

Myles Standish

- free land didn't turn out to be free; paid for it many times over
- emigrant car came 1st, family followed to Dutton (father came 1st with e. car)
- snaring gophers
- most of Dutton land was taken by 1916; mostly bachelors, not too many families
- when family moved in, "free meals and occasional pies" attracted all the bachelors
- tractor breaking neighbor's land ran abt 200 yds onto S place by mistake, so S family planted potatoes that 1st year.
- 1916, rainy, grass kneehigh, mosquitoes bred by millions; mother made smudge; soda and water solution applied with swab on a stick, to bites
- kids were supposed to grow up fast, that was expected of them
- how lonesome women were; horses were used for work in field, so they had no way to get around
- women hungry for anyone to talk to; gave young S homemade bread with butter and sugar on, to keep him there for afternoon
- 2 "spinster ladies" homesteaded; 1 proved up, went back to Minn.
- 1919 most severe winter ever; neighbor family starved out, wrote her parents for train tickets, lived with S family till tickets came, drove to rr, turned horse loose and got on the train
- bachelors could walk away; ~~these~~ people who kept milk cows tended to survive

over

--Red Cross brought carload of clothes into Power, nobody wd accept the charity
--people eating gophers: neighbor said, "That's what they're saying about us"--
neither confirming or denying
--some shanties, had to sweep snow off floor after night's storm
--some homestead children had hardly seen anyone except occasional neighbor
when they began school, "wild as Indians...scared to death...scream and cry
for mother"