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ford, Wisconsin; Mrs. Mamie E. Maier, of Rhinelander, Wisconsin; and Mrs. Veeder. Mrs. Veeder was born August 26, 1879, and after graduating from high school at Medford took a business course and entered the commercial field as bookkeeper for the Foster-Latimer Lumber Company at Mellen, Wisconsin, a position which she held at the time of her marriage to Mr. Veeder. They are the parents of the following children: Margaret, a graduate of the Wibaux High School and Montana University and a member of Delta Gamma sorority, who is now the wife of T. M. Burkholder, a medical student at Grand Forks, North Dakota; Frederick R., a graduate of Wibaux County High School and a junior at the University of Montana, where he is making a reputation as a debater; and William H., a graduate of Wibaux County High School and a freshman at the University of Montana. Both sons are natural athletes, and are captains of the football teams of their respective classes, and both are members of the Phi Delta fraternity.

CHESTER E. ATWOOD. While the selfmade man can reflect with satisfaction upon what he has been able to accomplish in the face of obstacles, many of which arise because of lack of proper educational training, he who has acquired technical knowledge in great institutions of learning from which he has taken degrees in his chosen profession holds an advantage that none can question. When a problem arises he knows just what to do to solve it because he has spent years and much money in learning just how, and therefore his services are generally preferred by large corporations. One of the men who measures up to the highest standards in his profession, holds several degrees, and has accomplished much, is Chester E. Atwood, chief engineer of the Valier-Montana Land & Water Company, and superintendent of the Montana Western Railway, whose energies and knowledge have been devoted to the development of Central Montana, and the expansion of the facilities of the concerns with which he is connected.

Chester E. Atwood was born at Prairieville, Michigan, October 18, 1886, a son of James Henry Atwood, and grandson of Chester Atwood, the latter a lumberman who went down the Mississippi River with a raft and never returned, having probably lost his life on that turbulent stream. He was descended from New England stock, probably of either New Hampshire or Vermont. James Henry Atwood was born in Missouri, and spent the first ten years of his life in the state. For years he resided in Michigan, but his last years were passed at Missoula, Montana, where he died August 26, 1928, aged sixty-five years. He was married at Eaton Rapids, Michigan, to Miss Ophelia Reniger, a daughter of David Reniger, a native of Pennsylvania who migrated to Michigan. He came of Prussian descent. Mrs. Atwood was also born in Pennsylvania, in 1866, and is a highly-educated lady. She attended Olivet College, and for twenty years taught school, her last work having been done at Malta, Michigan, where she is now living, but she also taught in Montana. Her parents are deceased and are buried in the cemetery at Olivet, Michigan, after many useful years as farmers. Mr. and Mrs. Atwood had but the one child, Chester E. Atwood of this review.

Growing up in his native state, Chester E. Atwood was very carefully educated, first attending the public schools, completing

his high school work at Olivet, Michigan, after which he took two years at Olivet College, and, taking the credits he secured there to the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, was graduated therefrom in 1908, with the degree of Bachelor of Science and Civil Engineer.

Following his graduation Mr. Atwood came to Montana direct from Ann Arbor, and began working in the reclamation department of the United States Government at Malta, Montana, as rodman for a surveying party on location. After several months in that service, in August, Mr. Atwood went to Great Falls and became rodman for the Great Falls Water Power & Townsite Company, and with it worked up to be transit man, continuing with this concern until the latter part of February, 1909, when he resigned to go with the B. & M. Smelter Company as assistant sampler. In the latter part of March he left that concern and then became draughtsman for the Conrad Land & Water Company, which had its office at Valier. This company later came out of a receivership and took the name of the Valier Land & Water Company, and it, too, failed, but came out of a second receivership under the latter name. From April 1, 1909, until March, 1910, Mr. Atwood continued to serve as draughtsman, but was then promoted to be concrete inspector, and filled that position until the July following. From then until September, 1910, he was water master on the Boise River for the State of Idaho, at Caldwell. From that date until January, 1911, he was draughtsman for the Franklin Irrigation Company of Franklin, Montana; and then, February 22, 1911, he became engineer for the Nelson-Jenks Coal Company at Sand Coulee, and continued with that company until June of that same year. Returning to Valier, he was office engineer for the Valier-Montana Land & Water Company from May 1, 1911, to January 1, 1915, on the latter date being made principal assistant engineer for the same company, continuing as such until September 1, 1917. From that date to the present time he has been resident engineer and chief engineer for the same company. Since April 1, 1917, he has been general manager of the Montana Western Railway. The chief aim of these irrigation interests has been the development of 80,000 acres of irrigable land through construction, operation and maintenance of 475 canals and laterals, and two storage reservoirs with a total capacity of 142,000 square feet of water. This project was organized and put over under the Carry Act, a Congressional act making it possible for the western states to handle such irrigation undertakings.

