



# Wilbur Drybread

*devoted to* **Nebraska**

Wilbur Drybread of Valentine was a landmark Nebraska breeder who owned two legendary Hereford sires, Advance Regulator and King Husker 1962.

Born in Elk City, Kansas, in 1905, Wilbur first showed cattle at age 10 and showed his first prize-winning steer in a Hereford show while still a teenager. He left school at 16 after his father died and in 1928 he married Celia Davis. Wilbur joined Woods Bros., in Lincoln, and took charge of their registered Hereford herd near Greenwood. When the firm consolidated its interests under the Red Deer Ranch, near Wood Lake, Wilbur became manager.

He remained at Red Deer until its dispersion in 1940 and then used breeding stock from the dispersion to start his own J Bar Ranch near Valentine. Wilbur held his own production sales and also with fellow breeders Ed Belsky and Harold J. Harms. He was a member of the Northwest Nebraska Hereford Association, the North Central Nebraska and Western Nebraska Hereford associations, the Sandhills Cattle Association and the Nebraska Stock Growers Association.

In June 1962, the Drybread ranch hosted 1,400 people from 11 states for the first Nebraska Junior Hereford Day. The event marked the founding of the Nebraska Junior Hereford Association.

Source: *The Nebraska Cattleman*, February 1975

