

A Full Life

R. E. Allen led a full life.

In order that he might prosper for himself, he came west to open up land which was then prairie, and which, not long before, had been the home of Indians, and wild animals, a land whose only white inhabitants had been the nomadic and unstable cowboys.

Yet he settled in this new land with a vision. He saw here the center of a promising trading area. He saw the time coming when this would no longer be a country of pioneers, but a community of established people, with all that an established community has to offer.

Here he raised his family, and here he grew and prospered with the country.

After many years of impatient waiting, he saw the railroad come into the territory with a promise of promoting even more the prosperity of an already prosperous country.

He lived through the time when news came through the land slowly to the time when, in the comforts of one's own home, he may watch history being made by the minute through the radio and the daily newspaper.

He lived through the time when a thirty-mile trip was something to be planned for for weeks, and to be talked of for months, to the time when people eat dinner thousands of miles from the place where they ate breakfast, and think little or nothing of it.

The automobile, the radio, the daily newspaper, the moving picture, universal education, the uncountable results of the present scientific world—all these came during the lifetime of a man who settled on the banks of a small Nebraska river over 60 years ago.

Many men have lived through these twentieth century wonders. Yet few men have had such an integral part in their creation.

Those of us who stay on to enjoy these fruits of the past years are apt to take them for granted.

R. E. Allen saw them develop. He led a full life.