

Article published from paper in 1932

By Margaret Bucholtz
margeb@cityofstfrancis.net
Taken from the Bird City Times,
Nov. 3, 1932, issue

Fred D. Cram, Iowa wrote "I have a suspicion that no one knows exactly what the word, or combination of words is that the teamster uses to start his team. I suppose that really the words are 'Get up.'"

However, how many people say just that? We have heard G'up, Giddap, Git up, Gee-up, Gittup, and goodness know how many more.

To say it the way his father said it, you have to be rather hard of hearing, have to be a Vermont Yankee and have to have a pipe held in your teeth. Then it would sound something like "gi-up," but because Fred was not quite near enough deaf, and not having a pipe at hand at the moment, and being one generation removed from Vermont, he found it next to impossible to say "get up" the way his father said it.

It always happened that the family usually had a balky horse among the ones which they owned, so as a result his dad had to say "get up" more frequently than would otherwise have been the case.

The first time Fred remembered hearing his dad say "Gi-up" was on the first day of October 1886. The family was seated in the old "moving wagon" which was generally designated the prairie schooner. They had said goodbye to the neighbors and everything had been loaded into the wagon or along it sides except for a few chickens which were in a coop at the rear.

They were leaving the place that had been their home since the town of St. Anthony, Iowa, was founded, and where, during the beneficent period of the Garfield-Arthur administration, his father had run the post office and had sold a line of drugs and confectionery.

When Grover Cleveland was

elected president, the Republicans gave up the post offices with more or less reluctance, and looked for something else to do.

His dad decided to try out northwest Kansas. He had made two trips out to Cheyenne County before this October trip. On one of his trips he had taken up the northeast quarter of Section 10, range 5. On a second trip he had built a house, or rebuilt one which the wind had distributed over the landscape.

That "Gi-up" was a momentous one. Old Frank, the sorrel gelding took a lurch into the harness and we were off. Old Doll trailed along behind. About the only use of Doll was to hold up the other end of the neck yoke. Doll was an old gray mare, who had seen better days, lots of them.

Doll had 12 ribs on each side because Fred used to sit by the side of the road on the numerous occasions when Frank balked, and count the horse's ribs as a pastime. It was monotonous recreation, but a 6-year-old boy had to have something to do to exercise his faculties.

The Cram family had not gotten far from the scene of the first "Gi-up" until one of the tires came off. If fact they were not out of the sight of St. Anthony when it happened. Mr. Cram had been a blacksmith so he was able to set the tire and it was not long until they were on the way again.

It took them 28 days to make the drive, and that included a stop of a couple of days to visit relatives in Nebraska City.

When the going was easy, Mr Cram would encourage the team to trot a short distance, but most of the time they proceeded at an easy walk. Sometimes he would hand the lines to Mrs. Cram and then Mr. Cram, 4-year-old George and Fred would get out to walk.

The wagon upset once on a side hill where Frank took a notion to balk and let the schooner gradually ease off into the ditch.

Most of the people were very kind along the road. Once in awhile they would get a good cussing for using water places where it was scarce.

Several times they noticed skeletons in great numbers along the road, indicating blizzards and starvation. Great heaps of bones were stacked up at many railway stations. Fred decided not to use sugar any more when his father informed him that these bones were used in refining.

As they ambled along toward Kansas, they stopped at Benkelman to buy a stove. While they were there, almost in sight of the journey's end, old Doll took sick with the colic. She was so thin that when she had the stomach ache she had the back ache at the same time. A man spit some tobacco juice into her mouth, as far down her throat as it would go. Whether this cured her or not Fred did not know, but she got well shortly after and they finished their trip.

Arriving at the place 5 miles northwest of Bird City, they took possession of the dug-out that Mr. Cram had constructed after deciding that a frame shanty on the hill-top was too likely to stray away.

Fred wondered what his mother thought when she first saw the dugout. She never voiced her disappointment at the appearance of her new home, if she experienced any. In later years, when they had moved up onto the hill in a house that had been moved from Bird City, he heard his mother speak of going to the hilltop and looking off toward dear old Iowa. But for the most part, she kept such thoughts to herself, and was always a loyal booster for Kansas.