As a local man Mr. Atwood has been for six years a member of the board of trustees of school district 18, and during four years of that period he was chairman of the board. In April, 1929, he was elected mayor of Valier to succeed Mayor H. B. Harrington. Fraternally he is a Royal Arch Mason. During the World war he was chiefly concerned in wheat raising and local war work, and he was registered in the last draft, but was not called.

On November 30, 1912, Mr. Atwood was married to Miss Hazel Mary Webb, who was born in Minnesota, in 1894, and educated in the Blue Earth, Minnesota, High School. She is a daughter of Daniel and Catherine (Corcoran) Webb, natives of Minnesota. Mr. Webb was a painter and decorator, and the parents of Mrs. Webb were farmers. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Webb: Frank Webb, who resides at Spokane, Washington; Mrs.

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Gus Palmer, who resides at Mason City, Iowa; Mrs. Julia Porter, who resides at Conrad, Montana; Mrs. Bessie Furstnow, who also resides at Conrad; and Mrs. Atwood.

Mr. and Mrs. Atwood have four children, namely: Chester James, Henry DeWitt, Catherine Ophelia and Robert Eugene Atwood.

PETER F. ST. DENIS. As so often happens, the man who succeeds through his own efforts tries to make life easier for his own children, and especially is this true with regard to the acquisition of an education. Peter F. St. Denis, village blacksmith of Valier, of which he was an early settler, is a fine citizen, but all his long life he has felt the need for more information upon many subjects which could have come to him only through better educational opportunities. Therefore from the birth of his first child he has planned to give to his children adequate educational facilities, and he feels that what he has accomplished along this line is the greatest accomplishment of his life. He was born at Holyoke, Massachusetts, a son of Louis St. Denis. The latter, a native of France, was brought to the United States by his mother, his only brother being the third of the little party. They located at Montreal, Canada, but reverses made it necessary for the brothers to be parted, and Louis St. Denis grew up in the home of a stranger, a carpenter, from whom the lad learned the trade, and later on in life he became a contractor. Moving to Holyoke, Massachusetts, he resided there for many years, but later on in life returned to Canada, and died in the home of a son at Magog, Quebec. He married Victorine LaGrandeur, also born in France, but was a resident of Canada when married. Her death occurred at Holyoke, Massachusetts, some years after Peter F. left home. She and her husband had three sons and five daughters born to them, of whom the four survivors are: Mrs. Emma Grenier, of Kellog, Idaho; Peter F., of this review; Alphonse, of Magog, Quebec; and Sister Des Archanges, Mother Superior of Saint Anne's Convent, Montreal, Canada.

Growing up in the atmosphere of manufacturing interests of Holyoke, Massachusetts, Peter St. Denis, while attending school, began working in the thread mill. On account of the hard times then prevailing because of a Democratic tariff this employment came to an end, as did that connected with the industries affected by the lower duties on products, so that mill-workers were laid off all over the country.

Peter St. Denis was a youth of nineteen years when, in 1889, he decided to make a change and come to the West. In the meanwhile, however, he had some experience as a "mule spinner," spinning seventy thread, the finest of spinning work, and he had also spent two years thirty miles east of Montreal, Canada, where he served an apprenticeship at blacksmithing. Therefore, in spite of his youth when he came to Montana, he knew two trades. His first money earned at blacksmithing was received from a Mr. Keyn, of Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada. At that time all the freight in that region came from Fort Benton, Montana, there then being no railroad in all of that region of Canada, and he felt that following the railroad there would be plenty of blacksmithing. Therefore he came to Montana, located at Dupuyer, opened a shop, and began his career in Montana. From his settlement at Dupuyer in

1894 until he left in 1909 he was successful, carrying on mainly a shoeing business for the horses of freighters, making brands for stockmen, doing wagon work, and similar jobs. Selling his shop, he moved to Valier, which at that time was little more than a name, and he sharpened the first plow share used to turn the sod in that vicinity, and it was for the excavation of the Valier Hotel. The building in which he has his shop was the first to be erected on the townsite. He put it up himself, and has ever since occupied it. After reaching Valier, however, the character of his work underwent a change, and he began to build sheep wagons, instead of doing the frontier blacksmithing of former years, for the permanent settlers who came in. He also has been engaged in sharpening the plow shares and other machinery. When he first entered the region it was devoted to cattle, but grain and sheep are superseding the cattle to a considerable degree.

