

Robert Berton₉ Cooley b. 15 Oct 1875 d. 12 Dec 1962
Carrie Louella Miller b. 27 May 1893 d. 10 Aug 1973

With supplementary biographies of

[Orville Dale Cooley and Alice Mildred Skinner](#)

[Ronald Delos Cooley and Irene Elva Skinner](#)

[Merton Beth Cooley and Viola Myfanwy Kyffin](#)

[Robert Miller Cooley and Eleanor Newcomb](#)

Written by Daniel Berton Cooley 11th generation New England Cooleys

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The Cooley antecedents of the 11th generation author, Daniel Berton Cooley b. 1939 are: Clifford Coyne₁₀, Robert Berton₉, Robert Reed₈, Andrew₇, Noah₆, Benjamin₅, Benjamin₄, Benjamin₃, Daniel₂, and Ensign Benjamin₁

Robert Berton Cooley (1875-1962) and Carrie Louella Miller (1883-1973)

The Cooley antecedents of the 11th generation author, Daniel Berton Cooley b. 1939 are: Clifford Coyne¹⁰, Robert Berton⁹, Robert Reed⁸, Andrew⁷, Noah⁶, Benjamin⁵, Benjamin⁴, Benjamin³, Daniel², and Ensign Benjamin¹. This biography is about Robert Berton Cooley (10th generation after first generation immigrant, Ensign Benjamin Cooley) and his wife, Carrie Louella Miller.

Twins Robert Berton Cooley and Herbert Merton Cooley¹ were born 15 Oct 1875 near McGregor, Clayton County, Iowa.² Robert was married 3 Jan 1903 in Plainview, Pierce County, Nebraska,³ to Carrie Louella Miller who was born 27 May 1883⁴ near Beaman, Grundy County, Iowa.⁵ He died 12 Dec 1962 in Akron, Washington County, Colorado,⁶ bur. in Otis, Washington County, Colorado.⁷ She died 10 Aug 1973 in Akron, Washington County, Colorado,⁸ bur. in Otis, Washington County, Colorado.⁹

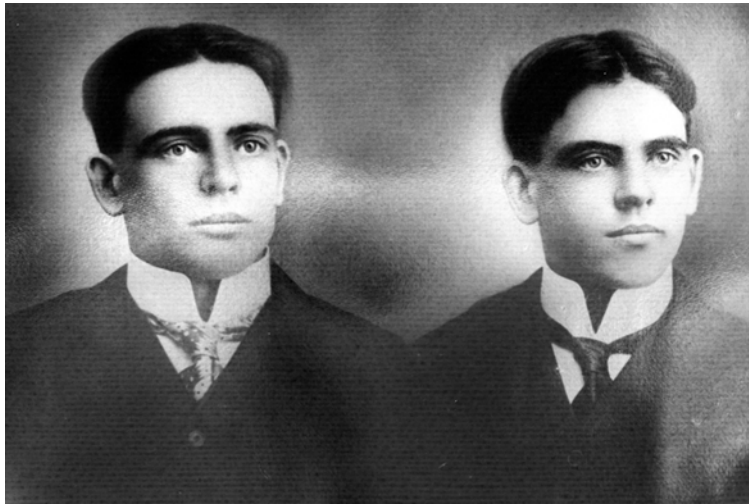


Fig. 1 Merton and Berton about 1895



Fig. 2 Carrie Louella Miller

Children Analysis

- i. **Orville Dale** b. 5 Apr 1903 nr Plainview, Pierce Co, Nebraska;¹⁰ m. 12 Jul 1926 in Otis, Washington Co, Colorado¹¹ to **Alice Mildred Skinner** b. 26 Mar 1905 in Clarence, Shelby Co, Missouri;¹² d. 28 Oct 1996 in Riverside, Riverside Co, California,¹³ bur. 1 Nov 1996 in Pershing Memorial Cem, Limon, Lincoln Co, Colorado.¹⁴ He d. 12 May 1994 in Riverside, Riverside Co, California,¹⁵ bur. 17 May 1994 in Pershing Memorial Cem, Limon, Lincoln Co, Colorado.¹⁶ (See [Appendix I](#) for their biographies)
- ii. **Carlyle Berton**¹⁷ b. 18 May 1905 nr Plainview, Pierce Co, Nebraska; m. never married; d. 10 May 1909 nr Plainview, Pierce Co, Nebraska ae 3yr-11mo-23d; bur. Pleasant View Cem, Pierce Co, Nebraska.¹⁸
- iii. **Leo**¹⁹ b. 17 Feb 1907 nr Savage (Royal), Antelope Co, Nebraska; m. never married; d. 3 Mar 1907 nr Savage (Royal), Antelope Co, Nebraska aged 15 days; bur. unknown probably Antelope Co, Nebraska.
- iv. **Clifford Coyne** b. 15 Jul 1912 in Otis, Washington Co, Colorado;²⁰ m. 21 Jun 1936 in Akron, Washington Co, Colorado²¹ to **Margaret May Sears** b. 23 May 1912 in Akron, Washington County, Colorado;²² d. 18 Jan 1987 in Akron, Washington County, Colorado;²³ bur. Akron Cemetery, Washington County, Colorado.²⁴ He d. 5 Dec 1979 in Akron, Washington County, Colorado;²⁵ bur. Akron Cemetery, Washington County, Colorado.²⁶ See separate biography:

<https://danbcooley.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Clifford-Coyne-Cooley-and-Margaret-May-Sears.pdf>

v. **Robert Miller** b. 20 Sep 1914 in Otis, Washington Co, Colorado;²⁷ m. 28 Jun 1937 in Melba, Canyon Co, Idaho²⁸ to **Eleanor Newcomb** b. 30 Nov 1915 in Melba, Canyon Co, Idaho;²⁹ she d. 13 Jul 2008 in Cañon City, Fremont Co, Colorado;³⁰ bur. Cloverdale Memorial Park, Boise, Ada Co, Idaho;³¹ he d. 4 Nov 1992 in Rawlins, Carbon Co, Wyoming;³² bur. Cloverdale Memorial Park, Boise, Ada Co, Idaho.³³ (See [Appendix IV](#) for their biographies).

vi. **Daughter Cooley**³⁴ b. 23 Jan 1921 in Otis, Washington Co, Colorado; d. 23 Jan 1921 in Otis, Washington Co, Colorado; bur. Otis Cemetery, Washington County, Colorado.

Since Herbert Merton Cooley's and Elizabeth Holliday's children were adopted at an early age by his twin brother Robert Berton and his wife Carrie Louella Miller their data are included here.

Herbert Merton Cooley³⁵ was born 15 Oct 1875 in McGregor, Clayton County, Iowa,³⁶ m. 26 Apr 1905 at Holliday Farm, Knox Co, Nebraska³⁷ to **Jane Elizabeth Holliday**³⁸ b. 20 Mar 1884 Hallifield Estate, Castle Sowerby, Cumberland, England;³⁹ she d. 1 Jan 1908 in Crofton, Knox Co, Nebraska,⁴⁰ bur. Pleasant View Cem, Pierce Co, Nebraska;⁴¹ he d. 4 Nov 1914 near Yankton County, South Dakota by drowning in the Missouri River, body never recovered.⁴²



Fig. 3 Herbert Merton Cooley and Jane Elizabeth Holliday

Children of Herbert Merton Cooley and Jane Elizabeth Holliday

i. **Ronald Delos Cooley** b. 28 Jan 1906 in Crofton, Knox Co, Nebraska,⁴³ m. 20 Sep 1935 in Denver, Denver Co, Colorado⁴⁴ to **Irene Elva Skinner** b. 29 Jul 1907 in Anabel, Macon Co, Missouri,⁴⁵ d. 6 Dec 1990 in Hugo, Lincoln Co, Colorado,⁴⁶ bur. Pershing Memorial Cemetery, Limon, Lincoln Co, Colorado.⁴⁷ He d. 11 Jun 1980 in Denver, Denver Co, Colorado,⁴⁸ bur. 15 Jun 1980 at Pershing Memorial Cemetery, Limon, Lincoln Co, Colorado.⁴⁹ (See [Appendix II](#) for biographies of Ronald and Irene).

ii. **Merton Beth Cooley** b. 7 Dec 1907 In Crofton, Knox Co, Nebraska;⁵⁰ m. 20 May 1929 in Golden, Jefferson Co, Colorado,⁵¹ **Viola Myfanwy Kyffin** b. 20 Jan 1908 in Denver, Denver Co, Colorado,⁵² d. 1 May 1995 in Brush, Ft Morgan Co, Colorado,⁵³ bur. Akron Cemetery, Washington Co, Colorado.⁵⁴ He d. 3 Nov 1992 in Sterling, Logan Co Colorado;⁵⁵ bur. 6 Nov 1992 in Akron Cemetery, Washington Co, Colorado.⁵⁶ (See [Appendix III](#) for biographies of Beth and Viola).

Robert Berton Cooley (15 Oct 1875 - 12 Dec 1962)

Robert Berton Cooley (Bert) and his twin brother, Herbert Merton (Mert), were born 15 Oct 1875 to Robert Reed Cooley (1840-1917) and Stella Alfresine Owen (1850-1920) in McGregor, Clayton County, Iowa "right on the banks of the Mississippi River" as my Grandpa Bert Cooley said. The twins grew up in the McGregor area.

Migration to Nebraska

Some time before 1894⁵⁷ the Robert Reed Cooley family comprising Robert Sr., Stella, Bert, and Mert migrated to Pierce County, Nebraska, where they settled in Plainview.

In another, relevant migration, Samuel Jasper Miller, his wife Mary Ellen Nickerson and their eight children came from Iowa to Plainview, Pierce County before 1896⁵⁸. Among those eight Miller children was Carrie Louella Miller (b. 27 May 1883 in Beaman, Grundy County, Iowa) future wife of Robert Berton Cooley.



Fig. 4 Carrie Louella Miller and Robert Berton Cooley

Bert and Carrie Louella (Lou) were married 3 Jan 1903 in Plainview and later in that same year their first child, Orville Dale, was born. Two other children were born in Plainview: Carlyle Berton (b. 1905) and Leo (b. 1907), but neither survived childhood. After 1907 they moved to McLean, Pierce County, Nebraska⁵⁹ where both taught school. McLean is about 18 miles east of Plainview.

When Bert's twin brother's wife Jane Elizabeth Holliday died 1 Jan 1908 their two children, Ronald Delos, and Merton Beth, were taken in by Bert and Lou and eventually adopted by them.



Fig 5. Brothers Carlyle Berton and Orville Dale and Cousin Merton Beth. Date of picture approximately late 1908.

Migration to Colorado

In late 1909⁶⁰ the Robert Reed Cooley family consisting of Robert Reed himself, his wife Stella Owen, son Glenn Syren, and grandchild Ronald Delos along with the Robert Berton Cooley family consisting of R.B., his wife C.L. Miller, first child Dale, and nephew Merton Beth, migrated to Kit Carson County Colorado. Robert Reed purchased a relinquishment (land that someone else had abandoned) just at the west edge of Flagler and Robert Berton applied for 158 acres about four miles west and five miles north of Flagler.

About the same time, the Samuel Jasper Miller family also migrated to Colorado. All of the Miller children, with the exception of eldest son Odes Bert and Carrie Louella—wife of R.B. Cooley who migrated with the Cooleys—came to the Arickaree-Anton area of Washington County (adjacent northwest of Kit Carson County) where all filed their homestead⁶¹ intentions.

The R.B. Cooley family, according to nephew Beth Cooley, "...was on a homestead nine miles northwest of Flagler and we had [five] years to prove up the claim". Dale Cooley explains: "When we went to the homestead there was a sod house already there [left by earlier squatters]. It was a one-room affair with a cow-chip-burning stove in one end and a bed in the other".

