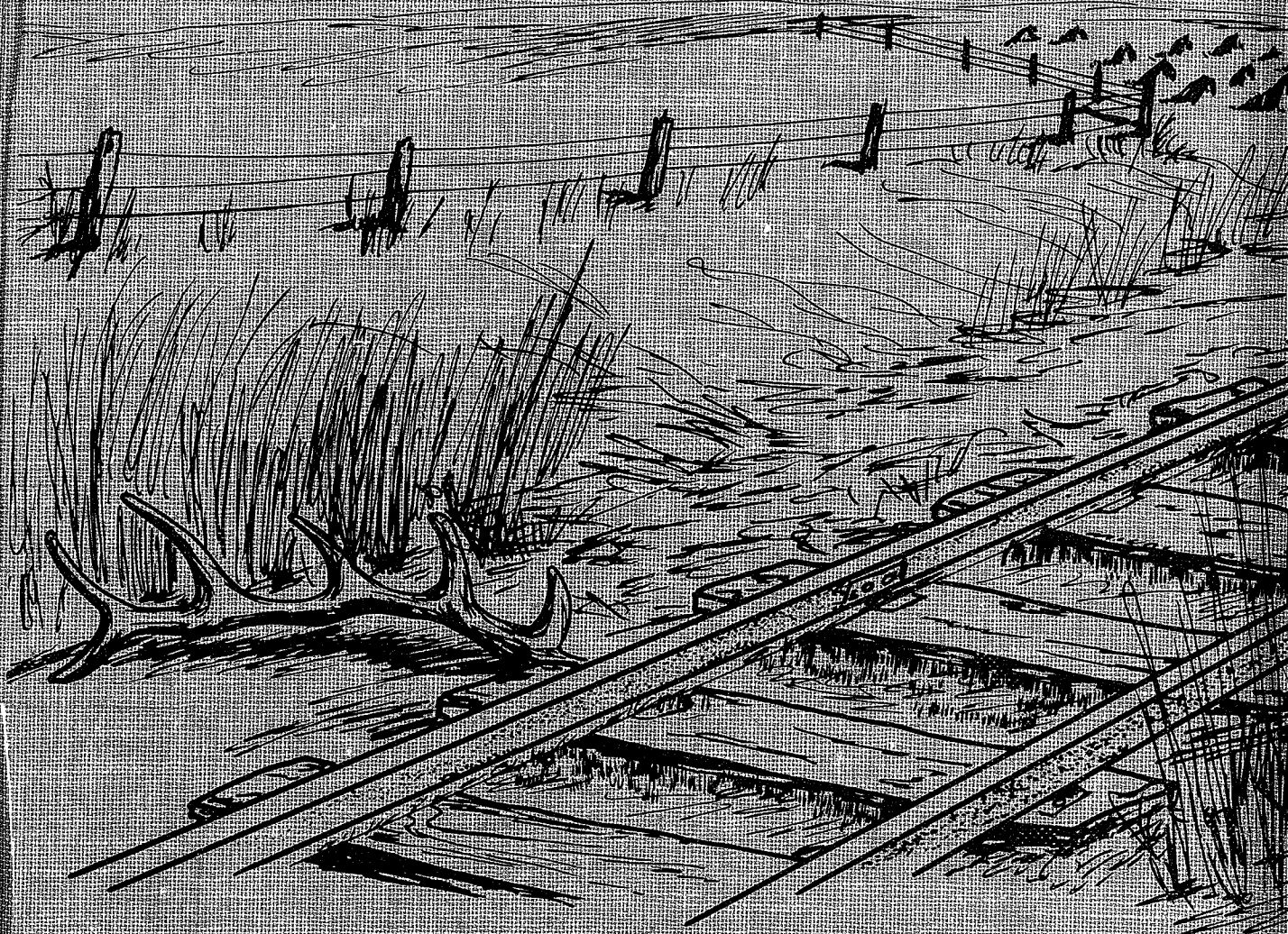


**History of URBAN**

# **STEEL and GRASS ROOTS**



**1882-1982**

PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICES  
Unit 209 - 1525 - 1st Street  
Brandon, Manitoba  
P7A 7M4

PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICES  
971.273 Ste c.2  
Steel and grass roots, 1882-1982



3 6757 00103219 5

774



RESTAURANT

n. Man.

"Bates"  
410

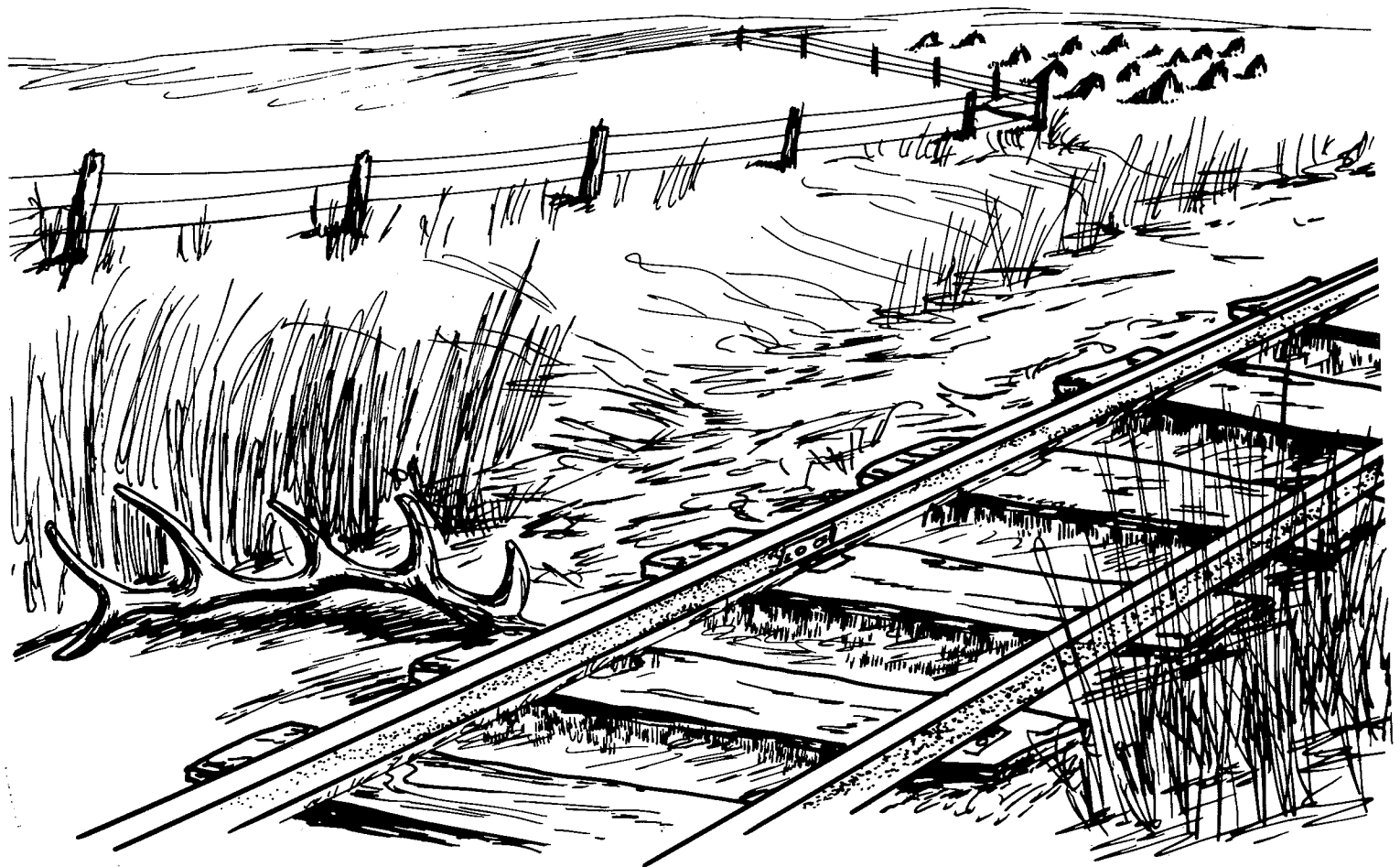
**PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICES**

Unit 200 - 1525 - 1st Street

Brandon, Manitoba

R7A 7A1

# **STEEL and GRASS ROOTS**



## **1882-1982**

© Copyright Elkhorn and District Historical Society 1982

All rights reserved

No part of this book may be reproduced in any form without permission in writing from the publisher, except by a reviewer who may quote brief passages in a review to be printed in newspapers or magazines.

ISBN 0-88925-251-3

Published by  
Elkhorn and District Historical Society  
Elkhorn, Manitoba R0M 0N0  
Canada

First printing, 1982

Printed and bound in Canada by  
Friesen Printers  
a Division of D. W. Friesen & Sons Ltd.  
Altona, Manitoba R0G 0B0  
Canada

# Table of Contents

---

Foreword and Dedication .....	iv	Churches .....	61
Introduction — Steel and Grassroots .....	v	Schools .....	73
C.P.R. ....	1	Maps of School Locations .....	100
Early Elkhorn .....	5	Sports and Entertainment .....	101
Pioneer Life .....	15	Clubs and Lodges .....	121
Homestead Maps .....	24	Community Services .....	131
Elkhorn Grows .....	35	Manitoba Automobile Museum .....	141
Town Council .....	41	Celebrations .....	143
Board of Trade — Chamber of Commerce ..	47	Lest We Forget .....	149
Agriculture .....	51	Family Histories .....	159
Maps of Area Farms Today .....	57	Vignettes .....	507

# Foreword

---

A year ago, this book was no more than several gleams in the eyes of a dozen local history buffs. It has actually taken shape due to the hard work of dozens of people. Thelma Rowan had the enthusiasm and faith to get the project under way. Marge Paton's huge address file, set up for the school reunion in 1977 provided a ready list of former Elkhorn residents. Linda Clarke undertook the job of secretary-treasurer. Agnes Smith volunteered her home as headquarters and agreed to act as editor. Local artist, Jean Baker, contributed cover ideas, sketches, maps and family trees. Dozens of volunteers addressed brochures, proofread and typed manuscripts, la-

belled, captioned and selected pictures. Credit is given to the *Virden Empire Advance*, the *Elkhorn Mercury*, the books: *Elkhorn 1882-1967* and the *Kirkella Wagon Trails to Hardtop: 1881-1979* for information in some articles. Most of all, we owe our thanks to the contributors without whom there would have been nothing to print: to those pioneers who cherish old memories so clearly that they come to life on paper, to those who cherish and share old snapshots, to those English teachers of long ago who developed a standard of English modern universities dream about.

Thank you!

## Dedication

---

**We, the pioneers dedicate this book to you, our descendants.**

We are the steel and the grassroots. We are the pioneers. We came to these new homes from diverse places bringing little but our physical strength, our skills, our neighborliness, steel determination, and the coloring of our background. And finally, invisible and powerful, we brought the Faith of our fathers:

*But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint.*

Isaiah 40:31

You will read in our stories how we '**mounted up with wings as eagles**': worked all day to earn our bread and plowed all night to 'prove up' our homestead, sawed a livery barn in half over the lunch hour in order to move it, went sleepless for days on end staving off death from influenza, walked through a blizzard on frozen limbs until safety was reached, and raised a thriving town. When we put these demands on ourselves, the strength was found.

In those early years we also accepted demands made by forces we understood and respected. Britain, in 1914, asked us to take part in 'a war to end all wars.' Generously, our young men went and gave their strength, their years, their lives.

A decade later the climate dealt us a withering period of drought and pests which we faced by 'making do' and waiting for next year.

In the decade of the forties, the evil forces which threatened to blot out freedom from the earth were easily recognizable. Without fanfare or heroics, our boys and girls again joined up to defend good against evil. We endured those long trials. We '**ran and were not weary.**'

Now, you who have risen from the grass roots we established, the hardest part of the challenge is yours: '**to walk and not faint.**' Your tasks are not as clearly defined as ours. The threats you face are so far beyond your power to control: nuclear terror, poison by pollution, world famine, prejudice and crime. The forces of society which we could count on seem to be breaking up: law enforcement, schools, churches, even the family. We thought science had all the answers. You know science also has terrors. The media bombards you with threats of doom. In the clean and quiet town that we have left you, listen to the still small voice, sort out the useful from the confused. Find the Faith which helped us establish the grass roots. Set a straight course; '**and they shall walk and not faint.**'

# Introduction

---

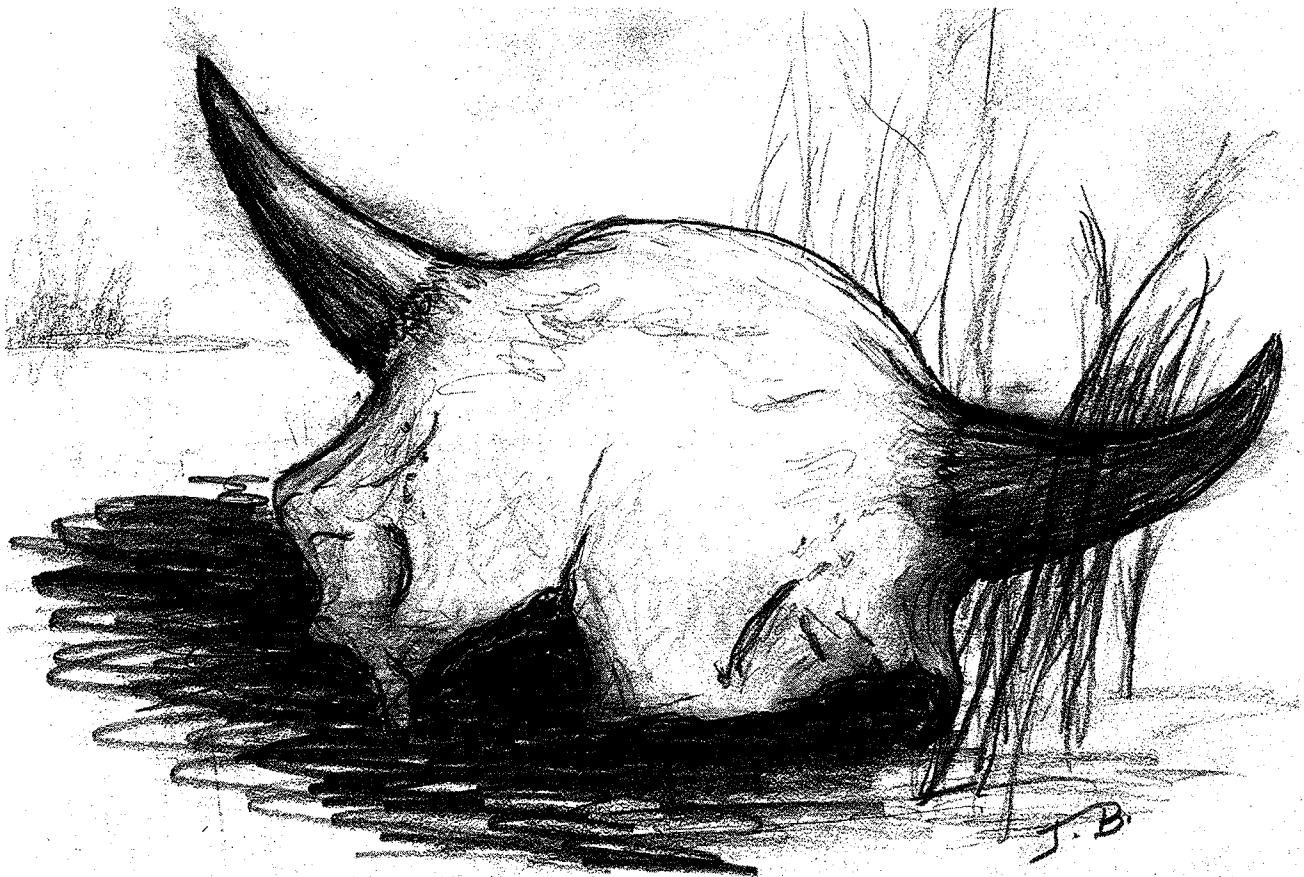
## Steel and Grassroots

Great Britain knew that if she were going to maintain her presence in North America in the face of the expansionist policies of the energetic young United States, she would have to unite the scattered parts of her empire there — acquired over three centuries through claim and conquest. These scattered parts: British Columbia, Vancouver Island, Canada East, Canada West, Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were separated by the vast Hudson's Bay Territory. Lord Durham, in his report in 1838, advised such a union.

In the 1840's, a popular idea of '*manifest destiny*' was abroad in the United States; those who believed it maintained that the United States should rule all of

North America. By the time four of the British colonies had moved reluctantly toward union in 1867, an intricate network of rail lines served the United States and was also reaching into British North America at several points. Vancouver's best link with the rest of the world was Seattle, Washington, and the tiny Red River settlement would have been completely isolated without the St. Paul connection.

The vast grasslands of the west had lain untroubled for centuries, nourishing and being nourished by the herds of countless buffalo. Treeless, and clad only in short, prairie wool, they excited little interest; probably they were only semi-desert. They were controlled by the Hudson's Bay Company, whose charter was granted in 1670 by Charles II to



his cousin, Prince Rupert and 'the Adventurers of England Trading into Hudson's Bay.' 'The company was granted sole trading right in all the lands drained by the streams which flowed into Hudson's Bay' according to the wording of the charter. This included our area, for all our creeks eventually work their way into the Assiniboine River, which joins the Red River, dumping these waters into Lake Winnipeg to be emptied into the Bay by the Nelson River.

Well aware of the American threat to extend her territory northward, the British colonial office, in 1857, sent an expedition under Captain John Palliser to explore the possibilities of these grasslands, known to none save traders and Indians, and to gauge their possibilities for settlement. True, he judged that a triangular area reaching from approximately Moose Jaw to Calgary and having its apex at the South Saskatchewan River was dry, arid prairie and probably unsuitable for agriculture, but he also judged that a wide strip north of that triangle reaching from Winnipeg beyond Edmonton was an arable belt consisting of deep, black mould. In places he identified 'willow prairie' where, as well as grass, vetches and stunted trees grew when not wiped out by prairie fires.

The Colonial Office must have concluded that the 'grassroots' had an economic future in Canada, for, in 1870, Great Britain paid the company \$1,500,000 for these lands. In the same year, and contingent upon this purchase, Manitoba became a province.

John A. Macdonald knew that unless the scattered pieces of Canada were joined by 'steel' the "From sea to sea" was only a hopeful motto. So the following year, in 1871, when British Columbia joined Confederation, it was stipulated that 'the Dominion would begin a railway to the Pacific in two years and finish it in ten.' Macdonald lived twenty more years, and only during the last five or six was he free of the pressures, the scandals, the demands for money, the manoeuvrings to get the Canadian Pacific Railway, the longest, most challenging railway yet built anywhere, pushed to the coast. (The details may be found well documented in Pierre Berton's book.)

Prime Minister Alexander Mackenzie knew that

if the western grasslands were to contribute to Canada's economy they would have to be populated. If they were to be populated there would have to be a system of land grants. In 1874, the Homestead Act was passed providing 160 acres of government land free to anyone who would pay the ten dollars patent fee, live on the land for three years and do a certain amount of cultivation. For these grassroots, besides providing the big missing piece in the Canadian jigsaw puzzle, must also finance the bands of steel.

Wilfred Laurier, when he assumed the Prime Ministership, knew that the desired flow of settlers to the prairies must be cultivated. He chose Clifford Sifton of Brandon as his Minister of the Interior. Due to Sifton's vigorous campaign for immigrants, by 1916<sup>1</sup> (after twenty-five years) the population of Manitoba rose from 152,000 to 555,000. The North-West, with a population of 100,000 expanded to over a million and Saskatchewan and Alberta, founded in 1905, were larger in population than either of the other two western provinces.

Wheat exports in the same period increased from two million bushels to 150 million valued at \$200 million. The grassroots and the steel working together were providing the most solid part of the base for the Canadian economy.

Where nothing had been visible but rolling lands and shambling dark brown buffalo herds even in 1880, a new pattern appeared. All along the rail line at intervals of about eight miles, a cluster of buildings appeared: tool shed, bunk house, temporary station with a painted name board. To come up with so many different names must have been quite a feat. (Some lines are alphabetical, some poetical). Tradition says that Elkhorn got its name from a skull of an elk found lying beside the track. The temporary buildings were soon changed for permanent stations and section foremen's dwellings. Elkhorn was found to have an ample supply of good water so a water tower was added to supply the steam locomotives and a coal dock and turntable as well. Shortly a stockyard shed and shelter were provided.

Soon, around this nucleus, settlers came to build a thriving town.

<sup>1</sup>McInnis, Edgar, *Canada a social and political history*, p. 367.



# C.P.R.

## Canadian Pacific Railway: Elkhorn

One hundred years ago, in 1882, the C.P.R. reached Elkhorn. Each point on the C.P.R. can be located by mileposts numbered within the subdivision. For example, with the Carberry subdivision, stretching from Winnipeg to Brandon, Winnipeg is mile zero; the miles were numbered westward. Elkhorn is located at mile sixty-four west of Brandon in the Broadview subdivision (Brandon to Broadview).

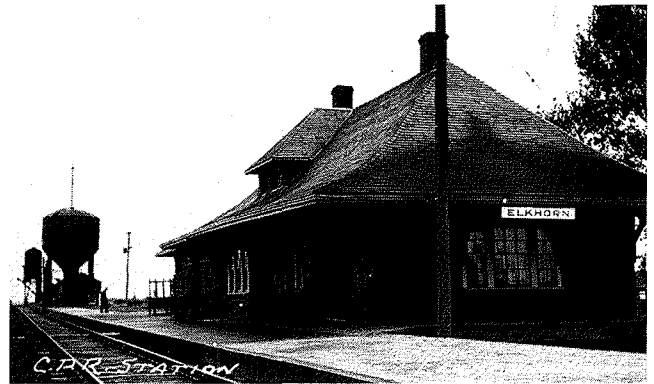
Mr. Aberdeen, Superintendent of the Carberry subdivision, has supplied us from C.P.R. records, with the following list of buildings constructed at Elkhorn, and those subsequently removed when no longer required:

### Existing buildings:

Freight shed — built 1904; 24' x 40'4" stone foundation; frame structure; shingle roof; wood floor.

Privy — built 1904; 6' x 9'3"; sill foundation; frame structure; shingle roof; wood floor.

Bunk house — built 1927; 8' x 35'; sill foundation; frame structure; ready roof; wood floor.



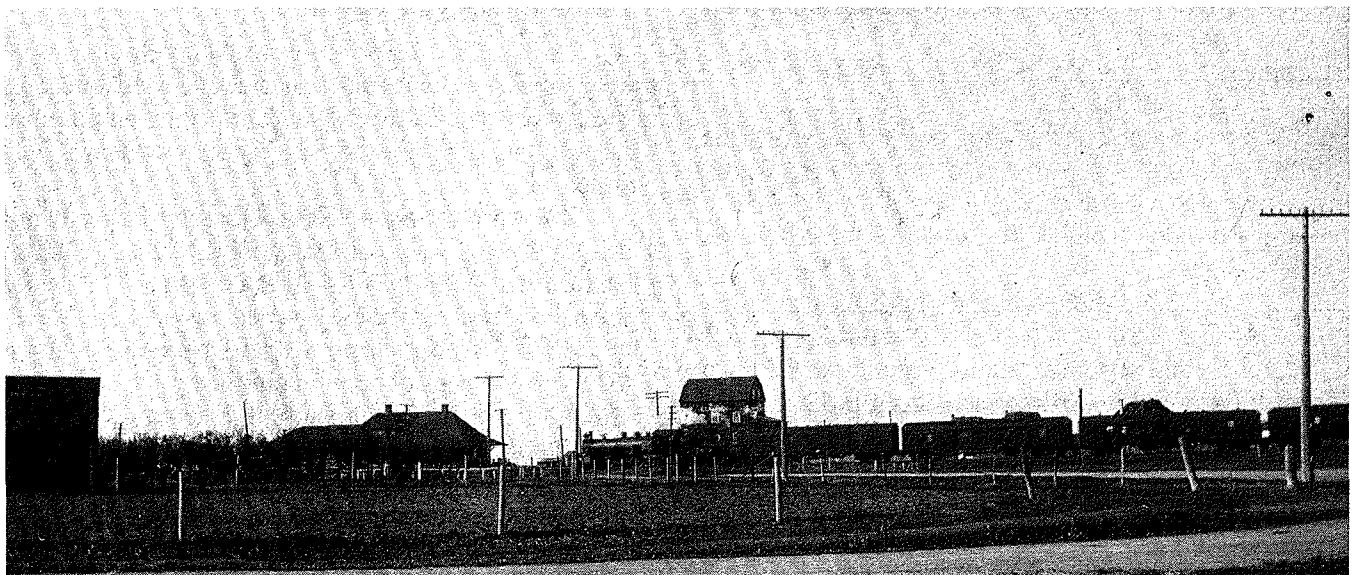
C.P.R. Station.

Kitchen — built 1908; 10'5" x 13'9"; sill foundation; frame structure; shingle roof; wood floor.

Toolhouse — built 1928; 10'3" x 11'4"; sill foundation; frame structure; shingle roof; wood floor.

Privy — built 1908; 5' x 5'4"; sill foundation; frame structure; shingle roof; wood floor.

Pump house — built 1904; 16'3" x 18'6"; sill foundation; frame structure; iron roof; concrete floor.



Old mill and station.



New coal dock built in 1928.

Stockyard shelter — built 1903; 14.8' x 24.2'; sill foundation; frame structure; board roof; earth floor.

Grain loading platform — built 1940; 108' x 18'.

Coal Dock Engine House — built 1918; 14'6" x 20'; concrete foundation; frame structure; ready roof; concrete floor.

Coal Dock oil & Tool House — built 1929; 10'4" x 12' 4"; sill foundation; frame structure; steel roof; wood floor.

Coal House & Stores — built 1904; 16'3" x 32' 2"; sill foundation; frame structure; iron roof; wood floor.

Privy (east of West Coal Dock) — built 1928; 4'8" x 6'2"; sill foundation; frame structure; shingle roof; wood floor.

#### No longer existing

Station — built 1904; sold Jan. 18, 1972; 24'0" x 63'2" stone foundation; frame building; shingle roof; wood floor.

Section House — built 1908; sold Aug. 1967; 2 floors; sill foundation; frame structure; shale roof; wood floor.

Turntable — built 1905; 70 ft. Half Deck Plate Girder; removed Jan. 1944.

Coal Dock Engine House (East) built 1928; sold June 1958; 14'4" x 20'4"; concrete foundation; frame structure; ready roof; concrete floor.

Stockyard shed — built 1903; sold July 14, 1967; 48' x 80'.

Presumably, Mr. Aberdeen says, buildings used before that time were of a temporary nature.

The following were the station agents at Elkhorn from 1904 until the station was closed in 1971;

N. Cryderman — 1904-1935

G. A. Irving — 1936-1942

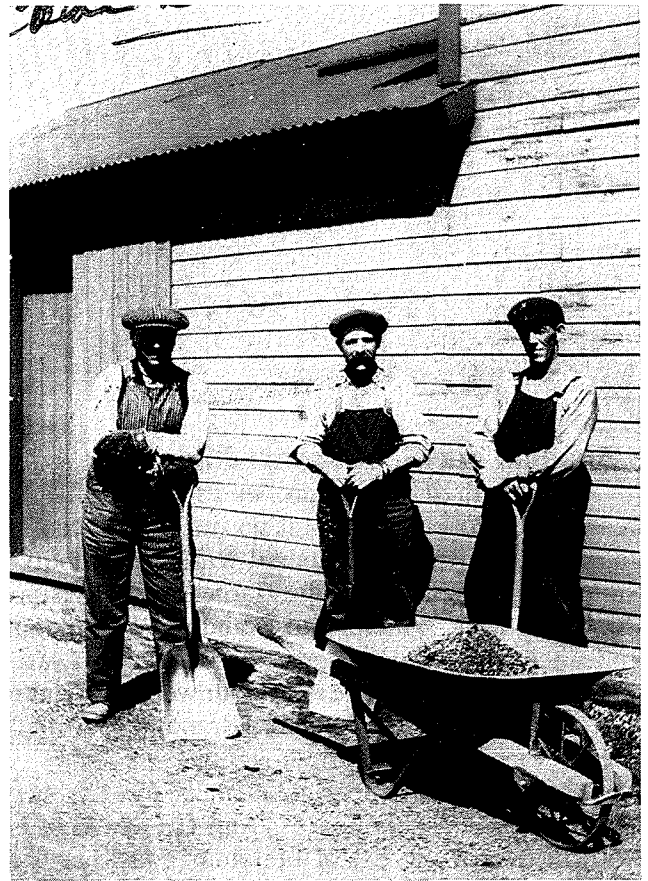
L. McFarlane — 1943-1944

R. E. Boyce — 1945-1946

F. Coach — 1947-1953

F. J. Smith — 1954-1961

A. Smith — 1962-1971



Elkhorn Coal Dock. L-R: Chris Bennet, Bill Amos, Dave Chalmers.

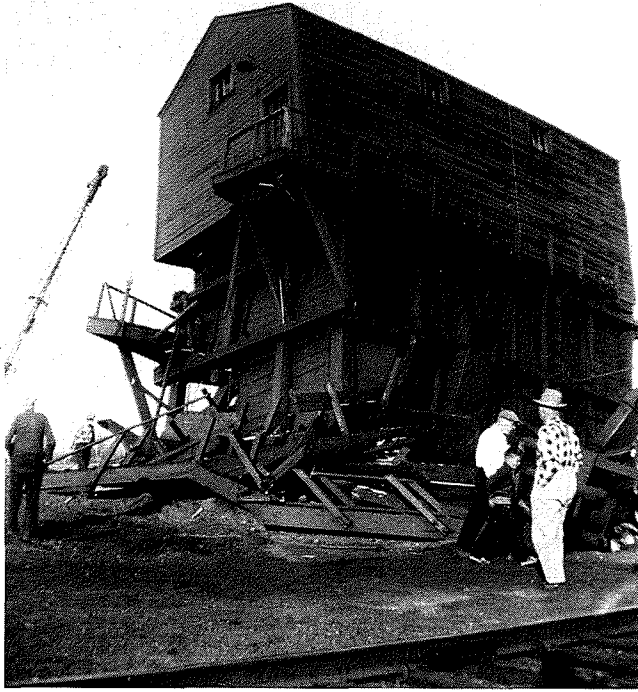
In the early years Elkhorn played a vital role. Since the town was on the main line of the C.P.R., for years Elkhorn was the stopping place for all trains, east or west bound, to take on both coal and water. There were two coal docks, employing as many as twelve men in winter. One coal dock supervisor, C. J. Shepherd, held the post from 1915 until 1931.

The C.P.R. cinder dump was once looked upon as a source of valuable material for road building, and good material for filling mud holes in an emergency. The first sidewalks in Elkhorn were of C.P.R. cinders.

One correspondent tells us that her father, James Montgomery, was roadmaster and lived in Elkhorn station from 1908 to 1914 (Station Agent N. Cryderman had his own house — now owned by Merlin Rowans). At that time a train was made up in Elkhorn, a lengthy train including a sleeper and a diner. It ran on the branch line from Kirkella to Saskatoon, an overnight trip at that time.

Another correspondent writes as follows:

"A lady and her friend were at the C.P.R. station one day and overheard enough conversation to know a "Silk Train" was going through. They sat on the fence at the stockyard and watched. First they heard the scream of the whistle, which never seemed to



1963, tearing down the C.P.R. coal dock. Pete Hoemsen running the dragline for Rowan Bros of Elkhorn.

stop as it tore through town. There was the red glow from the fire box as the fireman shoveled on the coal, smoke a-flying from the smoke stack and a guard at every door. It was really a sight to see and remember — at last seen no more. There was a race for the different railroads to get shipments of silk from Japan, from Vancouver to the East Coast as fast as possible.”

This took place from the early 1900's into the 1920's. Bill Leach was a private detective on a silk train. The trains went fast because the silk fibres, still on the cocoons, were very perishable. They had to be kept at the right temperature and humidity to get to the mills before the fibres hardened. In May, 1962, the west C.P.R. coal dock having outlived its usefulness, was dismantled by Rowan Bros. Construction Co. of Elkhorn. The east dock had been taken down in 1958. The method of loading coal had progressed through the stages from shovel to gas engine, to diesel engine, and later to electricity when the hydro came in. With the introduction of diesel train locomotives, coal was not needed. In December of the same year, the water tank was also dismantled. The steel tank had been erected in 1928 to replace the wooden model, which had been torn down by the late Edward Parsons. Besides providing water for the trains, farmers and towns people came with cream cans to get their daily supply of drinking water.



First diesel to arrive in Elkhorn.

During the years of water shortage, 1958-1961, people came from as far as Manson and McAuley district to use the Elkhorn water supply.

In 1971, the C.P.R. station was closed. This was the second station to be built. The first station was taken to Hargrave where it was used for many years. Elkhorn had been rated one of the largest stock ship-



C.P.R. buildings.

ping centres, so a lot of stock had gone by rail from this point. The C.P.R. had provided employment for many men in the area. At one time it was necessary to have a station staff of five, two section crews, coal dock workers and a pump man.

In the late sixties, automatic signals were installed, so it was no longer necessary to have round-the-clock operators. By this time the trains were specializing in carload freight and express was transported on C.P. Express trucks. As part of a large scale cut in services, Elkhorn was one of the stations closed. The building was sold and little remains to identify the site but a couple of cottonwood trees.



# Early Elkhorn



Elkhorn Main Street.

## Early Elkhorn

Two items reproduced below describe the early expansion of the town of Elkhorn and the rural area. The first is believed to be the prelude to a history of Elkhorn compiled by the Women's Institute in 1893:

"The County of Dennis of which Elkhorn is one of the principal towns is recognized as the Banner County of Manitoba, having taken first prize during three successive years for the best productions in grain, stock, etc., at the Provincial Exhibition at Winnipeg, and its wheat secured highest gold medal at London, England, in competition against the world in 1892.

Free grants of land-improved farms may be had at very reasonable figures. The different professions,

businesses, and trades are represented in the town. The buildings are good, the churches neatly and substantially erected.

The schools are second to none in the North West. Municipal rates and taxes are very low. Any information about the resources of this town and neighborhood will be cheerfully given by W. M. Cushing, Joseph Broadley, or T. D. Cavanagh of Elkhorn, Man., to whom letters of inquiry should be addressed."

The second is a clipping from an Elkhorn newspaper of 1905, written by Charles Duxbury:

"Elkhorn, with a population of 700, is situated in the famous hard wheat belt of Western Manitoba, on the main line of the C.P.R. It is also the terminus of

the Pheasant Hills Branch of the same railway. The district is noted for the fine samples of wheat grown, but is well adapted for mixed farming, and a large number of cattle and hogs are shipped annually.

The town has two general stores, hardware, lumber yard, drug store, two blacksmith shops, two large and well equipped hotels, a chartered bank, four implement agencies, grocery store, gent's furnishings, two jewellery stores, two butcher shops, printing office which publishes a weekly newspaper, bakery and confectionery shop, two tailor shops, two livery barns, and, in fact, all lines of business are represented. There are three handsome churches and a large intermediate and public school. A flour mill with a capacity of one hundred and fifty barrels per day is in operation. Four elevators with a total capacity of nearly one hundred thousand bushels, together with a loading platform, serve the farming community.

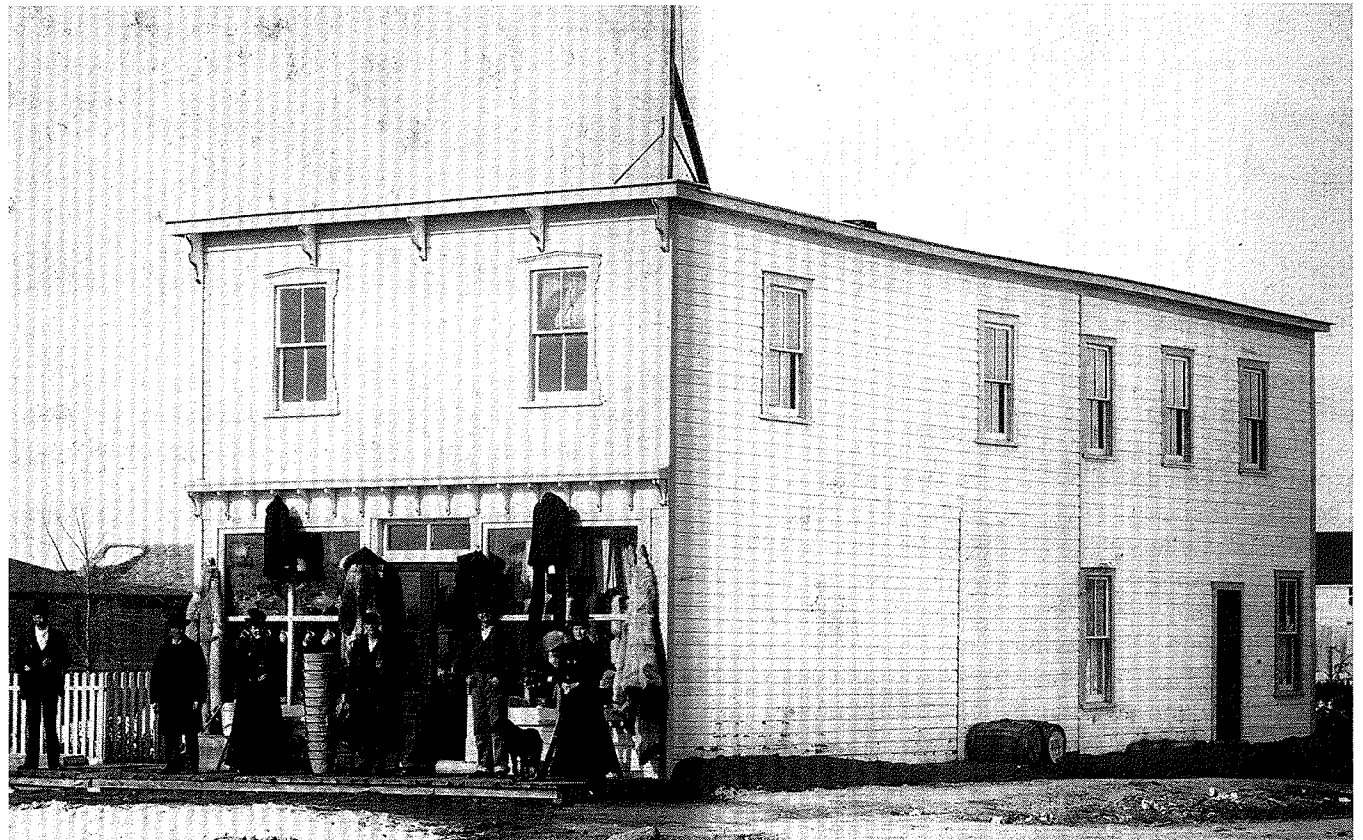
The Dominion Government has established here an Indian Industrial School, at which about one hundred children are in attendance."

Following is a summary of the earliest businesses established in Elkhorn:

Mr. John McLeod in 1882, with his daughter Milly, opened a tent store near the railway. The following year it was replaced by a wooden building



Libby Balmer in front of the old flour mill.



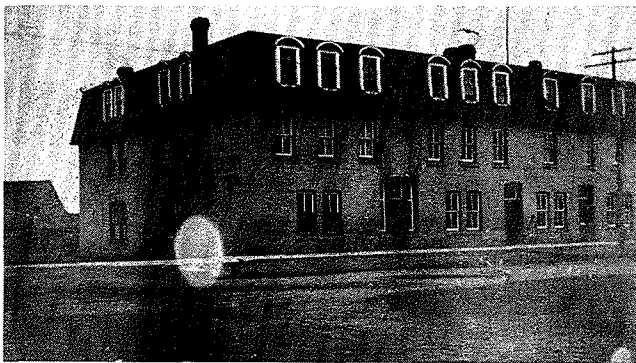
McLeod's first store after tent. Lady on left is Agnes McLeod and on right is Mary McLeod.

and dwelling house later known as the McLeod Block. Post Office and Restaurant services were also carried on in this building.

About 1884 two hotels were built. Mr. T. D. Cavanagh built the Cavanagh Hotel on the present site of the Elkhorn Motor Motel. He built a livery and feed stable in connection with it. During 1900 it was destroyed by fire but replaced shortly by the Manitoba Hotel. At the same time the Central Hotel was built by Orman and Jim Jones on the lot where the Elkhorn Flower Shop and Coffee Bar now stands. At one time the hotel was considered the best village stopping-place west of Brandon. They served good meals for twenty-five cents and kept clean and comfortable rooms at a reasonable price. Travellers were met at the train by a friendly porter who escorted them to the hotel. (The usual tip received by the porter was a five-cent cigar.)

Beer was sold in quart bottles or served in tall glasses. Many oldtimers may remember "Seagram's (Whiskey) sold for 75¢ and 85¢ a bottle; and Hennessy's Five Star Brandy at \$1.25 a bottle.

Mr. O. Jones was an avid horse racing fan, and often placed bets on horses running in the English Derby. On one occasion a Mr. Groutage advised Mr. Jones on which horse he should bet. The horse was a winner and as a result, Mr. Jones received a large sum of money. This money was used to enlarge the hotel and make necessary improvements. The hotel was then renamed "The Rosebery Hotel" after Lord Rosebery of England who was the owner of the horse on which Mr. Jones had bet.



Roseberry Hotel.

In 1908 Mr. Jones sold his business to Burke and Braithwaite. Other owners were Mr. E. Milward, Mr. L. Alguire, Mr. S. Barker, Mr. T. Hope and Mr. Cody.

During 1916, the hotel was closed because the government prohibited the sale of liquor.

The first stockyard was built in back of where the C.P.R. station stood. When the station was moved,

another stockyard was built. Around 1903, Elkhorn was the largest shipping point in Manitoba.

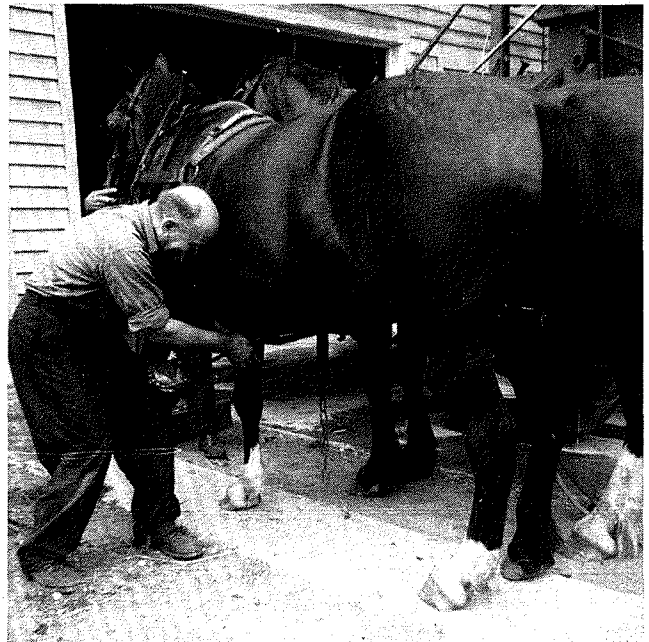
In 1883, the first hardware store was opened by the Rex Bros. who also ran a lumber yard.

Mr. J. Downs opened a general store and lumber yards in 1884 with Doc McLeod as the manager. Shortly after it had been opened, it was sold to Mr. W. M. Cushing.

Mr. George Rosewell arrived in the spring of 1886, and built the G. W. Marsh Store. During the same year, a livery stable was built by W. J. Dixon.

The Broadley Block was erected by Mr. George Broadley in 1891. This was a brick building situated on the corner of Railway and First Street. The block accommodated two stores and a large assembly hall on the ground floor; private rooms and offices occupied the top floor. In 1902 the building was destroyed by fire. Mr. Broadley had a hardware store, A. McLeod had a butcher shop and Thomas Mowat's Store occupied the block during the late 1800's.

The first blacksmith in the village was a Mr. M. Taggart. He was followed by W. J. Tinline during the early 1900's. J. S. McFadden took over in 1919, followed by Frank Mills in 1928. Mr. Mills was followed by Mr. Rudolf Schoen in May, 1931. During the 1890's a Mr. Van Nostrand had a coal, wood, and lumber business.



Rudy Schoen clipping a horse's hoof.

During the fall of 1892, Mrs. Bohan built and opened a restaurant facing Railway Street. It was the favorite resort of curlers and skaters alike. In 1911, the building was taken over by the Elkhorn Lodge No. 74, A. F. and A.M., G.R.M. It was turned to

face the main street and remodelled. During the sixties and seventies, the lower part of the building was occupied by the Virden-Elkhorn Regional Library and the Office of the Public Health Nurse. The second floor was used for a Lodge room. The building now has Fred's Electric on the lower floor and the Elkhorn Gospel Fellowship Church meets on the upper floor.

The first tailor to come to the village was a Mr. McRakin, who carried on his business through the 1800's. He was followed by Mr. Byrnes, Mr. Fallis, Mr. H. Peaver, Mr. H. McBain and Mr. J. M. McCorkindale. Mr. Alex Stewart was agent for the Massey-Harris Implement Company. He had a shop on Main Street situated where part of Bartley's Store now stands. At the same time Mr. J. Harvey Miller sold McCormick Implements and Mr. Willis McKim sold Deering Implements.

In 1899 Mr. George Sylvester arrived in the village and built a hardware and lumber business on the corner of First Street and Main. A Mr. Thompson

took over the business about 1905 and in 1906 he sold it to Mr. Lambert and Mr. G. T. Earle. After Mr. Lambert's death, the business continued until 1916 under the name of Lambert and Earle. Then it was reorganized into a limited company and was called the Elkhorn Trading Co., Ltd., with Mr. Earle as president.

Mr. George Broadley was the first building contractor in the village and Mr. L. Harrison came around 1893 as a stone mason and bricklayer. They were followed by Mr. Jas. Williamson, Mr. Ed. Parsons, Mr. John Middleton and son, Mr. Thos. Simington, Mr. John Hume, Mr. Jack Turner and Mr. Bert Watson. Many of the stores and houses of the village were erected by these men. Some examples are: Mr. Lindy Moore's house built in 1883 by Mr. George Broadley; Mr. Wm. Shurvell's house, built in the late 1880's by Mr. S. C. Travis, Mr. Allan Siple's house built by Mr. Groatage in 1884.

The above information was taken from the book,  
*Elkhorn 1882 to 1967*

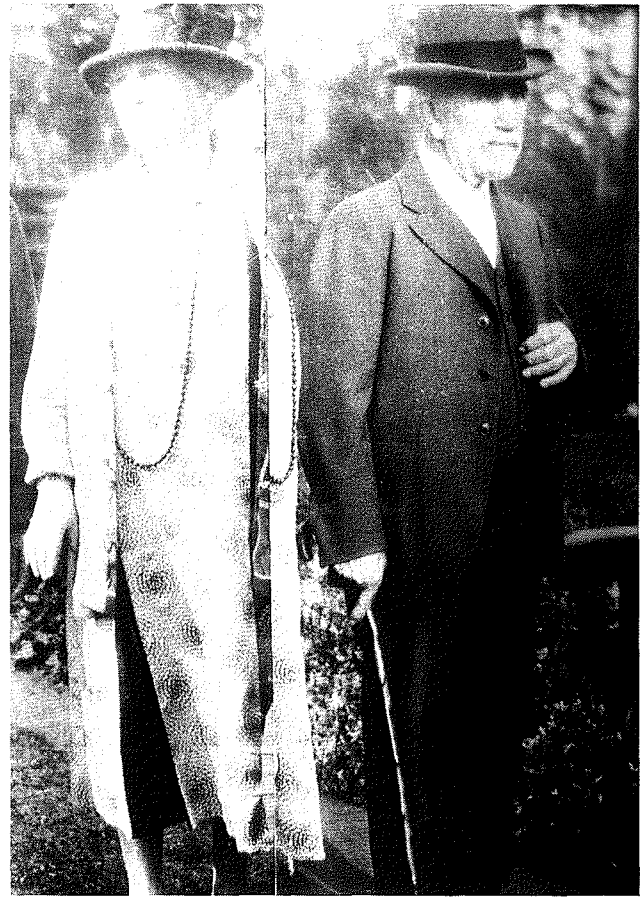


The interior of Groat's Store.





Groat's Store.



Mr. and Mrs. George Marsh who operated Marsh's Store until approximately 1915.



Lidster Butcher Shop, early 1900's, with Pete Lidster standing behind the counter.



Elkhorn.



James Vox with team and sleigh box.



Elkhorn Main Street.

### Manitoba Hotel

About 1884, Mr. Tom D. Cavanagh built the Cavanagh Hotel on the site where the Elkhorn Motor Hotel is now situated. During 1900, the hotel was demolished by fire. Shortly after, the Manitoba Hotel was built by Mr. W. J. Dixon.



Manitoba Hotel, completed in 1899.

In December of 1914, Mr. T. G. Dixon became manager and in a matter of days, he experienced a fire. The lighting plant at the rear of the hotel exploded, causing the ice house and stable which were attached, to become ablaze. Dr. Goodwin and Mr. Balkwell gave the alarm. The force of the explosion was so great that the roof of the lighting plant was hurled with tremendous force against the back wall of the hotel. This caused the supports of the outside stairway to break and also broke many windows and doors. Mr. Dixon managed to save his buggy from the stable. The exact cause of the explosion was undetermined.

In 1916, the hotel closed for a while because of the war.

In 1921, Mr. B. Dixon took over the hotel. In August, 1922, Mr. and Mrs. Irving took over.

The hotel came under the management of Mr. R. Ewing in December, 1924. Then a Mr. Soubry took over until June, 1945, when he sold out to Mr. J. Wasko. He in turn sold the business to Mr. David Skrypetz in 1946. Upon the death of Mr. Skrypetz, his wife carried on the business until 1954, when the family sold the hotel to the Landry family. In 1959 the Landry Brothers made many improvements to the hotel. More improvements were made again in 1963 under the management of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Lazar, who took over the business in 1959 from the Landry Brothers.

In 1967 Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Myers purchased the hotel. They too, made many improvements. In 1972 they sold the business to Mr. and Mrs. Steve Bugera who in turn sold to Mr. and Mrs. Greg Swanson in 1977.

On the eve of January 1, 1979 Mr. and Mrs. Swanson were awakened to the sound of their smoke detectors. The hotel was completely filled with smoke and Greg and Donna were very fortunate to get out safely. They did so by jumping off the balcony. In a matter of a few hours, the hotel which had been standing for almost eighty years was completely destroyed.

### Newspapers

In 1886 Mr. F. Greenstreet printed the first newspaper and called it *The Breeze*. A copy of this paper

# The Elkhorn Breeze

Vol 1 Thursday - March 3<sup>rd</sup> 1854 No 11

## > E. M. J. <

The subject for debate last night was "Which is most essential to success, Fact or Cheek?"

In the absence of Mr. Dixon Jun<sup>r</sup>. Mr. Rowsell opened the debate instancing examples of successful soldiers, sailors, and craftsmen, who, he claimed, owed their success to ability and tact. Mr. R. Bailey, who opened the question on the side of Cheek, thought that ability was no good without Cheek attached, as ability could not come to the front without the help of Cheek.

Mr. Jolliffe, following on the side of fact, devoted most of his time to humorous examples illustrative of fact, he amused the audience if he did not make many points.

Mr. Dixon Sen<sup>r</sup> (Cheek) made a capital speech which showed good reasoning, but as he claimed nearly all the virtues under the head of Cheek, he rather staggered the audience with his nerves.

Mr. Henderson (Fact), made his first appearance before the Society as a debater, we would recommend that gentlemen before his next appearance to black his face, as he has done far better under the mask of Ethiopia.

Mr. Hamblly (Cheek), gave us his experience as a tradesman, but his illustrations seemed to point equally to both sides. Mess<sup>rs</sup> Rowsell and Bailey having summed up, the vote was taken, when we regret to say Mr. Hume was detected in the attempt to put in a "bogus" vote.

For Fact 7

For Cheek 6

The debate for next Wednesday is - Resolved that city life is better than country life.

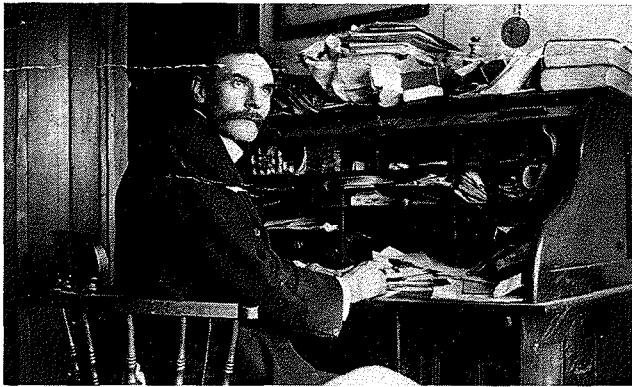
For City. Mess<sup>rs</sup> Dixon Sen<sup>r</sup>, Broadley, Hamblly and Nowak

For Country. Mess<sup>rs</sup> Buckingham, Rowsell, Little, and Henderson

## > Local Memo <

We regret to say that our popular teacher, Miss Tragnair, has been unwell for some days.

still exists at the antique Automobile Museum. It was followed by the *The Advocate*. This paper was edited first by Mr. J. W. Thompson.



W. J. Thompson in the Advocate office.

A second newspaper was started on December 3, 1908 operated by the Bell Brothers called *The Elkhorn Mercury*. In 1909 they sold out to Mr. Hatcher and Mrs. Joe Shepherd; they moved the printing equipment to the lower part of the Masonic Hall. In 1910 Mr. Charles Crosby replaced Mr. Hatcher for one year; the paper was thus operated in 1911: the paper was printed under Crosby-Shepherd partnership. In 1912, Mr. Fred C. Norris replaced Mr. Shepherd and in 1919 Mr. Norris assumed full control of the printing business until August, 1950 when Mr. Norris retired and Mr. Bernard J. Barnes became editor. In 1960 Mr. Barnes sold the paper to the Moosomin Publishing Co. in Virden. Mr. J. R. McLachlan continued to print the paper under the name *The Elkhorn Mercury* and in 1965 it amalgamated with the *Virden Empire-Advance*. The late Mrs. Florrie Gibbs reported the Elkhorn news for several years in the *Virden Empire-Advance*, followed by Margaret Clarke who was the Elkhorn reporter for seven and one-half years and at the present time Glynis Lund is reporting the Elkhorn column.

submitted by Margaret Clarke

### Lumber Yards

In 1883, the first hardware store was opened by Rex Brothers who also had a lumber yard. In 1884, Mr. J. Downs opened a lumber yard and general store with Doc. McLeod as manager. In 1889, Mr. George Sylvester arrived and built a lumber yard on the corner of First Street and the Main Street of Elkhorn. Mr. Thompson took it over about 1905-1908. Mr. Arthur Greenwood came from Fleming, Saskatchewan and started a lumber yard which was taken over

by Mr. Reg. Knight who was followed by Mr. Web Clarke.

About 1930, Beaver-Dodge operated the business with Mr. Dodge as Manager. Mr. Anderson replaced Mr. Dodge, then Mr. Lloyd Sinclair and Mr. Ken Williams in 1934.

In 1939, Beaver-Dodge Company changed its name to Beaver Lumber Company. By now, the business had increased because the Beaver Lumber Company had coal, oil and a big hardware business as well as lumber. Mr. Ken Williams retired in 1969. During the years, they employed many local people which was a great asset to our town and community. Mr. Don McLean took over after Mr. Williams and was there for about a year. Mr. Jack Moore was there for the next year.

submitted by Mrs. Mabel Williams

### Liverystables

The first livery barn was built by W. J. Dixon in 1886. In 1889 Mr. Cavanagh built a livery and feed stable in connection with the hotel. This was demolished by fire in 1900. Alex Cunningham in 1909 had a livery stable. In 1910 Smith and Balkwell took over and then sold out to Ollie Lund and Earl Snyder in 1922. Mr. Snyder spent many hours taking the local doctor and veterinarian out to cases. Roy Snyder joined as a partner with his father Earl, operating the



Livery barn.

dray business about the village. In 1960 the building was moved as progress had caught up and there was no further use for it. On a cold night as many as one hundred horses were squeezed in this barn at one time.

submitted by Margaret Allison

### Drugstores

The first drug store business was owned by Dr. R. Goodwin. Mr. Mooney became manager of the business and operated the first actual drugstore from 1897 to 1956. In 1950, Jack Norris, a nephew took over the operation still being under the name of "Mooney's

Drug Store” for 14 years. Mr. and Mrs. Doug Manwaring took over in 1964 under the name of “Manwarings Drugs”. In 1979, Doug and Mona retired and sold out to Mr. and Mrs. Glen Sutley, who are the current owners.

submitted by Margaret Allison

### Bake Shops

In the Fall of 1892, Mrs. Bohan built and opened a bake shop and restaurant. In 1900, Mr. C. L. Travis had a bakery and in 1902 a Mr. Wilby operated the business. Elkhorn Bakery was owned by C. Trumbell in 1909.



Elkhorn Bakery.

In 1921, Mr. C. Webster had a bake shop which Mr. J. M. McCorkindale took over on June 1st and hired an experienced baker, Mr. Jim Lomax. At that time, bread was four loaves for twenty-five cents and a cup of tea to his customers.

In April, 1923, Mr. McCorkindale sold the business to Mr. Joseph Hattin and it changed hands again in 1925 to Lund Brothers. In 1935, it was taken over by Mr. Cecil Ashmore.

submitted by Mrs. Mabel Williams

### Stone Masons

Mr. L. Harrison came to Elkhorn around 1893 as a stone mason and brick layer. Some of the others were Mr. Ike Holland and Mr. Thomas Symington. George Broadley was the first contractor followed by such men as James Williamson, Ed Parsons, John Middleton and Son, John, Jack Turner, and Bert Watson to name a few.

submitted by Margaret Allison

### Harness Shop

Vodden Woodwork and Harness Shop was built in 1903. Vodden and Son advertised their work in the local paper, advertising that they replaced all rigs and breaks for two years. Alfred Vodden died in 1961 and that was the end of another business. Again progress had taken over.

submitted by Margaret Allison

### Shoemakers “Cobblers”

1899 to 1970’s

J. R. Duke  
J. Danbury  
H. Hildritch  
J. Vanberkel

Mr. Prosser  
Wm. Taschuk  
Joe Hader  
Steve Dzus

submitted by Margaret Mitchell



Vodden's Shop in Elkhorn.

# Pioneer Life

## The Pioneer

He came long ago to the prairie  
When the call to the West was strong.  
He sweated and toiled to make a home  
Far away from a city's throng.  
He came with the creaking ox-cart  
O'er the far flung prairie wide;  
He forded the turbulent rivers  
To a home on the farther side.  
He hewed him logs for a cabin,  
Swung an ax in his strong right hand;  
Then knelt him down 'neath his own roof tree,  
Sought a guide in a strange new land.  
And so he toiled thro' the changing years  
'Til in sight of the sunset gates,  
He laid him down and with folded hands  
The last low call awaits.

By Mrs. Wilmer Leslie

## Pioneer Life

Times were not easy for the pioneers. Field work was done with teams of horses; machinery was a far cry from the motorized vehicles of today. Grain was seeded with a horse-drawn seeder, fields were plowed with a two-furrow plow and crops were harvested by horse-drawn binders. Early threshing was done by separator and steam engine. A more well-to-



Chapple's Oxen.

do farmer who owned an outfit would travel from farm to farm and thresh the grain.

Supplies for the winter such as flour, tea, and sugar were purchased in bulk, hopefully the lady of the house had judged accurately for these supplies had to last all winter.

The lot of the housewife was not an easy one. With the arrival of the threshers in harvest time, it meant being up around four a.m. as eighteen to twenty threshers (maybe more depending on the size of the outfit) would be expecting breakfast at five a.m. Breakfast would probably consist of oatmeal porridge, meat, potatoes, eggs, toast, tea or coffee. By six-thirty breakfast would be over, the men would have groomed and harnessed their teams and were on their way to the harvest field. In the days of the steam engine a shrill blast of the steam whistle signalled all was ready for another day. Time, seven a.m. Everyone prayed for fine weather at harvest time; if it rained some men would stay and had to be fed and paid. The work was hard but there was also time for merriment. There was always a prankster in the crowd as well as a story teller. The men had their own sleeping quarters, a caboose, which came with the gang. With the passing of the steam engine era, came the gas engine and the large gangs dwindled.

Nor had the lady of the house been idle; dishes had to be cleared and preparation started for the noon meal. There were no electric stoves or refrigeration in those days. The stove burned coal and wood; outside was a good sized wood pile. Water was stored in a large barrel and heated in pans and reservoirs on the back of the stove.

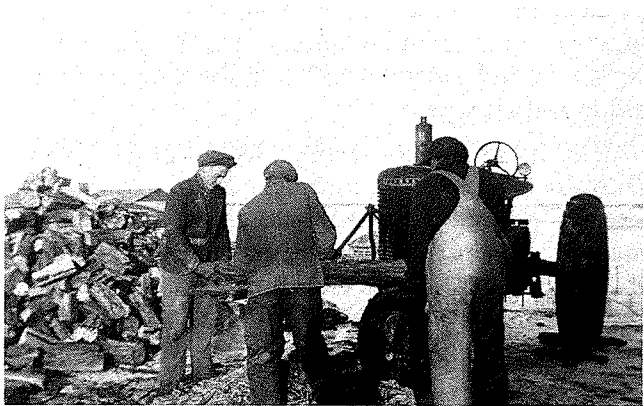
For weeks prior to the arrival of the threshers the women would be baking bread, buns, cookies and scones. There was little time for baking when the threshers came. Pies were baked in the morning and eaten at the noon meal. Bacon was prepared ahead of time by frying it and pouring a layer of fat in a large crock and then placing a layer of bacon then fat till the crock was nearly full. Butter was churned by



Harry Johnson hauling a load of wood.



Bruce Johnson splitting wood 1938.



Sawing wood at Laurie Johnson's 1941.

hand, salted, mixed and put in the ice well until needed. Fresh eggs were supplied by the flock of hens roaming the yard. In winter, eggs were preserved in water glass in a crock. With all the meal and lunch preparation there would be cows to milk, hens to feed, many other chores to do, and younger members of the family to get ready for school. A hearty meal was served at twelve p.m. and the hungry men appeared again at seven p.m. for the evening meal. Lunches were taken to the field about four p.m. It

would be well on to midnight before the weary housewife could wipe the sweat from her brow and drop into bed.

Early modes of transportation were by horse and buggy in summer, team and sleigh or cutter in winter. These gave way to the Model T. Ford car; it was a proud day when one owned one of these.

Grain was put in bags, loaded into the sleigh box, and taken to the elevator. It was dark in the morning when the farmer left and dark when he returned. The men hoped for good weather as blizzards were common in those days; if the horses left the trail it was disaster.

The long winter evenings were passed playing 500. Neighbours would arrive by team and sleigh around eight p.m. and soon a card game was underway at the kitchen table. Aided by the light of the Aladdin lamp the game continued till the wee small hours. The women gathered in another room to knit or mend and catch up on the news. There was always a hearty lunch at midnight and then on with the game.

Children were bundled up and brought along, they would eventually fall asleep; no such people as



Threshing outfit of Goethe Bros. 1911.



baby sitters in those days. School house dances and house parties helped pass the cold months.

In summer, ball games between the young people of different districts provided entertainment as well as the annual Woodville and Kola community picnics. School field days were held in Elkhorn or Virden and were a big event. Competition was keen in marching and soft ball. Kola won a fair share of prizes in both events.

In later years, seed clubs were formed in the districts as well as 4H clubs. With the improvement of the auto, the community way of living gradually changed; people travelled to towns and spent less time in the community.

Times were hard in the early years and money was scarce, but this seemed to make for closer community living. Somehow the depression was weathered, prairie fires overcome, and the Dirty Thirties survived. With all these trials many of the district young men paid the supreme sacrifice in World War I and World War II. Each in their own way has left a Heritage of which we can be proud.

submitted by Mrs. W. Cotton

### **Recollections of my early days in the Two Creeks District**

It was on the 22nd of May, 1884 when I came to Elkhorn with my father, mother, seven sisters and one brother. At that time I was just coming fourteen years of age. Three sisters were older and all the others younger, down to the youngest sister, Rosie, who was just three years old. My father was a carpenter and always worked at his trade. Often times I have thought what an undertaking it was for him to start out from England with such a large family and not know for sure where, or when he would have a home for them.

I remember that he had some sort of an agreement with H. M. Power, to build houses on a lot of farms he had purchased for a gentleman in England named Rankin, who was a member in the House of Parliament over there. So it was there on his farm, out near the Assiniboine Valley, where we were heading. But let me tell you what happened when we arrived in Elkhorn.

The station stood just about the place where the loading platform is now. My father asked if there was any way of taking us all out to this farm about fourteen miles away. I remember him bringing a man over to the station to see us, who wore a very large hat and a buckskin coat. His name was Dalton and after looking over the bunch of us with our baggage, said he would take us there for \$12.00. My father could not engage him as he only had three or four dollars

left, so we just undid our bedding and made beds on the floor in the station where we slept two nights and boiled our kettle, for making tea, in the ditch right by the railroad, with a loaf or two of bread purchased from someone in town. We stayed there until a team and wagon came from Mr. H. M. Power's farm to get us and we surely were glad to get going on this last stage of our journey. How my brother Fred, and myself, chased the gophers all along the road! It was great fun for we had never seen little animals like them before. When we arrived, after a severe shaking up in the wagon for my mother and sister, it seemed that there was no house for us to move into, so Mr. Harris, the man that drove the team, told father we had better stay at his house until something could be done for us. We thought this was very kind, as he had a wife and five of a family in the same house. How we managed I could not tell you but we lived there in that house till the fall with the use of a granary to sleep in.

Now I will try and give you what few things I remember about this farm, generally known as the Barn. All trails led to it for it was the centre of activity. There was as many as thirty to forty men engaged there at times. It seemed to me that everybody was working for Mr. Power. There was the old cook and his cookee, Jim Morton, who was always writing poetry and books. One of his books (Polsons Probation) was made up of characters from this farm. He is private secretary at the present time for the Prime Minister of British Columbia. Billy Morton, his brother, known as the Coon, who now owns a good farm and is the Live Stock Shipper for this district at the present time, also, Mr. Morton, their father, all worked on this farm.

I will name a few more outstanding men: Firstly, Mr. Cowley Webster, who was foreman, Edward and Harry, his two brothers, William Maxfield, who is still farming on his homestead near there, Charlie Ivans, well known Reeve of the Municipality of Wallace, Gilbert Rowan of Miniota and many more who have left these parts long ago. A large number of them being remittance men and all very English.

It was while working on this farm that I first saw Indians. The trail from Fort Ellice to Winnipeg passed near this farm and one day I heard a very strange noise and it seemed to be coming nearer and getting louder. It was terrible; I could not imagine what it was. Such squealing I had never heard before, so I went over to some of the men and asked them and they told me it was the Indians coming from Fort Ellice to Winnipeg with their furs. What we could hear was the squeaking of the wheels on the axles of their carts for the want of grease. This made me very interested for I wanted to see the Indians. I was told that they would camp near the Creek for the night, so

I got my chance. A few of us visited their camp in the evening and found them very friendly.

There were about twenty teams of mules and eight or ten teams of horses on this farm, each man working two mules or horses for a team. In the fall of our first summer, we moved to another house where a good sized stable was just built. My father worked in a large granary above the stable all the first winter making land rollers, door and window frames. I got the job to look after about fifteen mules there, as they did not need them at the farm. That job suited me fine and made me feel quite a man to feed and water them and give them exercise. I must tell you what happened one day when I took them out for exercise. My boss had told me to take them out two or three at a time. I did that a few days all right, but thought I could just as well take a few more at one time, so I got my brother, Fred, to hold them while I brought them out of the stable. They stood quiet so I brought out the whole lot, fifteen of them, and tied them to each other's halters. I jumped on the centre one — then the fun began. As soon as I started off with them they started kicking up and going faster all the time, till I found they were taking me instead of me taking them. All I could do was to sit tight and away they went, over the snow like a bunch of wild things. Round and round they went till at last they made straight for the big farm two miles away and they never stopped until they landed in the stable yard there. The men came out wondering what game I was up to, and I remember Mr. Webster getting after me for running the mules, but they had a good laugh when I explained that I could not hold them. That was a wild ride I never will forget!

The following summer, in the year 1885, about thirty were cut loose by horse thieves and driven away in the night from this farm. They were never recovered.

It was during this summer that the first picnic was ever held around these parts. Everybody was there for many miles around and such a day! Everybody feeling so happy and glad to meet and get acquainted with each other. It was held down in the Assiniboine Valley at the mouth of one of the creeks, a beautiful spot. A football match was held among the young Englishmen, besides foot races for old and young. The food was entirely supplied by the Cook from the Barn and he certainly supplied a wonderful lot of pies and buns, a rare treat for all. I think that was the most enjoyable picnic I ever was at.

In the spring of 1886 my father took up a homestead on the bank of the Assiniboine Valley and purchased a team of oxen. So, of course, that meant I was to be a farmer. He went on with his building trade and left me at home to break up the land with the ox

team. It was a very stony farm. Most of the land was bush and I soon found out that my father had made a very poor choice for a farm, but a lovely view of the valley could be seen from a point on top of the valley hill. In the spring time, we would see the drive of logs come down the river from the Riding Mountains to Brandon. It was a very dry year and prairie fires were very bad in the fall.

It was during this summer that I helped my father build the Ross School on the corner of Mr. Sararas' farm, and the Indian Rebellion was going on out in the West. I remember one evening when we came home from work, we found six Indians all sitting on the floor in our house. My poor mother and sisters were in an awful fright. They came in and ordered tea and bread from her, so she told them to sit down and she would get it for them, hoping all the time that my father would not be long coming home. We were worried to know what to do but father talked to them and got them in a good humor. One Indian took my father's gun down off the wall and took it away with him, but we felt thankful to see them go, without saying anything about the gun.

Just across the Valley from our place the Gerrand brothers farmed. They were named David and Syminton, well-to-do Scotsmen who had settled there in 1882, having come up the Assiniboine River in a steam boat with some stock and equipment. David was councillor and later Reeve for the Miniota Municipality. He is now living in Winnipeg. He married my sister and it was one of the first marriages in this part.

I worked with my father and on his farm till 1890. Having turned eighteen years of age I homesteaded on the S.E. 6-13-27, having to walk all the way to Birtle to make entry for it, about forty miles. I bought a team of oxen from Harvey Simpson in Virden with some money I earned at threshing, so that is how I got started on this farm where I have been farming ever since. It is forty-one years this spring and if spared, will be here for another forty years, for I have made it my home. I don't think there is another place any better.

There were mostly Scotsmen living in this district. My neighbours were J. H. Procter, John Noble, James Laurie, George Allison, Allen McLeod and John McTurk. I will never forget the good times that were held at the home of James Laurie. He was a splendid fiddler and nothing he liked better than to get a few together, dancing Scotch reels and Highland Schottiches.

I will conclude with telling a story that the late George Allison told me. It was about a trip to Birtle he made with the ox team for a load of grist. It was in March of 1884 that he loaded twelve bags of wheat in

the sleigh, hitched his oxen up and started for Birtle, leaving his wife with six young children at home with enough flour to last about two days. It was nearly fifty miles from his farm and he expected to get there and back in two days. He started at four o'clock in the morning and got there just at dark the first day. After unloading, the miller said he would start on his as soon as he had got finished with the other grist that was being done. So he got his supper, fed his oxen and went back to the mill but they had no sooner got started on his grist, when some part of the machinery broke down and that stopped the mill. After taking the broken parts out, the miller said he would have to drive to Rapid City to get it repaired, which meant a trip taking two days at least. Mr. Allison said he had no money to stay in Birtle to pay his board with, and did not want to go home without the flour and was puzzled to know what to do. He had noticed that they burned wood in the engine, hauled from the Bird Tail Creek, so he suggested to the miller, how it would be for him to go on hauling wood with his ox team to pay for his board till they got back with the repairs. This was agreed to by the miller, and he slept in the log stable on some hay near his oxen and started next morning hauling the wood for the engine and thinking all the time about his family at home. How anxious they would be when he did not get back home at the end of the two days. He waited till after midnight and they had not arrived so he thought he had better roll up in his hay and be up early in the morning to help them put in the repairs, for he felt sure they would come back some time in the night. But, to his surprise and sorrow, they had not got back home and the only thing he could do was to go on hauling more wood, which he did day after day and still word of the two with the team of ponies and cutter that had gone to Rapid City for the repairs had not come.

Things looked desperate. The family at home would be starving. It was about ten o'clock one night while he was talking and arranging with the miller's wife for some one to go on a pony and try to get word of them, that they drove up to the door — just ten days from the time they left Birtle. It turned out that when they got to Rapid City, the repairs could not be got there, but would have to go on to Portage la Prairie to get them, which they did. Along the way one pony played out and delayed them a day or two. After the miller had got some supper, they started to fix the mill and in about two hours had it going again. By four o'clock in the morning he had it done and loaded back on his sleigh ready for the trip back home, without having any sleep that night. He hitched up his oxen and started for home. The last few days had been very warm and the snow was melting

fast, making the roads very bad. Three times the sleigh with the load of grist upset before he got to the Assiniboine Valley. Then his greatest fear was, would the river be broken up and the ice going down? If it was, he would have to wait till they could move the ferry across as there were no bridges. That might mean another week's delay.

When he got to the river bank, he said his heart sank down in his boots, for instead of seeing ice to cross over on, it was all running water, with the ferry frozen in on the side. After standing and looking, wondering what ever to do, he got a pole and felt down in the water. Sure enough, the ice was still there with about two feet of water running over it. So he got his oxen down onto it, then stood on the tongue of the sleigh and felt with the pole ahead of the oxen all the way across. He said he was the happiest and most thankful man alive just then, for he knew that in another few hours, after being away twelve days, he would be home to his family. He got home to meet his little boys running to meet him with a good sized piece of turnip in their hands.

written about 1927 by George Cole

### **March 9th 1963**

#### **Lippentott as told by Ivan Lund**

#### **Now It can be Told**

The story of the Postal District of Lippentott is told from memories of stories told by the early settlers as no records are available. The story of Lippentott District begins back in 1882, when the first settlers arrived. They were: **Wesley Lund Sr., William Stewart, Abraham Rowand, Oliver Rowand and John Scott.**

One day early in May 1882, Abe Rowand, his brother Oliver, and John Scott left their farm homes in Ontario, and headed towards the Great Canadian West to get a quarter section of land for ten dollars and to make their homes. Arriving at Portage La Prairie, Manitoba, they bought a high wagon and box, ox harness, a plow, muzzle loader, some food and a yoke of oxen. They headed their oxen west towards the Moose Mountain Country, then in The North West Territory, now Saskatchewan, where they intended to homestead.

The Indians gave them no trouble. After traveling for days and days, fighting flies and mosquitoes, they came to The Moose Mountain trail which led them to the Moose Mountain Crossing on the Pipestone River. The river was so high they couldn't cross so they followed the valley north-west, until they came to Section 17 which was C.P.R. land, then to Section 19, also C.P.R. land. Up the hill they went to section 30 which was homestead land. The land



Lippentott Civilian Rifle Association. L-R Back row: Wallace Black, Roy Longman, Bill Montgomery, Alfred Lund, T. D. McCorkindale, Geo. Prowd, Jim Paull, Bill Paull, Tom Adair, Harold Lund, Dr. Hugh Cochrane. Front row: Chas. Scott, David Simpson, Mr. Jones, Spike Anderson, Dr. Goodwin, Guy Longman, David Taylor.

looked so good, they decided to go no further and homesteaded 30-10-29. By settling on section 30, they were in the middle of what was, and is now to become the Lippentott District, some 70 miles west of Brandon. It was up against, what is now the Manitoba-Saskatchewan boundary, then in the county of Dennis, later, in 1884, to become the Rural Municipality of Wallace. **A. G. McDougall** was the first Reeve, and **W. H. McDougall** the first secretary.

Saskatchewan became a Province in 1905. The Municipality of Maryfield was formed in 1913 with W. M. F. Kay as Reeve and Wm. Toone as secretary. Charlie Stewart was the first white child born in the Lippentott district. He was born on December 25th, 1884 in a sod hut on N. W. 20-10-29, where his father William homesteaded in 1882. Will came to Western Canada from Ontario.

Between 1882 and 1892, twenty Lunds flocked into Lippentott. John Lund, who was the daddy or granddaddy of them all, later to become known as Grandfather Lund, with his wife Mary Jane and eight of their family of eleven, came west in 1884. They were: Wesley Sr., Dan, Blair, Gil, Jane, Liz, Bell and Nell. George, Charlie and Jim stayed in the East.

By leaving Sackville and Cookville, New Brunswick, where the Lunds were raised, they left

good homes because of having logs on their land. The saw mills were run by water power and building costs were low. The house would be built first, then the wood shed, the ice house, the granary, the work shop, the hen house and the barn all in a row. A lot of the barns were built barn floor style.

By growing buckwheat that they had ground into flour at the grist mill run by water power, they had lots of pancakes and molasses. The molasses was shipped in from the West Indies in forty-five gallon barrels. Blueberries and low bush cranberries grew wild. In a short time they could pick a bucketful of wild fruit. They had their own apple orchards and vegetable gardens and livestock. In the woods were moose, deer and bear. The brooks and ponds were well stocked with trout. Herring was caught in the Tantramar River, which is a tidal river. Mackerel and cod were caught in the Bay of Fundy. In Northumberland Strait lobsters were caught. Grandfather Lund owned some marsh land, that he helped claim from the sea by using a shovel and wheelbarrow to build and maintain the dykes.

Head yokes were used on the oxen that the farmers worked in the woods and around the farms. Grain was pounded into flour with a hard wooden pestle, in the hollowed end of a stump. Hay and grain were cut with a scythe and raked by hand. Straw bands were

used to tie the grain sheaves as they were stooked; the grain was then beaten out of the heads with a flail. Two men sawed logs into boards and planks by hand, and it was known as whip sawn lumber. Water-powered lumber and grist mills were located along the streams where there was a man-made waterfall. Carders, spinning wheels, and looms were in their homes. Many items around the farms were made of wood, including skates that were shod with steel and held fast to the soles of leather boots with clamps. Much of the tableware was of pewter, a low priced substitute for silver.

Life was good down by the sea. The Lunds and their neighbors' dwellings were good. A story has often been told and may not be true, that they never tired of fish and when they put on a shirt it was put on to stay because the fish bones held it that way. Milk cows were kept along with some chickens. The bear gave them fuel for their lard lamps and candles. The climate was good. Cyclones, blizzards, drouths and hailstorms were unknown.

Uncle John Cosen was a lumberjack. Each winter and in the spring he helped drive floating logs down the roaring streams to the saw mill far below. One day around 1875, after a river drive was over, he laid aside his peavy and river togs and ran away to sea to become a sailor on a wooden sailing vessel. The skipper of the vessel that carried Uncle and his mates over the choppy waters, spent much time scanning the skies for weather signs, that he knew are printed there for us to see and read. On a dark and stormy night, in the month of March, Uncle jumped ship in some port along the Western Coast and found shelter from the cold and rain in a stack of hay. Next morning before the break of day, the farmer took fork in hand and went to get some feed, and much to his surprise jabbed a fork into someone's leg. The farmer and Uncle John, then ran, each one in a different way. Uncle then met Aunt Martha and they bought a tract of land in the state of Washington. There on their dairy farm, Uncle liked to tell of life at sea and how he yelled when the fork tine jabbed his leg.

Back in New Brunswick, a bottle of Jamaica rum could be bought for twenty-five cents. All these good things they left behind, when they travelled more than half way across Canada to settle on the wind-swept prairies of Lippentott.

In 1882, Wes Sr. stopped off in Brandon to call on a doctor who had come west in 1881. He advised Wes to go to Elkhorn, as that was as far as the rail was laid on the main line of the C.P.R. Walking the fourteen miles south-west of Elkhorn, Wes picked on the S.E. ¼ of 32-10-29 for his homestead. His wife Cora and son Harry followed soon after. Grandfather Lund, his wife and family came in 1884. He homesteaded the

N.W. ¼ of 36-10-30 on the banks of the Pipestone River. Blair homesteaded the S.E. ¼ of 12-11-30. Gil homesteaded the S.W. ¼ of 12-11-30, up the river from Grandfather Lund's farm.

LaBaron Read, who had married Jane Lund, homesteaded the S.W. ¼ of 32-10-29 and raised three of a family, Jack, Maud and Nell.

Luke Harrison, who had married Bell Lund, settled in Elkhorn, raising a family of five.

Jack Kinnear, who had married Liz Lund, raised one girl, Mabel. One evening at dusk, in the summer of 1883, Wes Lund Sr. looked towards the North East and thought he saw someone in the distance. He kept looking and looking as he saw a man walking toward his place. The man was Edgar Weldon, a friend of the Lunds in the East. He had come to Elkhorn and walked out to Lippentott. Edgar filed on the N.E. ¼ of 22-10-29 in 1883.

In February 1886, Wes Lund Jr. and Lock Weldon came west. As they were only seventeen years old and too young to homestead, Lock went back East. He worked at the tailor trade. In later years, he was killed in a car accident in New Brunswick. In 1888, West Jr. homesteaded the N.E. ¼ of 30-10-29. This land had been a homesteader preemption which he had been forced to give up on account of financial difficulties.

Dan Lund, his wife, Charlotte and family, Annie, Dave, Harvey, Albert, Herb and Helen arrived in 1892. They brought with them, a car load of settlers' effects. Piling the furniture up against their son Wesley's shanty, one Sunday it went up in flames, destroying house and effects. A spark from the stove was the cause of the fire. Dan bought the N.E. ¼ of 25-10-30, C.P.R. Land. The fall of 1887 found Edgar Weldon and Blair Lund back in Sackville, N.B. Before the first crocus had bloomed at Lippentott in the spring of 1888, two young girls were farmers' wives, living on the western prairies. Blair had married a girl by the name of Maggie McConnell. Coming to their homestead they raised a family of nine.

Edgar married Eliza Phoebe Carr, who came from Prince Edward Island and took a position with a family by the name of Burwash. They raised a family of four.

By the time Ed, Frank, and Walter Lund came to Lippentott, most of the better available land had been homesteaded. Walter went on to Calgary, and worked in a packing plant.

Ed. went to Oak Lake and worked at the carpenter trade. He also made and sold a grain pickler. He also made a tripod affair to lift hay racks off wagons.

Frank, being a blacksmith, went to Prince Albert, worked at his trade for a short time. Later he took up

taxidermy, building up a big wild life exhibit. His son Gordon is now running the business.

Abe Rowand went back to Ontario the winter of 1883 and got married. In the spring, Abe and Mrs. Rowand came west, bringing with them a car-load of settlers' effects. Included in that load was seed grain, and a team of horses, the first horses to be owned by a Lippentott homesteader. The Indians had their ponies, when the homesteaders arrived, mostly Pintos and Buckskins. Anthony Henday, an employee of the Hudson's Bay Company, had reported that he saw the Indians riding horses in 1754, 128 years before the arrival of the first Lippentott homesteaders. The Bucks would ride around, always on the look out for the homesteader's scalp. The homesteader would never wander too far away from his muzzle loader. The Indian liked the whiteman's liquor, the fur trader having made him acquainted with it, a few years before. He called it fire water. Mr. and Mrs. Finlay and their family, Jim, Henry, Jack, Jennie and Marge, were Ontario people. They came to the Eastern part of Lippentott in the early eighties, homesteading all of section 28-10-29. The father and three sons each took a quarter section.

Mr. and Mrs. Crisp came from England to the western prairies in 1883, buying the entire section of 9-10-29. Their buildings were built on the S.E. ¼. The Prenwick farm, as they had named it, was located on the western side of the postal district of Kola, on the banks of the Pipestone. Mrs. Crisp and baby boy died in 1884 and Mr. Crisp died in 1886. All three are buried on the farm.

In 1885 Ed. Naylen and his wife came directly to the Prenwick farm from England. Ed homesteaded the N.E. ¼ of 10-10-29, later moving to the N.W. ¼ of 16-10-29, where they lost their house by fire. They then moved across the river, building on the N.W. ¼ of 5-10-29. The Naylens raised a family of eight. Ed Naylen: On this particular day my father Edgar Weldon was breaking on 22-10-28. An old prairie road used to cut across this quarter section. He observed a man and a woman walking toward him. It turned out to be Ed Naylen and wife on the way to Prenwick farm.

William McFadden was Mrs. Naylen's brother, known as Uncle Willie by all who knew him. Uncle Willie farmed until his health failed in the early thirties.

In the mid eighties, a couple of English lads by the name of Mohns came to the prairie West and homesteaded the East half of 16-10-30, one mile east from where the sleepy little conservative village of Maryfield now stands. Elkhorn, 20 miles to the North-East was the town where the Mohns hauled their wheat and got their supplies. All hauling was

done with oxen, using the Moose Mountain-Beulah Indian Trail and crossing the river at Scott's crossing.

In 1885 Jim Scott Sr. homesteaded the N.E. ¼ of 24-10-30. His son John had homesteaded the S.W. ¼ of 30-10-29 in 1882.

First mention of the Pipestone River is made by Henry Hind, who was the leader of an exploratory expedition, that explored what is now South Western Manitoba and South Eastern Saskatchewan, in 1858. When the expedition made camp near Oak Lake on June 29th, 1858, there were in the party, 15 men, 15 horses, six Red River Carts, one wagon and one ox. The party explored the Souris Valley as far south as the U.S. boundary, then turned north-west toward the Pipestone, on the second of July, 1858. Mr. Hind wrote of grasshoppers:

"On the second of July, we observed the grasshoppers in full flight toward the North. The air as far as the eye could penetrate, appeared to be filled with them. They commenced their flight about nine in the morning and continued until half past three or four o'clock in the afternoon. About that hour they clung to the leaves of grass and rested after their journey. On subsequent days, when crossing the great prairie to Fort Ellice, the hosts of grasshoppers were beyond all calculation. They appeared to be infinite in number."

#### July 6th 1858

Mr. Hind reports on the Pipestone on the 6th of July; they arrived at the creek and found the country swarming with a young brood of grasshoppers. "Pipestone Creek is 20 feet broad at our crossing place, with a swift current and a depth of water varying from one and a half to three feet. Among the trees fringing its banks, the ash-leaved maple is most numerous. The valley of this river is narrow, but rich and beautiful. On the hills in its neighborhood, boulders are numerous. Mr. Hind mentions the Pipestone again:

Up at dawn, train in motion about 4 a.m. Halted at Pipestone Creek for breakfast, having accomplished 13 miles after travelling across a light sandy prairie with low knolls and ridges of gravel and boulders. Remaining here to determine the latitude and being delayed some time in fording the stream, owing to the deepness and miriness of its banks, the train did not get under way again until 2 P.M. traversed a rolling woodless prairie, with hard gravelly soil, supporting a scanty growth of grass."

On the 9th of July, 1858, the Hind's expedition shot a buffalo. "The great fires in the autumn of 1847 had driven the big herd south and north-west. On the 9th, we passed through a fine grazing country and here we saw the first buffalo bull."

**The following was written by Ivan Lund — January 21st, 1969**

In 1882 Uncle Wesley Lund came west as far as the steel was laid on the main line of The Canadian Pacific Railroad. He homesteaded land 70 miles west of Brandon in township 10, range 29, Uncle's letters home to Cookville and Sackville, New Brunswick told that all was good on the prairies and homesteaders from Ontario lived to the southwest, little more than a mile away.

Many relatives and friends came within the next few years and liked the open land where they could see for miles.

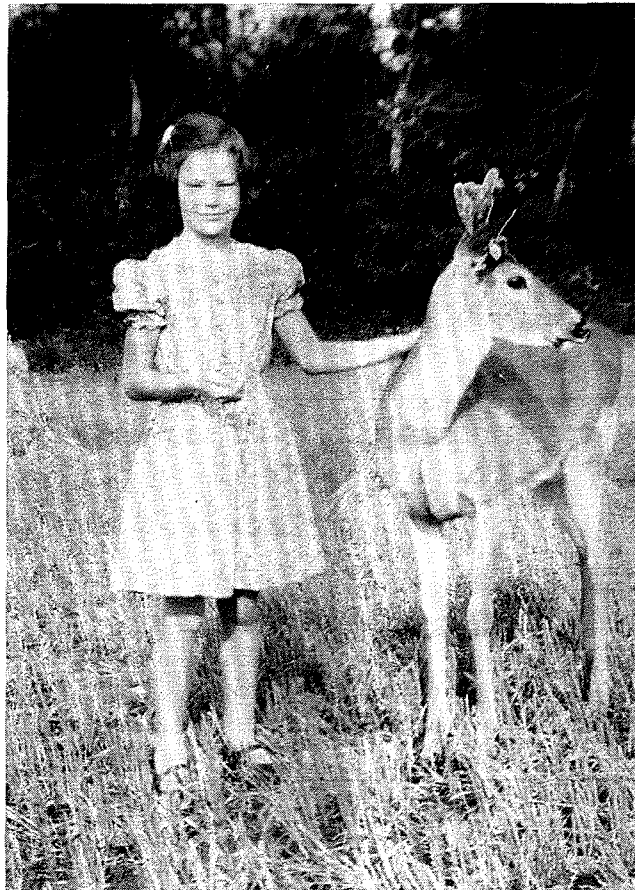
**A News Item Appeared in The Elkhorn Advocate, Dated 1904**

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Lund returned last week from a trip to New Brunswick. They enjoyed the trip very much, but prefer Manitoba to live in.

The 24th of May, 1882 came in cold and snowy for the settlers from New Brunswick and Ontario as they camped along the fur traders' trail on N.W. ¼ 8-10-29 in the Pipestone Valley. The river was roaring, foaming and mad as the water ran to its side, to be carried away to Oak Lake. An English lad dressed

in his Sunday best, came over the hill and into the valley, riding into the face of the late spring snow storm, on the back of an ox. Others came on the run, when they spied the glow of the campfires in the valley below. Along came a man, alone in a wagon and he drove his oxen into the swollen stream. The wagon box lifted and carried the man away. Onlookers prayed as the box with the man gathered speed. Men who never prayed before, prayed as they ran along the river bank, that the man's life be saved.

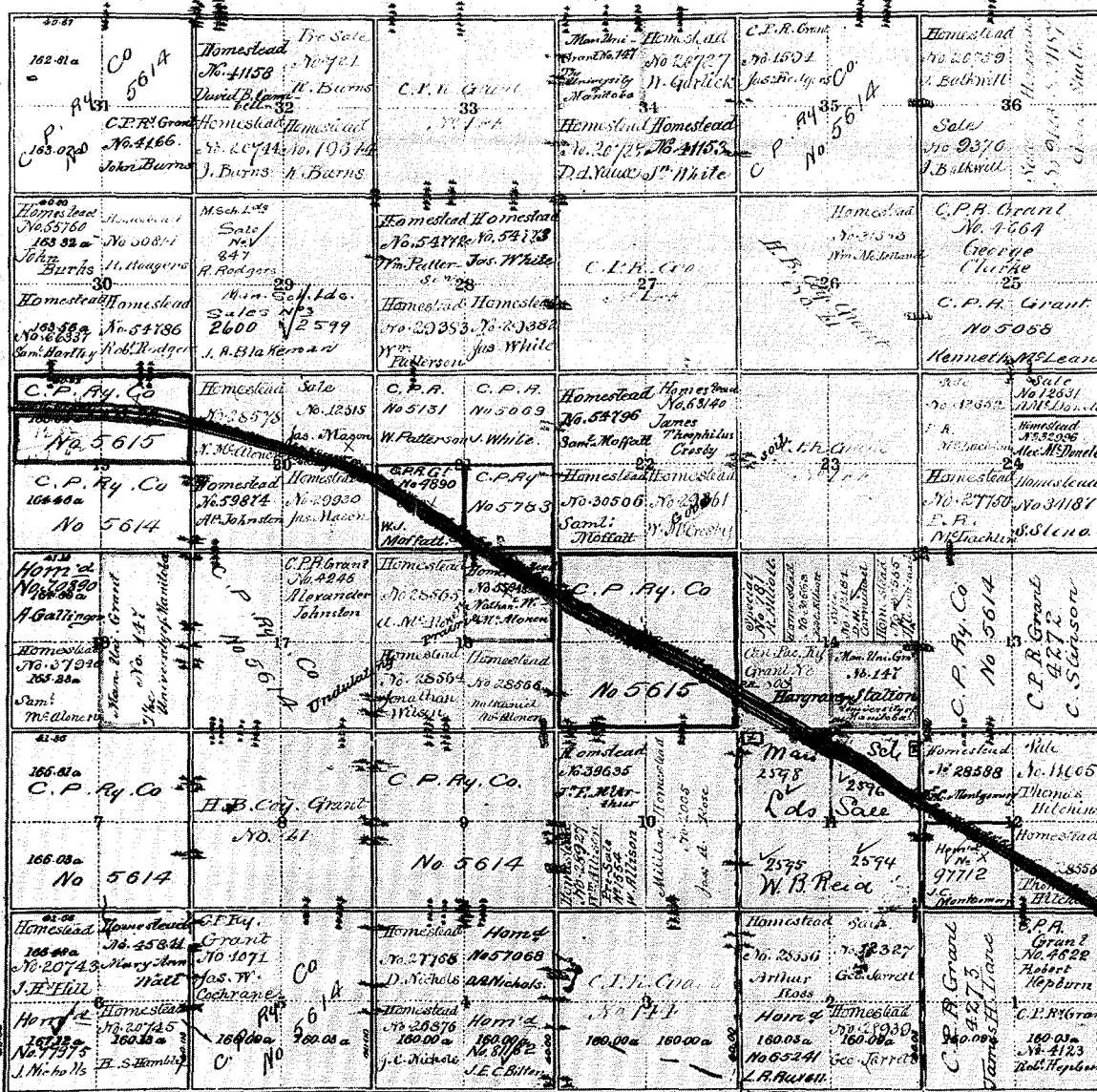
With crossing safer and wagon boxes tied down, the lad and his ox led the weary land-seekers away from the Lippentott settlement to 9-1-W of 2nd meridian, a few miles east of the Moose Mountains, where they took up land. Two Indian Reserves were in the Mountains, the Cree and Assiniboine. One fine summer day, a young immigrant wandered into the mountains and ran into an Indian camp. He didn't linger long, when he noticed eagle feathers in their hair and their bellies painted red; water in the cast iron pot was simmering waiting to cook some meat. Karl became frightened and fled. Running quickly over hills and valleys, he was soon out on the open prairies, where he ran at a rapid clip to the safety of his home.



Marie and Aubrey Lund's pet deer "Bambi".

# PLAN OF TOWNSHIP NO 11 RANGE 27 WEST OF FIRST MERIDIAN 1996

Scale, 40 Chains to an inch.



C.P.R. Plan No 6855

DOMINION LANDS OFFICE  
OTTAWA.

M.Sch. 109 Sale  
No 25477  
The Government Municipality  
of Wallace

Surveyed by the Undersigned

(Sig) William Wagner D.L.S

Oswego 15<sup>th</sup> November 1881

Field Book No.

15<sup>th</sup> February 1882

Approved and confirmed

*William Wagner*

Surveyor General.

Net Area 24085.86 Acres.

Roads 872.00 "

Water

Total Area 23213.86 "



# PLAN OF TOWNSHIP NO 12

RANGE 27 WEST OF FIRST MERIDIAN

Scale, 40 Chains to an inch

C.P. Ry Co No 5197 160-28a N°5616	Homestead No. 4533 John H. Noble E. Davies	Can. Pac. Ry Grant Stony No. 4534	Homestead No. 20729 H. D. Scott No. 41920 E. C. Clarke	Homestead No. 4141 M. Black	C.P. Ry Co N°5616	Homestead No. 26970 Mr. Morlan No. 54692 Conley Webster
C.P. Ry Co No 5197 160-28a G. Allison	O.R. Grant No. 4674 The Can. Pac. Ry. Comp.	Homestead No. 59329 No. 46466 J. Campbell	Jonathan Scarth	Homestead No. 27249 J. Allison	C.P. Ry Co N°5616	Homestead No. 20660 Mr. Morlan No. 20661 C. Webster
Homestead No. 16032 No. 8764 A. Turner	M. L. Dale No. 2604 J. R. Allison	Homestead No. 19518 Th. Brown - J. Williamson C. L. Kelly	Homestead No. 42841 No. 42841 No. 12727 Rob. Baker E. C. Footbridge	C.P. Ry Co N°5616	Homestead No. 37827 E. B. Campbell	Can. Pac. Ry Grant No. 857 Charles Rogers
Homestead No. 16108a C.P. Ry Co N°5616 161-20a	Homestead No. 20616 J. Laurie	Homestead No. 20616 J. Laurie	Homestead No. 20616 J. Laurie	Homestead No. 20616 J. Laurie	C.P. Ry Co N°5616	Homestead No. 10802 No. 37689 Wm. N. Kay No. 25928 E. W. Reynolds
Homestead No. 16141a A. Faulkner	Homestead No. 4515 Annie Bayley	Homestead No. 116710 W. J. Lamm	Homestead No. 45150 J. Moyer	Homestead No. 20898 J. Reynolds No. 20899 W. Reynolds	C.P. Ry Co N°5616	Homestead No. 12220 No. 82562 Geo. F. Sanderson
Homestead No. 16186a C.P. Ry Co N°5616 161-90a	Homestead No. 4222 E. Cahill	Homestead No. 116710 W. J. Lamm	Homestead No. 4222 E. Cahill	Homestead No. 20898 J. Reynolds No. 20899 W. Reynolds	C.P. Ry Co N°5616	Homestead No. 37689 No. 31408 N. Dundas O. Smith
Homestead No. 16201a John Harry	Homestead No. 51848 Arthur No. 227 C. P. Grant	Homestead No. 52242 John Clarkson	Homestead No. 20636 J. Clarkson	Homestead No. 20636 J. Clarkson	C.P. Ry Co N°5616	Homestead No. 20636 J. Clarkson
Homestead No. 16220a John Harry Bradford	Homestead No. 39602 John B. F. Bradford	Homestead No. 52242 John Clarkson	Homestead No. 20636 J. Clarkson	Homestead No. 20636 J. Clarkson	C.P. Ry Co N°5616	Homestead No. 20636 J. Clarkson

DOMINION LANDS OFFICE  
OTTAWA.

Contents.

Surveyed by the Undersigned

15<sup>th</sup> May 1882

Net Area ..... 23256.40 ..... Acres.

(Sig) William Magnus B.L.S.

