

Chapter 15

Our future home

They had rented our place out for our local fireman's Dance and had done some business with rollerskating and as I had a premium due on a life insurance policy I asked Carl to let me have twenty four dollars to pay it with, he hesitated and said, "if we are going to spent all our money for every old thing we won't get very far" but at last he did let me have that much for my wife and I were flat broke, we were not able to buy a postage stamp. Carl and I did not agree on any thing from the start.

When the dray men hauled out very few belongs up to the Pavilion they gave me a ride too and after that I slowly recovered but my left leg never lost the swelling and to this day it is larger than the other one, when I was allowed to eat again I was a real glutton I became all puffed up in my face and I insisted on doing the cooking and when the meal was over I would wash the dishes and anything that happened to be left over I gobbled up. While I was sick they had an election and Carl thinking he was so great and mighty was not satisfied with his job as clerk of court so he tried to get the nomination as County treasurer on the republican ticket but that had been filled by Joe Taysom from Afton so Carl switched to the democrat ticket and had been badly beaten at the polls, he was so blue he felt so bad, and one time as he sat by me in my bed room some people were passing with two wagons loaded with furnitue and some one asked, "I wonder where they are going" Carl spoke up and said, "I don't know I wish I was going with them".

Carl had named our building, "The Kemmerer Pavilion" which was one hundred and forty feet in length, fifty feet wide, the dance floor was one hundred feet long and fifty feet wide it had a twenty foot high ceiling and a very hard maple floor, the building was lined through out with a sort of composition paper wall board the front forty feet was partitioned off in to several rooms and above two of these was a balcony with steps from the front entrance way to the balcony and also to the the four rooms upstairs, in between the rooms both upstairs and down on the ground floor was a hall way about ten feet wide the forty feet long on the north side we had one large room we intended to use as a store or cofectionary room, the two smaller rooms next to the dance floor was to be used one as a skate room, the other as a check room for wraps, there were four rooms up stairs each about sixteen by twenty feet with the hall way in between.

As there was talk of the County building a big courthouse across the street from us we thought we would be able to rent these room for office rooms but in the mean time my wife suggested that we move up there and live since we were paying rent where we were and we had not rented them and we had no prospects of doing so. We had a very large chimney built of brick in north side of the entrance hall and in order to put up our stove it was necessary to place a stove pipe across the hallway and through the wall so we could use the rooms on the south side upstairs so with allot of coaxing we got Carl to place that pipe there for us and we moved up to those two south rooms.

After my wife and I had got settled in the two south rooms and Carl saw how we were getting along he decide to sell his house there and move up to the other two rooms on the north side opposite us. Mr Taysom who had been elected needed a place to live so Carl made a deal with him and sold the house I don't know how much he got and I don't know how much Carl was indebt on his house anyway he and family move up to us, he was studdying law all the while. As I mentioned before Carl hired Adelbert to help and I was told later by some of our patrons that Del would get drunk and lay on the floor and let the skaters go all around him then too Carl had hired another fellow to manage the floor and gave him a dollar each night besides the use of a pair of skated so when I finally got so I could do anything there was no business, the newness and novelty of the thing had worn out.

An old man by the name of Alex Hixon came to me one day and asked me if I would let him use my team for their feed if he would go and get them? I told him, "he could," a day or so later he brought them up so I could see what shape they were in I hardly knew my dear old horses they were so awful poor with great long hair all over them, that Mr Caveny had not fed them at all, they had been only turned loose in his field, I gave him Pat the little white horse for the bill and Mr Hixon took the team and was very good to them and they soon began to look like themselves again. John Miller came to me and wanted to try my team out for a day or two and if they were satisfactory he would buy them, so I told Mr Hixon to let him try them but I soon saw the way he whipped them around the streets

that I did not want him to have them as I was sure he did not mean to buy them so I told Mr Hixon to take them back again, about a month later Mr Hixon came to me and said, "George was missing, Bert had come home alone, he had turned them loose on the hills and although they were never separated Bert had come home alone. Mr Hixon and I walk all over the hills everywhere but we never found George again, I am sure to this day that John Miller and some of his helpers stole that horse and got away with him because he could be caught any where, although he was eighteen years old he was still a good horse and Miller found it out.