Bert began his career in Colorado as a teacher, earning \$40 per month at the Huntley school about seven miles due north of Flagler⁶² while Lou taught at the Van Patten school at \$35 per month (early sexist compensation).

In 1910, when school was out for the summer, Bert joined his father-in-law Samuel Jasper Miller's threshing crew in which he was selected to run the steam-powered traction engine (see picture below). Since the crops near Flagler had failed in 1910, Samuel had decided to head north where the crops had fared better.

Beginnings of the Otis Colorado newspaper

One day Bert was working about 30 miles north of Flagler near the tiny town of Otis, Washington County, Colorado, where he observed the town did not have a newspaper. At that time there were fewer than 100 people living in Otis. That fall Bert began planning for a newspaper in Otis (his twin brother Merton had already acquired a newspaper in Crofton Nebraska four years earlier).

Beth continues, "The big reason [for starting a newspaper] was that almost all of the settlers were homesteading and the law required that anyone who "proved up" on a homestead had to make a publication in a newspaper in the area. These publications [notices] were published for a period of six weeks and the homesteader had to pay a publication fee of \$5."⁶³



Fig. 6 Samuel Jasper Miller's steam-powered threshing machine

Dale continues, "Bert was fortunate enough to find an empty, one-and-a-half-story building on the main street of Otis (current Washington Avenue) that was located on the east side of the street just south of the yard part of the Akron-Otis Lumber Company. The front two-thirds of the building was used as a printing office and the rear third was partitioned off as bedrooms. There was a small second story that also contained two bedrooms. At the back of the building was a sort of lean-to shack about 15 feet square which was used as a kitchen and dining area. "In order to get into the upstairs apartment it was necessary to go outside, climb a flight of steps and then walk on two, two-by-eight planks laid across the semi-flat roof of the lean-to.



Fig. 7 R.B. Cooley's first home/business in Otis Colorado

"[Our biggest] concern was water for domestic use. There was no municipal water system and those who lived in town had cisterns which were kept full by a man named Fred Bowen who owned a wooden tank on a wagon. It had a hand pump on it and he would deliver you a supply of water for 50 cents", said Dale.

The *Otis Independent*

"Dad started in the newspaper business from scratch", remembered his son, Coyne Cooley: "He started the *Independent* on a \$250 loan [from his brother-in-law, Odes Bert Miller of Iowa]...that was in 1911, and I was born the next year. We had quarters above the newspaper office, so that's what you call being born into the business".

"He bought some used equipment and hired a jack-leg^a printer to start the paper in Otis just to print legals"⁶⁴ said Beth. The first edition (v1#1) of the *Otis Independent* was published on 5 Jan 1911.⁶⁵

The newspaper consisted of four pages, the front and back was "home print", that is, the type was set in the shop in Otis and printed there. The two inside pages were called "patent" which were supplied by the Western Newspaper Union (Kansas City, 1890-1982).

During the early years of the newspaper in Otis, their Flagler property was occupied by Lou, Dale, and Beth during the winter months. They were putting in the time necessary⁶⁶ to prove up on the homestead. Lou taught school, Dale went with her, and Beth was "farmed out" to a neighbor lady (a babysitter).

Dale states, "[We] traveled in an open buggy drawn by a single mare who sometimes engaged in the capricious practice known as "balking"...a situation where the horse refuses to move when asked to do so. It is very exasperating".

^a Lacking skill or training, amateur (a jackleg carpenter) - Merriam-Webster

The Cooleys prove up

In March of 1913 the Cooleys proved up their Flagler claim then moved to Otis for good. However, the formal acquisition of the land did not occur until 28 Feb 1914. See [Appendix V](#) for details of the acquisition.

Bert's twin brother Mert dies in accident

Tragically, in November 1914 Herbert Merton, Bert's twin brother, was drowned in an automobile accident on the Yankton (South Dakota) Pontoon Bridge over the Missouri River. With the untimely death of his brother, Bert sold the *Otis Independent*, left Otis and moved to Crofton, Nebraska where he continued the operation of Merton's newspaper, the *Crofton Journal*.

As time went on, Bert began to have problems with "hay fever" (severe allergies) in that northeast corner of Nebraska near the Missouri River. With the climate adversely affecting him he disposed of the *Crofton Journal* in 1916 and the family returned to Otis arriving on Election Day^b, Nov 14, 1916.⁶⁷

Back to the Otis Independent

Bert re-acquired the *Independent* and resumed operation of the newspaper he had founded. As it turned out, the two-years (1915 and 1916) Bert had spent in Crofton was the only time the Cooley family was not involved in a Northeastern Colorado newspaper during the span 1911 through 1976.

At some point after their return from Nebraska, Dale relates that the newspaper office in Otis was moved "to a make-shift shop--adjoining William Whiterhurst's store on the north--[which] had been used as a place to grind and mix feed". At this new location Bert bought a typesetting machine that "was better than doing it by hand, but not much" according to Dale.

About a year later, a clothing store located in the old grocery store adjoining the *Independent* office on the south caught fire and was destroyed (no date given). Dale relates, "The newspaper was saved by the fact that the north wall of the store [and south wall of the newspaper office] was of solid concrete and the fire failed to penetrate".

Not long after that, the chance arose to obtain a building that had been built out as a drugstore for Justin Hay on the east side of the street across from *the hotel*.⁶⁸ Shortly, the shop was moved to that location, the third for the *Otis Independent* since R.B. Cooley started the newspaper.

Dale relates, "In 1917 we built our new house in Otis and we took the high school principal as a roomer. I was 22 years of age and just out of the University of Denver."⁶⁹

A short stay in Monte Vista⁷⁰ Colorado

With the assistance of his wife, sons, and nephews, R.B. Cooley continued to operate the Otis newspaper until 1928 when he traded the newspaper to J.S. Tohill for the *Monte Vista Tribune*. Tohill came to Otis to operate the *Independent* but soon sold it to John W. Graves who operated the newspaper from 1929 to his death on 22 Feb 1982. (Graves was closely associated with the Cooleys for over 50 years).

Bert assumed operation of the *Tribune* in Monte Vista but a few months later a better opportunity⁷¹ arose in Akron Colo., county seat of Washington County, whose economy was bustling in the prosperity of the pre-depression years. Endnote more about Monte Vista Tribune.

^b Woodrow Wilson (D) vs. Charles Evans Hughes (R). Wilson took both Colorado and the USA

The Akron News-Reporter

Bert sold the *Monte Vista Tribune* and came to Akron in February of 1929 with his wife Lou, three sons, Dale, Coyne, and Bob, and two nephews, Ronald and Beth.

Akron was a railroad town and farming community of about 1200 residents. At the time it boasted two newspapers, the *Akron Semi-weekly News* and the *Akron Reporter*. Bert purchased both newspapers which were consolidated resulting in the single newspaper, the *Akron News-Reporter*.⁷² Its first edition was published March 7, 1929.

This inaugural edition reported details of a coroner's inquest into death of an Akron man and his son in a train accident, a fire at the Washington County Fairgrounds in Akron, and carried a front page picture of the inauguration of President Calvin Coolidge and Vice President Charles G. Dawes. See front page of first edition [Appendix VII](#).



Fig. 8 L to R, Bert, Ronald, Beth seated at the Linotype, and Lou standing

The picture in Figure 8 was probably taken in the early 1930s not long after the *Akron News-Reporter* published its first issue in 1929. Seen on the left side of the picture just behind Bert's right is the Lee handfed, flatbed press on which the ANR was published for a few years. Eventually a Miehle ('mee-lee) flatbed press was acquired which would be located about where Ronald is standing. Also there was a Chandler & Price handfed job press where Lou is standing..

Dale and Ronald sent to Limon Colorado, Bob moves to Idaho

Since having five sons working on a small weekly newspaper was overkill Bert purchased the *Eastern Colorado Leader* in Limon, Lincoln County, Colorado in 1937 and Dale and Ronald were sent down there to assume its operation. Soon they acquired the *Genoa Sentinel*, the two papers were consolidated, and the *Limon Leader* was born.

Youngest son, Bob exited the *Akron News-Reporter* in 1943 and moved with his wife Eleanor Newcomb and son Richard to Mountain Home, Idaho, where he started the *Mountain Home News*. It wasn't long before Bob began to feel the ill-effects of arthritis that made it difficult for him to operate a Linotype, so the family moved to the drier climate of Arizona. There he eventually became a Professor of Journalism at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff in 1976.



Fig. 9 Beth, Dale, Bert, Bob, Lou, Coyne, and Ronald about 1955

In 1972 the *Limon Leader* was sold and Dale and Ronald went into retirement. Seven years later the *Akron News-Reporter* was sold which marked the end of the Cooley family newspaper dynasty "since none of the children was interested in getting into the business", Coyne said. That was mostly true until Jim, son of Ronald, took over the *Oxford (Nebraska) News* and is still publishing the newspaper in 2013.



Fig. 10 Bert and Lou at a Colorado Press Association meeting in Denver about 1960

Robert Cooley's life comes to an end

After a brief illness, Robert Berton Cooley died in the Washington County Hospital in Akron on 12 Dec 1962 aged 87. He was buried in the Otis Cemetery.⁷³

His wife, Carrie Louella Miller died in the Nursing Wing of Washington County Hospital 10 Aug 1973 aged 90. She was buried beside her husband in the same cemetery.⁷⁴

Carrie Louella Miller (27 May 1883 – 10 Aug 1973)

Carrie Louella Miller was born 27 May 1883 in Beaman, Grundy County, Iowa,⁷⁵ the daughter of Samuel Jasper Miller and Mary Ellen Nickerson.⁷⁶ Carrie was the fifth of nine children: (i) Child (1874-1874), (ii) Odes Bert (1875-1943), (iii) Frank Greene (1878-1958), (iv) Walter Vivian (1880-1961), (v) Carrie Louella (1883-1973), (vi) Elvira Ann (1885-1912), (vii) Emma Frances (1889-1945), (viii) Robert Nickerson (1893-1958), (ix) Letta May (1896-1986).⁷⁷



Fig. 11 Samuel Jasper Miller-Mary Ellen Nickerson family about 1910

Some time before 1896⁷⁸ Samuel Miller moved from Calhoun County, Iowa to Pierce County, Nebraska. Coincidentally, Robert Reed Cooley (whose son, Robert Berton would become the husband of Carrie in 1903) migrated from Clayton County, Iowa to Pierce County, Nebraska before 1894⁷⁹

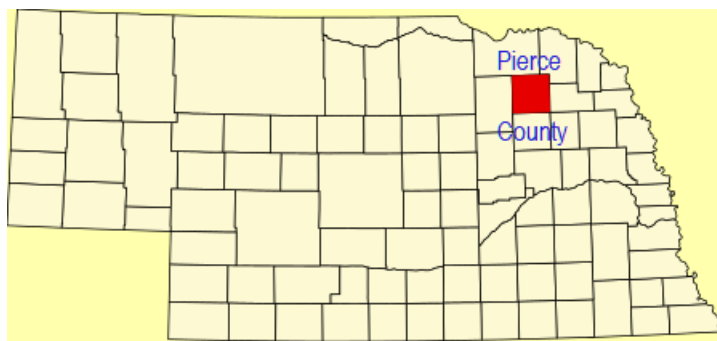


Fig 12 Pierce County location in Nebraska



Fig. 13 Key Miller/Cooley towns in Nebraska

Carrie, better known by her nickname, "Lou", was married to Robert Berton Cooley in Pierce County, Nebraska on 2 Jan 1903.⁸⁰ Later that year, their first child, Orville Dale, arrived. Sadly, tragedy was to follow with their next two children. Carlyle Berton, "Lyle", was born 18 May 1905 near Plainview but died in childhood on 10 May 1909. Leo Cooley was born 17 Feb 1907 but survived only 14 days to 3 Mar 1907. The young couple didn't attempt another child until 1912 when Clifford Coyne was born followed by Robert Miller in 1914. The last attempt was in 1921 when a female child was stillborn.