Approved and confirmed

Roads ..... 872.00 ..... "

Ossawa 15<sup>th</sup> November 1881.

*William Magnus*  
Surveyor General.

Water ..... "

Field Book No.

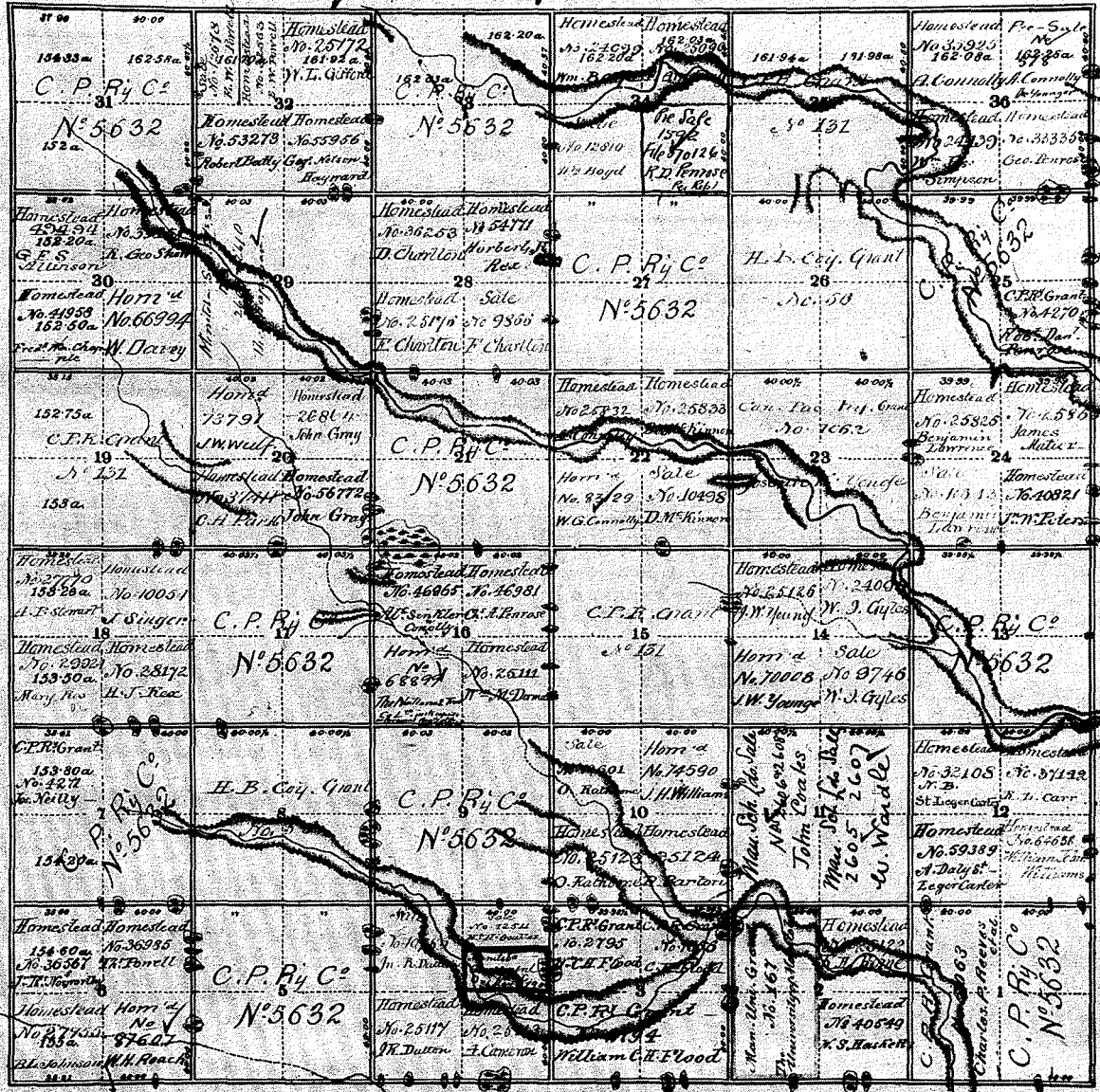
Total Area ..... 23227.40 ..... "

TOWNSHIP NO. 10

RANGE 28 WEST OF FIRST MERIDIAN

*New plan printed 19/1/23*

Scale 40 Chains to an inch.



Surveyed by the Undersigned  
*James Macran, D.L.S.*  
 8<sup>th</sup> July, 1882

Dominion Lands Office  
 Ottawa  
 24<sup>th</sup> January, 1882  
 Approved and confirmed  
*James Macran*  
 Surveyor General

Contents:

Land in Sections	22284.08	Acres
Roads	872.10	"
Water		"
Total Area	23856.18	"

EXPLANATION OF COLORS:  
 Woods: Green. Scrub or Prairie and Woods: Dotted green. Water: Blue.  
 Marshes: Yellow with small strokes of black. Hills or Slopes: Fencing or Grey Shade.  
 Brulé (Burnt Woods): Brown. Settler's Improvements: Pink.

PLAN OF  
**TOWNSHIP N<sup>o</sup> 11**  
 RANGE 28 WEST OF FIRST MERIDIAN 2244

Scale, 40 Chains to an inch.

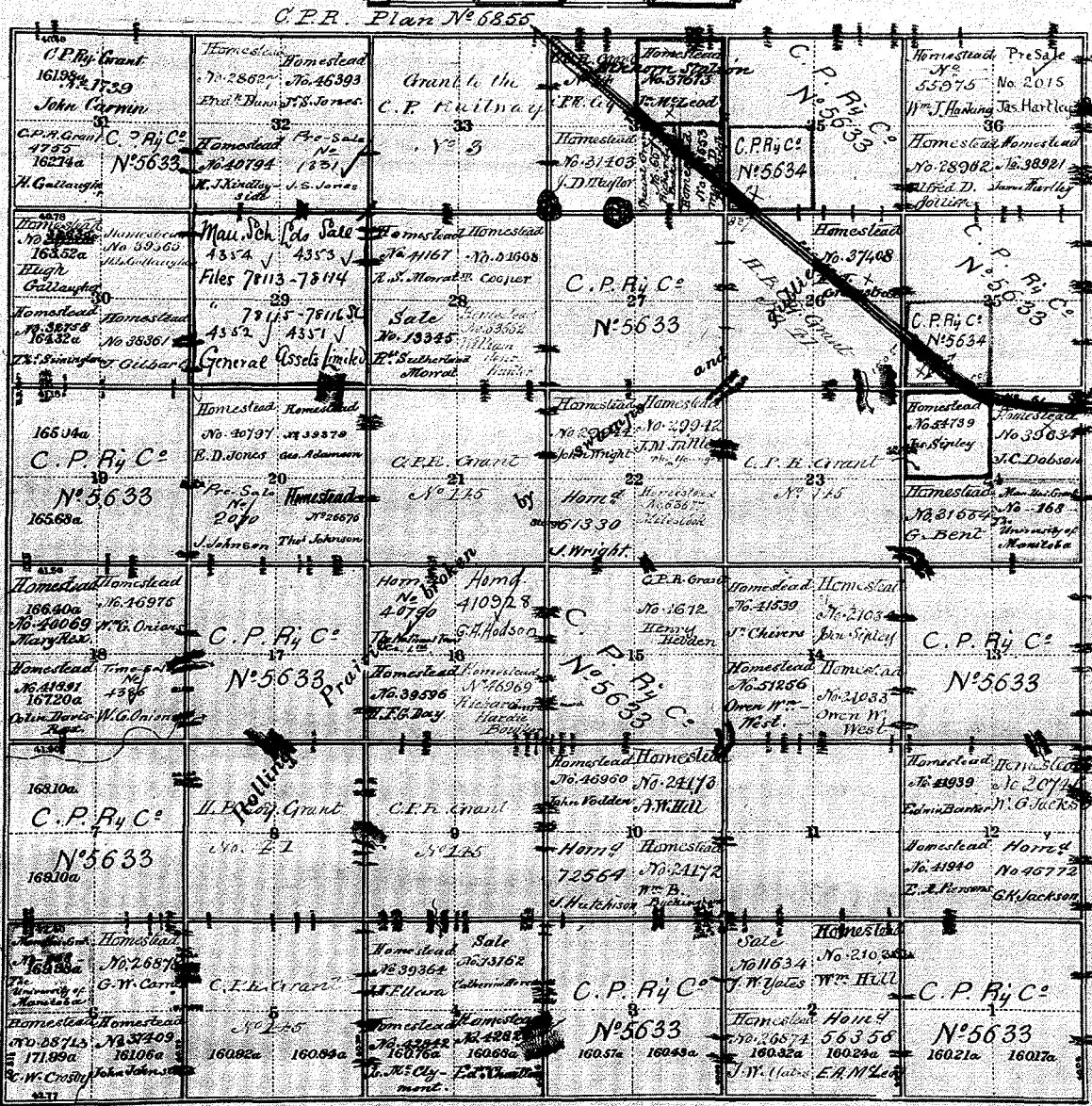


PHOTO LITH BY THE BRUNNEN CITY CO. WOODBINE.

DOMINION LANDS OFFICE  
 OTTAWA.

Contents.

Surveyed by the Undersigned  
 William Wagner D.L.S.  
 Ottawa 15<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1881  
 Field Book No. \_\_\_\_\_

15<sup>th</sup> February 1882  
 Approved and confirmed  
*Charles Bell*  
 Surveyor General

Net Area	23121.77	Acres
Roads	614.70	"
Water		"
Total Area	23986.37	"

# Twp 12 Rge 28W

C.P.R. Plan No. 6855

<p>16018a 16024a 16030a 16036a 16042a 16048a 16054a 16060a 16066a 16072a 16078a 16084a 16090a 16096a 16102a 16108a 16114a 16120a 16126a 16132a 16138a 16144a 16150a 16156a 16162a 16168a 16174a 16180a 16186a 16192a 16198a 16204a 16210a 16216a 16222a 16228a 16234a 16240a 16246a 16252a 16258a 16264a 16270a 16276a 16282a 16288a 16294a 16300a 16306a 16312a 16318a 16324a 16330a 16336a 16342a 16348a 16354a 16360a 16366a 16372a 16378a 16384a 16390a 16396a 16402a 16408a 16414a 16420a 16426a 16432a 16438a 16444a 16450a 16456a 16462a 16468a 16474a 16480a 16486a 16492a 16498a 16504a 16510a 16516a 16522a 16528a 16534a 16540a 16546a 16552a 16558a 16564a 16570a 16576a 16582a 16588a 16594a 16600a 16606a 16612a 16618a 16624a 16630a 16636a 16642a 16648a 16654a 16660a 16666a 16672a 16678a 16684a 16690a 16696a 16702a 16708a 16714a 16720a 16726a 16732a 16738a 16744a 16750a 16756a 16762a 16768a 16774a 16780a 16786a 16792a 16798a 16804a 16810a 16816a 16822a 16828a 16834a 16840a 16846a 16852a 16858a 16864a 16870a 16876a 16882a 16888a 16894a 16900a 16906a 16912a 16918a 16924a 16930a 16936a 16942a 16948a 16954a 16960a 16966a 16972a 16978a 16984a 16990a 16996a 17002a 17008a 17014a 17020a 17026a 17032a 17038a 17044a 17050a 17056a 17062a 17068a 17074a 17080a 17086a 17092a 17098a 17104a 17110a 17116a 17122a 17128a 17134a 17140a 17146a 17152a 17158a 17164a 17170a 17176a 17182a 17188a 17194a 17200a 17206a 17212a 17218a 17224a 17230a 17236a 17242a 17248a 17254a 17260a 17266a 17272a 17278a 17284a 17290a 17296a 17302a 17308a 17314a 17320a 17326a 17332a 17338a 17344a 17350a 17356a 17362a 17368a 17374a 17380a 17386a 17392a 17398a 17404a 17410a 17416a 17422a 17428a 17434a 17440a 17446a 17452a 17458a 17464a 17470a 17476a 17482a 17488a 17494a 17500a 17506a 17512a 17518a 17524a 17530a 17536a 17542a 17548a 17554a 17560a 17566a 17572a 17578a 17584a 17590a 17596a 17602a 17608a 17614a 17620a 17626a 17632a 17638a 17644a 17650a 17656a 17662a 17668a 17674a 17680a 17686a 17692a 17698a 17704a 17710a 17716a 17722a 17728a 17734a 17740a 17746a 17752a 17758a 17764a 17770a 17776a 17782a 17788a 17794a 17800a 17806a 17812a 17818a 17824a 17830a 17836a 17842a 17848a 17854a 17860a 17866a 17872a 17878a 17884a 17890a 17896a 17902a 17908a 17914a 17920a 17926a 17932a 17938a 17944a 17950a 17956a 17962a 17968a 17974a 17980a 17986a 17992a 17998a 18004a 18010a 18016a 18022a 18028a 18034a 18040a 18046a 18052a 18058a 18064a 18070a 18076a 18082a 18088a 18094a 18100a 18106a 18112a 18118a 18124a 18130a 18136a 18142a 18148a 18154a 18160a 18166a 18172a 18178a 18184a 18190a 18196a 18202a 18208a 18214a 18220a 18226a 18232a 18238a 18244a 18250a 18256a 18262a 18268a 18274a 18280a 18286a 18292a 18298a 18304a 18310a 18316a 18322a 18328a 18334a 18340a 18346a 18352a 18358a 18364a 18370a 18376a 18382a 18388a 18394a 18400a 18406a 18412a 18418a 18424a 18430a 18436a 18442a 18448a 18454a 18460a 18466a 18472a 18478a 18484a 18490a 18496a 18502a 18508a 18514a 18520a 18526a 18532a 18538a 18544a 18550a 18556a 18562a 18568a 18574a 18580a 18586a 18592a 18598a 18604a 18610a 18616a 18622a 18628a 18634a 18640a 18646a 18652a 18658a 18664a 18670a 18676a 18682a 18688a 18694a 18700a 18706a 18712a 18718a 18724a 18730a 18736a 18742a 18748a 18754a 18760a 18766a 18772a 18778a 18784a 18790a 18796a 18802a 18808a 18814a 18820a 18826a 18832a 18838a 18844a 18850a 18856a 18862a 18868a 18874a 18880a 18886a 18892a 18898a 18904a 18910a 18916a 18922a 18928a 18934a 18940a 18946a 18952a 18958a 18964a 18970a 18976a 18982a 18988a 18994a 19000a 19006a 19012a 19018a 19024a 19030a 19036a 19042a 19048a 19054a 19060a 19066a 19072a 19078a 19084a 19090a 19096a 19102a 19108a 19114a 19120a 19126a 19132a 19138a 19144a 19150a 19156a 19162a 19168a 19174a 19180a 19186a 19192a 19198a 19204a 19210a 19216a 19222a 19228a 19234a 19240a 19246a 19252a 19258a 19264a 19270a 19276a 19282a 19288a 19294a 19300a 19306a 19312a 19318a 19324a 19330a 19336a 19342a 19348a 19354a 19360a 19366a 19372a 19378a 19384a 19390a 19396a 19402a 19408a 19414a 19420a 19426a 19432a 19438a 19444a 19450a 19456a 19462a 19468a 19474a 19480a 19486a 19492a 19498a 19504a 19510a 19516a 19522a 19528a 19534a 19540a 19546a 19552a 19558a 19564a 19570a 19576a 19582a 19588a 19594a 19600a 19606a 19612a 19618a 19624a 19630a 19636a 19642a 19648a 19654a 19660a 19666a 19672a 19678a 19684a 19690a 19696a 19702a 19708a 19714a 19720a 19726a 19732a 19738a 19744a 19750a 19756a 19762a 19768a 19774a 19780a 19786a 19792a 19798a 19804a 19810a 19816a 19822a 19828a 19834a 19840a 19846a 19852a 19858a 19864a 19870a 19876a 19882a 19888a 19894a 19900a 19906a 19912a 19918a 19924a 19930a 19936a 19942a 19948a 19954a 19960a 19966a 19972a 19978a 19984a 19990a 19996a 20002a 20008a 20014a 20020a 20026a 20032a 20038a 20044a 20050a 20056a 20062a 20068a 20074a 20080a 20086a 20092a 20098a 20104a 20110a 20116a 20122a 20128a 20134a 20140a 20146a 20152a 20158a 20164a 20170a 20176a 20182a 20188a 20194a 20200a 20206a 20212a 20218a 20224a 20230a 20236a 20242a 20248a 20254a 20260a 20266a 20272a 20278a 20284a 20290a 20296a 20302a 20308a 20314a 20320a 20326a 20332a 20338a 20344a 20350a 20356a 20362a 20368a 20374a 20380a 20386a 20392a 20398a 20404a 20410a 20416a 20422a 20428a 20434a 20440a 20446a 20452a 20458a 20464a 20470a 20476a 20482a 20488a 20494a 20500a 20506a 20512a 20518a 20524a 20530a 20536a 20542a 20548a 20554a 20560a 20566a 20572a 20578a 20584a 20590a 20596a 20602a 20608a 20614a 20620a 20626a 20632a 20638a 20644a 20650a 20656a 20662a 20668a 20674a 20680a 20686a 20692a 20698a 20704a 20710a 20716a 20722a 20728a 20734a 20740a 20746a 20752a 20758a 20764a 20770a 20776a 20782a 20788a 20794a 20800a 20806a 20812a 20818a 20824a 20830a 20836a 20842a 20848a 20854a 20860a 20866a 20872a 20878a 20884a 20890a 20896a 20902a 20908a 20914a 20920a 20926a 20932a 20938a 20944a 20950a 20956a 20962a 20968a 20974a 20980a 20986a 20992a 20998a 21004a 21010a 21016a 21022a 21028a 21034a 21040a 21046a 21052a 21058a 21064a 21070a 21076a 21082a 21088a 21094a 21100a 21106a 21112a 21118a 21124a 21130a 21136a 21142a 21148a 21154a 21160a 21166a 21172a 21178a 21184a 21190a 21196a 21202a 21208a 21214a 21220a 21226a 21232a 21238a 21244a 21250a 21256a 21262a 21268a 21274a 21280a 21286a 21292a 21298a 21304a 21310a 21316a 21322a 21328a 21334a 21340a 21346a 21352a 21358a 21364a 21370a 21376a 21382a 21388a 21394a 21400a 21406a 21412a 21418a 21424a 21430a 21436a 21442a 21448a 21454a 21460a 21466a 21472a 21478a 21484a 21490a 21496a 21502a 21508a 21514a 21520a 21526a 21532a 21538a 21544a 21550a 21556a 21562a 21568a 21574a 21580a 21586a 21592a 21598a 21604a 21610a 21616a 21622a 21628a 21634a 21640a 21646a 21652a 21658a 21664a 21670a 21676a 21682a 21688a 21694a 21700a 21706a 21712a 21718a 21724a 21730a 21736a 21742a 21748a 21754a 21760a 21766a 21772a 21778a 21784a 21790a 21796a 21802a 21808a 21814a 21820a 21826a 21832a 21838a 21844a 21850a 21856a 21862a 21868a 21874a 21880a 21886a 21892a 21898a 21904a 21910a 21916a 21922a 21928a 21934a 21940a 21946a 21952a 21958a 21964a 21970a 21976a 21982a 21988a 21994a 22000a 22006a 22012a 22018a 22024a 22030a 22036a 22042a 22048a 22054a 22060a 22066a 22072a 22078a 22084a 22090a 22096a 22102a 22108a 22114a 22120a 22126a 22132a 22138a 22144a 22150a 22156a 22162a 22168a 22174a 22180a 22186a 22192a 22198a 22204a 22210a 22216a 22222a 22228a 22234a 22240a 22246a 22252a 22258a 22264a 22270a 22276a 22282a 22288a 22294a 22300a 22306a 22312a 22318a 22324a 22330a 22336a 22342a 22348a 22354a 22360a 22366a 22372a 22378a 22384a 22390a 22396a 22402a 22408a 22414a 22420a 22426a 22432a 22438a 22444a 22450a 22456a 22462a 22468a 22474a 22480a 22486a 22492a 22498a 22504a 22510a 22516a 22522a 22528a 22534a 22540a 22546a 22552a 22558a 22564a 22570a 22576a 22582a 22588a 22594a 22600a 22606a 22612a 22618a 22624a 22630a 22636a 22642a 22648a 22654a 22660a 22666a 22672a 22678a 22684a 22690a 22696a 22702a 22708a 22714a 22720a 22726a 22732a 22738a 22744a 22750a 22756a 22762a 22768a 22774a 22780a 22786a 22792a 22798a 22804a 22810a 22816a 22822a 22828a 22834a 22840a 22846a 22852a 22858a 22864a 22870a 22876a 22882a 22888a 22894a 22900a 22906a 22912a 22918a 22924a 22930a 22936a 22942a 22948a 22954a 22960a 22966a 22972a 22978a 22984a 22990a 22996a 23002a 23008a 23014a 23020a 23026a 23032a 23038a 23044a 23050a 23056a 23062a 23068a 23074a 23080a 23086a 23092a 23098a 23104a 23110a 23116a 23122a 23128a 23134a 23140a 23146a 23152a 23158a 23164a 23170a 23176a 23182a 23188a 23194a 23200a 23206a 23212a 23218a 23224a 23230a 23236a 23242a 23248a 23254a 23260a 23266a 23272a 23278a 23284a 23290a 23296a 23302a 23308a 23314a 23320a 23326a 23332a 23338a 23344a 23350a 23356a 23362a 23368a 23374a 23380a 23386a 23392a 23398a 23404a 23410a 23416a 23422a 23428a 23434a 23440a 23446a 23452a 23458a 23464a 23470a 23476a 23482a 23488a 23494a 23500a 23506a 23512a 23518a 23524a 23530a 23536a 23542a 23548a 23554a 23560a 23566a 23572a 23578a 23584a 23590a 23596a 23602a 23608a 23614a 23620a 23626a 23632a 23638a 23644a 23650a 23656a 23662a 23668a 23674a 23680a 23686a 23692a 23698a 23704a 23710a 23716a 23722a 23728a 23734a 23740a 23746a 23752a 23758a 23764a 23770a 23776a 23782a 23788a 23794a 23800a 23806a 23812a 23818a 23824a 23830a 23836a 23842a 23848a 23854a 23860a 23866a 23872a 23878a 23884a 23890a 23896a 23902a 23908a 23914a 23920a 23926a 23932a 23938a 23944a 23950a 23956a 23962a 23968a 23974a 23980a 23986a 23992a 23998a 24004a 24010a 24016a 24022a 24028a 24034a 24040a 24046a 24052a 24058a 24064a 24070a 24076a 24082a 24088a 24094a 24100a 24106a 24112a 24118a 24124a 24130a 24136a 24142a 24148a 24154a 24160a 24166a 24172a 24178a 24184a 24190a 24196a 24202a 24208a 24214a 24220a 24226a 24232a 24238a 24244a 24250a 24256a 24262a 24268a 24274a 24280a 24286a 24292a 24298a 24304a 24310a 24316a 24322a 24328a 24334a 24340a 24346a 24352a 24358a 24364a 24370a 24376a 24382a 24388a 24394a 24400a 24406a 24412a 24418a 24424a 24430a 24436a 24442a 24448a 24454a 24460a 24466a 24472a 24478a 24484a 24490a 24496a 24502a 24508a 24514a 24520a 24526a 24532a 24538a 24544a 24550a 24556a 24562a 24568a 24574a 24580a 24586a 24592a 24598a 24604a 24610a 24616a 24622a 24628a 24634a 24640a 24646a 24652a 24658a 24664a 24670a 24676a 24682a 24688a 24694a 24700a 24706a 24712a 24718a 24724a 24730a 24736a 24742a 24748a 24754a 24760a 24766a 24772a 24778a 24784a 24790a 24796a 24802a 24808a 24814a 24820a 24826a 24832a 24838a 24844a 24850a 24856a 24862a 24868a 24874a 24880a 24886a 24892a 24898a 24904a 24910a 24916a 24922a 24928a 24934a 24940a 24946a 24952a 24958a 24964a 24970a 24976a 24982a 24988a 24994a 25000a 25006a 25012a 25018a 25024a 25030a 25036a 25042a 25048a 25054a 25060a 25066a 25072a 25078a 25084a 25090a 25096a 25102a 25108a 25114a 25120a 25126a 25132a 25138a 25144a 25150a 25156a 25162a 25168a 25174a 25180</p>
---

PLAN OF  
**TOWNSHIP NO 13**  
RANGE 28 WEST OF FIRST MERIDIAN 274

Scale 40 Chains to an inch.

39-30 157.25 C. P. Ry Co N <sup>o</sup> 5637 157.50	Man. Govern <sup>t</sup> Order in Council 21-10-1893	C. P. Ry Co N <sup>o</sup> 5637	Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 89829 S.S. Martin Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 119917 J.C. Moran Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 119918 D.W.T. Moran Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 169966 G.A. Rowan	C. P. Ry Co N <sup>o</sup> 5637	Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 15726 N.M.H.B. Hone No. 11926 E.M. March L. House
Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 77915 C.R. Wright Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 105553 J.K. Benson Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 105553 W. Gardon	M. Sch... 2658 2676 2675 The National Trust Edmund Stanley W. Holmes	Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 105552 W. Bloom Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 105551 C. Bloom Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 89832 R.B. Rose Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 152979 A.J. Swan	C. P. Ry Co N <sup>o</sup> 5637	Man. Govern <sup>t</sup> Order in Council 21-10-1893	C. P. Ry Co N <sup>o</sup> 5637
158.00 C. P. Ry Co N <sup>o</sup> 5637 158.25	Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 89833 J.A. Rose Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 95966 J.C. Rose Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 7132 H. Hartley	Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 89832 C.J. Rose Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 152979 R.B. Rose	Homestead No. 2600 W.J. Jell Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 20937 R. Atwater	C. P. Ry Co N <sup>o</sup> 5637	Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 15726 W. Barclay Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 15723 G.W. Stanley E.W. Anderson
Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 77915 W. Wilkinson Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 99776 W. Pearson	Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 87634 M. Pearson C. P. Ry Co N <sup>o</sup> 5637	Homestead No. 6602 W. Jeffrey Homestead No. 6601 W. Jeffrey Homestead No. 5977 John Dickson Homestead No. 5978 John Dickson	C. P. Ry Co N <sup>o</sup> 5637	Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 118383 R.P. Stanley Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 103790 J. Orr Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 104740 W.G. Cassel	C. P. Ry Co N <sup>o</sup> 5637
159.00 C. P. Ry Co N <sup>o</sup> 5637 159.90	Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 87634 M. Pearson Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 5282 M. Pearson	Homestead No. 43854 W. G. Patterson Homestead No. 52200 John Lacey Homestead No. 67265 T. Lacey	C. P. Ry Co N <sup>o</sup> 5637	Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 106395 G. Patterson Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 6738 W. Lacey	Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 166170 University Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 166170 University Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 16901 A.P. Struthers
160.00 H.B. Coy. Grant No. 90 H.A. Co.	C. P. Ry Co N <sup>o</sup> 5637	Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 51830 Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 51830 Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 51830	C. P. Ry Co N <sup>o</sup> 5637	Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 51830 Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 51830 Horn <sup>d</sup> No. 51830	C. P. Ry Co N <sup>o</sup> 5637

Re-surveyed 11.5  
 2-9-22  
 167553  
 21-10-1893  
 16 7/8  
 12

3  
 11/157  
 16 9/16  
 12

Sp. 101  
 165 37  
 165 37  
 165 37

DOMINION LANDS OFFICE  
OTTAWA.

Contents.

Surveyed by the Undersigned

April 8<sup>th</sup> 1888

Nett Area **22021.68** Acres

(Sig) Evans & Bolger

Approved and confirmed

Roads **271.61** "

September 1888.

*Lindsay Russell*  
Surveyor General.

Water " "

Field Book No.

Total Area **22293.29** "

PLAN OF  
**TOWNSHIP NO 10**  
 RANGE 29 WEST OF FIRST MERIDIAN 2194  
**MANITOBA**

Scale, 40 Chains to an Inch.

<p>3865          154-97a 160-62a          C. P. Ry Co          N<sup>o</sup> 5650          154-96a</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 4124          161-37a 161-00a          R. B. Johnson          No. 10562          Homestead          No. 25584          W. LeB. Road, N. L. Road</p>	<p>161-22a 161-50a          C. P. Ry Co          N<sup>o</sup> 5650</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 37404          161-73a 161-91a          Arthur O. Leggat, John Robinson          No. 46909          Homestead          No. 44598          W. J. Hamilton</p>	<p>162-18a 162-54a          C. P. Ry Co          N<sup>o</sup> 5650</p>	<p>Time Sale          No. 15528          162-74a 162-78a          5971          H. H. Johnson          No. 39658          W. Johnson, H. Barker</p>
<p>Homestead          No. 13315          165-21a No. 41136          Abram G. H. Linn          Homestead          No. 19325          155-47a          J. S. Scott, L. C. Bennett</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 15611          76-53295          W. E. Howard, H. Kent          Homestead          No. 19324          76-19245          J. A. Riddell, J. S. Campbell</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 30448          L. A. Lindley          Homestead          No. 3379          Henry F. Fendley</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 185          76-28865          C. P. Ry Co          N<sup>o</sup> 5650          C. P. Ry Co          No. 4944          E. P. Holden</p>	<p>11. I. Ry Co          No. 11          C. P. Ry Co          N<sup>o</sup> 5650</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 20664          M. Daves          Homestead          No. 43900          76-63276          M. Daves, W. F. Stewart</p>
<p>155-65a          C. P. Ry Co          255-75a</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 19324          76-19245          J. A. Riddell, J. S. Campbell</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 1966          C. P. Ry Co          N<sup>o</sup> 5650          C. P. Ry Co          No. 20881          R. Kowch, R. Roach</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 22          No. 20881          No. 39954          R. Kowch, R. Roach</p>	<p>C. P. Ry Co          N<sup>o</sup> 5650</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 20664          M. Daves          Homestead          No. 43900          76-63276          M. Daves, W. F. Stewart</p>
<p>Homestead          No. 15591a          76-16439          W. R. Birchall          Time Sale          No. 3533          156-78a          John Brand, John Brand</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 3856          C. W. King          Homestead          No. 19211          W. A. Morgan, W. Morgan</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 3856          C. W. King          Homestead          No. 19211          W. A. Morgan, W. Morgan</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 3856          C. W. King          Homestead          No. 19211          W. A. Morgan, W. Morgan</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 51627          76-38935          J. F. Russell          Homestead          No. 22636          76-22135          W. H. Russell, W. H. Russell</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 20664          M. Daves          Homestead          No. 43900          76-63276          M. Daves, W. F. Stewart</p>
<p>156-28a          C. P. Ry Co          N<sup>o</sup> 5650          156-30a</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 3856          C. W. King          Homestead          No. 19211          W. A. Morgan, W. Morgan</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 3856          C. W. King          Homestead          No. 19211          W. A. Morgan, W. Morgan</p>	<p>Time Sale          No. 691          76-40780          M. J. Taylor          Homestead          No. 10275          No. 4264          H. Christ, E. Neylen</p>	<p>Man. Sch. Jan. Sale          No. 2622          76-2621          H. C. Descher, A. W. Hoff          Man. Sch. Jan. Sale          No. 2620          76-2619          H. C. Descher, A. W. Hoff</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 20664          M. Daves          Homestead          No. 43900          76-63276          M. Daves, W. F. Stewart</p>
<p>Homestead          No. 15657a          76-39380          W. H. Stewart          Man. Sch. Jan. Sale          No. 188          76-188          C. P. Ry Co          N<sup>o</sup> 5650</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 37983          W. A. Morgan, W. Morgan          Man. Sch. Jan. Sale          No. 188          76-188          C. P. Ry Co          N<sup>o</sup> 5650</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 37983          W. A. Morgan, W. Morgan          Man. Sch. Jan. Sale          No. 188          76-188          C. P. Ry Co          N<sup>o</sup> 5650</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 37983          W. A. Morgan, W. Morgan          Man. Sch. Jan. Sale          No. 188          76-188          C. P. Ry Co          N<sup>o</sup> 5650</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 19386          76-20000          W. P. Smith, W. P. Smith          Homestead          No. 19370          No. 49873          W. P. Smith, W. P. Smith</p>	<p>Homestead          No. 20664          M. Daves          Homestead          No. 43900          76-63276          M. Daves, W. F. Stewart</p>

R. P. A. B. 11928

C. N. R.  
 Brandon, R.M.  
 Dominion Lands Office  
 Ottawa.  
 Con. 27 April 1902

Contents.

Nett Area	23005.26	Acres
Roads	871.50	"
Water		"
Total Area	23876.76	"

Surveyed by the Undersigned  
 (Sig) P. R. A. Belanger  
 July, 1891  
 Field Book No.

28<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>y</sup> 1892  
 Approved and confirmed  
 Surveyor General.

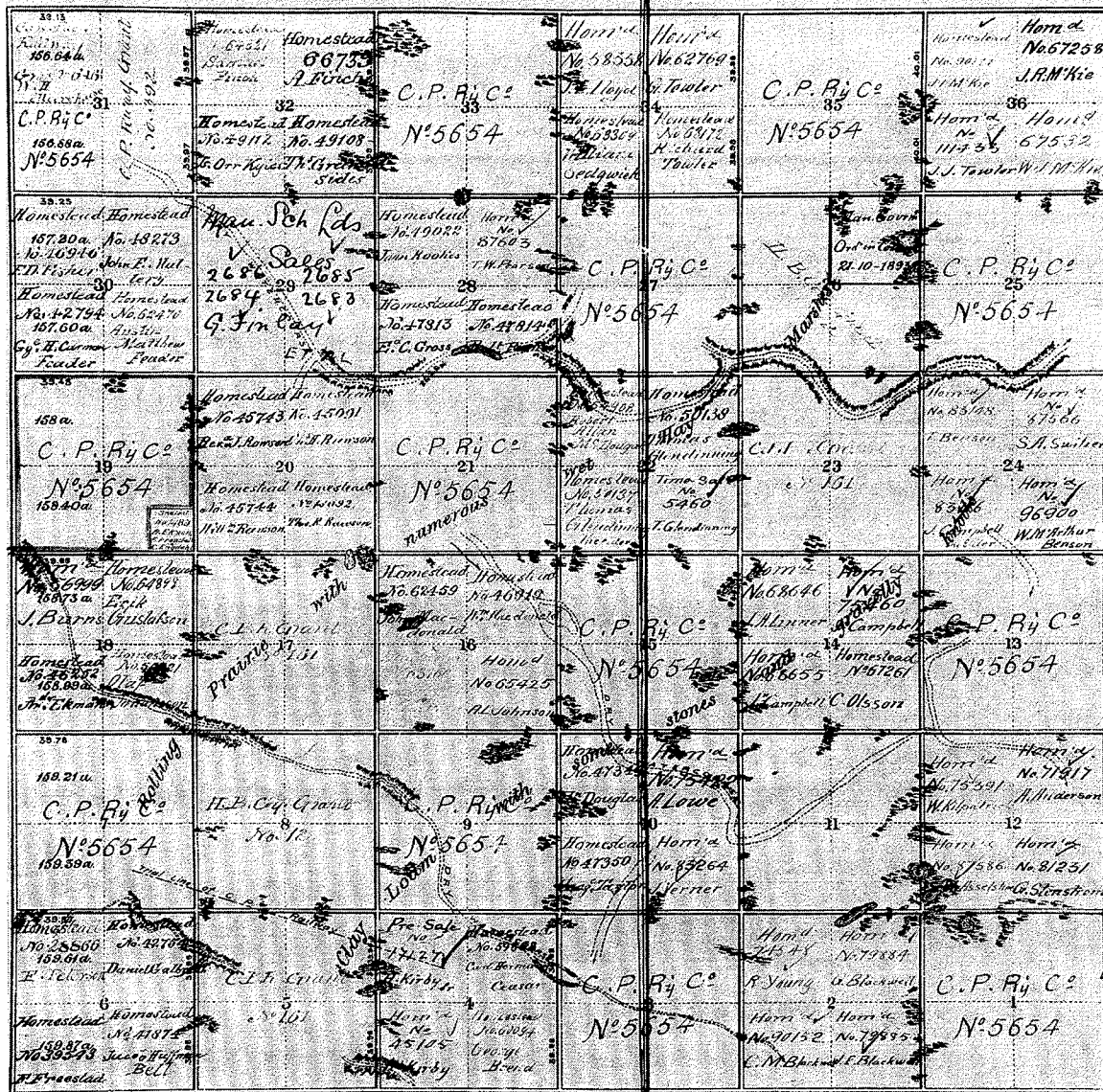






PLAN OF  
**TOWNSHIP N<sup>o</sup> 13**  
 RANGE 29 WEST OF FIRST MERIDIAN 2197  
**MANITOBA.**

Scale, 40 Chains to an inch.



DOMINION LANDS OFFICE  
 OTTAWA.

Contents.

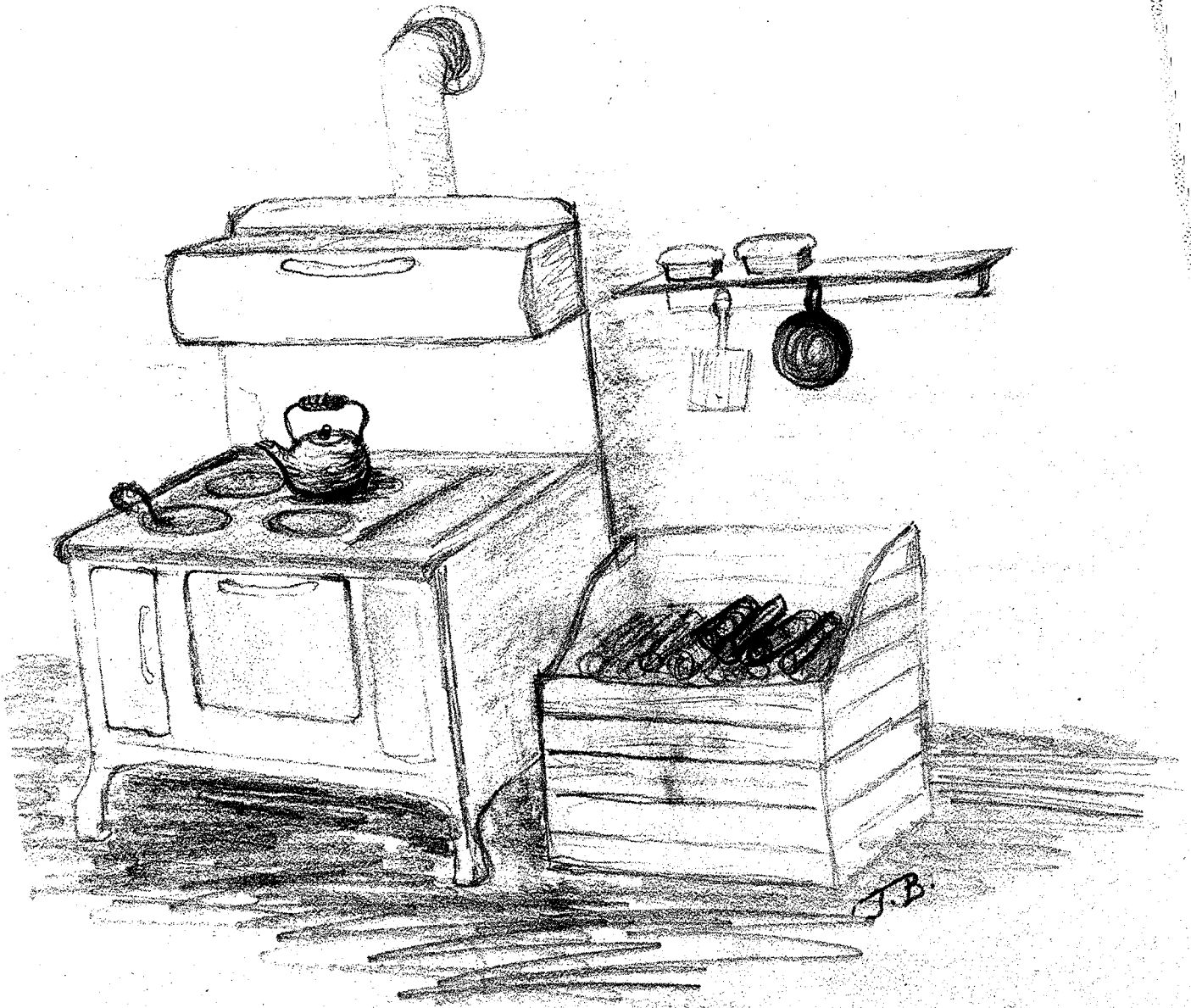
Surveyed by the Underigned  
 (signed) *Joseph Doupe*  
 August 1881

10<sup>th</sup> October 1881  
 Approved and confirmed  
*Lucas J. Curran*  
 Surveyor General

Nett Area	25020.52 Acres.
Roads	871.80 "
Water	"
Total Area	25892.32 "

Field Book No.

Plan No. 9622



# Elkhorn Grows



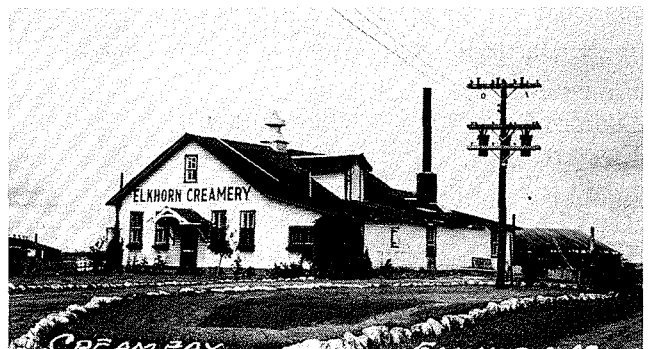
Elkhorn Main Street.



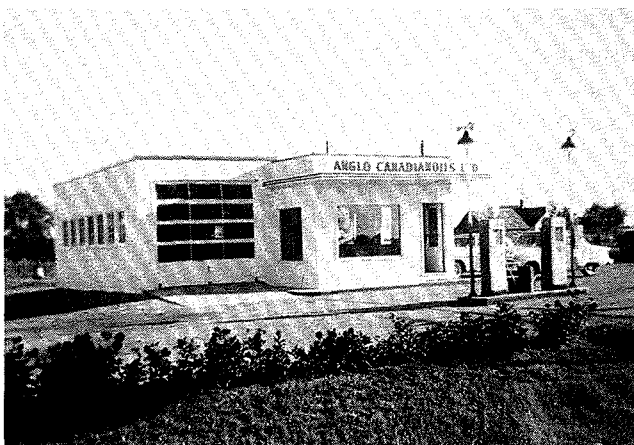
Elkhorn Main Street.



McLeod's Store and Manitoba Hotel.



Elkhorn Creamery.



Anglo Service Station.



Fred Simpson and his delivery trucks.



Interior of Geo. Bartley's Grocery Store.

## **Businesses in Elkhorn in 1981**

### **Groceries**

D. G. Bartley's Solo — Don Bartley  
Elkhorn Flower Shop — Agnes Bickerton

### **Milk Products**

Manco Creamery — Mgr. Dave Rowan

### **Meat Products and Processing**

Larry's Meat Market — Larry Clarke

### **Clothing and Shoes**

W. R. Bartley's Dept. Store — William Bartley

### **Furniture and Appliances**

Fred's Electronics — Fred Wolfe  
Lamb Stoves — Wayne, Bill, Don, and Larry Emmerson  
W. R. Bartley's Dept. Store — William Bartley

### **Pharmacy**

Elkhorn Drug Store — Glen Sutley

### **Electric**

Fred's Electronic — Repair — Fred Wolfe  
Ray's Electric — Contracting — Ray Jebb

### **Shoe Repair**

Steve Dzus

### **Restaurants and Outlets**

Esso Restaurant — Bill and Sharlean Bickerton  
Sunshine Service — Ted and Lesley Middleton  
Paull's Creemee — Ed and Irene Paull  
Elkhorn Flower and Coffee Shop — Agnes Bickerton  
Elkhorn Motor Hotel — Bob and Sharon Fines

### **Service Stations**

Esso Service — Highway — Bill Bickerton  
Sunshine Service — Highway — Ted Middleton  
Super Service and Supply — (fuel and repair parts) — Neil Clarke  
Gulf Tire Service — Tom Stenhouse

### **Giftware**

Elkhorn Drug Store

Bartley's Dept. Store

Elkhorn Flower Shop

### **Welders**

W. & W. Welding and Towing — Willie Malcolm

### **Plumbers**

Dan Canart  
Athol Moore

### **Contracting Carpenters**

Cecil Allum  
Lloyd Warnica  
Reg Will

### **Motels**

Elkhorn Motor Hotel (six units) — Bob Fines  
Sunshine Service (two units) — Ted Middleton

### **Miscellaneous Businesses**

Bubba's Billiards and Barber Shop  
Lund's Laundromat  
Noella's Upholstery — Noella Lachapelle  
Rowan Enterprises — elevator lifts manufacture and earth moving machinery contractors — Don, Larry, and Ken Rowan  
Lamb Stove — production of air tight woodburning stoves — Wayne, Bill, Don, and Larry Emmerson  
Beauty Salon — Norma Lambkin  
Elkhorn Flower Shop — Agnes Bickerton  
Kable Concrete — Cement for all occasions — Bernard Tutthill and sons  
Tutt & Sons — Earthmoving and Gravel  
Elkhorn Manco Creamery — Mgr. Dave Rowan  
Manitoba Pool Elevator — Agent, William Glover  
Jim Martin — Livestock Dealer and Order Buyer  
Stonehouse Agencies — Insurance and Motor Vehicle Branch — Pearl Stonehouse  
Ron Walker — A1 Specialist  
Zazalak's Trenching and Backhoe — Fred and John Zazalak  
Elkhorn Drug Store as Liquor Outlet — Glen Sutley  
McColl Corral and Shed Cleaning — Roy McColl  
Imperial Oil Bulk Service — also Vet and Fertilizer Supplies — Keith Forster

### **Other Services**

Barrister — Alex Aitken  
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce  
Elkhorn Medical Nursing Unit  
Doctor's Office — Dr. Evans  
A K — 12 school  
Fire Station (six volunteers and a new fire truck)  
Volunteer Ambulance Service (sixteen volunteers)  
Prairie West Recreation (One director and a representative from each club or social group.)  
Director — Susan Andrayko  
Public Health Nurse — Mrs. Dale Wiebe



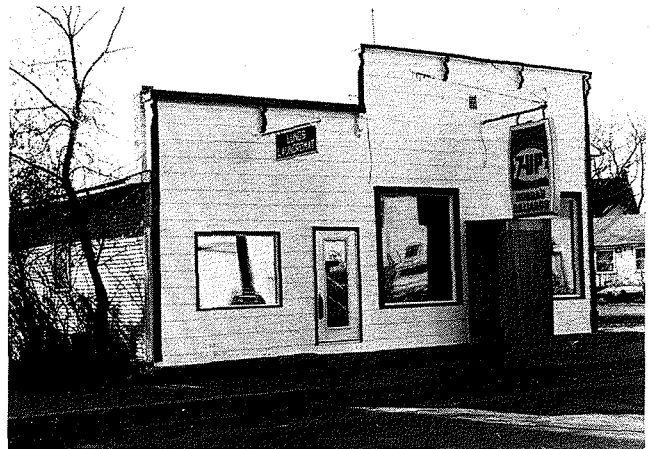
Rowan Enterprises Ltd., heavy equipment construction and manufacture of elevator lifts; Don Rowan and sons, prop.



Don's Solo store and Larry's Meat Market, Don and Rose Marie Bartley, prop.



Bartley's Department Store, Bill and Margaret Bartley, prop.



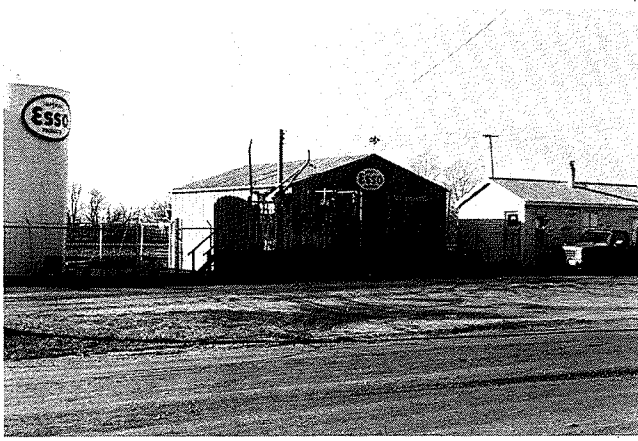
Lund's Laundromat and Bubba's Billiards, Ron Lund, prop.



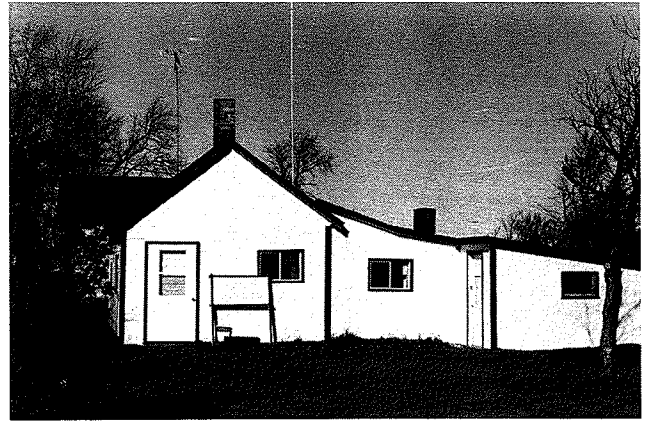
Elkhorn Super Service and Supply, Neil Clarke, prop.



Fred's Electronic Sales & Service and the Upper Room; formerly the Masonic Hall — Fred and Pat Wolfe, prop.



Esso Bulk station, Keith Forster, prop.



Noella's Upholstery, Noella Lachapelle, prop.



Elkhorn Beauty Salon, Norma Lambkin, prop.



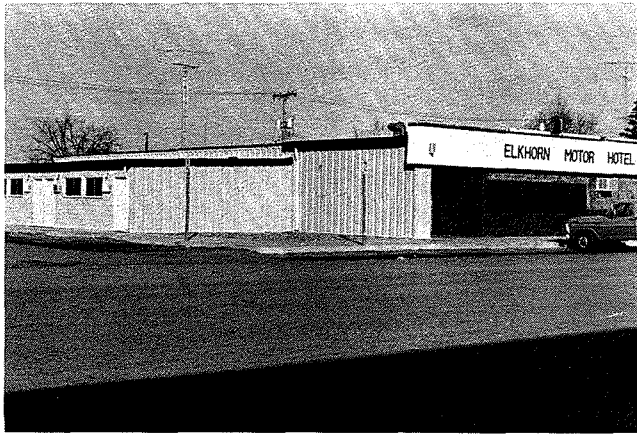
Elkhorn Flower Shop and Coffee Bar, Agnes Bickerton, prop.



Elkhorn Drugs, Glen Sutley, prop.



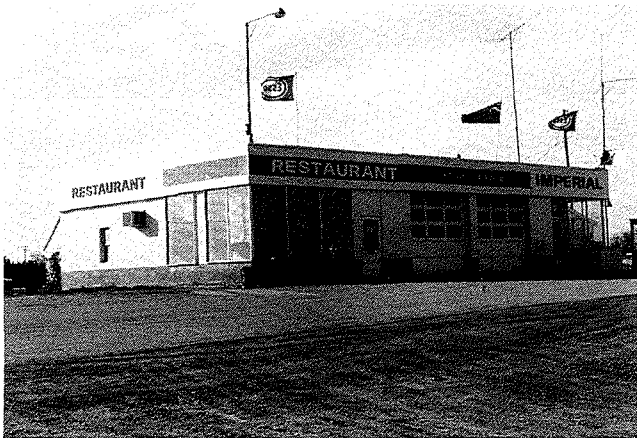
Paull's Creemee, Ed and Irene Paull, prop.



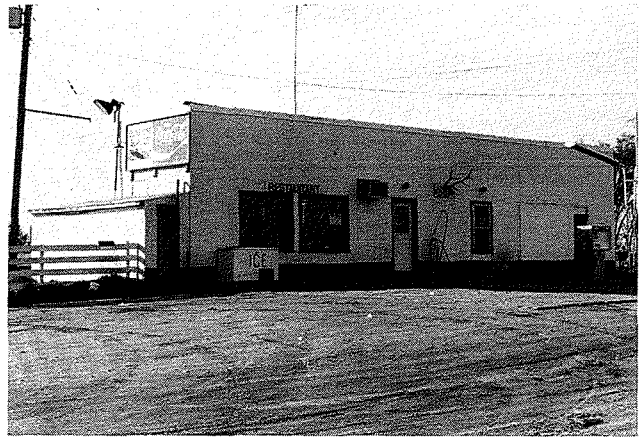
Elkhorn Motor Hotel; Bob Fines, manager.



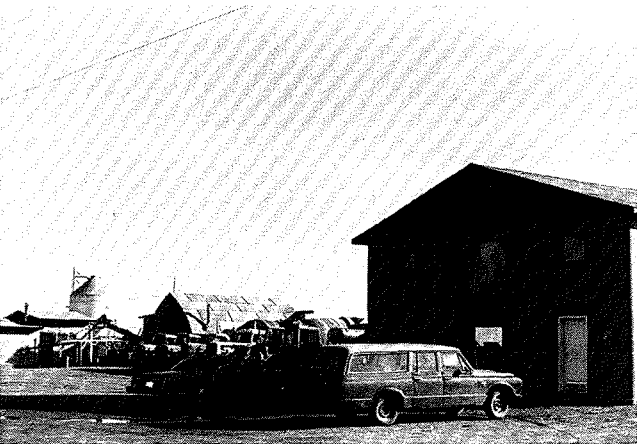
Elkhorn Tire Service, Tom Stenhouse, prop.



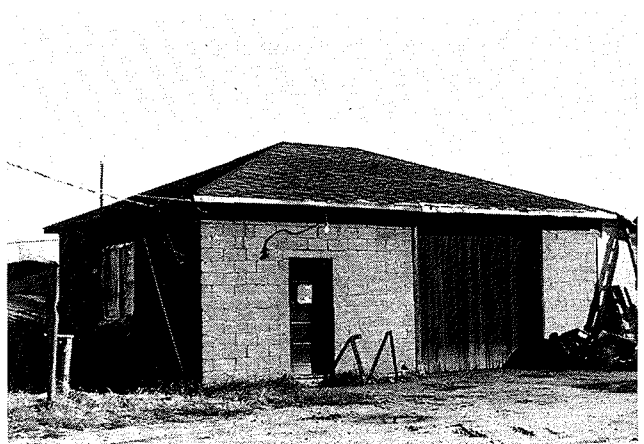
Esso Service and Restaurant, Bill and Sharlean Bickerton, prop.



Sunshine Service and Restaurant, Ted and Lesley Middleton, prop.



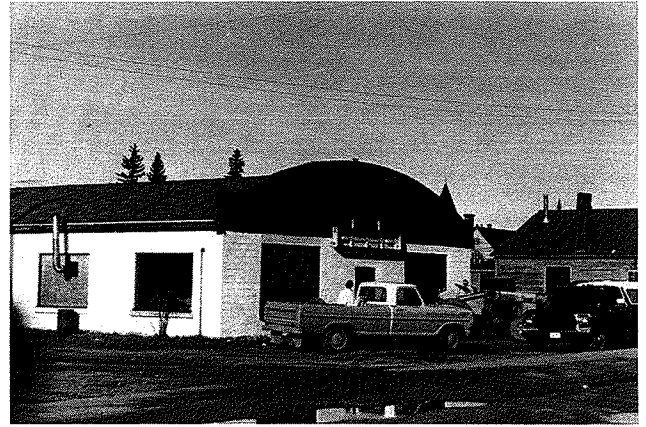
Tutt & Sons and Kable Concrete, Bernard Tutthill and sons, prop.



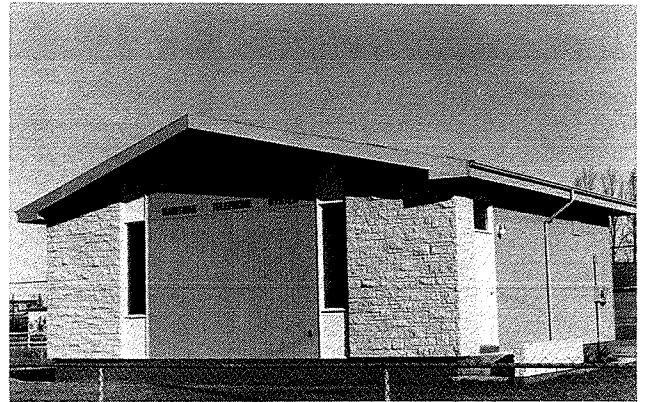
W & W Welding and Towing Service, Wilmer Malcolm, prop.



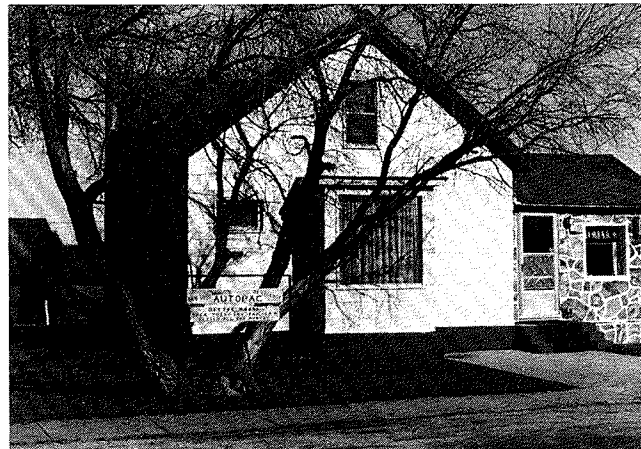
Elkhorn Pool Elevator, Bill Glover, agent.



Lamb Stoves Inc.; Don, Bill and Wayne Emmerson, prop.



Manitoba Telephone System building.



Stonehouse Agencies, general insurance and motor vehicle branch. Building used as Elkhorn's first school. Pearl Stonehouse, prop.



# Town Council



## *Souvenir of the Opening of the Municipal Hall*



MAYORS AND COUNCILLORS OF THE  
VILLAGE SINCE INCORPORATION

Compiled by Chas. G. Webster December 1948

25c Per Copy.



Village of Elkhorn Municipal Office, elevation — 1638 ft.

*Reprinted from  
"The Elkhorn Mercury"  
Dec. 16th, 1948*

INCLEMENT weather, with the thermometer hanging around -20, did not deter many from attending the opening of Elkhorn's new municipal building on Thursday, December 9. Over 60 were present and the event will go down in municipal history as a most impressive one.

The function got away to a good start under the able chairmanship of Mayor J. W. M. Thompson and was largely in the form of an "experience meeting" at the outset with time-honored past and present civic officials contributing an anecdote here and there which brought Elkhorn out of the misty clouds of pioneer days, when all was hope and optimism to the present time of hard and factual progress. The chairman took the opportunity of thanking all who had contributed to the erection of the fine new building—the planners, who at first conceived it, with E. Borgstrom as the man who advanced the first concrete suggestion and those who planned the ways and means, ex-Mayor Johnston and his councillors and the present council and also Mr. C. G. Webster; also the contractors and the local cinder-brick company whose product formed the basic part of the structure. Among those who spoke were:

H. J. Jones, H. M. McIntosh, K. Corbett, J. W. Francis, G. E. Bartley, E. Gibbs, C. F. Rannie, C. G. Webster, J. W. Clarke, Capt. Minton and Rev. J. L. Fargey, to whom fell the pleasant task of thanking the ladies for their part of the program, the serving of refreshments, which were so well enjoyed.

The ladies who carried out this task were: Mesdames J. W. M. Thompson, C. G. Webster, E. Gibbs, J. W. Francis, J. Bajus, G. E. Bartley, K. Corbett and H. McIntosh.

To F. C. Norris fell the privilege of reciting the history of the Village of Elkhorn taken from facts supplied by the secretary-treasurer. It will be interesting as a souvenir, if nothing else, to print these items of interest, as briefly as possible, hereunder.

#### VILLAGE OF ELKHORN

Extracts from the various council meetings from the date of the first meeting up to the present date.

The first meeting of the council of the newly incorporated Village of Elkhorn was held in McLeod's hall on Tuesday, January 2, 1906.

Mayor: Wm. M. Cushing. Councillors: John Mooney, James Smith McLeod, Robert Goodwin, William James Tinline. Secretary-Treasurer, per tem, Richard deWarren Waller.

The Business of the first three or four meetings was mostly concerned with setting up the machinery of the council; introducing and passing by-laws authorizing the appointment of the necessary officers and other matters in connection with the newly incorporated village.

Alexander McNab Frazer was the first appointed Secretary-Treasurer; Elias M. McKim the first constable, license and nuisance inspector; John H. Cavanagh first poundkeeper, and Herbert Bayley first Assessor.

The highlights of the first year's business was the granting the Canadian Pacific Railway permission to build a side track from their main line in to flour and grist mill, and trying to make financial arrangements between Wallace Municipality and the Provincial Government to have a road graded into Elkhorn from the North.

1907—Mayor: Wm. M. Cushing. Council: R. deW. Waller, R. Goodwin, J. S. McLeod and Edward G. Fisher.

This was a busy year for the city fathers, 33 meetings being held, most of the work being local improvement work, grading streets, and building cement sidewalks. Plans were made for constructing the first cement sidewalk for three blocks from the corner of Wexford Street to the corner of Cavandish Street.

A motion to set up a by-law authorizing the council to borrow \$750 to purchase fire-fighting equipment was defeated in council, the mayor giving the deciding vote.

1908—Mayor: Charles R. Duxbury. Council: J. S. McLeod, E. C. Fisher, G. C. Smith, Geo. Lidster.

1909—Mayor: C. R. Duxbury. Council: J. S. McLeod, E. C. Fisher, G. C. Smith, Herbert J. Jones.

1910—Mayor: J. S. McLeod. Council: Jones, Smith, Richard Skinner, John Harvey Miller. The building of the new public and high school was started in August of this year and it was opened at Easter of the following year.

1911—Mayor: McLeod. Council: Jones, Smith, Miller, Geo. T. Earle. The main event of this year was the issue and sale of \$7,750 of debentures for building cement sidewalks and other local improvements.

1912—Mayor: H. J. Jones. Council: Smith, Earle, Miller, B. T. Axelson. A by-law to borrow \$1,500 for fire equipment and wells for water supply was passed.

1913—Mayor: J. H. Miller. Council: Jones, Axelson, S. H. Greenwood, Walter Davey. The ratepayers petitioned the council to build a Municipal Skating and Curling Rink. By-law No. 77 to borrow \$6,000 for rink was approved by the ratepayers on May 17.

1914—Mayor: Jones. Council: Davey, Greenwood, Axelson, Chas. G. Webster. Rink debentures sold. Site purchased from Curling Club; Mayor Jones and a Councillor appointed rink building committee. Tender of John Robert Groat for \$4,780, for building rink, accepted. Rink opened November 17; C. G. Webster, manager; Wm. Barker, caretaker.

1915—Mayor: Jones. Council: Axelson, Davey, Webster, Harry Carscadden. At close of the first season's operations of the rink the manager, C. G. Webster, reported a credit balance of \$149 after paying running expenses, insurance and the first debenture. Total receipts, \$923.65.

1916—Mayor: Jones. Council: Webster, C. W. Crosby, Carscadden, Davey. Very quiet year; total rink receipts, \$973.25.

1917—Mayor: John Mooney. Council: Webster, Carscadden, Davey, Chas. E. Bell.

1918—Mayor: Mooney. Council: Webster, Carscadden, Davey, Crosby.

1919—Mayor: R. H. Brotherhood. Council: Webster, Carscadden, F. C. Norris, W. H. Tottle. A. M. Frazer resigned the office of Secretary-Treasurer, on account of failing health, after 13 years' service. J. T. Frazer was appointed to fill the vacancy.

1920—Mayor: Chas. G. Webster. Council: Tottle, Norris, Bell, George Harry. R. N. Scotney appointed permanent secretary-treasurer.

1921—Mayor: Webster. Council: Norris, Tottle, Harry, McCorkindale.

1922—Mayor: W. J. Thompson. Council: Norris, McCorkindale, Harry, Parsons.

1923—Mayor: G. T. Earle. Council: Harry, Parsons, McCorkindale, W. T. Clarke.

1924—Mayor: Earle. Council: Clarke, Parsons, Davey, Frazer, Snyder. C. W. Crosby appointed secretary-treasurer, succeeding R. N. Scotney.

1926—Mayor: W. T. Clarke. Council: Frazer, Snyder, Jones, F. J. Walker.

1927—Mayor: Walter Davey. Council: Jones, Walker, McCorkindale, Simpson.

1928—Mayor: Davey. Council: McCorkindale, Jones, Parsons, F. C. Mallett. The question of electric light and power was a much-discussed topic this year. The council purchased a 3-kilowatt plant for the rink.

1929—Mayor: Davey. Council: McCorkindale, Jones, Parsons, Mallett. The Village was hooked up with the Manitoba Hydro in July this year.

1930—Mayor: Jones. Council: McCorkindale, Parsons, Mallett, B. Fielding.

1931—Mayor: Jones. Council: McCorkindale, Parsons, Fielding, Jas. Pierce. The relief problem was getting serious; J. W. King appointed secretary-treasurer in place of C. W. Crosby, who resigned on account of ill health. Relief work done on the streets.

1932—Mayor: Jones. Council: McCorkindale, Parsons, Pierce, J. P. Loewen.

1933—Mayor: Jones. Council: McCorkindale, Parsons, Pierce and Loewen.

1934—Mayor: Jones. Council: McCorkindale, Loewen, S. E. Gibbs, J. W. M. Thompson. The matter of relief was the main business during all these years, and very little money was available for other work.

1935—Mayor: Jones. Council: McCorkindale, Gibbs, Thompson, A. N. Vodden. The new Post Office was build this year.

1936—Mayor: J. M. McCorkindale. Council: Loewen, Thompson, Thompson, Vodden, Gibbs.

1937—Mayor: McCorkindale. Council: Loewen, Thompson, Vodden, Gibbs.

1938—Mayor: C. W. Johnston. Council: Loewen, Thompson, Vodden, Bartley.

1939—Mayor: Johnston. Council: Loewen, Thompson, Vodden and Bartley.

1940—Mayor: Johnston. Council: Loewen, Bartley, Davey, Tottle.

1941—Mayor: Johnston. Council: Loewen, Bartley, Davey, Tottle.

1942—Mayor: Johnston. Council: Bartley, Davey, Tottle, E. Shepherd.

1943—Mayor: Johnston. Council: Bartley, Davey, Tottle, E. Shepherd. H. J. Jones was appointed acting secretary-treasurer to fill the vacancy caused by the sudden death of J. W. King. Later on Eugene Borgstrom was appointed to the permanent position.

1944—Mayor: Johnston. Council: Bartley, Shepherd, H. M. McIntosh, Ken Corbett.

1945—Mayor: Johnston. Council: Shepherd, Corbett, McIntosh, Gibbs. The question of Hospital Unit was up for discussion several times during this year.

1946—Mayor: Johnston. Council: Shepherd, McIntosh, Corbett,

Gibbs. The proposed plan for setting up the Virden Hospital District No. 10 was approved at the August 14th meeting and on the September 11th meeting Councillor Gibbs was appointed as a member of the Hospital Board to be set up.

1947—Mayor: Johnston. Council: McIntosh, Corbett, Gibbs, J. W. Francis. The question of more adequate fire protection was gone into very fully as a first business for this year. The permission of the Municipal and Utility Board to use \$3,000 of the cash reserve for the purpose of purchasing fire equipment was obtained on condition that it be replaced by a special levy of \$1,000 in each of the years 1947, 1948 and 1949. The Mayor and Councillors Gibbs and Francis were named a committee to try and purchase some fire-fighting equipment. By-law No. 296 authorizing purchase of fire truck from the City of Winnipeg for \$3,600 was passed, subject to the approval of the Utility Board. Building used as Municipal Office was sold and the lot turned over to the B.E.S.L. for a site for a Memorial Hall.

1948—Mayor: J. W. M. Thompson. Council: Gibbs, Francis, Bartley, J. Bajus. Councillor Gibbs re-appointed representative on the Hospital Board. The resignation of Eugene Borgstrom, as secretary-treasurer, was accepted with regret, and Chas. G. Webster was appointed acting secretary-treasurer; later on the appointment was made permanent. By-law No. 301, authorizing the borrowing of \$7,000 to purchase fire equipment and to construct a new municipal building to serve as a Municipal office, fire hall and jail, having been approved by the Utility Board, was ratified by a vote of the ratepayers on February 23 and received third reading and finally passed.

Debentures for \$7,000 were issued and offered for sale by public advertisement and were purchased by James W. Clarke at par, bearing 4½ per cent interest.

After considerable discussion regarding a suitable site, it was finally decided to purchase Lot 6 in Block 32 from Miss Hazel Connolly as the location for the new building.

Tenders were received for the construction of the building, but were considered too high and were not accepted.

It was finally decided to purchase the material and hire the labor and have the work done under the supervision of the secretary-treasurer.

The contracts for heating and lighting was let to F. W. Mallett and Son, Elkhorn.

The first sod was turned on May 15, and, on November 15, was occupied and ready for business, although not fully completed inside.

This has been a busy year for the Village council, who have devoted a lot of their time and energy to the work of the Village. Thirty-one meetings of council have been held up to this date and numerous committee meetings.

Before the meeting closed, questions were asked regarding the proposed health unit hospital plan. Dr. Maclean assured those present that the building scheme would go ahead as soon as it was endorsed by the ten municipalities concerned and that Elkhorn would probably be granted a ten-bed unit if it were passed.

Mayor Thompson outlined the council's activity in the matter since January 1, 1948, and declared that there would be a meeting of the municipalities (jointly) as soon as the government took action to convene it.

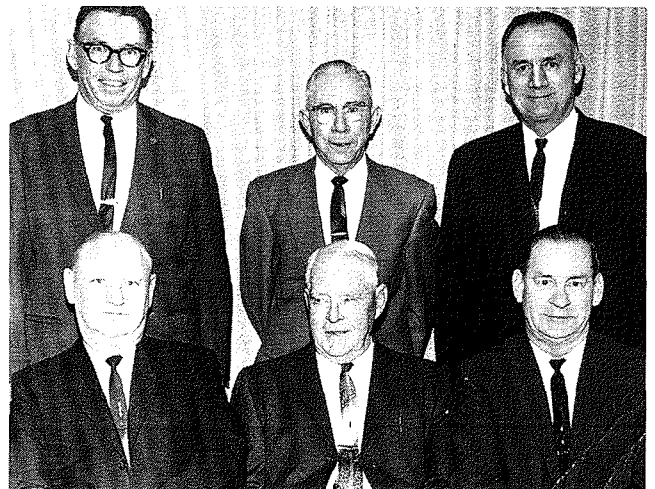
- 1925 — Mayor: Webb T. Clarke, Council: Frazer, Parsons, Davey, Snyder.
- 1949 — Mayor: J. W. M. Thompson, Council: Bajus, Bartley, Francis, Gibbs, Sec. — Chas. Webster.  
Council Geor. Bartley reported on the progress being made by the organizations committee of the Hospital District Boundaries. Further discussion took place re — Hospital and Doctor for the Village with the Chamber of Commerce.
- 1950 — Mayor: J. W. M. Thompson: Council: Bajus, Clarke, Francis, Gibbs. Council passed by-law No. 338 authorizing purchase of the Property for the new Hospital.
- 1951 — Mayor J. W. M. Thompson, Council Bajus, Clarke, Francis, Gibbs. Special meeting of council was called to consider the purchase of the Indian Industrial School and grounds for \$10,-000.00.  
Council purchased land on S.D. 33-11-28 for addition to cemetery.
- 1952 — Mayor Thompson: Council: Bajus, Clarke, Francis, Gibbs. The Council approved the Black topping of Richhill Ave.
- 1953 — Mayor Thompson: Council Bajus, J. Clarke, Frazer, McLeod, Geo. Pearson. Council approved the building of a new bridge on Cavendish street south of the track.
- 1954 — Mayor — J. Clarke Councillor: Bajus, J. Norris, W. L. Johnson, Geo. Pearson.
- 1955 — Mayor — J. Clarke, Councillor: Bajus, J. Norris, W. L. Johnson, Geo. Pearson.
- 1956 — Mayor: Clarke: Council: Geo. Canart, O. Rudd, Johnson, Pearson.
- 1957 — Mayor Clarke: Council: M. Ross, R. Gardner, Johnson, Pearson.
- 1958 — Mayor: J. Norris Council M. Ross, R. Gardner, G. Andrews, Pearson.
- 1959 — Mayor J. Norris, Council: M. Ross, R. Gardner, E. Bartley Pearson.  
No major projects took place from 1953-1959.
- 1960 — Mayor: Norris Council: K. Corbett, Gardner, E. Bartley, Pearson. First discussion took place regarding a Senior Citizens' Home.
- 1961 — Mayor: Norris, Council: Corbett, Gardner, E. Bartley, Glen McColl. Budget was for \$34,-825.18.
- 1962 — Mayor Norris, Council: Corbett, Gardner, Bartley, McColl. First discussion took place re — water and sewer for town.
- 1963 — Mayor Norris Council: Gardner, McColl, C. Clarke, J. Waller, Nelson River Construction tender was accepted for installing sewer on June 18, 1963 at 5 p.m.
- 1964 — Mayor Norris, Council: Gardner, C. Clarke, A. Bickerton, Corbett.
- 1965 — Mayor J. H. Hennan, Council: Gardner, C. Clarke, A. Bickerton, Corbett.  
The Council sold lots 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 Block 27, plan 2168 along with the skating rink located thereon to the Elkhorn and District Community Centre for the sum of \$1.00.
- 1966 Mayor: Hennan, Council; Gardner, Clarke, Corbett, Bickerton.
- 1967 Mayor: Hennan, Council: D. Manwaring, Clarke, Corbett, Bickerton.
- 1968 Mayor Fred Simpson, Council: D. Manwaring, Clarke Guy Millar, Pearson.
- 1969 Mayor Fred Simpson, Council D. Manwaring, Bickerton, Guy Millar, Pearson.
- 1970 — Mayor: John Canart Council D. Manwaring, Bickerton, Guy Millar, C. Clarke.
- 1971 — Mayor John Canart Council D. Manwaring, Bickerton, Guy Millar, C. Clarke.  
Lots 6, 7, 8, Block 2 plan 29, 39, were sold to the Manitoba Telephone System for the purpose of erecting a Dial telephone Office. Council voted in favor of purchasing McLeods store in conjunction with the town of Virden and the Municipality of Wallace for the Regional Library.
- 1972 Mayor Wm. Bartley, Council: Bickerton, C. Myers, T. Black, A. Leslie.
- 1973 — Mayor Wm. Bartley, Council: Bickerton, C. Mulligan, G. Millar, A. Leslie.
- 1974 — Mayor: Wm. Bartley Council: Bickerton, C. Mulligan, C. Clarke, A. Leslie.  
Council purchased a new utility truck.  
A by-law was passed authorizing sale and transfer of land to the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corp. for the purpose of a Senior Persons Housing project.
- 1975 — Mayor Bartley Council: Bickerton, Clarke, Mulligan, R. Heritage. Paving of side streets to take place.
- 1976 — Mayor Bartley — Council: Bickerton, Mulligan, Heritage, L. Price.
- 1977 — Mayor Bartley — Council: Mulligan, Heritage, Price, R. Coutts.
- 1978 — Mayor: Bartley Council: B. Milum, Heritage, Price, R. Lund.  
Village of Elkhorn became part of the Recreation District.
- 1979 — Mayor Bartley: Council, Heritage, Price, Lund, Milum.
- 1980 — Mayor Ron Heritage Council: Price, Milum, R. Lund, Agnes Bickerton.  
Council guaranteed sufficient funds to complete the installation of paddling pool in the Elkhorn Memorial Park.
- 1981 — Mayor: Lund Council: Mrs. Agnes Bickerton, B. McPhail, Ray Jebb and Jerome Brockman.



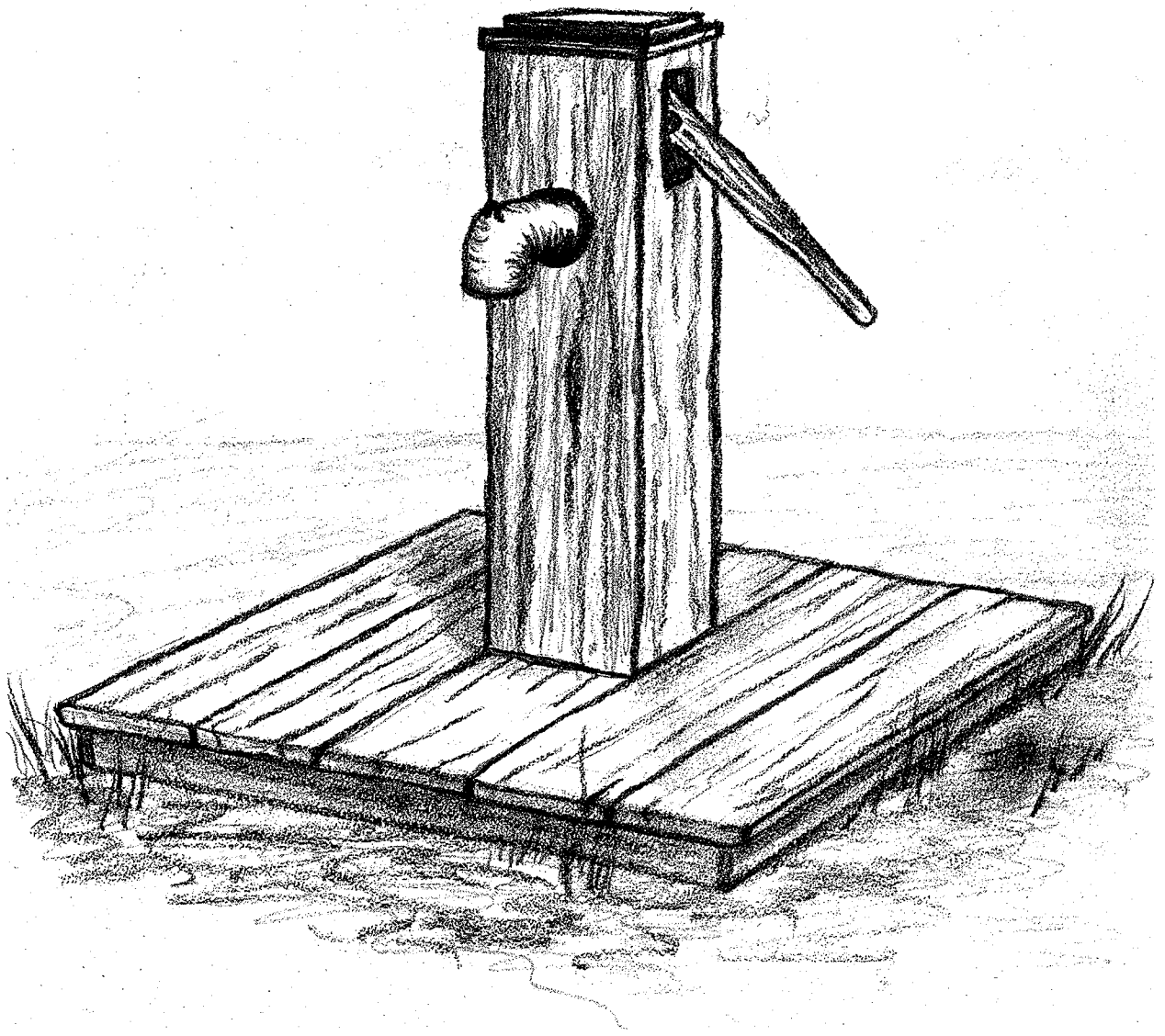
Front row: Alex Frazer, Charles Duxbury, Jim McLeod. Back row: Christopher Smith, Ed Fisher, George Lidster.



Town Fathers, 1952. L-R: Jake Bajus, Frazer McLeod, Mayor J. W. Thompson, Jim Clarke, George Pearson, Sec.-treas. Chas. Webster.



Town Fathers, 1967. Front row L-R: Garnet Andrews, Mayor J. H. Hennan, Doug Manwaring. Back row L-R: Albert Bickerton, Ken Corbett, Cliff Clarke.



# Board of Trade — Chamber of Commerce

## Chamber of Commerce (Board of Trade)

The first meeting to organize a Board of Trade was held April 12, 1899 in the Broadley Hall in Elkhorn.

This meeting was called because interested citizens were alarmed at the low price of land, the large acreage still unsettled, the lack of incoming settlers, the grain market, the conditions of the streets and sidewalks, the high taxation resulting from sparse population, and the meagre sums the Municipal Council could appropriate for improvements. Those taking part in this discussion were C. F. Travis, R. de W. Waller, M. W. Cushing, Geo. Freeman, E. A. Parsons, Dr. Goodwin and G. Silvester.

It was decided to form a Board of Trade and a list of names was drawn up for possible membership.

F. W. Clingan was elected the first President, G. Silvester the Vice President and J. M. Malcolm the Secretary.

This first year the Board of Trade in conjunction with the Municipalities of Wallace and Archie pushed for improved streets and sidewalks, improved bridges on roads leading to town, the disposal of dead animals and the problem of cattle at large. They also set up an advertisement plan for the purpose of attracting settlers.

1900 — Pres. F. W. Clingan, Vice — C. F. Travis, Sec. Treas. G. Silvester.

This Board still pressed for advertising for settlers along with C.P.R., tried to grope with the peddling nuisance, and worked at raising the price of grain.

1901 — the Executive remained the same. This Board advertised for settlers, a saddler, a veterinarian and asked for the re-establishment of the stage line between Elkhorn, Burnbank and Miniota. It also recommended to the Municipal Council to supply seed grain to newly arrived settlers, and canvassed with Archie Municipality to have a branch line of the C.P.R. run through that municipality.

It also formed the first fire brigade with C. F. Travis as Chief, purchased fire equipment and rec-

ommended that the town install a well and pump. It also pushed for town lighting.

1902 — Pres. C. F. Travis, Vice Pres. G. Silvester, Sec. Treas. J. Mooney.

This board pushed for the Branch line to Archie be started at Elkhorn and in conjunction with the Winnipeg Board of Trade pressed the C.P.R. for a 10¢ wheat rate between Port Arthur and Winnipeg. Along with the Montreal Board of Trade they pressed for Lord Strathcona to be made Governor General of Canada. They also pressed for a bank, Council Chambers and a jail for the village. One of their big problems this year was teams of horses driving on the wooden sidewalks and damaging them.

1903 — Pres. G. Silvester, Vice Pres. G. Marsh, Sec. J. Mooney.

This board established a town fire well in the middle of Main Street (the depression can still be seen). They secured a promise of 3 day banking in town by the Bank of Commerce at Moosomin and approached the Provincial Government for help in draining the Village.

1904 — The executive did not change. This board dealt mainly with draining the Village via Burns' slough.

1905 — Pres. W. Cushing, Vice Pres. G. Marsh, Sec. Treas. J. Mooney.

This board pushed for a new cemetery for the town with a proper fence and further draining of the town.

1906 — Pres. R. H. Brotherhood, Vice Pres. Geo. Lidster, Sec. Treas. J. Mooney.

This year was devoted to getting more settlers in this area. They also turned the fire department over to the Town Council.

1907-1927 — The Board of Trade was not active.

1927 — Pres. W. Davey, Vice Pres. J. Irving, Sec. Treas. R. Scotney.

The Board was reorganized and pushed for a Creamery, electric lights for the town and long distance calling.

1928-1930 — Not active.

1930 — Pres. Geo. Lidster, Sec. Treas. D. Sparling.

This board pushed real hard to obtain a telephone office, Post Office and Stockyards for the town. It also recommended to the Town Council to do something about the continuous dust on Main Street.

1931 — Pres. Geo. Lidster, Vice Pres. S. Dunbar, Sec. Treas. D. Sparling.

This board was asked by the town council to help them collect the town taxes. They honored C. W. Paddock for management of the local Creamery and his success in competition with other creameries.

1932-1933 — Pres. W. Davey, Sec. Treas. J. W. King. This board was active in trying to secure some sort of construction project to keep men off relief. It protested the 1¢ per mile excursion rate on trains between Brandon and Winnipeg and set about getting birth and death certificates issued in Elkhorn instead of Virden and McAuley.

1934 — Pres. F. C. Norris, Vice Pres. H. J. Jones, Sec. Treas. J. W. M. Thompson.

This board dealt mainly with the reorganization of the board so that certain executives would have certain fields of activity, i.e. Agriculture, Trade, Transportation, Membership, Publicity and Social.

They were also very active in negotiations for a new Post Office and honored C. W. Johnston, Alf Watson, W. Lee and Bud Card for winning the Free Press golf trophy.

1935 — Pres. F. C. Norris, Vice Presidents W. Davey and S. Dunbar, Sec. Treas. J. W. M. Thompson.

This board carried on further with getting a new Post Office plus a clock in the same and also pushed for a public sports grounds and a Hospital for the town.

1936 — Pres. F. C. Norris, Vice Presidents L. Dodge and C. W. Paddock, Sec. Treas. J. W. M. Thompson. This board promoted farmers curling, better postal service, general clean up of the town and proposed town tree planting.

1937 — Pres. F. C. Norris, Vice Presidents C. Paddock and A. Vodden, Sec. Treas. L. Dodge.

This board pressed for a trader's bylaw to control peddlars and asked the Department of Highways to build a good speed curve 7 miles east of Town.

1938 — Pres. F. C. Norris, Vice Presidents C. Paddock and E. Snyder, Sec. Treas. W. Lee.

They promoted the securing of the Manitoba Field Dog Trials for Elkhorn and asked Council to control juveniles with firearms in town.

1939 — Pres. F. C. Norris, Vice Presidents C. Paddock and A. Vodden, Sec. Treas. W. Lee.

This board honored the Creamery staff for their contribution to agriculture and the Bajus Bros. for

their success in cattle competition at the Brandon Fair.

1940 — Pres. F. C. Norris, Vice Presidents C. Paddock and S. Dunbar and Sec. Treas. R. Vasey.

This board proposed a new rink for Town and R.C.M.P. Policing of Town.

It also coordinated the War Charities.

1941 — Pres. F. C. Norris, Vice Presidents J. M. McCorkindale and E. Lawrence, Sec. Treas. W. Lee.

They conducted a War Salvage Campaign and turned the money over to the Red Cross, and the L. A. to the B.E.S.L.

1942-44 — Inactive.

1945 — Pres. F. C. Norris, Vice Pres. W. O. Rudd and Sec. Don Black. This board pushed for a milk supply for Elkhorn and a new bank as the old one had been closed.

1946 — Pres. D. Black, V. Pres. Ed Lawrence, Sec. Treas. J. J. Norris.

This board promoted motion pictures the year round in the Stadium, succeeded in raising enough money to decorate the Town with flags, etc. when they became available. They secured the bank opening in Sept. of 1946 and secured a pasteurized milk supply for the town and went ahead with plans for a new park.

1947 — Inactive.

1948 — Pres. W. O. Rudd, V. Pres. W. Smyth, Sec. Treas. W. Knowles, and W. Stoddart.

They reorganized the Board of Trade and it became known as the Elkhorn and District Chamber of Commerce. They promoted a new hospital and Curling Rink and asked farmers to join the Chamber.

1949 — Pres. W. O. Rudd, V. Pres. W. Smyth, Sec. Treas. W. Stoddart.

They tried to retain the Indian Home for a commercial building for the town and promoted a hospital and doctor for the town.

1950 — The executive remained the same. This Chamber was successful in getting the late Dr. W. Gorrie to come to Elkhorn and pushed for proper drainage of the Town.

1951 — Pres. C. F. Rannie, V. Pres. W. Smyth, Sec. Treas. Wes Feader.

This Chamber pressed the Municipality to keep market roads open in the winter and made a good donation to the Rest Room Committee.

1952 — Pres. Geo. Pearson, V. Pres. G. Bartley, Sec. Treas. A. Chapple.

They pressed for Welcome signs for Elkhorn.

1953 — Pres. W. O. Rudd, V. Pres. Geo. Pearson, Sec. Treas. A. Chapple.

They went ahead with the Welcome signs and pushed for a general cleanup of the town.



1954 — Pres. J. Courts, V. Pres. B. Barnes, Sec. Treas. A. Chapple.

This Chamber went on record as favouring a new home for a Doctor's residence plus a new sports centre for the town. It also held the first Boosto or bingo in the town and went ahead with further development of the park.

1955 — Pres. J. Courts, V. Pres. E. Collins, Sec. Treas. A. Chapple. This Chamber raised money for the park through Park-O, donated a shield to the 4-H Club and sponsored a night for Miss Kathy McIntosh who swam Lake Winnipeg.

1956 — Pres. E. Collins, Vice Pres. J. Norris, Sec. Treas. A. Chapple. This year was the first year that the idea of an Auto Museum was brought up in the Chamber. This Chamber also sponsored prizes for the best vegetables and flower gardens and founded a Syndicate to build the Doctor's house and went ahead with its construction.

1957 — Pres. G. Andrews, V. Pres. J. Norris, Sec. Treas. A. Chapple.

This Chamber sponsored a Christmas lighting contest in town and voiced the idea of the town getting sewer service.

1958 — Pres. A. J. Alley, Vice Pres. Ken Williams, Sec. Treas. A. Chapple.

They approached Mr. I. Clarkson about his idea for an Auto Museum and sponsored a "Shop in Elkhorn Event."

1959 — Pres. G. Canart, Vice Pres. G. Francis, Sec. Treas. A. Chapple. This Chamber backed the Council on the sewage service for the town and promoted it.

1960 — Executive remained the same. This Chamber decided to jointly help Mr. Clarkson set up his museum and proceeded to convince the government and local community what a great asset it would be and set up the corporation to run it.

1961-62 — Pres. G. Francis, V. Pres. S. Newman, Sec. Treas. A. Chapple. This Chamber promoted further the sewage system for Elkhorn and tried to obtain a doctor again.

1963 — Pres. J. Armstrong, V. Pres. W. R. Bartley, Sec. Treas. A. Chapple.

Along with various promotional steps, this Chamber had the unhappy duty of accepting Mr. A. Chapple's resignation as Sec. Treas., a job he had volunteered to do for the past 11 years.

1964 — Pres. C. Clarke, V. Pres. B. Tutthill, Sec. Treas. D. Bartley. This Chamber backed the building of a new rink and a hard liquor outlet for Manwaring's Drug Store.

1965 — The executive remained the same. With the possibility of a Potash Development at St. Lazare, this Chamber pursued all areas of trying to get some spin-off.

1966 — Pres. B. Tutthill, V. Pres. D. Manwaring, Sec. Treas. D. Bartley. Along with various projects, they helped sponsor a successful ball tournament at the Elkhorn fair.

1967 — Pres. D. Manwaring, V. Pres. J. Canart, Sec. Treas. Bert Smith.

This Chamber pushed for the Dept. of Highways to locate a crew here and was successful in doing so.

1967-78 — Inactive.

1979 — Pres. D. Bartley, V. Pres. Ted Middleton, Sec. Treas. Pearl Stonehouse.

Having reorganized, the Chamber sponsored a campaign to raise funds for the Swansons after the disastrous Hotel fire.

It promoted a Personal Care Home for Elkhorn and a new Hotel and backed the Council in trying to get the Manitoba Tourist Booth moved from the Saskatchewan boundary to Elkhorn.

This Chamber also started the Antique Car Rally.

1980 — Pres. T. Middleton, V. Pres. Roy Wright, Sec. Treas. Lillian Hall.

This Chamber erected a town bulletin board and assisted the Ambulance Service and Centennial Committee with donations.

1981 — Pres. T. Middleton, V. Pres. G. Sutley, Sec. Treas. T. Stremel.

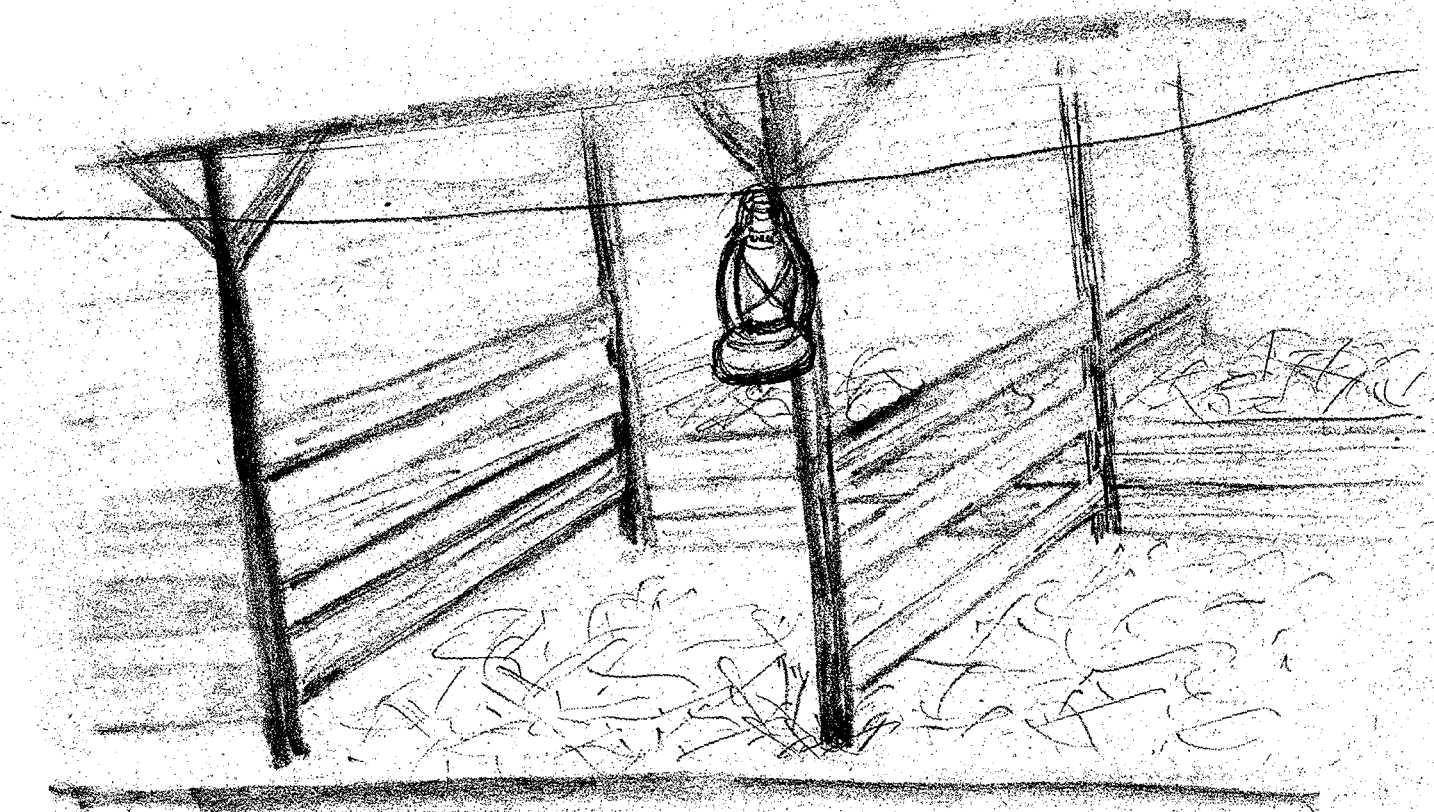
This Chamber added to the Antique Car Rally with the addition of floats.

1982 — Pres. D. Bartley, V. Pres. G. Bailey, Sec. Treas. G. Sutley.

With the possibilities of a major potash find in the area, this Chamber will have its work cut out for it through the promotion of the town.

As you can see, the Chamber has always been trying to promote Elkhorn in various ways to make it a better place to live. As the Chamber minutes are very detailed, and some have been mislaid, I apologize for any errors and omissions, but respectfully submit this short history of the Chamber of Commerce in Elkhorn.

**Donald G. Bartley**



# Agriculture

## Elkhorn Agricultural Fair

The Elkhorn Agricultural Fair was organized in 1893. The first fairs were held in the East end of the town. The dances were held at day's end in Broadley's Hall, also in the east end of the town.

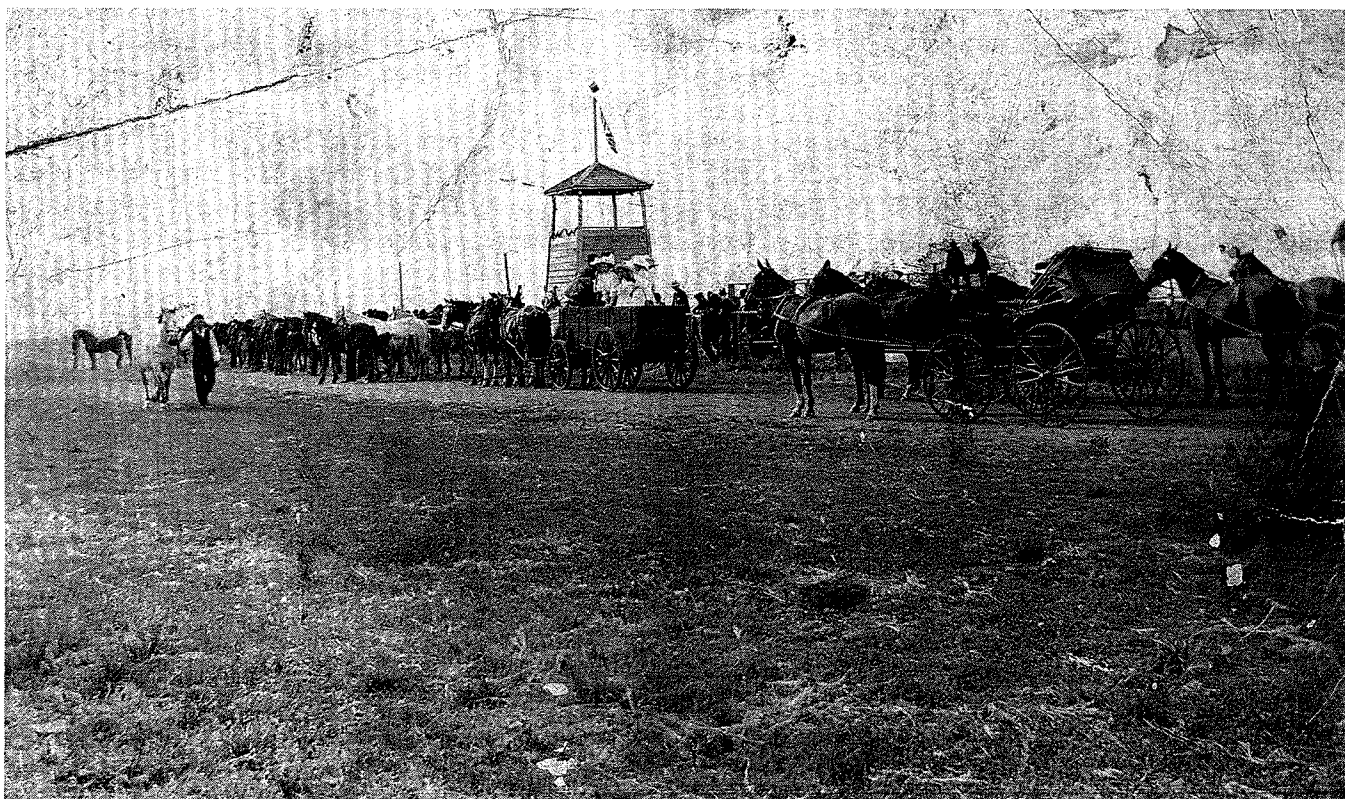
The first executives we have on record were: Charlie Crosby as Sec. Manager in 1893, H. D. Powers, Geo. Harry, Tom Dahl, Wm. Maxfield and John Heritage. Later we had G. W. Smith, Dr. J. H. Hennan, Herb Jones and Bonner Williams as Sec. Managers.