Down in Montpelier there had been Roller skating that seemed to do real well and I suggested that we take our skates go down there and rent the Mr Stong hall where they had skated before and see if we could do some business there until maybe we could started again in Kemmerer. As I mentioned before Carl and I did not agree and every body wanted to be boss. Carl's mother-in-law was staying with them and she would tell Ella what we should do and Ella would tell Carl and Carl would come and tell me so it was a continual mix up all the time.

But I did persuade them to let me try Montpelier so Carl and I went down to see Mr Strong, he wanted Fifty dollars per month for his hall and after several scrubbing and cleaning the place we began to skate, I found a fellow who was a very good sign painter when we could find him sober, I got a strip of white oilcloth about four and a half feet wide and twenty feet long and got the fellow to paint a sign for me, there was a man that seemed to be a sort of half wit

With a rather big odd looking face that ~~come~~to skate by the name of Bertwhistle so the painter suggested he paint Bertwhistle on one end of the cloth and a girl in a rather peculiar position on the other and as the rinkwas on the upper floor I fastened this high up where it could be seen plainlywith the big words Roller Skating in the center of the oilcloth, this helped our business some. Carl spent most of his time in the hotel studying law and as there was nothing else for me to do I worked oiling and repairing skates. We had no music so I called my wife at Kemmerer and told her to have the draymen crate and ship our Wurlitzer Band Organ down to me but Ella objected because we had bought it on time payment from the Knight-Campbell Company at Denver and our contract was that we must not move it from one state to another with out their permission.

What differance does that make as long as we are going to bring it back again?

After a while it was sent to me by rail road freight and with the help of several of my boy patrons who were anxious to hear it play we managed to get it up stairs to the rink and when it began to blast the air it sure helped the business especially one day when a circus came to town, every body went to the circus but as the performance started a big wind storm also started to such a big degree that the management thought the big ten would fall so they shouted for everybody to get out and they raised the sides of the tent in many places, the show was called off until evening every body came over to town and the Skating rink and we sure did business that day. shortly after that a fellow came to town with a lot of advertising

telling all the wonders he could perform such as teeling fortunes and advising people what to do for their own good and a lot more such stuff and Carl went to hear him talk, he would single out a person in the audience and call out his name and advise him what to do Carl was surprised when he called out Mr Cook over there, what is your problem? then he answered it himself, you want to know what to do right now, where to locate? I will tell you, I would advise you to go to Twin Falls and buy some city lots there. Carl was so embressed that he came to me and said, "I am going to Idaho Falls to buy some lots", with that he did go and left me to take care of our business, he had'nt been much help anyway for he spent most of his time at the hotel studing law.

Before Carl got back I received a telephone call from my wife saying, "A captain Waugh wanted to rent our place for a bunch of new recruits for the army and expected to have a few more new ones perhaps fifteen or twenty so when Carl came back I met him at the depot and told him he better continue on to Kemmerer and see about it, thinking he would know what to do about it, Ella his wife thought we should ask five hundred dollars per month, every body had their own opinion what to charge, but at last Carl let them have the whole building except the room where my furniture was stored in where we had lived for One hundred dollars per month, which proved to be one of the biggest mistakes we ever made, the place was new and clean when we let thwm in and if they had been statioed some other place we could have made a mint of money because before they left there was over two hundred in there and each boy had

a girl friend or some one that came to visit with them before they went away to war as that was the beginning of world war No. 1 however they had our hall and they gave dances there and Carl had let some of them use some of our skates he had also let one fellow go into my room to read because he said, the others bother him, from our room there was a window on the south wall also a wooden ladder fastened to the wall by the side of the window that went clear to the top of the house to the roof, the other room which we had used was turned into a gardhouse for the unruly ones Some how the bad ones in the guard house got the key to our room and they would go at evening time through our room and through the window and watch the guard that walked back and forth in front of the side door on the bottom and when he went the other way and was not looking they would climb the wooden ladder to the top of the house and run across the roof to a telephone pole by the side of the building and go down that and to town, this was very easy to do because the roof was nearly flat and perhaps some time in the middle of the night they would walk boldly into the building past the guard while he wonder how they got past him and he dare not say anything for fear he would be blamed for letting them get past.