Migration to Colorado

In 1910, three families in northeastern Nebraska immigrated to the high plains of northeastern Colorado: The Robert Berton Cooley family comprising Bert, Lou, Dale, and nephew Merton Beth took up a homestead four miles west and five miles north of Flagler in Kit Carson County. The Robert Reed Cooley family consisting of R.R., Stella, his wife, and grandnephew Ronald Cooley bought a relinquishment just west of Flagler. The Samuel Jasper Miller family comprising S.J., wife Mary Ellen, and six children, homesteaded in Washington County near Arickaree about 30 miles north of Flagler.⁸¹



Fig. 14 Samuel Jasper Miller's sod house near Anton Colorado (about 1912)

In order to fulfill the requirements of the Homestead Act of 1862, individual properties were required to be occupied for at least half a year per year for five years during which improvements were required. At the conclusion of a five-year stay, title would be transferred from the Government to the homesteader.

Dale Cooley writes, "When we went to the homestead, there was a sod house already there [similar to SJ Miller's "soddy" shown above]. It was a one-room affair with a cow-chip-burning stove in one end and a bed in the other."⁸² Bert began teaching, earning \$40 per month at the Huntley school about seven miles due north of Flagler while Lou taught at the Van Patten school at \$35 per month".

Dale continues, "In the summer of 1910 when school was out, Bert joined [Dale's] Grandpa S.J. Miller's threshing crew to run the engine. Since the crops near Flagler had failed in 1910, Grandpa Miller had decided to head north where the crops fared better that year. One day Bert was operating Grandpa Miller's threshing machine (See Figure 6 above) about 30 miles north of Flagler near Otis, Colo., when he observed the town didn't have a newspaper. That fall Bert began planning for a newspaper in Otis".

Bert and family took up residence in Otis and the *Otis Independent* was born with its first issue published on Jan 5, 1911. Nevertheless, the Homestead Act requirements remained the same so Lou, Dale, and Beth still lived out on the prairie at least six months of each year until 1913 when the property was finally proved up.

Life on the Colorado prairie was not a bed of roses for the kids and mom, who continued teaching. Beth had to be "farmed out" (taken to a babysitter) every morning and Dale accompanied his mom to school. Quoting the Dale Cooley paper⁸³

One day we came home and my mother was about to lay Beth on the bed when she heard the warning, characteristic "w-h-r-r-r" of the rattlesnake. She leaped backwards, went to the stove and got the poker with which she made short work of the rattler. How it got to into the house and under the bed, we never knew. Of course, it was an old soddy and so we just had to think that in had been up in the roof area and had fallen down [inside].

Another day, my mother went to the barn to get the mare "Bess" out to hitch up to go to town when she again got the "message" from a rattlesnake. This one was near the feedbox in the barn. She came to the house, got the "hog-laig"^c (hand gun) and went back out and, with a couple of well-placed shots, got rid of that threat. She was an excellent shot with a revolver because she had practiced a lot.

Upon another occasion we were coming home from school one evening and she saw a hawk on a fence post. She stopped the horse, got out the trusty .32 and knocked the hawk off the post. She had to admire her own marksmanship so she went up to examine the bird. When she got to it and was reaching down to pick it up the hawk, in its death throes, drove its filthy claws into her leg just above the ankle. She bled very freely and when we got home she got out the old reliable turpentine and Epsom salts and gave herself the treatment. She was afraid of what she called "blood-poisoning" and what we know today as tetanus.

Lou Miller-Cooley was presiding officer (Worthy Matron) of the Order of the Eastern Star.⁸⁴ She received a pin for 50 year membership in the organization in July 1966. In 1967 she became a life member of the Martha Washington Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. She was also an active member of the Akron Fortnightly Club, serving as president for one term.⁸⁵



Carrie Louella Miller and Robert Berton Cooley ca 1955

^c **Hogleg** - A large heavy caliber handgun originally used to refer to a Colt Walker or similar sized revolver. Still in use today when referring to a big bore, long-barreled handgun , typically a single action revolver

Carrie Louella Miller Cooley died 10 Aug 1973 aged 90 after being a patient almost four years in the nursing wing of Washington County Hospital in Akron Colo. She was buried alongside her husband Robert Berton Cooley in the Otis Colorado Cemetery.



Gravestones in Otis Cemetery, Washington County, Colorado

Appendix I

Orville Dale Cooley was born April 5, 1903 in a small house in Plainview, Nebraska. He started school at McLean, Nebraska primarily because his father, Robert Berton, had a job teaching there. It was the year Halley's Comet was visible (1910) and he went outside each evening to see it. He recalls his mother (Carrie Louella Miller) telling him he would see it again "...but I would be an old man when I did. I did see the comet return in 1986 but I didn't feel nearly as old as my mother said I would!"

He went to Colorado with his parents March 1, 1910. They had taken a homestead nine miles northwest of Flagler. They had tried to farm but the weather was bad 1910-1911 so both parents were employed as rural teachers in schools north of Flagler. R.B. taught at the Huntley School and Lou taught at the Patten School.

In 1911 Dale's father (R.B. or "Bert") started a newspaper in Otis, Colorado, "The Otis Independent". In 1914 with the untimely death of his father's twin brother, Herbert Merton ("Mert") who ran a newspaper in Crofton, Nebraska, Bert sold the Otis Independent and the family moved to Crofton to continue the running Mert's business.

Bert eventually could not tolerate the climate in eastern Nebraska, having severe allergies, so in November 1916 the family repurchased the Otis Independent and once again took up residence in that tiny Washington County town.

Dale was employed in his father's newspaper but business "was something less than sensational" so, as eldest child in the family, he worked other jobs around the town. He was a cream tester, a soda jerk in more than one drug store, a harvester (pitching wheat to a threshing machine), and a railroad extra on a gang consisting of two Native Americans, 71 Mexican nationals and an Italian boss. Later he got a job in a clothing store where he "something of the cleaning and pressing business, aside from waiting on trade."

With the help of a Methodist minister Dale obtained a scholarship to the University of Denver and started school in the fall semester of 1923. While still attending DU he married Mildred Skinner whose father, L.E. Skinner, operated a general merchandise store in Otis. They had gone to school together but Dale says they were not childhood sweethearts. They were married for almost 68 years.



Alice Mildred Skinner and
Orville Dale Cooley

Dale and Mildred had two children, Robert Leonard, born 25 Jan 1933 in Otis, Colorado, and Jill Irene, born 17 Jul 1935 in Akron, Colorado.

Dale and his cousin Ronald D. Cooley owned and operated The Limon Leader from 15 Feb 1937 through 1 Jun 1972. Dale was very active in state press affairs. He was a member of the board of directors of the Colorado Press Association for several terms and then served as vice president in 1960 and president of the organization in 1961. Also, he was a life member of the Denver Press Club.

He was active in Republican politics serving as county chairman for two terms and as a precinct committeeman and delegate to state conventions numerous times.

He was one of the founders of the Lincoln County Colorado Historical Society serving as a co-editor of a county history, "Where the Wagons Rolled".

Dale was a member of the AF and AM Masonic Lincoln Lodge #146 in Limon, Colo; a 50-year member of Kappa Sigma social fraternity; a member of Sigma Delta Chi professional journalist fraternity. He was a member of the Limon board of education for two terms during which time it was instrumental in acquiring 15 acres of land upon which school buildings and athletic facilities now stand.

Dale was active in the organization of the Limon Chamber of Commerce in 1946 and he was a member of the Limon Town Board for two terms.

On August 5, 1989 Dale and Mildred moved to Riverside, California to be near their son and daughter and other family members who had preceded them to the area.

Dale died 12 May 1994 and his body was returned to Limon to be interred at the Pershing Memorial Cemetery with Masonic graveside services. – By Dale Cooley probably written in the 1980s.

Alice Mildred Skinner was born 26 Mar 1905 in Clarence, Shelby County, Missouri. She started school there but in 1916 the family moved to Lafayette, Boulder County, Colorado and then a year later to Otis, Washington County, Colorado. Mildred finished high school in Otis, graduating in 1923.

The fall of 1923 Mildred entered Colorado Teacher's College (now the University of Northern Colorado) in Greeley, Colo. She majored in education and in two years received a Life Certificate to teach. She married Dale Cooley on 11 July 1926. They had attended high school together but they had never dated until after graduation. The marriage lasted 68 years.

Her teaching career began in the fall of 1926, in Haxtun, Colo., in the fall of 1926. She kept her marriage secret because women were not allowed to be married and teach in the Haxtun school system. Meantime, her husband, Dale, attended Denver (Colo) University in pursuit of a journalism degree.

In 1927 Dale and Mildred returned to Otis where they both taught in Otis schools for the next six years. They had two children, Robert Leonard born at Otis on 25 Jan 1933 and Jill Irene born in Akron, Colo., 17 Jul 1935. On 15 Feb 1937 the family moved to Limon, Colo., where he and his cousin, Ronald Cooley, began operation of the *Limon Leader* newspaper. Mildred was bookkeeper and Social Editor for the newspaper and she also sold advertising.

In 1941 she was one of the first organizers of the Colorado Press Women and served in 1943 as the state treasurer. Mildred belonged to the Mayflower Order of the Eastern Star, the Limon Women's Golf Club, the Thursday Bridge Club, the Colorado Education Association, and the National Education Association (serving as Colorado's representative for improving public relations).

In the fall of 1953 Mildred, aged 48, started her second career in teaching returning to the Limon Public School System. During the ensuing years, she attended evening and summer school and in 1962 attained her AB degree^d at the age of 57. She continued to teach in the Limon schools until she retired at the age of 66. She was also an amateur artist beginning this pursuit in her 70's.

For several years she and her sister, Irene, cared for their ailing parents in Limon and for the last several years of Dale's life (whose health had seriously deteriorated) she was a constant caretaker and companion where they lived in Riverside, Calif.

Alice Mildred Skinner died 28 Oct 1996 in Riverside, Riverside County, California. She was buried in Pershing Memorial Cemetery in Limon, Lincoln County, Colorado.

^d The difference between an AB (Artium Baccalaureus) degree and a BA (Bachelor of Arts) degree largely comes down to the naming conventions used by various colleges and universities. Both degrees fall under the Bachelor of Arts umbrella and are awarded in similar disciplines, such as humanities, social sciences, and some natural sciences.

Appendix II

Ronald Delos Cooley was born in Crofton, Nebr., 28 Jan 1906, son of Herbert Merton (Mert) Cooley and Elizabeth Holliday. Late the next year a second child, Merton Beth Cooley, was born (7 Dec 1907) shortly after which Elizabeth died of complications. Ronald went to live with his grandparents Robert Reed Cooley and Beth was taken in and raised by his uncle Robert Berton Cooley and his wife, Carrie Louella Miller.

Ronald attended grade school in Crofton, Nebr., and high schools in Flagler, Colo. and Otis, Colo. While in Crofton he helped his father, Mert, in his newspaper business then continued to help at his Uncle Bert's newspaper, the Otis Independent, in Otis, Colo. in 1911. He learned to operate the Linotype at the Independent and with his early immersion in newspapering, Ronald decided to continue in the business.

