnen pasture southeast of town on what is known as the Spring road.

The ride to the field where the ceremony was to take place, was marked by silence, not a word being spoken by either of my companions. After some effort to draw them out into conversation, which was of no avail, I gave it up and resigned myself to await developments.

When we arrived at the gate of the field where the ceremony was to take place we were stopped by someone, I presume a guard. After a whispered consultation between my conductors and the men on the gate we were allowed to enter.

When we were well within the field I found myself in a large crowd of men who appeared to be walking about conversing about crops, the legislature, President Harding, camping trips and the Fourth of July and kindred subjects. There appeared to be hundreds of men present as considerable time was spent by my conductors in leading

me around, and everywhere, though I could not see, I was aware that there was a crowd of men.

The crowd impressed me with the fact it was quiet and orderly and I did not hear a rough or excited word spoken during my stay. Everyone was quiet, orderly, calm and courteous. One of the men brought me a drink of water and asked me how I was, and if there was anything that I wanted.

Shortly after I arrived at the field the meeting was called to order, a voice which I did not recognize seemed to have charge of the proceedings. Before any of the ceremony took place the speaker announced that there were two parties present in a car that did not belong there, and an opportunity would be given them at that time to withdraw. They availed themselves of the opportunity before the words were scarcely out of the speaker's mouth and beat a hasty retreat outside the field.

Someone then took charge of the meeting by asking all to sing America. This was beautiful and impressive as the hundred's of men's voices blended together in the words of this stirring song. The surrounding of the scene added a particular charm to the song. It was unlike any experience I have ever had. The lines, "Thy woods and templed hills my heart with rapture thrills" came to me with a new significance and a new meaning as they were sung out on the hill under God's stars and the echoes from the hillsides about us were swept back on the night breeze.

After the song came a prayer for guidance. The lecturer then launched into his address giving a lot of statistics showing that every class of race of people were highly organized that they might work as a unit for their own protection and advancement, except the white protestant American born. These alone were without the semblance of organization.

The speaker stated that the Klan stands for the tenets of the Christian religion, white supremacy, a closer relation between American capital and American labor, the protection of pure womanhood, preventing causes of mob violence and lynching, and taming foreign labor agitators, prevention of fires and destruction of property by lawless elements, limitation of foreign immigration, upholding the constitution of the United States, sovereignty of state rights, separation of church and state and freedom of speech and press.

The lecturer after enumerating the thing for which the Klan stood proceeded with an address on true Americanism, good citizenship, allegiance to our country, to our flag and to God our Christ as the only "criterion of Character."

After the lecture those for reasons of their own did not desire to unite with the Klan were asked to leave the field. I was led off to one side, on a slight elevation overlooking the field and my guide permitted me to remove my blindfold.

The sight which struck my gaze was one which I am nor apt to forget. All around the field were hundreds of cars and within the field were hundreds of cars. In the center of the field was a cross some 30 feet high, at some distance from the cross was a tall flag pole flying an American flag, brilliantly illuminated with a powerful search light.

Grouped about the flag was a large crowd of men robed in white the same as my guard. They were listening to a man also robed in white who was speaking from an elevated platform.

I sought to carry on a conversation with my guard. But my questions were all answered in monosyllables and after several efforts I gave it up.

At the appointed time in the ceremony the large cross which I had noted in the background suddenly burst into flame. The appearance of the flaming cross seemed to bring a hush about the scene and a new spirit of thoughtfulness and solemnity prevailed the crowd.

I was then blindfolded and led to the gate and dismissed.

Gone are the romantic dreams of the Klu Klux Klan as portrayed by Dixon and other realistic writers. Any part of the lecture I heard could have been given from the court house step without offending anyone. *The Holton Signal*, July 21, 1923.

The electric light situation is now good in Mayetta. Most everyone is getting his house wired. We need other improvement in Mayetta and we would have them if we were all able. The next improvement we need is the water protection in case of fire. *The Holton Recorder*, July 26, 1923.

There are hundreds of beautiful shade trees in Mayetta and the branches hang so low over the side walks that they drag one's hat off when passing underneath them. Either the property owners, or the city council ought to cut the limbs. *The Holton Signal*, August 9, 1923.

R. L. Miller unloaded a car load of Brahma steers here Friday afternoon. They took them to the Indian Fair grounds. These are the wildest cattle to be found on the range in the south. There were several boys on horseback and a number in autos were used in taking these cattle out to the fair grounds. In going out two or three got away, and they had to make an extra trip for them. But for all they captured the missing animals, threw lassos and soon had them tied down and took them in a truck to where the other cattle were. These cattle are to be used for the Potawatomie Indian Fair and the cowboys expect to ride them and bulldog them. The Brahma cattle are among the wildest steers known. They would just as soon kill you as to look at you, but there will be no danger there as they have a corral to hold them and it certainly is safe. Another carload of Texas steers will arrive some time this week.

The Holton Recorder, August 16, 1923.

It is reported, that the K. K. K. have been holding meetings in this vicinity for the purpose of perfecting an organization. We are informed that the meetings were held in Stanley's and John Hanni's pastures, so it is possible that we have among us an organization, who would deny representation to Columbus, in the land which he discovered and to the negro for whose emancipation so much blood was shed and to the Jew who Christ said "Father forgive them for they know not what they do." They surely are inconsistent in their boasting of Christianity and their 100 per cent Americanism. *The Holton Signal*, August 16, 1923.

We were informed that the 100 per centers held a meeting one night last week out in some pasture. Of course the members think they are invisible and not known, but why should the members of any origination that claims such a high percentage of patriotism want to deny their identity with such an organization. Why don't they wear the fiery cross, like the members of organizations like the Masons, Elks, Knights of Columbus, Odd Fellows and others display the emblems of their respective orders. . . .

The human being is a very particular sort of person. We put in several years as a railroad agent and have handled thousand of passengers and if our patrons were unable to get seats on the train, just as soon as they could get home they would come down and cuss me and the railroad company for the crowded condition of the trains and want us to see that there was more equipment furnished so as to give each passenger two seats, one to sit in and one to put his feet on. Of course we tried our best to accommodate them, but some times failed, but the people these days are willing to ride a motor bus and put up with all kinds of discomfort in order to get to go. We have seen a seven passenger bus have eleven people stacked in it and have never yet heard one word of complaint from any of the passengers. There ought to be a stringent law keeping any passenger vehicle from taking more than their seating capacity.

Why not pave main street, the property owners ought to get busy. It could be paved with chat, which is not very expensive and would last a life time. The writer does not own a foot of property on main street, but we are perfectly willing to donate \$100 if it is paved with the right kind of material. We figure that it would require about 150 loads of chat to pave from the depot to the east end of Main street. We will leave the cost to the rest of the people interested. Of course you don't have to pave, only I suggest that it be done. The more we improve and beautify our town the more we will be noticed by the people who pass through. *The Holton Signal*, September 6, 1923.

There was an extraordinary and noticeable decrease of automobile traffic through the streets of Mayetta this year during the week of the Topeka Free Fair. The decrease of this traffic was caused by the public highway being under construction for the new hard surfaced road. All traffic now being detoured on the east road. Last year during Fair week there was an average of 700 cars per day passed through the main street and quite a large number stopped for gas and oil. Now if the hard surfaced road should not come through main street and pass by on the west side of town, the same results will happen from year to year. Of course it may not benefit the town by having the paved road pass right through on main street, but we will venture an assertion that the businessmen and every one else concerned will be more sorry if it should pass along the west side. We want to say that your taxes for the hard surfaced road will not be any less, for is to go down the west side, main street. You will have your share of the taxes to pay no matter which way it goes, but if you want it to go on the west side of town, why just keeps still and suffer the consequences and then go out behind the barn and give yourself a good kicking where it will hurts the most. Now if the tax payers will do a little work they can get it to come through main street. *The Holton Signal*, September 20, 1923.

There has been a great deal said about the question of where our hard surfaced road is going, through Mayetta or on the west side of the railroad. Of course, it may not benefit the town very much, but it wouldn't look right for it not to go through town by having the paved road pass right through on Main street. We hear a great number of our business people would be sorry if it should pass along the west side of the track.

Our taxes would be just the same whether through the main part or on the west side. We would like to let people know that Mayetta is still on the map. If I understand it right, they are going to grade up on the north side and begin on the south side and Mayetta can do as she pleases whether the main part of it be paved or not. In my estimation I would think it would be better to go right through town, but I have nothing to say about it. If I had, no one would pay any attention to me. Our bosses do just as they please when it comes to the show down. *The Holton Recorder*, September 27, 1923.

The hotel guests and quite a number of others called in Monday night and had the pleasure of listening over a radio a guest had with him. It was one of the most wonderful programs of music I ever heard. We listened over it until about midnight. They got a number of the principal cities - Chicago, Dallas, Texas, Omaha, Neb., Los Angeles, Cincinnati, Ohio, Columbus, Ohio. We could hear great speeches, some of the finest singing and people dancing and calling off and great crowds of people cheering and having a good time. The band was playing between times

and some of the finest band music that any one could wish to hear. *The Holton Recorder*, October 25, 1923.

We notice the bus driver makes our town about on schedule time. We think it would be better for them and the public to make a short stop at the hotel and each one of the garages and sound their horn at each one of these places. The reporter is only giving his views of it, as we are no kicker on any kind of business, as we have enough to do. *The Holton Recorder*, November 1, 1923.

A delegation of practically all the business men of Mayetta called on our county commissioners at the court house in Holton Tuesday morning for the purpose of asking them to exert every effort in their power to induce the federal authorities to route the new federal highway through the main street of Mayetta instead of keeping it west of the railroad track. The latter course would eliminate the town from all the benefits of a hard surfaced road passing through town.

The subject was introduced by W. A. Cooney, who stated the object of the visit and the situation as it effects his town. J. C. Mulryan was called on and by aid of a diagram of our town showed that a small viaduct could be constructed at the west crossing, and at the southeast crossing an underground subway would be practicable, thereby eliminating both the present railroad grade crossing which seems to be the obstacles.

Our county engineer was called in and shown the drawing. He thought by modifying the present survey it would be possible to put in the west viaduct by federal aid. The commissioners seemed favorable to the plan.

Talks were made by nearly all the business men, and by the keen interest the commissioners showed in the proposition, we feel our visit will not be in vain. The commissioners acted very friendly in the matter, and from the way they talked they indicated they would do all they could for us in the matter of getting the road routed through our town. We feel that Mr. Hall is our commissioner down this way and it would be in his interest to get the road for us. We wouldn't feel right if he didn't, as the road goes through the main street of Hoyt and we are as much entitled to it as our sister town. We have good schools and churches here and splendid stores, and if the road passed to the west of the townsite it would be only a short time until we were wiped off the map and Mayetta would be only a whistling station. Our town has been here for a long time, our money is invested in homes and business property, and I think we are entitled to consideration. Our town is one of the best in the county outside of Holton. Now let us all work for the interests of the new routing and I believe that we will get it. *The Holton Recorder*, November 8, 1923.

There was a petition circulated last week to the Federal Engineer of the Capital Highway praying for the road to be surveyed and graded through Mayetta on the Main street and following the regularly laid out county road. It was signed by almost every citizen in town and we hope it will have the desired effect. *The Holton Signal*, November 15, 1923.

Clark Coleman, C. C. Kelly, Frank Hafer, Al Hohnbaum, W. A. Cooney, J. A. Slattery, J. C. Mulryan, A. J. Jones and others from here attended the meeting of the State Highway commission in Topeka Thursday, our county commissioners were also there. They advocated and promised to recommend to higher authorities, the grading of the Capital Highway following the regularly laid out county road through the Main street of Mayetta. The people of Mayetta would consider it a great injustice if the commissioners and the State and Federal engineers should decide otherwise and we confidently hope that the request will be granted as prayed for. *The Holton Signal*, November 29, 1923.

The county commissioners have been very busy the past few days, south of Mayetta, looking up the right-of-way, for the new federal aid road, which will run through Holton, Mayetta, and Hoyt to Topeka. Part of this road will be built with federal aid. This will mean the buying of a strip of land along the roadway, and this road will be 60 feet wide. All the fences that are situated along the right-of-way will be removed. I see by the paper that most of the county officials were in Topeka a part of last week, seeing the highway commissioners and from what we can learn, they all talk that Mayetta and all the little towns will have the road go up main street, or somewhere through part of the town, and from what Mayetta people can hear, we don't doubt a bit that we will get our road. I think that in about a few days we will know all about it. We had a long talk a few days ago from the right-of-way agent of the Rock Island Railway; he thinks it would be very foolish for the road to go west of town, and he couldn't see for his life, why they would think of putting it there. *The Holton Recorder*, November 29, 1923.

The grading gang from Willard, Kansas, came one day last week and stayed Thursday night at the hotel. They went from here up to Holton to help Mr. George Dutcher out. Mr. McCoy, the manager, had with him 12 men and 30 head of mules, and they had with them their own camping outfit. When they get all of these men and mules strung out they will do fast work. *The Holton Recorder*, December 6, 1923.

Nobody need go hungry in Mayetta if they have the price. We have three restaurants, 1 hotel, 4 boarding houses, 4 garages, 4 general merchandise stores, 1 drug store, 2 creameries and poultry stations, 3 barber shops, 2 blacksmith shops, 1 news dealer, a credited rural high school and a grade school, 3 churches. All kinds of tradesmen. Also two banks, one lumber yard and two coal yards. One elevator, and several fraternal organizations. So with 3 good restaurants, a first class hotel, and several boarding houses you can safely figure on making your belt larger. *The Holton Signal*, January 10, 1924.

The garage men tell me they have all the work they can do these days, thawing radiators out. One young man had one frozen so badly that he had to get a new radiator which was very expensive. *The Holton Recorder*, January 24, 1924.

The officers of the Mayetta Telephone Company held a meeting on Saturday. There were several applicants for the job. The job of lineman and operator considered. Miss Fannie Robson was the successful applicant as operator and entered into a contract to take care of the inside work. Miss Frances Whelan will be her assistant. The officers decided to hire somebody as lineman whenever needed. *The Holton Signal*, January 31, 1924.

We had one of the most unusual happenings in our community the other day, that has come to our knowledge in a natural lifetime. Dudley Lunger had just dug a cistern. The dimensions of the cistern are 15 feet deep and twelve feet across and he was in the act of doing some grading around it in the way of putting the finishing touches on it when he happened to drive a little too close and one of the horses fell in. But you must give it to Dudley for quick work. He unharnessed the horse and fed him until the next morning when he had concluded that the knew a safe way to take the horse out without injuring him. So he proceeded to fill the cistern full of baled hay and the horse walked out safe and sound. *The Holton Recorder*, February 14, 1924.

We notice in the paper last week that Holton passed an ordinance that all dogs that are running at large should be muzzled or tied up. We think that Mayetta should do likewise. Mayetta has all kinds of dogs and it is a very common thing to count 10 or 12 dogs on the street at one time to say nothing about some that you don't see. We mention this for our officers to take care of before some mad dog scare will take place and do a great deal of damage, and you will wish you had done something about it. *The Holton Recorder*, March 13, 1924.

When I first moved to Mayetta I had a white and black spotted hound dog I named Queenie, mostly white with a few brown and black spots. She came in season and I locked her in Grandma Sporhers's cob house, and she preceded to dig her way out and the next thing I knew, she had been shot and killed in a townsman's garden. Townspeople canned and depended on the produce from their gardens to get them through the winter, and it was serious business when a dog got into someone's garden. She was shot and killed by the town marshal this being the animal control method in small towns. More than fifty years have passed since then; and I still feel resentment that I wasn't notified that she was loose and given a chance to make restitution, if needed, before she was killed.

R. L. Miller has purchased a new spraying machine and had it hauled out to his orchard Monday. The orchard has 1700 fruit trees and there will be several men employed for a few weeks trimming and spraying the trees, under the direction and supervision of Mr. McCooke of Leavenworth who is an experienced orchardist. *The Holton Signal*, March 20, 1924.

The 9th Field Artillery camped here on the school ground last Thursday afternoon and left on Friday morning on their way to Fort Riley. The presence of so many soldiers in town reminded some people of the days of the war. There are some people who surmise there will be another war soon, because John Summers is hauling walnut logs to town to be shipped and Hans Lundin is buying up all the old iron. *The Holton Signal*, May 15, 1924.

Old Mother Nature got busy last week a few days and spoiled considerable of our icy pavement.

Main street is now in a deplorable condition. The mud is about six inches deep. It will take several days of sunshine and drying wind to put it in a presentable shape. Now is the good time to boost for paving, come on boys lets do something. All other update towns have paving, why can not we have our streets paved too. *The Holton Signal*, May 21, 1924.

Well I see most of the people that go to Holton and Topeka are going the new road and we can notice that a third more people go through Mayetta than they did when they had to detour and most of them stop and look around and buy something. This proves that the road would be of real benefit to the town if it went through the main street. *The Holton Recorder*, June 26, 1924.

Several Hoyt boys came to Mayetta Saturday night to settle with the Mayetta boys for smiling at their lady friends. They went back satisfied but not contented (satisfied that some of the Mayetta boys had a punch like Jack Dempsey.) *The Holton Recorder*, July 24, 1924.

Another business building is added to our town. A couple of young men from Holton have leased the corner lot from the McAlexander estate. This lot lies just west of John Reed's residence and they intend to erect a good building on it. Just what the boys are going into we are unable to say. This building will sort of break into John Reed's roasting ear patch as they are going to begin work soon. *The Holton Recorder*, August 7, 1924.

J. C. Mulryan is having some changes made in his opera house. The picture show located on the lower floor will be moved to the floor above. The chairs will be elevated from the front to the back and the stairway changed. This will make a neat show house as the hall is as large as the present room. *The Holton Recorder*, October 16, 1924.

What Mayetta needs is a Community hall, a Commercial club, a booster club, paved streets, a cow pasture Pool club so our tired business men can have a little recreation and enjoyment to ease their minds from their business care. We have ideal locations for cow pasture pool and with a little energy and a few dollars of expense we could have as fine of course for cow pasture pool as any in the country. We also need to organize a country club. *The Holton Signal*, October 23, 1924.

There was quite a crowd gathered at the depot Saturday afternoon to hear W. J. Bryan talk for ten minutes from the special on which he traveled. He claimed the Republican party represented the conservative element and he estimated that two-thirds of the voters belonged to the latter element and consequently predicted victory for the Democratic ticket. *The Holton Signal*, October 30, 1924.

Mayetta turned out about 300 Saturday afternoon to hear W. J. Bryan, the silver tongued orator, who is touring the country for his brother, who is running for vice president. Mr. Bryan made a very good talk what little time he had to speak. The last thing he told us before he left was to vote for John W. Davis for president, and Lafollette wasn't in it not a little bit. *The Holton Recorder*, October 30, 1924.

After all the years of hard work that the good roads people had put in in lobbying the government and in changing peoples minds to the importance of hard surfaced roads, their efforts finally reached fruition, and the time for the hard surfaced roads had at last arrived. There was to be a federal highway constructed going through Jackson County paid for in part by the US government and by a tax levied on the people of the county. The road was to be called Highway 75, but when the later day built 75 highway was moved further to the west it became a state highway and is now designated as State Highway 214.

The work of the construction the road bed started at the end of the concrete road on the Shawnee-Jackson County line and proceeded west some miles, then turned north towards Hoyt, Mayetta, Holton, Netawaka and then into Brown County. This hard surfaced road building was a learning experience for the State of Kansas Highway Department, and as work progressed many modifications had to be made over the years.

It was to be a graveled road in the beginning and there is some confusion on my part as the newspaper correspondents often referred to the road material being used as either being sand or gravel. In some instances when sand was mentioned I know it referred to gravel and in others cases it is possible that sand was used. The good roads people had made an agreement many years previous with the railroads that road building materials would be shipped in at a reduced rate, and this is how the sand/gravel for the Highway 75 arrived in the county, by rail car. This was good agreement for both parties, creating more business for the railroads and also for the taxpayers by reducing the cost of road building.

The grading of the road started in 1925 and was completed to Mayetta by November of 1926. By the middle of July, 1927 they were laying down a layer of sand or gravel on the road and installing guardrails. I don't know if they tried to stabilize the road bed by mixing sand in with the dirt to firm it up, but if they did it didn't hold up very well. As traffic increased over the road, and especially when it rained, the sand or gravel was pushed down into the dirt base bringing the mud up to the top and that required that a second layer of gravel to be spread on the road bed in the summer of 1929.

Trial and error: In the summer of 1931 the road bed was reworked and a 'blotter' type road was installed that consisted of a layer of hot asphalt being sprayed on and then small gravel spread on top. This is a type of paving that is still used in Jackson County today, but is now called 'chip and seal.'

In the fall of 1932 a new type of surface treatment called bituminous mat was put down that consisted

of a thick asphalt and aggregate mixture that was compacted by a road roller, and in 1938 the highway was reworked and another covering of the same applied. There was probably no other new type of paving used after this time and all that was required was maintenance of the road until the new concrete highway was built in the 1960's.

The contract was let Friday in Holton for the widening and grading for the county road between Mayetta and Shawnee county line. We understand they will begin working on it soon. This road will be under construction for about a year or more if they have good luck and the people that travel this road will have to go a different route to Topeka. *The Holton Recorder*, November 13, 1924.

Work testing cows for tuberculosis is going on now all over this part of the county. I expect it is a good thing. We used to never hear of this. From what we can learn there are not so many cattle subject to it. If the remaining herds show no more infection than has been found to date, a record establishing a modified area will be made. *The Holton Recorder*, January 29, 1925.

If you think we haven't some live truck men in our city you have another guess coming. One of our local truckmen made two trips to Topeka, 4 loads of corn, from John Slattery's place to the Mayetta elevator in one day. We think that is doing some business in that length of time. *The Holton Recorder*, February 5, 1925.

We would suggest that the City Council ask the railroad company to not allow cars to be placed west of the elevator office so that they obstruct the view of the crossing, especially of trains coming from the east. There is ample loading and unloading room east of the elevator and west from the depot, for the safety of the public we think it would be a wise move for the railroad company to issue an order that no cars should be placed between the elevator and the crossing east of the depot. *The Holton Signal*, February 5, 1925.

There is considerable talk by the president of the Mayetta City Welfare League, of paving Main street from the Depot to the Carthcart corner. We think this is a good move as the cost would be nominal. We have plenty of good stone in less than three miles of town and we could put in a rock crusher and this would give employment to several people and the item of crushed rock would save us quite a large amount, especially if we shipped in crushed rock for the pavement. Here is hoping that the good movement will continue and our Main street soon be paved. ...

Mayetta is probably the only city in Kansas that can boast of having its Main street paved without cost to the taxpayers. On December 16th the Ruler of the elements got busy and paved our street with snow and ice and it is still in good condition and does not need any immediate repairs, although if the weather should warm up the north side will need attention. The sky scraper buildings on the north side keep that side of the street protected. *The Holton Signal*, February 12, 1925.

Last week quite a number of our telephone subscribers thought maybe a cyclone or some other disturbance in the elements had interrupted their telephone service, and frantically began calling central to find out the trouble and Central being of a pleasing disposition informed the said subscribers there had been no cyclone, but that the Board of Directors of the Telephone company had instructed her to disconnect all subscribers who were in arrears a year or more on telephone fees, the consequence was that before night the telephone company was richer by several hundred dollars and the delinquents who paid up were immediately restored to service. *The Holton Signal*, March 5, 1925.

From Saturday morning, March 7th until Sunday noon, March 16th, Roy Moore purchased from the farmers, \$1655.00 worth of eggs and chickens, averaging over two hundred dollars a day, not including Sunday. This doesn't include cream. Who says that chickens do not pay. Show me the farmers who has a good flock of chickens and I will show you a family that does not holler in hard times. Of course there is quite some work attached to raising chickens, but it is time well spent. ...

On March 16th, 1924 we had six inches of snow and again on March 19th we had three inches of snow, and the ice froze an inch thick on March 31st, 1924. We do not anticipate any such occurrence this year, but the forecast for the coming season, is plenty of rainfall for all growing crops. We are right on the verge of spring. *The Holton Signal*, March 19, 1925.

Look out for gorillas on big Soldier. They say there are some out there. *The Holton Recorder*, April 2, 1925.

The mayor of Mayetta promised before election, if elected, he would stop the dogs from barking after six p. m. He is now open for any suggestions. He wants to forfeit his promise. *The Holton Recorder*, April 19, 1925.

Last Wednesday evening witnessed the installing of our new City Officials who will be in charge of our city

interests for the next two years.

And by the same act it meant the retiring of our former mayor, Mr. McMurray, and his council, who have most faithfully looked after the interests of our city for the past two years. They have accomplished much and are to be commended for the good they have done from a moral and financial standpoint.

Three years ago our city was without light and heavily in debt. Through the good management and judgment of our officers, our city today is in good financial condition. Through their unceasing and earnest efforts they have given to our town a splendid lighting system. The building of the electric light line from Holton was a master stroke and has given our town the service and possibilities equal to that of any other inland city at a trifling cost and a service that we are all proud of. The extending of the light line to the Indian Agency was a foresightedness of good judgment, that in a short time will be a source of continual revenue to our treasury. One other good item they have given to our city, was a night watchman. We could always retire at night feeling that all was well with our property.

There is no way to estimate the amount of good that has done. While our sister towns have been looted and burglarized, we have suffered no such damage. This fact in itself is evidence that this office has accomplished all that it was intended and the laborer has proven himself worthy of his hire.

The office of Police Judge has been well conducted. Mr. Seibert never lets his personal feelings interfere with his judgment. He has always been fair and just to the clients who came before him.

Our new mayor is a high minded man of sound logical judgment, backed by years of business training and experience and will have the support of his council, who have all shown good business judgment for a member of the council. The science of running a city is a business in itself and it should be better cared for by men of practical experience.

Mayetta has a big territory to draw from and our town is as big as we can make it. We should all pull together and make it a good place in which to trade. We can not do this by knocking one another. Let us all get together and give our officers our hearty support.

A man should be as big as his job and our city as big as the people and officers who run it.

Let us all be broadminded and big for the betterment of our town and give to our officers the support that they deserve and they in turn will make us glad that we are here, and will at all times give to our city the best service that is in them. J. C. Mulryan. *The Holton Recorder*, April 23, 1925.

There is a bad mud hole on the railroad right of way near the crossing in town which needs fixing quite badly. The side walk near the depot holds the water after every rain because it is low. There are many complaints heard and we hope the rail road company will improve the drainage system in the vicinity of the depot. *The Holton Signal*, May 14, 1925.

The city councilmen met Monday evening. They talked over the business of the town and their main issue was to appoint a committee to see what it would cost to pave main street. This is a good idea and it will be brought up at the next meeting. The other issue was something said in regard to the speed limit. It looks to me like there must be something done about this. This has been talked of for some time. You all know it is very dangerous to go through main street fast when there are lots of people in town.

Mrs. J. P. Mitchell has placed a motor at her well back of the Hotel. She can use this motor on washing her porch off and water her flowers and garden and can use it if her Hotel caught on fire. She has a hundred and fifty feet of hose that goes with this motor and I think that other parties around town should have one as it would be a great advantage if they happened to have a fire. Maybe insurance companies would make some allowance. *The Holton Recorder*, June 4, 1925.

At last it has been decided that Mayetta will have paved streets from the Rock Island depot to the Cathcart corner, a distance of about four blocks. All business men and owners have signed a petition for the same. This will make a great improvement in our little city. This has been along felt want and the work will begin as soon as possible. They hope it will be done before cold weather. *The Holton Recorder*, June 11, 1925.

The City Council held a special meeting Monday evening to consider bids for the grading a paving of Main street: the Mayor and all members of the Council were present and also City Attorney Woodburn and a civil engineer from Topeka. Several parties who were interested in bids and materials were here. There were only three bids, the lowest one was accepted for grading and paving, the material will be brick. Grundeman & Sons of Netawaka were the successful bidders. They will be prepared to start work on the grading soon. The difference in the cost of concrete and brick pavement will be approximately \$31 on each lot, we understand. ...

Mrs. V. R. Lunger, probably has the largest hollyhock garden in the state of Kansas. It contains something like five thousand hollyhocks stalks and each stalk contains from five to twenty blossoms, it is certainly a beautiful sight. It contains every known color except jet black. *The Holton Signal*, June 25, 1925.

The meeting of the Mayor and Council held last Monday night was largely attended. Several material men were

present, some representing the brick interests and others representing the cement interests. Several contractors were present to submit their bids for the paving of Main street. The bids were opened and given to the public. Grundeman & Sons of Netawaka were the low bidders and received the contract, the council accepting their bid for brick pavement. This kind of pavement seems to be the kind a majority of the tax payers desire, so the council decided to install that kind of pavement. The contract will call for pavement with vertical fiber brick on a five inch concrete base with asphalt filler. This is said to be the best pavement possible to install and we congratulate the Mayor and Councilmen upon their contract as they got an exceptionally good figure. Grundeman's figure was something like \$3,000 below the other bidders. *The Holton Recorder*, June 25, 1925.

Mr. Grundeman and sons and their gang of men are going right along with the grading of main street and it will be sometime before they will be ready to put down the concrete. The weather has been extremely hot on them. Some of the men had to quit on being over heated. It makes it hard on horses and men. *The Holton Recorder*, July 16, 1925.

We would suggest that the city Dads get busy and put our Main street lights on a separate line so they may illuminate our streets all night. This could be done with very little expense and be of great service to the traveling public. We also need a street light near the railroad crossing on the turn across the tracks from the depot. ...

While out driving last Sunday we passed a cow pasture pool park. The mercury was dangling around the ninety degree mark and we saw men swinging their arms with big clubs like they were trying to knock holes in the ground, and we will bet "the hole in the doughnut" that they would have had a conniption fit if their wives asked them push the lawn mower around over the front yard. We also noticed women trying to play the same kind of game out in the hot sun, and if their dear old hubby made them do even half as much outdoor labor at home they would undoubtedly want to sue their better half for abuse. It seems funny to us how people will work so hard for a little exercise then try to call it fun. *The Holton Signal*, July 16, 1925.

Grundeman & Sons are working from 20 to 40 men now on the paved road and they are doing lots of work on it. They will have it done in 90 days unless they have lots of bad weather. *The Holton Recorder*, July 30, 1925.

The city wanted to continue paving Main street to west side of the railroad tracks. The railroad would not agree and the city sued in the District Court, presided over by Judge Martin A. Bender, the same Bender who had just completed a building in Mayetta and who also owned one of the Mayetta elevators. The city asked for the city limits to be extended to the west line of the railroad right-of-way from the northwest to the southwest ends of the city and in addition a triangle of land on which the USD District building parking lot partially stands today. Bender ruled that the part of the city from the north side of Jones street to south side of James street would be extended to the west right-of-way line, also the triangle of land. This seems fair as Jones, James and Main streets all were touching upon the east line of the railroad right-of-way.

Having said this it would have been so much better if the entire right-of-way had have been included in the city limits as the city asked for. If it had, the city would have the right to maintain the drainage ditch and tube under the track, and enforce the city ordinances that pertain to keeping property clean.

Our mayor and city councilmen were in Holton Monday morning attending the trial, City of Mayetta vs. Rock Island Railroad. The dispute was the corporate limits of the city of Mayetta. The city was allowed to extend the corporate limits just beyond the west tracks. That means the contractors can soon go ahead with their work across the right-o-way. ...

J. C. Mulryan makes this suggestion: When tourists came to our town they are constantly asking where our camp ground are located. Other towns have free camping grounds and why not Mayetta? We have a large number of tourists who stay with us as it is. Now that we have gone to the expense of paving our streets we should make every effort to hold all the tourist trade we can get. It would be in the interest of every business place in town. There are several vacant lots in town that would answer the purpose and the cost of securing and maintaining them would be so trifling that we cannot afford to be without a camping ground. Why sit back and let the business go to other towns? Lets get busy right now. *The Holton Recorder*, August 6, 1925.

Our city pavement to date is coming along fine. Grundeman & Son, the contractors, have completed all the curb and gutter and about three blocks of concrete base. In another week, if the weather stays good, they expect to start laying brick. ...

The brick for paving is just all about here. Both sides of Main street are piled high with brick. ...

Our whole town was awakened about 11 o'clock Sunday night by ringing of bells and hollowing and shooting and making all the noise that possibly could be heard by our night marshal, Mr. Sanderson, announcing that he had discovered fire in Reifsnyners's store. He and Joe Blandin were sitting in front of the store and smelled fire and they

looked around and saw the blaze coming out of the cellar about midway in the store. After a few minutes of calling our whole town was alive with people with buckets and ladders and everything to fight fire with and they did fight and kept the fire from spreading to other buildings. The fire did catch at the lumber yard and other buildings but the fire was soon extinguished. By this being a brick building and the wind being in the northeast direction it saved our town for which we are all so thankful. We are here now in a paving business that makes that side of the street look desolate and lonely. This building belonged to M. A. Bender of Holton. He purchased this building sometime ago. We understand that he had \$3,000 insurance and just how much that Mr. Reifsnnyder has we are unable to say. This was one of the best buildings in town and we hope it will be rebuilt and make that side of the street as same as it was before. *The Holton Recorder*, August 27, 1925.

Dr. Robson received a telegram from Manhattan Tuesday stating that the cat that bit Mrs. Hunter had the rabies and advised that Mrs. Hunter take the Pasteur treatment immediately. It is decided that she will take the treatment at home here. ...

It has been a busy place around the Rock Island depot the past week. The section men have been raising the tracks and improving the drainage system, and the paving gang has been grading and pouring concrete on that end of Main street between the tracks. They finished up that work Tuesday and will now, probably start laying brick form the intersection of Third street where they had stopped. It will be a little slow as the bricks will have to be culled and there will be probably be a car or more rejected. The crossing at the depot is closed causing a detour to the north crossing and with the hay fever and the street torn up the writer finds it pretty hard sledding in getting the mail from the depot to the post office. ...

Mrs. Esta Hunter was out in the yard Friday when the cat jumped out of the weeds and bit her twice on the leg. It being feared that the cat was afflicted with rabies and the leg swelled up badly, so the cat was killed and the head was to Manhattan for examination. It is hoped will be no serious results as Mrs. Hunter is now getting along very nicely. *The Holton Signal*, September 3, 1925.

The town marshal was busy part of last week killing dogs and cats that ran at large. They had to be tied up or imprisoned for ten days or more by the order of Mayor Hunter. Mrs. Hunter who was bitten has been taking treatment and feels no effects from the bite and is as well as ever. ...

We were to have our opening of our pavement last Monday night, but it was put off for some cause or other so next Monday evening, September 21, is the date. The program will be Marshall's band of Topeka and a couple of speakers. Prof. Van Nice and Hon. A. E. Crane will have something to tell us. Free lemonade to the public and one of the many features will be a street dance which will be the chief entertainment. Everyone is cordially invited to come and join us and have a good old social time. *The Holton Recorder*, September 17, 1925.

Grundeman and Co. have finished the paving in Mayetta and the people of Mayetta are well pleased with the kind of work they did them, and we want to recommenced them to other places if they get them to do their work. It will sure be done right and comes up to specifications. They are busy now putting in some cement sidewalks for the property owners here and also some side walks for the R. I. R. R. *The Holton Recorder*, September 24, 1925.

The federal aid road under construction from Shawnee county line to the town of Mayetta is expected to be completed by November 1. It is open from Hoyt to the paving, practically completed for five miles north of Hoyt and "roughed in" the rest of the way to Mayetta.

The federal aid project from Holton to the Brown county line has been surveyed and the commissioners will likely contract for its construction so that work will be started by next season. ... No determination has been reached by the Board of County Commissioners in regard to the route through Mayetta. The federal engineers, it is said, insist on routing the road along the west side of the tracks. If this is done the government will share in the cost also of building a spur north from the section line south of Mayetta to join the east end of Mayetta's paved Main street. This done it would give two routes past Mayetta, one through the town and one west of the tracks. Travelers could travel either one of them. This would seem a fair compromise, but it is said some of the Mayetta people won't consent to having the road built west of the tracks at all, and the federal engineers refuse to act unless it is built there.

The settlement of the controversy will rest with the county commissioners and action will have to be taken soon as the road builders will soon be through with their present contract. *The Holton Recorder*, October 1, 1925.

Winter is almost at hand and everyone will be thinking about putting up that stove and in putting up that stove be sure and have the flue examined. A bad flue sometimes causes many homes to be destroyed by fire. ...

Noah Sanderson, our marshal, wants to inform the public this fast driving on Main street has got to be cut out or they are going to get into trouble. This is not a boulevard and if you want to be a good friend of the marshal's you have to obey his orders. I am sorry that I have to mention this so often as much has been said about this fast driving, and you all know how dangerous fast driving is and what it leads to, so please cut it out and not have any trouble.

The Holton Recorder, October 1, 1925.

We have been informed that something near \$5,000 cash has been paid on the pavement. One among those that paid cash was the Methodist people. *The Holton Recorder*, November 5, 1925.

The English Sparrows took up possession of the west wall of the Exchange Bank building last spring. The poor little fellows had a hard time on account of the Blue Jays robbing their nests of eggs and also the young ones, but next spring the little sparrows will have to look for new quarters. We noticed one day this week there was a mud dabber at work and he did more damage to the Sparrow than the Blue Jay. ...

The men in charge of picking the 1925 crop of apples from the Miller orchards 2-1/2 mile northeast of Mayetta, completed their work last Saturday. The entire crop of late apples were purchased by Whitaker Bros, Wholesale Co. of Topeka, and amounted to 1,000 barrels and two cars of bulk apples, making in all six car loads. *The Holton Recorder*, December 10, 1925.

C. Moore our street commissioner, was busy most all of last week cleaning off our paved street that autos brought on them during the muddy weather. They look as smooth as flour. *The Holton Recorder*, December 17, 1925.

There was considerable excitement and worry here in Mayetta Sunday. When most of the people got up about 6 o'clock, they found the light line was out of commission had to fix their lamps, then along about 8 o'clock Ben Hunter came down to his garage he found the back part of his building all ablaze. The fire soon ate its way through the roof in the rear of the building. There was a number of volunteers soon on the scene with buckets and fire extinguishers and because the weather was still and damp they soon subsided the flames. The damage to the building was not very much and was covered by insurance. Then along towards evening when people began using the electric lights and phones there were several got an electrical shock and several phone and light lines were burned out. Murray Dupuis was knocked unconscious while using as light in the Slattery garage. Mrs. James Jones got a shock when she went to answer a telephone ring there was a wire burned out and started a blaze at the Catcher home and also at the Hollenbeck's restaurant. Also at Virgil Daniel's and other places. John Spohrer was going by V. R. Lungers store and he saw a blaze in there and gave the alarm. Several persons worked their way in the back door and soon extinguished the blaze which was burning around the telephone were the wire had burned out. When V. R. arrived he very thoughtlessly took hold of the wire that was burned and suffered a severe shock. He and Murray Dupuis have both recovered from the effects of the shocks. It was rather fortunate that it all happened in the day time. Otherwise the consequence might have been more lamentable. We were told it was all caused from high voltage because the telephone line and the light line had tangled up in places. The lines got back to normal later in the evening and everything is running smooth again, but it was a Sunday that will be remembered by many for some time. *The Holton Signal*, January 7, 1926.

During the time of the excitement over the different fires breaking out over town, Mr. Dupois suggested to Conny Slattery that they investigate the wires at the back of the garage. In doing so he discovered that the drop-light in the back of the garage was on fire. He immediately proceeded to turn off the connection and while doing so received an electric shock rendering him unconscious. However, at this time he is under the doctor's care and will recover.

...

Several fires in town Sunday by crossing light lines with telephone. In construction of high voltage wires extreme care should be taken to avoid a chance of crossing. We hope the city and telephone company will get together and make improvements that will eliminate a repetition. *The Holton Recorder*, January 7, 1926.

The boys and girls of Mayetta are having the time of their lives these nights coasting down these hills. Joyous crowds of young folks were sliding and all over the hills until late at night. A half dozen got on one sled and Oh, how they do ride. One evening they went out on Messmore hill and Mrs. Messmore thought by the noise they made that Coxey's Army had broke loose on the front ranks. I think they should permit a committee to keep the autos off the roads they ride as some may get hurt. Let the young folks have their fun the way we did when we were all young.

The workmen finished the Bender building Saturday, and the proprietors of the new store are busily engaged in getting things fixed for the opening of their store. The building is one of the best we have in Mayetta and is a credit to our city. With his plans to erect a modern elevator here this year, Judge Bender will be doing more for our city than any outsider, and in fact doing more than some that owe their first duty to the town. Most anything can be procured in Mayetta as cheaply as any other place, and with two good banks there is little or no excuse for the citizens of this community to go elsewhere to do their banking business, yet there are a goodly number that are doing this we learn. We cannot understand why one cannot see what helps the town or community helps everyone living in that town and community, so let everyone stay here with his business as far as possible and profit thereby. *The Holton Recorder*, January 14, 1926.

The county agent has ordered two cars of ground lime stone rock for J. P. Hittle and Dr. Reynolds and will be unloaded at Mayetta. This kind of rock is used on the ground to make the ground better and it is a new thing in this part of the county. Dr. Reynolds has brought the old Rings farm south of town and this is where part of it goes. We think it will take many car loads for that farm. *The Holton Recorder*, February 4, 1926.

The radio business is getting to be a great business these days. Most every home in the country will soon have them. They are a mighty nice thing to have where most of the people have to be at home. At night you can sit in your home and receive the news of the world and get sermons and all kinds of entertainment. For instance, in the winter as a rule, the roads are in a bad condition, and traveling cannot be done very easily, so if you have a radio, you can be right at home with your family, if you have one, sitting by your own fireside, keeping nice and warm, and listening to all kinds of music you care for and hear the best sermons they put out. You can also hear the market reports of the world, and that is a great advantage for the farmers. It will save the farmer money to get the daily reports, he will then know when prices are the highest. The young folks always long for pleasure and they will have it if it is possible to be had. We are living in the day and age of the world when they are going to have this, but I am afraid we are going too fast in many things and if we don't see it now at the present we will in later years, but maybe not in my time. I hope that we will not make mistakes in trying to keep up with the times. We all want to look at what the great future means to us and to the generation that is coming on. *The Holton Recorder*, February 25, 1926.

Six or seven dogs were poisoned in town last week. You should all be careful in your putting out poison as some of your children might get hold of it. *The Holton Recorder*, April 1, 1926.

Carl L. Dillingham, our genial and industrious Rock Island agent is putting in his spare time in beautifying the depot grounds. Just back of the depot is a plot of ground that has for the past 39 years has been covered with sour dock, thistles, smart weed, and most of the category of unwelcome weeds that are common to unkept places. Mr. Dillingham is now busy making this plot of ground into a thing of beauty. He has sowed it with blue grass and sitting it out with flowers. Not only does this beautifying of the right-of-way property provide something to please the patrons of the Rock Island, but it gives a beautiful opportunity for the townfolk and the community in general to get together and endeavor to beautify their parkings and yards. *The Holton Signal*, May 20, 1926.

Mayetta has done more in improvements this spring than it has done for sometime. Jerry Smith has just completed a fine house. He remodeled his home and changed things around and J. C. Mulryan has about completed a two room building which will be finished in a few days. Jim Slattery's garage and barber shop are completed. These buildings are a credit to our town. It just sets that side of the street off, and we hear so many people passing compliments on it. Now about the elevator that Judge Bender is building. That is another credit to our town. He has six or seven men working on it. It will be some time before it is completed. I think it would be a shame to see the right-of-way go on the west of the track after what we have done for our town. *The Holton Recorder*, June 3, 1926.

Mr. McCune the contractor of the King of Trails was making the trail through Mayetta the past week. With the aid of this trail our tourist traffic will be increased to a great extent. This trail starts from the Great Lakes and goes through to New Mexico. This will be one of the greatest systems in the world when completed. *The Holton Recorder*, June 17, 1926.

Some thoughtless boy threw a firecracker Saturday night into the car that was driven by Miss Gertrude Calderwood and slightly injured an eye. It is very sore at the present writing but the doctor thinks she may get along aright. One of Guy Moses' little girls was slightly injured on the arm, but not seriously. Such an accident should take all the pleasure out of such sport and we hope that in the future this will be prohibited. *The Holton Recorder*, July 8, 1926.

The new elevator that has been under construction for some time is practically done and will be ready to receive grain in a few days. Judge M. A. Bender's step-son, Mr. Anderson, will have charge of it. He will be here soon. The elevator will have a capacity of about 11,000 bushels. It shows up wonderfully in that part of town. *The Holton Recorder*, July 29, 1926.

Chas. Cox's house where Alvin Appier lived got fire Friday night and burned to the ground. The fire was discovered in the attic. This building was a two story one containing about 11 rooms. This was a good house, one of the best buildings in that part of town. There was some insurance on the building and also on the household goods. They got most of the goods out except some clothing upstairs. The quick work of about 1000 people or more, saved the town. If the wind had been strong from the northwest, Mayetta would have been wiped off the map and your reporter wouldn't have anything to do. *The Holton Recorder*, August 5, 1926.

The house occupied by Alvin Appier and Charles Cox burned to the ground Friday night. There was no one in

the house when the fire was discovered by the night watch and a few neighbors about 9:30. Alvin and family were at Tutt's Grove where he had a concession. The fire started upstairs in the attic. It gained headway so quickly that they had no means of putting it out and all of those who had gathered went to moving the household goods out doors. The wind was blowing from the north but not very strong. The barn south of the house across the alley was saved from catching fire by the efforts of volunteers aided by a chemical engine that came from Holton on a call for aid. The large trees around the house also kept the fire from spreading. The origin of the fire is being investigated but is not now definitely known. There was a large crowd gathered, some coming from the country, 8 and 10 miles out and from Tutt's Grove and the fair grounds where the dances were in progress. *The Holton Signal*, August 5, 1926.

Yes, Ben Swank found his car which had been stolen about two months ago, and then sold it as he had brought a new one, and the stolen car was damaged some, and according to the speedometer had been driven 5000 miles since it was stolen. Someone who lives in the vicinity of North Cedar found it abandoned on a byway which is not used much and reported it to sheriff Fletcher, who notified Ben. He went there and obtained possession of it and disposed of it. *The Holton Signal*, August 12, 1926.

Mayetta has a population of 360, a good railroad and is located on the Capital Highway, two elevators, two cream stations, two general merchandise stores and two meat and grocery markets, one hardware store, one drug store, three restaurants, one lunch room, three garages with mechanics in attendance, three barber shops, two banks, one hotel, three rooming houses, two blacksmith shops, three truck haulers, one News Depot, one shoe repairing shop, three stock buyers, two dairymen, three churches, one accredited R. H. school, one grade school. There are five rural mail routes from the post office here, one rug and carpet factory, one painter and decorator and several fraternal organizations. Trade with your home people when possible. They bear their share of local taxes and help local enterprises. ...

There is a dirt header with eight or nine dump wagons grading the one-fourth mile of highway between the two rail crossings. It looks like they would complete it in a short time. *The Holton Signal*, August 19, 1926.

We got our big rain Tuesday morning. The "Major" informs us that it measured seven inches. Everything was flooded, the water ran over the Rock Island tracks and caused quite a cave in close to the side track. The lightning was very severe and caused the burning of two barns. It put our light line out of commission about 7:30 Monday evening and we have no light yet this Tuesday afternoon, so while we were for a long time extremely dry we are now extremely wet and against Bootleg whiskey. *The Holton Signal*, September 9, 1926.

We had an awful hard wind, hail and rain here Sunday evening. It rained so hard that we couldn't see across the street. We didn't hear how much it rained but all the little branches were full and at the Farmer's elevator the dump was full of water and all around there. North of town it stripped the blades all off the corn and blew Mike Fitzgerald's cow shed down. This is the second bad accident that Mike has had in the last ten days. *The Holton Recorder*, September 9, 1926.

The Mayetta people are hearing some fine baseball news this week from the world series. The hotel has two radios and when the baseball game is on, they hear most everything that is going on. This simply wonderful that you can sit in your homes and hear the news of the world. It doesn't look possible. While we were in Kansas City we had the pleasure of listening over one that all it had was a ground wire. We got Chicago and many other cities in the east. *The Holton Recorder*, October 7, 1926.

The graded road along the right-of-way is about done. Most of them have gone home. They would have been done a long time ago, but they had to do some work over. *The Holton Recorder*, November 4, 1926.

Two accidents happened at Mayetta on Thanksgiving. While John Dutt was walking across the street he was knocked down by a Ford truck. The car was being driven by Mark Fitzsimmons. His steering rod was not working just right and Mark lost control of the car, but John was not hurt bad. The other accident happened up on the ball ground at the high school building. While Alfred Hohmbaum was playing ball he was knocked down by a fellow and Alfred had to visit a doctor, but he is alright now. *The Holton Recorder*, December 2, 1926.

I see that there are lots of public sales but not as many as many as there were last year. We see that there are lots of people leaving the farms. We think that they are making a mistake. It cost lots to live in town and they will find out soon; and some are going to other locations. Some are selling off implements and stuff and are cutting down farm operation and a few are just taking an inventory. As a rule all of these sales are on the square and are going to the highest bidder and good crowds at most all of these sales. They go there to find out what things are selling at. I hardly ever attend a sale, as I have no business there and they all tell me that all classes of farm property are selling

pretty good except horses and they are on a decline. Horses in time will finally come back as there are not horses being raised, so we all have to do the best we can and time is money during these short days. *The Holton Recorder*, January 6, 1927.

We read in the paper last week where they are planning to have gravel roads through this part of the county. It is a very nice thing to have these roads graveled if we are able. Let's ask ourselves when we are able to have them. Just now the way that I look at it, I think that we are not able just now. The dirt road is good enough for a few years yet until we get more money in the treasury and then go ahead. Of course, they will do just as they please and this little item won't amount to anything. *The Holton Recorder*, January 20, 1927.

These radios are getting to be a great thing these days. We have some of the greatest music and lectures and all kinds of sermons here at the hotel. We think the Steinite has them all beat. We defy a comparison with any that is going. These cold winter nights we can sit by our fires and hear all kinds of music. We get it all over the country. We get a great deal of it from the May Seed Co. It is simply wonderful. Some very available presents are being given away with small orders by Henry Field's. Mrs. Chas. Kelly received one present. I don't know whether she has received it or not. We heard one young lady say she can go about her work all over the house and hear the radio. It is just grand. If this was talked of some 25 or 30 years ago, they would have thought we were crazy. *The Holton Recorder*, January 27, 1927.

The poster board erected by the Hinkson-Crawford Adv. Co. of Topeka, Kans., located west of the Exchange Bank in Mayetta is very substantial in construction and very attractive and changes every 30 days. *The Holton Recorder*, February 24, 1927.

Russell Owen, pilot of the Nicholas-Beazley Airplane Co. of Marshall, Mo., and Gerald Smith were visitors at the hotel over Saturday. They are on their way to Rupert, Idaho, delivering an airplane to a buyer out there. They were delayed here by bad weather. *The Holton Recorder*, March 10, 1927.

Much has been said, and more has been written about roads, paved roads and graveled roads, dirt roads and muddy roads, than on any other subject of the present time, and we suppose that the discussion will keep on for ages, but if we had our way we would have laid out federal roads paved with good first class concrete and not graveled, as a graveled road will never give any lasting degree of satisfaction and would be a constant source of expense forever, and a good concrete road could be easily paid for out of gas tax, auto license and the present personal property tax which we have to pay on our auto. We are in favor of putting into a road fund all the revenues derived from an automobile and then give each county all the revenue from all auto sources obtained from autos in that county. Let that be as little or much as the case might be and if the revenue thus derived are handled in a business like manner and on the square, it would give us plenty of revenue to take care of our bonds with which we could build our roads. Of course we would have to cut out the grafters and some of the high salaried artists who are now handling the road business. Our present county commissioners are plenty competent to handle the road situation and know what is needed in their immediate localities better than a foreign overseer. Of course they would have to be paid for their work. Also use our own county surveyor to do the surveying. About all it needs to bring about the good roads is to use a little common sense and judgment. We believe that the best way is to build the roads with bonds and retire the bonds with the auto revenue and all revenue derived from the auto in any manner. I have no figure at hand, but would make an idle guess that the auto revenues as I have suggested above would bring Jackson county at least one hundred and fifty thousand dollars per year and possibly more. Come on boys, lets pave our highway with concrete. *The Holton Signal*, March 10, 1927.

Well, they have torn the telephone office all down and it looks desolate in that part of town. Part of the building was an old landmark in Mayetta. It was moved from old South Cedar when Mayetta was first put on the map and it was a building that Jim Munn built and he died long ago, as some of you old settlers remember, and all about how it was moved by teams of horses. There is some good lumber in this building and part of it, we understand, will be used in the new building that is under construction. This building will cost considerable money by the time it is finished. *The Holton Recorder*, March 17, 1927.

Mayetta was thrown into total darkness Saturday night on account of the sleet and rain and it made it pretty bad in Mayetta for lights. The lamp and candle were at a premium price. But it was soon repaired Sunday morning by Joe Grinnell. *The Holton Recorder*, March 24, 1927.

Holton and Mayetta citizens are making an effort this week to save the Potawatomie agency, located at Mayetta. It became known Tuesday for the first time that the Commissioner of Indian affairs had in mind abolishing the agency, just outside of Mayetta and having the affairs of the Indians administered by officials at Haskell Institute at

Lawrence. This move, it is understood, is in the interest of economy and is in line with the policy of the Bureau of Indian affairs looking to the consolidation of agencies over the country and the gradual withdrawal of the protecting arm of government from its Indian wards.

The operation of the plan involves the transfer of Superintendent A. R Snyder to another agency, leaving only a clerk in charge at the present Mayetta agency. ...

Feeling that it would be a calamity to the welfare of the Potawatomie's to have the personal supervision of a superintendent taken away at this time, several citizens of Mayetta and Holton took a hand in the matter Tuesday ... telegrams were sent to Senator Curtis and Capper and Congressman Anthony protesting the abandonment of our agency. The arguments were based on the facts that the financial and moral welfare of the Indians would be jeopardized, that our Indians would be required to travel 60 miles in order to transact their business, and that Jackson county, having built roads and bridges and school houses for the reservation people, has some rights in the matter that should be consulted before a preemptory order of this kind is issued. The Indians themselves feel the time has not yet come when they can dispense with the guidance and control of a superintendent. *The Holton Recorder*, March 24, 1927.

About 100 Indians and about fifty business men of Holton and Mayetta meet in the Opera house at Mayetta last Friday to make a vigorous protest to the Indian department against the abandonment of the Pottawatomie Agency near Mayetta. The Indians have a right to be alarmed, as it would demoralize the handling of their interests. The Indians voted to send a delegation to Washington to present their protest against the abandonment of the agency. *The Holton Signal*, March 31, 1927.

My Dear Mr. Beck: Further answering your telegram of the 26th, will say that it is very evident that there is a misunderstanding on the part of the Indians and the whites as to what is contemplated in discontinuing the Superintendent at the Potawatomie Indian Agency. It is the policy of the administration and of Congress to retrench and to reduce the number of Federal employees when ever it is possible to do so without injury to the service, and appropriations are being curtailed and reduced so that each year we are compelled to readjust administrative supervision by consolidation of agencies and discontinuance of activities that can be dispensed with. The solution to the Indian problem is to make of the Indians self-supporting citizens, with the purpose of eventually withdrawing all Federal supervision, and the Potawatomie's are among a few tribes that have reached a status that means practically emancipation, with the exception of only 225 who are now under supervision still holding their allotments in trust. There are not sufficient Indians to justify the continuance of a superintendent, and, therefore, the conclusion has been reached after full and careful consideration, that it will only be necessary to have a farmer and perhaps a clerk at the Potawatomie Agency and that such employees will be competent to give to the Indians the instruction and supervision necessary for their protection and advancement.

As stated in telegram of this date, the action is final, and, therefore, the coming of a delegation to Washington for the purpose of asking a reconsideration of the decision would be of no avail and only entail unnecessary expense. *The Holton Recorder*, March 31, 1927.

There was a very large crowd of Indians in town Wednesday. They were getting the regular payment over at the agency. Supt. A. R. Snyder met with them for the last time. Supt. Blair of Lawrence was there also and they all had a great time making talks. Mr. Snyder told them how he hated to leave them but it was the Interior Department that was making the change for him to go to Pawnee, Okla. to do business for the Indians. The way we understand it, they are going to keep a clerk here and a farmer but the principal business will be done at Lawrence. ... Mrs. Snyder and son, Dan, will stay here until after school is out. From the tone of Dan's voice we don't believe that he is stuck on going.

J. P. Jones informs me that the best gravel he has found for roads is 5 miles southwest of Hoyt on the Bill Nixon farm, and he has made over a thousand holes in the ground over three counties. *The Holton Recorder*, April 14, 1927.

Mr. Stafford and Mrs. McDonald are thinking very seriously of getting some boats to put on the lake between the blacksmith shop and the elevator. We think it would be a paying proposition if it will only rain enough to keep the lake well filled. The trouble would be if they go ahead and invest a lot of money in boats, the railroad company would probably come along and put in a drain that would spoil the lake for boating. *The Holton Signal*, April 14, 1927.

H. T. Morrison, a representative of the Beatrice Creamery Co., of Topeka was in Mayetta last Thursday and let a contract for the erection of a building 26X50 ft. on the vacant lot between the Bender building and the Seibert barber shop. The building will be constructed out of hollow tile and as soon as completed will be occupied by the Beatrice cream station which will be operated by Leroy Moore. Mr. Mike Hildman has the contract for the erection of the building.

By the erection of the new Beatrice building on the north side of Main street, will make a solid row of buildings on that side of the street with the exception of the vacant lot next to the Exchange Bank which is owned by John Hafer and rumor has it that there will go up a building on that lot some time in no distant future. ...

The elevator people cleaned out the sewer that drained the McDonald and Safford lake so that boating and fishing will be spoiled for the season. It was to be hoped that it would remain so that Jake and Bob and Connie would not have to go so far from home to fish. *The Holton Signal*, April 28, 1927.

There were quite a few people attended the oil lease sale Saturday. Supt. Blair of Lawrence was up and assisted Mr. Lamotte in the sale. There were 48000 acres sold. Some oil men represented the large oil companies from El Dorado and Wichita at the sale. Guy C. Scott, the geologist, was present. Mr. Scott says there is a good chance for oil on the Potawatomie reservation. The people of Mayetta have been good boosters for this project and we hope the oil people will put down a well. *The Holton Recorder*, April 28, 1927.

There are oil men and geologists here in town most of the day, looking over the grounds. From what we understand they are going to drill out about the fair grounds. Wouldn't we be on easy street if they happened to strike oil in this part of the country! ...

Well, I see they are going to gravel the road and the work will start immediately, according to an announcement made by P. W. Wright, county engineer. We all hope that the work per mile will not cost them more than they figure on. Sometimes people get fooled and bad. My father once told me if you ever go to build a house or barn you always want to double it and then some; keep sharpening your pencils and have someone else help you. That is the way you all want to look at graveling of this road. This county has been fooled before and the people haven't forgotten yet. *The Holton Recorder*, May 5, 1927.

The federal Highway patrol officer could collect enough in fines in one week to pay his salary and also enough to pay for the maintenance of the highway for a month if the Patrolman would station himself at the highway crossing just opposite the depot at Mayetta. It is no uncommon thing for the through traffic to cross this highway at a speed of 40 to 60 miles per hour and some measure should be taken to stop the speeders. We will admit the road is very inviting at this point for a burst of speed but the speeder is also inviting death along with his desire to see how fast he can make his boat go and see how close he can miss the fellow's car who is trying to cross the road. We don't mind seeing the speeder get killed, but we don't like to see some of the innocent home talent get their card smashed. *The Holton Signal*, May 5, 1927.

Read the Recorder if you want to know anything about the free picture shows that are going on in our town. They have been going on for about six weeks. These shows are quite a drawing card to our little city and the crowds keep increasing. We notice the little folk enjoy them very much. They all get up in front and oh how they do laugh. These shows are a good thing for our town and we are glad to see them. It puts life and pep in business. ...

A dirigible passed about three miles south of Mayetta Friday morning, going east. This is an unusually interesting sight, as such a blimp has never gone over this part of the country before. This one was of great size and we regret that there were not more people to have witnessed it, especially as it was flying very close to the earth. It looked to the ones who saw it to be several hundred feet long and of a great size. It made quite a good deal of noise and caused a man's team to run away and the cattle took to their heels in a wild stampede. It won't be long until this country will see greater sights than this going over the country. We understand that a dirigible passenger-carrying airship named after its inventor and used in the European war of 1914 for dropping bombs, will appear soon. *The Holton Recorder*, May 12, 1927.

Our fishermen are getting in their work these days. J. M. Ralston, L. L. Patton and Winfield Scott and little boy went out on Big Soldier Thursday afternoon and caught quite a good mess of fish. You see people everyday go through town with long poles on their cars, going to some part of the neighborhood to fish. As much water as there has been, we think this ought to be a good time to fish and there should be lots of them. ...

Miss Rankin traded off Ben Hur last week. He has been driven thousands of miles, went through sand axle deep and through snow drifts and all kinds of weather, always came home as good or better than when he started and his rate of speed was supposed to be not less than 50 miles per hour. He was beginning to look a little shabby. The paint was beginning to wear off and that's the reason that poor old Ben Hur had to go. He was traded in on another car of the same make, which will be called junior. *The Holton Recorder*, May 26, 1927.

Ordinance No. 24 strictly prohibits the shooting of fire crackers of any kind, also prohibits fire works to be shoot off within the city limits of Mayetta. The City Council has instructed the Mayor and Marshal to see that this ordinance is fully lived up to and arrest all offenders. We hope the officers will live up to the ordinance as it will reduce the fire hazard. *The Holton Signal*, June 9, 1927.

All things come to those who patiently wait. We informed you some time ago that it would surprise us some time sooner or later and now we have it for a settled fact and it makes more unheard of noise than an overgrown Ford. It scared the chickens and Virgil Daniel's horses had a regular conniption fit and the cows got in the furthest end of the pasture from the weird noise it makes. You would think the fire department was making a run, or that the Topeka Commercial club was making one of their good fellowship visits, and when it sounded its siren and rang the bell everybody ran out side to see what was coming and when the excitement was all over we found it was the new gas electric train which the Rock Island inaugurated on the evening and morning train. The first run was Friday evening of Train No. 439, the train consisted of the motor, two baggage cars and one coach and seemed to take them right along as easily as its big brother has been doing in the past. *The Holton Signal*, June 16, 1927.

The business men who are sponsoring the free picture shows held a meeting last Monday night to determine whether they should continue the free shows, but could not come to any definite conclusion. As we understand the situation it is unlawful to put on a free picture show. That seems funny, but sadly so. We understand the picture show will continue but will charge a small fee to cover the expense and keep within the law. We are informed there will be a picture show this coming Saturday night and a charge of 10 cents will be made and if the patronage warrants it it will be continued. No one should object to paying ten cents to see a good picture show. ...

Al Hohnbaum in coming from Topeka last Thursday overtook a man with a sign on his back, reading, "Going to Omaha," so Butch picked him up and brought him to Mayetta. The man said he had many signs reading to other towns which he used in order to catch his rides. In placing the sign on his back people could see he was going some place and people generally pick him up and give him a lift. He says her never asks for a ride but has the sign method of getting transportation. ...

The City of Mayetta has an ordinance against the use of cutouts, on automobiles, which some of the gentry are violating and the city council is getting tired of the noise which the cutouts are making and are going to take steps to have the nuisance abolished. The fine for the first offense is \$5, second offense \$10; with a \$25 limit. Say, fellows, any of you who have a cutout, take a tip from us and cease using it within the city limits unless you want to spend some good, hard earned money as the Council means business. *The Holton Signal*, June 30, 1927.

You must not forget to obey the law here on the Fourth by shooting those fire crackers in Mayetta. It may cost you some hard earned money. You remember how it came near putting a girl's eye out here last Fourth, so please obey the law.

Your reporter was out last week up on the public highway and we noticed they are getting ready to put the gravel on it. Mr. Jackson and John Vaught are busy getting the highway ready for graveling. From what we can learn it will take about 250 carloads of gravel at this station and I suppose that many at Holton or more and a great many at Hoyt. They will start before long if the weather gets good. We hope when finished it will please everyone and be a good road. We have been talking to lots of traveling men of late and they all tell me the dirt roads are good enough for them and were all well pleased with it to leave it as it was. I guess we have more money than we know what to do with so let them gravel the roads. *The Holton Recorder*, June 23, 1927.

Monday is the day that we do most of our writing for the paper and today is the Fourth of July and it doesn't seem possible today is a holiday, as we hear no one mention it or hear no noise of any kind only the buzzing of the automobiles and they are making plenty of it; as we look out we can see them going by in droves, one right after the other, but we see our flags put up at most everyplace of business and they all look good to me and it has kept us in mind of what that great flag means to our country and we should all honor that flag and it will be honored as long as time will last ...

We were up on the road the other day at the place where they unloaded this gravel and it is a great sight to see them and how they do it. Everything works systematically and every man knows just how to do his work. This is the way all contract work is done. It doesn't look to me like there are any dangerous places at all if they pay close attention and keep a level head. They have nine trucks that haul this gravel to the road and these trucks haul three yards at a load, which makes \$100 to a load. It is dumped in piles along one side of the road about 18 feet apart. It is hoisted from the railroad cars into the trucks by means of a steam shovel so there is very little hand labor to do. The trucks are self dumping so the gravel will be spread along the road by our county draggers and is being done by Mr. Jackson and John Vaught, who are doing dragging for the county. As near as we can learn, these gravel men will be here some two or three weeks if everything goes as they plan it. *The Holton Recorder*, July 7, 1927.

The guard rails for the federal highway were distributed the fore part of the week and will be erected as soon as possible. They will be of concrete post and heavy wire cable, which is more durable than those made of wood. *The Holton Signal*, July 7, 1927.

Last Sunday evening as we were sitting on our front porch smoking our pipe and enjoying the cool evening air in the parch swing, we were very much startled when we saw a nice sedan car go by which contained two young

couple, and the young man who was doing the driving wanted to show off and show his sweetie how he could give her a thrill and from the way she hollered I guess she got it. Just ahead of their car was a Ford going along peacefully, the man in the sedan says "see me hit it" and he speeded up and almost ran into the Ford, and his sweetie gave a yell that you could have heard for a mile. The young man, we suppose, thought it was a smart trick it might have caused an accident and maybe death to some one if he had hit the Ford. The sedan drove around the loop and then went back to Holton. *The Holton Signal*, July 21, 1927.