After Carl left me at Montpelier and rented the Pavilion to Captain Waugh he collected his belongings including a pair of roller skates for each member of his family he moved to Afton and left me to take care of the business as well as all the debts we were in, he previously too had a load of coal hauled to his own house that was charg-

ed to Cook brothers, our company and he had crated a kitchen sink and a hot water tank that he had installed in the rooms he occupied in the Pavilion when he lived there at company expence and intended to ship it later to himself at Afton, in the mean time I was having troubles of my own, we did not have any way to cook our food in the room we occupied, I say we because my wife and children had come down and joined me so we ate our meals across the street at a chinese restruant and one evening when we returned from our evening meal our little daughter complained of a pain in her stomache and later it became so bad I went for a Doctor, there were two brothers by the name of Lynn and both were docters, my wife's sister Hellen had worked for the oldest of them and knew a great deal about how they opperated in order to get business but she did not tell us until after we had trouble with them .

Well I called and the youngest of the two answered and came back with me as soon as he saw the girl he said, "she had appendicitis and we must operate at once" my wife said, "No you don't". he took the child and layed her on the bed and began punching her stomache rather roughly and my wife again objected and told him he "was hurting the girl" we did not like the way he acted so I told him, "We will pay you for your call and will try to get along without your help. He left but the next morning he stopped his car on the street below our windown and came running up the steps as we were living in a small room on the same level as the rink was on and said, "I was just passing and thought I would run up and see how the little girl was getting

along"he tried to act so darned nice and gave each of our children a dime.

Again we told him we would be alright with out his help, in the afternoon the older docter Lynn called and told us it was something else, (some big medical term)but still an opperation was necessary. We told him the same as we had told his brother we did not need their help and wished they would not bother us any more but still later the oldest came again and brought another Docter Guyan and that docter had some other explanation about what was wrong with the child, for the third time I told them we did not want them to bother us.

That evening when we were skating our old docter from Afton Dr West happend to come up just to see us skate and I told him about it so he went *in* into our *room* and looked at the child and examined her and said, " I think it is something she ate at the restruant and it may soon pass away without any trouble".

Being an old friend and had brought both our babys into the world I did not think he would charge me for looking at her but when I asked him."what do we owe you" Oh! I guess a dollar will do" Next day my wife and I saw a Rawleigh wagon go up the street and I followed him until he stopped and i bought some liniment and anti-pain oil from him and we rubber her stomache with the Anti-pain oil several times useing plenty of it and soon after the child had avery unnaturall discharge and soon she was alright and well again.

Some time after we received a bill f from them for thirtysix dollars, I refused to pay it for sometime but later paid the bill to get rid of them.

Now that we have finished with the doctors I will return to my story and our return to Kemmerer, as I mentioned before Carl and I did not always agree and when we got back to our room in the pavilion captain Waugh was not going to let us in because he said "we have rented the building and you will have to find someother place to live" and Carl agreed with him and told us we would have to rent another house someplace" I suppose I would have done that but my little wife said, "No this is our home too and we are going to stay here" you and nobody else is going to put us out" but all the time for about a month Waugh was after us to move and even t three days before they left he was still ordering us out, he was just an old bluffer none of the men under him considered him much of a man, he had promised in the beginning that there would not be more than fifteen or twenty there. was now about two hundred in our place.