There are few records as to who exhibited in the earlier years, but we do know there was a great interest in the sports. A great deal of work was entailed in making the race tracks. It apparently was

used for harness and saddle races, although we have no authentic records of who won the prizes.

Football and baseball were the big thing and are still enjoyed. As usual, all big gatherings ended with a dance. For a time quadrilles were very popular and in 1953 there were six sets in good form. Another sport that received a lot of attention was horseshoes. Bonspiels became popular with the Society in 1961. The Agricultural Society sponsored the Boys and Girls Calf Clubs from 1935 and onward.

The Lamb Clubs were in existence in 1937 for ten years or more. George Cole was manager of this club for a time, then later Laurie Johnson. The Swine Club was organized about the same time with Sinclair taking the lead. Plowing matches and seed plots



Elkhorn Fair — very early days, no cars, all horse-drawn vehicles.



Elkhorn Boys' and Girls' Lamb Club at Elkhorn Fair about 1926. Man with white straw hat is Mr. George Cole Sr., founder of the club.

caused quite a lot of competition in 1920. Winners of some of the plowing matches over several years were Bert Bolam, Charlie Will, Jim Hartley, J. and W. Orr, and Andy Swan.

It was during Dr. Hennan's and Herb Jones' terms of office as Sec. Manager that the decisions were made to overhaul the horse and cattle barns and to remodel the display building. Very few mentions of the women's part in the fair seem to be recorded, but they had been taking quite an active part in the needle work and baking sections under the guidance of Mrs. C. H. Freeman, Mrs. C. W. Crosby, Mrs. Lidster, Mrs. Fred Norris, and Mrs. G. Freeman. Later the names of Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Schoen and Mrs. Dan Hartley were added to the executive. Canned fruit and vegetable exhibits were very popular, but there were still entries for home made soap and butter at that time (1930); exhibitors were to be within a radius of 30 miles.

During the dry years of 1931-32 it was decided to have a picnic instead of a Fair.

In the late thirties, garden competitions came into being with Fred Norris and W. Davey in charge. This competition is still in existence under the name of Best Grounds Competition, Town and Country.

Herb Jones was Secretary-Manager all during the forties, with a salary of \$25.00 a year. He was followed for several years by Bonner Williams.

Among the most mentioned exhibitors of horses were the Grieves, Orrs and Bartletts.

Cattle exhibitors were George Allison, the Cousins, Jim Guild, and Hutchison of Virden.

Sheep were exhibited by E. A. R. Bates, J. Allison and Dan Hartley.

Poultry was shown by Ed McGinnes, A. Collins, C. H. Freeman.

Flowers were displayed by Mrs. C. H. Freeman, Heamans.

Needlework was presented by Mrs. Herb Jones.

Eatons, Simpsons, and Blue Ribbon Co. donated prizes, etc. for those winning the most points in the Ladies' work.

Trophies were donated by the Agricultural Society and Bank of Commerce; then there is the Cousins Memorial Cup and several other trophies.

In the year 1958 when E. A. R. Bates was President, the cream competition came into being. Ernie Collins was Creamery Manager then. The prize winners the first year were 1st A. S. Elliot, 2nd J. Watson. The entry fee was 25 cents. A machinery display started in 1953. The Centennial Year was celebrated with Queen and Princess, an antique parade, old timers riding in cars and with other floats. The Pet Show was introduced in 1971. The Directors of the Agricultural Society were in charge of the Refreshment Booth for the School Field Day and found it very profitable.

This year being the eighty-eighth annual fair and with the following directors tells the story of a very active society.

**Honorary Presidents:** Judge J. W. M. Thompson, Robt. Grieve, Mark Cousins, Lloyd McLeod, Mrs. G. Freeman, Wm. Montgomery, D. M. McGregor, MLA.

**Officers:** President Harry Bajus, 1st Vice-President Tom Orr, 2nd Vice-President Bill Bajus, 3rd Vice-President Mrs. Marg Cruickshank, Secretary-Manager Mrs. Lynda Draper.

**Directors:** A. Odell, O. Duxbury, M. Cousins, Wm. Montgomery, M. Edgar, A. Grieve, R. Grieve, D. Nolan, R. Brydon, N. Jaffray, L. Johnson, C. Freeman, W. Ruddick, W. Allison, D. Hartley, G. Grieve, T. OGREYSIK, A. Hodson, M. Szoradi, Ross Joseph, Geo. Ogilvie, F. Dixon, H. Simpson, K. Rowan, Llyal McLeod, T. Nylin, W. Haines, C. Kyle, A. Andrews, J. Huculak, S. Shepherd, T. Orr, C. Heaman, H. Heaman, Lloyd McLeod Jr., Norman Kyle, James McLeod, Brent Nolan, T. Cruickshank, B. Hopley, T. Stenhouse, K. Johnson, H. Conquergood, H. Drake, H. Bajus, D. Robertson.

**Lady Directors:** Mrs. G. Freeman, Mrs. D. Hartley, Mrs. M. Edgar, Mrs. Geo. Ogilvie, Mrs. C. Freeman, Mrs. T. Cruickshank, Mrs. Wm. Allison, Mrs. Robt. Allison, Mrs. T. Hopley, Mrs. R. Pelouquin.

**Directors in Charge of Classes: Heavy Horses:** D. Nolan, Wm. Montgomery, Thos. Orr, W. Ruddick, Lloyd McLeod Jr., James McLeod, Ross Joseph.

**Light Horses:** L. McLeod, S. Shepherd.

**Cattle:** Mark Cousins, L. B. Johnson, Norman Jaffray, Alex Grieve, Cliff Heaman, W. Allison.

**Display Building:** Mrs. Wm. Allison, Alvin Odell.

**Plants and Pet Show:** A. Odell, H. Heaman.

**Gymkhana:** A. Andrews, C. Kyle, W. Haines, T. Stenhouse, Norman Kyle.

**Gate Committee:** C. Freeman, Geo. Ogilvie.

**Parking Committee:** H. Simpson, T. Cruickshank, A. Hodson, M. Edgar, H. Bajus.

### Teaching a Calf to Drink

The hardest thing on a ranch, I think,  
Is trying to teach a calf to drink.  
You pull and haul, get his head in a pail;  
He'll stand there and twist and wiggle his tail;  
And the very first thing, kerplunk goes his nose,  
And most of the milk goes over your clothes.  
Hang on to your patience, your teeth you can grit;  
If you can't hold your temper you might as well quit.  
For old Mother Nature, whose methods don't fail,  
Never meant for a calf to drink out of a pail.  
Back him into a corner, straddle his neck;  
He won't damage you much, you're already a wreck.



Oliver Lund with calves.

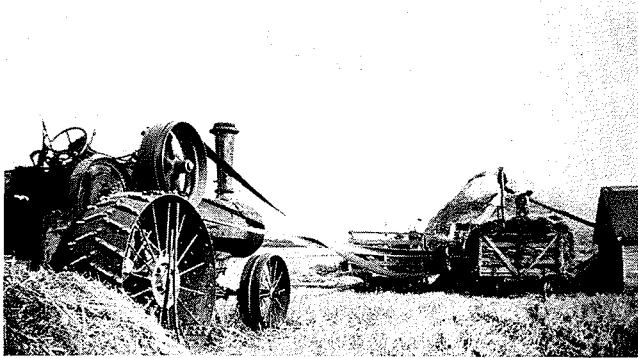
Just give him a finger, and maybe with luck  
That little old calf will start in to suck.  
Pick up your bucket and push his head down,  
Then away you go again 'round and around.  
Just do this a week with your back in a kink,  
And maybe by then you'll teach him to drink.

### Lay of the Lone Farmer

A farmer had a little wheat,  
The grain was good and sound,  
And every time he sold a load  
He saw the price come down.  
He paid to have it bound and  
threshed,  
He paid the men full time,  
But every time he sold some wheat  
The price had dropped a dime,  
He fed his men, he filled them up,  
He paid them double price,  
But every time he sold some wheat  
They cut him down a slice.  
Expenses high and income low,  
He worked and sweat like thunder,  
And every time he sold some wheat  
The price was cut asunder.  
The banker got his horse and mule,  
The landlord got his cow,  
The taxes got his hens and geese,  
The merchant got his sow.  
And now he's mad and hungry,  
Wears pants without a seat,  
He still owes many, many debts  
For the gamblers got his wheat.  
—Ethel Trans in Farm and Ranch  
(Review).



Stooks in field.



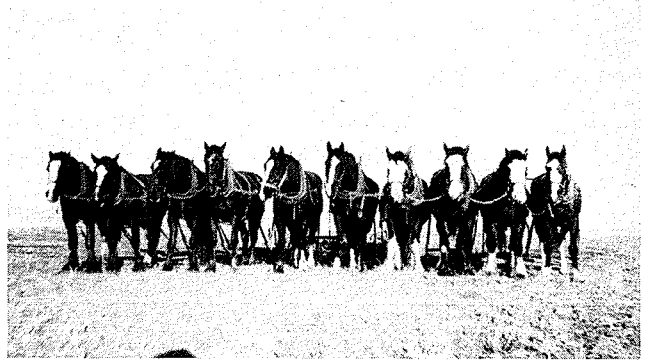
Threshing on Lund Farm.



Dunc McGinnes, Lorne, Gordon and Merlin Rowan ready for fall work.



Threshing at the Freeman home farm, "The Poplars". Fred Feaver on the engine, Grandpa Chas. Freeman with grandson Charlie Freeman having a ride.



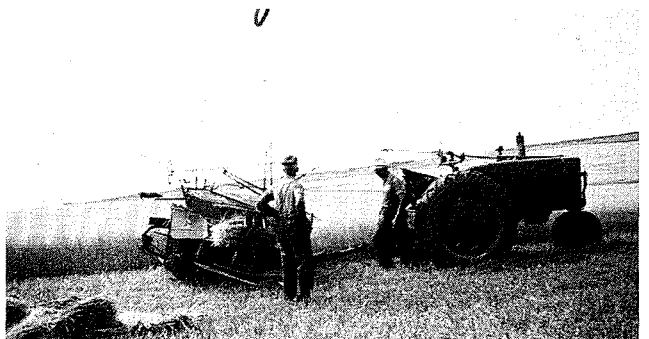
Ten-horse hitch on the Reynold's farm.



Lawrence Johnson cutting clover 1941, one-way disc behind.



Laurie, Tommy and Harry Johnson threshing 1948.



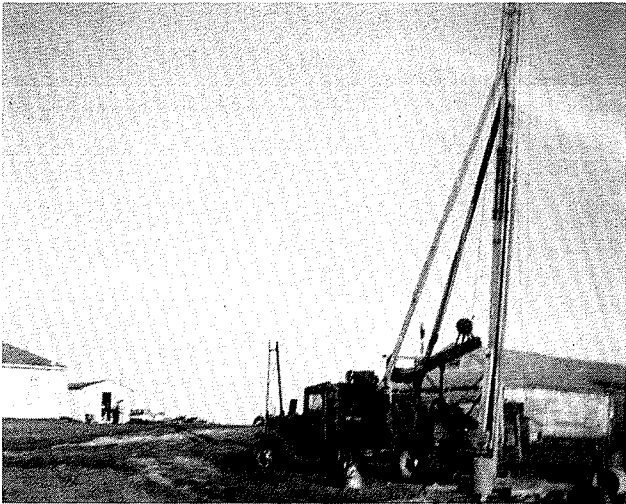
Laurie and Lawrence Johnson cutting oats. Tractor is controlled from the binder seat.



Fred and Jim Bamson rolling stone off field.



Pearl and Harry Ellingson and their daughter Myrna on their farm in 1948.



Mr. Mullens drilling for water on Bamson Farm 1960.



Lunch time on the L. Johnson farm.



A ewe that raised four lambs on the John Allison farm in 1932.



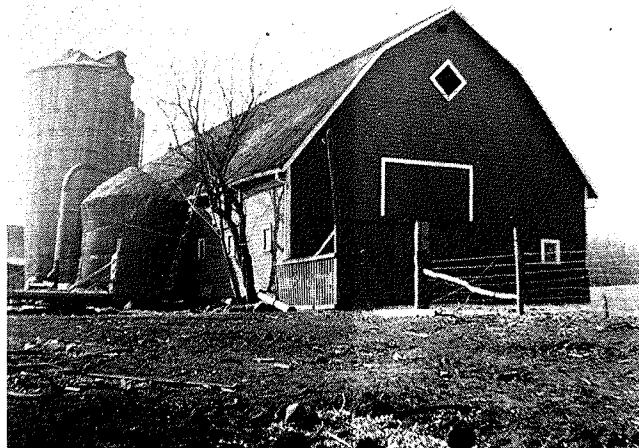
Laurie Johnson, Flo (Barret) Bradley, Rene Franklin with hay loader 1938.



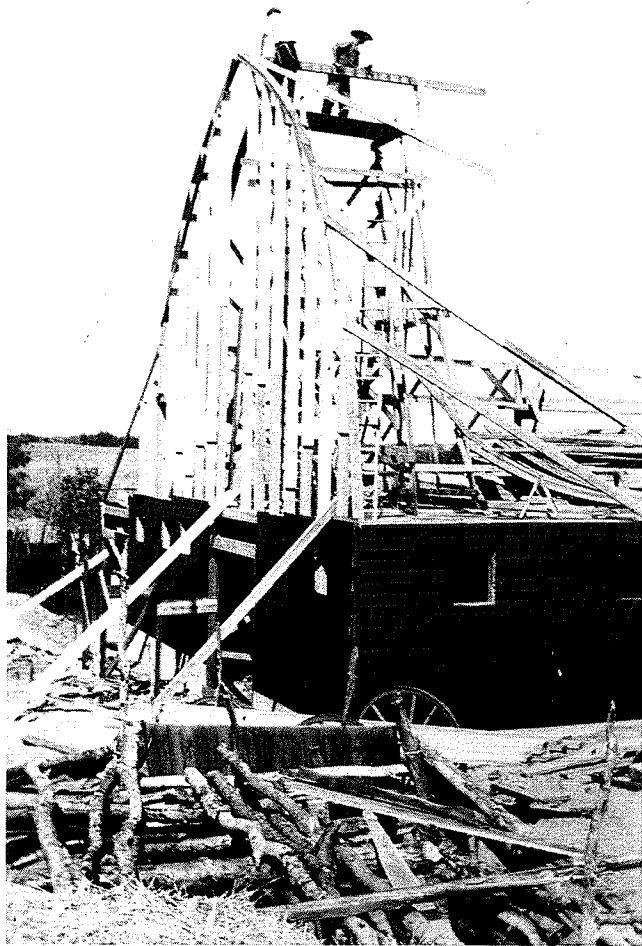
Cole Farm 1926.



Extra-curricular use of the club calf 1930. In buggy, l-r: Bruce and Bob Johnson with Bobs. Mike, hitched to buggy, led by Phillis.



N. Sinclair farm.



Building a cow barn at Freeman's.



Opening Elkhorn Pool Elevator — 1965. L-R: George Armstrong, Albert Hodson, Les Smith, Tommy Johnson, Ken Lund, Gilbert Jacobs.



29

28 ELKHORN

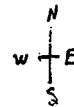
F. LIPSEY WS 31 OVERAND	32	33	BOB CARRADICE 34	RALPH COLLI 35	RALPH WALKER 36	31 HARTLEY PEACOCK	FRED ZAZNAY 32	33
30	29 COUSINS	28 DOUG COUSINS W.J. MULLIGAN	27	26	25 GERALD COWAN	30 RON WALKER ED. MARTIN MOYSON	29	DALE MOGARTH 28 M.K. SZORADI
19 KEN ROWAN	20 E. BOOMHOWER	21	22 ED. V. FASK PAULL	23 W.J. PAULL	24	19	H.S. LEONARD J.B. LEONARD 20 JAY KUEVER	A. BOHRN 21 (256)
18 BILL ROW GOETHE	17	16	15	14 BOB SHEPHERD	13 GERALD LUND RAND LUND	19 KEN LUND ALFRED TWIGG	17 DALE OSREYSIK	16 W.J. MATHER
7	8	9 L. ANGUS	10	11	12 GOVERAND	7 ROBERT YUTZY	8 WES EMMERSON JESSE JENSEN	9 STEVE ISFELD E. KOOP GEO. JEBB
6 EARL PENNER	5	4 ALLAN THOMPSON	3	2	1	6 GERALD HAROLD GEBLIE	5 R.D. MCALL	4 KEN HUTCHISON

10

31 DAYTON RIEMER	32 ELMER SIEMENS CB. SHARRATT	33 JAMES PENNER	34 STUART SHEPHERD	35	36	31 JAKE MARTENS	32	33 DARRELL NOLAN
30	29	28 WAYNE PLETT	27 ABE MARTENS	26	25	30 GORDON GRANT	29	28 CARL HEINRICHS (256)
19 RAY REMPLE	20 J.C. ROWAND GARTH LUND	19 JOHN FEHR WALLIE PLETT LUND	22 LEO RIEMER ED. PLETT THOMAS WATSON # (257) MARYFIELD ROAD	23	24 NEIL GRANT	19 JOHN MARTINS	20 BOB GRIEVE THOMAS CRUCKSHANK	21 G.N. SHOEMAKER
18 HENRY WEIBE	17 ARSE WAYLEN ED NATZENS	16 RUBY SCHNEIDER WEIBE	15 PETER BO. ISAAC HENRY ROWAND WES. PLETT	14	13 ROLAND KUEVER SMELAN KEN OGLIVE	19	17 GEOFFREY SIMPSON	16 GEO. GRIEVE
7	8	9 DENVER PLETT	10	11	12 TERRY DAY	7 JOE HUCDIAK	9 CC. VANDER HEID	9 V. REUET
6	5 JOHN WAYLEN TW WAYLEN	4	3 JACOB KOOP CE STENDALL	2 JOHN CRUCKSHANK W.A. WRIGHT	1 ED STENDALL	6	5	4 ALLAN CRUCKSHANK

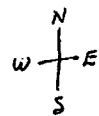
29

28



ELKHORN

34 CLIFF KYLE ALLAN PATRICK	35	36	31 TED STREMBEL	32	33	34	35	36 O. FRATTINER
27 FRANK LIEVER	26 MERVIN SPATT	25 L. ADAMOVICH	30 RON CANART	29	28 HENRY HEAMAN	27 GLEN HEAMAN	26 F.A. KERR SYDNE BRUNER	25 NORMAN BARTLETT
22	23 ALPHAE PRINER	24 DUBB WALKER	19 REAPER	20 GLEN MC CALL	21	22	23 CHAS JAMES HEAMAN RALPH HEAMAN	24 R.H. HEAMAN
15 CLARKE SNELL	14 DENNIS KRIEVER DAVID SORLLEN	13 TILDEN WILKIN	18	17 G. GALLANGER	16 JIM HUTCHISON	15 ALVIN ODELL	14 ALVIN HEAMAN OF 14 GARRITHERS	13 BEO BHERFON GEO COLEMAN
10 (256)	11	12 S.D. MONTGOMERY	7 HARVEY SIMPSON	8 LOANE SIPLEY	9 ROBERT THOMAS	10	11 CHAS MILNE RALPH DELGOM	12 LARRY RACKHAM
9	2 LOAN CHEATERS	1	6 LYLE SIMPSON	5	4	3 FRED TOOTH DON NUBENT	2 BREG TOOTH	1 KEITH KINWARD ROBERT GORNE HAYWARD
34	35 DON GEORGE	36 PAUL GEORGE	31 ART RHODES	32 KEITH WALKER	33 KEITH WALKER	34 (252)	35 DON GEORGE	36 DON GEORGE
27 ARMSTRONG NORMAN PAPPEL	26 FRED HEY	25 RON GEORGE	30 JIM SLIMMONS	29 IVAN SIMPSON	28	27 B. HOLMES PETE BOND	26 WALTER CHURCHILL	25 EARL BLACKSHAW ALEY SCOTT
22	23	24 E.G. WARDLE	19 WM HARVEY	20 H. WHITTLE KELVIN W.M. KILFORD	21 ARNOLD WALKER	22 DODD CHAPMAN	23 BILL KEVIN	24 HENRY DALE STODER MEL MEL STODER
15	14 DON ANGELL	13	12 DAVID MITCHELL JOHN GREY	11 MAURICE BERT COULTER	10 BART COULTER	9 JOHN LIFESO	8 ED. MOORE	7 DEVORA HENDERSON
10 (256)	9 IVAN WILLIAMS	8 GERALD HASKETT	7 DON MITCHELL	6 BLAINE MITCHELL	5	4 BOB KING	3 B.M. ANDREWS	2 ELOAN BOON
3 RON MATHIESON	2 WM. HASKETT	1	12 LLOYD WILLIAMS	11 RETH WILLIAMS	10 A. HARVEY	9	8 R. BOOTH	7 KEITH SLIMMONS



29

28

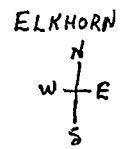
31 CLAUDE ROOKES	32 RON MARSHALL	33 DAVID MARSHALL	34 GORDEN ROOKES RICHARD SEDCWICK	35	EV JACOBS 34 RICHARD SANHEIM	31 ROBERT SANHEIM	32	33 MARK WILLIAMS
30	29	28	GEO SEDCWICK 27 STERLING PAUL M.A JOHNSON	26	25	ROY ROOKES 30	JAKE SANHEIM 29	29
18	20	21	DAVID MULLER 22 GILBERT JACOBS	23	C.J. CLUBB ALEX CLUBB	19	20 ROBERT PETERS	21 M.L. JACOBS
19 LESLIE JOHANSON	17 W.M. OLIVER	16 WILFRED ROGERS	TERRY JOHNSON 15 A. GREGG	14 D.L. & E.F. JOHNSON	13	18 A.L. LINNER	17 DALE BRENNAND	16
VERN FRONDALL 7	HENRY YARBO 9	KEN MARTIN 9	10	11	FRANCIS SPARKS 12	7	9	9 (256)
6 NORMAN MURRAY	5	ROBERT STONEHOUSE 4 RALPH JOHNSON	3	2 M.H. BRENNAND	1	6 R.J. BAYLISS	5	4
31	32	ANDRE LACHAPPELLE 33	34	35	36	31	32	33
ROY WRIGHT 30	29	28 CLIFF TODER	27 KIRKELLA #1	26	25	30	29 JOHNSON KEN JOHNSON	28 DON LESLIE
19 R.F. LESLIE	WES RUDDICK 20	21	22 LEONARD PERSSON	23	24 C. BASKERVILLE	19	20	H.BAJUS BILL BAJUS 21
18	STAN MCGIMPSEY FRANK OLIVER	CARY OLIVER N.A. JAFFRAY 16	WAYNE VOLK 18	MEL KENNEDY 17	FRANK DOBREYSIK 13 G. BOWERING F. BOWERING	18	J.L. SHOEMAKER 17	16
7	G. BAILEY 8	9 FRANK ROZAK	10 ADAM TURBAN	11	12 KIM COUSINS	7 GEO KARDASH	8 FRED WILL DON ROBERTSON	9
6 DARWIN ROWAN	5 PLAINVIEW COLONY	4 STEVE KALAKABO	3	THOMAS MARTIN 2 ALEX GRANT	1	6 PETE HOENSEN	5	4 JOHN KAROLAK LYLE ROWAN

13

12

29

28



28

27

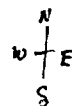
34	35	36	F.J. L. 310. SAMFORD	32 NORMAN HAWK	33	EARL THOMPSON	34 STEWART TAYLOR DAVID HOWARD	35	FA. SHEANE NPEL ROWAN GARTH FIELD
27 GORDEN ORR	26	25	30	29	28	M.H. BORRA	27	26	T. ANDRUSHUK 25 STAN BRYANT
STAN T.W. SMITH HOPEY 22	23	24	19	20	21	MURRAY PREL	22	23	24 <del>STAN BRYANT</del> WYTHE
ARCHIE ROBERTSON 15 J.A. JOHNSON	N. MULLER BILL 14 MULLER 13	12	19	18	17	JOHN THOMPSON 16	15	14	13 JONAS CASTLE
J.M. FERRIS 10	B. JOSEPH 11	12	7	8	9	J.H. DUNN	10	11	12 DON HAINES
BRIAN BATUS 3 J. MARK WILLIAMS	2 B.N. BRENNAN	1	6	5	4	DON NYGAARD RON BRYANT	3	2	1 83
256 34. DRAKE HUBB DRAKE	C. ADOLFSON 35	36	31	32	33	ALBERT FREDERICKS	34	35	36 <del>ADOLFSON</del> LEO DOOLE
27 OSCAR DUXBURY	26 D.R. W. NARA	25	30	29	28	DOUG ZORN	27	26	25 H.H. STONEHOUSE ROO REEVES
FRANK DIXON 22 CHAS FREEMAN	23 TOM STENHOUSE	24	19	20	21	22	23	24	PETER RAE 12
15 BLAINE PIERRARD	14 WILFRED SODER	13	19	18	17	16	15	14	13 83
W.M. BRENNAN 10	"DAVE HARTLEY 12	11	7	8	9	J.H. DRAPER	10	11	12 GLEN TARDINE ROY DRAPEY
3	2 TOM BICKERTON	1	KEN KLEVER	5	4	ROSE CLARKSON	3	2	1 W.M. HENMAN

256

83

83

ELKHORN 28



27

# Churches

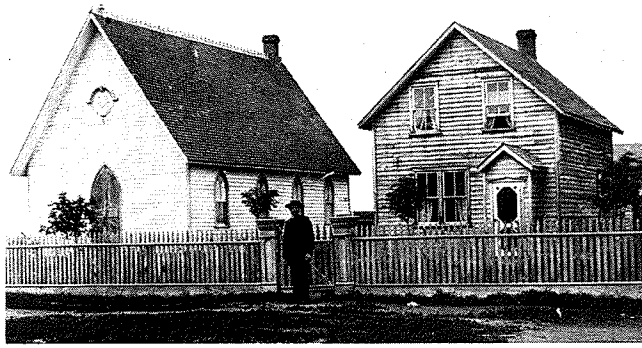
## St. Mark's Anglican Church

The first Christian church built in Elkhorn, St. Mark's, was also the first Anglican Church in the area to be known later as the Birtle Deanery, an area

stretching north to Russell and east to Strathclair and Virden.

From early photographs preserved by the Jack Waller family, copied by courtesy, it is known that the first church was porch-less and the Rectory a





St. Mark's Anglican Church and Rectory.

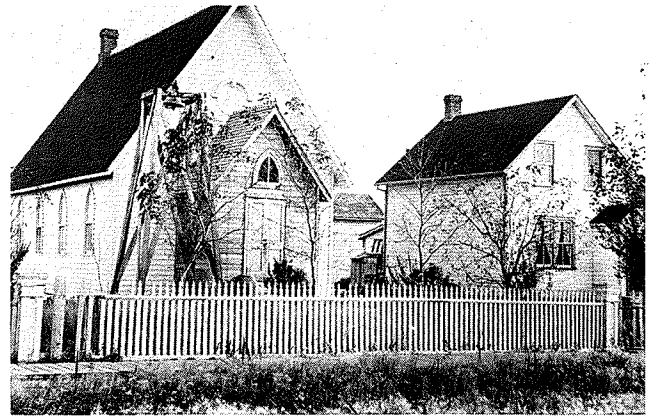
separate building. The porch was added later and the two buildings joined together by a vestry room.

Almost as old as Elkhorn, St. Mark's Church is the repository of so many local memories. Time and again the early families beautified the interior with memorials of their beloved. The stained glass window in the south wall of the chancel commemorates Mrs. Mary Thomas, who died in 1893. The pulpit was brought from the old stone church in Hargrave by the Lebanon Masonic Lodge in 1901, in memory of Edward A. Holmes. The fine altar cross is in memory of Elizabeth Waller, donated in 1911. The brass candlesticks are in memory of Ernest Frank Scott and the Bishop's chair and the lectern, of Emma Vidal. The stained glass windows above the altar are a colourful memorial to our First World War dead. This lovely little church has an unusual sloping Nave. The choir pews in the chancel were made by Mr. R. Clarkson.



Elkhorn Anglican Church 1906.

St. Mark's Church was closely associated with the Anglican Indian Residential School throughout its history. When the Principals of the School were in Orders, they were also licenced as Rectors of the Church. This was the reason for a succession of resident Church Army Captains and student-ministers, to assist in the pastoral work of the parish. There



St. Mark's Anglican Church and Rectory.

was a chapel in the church, to the north of the chancel, for the use of the pupils of the Residential School.

The first Register and the earliest records have been misplaced or lost; in the records held in the Diocesan archives the earliest entry is dated 1905, signed by the Revd. William Stocker. For various periods, during the years, St. Mark's has been served

# St. George's Day

## April 23rd, A. D. 1909

Second Annual

### "High-Tea and Concert"

IN THE McLEOD HALL ON

## Friday, April 23rd, St. GEORGE'S DAY

The Girls' Guild of St. Mark's Church, Elkhorn, will serve "High-Tea" from 6.30 to 8.30

Bill of Fare will consist of

Roast Beef and Ham. Salads. Home Made Bread and Butter. Cake. Fresh Brewed Tea.

## CONCERT AT 9 O'CLOCK

Songs, Tableau and Operetta

General admission to the Hall 25c. For the Tea 15c. each will be charged at the tables.

YOURS TRULY,

THE GIRLS.

Even if the season is late, this is "The Event" of the season... SO COME!

St. George's Day poster.

by the Rectors of Virden. The present Rector is the Revd. Richard Condo, of Virden, whose hon. assistant is the Revd. Canon Roy Hubbard (Retd.) now resident in the village.

In June, 1937, a large crowd gathered at the church for the 50th Anniversary. One of the main features was a huge birthday cake, shared by everyone present. The first Bishop of Brandon (the Rt. Revd. Wilfred Thomas) came for the celebration. After Evensong the crowd gathered on Frank Walker's lawn and those attending the Service who had been in Elkhorn fifty years before were presented to the Bishop. They were not all Anglicans of course, but they were all celebrating together. The then Rector, the Revd. E. S. Dixon, commented on the good fellowship that existed between the churches in Elkhorn. Our present Bishop, the Rt. Revd. John Conlin, is the fourth Bishop of the Diocese.

No story of St. Mark's Church would be complete without mention of the vital role played over the past years by the faithful members of the W.A. and of their junior section, the Evening Branch. For too many years these ladies were the activists and the fund raisers. Daughters and grand-daughters of the homesteaders became members of the W.A. and perhaps nothing shows more clearly how deep-rooted the church is in this community than the names listed on our W.A. Memorial Cross.

That St. Mark's Church now gleams, inside and out, like the jewel it truly is, is sufficient evidence that the present officers take their responsibilities joyfully and seriously. The church is cared for with loving hands. The Church wardens, upon whom so much depends in any Anglican parish, are Mr. Earle Lipsey and Mrs. Irene Moore. They have been ably supported by the small Vestry: Miss Marguerite Ablett, Mrs. Peggy Brennand (vestry clerk), Mrs. Cynthia Hubbard, Mrs. D. Robinson (treasurer), Mrs. Sybil Tutthill and Mrs. Betty Zazulak, assisted by willing hands, by no means all Anglican, when-



St. Mark's Choir, Rev. Syms — Minister 1933.

ever there is need. Our organist is Mrs. Agnes Smith, who has succeeded Miss Rose Clarkson, who played so faithfully over two decades.

All generations since Elkhorn began have here given God worship and praise in the ancient Anglican liturgy; which glad service continues weekly.



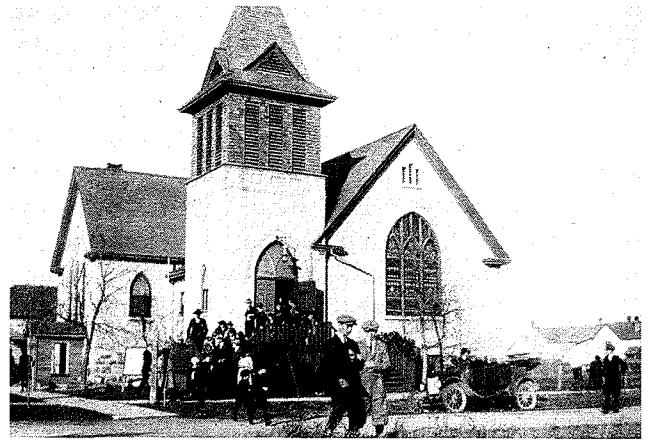
St. Mark's Anglican Church Confirmation Class 1934. L-R Back row: Maxine Dixon, Kay Drake, Margaret Warnock, Marion Povey. Second row: Florence Gallanger, Mrs. Ed Shepherd, Rae Kelly, Millicent Dunbar, May Hartley, Mrs. Geothe. Third row: Rita Boyce, Cassie Walker, Rev. Cummings, Elsie Walker, Margaret Freeman. Kneeling: Lillian King, Clarabelle Geothe.



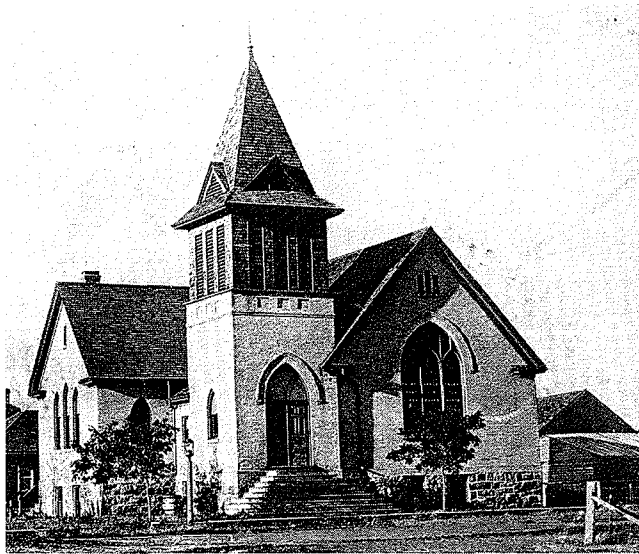
Women's Auxiliary to the Anglican Church about 1930. L-R Standing: Dorothy Lucking, Mrs. Dixon, ?, ?, Mrs. Syms, Mrs. Eddie Shepherd, Mrs. Povey, ?, ?, Nina Lucking. Kneeling: Agnes Freeman, ?, Mrs. Boyce, Margaret Hartley, ?. Sitting: Mrs. Waller.



Girls at Elkhorn Indian School with Bishop Thomas of Brandon.



Elkhorn Union Church.



Methodist Church.



Presbyterian Church built 1888.

### A History Of Elkhorn United Church

According to the stories of early days in Elkhorn the people met in the CPR station to hold Sunday school before there were any churches. The people looked forward to meeting each other once a week. Later a man by the name of Broadley offered his hall,

known as the Broadley hall, and Sunday School was held there for a time. Broadley's hall was situated just about where the present Stadium stands.

Mr. Broadley was a Methodist, and quite a man of influence in the town. He thought the Methodists should proceed with the idea of having Methodist church services of their own. A two storey house on the property where the George Lund residence is now was chosen. The minister, a Rev. Scarlet, lived downstairs and church services were held upstairs. This arrangement proved not very satisfactory, so a campaign was organized to build a church. Money was collected and work begun on the present church building.

A cellar was dug, just big enough for a furnace, etc. Then they started building a wall of stone all around the big hole. Everyone was excited and came to watch the new church group. Bricks were dumped in piles and cement brought as well as all the other things needed to build the church. Mrs. Travis, a pioneer, was given the honor of laying the cornerstone. Gradually the church took shape, and, in 1903, was completed. Rev. Scarlet was the first minister. Sunday school was held in the room to the west



United Church — 1940's.



of the sanctuary. Mr. Gilbert was superintendent. He lived on the farm now occupied by Lee Hodson and was the father of Mrs. R. E. Pascoe. Miss Addie Travis was the church organist, a position she held for some forty-eight years. In the meantime, the present Anglican church was built in 1887, and the Presbyterian church was built in the following year. Then, after a long while, there was a movement all over Canada about joining the Presbyterians and the Methodists into one union. In 1925 a vote was taken and church union carried. From then on the church was known as the United Church and the Presbyterian church, ceased to exist. The pulpit still in use came from the Presbyterian church, as did their organ, long replaced by the Hammond now in use. As time went on money was collected to install the big south window, and a celebration was held for the occasion. The minister lived in a small house at the back of the church on the same lot, until 1907 when the large brick parsonage was built. In that same year a group of young ladies of the Methodist church organized what was known as the Swastika Circle. They took on the responsibility of furnishing one of the bedrooms in the parsonage which was to be used as a guest room. They purchased all the furniture, bedding, floor covering, curtains etc., and looked after the upkeep of it entirely. The group consisted of single girls, with the minister's wife whose name was Mrs. Taylor, and a Mrs. Hatcher, their president. The late Mrs. Edith McCorkindale and Mrs. Mabel

Webster were charter members of the circle. The only charter member still living is Mrs. Duncan McRae, the former Susie Rodgers, a sister of Cecil Rodgers. Mrs. McRae lives in Ottawa. She acted as secretary of the new organization and Addie Travis was the treasurer. After World War I the name Swastika was dropped and the group just became known as the Circle, and began raising money for Mission Work as well.

Another group known as the Ladies Aid was made up of married women. Their chief money making project each year was serving the annual Fowl Supper. The name Ladies Aid has been changed to the United Church Women (UCW). No history of our church would be complete without mention of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert, ever faithful workers in all branches of the church, especially Sunday school. Another family, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Miller, were dedicated workers in the Methodist church. Mr. Miller served on the Church board, the board of elders and succeeded Mr. Gilbert as superintendent of the Sunday School. Mrs. Miller, as long as she was able, set up the communion table for each communion service.

It was a labor of love for her Church. The communion utensils were kept in her home, ever in readiness. When she no longer could take an active part in church affairs she was made a life member of the Board of Elders. Another family who deserves special mention was the Mooney family, pioneers and



Union Sunday school picnic on the J. W. Gilbert farm July 17, 1915.

staunch supporters of the Methodist church. Mr. Mooney was chairman of the board of stewards for 59 years. He was also choir leader for most of that time. His wife, a member of the choir and the Ladies Aid, was an active member. Upon retiring for health reasons Mr. Mooney was succeeded by Mr. Earl Stinson, as chairman of the board of Stewards. Both Mr. and Mrs. Stinson will long be remembered for their contribution to the work of the United Church.

Others who gave much of their time and efforts to the work of the church were the Rodgers family, the Sinclair family, the Websters, the George Crosby family, Mrs. W. L. Johnson, the Bajus family, Mrs. C. Fordyce, and Mr. and Mrs. Alf George, the Leslie family, the T. B. Macleods, Mr. and Mrs. George Bartley, Mrs. Irene Franklin, Mrs. John Duxbury, the Blakeman family, Mr. and Mrs. George Francis, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Pascoe, Mr. and Mrs. J. McCorkindale and Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Johnston.

Among the presentations made to the church are included: the Communion table, presented by Mr. and Mrs. George Francis in memory of their daughter Beverly Reeves; the church doors presented by Mrs. McCorkindale in memory of her husband and son Bill; the baptismal font, presented by the Armstrong family in memory of Mrs. Irene Franklin; the cabinet for the memorial book, placed in memory of Mary Greenwood Gilbert and J. W. Gilbert by the R. E. Pascoe family; and a set of hymnaries with music, also presented to the choir by the Pascoe family in memory of their father, R. E. Pascoe. The most beneficial improvement to the church has been the re-modelling of the basement. More than 30 years ago the basement had been enlarged to the present size but had been left in a rough condition with bare rock cement walls, bare beams and heating by two coal and wood stoves — woefully inadequate. At the time of fowl suppers or wedding receptions, both stoves had to be taken down and set up again after the event. Another campaign for funds resulted in the purchase of the oil furnaces and old coal bins were cheerfully done away with. The Circle was mainly responsible for lining up the basement walls, and installing tile flooring in both the kitchen and lower hall. Heating ducts were installed in the kitchen but it was a red letter day when the sewer was installed and the kitchen supplied with an ample supply of hot and cold water as well as the flush toilets.

Due to the lack of attendance at Woodville and Victor, church services were discontinued, and in 1958 the congregations of Woodnorth, Cromer, Hargrave and Elkhorn were amalgamated under one pastoral charge, with Rev. R. D. Johnstone the minister.

One of the sad features of the church, in the estimation of many, is the drop in Sunday school attendance. In the 1940-50's there was hardly room in the church basement for the ten classes from nursery to adult. In 1958, for instance, the enrollment was 136 with average attendance of 100. There was no difficulty getting teachers. Then the town took a vote on Sunday sports, and the issue carried, and since then attendance has gradually declined to its present low ebb. Perhaps another thing that influenced the attendance was the varying hours of service when it changed from 7:30 which had been a standard hour for many years with Sunday school at 11 a.m.

Following are the names of the ministers since church union: Revs. Lund, A. Hood, Daynard, G. Denys, T. Bird, G. Collpitts, E. Dixon, J. Fargey, Barkwell, R. D. Johnstone, Mr. A. Watson, G. Taylor, P. Campbell, C. Boutilier.

Since 1972 the ministers have included Rev. Dexter Dafoe, Rev. G. Blue (1980) and Rev. Fred Kammarous, 1981.

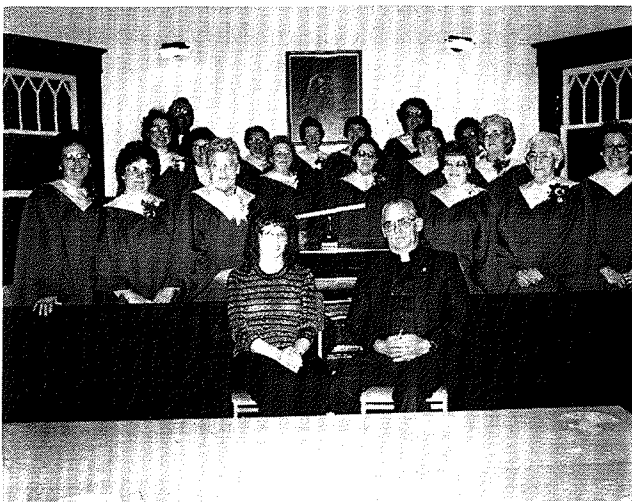
compiled by Florrie Gibbs, Oct., 1972



Clarissa Lemon's Sunday School Class. L-R Back row: Don Smith, Billy Loewen, Glen Snyder, Bill Black. Middle row: Marlyn Barley, Billy McCorkindale. Front row: Cameron Fordyce, Jack Collins.



Presbyterian Sunday School Class 1916 — Mrs. Brinkman — teacher. L-R Back row: Dave Matchett, Rob McFadden, Mildred Axelson, Mrs. Brinkman, Doris Axelson, Bernard Axelson, ?, Van Brunt. Middle row: Isabel Fraser, Rolla McClure, Nan Coates, Sadie Boyce, Fern Linnell, Margaret Strang. Front row: Harold Lidster, Alex Goodwin.



United Church Choir, 1981. Seated: Mrs. Kamarous, Rev. Fred Kamarous. Standing, Front Row: Margaret Allison, Margerie Will, Margaret Mitchell, Phyllis Day, Jennie Poston, Dora Johnson. Middle Row: Kay Thompson, Frances Leslie, Belle Leslie, Elsie Montgomery, Emma Allison, Tena Armstrong. Back Row: Gus Hamoline, Elsie Montgomery, Helen Murray, Edith Soder, Susan Ferris.



Mission band 1948.

## **The Church of the Advent Kola**

This little church is situated in the heart of the Arawana District on NE¼ 13-10-29. The Stewarts came out from Kola, Batton estate in England in 1884 and took up a homestead on NW¼ 18-10-28, known as "Burnside Farm". Greatly interested in establishing a church, she donated the land on which the building is situated and in approximately 1886 work was begun. Funds from friends in England and the surrounding settlements were responsible for its erection. The first minister was Reverend Davis-Virden. It is believed the first wedding to be performed was that of Hercules Wood and Alice Allinson on February 18, 1903; and the first baby christened was Charlie Stewart, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Stewart of the Kola District. He was born Christmas day 1884. The oldest tombstone dates 1886.

The Women's Auxiliary, Kola Branch was organized by Miss Millidge on November 10, 1911. Pres. Mrs. G. F. S. Allinson, Vice Mrs. F. W. Chapple, Secretary Mrs. F. W. B. Chapple, and Treasurer Mrs. F. H. C. Green.

They held their picnics every summer along the Pipestone Creek at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Wright, Butler, Manitoba, and for a few years a fall bazaar was held at A. P. Stewarts. Later, for a number of years F. W. Chapple's house was the centre of activity with sales, socials, etc. to enable them to make donations to worthy causes as well as for the upkeep of the church. The Auxiliary folded up in 1944 with Mrs. C. Cruickshank as president and Millie Potter as secretary.

The last date of regular church service was 1944. Thanksgiving services have been held for the past many years. The Kilford families have taken a great interest in providing fruit, vegetables, and flowers for the altar.

The grounds are exceptionally well kept. Mr. and Mrs. Herman Roach and Laura Ellen keep the grass cut and much credit is due Billy Wright and Harold Watson for the work they do, repairing fences — tombstones etc. Periodically a paint job is done to the exterior, when a "Bee" is organized. Last time was in 1980. Every June the Arawana Ladies, their husbands and many interested families have a clean-up day. Jack and Evelyn Bains of Winnipeg have planted many trees and perennials in memory of their father — John Bains.

Excerpts from different articles written about the Church.

April 11, 1911 (**The Elkhorn Mercury**)

Church of the Advent Kola Divine Service. The occasion was marked by the unveiling of a beautiful brass cross in memory of Mrs. Stewart, (who had

proved herself a most ardent worker) and her untiring efforts in establishing this little church on the prairie.

**August, 1977 — Reston Recorder by Gwen (Norsworthy) Decorte.**

Cairn is unveiled at Kola Anglican Church.

Over eighty people attended a service on Sunday afternoon in the Church of the Advent, better known as Kola Anglican Church.

The occasion for the service was the unveiling and dedication of a cairn made and inscribed by Mr. Harold Watson of Virden, to the memory of the early pioneers of the area who have been buried in the Kola Cemetery. The service was conducted by Reverend House of Virden, assisted by the Right Reverend John Conlin, Bishop of the Brandon Diocese.

The old organ had been repaired, and was very ably played by Mr. Frank Wadham of Maryfield. A hymn was sung by Mrs. Irene Rowand and her daughters Donna and Faye of Kola.

A mobile P.A. system had been installed by Mr. Herman Roach and Mr. Murray Taylor, enabling those outside to hear as well as those within the church. During the service the ministers and congregation proceeded out of doors to the cairn. A short address was given by Mr. Harold Watson stating the purpose for constructing the memorial.

The unveiling of the cairn was done by Reverend Conlin and Mr. Watson. A brief word of thanks was extended by Mr. A. Grieve on behalf of the congregation and the families of the pioneers.

Other addresses were also given by Mr. M. Edgar, representing the Rural Municipality of Wallace and Mr. Morris McGregor M.L.A. on behalf of the Virden constituency.

A scrapbook of the church history compiled by Mrs. Isabel (Watson) Cotton of Brandon was on display.

Tribute was paid to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bains of Winnipeg who spend time annually working on the church grounds.

Following the service a delicious lunch, organized by the Arawana Ladies, was served and a happy social hour was enjoyed.

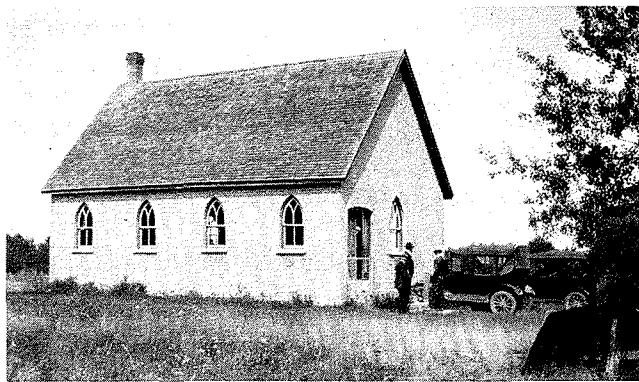
## **Woodville Church**

The early settlers of Woodville district felt the need to worship and as there was no church they held services in the school and in their homes. The first church (Presbyterian) was built in 1892 by George Scott, assisted by Duncan Robinson, mason. Alex (Sandy) Johnson gave the first plot of land for the church site, which was named Woodville after the Wood families. Most members of the surrounding community made donations and contributed to the

building of the church. As there was no organ Mrs. Wood loaned hers which was transported by team and stoneboat; she was also the first organist.

Rev. Little was the first minister, followed by Rev. John Kurn. Other ministers were Reverends Fortune, Wallace, Leddingham, Cook, Pecover, Coffin, Hood, Lund, Burns, Colpitts, Byrd, Denyes, Wyman, Douglas, Fargey, Barkwell, Johnstone and Daynard.

The first marriage in this Church was Arthur Roach and Beatrice Pedrick on January 13, 1904 by Rev. Burns. On April 17, 1906 the church was destroyed by a prairie fire but by 1907 a new church was built. The contractor was Tom Symington; the plans were drawn by Mr. Ledingham, a student minister,

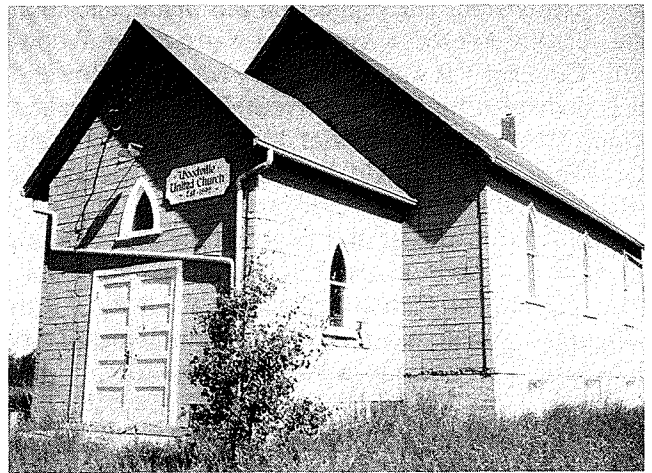


Second Woodville church.

and much assistance was given by Harvey John Scott. This church served the community for forty-two years as a Presbyterian Church until 1925 when union took place. In later years it was known as Woodville United Church.

In 1949, fate again struck the district and once more a fire destroyed the church. For awhile services were held in the Kola School during the summer months. It wasn't till 1952 that a new church was built by Allan McClure with contributions and assistance from Wm. Goethe, H. J. Wood and most others in the community. Mr. Fargey was the first minister and the first wedding was that of Helen Taylor to Keith Pettapiece. The first christenings were of Janice Twigg, June and Joan Walker, Norman Lund's children, and Iris May Heal's children. Several young people took their vows as members of the church there.

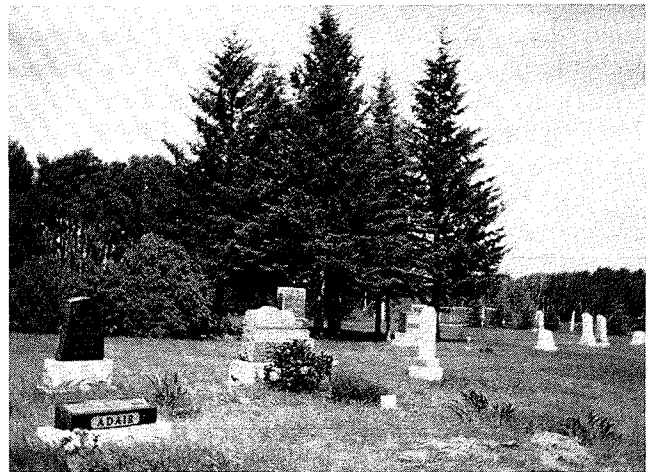
Then in 1959 came a blow worse than fire. Word was received from headquarters that the church was to close. And sadly it seems, with the closing of the church, one aspect of community life also came to a close. Over the years the groups associated with the church, who had worked so hard to raise funds to support it and provide social activities would cease to exist — the Woodville Ladies' Aid, Women's Mis-



Last Woodville church.

sionary Society, the Sunday School, the Garden Parties, the picnics and fowl suppers, all became a part of the past.

After the church was closed we hoped some other congregation might need it; not so. Then it was offered as a museum to Elkhorn, which was futile. Mr. Smith of Maryfield offered to take it for a museum so it now is well used and cared for. The pulpit and some pews have been retained, an old organ is in place, so it all reminds us of the former church. It is a fitting home for the church and a fine use to town and country.



Woodville cemetery.

The Woodville Cemetery is Municipal, which means it will remain to be cared for. The first grave was Alexander Cecil Lund in October, 1909, a baby son of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Lund. Many old-timers, and now continuing families are buried there.

When the church was closed, everyone was concerned about the cemetery. It is still fairly well cared for, by district clean-up day and a short meeting is

held at this time. The suggestion was made, and soon carried out, to erect a Memorial Cairn in the Woodville Cemetery. It was unveiled by Mrs. Eva Rowand and dedicated by Rev. Art Neufeld, guest speaker. Grant Overand gave a brief history of the church. Greetings were brought by Mr. Morris McGregor M.L.A. and Reeve M. J. Edgar.

Dedication prayer and benediction were offered by Rev. Art Neufeld. An attendance of 150 people were present and then all returned to the farm of Ron Goethe for lunch and coffee and a social hour. Thus closed another chapter in Woodville History.

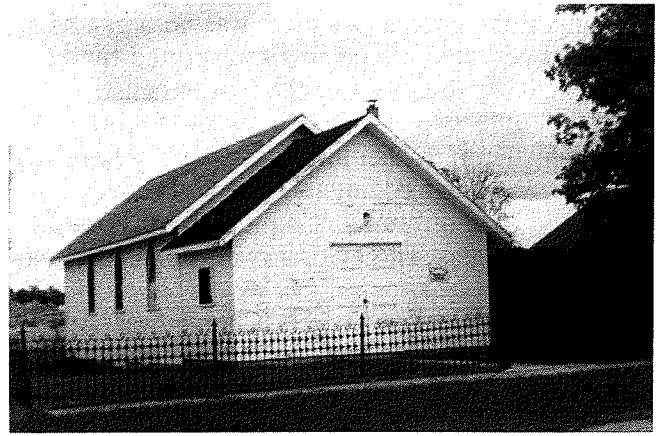
## **Roman Catholic Church of Our Lady of Good Counsel**

Our Roman Catholic Church was built in the spring of 1931. Four of the people who were involved in the beginning of the church were Mr. Thomas Popek, Mr. Joe Hader, Mr. McCloskey and Mr. Tony Cheremencsynski (Mr. Tony). The blessing and official opening of the church was by His Grace Msgr. Sinnott, Archbishop of the Diocese of Winnipeg. An addition was built onto the front of the church in the early seventies, all work being done by volunteers.

Our first priest was Rev. J. E. Cahill who was succeeded by the following priests: Father A. W. McIntyre, in 1932 (he later became Msgr. of the Diocese of Winnipeg), Father Webb, Rev. Father O. T. McIverney in 1934 (he later became dean of St. Augustine of Brandon), Rev. M. J. Cooney, Rev. C. Vachon, Rev. P. A. Morrand, Rev. J. A. Mullaly, Father Leo McDonald in 1939, Father McGuerney, Father L. C. Lynch from 1941 to 1943, Father Desjardin, Father McCormick, Father Paulus, Rev. Father Josef Schrieber from 1949 to 1970, Father Louis McCloskey, Father Sean Cahill, Rev. Mike Moore, and Rev. Father Ken Foran. Father Foran, who is our present priest since 1976, resides in Virden, Manitoba. He left our parish at the end of June, 1981, and went to Russell, Manitoba. Our new parish priest, Rev. Father Chris Soeterboek from Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, replaced him in July, 1981.

Rev. Mr. Wilfred Barre, of Bellevue, Manitoba, a married man, was ordained to the Permanent Diaconate by His Eminence Archbishop George B. Cardinal Flahiff in August, 1977. He assists Father in Sacred Heart Parish and in other missions.

The iron fence around the church was donated by Mr. Thomas Popek. Mrs. Thomas Lasek donated the organ. The first Altar Cloth was donated by Mrs. T. Cheremencsynski. On leaving the Elkhorn district, Mr. and Mrs. George Rozak donated two holy pictures to the church. Mrs. Elizabeth Proud presented to the church a set of *The Way of the Cross* during her lifetime. In 1965 a new Altar was dedicated in her



Our Lady of Good Counsel Roman Catholic Church, Elkhorn, 1981.

memory. The holder for the Paschal candle or taper (a large candle placed in Roman Catholic churches at the gospel side of the altar on Holy Saturday, there to remain until Ascension Day) was made by Flo Descelles and donated to the church in the spring of 1981. Mr. and Mrs. Mike Palahicky and family donated the Lectern (a tall reading stand, similar to a pulpit.)

The first children baptized by Father J. E. Cahill in 1930 were three small sons of Allen and Cecile Williams. The first boy baptized in our church was Walter Hader, son of Joe and Nellie (Popek) Hader, and grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Popek, in July, 1931. The first girl baptized was Sophie Popek, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Popek, in June, 1932.

The first marriage ceremony performed in the church, that could be found in the book of records, was that of Mike Lefavre and Mary Rozak (daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Rozak) in 1935. There were other marriages registered but it did not say whether they took place in the church or not. The most recent marriage that took place in our little church was that of Cecile Gagnon (daughter of Matthieu and Marie Gagnon) and Mike Lowe of Moosomin, Saskatchewan in May, 1978. They also had their baby baptized in our church in June, 1979. The old organ was replaced by an electric chord organ several years ago. Gerard Bohrn (son of Alf and Frances Bohrn) was organist for several years. Monique Tougas (daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. Tougas) played the organ for the short time that they lived here. Our present organist is eleven year old Michelle Brockman (daughter of Jerome and Carolyn Brockman). Michelle and twelve year old Alicia Hoemsen (daughter of Peter and Anne Hoemsen) played on alternate Sundays for a short time.

Our present altar boys are Robert and Philip Anderson (sons of Len and Grace Anderson), and Edwin

Brockman (son of Jerome and Carolyn Brockman).

The present president is Alf. Bohrn, vice-president is Russell Holowenko of Maryfield, Saskatchewan, treasurer is Mrs. Mary Johnson, and secretary is Jerome Brockman.

If anyone or anything was left out of the above write-up, it was not intentional.

submitted by Anna Hoemsen

### **Evangelical Mennonite Church at Kola**

Ps. 126:3. The Lord has done great things for us whereof we are glad.

It was in 1956 that the group started gathering in houses for worship. These people consisted of several families who had bought land and moved in from the Morris and Landmark areas. Several families who had been living in the area before, joined this group.

After this the Woodville United Church was made available for use to the group. This also became the place where the first baptism service was held in 1957.

More people were buying farms and moving in so that the Woodville Church was too small. A building was built 28' x 52' at the location of the present church building. This was sold two years later to the Heron group, south of Maryfield, Saskatchewan, who wanted their own building in their community.

In 1959 the present church building was begun and by Easter of 1963 the present sanctuary was occupied. The basement was used for gatherings in the meanwhile.

Many people have lived in the Kola community, and have been part of the church and moved on to other places. Even though we are a country church our membership has been quite transient. The membership has stood around 150 to 155 over quite a few years. At various times a group has moved out to various places and the membership drops.

During our twenty-five years in the area we have been blessed richly by our God, and the people of the area. It is the hope of the church to be the salt of the earth, a light to the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. And though the road ahead may not always look bright, we place ourselves into His care, Knowing He cares for us.

The following are ministers and Deacons who served the church over the years: A. Neufeld 1959 still serving; J. Harms now in Prince George, British Columbia; M. Kroeker now in MacGregor, Manitoba; G. Braun now in Calgary; J. Penner now serving.

Deacons: Dave Plett — Virden; Herb Penner — Calgary; Peter Klassen — Brandon; John Koop — now serving; Jake Martens — now serving.

### **Jehovah's Witnesses**

In 1969 a Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses was purchased from Kamsack, Saskatchewan Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses, and was moved to Elkhorn, Manitoba where with volunteers, a basement was dug and cemented, making it ready for placing the building on.



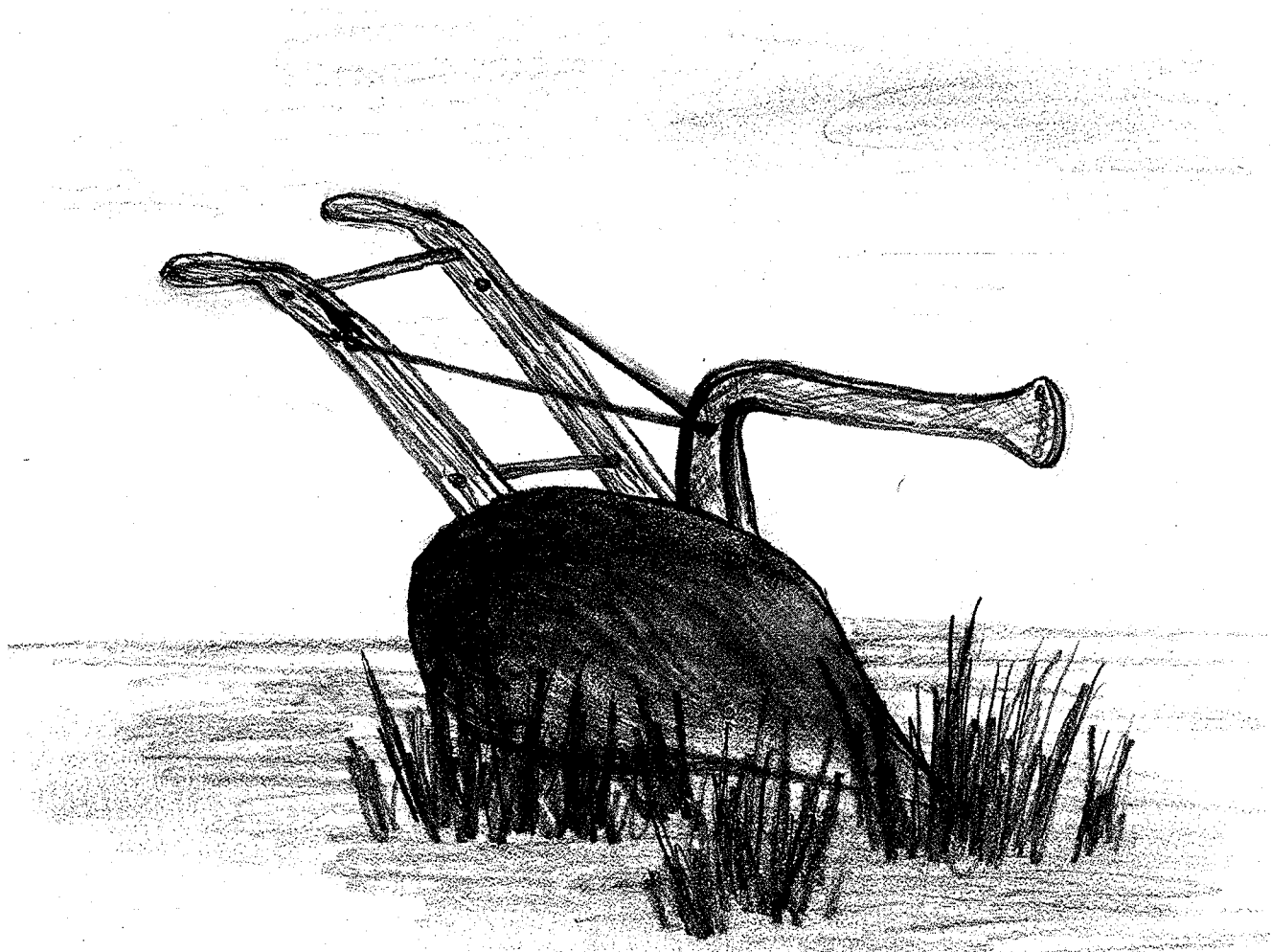
Harry and Pearl Ellingson standing in front of the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses.

Previous to this time, Jehovah's Witnesses held their meetings regularly three times a week at various homes around Elkhorn area; this always included all ages as in harmony with Deuteronomy Chapter 31:12 where it says to congregate the people, the men and the women and the little ones — to listen and to learn God's law.

Later finding this building was too small, it was sold and is now being used as an office in the golf course in Elkhorn.

An area was purchased in Virden, Manitoba on Queen Street and again by volunteers, a larger building was erected and in 1975 was dedicated for the purpose of announcing God's kingdom or government.

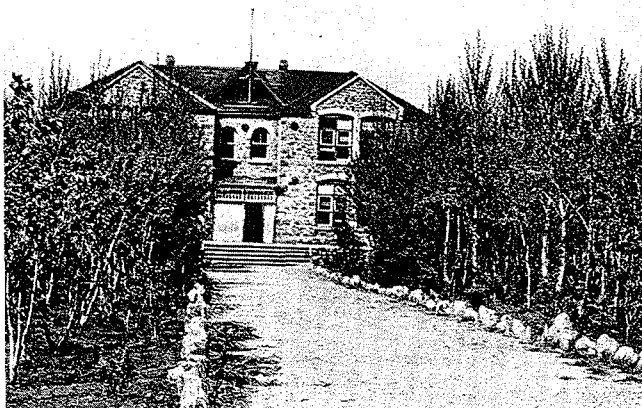
Lovers of righteousness are meeting there regularly every week to learn from the Holy Bible what God the creator has in store in these urgent times and continuing to pray for the Kingdom to come as His son, Christ Jesus taught his followers to do as in Matthew — Chapter 6 where it says "Our Father in the Heavens let your name be sanctified, let your Kingdom come and, let your will be done on earth as in Heaven . . ." Jehovah's Witnesses look forward to that time when God's Will once again will be done on earth and under a heavenly government, the Kingdom.



J.B.



# Schools



Elkhorn Public School.



Elkhorn stone school built 1896-7.

## Elkhorn Schools "Back to the Basics"

In 1885 the pioneers saw the need for a school and called the first meeting to discuss the situation. The school was built and still stands in the name of Stonehouse Insurance Agency, a tribute to the construction of the times.

To begin teaching "the basics", was a lady by the

name of Miss Fauquair. Her salary, in 1886, was \$420.00 a year.

A growing population soon made the trustees realize more room was needed. The school was sold to Mr. John Angus for \$2583.00 in 1892. The first part of the new stone school was built by Mr. Joseph Williamson. In 1895 the second part was built by Mr. John Hume and the Principal was C. C. Stewart. By 1901 the staff was increased to four teachers.

The Chairman of the school board, in 1905, was C. R. Duxbury and other members were C. Travis and W. J. Tinline.

The Secretary Treasurer received \$10.00 salary in those days and the caretaker \$270.00 a year.

Coal at \$12.25 a ton was delivered to the school. A steel furnace installed in 1908 cost \$300.00. The annual meeting that year was held in the McLeod Hall.

By 1910 the school was again suffering growing pains because the enrollment had risen to 179 pupils. Debentures for a new school were sold to the value of \$20,000.00 at 5% per annum. The new school was to have six rooms, five teachers and a high school. In 1910 the assessed value of the Elkhorn School District was \$138,516.00. The Principal of the new school was Mr. George C. Spiers and he received \$1200 per annum.

Trustees attended conventions in Winnipeg and Mr. R. de Waller was allowed \$20.00 for expenses.

In 1917 the pupils from York School District were received into the Elkhorn School. One of the York trustees was J. R. Bickerton.

In 1918 the flu caused a delay in the opening of school after Christmas until January 13.

A residence for the Principal was purchased in 1920.

Names of the trustees in 1922 were H. J. Jones, R. N. Scotney, J. P. Leslie, F. Walker, George Lidster.

## Elkhorn Schools

There is evidence of a Field Day being held in 1924. The rural schools took part in the day which began with a parade from the school to the Fair Grounds via "front street." What a sight it was to see

the schools lined up waiting to hear which one had won a prize for marching or costume.

Field Day eventually was named Track and Field Day and with the consolidation of the rural schools Elkhorn now holds its own day and all children compete for the right to go to the division meet.

The "old" school had suffered growing pains from time to time. The auditorium was converted into two class rooms and even the basement was used for a classroom.

Staggered hours became a necessity while the collegiate was being built and grade one came in the morning and grade two in the afternoon.



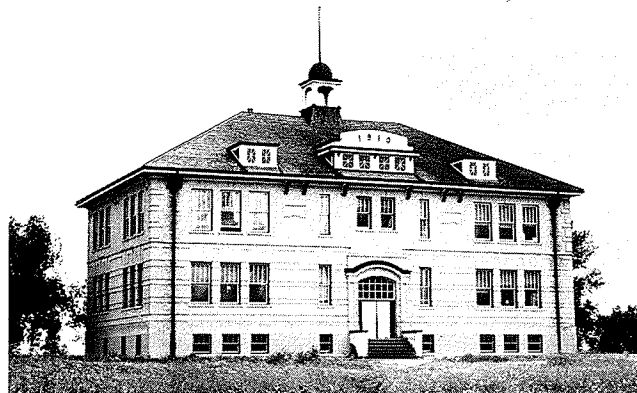
Elkhorn old stone school and new brick school 1910.

The collegiate opened officially on March 3, 1959. The trustees were Geo. Francis, chairman, Bruce Clark, Delmar Nylin, Bernard Barnes, Leslie Smith and Chas. Webster was the Sec. Tres. for the Elkhorn School District. Even with renovation the elementary school had to be demolished in 1976. Before the Waldheim Hutterite Colony tore it down a grand reunion was held. What a weekend it was — two dances, a beef barbeque, tea, pancake breakfast, church service in the rink and best of all the fellowship of meeting former classmates.

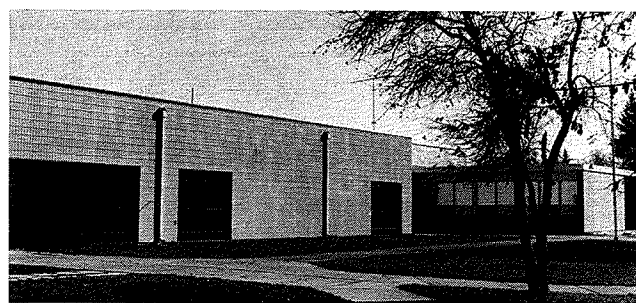
The "new" school would be an addition to the collegiate and grades kindergarten to twelve attend.

The first sign of building activity was the well diggers. On Oct. 27, 1975 they arrived and on November 5 the cry of "water" was heard. The well is 52 feet deep and pumps 20 gal. a minute.

We all looked forward to the beautiful gym and a new room, the "multi-purpose" room. Everyone would like to be in kindergarten where they have a stage, slide and kitchen sinks. On January 20, 1976 grades K-8 moved to the new school. On June 10 the official opening was held. Our band opened the ceremonies. Some dignitaries taking part were Wm. Bartley, Mayor; M. Edgar, reeve; C. Motherall board



Elkhorn Public School.



Present Elkhorn school.

chairman; A. Heritage, Mr. H. Chornoboy was Superintendent.

In 1979 the school board decided to bus grades X-XII students to Virden. The people of Elkhorn area took exception to this and a boycott lasting five weeks followed.

"A Save the small schools committee" was formed and following several well attended meetings it was decided to try to form an Elkhorn division.

A Board of Reference was appointed by the Dept. of Education to hear the reasons for and against this idea.

The Board of Reference said "No".

To date this ruling is being appealed.



Field Day 1924.



Grades 6, 7, 8 — 1920 — Mr. Pecover, teacher. L-R Front row: Edith Chalmers, Nellie Lacey, Edith Ablett, Thelma Chapple, Margaret Brinkman, Hazel Baldwin, Jessie Goldie, Sylvia Sutton. Middle row: Shirley Heritage, Marguerite Ablett, Florence Rodgers, Annie Hunter, Elsie Leslie, Janet Duxbury, Eileen Kennedy. Back row: Basil Davidson, Elmer Swan, Gordon Jones, Norrie Scotney, John Thompson, Dahl McDonald, John Lacey, Harold Mooney.



Teachers Miss Barbara Coates — Mr. Cresswell. Top row: Marguerite Ablett, Lynn Merit, Martha Rodgers, Florence Crosby, Annie Noble, Lyda Jenner. Middle Row: Nora Harry, Irene Crosby, Connie Hodson, Alice Noble, Dorothy Johnson, Mable Caldwell. Front row: Muriel Davidson, Fern McGinnis, Marian Lambert, Gertrude Lambert, Gwen McGinnis, Marjorie Scotney.



Early school days at Elkhorn school. On the right at the front is Charles Webster, Édith Crosby at the back. Second row at the front is Ken Lidster.



School 1919 — Fun in the snow.



Elkhorn rooms II and III, 1930 at field day.



Elkhorn school days.



Sports Day — 1938.



Bird House Contest 1932. L-R Back row: Jack Norris, Ab Mallett, Frank Wickham, Joe Tony. Middle row: Earl Pedlow, Ernest Sterling, James Kelly, Johnny Nelson, Pitt Waller, Geo. Francis. Front row: Harold Siple, Hugh Armstrong, Roy Snyder, Cliff Mallett, Llyal McLeod, Dave Hartley, Jessie Jones, Reggie Jones.



Elkhorn Grade XI, 1932. L-R Front row: Jim Lasek, Ab Mallett, Tom Duxbury Jr., Ahab Spence. Back row: Jean Lund (teacher), Phillis Johnson, Thelma Brocklebank, Grace Roach, Margaret Dunbar, Marjorie Freeman, Rita Thomas, Mrs. Louisa Elliot (principal).



Gr. 1 and 2 practicing marching for field day 1945. Teacher Lois Plowman (Mrs. Mervin Mitchell).



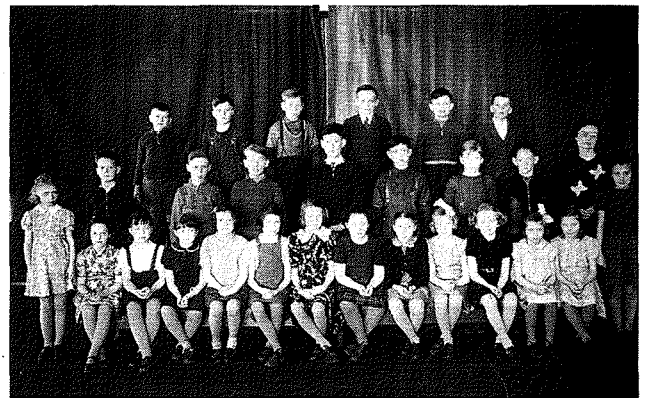
Elkhorn Basketball Team — Jean Lund — teacher.



School choir. L-R Front row: Ray Sokalski, Larry Clarke, Wayne Berry, Linda Bryant, Eileen Kliever, Joan Switzer, Marlene Thompson, Beverly Reeves, Judy Francis, , Carol Maw. Middle row: Edith Chapple (teacher), Mickey Szoradi, Bill Bajus, Wes O'Greysik, Lois Hamilton, Agnes Thompson, Judy Gardner, Ray Shurvell, Nedra Simpson, Leon Lasek. Back row: Allan Szoradi, Ernie Lund, Margaret Milroy, Mary Ellen Thompson, ?, Sharon Peters, Judy Waller, Joan Shurvell, Judy Nylin, Bill Chapple, Denys Turner, Doug Lund.



Elkhorn School Band. L-R Front row: Howard Loewen, Jimmie Williams, Reg Bartley, Evelyn Bartley. Second row: Ken Williams, Lorne Chapple, George Hennan, , Alvin Denyes. Third row: Norma Chapple, Winona Denys, Alice Walker, Albert Tony. Fourth row: Margaret Fraser, Annie Taschuk, Jean Fraser, Garnet Northcut. Back row: Shirley Mitchell, Doug Johnston, Irene Webster.



Grade III and IV, 1943. L-R Front row: Shirley Bartley (standing), Faye Fordyce, Dorothea Corbett, Kathleen Szórádi, Ruth Cowan, Ena Cassell, Doreen Cassell, Margaret Lamb, De-loras Bartley, Eileen Swan, Norma McDonald, Donna Swan, Joan Matychuk, Irma Hesper (standing). Middle row: Lindsay Siple, Marlyn Bartley, Tom Sokalski, Hugh Milne, Lorne Snyder, Doug Shepherd, Jack Montgomery, Florrie McFadzean (teacher). Back row: Doug Hartley, Lloyd Scott, Harold Shepherd, Ronald Schoen, George Loewen, Walter Sokalski.



L-R Bottom row: Laurretta McClure, Marie Wilcox, Fern Milne, Katherine Zazalak, Ruth Schoen, Betty Cassell, Phyllis Scott, Norma Swan, Alice Loewen, Noreen MacIntosh, Evelyn Leslie, Donna Jean Lidster, Bernice Scott. Second row: Donald Bartley, Doug Stenhouse, Glen Milne, Bill Bickerton, Graham Nichols, Gordon Gilbert, Tom Stenhouse. Top row: Gary Corbett, Lyle Snyder, John Sokalski, Doug Shepherd, Doug Birchill, Clarence Leach, Wayne McDonald, Allan McFadzean, Gordon Leach, Reg Lund.



L-R Back row: Ken Corbett, Bryce Mitchel, Stanley Sokalski, Jim Loewen, Donald Pearson, Teddy Levitt, Jack Collins, Kenneth Goodburn, Bill Bartley, Lloyd Baskerville, Norman Hesper. Middle: Irene McKay, Kathleen Bickerton, Bernice Matychuk, Helen Lacey, Janet McFadzean, Doreen Lund. Front row: Joyce Pearson, Gladys Borgstrom, Margaret Matychuk, Margaret Schoen, Olive Collins, Enid Bolam, Anna Szoradi. Sophie Popek. Teacher: Betty Young (Russell) 1943-44.



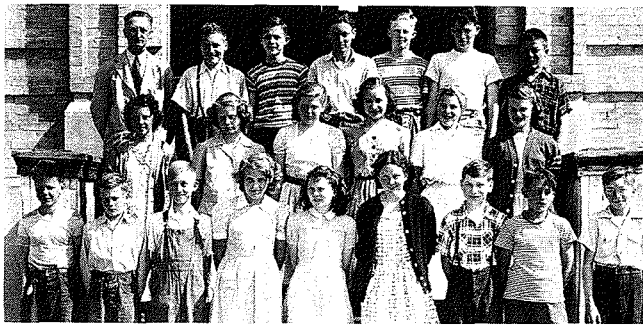
R. Sealer, M. Muldoon, E. Grantham — teachers.



Teaching Staff 1944-45. L-R Back row: Dunc Cameron, Mr. Lucking (caretaker), Bonner Williams. Front row: Florrie McFadzean, , Lois Plowman.



L-R Back row: Glen Milne, Doreen Cassell, Ena Cassell, Miss Tolton, Lindsay Siple, Earl Wills. Second row: Margaret Lamb, Ruth Cowan, Peterson, Joan Matychuk, Kathleen Szóradi, Lois Hutchison, Phyllis Scott, Betty Dunn. Third row: Lawrence Hutchison, Harold Shepherd, Gordie Gilbert, Clarence Leach, Walter Sokalski, Lloyd Scott, George Loewen, Ken Jenner. Front row: Shirley Bartley, Dorothea Corbett, Norma Swan, , Betty Cassell, Fern Milne, Viola McCox, Donna Swan.



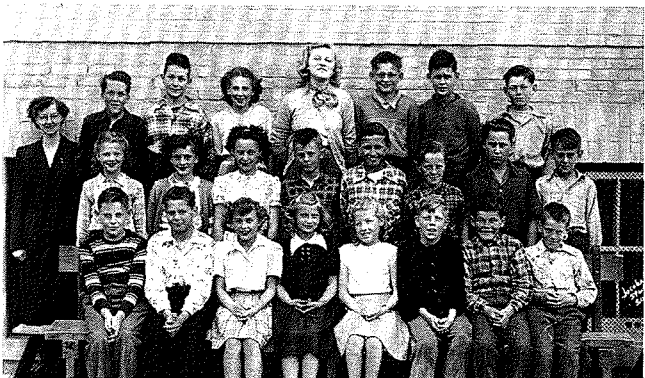
L-R Back row: Mr. B. Williams, Clarence Leach, Gordon Gilbert, Glen Milne, Don Bartley, Ken Jenner, Doug Burchell. Middle: Loretta McClure, Alice Loewen, Noreen McIntosh, Ruth Schoen, Betty Cassel, Norma Swan. Front row: Gary Corbett, Reg Lund, Gordon Leach, Myrtle Brennand, Donna Jean Lidster, Fern Milne, Albert Codd, Johnny Sokalski, Delbert Cheaters.



Elkhorn grade IX, 1967. L-R Front row: Stanley Jackson, Allan Tutthill, Debbie Clubb, Debbie Rookes, Betty-Lou Leonard, Maxine Jacobs, Karen Bartley, Sandra Heaman, Lorraine Johnson, Sandra Berry, Dennis Mallett, Jim Kliever. Middle row: Agnes Smith (teacher), Gaye Harry, Cathy Stonehouse, Diane Peterson, Darlene Ewing, Sandra Johnson, Bev Rowan, Bev Bowles, Judy Kliever, Betty Anne Grant, Lynn Saville, Cathy Robertson, Della Johnson, Marnie O'Greysik, Joan Higgins. Back row: Blaine Vargo, Garth Towler, Harvey Linner, Ken Rowan, Darcy Greaves, John Zazalak, Gordon Grant, Larry Shoemaker, Beryl Brennan, Ken Kalakala, Ron Canart.



Grade 5 — 1957 — Teacher — Mrs. B. Russell. L-R Back row: Ray Swan, Clifford Codd, Johnny Thompson, Wayne Price, Ken Codd, George Bylow, Ernie Greer, Gary Crompley, Ron Lund. Middle row: Barbara Reeves, Sharon Chapple, Margie Maw, Lorraine Stenhouse, Betty Kilborn, Betty Bagley, Pat Russell, Joy Johnson, Marie Price. Front row: Johnny Kilborn, Barry Stonehouse, Jimmy Shurvell, Bonnie Bryant, Norma Cowan, Valerie Shoemaker, Norma Warden, Diane Tasker, Irene Thompson, Arnold Lund, Leonard Tyhy.



Grades 5 and 6 — 1951 Elkhorn School — Hazel Erwin — Teacher. L-R Back row: Glen Lidster, Allan McFadzean, Joyce Williams, Smith, Nylin, Jack Murray, Gary Montgomery. Middle row: Donna McDonald, Mavis Grant, Betty Turner, Ron Mallett, George Kardash, Lynn Switzer, Glen Greer, Allan Siple. Front row: Bob Rodgers, Ian Barnes, Sharon Knowles, Pat Smythe, Linda Moore, Ed Shepherd, Jack Callander, Reg Lund.



Kola pupils 1916 including Lucy Huntley, Irene Weldon, Ivan Lund, Isaac Huntley, George Lund, Harold Watson, Muriel Lund, Dorothy and Inez Northcut, Gladys Lund, Jim Lund, Leonard Lund, Jean Lund, Walter Lund, Henry Watson.

### A Short History Of Kola School No. 601

Kola School was no doubt named after the original Kola Post Office. Arthur Sherwood left England in 1882 for Manitoba. He spent a few years at Willington P.O. in the Macgregor District and later came to Elkhorn in 1883 in the month of August. His first letter marked Kola was written home to his mother on May 3rd, 1886. He filed on his homestead, the W ½ of N.E. ¼ of 16-10-29 W1. Apparently Kola P.O. got its name from a Mr. A. P. Stewart from his English Manor Home, who homesteaded and built on N.E. ¼ of 18-20-26 W1.

Another Englishman, C. Vogan Wainwright, and Arthur Sherwood were partners in a little store and also kept the Kola P.O. The remains of a part of a basement might indicate that the shack store may



have been a partial dugout in the side of a knoll, and are visible today. The present owner, Stewart Lennon, related this to me.

According to Manitoba Pageant, page 11, Arthur Sherwood, in one of his letters home, got out of the partnership with Wainwright. He found Wainwright was no worker, infernally lazy, very selfish, and had a disagreeable temper. Sherwood lost \$300.00 in the business. Wainwright must have moved to Virden — the same Manitoba Pageant, page 20. He took over the management of the Virden Brick Yard in 1906. Also in "Retrospect" Virden Advance (65 years ago) under date of June 4th, 1975, C. Vogan Wainwright was elected president of the Virden Cricket Club. Wainwright did run the Kola Post Office for a short time on S.E. ¼ 16-10-29.



Eva McFadden, teacher at Kola School, 1917.

In 1894 the Post Office was moved to the home of John Thomas Madge, known later as the Sam Wainwright farm in the Pipestone Valley. Later it was moved to the home of John Wright near the Butler townsite. That appears to be the last of the Kola Post Office. Until the Mennonites started the one at Kola, we had a country P.O. at the home of Mrs. F. Chapple Sr. It was named "Ebor" and we got our mail there for many years prior to 1896.

When the Reston-Wolseley Branch was built about 1906, the C.P.R. wrote John Wright at Kola asking for the names of some of the near-by Post Offices. Mr. Wright sent in the name Ebor, so they named the place Ebor and for a short time we had Ebor station and Ebor Post Office. Mrs. Chapple eventually had it changed to "Arawana".

Now for **Kola School No. 601**. According to Provincial Archives, Winnipeg, and I quote: "At the regular quarterly meeting of the Protestant Section of the Board of Education, meeting in Winnipeg, August 7th, 1889, Kola School District was created. It was to include Section 13 to 36 inclusive of Township 10 Range 29 W1, and the school house was to be built at or near the S.E. corner of Section 28." Incidentally this was exactly one month before I was born, so we believe the school was built in 1890. The first teacher, I believe, was May McClland, a sister of Cecil Rodgers' mother. Cecil is a resident of Virden since 1975, I believe. Who the Board Members were, I am unable to find out.

Kola School has quite a record or History, having been demolished by a cyclone in 1903 and having been burned twice. I am unable to recall the first fire date or cause, but the second time was in 1946. This last fire was caused by a defective chimney. The contract was let to Stacy and France, contractors of Virden. The chimney was supposed to be flue lined its entire length. But we found only one length of flue liner — the one at the top. The fire was in the lower part of the chimney. After this the school was rebuilt on its present location on the N.W. ¼ of 22-10-29, on land I used to own. I was Secretary Treasurer of Kola School for 18 years. Now in 1977, a new school is being built, all steel framework, in the townsite of Kola.

I am the only individual alive who has Kola P.O. on my birth certificate.

Now as regards the cyclone in 1903. As luck would have it, it happened during the night hours. My sister, Myrtle, now of Elkhorn, walked to school this morning, and found our school completely demolished. All that remained was the floor intact with the desks still sitting screwed down to the floor in their places. The brick chimney had fallen on my sister's desk, I believe the only one damaged. The old

home-made teacher's desk was untouched, with the little alarm clock sitting on it still ticking away. The small barn where we kept our horses, which was situated north-east of the school, was picked up completely and carried over a quarter of a mile west, and left upside down in Findlay's pasture. The school building was carried east and carried over quite an area.

The Findlay's farm building, about 1/2 mile north of the school site was also badly hit. The 1 1/2 storey frame house was not damaged badly. They had a windmill on a building, maybe 250 feet east of the house, which was completely destroyed. A piece of 2" x 4" went through a window in the upstairs and landed on the teacher's bed.

Farther west the cyclone hit other farms. Archie Taylor, his wife and two sons, Stewart and Ernest, lived on a 1/2 section down on the banks of the Pipestone Creek. Their cottage was completely de-



Kola School District #601 1935-36. Teacher Ilene McDonald. L-R Back row: Kenneth Lund, Neil McPhail, Johnny Duir, Henry Rowand. Middle row: Eileen Naylen, Margaret Feltham, Isabel Watson, Helen Taylor, Vera Feltham. Front row: Muriel Feltham, Patricia Naylen, Austin Taylor, Merle Naylen, Elmer Feltham.

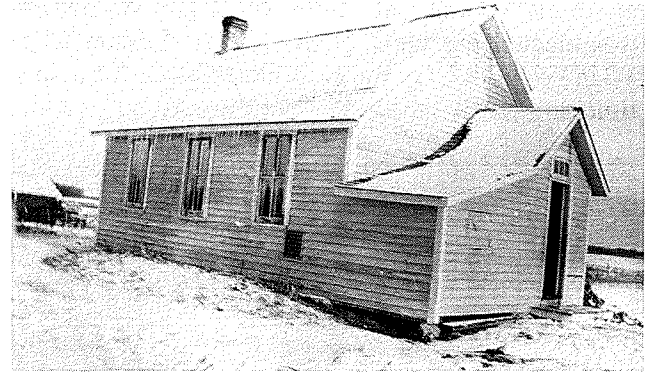
stroyed and Mr. and Mrs. Taylor were quite badly injured. The floor of the cottage was carried across a ravine with the two boys on it. They were not injured. Later a new cottage was built — a nice 1 1/2 storey home which is still standing and in good condition.

Wesley Lund Sr. and family lived farther north on what we called the John Lund Homestead. The cyclone didn't miss them either. It blew the kitchen right off the main part of the house, and if they had stepped outside the door they would have fallen right into the cellar. These last two items were related to me by Wm. N. Lund.

After the cyclone, the school board made arrange-

ments for the use of the old Meeting Hall on Wesley Lund's place for school while the new one was being built. My sister and I had 3 miles to walk to school, instead of 1 1/2 miles. We were sure glad when it was ready for use.

I recall several years after, how we used to pick up the old square cut iron nails from the ground from the wrecked school. There was a way of laying them across one's fingers and throwing them through the air and they made a peculiar ping sound. We never tired of it.



Early Kola school.

The next year, I recall, 1904, my sister and I got the afternoon off from school, and drove to Woodville Church to see a wedding. Mr. and Mrs. Roach, close friends of the family, and I believe, the first wedding in that church and the first we ever attended.

Now May 1977. A great change in mail deliveries.

In those early days, prior to 1896, a Mr. Cavanagh of Elkhorn used team and buggy in summer and jumper in winter to bring the mail out to Mrs. F. Chapple's Ebor P.O., "weekly", rain or shine. He went on from there south and west to Heron P.O. in the home of Mr. Geo Fair, then back the next day bringing the mail from there, picking up the outgoing Ebor mail and on into Elkhorn. Note: The Chapple farm is now Neil Grants.

Scholars I recall, whom I went to Kola School with: All of the Naylen family except Teresa (Mrs. John Young), Tom, Polly, Bill, Kate, Edward (Chap), Hannah (Mrs. John Paul); Herb and Helen Lund; The Stewarts: Charlie, Tom, Kelly, John and Pearl; Wm. John Hitchcock for two winters and Sophey Wright for a short time; Harold and Henry Watson, Agnes and Jim Scott, the Grants, Hetty McMyrtle, Buster and Bessie Stewart and Earnie Taylor; The Russels: Bob, Christopher, Mary, Edith, Mable and Nelly.

Teachers that I can remember: Miss May McCeland in 1900, an aunt of Edith Larmer, who now resides in Virden, Mrs. Carscadden, Jim Duxbury,

later a M.D. with the Army stationed at Camp Sewell, Man., Archie Herriott, Edith Fraser of Boss Hill District, Miss Alma Duncan, Grace Webster of Elkhorn, T. N. Scotney. Later he took up law and practised in Elkhorn for years.

A few amusing things I can recall: One lady teacher happened to have her boy friend call just before noon. He took her for a ride with his horse and buggy. We played around, mostly football, until quite a while after the one o'clock bell, when we were supposed to go in for classes. But no sign of teacher; so we all packed up and went home. We wonder how she felt not finding any one there? Maybe we should have waited a while longer.

Edith Fraser was quite a nervous girl and a little high strung and I guess we took a little advantage of her. One day Mac Grant brought the tail of a freshly killed pig to school and slipped it into her dinner pail. Come dinner time, you should have heard her scream.

Our school was heated with a good sized pot-bellied coal stove, with a large vertical drum attached, which kept our room quite comfortable in winter. Somehow we found out, when adding coal during the day, that if we completely covered the red coals, gas would accumulate and in a few minutes we would get a good-sized puff, sometimes quite a bang. This was very annoying to poor Miss Fraser. But one day it was really a big one and it blew the drum and most of the pipes down. The smoke and gas were so bad, we all had to get out. No more school that day.

One lady teacher, I can't recall which one, was checking Chap Naylin for cutting up capers, and not getting his work done. She put him in the old teacher's desk and sat there to keep him in. He started to light some matches. We all had a laugh at poor Chap.

R. N. Scotney was a quite strict Englishman. One boy, I won't mention his name here, was quite unruly and Scotney threatened him with a good caning. The boy said he wouldn't take it. Scotney said, "I'll show you," and he grabbed him and pulled him over his knee and proceeded to give his seat a good warming.

Jim Duxbury we all liked. He was from Elkhorn and had brothers there. He spent an evening with us



Kola school class, field day.

and showed me how to build a kite. Sister Myrtle relates how she fell asleep one day in school with her head on her desk. He folded up his coat and put it under her head and let her sleep. Later Mr. Duxbury went through for a medical doctor and was with the Canadian Armed Forces, training at Sewell Camp, east of Brandon.

Archie Herriott was quite a football player and played with the Lippentott and Elkhorn teams. It was the old fashioned association game with a round ball.

submitted by E. B. Weldon

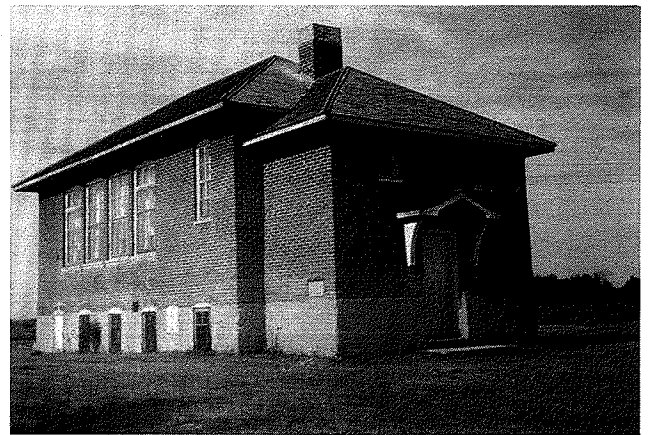
## West Two Creeks School

The first meeting to form the School District of West Two Creeks No. 339 was held Nov. 29, 1884.

Ratepayers present were —

Thomas Aucott Senior	James Cummings
Thomas Aucott Junior	H. M. Powers
Ches. Freakly	C. Webster
T. V. Pigott	Wm. Morton
J. H. Proctor	H. A. Scarth
Maj. Gen. H. Pigott	Robert Bickerton
James Guay	James Hay
Archie Laidlaw	Wm. Henderson

Maj. General Pigott was voted chairman, Robert Bickerton, as secretary-treasurer.



Two Creeks School No. 339 — built in 1920.

In those days taxes were paid by the ratepayers to the secretary-treasurer of the School District.

Other rate payers besides the above mentioned were —

A. G. Medley	John Noble
James Cummings	Wm. Lindsay
Allan Struthers	John Scarth
Joe Williamson	W. Guay
George Allison	George Cole
Edward Clark	Matthew Proctor
Matthew Black	George Freakly

The first school was a wood frame building at the centre of the district (Junction of sec. 3 and 4, township 13, and sec. 33 and 34, township 13). The plot

was given a free grant by the occupiers of sec. 3, 33 and 34.

The present red brick school was built in 1920. Trustees at that time were J. H. Dunn, George Cole Sr., Fred Cole, Secretary-Treasurer-Matthew Black. About thirty-five pupils attended — Miss Moore was the teacher.

The 50th Anniversary of the Two Creeks S.D. No. 339 was held July 10, 1936. Miss Smith (Mrs. E. Blakeman) (first Teacher 1886) was present. Mr. Cowley Webster Sr. was the only gentleman present who had been at the first meeting to organize the School District.



West Two Creeks school children.

The children either walked, rode horseback, or came by horse and buggy.

Two Creeks was amalgamated with Miniota Municipal District Dec. 31, 1958. Children to grade 6 were transported by vans. Grades 7 and 8 were transported to Miniota.

In Aug. 1966 the Two Creeks school was closed and the children all transported to Miniota.

It was turned over to the community to use as a Community Centre.

submitted by Emma Allison

### **The Indian Residential School**

In 1885, an Anglican Minister, Rev. E. H. Wilson came to the North-west from Ontario on a trip to raise funds for the Indian Home he had established at Sault



Elkhorn Indian School.

St. Marie. He was impressed with the need for other Homes in the West, so on his return to Ontario he endeavored to raise more funds to bring such benefits to the Indians of the prairies.

His first attempts were unsuccessful but as a last resort he issued a pamphlet, stating that if anyone would give \$1,000.00 to make a beginning he would, God willing, somehow raise the rest of the necessary funds. Mr. Rosewell, an Elkhorn merchant, donated the \$1,000.00 to start building the Home.

Rev. Wilson made a return trip to Elkhorn to meet Mr. Rosewell and selected a site for the new Home. They decided to call it the Washakada Home, that being Mr. Rosewell's Indian name, meaning "all that is good."

