



Front row (left to right): Mrs. Emil Oster, Mrs. Edwin Oster; back row: Emil Oster, Edwin Oster.

# All In The Family

## Two Couples Live Together For Nearly 50 Years

By Clara Ehley

Who said it couldn't be done? Two sisters and two brothers, the Emil and Edwin Osters of Eureka, S.D., have resided together in the same home since they were married . . . which is nearing the 50-year-mark.

Emil married Albina Beck in September 1927 and his brother Edwin married Christina Beck the following year and since that time they have resided together—almost half a century!

Theirs is a partnership which relatives and friends marvel at!

The Osters resided on their farm, which is located about six miles west and two miles north of Eureka, until October 20, 1976 when they decided to retire and move into the city of Eureka into a newly-built home, large enough for when all the children and grandchildren come to visit!

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uch hard work ("sweat and toil"), fun and laughter was shared during their years on the farm and up to the present time.

The families have always eaten their meals at the same table, shared their family car, trucks and probably most of their possessions.

Those happy years are shared with five children, Myra, Donald, Gary and Judy, children of the Emil Osters, and Loretta, daughter of the Edwin Osters, all of whom are married and have children, a total of 13. All reside out of state except one son. Making the situation more unique, Emil's son

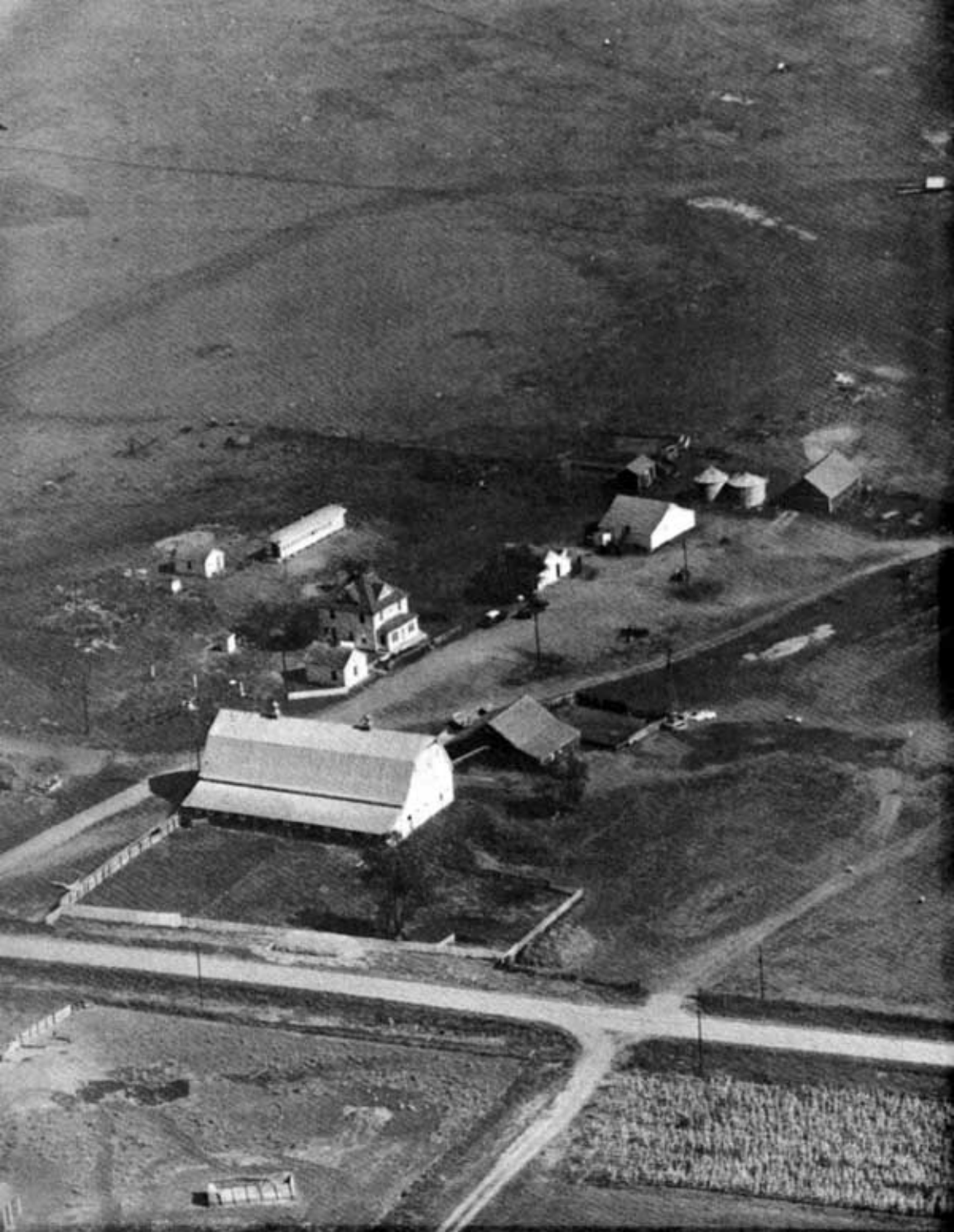
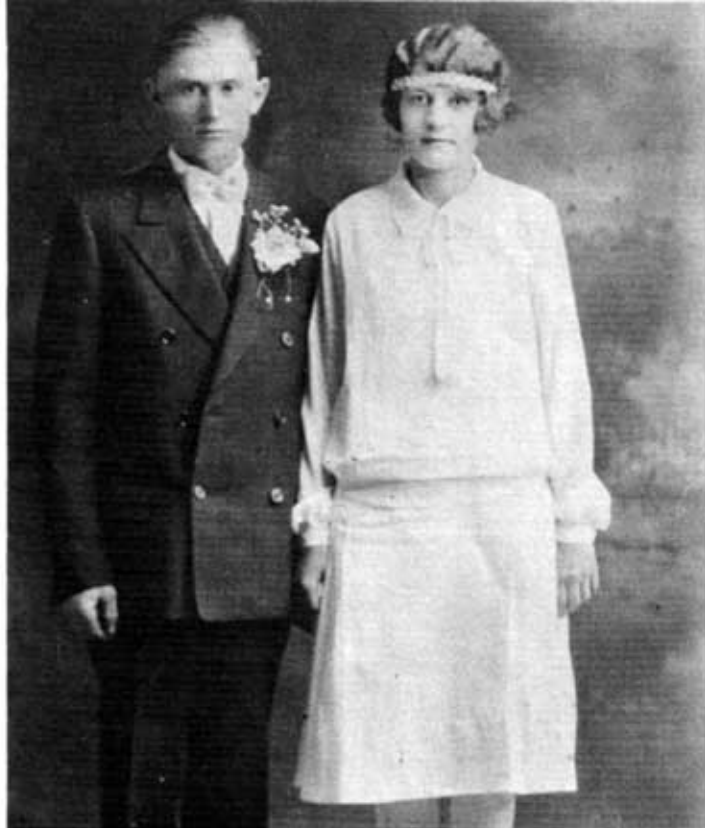