Mayetta could easily have a bathing pool at a very small expense, possibly not more than a couple of dollars. All that would be required would be to stop up the drain underneath the railroad in Harry Reist's pasture and let it fill up with water when it rains. It would be right handy for the public and give us all a good chance to take a bath. It could also be stocked with fish, then we could organize an Isaac Walton club and allow no one to fish except the members of the club and we could put on bathing beauty contests and many other features which goes with a bathing pool, and during the winter we could use the pool as a skating rink, thereby giving our young people as well as the older ones some place handy at home where we now have to travel miles and at great expense to enjoy. If any of you seem interested in the above enterprise, we will endeavor to see if it can be brought about. ...

Did you know that Mayetta had the largest growth in population of any other city in Jackson county during the last year, according to the last census taken March 1926. Mayetta gained 36 inhabitants over 1925 which is a mighty fine showing for a town of our size. *The Holton Signal*, July 28, 1927.

Chas. McAlexander was kind enough the other day to take us up on the new gravel road. This is the first time we have been on it since the gravel was applied. It looks to me it's going to do all right. We have heard much said about the road. The road bed is in fine shape to work and our gravel men are doing an excellent job. I see people going right through Mayetta every day without chains on and not getting their cars muddy and there is no sliding around at all and this is what we want to avoid. We are glad to hear many favorable reports and hope hereafter that this road will stand the test for all time. The road is many times cheaper than a cement road and some of these cement roads are giving away and dangerous to travel ... *The Holton Recorder*, August 25, 1927.

During the progress of the fair Friday afternoon, robbers entered the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry M. Reist. After failing in an attempt to crack the safe, which was kept there, they backed the truck up to the door and loaded in the safe and drove away with it. The safe contained \$60 in cash, two watches and many papers, valuable only to Mr. and Mrs. Reist.

The Reist home faces the rural high school grounds on the highway. No one was at home in the row of houses that afternoon, so the robbers worked unseen and undisturbed. Two of the rodeo riders were staying at the Reist home during the fair. It is thought possible that they divulged the presence of the safe to some carnival hangers-on who in turn committed the robbery. No trace has been found of the thieves. *The Holton Recorder*, September 1, 1927.

Mayetta Kan., Sept. 10. - The distinction of being the only living "Indian trader" probably belongs to A. J. Jones of Mayetta.

Jones is one of the oldest *merchants* in the city, in point of years in business, but the Jones general store dates back even further than that, S. R. Jones, father of the present Mr. Jones, having been one of the earliest business men in town. He built the substantial stone store building in which the Jones' now do business.

This building is one of the oldest in the city, and was here in the early days, that the Indians brought their pelts and wild game in to be traded for provisions.

But the Jones store isn't entirely out of the Indian trading business yet. There are some 400 Pottawatomie Indians next door neighbors to the town, on the reservation to the west, and a good many of the customers of the store are red men and women.

It so happens that the Pottawatomie are not as affluent as some of their fellow red men, notably the Osage of Oklahoma, and the Pottawatomie often has to scratch pretty hard to get together enough money to buy the few groceries he needs. Occasionally, they must ask for credit.

When this happens, he takes his choice beads to the Jones store and leaves them as security. Mr. Jones often has quite a collection of beads and other trinkets. He is quite certain he will never lose on the transaction, because he has learned that the Indians prizes his beads and baubles above everything else.

Mrs. J. C. Routh, granddaughter of the pioneer Jones who helps her father tend the store explains it.

"The Indians have traded here so long they have learned to trust father. They wouldn't leave their beads with just anyone. But when they leave their ornaments here they know they will get them back, and father knows the Indians will be sure to come back."

The proximity of the reservation has left its impress on the village. Often one sees as many red men on the streets as he does white. For the most part then young Indians wear the white man's clothes, the younger men exhibiting an inclination for the ten-gallon hat and cowboy raiment. However it is not unusual to see blanket Indians on the

streets, while quite often some one of the older men will stick a few feathers in his hat to dress up a little before coming to town. *The Topeka Capital*, September 11, 1927.

Jack Frost finally got here and did some damage to the gardens and late corn. This about the earliest that we have ever seen frost come. We notice that in some sections in the northern states they got frost even earlier than we did. This is bound to make a shortage of corn and it will make it very bad on those people in the northern states, so we are bound to get a good price for our corn. ...

Cattlemen and farmers of this vicinity who have been much concerned about the plague of flies which have been pestering livestock for the past few weeks to such an extent that the cattle and horses in pasture have been losing weight, tell me this is the reason so many people are selling their stock. A farmer told me that some days the flies were so bad he had to quit work. ...

The coal men have been very busy the last few days hauling coal all over town. They are about the busiest men in town now. The past few days make us remember that winter is approaching. A great many are busy putting up their winter stoves and we want to remind you to be sure and have that flue in good condition before the stove is set up. A flue fire causes many homes to be burned down. *The Holton Recorder*, September 29, 1927.

The iron safe which was stolen from H. M. Reist's residence during the Indian Fair week has been located on the Charles Wierenga farm eleven miles south of Topeka. About a week ago, Mr. Wierenga's renter was walking out through his corn field and discovered the safe in the corn field. The door of the safe had been knocked off and the watches and jewelry and money had been taken by the thieves, but all the papers and things which had no value were left. The man on Mr. Wierenga's farm reported the find to Mr. Wierenga and they took the contents to Topeka and then notified Mr. Reist of their find. *The Holton Signal*, September 29, 1927.

The kidnapping of a young man on the public highway last week by a school teacher, who was taken into the state Missouri, is a foresight of what the mere man may look forward to in the future. Things have gone to a pretty pass in the country when a man on the public highway can be kidnapped by a woman and with no protection, no recourse to appeal to. Imagine the awful agony and suffering of this poor, helpless man while in captivity for that twenty-four hours, and to think that this had to happen in Kansas - what a blot on our fair state. A few days ago we went for a few miles stroll on the public highway and with the unknown fate of this poor man still in mind, every time we would meet a woman, we would duck under a wire fence. Did we enjoy the walk? In the future, no good looking man will be safe afoot and alone on the public highway. Moral: Mothers and wives, never refuse them the use of the car, for if you should, they, too, may be picked up and set down in Springfield. *The Holton Recorder*, October 13, 1927.

F. L. Reynolds is the owner of one of the largest colonies of bees in Jackson county having about one hundred stands. Fremont takes special delight in handling bees and very seldom does one of his bees kick him. He just took off over three thousand pounds of fine honey for which he found a ready sale. ...

On account of winter coming on and not needing a bath during cold weather Harry Jones drained his swimming pool last Friday. Ed Fairbanks assisted Harry in digging up and cleaning the tiling so they could use the cave for storing their vegetables this winter. Harry says that he don't know which chance he would have taken during the summer if a cyclone had shown up, that of being blowed away or drowning in his cave. *The Holton Signal*, October 20, 1927.

A party was given at the City Hotel Wednesday night for all the guests of the hotel. Carols were sung and each one was requested to make a short statement or speech before they could receive any presents. Lucile Jones was appointed by majority to distribute the presents with Miss Hamill assisting. Everyone one received presents and refreshments of apples and candy were given to all, leaving the tree looking very distracted, but never the less, the party was enjoyed by all, who wished that we could have Christmas oftener than once a year. ...

Still another accident at the railroad crossing, one of the most dangerous places on 75. While Jack Burson and wife and a sister and her husband and Harold Stafford were leaving town Thursday evening at 6:30, just across the railroad they saw a car coming for the south and to avoid a serious accident with the other car, Jack ran his car over the bank, upsetting it, breaking a shoulder blade of one of the women and causing severe hurts with some others. Help arrived soon and it took several men to get the victims out from under the car. The car was damaged quite a good deal. As it is the intersection of all routes leading to this point, there should be signs or signals at this place and it should not be left this way at all. I am very sorry to think that the state engineers and these highway commissioners do no better than this. A little boy a year old would know better than this, and it should be looked after at once. *The Holton Recorder*, December 29,

The country people who have to use the byroads are complaining about them being so muddy and slippery from the recent snow, and they desire to have them sanded or graveled. If our Legislature would only have nerve enough

to boost the gasoline tax to four or five cents, instead of two, as it is now, we could soon have all roads in as fine a condition as Highway 75. So come on you legislature fellows and don't be afraid of your job, and raise the gas tax to at least four cents. It is bound to come so you might as well go on record and have the honor of putting the Kansas roads on the map and have the everlasting gratitude of the public. If you won't raise the tax, we are going to elect men who will. ...

Another big bug bear which is against Mayetta, is the Chaney hill on the county road eight miles west of Mayetta. There was at least forty thousand bushels of corn in that neighborhood which was sold at other points all on account of the steepness of Chaney hill. If the farmers and taxpayers in that locality would get after the county commissioners and have that hill cut down and put straight through, which could be easily done if it was handled in the right manner and at no great cost, thereby giving Mayetta valuable trade which goes elsewhere. ...

The two gas-electric locomotives, (or motors) which have been operating our passenger trains between Topeka and St. Joe since last summer have been replaced again with steam locomotives. The motors will operate between Kansas City and St. Louis. We are glad to have the old regulation steam locomotive put on again as it looks more like railroading. ...

One of the leading industries of Mayetta is the Pool Oil Company who get in both gasoline and coal oil by the car load and then distribute it to the various pump stations in the vicinity of Mayetta. During the year just ended they received fifteen cars of gasoline and four cars of coal oil, besides a large amount of lubricating oil. The fifteen cars of gas represents about 135,000 gallons. Just figure it up at 17c per gallon and see what it amounts to. It is only twenty-two thousand, nine hundred and fifty dollars and their coal oil sales run about fifty-five hundred dollars and we would guess that they sold at least two or three thousand of lubricants. We think that this is a mighty fine showing for our local industry, which has a lot of competitors who furnish a large amount of gas to our local merchants. *The Holton Signal*, January 12, 1928.

Mayetta Motor Co. has installed a wrecking crane for the wild Ford drivers and when you get in a tight place let them know and they will respond at once. *The Holton Recorder*, February 23, 1928.

Part of the drilling outfit went through Mayetta Saturday. They have been moving all week. This outfit weighs many tons. They will locate about nine miles northwest of Mayetta. I see by the paper that they will get ready to go to drilling about the first of the month and that Thursday they have invited the public to come out and see them start. We hope that this drilling will be a success. It will be some time before we know much about it. If it is a success business will pick right up. *The Holton Recorder*, March 1, 1928.

There was a man in town the other day looking for a location to start a pool hall. We guess that he thought that Mayetta would be an easy mark and a good place to start such a business. We are informed he met with no success. One thing the citizens of Mayetta will not tolerate and that is a pool hall. We have a city ordinance made long ago, that prohibits a pool hall in our town. A pool hall is not a moral or a social building enterprise and is not a fit place for our good young people to congregate or patronize and no father or mother in Mayetta or the surrounding neighborhood would want a pool hall in our midst and furthermore our City Council and Mayor would not permit it, so those that are thinking that we are going to tolerate one, had just as well get it out of their system. It won't and shall not be started. *The Holton Signal*, March 8, 1928.

There are lots of people all the time and especially on Sunday going out to view the oil well. From this place it is six miles west and four miles north of Mayetta by section lines so if you follow these instructions you can't get lost. Anyone never having seen such sights, it would do you good to go out and look at it. ...

Our town was alive with people last Wednesday about noon, getting ready to go to the big opening of the oil well on the reservation. The Haskell Institute band from Lawrence arrived here about 12:30. Carl Gregg had their dinner ready for them and they were indeed a fine bunch of young men and their clothes look like they had grown on them. They were on their way out to the big opening and they gave some fine music. *The Holton Recorder*, March 15, 1928.

The drill began penetrating the earth at four o'clock yesterday afternoon, and Jackson county's oil test is now a reality. The occasion drew a crowd of more than a thousand people to the Wabaunsee land, six miles west and five miles south of Holton. The gathering partook the nature of a Fourth of July celebration, with the thrills of expectation and the joys of anticipation gripping people.

The weather was ideal for the celebration, and the people milled about the oil derrick, examined the machinery, talked to the operators, listened to the speakers and the Haskell Indian band and in every way had a delightful afternoon.

A group of Potawatomie's, regaled in their finest feathers, danced for the guests. Superintendent Blair was kind enough to send up the Haskell band and their music was greatly enjoyed.

At two o'clock Judge T. A. Fairchild mounted the platform and addressed the audience, reviewing the history of

the reservation and paying deserving tribute to the local promoters of the oil project, Mrs. Katherine Schoonmaker, H. G. Tudor and Guy Scott. ... The representatives of the Pathe News company were on the grounds and took many strips of the Indians at dance and the interesting features of the party.

H. L. Smith, of Wichita, the contractor, and J. E. Goens, the driller, were busy on the scene. Charley Crews, in speaking of the Goen's drilling outfit, said, "You people will find Mr. Goens one of the best drillers in the business. He has one of the best rigs in the country, and will give this well an honest test."

The drilling which commenced auspiciously yesterday, will continue day and night. Water is pumped from a nearby stream to feed the engine and swab the well. A pit has been dug for the refuse, and everything is in readiness to penetrate the earth. Upwards of 150 feet can be drilled every 24 hour time period, in ordinary formations. *The Holton Recorder*, March 15, 1928.

Drillers at the Holton oil well on the north edge of the reservation had penetrated the earth 900 feet up to Tuesday night, and were going down at the rate of 100 feet or more a day. After the water was cased off at 90 feet with a 12-inch casing, a 10-inch hole was made from then on, with no casing necessary up to this time. The drill had gone through a stratum of limestone and though quantities of shale, but no indication of gas or oil has been encountered yet. No difficulties in drilling have been met since the water was cased off, but the limestone formation of course slowed up the drill some. *The Holton Recorder*, March 15, 1928.

With the coming of spring there has also come several kinds of fever but we do not anticipate any serious results from any of them if not allowed to get beyond their physical powers. The boys have two maladies, one is baseballittis and the other is marbleittis and the girls are getting bad case of jump the-ropeittis and the women have garden fever and the men farmittis and a few of the men have loaderittis, but we think the most of them will survive. *The Holton Signal*, March 22, 1928.

A couple of small boys from Hiawatha, who ran off from home and started for California, were picked up by the night marshal, Mr. Sanderson, late Sunday evening. They were put to bed at the hotel until their father arrived, which was about 11:30 o'clock. From reports of the father, they were sent to Sunday school, and after they didn't return the search as started. People from Hiawatha saw these boys going south. They had caught rides along the way. The father seemed to be a fine man and was not at all cross at the boys. He joked and asked them if they were on their way to California. *The Holton Recorder*, March 22, 1928.

One sign of prosperity is the number of commercial salesmen on the road. Mayetta is visited with an average of fifty or more salesmen each week and they all seem to get some business. This would indicate that the wholesalers have every confidence in getting out and getting the business and getting their goods into the hands of the retailers, which would indicate prosperity, is not just around the corner, but is here in full blast. Lots of wholesalers are delivering their goods right to our doors which makes it very convenient to the retailer. *The Holton Signal*, March 29, 1928.

Mrs. Ralston, proprietor of the City hotel has removed her fence from around the hotel and will put in a retaining wall made of cement and nigger head rocks which will add very much to the appearance of the front yard. ...

Mrs. Ralston, proprietor of the City hotel has built a beautiful pergola in the parking in front of the hotel for the comfort of her patrons. She is also installing a fish pond in the front yard and will stock it with fish. *The Holton Signal*, April 5, 1928.

The Mayetta people witnessed several airplanes going over the city a day or so last week. We see by the papers that their headquarters were in Topeka and they were just scanning the country looking for our new oil well that soon will be in operation. ...

One of the worst dust storms that we have experienced for a long time struck Mayetta Wednesday afternoon about 3 o'clock. At times it was total darkness. It blew some buildings over and blew a large chicken house over for Warner Coffin on the reservation. After the dust storm we had about 1-1/2 inches of rain. *The Holton Recorder*, April 12, 1928.

On Wednesday afternoon, April 14, the people of Mayetta and vicinity were seemingly much excited and good reasons for their excitement, as the past three days have been exceedingly windy. Along about three o'clock in the afternoon there came up from the southwest the most terrific dust storm that we have ever experienced in our 47 years in Kansas. The dust storm lasted about ten minutes and it got so dark that the lights had to be turned on. The air was filled with dirt, sand and weeds, and anything that was loose. A few frail out buildings were turned over. A large, empty corn crib at Dudley Lunger's was turned over twice, but not wrecked or damaged. The feed yard shed at Pool Oil Co. feed yard was stripped of its roof. The writer has three stacks of alfalfa that lost their tops and we suppose that the tops were caught by some Missouri farmer and fed to his stock. Four airplanes went over, traveling

towards Atchison about 30 minutes before the dust storm struck here. We hope they reached port safely. The dust storm was followed by a good steady quarter inch rain and after the rain it was a beautiful summer evening. All visible vegetation had taken a new lease on life, and everybody felt thankful that they all escaped, as during the storm it looked like anything was liable to happen. People can not be too cautious on the approach of, or during a storm, as we never can tell what to expect, or what will happen. One traveling salesman reported that he saw two cars which the wind had blown in the ditch. Everett Martin had a chicken house wrecked. Sammie Jones lost a brooder house, Bob Follis had his barn demolished. ... *The Holton Recorder*, April 12, 1928.

The streets of Mayetta were crowded both afternoon and evening last Saturday and all our merchants enjoyed a rushing business. Noah Sanderson our night watch and the writer counted the cars parked on Main street from the City Hotel to the depot on both sides of the street and found 127 cars parked and we allowed an average of three persons to the car, which would make three hundred and eighty-seven people at the hour alone, not mentioning those who came and went home before that hour. We believe we are safe in saying that Mayetta had no less than five hundred visitors on last Saturday, which would indicate that Mayetta is the best place to trade, we invite you to come to Mayetta where you can always find bargains. *The Holton Recorder*, May 10, 1928.

The city council met Monday evening in special session for the purpose of disposing of the transmission line of the electric light system. The city council of Holton, Ed Woodburn and E. R. Sloan of Holton and Mr. Snyder of Topeka, representing the Kansas Light & Power Co., were also present at the meeting. No definite action was taken. *The Holton Recorder*, May 17, 1928.

Yes, ya got lots and lots o' trouble

I'm thinkin' of the kids in the knickerbockers, shirttails, young ones Peekin' in the pool hall window after school

Ya got trouble, folks, right here in River City With a capital 'T' and that rhymes with 'P' And that stands for 'pool'

Now I know all you folks are the right kind of parents I'm gonna be perfectly frank

Would you like to know what kind of conversation goes on While they're loafin' around that hall

They'll be tryin' out Bevo, tryin' out Cubebs Tryin' out Tailor Mades like cigarette fiends

And braggin' all about how they're gonna Cover up a tell-tale breath with Sen-Sen

One fine night they leave the pool hall Headin' for the dance at the Arm'ry

Libertine men and scarlet women and ragtime

Shameless music that'll drag your son, your daughter Into the arms of a jungle animal instinct massteria!

Friends, the idle brain is the devil's playground, trouble!

Oh, we got trouble Right here in River City *Right here in River City*

With a capital 'T' and that rhymes with 'P' And that stands for 'pool' *That stands for pool.* (Meredith Wilson, "Ya Got Trouble," from his musical, "Music Man.")

There is a move on foot asking the people of Mayetta to allow a pool hall to be operated in our now fair and clean city. We earnestly hope that the people of Mayetta will not tolerate such an institution, as we do not deem it essential to the uplift of the young people of our community and we are surprised to learn that any father or mother with children, or without children, would sanction such a thing, but if we are to have a pool hall, we want it to be open on Sunday, so our young people will have some nice place of amusement so there will be no necessity of them bothering about going to church or Sunday school. We have three good churches in Mayetta, which we are proud of. Church members do you want a pool hall for the elevation of your children? We can't believe that you do. Have you the back bone and will power to say that we don't want it. The writer is living just outside of the corporation of Mayetta has no voice as to what is done inside the corporation, but we are for the uplift of the rising generation and for the City of Mayetta and are against the pool hall. No matter who runs it, we are against it, first, last and always. *The Holton Recorder*, June 7, 1928.

The city Council met in a special session last Monday night to dispose of the matter regarding the Pool Hall ordinance. A petition was presented which was signed by ninety-one voters of the city of Mayetta, asking the city council to revoke ordinance, which prohibited a pool hall being conducted in Mayetta. The petition having the required number of signers the ordinance will be revoked and a new ordinance drawn up which will permit anyone desiring to open a pool hall can do so if they desire. Personally we can see no good reason why anyone should be prohibited from entering the pool hall business and not just confining it to one individual. If it is permissible to have several of the same kinds of business in town, why should we restrict ourselves to just one pool hall. ...

It was impossible to find parking space on the streets of Mayetta last Saturday night and many had to go around on the side streets to park their cars. From seven o'clock in the evening to ten o'clock there were over two hundred cars in town. This is not counting those who passed through and did not stop. Our merchants did a thriving business

and did not get to close up until after 11 o'clock. *The Holton Recorder*, June 14, 1928.

A new industry has started in Mayetta, which might become a dangerous rival to Krupp's, Winchester, or the Remington Arms Co., one can never tell or foresee in the future what is in store for any new enterprise. The Jones brothers, John and Edward have started a gun factory, and turned out two the first day, and no doubt will have orders for the entire output of their factory. The gun is probably the most simple weapon ever invented, it consists of just three pieces, stock, barrel and trigger and uses rubber band ammunition made out of old inner tubes and is perfectly harmless and is a very interesting play thing for boys as well as for older people. The boys may form a million share company, but no stock will be available to the public. It will be a closed corporation. *The Holton Recorder*, June 28, 1928.

There is a movement on foot to gravel second street from the south to the north end, the abutting property owners to assume the expense. This would be a great improvement and would be a fore runner to getting the balance of the streets all graded. *The Holton Recorder*, July 12, 1928.

Another important enterprise which we have been overlooking has come to our notice and that is the Mayetta Waste Paper Co., this is a closed corporation and all the stock is owned by one individual. Mr. Felix Cathcart being the sole owner. Felix gathers up all the waste paper in town and bales it and disposes of it to the Waste Paper Co., at Topeka. This business is quite remunerative to Felix and as everybody is willing to give him all his waste paper, it only costs Felix the trouble to gather it up. He always employs a large force of boys to help him on the gathering days. The writer last week gave Felix about one thousand pounds of waste paper and catalogs which we were more than glad to get rid of. ...

A foot tourist applied to Harry Reist for food one day last week and Harry asked him if he could mow weeds with a scythe. The tourist said yes, so Harry produced a scythe and showed him where to cut the weeds, and Harry preceded with his other work. And then in a few minutes went back to see how the tourist was getting along. Harry found the scythe and whetstone lying on the ground and on looking down the road saw the tourist making tracks down the highway. The tourist undoubtedly was not hungry or else he was afraid of bending the scythe blade, so we suppose that Dell will have to cut the weeds. *The Holton Signal*, July 19, 1928.

The suspense is over. After going through a hundred feet of cap rock the Wilcox sand was penetrated to the dept of twelve feet without showing any oil on Tuesday. The Indians who have been much interested shed no tears as the saw their air castles tumbling. It was only a mirage they had seen. To them it is the same broad prairie that it has always been, before the advent of the drilling rig.

To the other people who had hoped and watched the log of the well as it went down through different formations that were piled on top of each other like the layers of a birthday cake, it was a day of disappointment. To the speculator with his fountain pen, check book and contracts ready to sign to get in action at the first trace of oil, his hand was stayed. The well was drilled to a total depth of 2950 feet and the last few buckets of water that were drawn up had a rotten egg smell, being strongly impregnated with sulphur. The drillers called it radium water which had a little richer sound than just plain sulphur but with any name the smell would not change.

The trustees of the project went out to the well Tuesday evening and were convinced that a fair test had been made and that no oil was present. Drilling stopped at 7 o'clock Tuesday evening. *The Holton Recorder*, July 26, 1928.

Clipped from Topeka Capital.] We Were Fooled. To the editor of the Capital - Hib Case or whoever wrote up the Indian dance at Mayetta in Friday's Capital, should be taken by the neck and seat of pants and pitched into the Kaw river, there to play with the craw-dads for a week for not telling us the truth about the location of this Indian dance. This truthful write-up caused myself, wife and neighbors, Mrs. Maine and daughter, Maxine, to call a taxi to deliver us at the Rock Island depot for 80c, and \$1 each to the Rock island railroad to deliver us at Mayetta. Upon arriving at Mayetta we found the Indian dance would take place at their dance theater about 14 miles northwest of Mayetta. Upon inquiry we found that a taxi that would take us out to the dance over impassable roads for \$3 per and we could walk back to Mayetta after we had danced with the squaws and buck's to out hearts' content. Well, sir, we decided not to go out to the dance. Looking around for a place to spend the day our eyes fell upon the "City Hotel" and asked for permission to stay over and put out feet under the table for dinner, which was granted without question. Mrs. Janet P. Ralston, the owner, proved to be one of the finest cooks, as the chicken dinner with all the trimmings proved. The table was presided over by the prettiest, cutest and efficient waitresses out. A hint to the best young men of the country is sufficient. Mayetta is a nice little town, caused perhaps by their being so many real Americans (Indians) there. We enjoyed our visit to Mayetta. - J. M. Kennedy. 1724 Clay, Topeka. *The Holton Recorder*, August 2, 1928.

The mayor, J. H. Smith, had the paving marked off last week to show people how they want them to park their

cars. There is no doubt but what it will be a good thing for this town and there will be no excuse for people not getting their cars parked right and I think there should be some signs put up for people entering town and also a speed limit. ...

After they made the parking system here the mayor, J. H. Smith, tells me that there was but one car out of the 80 stalls that went wrong and he was very nice about it by parking it over. We think this will be a great help in avoiding accidents. It looked nice Saturday night the way they were all lined up, and the town was full of cars. *The Holton Recorder*, August 30, 1928.

The new parking rules and markings which the City Council had just finished on both sides of the main business block last Saturday were all filled with cars at night and everyone took special care to park within the spaces allotted for that purpose. We found that we only have about half enough space on Main street to take care of the many cars which come to Mayetta on Saturday nights. The town was filled to overflowing and the merchants did a rushing business. *The Holton Recorder*, August 30, 1928.

An extension is being built to the billiard parlor. When completed the floor space will cover 1850 square feet. This will be one of the largest as well as one of the nicest rooms in our city. This should relieve the crowded condition which has existed since this enterprise was started some months ago. The work is being done by contractors Potter and Johnson, which insures an up-to-date job. *The Holton Recorder*, September 13, 1928.

The roadbed on Highway 75 right in front of our home is certainly a joke for motorists. It is full of hollows and bumps and needs more sand worked into the clay soil. The motorist doesn't know whether he is riding over a listed cornfield or being initiated into the realms of the Sons and Daughters of I Will Arise Club, and there should also be a marker on the right side going north advising the motorist that there is a curve ahead of him. Only last week a party returning from the fair ran into the ditch at the curve. He probably would not have done so if there had been a marker designating a curve and there are several other places on 75 that should be marked. *The Holton Recorder*, September 20, 1928.

Slattery's garage has a radio installed last week to hear the world series ball games and you could hear it way out in the street and crowds of people came in to listen to it and they were wildly enthusiastic and whooped and cheered for the players as they did their stuff just as the crowd was cheering in New York. We see by the papers that the capital city was well equipped to give the fans of Topeka and vicinity the finest service in handling the world series. *The Holton Recorder*, October 11, 1928.

We have talked to two or three of the councilmen in regard to what they are going to do with the surplus money they got from the sale of the electric lighting system. This has been undecided and nothing has been said one way or the other about it. There will be something around \$7,000.00 left after they pay the bonds off. I have no suggestions to make in regard to this. We have a good council, competent to do all business for our little city. That is what we have them here for, so I say amen to it. *The Holton Recorder*, October 25, 1928.

One of the most novel sights that has come to this community is Herb Holcomb's corn shucking machine. Those who have seen the machine work, say that it shucks the corn as clean or cleaner than most of the hand shuckers and will get every ear if it is not laying on the ground broken off at the stalk. The machine will husk just as many acres per day as the tractor is able to get over, whether that is five, ten or more. The machine straddles the corn row much in the same manner as a corn binder and it had rollers which pinch the ears from the stalk and elevate them into the wagon which travels along side off the machine and as soon as the wagon is filled they put another wagon in its place while they unload. It is a very novel sight and worth any ones time to go to Holcomb's and see the machine in operation. Hoffa Smith sold the machine to Mr. Holcomb and Bobbit Wyatt went out last Saturday and started it to work and it gave perfect satisfaction. *The Holton Signal*, October 25, 1928.

The County Commissioners have a gang of men busy putting up the snow fences along highway 75. They have to be taken down every spring so they will not interfere with the farmer preparing his crop and then have to be erected each fall to protect the roads from snow drifts and not obstruct traffic. *The Holton Recorder*, November 8, 1928.

Mayetta polled 386 votes this election, a much larger vote than has ever been polled before. We all had a good time on that day. We didn't hear of any trouble of any kind, day or night. The ladies of the M. E. church put on a dinner and supper that day, and as good a meal as we ever sat down to. They took in something over a hundred dollars and they were well pleased with the results. The women all worked hard and were glad when it was over.

...

A fatal accident in an automobile occurred between the Indian agency and Mayetta last Monday evening, resulting in the death of Clarence Minor of Holton, who was in charge of the car. As we understand it the car swerved to the

left, striking the north banister, and in the rebound struck the right banister of the culvert. The car was thoroughly demolished and at this writing we are advised that the poor young man died about 4 o'clock Tuesday morning. *The Holton Recorder*, November 15, 1928.

A very strange sight was seen on Main street last Friday morning. It was a big turkey gobbler leisurely walking along in the street picking up such eatables as were scattered on the pavement. The Gobbler seemed to enjoy the situation, and seemed perfectly oblivious of the lamentable fate which undoubtedly awaits him. He was the first and only turkey ever seen on the streets of Mayetta and will make a might fine decoration on someone's table. The poor fellow has our sympathy, although we would like to try our false teeth on some of his delicious carcass. *The Holton Recorder*, January 3, 1929.

The recent blizzard left a snow bank three feet deep on the north side of main street which is very inconvenient to those who wish to park their cars on that side of the street.

We understand that the City Council are contemplating investing in some kind of fire protection with some of the surplus money from the sale of the light plant. We heartily endorse their proposition. We never have had protection of any kind and always had to stand by and see a fire burn itself out which is a very costly proposition. We hope that when they do purchase protection that it will be of such kind which we will be able to combat with fire should any occur. *The Holton Recorder*, January 10, 1929.

All the people who have been having the flu are slowly getting better, so they tell me, and I am glad to report such news, but there are new cases coming up all the time, but I think another week or ten days they will be pretty well over it and our doctors will get a rest. I expect they all need one. It is a mighty fine thing to have good doctors in the community and they are getting so they can handle the flu much better than they used to. ...

The past few days have been very bad times for people to get around, especially old people, as the ground was nothing but a glaze of ice. We have seen several people fall but none were very seriously hurt. Take it on the public highway, it was very dangerous for all vehicles and cars. It looks as though now it might clear up and take the ice off and we will all be glad to see it gone. *The Holton Recorder*, January 31, 1929.

While sitting around the stove these winter days warming my shins and smoking my pipe, I set to work on figuring out a scheme that would put our town on the map in an industrial line, which would also be the means of making a vast amount of revenue for our farmers on a commodity which is now going to waste. We unfolded our scheme to our friend Harry Reist who immediately agreed with us and we are thinking very strongly on carrying out our plan if we can get the people interested. The plan is to start a Corn Cob Pipe factory and make up all our surplus cobs into pipes. Since the corn season has started Mayetta has handled one hundred eighty seven thousand bushels of corn, allowing one hundred and twenty ears to the bushels, means twenty two million, four hundred and forty thousand cobs, and allowing five pipes to be made from each cob would give us one hundred and twenty million, two hundred thousand pipes and at a retail price of 10 cents each, would give the farmers eleven million two hundred and twenty thousand dollars, and the corn which is still in the country to be delivered yet would easily make twice that amount of revenue, which is no small item, which could be saved from our corn cob pipe factory, besides the factory would give a large number of people employment and also would be an incentive for other enterprises to be established here. ...

There was a man in Mayetta last Thursday demonstrating a new fangled horizontal turbine wind mill which he claims will revolutionize the coming power of the nation. He claims his mill will enable the farmers and others to be able to harness the air and manufacture their own electric current which will enable them to have electricity right at home at the least possible cost, whereby they could light the building and have plenty of power for any kind of machine which they might see fit to install. If his wind mill will do all the things which he claims for it, it would soon put all other power plants out of business. The gentleman demonstrating the mill did not offer to sell us anything. He seemed to only be advertising the merits of the mill. *The Holton Recorder*, February 7, 1929.

We are informed on good authority that Mayetta this spring will make some much needed improvements. One thing will be the purchase of fire fighting equipment which is badly needed, as at the present time we have no way of combating with fire, only by a volunteer bucket brigade. We should have two more good cisterns back of the business buildings, and it would not hurt to have four cisterns of 500 barrel capacity. As we are informed that we have all our dirt streets graveled which we think is the proper thing to do. The city has plenty of money to make all the improvements without any extra taxes. And another thing is a good, clean, sanitary jail. Our present jail is not a very fit place to put a person should it be necessary to arrest anyone. *The Holton Recorder*, February 21, 1929.

They tell me that the big snow drifts along the public highway are fast disappearing and the people are glad to hear this. They have been there a long time. We think the month of January, take it all the way through, has been a bad month, one of the coldest months we have had for a number of years. It has been five weeks without a thaw. It

is very unusual for this part of the country to not have a thaw in that long a time. ...

The Kansas Power & Light Co. is building a new line from Topeka to Hoyt and then they will continue the line on up to Mayetta. We will have some good service when these lines are completed. We will all like to see it come, the sooner the better. *The Holton Recorder*, February 28, 1929.

There were more wagons and teams in town Saturday than there had been in five years. The muddy roads were the cause of it. It looked like the time before autos. *The Holton Recorder*, March 7, 1929.

The Mayetta Telephone Co., are going to place all their telephone cables underground and in water tight conduits, which will be a big improvement over the old and obsolete system of overhead wires, which are always causing more or less trouble. Mr. McGuire and his wife, of Kansas City, are at the City Hotel where they will make their headquarters ... *The Holton Recorder*, March 7, 1929.

There is quite a lot of work going on in Mayetta. McGuire of Kansas City, who is engineering and putting in the cable under ground, has several men working for him. He has something like 1900 feet to go under ground and the Kansas Light and Power Co. has several men working, changing the poles and putting up new wires and cross arms.

...

I see our street commissioner, Tom Marshall, will be a very busy man after the streets dry up. He was doing some work last week on the streets but it isn't dry enough to do much yet. Our streets in places are in terrible condition and they can't do much until it gets better weather. *The Holton Recorder*, March 28, 1929.

The local freight on the Rock Island was handled last Saturday afternoon by one of the new gas electric motors. It handled twenty-three cars through here and seemed to go it with ease, but we do not anticipate that motors will be a success in handling freight trains. They don't seem to have the power like a steam engine. ...

During the thunder storm last Friday afternoon, lightning struck the gasoline pump at the Mayetta Motor garage and broke the glass ball off, also tore the metal canopy top off, but did not damage the three electric light bulbs, nor set the gas on fire. It was a most miraculous escape. The same bolt also knocked out our electric lights to a large extent, and splintered on electric light pole at the lumber yard street corner. The trouble caused the dimming of the lights. This was reported to the Kansas Power & Light Co, at Topeka and their trouble man was here and had it repaired in one hour and twenty minutes after the trouble was reported. The Mayetta Telephone Co., are going to place all their telephone cables underground and in water tight conduits, which will be a big improvement over the old and obsolete system of overhead wires, which are always causing more or less trouble. Mr. McGuire and his wife, of Kansas City, are at the City Hotel where they will make their headquarters ... *The Holton Recorder*, March 28, 1929.

Why not build a good, inhabitable cement house to take care of our guests whom the city might want to entertain when the case demands it. We believe that if some of our guests were properly looked after that it would not take long to pay for a suitable building in which to entertain them. We also favor some kind of fire fighting equipment to combat against the ravages of conflagrations should any occur. Mayetta is the second city of Jackson county, and we ought to keep up-to-date and strive to be the first. What we need is all pull together and not push the wrong way. *The Holton Signal*, April 4, 1929.

Several evenings last week we saw bonfires about twilight burning all over town. This shows that maybe they were cleaning up all their back yards and premises. Mayetta always likes to be up with all the other towns and cities. The managers of the hotel had their back yards and grounds cleaned up. This makes the home look very cozy. This old trash needs to be taken care of in the spring of each year.

Indian payday again last Wednesday and we noticed a great number of Indians were in to get their checks. Supt. Blair of Lawrence was up to help with the payments. *The Holton Recorder*, April 18, 1929.

We offer this suggestion to the Capital City Transit Company, that when they repaint their buses that they mark them, Topeka, Mayetta, Holton and Hiawatha, instead of omitting Mayetta as they are at the present time. Mayetta furnishes more passengers according to our population than any other town on their route, and we believe that we should be recognized by having our town name on their busses. ...

Clate Nissey has the streets nearly ready for sanding and work spreading the sand will be started in a few more days and if nothing prevents Mayetta will have all paved and sanded streets by June 1st. Now if we had water works and some method of fighting fire we would then be right up-to-date with any large city. All traveling salesmen who make Mayetta say that we are the most progressive town in their territory, and do more business than any other town five times our size in population. Mayetta has forty-four distinct business enterprises and each one enjoy a good lucrative business. *The Holton Signal*, April 25, 1929.

While the road grader was grading one of the alleys here in town Monday afternoon it accidentally broke the cable of the telephone system, thus putting several people without telephone service, but Mr. McGuire and son soon remedied the cause and it is now again in working order. . . .

They are getting the streets all ready now to put the gravel on. There is about a one and a half mile of it. Mayetta certainly needs it. The Mayetta people don't stand back for anything and we hear more new business are coming in. *The Holton Recorder*, May 9, 1929.

They will begin graveling the streets this week in Mayetta. Canfield Lumber Co, has the contract to furnish the gravel and they are getting it from Topeka and Jerry Smith has the contract to haul it from the train to the streets. We are all glad to see the gravel put down. It will be a fine piece of work when finished. We understand it will take them about thirty days to complete the job. . . .

They say co-operation is the life of trade. To stop a few minutes in Mayetta will almost convince anyone. To briefly sketch an outline of the town they would find the following. Four general stores carrying practically everything; three butcher shops where they carry all kinds of fresh meats. Three barber shops in which you can get a hair cut any day of the week or almost any time of the night, two banks in good condition so don't worry, your money would be safe in them, three garages in which cars can be built like new again and plenty of gas to

run them, two restaurants in which you can eat all the time if you have the money to pay for what you eat, one good hotel that cannot be beat, two hardware stores with implements enough to supply Jackson county, one post office where Uncle Sam gets rich, one lumber yard so you can build anything you want to, one telephone office whereby you can talk all over the U. S. and let them talk back to you (the only instance in which we would like to hear back talk), two cream stations that will buy all the cream and eggs and old hens you would care to sell, one depot where you can travel on any train, we have four a day and two freight trains carrying load after load of fine stock from our neighboring farms, two drug stores, both containing soda fountains with plenty of ice cream to keep you cool in the summer, one pool hall, the only one in the county and miles around, a picture show to entertain the public, one graded school and one high school where the children learn their smartness, four buses each way a day and everybody that goes away comes back for some particular reason, we know not what, all good roads leading into the town so you can come and go anytime you wish and the last but not least, plenty of free water to drink, so come an have a drink with us. Everybody's welcome to our town, come in and get acquainted. . . .

Jack Cody Hale will take the Mayetta Indians to Lawrence to play the Haskell team Saturday, May 25. This will be Mayetta's first game of the season. Those who will make the trip are Wagg Tuckwin, Pete Mzhickteno, Bill Mzhickteno, Francis Shoptese, Bill La Clere, Joe Nioce, Arthur Wishkeno, Leo Wapp, Albert Shuckahossa, Joe Matt, Bill Potts, Chas. Rice, Jim Hale. *The Holton Recorder*, May 23, 1929.

They are going right along these times in putting the gravel on the streets. Jerry Smith, who is doing the hauling is just as busy as he can be. He goes by the hotel with a load about every five minutes and it won't take long to complete the job. We are glad to see it done. *The Holton Recorder*, May 30, 1929.

The placing of the gravel by the Canfield Lumber Company will be finished some time this week and as soon as it is spread our streets will be right up-to-date and out of the mud. *The Holton Signal*, June 6, 1929.

Last Saturday was another big day for our merchants. They were completely snowed under with business from early morning until eleven at night. It seemed like everybody was trading in Mayetta Saturday. You could hardly negotiate a car on main street and parking room was at a premium. We are extremely glad Highway 75 does not pass directly through main street, but goes along the edge of town. We can't see why some towns fight to have a main highway pass right through their main street. Of course we fought to have 75 pass right through Mayetta and we were given a cut off through town and now we are more than glad the traffic which passes up and down highway 75 don't come through town as it means hundreds of accidents and the through traffic is not beneficial to a town. If they want gas or oil or anything else, they will then turn up through town and get their requirements and pass right on. Of course it is natural for the people who are interested in a town to want a main highway through it, but we would rather have them right on the edge of town like Mayetta is situated. Highway 75 at Mayetta has a capacity of about 1200 to 1500 cars during the twenty-four hour period. Just think what a hazard to local traffic it would mean if this all passed through Mayetta. We know of a town where all the traffic passes through and they were like us Mayetta people. They almost had a fit when they wanted to pass right along on one side, thinking they would lose business. Now they wish it had went along one side. As it endangers life, also congests traffic and we advise any town that is getting het up because a highway doesn't want to pass right through their main street, to get out of the main street notion and let them locate on the side street or on the edge of your town. *The Holton Signal*, June 13, 1929.

Our town was well represented on Flag Day. Everyone that had a flag hung it out on that day and they all stayed

there in the beautiful sun for early in the morning until sundown. In looking up and down Main street I will tell you it looked nice to see them. I has been asked to explain what Flag Day means. Flag day is in commemoration of the first time the stars and stripes were raised during the Revolutionary War and we have kept our flags floating from this time down to the present time and no nation would dare to molest that flag. Flag Day comes on June 14. We noticed two years ago in our town a party put his flag out on June 12 instead of the 14th. There is no one little man in any little town can change it. *The Holton Recorder*, June 20, 1929.

Those two rodeo cattle that R. L. Miller lost a few days ago were found in A. W. Morris' pasture. I think Mr. Morris is thinking of starting a rodeo. Those Brahma cattle are just as wild cattle as they make. *The Holton Recorder*, July 4, 1929.

Several swarms of bees have taken possession of things in Mayetta. John Dutt had one swarm to infest his store, and V. R. Lunger has a swarm trying to run him out of his store and Lon Stafford had a swarm that wanted to board with him. We assume they were looking for a good place to trade at Dutts and Lungers and where they might get blacksmithing done at Stafford's. The city council should pass an ordinance against bees running loose. *The Holton Signal*, July 4, 1929.

Mayetta's new graveled streets, with its fine brick paving along main street, lift the village out of the small town class and place it in the ranks of young cities. The graveled of the streets was a master stroke of enterprise and lifting the town out of the mud will make for comfort and happiness of our people. The Canfield Lumber Company, a home institution, furnished the sand and the spreading was efficiently done by Jerry Smith. To say that Mayettaites are pleased with the job is putting it mildly. *The Holton Recorder*, July 11, 1929.

Lou Stafford has trouble of his own nowadays. Some bees took possession over the kitchen door and notified Stafford to stay out, so he had to take the back door. He says when they get the house full of honey he is going to invite all the orphans and widows and partake of the wild honey. ...

Quite an accident happened Sunday morning at the depot when a truck of the National Amusement Co. turned over and almost spilled out the dogs and monkeys and after getting everything picked up they started north and at Cedar bridge the monkey trailer behind the truck came unhooked and the trailer ran into Mr. Shay's fence and they had to set a dead man to pull it out. *The Holton Recorder*, July 11, 1929.

The swarms of bees which invaded the writer's, and John Dutt's store also Lon Stafford blacksmith shop after getting all their groceries and new points put on their stingers left us, and went over to live with Harry Jones one evening last week, after Harry and is family had returned from a ride in their car. Harry thought he needed a bath so he got all ready and entered his bath room where he found it already occupied with a nice healthy swarm of bees. Harry immediately beat a hasty retreat in scanty attire and after imploring the help of both John and Edward they succeeded in getting the bees out and stopped all means of ingress but Harry maintains he has no hankering to have bees around when he wants to take a bath. *The Holton Signal*, July 11, 1929.

The Indian Green Corn dance will begin at the Indian Dance grounds on Big Soldier July 4th, and lasting four days. They use six drums during this ceremony. This is one of the most important ceremonies among the Indian people. It is where they give thanks for all the good crops and other things which they are permitted to enjoy during this year. The Indian people extend a most cordial welcome for all white people to come and witness this ceremony and enjoy an outing with them. The dance ground is situated nine miles west of Mayetta on the county road and two miles south of Sam Blandin's. A good road all the way. Come out and enjoy their friendship and hospitably. There is plenty of parking space for a thousand cars. Plenty of water and shade. Bring your lunch and enjoy a day's outing.

The Rock Island ran their weed burner over the road last week which will kill and dry all the weeds, after which they go over the route again and burn everything clean. This burner saves the company thousands of dollars as a labor saving device and does a good clean job. *The Holton Signal*, July 18, 1929.

One grandmother and one ancient aunt joined the flapper gang this week by having the locks shorn and a beautiful permanent wave put in their hair at the Harrington beauty parlor. The husbands of both ladies are most wonderfully pleased with the results and both seemed to take on a new life. ...

The Canfield Lumber Co., have put new foundations under all their lumber sheds and are busy putting a roof over everything so that nothing will be exposed to the weather and all sheds will be ironclad which will reduce the fire hazard and add much to the appearance of the property. ...

Mrs. Ben Mickel of Soldier was in Mayetta last week and got one of those celebrated permanents at Harrington's beauty parlor, and our better half indulged in one today. Believe me, I'll bet Ben and I are both carried back about 40 years with the results. Don't they look nice, Ben? *The Holton Signal*, July 25, 1929.

Highway No. 75 is going to be graveled all over and the work is right at hand. There were eight men with their sand trucks at the hotel Sunday night on their way to the south line to begin their work and come this way. Mayetta will have the men here a few days. We understand there will be two different outfits that have taken the job of graveled this road. *The Holton Recorder*, August 1, 1929.

In the spring of 1912 we were lucky enough to be initiated into the order of Yellow Dogs of Topeka, Admiral Frank Sturges, J. B. Concyson and Clem Seely and about two hundred whelps officiating in the ceremony, of which we enjoyed hugely, and ever since we have wanted a suitable emblem to designate that we were a member of the Yellow Dog. Last spring our wish was gratified when a big, lopsided cross between a hound and police dog took up his abode with us. He is yellow although too big to carry around on our watch chain, I let him roam the yard. He has fits, fleas, mange and a ravenous appetite and is afraid to chase a rabbit, for fear the rabbit will kick him in the face. He is just a good-for-nothing yellow dog but amply fills all the necessary requirements of a good Yellow Dog. *The Holton Signal*, August 8, 1929.

The gravel men are all here this week and part of them are boarding at the hotel. They will be here some two or three weeks if everything goes well. The foreman tells me that they don't keep them in quite enough gravel to keep them busy and that is the reason they don't know how long they will be here. By putting the second coat of gravel on we will have a good road for everyone to travel over. This road will be good enough for Vice President Curtis to travel over when he comes to see us. *The Holton Recorder*, August 15, 1929.

We notice that houses in Mayetta are at a premium. Someone should take upon themselves to see that there are more houses built to serve the needs of the people. Even our school teachers will drive back and forth to Topeka and our professor is having to live in the country. *The Holton Recorder*, August 29, 1929.

Carl Smith and Harry Shingleton are the champion rat shooters of Mayetta. They may be seen any evening around the elevators with their rifles and they get lots of sport out of the amusement, although it is sure death to any rat that sticks his head in their sight.

We never saw such a pestilence of rats as there are this year. They are not only around the building but you can find hundreds of them out in the fields and running around just like rabbits. The people ought to set out rat destroyer of some kind and kill them off before they take the county. We set aside the month of September for each and every one to make some special effort in exterminating the rats. ...

A long felt want has been inaugurated in Mayetta and that is a newsstand, where you can purchase all the latest magazines and periodicals of the present day. The DeBoard Pharmacy has a complete line of any magazine that the readers might wish for. *The Holton Signal*, August 29, 1929.

What might have been a serious accident occurred at the fair grounds Saturday morning about 8 o'clock when Otto Jacobson was taking a ride in an airplane. The pilot was not familiar with his landing field and misjudged his distance when making the landing and plowed through a field of Grover Chase's corn and landed in a ditch breaking the propeller. Mr. Jacobson jumped to the ground and sprained his ankle. No other injuries were reported. ...

Jack Cody Hale threw his knee out of place while bulldogging a steer the last day of the rodeo and hurt it again in the trick riding. It is the same knee he got hit by a high explosive shell September 14, 1918, at St. Mihiel, overseas. His operation thought to be O. K as it did not leave any scars when the wound healed. Jack left Sunday afternoon for Neodesha, Kan., for the rodeo there. He will not ride there as his knee is not well enough to stand the strain. *The Holton Recorder*, September 5, 1929.

The Mayetta Gun Club are now busy getting the game preserve in readiness for the fall and winter shooting and fishing. Their preserve is located on Big Soldier and is an ideal place for hunting and fishing. They are erecting a cabin and blinds and many other things for their convenience and comfort. The dry season which we have encountered during the past two months has reduced their supply of water in their lake and they are hoping that rain comes soon to fill it up. No one but members of the club will be allowed to use the hunting and fishing grounds. *The Holton Signal*, September 12, 1929.

We notice that our local freight train has discontinued carrying a caboose and has now installed a passenger coach in its place to accommodate the traveling public. We compliment the Rock Island of taking care of its patrons. ...

We know of several great-grandmothers and several grandmothers and a number of wives over 50 years of age numbered among the best bread makers in the world. But it would be a hard thing to find a home any more in which you will find good, old fashioned home made bread. Over 95 per cent of the women in this age of the world buy their bread already baked and we don't blame them, as it is just as cheap to buy your bread as it is to buy flour, and then the time and labor and extra fuel to heat the oven, cost as much as the baker's bread is now

costing, and the wife has no cause to worry about the batch of bread being poor and cause hubby to growl. About the only use a wife had now-a-days for flour is to make gravy, or a few pies and cake or an occasional batch of biscuits. There are five different bakeries furnishing Mayetta people with their products and when you get tired on one brand, you can change to a new one. One bakery furnishes cakes fresh every day and we suppose it won't be long before they will be running hot lunch wagons right to your door and supply you with all the latest and most toothsome food already cooked. *The Holton Signal*, October 3, 1929.

They are doing considerable work here in town on and around our side streets in the way of cleaning out the ditches so the water can have its way. This is a good thing to do before winter sets in. ...

The graveled roads come in pretty handy these muddy times and if it wasn't for them there wouldn't be half the people out with their cars. Well, I see they are letting contracts all of the time for these graveled roads and they are not so expensive after all. It runs about \$2000 to \$2500 per mile and resurfacing will cost a little over \$250 per year. In other words, at the end of 20 years the sand and gravel road would have cost \$15,000 or \$20,000 a mile, making no allowance for repair or replacement. They are building sand and gravel roads all over the country because they are the cheapest in the long run and it has been proven that the sand and gravel or chat roads were a better investment than the concrete slab and all parties that do a lot of traveling will tell you that they would rather travel over sand roads than over these concrete roads. So let us have the cheapest roads and the best. *The Holton Recorder*, October 17, 1929.

Tom Marshall, our street commissioner, is busy putting in a cement culvert in the hollow just west of the Catholic church. *The Holton Recorder*, October 24, 1929.

The beginning of the Great Depression was on Tuesday, October 29, 1929, the day the stock market crashed. Investors panicked as the worth of their stock went down and they tried to dispose of them while they still had some value, but there were few or no buyers. Stocks lost most or all of their value and people who had thought the market was the pathway to riches found it was the pathway to bankruptcy.

Because businesses had so much of their assets in stocks they also began to fail. Banks could not meet the demands of people who wanted to withdraw their money not having enough money on hand, and so closed and went into bankruptcy.

Businesses and industry who had much of their capital in the market or in the banks that failed began to cut back on their workers wages and hours. Even with these cuts some businesses closed their doors, leaving their workers unemployed

Workers having reduced income or no income at all, cut back on purchasing consumers items. It became a self perpetuating circle of cuts in employment, then cuts in purchasing, leading to more cuts in employment. There was little hope for the little man until President Roosevelt began programs under what he termed the New Deal, ushering in what some historians call the beginning of the welfare state.

Many programs were instituted to get money into the hands of the working man. One was the NRA, the National Recovery Act, another was the Works Progress Administration; under which public works were built. Jackson county benefited under this program as Elkhorn and Nebo lakes and the Holton swimming pool were built under it, county and reservation roads began to be graveled, and new bridges and culverts were built.

Programs to aid farmers were instituted, the planting of shelter belts to help control soil erosion; loans to farmers; the plowing up of crops in the fields and the slaughtering of over a half a million baby pigs took place, slaughtered in order to create shortages in farm commodities to increase the prices the farmers got for their products.

This was also the time of the beginning of Social Security and unemployment compensation benefits. The F. D. I. C. was started wherein depositors accounts were insured up to \$5,000 dollars to encourage people to keep their money in the banks and not withdrawing it, thereby keeping it in circulation. It was a complicated time of enormous problems, but at least attempts were made by the government to get money into the hands of those whose families were hungry and in need.

When the depression first hit Mayetta in 1930 a year or so after the stock market crash, people who had jobs and an income thought it was wonderful because things to buy were cheaper. Then as business fell off in every area, jobs folded up. Some people who were originally from the rural area, who had lost their jobs in town, moved out to the country where they could raise a garden and keep chickens. The farmers really suffered in the dry years of 1934 and 1936. The W. P. A. (Works Progress Administration) dug a county well along the county road east of Mayetta, and farmers hauled water for their livestock and for their drinking and household use. Pastures dried up and feed

ran out. Farmers had to sell their livestock at giveaway prices as they could not keep the stock without feed. (Vera Hamill Hafer, "My Husband, Frank 1884-1960," page 72, Mennonite Press, Inc. North Newton, Kansas.)

The Mayetta sportsman fishing and gun club are considering the matter very seriously of trying to get the government to cut a canal from Big Soldier Creek into their fishing preserve, which, owing to the shortage of moisture during the past season has dried up their lake and they either have got to install a pumping plant or else form a bucket brigade, or dig a long canal in order to get water for the coming duck season. ...

There is dire need of a street lamp to be installed where the road crosses highway 75 at the Bert Peters corner. This is a most dangerous place as hundreds of cars both day and night use this crossing and especially at night one's life is in danger, and a street lamp at that point would make the danger less hazardous and the Kansas Power & Light Co. would gladly install the light if our city council would make the request. With the light installed it would not cost the city a penny only for the juice consumed which would be a very small item. *The Holton Signal*, October 31, 1929.

The City Council held its regular meeting last Monday night and transacted the regular routine line of business among which they passed a resolution to have a street light placed at the intersection of the road crossing on Highway 75 at the Lunger and Peters corner. This is one of the most dangerous crossings on Highway 75 and the street light may be the means of saving many wrecks as well as lives of the people. *The Holton Signal*, November 7, 1929.

We see a lot of young ladies learning to drive cars. These young ladies can soon learn. In my estimation they are a little more careful than young men. We should all be more careful and not drive too fast and watch out for all crossings and by-roads and pay close attention to the wheel. ...

Claude and Willie Majers, who got hurt in a car wreck about ten days ago are getting along very nicely. We drivers will have to cut the speed down a little. We have a few around Mayetta and if they don't cut their speed down a little it is only a question of time with them and that not very far off and we feel sorry for such people. *The Holton Recorder*, November 7, 1929.

The A & B elevator had done some appreciated work around the elevator during the past week. They have removed all the dirt between the scales and the dump and filled it with rock and gravel thereby doing away with a most disagreeable mud hole which always excited there during a muddy spell of weather. ...

Those who took our advice and used K. R. O. for the extermination of rats report some most wonderful results. Hoffa Smith used it at his residence and got rid of every one so far as he knows, and he brought the empty box back to the store and threw it out in the back room and the next day he says he found 47 dead rats, and he did not know of having a rat around the store and he heartily recommends K. R. O. to anyone pestered with the rodents. One rat killed now means fifty less rats next spring and summer. If you have not got rid of your rats get busy right away and exterminate them. K. R. O. will not harm any other animal which might eat it, it kills only rats and mice. *The Holton Signal*, November 21, 1929.

The area lying east of the Rocky Mountains, starting from the Dakotas running south into Texas, the area where the buffalo once roamed and grazed on the short stem grass of the region, ran into serious problems beginning in the 1930's. Once known as the Great American Desert, it began to live up to its name because of a severe drought and the dust storms that occurred from 1930 until the 1940's. With the farmer's use of what one farmer called "power farming," using tractors to open up thousands of acres of land to plant to wheat and corn, the land lost its ability to hold the soil in place and the strong winds and lack of rain caused severe soil erosion.

I don't know how much soil erosion from the wind took place in the Mayetta area, but know that the people in the Mayetta didn't suffer nearly as much as the people in western Kansas did. The farmers of Western Kansas did not make much of a wheat or corn crop, or did not make any crop at all during the thirties. Mayetta farmers learned early to plant their land into wheat as there was enough moisture in the winter months to make a crop, the corn crop was hit and miss proposition, the area losing the corn crop due to drought for a number of years. The extreme heat and the dust storms blown in from the north and west made life miserable for both country and townspeople during most of the year, especially in late winter and in the summer months.

My next door neighbor Ola Whittington told me about some of her experiences during the 'dirty thirties.' She was living on her farm at that time and would wet bed sheets in water then tack them over her windows and doors to keep out the dust. At first they covered their mouths with wet clothes and breathed through them, but continued use of this was said to bring on what was called dust pneumonia. A dry mask was soon

developed that worked much better. After lunch each day she and her husband, Charley, would lie on the kitchen floor and take a nap. Linoleum covered their kitchen floor and as it retains a feeling of coolness even in hot weather it was the coolest place in the house.

I noticed that during the summer Ola placed saucers and bowls under her shrubbery and was curious enough to ask her why. It was a habit she had began in the hot days of the thirties, filling the containers with water so that any animals or birds wandering by would have water to drink.

The moving pictures taken by Rev. Hopkins were shown at the Mulryan opera house last Friday evening, December 27. They were first class pictures and they took well with the audience. These pictures included scenes of the 1929 Indian rodeo, Indians dancing in regalia, street scenes of our high school people and also most all of our business men and many others were in these pictures which were thrown on the screen and people enjoyed it very much and a good crowd was out, about the largest crowd that the opera house has had for this long time and the proceeds amounted to about \$50 and Rev. Hopkins was well pleased with the results. I will tell you that he is a rustler. He has a wife and four children to support. *The Holton Recorder*, January 2, 1930.

The little light bulb which enables us to see the numbers on our radio, burnt out last Thursday night. On Friday morning we notified the Kansas Power & Light Co., at Topeka what our trouble was and sent them a letter on the ten o'clock train. By three o'clock the same afternoon Charles F. Engler, their representative was here and inserted a new bulb for us. We call this service of the highest type. *The Holton Signal*, January 23, 1930.

There is an industry in Mayetta which very few people are aware of and that is a Rabbitry owned by Alvin Appier, who is raising some of the finest rabbits in Kansas. He has both Chinchilla and New Zealand Reds, all pedigreed stock and it is worth any ones time to pay his rabbitry a visit and see these wonderful rabbits. They are highly profitable as fur bearing animals, also good for food. Mr. Appier started his rabbitry last October with three rabbits and now has a herd of fifty. *The Holton Signal*, February 20, 1930.

The raising of small-fur bearing animals in captivity has always had some popularity in the United States. Rabbits, minks, chinchillas, and nutrias, are some that come to mind. I don't believe that anyone ever made a living from doing it, but some did by supplying the initial breeding stock to those who had big dreams of earning a lot of money raising them for their furs.

I had a neighbor in the 1970's who purchased some breeding stock of chinchillas for a thousand dollars or more. After the initial expense of cages, feeders and water bowls, then the cost of feeding and the work involved in the cleaning of the cages, skinning and preserving the pelts; the pelts could only be sold for around twenty dollars apiece. In a few year's time an ad appeared in the newspaper stating chinchillas for sale, with cages and all supplies, reasonable.

The Ash motor truck driver on his way from Holton to Topeka about four-thirty last Monday morning discovered a fire in the cob house of the Farmers' elevator. He immediately gave the alarm and help arrived at once and by hard fighting they saved the building from destruction. If the truck driver had been a few minutes later the fire would have been beyond control and the elevator would have burned and possibly other buildings would have been burned as there was a strong northwest wind and it would have been with much difficulty to have saved the depot and no telling where it would have stopped. It was a lucky and narrow escape for Mayetta. Many thanks are due to those who discovered the fire and to those who notified the citizens who by their heroic efforts saved the building. There is no question what Mayetta needs some kind of fire equipment. A few dollars invested in fire extinguishers would be money well spent. *The Holton Signal*, March 6, 1930.

Noah Sanderson our night watch, seeing us capering around about four o'clock in the morning last Sunday came over to investigate what all the commotion was about. He saw us chasing our cow with a flash light and naturally supposed that some prowlers were around, but when he was appraised that everything was all right Noah returned back to town and our lives were saved. We thank Noah for his vigilance in looking after our welfare. ...

What become of the movement to have Chaney hill cut down to a standard grade? You people who live out that way ought to get busy and have it done this spring, so you will have a good road to haul your grain to the Mayetta market this fall and winter. Don't delay any longer. We will help you. ...

The writer was in sixteen towns including Mayetta last Sunday. Fifteen of these towns had a fine system of waterworks for household use and fire protection. Mayetta was the only town out of the sixteen that has no water works or fire protection of any sort. What Mayetta needs and should have is a water system. *The Holton Signal*, March 27, 1930.

Who built your churches, public school, auditorium, water system, court house and paved your streets, and made

all other civic improvements so that you would have a city in which people would be proud to live and enjoy the comforts of life? It was the home owned merchants that made it possible for all the improvements in your beautiful cities, and not the non-resident leeches which come to your city, after all improvements are made and then enjoy the rich harvest which you have sown for them. The non-resident business houses send out of your community from 25 to 33 per cent of the money which they take in and that money never comes back to your community. If you have to eat and wear clothes, buy them of your home town merchant who helps build up your community. *The Holton Signal*, April 3, 1930.

Thursday morning the town was given a treat in the way of a parade of the old fashioned quilting bee. Six of our ladies dressed in grandmother's clothes caused the old time circus excitement among both young and old. It looked like the original Oregon Trail by the looks of the old wagon and team. Those taking part in the trip were Mrs. L. L. Patton, Mrs. C. F. Slattery, Mrs. C. E. Harrington, Mrs. J. W. Blandin, and Miss Almeda Hawn and Miss Frances Whelan. They arrived at the home of Mrs. Claude Myers with a basket dinner to which they did justice after their hard trip. ...

There was quite a lot of excitement in Mayetta last Thursday morning. Store doors were thrown wide open and heads were seen sticking out of window in various places, as many people watched a load of Arkansas travelers (if judged by appearance) passing through town. A lumber wagon drawn by an old mule and a horse was their conveyance. The travelers were all women and all typical "forty niners." So unique was the scene that one merchant took several pictures of it. The calm dignity of the matrons was broken only once, when one lady's century old hat caught the wind and was removed from her head. A later report proved they were not Arkansans, but a few friends of Minnie Myers who were on their way to surprise her with an old fashioned quilting bee. Though they were only posing as natives of Arkansas, more than one thought them realistic. *The Holton Recorder*, April 17, 1930.

The rodeo held at the Kansas University Stadium by R. L. Miller was a grand success. There were from ten to 12 thousand people there. There were people from several different colleges and states attended. This was the first rodeo ever held at a state university in the United States. ...

Two Indian boys won in the amateur vaudeville contest held at Shawnee, Oklahoma, on Wednesday, April 16, 1930. These boys are natives of the Potawatomie reservation. Johnson Puckee and Louis Hale are the winners of the amateur vaudeville contest which was held at Victory Theater for the try-outs.

Mr. Hale and Mr. Puckee have been taking music lessons during the fall and winter months. Louis is getting to be an expert on plucking on the string instruments. Violin and Hawaiian guitar are his favorites; the latter is a new product to his fingers. His instructor, a native of the Hawaiian Islands, thinks Louis will make good in his efforts to be a musical performer. Johnson is training his voice as a tenor. His instructor also thinks he's on the road of progress. *The Holton Recorder*, April 24, 1930.

H. Freeze, who lives alone in the north part of town and is good natured and a very large chicken raiser, was telling me the other day that it takes a world of feed to raise chickens and it got so he could hardly buy the feed and so he decided to feed them sawdust and after he had feed it to them awhile they had wooden legs and wooden bills. What do you know about that? *The Holton Recorder*, May 1, 1930.

There has been some talk in the past of merchants being careless about locking their stores; and as a result the stores have been broken into. But it seems that must have been a false report concerning some at least; for Monday morning A. J. Jones had quite a difficult time getting into his own place of business. The first that was known of it, a crash was heard on main street and people got to their doors and window just in time to see A. J. disappearing from the top of a ladder into the place through an upstairs window. Upon investigating it was found that the lock on the door had proven obstinate and the window was Albert's last chance of gaining access to his store. ...

A man in our town went home one night last week of about the stormiest nights there was and left his car down town. His wife said to him that someone had stolen his car and all at once it came to him that he had left it down town, so he slipped down and drove it back and thought that no one saw him but the reporter is always looking around. *The Holton Recorder*, May 8, 1930.