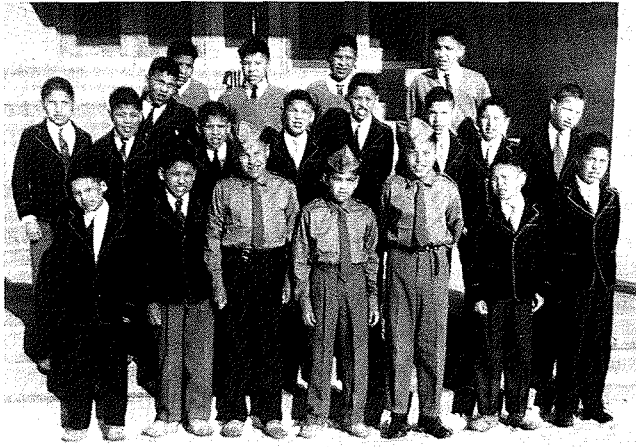
Mr. Rosewell's gift was supplemented by others, including a \$12,000 grant from the Dominion Government and the new Home was opened in Elkhorn on June 10, 1888. It is reported that the four pupils withstood the new and unusual life for twelve days, then all ran away together! Others arrived, however, and the new Home was formally opened by Archbishop Machray on August 6, 1889.

Rev Wilson's eldest son, Archibald Edward, worked with Mr. Rosewell from the time of its opening until 1892 when he became Principal (he remained in that position until 1918).

The school was only partly funded by the Government. Rev. Wilson was continually travelling to raise funds, not only in Canada, but also in England, for its support and the support of three other such Homes which he had by now established.

On November 13, 1895, a disastrous fire destroyed the Washakada School and it seemed doubtful if it would be rebuilt. However, the Dominion Government decided to take over the rebuilding which began in the spring of 1897, and a new and much larger school was constructed on a location west of the Village.

After the fire which destroyed the Washakada



Boys at the Indian School.



Field day — the Indian school flag.



Rev. and Mrs. Woods with the girls, the last year the Indian School was open.



Rev. Danial Umpherville who attended Elkhorn Indian School.



Miss Woods and Mrs. Ida Oakey, staff members at Indian School.



Dining room at the Indian School.

Home, the Indian pupils were moved to rented buildings and school work carried on. By September 7, 1899 the children were moved into the new school and on that day a grand opening was held with a number of dignitaries in attendance and free buggy rides offered for the return trip from the village to the Indian School to tour the premises and attend the opening ceremonies.

The main building was of frame construction on a stone foundation with brick veneer exterior. Over the years other buildings were added until there were three residences, barns, implement sheds, granaries and other outbuildings. A huge vegetable garden, pasture for the cattle and horses were all located on the same quarter section of arable land and an adjoining 480 acres, mostly arable land, which was leased.

In February, 1918 Principal Wilson received word from the government that a decision had been made to close the school. This came as a great shock to the community as a whole and in particular those who were directly associated with the school. However, during the summer of 1923 the buildings were once again repaired and extended and in January, 1924 it was reopened with Rev. J. Eley as principal. The school was now under the administration of the Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada and was renamed the Anglican Indian Residential School.

The Indian children came mainly from the Dioceses of Brandon, Rupert's Land and Keewatin. They were mostly from the Sioux, Cree, Ojibway and Salteaux nations but at times even came from the Blackfoot and Blood tribes in Alberta. They ranged in age from three to eighteen years; many were orphans.

The pupils spent half their day in school and the other half attending the farm and household chores. The Indian School boasted a fine dairy herd, piggery, several acres of garden, a dairy, where butter-making was taught, a bakery and large laundry.

Religion and education played the major part in their lives. However, social activities were also provided in the form of movies and social evenings. A Glee Club, Women's Auxiliary, Girl Guide group, basketball, drill teams and hikes were available for the girls; hockey, football, baseball, band and gymnastics, etc. were enjoyed by the boys.

On May 2, 1946 Lady Baden-Powell presented a shield to the Girl Guides of the School. The pupils entered and took many prizes for sewing, cooking and school work in local fairs and field days.

On May 5, 1949, Indian Affairs in Ottawa notified the principal that the school would be closed down at the end of June. The only reason being seemingly, that it "had served its purposes." On June 9, the last graduation was held and on June 30, 1949 the doors were closed for the last time.



Tearing down the Indian School.

It was a great loss to the community and, although many ideas and suggestions came forth to put the school into use once more, nothing was finalized. In September of 1950, the Elkhorn Council began making arrangements to raise the \$9,000.00 necessary to purchase the property. An editorial in the Elkhorn Mercury, dated October, 1950, stated that such a building could not have been erected at the time for \$500,000.00.

In March, 1951, tenders were called for the purchase of the buildings and property for the Elkhorn Council. By April 19, 1951 the property was sold with a profit of \$9,000.00 to the Village of Elkhorn. On May 3, 1951 Claude Tutthills moved out of the Anglican Indian Residential School residence and by May 31, Jack Graham of Rivers was reported to be making "great progress" at demolishing the School.

### Mossgiel School

Mossgiel School was built by John Hume in 1889 on the south east corner of 4-12-29 W1. The land, donated by Duncan McGregor, was part of his original homestead. The school was at first referred to as

McGregor School House, but Duncan McGregor being an ardent admirer of Robbie Burns insisted the name be changed to Mossgiel in honour of the Burns' farm home in Scotland. The original school building was veneered with cream coloured Virden brick.

Miss McKenzie was the first teacher and her pupils came from a wide area. Lennard, Dorothy and Daisy Cockerill lived on 36-11-30, then known as the Provisional District of Assiniboia in the North West Territories. The Bateman children, Herbert and Mabel lived on NE 34-11-29, Kathleen and William



Mrs. Bessie Sedor (Will) and her children in front of Mossgiel school in 1959.

Angus lived on 32-11-29, the Dahl children Minnie and Lizzie resided on 2-12-29. Ernest Duxbury travelled the three miles from 12-12-29 while John Pope had only a short distance to go as he lived on the same section as the school.

Later, the Gordon and Jaffray children were among those who attended Mossgiel as a school had not yet been established at Kirkella.

A fire in November, 1916 completely destroyed the school and for a time classes were held in the living room of Tommy Williams home on the N.E. ¼ 34-11-29. The children of the district began the fall term of 1917 in the new red brick school which had been contracted by A. E. Parsons for \$1,880.

As well as being a center for learning, the school was the entertainment center of the community. The Friday night dances often sparked the beginning of a new romance. Some of these romances culminated in a shower held at the school for the young couple. On Sundays ball games were enjoyed after the Sunday School lessons had been learned.

Classes were held for the last time in June, 1965, and Mossgiel S.D. #602 became part of Elkhorn School District. The school building was later moved to a farm east of Elkhorn owned by Dan Canart.

## The School District of Woodville, No. 599

As early settlers had arrived in this area in the early 1880's, by 1889 the families were becoming anxious about a school for their children to attend.

Several meetings were held, a site was chosen, the S.E. corner of the S.E. ¼ of 16-11-29, six miles west and four miles south of Elkhorn, and debentures were sold for the purpose of building the school in 1889. It was built by Mr. Laverne Reid, and was ready for opening in the spring of 1890. The district was named "Woodville", after Mr. Wm. Wood, who was one of the first settlers in the district.

Mr. Wells Thompson was the first teacher at a salary of forty dollars per month. Names of pupils attending on opening day were, R. A. Angus, Mary Helen Angus, H. J. Wood, Ruth McPhee, Andy McPhee, Dan McPhee, Johnny McPhee, Walter Greenelsh, Jenny Greenelsh, Harry Lund, Isaac Symington, Maude Reid, Jenny Reid, George Robertson, Annie Robertson, Jim Robertson, Cora Johnson, Bessie Johnson, Esaphine Johnson, Charlie Johnson, Nellie Simpson, Frank Simpson and Bessie Simpson, twenty-three in all.

Some of the children came as far as four and one half miles, most of them walking. Few families came with team of oxen, later by pony, buggy and cutter. In the 1920's one neighbor would start with team and sleigh in the winter, not yet daylight, with foot warmers and robes and pick up the neighbor children and drive them all to school. Another one would make the trip at four o'clock, so that each one only made one trip a day.

Many nationalities and interesting students passed through the doors of this little "house of learning" through the years, going on to become farmers, teachers, nurses, pilots, doctors, bankers, professors, officers of the law, armed service personnel, musicians, stenographers, and homemakers. They are a credit to their chosen work, and several of these students were third generation families of the ones who were opening day students.

The school was the centre of many activities and community gatherings, such as old time dances, evenings of card games, seasonal parties with the pupils, valentine, hallowe'en and the annual Christmas concerts.

During the years heating changed from pot bellied "Waterbury" heaters to oil heat, indoor washrooms replaced cold out-door "biffies", a telephone was installed, also hydro as it came into the area.

In Centennial year, on July 16th 1967 a homecoming was held. Letters had been sent out to former pupils, teachers and residents, which brought people from far and near. During the day presentations were made to Mrs. Ruth (McPhee) Berger, of Glen Avon,

Sask., oldest lady present who had attended school on opening day, H. J. Wood, oldest man present who had attended school opening day, Mrs. Annie (Goethe) Poston, Tacoma, Washington, lady coming the farthest distance, D. H. Barr, Duncan, B.C., man coming the farthest distance, Mrs. Eva (Grant) Coulson, oldest teacher present, who had taught in Woodville in 1905, Fay Hutchison, youngest girl on the grounds, and Jay Paull, youngest boy.

The weather was perfect; an out-door platform was built, and entertainment consisting of band music by original members of the Woodville band of 1908-1914, bag pipes and drum music and highland dancing by the Hathaway Pipers and their group of Deloraine, piano solos by Dr. J. Chung, recently arrived as our new doctor in the Elkhorn area, items from the pupils, ball games, races and much visiting. Cold Plate supper was served to roughly 400 people and no shortage of food! Mrs. Eva (Adair) Rowand made and decorated a "Book of Memories" cake, Don Bartley of Elkhorn had a booth with ice cream etc., which greatly helped out.

A Centennial project was the compiling and writing of a history of the district, "The Story of Woodville", a story of the pioneers, in their efforts of making a home and opening up a new country.

Poems written by Wm. Paull Sr., Harry Reynolds, Fern (Longman) Jensen, and Eva Rowand; old and new snapshots, building of school, church, starting a cemetery, and just ordinary community activities and everyday happenings all made for a very interesting little book.

The school ran another three years, until June, 1970, when attendance got down to six pupils. The



Woodville School. L-R Back row: Wesley Overand, Eddie Paull, Stanley Runions, Bill Thomson, Dennis Runions, Mrs. Kathleen Thomson (teacher). Front row: Keith Overand, Ricky Paull, Glenda Paull, Judy Thomson, Patricia Paull, Shelly Paull, Ella Runions.

pupils attending the last day were Judy Thomson, Patricia Paull, Ricky Paull, Terry Paull, Wes Overand and Keith Overand. The last teacher was Mrs. Kathleen (Paull) Thomson, a grand-daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Paull Sr., pioneers of the early 1880's. Mrs. Thomson had taught Woodville School for a total of fourteen years, as well as being a pupil there herself for ten years. Seems a strange coincidence that the first and last teachers of the school were Thomson by name. A closing day picnic was held to mark the end of eighty continuous years as a school, standing on the same spot in the district, on which it was built. The piano and some of the contents went to Elkhorn School; a sale was held and the rest of the articles sold. The school and the land were bought by Ralph Rowan, and later the school was moved by him to his property two miles west of Elkhorn, where it now stands.

submitted by Annie Overand

### Victor School #949, S.E. ¼-10-12-27

In 1882 the first settlers to take homesteads in this area arrived from England and Eastern Canada. Among these were John Clarkson, Daniel Vaux, John Reynolds, Frank Simpson, Robert Beamish, E. George Garlic, William McCan and McLellands. Soon there were people on nearly every quarter or 160 acres of land. By 1898 people began to look for ways and means to improve the social and educational life for young and old. Up until this time people held church services in the homes of Chris and John Smith. The Elkhorn Methodist Ministers used to drive by horse and buggy to the Montgomery church and return by Smiths on 12-12-27. This was an interesting time in the local history as John Smith, a government man, had been sent out to watch the movements of the Indians and their chiefs after the Riel rebellion, until it was decided between government and chiefs where the Indian reservations would be.

Some of the children went to Hargrave to attend school. Elkhorn and Hargrave became the trading centers for most farmers where they could get groceries, sell grain, and get farm supplies and mail at either place. Then in 1898 some families decided a school closer to their homes would be more convenient. They took out a debenture for \$700 to build a school. A contractor from Virden built the school for \$550. It was furnished with the bare necessities which included a large furnace with a jacket around to keep the place warm, blackboards, desk and a stool, a bell, and, of course, the "flag." The first teachers were Miss Fingland, Miss House and Miss Hume. Gradually the school became the social centre for the district which became Victor 949. They



wanted to name it Victoria, but found out that there was already a Victoria district, so decided on Victor. The first trustees were James McLelland, John Reynolds and Chris Smith. The teachers and pupils or families were caretakers until Jim Birnie settled on 10-12-27 and was caretaker for years. Water was scarce on this S.E. ¼-10-12-27 and after several attempts to find good water the board paid people to bring water to the school. The Charles Leith family looked after the caretaking and water for several years. In later years Audrey Collier looked after the school until it closed in 1965.

It wasn't until 1925 that dances were held in the school with the local residents providing toe tapping music. Some of these were Jim Birnie with his violin and Mrs. Winchell on the organ, Ike and Rose Clarkson with fiddle and organ and later piano, Kyle's orchestra — James Maxfield and Alex Winkler with his banjo.

Church services were well attended and served by Elkhorn Ministers for many years. After the Churches' Union when the United Church was formed, the United Church Ministers came to Victor. Among the first being Reverends — Dyer, Andrews,



Victor S.D. #949, church on Sunday in the 1950's.

Lacke, Strang, J. Carmichael, Ralston, Lang, Alexander, Taylor, Shier, A. Smith, William Ayres — and in 1915 Kennedy, Scarlett, Maunders, Abbott and Byrd. These travelled by horse and buggy or teams and democrats until 1915 when the Elkhorn church provided a Ford car for Rev. Kennedy and things were speeded up even over the prairie roads and trails. Later Ministers were — Dixon, Daynard, Wyman, Denyes, Fargy and Johnston.

In 1936-40 the Young Peoples' Union under Rev. Dixon became an active group with all kinds of programs and entertainment. Shirley Heritage, Cecil Rodgers, John Archibald, John Davidson, E. Hollingsworth were among the first leaders. This group was strong until radio programs became interesting

and of course couldn't be missed. The Young Peoples' Union ended in 1940.

The school and its teachers with all the students through the years provided all the excitement for the district.

The teachers on beginning their first classes found themselves responsible to teach grades I to VIII. This meant many hours of work for eight grades. Besides this, the teacher was expected to be a leader in the social life of the district.



Class at Victor school — Miss Lorraine Bray.

The day began with raising the "Union Jack," the flag used all the time Victor School was open. It was an honor to raise the flag and pupils vied with each other to do this or to lower it at 4 p.m. Singing of O Canada and repeating the Lord's Prayer started the class off to a good start each day. Then the classes began and students were taught according to grades and importance of lessons for the day. To make things easier where possible grades were sometimes doubled. E.g. three and four or seven and eight. Arts, penmanship and other crafts were done together — providing a happy, industrious time. All weren't creative or artistic but results were usually displayed for all to see; everyone did his best. The nicest time was right after noon when the teacher would read for ½ an hour out of the many books now in the library. We all looked forward to the usually very interesting stories. The day ended with singing God Save the King

or Queen depending on the time in history. In the early 1920's the class sang a verse or two of "Now the Day is Over," and pupils would then rush out to see who got away first.

In the early spring, Arbor day (in May) was clean-up day when pupils armed with rakes, rags, water and soap attacked school and grounds in an effort to get rid of winter's grime and the year's dead grass. It was a busy day. Some years, pupils would plant a tree or some flowers. They tried a few peanuts one year which did grow peanuts later on in the summer.

Next was School Field Day on the last Friday in May or the first Friday in June. Teachers tried to drill students in marching so the school would look good in the parade. In the early years up until the late 1920's the Field Days were held in Virden. Then it became too large and half of the schools attended Elkhorn Field Days. Victor took an active part winning ribbons and points towards the shield for one room schools at Elkhorn. Finally after having most points and winning the shield for several years Victor school was awarded the shield permanently. It is now owned by Jerry Jones, one of the outstanding point winners from Victor School.

The most exciting and anticipated event was the Christmas Concert put on by teacher and students each year. The teachers were always looking for material for the program that would also be suitable for talent available. Many were the practices with the musicians who came to help out if the teacher couldn't play. The children were so excited for two or three weeks — that is all but the older boys who had to be practically forced to sing or take part in a play or be a girl. Pantomimes were the best; one didn't have to talk in them. Then the final night, when the school filled quickly and children and parents looked forward to seeing Santa. Then all the excitement of presenting the program to a sea of expectant faces. Horror of horrors, when lines were forgotten and parents squirmed more than the nervous child. It was all forgotten when Santa arrived by various ways and gifts and bags of candy, nuts, and oranges were given to each child present.

The final big day was the Annual Picnic on the N.W. corner of Nathaniel Reynolds' farm for many years. In the early years some of the people came early to make ice cream in their ice cream freezers. They brought cream, sugar, eggs and ice — everything to make delicious ice cream — the long looked-for treat of the year. The women vied with each other in baking cakes of every kind and sandwiches made of homemade bread with all kinds of fillings. There was fun and games for young and old. There were races of all kinds: sack races, thread the needle, egg



Victor school at field day, M. Ablett, teacher. Jake Kliever, Corinne Leith, Mae Jones, Adaleen Cook, Dorothy Harford, Gladys Harford.

and spoon, three-legged, distance races for young and old. Someone would take up a collection for prizes for race winners. It all seemed to turn out well. The day would end with a baseball game between league teams of that time and later softball became popular. After the corner was cultivated the picnics were held on the school grounds and mostly consisted of ball games between school teams. The picnics became smaller and smaller until the school closed in 1965.

In 1965 invitations were sent out to former teachers and students for a final get-together at Victor School. There was a nice turnout and many reminisced about the past — the good and not so good times, now a part of the past. Mrs. Beryl Jackson was the last teacher and the last school board consisted of Orville Duffield, Stuart Carruthers, James Draper with Leonard Collier as Secretary-Treasurer.

By this time many meetings were taking place



Victor school pupils, Miss Marguerite Ablett, teacher.

regarding joining the larger school units. However, Victor had run out of enough students to keep the school open. In 1965 the school and assets were all disposed of by sale. Orville Duffield bought the school, tore it down and used the lumber to enlarge his house on the farm. The gate is the only landmark still left of the school grounds, which has been cultivated and is now part of the field on S.E. ¼-10-12-27.

Most of the children are bussed to Elkhorn school now and some to Virden. Some Victor people had a special place in Elkhorn's development. John and Chris Smith, along with Cecil Balkwell moved to Elkhorn and opened a livery barn there. The John Smith house was moved to Elkhorn and is still in use today. The Clarkson family, grandchildren of John Clarkson, has added to the Elkhorn story with the antique car museum started by Isaac (Ike) Clarkson who donated his cars to the town and was instrumental in getting the museum started. This attracts many tourists each year from around the world. Then Rose with her art and musical ability and Marion with her artistic gifts and kindness are well known in Elkhorn.

Students from Victor district who attended Elkhorn schools are Jerry, Kenneth, Vallerie and Vernon Jones children of Alfred and Mary Jones, Delores, Joyce and Lynda Jones children of Jessey and Ivy Jones, James and Heather Jones children of Norman and Betty Jones; Dean, Bert, Margaret, Donnabelle and Doug Greenshields, children of Ronald and Donna Greenshields; Lillian, Betty, and James Hartley children of James and Annie Hartley. Gaylene Best taught school in Elkhorn elementary.

#### **Some Early Teachers 1898-**

Miss Fingland, Miss House, Miss Hume, Carl Story, Claude Bell, Miss McTavish, Mr. Evans, Fred Hall, Elizabeth Usher, Miss Medlicott

Later Teachers:

Miss Sanford, Miss Sandal, Miss Violet Reeves, Miss Lena McDougall, Miss McCormack, Miss Marguerite McGilvray, Miss Alice Marchall, Miss Margeurite Ablett, Miss Lorraine Bray, Miss Muriel Haward, Muriel Collier (Jones), Harvey Smith, Eileen Swan, Mary Lou Rutherford, Eugene Baker, Bernice Alexander, Mrs. Lena Evanyshyn, Mrs. Bessie Montgomery, Mrs. Roach, Mrs. Dot Paul, Margaret Bowles, and Beryl Jackson, 1965.

#### **Original Victor District**

This district consisted of 20 sections. They were sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17 in range 12-27, and sections 32, 33, 34, 35, and 36 in 11-27. Later, sections 8, 17, and N ½ 16 taken out to help make the York School District. Sectons 5-12-27 and 32-11-27 were added to Reaper school district and sections 13 and N ½ of 14 and 15 added to Ross School District leaving 13½ sections in

Victor School District. These changes were made sometime after Victor School District was formed.

All even numbered sections were homestead land, odd numbers C.P.R. lands granted when the railway was put through.

Lillian Draper

#### **Archie School District**

Archie School opened in 1896 and was situated four miles north and one and one-half miles west of what is now the junction of the Trans Canada Highway and Highway Forty-one. It was built on the North East quarter of 8-13-29 belonging to the late Hugh Kirby Sr. who donated the land for the school.

The first teacher was Miss Lucey and the following families were some who had children going to school then. Hugh Kirby, Allan Campbells — 1893, Barkleys, Petersons — 1882, Galbraiths, Jack Banks, Rawns, O. Johansons, Flans, T. Rawson, Wm. Rawson, Chas. Rawson, MacDonalds, Hansons, Andrew Johnson, Andrew Ekman — 1889, Venners, Carl Caesar, Richard Youngs, Wm. Kilpatrick, Blackwells, Warner Asselstine, Bensons, McDougalls, Linnors, Jack and Jim Burns, Tedquists, Bullocks, George Brant, Tom Glendinning, Rookes, Winters, and Frondalls. Some of the children probably started later, around 1900 or 1905. As all the records were lost or destroyed, this information may not be too accurate.

Some of the older students used to laugh about the school being closed to go berry picking and it is believed that at first, school was not kept open in the winter. Some pupils also had to herd cattle at the same time. The teacher would let the pupils out of school to retrieve the cattle, if they wandered too far away.

The school at first, was not too large and had windows on both sides, which proved very drafty at times, if a high wind was blowing on a very cold day. It was heated by heaters, some tin, and often the pupils had to huddle around the stove to keep warm. Some of the older pupils or fathers tried to go to school a bit earlier to light the fires and often the school did not warm up before the day's schooling started. There was a small old drafty porch on the north side of the school and the bathroom facilities were built outside. Sometimes the high snow drifts and blocked doors made it almost impossible to reach that small building so often a disaster happened to the youngest pupils.

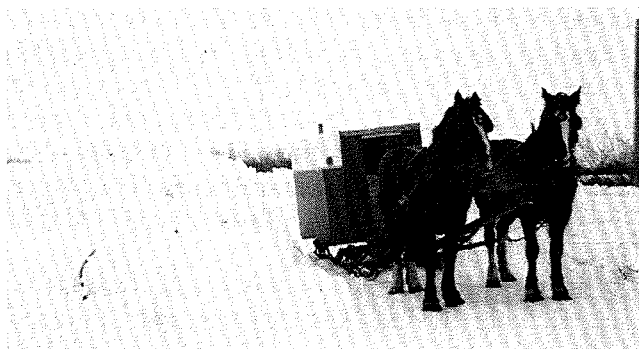
In the earlier years, Church was held in the school, both by the Presbyterians and Lutherans. Later a Lutheran Church was built about three quarters of a mile west and about a mile north of the

school. There was also a small cemetery there with a few graves.

Before the school and churches were built Church was conducted at the Andrew Ekman home, with the minister arriving on horseback. Rev. Leischman of Fleming was the Presbyterian minister. The Lutheran minister is unknown. In later years, all the activity centred around the school. The pupils looked forward for weeks, to the yearly Christmas concert, and making the decorations for the tree as well as the school.

Every June there was a picnic to end the year, or to say, "Farewell" to a special teacher, and present her with a small remembrance. There were free ice-cream cones and treats. Probably a nickel or a dime was a prize for a well-run race and children and adults alike participated in a softball game to end a very enjoyable day. The school took part in field days, at first alternately in Virden and Elkhorn and in later years at Elkhorn. The pupils looked forward to marching in the parades. Their banner was made and hand painted on felt with the School's name and No. 744 on it, by Mr. Ted Peterson. The school colors were green and gold and their first outfit was full green bloomers and short sleeved gold tops with the letter "A" in green and sleeves edged in green. They won their share of prizes, both for costumes and marching. In the thirties whist parties, showers and dances were held and everybody in the district gave freely of their time and musical talent. These were John Johanson, his son Leslie and daughter Alma, Jack Banks and his son Arthur, Oscar, Clifford and Mary Verner, Ted and Ernie Peterson, Bill Heltferd. About 1935, the ratepayers decided the school needed to be enlarged, so about eighteen feet was added. A basement was put under the addition and a boys' and girls' cloakroom were added — the girls on the west side and the boys on the east. Cupboards for books were built at each side of the addition to the school.

About 1946, there were not enough pupils to receive a grant and keep the school open so they



Rural winter school transportation in the 1930's.

attended Manson School, with Arthur Rookes hired as Van Driver. In 1946 it was decided to hold a picnic to celebrate the school being in operation fifty years. There were four people present who had attended the school when it opened, namely, Jean McDonald (Mrs. Bob Douglas of Indian Head), Ernest Tedquist, Mary Ekman (Mrs. Andrew Johnson of Manson) and Charlie Ekman. All are now deceased.

In 1948 the school reopened again. A number of teachers are unknown due to loss of records. However quite a number are still in the district or surrounding areas namely, Clara Rasmussen (Mrs. Archie Young of Brandon), Annie Harry (Mrs. Hank Gardner of Brandon), Marion Solly (Mrs. Gordon of Hargrave), Kathleen Winters of Elkhorn, Eretta Lund (Mrs. Lamont of Manson), Betty Kirbyson (Mrs. Smart of McAuley), Mrs. Nellie Rogers, now of Dauphin, Dora Dick of Brandon, Mrs. Milfred Campbell of Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, Beth Smith of Wapella, and Lorraine Scott of Elkhorn. Sincere apologies to anyone who has been omitted, owing to lack of knowledge.

Sometime during the fifties, indoor bathroom facilities and an oil furnace were purchased, adding to the comfort of the students.

In the 1960's the pupils attended Virden Festival and as a group won trophies for their Spoken Poetry for several years.

In many cases, three generations of a family attended Archie School. Due to small attendance in later years it was decided to close the school as of June 30, 1968 and transport the pupils by bus to Elkhorn. A closing reunion picnic was held and Archie School was closed after seventy-two years of service.

An Auction Sale was held to dispose of all the contents and the school was moved to Elkhorn, beside the Antique Car Museum and is now the Little Red Schoolhouse.

Originally it was a white frame building with green trim and after renovation it was covered with a cream stucco. In June of 1969, all assets were dissolved and passed on to Elkhorn District.

Teachers' salaries in the thirties and forties were anywhere from four hundred dollars to six hundred dollars per year.

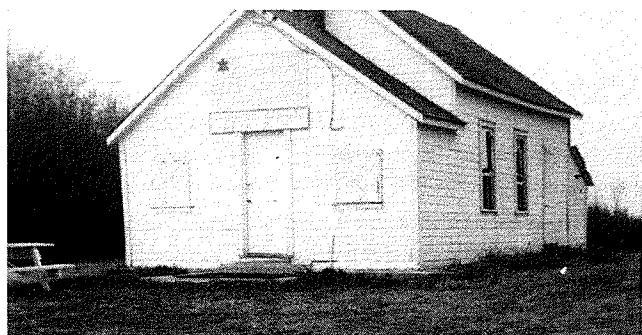
The last teacher was Lorraine Scott of Elkhorn.

Submitted by Ann Campbell and Amy Oliver

### **Arawana School (1897-1965)**

The School District was organized in 1897 and the school was built the same year on the S½ of 19-10-28, along what is now the "Virden-Maryfield" road. John Hume from Elkhorn built the school for \$328.00. The materials cost \$220.00. The

first teacher was Miss Mary Groutage. Her salary was \$35.00 a month and she paid \$12.00 a month for her board. She boarded at F. W. Chapples. Her pupils were — George, Mary, Sam, Jean, Willie and Jim Gray, Gladys and Avery Chapple, Ella and Will Powell, and Flossie Brooks. The first trustees were John Gray, Frank Munday and Fred W. Chapple. Not necessarily in this order or complete, here are the names of several of the teachers — Edith Marks, Mary Bowerman, Amy Durno, Herbert Leighton, Leslie McIntyre, Lillian Balkwell, Mildred Clifford,



Arawana school.

Agnes Stewart (Mrs. George Freeman), Elsie Ivans, E. S. (Bob) Mahon, Inga Bergstrom, Elsie Jones, Annie Noble, Verlie Metcalf, Edith Grose, Gertie Carefoot, Emma Allison, Eretta Lund, Margaret Cameron, Phyllis Ayres, Eileen Naylen, Eileen Carefoot, Betty McCracken, Lorne Jamieson, Gladys Snyder. The last teacher was Mrs. Marion Gordon. Some of the pupils were — Ron, Dave and Beth Cruickshank, Barb and Sylvia Grant, Karen, Rocky and Eugene Siemens, Pat Simpson, Gordon, Judy and Jimmy Kliever.

The school survived the 1900 cyclone, only being moved the width of the foundation. It has been told, pupils found music notes on their way to school about a quarter of a mile down the road. They did not know what had happened until their arrival at school.

In the early days one of the pupils was paid a small sum to go in time to light the fire and have the building warmed up. Another responsibility was to take drinking water. The students looked forward to "Field Day", taking part in all sports and the parade, looking smart in their yellow and black trimmed outfits, and to the annual closing day picnic with ball games, races and an abundance of food with ice-cream and lemonade for the youngsters. Practicing for the annual Christmas concert and the final night was great excitement for all. The school was the social centre of the community. Dancing, card parties, box and pie socials were enjoyed by old and young alike.

The school closed in 1965. It continued to be used as a picnic and camping area. The guest book signed by former residents, pupils, teachers and passersby shows their appreciation with favourable comments. Every spring the "Arawana Ladies' Club" would clean and repair. They held their meetings in the summer and showers for the local girls. Unfortunately, vandals have taken over the little school and the women were forced to call the clean-up "Quits" this year in 1981.

### Some of the Happenings in Arawana District. (formerly Ebor 1882-1905)

The first settler in the district was John Gray who came in the spring of 1882 and settled on E½ 20-10-28. In the fall of the same year, F. W. Chapple, Tom Powell and Jack Russell took up homesteads.

The big enemy in the early days was prairie fires — the men were forced to travel to Moose Mountain for firewood and logs for building material.

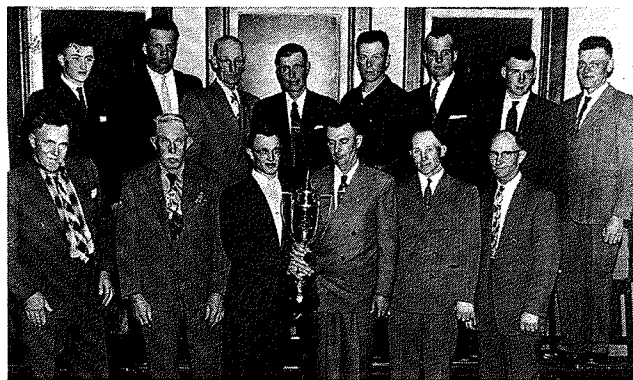
From 1903 to 1915 it was reported that a strange light showed on very dark nights in the ravine on 20-10-28. It was called the "Will-O-The-Wisp". It is believed it was caused from gases rising from the ground. The gases came from phosphorous, from bones, believed from a buffalo slaughter.

The first car was owned by Arthur Baker, a 1910 Cadillac, with a gasoline engine, chain drive and lamps for headlights.

The telephone came in 1908-1909.

The Arawana Debating Society was organized by E. S. Mahon, (Bob), a teacher and Mr. Mallinson, a minister; it started in 1913 and closed in 1916.

In the late twenties the Beef Ring was formed, in the Sanderson district, with John Bains, the butcher. Arawana residents took advantage of the opportunity to have fresh meat every week.



Arawana Seed Club. L-R Back row: Don George, Lee Hodson, Arthur Collins, Harold Watson, Darrell Nolan, Albert Hodson, Alex Grieve, Tom Cruickshank. Front row: George Grieve, Bob Grieve, Ken Wardle, Tom Watson, Frank George, George Ogilvie.

Two dams were built under the P.F.R. A. in 1937, to compensate for the drought in the thirties.

The Arawana Seed Club was formed in 1956 with Tom Cruickshank as president, and Stuart Shepherd as secretary. The club won the Brett Trophy four times which means it was the best club in Manitoba for four times during its ten year existence.

The Farm Forum was organized in 1947-48 holding their meetings at the various homes. Many lively discussions took place and much knowledge was acquired by all.

The hydro came in 1952. Prior to that, ordinary coal oil lamps, Rayo Lamps, gasoline, and the ever popular Aladdin lamps were used.

The "Arawana Ladies Club" was formed in 1952 with Mary Grieve president, and Margaret Cruickshank secretary. Over the years they served lunches at several sales. Donations have been made to many worthy causes, parcels sent to the sick and the bereaved remembered. Their first plans were made to serve lunch at the farm sale of Mr. Jack Grieve and a shower to honor Miss Enid Bolam. Seventy dollars was realized from the sale and the proceeds turned over to the Elkhorn Hospital. The meetings were often a social event when the men would join the ladies for cards. At present Margaret Cruickshank is president with Dorothy Simpson as secretary. Although some of the original members live in town, they still belong and take part in all the activities. Meetings are held in the homes of the members, numbering fifteen.

### **Burnbank School 1901-1963**

To think of Burnbank settlement in earlier times is to think of the school. Not that it was an imposing structure, for that little one-room school house set on the south bank of Burnbank Creek would scandalize any modern educator. Nevertheless it was the true centre of the community.

Ten months of the year for over sixty years it was the entire educational plant for ten to twenty children, grades one through eight, and, of course, for one young teacher. Around it, fenced in from Hugh Drake's grain field and pasture, lay its bare school yard with its ramshackle barn and little outhouses, a "his" and a "hers," where some child was forever being locked in, accidentally or maliciously. Across the road was George Lacey's home and across the creek Hugh Drake's, havens of refuge in emergency, where sufferers were hastily escorted for temporary repairs (and cookies) or hurried transport home or to the doctor in Elkhorn. The road beside the school house sloped sharply down to the bridge, which the creek obligingly wiped out every few springs to the



Burnbank school church.

delighted amazement of the school children, although it necessitated an additional two-mile walk to the North Road bridge for the unfortunate northerners.

Nor was the inside of the schoolhouse likely to have impressed a modern educator. A small porch led you into a tiny dark cloak room, where a metal water bucket (filled daily from Drake's well by willing volunteers) sat on a shelf beside its communal cup. In school hours children's coats hung there on hooks above a clutter of overshoes, lunch pails and mittens, and sometimes an unvirtuous child moped there in solitary disgrace.

Two steps took you into the classroom itself with its rows of desks of graduated size, scarred with the initials of succeeding generations of Burnbankers. In the far southwest corner sat the big upright stove guarded by its metal shield (lighted in winter about eight o'clock in the morning by a succession of neighbour boys). To the south a row of windows looked out on the school yard and the fields beyond. Against the east wall stood the organ, waiting for Sundays and the Christmas concert; in the centre the teacher's large desk faced away from the north wall with its expanse of chalk boards. Painstakingly outlined on the black board, period by period, the next day's work for each class had been detailed by the teacher, upon whose organizational skill depended the academic progress of eight classes under one lone instructor.

How did they manage — those young women who taught at Burnbank? Fresh from a few months at normal school, she came out to board with one of the community families. She came to school in winter often through bitter cold and blizzards, not only to teach but to care for chilled and often frostbitten children, in a room still icy from the night's twenty below cold. That is why at Burnbank on winter mornings the current teacher read to us of Long John Silver, Tom Sawyer, Huckleberry Finn or Anne of Green Gables, and others of their kind, while we

huddled, teacher and children, around the big stove, in coats and mittens, waiting for the room to warm.

Such flexibility was essential, for the teacher lacked most of the equipment considered essential by modern educators. The modern teacher would have looked in vain in that class room for film screen, record players, gymnastic equipment or a well-stocked library. A set of pull-down maps hanging from the black board, an atlas and a globe on a shelf in the library, some plasticine, crayons, coloured paper, chalk and erasers for the black board, a picture of King George V on the wall, and a formidable strap in the teacher's desk — these were her teaching tools, in addition of course to our text books. The so-called library was a tiny unlighted cubicle furnished with several coat hooks, a small cupboard and a shelf, and certainly under twenty books. Its real purposes were to house the teacher's coat, to serve, somehow incredibly as a dressing and prop room during Christmas concerts, and to safeguard a gaggle of sleeping infants during community socials.

Furthermore Teacher's role was not limited to the class room. She supervised and refereed soft ball and football games, skateless hockey games, fox and goose chases, and countless playground feuds, which occasionally erupted into shouting and kicking matches. She produced and directed almost single-handed a two-hour Christmas concert in which every child must participate. She was also expected to attend every social event in the community. Furthermore she was expected at all times to be a lady.

What an amazing array of talents they must have had. Some of their names come to mind: Miss Agnes Stewart, Miss Lena Vodden, Miss Cairns, Miss Lackey and pretty Kitty Prouse, Miss Alford — Stern, black-browed disciplinarian, Miss Marion Lambert, jolly and efficient, well-meaning Miss Macey, beautiful talented Miss McKenzie and stern Miss McIntosh; even the lone Mr. Middleton who almost triggered a community feud, and the later dedicated mentors, Miss Clarice Leslie, Miss Edna Tottle, Miss Phillis Johnson, Miss Anne Dickison, Miss Margaret Lyttle, Miss Ellen Linner, Mrs. Jean Fordyce, Miss Janeva Wood, Miss Margaret Pelouquin, Mrs. Leone Dixon, and that remarkable teacher Mr. Don McBean who guided Burnbank school with such skill for some of the last years of its existence.

These teachers must have taught us well our three R's, our geography, history, and science, for generations of Burnbankers graduated from the little school to become useful and productive citizens near and far. But what most of us Burnbankers remember vividly are not the classes but the snowball wars in the school yard; the marvellous toboggan slide con-



Burnbank School Pupils 1925. L-R Front row: Bruce Johnson, Kay Drake, Bob Johnson, Jim Orr. Middle row: Tommy Duxbury, Lily Ramsay, Lorna Duxbury, Phillis Johnson, Lawrence Johnson, Tom Orr. Back row: Sid Freer, Dorothy Drake, Anna Alford (teacher), Bessie Orr, Jim Freer.

structed for us on George Lacey's hill; and after the slide proved too dangerous, the giant toboggan which they had made to carry the entire student body hurtling down the north hills of the creek at noon. We remember perhaps how the entire school played hockey on the frozen creek in winter or drowned out gophers on its banks in spring, and how we could look out the school windows to see old Jess and Barney and Ginger grazing in the school yard while waiting to take their children home after school, or how we could listen to George Lacey's great steam engine pulling its thresher down the road to begin the harvest at the neighbouring farms.

And surely none of us can forget the mingled trauma and elation of the Christmas concerts in December and the field days in June when the three R's were virtually forgotten. In December the school desks were pushed aside and the school room became a make-shift theatre. Mrs. Laurie Johnson or Mrs. Dixon arrived almost daily to play for the children practising Christmas songs. Under the teachers guidance the children marched to and fro in elaborate drill patterns clutching little flags or Christmas bells. They memorized endless recitations and lines for dialogues. Every child participated — little ones out of step, out of pattern; big ones giggling and self-conscious. Somehow it all came together. At last the fathers arrived to set up the stage and the horrified children suddenly realized their hour was fast approaching.

On the great night the whole settlement arrived, from infants to grandparents, bringing food and excited nervous children. Outside one could hear the sleigh runners on the frosty snow, the horses stamping and jingling their bells. Family by family, they



Burnbank school 1942-- E. M. Linner (teacher).

crowded into the little school to sit in rows on the plank seats which had replaced the desks. In the front two rows the apprehensive young performers fidgeted awaiting their ordeals on stage.

Kindly, jovial Jock Orr, consummate M.C., jollied them out of their nerves and made the concert sparkle while the parents beamed. Childish voices filled the room with the strains of "Holy Night" or "Jingle Bells" and other Christmas songs; the stage echoed with the tramp of many feet working their way through drills or the hesitant tread of a shy child going up to say his piece.

All the while in the two front rows of the seats, the excitement of the children grew as they eyed the glittering tree at the end of the stage with its bounty of gifts, candy and oranges. And then, as the last song ended and the children filed back to their seats to the applause of the proud parents, sleigh bells magically began to tinkle outside the little school. "Santa is here!" Thus the great night came to its splendid climax.

Then in June came the other great crisis — Field Day, when all the rural schools in the inspectorial district competed in a sports day in Elkhorn. Again all academic efforts became secondary. Out in the lovely spring sunshine or in the rain we practised soft ball, hundred yard dashes, and, stumbling and laughing, three-legged races. All with the determination of a National Football League, for our school must win

the most points and be cited in the *Elkhorn Mercury*.

Yet it seldom was; other schools were more practised or more talented. But none were more proud than we Burnbankers as we marched in Elkhorn behind our black and yellow banner in the parade from the high school to the fair grounds. And none tried harder in the sports events that followed.

All of us who attended Burnbank must indeed have a multitude of memories of our early school days, but the role of that school went far beyond education. The school was our social centre. On Friday nights in the winter its windows often glowed across the snow and its walls reverberated the cheery uproar rivalry of a whist drive followed by a pot-luck lunch and dance. The young people longed for the cards to be over and the dancing begin. And at last the music would start. Watty Orr, his eyebrows bristling over his craggy face, would strike up his fiddle to the accordion accompaniment of the Warnock brothers. Everyone danced it seemed — tiny girls guiding each other between the twirling adults, gawky teenagers, stout parents — one happy sweating throng. And Jock Orr was everywhere, calling the square dances, partnering shy little girls for their first dance, untangling us for the intricate mazes of the polka or the French Minuet, gathering even the tiny children in to play the rollicking "Farmer in the Dell" and "Old McDonald Had a Farm," and "oats and peas and barley O!"

And on sunny summer afternoons on Sunday these same children and adults might be found again in the school — it transformed now into a church where we gathered for Sunday School and worship, and to visit, discuss crops, gardens and the weather. And not infrequently the parents alone gathered there to ponder a community problem, discuss a project or settle a dispute.

Thus, as in many communities around Elkhorn, the Burnbank school was the community centre. But times have changed. The school house is gone now,



Burnbank quilters.



and the little barn and the outhouses; the bare school yard with its one or two discouraged trees has been reclaimed into Drake's field. Not a few of us who spent eight years of our childhood in attendance there are gone too. Only a plaque stands there near the road mute reminder of times past.

by Mrs. Kay (Drake) Lowery

### **Burnbank School**

I remember the banks of the bonnie burne  
Where our school crowned an acre of land.  
Remember the gully, the hill and the hedge.  
That's where the world took my hand!

The teachers were there like signposts to guide;  
But the learning was in the living.  
Our lessons or games were only the method  
Of gaining by taking and giving.

by Joan Challis (Dixon)

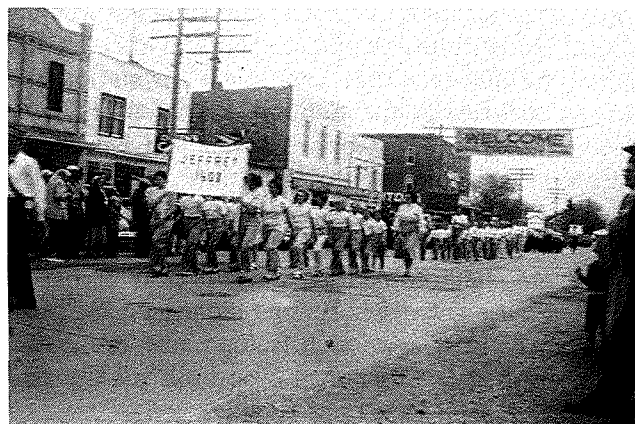
### **Jeffrey School No. 1608 1912-1964**

Located on Sec. 22-12-28 in Archie Municipality. Around 1910-11 there was an area about ten miles north of Elkhorn which did not have a school within five miles, Rose Lea was to the north and Burnbank to the south. There were several children of school age in this locality so Thos. Caldwell prepared a petition and circulated it among the ratepayers for signatures, requesting a school. It was then sent to the Department of Education, was approved and a grant was made. Tenders were let and the bid of Mr. Thos. Stonehouse of Elkhorn was accepted. He built the school in the summer of 1912.

The oldest settler in the district was George Jeffrey so the school was named after him. Classes started May 1st, 1913 with six children from five different families in attendance. Myfanwy Price, a little lady just out from Wales, was the first teacher. She tested and classified these children of all different ages and who had not attended school before, into the grades to which she thought they belonged. She received fifty-five dollars a month and paid twelve dollars for room and board. By October there were nine children enrolled. The school closed for the winter from mid-December till March 1st. and had two weeks vacation in July.

Miss Price taught at Rose Lea the next year (1914) and met a widower in the district, Hugh Walker. She later married him and lived near Miniota for the remainder of her long life.

The second year the school was in operation, two more families had children of school age, so thirteen were attending. Agnes Gordon was the very excellent teacher. Guy McKenzie was a young minister who



Jeffrey school class, field day, 1958.

held church services in two schools. Miss Gordon and he were later married. When last heard from Rev. and Mrs. McKenzie were living in Kelowna, British Columbia.

In August, 1914 World War I broke out and the big brothers of the Jeffrey School children went to War, Alan Nelson, Ernie Cassell and a Parker boy. Alan and Ernie lost their lives five days apart in Europe. The first years the school was in operation, it was open from March 1st through December 15th with two weeks summer vacation. In 1921-22 another winter month was added so it had classes from February 1st through December 15. In 1925-26 it became a September through June school with two weeks vacation at Christmas and New Years.

Attendance varied over the years but the highest number enrolled at one time was twenty-two. Through the fifty plus years the school was in operation there were many faithful trustees, too numerous to name. Those who held office for the longest consecutive time were Thos. Caldwell, Secretary Treasurer from 1912 to 1924 when Robt. Walker took the office. He, also, served for many years as did his son Hugh Walker in later years. The question of consolidating with Fort la Bosse came up in 1964. A meeting of ratepayers gave a majority vote for consolidation so Jeffrey School was closed and the children bused to Elkhorn. After Fort La Bosse took over the buildings were sold at Public Auction. Mr. Thos. Hopley bought the school and it was moved about half a mile to his farmyard where it is used as a barn. The barn was purchased by Manley Jacobs and moved about two miles to his farm.

### **Parkland School District #2197**

Before the Parkland School was built in 1929, children from this area were having to travel up to four or five miles to attend school. One day when Mr. W. Stinson, Mr. F. Simpson and Mr. Chris Stinson

were together they discussed this situation and decided to look into forming a school district for this area. Various meetings and much discussion followed and finally the School District #2197 was formed. While Mr. Chris Stinson and Mr. Frank Simpson were driving through bluffs looking for a location, Mr. Stinson said, "Why wouldn't Parkland be a good name for the school?" The name was submitted and accepted. A corner of S.W.¼ 6-11-27 was purchased from Mr. Ralph Stephenson and in the summer of 1929 a wooden frame one-room school with a full-sized basement was built by the firm Waterbury & Waterbury of Regina.

In September of 1929 the school was opened with Miss Olive Jenner as the first teacher and the following eighteen pupils registered: John, Hugh and Donald Armstrong; Harvey, Elmer and Violet Simpson; Gladys, Daisy, Bill and Tom Rhodes; Ethel and Pearl Stinson; Winnie and Louise Tolley; Jack and Belle Jenner; Edwin Grose; and Phyllis Lewis. The first trustees were Mr. Fred Jenner, Mr. Tom Blakeman and Mr. Silas Armstrong.

In the early days the school was heated by a wood furnace and some pupils earned money by lighting the school fire and others also earned it by hauling the water.

From 1929 to 1958 when the school closed due to insufficient pupils, approximately 105 pupils had attended and the following teachers had served their terms: Olive Jenner, Sybil O'Neil, Marjory Wilson, Marion Gordon, Irene Taylor, Emma Mitchell, Olive Reid, Kay Paul, Ron Chalmers, Margaret Lamb, Gwen Jones, Pat McCarthy, Shirley Fulmore, Marj Reid, Lorraine Fargey, Violet Switzer, Doris Liefso, and Norman Kalinski. The school closed in June, 1958 with Mr. Bob McBain having served that term as teacher and the pupils attending were: Bernice, Barbara and Evelyn Hey; Paul and Pauline George; Lila and Evelyn Simpson. The final trustees were: Mr. Cecil Rhodes, Mr. Fred Hey and Mr. Frank George.

Parkland School besides serving as a school served as a community centre. Euchre drives,



Parkland School.



Parkland School pupils about 1932. L-R Back row: Jack Jenner, Winnie Tolley, John Armstrong, Daisy Rhodes, Harvey Simpson. Second row: Beatrice Fenske, John Price, Phyllis Lewis, Edwin Grose, Pearl Stinson. Third row: Tommy Rhodes, Hugh Armstrong, Bill Rhodes, Donald Armstrong, Elmer Simpson. Fourth row: Lorne Stinson, Cecil Rhodes, Lyle Stinson, Arthur Rhodes, Betty Birchall, Violet Simpson. Front row: Kathleen Rhodes, Blanche Grose, Dorothy Ferguson, Kathleen Simpson, Ethel Stinson.



Parkland School pupils 1951. L-R Back row: Arnold Simpson, Lila Jackson, Bill Simpson. Second row: Beverley Liefso, Dorothy Armstrong, Doreen Simpson, Eleanor Nolan. Third row: Donald George, Elaine Ulmer, Jean Armstrong, Evelyn Simpson. Front row: Evelyn Armstrong, Paul George, Pauline George, Joyce Ulmer.

dances, bazaars, wedding showers, meetings and the annual Christmas concerts were all held in it. Sunday School was also held in the school for several years with Mr. Gordon Wardle as superintendent.

Parkland Community Club first called the Home-comforts was formed shortly after it became a district and during World War II the ladies made quilts, knit for the Red Cross and also sent cards and parcels of homemade food for the soldiers overseas.

When the school closed in 1958 the pupils transferred to other schools. Later Parkland School was purchased by Mr. Frank George and in 1973 was moved from its original location.

Even though there no longer remains the Parkland School building the Parkland Community Club is still active in the district, holding card parties, annual family barbecue and working for the local charities, hospitals and nursing homes.

### **The York School District**

The first meeting of the York School District #1783 was held on Friday, April 23, 1915 at the residence of Mr. A. J. Swan.

In attendance were Mr. E. A. Stagner, Mr. H. M. Linnell, Mr. A. J. Swan, Mr. J. Freeman, Mr. N. Caldwell, Mr. A. J. Hatcher, Mr. J. Allison, Mr. J. Turner, Mr. W. Soder, and Mr. J. Bickerton. Mr. A. J. Swan was elected as chairman and Mr. A. J. Hatcher was secretary-treasurer.

Over the years many more names were added to the list of names participating in school activities.

These were Mr. F. Williams, Mr. G. Lamb, Mr. Al Heritage and Mr. E. Heritage, Mr. Kliever, Mr. G. Boomhower, Mr. L. Birchall, Mr. W. Watson, Mr. M. Palahicky, Mr. J. Groese, Mr. J. Birnie, Mr. E. Davis, Mr. G. Harrys, Mr. A. Mitchell, Mr. N. Mitchell, Mr. M. Mitchell, Mr. D. Hartley, Mr. W. Shriers and Mr. Stonham.

At the time of consolidation with Elkhorn, Mr. Alf Heritage was the trustee, while Mr. Bill Allison was chairman and Mr. Bob Soder was secretary-treasurer.

by Robert Soder

### **Plainview Colony**

The colony settled in the Mossgiel district in 1969, purchasing the Dan Canart farm. They were formerly known as Waldheim Colony having branched from the Waldheim Colony at Elie. In 1974 they became known as Plainview Colony. They purchased over 2,800 acres at the beginning but farm much more now. They started with three families and some helpers. Today the population is close to one hundred.

The first school commenced in 1972. The teacher was Mrs. Dorothy Thomson, with an enrolment of ten to twelve pupils. Classes were held in the church which is part of the kitchen and dining hall. Now they have a new modern school with an enrolment of twenty-two.

Many new buildings have been constructed, including a pig barn, cow barn, chicken barn, machine shed and garage.

29						LOCATION OF SCHOOLS						28					
31	32	33	34	35	36	31	32	33	34	35	36	31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25	30	29	28	27	26	25	30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24	19	20	21	22	23	24	19	20	21	22	23	24
T13-R29W						JEFFREY T13-R28W						T13-R27W					
18	17	16	15	14	13	18	17	16	15	14	13	18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	10	11	12
ARCHIE 1886																	
6	5	4	3	2	1	6	5	4	3	2	1	6	5	4	3	2	1
												WESTTWO CREEKS					
31	32	33	34	35	36	31	32	33	34	35	36	31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25	30	29	28	27	26	25	30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24	19	20	21	22	23	24	19	20	21	22	23	24
KIRKELLA T12-R29W						BURNBANK 1901 T12-R28W						T12-R27W					
18	17	16	15	14	13	18	17	16	15	14	13	18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	10	11	12
												VICTOR 1878					
6	5	4	3	2	1	6	5	4	3	2	1	6	5	4	3	2	1
PLAINVIEW COLONY 1882						ELKHORN 1882											
31	32	33	34	35	36	31	32	33	34	35	36	31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25	30	29	28	27	26	25	30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24	19	20	21	22	23	24	19	20	21	22	23	24
T11-R29W						T11-R28W						REAPER T11-R27W					
18	17	16	15	14	13	18	17	16	15	14	13	18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	10	11	12
WOODVILLE 1889						BURKINHAM						HARGRAVE					
6	5	4	3	2	1	6	5	4	3	2	1	6	5	4	3	2	1
												PARKLAND 1899					
31	32	33	34	35	36	31	32	33	34	35	36	31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25	30	29	28	27	26	25	30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24	19	20	21	22	23	24	19	20	21	22	23	24
T10-R29W						ARAWANA 1897 T10-R28W						T10-R27W					
18	17	16	15	14	13	18	17	16	15	14	13	18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	10	11	12
												SPRINGVALE 1899					
6	5	4	3	2	1	6	5	4	3	2	1	6	5	4	3	2	1
												BOSSHILL					

# Sports and Entertainment

## Sports Activities In the Early Years

In 1897, June 22nd, Elkhorn celebrated the sixtieth Anniversary of the Queen's reign. The Indian School brass band was in attendance leading the parade. Sporting activities held that day were racing, bicycle racing and football. Following are some of the races held and the winners.

### 100 yard race

1st G. Hacking  
2nd A. McPhee

### Hurdle race

1st J. Pritchard  
2nd Stevenson

### Sack Race

1st McPhee and Stevenson

### one-quarter mile race

1st G. Hacking  
2nd J. Pritchard

### Obstacle race

1st A. McPhee  
2nd J. Cavanagh

### Boys under fifteen

1st McPhee  
2nd J. Cavanagh  
3rd Fraser

### one-half mile race

1st George (Indian boy)  
2nd Fox (Indian boy)

### Smoking race

1st Andrews  
2nd Gordon

### Boys under twelve

1st McKim  
2nd Tom Cavanagh

### Boys under ten

1st James Paull  
2nd Sam Baker

In 1899 Elkhorn Athletic Association was formed to obtain grounds for sporting activities. The property decided on was west of the museum and Burns' slough. It was ploughed and levelled.

In the centre of the grounds was a football field and baseball diamond, and they also played cricket on these grounds.

A race track was made around the outside, a three-eighth of a mile track.

This was Elkhorn's first athletic grounds. Officers elected for the Athletic Association were:

Pres. — George Sylvester

Vice-Pres. — R. De W. Waller

Committee — W. J. Dixon, W. J. Thompson, E. A. Hemsworth. Membership fee was fifty cents.

In connection with the fair in 1899, the Indian School held the official opening of their building. Between 300 and 400 people attended and were served refreshments.

Buggies were kept busy all afternoon taking people to and from the building.

There was a grand concert held in the town hall in

the evening. Admission was fifty cents. Attendance was so great that over 100 people were turned away.

Elkhorn held an annual sports day on athletic grounds June 15, 1900. Sporting events for the day were racing, and athletics, football, bicycle races, three-eighths mile race, bicycle race — three miles, boys under fifteen three eighths mile, 100 yd. foot race, 100 yard foot race fifteen and under, Pony race, Farmers Trot, Indian Pony Race. The band was in attendance.

A dance was held in the town hall in the evening. In 1901 Elkhorn held an Annual Sports Day. Attractions were Bicycle Race, Men's race, three-eighths mile, baseball and football.

E. Fraser 1st for Men's race — 2nd John Turner. Milburn Smith 1st for boy's race — 2nd W. Dixon 1/2 mile race — 1st H. Cusak — 2nd C. Jones.

Two games of football were played — Moosomin, Elkhorn, Fleming and Indian School taking part. The Indian Band was in attendance.

There was a dance in the townhall in the evening. Music was supplied by Coulson, Axelson and Company. Elkhorn's sporting activities have continued all through the years.

In closing, as Elkhorn had so many sporting events and entertainment, it is impossible to remember all the names of people participating in the various sports. As we are reporting from fifty to seventy-two years back we are sorry if we have omitted anyone's name.

Thanks to Judge Thompson for the loan of the "Advocate" papers published by his father the late W. J. Thompson.

We owe a lot to the pioneers and God bless them. Have we kept up their tradition?

## Lacrosse

In 1896, Elkhorn had a lacrosse team and won, as a trophy, a group of flags of the nation which were on display in the Cavanagh House (hotel). The hotel burned down and the flags were destroyed.

The only names that can be recalled are Steven-

son, Goodwin, J. McLeod, Tom Cavanagh, John Cavanagh and T. Symington.

As there is nothing on record, this is from memory.



Madie Brotherhood — Tennis Player.

## Tennis

Elkhorn had a tennis court in the early 1900's where the new pool elevator house is now located. Some of the people who took part were:

R. H. Brotherhood	Noble Family
Waller Family	Lucking Family
Wilson Family	Ivy Stanley
Rev. Jones Family	Rev. Stone
R. N. Scotney Family	Thelma McDonald
King Family	Bill Amos
Goethe Family	J. W. M. Thompson
Crosby Family	Elaine Armstrong
Sid and Dorothy Johnson	Fraser Family
Norris Family	Guest Family
Rita Thomas	Mrs. Jack Fraser
Sid Freer	Cavanagh Girls

There will be names missed, no doubt, but these are the names that come to mind at present.

## Cricket

In the early days, about 1907, Elkhorn had a cricket club and their matches were played on the

Athletics Association grounds situated west of Burns' slough.

They held competitions with Virden, Miniota and other neighboring Clubs and were successful on many occasions in winning trophies.

Their team consisted of the following personnel:

Dick Waller	Sid Cook
Ted Waller	Frank Watts
R. N. Scotney	Bill Sutcliffe
Bob Sutton	

In the later years there was not much interest in cricket and it gradually faded out. These are all the names that can be remembered.

## History of Elkhorn Curling Club

The first curling club in Elkhorn was formed in 1892 with thirty-four members. J. Bradley was secretary-treasurer. By 1894 the following were members: Dr. R. Goodwin, Harvey Miller, H. M. Kersey, C. F. Travis, G. T. Rogers, R. deW. Waller, W. J. Thompson, Carl Jones, George Harry, J. Williamson, W. T. Clarke, W. Cushing, T. J. Evans, Alex Fraser, T. D. Cavanagh, G. Webster, W. Miller, F. W. Clingan, and J. Middleton.

In 1899 a meeting was called to elect the following officers: President, R. deW. Waller; Vice-Presidents, J. Canty and G. Sylvester; Secretary, R. W. Craig; Chairman, C.T. Travis; Treasurer, E. A. Mensworth. The Sylvester Cup was won by the Waller Rink that year.

In the late 1800's the following personnel were members of the Elkhorn Curling Club.

Dr. Goodwin	W. Cushing
Harvey Miller	T. J. Evans
H. M. Kersey	Alex Fraser
C. F. Travis	T. D. Cavanagh
G. T. Rodgers	G. Webster
R. de W. Waller	W. Miller
W. J. Thompson	F. W. Clingan
Carl Jones	J. Middleton

## Bonspiel of 1900

The greatest interest was shown in the boys rink of Carl Jones and three Indian boys.

The winners were:

<b>Grand Challenge</b>	2nd W. J. Wilcox
1st W. J. Wilcox	3rd R. De W. Waller
2nd Carl Jones	<b>Sylvester Comp.</b>
3rd Alex Stewart	1st W. M. Cushing
<b>Clingan Stewart Comp.</b>	2nd W. J. Wilcox
1st John Canty	3rd Dr. Goodwin

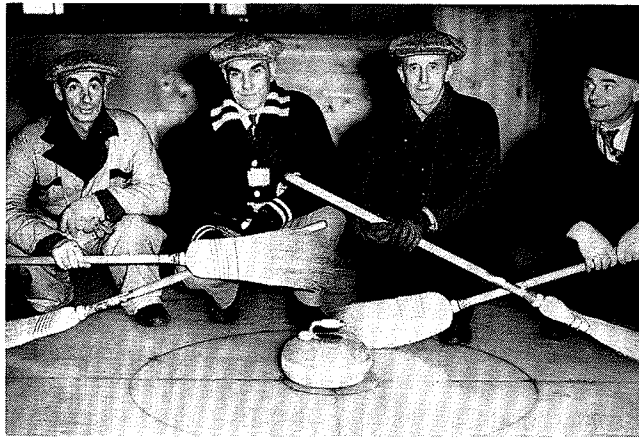
In 1900 the McDonald gold pins were won by Dr. Goodwin's rink consisting of J. Brass, W. J. Thompson and A. McPherson. During that year the Cushing rink won the Sylvester Cup.

In the following years, the curling club grew much stronger and about 1907 in the wooden frame building situated where the new rink is today, the curling ices were on either side of the skating ice.

The First Annual Bonspiel was held in Elkhorn on January 10, 1912. They had four events, plus a Grand Aggregate and a points competition. They followed the Royal Caledonian rules. They also curled twelve ends, the first draw of the day at 9:30 a.m. The business people of the town supported the club by donating all the cups and the prizes for the annual bonspiel. The prize list for the first annual bonspiel read as follows:

**Merchants Event: 1st** — a cup plus four pairs of trousers, valued at \$53.00; **2nd** — four pairs of shoes valued at \$20.00; **3rd** — four Waterman fountain pens valued at \$12.00; **4th** — four thermos bottles with a total value of \$8.00.

**Aikins Cup Event: 1st** — Cup plus four medals plus four nickel-plated tea pots with a total value of \$42.00; **2nd** — four Keen cutter safety razors with a



Elkhorn Bonspiel 1953. L-R: W. Bajus, J. Bajus, W. L. Johnson, Rev. Fargey.



Curling foursome. L-R: Fred Simpson, Mark Cousins, Jim Murray, Tom Finney.



Elkhorn Bonspiel winner 1948. L-R: Rudy Schoen, John Thompson, Polly Phillips, Bernard Barnes. (Molly Schoen and Lorraine Thompson and several local children in the background).

total value of \$20.00; **3rd** — four thermos bottles valued at \$14.00; **4th** — four sets of cuff links valued at \$10.00.

**Alquire Competition: 1st** — Cup plus four pipes plus four razor strops with a total value of \$64.00; **2nd** — four cut glass berry bowls with a total value of \$20.00; **3rd** — four five-pound chests of tea valued at \$10.00; **4th** — four boxes of cigars valued at \$8.00.

**Consolation Event: 1st** — four berry spoons valued at \$12.00; **2nd** — four chests of tea valued at \$10.00; **3rd** — four pairs of gloves, plus four scarves valued at \$9.00; **4th** — four tins of baking powder plus four bottles of flavoring extract valued at \$7.50.

**Points Competition: 1st** — four curlers' coats with a total value of \$6.00; **2nd** — four pairs of shoes with a total value of \$5.00.

**Grand Aggregate** (which was awarded to the rink winning the greatest number of games in the bonspiel, defaults not to be counted): **1st** — four fowls valued at \$8.00; **2nd** — four buggy whips valued at \$6.00.

The total value of the prizes that year was \$344.50.

For the second annual bonspiel held on January 14, 1913, there were five events plus a special event for Bonafide Farmers. There were nineteen rinks entered that year.

Following are some of the curlers (old time) who continued to curl through the years.

C. G. Webster	Herb Lund
Alf Vodden	Wilf Dixon
Geo. Harry	Jack Fraser
Len Simpson	Dr. Goodwin
Fred Mallett	Jack Loewen
Bill Bajus	Wilmer Leslie
J. H. Hennan	Samuel Pratt

Jim Shields  
 J. M. McCorkindale  
 Herb Jones  
 Ted Gibbs  
 Norman Cryderman  
 Ken Corbett  
 George Earl  
 W. J. Thompson  
 John McLeod  
 Andy Swan  
 Dr. Johnston  
 R. H. Brotherhood  
 Hugh McIntosh  
 Webb Clarke

Jake Bajus  
 J. Mooney  
 R. De W. Waller  
 A. McNabb Fraser  
 Walter Davey  
 Ritchie Waller  
 Bob Fraser  
 Jim Francis  
 Waldo Phillips  
 Wilf Soder  
 Alf Watson  
 R. N. Scotney  
 Geo. Freeman

Bob Fraser often skipped a rink of high school boys including Hugh McLeod, Rod McFadden, and Clarence McFadzean.

What kept the interest up in curling through the years was the President's and Vice President's competition. In this competition scores were kept track of and the losers bought the oyster supper with all the trimmings.

Curlers who played for the President's Competition:

- 1) Bear (skip), Brass, McRae, Jones
- 2) Travis (skip), Craig, Craig, Millar
- 3) Goodwin (skip), Cushing, Bailey, Stewart
- 4) Rodgers (skip), Williamson, Anderson, Duke
- 5) Waller (skip), Clarke, Dixon, Thomas
- 6) Canty (skip), Kersey, Miller, McKim
- 7) Wilson (skip), Cook, Anthony, Goodwin

A. J. Hatcher donated a shield — the towns competing for the shield were Virden, Oak Lake, Elkhorn, and McAuley.

Each town could challenge the holder of the shield at any agreeable time. Also, the ladies had a Keen Competition, curling for a cup donated by Mrs. R. H. Brotherhood.

Curling continued to be a very popular sport in Elkhorn all through the years.

#### **Curling Club 1920's-30's**

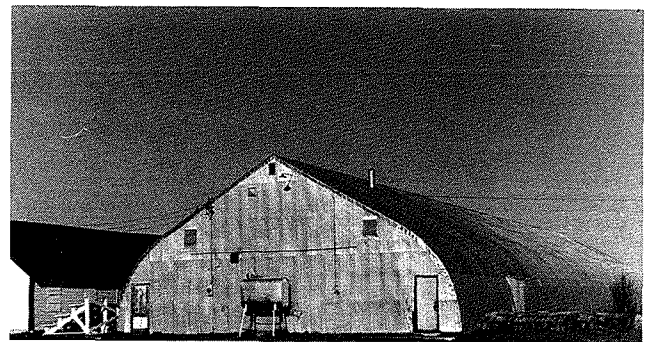
In these years the curling rink and skating rink were all one building on the same ground where the present skating and hockey rink stands.

Some real lively competitive draws were played along with open bonspiels and club competitions. The big one was a draw between President Vs. Vice President and losers usually bought the winners an oyster supper.

Some of the names were: Herb Jones, John Mooney, Geo. Harry, Fred Mallet, J. M. McCorkindale, Dr. Johnston, Jack Frazer (His Fast Runners), Chas. Webster, Alf Vodden, Walter Davey, Ted Gibbs, Jim Francis, Lou Parsons, Earl Snyder, Bob Frazer, Mac McPherson, W. H. Tottle, E. Bergstrom, Mike Prokopow, Geo. Lund, Rev. Hood, G. T. Earle, George Lambert, Senkler Snyder, George Burge, Lloyd McLeod, Len Lund, George

Blackwell, Joe Butcher, Fraser McPherson, Hilly Hall, George Freeman, C. W. Paddock, Jake Bajus, Will Bajus, J. Orr, W. C. Dixon, Mark Cousins, P. A. Bates, E. Bates, R. H. Brotherhood, Dr. Hennan, Waddy Forsythe, Harry Switzer, Ken Lidster, Morris McIntosh, Bill Montgomery, Casey Pearsall, Ollie Jordan, Ross Vasey, Dunc Cameron, John Thompson, Jack Norris, Oscar Duxbury, Jack Loewen, Mait Kersey, Bernard Duxbury, Jack Tivey, Cece Ashmore, Bill McKillop, Bill Lee, Charles Fordyce, Ken Corbett, Ed Lawrence, Ross Hindson, Mac Snyder, Morris Snyder, Tom Blakeman, Loadman (Lawyer), Harvey Sparling, Davidson (Jeweller), Bonner Williams, Budge.

In 1959 the present rink was finally completed and curling began in December in the new rink. The officers at that time were: President, Tom Finney; Vice-President, Guy Miller; and Secretary-Treasurer, George Paton. In 1960 Wilf Francis entered a rink in the Brier playdowns. During 1961, there were fifty-two rinks in the annual bonspiel. The M. N.



Agricultural building and curling rink.

Brotherhood Cup was won by Mrs. Tom Bickerton's rink made up of Mrs. R. Gardner, Mrs. D. Stonehouse, and Mrs. B. Allison. In 1963-64 the rink of Mrs. Earl Bartley, Mrs. Guy Miller, Mrs. Bernie Lund and Mrs. Cliff Mallet won the Brotherhood cup.

In 1973 it was decided to install running water and washrooms in the rink. The waiting room was remodeled and both ladies' and men's washrooms were installed. This was a big change for the men as up to that time they had to use outdoor washrooms. In 1979 the lining and insulating of the ice surface was completed. This has made a nice change in the temperature on the ice surface; when the wind is blowing and it is 40° below outside we can now curl in a warm rink with no wind blowing around our ears.

In 1981 we still continue to run a Christmas Bonspiel, Annual Bonspiel, and a Local Bonspiel. We have a Mixed Curling Club, Seniors' Club, Afternoon Ladies' Club, Evening Ladies' Club and High



School Club. Our Annual Bonspiel still runs the first week in February and all the business people still continue to support the club with their donations. Last year the prizes for our annual bonspiel were valued at around \$1,500.00. Our present officers are: President, Albert Hodson; Vice-President, Garry Bailey; Secretary, Darlene McNabb; and Treasurer, Don Bedford.

submitted by Darlene McNabb

## 1942 Curling Prizes

Here is a list of prizes offered at Elkhorn's open bonspiel:

\$8 War saving stamps	4 silver sandwich sets
4 wrenches	4 table lamps
4 lb. tea	4 pr. socks
4 gal. oil	4 alarm clocks
4 49's flour	4 hotel credits
4 S.P. butter dishes	4 lb. coffee
4 jars pickles	4 smoker sets
4 cases dry gingerale	4 men's scarves
4 2 lbs. chocolates	4 1 lb. chocolate
4 pr. braces	4 tins jam
	4 7-piece water sets

submitted by Margaret Allison

## Ladies' Curling

Elkhorn Ladies' curling was reorganized in the fall of 1973 with money donated by the ladies' softball team.

We hold an annual bonspiel each January which is well supported by local and outside rinks. One year we had thirty entries. There had always been a supper and entertainment one evening of the 'spiel but in the past few years we have held a dance on the Saturday night of the bonspiel.

With many ladies interested in curling we have



L-R: Phyl McLeod, Myrtle McIntosh, Phyl Webster, Ruby McClure.

tried to accommodate everyone by having both afternoon and evening draws in our regular schedule. Norma Lambkin donated a trophy for annual competition in 1976-77 to be awarded to the rink having the most wins during the regular curling season.

Present executive members are: Norma Lambkin, President; Cheryl Volk, Vice President; Lil Robertson, Secretary; and Doris Johnson, Treasurer.

The ladies' club has given support to the men in their efforts to improve the curling rink by insulating the ice surface. In recent years the ladies took over the lunch counter and have managed to show some profit for their efforts. They were able to purchase a small freezer for the rink and this has helped considerably in saving food donated to bonspiels.

The ladies felt that since our profit had been made in the community that we should "put something back", so donations were made to the Elkhorn ambulance and also to the Fire Department.

## Hockey

In 1898 and 1899 Elkhorn had its first hockey team according to records. They weren't an organized club at that time, but played exhibition hockey with the following towns: Virden, Alexander, Griswold, Moosomin and Fleming.

Players were Carl Jones, J. McLeod, J. Mooney, Dr. Goodwin, Claude Bell, W. Clarke, and Wm. McRae. This team continued to play together till around 1905.

About 1906 an organized club was formed with J. McCorkindale as Manager and C. W. Crosby as Secretary-Treasurer.

The league consisted of Elkhorn, Fleming, Wapella and Whitewood. Elkhorn's team consisted of G. Beardsley, George Kay, Earl Cavanagh, Len Simpson, Herb Lund, Atchison, Bill Kay and Jim Shields.

This was Elkhorn's second team, and the first team to win a cup. They played a few years together and were quite successful; then some of the boys left Elkhorn for other jobs. Their places were filled by Don Haggerty, Jim Dixon, Bert Vodden, Lou Parsons, Alex Goodwin, Hugh McLeod, and Frank Crosby. McLeod and Goodwin were Juniors and played alternately with the senior team. Other boys who filled in and played for other teams were Lyle Cavanagh, Orville Lund, George Burge, Earl Snyder, Harvie Evans, Davie Evans, Mait Kersey, Len Leslie, Allan Leslie, Ron Leslie, Ron Cryderman, Jim Pierce, Harold Lidster, Ken Lidster, Emsley Lidster, George Lambert, Lorne Mitchell, Oscar Duxbury, Bernard Duxbury, Morris Snyder, Mac Snyder, Roy Snyder, George Muir, Alex Smith. Other names will be listed in different teams. About



Elkhorn Hockey Team 1912-13 taken in front of the first Elkhorn Bank of Commerce. L-R Back row: George Beardsley, George Kay. Centre row: Earle Cavanagh, Len Simpson, Manager J. M. McCorkindale, Herb Lund, Bill Atchison. Front row: Bill Kay, Jim Shields.



Elkhorn Hockey Team in the 1920's. L-R Back row: Len Simpson — manager, Seward Lund, Earl Lund, Lloyd McLeod, Herb Middleton, Bill McClellan — president. Front row: Mat Johnson, Steve Wallace, J. MacPherson, Sid Johnson.

1899 Elkhorn had a game of hockey with Lippentott (exhibition game).

<b>Line up for Lippentott</b>	Carl Jones
William Proud	J. Harrison
William Montgomery	John Mooney
George Proud	Anderson
J. Scott	John Steen
Ferg. Montgomery	Dr. Goodwin
H. W. Lund	Claude Bell
D. A. Lund	W. Clarke
Referee John Findlay	W. McRae
<b>Line up for Elkhorn</b>	Referee W. J. Thompson
Cough	Linesman T. Middleton and W. Collinge
Rannie	J. Williamson
Jim McLeod	George McLeod

About 1914 a third team was formed; it was not an organized league. The team played against Broadview, Wolseley, Fleming, Virden, Birtle, Moosomin and others.

Players were Al Bajus, Fred Bajus, Hugh McLeod, Clarence McFadzean, Rod McFadden, Herb Middleton, Lloyd McLeod. This team was also very successful and challenged Brandon to a game which we lost.

A fourth team also only played exhibition hockey.

Manager — Len Simpson.

Pres. — William McLelland

This team also played with Fleming, Virden, Oak Lake, Birtle and Broadview and others. Players — Seward Lund, Earl Lund, Lloyd McLeod, Herb Middleton, Mat Johnson, Steven Wallace, J. McPherson, Sid Johnson.

### Hockey 1920-27

Elkhorn has always been blessed with a real good senior hockey team; in the early years they always made a good showing and in recent years they have been winning everything in league play and also in Manitoba Amateur Hockey Playoffs.

Some early names are:

Mac McPherson, Sid Johnson, Matt Johnson, Lloyd McLeod, Herb Middleton, Steve Wallace, Geo. Burge, Seward Lund, Earl Lund, Orval Lund, Jim Pearce, Web Adams and Tom Shillingford.

### 1927-29

They took part in Senior League comprising Moosomin, Brandon, Souris, Virden and Elkhorn, with Jas. Pierce as Manager. Players were Seward, Earl and Orval Lund, Jimmy Pearce and the kid line of Chas. Webster, Ken Lidster and Bernard Duxbury. Hired players were: Moir, Hill, Brown, Petty, Holdaway.

Referees in those days, with just one per game, were Jim Casey and Geo. Lynch, both from Brandon.



L-R: Earl Lund, Len Leslie, Doug Clark, Stan Lasek, Bert Hartley, Herb Middleton, Ralph Poston, Jim Lasek, Chas. Shepherd Sr., Oscar Duxbury, Allan Leslie, Roy Snyder.



Elkhorn Hockey Team 1934-35. L-R Back row: C. J. Shepherd — Manager, Len Leslie, Mac Snyder, Ken Lidster, Harvey McFadzean, Earl Lund, Oscar Duxbury, Sid Cook. Front row: Shortie Ashton, Bernard Duxbury, Roy Snyder, Morris Snyder, Allan Leslie.

### 1930-39

Chas. Shepherd Sr. Manager.

Players were: Joe Butcher, Walt Lund, Joe Tony, Jim Lasek, Len Leslie, Oscar Duxbury, Adrian McDonald, Mait Kersey, Bernard Duxbury, Ken Lidster, Allan Leslie, Mac Snyder, Morris Snyder, Earl Lund, Gordon Pascoe, Bill Buxton, Gordon Gilroy, Shorty Ashton, Doug Clark, Bert Hartley, Ollie Jordan, Roy Wilcox, John Nelson and Stan Lasek.

Referees, only one per game were: Ted Stone, Charlie Hickling and free services.

Admission to games were: Adults, twenty-five, kids, ten.

### Senior Hockey 1975-81

Since 1966 when we built our new hockey rink we have enjoyed very good entertainment with good organized minor sports and skating at noon. Our school children developed into good skaters and skating is the name of the game. It has showed up in the

last few years of hockey. Our teams have been able to skate with the best of them.

Our Seniors have been in N.C.H.L. and ended up winning the league regularly, and 79-80 never lost a game in league play and league playoffs.

80-81 found our Seniors advanced to the large S.W.H.L. in North Division and they carried on winning taking the North Division playoffs, meeting the winners of Southeast-Southwest and taking three straight games to win it all. Congratulations guys! A good season!

**Plus B Side Winners in MAHA Playoffs.**

Players over the last five years are: Rusty Still, Gary Bowles, Dennis Kyle, Delbert Bowles, Darwin Stonehouse, Garth Mitchell, Ken Martin, Glen McColl, Ray Towler, Ron Jones, Ken Tutthill, John Bartley, Terry Joseph, Tim Weber, Blaine Oliver, Allan Tutthill, Norman Kyle, Alex Saville, Bill Saville, Keith Leslie, Brian Revel, Bill Martin, Boyd Kliever, Brian Barnes, Keith Overand, Craig Frondall, Brian Allison, Doug Montgomery, James and Lloyd McLeod.

All this success is due to the untiring efforts of many behind the scenes: names like Bruce Clarke, Jack Montgomery, Dale OGREYSIK, Jim Coughlan, P.

Hoemson, and in the last few years: Bubba Lund, Lloyd Bowles, Cliff Kyle, Jim Shackel, and their good wives, Glynis — reporting, Margaret — Pot of Gold and Bert — phoning scores and doing dozens of other jobs, and Wendy.



Girls' Hockey Team. L-R Back row: Bev Bowles, Donna Wedgewood, Joan Walker, Fred Simpson — manager, Marilyn Heaman, Cathy Buttela, June Walker. Front row: Cherylyn Lamont, Valerie Lane, Linda Kerslake, Sandra Heaman, Norma Tutthill.



Semi-finalists in the Manitoba Midget playoffs, 1957-58. L-R Back row: Stan Haidish, Ron Powes, Ronnie Oliver, Don Robertson, Larry Clarke, Jack Forsyth, Jim Cole, Denys Turner, Stan Fraser. Front row: Raymond White, Jim McMurphy, Doug Lund, Oscar Rudd (coach), Lloyd Leslie, Randy Rudd, Joe O'GREYSIK. On floor: Ray Sokalski.



Elkhorn Intermediate "C" champions, 1972-1973. Front row: Cliff Kyle, Ray Towler, Gus Angus, John Dell, Greg Cameron, Jim Baker, Terry Wakley, Stan Harvey, Jim Coughlan. Back row: Ted Chapple, Cliff Seafoot, Wayne Black, Don Stewart, Don Leslie, Delbert Bowles, Bob Bickerton, Mike Ficycyz, Robert Stewart, John Graham, Lloyd Bowles.

### Looking Back to . . . 1927

The full story of the first hockey game in the new rink, in January 1927, is re-printed below. . .  
Elkhorn 10, Moosomin 5

With their backs to the wall, with an adverse score of 9 to nil against them at the end of the second period, Moosomin hockey team staged a rally at the beginning of the third period on Tuesday night that swept their opponents the fast Elkhorn sextet, off their feet, and before the period had closed netted the puck five times. The Elkhorn team scored another goal a minute before full time, the final score being 10 to 5 in favor of Elkhorn.

It was the first home game in the Western Manitoba Intermediate Hockey league, the first game in the new municipal rink and the first league game played at Moosomin for 12 years. There was a crowd of 600 on hand to witness the game, which was fast and fairly lean throughout.

Elkhorn trotted out a fast aggregation, who were in splendid trim, having been on the ice for over a month this season, and had already participated in a league match with Virden, which they won by a 4-2 score. In the Lund brothers, they have three speedy

skaters and puck carriers who were at all times a thorn in the side of the Moosomin defence.

The local team, owing to the brief time they have had for practice, was not in best condition for so gruelling a match and did not show their best until after the second period, when they combined to much better advantage, and showed both speed and scoring ability. They will be a team to be reckoned with, before the double schedule has been played out.

"Bill" Spears, famous goal keeper of twenty years ago, was prevailed upon to accept a situation between the posts. Bill started in without much preliminary practice, but for the first two periods the old eye was not what is used to be, and a few soft ones got past him to bulge the net. In the last period, however, he showed some of his ancient form, and stopped quite a number of pucks which bore the goal tag. Bill may yet be a star before the season closes.

After it got going the local team showed considerable class, but it must be remembered that the boys have not played on a closed rink for years not against so fast a team as the Elkhorn aggregation proved itself to be. They will be getting better with every game and it looks like a successful hockey season

ahead. For the locals Adams was perhaps the most effective, using his weight cleanly but to good advantage, and carrying the puck well. He would be improved considerably though, were he to pass a bit more frequently when near the opponent's goal. Heisler and Ireton showed up especially well in the last period and scored some clean goals. The forwards missed many chances to score by failing to follow up for rebounds or passes around the Elkhorn goal mouth.

The big rink gave both teams a chance to show their speed, and it was a fast game from bell to bell.

Mr. Taylor of Virden, refereed.

The line-up:

Moosomin — Goal, Spear; defence, Adams and Shillingford; forwards, Waines, Shadwic and Heisler; subs, Ireton and Endicott.

Elkhorn — Goal Gardiner; defence, Wallace and Lidster; forward, S. and E. Lund and Middleton; subs, Pierce, O. Lynd and Burge.

Reprinted from **Moosomin Spectator**

## Football

In most towns football was the most popular sport in 1899. In that year a league was formed here consisting of Virden, Moosomin, Elkhorn and Elkhorn Indian School. Officers elected were:

Pres. — C. F. Travis

Vice Pres. — W. J. Thompson

Sec. Treas. — Stuart McKim

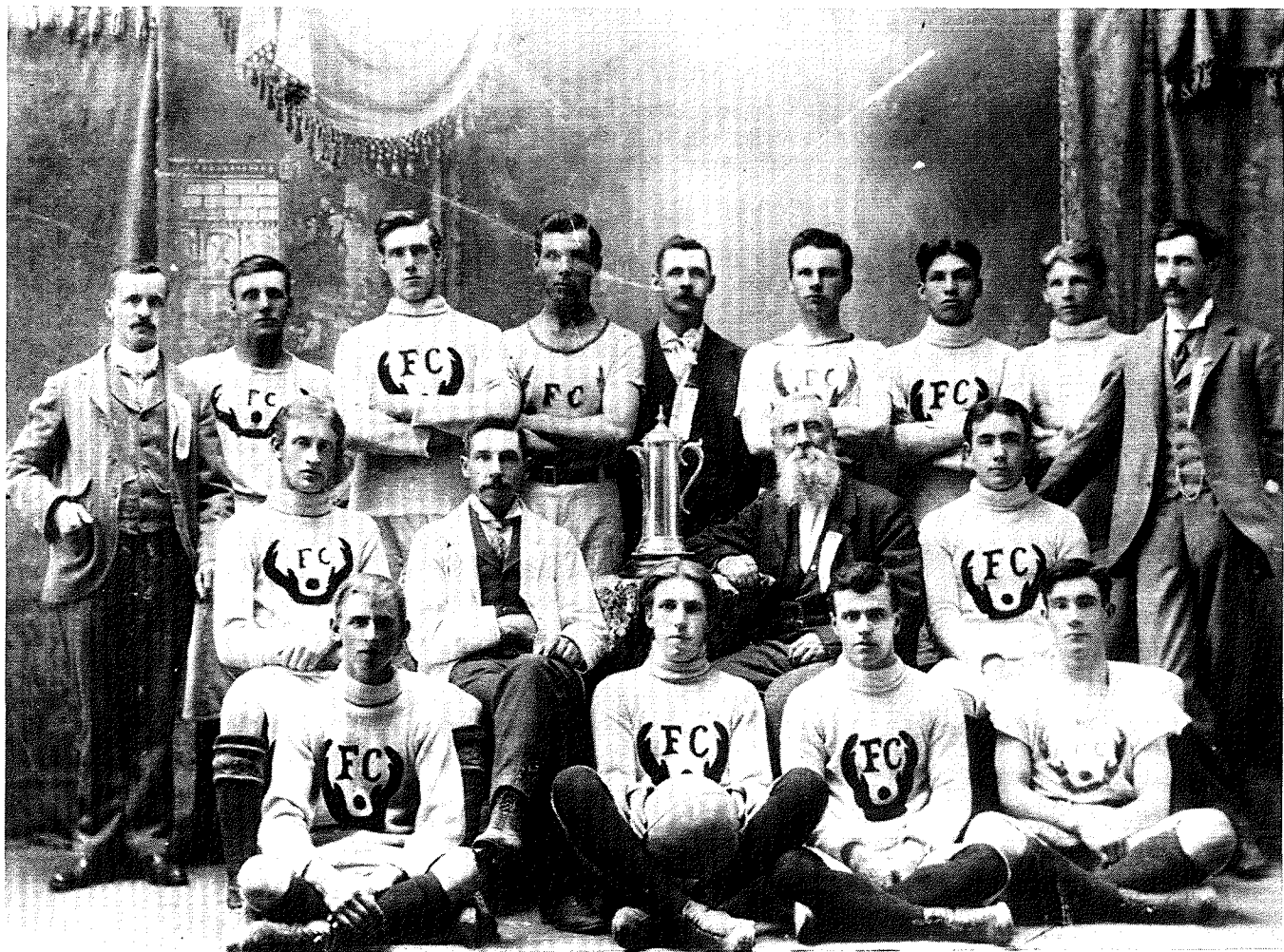
Captain — R. W. Craig

That year Elkhorn won the local league. Another year a league was formed consisting of Broadview, Wapella, Moosomin, Elkhorn and Fleming. That year Elkhorn won the Cavanagh Cup.

A year or so later another league was formed, Elkhorn won the cup by defeating Moosomin, Miniota and Hargrave.

Sometime later another league was formed and the Indian School was victorious, winning over Elkhorn 2-0.

In later years Elkhorn continued to win tournaments, won the eastern league championships for many years, and by winning, played against Portage



Elkhorn Football Team and officials (taken at McDonald Studio, Moosomin, North West Territories in 1900).

la Prairie in Carberry and lost the game 1-0. Team members were: as follows: S. McKim, John McLeod, Bell, Waldron, Armstrong, Lawson, G. McLeod, Page, Craig, Benoit, Hume, Goodwin, Hemsworth, Iverach, Collinge, Jim McLeod. Men who continued to play: Barker, T. B. Stark, Rennie, Bass, Oatway, W. Bear, George McLeod.

As years went by these men grew older, football faded slightly. Some teams continued: **Victor** and the only ones I remember playing for Victor are Wm. Jones and Jimmie Burnie, and **Burnbank**, with players John Duxbury, William Bajus, and Allan Johnson.

### Football 1910-20's

Some players were Allan Beatty, Jim Birnie, Allan Johnson, Laurie Johnson, Harry Johnson, Will Bajus, Basil Harford, Bert Harford, Sid Cook, John Duxbury, John Davidson, Bill Dewar, Jack Warr, Bernard Duxbury, Gordon Turner. They usually had four or five Indians from the local Anglican School. Rev. Fargey played with the area team when a student minister.

Frank Cullen of Winona played Pro Football in England and South America before coming to Canada in the year of 1907.

### Baseball

In 1898 and 1899 Elkhorn had its first ball team. They were not organized as a league, but had exhibition games with towns such as Moosomin, Virden, Fleming, and were not too successful.

In 1899 a travelling troupe by the name of Andrew McPhees Co. played "East Lynne" here in the tent, and they had a ball team and challenged Elkhorn to a game of ball, and this was soon arranged. Quite a crowd gathered, and the McPhees Co. won the game. Elkhorn's players included Goodwin, Ryan, Gould, Travis, Stevenson, Hodson, McDonald, Clarke, McLeod, Umpire — John Symington. Interest in the game was not good, and our editor W. J. Thompson, of the "Advocate", being a keen sportsman, asked for support from the citizens to back their team, so he explained in his paper how baseball started. (Quote)

"The devil was the first coach. He coached Eve. When she stole "first," Adam stole "second."

When Isaac met Rebecca at the well, she was walking with a pitcher.

Sampson struck out a good many times when he beat the Philistines.

Moses made his first run when he slew the Egyptian.

Cain made a base hit when he slew Abel.

Abraham made a sacrifice.

The Prodigal Son made a home run.

David was a long distance thrower and Moses shut out the Egyptians at the Red Sea."

This seemed to perk them up. In 1900 a meeting was held in the barber shop.

Officers elected were:

President W. G. Marsh, Vice-Pres. W. J. Dixon, Sec. Treas. W. T. Clarke, Manager G. E. Bell, Committee C. Cough, James McLeod, and Professor Jones.

That year or later, Bell, Andrews and Cough joined the club. This team carried on for a few years, then a younger group of boys came along such as, Cecil Balkwell, James Balkwell, Ernie Holland, Art Holland, Wilbur Crosby, Milburn Smith, Bell Brothers, Mart Almond, Dick Jones, Clarence Middleton, Herb Middleton, Alec Goodwin, Rod Goodwin, Ronald Cryderman, Cyril Cryderman, Ed Kersey, Oswald Smith, Claire Smith, Percy Blakeman, Eric Trumbell, Stuart McLeod, Floyd McLeod, Seward and Earl Lund, Bernie Axelson, Hugh McLeod, Harold and Emsley and Ken Lidster, Bill and Clarence Miller, Frank Crosby, Lloyd McLeod. There could be others, but with no records it is impossible to remember them all. Sorry if I have missed anyone.

Around 1905-1906 Elkhorn had another team, as follows. Jim Shields, Len Simpson, Bob Fraser, Andy Lidster, Harvey Evans, Herb Lund, Pratt, Clifford, Dave Evans, E. Snyder, W. Goethe, Ben Poston. This team played until another was formed in 1915. Manager — Charles Webster, Sec. Treas. — C. W. Crosby.

This team was successful in winning the American A Bell Cup in August, 1915, and its players were:

Hugh McLeod, Percy Blakeman, Bert North, W. Murphy, Len Simpson, Morris, C. Happa, F. Crosby, Monty Montgomery, Mannis.

After a couple of years the boys started to leave for jobs elsewhere, some joined the Army and the team was dispersed.

Len Simpson was about the only one that carried on playing ball, playing at times for Virden, Maryfield and others.

### Baseball 1920's-30's

Baseball was very popular in the 1920's when every village and district seemed to have a team. Some of the players were:

Harold Lidster, Roy Millar, Harold Mooney, Reg Kersey, Mux Rogers, Jim Pearce, Greg Sinclair, Roy Sinclair, Earl Snyder, Seward Lund, Earl Lund. Seward also played with Virden.



Elkhorn Baseball Team 1915, winners of the American-Abell Cup. Back C. G. Webster — president. L-R Centre row: H. McLeod, P. Blakeman, B. North, W. Murphy (manager), L. Simpson. Front row: Morris, C. Happa (pitcher), F. Crosby (utility), Montgomery, Mannis (catcher).

### 1930's

Our League composed — Miniota, Montgomery, Hargrave, Two Creeks and Elkhorn.

The following played in that League: Earl Lund, Walt Lund, Ollie Jordan, Goldie Dixon, Bernard Duxbury, Oscar Duxbury, Ken Lidster, Jim Lasek, Gordon Pascoe, Mac Snyder, Morris Snyder, Doug Clark, McKinnon, Bud Card, Shorty Ashton, Gordon Gilroy, Ab Mallet, Bill Fotheringham.

As the war was on, that was the end of baseball till 1963 and 1964 when Elkhorn produced another winning team under the management of Earl Lund.

### Softball in the 1930's

Following are some of the names of those who took part in tournaments around the area, and also played in local league, which consisted of four commercial teams — one school team and one Mossigil area team.

C.P.R. fielded a team as did the local Creamery and there were two business mainstreet teams.

Some names were: Walt Lund, Ab Mallet, Freeman Lucking, Ahab Spence, Earl Lund, Jim Lasek, Bernard Duxbury, Oscar Duxbury, Ken Lidster, Jack Norris, Casey Pearsall, Doug Clark, Shorty Ashton, Bill Lee, Gordon Gilroy, Bud Card, Charlie Hickling, McKinnon, Bill Fotheringham, Les Vance, Morris Snyder, Mac Snyder, Chas. Shepherd Jr.

A team picked from these players played in local tournaments and in either 1933 or 1934 they won seven tournaments. They were called "All Stars".

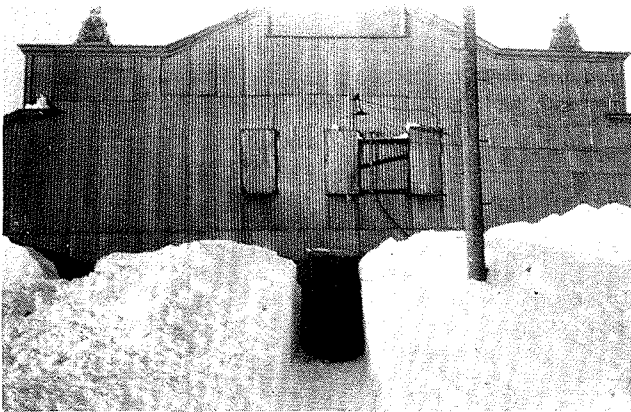
### Skating

I believe skating was one of the most enjoyable pastimes. Around that time Elkhorn had a town band, and the nights the band played at the rink, the ice was jammed with about 150 people, as many a family all skated. Elkhorn was considered to have some of the best skaters around. Some were there on

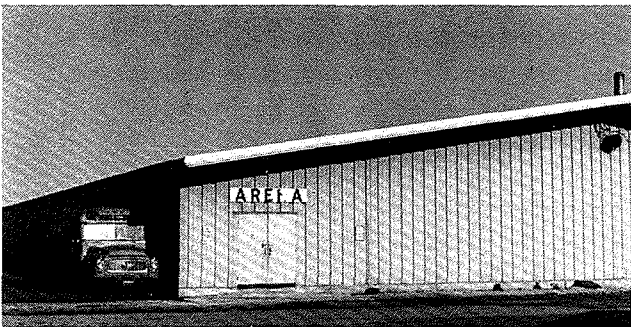




Ice Review in old rink. L-R: Chris Gorrie, Graham Barnes, Jean Simpson, Pat Russell, Valerie Shoemaker, Joy Johnson, Faye Poston, Gaye Poston, Joy McClure, Dorothy Thompson.



Old Rink in winter.



Elkhorn & District Community Centre — skating rink.

bob skates, spring skates, figure skates and racer skates. Skating took place every night except Thursday which was hockey practise night.

Hockey team pictures from 1912 to around 1923 were all seven men hockey. The team of 1912 played most of their games in the old frame rink before the 1914 rink was built. It was small and dark, and two thirty-minute periods were played with one spare. In the past Elkhorn has had seven rinks including two open air ones.

## Billiards

In 1899 W. J. Dixon promoted a billiard tournament in his poolroom. There was considerable interest taken in the tournament.

People in contention for the gold watch which Mr. Dixon donated were: J. H. Cavanagh, John McLeod, E. Talbot, George Gordon, and at this time all had equal scores. There is no record of who won the tournament.

### 1920-30-40

Real Sharp Billiard Players: Brown Fielding, Chas. Chown, Geo. (Pin) Lambert, Jack Loewen, Jack Boyce.

Pool players plus above billiard players: Jack Murray Sr., Alex Rozak, Jim Fielding, Wilf Chown, Lloyd Chown, Laddie McDougal, Ed Wellwood, Earl Snyder, Seward Lund, Earl Lund, George Lund, Bernard Fielding.

Lots of games were one dollar on the black ball.

These were the days of slot machines and punch boards in the pool room. If one was lucky one could win a large box of chocolates or dozens of chocolate bars.

Lots of Pea Pool played in these years. We didn't have much money but had lots of fun.

## Rifle Club Association 1899

Elkhorn's rifle club was formed in 1899 and, competing in their first match were Mossgiel, Elkhorn and Burnbank.

