

dugout, now we call them basements. It was 20 ft wide and 30 ft long, and 6 foot deep, and a roof about 4 ft above the ground. We lived there for 2 years. Then father put a old house on the dugout.

But as I was the oldest child to help earn money. So I had to go to work. I was 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ years old. I worked for Dave Herbert for 30 bushels of rye all winter and part of the summer. I should of had some schooling, but didn't get but 1 month of school.

Then one Sunday morning I ran away. I was hungry. I met a cowboy who asked me what I was doing there in the snow. I told him Mr. Herbert makes me herd the cows so they won't get into the cornfield. This cowboy was hunting prairie chickens. He said he would help me put the cows in the corral. He left a note and took me with him to Dave Hildebrante to work. Here I worked for 2 years. This cowboy was a cop that took me to the Hildebrants. Here I got \$75⁰⁰ a year.

Then I worked 5 miles south of Gossel, Kansas this was closer to home. Their name was Mr & Mrs Henry Heibert. I work here for about $\frac{1}{2}$ year. I got \$70⁰⁰ and 2 months of school. When I went to work for Mr & Mrs D. B. Heibert for about 2 years. Then in 1900 I found I needed a Savior, the Lord Jesus, and I was baptized July 8 by Dr. Peter Richert and was received into the M. B. Church at Gossel, Kansas.

Then in 1901 I worked for Henry Pankratz, he was a banker in Hillsboro, Kansas. I also worked for his parents. Then the next year I went