Later they added to the dug-out so that eventually they had three rooms. It gave them enough room so they could keep a man part of the time. Mr. Cram had asthma so badly that he could do little heavy work, and never dared to work around a threshing machine.

During their first winter they burned about 100 pounds of coal. The rest of the heat was derived from tumble weeds.

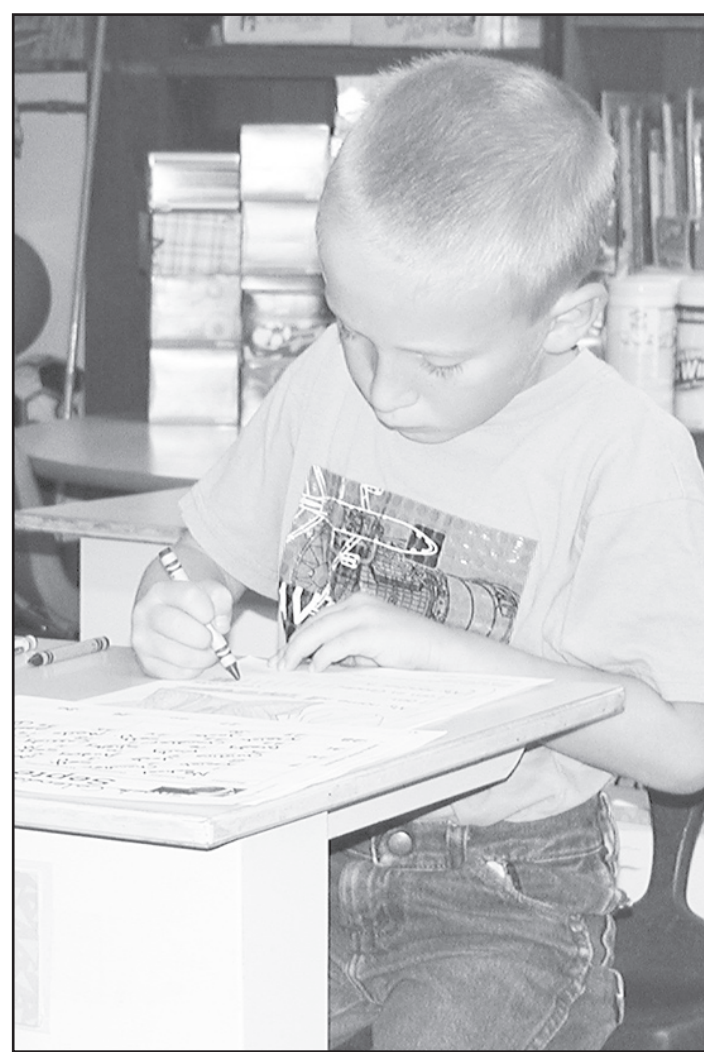
The tumble weeds had gathered in large numbers from the prairies, and all the holes in the canyons were full of them. They would string them on a long rope, and let the wind help us roll them to the house. There they were bunched up by hands and placed in a compact form in the stove. They made good heat, but it did not last long.

Once there was a blizzard lasting two days. The snow got into the stove-pipe chimney so badly that the stove refused to draw. They used the last chunk of coal to thaw out the flue, and took a chance on keeping it open. Many of the pioneers wrapped themselves in bed clothes to keep warm.

The Crams never used tumble weeds for fuel after the first winter. They used corn stalks. Part of the duties of the late afternoon was to gather stalks from the field and transport them by arm power to a certain place in or near the house. As they were needed they were taken in arm lots to the stove side where a large box received them as they were cut into proper lengths for the stove. Most of the family became experts at cutting stalks.

Speaking of fuel, we must not forget the lowly buffalo chip. As the buffalo became less and less the prairie, roaming cows took upon the buffalo's burden and furnished fuel for the country-side.

Cheyenne County was a great place to live then as it is now. The county is full of friendly people and good old county living.



DAKOTA MORRIS is busy coloring during class. Dakota is in the first grade.
Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Management director discusses department

By Karen Krien
karen.k@nwkansas.com

Kathy Hertel, director of materials management, was on hand to talk about the operations of her department at the Aug. 28 Cheyenne County Hospital Board meeting.