Burnbank Shooters		Mossgiel Shooters	
Fred Cole	96 3rd	J. Pope	101 1st
J. Allison	69	A. Frazer	110
George Cole	93	Joe Neilly	99
M. Proctor	83	W. Sproule	99
Charlie Balmer	<u>65</u>	Ed Botterill	<u>128</u>
Total	406	Total	537
Elkhorn Shooters			
J. Williamson	80		
Dr. Goodwin	103		
R. Coulson	85 2nd		
Tom Middleton	85		
George Loughheed	<u>73</u>		
Total	426		

These rifle shoots continued through the years. Fleming held their first rifle shoot in Elkhorn in 1901. Towns taking in the Fleming shoot were Fairfield, Mossgiel and Elkhorn.

In 1900 Burnbank held a rifle shoot, June 15th, and districts participating were Burnbank, score of 403, Mossgiel 402, Elkhorn 278. These shoots continued to be held every two weeks.

## Horse Racing

Horse racing was a popular sport in Elkhorn in the early 1900's. A sports day with horse racing was

held on June 27, 1901. There was a "Three Minute Trot," the winners as follows.

1st W. J. Dixon — with a horse called "Minnie Rooker"

2nd Chas. Balmer with "Frank."

3rd George Cole with "Forrest."

**Pony Race** — fourteen hands and under

1st George McLeod — with "Dandy"

2nd Alex Rays — with "Ranley B"

3rd H. Cusacks — with "Queen Annie"

**Green Trot**

1st M. W. McKim — with "Billy Stanton"

2nd R. Heighs — with "Topsy"

3rd John Rays — with "Black Beth"

**Green Run**

1st Alex Rays — with "Sauerkraut"

2nd James Cusacks — with "Flying Birdie"

3rd H. Cusacks — with "Queen Annie"

In 1908 there were several owners of race horses.

Some who come to mind are:

1. Chris Trumbell with "Barney".

2. Tom Dixon with "Goldeye."

3. Chris Smith with "Teddie."

4. Bill Sproule with "Dixie Girl."

"Dixie Girl" was purchased by Bill Sproule in the Miniota or Beulah district and was well known in the horse racing circuit. She later had a colt named "Dixie Boy" and he turned out to be a winner also.

Others who owned race horses were:

A. McNabb Fraser

J. Groat

W. Leslie and possibly Hugh McIntosh and R. De W. Waller. There could be others, but at present these are the ones who come to mind.

There were other horses that ran in the "Farmers Trot". Owner of some of these horses was Ike Holland.

## Elkhorn Golf Club

In the early twenties it was decided we would have a Golf course, and after much planning and hard work a course was laid out with nine holes and greens and a Club House which doubled as tourist camp and was situated on the Agricultural grounds. This served Elkhorn and District for many years before the present course was built in the sixties.

Some of the early players' names were. Dr. Johnston, Web Clark, John Mooney, Bill Cruickshank, Frank Walker, Norman Cryderman, Alf Vodden, Jack Loewen, George Lambert, J. M. McCorkindale, Earl Snyder, J. Irving, Bill Millar, Dr. Hennen, George Burge, Jack White, Bill Anderson, Alf Watson, R. H. Brotherhood. Some early lady golfers were Mrs. Brotherhood, Miss Addie Travis and Miss Campbell (worked in bank).

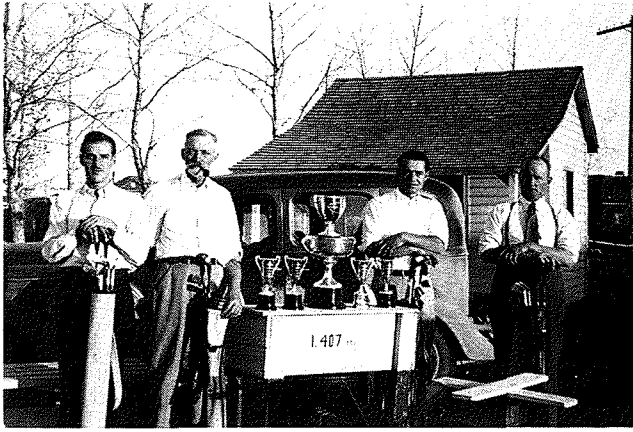
Fees were: Men — five dollars per year. Ladies and Juniors three dollars — green fees twenty-five cents or fifty cents for eighteen holes. Caretaker received thirty cents per hour. Most golfers had a caddy and caddy fees for nine holes was ten cents.

On a dare Mrs. Brotherhood milked one of Bill Cruickshank's Ayrshire cows that strayed on the course at the second hole. Some of the golfers in the 1930's were Doug Clark, Bud Card, Charlie Hickling, Johnnie Read (all four worked in Bank) Lloyd Sinclair (Beaver Lumber), Sid Dunbar (Mgr. Bank), Bill Lee, Ed Wellwood, Casey Pearsall, Bill Amos, Jack Norris, Oscar Duxbury, Lyle Dodge, Bernard Duxbury, Adrian McDonald, McKinnin, Freeman Lucking, Ab Mallett, Olie Jordon.

In 1934 — Dr. Johnston, Bud Card, Bill Lee, Alf Watson won the **Free Press Trophy** in Winnipeg for all Manitoba Golfers. Some Lady Golf players in the thirties were: Grace Pascoe, Lily Jordan, Jean Lund. In 1939, Grace Pascoe made a hole-in-one on the third hole while playing the Clear Lake Golf Course. In 1963, land south of the tracks was leased from the Town council for the purpose of a new nine hole golf



R. H. Brotherhood having a game of golf.



1934 Golf winners of the Free Press Competition. L-R: B. Card, A. Watson, W. Lee, Dr. Johnston.



Elkhorn Golf Club members 1966.



Elkhorn Golf Club.

course. By June, 1964, the course was near completion and play resumed shortly after. The first tournament held on the new course in September, 1965, attracted 58 entries.

In 1966, a club house was obtained and a huge plateglass window was donated by the Pidluberg family. Later that summer the Pidluberg handicap tournament was held amongst the club members. Wayne Turner became the first to win the Pidluberg Trophy donated in memory of Mr. Nick Pidluberg. The following members have been winners of the Pidluberg trophy.

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1967 — Doug Manwaring | 1974 — Larry Clarke   |
| 1968 — Larry Clarke   | 1975 — Larry Clarke   |
| 1969 — Paul Campbell  | 1976 — Garth Mitchell |
| 1970 — Doug Manwaring | 1977 — Dale O'Greysik |
| 1971 — Tom Stenhouse  | 1978 — Bill Mulligan  |
| 1972 — Bill Bartley   | 1979 — Bill Bartley   |
| 1973 — Doug Manwaring | 1980 — Gary Bowles    |
|                       | 1981 — Gary Bowles    |

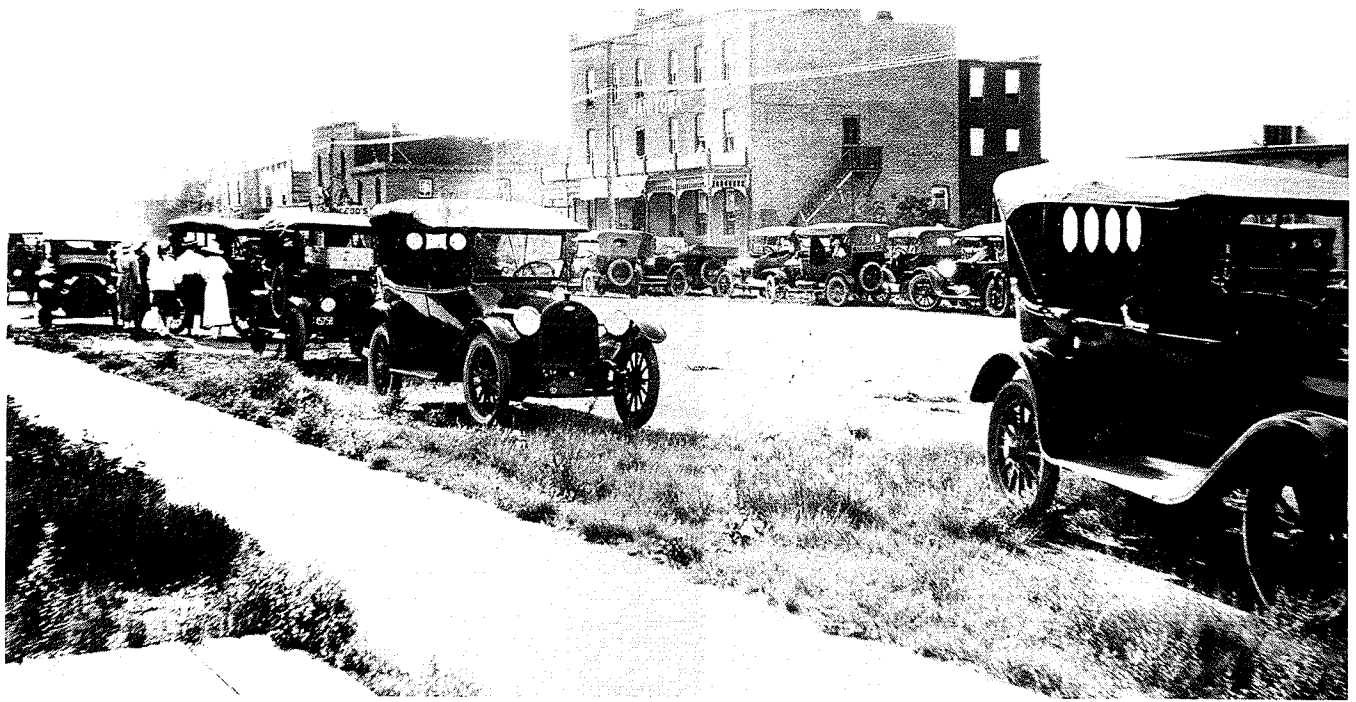
In 1971 the Club organized Wednesday night golfing for men, to get the club more active and to attract more members. In 1977 the ladies began golfing regularly on Tuesday nights. In 1976 the club purchased its present club house and in 1980 modern washrooms and kitchen facilities were installed. These were realized with the help of Government grants and a great deal of volunteer work from the Club Members.



Elkhorn Park in 1959.



Ike with some of his winter's fur catch, 1945.



Elkhorn Sports Day in early days.



Earl Mitchell, Earle Fraser, Lloyd McLeod, Waldo Phillips, Charlie Will.



Bridge Players in 1949 including Eva Crosby, E. George, Mrs. B. Williams, E. Black, Mrs. Bergstrom, A. Loewen, E. McCorkindale, Addie Travis, Florrie Gibbs, Blanche Snyder, Marge Shepard.



After a good duck shoot. L-R: Alf Vodden, Fred Norris, Herb Lund, Bob Frazer.



Camping at Treherne 1926. L-R back row: Elsie Simpson, Millie and Laurie Johnson. Front row: Phillis, Bruce, Bob and Lawrence Johnson, Frank Simpson.



Billy Kay and Orval Lund coyotte hunting.

## Elkhorn Saturday Night in Summer in 1940's

Saturday night was a social night for all ages — from the tiny tots to the retired. The pre-schoolers clung closely to their mothers or fathers. Then comes the energetic elementary school children who just enjoyed themselves running up and down the streets. Part way through the night, they slowed down to watch a movie or have their first dance.

The next group to activate the night were the upper teens and the twenty year olds which included lovers and roughnecks. There wasn't too much rowdiness as most were out for a night of enjoyment after a week of work. They enjoyed the start at dating or continued dating.

Seriousness has to come sometime so it comes out with the next group which covers from about twenty-one years to sixty-five years of age. If they were married they were real serious and discussed their problems with others of that age group. This would be discussed on the street, or over a beer or coffee. You would never hear anyone complaining about standing while talking all night. Those in their twenties that hadn't married would find their pleasure at a movie, dance or down lovers' lane.

The last and most tolerant group were the retired who were happy to say hello to anyone. If they were fortunate, they were parked in front of the Chinese Cafe. It was, without a doubt, that everyone passed that point sometime during the night. Many hellos were shouted out from the cars as sitting was most enjoyable.

Most conversations were of a friendly nature and was a way of gaining information and exchanging ideas. If there were any "hot" discussions it may have been someone raving at a councillor for not improving his road.

As one of the townspeople, I could easily agree that it was basically a big night for the rural people. But many residents of the town came out to visit with some of their rural relatives and friends. It was not only a social night but a night to purchase groceries,

machine parts and other farm supplies. It was also a business night — mail picked up, bills paid and new deals discussed. All this activity was packed into one night and for good reasons.

To me, it was a great night while I worked in a grocery store or while I was free to run about. It felt exhilarating to be a part of it.

submitted by Stan Sokalski

## Theatres

The first theatre (hall) in Elkhorn was Broadley's in 1891. It was situated where the Elk's Hall now stands, and faced the Canadian Pacific Railway. It was destroyed by fire in 1902. The next theatre was McLeod's hall in 1905 situated over McLeod's Store.

Mr. Jenkins, a travelling picture show man held pictures in McLeod's hall every week, for a number of years. Shows such as Gene Autrey, Tom Mix, and Charlie Chaplin, were all silent pictures, and the admission I believe was fifteen and twenty-five cents.

Mrs. Thompson later had a Delco electric system installed which was operated by Jack Tivey. Wally Koster also operated the picture shows in Thompson's hall. Travelling troupes who entertained were "Uncle Tom's Cabin" and the "Swiss Bell Ringers".

In 1919 McPherson and Sutton operated a theatre in the building now owned by Bill Bartley. It was called the Savoy Theatre. Some of the people who supplied the music in the earlier days were — John Paull, Laddie McDougall, Bill Paull, Nora Harry (Stone), Ted Jenner, Siggie Johnson, Bill Goethe, Frazer McPherson, Tom Siple, Jimmie Taylor, Chap Naylen, Ben Poston, Tina Paull, Bud Hofstein, George Harry, R. E. Coulson, Eva McDougall (Grimshaw).

W. M. Cushing also had a hall in which meetings and smaller gatherings were held. McPherson's installed a Delco-electric system and they held picture shows, dances and entertainment of all kinds in the theatre.

There will be a follow up by other reporters of later years.

## The Musical Eckhardts

In 1919, a travelling troupe known as "The Musical Eckhardt's" entertained in McLeod's Hall. Playing The DeBuhl Trio, a family of clever juveniles including Peggy DeBuhl, the child comedienne. There were singers, dancers, and instrumentalists. In 1920, "The Eckhardts Versatiles" at the Savoy theatre, presented "On the Beach at Brighton" concluding with an oriental musical comedy, "Hindustan". There were dancers in brilliant costumes. It was called "The Show with the Pep".

In 1922, after an absence of two years, "The Musical Eckhardts" returned to Elkhorn. This time they featured "The Swiss Bell Ringers". For a quarter of a century this Canadian family was before the public and in that time played before almost every town and village in Canada and the Northern United States. T. Eckhardt, daddy of them all, although an old man, continued to take his part in the program. During the tour, some new performers from Eastern Canada were added to the troupe.

Admission was: adults .75, children .25  
A jazz dance followed.



Mrs. Peloquin's Operetta 1937. Back row: Margaret Goethe, Alice Peloquin, Frances Lasek, Kay Drake, Dorothy Goethe, Jean Rozak, Cassie Walker, Audry Casson. Centre row: May Hartley, Rae Kelly, Millicent Dunbar, Elsie Walker. Front row: Muriel Webster, Mary Norris, Rita Boyce, Kay Norris, Clarabelle Goethe.



Miss Grantham and Miss Muldoon — 1919.



Mrs. Peloquin's and Mrs. Duxbury's singing class with Rev. Syms, Mrs. Kelly and Mrs. Povey assisting.



Roberts Vaudeville Co.

### The Chautauqua

The Chautauqua was an excellent troupe of entertainers, who travelled around Canada putting on concerts, approximately in the early '20's.

They had a huge canvas tent. When in Elkhorn it was pitched about where Earl Boomhower's property is, and North, on some level ground.

It was sponsored by men of the town and district. Seating accommodation was planks supplied by the local lumber yard. It came to Elkhorn towards the end of June, for about three or four days, afternoon and evening entertainment provided. They also had their own means of travel and feeding themselves while here.

### The Woodville Band

In this lively community they found out they had some real good talent so in 1908 Uncle Bill Goethe, as everyone knew him, was on the lookout for this. He gathered the men together and soon they were good enough and Uncle Bill formed a band. He was the band master and they called it Woodville Band. Before coming here he had formed a small band at Jerseyville, Ill., U.S.A.

To get funds, a box social was held in Uncle Bill's barn. This way they were able to purchase instruments and music, but most of the members bought their own instruments and uniforms. When they were well established they had a really nice photo taken.

This band was the only entirely country band for miles around and perhaps the only one in Canada at this time. They played far and near at fairs, garden parties etc. Woodville was really proud of Bandmas-



Woodville Band 1908-1914. L-R Back row: Wm. Goethe Sr., Ben Poston, Wm. Goethe Jr., Frank Fitzsimmons, Mr. Small, George Fielding. Centre row: Edward Etsell, Richard Coulson, Lorne Poston, Fred Goethe, John Paull. Front row: Wm. Paul, Wm. Lawrence, James McIndoo.

ter Uncle Bill Goethe and his members as mentioned here: Lorne Poston, Ben Poston, Bill Paull, John Paull, Alfred Webb, Billy Atkins, Frank Fitzsimmons, Guy Longman, Roy Longman, Orval Grant, Dick Coulson, Jim McIndoe, Bill Goethe, Fred Goethe, George Fielding, Bill Kay, Jim Taylor, and Alfred (Brownie) Ellis.

This band stayed together until around 1914 and as farming began to spread out, some members moved further afield. Some later joined the Elkhorn Band. Many happy memories still linger of the old times, as many of them are still in the district or not too far away. But it is amazing as we stop to look

back. One cannot help but feel proud of these people who amid their hardships found time to practice and play for amusement of themselves and many others.

Here is one for the boys in the band:

It was at an annual summer concert where a little country band was invited to play. They had just finished an extremely loud, but harmonious number and had relaxed enjoying the applause of the enthusiastic audience. "What's the next number?" asked the red-faced trombonist of the leader. The leader looked at his program and replied "Washington Post March." "Cracky!" exclaimed the musician, "I just got through playin' that!"

Taken from The Woodville Story Woodville Book



Elkhorn Revellers 1937. L-R: Eva McDougal, Ted Stone, George Harry, Sig Johnson, Laddie McDougal.



Elkhorn Ramblers — 1940. L-R: Norman Mitchell, Bill Mitchell, Mac Coulson, Margaret McCullum, Cecil Weldon, Mervin Mitchell.



# Clubs and Lodges

## The Women's Institute

The Women's Institute (W.I.) was first formed in Canada in 1897 at Stoney Creek, Ontario by Adelaide Hoodless. First record of the Manitoba W.I. was 1910. The W.I. motto is "For Home and Country" and they are nationally affiliated with the Federated Women's Institute of Canada (F.W.I.C.) and internationally with Associated Country Women of the World (A.C.W.W.).



W.I. 1955. L-R: Mrs. Laurie Johnson, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. George, Mrs. Ogilive, Mrs. Wilcox, Mrs. Franklin, Anne Armstrong, Mrs. Bartley, Mrs. Brennand, Mrs. Pascoe.

The province is divided into six regions with Elkhorn being in Southwest A. There are annual Regional conventions with a provincial convention being held in either Brandon or Winnipeg.

W.I. is an educational organization open to all women over 18 and the only Canadian organization active world-wide. In Elkhorn, W.I. was first formed as a Home-Economics Society as early as 1911, renamed the Hospital Auxiliary and finally Women's Institute in 1922.

The group sponsored and maintained a local library from 1923-51 when it became part of a regional

library district. Members raised the monstrous sum of \$1,000 in 1934 to fence the local cemetery and provide stone gateposts. This project was renewed in 1967 when the fence was extended and repainted. The ladies also rented and operated a building as a restroom for visitors beginning in 1939. The original building was the old jail, I believe, and the present day restroom now serves as meeting room for the Kiln Club.

In the '70's the need for a new paddling pool arose and some members circulated a petition order that the town begin construction in 1973. In 1981 that pool was replaced by a more sophisticated paddling pool of similar size.

The W.I. was active in the work of the community, providing fair prizes for school work, sponsoring an annual tea for grandmothers and senior citizens, having a table at the annual Fun Fair fund raising for Hospital Aid. W.I. sent cards to those in hospital, donated to local projects of the time, as well as supporting Red Cross and Health related associations and W.I. projects such as Pennies for Friendship for work overseas.

The Elkhorn W.I. became dormant in 1979 due to a declining membership. Two interested members joined at Manson and the only surviving life member, Mrs. Margaret Hartley of the Sherwood, in Virden, belongs to Two Creeks W.I.

## The United Church Women

The first available records of a ladies' group at Elkhorn were for 1907. The society was called the Methodist Ladies Aid, and their objective was to aid the Church in its social and spiritual work. Dues of five cents a week were collected. The officers at that time were: Mrs. J. Webster, President; Mrs. W. Miller, Vice-President; Mrs. H. Townsend, Secretary; Mrs. Blackwell, Assistant Secretary and Mrs. Gilbert, Treasurer.

Following the union of the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches in 1925, the group became known as the Ladies Aid Society of the United Church.

Their main objective was to raise money for church work, such as visiting, especially the sick and strangers, and any other services that were in the interest of the church. Membership fees were fifteen cents per month. The officers were: Mrs. McIntosh Jr., President; Mrs. Mooney, first Vice-President; Mrs. Earle, second Vice-President; Mrs. Crosby, Secretary and Mrs. H. Johnson, Treasurer.

The name changed to Women's Association of Elkhorn United Church in 1940 with officers: Mrs. Gilbert, President; Mrs. I. Franklin, Secretary; Mrs. Vasey, Treasurer. The constitution was apparently the same.

The Women's Association and the Women's Missionary Society were amalgamated under the name The United Church Women in 1962. The purpose of this group is to unite all women of the Congregation for the total mission of the Church and to promote a medium through which they may express their loyalty and devotion to Jesus Christ in Christian Witness, Study, Fellowship and Service. Officers elected at the U.C.W. inaugural meeting on January 15, 1962 were: Mrs. E. Stinson, President; Mrs. G. Bartley, first Vice-President; Mrs. L. B. Johnson, second Vice-President; Mrs. Wm. Allison, Secretary and Mrs. I. Franklin, Treasurer.

Over the years, funds to carry on the work have been raised by various means: Thank offering meetings, teas, bazaars and bake sales, the fair booth, our monthly offering and numerous small fund raising projects.

Since its inception, the U.C.W. has been involved in supporting many phases of Church work. Each year an allocation is sent to the Mission and Service Fund. Until very recently, a supply parcel was sent yearly to a northern point. Now, in place of this, each U.C.W. is to choose a project they wish to support. Merry Manor was the recipient of last year's donation.

The group has, over the years, given donations to various church-oriented organizations such as Gimli Fresh Air Camp, the Prairie Christian Training Centre at Fort Qu'Appelle, Sask., the Bible Society, the Centennial Radio Telephone Project, Youth Caravan and Camp Wasaga.

Visiting of newcomers and shut-ins is an important part of the U.C.W. work. The sick and bereaved are remembered with cards and visits.

The U.C.W. endeavours to assist the local board financially, and as well to promote Christian growth and fellowship. The present executive is: Mrs. H. Drake, President; Mrs. Black, Vice-President; Mrs. R. Carradice, Secretary and Mrs. Wm. Allison, Treasurer.

The following is a list of U.C.W. members during the years 1962-1981:

Mrs. G. Bartley	Mrs. I. Franklin
Mrs. E. Stinson	Mrs. D. L. Hartley
Mrs. W. L. Johnson	Mrs. Wm. Black
Mrs. L. B. Johnson	Mrs. Wm. Allison
Mrs. A. Collins	Mrs. G. Ogilvie
Mrs. G. Cole	Mrs. R. Coulson
Mrs. J. Murray	Mrs. R. Carradice
Mrs. C. Rodgers	Mrs. J. Watson
Mrs. J. Scott	Mrs. A. Hutchison
Mrs. Wm. Anderson	Mrs. G. Taylor
Mrs. E. Greaves	Mrs. J. Towler
Mrs. A. Cox	Mrs. Wm. Robertson
Mrs. J. Wardman	Mrs. Wm. Milroy
Mrs. C. Fordyce	Mrs. A. Campbell
Mrs. J. Davidson	Mrs. E. Halls
Mrs. L. Smith	Mrs. J. Gardner
Mrs. G. Lund	Miss Ann Campbell
Mrs. G. Overand	Mrs. P. Campbell
Mrs. G. E. Lamb	Mrs. R. Rowan
Mrs. D. Smith	Mrs. H. Drake
Mrs. F. G. Blue	Mrs. A. Winters
Mrs. N. Johnston	Mrs. L. Baskerville

## C.G.I.T.



CGIT under Helen Reid 1958. L-R: Faye Poston, Joan Shurvell, Margie Maw, Lorraine Stenhouse, Lois Clarke, Dorothy Thompson, Kaylynn Clarke, Linda Rowan, Joy McClure, Gaye Poston.



CGIT Girls 1937. L-R Back row: Ev Gilbert, Alice Davies, Kay Lucking, Helen Middleton, Gertrude Fraser, Mrs. Earle Dixon, Winnie Turner. Front row: Elizabeth Crosby, Margaret Wickham, Pearl Stinson, Irene Dixon, Helen Webster.

## **Kirkella Chapter, I.O.D.E. No. 666**

It was the call of Arms of our Empire, that roused the women of our district to the need of some organized society, in order that our efforts to help in the First World War would be of the greatest benefit.

Early in December of 1915, Mrs. Colin Campbell, Manitoba Provincial President of the Imperial Daughters of the Empire made a visit to Kirkella, and gave a talk on the work of I.O.D.E. This stirred enough interest to form a chapter. March 13th, 1917, Mrs. R. H. Brotherhood of Elkhorn, Manitoba, a Provincial Councillor of Manitoba Provincial Chapter I.O.D.E. arranged an organizational meeting. This was held at Mrs. T. A. Noble's home, Kirkella. Fourteen ladies became members.

Regent — Miss Jean Jaffray; First Vice-Pres. — Mrs. T. A. Noble; Second Vice-Pres. — Mrs. J. W. Clarke; Secretary — Mrs. H. Leckie; Treasurer — Miss E. J. Halliday; Standard Bearer — Miss M. A. Ruddick.

Other members — Mrs. J. Lemon, Mrs. W. Jordan, Mrs. J. Cooledge, Mrs. Donaldson, Mrs. W. King, Mrs. A. Botterill, Mrs. H. Bowering, Mrs. G. Collins, Mrs. E. McGinnes, Mrs. Weker, Mrs. R. Pearson, Miss Fry, Miss S. Moss, Mrs. G. Owens.

Our motto was "We will do our Best." The chapter worked hard knitting, packing parcels, and raising funds to help the boys overseas.

July 26, 1917, Kirkella Chapter I.O.D.E. held a picnic and dance and realized \$100. During the First and Second World Wars, scrap was collected, realizing \$790.

1918, I.O.D.E. held a dance on Empire Day and raffled a crocheted article, made by Mrs. King realizing \$100.

1919 — Had a dance, raffled a tea set, also 72 garments were made and sent to Manitoba for Relief of France.

Donations were made to: Surgical supplies — \$100; French Emergency Fund — \$100; Returned Soldiers' Assoc. — \$25; Belgium Orphans — \$25.

The Chapter held a picnic every year at the end of the school term. In 1923, it was held at the home of Mrs. G. Owens. Educational work was a great interest to the Chapter, prizes were given each year to Mossiel and Kirkella Schools, until their closure.

Funds were always needed. First venture was a whist drive and sale of homemade candy, which was a huge success. Also picnics, garden parties, fowl suppers, whist drives, bean suppers, peanut drives, pancake suppers, bazaars, dances, lunch sold at sales and Calf Club Fairs, home cooking sales, teas, raffles, autographed quilt and rummage sales were fund raising projects.

Donations were given to the cemetery, rest room,

and Elkhorn Hospital. Calendars were placed in public places. Our Chapter was given highest praise for calendar sales. Donations were made to our provincial and national projects.

The Chapter purchased a piano in 1925, placed it in the L.O.L. Hall, and it is still there. The gavel used at meetings, presented to the Chapter by Mrs. R. S. Burns in 1934, still is in use.

On the 7th Anniversary, the husbands presented the ladies with a silver bon-bon dish used to collect the silver tea money at meetings.

The Chapter took part in citizenship programs. At one such service the Madsens and Szoradi's were welcomed as new citizens at a coffee party at C.K.M. Service Station.

The Orangemen presented the Chapter with the Union Jack at their second meeting.

Due to declining membership the Chapter was unable to carry on. The last remaining members were — Mrs. H. Goethe, Mrs. J. Higgins, Mrs. F. Persson, Mrs. M. Edgar and Mrs. D. MacFarlane.

List of members during the years 1917-1976:

Mrs. J. Cooledge, Mrs. T. Cooledge, Mrs. Wm. Jaffray, Miss Lizzie Will, Miss Georgina Leslie, Mrs. Mary Brown, Mrs. Geo. McMaster, Mrs. Ed Fraser, Mrs. W. Botterill, Miss M. Fraser, Mrs. Gledhill, Rose B. Roberts, Agnes Will, Mrs. W. Angus, Mrs. S. A. Povey, Mrs. A. Willson, Mrs. E. McGimpsey, Miss W. Botterill, Mrs. P. Asselstine, Mrs. C. Oliver, Mrs. E. Hayward, Mrs. F. Flynn, Mrs. L. Rowan, Mrs. C. Daum, Mrs. Jean Gardiner, Mrs. Plum, Miss M. E. McGilvray, Mrs. H. Johnson, Mrs. E. B. Knowles, Mrs. J. Moore, Miss Warda Duxbury, Mrs. R. S. Burns, Mrs. P. Dean, Miss Lorine McDonald, Mrs. T. Will, Mrs. Cecil Freeman, Mrs. Earle Fraser, Miss Mary Gardiner, Mrs. Wm. Goethe (1928), Mrs. T. O'Greysik, Mrs. Jean Watson, Mrs. A. Ruddick, Mrs. Don Lemon, Mrs. B. Clarke, Mrs. A. Grant, Miss Frances Blair, Mrs. A. Canart, Mrs. V. Mulligan, Mrs. K. Corbett, Mrs. J. Canart, Mrs. H. Feader, Mrs. B. Poston, Mrs. H. Cooledge, M. C. Mountain, Miss Ruth Poston, Mrs. Blanche Lipsey, Mrs. Geo. McDonald, Mrs. Whitwell, Mrs. Geo. Freeman, Mrs. F. Lipsey, Mrs. A. Young, Mrs. Parker, Mrs. E. Fry, Mrs. B. Kirk, Mrs. C. Poston, Mrs. W. Mulligan, Mrs. J. Edgar, Mrs. R. Davis, Mrs. G. Heaman, Mrs. E. Towler, Mrs. B. Mitchell, Mrs. J. Bratton, Mrs. G. Wilson, Mrs. W. Oliver, Mrs. G. Edgar, Mrs. M. McAree, Mrs. D. Rowan.

## **Royal Canadian Legion Elkhorn Branch #58**

At the end of World War I, a group of veterans organized the First Local Branch, which was known

at that time as "The Great War Veterans of Canada". The Charter was approved March 4, 1920. John M. McCorkindale was the first president, Henry J. Burton was secretary. In 1926 the organization, was changed to the British Empire Service League. On September 1, 1927 a new charter, bearing the names J. M. McCorkindale, Hugh Connolly, L. M. Parsons, and M. McLean was approved. These men and many others kept the branch going. At the end of World War II with the return of the younger men, they got together and decided a hall was needed. Money was a problem so with a car raffle, numerous other fund raising projects, donations from local town and country residents plus a bank loan this was made possible. The hall was built 1946-47. With local carpenters and the Gardner Bros., who had a cinder-brick operation at the time, plus volunteer help, the hall was soon in use. Money was raised, with rentals, dances, ball tournaments, etc. and the mortgage was paid off. Owing to the loss of records it is impossible to name all we would like to. But First War veterans Fred Lipsey, George Pearson, Jack Loewen and others were responsible for the early efforts to get things going. In 1961 we were granted the title of Royal Canadian Legion. The hall is used extensively for weddings, meetings, socials and bingo. Many improvements have been made, when finances allowed. There have been many changes made as regards membership. Sons and daughters have inherited the right to become associate members, so that they can carry on the work and aims of the Legion, as their parents find themselves unable to be as active as time goes on.

Submitted by Cliff Mulligan

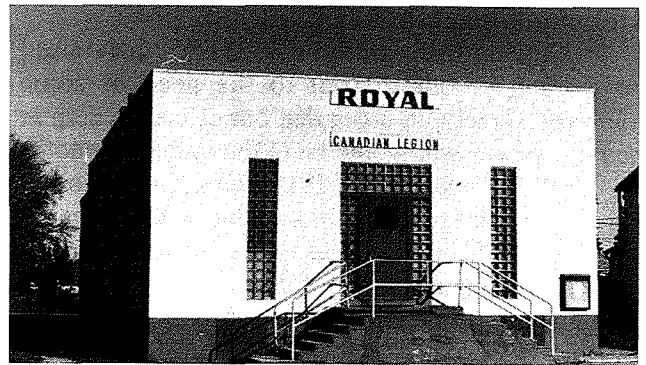
### **Ladies' Auxiliary to the Royal Canadian Legion #58**

Canada was at war in September, 1939 and a month later Elkhorn organized the Ladies' Auxiliary to the British Empire Service League (L.A. to B.E.S.L.). This was a service to the boys in uniform in Canada and overseas as well as an aid to any First World War Veteran and his family.

The Charter was given on December 12, 1939 with the following ladies as officers: Mesdames H. Middleton, president; Eva Hennan, vice-president; Povey, second vice-president; C. Lemon, secretary; Grimshaw, treasurer.

Other charter members were Mesdames J. Loewen, B. Lipsey, Minchin, M. A. Grant, E. Twigg, J. Will, M. Bates, M. Frazer, A. Lipsey and E. Roger.

The meetings were held in members' homes. During the war years they packed many boxes for the boys overseas which would include cigarettes, soap,



Elkhorn Royal Canadian Legion No. 58.

candy, gum, home knit socks and mitts. At Xmas time each parcel also contained a fruit cake baked and shipped in a well washed tobacco tin. Goods were rationed so everyone saved or scrounged coupons to purchase sugar and supplies. These parcels were shipped in time for Christmas as well as at least one other occasion during the year and were eagerly awaited by the military.

The Legion Hall was built in 1947, situated on Richill Avenue and for a few summers held regular Saturday night dances. The building was constructed by Gardner Bros., local boys who had served overseas. We could then meet in the club rooms in the basement which contained a kitchen. At first we had a wood range and a Coleman stove and after a great deal of catering we purchased a second hand electric stove. At this time all the catering was held upstairs and hot food reached the guests by the help of a "dumb-waiter", quite aptly held in the stadium which the ladies rented. Also catering was held at the farm home of Mrs. Jessie Robertson when the ladies catered to the Dog Trials meals and lunches (the Dog Trials are another article in the book). In 1942 the price was 40¢ per plate.

At first we had to borrow planks from the local Beaver Lumber to be placed on trestles for tables and to be placed between chairs to stretch our seating capacity. Yes, catering was hard with no conveniences.

With the help and labour of our Legion men the basement was plastered and painted, linoleum laid and catering could be held downstairs for about seventy people. More progress, a kitchen was installed upstairs and catering became much easier. The hall is often rented by other organizations and money is also raised from socials, bingos and card parties.

In 1961 the B.E.S.L. became the Royal Canadian Legion. Today our roll call is approximately thirty. Every year the auxiliary conduct the Poppy Day campaign, Salvation Army Canvass, and attend Remembrance and Decoration Day services under the auspices of the Local Branch #58. We also attend a

yearly rally with other auxiliaries. In 1981 we hosted the auxiliary Golf Tournament. Auxiliary members' daughters are honored with a shower or suitable gift at the time of their marriage as were the war brides upon their arrival in Elkhorn. We also present a gift to the veterans' sons upon their marriage.

I think the following picture best depicts the purpose of the organization during the war years. Here the ladies have packed parcels for overseas. They had to be packed and prepared well in advance to stand the long journey to a foreign land.

Today our hall is fully modern with sets of dishes, an electric range and fridge in each kitchen, two deep freezers, two oil furnaces, flush toilets, fully carpeted and panelled basement and tiled dance floor in upper hall, stacking chairs and several folding banquet tables, a real tribute to our elderly or departed members.

Left to right — Mrs. C. Mitchell, Mrs. Loewen, Mrs. Hennan, Mrs. Allan McLure, Mrs. Duke.

Holding parcel — Mrs. G. Turner, behind parcels — Mrs. Kirk, Mrs. Davidson, Mrs. Eva. Crosby.

Holding parcels — Mrs. H. Middleton, Mrs. P. Ehrick, Mrs. H. Milroy, Mrs. Myrtle McIntosh and Mrs. Bergstrom. To the extreme right is Mrs. Twigg. Refer to Lest We Forget.

### **Daffodil Rebekah Lodge No. 64**

The Charter of Daffodil Rebekah Lodge No. 64 I.O.O.F. Elkhorn was instituted Feb., 1921. There were 22 chartered members. The first Noble Grand was Eva Hunter.

In 1967, McAuley Lodge joined us, as they were having a hard time to make things go. We were very glad to have them, as they helped out a lot. Agnes Bickerton was the Noble Grand. Later on in the '70s things seemed to change. The Daffodil was falling down in attendance and membership, and the girls from McAuley were having difficulty getting in. We were getting older. What we wanted were some new young members, which we were not getting.

In December, 1977 Daffodil Lodge was closed after 57 years in Elkhorn. The charter and regalia were returned to Rebekah Assembly, Winnipeg, Manitoba. Elsie McColl was the last Noble Grand.

The Lodge equipment was donated to institutions and organizations in Elkhorn, such as Elkview Lodge, the school, the Community Centre and the Library.

Donations of money were made to the Hospital Fun Fair, the Ability Fund, the Elkhorn Grade 12 trip to Europe, Elkhorn School Year Book, Polio "Betty Bannister" Winnipeg, Manitoba, Elkhorn Ambulance Service, United Church Choir (for gowns), the Rutherglen United Church, McAuley, and the Elkhorn and District Community Centre.

Many regrets were felt at having to close our Lodge, after being in operation for so many years. Some members took out withdrawal cards, others took transfer certificates to other Lodges.

The executive wind-up meeting was held at the home of Elsie McColl, P.N.G. in January, 1978.

The books and some of the gowns are in my care at the present. Any former member who would like a gown may have one.

submitted by Marg Mitchell, PNG

### **West Two Creeks Ladies' Group 1942**

This is the Annual Report of the first year of the Two Creeks Ladies' Aid Group — called the "War Workers Group", because World War II was on.

"Twelve ladies met at the home of Mrs. R. Cole on March 5, 1942 to organize. Mrs. R. Cole was elected President, and Dorothy Bennett secretary-treasurer. During the year seven meetings were held with an average attendance of nine. The collection for the year amounted to \$6.15. The year's activities included a dance, minstrel show, dance and apron sale, picnic and dance, and another dance and social evening. Total income for the year was \$69.28. Expenses \$63.44, leaving a balance of \$5.84.

Two quilts were made, one in the Maple Leaf design and one in the windmill pattern. These were donated to Elkhorn Red Cross. Three pairs of seaboot stockings, a sleeveless sweater, and a pair of gloves in airforce blue were knit for Red Cross by Dorothy Bennett and Wilena Locheed. The sum of \$25.03 was donated to the "Lord Mayor of London Relief Fund". It was decided to buy a piano for the school, going halves with the Trustees on the cost of it. One was purchased for \$60. Donations were called for to make up the Ladies' share of piano cost."

This group was very active, making quilts for Red Cross, different members donating wool batts. Broadcloth was twenty-five cents per yard at that time. They sold greeting cards and had a "Travelling Box" to bring in money. They made up food parcels to send to the boys overseas, taking turns to make fruit cakes, etc. By the letters received, the boys really appreciated these parcels.

Boys who served from our district were: Howard Dunn, Bill Andrew, John Black, Bob Black, Ernie Turner, Bill and George Zorn, Bill Allison, Tom Cole. Bill Andrew served in the first World War as well. He has passed on. Allan and James Black also served in World War I.

The Ladies' Group was changed to "West Two Creeks Community Club" and the school was renamed the Community Centre.

## West Two Creeks Community Centre 1980

President — Mrs. Grace Watson

Vice-President — Mrs. Jean Frederick

Sec.-Treasurer — Mrs. Margaret Allison

Our West Two Creeks Ladies' Group has seventeen members. Our members come from Elkhorn, Virden and Miniota, these being former residents of the district who enjoy coming back to join in the activities. The Community spirit is very much alive and we are able to keep things going, with an average attendance of twelve. All meetings are held at the Community Centre except the winter ones, which are held in different homes to save cost of heating.

1980 was a very busy year at the Community Centre as we applied for and received a Government Grant for \$667. This money was to be used for renovations to what was formerly the West Two Creeks school. The walls were panelled, new storm windows and door were purchased, the ceiling stippled. The work was done by the men of the district. The ladies scrubbed and painted woodwork, etc. More shelves were put up in the kitchen and everyone is enjoying the improvements. We held bake sales, teas, meat shoot, ticket selling on grocery hampers, bazaar when we sold tickets on a quilt, also a rummage sale to raise money to cover costs. When the project was completed, Mr. Morris McGregor, M.L.A. and Mr. Vern Lockhart, Reeve of Miniota Municipality, presented us with the government grant cheque at our annual picnic in June.

We were very proud to have bought a painting replica of the school and yard as it was back when the children were attending school. This was hung in the Community Centre in memory of Mrs. Agnes Dunn, by the Dunn family. Our main source of income during the year is our Tea and Bazaar held annually early in June. We held a shower for Brenda Watson and Kathy Cole during this year.

We all look forward to our annual Christmas supper with all the trimmings, when we entertain our husbands and families. This is the windup of our year's activities.

Our group is divided into the "North Group" and the "South Group", taking turn about to look after any activity that comes up during the year. We have a "Mystery Friend" and find out who she is at the Ladies' Xmas Party when we go out for supper and then gather at a member's place for cards and exchange of gifts.

The Ladies' Group was changed to West Two Creeks Community Club", and the school was re-named the Community Centre.

Presidents over the years.  
Mrs. R. Cole  
Mrs. S. Caldwell

Sec-Treas over the years.  
Dorothy Bennett  
Mrs. Norman Soder

Mrs. Irene Cole  
Mrs. Eva Black  
Mrs. Jean Frederick  
Mrs. Grace Watson

1981 Mrs. Pat Cole

Mrs. Edythe Cole  
Mrs. Joyce Soder  
Mrs. Doreen Watson  
Mrs. Dorothy Brown  
Mrs. Margaret Allison  
Mrs. Dorothy Brown

## The Woodville Women's Institute

The Woodville W.I. was formed in the Woodville district around 1947.

Mrs. Jessie McBean called a number of women in the district together and got the organization going.

We had a large membership to start with but as times changed and people moved out we were forced to close.

Here are our members as of then.

Mrs. J. McBean, Mrs. R. Coulson, Mrs. R. Taylor, Mrs. G. Taylor, Mrs. B. Paull, Mrs. Thelma Rowan, Mrs. Mae Rowan, Mrs. Nellie Rowan, Mrs. "Toots" E. Lund, Mrs. Lizzie Gustafson, Mrs. M. Nelson, Mrs. Ruth Longman, Mrs. Freda Longman, Mrs. Edna Adair, Mrs. Helen Goethe, Mrs. Mary Canart.

We held our meeting once a month on the first Thursday. In the winter time the men came along and gathered in the garage to play cards or sit around the old stove and talk. Our little ones entertained themselves.

We had many good meetings and had many good times together. We took in a lot of conventions and gained a lot from them, besides having a good feed because they sure put on a spread.

We held dances, Lea's Fashion Show, quiltings, pot luck suppers and many other things to raise funds for worthy causes.

We folded up around 1954, but many of us will still remember the good times we had and the many things we learned to do together for our homes and our community and our less fortunate.

## Kirkella L.O.B.A. No. 1166

On June 4, 1948, a group of sixteen ladies, headed by Post Grand Mistress Sister Muirhead, who had been a Right Worshipful Grand Mistress for three years, held an organizing meeting to try to start a Ladies' Orange Lodge in Kirkella. Again on June 21, the same ladies met. These meetings resulted in the institution of Lodge No. 1166 of the Ladies' Orange Benevolent Association at Kirkella. The instituting meeting was held on August 10, 1948 in the Kirkella Orange Hall with Right Worshipful Grand Mistress Sister James presiding. Mrs. Jessie B. McBean was installed as Worthy Mistress for the new lodge and the first degree was exemplified.



Kirkella L.O.B.A. 1962. L-R Front row: Ilene Asselstine, Alma Ruddick, Ida Toder, Suzannah Bartley, Margaret Clarke. Second row: Rose Weldon, Jennie Poston, Margaret Fraser, Kate Edgar, Agnes Lipsey, Jean Freeman. Third row: Mildred Potter, Phyllis Clarke, Emma Cheaters, Ida Mae Walker, Mary Rowan, Lois Clarke, Ina Persson. Back row: Jennie Wadham, Marg Ruddick, Amy Medwedew, Evelyn Poston, Kaylynn Clarke, Gaye Poston, Joan Edgar, Beatrice Wells.



Wilf Francis as King William, Orangeman's Parade — 1943.

After supper, which was provided by the Kirkella Ladies, Sister Smith of Brandon took the chair and the second degree was put on. All degree work was done by the members of two Brandon Lodges. Then the Post Grand Mistress, Sister Muirhead of Douglas, Manitoba, conducted the installation of officers which was as follows: Worthy Mistress — Jessie McBean; Deputy Mistress — Katie Edgar; Jr. Deputy Mistress — Jennie Poston; Chaplain — Ida Toder; Recording Secretary — Helen Taylor; Financial Secretary — Winnifred Jaffray; Treasurer — Ruth Simpson; Guardian — Clara Young; Director of Ceremonies — Agnes Lipsey; Lecturers — Alma

Ruddick and Margaret Fraser; Pianist — Susannah Bartley; Guards — Ina Persson and Ethel Fraser; Committees — Margaret Feader, Belle Kirk, and Elizabeth McDonald.

A few gifts and kind words were exchanged and the lodge was begun. Since that, meetings have been held in the Kirkella school house, the Orange hall, the Masonic hall in Elkhorn and at present in the lower hall of Trinity United Church in Elkhorn. The lodge remains active with members from Moosomin and Fleming, Sask.; Kirkella, Elkhorn and Kola attending regular meetings, donating to charitable appeals and hospital auxiliaries, participating with events in the local fair and donating an annual award for presentation to a selected student in our local school.

Four charter members are still with us, namely: Jennie Poston, Margaret Fraser, Agnes Lipsey and Ina Persson. Sister Ilene Asselstine is a Past Mistress of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Manitoba. Sisters Jennie Poston, Margaret Fraser and Agnes Lipsey are honorary members of Kirkella Lodge and also honorary members of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Manitoba.

### B.P.O. Elks

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Lodge #381 of Elkhorn was instituted in the fall of 1954. Charter members are:

J. S. Dryden, G. C. Andrews, H. Reeves, P. N. Balloid, S. Lasek, G. E. Bartley, A. McClure, E. K. Conquergood, K. A. Williams, B. J. Barnes, J. P.



Elks Hall.

Lawrence, A. Reid, J. W. Thompson, G. Canart, J. McFerran, B. Tutthill, J. Norris, Wm. Bartley, W. Pawolsky, W. Emmerson, W. O. Rudd, G. Effler, D. C. Russell, A. Maw, A. Thompson, S. McGibney, D. Nylin, E. Chown, J. Canart, T. Finney, C. R. Johnson, R. Heritage, R. Bannister.

The Lodge dissolved for a number of years, then was reinstated in 1959. As their name implies, they

do good wherever it is needed, regardless of race or creed. Work in the community has included: sponsoring minor sports, donating to many community causes, and buying the Elkhorn Stadium to preserve a community centre. The Elks continue to support the Purple Cross and Deaf Detection Fund.

Bro. J. Shackel was elected District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler for District #3 of Manitoba and is the Inner Guard for the Provincial Association. Bros. T. Middleton, L. Tutthill, and J. Shackel recently walked in the Manitoba Elk-a-Thon raising over \$500.00 for the Purple Cross and Deaf Detection Fund.

At present, the Elkhorn Elks have twenty-six members with Exalted Ruler A. Tutthill and Secretary-Treasurer J. Shackel.

submitted by Jim Shackel

### Elkhorn Order of the Royal Purple

The Elkhorn O.O.R.P. Lodge #228 was instituted March 24, 1959. This lodge is the auxiliary to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of Canada. Over the years, the Lodge has busied itself in the community with assistance in youth programs and kindness to senior citizens. Our national objective is the Elks' Purple Cross and Deaf Detection and Development Fund. This program provides assistance to any child in need, and hearing aids.

In April, 1979, we celebrated our Twentieth Anniversary. Many of the ladies of Brandon Lodge who had assisted with the institution of our Lodge were present. That evening, we also presented a silver tray to Edith and Ted Chapple from the two lodges in recognition of their donations of time and otherwise to the lodges and to the Elks' Stadium. Charter members still active in our Lodge include: Elaine



Royal Purple group, 1968.

Armstrong, Rose Marie Bartley, Effie Shoemaker, Grace Duxbury, Etta Tutthill, Edith Chapple; with Effie and Edith being dual members with Brandon Lodge.

Edith Chapple and Effie Shoemaker have been District Deputies to the Supreme Honoured Royal Lady at various times also. At the Supreme Lodge Convention in 1980, Effie Shoemaker was presented with a Supreme Life Membership for her service to the Order. Effie is only the eighth person to receive this honour and we are very proud of her.

The membership of our Lodge at June, 1981 includes: Elaine Armstrong, Etta Tutthill, Grace Duxbury, Edith Chapple, Effie Shoemaker, Rose Marie Bartley, Ida Pedlow, Margaret Bowles, Belle Leslie, Lillian Jackson, Joyce Martin, Dorothy Thomson, Bernice Parsons, Cathleen Kirby, Margaret O'Greysik, Norma Lambkin, Marie Huculak, Wendy Shackel, Yvonne Day, and Joan Lund.

Our Honoured Royal Ladies over the years included:

1959-62 — Elaine Armstrong	1973-74 — Margaret Bowles
1962-64 — Effie Shoemaker	1974-75 — Belle Leslie
1964-65 — Betty Russell	1975-76 — Margaret O'Greysik
1965-66 — Edith Chapple	1976-77 — Lillian Jackson
1966-67 — Gwen Andrews	1977-78 — Grace Duxbury
1967-69 — Etta Tutthill	1978-80 — Ida Pedlow
1969-71 — Irene Moore	1980-81 — Etta Tutthill
1971-72 — Margaret Clarke	1981- — Dorothy Thomson
1972-73 — Rose Marie Bartley	

### The Hospital Auxiliary

The first auxiliary was formed in June of 1951, to serve our brand new eight bed hospital. A canvass of the village was done for membership. All surrounding districts also helped out.

The first president was Mrs. Eddie Shepherd, Vice-President: Mrs. Ken Corbett, Secretary: Mrs. Florrie Gibbs, Treasurer: Mrs. M. P. Webster.

The organization worked very hard to raise money to buy many useful items such as beds, wheelchairs, etc. for the comfort of the patient. In 1965, due to lack of interest and so few members, the organization had to fold. It was re-organized in 1970 with the new president being Mrs. Emily Koop.

The active members now range around fifteen. The annual community "Fun Fair" is now the major way of raising funds. Due to changing times and circumstances our hospital now mainly serves the community as a Personal Care Home. With continued community support we hope to be able to serve our Personal Care Home in the same faithful manner that has been done through the years for the hospital.

Our memorial book bought in memory of Mrs.



Kathleen Lamb by her family has been well used by the community in memory of their loved-ones.

The present president is Mrs. Katie Edgar, Vice-President: Mrs. Edith Soder, Secretary: Mrs. Florence Drake, Treasurer: Mrs. Margaret Allison.

The staff and the board of the hospital over the years have really appreciated the efforts of the auxiliary members. With everyone working together it makes for a much pleasanter stay in the Personal Care Home.

submitted by Mrs. Margaret Allison

## 4-H Clubs



Elkhorn 4-H Beef Calf Club.



Elkhorn 4-H Clothing Club.

## Sunshine Club



Senior citizens leaving on a bus tour under the supervision of Rev. Ches Boutillier. Mayor Bill Bartley bidding them a good journey.

## Elkhorn Art Club

The first art classes were held in Elkhorn in the United Church Manse and the Rectory of the Anglican Church in the early months of 1969. Those attending were Mrs. Paul Campbell, Phylis Iisley, Grace Watson and Dee Robinson with Miss Rose Clarkson instructing. These first classes drew a lot of interest from others in the community so in November, 1970 a larger class assembled in the old Library across from the Post Office. With Rose still teaching, Agnes Bickerton, Bessie Andros, Dee Robinson, Gladys Nylin, Irene Moore, Janice Twigg and Dessie MacFarlane now attended.

Classes continued during the winter of 1971 and an interesting display of work was exhibited in the spring. The following year, in 1972, a display of paintings was placed in the library for the official opening of the new library in the McLeod building.

In January, 1973, the Elkhorn Art Club was officially formed with Dee Robinson as president and Rose Clarkson as instructor. The first annual art show was held on April 30 with ten members displaying fifty-two paintings. Adjudicator Lila Higginbotham presented the Higginbotham trophy to Agnes Bickerton as the artist showing the most promise. Beginning in the fall of 1974, Terry McLean became instructor for the Art Club. He continued this position until the spring of 1977. Terry was followed by another well-known artist, Doug Brolund of Brandon

who instructed the class until December, 1979. Elsie Rutley of Virden instructed the class in the spring sessions of 1980. Greta Cruickshank and Gladys Strange followed with their valuable contributions in the field of art.

Gwen Decorte became president for the 1975-76 season, followed by Jean Baker who held the position until 1981. The Higginbotham Trophy awarded to the artist showing the most promise has been presented over the years to Agnes Bickerton, Gwen Decorte, Rose Clarkson, Gladys Strange, Eileen Doherty, Jean Baker and Lorraine McDonald.

The Terry McLean trophy and club trophy awarded to best junior artist and the artist showing the most improvement have been awarded to several different members.

Rose Clarkson was presented with a life membership and pin for her work with the club since its beginning.

Over the years the Art Club has displayed pictures in the bank, hosted the travelling art gallery and helped with hobby displays and art fairs at the school library and agricultural fairs.

In 1976 the Club donated \$200.00 to the Virden-Elkhorn Library and since then has purchased tables, stacking chairs, a blackboard, art books and magazines, wild life encyclopedias and projection screens for community use in the library. The main objective of the Art Club has been to enrich the lives of others as well as ourselves through the medium of art.

# Community Services

## Post Office

The first post office services were carried on in the tent store owned and operated by Mr. John McLeod. He was succeeded by Mr. Robert Marsh, who opened a Post Office in a building that was situated on a lot now occupied by Don Rowan and sons. Mr. Cushing continued the services in a building later occupied by the Queen's Cafe. By 1909, Mr. W. Davey was postmaster, followed by Mr. A. McNab Frazer and then Mr. John T. Frazer. In 1921, Mr. J. M. McCorkindale took over for the next 25 years, retiring in April, 1950. Mr. Wm. McCorkin-



L-R: H. E. Matthews and Ed Parsons who was the contractor for the post office.



Elkhorn Post Office.

dale acted as postmaster until August, 1950 when Mr. John Armstrong took over. Mr. Armstrong, who was the great-grandson of the first postmaster, Mr. J. McLeod, held this position until his death December 31, 1979. Mr. Armstrong was succeeded by our present post-mistress Mrs. Doris Berry, who had been the assistant since 1966.

In 1935, the present day Post Office was under construction by the Bonnet Bros. of Winnipeg. The cost was approximately \$25,000. In May, 1936, the Post Office was officially opened and Inspector Hives of the Postal Services supervised the transfer of the items from the Old Post Office which was temporarily set up in the Masonic Hall. The old frame building that served as a post office had to be dismantled when the new Post Office was proposed.

## Canadian Imperial Bank Of Commerce

The first branch of the Canadian Bank of Commerce opened on June 11, 1903, doing business in the lower part of the building which now houses Fred's Electric. Later a bank building was built, but on March 18, 1912, it was destroyed by fire. All the papers in the bank were saved so, without too much



Canadian Bank of Commerce.



After the big fire of March 17, 1912 which destroyed the Groat Hardware Store, George W. Marsh Store and the Bank of Commerce.

delay, business carried on in the office formerly occupied by the *Elkhorn Mercury*, until permanent quarters were restored. The same month in which the fire had occurred, a new building was begun, and by October, 1912, it was completed. It was similar in structure to the first bank and it is still in use today.

During World War II, the bank was closed (November 29, 1941), to be reopened September 16, 1946. On June 1, 1961, upon merger with the Imperial Bank of Canada, it became known as the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

#### Managers as recorded in annual reports

1903-1904 E. M. Saunders  
1905-28 R. H. Brotherhood

1929-41 S. Dunbar  
1946-51 C. F. Rannie  
1952-54 J. A. Courts  
1955-59 A. J. Alley  
1960-62 S. A. Newman  
1963-65 G. A. Richards  
1966-69 W. Davis  
1970-72 J. L. Matchett  
1973-75 B. E. Stevenson  
1975-76 E. J. Clayton  
1976-81 J. L. Davis  
1981 Mrs. G. Nield

#### Veterinarians

As early as 1880 Elkhorn had a veterinarian known as Dr. Buck, followed by Dr. McLoughry, Dr. Pomfret and Dr. Cox. Dr. McLoughry returned again in 1918 then turned over his practice to Dr. Hennan in 1920 who continued to practise for forty-five years. Dr. McDougall took over in 1965 but left the next year to set up a practice in Virden where eventually an "Animal Hospital" was set up to serve the surrounding communities.

submitted by Margaret Allison

#### Elkhorn Town Constables

##### 1900 to RCMP

Mr. McKim  
J. Goodling  
R. Travis  
Mr. Statham  
A. M. Frazer  
W. Davey  
E. G. Chapman  
Tom Lacey

Percy Day  
Herb Middleton  
Jack Cousins  
Fred Budge  
Charles Will  
M. McAree  
Laurence Shoemaker

submitted by Margaret Mitchell



Town jail later a restroom.

#### Lawyers

As far as can be remembered, a Mr. Waltch was the first lawyer in Elkhorn. He was followed by Mr.



Old school used as Court House — 1918.

R. Norman Scotney in 1911. He practiced law in Elkhorn until his death in 1930.

Mr. Chalmers of Virden took over the practice for a year or two. He was followed by Mr. H. Sparling. Mr. Lowden took up the law practice when Mr. Sparling left Elkhorn.

John Thompson, a native of Elkhorn, then followed and practised for several years. At the present time, Mr. Aikens has a law office in Elkhorn and practices a few days a week here.

submitted by Mrs. Phyllis Day

# End of a career

## Dedicated 43 years to telephone service

by KAYE ROWE

Much more than a watch presentation, a handshake and best wishes for retirement, the party honoring Olive Snyder Reid and her 43 years with the Manitoba Telephone System turned into a "This Is Your Life" program copy. Staged at the Canadian Legion recreation centre, Thirteenth Street East, Friday evening, the cast ran over 200 and drew people from as far west as Calgary.

"The ending of a career of a delightful and charming lady — Mrs. Jim P. Reid — who dedicated 43 years to telephone service for the people of the western part of the province," was part of the citation made by Stewart Williams, Winnipeg district traffic supervisor. Without benefit of the static-sulking P.A. system, Mr. Williams reviewed a record that began in Elkhorn, Man., in 1930, transferred back and forth between there and Virden and began in Brandon in '42 with a promotion to supervisor two years later. The traditional watch presentation was made by the Winnipeg manager.

"She welcomed us, initiated us with unflinching kindness, courtesy and good humor," said Mrs. Margaret Workman speaking on behalf of colleagues past and present. "A great deal of



Olive Reid, surrounded by gifts presented to her on her retirement from the Manitoba Telephone System after 43 years service.

the success of the Brandon office is due to Olive Reid. . . ." In token of appreciation, staff and friends presented an ivory and gold-metallic French telephone and engraved tray for her personal home use in years to come.

A parade of gifts

followed, presented on behalf of the operators, the family, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the Pioneers, each with words of affection and appreciation. The gift-bearers included Rayelle Short, David Davies, Miss Florence

Stewart and Miss Bertha Easley.

Jack G. Moran, Brandon traffic manager, served as chairman, introducing five key associates over the decades. The first in time was Mrs. Minnie Bajus, original operator - instructor to Olive Snyder at Elkhorn and subsequently a provincial instructor and a school teacher at Dauphin. Others were Kay Carefoot of Elkhorn - Virden, Lexie Nichol currently of Winnipeg, Effie McLean and Nina McKinnon, Brandon residents.

Smiling and communicative, surrounded by roses, gifts, friends and 25 relations, Olive Reid reminisced and thanked the assembly. An octet of associates sang her story to the tune of "Wee Dock 'n' Dorris" in recognition of Jim Reid's long association as Scottish piper. The turkey dinner was preceded by an honor entrance for her mother, Mrs. Beatrice Snyder and other family members, headed by pipers Angus Brown and Murdoch Macintosh skirling out "Bonnie Lassie" and "Scotland the Brave." Full of "in" jokes for the fraternity of good old MTS, a skit amused the crowd and was fairly well rehearsed by Bev Bird, Verona Perkins and Joyce Dooley. Dancing until midnight rounded out the merriment.

## Telephone Office

In 1906 the telephone became a reality to residents of Elkhorn. The first telephone exchange occupied the back of the Drug Store and was operated by J. Mooney and Ethel Harry. At that time there were 21 subscribers and by 1909 fifty-four subscribers were listed. The first two farms to receive telephones were T. C. Dahl and George Crosby.



Farewell party for telephone staff, December, 1972. L-R Back row: Harriet Lewarne, Dee Robinson, Tom Fisher, Yvonne Day, Bernice Rowan, Lillian Jackson. Front row: Barbara Hodson, Janet Montgomery, Donna Bajus.



Telephone Office.

About 1915 the telephone exchange was moved to the front portion of a private home, the house now occupied by Mrs. Kirby. E. B. Guest ran the telephone exchange for some time. In 1930 negotiations concerning the erection of the office in use later were begun and by 1934 the building on the corner of Richill and Wexford was completed, and ready for use.

On February 6, 1952, the Elkhorn telephone exchange was switched over to operator toll dialing. This put the exchange on the dial for long distance calls which provided greater efficiency and speed of connections.

For several years many prizes were won by the Elkhorn Staff for the best kept premises and well kept flower gardens.

On Thursday, December 7, 1972 at 9 a.m. 400 telephones were switched over to the dial system. The new telephone office for use of the dial system is located on the corner of Third and Railroad Street.

Two of the oldest units of the telephone switchboard were donated to the Elkhorn Museum, along with an operator's chair, a head set, and the punch time clock for long distance calls. The donation was requested of the Manitoba Telephone System, from the Elkhorn Staff in honour of Eleanor Brydon the Chief Operator who passed away suddenly on October 2, 1972.

The telephone office building on Railway and Wexford was sold to Harriet Lewarne, a former operator who moved it to Oak Lake Beach, where it is now used as a cabin.

submitted by Janet Montgomery

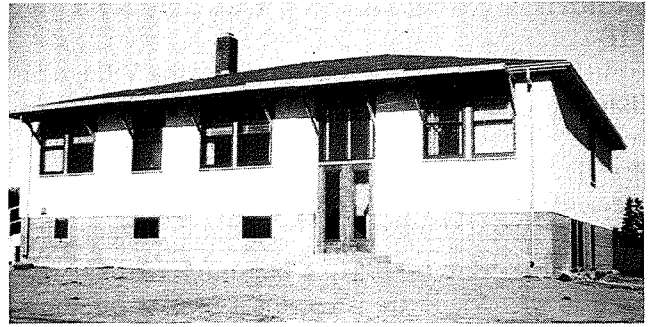
## Health Services



Granny Ewing — nurse for Dr. Goodwin.



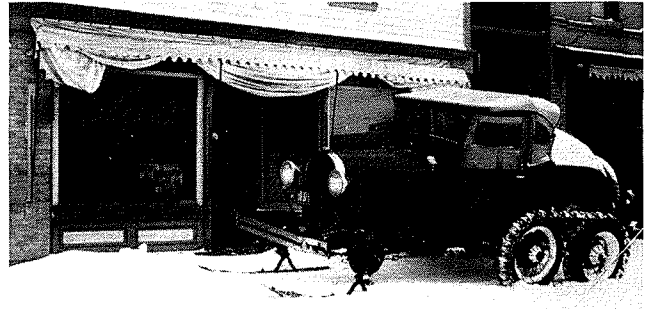
Elkhorn Community Hospital — 1948.



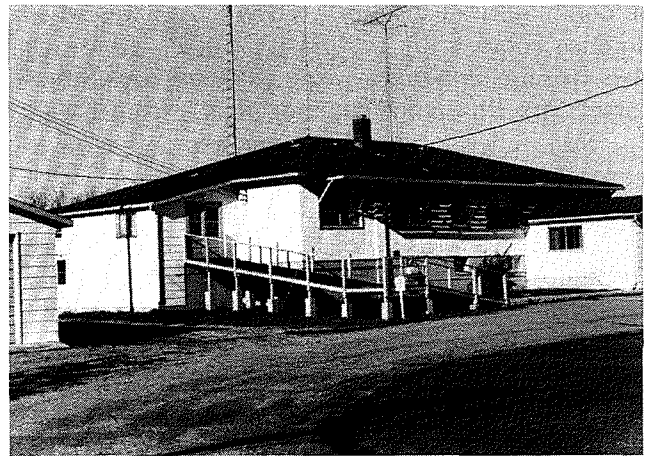
Elkhorn Hospital built in 1951.



Red Cross Home Nursing Course. L-R Front row: Lilian King, Gladys Shepherd, Clarabelle Goethe, Marion Povey, Miss Tittley, Margaret Goethe. Back row: Annabelle Stranger, Tannis Cole, Margaret Thomas, Shirley Heritage, Miss Long, R.N., Marjorie Dahl, Ivy Lacey, Mary King, Alice Hartley, Katherine Goethe.



Doc Johnston's Transportation — 1931.



Elkhorn Medical Health unit.



Residents of Elkhorn Medical Nursing Unit March 1981. L-R Front row: Minnie Ellingson, Lillian Pascoe, William Paull. Back row: Ethel Stremel, James Cowan, Frank Powell, Elmer Sheane.



Elkview Lodge.

## **Elkhorn Medical Nursing Unit: District #10**

In 1950 a committee was set up by the Village of Elkhorn, to see about getting a hospital built. They were J. W. M. Thompson; Mr. William Pateman; Mrs. D. E. Chapple; Mr. Max Edgar; Mrs. J. P. Loewen; Mr. James W. Clark; and Mr. Chas. G. Webster.

By the spring of 1951, a building contract was given to the Wiebe Construction Co. The building was a two storey, with four two-bed wards, operating room and case room being the same, Ante-room, service room, nursery, Matron's office, store rooms, two wash rooms, sluice room, and lift — on the upper floor. Ground floor was kitchen, dining room, supply room, boiler room, X-Ray dark room and laundry room. The nurses' residence consisted of two single rooms and one double room, and a bath room. There were nicely tiled floors throughout, except the laundry which was cement and later on was painted.

The official opening date of the hospital was November 15, 1951. Official opening ceremonies were held in the Elkhorn Stadium, followed by the prayer of dedication, by Rev. J. L. Fargey. The cutting of the ribbon was by Dr. W. A. Gorrie, serving the community at the time. The Matron was Miss Florence Foote, (Mrs. F. Coach), Nurse's Aide was Miss Rosalie Frattinger (Mrs. J. Donaghy), Relief Nurse, Mrs. Josephine Streeter, R.N., from Fleming, Saskatchewan. Cook, Laundress and Housekeeper, Mrs. Amelia Pearson, and Janitor, Mr. Sid Johnson completed the staff.

A silver tea was served by ladies of the Elkhorn Hospital Aid, to guests and visitors. The hospital aid also had a home canned fruit and pickle pantry shower for the hospital.

During the year all the organizations in the surrounding districts and the Elkhorn Hospital Aid were busy raising funds to help furnish the hospital when it would be finished. They have continued their work over the years, and are still active.

Mr. Carl Dahl was hired to build the glass door, instrument cupboards in the operating room, and do other carpentry work in the buildings.

In January, 1952, a local hospital board was elected; Mayor J. W. M. Thompson, Chairman; Mrs. Hazel Corbett (Mrs. Younge), Secretary-Treasurer; Mr. Max Edgar, Vice-Chairman; Mr. Hugh Walker; and Mr. George Kirby.

The first patient was **Mrs. Paul Ehrick** and the hospital continued to be busy from then on.

The first new baby, a girl, was **Judith Irene Bell**, parents Mr. and Mrs. John R. Bell of Elkhorn. The first New Year's baby, a boy, **Daniel Mark Canart**, parents Mr. and Mrs. Dan Canart, of Elkhorn.

In 1953 a Baby Derby was started by the hospital board, which went to the first New Year's baby, a girl, **Belinda Gaye Logel**, parents Mr. and Mrs. Francis Logel of Fleming, Sask., and continued to every New Year's baby thereafter.

Approximately 484 babies were born in the hospital from 1951-1975, with four sets of twins.

In 1963 a new addition was added to the hospital, which greatly improved working facilities and included a two bed ward, a bath room, and an X-Ray room on the upper floor, while on the ground floor had been added a dining room, a large pantry, a large storage room, a cement floored lobby at the back door entrance and a new ramp.

The official opening of the new addition was November 15, 1963, just twelve years to the day from the date the hospital was first opened. Official opening ceremonies were held in the Elkhorn Stadium, followed by the prayer of dedication, given by Rev. G. L. Taylor. The cutting of the ribbon was by Dr. P. R. Domegan. The Architect, A. W. Trimble then handed the keys to the building over to Miss Gladys Williams, R. N., Matron. A silver tea was served by the ladies of the Elkhorn Hospital Aid, to the guests and visitors. Mr. Len Adamovich was hired to build the glass door instrument cupboard in the case room, and other carpentry work to be done.

In 1969, Mr. Reg Will was hired to build the waiting room over the front door of the hospital, which was a great asset for the visitors and patients. Reg also helped do other renovation and carpentry work around the hospital over the years, at different times.

The hospital has its own water supply, from a well dug on the south side. A shed was built over it, and served as a storage space for hospital supplies, and for garden tools. There was a septic tank and field the first years; the hospital joined the town sewer system when it was put in the town in 1965.

The garden space in the back of the hospital was cared for by the Janitor, who also cared for the flower gardens in the front of the hospital and the cutting of the lawns.

Emergency flood lights were installed in the hospital on both upper and ground floors — came on automatically when the power went off — and could last several hours.

On November 20, 1971, an informal gathering was held in the Legion Hall, to commemorate the occasion of the official opening of the hospital November 15, 1951, and to honor Board and Staff members who had served over the years. Mr. M. McGregor, M.L.A., introduced Mr. Hugh Walker, and Mr. Max Edgar, and congratulated them on their 20 years continuous service on the Local Administra-



tive Committee. Miss Rosalie Frattinger (Mrs. J. Donaghy) was the only staff member with twenty years service. The Matron at the time was Miss Margerie Nash (Mrs. R. Will). Dr. J. Chung was serving the community.

Among those speaking during the evening were M. E. Clark and E. C. Osmond of Virden, Chairman and Secretary of the district Board, Mayor W. R. Bartley of Elkhorn; Reeve S. Grant of Archie; Dr. J. Chung, and Mrs. A. Bickerton, Secretary of the Hospital Aid. Some 75 guests signed the register. After a short program, a pot luck supper was served, complete with a 20th anniversary cake, made by Mrs. Katie Edgar, head cook at the hospital.

Over the years, many changes took place, from time to time, with renovations. The doctor's office and waiting room are now where the nurses' residence used to be. One room of the residence is the nurses' change room, and a staff wash room. The X-Ray Dark room is the housekeeping supply cupboard. The supply room is now the Public Health Nurse's office. The Public Health Nurse is Mrs. Dale Wiebe, of Elkhorn.

The upper floor, the nursery, is a supply room and linen closet, the operating room is dining and sitting room for the patients. The case room is now the emergency treatment room. The X-Ray room is a single ward.

The C.B. radio system has been installed in the hospital, for better communication between the three hospitals and the ambulance crews for emergencies. The fire phone also has been installed.

Presently, the hospital is a nursing care home for the senior citizens of the Elkhorn and area communities.

The hospital provides, as well, first aid emergency service and treatment, with 24 hour ambulance service. The doctor has office hours three times a week. Serving our community at present is Dr. J. Evans of Virden.

Over the years employment was given to many people, near and far — approximately 100 R.N.'s, L.P.N.'s and Nurses' Aides. The present staff are, Head Nurse Mrs. Jean McDonald, R.N. of Virden; General Duty R.N.'s Mrs. Margaret Allison; Mrs. Emily Koop; Mrs. Doreen Johnson; Mrs. Grace Anderson; Mrs. Margerie Will; Mrs. Dorothy Kalinchuk; Mrs. Esther Wiebe; L.P.N.'s Mrs. Alice Shurvell; Mrs. John Brown; Aides Mrs. Mavis Al-lum; Mrs. Joyce Barnes; Mrs. Thelma Rowan; Mrs. Ada Brennan; Mrs. Belle Leslie; Mrs. Cheryl Volk; Mrs. Rosalie Donaghy.

In the Department of Cook, Laundry and House-keeping, approximately 33 filled the vacancies. The present staff are — Head Cook, Mrs. Mary Stone-

house; Mrs. Muriel Jones; Mrs. Mary Rowan; Mrs. Phyllis Slimmons; Mrs. Lois McPhail.

On December 9, 1978, Mrs. Eileen Hildebrandt, on behalf of the hospital District Board #10, presented Mrs. Rosalie Donaghy and Mrs. Katie Edgar with plaques in recognition of their many years of service of over 20 years.

The Janitors over the years were Mr. Sid Johnson; Mr. Mat Milroy; Mr. Robert Warnock; Mr. Fred Stonham; Mr. Walter Norsworthy; Mr. Steve Dzus; Mr. Harry McKibbon; and at present Mr. Jack Murray.

Doctors who served the community were Dr. W. A. Gorrie, 1950-1953; Dr. D. S. Bruce, 1953-1955; Dr. C. Chodyncki, 1955-1956; Dr. Steinburg, 1956; Dr. A. F. Ferre, 1956-1960; Dr. G. Griggs, 1960-1962; Dr. D. Calderwood, from Maryfield, Saskatchewan, 1962; Dr. P. R. Domegan, 1962-1965; Dr. L. G. Gardner 1965-1966; Dr. J. Chung 1967 — for seven months; Dr. D. O'Leary, 1968; then again Dr. J. Chung, 1968-1974; Dr. A. I. S. Murray, 1974-1976; (Mrs) Dr. A. K. Kukrya, from Brandon, relief 1975 and 1976; Dr. H. K. Fan Lun, 1976-1977; Dr. J. Evans, 1977, and is still serving our community at present. The late Dr. J. R. Monteith, Dr. R. S. Harris, Dr. D. E. Yates, from Virden, came and assisted in the operating room during the first years when surgery was being done at the hospital.

The Administrator for District #10 Elkhorn, Virden and Reston, is Mr. Michael Spiers; Assistant Administrator (patient care) Mrs. Eileen Hildebrandt; Assistant Administrator (finances) Mr. Ken Mitchell.

Governing Board members of District #10 — Chairman, Mr. Keith Kinnard; Vice-Chairman, Mr. Ron Begg; Chairman of Elkhorn L.A.C Mr. Wes Ruddick; Chairman of Reston L.A.C. Mr. Jim Walker, Chairman of Virden L.A.C. Mr. Cowley Webster.

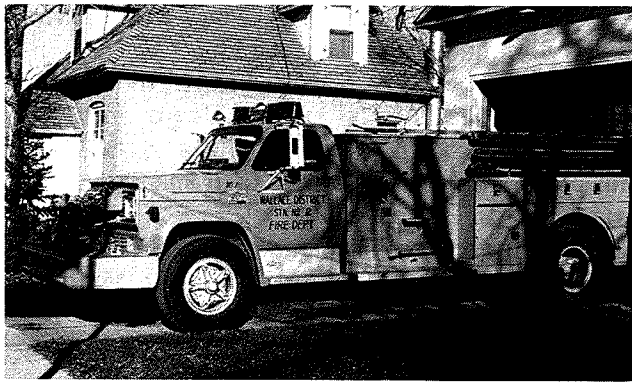
The trustees serving on the board, Mrs. Agnes Bickerton for Elkhorn; Mr. Allan Sigurdson for Oak Lake; Mr. Jim Reid for Reston; Mr. Burns Chisholm for Virden.

Mrs. J. H. Donaghy  
Virden, Manitoba

## Fire Department

Early in 1912 a village fire brought to the people's attention a desperate need for some kind of fire protection. Later that year a fire engine hose and reel were purchased and an engine house built. Some fire wells were also dug. In February, 1913 the first fire chief, Mr. H. J. Jones was appointed. In 1924 a chemical engine was purchased.

By 1947 a volunteer fire department had been set up and a better fire truck had been bought.



Fire truck stationed in Elkhorn.

In 1950 the village alarm system was connected to the telephone office. There the operators rang the alarm and alerted firemen in case of a fire.

In 1973 a different fire truck was purchased and a mutual aid agreement was set up by the Provincial Fire Commissioner.

In 1977 a joint fire board was proposed and elected, consisting of Village of Elkhorn, Town of Virden and the Rural Municipality of Wallace.

In April, 1978 a new truck was purchased by this joint board and is stationed in Elkhorn. The firemen also did some renovating at the fire hall. It is hoped within the next five years the town will receive a new fire hall. There now is a fire crew of 14 men, most of them taking fire training courses and some first aid and dangerous goods seminars.

Some Chiefs in past and present

1913 — H. J. Jones

1949 — H. L. Webster

In 1952 Mr. Webster was appointed fire Inspector

1963-68 — Bernie Lund

1968-70 — L. Dimit

1970-72 — M. Scott

1972-73 — D. Nylin

1973-77 — Bob Thomson

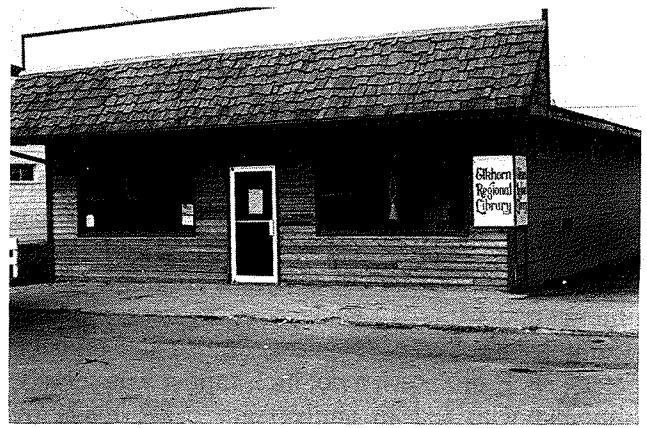
1977-79 — Ken Laurence

1979-80 — Roy McColl

1980- Lyle Rowan

## Library

In October, 1958, voting took place for a library. By January the following year, the Provincial Librarian had commenced buying the books. In February, it was decided that the library be located in the Masonic Building. Mrs. Vera R. Leckie of Virden was appointed Librarian and in July, Mrs. Gladys Nylin was chosen as assistant Librarian. On September 3, 1959 the Virden Elkhorn Regional Library was officially opened by the Hon. Stewart McLean. In 1972 the library moved to its present location, the



Elkhorn Library.

former McLeod's Grocery Store. Mrs. Agnes Bickerton was the librarian at that time and she held this position for a number of years. She was followed by Mrs. Cathy Jones as librarian. The present librarian is Mrs. Karyn Jebb.

## The Elkhorn Volunteer Ambulance

The Elkhorn Ambulance started with two people, Larry Price and Jerome Brockman, taking Ambulance training in the fall of 1974. As spring approached, I, Jerome, saw a need to get more people involved. Therefore I approached Mrs. Agnes Bickerton, who was then on the Hospital Board. She directed me to Ron Canart. He was able to recruit several other members, namely Rod Coutts, Elgin Robinson, Tom Fisher, Bob Thomson, Ron Heritage, Dan Canart, Gordie Grant, Cliff Russell, Bernard Tutthill, Gale Blue, and Ray Jebb. These people began their training in March of 1975. This training continued on a regular basis until the end of June.

In the fall of 1975, the Elkhorn Volunteer Ambulance began its operation when we received the old Virden Ambulance. Tom Fisher was the first superintendent until he left the following spring. Elgin Robinson was the Assistant Superintendent and became Superintendent when Tom left, and still is to this very day. He has guided us through our early life.

In the fall of 1975 we built a garage next to the hospital for storing the ambulance. This garage was built by the ambulance crew with some help from other people. In the fall of 1977 Steve Dzus donated money to insulate and line the garage which was done by the ambulance crew.

In the fall of 1975 we raised money to obtain CB's in order to have a better system calling ambulance drivers and attendants when a call came in. We raffled a colored T.V. donated by Reverend Gale Blue. We also held a dance to raise funds. In the fall

of 1975 Ken Tutthill joined our crew. By the spring of 1976, Lillian Hall, Dodie Coutts, Dee Robinson, Margaret Walker, Ralph Walker, Harold Spring and Linda Spring had joined our crew. In August we set up our own organization doing our own billing and paying our own expenses. Ken Tutthill became Treasurer, Elgin continued as Superintendent, Debbie Day as billing secretary and Jerome Brockman as recording secretary. Later Margaret Walker was appointed Supply Officer.

In the spring of the following year plans were made for obtaining a new ambulance. We looked around and tendered for a van meeting certain specifications. We obtained a shell of a van which our crew, with other help, went about converting it into an ambulance. The following people were instrumental in the conversion; Bob Thomson, Elgin



Elkhorn ambulance.

Robinson, Lynn Tutthill, Brian Robinson, George Heaman, Len Lund, Dee Robinson, and Jerome Brockman. In the fall of 1977 the conversion was complete and the new ambulance came into service. In addition to the work that the crew had been doing, the crew has continued with its training on at least once a month basis. This past year it was every two

weeks. As time marched on we lost Ron Canart and Gordie Grant to farming. They were followed by Larry Price due to too many other commitments. Then Harold Spring and his wife left, followed by Rod and Dodie Coutts moving to B.C. We eventually lost Dee Robinson, Lillian Hall, Bernard Tutthill, Ray Jebb and Gale Blue. In the meantime, we gained Mavis Allum, Len Anderson, Albert Hodson, Gerald Sheane, Lloyd Warnica, Scott Allum, Fred Wolfe, Ted Stremel and Marilyn Stremel.

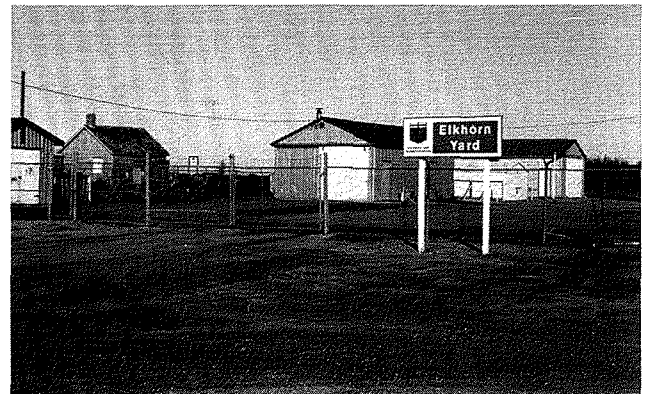
The crew takes turn being on duty, one week at a time, from Wednesday to Wednesday. There is a day shift and a night shift each running from 8:00 to 8:00. Each turn of duty comes up about once a month. All time on call and on runs is volunteered with no remuneration.

The present executive consists of:

Superintendent	Elgin Robinson
Assistant Superintendent	Lloyd Warnica
Secretary	Jerome Brockman
Treasurer	Cynthia Tutthill
Billing Secretary	Mavis Allum

submitted by Jerome Brockman

## Good Roads



Department of Highways, Elkhorn Yard.



# Manitoba Automobile Museum

## Manitoba Automobile Museum

The Manitoba Automobile Museum is a non-profit organization incorporated with a view to establishing an Automobile Museum in the village of Elkhorn, Manitoba. The beginning came about through **Mr. Isaac Clarkson**, a farmer living five miles east of Elkhorn, Manitoba, who had been collecting old automobiles since 1946; he travelled thousands of miles collecting and purchasing old cars and parts. Due to a high degree of mechanical skill and craftsmanship he was able to restore these cars into running condition. On his travels he also had a keen eye for other collectable items which he also made a hobby. As his main wish was to have his collection remain in Manitoba, he deeded the entire collection in perpetuity to the Village of Elkhorn as represented in the Manitoba Automobile Museum Foundation, a non-profit organization incorporated under Manitoba Bill No. 11 which was given Royal Assent on March 30, 1961. Next was to provide a building to house this enormous collection. The Board of Trustees proceeded to make plans to extend an appeal for funds. \$3,148 was raised by a campaign by the citizens; also some assistance was received in 1967 Centennial Year from the Dominion and Provincial Governments and the Municipality. The first steel building, 100 feet in length, was erected in 1967 by Sunset Steel of Brandon, Manitoba.

The Museum operated that way until the sudden passing of Isaac Clarkson on October 12, 1971. At this time Cliff Clarke assumed the position as Curator as he had received a lot of knowledge working with Mr. Clarkson in the preceding three years. In 1972 the Board of Directors passed a motion that the museum be extended 100 ft. and more vehicles and farm machinery be brought in from the farm. In 1974 the Board received a \$25,000 grant from the Canadian Museum Association of Ottawa for further expansion and insulation and also to build a glass front foyer. Thus the building was extended to 300 ft. long. In 1976 a grant was received from the Canadian Museum Association to install smoke detectors. In

1979 a six foot link fence was installed around the steam engines and farm machinery.

The museum houses sixty-seven cars in running restored condition and thirty-three more to be restored, a 1928 Model A snowmobile, several buggies, a winter and a summer hearse, four steam engines and other farm machinery. As well as vehicles and machinery, there are the first and second switch boards and time clock used in the Elkhorn Telephone System, all sorts of antique dishes, lamps, crocks, churns, sewing machines, musical instruments such as organs, grand piano, harps, gramophones, radios, a two-bodied pig and a two-headed calf, doll carriages, Indian artifacts, seeded and hair wreaths, bottles and sealers, toys, titles, documents, medals, and many pictures of great interest.

The museum operates by admission at the door and assistance of three students during the two summer months July and August through the student employment plan. Approximately 18,000 patrons visit the museum each year which is open May 1 till October 31, seven days a week, 9 A.M. till 9 P.M.

Many articles have been put on loan and also donated to the museum during the past years.

Several school, senior citizen and vacation tours take place during the summer months.

Isaac Clarkson was presented a '**Golden Boy Award**' in 1961 at the annual dinner of Manitoba Travel and Convention Association held in Brandon, Manitoba in recognition of having done an excep-



Manitoba Automobile Museum — 1981.

tional job in boosting Manitoba with his huge collection of antique cars and other artifacts.

An afternoon can be an interesting day well spent viewing the many articles of by-gone days, holding a big interest to young and old alike.

Elkhorn is proud to own and operate a museum of this calibre made possible by one man's foresight to preserve for the future.

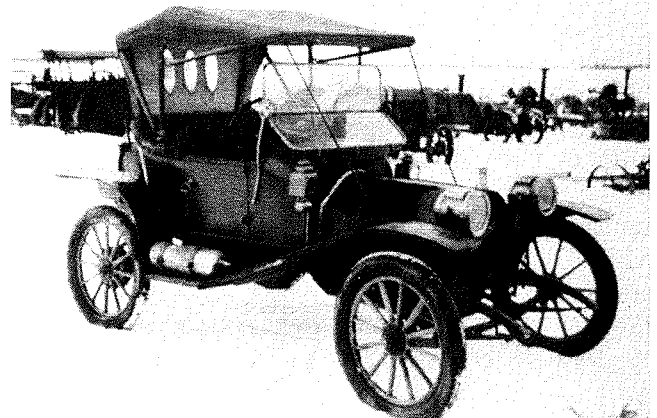
compiled by Cliff Clarke



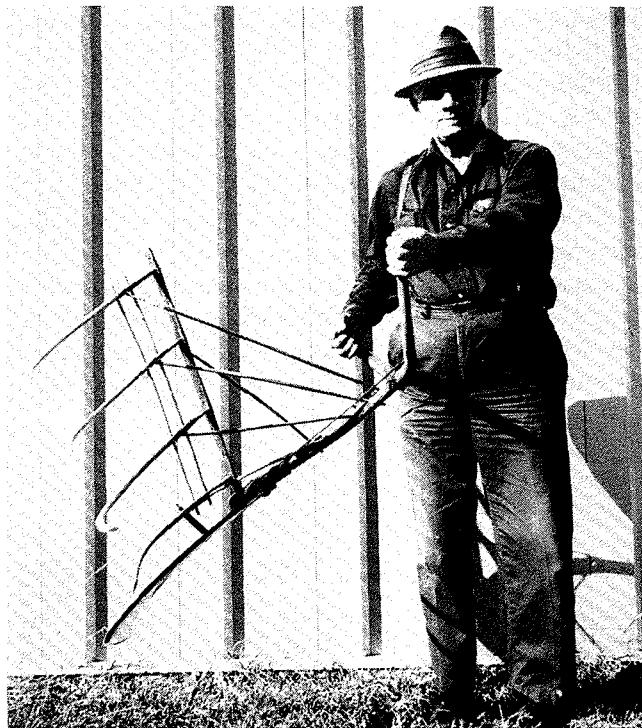
The Museum Reo taken in Elkhorn Park, with James Shackel and Cliff Clarke.



Getting ready to lead off the parade in the 2nd Annual Antique Car Rally are Mrs. Ben Poston, Mayor Ron Heritage and Mr. Mark Cousins.



1909 Hupmobile — first car collected by Ike Clarkson.



Cliff Clarke holding a grain cradle at the Elkhorn Museum. This cradle was at one time used to cut grain.



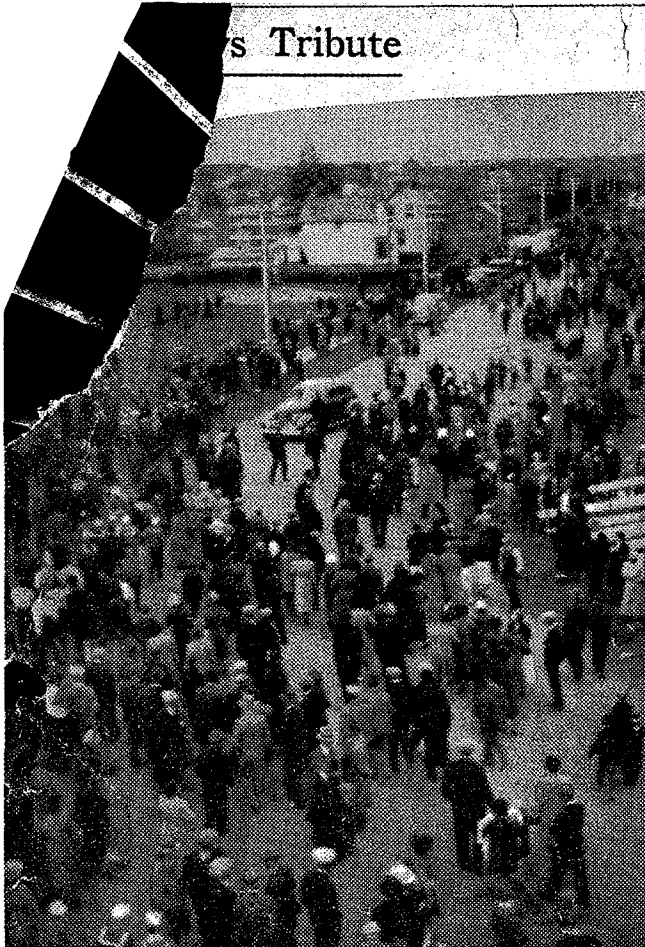
Doug Will in front of a steam engine.



Entrance room to the Elkhorn Antique Automobile Museum.

# Celebrations

...s Tribute



King and Queen's Elkhorn stop, newspaper photo.

## 1867-1967 Canada's Centennial

Elkhorn, like many other communities across Canada, got into the act and helped celebrate the 100th birthday of Confederation. The centennial year was ushered in by a friendship fire on New Years Eve and with a display of fireworks. Sirens sounded and church bells rang.

In April, a centennial ball was held. Everyone came in gay original costumes and these, along with

the "beards" in the beard growing contest, were judged.

In May, a plaque was hung on the outside of the Antique Car Museum which read as follows:

Centennial of Confederation  
Elkhorn

Automobile Museum Foundation  
Erected by the Village of Elkhorn and  
Rural Municipality of Wallace in

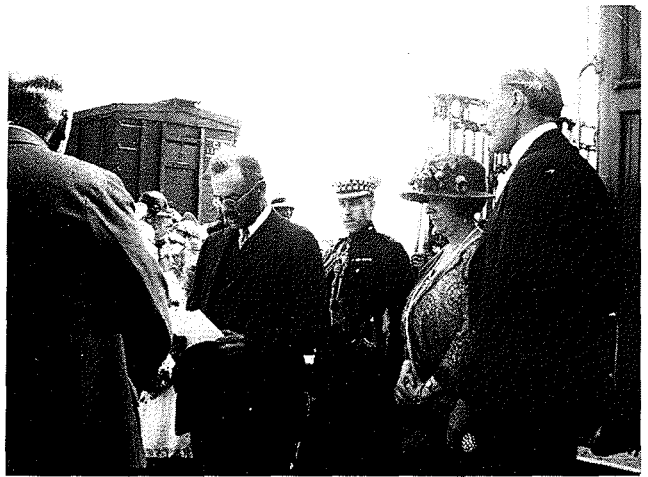
DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATION

July 1st. 1927

FAIR GROUNDS PROGRAMME

1. TABLEAU ELKHORN SCHOOL "CONFEDERATION"
2. COMMUNITY SONG "MAPLE LEAF FOREVER"
3. READING OF MESSAGES from Prime Minister and Governor  
General of Canada Rev. F. Eley, Principal I.L.S.
4. TABLEAU OLD TIMERS "FATHERS OF CONFEDERATION"
5. PRESENTATION OF MEDALS THE MAYOR
6. PRESENTATION OF CANADIAN COAT OF ARMS TO TRUSTEES OF  
ELKHORN SCHOOL - MRS.R.H.BROTHERHOOD REGENT local  
Chapter I.O.D.E.
7. TABLEAU ELKHORN SCHOOL "THE FLAG"
8. COMMUNITY SONG "MANITOBA"
9. TABLEAU ELKHORN SCHOOL "CANADA"
10. ADDRESS MR. ARTHUR HAY
11. COMMUNITY SONG "O CANADA "
12. ADDRESS MR. JOHN THOMPSON
13. Announcement of Prize Winners in Parade REV. ELEY

" GOD SAVE THE KING "

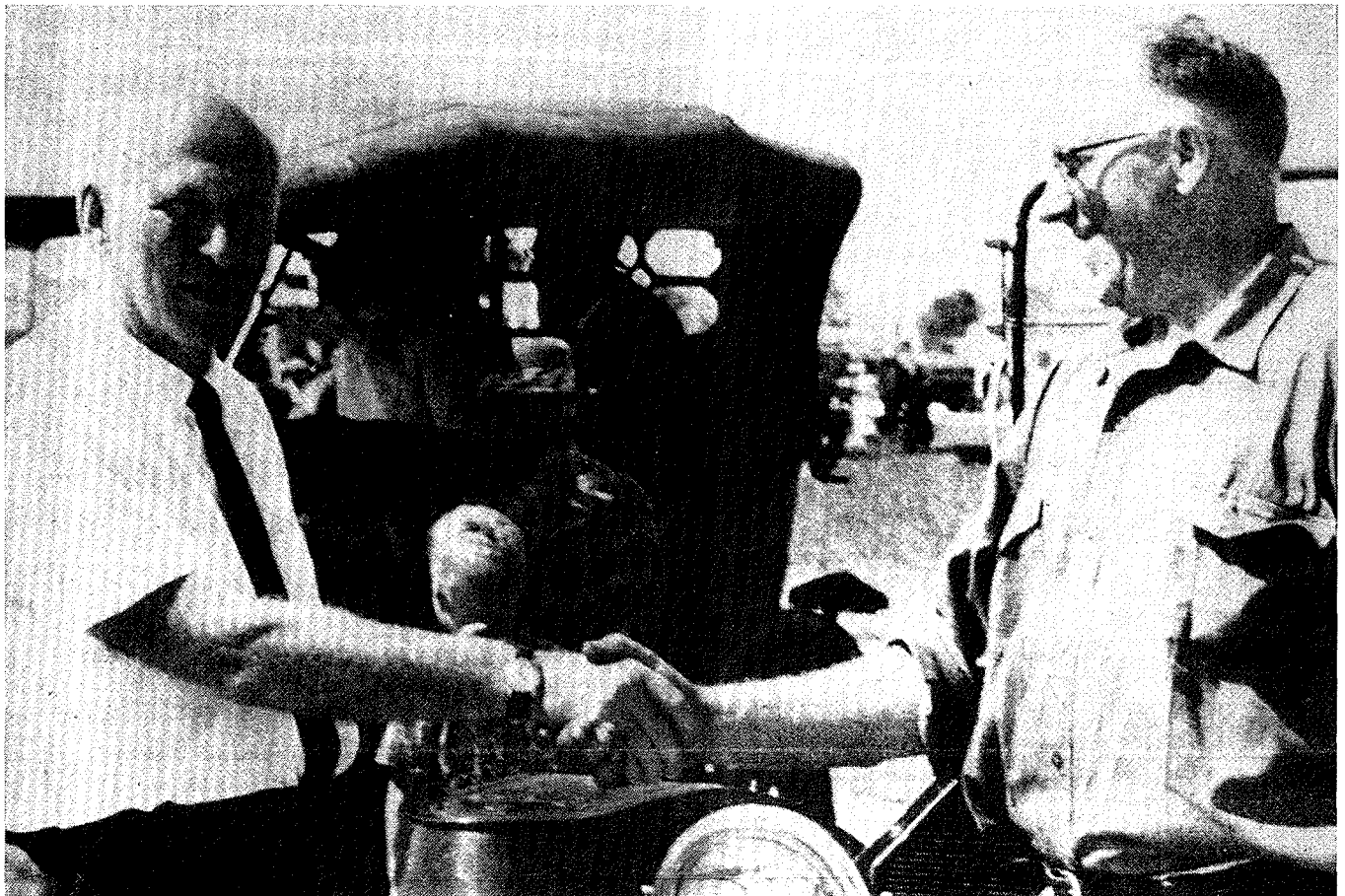


L-R: R. N. Scotney, solicitor; Lord Byng; Aid de Camp; Lady Byng; Mayor J. W. M. Thompson, Elkhorn, 1922.

