

1884

Stepson to Olie Christian Johnson

J/B 1884

WILLIAM ALONZO COOK

Contributions to the Building of Huntington, Utah

William A. Cook was born January 11, 1877 at Fishhaven, Idaho to Phineas Howland Cook and Elizabeth Hill. His father was accidentally killed three months before he was born. At the age of seven Will came with his mother and step-father, Ole Chris Johnson, to Huntington, Utah in 1884 riding a horse and helping to drive their cattle.

In 1898 when Will was 22 years old he built his own home on the farm west of Huntington. Then on October 17, 1900 he married Mary Ann McElprang in the Manti Temple. He was a cattleman and farmer.

Will became a member of the Cattle Board Association in 1906 and served for six years. Then he served as vice president for two years and president for many years until his death in 1942.

In 1908 he was elected as a board member in the Huntington Canal Association where he served most of the time until 1932.

He was a member of the Public Domain advisory board of district no. 7 from its beginning in 1935 until one year before his death. He headed and supervised the following projects:

Trimbald Canyon Reservoir
Cow Flat Pond
Church Flat Pond
Huntington Reservoir

Round Knoll Reservoir
Red Point Pond
Rahlston Reservoir

Cattle Fences:
Mohrland Fence
Wilberg Fence

Otteson Hole Fence
State Road to Otteson
on north side of river

Will was one of the founders of Herford Day beginning September 1938. He arranged and installed the big scales in the Public Corral for weighing cattle.

In July 1934 when fire broke out in Huntington Canyon he called for volunteers and with nineteen men under his direction helped the CCC control the fire.

He was agent for the Improvement Era for eight years. Both he and his wife were members of the Genealogical Committee.

Mary Ann McElprang was born March 8, 1882 to William McElprang and Adelia Terry in Bluff, Utah. She came with her family to Huntington in October 1885. She started working in the Huntington Coop Store at the age of thirteen and worked there until her marriage in 1900. The following are other accomplishments:

Emery Stake Primary President (1922-1926)
Various positions in Daughters of Utah Pioneers
Secretary and Treasurer of Relief Society
Genealogy researcher