

NOAH C. BATIS

By Mrs. Paxton Gray

Noah C. Batis, born October 4, 1860, died April 21, 1950, and his wife, Laura L. Batis, born October 27, 1864 and died November 2, 1950, made their home at Sanger Stock Farm.<sup>1</sup> He was a native of Illinois, coming to Texas at an early age.

In 1881 Noah Batis helped drive a herd of 1,000 cattle up the Chisholm Trail to Honeywell, Kansas. The cattle belonged to Judge S. A. Venters. His last trip was in 1882 when he went up the trail with a herd of 1,200 head of cattle that belonged to Bill Loflin.<sup>2</sup>

In its special Fall Booster Edition, the Sanger Courier of October 15, 1909 is carried the story of The Sanger Stock Farm owned by Mr. Noah Batis. His annual Colt Show, with prizes for "the best colts whose sires are owned by Mr. Batis."

"Mr. Batis came to Sanger in the Spring of 1889. He owns 95 acres of fine land, almost adjoining the town and one of the largest and most commodious barns in the entire country. To visit his magnificent stock farm and see his fine stock is well worth a special trip to this section and the time of any man in Texas.

"His finest animals are Keota Bob, McGregor, William Whitten and Morgan horses, and John and Hubbard jacks. These animals have some fine colts scattered all over Denton, Collin, Wise and Cooke counties. Prizes are offered at the colt show each year for the best colts from his herd of horses and jacks.

"There was a large number of fine colts exhibited the past year at the show; among them being the following prize winners: First prizes: J.M. Griffin, R.H. Miller, C.A. Habern, L.A. Dickson, George Hard and S.S. Freeman. Second Prizes: W. K. Miller, W. S. Doyle, R. A. Leach, J.D. Sullivan, W. H. Gray and Jess McGee.

"Others who had stock on exhibition at the show were Marvin and John Atkins, T.H., Ed and Tom Carrico, W. H. Cofer, Mrs. E. J. Echols, Seaf Gadberry, W. A. Garrison, George Hughes, R. T. Hicks, Will Harberson, H. E. Garrison, H. E. Marion, W. T. McQuary, Elisha Mann, W. T. Price, Hugh Rogers, Jess Robison, T. G. Shipp, A. F. Warren, and Charley West.

"When Mr. Batis came to Sanger, Stock breeding was at a low ebb, but now Sanger has some of the finest horses and mules in the state of Texas.<sup>3</sup> (The Noah Batis stock farm with a fine residence and the same barn is the property of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Marshall. It was bought by her parents, Travis and Otiska Boydston Wylie, from Mr. and Mrs. Richard Slaughter. They had bought it from Noah and Laura L. Batis.)<sup>4</sup>

Noah C. Batis was appointed County Commissioner, Precinct 4, on February 11, 1919; then elected to office, serving until Jan. 1, 1923.<sup>5</sup>

1. Tombstones, Sanger Cemetery.
2. Dr. C. A. Bridges, History of Denton, Texas p. 163.
3. The Sanger Courier, October 15, 1909
4. Gray, The Story of Sanger, the Sanger Courier, July 14, 1983.
5. Records, County Clerk's office, Denton, Texas.