There was one fellow especially that did not like him and was held in the guard house most of the time, his name was Patterson and for extra punishment he and one other was ordered to dig in the pit where they used to dump their garbage, they would dig a square hole maybe seven or eight feet across and a couple of feet deep and after dumping the garbage it was covered over again

Patterson refused to dig, he took the lid that I had placed by the house that came off from the crate that held our band organ and put a stick against it in such a way that it made a shade, he and the other fellow went over there, Patterson ordered the other fellow to

lay down in the shade and rest and he was going to do the same, but two men who the Captain had ordered to take guns and go out and make him work but when he saw them coming he jumped up held his arms out straight and shouted, "Shoot dam you shoot" but of course they would not shoot because they were all in the same company called Company "H" then the Captain came to the door and told them to shoot, Patterson shouted at him, "Come out here you G.D. son-of-a-bitch" but the Captain did not go out, I suppose if it had been in the regular army he would have been taken care of very quickly but it was only the Wyoming national guard so far but when they left and were taken to the front we heard that Patterson and some of the others were placed right up front and were killed in battle.

It was about the first of August when they left us and my wife and I had the place to our selves, when they first moved into our place the Captain wanted to use our Home comfort range and promised not to damage it in any way but they had made it so hot, cooking for all those men that it was completely ruined so after a lot of trouble about it the Captain agree to sell it to the second hand store for what we could get and he would pay the rest of the eighty dollars it had cost us. The place was in a terrible mess, they had been allowed to play ball in side the hall and they had thrown the ball through the wall board in several places, they had broken several windows, they had used our big dance floor for a dinning room and when one of them at one end of the long table would call out "Pass the meat"

Someone at the other end would grab a chunk of boiled or fried beef and slam it as hard as he could throw it and like as not it would land on the floor so the floor was a greasy mess or a slaughter house, they had scattered our chairs nerly all the way to the hospital nearly a quarter of a mile away some of the broken to bits.

The last month's rent was held up because it had not been determined if it was a State or Federal bill and it was along time before we got that money, I made a bill for damages and sent it to government officials for two hundred and forty dollars but they only refered me to some other department and they in turn to still another and the bill was even sent to France to the Captain Waugh and then back again, this lasted for two years and at last I got a letter from one department in Washington telling me if I would cancell ~~three~~ items, one for a broken coal chute one for six cuspidors and another small item that ammounted to four or five dollars altogather they would forward me a check for the balance, I told them I had waited so long I was willing to do anything to get it settled, so I did get that pay at last. in full.

After the soldiers left my wife and I got to work cleaning, resurfacing the floor with an electric surfaceing machine Carl had got on time payments, replaced the broken windows and started to advertise our skating business which we operated each night and I again got a job for the day time with Huff at carpenter work, pouring concrete and odd jobs and tried our best to pay some of the debts of our company.

When the building was finished Carl remorgaged his farm, and our building, the lot that I had bought and in fact every thing we both owned and we signed notes for it. Mr Smith at the Kemmerer Savings bank that held the notes kept after me to pay up the interest at least I told him I was doing every thing I could but would write to Carl and see if he could help for he had left every thing for me to face. I wrote that letter to Carl and his reply was this:--

If Mr. Smith's word is final we will have to sell the Pavilion for what we can get and I will have to sell enough of my farm to pay the balance, it makes no difference for you are broke".

I took the letter and showed it to Mr. Smith, he said, "why don't you buy him out?" Mr. Smith I have nothing to buy with, if you will go to all the people you owe and ask them to take you for the bill and release Carl and can get someone to sign a note of seven hundred and fifty dollars that I hold here and tell Carl to leave his place as is for a while I think we can see a way out".

I did that and they all told me they would do that, the total amount of our indebtedness was about eleven thousand dollars, we owed the big bill for the building, seven hundred and fifty for accumulated interest and some money Carl got to buy lumber and other things to make benches with, we owed the Frontier Supply Co for the installation of our electric wiring and lamps over two hundred dollars, we owed Sullivan and Bickley for Plumbing and fixtures and we owed for our band organ six hundred dollars, we owed for the floor machine one hundred and sixty dollars, we owed Carl's brother-in-law nearly one hundred for our hot air furnace, we owed for our

piano, I could go on and on anyway we owed about eleven thousand dollars all together. I went down to my good old friend Al Payne at Opal and asked him if he would sign the sevenhundred and fifty dollar note? He looked at me with a smile and said, You are in a bad spot but I will sign it with you even if I have to pay it" I took it back to Mr. Smith who told me to write Carl and tell him you are buying him out, which I did and Carl issued me a quit claim deed so now it was all mine, Cook's Pavilion as I named it with all the responsibility to pay all those debts, I told Carl in the letter I expected him to return the roller skated he had taken for they belonged to the Company and the hot water tank and sink that he had ready to ship to himself was to remain with the Pavilion, he said, "he was only taking what belonged to him" but I disagreed so at last he gave me the skated and the sink and hot water tank remained too.

