

(e)

JOSEPH B. MCNEW

Joseph B., the fifth child of Moses and Clarissa MCNEW, was born on the 29th of October 1853¹ in Boonville, Owsley County, Kentucky, a few months after his family moved there from Virginia. He was only six years old when his father died, and eleven when the Civil War ended. He received all of his schooling in Kentucky and helped on the family farm. He was nineteen when the family moved to Nebraska, and he continued to work on his mother's farm for the next five years.

On the 1st of January, 1879, when he was 25, he married 22-year-old Eva CRESS. (Eva was the daughter of Madison J. and Eliza ANNIS CRESS, and was born 23 Aug 1856 in Illinois.) Joseph and Eva settled on 160 acres in Spring Grove township, Harlan County, Nebraska. There is a picture of the sod house in which they lived, a not uncommon type of dwelling on the plains. At about the time they were married, Joseph was involved in a legal dispute. (See Clarissa's letter, page 3-11) We don't know how this turned out for him.

Their first child, Floyd Leon, was born there on the 19th of November, 1879. Floyd was 7 months old when they were listed for the 1880 Census. (See 3-14) When the rest of the McNew clan left Nebraska in 1882 for Washington, Joseph and Eva remained for several more years, and eventually became known as pillars of their community. Joseph served as county assessor for nine years. Two more sons were born to them in Harlan County, William Lawrence in 1887 and Joseph Leonard in 1893.

Joseph and his family made several moves before settling near Wilbur, Washington. He had moved to Lincoln County in Washington before 1900, as the Census found his family living in the Larene area near the other McNews at that time. This Census also showed that Eva and Joseph had been married for 21 years, and that she had had 3 children, all living.

1900 ²	McNew, Joseph	M	Nov 1855	44	m	21		KY VA KY	Farmer
	Eva	F	Aug 1856	43	m	21 3 3		IL VA ME	
	Lawrence	M	Feb 1887	13	s			NE KY IL	School
	Joseph L	M	Aug 1893	6	s			NE KY IL	

According to his mother's obituary in 1903, Joseph was back in Oxford, Nebraska. Shortly thereafter, they again moved to Washington, first to Cheney and finally to Wilbur (Lincoln County) in about 1907 where Joseph continued to farm.

¹ Owsley County birth record, as recorded on I.G.I., 1988 edition:

MC NEW (m) b. 29 Oct 1853 M. C. Mc New Clarissa Jones

While secondary sources, i.e. Cress Family bible and Harlan County Biographical article give the year as 1855, sources closer to the event, i.e. 1860 Census and birth record quoted above, support the 1853 date.

² 1900 CENSUS, LINCOLN CO, WASHINGTON, page 284, E.D. 40, Larene Precinct, Sheet 4.

In 1910, the family was listed in Wilson Creek Precinct.¹

McNEW,	Joseph B	54 KY	Farmer
	Eva	53 IL	
	Lawrence	23 NE	Farm laborer
	Leonard	16 NE	At school

The 1920 Census found the four of them still together.²

McNEW,	Joseph B	64 KY	Farmer
	Eva	63 IL	
	William L	32 NE	Farmer
	Joseph L	26 NE	Farmer

Joseph died 3 September 1925 at the age of 71 in Spokane, Washington. Eva died on 21 December 1930, also in Spokane.

Joseph and Eva MCNEW:

- ea Floyd Leon, b. 19 Nov 1879, Spring Grove, Harlan Co, NE;
m. Lena Mae HARR, 24 Jun 1909, Cheney, WA;
d. 12 Jun 1963, Spokane, WA;
- eb (William) Lawrence, b. 11 Feb 1887, Harlan Co, NE;
d. 23 Aug 1969, Wilbur, WA;
- ec (Joseph) Leonard, b. 7 Aug 1893, Harlan Co, NE;
m. Rachel ROBY, 15 Aug 1951;³
d. 7 Oct 1986, Wilbur, WA.

¹ U. S. CENSUS, 1910, LINCOLN CO, WASHINGTON; E.D. 105, page 3-B, Wilson Creek.

² U. S. CENSUS, 1920, LINCOLN CO, WA; E.D. 64, Sheet 1, Lines 23-26

³ A Roby family was listed in Crestone Precinct, Lincoln County, in 1910. The family consisted of Calvin (33), Annie (31) and Rachel (1).

