

# TOUR OF HERBERT T. HINEMAN'S JACK FARM

Lane County, Kansas

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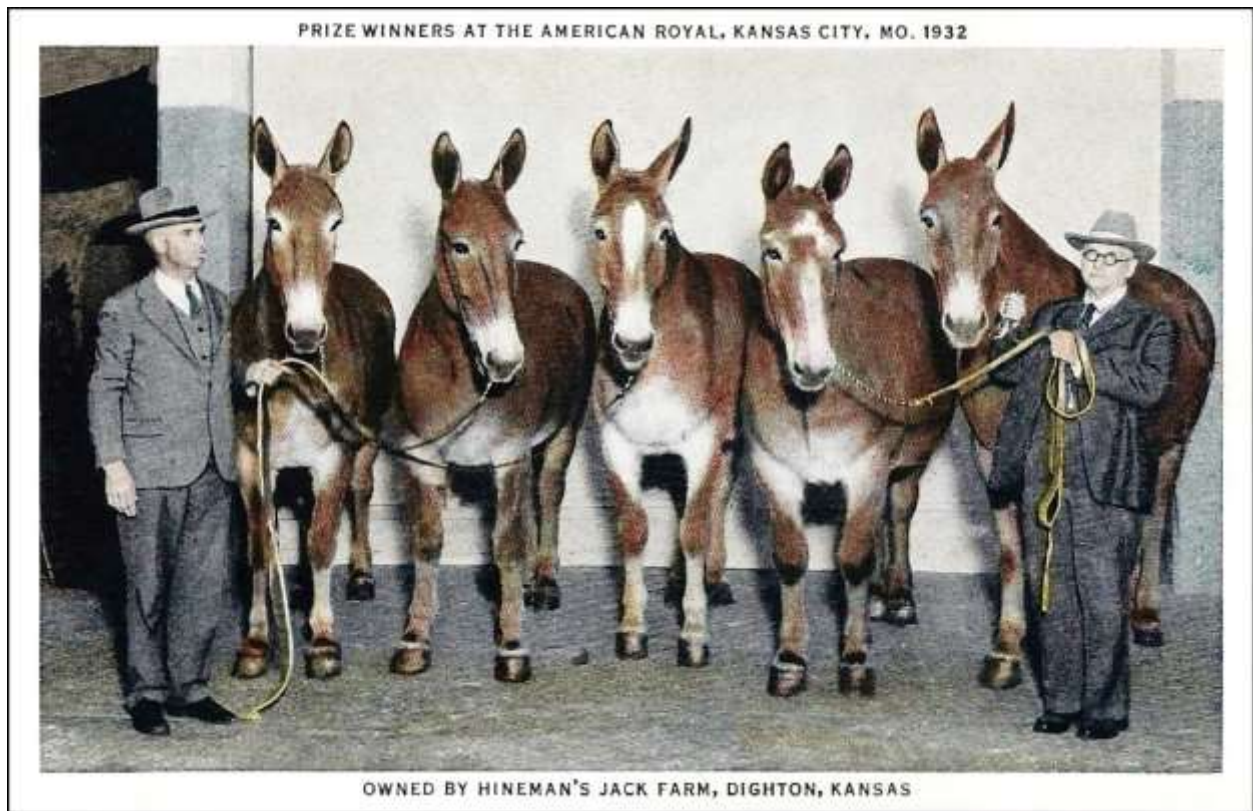
\* *Additional information added about Herbert T. Hineman*



Mr. Hineman came to Lane County in April of 1886. When he first came here, he took out a homestead 12 miles south of Dighton. Mr. Hineman lived on this homestead for four years and then took out a timber claim in March of 1890 on his present farm sight that is one mile east of Dighton and three and one-half miles south. Now, there is a road running through his farmstead and has buildings on each side of the road. He has been improving his buildings until at the present he has five barns, several granaries, machine buildings, a silo, and other outbuildings.

His team for the first four years of farming was a yoke of oxen. At that time, he started to add horses and by 1899, he had 50 heads of horses. Then in 1900, he began to raise jacks and mules. (*The definition of jacks and mules is... Jacks are male donkeys and a mule is usually the crossing of a female horse with a male donkey.*) He laid the foundation of his present jack and jennet (*a female donkey*) heard in 1903. He has been farming grain and feed for his livestock and has been adding land to the farm until at the present time he has acquired about 8000 acres. He has raised horses and mules each year until now he has about 300 head of broodmares and about three hundred mules, one hundred jacks, and 150 head of jennets. He selected his jack stock from the best blood and individuals of the mammoth jacks still living.

He began showing jacks and mules in the Kansas State Fair and since then up to date has won more first premiums on jacks, jennets, and mules than all other exhibits combined. In 1915, at the Panama Pacific Exposition in San Francisco, California, there were without a doubt the greatest showing of jacks and jennets that the world has ever seen.