My little Swede wife and I worked even harder than ever, there were many traveling orchestras traveling over the country who would furnish the music for dances for a percentage of the gate receipts or tickets which we took advantage of, we kept on with our skating business, I worked for the Wellman brothers at carpenter work in the day time then one time I saw advertisements for a Rawleigh salesman I think that was in 1919 and I decided to try and get that job selling Rawleigh products.

In order to get credit for my first shipment of products it was necessary for me to get two responsible men to sign my contract so I went again to my friend Al Payne who signed it for me

and George Shurtleff happened to come down selling a car load of apples so I asked him to sign for me, which he did and I sent my first order for products amounting to a little over two hundred dollars and got my sample case and set out by visiting my close neighbors first the first day I sold about twwelve dollars worth the first day, I had ordered to much of the slow sellers and to little of the fast sellers but I kept going to every house in Kemmerer then to diamondville and when I called at the home of Mr Wideman he asked me if I had a linsce to sell in Diamondville? I said, "No but if it is necessary I will get one" You better see the town Marshal he said, so when I called at Pete Kirkwood's house who was marshal I asked him about it and what he would do to me? His reply was in his scotish brogue, "Not a gud dum thing, only I would warn ye not t let any out with out y get yur money." I went on to Oakley on foot for I had no other way to travel but when I went to Cumberland I alway caught the coal train in the mornings that had a coach attached to accomidate any one who wished a ride, I would reach No.1 Cumberland about ten in the morning and begin my canvas of the camp, in the winter months when the snow got deep and it was hard to get to Kemmerer I did pretty well. I generally stayed over night at Mrs Patterson's boarding house and in the morning I would walk the mile and a half up to No2 camp real early so I could finish there before the night train left for Kemmerer.

One trip I remember I did not finish at No. 2 so I stayed over night at the Buchanan boarding house and the next morning I started for Blazon about

seven or eight miles away and finished there that evening and started for home through deep snow, for I had walked on the rail road tracks that far but from there I must take to the sleigh road, At one of my customer's homes in Cumberland I had bough a pop bottle full of moonshine whisky and as I trudged along I had drank about half of it, I had walked about three miles when I looked back and saw a team and sleigh comming my way, it proved to be old man Turk from Diamondville and his man Toney also Ben Cawlishaw who was the boss at the star mine near Blazon, they called "jump on" which I did and the four of us soon finished my bottle, it was a very cold day but it did not take long to get to Diamondville where Mr Turk turn- the team over to one of his men and we went inside, he not only had a store but a bar too and he gave us all two or three drinks and then Cawlishaw and I started for Kemmerer a mile to the north, when I reached home George Shurtleff was there together with Alice his wife who had come along with him to sell a carload of apples, after I had my supper I went down to help my wife with the skating but when I put my skates on they would not work right so my wife said, "you better go up and get in bed I will take care of the business, I had got just a little to much to drink. Alice my sister stay- ed with us for about a week while George went on to Rock Springs to despose of the rest of his apples, and we certainly had a wonderful time for that week and I beleive Alice enjoyed her stay with us, we put on roller skates and held her up because she had never done anything like that before and little did we know that we would never see her alive again for when she went back to

their home she was a victim of the Flu that was spreading over the country after world war one and is burried by the side of her sister Hilma in Weiser.

George and Alice had lived together happily for many years and raised a family of four boys and one girl of whom *All* have passed away except two boys Ray and Lionel.