Carole and Frederick DUTHWEILER:

eaaaa Kathleen Lynn, b. 18 Sep 1960, Seattle, WA;
m. Gregory Paul DONALD, 18 Apr 1987, Seattle, WA;
eaaab Scott Everett, b. 9 Sep 1963, Seattle, WA.

Kathleen and Gregory DONALD:

eaaaaa Kevin McNew, b. 28 Nov 1988, Anchorage, AK

Marie and Robert MCCARREY:

eaca Mardene Mae, b. 18 Jul 1933, Spokane, WA;
each Larry Leon, b. 8 Jul 1935, Spokane, WA;
m. Irene KIMBREAL, CA.

Mardene MCCARREY:

eacaa Michael Robert, b. 24 May 1955, Spokane, WA;
eacab Randall Lee, b. 5 Sep 1959, Spokane, WA;
eacac Jeffrey Wendell, b. 5 Sep 1959, Spokane, WA;
m. Shelley BECKER, 25 Aug 1984, Spokane, WA.

Larry and Irene MCCARREY:

eacba Ann Marie, b. 10 Nov 1964, Spokane, WA;
m. Brad ALSMAN, 26 May 1984, Pasco, WA;
eacbb Mary Kimbreal, b. 17 Dec 1965, Spokane, WA;
eacbc Heidi, b. 11 Dec 1966, Spokane, WA;
m. Steven BELLAND, Sep 1985, Longview, WA;
eacbd Meghan, b. 22 Sep 1969, Spokane, WA.

Ann Marie and Brad ALSMAN:

eacbaa Brett, b. 31 May 1986, Anchorage, AK.

Heidi and Steven BELLAND:

eacbca Joshua, b. 26 Jun 1986, Longview, WA.

(eb) WILLIAM LAWRENCE MCNEW

(William) Lawrence MCNEW, always known as Lawrence, was born in Spring Grove, Harlan county, Nebraska on 11 February 1887. He was about 20 when the family finally settled in Wilbur, Lincoln County, Washington, and he spent the rest of his life there, farming with his father, and then with his younger brother.

His relatives remember him as a kind man who always welcomed family visits. He was very creative with his hands, polishing stones for jewelry, and carving wood.

Lawrence never married. He died on the 23rd of August 1969 in Wilbur, Washington, at the age of 82.

(ec) JOSEPH LEONARD MCNEW

(Joseph) Leonard MCNEW was born 7 August 1893 in Spring Grove, Harlan County, Nebraska. He was quite young when the family made its first move to Washington, and was in his early teens when they finally settled in Wilbur. He attended the one-room school in Cannawai Draw, south of Wilbur, for several years, graduating in 1911.

He served in the army in World War I. After training at Camp Lewis (now Fort Lewis), Washington, and in Charlotte, North Carolina, he was sent overseas, seeing active duty with a machine gun company in France. After the Armistice, he served as a guard in Germany until July 1919.

He returned to the family farm in Wilbur, and spent the rest of his life there. On 15 August 1951, at the age of 58, he married Rachel J. ROBY, a young widow. Leonard died in Wilbur on the 7th of October, 1986, at the age of 93.

JOSEPH B. McNEW, one of the young and enterprising farmers of Harlan county, is a native of Kentucky, born in the village of Booneville, Owsley county, October 29, 1855, and is a son of Moses and Clarissa (Jones) McNew, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Kentucky. The senior McNew was a physician, practicing for several years with success prior to his death, which occurred in 1859. The mother of our subject and her eight children came to Harlan county, Nebr., in the spring of 1872, and homesteaded land in Spring Grove township, where she resided nearly fourteen years. In 1885 she removed to Washington, Lincoln county, where she continues to reside. Joseph B. McNew, the subject of this biographical notice, pre-empted a piece of land in Spring Grove township, in 1879, on which he lived for several years. He was married January 1, 1879, taking to share his life's fortunes Miss Eva Cress, a daughter of Madison J. Cress, a sketch of whom will be found in this work. This congenial union has resulted in the birth of two children—Floyd L., born November 19, 1879, and William L., born February 11, 1887. Mr. McNew is a staunch republican in politics and is well posted on the doctrines of that party. While he has not been an aspirant for office, he has been called upon to fill some positions of no little responsibility and trust. He has filled the office of assessor for nine consecutive years, and has always given the best of satisfaction. He remembers well when there were plenty of Indians in Harlan county, and when buffalo, elk and deer roamed over the surrounding prairies in great herds. Settlers, in those days, were few and far