For the last 28 years, her responsibility has been ordering the supplies for the hospital. She expects changes in the next year as they are going to be sharing services with six other hospitals. The goal, she said, is to get better prices for items.

She said she orders supplies on Thursday and they arrive by truck on Monday. If she needs something immediately, she can have

the supplies delivered by Fed-X.

In the past year, the hospital has gone to "minimum charge." There is no charge to patients for items that cost under \$5. These no-charge items, she said, show up on detailed bills.

She said storage is a problem.

We are, she said, encouraged not to overstock. But, in the winter when there may be a problem of getting supplies delivered, they do increase the stock.

Jackie John, area director for Great Plains Health Alliance, said Ms. Hertel is on a materials advisory staff. She also noted that the Alliance maintains standardized charge master.

Department looking for student art work

It is time for the "Kansas Don't Spoil It" calendar contest. This yearly contest is hosted by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and will feature student artwork for each month of the year.

"We're looking for artwork that demonstrates the importance of good environmental practices and shows things that everyone can do to preserve the beauty and natural resources of Kansas," said Roderick L. Bremby, secretary of the department.

Through the years, the department's staff has seen increased participation in the contest as teachers use it in the classroom as an opportunity to combine art expression with environmental awareness.

The postmark deadline for artwork is Sept. 30. Winners will be

announced in late fall and the final calendar will be available toward the end of December.

Artwork can be created using markers, watercolors, tempera, oils, crayon, chalk, acrylic, or colored pencils. Pen and ink artwork will not be accepted. All artwork must be submitted on 8.5- by 11-inch, unlined white paper. Artwork should be mailed flat; please do not fold.

Each entry must include the student's name, date, grade, school name, school address, school phone number and teacher's name on the back. Entries become the property of Department of Health and Environment and may be used for promotional purposes. Entries cannot be returned.

Additional contest information and an entry form can be found at www.kansasdontspoilit.com/.

Loan availability is announced

The availability of farm operating and farm ownership loans for women and members of minority groups who want to purchase or operate a family-size farm has been announced. Patty Eckhardt, farm loan manager of the Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency for Sherman, Cheyenne and Wallace counties made the announcement.

"Each year, the Farm Service Agency earmarks a portion of its farm loan funding for socially disadvantaged applicants, people who have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender inequality without regard to their individual qualities," she said. Socially disadvantaged applicants may be women, African Americans, American Indians, Hispanics, Asian and Pacific Islanders and Alaskan Natives.

She said that while funding is earmarked for loans to socially disadvantaged applicants, loan approval is neither automatic nor guaranteed.

"Socially disadvantaged applicants must meet the same eligibility criteria as other applicants," Ms. Eckhardt said. Applicants must be U.S. citizens; have a satisfactory history of meeting credit obligations; have sufficient education, training or experience managing or operating a farm; possess legal capacity to incur debt; and, be unable to obtain credit elsewhere.

The agency can make direct loans to applicants who are unable to get commercial credit or provide loan guarantees to commercial lenders.

Guaranteed loans may be made by any lending institution subject to federal or state supervision (banks, savings and loans, and units of the Farm Credit system). Farm Service Agency typically guarantees 90 to 95 percent of the loan against any loss that might be incurred if the loan fails.

Applicants can use operating loans to purchase livestock, equipment, feed, seed or pay other business related expenses. Operating loans are usually repaid in one to seven years.

Ownership loans provide capital to purchase or enlarge a farm, construct or improve buildings, promote soil and water conservation and pay closing costs. Direct ownership loan terms are up to 40 years while guaranteed loan terms are established by the lender.

Qualified applicants receive information and assistance to develop sound management practices, analyze problems and utilize available resources essential for successful farming operations to cope with the changing agricultural environment.

For more information, contact your local Farm Service Agency.

Personal Property & Real Estate Auction

FOR JIM AND RUBY TRACY

Date: Saturday, September 6, 2008 Time: 10:00 am CT (doors open at 8:00 am day of sale) Auction Location: American Legion • McDonald, KS

HomeLand Real Estate of Goodland LLC will sell the real estate @ 1:00 p.m. CT. House is located at 201 Decatur Avenue, McDonald, KS.