Another bad car wreck at the same old place, near the depot, one of the most dangerous places on No. 75 anywhere to be found, occurred here Monday evening between 5 and 6 o'clock. As near as we can understand it, two cars came together, a Chrysler, No. 3777, Nemaha county, with four people in it, two women and two men, going south on 75 and the other was a Ford with two boys in it, Russell McCauley and Roy Tuck of Holton, who were leaving town going west and here is where they came together. Judging from where they hit one another they rolled fully 80 feet or more, turning this little Ford over and over some two or three times in a big 8-foot ditch and made it a total wreck, pinning the two boys underneath the car. Russell McCauley was so seriously injured that he was taken to the hospital in Topeka and later we learned that he will possibly get along all right. Roy Tuck wasn't hurt nearly

so bad. The parties that were in the Chrysler were bruised up more or less but the car was badly wrecked and took two cars to pull it out of the ditch. The place where this wreck took place is one of the most dangerous places anywhere along No. 75 and always will be. This is the place where the whole town turned out and tried their very best to avoid this death trap by not having any crossing at all. The railroad has never had any accidents here at all. This is where most of our trade comes from on the reservation. They scarcely have any sign at all but it has been talked of but nothing has ever been done so I make a motion to have several good signs put up. "Stop, Look and Listen - Not More than 12 Miles an Hour."

The Kansas Power & Light Co. has put up an electric sign down by the depot. This is something that the town has been needing for a long time. This will make it nice to show to strangers what town it is when they come along making about 50 miles an hour. *The Holton Recorder*, June 12, 1930.

Hitch Hikers are seeming to get quite plentiful. You can see from one to a half a dozen per day hiking along the highway and stopping along the way for something to eat. Quite a few of them are seeking work while others are just bumming their way through the country sight seeing and it is no uncommon sight to see girls dressed in knickers or overhauls hiking and catching rides, and believe me, the good looking ones can always get a lift from passing motorist, especially if his wife is not with him. *The Holton Signal*, June 12, 1930.

Harvey Chiddix of Topeka, the welter weight champion of the United States was a Mayetta visitor last Wednesday and while here visited the writer. Harvey, a few years ago used to work for Elan Stanley. It is very interesting to talk to Harvey about the fight game. We gained a lot of information about the our self if we should ever enter that game and will know how to handle the profession. *The Holton Signal*, July 10, 1930.

What Mayetta needs is a water works system and a street sprinkler to wet down the streets about once an hour to keep the pavement nice and cool. If our streets were sprinkled it would make the atmosphere at least ten degrees cooler which would be a wonderful help during the past extreme hot spell of weather. The pavement got so hot that you could smell the burning rubber on the automobiles and the sidewalks were so hot that we had to walk on stilts to keep from burning the soles of our shoes off. ...

The Mayetta City Council authorized another street light erected on the street in the north part of town about half way between the Stella Baker James Yeakley corner. Gus Lofquist, the local representative of the Kansas Power & Light company, installed the new light Thursday. This gives them adequate street lighting on that street.

Some mischievous boy with a sling shot last Wednesday shot out the lamp on the Kansas Power and Light sign which they erected opposite the depot on Highway 75. There is a law against destroying public property and any one found destroying these street lights in the future will be handled according to law. They can be fined \$25 and a jail sentence besides. We truly hope that none of our boys will be guilty of committing more offenses against public property. *The Holton Signal*, July 17, 1930.

We want to thank the Power and Light Company again for the new street light they put up down by the depot. We came by it the other night and it was just like daylight all around there. If we only had a few more lights all along there on No. 75 I think there would be a very few accidents. I hope the highway commission will look after this and make this a safe crossing for people who come to town. We don't want anybody hurt or killed either. You know that this is a very dangerous crossing and always will be. Here is where Mayetta gets its largest trade, from the west. The highway commission should treat us right about this crossing and put up plenty of signs and keep the weeds all mowed down so people can see this dangerous place a rod ahead of them. *The Holton Recorder*, July 24, 1930.

Harold Harrington has the distinction of being the first person in Mayetta of being right up to the present day times. Harold has built a Tom Thumb course in their back yard and is now ready to meet all comers in that universal sport. Harold is the champion golfer of Mayetta and challenges all other players. He has challenged the writer and when we have time we will try him out. *The Holton Signal*, July 24, 1930.

There is a lot of complaint about automobiles skidding on the sanded roads. This is caused by over supply of sand on the road bed and if we were maintaining a sanded road, we would remove all the surplus sand from the road bed during such dry times as we have been experienced the past few weeks, instead of leaving the sand on the road bed to be ground up and pulverized by the car and then blown away in the wind. We would save it by removing it to the edge of the road to be used as needed, during this hot and dry weather more sand is wasted by the wind and abrasion than any other way ... *The Holton Signal*, July 31, 1930.

Another auto accident Sunday evening, August 3, at the same old place near the depot, when a couple of cars collided. Wm. Manis and the Slattery boys were driving the cars. No one was seriously hurt but both cars were damaged and had to be pulled in for repairs. It looks to me as if there was a time coming when we will have to have

a cop on this place, especially on Sundays. This will always be a bad place. I am afraid to say very much or they will call me an old crank and say I don't know what I am talking about. *The Holton Recorder*, August 7, 1930.

Sunday, August 3rd, will undoubtedly go down in history as the hottest day experienced in Kansas in many long years. The mercury hit the 100 mark about 10 o'clock a. m., and run up to 112 at three o'clock in the afternoon. The extreme heat was accompanied by a very stiff southwest hot wind which parched the corn and all kinds of vegetation and made life almost unbearable for man or beast. A few clouds appeared in the afternoon, but were of no benefit to relieve the heat. The mercury hovered around the century mark until after nightfall, and Sunday night was the hottest and most uncomfortable night this year, and when we got up in the morning, the thermometer was standing at 86 and a few clouds were in sight. A few more days of this kind of heat and there will be no corn at all regardless of how much moisture we receive. ...

Monday evening, August 4th about 7 p.m. we experienced a very heavy dust storm coming from the southeast. The air was filled with dust and all kinds of leaves and light articles. The storm lasted about ten minutes and after it had spent its force, the air was about twenty of more degrees cooler, which was a great relief. There was no rain. *The Holton Signal*, August 7, 1930.

The Rock Island run its power mowing machine over the road last week, cutting all the weeds along the shoulders of the road bed. ...

Where the highway crosses the State Highway 75 just opposite the depot in Mayetta is probably the most dangerous crossing in Highway 75. The State Highway maintainers have erected a STOP sign on each side of the road and all driver of either cars or any other vehicle are supposed to stop and see if Highway 75 is clear before entering thereon. Our own personal observation is that only about one out of every hundred drivers pay any attention to the stop sign. If the drivers get hit by cars using 75 it is just too bad for them unless they regard the stop sign. In order to avert trouble to yourself or other you must give some attention to these signs. It is a great deal cheaper to Stop and look, than it is to run the risk of getting your car smashed and yourself killed. *The Holton Signal*, August 14, 1930.

We notice the boys and some that were older, didn't forget Halloween night by doing quite a lot of damage in Mayetta, piling things up where they didn't belong and turning almost every little toilet over in the alley and it will take quite a lot of time, to say nothing of expense, to put things back in shape again. ...

Monday morning we noticed the high school boys walked with a much quicker steps than usual and occasionally glanced behind them, involuntarily increasing their rate of speed still further. Also a gang of them could be seen on almost any corner talking earnestly. Upon inquiring the cause for such peculiar conduct, we learned that the main topic of conversation was the merry-go-round, which in some mysterious way gained admittance to the high school grounds Friday night. None seemed to know anything about it, but were surmising a lot. In fact, when questioned, each had an ironclad alibi as to his whereabouts on that night. Some were even backed up by some girl's testimony. Another cause for fear was the fact that Martin Shay has hired a private detective to trace the person who took his cow from the barn and tied her to the high school flag pole. From their talk all must have been innocent but each one shakily feared he would receive a summons from the sheriff. *The Holton Recorder*, November 6, 1930.

It was quite interesting to watch the Shay Construction Co., load, haul, and dump the sand on Highway 75. Each truck holds two yards of sand and they used eight trucks and hauled an average of two hundred and fifty truck loads per day, using about one hundred truck loads to the mile. This will give the highway a good supply of sand for winter use. This is the second time it has been resanded and is now in most excellent condition, with the exception of a very few places, which nothing but as concrete surface will remedy. There is no doubt but what a few more years and 75 through this section will be surfaced with concrete. At the present time you can use an all weather road from Mayetta to Boston. *The Holton Signal*, November 13, 1930.

The gravel men, who have been here several days hauling gravel, have all gone to some other part of the country to do the same kind of work. The railroad shipped in 28 cars of sand, something like 3,000 yards, and they hauled it all along No. 75. They have the road like a boulevard. There is no better road in the country than 75 and we are all proud of it. *The Holton Recorder*, November 20, 1930.

News went over the radio last Wednesday evening from station WIBW, between 7 and 8 o'clock. This was on the Sod Busters program. Three of our musician from the Mayetta Motor Company were on the program. They were Carl Grinnell, Ed Fairbanks and Will Manis. A request of two songs to be song was "Blue Ridge Mountain Home" and "Aged and Gray, Maggie." These three musicians were certainly appreciated very much. *The Holton Recorder*, December 4, 1930.

Frank Chaney, of Chaney Hill neighborhood, was a Mayetta visitor last Monday. Frank advises the writer that

nothing has been done in cutting down Chaney Hill. He also says several wrecks have occurred on the hill since the Indian Fair last August. We told Frank that soon as we were elected commissioner, that we in conjunction with his commissioner would pull together and endeavor to have this hill cut down to a grade which conforms to county roads. *The Holton Signal*, December 11, 1930.

There was a midget Austin in Mayetta last Thursday afternoon which was quite a curiosity and caused as much excitement as if Barnum's herd of elephants had appeared on the street. They are quite a novelty and real swift on foot. The writer and his son were motoring last summer south of Concordia and we were driving an Essex and hitting about forty five miles per hour when one of these little toys passed us hitting about sixty. We thought we were standing still when it shot by us. ...

One of the most unusual sights ever seen in Mayetta, or for that matter in any other town or city, paraded our streets last Saturday evening about 5:30 p. m. We have many people of grammar age or even in high school who never saw such a sight as was on our streets and many of us older inhabitants have not had the pleasure of them for the past twenty or thirty or years, although every well equipped young man of past thirty five years of age was certainly much in demand by the fair sex when he drove up to the front gate with one of these vehicles which it was the pleasure of our townspeople to gaze upon Saturday evening. The wonderful sight was a caravan of six old fashioned rubber tired old fashioned buggies driving in two sections of three buggies each, one section had a horse in the shafts of each and one was hitched behind the other and the other section consisted of three more of the same kind of buggies with horses hitched to two of them and a third buggy hitched behind, making two strings of two buggies each, with only one driver for each section. The horses were well trained and kept in a perfect line when traveling and when turning around in the street made a complete circle. The caravan came from the south on highway 75 and from here headed towards Denison. No one seemed to know where they were from or whither they were traveling. Fred Robson was doing the chores when they passed and he was so astonished at the novel sight that he had to pinch himself to see if he was in his right mind and was actually seeing what was going by. *The Holton Signal*, February 5, 1931.

Last week while digging a cistern of his farm, Clarence Martin unearthed a peculiar underground cellar, tunnel or something at a depth of five or six feet. He came first to a pile of rocks, when removed, disclosed a kind of passage walled with rock hewn and mortised together with some kind of lime cement. The rocks were of different kinds than those on Clarence's farm. There were also bones (whether human or animal he couldn't tell), some pieces of pottery and a small amount of reddish hair rotted cloth. Clarence called some of his relatives to question as to the probability of it being the foundation of a sod house or some kind of human habitation. One lady, a resident of the section for sixty-five years, has no knowledge of the dwellers, so it is a matter of conjecture as to what the discovery might be. Meanwhile Clarence will have many visitors of the "curiously seeker" kind many of whom think further excavation might uncover some buried treasure or prehistoric valuables. *The Holton Recorder*, February 26, 1931.

The new Mayetta paper we spoke of last week, has failed to make an appearance. We suppose the promoter did not receive enough encouragement. Personally, we think it would be financial suicide for any one to start a paper in Mayetta at the present time as they would not be unable to get enough support to sustain it. ...

The Indian Agency received a new terracing machine last week and they are planning on doing considerable terracing on the reservation in the future. This work will be most beneficial to all farm land which is subject to washing after a heavy rain. ...

We understand that the County Commissioners are now ready to cut down Chaney Hill on the county road out across the reservation, and soon as they can find some reliable man to take charge of the work, the hill will be given attention. We sincerely hope the report this true and that the work will commence at an early date. We also understand that the county will furnish the required tools to do the work with, and some good enterprising man is needed to see that the work is done in a system like manner. This work would give many farmers much needed work which would be an advantage to them as well as the traveling public. *The Holton Signal*, March 5, 1931.

From all indications, spring is right upon us. Many people have planted gardens and everybody that raises garden truck is busy preparing his garden for planting, and if it is seasonable the public will buy less vegetables this year than in any year past. The people have come to realize that they must produce more on their farms and garden patches, thereby doing away with a large percent of the high cost of living. Now if they would raise their own meat and lard and bake their own good bread and can their own fruit and vegetables, the high cost of living would be reduced at least fifty-five percent. The trouble has been for several years that we are all living too much out of tin cans and package goods and these cans and packages cost money and you pay for them when you purchase these articles. *The Holton Signal*, March 19, 1931.

Two exceedingly fine looking young lady hitch hikers, both trained nurses, started hitch hiking from Ft. Cloud, Minn., which is about one hundred and forty miles northwest of St. Paul. They left Ft. Cloud Thursday morning

about ten o'clock and made it as far as Mayetta by one o'clock p. m. Saturday. A traveling salesman picked them up at Omaha Saturday morning at ten o'clock and made the trip to Mayetta by 1 p. m., which was the traveling man's destination. The two young ladies proceeded on their journey south on Highway 75, their destination is to a point in the state of Tennessee. They are going by the route of Topeka, Kansas City, St. Louis, thence to Nashville. They are figuring on arriving at their ultimate destination some time Tuesday, March 24th. *The Holton Signal*, March 26, 1931.

What Mayetta needs is some enterprising man with money who would build at least ten cottages or bungalows, containing from four to six rooms. Hardly a day passes but what some one wants to rent a house in Mayetta. *The Holton Signal*, April 2, 1931.

We encounter men on the street every day seeking employment - men who in the past have always had good jobs and made money. It seems that others who have never felt the pinch of poverty could create jobs for worthy men, actually seeking work. There is work in the world for everyone, but some are not able to go in quest of employment and must suffer actual want if there isn't something done and that soon, to help these men earn their bread for their families. *The Holton Recorder*, April 2, 1931.

Mayetta has the distinction of one of our Potawatomie Indian boys being a World champion, Henry Nahgonbe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bear (Nahgonbe) of our reservation. Henry is the unofficial champion of barefoot runner of the world. At the present time he holds Kansas State and National A. A. U. world records. In 1928 he was a member of the American Indian International Marathon team, leading in the 15 mile international race which took place at Lawrence in 1928, making a 26 mile 385 yard run in 3 hours and 39 minutes. Henry was only 15 years of age when he made the above record. He is a fine built young man and weighs about 160 lbs., and has fine wind and keeps in training and expects to take part in several running events during the coming season. *The Holton Signal*, April 7, 1931.

The State Highway had a gang of men go over 75 last week and clean all the guard railing and posts. They gave them a new coat of paint which will make them look very classy until the first muddy spell when they again will be all spattered over with mud. This work gives several men employment. They also cleaned all the markers, so the motorist can see what highway he is traveling. *The Holton Signal*, April 23, 1931.

One of the most novel shows ever in Mayetta was on our streets last Wednesday when Henry Nagonbe and his father, Henry Clay Bear, of Big Soldier, were in town with six, two weeks old wolves. They were as cute as little dog pups. They had just returned from Holton, where they had tried to dispose of them to the county for the one dollar per head bounty on wolf scalps, but the treasurer informed they were not running a slaughter house, so Henry brought them home and will endeavor to raise them and then sell them to some zoo. One man from Topeka brought one of them for a pet. There were eight pups in the litter and Henry will save a couple of them for house pets and domesticate them if such a thing is possible. ...

During the past couple of months there have been five city residences change hands in Mayetta, with a consideration of about \$10,000 for the five. With the dismantling of one building and the erection of an up-to-date filling station being built and with many repairs to other city residences, such as re-shingling, porch building and painting, considerably more than \$15,000 is being spent in Mayetta this spring. There is no visible depression on Mayetta. Everybody is an optimist and has faith on Mayetta's future prosperity. *The Holton Signal*, April 30, 1931.

A new ruling of working hours has taken effect on the railroad section. The men now begin work at 7 in the morning and quit at 4 in the evening, which will give them plenty of leisure time to work in their gardens or for other recreation. ...

Business had somewhat of a handicap last Saturday night. About 8 o'clock there came up a sudden dust storm which alarmed the people so that the majority of them hurried for home. This was followed by light shower, amounting to an eight of an inch, and to cap the climax, the electric lights went out at 8:10 and did not come back on until 11:20, so we all enjoyed sitting in the dark. ...

Many of our Indian people are putting in their spare time picking gooseberries and are offering them for sale at a reasonable price. The berries are of an extra fine quality this year. One man brought in 34 quarts last week for which he found a ready sale at 10c per quart. They are bringing them already stemmed this year. *The Holton Signal*, June 25, 1931.

An airship from Kansas City was here last Saturday. After circling the town a couple of times it landed in Billy Bohannon's wheat field near the Ben Hunter filling station. The parties who were operating the ship were delirious of getting a date with the Indian Fair people to operate a passenger carrying business. Quite a number of people went out and viewed the plane which is quite a novelty for our citizens. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 23, 1931.

We notice a great lot of people in Mayetta are getting up early these days. Some get up long before daylight. They do this to get their work done before it gets too hot, and I don't blame them. We have a family just across the road that I believe stays up most the night. The last thing we see of them before we go to bed, they are still at work, and the first thing we see in the morning, they are still working, and their house shows it. *The Holton Recorder*, July 23, 1931.

Most welcome news has reached the consumers of electricity at Mayetta, and numerous other towns throughout Kansas, which will be a big saving to the consumers of electricity. The Kansas Power and Light Company have recognized and taking cognizance of the present economic condition, have made a voluntary and appreciable reduction in the electric light rates to their consumers. Juice that in the past been costing us 11 cents per kilowatt, after August 1st, will only be 10 cents a kilowatt. Which will be quite a savings to those who use over the minimum charge. The minimum charge will remain \$1.00 and those who use over the minimum will be greatly benefited by this voluntary reduction in rates. ...

The State highway road men are busy in this vicinity getting highway 75 in shape for the blotter type of surfacing, which we understand will begin in ten days hence. The blotter type surface we are told will eliminate the dust also prevent the water when it rains from making the road so muddy. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 30, 1931.

George Klusmire and a gang of men are busy on Highway 75, removing all the obnoxious weeds and other trash from the shoulders of the road bed, and to our notion are doing a fine job. George is using all local men to do this work. ...

The cutting down of Chaney Hill is progressing in a fine manner. They are filling in the hollow just east of the hill, and when it is finished a person will be able to run a Ford car backwards on high up the hill. We hope the commissioners will see their way clear to widen the bridge at the bottom of the hill, thereby doing away the hazard of possible wrecks which might happen on account of the present narrowness of the bridge. ...

Highways 75 since working it with the graders to get it ready for the blotter treatment, and with the rain last Friday night, is in the worst condition since the road has been sanded, especially at the corner just north of Lunger's house and at the Indian Agency corner. Numerous cars have slid into the ditch at these places. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 4, 1931.

A gang of workmen are now busy laying the sand on Highway 75 for the new blotter treatment. This work will go right along until 75 has been treated - from the end of the cement paving to the north line of Jackson county. ...

The Harrington and Tweedy pasture adjacent to the Fair grounds was marked for the landing of the Brinkley airship to land, but through a mistake of the aviator, it was landed in Gus Schultz's pasture, two miles from the grounds. The Chris Walker boys seeing the ship land, like all boys, were curious to see what was the reason, found that they had lost their bearings and came to earth when they found a suitable and safe field. Mr. Brinkley had two reporters with him who strayed off from the ship and came to Mayetta, looking for a reception committee to receive them, but no one here was expecting them; hence no committee. ...

Mayetta had an invasion of grasshoppers last Sunday night which came in large swarms. They are of the large mammoth variety of about two or more inches in length. They swarmed around the electric lights and thousands of them were killed. Quite a few lit on the stone and concrete buildings during the night and sharpened their teeth and by ten o'clock Monday morning they had nearly all disappeared. ...

Our friend and neighbor Bert Peters invited the writer to take a ride last Friday, afternoon. We went west on the county road across the reserve past the fair grounds which was crowded with a multitude of people. We took a ride over the new cut road over Chaney Hill which makes a most wonderful improvement and we want to congratulate our county commissioner, John Townsend, and the other two boys for the work they have put on this hill. ... *The Jackson County Signal*, August 20, 1931.

The peach and apple crops is so heavy in the trees that many limbs are broken from their weight and many have to be propped up to keep from breaking down. This has been a wonderful fruit year and every housewife has her fruit cellar full. ...

The 9:40 and 4:20 motor trains have been reduced to just one car which handles the passenger and mail business. This is much better than taking the train off entirely, the local business does not warrant a larger train. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 27, 1931.

The sand for the new blotter on highway 75 is being hauled from Topeka by a fleet of 12 trucks, each truck containing 3 yards of sand and they are making seven trips a day, making 84 loads, or 252 yards, which covers 5,292 feet. The sand is laid in windrows along the side of the road, and is then spread on the road bed by a drag. It will possibly be a month before the road along Mayetta will receive the treatment. *The Jackson County Signal*,

September 3, 1931.

The Shell circus which showed in Holton last Thursday passed by Mayetta by motor trucks on highway 75 last Friday morning. A large elephant was riding in an open truck and seemed to be enjoying the scenery and very much contented. He could have easily stepped out, but being domesticated, he would rather ride. The day is passing when shows will travel by rail. They will make their moves by truck and not make such large jumps. ...

Owing to lack of patronage, Dr. Howard, our dentist from Topeka, who has been making this place for the past few months, has given up his practice here and moved back to Topeka. Dr. Howard was a first class dentist and was well liked by everyone, but the lack of patronage on account of the present depression made him discontinue his practice at this point. ...

This has been the greatest fruit canning year in the history of Kansas. Every housewife has her fruit cellar filled with peaches, and all other kinds of fruit, which will reduce the high cost of living off the merchants shelves. Everybody could reduce their living cost if they would can fruit and kill their own meat and raise their own garden vegetables to put away for winter use. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 10, 1931.

We have lived in Kansas 50 years and have just found out that all the money that Kansas has spent to educate her inhabitants seems to have been illy spent. We never thought there were so many people who could not read words of four or five letters, such words as "Detour," "Road Closed," but it is a fact they either can't read or are color blind. The road signs are certainly big enough to see but the average traveling public seems not to comprehend that they mean anything. They willfully pass right by and some don't even stop for the barricades that are placed across the road but break them down. There was a barricade in front of my house and last Sunday evening we saw it broken down three times within an hour. All three endangered their own lives by in committing this act. The first offender was driving a truck and the next two were in roadsters. ...

It will only be a question of a few more years and we will not have any train service. The time is not far distant when the only open stations between Topeka and St. Joe will be Holton and Horton and possibly Troy. There is only one thing that will keep the other stations open and that is a liberal patronage of the railroad. If you want to retain our railroad you must ship and travel by rail instead of patronizing the truck lines and passenger busses. The railroad is what made our country what it is today and if we want it to continue to be a country worth living in we must patronize the railroad in every possible way. People are screaming about high taxes, but just let the railroad cease operation and remove their operations from our community and then Mr. Taxpayer will have something to howl about in the way of taxes. Do you know the railroad pays about one-half of our school tax? Nevertheless, it is true. If the railroad should be abandoned any farmer who pays \$500 in taxes would be increased a trifle over \$200, or in other words he would pay over \$700, and every taxpayer would pay a like increase in proportion to the tax he is now paying. This is a most serious and vital question to the tax paying public. It is a great deal more serious than trying to reduce our taxes by cutting down expenses by reducing salaries and doing away with what we call excess help. You can do a great deal more in retaining existing taxable property than you can in reducing expenses otherwise. Suppose that the L. K. & W. railway was in existence today, it would be a great help in these times to share in the expense of our county. If you don't patronize our remaining railroads our county and taxpayers are doomed. If you want to retain your railroads demonstrate that fact to them by shipping and traveling by rail. The only commodity that the railroad has for sale is service to the public, and they are ready at all times to give you their best possible service. Don't knock and kick about the railroads reducing train service, just get someone to give you a good swift kick on your failure to patronize. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 17, 1931.

The passenger trains No. 439 and 440 between Topeka and St. Joseph, passing through our town since Mayetta was put on the map (and that is something over 40 years ago), which have carried thousands of passengers during all that time, was discontinued on Monday, September 14, 1931. This will leave one passenger train going down in the morning at 9:40 and back in the evening at 4:30. It will take Mayetta people and surrounding country a long time to get used to it. The conductors and firemen who have had charge of this train all of these years have now retired and are taking life easy and a great many of them have retired for good. *The Holton Recorder*, September 17, 1931.

Charles Appier, one of our High School students captured a six foot bull snake on the Mayetta high school ball diamond last Thursday evening. Charley wrapped it around the rear fender and brought it to town were it was viewed by many people. It was the largest snake captured in this vicinity and may be an offspring of the Winchester snake.

...

The State Highway workmen laid the sand on the leg of 75 from the Hunter filling station to where it intersects with the brick paving at the east end of Main street, and this section will receive the blotter treatment. ...

When a State or federal highway is closed against traffic for repairs it is against the law to travel on them, but hundreds of people during the past week or two since 75 has been closed against traffic seem to think that the signs or barriers don't mean anything to them, consequently they pass through the barriers at Mayetta and when they get

out to the agency at the third barrier then they are compelled to retrace their steps and take the detour, mud or no mud. No one can use the highway only those who live directly on it and have no other means of getting in and out from their homes. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 24, 1931.

Mayetta has a shortage of houses for rent. There are four families looking for a house to rent at the present time. Never in the history of Mayetta has there ever been any vacant houses. Some enterprising capitalist could make a good investment in Mayetta by building some houses for rent. There would be no danger of them standing idle. ...

Clarence Smith is the new man who will have the entire charge of the maintenance work of Highway 75, from the end of the pavement to the north end of Netawaka. We are informed that Elmer Haines and Theo. Potter are to be his assistants in the upkeep of the highway. Mr. Smith would like to have a house in Mayetta so that he could move his family here and thereby be centrally located for his work, but there is no more houses available he will probably move to Holton until he can secure a house in Mayetta. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 1, 1931.

The blotter has been applied now been applied to Highway 75 between Mayetta and Holton and was opened to public traffic last Saturday afternoon. We, at this time, cannot pass judgment of the blotter. Time will tell what the result will be, but we do know that the road bed will be dustless and in all probability will be a wonderful improvement over the graveled road. It looks to us like it will really shed water when it rains thereby doing away with mud in wet weather. We are also of the opinion that it will keep the maintainers busy keeping the blotter in smooth condition.

The oiling of 75 from Mayetta to the south line of Ed Slattery's farm was began last Saturday morning. The laying of the oil is the worst feature of the process. It dirties up your car and tracks into your house unless you change shoes outside. We have had to wear our rubbers when going to or coming from town. The people of Hoyt have our sympathy when they oil the main street of Hoyt. Their women folks will met their husbands and children at the gate and make them shed their shoes before entering inside the front gate. That black oil if tracked into the house and on the carpets and rugs will ruin them forever, or where it gets on the lawn it will ruin the grass. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 8, 1931.

Frank Chaney, from whom Chaney hill derives its name, was in town last Tuesday and he tells us that the past heavy rains have not made the hill impassable and that the cars could get up the hill without the aids of chains. The road bed is solid, but there is still one hazard and that is the narrow track bridge at the foot of the hill which is the most dangerous to the traveling public and no doubt but what sooner or later some one will have a serious accident on this bridge. ...

The motorists are complaining that it is quite difficult to follow the black surface on the new blotted road bed especially after dark as the darkness of the road bed is most confusing to the eye sight, and it is hard to discern just where the outer edge of the road is located and drivers are liable to go in the ditch. Our solution to this problem, that the motorists will have to drive much slower and keep his eyes on the road. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 15, 1931.

We can't imagine what the poor people will live on this winter. About all they will have to eat is wheat bread, corn bread, pies, cake, flap jacks, sorghum, cider, apples and all kinds of apple butter and jellies, dried apples, canned apples, peaches in all kinds of forms, in fact all kinds of fruits and vegetables that the county has produced. Everybody's cellars are loaded with fruit and vegetables, and for our horses, cattle and hogs and other domesticated animals we have plenty of feed. In fact everything is more plentiful in food lines for both man and beast than ever before in the history of Kansas. The only thing that is to worry our people is money to pay their obligations which they have incurred during the past few years. We are gradually slipping around the corner to good and more prosperous times. The slipping won't come with a sudden thud but will be slow and gradual and lasting, so cheer up, smile, and greet your neighbor with a friendly spirit and demonstrate the fact that this is a mighty good world to live in. ...

During the past few days there has been an epidemic of wasps and yellow jackets, millions of them have been swarming around and they get into people's homes and are quite a pest. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 29, 1931.

Here are some facts for which our county commissioners should be complimented by the tax payers of Jackson county. Just recently they have completed the job of cutting down Chaney hill on the county road across the reservation, they have completely done away with the old road which wound around the hill and which was a torture to horse drawn vehicles as well as to the auto traveling public. The new road is now on the section line and has been brought down to a seven per cent grade and is very easy to negotiate with any kind of vehicle or a heavy wagon load. The roadway is extra wide both in the cut and on the fill and all this magnificent work was accomplished with a most unusually low cost. The cost in years gone by had been figured from \$5000 to \$12,000, but we are most happy to say, and have liberty to say, that the cost was only \$1300 and not of that was in actual money, so the actual

cost was materially less or in other words it only cost each auto owner of Jackson county the tax on about fourteen gallons of gas. ...

Rev. Brown had quite an accident last Sunday evening with his car. He had never driven over the new paving and heard much about the difficult night driving, so he thought he would drive out and try it out from the depot to the Hunter corner and in going down the grade east of the depot his lights went out of commission and he ran into a stone post at the culvert and smashed his bumpers and throw the Reverend against the steering wheel and breaking the wind shield, cutting him on the hand, he had a very narrow escape from a serious injury. *The Jackson County Signal*, November 5, 1931.

The oiled surface highway seems to absorb or kill the lights of motor cars and makes night motoring most difficult and extremely dangerous, and we understand that Ira Taylor, engineer of maintenance for the highway commission is having white posts set about every fifty feet on all curves to help guide and show the motorists the outer edge of the oiled surface. With the oil surface it is difficult see more than 50 feet ahead of your car. *The Jackson County Signal*, November 26, 1931.

Lots of poor people all over the country these times. If you get out on the roads, you will see them traveling here and there and we have them come through Mayetta every once in a while, begging for things to eat. We have plenty of wheat, corn and all kinds of fruit and all our stock has plenty to eat - in fact, everything is plentiful but money and that is hard to get and that is what it takes to pay our taxes and other debts which they have incurred for the past few years. *The Holton Recorder*, November 26, 1931.

The late depression is gradually sliding by. Right now we are on the threshold of the next great period of prosperity and without doubt the period which we are now entering holds out opportunities that will exceed any that the world has witnessed in the past. We have passed through the valley, and have forded the steam of depression and are now getting on dry and will gradually climb to the top of the hill. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 10, 1931.

The misting rain and sleet storm of last Thursday made the streets and the blotter highway very dangerous to navigate and quite a few autos slipped into the ditch, but we have not heard of any serious accidents in this immediate locality. ...

The misting rain freezing on the windshields last Thursday made driving most difficult and many agencies were brought to bear to prevent the ice from forming but the most effective remedy was the use of tallow candles which were placed on the inside on the edge of the windshield and the heat from the candle kept the glass practically free from ice. As usual your humble servant had the candles and we did a fine business in supplying the autoists with candles and no doubt but what our candles saved many accidents if not lives. When you need candles we have them. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 21, 1932.

Our frog pond is full of frogs, and they are all exercising their vocal organs, Friday, February 26th. This is the earliest we have heard frogs holler. The old saying is, they have to have their throats froze shut three times before spring is fully here. Hollyhock leaves are as large as the last silver dollar we saw, meadow larks and snipe are also plentiful, sparrows are laying eggs for the first crop. Maple trees are budding out and dozens of other signs point to an early spring.

Max Hohmbaum while playing golf last Saturday afternoon, February 27, killed a two foot bull snake which was out enjoying the warm sunshine. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 3, 1932.

The latest freak of hitch-hiker was traveling over highway 75 last Monday. He was using two crutches and when no auto was in sight he could walk in fine shape, but let an auto show up which was going in his direction, and he immediately began being very lame. We do not know if he got picked up or not. Nevertheless it was quite a stunt to pull on the autoists. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 17, 1932.

The inhabitants of Mayetta were startled last Friday morning by the constant shrieking of a siren whistle on a runabout automobile which was navigated by two young sheiks who seemed to be enjoying their sport. They came from the direction of Topeka and circled around a few blocks entertaining us with their sirens and then made their escape back to Topeka. The same two boys went south on the highway the night before, one riding a nice looking black horse and the other walking and leading, and seemed to be having the time of their life. We suppose the boys may have treaded the horse for the car. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 31, 1932.

If we are rightly informed the expense of the Mayetta high school for the coming term 1932-33 has had a reduction of about 45 percent compared with the expense of 1930-31 and the grade school has had a reduction of 30 percent for the same time period. This will mean quite a saving to the taxpayers, but it is quite a loss to the teachers. ...

The maintainers of Highway 75 have erected markers at the entrance of each town designating the name of the

town, which is a fine thing to do, as many people pass right by, or through a town and half of them do not know what town they are passing through. They are also busy repainting all the guard rail posts and other signs, which need painting. This work gives many men a job which will enable them to live, and not be idle. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 21, 1932.

As I sit by the window and watch the dust blow by, I wonder if the people of eastern Kansas really know what "windy western Kansas" means.

When I lived in eastern Kansas, I thought those March winds were terrible, but if I were there now I suppose I would think them just samples. Dust storms are frequent here and the wind blows almost every day, starting about eight o'clock and continuing blowing dust until sundown. One day especially, we had a terrible dust storm. The wind had been blowing hard all day and the air was full of dust when the wind changed and started blowing it all back. The sky was black for a long time, and try as I would to rescue the chickens, several blew clear away, also buckets and other articles that we never did find. Later I read in the Recorder of dust storm near Holton and vicinity so supposed the people there got a "taste" of our dust and wondered if our folks were farming part of our wheat ground.

Farm life in western Kansas seems rather lacking after living in eastern Kansas, but I've gradually become accustomed to it. Yet there are things that I still think queer.

The thing I notice most is the scarcity of trees. We have one little lone cottonwood in our yard, the next nearest one being about a mile away. We are lucky to have that because there are lots of farms that don't have any. What do we do for shade? We do without and keep inside as much as possible. Although the days are hot, nights are cool and people who have lived here longer than I say they don't lose nearly as much sleep here as they did in eastern Kansas. I won't argue with them but I prefer those good old shade trees.

A farm isn't complete without a windmill. They aren't equipped with hand pumps but depend upon the wind for water power. The wind pumps the water into a barrel (which is usually partially sunk in the ground), then runs out the overflow into the stock tank. The household supply is obtained from this barrel.

Then there is the loco weed. Some say it grows in eastern Kansas but I never heard of it until I came out here. It is a little fern-leaved plant with purple and white blossoms. If livestock eat this, it is said to go loco or crazy. Farmers hire it cut out of their pastures before the livestock is turned in for the summer.

Sod houses are almost extinct now and frame houses have taken their place. There is a new one about three miles west of here and from its near appearance one wouldn't think it was made of sod.

Since trees are so scarce, lots of people depend upon wild fruit rather than tame varieties because shipped in products are too high to buy. This spring when folks back home wrote of strawberries, cherries, etc., my mouth almost watered because I didn't see a strawberry and cherries sold at \$3.00 a bushel. Wild fruits such as choke cherries, wild plums, currants (gooseberries don't grow here), mulberries, etc., grow on the creek and I have been getting those to can. Even those wild plums sell at \$1.50 and \$2.00 a bushel.

Farming is done on a large scale. A farm is very small it doesn't consist of at least a section of land. Most of the wheat blew out this year; what is left won't be ready for combining for a few weeks yet. Mrs. Leonard Kientz. *The Holton Recorder*, July 14, 1932.

There have been a number of people complaining the past few days on account of warm weather. Some people drink too much water. Be careful about that heat working in the dust. *The Holton Recorder*, July 28, 1932.

There can be no return of prosperity until the prices for farm products and other basic commodities are raised. But today we need something that will save the farmers by raising the price. When you cut the farmer and sell his horse out from under him, you will soon have no country. You have got to reduce his taxes and all other expenses and something should be provided right now. So don't put this off. Now is the time when our legislature or congress can make such laws, so we all can live and have a good country in which to live. *The Holton Recorder*, August 4, 1932.

We are reliably informed that Highway 75, is to receive a new surface treatment of bituminous mat which will give us a much better roadbed and a great improvement over the present roadbed. Work will begin between now and September 1st. This will give a large number of men employment. We hope that when this work is done that the turn in or curve at the depot will receive treatment as it is part of Highway 75. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 11, 1932.

Mayetta citizens were much excited over the report that a traveling man brought into town last Friday morning. About a mile and a half north of Mayetta on Highway 75, on the slope just south of the Mrs. Walch farm he saw crossing the road a snake he estimated from 12 to 15 feet in length and at least six inches in diameter. He could not hit it with his car, without danger of ditching it and having no gun he could not shoot it. A posse will be organized to look for the big snake as it is dangerous to small children and young pigs or chickens. *The Jackson County Signal*,

August 18, 1932.

Our old time and bosom friend, Albert Hunter, can't believe our snake story last week. She seems to think we have too much snake. But we can't doubt the traveling man's word who brought us the particulars. Last Monday morning Albert Jones, a brother-in-law of Mr. Hunter's and the writer were discussing snakes and Mr. Jones and Mrs. George Zellers were at Rocky Ford one day last week and killed a bull snake which measured a few inches over six feet. This snake is undoubtedly one of the off spring of the big snake seen near Mayetta a few days ago. Mr. Hunter then began to tell us of some of the big snakes he had come in contact with in days gone by. He has killed some monsters and he is now beginning to believe there might be some truth in our Mayetta snake, only he thinks it is still over estimated in length. We are in hopes that our boa constrictor can be captured so that Mr. Hunter can be convinced. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 25, 1932.

Jerry Smith on going up to Holton last Friday morning thought he saw a cow crossing on the road on the same side hill where the big snake was seen a couple of weeks ago. Jerry was about a half mile distant from the sight of the cow when he thought he saw it, and on arriving just where he thought the cow crossed the road, Jerry could see no trace of the cow, and Jerry is under the impression that possibly the snake had swallowed the cow. If any of the neighbors in that vicinity have missed a cow they will know where their cow disappeared to and it would undoubtedly give the snake indigestion by over loading the stomach and it would feel so indisposed that it would be an easy manner to capture it. The citizens ought to organize and muster up courage enough to capture this large snake before it does more damage. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 1, 1932.

We are informed that the Derby Grain Co., who for the past three years have operated the Farmer's Elevator have completed their lease and it will cease business at Mayetta. In all probability the farmers will continue the elevator from this time on, unless they lease it to some new firm. Mayetta has for several years had two first class elevators and they have both have done a large business and we hope that they will both continue to run. ...

The poor, down trodden farmer will sell his wheat or corn for less than a half a cent per pound, and then cry about the low price which he gets for his grain. Still he will rush to the grocery stores and willingly pay ten cents per pound for the same grain made up in some kind of breakfast cereal. Why don't you stop eating cereals, cook your own wheat and corn? It makes a much better food that that which you buy in packages with all the nutriment and substance taken out of it. A bushel of wheat would easily serve two hundred people, and it is most

delicious served with cream and sugar the same as any factory breakfast food. Just try it once and see how good it is. ...

The Calvary which took part in the legion activities in Topeka last week also Labor day, passed along highway 75, last Tuesday on route to Onaga, where they take part in the fair which is going on there this week. There were about 300 men and four hundred horses and mules with the cavalry. They were a fine looking bunch of soldiers and the horses all of an excellent quality. The outfit made a procession of about two miles long. They traveled at a rate of about six miles per hour and rested for ten minutes at the end of each hour. A large crowd of Mayetta people were down near the end of the highway to see them pass. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 8, 1932.

We were down one day last week on 75 highway and noticed it was all chopped to pieces. It is a bad road to travel over and somewhat dangerous. We met truck load after truck load of crushed rock coming this way, and they tell me that they are working up about Holton. In my estimation, I don't think they can build a road to hold up some of these heavy trucks when they haul 8 or 10 tons at a load. I don't think they should be allowed to haul such heavy loads over them. Just what they can do about it, we couldn't say. *The Holton Recorder*, September 8, 1932.

The Board of Directors of the Farmers Co-Operative elevator held a meeting last Wednesday afternoon with a view of disposal or continuing operation but did not come to any definite plan. We are informed that a meeting of stock holders will be held at an early date. It is the general opinion of all concerned that the elevator should continue operation if they can get some to do so. Under normal condition there has always been plenty of business for two elevators and competition is the life of trade. ...

After the highway maintainer ran the graders over the road last Sunday it made the road bed just as smooth as glass and was a source of joy to over them. But of course the heavily loaded trucks will soon make them rough as ever. They ought to prohibit heavy trucks from using the roads, make them build and maintain their own roads, or limit their roads to not more than a ton and a half. Wake up legislature and do something for the benefit of your country. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 15, 1932.

Baled prairie hay sold in Mayetta last week for \$2.50 a ton, the lowest price in the history of hay in this community. We have seen loose hay sell for three dollars and up, but never this price on baled hay. The writer one year sold loose prairie hay in the stack for \$20 per ton and the purchaser thought he was getting it cheap at that

price. ...

The neighbors in the vicinity of where the big snake which we mentioned in previous weeks are still keeping close watch for the snake and if it is captured, which we hope it will be, we will let our readers know. They are hoping to capture it alive so they can dispose of it to a Zoo or circus. The snake is still there as there are indication of where it has broken down corn and eaten the corn ears. The supposition is that there will be no hole large enough for the snake to crawl into and they anticipate finding it frozen stiff when they shuck out the corn field. If they find it frozen it will only be a small task to load it on a wagon and take it where it can thaw out. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 22, 1932.

As we were sitting on our front porch early one morning last week, along about 8:30, which is the time we generally get up, we noticed an old gray headed man coming down the street, walking with a cane, all bent over and he had a beard on his face like they wore in olden times. I would judge he was a man near 75 or 80 years of age. It was a pitiful sight to see a man of this age wandering all over the world with no home anywhere to and who didn't know where the next meal was coming from. This has always been the case as long as I can remember and I suppose it will always be like this. I remember many years ago my father never turned any one like this away from his door hungry, always divided with him. We should always think about these things as we don't know how soon we might be in the same fix. It is bad to see so many people out of work and no place to go wandering here and there. There is not much real human labor left, as almost everything is being done by machinery and one man can do as much work as a dozen used to do. Yet they lay it on the government about so many men being out of work. There is plenty of wealth, there are tremendous surpluses of food everywhere and yet people are going hungry for want of food. I hope it will be so everyone can have work. The hungry race need work but an hour a day to supply all its needs. *The Holton Recorder*, October 6, 1932.

These cold frosty mornings remind us that winter is close at hand, so here are a few suggestions that will help us during the winter months:

Keep clothes pins warm. Fingers won't get cold when hanging out clothes. Or rinse clothes out of hot water last and your fingers will keep warm while hanging.

Wash wire clothes lines with hot salt water; will keep clothes from freezing to it.

Take all handkerchiefs and small pieces and pin on the end of a towel before going outside on a cold day. Pin towel to line and save cold fingers.

One-half cup of salt in the last rinse when washing will prevent the clothes from freezing to the line. *The Holton Recorder*, October 13, 1932.

We notice that many farmers are hauling out new lumber also shingles with which they are repairing their farm buildings, getting ready for winter weather, also a considerable number of new corn cribs will have to be built to hold the mammoth corn crop which is now ready to gather. From what we can learn, the farmer is going to hold his corn as long as he can with the hopes of receiving higher prices. Corn huskers will receive from a cent and a half to two cents per bushel for husking. Even at these low prices, a good husker will be able to make a very fair wage, but it will be better to work at these prices than it would be not to work at all, and the farmer can't afford to pay any higher and realize any compensation for his labor and investment. No class of people on earth are any harder hit by the depression than the farmer and it behooves him to save every possible dollar and make it go as far as possible. The farmer is the man who makes business for every other known industry. Help the farmer and he will help you. ...

George Maris of Hoyt brought the large barn on the Grinnell property and has dismantled it and moved it to his farm near Hoyt. This barn was built 30 years ago by Bill Davis, who used to operate a livery stable in the horse and buggy days. By tearing it down makes a great change in the looks of that corner. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 20, 1932.

We can see no good reason why the street lights of Mayetta are put out at nine o'clock. They should at least be left on until ten or eleven o'clock so as to accommodate the public in general, as far as we are personally concerned we don't care when they are put out. We are only looking after the interest of those who do use them. Keep the street lights burning, so as to cast a gleam along the way. We say let there be more light. You know and I know there is no use having street lights unless they are left burning long enough to accommodate the people. Numerous other small towns have an all night service and it don't cost any more than our two or three hour service. Let there be light.

The turn-in at the depot on highway 75 was oiled last Tuesday and we sincerely hope that everyone will now be satisfied. They were all afraid the oil would not be laid and now that it has, we suppose that the people will have no further complaint to offer. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 27, 1932.

Water is getting scarce in places and most of the cisterns are dry. Some farmers are having their corn shucked and

getting it about done. This has been a wonderful fall. Much wood is being cut for fuel. They tell me some chicken thieves are around and it is a very bad thing to think we have some people in the world that try to make their living off of some people. There is a great deal of corn yet in the field to be shucked and a great deal of this corn will be cribbed and held for better prices. Many things that the farmer have to buy are too high compared to what they receive for their products. *The Holton Recorder*, December 8, 1932.

The Rock Island railroad section has been abandoned effective January 1st, 1933, and the foreman, E. R. Parker, has been transferred to the section at Volland, Kansas. Ray Stafford, laborer, has bid in a position at Paxico and will move there at once. We are sorry to see this move come about as we lose six citizens and quite an amount of monthly payroll. This move will make two vacant houses in Mayetta, although they will not be idle for any length of time, as houses are always in demand in Mayetta. This railroad section will be consolidated with the one at Hoyt, and the foreman will take care of the work on about 12 miles of track. The move of consolidating the railway sections is in keeping with the retrenchment which is being made by all the railroads, and is a move which will possibly never be reversed unless the shipping and traveling public patronize the rail roads as in days gone by. Back in the nineties when the writer was agent at Mayetta we have seen from 30 to 40 trains pass through here every 24 hours, but those good old days are gone forever. In those days it was almost impossible to get cars fast enough to take care of business. In September 1896 we billed out 196 cars of prairie hay from Mayetta. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 12, 1933.

Wednesday, February 1, was issuing day for flour and other supplies by the Indian Agency. They issued 167 sacks of flour and much wearing apparel. At least 300 of our Indian people were in Mayetta to receive their allowance of various supplies. It was also pay day to those Indian people who have been working on the improvement of the highways on the reservation. The road work in being done where it is most needed, and much improvement has already been accomplished the work also gives our Indian people employment (as we understand, no white help is employed, which is perfectly proper), and gives them some extra spare money with which to buy the necessaries of life. *The Jackson County Signal*, February 9, 1933.

Eggs, during the bank holiday, were the most plentiful medium of exchange. The Jones store handled over two hundred cases of eggs last week that the people exchanged for groceries. The other merchants also handled a considerable number of cases, as did our cream stations. The good old reliable barnyard hen came to the rescue of our farmers and amply provided them with the necessities of life. ...

Our city officers got tired of the crystal gazers breaking their bottles on the streets of Mayetta, so the Council passed an ordinance to fine any one for breaking glass on our streets. The fine is no less than \$5 nor more than \$25.

...

R. D. Rawlins, Superintendent of the Potawatomie Indians, was at the Agency last weekend. It being a road pay day, which put considerable money into circulation in this vicinity. Wednesday, March 16th is the regular government pay day. The distribution of funds last Wednesday was in payment of the road work by the Indian people which work is being done in conjunction with the government and Jackson county and many roads on the reservation have been greatly benefited by this work and the work was done at a very small cost. Each Indian who desired work was allowed to work a certain length of time thereby giving him employment which furnished him with immediate funds to support himself and family. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 16, 1933.

There were 32 from this place who signed application blanks Thursday morning who want to work on the relief fund. They had to answer a great many questions. One question they didn't have to answer was what political party they belonged to, like they had to last fall when they worked on No. 75. The men are paid 15 cents per hour or \$1.20 per day, with a limit of three or four days a week. Mr. Brown Hedge, who has charge of this work, explained it all how they are to use these men. They are given permission to quit the job if more lucrative employment is offered them, with the privilege of returning to the job later. This is just as fair as it can be. The government wants to do the fair thing and help all those who need help and not let anybody go hungry, but you all must try and help yourselves, that is the way I have always found it. We will admit there are lots of people who aren't able to work. These people are excused and must be helped and that is the way President Roosevelt and Hoover felt about the poor crippled and unfortunate soldiers. That's what the government is doing and they are doing all they can for them, so I am for them. *The Holton Recorder*, March 23, 1933.

Some of those large trees in Mayetta that have been growing ever since the town started, are now being cut down and made into kindling wood. Some of them make good saw logs. *The Holton Recorder*, April 6, 1933.

A cat decoration morn wanted to lunch on a bird and chased the bird to the top of the post office building where the bird had a nest between the post office building and the Mathews building which are only about three or four inches apart and the bird flew down between the building and the cat followed and got so far down that she could

not get back up. Several of the boys tried to rescue her but could not do so and as she could not be rescued alive they had to shoot her and then Mayor Betrsch made an iron hook and removed the carcass and gave it a decent burial.

...

A Shawnee county auto bearing tag 6668 on last Wednesday afternoon ran into a swam of bees just at the edge of Mayetta. It had a lady driver with several other women and children in the car, and the lady driver had the presence of mind enough to stop her car and drive the bees out before they did any damage. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 8, 1933.

The heat is sure ripening the grain when the mercury soars above 100 in several places. Never knew the like this early in the season. This heat is rolling across this section from north to south and this will cause the harvest to be here some ten days earlier than usual. Down on the bottoms there are 1000 acres of wheat that will be ready to cut several days before the Fourth. ...

The free picture shows finally got started last Thursday night with one of those record crowds they used to have last summer. All feared there wasn't near enough seats to accommodate the crowd and some were disappointed. The show was held at the same grounds as last summer. They did intend to have it just across the street from the Hotel, but they saw it wasn't near big enough place. *The Holton Recorder*, June 15, 1933.

There were 800 to 1,000 people in Mayetta Thursday night to see the free picture show. They think they need about 300 hundred more seats put up. Our streets were lined from one side to another with cars. The people seemed to enjoy themselves very much and we are always glad to see people have a good time as long as it is in the right way. *The Holton Recorder*, June 22, 1933.

A stranger who appeared in town one day last week caused considerable excitement and speculation among a number of timid citizens. Many of them were under the impression that he might be "Pretty Boy Floyd" and thought he might be trying to locate some depredation for future date. Several of our bravest men hunted up their artillery and got it all in readiness should any indications of a raid appearing they all had their point of vantage picked out so if any bombardment took place that none of our local men were in great danger if any trouble of any sort took place. But as luck would have it, the stranger was a peaceable and quiet citizen who was here looking for his mother whom he was meeting here and when she arrived all the anxiety and fear of our inhabitants began to surmise that he is either a bandit, new bootlegger and a plain clothes spotter looking for local bootleggers. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 29, 1933.

People of Mayetta are doing most anything to get a good night's rest these hot nights. These warm nights are conducive to thought along lines of comfortable places to sleep. They moved their beds to the outside places on the front and back porches. Some people are now sleeping out in porch swings and on the porch floors and any place to get a good night's rest. *The Holton Recorder*, July 20, 1933.

Today in hot weather people live in air conditioned houses, leave their homes in their air conditioned cars, drive to air conditioned stores or work places and then drive back to their air conditioned homes. Before air conditioning people had to cope by keeping the doors and windows of the house closed up to keep the cooler air of the night in and the heat of the day out, and living mainly on the outside in the evening where they could catch a cooling breeze.

Getting a good nights sleep during nights when the temperature remained high was almost impossible. The rich people had built-in sleeping porches in their houses, but the rest had to find other ways to get through the night, by sleeping outside on porches, moving a bed outside, or just sleeping on the ground. I have spent nights sleeping on top of a hay wagon out in the yard. I was often awakened by the birds singing - not an unpleasant thing - as they believe in getting an early start on the day.

Townspople tried to get their outside work done early in the day or late in the afternoon when it was cooler. Cooking was kept to a minimum and perhaps the cooking stove would be set up outside.

A common sight was to see people sitting out under a tree in lawn chairs or on their porches in the evening sipping big glasses of iced tea, or lemonade, with big pitchers of either setting on the tables, slices of lemon and ice floating in them and all so cold that beads of sweat formed and ran down the sides.

Because people were outside so much more then than today there was more interaction between neighbors. Out for an evening stroll they would stop to talk and exchange gossip and they got to know their neighbors as people, not just someone who lived nearby.

President Roosevelt and his administration, through the National Recovery Act, have pointed the way for America's return to prosperity. Every merchant in Mayetta are members of the NRA and are doing everything

possible to do-operate with the President's plans. We sincerely hope that our customers will heartily co-operate with us that we may all help to speed up the return of better times. ...

Our local barbers do not have to enter into the new code agreement as they have a code of their own which has been in effect for some time past. You can get a first class hair cut for 25 cents and a first class shave for 10 cents in Mayetta. Many people come down from Holton to get their tonsorial work done. ...

The Rock Island road burner made its second trip over the road last Saturday and it certainly put the kibosh on all types of vegetation and cleaned the track of all weeds. The burner is handled by two men and a pilot and cover about twenty five miles per day doing the work of about two thousand men. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 10, 1933.

Beginning Monday, Aug. 14 all of the Mayetta business men members of the NRA will open their places of business at 8 a. m. and close at 6 p. m. the first five days of the week and on Saturdays they will open at 8 a. m. and close at 10 p. m., and it is earnestly hoped that their numerous customers will fall in line and help them to observe the national recovery act as laid down by our President. Everybody would willingly stand behind the management of war against depression. United we stand: divided we fall. We believe that the NRA to be the best solution to a speedy recovery. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 17, 1933.

More than 750 unemployed men are being provided with work on state highways, starting this week, and lasting from one to six months, according to the project, because the State Highway Commission and the Kansas Federal Relief committee have joined hands in nine unemployment relief projects in as many counties.

The work is being done in communities that could not otherwise afford to furnish relief work. Under the working agreement between the highway commission and the relief committee, the highway commission pays for materials, equipment, and supervision and the relief committee deducts wages of hand laborers from each county's monthly allotment of federal relief funds. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 7, 1933.

Highway 75, which passes by our house handled last Friday from 6 o'clock in the morning until two o'clock Saturday morning in the neighborhood of 1500 automobiles which were going to and from the Topeka Fair. In the evening from 5:45 until six o'clock there were 55 cars that went north and about half of that number going south which made practically six cars per minute passing a given point. If every highway leading into Topeka handled as many cars accordingly as 75 there must have been a record breaking crowd in Topeka last Friday. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 21, 1933.

Sunday opened in the morning as if we were going to have a beautiful day for motoring, but along about noon the wind shifted to the northwest and the air filled with dust. By six o'clock in the evening it was a typical Kansas dust storm, blowing a gale and the air was filled with dust that made motorists use great precaution in driving against the wind and dust. The wind reached a velocity of about 40 miles per hour, broke many tree limbs and blew away every thing that was loose. The wind subsided about midnight and got much cooler. Monday morning there was a quarter inch of ice. *The Jackson County Signal*, November 16, 1933.

The Bender elevator shipped out one load of corn, last Saturday. This is the first car load of corn to be shipped from Mayetta this season. Both our elevators have brought several thousands of bushels, but all has been disposed of to the local trade. ...

The First National Bank received the tax records for this vicinity a few days ago and we find that property taxes are 14-³/₄ percent lower this year than last year, which will make the tax payer feel much relieved and make him feel more like paying his taxes in full if it is in his power to do so. The property owners still can stand another like reduction next year. Property tax has to be relieved so the property owners can exist and hold on to their property. One thing, the valuation is too high. We do not know of a farm in this community that would sell for the assessed valuation. *The Jackson County Signal*, November 30, 1933.

Friday, December 1, Mayetta and vicinity received the first moisture of any consequence for over a month. The rain fell amounting to about one inch, coming slowly and the ground absorbing every drop, making the dirt roads quite slippery and also kept the farmers out of their corn fields. What we need is a good steady rain of at least three inches to thoroughly soak up the earth and replenish stock water and fill up cisterns and wells. Water for domestic use is getting very scarce and will work a hardship on everybody this winter if we don't receive sufficient rainfall to fill up our wells and creeks. ...

We are informed that the Civil Works projects working out of Mayetta have 50 men on the payroll who are paid 40 cents per hour, thereby earning \$12 per week. This is wonderful to those who are benefiting from this work. One gang of men are working on the county highway between Mayetta and Denison. The other gang of men are working on the county road across the reservation. We understand that both of the roads are going to be sanded from Denison to Kidville schoolhouse where it intersects with the Delia to Holton road. We are also informed that the bridge at the foot of Chaney hill on the reservation is to be made a standard bridge and the fill to be made considerably higher,

which also will reduce the grade of the hill. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 7, 1933.

It is rumored that the city council are contemplating the purchase of a chemical fire truck; also the installation of four or more cisterns for fire protection. This is a good move as Mayetta never has had fire protection of any kind. They could issue bonds to cover the cost of protection and the cost to the taxpayers would be insignificant and the bonds to be spread out over a term of ten years would make their payment very easy. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 28, 1933.

The road men who are working on the Denison-Mayetta highway are busily engaged in removing rock from the road bed, setting back fences, pulling hedges and straightening the roadway. This road when sanded and finished will be an important feeder to Highway 75. A large force of men are also working on the county road across the reservation, removing rock and improving the road bed in many places. We understand this road is to be sanded from Mayetta to the Kidville road where it intersects with the Delia to Holton road, and when finished will give us a short cut to St. Marys and the west. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 4, 1934.

Some evidence of the four cisterns that the town is planning to put down soon is seen. A little work is being done and they are getting the brick on the ground. Just how soon this work will start, putting them down, we couldn't say. These cisterns, when full of water, will be a great advantage in case of fire. ...

I see all the relief men that are working on the roads have been cut in wages 50 per cent. It makes it 15 hours a week and they now draw \$6.00 per week instead of \$12.00. Just how long this will last we couldn't say, so men, save your money the best you can, the rainy day will finally come to the best of us. That is the way I find it in my business. *The Holton Recorder*. January 25, 1934.

Mary Huntoon and Marguerite Nellis were in Mayetta last Friday making etchings of various Indian people, also taking a street scene of Main street. Both of these ladies use pencil sketches to reproduce the picture. In just a few moments Miss Nellis could make a most striking likeness of the individual she was drawing. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 25, 1934.

I see by the papers that Uncle Sam is going to open up thousands of acres of land to all unemployed and give them big industrial jobs. These old jobs are gone forever perhaps and they are to have a new start from Uncle Sam. It is to be a long range movement and will be started on a small scale. I think this is a wise thing, to start people out and make them homes and a good place to eat and sleep, give them some good cows and chickens and pigs and make them self supporting again by farming. By doing this for a while we might not have to give them any more than we are giving them for relief. *The Holton Recorder*, February 22, 1934.

Postmaster General Farly has issued an order that all postal employees throughout the country will be required to take one day of payless furlough each month for the next four months, and that all vacations between now and July 1 will be postponed until after that date. If the taking of a vacation would help the hiring of extra help, the payless furlough of one day a month for four months will make a saving in the postal department amount to \$9,000,000 for the remainder of the fiscal year. In the Mayetta post office alone it would mean the saving to the government of considerably over \$100. We are of the same opinion of our radio idol, Will Rogers, in his last Sunday night talk. If the government is losing money on its present system of handling the mail, why doesn't it raise the price of postage to meet its current expenses? ...

Mayetta has four of the best barbers shops in Kansas, and our barbers knowing that Old Man Depression was dying very rapidly, concluded to give the old man another blow, so lowered the price of shaving to 10 cents. The lowering of the price of shaving will undoubtedly have a tendency to lower greatly the sale of safety razors. ...

Mayor C. G. Bertsch started a force of men to work last Monday morning digging the four cisterns for fire protection. The cisterns will be 14 feet deep and 14 feet in diameter, each holding about 500 barrels when full. Two of the cisterns are placed on the south side of Main street and two on the north side. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 8, 1934.

At a meeting of the Council of the City of Mayetta Monday night, March 5, 1934, an ordinance was passed prohibiting the running at large of any form of livestock or poultry.

The annual tax on dogs is due and should be paid to the City Clerk or Street Commissioner at once. Thirty days time will be allowed, after which all dogs not having licenses shall be killed. ...

The city is busy this week putting down cisterns. They are putting down the one on the south side first. They have several men working at it. They are hauling the dirt away in wagons. The one they will put down on the back lot of Dr. Jones' will make it necessary to remove these big trees and Dr. Jones will have no shade to sit under next summer. There will be many changes made putting in these four cisterns. *The Holton Recorder*, March 8, 1934.

Fire cistern No. 1 which is located on the back end of the Masonic lot is practically done. Only the top remains

to be put on and it will be ready for receiving water. Cistern No. 2 on the rear end of Dr. Jones' lot will be ready to be walled up by the time this appears in print. The other two cisterns for the north side of Main street will be dug just as soon as the first two are completed. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 22, 1934.

During our 53 years in Kansas we never experienced so many continuous days of dust storms as the past week has been. Everybody is hoping the rain will come to wash the dust off the growing vegetation which is badly in need of water, but according to all weather reports there is no immediate signs of rain. One inch of rain at the present time would mean millions of dollars to the farmers of Kansas. During the past 12 mo. The writer has a record of 17 inches of rainfall and 18 inches of snowfall, and under normal conditions we should have had at least three times that amount of moisture. ...

The Home Makers club dance on last Tuesday night was a grand success in every particular. A large crowd was in attendance and everybody enjoyed a most pleasant evening. We understand that the proceeds will be applied on securing a chemical fire engine for the City of Mayetta. ...

Two tennis courts have been made at the high school grounds. We are informed that the township graded the grounds and that federal aid will install the equipment. This move will furnish a nice place for the entertainment of those who care to indulge in the game of tennis. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 15, 1934.

On August 24, 1925, the Grundeman Construction Co. started the paving of Main street from the east to the west end. It is three and a half blocks of the best brick paving in Kansas. Up to this time not a single brick shows the wearing effect of traffic. It cost the abutting taxpayers quite a sum of money, but none of them seem to regret the expense and certainly would not do away with the paving. There will be only one more year to pay the paving tax, and that will greatly reduce the taxes of those who had to pay for the paving. The paving was finished on September 17th, and the Commercial club is contemplating plans to celebrate along about that date next year. ...

Our local weather observer (the writer) reports the rainfall from last Saturday evening to Monday morning as one and three-eighths inches. The rainfall was slow and steady and practically all absorbed by the ground. The ground is now thoroughly soaked down to the subsoil and will be most beneficial to all growing vegetation. There was no violence of either wind or lightening in this vicinity. *The Jackson County Signal*, May 17, 1934.

All of our four fire cisterns are down and they have been spouted and at ready to receive the water. These cisterns have been under construction for this long time and they are all glad that this work is finished and the work has been satisfactory. ...

The schools have closed for another year, with a good report from all, especially the Mayetta High with an addition of 36 Indians. Many of them were never in a public school before, which speaks well for the efficiency of the teachers, especially Prof. Baldwin, who has kept in line with no partiality shown between race or standing. *The Holton Recorder*, May 31, 1934.

Wednesday of last week was clinic day at the Indian Agency. A government dentist was there to look after those who were troubled with their teeth, and many of the Indians took advantage of the opportunity to have their teeth attended to. ...

The airdrome free moving picture show was resumed last Thursday evening to a large and appreciative audience. There is plenty of seating capacity for about 500 people. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 14, 1934.

(Herty the Hired girl, last weeks Recorder) wants to know where all the hams and shoulders went out of the surplus hogs which were butchered by order of the government to feed the needy, (well, Mabel) just drop into the butcher shop and you will find out what becomes of them, the packers undoubtaby made meat out of them to sell to the innocent consumer. We are paying from twenty to thirty cents per pound for them and the shoulders and sausage made up in a delicate sandwich spread at about forty cents per pound. *The Holton Signal*, June 21, 1934.

The past few days have been exceedingly warm and we had to lay away our wool blanket and our overcoat. The thermometer has been playing around 100 or better for the past ten days or more, and no prospects in sight for any cooler weather. ...

We have very good recollections of very dry weather in Kansas during the past 53 years, but at no time has the present record been broken. In the past we have had an excellent trade in razor blades, but the farmers say that it is so dry now that even their whiskers won't grow. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 5, 1934.

The rain last Friday evening was preceded by a heavy dust storm which broke hundreds of tree limbs, and also wrecked quite a number of old sheds and barns and tore the shingles from a few houses. The dust storm was followed by about an eighth of an inch of rain which did not help the corn or other vegetation. It now looks as if the corn crop would be a total failure, and will not even make fodder. Stock water get scarcer every day, and with the dried up pastures and the shortage of water the farmers are almost frantic as to what to do with their livestock. The prairie grass is so dried up that it would now burn like in the fall of the year. The extreme heat and dryness is making the

trees shed their leaves, and even the cockleburs can't grow on account of lack of moisture. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 19, 1934.