between and the country was one vast unbroken prairie. He is therefore familiar with almost every phase of pioneer life in Harlan county, and he, in common with those around him, has endured some of the hardships and privations incident to the early settlement of any new country. He and his estimable wife are zealous members of the Methodist Protestant church, and earnest and enthusiastic workers in every new cause. He has one hundred and sixty acres of rich land, which he has under cultivation. He is an industrious and hard working young man and stands high in the estimation of his fellowmen.

BIOGRAPHICAL SOUVENIR OF THE COUNTIES OF BUFFALO, KEARNEY,
 PHELPS, HARLAN AND FRANKLIN, NEBRASKA Published by F. A. Battey & Co.,
 Chicago, 1890.

This excerpt is found on page 792.

MADISON J. CRESS is one of the first settlers of Spring Grove township, Harlan county, Nebr. He is a native of Virginia and was born east of the Blue Ridge mountains October 17, 1819, a son of Jacob and Jane (More) Cress, the former a native of Germany, and the latter of Virginia. The senior Cress moved to Illinois in 1831, locating in Knox county, where he followed farming for many years. He was in the War of 1812 and saw some severe times. He died in 1858 and his faithful wife in 1859. Madison Cress, the subject of this notice,

started out soon after attaining his majority, to make his own way through the world. Being reared on a farm, he naturally felt himself adapted to pursue that vocation, and accordingly began life's struggle in Knox county, Ill., where he followed farming with considerable success for several years. Mr. Cress came to Harlan county, Nebr., in the spring of 1872, and was one of the first to settle in this region. He took a pre-emption on Spring Creek, but subsequently homesteaded a claim near by. His nearest neighbors were eight miles distant, and the country thereabouts was one vast, unbroken prairie. Great herds of buffalo roamed about the vicinity, and other wild game was plentiful. Indians were also quite numerous and were frequently visitors to the settlers' cabins. Mr. Cress kept his family well supplied with venison and buffalo meats, and relates several interesting exploits of his own in chasing buffalo in his pioneer days. He was a

victim of the terrible grasshopper scourge, having suffered from the total destruction of his crop. He built his first house out of railroad ties which had been cut but which the Indians refused to have hauled away. Mr. Cress and some of the older members of his family have seen some of the ups and downs of frontier life and are perfectly familiar with most of the hardships incident to that time.

Mr. Cress was married November 29, 1843 to Eliza A. Annis, a native of the State of Maine and born in the year 1820. Her parents were also natives of the same state and emigrated to Illinois in an early day. There have been born to this union nine children, as follows—Royal A., born September 20, 1847; Ellison A., born De-

cember 17, 1848; Sarah J., born October 25, 1850; Bessie A., born February 8, 1852; Emma, born October 25, 1854; Eva, born August 23, 1856; Andrew J., born June 7, 1858; Henry C., born March 3, 1860, and George W., born August 20, 1862.

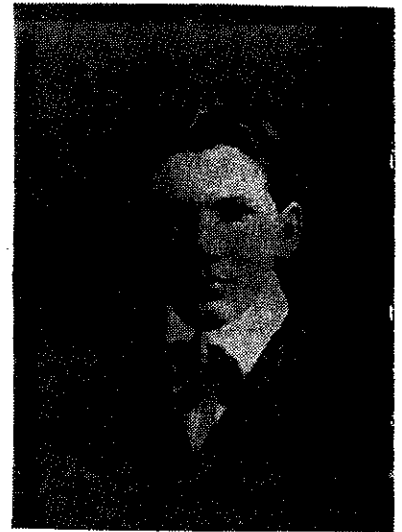
In politics Mr. Cress is independent. He is a slave to no clique or party, but supports whom he chooses. He owns an estate of six hundred and sixty acres of land, most of which is under a good state of cultivation. In 1857 he erected a substantial frame house and has from time to time made other improvements equally important. He is engaged in raising all kinds of stock and is regarded as a careful, conservative man, who goes to the very bottom of everything before investing his money.

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This excerpt is found on pages 790 and 791.