He first attended the University of Denver then the University of Colorado in Boulder Colo. where he attained a bachelor's degree in journalism. While at the University, Ronald was a member of Kappa Sigma social fraternity and of Sigma Delta Chi journalistic fraternity where he served as president in his senior year.

After graduation he took a newspaper job with Smith-Brooks Printing Company in Denver. In succeeding years he also worked at the Record Stockman, the Denver Post, and one summer, at the Steamboat Springs Pilot. Eventually he returned to Akron, Colo., to work at his Uncle Bert's newspaper, the Akron News-Reporter.

In Denver he was married to his high school sweetheart, Irene Skinner, on July 20, 1935. They had two children, Luanne b. 22 May 1940, and a son, James Ronald b. 16 Dec 1943. Luanne was married to Larry Winkelman of Dodge City, Kan., and James was married to Maria Morrison of Holdrege, Nebr.



Irene Elva Skinner and Ronald Delos Cooley

On February 15, 1937, Ronald and his cousin Dale moved to Limon, Colo., to operate the Eastern Colorado Leader as a partnership (set up by Bert). About two years later the paper was combined with the Genoa Sentinel and renamed the Limon Leader. The partnership continued until June 1, 1972, when the newspaper was sold to Norman R. Sunderland and Associates.

"During the Eisenhower administration, Ron [was offered] the job of Postmaster at Limon. Before accepting the position Ron lost a lot of sleep while pondering the multitude of details and irritations that would be a part of a postmaster's daily life. 'I got as far as the swearing-in part of it, then decided not to take it', Ron recalled" - *The Denver Post*, 3/4/1972, p12.

Ronald served as Mayor of Limon for two terms and as a city councilman for several terms. In 1955, Ronald and Dale, were honored as "Editors of the Year" by the University of Colorado Department of journalism. He was a member of the Colorado Press Association while active in the newspaper business and served on the board of directors, as well as in many different committees.

He was a member of the Limon Lions Club of which he was a charter member, a member of the First United Methodist Church of Limon, and an honorary member of the Limon High School "L" Club.

Ronald Delos Cooley died January 11, 1980 at age 73. He is buried at Pershing Memorial Cemetery (Limon Cemetery), Limon, Lincoln County, Colorado.

Ronald's autobiography appeared in the *The Limon Leader* Vol 69, No 3, Thursday, Jan 17, 1980

Irene Elva Skinner was born July 29, 1907 in Anabel, Macon County, Missouri, second daughter of Leonard and Ethel Skinner. While she was still a child, the family moved to Otis, Colo, where her father owned and operated a general store and her mother was postmaster.

She attended Otis Grade School and Otis High School graduating in 1925. She enrolled in Colorado Teachers College in Greeley (now University of Northern Colorado) graduating in 1929. In 1930 she began her teaching career in the Denver public school system.

On July 20, 1935 she married Ronald Delos Cooley, also an Otis High School graduate. They were married in Denver, Colorado, where they lived until 1937. In that year Ronald joined his cousin, Dale Cooley, in Limon, Colorado where they formed a partnership in the operation of the weekly newspaper, the Eastern Colorado Leader. Later it was combined with the Hugo, Colorado newspaper to finally be called the Limon Leader.

On April 22, 1940 their first child, Luanne, was born in Limon. In 1941 the family moved back to Denver. On Dec 16, 1943 their second and last child was born, James Ronald, in Denver, Colorado. In 1945 the family returned to Limon.

Irene taught third grade and elementary music in the Limon Public Schools and she gave private piano lessons.

Ronald and his cousin Dale owned and operated The Limon Leader from 15 Feb 1937 through 1 Jun 1972 at which time, he retired. In the same year, Irene also retired. The couple traveled extensively after retirement visiting various places in the United States and, later, Canada and Jamaica.

Irene spent her last few years at Prairie View Care Center and she died Dec 6, 1990 in Lincoln Community Hospital in Hugo, Colorado.

Appendix III

Merton Beth Cooley was born 7 Dec 1907 in Crofton, Knox County, Nebraska to Herbert Merton (Mert) Cooley and Elizabeth (Lizzie) Holliday. His mother died from complications during childbirth. Beth died at Sterling Colorado Regional Medical Center on Tuesday, 3 Nov 1992 aged 84.

His father was editor and publisher of the *Crofton Journal* so Beth and his elder brother, Ronald literally grew up in the newspaper business. On 14 Nov 1914 a car in which their father was one of four passengers plunged off the Yankton pontoon bridge over the Missouri River drowning Mert and another passenger while two of the passengers survived. Mert's body was never recovered.

Four years before the accident Beth's uncle and twin brother of Herbert Merton, Robert Berton Cooley (Bert) and his wife Carrie Louella Miller had homesteaded near Flagler Colorado. In 1912 Bert had started the *Otis Independent* in Otis, Colo., 59 miles north of Flagler. Upon learning of his brother's death, Bert sold the *Independent* and he and his wife and two sons, Dale and Coyne, moved back to Crofton to take over operation of the newspaper. They immediately took in and raised Beth and his elder brother Ronald as members of the family.

Beth was still just a small boy at this time but he was already working in the family business. "I could read upside down when I was about four or five, and I was hand-setting type before I went to school. To get the paper out, we were hand-setting type day and night. Us kids never knew anything else."

In 1916, because of a worsening allergy condition, Bert sold the *Crofton Journal* and the family returned to Colorado to resume operation of the *Otis Independent*, this time with two more "sons" in tow.

Beth attended school in Otis, graduating from Otis High School in 1927. In those years, Beth played trumpet in a local dance band called "The Night Hawks" becoming an excellent performer. He also proved to be a fine football player.

After graduation, Beth attended the University of Colorado for a short time before moving back to Otis to help with the newspaper. Beth was married to Viola Myfanwy Kyffin on 25 May 1929, in Otis. They had one son, Herbert Merton.



Merton Beth Cooley and Viola Myfanwy Kyffin

His Uncle Bert continued to operate the *Independent* until the fall of 1928 when, in a trade, he swapped the *Otis Independent* for ownership in the *Monte Vista Tribune*, Monte Vista, Colorado. Within a few months, Bert disposed of the *Tribune* and the family moved to Akron, Colo., where he bought the *Akron Semi-Weekly News* and the *Akron Reporter* combining the two papers on February 28, 1929 into the *Akron News-Reporter*. Its first edition was published on 7 Mar 1929.

Beth was an adept Linotype operator and he had a natural bent for mechanics. Through the years he became known as one of the best repairmen on all printing machinery and was occasionally called upon for repair work at other small-town newspapers in northeastern Colorado such as the *Yuma Pioneer* and the *Wray Gazette*.

On the retirement of the original owners of the *Akron News-Reporter*, his Uncle Bert and Aunt Lou, Beth and his cousin, Coyne Cooley, became the sole owners of the *Akron News-Reporter*, which they continued to operate until 1979. All in all, Beth had worked in the weekly newspaper business almost 68 years, from a four-year-old kid working as a "printer's devil" in the back room of the *Crofton Journal* to the sale of the *Akron News-Reporter* in 1979.

In keeping with his interest in mechanics, he had a life-long love affair with the automobile (his favorite, Buick).

Beth was a member of the First Presbyterian Church and a charter member of the Akron Rotary Club.

On February 26, 1989, Beth was honored as a Paul Harris Fellow at a combined meeting of Districts 544, 545, and 547 at the Hyatt Regency DTC Hotel in Denver, Colo.

Funeral services were held Friday, Nov. 6 1992 at the First Presbyterian Church in Akron with Rev. Kyle Weir officiating. Interment followed in the Akron Cemetery with Yeamans & Gordon Memorial Chapel in charge of arrangements.

Viola Myfanwy Cooley of Akron, Washington County, Colorado, died Monday 1 May 1995, aged 87, at Sunset Manor Nursing Home in Brush, Morgan County, Colorado. Funeral services were held Thursday, 4 May 1995 at the First Presbyterian Church of Akron with Rev. Kyle Weir officiating. Interment followed in the Akron Cemetery with Yeamans & Gordon Memorial Chapel of Akron in charge of arrangements. She had been a resident of Washington County since 1929.

Viola Myfanwy Kyffin was born 20 Jan 1908 in Denver, Colo. to Seth James Kyffin (1881-1967) and Julia S. Oram (1882-1959). She was united in marriage to Merton Beth Cooley on 15 May 1929 in Golden, Jefferson County, Colorado. To this union was born one son, Herbert Merton (1933-1979).

Viola attended her first year of college at Colorado School of Music in Denver, Colo. The next year she enrolled at Colorado State Teacher's College in Greeley, Colo., (now University of Northern Colorado) where she earned a degree in elementary education. She began teaching in the Akron School District in 1930. She served as principal of Akron Grade School for 14 years, school librarian for 13 years, and she taught 8th grade English. Viola retired in 1973 after a career in education spanning 43 years.

Viola was honored by the Colorado Education Association (CEA) at its 47th annual Delegate Assembly at the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs, Colo. She received the CEA Annual Award for significant contributions to education in Colorado.^e

Viola held membership in many organizations, including the Order of Martha Washington No. 47, an organization loosely associated with Freemasons; Order of the Eastern Star (OES)^f in Akron, Colo, of which she was a member for 51 years; Akron Book Chatter Club, Delta Delta Delta Sorority, ETA Bridge Club, and the First Presbyterian Church of Akron, Colo, where she played piano and organ for 60 years.

Hobbies she enjoyed were caring for her rose garden, playing bridge with her friends, and playing the organ and piano.

Those preceding her in death were her husband, Merton Beth, her son, Herbert, and one brother, Al Kyffin; four brothers-in-law, and two sisters-in-law.

Survivors include her daughter-in-law, Donna Cooley of Akron; one brother, Maurice Kyffin of Lakewood, Colo, Mildred Cooley of Riverside, Calif., and Eleanor Cooley of Boise, Idaho; four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.^g

^e The *Denver Post*, Monday, April 9. 1973, Colorado Springs

^f OES is affiliated with the Freemasons and was established in 1850

^g *Akron News-Reporter* v. 85 no. 11, Thursday May 11, 1995 Akron, Colo.

Appendix IV

Robert Miller Cooley was born 20 Sep 1914 in Otis, Washington County, Colorado to Robert Berton Cooley and Carrie Louella Miller. He attended Otis Grade School and Akron High School graduating in 1933.

He entered the University of Colorado (CU) in Boulder beginning in the fall of 1933 and received his baccalaureate degree in June 1937 in journalism.

In 1935 he met Eleanor Newcomb at CU where she, too, was studying journalism. They were married 1 July 1937 in Melba, Canyon County, Idaho. Shortly after their marriage they returned to Colorado where he began work with the family-owned newspaper in Akron, Colo., the *Akron News-Reporter*. They lived for one year in an apartment in his parent's home in Akron until mid-1938 when they moved to a house on Railroad Avenue and present-day Date Street (one block east of Colorado State Highway 63).



Robert Miller Cooley and Eleanor Newcomb

Later they bought the Crutchfield house on present-day Custer Street directly west of his brother, Coyne Cooley's house. In 1943 he joined the war effort but after a brief stint in the United States Army, he was discharged for health reasons. When he returned to Colorado he was requested to take the position of Chief of the Rationing Board in Greeley, Colorado. They rented out their Custer Street home in Akron to Nelson Sears and Maude Barnhouse (the parents of Margaret Sears Coyne's wife) and moved to Greeley, Colo.

After a short stay in Greeley they moved to Limon, Colo. to help his brother, Dale, publish the *Limon Leader*. They were there until June 1945 when they moved to Nampa, Idaho. In January 1946 they bought and began operating the *Mountain Home News* in Mountain Home, Idaho.