After I had made trips to Sublet, nine miles to the north walking nearly always at least one way because I had customers on the road up taking orders for my products I would hire a team and sleigh from the livery stable and deliver them and sometimes when the weather was good I would take my family with me for the ride and my son Fonso became a great help in delivering packages that each had the bill attached and those that payed the bill were marked paid and the ones not paid were marked only deliered, which were collected on my next trip.

My wife and I were very proud of out two lovely children especially when t they were small and their Mother took great pains to keep them neatly dressed at all times, their school house where they went to school was only a block away and we could see them from our upstairs window as soon as they came out of the school house and when we had dances in our hall those two were always the first couple to get on the dance floor and sometimes in the day time when not in school they would play for hours on their roller skates in the hall, those were wonderful happy days for us all. We had visitors too some times, my Father-in-law came out once to try to get his citizenship papers so he would be able to file on the piece of land he lived on because it

had been surveyed and was ready for entry. I went with him to see Judge Arnold to act as an interpreter as best I could for he could not talk in English to the Judge and I wished to explain why he was so anxious to get his papers so he could file on his home in the mouth of Dry creek canon. The Judge was very kind and although Dad could not speak a word in the English language he became an American citizen.

Later my brother Emer and his family of a wife and three children came and stayed with us for about a month, they also had two small dogs. Emer's first wife and the mother of his child that is buried in the grave lot beside my parents had been divorced from him and he had got acquainted with this widow in Illinois and married her, so the children were not his own. My own Mother also came and visited with us a couple of times and Axel who was having a terrible time with his hay fever and Asthma on account of the dandelions that he was allergic to at his home's ranch came and stayed with us for a while.

Our children did very well in school and both graduated from the Kemmerer high school with good grades and as soon as they left school they went to work.

Fonso worked at several jobs, he helped to wire the present Lincoln County Court house, the large school house at Frontier, He worked with the men who placed the concrete pavement along Topaz street from main to the hospital the pay check he received he gave to his Mother and all of us together managed to pay off our many debts. Carl had sold a part of his ranch and paid the bank three thousand dollars but that did not

help us much because I now had to pay him the rent money instead of the bank which was eight percent at first and later the bank raised my interest rate to nine percent and Carl heard about it so he too wanted nine percent and before I finally paid the interest amount to him the interest that I was compelled to pay him alone amounted to sixteen hundred dollars and later I heard he had made the remark "he had lost a thousand dollars on the Pavilion deal" I don't know how he figured it for he had never paid any other cash than above statements.

The wagon I brought to Kemmerer I sold to Ed Banks and the buggy stood out in the weather until the top became wrinkled and spoiled, I don't remember what I ever got for it but I must have got something for the last time I saw it was down in the old livery stable in Diamondville, the one set of harness I sold to a Mr. Fagnant at Lava, Idaho.

In 1921 I bought a Ford roadster with one seat and the garage where I bought it sent a boy along with me the first day to show me how to drive and crank it to start the motor, I would first set the two levers on the steering wheel, one for the gas the other for the spark and get out in front where the crank was and as I whurled the crank I must also pull on a small wire to help choke it, sometimes it would start easy and some cold mornings it would not, I would get hot water and pour on it and after a while I would get it started. I don't know how far I traveled with that little car for there was no speedometer on it so there was no way to tell but I used it several years, One time Carl came out to Kemmerer on some legal matters

and my wife and Mona went back with him to Afton to see my wife's parents for a short visit and Fonso and I were to follow in a day or two in the ford I had bought a yellow box or cabinet that fit on the rear of the ford with large drawers where I could haul a good supply of products so we took a good load and started for Starvalley, on the way we stopped at several places to try to sell some of them, as we were going down Nugget canion the ruts where the wheels traveled were very deep and as we drove along we met some other travelers that were in the same ruts so it was necessary for me to get out of that rut, which I tried to do and at last succeeded as I gave the car an extra amount of gas but it went clear off the road into a small gulch in the willows, the men in the other cars laughed at me so heartily that it sorta made me mad but as I looked at them I reconixed my old sheep foreman Dave Martin and as they hauled me back on the road I forgave them.