Permanent Commemoration of  
The Centennial

of Confederation in Canada in 1967.

The official opening of the Antique Car Museum was held July 26, 1967 by Maitland Steinkopf, Chairman of Manitoba's Centennial Commission. Elkhorn and district are very proud of this museum and many



Maitland Steinkopf congratulates Ike Clarkson at the opening of the car museum.



tourists from all over the world tour it each year. A centennial tea was served free to Senior Citizens and visitors, following the official opening.

On July 2, Elkhorn was very pleased to have Don Messer and his group entertain to a capacity crowd in the rink.

On July 23, an interfaith service was held conducted by Miss Phyllis Illsey and Rev. Josef Schreiber of Virden — as guest speaker.

Mr. Howard Loewen of Winnipeg was present. He was born and educated at Elkhorn. A picnic on the Fairgrounds followed, with a dance starting after midnight.

Also, Elkhorn was very pleased to have a History Book compiled for the occasion.

submitted by Margaret Allison

### 1870-1970 Manitoba's Centennial

Elkhorn and Community got together numerous times during the year to celebrate Manitoba's 100th birthday.



Burnbank — York ladies in Centennial dresses in 1970. L-R: Dora Johnson, Mrs. Les Smith, Mavis Allum, Belle Heaman, Eileen Johnson, Margaret Allison, Edith Soder, Emma Allison, Agnes Freeman.



Ladies at Centennial tea in 1970. L-R: Mrs. Lillian Pascoe, Mrs. Mable Webster, Mrs. Edith McCorkindale, Mrs. Margaret Duxbury.

On December 31, celebrations began in the Community Centre. Mr. Cliff Clarke was master of ceremonies. The flag raising ceremony to officially open Manitoba's 100th birthday was performed by Morris MacGregor MLA with Charlie Will and Ed Brimacombe acting as honor guard.

Children of the village enjoyed sleigh rides and free skating.

The birthday cake candles were put out by Mrs. Edith McCorkindale and Mrs. Mabel Webster, two long-time residents. The oldest person attending was Mrs. Ada Hodson of the Sherwood from Virden. The day of events was ended with a friendship fire followed by a display of fireworks to welcome in the New Year. Dances took place in both halls.



Bonfire, Centennial year 1970.

On July 26th, the homecoming celebrations began with an interfaith Church service led by Rev. C. Boutillier held in the Stadium followed by a picnic basket lunch.

Then on July 28, in conjunction with the annual agricultural fair, a pancake breakfast was served on Main Street. Approximately four hundred persons from out of town signed the register. One of the highlights of the day was the "Crowning of the Queen" by Morris MacGregor, MLA. The queen, Mrs. Biddie Shoemaker, wore an authentic gown of the year 1864. The princesses were all gowned in centennial dresses and those taking part were Mrs. Elaine Armstrong, Mrs. Eva Black, Mrs. Edna Lowes, and Mrs. Margaret Ruddick.

On July 29th, a centennial tea was held, honouring senior citizens of Elkhorn and the Rural Municipality of Wallace. Two hundred and ninety-five persons, seventy years and over signed the register and received scrolls and centennial pins. The oldest person present was Mrs. Reynolds 95 years. Buffalo burgers were included on the menu.

submitted by Margaret Allison

## **Elkhorn School Re-Union July 1, 2, 3, 1977**

When an event exceeds the expectations of the group responsible from the standpoints both of attendance and enjoyment, it has to be classified an unqualified success. This is the category into which we would place the Elkhorn School Re-union. It became apparent in the days prior to the actual celebration that there would be a large attendance of former students, teachers and their families, but to have it really happen was an exciting experience. Many of these classmates had not seen each other for from ten to sixty years, and many had not been back to Elkhorn since leaving. It was decided from the start that planned entertainment would not be needed. Those attending were gathered to meet and greet old classmates and teachers — to renew acquaintances and recall old days and old times — in other words they made their own entertainment. The excitement continued to grow as more and more former students arrived in town. It is difficult to find words to adequately describe the emotions and enthusiasm so openly displayed.

We had thought that Friday, July 1st, would see a few people registering, so it came as a very pleasant surprise to see the long line-ups awaiting entry to the school. There were delays when classmates met classmates in the line-up and all else but greetings were forgotten. In the excitement, we are sorry that many didn't get around to signing the guest book. It was truly a grand gathering of people from all walks of life and from all parts of the continent.

Following registration, we gathered in the various classrooms which were beautifully decorated with flowers and streamers in the school colors of yellow and black. The blackboards were decorated with scrolls — each one listing the year, the grade, the student's name and the name of the teacher in charge — one for each grade for the entire 67 years. Many students had sent pictures of school activities and these were displayed to advantage. School banners used in the yearly Field Day parades were on display as well. The trophies brought back many proud moments. Friday evening, lunch was served in Room 1 to an overflow crowd. Saturday shone bright and clear and found many on the golf course vying for the trophy. Others were back at the school visiting and going through classrooms. Later on in the morning, many availed themselves of the opportunity to visit the museum, and to attend the dedication of a plaque to the memory of its founder, Isaac Clarkson. In the afternoon, an auction of school desks and books was held which added both to the enjoyment of those attending and to the happiness of the successful bidders. At four o'clock, the official welcome was

held in front of the school. Those extending welcomes included Mayor Bill Bartley, Mrs. Edith Chapple in the absence of Mrs. Grace Duxbury, Judge John Thompson, and Mr. Bob McDonald. Corsages were presented to Grace Duxbury, Edith Chapple, Bernice Wilcox and Marjorie Paton. Following the ceremonies, everyone adjourned to the Community Hall (the skating rink) to partake of the most delicious barbecued beef dinner, where some 1500 gathered. Pits were dug and fires built Friday evening in which to place large roasts of prime beef to gently cook for twelve hours, and at precisely 5:00 p.m. they were ready for carving. Scrumptious.

In the evening, a street dance was held with the Roach Orchestra in attendance playing from a platform built in front of the bank. The street had been closed off from the Hotel to Bowles Garage. Dances were also held in both halls — each with overflow crowds. Preceding the street dance, the unused roast beef was auctioned. Sunday morning, a pancake breakfast was served by the Elks Lodge, and was well attended despite the late night Saturday. Following it, a Non-denominational Church service was conducted by Rev. Gale Blue, with music under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Kliever. Mr. Lindsay Leslie of Abbotsford, B.C. and his sister, Mrs. Elsie Montgomery, of Elkhorn, sang. They were accompanied by Mrs. Margaret Bowles. The guest speaker was Rev. Ahab Spence, a former student, who brought a warm message to his friends. At the conclusion of the service, both Grace Duxbury and Marjorie Paton thanked everyone for attending and making the Re-union such a success.

A cold plate luncheon was available after the service and most people stayed to lunch and visit. The school was open and many availed themselves of the last chance to walk through the rooms.

There were many special moments for those attending. One, we believe, should be mentioned. Seven former students from the year 1910 attended: Jennie Cousins Poston, Elkhorn; Rosena Tinline, Regina; Stanley Gilbert, Brandon; Merle Blakeman Cronk, Regina; Estelle Mooney Baker, Winnipeg; Florence Crosby Maguire, Lacombe, Alberta; and Lloyd McLeod, Elkhorn. Many students came by trailer, and accommodations were ready in the fair grounds for them, and for those with tents. The motels and hotels all around were filled to capacity, and many people opened their homes to visitors for the duration. There were very few homes not filled to overflowing with relatives and friends and all were gladdened by their visit.

Two weeks after the Re-union, the school was demolished.

### **How the Re-Union Happened**

When it was learned that a new school was being built and the old school would be demolished, queries were made of the school trustees when such a sad day would be likely to take place. It was learned that the school would remain standing till the first week of July, 1977, if we were serious about wanting a school re-union, so it was a simple matter to decide on the July weekend as the date. Any earlier would have prevented many with children in school from attending, and we needed sufficient time in which to notify the students so they could plan their vacation if they wished to attend. Permission was received to have the use of the school registers in order to list the names of all former students. This being done, the next gigantic task was to attempt to locate these students, and we had fairly good success. Relatives were phoned, telephone and city directories were scanned, and many people spent long hours searching. Finally the invitations were sent out to those we had found. We had a burning desire to reach every former student and teacher, so some 200 letters were written to radio stations and newspapers asking for assistance. Some students whose addresses we did have, never did receive their invitations and many were not returned to us even though return addresses were placed on each letter.

Committees were set up — first in Winnipeg, then in Elkhorn, and we were fortunate in having many willing workers. Meetings were held regularly in each centre and a couple of joint meetings were held at Elkhorn to discuss the progress being made. After the invitations were mailed out, the letters started coming in letting us know that these students would attend, or sending their regrets.

There was a tremendous effort put forth in the planning of the meals, lunches, etc. This committee spent many hours deciding what to serve, how many to plan for, who would supply the food, and the many other necessary details.

There was a lot of manual work to be done as the time got closer to the happening. The school had been vacant from about the end of January, so the bucket brigade spent many hours scrubbing and polishing the whole building — a giant task. Tables and benches had to be arranged for and trucked to the locations where they would be used. Toilet facilities were built. Pits were dug in which to barbecue the beef. Many other details had to be worked out, and put into being.

After the great event concluded, the process of clean up was undertaken by the volunteers.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

LAND TITLES OFFICE, DISTRICT OF BRANDON

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the following are the only Instruments or Plans which appear to have been registered upon the Lot One 1 to Four 4 both inclusive  
Block One 1 Elkhorn Plan 2939

No. of INSTRUMENT	INSTRUMENT	ITS DATE	DATE OF REGISTRY	GRANTOR	GRANTEE	CONSIDERATION OR AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE	REMARKS
3172	Deed	26 Apr 1886	25 May 1887	R. B. Argue et al	Geo. H. Rowseel	244 <sup>44</sup> / <sub>100</sub>	all
58183	Deed	1 Dec 1906	12 Nov 1912	Mary E. Rowseel et al	Margaret J. J. J. J.	1000 <sup>00</sup> / <sub>100</sub>	Part of Lt 4
59056	Deed	22 Apr 1907	30 May 1907	Mary E. Rowseel et al	John B. Frost et al	1400 <sup>00</sup> / <sub>100</sub>	Lt 3 Part
59248	Deed	1 Nov 1906	22 June 1907	Mary E. Rowseel et al	Martha S. Marsh	2850	all part
59249	mtge	1 Nov 1906	22 June 1907	Martha S. Marsh	Mary E. Rowseel et al	5000	all part
2967	R. P. a.		29 July 1909	Jno. R. H. Frost et al	applicant	-	Lt. 3 Pt. Lt 4 Pt.
75628	assgt of mtge	1 Jan 1912	12 Feb 1912	Mary E. Rowseel et al	Mary K. Hurlburt	3425 <sup>00</sup> / <sub>100</sub>	all ex pt 3. Lt 4 Pt.
75697	assgt of mtge	2 Jan 1912	19 Feb 1912	Mary K. Hurlburt	Mary E. Rowseel	3425 <sup>00</sup> / <sub>100</sub>	all part
072	Deed	28 Dec 1912	27 Jan 1913	Mary Emily Rowseel	Martha S. Marsh	-	part of no 59249, 75628, 75697
073	Deed	29 Dec 1912	27 Jan 1913	Martha S. Marsh	George H. Boyce	1300	Part
074	mtge	29 Dec 1912	27 Jan 1913	George H. Boyce	Martha S. Marsh	900	Part
01465	Deed	28 Feb 1914	7 Apr 1914	Martha S. Marsh	George H. Boyce	-	Deed of no 074
05936	Deed	31 Oct 1919	4 Nov 1919	George H. Boyce	Wm McFadden	3000	Part
05937	mtge	1 Nov 1919	4 Nov 1919	William McFadden	Matilda S. McDonald	2000	Part
010290	Deed	26 Nov 1925	30 Nov 1925	William McFadden	Matilda Sophia McDonald	1500 <sup>00</sup> / <sub>100</sub>	Part
012484	D. C. Deed	22 July 1930	2 Sept 1930	Jno Taylor J. J. J.	Martha Louise Marsh	100	Part
012969	Deed	1 June 1931	10 Aug 1931	Martha Louise Marsh	James Pierce	500 <sup>00</sup> / <sub>100</sub>	Part
013666	Deed	15 Sept 1933	16 Sept 1933	James Pierce	Beaver Lodge Sta.	700 <sup>00</sup> / <sub>100</sub>	Part
12390	R. P. a.	30 Nov 1937	13 Dec 1937	Beaver Lodge Sta.	-	1000 <sup>00</sup> / <sub>100</sub>	Part
108152	Deed	7 Nov 1945	11 Apr 1945	Matilda Sophia McDonald	Walter Edwin Lawrence	850 <sup>00</sup> / <sub>100</sub>	Part

Dated at Brandon, at 10.23 o'clock A.M., on this 11th day of April A.D. 1945

J. J. Maguire  
 Deputy of the District Registrar.

148

Deed of a house built in 1881.

# Lest We Forget

## Lest We Forget

Lest we forget what they endured  
Those boys in khaki and navy blue,  
Oh, speak not coldly of what they have done  
And the hell that they passed thro'.  
My soul oft travelled with them,  
In the dark still watches of the night;  
It felt their soul's sharp agony,  
Heard the clamour of the fight.  
It heard young brave lips utter,  
As they writhed in bitter pain,  
"Tell Mother I did not suffer."  
Then they never spoke again.  
Dying they thought of others,  
As did the suffering Christ,  
On that far-away hill of Calvary,  
A triumphant sacrifice.

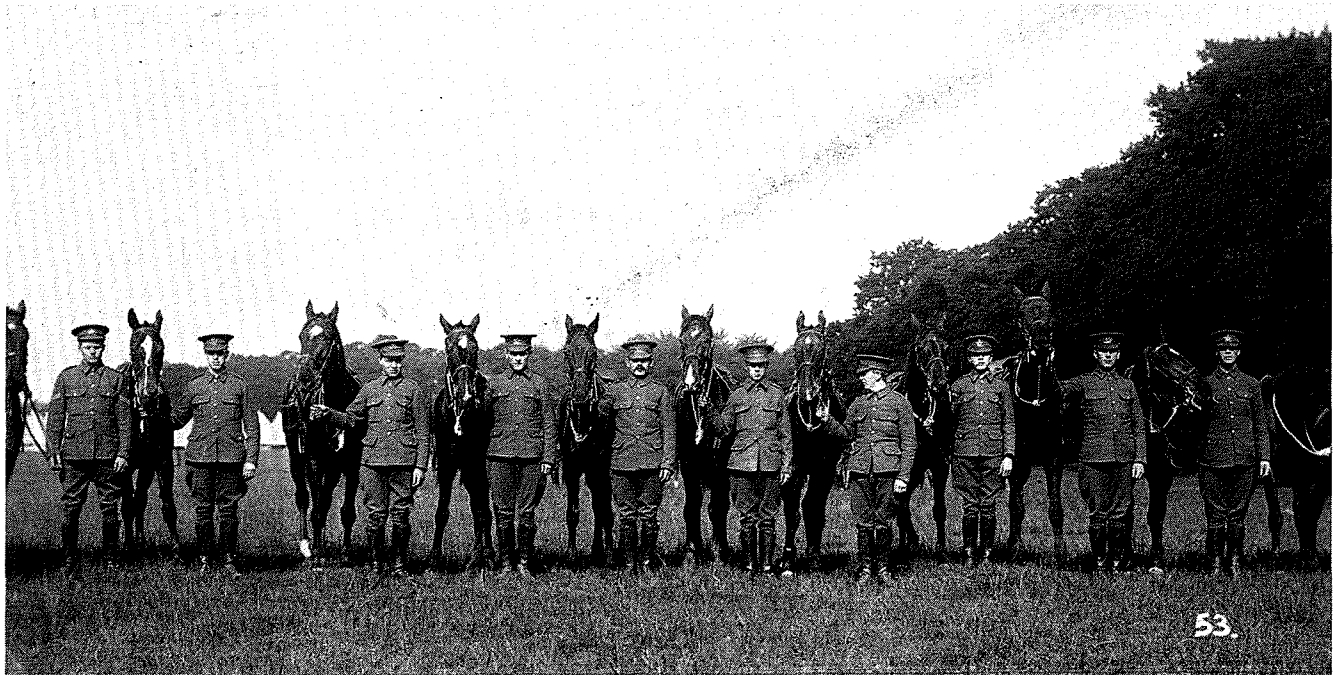
By Mrs. Wilmer Leslie

## A FEW OF "OUR BOYS" NOW AFTER THE HUN



Back row—J. Russell. H. McFadzean. L. Morden. J. Black.  
Front row—E. Kersey. F. Crosby. - Taylor H. Middleton

**W**E have to thank Mrs. T. Middleton, of Winnipeg, for the above photo of a group of our Elkhorn boys who joined the 190th (L.B.D's) last spring and with the exception of H. McFadzean, are now in England. Mrs. Middleton regrets that the group does not include W. Andrews, S. Gilbert and E. Harrington, the two former being at that time in hospital and the latter on duty, otherwise, the picture of Elkhorn's contribution to this splendid battalion would have been complete. Five of these boys were educated together and chums at the Elkhorn School. We can rely on every boy in this picture to do his duty; in its performance may he pass safely and enjoy the honor and welcome which await his return.



Fort Garry Horse, 1914-17. Harry Johnson fourth from left.



Herb Middleton and sister Ethel.



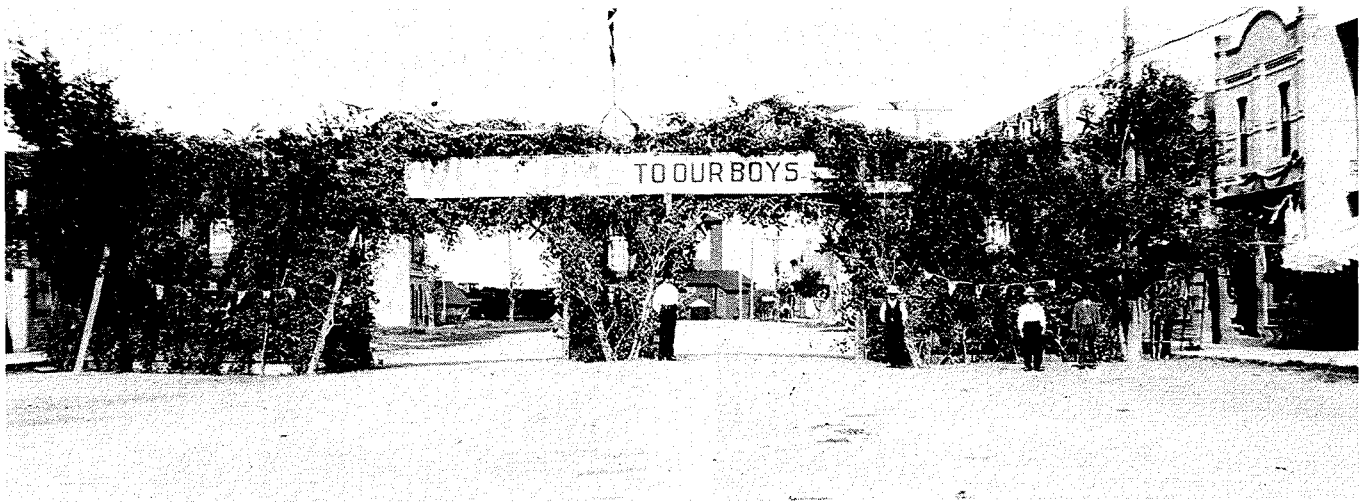
Mr. Ernest Bates — World War I.



Frank Dixon, killed in action 1918.



The Cenotaph.



Homecoming Celebration — 1918.

### “Fed Up”

Oh, take me back to Canada,  
 To the little town of Elkhorn;  
 The best little place in all this world,  
 The place where I was born.

Like many other crazy guys,  
 It was too dull for me;  
 I wanted to explore the world,  
 And sail across the sea.

There in my happy little home,  
 Where life went free with ease;  
 Where hardships were unknown to me,  
 And I did just as I please.

Where I had all the comforts  
 That any home could give;  
 But then I wasn't satisfied,  
 With the place where I did live.

To me the place seemed dismal,  
 And the people seemed so slow;  
 There wasn't dancing every night,  
 Or else a brilliant show.

And then there was another thing,  
 Far o'er across the sea;  
 The noise and roar of the battlefield,  
 Seemed ever calling me.

So one bright winter's morning,  
 What do you think I done?  
 I went and joined the army  
 For to sometime strafe the Hun.

But now I've sailed the ocean,  
 And I've seen the battlefield;  
 I know the hell of shot and shell,  
 And it's ever heaping yield.

I've seen enough of England,  
 And I've seen beaucoup of France;  
 I've seen enough of the strafing Hun,  
 And brilliant shows and dance.

I've seen enough of fighting,  
 And I've seen enough of hell;  
 I've seen enough of everything,  
 In fact I'm fed up well.

So now I've had enough of it,  
 And care no more to roam;  
 You can take me back there any time,  
 To my dear little home sweet home.

by Frank P. Dixon  
 — France, March 11th

The following Honor Rolls of men and women from Elkhorn and district who enlisted to serve in World Wars I and II were compiled as the result of much research into records available and many phone calls. However, we feel there may still be errors and omissions and for these we apologize.

The \* beside a name indicates the supreme sacrifice was made.



# Roll of Honour

## Honor Roll, World War I

Ames, W.  
Bannister, N.  
Barrett, W.  
Bates, P. A.  
Bajus, H. E.  
Bajus, F. P.  
Bajus, W.  
Bee, G.  
\*Bennet, C. A.  
Bennet, F.  
\*Benton, F.  
Benton L.  
Bell, E.  
Bessitt, D. A.  
Bethell, D. L.  
\*Black, J.  
Brimacombe, G. L.  
Bowering, E.  
Bryant, J. E.  
Burton, H. J.  
\*Cameron, R.  
Campbell, J.  
Carey, A. C.  
\*Cassell, E.  
Cavanagh, L.  
Cavanagh, L. J.  
Chittick, W.  
Chalmers, D.  
Chapman, E.  
Christie, T.  
\*Core, J.  
Cowan, W. (Riel Rebellion)  
Coyens, J.  
Cryderman, R.  
Crossman, E. A.  
Cushing, L.  
Davies, O. H.  
\*Dixon, F.

Duke, A.  
Duke, J.  
\*Duxbury, C. B.  
Duxbury, Tom (Boer War)  
Evans, D.  
Evans, H.  
Erving, A. F.  
Felcher, S.  
\*Felker, S.  
Flavel, R.  
Frazer, H.  
Frazer, J. F.  
Frazer, G. F.  
Gilbart, W. S.  
Gilbert, J. M.  
\*Gore, S.  
Goodwin, A. M.  
\*Gosling, G.  
Gliddon, R. W.  
Groat, S.  
Grimshaw, J.  
\*Grimshaw, W.  
Hamilton, G.  
Harrison, V.  
Hart, W. L.  
Hartley, C.  
Hartley, E.  
Hartley, J.  
Hennan, J. H.  
\*Higginbotham, T.  
\*Huntley, J.  
Hutchison, D.  
Ingram, L. de C.  
Johnson, C.  
Johnson, H.  
Johnston, C. W.  
Jones, J.  
Jones, R.

Judd, G.  
\*Kersey, H.  
Kersey, T.  
\*Kennedy, A. J.  
Kirk, J. M.  
Kirk, L.  
Knight, J. G. D.  
\*Knight, T.  
\*Lark, A.  
Lacey, T.  
Lee, R. H.  
Leslie, L.  
Levitt, F.  
\*Lewellyn, A.  
Lipsey, F.  
Loewen, J.  
MacDonald, A. D.  
MacDonald, A. G.  
McBeth, J.  
McCardy, A.  
McCorkindale, J. M.  
McFadden, W. R.  
McFadzen, C.  
McFadzen, H. L.  
McFadzen, W. J. H.  
McLeod, S. C.  
McLeod, T.  
\*Morden, L.  
Middleton, J. H.  
\*Michaelson, R. G.  
\*Millar, W.  
\*Miller, C. H.  
\*Nelson, A.  
Noble, R.  
\*Notman, J.  
Olive, G. A.  
Parsons, L.  
Parsons, M. E.

# Roll of Honour

Powell, A.  
Redmond, A.  
Reynolds, W.  
Reynolds, W. R.  
Rich, A.  
Riches, E. R.  
\*Richardson, R.  
Richardson, G.  
\*Rodgers, W.  
Rodgers, W.  
Ross, F.  
Satler, F.  
Sawyer, C.  
\*Sifford, G. E.  
\*Sipley, R.  
\*Stronger, D.  
\*Stanley, R.  
Stanley, W.  
\*Stiens, C.

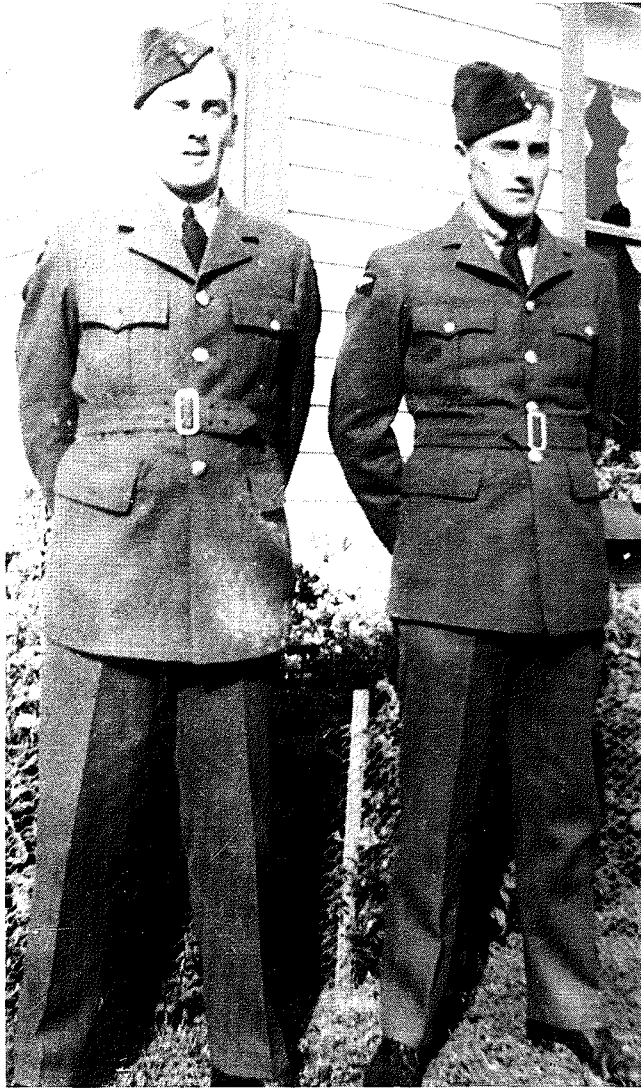
Stocker, W.  
Stoneham, C.  
Sutton, R. C.  
Tinline, F. L.  
Turk, J. E. W.  
Vodden, A.  
Vodden, A. B.  
Warder, G.  
Walker, L.  
Waller, A.  
Waller, E. G.  
\*Waller, H. C.  
Waller, R de W.  
\*Wheller, H. T.  
White, W.  
Williams, F.  
Williams, S.  
Will, C.  
Wills, T.

## Honor Roll of Indian Industrial School Pupils who enlisted for active service in World War I.

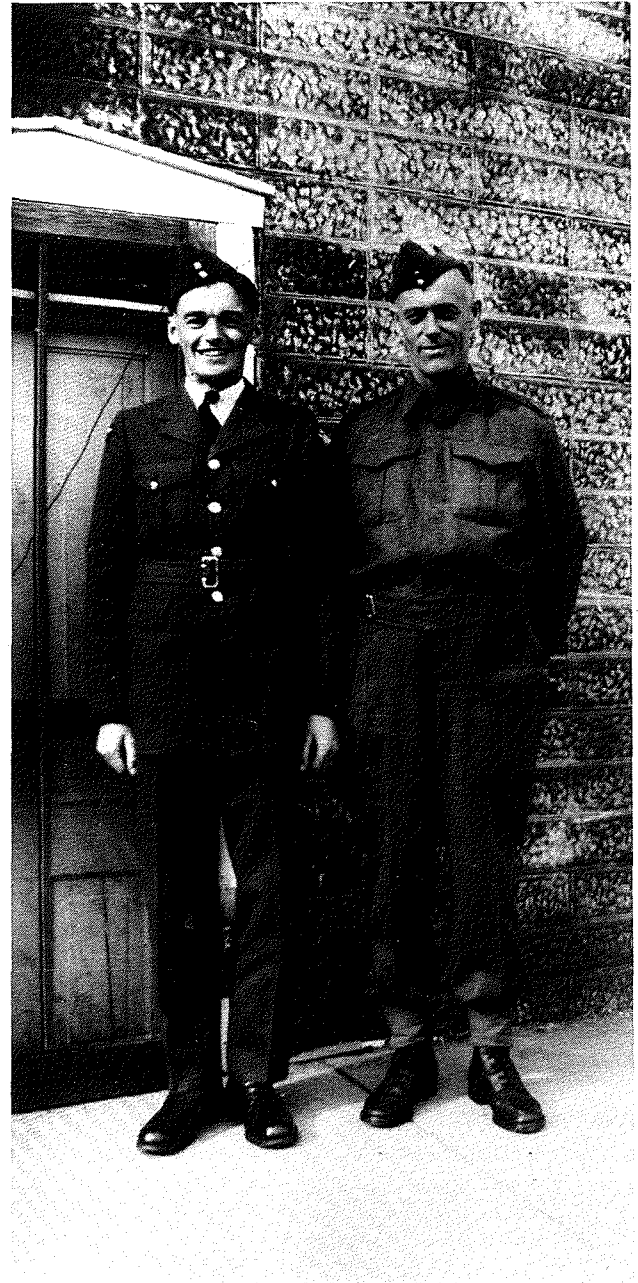
Anderson, A. W.  
Armstrong, P.  
Blackbird, W.  
Brass, A.  
Cameron, R.  
Currant, W.  
Flavell, J.  
Flett, C.  
Happa, H.  
Henderson, J.  
Kennedy, A. J.  
Kennedy, L.  
Leask, J. J.  
Lelondre, L.  
Morrison, J.

Myrick, M.  
Nowel, J. H.  
Oig, J.  
Oleson, W.  
Pruden, D.  
Sanderson, C.  
Setter, H. J.  
Sinclair, J. G.  
Sioux, H.  
Smith, E.  
Smith, P. W.  
Strange, D.  
Swanson, L.  
Thomas, D.  
Thomas, W.

## World War II



Bruce and Bob Johnson (twins).



Oscar Duxbury and Don Lemon.



Mrs. Chalmers and her eight sons. L-R Front row: Donald, Robert, Albert, Mrs. Chalmers, Wilfrid and Frank. Back row: Harold, Jack, Edward.



Gordon Williams.



Alex Brennand.



L.A. to B.E.S.L. Ladies packing overseas parcels. L-R: Mrs. C. Mitchell, Mrs. Loewen, Mrs. Hennan, Mrs. Allan McClure, Mrs. Duke. Holding parcel: Mrs. G. Turner, Behind parcels: Mrs. Kirk, Mrs. Davidson, Mrs. Eva Crosby. Holding parcels: Mrs. H. Middleton, Mrs. P. Ehrick, Mrs. H. Milroy, Mrs. Myrtle McIntosh and Mrs. Bergstrom. Extreme right: Mrs. Twigg.



Mrs. Lipsey laying the wreath at Remembrance Day Service.

# Roll of Honour

## Roll of Honor World War II

Allison, W.	Conquergood, A.	Halstein, B.
Anderson, L. J.	Conquergood, D.	Hartley, D.
Angus, L.	Conquergood, E.	Hartley, G.
Armstrong, D. M.	Conquergood, E. K.	Hartley, J. T.
Armstrong, F. J.	Conquergood, H.	Hennan, A.
Asselstine, W.	Cowan, V.	Hennan, M.
Bannister, R.	Crosby, C. K.	Heritage, H. A. R.
Bartley, Reg.	Crosby, C. S.	Irving, G. H.
Bartley, Ray	Crosby, F. S.	Jaffray, R. W.
Bartley, E.	Demanski, W.	*Jenner, J.
Baskerville, C.	Denyes, A. H.	Jenner, F. T.
Baskerville, J.	Dixon, D.	Jenner, R.
Bickerton, A. B.	*Duke, Andrew S.	Johnson, B.
Bickerton, R. T.	Duke, A. F.	Johnson, C. H.
Birchall, L.	Duke, D. S.	Johnson, D.
Black, J.	Duke, A. S.	Johnson, R.
Black, R.	Duke, R. W. R.	Johnson, S. E.
Bliss, E. R.	Dunbar, R.	Jones, B.
Bliss, P. C.	Duxbury, J.	Jones, G.
Bliss, P. J.	Duxbury, O. B.	Kersey, H. M.
Bolam, E. R.	Duxbury, T.	Kraft, E. M.
Bolam, J. J. H.	Ehrich, E. W.	Lamb, J.
Boomhower, F. G.	Ehrich, L.	Lasek, James
Boomhower, J.	Feader, L. R.	Lasek, John
Bowering, E. L.	Feader, W. M.	Lemon, D.
Bowering, F.	Fordyce, C.	Leslie, A.
Bowering, T.	Francis, W.	Leslie, C. W.
Bowering, N. J.	Franklin, D.	Leslie, L. S.
Bowering, S. G.	Franklin, M.	Leslie, R. F.
Boyce, I.	Freeman, D.	Lund, B.
Bratten, H. E.	Freer, S.	Lund, G.
Bratten, J. A.	Gardner, G.	Lund, K. L.
Bratten, R. S.	Gardner, R.	Lund, R.
Bratten, W.	Gatey, A.	Lund, W. N.
Brennand, A. J.	George, A.	Lund, Walter
*Brennand, Geo.	Gilbert, L.	Lund, W. O.
Canart, G.	Golding, D.	McColl, C.
Chowan, E.	Golding, P.	*McDonald, J.
Cole, T.	Grimshaw, J.	McDonald, L.

# Roll of Honour

Mallet, C.  
\*Mallet, R.  
Manningway, H.  
Middleton, H.  
Middleton, K.  
Miller, W.  
Milroy, G.  
Mitchell, L.  
Mitchell, O.  
Mitchell, R.  
Montgomery, D.  
Mulligan, C.  
Nelson, J.  
Nichol, J.  
Nichols, S.  
Norris, J.  
Northcutt, R.  
Nylin, T.  
Nylin, C.  
Ogilvie, P.  
Paddock, C.  
Parsons, E.  
Pascoe, G.  
Partridge, P.  
Pearson, D. (Korea)  
Pearson, R.  
Pitman, G.  
Popek, J.

Popek, F.  
Popek, M.  
Popek, Mike  
Popek, T.  
Poston, R.  
Rees, T.  
Richardson, C.  
Robertson, C.  
Robertson, G.  
Robertson, J.  
Rowan, G.  
Rozak, L.  
Searle, F.  
Shoemaker, L.  
Sinclair, L.  
Snyder, M.  
Snyder, R.  
Soder, B.  
Soder, E.  
Stenhouse, W.  
Sterling, E.  
Stinson, M.  
Toschuk, Y.  
Thompson, J.  
\*Turner, E.  
Waller, de W.  
Waller, J.  
Warnock, R.  
Watson, A.

Walker, C.  
Walker, G.  
Walker, J. P.  
Walker, W. A.  
Webster, H.  
Weldon, L.  
Whiting, H. A.  
Whiting, K. A.  
Whiting W. S.  
White, F.  
Wickham, F.  
Wickham, R. S.  
Wilcox, E.  
Wilcox, L.  
Will, Chas. J.  
Will, Doug  
Williams, F.  
Williams, G.  
Williams, K.  
Williams, R.  
Woodford, W. J.  
**Women's Division**  
Barr, M.  
Birchall, B.  
Feader, L.  
Jones, M.  
Shepherd, M.  
Stonehouse, M.

# Family Histories

## William Henry Ablett

Born in Cambridgeshire, England in 1868.

History tells us that a few years later Britain was becoming so alarmed at the great stirrings of so many of their people to immigrate to Canada that one of their newspapers, **London Truth**, in 1881 tried to discourage them and in one article gave the following quotations — “Canada is one of the most over-rated colonies we have, and will eventually go into liquidation — The C.P.R. (if ever completed) would run through country frost-bound for seven or eight months of the year. The Manitoba settlement cannot hold out for many years, owing to the extreme coldness of the winters — Men and cattle are frozen to death in numbers that would startle you — In short, the Dominion is a “fraud” and is destined to burst like any other “fraud”.

**Will Ablett** was an avid reader so maybe he was lured by the conflicting accounts of this vast and glorious land and, being young and full of vision, he decided to find out for himself. At the age of twenty-one he and his chum, Arnold Bradshaw headed for Canada and Elkhorn in 1889.

Here, in partnership with John Heritage he took up a homestead (N.E. 31-11-27). In 1900 he married John Freeman's daughter, **Beatrice** and they established their home there. They had five daughters — **Winnifred, Marguerite, Edith, Beatrice and Elfreda**.

The original house had two rooms but more rooms were added as the need arose. Access to the dugout cellar was made through a trap door in the floor.

Although their land was actually in the Reaper school district, they owned a small house in town so their children were permitted to attend Elkhorn school, the distance not being much greater. Their transportation in spring and fall was by horse and buggy, which the girls could drive themselves, but in the winter their parents, taking turns, drove them with team and sleigh (wagon box on runners) two return trips daily adding up to fourteen miles a day.

However educating their family was a very important priority and no sacrifice was too great.

In 1927 when Reaper School found itself with too few pupils to warrant hiring a teacher they decided to transport the students to Elkhorn. At this point the Abletts were lucky in having available transportation for Elfreda and Margaret Ewing who was making her home with them. The first van driver was Richard Clarkson and his daughter, Marian, who were later followed by Cecil Rodgers and Jack Watson. Other members of the van load were three Heritages — Freda, Ronald and Alfred, Jessie Drummond and Rodney and Donald Miller. When Millers moved away they were replaced by the Nylins.



Elfreda Ablett.

Winter transportation may have been slower in those days than it is now, but you had a much surer start on a cold morning. With a generous layer of straw covered by a blanket in the bottom of the wagon box, heated stones at your feet, your backs to the prevailing wind, warmly clad, (moccasins and heavy socks preferred) you settled down snugly under the robes. The driver and horses took the punishment from having to face the elements and were often covered with hoar frost.

One of the highlights of the year was the annual St. Andrew's Banquet on Burns Night, commonly known as the Scotch Supper. You did not need to be a kinsman of the bard to be willing to toast him on that night. There you could get a sumptuous meal, including "piped-in" haggis, a wonderful concert, and dance your way through reels, schottisches, waltzes and square dances (you name it) for the present price of a couple of chocolate bars. Even though it seemed to generally fall on the coldest night of the year, we could not be discouraged from attending.

During the Dirty Thirties, a farm was a choice place to live as you had your own fuel, dairy products, garden, poultry, eggs and meat. Thanks to the local beef rings in operation at the time, farm people were assured of a weekly quota of fresh beef during the summer months.

They also had their own cured pork. Surplus fat went into the melting pot and, with the addition of good old Gilletts Lye, became useful in the form of soap — direct competition to Procter and Gamble. This commodity was great for the laundry but not designed for skins.

Before the advent of radio, the modern miracle, entertainment was not highly organized as it is today. We made our own fun and, being impromptu, it always had an element of surprise. House parties, whist drives and dances were general favorites. The older members of the family can remember the telephone poles and line being put through and the excitement of actually hearing voices over the wires. A gramophone with horn ("His Master's Voice" type) was almost unbelievable. The first Model T Fords chugging along the gravel road drew appreciative spectators — seeing one made our day. Then came the crystal set, a do-it-yourself deal, the forerunner of radio, where the operator, having the earphones, enjoyed the exclusive pleasure of hearing music drawn from the air. Each development seemed the ultimate in technology — we would not have believed that electric lights and indoor plumbing would ever be found on a farm, to say nothing of television.

In the early thirties we had many visitors for a quick meal. They were boys who had hopped the freights going across Canada looking for work. They

used to disembark at Reaper siding and walk through Elkhorn to try to catch a freight again before it managed to pick up steam. Elkhorn was not considered a safe place to stay on as the train stopped to take on coal and water and transients were a little leery of being waylaid. No one could be arrested for just walking through town, but federal transportation at no charge was a different matter. Some of these fellows remained to work in the district rather than continue in the fruitless search for work. In the winter they chored for bed and board, five dollars a month and their overalls and tobacco. During the rest of the year their wages were somewhat higher.

Will Ablett died very suddenly in May, 1922. At this very critical time in the farm year, some of his neighbors, led by Bob Rodgers, organized a "bee" and gave a day's work to completing his seeding operations. His wife was able to keep the farm in operation with various help. Dave Evans arrived from Wales in 1922 and worked the farm until 1936 and he was followed by Oliver Philpott, Bill Saville and Ike Clarkson. The farm is still owned by a daughter, Marguerite. One daughter, Beatrice died in her early teens in 1924 and his wife died in December, 1953.

The remaining daughters taught school in various areas. Winnifred (Mrs. W. J. Johnson) settled in Winnipeg, Marguerite in Elkhorn, Edith (Mrs. E. S. Dewar) in Selkirk. Elfreda (Mrs. W. D. Bonnell) left the teaching profession in 1942 and went to Ottawa as a civil servant. There she married a Maritimer and, after the war, settled in his home town, Sussex, New Brunswick.

submitted by Elfreda Bonnell,  
Sussex, N.B.

## Adair History

Adair Brothers, **John** and **Thomas Fleming** came west from Tamworth, Ontario in 1886. They homesteaded near Fairlight, Sask. on 10-11-31; each brother homesteaded his own quarter section and bought a third quarter by pre-emption. About 1900 they bought NW $\frac{1}{4}$  6-11-29 in Lippentott district, Wallace Municipality, Man. from Dave Johnson. When John and Tom first came west they worked three years south of Brandon to raise money for equipment to farm their homesteads. Tom drove from Brandon with a team of oxen and a buckboard; John was driving a team of oxen and a stoneboat. I have been told that the reasoning behind the move from Saskatchewan was that the wheat didn't freeze in the fall along the Pipestone valley and where they had been farming in Saskatchewan, oats was the only crop they could get harvested in the fall before the frost came. They later sold their Saskatchewan (then



called Fleming Area, Northwest Territories) homesteads to a Mr. White.

Adair Bros. were among the first to have a threshing outfit, their first being a portable steam outfit. These machines required many men to operate and thresh (about 20). Tom had a second class Engineer's Certificate. They drilled many wells around the country, but never found water on their farm.

Adair Bros. raised Clydesdale horses for many years and took many prizes with them at fairs. Like many others, they hauled firewood from Moose Mts. a distance of fifty miles. They hauled grain to Fleming and Elkhorn.

John Adair was born at Tamworth, Ontario January 1, 1862, the third child of **Robert Adair** and **Mary Jane Bell**. Before coming west he worked as a logger and on the railways. John never married but lived with Tom and his family all his life. He was a member of Lippentott hockey and baseball clubs as well as Lippentott Rifle Club, winning awards. John passed away at the home of his nephew David Adair, April 14, 1948 on the same farm in Lippentott District where he had lived most of his life. He is buried in Woodville Cemetery, Wallace Municipality, Manitoba.

Thomas Fleming Adair was born March 30, 1864 at Tamworth, Ontario, the fifth child, third son of Robert Adair and Mary Jane Bell. Before coming west he, like his brother John, worked on the railroad and at logging in Ontario.

In March, 1904, Tom married **Elizabeth Martha Simpson**, daughter of **David Simpson** and **Mary Johnson**. They built a frame house that year; it was built by a Mr. King and still stands but is used now for grain storage.

Tom was for many years a trustee of Woodville School, which his five children attended. In his younger days he was a member of the Lippentott Rifle Club, for which he had many awards, also he was a member of Lippentott Hockey and Baseball teams.

Tom and Elizabeth's home was the scene of the "Adair Family Picnic" the first Friday in July for many years.

Tom and Elizabeth raised five children, **Clara, Jack, Eva, Lizzie** and **David**. Elizabeth died August 8, 1914. She and a baby are buried together in Woodville Cemetery; also a baby unnamed June, 1913.

In December 1915, Tom married **Margaret Crawford McNeil** from Wales. They had no children but she was a remarkable woman and a good mother to Elizabeth's children. Margaret died June 21, 1939 and is buried at Woodville. After her death Tom lived among his family, going back east, where he lived with his daughter Elizabeth in Oshawa, Ont.

until his death February 28, 1947. Tom is buried at Woodville, Manitoba.

**Clara Frances**, eldest child of Thomas F. Adair and Elizabeth M. Simpson was born December 19, 1904; she married **John McGregor** in 1929 and they farmed in the Inglesfield district, R.M. 91 Maryfield, Sask. They had four children — **David William** who married **Theresa Kernest**; they have one son **John** and live at Port Burwell, Ontario.

**Elizabeth Margaret** who married **Leo Chenier**, had three children, **Bruce, Brian** and **Linda** who are married and have children of their own. Elizabeth lives in Brandon, Man.

**Irene Frances** who married **Donald Hughes**; they have three sons, **Douglas, Gary** and **Richard**.

**Doug** is married with children. The others are at home. Irene and Don live in Tillsonburg, Ontario.

**Walter James** married **Diane Goadhand**; they have one son **Graham**. They live at Mt. Elgin, Ontario.

John McGregor died July, 1936 and was buried in Inglesfield Cemetery, Maryfield Municipality. Clara and the children moved to Ontario in December 1938. She remarried **Valentine Welli** in 1941; they had no children. They farmed at Mt. Elgin, later moved to Port Burwell where they both worked at McConnell's Nursery. They later retired to Aylmer, Ontario. Valentine died March 5, 1972 after a car accident and is buried in Aylmer Cemetery. Clara died July 16, 1975 and is buried in Aylmer Cemetery.

**John Fleming Adair**, second child of Tom and Elizabeth, was born May 6, 1906, eldest son of Thomas F. Adair and Elizabeth M. Simpson. Jack belonged to the Lippentott hockey and baseball teams. On December 8, 1937 he married M. A. **Bernice Strange** of Ryerson, Sask. They farmed in the Maryfield Municipality, Sask. for a few years and were in Winnipeg, Man. during the war years where Jack worked for Standard Machine, overhauling aircraft. He worked on construction in many different places from Ontario to British Columbia from 1945-1949. Then Jack and Bernice came back to Maryfield where Jack worked for the Municipality for four years. In 1954 they took over the cafe in Carievale, Sask. and were there five years. They then returned to Maryfield where Jack had his own water and sewer construction and plumbing business. Jack is now among the ranks of the retired and lives in Maryfield, Sask.

Jack and Bernice had two children. **Frederick John**, born May 7, 1954 married **Diane S. Fowler** August 2, 1975. Fred and Diane had a daughter **Carla Diane** born October 1, 1976. Carla died with her dad, Fred, and grandmother, Bernice, January 18, 1977 in a car accident at Alexander, Manitoba.

They are buried together in Maryfield Cemetery, Maryfield, Sask. Jack and Diane recovered from serious injuries in Brandon Hospital. **Gayle Anne**, born May 27, 1957 married **John E. Corbet**, May 5, 1979. Gayle and John live in Maryfield, Sask.

**Eva Mary**, second daughter of Tom and Elizabeth Adair born March 26, 1908, married Clarence Rowand November 29, 1933, a widower with two children, **Margaret (Mrs. Alfred Twigg)** and **Henry** who married **Irene Wadham**. Clarence and Eva had two children. **Mary Ellen** married **Herman Roach**; they have one daughter **Laura Ellen** and they live in Hargrave, Manitoba. **James Clarence**, the youngest of the Rowand family still farms the home farm SE $\frac{1}{4}$  30-10-29 which will be a century farm in 1982 having been farmed continuously by Rowands for 100 years. Jim as yet is a bachelor. (More information under Rowand and Twigg in the book.) Clarence died December 20, 1944. Eva died at her home in Maryfield October 21, 1978. They are buried in Woodville Cemetery.

**Elizabeth Gertrude**, third daughter of Tom and Elizabeth Adair was born April 14, 1910 and she went to Ontario in 1939 after her stepmother's death. She worked at Pickering, Ontario in an ammunition factory during the war years. She married **Delbert Crowder** September 10, 1942. They had two daughters. **Barbara Diane** married **Grant Southwell** May 6, 1967. They have three children, **Andrew**, **Shannon** and **Meghan**. They live in Oshawa, Ontario. **Jean Marie** married **Wayne Wickett**, December 9, 1967. They have one daughter, **Robin**. They live in Bowmanville, Ontario. Elizabeth still lives in Oshawa, Ontario.

**David Robert**, youngest son of Tom and Elizabeth Adair, was born April 4, 1912. Dave married **Edna Ramage**, daughter of George Ramage and M. Hazel Campbell of Wawota, Sask. on November 12, 1936. They moved to Ontario in November 1937, spent the winter in a one-room shack in the middle of a woods where Dave worked cutting and skidding cord wood, which was used to fire the kilns for curing tobacco. Both Dave and Edna worked for two years in the tobacco fields around Port Burwell and Tillsonburg, Ontario, then decided that that was not for them, so they came back west and bought the home farm from Adair Bros. Tom and John. The home farm at that time was NW $\frac{1}{4}$  6-11-29 and NE $\frac{1}{4}$  1-11-30 W 1st meridian which was  $\frac{1}{4}$  in Manitoba and the other in Saskatchewan across the boundary from one another. Dave had many interests, among them hunting, trapping, music and baseball, having played baseball with the Lippentott team as his father had before him. He was also a good shot with a rifle being able to light a match at a distance of about 100

yards while standing. He also loved his animals and always had a dog that would work for him. We always knew where Dad was because the dog was never far from where he was unless we girls were outside; then he travelled back and forth between. Dave was a good friend and neighbour to all who knew him. He died suddenly April 26, 1960 at his home and is buried in Woodville Cemetery. Edna worked to put her girls through school and is now retired and living in Maryfield. She sold the Saskatchewan quarter in the early 70's and the Manitoba quarter in 1976. Dave was predeceased by one daughter in September 1940. Dave and Edna raised two daughters. **Sharon Edna** received her schooling at McNaught and Maryfield Schools in Saskatchewan and took a cosmetology course in Winnipeg in 1960-61, then worked in various towns until coming back to Maryfield to work in 1963. In 1971 she started her own beauty shop in Maryfield, which she still owns. On April 2, 1972, she married **Lloyd A. Dixon** of Maryfield, Sask. They have two children, **Dava Loy** born August 15, 1973 and **Douglas William** born July 10, 1975. They farm on the Dixon family farm north of Maryfield on SE $\frac{1}{4}$  30-11-30, R.M. Maryfield 91.

**Heather Lynne** received her schooling at McNaught and Maryfield, Wawota and Carnduff, Sask. Heather, after completing school, worked in the telephone office in Maryfield for Stan and Ida Atcheson. She married **William D. Dixon** of Maryfield, Sask. October 16, 1965. They have one daughter, **Kelly Lynne** born July 21, 1966. They live on the Dixon farm north of Maryfield SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  30-11-30. Lloyd and Bill are brothers, sons of H. A. (Tom) Dixon and Maud Lloyd. They farm together under the name of Dixon Bros. and have two houses in the same yard thus making Kelly, Dava, and Doug the fourth generation to live on this quarter and the 5th generation of Simpson lineage with land in Maryfield Municipality.

#### **Brothers and Sisters of Thomas and John Adair are:**

Eliza Jane married Thomas Sheard.  
William Angus married Lucenda Campbell.  
John unmarried.  
Hester Catherine married James Huffman.  
Thomas Fleming married Elizabeth Simpson.  
Clarissa Caroline married Peter McConnachie, remarried Arthur Joseph Joping.  
Robert married Arvilla Hubble.  
Ruth Johnson married Andrew Donovan.  
James McGillvary married Annie Maria Dunham.  
Sara Susan married Jacob Huffman.  
Robert was the only one who settled in Ontario.

The rest of the brothers and sisters settled in the Maryfield Municipality No. 91. Many of their descendants still live there today.

Brothers and sisters of Elizabeth Simpson Adair were:

Fred and Frank who farmed the home farm. Fred later moved to Maryfield, Saskatchewan. Most of his family still resides there. Fred married Molly (Mary) Grant.

Eva married Robert Angus. Son Lyle still lives on the farm.

Revia married Wes Lund Jr., lived in Kola district.

Nell married Ed Lund and lived at Oak Lake.

Della married Tom Symington and lived in Vancouver, B.C.

Cassie married A. Lawson and lived in Oak Lake.

Their father, David Simpson, lived on the Saskatchewan side of the boundary and operated the Lippentott post office from March 1895 to June 9, 1917, when it closed. People from both provinces had Lippentott as their post office.

The land David homesteaded is still farmed by his grandsons Lloyd, Glenn and Cecil Simpson.

### Stories I've been told and Stories I Remember

I was told that John Adair was the first patient to have an appendix operation performed in Moosomin Hospital, Sask. where he was a patient for two months because of blood poisoning setting in.

I was told that Tom and John Adair's father, Robert, made the pulpit for the Inglesfield Church.

I was told that Thomas Adair was returning home from Elkhorn, Man. with a load of coal, just at dusk, after a long trip to market with a load of wheat with a team and wagon. Two men came out of the bluff along the trail, one went to the horses' head, stopping them and the other fellow started climbing up onto the wagon. When Tom noticed a revolver in the man's hand, he picked up a lump of coal and hurled it at this man's head. The man fell to the ground (possibly knocked out). The man holding the horses had a cane, with which he hit one horse, the team started off on a gallop. This man turned to his companion, picked up the revolver, and a shot rang out which hastened the team along all the faster. As this happened about a mile from home they were soon safely there. An attempted robbery no doubt.

I was told that Tom Adair played the violin for dances.

I was told that the cyclone took the roof off, and the east side out of the barn onto the pig shed at Dave Adair's, in August 1944. John Adair had a heart

attack that night, just when we were going to go to the cellar in case the wind blew the house away.

I remember Uncle John taking us for walks measuring distance by how many telephone poles we passed on our way down the lane.

I remember when Uncle John had his fatal heart attack in April, 1948. There wasn't enough snow for horse and sleigh and too much mud for cars to travel on the roads so Murray Wood flew the doctor out to the farm. I remember going with Dad to the edge of the field with the horses and stoneboat to bring Murray and the doctor to the house; also that Aunt Eva Rowand came and stayed at our place to sit with Uncle John. Our little white dog, Penney, never left her place on Uncle John's feet until he passed away. The casket was set up in the bedroom where he died. I think now how hard we were on our mom as we wanted to go see Uncle John about every twenty minutes and she always took us. His was the first funeral I ever attended.

I remember the card games my folks, John and Lena Simpson, Jim and Marion Lund used to have. It was time to go home when the gas lamps went out, the alarm clock rang or the water in the kettle at the back of the stove froze.

I remember Mom, Heather and I driving miles with Toots Lund looking for her Bambi that strayed away one fall. Also later Toots had a gosling that died of old age and was still a gosling.

I remember going to Ernie Taylor's for drinking water and getting Gladys to play the piano for us while Dad talked to Ernie and got the water.

I remember getting ready for the Fowl Suppers at Woodville and the concert after the supper.

I remember Cemetery day at Woodville, which still exists.

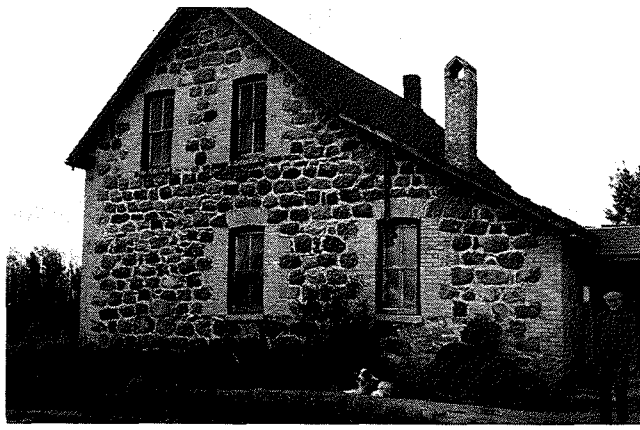
I remember thinking our Christmas gift to Jim after the Rowand house fire, a white shirt, was practical, but not much for a kid at Christmas when toys were really in.

submitted by Sharon E. Dixon, nee Adair.

### George and Elizabeth Allison

**George and Elizabeth Allison** were married in 1873 and came to Canada from Kilmarnock, Scotland in 1883. Three sons were born in Scotland, **Bill, James, and George. Alan, John and Tom** were born in Canada.

George and Elizabeth homesteaded 2-13-28 the farm now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Bud Brennan. George and Elizabeth started out living in a tent and had one horse and a cow. They gradually built up a good Shorthorn herd and also lots of sheep. George, with the help of his sons, built their own stone house and barn. In their home, they had the "Burnbank



Home of George Allison which served as Burnbank Post Office.

Post Office" in which Elizabeth was the postmistress for many years. A prairie trail passed through the farm which was used by the stage coach, as a stopping off place to rest and water the horses.

George was well known for his herd of Shorthorn cattle and also for his sheep, taking many prizes at the "fairs". He was also often in demand for judging. He was vice-president of the Agricultural Society in 1893. He served on the council for many years. George passed away in 1928.

Elizabeth was a kindly, hard working Scottish lady who loved to serve a cup of tea and give fruit cake and cookies to the children who came walking by for the mail. She helped form the first St. Andrews Society in Elkhorn. Elizabeth died in 1927, the result of injuries caused by severe burns from a fire in her home.

Bill Allison was in World War One, then later drove a street car in Vancouver.

Jim Allison homesteaded 25-12-28 in the Burnbank district. He sold out to E. A. R. Bates in the 1930's and moved to Newton, B.C. He never married.

Alan Allison died as a result of a "mower accident".

John Allison homesteaded 29-12-27 now a third generation farm in the York district.

Tom Allison farmed at home, sold out and went to Swan River and later retired to British Columbia.

George Allison Jr. homesteaded S.E. 6-14-28 in the Manson district. Hard times were had by all as related by daughter **Blanche**. One spring George took duck eggs away from a wild duck nesting and replaced them with hen eggs and the duck hatched them. Imagine the duck's surprise when it came to the swimming lessons.

submitted by Margaret Allison

## John and Annie Allison

**John** was born on 2-13-28, a son of the George Allisons; their home was known as Burnbank.



L-R Back row: Helen, Bob, Bill, Betty. Seated: John and Annie Allison 1948.

John bought the land 29-12-27 in the Wallace Municipality and built his home. This land was in the York school district. John met and married a Scottish immigrant, **Annie Cruickshank**; she arrived in Elkhorn with her brothers and sisters in 1912. They were married on December 23, 1915.

John was always interested in his livestock, and showed at many Agricultural Fairs, winning many ribbons with his purebred Shorthorns, swine and sheep. He also grew registered grain. Often he was found tramping his fields pulling weeds, as sprays were unknown.

John served on the Elkhorn Agricultural Society, and was a member of the York School District Board when it was inaugurated.

Annie was a fine homemaker and was interested in her garden and raising poultry.

John and Annie had two daughters — **Betty** who married **Ken Bussey** and lives at Castro Valley, California; **Helen**, who married Jack Murray and farmed in the Mossgiel District until they retired to Elkhorn in 1978, and two sons **William** and **Robert** who stayed farming in the district.

John and Annie farmed until 1948 when they retired to Haney, B.C. They always looked forward to their trip home to Manitoba each summer, to be with their family. They spent a good deal of their time on their home farm, where William lived. Annie

passed away in April, 1958 and John in January, 1960.

### Robert and Margaret Allison

**Bob** was born at the Allison homestead 29-12-27, the youngest son of **John** and **Anne** Allison. He took his schooling at Elkhorn as there was never a school built in the York district. Bob's entire life has been associated with farming. He married **Margaret Lamb** in 1958 and started out farming on the Fred William's farm 13-12-28 and then moved to 19-12-27 in 1964.



Margaret and Bob Allison with their children Shelly and Brian.

Margaret was born at the George Harry farm in 1935, the daughter of Ted and Kathleen Lamb. She took all of her schooling at Elkhorn followed by nurses training at Brandon General Hospital. Bob and Margaret have two children **Shelly**, now a registered nurse, working at Brandon General Hospital. **Brian**, after his grade XI education, has worked on an oil rig moving all over Alberta for the past two years.

At the present time Margaret continues to work at Elkhorn hospital. She participates in several activities of the district. Bob has been a member of the Elkhorn United Church board for quite some time. For fun, both have become quite enthusiastic about old-time dancing.

submitted by Margaret Allison

### William Laurence Allison

**BILL** was the eldest son of John and Annie Allison. He was born on April 27th, 1919 on the farm home on 27-12-29. He received his education at the Elkhorn School. He always rode in a van, during the



Bill and Emma Allison with their family. At left, Beth and Gordon Allison and at right, Mark and Janet Canart with their three children. L-R: Ryan, Michelle and Aaron.

summer in the back of a truck or car, and the winter months in a covered van with a team. During the winter months he never saw the farm in daylight. During the thirties, he used to travel on his bicycle to clip sheep for the farmers who had flocks. He found it very hard to keep his shears sharp as the fleeces used to be packed with dust during the dirty 30's.

He joined the R.C.A.F. in the fall of 1941, and served five years for his country. He was stationed at MacDonald, Trenton and St. Thomas. After returning home, he worked with his father, drove the York School van in the winter of 1946-47. In the summer of 1947 he accompanied Ron Heritage to Texas. Ron custom combined and Bill trucked the grain, for various farmers from Texas to the Dakotas. In October, 1947, he married Emma, eldest daughter of Agnes and Gordon Heaman of the Harmsworth District. Emma received her early education at Joslin and Hargrave and graduated with Grade XII from Virden Collegiate.

After attending Normal School, she taught at Arawana and Breadalbane School Districts.

Emma and Bill bought Johnnie Allison's farm and farmed for 32 years, experiencing lots of ups and downs. The crops were completely hailed in 1956, dried out in 1961 and hailed badly again in 1962.

They had two children. **Janet Marie** was born in 1951. She married **Mark Canart** in 1971. They have three children, **Michelle**, **Ryan** and **Aaron**. Presently living at Kamloops, B.C. where Mark is employed at the B.C. Livestock Commission.

**Gordon** was born in 1953. He married **Beth Boyd** from Pierson in 1975. They are farming the home farm which was homesteaded by his grandfather, Johnnie Allison.

## **Gordon and Beth Allison**

**Gordon** was born in Virden Hospital and grew up on the family farm. He took an active part in the Elkhorn 4-H Beef Club for nine years. He has been involved in many sports over the years including hockey, curling, fishing and hunting. Gordon married **Beth Boyd** from Pierson in 1975. Beth was a graduate of Brandon University in 1974 and is presently teaching Grade I in Elkhorn School.

Gordon and Beth took over the family farm in the spring of 1979 and they are both enjoying their new life there.

## **The Allum Family**

**CECIL** and **MAVIS ALLUM**, both natives of Oak Lake, Manitoba came to the Elkhorn District in 1963. Cecil first worked for H. Woods and later on neighboring farms. They moved into Elkhorn in 1974 where Cecil is established in the carpentry trade. Mavis works at Elkhorn hospital and is a volunteer with the Ambulance Service. They are both active Chamber of Commerce members.

They had three children; **KENNETH** was deceased as an infant in 1961. **SHELLY** went to school in Elkhorn and Brandon. She now resides in Brandon. **SCOTT** got his schooling in Elkhorn and Virden. He resides in Boissevain. There are two grandchildren, Eric and Kevin.

## **Elmer Anderson**

**Elmer William Anderson** was born on February 27th, 1881, at Long Lake, Minnesota. He immigrated to Canada in 1903 and took up a homestead north of Elkhorn in the Jeffrey district. On June 25th, 1914, Elmer married Inga Amanda Hemmingson of Manson, Manitoba. He farmed the same farm until the time of his death. He was a councillor in the Archie Municipality and served several terms on the Jeffrey School board. He died on June 13th, 1942, after a brief illness and is buried in the Elkhorn Cemetery. He left his wife Inga to carry on the farm with the help of their second son, Albert. Their oldest son, Lorne was then serving in the Armed Forces overseas (1942-45). The farm was sold to Manley Jacobs in 1949.

After leaving the farm Inga lived in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Calgary, Alberta, and finally in Virden, Manitoba, where she resided until the time of her death, May 2nd, 1977. She, too, is buried in the Elkhorn Cemetery. She was a great home-maker and was active in community affairs. At one time, she conducted a Sunday School for her own children and all the neighbourhood children. She was active in Red Cross and U.C.W. until the time of her death.

Elmer (William) and Inga Anderson had five children:

**Alice Marie**, who died in 1923 and is buried in the Elkhorn Cemetery.

**Lorne James**, married to Margaret Down of Toronto, Ontario, resides in Calgary, Alberta. They have five children and one grandson.

**Albert Ross**, married to Barbara Stevens of Kenton, Manitoba, resides in Virden, Manitoba. They have two children and three grandchildren.

**Gladys Lavina**, who married Roy Pedrick of Winnipeg, Manitoba, still resides in Winnipeg. They have five children and two grandchildren.

**Marjorie Mae**, married to Raymond Aldred of Sioux Lookout, Ontario, resides in Brantford, Ontario. They have five children and two granddaughters.

**Irene Marion** married Lenard Aldred of Sioux Lookout, Ontario. They and their five children reside in Hinton, Alberta.

## **Jeanette Anderson, Carnduff, Saskatchewan**

I was born at Carnduff and received my education there. Growing up on a dairy farm, there was always plenty of work to do but I still found time for sports, curling, skating and dancing. As well as teaching a Sunday School Class, I sang in the Baptist Church Choir every Sunday afternoon and attended the United Church at night.

I was accepted at Brandon General Hospital School of Nursing in early 1935, although I had thought of continuing vocal lessons. Graduating in 1938 (obtaining an award in my second year for general proficiency) was a happy time in my life.

After doing private duty for a couple of years I accepted work with Dr. Johnston in Elkhorn as work in this field wasn't very plentiful on account of the Depression. At least I was assured of room and food. One of the first people I met was Grace Duxbury; she and Oscar are among some of my best friends today.

Among the nurses were Margaret MacIntyre, Agnes Clubb, Ethel Poston and a Donnelly girl from Brandon. Shirley Heritage was cooking at the hospital at that time. I helped Dr. Johnston with many maternity cases and I delivered on my own many babies who are now middle-aged men and women. If he was too late arriving he would say: "Guess I was too late getting my pants on!". This wasn't always true.

After two years I returned home to nurse my mother and stayed on the farm for one year until we sold the dairy herd and milking machine. Then I was away again. To Fleming first, then back to Elkhorn. The next year Agnes and I did our own cooking and

cleaning at the hospital. The days were long but we still found time to go dancing on Saturday nights in the hall. I've forgotten the lady's name who used to help us out but Mrs. Streeter of Fleming came to our aid many a time.

In 1945 I got an Industrial Nursing position at Canada Packers in St. Boniface. When I had been there about five years the 'foot and mouth' disease spread through the cattle, pretty well across Canada, and many plant workers as well as nurses lost their jobs.

Going to Deer Lodge Hospital, I worked with Veterans from the First World War. Here I was moved around to various wards — Skin, Urology and Orthopedic Wards. In the Urology ward were many amputees and paraplegics. My first patient to bathe was a young fellow, funny and humorous. I went to wash his second leg and it wasn't there — he laughed and I was embarrassed. I hadn't been told.

In 1955 I left for sunny California and spent ten years there, having to take out citizenship in order to work.

The first ward I worked on there was an Intensive



Jeanette Anderson.

Care Unit (fairly new then) and then I too had the opportunity after five years to help open a new hospital. It was quite an experience as there were many things still not available and we had to make do.

Returning to my home town in 1965, I operated a restaurant for nine and a half years — this wasn't any easier work than what I had done for thirty years.

Now retired, I maintain my little house, help with certain functions like weddings and anniversaries, and in my spare time do needlepoint.

I return to Elkhorn and still know quite a few people. I like to jaunt around and I must say it brings back some fond memories.

submitted by Jeanette Anderson

### G. C. Andrews

**Garnet Andrews and Gwendolyn McGinnes** were married in Winnipeg on December 22, 1934 and lived in Winnipeg for several years, moving to Elkhorn in 1952 where Garnet was in a General Insurance Business with his father-in-law, **Ed McGinnes**. He was Secretary-Treasurer of Elkhorn Consolidated School District from 1959-1969 and was also Secretary-Treasurer of Elkhorn Village Council from 1959 till the time of his death in December, 1973. He belonged to the Elkhorn Canadian Legion and Elks Lodge. Garnet spent many hours at his favorite sports — hunting and fishing.



Garnie and Gwen Andrews with Gwen's mother, Mrs. McGinnes at right.

Gwendolyn Andrews spent her early childhood in Kirkella. She graduated from Brandon Normal School and taught school at Ashville, Greenway, Miami and Elkhorn. She was a member of the Rebekah Lodge at Miami and Past Honored Royal Lady of the Royal Purple Lodge in Elkhorn. Gwen passed away on August 13, 1972.

Garnet and Gwen Andrews had one son **Lyall**, born in Winnipeg July 22, 1938, later moving to

Elkhorn where he completed Elementary and High School. He attended Teachers' College and taught at Miami, Red Lake District High School, Ontario and Grand Marais, Manitoba. He married **Gwen Vanstone** of Rosebank, Manitoba in 1966. A daughter was born to them in 1969. Lyall passed away in 1971 while holidaying in London, England.

submitted by B. McDonald

### Tom and Bessie Andros

**Tom (Tommy) Andros**, a native of Toronto, Ontario came to Elkhorn in 1949 to open a cafe in the Roseberry Block. He had been in Virden the previous year.

He bought the cafe business from Mike Stopyra and took over the adjoining barber shop operated by Bob Ewing.



Bessie.



Thomas Andros with a fine catch.

By remodelling and being open long hours, Tommy soon had a thriving business. His favorite hobbies were hunting and fishing. He and his buddies relate many fantastic stories about their jaunts to the river.

With the success in business, Tommy decided on another venture — marriage. He journeyed to Toronto in 1954 and landed back in Elkhorn with **Bessie**, a native of Sparta, Greece, as his bride.

Bessie soon won the hearts of all — especially the children. Although she did not know the English language, she very quickly learned our customs and to speak English. The bad words seemed to come easily and she can tell of many embarrassing moments, due to putting the words in the wrong place.

Tom had a “green thumb,” and still has today, growing many flowers and vegetables in a small plot of ground behind the cafe.

Bessie enjoyed taking pictures with her movie camera. She has a delightful collection of weddings, Field Days, School Initiations, Stadium fire, and of private individuals (Mr. and Mrs. McCorkindale, Jim Clarke, Garnie Andrews, Fred Simpson, Charlie Luton, Prime Lawrence, Herb Jones, Carl Dahl) and many more — most of whom have now passed away.

They purchased the bulding in 1956 from Walter Davey and continued to remodel, finishing the upstairs.

In 1975 they sold their business to Lyle Rowan and moved to Brandon. Bessie still works at K-Mart and Tom still works in his garden, where he now successfully grows many foreign plants — artichokes, okra and eggplants being a few.

submitted by Edith Chapple

### Angus Family at Elkhorn

**John Angus**, a Yorkshireman by birth, was a butcher by trade. In 1868 he immigrated to Canada, settling at Whitby, Ontario. At Whitby, John met and married **Catherine (Lynn) Lynam**, a widow, with five children from her former marriage. Four children were born to John and Catherine; **Hannah, Thomas, William, and Kathleen**.

It was decided that the family move west as so many other families were doing. John, leaving the family in Ontario, started the journey to find new land. On the way, he met a young highland Scotchman, by the name Duncan McGregor. Finding that their purpose was the same, they accompanied one another for the remaining journey. When reaching Brandon, John and Duncan left the train. John purchased an ox and Red River cart, and the men travelled to their homesteads. John had purchased a homestead eight miles west of Elkhorn. In later years the district became known as Mossgiel. John filed on N.E. ¼ 32 on September 12, 1882.



Shortly after arrival, John was hired by the C.P.R. to do the butchering for the construction crews.

Catherine, John's wife, accompanied by her daughter **Mary Lynam** and the four Angus children, came to join him. The railway had come only as far as Elkhorn, so the family spent the night in the station house. After breakfast the next day, they walked to the farm. There were so few people in the area at this time, it must have been very difficult to find their way for the eight miles.

Mrs. Angus filed S.W. ¼ 32; however, she passed away before the quarter was patented and it was patented in the name of Mary Ann Canty, receiving the land by inheritance. Mary Ann Canty was Catherine's daughter from her first marriage.

John Angus filed for pre-emption S.E. ¼ 32 on August 26, 1891.

The youngest **Lynam (Bartel)** came to Manitoba to be with the family and filed N.W. ¼ 32.

On October 20, 1883, the family suffered a tragic accident when Hannah and Tom Angus went through the ice while skating. Bartel Lynam tried to save the children and lost his life as well.

Bartel Lynam's land was then held in trust for William Angus, the youngest of John's sons.

John retired from the rail after several years and opened a Butcher Shop in Elkhorn. Years later, on January 17, 1895, his shop was destroyed by fire. His loss was great; approximately \$600.00, and was insured with Great West for only \$225.00. Once again he returned to the farm. December 20, 1895 Catherine passed away.

Throughout the years, John held many offices. In 1885 he took an oath of office as a member of the first council of the Municipality of Wallace. He was appointed as police Magistrate at Elkhorn by her Majesty Queen Victoria.

John turned the operating of the farm over to his son William, after he was unable to continue the hard work. John died December 7, 1912.

Both John and Catherine packed a lot of living and work into the short years of their lives.

William continued to farm the homestead and in 1904 married **Dorothea Dickins Cockerill**.

In 1906 William rented the farm to Allen Schofield. Later he rented to Mr. Cousins for a number of years, during which time he purchased a homestead in Merridale district, fifteen miles north-east of Roblin. In 1918 he sold his land and returned to Mossgiel.

In 1925 William Angus died and left his wife to raise the family. In 1939 the family sold their land in Mossgiel and moved to Bield area, fifteen miles east of Roblin, and took up farming once again.

Dorothea Angus passed away June, 1962. William and Dorothea had seven children: **Ada** and **Mary** who were born in Elkhorn; **Madge, Bartel, David,** and **Lynn** were born in Merridale; and **William**, the youngest, was born in Elkhorn.

Ada remained unmarried and farmed with her mother and helped raise the family. Ada passed away December 20, 1980 of a heart attack.

Mary passed away at the age of nineteen in Elkhorn.

Madge became a teacher, married Buster Young, and raised three children. Madge passed away in 1974.

Bartel married and raised five children. He is still active on the farm and in the logging business with his sons.

David lives near the Angus farm and is now a retired carpenter.

Lynn lives in Langenburg, Saskatchewan. He married and raised seven children. He too is a retired carpenter.

William is now in Manitouwadge, Ontario, married and has three children. He is employed with the mines.

collected by Ada Angus  
written by Ruth Angus

## Angus

**Mr. and Mrs. Robert Angus** homesteaded on 12-11-29. They had a son **Robert** (born in Ontario). Soon after settling in the district Robert (Sr.) was killed when struck by lightning, just prior to the birth of his daughter **Mary Helen**. Mrs. Angus stayed on the farm and did her homestead duties until she later married **William Paull**, who had come from Scotland at the same time as the Wood families and also to the Woodville district.

Robert Angus (Jr.) married **Eva Matilda Simpson**. They both resided in the district until their death, Eva in 1928 and Robert in 1965. Robert served on the school board for many years. They had two sons, **Lyle** who still lives on his father's farm 9-11-29, and an infant (deceased and unnamed).

Mary Helen (Nellie) married **Frank Snyder**. Frank served on the school board for a few years until they moved from the district. They had four children, **Edna, Eva, Jean** and **Frank**. Eva and Jean attended Woodville School. After Frank's death, Nellie married **Guy Longman**. Eva married **Edward Foote** and they live at Pipestone, Man. They have two children, **Daryl** who married **Anne Rothenburger** and lives in Winnipeg, and **Glenis** who is in Brandon taking a nurses' training course. Jean married **Milburn Leach**. They have three sons, **Clarence, Gordon**

and **Arnold**. Clarence and **Olga** have two children, **Norman** and **Sheila**, and Gordon and **Ann** have two children, **Carol** and **Jeanette**. These four children are great grandchildren of the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert Angus. Frank married **Dorothy Narborough** and lives in Vancouver. They have three sons, **Malcolm**, **Wayne** and **Ashley**. **Malcolm** and **Wanda** have two children, **Randy** and **Donna**; **Ashley** and **Carol** have one son **David**. These three children are also great great grandchildren of the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert Angus.

### **Francis Coulter Armstrong**

The Armstrong family first came to Elkhorn when **Francis Coulter Armstrong** filed on his homestead and pre-emption in June, 1882, on the west half of section 34-10-28 in the Buckingham district, occupied today by Donald George. Frank Armstrong came as a single man and had previously homesteaded at Rapid City. Earlier plans to build a railroad through Rapid City gave way to plans to build the main line of the C.P.R. through Brandon. Some of the early settlers who arrived with the building of the railroad wished to remain close to the railway. Frank Armstrong was born at Shawville, Quebec, in 1850. His father, also named Frank, came from Tyrone in Northern Ireland and came to Canada shortly before 1850. Mr. Armstrong lived on his homestead for forty years until his death in 1922. He married **Miss Elizabeth Connolly**, daughter of Archibald Connolly, and raised a family of seven: Anna Bella and George Heman (twins), Francis James, John Henry, Silas Coulter, Mabel Willetta, and Alice Ethel. Mrs. Armstrong died in 1917 on her sixtieth birthday.

**Anna Bella Armstrong** (Annie, 1890) was born at the farm home 34-10-28, and upon the death of her mother took over the duties of keeping the home together, and being a good help to her neighbours. Her hobby was knitting for the Red Cross and family members. She retired to Elkhorn in 1955, and died in 1976.

**George Heman Armstrong** (1890) worked as a fireman for a time on the C.N.R. east from Winnipeg to Atikokan. He was also an enthusiastic custom thresher and with his brother, Jim, they ran a fairly large threshing outfit. In 1918, George took a homestead northwest of Parkbeg, Saskatchewan, and in 1922 came back to Manitoba and settled in the Arawana district on the west half of section 29-10-28. On June 14th, 1922, he married Mable Goldaline Conway, born in 1904, the daughter of Charles and Genevieve Conway of Parkbeg. Together they raised a family of five sons and four daughters at this location. In 1943, the George Armstrong family moved

to section 27-10-28 in the Parkland district where they lived until retiring to Vancouver in 1960. Both George and Mable died in 1979 and are buried in the family plot at Elkhorn. Their family are:

**Elmer Roy Armstrong** (1925) married Leona Pappel, daughter of Joseph and Nettie Holenski of Morden, and she has one son, Norman Pappel. After working in a number of places — Princeton, British Columbia, Winnipeg and Brandon, Manitoba, Elmer returned to the George Armstrong farm in 1955 and took full control in 1960, residing there at this time.

**Glen Douglas Armstrong** (1927) married Jean Emily Winnefred Thomson, daughter of the late James J. Thomson and Florence, now Mrs. Wendel Sararas of Virden. Jean is the only sister of Allan Thomson of Elkhorn and Bob Thomson of Hargrave. Glen and Jean reside at Esterhazy, Saskatchewan, and have a family of three sons and one daughter, residing at Whitewood and Esterhazy, Saskatchewan.

**Harold George Armstrong** (1928) married Betty McCracken of Tantalton, Saskatchewan, and they live in Richmond, British Columbia. She taught school at Arawana in 1945-46. Harold is currently chief electrician for B.C. Packers. They have two daughters.

**Francis Charles Armstrong** (1930) married Donna Drinkwater of Hagersville, Ontario, where they presently reside. Frank is in the carpentry and building business. They have one son and three daughters.

**Allan James Armstrong** (1934) married Nancy Marshall of Haney, British Columbia, (Maple Ridge) where they presently reside. Allan is a steam power operator and technician. They have two sons and one daughter.

**Audrey Winnifred Armstrong** (1936) married Robert McNeil of White Rock, British Columbia, where they currently operate a motel. They have one son and one daughter.

**Dorothy Edith Armstrong** (1938) married James D. Nichol of Montgomery district, Virden. At present they reside and operate the Josiah and Cecil Nichol farm. They have one son and two daughters.

**Patricia Jean Armstrong** (1940) married Morris Horn, formerly of Virden, at present a Greyhound bus driver. They have separated and have two sons and one daughter. They reside in Winnipeg.

**Evelyn Eileen Armstrong** (1943) married Colin Clark of Oak Lake. Colin is in the back-hoe, trenching and earth hauling business. They have one daughter and one son. They reside in Oak Lake.

**Francis James Armstrong** (Jim, 1892) was a quiet, easy-going man, who farmed on the home-

stead. He was a good cattle producer and horseman. He was not a man of public affairs, but was president of the Elkhorn Agricultural Society and a Past Master of Elkhorn Masonic Lodge No. 74. In 1955, he retired to Elkhorn. He died in 1975.

**John Henry Armstrong** (1894) died at the age of 10 and is buried in the old Kola cemetery (Anglican).

**Silas Coulter Armstrong** (Si, 1895) married Muriel Elaine McLeod on December 25th, 1918, and farmed the north half of section 1-11-28 in the Parkland district, where they raised a family of four sons and one daughter. Elaine was born in 1896, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John McLeod. Si was secretary of Buckingham and Parkland schools for twenty-nine years and President of the Dairy and Poultry Pool at Elkhorn. He was also an active member of the Canadian Order of Foresters. Elaine taught school at Maryfield and Esterhazy, Saskatchewan, and Buckingham school prior to her marriage. In 1951, they retired to Elkhorn where Si was employed with Wilfred Francis in the Massey Harris business until his death in 1962. Elaine is still active in the O.O.R.P. Lodge and resides alone in her home. Their children are:

**John Francis Armstrong** (1920) served his country during World War II with the First Canadian Artillery and the First Battalion Scottish Essex. In 1947, he married Tena Turner. John was Postmaster in Elkhorn for twenty-nine years and also served as a postal inspector in this area. John was an ardent gardener and won several awards for his efforts. He was a dedicated committee and community worker, as well. They had a family of two sons: Gerald of Carstairs, Alberta, and Garth of Winnipeg. John died December 31st, 1979.

**Hugh James Armstrong** (1922) farmed with his father until 1951, when he went to Alberta to work on oil production and is presently a supervisor. He married Audrey Peacock of Alida, Saskatchewan, and they have a family of two sons and two daughters. They reside in Estevan, Saskatchewan.

**Donald McLeod Armstrong** (1924) married Evelyn Bartley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Bartley. He served in the Royal Canadian Navy during World War II. He was engaged in oil work for awhile and later bought a hardware store in Turner Valley, Alberta, which he still operates with their son, Terry. They had two sons and one daughter. Evelyn died in February, 1981.

**Clarence Lloyd Armstrong** (1927) worked for Trans-Prairie Oil and then went to Alberta and continued working in the oil business. He married Mae Willis of Leduc. They reside in Edmonton, and have a family of two sons. **Anna Joyce Armstrong** (Ann,

1930) married Norman Stewart of Maryfield, where they operate a garage business. They have three sons.

**Mabel Willetta Armstrong** (1898) married Kenneth Angus Williams, and they reside in Elkhorn. (See Kenneth Williams story).

**Alice Ethel Armstrong** (1901) lived on the family farm and homestead with Jim and Annie until their retirement to Elkhorn. She was an active member of the United Church Circle, despite the fact that she didn't enjoy good health. She died in 1965.

### **Mr. and Mrs. Donald McLeod Armstrong**

I, Donald McLeod Armstrong, was born in Elkhorn, Manitoba, on April 20th, 1924, third child to Silas and Elaine Armstrong. My parents farmed south of Elkhorn in the Parkland school district where I was educated. My teacher for nine years was Ollie Jenner.

In 1941, I left home to the theme "Go West Young Man" and found employment with the Royalite Oil Company, Ltd., in Turner Valley, Alberta, until 1943. I joined the Navy (World War II), and was discharged in 1945.

On April 25th, 1945, I married **Evelyn Berniece Bartley**, only daughter of George and Susannah Bartley. Evelyn was born on November 4th, 1924, in Carievale, Saskatchewan, and moved to Elkhorn with her parents in 1934, where she finished her education.

After the war we took up residence in Turner Valley, Alberta where we have lived ever since. I continued to work for Royalite Oil Company Limited until 1961 when we purchased the local hardware store, "Turner Valley Hardware Limited".

We have three children, Donald Terrance (Terry), Richard James (Rick), and Colleen Dianne. Evelyn was deceased February 18th, 1981, and is interred in the Foothills Cemetery at Turner Valley.

I will always enjoy returning to Elkhorn to visit my relations and renew old acquaintances.

submitted by D. M. Armstrong

### **John Francis Armstrong and Family**

John was the eldest son of Silas Coulter and Muriel Elaine (McLeod) Armstrong. He was born May 18, 1920, and lived on his parents' farm in the Parkland district. He received his education at the Buckingham and Parkland schools.

He served his country during World War II with the First Battalion of the Scottish Essex from 1942-45. He was wounded and was invalided back to England. He was sent back to Canada and two more operations were performed in 1946 at Deer Lodge Hospital. John returned to Elkhorn where he was

employed by his uncle, Ken Williams, in the Beaver Lumber Company.

In 1947, he married **Tena (Kirby) Turner**. They purchased a home in Elkhorn. **Gerald John**, their eldest son was born in 1948 and **Garth Hugh** in 1949. Tena has two children by a previous marriage to the late Earnest Charles Turner who was killed overseas: **Betty Arlene**, born in Flin Flon in 1939 and **Denys Charles** in Winnipeg in 1943. (Darlene Joan and Barry Earnest were born in Flin Flon, but died as infants.)

In 1947, John joined the staff of George Bartley's General Store and worked there until his appointment in 1950 as Elkhorn's Postmaster. By coincidence, John was the great grandson of Elkhorn's first postmaster, John McLeod, in 1882. He was a postal inspector in this area for some time.

John was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion, the Canadian Order of Foresters, and chairman of the United Church Board. He was treasurer of the new skating rink for five years when the rink was first built. He was a quiet, gentle man whose life was devoted to service, his home and family. His hobby was gardening, and he and Tena won several awards for this hobby and pastime.

John passed away suddenly at his home on December 31, 1979. He left to mourn: his wife, Tena, two sons, Gerald and Garth, two step children, Betty and Denys, nine grandchildren, his mother, Elaine of Elkhorn, brothers Hugh of Estevan, Saskatchewan, Donald of Turner Valley, Alberta, Clarence of Edmonton, Alberta, and a sister, Ann Stewart of Marryfield, Saskatchewan. He was predeceased by his father, Silas Armstrong, in June, 1962.

Gerald John, their eldest son was born January 30, 1948. He received his education in Elkhorn; was very sports-minded, playing hockey, ball and school sports. He attended Sunday school regularly at the United Church where he later joined as a church member. He was presented with a diploma for having perfect attendance for eleven years at the Sunday School. He was a Boy Scout and enjoyed curling, camping and fishing. Gerald was a paper boy for the Winnipeg Free Press, and later was employed by the Bartley store after school.

Upon completing grade twelve, he went to Brandon and obtained a job at the Simplot Plant. There he met Linda and they were married at the Elkhorn United Church. It was in Brandon that their eldest son, Jody John, was born on May 5, 1969.

Gerald and family then moved to Alberta and he started employment with the Home Gas Plant near Carstairs. Their home is in Carstairs and this is where their daughter, Joanna Darlene, was born on September 24th, 1971. Gerald is still at the plant and yearly

takes courses in engineering in Calgary. This year, he obtained his second class papers. He still plays hockey and curls when not working or busy driving Jody to hockey games or Joanna to figure skating or Girl Guides. Linda is kept busy with her crafts, Girl Guides, figure-skating, and lately, painting. They both enjoy their family, home, and gardening as a hobby.

Garth Hugh was born August 26th, 1949. He received his education in Elkhorn. He also was a paper boy and later worked for his great-uncle and aunt, Phyl and Lloyd McLeod, when they had a grocery store here. He, like all the family, was very sports oriented; playing hockey, ball, curling, and all school sports. He was a Boy Scout, liking camping and fishing. He is a member of the United Church, attending Sunday School and, like brother Gerald, received a diploma for having perfect attendance for eleven years.

When he finished school, he went to Alberta to seek work. He was hired by the Hudson Bay to work in their northern stores. He came home six years later and enrolled in Brandon College and later went to the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg to get his degree in Social Work. Garth met and married Helen Cook of Grand Rapids, Manitoba, in June, 1978. She attended Brandon College, obtaining her degree in Arts and Native Studies. She has a little girl, Annetta, and in August, 1980, they adopted a little boy, John Farrell. Garth and Helen purchased a home in Winnipeg where Garth is now employed by the Alcoholic and Drug Foundation. He is team leader in a home, giving counselling and treatment for those in need.

Betty Arlene was born in Flin Flon, January 29, 1939. She received her education at Elkhorn and was a 4-H member and figure skater. She worked after school at Rudd's store. Betty attended Sunday School for many years, sang in the Junior and Senior choirs, and later taught Sunday School. She won several awards at Virden Festival for her singing and piano.

When she finished school, she went to Winnipeg and obtained a job at the Great West Life Insurance Company. She met and married Dennis Stewart of Portage la Prairie on January 13, 1962. Dennis worked for the Manitoba Telephone System. They lived in Brandon where Richard and Donna were born. Betty and Dennis later moved to Sherwood Park, Alberta, where Jeffrey was born. He still worked for the telephone company and was later transferred to Red Deer. He recently moved to the United States and is doing the same type of work. They have three children, Richard, eighteen, Donna, seventeen, and Jeff who is nine. Betty now resides in



Denys and Marion Turner 1962.

Red Deer where Donna and Jeff still attend school. Betty is presently employed at the Bay and enjoys curling and bowling.

Denys Charles was born in Winnipeg, January 20, 1943, four months after his father, Earnest Charles Turner left for overseas. The latter, having joined the Twelfth Manitoba Dragoons, was killed in October, 1944, and is buried in Holland. Denys received his education in Elkhorn. He excelled in all sports, especially hockey. His early life was spent mostly at the rink in winter. He also delivered papers, worked in George Canart's Meat Market, and lastly in Norris' Drugstore. Finishing school, he went to Brandon to seek work. He worked at Brown Steel Works, and later at Anglo Oil Company in the office.

On December 15th, 1962, Denys married Marion Leslie, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alan Leslie of Elkhorn. They started their married life in Brandon where Robert Alan was born, soon followed by a wee daughter, Kimberley Diane, on March 21st, 1964.

They moved to Calgary in 1964 where Denys was employed by the Hudson Bay Gas and Oil Company in the computer division. Later, Denys worked for Franklin Oil Company as a computer consultant. On December 8th, 1967, Todd Dean was born. All three children attend Calgary schools. Marion is presently working at the Mount Royal College as a budget and data control clerk.

On August 22, 1981, Denys died suddenly in Calgary of a heart attack. The funeral was held in Calgary August 25, 1981. His ashes are buried in the Armstrong plot in Elkhorn.

Rob is in grade twelve and playing hockey for the Calgary Spurs this year. He was the highest point-getter in Alberta. After completing school in June, he is looking forward to four years study in Geology at a University in Michigan and, of course, playing hockey for that university starting in the fall of 1981.

Kim is in grade eleven and works after school. She plans to finish school and take a course in beauty culture, hoping to become a beautician. In her early

years, she started figure skating and is quite an accomplished skater.

Todd still attends school and is in grade eight. He plays hockey and is also a good player. He enjoys his friends, and especially looks forward to their annual vacation at a beach in the United States of America where he enjoys camping and water skiing.

submitted by Mrs. Tena Armstrong

### Charlie and Beatrice Bagley

**Charlie and Beatrice Bagley** and family left their farm in the Two Creeks district and moved to Elkhorn in November of 1955. They bought a house and two lots on Grange St. with a large garden and this has been home for them for twenty-six years. Charlie and Beatrice had a special talent for growing a large garden and lovely flower gardens, and it was a great display of color every summer.

**George and Jim** left Elkhorn for the work-force and **Betty** continued her education at Elkhorn School. She also attended 4-H groups and loved to play a good game of ball. She was faithful in attending the Anglican Church and enjoyed teaching Sunday School.

Charlie worked for many friends and neighbors in Elkhorn and for various local farmers in the busy time of the year. They always took an active part and lent a helping hand in any of the town's activities. During the winter, curling was a great sport for him with his friends and Saturday night was the hockey game over the T.V. He greatly enjoyed a game of horseshoes with Mr. Clark and Mr. Francis during the summer.

Beatrice canned her garden products which were always plentiful, cared for her plants and flowers, and also had time in the winter evenings to knit mitts and scarves for her family. She loved to take a walk and drop in on a relative or friend for a cup of tea.

Because of Charlie's failing health he had to take life easier and in 1968 he passed away and Beatrice carried on keeping her home and gardens as lovely as ever. She loves to have her family arrive for a weekend or any friend drop in for a cup of tea. She takes part in the Sunshine Senior Citizens' group every Thursday and attends church.

Charlie and Beatrice had four children:

**Edith** married **Robert Soder** and lives on a farm near Elkhorn. They have a family of five daughters and six sons.

George married **Joyce Oakey** from Rivers. They have a family of three, two sons and a daughter. George lives in Yorkton and works for the Case Company Ltd.

Jim married **Marguerite Lepine** and lives at St. Lazare. They have a daughter and three sons. He

works for the Municipality of Ellice as a road grader.

**Betty McLaren** has three children, two boys and a girl. She lives in Winnipeg and works as a waitress in the Oak Point restaurant.

### **Gary Bailey**

**Gary Bailey** and family — **Brenda, Rhonda, Pat, Cindy** moved on the Section 8-12-29 in 1978. He is employed as a contact pumper of oil wells in Kirkella Fields.

### **Reflections of Echo Farm — Bajus Family**

**Alfred and Annie Bajus** were married on April 1, 1889 in Kingston, Ontario. In Kingston, the Bajus family had owned and operated the Kingston Brewery since 1843.

On April 2, 1889, Mr. and Mrs. Bajus left Kingston by railway for Elkhorn where Alfred had purchased an unproven farm. Materials for buildings, horses and cows were brought with them from Ontario. Until their new home could be built, the new settlers occupied the Dixon house which was on the farm once owned by L. Johnson. Alfred built his farmyard on NW 21-12-28.

They built a large two-storey house with screened verandahs on both of the stories. Wood was used for heat and some of their winter's wood was hauled from Windy Gap near the Miniota Valley.

There were three large barns built forming a "U" shape with a pole fence across the fourth side forming a corral. The lumber for the horse barn was brought from Birtle by team and wagon, in 1893. The cow barn was built in 1914. The third barn was built a

few years later. A windmill, located in the corral, was used for pumping water for the livestock. An elevator for crushing grain was also built. The grain was dumped, elevated, crushed, and sent out a chute on the other side of the building into a wagon waiting below.

Alfred and Annie were staunch supporters of the Methodist Church and were always ready to bear the burdens of others in the settlement of a new land.

Alfred and Annie's sons were avid sportsmen. They enjoyed soccer and football. Upon returning home from a football game, they learned their Father had passed away after a lengthy illness. Alfred died in 1914, leaving Annie with six children to raise on her own, on the farm that he had cultivated and improved. Their eldest daughter, **Mary Eva** had died in 1898.

Upon Alfred's death, his two eldest sons, **Jake** and **Will**, took on the responsibility of running the farm. Will enlisted in World War I and served with the 4th Divisional Ammunition Column overseas. **Fred**, a younger brother, enlisted and served with the 34th Fort Garry Horse.

After the war, "Bajus Brothers", Jake and Will, became very interested in the raising and showing of Purebred Polled Hereford cattle. They were awarded many prizes at Toronto, Brandon, and local fairs. They raised and sold purebred stock for many years. The cattle were registered under the name "Echo". At one time a purebred heifer was awarded as a prize for the best pair of calves at Elkhorn Fair. The heifer was won by Mary and Jim Orr. They also showed six-horse teams and were quite successful in the prize



L-R: Harry in buggy. Back row: Will, Alla Johnson, Lilla, Jake. Front row: Al, Mr. and Mrs. Alf Bajus, Fred.

rings. They were also well known for their beautiful riding horses. Oldtimers may remember the surrey Mrs. Bajus drove with the lanterns suspended from the surrey roof. It was pulled by a pair of matched black horses.

Jake and Will had taken most of their schooling by correspondence but their brothers and sister took their schooling at Burnbank School and later in Elkhorn School.

Fred and Al were interested in hardware and both apprenticed in Knights' Hardware in Elkhorn. Later they formed Bajus Brothers Hardware and had stores in Minnedosa and Neepawa. Fred married the former **Mary Carscadden** and had two daughters. Fred passed away in 1967. Al married **Vera McGinnes** and had a son and a daughter. Al and Vera, now retired, live in Penticton, British Columbia.

**Lillian**, known as "Lilla" married **Alwyne Johnson** of Elkhorn and farmed where Don Leslie now operates a dairy farm. A beef ring operated in Burnbank for many years and Alwyne was the butcher. A farmer delivered a beast on Tuesday night; it was killed on Wednesday and other members came on Thursday to pick up their share. Most canned their beef after cooling it, sometimes after hanging it in the well.

**Harry** immigrated to Portland, Oregon and married a young widow. They had no children.

Jake and Will were progressive farmers. They were among the first farmers in the area to use fertilizer on their cropland. They purchased a Hart Parr gasoline tractor in the early 1930's. Work horses were used also and they had many hired men over the years. Many have returned to the farm in recent years.

