

*Jerry McKeelvy's*  
**WAY BACK WHEN**

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**GOOD MANNERS FOR BOYS**  
**(from the Nevada County Picayune – 1885)**

A lady gave her twelve-year-old nephew this list of rules which she called “Good Manners for Boys”.

1. Lift your hat when saying good-bye or when saying “How do you do?”
2. Keep in step with anyone you walk with.
3. Always precede a lady when going upstairs.
4. Hat off the moment you enter a street door and when you step into a private office.
5. Let a lady pass first unless she asks you to precede her.
6. In the parlor, stand until every lady in the room is seated, plus older people.
7. Rise if a lady comes in after you are seated and stand until she takes a seat.
8. Look people straight in the face when speaking or being spoken to.
9. Let ladies pass through a door first, standing aside for them.
10. In the dining room, take your seat after ladies and elders.
11. Never play with your knife, fork, or spoon.
12. Eat as fast or slow as others and finish the course when they do.
13. Rise when ladies leave the room and stand until they are out.
14. Cover your mouth with a hand or napkin when removing anything from it.
15. Do not look toward a bedroom when passing. Always knock at any private door or room.

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**THE NEVADA COUNTY STOCK LAW OF 1909**  
**(from the Prescott Daily News – 1909)**

There was a problem back in the early 1900s in Nevada County of farmers allowing their stock to run loose which resulted in many complaints. In June, 1909 a proposed stock law was put up for the voters to approve.

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This law defined what a legal fence was in Nevada County. A fence had to have posts no further than 16 feet apart and must have four strands of barbed wire. The lowest wire had to be 18 inches from the ground, the third wire 40 inches from the ground, and the top wire 54 inches from the ground.

The law also provided that if a landowner found stock running loose on his property, he could impound the stock. He then must contact the owner to come get them. If the owner was not known, the landowner must advertise for five days in three public places and post a notice on the front door of the court house. If not claimed, the stock would be sold at public sale where they were impounded and the landowner would receive ten cents per day for each hog, pig, sheep, goat, or goose. The rest of the money would be paid to the owner of the stock if known. If the owner was not known, the rest of the money would go into the county treasury. The owner of the stock would also be fined one dollar per day that his stock was impounded.

When the election was held, the proposed stock law of 1909 was voted down. There were a total of 1800 votes with 1200 voting against it and 600 for it. It was defeated in every township of the county.

Cows were not listed in the list of animals in this proposed law. The complaints were mainly about hogs rooting, so some referred to the proposed law as “the hog law” instead of “the stock law”.

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### **HOG-TIGHT FENCE (from the Prescott Daily News—August, 1910)**

When livestock were allowed to roam throughout the countryside, many of them were killed when they wandered onto the railroad tracks and were hit by trains. The railroad had to pay for any livestock killed by their trains.

In 1910, the Iron Mountain railroad announced they planned to fence the railroad right-of-way from St. Louis to Texarkana with a hog-tight fence. The fence was to be a woven-wire fence 47 inches high with a strand of barbed wire on top making a total height of 54 inches. The fence posts were to be of red and white cedar (264 per mile).

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The total distance to be fenced was 494 miles. It was estimated to cost the railroad \$600 per mile. The railroad officials said the fence would save thousands of animals for which they now had to pay.

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### **NEW YEAR'S DAY SUPERSTITIONS**

In England, it is considered an ill omen to share a lighted match with someone else on New Year's Day.

Maidens rushed to the well at midnight to be first to taste the water. This was supposed to bring good luck for the coming year.

If a person with dark complexion was first to enter a home on New Year Day, it would bring good luck. If a light-haired visitor was first to enter, it would bring bad luck.

In early America in New England, it was bad luck to go outside the house on New Year's Day until someone had entered the house.

In the South, it is believed that eating black-eyed peas, hog jowl, and collard greens on New Year's Day will bring good luck.

In Norway, the kind of fish caught on New Year's Day will predict the character of the fish caught the rest of the year.

In Wales, money should not be paid out on New Year's Day or it will bring bad financial luck for the year.

Don't eat lobster, crab, or chicken on New Year's Day. Lobsters walk backward, crabs, walk sideways, and chickens have wings. Good luck could fly away.

Make noise on New Year's Day to scare away the evil spirits.

Walking around the house carrying an empty suitcase will bring new adventures for the new year.

Kiss someone you love at midnight and the sentiment will last for twelve months.

Eat twelve grapes at midnight—no more or no less.

Fill up your cupboards. It is bad luck to start the year with bare cupboards.

Have cash in your wallet on New Year's Day.

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Don't clean the house on New Year's Day or you will wash away good luck.

Don't cry on New Year's Day.

Eat herring on New Year's Day (in Germany and Sweden).

Those born on New Year's Day will be lucky throughout their life, even more so if born at midnight.

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**HILDEBRAND'S STORE IN REDLAND COMMUNITY ABOUT 1940**  
(Six miles east of Prescott on Hwy. 24)

The sign on the building says Arl and Jimmie's Place. Jimmie was James T. Hildebrand Jr., Arl Hildebrand's brother. The name was changed later to Arl's Place after Jimmie went missing in action in World War II. *(Photo and information from Cathy Straley)*

Jimmie was a pilot in World War II and was stationed in the area of the Aleutians Islands near Alaska. While on patrol on June 28, 1942, he radioed in that he was 200 miles out to sea, a strong wind was blowing, and he was returning to base. That was the last message from him. The plane went down in the sea and he along with seven other crewmen were never found. *(from an article written by Mary Hildebrand Cox)*