

P L E A S A N T   V A L L E Y

DISTRICT No. 75

By: Elsie Kovanda, Teacher  
District No. 75  
February 28, 1917

## PLEASANT VALLEY DISTRICT #75

The Pleasant Valley school is situated about six miles north of Table Rock and three miles south of Elk Creek. The school house was erected in 1892. It is a small building about 15 X 25'. The District contains about three sections.

When the District was formed, a part was taken from District 35, and a part from District 30. One person who helped to build the school house is Mr Hoke, who served in the Civil War and now resides at Elk Creek, Nebraska. The first member of the Board of Directors in this District, were: Mr Edwards, Mr Cockrill and Mr Covault.

Among the first teachers who taught here, the exact dates of which I was unable to obtain, were: Lucy Pepoon, Edgar Woods, Minnie Boggs, Jennie Purcell, Will Morris, Myrtle Peck, Anna Pangburn, Lulu Layman, Maggie Harkins, Selma Shorter, Sarah Ware and Nona Davis. Miss Lucy Pepoon, the first teacher, is at present teaching in Arkansas. Miss Harkins, now Mrs Frank Dufack, is post-mistress at Elk Creek, Nebraska. Miss Pangburn, Miss Ware and Miss Pepoon, each taught two terms in this district. Miss Foale and Miss Young, each taught one and one-half terms.

The teachers who have taught here for the last few years are: Carrie J Bloss 1906-07; Maude Lawrence and Della Young 1907-08; Della Young 1908-09; Vincie Foale 1909-10; Mary Buntin 1910-11; Geneva Thompson and Vincie Foale 1911-12; Marie Schultz 1912-13; and Elsie Kovanda 1914-1917.

When District 75 was first organized the attendance was quite large, but the average for the past few years is about ten pupils. During the year of 1913, the number of children attending school was almost too small to keep school, so Mr Foale suggested to join District 75 to District 35. Everyone agreed with Mr Foale, so during that year there was no District 75.



The next year some families with children of school age, had moved into the District. One account of the distance to District 35 and the other surrounding Districts, District 75 was separated from District 35, and school was again started in District 75. This made it more convenient for the pupils of the neighborhood. School began here December 1, 1914. Elsie Kovanda was appointed as school teacher that year and is teaching here at the present time.

The old settlers who lived in the District were: Mr & Mrs Peter Foale, Mr & Mrs Alex Covault, Mr & Mrs Robert Morris; the only old settlers who live in the District now, having moved here in 1865, are: Mr & Mrs J.D Cockrill, Mr & Mrs Daniel McClure, Mr & Mrs William Morris, Mr & Mrs Bell and Mr & Mrs Hunters and Mr & Mrs Edwards.

A very interesting incident is told in the life of Mr Edwards. When he was quite young, he was helping haul freight with Crow's Company from this country to Fort Laramie. They were attacked by the Indians on the Little Blue River. In an encounter with the Indians, he was scalped. He was not very badly hurt so that he recovered.

An old landmark in the District is an old rock house built in 1866. The house has one room downstairs and one room upstairs. A large fireplace extends along one side of the room. The house was a very good one, for one of that time, for it is strongly built and is still in real good condition in spite of all the hardships it has endured. It was built and occupied by Mr Peter Foale when he first came to this part of the country. Mr Oscar Foale, who owns the farm now, was born in this house. The Indians lived near this house and used to come to play with Mr Foale when he was a little boy.

The first graduates in this District were: Sadie Morris and Vincie Foale, who graduated in 1907 under Miss Carrie J Bloss. Lucy Covault and Rosie Kozak graduated in 1908 under Miss Della Young. Mabel and Lucy Foale graduated in 1910 under Miss Vincie Foale. The last graduate was Beulah Williamson who graduated in 1915 under Miss Elsie Kovanda. Miss Mabel Foale is now attending the State University at Lincoln, Nebraska. Miss Beulah Williamson will graduate this year from the Elk Creek High School.

The School Board of District 75 at this time consists of:  
Director, Mr E B Williamson; Treasurer, Mr Andrew Damm; and Moderator, Mr Edd Mertes.

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