TERMS: Property will be sold in the manner that produces the highest aggregate bid. Auction procedure and increments of bidding are at the discretion of the Auctioneer. Seller reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids. The successful bidder will be required to enter into a written HomeLand Real Estate of Goodland, LLC purchase agreement with a \$1,000.00 Earnest Money deposit immediately following the auction. The closing shall be on or before October 6, 2008. Sale shall provide merchantable title with the cost of title insurance paid by Seller. Closing costs will be split between Buyer and Seller. Seller shall pay taxes for all of 2007 and prior years with taxes for 2008 to be prorated to day of closing. Possession shall be given on day of closing. This property will not be sold subject to financing, so please make your financial arrangement prior to sale day. INSPECTIONS: Each potential bidder is responsible for conducting their own independent inspections and due diligence concerning pertinent facts about the property. Neither Seller, Auctioneer, nor HomeLand Real Estate of Goodland LLC, it's agents and representatives, are making any warranties about the property, either expressed or implied. Property is being sold "AS IS" Condition.

ANTIQUES

1 qt glass jar Churn
Antique bowl with Iris's design
Mule and Donkey figurines
Red Bull figurines
RS Prussia flowered bowl
German mug
1800's Sugar Bowl w lid - Cherry pattern
Cobalt Blue 2 handle Vase
Hall vase #407 - 7"
Blue Hobnail sugar & creamer

MISCELLANEOUS

Wedding clock
Assorted cookie jars
Humidifier
Corelleware
Horn Hat Rack - 1900's
Assorted dolls
Fancy work
Assorted bedding
Wheel barrel
Assorted Jewelry
Fishing equipment
7' lighted Christmas tree
Sets of Christmas lights

APPLIANCES/TOOLS/YARD

Many tools!
Washer and Dryer Set
Westinghouse Refrigerator
Yardman mower - brand new - self propelled
Murray mower - runs; parts
Several aluminum ladders
1 Bird bath
Assorted garden tools
1 cement donkey yard ornament
1 cement yard ball dog
Hoes, rakes, soaker hoses

VEHICLE

1980 Chevy Scottsdale 10 4WD
95,000+ miles Factory air - new tires

FURNITURE

China Hutch, Cedar chest
2 Portable clothes closets
Several Chests of Drawers
1 Blonde Bedroom Set, vanity & Seat
Various beds
1 Wooden canning closet
1 canning cupboard
Several jars; pints
Gliders chairs
24" frosted Etched glass
GUNS
Winchester Model 67
Winchester 20-410
Winchester 1890 .22 cal
Savage 25-20 Bolt Action
Remington Model 34 .22 cal
Bolt Action 410
Kleen Clipper .22 cal
.22 cal bolt action
12 ga shotgun



TNT & Jones Auction Facility
200 N. Franklin, Colby, KS 67701 (785) 460-0050

www.tntjonesauction.com

Great Deals = More \$\$ in Your Pocket

2000 Cadillac Escalade AWD
\$9,950
* 78,821 miles
* Pewter

2000 Jeep Wrangler
\$8,950
* 91,003 miles
* Yellow

2002 Chevrolet Tahoe
\$11,950
* 67,442 miles
* Black

2004 Ford Expedition
\$15,750
* 29,919 miles
* Blue

2004 Jeep Grand Cherokee
\$12,750
* 52,804 miles
* Silver

2005 Chevrolet Silverado 1/2 Ton Ext. Cab 4WD
\$15,750
* 72,035 miles
* Blue

2005 Dodge Ram 1500 Crew Cab
\$17,350
* 41,710 miles
* Silver

2006 GMC Sierra 2500 Reg. Crew Cab 4WD
\$13,850
* 86,215 miles
* Silver

2007 Chevy Silverado Ext. Cab
\$18,950
* 22,254 miles
* Silver

Finley Motors, Inc.

(785) 899-2346 (800) 525-3701

www.finleymotorsinc.com

Highway 27, Goodland, KS 67735

"Your Volume & Variety Dealer!"