Because of his worsening arthritic condition (earlier misdiagnosed as lead poisoning from being around hot-lead Linotype machines) in 1953 he elected to move to the drier climate of Arizona. They resided in Tempe in rented quarters from November 1953 to September 1954 while they had a new home built in west Phoenix on Mulberry Drive. During this time he taught journalism and English at Glendale School District while attending Arizona State University where he obtained a Master's Degree in Journalism.

In July of 1963 the family moved to Reedley in the central valley of California where Robert became Director of Public Information at Reedley College. Just a year later in July of 1964 they moved to Flagstaff, Arizona, where he accepted the position of Chairman of the Journalism Department and Director of Public Information at Northern Arizona University.

He retired in 1976 and moved back to Idaho with his wife, Eleanor, where they settled in the relatively new Indian Lake subdivision just south of Boise.

He was a member of Sigma Delta Chi, a society of professional journalists; Phi Delta Kappa, an education fraternity; Kappa Delta Pi, an honorary education fraternity; Kappa Sigma, a social fraternity. While in Mountain Home, Idaho, he was a member of Masonic Lodge #30, A.F. & A.M.

Eleanor Newcomb was born 30 Nov 1915 in Melba, Canyon County, Idaho to Lewis Elmer Newcomb (1887-1977) and Helen Alice Prisk (1889-1956). She attended Glendale Grade School and Melba High School, graduating in 1934.

She enrolled in the College of Idaho in Caldwell, Idaho, for one school year, 1934-1935 then she transferred to the University of Colorado (CU) in Boulder for the semester beginning in the fall of 1935 where she pledged and joined the Chi Omega sorority. Her first date at CU was with her eventual husband, Robert M. Cooley. She continued with her studies in journalism for another school year (1936-37). She also became a member of the Greek, women's, professional journalistic society, Theta Sigma Phi.

Shortly after her second year at CU she returned home to Melba, Canyon County, and was married 1 July 1937 to Robert Miller Cooley. They returned to Colorado where they lived for one year in an apartment in his parent's home in Akron until mid-1938 whereupon they moved to a house on Railroad Avenue and present-day Date Street. Later they bought the Crutchfield house on present-day Custer Street directly west of his brother, Coyne Cooley. In 1943 her husband joined the war effort but after a brief stint in the United States Army, he was discharged for health reasons and, upon his return home he was requested to take the position of Chief of the Rationing Board in Greeley, Colorado. They rented the Custer Street home to Nelson and Maude Sears (the parents of Coyne's wife, Margaret Sears Cooley) and moved to Greeley.

After a short stay in Greeley, they moved to Limon, Colo., to help his brother, Dale, publish the Limon Leader. They were there until June 1945 when they moved to Nampa, Idaho. In January 1946 they bought the Mountain Home News in Mountain Home, Idaho. Eleanor worked at the newspaper writing local and society items, doing occasional reporting assignments, and bookkeeping.

While in Mountain Home she was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary and a member of Daughters of the Nile, the women's side of the Shriners a member of which was her father, L.E. Newcomb.

Because of her husband's worsening arthritic condition in 1953 they elected to move to the drier climate of Arizona. They resided in Tempe in rented quarters from November 1953 to September 1954 while they had a new home built in west Phoenix on Mulberry Drive. While they lived in Phoenix, Eleanor did housekeeping and, in the summer, helped with job printing chores for the Glendale High School district where her husband taught school.

In July of 1963 the family moved to Reedley in the central valley of California where her husband became Director of Public Information at Reedley College. Just a year later in July of 1964 they moved to Flagstaff, Arizona, where Bob had accepted the position of Chairman of the Journalism Department and Director of Public Information at Northern Arizona University.

Eleanor was society editor for the *Flagstaff Daily Sun* for several months. She joined Sigma Delta Chi, a professional journalism society. She also worked in the admissions office of NAU and was appointed editor of the *Pine*, the alumni magazine of Northern Arizona University.

Upon the retirement of her husband in 1976 they moved back to Idaho where they settled in the relatively new Indian Lake subdivision just south of Boise. Eleanor was a member of the Episcopal Church of Boise and a member of the Boise Bishop Rowe Guild, a social and community organization of the Episcopal Church.


Appendix V

After a specific land area is "proven up" according to the Homestead Act of 1862, the owner acquires a "land patent" for the property. A land patent is a form of letters patent assigning official ownership of a particular tract of land that has gone through various legally-prescribed processes like surveying and documentation, followed by the letter's signing, sealing, and publishing in public records, made by a sovereign entity. The land patent itself so becomes at law the title to the land defined within specified boundaries.

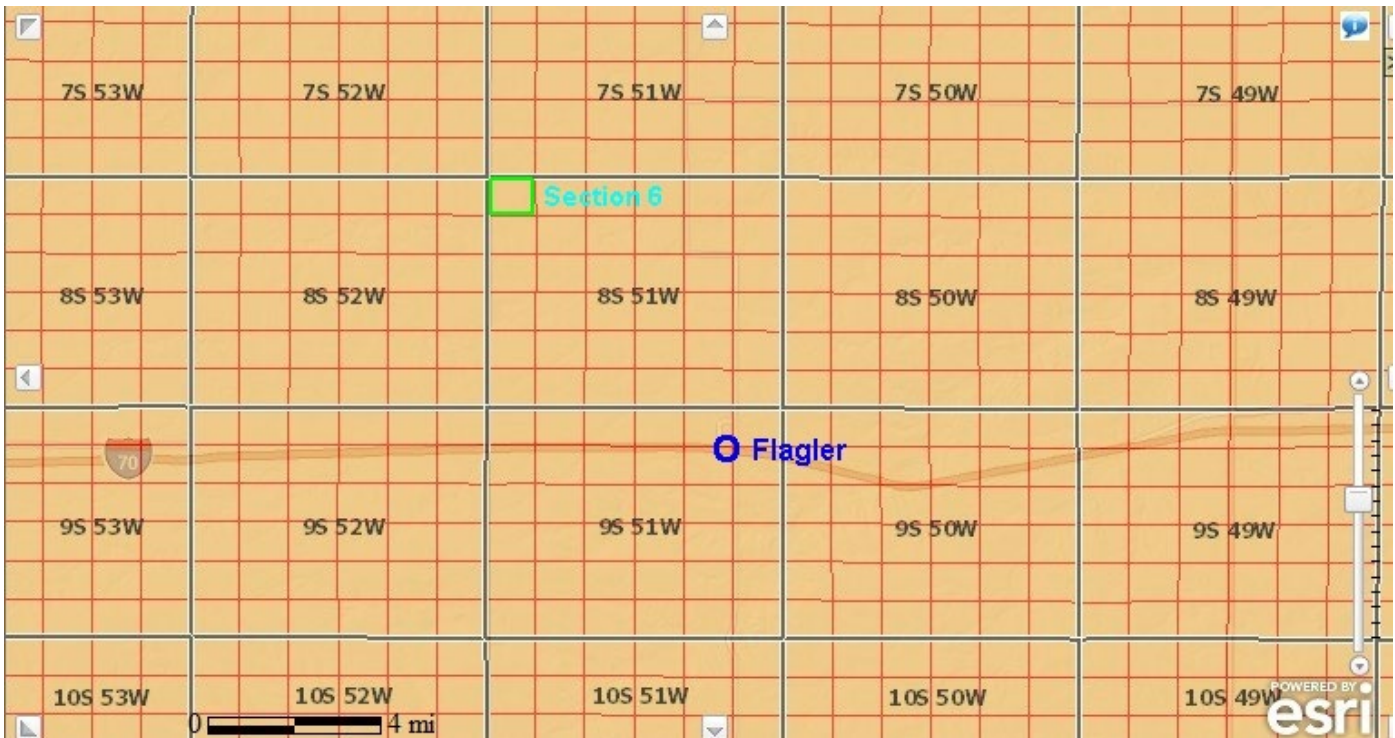
Here is Bert's official land patent when Woodrow Wilson was president.

Hugo 09555	4-1003-B.
The United States of America, To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting:	
WHEREAS, a Certificate of the Register of the Land Office at Hugo, Colorado,	
has been deposited in the General Land Office, whereby it appears that, pursuant to the Act of Congress of May 20, 1862,	
"To Secure Homesteads to Actual Settlers on the Public Domain," and the acts supplemental thereto, the claim of	
Robert B. Cooley	
has been established and duly consummated, in conformity to law, for the southwest quarter of Section six	
in Township eight south of Range fifty-one west of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Colorado, containing one hundred fifty-eight and fourteen-hundredths	
acres,	
according to the Official Plat of the Survey of the said Land, returned to the GENERAL LAND OFFICE by the Surveyor-General:	
NOW KNOW YE, That there is, therefore, granted by the UNITED STATES unto the said claimant the tract of Land above described;	
TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said tract of Land, with the appurtenances thereof, unto the said claimant and to the heirs and assigns of	
the said claimant forever; subject to any vested and accrued water rights for mining, agricultural, manufacturing, or other purposes, and	
rights to ditches and reservoirs used in connection with such water rights, as may be recognized and acknowledged by the local customs, laws,	
and decisions of courts; and there is reserved from the lands hereby granted, a right of way thereon for ditches or canals constructed by the	
authority of the United States.	
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I, Woodrow Wilson	
President of the United States of America, have caused these letters to be made	
Patent, and the seal of the General Land Office to be hereunto affixed.	
GIVEN under my hand, at the City of Washington, the TWENTY-EIGHTH	
(SEAL)	day of FEBRUARY In the year of our Lord one thousand
	nine hundred and FOURTEEN and of the Independence of the
	United States the one hundred and THIRTY-EIGHTH.
	By the President: <i>Woodrow Wilson</i>
	By <i>M. O. LeRoy</i> Secretary,
	<i>L. L. Lamar</i> Recorder of the General Land Office.
RECORD OF PATENTS: Patent Number	389012
6-2177	

Here is Bert's entry on the General Land Office's website (<https://gloreCORDS.blm.gov/>)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR		PRIVATE CLAIMS		BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT							General Land Office Records	
Image	Accession	Names	Date	Doc #	State	Meridian	Twp - Rng	Aliquots	Sec. #	County		
	389012	COOLEY, ROBERT B	2/28/1914	09555	CO	6th PM	008S - 051W	E1/2SW1/4	6	Kit Carson		
							008S - 051W	Lot/Trct 6	6	Kit Carson		
							008S - 051W	Lot/Trct 7	6	Kit Carson		

And here is the location of his land with reference to Flagler.



THE AKRON NEWS-REPORTER

VOLUME XIX

AKRON, WASHINGTON COUNTY, THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1929

NUMBER 1

JUNIOR CLASS PLAY MAKES A BIG HIT HERE

The Patsy's junior class play put on last Thursday evening at the grade school auditorium, was well attended and most heartily received. To mention one who took part would be unfair unless all were given their equal share of praise.

Miss Helen Lindell, the director, has unerring accuracy when it comes to choosing the right person to fill the required part.

We laughed at "Patsy" (Charlotte Evans) sympathized with "Pops" (John Goussier) wept with "Ma" (Mary Jackson) became enraged with "Gracie" (Helen McCabe).

Between the second and third acts Morris Shook president of the Junior class, presented Miss Lindell with a gorgeous box of candy in token of their appreciation for her services in behalf of the play.

Miss Lindell, in a graceful speech of thanks, made clear the fact that she enjoyed very much working with and training these youngsters.

The matinee for the grade school children was given Friday afternoon instead of Thursday, as first planned.

Under the direction of Miss Dorothy Douglas, supervisor of music in the high school, a concert will be given this (Thursday) evening in the grade school auditorium, beginning at eight o'clock.