They tell of some wonderful things which torrid heat is doing to various things, but here is one that is true, (we can prove our statement by Clyde Peters), last Wednesday evening we found a snake about two feet long that the excessive heat had literally cooked it. It showed no marks of any violence of having killed. It was simply a case of sunstroke. ...

The last rain which laid the dust fell July 5th. The corn and other forage crops are completely burned up with the torrid heat which we have experienced during the past month. Farmers and all others are at their wits end wondering how we will exist until the coming winter or until we can make a crop. The only thing we can do is to make the best of the situation. ...

Six of our Mayetta boys got a job on the rock crusher at Elmont. They left last Friday for their new work. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 26, 1934.

Six more of our Mayetta men secured employment last week on the rock crusher which is located south of Hoyt. This now makes 12 men from here who are working on the rock crusher. Our men work from 12 o'clock midnight to eight o'clock in the morning, and the crusher runs in three shifts of eight hours each. The crushed rock is being laid on Highway 24, west of Holton. ...

We are reliably informed that the relief work for the Indian people was resumed on August 1st, and that enough money has been appropriated by the government to keep the relief work going to next March. This act will provide employment and money for the substance of the Indian people during the coming winter season. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 26, 1934.

They are digging another community well over at Tweedy and Harrington's. they will soon have it dug. They are digging community wells all over the country. *The Holton Recorder*, August 2, 1934.

They are cleaning out the big well that R. L. Miller dug several years ago on John Dutt's place where Thede Potter now lives and they aim to make a community well out of it. It is 40 feet deep and 10 feet across with 20 feet of water taken out. Mr. Miller once watered 1,000 head of hogs from this well and when they graded No. 75 they watered 100 head of horses and mules out of it. It was the largest well in the country at that time. Whether it will fill up again to 20 feet this dry weather is a question. *The Holton Recorder*, August 16, 1934.

The unheard of drough received a death blow last Sunday evening, September 2nd. Heavy rains began forming in the west and northwest about 3 p. m., and at 6:30 a terrific rain storm hit Mayetta and vicinity. The rain fell in torrents and the wind blew quite severely, breaking small limbs from trees and a few hail also fell which did some damage to window lights in several houses, also breaking some telegraph poles and about a dozen telegraph poles were blown down about three miles south of Mayetta, and we are informed that it blew down the barn on the Tobin farm. The heaviest part of the wind storm seemed to be south of Mayetta. The roaring of the heavy rain, wind and hail could easily be heard before the storm struck and many people were quite alarmed and sought refuge in their caves. There was no electric disturbance to speak of. It was a typical northwester rain storm. The rainfall was in the neighborhood of one and a half to two inches. Our rain gauge which was right out in the open where the wind could blow the hardest, measured one and half inches, and the gauge which was protected, measured two inches. This is the heaviest rainfall we have received since Aug. 31, 1932. It will undoubtedly help fall pastures and make the wheat come up in good shape, also make a good cutting of alfalfa and it is to be hoped that it will help revive the trees which were suffering from lack of moisture. The ground will now be in turnips and other quick growing vegetables. Quite a few windows were broken by the hail in both the high school and grade school and fresh reports are coming in all the time about the damaged windows and some damage to house roofs. The rain made everybody feel happy and especially the farmers and we are hoping we will get more such rains in the immediate future. ...

Jerry Smith has purchased the box car which the Rock Island used the past 20-odd years as a bunk car and will convert it into wood sheds and other outbuildings on his town property. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 6, 1934.

Mayetta and vicinity received a rain of two and three-eighths on late Saturday afternoon and evening. This is the heaviest rainfall we have received since July 3, 1932. It began to rain Saturday about noon, coming down slowly and about six o'clock the rain came down in torrents at intervals. The ground is pretty well soaked and the wheat is looking much better. Creeks were running bank full and cisterns were filled. At times the eave spouts on houses could not take care of the downpour. *The Jackson County Signal*, November 22, 1934.

One thing the property owners of the property abutting the main street brick pavement has to be thankful for, is that 1934 is the last and final payment of taxes on the paving and this will mean a big saving to the tax payer next

year. If we were rightly informed the paving was a little more than one third of their property tax. At times it was very hard work to pay the tax, but none of them would be willing to go back to the old mud streets with its knee deep mud. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 27, 1934.

The following commodities were handled by our Rock Island station during the year 1934; received, shipped in sand 12 car loads; bran 9 cars; meat one car; salt one car; cotton cake 1 car, Hay 11 cars, coal 20 cars; gasoline 2 cars, cement 3 cars, lumber 1 car, corn 13 cars; total of 74 car loads received. Shipped out: cattle 56 cars, corn 7 cars, wheat 7 cars; total of 70 cars forwarded, making a total of 144 cars in and out during the year. In 1933 there were 100 car loads shipped out and 65 cars received. Owing to the extreme drought during 1934 we call the past year record extraordinary good. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 10, 1935.

Quite a number of people who have reached the age of 60 to 65 in this locality are anxiously looking forward to the passing of the old age bill. [Social Security] Many of them are building air castles as to what they will do when they receive it. Our opinion is, that the bill will not pass and even though it should, there will be a lot of disappointed people. We are inclined to believe that only about one out of ten persons who have reached the required age will be able to secure assistance from the bill if it passes and becomes law. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 31, 1935.

The warm weather last Sunday melted all the ice covered ground and trees. The ice was a good quarter inch thick on the trees and there being no wind, no tree limbs were broken. All of the moisture from the ice was absorbed by the ground. ...

It looks as if Mayetta had fully recovered from the late depression, as every business building and every residence is now occupied, there is not a vacant building in town and several more could be rented if they were available. *The Jackson County Signal*, February 14, 1935.

Most everybody is now hollering about the high cost of living. They have forgotten that prices 17 years ago were from two to three times as high as today. The following are the wholesale prices of a few articles: Auto tires for Ford cars, \$19.00. Big T Flour, \$2.65 per sack, dry salt pork sides, 25 cents, bulk sausages 24-½ cents, smoked hams 32 cents, smoked bacon 41 cents, K. V. compound, 24 cents, and people just fell over themselves to pay the merchants a legitimate profit on these commodities, and in those days you were restricted on how much you could purchase at one time. Sugar was retailing from three to four pounds for a dollar, everybody was happy and had cash to buy at any old price. ...

President Roosevelt has put forth several schemes that have worked fairly well, but we do wish he would issue an iron clad order for the products of the cow and hen to maintain a price in keeping with the cost of production and leave a little profit to the producers. Both cream and eggs are making quite a rapid decline in price early everyday. ...

Slight tremors of an earthquake was felt in Mayetta about five o'clock last Friday morning, March 1. some thought it was the vibration of the earth from a heavy freight train going through., but no trains went through at that time. The writer thought it sounded like a sudden gust of wind which only lasted a second, or maybe the sound of a heavy transport truck going by. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 7, 1935.

Friday, March 15 was one of the worst dust storms ever experienced by us in 54 years of living in Kansas. The strong wind broke many tree limbs from the trees which were killed by the last years drouth and many composition roof shingles were torn off a few buildings. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 21, 1935.

The dust storm Wednesday, March 20 was the worst of any we have experienced in 54 years of life in Kansas. Visibility was reduced to 200 feet, and the darkness was that of semi-twilight so that electric lights had to be turned on. Autos crept along at a snail's pace with the headlights burning. The dust creped into every crack and crevice, and everything was coated with a thick layer of dust, making untold work for the women folks. One redeeming feature of the dust storm - it was not accompanied by a high wind which usually accompanies a dust storm. Much damage was done to the growing wheat and vegetation. ...

We are informed that all government relief work on the reservation has been postponed indefinitely. So as to give the Indian people an opportunity to put in their gardens and other spring work such as corn crops, and work will probably be resumed about June 1. The Indian people certainly appreciate the opportunity of being able to do this relief work, thereby enabling them to have the necessary money to live on during these strenuous times. ...

Last Tuesday was Indian relief work payday and a large number of our Indian people were in town doing their shopping and the merchants done a nice business. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 28, 1935.

Mayetta and this vicinity experienced one of the worst dust storms in all its history. It was compared with western Kansas. At times you could not see in your homes. One who has never had an experience with a western dust storm can have no real conception of what it means. *The Holton Recorder*, March 28, 1935.

The big boa constrictor (snake) which we have told you about before has probably been exterminated. Last Wednesday as Everett Martin and Bill Manis were going home, in the road just south of Mike Fitzgerald's home they saw a big snake crossing the road which they ran over with their car stunning the snake by grinding him with the rear wheels of the car and Manis got out and finished the snake with a club. It was a large bull snake measuring six feet and seven inches in length. Both men said it was the largest snake they had ever seen. ...

Jess Willard, ex-champion prize fighter of the world, was a caller for a few minutes in Mayetta Monday. We understand that Jess was on his way to Omaha where he was to referee a fistic encounter in that city. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 14, 1935.

Mayetta has four large fire cisterns all full of water, but no equipment to fight fire with. Last summer we were all worked up to a high tension about fire protection and the city got busy immediately and put in the four cisterns and were told that we would also get equipment. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 13, 1935.

The fire in the Dutt store last Friday morning and its timely discovery should wake up our city council and others that Mayetta is sorely in need of some kind of fire fighting equipment. But we suppose that we must have a fifty or seventy-five thousand dollar fire before there is any action taken along fire fighting lines. Any more than we now have which is four fire cisterns with no way of getting water out of them by dipping it with a rope and bucket. We need a chemical engine and an electric pump and hose enough to reach any and all business buildings. Let's us get busy and purchase some equipment to fight the mighty demon fire. Don't wait until we are all burned up and then get protection. Now is the time to act. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 8, 1935.

You will hear the people berating the government on account of hard times and no work to be had. We have tried for the past six months to get someone to chop down dead Maple trees and work them up into stove wood, but up to the present time we have been unable to induce anyone to work. We could furnish a man a couple of weeks work if he will cut this wood. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 15, 1935.

It has been definitely settled and all arrangements completed that work will begin Sept. 5, on the highway running from Mayetta west across the reservation, intersecting with the Holton to Delia road at the Kidsville school house. The right of way will be 50 feet wide and the road bed 24 feet wide covered with crushed rock. It will take possibly a year to complete the work and will give work to 150 Indians during its construction. ...

The new rock road across the reservation and highway 75 will give Mayetta egress to north, south east and west on all-weather roads which will be greatly appreciated by all those who use automobiles. ...

Last Saturday morning Tom Robson was getting his car filled with gas at the Slattery garage and Connie was busy filling the tank when Tom wanted to smoke a cigarette, struck a match on the rear fender and fluey, the gas ignited and Connie jerked out the hose and the gas splashed over his legs and he executed a war dance, finally putting it out but severely burning both his legs from shoe tops to knees. It was a narrow escape for both Connie and the garage. Tom had presence of mind to place his hand over the intake of the tank which smothered the fire in the tank. ...

With plans going ahead for a new gymnasium and auditorium, including rooms and equipment for Vocational Agriculture, we have every reason to believe that Mayetta Rural High School is looking forward to a most successful year. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 29, 1935.

Our efficient city council are now the proud possessors of an up-to-date fire fighting equipment. The engine will throw a stream of water equal in force with any large metropolitan equipment. They have 500 feet of hose and can throw water over any building in town. We also have four big fire cisterns filled with water. The city is going to build a building to shelter the equipment. The building will be of sufficient dimensions that we can accommodate the holding of city, or state elections which is a place we have been sorely in need of in the past. The city council will also hold its meetings in the new fire station. We sincerely hope that we will never have to use the fire engine, but in case we do, we have protection. ...

Again Lorraine Haveley wins the grand prize of \$100.00 in the national sewing contest sponsored by the Household Magazine which was held in the WIBW radio station at Topeka last Saturday. Dresses by 200 other contestants from every state in the union were entered in the contest. ... Miss Haveley has won prizes in every contest which she has entered and is acknowledged as the leading designer of women's dresses. She is now at K. S. A. C. in Manhattan where she is taking a special course in designing of women's and children's dresses. She is the daughter of Mary Haveley and is a graduate of our high school and has been at the head of our local 4-H club for the past few years. ...

The Home-makers club have turned over to the city of Mayetta \$177.85 as their donation to the fire department which the city has just installed. The ladies of the club are to be congratulated on their untiring efforts in raising this liberal donation. ...

There is quite some agitation of Mayetta putting in a water works system and the laying of water mains and placing a hydrant on every corner, also installing a sewage system. Now if we could get a water works and sewage and then get some gas company to put in gas, then Mayetta would be right up to date with any city in Kansas. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 26, 1935.

Flies are driving horses and cattle almost to distraction. They swarm on the animals like bees around a hive. The farmers who are working in the fields with their teams say it is impossible to control their horses, they get so excited over the flies that they have to unhitch them and turn them out to pasture or shut them up in a dark barn. And cattle are simply frantic; it is impossible for them to graze during the day and there is no relief from the pests. Pastures with high weeds offer some relief as the cows will run frantically through the weeds and lie down in the thickest weed patches. The cattle do their grazing after dark when the flies don't seem to bother them. The fly pest greatly reduces the flow of milk. The only place that the flies seem to bother is around livestock as there are very few of them around the houses. *The Holton Recorder*, September 26, 1935.

Mayetta shares in the "Kansas" share in allotments of nearly ten million dollars, the WPA allotment of \$24,545 to rural high school district No. 5 for construction of combined auditorium and gymnasium and vocational agricultural building, has been allowed and work will begin as soon as possible which undoubtedly will be by November 1. Our rural high school board are to be congratulated upon their untiring efforts in securing this building for our High school. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 3, 1935.

There was a force of men here last week who rebuilt the loading platform of the Rock Island stock yards. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 10, 1935.

The city dads got out the new fire equipment last Wednesday to test out what it could do, in case it was needed. It was the first time any of the boys had ever handled a fire fighting machine, and they made all connections in a remarkably short time and with a few more practices will be able to connect up in less than half the time. The pressure was exceedingly good and they are able to throw two streams of water about 100 feet. Everybody was pleased with the demonstration and the equipment is well worth what it cost. It is hoped we will never have to use it, but in case we do, we have protection. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 17, 1935.

Quite a novel sight in Mayetta last Monday was two young buffaloes who were enroute to Iowa. They were exhibition animals and were broke to ride, drive and many other novel stunts. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 24, 1935.

Sheep killing dogs are rampant in this neighborhood. One got in Mary Haveley's flock last week and killed one and crippled another. The sheep owners are up in arms and we pity the dog who is caught in the act of molesting sheep. If you don't want to lose your dog keep him at home as he will certainly be killed if found in any ones sheep lot. ...

Tom Marshall has the contract for erecting the new City Fire Station and office building and work began last Tuesday morning. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 31, 1935.

Evert Martin has one of the most, if not the only, unique dog in the state of Kansas. It is a white and black spotted terrier, bobtailed, and has a very high degree of intelligence. He is a most ardent auto rider, always riding on top of the car and occasionally on the hood, - but nine times out of ten he will be seen riding on the top. It matters not where Everet goes, Topeka or Kansas City, you will find the dog riding on top and he can balance himself like a sailor. When he comes to town he will follow Evert around and make friends with everybody, and after he has visited everyone that will pet him he will hunt up Evert's car and gets on top and lays down until the car is ready to go home. When you see a car coming with a dog riding on its top you can just bet it is Evert and his dog. Evert was down to Overbrook a few days ago and Mr. and Mrs. Appier (who used to live in Mayetta) saw a car coming with a dog on its top and they says, "There comes Evert Martin." They knew him from a distance by the dog riding on top of the car. ...

The sheep killing dog is still at loose and all sheep owners are patiently waiting for him. A sheep killing dog is a menace to sheep society, and if you have a good family dog you had better keep him home for the sheep owners may get his scalp. So don't blame any one but your self if your dog is molesting sheep and gets a dose of lead. *The Jackson County Signal*, November 7, 1935.

It has been brought to our attention that many people, not knowing the assessed valuation of the Mayetta High School District, are unable to figure out the cost of the proposed Vocational Agriculture, Gymnasium Building to the individual taxpayer.

The architects estimate of this building was \$21,500, but the W. P. A. authorities figure to insure finishing and

equipping the building, we should allow \$24,545. Of this amount \$11,045 be given to us by direct grant from the government and does not have to be repaid. It is necessary that we issue bonds to cover our share of \$13,500. ... Another thing that might well be mentioned is, if these bonds fail to carry it will be necessary for the school board to go ahead and construct a vocational Agriculture Building and equip it and finance this by a direct levy and without government aid.

We haven't figured on the cost of such a building but the vocational part of the building we are planning is a shop 30 feet by 50 feet, equipped with benches, carpenter tools and wood working equipment and some tools of other trades and it is far better than we could possibly buy if forced to finance it alone. *The Jackson County Signal*, November 28, 1935.

Our City Dads had determined to erect a suitable edifice for the purpose of housing the city's belongings, and for that purpose collected together materials of sand, cement, stone, lumber and hollow stone blocks. It is situated upon the lot near where the Exchange Bank used to be, and next door to where Clark Coleman has his produce station. It was began in the month of November, 1935, forty-nine years after Mayetta was founded, and will be finished in the month of December, 1935, seventeen years and one month after the Armistice was signed. ... When the edifice is finished the City Dads have decreed that the new fire equipment shall be housed therein, together with all other tools belonging to the city. The edifice has the dimensions of eight ax handles in length and six and one-half ax handles in width, and four ax handles from the floor to the eaves of the canopy. ...

Twenty-four men are now employed quarrying rock on the highway east of town. As soon as enough rock is quarried out a crusher will be installed and the crushed rock applied on the highway. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 5, 1935.

Mayetta Rural high school district No. 5, held a bond election Friday, Dec. 13th, for the purpose of building a new Agricultural building. Three hundred and forty three votes were cast, two hundred and thirty-eight voted against and one hundred and five voted for the building. The bonds were defeated a little more than two to one. The tax payers were not in the mood to vote any more taxes on themselves. ...

The Mayetta fire department put on a practice stunt last Monday afternoon. All the boys are new at the business, but they did remarkably well for their first practice. Each man has a certain duty to perform and after a few more lessons they will know what to do in case there should be a fire. We hope that the boys will never have to be called upon to fight a fire, but in case they are, they will do their utmost to handle the situation. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 19, 1935.

One of the greatest and most appreciated New Year's gifts which was ever bestowed upon the farmers was the one we got New Year's day in the shape of a twelve inch snow which began falling about sundown and continued through out the night, covering mother earth with a mantle of white. The snow is what we call a wet snow and not a breath of wind and was of a very heavy nature, breaking down telephone and telegraph wires and somewhat crippled the electric line for a short while Thursday morning and the weight of the snow also broke tree limbs and everybody was busy early Thursday morning clearing walks and making paths so they could get to their barns and traffic on the highways was impeded to a large extent, many cars sliding off the roads into the ditch. ...

We are informed that a rock crusher is now being operated and crushed rock will be laid on the Mayetta to Denison road, beginning at the south east corner of Mayetta and running east two miles to the Ben Salts corner, and as soon as weather will permit crushed rock will also be applied to the road running across the reservation.

The recent heavy snow has undoubtedly caused more cars to slide in the ditch than all the rest of the snows put together since the highways have been completed. The snow was so deep that the drivers could not estimate how close they were to the edge of the shoulders of the road and of course the big trucks thought they were privilege characters and the drivers of smaller cars had to avoid being hit by the road hogs and when the small cars went into the ditch he invariably has to call the wrecker to get him out. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 9, 1936.

Motorist, take warning, the new fire station is nearly completed and when it is occupied by the fire equipment, it will be just too bad for you if you park your car in front of the fire station. So be careful and not obstruct the driveway. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 16, 1936.

This is what we call "chicken hearted." Claude Martin brought a fat hen for their Sunday dinner and on the way to the chopping block to cut her head off she began talking and asking him if he was going to cut her head off. She asked several times. His heart began failing, so he sit down and listened to her sing for 30 minutes. Finally Grandma Airhart, his good old neighbor, came out to see why he didn't go on and kill the chicken. After asking him what the trouble was, he said, "Grandma, have you an old rooster you can trade me for this hen? I can't kill her." "Sure," said Grandma, "I will trade you two young roosters for the big fat hen." "Well, just go ahead and cut their heads off, as I don't want to have any more argument with any chicken." So Claude and his family had the chicken dinner after all. *The Holton Recorder*, January 23, 1936.

The initial call was made on the new fire engine last Monday evening at the home of Freemont Reynolds where a chimney fire was reported, but fortunately it was got under control before much damage was done. *The Holton Recorder*, February 6, 1936.

The neighbors did a kindly act Monday when they shoveled the snow from one-half mile of road so they could get medical aid to Wm. Linton, who is very sick with pneumonia. *The Holton Recorder*, February 13, 1936.

The Mayetta elevator received a car load of oats last Monday, and the Denison elevator received a car load of shelled corn last Saturday and the Canfield Lumber company received a car load of lumber Monday.

The Rock Island railway has had a mighty fine business at Mayetta during 1936. About thirty car loads of different commodities have been received and several more are due to arrive this week and next. *The Holton Signal*, April 9, 1936.

The foundation and cement floor of the new high school agricultural building is now completed and work will begin right away on the frame. *The Holton Recorder*, April 23, 1936.

The Denison elevator received another load of shelled corn last Friday and the Indian Agency received another car load of sand.

Since the all weather rock road has been completed between Denison and Mayetta, the Denison folks are having all their car load shipments routed via the Rock Island Ry. This extra business materially helps the revenue of the station which is greatly appreciated by the Rock Island and our local agent, Mr. Locke. *The Jackson County Signal*, May 7, 1936.

There are twelve electric refrigerators in Mayetta which makes a big dent in the iceman's business. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 25, 1936.

Our Mayetta fire department was called to Hoyt last Saturday afternoon to help fight a fire which destroyed the Baptist church and barn and a shed, many roof fires also resulted from the blaze. A strong wind and a lack of water made the fire very serious. The Topeka fire department also came to the relief of the Hoyt people. ...

The grasshopper pest is quite alarming, as soon as the wheat and oat fields were cut the hoppers then invaded the alfalfa and corn fields and are doing considerable damage in fact they are eating everything that has any tender green substance in it. We find that they are now climbing up our peach trees and eating the green peaches right down to the seed and they are also stripping the leaves of a number of our shade trees. We believe that alfalfa fields are suffering the great damage. They eat the leaves and part of the stem from the tender second crop of alfalfa. We don't anticipate that any damage will be done to the cut grain. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 9, 1936.

While Everret Martin was harrowing kafir corn the other day, he quit for dinner and tied the horses to the wagon and fed them, went home to water the cows, came back and Harrington and Tweedy's hoppers had come across the road and eaten his team and wagon and harrow and were pitching horseshoes to see who would eat the harness. Now Martin has gone to Holton to see his attorney, Ed Woodburn, to know whether he can hold the hoppers or Harrington and Tweedy. *The Holton Recorder*, July 16, 1936.

Both of our elevators are kept busy from early morning to late at night taking care of the wheat and oats which are being threshed and marketed. Both elevators have shipped out several car loads. This will be the largest wheat shipping year that we have ever had. Wheat is making from 15 to 30 bushels and the grade is excellent. Very little of it testing below sixty. We are looking for more wheat to be sown this fall than ever before in this vicinity. The farmer will have to raise more small grain and less corn. Small grain as a rule matures before the dry weather sets in and we have plenty of dry weather in Kansas. ...

This is a good year for snakes. We killed a large bull snake last Sunday morning that measured four feet and seven inches in length. He was making for our chicken yard to get a good breakfast, but we found him and smashed him with a hoe. We have killed several others which were about two and a half feet long. They have been stealing the eggs from under our setting hens which have stole out their nests in the grass. We take a special delight in killing snakes. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 16, 1936.

Last Sunday evening about 9:15 Mayetta experienced a severe wind and dust storm, but not a drop of rain. The wind was very strong and broke many tree limbs and filling the houses with a thick coating of dust. There was a light sprinkle of rain Monday morning at 5 o'clock which did not lay the dust or relieve the heat. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 23, 1936.

1936 was another hot year. The spring began well and we had early gardens, then the rains stopped and the

temperatures ran up to 115 degrees or higher for several days at a time. ... The summer of 1936, no rains came by the middle of August, and we heard from Grandma how hot the weather was day after day. It got to 118 degrees one day. But after two weeks of mountain weather we knew we had to get back to Mayetta and to our store and other jobs, altho canning vegetables wasn't one of them that summer. In fact, I would get so tired putting up all the garden produce, working long hours day after day, that I was almost glad of a crop failure! We didn't go hungry, as we got our groceries wholesale, so having a store was a good thing.

In 1936 the hot weather lasted until the last of October with no rain. After we came home from Colorado, I would shut up the house in the mornings, and use fans to keep the air stirred up. It was terrible trying to sleep at night and almost impossible to get the children to take naps during the hot days. (Vera Hamill Hafer, "My Husband, Frank 1884-1960," pages 70-71, Mennonite Press, Inc. North Newton, Kansas.)

Regardless of the fact that Kansas is passing through one of the most torrid summers in its history, one of our local coal dealers last week sold a whole car load of coal which was put in the consumers bins for the coming winter season, which we predict may out class the frigid winter which we experienced last winter. This extreme heat is making our iceman have a nightmare and keeps him busy supplying his numerous costumers with ice. The extreme heat and the dryness of the weather is burning up all kinds of vegetation, pastures are all dried up, although some pastures have plenty of grass, it is dry and greatly retards the flow of milk. The milk production has been cut to about one-half in the past month, the cows cannot eat during the day time and only do their eating at night time. What vegetation that has escaped the drough, is being taken by the millions of grasshoppers which have infested our fields. ...

Everybody was gloating over the fact last winter, owing to the extreme hard freezing cold weather, that it would kill all kinds of insects and pests that destroy our crops. We have not heard of any cinch bugs, but in place of the old time pests we were more than plagued with an unheard of crop of grasshoppers which have and are eating everything in the form of vegetation. The hoppers have completely ruined the fruit crop and are devouring the growing corn. In some fields only the stubs of stalks are showing. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 30, 1936.

The Rock Island enjoyed a nice business from the Mayetta station during the month of July, shipping out 17 cars of wheat, two cars of oats and receiving one car of cement, two sand and one coal. the wheat shipment represents about twenty-six thousand bushels of wheat which puts into circulation about twenty-six thousand dollars in Mayetta and vicinity and there are thousands of bushels yet to be threshed from the stacked grain. The farmers are beginning to realize that wheat is a safe and profitable crop and the acreage will be greatly increased for next year. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 6, 1936.

From all appearances the grasshoppers are leaving after destroying all kinds of vegetation. Between the grasshopper and the extreme drough all kind of crops are a complete loss. The only thing saved was the wheat, oats and the first cutting of alfalfa. The corn crop is a complete failure. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 13, 1936.

Another of those torrid heat waves returned last Sunday and the thermometer got up to 100. One thing we can be thankful for and that is that the heat wave will only last about 30 more days. *The Holton Recorder*, August 13, 1936.

Quite a little excitement in town Tuesday afternoon when the railroad right-of-way caught fire. The fire department was called and the fire was quickly put out. We are very proud of our fire department; when they get there the fire doesn't last long. *The Holton Recorder*, August 20, 1936.

Martin and Tweedy settled out of court about the grasshoppers that did so much damage to Martin's team and machinery. They just arbitrated the deal. Each picked a man, Martin picking Frank Cooney, Tweedy picking Henry Pasley, and Henry and Frank picking Bill Morris. They thought Martin entitled to damages, so they just gave Martin 40 acres of Tweedy and Harrington's hoppers. Cooney, Pasley and Morris are to see that the hoppers are put into Martin's wheat field just as soon as the wheat is up good. Both parties are well satisfied with the way the men handled the case. *The Holton Recorder*, August 27, 1936.

Mayetta and vicinity on Wednesday evening, August 19th, with a thermometer registering 110 at 3 p. m., the sky clouded over at 4 p. m. and at 6:15 p. m., a dust storm came in from the north, which was followed at 6:25 p. m. by an embryo tornado which did much damage to trees, and many light buildings. The wind was accompanied by a good rain which measured one and a quarter inches which was a great benefit to vegetation. The earth absorbed all the moisture. The cyclonic wind damaged the implement shed of Dudley Lunger, blowing some iron roofing a quarter of a mile. Also blowing down the chimney on his house. Bert Peters had his chicken house torn to pieces. Although the wind did not dislodge a single stick of wood in a conical stack of wood in twenty feet of the chicken house. The large triple window of the 1st National Bank was almost blown out of its casing. The oil house of the Dutt store was torn to pieces and the brick coal house of the Jones store was wrecked, and a window in the Robson

building was blown in. the large front gate to the Canfield Lumber yard was torn loose and was a total wreck. A barn on the Garrett farm was badly wrecked, and the large chicken house on the Earl Landon farm was partially wrecked. All outbuildings on the Shorty Hewitt farm were torn to pieces, and the W. A. Bohannon hog house was wrecked, Martin Shay lost a cow barn shed which killed a calf when it fell. At the Ed James farm, his house roof was partially torn off, and his barn and brooder house were torn to pieces, and many other people report that light buildings were more or less damaged. Nearly everybody in the path of the storm had tree limbs broken. There was quite some lightning during the storm. On the reservation the John Atwater barn was struck and all its contents destroyed, and Otto Jacobson lost his barn and all his implements and feed. Every stack of oats in the storm path was more or less blown off. This was the most severe wind storm ever experienced in this immediate locality and many people sought refuge in their caves and cellars. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 27, 1936.

Since the grasshoppers have nearly disappeared after destroying all kinds of vegetation, the trees and shrubs are taking on new leaves. *The Holton Recorder*, August 13, 1936.

One of the most novel and interesting parades ever held in Mayetta was that of John Riederer giving Hoffa Smith a wheelbarrow ride last Thursday afternoon. It was the payoff of an election bet which the boys wagered on the presidential election. John is a dyed in the wool Republican and Hoffa is a staunch and ardent Democrat. The parade started at the First National Bank and proceeded east to the Hotel and then crossed over to the north side of the street from the old bank building and finished at the lumber yard. Hoffa played a mouth organ during the ride. He played "Happy Days are Here Again" Oh Susanna, Dixie, and several popular tunes. The parade was witnessed by a large number of our citizens who all enjoyed the novelty of the boys putting on such an interesting performance. *The Jackson County Signal*, November 12, 1936.

During the year 1936 the Rock island enjoyed a very fine increase in business over 1935 at the Mayetta station, which is an indication business has slipped around the corner and is again headed for a better and prosperous time. The following car loads were received, 27 cars of sand, 28 cars of coal, 2 cars of bran, 3 cars of cinders, 7 cars of oats, 7 cars of Petroleum Products, 9 car loads of cement, 1 car load of machinery, 3 car loads of corn, 4 car loads of brick and 3 car loads of lumber, total 94 car loads received. The following car loads were forwarded 24 cars of wheat, 4 cars of oats, 5 cars of hay and 6 cars of livestock, total 39 carloads shipped out, making a grand total of 133 car loads handled by the Mayetta station during the year 1936. ...

Thursday, January 7th, Mayetta and vicinity experienced the heaviest sleet storm we ever saw in Kansas. The sleet and fine snow which fell with it measured six inches in depth. There was enough moisture in the sleet to freeze it so that a person could walk on top of the sleet which will undoubtedly make quite a lot of water when it melts. The mail carriers report that they were able to make their regular routes without any hindrance. The heavily packed and frozen crusted sleet was so hard that it held up their cars without breaking through. The maintainers of Highway 75 kept their snow plows running all night thereby keeping the highway open and traffic was not impeded to any extent. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 14, 1937.

Orville Walker installed a wind charger for John Slattery and Will Osborne last week. Mr. Slattery now has electric service for every building on his farm and is now enjoying all the connivances that are obtainable with electric service. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 20, 1937.

The Mayetta Hay Seeds stringed quartet, consisting of Amos Chase, Roscoe Ray Arthur Ray and Jim Kerns, played on the amateur program on WIBW radio station in Topeka last Sunday. We want to congratulate the boys for the excellent number which they rendered and will say they far exceeded many of the professionals which we hear on chain programs. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 15, 1937.

The writer has a thirty-eight year old pear tree which has withstood the drough and is loaded with bloom, in fact more heavily bloomed than any other previous year, and if every bloom would produce a full sized pear we estimate that there would be at least fifty or sixty bushels of pears. In past good producing years we have had thirty-five bushels on this tree. *The Holton Recorder*, April 22, 1937.

Mayetta is badly in need of a public swimming pool and a municipal auditorium, and the alleys behind the business portion of the town macadamized with rock, especially the alley back of the buildings on the south side of Main street. This alley is used by about a daily average of seventy-five to one hundred cars and during a muddy time cars cannot navigate the alley. Wake up councilmen and do something for this alley. ...

Clark Coleman our Cedar Township trustee found 660 inhabitants in Cedar township. In the year 1936 he found 703, making a loss of 43, and in the town of Mayetta he found 289 human beings. Last year we had a population of 307, a loss of 18 people during the past year. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 29, 1937.

The free picture show which has been laid off for the past three weeks on account of quarantine, which ban has now been lifted, will resume this Wednesday night. Plenty of seats have now been provided for the use of those who wish to see the show. ...

Timothy Shadscales says, that a grasshopper about four inches long ate the handle out of his rake Friday night and when he went to get the rake Saturday morning he found the hopper combing his whiskers with the teeth of the rake. *The Holton Recorder*, July 12, 1937.

Imagine your reporter's surprise Monday evening when two little girls came into our yard where my husband and I were sitting and announced, "We have not items for you, but we have some news." I asked them their news and they said, "We want to surprise Auntie and just put in your news that our pet kitty 'Boots' has five little kitties." The little girls were Margaret and Carolyn Farnlof. They told their news in unison. The surprised Auntie will be Mrs. Georgie Shields. *The Holton Recorder*, August 5, 1937.

The Rock Island station, under the efficient management of M. H. Locke, who is one of the most accommodating agents we ever had, enjoyed a most prosperous shipping business during the month of July. Sixty-five cars of wheat were shipped from Mayetta, the approximate revenue was \$6500, which is the best month's business that we have had for some time. These sixty-five cars represent that our elevators have handled over 110,000 bushels of wheat and have paid out to wheat raisers about \$115,000 and only about forty-five per cent of the wheat in this vicinity has of yet been threshed and all the farmers are taking advantage of the weather and are threshing out of the shock as fast as the machines can get into the fields. Very little wheat has been stacked in this immediate locality. It is estimated that our farmers will deliver about a quarter of a million dollars worth of wheat to the Mayetta elevators. Our elevators had to work from early morning to midnight and on every Sunday to take care of the wheat. So far the Rock Island has furnished plenty of cars to take care of the wheat crop. All of our farmers are feeling most jubilant over the yield and the good prices they have been receiving for same. The farmers who are finished with their threshing and now busy sowing, and the average next year will be as large. Our elevator shipped out seven cars of wheat last Tuesday, August 2. *The Holton Recorder*, August 9, 1938.

As the time approaches for the opening of schools there is a great demand for houses to rent to people who want to live here during the school term so that their children can have the advantage of a first class school and as usual there is a scarcity of empty houses. Some enterprising person ought to build a half dozen cottages for rental purposes.

...

The crickets are quite a pest this season. The writer last Saturday evening killed 85 crickets in one room. We wore out one good fly swatter during the war on crickets. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 26, 1937.

Wheat threshing is now finished and at least ninety-five percent of it has been marketed, very little wheat has been stored by the farmers for future prices, the majority of it was sold for a dollar or more, the highest was \$1.17 and the lowest was 88 cents. The farmers are busy from early morn to late at night plowing for fall wheat sowing. *The Holton Recorder*, August 30, 1937.

September 24. - The Rock Island withdrew the motor train last Sunday and all business formerly handled by the motor will now be handled by night trains No. 905 and 996, which will carry a combination coach and baggage car. These trains will be made a regular scheduled stop at Mayetta and will take care of all business which the motor has been handling. *The Holton Recorder*, September 27, 1937.

The citizens of Mayetta and vicinity are still very much up in the air in regard to losing our daylight passenger and mail service. The situation is lamentable, but it could be worse. We will some day lose our rails entirely unless the public gives the Rock Island better support. It is up to us to patronize the railroad instead of the trucks and busses. There are thirteen stations between Topeka and St. Joseph and if everyone of these would average ten passengers a day and all the freight shipments for these same stations, we are sure that the Rock Island would gladly restore passenger service and give us satisfactory freight service. It's up to you folks, give the railroad your business and they will gladly reciprocate by giving you the service. ...

Three of our country boys, back in February, 1887, when the first scheduled passenger train was run over the rails along Mayetta, brought round-trip tickets from Mayetta to Hoyt and return. They did not have money enough for Topeka tickets and they wanted the thrill of their young lives by riding on the train which was the first either of the boys had enjoyed. The boys were Charley Shingleton, John Shingleton and John Licklyter, and they got more of a thrill out of that trip fifty years ago than they would today out of a trip in an airplane.

E. J. Lunger, Charley Shingleton and V. R. Lunger were at the depot in February, 1887, to see and greet the first scheduled passenger train as it passed through Mayetta. The same boys, now old men, fifty years later, were at the depot last Saturday to see the last of the Rock Island passenger trains (the motor) make its last run though Mayetta. These boys were very jubilant at the arrival of the first train, but were very much downcast as the last

passenger train went through last Saturday. We are all hoping that the Rock Island people will see their way clear in no distant future to restore our passenger train service. *The Holton Recorder*, October 4, 1937.

Through the strenuous efforts and appeals of the several towns on the Rock Island from Topeka to St. Joe, the Rock Island restored its motor train last Monday, which will give us daily mail service as it was before the motor was discontinued Sept. 26. We sincerely thank the Rock Island for restoring this service to us. Now, Mr. Business Man, also Mr. Farmer, it is up to you to patronize the Rock Island with any and all of your business. The Rock Island has made this community what it is today. The Rock Island gives an outlet with either its passenger or freight service to any and all points in the United States and we can not afford to do without the service which the Rock Island has rendered, and will continue to render in the future, if we, the people will cooperate with them. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 7, 1937.

Jess Willard, the former heavyweight champion; prize fighter of the world, and A. Harry Crane called at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Reist Monday. *The Holton Recorder*, October 7.

The motor train going south has changed time. It now leaves Mayetta at 9:38 a. m., and will connect with the new Rock Island Rocket train at Topeka each Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The motor leaves Mayetta in the evening at the old time of 4:08 p. m. Passengers wanting to go to Topeka will now have 49 minutes more time to spend in Topeka. It gives you five hours and 40 minutes to do your Topeka shopping. Ride the motor, it is much safer than fighting traffic on the highways. *The Holton Recorder*, October 27, 1937.

A long felt need is about to be completed, the Cedar township board graded the road from the 75 highway to the Mayetta cemetery and the Douglass township board will cover the road with crushed rock. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 28, 1937.

The well and cistern at the High school have gone dry and they are having water hauled for use at the school. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 16, 1937.

The Rock Island tool house was visited early last Wednesday morning by a young man who undoubtedly thought he could get a free ride by taking the motor section car. He took it about a mile north of town and from some cause abandoned it., but he needed a coat to help keep him warm so he took the section foreman's coat and began walking toward Holton. The section foreman happened to overtake him and called the officers from Holton who took the young man there for investigation. The same party is supposed to have tried to purloin the automobile belonging to Prof. Buckles, our high school professor, but the would-be purloiner could not make it go. We are informed that the young man escaped from the reform school at Topeka the day before, and after his capture he was taken back to the school. *The Holton Recorder*, December 27, 1937.

The Rock Island Mayetta station shows a handsome increase of business for the year 1937 over that of 1936. The following number of car load commodities were shipped from Mayetta, during the year 1937: Wheat 100 cars, kaffir 1 car, cattle 3 cars, straw 1 car, making a total of 110 car loads shipped out from Mayetta. The following car load shipments were received: Oats 3, bran 1, potatoes 1, cattle 9, coal 29, sand 37, lumber 2, tractors 1, cement 5, fertilizer 3, gasoline 2, road oil 2, total 95, which makes a grand total of 205 car loads handled by Mayetta in 1937.

...

Beginning with January 1, the Rock Island discontinued its local freight which has made three round trips per week between Topeka and St. Joseph, although the service may be restored at a later date. The business will be handled by the two night freight trains. *The Holton Recorder*, January 10, 1938.

There is quite some agitation and much speculation in the air in regard to Mayetta putting in a water works system. Mayetta is one of a few towns which have no water works and the majority of our citizens would welcome a system of water works. The principle objection is that we have not sufficient water in close proximity and the greatest cost would be of piping the supply of water at least three miles, possibly further as Little Soldier creek would be the logical place to get a supply of water. Of course we have our fire cisterns but they are only to be used in case of fire. What the people wants is water for their homes the same as larger cities have. We also want a sewer system in connection with the water system. The City council will probably take up the water works proposition at the next council meeting. One of the councilmen told the reporter that they were considering the proposition of installing a lake at the south edge of town which could easily be done by plugging up the culvert that runs under the railroad and damming up the water at that point. Of course they would have to condemn some property for a recreation resort and give our citizens the chance of enjoying bathing during the hot weather, and in the winter it could be used as a skating pond for our youngsters. *The Jackson County Signal*, February 10, 1938.

The early evening hour of last Monday night was made hideous by the splitting blasts of the fire siren. Many people thought there was a fire somewhere and got very excited by hearing the siren, but their fears were soon put at rest when they found out that beginning with last Monday night council meeting that the siren will be heard at seven each meeting night in the further, or until the order is rescinded. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 7, 1938.

One would never realize we had passed through a depression and most people would not know that there had been one if they did not read about it in the papers or hearing some of the talkative ones talk about it. When you see so many traveling men come to town every day selling to our business men merchandize it makes you realize that times are much brighter than a year ago. We are safe in saying that at least fifty traveling men come to Mayetta each week and all of them sell our merchants a quantity of goods, and all our merchants need to do to get business is to compete with the low prices of neighboring towns. The overhead in Mayetta is not one quarter as high as the overhead in larger towns. ...

The Mayetta Commercial Club and citizens of Mayetta in conjunction with the Indian people are leaving no stone unturned in trying to have the Indian Agency headquarters returned to the agency at Mayetta. This is the only logical place for the Headquarters and it should be returned to its former location where it benefits the largest number of Indians. *The Jackson County Signal*, May 19, 1938.

If we were a farmer we would certainly have a rubber tired tractor so we could go over any road or highway without damaging the roads. We also could use our rubber tired tractor the same as we used to use our horses in days gone by. If you wanted to go to town you can just jump on your tractor and go the same as riding a horse. In working the fields with a team, when it comes dinner time or time to unhitch in the evening the farmers invariably rode one of the horses which was always sweaty, and with a tractor all you have to do is disconnect it and ride the tractor to the house. You don't have to unharness and feed the tractor, all you have to do is when you get to the house is to jump off the machine and go in and eat your meals. We personally think that the tractor is the most wonderful invocation to any farmer. He can do two or three times as much work with a tractor as he could do with a three or four horse team.

Time marches on, but many a business man gets weary of watching the endless procession of his customers trekking off to other larger towns to do their trading. Although he has one satisfaction, he knows they to pay spot cash when they go to a large town to trade. They can't approach the big town merchant and ask him to extend him credit to until harvest, or until he can raise a corn crop. No sir, he just can't do it, but he will work his hometown merchant to carry him for six months or maybe a year and then may settle by giving him a note and the note often runs another year or so and maybe the interest is not paid on the note and very often the note is not paid. Give your home town merchant your business and he will help you. Of course, the paved roads and fast motor cars have been the cause of the home town merchant losing much business. For the past twenty-five years, since the motor cars have become popular the roads better, people have been giving their home town a cold shoulder by going to larger towns to purchase goods which their home town merchant would be tickled to death to sell them if he only had the chance. Why the people do this is a puzzle to us. Maybe they think it is smart. Do you realize that our home town merchants are the ones who pay the taxes to support our school and other enterprises? Just think it over neighbors, and think if our home town business men don't deserve your cooperation. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 2, 1938.

There were four grocery stores in town in 1954. The Albert Jones' HyClass, Lester and Minnie Holeman's; John and Helen Dutt's, and Frank and Vera Hafer's. At my previous home I had to walk a half mile to the general store, and try to find enough hands to carry back two bags of groceries and a five gallon can of coal oil on the return trip. Now I only had a half block to walk. Tall cotton.

Hardly anyone paid cash for their groceries but ran up a bill to be paid at the end of the month or whenever they had the money to do so. The store owners would write down every item that was purchased and keep a running tab. At times the entire bill could not be paid and a partial payment would be made, and if the bill became too large, credit was cut off. Then one could go to another store and run up another bill.

It was tough for a small town grocery store to compete with the chain stores in Holton, such as the A & P, and Duffy's IGA Food Liner. Not only were the Holton and Topeka stores able to sell at lower prices, the Mayetta merchants who were selling on credit were in fact loaning out their money at no interest and often lost money when customers left town without paying, or from those who intended to pay but were never able to.

Last Saturday an airplane circled around Mayetta at least a half a dozen times. It was very high in the air. Everybody was scanning the air to locate the ship but a few were unable to do so. Why they made so many circles, no one knows, maybe they were locating the highways so they could make a quick getaway in case they try robbing our bank. It seems that airships have been in the habit of locating the surrounding roads in making a getaway when

they commit a robbery. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 9, 1938.

Highway 75 is all torn up between Mayetta and Holton and traffic is prohibited on the highway. Of course the people living directly on the highway have to use it, but to the traveling public, it is closed. It will be at least a month before traffic can be resumed between Mayetta and Holton. The contractors are working day and night getting the road bed in shape to receive the new covering. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 30, 1938.

Our city council should be voted a vote of thanks by passing an ordinance at the last Monday meeting, forbidding the sale of fire crackers and the shooting of same until July 1st. Heretofore it has been the habit of youngsters, also the older ones, to begin the shooting of fire crackers at least three weeks before July 4th which habit was very annoying to the public in general, and we are proud to say that none of our merchants have displayed fire crackers and the youngsters have also refrained from shooting them and everybody has obeyed the ordinance to the letter. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 7, 1938.

Quite a number of our Mayetta boys have bicycles and two or three of them are using sirens on them which is against the law in the State of Kansas. We would advise these boys to dispense with their sirens and avoid getting into trouble with the law, sirens are only allowed on fire trucks and ambulances, so boys take our advise and dispense with your sirens as they are prohibited on all streets and highways. ...

The farmers who have tractors are certainly improving their time by plowing their wheat ground. They get into the field by daylight and work as long as they can follow the furrow, and some have equipped their tractors with electric lights and plow during the night. Some fields are extremely hard and the plows throw up large chunks of earth and it is with much difficulty that single plows are kept in the ground. Small double gang 12 inch plows have had very little trouble with hard ground. The tractor farmers have no trouble with the extreme heat as they can work right along. The farmers who are using horses are experiencing much difficulties with the heat and the hard ground. Every 160 acre farmer should use tractors as they accomplish much more work during a day, and tractors are much more economical. You can furnish oil and fuel for a tractor for less than half of what it costs to feed six good work horses. With tractors you don't have to get up and feed, harness and clean out the stable in the early morn nor do you have to feed at noon and put away your teams at night, and all the extra work and time it takes in taking care of horses, can be enjoyed in resting or helping the good housewife with the house work. The writer has no tractors to sell, but we are a booster for tractors for farm work, and with proper care a tractor will last for years. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 7, 1938.

Mayetta received a good four inch rain which began at 10:40 Sunday night and rained intermittently until about 4 o'clock Tuesday morning. The rain came down slowly and the largest portion of it was absorbed by Mother Earth, putting the ground in excellent condition for fall plowing. It was the first rainfall since July 27 and the ground was too hard to be plowed in many fields. This rain will practically save the growing corn crop and will put the ground in excellent condition for the sowing of alfalfa. Very little moisture ran away, and everybody's cisterns were filled.

...

A gang of road men replaced all the signs and markers on Highway 75 last week. The signs and markers were removed from the highway when it was under reconstruction. The road is now open for traffic between Mayetta and Holton. *The Holton Recorder*, August 22, 1938.

The Rock Island Motor train last Thursday going south had trouble with its air brakes and run right through town and did not get stopped until they reached the double crossing south of town. They then backed up to the depot and exchanged mail, express and passengers. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 8, 1938.

The bakers have gotten ashamed of themselves and have at last found out that wheat is only about fifty cents a bushel, so the bakers have just awoke to a stroke of generosity and are now making a twenty ounce loaf of bread for 9 cents. It formerly was 10 cents. What they should do now is to make 18 ounce loaf for 5 cents, which price would make them a good profit. ...

There is quite a bicycle craze among the youngsters of Mayetta, and they seem to get a great deal of enjoyment out of them. But the boys should use every precaution of riding on highway 75 among the rapidly running autoes. The boys most use the highway in the late evening and have no lights on their wheels, and the autoist driving at a high rate of speed will sooner or later injure some of the boys. The parents of the boys should caution the youngsters to keep off the highway after dark. Sooner or later some boy will get his wheel smashed and probably lose his life or cripple him for life. Boys take our advice and keep off the highway 75 and not flirt with possible death or permanent injury. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 15, 1938.

Some miscreants who had a hankering for a good beefsteak or rib roast, or possibly of seeing a chance to dispose of a good fat milk cow, on last Sunday evening entered the pasture of V. R. Lunger and purloined the Jersey cow

belonging to Charley Renfro. The cow is as gentle as a dog and any one can catch her. After taking her from the pasture they proceeded toward Topeka, but when they reached the Mayetta High school they undoubtedly got cold feet from the atrocious act and tied the cow to the front door of the school house. Maybe they thought they would leave the cow there to recompense the high school for the musical instruments and fountain pens that were stolen from the school a few weeks ago. These purloiners of the cow probably called it a Halloween joke, but if the owner of the pasture had seen them taking the cow, the county coroner and undertaker would certainly have had a job taking care of the corpse. *The Jackson County Signal*, November 3, 1938.

One of the major oil companies has been busy between Mayetta and Denison for the past two weeks, leasing land for the purpose of drilling for oil. They are hoping to obtain the leases of at least 4,000 acres. There have been numerous tests made and the outlook is most favorable. It now begins to look as if we might have an oil field in this locality. There is no question in our minds but what plenty of oil can be found here if they will drill down to it. *The Holton Recorder*, November 28, 1938.

Oil leasing activities are going on at a rapid rate. Mr. Tudor, who is securing leases for a major oil company, has secured about 10,000 acres. And soon as they secure enough leases in this block, drilling will start about four miles north of Mayetta. *The Holton Recorder*, December 5, 1938.

We are reliably informed that the community house which burned at the agency October 9th is to be rebuilt. The plans call for a stone building with an auditorium and full basement and will be much larger than the former building. The Indian office at Washington has authorized the rebuilding and the work will be done under the supervision of the CCC as soon as the funds are available. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 22, 1938.

We strolled over into town last Saturday afternoon just to see the sights and it reminded us of old times years ago when Mayetta used to be crowded with people. To us it looked like about everybody has come to town to do their Christmas shopping. All the stores were crowded and everyone seemed to be buying Christmas presents of some nature. Our merchants were well pleased with their Christmas trade. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 29, 1938.

The best snake story of 1939 comes from Tom T. Landon, and it is a true one. Tom was pumping water Monday, January 2nd and the thermometer was hovering around 70, a regular summer day, and a six foot bull snake came to the well to get a drink and almost scared Tom out of his boots. As soon as he recovered his surprise Tom got a club and murdered the snake. ...

During the strong wind and semi dust storm of last Friday an airplane soared over Mayetta about one hundred feet above the ground and the wind was giving it a tough time. It finally circled around and headed into the wind and came down safely in the Yeakley pasture at the south edge of town. The aviator said the wind made it too hazardous to continue his flight. ...

The past week has been good old fashioned summer weather, people were going around in their shirt sleeves and sparrows were building nests, but look out, a sudden change can come any minute that will freeze the hair off of a brass monkey. ...

Mayetta was undoubtedly the best car loading shipping station on the Topeka to St. Joseph branch during the year. Mayetta shipped out the following commodities: 199 cars of wheat; 27 cars of corn, 3 cars of oats; 12 cars of kafir and sargo; and 7 loads of hay, total car loads forwarded 248. The following car loads of different commodities were received, 26 cars of coal; 22 cars of sand; 3 cars of lumber; 1 car of implements; 4 cars of cement; 3 cars of fertilizer; 11 cars of oil, 1 car of twine, total car loads received 71, making a grand total of 319 car loads handled at Mayetta during the year 1938. The revenue derived from this amount of business shows an increase of sixty per cent greater than for the year 1937. There is no doubt in our mind but what Mayetta was the largest car handling station between Topeka and St. Joseph during the year 1938, and we know that the Rock Island is proud and highly appreciative of the business that they have received during the past year. ... We cannot do without the railroads and they cannot do without us. ...

Mayetta has two elevators who during the year 1938 handled 375,000 bushels of grain and have paid out to our farmers about \$220,000. The elevators have been busy from early morn until late hours at night taking care of their customers. Both elevators are equipped with grinders and do a large custom grinding business for the farmer. Many thousand bushels of grain are ground annual by our elevators. The farmers prefer ground feed to the former way of feeding the whole grain. The ground food does the live stock twice as much good as whole grain feeding. Many of our farmers have a good supply of grain in their bins which they are holding for an advance in price. All the farmers have of good supply of all kinds of feed to carry them through the winter months or until 1939 harvest. From all reports that we have been able to obtain from the farmers, the wheat acreage has been greatly reduced for 1939. All our farmers will plant a larger acreage of corn in 1939. Very little corn was planted in 1938 compared to previous years. Everybody was running to wheat, but corn will be one of the leading crops this coming year. One of our

farmers had one acre of corn last year, but this year he will plant two acres. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 12, 1939.

The German National Socialist Party, under Adolph Hitler's leadership, was intent on the domination of western Europe. It began by making alliances with Italy, Japan and the Soviet Union, so that when the Second World War began it did indeed become a world war covering most of the northern, and part of the southern hemisphere.

In March of 1939, Germany began its conquest of western Europe by marching its troops into Czechoslovakia. In June Poland was invaded and conquered within a month's time. France and England had agreed to help defend Poland before this occurred and this brought them into the war. Beginning in April of 1940, Norway was invaded and then Belgium, and then the Netherlands. War was declared on France and England by the Axis powers on June 10th and France surrendered on June 26th. The remaining English and French troops retreated across the English channel into England.

Hitler launched a massive air attack on England, but did not cross the channel and invade England. This may be in part because Germany on June 21, 1941 invaded its former ally, the Soviet Union. Having secured western Europe and England not being a threat, Germany's western front was free from attack while it pursued its invasion of Russia. It was safe from attack from the south as its ally Italy was in control of that region.

The U. S. became the supplier of armaments to England beginning in March of 1941, supplying war ships, airplanes, tanks, small arms and the freighters needed to ship those and other war materials in.

American factories were converted over from making items for civilians, and most of the raw materials went into the production of armaments. This led to a scarcity and rationing of about every consumer item you can think of just as it was during the First World War. It was much more severe this time because the new war was so much larger and lasted so much longer.

In April, of 1941, the U. S. occupied Greenland and began to patrol part of the North Atlantic route used by the shipping. In September German submarines were ordered to be shot on sight, and merchant ships were escorted as far as Iceland, and in November the merchant ships were armed. We were engaging in a naval war with the Axis powers that had not yet been declared.

It is with much sadness in our hearts that we have to report the demise of a household pet, of our former friend and schoolmate, Minnie B. Jones, who is mourning the loss of her pet and household companion, Snookums. Minnie and her husband Tom have had Snookums in the family for the past twelve years and he was a most remarkable cat. He was never any bother to his neighbors and he never had the habit of sitting on the back yard fence and making the night hideous with his yowling. He was a perfect gentleman of the feline family. He put in most of his time by sleeping. He always wore a nice ribbon around his neck. He was one of the most traveled cats in the world. During his lifetime of the past twelve years he has made several trips by auto from Kansas to California and several trips to Iowa and Missouri. He was always ready to go when Tom got the car out. Snookums will be greatly missed by Minnie and Tom and a host of other friends. Snookums was given a decent burial at his home in La Crescenta, Calif. We extend our sympathies to Minnie and Tom, but if Minnie and Tom should ever come back to Mayetta we can supply them with another fine cat to replace Snookums. *The Holton Recorder*, April 3, 1939.

We saw a sight one day last week which brought back memories of fifty years ago. One of our farmers who came to town with his team brought along his feed and, when he got to town he unhitched his team and gave them their feed in the back of the wagon like we did in the early days. *The Holton Recorder*, April 10, 1939.

Two of the auto buses were discontinued last Tuesday. The new time now is: South bound busses go at 7:47 and 6:12 p. m.; north bound busses go at 10:30 a. m. and 8:40 p. m. *The Holton Recorder*, April 17, 1939.

The second vaccination for horses for sleeping sickness was given to 117 horses at the Billy Bohannon farm Monday. This was the largest number of horses in one place given by Dr. Foulk of Holton. We understand that there was between 30 and 40 head vaccinated at the Tom Landon farm and the same amount at the Edward James farm Monday. *The Holton Recorder*, May 11, 1939.

We see that we are to lose our motor train on June 24, and bus service will be installed on the 25th which will handle all mail, express and passengers. We are anxiously waiting to see what effect it will have on our mail service. We hope that the Rock Island will soon be able to restore regular passenger and mail service. Our freight service will continue, as of the present time. We have had 52 years of good train and mail service and it will seem hard to

do without. *The Holton Recorder*, June 12, 1939.

The new Rock Island bus which started Sunday, June 25, will run on about the same schedule as the motor train did. The new bus will deliver the mail at the post office instead of at the depot. Express packages will be delivered at the depot. This new service may be all right after we get accustomed to it. We will have to wait and see what the results will be. We will still continue to have our two night freights to handle all car loads and freight shipments. *The Holton Recorder*, June 19, 1939.

During the past few days many combines have passed Mayetta on highway 75 for the wheat fields of southern Kansas. By cutting with combines you have only one operation with the crop, otherwise you have to cut with a binder and then either thresh out of the field or stack your grain which makes it about three times as much labor for the farmer. If we were a farmer we would certainly have a combine if we raised small grain. ...

The new Rock Island bus which in a few days will replace our motor train, passed through Mayetta last Tuesday noon. They are looking over the route between St. Joe and Topeka. They stopped in Mayetta a few minutes and interviewed our local agent, H. M. Lock. The writer had the pleasure of inspecting the inside of the new bus and it is the finest equipped bus we have ever seen. It has separate compartment for passengers and the rear part of the bus will be devoted to mail and express. The bus will travel 110 miles from St. Joseph to Topeka while the rail mileage is only 89 miles. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 22, 1939.

The oil boom has finally developed near Mayetta in a well being started on the Wm. Wischmeter farm. The derrick and drilling machinery is being trucked from Oklahoma City, Okla., and the well will be started as soon as it arrives. *The Holton Recorder*, July 6, 1939.

Wheat harvesting will be practically over by the middle of this week if no stormy weather sets in. The first five days of last week Mayetta shipped out 27 cars of wheat, and as we type this letter there are 15 empty cars setting on the track to be loaded. The Rock Island has certainly done fine work in furnishing our elevators with plenty of cars to handle our wheat crop. ...

The elevators of Mayetta shipped out 26 cars of wheat and one car of kafir during the month of June. All this wheat was of the 1939 crop, and wheat harvest has only nicely begun in this locality. In 1938 our elevators shipped out 201 cars of wheat. Since the wheat acreage was reduced for 1939, there will not be so many cars shipped this year, but we expect to have a heavy shipment of 1939 corn if the weather continues favorable during the next 60 days. ...

The Indian Agency received two car loads of heavy road machinery the fore part of last week. A considerable amount of all-weather roads are to be built on the reservation this season. One will be across on a line west from the Mayetta graveyard across the reservation. This road will also have a new bridge across Big Soldier. It will be called the Emmett road and will give the farmers living along that road easy access to both Mayetta and Emmett. It will probably take all summer to finish the road on account of some very heavy work to be done. *The Holton Recorder*, July 10, 1939.

The temperature here the past week has ranged around the 100 degree mark and up to 110. All vegetation is suffering from the heat. *The Holton Recorder*, July 17, 1939.

Our oil well excitement is now lying dormant. We understand that drilling will actually begin as soon as they can get the drill rig here from Oklahoma.

The extra freight train which has been running for the past thirty days in order to take care of the wheat shipping business, was discontinued Thursday, July 20. The Mayetta station furnished over one hundred cars of wheat for this train. Mayetta is the largest wheat shipping station on this line between Topeka and St. Joe. *The Holton Recorder*, July 24, 1939.

The past two weeks have been very discouraging on the farmers. The extreme 100 degree or higher weather has been very detrimental on the growing corn and each hot day reduces the chances of having a corn crop. The corn now is in its critical stage and badly in need of a good rain. We believe that the corn has been hurt at least fifty percent in the past week or so, and if the hot weather continues another week there will be no corn in this vicinity. *The Holton Recorder*, July 31, 1939.

We are informed by those who have apple and pear trees that the high winds of Sunday, September 1, blew more than half the fruit off the trees. This fact will make apples high prices this winter, especially in the section where the fruit was wind blown. ...

The consumers are now realizing the results of higher prices in most of the commodities which they have to buy. The war in Europe is said to be the prime cause. We can't figure out why this war should make prices skyrocket

when the war in Spain and Japan and China did not effect prices here. We suppose that the sudden advance in the price of wheat will make the bakers also raise the price of bread. *The Holton Recorder*, September 11, 1939.

There were twelve cars of grass fat white face steers shipped out of Mayetta last Wednesday. They went to feeders up near Des Moines. Fred McLeod of Valley Falls was the shipper. They were two-year-olds and would weigh around 900 to 1000 pounds and were in extra fine condition and undoubtaby will make the purchasers a very nice profit. ...

The extensive heat and high winds have deteriorated vegetation to an alarming extent during the past couple of weeks. We have had no moisture since August 16 and the ground is too hard to plow. The hot drying winds have made the corn fodder look as brown as it should be by November. Wheat sowing is going right along, especially by the farmers who are not afraid to gamble against the weather. Wheat sown now will not be hurt by being in the ground and it will be there ready for the rains when they come to sprout it. We are all hoping for a good ground soaking rain right soon. *The Holton Recorder*, September 18, 1939.

If nothing happens in the way of rain during the next two days, or by Saturday night, the month of September will go down in history as the driest September on record. Not a drop of moisture has fallen in this vicinity since August 16, and during the month of August we only received three quarters of an inch of rain fall. Our thermometer registered thirty seven which is very cold for this time of the year and if we had of had plenty of moisture we would have most likely had a heavy frost. The ground is badly in need of rain, although it is reported that wheat has already been sown is coming up nicely, so we guess that those who had the nerve to sow wheat are more likely to win in the long run. ...

From all reports there is quite an amount of repair work being done on many of the farm buildings which is an indication that times are a little better or else it was a dire necessity that the repairs be made, these repairs make quite some business for our lumber yard. Also gives employment to our carpenters. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 28, 1939.

We noticed one thing in our trip out on the reservation last Wednesday, and that was that the shelterbelt trees which the government had planted the past couple of years are making a very rapid growth in spite of the droughty weather. We believe that eighty per cent of the trees planted are now growing in fine shape and in a few years will make a wonderful difference in the looks of the landscape. We believe that every farm should have a nice grove of trees planted. Nothing sets off the beauty of a country home, or city home, either like a few nice shade trees scattered around the buildings; especially on the north side of the buildings they help reduce the wintry blast of cold winds. *The Holton Recorder*, October 12, 1939.

The railroad section at Mayetta has been discontinued effective November 1. We are sorry to see this move as it takes three families away from Mayetta. The track in this vicinity will be taken care of by a section crew starting at Topeka and coming to the double crossing at the south edge of Mayetta and the track north will be taken care of by a crew that will look after the track from Mayetta to Whiting. A special track inspector will make regular trips over the line from Horton to Topeka daily. We suppose that the lack of business and curtailing of expenses is the prime cause of the change. *The Holton Recorder*, November 6, 1939.

At last the drough has been broken. Thursday, November 9, was one of the windiest days we have had since September 3; the day was overcast with clouds and much dust was in the air. About three o'clock in the afternoon a light misting rain began to fall, and continued, until about eight o'clock in the evening when a good old fashioned Kansas downpour set in and came down heavily for two hours. The net results from the rain was two inches of rainfall, which soaked the ground in good shape and filled up the water wells and cisterns and making some water in the creeks. The rain will greatly revive the winter wheat and alfalfa. It is the first good rain of any consequence since August first when we had three inches of moisture. The dry weather of the past two months had been very trying on roofs, drying them out to an alarming extent so that many of them leaked during the rain of last Thursday night. The good rain made everybody rejoice, but especially the farmers whose wheat need moisture. *The Holton Recorder*, November 3, 1939.

With the ground covered with eight inches of snow, the rabbits and birds are having a very tough time finding something to eat and they say that the rabbits are starving to death. We put out feed to the birds everyday and it is a source of joy to see them eat and hundreds of the little fellows are enjoying our hospitality. ...

For some unknown reason to us the Mayetta street commissioner did not remove the snow from main street. It would have taken only a couple trips of the grader to remove the snow from the north side and would not have cost over a dollar. A few of the industrious business men scooped the snow from in front of the places of business. We noticed that the side streets were cleared of snow. Why can't main street also be cleared so that the people coming to town can get up to the curbs? *The Holton Recorder*, January 15, 1940.

If everybody whom our reporter has talked to has killed the number of rabbits which they claim, we should judge that within a circle radius of five miles of town there has been at least five thousand rabbits met their Waterloo during the past six weeks or since the heavy fall of snow. The rabbits have done lots of damage to all small shrubbery, especially the rose bushes and small trees. *The Holton Recorder, February 6, 1940.*

We are informed that our county sheriff was in town last Saturday and informed all the business houses that beginning with Sunday, March 31, that they will not be allowed to sell any merchandise on Sundays. This law has been on the statute books of Kansas for years, but has been grossly ignored. For many years before we quit business as a merchant, we did not open our stores on Sunday, but all other stores in town kept open a few hours each forenoon. Sunday is a day of rest and to keep the Sabbath holy and attend church, but we are sorry to say that a large majority of the people regard Sunday as a day of pleasure. You should go to the church in the morning and then do your riding in the afternoon and get home in time to go to church in the evening. We expect that the general public will be up in arms about the closing of stores on Sunday, but you can do your trading on Saturdays just as easily as Sundays and after you get used to the Sunday closing you will not mind it at all. ...

