



SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY, NEBRASKA

(It) lies in the western part of the state, bordering the state of Wyoming. It has 1886 inhabitants. The town of Gering is the county seat. Most of the whole county is penetrated by chains of hills and mountains, with a diversity of shapes and structures; where round cupolas top the higher reaches and again further on, it looks as though it could be a whole town from the smaller hills and branches of mountains together. These mountains in the higher elevation are sparsely grown with trees mostly on the slopes. Cedar and pine trees are the ones mostly found here though there are others. The valley extends along the North Platte River but are on the whole mostly sandy soil. Otherwise on a higher level is rolling prairie and on the slopes of the hills, the soil is mostly gravel and the depth of the water is unavailable for the farmers. Water in places is very deep, as much as 300 feet, and not enough rainfall or moisture falls for use of the settlers in many places. It is no wonder then of the downfall of many of the sod house settlers. The valleys along the river are where most of the people settled, and even in these times, it was necessary to irrigate the land for the purpose the land was used. In 1889, a company was formed in the northwestern part of the county by 47 farmers living there for the purpose of bringing water from the Platte River for the use of the land. In a short time, work began and all willingly extended a helping hands to do their part, for the countrymen here and other settlers. The parts or shares of water doled out to all who lived there was \$100.00 then had the use of the water for his needs. Six shares for 160 acres put together, his own time worked out. Among the shareholders or members of the company were found two Moravians, Mr V. Tbaruzek and Fr. Chalupa who had moved here from Saunders County.

The company formed was called the Enterprise Ditch Company by the farmers. In the higher elevation the water portion was sold for \$100.00. (The portion consisted of 28 quarter parts of water) and annually the inspector's taxes is \$1.00 altogether. Not knowing the abundance of water and nobody to operate a company which isn't organized here, the reason being 120 miles in length and they say possessing to control portions of water once and for always for \$400.00, although it was to supply oneself in proportion did not get cheap from the agriculture company.

According to the past drawings on the maps of the county, I understand everyone somehow irrigates. In order to inform everyone outside by sending, in as much as not knowing, all readers of the Hospodar, somehow I alone know in the divisions on the drawings where one finds irrigating and in a manner either sloping or different soil or proportional weather and the influence for fruit.

The principal channel always lies mostly on the most feasible land and the water supply is company property. The company grants construction from one wheel to another wheel. In the beginning, where the river is not wide and distance a problem, it is measured according to the large quantity of water until the height of the water equals the height of the flood gate. In the beginning of the channel is a locked flood gate, where the head manager is to direct, but nearby is the overseer of the channel. The flood gate is private in the beginning where proportion of the property and soil irrigation if the foundation. Management here is powerful and

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important for company water delivery or for the farmer for field irrigation. There is locked flood gates, but the overseer changes after a short time, after turning on water, which from here and there is hauling at the dam because to split the water is to have power. The disagreement is over water power and how much is for soil irrigation the company control the flood gates which one can not get from where he lives.

Everyone gets water a day at a time. Regularly, about seven gunshots, the overseer then comes out near the part where the channel ends and every farmer already is expecting the water. Where there is ill feeling, the water is regulated privately by flood gates to the farmer. To arrive from the beginning, the company regulates the shares and regulates the flood gates. Management holds up water until properly received.

For irrigating 160 acres, it is necessary to share. It is possible to dispose of part of the property and only the neighbor who is self sufficient of his own flood gates and private channel of his own, find it necessary to sell part of it for security.

Water is necessary, at least twice, first after frost has passed and grain can endure it thoroughly, and the next times when grain is ready.

The price of land, which is considerably rock of course, but which the topography shows water, is selling from \$5 to \$10 per acre. Land is not easily obtained along the river within the valley. Where the top lies flat the stock is abundant, however because of the lack of rain and even finding the deep water, the pasture doesn't have the water, maybe accidentally, but it is how far you are from the river or channel.

There are only three Czech families and their members living in the county and throughout they irrigate. The land is fertile until barley is ruined periodically with a great loss. The value here is up towards Alliance in Box Butte County. In distance, the Czech Settler is about 45 miles northeast from this place.

<u>Name and postoffice</u>	<u>A.</u>	<u>S.</u>	<u>T.</u>	<u>R.</u>	<u>Village</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>County</u>
Sunflower:							
Vac. Tvaruzek	320	21,28	23	56	Cestin	Trebic	Jihlava
Fr. Chalupa, Sr.	140	28	23	56	Smrky	Mezirc	Brno
Fr. Chalupa, Jr.	160	22	23	56	Smrky	Mezirc	Brno
Marie Chalupa	160	22	23	56	Smrky	Mezirc	Brno
Karel Hrasky	320	8,29	23	56	Rock quarry at Nimberg		
Jos. Hrasky	160	19	23	56	Lives at Plattsmouth, Nebraska		

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