This opera, "The Torsaders," is given by members of the different glee clubs of the high school, and is a musical comedy.

Miss Irving leaves After successful term As the county nurse

Miss Jennie Irving, county nurse, who has been in Washington county for the past four months, left Friday for Denver.

Miss Irving will return for several days and will go on to Erie county where she will remain for month.

Miss Irving's success in her county has been remarkable, and it is to be hoped that she will be returned to us next year.

Edward Koser and his brother-in-law, John Bishop, returned Monday to Omaha, Nebraska, after having been called here by the seriousness of Edward's father, Charles Koser. Mr. Koser is not now expected in health.

Introducing the "Akron News-Reporter"

Herbert Hoover Becomes President

Although a slight drizzle was falling and skies were sullen, during the inaugural services of the thirtieth president of the United States, thousands of citizens gathered to witness this ceremony, and gave Herbert Hoover a rousing ovation.

Mr. Hoover was sworn into office by Chief Justice Taft, up to that moment the only living ex-president of the U. S. The oath was administered under the shadow of the capitol dome.

Mr. Hoover promised an investigation which would include the method of enforcement of the 18th amendment.

He expects to call a special session of his new congress to deal with farm relief and tariff revision.

In the summing up of his address, Mr. Hoover named what he considered important measures, of which enforcement of laws, economic public expenditure, expansion of public works, promotion of welfare activities affecting home and education, avoiding policies which would involve us in foreign controversies, were in the new cabinet, the old congress, which was no more than that, and the new congress, now to be called into special session, were among those assembled in the inaugural stands.

President Coolidge, with his cabinet and nearly all the members of the new cabinet, the old congress, which was no more than that, and the new congress, now to be called into special session, were among those assembled in the inaugural stands.

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One Student From Akron Makes High Grades at State U.

Ranks in Upper Ten Per Cent of Classes in Grades for Fall Quarter at Colorado University.

Boulder, Colo.—One student from Akron earned grades during the fall quarter in the College of Arts and Sciences of the University of Colorado that placed her in the upper ten per cent of the 1,642 students in the college according to official figures announced today.

This analysis of grades was authorized by the faculty for the purpose of revealing the industrious students and bringing credit where credit is due.

The student from Akron who attained the distinction of being placed in the upper ten per cent, her class and her grades are as follows:

College of Arts and Sciences: Junior, Mildred A. Waters, 38.65.

Conrad Libsack Injures His Right Ankle While Practicing Basketball

Conrad Libsack, one of the star players on the Akron High School team, met with a very painful accident Monday evening, while practicing in the gym.

"Conny" slipped on another player, causing him to turn his right ankle, badly bruising the ligaments. This resulted in a dislocation as the accident rendered him unable to take part in the game between the school and the town team.

Both men suffered badly burned feet, and Ed's hands and face received burns also.

Their injuries are not serious, however, and they will soon be able to return to work.

The R. B. Cooley family have rented the Lon McGuire house north of the H. J. School and expect to move in this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Sumner Grant and son, Douglas, Wyoming, arrived Tuesday evening, for a visit with Mrs. Grant's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Fairer.

Seventeen Lions met Wednesday noon at the Burlington Hotel to enjoy their weekly luncheon.

G. F. Cameron gave several speeches on the banquet, which were well received.

Mr. King of County Agent Foster's office gave an interesting talk on marketing wheat.

Mr. Perkins made a brief speech concerning an official auto guide for the Colorado and New Mexico roads, before the Brook Community Club, before the Fort Morgan and Sterling Lions Clubs and which he will present before the Merino Community Club next Tuesday evening.

At the close of the address Mr. Colburn, an engineer on the C. B. & Q. expressed his thanks to Supt. Stewart, saying it was one of the best if not the best, talks he had ever heard. The Owahs, to show their appreciation to Supt. Stewart gave him a rising vote of thanks.

FATHER AND SON ARE INSTANTLY KILLED AT RAILROAD CROSSING AS FREIGHT TRAIN BACKS INTO TRUCK WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Fire at Fairgrounds Saturday Morning

Accident occurred, signaled him to stop, and that the whistle was sounded and that he also signaled the car and truck not to attempt to cross the tracks and that when he noticed the car coming despite his warning, he called to them to stop.

Engineer R. H. Opie testified that he sounded the whistle before backing up; that he got a stop signal, then a signal to back up and then another signal to stop.

After considerable deliberation the jury brought in the following verdict: "That Bert E. Pribble met his death about 8:30 p. m. on March 6, 1929, at the east crossing of the C. B. & Q. railroad company, as a result of a collision with a C. B. & Q. freight train, which struck the truck driven by his father, Bert E. Pribble."

The surviving members of the family are Mrs. Pribble and six children all younger than Elton. Funeral services conducted by Rev. J. E. Harris will be held in the Methodist church, Friday afternoon, March 8th, at 2:30. Interment will be made in the Akron cemetery.

Mrs. Pribble is prostrated with grief over her sudden and terrible loss.

Sheriff W. B. Justice and Coroner E. E. Day were called and the bodies were taken to Yeaman's in charge of undertaker Walter T. Gough.

Thursday morning at 8:00 o'clock a coroner's inquest conducted by deputy district attorney Frank Allen, was held, with attorney Sam Chalkow representing the Pribble family and attorney Geo. Twombly of Ft. Morgan representing the railroad company. A jury of six men, Tom Combs, Fred Rowland, Russell Queen, Frank Gates, Claude O'Dell and Beau Bean was summoned, witnesses were called and testimony taken.

According to testimony given by James Warden and Wood a brakeman was stationed on the south side of the tracks, but no warning was given, either by signal with a lantern, or any other way. Both witnesses stated that they did not see the brakeman's light until they were across the track.

Joe Girardin, the brakeman stationed at the crossing, said that he had just returned the switch to allow the train to back in on the other track, had signalled the engine to stop, then to back up, and then, when he found

Coroner's Inquest Held in District Court Room Thursday Morning; Testimony Of Witnesses Questioned Exactly Opposite; Verdict Returned by Jury Does Not Place Blame For the Tragedy.

Bert E. Pribble, 38 and his son, Elton, 13, were instantly killed at the grade crossing in the east part of town Wednesday evening about 8:30 when their truck was backed into and completely demolished by a train that was switching in the yards.

Mr. Pribble was hauling logs for E. J. (Jack) Warden who in company with Guy Wood was driving to the stock yards to load the logs for shipment. Warden and Wood were ahead in a closed car, closely followed by Pribble and his son in a truck. Upon reaching the railroad tracks at the crossing they stopped to wait until a freight train pulled over the crossing.

As soon as the train was in the clear, Wood, who was driving, crossed the tracks, supposing that the train would continue on its way and Pribble followed. Mr. Warden looked back to see if the truck was following and noticed that the lights of the truck were shining on the wheels of a train which was moving backward, about that time the crash came. Both men left the car and rushed back only to find that the truck was slowly pushing the demolished truck along the track. They were powerless to act and could only watch until the train of 22 cars came to a stop. It was then that they found the bodies of the victims in the wreckage of the truck wedged under the wheels of the flat car. It was necessary to lift the car with jacks in order to extricate the bodies from the wreckage.

Both men suffered badly burned feet, and Ed's hands and face received burns also.

Their injuries are not serious, however, and they will soon be able to return to work.

The R. B. Cooley family have rented the Lon McGuire house north of the H. J. School and expect to move in this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Sumner Grant and son, Douglas, Wyoming, arrived Tuesday evening, for a visit with Mrs. Grant's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Fairer.

Seventeen Lions met Wednesday noon at the Burlington Hotel to enjoy their weekly luncheon.

G. F. Cameron gave several speeches on the banquet, which were well received.

Mr. King of County Agent Foster's office gave an interesting talk on marketing wheat.

Mr. Perkins made a brief speech concerning an official auto guide for the Colorado and New Mexico roads, before the Brook Community Club, before the Fort Morgan and Sterling Lions Clubs and which he will present before the Merino Community Club next Tuesday evening.

At the close of the address Mr. Colburn, an engineer on the C. B. & Q. expressed his thanks to Supt. Stewart, saying it was one of the best if not the best, talks he had ever heard. The Owahs, to show their appreciation to Supt. Stewart gave him a rising vote of thanks.

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On the Passing Of The Reporter

After almost twenty months of ownership of the Akron Reporter the undersigned is transferring the title and ownership of its physical equipment to Mr. R. B. Cooley, formerly of the Otis Independent. Mr. Cooley having also purchased the Akron News, is merging the two newspapers into a single entity under one name.

This is a commendable move and should have the whole-hearted support of all the citizens of the community, advertisers and subscribers.

During whatever time remains on your subscription, you will receive the new consolidated paper and there will be no loss to you, but a gain in that the paper will be bigger, better than any one newspaper could afford to be.

The new name and his family already enjoy the confidence and high esteem of the people of Washington county through long years. They are deserving of the loyal and substantial support of every citizen, since the interest of the best newspaper is closely interwoven with every activity of the city and county.

For the many companies that have been extended to the Reporter management during the past twenty months and for the many friendly contributions shown, we are most sincerely grateful. To hundreds of people, in Akron and over Washington county this is extended as a personal message of our gratitude.

S. M. JOHNSON.

Hoover and Curtis are Inaugurated with Impressive Ceremonies



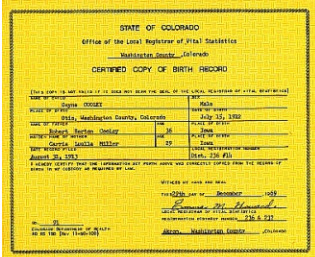
Front Page of Very First News-Reporter, March 7, 1929

18 Memorial ID 114415197 managed by Daniel B Cooley



19 See endnote 15 for Carlyle Berton. Same for Leo but there is even less about Leo. Dale knew very little about him and Grandma really didn't want to talk about him.

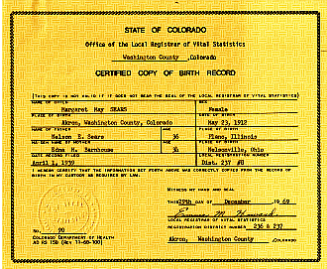
20 Clifford Coyne Cooley, State of Colorado Birth Record 236 #19 nr 91



21 State of Colorado, County of Washington Marriage License nr 2129



22 Margaret May Sears State of Colorado birth certificate 237 #8 nr 90



23 Margaret May Sears State of Colorado, Certificate of Death, State File nr 87001682

24 <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/70816564/margaret-may-cooley>

25 Clifford Coyne Cooley State of Colorado Death certificate, Dist. 237-25; see my write-up of my father and my mother for these images

26 <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/70816562/clifford-coyne-cooley>

27 Robert Miller Cooley World War II Draft Registration Card, Serial nr 642, Order nr 98

REGISTRATION CARD
U. S. ARMY
Serial Number: 642 ROBERT MILLER COOLEY 98
Address: 250 GEYER AVE AKRON WASH COLO.
Age: 18 Y. M. Date of Birth: 26 OCT 1915 Place of Birth: GOLDEN COLO. U. S. A.
Maiden Name: MRS ELEANOR NEWCOMB COOLEY WIFE
Address of Next of Kin: 250 GEYER AVE AKRON WASH COLO.
Name: R. B. COOLEY
Address: 61 BRIDLEY AVE AKRON WASH COLO.
Signature: Robert Miller Cooley