The new Sunday closing law will probably be an interesting experiment until then public gets use to its working. We understand that there will be about ten or twelve spies to watch the merchants to see that the law is strictly adhered to. Our advice is that no one violate the law, or suffer the consequence. The public should do their trading on Saturday and not make the merchant break the law by trying to get them to sell goods on Sunday. *The Jackson County Signal, March 28, 1940.*

Our strict Sunday closing law which prohibits the merchants from selling merchandise on Sunday is meeting with much success and the merchants are glad to get away from the practice of opening their stores on Sunday. They now can enjoy the privilege of going to church and Sunday school in the mornings and then in the afternoons they can enjoy a motor ride in the country. ...

The writer has always contended that our high school gym was too small. The ceilings are too low and the size of the court is too small, and we have no seating capacity that will accommodate more than about fifty people and then they have to sit on cement steps on one side of the court. What we need is a good standard size gym with a seating capacity of at least 300 or 400 and it would not hurt to have it even larger. It really ought to be a community building where we could hold any kind of a gathering. We recommend that as soon as our high school building is paid for, we build a new building suitable for a gym and other kinds of community gatherings. *The Holton Recorder, April 8, 1940.*

One of the worst dust storms we have experienced for many years occurred Thursday, March 28. It began to get dusty about 9 a. m., and as the day grew, so did the intensity of the dust storm and from about 11 a. m. until 5 p. m., the air was filled with dust and visibility was reduced to about a block at times. The wind played havoc to the buildings that were shingled with fiber shingles and broke some tree limbs and also blew down a few telephone poles. Cedar township has a small building here in town in which they keep a few tools and a few of our local flippers of the pasteboards make it their headquarters for their past-time pleasure, but just as luck would have it, the boys had finished their game and had left the building when along came a heavy gust of wind and blew it over a few times and it landed up against another building several feet away. Had the boys been inside, some of them would have undoubtedly got hurt. The boys now will have to seek new quarters to hold their card parties in until the township board rebuilds the building. ...

Supt. H. E. Bruce called a meeting of the Potawatomie Indians at the Mayetta high school last Thursday night. About two hundred of our Indians were present. The entire former business committee were recalled for failure to accept a grant offered by the Indian Commissioner to purchase materials for a new community building to replace the one destroyed by fire. An entire new committee was elected and their first official business was to accept the grant. ... the new building will be built at the Mayetta Indian Agency. All the work will be done by CCC labor. Much of the material is already on the ground and work will start very soon. *The Jackson County Signal, April 14, 1940.*

The first peacetime draft in the country's history began on July 1, 1940 when Congress passed the Selective Training and Service Act. All men between the ages of 18 and 45 were required to register for the draft. By October of 1940 over 16 million men had signed up, and by the end of that month compulsory conscription began. The National Guard had also been called up to duty; Company E, quartered at Holton being sent to Fort Robinson, Arkansas in October for training. By the time of the attack on Pearl Harbor, 1,600,000 men were in uniform.

Howard Swank is undoubtedly the envy of all the boys in town. He is the proud owner of a most unique auto

which is a combination of five or six makes of cars. It has a tail and rudder like an airship and is painted up in very attractive colors which makes it very noticeable. If he would put on imitation wings it would resemble an airship. Howard is getting lots of sport out of his freak car and he shares it with his boy friends. *The Holton Recorder*, August 5, 1940.

Sunday, August 4th, reminded us of World War days. From eight o'clock A. M. until noon there were one hundred and eight army trucks and motor Cycles, passed by on Highway seventy-five going to the training grounds in Minnesota. Also a special train of four coaches went by rail. It was a very war like spectacle. ...

Mayetta has two elevators that does more business than any other three elevators in Jackson county. The Mayetta elevator is owned by Charley Renfro, and the Farmers Union elevator is operated by Alvin Cline. On July 3rd they both began shipping out this years wheat crop, and from that date until ending July 31st, they had shipped out 64 cars of wheat paying to our farmers about sixty-five thousand dollars. The most of this wheat was harvested by combines. Only a very few farmers cut with self binders and what was cut with binders is now practically threshed. We don't know of any farmer who stacked his wheat this year. The average price paid for wheat was sixty two cents. Quite a few oats were also harvested and are worth about thirty cents but very few bushels are being marketed. The farmers are keeping them for feed on account of the serious condition of the corn crop which will be a complete failure in this neighborhood on account of the lack of moisture. If we had sufficient rain during July and August we would have raised a bumper corn crop but rain will not now save it. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 8, 1940.

Our little cowboy friends, Bob and Bill Fitzgerald have given up pony riding and are now the proud owners of two new bicycles which they ride to school. The boys are as much at home on their bikes as on a horse. These two boys are exceptionally fine little chaps and are always happy and full of life. *The Holton Recorder*, September 9, 1940.

We understand that there were two night watchmen on duty halloween but the halloween pranksters divided up into gangs and they kept the night watchmen on the run and while the boys were letting the watchmen chase them the other boys would soap the windows. We understand that one citizen took a shot at the boys and the boys did not bother him anymore. ...

The halloween pranksters soaped windows, or rather they parafined windows which is very difficult to remove. From the looks of the windows some of the boys had to have used step ladders. There was only two or three windows on main street that did not get a dose of parafine. *The Jackson County Signal*, November 7, 1940.

The Mayetta fire department has made a much needed improvement to their equipment. They have just installed a new hose reel which will give them much quicker service should the occasion ever demand it. The new reel was made by our local blacksmith, Mayor C. G. Bertsch. *The Jackson County Signal*, November 21, 1940. ...

One of our citizens was in Holton a couple of weeks ago and was talking with a man who told our citizen that the editors of both Holton papers should shoot both of its Mayetta correspondents. "It may be so" but we are not ready to be shot, unless it is in defense of our country. If that party does not like the Mayetta items, he don't have to read them. *The Jackson County Signal*, November 21, 1940.

The Mayetta High School board have secured four additional acres to the school grounds. This is a wise investment and will give much more room for additional requirements. The board is to be congratulated in adding this ground to the school grounds. In the spring it will be set out in trees and fixed up for a recreational place for the patrons and scholars. *The Jackson County Signal*, November 28, 1940.

We wish to call to the attention of our county commissioners of the condition of the county highway across the reservation. It is badly in need of being resurfaced with a fresh coat of crushed rock. This writer does not get to use this highway to exceed once a year, but thousands of the people do and by the way, several miles of this road is used as a mail route. ...

Thanks "Hannah." We are going to keep on writing for our county papers until the editors fire us. We are not going to get scared at what some of the readers predict what should be done to us. We are well supplied if it comes to shooting. We have two big 38 revolvers, two 22 rifles, and one Spanish War rifle and a sword from the Civil War and a pair of good faithful legs that carry us out of danger. We wish to say we are also ready to help defend you, should you be attacked. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 5, 1940.

Charles Shurtz of New Hall, Iowa, passed through Mayetta last Saturday enroute to Ponca City, Okla. He was driving a small Welsh pony hitched to a small express wagon. He was looking for a job as Santa Claus but he said every place he had contacted so far had secured a Santa Claus. His personal appearance and his pony cart would make an ideal Santa Claus. ...

Frank Hafer was busy Monday digging a drainage ditch. Frank was in hopes that he could get the government to

do the ditching but they were so busy with other projects that they could not get to his ditch this winter, and Frank could not let the work go undone so he borrowed a shovel and did the work himself. But Frank is somewhat like the writer - he likes to work. It gives us exercise and an appetite. ...

Christmas is only thirteen days away. Wouldn't you like for your boy to wake up Christmas morning and find a practically new Model T Ford Coupe in his stocking. If so we have one in perfect mechanical condition, only being run seven thousand miles, good as new. We will sell for cash, or trade it for wheat, corn, oats or anything which we can use. Be a good Santa Claus and get this car for your boy or girl, or for yourself. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 12, 1940.

For some reason or another the Mayetta street lights were put out at 8:30 Christmas night, and the night was very dark with overcast clouds and also misting rain. We have an opinion about dosing the lights so early, but our opinion would not look good in print. It might melt the type when they went to set it in the office. But if we lived in town and paid taxes we would raise a howl. The lights ought to be left on until at least ten o'clock every night and when anything is going on they should not be turned off until after everybody gets home. *The Holton Recorder*, December 30, 1940.

Our local Rock Island agent, M. H. Lock, is well pleased with the business of his station during the year of 1940. The following car loads were handled: Car loads shipped out - Wheat 70 cars, corn 4 cars, hay 6 cars. Car loads received - Coal 28 cars, gasoline 15 cars, sand 19 cars, cement 12 cars, fertilizer 3 cars, brick 4 cars, corn 1 car, road oil 4 cars, cattle 2 cars, agricultural implements 2 cars, miscellaneous 1 car. Total cars received 91; total cars forwarded 81, making a grand total of 172 car loads of freight handled from Mayetta during the year just closed. We might add that if we had a good corn crop and a little better wheat crop there would have been at least a hundred more cars of grain handled out of Mayetta. The ticket sales were nearly double that of 1939 and less car loads of local freight showed some increase over the previous year. *The Holton Recorder*, January 6, 1941.

Do you know that there is going to be an acute shortage of cars during the next couple of years, or while the present National defense program is being carried on? All automobile factories are being turned over to the production of defense supplies. This fact will have a great tendency to increase the cost of automobiles and will greatly reduce their output of cars for local demand. The writer has a Model T coupe that has only been driven seven thousand miles and in perfect mechanical condition. Looks as good as new, has a self starter. Any one desiring a first calls car will do well to see us. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 9, 1941.

The city council at their last meeting voted to have the dirt streets of Mayetta resanded and some of them covered with crushed rock. This is now being done by the street commissioner, John Vaught. They have to have the crushed rock hauled from a crusher in Topeka. *The Holton Recorder*, January 13, 1941.

Gene Johnson, who is of voting age was in town last Saturday and the subject come up about people riding on a train. Gene said he had never ridden on a train, but he came to town one day to ride one to Holton, but he was too late to catch the train. He has done all his traveling by automobile since the auto has become the principal mode of traveling during his life. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 16, 1941.

Some people have always said that our Indian young men were not very work brittle. But we are here to defend our Indian friends. During the past few days, the Indian Agency received five car loads of sand and our Indian boys did the unloading. There were ten young men shoveling sand from the cars into trucks and one man to each truck as a driver. They hauled the sand one mile and unloaded the five cars in just thirteen hours of working time. None of our white boys could have done the same amount of work in twice the time. ...

We are informed that the Socony Oil Co. are getting leases on farms in this vicinity for the purpose of laying a pipe from the Falls City oil fields to their refineries in southern Kansas. As soon as the leases are secured, they will survey the route and then proceed to lay the pipe line. The line will be about two miles east of Mayetta. Up to the present time, they seem to have had no trouble to secure the right of way. We understand they pay so much per rod and also reimburse the farmer for any other damage it might do to growing crops. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 13, 1941.

You may not know or believe it, but the price of automobiles are going to be much higher in a short time and the factory may be unable to produce any for local consumption because the government will conscript all metals into defense weapons. If any one needs a first class Model T Ford Coupe which has only run seven thousand miles and just as good as new, looks like new, has self starter, tires only run five hundred miles - we have it, and a genuine bargain. We gave Henry Sinning \$668 cash for it, will sell at a nice big discount. ...

In a former communication we stated that it was the Conoco Oil Co., was to put in the transport line. We were in error as to the name, it is the Socony Oil Co. that is going to lay the line. A representative was in Mayetta Tuesday

to interview the farmers about securing leases through their farms. They pay 50 cents per rod and pay any damages done to crops. As soon as the leases are secured the survey will be made for the line. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 20, 1941.

The U. S., although not at war, was preparing for war, and part of it was the organizing of the local civil defense in case the war came to your neighborhood. Government, fire and police departments were to have a plan of what to do in case of an air attack. Blackouts, when everyone were to cover-up their windows, keep their doors shut, and keep lighting to a minimum was instituted, so that bombers passing overhead could not locate targets to bomb. Air raid wardens were appointed to visit each house during a blackout drill, and inform the householders if they were in compliance or what they needed to do in order to be so. Blackouts did not seem important to those in the middle of the continent, but on the east coast it was a different matter. Shipping was silhouetted against the lights of the cities on the shoreline and made easy targets for German U-boats, and hundreds of merchant ships were torpedoed along to the east coast during the war.

My family lived in the middle of a ten acre wooded tract in Maryland, and I image my parents were surprised when a knock came on the door, and there stood an air raid warden. I recall he had on a white arm band with black letters on it, but I was young and had not learned to read yet, so I don't know what they were. He also had on a white helmet, that was similar to, or in the same style as a WWI army helmet. There didn't seem to be much danger of us being seen located so deep in the woods and with only the light from a coal oil lamp, but people were very conscientious about doing their duty in war time, and we are thankful for all of those who stepped forward when needed, including the civilians who volunteered to serve as air raid wardens.

I mentioned coal oil lamps in the above; coal oil, also known as kerosene, was used in lamps to provide lighting where electricity was not available. The lamps were made of glass with a reservoir for the oil, a metal top that screwed onto the base with a wick that extended into the coal oil and a thin fragile glass chimney. The wick was about an inch wide and lit with a match, the flame was adjusted by a screw that moved the wick up and down and that done the glass chimney was put on top that was held on between three or four prongs around the top of the base. Only the females in my household were allowed to remove the chimney, trim the wick even, clean the soot off the inside of the chimney and replace it when needed; it was considered work could only be done by the delicate female hand.

The New Deal Policies of the 1930's and 40's were continued into the wartime period. Some of the programs brought many good things to the American people, rural electrification among them; no more coal oil lamps needed except in a power outage. Some farm homes in the Mayetta area were being hooked up to electricity by the fall of 1941. The Public Works Program paved and graveled our roads, built our lakes, swimming pools and some public buildings. Social programs were instituted such as Social Security and Unemployment Insurance.

But it came at a great price, some feel too big of a one, in that the federal government took over the running the nation's economy as it continues to do until this day. Before this time the economy was based on supply and demand with very little or no government regulation.

Mayetta had its first blackout, which lasted one hour and fifty minutes last Thursday night. The electric current went off at six o'clock and we were in total darkness until 7:50. The surprise came so suddenly that Timothy Tugbutton, Peter Shadscale and the writer went immediately secured our trusty firearms and awaited the enemy. We thought maybe Hitler was stealing a march on us with his airships and we were taking no chances. We waited in vain but no enemy appeared, but believe it or not, had an enemy been in the air he could not have found Mayetta. The cause of the darkness was that during the rain storm lightening shattered a light pole about two or three miles south of town which the light people repaired in the most possible haste. Of course we saved a little juice but had our temper much aggravated by losing out on several of our best Thursday night radio programs. ...

The last official act of Mayor C. G. Bertsch was to have the brick paved block of the business district cleaned of the accumulated mud. They accomplished the work by using the fire engine and hose. They did a mighty fine job of it. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 10, 1941.

The citizens of Mayetta were greatly excited Monday morning about 7:40 A. M., when they heard the scream of the fire alarm. The fire was in the rear of W. M. Seiberts barber shop. The cause of the fire was an oil stove which had gotten out of control. Mr. Seibert lost everything in the rear of his shop, his clothing, bedding and many other articles which cannot be replaced. The shop proper was also damaged by smoke. The only clothing which Mr.

Seibert saved was that which he had on. The timely arrival of the Mayetta fire department soon had the fire under control and saved the building. If the building had burned possibly many other buildings would have also burned. This is the first fire the Mayetta fire department has had to fight within the city limits since purchasing the fire truck about six years ago. There is no better investment for any town than a fire truck and an adequate water supply. Mayetta has four big fire cisterns which are located at advantageous points in the rear of the principle business blocks. Our firemen are to be commended for the efficient work in the Seibert fire. If it had not been for the quick response of the firemen Mayetta would have had a most serious fire. The fire today by the quick work of the firemen many times over paid the cost of the fire truck and fire cisterns. *The Jackson County Signal*, May 29, 1941.

We personally think that the wheat farmers did a good thing in voting in favor of the wheat quota. The vote carried by 80 per cent or four to one in favor of the quota. We hope the farmers will benefit by the new system. ...

Four car loads of soldier boys stationed at Fort Robinson, Ark., spent the past week end with their parents. The boys were from Mayetta, Holton and Denison. The Mayetta boys were Murl Jones, John and Francis Cummings, Lowell McKinney and Clarence Vaught. These boys are all looking fine and are making good soldiers. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 5, 1941.

Dagwood Bumstead of the radio last week, thought he had a million dollars so he brought an automobile with a musical horn, but his million faded away. But last week a party had an automobile with a musical horn passed on the highway several times, and he favored us with a nice tune on his musical horn.

Last Monday an overcharge of electricity blow up one of the cores in the local sub-station which put all of Mayetta out of the use of electrical current for six hours. *The Holton Recorder*, June 16, 1941.

Owing to the increases in the prices of all food commodities, the restaurants of Mayetta have had to raise the price of regular meals from 25c to 35c. ...

It seems that our farmers who have signed up on the wheat quotas are now in a quandary what to do with their wheat. The proposition don't look so flattering to them now that they have gotten into it. The way it looks to them now is that they will have to take forty two cents a bushel less for their surplus. Either the farmer or the elevator man will have to pay this forty two cents to the government. The way we look at it now is that the farmer voted it on themselves so they will have to take their own medicine. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 19, 1941.

The pipe line has now been all laid in this vicinity and is now being laid in the vicinity east of Holton. All the farmers whom we have contacted seem to be pleased with the manner in which the pipe line people have handled the use of their land by not destroying any of their growing crops. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 26, 1941.

The report came to Mayetta Thursday that two escaped convicts were hiding out on the reservation near Big Soldier. There were road patrols, sheriffs, police and farmers who joined in the hunt. Blood hounds from the penitentiary were brought, but a downpour of 2-1/4 inches of rain rendered them helpless. Some families from that vicinity came into Mayetta and spent Friday and Saturday nights. At last report they were still at large. *The Holton Recorder*, June 30, 1941.

Millions of youngsters and many elders will be greatly disappointed next year. The government has decreed that no fireworks will be made thereby saving the powder for self defense. *The Holton Recorder*, July 7, 1941.

Dr. Robert Robson, one of Mayetta's most highly respected citizens, died Monday night, July 7th, at the age of 85 years and 7 months. The doctor has been in failing health for the past few months. The doctor, with his family, settled in Mayetta fifty years ago and has been our leading practicing physician and had a wide and extensive practice in this community. No matter what the weather conditions were, he was always willing and ready to go to see his patients, and administer to their needs. He has traveled on foot, horseback, buggy and by automobile to wait upon his patients. During his practice, he has brought several hundred babies into the world. The doctor was a most ardent student on current events of the day and he had a most wonderful mind. He could give you quotations of Longfellow, Whittier, or any other noted writers, and at one time was the champion speller of Kansas. He always stood for law and order. He raised a fine family of children who would be a credit to any parent. He had four sons in the World War and offered his own services which was not accepted on account of his age and his liberal contribution of his sons and himself to take care of the practice in his home community. ...

Mr. Austin F. Page, (known by his old time boyhood friends as Fremont) arrived in Mayetta the Fourth of July for a visit with his sister, Mrs. Janet P. Ralston and brother Lon Page. Fremont was born in Leavenworth county eighty years ago and at the age of three, with his parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert Page, came to Jackson county where he lived until about his 20th year. After which he has been on his own for the past sixty years. He is a natural born artist and many homes in the vicinity have pictures of their loved ones made by his own hands. He painted the picture titled, "The Arkansas Traveler," which was a master piece and won the highest award at the St. Louis World

Fair and sold for a very high price and it is now valued at several thousand dollars. His work of art is in much demand. He has spent many years in college work as an instructor in penmanship and art. He is a noted lecturer and has traveled all over the United States, lecturing on Bible events. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 10, 1941.

The Farmers Grain elevator has had two steel grain bins erected. Harvey Jones and Virgil Castor did the erecting. Mr. Jones has put up about fifteen or more of these bins during the past fifteen days. It takes two men about six hours to erect a bin. There are from 700 to nearly 1,000 bolts used in each bin, according to their capacity. *The Holton Recorder*, July 21, 1941.

M. R. Locke, our Mayor, and his efficient committee who so generously donated their time in the gathering up of aluminum feel most grateful to the people who so generously donated their cast off aluminum in the drive for aluminum for national defense. The collection at Mayetta was many times greater than we expected and we all hope that it will be used to the best advantage of our nation. ...

If China and Japan shut off their supply of silk we don't know what the ladies will do for silk unmentionables. They will have to go back to wearing the old fashioned knit garments. If they do, then we can again have their casts offs for dish rags, dust clothes and washrags and dozens of other uses, and the men's cast off underwear of the knit variety made excellent mop rags. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 31, 1941.

Talk of going over the top - Mayetta donated 140 pounds of aluminum for the defense program. This amount is more in proportion to our population than any other town in Jackson county. Harrah for Mayetta and the people who donated the aluminum and to the committees who collected the aluminum. *The Holton Recorder*, August 4, 1941.

The majority of the Mayetta citizens enjoyed the unusual astronomical display last Thursday evening when a flowing heavenly body dashed across the sky from northeast to southwest. It left a streak of greenish blue in its wake and seemed to explode somewhat like a Roman candle. ...

There is a good opening in Mayetta for a physician, who could put in a line of drugs. Our physician for the past fifty years passed away and we are now without any resident physician. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 21, 1941.

The Mayetta city council will take steps to put a stop to some of the fast driving through the streets of Mayetta. Some of our young people are driving entirely too fast through the streets, and it must be stopped and some of the violators will be brought up before the police judge to explain why such a hurry and pay a fine for fast driving, so obey the law and avoid trouble and humiliation. ...

Some of our pessimists seem to think that maybe we might get a gun shooting war, but we believe that none of our boys will have to go overseas to subdue Hitlerism. If there is any trouble it will be on the ocean or in the air. Hitler knows if America does step into the fray that his destiny is doomed. Isn't it funny? Hitler got real peeved when the British went over and bombed Germany, but he thought it was all right to go over and bomb England. *The Holton Recorder*, August 25, 1941.

If the shortage of silk stockings gets more acute and the ladies have to resort to having their legs painted in lieu of genuine silk stockings, we are going to open up a ped-dal-plos-ity painting emporium, where the ladies can get any style of leg painted stocking color. The charges will be in conformity with the size and length. Anklets will be the cheapest and the higher they go, the higher the price. ...

The Kansas Gas and Electric Company who are building the high powered electric line about two miles east of town, received and unloaded a car load of copper wire for its construction last Friday. The material is being stored at the Canfield Lumber yard. There will be about thirty five miles of the line built in Jackson county. The line will consist of three heavy cables and two steel cables. The copper cables carry the electricity and the two steel cables are for lightning protection. The line will carry a current of 154,000 volts. There will be about 150 men employed in its construction. We understand that work is now in progress and it will require about six or eight weeks to finish the line through the county. ...

There is an urgent need in Mayetta for a Beauty shop operator, also a handyman who can repair shoes, soldering or repair any article that might be brought to him. We also need a man who will do odd jobs such as mowing lawns. We also have a good opening for a drug store and local physician. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 11, 1941.

Birth certificates are getting to be all the rage now days. It seems that is a person wanting a job now has to have a sworn birth certificate in order to get employment. Well, fellows, there is one place you can get a job, and that is in Uncle Sam's army. All uncle wants to know is that you are physically able. Uncle doesn't pay very high wages, but he furnishes you with good clothing and plenty of good food and no danger of labor troubles such as strikes. If you need medical attention he has the very best doctors to look after your ailments. ...

The Kansas Power and Light Co. erected a rural electric line last week from the southeast corner of town to the homes of W. A. Bohannon and Ben Whittington so these people will enjoy the convenience of having electric lights and electricity for all other uses you may need on the farm. There is a possibility that the line may be extended further east to the Alva and Edgar Salts' farms. Farmers or other should have all buildings well equipped with electric lights especially the barn, hen house, garage, wash house and a light or two around the yard. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 2, 1941.

The Kansas Gas and Electric Co. have a large force of men in this vicinity clearing the right of way for their power line, where they go through a timber they clear a strip one hundred feet wide. They cut the trees up into lengths to suit the owner of the land and burn all the brush. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 23, 1941.

The people of Mayetta and immediate trade territory were surprised and thrilled last Saturday when two of our leading Mayetta merchants greatly reduced the prices of all groceries thereby enjoying more than double of the past Saturdays trade. Our merchants went our neighbor towns much better on prices of all commodities which our neighboring towns usually offer as Saturday specials, and by our merchants so doing they enjoyed a great increase in Saturday business a business which had been going to neighboring towns. It behooves the people of the vicinity to patronize our local merchants. They sell for cash and pass on the savings to the customer. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 30, 1941.

The poles for the new electric power line are being unloaded from Mayetta. Some poles are 90 feet long, some are 80 feet. It took two flat cars to bring each load. *The Holton Recorder*, November 13, 1941.

There is some talk of the city purchasing some of the empty business buildings on main street for a city hall or auditorium. Let's all boost for it, as it is much needed and will be a big benefit to our town. *The Holton Recorder*, November 24, 1941.

Japan had began its conquest of its neighboring countries by invading Manchuria in 1931 and China in 1937. By 1938 Japan had gained control over Eastern China, which contained the majority of the county's major cities, industries and the most fertile farm land. In July of 1941 they invaded French-Indo China.

On December 7, 1941 Japan launched a surprise aerial attack on the American naval fleet in the Pacific that was based at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, killing 2,403 United States troops, and destroying much of fleet. Fortunately the air craft carriers were out at sea and the oil reserves were not damaged. The United States declared war on Japan on December 8, 1941 and on Germany on the 11th.

By March of 1942 Japan had conquered and controlled most of the little countries laying on or in the South China Sea and Pacific Ocean between China and Australia; they being Korea, Malaya, Singapore, Borneo, Burma, Dutch East Indies, and the Philippine, Solomon, Marshall and Mariana islands.

Our city dads made some repairs last week on the corners of some of our street curbing. Heretofore these corners had been square and the new ones are rounding.

Highway maintainers of Highway 75 are doing considerable repair work on the bad spots in the pavement. These heavy trucks does a lot of damage to the pavement and there should be a roadway for trucks only. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 11, 1941.

A lot of people thought we were just giving them some hot air when we were telling them of the scarcity of automobiles in the near future. From all reliable sources production of cars for 1942 will be reduced sixty percent, and if the war situation gets too intense and the materials used in cars will have to be made into defense machines so that we will be able to win the war. However, the writer has a Model T. Ford coupe that is in perfect condition and has only been run seven thousand miles and is as good as new that he will sell, worth the money, or will trade it for cattle, corn, wheat, or oats, and if no one wants it at our new low price, we know a boy who gets it as soon as he reaches the legal driving age which will be soon. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 18, 1941.

The State Highway department has just finished marking a white line in the center of the highway hoping that auto drivers might keep on the right hand side of the highway, but it doesn't seem to make much of an impression on the average road HOG. One day last week we saw a big truck straddle the white mark for half a mile. Only about fifty per cent of the drivers pay any attention to the marking. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 25, 1941.

War, always tragic, is made even more so when the casualty lists begin to contain the names of those from our own community, our friends, members of our family, or those whom we know.

This community was saddened by the news of the death of Milton Henry Davis, on the occasion of the Japanese

raid on of Pearl Harbor, December 7. Milton is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Davis of South Lincoln, Holton.

The Davises received the following message from the Navy Department at Washington, D. C.

“The Navy Department deeply regrets to inform you that your son, Milton Henry Davis, seaman first class, U. S. Navy is missing following action in the performance of his duty and in the service of his country. The Department appreciates your great anxiety and will furnish you further information promptly when received. To prevent possible aid to our enemies please do not divulge the name of the ship or station. Signed, Rear Admiral Randel Jacob, Chief of the Bureau of Navigation.”

Milton Henry Davis was born March 4, 1920 in Holton, Kansas. He attended the Holton schools. He joined the Navy on November 7, 1939. He received training at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station, after which he was transferred to San Pedro and later to Pearl Harbor on the Island of Oahu in the Hawaiian Islands. His rating was seaman first class. Up to the time of his enlistment Milton had spent all his life in Holton. ... Mr. and Mrs. Davis were expecting Milton home on a leave of absence and had just recently finished redecorating the home in preparation for his home coming. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 1, 1942.

Evert Martin received one of the greatest surprises of his life by receiving a Christmas photograph of his daughter, Iris, who disappeared 16 years ago, and Evert has been unaware of her whereabouts during the sixteen years until he received the photo of her. She is now living at Fairbank, Alaska. Her picture was taken in the winter style of dress for that region. The picture shows only her head and face surrounded by a big fur head piece. Her facial expression looks as natural as when she went away at sixteen years ago. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 1, 1942.

The Office of Price Administration, the OPA, began rationing food products such as sugar, butter, coffee, meat, fish, flour, and canned goods. Four types of ration books were issued during the war, the first, Ration Book No. 1 in January of 1942 was for sugar, and was also called the ‘Sugar Book.’

Each American man, woman and child, was given a book, or books, of ration coupons which each family had to sign up for every month. Each book contained stamps or coupons that had to be turned in when purchasing an item, such as a seven point stamp for a pound of meat, plus the purchase price. When you ran out of stamps you were no longer allowed purchase the item you wanted.

I can remember my mother using these stamps to buy food at the local general store. The stamps in the book were perforated like in those books used to hold postage stamps, the stamps in each book being a different color, each colored stamp being used for a different type of food. I remember that the red stamps were for meat products, perhaps because I associated the color red with meat.

We did not own a car so were not affected by tire rationing and of petroleum products, but we did use coal oil for lamps, but I don’t recall not ever having enough to light up the house from the darkness.

Cedar township is now fully organized to administer to the conserving of the country’s rubber supply relating to automobile tires and tubes. The Mayetta rationing board consists of R. P. James, Frank Hafer, and Clark Coleman. Before being able to buy a tire, you must first secure from the local board a certificate enabling you to purchase the tire from a local dealer. Our guess is, that many people will either have to walk or ride on the rims, or resort to the old time horse and buggy days. *The Holton Recorder*, January 5, 1942.

The Mayetta Council of Defense has placed W. H. Moore in charge of the collection and disposition of waste paper for national defense. Mr. Moore will be assisted by the F. F. A. organization of the Mayetta High school to carry out this work. ... Please leave your surplus scrap paper, newspapers or magazines on your front porch on these Thursday afternoons, so they may be picked up without delay. People living in the vicinity of Mayetta, who wish to do so, may leave their surplus waste paper at the James’ cream station. *The Holton Recorder*, January 19, 1942.

Mayetta and Holton people and the Indians of the Potawatomi reservation learned with regret this week that arrangements have been completed to erect a permanent quarters for the Indian Agency at Horton.

The Potawatomie Indian Agency was moved to Horton in April, 1938, and since that time has been headquartered in a rented building.

Upon the removal from the Potawatomi reservation west of Mayetta, the Potawatomi Indians appealed to their white friends to make an effort to secure the return of the agency to the reservation west of Mayetta, and to prevent its permanent location at Horton. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 22, 1942.

If the situation gets acute on restriction of using cars and getting tires and tubes, the Rock Island will have to restore passenger service on this line to take care of the traveling public. We would all welcome the resumption of passenger train service and we believe that the public would give it liberal patronage. Mayetta used to have good passenger train service and it could be brought about again if the public has to do away with their automobiles. ...

We observe that many of our local farmers are beginning to come to town driving the horses to a big wagon. We counted five on the street at one time last Monday. If they get to numerous our merchants or city council will have to provide hitch racks to accommodate the horse drawn vehicles. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 22, 1942.

The oil which is derived from the peanut is very essential for use in the defense plants, and the government will undoubtedly put a ban on the human consumption of the gubers. If so, it will meet with our approval, we love peanuts, but for the past twenty-five years have been deprived from eating them on account of our false teeth. *The Jackson County Signal*, February 5, 1942.

The generosity of the business people of Mayetta made possible the gift of a defense stamp to each student of the Mayetta grade school and high schools. Later each student in the rural schools surrounding Mayetta will receive one also. It is hoped each one will buy defense stamps until their book is filled. *The Holton Recorder*, February 5, 1942.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt put year round daylight savings time into effect on February 9, 1942, that lasted until September 30, 1945. This was for the purpose of making better use of the available daylight hours, especially in the summer. Clocks were advanced so that the sun seemed to rise one hour later in the morning and set one hour later in the evening

This changing of time makes quite a few of our townsmen get up earlier in the morning in order to get to work. The new time is more expensive to the town people than the old fashioned time, it makes them get up one hour earlier in the morning and by doing so they use more electricity and more fuel and they undoubtedly do not go to bed any earlier than before the change in time which will undoubtedly increase their light and fuel bill at least ten cents or more per day. The writer has two clocks, and we have our striking hour on the old time and the other clock is on the new time, so we are conducting our household chores on the old time. *The Jackson County Signal*, February 5, 1942.

Traffic on the highway may not be as heavy as before the restriction on tires, but last Sunday, February 8, from the hour of four to five p. m., 117 automobiles passed by our house, and we could not notice any appreciable reduction in their speed.

A man with a big touring car stopped at one of our filling stations a few days ago and ordered one gallon of gas. The man on the pump asked him if he was trying to wean it. He said, "No, it is all the money I've got."

Sammie Jones solved the conserving of tires to some extent. He has built a trailer and fitted it with shafts and drives a horse to it. He has rubber tires on the vehicle and it is easy running and makes no noise. Many of our farmers would do well to pattern after Sammie. They could fit their trailers with either shafts or tongues. *The Holton Recorder*, February 16, 1942.

Automobile progress: 1940, no running boards; 1941, no gear shift; 1942, no automobile and no tire tubes; 1943, horse and buggy days. ...

A red bird came out of hiding on Saturday morning and whistled through the snow and rain that it was going to be a "Wet Year." *The Jackson County Signal*, February 19, 1942.

We have not been bothered with much snow this winter, but when it does snow why can't the city council see that the snow is removed from in front of those few vacant buildings instead of letting it remain on the sidewalk and make a glare of ice and some one fall down, possibly break an arm or leg. It might cost ten or fifteen cents to remove the snow, but it might cost the injured person many dollars for doctor bills let alone the agony and discomfort. ...

Everybody was looking heavenward Monday night, not for enemy airplanes, but at the moon which was nearly a total eclipse. The sky was clear and everybody got an excellent view of the phenomenon. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 5, 1942.

We notice that the restriction on tires has caused quite a reduction to the use of automobiles. Many of our farmer friends are driving to town with teams. Our booster club is beginning to talk about having more hitching racks erected to accommodate the farmers who drive their teams to town.

Our merchants report that they begin to see an increase in business since the tire restriction has been put in force and the merchants have greatly reduced prices on groceries which you now can purchase in Mayetta cheaper than in any of the neighboring towns. ...

We visited the Chris Bertsch blacksmith shop last Monday and found Chris busy making repairs for a spring wagon for one of his customers. Chris says that much wagon repair work is now showing up since the restriction of tires. He also says just as soon as the farmers begin to come to town more plentiful that he will put in a feed yard and may start a livery stable to take care of the impending trade which will soon become upon us. *The Jackson*

County Signal, March 12, 1942.

The restriction on garters does not worry us an iota. We discarded wearing garters twenty years ago and substituted two safety pins to hold up our socks. Garters created a good place for chiggers to camp and since using safety pins we have not been bothered with chiggers. We are also well equipped with rubber collars and collar buttons and have plenty of them to last us the rest of our life. We believe in conserving. We have a winter work coat that we have worn since 1923 and it is good for many more years. We have a pair of rubber boots that we have worn since 1930 and they are good for ten more years of wear. They can dispose with cuffs on trousers if they want to. We never did like them. All they are good for is to catch dust and dirt. We are a constant smoker but we have a few cigars that we have been saving for the past thirty years. ...

The mumps are still going strong in Mayetta, in fact getting stronger all the time. Several of the parents are having mumps along with their children: Mrs. Sanderson, Mrs. Billy Isaacs, Mrs. Frank Hafer, Mr. and Mrs. Freddie Fitzgerald, to mention a few. The grade school is practically back to normal, but in the high school one or two students drop out everyday. It certainly upsets class work and it will be worse if the teachers take it. *The Jackson County Signal*, February 5, 1942.

After the war began all men between 45 and 65 were required to register for the draft; this second draft registration became known as the "Old Men's Draft," but men over 45 were never drafted. The length of a term of military service became fixed at the duration of the war plus six months.

Uncle Sam will hold another registration of men between the ages of forty-five and sixty-four, inclusive on April 27. This, of course, will take all the World War veterans who licked Germany once, and we will do it again. ...

There are only eleven men in Mayetta who will escape the April 27 registration. These eleven will have to be ready and willing to register in the sixty-five to eighty year old registrants. *The Holton Recorder*, March 23, 1942.

There is much agitation going on at the present time about workers in war munitions and other plants about only working forty hours a week. Of course these workers get only the measly sum of from eight to fifteen dollars per day and want double pay for overtime and holiday work. Now what about the farmer who works from five o'clock in the morning until about eight o'clock in the evening raising food stuff for our soldiers and our citizens. We don't hear the farmer complain, all he wants to do is raise all the crops he can possibly take care of and get a fair living price for his products. Does the farmer strike for less hours and higher wages? No, indeed, but works like a slave to make an honest living for himself and family and raise enough food for his son and your son who are in the army working day and night at twenty-one dollars per month to restore peace upon the earth. Our soldier boys should be paid double of what they now receive. Why not make the factory workers work for half of what they now receive?

This is a wonderful world. It is surprising and amusing how many old soap box orators can tell how they won the war and how they would run the government. We would suggest they buy a shotgun and join the army. There is now doubt in our mind but what the soap box orators would make excellent soldiers and would soon conquer the enemy and restore peace on earth. Of course a lot of them will have to register April 17th and a few are past the age limit, but we would not be surprised but what all of the old buck past sixty-five will have to register before the war is ended. If we do have to register and be mustered into service, it will be just too bad for the Japs and other enemy nations. Us old bucks have nothing to lose and much to gain for those who survive the conflict. All we want is guns and plenty of ammunition and we will do the rest. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 26, 1942.

During the period beginning 12:01 A. M., E. W. T., April 1, 1942 the following agricultural commodities and products are hereby designated as Blue Stamp Foods and subject to applicable regulations and conditions, may be exchanged for Blue Food. ... Blue Stamp Foods include: Shell Eggs, Corn Meal, Dried Prunes, Butter, Wheat Flour, Enriched Wheat Flour, Self-Rising Flour*, Whole Wheat Graham Flour, Hominy Corn Grits, Dry Edible Beans, Fresh Vegetables, including Potatoes, Fresh Pears, Fresh Apples, Fresh Oranges, Fresh Grapefruit.

*Self-rising flour is wheat flour which contains soda, phosphate and salt.

*Frozen foods and food in can or glass containers cannot be exchanged for Blue Stamps.

Fresh vegetables that have had their tops removed such as turnips, carrots rutabaga and other similar vegetables may be sold for Blue Food Order Stamps, as long as "Fresh Vegetables" appears in the commodity bulletin.

Garden seeds and onion sets may not be sold for either Orange or Blue Stamps.

Seed potatoes that are to be used for planting purposes cannot be sold for either Orange or Blue Stamps. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 2, 1942.

In Topeka Capital Sunday, March 29th, a most interesting account, headed, "Write from Beleaguered Corregidor Island in Manila Bay," letter dated January 28th, 1942, written by Ernest McAlexander, sergeant in the Sixtieth Coast Artillery, United States Army, now at Fort Mills on Corregidor. Ernest is confident that we will win the war

and he is getting along fine and seems to enjoy army life and he has been in the army for the past thirteen years. Ernest was born and raised near Mayetta and is the son of Cattles McAlexander. Ernest would be pleased to hear from any of his Mayetta friends. Our postmistress can give you the information on how to get a letter to Ernest. All his Mayetta friends hope that he whips the Japs and comes safely back home after the conflict is over. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 2, 1942.

First hand news straight from America's beleaguered heroes on Corregidor Island, in Manila Bay, reached Topeka yesterday in the form of a letter written by one of them, a former Topeka boy.

The writer was Ernest McAlexander, 31, a sergeant in the Sixth United States Army, now at Fort Mills, on Corregidor. ... the letter breathes with defiance and scorn of the Japanese besiegers and Corregidor's defenders seem to be confident the enemy will be driven back to Tokyo.

How the missive which bore a censor's stamp but with nothing deleted, was smuggled from the island stronghold and carried across the Pacific is unknown to any but military authorities but it indicates the Americans are not entirely cut off. The envelope bore these words at the upper right hand corner: "Soldier's Letter. No stamps available at present." Fort Mills, P. I. Jan. 28, 1942. Dear Folks, One and All: At long last will attempt to get a few lines to you but have no idea when they will arrive in the U. S. A., because of the effect of this war on communications, etc., as you will understand.

Hope this finds you all with thumbs up. As for myself, just the same as ever. Since the 8th of December, it was the 7th for you as we are one day ahead because of the International Date Line, life hasn't been exactly dull or uneventful. However, it could have been much worse and from all news reports (by radio) things are looking up considerably. We are able to get KGEI (Frisco) on the radio every night and so keep up on the latest developments. As you are also hearing at this time, a considerable number of Japanese warships and transports have been bottled up in the Macassar Straits between Borneo and Celebes and between the American and Dutch are having a pretty hard time of it. The last report stated about twenty-three have been sunk or badly damaged. For a country that is as spread out as far as Japan, twenty-three ships is no small amount. Let's hope for more in the future.

They have taken a good portion of Luzon, including Manila, but our troops seem to have them halted in Bataan Peninsula. I guess this will get thru the censor as it has been all over the news reports for over a month.

Every one here is more than optimistic on the outlook, however no one would be sorry to see a few reinforcements arriving all are hoping to within a short time. The main thought, desire and hope is when we can reverse the procedure and drive them completely out of the Philippines and directly into the heart of Tokyo. There has even been a pool or lottery started costing one peso a guess as to the exact time we will reenter Manila. The one guess closest to the exact time receiving the pool. Personally I hope the shortest guess wins.

We all get a big laugh out of the Japanese propaganda broadcasts from Tokyo, Shanghai and Manila. We are advised (by them) to stop the useless resistance and surrender, especially since a few days after the beginning of the war the Japs stated in their reports that we were completely wiped out. For a bunch who are supposed to have passed on several weeks ago, we seem to be giving them considerable concern.

Last Sunday, we were given an ultimatum by radio to surrender not later than Tuesday or they would "come over and take us." Well - this is Wednesday after the fatal Tuesday and they haven't done much taking yet. No attempts even.

From all reports, I guess it is the same in any war, the civilians in the occupied areas are the ones on the receiving the bad end of the deal. Especially the women and children. It seems to be the Chinese story all over again. I only hope that when and as soon as things start going the other way that the sympathy slingers and tear gushers won't have their way as they did in the other war and the "poor misled people" of Japan and Germany be given the opportunity to build another generation into a war machine such as they did last time. I don't mean to do as they are doing, but if they can't control their governments or warlords or dictators who are all one of a kind under different names, then let us have an army of occupation in the strictest sense of the word to see that this control is exercised.

I will send this to Mary (Mrs. Messenger) and she can see that all of you get to read it. I should have written sooner but decided that it was best to wait until things settled down somewhat. A great many of the fellows send radio messages the first few days of the war but as most of the action has occurred since then, it seems to me that it was practically useless.

Casualties have been surprisingly low here. I can't state the exact number but you would be surprised to know how small they are considering the number of men involved. I received a couple of scratches but not at all serious, just a little first aid and was as good as ever.

I suppose it will be some time until I hear from you, especially in answer to this. Hope that it isn't too long. As for any news from me, just remember that no news is good news and that mail may be held up for a time.

There is nothing I need or want. We are getting plenty of food and smokes, altho I haven't smoked for several years. It is true that there is no more Coca-Cola, beer, movies and other luxuries, at least temporarily, but after hearing a 500-pound bomb switch past your ears and boom in the vicinity, things like these take a secondary place in the scheme of things. I don't mind saying that a bottle of ice-cold beer or a quart of ice cream would be welcome

but life will go on without them.

As I said, this is "hello" to each and every one of you so Mary you will have to act as the clearing house, also to all you folks in Mayetta, etc. Would certainly appreciate a letter from any of you, or let's say all of you.

Let us say that Togo had "first bats" and has just swung for the third time and now it is our turn, and how! Keep up the good work there in every way and we sure will try to do our best here. Here is hoping that soon when you write me you will have to address it "Somewhere in Japan." We have no doubts here that it will be that way some day. It is only a question of time.

Will close now with love to one and all. Will try to write to you individually when I am certain that a letter will get thru with reasonable speed. Love and best wishes, Ernest. *The Topeka Daily Capital*, March 29, 1942.

11 March 1946. Dear Mr. McAlexander: I have the honor to inform you that, by direction of the President, the Silver Star has been posthumously awarded to your son, First Sergeant Ernest L. McAlexander, then Sergeant, Coast Artillery Corps. The citation follows: "For gallantry in action at Fort Mills, Philippine Islands, April 14, 1942. When an enemy shell struck a sleeping shelter, severely wounding a man therein and setting fire to the shelter, Sergeant McAlexander, together with Sergeant John L. Slivenick, 6692073, Battery F, 60th Coast Artillery (AA), without regard for his personal safety, voluntarily left a place of shelter and dug out the wounded man and carried him to an aid station, during which time shelling of the area continued. (Letter from Edward F. Witsell, Adjutant General of the Army to Mr. C. F. McAlexander. Copy on file in Mayetta Cemetery records.)

The Philippines fell in April of 1942 and over 70,000 American and Philippine soldiers fell into the hands of the Japanese army. They were marched 60 miles to a railhead from which they were to be further transported to prison camps; this march of sixty miles became known as the "Bataan Death March." Those men who could not keep up on the march, were killed by either being shot or bayoneted by Japanese troops along the way. Ernest McAlexander survived the march and went into two years of captivity in Japanese prison camps doing forced labor.

At first they froze the sale of autos and were going to make us ride bikes, but now they have frozen the sale of bikes and to make matters worse they have frozen the sale of lawn mowers. I don't know what us men are going to do for exercise unless we take up golf or hoeing the gardens and splitting up wood. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 2, 1942.

The Mayetta Grade School held its annual meeting last Friday afternoon. Much conversation was indulged in, in regard to installing lights in a couple of the school rooms which seem to be quite dark on cloudy days. We imagine the lights will be installed by the board when they can secure the equipment. ... There was some discussion about only having two teachers the coming term. We don't know what the results will be until the time comes for school to open. *The Holton Recorder*, April 13, 1942.

Our local egg buyer, Preston James, purchased direct and from the local merchants Friday and Saturday of last week, seventy-seven cases of eggs. This represents 2810 dozen at 25c per dozen, or \$577.50 which our farmers received in cash or trade. ...

Any farmer who has a team and plow can find plenty of gardens to plow in Mayetta. Of course everybody wants their garden plowed right now, and the average farmer is too busy with his own work to devote any time to garden plowing. A lot of the town folks will have to do as we did, spade up their own garden. All it takes is elbow grease and a great deal of energy. ...

One of our enterprising housewives heard over the radio and saw in the newspapers that there would be a drastic restriction on electric sweepers, so not to be left in the lurch in regard to a sweeper, she went to Topeka to buy one, that the merchant was honest enough to advise her that there was not and would not be any restrictions on the sale or manufacture of sweepers, so she put off buying the sweeper and brought a new coat instead. *The Holton Recorder*, April 16, 1942.

Registration day in Mayetta was most patriotically observed. Every registrant was eagerly ready to serve his country in any way that he was needed. The following are the number of each age as given to the registration board: 3 men, 45 years old; 6, 46; 9, 47; 9, 48; 13, 49; 10, 50; 11, 51; 9, 52; 8, 53; 17, 54; 3, 55; 11, 56; 9, 75; 9, 58; 5, 59; 8, 60; 7, 61; 10, 62; 4, 63, and 8, 64. Total 174 men registered: 133 white men, 40 Indians, and 2 negro men. ... This registration was 190 per cent larger than the one in February. *The Holton Recorder*, May 4, 1942.

Registration for sugar took place at the grade school in Mayetta last Monday afternoon. A big crowd was on hand to receive their books. Several hundred books will be issued at Mayetta. *The Jackson County Signal*, May 7, 1942.

Scientists have just found out that the festive dandelion has a commercial value in shape of a rubber substitute. We suppose that the people who have spent tireless hours trying to exterminate the dandelion will now turn their attention to the cultivation of them so that we may be able to have rubber on our tires. We predict that as soon as the dandelion finds out that it is an essential product that it will cease to grow. We have fewer dandelions in our yard this year than ever before. Now if the scientists can find a use for the cocklebur and the sunflower in a rubber substitute, the rubber situation would be solved. ...

Jerry Smith went to Kansas City Monday where he attended the Truckers meeting to see what could be accomplished in regard to the talked of restriction on what the truckers have to do in order to stay in business. It seems that the government has a plan in view that would make the trucker to haul a full load to the markets and then haul a seventy-five percent load on their return trip. Any trucker would gladly have a return haul of seventy-five percent but getting a return load is impossibility. If the restriction is put into effect it will mean that hundreds of truckers will have to go out of business, and the farmer will have to make some arrangement to get his own commodities to the market which will work a hardship on the farmer. *The Jackson County Signal*, May 14, 1942.

Which would you rather have, rubber for your tires and sugar for your table, or whiskey and beer to ruin your system and pocket book. Rubber and sugar can be made out of corn, wheat and other grain products which is made into whiskey and beer. We say make rubber and sugar, and make it a crime to make whiskey and beer. Of course some of the old soaks would rather have whiskey and beer. ...

All places of business in Mayetta will close at 11:00 A. M. and remain closed for the remainder of the day on May 30, Decoration Day. This will give every one an opportunity to go to the cemetery to decorate the graves of their departed dead, and also take part in the Decoration Day services. *The Jackson County Signal*, May 21, 1942.

If nothing happens to the strawberry crop there will be an abundance of strawberries; also the same can be said for the blackberries. But it looks as if the poor housewife will not be able to do much canning on account of the restriction on sugar. We, personally think that some of these so called restrictions are carried to extreme. ...

Herb Holcomb, who has a large strawberry patch on Big Soldier, will undoubtedly be a big loser this year. He has an abundance of berries but his customers are unable to obtain sugar in putting them up, and you can't put up strawberries without plenty of sugar. Mr. Holcomb has several hundred dollars worth that will go to waste unless the people are allowed sugar to put them up with. *The Holton Recorder*, May 25, 1942.

A house to house canvass for the collection of all types of waste scrap metal, rages and rubber, will be made this week according to plans outlined at the meeting of the Mother's Service Club [Holton] Saturday. Among the metal items desired are: iron, brass, steel, copper, zinc, lead, aluminum, discarded tools, metal beds, old hot water tanks, stoves, tire chains, pots and pans and anything made of metal of any kind.

In the rag class is included cast off clothing, burlap bags, draperies, mattresses, carpets, old bedding and cast of garments of all types.

In the rubber group are automobile tires, tubes, jar rubbers, garden hose, rubber boots, overshoes, goulashes, rubber heels, hot water bottles, old stair treads, rubber floor mats, water proof clothing made of rubber or treated with rubber. ...

The Mothers Service Club is promoting the campaign in an effort to help supply the needs of the defense industries for those vital materials and also to secure money to carry on the work of the club and the U. S. O. The proceeds will be divided between the club and the U. S. O. ...

Because the response to the call for waste paper was so generous it has swamped the mills and filled all available warehouse space. The local Boy Scouts of Troop No. 62 [Holton] will ease up on the collection of waste paper until the present supply is used up by the mills, when collection will be resumed. The waste paper is used in making paste board containers for ammunition. It is suggested that if possible paper be saved and not burned or otherwise destroyed as there will be a need for all of it as soon as the present stock is reduced by the mills. *The Jackson County Signal*, May 28, 1942.

The Jones-Robson building is being razed down to the top floor, and the lower part will be purchased by the city for an auditorium. This will give them a room 50X80 feet floor space. There is a basement under the whole structure which can be fitted up for a gym and dining room for the various organizations which are in the habit of serving dinners. The first floor will be used as an auditorium and will contain a stage which can be used whenever needed. ... the building is located right in the center of the business section ... *The Holton Recorder*, June 11, 1942.

The old rock buildings on the south side of main street are being razed. These were the first buildings in Mayetta, built of stone. Uncle Sammy Jones and his brother, Add Jones, were the masons who did the building. What will be done with the wreckage we can not say, but they will leave quite a space when removed. *The Holton Recorder*, June 11, 1942.

Army and other officials have expressed the opinion that more “token” or “face saving” raids from Japan are to come. They predict that the Midwest may be the objects of these raids, since both coasts are heavily defended and have highly organized Civilian-Defense protection.

The possibility that large scale sabotage of the ripening wheat crop might be attempted also is foreseen, with enemy planes at night dropping the highly-dangerous calling card which will ignite when dried in the sun the next day. All these potential threats to the middle west, the government has decided, necessitate the immediate organization of a trained and ready group of [air] wardens. *The Holton Recorder*, June 15, 1942.

We have given up sugar, gas, our socks and auto, but we don't care a rap. We are giving up our baths during the duration to save the soap to clean up the Nazis and Japs. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 18, 1942.

“Hannah,” did you ever try eating salt on your grapefruit? If not, just try it a few times. Salt gives them a fine favor and you will soon learn to eat them that way and save sugar. *The Holton Recorder*, June 22, 1942.

Mayetta and vicinity experienced the worst electrical storms on last Thursday night in the memory of our local inhabitants. The storm struck at 9:20 p. m. and kept it up for about three hours. The air was constantly filled with lightning and heavy peals of thunder. The rain came down in torrents. There was no wind. Everything was flooded. From June 4th to Friday morning, June 19th we had had rain on ten different days. Some days we would have three or four showers. The total rainfall from June 4th to June 19th was seven inches. The farmers have been greatly handicapped by the wet weather and the plowing of corn is almost impossible and much cut alfalfa has been ruined. We are all hoping that the weather will be more settled for the next three weeks, so the farmer can save his wheat and oat crops and get his corn laid by and gather the second cutting of alfalfa. The ground is thoroughly soaked with moisture. Wells and cisterns are full and overflowing.

Hoffa Smith has been busy all week pumping out cellars and caves that filled up after the big rains of Thursday and Friday night. In fact all over town you can hear the steady pump-pump as people with cellar pumps try to take the water out. With the ground so thoroughly soaked pumping is a discouraging business. ...

Chris Bertsch reports that the run off of street water went through his blacksmith shop and nearly washed his anvil away and he says that it also moved a big 150 pound shaping iron about two feet. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 25, 1942.

The sugar rationing board has been returned to Mayetta to serve the people of this vicinity. Each Monday and Friday evenings beginning at 7:30, the board meets and upon application will issue 11 pounds more sugar per person for canning purposes. Be sure to bring your sugar cards and the receipt for the first five pounds of canning sugar per person that you have already received. Stamp No. 7 on your card will entitle you to two pounds of sugar bonus. This may be purchased now. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 16, 1942.

Blanchard Nickel is the envy of the younger boys of Mayetta. He just recently found a Ford Coupe of the 1923 vintage and has converted it into a serviceable car. He has it painted with eight different colors of paint which gives it a most notable appearance. Blanchard is most generous with his car. All the young ladies and the young men get the pleasure of riding in it. If some circus or movie scout should be scouting around in this neighborhood they certainly would enter into a contract with Blanchard for the use of his car. It would be a most wonderful attraction. Blanchard is going up to Soldier to give his grandmother a ride in it. We know that she will enjoy it as much if not more than the younger generation. ...

The Dollar Laundry of Topeka is having trouble maintaining its route through Mayetta and other rural towns in this section. Roy, the driver who had operated the laundry truck for a year, was called into the service and because of tire shortage and the shortage of competent drivers the laundry service may have to be discontinued. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 23, 1942.

Mayetta merchants are not much concerned with the early closing laws that are confronting Holton. Most of the stores here are family affairs. But we wonder if there is a law forbidding a merchant's wife from working after 9:00 p. m. that might be good news for the working wife.

That might be good news for the working wives. Holton might turn their clocks back and go by sun time. That is the only time a farmer can use anyway. This war time might save the daylight, but it makes the merchants lose another hour of sleep in the summer. Some fellows go to work war time and expect the stores to be open for them, and the farmers quit work with the sun and need the stores open when they can come to town after dark. The only solution might be a noon siesta - close the stores from 12 to 2, and take a nap. *The Holton Recorder*, July 27, 1942.

Miss Nellie Walsh, our postmaster, reports that the Mayetta post office has a supply of V-mail for writing to the boys in service, in the armed forces stationed at certain points outside the continental United States. Call at the post office and ask for details. *The Holton Recorder*, August 3, 1942.

Hundreds of thousands of letters were being mailed to the outside of the continental United States, this and the return mail from servicemen and women took up a lot of cargo space on ships and airplanes that could be put to better use. V-mail was developed, a single sheet of paper about seven by nine inches in size that when folded became its own envelope. The V-mails were opened at armed forces mail centers, censored to delete any information that might have been of help to the enemy, then microfilmed and when reaching the other sides of the oceans, enlarged back into letter size. This saved thousands of tons of shipping space. The weight for 150,000 one-page letters was reduced from 2,575 pounds to 45 pounds.

Do you ever stop to think about it? There are only four boys left between the ages of 10 and 17 left in Mayetta. All the other boys have gone away elsewhere and got employment or are in the armed services of Uncle Sam. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 6, 1942.

The government has put a ban on the sale of rubber boots and it will not effect us at all. We brought a pair of rubber boots January 5th, 1930, and they are doing us good service today. And we are not disturbed over the rationing of meat. I see England only allows two and a half pounds per week per person, - that much would last us at least a month. ...

The Mayetta Study club held its first regular meeting last Thursday at the home of Mrs. Wm. Bohannon. Mrs. C. S. Lunger, the new president took charge of the meeting. It was voted to drop out of the Federation for the duration, and engage in war work. The club is sponsoring the opening of a Red Cross Sewing room in the high school building ag room and all the women of this community will be invited and urged to come help with the sewing. We hope also to organize a class in surgical dressing, which will be open to all who can participate in it. The women of this vicinity have felt the need of helping in the war work, and will welcome this opportunity to serve. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 8, 1942.

The work at the Red Cross sewing room is progressing nicely. Twenty-four garments have been finished and returned, and another supply is now on hand. All the ladies of the community are urged to help. The sewing room, at the high school building, is open every Wednesday and Friday afternoon from 2 to 5. Work may be done there or taken home.

Another effort is being made to reorganize a home nursing class in Mayetta. If no graduate nurse is available in our community, the county Red Cross chapter will try to see that one is sent in, if interest in the class warrants it. *The Holton Recorder*, October 22, 1942.

Although the men of the county were also involved in the Red Cross in supervisory positions, the women did all the heavy lifting. Quotas for each county were set for the amount of money to be raised for the organization, and lists of the people who contributed and how much each contributed were published in the newspapers. Nothing like peer pressure.

Edward Oren Pooler, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oren Pooler, brought a dollar's worth of War Savings Stamps on Wednesday of last week, but Edward had the misfortune to lose them some place on the street. If anyone has found the stamps and book, will they kindly return them to Edward. ...

B. F. Hafer brought the Sioux property on the east side of Mayetta at the tax sale Tuesday. The City of Mayetta brought the Mulryan lots on the south side of Main street. *The Holton Recorder*, November 2, 1942.

After the United States declared war on Japan and Germany, its first priority was the war with Japan in the South Pacific, and its entry into the war with Germany in Europe would have to wait until November 8, 1942. At that time, American and British forces landed in northeastern Africa, and began their push eastward to meet the soldiers of the English and Australian army who had chased the Italians and Germans westward out of Egypt. The English and French armies had been fighting in this area since the beginning of the war to keep control of the oil fields, the Suez Canal and to protect their shipping in the Mediterranean Sea.

By July of 1943 the Allied forces had gained control of northern Africa and on the night of July 9th launched an amphibious invasion against the island Sicily, which is located at the boot heel of Italy. By the middle of August the German and Italian armies were chased off of the island and the Allies next step was to use the island as a jumping off place to invade Italy.

On November 28, 1943, a meeting of the "Big Three," Joseph Stalin, leader of the Soviet Union, Winston Churchill, leader of the United Kingdom, and Franklin Roosevelt, leader of the United States was held in

Tehran, Iran for the purpose of determining the strategy to be used against the Axis powers. Each leader had differing opinions on what the next move should be, although all agreed on the opening of a second front against the Axis forces. Stalin wanted a second front on the west coast of Europe to keep Germany from transferring its troops stationed there to reinforce the German armies that were fighting on their eastern front against Russia. Churchill wanted to continue the fight up through Italy and northward into southern France. Roosevelt sided with Churchill, although American military leaders favored the opening of the second front in eastern Europe.

There are writers of fiction and non-fiction, who can tell a story so well you forget that you are reading a book and are transported along with them, seeing what they are seeing, feeling what they are feeling. War correspondent Ernie Pyle was blessed with this talent as shown in his book, "Here is Your War," with his on the spot reporting of the North African campaign.

The rationing of coal oil will possibly work a hardship on many of the rural citizens, as we understand it. You must make out an application and send it to the Rationing Board and then you will be issued a rationing book allowing you to a certain amount of coal oil for your lamps or oil stoves or any other method you have for the use of kerosene or fuel oils, and if you use coal-oil lamps and have not applied for your rationing book, it looks like you will have to go and sit in the dark or else go to bed at sundown.

The rationing of meat does not bother the writer in the least. We can't enjoy eating meat on account of our false teeth and the high price of meat nearly chokes us. We are eating fish at nickel a piece which is much cheaper than beef or pork, and we raise our own chickens and we can eat them. As for the rationing of sugar, our rationing cards keep us amply supplied. As for gasoline rationing we don't use it but we feel deeply sorrowful for the fellows who do use it and can't get along on four gallons per week. One of our friends who goes to Topeka once and a while says it takes the four gallons to make the round trip. ...

It is the things that people can't get readily that they want more than anything else. Take coffee for instance; it is now restricted and everybody is up in arms over the situation. We for one, don't care much, but of course we would like to have our morning cup of coffee, but there are many things that a real good beverage can be made of. We can remember back in the early 80's when we first came to Kansas that we used to use parched corn, or toasted bread crusts to make what we called coffee and it made an excellent drink. We would sweeten it with sorghum molasses instead of sugar. We have drank barrels of it and never complained and we can do it again and so can you. *The Jackson County Signal*, November 12, 1942.

Many people had switched over from wood or coal burning heating and cooking stoves to the coal oil/fuel oil stoves for heating and cooking. An oil stove was so much more convenient maintaining a constant heat, and the homeowner didn't have to feed the fire, clean the fire box or the ash box of ashes anymore, and no more dirt and dust that was generated from the wood or coal fires was spread throughout the house.

With the rationing of coal oil people had to go back to the old ways of heating their homes, and hopefully they hadn't disposed of their wood and coal stoves by donating them in a scrap drive. Twenty-eight rail cars of coal had been received in the year of 1942, and the number of cars of coal received more than doubled to sixty cars in 1943.

Jackson county is all set for the nation-wide rationing registration for gasoline consumers, which is scheduled for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, November 18, 19 and 20. ... All car owners be sure to bring your registration certificate and have your application completely filled out either in ink or with an indelible pencil. Application banks may be secured either at a garage or filling station.

Coffee rationing will go in effect throughout the nation on Saturday, November 28. Stamp No. 28 in the sugar ration book may be used for the purchase of one pound of coffee during the following five weeks period.

Sugar stamp No. 9 now redeemable at three pounds of sugar per person until it expires December 15.

Autoists who expect to apply for supplemental rations to enable them to drive to and from work, should make plans now to share rides with others needing transportation to their jobs. ... "to get more than the basic A ration, a car owner must join a car-sharing club to carry at least three other persons to and from work, or prove that he can not do so." *The Holton Recorder*, November 16, 1942.

The farm labor problem is getting to be very serious in this locality. What young men have not been called to war are working in defense plants, and many men who used to do farm work have quit the farms and are working in defense plants. Consequently we have not enough available workers to do the local farm work. At least fifty men could find plenty of work in this locality; corn huskers are badly needed and the wages are extra enticing. The farmer who is able to find a corn picker has to pay ten cents a bushel and a good husker can earn from seven to ten dollars per day in the corn fields. There is a great demand for corn huskers and wood choppers and men for most any other

kind of farm work. . .

Private John Blair who has been in training at Camp Robison, Ark., since his induction last spring reported Nov. 14 at Ft. Benning where he begins Officers training. *The Jackson County Signal*, November 19, 1942.

It is interesting that the restaurants have been allowed to purchase the same amount of coffee per month as used by them through September and October. There has been some hoarding along the line some place since many of the city restaurants for some time have not been allowing a second cup of coffee And in many instances would not allow a customer to purchase just a cup of coffee without ordering something else. . . .

The other day a woman of about 75 went into a retail store and asked for pins and needles. There were still a few of each on hand. She tried to buy several packages of each and was quite put out that the clerk would only sell her one of each. Then when she dumped her coin purse out on the counter to find her money, out rolled three new packages of needles that she had evidentially brought elsewhere. How is that for making an article scarce! One package of new needles would probably last her rest of her life. We wonder how many more she has stored up at home. *The Holton Recorder*, November 23, 1942.

On account of the shortage, or rather the restriction of being able to secure meats, the Snappy Cafe has discontinued serving regular meals, but is making a specialty of lunches. . . .

One thing that works quite a hardship on the farmers who sell their cream to the local stations is that the locals stations will only receive their cream on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. If you bring the cream in in restricted days, you will have to take it back home with you, which works a hardship on the farmer until he gets used to the days on which they will accept cream. . . .

The Rock Island painters have finished the job of painting the depot and they also put the Rock Island monogram and the name of Mayetta on once more. The new coat of paint has added much to its appearance. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 3, 1942.

The farmers will be glad to hear that the restriction of receiving cream, at the local stations has been lifted, and the cream station will now receive cream every day of the week. . . .

Our gasoline stations did a rushing business last Monday, it being the last day they could fill her up. One station reports that Tuesday he did not sell a gallon.

