

WEATHER

Tornadoes, blizzards, floods--weather on the Great Plains. Some ingenious pioneers tried to control the weather. One such man was J.B. Atwater of Chicago. After being caught in a tornado in 1885, Atwater invented and patented the Atwater Tornado Killer. It was a box full of dynamite with an outside flap. When the wind reached tornado speed, the flap hit the bar, setting off the dynamite, blowing the tornado apart. One day in a southwestern Kansas town, a crow accidentally slapped the flap. The explosion flattened the depot, knocked out all the windows in town, and killed two cows, a mule and the crow. After that, the people decided to take their chances with Mother Nature.

From PLAINS TALK