While he has been busy working at his trade the place grew, developing first into a village, then a town, and finally a little city, and he has contributed, more or less, to this expansion as a good citizen. Shoeing horses is a thing of the past to him, as are the making of small tools for the farmers, for the latter can now be bought at the hardware stores much cheaper than he could afford to make them. Before the organization of Pondera County, when this territory was included in Teton County, Mr. St. Denis served as deputy sheriff for five years, and while he lived at Dupuyer he was a United States commissioner, and frequently held court. The contesting of rights to claims or trouble with the Indians from the reservations were some of the matters which came before him as commissioner. He has always been a Republican, declaring that the policies of President Cleveland in reference to labor led him to espouse the principles of his party, and he has seen no reason to change his political views. Elected a member of the first school board at Valier, he helped to build its first school-house, and he has continued his interest in educational matters. During the war with the central powers he was identified with the local war work, and a son-in-law was in training for the war at Camp Dodge, Iowa.

While living at Dupuyer, in September, 1897, Mr. St. Denis was married to Miss Minnie Morrison, a daughter of Timothy Morrison, of Wolf Creek, Montana. She was born at Boston, Massachusetts, and was brought to Montana when three years old. Mr. Morrison ran a stage stand between Great Falls and Helena in the early days; and her maternal grandfather, Mr. Porter, was the first supervisor of the road between Great Falls and Helena. The birth year of Mrs. St. Denis is 1877, so that she is six years younger than her husband. Her education was acquired in the common schools, but, like him, she has always set a high value on education. She is the eldest of three children, and she and her brother, George Morrison, are the survivors. The latter is a deaf mute and is employed on the farm of the Montana State Institution for the Deaf and Dumb at Boulder. The children of Mr. and Mrs. St. Denis are as follows: Emma, who is the wife of Floyd Ficke, of Kellogg, Idaho, has a daughter, Jacqueline; Corine, who is the wife of John Hummel, of Thermopolis, Wyoming, has a son, Oral; Marguerite, who was graduated from the Valier High School, studied French with an aunt at Montreal, Canada, subsequently

visited Europe of knowledge and is now and Forest youngest child.

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visited Europe, and broadened her mind and added to her store of knowledge through visiting various countries of the old world and is now teaching French and music at Spokane, Washington; and Forest M., who is a medical student at Spokane, and is the youngest child.

It is a source of gratification to Mr. St. Denis to look about him and see what the passing years have brought to him and his family, as well as to his community. His children are a credit to their parents and to the place in which they were reared, while the standing of Valier is known all over this part of Montana, and he is proud that he has been permitted to assist in making it one of the model smaller cities of his home state.

HON. CHRISTIAN F. GILBOE. Although he has barely passed the fiftieth milestone on life's highway, Sen. Christian F. Gilboe has achieved more than many men years his senior, for he has not only amassed a fortune sufficient to justify his retirement several years ago, but won political honors long prior to that time, and is now a member of the Montana State Senate, in which body his sagacity, his good judgment and sound business sense have been and are productive of constructive legislation.

Senator Gilboe was born in Oslo, Norway, April 5, 1880, a son of Amund Gilboe, the latter of whom was born in Oier Gudbrandsdalen, Norway, but he died in Oslo, at the age of eighty-seven years, having been born in 1843. For fifty years he was engaged in the tannery business, and operated extensively in fine leather. When he retired from business he was appointed by King Oscar of Sweden to a position in the tax department of the government. When Norway separated from Sweden, establishing its own government, King Haakon of Norway reappointed Mr. Gilboe to the same commission for Norway, and in spite of his venerable age he was still holding it when he died. He was a valued subject, and one of the foremost men of his community. His wife, formerly Miss Helen Syverson, was born in Brevik, Enebak, Norway, and, like her husband, was descended from ancient Scandinavian stock. She is still living in the enjoyment of her faculties. Her family was a noted one in political life, and one of her cousins served for many years in the Norwegian Storting, the legislative body of Norway. The children born to Amund Gilboe and his wife were as follows: Elias, who resides in Oslo, Norway, and holds a very responsible position in the largest tobacco factory in Norway; Marie, who is the wife of Jorgen Klowsted, of Oslo, the largest wagon and fine carriage manufacturer in that country; Ole B., who is a dry-goods merchant of Winona, Minnesota; Sverre, who is an exporter; Christian F., whose name heads this review; Eugene, who is an interior decorator of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Ingvar, who is a gardener of Oslo. One daughter in the family is deceased.