For the past few years horses have been a drug on the market but will soon be a luxury and will demand prohibitive prices on account of the gas restrictions. The people who have been enjoying the use of the auto with plenty of gas, joy riding to their heart's content, will now have to restrict their driving to about fifty or seventy-five miles per week as four gallons of gas does not get you very far away, and if you made a trip that took you far enough away to consume your four gallons you would be up against a very difficult proposition and might have to walk back home. And these poor boys in their teens who have been joyriding in dad's car will have to forgo that pleasure until the restriction is raised. It is too bad, boys, but you and your sweeties will have to walk for the duration, but that will save quite a sum of money from the expense of your joyriding. You boys might buy a horse and buggy. It's more fun than riding in an auto, you don't have to guide a good horse, just ask Granddad. You can get a good horse and buggy and harness for about four or five hundred dollars and their upkeep is very small. *The Holton Recorder*, December 7, 1942.

The Mayetta Lumber and Coal Co. during the past six months have made and sold forty-one wagon boxes. The also have made many brooders for little chicks, and many self-feeders for hogs, and a few feeding bunks for cattle feeding. By making these articles they have kept several men busy. . . .

The black out was a hundred per cent success last Monday night, event the moon observed the blackout by heavy clouds and a heavy fog. *The Holton Recorder*, December 21, 1942.

Mayetta was again visited last Saturday by another spell of winter. The earth was covered with a coating of about a half inch of ice and a light snow. Highways are most dangerous to navigate. To drive fast was inviting death or at least a wreck. It was almost impossible to navigate on foot, but so far we have not heard of anyone falling down and hurting themselves. Sand, ashes or salt is a good way to make walks safe. If a deep snow should now fall on this coating of ground covered ice it would undoubtaby smother out a great deal of the winter wheat. . . .

Our local sportsmen find no trouble in going out and securing a large number of rabbits for which they receive ten cents per head from our local buyer. A good marksman can just about play even at ten cents per head which remunerates him for his shells, and he gets a lot of exercise and sport from hunting. Rabbits are getting scarce right around close to town, but come on, boys, we have a few left and we thank you for killing them off.

There is some talk of rationing clothes. I don't see any need of it, the women have been rationing clothes for the past several years and are good to look at, but how would you like to see a man going down the street showing so much of his anatomy as the women do. No one would look around to take in the scenery, they have nothing worth looking at. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 24, 1942.

There has been a dearth of telephone batteries for the past few months, but we are informed that in a very short time we will be able to get what batteries we need. *The Holton Recorder*, December 28, 1942.

Many a family in this community had one or more empty chairs around the Christmas table. It is to be hoped that they all will be back safe home by next Christmas. *Jackson County Signal*, December 31, 1942.

From today henceforth - no one knows for how long, but at least as long as the war lasts - every man, woman and child in the United States with an income of more than \$12 per week or more than \$624 a year will pay the government a 5 per cent Victory tax.

In the case of the employee it will be a simple matter. His employer will withhold 5 per cent from each pay check or pay envelope and turn it to the Treasury department. Others, not coming under the withholding section of law, will have to save from their earnings or income and pay in a lump sum at the end of the year. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 7, 1943.

The County Ration Board has designated the Tire Inspection Stations for Jackson county. The board has been delayed in naming the places for inspection, waiting for detailed instructions. A school of instruction which was to have been held near the first of the year has been put off to the latter part of January.

All cars and trucks are required to have their tires inspected this month. Truck tires must be inspected must be inspected by the 15th and passenger car tires by the 31st of January. There will be a charge of 25c a car for the inspection of passenger car tires. A charge will also be made for the inspection of truck tires.

The tire inspection blank, which was given each owner when registering for gasoline, must be taken to the inspection station when car owners have the check-up on their tires. .

The following is the list of inspection stations ... 42-4 Connie Slattery, Mayetta. ... 42-25-Bob Shields Service station, Mayetta. *The Holton Recorder*, January 7, 1943.

The Mayetta Rock Island station handled the following business during the year 1942. Forward movement, 3 cars wheat, 23 cars corn, 10 cars oats, 2 cars Soy Beans, 6 cars baled hay, 4 cars walnut logs, total cars forwarded 48. The number of car loads received were, 1 twine, 3 cattle, 39 cars coal, 15 car loads sand, 4 cars lumber, 3 cars cement, 2 cars fertilizer, and 2 cars of highway oil. Total received 69 cars, making a total of 117 car loads handled by the station, a total earnings of \$13,125.00. The forwarding of grains would have been much larger but owing to the fact that thousands of bushels of both wheat and corn in government storage bins will be turned loose as needed. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 14, 1943.

Walter Mathews was in town Thursday with a team and wagon. The merchants will have to resurrect the old hitching posts for their horse and buggy customers. ...

The government put a ceiling price on corn last Tuesday. As we understand it, the price of corn cannot go any higher than the market was on Monday, January 11, and if we are not mistaken, the ceiling price is to remain for sixty days. The price being paid in Mayetta on Monday was 95c for white corn and 84c for yellow corn. *The Holton Recorder*, January 18, 1943.

There were only five children in the primary room Monday at the Mayetta grade school and only nine in the advanced room. The sub-zero weather and snow caused most of the pupils to stay at home. Miss Myers left her flowers in the school house Friday afternoon because of the spring-like temperatures, and spent the week end at home in Onaga. Monday morning the flowers were frozen stiff. ...

The blizzard of January 17, which continued until about nine p. m. January 18, will undoubtedly go down in history as one of the worse we have ever had in January, two days of blizzard in succession. The air was filled with driven snow by a very strong wind and the mercury got down to 24 below the morning of the 19th. The snowfall was at least three inches and was drifted by the wind. The storm was very hard on the fuel supply and very hard on livestock that was not properly sheltered. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 21, 1943.

Word was received Sunday from the war department by Mr. and Mrs. Alva W. Salts that their son, Lt. Ivan J. Salts is missing in action since January 14, Lt. Salts received his wings last August at Lake Charles, La., and was sent overseas to England in October. Early in December he was transferred to the North Africa theater of war. A letter from him written January 13 told his parents that so far he had not seen any action. All friends of Mr. and Mrs. Salts extend their deepest sympathy with a fervent hope that their son may yet be reported safe. *The Jackson County Signal*, February 4, 1943.

It is with great sadness that this community has learned of our first casualty of the war. Lieut. Ivan W. Salts, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alva J. Salts, has been missing in action in North Africa since January 14. This was evidentially his first action, since a letter written to his parents, dated January 13, stated that as yet he had seen no action. As we

understand it, Ivan was the leader of a convoy of fighter planes which clear the way for our big bombers to rain destruction on the enemy. This perhaps as dangerous a task as an airman can undertake to do. We do know that Ivan is a level headed boy, and would have made the most of his task without regard to his personal safety. He enjoyed the thrill of being able to fly from the first actual lessons in the air, and we know from the letters he wrote to his folks at home that he enjoyed his life to the full, no matter where he was. He wrote that the warm sun in Africa felt so good on his back after the damp, foggy days in England. Lieut. Salts had the choice of remaining in the United States as an instructor after his graduation last August, but he preferred to go across and do his part in actual combat. We sincerely hope that further word will come from the war department reporting Ivan safe, after all, and meanwhile our deepest understanding and sympathy go to his parents, and to his grandmother, Mrs. McMurray, of Mayetta, as well as to all his other relatives. *The Holton Recorder*, February 8, 1943.

Marvin Johnson, Principal of the Mayetta grade school, has been notified by his draft board that his teaching is listed as a non-essential occupation and that he must either go into defense work or be subject to the draft under the new ruling. Mr. Johnson has nearly completed a college degree with an Industrial Arts major, and will have no trouble obtaining a job along his special line. But Mayetta will be short a good teacher and we will be sorry to see them leave this community.

Mayetta grade school has built a fine post office in the primary room with a sign painted by George Fitzsimmons, 7th grade student, through which each Wednesday the children may buy War Stamps for their stamp albums. Last Wednesday was the first day the stamps were for sale and \$4.15 was taken in. Since all grade schools are participating in this stamp buying program, let's see if Mayetta can be a leader for her size of school. *The Jackson County Signal*, February 11, 1943.

The rationing of canned goods will not effect us in the least, as we do not use to exceed six cans of vegetables during the year.

The merchants who have on hand a stock of can openers are anxious to get rid of them. With canned goods rationing there will be no demand for openers. The government might as well call in all the surplus can openers and convert them into battle ships.

We read in our daily paper today that beginning with March 16, we will be allowed five pounds of sugar instead of the three pounds we are, or have been allowed.

There is much discussion as to when the war will be over. Some think maybe this year and some next year, and a few predict it will take three or more years. We predict the war will be over when America and its allies whip the stuffing's out of the Nazis and Japs. We may lose a lot of good men, but our trust is in God and our faith is well founded and we will win. *The Holton Recorder*, March 1, 1943.

Ration rate for dry beans, eight points per pound.

TIRE RE-CAP - No permit is necessary in order to get tires recapped. Farmers and others, do not neglect those tires which are in proper condition for re-capping.

WHAT SHOES ARE RATIONED? - Ration order No. 17 covers unused shoes in whole or in part leather or with rubber soles, including all ordinary types and hard-soled moccasins, play, platform and rubber-soled athletic shoes.

The regular ration stamp No. 17 from War Ration Book One entitles a consumer to buy one pair of shoes. During the period beginning Tuesday, February 9, and ending June 15, 1943. Other war ration stamps will be designated later for period of time specified by the Office of Price Administration.

Stamp 17 may be used by or for the person to whom it is issued or by or for a member of the immediate family who is related by blood, marriage or adoption and who lives in the same household. It must be detached from the book in presence of the retailer, or his agent, except in mail orders, when it may be detached and sent up with the mail order.

A consumer who does not have a valid shoe stamp and who cannot get a war rations stamp from any member of his family and who would suffer hardship if unable to buy a pair of shoes, may apply to his local board for a special shoe stamp or certificate.

TRACTOR FUEL having a flash point of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or over is fuel oil, in accordance with section 1934.5001 (or) (15). If the flash point is below 100 degrees Fahrenheit, the tractor fuel is not fuel oil but is gasoline and will be rationed as such. *The Holton Recorder*, March 1, 1943.

Never before and never since has there been such an intrusion by the government into people's everyday lives. Rationing of consumer goods was so stringent and the rules and regulations so constantly changing that I believe the people in charge of deciding what goods and how goods were to be rationed were often confused themselves. Not only were items rationed, the prices that could be paid for them were also regulated, a low and high limit set that an item could be sold for.

After the war there was a great amount of money in circulation and a pent up desire to buy all the things that had been denied to the civilian population during the war years and the economy boomed. The Depression was over.

Following is the official OPA list of foods that will not be included in the rationing program covering meats, cheeses, edible fats and oils, and canned fish: Will be Rationed.

1 - Meats, including all fresh frozen, smoked and cured beef, veal, lamb products in containers of tin or glass; all dried meats; variety meats, including sausages, brains, hearts, liver, tripe, sweetbreads, kidneys; bullion cubes, beef extracts, and similar concentrates; all dry, semi-dry and fresh, smoked and cooked sausages

including salami, pork sausage, baked loaves, wieners, scrapple, souse, head cheese and others; suet, cod and other fats.

2 - Fish; shellfish and fish products in hermetically sealed containers.

3 - Fats and oils, butter, margarine, lard, shortening and cooking and salad oil.

4 - Cheeses of all kinds except those expressly excluded. Rationed cheeses include cheddar (American), Swiss, brick, Munster, Limburger, dehydrated grated, club, gouda, Edam, smoked, Italian, Greek, processed cheese, cheese foods, cheese products containing 30 per cent or more by weight of rationed cheeses.

Not Rationed: 1 - Fresh fish, frozen fish, fish, smoked, salt, pickled fish, fish in containers not hermetically sealed.

2 - All poultry and game, whether fresh, frozen or in cans or glass.

3 - Olive oil when not blended with other ingredients; salad dressings and mayonnaise.

4 - Soft or perishable cheeses such as cream cheese, Neufchatel, cottage, pot, baker's, camembert, liederkranz, brie, blue, cheese spreads made with a base of cheese which is not rationed: cheese spreads and cheese products containing less than 30 per cent by weight of rationed cheeses. *The Holton Recorder*, March 15, 1943.

The Mayetta school children keep upping their weekly proceeds from their war stamp sales. This week they sold more than \$20.45 worth, which was \$3.00 more than last week. Most of the children work to earn the money they buy the stamps with, which is good training in citizenship as well as patriotism. *The Holton Recorder*, March 22, 1943.

Felix Cooney is one of our industrious farmers who is getting right behind the government in producing grains that will produce oil. Last year Mr. Cooney raised forty acres of flax which yielded ten bushels per acre and he received over two dollars per bushel. This year he will double his acreage of flax and if it is seasonable he will raise about 800 to 1000 bushels of flax. We are informed that many of our other farmers are also going to put in flax this year.

Here is good news for the farmers and truckmen. The government has now made it possible to give them all the gas and fuel oil to take care of their needs this year. This ruling will make the farmer feel more happy and give him a chance to farm and raise all the products for the men in uniform and our allies and plenty for home consumption.

...

WANTED TO BUY - 10 pounds of sugar, one pound of butter.

The freezing by the government of the several commodities caused an immediate run on our stores for the articles to be frozen, but many of our people failed to get supplied and consequentially will have to eat butterless bread until March 29. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 25, 1943.

There will be about seventy victory gardens planted in Mayetta this spring which will greatly conserve food for our armed forces and at the same time save the gardeners' a considerable sum of cash which they have formerly paid out for garden vegetables, and it will also give many of them the much needed exercise they need. Our merchants report a big demand for garden seed. ...

Several poultry raisers in Mayetta have already received their new baby chicks, and a big demand has begun for large cardboard boxes to house them in the kitchen for the first two or three weeks until they are big enough to be put outside. ...

The Mayetta Grade school is planning an old magazine drive on Friday, April 2, and would like for each household to collect all old magazines to have them ready for the children when they canvass the town for them. The proceeds from the sale of these magazines will be given to the Red Cross and each child will be given a Red Cross badge of membership. *The Holton Recorder*, March 29, 1943.

For the last week the back yards, fence rows and woods, have been covered with clumps of wild violets in bloom. The sweet violets are still blooming, too, for those fortunate enough to have a start of them along the shady places in the yard.

It is the opinion of this writer that the fruit crops, such as cherry, apple, and plum and pear, were not greatly

damaged by last Wednesday's freeze. When it freezes in the light of the moon, the blossoms have a better chance of withstanding the cold. However, the egg laying insects were probably killed which would suit all those who do not care for wormy apples and cherries. *The Holton Recorder*, April 19, 1943.

When a nine-year-old boy invites his sister and her girl friend to play with him it sounds like this; "Hey you moss flowers! Let's play ball." *The Jackson County Signal*, April 29, 1943.

The government had a few more tools for raising money to finance World War Two than they did in World War One, one that was financed by the selling of War Bonds. In 1939 four million people were subject to pay income tax, by 1942 forty million people were, and tax rates were increased at all different levels of income. The government had also been involved in measures increasing people's income and these increases in income made more people subject to paying income taxes.

The government began selling securities to the banks who used them to expand their credit loaning. The amount of money in circulation rose from eight billion to twenty-seven billion during the war years. This made for inflationary times, people having money, but very little to buy with it. It did mean that people that had surplus money invested it in War Bonds.

War Bond sales were still the most important source of money for the government. Each state had a quota of bonds to sell, as did each county in the state, and each township and city within the county. As each War Bond drive was over and the country's quota of money was raised, a new War Bond campaign began.

Part of the selling of War Bonds was a program that was started in local schools. Children were issued empty booklets in which there were spaces to paste war bond stamps. When the book was filled and turned in, a war bond would be issued to each child in their name.

Before the war they were known as Defense Bonds or Liberty bonds, during the war, War Bonds, after the war, Victory Bonds, and then became the Savings Bonds that we have today. In grade school in the late 1940's, when I attended grade school, the sale of stamps was still going on and children were encouraged by the teachers to participate. Coming from a family that was still economically struggling from the effects of the Depression I did not buy any.

For sale - Model T Ford coupe, only run 7,000 miles good as new; has a self starter and good tires, will sell for cash or War Bonds. V. R. Lunger.

The Mayor and City Council have designated the week of May 5 as Clean Up Week for Mayetta. Please collect all the trash and rubbish lying around your premises, burn as much as possible, the remainder to be put in containers and placed next to your alley. The city has arranged to have the trash hauled away the latter part of the week. ...

The Mayetta grade school children sold a total of \$14.00 worth of scrap paper last week. They are continuing their drive this week. Their bond sale has gone over the \$500.00 mark and still going. Mr. Walker, with Miss Myers as an added chaperon, took his students to the show at Holton Monday evening. They all report a good time. *The Jackson County Signal*, May 6, 1943.

The grade children's war bond stamp drive which began in real earnest the last week in April and closed last Friday totaled \$1,019.00. This is in addition to the sales of February, March and the first three weeks in April. The grade school children are to be rewarded for their efforts in the bond drive by having a real jeep to christen. The jeep will be in Mayetta Friday and no doubt the children will be giving rides in it. *The Jackson County Signal*, May 13, 1943.

Mayetta grade school closed with a bang last Friday evening with a basket supper for the pupils and patrons, and a fine program by the children, directed by Miss Myers. Highlight of the evening however, was the arrival of three soldiers from the Topeka air base, bringing a jeep for the children to see and ride in. Sgt. Joe Cunningham, whose home is in Philadelphia, acted as chauffeur, making uncountable trips around town, each time with the jeep loaded to capacity. Pre-school children got to ride and so on up through the junior class students in high school. Miss Myers went on one trip too, just as it began to rain a fine chilling mist. She asked if there was anyway to curtain it up against the weather, but the answer was no. Miss Myers said she had ridden in so-called jeeps when she was still new contraptions on the road, so the ride wasn't such a new thing to her after all. The children, however, had the time of their lives, some taking as many as three rides in spite of the rain. The call to supper finally stopped the taxi service, and over a hundred people lined up to be served cafeteria style the excellent food provided by the women of the district. After supper the children gathered around the other two soldiers, Cpl. James Harding of Philadelphia, who entertained them with slight-of-hand tricks, and Sgt. Joe Mecellari, San Francisco, who entertained the groups around him by singing old ballads. As one fifteen-year-old high school girl remarked later, "It was the best time I ever had in my life!" *The Jackson County Signal*, May 22, 1943.

Mrs. John Spohrer has one of the finest victory gardens in Mayetta. She has numerous varieties of vegetables growing and the garden is clean as a pin from weeds. She has at least 50,000 tomato plants and pepper plants and a fine big patch of several hundred cabbage plants, also of sweet corn that is now knee high; also an abundance of potatoes and lettuce and strawberries and onions. It takes lots of hard work to have such a garden but she will be amply repaid for her work in having raised so much to keep down the high cost of living. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 3, 1943.

With the rationing of food, the home garden became more important than ever. Victory Gardens were planted all over the nation, even in vacant lots in large cities, providing one third of the nations produce.

People who live in or near a small town are fortunate these days. Many strangers stop in Mayetta to buy all things from films to canned pineapple and salmon. One visiting lady last week discovered there was still canned kraut in Mayetta and brought a few cans to take home to a large city. *The Holton Recorder*, June 7, 1943.

The writer has been appointed weather warden for the immediate vicinity. His duties are to report to the Government Air Base at Topeka all approaching dangerous looking storms. We are hoping that we shall not have any to report. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 10, 1943.

Mrs. Chet. Moore had the misfortune to catch her hand in the electric clothes wringer Monday morning, crushing her hand badly and causing much pain. There were no bones broken but her hand was badly torn and bled profusely.

Mrs. C. G. Mickel drove to Mayetta Monday morning to pick the crop of peas from the early garden she planted before moving to Topeka. She was quite disappointed to find that someone had been there ahead of her and the patch was about stripped. She had spoken for her garden before she left, since there is no family living in the house at present, and in our opinion it was very small of an outsider coming in to gather her harvest. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 17, 1943.

Raspberries are beginning to get ripe for those who are fortunate enough to have a patch. They come on each year to take the place of the strawberries as soon as the latter are done.

The north end of Mayetta had a mad dog scare last Tuesday. Three large hounds, apparently ill, roamed at large, scaring children and some grown ups. The city marshal rounded-up his rifle and put them out of the way. - It was discovered later that the dogs had been poisoned. *The Holton Recorder*, June 21, 1943.

The free shows on Saturday nights are attracting large crowds of people, and the shows have been outstandingly good. The white square painted on the side of the old Robson stone building makes a much better screen than a white sheet blowing in the wind.

Last Monday morning when Mrs. Mickel drove to Mayetta to pick the peas she had left in her garden and found them picked already, Mrs. B. F. Hafer invited her down to her patch where they picked several pounds. Friends of Mrs. Mickel will be glad to know that she had not made her trip in vain, and has several pints of peas to show for her trouble, after all. ...

In our news letter last week, we mentioned the fact that some unknown party had picked peas on the residence property formerly occupied by Mrs. C. G. Mickel. Mrs. Chester Moore informs us that she was the party who picked the peas, and states that she had been giving permission to do so by the owner of the place, Mrs. Lora Blandin. Mrs. Mickel states that before leaving for Topeka she had spoken to Mrs. Moore, who had charge of renting the place, about returning to Mayetta later to pick the peas. These are the facts as nearly as we can get them. We regret if there has been a misunderstanding. It was not our intention to be unfair in our item and if we were, we are glad to offer our apologies. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 24, 1943.

Human being could take a tip from the chickens. They are up and out at the crack of dawn and do their work while it is cool. Then when the sun boils hot, they retire to the coop, or a shady place in their pen and remain immobile until the late afternoon. Maybe if we had feathers we wouldn't try to work in the heat either.

Children have such boundless energy when it comes to playing, but are soon to wilt down when there is a little work to be done. The children in our neighborhood will spend all afternoon building a tree house or a tent and bother their mothers to no end for old blankets and quilts and sandwiches and cookies - will work in the boiling sun at their own enterprises, but just let mother ask for a bucket of water, a refill on the oil tank or a few sticks of wood, and the crew has vanished away like a morning cloud. *The Holton Recorder*, July 19, 1943.

Considerable vegetation is growing along the fronts of most buildings in the business block in Mayetta. We suggest that the owners or City Dads have them removed and make our main street look more neat in appearance. The writer removed them from in front of the Masonic building. ...

The City dads had all the streets dragged last week. All our streets need resanding or covered with crushed rock.

...

So this is the good old summer time. The moisture in the air combined with the temperature ranging from 90 to 100 make breathing rather difficult, to say nothing of working. To be really hot, however, one should do a large canning where you process the jars for three hours in boiling water! And maybe have a coal fire to cook on at that! *The Jackson County Signal*, July 22, 1943.

The other afternoon one of the local merchants noted several blow flies buzzing about his store. When asked if anything around was dead, he replied "It might be business." *The Holton Recorder*, July 26, 1943.

Corn and tomato canning is now at its height. Mrs. A. R. Appier of the Snappy Café, has already canned forty-one quarts of sweet corn and is busy today, Tuesday, canning a bushel of fine ripe tomatoes. Mr. and Mrs. Appier own a farm a mile and a half north of Mayetta and they raise all their garden truck. Mrs. Appier will probably be able to put up three or four hundred quarts of vegetables which will greatly reduce the high cost of living, besides furnishing their hundreds of customers home canned goods right off the farm. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 5, 1943.

Well, we finished the corn canning process by dumping six pints out of one batch of 13 pints we canned last week. We are blaming rotten jar rubbers for our loss. They were unused, but couldn't take the long boiling with out stretching out of shape. (Sixteen pints canned later are keeping - we hope.) *The Holton Recorder*, August 9, 1943.

There was probably a shortage of the rubber rings that were placed on top of the jars that provide an air tight seal between the jar and the lid. Unused rings could have gotten old sitting on the grocers shelf or in the kitchen cupboard and became "rotten," or it could be that the only choice available was to use the rings that were saved from previous canning's. It would seem that the last thing that the government would want to ration were canning rings, and perhaps they never were and the factory's just didn't have the time or material to make them.

Since taking the rationing off of coffee, there has been a big slump in the sale of that commodity. It always seems that the things a person is denied are always in big demand. When they take the restriction off sugar no one will want sugar. ...

What Mayetta needs a water works system and a municipal swimming pool. The city has just got a place for the swimming pool, the basement of their large 50X80 stone building could easily be converted into a swimming pool with a very small cost, and the upper part of the building could be converted into an auditorium at a nominal cost, and the open space of ground on the lots east of the building could be converted into a small park by setting out shade trees. The north end of this plot of ground is already unitized as an open air picture show grounds. The city already has a small building where they store the fire equipment and hold city elections. The recently purchased city building will some day in the near future be remodeled and this will give Mayetta a good place to hold any kind of gathering which may come this way. If they will put in a swimming pool we will buy a bathing suit that will startle the neighbors. ...

Out thermometer the past few days is somewhat like the government - It has been fooling around with big figures, like a hundred or more, which is pretty hard on all kinds of vegetation and human beings. We are all hoping for cooler weather and some moisture. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 12, 1943.

The Mayetta road gang is grading up the streets of Mayetta. We think they are doing it to bring on a nice, prolonged rain, because we never knew it to fail that freshly graded roads were made impassable by the mud. The crew gave three little boys a good work-out the other afternoon, "letting" them pick up larger stones from the road and help move the culvert bridges. The boys were tired out by evening, but thought they had had a good time. *The Holton Recorder*, August 16, 1943.

The City Dads of Mayetta are having all the streets and alleys regraded, getting ready for paving of some description. To our notion the best and most substantial paving would be brick, cement our blacktop, but of course they will be covered with sand which will be better than no paving at all. Many of our streets are quite sloping and when a heavy rain comes the sand washes away. Of course the brick or cement paving would be expensive but it would last a lifetime and in the long run would be the cheapest. ...

No wonder everybody talks about the weather. Kansas has such a variety the topic never gets too boresome. After burning to a crisp last Friday and Saturday, we refused to wear a jacket Tuesday morning and nearly froze going to town early. Such a drop in the temperature makes us think that fall and the opening of school are nearly upon us. Also, what are the little boys going to wear to school since the manufacture of blue chambray shorts has been stopped? Can we cut down father's old pants to make a pair for son, and if we do, what will father wear? As one

woman put it, "I guess we will have to learn to spin and weave again." *The Jackson County Signal*, August 19, 1943.

It seems good to hear the children at recess again after a quiet summer. Have you ever run in to visit with a neighbor for a few minutes and have that few minutes spoiled by her constant apologizing about the way her house looks, her hair is not combed, and how dirty her dress is, when what you wanted to talk about how the children like their new teacher, how many tomatoes does she have canned, and how does she like your new hat? Remember that - the next time some friend or acquaintance catch you in a dirty dress and the house looking like a tornado struck. Tell her how pretty SHE looks (if she has dressed up), ask her what SHE has been doing, and about things you know she is interested in. She will go away glowing over her lively visit with you and not remember that you were in a mess at all! *The Holton Recorder*, September 13, 1943.

Housewives up and down Second street, were late with their house work Thursday morning, trying to keep up a lookout on the progress of the Spencer oil truck which was stuck for an hour in the newly graded street in front of Frank Grinnell's. It tore up the west side of the street, sliding along perilously close to the ditch, then made a huge lunge for the other side and nearly went into the ditch there. The big trailer truck is as big as medium size house. ...

Tuesday evening the Mayetta merchants attended the "price ceiling" meeting in Holton, and came home very disgusted. For instance, the ceiling price on pancake flour is one cent less than it cost wholesale, and the speaker admitted it was wrong but there was nothing to be done about it. The sum substance of some of the low price commodities will be in the same place as small overalls. There won't be any available on the market. Most of the merchants who have been in business a long time, know how much mark up it takes to stay in business, and when some fellow who went broke in business tries to tell the still solvent ones how to do it, it makes them mad - and their wives too! ...

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Medlock of Mayetta received the following V-mail from their grandson, Pfc. Vernon Medlock: Dear Grandfolks: I suppose you are wondering what has happened to me, or maybe you know by this time.

We had a nice trip all the way across, considering the circumstances. A few of the boys were seasick for a few days, but they soon got over it.

We are over in North Africa now and actually seeing some of the people and things we used to see in picture shows. A great percent of the people over here are Arabs and they live more like hogs than human beings. They wear sheets, mattress covers, and any thing they can get for clothes. In place of automobiles most of them have a donkey or an old horse hitched to a cart.

Well, I've run out of paper, so will close. Your Grandson, Vernon. *The Holton Recorder*, September 27, 1943.

Joe Jones has again started his sorghum molasses mill and is busy day and night making good old sorghum molasses. Joe has five acres of cane and his neighbors also have patches of cane to be made into good molasses. There is nothing so good as sorghum molasses on pancakes. Joe is an expert molasses maker, he has made molasses for the past forty years and always finds a ready sale for his surplus stock.

The Mayetta Lumber and Coal Co. delivered two chicken houses last Tuesday, one to Carl Seigle and one to Charles Buchner in Topeka. The lumber yard has made and sold ten or more of these chicken houses during the past few months.

There seems to be an epidemic of people buying farms in this neighborhood. Last week we reported that eleven farms had changed hands. Stanley Baum has brought what is known as the Lindsey farm, on Highway 75, three miles north of Mayetta, and Harry Oldweiler has brought the Ray Haun farm two miles southeast of Mayetta. *The Holton Recorder*, October 4, 1943.

John Dutt and Connie F. Slattery should be rewarded a medal of honor by the city of Mayetta. For some time the writer has been suggesting that the growth of weeds growing in front of the various buildings on the main business block should be removed. The above two gentlemen took our advice and one day last week they got busy and cleaned the weeds and the deed makes Mayetta look more like a clean city. Now if the city dads would organize and get some arm-strong mowers and cut the weeds on the new city acquired lots, Main street would look much better. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 7, 1943.

At last we are getting our streets re-sanded. The work began last Wednesday. Jerry Smith is doing the laying. *The Holton Recorder*, October 18, 1942.

Crutches and canes are getting stylish on the streets of Mayetta. Harvey Jones has been using a cane for two or three weeks since his fall at the store and B. F. Hafer went him one better with crutches to aid a broken leg, and now Thede Potter is using crutches to support a sprained ankle.

And speaking of broken bones, Clyde Landon is about laid up again. This time with a broken rib.

B. F. Hafer says all the stories about how he broke his leg are all wrong. The real facts are that he stumbled over

some of the OPA's regulations and pierced his leg on some ration points he was carrying home that evening to count.

The Kansas City Star last Wednesday evening carried a picture of Sgt. Harold Rogers of Hollywood, Calif., tail gunny, who had just completed his 25th bombing mission from England. Mayetta friends will remember Sgt. Rogers as the husband of the former Rosie Grinnell, Mayetta girl, and now a Hollywood movie actress. The Rogers visited with relatives in Mayetta about a year ago. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 28, 1943.

We notice that Hafer's store is carrying quite a nice line of rubber footwear, something unusual in these duration times - men's four buckle overshoes, women's galoshes, and men's slip on rubbers. ...

The first car of oil pipe and casing were unloaded at the Rock Island depot last Tuesday and Wednesday and drilling is scheduled to start Nov. 26. We have not been informed yet where the drilling will be made, but we are all hoping that a good paying oil well will be the result of the test. *The Jackson County Signal*, November 4, 1943.

Twenty-five hundred feet of iron pipe for oil well casing was unladed in Mayetta last week. The McLaughlin Development Company of McLouth has leased a large block of land in this immediate vicinity, and according to the wording of the leases, drilling will be started on or before November 26. The supposition is that the first test well will be drilled about two or three miles from Mayetta. We are also informed that there are three possible locations for the well. We are hoping that oil will be found in paying quantities and we firmly believe that oil can be obtained if they put the drill down deep enough to find the oil. No one as yet seems to be very excited over the oil test but all are anxious for the test to be a success.

The state highway department has been busy for the past several days distributing snow fences on the east and west roads and on the north side of the roads as the high drifting winds that pile up snow usually come from the north. Farmers along the highways are generally willing to have the fences erected in their fields as it is one way of getting ample moisture for their fields when the snow comes. *The Holton Recorder*, November 8, 1943.

There is no use of any one to be without some kind of fuel if they will only come to Mayetta and get all the FREE COBS they can haul away. Mayetta has in the neighborhood of five hundred loads of cobs which any one can have free of charge if they will just come and haul them away. Cobs not only make good fuel, but are also a good fertilizer for your land and can also be used for many other things. Get your free cobs now. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 16, 1943.

Sgt. Charles E. Warrington was in the landing at Tarawa in the Gilbert islands, according to a letter received by his brother Talbert. Sgt. Warrington is a graduate of Mayetta High School, class of 1939. He has spent 25 months in Samoa. He was home last spring. He was stationed in North Carolina during the summer. Last fall for the second time he was shipped over seas. He has been with the Marines for years, enlisting in 1940. He says there are sure plenty of dead Japs over there.

We have from fifty to one hundred rabbits on our farm and we urge any of our sportsmen to come and get all they can shoot. Our rabbits are nice and fat. We feed them alfalfa. They are easily found now while the ground is covered with snow. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 23, 1943.

The oil well casing which arrived three weeks ago was taken out to the oil well last Saturday and Sunday. The well is being drilled on the Will Kelly farm, two miles east of Mayetta. They are now down 300 feet or more and drilling both day and night shifts in drilling. ...

Mayetta has been very lucky during the past few weeks. Our coal dealers have had an ample supply of coal to supply the immediate demands but we still have several hundred loads of cobs that are absolutely free to anyone who will come and get them. *The Holton Recorder*, December 27, 1943.

The writer would like to get in touch with someone who can supply him with cook stove wood, either ready for the stove or cut in blocks cook stove length. ...

And now comes the New Deal (by any other name it stinks the same) planning to subsidize underprivileged families with extra food. [The beginning of the Food Stamp program.] Who decides which families are underprivileged? An army of federal employees, paid from the taxes we pay! And, the idea? Why, it's election year! We would think this administration would scarcely have the gall to propose such an idea! *The Holton Recorder*, January 10, 1944.

The Mayetta Rock Island station had an extraordinary good business, Car loads received as follows: 1 car oil well pipe, 6 cars of fertilizer, 5 cars cement, 7 cars lumber and shingles, 22 cars sand and gravel, 1 car salt, 28 cars coal, 1 car cattle, 2 cars mill feed and 1 car of corn, received 85 car loads. Shipped out 22 cars wheat, 43 cars of corn, 7 cars oats, one car soybeans, 17 cars of hay, 1 car of trucks, and 2 cars of walnut logs, total shipped out 93 cars making a grand total of cars handled at Mayetta, 178 car loads, total revenue was \$20,101,00.

The City Council and the mayor have forbidden sleigh riding on the streets and sidewalks of Mayetta. This action has been taken to avoid any accident which might occur. We hope that none of our young people will disregard this ruling. ...

The old grey mare may not be what she used to be, but our Model T Fords Coupe is better than she used to be. Some one is missing a grand opportunity and bargain by not buying our coupe which is as good as new and only run seven thousand miles and the tires have only seen five hundred miles of service. If you want a car that will give you a life long service, we have it. Has a self starter, upholstery in perfect clean condition, does not leak oil or water, it is in perfect condition. Remember that you can not buy any new cars for at least two or three years. Will sell for cash or trade for corn or wheat. ...

Saving waste paper is not only patriotic but is badly needed to make useful munitions for the war. Don't burn or destroy paper. We still have several hundred loads of cobs which are absolutely FREE. ...

Frank Jones, who was in bed with pneumonia a week ago, was able to return to school Monday afternoon. With the new sulfa drugs, pneumonia is certainly not the long drawn out dreaded disease it was a few years ago. ...

We are doubtful of the value of the educational film showing the demon germ, tuberculosis, when it is shown to small children. Most of the small children of the Mayetta Grade school were so worked up over the possibility they might have T. B. they could hardly eat their supper Monday evening. It seems better to us to show the film to the adults and let them reap the benefit of the knowledge it projects. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 13, 1944.

I can attest to the healing powers of the sulfa drugs that were developed during the war. I was quarantined in my bedroom for a month with the measles, whooping cough and pleurisy when about eight years old. I probably would not be here writing this today if sulfa pills had not been available. My chest was also covered with mustard plaster and wrapped in flannel to retain the heat, Vicks salve shoved in my nose all to help relieve the congestion in my chest. Only one person in the family was allowed to enter the room during the quarantine.

I was quarantined in an upstairs bedroom, a red diamond shaped sign being placed on the bedroom door and two others placed on the front and back doors of the house stating quarantine, infectious disease, no admittance. The signs could only be removed by the county health department.

The oil well has now reached the depth of over eleven hundred feet. They have been having a little trouble in breaking the drill bit. At the last report there was about eight hundred feet of water in the hole which they had to case off. They do the drilling in two shifts of men working day and night. *The Holton Recorder*, January 17, 1944.

The oil well is now down about 1900 feet and the showing is very encouraging. We are all hoping that it will be a producing well. *The Jackson County Signal*, February 3, 1944.

At this writing the Mayetta oil well machinery is being broken down and sent away for repairs. The drilling had reached the Mississippi line. *The Jackson County Signal*, February 17, 1944.

The oil well has again put on two shifts of workmen and they are now drilling day and night. They are down about 2200 feet and the present indications are quite favorable. They will not give up until they strike oil or are sure they have a dry hole. ...

Mr. and Mrs. Alva Salts received a letter Saturday from the Secretary of War, Henry L. Stimson, stating that the "Purple Heart" has been awarded posthumously to their son, Lieut. Ivan Salts. Lieut. Salts was reported missing in action in the North African campaign, January 14, 1943. The War Department has written to his parents that because they had no further knowledge of him since that date, he is presumed to have been killed. *The Jackson County Signal*, February 24, 1944.

The oil well is now down about 2300 feet and work is going on 24 hours per day. If oil is found there will be no trouble disposing of it as the well is only about a quarter of a mile from the pipe line which was laid through this section a couple of years ago, and it is the same distance from the high tension electric line which was built last year.

In the fourth War loan drive Mayetta's quota was \$7,000. Mayetta exceeded the quota by \$1,475.77. Cedar Township quota was \$15,000, which was over subscribed by \$64.42. We congratulate both Mayetta and Cedar Township in their loyalty to the drive and to the committee who had charge of the drive. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 2, 1944.

A portion of a letter received by Mrs. W. T. Harrold from her sister, Lt. Margaret Cornelssen, telling of the recent bombing of the 95th Evacuation Hospital on the Anzio beachhead. February 22, 1944. February 22, 1944. "I suppose

by now you've read of our experience or have heard it over the radio. We were bombed again; this time they got our hospital. To me it was much worse than when they bombed our ship. Of course, it did more damage and we lost some lives. How many I can't tell you. It hit home as we've been together so long now that we seem as one big family.

"I was on duty at the time. Was sitting on a cot by a patient with one of the doctors. The plane dived, but I didn't hear it as we were just getting ready to change dressings. They were anti-personal bombs (8 of them, I think). They hit the ground, bounce up in the air about five feet and then explode. That's the first thing I heard. Then the shrapnel and flack started flying through the tent. Had I raised up I'd have gotten it right through the head. One of the boys standing just a few feet away got it in the hip. The Dear Lord was with me, and I guess it wasn't my time to go. My helmet was at the desk but it happened so fast that I didn't have time to go after it. From then on I never walked a foot without putting it on my head first. We really had our first good idea of what war was like when we were in that area. It was pretty hot and we're glad to be back where it is quiet again. We learned how to get in our fox holes in a hurry and, believe me, they got some good use from us.

"One noon the nurses were all in the mess hall eating and we had an air raid. Every last one of us hit the ground under the tables and the cocoa was running down through the cracks onto our sweaters and jackets. We had a good laugh at that when it was all over. Dirt don't mean a thing to you over here - when you act, you act quickly, and don't give a hang about anything. I used to sleep in my ward, just felt better when there were men around.

The patients got a laugh at of Gallagher and I one night. We were over at our tent and an air raid started, so we decided to run to the ward. When we got inside she said; "Shall we sit under the desk?" and I said to her "Might as well, I guess." They told us our heads would have been full of splinters if the desk had have been hit. We had several good laughs out of it anyway. *The Holton Recorder*, March 23, 1944.

The Oil well which was drilled on the Will Kelly farm, we understand proved to be a duster and the casing has been taken out and we understand that another new location will be prospected as soon as they can get another larger rig working. The new location has not been made public, but we understand that it will not be far from Mayetta. We hope the second well will be a producing well. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 25, 1944.

The farmers and others who produce eggs are up in arms over the big slump in the price of eggs. On the 15th day of last October we sold eggs for forty-one cents per dozen, and on January 24 we received thirty-one cents, and on March 30 we only received twenty-one cents, which makes a drop of twenty cents since October. Many farmers are going to reduce their flocks, as they cannot afford to feed the high price feeds that produce eggs. ...

During the past few months there has been quite a demand for farms. In the neighborhood of twenty farms have been purchased within a five mile radius of Mayetta. Many farmers who have been heretofore renting are now buying farms. At the present price of land we believe it is a good investment, especially if farm products continue at their present levels, and the prospects of post-war demands for farm products will undoubtedly continue for several years, which will be an incentive for farm land values to increase quite materially for the next few years and the farmers are the ones who will reap the benefits. Farmers are the people who can rule the world. If it was not for the farmers, the rest of the world would starve to death. We predict that after the war there will be a big movement for the industrious man to get out and get a good farm and live independently.

Yes, "Hannah, we can remember when we used to lick the spoon and pan when mother baked a cake, and the habit has stayed with us for nearly four score years, but since sugar rationing we do not have the pleasure of making home made cake. *The Holton Recorder*, April 3, 1944.

Last Monday was fine day to do the family washing and most every woman in Mayetta took advantage of the day to do her washing. ...

Mr. Egg and Cream producer, did you know that twelve years ago April 7th, that you only received 8 cents per dozen for your eggs and only 13 cents per pound for butter fat, and that eggs got as low as 7 cents during April. Today's price sounds pretty good compared with the prices of 1932, and wheat was only 41 cents a bushel and corn 23 cents and oats 17 cents during the month of April 1932. Today wheat is nearly four times as high as the 1932 prices. Of course all farm products were at a very low ebb in 1932 and money was scarce. Today we are living in luxury as compared with 1932. ...

At last the school ground has dried sufficiently for the grade children to begin their soft ball games. They can be seen at recess and noon practicing on the ball diamond. The boys and girls playing together. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 6, 1944.

It seems that everybody wants to kill the peach and pear crop, but the writer is not going to give up hope. Our peach trees are seedlings and have been well protected all winter and they show signs of blooming. Of course they may bloom and then something happen to them, but at the present moment they look very encouraging to us. We have a dead pear tree within ten feet of the south side of our house and it appears that it will be loaded with bloom and, if nothing happens, will bear us several bushels of pears this season. What kills fruit more than anything else

is these winter rains that freeze ice on the trees. Grapes all promise to be alright; also strawberries and blackberries. All we need is sugar to take care of our fruit this year. Last year we had lots of our fruit go to waste on account of the restriction on sugar. The government wants us to can all fruits and vegetables that cannot be saved without sugar. We hope that the government will see its way clear this year to give us adequate sugar to put up our fruit. ...

We see by our papers that the State Highway Commission of Kansas is advertising for sealed bids for road reconstruction work on all the State Highways in Jackson county. Highway 75 is to be resurfaced from Holton south to the end of the concrete slab on the county line. In many places 75 is in very bad shape. ...

At last the War Food Administration has put a floor price on eggs and that means that eggs cannot go below 26 cents per dozen for current receipts for eggs. This is as it should be, the farmer and his flock of hens can go on producing eggs at a fair profit. This action should have taken place several weeks ago before the farmers cancelled their little chick orders and sold off a large number of the laying hens. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 13, 1944.

On account of some mischievous boys mutilating the padlock on the control box which contains the switch for the street lights there were no street lights last Friday night. It seems that a bunch of boys have been breaking windows in vacant buildings and mutilating public property and shooting out street lamps. Either the parents or the City Council should take some action in regard to the mischief that these boys are indulging in. The boys have better take warning and stop their practice before they get into serious trouble that would be humiliating to their parents. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 20, 1944.

Thursday night, April 20th, some over ambitious person who wanted a bicycle to ride purloined one belonging to Miss Theresa Wamego, and she would like for that person to return it to her. The bike was in the garage and was covered up and the miscreant evidently knew it was there. It is supposed to have been taken by some boys who have been causing annoyance the past few weeks. If their depredations are continued there will be serious trouble for some of them. The sheriff was here investigating the theft of the bike and if the bike is not returned action will be taken. ...

We suggest that the City Council restore night-watch services again. It might have a tendency to put a stop to some of the mischief which for the past several weeks and still is being carried on by a bunch of mischievous boys. We know that boys will be boys but there is such a thing as carrying their pranks too far and it will lead them into serious trouble. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 27, 1944.

We understand that all of those who previously leased their land for drilling of an oil well are all ready and willing to release for the second drilling. As soon as all arrangements can be satisfactorily made with those who leased, The McLouth Development Company will put down another test hole with a rotary drill and will do their best to bring in a producing oil well. *The Holton Recorder*, May 8, 1944.

Jim Fitzgerald, who is milking thirteen cows with an electrical milking machine, was very much disgruntled last Wednesday evening when a transformer burned out and put the light system out of commission. Jim hooked up his machine but no milk came forth, so Jim had to milk all the cows the old fashioned way, by hand.

One of the electric transformers at the edge of town burned out last Wednesday evening about five o'clock and Mayetta was without lights until 9:30. Our local electric manager, Gus Lofquist, notified the main plant at Topeka and they immediately dispatched a force of men and a new transformer was easily installed. They had a crane that handled the 4,000-pound transformer with ease. Many of our citizens who had to entirely depend upon their electric stoves had to eat a cold supper. It being summer-like weather, it was not very hard on those who depend on electric heat for their little chick hoverers, and everybody had to resort to the old fashioned kerosene lamps or candles. *The Holton Recorder*, May 15, 1944.

Bill Slattery, who lives about a mile south of the Miller school house on the reservation, on account of the muddy condition of the roads left his Chevy Coupe parked in the school yard one day last week, and when he wanted to come to town he went after the car and found that it had been stolen, and he had to come to town afoot. Some parties who wanted to go to Kansas City had purloined the car. Bill found the Coupe in Kansas City. We understand that some local boys who wanted to go to Kansas City had taken the Coupe, where they abandoned it. As Bill's gas ration card was in the car it was easily identified. We are informed that the car was not damaged. Such pranks as taking things that don't belong to you is a serious business and might cause the pranksters quite some embarrassment. *The Jackson County Signal*, May 18, 1944.

On June, 1944 the Allied armies opened Stalin's much wanted second front in western Europe by invading German occupied France at Normandy Beach. It was the largest seaborne invasion in history, and a very bloody affair for the allies, as during the first few days they lost ten men to every one of the enemy's. After days of fierce fighting the allies gained control of the beachhead and pushed eastward, in what proved

to be the beginning of the end of the German dreams of European domination.

NORMANDY BEACHHEAD, June 12, 1944 -- Due to a last-minute alteration in the arrangements, I didn't arrive on the beachhead until the morning after D-day, after our first wave of assault troops had hit the shore.

By the time we got here the beaches had been taken and the fighting had moved a couple of miles inland. All that remained on the beach was some sniping and artillery fire, and the occasional startling blast of a mine geysering brown sand into the air. That plus a gigantic and pitiful litter of wreckage along miles of shoreline.

Submerged tanks and overturned boats and burned trucks and shell-shattered jeeps and sad little personal

belongings were strewn all over these bitter sands. That plus the bodies of soldiers lying in rows covered with blankets, the toes of their shoes sticking up in a line as though on drill. And other bodies, uncollected, still sprawling grotesquely in the sand or half hidden by the high grass beyond the beach.

That plus an intense, grim determination of work-weary men to get this chaotic beach organized and get all the vital supplies and the reinforcements moving more rapidly over it from the stacked-up ships standing in droves out to sea.

Now that it is over it seems to me a pure miracle that we ever took the beach at all. For some of our units it was easy, but in this special sector where I am now our troops faced such odds that our getting ashore was like my whipping Joe Louis down to a pulp. [Ernie Pyle news column dispatch.]

There is an oil testing outfit now working in this community putting down test holes. A few years ago they put down test holes in the surrounding territory and they seem to still have faith in finding oil in this vicinity, we are all hoping oil will be found. ...

Because of the scarcity of other fruit, many people are canning a combination of Mulberries and rhubarb, which to some tastes as good as blackberries. We see in the Capital that Pratt County has a bumper peach crop in prospect. Is there a single peach on a tree in Jackson county? *The Jackson County Signal*, June 22, 1944.

On June 29, the First National Bank of Mayetta went into voluntary liquidation, and the deposit liability was taken over by the Kansas State Bank in Holton. ... The First National Bank at Mayetta was one of the landmarks of Jackson County, was established in 1901 and for a good many years enjoyed a good substantial business under the able guidance of the late W. A. Cooney. After his death a few months ago it left the task to management on the remaining officers and directors. Mr. F. D. Cooney, president, was too busy taking care of his farming interests to give his entire time to the bank, and Mr. H. D. Jones, assistant cashier did not desire to take on the added responsibility of the full management, so it seemed the best policy to transfer the deposit liability to another insured bank ... *The Holton Recorder*, July 3, 1944.

All day long today outside our bedroom window, a mama and papa robin have kept up a constant squawk of warning to one young offspring who inadvertently left his nest too soon. The pair fly from plum bush to cherry tree, to the elm, and back again, and the barrage of noise they are laying down to scare away the sleeping (?) cat is beginning to get on our nerves. Our ten-year-old boy tried to rescue the infant from the cistern platform, this morning only to be surrounded with such an angry whirl of wings and dire vocal threats, that he gladly retreated, in favor of the cat. The baby robin was still fluttering in the grass this evening. *The Holton Recorder*, July 19, 1944.

The fire department was called Monday evening to send the truck to the Bumguart Home south of town, where a shed, containing coal, gasoline and oil was on fire. The shed burned to the ground sending into the air a cloud of black oil filled smoke, but the fire truck kept the other buildings from catching fire. Preston James drove the fire truck to the scene, and half the business men went along one way or another. Until you have had a fire on your premises, you do not fully appreciate what it means to have had the town come to the fire. The more help, the quicker the fire is put out and the less damage. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 13, 1944.

This is green bean canning season for housewives in the north part of town. The beans are unusually good this year because of the frequent rains and the cool weather. ...

Some mischievous little boys wanting to see the fire department make a run, set fire to the dead grass on the City lots on Main street. The fire department most graciously responded to the call and soon extinguished the fire with no damage to other property. We suppose the parents of the boys gave them a proper remedy for committing the act. A slight application of strap oil and a good lecture on such depredations should have been generously applied to the boys. Matches and small children have caused millions of dollars worth of property loss every year. It seems that children cannot refrain from making misuse of matches. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 27, 1944.

Start picking the Milkweed Pods in your community September 4th. Pods that are not ripe will spoil and also damage the good pods in the sack. ... It is not necessary to take the floss out of the pod. Put pod, floss, seeds and

all into the bag. When your bag is full tie two bags together and throw them over a fence. Leave them out in all kinds of weather until thoroughly dry.

Now turn these full bags into your authorized agent ... You will be paid 20 cents for each full sack of pods. ... This is a government assignment. Do your part. *The Holton Recorder*, August 31, 1944.

Before Japan's occupation of the island of Java, Kapok, a fluffy plant fiber used as a filling in mariners and aviators life jackets was obtained from there. This supply of Kapok then no longer being available another source was needed, and it was supplied by the wax coated, hollow fibers found in the milkweed pod.

It was the children's job to gather the pods to be used in the "Mae West" life jackets, a patriotic duty as well as one giving the children a chance to earn a little spending money, and they responded with enough pods to fill over a million life jackets.

The slogan of, "Two bags save one life" came into usage meaning that the two bags of milkweed pods used to fill one life jacket kept a serviceman afloat for two days.

The Methodist church bell did not ring last Sunday on account of some mischievous person who tried to ring the bell the Sunday before pulled too hard on the rope and dislodged it from the pulley. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 7, 1944.

The lights will be turned on in London again September 17. Why can't Kansas Power and Light resume the burning of the sign light which has been turned off for the past two years. *The Holton Recorder*, September 11, 1944.

To memorialize our men and women in service in World War II, the American Legion is planning to build and erect in the Court House park or in the Court House corridor a large memorial board. It will contain the names of all engaged in this war in this county. The board will be of large dimensions, the names on plates in type easy to read. It is planned to have the roll of names on both sides. *The Holton Recorder*, October 5, 1944.

Dudley Lunger was the first farmer to have his corn husked this season. The Fitzgerald boys husked the corn with their mechanical corn picker and did a hundred percent husking job. The corn as a hybrid variety and yielded 56 bushels an acre. Mr. Lunger has several acres of extra good hybrid corn this year. He expects to have all his corn husked by the mechanical corn husker. ...

Wolves are getting to be a menace in this immediate locality. There are several dens of wolves about a mile south of town. We don't see why some of our sportive element doesn't get up a wolf drive and rid these pests from our midst. ...

One of the old landmarks of Mayetta, known as the Stafford blacksmith is being dismantled. We understand that party from Atchison brought the building and contents and is moving it to Atchison. The building was the first built as a wood frame building, but was later veneered with brick. Hoffa Smith brought fifteen hundred of the brick to put in his cistern. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 12, 1944.

General Douglas MacArthur, commanding American and Australian forces in the South Pacific, returned to the Philippine Islands October 20, 1944, just as he had promised to, driving the Japanese forces northward from one island to another. The Japanese did not leave their prisoners of war behind as they retreated, but loaded them in ships for transport to Japan where they were to continue to do forced labor.

Ernest McAlexander survived two years of Japanese prison camps under horrific conditions only to die when a Japanese ship that was transporting American prisoners to Japan was sunk by an American submarine.

16 June, 1945. Dear Mr. McAlexander: The International Red Cross has transmitted to this government an official list obtained from the Japanese Government, after a long delay, of American prisoners of war who were lost while being transported northward from the Philippine Islands on a Japanese ship which was sunk on 24 October 1944. It is with deep regret that I inform you that your son was among those lost when that sinking occurred and, in the absence of any probability of survival, must be considered to have lost his life. ... The information available to the War Department is that the vessel sailed from Manila, Philippine Islands, on 11 October 1944 with 1775 prisoners of war aboard. On 24 October 1944 the vessel was sunk by submarine action in the South China Sea over 200 miles from the Chinese coast which was the nearest land. Five of the prisoners escaped in a small boat and reached the coast. Four others have been reported as picked up by the Japanese, by whom all others aboard are reported lost. ... It is with deep regret that I must notify you of this unhappy culmination of the long period of anxiety and suffering you have experienced. [Letter from J. A. Ulio, Adjutant General of the Army to Mr. C. F. McAlexander. Copy on

file in Mayetta Cemetery records.]

A committee has been organized to make an United War Fund drive next week in the Mayetta grade school district. Our quota is \$150. All of us know that the Fund is a worthy cause, so when members of this committee call on you, kindly make your contributions as liberal as possible. These solicitors are giving freely of their time and effort show your appreciation by making your contributions sufficient, so they will not be required to make additional calls to raise our quota. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 26, 1944.

Halloween was a tame affair in Mayetta. All the young boys were sworn in as special policemen to preserve order and the boys did a splendid job by patrolling the town until four o'clock in the morning. ...

Gus Lofquist, our local Kansas Power and Light man, has restored the electric light on the highway just across the road from the depot. He also had a new sign erected which is a neat piece of work. The light has been out since the Pearl Harbor incident. Many motorists stop under the light at nighttime to fix tires and any other trouble that might need attention. Thanks Gus for restoring the light. *The Holton Recorder*, November 6, 1944.

The Bronze Star was awarded S/Sgt. Clarence E. Vaught, Mayetta, who is with Company E of the 35th in France. On July 7, Sgt. Vaught (then a pfc.) and three companions volunteered to lead and assist medical aide men to enter an open area containing several wounded men. He had succeeded in assisting with the evacuation of the men, when the enemy lit the area with flares and covered the ground with machine gun fire. Sgt. Vaught and his comrades continued their mission, and evacuated all the wounded men and marked the location of the dead. Sgt. Vaught is also the holder of the Purple Heart. *The Holton Recorder*, November 20, 1944.

We are informed that drilling for the oil well will be started around the first of December. The slush pond is now being made and the new rig for drilling will be on the ground some time this week or next week. The drilling, we understand, will be on what was formerly known the Bolz farm, but now owned by Mr. Allen. It is about four and half miles east and south of Mayetta. ...

Some miscreant, who knew all the ropes and habits of the Connie F. Slattery garage, last Sunday evening some time between five and eight, broke into the garage and took \$27.83 out of the cash register. Entrance was gained though the back door on the alley then broke a glass in the office door. There is no doubt in the minds of everybody that the job was done by local home talent. The sheriff was called and he is working the case. There was some checks in the cash register but the thief was smart enough not to try and handle the checks. *The Jackson County Signal*, November 23, 1944.

Last Tuesday morning Ben Whittington found a big wolf in his pig sty, which he supposed wanted some fresh pork for breakfast, but Ben had a different opinion and got his trusty 22-repeating rifle and let Mr. Wolf have its contents which was most disastrous for the wolf. Ben took it to Holton and collected the regular fee for wolf scalps. This section seemed to be infected with quite a number of wolves and the farmers ought to organize a wolf drive and try to get rid of some of the pests. ...

We understand that the oil well they are drilling about four miles east and south of Mayetta is down around three hundred feet or more. On account of man power shortage they are only working a day time shift. Their contract calls for the well to be put down three thousand feet; although we suppose that if oil indications are favorable it may go down deeper. *The Holton Recorder*, December 25, 1944.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry D. Jones received a letter from their son, Lt. John Jones who is located in Germany, that he is now able to be up and walk around. John was seriously wounded in the chest and is receiving the best of care in the hospital. ...

There seems to be a great demand for residential property in Mayetta, several properties have changed hands during the past few months. If anyone wants to buy your property and you don't desire to dispose of it, you want to price it high enough so the other fellow won't take you up and leave you setting out in the cold. ... *The Holton Recorder*, January 1, 1945.

The year of 1944 has been a good prosperous year in most everything humanity could wish for in the shape of good crops and plenty of moisture, during the year our rain gauge showing that we received 44 inches of rain fall and 48 inches of snow. Good crops and good prices have been prevalent throughout the year and the farmers have had quite a good return for their labor and we are all hoping that we will have many more good years as we had last year. ...

The oil well that is being drilled about four miles southeast of Mayetta is now down to about 800 feet. They are now using three, eight hour shifts per day. They are going down at about the rate of 120 feet every twenty-four hours. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 4, 1945.

The oil well is coming long nicely and is now about 1000 feet and they are inserting casing to case out the water. They are now working 24 hours a day. The drillers contract calls for well to be drilled 3000 feet and if it don't strike oil before that and it show good promises of oil they probably drill deeper and try to get an oil bearing well. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 11, 1945.

The Mayetta Rock Island station handed the following car loads during the year 1944: Cars received: CS. Hulls, 1; wheat, 6; oats, 2; flour, 3; other products, 46; salt, 2; sand and gravel, 25; lumber, 3; posts, 1; brick, 1; cement, 4; fertilizer, 9; road oil, 46; coal, 6; miscellaneous, 2; total cars received, 117.

Cars forwarded: wheat 29; corn, 50; oats, 4; soybeans, 4; hay, 9; walnut logs, 5; total forwarded 101.

Making a grand total of 218 car loads handled. The total revenue for 1944 was \$2,606.46. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 18, 1945.

Dudley Lunger has certainly won the esteem of the citizens of Mayetta. The ice storm of December broke limbs from almost every tree in Mayetta and Dudley was kind enough to haul all the broken limbs away. It took him several days to complete the job. He placed the limbs in a couple of ditches on his farm thereby will be able to retain much soil that would otherwise wash away. ...

The oil well is progressing nicely. They are now down over 1500 feet, and expect to keep on drilling until they strike oil. ...

The Slatery garage was again burglarized last Sunday night. The burglar realized \$13 for his work, and the supposition is that the same party also broke into the post office and ransacked the letter mail. As yet it is not known what his reward was. He took the letters to an outhouse where he opened all the letters looking for money. The sheriff was called and found one of the boys who confessed to the crime. The sheriff took the boy to Holton and confined him. There is no doubt that he will implicate some other boys in the crime. This is the second time the Slatery garage had been broken into this winter, presumably by the same boys. The sheriff took fingerprints, also foot prints and the foot prints indicated that there was more than one person connected to the crime. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 24, 1945.

American troops reached the heart of Manila Sunday and raised the Stars and Stripes over the great Philippine capital for the first time in more than three years. ...

The United First Army ripped a hole all the way through the West Wall southeast of Aschen and twenty-nine miles from the Rhine River, bending back the south flank of the enemy's powerful Roer River defenses which blocked an allied drive to the Ruhr and Rhineland. *The Holton Recorder*, February 5, 1945.

The Rock Island has dismantled and taken away their stock yard scales, owing to the fact of the numerous trucks that do most all of the stock hauling, The Rock Island has no use for the scales at this point. *The Holton Recorder*, March 5, 1945.

We are informed that the oil well is now down twenty-five hundred feet. They struck quite a pocket of gas, and all indications points to the finding of oil. Last week they received an additional 1000 feet of new cable. The writer firmly believes that they will open up a paying oil field in this vicinity. This well is being drilled about four and a half miles southeast of Mayetta. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 15, 1945.

With the Sixth Army in the Philippines. - Private First Class Maynard L. Potts of Mayetta, Kansas, has been awarded the Bronze Star medal by Lieutenant General Walter Kruger, commander of the Sixth Army.

He won the award for his meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy at Lac and Finschhafen, New Guinea from 4 September 1943 to 30 October 1943.

"Private Potts calmly and tirelessly performed his duties as telephone lineman," the citation states, "constantly on the alert to effect repairs to vital telephone lines blown up by repeated enemy bombings. At Finschhafen, Private Potts, an American of Indian decent, was mistaken for a Japanese sniper, and surrounded by Australian

patrols four times, a circumstance which necessitated his making patrols unarmed despite the fact that Japanese snipers were operating in the proximity. Private Potts by his efficient work and undaunted courage won the respect of both the officers and the men in his company."

Private Potts is the son of Mr. Joseph B. Potts, Mayetta, Kansas. *The Holton Recorder*, March 19, 1945.

As we write this item, the oil well is down 2940 feet. Last week they added a thousand feet of additional cable and will keep on drilling until they are out of the Arbuckle sand which they have already penetrated, will produce, as far as we can learn the prospects are very encouraging for striking a producer. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 29, 1945.

The last report that we have obtained on the oil well, is that, they are now down 2930 feet and will keep on drilling, possibly to about 4000 feet, and if they don't strike oil will start a new well in another location. They are quite sure this is no wildcat experiment and no expense will be spared in making a through test. Everybody is hoping that a big producer will be found. In the well that is now being drilled they have hit quite a pocket of gas. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 5, 1945.

MEATS, FATS, ETC. - (Book 4) - Red Stamps T5, U5, V5, W5, and X5, good until April 28; Red Stamps Y5, Z5, and A2, B2, C2, D2, good until June 2; Red Stamps E1, F2, G2, H2, J2, good until June 30; Red Stamps K2, L2, M2, n2, P2, good until July 31.

PROCESSED FOODS - (Book 4) - Blue Stamps C2, D2, E2, F2, G2, good until April 28; Blue Stamps H2, J2, K2, L2, M2, good until June 2; Blue Stamps N2, P2, Q2, R2, S2, good until June 30; Blue Stamps T2, U2, V2, W2, X2, good until July 31.

SUGAR - (Book 4) - Sugar Stamp 35, good until June 2.

SHOES - (Book 3) - Airplane Stamps 1, 2, and 3.

GASOLINE - 15A in new book good for 4 gallons through June 21, 1945; B6, C6, and C7 good for 5 gallons each.

FUEL OIL - all period heating coupons, 1944-45 issuance, good for 10 gallons per unit through August 31, 1945.

FAT SALVAGE - Every pound of waste kitchen fat is worth two red points and 4 cents at your butcher shop. *The Holton Recorder*, April 23, 1945.

The war in Europe was brought to an end Tuesday night at 5:01 Kansas City time by the signing of the unconditional surrender terms by representatives of Germany before representatives of the United States, England, France and Russia.

By the terms of the surrender all resistance was halted and all ships and aircraft were turned over unscuttled and undamaged. The surrender document also insured complete compliance with all further orders from the Allied supreme command and from the Soviet high command and specified that nothing contained in it limited or restricted any terms which might later be imposed upon the Reich by the Allies. ... The surrender brings to an end the greatest war in the history from the standpoint of men involved, cost in human life and money. ... As rapidly as possible Allied forces will be moved to the Pacific war zone where Allied effort will be concentrated on Japan. *The Jackson County Signal*, May 10, 1945.

"There are many of the living that have burned into their brains forever the unnatural sight of cold dead men scattered over the hillsides and in the ditches along the high rows of hedge throughout the world.

Dead men by mass production - in one country after another - month after month and year after year. Dead men in winter and dead men in summer.

Dead men in such promiscuity that they become monotonous.

Dead men in such monstrous infinity that you almost come to hate them.

These are the things that you at home need not even try to understand. To you at home they are columns of figures, or a near one who went away and just didn't come back. You didn't see him lying so grotesque and pasty beside a gravel road in France.

We saw him, by the multiple thousands. That's the difference."

Ernie Pyle was killed by a Japanese sniper's bullet on the island of Ie Shima, an island near Okinawa, South Pacific on April 18, 1945. The above is part of a column he was writing at the time urging that the dead of the war not be forgotten.

Every American flag in Mayetta was on display in honor of VE day of unconditional surrender of the Germans in Europe, and we hope that the Japs will be speedily forced to unconditional surrender. *The Jackson County Signal*, May 10, 1945.

The Air Medal, "for meritorious achievement in aerial flight," recently was rewarded at the 15th AAF base in Italy to Flight Officer Carl R. Lofquist, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gus Lofquist, Mayetta, Kans. He is a pilot of a B-24 Liberator heavy bombardment plane.

Lofquist flies with a group that has scored more than 240 aerial blows against Nazi installations in the Mediterranean. Currently his unit is engaged in the all out measures to bring the staggering Nazis to their knees.