We drove on but spent a little to much time selling and we were very late in getting to the top of the devide as it began to rain, we stopped and put on our side curtains and as we were goind down the other side we slid off the road as it had become very slippery and had considerable trouble getting back on the road and it was after dark when we got to my Father-in-laws place. The next morning when I attempted to start my car I found my gas tank was completely empty so we had to take Babe the bay mare that belonged to them and the buggy and go to twon three miles and a half away to get some gas. After a few days visit we all went back home in the ford.

In 1922 we bought another ford touring car with two seats which gave us more

room which we used to go to Starvalley with, we thought more in style but it never proved to be as good a car as the roadster. One day Fonso and Mona wanted to go down on the flats for some eggs that we had been buying from a man by the name of Ordeanis, Fonso was not quite old enough to drive a car although he could drive as well as I could, I cautioned him to be careful and when he crossed the small bridge so he would miss it so when he came to the bridge he had turned his car over to the left a little so as to do as I had said, just as he did this a big Reo car driven by Sam Sarifielf from Cumberland attempted to pass him on the right and wrong side and just as they were on the bridge he struck them broadside and tipped that little ford completely upside down with the radiator on one bank and the yellow box on the other making a sort of bridge and the children went down in the small stream and mud but fortunately they were not hurt seriously and Sarifielf brought them home to us and told the story, I got Bob Rose the attorney and went down intending to make him pay the damages which he admitted was his fault for trying to pass on the wrong side of them and told me he was going down to Rock springs and when he came back he would compensate me for the damages and the lawyers told me I had no case because Fonso was not old enough to drive and it really was my fault for letting him drive and as Sarifielf had promised to do what was right I let go at that but we never saw Sarifielf again and it cost me eightyfive dollars to get and repair my roadster.

We had considerable experiences with traveling orchestras, one time some boys came over from Lakota resort where they were employed to furnish music for dances there to play for a dance at our hall and they had a very large but old car that they all together with their instruments rode in but when they attempted to drive it back again something was wrong with it, they could get it to go backwards but not forwards, after some time they decided to travel home backwards and because I was curious I followed them until they passed over the tunnel hill, where they decided it was too hard to drive it home that way, I felt sorry for them and told them I would take them in my two fords so they would get back to their job on time for the dance that night at Lakota.

Fonso had become old enough to drive so he took the touring car and I took the roadster, my wife and Mona went with us and we all crowded into the two cars. Below Laketown my roadster got a flat tire (this was a very common occurrence) but we repaired that and traveled on to Lakota where my half brother's daughter Vie was the owner and operated the resort, she was glad to get her orchestra back in time for the dance and she gave us one of her camp cabins to stay in over night without charge. Next day we returned home, Fonso and his Mother in the touring car and Mona and I in the roadster and on the way we were sorta fooling and racing each other home, first one would be ahead then the other. Just as we were over the tunnel hill and it was raining pretty hard I got another flat, Fonso was ahead of me and I called to him but apparently they did not hear me so I had to get out in the rain and take the wheel off and repair

the tube and replace the rim and pump it up again, we had no such thing as an extra wheel with a tire on but generally an extra rim in case of a blowout.

That orchestra left their old car at the Carollo Dairy at the foot of the tunnel hill and the last time I saw it was still there, when we reach home I asked them why they did not stop and help me with the tire? they said "We didn't hear you call."

Very often we had orchestras come to our place to play for dances when the dance would be failure and they not having money enough to buy gas and food with and many times they would ask me to let have money to get by with, one such orchestra was a large crowd of all colored folks that were flat broke before the dance and wanted me to let them have two dollars to eat on, there must have been at least twenty of them, some of them women and children and the boss came to me and told me of their circumstances so I let him have the two dollars, he went down town and bought two cans of pork and beans and some other cheap food and brought it back, I had a drag made of three or four two inch plank maybe about five feet long with blanket stretched over it to drag my floor with which I sprinkled kerosene on and it was a rather a dirty mess as I had layed it out side by the hall, they took that drag and layed their food on it as a table and seemed to enjoy their meal very much, then they went on a parade of the town with one big fellow about seven feet tall leading them, as they circled the triangle it began to rain and they took shelter under one of the door ways of a saloon and kept on with their music so loud that the whole town could hear them and that night we

had a fair sized croud, their music was not the best but it was sure loud.