JOSEPH, LAWRENCE, LEONARD, EVA
McNEW Family about 1900



FLOYD MCNEW
(Eva is wearing this
photo at left)



SOD HOUSE IN NEBRASKA
Joseph McNEW near door

Cannawai school days are recalled

By Phyllis Hinkins

This is a story about a little white school house, once located in the Cannawai Draw, but now standing in an open field, weathered and worn with time. The memories are not diminished, however, as several Wilbur residents recall their days of schooling at the Cannawai School.

Leonard McNew's family moved from Cheney to a farm a mile and a quarter from the little school when he was in the fifth grade, probably around 1907. Leonard said the kids were all pretty good but his eyes twinkled devilishly as he told about one of his bad habits. Lula Brock sat in front of his desk and her long hair would precariously dangle close to his inkwell. "Of course," chuckled Leonard, "I had to dip it a little bit."

Leonard and his classmates studied arithmetic, physiology, geography, spelling and grammar. Their classroom equipment included a big blackboard, a globe and each child had a writing tablet, a reader and pencil.

Leonard remembers one of his teachers, Fannie Grant. She liked his bay horse, Fairy, and one evening, after all the other kids had gone home, she wanted to ride Fairy. The bay gave Miss Grant a nice, calm ride around the enclosed school yard and as she gained confidence Leonard opened the gate and suddenly the horse turned into an awful beast and bolted out of the yard with Miss Fannie Grant screaming and bouncing higher and higher. Leonard ran after them but Miss Grant took one bounce too many and tumbled to the ground with such force that she broke the pencil she had stuck in the bun of her hair in three pieces. "I was scared to death," remembers Leonard.

He was the typical, growing boy and always hungry. His mother packed his lunch in a pail and he remembers lots of jelly and bread sandwiches. The kids ate their lunches outside in the good weather and inside when it was too cold or

windy. They had a wash basin at the back of the room where they cleaned up before eating.

School took up at nine, to the sound of the teacher's little hand bell, and the children had a 15 minute recess in the morning, a lunch hour and another 15 minute recess in the afternoon before classes ended at 4:00. Leonard remembers practicing on his penmanship "but should have practiced more," he said.

The children tried to be neither tardy or absent because of the prestige of the awards they received for these achievements.

When his eighth grade graduation was eminent Leonard studied hard. He felt he was prepared for the standard test sent out from Davenport. When asked if it was a long test, Leonard replied, "I thought it was at the time." Jim Hume, an area farmer, was selected as Leonard's witness while he was taking the exam. Leonard did just fine until a geography question stumped him. The answer was Ferry County and Mr. Hume knew that Leonard's horse's name was Fairy, so he asked him what the horse's name was and the answer popped into his head. "I didn't cheat but Mr. Hume sorta did help me pass the test," laughed Leonard. He was the only student in his graduating class of 1911.



Little remains to identify the Cannawai school where children of the south Wilbur area received their first eight years of schooling.

(Register photo)



Frame is special

World War I veteran, Leonard McNew displays pictures of himself in his uniform in 1917. The frame on the left was made for him by Earl Warren. He used machine gun and 44 caliber bullets and the buttons from his uniform to make the frame.

(Register photo)

Articles from the WILBUR REGISTER
featuring Leonard McNEW (about 1983)

FAMILY RECORD.

BIRTHS.

Joseph B. McNew
Born: Oct. 29th 1855

Eva. McNew - Cross
Aug 23. 1856

Floyd Leon McNew
Nov 19th 1879

William Lawrence McNew
Feb. 11th 1887

Joseph Leonard McNew
Aug 7th 1893

FAMILY RECORD.



Madison, Wis. 6th 1844
 Born Oct 17th 1819
 Died Feb. 17th 1903

Elijah A. Annis - 6th 1844
 Born June 7th 1820
 Died Dec 4th 1895

Madison, Wis. 6th 1844
 Elijah A. Annis
 Married
 Nov 29th 1846



FAMILY RECORD.

MARRIAGES

Joseph B. McNew
To

Eva L. Cress

Jan 1st 1879

Floyd L. McNew

to

Lena Mae Harr

June 24th 1909



FAMILY RECORD.

DEATHS.

Joseph B. McNew
Sept 3, 1925.

Keturah L. McNew
Dec-21-1930.

Lena Mackhan McNew



