

## ***BOY STEPHANUS BOYSEN \****



Our subject is a native of Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, as were also his parents. Jes Ludwig Boysen, his father, was born in 1826, and was a farmer and stock raiser by occupation, living in a sparsely settled portion of the province, where there was ample pasturage for his cattle. He married Ida Carsten, who was born in 1831, and they became the parents of a family of six children-five daughters and one son. The mother died in 1862 and the father a year later, and the family was scattered into other homes.

B. S . BOYSEN, our subject, was born in 1859, and at the death of his parents he found a home with an uncle, Carsten A. Carsten , under whose care his boyhood and youth were pleasantly passed. The uncle was a very kind gentleman, who had the best interests of his orphaned nephew next his heart, and while paying especial attention to his education, he also took pains to inculcate in his mind the necessity and value of industry .

When not in school, young Boysen was kept busy on the farm attending to the stock, and at sixteen years of age, following the regular rule in the Old World, he was apprenticed to learn a trade. Entering the shop of a leading butcher, he devoted four years to learning the business of a butcher and market man, and he made himself thoroughly acquainted with its every branch (German for "custom" –CR).

In Germany every young man who is not physically incapable is required to do service in the regular standing army; and when he was twenty years old he donned the uniform of the Fatherland, and was in the ranks three years. After this he decided to emigrate to the United States, and, carrying out this design, landed in Galveston, Texas, on the 1st of January, 1883. He remained at that point about a year, and then spent a short time in San Antonio, but later returned to Galveston, and engaged in the market business in a small way. He had practically no capital, and consequently found that his chances of advancement in so large a city as Galveston were comparatively small. In a smaller town he believed he could find better opportunities and less competition, and he accordingly disposed of his little business and moved to Brownwood, Texas, his present home. He reached that place in the fall of 1884, and at once bought out a small market, and commenced in business for himself.

For a year or two it was decidedly up-hill work, even in this small town; but application and perseverance triumphed in the end, and he gained the success for which he had toiled so hard. He made friends rapidly, and, with them, when trade was once gained, it was invariably held. Some two years after his establishment in Brownwood he received from Germany his portion of his father's estate, and this money, amounting in all to about \$3,000, was all that he needed to place his business substantially on a paying basis. With this welcome addition to his working capital, he commenced to invest in cattle and land, and was also able to make better preparations to handle his rapidly increasing business, and take advantage of any offered opportunities in the way of trade.

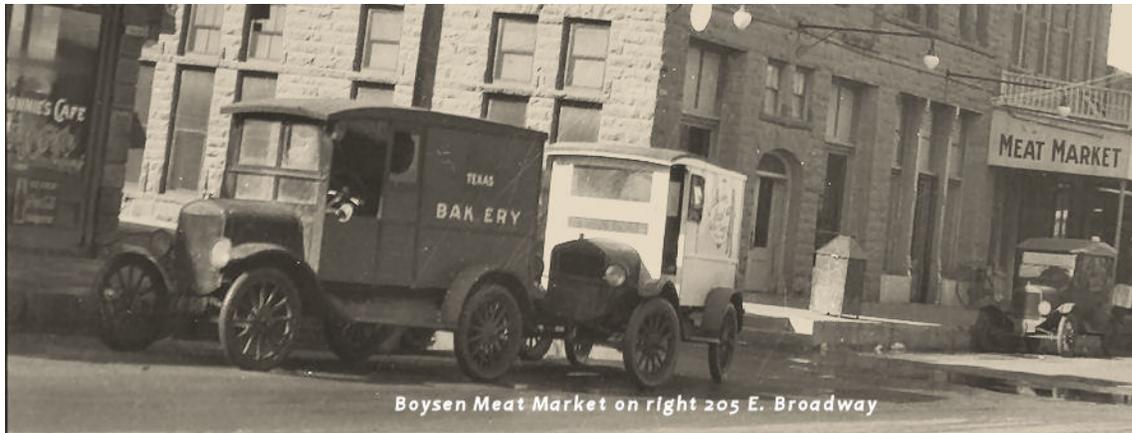
He owns at present about 1,800 acres of good pasture and farm lands in Brown County, and at least 140 acres of this is in a good state of cultivation, and principally devoted to growing grain and feed for his cattle. Boysen has also some thirty acres of valuable land within the corporate limits of Brownwood, and has built a large two-story stone building, which he uses as a market house. It is furnished with all the improved appliances and machinery necessary for carrying on his business, and is perhaps the best supplied in this respect of any similar establishment in the smaller towns of Texas. He controls a greater portion of the local butcher trade, and his business has grown to be very profitable.

As a cattleman, he cannot claim to rank with the veterans of the trail and range, but he is a sturdy, substantial and growing type of what the veterans of today were early in their connection with the business. No one can foresee what is hidden in the future, but, if no mischance befalls him, MR. BOYSEN may hope for a continuance of his present prosperity, and should another "cattle book" appear in the years to come, he will undoubtedly deserve and receive recognition among the people then classed as "old timers." At present his dealings in cattle are often of considerable importance, for he frequently buys small herds, fattening them principally for his own slaughter house. He is now holding about 175 or 200 head, the number grazing in his pastures varying constantly, in accordance to the current supply and demand. MR. BOYSEN'S experience with cattle in the Old World has proven of great benefit to him, although the manners and methods in vogue among cattlemen there are vastly dissimilar from those practiced here. He is from the native home of the Holsteins, and naturally retains an admiration for that particular breed.

The weekly cattle fairs held in the towns of his native land are admirable schools in which to acquire a knowledge of the good points of beef cattle, and that MR. BOYSEN thoroughly improved his opportunities is proven by the accuracy of his judgment in everything pertaining to such matters.

MR. BOYSEN was married in 1889 to Miss Mattie Catherine Thompsen, daughter of John Thompsen, a Dane, who settled in the vicinity of Brownwood in 1878, and took up the occupation of fanning and blacksmithing. Mrs. Boysen received a splendid education in the schools of New York, and her many accomplishments and native talent and refinement make her an ideal companion and helpmeet for her intelligent and enterprising husband. They have three children: Jesse J., Ida Catherine and Steve John. MR. and MRS. BOYSKN are universally loved and respected in their community, and their home life is all that one might imagine in the way of pleasure and comfort.

Source; \*HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD OF THE CATTLE INDUSTRY AND THE CATTLEMEN OF TEXAS AND ADJACENT TERRITORY. By James Cox - 1895



Boysen Meat Market, 205 E. Broadway (now Fisk) about 1915

**BOYSEN B STEPHEN** (Mette C), Propr Boysen's Market, 205  
E Broadway, r 403 E Lee.  
Boysen Jesse, colr Brownwood Gas & Elec Co, b 403 E Lee.  
Boysen Katherine, student, b 403 E Lee.  
**BOYSEN'S MARKET**, B S Boysen Propr, 205 E Broadway,  
Tel 56.  
Boysen Morris, student, b 403 E Lee.  
Boysen Stephanie, student, b 403 E Lee.

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