At another time we had an orchestra that called them selves "Marlor's Highlanders" a scotch croud and a very good orchestra, for variety they would play their bagpipes, they came to us one labor day and the miners over at Frontier were celebrating with foot races and other such entertainments, Marlor had an extra man with them that trip who was a sort of fellow that would do most anything to get a croud so he went over to the celebration, as he stood in the croud some one of the committee said, "this is the program but who is going to do the announcing?" this fellow spoke up and said, "I am a pretty good announcer if you want me to i'll do it for you" they told him "alright" and each time he announced any event he would add "Don't for get the big dance at Cook's Pavilion tonight" we had done some advertising but what he did seemed to be more effective for that night we did a wonderful business. Many of these orchestras returned again and again to play at our hall and generally made us some good money but we surely needed it for there was always something we had to use it for to keep the business going, the building had never been painted until I bought and painted it which was a very big job and the flat roof gave us an awful lot of trouble those soldiers running over the roof had punched small holes in the tar paper roof and the wood truses that Huff made were beginning to sag down so much that the water when it rained would not run off and any small hole even from a nail would make a big leak on our floor, we kept patching and never knew where it would

come through next, I sent an order to steel Company and bought six pairs of one inch truss rods each rod was twenty-five long so two of them would be long enough to reach across the building under each truss, Don't remember how much they cost me but the rail road freight on them was fiftythree dollars, by using a heavy jack I raised the trusses a little and helped a lot also made it much safer when the roof got covered with maybe two feet or more of snow, I tightened the rods with heavy turnbuckles and later I bought enough roofing paper to reroof the whole building.

Shortly after I took possession during world war one a committee came to me and asked permission to use the hall for a meeting for the public to hear a fellow by the name of Culberson who was talking to the people about the war and the sale of warbonds, I told them I guess it will be alright and I would get an orchestra and stage a dance when the cruds were still there, the fellow came and in his talk I am sure he exaggerated when he said, "The german soldiers were taking small babies of our allies and running their baynets through their bodies and holding them up squirming until they died" he also made some other simular remarks so when he was through the crowd did not feel much like dancing, however I made the announcement "if anyone wanted to get a ticket for the dance they could do so by buying a ticket at the ticket window near the door".

Several did get their tickets and those who did not were again asked to get a ticket at the door, one fellow who was there with another man's wife who had been asked several times to get a ticket and had not done so I met in the upper end of the hall and asked him again

he pulled out a dollar from his pocket and offered it to me which was the price asked but I told him to please go to the ticket window and get it, he put the dollar back in his pocket and kept on dancing. A little later I saw him sitting beside the woman and I went over again and asked him to get a ticket" or quit dancing in my hall, his reply was "I am not going to do either".

Then we will have to force you to leave and put you out, who is going to do it? I am and by that I took hold of him and we scuffled and fell to the floor where I bumped my cheek bone and caused it to bleed a little but I was on top and had almost got my fingers around his throat when someone took me by my feet and dragged me away, the officers were called and he was taken off to jail where he remained the rest of the night and in the morning he was fined \$10.00 for disturbing the peace. I suppose I should have taken the one dollar and let go at that but I was stubborn too and lost my one dollar.

After that we donated our hall for several different occasions and one time we donated the entire proceeds from three nights roller skating business to the war effort, or the red cross.

We were all asked to buy war bonds which we did as much as we could and we were also asked to knit socks for the soldiers, Mrs Queally as head of one of the committees came to our house soliciting our help and my wife suggested she buy a knitting machine, she was interested so she ordered one from some advertisement in the papers and when the machine arrived she wanted us to set it up and start to operate it so we did and got the job for weeks. and knitted many pairs of socks.

400 pair sock