28 Idaho County Marriage Records, 1864-1967; Marriage License and Certificate No. 27, No. 11593, Instrument No. 178204

MARRIAGE LICENSE AND CERTIFICATE No. 27
INSTRUMENT NO. 178204
No. 11593
Marriage License
Know All Men by These Certificates That my legally ordained Minister of the Gospel, authorized by the rites and usage of the church or denomination of Christian, Hebrew, or religious body of which he may be a member, or any Judge or Justice of the Peace, or competent officer to whom this may come, he not knowing of any legal impediment therein, is lawfully authorized and empowered to solemnize the rites of matrimony between
Robert Miller Cooley
of the County of Washington, State of Colorado
and
Eleanor Norma Newcomb
of the County of Ada, State of Idaho, and to certify the same in said portion, or other of them, under his hand and seal, in his ministerial or official capacity, and thereafter he is required to return his certificate in due following, as hereto annexed.
In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal at Boise, Ada County, Idaho, this 26th day of June, A. D. 1947.
Minister: Stephen Utter
By: Josephine Smith

29 Eleanor Newcomb - Idaho, U.S., Birth Records, 1861-1919; File nr 35672; additional number 556-030-014-799; Given name spelled Eleanore; Registration district 2006/7

556-030-284-799
PLACE OF BIRTH: Boise, Idaho
COUNTY OF: Boise
CITY OF: Boise
REGISTRATION DISTRICT NO.: 7
FILE NO.: 35672
FULL NAME OF CHILD: Eleanor Newcomb
SEX OF CHILD: Female
DATE OF BIRTH: Sept 30 1915
FATHER: Louis L. Newcomb
MOTHER: Helen M. Beck
RESIDENCE: Boise
BIRTHPLACE: Idaho
OCCUPATION: Wife
CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDING PHYSICIAN OR MIDWIFE:
I hereby certify that I attended the birth of the above named child, in the normal birth, on the date above stated, and that the child was born alive and breathed its first breath, and that it was born full term and viable.
Signed: Dr. J. D. Colver
Mina Hartfield Deputy

30 US Social Security Death Index 1935-2014; SSN 527606403

31 Findagrave Memorial ID 31775908 Eleanor Newcomb



32 Social Security Administration; Washington D.C., USA; Social Security Death Index, Master File SSN 521123093; last residence 83709, Boise, Ada, Idaho

33 Findagrave Memorial ID 31775901 Robert Miller Cooley



34 This child was stillborn and was buried in the Otis Cemetery. A short news item said: A baby girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. R.B. Cooley, Sunday, January 23 [1921]. The little body was laid to rest in the Otis Cemetery the same afternoon, a prayer being offered by Rev. J.S. Dapp at the home and a short service at the cemetery. - *Otis Independent*, Thursday, January 27, 1921. Lou Miller Cooley later referred to her as "Gwen" however this child was not officially named at birth



35 See <https://danbcooley.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/herbert-merton-cooley-biography-Adobe1.pdf>

36 Herbert was a twin thus Robert Cooley's World War II Draft Registration Card (Serial nr 373; Order nr A397; Date of Registration Sept 12, 1918) is sufficient birth information

REGISTRATION CARD		REGISTRAR'S REPORT																									
SERIAL NUMBER: 373	ORDER NUMBER: A397	REGISTRATION DATE: 5-2-32	REGISTRAR: [Signature]																								
REGISTRANT'S NAME: Robert Merton Cooley		DESCRIPTION OF REGISTRANT																									
PERMANENT HOME ADDRESS: Otis, Washington, Colo.		<table border="1"> <tr> <th colspan="2">HEIGHT</th> <th colspan="2">BUILD</th> <th colspan="2">COLOR OF SKIN</th> <th colspan="2">COLOR OF HAIR</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Tot</td><td>Feet</td> <td>Shoe</td><td>Shoe</td> <td>Blue</td><td>Blue</td> <td>Blue</td><td>Blue</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td><td>11</td> <td>12</td><td>14</td> <td>1</td><td>1</td> <td>1</td><td>1</td> </tr> </table>		HEIGHT		BUILD		COLOR OF SKIN		COLOR OF HAIR		Tot	Feet	Shoe	Shoe	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	5	11	12	14	1	1	1	1
HEIGHT		BUILD		COLOR OF SKIN		COLOR OF HAIR																					
Tot	Feet	Shoe	Shoe	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue																				
5	11	12	14	1	1	1	1																				
DATE OF BIRTH: October 15, 1918		<input type="checkbox"/> This person has arms, legs, hands, eyes, or is he substantially physically disabled? No																									
RACE: White		I certify that my answers are true; that the person registered has read or has had read to him his own answers; that I have witnessed his signature or mark; and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:																									
U.S. CITIZEN: Naturalized		Local Board for the County of Washington, State of Colo., Akron, Colorado. (STAMP OF LOCAL BOARD) (The stamp of the Local Board having jurisdiction of the area in which the registrant has his permanent home shall be placed in this box.)																									
PRESENT OCCUPATION: Printer		Date of Registration: September 12, 1918																									
PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT: [Signature]																											
NEAREST RELATIVE: [Signature]																											

37 HM Cooley and Elizabeth Holliday, Nebraska Marriage Records, 1855-1908 (Ancestry.com), Knox County Marriage Records p356, Marriage License nr 2065

MARRIAGE LICENSE.																						
THE STATE OF NEBRASKA, SS. OFFICE OF THE COUNTY JUDGE.																						
LICENSE is hereby granted to any person authorized to solemnize marriages according to the laws of said State, to join in Marriage Mr. <u>Herbert Merton Cooley</u> and Miss <u>Jane Elizabeth Holliday</u> of <u>Osage</u> County, when after residence, etc., are as follows:																						
<table border="1"> <tr> <th>NAMES OF PARTIES</th> <th>AGE</th> <th>COLOR</th> <th>PLACE OF BIRTH</th> <th>RESIDENCE</th> <th>FATHER'S NAME</th> <th>MOTHER'S MARRIED NAME</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Herbert M. Cooley</td> <td>29</td> <td>White</td> <td>Iowa</td> <td>Osage</td> <td>Peter Cooley</td> <td>Stella Cooley</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jane E. Holliday</td> <td>21</td> <td>"</td> <td>England</td> <td>"</td> <td>Wm. Holliday</td> <td>"</td> </tr> </table>	NAMES OF PARTIES	AGE	COLOR	PLACE OF BIRTH	RESIDENCE	FATHER'S NAME	MOTHER'S MARRIED NAME	Herbert M. Cooley	29	White	Iowa	Osage	Peter Cooley	Stella Cooley	Jane E. Holliday	21	"	England	"	Wm. Holliday	"	
NAMES OF PARTIES	AGE	COLOR	PLACE OF BIRTH	RESIDENCE	FATHER'S NAME	MOTHER'S MARRIED NAME																
Herbert M. Cooley	29	White	Iowa	Osage	Peter Cooley	Stella Cooley																
Jane E. Holliday	21	"	England	"	Wm. Holliday	"																
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court at my office, in <u>Osage</u> County, this <u>27</u> day of <u>April</u> , A. D. 1918.																						
[Signature] County Judge																						
CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE.																						
To the County Judge of Knox County, Nebraska: THIS CERTIFIES, that on the <u>26</u> day of <u>April</u> , A. D. 1918, at <u>Holliday farm</u> in <u>Osage</u> County, according to law and by authority, I duly joined in Marriage Mr. <u>Herbert Merton Cooley</u> and Miss <u>Jane E. Holliday</u> and there were present as witnesses <u>Mr. and Mrs. Bob Holliday</u> <u>Mr. and Mrs. Cooley</u> Given under my hand the <u>27</u> day of <u>April</u> , 1918.																						
[Signature] County Judge																						

³⁸ Census Returns of England and Wales, Kew, Surrey, England: The National Archives of the UK (TNA): Public Record Office (PRO). Data imaged from the National Archives, London, England. Enumerated as “Lizzie Holliday”

³⁹ FreeBMD. England & Wales, Civil Registration Birth Index, 1837-1915 [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2006

Birth Index England and Wales

BIRTHS registered in April, May, and June 1884. 1884

Year of Birth	Quarter	Sex	Age	Parents' Names	Address
1884	1	M	0	Wm. & Eliza Cooley	Hallfield, Cumberland
1884	1	F	0	Wm. & Eliza Cooley	Hallfield, Cumberland

⁴⁰ Obituary, Plainview Republican, Plainview, Nebraska, 9 Jan 1908. “Jane Elizabeth Holliday was born March 20, 1884, in Hallfield, the country home of her parents in Castle Sowerby Parish, Cumberland County, England, and died at Crofton, Neb., Jan. 1, 1908, of acute peritonitis. While yet a child she was baptized in the Church of England”.

⁴¹ Findagrave Memorial ID 114423223



⁴² Yankton Press and Dakotan, Yankton, South Dakota, 4 Nov 1914

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1914. PLATTSMOUTH SEMI-WEEKLY JOURNAL PAGE 7.

<p>Stock.</p> <p>—Cattle—Re- of steers, \$5.65 Hera, \$4@7; \$5.80@7.85; es, \$7.50@10. ; steady to .05@7.15; top, 9.50; 10@15c 50; wethers, 95.65.</p> <p>il to Puebla.</p> <p>—The Consti- ernment, with</p>	<p>Two Men Drowned.</p> <p>Yankton, S. D., Nov. 5.—Editor W. Cooley of the Crofton Journal of Crofton, Neb., and O. W. Cass, drug gist, in the latter's car, were drowned in the Missouri river when the car left the pontoon bridge and plunged into the river. Cass, who was married, was driving his car. O. D. Salley a barber, and L. S. Ross, jeweler, were in the car and went to the bot- tom of the river with the car. They freed themselves and reached shore exhausted and nearly drowned. Speed is given as the cause of the accident.</p>	<p>Lancast</p> <p>Lincoln easter co ed, 686. gave: M The fir from M which ga and Sack Three Maguire 284. Sa 469. Cla</p> <p>Norfolk</p> <p>Lin. 701.</p>
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⁴³ World War II Draft Card, serial number 238, order number 377

SERIAL NUMBER 238	U. S. Name (Print) Ronald DeLoe Cooley		ORDER NUMBER 377
A. Address (Print) Lincoln, Lincoln, Colorado			
B. Telephone 132	C. Age in Years 34	D. Place of Birth Crofton	E. Country of Birth United States
F. Name of Person Who Will Always Know Your Address Mrs. Irene Elve Cooley wife			
G. Address of Your Present Home Lincoln, Lincoln, Colorado			
H. Employer's Name Self employed Cooley Brothers Publisher			
I. Place of Employment or Business Lincoln, Lincoln, Colorado			
J. Approx Year I Have Resided Above Address and Your Year and Year			
REGISTRATION CARD U. S. A. Form 1 Ronald DeLoe Cooley			

44 State of Colorado Marriage Record Report nr 2058; marriage License 7/19/1935

State of Colorado		No. 2058
Division of Vital Statistics		
MARRIAGE RECORD REPORT		
County WASHINGTON		
Husband's Name	COOLEY, RONALD	Age 29 Race W
Wife's Name	SKINNER, IRENE	Age 27 Race W
Place of Marriage	DENVER COLO	Date 7/20/35
Name of Official who Performed Ceremony J S BAFF		
Title	MINISTER	Address DENVER COLO
Reported by		
Address		

45 U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007, Claim Date: 10 Apr 1972; SSN 524627824; Birth 29 Jul 1907; Death 6 Dec 1990; Father Leonard Skinner; Mother, Ethel Powell

46 Ibid

47 Irene Elva Skinner Findagrave Memorial ID 78083099



48 Obituary, Rocky Mountain News 14 Jan 1980 p14

49 Ronald D Cooley Findagrave Memorial ID 78083101 See gravestone picture above for Irene

50 World War-II Draft Registration Card Serial nr 604, Order nr 325

REGISTRATION NUMBER	1123	ORDER NUMBER	325
MERTON BERTH COOLEY			
AKRON, WASH. COLORED.			
U.S.A.			
MRS. VIOLA MYFANWY			
AKRON, WASH. COLORED.			
MERTON B. COOLEY			
AKRON, WASH. COLORED.			