A graduate of Mayetta high School, Lofquist has been in the USAAF since January, 1943. He won his wings in Pampa, Tex., on May 23, 1944, and has been overseas since January. *The Holton Recorder*, May 10, 1945.

S/Sgt. McKinney, Mayetta, Kans., a National Guard man., is T/Sgt. Watson's assistant, which he leads the Light Machine Gun section of the weapons Platoon. He has had lots of experience with the Mortar Section also, but due

to his aggressiveness, he was placed in charge of the L. M. G. Section. A known athlete of all sports throughout the State of Kansas, he still carries that honor throughout the military circles of the division, he's an aggressive leader.

...

Sgt. Mzhickteno, a National Guard man, is a squad leader in the Light Machine Gun section, and has been since the trying days in the St. Lo campaign. Sgt. Mzhickteno is a very cool leader in the thick of the fight and he's a natural born leader. *The Holton Recorder*, May 14, 1945. (Both members of Company E, 137th Infantry, out of Holton, Kansas.)

Mr. and Mrs. James K. Robb of Mayetta vicinity received a telegram from the war department Tuesday stating that their son Stewart C. Robb had been liberated from a German prison camp. He was first reported missing, then a captive in a prison camp. ...

Three pure-blooded Indian brothers from the Mayetta, Kans., Potawatomie reservation, are all in overseas service. They are S/Sgt. Lowell A. McKinney, Lucian B. McKinney, signalman 1/c, and Henry M. McKinney, Jr., water tender 3/c, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Henry M. McKinney, now living at 3414 West Sixth.

Sergeant McKinney is presumed to be in Czechoslovakia, with the Third Army Overseas 14 months, he has been in the army since the Kansas National Guard was mobilized in December, 1940. His wife, Avegene, and son, Lowell, Jr., live at Valona, Ark.

Lucian is now at sea in the Pacific aboard an L. S. T., after training at New York city. In the navy since July, 1942, he is a veteran of previous duty in the Mediterranean.

Henry is in the Philippine area serving aboard an aircraft carrier. A former Haskell Institute student, he entered the service in March, 1943. Members of both the Kickapoo and Potawatomie tribes, the brothers are all graduates of Mayetta High School. Their brother-in-law, Lavern B. Onzaway, is in Germany with an Antiaircraft battalion. Lavern's wife, formerly Beulah Ann McKinney, lives on the Mayetta reservation. *The Holton Recorder*, May 17, 1945.

Work of remodeling the Farmers Union elevator is going on. Theodore Potter and Fred Baker and their helpers are doing the remodeling. The remodeling consists of enlarging the lower elevator where all the grain will be handled. The upper elevator is principally used as a storage plant. ...

The oil well which was put down about 3000 feet has turned out to be a duster. A pocket of gas was encountered, also a small showing of oil but not of sufficient to make it a paying proposition. They are now pulling the casing and we are informed that they will try a new location. We understand they are securing new leases and we are in hopes that the next well will be a gusher. *The Jackson County Signal*, May 24, 1945.

It is reported that the Rock Island is contemplating on reducing the length of their section and will again have a resident foreman located in Mayetta. We understand that the Road Master and Supervisor were here one day last week to see if they could secure a house for the foreman. Several years ago the sections were consolidated and which made one foreman and his gang of men look after double the amount of track. The new set up will

enable them to get the track in shape for the postwar business, and we will soon see many more trains run though Mayetta. We hope that the business will be heavy enough to warrant the restoration of passenger service again. When the writer was agent at Mayetta during the early nineties we had twelve time card scheduled trains and as many extra trains though Mayetta every twenty-four hours, six of the trains were passenger trains and the rest freight trains. We got \$45 per month, and no pay for overtime and had to make four exchanges of mail and carry the mail from the post office to the depot and from the depot to the post office and had to clean and hang out four switch lights every night and morning, but we enjoyed it. *The Jackson County Signal*, May 31, 1945.

Here is one for Bob Ripley. The stone building commonly known as the Robson and Jones building, years ago when it had a good roof and two good floors and a basement under the whole building used to whenever it rained the basement would get as much as three feet of water in it, a few years ago when they dismantled it the roof and floors and nothing is left but the side walls, but in its present state there has never been any water in the basement. Can anyone tell us why the water does not accumulate in the basement? *The Holton Recorder*, June 11, 1945.

Lester Landis Holeman, of Mayetta, has been advanced to seaman, first class, USNR, aboard an LST (landing ship tank) of the Pacific Fleet. He received basic training at Great Lakes, Ill., and further instruction at Norfolk, Va., before assignment to amphibious duty.

His wife, the former Minnie Hedges of Maple Hill, Kas., is continuing the grocery and meat market, which Holeman operated in Mayetta before he entered the Navy. They have a 7 year old son, Dennis Wayne. *The Holton Recorder*, June 18, 1945.

This is the season of the year when we housewives don't know whether to try to keep house or just give it up and

work outside everyday the weather is good. So far this year we haven't canned any vegetables as we usually do, and we look upon the garden failure to produce with mixed feelings. The cellar is empty, but we aren't so worn out each evening as we are when there are twelve or fifteen quarts of peas, beans, spinach, asparagus, swiss chard and beets to be canned each day. Canning gets to be an old story if run to extreme but likely the empty shelves in the vegetable cellar will do the same. ...

We got down the other day with a magnifying glass and weeded our carrot rows. To remove the crab grass, persley and pig weeds from among an occasional miniature carrot requires good eyesight, a strong back and perseverance, qualities for which we are not particularly noted. We had a good mind to run the hoe across the whole row and call it finis, especially when the family will likely turn up their noses at a mess of carrots later on, but like the boy scout, we take pride in our daily good deed well done, and stayed with our job until it was finished. *The Holton Recorder*, June 25, 1945.

A veteran of the Leyte invasion as well as a long list of New Guinea operations, Private First Class Howard Wahgo, of Mayetta, has been awarded the newly authorized Bronze arrowhead for the assault landings under fire. He is with the Second Engineer Special Brigade, Southern Luzon.

When a Jap zero attacked the landing craft upon which Wahgo was a machine gunner of Ise, New Guinea, four of the six men aboard his boat were wounded. Wahgo narrowly missed being hit himself when a bullet from the Jap's heavy machine gun nicked the sleeve of the jacket he was wearing. However, Wahgo continued firing at the plane until a direct hit destroyed the ammunition chest on his gun.

Besides the Bronze Arrowhead Wahgo wears the Philippine Liberation ribbon with battle star and the Asiatic-Pacific ribbon with stars for New Guinea campaigns. *The Holton Recorder*, July 2, 1945.

Pfc. Albert I. Wahweotten, husband of Mrs. Isabelle Wahweotten of Mayetta, has been awarded the Silver Star medal for gallantry in action in Germany last February. The award was presented by his divisional commander Major General Walter M. Robertson of the 2nd Infantry Division.

According to the official citation, "Pfc. Wahweotten, a bazooka man in Company "I," 38th Infantry, of his volition, worked his way 200 yards beyond friendly lines on a reconnaissance. Armed with a M-1 and bazooka, he worked his way to a house and was encountered by heavy machine gun and small arms fire. Crawling to a position 10 yards from the house, Pfc. Wahweotten fired his bazooka and set the house on fire.

"Then he entered the burning building and single-handedly engaged and captured 12 Germans. As a result of this action, the last remaining enemy resistance in the town was eliminated. The gallantry, initiative and disregard for personal safety displayed by this enlisted man reflects highest honors upon himself and the United States Army. ...

Pvt. Rosanna Prince of Dibble General Hospital in Menlo Park, Calif., is here on a ten day furlough visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Richards of Mayetta. Miss Prince is a surgical technician in the Army hospital. *The Holton Recorder*, July 16, 1945.

The commercial club or City Council ought to get busy and dispatch the weeds in the alleys and also in front of the vacant building on Main street. Come on, boys, don't let Mayetta grow up in weeds. Let's have some personal pride in our town and clean up the weed growth. ...

Is there anything more discouraging than for a neighbor to light a big bonfire just as you finish hanging your wash on the line? Or did you ever burn your trash forgetting what damage to the clothes it might do? We pulled the prized bonehead several years ago, by putting a lot of used, partly wet newspapers into the heater, after the washing was out, and nearly ruined all our white clothes with the added soot the chimney poured out. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 9, 1945.

Before we had curbside trash pickup in town every family had a 55-gallon steel barrel in the back yard in which to burn their trash. Their wasn't too much that couldn't be burned at that time, plastic containers and wrapping not being so prevalent in use.

At the grocery store meat was wrapped in a white, waxed paper, and tied with a string. Laundry detergents were in powder form, almost everything was in a paper or cardboard container. Groceries were taken home in a paper bag. Almost everything went into the barrel to be burnt including tin cans and what little table scraps that the cats and dogs did not get.

There were of course glass containers, mayonnaise and salad dressing one quart jars, that after they were emptied were used by some housewives for canning, but this was somewhat risky as the walls of these jars were thinner and occasionally cracked when put in boiling water. Soft drinks were sold in glass bottles that were returnable, also some milk bottles. Oleomargarine was sold in tubs as it is today, but the housewives kept the empty tubs and used them to store left over food in the refrigerator. There was not too much that wasn't recyclable .

About once a year when the barrel was getting too full of those things that would not burn, it was taken out into the country to be emptied. There was a little crook in the road just south of the intersection of 166th and S Road where everyone from Mayetta dumped their trash barrels, at a later time this road was straightened and this site was no longer available for use.

Announcement that the Imperial Japanese government had accepted the terms of surrender to the allies as outlined by the Potsdam agreement was made by President Truman, at six o'clock Tuesday evening. ... The announcement by the president was followed by a radio broadcast to the Japanese people by the Emperor of Japan telling them of the surrender and its terms:

The surrender ends a war with Japan which began with the Jap sneak attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, a period of three years, eight months and seven days. It also brought to a close a war of nearly nine years with China. ... the announcement of the surrender of Japan was followed by announcements of the first steps back to normal peace time living.

Among these are: Reduction in the draft from 80,000 to 50,000 a month. A cancellation of six billion dollars in war contracts by the navy. Abolishment of 48 hour week and freedom from restriction on labor. Five million men to be released from service in the next 18 months. End of rationing soon on such items as gasoline and canned foods. ... While there is rejoicing on every hand the leaders of our country are not unmindful of the fact the biggest problem, that of reconversion and return to the normal way of life, lies ahead. This will require a generalship as alert and as capable as any that has been employed in the conduct of the long war. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 16, 1945.

Any one would be surprised how the number of automobiles have increased on the highway since the restriction has been taken off gas. Business at the filling stations have been doubled during the past week. ...

We see that the Mayetta City Council is now busy applying crushed rock on the street from the Robson residence to the brick pavement at the Methodist church, formerly this street had been sanded and every time it rained the sand washed away. Another street that should be covered with crushed rock is the one from the Cooney residence to the Catholic church. In fact all streets in Mayetta should be rocked. The cost would not be so great and the citizens would greatly appreciate the improvement. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 23, 1945.

At last our exhortations have brought results. The City Council after deep meditation concluded it would make our main street more presentable if the growth of weeds in front of the empty business buildings were removed, so last week they found a man who would do the work and now the weeds have been removed and some of the tall weeds on the rear of the City Hall lot were cut which adds much to the appearance of our main street. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 30, 1945.

On the USS Alabama in Tokyo Bay: Robert J. Shields, seaman, first class, USNR, Mayetta, Kan., is serving on this battleship, which is part of the powerful Pacific Fleet completing the first stages of the occupation of Japan. Under the operational control of Admiral F. Halsey, USN, the Alabama, with 11 other battleships, 17 aircraft carriers, six escort carriers, 20 cruisers and more than 290 other U. S. ships, is helping to take over control of the Nips big naval bases. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 6, 1945.

We are sorry to say that our Mayetta letters for the next nine months may be a little short of news, as our co-helper, Mrs. Vera Hafer, will again teach this year in our high school. Vera was the mainstay in getting the social items but we hope she will contribute as much as she can spare time to do. ...

The Mayetta telephone service is still in a most deplorable condition. The lines are all crossed up and no one seems to try to rectify the trouble. We hope that since peace has been declared that the man power shortage will be greatly relieved and we can get some one to fix up our neighborhood system. The writer's phone line is only crossed up with ten other lines. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 6, 1945.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Robson, of Mayetta, received the following story of the Jap surrender story as to what took place at Ie Shima, from their son, Burt A. Robson.

At approximately 1230 hours, Sunday, 19 August 1945, thousands of American GIs gathered at the Ie Shima airfield, saw the culmination of three years and eight months of total war. Out of the blue, hot August sky flew two Jap "Betty" bombers flanked on either side by an American B26. Off the island they were meet by swarms of fast, sleek P-38 "Lightning" fighters and this history making sky armada roared over the little island of Ie Shima. The four Japanese and American bombers flew low over the powerful scene on the air-strip below and then the B-26s peeled off to the right and left while the Jap planes, specially painted white with green crosses on the fuselage and wings, banked and circled the tiny island.

Soldiers and officers of every rank and grade covered the area on either side of the air strip. GI vehicles of all types parked bumper to bumper while their occupants stood on roofs and fenders straining to see the history-making

scene which about to occur. On either side of the strip stood a continuous line of Military Police, their rifles held at port arms, keeping the anxious, curious crowd back from the landing area.

At 1240 hours, one of the escorting B-26s set down on the strip and then the first "Betty", after circling the field three times, roared in for a landing. A cheer went up, hundreds of cameras clicked, and a few moments later, the second Nip set down on the field.

Now reporters and photographers, representing every branch of the American press, gathered around the two huge four-engined transports of the Air Transport Command parked near where the Jap wheels had first touched soil in surrender. From the far end of the field the "Bettys" taxied back to discharge the defeated representatives of Hirohito. The Jap planes came to a halt and for a few moments nothing was heard, but the dying roar of their motors. Then the doors of the ship opened, ladders were lowered and more than a dozen Japanese officials, dressed in brown and green uniforms, polished boots, and carrying sheathed swords (presumably to be used in tending the surrender) and brief cases, descended to the ground below. Awaiting them was Maj. Gen. Smith, heading the United States delegation which was to accompany them to Manila. In accordance with previous instructions the Japanese lined up in three ranks, facing and about ten feet from the six U. S. army officers. They were all rather short, slightly more than five feet tall, and as they listened for the words of the American interrupter, they glanced about at the dozens of reporters, photographers and military officials who had formed around the four sides about fifteen yards away.

Finally the American interpreter, standing to Maj. Gen. Smith's left, spoke in clear, high-pitched Japanese. He was giving them their precise instructions for the remainder of the journey. The blank-faced orientals, listened attentively and then when the interpreter had finished, one of their officers bearing the rank of general, uttered a few words of Japanese and the formalities were over. Neither Maj. Gen. Smith nor the Japanese peace envoy, attired in civilian dress and carrying Panama hat, had said a word. The Tokyo delegation was escorted to one of the awaiting American transports and boarded immediately; the Nip pilots followed behind carrying the luggage and numerous bottles of Sake, which eager Americans watched being loaded on the plane.

Precisely at 1320 hours, the door of the big ship closed and the pilot throttled his motors. The big silver plane moved forward on the runway, and with the unspoken hopes, dreams and wishes of each GI there it thundered down the strip and rose gracefully into the sky. On a nearby taxiway two tractors towed away the "Bettys" - which had drooped their last bombs. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 20, 1945.

T./3 Shelby Campbell, who has served 21 months over seas, arrived home last Tuesday on a temporary leave and is expecting his discharge at an early date. He was a radio repair man while in the service.

Pfc. Richard Marshall, who served 39 months in the army, of which two years was overseas, arrived home for the first time since his induction in the Army. He expects to receive his discharge about the first of October. His brother, Charles is still in Germany, Richard and Charles are the sons of Mrs. Agnes Marshall. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 20, 1945.

The United War Fund will be held in Holton, October 4, 5, and 6, Thursday, Friday and Saturday this week. The drive throughout the county begins Thursday also. An effort will be made to complete the drive over the county by October 15, Chairman W. A. Bender says.

The quota for Jackson county is \$7000. Included in this is the annual Boy Scout fund and the county's contribution to the Salvation Army.

The slogan, adopted for the drive this year is "Let's Finish the Job."

The need for funds by the United War fund Committee is very great. Thousands of men are still in the service and new men are going in at the rate of 100,000 a month. They need the things this fund provides.

In addition to this there never was a time when need for food and clothing and shelter was so great in Europe and elsewhere. We who have not been touched by war's devastation should be happy to respond and help those who have lost so much. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 4, 1945.

The lighting of the Mayetta street lights were restored October 1st. During the period of the war we had only lights on Saturday nights. And now they burn until nine o'clock. Let there be more light. ...

The Mayetta telephone system is in a most deplorable condition. Most of the lines are crossed up and have been in this condition since the 4th of December, 1944, when about all the lines were broke down by the ice storm on that date, but we are living in hopes that we can get the services of Shelby Campbell who has just returned for the War theater in Europe. Shelby is an expert electrical man and we hope that the exchange will get him right on the job of finding the trouble. If he can straighten out the trouble the subscribers will extend to him their undying gratitude. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 4, 1945.

The Halloween pranksters committed several uncalled for pranks. The most dangerous one was the placing of an empty coal car on the road crossing at the depot. This act might have caused some person very serious trouble if they had run into the car and wrecked their automobile, and might have killed or seriously hurt the occupants. The pranksters seem to have a mania for turning over out buildings. We were informed that in one section of town there

were 11 toilets upset. We never could understand why boys and men get any enjoyment out of destroying property on halloween or at any other time. ...

A few weeks ago Dudley Lunger missed a set of harness from his barn. Some one evidently purloined them when Dudley as not looking, but the culprit after examining them in daylight concluded he did not need them and were not worth very much. The culprit evidently got religion or cold feet and felt sorry he had taken them, so last Monday night he was very thoughtful and considerate and brought them back and placed them at the south east corner of the writer's pasture fence and the writer on his way down to Dudley's place found the harness lying on the ground in plain view so we would find them and Dudley is now happy that his harness has been returned by an honest purloiner. Dudley extends his sincere thanks for their return. *The Jackson County Signal*, November 8, 1945.

Now that the liquidating of the ration boards has been almost accomplished it might be a good thing to say a word of appreciation for the hundreds of patriotic men and women who served on them and helped administer the program in their localities. Service on the ration board was difficult because everyone who appeared before the board wanted something for himself and in many instances the board could not give it to him. If each request could have been filled there would have been no need for a ration board. The purpose of rationing was to distribute scarce commodities in such a manner that each community would get a share and the most essential person in each community would be supplied first. The volunteer members of the ration board, who received no compensation for the many hours of service they gave to the oftentimes an unappreciative public, deserve a sincere word of appreciation for their unselfish contribution to the war effort. They performed well a thankless job. *The Jackson County Signal*, November 8, 1945.

Our tom cat has passed to the great beyond. He used to make daily trips to the elevator to catch a rat, but he at last made one trip too often, which was after night fall and the bright lights of an auto blinded him and hit him in the head and from the injury he lived only a few days. He was an exceptionally good cat and made his home in our barn, only coming to the house at meal time, and he would follow us around like a dog. When ever we had to go after the cows he always went along. His passing leaves us without a cat and he is greatly missed, and we would like for some friend to give us another cat, male or female, but prefer a female. *The Holton Recorder*, November 26, 1945.

The government tells us to save every bit of fat and not waste a bit. We are supposed to keep a can on the stove and save every drop. I keep a can on my stove and save it all but I'm afraid I'm not very patriotic for I use every bit of it myself. ...

We have several bundles of old papers which we will gladly give to any church society or to the schools. They are absolutely FREE to the ones coming after them. ...

The Farmers Union has received from December 1st, 1944 until Dec. 1st, 1945, fifty nine cars of coal, or in other words about 30 thousand tons. There has been no shortage of coal in Mayetta the past twelve months. They also have a number of cars on order for shipment during the balance of winter, but our advice is that as your coal bin begins to run low is to place your order for replenishment at once. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 6, 1945.

A couple of weeks ago we told you how we lost our valuable tom cat. We finally found another nice girl cat and it stayed with us for a week and disappeared, we don't know whether it got killed by a car and just naturally sought other quarters, now we are again out of cat. We would be pleased if some friend would spare us a young girl cat, prefer one about half grown. We will give it a good home and plenty of good food and plenty of milk. *The Holton Recorder*, December 10, 1945.

The writer has been very busy 3 days during the past week helping restore telephone service which has been disrupted for the past twelve months, and five days, or since the storm of December 4th, 1944. At last we now personally have one hundred per cent service on our individual line, thanks to Shelby Cambell and Edmund Messmore. Now if the farmers who have lines running into the Mayetta switchboard would get busy and repair their lines it would be a great relief to both the subscribers and the central girls, but the farmer lines can't expect any better service until they remedy the present situation, so Mr. Subscriber it is up to you if you want good service, get busy. ...

Shelby Cambell of Manhattan spent the weekend home with his mother. While here Shelby repaired several of our telephone lines which we are hoping will give us better service than we have had for the past year, or when our system was demoralized by the heavy ice storm of December 4th, 1944. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 31, 1945.

Monday, January 21st has been set as the day for the people of Jackson County to honor the young men and women of this county who served in the armed forces in WW II. A memorial service will be held for those sixty young men who gave their lives for this country ...

Ceiling prices were placed on butter some three years ago. Butter plants have struggled along with their overhead expense gradually inching up, thereby causing the processing and manufacture of butter to become more gradually difficult.

In September 1945 restrictions were lifted covering sales of fluid milk and cream, butterfat content of cream, whipping cream etc.

All this coupled with an unrestricted, uncontrolled price of cream caused candy makers, ice cream manufacturers, and even prospective butter buyers to bid heretofore unheard of prices for cream.

Conditions are once again ripe for black market racketeers to grow fat on the cream and butter business. OPA controls the price of butter to the extent some plants have closed their doors, yet the cream market soars unrestricted to the glee and satisfaction of those who thrive on black market practices. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 10, 1946.

The following is a report of the business done by the Rock Island during the year 1945. Car loads forwarded, 17 wheat, 25 corn, 2 other grains, 10 hay, 1 live stock, total cars forwarded 55. Car loads received, 3 corn, 2 oats, 1 flour, 8 other grain products, 2 live stock, 60 coal, 2 salt, 23 sand and gravel, 3 lumber, 6 cement, lime and plaster, 8 fertilizer, 1 steel product, total car loads received 119. Total revenue, \$21,950.00. ...

Believe it or not, we had six freight trains through Mayetta last Saturday night and Sunday.

We note in our Topeka Daily Capital of date Jan. 22nd, that Garden City sugar refineries processed 2,880,000 bags of sugar out of the 1945 sugar beet crop. It did not state how large the bags were. They may have been 100 pound bags or even smaller. We wish they would put a few bags of it into circulation. We could use a hundred pound bag. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 24, 1946.

Did you know that the Farmers Union cooperate association with headquarters in Denison with a branch office in Mayetta, is the largest business in Jackson county. Well it is so, the Association employs 20 persons and we figure that the payroll would run about \$2500 a month. ...

The strike situation seems to be getting a little easier and we are in hopes they will cease altogether and times and production get back to normal, but somehow or other our hens have heard of the strike and must have taken a strike vote and it must have been a one hundred percent vote as our hens have not laid an egg for the past three weeks and show no signs of calling the strike off. They probably also have heard that the price of eggs has declined in the past ten days and think that they have not the time or energy to produce eggs. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 31, 1946.

The truck drivers strike which has been in effect since November 17 has now been settled and trucking service was resumed on January 30. We hope that all the other strikes which are still in progress will be brought to an end at an early date, so that production can get back to normal and the public can obtain the much needed goods of which they are being deprived during the strike. *The Holton Recorder*, February 4, 1946.

Mayetta and this vicinity was visited by the worst dust storm that we have had for many years, on Tuesday. The wind blew at the rate of about 40 miles an hour and visibility was reduced to less than a quarter of a mile. The dust storm was followed by a very cold wave. ... *The Jackson County Signal*, February 7, 1946.

We hope that the report is true so we can enjoy sugar in our breakfast cereals, but we are threatened with darker brand of flour. How well the older people remember the kind of mixtures we had to endure in bread during World War I. It can't be any worse this time as it was then, and we all thrived on the concoction we had to eat in those days. Sixty five years ago the writer was thankful for pancakes made out of shorts and they were good too. We were raised to eat whatever was set before us. ...

The latest report is that the rationing of sugar will probably be withdrawn in the next few months. *The Jackson County Signal*, February 14, 1946.

We hear over our radio that some amorugeons who have no regard for the common welfare of the working public and especially the farmers want us to go back again on daylight savings time. We cannot see were it saves any of us working people any time. Take the farmer, for instance. He works from daylight until dark three hundred and sixty-five days per year and daylight time don't mean a thing to him, and then take the school children, who have to go three or four miles to school. During the winter months, when the days are short they have to start from home before daylight in order to get to school on time. We are tooth and toenails against daylight savings time as it don't help everyone. *The Jackson County Signal*, February 21, 1946.

If our City Council had of levied a five mill tax for the purpose of completing their City building, there would be by this time been almost enough money collected to complete the building. The business men and others ought to organize a commercial club to promote the welfare of Mayetta. A club of this nature could, if the worked in peace

and harmony, do much for the benefit of themselves and the City of Mayetta. One thing we need is a place of recreation and amusement and if the young folks had a place to go at home they would not need to go to neighboring towns for their amusement. *The Jackson County Signal*, February 28, 1946.

City ordinance No. 28 prohibits the running at large of any poultry within the city limits. Those of you who have permitted your chickens to run at large, please see to it that they are penned up, as garden time is here, and gardens and chickens don't mix. It also is contrary to city regulations to pile barn and stable refuse in the alleys. If any of you have used the alleys in violation of these regulations, please see that these manure piles are removed. *The Holton Recorder*, March 11, 1946.

The housing shortage in Mayetta is quite serious. Town property is being sold, and renters are required to move with no house available to rent and few to buy. The housing problem is much the same in towns and cities in the entire nation. One reason why the towns are so crowded can be seen when taking a drive in the country. Almost every other house and farm along the country road is vacant and deserted: Most of these houses are in poor repair and some would need rebuilding to make a home. Some of this land adjacent is being farmed by other landowners, and some of it is standing idle. Is it any wonder the food shortage is a problem? *The Jackson County Signal*, March 14, 1946.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Jones of Topeka have finally located an apartment in which to make their home. It is a five room downstairs duplex, and they feel quite lucky in the find. Since OPA rules that four people must live in five rooms, they have rented the extra bed to Harold Lofquist and another young man they know. *The Holton Recorder*, March 21, 1946.

We understand that Mr. and Mrs. Zabell are putting in a laundry in the Myers property on the north side of Main street. This will be a much needed business in our town as the laundry here mostly goes to Topeka. *The Holton Recorder*, March 28, 1946.

There is a new state law which provides for a committee chosen by the county commissioners to reorganize the grade school districts of Jackson county. This committee met at the Mayetta High school on March 25, to submit a proposed Mayetta district. This committee is attempting to work out a plan to equalize educational opportunities. A difficulty of the plan of reorganization is transportation due to lack of good roads. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 14, 1946.

Potawatomie Indian Mission. Sunday was a great day at the Mission as nearly 200 people gathered for the services. Three services were held. The morning worship with some 75 in attendance, then the study and office building was dedicated to the memory of those boys killed in service. Sgt. Paul Wamego, Sgt. William Lasley, Pvt. Joe Mandokah, Cpl. Lavern Thomas, 1st Lieut. Jess Tomey and 1st Lieut. Charles Eckert. ... the following service men were present to take part, Garnett Potts, Nelson Potts, Bill Wahbnosah, Amil Matchie, Varney Nocktonick, all of the Reservation; Lowel McKinney, Lucian McKinney, of Topeka; LeRoy Mzhickteno of Kansas City, Melvin Thomas of Topeka, and Sal Delg of Fairview, Kansas.

Mrs. Eckert, Mrs. Wamego and Mrs. Thomas were present as Gold Star mothers, and received the candle for their sons. Near relatives of William Lasley and of Jess Tommey received candles for them. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 11, 1946.

We are doing our best to feed the starving across the pond, we eat oatmeal for breakfast and grape nuts for supper and we are taking on weight like a steer in the feed lot on full feed. We have taken on 10 pounds of flesh during the past three weeks. ...

Did you know that our Mayetta meat dealers have been unable to buy beef for over ten weeks, and there is not an ounce of beef in town, and of course everybody wants to buy beef. It used to be that our farmers would kill a beef and several hogs each winter and salt it down and also smoke it and have good meat the year round. Now they sell the animals on foot at a few cents per pound and then go to the butcher shop and pay four or five times as much for their meat. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 25, 1946.

We took our first airplane ride this (Saturday) morning, and found much to recommend it. The view was wonderful: tiny-farmstead's with their doll like buildings, narrow strips of roads, and beautiful fields - the greens of alfalfa, wheat, oats and meadow. The creeks and ditches are so pronounced from the air, gulleys looked like narrow cracks in the fields, and the two shades of brown earth, freshly plowed and ground not so recently gone over. The corn rows looked like drill rows from the one thousand feet altitude. We would like to have that picture framed so we could look at it again and again. *The Jackson County Signal*, May 2, 1946.

Our merchants were lucky enough to receive a supply of beef last week. They had been out of beef several weeks.

... This is the first time in my life that I could not get a bushel of corn or wheat at our elevators. We need it for chicken feed, and for the lack of corn in our chickens they have fallen off in egg production about sixty per cent in the past ten days, and our government wants us to produce more eggs and poultry. If we can't get feed we will be compelled to sell off our hens. Won't some good farmer bring us five bushels of corn so that we and our hens won't starve to death. *The Jackson County Signal*, May 9, 1946.

V. R. Lunger was shopping in Holton last Friday. He tried to buy overhauls, shirts and underwear, but the merchants all had the same story - entirely out many months ago and no immediate showing of getting any for the next several months. So we came home and brought our shirts of B. F. Hafer and at a cheaper price than we could get them at either Holton or Topeka. *The Holton Recorder*, May 13, 1946.

Burglaries of a drug store at Hoyt and a garage at Mayetta have been cleared up as the result of the arrests of three Topeka youths. ... When officer Dana Hummer and Thurlow Spurgeon stopped in an alley at the rear of Hatfield's home to inspect a car, they said they found it contained much stolen property. Owners of the store and garage identified most of the property. - Wednesday's Capital. *The Holton Recorder*, May 23, 1946.

The Russell Robinson garage was broken into last Monday night. The robber gained entrance by breaking a window in the rear of the building and after gaining admittance he used a jimmy to open the other doors to get into the office. He mutilated the combination on the safe but could not gain entrance. There was no money in the safe anyway. He took all the inner tubes and quite a number of automobile accessories. Mr. Robinson had the sheriff and a finger print man come down and they took some excellent finger prints. Mr. Robinson carried no burglar insurance. *The Holton Recorder*, May 27, 1946.

One thing about being sick in bed in the summer, you have more time to scratch chigger bites.

Taking a hint from the garden experts to keep hoeing the ground in between the garden plants, we have been out trying to raise a dust in the tomato rows. It is like hoeing up chunks of cement. Where the ground is loose, however, the soil underneath is damp much to our surprise. Also, the peaches have not grown any since the dry weather hit a month ago. We have been watering the trees, hoping to save them if not the fruit. We had 21 peach trees in our back yard, all full of peaches. Quite a disappointment if they dry up entirely. *The Holton Recorder*, June 17, 1946.

Many of our farmers are reducing their flocks of chickens for want of being able to secure food for them. With all the surplus feed in the country this is the first time the writer ever saw that it could not be obtained for love or money. We would not blame the farmer if he would go on strike and refuse to sell any of his grain.

Just a few months ago you could see a dozen or more truck loads of cattle and hogs go by on highway 75 to the market. Today there is only about one truck of hogs go by and no cattle. The farmers are not selling their stock even though they get a good price for same, and they do not dare kill a beef and let his neighbor have a piece of it unless he wants to pay a big fine and serve a jail sentence. We would like to know what the Democrats are going to do next; us Republicans will hang the hides on a barb wire fence after the next election. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 20, 1946.

Because of ten or twelve cases of scarlet fever in our town and community, there will be no program or dinner at the Methodist church on Sunday June 2.

We have been taking a rocking chair vacation this week, the result of weed poisoning on the left foot. We scratched off a patch of skin last Sunday night, and the sore is having a hard time healing. ...

Mrs. Lizzie Marple lost eleven little chickens one night last week when either a dog or a coyote tore down the coop and carried them off. This quite a loss to Mrs. Marple as she has only four little chickens left. *The Holton Recorder*, June 24, 1946.

We went to our butcher and he was there, when we asked for meat, he said it was bare. We Americans are worse off than those across the pond to whom we are sending all our food stuffs. We can't get sugar, meat, only a little bread, and no washing powder of any kind, and dozens of other articles which we are sorely in need of every day. The Democrats are certainly treating us ruff but they have to suffer along with the rest of us. We don't look for the situation to get much better until along about election time next year, and then won't we Republicans show the Democrats where to head-in at. *The Holton Recorder*, July 1, 1946.

The cutting of wheat and oats are just about over, in fact all the wheat is cut and only a few fields of oats yet to be cut. The wheat yield was far above the farmer's expectations and the price is most gratifying. Quite a few fields yielded \$75 per acre and oats about \$40 to \$50 per acre, and at the moment the prospects for a good yield of corn is in the offing. Farmers are feeling very jubilant over the rich harvest season this year and they are hoping it will

continue that way for many years to come.

There is getting to be a big demand for well improved farms and especially those who are situated on all weather highways, also many people want to buy Mayetta property. There seems to be a wave of prosperity in the air. Now is a good time to sell if you want to dispose of your property. If you don't want to sell, don't put a price on it as someone will snap it up. ...

The Farmers Union elevator at Mayetta up to Tuesday night, July 9, has received over 37,000 bushels of this year's wheat crop, which represents only a portion of the wheat that was combined. Much of the wheat this season was cut and bound by self-binders all of which will be threshed by threshing machines. A majority of the wheat is making 25 or more bushels per acre, and the oats that have been combined and marketed are running from 40 to 60 bushels per acre and the price of both wheat and oats is most gratifying. Corn is looking good but need as good rain while it is tasseling and silking. ...

There seems to be no hard times around Mayetta, all the small grain farmers have plenty of money which they have received for their wheat and oat crop and not half of it has been put on the market. Our Farmers Union elevator has paid out up to this time about \$80,000 for wheat and oats. If we get a good corn crop and the price stays anywhere near what it is today, our elevator will pay out around \$200,000 dollars to our farmers by the end of corn husking time. *The Holton Recorder*, July 15, 1946.

We began eating roasting ears out of our field corn last week. Every ear was well developed and filled out to the end. It is Pioneer hybrid and so far has not been materially hurt with the excessive heat and lack of rain, but it would appreciate a good ground soaking rain. ...

We had a flock of little chicks and kept missing them from time to time. We set a trap one day last week and in the morning we found a fine skunk in our trap and also found two dead chicks, so we have three chicks left out of 21, but Mr. Skunk will not get anymore of them, as we sent him to the happy hunting ground and gave him a decent burial. *The Holton Recorder*, July 29, 1946.

The citizens of Mayetta were somewhat startled last Monday by several explosions. Some thought that we might be invaded by atomic bombs, but on investigation we found it was the Farmers Union elevator blasting out their scale pit. They are taking out the present scales and installing a much larger pair. They are 34 feet long and will have the capacity to weigh anything from a fish worm to the largest truck load that will ever come to Mayetta. It will take two or three weeks to get the new scales ready for use. The elevator is having its weighing taken care of at the lumber yard scales. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 8, 1946.

The OPA have got lots of people out on a limb, wondering what they will do next. It matters not what they do, we have to grin and bear it. We may go hungry for some items, but we old timers who came here sixty or more years ago, lived on short rations and if worse comes to worse we can do it again, but it will be kind of tough on the younger generation who have lived in the land of plenty. But we Americans can starve to death in order to feed those over the pond who we went over there and licked. Now we have to feed them and give them millions of dollars which they really don't appreciate. They know that we are suckers and they are willing to take advantage of the situation. *The Holton Recorder*, August 26.

Amos Chase and Donald Cox with their pickup hay baler baled 1733 bales of prairie hay one day last week for Frank Hall. This number of bales was baled in seven hours. The hay made about four tons per acre. Amos gave us this item. ...

People in this community who replanted peach trees after the damaging freeze of 1940 are reaping the harvest this summer and fall. It takes only three years for a peach to begin to bear. Every family should have a tree in their yard. *The Holton Recorder*, September 2, 1946.

The last meat that the writer has been able to buy was purchased August 31st, which is forty-seven days ago. Although we have not been discommoded very much by the absence of meat, it is natural for a person to always want that which is hard to get. Now that Harry has lifted the price control on meat we don't expect to be able to buy any for some time to come and the price will be out of reach of the average citizen. You can't expect low priced meat with such a high price for cattle. Prices on any commodity will not be lowered as long as labor prices are at such a high price. No laborer on earth can earn ten or twelve or more dollars per day. The writer used to work for fifty cents a day and did more work than the high priced artist of today. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 17, 1946.

Our merchants, who sell meat now have plentiful supply on hand and the price is not so very much higher than when meat was plentiful before the OPA was lifted. Now that people can get plenty of meat they don't seem to crave it as much as they did a few weeks ago. *The Holton Recorder*, October 28, 1946.

Our streets are being rocked and will be in good shape for the winter rain and mud. This has been along needed improvement and is now a reality, for which we are very thankful. Now if a few boards and nails could be had we might be a little more elated. *The Holton Recorder*, October 31, 1946.

Halloween is not until tonight, October 31st, but the boys began their toilet overturning on Oct. 23rd. They have hardly left a toilet in town that could be turned over and greatly damaging many of them. The boys ought to be ashamed of the depredations which they committed on old people, and cripples. We never could imagine what fun people could get out of such depredations. ...

The price of corn has declined 30c per bushel during the past two weeks, and we forecast that it will decline another fifteen cents by the first of December. It can't go up very much if any. The corn future price are what controls the local market price.

We have several hundred loads of FREE COBS, come and get them. *Jackson County Signal*, October 31, 1946.

A man and a woman who had been driving a Minnesota car had stopped at the depot, got out and left their car running with the brake not set, and the car started to move. As it gained momentum it crossed 75 highway and went over the embankment and through our pasture fence. Luckily the only damage that was done was to the fence, but had the car had been ten feet further to the north it would have struck an electric light pole and probably damaged the car to quite some extent. The man driving the car, seeing it run away, took after it on foot and fell down skinning up both hands and making quite an abrasion just below his knee, also tearing his pants leg. Luckily the car went over straight over the bank for had it went side ways it would have probably overturned several times and caused much damage. This is the second car that has gone over the bank at this point. *The Holton Recorder*, November 4, 1946.

We have had our rats eat everything they could get their nose in. We had a bar of Life Bouy soap in our lavatory and Mr. Rat got into it and ate up nearly a bar of Life Bouy soap for us. The rat thought if it as good for human beings that it would be good for rats.

Write your Senators and Congressman to have the ban on sugar removed. Why not give us Americans all the sugar we necessarily need and then if we have an over-supply give it to our neighbors across the sea. We believe in taking care of the home folks first and then help others if we can without injury to ourselves. The writer does not have a spoonful of sugar in the house and it will be several weeks before we will be issued sugar. If they would lift the restriction on sugar there would be no hoarding. It would be just like the coffee restriction. Just as soon as the restriction was raised the sale of coffee fell off. *The Jackson County Signal*, November 28, 1946.

The coal miners strike did one good thing for the coal dealers, it gave them a chance to get rid of their surplus and the consumers who needed coal replenished their coal bins, and none of them tried to hog the coal. Our local dealers were able to furnish all orders and will have a fair supply on hand, and we still have several hundred loads of FREE COBS. ...

Overheard from a 13 year old boy taking a bath: "I'm not in a very good humor to take a bath! When I take a bath, I like to be all brightened up, then I can just whiz through it without using any soap. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 19, 1946.

The first blizzard of the season began about midnight Wednesday and snowed and blowed until midnight Thursday, giving us a 24 hour performance. The snow was very fine and exceedingly high wind piled it up in drifts from one to three or more feet deep. All the countryside roads were blocked, the snow plow on 75 tried to keep it opened but as soon as they shoved it off the wind put it right back on. Traffic was at a standstill during Thursday. We will have at least two more such blizzards before spring opens up.

There is something about a snowstorm and sub zero weather that seems to clear the air, put the flu and cold germs to sleep and make the majority of people feel better. We have often heard the old saying, "A green Christmas makes a full graveyard." Our above normal weather in December bought on severe colds and flu with very few people escaping them. Now with the intense cold, most of the sicknesses have just about disappeared. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 9, 1947.

The boy's who pushed Pooler's ice house into the gutter on Mainstreet, Halloween, pushed it back onto the vacant lot Tuesday afternoon. Those who manned the crowbars were R. P. James Thede Potter, B. F. Hafer, Ed Messmore and Leo Davidson. Frank Curbow was the engineer who directed the proceedings. Pooler is to be congratulated in not having to hire the work done or do it himself. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 16, 1947.

The freight service is picking up on the Rock Island. One day last week we had six freight cars pass through Mayetta. We hope that business will again get so that we can have passenger train service.

We understand that George McGinnis has brought the picture show house. We hope that he will fix it up and

again start picture shows so the people of Mayetta and vicinity will have some place of amusement. *The Holton Recorder*, January 20, 1947.

Butter Fat is slowly falling in price and we predict that the current price will go much lower which is very discouraging to the producers. The lowering of butter fat will have a tendency to bring down these fancy prices which milk cows have been selling for. The lowering of butter fat will also bring down the price of butter which will be greatly appreciated by the consumers and the high price of milk will also have to be lowered. ...

Items are scarce, sugar is scarcer and you can't buy your favorite brand of toilet soap. ...

The Farmers Union received during the year 1946, 42 car loads of coal at the Mayetta plant. They had plenty of coal during the coal strike so they were able to take care of their customers. They received 9 cars of coal since Jan. 1st. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 23, 1947.

The Rock Island station at Mayetta handled the following carload shipments during the year 1946: Carloads received, bran, shorts and feeds, 8; cotton seed meal, 2 cars; coal, 49 cars; salt, 3 cars; sand, gravel and crushed rock, 14 cars; agricultural limestone, 34 cars; lumber, 2 cars; brick 1 car; cement, 4 cars; fertilizer, 8 cars; miscellaneous, 1 car. Total carloads received 126. Carloads forwarded, wheat 32 cars; corn, 26 cars; oats, 3 cars; hay, 14 cars; walnut logs 1 car. Total carloads forwarded, 79 carloads, making a grand total of carloads received and forwarded as 205 carloads. Revenue derived there from was \$21, 211.00. Had the railroad been able to furnish cars the number of carloads forwarded would have been double the above report. *The Holton Recorder*, January 27, 1947.

This immediate vicinity experienced one of the worst dust storms on last Wednesday, Feb. 5th that reduced vision to about 50 to 100 yards. It began in the middle of the forenoon and kept it up most of the day. Some of the weakest telephone lines were blown down. The storm was followed by a young Kansas Blizzard which caused the mercury to slide down to four below zero Friday morning. The blizzard was accompanied by a snow fall which measured about one inch. The cold wave Friday and Saturday made big inroads on the fuel piles and it was difficult to keep up any kind of comfortable temperature in our homes. Undoubtably the fruits are all killed which will not inconvenience the average housewife because she would have not been able to secure sugar to put up the fruit. An appreciable change in the weather took place Monday, Feb. 10th when the thermometer began climbing toward the top and the day was very spring like. *The Jackson County Signal*, February 13, 1947.

C. G. Bertsch made a business trip to Topeka last Wednesday. He made the trip by Bus and on the return trip through the blinding snow storm the bus driver could not see the turn to come down main street as the wind shield was covered with the drifting snow, he passed the entrance and drove two blocks further north before Mr. Bertsch could make him understand that he was passing Mayetta up. ...

The snow weather is good for one thing - quilting. We know of several women besides ourself, who are taking advantage of the bad weather to get another quilt quilted before spring housecleaning and gardening become imperative. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 13, 1947.

Numerous young wolf whelps can be heard every evening and most of the night. From the way they yelp there must be a least a dozen of the whelps and some one ought to organize a wolf hunt and get rid of the pests. ...

Farmers are getting wise to growing better and bigger yields of corn. At least 75 or more percent of our farmers are planting hybrid corn this year. It stands the dry weather better and stands up straighter in the field which makes it easy for the mechanical corn pickers to gather. It also matures earlier, thereby letting the farmer get it on the early market before the price drops which it always does later in the season. A picker which is in good working order can gather about ten acres a day. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 20, 1947.

The first signs of spring in Mayetta: Monday afternoon, the old time residents at the City Hotel were all out on the front porch. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 10, 1947.

Howard Swank, an ex-service man 23 years old, of Mayetta, was killed instantly yesterday when the motor car he was driving hit a rough spot in the road and careened into a concrete bridge 6-½ miles south of Holton on highway 75. Robert Early, a passenger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mead Early of Mayetta, escaped without serious injury. Howard is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Swank of Mayetta.

The Swank car, a 1935 Plymouth sedan, was traveling north when the accident occurred. The rough place in the road was at the top of a hill. A motorist traveling behind the Swank car said it was not traveling at an excessive speed although the Plymouth was virtually demolished. *The Holton Recorder*, April 17, 1947.

We are contemplating of getting a petition asking the government to make their mail route into dry weather roads by giving them a coating of crushed rock. This would meet the approval of our rural mail carriers, and the patrons

which are served on their routes. There is plenty of available rock to do the work with, the four mail routes out of Mayetta has a very few miles of road which has in years been rocked with a light layer of crushed rock and are now in a quite deplorable condition., and the road from the Hunter corner to the Mayetta cemetery is also in deplorable condition and should have a new coating of crushed rock. Another road that should have crushed rock is the mile from the Ditts corner east to the Roediger filling station. In fact we would like to see all prominent roads given a good coating of crushed rock. ...

We examined our peach and pear trees last Sunday and found them loaded with buds and if nothing happens with the weather in the next 2 or 3 weeks there will be also strawberries this year, but there will not be much use for the housewife to do any canning of fruit unless she is able to secure enough sugar to do her canning with. Our pantry shelves have been devoid of jellies for the past four years and we always have been used to having at least two or three hundred or more glasses of jelly and the like number of various fruits. We can't see why the government can't keep our sugar at home instead of sending it to foreign countries. It is no worse for them to go without sugar for a while than it has been for us to be denied sugar for the past four years. The sugar situation is harder on a two person family than on those who have five or seven in the family. We have not baked a cake since the sugar rationing has been on and no pies that have taken sugar. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 24, 1947.

The resurfacing of highway is now in progress on the Shawnee-Jackson county line. They will tear up a mile stretch at a time, which makes quite a traffic problem. They tear up a one-half mile of the width of the highway and are also making the road bed wider. We suppose the resurfacing will last possibly sixty or more days. *The Holton Recorder*, June 2, 1947.

Those mothers with several children penned up all day Wednesday while it rained, blew and was cold, suffered from an excess of energy - at least 500 horse power - going to waste in the living room. In those houses where the little woman was alone all day the gloomy hours dragged by like an eternity. We were among the former: Where were you? *The Jackson County Signal*, June 5, 1947.

Mr. W. L. Maddy, division manager of the Kansas Power and Light Co., was in Mayetta last Monday interviewing the members of the city council in regards to the installation of an automatic clock, which would self regulate the street lighting system. With the installation of the clock we can have an all night service of street lights which would cost about \$15 per year than we are now paying for the lights, which are turned off at nine o'clock every night except Saturdays. We hope that our councilmen will have the clock system put into effect so the people of Mayetta can have lights to see their way home after attending church or lodge or any other meeting which might hold on until after nine o'clock. The all night service will not increase your taxes and they will give you a great deal of satisfaction. Mr. Maddy will be here again this week to endeavor to make the installation, so in conclusion, give us more light. *The Holton Recorder*, June 9, 1947.

John Walrod, who after the death of his wife visited a daughter, Mrs. Danny White at St. Joseph, Mo., has been making his home in Mayetta, living in his little house on the corner and doing his own cooking. His children look in every day or two and help do for him, And Betty Jane and Martha Sue Spencer, who live next door, come in and wash the dishes once and a while, so all in all he is doing fine and as long as he keeps well, intends to remain where he is. Mr. and Mrs. Will Walters and Bill Starkey of Hoyt visited him one day last week, and Mrs. Albert Walrod came in Wednesday and washed his clothes. ...

With sugar rationing off, we house wives won't have anything to grip about, nor any excuse for not taking the time to bake an occasional pie or cake for the sweet-hungry family. We celebrated the ration off news with two cherry pies and a chocolate cake with real fudge icing, the pies made by our older daughter and the cake by the younger. Time this younger generation learned how to bake, anyway. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 19, 1947.

The Farmers Union Co-Op store in Mayetta has sold six thousand chicks during the past three months. They expect to double this number next spring. They keep the chicks until they are 6 or 7 weeks old and able to take care of themselves. ...

The road bed of highway 75 has been torn up from the end of the concrete pavement on the county line to within a half mile of Mayetta. ...

The Farmers Co-Op elevator had 10 feet of water in the cellar, or boot, from the Sunday rains. They have two electric pumps working all day Monday trying to get the Boot cleared of surplus water. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 26, 1947.

We heard a good suggestion, Saturday night, as the main street of Mayetta was resounding with exploding fire crackers: "We ought to make a law that all fire crackers must be shot off at the place they are purchased!" That would surely eliminate the cannon crackers that make the ex-service men from overseas have nervous prostration. *The Holton Recorder*, June 26, 1947.

Wheat harvest is now under full blast in this vicinity and the elevator is kept busy for early morn to late at night to take care of the wheat. Wheat opened up at \$1.95 and the quality is excellent. ...

The reason children seldom have a nervous breakdown is because they do not know the meaning of the word, "hurry." You send a boy after a bucket of water that you need pronto, and he takes ten minutes while he sprinkles the cat, waters the mud hole, if any, and most likely takes the pump to pieces to see what makes it work! Perhaps it's just as well. Maybe we grown-ups need to play along at our work more. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 10, 1947.

The resurfacing of highway 75 is going on at a good rate and the new road bed will be about three feet wider than the former bed. The workmen tear up and finish about a half mile to three quarter miles per day. As soon as the new bed gets thoroughly settled it will be much better than the back top. One of the men told us that the new top would be like highway 16 from Holton to Valley Falls. *The Holton Recorder*, July 14, 1947.

The free open air picture show has a new curtain applied on the wall of the open air theater which makes a much better picture than the rough surface which was formerly used. Several hundred people enjoyed the picture last Saturday night. Our merchants also enjoyed a most lucrative business and had to stay open until about midnight to take care of the trade. ...

The Methodist people have had all the broken glass replaced in the windows of the church, and we hope that the boys with slingshots and air rifles will in the future refrain from breaking them out again. ...

Last year we had roasting ears out of our corn field on July 20th. Our corn was planted two weeks later this year but we are expecting to have roasting ears by next Sunday, if it is seasonable. We have several acres of hybrid corn that looks now as if it might make 75 bushels an acre. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 24, 1947.

For the benefit of those readers who live out of the state, and remember Kansas in July as HOT, let me say that our summer this year has been very "unusual," with cool resort type weather part of the time, and the last two days, Wednesday and Thursday, it was so cold most people built fires in range or heater, put blankets on the beds, and some even resorted to night clothes. Thursday, the sky was cloudy with an intermittent drizzle, and the temperature was ranging from 50 to 62 degrees. No wonder a fire felt good. *The Holton Recorder*, July 28, 1947.

We were awakened a little after two o'clock Saturday morning by two consecutive blasts from a shot gun. Later, we were informed that a fight and gun fracas had taken place in our local beer joint. Fortunately, all innocent bystanders who usually get killed in such a battle were at home in bed. Naturally none of the drunks were injured. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 7, 1947.

One of our town dogs takes special delight in chasing the trains when they go through town. We guess he thinks he has chased it away. He also likes to chase automobiles, but his favorite sport is to chase trains. ...

The Highway department received five car loads of sand last Monday to be used in putting on the finishing top coat. ..

There are nineteen houses in Mayetta, (two just outside the city limits,) with each housing only one occupant. Fifty years ago it was considered improper to let Grandma live alone. The married children insisted the old home be sold and the grandparents live around with them. This usually caused much unhappiness all around. The older generation is much more sensible today. Even though a bit lonely, the grandparent with her own home finds it an increasing satisfaction as the years come and go. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 14, 1947.

Highway 75 is spreading oil on the surface of the road bed and all traffic has been suspended on the portion which is being oiled. We understand that the final top dressing will be applied after the Free Fair in Topeka. All traffic is now being detoured over other roads. The Santa Fe bus service had been suspended until they can resume using the highway. One day later: the road bed has now been sanded from the end of the cement pavement on the county line and is now open for traffic as far as Mayetta, and by the time this gets in print, the road ought to be opened as far north as the Wigwam school house. *The Holton Recorder*, September 1, 1947.

Work is going right along on the rural electric line which the Kansas Power and Light Co. are constructing for the farmers in this locality and in a few more weeks they will all be able to have the use of electricity. All the farmers have their houses and other buildings already wired for the hooking up as soon as the current is turned on. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 18, 1947.

The Jones store, which has just recently been remodeled inside, is now right up to the minute just like the big grocery stores in our large cities. The customer takes a push cart and goes around and selects whatever they need, so they are not bothered by a clerk. Each class of goods are in a section by themselves and price tags are displayed so that the customer knows just what they want and how much they have to pay for the article. After making their

selections, they take the service cart to the cashier and she adds up all the purchases. Mr. Jones is well pleased with the improvements which he, at a big expense, made and cordially invites you to come in and look over his stock and prices. There are still some improvements which he will make for the conveniences of his customers. He will also install a large oil burning furnace which will have a blower attachments that will make the store room nice and comfortable during the winter months. *The Holton Recorder*, September 29, 1947.

The Holeman store and meat market had the interior of the store room redecorated with a new coat of aluminum paint and have rearranged the interior of the store room, and have just installed as new Vikin display electric refrigerator so that all the meats and other perishable goods can be displayed with the price tag on each article. It is lighted up with fluorescent lights, they have also put in a new walk in refrigerator for the storing of meats, which is also lighted with electric lights, they have also enlarged the store room so to give them more room for display of the merchandise. Price tags are displayed on every article so that their customers can see just what his purchases are going to be. All these improvements had to be done to take care of the increasing business. They invite the public to come in and inspect their stock of goods. *The Holton Recorder*, October 6, 1947.

The government is now promoting meatless and eggless and bread saving days, that is one thing we wont have to forego. We only eat meat on Sunday, and our hens don't lay enough so that we could eat them. We brought a set of store teeth thirty years ago and we have never been able to masticate meat since then so we don't eat it. Our main diet is oat meal, which we eat two times each day, for breakfast and supper. We are like Fannie Brice, we like it. ...

The Kansas Power and Light Co. installed two new and bigger transformers at its sub station in Mayetta last

week. This was occasioned by the new rural lines which are being built out from Mayetta. Every farmer who lives on or near the new rural lines are hooking up with the juice. Part of the new lines are now receiving juice. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 23, 1947.

The new rural electric line is coming along in fine shape and many of those who signed up for the electric current are now enjoying that commodity. We are informed that several branch lines will soon be built out from the lines which first signed up. The farmers are highly enthused over getting the privilege of obtaining electric juice and all the farmers will soon install all the household electric equipment that is available. The Kansas Power and Light Co. are always anxious to build new lines wherever they will serve the people and a paying proposition to the company. If you want electricity just get all your neighbors in the same notion and then make application to the electric light company. They will investigate and if found remunerative they will do the rest. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 30, 1947.

It is along jump from a Kansas Potawatomie Indian reservation at Mayetta to the klieg-light movie sets of Hollywood, but Miss Roe Mere Darling made it and today she made a triumphant return to Haskell Institute where she spent nine years of her girlhood days.

Now, a special promotional respective of paramount Producer C. B. DeMille, Miss Darling is on a nation wide junket beating the drums for "Unconquered" a motion picture extravaganza based on the 90-day siege of Fort Pitt, in 1763. ...

"They like call me 'Princess' because they feel that that every Indian should have a title," she said, referring to her Hollywood bosses, "but plain Miss Darling is alright with me." ...

"Rosie was one of the tiniest little girls when she came here in 1919 and for two or three years she was sort of a mascot, tagging the older girls around because she was too young to go to kindergarten," Mrs. Spencer recalled.

"She lived at Winona Hall and later on, she was very helpful in taking care of the younger children," she related.

...

In 1932, Miss Darling went to Hollywood to appear in "The Legend," with Jim Thorpe, famed Indian athlete, and she became a charter member in the Indian actors and actresses association, which furnishes Indian film players to the film companies.

Miss Darling said she continued acting until 1945 when her husband was killed in action with the 15th Air force in Italy.

"Then, I devoted my time to getting other Indians jobs who were making films with Indian roles in them," ... *The Holton Recorder*, October 10, 1947.

Everybody is kicking about the high cost of meat. You can't expect cheap meat when you can sell a thousand pound fat steer for about three hundred and fifty dollars. Of course everybody don't have the fat steer to sell and he that does have him thinks that he ought to have a little more money for them. That same steer would have sold for fifty dollars on the Kansas City market sixty years ago and we could at that time brought three pounds of the best steak for a quarter or a big ten pound soup bone for ten cents and the butcher would throw in a mess of liver. You who are reading this may never see three pounds of steak for a quarter. ...

Our part of the country was visited with a surprise snow storm, Friday evening. It began about 6:30 and ended before midnight, but it was wet and heavy and plastered the windshields and made the highway slick. Our family started to the junior play at Hoyt, but after driving two miles south of town, we turned around and came home. Saturday morning there were a lot of cars in the ditch. *The Holton Recorder*, November 24, 1947.

Reddy Kilowatt's "Parade of Progress," a traveling exposition containing 7 big exhibits featuring the latest in electrical equipment on December 1 ... (For a glimpse into the future, a miniature home is on display, heated in winter and cooled in summer by a compact electric heat pump, which removes stored heat from the earth for heating and reverses the process for cooling.) ...

Housewives planning on remodeling or building a new home will be interested in the model kitchen which features the newest in electrical equipment - refrigerator, dishwasher and garbage disposal, and small appliances. ... A model utility room presents to housewives the latest in time-and labor-saving automatic laundry equipment, including a washer, which washes, rinses, and damp dries without attention, dryer, ironer and water heater. Also included in the utility room will be a modern home freezer ... Additional exhibits feature a modern electric water system for the home or farm; the automatic electric feed grinder for processing poultry and livestock feed ... *The Holton Recorder*, November 27, 1947.

We hear much grumbling and growling about the high cost of meat. One of the reasons for the high cost is that the farmer sells his hogs and beef at about twenty-five to thirty cents per pound and then goes to the butcher shop and pays two or three times as much for his meat. If every farmer would kill his own meat the high price of meat would have to come down as there would be only a small portion of the people to buy it. As it is now, everybody, farmer and city people buy their meat. The writer can remember when all farmers killed and cured their own meat and never thought of going to a butcher shop to buy meat, and if they did, it was to get a mess of steak for a special occasions. The farmer should assert himself. They can rule the world if they would hang together. We see in one of the Holton papers where one store advertises liver at 48 cents per pound. When we were a boy if you brought a quarters worth of meat the butcher would throw in a mess of liver free. *The Holton Recorder*, December 8, 1947.

Our hens are helping keep down the high cost of living and saving eggs for those across the pond. We have only gather 1 egg during the past three weeks and that single egg has cost us about \$2, so we are conserving on eggs, and we only eat one slice of bread at a meal and only have two meals a day, and speaking of beef we brought a small piece of steak for Thanksgiving, and it was the first steak we had eaten for the past ten years. War is a funny thing, we go over there and whip the stuffing's out of them and then when it is over we tell them we are sorry and send them food and clothing to heal their wounds. We will bet a coonskin, if they were to come over here and lick us they would set back on their haunches and laugh themselves to death and would not even try to compensate our feelings by furnishing us with food or anything else. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 11, 1947.

The white-collared bunch at Washington implore us to save on meat, bread and eggs. We are asked to waste nothing. We don't waste anything at our house. We used to eat three slices of bread, we only eat one slice now at two meals, breakfast and dinner. We only eat one pound of meat per week and that is for Sunday dinner. We don't eat any eggs as our hens began conserving on eggs last September and we only had six eggs from our 22 hens up to Christmas day. One old hen laid one as a Christmas present for us. Every egg we have gathered during the past three months have cost us one dollar each.

A couple of our citizens thought that they would buy a hog to butcher and beat the high price of meat. They went out to one of our farmers to look at a pig, but when they got there they found that the shoat weighed six hundred or more pounds and would cost them around two hundred dollars, so they did not buy. I guess that they concluded what little pork they would eat, that it would be cheaper to buy from the meat market, thereby saving quite a sum of those beautiful pictures of the father of our country. *The Holton Recorder*, December 29, 1947.

B. F. Hafer takes V. R. Lunger to task about those free cobs V. R. is always advertising to give away. Hafer went after cobs Monday and V. R. wasn't there to held load them up. Cline, who runs the elevator, would not help either, saying it was Lunger's job after offering them free to the public. Next thing his customers will being going elsewhere to get their free cobs.

We committed murder on one of our white rock roosters last week. We had him for our Christmas dinner. He weighted 10 pounds after he was dressed and at the present price of chicken he was very costly eating. He would have cost us more than six dollars on the Topeka retail store market. We had him on full feed for three weeks before Christmas and he was as fat as a butterball. There were seven of us who enjoyed eating him and we had enough left overs for a week's supply of chicken hash. *The Jackson County Signal*, January 1, 1948.

What merchants we have contacted since the holidays report a very good trade. We have five stores in Mayetta and only the Appier department store carried a complete line of holiday goods and they were well pleased with the

business which they received.

A genuine old fashioned Kansas blizzard escorted the old year out and ushered the new year in. During the year 1947 we had 38 inches of snow and 32 inches of rain. We can expect three blizzards before spring opens up. Many cars went in the ditch during the present storm. Highways are blocked with deep drifts and traffic is about at a standstill. Main street in Mayetta is practically knee deep with snow and some drifts are four feet deep, and the north side sidewalks are impassable. *The Holton Recorder*, January 5, 1947.

We notice that in our Recorder that there is one business man who has the nerve to advertise the price on sugar in one hundred pound sacks. He ought to be able to sell every sack at its advertised price. It is the cheapest price we have heard of for many months. If we were in Holton and had any way of getting it home we would buy a sack. *The Holton Recorder*, February 9 5, 1947.

The road scraping crew spent Monday afternoon scraping the mud from the hill in the center of main street and dumping it in chunks at the end of the block of Hafer's store. Reminds us of sweeping the floor and brushing the dirt under the rug! The crew also put skids under Pooler's defunct ice house, that the Halloween boys love to dump into main street each year, and hauled it off. We hope the boys can't find it this fall! *The Jackson County Signal*, February 19, 1948.

We have mentioned it many times before, but just to keep reminded who have charge of repairing the road bed which branches off of Highway 75 at the turn at the Depot should have the attention and the two holes that are a large around as a washtub and about six inches deep should be filled before some one has a serious wreck at this spot and also where the turn joins the highway there is now a ditch over a foot wide and 5 inches deep that some time will also cause a serious wreck. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 11, 1948.

The Kansas Power and Light Co. have erected a new street light on the north side of the street, next to Jones store, and we are informed that they will also put one on the south side, both lights to be lighted from the present street line and will burn all night. They also have put in a line of electric stoves in the room adjacent to the Jones store. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 8, 1948.

The City council ought to get busy and repair the hitch rack at the west side of the old National Bank building. Two posts are broken and the chain lays on the ground. It needs two new posts so that it will be raised off the ground and the farmers who come to town with teams can have a decent place to tie up their teams. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 15, 1948.

As a rule the month of April is a beautiful one in Kansas, and this year is no exception. All the fruit trees have blossomed and so far have escaped frost; The apricots, plums, pears, peaches, and cherries in fast succession, forced out by our unusually warm April weather. The jonquils came out on schedule the first part of the month, then the lilacs, with bleeding heart, red bud, forsythia, fire bush and now the tulips and paper narcissus are opening up in the soft spring breezes. Browning might have written, "Oh to be in Kansas, now that April's here!" *The Jackson County Signal*, April 29, 1948.

For twenty years I have wondered why the row of shade trees that extend from the north end of our block to the grade school corner did not continue down to the end of the block, and I have often wondered why somebody didn't set out a row, Well, the other day, I figured if these trees were ever set out, perhaps I better do it, so after gaining permission from the caretaker, the school board and the teachers I set to work. At present the little trees set out are 1 hackberry, 1 elm, three oaks, one ash, and one wild plum. We hope they will all grew and give shade to many who pass by on their way to town in the heat of a summer day! *The Jackson County Signal*, May 13, 1948.

In our trip to Holton last Friday we found the highway department spreading a good coat of gravel on the road bed and as soon as this gets worked into the blacktop will make one of the best highways in Kansas. ...

The public hitch rack near the old bank building is still in a deplorable condition. The chain and two posts lay flat on the ground. What they need is a good man like the writer to repair it. Only a short time ago a farmer came in and tied up the rack and one of the horses became tangled up and got down and his struggle he broke the tongue out of the wagon and broke some of the harness. Of course it only cost the man about ten or fifteen dollars to get a new tongue and repair the harness. Some body ought to get busy and repair the hitch rack. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 3, 1948.

On Saturday night when we are having the free picture show, the only business houses who have outside lights are the Robinson garage, the beer parlor, Seymour produce station, and the Holeman store. How much more inviting it would be if all business houses were lighted up. Mayetta is not a cemetery. It's one of the liveliest towns in

Jackson county. One nice thing the city has given us an all night street lighting. *The Holton Recorder*, June 14, 1947.

Mayetta has brought a new school bus. It was delivered here last Monday. The grade school is having a new hot water heater system installed. Jimmie Kern will operate the new bus. We hope that the new bus will be a successful and wise investment, one thing sure it will give the children who attend in the outlying country school better advantages of opportunity of the city schools. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 24, 1948.

Blackberries are getting ripe two weeks ahead of schedule this year. They are mighty good raw with sugar and cream, but don't try to pick them unless you are a hardy soul. The brambles are higher than your head, and most patches are small jungles.