They raised pigs in the south pasture for many summers. Buttermilk from the Elkhorn Creamery was hauled in a tank behind a Dodge car to feed as many as 200 pigs.

They also raised badgers in cages on cement pads. When mature, the badgers were killed and their pelts were sold.

For many years, Jake and Will did custom threshing, both stook and stack. While the bridge in Duxbury's Hill was being built they ran a steamer to keep the cement from freezing.

Wolf hunts were not only a sport but a necessity to the farmers to protect their livestock. Will had three wolfhounds and Alwyne had two. Alwyne built a box for the dogs over the front runners on the sleigh. When a wolf was sighted, the dogs were released. The hunters, on their horses, went in pursuit. After the dogs had tired the wolf, the hunters moved in.

Among favorite pastimes in the winter was table

tennis. With a tennis net a kitchen table was soon converted into a tennis table. Sometimes a player would miss the ball and it would land on the cookstove and explode. Another favorite was to gather around the radio on a Saturday night with some of the neighbours and hired men and listen to Hockey Night in Canada, cheering for a favorite team. Wintertime brought skating parties that were much enjoyed by the young people.

### **Jacob Bajus**

Jake married **Minnie Grimshaw** in June, 1942. They made their home in Elkhorn in the house now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Doug Manwaring. Jake continued to operate the farm with his brother Will. Jake had been the shipper for the Elkhorn Livestock Co-operative Shipping Association from 1926-1955, a total of twenty-nine years. He had been awarded a gold watch for the first twenty-five years. As shipper, he had become a familiar friend to the farming community of Elkhorn.

Jake spent eight years on the Elkhorn Town Council and at one time was the Deputy Mayor. He also served as Chairman of the Rink Committee for several years and was Chairman of the Relief Committee. A Master Mason of the AF & AM Lodge, he served from 1951-1952 as Master of the Lodge.

Jake's interests were primarily those of a farmer. He took active interest in all types of farm organizations. He was a director of the Agricultural Society for many years, a member of the Manitoba Purebred Herefords' Association for many years, and had been active in the Elkhorn Fat Stock Show. A member of the Elkhorn Trinity United Church, he served on the Board of Stewards for over twenty years. Jake was also an enthusiastic curler.

A quiet, reserved man, Jake was much respected by his friends and neighbors. Jake passed away in 1955. His widow, Minnie, earned her teacher's certificate and taught in Dauphin, Manitoba. Since retiring in 1971, Minnie makes her home in Brandon, Manitoba.

### **William Alfred Bajus**

**William Alfred Bajus** married **Kathleen Bryant** on January 15, 1942. They lived on the family farm (21-12-28) in the original house built by Will's parents. In 1945, they replaced this house by tearing it down and replacing it with a new one on the same spot. During the building of their new home they lived in two granaries pulled together. They lived a happy life on the farm and it was there that they raised their seven children, four boys and three girls.

The Bajus farm was well known as the play-

ground for many children in the Elkhorn District. With the large gardens that were grown, there was always lots of food to eat and the beds were never so full that there wasn't room for one more. The toys may have been few, but everyone was happy and enjoyed a good time. At that time, going to town on a Saturday night was something to look forward to and Christmas time was the most exciting. The family all recall spending a Christmas at a neighbour's — Sid Williams — and having "green peas." It seems they had some sort of homemade freezer, which to the Bajus children was quite new, for they were used to only canned foods.

Will was very fond of sports, with curling being one of his favorites. He would take the horses and the stoneboat into Elkhorn to catch the train to Hargrave to curl a game. He found it a difficult job keeping the roads open to drive the children into Elkhorn School. They attended the Elkhorn School for six years until 1955, when they began going to Burnbank School — three miles from their farm.

It was at this time that Will's health had become poor and the land was rented out to Frank Dixon and Lawrence Johnson. His health continued to fail until his death in 1961. It was a hard time for Kathleen raising seven children on her own, but with the love and determination of the family, along with wonderful neighbours and relatives, she managed very well. Even though the crop land was rented out, there was still much work for everyone to do. There was hay to put up for the cattle, wood to get up for the winter, and barnyard chores to do.

Along with this there were large gardens to care for and endless canning to be done. Kathleen remembers the hard winters when she would walk a quarter mile to pump water for the cattle, morning and night. Still, none of this work was as hard as the worry of getting the children to and from school.

However, as far as the children were concerned the hardships were few in comparison to the good times enjoyed by all. Their transportation to Burnbank School was with the team of horses with a wagon box on wheels for the summer and sleigh runners for the winter. They said that even though they took the horses, they ran most of the way to school. This was mainly because of toboggans tied on behind the sleigh and there was always a rope breaking or someone falling off so they had to run to catch up to the sleigh again. On very cold days they would all get inside the wagon with straw and blankets inside and a canvas over top. When they left home the reins would be placed on a stake at the front of the wagon and the horses would take them right to school. It was always a warm welcome to come into the house smelling hot cinnamon buns and a wonder-

ful mother waiting to sit down and hear the news of the day.

Burnbank was a very active community with pie socials, dances, crokinole tournaments, quiltings, picnics, and most important the Christmas concerts and field days. There were also church services, held every Sunday at Burnbank, which they attended regularly. Kathleen didn't drive and the children were all too young, so they had to depend on horses, tractors, or good neighbours for the transportation. Horses and sleighs were used by most of the neighbours in the winter and quite often their two closest neighbours (Orrs and L. Johnson) plus themselves, would



Will Bajus family coming home from school.

all go in one wagon box. One time proved to be interesting as the wagon tipped over with the three families and their belongings all out in the snow. However no one was hurt and they were all ready to go next time. Many happy evenings were spent by the Bajus children at various neighbours watching special T.V. programs before they had their own T.V. They continued their education at Burnbank school until its consolidation in 1963. They then returned to Elkhorn School to finish their education.

In August 1962, a twister went through the Bajus farm and others in the district doing much damage. Many of the granaries were completely destroyed, shingles were ripped off the barns, windows were broken and many trees uprooted. Arriving on the very same day were two of Kathleen's sisters with their husbands and families all from British Columbia. With everyone eager to help, things were soon put back in order again.

As the children grew older they began working for various farmers in the district, driving tractors and getting good experience. **Bill** and **Harry** took over the home farm in 1965. In 1967 **Brian** joined his brothers in partnership and they purchased John Bryant's farm, 3-13-28.

Kathleen moved into Elkhorn in 1975. She lives a very active life there and enjoys helping with the elderly. She is always open for babysitting and lives by her motto "there is always room for one more." The one difference now, than earlier, is that instead of just her seven children and their families she has her



nineteen grandchildren and their friends looking for a place to sleep or Grandma's hot cinnamon buns.

The children born to Will and Kathleen were:

**Bill** — who married **Maureen Evans** in September, 1963 and moved a house onto the home farm. They have three sons, **Gary, Terry, and Adam**. They have one daughter, **Connie**; all four are still living at home.

**Brian** — who married **Donna Tapp** in January, 1966. They live on the farm 3-13-28, previously owned by John Bryant. They have three sons, **Joseph, Jason, and James**. They also have two daughters **Laura and Wendy**.

**Barbara** — who married **Lee Hodson** in July, 1965. They live on a farm southwest of Elkhorn, 30-11-28. They have two sons **Vince and Vaughn**, and one daughter, **Vana**.

**Harry** — who married **Lynne Cruickshank** in July, 1975. They live on the home farm in the house built by his parents, in 1945. They have one son, **Michael**, and one daughter **Jodi**.

**Larry** — who married **Donna Forsyth** in September, 1968. He is employed by Manitoba Hydro and lives in Brandon. They have one son, **Cory**, and one daughter, **Nicole**.

**Beverly** — who married **Gerald Ogilvie** in June, 1970. They live on a farm southwest of Elkhorn, 6-11-28. They have one son, **Curtis**, and two daughters, **Shawna and Tammy**.

**Lilla** — the youngest of the family is living in Brandon. She is presently employed by a day care centre.

### **Mrs. Arthur Baker (grandmother)**

**Mrs. Baker** and her husband came from England in 1892 and settled at 79 Davidson Street in Montreal. She was in delicate health, suffering from heart disease and found the climate of Montreal too trying for her. Having a sister, **Mrs. G. F. S. Allinson**, living near Elkhorn, Manitoba, it was decided that she would go there for a few months, taking her four children, **Jessie**, aged one and one-half years, **Louise**, six, **Daisy**, eight and **George**, ten with her.

They boarded a C.P.R. train in June 1894. All went well until they came to a railway bridge at Mattawa, thirty-five miles west of Port Arthur. The bridge had been damaged by a brush fire and collapsed when the train passed on it. The engine, baggage, express, colonist and first class car all went down and were either burned or went into the water.

When the wreck occurred, an old Indian Chief went into the train to see if he could help. Finding the children, he got them out to safety. He went back in to see if he could find their mother. Mrs. Baker, not being able to find her children, had rushed back into

the train and at that time it gave way and the two front cars went down into the river and she was drowned. Her body was sent back to Montreal for burial.

### **Mr. Arthur Baker (grandfather)**

A month after the tragic death of his wife, **Mr. Baker** and his four children came to Manitoba, land having been purchased in the Kola district, where the home has been since. Mr. Baker confined all his attention to bringing up his motherless children and in the establishing of a home. In 1918 he contracted rheumatism and since then was more or less confined to the house. In May, 1919 his condition became more serious and he was removed to Virden Hospital, later to Brandon and finally to Winnipeg. He passed away July 2, 1919. The funeral service was held at St. Mark's Church, Elkhorn, Manitoba, conducted by Rev. V. S. Bell. Interment followed in Elkhorn cemetery.

### **George Baker**

**George Baker** worked on the farm with his father. After his father's death the farm was sold and he went to work for the C.P.R. as a builder, building stations. He was always a very quiet and reserved person, an ardent bridge player, and spent many Sundays with his sister **Jessie**. He was a curler and he belonged to the Masonic Lodge. After he retired he liked to spend his days in the rink playing cards with all his cronies. He later took pneumonia and died at the home of his sister in 1930.

### **Jessie Clara Goethe (nee Baker)**

**Jessie** lost her mother at a very early age. She was left to the care of Mrs. George Allinson, sister of her mother, to bring her up and in those days it was a very strict upbringing. She had to learn to bake and at a young age in order to keep house for her father and brother. It was told she stood on an apple box to bake and make bread. She was always a small person and after being married at only seventeen had to help her husband on the farm and work in the field pitching sheaves. Times were very hard, and the farm not at its best to produce good crops. Trying to raise four children became quite a struggle to make ends meet. After they moved to Elkhorn they were at times able to get assistance. Poor health pulled her down and many months were spent in bed with a bad stomach and nerves. She did not live long enough to see her grandchildren, because she died with cancer at the age of fifty-six at Winnipeg in the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Margaret and Fred Woodman, June 18, 1949.

### **The Fred Bamson Family**

**Frederick John Bamson** married **Patricia Brocklebank** in 1938, and lived on a farm just north

of Willen. In 1940, just after the birth of their eldest son, **Fred Jr.**, they moved to a farm in the Manson district, where they lived for six years. Their second son, **James**, was born in 1942. Owing to the closing of Hillsgreen School, they sold the farm and moved to Elkhorn, to the farm formerly owned by Mr. and



L-R: Fred Jr., Pat, Fred and Jim Bamson — 1955.

Mrs. Thompson of the McLeod Pioneer Store. They farmed there until poor health forced them to sell in 1966. They moved into Elkhorn in 1970, where Fred and James got their education and helped with the farm.

Both boys were ardent curlers as was their dad, until his health began to fail. Freddie left the farm to work out, trying different jobs and finally going to B.C. Later he moved to Ontario where he married **Phillis Lemon**. They now live at Brighton, Ontario, where he is driving for Quaker Oats.

James went to Alberta, where he worked on the oil rigs for a number of years. He married **Sharon Kuckle** in 1965, and they have two children. He now drives a truck for Canadian Freightways in the city.

Mr. Bamson passed away on February 11, 1976. Pat sold out and went to Calgary to help Ernest take care of their mother.

submitted by Pat Bamson

### The William Barclay Family

My father, **William Barclay**, was born in Glasgow, Scotland on May 17, 1881, the son of Alexander Barclay and Jane Barclay nee McCrofsan. He immigrated to Canada about 1904, and worked at Dauphin, and at Grandview as a porter in the hotel there. When he came to the Elkhorn area, he worked

for a short while for Hugh Kirby who lived where Ralph Johnson lives today.

My mother, **Alexandrina Buchan** was born in Perth, Scotland on June 9, 1871, the daughter of James Buchan and Jane Buchan nee Roy. She came to Montreal about the turn of the century, working as a domestic. She then travelled to Elkhorn with friends and found work at the Rosebery Hotel in Elkhorn. She visited in the home of Mary (William Barclay's sister) and Tom Lacey. They had recently built a settler's home some ten miles north of Elkhorn (NE 14-13-28). There she met William Barclay. They were married on January 20, 1908 and homesteaded in a one room shack on NW 24-13-28, where they began farming with one team of oxen. They remained on the homestead for the duration of their married lives. One child, Nellie, was born into this home on January 6, 1912.

One dark night after visiting the sister's home, they started out for their own home. Some time later when they thought they should be nearly home, father got off the sleigh to find they had been going in circles. They were able to make their way back and start again.

My mother, Alexandrina was well known throughout the district for the assistance she provided as a midwife.

On January 21, 1946, Alexandrina passed away. William Barclay continued to live on the homestead place until the fall of 1954 when he moved his residence (house and all) to the present Bill Muller farmyard, where he resided until his death on May 6, 1970.

told by Nellie Muller

### Harold Barnes History

**Harold and Joyce Barnes**, (the former **Joyce Adams** from Fleming, Saskatchewan), moved to Elkhorn from a mixed grain and dairy farm on the Manitoba-Saskatchewan border. Harold came from Sternoway, Saskatchewan with his parents to farm in the Fleming district in 1946. They have three sons; **Tom** married **Joan Heritage** of Elkhorn and now resides in Fort Nelson, B.C., **George** lives in Brandon and **Brian** is completing his grade twelve at Elkhorn Collegiate.

### The Barr Homestead

**WILLIAM BARR** — Born December 22, 1862, at Wingham, Ontario — came West in 1883 on the newly laid tracks of the C.P.R. Being 21 years of age he was entitled to a homestead — one-quarter section of land — and settled on the south-east quarter of Section 10, Township 11, Range 29. There were no roads, fences, telephones, or any of the amenities of

life to which we are now accustomed. He broke some land and cultivated it. There were no trees, so he travelled many miles, beyond the Pipestone Creek, to cut logs and then haul them back to build his first shelter. In three years he had completed Government requirements and was given title to the one-quarter section homestead. At the same time, by pre-emption he was granted the southwest quarter of Section 10.

On July 11, 1888, he married **Margaret Hunter**, who was born on February 1, 1865, at Orangeville, Ontario. She had travelled West with her sister **Mary (Mrs. James Halliday)** by rail, bringing some household effects with her as well as some seeds, among which were maples and black poplar which were planted and grew into a splendid windbreak on the north and west sides of the first home which William built.

Grandmother Barr was a skilled seamstress and when all the daily tasks were done, many an evening was spent in sewing clothes for her family by the light of a flickering oil lamp. One of the daily chores was to fill the lamps and clean the glass chimneys — it was an art to trim the wicks so that they burned with an even flame and did not smoke the glass globe. Bread was baked from flour ground from home-grown wheat; butter was churned from cream carefully skimmed from the wide, shallow milk pans in which the milk had set for twelve hours. When sufficient cream had been saved it was churned to butter in a 'dash churn' — a large, narrow crock with a wooden lid and dasher. In the winter a carrot was grated and its juice squeezed into the cream. Otherwise the butter would look like lard. When the cows were out in the green pasture, nature supplied plenty of coloring. At butchering time the fat was rendered for lard, and some was used to make soap by combining it very carefully with lye (leached from wood ashes). These few items give an idea of the hardships of pioneer life.

It was a raw prairie with no roads and no telephone or easy method of communication that the early settlers faced, but they were a sturdy people who gradually broke and tilled more acres and raised buildings to shelter their livestock. Neighbors worked together for the common good of all, in building schools, churches and roads, and of course in case of illness, one's neighbors were always ready to help. With the nearest doctor some 25 miles away, many hours journey for horses, it was on rare occasions that farm families could avail themselves of such care, so of necessity the women acted as midwives for their neighbors and helped with any emergency for one another.

William, or 'Bill Barr' as he was known, was

very active in all community endeavors. Woodville School was built in 1890. The first Woodville Church was built as well by these hardy settlers, in 1892. It was burned in a prairie fire, but undaunted, they rebuilt the church in 1907 on a piece of land on Section 4 donated by **Sir James Aikins**, who once owned several parcels of land in the district upon which he placed families who raised cattle and tilled the fields. He was, as some will recall, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba for several years. He gradually sold his farm interests in the Elkhorn area. The Barr home was his headquarters when he journeyed from Winnipeg to attend to his interests. A genial man, he would join the family to attend a fowl supper at the church as one belonging to the district.

William Barr represented his area on the Municipal council for many years and in this capacity was instrumental in having the telephone brought through the district. Another project was the Good Roads System, which meant roads were built up to an even level, gravelled, and were kept graded by the farmers in the district. The need of a cemetery was recognized, other than the existing small family cemeteries. He was instrumental in having the Municipality of Wallace purchase a piece of land adjacent to the church, in 1909, and this was and still is the Woodville Municipal Cemetery. Mr. Barr was in charge of it and the responsibility was carried on by his son David, after William retired. It has been well cared for all through the years. At the present time Ronnie Goethe is responsible for its upkeep. In 1977 wrought iron gates were erected at the cemetery, as well as a stone cairn bearing a plate which carries names of those interred in the cemetery to that time.

In the early years and on through the depression, the food supplies were derived mainly from the grain fields and gardens. A farmer could take a 'grist' of wheat from his meagre crop to the mill at Virden, 25 miles away, and in return would receive sacks of flour, grits for porridge, and bran to be used in the home as well as for the cattle. This was a far cry from the bleached flour we mainly see today, or the packaged "Cream of Wheat".

The seeds brought from Ontario produced fine trees as a windbreak for the garden, which was well fertilized annually with manure. Potatoes were grown in the field, but the large well-tended garden gave fruit (mainly rhubarb and currants) and vegetables for the household for the coming year. Wild fruits augmented the supply. We planted the tomato seeds on March 17, nursed them along carefully from window sill to cold frame, and finally into the garden (with paper collars to foil the cut worms). Without fail these plants yielded an abundant supply, to be used fresh on the table as well as enough canned

tomatoes to last through the year. Other seeds were planted directly into the ground and harvested as they became ready — fresh lettuce, radishes, green onions in a few weeks, and green peas and new potatoes by early July. These were a great treat. Quantities of vegetables were canned for winter use. All these efforts kept the family busy, but healthy and strong.

Clothing was passed down and 'made over' on the old treadle sewing machine, producing suitable outfits for the different seasons.

The weather in summer could be friendly and balmy, with rain and sun as needed, but one could not depend on it. Through the depression years the lack of moisture caused very poor crops. Often the farmer saw a year's hopes dashed, but it was always "Things will be better next year". Severe cold in winter, 40-50 degrees below zero, with bitter north winds and sometimes great depths of snow called for warm clothing for the family, as well as lots of wood for the fires. Coal was usually out of the question due to lack of dollars. Poor hens — their water trough would freeze solid and every few hours one wrapped up and sallied forth to the hen house with a kettle of boiling water so they could have a drink. There was always a warm noisy greeting from them, and even an egg or two. The eggs would also freeze if not collected frequently. The livestock needed a lot of feed in the cold weather — their large bodies kept the barn almost cosy warm.

As the days lengthened, signs of spring were noticeable and preparations for seeding crops and garden went into full swing. These were busy days but the sunshine and bird songs, specially the oriole, warmed the heart as well as the land. The yearly cycle was once again under way — grain to clean, chicks to hatch, and perhaps a new baby in the family, as well as new arrivals at the barn. Hope ran high again — this year there would be a good crop!

Prairie fires were terrifying occurrences — luckily they did not happen very often. One warm May day in 1930 a fire tore across vacant land to the northwest of Woodville School. Small poplar trees and willow bushes, and dry grass from the previous year fed the flames. The school was evacuated, teacher and children running over the plowed fire-guard and onto a freshly plowed field belonging to Dave Barr, and then to his home. There, telephone messages were sent to the parents and by mid-afternoon the excited, noisy children had been taken home, and neighbors had helped Dave to plow a guard around a hay stack and a granary which held his seed grain, so it was safe. The fire burned on through Bob Angus' pasture and finally wore itself out in sloughs and plowed fields. Quite a day! This

was a good example of the way in which neighbor helped neighbor in emergencies.

As the years went by, the town of Elkhorn grew. It was a water stop for the trains on the main line of the C.P.R. A good station was built, and a grain mill and creamery. Along the main 'drag' were a variety of commercial enterprises, with "Molly McLeod" being the first merchant. And finally a doctor, whose presence made a big difference to all those living in the area — a far cry from the isolation of the earlier years.

Those faithful and dedicated men made visits, often travelling many miles, to various areas in the district, bringing comfort and help to those in need. One did not call the doctor unless the situation was serious, and one tried desperately to pay his bill — often during the depression years many a load of firewood or other commodity was received by the doctor. There would be a set rate for maternity cases where his skill and encouragement were greatly appreciated, along with that of a kindly neighbor often called in to assist him and to care for the mother and new born child for a few days. The Elkhorn area was fortunate in having doctors like Dr. Goodwin and Dr. Johnston.

Recreation and social life in the communities, aside from district baseball teams in the summer, revolved mainly around the churches and schools — dances in the latter with families like the Paulls and the Goethes to supply the music. The church usually held a picnic during the summer. Each family would contribute baking — lots of pies, sandwiches, buns. Several pies could be carried in a pie box made by the man of the household — an apple box turned on end, shelves slotted in, would hold up to six or more pies, protected with a screen door fastened snugly. There would be tea and coffee for the adults, lemonade for the youngsters, and ice cream for all. A baseball game completed the day, then pack up and head for home and the evening chores. It was a great treat and one of THE social events of the year.

Whatever the crop might be, there was always the time of great excitement — Threshing. Usually someone in the neighborhood had an outfit — tractor and separator. Dave ran an outfit for a few years. It was arranged between the neighbors to supply help as necessary — teams of horses and hay racks loaded the sheaves in the fields and drew up in turn at the machine. With luck — good dry weather and no breakdowns — the grain was winnowed from the sheaves and streamed down a pipe into a granary or truck, and the straw was thrown from the large blower into a pile to serve as bedding for cattle. With some grains the straw made a good fodder as well. One year Dave grew a crop of flax — a vision of beautiful

blue flowers in June, and later threshed. The straw matted well and made a good roof for a pig pen. For many years the crops were disappointing — due mainly to drought as well as to grasshoppers, gophers, and rust.

Needless to say it was a busy time for the farmer's wife, and exciting for the children. One prepared some food ahead, but the actual meals whilst the threshers worked on a farm kept one really busy — three large meals and afternoon lunch (taken to the field) daily — and all those dishes to wash! It was a case of "Glad to see you come, and glad to see you go".

Another highlight was the Fowl Supper held at the church, in October when the Fall work was slackening off. Once again the pie boxes were filled, chickens were roasted, buns were baked, pickles, salads, and a hot beverage supplied, and the tables were loaded with appetizing home cooking which was enjoyed by a crowd of people in the church. A tent outside a window served as a kitchen, equipped with coal oil stoves, a table, and facilities for dish washing, with lanterns serving as the only lighting. The food was placed on platters and bowls and handed up through the window, and the empties returned. Many willing hands worked at their appointed task in the best of good humor. The youngsters also helped, learning early the pleasure of service. When all appetites were satisfied, including those of the ladies working in the tent and serving inside the church, the tables were cleared and a concert followed with songs, instrumental music, and perhaps an interesting reading or short play; sometimes folks from outside the district contributed, and all was very much enjoyed. The following day a willing crew would return to the church, the men to take down the tables and the tent, and the ladies to wash the dishes (with hot water brought from home in cream cans), and clean up the church ready for Sunday service.

Dances at the school with music provided by William Paull, John Paull, Margaret Paull, Mac Coulson, and Bill Goethe were enjoyed by the families of the district, with 'eats' provided by the ladies. A Christmas concert usually was followed by such an event — the only time limit being: Will the car radiators freeze up? Or in really snowy times, the horses would be stomping to make the return journey. Stars shining, perhaps a bright moon, and flashing Northern Lights added a final touch to a glorious evening.

Card games passed many a cold winter evening, within the family or perhaps with a neighbor, and on a larger scale, a Whist drive. With whist, cribbage, 500 and other games the evening passed very quick-

ly; a cup of tea and fresh buns and cookies, and away home to be ready for the work of the morrow.

Depression just was not discussed a lot. Times were difficult, but everyone was in the same boat and one just carried on the usual routine and hoped for "Next year". However, it was very discouraging and took its toll with respect to health, in many ways. Dental care was just not considered unless one had a raging toothache; then Dr. Johnston would pull the offending tooth. He was a most understanding man, realizing the difficulties of the times, and would often take whatever commodity the patient could provide in return for his professional service — a sack of potatoes, load of firewood, crate of eggs, dressed poultry. Neighbor helped neighbor and the business men in town made 'deals' in which little of that scarce commodity — money — changed hands.

One of the contributions which William Barr made to the community was a fine herd of purebred Aberdeen Angus cattle. His willingness to use his skill as a veterinarian when needed was also widely known.

The family — **David, Marion, William Jr., and Lilian**, names in order of their ages — were all busy, as one would know, but during the 1914-1918 war, both Dave and Willie, as they were known, enlisted and served overseas. Willie was wounded and was hospitalized in England, but both returned home safely in 1919. In the meantime, the girls assisted wherever possible on the farm.

**David**, born July 14, 1890, married July 12, 1922, in Winnipeg to **Irene (Parr)** who had taught at Woodville School, amongst others. Dave had bought a Soldier Settlement Board farm — N.W. Quarter — 10-11-29, on his return from overseas. Whilst planning marriage he built a house and necessary out-buildings on that quarter section. Dave and Irene had four children, all of whom attended Woodville School as their father had.

**Margaret**, born April 16, 1923 — Joined the C.W.A.C. in World War II, serving four years in Canada and England and taking her discharge in Vancouver. She had taken high school work by correspondence course through the Manitoba Department of Education before enlisting. Upon her discharge she continued her education at the University of British Columbia, majoring in botany, and attained her B.A. and M.A. with honors. She then attended the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor in that state, where she attained her Ph.D. on a teaching scholarship. Following graduation with this degree she married fellow student **Howard Bigelow** in June of 1956. Doctors Margaret and Howard Bigelow have been teaching at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Massachusetts since 1957.

**Elsie**, born March 16, 1927, also took some of her high school work by correspondence course in Manitoba and completed high school at Duncan on Vancouver Island, where the family had moved in 1943. She then attended the University of Manitoba Medical College, graduating in 1951 with high honors and two degrees in medicine. She is presently practising her profession at Orangeville, Ontario — the same town where her grandmother Margaret Hunter was born. Elsie has a son **Geoffrey**, born 1957, and a daughter **Margaret**, born 1959, both of whom are now attending universities in Ontario.

**Frances**, born November 10, 1930, chose a business career and attended business college in Victoria, B.C. She has worked in various parts of the country and is now working in Victoria. She lives in a nearby rural area where she enjoys the outdoors, gardening, her cats and Golden Retriever dogs. Frances has two sons — **Kim**, born in 1952 and living in Edmonton, and **Jeffrey**, born in 1957 and living in British Columbia.

**Gordon**, born June 3, 1932, served some years with the R.C.A.F. where he received logistical training. He then spent a considerable time on the D.E.W. Line in the Far North, where he gained further proficiency in logistics and has since used that training in supervisory positions with large construction projects such as the Peace River Dam. Gordon is presently living at Nelson in the Kootenay area of British Columbia. He has three children — **Ricky, Douglas and Trudi**, all living in Victoria.

In 1967 Dave and sister Lilian travelled to Elkhorn and Woodville for the Canadian Centennial Celebrations, and had a great time meeting old friends. A picnic supper arranged at the Woodville school grounds brought together 400 old friends from near and far and was something to remember.

In 1968 Dave suffered a severe stroke and he passed away on March 29, 1974. Fortunately he was able to be at home for part of those years. His mind was always clear and he was happy to be with his family.

**MARION**, born July 28, 1893, attended Manitoba Agricultural College, where she met **Joseph (Joe) Chaster** and they married on December 3, 1919, when Joe returned from overseas. They moved to British Columbia where his parents lived, and eventually settled at Duncan on Vancouver Island where Joe worked for the Government Highways Department. They were very active in the community as were their children — five boys and three girls. Marion is still busy in her home at Duncan. Joe passed away in September of 1955. Their family:

**Barry**, born in February 1921 — Finished high school and enlisted in the R.C.A.F. when war broke

out in 1939. He trained as a pilot in Canada, and for part of that time was stationed at Yorkton, about seventy miles from the Barr farm. After visiting the family on the farm and noting its location, he gave us all a great thrill by flying over while on a training flight and dipping his wings. He served overseas and made many bombing flights from England over the Continent. On January 3, 1943, his plane was shot down on its return flight. He was captured and then made good his escape and with the help of the Underground he managed to reach Gibraltar in March of 1943, where he was able to notify his family of his whereabouts and his safety — what a joyous day that was. He remained with the R.C.A.F. until discharge in 1944, then attended University of British Columbia and graduated with a degree in architecture. He is married to **Kay** and they have a son and daughter and two grandchildren. Barry is employed as town planner with the City of New Westminster.

**Raymond**, born in June of 1922, also joined the R.C.A.F., became a pilot and served overseas for the duration of the war. He too spent some time with the Barr family on the farm during his training period. Following his discharge he returned to Duncan and was employed with the British Columbia Hydro. He married **Elizabeth** and they had three sons and two daughters, and there are now four grandchildren. During his employment with B.C. Hydro he was moved to a number of points in B.C. At the end of 1965 he died of cancer, while residing at Merritt in the interior of the province.

**Joyce**, born January 1924, joined the Air Force and served in Canada. Following her discharge she trained as a teacher and while teaching at Trail, B.C. she met and married **Bill Coma** in 1956. Bill passed away in 1975. Joyce continues to live at Trail where she is very active in her community.

**Ruth**, born January 1925, also joined the Air Force, serving in Canada and England. Some years ago she became a letter carrier with the Post Office at Duncan, where she lives with her mother. She is very active in sports and community affairs.

**Gerald**, born June 1927, attended the University of British Columbia, as well as University at Davis, California where he received a degree in landscape architecture. He lived in California for a number of years and is now residing in Victoria and working for a suburban Parks Department.

**Geoffrey**, born February 1930, has worked for many years with the Public Works Department of the Provincial Government. He lives at Duncan with his wife **Patricia** and both are very active in sports. They have three sons and two daughters.

**Alma**, born September 1931, married **Marvin Wilson** and they live at Penticton, B.C. They have

one son and two daughters and two grandchildren. Both Alma and Marv are very active with the Knights of Pythia and the Pythian Sisters Lodges, respectively.

**Richard**, born February 1938, worked for a number of years with the Survey Department of the British Columbia Government. He is an outdoorsman and is very knowledgeable in the area of fishing and wildlife. He now lives at Duncan with his Mother.

**WILLIAM, JR. (Willie)**, born January 1, 1898, the third child born to William and Margaret Barr, had a very happy-go-lucky nature. He worked on the family farm till war broke out in 1914, and shortly after he joined the Winnipeg 200th Battalion, connected with the 43rd Highland Regiment. He served overseas, was wounded in France and hospitalized in England. When recovered he returned to his regiment in France until the end of the war. On his return home he helped his father and Dave on their farms for a few years, then decided to learn the barber trade in Winnipeg. Not satisfied with that, he went to Ironwood, Michigan, and worked with his uncle Harry Barr, who had an automobile business. Willie enjoyed the change and the challenge of life there. His letters were cheerful and it was a great shock to the family to receive a telegram from Uncle Harry in January of 1928 saying that Willie was very ill with spinal meningitis. His father went to Ironwood immediately and finally the doctors said he had passed the crisis. He was presumed to be well on the road to recovery when he passed away very suddenly on February 24, 1928. His father brought him home to be buried beside his mother in Woodville cemetery.

**LILIAN** was born February 13, 1902, the second daughter of William and Margaret Barr. She attended high school in Elkhorn and later married **Cecil Sleightholm** (deceased). They had one daughter, **Margery**. Later on, Lil married **Robert Miller** at Port Alberni on Vancouver Island. They had two daughters, **June** and **Anne**. Lil is still living at Port Alberni. Bob passed away in 1962.

Lil's daughter Margery is married to **Gordon Wilkin** and they live in Victoria. They have three sons and one daughter, and six grandchildren.

June and Anne are both living in Port Alberni. June has one daughter. Anne has three sons and six daughters, and five grandchildren.

#### DESCENDANTS OF WILLIAM AND MARGARET BARR:

**DAVID** (deceased) married to Irene Parr:

Daughter Margaret, married to Howard Bigelow

Daughter Elsie (Culliton) — one daughter and one son

Daughter Frances (Smythe) — two sons

Son Gordon — two sons, one daughter

David's Family: Four children, seven grandchildren.

**MARION**, married to Joseph Chaster (deceased):

Son Barry, married to Kay Williams, — one son, one daughter, two grandchildren

Son Raymond (deceased), married to Elizabeth Dunkley — three sons, two daughters, four grandchildren

Daughter Joyce, married to Bill Coma (deceased)

Daughter Ruth

Son Gerald

Son Geoffrey, married to Patricia Clark — three sons, two daughters

Daughter Alma, married to Marvin Wilson — one son, two daughters, two grandchildren

Son Richard

Marion's Family: Eight children, 15 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren

**WILLIAM**, Died February 1928 — Without progeny

**LILIAN**, married to Cecil Sleightholm (deceased) — Robert Miller (deceased):

Daughter Margery, married to Gordon Wilkin — three sons, one daughter, six grandchildren

Daughter June (Mosdell) — one daughter

Daughter Anne, married to Frank Terepocki (deceased) — three sons, six daughters, five grandchildren

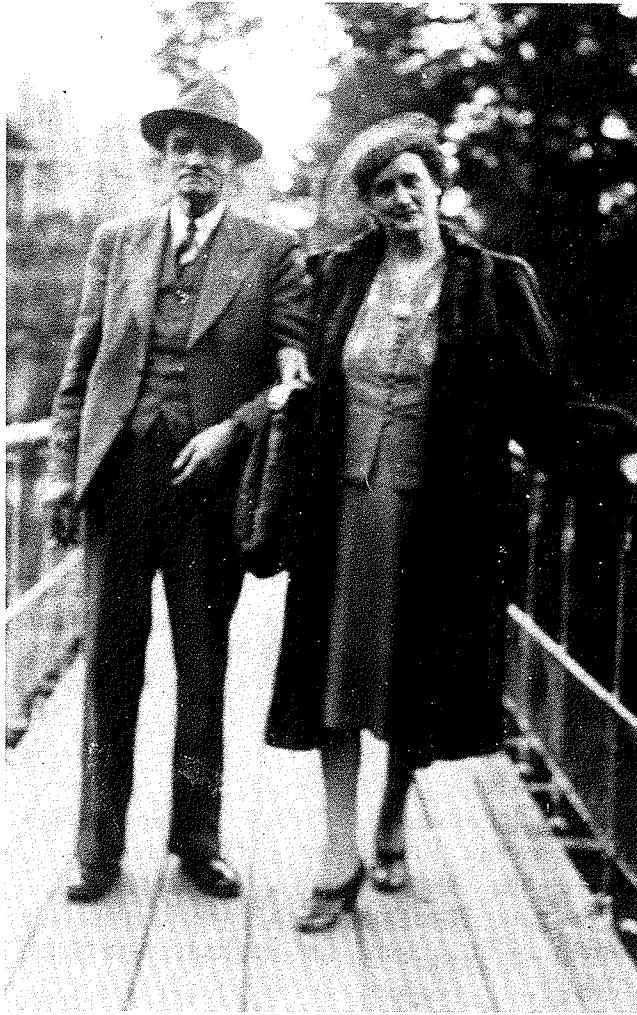
Lilian's Family: Three children, 14 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren.

Ed. Note: The Barr Homestead is now a part of the Plain View Hutterite Colony.

submitted by M. Irene Barr

## The George Edward Bartley-Family History

**George Edward Bartley** was born in London, England, December 25, 1892. He was the eldest son of Nehemiah and Margaret Bartley (nee Hill). There were four other children in this original family, Richard, Agnes, and Annie, who stayed in Ontario, and the one that most people of Elkhorn and district will remember, Uncle Charlie. Their mother died shortly after Uncle Charlie was born. Their father kept them together as a family, until the youngest, Charlie, was five years old. By that time friends had immigrated to Canada. The father decided to send the five children out to Canada to live with these friends, who were living at Mount Forest, Ontario. The five children, my father the oldest at age twelve, were placed in charge of the ship's captain, and off they went to Canada. Their father planned on following a



Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Bartley — 1950.

year later, but was killed by a train in London. The fore-going was told to me by my father, while I was still a very young boy. He could only tell me that he was born near Piccadilly Circus, and nothing more.

**Suzannah (Annie) Bartley** was born the second child of John Rutledge, and Florence (Bell) Rutledge, at Lauder, Manitoba, September 12, 1869. Her father was born in Ontario, of Irish emigrant parents. He was a tall red-headed man, with a red handle-bar mustache. Her mother, Florence (Bell) Rutledge, was born in Coventry, England. John and Florence, met and were married, at Portage la Prairie, to the best of my knowledge. He later operated a livery business at Lauder, where mother was born. They moved further on, to Carievale, Saskatchewan, to a farm. I remember my mother telling of terrible prairie fires, that often swept through, and of how hard pressed they were to save their buildings, setting backfires, throwing water on the buildings etc. It must have been terrifying, to say the least. She also told us that her mother was a fiery little English woman. Quite often Indian bands would stop at the

farm to ask for food. One day, a big, tough-looking Indian walked right into the house, and Grandma chased him right back out with the broom. That must have been quite a sight. She made them sit outside at the well, until she made up some tea, and bread and jam. After they had eaten, they moved on, much to the relief of all the Rutledge family no doubt. These Indians were "Sitting Bull's" band, moving back and forth from the United States, as far as mother knew. "They sure were a scary bunch", she always said, but did not do the settlers any harm. A lot of these Indians would have descendants at Griswold and Pipestone Reserves today.

**George and Charlie Bartley** — came "out West" on a "Harvest Excursion" to find work, in approximately 1916. They stopped off at Carievale, Saskatchewan to try and find work. This was where my father met Suzannah (Annie) Rutledge, who worked as a switchboard telephone operator. One rainy summer day, she was outside trying to fix an eavestrough, when along came George Bartley, and he gallantly offered to help her. This was the romantic beginning, of a relationship and marriage that lasted for fifty years.

Mother was transferred to Craik, Saskatchewan, for a year or two. In early 1918, the flu epidemic hit that area, and she told me that she often helped the local doctor attend the sick. Quite often they went without sleep for several days in a row. She mentioned that she had to stay on duty at the switchboard for three days as everyone else was down with the flu. It must have been some ordeal. Dad must have wanted to be near her, because he had accepted a job as a clerk in a store at Humboldt, Saskatchewan. During this time, they must have kept the Post Offices very busy, if the number of letters, that each other had kept, was any indication. I think that these letters are still in the Bartley family, and I have often thought, that some author could make a best selling novel out of these letters. You can almost "see" two lonely people, writing these very straight-laced letters, telling each other of their activities such as Band practice, work at the store, the flu epidemic, picnics, weather etc, never a word that could be considered the least bit "out-of-place", all so very "Victorian".

Dad and Mother were married on December 25, 1918. They left the same day by train for Toronto. Dad by this time had a position with Eaton's in Winnipeg as head window decorator, and he had been transferred to the Eaton's store in Toronto, to be the head of the same department. They stayed in Toronto for six years. During this time, mother's musical talents were put to good use. She played piano, in a "pit orchestra", during the days of the silent films.



In 1924, they decided to come back to the West. They bought a "brand-new" Model T Ford for \$1,000. They came around through Chicago, and up to Carievale, with their first son Raymond. They left behind an infant daughter, Margaret, who had died shortly after birth. They had purchased a General Store in Carievale. It was during their years in Carievale, that almost all of the family was born. Evelyn, November 4, 1924, Earl, July 21, 1926, Reg., August 26, 1927, William, February 9, 1931 and Marlyn November 6, 1933. Donald (Dint) was born at Elkhorn, Manitoba, September 2, 1936.

Dad operated this business in Carievale until 1934. The drought was at its worst, and he decided to move to Elkhorn. He had rented the old Savoy Theatre from a Mr. McPherson. A young carpenter named Russell Cassell, was hired, and they put together some make-shift shelving, and had the store ready to open on July 21, 1934. When Dad started business in Elkhorn, he had two truck loads of merchandise, a wife, six kids, and a big dog. He still had \$4,000.00 in debts out at Carievale too. By the way, all of these debts were repaid, except for approximately \$100.00. Dad often said, "the folks back in the Carievale district were poor, but sure as hell honest." In comparison to today's values, it would be close to \$50,000. He said, "he had no direction to go, but up!"

The business in Elkhorn, slowly evolved into the establishment of G. E. Bartley Co. Ltd., which Dad operated, until he sold the Ladies and Men's wear, and Hardware departments to his son William, and the Grocery and Meat department to his son Donald.



L-R Back row: Mrs. G. Bartley, Earl, Evelyn. Front row: Don, Marlyn, Bill, Reg — 1941.

They took over these departments in March, 1968, and now operate as two separate businesses, as you know them today.

Mother and Dad, took major parts in all of the town of Elkhorn's activities. Mother played the church organ for several years, and sang in the United Church choir. She also accompanied soloists at many concerts, violinists at many old-time fiddling contests, and at many weddings.

Dad will be remembered by most of "we old-timers" for his decoration ability, be it Field Days, Concerts, Carnivals, Dances, Weddings, his store windows, the Main Street for Parades, you name it he was out there, flags, bunting and all. He had a lot of help, from many, many towns-people. To name a few, Carl Dahl, Fred Mallett, Herbie Middleton, Albert Wilcox, Herb Jones, Milner Reid, Pat Ogilvie, George Ogilvie, Jack Waller, Ron Gardner, George Gardner, and Dad's reliable standby Russell Cassell was always available no matter what hour of the day or night, Fred Norris, Doc Hennan, and many more that I just can't recall. They made Elkhorn really "tick" in those days.

Dad was quite instrumental in starting the old Elkhorn Stadium, pictures of which will be in this history book. He spent untold hours planning programs, dances, motion picture dates, etc. He helped in the planning and building of the park, and also the Antique Auto Museum. Anything, to help keep Elkhorn going in some really tough times.

As many will recall, there were many musical evenings, at our home, with Mother playing the piano, Dad playing the violin, and everyone joining in on a sing-song, a glass, a lunch, sometimes into the wee hours of the morning. They loved every minute of it all.

Mother passed on, to her rest, on December 13, 1968 and Dad just six weeks later, January 24, 1969. They had had a busy life as you can see by the foregoing, and are now having their rest, while the family goes on in business in Elkhorn and other parts of Canada.

The Bartley Family, in order of birth —

**Raymond** — born July 6, 1922, married **Shirley Mitchell**. They had two sons **Randy** and **George**, both of whom live in the Toronto area. Raymond died in March 1973.

**Evelyn** — born November 4, 1924, married **Donald Armstrong**. They had three children, **Terry**, **Ricky** and **Colleen**, and they lived most of their lives at Turner Valley Alberta. Evelyn died February 18, 1981.

**Earl** — born July 21, 1926, married **Norma Haslen** in 1952. They have two children **Barbara**,

born August 4, 1955 and **Robert** — born December 24, 1957.

**Reginald** — born August 26, 1927, married **Eleanor Stein** of Melville, Saskatchewan. They had three sons, **Ronald, Dennis and Bruce**, all of whom live in the Toronto area. Reg. died December 1980.

**William** — born February 9, 1931, married **Margaret McColl**. They have eight children, **Karen, Richard, Christine, Rosemary, John, Maureen, Carla and Catherine**.

**Marlyn** — born November 6, 1933, married **Mary Hildebrand**. They have three children **Georgina, Gwen and Gerald**.

**Donald** — born September 2, 1936, married **Rose Marie Clarke**. They have four children, **Allan, Susan, Lisa and Julie Rae**.

submitted by **Earl Bartley**

### **Mr. and Mrs. William R. Bartley**

**Bill** is the fourth son of Mr. and Mrs. George Bartley. Born at Carievale, Saskatchewan, he moved with his parents to Elkhorn in 1934. In 1968, he bought the store from his father and operates a department store.

He married **Margaret McColl**, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred McColl of the Jeffrey district. They have a family of eight children:

**Karen**: married Rick Scott of Winnipeg. They have a daughter Andrea and reside in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

**Richard**: married Janet Fingas of Inglis, Manitoba and resides in Gillam, Manitoba. They have one son, Michael Lyndon.

**Christine**: married Robin Smith of Elkhorn and resides in Brandon.

**Rosemary**: is attending university.

**John**: at home.

**Maureen**: at home.

**Carla**: at home.

**Catherine**: at home.

### **William and Jean Baskerville**

**William and Jean (Cannon) Baskerville** were married in Elkhorn in 1911, and lived the first part of their married life at McAuley. They have six children, **Janet** (Mrs. Payne) of Roblin, **Clarence**, of Elkhorn **Jim**, of Winnipeg, **Mary Curagh** of Kingston Ontario, **Ben** of Elkhorn and **Lloyd** of Elkhorn.

In 1930, they moved from McAuley to 14-13-28; they then moved to the Turner farm, presently owned by Earl Smith. They later moved into the Burnbank district and resided there until they passed away.

William passed away in 1965, and Jean in 1969.

### **The Ernest A. R. Bates Story**

I am the only child, **Grenville**, of **Mr. and Mrs. E. A. R. Bates** who farmed most of their life at Elkhorn. My father was born in a large family at Ashford, Kent, England. He was the fourth in the family and third son, born at Stone Cross Farm, Bilsington on January 11th, 1888. He was apprenticed in the grocery trade and saw no future in it, so came to Canada in March, 1907, on the Carthaginian, which brought immigrants to Canada and took cattle back to England. He came to Winnipeg and on to Mather. They were snowbound three days at Morris in April, with the snow as high as the coaches. In 1908, he went to Brandon and worked on the Roddick farms. Meanwhile, his brother, **George**, who was in the butcher business came home from India and farmed at Stone Cross. In 1909, he came to Brandon, where my dad was living. George eventually farmed on our original farm at Elkhorn, 35-12-28. My father had the first livery station in Brandon. He joined the 181st Battalion in the first war as a Lieutenant.

George died of the flu epidemic after the war in 1918 and my father took over the farm one mile east of where I went to school at Burnbank. When my father was in Brandon, he met and married a farmer's daughter, **Aletha Elisson Blight**.

My father's brother, **Archie**, also came to Canada. Arrangements were made for my father to meet him in Brandon. He was asleep on the train. Archie farmed north of Elkhorn on the Duxbury farm. When the second war broke out, he joined up and following the war spent his remaining years in Vancouver.

My father and mother enjoyed farming at Elkhorn. Eventually in my time, they took over the north half of 25-12-28 and the southeast quarter. They also owned the east half of 26-12-28. They lived on the farm in their retirement years. My father spent a very brief time in West-Man Nursing Home in Virden where he died in 1978 at the age of ninety.

My mother was born in 1883 and at ninety-eight in April, 1981, is still living at West-Man.

Time does not permit all the stories I could tell about the depression days. I was a small boy but I remember my father betting a neighbor that he had more patches on his underwear than the neighbor did. Dad lost his bet because the neighbor didn't have any underwear.

I never heard any of the farmers complaining about hard times in the thirties and the towns gave more complete service than they do today.

Today there are many changes, not all for the best.

Country schools are no more with the children bussed to larger schools. There are all weather roads



Mr. and Mrs. E. Bates.

compared to winter sleigh and cutter trails. The biggest problem for the small towns is that they have been changed as a result of the automobile. Services have now been taken away to the larger centres leaving ours and other small towns to fit into the category of the survival of the fittest.

There were some, in fact many, events that happened when I was a boy that we are not aware of now.

Now most of the farmers have combines. Back in the twenties and thirties one farmer would harvest the crops of several with each assisting by providing one or more stook teams. This was in the time of the gas tractors with their steel lugs long since banned from the highways to avoid the damage done. It was a real thrill for me, when driving a five-horse team, on a plow, to see Sidney Freer in the next field with his newly acquired tractor. Earlier Mr. George Lacey used to do the threshing in our area. Instead of three stook teams on each side of the feeder and a person helping to load on each side, the outfit was of steam and much larger. It included a person hauling water for the steam engine, and a special person feeding straw to the engine. Of course in those days grain was either left in bins or hauled by wagon and team to the nearest grain elevator

The ladies had an enormous job of feeding the twenty or so men on the gang. At meal time when the outfits shut down there was always a race to see who could get to the barn first.

We, as most families in our area, belonged to a beef ring. We all fed an animal and when ready one person who had the slaughter house cut up the meat for all participants. They picked it up and over the year would get all portions of the animal.

When I was a small boy I remember my father joining other farmers to put out a prairie fire. This fire would burn over miles of dry grass area taking all in its path. The fire would be fought with wet sacks and buildings would have a fire guard ploughed up around them. I remember one ending up within a half mile of our place close to Tom Allison's. They had the post office at one time for the residents of the Burnbank area.

We never had to move out of our area in the thirties as many had to move from Saskatchewan. We did have wind storms that covered the fence posts in places. I remember walking from the house to the barn one day. The dust was blowing so hard you couldn't see the barn. I had to hold my hand to my mouth and nose to breathe and also followed close by the buildings in order not to get lost. The feed was in short supply in some of those years. I remember being able to count all the ribs on our horses. At times it was necessary to give the horses a few minutes rest at each end of the field. One year we didn't have any feed so at noon I took the harness off and let the horses pick what they could in the yard, and believe me that wasn't much!

At one time a teacher had to have grade eleven to qualify. This was in our one-room school. They taught remarkably well when you consider they had eight grades. When I, like the other boys, became older we had a chance to earn some money. I got five cents and my partner the same for carrying a pail of water for the students from Hugh Drake's about a half-mile away.

I got fifteen cents a day to go early to put the fire on in the winter time. This was about the only money available except in those years gophers were a problem so we got a cent a tail from the Municipality.

Grasshoppers were another severe problem. My dad used to put poisoned bran along the fence rows. There were stories of the grasshoppers darkening the sky and being so thick on the railway tracks that they became so sticky it was hard for the trains to start.

My dad really enjoyed people. He had a sense of humor — and over the years was very active in the community. He was active at our country school. He went through the various degrees in the Masonic order. My mother was more retiring but taught music as a graduate of Brandon College. She also played the organ in Brandon churches prior to her marriage. My dad was a Past President of the Agricultural

Society, a very good curler, and was active in politics.

Of course we had radio, not television. But regardless if it was Amos and Andy, or Lux Radio Theatre we would enjoy it. Many other times we would drive the team seven miles to participate in curling or other community events.

In the early years my dad worked at North Battleford. That was before the bridge was constructed. He had to get to the other side of the Saskatchewan River so he swam his team across. They did have difficulty as there was ice at the shore and the horses and driver just made it. In those days before deep freezers he told me they put their meat high in a tree to keep it fresh. In later years most farmers milked cows. We kept our can of cream in the well and took it to town once a week. It brought five dollars — enough money to buy groceries for a week. Eggs brought ten cents a dozen.

Those were the days when I was an usher at the theatre above McLeod's store. I was born May 17, 1921, and have three children. I married **Daisy Pattullo** of Ninette, who graduated from Brandon General Hospital. My life involved Agriculture, Communications with the C.B.C. in Winnipeg and Toronto and Director of Communications at the University of Saskatchewan. Since 1972, I have been with the Saskatchewan Government. Our eldest daughter, **Diane**, a home economist, is married to **Dr. Richard Christmas** at Calgary. They have a five year old son, **David**, and a three year old daughter, **Jill**. Our second daughter, **Alys-Lynne**, lives in Winnipeg and is married to **Joseph Furgal**. They have a two and a half year old boy named **Adam**. Our youngest is a son, **Dr. David Bates**, who is in joint practice in Brandon. He is married to **Dr. Lynn Bates**.

submitted by C. E. Grenville Bates

### **Bayliss Family**

**Richard** and **Lenore** came to Elkhorn, Manitoba from Penticton, B.C. in the early spring (April) of 1972. We bought a full section of land (6-13-28) from Mr. and Mrs. George Girlip and have enjoyed living here very much.

We have a son, **Mark Richard** and a daughter, **Denise Elizabeth**. They attend Elkhorn School to get their education and are both in Grade VII this year 1981/82. We have farmed here for nine years.

### **Allan A. Beattie**

**Allan Beattie** was the eldest child of Mr. and Mrs. John Beattie of Miniota. On October 30, 1920 he married **Sarah Jarvis** who had come from En-

gland with her sister Emily at an early age. After their marriage, they moved into Elkhorn. Allan worked as a drayman for Lambert & Earle. Wages for unloading a carload of coal were \$8.00! To earn extra money Sarah took in sewing and did alterations for others. She sewed the layette for Dr. and Mrs. Johnston's first baby.

Their daughter, **Dorothy**, was born in Elkhorn on August 1, 1921 and was baptized in St. Mark's Church.

Sarah recalls Hallowe'en in Elkhorn — "There was straw piled up in front of McLeod's Store and a buggy on top of another building." She remembers huge drifts of snow covering their six-foot board fence.

In 1923 they moved to Cleveland, Ohio where he had several jobs — among them working in a machine foundry on motors and also on a street car line. They lived in Grant's Pass, Oregon and then moved to Smith River, California.

Allan's interests were fishing and wood work including diamond willow.

They made many trips back to visit his sisters, Margaret Grant, Jean Cook and Birdie Thompson. Allan passed away in July, 1979. Sarah now resides near Hilo, Hawaii.

Dorothy married **Earl Mock**. They live near Hilo. They have three daughters **Lynn** in Los Angeles, California, **Gail** and **Terri** in Hilo.

### **Lawrence Berry**

**LAWRENCE** and **DORIS SKINNER** were married at Cromer on September 18, 1943. They moved to Elkhorn in 1952 where Lawrence worked as a motor rewinder for several years. Doris joined the post-office staff in 1964 as a part-time assistant. She became a full time assistant in 1966 and post-mistress in 1981.

There are four children from this marriage.

**WAYNE** was born at Virden on July 29, 1944. He attended schools at Cromer, Elkhorn and Virden Collegiate. Wayne joined the air force in 1961 and spent three years in Germany. He married the former **LINDA SMITH** of Rivers in December, 1967. Leaving the air force in 1971, he is presently employed with the Hudson's Bay Company at Winnipeg. They have two children: **CHRISTAL**, seven and **PATRICK**, three.

**JANICE** was born at Virden Hospital on April 6, 1948. She attended school at Elkhorn and Virden Collegiate. Janice worked for several years at the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce in Elkhorn. She was married to **WAYNE TURNER** of Ottawa on September 2, 1967. They are presently living at Clearwater, British Columbia, where Wayne is the

area manager of British Columbia Hydro. They have three children: KARYN twelve, GAYLENE ten, and TRENT four.

**SANDRA** was also born in Virden Hospital on July 29, 1951. She also attended schools at Elkhorn and Virden Collegiate. Sandra was a telephone operator for Eatons at Brandon until her marriage to **GARY NORBURY** of McAuley on October 30, 1971. They live on the Norbury home farm at McAuley and have one child, ALANA, born September 12, 1977.

**DEBBIE**, the youngest, was born at the Elkhorn hospital on February 22, 1957. She also attended school at Elkhorn and Virden Collegiate. Debbie first joined the Bank of Montreal at Kitimat British Columbia, later transferring to the Brandon branch. She was married to **DALE LEWIS** of McAuley on June 14, 1974. They live at McAuley where Dale works for the Gas Interprovincial Pipe Line. They have two children: HEATHER six, and SCOTT four.

### The Bickerton Family

The following is an article found in the Manitoba Archives. It was written by our grandfather:

"In Glasgow, Scotland, I was a warehouseman and come to Manitoba with less than \$1,000.00 to commence with. I have 320 acres worth \$3,000.00. I have over fifty acres in crop, the average yield of wheat being twenty-eight bushel per acre, oats and barley forty bushel. Vegetables grow to a greater size than in any other country I have ever seen. Winter usually sets in the first or second week in November and ends in the middle of March. I have not had any losses or suffering from the climate. The climate is



Ab, Alma and Jack Bickerton.

very healthy. Mixed farming is best; cattle thrive. I have thirty-eight head and winter them on wild hay, straw and some grain. There is lots of water fourteen to sixteen feet deep. Wild fruits grow freely. April or May is the best time for a settler to come here to start farming and they should not bring anything except strong clothing and warm blankets. I am so satisfied with Manitoba that I have no wish to leave and I believe it will be a great country. There are a number of sections open for homesteading, that is, free land in my township, good grain land with lots of hay and water for the digging, also six miles from a railway station."

**Robert Bickerton** was born in Scotland and came to Canada in 1882. He homesteaded on the S.E. ¼ of 20-12-27 approximately eight miles north-east of Elkhorn in the York district.

He settled there for a year and went to Ontario where he was married. He then brought his bride, **Elizabeth Lillico** back to his farm. There they raised a family of ten. He farmed there for several years then moved to Winnipeg leaving Jack, his son, on the farm.

**Jack Bickerton** was born in 1888 at Elkhorn, Manitoba. He married **Alma Thomson** who was born in 1893 at Lakefield, Minnesota. Jack and Alma are both now deceased. They were married at Elkhorn in 1916. This was Jack's second marriage. He had one daughter, **Mrs. Evelyn Stenhouse**, who has now passed away.

From his second marriage he had nine children, five girls and four boys.

**Albert** (who is now deceased) married **Agnes Rae** from Scotland. They have two children, **Donna Grabowski** of Anola, Manitoba and **Bill** who mar-



Top row: Annie holding Jim, Tom, Marion, Betty. Middle row: Dorothy, Kate. Front row: Bill.

ried **Sharlean Martin** of Elkhorn, Manitoba. They have two sons **Corey** and **Paul Douglas**.

**Annie** married **Frank Kliever** in 1941 at Elkhorn. They have four children: **Eileen Chapple** of Brandon, she has a daughter **Terri** and son **Brock**. **Dennis** married **Janice** Twigg of Elkhorn and they have a daughter **Colleen**. **Ken** married **Wanda Rae Martin** of Elkhorn and they have a son **Kirk**. **Rodney** is on the home farm at Elkhorn.

**Tom** married **Jean Cuthill** of Fleming, Saskatchewan and they raised a family of four. **Bob**, who married **Brenda Denolf** of Virden lives in Thunder Bay and has a son **Ryan**. **Wenda** married **Doug Walker** and they live at Elkhorn and have a daughter **Becki** and a son **Robert**. **Ron**, married **Sharon Robson** and farms at Elkhorn and **Kathy** of Elkhorn.

**Marian** married **George Tait** of Elkhorn and they now reside in Red Deer, Alberta. They have a family of four. **Joy Graham** of Caroline, Alberta. **Lance** and his wife **Debbie** of Red Deer. They have two sons. **Aaron** and **Joey**. **Rich** and his wife **Laurie** of Red Deer. They have a son **Justin**. **Ray** the youngest son also lives at Red Deer, Alberta.

**Betty** married **Tilden Nylin** of Elkhorn. They now live in the Hargrave district. They have three daughters. **Linda Bullack** and her husband **Ken** live in Brandon and have two daughters **Leigh** and **Jill**. **Patsy Martin** and her two daughters **Heather** and **Twylla** live in Regina. **Janice** and her husband **Bob** live at Oak Bank and have a son **Kent** and a daughter **Jodi**.

**Dorothy** married **Gordon Arthur** and resides in Rocanville. They raised a family of eight. **Barbara Cuthill** of Welwyn, Saskatchewan and **Jack, Candace, James, Scott, Jeffery, Tracy** and **Connie** of Rocanville, Saskatchewan.

**Kathleen** was married to **Hugh McKinnon** of Alexander, Manitoba. They had two sons. **Don** of Lynn Lake and **Bradley** of Brandon. Hugh passed away in 1959. Kathleen later married **Stan Holt** of Brandon.

**Bill Bickerton** married **Judy Warden** of Elkhorn. They now reside in Boissevain. They have four children: **Sharon** of Red Deer, Alberta, **Barry, Karen** and **Dan** of Boissevain, Manitoba.

**Jim** married **Jean Mills** of Virden and they now reside in Grand Center Alberta. They have one son **Jayson**.

A note of interest is that the two generations were born on the same farm and in the same house. The Robert Bickerton family attended school at Two Creeks and the Jack Bickerton family all attended school in Elkhorn going by truck in summer and by van and horses in the winter. The Jack Bickerton

family left the York district in 1941 and moved to a farm two miles south of Elkhorn.

submitted by Tom Bickerton and Annie Kliever

### The Birchall Family

**Lewis and Lizzie Birchall** and family arrived at Elkhorn on April 10, 1925 to reside and farm on S.E. ¼ of 17-11-28. They came from Croft, Lancashire, England where Mr. Birchall had farmed the land which his father and grandfather previously farmed.

In 1925 the family were: **Annie, Mary, Lewis** and **Betty**. Later **Effie** and **Douglas** completed the family of six children who attended these schools: Buckingham, Woodville, Parkland and Elkhorn.

Mr. and Mrs. Birchall were confirmed in the Church of England, but they and their family attended the United Church at Woodville for several years. The first summer in Canada, Mr. Birchall worked for Mr. William Milroy and became accustomed to the different ways of farming. Later, in the Woodville district, he worked for Mr. H. J. Wood, in the Parkland area for Mr. James Armstrong, and Mr. Archie Connolly, in the Elkhorn area for Mr. George Harry and Mr. J. E. Blakeman.

For a time Mr. Birchall was employed on a C.P.R. section and was also the gardener at the Anglican Indian Residential School, later leaving Elkhorn to become the gardener at Rivers Camp. After retirement from there in 1955 they moved to Brandon where Mr. Birchall made a business of landscaping and gardening until he fully retired in 1970. He passed away in 1972 and Mrs. Birchall passed away in 1974.

Annie, the eldest, married **Grant Overand**, from Eden Grove, Ontario. They have two sons, **Wesley** and **Keith**. Wes married **Ellen Rae Coutts** of Elkhorn, and they are farming west of Elkhorn in the Mossgiel district. Ellen Rae was employed at the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. They have a daughter, **Dorothy Chevonne**, born November 29, 1981. Keith lives at home and is employed by C.P.R. section, presently at Whitewood, Saskatchewan.

Mary married **John McLeod** in 1942 in Winnipeg where they lived until 1950, then moved to Kenora, Ontario. Their daughter **Joy** was born in 1951 and in July, 1954, John lost his life in an accident. In November, 1956 Mary married **Cliff McKinnon** at La Riviere, where they farmed until 1965. Their son **Michael** was born in 1960. From 1965 to 1972 they resided in Manitou, then moved to Winnipeg where they now live. Joy married **Ronald Veley** in 1968. They reside at Niverville, Manitoba and have a son **Sean** and a daughter **Sandra**.

Lewis Birchall Jr., after attending school worked for Mr. Frank Walker at his garage business in

Elkhorn. Lew enlisted in the Lake Superior Regiment early in the war and served overseas as a radio operator. Returning to Canada in 1945 he was with the Dept. of Transport for some time, later becoming employed by Canadian Pacific Airlines for several years. Then he owned and operated a taxi business in Prince Rupert, B.C. retiring in 1974. He married **Ina Orobko** in The Pas in 1950. They have no children and since retiring they live in Hawaii.

Betty completed high school in Elkhorn and then taught school for one year at Waskada, before enlisting in the R.C.A.F. — W.D. in 1941. Betty served at several posts in eastern Canada and Winnipeg, then married **George LeBlanc** in Toronto. They have resided in Toronto and Montreal where Betty has been a secretary with a firm of lawyers. George and Betty have four children: **Gisele**, presently in Cuba, employed in the tourism industry; **Louis**, married and residing in Montreal. He and his wife **Suzanne**, have a daughter **Veronica**; **Robert**, recently graduated from MacDonal College, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, where he and his wife **Lesley** reside; **Jerome**, living in Montreal.

Effie, the youngest daughter, married **Fred Shoemaker** of the Arawana district. They farmed north of Cromer for a year, moving to Elkhorn in the fall of 1945 where Fred was employed at the coal dock in the winter months, and farming in the summer months. He joined the staff of Francis Transfer in 1949 where he was employed until moving to Brandon in 1962.

Their family were: **James, Valerie, Darryl, Monica, Brenda, Kevin and Mark.**

James married **Donna Goethe** and they farm in the Elkhorn district. Their children are **Christine, Mark and Laura.**

Valerie and her husband **Vic Nissen** and children **Linda and Victor Mark** reside in Prince Rupert, B.C. Darryl and his wife **Rhonda** and children **Marissa and Gordon** reside in Brooks, Alberta. Darryl is employed at Schlumberger Oil Service. Monica and her husband **Ken Flamand** have one son **Michael**. They live in Brandon. Monica is a respiratory technician at Brandon General Hospital.

Brenda and her husband **Bob Fidler**, and children **Trinna and Julie Dawn** reside in Somerset, Man.

Kevin and his wife **Jacquie** have one daughter **Sara**. They reside in Brandon where Kevin is employed with Manitoba Hydro at the Brandon Generating Plant.

Mark died in infancy in 1961.

Doug attended school at Elkhorn and at Rivers, later lived and worked at Kenora, Ontario and Banff, Vancouver, Campbell River and other points in B.C.

His work is with the B.C. Forestry. His family are **Ken and Mark** of Vancouver, **Denise** at Red Deer, Alberta and **Scott** at Campbell River. Doug and his wife **Judy** live at Mission, B.C.

submitted by Annie Overand

### Maurice Black

**Maurice James Black**, only son of Tom and Bessie Black, was born at Virden, Manitoba September 7, 1938. He received his public schooling at Burnbank School and Elkhorn High School.

He worked for a short time with Manitoba Hydro, and then in March, 1957 joined Producers Pipelines at Estevan, Saskatchewan, and began working in the oil field. He worked at Estevan, Cromer, and Carnduff. While working at Carnduff, he met, and married **Marguerite McRae** on September 21, 1963. They have three girls — **Karn** born December 25, 1965; **Michelle** born March 31, 1967; and **Melody**, May 28, 1969.

Maurice continues to work in the oil field and has remained an employee of Producer's Pipelines. Marguerite is Director of Care at the nursing home in Carnduff.

submitted by Marguerite and Maurice Black

### Mr. and Mrs. George Blackwell

**George and Mary Blackwell** moved to Elkhorn in 1926 when Mr. Blackwell began teaching at Elkhorn School. He taught here from 1926 to 1928. They resided here only one year due to health reasons.

The family consisted of three boys and two girls; **George, Maude, Ruth, Frank, and Harry.** Harry



L-R Back row: Maud, Frank, Ruth, George. Front row: George, Harry, Mary.

attended school in Elkhorn was killed in action in Scotland in 1941.

Ruth Blackwell, their daughter, began teaching here in 1928 and taught grades one and two until 1937. She later married Earl Stinson.

submitted by Marilyn Tait

### “Looking Back”

**George Edwin Blakeman** was born in Ontario in 1860, passing away in Elkhorn in 1929. He came west to Manitoba at the age of eighteen years, travelling with a team of horses and ten dollars in his pocket. My father homesteaded in Two Creeks, Manitoba. He married **Elizabeth Smith**, a Virden school teacher in 1890.

Elizabeth Smith came west with her parents and three children by a team of oxen and wagon trek in the spring of 1882. They brought some household effects with them and settled first on a wheatland Manitoba homestead. During their trip they suffered some from snow blindness.

About 1899 Ed Blakeman bought the George Freeman farm three miles northeast of Elkhorn and the family lived there for some thirty years before retiring to Elkhorn. Mr. Blakeman's sons operated the farm for several years and finally sold it after having rented it. It is now in very capable ownership, I hear.

Ed Blakeman's family attended Elkhorn School and Trinity Methodist Church. In his teens, Perc Blakeman was a pitcher for the local baseball team. The family enjoyed skating at the local rink.

Mr. Blakeman was a member of the Canadian Foresters, Councillor for the Municipality of Wallace for many years, past president of the United Grain Growers, elder of his church until the time of his death and director of Elkhorn Creamery. He was one of the first Pool members at the time of its inception. Mr. Blakeman owned a threshing outfit (gasoline tractor) and with the help and co-operation of sharing labour with three neighbours, John Freeman, George Harry and John Heritage, they were early and successful harvesters.

Mrs. Blakeman was active in her church activities and a past president of the Ladies' Aid. She was noted for her warm hospitality.

The family is as follows:

Son — **J. E. (Win) Blakeman**, graduated from Manitoba Agriculture College with a B.S.A. in 1914. He farmed and later settled in Winnipeg, Manitoba, in charge of the western division for Dominion Plant Products. He later moved to Ottawa to be supervisor of this department for Canada. Upon retirement in the '60's, he and his wife, Jessie, retired to North

Vancouver. Win passed away in 1970. Jessie still resides in Vancouver.

Son — **G. P. (Perc) Blakeman**, graduated as a druggist from the Winnipeg Pharmacy College. He worked in Eatons as a dispenser, moving up to Assistant Manager, General Manager, Supervisor and Buyer of drugs for Western Canada. He retired early to his lovely home at Silver Falls, Manitoba, with his wife, Florence Miller, a former Elkhorn school teacher. Perc passed away in 1979, survived by his second wife, Pearl, who lives at Pine Falls, Manitoba.

Eldest daughter, **Edna Mable Blakeman**, was active for many years in Trinity Methodist Church Mission Circle, choir and I.O.D.E., and Women's Institute. She taught piano lessons and enjoyed skating and drama. Edna went to Saskatoon about 1928 to work in the Dominion Seed Branch Laboratory and remained with that branch until her retirement. She passed away in 1979, following a long illness.

Second daughter, **Alice Merle Cronk** (nee Blakeman), left Elkhorn as a teenager to attend Normal School in Regina. She taught school at Mount Crescent School, Wolseley for three years moving to Alameda to teach for eighteen months. Merle married Bruce Cronk of Alameda in 1924. They lived in Saskatoon for 23 years, moving to Regina in 1951. Merle enjoyed all sports, was active in church, community and lodge work. Mrs. Cronk has been a widow since 1975.

Third generation families of Ed and Elizabeth Blakeman are:

J.E. and Jessie Blakeman

George H. Blakeman, Concord, California

John Blakeman, Haworth, N.J.

Mrs. Ruth Robb — Whitby, Ontario

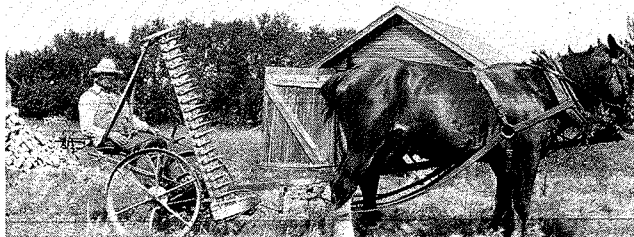
Mrs. Elizabeth Metcalf, Los Angeles, California

G.P. and Florence Blakeman

No children

Edna M. Blakeman

No children



Mr. Ed Blakeman going out to cut hay in the 1920's.



A. Merle and Bruce Cronk

Allan E. Cronk, Regina, Saskatchewan

Mrs. H. Geraldine McDonald, Mississauga, Ontario

A tragedy which hit the Blakeman family was the loss of their home by fire one windy spring morning in 1905. It was a very terrifying and frightening experience. I had not started school. To the east of our farm, in the haying fields and pastureland, men fought to safeguard their stubble fields and stooks of grain from Prairie fires raging in early harvest time. Many guards were ploughed by the farmers in the vicinity. It was a disturbing sight, especially at night time.

A recent, pleasant and happy memory will always remain a highlight of my life, that being the Elkhorn School reunion in 1977. I am pleased I was able to attend.

I am proud of Elkhorn and wish all the best of the town and district and for its future generations.  
submitted by Mrs. Merle Cronk (nee Blakeman)

### John Edward Blakeman

Mr. Blakeman was born in the vicinity of Elkhorn, Manitoba and received his early education there. He graduated from the University of Manitoba with a B.S.A. degree in Agriculture. He was Manitoba's district supervisor of the plant products division of the Dominion department of Agriculture until 1953. He was transferred to Ottawa where he filled positions of increasing responsibility and was appointed chief of the plant products division of the federal department of Agriculture, Ottawa. Mr. Blakeman was a charter member of the Manitoba Agrologists and of the Agricultural Institute of Cana-



Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Blakeman (right) accepting a plaque from S. J. Chagnon, Asst. Deputy Minister of Agriculture on the occasion of Mr. Blakeman's retirement as Chief of the Plant Products Division after 36 years with the Dept. of Agriculture — 1956.

da. He helped to organize the Manitoba seed board and was its secretary for 20 years. He was also a member of the Manitoba barley improvement committee and of the Professional Institute of the Public Services. He was an honorary life member of the Canadian Seed Growers. He was on the session of Greenwood church, in Winnipeg, for 25 years and after retiring to Vancouver was on the session at Highland United Church, North Vancouver.

### The Blevins Family

**David John (Jack) Blevins** of Carnduff, Saskatchewan, married **Jean Elizabeth Strong** of Rocanville, Saskatchewan, and they had two children, **Wayne John** and **Carol Jean**. They came to Elkhorn on April 28th, 1960, and took over the Manitoba Hotel Cafe until health problems forced Jack to sell. He then purchased George Francis' Red and White Store, changing the name to The Lucky Dollar. In 1965, Jack was advised by his doctor to quit work. He sold the store to Kent and Ruth McCormack and then went to work for the Government Highways Department. However, an accident was the cause of his untimely death in November, 1965. His family left Elkhorn for Brandon and Winnipeg in December, 1965.

Wayne and his wife, **Marilyn**, have two girls and reside in Brandon. Carol, now **Mrs. Dennis Tulloch**, has a boy and a girl and lives in Spruce Grove, Alberta. Jean, retired now, likes to travel and spends her winters in California.

submitted by Carol (Blevins) Tulloch

### Frances and Alfred Bohrn

**Frances and Alfred Bohrn** came to Elkhorn in April, 1953 with one son **Ronald** and one daughter **Margaret** to section 21-11-28, that had been purchased from the late Jean Canart. About a year later, a son **Edwin** was born. A son, **Gerard** was born in 1957 and another, **Anthony** in 1959. A twin brother of Gerard's died shortly after birth and a daughter passed away at birth in 1961.

Ronald attended school in Elkhorn and later attended A.C.C. in Brandon to become a mechanic. After various employments in Brandon he was employed by Simplot Chemicals where he remained for 14 years. He then left Brandon to work for Canadian Fertilizers of Medicine Hat as an accountant. In 1965 he married **Lynn Renwick**. They have two daughters, **Darlene** and **Janette**, a son, **Blaine** and twin boys, **Brian** and **Brent**.

Margaret attended public school and high school in Elkhorn after which she secured a position as telephone operator in Elkhorn. She married **Robert**



L-R Back row: Gerard, Ron, Anthony, Margaret, Edwin. Seated: Frances and Alf Bohrn.

**Janz** in 1968 and moved to Brandon where she was employed by Manitoba Telephone Systems, where she still works. They also have two daughters, **Teresa** and **Michelle**, and one son **Stanley**.

Edwin attended public school and Junior High in Elkhorn. He studied Industrial Arts in Virden Collegiate. After several courses in Assiniboine Community College as barber, plumber, and carpenter, he finally completed a course in carpentry. After a time of employment with Jacobson and Griener he was forced to leave the province in order to find employment in his trade. He went to Medicine Hat in 1975 where he still lives. In 1979 he married **Janice Lewis** of La Fleche, Saskatchewan. They have a daughter, **Amanda**.

Gerard completed High School in Elkhorn, then in Brandon University he earned his B. of Science degree. He took a two year course in teacher training. While still in Brandon University he married **Laura Jean Davison** of Carberry in 1979. They still live in Brandon.

Anthony attended school in Elkhorn. After finishing High School he also attended A.C.C. in Brandon where he worked on his mechanics papers. After a year's work in Virden, 1979, he left garage work to farm at home where he still is.

submitted by Alfred Bohrn

### The Bolam Family

**Richard Arthur Bolam** (Dick) was born in Bryson, Quebec. He moved to Brandon, Manitoba where he found work at Hambury's Sawmill. He met

his future wife, **Ann**, while boarding at her parents, **James and Kate Lanigan's**. The Lanigans were from Moncton, New Brunswick. Dick and Ann were married on August 4, 1895 and remained in Brandon until 1906 when they bought a farm from Harvey Johnson ten miles southwest of Elkhorn in the Arawana district. The house they owned in Brandon was traded in part payment for the farm. Although their main reason for moving to a farm was so Dick would be able to spend more time at home, Dick continued to spend much of his time logging near Roblin in winter and then working at the sawmill in Brandon in the summer.

In 1920, the Bolams were able to build a new home which is still standing. In 1937, Ted and Ede Chapple rented the farm and later Arthur and Ethel Collins bought it. Later owners were Wm. and Ruby Rattray. Jake Martens presently owns the land.

In May, 1937, Dick and Ann moved to Vancouver, B.C. Both Dick and Ann resided in Vancouver until their deaths in 1961 and 1958 respectively.

There were ten children in the Bolam family.

**Lena** married **Jim Boyce** of Elkhorn and had eight children, **Kenneth** and **Vi** of Brandon, **Loretta** and **Edison Berry** of Reston, **Ross** and **Marj** of Brandon, **Ronald** and **Dolores** of B.C., **Winnifred** and **Russ Elliot** of Mission, B.C., **Allen** of Edmonton, Alta., **Fay** and **Jack Webb**, **Gary** and **Vi** live in Brandon. Lena passed away in July, 1976 in Brandon.

**Lora** married **Doug Sharratt** of Butler. They lived in the Butler area until 1937 when they moved to Vancouver. Lora died in February, 1981.

**Bert** married **Thelma Chapple** of the Arawana district. They had one daughter, **Enid**, who married **Roland Gardner**. Bert died in 1939.

**Clara** married **Alf Allinson**. They have one son, **Alvin**. While living in Elkhorn, Clara was well-known for her baking when she ran a bakery and restaurant. Both Clara and Alf are now living in Vancouver.

**Harry** married **Edith Roach**. They have three children. **Merle** and **Jack Lambourne** of Virden. **Audrey** and **Keith Forster** of Virden. **Gary**.

Harry served in World War II and later owned the bulk Esso station in Virden. He still resides in Virden.

**Ernie** married **Gladys Sharratt** of Butler. They also had three children. **Maynard**, who died in a plane crash in Northern Alberta, **Arvella**, and **Gloria**. Ernie served in World War II and is presently residing in Vancouver.

**Con** married **Bill Hutchison**. They had three children. **Winona** of Vancouver. **Richard** married

**Luella Cook** of Virden and lived in Winnipeg until his death in 1975. **Verlie** and **Bill Reid** of Winnipeg. Con is living in Winnipeg.

**Wilf** married **Margaret Hodson** from the Buckingham district. They have two children. **Gail** married **David Seymour** and lives in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. **Barry** and **Ann** of Surrey, B.C. **Wilf** lives in Surrey, B.C.

**Evelyn** married **Albert Hodson** from the Buckingham district. They have four children. **Leland** and **Barbara** of Elkhorn, **Valerie** and **Jerry Shoemaker** of Elkhorn, **Sherryl** and **Brent Reid** of Calgary, Alta., **Tanis** and **Don Paskell** of Tilley, Alta. **Evelyn** lives in Elkhorn.

**Lloyd** married **Eleanor Stout**. They have two children, **Sharon** of Vancouver, **Lyle** and **Michelle** of Vancouver. **Lloyd** lives in Vancouver, B.C.

### **George and Emma Boomhower**

**George Boomhower** came from Arden, Ontario in 1901 at the age of seventeen. He was the son of **Nelson** and **Mary (Woodcock) Boomhower**. His father, **Nelson Boomhower**, was a descendent of the United Empire Loyalists. They were also known as the Pennsylvania Dutch. They came to Ontario, Canada, after the American Revolution.

**George Boomhower** came to Saskatchewan and worked with his brother-in-law and sister, **Mr. and Mrs. John and Rose (Boomhower) Smith**. He also worked for **Mr. Bill Lipsey**. It was here in 1910 he met and married **Emma Goethe**.

**Emma Goethe**, daughter of **Frank and Racie Goethe**, was born in Germany and at the age of one year immigrated to the U.S.A. with them in 1884. **Emma's** father, **Frank Goethe**, son of **Julius Goethe**, was heir to the estate of the great German poet and philosopher **Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe**. In the family are many old letters attesting to his position as heir but through legal fees and government, it was all lost.

**Mr. and Mrs. Frank Goethe** lived in the U.S.A. a few years and in 1905 came to Canada.

**George and Emma** settled on a farm in the Woodville district. They had a family of three girls and three boys.

**Emma Boomhower** was a quiet home loving person; she loved her home, her friends and most of all, her family. She cared for her aged parents until they passed away, her mother in 1937 and her father in 1935. They are both buried in the Woodville Cemetery.

**George Boomhower** was a good neighbor, was fond of sports and dancing, and called off many square dances in the district. Due to ill health in 1954,

he was forced to leave the farm and move to Elkhorn. **George** passed away in 1961 and is buried in the Woodville Cemetery. **Emma** lived the last few years in "West-Man" in Virden. She died in 1977 and is buried beside her husband **George** in Woodville Cemetery.

**Earl Boomhower** still lives on the home farm. He is fond of curling, playing pool, playing Bridge, hunting and fishing. He does his own cooking and housekeeping and would put many a woman to shame in that department.

**Jack Boomhower** joined the Navy as a young man and came home from the war with an English bride, **Babette Fletcher**. They have a daughter and two sons.

**Jack** passed away in 1979. His wife still lives in Victoria, B.C.

**Floyd Boomhower** joined the Air Force and like his brother **Jack** came home from England with his sweetheart, **Pat Wildblood**. They were married in Elkhorn and now live in Manotick, Ontario. They have three daughters and one son. One daughter is now **Mrs. Karyn Jebb**.

**Laura** married **Willis Clarke**. They lived in Elkhorn and Winnipeg, then moved to Victoria, B.C. They have one son. **Laura** passed away in 1967. **Willis** still lives in Victoria.

**Bernice** married **Larry White**. They live in Victoria. They have one son and two daughters.

**Evelyn** married **Aubrey Lund**. They lived on the farm in Saskatchewan until **Aub** passed away in 1972. He is buried in Woodville Cemetery. "Toots" as everyone knows her, moved into Elkhorn. She was a great lover of horses and spent many hours riding horseback. She is fond of animals and birds and made many pets out of her chickens. She now has budgies for a hobby and gets a great deal of pleasure from them. She also has her own garden and enjoys cooking and canning.

submitted by **Evelyn Lund** and **Helen Goethe**

### **Henry Bowering**

**Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bowering** immigrated to Fleming, Sask. in 1902 from Hampshire, England. In 1928 they retired to Elkhorn and celebrated their fifty-fifth wedding anniversary in 1934. **Mr. Bowering** passed away in March 1955.

Their family consisted of eight children, **Harry, Kate, (Mrs. Wm. Yeo) William, Maud, (Mrs. R. Pearson) Arthur, Charlie, Frank** and **Ernie**.

After her husband's death, **Mrs. Bowering** divided her time between the home of her daughter **Kate** in the Fleming district and her son **Harry** in Elkhorn.

**Harry Bowering**, the oldest son and a veteran of

the Boer War, married **Ellen Taphouse** in 1912 in England. They settled in Kirkella and in the year 1920 a tragic fire destroyed their home and took the lives of two of their three children, **Peter** and **Nancy**. Harry, his wife and elder son **Tom** survived. Later another son, **Arthur-James** was born. Mrs. Bowering had been in poor health for a number of years and passed away in January, 1929.

After her death, Mr. Bowering worked at various locations. Finally he took over the Phillips Mink Ranch, west of Elkhorn in 1937. He resided there with his mother, (Mrs. Henry Bowering) and youngest son, Arthur-James. In October 1946, Harry's mother died and is buried with her husband in the Elkhorn cemetery.

Harry and his son Arthur worked at the Mink Ranch for about 20 years. In June 1950, Arthur-James married **Dorothy-Joyce Mizero** in Winnipeg and after a brief honeymoon they joined his dad on the ranch until the summer of 1957 when they all moved to St. Norbert, Manitoba for about one year. About December, 1958 they ventured out to Whitebourne, Newfoundland on the Avalon Peninsula where they lived for four years. Mr. Harry Bowering passed away in January, 1961 and is buried in the Whitebourne cemetery. Arthur, his wife and children moved from Newfoundland and in 1962 settled down in Nova Scotia. They now reside in Tusket, Yarmouth County, Nova Scotia where they established their now thriving T.V. and Radio Repair Business. They have seven children, **Dorothy-Ellen (Mrs. D. Trenholm)** of Calgary, Alberta; **Thomas-James**; **Nancy-Louise**; **Joann-Marie**; **William (Bill) Arthur**; **Mary-Alice**; and **Kathleen-Joyce**.

### Clarence Bowering

**Clarence**, the second son of **Mr. and Mrs. William Bowering**, lives alone on his farm S½-13-12-29 except for his faithful pal "Jingles" the dog. Clarence received his education at Kirkella. In the farmyard the buildings were constructed by Clarence, having a very unique round barn, and a log chalet styled studio. Hanging on the walls of the chalet are numerous portraits. At the entrance to the farm are two gateposts made of old railroad ties and each topped with a head carved into the wood.

Clarence was manager of the local community pasture for sixteen years. In the winter months Clarence indulges in his hobbies of wood carving and painting. He is a man who enjoys working with his hands and enjoys keeping the things of the "old days" alive. He has put music boxes into several of his figurines. Clarence has had no formal training; he just starts on a block of balsa until the figure is



Studio and statues made by C. Bowering.



Carving by Clarence Bowering.

structured and then painted, ready to take its place on his rapidly filling shelves. A very enjoyable time can be spent looking over his finely detailed miniatures, to oversized figures carved from a single log, to his portrait and scenic painting. Clarence is well known for his hobbies, having been given coverage in newspapers, part of a CBC documentary and a private exhibition in Brandon. He keeps a guest book in his home for all to sign.



Clarence Bowering's carvings from "Gunsmoke"

Clarence derives much satisfaction out of his quiet farm life and his hobbies but enjoys also sharing it with others.

### Lloyd Bowles Family

**Lloyd** is the youngest of three sons born to **Ernest** and **Isabella Bowles** in Miniota and was raised in the Reeder district where he received his education at Wynona School. He later worked on farms, drove a cream route and worked on the Canadian Pacific Railway at Reeder and at Killaly, Saskatchewan. He was trained in grain buying at Justice, Manitoba.

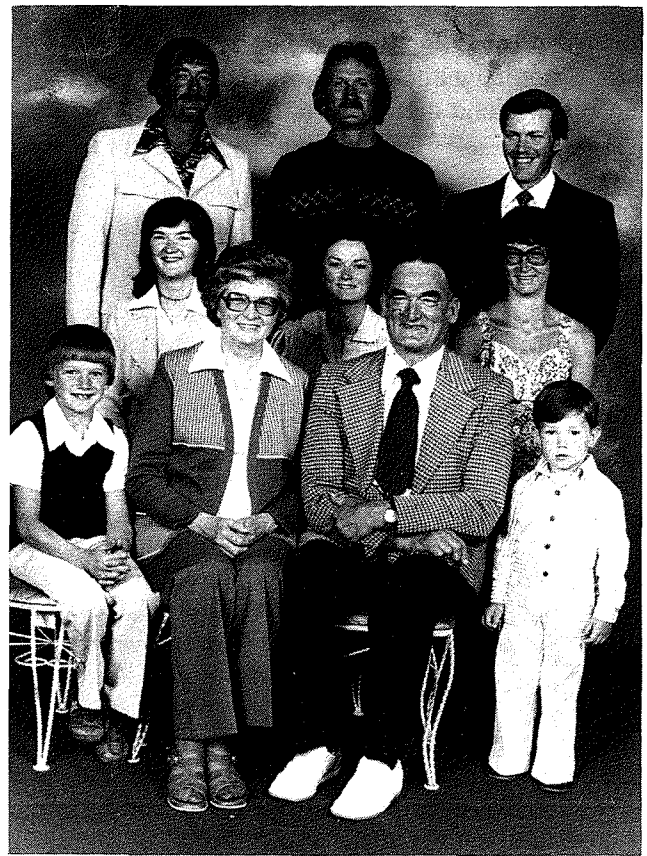
In 1947, he married **Margaret McBean**, who was born in Welwyn, Saskatchewan and was raised and educated in the Manson district. Her father is **William John McBean** and her mother, the late **Lily May Atchison**.

They lived on their farm four miles east of Willen where **Lloyd** took over the Lake of the Woods elevator which was later owned by Ogilvie. They operated the farm until 1968. He also owned and operated a gravel truck.

With the closing of the elevator in 1960, **Lloyd** worked as partsman for Frank Lawsons in Brandon. Being confined indoors was not for him, so he returned to Elkhorn to sell machinery for Wilf Francis, and later to drive a Francis Transfer Truck to Winnipeg.

In 1961, they purchased the Webster house from Tom Black and moved into it on August 1. In 1964 they bought Francis' Garage owned by Ted Gibbs, and operated it under the name of L & M Service until December 1979. Lloyd has also driven a school bus since 1964 and does at the present time.

Margaret attended Normal School in Winnipeg



L-R Back row: Gary and Delbert Bowles, Allen Pedlow. Centre row: Bev and Lorrie Bowles, Sharon Pedlow. Front row: Rodney, Margaret and Lloyd Bowles, Ryan Pedlow.

and taught for three years (Wynona School and McAuley) before her marriage. She resumed teaching in 1962 at Kirkella. Other schools were Cromer, Hargrave, Virden (Occupational Entrance Course), Lenore and presently Elkhorn.

There are three girls and three boys in the family **Sharon, Gary** and **Beverley** started school at Rose-Lea School, two miles north of Willen and later all attended Elkhorn. **Sharon**, born October 31, 1948, is a registered nurse, having taken Grade 12 University Entrance Course in Elkhorn, and Grade 12 Commercial in Virden and training at the Brandon General Hospital. She is married to **Allen Pedlow**, youngest son of **Earl** and **Ida Pedlow**. They live in Brandon where **Allen** has a construction company of his own. They have one son **Ryan**, born in 1976, and one daughter **Krista**, born in 1979. **Gary**, born November 1, 1951, is employed by Canadian Pacific Railway. **Bev**, born May 26, 1953, is a psychiatric nursing attendant Grade two at the Brandon Mental Health Center. **Delbert**, born April 8, 1957, is also employed by Canadian Pacific Railway. **Lorrie**, born April 29, 1959, is a radiological technologist at Brandon General Hospital. **Rodney**, born July 7, 1970, is attending Elkhorn school.

Because of their keen interest in sports and their love of music, the **Bowles** family have had many happy family gatherings throughout the years and have many fond memories of the past.

submitted by Margaret Bowles

## Looking Back To See The Boys Family

My father **James Richard Boys** was born in January 1873 at Fergus, Ontario and my mother **Margaret Jane Armstrong** at Arthur, Ontario at approximately the same date.

They journeyed in 1904, by train, bearing the usual settlers' effects, to the Elkhorn district with their two small daughters, **Blanche Alexandria** (deceased in 1951) and **Hazel Alverta** (deceased in 1980). No difficulties were experienced on the trip, to my knowledge. They took up residence on 27-10-28, the present home of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Armstrong, where my brother **Arthur** and I (**Lorne**) were born. We resided in the Elkhorn area for about 15 years.

A frame house was quickly erected by my father and my grandfather (on my maternal side). A stone barn was also built.

Father was occupied with the dray business while in town and later farmed in the district.

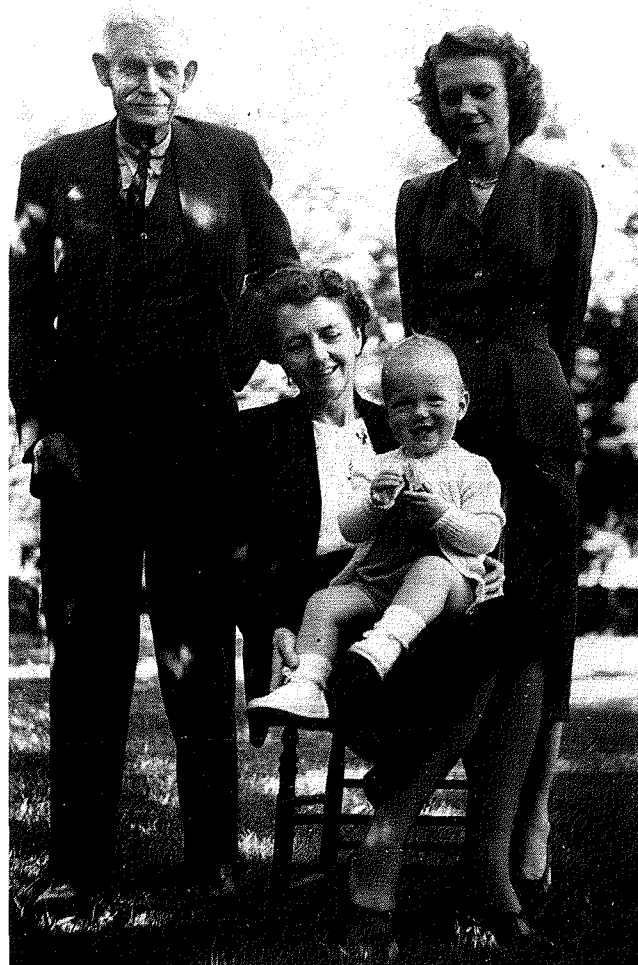
As children we attended Buckingham and Elkhorn school and we had affiliation with the Methodist church.

Various experiences both pleasant and unpleasant were encountered by our family such as a grass fire while in Elkhorn which almost erased all our possessions, howling blizzards — with no trees to stop the fury of the wind. Arrival of Dr. Goodwin when all were ill with flu, and also following my accident at 2 years when kicked in the face by a horse, also the helpfulness of our good neighbors at all times.

The pioneers worked hard for everything they got but they had their good times with the bad. In the early days your neighbor was your friend and you made your own entertainment. There were dances in the schools, Box Socials, Christmas Tree Programs, school and church picnics, as well as lots of visits from neighbors to play cards, gossip and enjoy the music one had available.

My parents were married at Arthur, Ontario in 1898. Of that union four children survived. Blanche who married Gordon Wallace in 1921 and had two girls Phyllis and Eileen. Hazel who became the wife of Wellington Olive in 1923. They had four children Jim, Jack, Joyce and Nora (deceased). Lorne who exchanged wedding vows with Elsie Henderson of Crandall in 1943. They have two children and Arthur, who chose to remain single and resides in Brandon.

The fall of 1918 we moved to the Oak Lake area.



Four Generations — Back row: Richard Boys, Eileen Henry. Front row: Blanche Wallace, Jimmie Henry.

Father passed away in 1958 and is buried beside my mother in the Elkhorn cemetery. My wife, Elsie and I carried on farming until 1976 when we moved into our own home in Oak Lake. Elsie is still in the teaching profession at Oak Lake Assiniboine School.

Our family consists of son Gareth who married Linda Melstrom of Salt Springs Island, British Columbia in 1966. They have two girls Angela and Tania. They live in Brandon where Gareth is in the Automotive supply business. We also have a daughter Marilynne who married Ken Waithman of Winnipeg in 1970. Their family consists of a son Joel and daughter Carrie Lynne. They reside in Toronto where Ken is an employee of the Wedgwood China Company.

### Memories

Mother's passing at Elkhorn in 1914 with Dr. Goodwin as attending physician.

Father hauling ice to the creamery in Elkhorn over very treacherous icy roads.

The hounds Dr. Goodwin kept with him in the

cutter, to supply much needed warmth on his cold journeys.

The kindness of the neighbors Armstrongs, Jenners and McInneses during our early childhood.

The phonograph with a large black horn with records such as The Holy City and the pedal organ, that provided music in our home.

Riding to town nine miles there and back in a wagon and once in a while in the winter in a sleigh.

Buckingham School memories —

Walking to school 2½ miles each way in summer.

The teacher's boy friend taking her for a buggy ride one afternoon. The whole school was outside playing ball on her return. No comment from the teacher.

Sam Siple lining up the lunch pails on the barn roof and using them for 22 rifle target practice. Replied Sam, when questioned about the purpose of the event — "Ventilation".

submitted by Lorne Boys and Elsie L. Boys

### **Bill and Ada Brennan**

**Bill** was the first child born to **Jack and Ruth Brennan** of Pelly, Saskatchewan. He received his education in that district. He came to Oak Lake in 1946 and worked for Dave Taylor. He also worked for Ken Doherty and Everette Krugar. He married **Ada Robinson** in 1949 and in 1957 they moved to Elkhorn. Bill worked for a number of years for Wallace Municipality on Road Construction, on the oil rigs and in the pipeline constructing the steel tanks at the pumping station at Cromer. He also farmed at the same time.

Ada got most of her schooling at Oak Lake and was quite busy during her school years being involved with church groups, C.G.I.T. and other school activities, graduating in 1949 from Oakwood High School in Oak Lake. Ada worked two summers in the Telephone Office at Oak Lake prior to her marriage. She has also worked eight years at the Elkhorn Creamery and then in Virden at the Personal Care Home for four years. She is now employed as an aide at the Elkhorn Hospital. She is involved with oil painting and pottery in her spare time.

In 1963, Ada and Bill bought a piece of prairie land north of Elkhorn. This land was unfenced and unbroken. They set to work fencing and breaking the sod for crop land. They moved in a house and hayshed and erected another barn for pigs and one for cows. They planted trees for shelter. They now operate a dairy of Registered Jerseys known as the "Brenada Jersey".

Bill and Ada have two sons, **Beryl and Terry**.