After he had completed the work of the common schools Christian F. Gilboe entered the Citizens High School at Christiania, Norway, and after he was graduated therefrom he entered active business life, earning his first money in a wholesale clothing house, with which he remained for three years. About that time he began to consider the idea of coming to the United States, and he finally sailed from Oslo on the steamer *C. F. Tietgen*, bound for the port of New York, where he landed without undue incident,

March 9, 1900, after a passage of seventeen days. Mr. Gilboe was accompanied by two intimate friends, and all three were ticketed for Chicago. After his arrival in that metropolis Mr. Gilboe worked at such jobs as an emigrant can obtain, and in 1902 he left Chicago for Colfax, Wisconsin, and entered a general mercantile house. After eight years with it he accepted a position with the Bank of Colfax, and in it he acquired a valuable experience.

In 1909 Mr. Gilboe was married, at Menomonie, Wisconsin, to Miss Gena Nordlie, a daughter of Severt Nordlie, one of the pioneers of that city, born and reared in Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Gilboe established their residence at Colfax, Wisconsin, where two sons, Arve and Herlof, were born.

A call to the West followed the passage of years, and Mr. and Mrs. Gilboe came to Montana, establishing their residence at Valier, where he entered the men's clothing and shoe business, which for fifteen years he carried on with increasing prosperity. At the close of the fifteen years he sold out to the chain stores corporation. All the time he has resided at Valier he has been very active in civic matters, and for six years was mayor of the community, during which time he succeeded in inducing the Montana Power & Light Company to provide the town with light and water, this resulting in the saving to the taxpayers of between \$6,000 and \$7,000. While still a merchant he was a director of the local merchants' association, was president of the Valier Commercial Association, and in every way made his influence felt as a forceful factor in the development and improvement of conditions. In November, 1924, he was elected to the Montana State Senate, and reelected, without opposition, in November, 1928. Both times he was a candidate of the Republican party, which he has always served. Senator Gilboe has served in the Nineteenth, Twentieth and Twenty-first sessions and has been chairman of the committee on oils and leases, and a member of the important committee that has charge of investigating the sources of income and expenditure for the state university, as well as other committees. He was one of the three senators credited with the authorship of the county commissioner district bill, providing for the division of all counties into three commissioner districts, thus permitting a better representation of county territory through the board of commissioners. This was in the form of an amendment submitted to the people in 1928 and approved by them in the general election.

Senator Gilboe is a Knights Templar Mason, an Odd Fellow, and belongs to the Scandinavian fraternity "America." He and his family belong to the Lutheran Church.

Mrs. Gilboe was born January 12, 1882, and her father, as already stated, was a Norwegian. Coming to this country in young manhood, he was married at Menomonie, Wisconsin, to Ingrid Berg, born near Trondhjem, Norway. They had six children, two sons and four daughters, all of whom were born in Menomonie. Mrs. Gilboe was graduated from the Menomonie school, was given a diploma from the high school of that place, and was engaged in primary school teaching at Colfax, Wisconsin, where she met her husband. As already mentioned, there are two sons in the Gilboe family, the elder now being a student of the University of Montana, having been graduated from the Valier High School; and the younger is attending the Valier High School. Both are selected members of the local professional basketball team, and have com-

one time was secretary and treasurer of the old Cook Irrigation Company and was connected with the construction of its system of canals. He is a stockholder and a director of the First State Bank of Zurich. He helped build the Zion Lutheran Church in Chinook and is a member of the church board. His first presidential vote went to Major McKinley as the Republican candidate.

Mr. Hallenberger married at Great Falls, April 22, 1906, Miss Elizabeth Raiger. She was born in the Bergenland district of Hungary, daughter of Joseph Raiger. She came to the United States in company with a relative, Mrs. Mary Loschy, who brought her to Chinook, Montana, and it was there she met Mr. Hallenberger. Mrs. Hallenberger has two sisters living in Hungary, and another sister, Mrs. Mary Steiner, of Washington, D. C. Mr. and Mrs. Hallenberger have three children. The son Henry is a student of aviation in Illinois. Albert, born in 1909, is with a lumber company at Longview, Washington. The daughter, Lillian, is attending high school at Chinook, and both sons are graduates of high school.