51 State of Colorado Marriage Record Report nr 16621 date May 25 -29

State of Colorado		16621
Division of Vital Statistics		
MARRIAGE RECORD REPORT		
County Jefferson		
Husband's Name	Cooley Merton B.	Age ✓ Race
Wife's Name	Kyffin Viola	Age ✓ Race
Place of Marriage	Golden, Jefferson Co.	Date May 25 -29
Name of Official who Performed Ceremony John W. Bailey		
Title	Baptist Minister	Address Golden, Jefferson Co.
Reported by J. M. Z.		
Address Edgewater		

52 Obituary, Akron News Reporter, May 11, 1995

53 Viola Myfanwy Social Security Application and Claims, SSN 523665503; Death Cert SSA-721 (Yeamans and Gordon, Akron Colo)

54 Viola Myfanwy Findagrave Memorial ID 70816566



⁵⁵ Social Security Death Index SSN 523-09-7647; birth date 7 Dec `907, death date 3 Nov 1992

STATE OF COLORADO
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

23

NAME: Merton jBeth COOLEY
SEX: Male
DATE OF BIRTH: November 3, 1902
PLACE OF BIRTH: Cozton, Nebraska

DATE OF DEATH: November 3, 1992
PLACE OF DEATH: Sterling, Colorado

DEATH CERTIFICATE NO. 80728

STATE OF COLORADO) ss.
County of Logan)

I hereby certify that this document is a true and correct copy of the record in my custody, issued in Sterling, Colorado this 3rd day of November A.D., 1992.

THIS COPY NOT VALID UNLESS PREPARED ON GREEN BASKETWEAVE PAPER AND IMPRESSED WITH THE RAISED SEAL OF THE NORTHEAST COLORADO HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Raymond E. Kabe, Local Registrar
Judy A. Van Sickle, Deputy Registrar

NOV 3 1992

CORD ASHD CHF

⁵⁶ Merton jBeth Cooley Findagrave Memorial ID 70816565; see gravestone picture above for Viola

⁵⁷ Date reference, their fourth child, Glenn Syren Cooley, was born in Plainview 14 Jul 1894.

⁵⁸ Date reference, Samuel and Mary's youngest child, Letta May Miller was born in Plainview 18 Mar 1896.

⁵⁹ The village of McLean got its start in 1888 as a Pierce County rural school. A year later a Mr. Morrow learned a railroad was to go through the area so he made a speculative purchase of the land on which the school sat and named the plot "Murrowville". The Sioux City-O'Neill, and Western Short Line from Sioux City, Iowa to O'Neill, Nebraska was built in 1890. A grain elevator was built in Murrowville the same year by a Mr. Sharron who promptly re-named the town "Sharron". Shortly the name was again changed to McLean after a section foreman of the railroad. Growth of the town was spotty through the Panic of 1893 until 1899 when a lumber yard, saloon, hotel, and grocery store were built. Sporadic growth continued through the first half of the 20th century. The population was 36 in the 2010 census.

⁶⁰ *The Story of the R.B. Cooley Family in Washington County* by Dale Cooley

⁶¹ [About the Homestead Act of 1862](#)

⁶² [Teachers Employed in Kit Carson County November 14, 1910](#) "Dist No 14, Mr. Bert Cooley"

⁶³ *Otis, the People, the Places, and the Newspaper* by Dale Cooley, *The Otis Independent*, v70# 14

⁶⁴ "Legals" were notices of *intent to occupy* that were required by the Homestead Act of 1862. They were usually printed in the Classified section in the back of the newspaper

⁶⁵ From some later edition numbers (e.g. vol 30, no 51 dated 18 Dec 1941) I have determined that first edition of the *Otis Independent* occurred in the range Dec 25, 1910 to Jan 5, 1911. Since most accounts say it began publication in 1911 I will summarily establish 5 Jan 1911 (a Thursday, the usual publication day of a weekly newspaper) as the date of the first edition, v1#1.

⁶⁶ According to the Homestead Act of 1862 the homesteader had to live on the land for a minimum of five continuous years. This residency requirement was intended to ensure that the land was being genuinely settled and developed. Homesteaders could leave the land for up to six months per year but had to maintain their primary residence on the homestead. The Three-Year Homestead Act, passed on June 6, 1912, reduced the residency requirement from five years to three years.

⁶⁷ *Wray Rattler* Nov 23 1916

⁶⁸ This was probably the Otis Hotel, a two-story building on the west side of Washington St. between 1st Ave (County Hwy 54 then US 34 after 1939) and Railroad St that was built in 1920. It was owned and operated by John R. Losey. It is still there (2011) but abandoned.

⁶⁹ *Otis, the People, the Places, and the Newspaper* by Dale Cooley, *The Otis Independent*, v70#14

⁷⁰ The City of Monte Vista is home rule municipality in Rio Grande County, Colorado. Its name, "Monte Vista", is Spanish for "mountain view" in English. The town was laid out in 1884 at a site that had previously served as a water stop for Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad steam locomotives. The population was 2,610 the 1930 Census.



⁷¹ The *Monte Vista Tribune* was published from 1913 to 1933. At that time, the other newspapers in town were the *Monte Vista Journal* (1888-present) and the *Sargent Co-operator* (Sept 1921-1935) a monthly newspaper. It is the author's opinion the *Tribune* was in trouble when Bert acquired it. There were nine newspapers in Monte Vista at the turn of the century but only three left after 1921 – *Guide to Colorado Newspapers 1859 to 1963* by Donald E Oehlerts, Colorado State University, Ft Collins, Colo., 1964

⁷² https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Akron_News-Reporter

⁷³ Findagrave Memorial ID 11070588

⁷⁴ Findagrave Memorial ID 11070744

⁷⁵ Carrie Louella Miller, date of birth given in Social Security Death Index, Social Security Administration, U.S. Government. Image from Ancestry.com

Name:	Carrie Cooley
Social Security Number:	523-42-8682
Birth Date:	27 May 1883
Issue Year:	1951-1952
Issue State:	Colorado
Last Residence:	80720, Akron, Washington, Colorado, USA
Death Date:	Aug 1973

⁷⁶ United States Census 1900, US, NE, Pierce, Dry Creek, Samuel J Miller, Mary, and Louella

Serial	Name	Sex	Age	Mar	Occupation	Education	Color	Religion	Native	Year	Month	Day	Year	Month	Day
12	Miller, Samuel J	Head	36	Mar	Farmer	8	White	Methodist	US	1864	10	27	1900	10	27
13	Miller, Mary	Wife	34	Mar	Homemaker	8	White	Methodist	US	1866	10	27	1900	10	27
14	Miller, Louella	Daughter	17	Mar	Teacher	8	White	Methodist	US	1883	5	27	1900	10	27
15	Miller, Samuel	Son	15	Mar	at school	8	White	Methodist	US	1885	5	27	1900	10	27
16	Miller, Mary	Daughter	13	Mar	at school	8	White	Methodist	US	1887	5	27	1900	10	27
17	Miller, Samuel	Son	11	Mar	at school	8	White	Methodist	US	1889	5	27	1900	10	27
18	Miller, Mary	Daughter	9	Mar	at school	8	White	Methodist	US	1891	5	27	1900	10	27
19	Miller, Samuel	Son	7	Mar	at school	8	White	Methodist	US	1893	5	27	1900	10	27
20	Miller, Mary	Daughter	5	Mar	at school	8	White	Methodist	US	1895	5	27	1900	10	27

⁷⁷ Carrie Louella Miller from Miller Family Bible (current location unknown), interviewed by Daniel Berton Cooley 1968

⁷⁸ Letta May Miller was born in Plainview, Pierce Co, Nebraska 18 Mar 1896 - Social Security Administration; Washington D.C., USA; Social Security Death Index, Master File; exact birth date, year and month of death

⁷⁹ Glenn Syren Cooley was born in Plainview, Pierce Co, Nebraska on 14 Jul 1894

⁸⁰ Pierce County, State of Nebraska, Marriage Record, Book B, p468

⁸¹ *The Story of the R.B. Cooley Family in Washington County* by Dale Cooley

⁸² Dale Cooley paper entitled "*The Story of the RB Cooley Family in Washington County*"

⁸³ Ibid

⁸⁴ The **Order of the Eastern Star** is a Freemasonry-related fraternal organization open to both men and women. It was established in 1850 by Boston, Massachusetts lawyer and educator Rob Morris, a former Freemason official. The order is based on teachings from the Bible, but is open to people of all religious beliefs. It has approximately 10,000 chapters in twenty countries and approximately 500,000 members under its General Grand Chapter.



Members of the Order are aged 18 and older; men must be Master Masons and women must have specific relationships with Masons. Originally, a woman would have to be the daughter, widow, wife, sister, or mother of a master Mason, but the Order now allows other relatives as well as allowing Job's Daughters, Rainbow Girls, Members of the Organization of Triangle (NY only) and members of the Constellation of Junior Stars (NY only) to become members when of age.

The Order was created by Rob Morris in 1850 when, while confined by illness, he set down the principles of the order in his Rosary of the Eastern Star. By 1855, he had organized a "Supreme Constellation" in New York, which chartered chapters throughout the United States.

In 1866, Dr. Morris started working with Robert Macoy, and handed the Order over to him while Morris was traveling in the Holy Land. Macoy organized the current system of Chapters, and modified Dr. Morris' Rosary into a Ritual.

On December 1, 1874, Queen Esther Chapter No. 1 became the first Prince Hall Affiliate chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star when it was established in Washington, D.C. by Thornton Andrew Jackson.

The "General Grand Chapter" was formed in Indianapolis, Indiana on November 6, 1876. Committees formed at that time created the Ritual of the Order of the Eastern Star in more or less its current form.

Traditionally, a woman who is elected Associate Conductress will the following year be elected to Conductress, then the next year Associate Matron, and the next year Worthy Matron. A man elected Associate Patron will usually the next year be elected Worthy Patron. Usually the woman who is elected to become Associate Matron will let it be known who she wishes to be her Associate Patron, so the next year they will both go to the East together as Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron. There is no male counterpart to the Conductress and Associate Conductress. Only women are allowed to be Matrons, Conductresses, and the Star Points (Adah, Ruth, etc.) and only men can be Patrons.

⁸⁵**Fortnightly clubs** were women's organizations with the object of the group being "mental culture and mutual helpfulness". Each meeting began with the reciting of a short prayer comprising an invocation, petition, and conclusion called the "Collect".

Mary Stewart wrote The Collect in 1904 as a member of the Longmont (Colorado) Fortnightly Club. It was written to instill a sense of unity among women working together with wide interests and important goals. The meeting had as its basis a general topic, e.g. Fine Arts, Civil Rights, Education, Conservation, etc. and for each general topic one member developed a specific program, e.g. for Fine Arts, "What Makes a Masterpiece" or for Conservation, "What's Happening to Our Land?"



The original Fortnightly Club was established [in Columbia, Mo.] in October 1892 for [University of Missouri, Columbia] faculty wives for the dual purpose of providing "congenial associations for the wives of faculty members" and "building community resources and good will at the University."

Fortnightly clubs were affiliated with the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC). The GFWC had its origins in 1890, when Sorosis, a women's literary club founded by journalist Jane Cunningham Croly, issued invitations to other women's literary clubs to form an organization with the goal of uniting "women's clubs to enhance community service by volunteers throughout the world."