

[Mr. and Mrs. Jens Sillasen]

1

page 1

Week ([?]) Item ([?])

[Bessie Jollenston?]

[Ogallala, Nebraska.?)

Mr. and Mrs. Jens Sillasen....[Keystone?] [Nebraska?]

Mrs Jens Sillasen [Was?] born at [Bethville?], Missouri, January, [5?], [1?]. Coming to Keith county in 1889. She came with her parents Mr and Mrs B.G.Mathews. Who settled on a homestead, North East of Keystone.

The Mathews' still own their Homestead. The railroad runs through it now since they changed it for the Tri-County Project.

I found it quite a change When I first came here, even though I was only eleven years old. I used to go over the hill and lye down and cry for the timber [which?] we had left at home.

Our Post Office was [Ogallala?], and we had to cross the river by means of fording every time we came to get even our mail, and when we wanted our groceries[. What?] few we could get in [Ogallala?]. We had to take the lumber wagon and a team, and if the water was high we had to tie the wagon box to the running gears, to keep it [?] [?] [fleeing?] away.

One time Jens and I went across the river to visit [Belts's?] and while we were there the river came up, and it worried me so I really did not enjoy myself that day.

Library of Congress

My first school was south east of [Ogallala?], about 6 or 7 miles Mr Cowper was my first Superintendent. He was the best [superintendent?] I everhad.

I boarded at J.K.Allans. I only had a half mile to walk, but had to carry water to drink. My last school was [west?] of the Old Martin bridge, and [east?] of The old Tom [Plummer?] place.

After being married to Mr Jens Sillasen They went into the [stock?] raising and feeding business. We Kept building up untill we had one of the largest Individual [Feeding] plants in the U.S.A: This plant is just east of Keystone[.?] Besides the numerous feed yrds, there is an elevator, [?], 5 room bunkhouse, and fine modern residence house.

2

page 2.....

Week 2 item(4)

[??]

[??]

Mr. And Mrs Jens Sillasen, Keystone Nebraska.

The Sillasens also have a Ranch in Cherry County.

Jens Si;;asen was born Oct 12, 1869 on a farm near [Antrup?] a [Previ?] of Jultand, Denmark. Mr Sillasen lived with His Parents Morten and [Maren?] (Anderson)Sillasen, until 1888. In 1888 He set sail for Hull England From there He went to Glasgow. Embarking on the American Line He landed next in Philadelphia. This voyage took him 13 days.

Having a brother at North Platte He immediately went there, [Preeuring?] a position with the John Bratt Cattle company, where he worked for five years.

Library of Congress

In 1895 He bought 160 acres at Keystone, nebraska, with a little [saddie] on it in which he lived for four years. In 1897 He built a nice frame house

His water system was supplied by a natural Spring, both for the house and the corrals.

Mr Sillasen was married to [Mayme?] Mathews, daughter of B.G. Mathews [Who?] Who had been Pioneers of Keith County since 1889. Mr Mathews was also a Civil War veteran. Mr Mathews just Passed away September 23, 1939. The Mathews were natives of Kentucky and Missouri, respectively.

Mr Sillasen was brought up in the Luthern faith, and was always very much interested in the general welfare of the community in which He lived.