We gave a neighbor a mess of green apples the other day, and she returned the container with a mess of ripe early peaches! Looks as if generosity, as well as honesty, is a good policy. ...

The hitchracks still lie prone on the ground and they were badly needed during the past few days. The farmers who lives on dirt roads had to, on account of the muddy condition of the roads, come to town with their teams and were unable to find facilities to tie up their teams so they sit in their wagons and this kept the teams from running away. If the city council or commercial club can't fix the racks, why don't the merchants take the matter into their hands and fix them. It would only take a couple of hours work to put them in a good condition.

At last the hitch racks have been repaired, it has taken two or more years to get the work done but time and patience accomplish many things. The farmers who have to use their teams in coming to town in muddy weather can now enjoy having them tied up to the hitch rack. *The Holton Recorder*, June 28, 1947.

The farmers Co-Op. Elevator received 113 truck loads of wheat last Friday. They loaded out four carloads Saturday and could have loaded that many more if the cars had been available. They received six empty cars Sunday morning and loaded out four car loads Sunday. Wheat is yielding from 25 to 40 bushels per acre and at the price of two dollars per bushel makes a nice income for those who have wheat. ... Some of the early harvested fields are now being plowed, getting them ready for the sowing of wheat this fall. The farmer who has alfalfa is now busy putting up the second cutting. Corn is making a very rapid growth and pastures are in the pink of condition. About all we need for the next sixty days is ample rain to insure a bumper corn crop. ...

We suppose all the home folks were listening when Mayetta went on the air over WREN Wednesday afternoon at 12:30. We were quite proud of the personalities interviewed, Mayor M. H. Lock introduced V. R. Lunger, one of the oldest residents of Mayetta who told what the town site looked like 70 years ago. Elroy McAlexander, one of our younger residents, gave a good account of our high school situation and what makes the blacksmith trade boom in a farm community. A. J. Jones, the oldest businessman in Mayetta, told what store keeping was like when his father ran a general store first at South Cedar and after moving to Mayetta. The Pottawatomie Agency located just one-half mile west of Mayetta was represented by Mr. Hal McFadden, who gave an overall picture of the reservation and the people on it; by Miss Mildred Imach, home economist at the agency; and by Miss Gertrude Knapp, who is the government nurse for the reservation. Ed Marling of Topeka, who sponsored the show, was scheduled to give away a prize to a Mayetta resident. It was Mrs. John (Grandma) Hafer's number he called, and she answered the feature question correctly, winning as a prize, an electric travel iron, and two Frigidaire ice cube trays. All in all, Mayetta did herself proud! *The Jackson County Signal*, July 8, 1948.

The Mayetta Farmers Co-Op had a most disastrous fire in the early hours of last Friday. The fire was caused by a burnt out motor in the top of the building; the elevator was full of wheat, which will practically be a total loss. A large amount of ground feed was also lost. The fire alarm was sounded about one-twenty o'clock in the early hours of the morning. The Holton fire department was called and did noble work. One car load of wheat caught fire which they played the hose on and finally saved the car; the car was of steel construction. The firemen by their efficient work saved the office and scales; one truck that was stored in the driveway was a total loss. By them having another elevator and saving the office and scales the receiving of wheat will go on as usual. ... an explosion seen and heard by Mrs. Edna McAlexander. The elevator was full of wheat, 9,000 bushels, besides, corn, oats and barley. *The Holton Recorder*, July 19, 1947.

The Co-Op. elevator is now busy rebuilding the new elevator to replace the one which burned down last month. It will be of concrete construction and made as nearly fire-proof as it can be made. They are trying to have everything completed so as to be ready for the corn crop. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 12, 1948.

The workmen are making nice progress on the reconstruction of the foundation for the rebuilding of the new elevator which will replace the one destroyed by fire a few weeks ago. The new structure will have the holding capacity of thirty-five to forty thousand bushels, and is being built of concrete and will be made as fire proof as possible to do so. With favorable weather it will be ready to take care of the corn crop. *The Holton Recorder*, August 16, 1947.

We wish that about 50 of our country cousins would come to town with their mowing machines, grass scythe and hand sickles and cut the weeds for our City Council and property owners. The weeds in some places are as high as your head, especially in the alleys and on vacant lots and many of the lots that are occupied by the owners, only a few of the property owners have an excellent growth of brush and weeds right in the business block. Lets get busy fellows, and get rid of our weed patch so people will know that this is Mayetta instead of Weedsville. Lets have some personal pride and clean our fair village of the obnoxious weeds. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 26, 1948.

The weeds are still thriving on the rich soil of Mayetta, we were in hopes that the council would have a few of them cut down so that we could see the houses. The writer cleared them out from the rear of the Masonic building.
...

Highway 75 has been given a seal coating of oil and crushed rock a large force of workmen were here and did the work. It looks as if it would now be on the best highways in the country. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 2, 1948.

The Mann Construction Co. of Williamstown are here doing the excavation for the new elevator which will replace the one that was destroyed by fire three months ago. The excavating is being done by a motorized excavating machine and can handle as much dirt in one hour as a hundred men could do in one day. The new elevator will be of concrete construction and will have a capacity of about forty thousand bushels. The store room and feed room are practically completed and will be ready to move into in a few days. *The Holton Recorder*, October 11, 1948.

We can't understand how any right thinking individual can come out for repeal. He knows repeal will increase drunkenness, in turn will increase crime, traffic accidents, broken homes, child delinquency, and general misery. Vote no on the repeal. *The Holton Recorder*, October 28, 1948.

We were awakened Monday morning about 5:30 with a sharp flash of lightening and heavy rolls of thunder and what sounded like rain against the window screen. The rain turned out to be an inch of fresh sleet on top of a good two-inch coat which fell Saturday. This new coating of sleet is like walking on tiny glass marbles an inch thick. It rolls under foot and you track it in like sand. *The Holton Recorder*, February 17, 1949.

There have been different stove repair men working in this vicinity during the past two weeks, but owing to the condition of the weather no one seems to want to take down their stoves and have them repaired if they needed it.
...

The recent sleet and other moistures filled our Pioneer rain gauge tube and the freezing weather formed ice in the tube and broke it, but if Charley sees this item and he has any Pioneer rain gauge tubes on hand we would feel very grateful to him if he would bring us another tube when he comes over to Mayetta. *The Holton Recorder*, February 21, 1949.

The City Council ought to spread about ten or fifteen pounds of coarse stock salt on the side walk, in front of the City Auditorium, it would melt the three inches of ice which covers the walk and it might save someone from falling on the ice and breaking their leg or arm, and if they did injure themselves they would have a valid suit against the city for the damage, the salt would only cost ten or fifteen cents and the law suit would cost many of hundreds of dollars, and we suggest the salt would be the cheaper. This ice covering has been on the walk for over a month. *The Jackson County Signal*, February 24, 1949.

The Rock Island Railroad has what might have been a bad wreck Wednesday morning when seven freight cars were derailed just at the north edge of Mayetta. A broken rail was the cause. None of the cars overturned, but they all cut up the ties and made deep impressions in the soft ground before coming to a compete halt. The wrecking crew arrived Wednesday afternoon and had the cars all set back on another track, and removed by midnight. The cars were loaded with grain and feed. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 10, 1949.

We have not heard of any one wanting to dispense liquor in Mayetta. *The Holton Recorder*, March 14, 1949.

The City Council met Tuesday evening, March 23rd and nominated the following for officers the coming two years, E. A. McAlexander, Mayor, Ralph Castor, Police judge, Theodore Potter, Ed Thomas, George Marple, Louis Walker, L. L. Holeman and C. G. Bertsch for councilmen. The city election will beheld Tuesday, April 5th. There is some talk about securing a man who will be city marshal and also look after the work to be done on the streets and alleys. ...

We hope that the new city council when they get elected will take some kind of steps towards finishing the building which they brought for that purpose several years ago. We are sorely in need of an auditorium so that we

can have a place for putting on amusements of various types for the benefit of the public. They could issue bonds to the amount of ten thousand dollars which would find a ready sale and the income of the building would soon retire the bonds. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 31, 1949.

The south bound midnight freight had a derailment beginning at the second crossing at the Roediger filling station and the cars, four or five of them, finally turned over one mile further south at the road crossing, Hanni farm. The pair of trucks which first caused the derailment mutilated the ties for one mile. The wrecking crew was called and they had the track cleared for traffic in eighteen hours, no one was hurt. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 7, 1949.

Tragedy struck twice in the Mayetta community less than twelve hours apart, Friday afternoon, the farm home of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hug burned to the ground while they were attending the last day of school dinner at the Slatery school house. Mrs. Rozan Zweifel, a neighbor, saw the blaze and reported to the school house, but the building and all its contents were all ablaze by the time that the Hugs and their neighbors reached the scene.

This seemed like trouble enough, but early Saturday morning another fire in Mayetta cost the lives of three people besides their home and all contents. About 1:45 a. m. several neighbors of the Louis (Wag) Tuckwins heard a great commotion going on at their home. Then as they watched, the whole south room burst into blaze. They called the fire department and ran to the scene in time to see the whole house ablaze. Four of the children escaped through a window from a north bedroom: Lyle, 13, Gerald, 7, Mrs. Mercedes Bretigan, 20, and her daughter, Bonnie, 2.

Wag staggered out the west door his clothing burned from his body, and fell to the ground. He was dead when examined. His wife, the former Elizabeth Blandin, and their small daughter, Patty Jo, 3, were burned in the house. It was 4 o'clock before their charred bodies could be removed from the burning residue. The four survivors were taken to the home of an aunt, Mrs. Sarah Blandin Patterson.

The cause of either fire will perhaps never be known.

Both Sheriff Laurence Hay and Coroner Wendell Mercer first were told the baby victim was a boy. The body of the mother and child were burned beyond recognition.

Reports at Mayetta Saturday were that possibly a firebug was responsible for the Tuckwin and Hug fires, both occurring from some unknown reason. The night of the fire the Sherriff and coroner said they believed defective wiring could have been the cause of the Tuckwin tragedy and that there was small chance of it being caused by a small fire in the stove.

The scene of the tragedy was visited by several hundred persons Saturday who viewed it with sorrow. Nothing remained of the five room cottage except a trunk and the child's tricycle in the yard. ... Mayetta has had more than its share of fires with these and the destruction late last summer of the Co-op elevator. There is an inadequate water supply for fire fighting and any water must come out of wells. *The Holton Recorder*, April 25, 1949.

The forces of evil never take a holiday. Someone who was a little off center to begin with got out a petition signed by a small number but sufficient number of wets, and the question of whether Mayetta may now have a liquor store will have to be voted on. The election is called for Tuesday, June 7. There are 130 voters within the city limits of Mayetta! Who runs our town? Did you vote at the city election? Only forty did. If the dries go to sleep on this election, make sure of one thing. The wets will be at the polls. *The Jackson County Signal*, May 19, 1949.

At this time, we wish to make a report on our arbor day activities of last year. Of the nine trees we set out on the grounds of the grade school, five are still alive this spring: one ash, one oak, one wild plum and two hackberry trees. Last fall when the school grounds were mowed, the plum and the hackberries were cut off, but they are coming on again. We will try to stake them more conspicuously this summer. We may never enjoy the shade from these little trees, but perhaps someone will. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 2, 1949.

The Mayetta Farmers Union Co-Op association held its grand opening Friday afternoon, June 17th. The occasion was for the inspection of the general public. Several hundred patrons took advantage of the affair and each visitor was served with ice cream and pop, and they got a chance to inspect the largest elevator of its kind between St. Joe and Herington on the Rock Island. It has four concrete silos which have a holding capacity of about forty thousand bushels if grain and also has other storage space. It is fully equipped with the latest machinery for handling grain, the manager Alvin Cline thinks the public for their patronage. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 23, 1949.

What we need right now is a rubber griper for sealing mason fruit jars. Mrs. Ollie Slatery sold me a Swanson jar opener about 25 years ago, and it was a dandy. It finally wore our last season, and when I wrote to the company, they had gone out of business. No wonder - making a 25 cent article that lasted 25 years! *The Holton Recorder*, June 27, 1949.

The street commissioner, Jerry Smith, has just finished cutting down all the trees which were growing in the basement of the city auditorium. Jerry is the first man the city has ever had that takes any personal pride in cleaning

up the streets and alleys. *The Holton Recorder*, June 27, 1949.

Independence Day was celebrated in the "same-old-way" in Mayetta. Firecrackers and fireworks could be heard all day long and far into the night, keeping the sick awake and spoiling the well ones' tempers. But it only comes once a year and we are thankful for that. *The Holton Recorder*, July 7, 1949.

We passed by the city jail Saturday and found it almost hidden by weeds as high as your head. We recommend that the place be cleaned up so it is an inviting place to rest. The City Council ought to give it some attention and make it a more inviting place to recuperate from an over indulgence. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 28, 1949.

Anyone who has not been contacted by members of the board of education and wishes to ride the bus to school, must get in touch with the school board members: Elroy McAlexander, Harry Oldweiler, Ivan James. There will be two busses this year. One will go west and one east. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 4, 1949.

The storm of Thursday evening put out our lights just as we had finished the supper dishes. We unplugged the refrigerator - - it needed defrosting anyway - - and lit the kerosene "old faithful" and went to bed early for want of something better to do. Nothing like playing Pollyanna. It is better for your disposition. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 25, 1949.

The Farmers CoOp had a bull dozer do a lot of excavating last week. It is a wonderful machine and can move dirt in large quantities with perfect ease. It cleared off a large space of ground for the purpose of the elevator erecting a large battery of steel corn bins which will be used for the storage of corn ...

We are informed that the Rock Island will not receive shipments, both local and carload on Saturdays and also won't handle express shipments on the same days. This will make it very inconvenient to those who use the Rock Island. We hope they will quickly rescind the order and resume this order. Some people think that this line will be abolished entirely, but we predict that it will never be torn up and us without a rail line from Topeka to St. Joe, the truck line could not handle all the heavy machinery and the grain and other commodities that the rail now handles. ... Since the Labor Day rush of visitors things have quieted down around Mayetta. The only excitement is caused by the school children who come to town at noon for notebook paper, a candy bar or an ice cream cone. There are 53 students enrolled in Mayetta High school with 24 freshmen. This is the largest freshman class for a good many years. ... Our enrollment could have been 75 if we had been able to take all that wanted to come to Mayetta to school. Most of the pupils or their parents did not inquire about it until it was too late and the rooms were filled. We should have looked ahead at the school meeting in the spring and planned for a three teacher school. When part of the children in one family rides the bus to high school, it is simpler to let the grade school children go along than to take them off in another direction to their country school.

There are two school busses this year: Rev. Russell Bowie drives one and Johnny McAlexander the other. Rev. Bowie takes the grade children in the bus at noon over to the high school for their hot lunches, with Mrs. Caldwell along as their "shepherd." The two cooks, Mrs. Harvey Pelton and Mrs. Richard Bone, serve 82 children each day. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 15, 1949.

The Mayetta Pitch Club has torn down the old club house and is building a new one - smaller and more easily heated in the winter. Theo. Potter and Bob Wyatt are the chief engineers of the building construction, with Frank Grinnell, Mort Jones, Chas. Shingleton, Cliff Hunter and others as carpenters. We think the project will be finished without any strikes or lockouts. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 22, 1949.

Ralph Castor has installed 62 house wiring jobs for that many customers who will have access to the electricity which the new lines out of Mayetta will furnish. Electricity is the cheapest and most useful commodity that the farmer can install about his farm. It is safer than coal oil lamps, but we advise you to always have one on hand. Also an oil stove so that you will be ready for a breakdown when trouble does arise and it generally happens along about supper time. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 29, 1949.

Several of the ribs and rafters of the new quonset hut which is being built collapsed last Wednesday but as luck would have it none of the workmen were where it would hurt them. The only one hurt was E. J. Underwood, who is the son of the contractor. One of the ribs scrapped the side of his head and one of his legs, he had to have two stitches on his head and three stitches on his leg. He was rushed to the hospital and his injuries dressed. He was able to go back to work the next morning. *The Holton Recorder*, October 19, 1949.

The weather and no serious accidents happening the new government Quonset hut will be ready to be filled with this year's crop of shelled corn. It is an all steel building and will be fire proof. They will begin filling it about the first of November. It is 40 feet wide and 140 feet long. ...

It is rumored the mail route number 2 is to be abandoned or consolidated into another route. Fred Robson carried the route ever since it started and Fred has now retired on a pension and the route at present is being carried by Everet Martin. *The Jackson County Signal*, October 13, 1949.

There was another free dance last Wednesday in the new Quonset. It is reported that some 500 people attended the dance. The Marple orchestra furnished the music. People came from Denison, Hoyt, Holton, Circleville, Delia and Topeka. Everybody had a most enjoyable time.

The government just unloaded a prefabricated Quonset which will have a holding capacity of about 60,000 bushels of corn. They are constructed at Huston, Tex., and are all fitted ready to put up. *The Holton Recorder*, October 31, 1949.

The Halloween party that was held Monday evening on main street was well attended. Several prizes were given to the best masked persons. In the adult class Albert Walrod, first; Mrs. Bone was the successful second. In the high school class there were no masks. The rest of the prizes were given to grade school pupils. The Boy Scouts served refreshments of hot dogs, pie, doughnuts and coffee. All had a fine time. *The Holton Recorder*, November 3, 1949.

The mechanical corn pickers are a wonderful improvement over the way we used to husk corn fifty years ago. In those days we could, by snapping right into it, husk about one acre per day by working from morning daylight until darkness. The mechanical pickers can easily shuck about ten acres per day. At least half or more farmers are now done husking. *The Holton Recorder*, November 23, 1949.

The two little pre-school children of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Schultz found a billfold on the side walk in front of Hafer's store, Tuesday afternoon, and brought it into the store. It belonged to Jane Salts, who evidently lost it on her way back to school. She gave the children a candy bar each by way of a reward. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 8, 1949.

There was quite a little excitement around Mayetta for several minutes Thursday morning, when the alarm went out that Bert Peters house was on fire. Mrs. Evelyn Wahweotton saw the roof blazing, and ran over to tell Charley Renfro who was filling an oil tank in Peter's yard. Mr. Peters was in the Post Office getting the mail put up for his route when some one called in to tell him his house was burning. The fire department rushed out and put out the fire. It was just burning on the roof evidently, catching from a spark from the chimney. Not much damage was done, only a hole in the roof, but if the fire hadn't been seen right away, the whole house might have been burned down to the ground. *The Jackson County Signal*, December 15, 1949.

Snow, snow, beautiful snow! We wonder why it is that the same snow that delights the children, makes us older folks shudder. We used to look with pleasure on a snow storm, and the most fun in the world was wading around in the stuff. Now it is mostly something that has to be shoveled off the walks, and requires the nuisance of having to put on overshoes every time we get out in it. *The Holton Recorder*, December 26, 1949.

We understand that a couple of other men are here trying to work up enthusiasm in regards to putting in a locker plant. If they succeed that will give us two locker plants. This would be one too many for the size of the town and the people that would patronize it, and make it a paying proposition. *The Holton Recorder*, January 16, 1950.

Rural postal route number three was discontinued February first and has been supplied by substitute carrier Evert Martin, Fred Robson who for many years used to be the carrier. Mayetta used to have five rural routes but now two of them have been discontinued. So we now only have three routes. The present carriers have absorbed number three, Will Robson, Bert Peters and Virgil Daniels have absorbed route three. Will Robson is the oldest carrier in service. We suppose Evert Martin will be substitute. ...

FREE COBS? PLENTY OF THEM! You haul them. *The Jackson County Signal*, February 9, 1950.

The Kansas Power and Light Co., has opened a show room in Mayetta which will be opened on Saturday afternoons to enable you to see their display of Hotpoint and Frigidaire ranges, refrigerators and water heaters. Mr. Taylor will be in charge and you will be pleased to have you inspect their line of electrical goods. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 23, 1950.

Mayetta's fire fighting equipment plus all the able bodied men available, were rushed out to Tommy Cox farm (The former John Coleman place), Sunday just before noon, when a grass and timber fire was raging west and north of the farm buildings. The fire was almost up to the farm owned by Mrs. Elsie Coleman, tenanted by Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Rose. They saw the fire and got out and plowed several furrows, the fact that the fire ran into green wheat caused it to burn itself out before reaching the house and farm buildings. The damage was confined to the timber

and timber pasture.

Mr. Cox told the men after the fire had burned out that he was driving his tractor down the lane west of his house, when the tractor backfired setting the grass ablaze. Because of the high wind, the flames spread and tore across the pasture and the timber before he could run for help. He and his family and the Ralph Rose family had a bad time of it for a few minutes, but fortunate no one was hurt and no buildings were burned. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 30, 1950.

Young Johnny Felps lost two one-dollar bills, Monday around noon, somewhere along Main Street or in one of the stores. Johnny was out trying to buy a pair of tennis shoes for the grade school track meet, but could find no shoes, and when he got back to school he didn't have his money either. There was a high northwest wind, Monday, so if the bills were lost out of doors, they are likely somewhere between here and Topeka by now. If anyone finds them, Johnny would like to have them back! *The Jackson County Signal*, April 13, 1950.

After the Second World War the Korean peninsula was divided at the 38th parallel into two parts; North Korea allied with Russia, and South Korea, allied with the United States. Both sides claimed to be the one legitimate government of Korea and neither recognized the border as being a permanent one.

On June 25, 1950 the North Korean forces, backed by the Soviet Union and China, invaded South Korea. On the 27th of June 1950 the United Nations decided to send United Nations forces to defend South Korea. A small force of 400 men the 24th Infantry Division were moved from Japan to Korea and on July 5th, engaged the enemy. They were badly outnumbered and without anti-tank weapons to combat the Russian made North Korean tanks were forced along with the Republic of Korea troops back into the southeast corner of Korea, to the city of Pusan, a seaside city where they could be supplied, but their backs were up against the sea.

The fighting ended on July 27, 1953, when an armistice was signed. The agreement established a new border that was almost on the previous border. After many deaths of soldiers and civilians, the disruption's of lives, years of turmoil; after three years of war both sides were back from where they started from.

The Mayetta Locker Plant is now in full operation. Chas. Stockwell and his son are the owners and managers. *The Holton Recorder*, June 5, 1950.

The vote for school bonds to build a new gymnasium for Mayetta Rural High school, carried 184 for the bonds and 118 against, a majority of 66 in favor of the new building. Plans are being made to begin construction of the new gymnasium within two weeks. It is to be finished for the next school term. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 22, 1950.

What makes children so destructive? Is it the same force that makes men drop bombs on cities and makes war and destruction? Sunday evening, June 18; the Catholics had a supper at the church using a string of lights under the trees to see by. The lights were left (unhooked) until Monday and by the time the committee went to get them down, several little boys had done for the bulbs with nigger shooters and B B guns. Did the children know better? Also, the hollyhocks are at their height at present with bouquets of blooms all over gardens, fence rows, and out in the weeds. What makes children strike down a stalk or two each time they go by? Do they think the dead flowers look pretty? Children are destructive enough when they thoughtlessly destroy some object. How much more damaging are these children who are bent on destruction through spite or meanness. *The Jackson County Signal*, June 29, 1950.

Jack James, 1947 journalism graduate of Kansas State College, filed the first story from Seoul, Korea, on the Red invasion there, a telephone call to Ralph Lassbrook, K-State journalism head, from New York City indicated.

The story that James wrote was so outstanding, the New York editors said, that they wanted pictures and biographical information on James.

Formerly of Mayetta, Kan., James was editor of the Collegian, K-State newspaper, winner of a war memorial journalism scholarship and other scholastic honors here.

He went to China with the first post-war group of American students to do graduate studies at Lingnan university, Canton. He remained as a correspondent for United Press, has had the knack for being in "hot spots" for United Press since then. *The Holton Recorder*, June 29, 1950.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward James received a cablegram Saturday morning from a United Press correspondent in Tokyo, telling that he had just talked to their son, Jack James, head of the United Press bureau in South Korea, and that he was O. K., but not able to get out a letter to them. Then, Sunday morning, news came over the radio that Jack James had been wounded in the foot while covering the war news from the front. Jack was able to get back to headquarters

and file his story. ...

We know now why there was no show in Mayetta Saturday night, June 24. As the Ivan James family was coming to town, a black cat ran across the road in front of their car. At once the children began predicting dire things to happen to them, and Charles, age 9, even went so far to say there probably wouldn't be any show! We thought along that the reason for the failure to have the show was due to the film being missent to a wrong address. Now we know it was because of that black cat! *The Holton Recorder*, July 6, 1950.

There was quite a lot of excitement in Mayetta, Tuesday evening between 5:30 and 6:30. Mrs. Ruby Chase, driving her children and her sister, Wilma Vaught to the store for groceries, found the car she was driving had no brakes just as she was parking in front of Hafer's store. The car ran up on the sidewalk, and would have come in through the front window if she hadn't turned it so that it came to a stop at the corner of the rock building - with a dent in the fender.

A few minutes later during the electrical storm, some neighbor of Johnny Robinson phoned in that the Robinson house was on fire, struck by lightning, and the Mayetta Fire truck rushed out of town to put out the fire. The truck got out on the slick roads, got in and out of the ditch several times, and finally got stuck. The crew sent word to town for a wrecker, and Bob Shields dashed to his wrecker, started to back out of his garage (in a hurry), and struck the side of the front of his building, wrecking it and knocking down his water tank that stood overhead. This pinned the wrecker inside the garage and it took three men and a boy to get the tank moved out of the way so Bob could finally go to the rescue.

When the fire truck finally got to the Robinson home the crew discovered that it was the hen house that had been struck by lightning and burned to the ground. None of the other buildings nearby were damaged. Bob Shields came back, surveyed his wreckage and wondered if the hen house was worth it. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 6, 1950.

This the story of a hen who liked town better than life on the farm. As Thomas Moffett parked his pick-up truck in front of the cream station, Monday afternoon, he heard a hen cackle and found one of his hens had laid an egg in the back of the truck. After riding five miles to town she flew out and up onto the top of the ice house and fire station where it took several business men and Mr. Moffett to catch her and get her down. Preston James of the cream station was the one who finally grabbed a leg and brought her back to earth, so Mr. Moffett said just weigh her in and give him the check. No use taking a hen back to the farm, once she has a taste of city life. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 20, 1950.

For more than a week most of the telephones in the north end of Mayetta have been out due to water in the cables. In a way, we have enjoyed having no telephone - no interruptions right in the middle of a busy morning. The way to take a vacation at home would be to disconnect the telephone, discontinue the paper, unhook the radio, and look out on the pleasant landscape close at hand. We wouldn't really recommend it of course. As long as we live in the world we must be a part of it. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 27, 1950.

We need a cleanup campaign in Mayetta to keep the trash and candy wrappers, etc., from cluttering up the gutters up and down the main street. Let each business house sweep up his own door yard and the city clean the rest. None of us would keep our door yards of our homes in such trashy condition! *The Jackson County Signal*, August 3, 1950.

It is good to have a telephone again. The cause of the trouble was severed cable at the north corner of the grade school building. When a new pole was put in some time ago the cable was cut, but the telephone officials knew nothing of it until water from the summer rains got into the cable and put out the phones.

It is heart breaking to see all these young boys (and girls) going off to fight another war that they had no part in provoking. I tell Marilyn they should take us middle aged folks and older and leave the young people to perpetuate the race. She thinks they wouldn't have me for a soldier. About a half mile of stiff marching under a heavy pack and I would be all in, and in a state of collapse. I would be so awkward with a gun, I might shoot my own buddies than the enemy. All joking aside, it does seem the end of everything for millions of young married couples, many with little children, a G. I. college course just completed, a new little home just brought, a good job worked into or a good business getting started. It is hard for the young men to have to go and fight, it is hard for the young mothers who have to stay and readjust their lives through another war. My heart goes out to them. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 10, 1950.

Mrs. Bess Jones heard a rattle snake as she was sickling grass in her yard Saturday evening. It was too dark to see, so she retired into the house. Several rattle snakes have been killed on her premises in the last two years. She wonders if they have a den nearby. A baby rattle snake was found dead in the yard this summer. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 17, 1950.

The reason for the Mayor and Council calling a special Bond Election for the City of Mayetta is this: We have

created a Fire District around the City of Mayetta. The city will get a revenue yearly from this district. The city is to purchase and maintain the fire truck. To purchase this truck we need a sum of \$7,000 at one time. The bonds will give us the money at one time to purchase the truck.

The revenue from the district will be paid to the city annually and this money will retire the bonds as they fall due. The only cost to the city will be the election and legal costs.

We can have a fire department to be proud of then, or shall we wait for another elevator fire or a Tuckwin home to burn. I hope not because it might be yours or mine. We cannot prevent fire. But let's get ready to stop them when they get started.

We plan to keep the truck we have now. This will give us double protection as we will have a standby it were needed.

If there are any more questions about the matter, ask us and we will be glad to discuss it. The farmers have cooperated 100% now let us cooperate with them too. E. A. McAlexander. *The Holton Recorder*, August 24, 1950.

The election to vote bonds for a new fire truck for Mayetta and vicinity carried 92 for and 8 against. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 14, 1950.

We drove over to look at the new high school gymnasium which is being built north of the Mayetta High school building. The foundation is laid, and the forms for a three or four foot concrete wall are being built. Work seems to go pretty slowly, but they are expected to have the building ready when basketball season starts. We hope so. *The Jackson County Signal*, September 21, 1950.

Burt Robson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Robson, has received his call to active duty in the army. Burt is a Lieutenant in the reserves. ...

We noticed our main street in the business district has been cleaned up of all trash and mud. We should all be more careful not to drop candy bar wrappers and such trash in the streets. Each store should have an over-sized waste basket at the door so wrappers could be dropped in as customer goes out! *The Jackson County Signal*, October 12, 1950.

Mayetta mayor, Elroy McAlexander, and George Marple, councilman, returned Saturday morning with the new city fire truck. It looks wonderful! *The Holton Recorder*, November 20, 1950.

Congratulations to the County Commissioners on their project of rocking the road from Highway 75 to Mayetta cemetery south of town. This will be a great help especially in muddy road weather. *The Jackson County Signal*, November 23, 1950.

In Tuesday's capital was a little story about "Three Longs in a fox hole in Korea." One, Malcolm R. Long, is a grand nephew of Dudley Lunger, Will and Henry Long and Mrs. Frank Oldweiler of Mayetta. Malcolm is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Long of Kansas City and the grandson of Mrs. Maggie Lunger Long, formerly of Mayetta. *The Holton Signal*, December 21, 1950.

In the January 15 issue of Life magazine is a picture of Kenneth Johnson, former Mayetta boy, and son of Herbie Johnson now living in Reno, Nev. Kenneth is in the army in Korea and was pictured over the caption, "Exhausted Americans." He is now in a hospital in Japan.

I wonder if any of us appreciate to the fullest extent what our boys are doing for us in keeping the enemy away from our homeland. As we go to bed each night in a warm, clean bed, do we offer a prayer for those boys on the battlefield who have forgotten what a warm, clean bed feels like? Can we imagine what it would be like trying to sleep in the mud and cold? Of pushing on day and night, relentlessly, without sufficient rest or food; of being in the midst of slaughter with blood and death on every hand? ...

Hafer's store, (our place of business) was broken into and entered sometime between 9 p. m. Saturday night and 6:30 Sunday morning. The entry was made by a half grown boy and was not the work of a professional. He first got into a box car which is behind the store but found he was no closer to getting inside the store from there than he had been outside, so he then made another try prying at a side door with no results. Then he broke into the entry way behind the store and with a hand axe started to chop at the lock, then at a panel half way up the back door making a hole just big enough for a slight body to crawl through. He had no flashlight as the burnt matches all over the floor testified. He found the cash register open and with less than 75 cents in it.

This he took and looked around for more but there was no money in the store to be found. He took a bottle of pop from the ice box, leaving the door open and set the empty bottle on the counter. He got into the candy case taking a few bars and bubble gum. He got into another case and took a Gillette razor and some cigars.

He tried on some shoes and took a pair and took a new cap and a few other small items and left by the way of the back door. The sheriff was called the next morning and he has some excellent clues. It is too bad when a boy thinks

he needs money so badly that he must break in and try to steal it. When you see a boy with no job and no other means of visible support who drives a car about night and day and runs with other questionable boys from here and nearby towns, do you have to wonder why any further? *The Jackson County Signal*, February 1, 1951.

For some reason the coldest time of night usually comes just at sun up in the morning. This Thursday morning, we went out and looked at our thermometer just as the sun was peering over the horizon, and the gage showed 21 degrees below zero! At five o'clock it had registered 14 below. With a bright sun out all day, the snow melted on the south side of the roofs and froze in the frigid air making long icicles hanging along the eaves of the houses. The thermometer in the shade barely got up to zero all day. ...

We called on Mrs. Lucy Hunter Friday afternoon and found her very cozy and comfortable in her snug little house in spite of the cold weather. She says it keeps her busy carrying in fuel oil and looking after her dozen hens and one rooster. One hen had gotten a little frost bitten and she had her in the kitchen in a bushel basket with a wire screen over the top. ...

Mayetta has broken out with an epidemic of "crew cuts" - boys with their hair all shingled off their heads. The four senior boys, Leland Salts, Ben Hafer, Frank James, and Darell Kern all have crew cuts and it takes ten years off their looks! Makes them look about seven! Two freshmen boys, Duane Hainline and Raymond Kolbek, have also joined the ranks. The boys got tired of having to borrow bobby pins from the girls to keep their hair out of their eyes during basketball games! Or did the girls tire of lending the pins? Surely not! *The Holton Recorder*, February 5, 1951.

M/Sgt. Rollie R. Hudson, who is still in a hospital in Japan suffering from battle exhaustion, has recently been awarded the silver star for gallantry in action in Korea. His wife and family are living in Mayetta. *The Holton Recorder*, February 26, 1951.

The two T. B. films were shown at the High school, Wednesday afternoon at 1:30, and Leonard Pelton, aged 5, and I were the only ones outside of the high school students and faculty who attended. Leonard wanted to go thinking there might be a cowboy or two in the show! I think he was disappointed, but the films were good. The mobile x-ray unit will be in the Jackson County schools in March and everyone should take advantage of the free chest x-rays. T. B., if found in an early stage can be easily cured. ...

We would be glad to see a good rain. For the last two washdays we have used hard water and detergents for suds, but I can't say they get dirty clothes very clean. We prefer soft water and soap. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 1, 1951.

There are several new cases of chicken pox in and around Mayetta. The Fiedler children have it, and Laura and Carol Kern also have it. This follows close on the heels of a measles epidemic. Some children are due to miss a lot of school.

The city council members and mayor spent part of Monday tearing down the walls of the old partially demolished stone building on the south side of main street. This has been an eyesore for several years, and was a dangerous place for the children to play as some of the stones were not solid along the top of the walls. The men drove a wedge into the wall a few feet from the edge and top and fastened a chain in the end, then using a wrecker for power, pulled back and down on the chain loosening the rocks which fell for the most part into the basement cavity of the building. The city brought this partially wrecked building during World War II and thought to build a community house, but any building project now will necessarily be postponed. We congratulate them on a quick and thorough demolition job. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 22, 1951.

There is a blue jay in the apple tree this Friday morning, "cheeing" to all that will listen that he doesn't approve of the return of winter! After a glorious spring day Thursday, when the temperature almost reached 80 degrees, the wind got up Thursday night, and blew dust and cold from the northwest. A few hardy gardeners planted potatoes on Good Friday, but they nearly froze to death doing it. We will probably have to wear our long underwear Easter Sunday. *The Jackson County Signal*, March 29, 1951.

The weather may be cloudy and cold: But there is one sure sign of spring: the children on the sidewalks are learning to roller skate. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 5, 1951.

I guess I must have mentioned that Calvin Cline's were the first with television at Mayetta just to see if any one reads this column! They do! It seems that James Hyde at the Agency has had television for some time, also two other families out on the reservation. It recalls the days of the first radios. People with sets would invite their neighbors to listen, then likely all they could get in the evenings would be squeals and whistles. I think I will wait until the television sets are more improved: small with built in aerial - one you can plug in anywhere and carry place to place.

Mr. Cline had a little trouble with his television aerial, the other evening, so he got up on the roof and fixed it. He was just coming down the roof slope and looked back to see what a good job he had done, when - wham! His heel slipped on a spot of frost and the next thing he knew he was on the ground. At first he was sure he had not broken any bones, but he went to the doctor Saturday afternoon and found he had cracked some bones in his clavicle. He cannot lift his arm to speak of and his shoulder and neck hurt. *The Jackson County Signal*, April 19, 1951.

We have had so many innovations around our place in the last week. I hardly know if I am at home or somewhere else! While Ben and I were gone to Sterling, Frank and Ralph Castor installed a pressure tank and electric pump in the basement and fixed a faucet of running soft water in the kitchen. This week they added a hot water heater, a hot water faucet in the kitchen and both hot and cold water faucet in the basement where I wash the clothes. This will eliminate water carrying from the cistern around to the basement door and down to the boiler and tub, and will be especially fine as Ben, our water boy, will be leaving when school is out.

But that isn't all. Today, Friday, they installed a new electric range in the kitchen. It is just like starting house keeping all over again. We will even have to learn how to cook all over, making use of "oven dinners," and two or three dishes cooked in compartment kettles. ...

Besides measles and chicken pox, Mayetta has several cases of whooping cough. This has been a bad year for the grade school pupils especially with so many out for one or all the diseases. One good thing is that it will be several years before another epidemic hits; it will take a whole new crop of children! *The Jackson County Signal*, May 3, 1951.

This is the season that makes us forget the long gloomy days of winter. The landscape as seen from a hill side is a poem in green and black, edged with fragrant plum bushes in full bloom. Our apple tree is decked out like a bride with her pink and white blossom tiara, and the cherry trees are the brides maids with the trailing spirea hedge as the flower girls. The sweet spicy smell of the plum blossoms mingles with the heavenly odor of the lilacs. May-time in Kansas! Who would trade this spring delight with any other clime? *The Jackson County Signal*, May 10, 1951.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Robson, Mayetta, have been advised by the secretary of the army that their son, 2nd Lt. Burt A. Robson is missing in action in Korea. Lt. Robson has been in Korea since April 28.

The telegram received from the department of the army read "the secretary of the army has asked me to express his deepest regret that your son, 2nd Lt. Burt A. Robson, has been missing in action in Koreas since May 18, 1951."

Lt. Robson, who was 24 years old has been serving with the 23rd Infantry regiment. He spent over a year in Korea in World II. *The Holton Recorder*, June 18, 1951.

Mayetta town wasn't flooded by the recent rains and high water in surrounding creeks, but you can't drive very far in any direction without running into signs of trouble. Frank and I drove over to Denison, Wednesday afternoon and called on Mrs. Blanche Gardiner. A bridge between Birmingham and Denison is partly washed out. Sunday afternoon, we started for a drive, taking our company out to see the country. We turned around and went back rather than to go through a water hole at the Dudley Lunger corner south of town, and on the county road west, we found two bridge approaches half washed out on Big and Little Soldier. ...

All this week people of Mayetta have gone to their work with one ear glued to the radio keeping track of the flooded river in Topeka, especially Wednesday morning. Frank made a hurried business trip Topeka and came home in record time when he saw the height of the river. Bill Slattery was in Topeka Wednesday night and Thursday morning when the water had spread all over North Topeka, he was obliged to come home by way of Kansas City. By Friday morning Lawrence and Kansas City were flooded. It is hard to believe unless you see how much water there is. 36.26 feet has been the highest point of the river today. Two story houses in North Topeka by the river were covered, and the flood extended north of the clover leaf where the highway climbs the hill out of the valley. We don't know how much of south Topeka is flooded; at least a strip three blocks wide along the river. *The Jackson County Signal*, July 19, 1951.

This has been a good year for the little trees I planted on the grade school parking and grounds three years ago. The Ash tree is almost as tall as I am, 5-8; the wild plum is shoulder high; the hackberry is waist high; and the little oak, which has grown twelve of fourteen inches this summer so far, is better than two feet tall. We think a good project for a woman's club would be to keep the grade school grounds mowed during the summer. It could be a lovely place to look at instead of the high weed patch it always is. The school board does not have the money to have it taken care of all summer. We need a "better school lawn" club! *The Jackson County Signal*, August 2, 1951.

We wish to thank the following persons for their very generous help and assistance in getting our store and home cleaned up of the debris and mud left by the Kaw flood. From Mayetta: Henry Long, Lester Holman, Geo. Marple, Howard Ray, Raymond Johnson, Francis Slattery, John Slattery, Bob Shields, Theo. Potter, William Long ... Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Hohnbaum and daughter Linda Kay. *The Jackson County Signal*, August 9, 1951.

The Hohnbaum's ran a grocery store in Mayetta, previous to their residence in Topeka.

Tuesday, October 9. Another beautiful, gold and blue fall day, with sunshine and a crisp breeze. The leaves are beginning to turn and fall even tho not yet touched by frost. The hard maples are glorious with their new scarlet and wine fall suits, and the elms are wearing dresses of green spotted with yellow and brown. ...

Frank, Marilyn and I drove to Topeka, Sunday afternoon, and called on Mr. and Mrs. J. Carl Miller and Lois. ... We found Lois, who is fifteen, baby sitting with the four neighbor children next door. I went over to see her, and had my first look at television. Must confess I was a little disappointed, but suppose they will improve in another year or so, like the old first radio sets did!

We had a temperature of 35 degrees in our back yard this Monday morning, October 8, and there was white frost all over, but our green beans were not touched and nothing else in our garden or yard. Two weeks ago when we had a low temperature, the frost killed late gardens in the low lying spots. Our morning glories are having a hard time this cool weather. Yesterday's flowers were still out this morning, and today's blossoms opened up about three o'clock this afternoon. *The Holton Recorder*, October 11, 1951.

The Halloweeners left a big Pennziol sign on our front porch, Wednesday night, and so far no one seems to have lost it. Frank thinks the pranksters should have left a few quarts of oil along with the sign, just in case the advertising brought in a few customers. ...

The Halloween parade and program on Mayetta's main street, Wednesday evening, was a good success in spite of the cold weather. Prizes for the best masked went to the following; Pre-school; Marvin Shields, 1st; and little Mary Rachelle Pettijohn, 2nd; grade school; Janice Wells, 1st; and Farol Baskett, 2nd; High school; Corrine McAlexander and Erma Perkins (dressed as twins) 1st; and Melva Huffman, 2nd; Adult; Mrs. Johnny McAlexander, 1st; and young Jimmie McCauley's family 2nd. The McCauley's were dressed as an old time colored family and came to town in a horse-drawn buggy! All the maskers were treated to candy bars, and the Roediger filling station added a sucker for each. The prizes were orders on Mayetta merchants - first prize, \$2.00 and 2nd prize, \$1.00. *The Holton Recorder*, November 5, 1951. asd

Two-hundred-six took advantage of the chest X-Ray at Mayetta, Saturday afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Evans worked the machine in the mobile truck and there were nine helpers who worked as typists, registrars, and hostesses: Mary K. Fitzgerald, Esther Dickinson, Velma Colhouer, Dixie Wells and Lorraine Eigenman did the typing; Lottie Cox, Nina Marple, Alma Renfro, Gladys Winter, and Vera Hafer helped the people register. We were busy all afternoon and it was gratifying to see so many turn out. *The Holton Recorder*, November 22, 1951.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Robson are grandparents again. A baby daughter was born, Nov. 27, to Mrs. Burt Robson of Topeka. Lieut. Burt A. Robson was reported missing in action in Korea last May and his wife and parents had no further word from the army headquarters concerning him. They are hoping, of course, that he is still alive, tho a prisoner of war. *The Holton Recorder*, December 3, 1951.

The fire department will blow the fire siren each day at noon until further notice, for the purpose of testing the siren. We understand that the siren has been installed at the central office so that in case of a fire alarm is called in, the operator on duty can touch off the fire siren at once. *The Holton Recorder*, January 7, 1952.

After the dial telephone system was installed the siren was moved next to the city building. The number to report a fire was 2525, and the phone at the city building, one each at the city clerk's home and in the fire chief's home would ring when this number was called. Of course each phone had its own family number for non-emergency calling. There were red buttons on each of these phones that were used to sound the fire siren. The siren was still used to mark the noon hour, and every dog in town howled along with it. After the control of the siren was moved to Holton, the noon whistle was not sounded anymore, but the dogs continued to howl at noon for quite some time.

It was a good thing that the city clerk, who was also the fire district secretary, Mrs. Nellie Freed, and my sister, Mrs. Hester Craig, were stay at home people because there was always someone at home to answer the phone in case of a fire. There was a collaboration between them that lasted well over a decade, both making sure that when one went on vacation or out of town, that the other one would be at home to handle the fire calls.

After the fire siren was sounded both, if both were at home, each would hang up and wait for the men of the fire department to call in. Hester would not answer this second ring in, and those who did not want to

wait for Nellie to answer the phone would call the Craig's private number, 2424, to find out the location of the fire. Also there were many curious people in town that would call the fire number to see where the fire was, and this clogged up the line preventing the men of the fire department getting the information that they needed. When these people called in they were told by Nellie to call the Craig's private number, and after a while this sunk in their heads, and the fire line remained open for the most part to those who needed it.

Several people around Mayetta are having their houses insulated, and this weather should be a good time to see if it works. I guess it makes quite a difference - less fuel and a more comfortable house. ...

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Robson of Mayetta have received word from the War department regarding their son, Lt. Burt A. Robson, who had been missing in action since May 18, 1951. We quote in part:

"Lieutenant Robson became missing in action in the vicinity of Hangye, Korea, when the opposing forces had overrun the company positions and cut the main supply route.

"It has been my fervent hope that favorable information would be forthcoming, so that you might be relieved from the great anxiety which you have borne during these past few months. I wish to assure you that the oversea commanders are making a continuous effort to establish the actual status of personal who have been reported as missing or missing in action.

"My continued sympathy is with you during this period of uncertainty." *The Holton Recorder*, January 24, 1952.

This is the moving season of the year when so many families sell out at one place and move to another trying to better themselves financially with a new start. People get discouraged when the going gets rough and they think they would shed all their troubles to move away to greener pastures where the prospects look bright. Usually, the new place is full of discouragements, too, and after a year or two another move is contemplated.

It is a fact that a body cannot move far enough away to get rid of the elemental needs of any family, - food, shelter, and clothing. These need to go right along and have to be met at the first meal, the first night, and at the end of the first week. Of course progress comes with the change, and these modern pioneers contribute their share, but as for me I am willing to stay in the same place, having worked out my credits in moving when I was a child! *The Holton Recorder*, February 28, 1952.

Mayetta grade and high schools have been closed all this week because of the drifted roads and so many cases of measles and mumps. The small bus was brought in Thursday from the snow drift where it was stalled Monday afternoon on the way home from taking the pupils home at noon. Friday, the snow melted down a great deal making plenty of slush and mud, but some of the country east-west roads are not open yet. ...

Saturday, March 8. It rained most of the night and part of this morning, and our rain gauge measured 15/16 of an inch together with the melted snow. We still have a good cover of snow on the ground, but by noon the sun was out and the water running freely from the roofs and along the ditches. Frank heard some geese going north last night, the first he has noticed. This noon, a large flock went over on their way back to the southeast. They must have run into difficulty and had to turn back! *The Holton Recorder*, March 10, 1952.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Robson received official word from the War Department, April 18, that their son, Lt. Burt A. Robson, has been declared killed in battle on an unknown date. We extend our sincere sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Robson, to Mrs. Burt A. Robson and Jane Ann, to Mr. and Mrs. Max Oelschlaeger and family, and to all other relatives. Mrs. Burt Robson drove to Mayetta, Friday afternoon and took her parents-in-law to Topeka with her where they stayed until Saturday afternoon. At that time, Mr. and Mrs. Max Oelschlaeger and family of Chanute came for them and brought them home staying with them overnight and Sunday. *The Holton Recorder*, April 24, 1952.

A Topeka serviceman, who was killed only three weeks after he arrived in Korea, had been named the 1952 Memorial Veteran of the Year. The honor has been accorded to Lt. Burt A. Robson, who lived at 307 East eight and was 25 years old at the time of his death. The flag from his casket will fly over Mount Hope Cemetery on Memorial Day.

Lieutenant Robson never saw his infant daughter, Jane Ann, who was born after he was sent to Korea. ... *The Holton Recorder*, May 29, 1952.

The Mayetta Co-op Elevator is building three silos and is repairing the old elevator for grain storage. Two of the new silos are completed and ready for use. *The Holton Recorder*, July 7, 1952.

I noticed the two Rock Island bus drivers sporting a new bus on its maiden trip. They both had broad smiles. The mail compartment is three feet longer than that of the old bus, the seats in the passenger compartment has lovely cushions and restful to ride on. It is much easier for the passengers to get into. The outside looks stream lined, the neatest looking bus I myself have ever seen.

It is the first bus that I had a desire to drive. I, Fred Robson, got to ride on it on its maiden run. *The Holton Recorder*, January 22, 1953.

The City of Mayetta and the Mayetta rural fire protection district in Jackson county entered into a contract October 2, 1950, whereby the city would cooperate with the rural fire protection district in furnishing fire protection service under G. S. 1951 Supp. 80-1502, 1949, to the farm property in the district within a radius of seven miles from Mayetta or 10 miles by any road from Mayetta. The basis and the authority for formation of the Mayetta rural fire protection district was a petition signed by the property owners in the district dated January 31, 1950, to the township boards of Lincoln, Douglas, Cedar and Franklin townships.

At the time the Mayetta rural fire protection district was formed the City of Mayetta had one piece of fire apparatus, which in a city without a waterworks system provided property with ninth class fire protection rating by the Kansas Inspection Bureau. Harry E. Crosswhite of Holton, an experienced city and county attorney and former member of the state legislature, assisted in the establishment of the district, negotiating the contract between the city and the district, and the financing for the purchase of necessary equipment. Mr. Crosswhite reports that the city voted a \$7,000 bond issue in November 1950, which together with some \$2,000 cash in the city treasury was used to purchase a piece of the fire apparatus in 1951. This new apparatus and the old city apparatus enables the city to carry out the contract for fire protection service.

About six months after the new apparatus was delivered, or in the summer of 1951, the Mayetta city council became apprehensive about fire insurance rate credit for the new fire protection services. Upon inquiry to the research department of The League of Kansas Municipalities the city received information showing that the city and fire protection district should apply to the Kansas Inspection Bureau (a fire insurance rating bureau maintained by the fire insurance companies in Topeka) for the services of a fire inspection rating engineer and a report on the fire insurance rates which would or could be earned under the proposed fire protection plan.

City Clerk George James, Jr., of Mayetta reports that the city council and the rural fire protection district board have learned many things about the establishment of a combined fire protection service in the course of the last three years.

One in particular is that any city or fire protection district should request fire insurance rating service before any contract for fire service is entered into, and certainly before any fire apparatus is purchased. Fire insurance rates are based upon complicated schedules, on property risks and fire protection service.

The city of Mayetta reports that as a result of not consulting the fire insurance rating bureau at the beginning of the program, the apparatus was purchased and in service some 18 months before any fire insurance rate credits were secured for the rural properties in the district. The Kansas Inspection Bureau did not have notice of the formation of the Mayetta rural fire protection district or of the purchase of the fire apparatus; hence, was in no position to formulate any fire protection credits.

City Clerk George James reports that the combined fire department maintained in the City of Mayetta now has 10 volunteer firemen who operate the old fire apparatus, and 10 volunteer firemen who operate the new fire apparatus. Only the piece of apparatus and its fire company designed for rural protection may leave the city at any time. Mr. James says that the rural property owners in the district are well satisfied. Most of the fires during the last two years have been grass fires with a few house and car fires. Rural property owners covered in the district are paying a .46 mill tax levy. The contract calls for semiannual district payments to the city totaling \$8,500, as follows: \$1,000 in 1951; \$1,500 the years from 1952 through 1956. The city is paying all the bonds and interest during this period.

The city maintains the old apparatus and the new apparatus. Both pieces of apparatus are available in the city for fire protection services. The city property, however, receives no reduction in fire insurance rates under this combination because the city fire protection is assured at all times of only one piece of apparatus and one set of volunteers.

Edward N. Harsha, fire insurance rating engineer of the Kansas Inspection Bureau, reports that effective November 10, 1952, the Mayetta fire department has qualified as an approved class "B" rural fire department and all farm property in the district was eligible for a 3-cent credit on annual fire policies, a 8-cent credit on a 3-year policies, a 12-cent credit on 5-year policies, and a 15-cent credit on 5-year installment plan.

There are two classes of rural fire departments which may be certified, known as Class "A." and Class "B," the chief difference being the type of fire apparatus provided. Specifications for approved rural fire departments may be obtained upon request from the Kansas Inspection Bureau, P. O. Box 949, Topeka, Kansas.

The city governing body of Mayetta is: Mayor, Elroy McAlexander; councilmen: Leroy Jager; Theo. Potter; Robert Shields; Ed Thomas and George Marple.

The Mayetta rural fire protection benefit district board members are the four township trustees: Douglas Township, C. M. Langley, Hoyt; Cedar Township, James Jensen, Mayetta; Lincoln Township, Avery Ray, Mayetta; and Franklin Township, E. C. Latta, Holton. (Kansas Government Journal, February 1953, Vol. 39, No. 2, pg. 85.)

The city is erecting a new fire siren on a pole just east of the telephone office. It is a much stronger and louder, they claim you can hear it as far away as Hoyt and it makes a nice looking ornament also will more than likely waken everybody here in town. *The Holton Recorder*, April 16, 1953.

Mr. and Mrs. Chet Welliever donated a big truck load of wood to each church, the Methodist and the Christian last week. Mr. Bud Johnson cut the trees and Mr. Ben Whittington used his saw to put it in stove length pieces and the Mayetta Co-op furnished the truck to haul the wood and with Billie Long and Billie Bohannon helping and Mrs. Welliever's fine dinner for all, the wood was cut and delivered a few hours of the day. *The Holton Recorder*, February 18, 1954.

Back in 1907 in the month of March the section crew of the Rock Island here were Charles Ruziskas, foreman section hands were Clint Pasley, Jobb Harris, Frank Burk, Wallace Pierce, Roy Pierce and myself. [Fred Robson] They have all passed on and I will say this they were all good men to work. With them were days in my life that will never be forgotten. *The Holton Recorder*, February 22, 1954.

An oil rig is in Mayetta and plans to sit up northeast of town. *The Holton Recorder*, May 6, 1954.

The oil rig is working right along on the Tom Robson farm northeast of Mayetta. *The Holton Recorder*, May 13, 1954.

Bob Shields is wrecking one of Mayetta's old land marks. The old timers will remember it as the Harry M. Reist blacksmith shop but the younger set will call it the Bob Shields garage. ...

The city workers are busy this morning planeing the gravel streets and main street which is paved. They will haul the mud off of it. *The Holton Recorder*, May 20, 1954.

The Rock Island has leased a bus from the Hiawatha bus company while they are installing a new motor and other repairs. They think it will take a week or so. *The Holton Recorder*, August 30, 1954.

They are going right along with the improvements at the grade school. The material came Thursday to wall the well. They went down about thirty feet to find water. *The Holton Recorder*, September 6, 1954.

This ends the news for 1954 and the end of this history of the town. I consider the years before I arrived in town, in 1954, as history, but after this time no longer history but a part of my life.

Editor's Note: This history of Mayetta was written by Mrs. Belle Bohannon. In this remarkable history she tells of the grandparents first home, the death of her aunt Mary Etta for whom the town was named, the boom days of the growing village, the influence of the church and schools and her own recollections of family life.

My Grandmother, Elizabeth Rode Lunger, had the call to come west. She had been married in New Jersey to William Lunger. They came to Illinois to run a hotel. She hired my mother, Mary Scholl, at the age of thirteen to work for her. In later years Mary married her oldest son, Jim Lunger.

Grandmother traded her hotel for 160 acres of land here in Jackson county, Kansas in the year 1880. There was a sod house on the claim at that time on the sight where Gordon Kern now lives.

Her husband and fourteen year old son, Vernon and a six year old daughter, Mary Etta, came with her to Kansas in a covered wagon. When they got as far as Burlington, Mary Etta took sick and died with black diphtheria and was buried there. They turned round and came back, a very sad family, never seeing any more of Kansas at any time.

She gave six orphan girls a home over a period of years, to fill the vacancy of her daughter, and when she died at the age of eighty-five, she had a girl with her from the Topeka State Detention home.

South Cedar was the nearest town at that time with a store and school house and post office. But her land laid in the Bell School district. Both school houses were used for and church services and community gatherings.

In 1886 she sent for her son Jim and my mother and their two baby girls. She built a four room house for them to live, where the sod house stood. Five more children came to bless the home.

She built herself a four room house where the family now lives. Then in 1895 she built the house where the Scarlett family lives, and on March 16, 1905 she celebrated her golden wedding anniversary by feeding every family in town, around two hundred people, to a three course dinner in that house. I was sixteen years old at that time and made the three tier wedding cake with miniature bride and groom on top which I still have in my possession.

In 1886 the Rock Island Railroad was built from Topeka to St. Joe, and in going through her farm, her desire was to build a town. So she gave the Railroad ten acres of land to let her locate and name the town. She named the town after her daughter, Mary Etta, dropping the R and calling it Mayetta, as there was already a Marietta in Kansas.

She also gave all the first lots away for business, church and school, most of the homes being on the back of their

store buildings or living upstairs. Mr. Turpin from Holton was the first depot agent, and his home was in the depot. There were four passenger trains in twelve hours of the day and four local freights plus the extra freights in twenty four hours and mail three times daily.

The depot was open twenty four hours to the public. It was special loafing place as all election returns and special news come in the telegraph wires, and the agent would call the news to anyone sitting in the waiting room and there was always someone to pass it on to others.

The stockyards, all painted white, were where the Co-op elevator is now. The livestock were cattle, hogs, horses, being shipped by the car load in and out of town.

Sam Jones Sr. had the first store, moving his store over from South Cedar. He also had the first Mayetta Post Office in his store. It was a L shaped, one story Holeman's store.

Ohio Miller built the first hotel. It was an L shape, one story building, located where our central office is now. Della Reist's parents Zooks, ran the hotel. Dr. Lane was located where the present office in the hotel. Bart-flood built the first blacksmith shop. It was located where the present blacksmith shop is now.

Charley Ard built the first barbershop. It was one room with a pretty red and white striped pole in front of it. He hired a Negro from Holton to run it.

Charley Krown built the first lunch counter and beer parlor. He could not speak a word of English. Charley Clark built the first livery stable where the Renfro home is located. The home was the four rooms of the Coleman house. Turpin, the first depot agent built the first hardware store where the present one stands. Also the first Bank, was in the hardware store. It was operated by Jess Lasswell, who later brought it and built a wooden building for the bank where the Rawlings filling station is located.

Frank Morrow built the first elevator. It shipped ear corn only as they had no sheller at the time. (Wheat was unknown.)

Frank Winner built a creamery and ice storage house, where Elroy McAlexander's shop is. The ice was cut and hauled in from the creeks and packed in sawdust.

A one-room grade school was built at the present location. This also served as a community church for the town. Parlette was the first minister. May Woodburn was the first teacher.

The men and boys of the town hired out at fifty cents a day to herd cattle on the reservation as it did not have any fences on it at that time. They stacked prairie hay and also baled it. They hauled it to the railroad to be shipped at three dollars a load. Meals were fifteen cents. Stores sold calico for five cents a yard and it took ten yards to make a dress. Unbleached muslin was three cents a yard and all bedding and underwear was made of it.

Beans, flour, coffee, dried apricots, raisins with the seeds in them, crackers, rice, cracked hominy were sold out of big wooden barrels, and when the barrels were empty, were made into a slat hammocks with rope or wire for a family.

Everyone went barefooted as soon as the snow was off the ground in the spring and until snow came in the fall. Straw hats, sun bonnets and long underwear, overcoats and bare feet were a common sight. Our shoes were high tops, button up the side with ribbed black stockings. The dresses were real full skirts and high necks, long sleeves and when you became a teen-ager you wore them to the shoe tops and when married you wore them to the floor with a dust ruffle sewed underneath to gather the dirt, and as they always wore out at the bottom first they were made over into children's clothes. You wore this style winter and summer, only summer material was thinner cloth. Suffering on a hot day in these kinds of clothes was part of the religion on Sunday, altho one could stand the dress better than the shoes and stockings after going barefoot all week.

The doctor gave quinine, castor oil and pain relief out of a bottle. The doctor tasted the medicine before he gave it to the patient to be sure it was the right medicine. Pills were unknown. And with the Tent Medicine shows which came to town each summer with their bottles of cure-all for everything out of the same bottle, people died and people lived. Grandmother never brought any but we always got to see the show for free, for the use of the ground. The show always knew they would have twelve customers, which was the number of free tickets, and we always sat on the back seats as the pay ones got the front seats. This was grandmother's idea.

There was plenty of entertainment for old and young. Two tent shows came each summer, Ten Nights in a Barroom and Uncle Tom's Cabin, which they both had a good moral lesson in them. A merry-go-round would come around for four weeks. It was run by a steam engine. A ride was five cents for five minutes. Then the church and school programs and picnic and Fourth of July celebration, and a trip each summer to the Indian School and Indian Dance Ground on the reservation.

Everyone washed their clothes on the board with lye water and homemade soap or the yellow lennox bar soap not wrapped in the store and there was plenty of food of all kinds, but it was not cooked or canned for you then. You gathered it out of the back yard in the summer which was full of fruit trees and berries and a good garden and enough stored away in the cellar for winter.

Both churches were built in the summer of 1896. The town was ten years old at that time. A community church was started where the M. E. church now stands, and after a few months work by the men on it, a representative from the M. E. Conference came up from Topeka and talked Grandmother into putting the church into the conference

with the promise of a parsonage on the east side of the church building. Later Hoyt got the parsonage and Grandmother paid off the last debt of four hundred dollars, finding out it is better to give than receive. (She was a United Brethren.)

The Christian people did not want to join the conference so they started their own church at that time.

The division of the church made the first division among the people. Grandmother always took the blame, as it was her lesson of expecting anything from other people. This put my mother to studying the Bible, and preaching at both churches twice on Sunday, and every year four revival meetings. She left a Bible with much wear and plenty of reference marked in it and was converted into a Christian church. Mother loved children and was Sunday School Superintendent for many years, and was always called on to be present when practicing the children for the programs to keep the peace. The children all seemed to respect her. There was always more children than room for them in the programs. So her five children were left out of the programs, altho we were always there to watch the practice. You had to come early to get a seat in the church. People stood up in the back of the building at the night services.

The church people raised money by giving oyster suppers, ice cream socials, pie socials, box suppers, and quilting and tying comforts, and with a pledge from each member there was plenty of money to run the church. Christmas and Children's day in June was celebrated by a program by the children. Flag drills, hoop drills, tableaux and pantomimes with the songs were the background of the programs. A large Christmas tree, almost to the ceiling was decorated with lighted candles, pop corn and cranberries were strung on a cord string and each parent brought a present for each of their children. It was a very pretty tree, although a very dangerous one for a fire.

The way of living has changed but each generation of people and the teaching of Christ's Church remains the same.

One of the most memorable times in my life is when the Mason Lodge in 1912 and Eastern Star Lodge in 1914 was organized, and two large banquets were served each year by the women. Mrs. Janet Ralston, who was a young woman when the town started, was a wonderful community builder, not only with her knowledge but with her hand also. She ran a first class hotel and would turn the hotel over to the Star and Masons. She would get the table linen, silverware, napkins, cooking utensils, stoves and fuel ready for the women and all they had to do was to walk in with their food and cook it serve it and Janet cleaned up after. This went on for ten years. Her hospitability to the community is the kind that is but a strong Christian spirit that never will die.

The town grew fast and in thirty years there were two banks, three garages, three restaurants, two hardware stores, four groceries and dry good stores, one butcher shop, two produce houses, three blacksmith shops, two hardware stores, one furniture store, one lumber yard, one theater, three churches, one school house two barber shops, two elevators, one printing shop, one drug store, one millenary and dress shop, one dentist, three doctors, one undertaker, a Mason Lodge and Eastern Star, three mail routes and automobiles had just come on the one hotel and one rooming house. Then the first World War came and drafted all the young boys from the farms and town and inflation of money came within, and automobiles had just come on market and every one owned a car. The undertaker lost his job, businesses closed up fast and farmers lost their farms. The boys many did not come back, yet the few that was left had faith and a high school was built at the present location and the town today which is seventy seven years old is a nice little community center with 2 good school house, three good churches, and good neighbors and friends.

I had a grandmother and friend yesterday
Not young it is true but well and gay,
And full of life and love and vim -
Today but memories live of them;
Our days were good their life was clean,
They never acted small or mean.
They were tender, unselfish and strangely fine.
A prince of a woman that grandmother and mother and friend of mine.
Their God came first, their family next,
And love thy neighbor was their text,
Their riches they were laying by, in that far land beyond the sky.
But oh they left a peace of mind.
The knowledge that their life was free
Of naught but fineness comfort me.
And so I journey on. *The Jackson County Clipper*, May 9, 1963.

OUR LITTLE TOWN: BY GREG BROWN

Now the railroad came generations ago
And the town grew up as the crops did grow
The crops grew well and the town did too
They say it's dyin now and there ain't a thing we can do

I don't have to read the news
Or hear it on the radio
I see it in the faces of everyone I know
The cost goes up
What we made comes down
What's gonna happen to our little town

The summer is full of thunder
The kids run and play
Momma got a new wrinkle
Poppa ain't got much to say
Rust grows along the railroad track
The young folks leave
They don't come back
And I don't have to read the news
Or hear it on the radio
I see it in the faces of everyone I know
The boards go up
The signs come down
What's gonna happen to our little town

Tom lost his farm
And we lost Tom
He left in the night
I don't know where he's gone
What he'd lost
He just couldn't face
What we're losin' can't be replaced
I don't have to read the news
Or hear it on the radio
I see it in the faces of everyone I know
The reason we're here
Is the farms around
So what's gonna happen to our little town

We've seen hard times
Many times before
Maybe this whole thing is just one more
It never was perfect
Maybe no one's to blame
To see it die like this
It's a god damned shame
And I don't have to read the news
Or hear it on the radio
I see it in the faces of everyone I know
The sun comes up
The sun goes down
But what's gonna happen to our little town

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