Photo on opposite page: The Oster farm near Eureka, S.D. Next to the spacious house is a small structure, used as the summer kitchen where most of the summer-time baking and cooking was done—in order to keep the main house cooler.

Photo at right: Mr. and Mrs. Emil Oster on their wedding day.





**ALL IN THE FAMILY**  
Continued

A wedding portrait of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Oster, taken nearly 50 years ago.

Gary and his wife Carolyn and their two sons, Nathan and Stuart, now reside on the family farm, making this the fourth generation of Osters to reside there.

The farm was originally homesteaded by Edwin and Emil's grandparents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Philip Oster, who migrated from Russia to Freeman, S.D. and lived there for a short time before homesteading the "Oster farm" near Eureka.

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dwin and Emil's father, also Philip Oster, was 12 years old when his parents came to the Dakotas "to take up land." His father was killed in a horse and buggy accident at a young manhood age so his mother resided with him and his wife, Katherina nee Zeller, on the farm until the time of her passing. The Osters farmed until 1922 when they moved to Eureka and left the operation of the farm over to their sons.

Twelve children were born to the Philip Osters (parents of Emil and Edwin) and include a set of twins,

The two couples got along so well that when they decided to retire and build a new home, they had it built for all four of them!



**Moving day—the two Oster families move into their new home in Eureka, S.D.**



**Mr. and Mrs. Gary Oster and their two small sons, Nathan and Stuart. Gary Oster now farms the farm which was homesteaded by his great-grandparents.**

Emil and his sister, Emelia Harr. Eleven of the children were born on the Oster farm. The youngest daughter, Alma, was born after the Osters moved to town.

One of the sons was also named Philip Oster (making this the third generation). He resides in Eureka and owns and operates the Oster Elevator which was owned and operated by his father for many years.

Emil and Edwin still enjoy making visits to the farm (almost daily) to assist Gary with work, while their wives are kept busy with their large garden in the backyard of their new home. With the Osters, everything is pretty much "all in the family." ■