CHARLES AKOFER, manager of the Charles Akofer Lumber Company, and one of the leading citizens of Valier, has won his present high standing through his own individual efforts and honorable methods of doing business. He was born at Perry, Iowa, April 8, 1885, a son of Charles Akofer, the latter born near the Tyrol border in Switzerland, but brought to the United States by his parents who settled in South Central Nebraska in the late sixties or early seventies. The Akofers homesteaded near Lawrence, Nebraska, and there the grandparents died, having had four sons and two daughters, of whom only two survive: Mrs. Finkbinder, of Red Cloud, Nebraska; and John Akofer, of Missouri.

The elder Charles Akofer had but limited educational opportunities, and he began his business life as a merchant at Perry, Iowa. In October, 1885, however, he went to Omaha, Nebraska, and there he died. Outside of his business he had no affiliations with public life. He voted the Democratic ticket, and worshipped as a member of the Presbyterian Church. His wife was born Rose Jann, and he married her at Des Moines, Iowa. She was a daughter of Albert Jann, a native of Bavaria, Germany, while his wife was a native of Hanover, Germany. The Janns settled at Des Moines, Iowa, and there Mrs. Akofer was born. After Mr. and Mrs. Akofer went to Omaha he dealt in live stock, and occasionally shipped stock, and he was also engaged in the retail meat trade. The death of this excellent man and good citizen occurred in 1902, when he was but forty-five years old. His widow survives him and is still living at Omaha. The following children were born to them: Mrs. Hilda Homan, who died at Omaha; Charles, whose name heads this review; A. J., who resides at York, Nebraska; and Margaret, who is the wife of Earl Kennan, of Omaha.

The younger Charles Akofer attended the grade and high schools of Omaha, but left school in 1902 and assumed charge of his father's retail business at the latter's death, continuing to conduct it for about ten years. At the expiration of that period he came to Montana, arriving at Billings in 1912, and for the subsequent five years was connected with the business life of that city save for a short time during which he was in Wyoming. In 1917 Mr. Akofer came to Valier and organized his present busi-

ness, which he owns and manages, and serves as secretary. This concern is doing an excellent business, and is regarded as one of the soundest in the county.

Since being a resident of Valier he has served as a member of its city council, and was a representative of his district in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Sessions of the Montana State Legislature, being first under Speaker Bricker and later under Speaker Glen Davis. While elected on the Democratic ticket he served in a Republican House, and his committee assignments during his first term were with those on agriculture, irrigation, fish and game, printing and oil and gas, and in the second had the same assignments. He introduced no bills save one with reference to the boundaries of Pondera, when an attempt was made to slice off a part for Glacier County.

Mr. Akofer is president of the local Community Club, and has long been active in this body, and was largely instrumental in securing a reduction in railroad rates for his community. Fraternally he affiliates with the Masonic Order, and has been advanced to the Chapter and Commandery. While not a member of any religious body, he is a staunch Protestant.

On December 18, 1907, Mr. Akofer married at Omaha, Nebraska, Miss Nancy May Baker, a daughter of James S. and Sarah (Orr) Baker. Mrs. Akofer was born at Council Bluffs, Iowa, in September, 1884, and was of a numerous family. Her education was acquired in the Omaha public schools, and she took a business course after being graduated from high school. For several years thereafter she was stenographer at the city hall of Omaha, serving in that capacity under Mayors Hoxtor and Koutsky. Mr. and Mrs. Akofer have no children. She is one of the prominent members of the local chapter of the Eastern Star, of which she is a past matron, is active in the Valier Woman's Club, and has held offices in it. While she is an Episcopalian, she works with the Methodist Episcopal Church and Sunday School, and is accomplishing a vast amount of good in her community. Mr. Akofer was registered for the World war, was not called into active service.

ALVA IRVINE CRONE, regarded as one of the outstanding wheat farmers of Chouteau County, has probably had more than his share of the ups and downs of Montana agricultural enterprise. He came to the state in 1913. His early efforts as a homesteader and grain farmer were finally cancelled by the succession of dry years and other adversities, but he is one of those who refused to be driven out, and his persistence has been rewarded by the prosperity that has smiled on him in recent years.

Mr. Crone was born in Morgan County, Indiana, January 4, 1880. His people were pioneers of that section of Indiana. His grandfather, William Crone, came from Ireland and settled in Indiana, and is buried at the Bethlehem Church in Morgan County. He married a Miss Ballinger, and they had a family of five sons and three daughters, those now living being Robert, Ed and Mrs. David Bothwell, all of Morgan County. William Richard Crone, father of the Montana wheat man, was born in Morgan County, was a farmer by occupation, and served two terms as sheriff of his county. He died at Martinsville in 1926, when seventy-one years of age. He was a very active Republican, was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Christian Church. William Rich-

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