He won in 1914, the highest honor possible for any jack to carry from a show ring. This grand old jack named "Kansas Chief" was "used on" his female (jennet) herd for 14 years. Many of his jacks today are grandsons of "Kansas Chief".

Even though prices for horses and mules have been low since the war, Mr. Hineman has never stopped breeding his jennet herd to some of the best jacks known to the breed. He kept building his jack and jennet herd better and better, adding new blood and today he is perhaps the largest breeder of registered jacks in the world. Each year he exhibits his mules, jacks and jennets at a number of the largest State Fairs in the United States. In 1932, he exhibited a full carload at the State Fairs in Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Kentucky, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Colorado; also at the American Royal in Kansas City. For the last twenty-five years, he has won more first place and championship premiums than any other farms with mules, jacks and jennets. At the Kentucky State Fair, his farm won the silver cup offered for the best exhibit of jack stock. At the American Royal where the greatest male show of all is held, he won champion single mule, champion pair of mules, the best herd of mules, first on 'single team mule hitch' and first on 'four mule hitch'. He won champion jack and mule at the Texas Centennial in 1936.

Mr. Hineman farms wheat and feed crops, combining wheat pasture with his livestock industry. He plants several hundred acres every year, which is very profitable. While he has several hundred head of horses and mules, he does most of his farming with tractors and tractor machinery. He has some good grass pasture that he uses in the spring and summer for livestock feed. The buildings on his farm are all up to date and

he keeps adding to them whenever possible. Two years ago, he built one of the finest houses in Lane County. This house is on the east side of the road, which runs through the center of his buildings. He has two steel machine sheds, which he uses to store his machinery during the winter months. Mr. Hineman has several tractors, combines, plows, and listers (*that are used to prepare the ground for planting by producing furrows and ridges*), and other machinery too numerous to mention.

Mr. Hineman has one show barn, built several years ago. It continues to be in good shape and used as a show barn for his jacks, jennets, mules and horses. He has electric lights in most of his buildings including his two houses, his barns and other out buildings. The machine sheds are made of steel with frames made of lumber. They have a cement foundation that the lumber sets on to help keep them from rotting out. Some of his 'out buildings' are made out of brick.

He has two wells on his farmstead and they furnish plenty of water for all of his stock and other necessities needed on a large ranch of this size. He says the reason he had to move from his first homestead was that he could not find sufficient water for his livestock.

Mr. Hineman says even though he and his wife took advantage of cheap government land and located in Lane County, he feels opportunities for the youth of today is as good as it ever was. That they need only to adapt themselves to conditions and live within their means.

The farm is very widely known all over the world because Mr. Hineman has shipped horses, mules, jacks and jennets all over the world principally to South America and Mexico, and even some of his competitors in the large farms of the United States have bought jacks and mules from his herd.

This completes the tour of the Hineman Jack Farm of Lane County, Kansas.

**Additional Information  
HERBERT T. HINEMAN**

*Thanks to Sonya (Reed) Thomas, Director of the Lane County Museum,  
For Important Details*

HERBERT TALFORD (H. T.) HINEMAN was the son of Elizabeth "Libby" Margaret Hineman (1844-1925). Finding the name of his father was close to impossible and he died before Herbert was born.

Herbert was born on 14 Jan 1865 in Guyan Township, Gallia County, Ohio. His mother, Elizabeth then married Samuel B. Stormont (1830-1897) in 1872.

Herbert married DORA ROCCENA PHILLIPS, daughter of Peter Phillips (1830-1902) and Mary

Jane Patterson (1828-1915) on 8 April 1885 (*Some records give 20 May 1885*) in Gallia County, Ohio. Dora's family came to the United States from Canada. She was born on 30 Aug 1865 in Ohio.

In August of 1885, Herbert and Dora moved to Stafford County, Kansas. There, they had a crop of wheat, but the dry weather and chinch bugs destroyed everything. In the spring of 1886, they quickly moved on to Dighton, Lane County, Kansas with their ox-wagon, two cows and \$7.50 in cash. For five years, they lived in their sod house with two rooms, on the land that they had "proved up". In 1890, they moved to another piece of land and again lived in a sod house. A year later, Herbert had a framed house from Dighton moved there, and it was where his "Hineman Jack Farm" began.

In 1901, Herbert became the Sheriff of Dighton, Kansas. Then, he worked as a farmer and stockman creating his successful and popular "Hineman Jack Farm". He was also the president of the First National Bank in Dighton for many years.

Herbert and Dora had two sons: **GEORGE ELMER HINEMAN** (1888-1953) and **JOHN "ALBERT" HINEMAN** (1892-1947). They also had a daughter born in 1894. She died at birth. Dora passed away on 11 Jun 1939 in Dighton, Kansas. When Herbert was loading a "Jack" that was to be shipped to South America, he was thrown to the ground. There were a few injuries, but a sprained ankle caused a blood clot and that proved fatal. Herbert died in Dighton on 14 Jan 1947. His burial was at the Dighton Cemetery.