

Gems & Jewels

The Man - Fred C. Reese

WIFE

1896 - 26 little maidens entered the biscuit-baking contest. Mrs. FC Reese was a judge and the prize was a nickel-plated 'Buck' range. It was awarded to Hattie McGaffin, the youngest contestant at 7 years old.

FRED

1893 - "wide-awake young man is certain of success in any direction he may move".

- Bred Chester White & Poland China swine
- Trained in nursery business under Mr. AF Collman
- 15 acre apple orchard
- 1896 received a Shetland pony by freight
- 1899 – planted 10,000 strawberry plants
- 1900 – builds the brick PARK hotel
- 1901 – builds a \$2,000 home in Corning with 9 rooms
- 1901 – pelican shot on his farm measured 8 feet from wing tip to tip
- 1902 – buys stock in First National Bank at Prescott during the reorganization
- 1915 – Agent for Paige-Detroit Motor Car Company

WIFE

1897 - Mrs. FC Reese was bitten on the hand by a rattlesnake. She stooped to pick up a plum for her little one while in the garden and was bit on the knuckle. A physician was speedily summoned. She is doing well and the three foot rattler was shot.

OPERA HOUSE

9.25.1901 FC Reese purchases the old location of the National Bank of Corning. He secured the property for a very low figure to erect a 2-story brick building for \$12,000. A more desirable location could not be found for an opera house. The first floor will make 2 fine store rooms. The business men of the town will be asked to purchase stock. January 1902 the opera house plans are estimated at \$19,000, the business men decide that's too high, that it could be built for \$15,000.

FATHER

1901 – Fred's 77 year old father Henry is known as the wealthiest farmer in the county & is dangerously sick. It was decided he needed an operation to survive. A special train was chartered to bring the surgeon to Prescott. The 91 mile trip took 2 hours from Omaha. He died about a week later and is buried at Stringtown cemetery.

Information from

<http://adamscountyia.newspaperarchive.com>