**Beryl** was the first son born to Ada and Bill in 1950 at the Old Virden Hospital. He started school at

Hargrave with Mrs. Dixon of Elkhorn as his teacher. In 1957 the family moved to Elkhorn and it was here that he got the remainder of his education. He was active in school sports, especially basketball and volleyball. After he left school he was employed by the C.P.R. on no. 1 steel gang laying steel throughout the mountains of Alberta and British Columbia. He also worked underground at Rocanville in the potash mine, then back to Alberta where he worked for Booth Construction of Calgary. Beryl is married and has two children, **Sherrie and Troy**. At present he works for Sherritt Gordon at Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta.

**Terry** is the second son, born in 1955 at Elkhorn Hospital. He attended school in Elkhorn and was very active in hockey. He also worked with his brother on the steel gang and for Booth Construction of Calgary. He moved to Edmonton and worked on the oil rigs. At present he is taking his third year apprenticeship for a boiler maker. His job takes him many places but his home base is in Edmonton.

submitted by: Ada (Robinson) Brennan

### **Mr. and Mrs. Bud Brennan**

**Bud and Eileen** first moved to Elkhorn in 1965. They had bought a farm south of town from Mrs. Budge. In 1969 they bought the Moss farm six miles north, where they now live.

In 1979 they built an outdoor arena which they use for team roping. Their first rodeo was held in June, 1980. In the fall of 1980 they built an indoor arena so winter ropings and rodeos could be held. The first winter team roping was held in February, 1981.

Bud is a cattle and grain farmer, Eileen is a teacher at Elkhorn School. They have two sons, **Jerry**, thirteen and **Glenn**, one.

### **Mr. and Mrs. John Brennand**

**John Brennand** was born in Salford, Lancashire, England in 1835 and married Elizabeth Henderson in 1870. With his wife and three children, **Jenny, George and Maggie** they immigrated to Canada in the spring of 1882. They lived in Brandon for a short time where a daughter, **Elizabeth** was born. She was reported to be the second white baby girl born in Brandon. John worked his way west on the railroad arriving in Elkhorn in the fall of 1882. He then proceeded to walk to Birtle to file his first homestead claim on NW 22-14-29 in the De Clare district. He later established a second homestead on NE 17-12-29. Four more children were born, **Bertha, John, Millie and Frank**. John Sr. served on the Archie Municipal Council for several years. It is



Mr. and Mrs. John Brennand — 1884.

noted that in the minutes of council for the year 1888 John Brennand moved to let out a job of taking stones from the trail to Elkhorn and off the road allowance, also that council granted thirty dollars to be spent in recreation in celebration of the Queen's birthday. John died in 1907 and his wife, who was born in 1847 died in 1924.

The eldest son, George, never married. He homesteaded NE 22-14-29 and died in 1902.

Jenny married **Dougald McCallum** who owned a livery barn in Moosomin. They later moved to Mortlach, Saskatchewan.

Maggie married **Jack Ray** and they farmed in the Willen district.

Elizabeth married **Thomas Cowan**. They farmed in the Hills Green district and were blessed with twelve children.

John farmed the original homestead which he later sold to the Soldier's Settlement Board and spent his last years in the McAuley district.

Bertha married **Samuel Dixon** who barbered in Miniota and later moved to a homestead in Ponteix, Sask. They had three children.

Amelia, married **David Marshall**, farmed on 23-12-28 in the Hills Green district and had five children.

Frank (See Mr. and Mrs. Frank Brennand) was the youngest child of John and Elizabeth.

submitted by Alex Brennand

### Mr. and Mrs. Frank Brennand

**Frank** married **Mary Mundell**, in 1917. She had immigrated to the Woodville district with her parents from Dumfries, Scotland in 1906. The couple began farming on E½ 15-14-29 and eleven children were born — **Isabel, Bertha, George, Alex, Morris, Mary, Gordon, infant son, Frances, Myrtle and Shirly**. They were all born on the farm with the exception of Shirly who was born in Elkhorn. In 1937

they lost the farm due to the drought conditions of the thirties and moved to 6-14-28 now farmed by Dick Bayliss. Frank was an outdoor man who loved to hunt and work with horses. He travelled a stallion for a number of years for Earl Robinson. Mary was noted for her culinary skills and was president and secretary of the Legion Auxiliary for a number of years. They retired to the Lucking house in Elkhorn where Mary died in 1960 and Frank in 1970. His son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Jim McColl (Shirly) purchased the house which they later sold to its present owner, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Brennand.

Of the eleven children, Isabel died at the age of two and a son in infancy. Bertha went to school at Hills Green, left home to work at an early age and in 1937 married George Lewis of McAuley. They lived in Winnipeg during George's period in the Army then farmed in the McAuley district. They operated a cafe in Welwyn, Saskatchewan for a period of time. They have four children, **Gladys (Mrs. Garth Gerrand)** of Virden. **Huntly and Dennis** who farm in the McAuley district and **Phylis (Mrs. Orvil Harper)** of Welwyn. They are now enjoying retirement close to their family where Bertha loves to cook and work in her garden. She and her husband George are keen hockey and horse race fans.

George, the eldest son of Frank and Mary also received his education at Hills Green prior to joining the South Saskatchewan Regiment in 1940. George died of wounds received at Dieppe in August, 1942 and lies in the Brookwood Cemetery in England. For Alex see (Mr. and Mrs. Alex Brennand) for Morris see (Mr. and Mrs. Morris Brennand) and Gordon (see Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Brennand).

Mary or (Edie) as she is called by the Brennand family went to school at Hills Green and Manson.



Family of Frank and Mary Brennand. L-R Top row: Myrtle, Shirley, Frances, Edie, Bertha. Bottom row: Morris, Gordon, Alex.



She helped on the family farm until her marriage to Dan Stonehouse in 1945. They farmed on 33-12-29 where their three sons, **Eddy** of Saskatoon, **Barry** of Cold Lake and **Bryan** of Melita were born. They left the farm to reside in Elkhorn in 1957 where Mary is currently employed in the Elkhorn nursing home. She is a member of the Legion Auxiliary and enjoys curling.

Frances after receiving her education at Manson, taught school briefly at Wicks, Manitoba and Mair, Saskatchewan then worked in W. O. Rudd's Red and White store in Elkhorn. In 1954 she married **Frank Stonehouse** and they farmed on NW½ 33-12-29. Here two girls were born. **Sandra (Mrs. Ken Jones)** of Regina, Saskatchewan and **Janis (Mrs. Ray Hall)** of Watrous, Saskatchewan. They left the farm in 1957 to reside in Elkhorn and there a son, **Darwin** was born. Frances was employed as a part time postal assistant for a number of years and is presently custodian of the Post Office in Elkhorn. She served as trustee of the Elkhorn School Board for two years and is a member of the Legion Auxiliary of which she is a past treasurer and a past secretary. She is also a past Noble Grand of the now disbanded Elkhorn Rebekah Lodge. She enjoys curling and she and her husband Frank are enthusiastic followers and supporters of The Elkhorn Canadians Hockey Team of which their son, Darwin, is a member. Myrtle received her education in Manson and Elkhorn and after leaving school took up employment as a nurse's aide in Qu'Appelle, Ninette, The Assiniboine and The Brandon Mental Hospital. She is presently employed at the Brandon General Hospital where she is devoted to the care of the elderly. Shirly, following high school in Elkhorn, worked for the Elkhorn Mercury and Norris's Drug Store. In 1960 she married Jim McColl. For awhile they lived in Elkhorn then moved to Dauphin and back to Elkhorn. They now reside in Fife Lake, Saskatchewan. Their four daughters were born in Elkhorn, **Darlene (Mrs. Dallas Loucks)** of Fife Lake, **Donna** attending university in Saskatoon, **Dianna** and **Denise** still in school. Shirly also enjoys curling and is a past Noble Grand of the Elkhorn Lodge.

submitted by Alex Brennand

### **Mr. and Mrs. Alex Brennand**

**Alex**, son of Frank and Mary Brennand, received his education at Hills Green School. He left the farm in March, 1941 to join the Army, going overseas in October of the same year. He served in the 13th Field Regiment Artillery taking part in the D-Day Assault Landings in Normandy and attained the rank of Sgt. Returning from overseas in 1945 he took up mixed farming on Sec. 17-12-28 working a couple of win-

ters in the bush at Vermilion Bay. In 1950 he married **Cora McKibbin** and they had two children, **Dale** and **Glynis**. Alex drove a school van and served on the Manson school board for six years. He also enjoyed working as an auctioneer at farm and furniture sales. He and his wife Cora supported all social and community activities and loved to curl. Cora died accidentally in 1963. In 1966 he married **Peggy Whitton**, a widow who was employed by the Dept. of National Defence at Rivers, Manitoba. She has two children Cheryl (Mrs. Dave Climie) of Leduc, Alberta and Bill who lives in Vernon, British Columbia. In 1974 Alex disposed of his cow/calf operation, rented his land and moved into the former George Earle house in Elkhorn. There they opened and operated a pool hall known as Brennand's Billiards which was later sold to their son-in-law, Ronald Lund. Alex is presently serving as councillor of Ward 6 in Wallace Municipality, is active in community affairs serving on various boards and committees, is a member of and past president of the Legion and enjoys curling and golfing. His wife, Peggy, is a member of St. Mark's Anglican Church, Legion Auxiliary, golf and Ceramic Club. She served also a two year term on the Elkhorn Hospital Board.

Dale received his education in Manson, McAuley, Virden and spent a year at University in Brandon. After leaving University he worked in the mine at Lynn Lake, as a grain buyer's helper at Swan River and in the Anglican Market in Brandon. In 1975 he took over the family farm and now runs a mixed farming operation. He is an avid curler and sportsman. Glynis received her schooling in Manson and Elkhorn and worked in Brandon and Winnipeg until her marriage to Ron Lund in 1974. She is kept busy with their three sons, Bobby, Chad and Ashley.

### **Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Brennand**

**Gordon** received his schooling in Manson and after working for several farmers in the area and in the bush in Ontario he briefly joined the Navy. Leaving the Navy he joined the RCAF in 1951. Following pilot training at Gimli he was commissioned as a pilot officer in 1952. During the next few years he served overseas in the 422 fighter squadron, after which he held a number of Flying and Staff positions including a tour as Commanding Officer of Canada Forces Station, Barrington, Nova Scotia and Base Commander of Canadian Forces Base, Portage la Prairie. He presently holds the rank of Colonel and is Deputy Chief of Staff Personnel, Air Command, Winnipeg. In 1953 he married **Georgina Leslie**, formerly of McAuley, who was serving in the airforce at the time. They have two sons, **Scott** who is employed in Portage and **Gregg** who is still attending school. Gordon

and Georgina have purchased 33-11-28 and plan to make Elkhorn their retirement home. They enjoy a variety of social activities and outdoor sport of which curling is high on the list.

### Mr. and Mrs. Morris Brennand

**Morris** was the third son of Frank and Mary Brennand. He attended Hills Green and Manson School. He farmed at home with his father spending several winters in the mine and bush in Ontario. After his father's retirement he continued a mixed farming operation. In 1961 he married **Muriel Ironside** who was employed in the Elkhorn Creamery. They lived on 12-12-29 the former Herman Madsen farm. Morris served on the Archie Municipal Council from January, 1968 to November, 1980. At this point they left the farm and took up residence in the doctor's house in Elkhorn. He retained his land and continues his interest in the farm and in public affairs. He and his wife are active supporters of the hockey club, Legion and Auxiliary and when on the farm both gave freely of their time to the community and its activities. Morris was and still is an enthusiastic curler. Their daughter, Brenda has a good scholastic record and is making plans to attend Brandon University. Brent plays hockey and is attending school in Elkhorn.

### Marjorie Brignall

Era from 1966 to 1973.

I nursed in Elkhorn Hospital for three years, during which time I was so much aware of the need for a Senior Citizens' personal care home and facilities for the same, in this area.

**Karen**, my daughter, and other helpers and I began a Nursing Home in Elkhorn. The result of our efforts did achieve an overall common good for the community.

People of Elkhorn and organizations were marvellous, donating quilts, sheets, blankets and garden produce and the Kola Choir appeared every Sunday rain, hail, or shine. Their presence was very much appreciated by the guests and myself.

Encouragement and help from my friends and organizations were invaluable.

To all of you I hold the greatest respect.

To end on a happy note there is now a Personal Care Home being built.

On closing, and to you the reader, I think Elkhorn is a beautiful town. Wide streets lined with majestic trees, residents' flower beds in bloom, lawns neatly kept and natural beauty throughout.

A few years there has left me with a lifetime impression.

**Karen, Carman** and I now live in Fort St. John,

B.C. where education and work provide more available opportunities.

submitted by Marjorie Brignall

### The Brocklebank Family

**Mrs. M. Brocklebank** and family of two boys, **Ernest** and **William** and two girls, **Thelma** and **Patricia** came to Elkhorn in March, 1926 and lived here until the fall of 1934.



Mrs. Brocklebank with her family left to right: Pat, Ernest, Bill and Thelma 1967.

While in Elkhorn, Mrs. Brocklebank took in washing and did housework at twenty-five cents an hour to keep food on the table and clothes on the family. Sometimes it was hard to make ends meet. Those times, Welfare was next to nothing. It sure helped when you could buy enough steak to feed five for twenty-five cents and milk was five cents a quart. Some places you went to work, they put money under carpets or dresser scarves to check if you could be trusted and have one job waiting before you finished the first. No time for a tea break.

At age sixteen, Ernest went to work for Hubert Freeman at fifty cents a day for the summer and believe me, it was a long hard day. In winter he worked for his board. He also helped at the livery barn for Earl Snyder draying and hauling feed.

In 1934 we all moved back to Willen to farm with Mr. Oscar Anderson and son, Carlton. For six years it

was hard going. In 1940 Mrs. Brocklebank, Ernest, Thelma, and Bill moved west to Makepeace, Alberta with the Andersons and farmed there till 1963. Mr. Anderson passed away in the meantime and Carlton left the farm to work out. Ernest and his mother farmed on until they sold out and moved to Calgary where they have lived since. Ernest did garage work until 1976 when semi-retired.

Patricia (Pat) remained at Willen having married **Frederick John Bamson**. Thelma married **Gerald Lothrop** after the second world war and they are now living at Kelowna, British Columbia. They have three boys and one girl.

Bill was overseas in the second world war and married an English girl **Nancy Coventry**. They came home after the war and after a year moved to Calgary where he worked for the city, and later as a taxi driver. They have two adopted children.

At time of writing, Mrs. Brocklebank is ninety-three and still able to look after herself; she is living with Ernest. Pat is also there having moved after the death of her husband in 1976.

submitted by Pat Bamson and  
Ernest Brocklebank

## The Brockmans

**Carolyn** and **Jerome** arrived here from St. Laurent in August of 1973. Jerome was Principal of the Collegiate here for two years. He was transferred to Reston Collegiate where he still remains on staff. They have a family of seven children consisting of **Michelle, Edwin, Denise, Daryl, Corinne, Tanis, and Garrett**.

## Rowland Henderson Brotherhood

The day, in 1929, my father announced that he was being posted east to Toronto was a black one for me. Seventeen very happy years of my youth in the Village of Elkhorn were about to end and I was leaving my friends and friendly surroundings.

My father, **Rowland Henderson Brotherhood**, first arrived in Elkhorn in 1904 from Hamilton, Ontario, to become, I believe, the first manager of the Elkhorn Branch of the Canadian Bank of Commerce. He was to devote the next twenty-five years of service to the village and to the farmers of the district.

In 1911, he had constructed the two-storey brick house in the easterly part of the village which I am told is still known locally as the "Brotherhood" house. In April of the same year he married my mother, **Marie Nesta Middleton** of Brandon, who had just graduated from Brandon College. They raised two sons, **Rowland Wilfred** (1912), and **Donald Middleton** (1918).

Both parents took an active part in village affairs.

Father was the Mayor at one time, secretary of the Community Club, People's warden and treasurer of St. Mark's Anglican Church and a member of the Masonic Lodge of Brandon.

Mother became active in the affairs of the chapter of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire, becoming the Regent and later a member of the national conventions held in many parts of Canada. She served on St. Mark's Womens' Auxiliary and also on the executive of that body.

Both parents were fond of sports — curling, tennis and golf. Father particularly enjoyed duck hunting and it often was my job to carry home the 'bag' and do the plucking! Mother's expertise in tennis was evident as she was one time Ladies Tennis Champion of south-eastern Saskatchewan.

Father was moved to the head office of the bank in Toronto in 1929, retiring in 1936 and died in Toronto August 4th, 1952. Mother died in Toronto August 23rd, 1965.

One of my earliest recollections of Elkhorn was attending Kindergarten class at the Indian Residential School and watching the Indian boys play baseball and soccer at recess. Mr. Wilson was the principal of the school.

On Armistice Day, November 11th, 1918, my father took me to watch the "Burning of the Kaiser" in a terrific bonfire in the open field east of the Guests' home which as I remember housed the early telephone exchange. Mother was ill with the 'Flu which was very prevalent in the village at that time.

I was fascinated by the Indian families visiting the village. They would call at our home to sell mother their fine beadwork. When we left Elkhorn she had accumulated quite a collection which was much admired by our Torontonians friends.

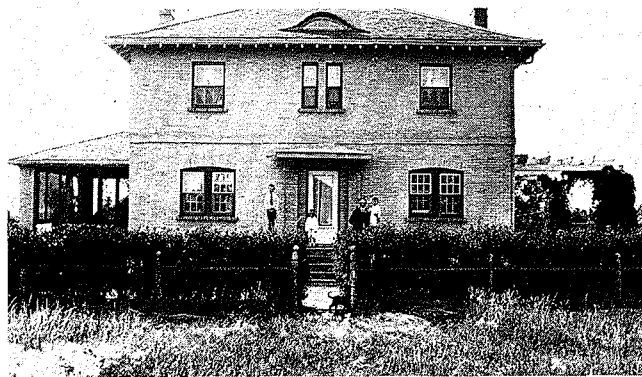
Boyhood days in Elkhorn were, at that time, full of varying interests. We created our own excitement by snaring jack-rabbits, trapping muskrats in Burns' slough east of town, and tanning the hides. With a bounty on crows and gophers, we gathered crow eggs and gopher tails at one cent each. In those days, too, it was possible to discover "buffalo wallows" as we called the depressions in the soil created by earlier plains' buffalo dusting themselves.

The railroad was another attraction. I clearly remember the "silk trains", with sealed box cars travelling at great speed, creating clouds of dust as they rushed their cargoes from west to east.

As we became older and more daring, we raided the empty grain freight trains returning from the east. As these long trains stopped for water and coal — steam locomotives, of course — we would find a box car with an open door, boost each other in and with potato sack, broom and shovel, clean out the remain-



Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Brotherhood about 1918.



Brotherhood House — 1920.

ing grain in the corners. The chickens of Elkhorn were well fed! It was quite a lark dodging the attention of the train crews.

Halloween in Elkhorn was a yearly event planned well ahead and anticipated with great excitement. Certain out-houses were prime targets and marked out for over-turning. The older boys were able to remove steel gates and hang them from the top most spike of the telephone poles. One Halloween, an enterprising group maneuvered a complete threshing outfit — separator, steam engine and all — across main street in front of the bank, complete with a straw pile on the bank steps. (I have forgotten father's comments!) The day following Halloween was something to behold!

One spring Sunday, as the snow was melting, several of my Sunday-school pals were heading for home when we found ourselves behind the Manitoba Hotel (or was it the Roseberry?), when we spied a bottle neck protruding from the snow which turned out to be an unopened bottle of whiskey. As father drank Scotch I took it home and sold it to him. The story apparently was that a bootlegger about to be arrested had cached his loot in the snow and on returning at a safe time had overlooked one bottle of good Scotch Whiskey.

I believe father owned one of the first automobiles in Elkhorn — a McLaughlin Buick of about 1912 vintage with wooden wheel spokes and running board. We made several trips to Brandon to visit my grandparents in this machine and it was quite an adventure over the gumbo roads. Fortunately, there were many farms along the route and farmers' teams to haul us out when stuck. One or more blow-outs enroute were quite routine.

Community spirit was very much alive in my youth in Elkhorn — well attended church suppers and 'Robbie Burns' nights. How well I remember hauling a sleigh loaded with spiced beef, scalloped potatoes suitably wrapped, to these functions. Canada's Diamond Jubilee in 1927 was well organized. I remember winning a prize for a bicycle bedecked in red, white and blue colours.

My mother was fond of white rats as pets and kept several in a box close to the kitchen stove. As there was no resident dentist, emergency extractions were performed by the local doctor. My young brother required the removal of a tooth and was laid out on the kitchen table. Dr. Johnston, M.D., extracted the offending tooth and laid it down. Shortly afterwards, amid much searching and excitement, the tooth could not be found. It did, however, turn up — in the rats' box!

On a personal note, my brother Don was only eleven years old when we left Elkhorn and just getting into the "swing" of things. Once settled in Toronto, he organized his new found neighborhood friends and started them digging a cave in a near by back garden — just as we did in Elkhorn. The Toronto parents took quite a dim view of this activity! Don joined the bank after High School and joined up in the Royal Canadian Air Force on the outbreak of War, eventually flying as an observer on Anti-submarine Patrol out of Gander, Newfoundland. He remustered as a pilot later and ended the war flying supplies "over the hump" from India into Indo-China. Once de-mobbed, he joined a sales organization selling concrete products, eventually forming his own company. He now lives in Richmond Hill, Ontario.

After moving east, I attended the University of

Toronto and graduated in Civil Engineering. Shortly after, I obtained a licence to practise as an Ontario Land Surveyor, working with Ontario Hydro. Completing an Officers Training course in Halifax with the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, I was posted to the Canadian Corvette "Kamloops" on Atlantic Convoy duty. Following two years of convoy duty and a command course, I ended the war in command of the Canadian Minesweeper "Grandmere".

In 1940, I had married **Mary Spragge** of Cobourg, Ontario. After the war we moved north to New Liskeard and raised three sons, Peter, John and Timothy. I sold my Consulting Engineering practice in 1974 and bought a thirty-seven foot sailboat which Mary and I sailed to Florida. We spent four winters cruising in Florida waters, the Bahamas and Gulf of Mexico. In 1979, we left New Liskeard and now reside in Cobourg, Ontario.

submitted by R. W. Brotherhood,  
226 Water Street,  
Cobourg, Ontario, K9A 1R4

### The Brownlie Story

**William Brownlie** was born in Coatbridge, Scotland on Langmuir Farm. He was the second son of **John and Jean (Crawford) Brownlie**. He had four brothers and one sister. He attended the University of Edinburgh and all his life was a lover of classic literature and music. He had the first Edison gramophone in the district and many were the people who came to enjoy it.

William came to Canada and settled at Elkhorn where he lived with the McLeod family for a few months. Mr. McLeod was the father of Molly Thompson, owner of McLeod's, the first general store in Elkhorn, I believe. During this time, he purchased land nine miles north and one mile west of Elkhorn in the Archie Municipality where he lived until his death. Uncle William had the first threshing machine in the district and threshed for several neighbors. His good neighbor, Billy Anderson, ran the outfit — as Uncle's love was fine horses, he never liked mechanical things.

We often reminisce of the old times when Uncle bought six or eight barrels of apples every fall and 50-pound balsam wood boxes of tea, a case of syrup, boxes of dried fruits, besides the dozens of 2-quart sealers we filled every fall. Such a different way of life where we now shop two or three times a week.

For a few years Uncle was a bachelor as, so the story is told, his Scottish sweetheart Annie Nisbitt was loathe to leave her homeland for shores unknown. In the early 1900's, he met and married **Josephine Brennan** of Kalamazoo, Michigan — a

tall, slim, attractive lady as I remember her. She and Mrs. Levi Soder and Mrs. Wm. Anderson were very close friends, also a Mrs. Lacey and Mrs. Barrett and her two daughters in Elkhorn. Uncle William and Aunt Josie had no children; when his brother Malcolm died in Rosetown, Saskatchewan in 1919, leaving eight children, they went to the funeral and brought me (**Jessie**) and **Margaret** back with them to Manitoba. Auntie's friend Mrs. Barrett's daughter made us some very pretty dresses. I remember this so clearly because Mrs. Barrett spoke in French to me and I was really thrilled (I was only nine years old). Margaret became homesick and went back to Saskatchewan after a few months, where she remained. Our brother **George**, who was about seven came to keep me company then. We had a couple of very happy years with Aunt Josie and Uncle William then suddenly Aunt Josie was taken ill with pneumonia and passed away near Christmas time in 1923.

In the meantime, our mother, who was in poor health, was having a hard time supporting a large family alone, so Uncle William invited her to come to live in Manitoba. This made indeed a big change in Uncle's lifestyle — suddenly there were seven children to be responsible for. He had a mixed farm so he kept us older ones busy but even so, it must have made a big change in his life. Our mother became quite ill in the summer of 1925 and after a lengthy time in Brandon Hospital, passed away in August, 1926.

Our Uncle **David**, who made his home with Uncle William from 1908 when he came out from Scotland, died in 1927.

The following winter our Uncle William died in Virden Hospital. This left us children all alone with no relatives in Canada. For a few years the home was kept together by hired managers. In 1931, our oldest



Brownlie Reunion 1979. L-R: Jessie, Margaret, George, Winifred, Lorraine, Florence.

brother **Crawford** met an untimely death by drowning while on a picnic at St. Lazare with friends. The following year the farm was sold and the home broken up. We all went our own ways except **Lorraine** who was 14 and the youngest. She was welcomed into the family of Joe and Lizzie Leslie at McAuley where she stayed until leaving at the age of 20 to go west to visit the rest of us, who had all drifted back to western Saskatchewan. Our brother **George** spent two and a half years in England with the Medical Corps during the Second World War. He took up farming at Elrose, Sask. on his return and retired to the town of Elrose in 1971. He remained a bachelor during his life, but took a keen interest in all of his sisters' children. He passed away suddenly on December 12, 1980. **Florence (Brownlie) McConnell** passed away in March, 1980. She left one daughter and three sons. **Margaret Barge**, who was married for the second time had one daughter and three sons to her first marriage (**Hogue**). She now resides in Vancouver. **Jean Gardner** died in December, 1967 and left three daughters and two sons. **Jessie Moorhouse** resides in Wiseton, Sask. and has one daughter and two sons. **Winnifred Thexton** lives at Prince George, B.C. and has one daughter and one son. **Lorraine McConnell** has her home in Elrose, Sask. and has one daughter and one son. There are twenty grandchildren and numerous great grandchildren. However, the name Brownlie in Canada is no longer being propagated.

submitted by Jessie (Brownlie) Moorhouse and  
Lorraine (Brownlie) McConnell.

### Mr. and Mrs. John Bryant

**John Ernest Bryant** and his wife, **Christabel May Patmore** of Hertfordshire, England, were married in Miniota in June, 1907. They took up farming on 18-13-27 in the Two Creeks District. They farmed their homestead with a plow and a team of oxen, and built their home of sod. They had their three children in their sod home before it was destroyed by fire. They lived on the homestead until 1915 when Mr. Bryant went overseas with the Winnipeg Guard. Mrs. Bryant and her five children moved into Elkhorn for the four years that Mr. Bryant was in the service. Mr. Bryant was wounded in the back during his service in the First World War.

When John returned from the service, the family moved back to Windy Gap which was what they called their homestead. Five more children were born to John and Christabel on the homestead. The family then moved to 16-13-27, also in the Two Creeks District. They had another child on "Sixteen" making a total of eleven children, six daughters and five sons.

They retired to Elkhorn in 1940, and then moved to McBride, British Columbia a few years later. John Bryant passed away in 1961, predeceased by his wife in 1951.

**Arthur Samuel**, the eldest son, was born on July 28, 1908 and passed away on January 20, 1932 of tuberculosis.

Twin girls were born on March 2, 1910. **Bessie** and **Beatrice**. Bessie Isabel married **Thomas James Black** on February 28, 1934. Mr. Black was born in Northern Ireland and immigrated to Canada with his family in 1927. They farmed in the Elkhorn district until 1953 when they moved into Elkhorn. Mr. Black drove the school bus and worked for a freight company before he retired in 1974. They had two children.

— **Dorothy Mae** who married **James Daun** of Winnipeg. They have three children.

— **Maurice James** married **Marguerite McRae** of Carnduff, Saskatchewan. They have three children.

**Beatrice Jane** married **Charles Bagley**, on May 1, 1929. They farmed in the Miniota District until they retired to Elkhorn in 1955. Mr. Bagley passed away on May 30, 1968. They had four children.

— **Edith** and **Robert Soder** of Elkhorn. They have eleven children.

— **George** and **Joyce Bagley** of Yorkton, Saskatchewan. They have three children.

— **James** and **Marguerite Bagley** of St. Lazare. They have four children.

— **Betty McLaren** and her three children of Winnipeg.

**Amos** married **Katherine Seiben** in 1940. They farmed in Alberta for forty-three years. Retired, they now live in Tees, Alberta. They have four children.

— **Annabelle** and **George Mervyn** have two children at home. They live at Tees, Alberta.

— **Arnold** and **Audrey Bryant** of Warburg, Alberta. They have three children.

— **Allan** and **Gloria Bryant** of Drayton Valley, Alberta. They have three children.

— **Gloria** and **Ray Deering** of Medicine Hat, Alberta. They have one son.

**John Ernest** married **Elizabeth Iles** on November 16, 1937 in Miniota. They farmed in the Miniota and Elkhorn District until they sold the farm in 1967. They moved to Moosomin where Mr. Bryant worked in the Moosomin Hospital until he retired in 1980. They had six sons.

— **Morgan** and **Bonnie Bryant** of Lethbridge, Alberta. They have two children.

— **William (Bill)** and **Lois Bryant** of Melita. They have two children.

— **Thomas** and **Marge Bryant** of Calgary, Alberta have two children.

— **Dennis and Evelyn Bryant** of Sherwood Park, Alberta have two children.

— **Stanley and Rose Bryant** of Vernon, British Columbia have a daughter.

— **Phillip** is at Loon Lake, Saskatchewan.

**Rose** married **Earl Kraft**, of Strathmore, Saskatchewan, in Elkhorn during the Second World War. Later they moved to Moosomin where they lived until moving to British Columbia. Mr. Kraft retired to Abbotsford and they now live in Elkhorn. They have seven children.

— **Myrtle Wilkes** lives at Maple Ridge, British Columbia. She had four children.

— **Marilyn and Neil Unruh** live at Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. They have five daughters.

— **Kathleen and Robert Sloan** live in Surrey, British Columbia. They have four children.

— **Freida and Allan Aune** live at Dawson Creek, British Columbia. They have three children.

— **Lydia and Duane Johnston** live at Abbotsford, British Columbia. They have three children.

— **David and Rose Kraft** live at Maple Ridge and they have two daughters.

— **Donna** the youngest, is also at Maple Ridge and has a son.

**Charles Warboy** married **Ada Riddle** on February 27, 1941. They farmed in the Elkhorn District. They retired to Virden where Charles passed away in 1978. They had three children.



L-R Back row: Amos, Arthur, John. Centre row: Rose, Beatrice, mother Chrissie, Bessie. Front row: Charlie, Chrissie, Harry, Katie 1929.

— **Linda Winelda** passed away in 1967.

— **Bonnie and Keith Crellar** of Virden have two children.

— **Harvey and Darlene** live in Brandon and have two children.

**Kathleen Francis** married **William Alfred Bajus** on January 15, 1942. They farmed in the Elkhorn District of Burnbank and had seven children. Mr. Bajus passed away in April, 1961. Katie makes her home in Elkhorn. More information under the Bajus history.

**Christabel May** married **Henry Elder Thompson** on February 4, 1942. They farmed north of Elkhorn until they retired and sold their farm in 1965. They moved to Calgary where they lived until 1980. They now make their home in Virden. While in Calgary Henry worked as a school custodian. They had three children.

— **Doug** married **Irene Des Lauriers** and had three children. Doug passed away in October, 1979.

— **Richard and Heather Thompson** live at McBride, British Columbia. They have five children.

— **Wesley** married **Lois Nelson** and they have two daughters.

**Harry William** married **Winnifred Raine** in McBride, British Columbia on August 13, 1955. They live in Port Alberni, British Columbia. Harry is employed by the Good Roads Department of British Columbia.

**Ruth** the youngest, married **Keith Edward Sansom** on September 2, 1958. Ruth lived with her father after her mother's death in 1951. Ruth and her husband live at Victoria, British Columbia and have two daughters. Keith is employed with the Department of Highways.

submitted by John Bryant

### The Henry Burton Family

My Grandfather, **Henry Burton** and his only son, **Harry J.** came out in 1904. They came from the English Midlands (Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire) where I think Grandpa was in the feed and seed business — a farm related business. They worked out for a year around the area to learn the Canadian ways of farming, and one person for whom he worked was Wm. Jaffray Sr., grandfather of Norman Jaffray. The following year, May 1905, my maternal grandmother, **Louisa Burton** (nee Campbell) and her three daughters arrived. The girls were: **Margaret** (Daisy), **Mildred** and **Irene**. Margaret became Mrs. **John E. Duxbury**, and they had two sons, **Bernard** and **Oscar**. Mildred became Mrs. **Lawrence Johnson** and they had four children (two sets of twins), **Phillis and Lawrence, Bob and Bruce**.

**Irene** (my Mother) married **Bertram H. Franklin** who had come out from England about 1910. He came from Eastbourne, Sussex. He too had worked in the area first, one place being at H. Fred Days' (Bill's Dad). My parents had three children: **Muriel, Maurice and Douglas**. The latter has lived in North Vancouver for many years, Maurice and I both have lived in Thunder Bay (formerly Fort William, Ontario) since 1940 and '41. My grandparents were both born in 1860 and my mother was born in 1892 and my dad in 1891.

The Burtons first settled on the Duxbury place, west and north of town, in the area where Clarence Bowering now lives. I know the Hallidays were neighbors. From there they moved to a farm south and west of Elkhorn, known as the Axelson place, and the Toff Mcleods and McClures were neighbors there. Grandma Burton suffered from heart trouble and was not able to do much work or take part in a lot of activities. They moved into town and lived in the east end, in the little cottage formerly Dr. Hennan's house before they moved to the Mooney house. Grandma died there in March, 1919 and Grandpa eventually went back to England to be with the family for a period of seven years. He made his home with his daughter Irene Franklin when he returned to Elkhorn in 1928. He died in Elkhorn in 1936 and both he and Grandma are buried in Elkhorn Cemetery, as are their three daughters.

My mother, Irene Franklin, died in Virden Hospital and is buried near her parents. This was in March, 1966. My uncle, Harry Burton served in the Great War of 1914-18 and married an old sweetheart from England. They lived for a time at Elkhorn but later moved to Brock, Saskatchewan where he was Post Master until retiring. He died there and is buried at Brock, Saskatchewan. They had no family.

My parents farmed south and west of Elkhorn on two different farms. The first was known in those days as the Sheldrake Farm, but later was known as the Alf. Rae farm. I was born there N.E. ¼ Section 26-11-29 WPM — January 20, 1919. My brother Maurice was also born there on March 19, 1922.

The buildings are gone now I believe, but these numbers may help you to locate it precisely. For a year we lived one mile east of this farm — where Hugh Nichols farmed later, and then we moved back to the Sheldrake place. I don't know which place my brother Douglas was born, his birthdate is August 21, 1923. I was about five or six when we moved into Elkhorn, prior to moving to Winnipeg, and we lived in a yellow house on the west side of the Rodgers house, on that point of land on Railway St. that leads up to the CPR depot. It later burned down when Balmers lived there. We were in Winnipeg about two

years I think. My dad worked as a car salesman for Willys-Overland. My parents parted at this point and mother brought the three of us back to Elkhorn. We lived in the Middleton house north of the school, then the Jackson house by the station, then the Harvey Johnson house on Grange St. and last in the Marsh house just west of Beaver Lumber. The Depression began soon after we came back from Winnipeg and like many others, we had a rough time. I will always remember the kindness shown us by family and friends — and sometimes from the most unexpected sources.

We belonged to the United Church all my life. The Burtons had been staunch Methodists prior to the time of Church Union in 1925. In later years my aunt, Mrs. Duxbury played the church organ after Addie Travis had to give it up. My mother took an active part in Elkhorn United and was a faithful worker in the Ladies Aid (now UCW) and the Women's Missionary Society, plus being Secretary-Treasurer of the Sunday School for many years. The Red Cross was another of her projects and I believe she also worked for the Hospital Aid. In 1943 Mother came to Fort William and kept house for the Bowie family until 1946, when she moved back to Elkhorn to keep house for Mr. and Mrs. Mooney. She remained there until Mr. Mooney passed away in 1963, when she came back to Fort William to stay a year with us. Following the death of my uncle, Laurie Johnson, she returned to Elkhorn to live with her sister Millie Johnson. She remained there until her death in 1966.

My two brothers and I attended Public and High School in Elkhorn but left school early to find work as the Depression was at its height. The boys worked around on farms and I started work at the Creamery office after doing housework for various people. We all enjoyed the usual school sports — softball mostly. Also we skated at the old rink and had some great times coasting on the big hill back of the rink — called Cavanagh's Hill. It has been cut down a lot since then. We enjoyed the simple pleasures as there was no money to spend — catching gophers and hiking out to the farm. Riding horseback was a big thing for us then. I will always remember the fun everyone had when each spring the men would put a wooden floor in part of the skating rink. Then Mr. George Bartley would do a beautiful decorating job and the young folks would clean and wax that floor ready for dancing. Having an excellent dance orchestra — The Midnight Revellers — made Elkhorn a very popular dance spot. Later the first Stadium was built near Beaver Lumber.

My brother, Maurice Franklin, moved to Fort William, Ontario via cattle train (courtesy of Jake Bajus) in 1940 to find work at Canadian Car and



Foundry where Hawker-Hurricane planes were being built for World War II. He worked there for a short time and was joined down here by myself in the fall of 1941 and by Douglas shortly afterwards. At one time we were all three employed at the Can-Car plant. Both boys joined the Navy before long and served overseas. Maurice joined the Canadian Grain Commission Inspection Department after the navy, and retired here in December, 1979 from the position of Supervising Inspector. He and his wife Eileen have two sons.

Douglas Franklin worked a bit at the creamery in Elkhorn, then the Moosomin Creamery before coming down to Ontario. After serving in the Navy he moved out to North Vancouver, British Columbia where he works for an imported car distributor. He and his wife, Norma, have one daughter.

I worked at the Elkhorn Creamery from 1936 to December 1941 when I came to this area. I needed to find year-round employment. I started working at the Can-Car plant until being called to Ottawa to work at Naval Headquarters. I did not care for that city and the crowded conditions so I returned to Fort William and began working for Swift Canadian Co. until I was married in May, 1943. My husband, Bob Cross, comes from Souris-Brandon and we have one daughter and three grandchildren living here.

I am sorry I do not have any real stories regarding problems and hardships during the family's early times at Elkhorn. I do know they had no money to spend as making a bare living was about all they could do. They did not have the luxury of a special driving horse when I was little, and no farmer worth his salt would drive one of his work horses for pleasure after it had worked hard in the fields all week. So their social life was rather limited. The Burtons did enjoy their close neighbors but were not dancing or card-playing people in those days, so I guess visiting was their main pleasure then.

How I wish this project had been done a few years ago when my mother and her sisters were still alive — as well as folks like Mr. Mooney, Mr. Jones and a few more in that age bracket. They had a lot of stories that could have been told.

submitted by Muriel (Franklin) Cross

### **The Henry Burton Family**

Henry Burton was born in Whitchurch, Buckinghamshire, England in January, 1860. At an early age he learned the trade of miller. Later he established a corn, flour and seed business at Clapton near London. At Winchendon Mill he carried on the milling business and raised cattle.

In 1883 **Henry Burton** married **Louisa Camp-**

**bell** (also born in 1860). Both Mr. and Mrs. Burton were staunch Methodists.

While living at Marlow-on-Thames, Buckinghamshire, the decision to move to Canada was made. Mr. Burton and his 20 year old son, **Harry** would emigrate first and prepare a place for Mrs. Burton and the daughters **Margaret** (Daisy), **Mildred** (Millie) and **Irene Mary** (Rene). The menfolk left Liverpool May 5, 1904, on board "Canada" bound for Montreal and thence by rail to Elkhorn, Manitoba. Once there, they found employment in the Elkhorn-Flour Mill operated by Fred Travis. Anxious to familiarize himself with Canadian farming methods Henry Burton also secured employment with William Jaffray. Later he rented the Charlie Duxbury farm 12-12-29, in which place his wife and daughters joined him.

Of course, Mrs. Burton and the girls were all seasick on the ocean voyage — especially thirteen year old Rene and her mother — at last one evening Rene felt well enough to go to the ship's dining room. However, no sooner was she there, than she was again seized by seasickness. She dashed from the room with her long hair streaming behind her. Misfortune overtook poor Rene and her hair became entangled around a button on the coat of another passenger on his way to dinner.

Somehow, arrangements became muddled and neither Harry nor his father were on hand to meet Mrs. Burton and the girls when they arrived at the Elkhorn C.P.R. station that particular night in May, 1905. There were no telephones in the community, either, so the family spent their first night in Elkhorn, in the station waiting room. Snow fell before the family had been here a month and Mrs. Burton thought Canada was a cruel country, indeed!

For the voyage to Canada Mrs. Burton's possessions were packed in regular trunks as well as two huge, strongly made, rough, wooden packing boxes. One is still surviving today. In block letters on the sides is printed "SETTLERS' EFFECTS".

In one of those trunks was packed a beautiful silver teapot presented to Mr. Burton in 1896 by the people of Lower Winchendon. The story goes that Mr. Burton was showing the teapot to his wife that evening. As she was admiring it the coal oil lamp exploded, startling her so much that she dropped the teapot causing a ding which marred its beauty forever. This teapot and the presentation card are now in the possession of a granddaughter.

In the depths of a trunk was also packed a very large picture taken in 1904 of Mrs. Burton and her children in a row boat on the Thames River at Marlow. It is set off by an ornate wooden frame and a convex glass.

Another prized possession brought to Canada was a beautiful cherry wood desk in a table model, complete with pigeon holes, sealing wax and cut glass ink bottle with a sterling silver cap.

Dr. and Mrs. Robert Goodwin became life-long friends of the Burton family, also cherished were the Gliddons, the Marshes, the Guests and the Wilsons. These kind folks helped ease the ache of homesickness.

The Burtons had always enjoyed picnicking so carried on the custom here. At their first Canadian picnic Millie was looking for a nice place to sit, so thought a certain mound would be just right. It wasn't long before she discovered she'd sat on a very busy anthill!

In 1914 the Burtons moved to the Ben Axelson farm southwest of Elkhorn. In 1918 they retired to Elkhorn to live in the former Broley residence later owned by Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Hennan. Mrs. Burton died suddenly in March, 1919 at age fifty nine, while awaiting the return of her son Harry and his wife Florrie who had married in 1916. They were sailing home to Canada after World War I where Harry had



L-R Back row: Millie Burton, Harry Burton, John Duxbury, Daisy Burton, Henry Burton. Seated: Mrs. Henry Burton about 1908.

served as transport and ambulance driver since 1916. The young couple resided with Harry's father till he later returned to England in 1921. Mr. Burton Sr. missed his family and came back to Canada in 1928 to live with his youngest daughter, Mrs. Franklin and her children. He died in 1936 at the age of seventy-six.

After the war, Harry worked as a mechanic in an Elkhorn garage. He was one of the few to own a car at that time and one of the first in Elkhorn to have a radio. He and Florrie moved to Brock, Saskatche-

wan, in 1923 where Harry was appointed postmaster. He held this position till his retirement in 1958. Florrie died in the early 50's. Harry later married Vera Miller. Harry kept in touch with Elkhorn friends and relatives by visiting regularly.

**Daisy Burton** married **John Duxbury**, and had two sons, **Bernard** and **Oscar**. **Rene Burton** married Bertram Franklin and had three children — (1) **Muriel**, Mrs. Bob Cross of Thunder Bay, Ontario, who has one daughter Eleanor and three grandchildren. Her husband, Bob, is a retired railway engineer. (2) **Maurice**, retired grain inspector, of Thunder Bay and his wife Eileen have two sons and four grandchildren. (3) **Douglas** of Vancouver and his wife Norma (Pleues) have one daughter and one grandchild. **Mildred Burton** married **Laurie Johnson** and they had four children, fourteen grandchildren and sixteen great grandchildren.

submitted by Phillis Cairns

### Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bussey

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bussey with their family **Ethel, Harold, Ken, and Bob** came to Elkhorn in 1924, where Mr. Bussey worked for Lieutenant Governor Sir J. A. M. Aikins on one of his farms known as "Sec 5". Another son and daughter, **Lyle and Lorna**, were born there. Sir J.A.M. owned considerable acreage (a lot of it unbroken land) in the Elkhorn area. In the mid-twenties he brought a number of Hungarian families from Europe to break up and farm this land. Mr. Bussey was made supervisor of this operation but with the advent of the depression this project was abandoned and over the next several years most of the land was sold.



The Bussey family. L-R. Ethel, Harold, Ken, Bob, Lyle, Lorna.

In 1932 Mr. and Mrs. Bussey left Elkhorn, the same year in which **Ethel** married **Andrew Hutchison**.

**Harold** worked in Elkhorn for a short time and then moved to Winnipeg where he met and married his wife **Gladys**, later they located in Victoria where he worked until retirement. They now reside near Gladstone.

**Ken** worked for farmers in the district including Arthur Roach, Jim Armstrong and Dave Hutchison. He enlisted in the R.C.A.F. as a wireless operator. While stationed in England he met by coincidence Tommy Duxbury, wireless airgunner. They made their arrangements to meet again but Tommy was killed on his next mission. While an instructor at the wireless school in Winnipeg, he met and in 1944 married **Betty Allison**. After living in Carman and Portage la Prairie they immigrated to California in 1952 and he worked for the railroad there until his retirement in 1978.

**Bob** enlisted in the R.C.N. in 1938 in which he made a career. He was in many actions including Dunkirk and St. Valerie where his destroyer engaged and held back German tanks while they evacuated French troops from the beach. He and his wife **Flo** made their home in Victoria, B.C. He died in 1980.

**Lyle** served in the navy in World War II and worked in Winnipeg until 1963 when he and his family immigrated to California. He resides in Castro Valley and has been employed by Caterpillar Tractor of San Leandro for a number of years.

**Lorna** was married to **John Elgar** in Winnipeg in 1948. They have resided there ever since. Lorna started work with the Manitoba Telephones as a teenager and was a supervisor with them for many years, and later on Assistant Manager at the Fort Rouge Exchange.

### **The Henry Cairns Family**

**Phillis**, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Johnson was educated at Burnbank and Elkhorn High School, Virden Collegiate, Brandon Normal School and Brandon University. She taught school at Burnbank for three years, then married Henry Cairns of Oak Lake, second son of Andrew and Frances Cairns (nee Townsend) July 8, 1938. Henry and Phillis settled on NE 29-10-23 and still reside there (1981). They belong to St. David's United Church, 7 miles north of Oak Lake, Manitoba. Phillis taught school in Brandon for 18 years and retired in 1976. They raised one daughter, **Enid Lorna**, born on her Dad's birthday, August 10, 1942 and two sons **Rodney Bruce** (1944), and **Andrew Thomas** (1949). Enid, now living in Winnipeg, married George Dorward of Killarney in 1963. Enid taught school in Brandon and

Winnipeg, then stayed home to raise their son, **Kurt**, and daughter **Melanie**. She is now working at United Church House on Maryland Street in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Her husband, **George**, taught school for some years, but now is a computer programmer and consultant for Cyber Share in Winnipeg.

Rodney, a draftsman with the Crown Lands Department of the Government of Manitoba for many years was transferred to the Brandon Office from Winnipeg in 1979. He then took over the Oak Lake family farm from Henry, where he has built a new house for his wife and family — **Mary Shears** formerly of Lyleton whom he married in 1965, and their two children **Wendy Lee** (1969) and **James Robert** (1975).

Son Tom lives in Oak Lake and is employed with Great Northern Transportation Ltd., hauling crude oil to Cromer.

Submitted by:  
Phillis Cairns  
Oak Lake, Man  
R0M 1P0 Phone 855-2743

### **The Callanders in Elkhorn**

Our first acquaintance with Elkhorn was, I believe, the occasion of the "Royal Visit" in 1939 when Ede and I (**Mr. and Mrs. John C. Callander**) visited Elkhorn to see the Royal Train go through and to take in the School Field Day later that day. Years later, in 1949, I visited the Elkhorn Legion on the occasion of the opening of their new Legion Hall. Also that evening I got a look at the teacherage (from the outside only) which we were soon to occupy — and it sure looked good to me!

My wife Edythe and I, with our two children, Lenna and Jack, moved to Elkhorn and occupied the teacherage in the fall of 1949, and the following ten years were spent here while I was principal of Elkhorn School. During this time, two more children, **Brad** and **Candy**, were born to us. **Lenna** and **Jack** finished their education in the High School here, but Brad and Candy barely started school in Elkhorn and received their education in Altona, Russell, and Winnipeg, as my work changed and I moved the family around the province.

Prior to assuming the principalship at Elkhorn, I had been a teacher, then principal, of Reston School, and had served three years and a half in the R.C.A.F. I had been born in Hartney in 1914, and was educated there and at Brandon College (Class of '36). I took teacher-training at the Faculty of Education of the University of Manitoba, and went to Reston as a beginning teacher in August, 1937, remaining there until 1949, except for service in the R.C.A.F. from July, 1942, to November, 1945, as a Radar Mechanic,

serving overseas in Palestine, Egypt, and Aden. Early in my stay in Reston, I married Edythe Merle Lloyd of Hartney (originally from Carnduff, Saskatchewan), and our first two children were born while we lived in Reston.

One of the main reasons for our move to Elkhorn was the teacherage, as it was such an improvement over our home in Reston. Not only the much larger four-bedroom house attracted us, but also the "running water" in it (a pump at each end of the kitchen sink, for hard and soft water), since in Reston we had been cramped for space and could get fresh water only when the tank-wagon delivered it, usually weekly. And later on the teacherage was improved further when the trustees added a pressure system and a bathroom.

In addition, there was an increase in salary, the classes were all in one building (at that time), and Elkhorn was a larger centre. When I started here in 1949, Elkhorn had a two-room high school (Grades IX-XIII) with four elementary rooms (Grades I-VIII) all in the big school building, recently demolished in 1977. As enrollments increased, one class had to be held in the "auditorium", and later this was divided into two classrooms and the school became an eight-room school, remaining so until the new high school was opened in 1959 as a three-room high school. I was the principal in the new building only during the 1958-59 school year, leaving at the end of the spring term in 1959.

During our stay in Elkhorn, my main hobby was, I suppose, duck shooting, deer hunting, and fishing, but I was also an ardent curler (and bonspieler), serving also on the club executive. I was also a member of the Legion, and, I believe, served as secretary or president (perhaps both). I belonged also to the Masonic Lodge, became Master of the Lodge, and later held the position of secretary for some time. And, of course, the annual School Field Day was another important activity. During this period, Ede was active in church and community activities too. We both belonged to the United Church, though the ministers would probably say that we were not very active.

We left Elkhorn in the summer of 1959 when I was appointed a School Inspector, serving in Altona and in Russell until 1970. I then went in to the offices of the Department of Education in Winnipeg, working mainly in the Administration Office where I had a part in the revision of the Public Schools Act recently passed by the Legislature. I retired in November, 1974, holding the position of Registrar at that time, and we continued to live in Winnipeg until 1976. By that time Brad had finished University and Candy had completed her business course, and both were

working, so Ede and I moved back to Reston where half our family had been born, and where I started as a teacher. Ede is busy again with the Eastern Star and the U.C.W., and I am involved in gardening and in the seniors' Drop-In Centre, but I have finally had to give up curling and deer hunting.

Our children are now all grown up and pretty well scattered. Lenna Beryl married Oneal Lemay (before we left Elkhorn) and they are now living in Kentucky. They have three children and one grandson (our great-grandson). John Charles (Jack) is now in Stoughton, Sask. where he is employed as district man for Saskatchewan Power. He is married to the former Ruth Hahn of Estevan and they have two children, both still in school. Lloyd Bradford (Brad), after various jobs before going to University, is now employed in Vancouver as an insurance underwriter. Our youngest, Candace Dawn, took a business course after Grade XII and is now working as a medical secretary in Winnipeg.

submitted by John C. Callander  
Reston, Manitoba

### **Jean Canart**

In 1931 **Mr. and Mrs. Jean Canart**, who originally came from Belgium, settled on 5-12-29 in the Mossgiel district. Here they farmed and raised their family of four children:

**John** who married **Mary Carradice** of the same district in 1936. They have 2 children and now live in Elkhorn.

**George** who married **Margaret Nichols** of Elkhorn in 1947 and have 4 children and reside in Brandon.

**Emily** who married **Ralph Jaffray** of the Kirkella district in 1944. They have 10 children and reside at Westlock, Alberta.

**Dan** who married **Mildred Cousins** of the Mossgiel district in 1950. They now reside in Elkhorn and have 4 children.

In 1950 Jean and Angele sold their farm to Dan and Mildred and retired to Elkhorn where they purchased the house owned by Wm. Goethe.

During their retirement they made 3 trips back to Belgium.

Jean was an ardent bridge player.

Their last years were spent in the Westman Nursing Home in Virden where they both passed away, Jean Canart in his 85th year on June 3, 1976, and Angele Canart in her 87th year on March 29, 1978. Both are laid to rest in Rosewood Memorial Gardens, Brandon.

## Dan Canart

**Dan**, the son of **Jean and Angele Canart**, came with his parents from Belgium to settle in the Mossgiel District in 1931 on 5-12-29, at the age of 4.

In November, 1950 he married **Mildred**, daughter of **Mark and Polly Cousins** of 35-11-29 in the same district.

At this time Jean and Angele Canart retired to Elkhorn and Dan and Mildred took over the home farm.

In January, 1969 they sold the 18 quarters they had



L-R Back row: Teresa, Ron and Beth Canart, Claudia and Gord Grant, Janet and Mark Canart. Centre row: Barry Canart, Mildred with Terry Grant, Dan with Cathy Canart, Jill Canart. Front row: Ryan and Aaron Canart, Greg Grant, Michelle Canart.

acquired to Plainview Hutterite Colony. During the course of that summer they built a house on the site of the original Charlie Crosby house and moved into this in December of 1969. They sold this to David and Helen Fenske of Edmonton in 1977 and built the one they now reside in.

Since moving to Elkhorn Dan has farmed, built houses, etc. and now owns a backhoe "Canart Backhoe Service" and does trenching, excavations and plumbing.

They have a family of four children, **Mark, Ron, Claudia and Barry**.

In 1971 Mark married **Janet**, the daughter of **Bill and Emma Allison** of the Two Creeks District. They reside in Kamloops, B.C. where Mark manages the sales yards at the B.C. Livestock Co-op Association. They have 3 children, **Michelle, Ryan, and Aaron**.

In 1975 Ron married **Beth**, daughter of **Tom and Margaret Cruickshank** of the Arawana district.

They farm on the former Cecil Rodgers farm, 30-11-27 in the Reaper district. They have 2 daughters, **Teresa and Cathy**.

In 1974 Claudia married **Gordon Grant** son of **Neil and Betty Grant** of the Arawana district. They farm on the former Ted Chapple farm 20-10-28 which they purchased from Everett Ferguson. They have 3 sons, **Greg, Terry and Ken**.

**Barry** married **Jill Cockbill** of Virden in 1981. At this time they reside in Elkhorn, farm the W½ 35-11-28 which was originally owned by John and Molly Thompson, and Barry is working on an oil rig.

## John Canty

John Canty came from County Cork, Ireland to Broadview, North West Territories in 1855. **Mary Lynam** came to Elkhorn from Brussels, Ontario with Mr. and Mrs. John Angus, her stepfather and mother in 1882 or 1883. John Canty and Mary Lynam were married in Elkhorn in 1890.

John Canty was a C.P.R. employee in charge of section East of Elkhorn. In 1905 he was promoted to Roadmaster with headquarters at Regina. From there he was transferred to Brandon, Manitoba in 1907, and in 1908 to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. He retired there and passed away in 1953. His wife pre-deceased him in 1932.

There were six children: **May** (Canty) Collins of Edmonton — deceased. **Muriel A.** (Canty) O'Brien of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. **Leo** Canty of Victoria, British Columbia — deceased. **Irene** (Canty) Janzen of Saskatoon — deceased. **Lynam** Canty of Kamloops, British Columbia — deceased. **Monica** (Canty) Cole of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

Muriel, in 1914, married a C.P.R. employee in the Operating Department, a despatcher and spent most of her married years in Saskatoon (with a short while in Moose Jaw and Regina).

submitted by Muriel O'Brien

## Mrs. A. L. Carruthers (Winona Orr)

My Mother, **Mrs. A. L. Carruthers (Winona Orr)** worked as a teacher at the Elkhorn Indian School for one year around 1903. From there, she travelled to Hay River Mission, where she spent six years. Mrs. Carruthers returned to Elkhorn in 1909, before she left for Victoria, B.C. as taken from her diary. She trained as a nurse at the Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria, B.C.

By coincidence the hospital is celebrating its ninetieth re-union this June. I think that Mother, aged 96, is the eldest graduate. My sister is a 1929 graduate. I am a 1944 graduate. Mother, also, had twin sisters training at the Jubilee in 1903. So we are looking forward to a happy re-union.

Mother had a third daughter, also a nurse. She was a graduate in nursing of Vancouver General and "U. of B.C." There were two sons.

Lorraine (Carruthers) Haughton  
Second daughter of Winona Orr (Carruthers)

### The Carscadden Family

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Carscadden and their six children — **JESSIE and ANNIE**, the twins; **MARY, RUTH, JACK and DONALD** came to Elkhorn from Lenore, Manitoba in September 1912. Mr. Carscadden went into the General Store Business. He had a house built for his family on the same street as the Methodist Church parsonage, in the northern section of the town. The family soon joined the young people of the town and district in school, church and skating rink activities.

In 1919 Mr. Carscadden sold his business to Mr. Tottle, his house to Mr. Blakeman, and moved to Vancouver, B.C.

The four daughters became school teachers. **JESSIE** joined the Blakeman family when she married Win in 1919. Today, she lives in North Vancouver, B.C. **MARY** married Fred Bajus in 1926.

**RUTH** (Mrs. P. G. Welford) lives in White Rock, B.C. **DONALD** lives in Snowhomish, Washington, U.S.A.

submitted by Jessie Blakeman

### Cassell Family History

**William Cassell** was born in Napanee, Ontario and came to Manitoba with his wife **Agnes Rebecca Snyder** in 1899 to a homestead in the Burnbank District. They had four daughters and two sons; **Gertie** (Mrs. Gordon Turner) deceased, **Illa** (Mrs. Harold Coolidge) died along with her young daughter Audrey in a tragic fire in Kirkella January 26, 1940, **Irene** died when she was five years old, **Ernie** was killed in action during the First World War, **Pearl** (Mrs. Grant Gerow) lives in Cleveland, Ohio, and **Russell**, born in 1903 was raised on the home farm.

Russell married **Agnes Coburn** in 1927. Agnes was born in 1903 in Maybole, Scotland and came to Canada as a very young child with her mother and brothers and sister to the Crandall district where she grew up. During her school years Agnes drove the horse drawn school van in the area. Agnes went on to graduate from Normal School and taught in the Oak Lake and Burnbank districts. When Russell and Agnes were married they went to live with Russell's parents on the homestead farm where their first daughter **Merle** was born. The three of them took a trip to the Napanee area where Russell worked for the best part of a year. Upon returning home they again

lived with his parents who had by this time moved to the Two Creeks district. During their time in Two Creeks their only son, **Doug** was born and they then moved back near the Burnbank School for about a year, then to Kirkella where they lived for two years during which time their daughter **Isobel** was born. They moved to Elkhorn for a very short time and then to the Davis farm where daughters **Doreen, Ena, and Betty** were born. They moved permanently to Elkhorn in 1938 to live in what was then known as the Hopp's place, which is still the family home, and their last two daughters, **Marie** and **Allie** were born.

Russell farmed until they moved to town, then he worked in the coal docks and did carpentry work as an extra job until the docks were shut down. Russell worked on the Rivers Airport and on renovations in a lot of the houses in the area. When the docks closed down he took up carpentry full time and built several of the houses around town.

Daughter **Merle** graduated from High School in Elkhorn and went to Normal School to become a teacher. She taught in the Reston area and married **Edwin Boulton** in 1948 and they had three sons, **Richard, Russell, and Randall**. **Merle** was an avid gardener and cook, and often won ribbons for her beautiful baking at the local fairs; she was also secretary of the local school. **Merle** died in December, 1959 shortly after the birth of their last son. **Edwin** and the boys still live on the family farm near Reston.

**Doug** spent a great deal of time with his Grandmother and Uncle (Agnes' Mother and brother) in Crandall, as the next child born was ill for some time after birth. **Doug** went to school in Crandall, but came back to Elkhorn to work in the creamery. He married **Eileen Gilbert** and they farmed on the Gilbert farm for several years. Their children **Donald** and **Jane** were born while they lived there and **Donald** started school in Elkhorn. **Doug** and **Eileen** later moved to Lethbridge, Alta. where they now live. **Donald**, a High School teacher married **Jodie Cowie** and now lives in Vancouver, B.C. **Jane** married **Dale Solvey** and has three children; **Michael, Christine, and Matthew**, and they also live in Lethbridge.

**Isobel** finished High School in Elkhorn and went to work in the creamery along with brother **Doug**. **Isobel** later moved to Brandon where she worked as a receptionist, then to Winnipeg where she worked for Air Canada and Scandinavian Air Lines. She married **Bob Whiteside** and they have one daughter **Cara**, who attends High School in Calgary, Alta. **Isobel** owns a travel agency and makes her home in Calgary.

**Doreen** went to school in Elkhorn, worked in Virden for a while, then moved to Saskatoon, Sask. where she worked and married **Glen Peterson**. They

have one daughter **Shannon**, who attends High School in Saskatoon where they still live

Ena went to school in Elkhorn, worked in Brandon, then moved to Saskatoon where she worked and married **Graydon Anderson**. They have three daughters and one son; **Heather**, a pharmacist, married **Dave McAngus** and lives in Regina, **Shelley Towers** has two children, **Del** and **Chere-Don** and lives in McKenzie, son **Tyler** who lives in Vancouver, and **Lezlie** who also lives in Vancouver. Ena now lives and works in Calgary, Alta.

Betty went to school in Elkhorn then went to work in Saskatoon where she married **Glen McClure**. They have two daughters; **Glenna** is married to **John Fingler** and lives in Meadowlake, Sask., and **Cindy** is married to **Greg Krawchuk** of Saskatoon. Betty works and they still live in Saskatoon.

Marie went to school in Elkhorn then married **Barry McMechan** and moved to Deloraine, Man. to farm. They have three daughters and two sons; **Donna** is married to **Larry Wiggins** and they have one son **Douglas** and live in Fort St. John, **Lynn** and **Darlene** who both work in Brandon, and **Kelvin** and **Russell** both of Deloraine. Marie now lives and works in Brandon.

Allie also went to school and worked in the bank in Elkhorn for several years before transferring to Winnipeg where she worked for several years and married **Jack Lange**. They have two sons **John** and **Eric** attending public school in Winnipeg where they now live.

Agnes, dear wife and mother, passed away on May 1, 1966 after many years of poor health, but not before seeing all her children grown and married and several of their grandchildren born. Russell is retired and still lives in the family home in Elkhorn.

submitted by Allie Lange.

## Chalmers Story

This family, of whom I'm a member, makes me think of wild geese migrating to different parts of North America, but, believing there is always a profound attachment to the prairie town in which they were born and bred.

Elkhorn resembles many small towns on the mid western plains. There was in our childhood days, always a sense of totally satisfying peace and happiness. The lovely prairie crocus in the spring and the prairie wildlife always intrigued my sister Edith and her six brothers. This however, is not a picture of the actual place. It is, more or less, the story or history of the Chalmers family.

This all started during the later part of the nineteenth century. A charming and lovely young lady, **Jessie Anderson**, of Scottish ancestry, had her eyes

fixed on **David Chalmers**, a young man from Stratford-on-Avon whose family name is well known in the annals of Scottish history. This of course made their romance all the more intriguing. They eventually married in St. James Anglican Church in London, England and, after a few years of married life in London, decided to immigrate to one of the British colonies and selected Canada as their future home.

They sailed from Plymouth, England in 1904, and arrived in the early spring of the same year in Montreal, Quebec. From Montreal they travelled via C.P.R. rail through Ontario to Brandon, Manitoba, where they resided for one year. My father David Chalmers, eventually obtained employment with the C.P.R. in Broadview, Saskatchewan and, from there was transferred to Elkhorn, Manitoba, in 1908 to operate the C.P.R. COAL-DOCK. Their first home in Elkhorn was a small two room house, which was adjacent to Rodgers' Pasture. This was purchased from an old-timer, Jim Evans. Next to this house was the Immigration Hall and our neighbors were the Grimshaws and the Balmers. Then came the old flour mill — directly across from the C.P.R. Station. I noticed on our last visit to Elkhorn, the old flour mill had disappeared. My family always considered this mill an historical landmark.

My only sister **EDITH** was the first fledgling of the Chalmers family. Then came **ROBERT, FRANK, WILFRID, HAROLD, ALBERT and DONALD** all born in Elkhorn vicinity. The last two fledglings were twin boys, **EDWARD and JACK**, who were born in the City of Winnipeg, Manitoba.

In 1914, when the First World War started, I can remember quite realistically my father joining up in 1915 along with our neighbors, Chris Bennett and Wm. Amos. During the war years my mother purchased a small house with a few acres of land on what is now know as Railway Street. This house and land was owned by an English family by the name of Bradely. Mother, a very pioneering type, fixed it up by adding an extra room to the house and by having a barn built. This barn was stocked with chickens, ducks, pigs and other farm animals. We also had a very large garden. Our neighbors in this area were mostly ethnic from Europe. They were wonderful friends and neighbors who brought with them many fine customs and cultures of distinction.

Edith and her six brothers, were all students of the Elkhorn school and as I recall we did have some wonderful teachers. Edith completed high school in Elkhorn and the rest of us completed our schooling in Winnipeg. Edith and I attended the school reunion in 1977, and enjoyed meeting our old schoolmates. We felt rather saddened to see our old school in the process of being moved to another area. One of the

high-lights of this reunion was meeting one of our favourite teachers Mrs. Jean Watson, née Miss Jean Farney from Oak Lake, Manitoba. My brother Frankie and myself (Robert) always felt she contributed to our ability in the sports world.

Dad returned from overseas in 1918, not able to work due to war disabilities. Thus my Mother had to work to help keep the family. Brother Frank and I delivered the Winnipeg Evening Telegram for a few years. I had a job with Mr. and Mrs. McCorkindale in their Bakery and Confection shop and, then later with Sam and Rose Stienbergs in their General Store, which eventually burnt down.



L-R: Frank, Edith, mother Jessie, Wilfrid, Harold and Robert Chalmers 1917.

Our family were all members of St. Marks Anglican Church — Rev. Bell was our minister in 1916 and later Rev. Giles. This is a lovely old church and what intrigued us most, was the beautiful stained glass window of Christ carrying a lantern, inscribed below **“I am the Light and the Way”**. My father David Chalmers is listed on the honour roll plaque with many other members of St. Marks who fought for King and Country in World War One.

Our family, in 1927 or 1928, moved to Winnipeg. My sister Edith eventually married **Frank McBride** and raised a good substantial family. Two of her brothers Frank and Robert became well known in the sports world in Winnipeg participating in the 1930 British Empire Games held in Canada, and the 1932 Olympic Games, held in Los Angeles, California. Write-ups in the newspaper qualified us both as outstanding athletes in Canada in those years.

During the dirty thirties, the family migrated to Timmins, Ontario.

My father passed away during the thirties. This left Mother with eight sons, and when the second world war started in 1939, my mother eventually had seven sons overseas in the Navy, Army and Air Force. After the war ceased in 1945, the family all wound up in Toronto, Ontario. All the brothers were quite successful during the following years. There are still five of us boys left — Robert, Harold, Albert, Edward and Jack. My sister Edith is well and living in Winnipeg.

Edith and her five brothers still have fond memories of their home town, Elkhorn.

#### **Final Note:**

Our family feels happiness comes in the capacity to feel deeply and, to enjoy the simple things in life, like in this prairie town, where nature is at its very best in the lovely summer days and old times and old friends are never forgotten.

narrative by Robert Charles Chalmers

### **Frederick William (Fred) Chapple**

**Frederick William Chapple**, son of **John Chapple** and **Elizabeth Avery** was born in 1851 at South Moulton, Devonshire, England. After John's death, Elizabeth later married **William Davey** (See Davey). Frederick William married **Kate Bath** in 1873. They had one son **Frederick William Bath** (Freddie) born at Plymouth, England in June, 1880. Frederick William was one of the earliest settlers in this part of Manitoba, arriving in Winnipeg in early 1882. He worked on the C.P.R. laying track out of Headingly, Manitoba. In July of that year, he was joined by his wife and baby son. They had been shipwrecked in the Irish Sea and spent two days in a lifeboat. Later that fall, they travelled further west, and took up a homestead south of the little town of Elkhorn on N.E. ¼ of 24-10-29. At that time the district was known as Ebor. In 1885 Mrs. Chapple passed away, and her remains were buried on the farm now owned by Neil Grant. In the early eighties Fred would go by oxen to Moose Mountain for a supply of wood. He would be away several days, taking his eats with him. It is told he would tie the food on the back of the oxen to keep it from freezing.

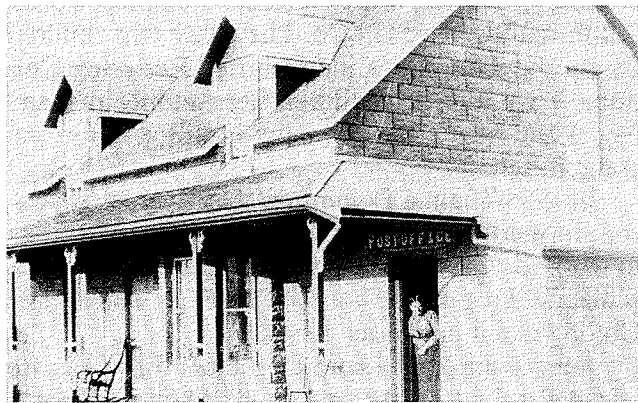
In 1888 Frederick William married **Annie Davidson Johnson**, who was born at Moorfield, Wellington County, Ontario in 1855. Together they worked hard and established one of the beauty spots in their district. They were faithful worshippers at the 'Church of the Advent Kola' which was built in 1886 by Mrs. AP. Stewart and named after the estate she came from in England. In 1890 the post office (Ebor) was opened at Frederick William Chapple's residence. The mail was delivered from Elkhorn by horse and buggy or cutter every Friday, first by Mr.



Madge, then Jack Cavanagh, Billy Hitchcock and many years by Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Johnson. After thirty-three years of service, the Post Office closed in 1923.

In 1889 the taxes on Fred W. Chapple's land was \$2.70.

In 1905 the C.P.R. went through and a town was built and named 'Ebor' so the district was forced to change its name. Mrs. Chapple had the honor of renaming it. She chose "Arawana" (Arrah Wannah) who was a beautiful Indian Maiden. Mrs. Chapple was very talented in drawing and sketching. Mr. Chapple's place was the central point for "The Patrons of Industry" an organization working for the betterment of people in the community. He was also a



Chapple's house used as Arawana Post Office in 1904. Mrs. F. W. Chapple (postmistress).

"Pathmaster". Frederick William Chapple was trustee for 10 years and served on Wallace council for 5 years. They moved to make their home in Elkhorn, Man. in 1923. Mr. Chapple passed away in 1928, Mrs. Chapple in 1930.

They had three of a family, **Avery, Gladys and William R. H. (Willie).**

**This News Item was taken from a copy of the Elkhorn Mercury, June 15, 1911.**

An Auction Tie Social held at the home of F. W. Chapple Sr. of Arawana P.O. 24-10-29 on June 9, was a huge success, not only financially but also in the way of giving the large number of people present (over 100) a most enjoyable evening. The building was patriotically decorated, the floor in splendid condition and the music excellent. Ice Cream and lemonade were provided and much enjoyed. The adjoining districts, bar Elkhorn were all well represented and helped swell the proceeds which amounted to the gratifying sum of \$64.00. This will be handed over to the Virden Hospital to assist in carrying on the work of that institution. The commit-



Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Chapple at their home at Arawana Post Office before 1920.

tee in charge wish to thank all who attended for their kind support and patronage.

### **Frederick William Bath Chapple. (F.W.B.) known as Freddie.**

Frederick William Bath Chapple grew up in the district, and attended schools at Buckingham, Sanderson and Virden, each for a short time only. At the age of 17, he won the championship for the first plowing match ever held in Wallace Municipality. In 1905 he homesteaded on S.E. ¼ of 30-10-28, known as "Mt. Everest". In 1907 he married **Eva Louth** of England. 1903, he was in partnership with Harvey Johnson, owning a threshing outfit, portable engine and self feeding separator with a blower. Within the next few years these were replaced by self-propelled steamers. Johnson took over the steam engine and F. W. B. Chapple purchased his first I.H.C. 60-30 gas engine in 1913, known as "Tiny". With this he also did custom breaking, pulling eight plows. Both men continued to do their custom threshing. Tragedy struck when fire destroyed their home in 1923. F.W.B. was a keen debater and took a great interest in public and district affairs. He served many years as a trustee of the local school board and was a charter member of "The Manitoba Pool Elevator" at Cromer, Man. There were three children, **David Edward (Ted), Thelma and John.**

In 1927 F. W. B. Chapple (Freddie) married **Mrs. Ada Perry (Allinson)** who had a daughter **Alice (Williams)** now living at Weyburn. Mrs. Chapple passed away in 1935 and Freddie continued to live on the farm until his death in 1952.

Gladys Chapple was born in 1891 and grew up in the district. She attended Ebor School, later Arawana. Under the guidance of Mr. J. Mooney she was an ardent photographer, developing her own pictures, some of which are still quite clear. She took a dressmaking course and was employed in Brandon at Nation and Shewan's. She spent some time 1910-1911 in Chicago. December 25th, 1915, she married **Wm. C. Powell** also from Arawana. They lived in Prince Albert, Sask. and had a family of two sons, **Ross** and **William**, two daughters, **Betty** and **Winona**. Wm. C. Powell was an engineer on the railroad working for C.N.R. He passed away in 1956. Gladys continued to live in Prince Albert until 1974 when she moved to Red Deer, Alta. to be near her family. She lives in Twilight Lodge, Red Deer and is very alert and enjoys reminiscing.

William (Willie) R. H. Chapple was born in 1893, took his schooling in the district. Very fond of music, he and brother Avery with their violins played at many house parties. The "flu" of 1919 claimed his life at the early age of 25 years. He had a great sense of humor and was loved by all who knew him. He was never married.

David Edward (Ted) Chapple attended school at Arawana and Elkhorn. An avid sports fan he played baseball with Springvale, later took up curling and golf. Helping on the home farm, he took time off and travelled at fair time for a few years around the circuits with Bill Brown's (Deloraine) herd of Ayrshire cattle. He started farming on his own and in 1937 he married **Edith Grose** of Virden, a former teacher of Arawana School. They farmed until 1951 when they moved to Elkhorn — Ted worked with a construction firm and later was weed inspector for the Rural Municipality of Wallace, while Edith joined the Elkhorn teaching staff.

They have a family of three — **Eileen (Mrs. J. A. Cole)** of Red Deer, Alberta. **William (Bill)** of Brandon, Manitoba and **Sharon (Mrs. Ed. Stonehouse)** of Saskatoon, Sask. Each have two children, **Kevin and Allison Cole**, **Terri and Brock Chapple** and **Tisha Rae and Kristin Stonehouse**. Eileen and Bill attended Arawana and Elkhorn schools, Sharon only Elkhorn. The Chapples were all active in community events. Edith, Eileen and Sharon were involved in the 4-H club, winning special awards in Public Speaking, Demonstrations and Displays. Bill played hockey and baseball with the Elkhorn Clubs — continuing his baseball with the "Brandon Cloverleafs" when moving to Brandon. He was on the team representing Manitoba several times. He is now employed with Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation.

Edith retired from teaching in 1974 and in 1976 Edith and Ted retired to live in Brandon.

Thelma Chapple spent most of her life in the district and attended school at Arawana and Elkhorn. In 1930 she married **Bert Bolam**, a neighbor boy. They lived in the Buckingham district until Bert's death in 1939. They had one daughter **Enid**. In 1942, Thelma Bolam went to "The Wheat City Business College" in Brandon. Completing her course, she was employed at the Elkhorn Creamery, working for five years. In 1948 she joined the staff at Virden Creamery working for six years.

Enid went to school at Arawana and Elkhorn. She attended "The Wheat City Business College" in Brandon, later working for Donovan's accounting firm.

In 1952 Enid married **Roland Gardiner**. They resided in Virden until 1960, when they went to Didsbury, Alberta, where Roland is employed with California Standard Oil Co. They have two children **Cindy** and **Timothy**. Cindy married **Roderick Collinge**. They have two children **Lesa** and **Robbie** and live at Didsbury, Alta. Timothy is still at home and going to school.

In 1954 Thelma Bolam married **Everett Ferguson**, formerly of Prince Edward Island. He had come to work for Freddie in 1939. They farmed the home place, retiring to Elkhorn in 1973 at which time Gordon Grant purchased the farm.

John Chapple was born December 5th, 1911. He attended school at Arawana and Elkhorn. He was keenly interested in sports, playing hockey, baseball, curling and golf. He played the violin and was called upon to play for many local dances and social evenings. For two or three months every spring, he would travel through the country with a seed cleaning machine drawn by horses hitched to a stoneboat. For a few years, he worked for the C.P.R. on a telegraph crew. In 1941 he started to work for the "Manitoba Power Commission" later known as "Manitoba Hydro".

In 1953 while working in Dauphin, he met and married Mrs. Hazel Ball, a widow with two daughters. They moved to Neepawa, Man. where they lived for several years until his retirement in 1973. Having spent a few winters south, they decided to retire to Texas but failing health shortened his retirement and he passed away May 5th, 1974 in Winnipeg. Hazel continues to spend the winters in Texas.

submitted by Thelma Ferguson

### **The Johnson Avery Chapple Family**

My grandfather, **Frederick William Chapple**, was one of the Arawana pioneers. He was born in England in 1851. His profession was a Police Officer in Torquay, England. He sailed from Plymouth in England to Canada in 1881, arrived in Winnipeg in

the spring of '82 and immediately worked as a boss of the C.P.R. ballast gang between Winnipeg and Headingley. He often remarked "the work of one Swede equalled that of twenty Italians." His Italian crew members were replaced with Swedes as they became available. He was joined by his wife **Kate Bath** and two year old son **Frederick William Bath** in 1882. She took over the cooking end of the work camp. When freeze-up came, the railroad halted, so they came west to look over the land with a dream of homesteading. His choice was NW¼ 24-10-29, where they settled in the spring of 1883. Kate died about 1885. Grandfather married **Annie Davidson Johnson** about 1888. They built and lived in a little house that also served as Ebor Post Office.

Part of the homesteading duties stipulated that 10 acres of breaking must be done every year. Two oxen, "Buck" and "Bright" supplied the power for the walking plough. It was compulsory for homesteaders to live on the property for six months of every year. This was not a problem for my grandparents.

My father, **Johnson Avery Chapple** was born June 24, 1890 at his parents' home on NW¼ 24-10-29. His sister **Gladys** arrived in 1891, and brother **Willie** completed their family in 1893.

The little overcrowded house was moved to become a workshop and a spacious four bedroom, two storey home was built with cement blocks on the original location in 1904 to accommodate the growing family needs. Postal services continued in the new house. The cement block structure still stands, modernized to today's standards. Neil and Betty Grant own the farm.

As prosperity permitted, Grandfather Chapple added to his first quarter of land. He bought N½ 36-10-29; S½ 25-10-29 and S½ 30-18-28 (not necessarily in that order). Horses were replacing the oxen; more modern implements were acquired; and manpower supplied by lively sons must have been satisfaction to a homesteader and his dream!

My dad, Avery, attended Buckingham and Ebor (later known as Arawana) schools. He took his high-schooling by correspondence. (He often talked about his grade eight teacher, Miss Durno, in later years.) He took a few piano lessons from Miss Marion Everett (later Mrs. Richard Clarkson), but it was his keen ear for music that made him a natural old-time fiddler. He played the organ too, and was organist in Kola church for many years. His desire to become a C.N. engineer when he worked at the roundhouse at Rivers Grand Trunk Railroad (now C.N. mainline) led to disappointment. A colour blindness problem was discovered, thus disqualifying him. He took courses in agriculture, farm accounting and blacksmithing. He experimented with different grains. He

was an innovator. Curious about the transmissions of signals by electromagnetic waves, he experimented with crystal radio and receiver kits.

Family picnics at the Pipestone creek were special (I have a picture, taken in 1908 of Grandmother Chapple standing on a boulder in the creek ready to cast a fishing rod.) Ponies provided their transportation, and pleasure too.

Gladys Chapple married **Will Powell**, December 25, 1915. They moved to Prince Albert, Sask., where Will was an engineer for the C.N.R.

Meanwhile, about eight miles west of the Chapple farm lived William Henry Stewart and his wife Sarah Jane (Riddle), also homesteaders, on their NW¼ 20-10-19 that they acquired in March, 1882. Mrs. Stewart was the only woman in the district until Mrs. Abe Rowand became a neighbor in 1883. There were four sons; Charles, Tom, Calvin and John. Their only daughter, **Elizabeth Pearl** was born September 16, 1895. She attended school in the Methodist Hall until the new Kola school was built to replace the old one destroyed in the 1900 cyclone. She spent long sessions in the old Virden hospital as a young girl. Her dream to become a nurse remained only a dream. My mother, Pearl was in continual demand at home to keep house for her father and brothers as Mrs. Stewart's health regressed. Grandmother Sarah Jane died in March of 1917.

Avery Chapple's ponies, Vic and Venus, soon learned that he only wished to go west as far as the Stewarts, once they had started in that direction. Oh yes, he was a friend of the brothers alright, but the chief attraction was Pearl! She became Mrs. Johnson Avery Chapple on January 9, 1918. They were married in her father's home.

Grandfather William Stewart had helped my dad Avery, build a cottage style house on N½ 36-10-29. This was my parents' first home. They called it "Happyland" — very appropriate for newlyweds. Their first car was a new Model T, a wedding gift from the Stewart brothers and father.

My parents were not to live at Happyland very long. Many changes were ahead. The senior Chapples were aging and not able to cope as they once could. Willie Chapple died of influenza in March, 1919.

Mother and Dad moved that same spring into the big cement block house to live with Grandfather and Grandmother Chapple. Their first child, **Gladys Margaret** was born July 7, 1919. The following year, in 1920, **Lorne Avery** arrived, and Dad made his pledge to serve as Councillor to R.M. of Wallace, replacing his just-retired father.

The senior Chapples moved into their house on Grange Street in Elkhorn in 1923, leaving full farm

responsibilities to my parents. **Norma Pearl** was born in 1924 on June 6. She was an ill child with whooping cough and double pneumonia. Dr. Johnston was credited with saving her life.

Grandfather Chapple died at his Elkhorn residence April 2, 1928, and Grandmother died there too on September 26, 1930. Two pioneers' work was done

**Helen Marie** completed the family when she was born March 31, 1931. Grandfather Willie Stewart had moved to my parents' home the previous year due to failing health. He died there December 26, 1931.

Mechanization was slowly replacing horsepower. Dad engineered the steam engine at threshing time. Later he and Uncle Fred served the harvest needs of several farms with a new 25 H.P. Sawyer Massey tractor and separator for many years. His first tractor on rubber, an Oliver 80, was purchased about 1938 — a real marvel from the time 1928 Hart Parr on steel with cleats.

Dad took great pride in improving the quality of crops grown in western Manitoba, and in scientific methods in agriculture — especially in weed control. He was an active participant in the formation of Cromer and Elkhorn locals of Manitoba Pool Elevators, Elkhorn Co-operative livestock shipping associations, Wallace Consumer Co-op Ltd., and Virden Credit Union Society Ltd. He took a prominent interest in community affairs — school boards, etc.

He served as Councillor of Ward 2 in R.M. of Wallace for over twenty years. He was the instigator of several community dams, as water preservation was one of his chief concerns.

Because of his involvement with mixed farming and the increasing council responsibilities, which included the problems of the "dirty thirties," it was necessary to hire men to carry on the workload at the farm. A few names I recall are Bob Moody, Ray Sinclair, and Willis Eric. They were all treated as one of the family.

My mother, Pearl, devoted her life to home and family, but she was interested in community and world affairs too. Her talents were many. She planted huge gardens, necessary of course to fill the larder, but her green thumb gave her enjoyment too. She planted trees and had splendid flower beds. She enjoyed reading. She sewed all her own and the girls' clothes, looked after aging aunts until they died, raised chickens, helped the men with the chores, etc. She even shot a pesky woodpecker off the peak of the house roof. There were always several "extras" for meals. The baking and food preparation was never-ending, but there was always plenty. Roy Sinclair always said Mother made buns by the "acre," which

really was no exaggeration. (I can recall the first bakery bread — sliced too! About 1939 we experienced our first "instant" breakfast with cornflakes. No porridge pot to wash! What satisfaction to try out Kleenex — the old "hankies" got snuffed out! The "convenience" evolution was beginning.)

Several Arawana teachers lived with my parents during the school term. Beatrice Bullock, Gertrude Carefoot, Eileen Naylen, and Phyllis Ayers are names I remember. (How thrilled the students were with Miss Ayers' bright lipstick.) They too, were considered "Family."

Gladys, Lorne, Norma, and later Marie all attended school at Arawana. The Christmas concerts and Elkhorn field days were the exciting events of the year. The older three were active musicians in the Virden and Maryfield Citizens' bands. One car fulfilled all the family members' needs in those days, and Dad's Model A was always available for band intent. Sunday concerts were family outings. I recall "bouquets" of ice cream cones in assorted flavors and colors that were special after-concert treats. Many a "jam" session rocked the Chapple home — either band instruments or the fiddle, piano and guitar. Mass band competitions and school activities satisfied the Chapple "kids'" social needs very well.

Gladys and Lorne achieved their grade eleven education by correspondence at home, and helped on the farm at the same time. Gladys worked as a bookkeeper for the Stewart Bros., in their garage in Maryfield prior to nurse's training at Brandon General Hospital in 1941. She graduated as an R.N. in 1944, and went on to nurse in Minnedosa and Virden hospitals. In 1945, Gladys married **Andrew Mackay** of Woodstock, Ontario after his discharge from the R.C.A.F. They had seven sons; **Lawrence, Avery, Murray, Barry, Ian, Allen, David**, and one daughter **Margaret Pearl**. Murray died December 26, 1979. The rest of the family all married and settled in Woodstock and area. The Mackay boys are musicians and with their mother on the piano often entertain at social functions and at the senior citizen lodges. Andrew and Gladys are still on the farm they bought after they were married. Their twelve grandchildren, along with dairy cattle, and 4,000 laying hens add variety to their farm routines.

Lorne took his grade twelve at Elkhorn High School in 1941-42. Norma was attending at the same time, to wind up her grade twelve. Lorne organized the Elkhorn school band; Norma was one of his trumpet players. Later, Lorne worked as a mechanic at Virden Flying Training School. He drove the Co-op fuel truck and worked at Kent's Flour Mill prior to Normal school in Winnipeg in 1946-47. That autumn

he went to Pacific school to teach, living at the school during the winter months. All the students played in his Pacific school band. He went on to teach in Morden, the Manitoba Home for Boys in Portage la Prairie, and at Virden. In August of 1950 he married **Jean Fulford**, also a teacher, and musician, of Minnetonka. Lorne switched careers to the "press" and worked for the Virden Empire Advance until he joined the Brandon Sun staff, about 1960. Later he became news editor for C.K.X. They have lived in Winnipeg since 1968 when Lorne became television editor of Information Services Branch at the Legislative Buildings. Lorne and Jean have both left musical imprints on many lives over the years. Their daughter **Elisabeth Jean Archambault** teaches piano and organ students. She, her husband **Marcel** and two boys, **Paul** and **Raymond** reside in Brandon. **Keith Avery**, their son, "spreads" music too, through the Hywire Rock band. He lives in Winnipeg.

Norma lived with Aunt Sarah and Uncle Walter Davey during her Elkhorn high school years, working there for her room and board. She attended Normal school in Winnipeg in 1942. She spent six weeks of practice teaching at Buckingham School and lived with Mrs. Milroy. Norma followed her career as school teacher at Cypress River, Nesbitt, Hargrave, Douglas, Dauphin and Winnipeg. She married **Wim Volkens** in 1947 and they made their home in Dauphin community for nearly twenty years before moving to Winnipeg. Norma died following a lengthy illness February 18, 1977. Their son **Jerry** and his wife live at Long Spruce, son **Brian** and family at Grand Prairie, and their daughter **Linda Pearl** combines social work and teaching in the Government Day Care Centre in Edmonton.

Patterns often change when there is just the "young" one left at home. I, Marie, was the baby, and have yet to decide if it really is the easiest! But it must be. Born in the "dirty thirties", the drought didn't bother me one bit. My older siblings treated me well (most times). The financial hardships for my parents had eased considerably and my education seemed quite routine. My last year at Arawana School was the 1943-44 term. Emma Heaman taught the only six students — the Jebb brothers, Hazel and Mae Grieve, Rosella Duncan and myself. Dad and Mother moved to Virden in 1944, and I completed my education at Virden Collegiate.

I nursed in Elkhorn Hospital following graduation from Brandon School for Nursing in 1953. **John Lung** and I were married that same year and we lived at Dand, where he farmed and operated the Dand garage he built in 1948. He played accordion for the Deloraine Rhythmaires. We now live on four acres south of Brandon. John has been Heavy Duty Ap-

prentice Instructor at Assiniboine Community College for the past ten years. We have four children. **Louise Hourie**, R.P.N., her husband **Craig** and son **Nicholas** live in Portage la Prairie. Her twin, **Lorna** attends Brandon University following five years as a Military Policewoman in the Canadian Armed Forces. **Karen** (a piano natural) is taking bookkeeping at A.C.C. and our son **Peter** (guitar player) attends Crocus Plains High school.

When my parents moved to Virden, in 1944, they rented the farm to Ted and Edith Chapple. Dad remained active for the R.M. of Wallace as assessor, enumerator and weed inspector besides being secretary of the Virden Co-op. He took more time to serve as water dowser. His tools were simple, but effective. He witched many wells, some gushers, which amazed his critics.

Mother and Dad moved to Elkhorn in 1950. They took over Dad's Uncle Walter Davey's insurance business and bought his home. He continued, too, as weed inspector. Mother was equally able to serve the insurance clients when Dad was away. They sold the business and he retired a second time in 1964, but continued to be secretary for the Chamber of Commerce and the Stadium.

Dad enjoyed participating in the Canasta club with H. J. Jones, A. Linner, Wm. Robertson, J. B. Williams and C. G. Webster with Jim Armstrong as spare for winter entertainment. Fishing was his favorite summer sport. Dad and Max Ross had several good expeditions with his boat whether or not the fish were co-operating. He was delighted with the first outer-space missions.

Dad and Mother frequently visited with their families and took great interest in each new grandchild. They had a little over fifty-one years together. They taught Gladys, Lorne, Norma and me to accept the things we cannot change, the courage to change what we can, and the wisdom to know the difference. What more can parents do?

My dad, Johnson Avery Chapple died following a brief illness July 7, 1969. Another pioneer's work done.

Mother sold her house to Mr. and Mrs. Dan Hartley and in September of 1969 she moved to Winnipeg to an apartment in St. Vital for one year. From there she lived some seven years with Lorne and Jean in their home. Mother continued to enjoy her retirement in Fairview Home of Brandon where she lived from 1977 until she passed away on December 27, 1981.

submitted by daughter Marie Lung

## Mr. and Mrs. James W. Clarke

James Wallace Clarke was born on the N.E. ¼ of 6-12-30, the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Clarke, Sr. of Fleming, North West Territories and in June, 1910 he married **Edith Marie McDonald** (born in Quebec City, Quebec), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. McDonald of Fleming, Saskatchewan. They settled on section 8-12-29 in the Mossgiel district until they retired to live in Elkhorn, Manitoba. They both were very much involved in all respects of community and town life. Mrs. Clarke worked diligently for the I.O.D.E. especially during the war time, knitting and packing parcels to be sent overseas. Jim Clarke became councillor for Ward 6 in the Municipality of Wallace from 1922 till 1940. Mr. and Mrs. Clarke retired in 1949 to make their home in Elkhorn, Manitoba. Mrs. Clarke belonged to the W.A. and Mr. Clarke went on the Elkhorn Council in 1950; he took over as the Mayor after John W. Thompson in January, 1954 till 1958.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarke raised three sons: **Willis** who married **Laura Boomhower**. They had one son **Byron** (Buddy). In 1939 Willis and Laura moved to Victoria, British Columbia where Willis still resides. Laura is deceased.

**Clifford** married **Margaret Hayward** of the Mossgiel district. They have a family of four, **Rose Marie, Larry, Kaylynn** and **Donald**. Margaret and Cliff moved to Elkhorn in 1951 where they still reside. Cliff is an ardent worker for the Antique Automobile Museum.

**Bruce** married **Phyllis Osborne** of Moosomin, Saskatchewan. They have three of a family: **Lois, Linda** and **Neil**. They moved into Elkhorn, Manitoba where they are now retired.

Mrs. Clarke passed away in 1959 and Mr. Clarke in 1966.

## Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Clarke

**Bruce** and **Phyllis Clarke** and their daughters, **Lois**, six and **Lynda**, one and one half, built a house on Grange Street and moved in 1951 from Mossgiel District. Their first reception to Elkhorn was a little cool, as the first stake placed for cellar excavation was "right at first base of our ball diamond" according to a small spectator.

Bruce was born at the home farm in Mossgiel District and attended school at Mossgiel and Fleming, Saskatchewan. Phyllis was born at the home farm near Fleming and took her schooling at Stanley District and in Moosomin, Saskatchewan. They were married in 1943, lived on the home farm, later moving to Elkhorn to continue farming from town, the land in Mossgiel and Kirkella Districts.

Bruce practised mixed farming with some regis-



Phyllis and Bruce Clarke with their children left to right: Neil, Lois and Lynda.

tered grain and later did land clearing, dugouts, and road building in the area. He sold the Mossgiel farm to William Bell and purchased the East half 18-12-28 in Elkhorn District where he built a modern barn to feed hogs for market.

Phyllis worked as a legal secretary before her marriage and in later years, was Secretary-Manager for Elkhorn Agricultural Society and, from 1969-75 was Secretary, Accountant, and Medical Records Clerk at the Elkhorn Medical Nursing Unit.

Bruce was interested in sports and was one of the leaders in building Kirkella Rink. He played hockey with Kirkella Bruins, Manson Blackhawks, McAuley Tigers, and Elkhorn, later coaching Reeder, Elkhorn, and organizing and coaching the first eight and under hockey team in Elkhorn. Baseball also interested him from early days. He belonged to Kirkella L.O.L., Elkhorn Elks, and Farm Union, acted on the Stadium and United Church Board, was chairman of Medical Housing, served as Director on District Two Hog Board, Elkhorn Council and was chairman of the building committee of the Elkhorn School Board when the present high school was built.

Phyllis was active in Guides, hockey and other sports in her youth. She was a member of Mossgiel Guild, Elkhorn Rest Room Association, Farm Union, Royal Purple Lodge, Provincial Councillor and Regent of Kirkella I.O.D.E., President of United Church Circle, and M and M Secretary, and Mistress of Kirkella L.O.B.A.

Lois took her schooling in Elkhorn and then Teacher Training at Brandon University, later teach-

ing grade one at Rivers, Rosburn, and Virden. Of her class of Thirty-two students at Rosburn, more than half were of Indian ancestry and from a Reserve with no kindergarten, nursery school or aides for teacher assistance. Although one little girl only spoke her first word of English at Christmas, she was in the top group of grade one in June. Yearly teacher wage at that time was \$2800.00. Lois taught the beginners pre school class of the United Church Sunday School for several years and had as many as twenty-two students. She was very active in 4H Sewing and Cooking clubs, winning many awards, including a gold watch and a Wisconsin trip. She married **Jack Flett** of Virden in 1967, where they still reside with their family, Barry John (eleven), and Susan Lynn (seven).

Lynda took her schooling in Elkhorn and then took a position in the local Bank of Commerce. She was an active participant in sports during her school years, including basket and volley ball, hockey and track and field. In 4H she won several awards, including second in the province for a junior demonstration in sewing, later taking several years in 4H Foods. She married **Roy Draper** of Victor District, Virden in 1968 and with their children, Lori Marie (ten), Tracy Michelle (eight), David James (five) reside on the Draper family farm. Lynda is active in community work and accounting, and is presently Secretary-Manager of the Elkhorn Agricultural Society.

**Neil Leslie** was born in the Elkhorn Medical Unit in 1953 and presently resides in Elkhorn. (history follows)

Bruce and George Francis purchased a Bombarrier and serviced the community for several winters around 1957. They had a school route, drove local doctors and had a general winter delivery service. They delivered "bottles, babies, budgies, and bodies!" according to their motto.

submitted by **Phyllis Clarke**

### Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Clarke

**Cliff Clarke**, his wife the former **Margaret Hayward**, both of the Mossgiel School district, made their home and farmed from 1937-1952 on S ½ 8-12-29 in the Mossgiel area. Their family consisted of **Rose Marie** who married **Don Bartley** of Elkhorn, Man., **Larry** who married **Linda Clubb** of Manson, Man., **Kaylynn** who married **Ford Gardiner** of Virden, Man., and **Donald** who married **Barbara Manwaring** of Elkhorn, Man. They have nine grandchildren.

While in the Mossgiel district, Cliff was a member of the school board for several years. He also served as Chairman for a term. Ball playing and



Front row L-R: Cliff and Margaret. Back row L-R: Larry, Rose Marie, Kaylynn, Donald.

hockey were his main interests as well as being an L.O.L. lodge member.

Margaret belonged to the Mossgiel Guild and the Kirkella L.O.B.A.

They sold their farm and took up residence in Elkhorn, Manitoba in August, 1951. Their family continued their education in the Elkhorn school.

Cliff served on the town council and took over the job assisting Isaac Clarkson at the Elkhorn Automobile Museum in 1968. Upon the sudden passing of Mr. Clarkson, Cliff took over as curator for the past ten years, where he spent many long hours helping in the preservation of the past. He became interested and was involved in all aspects pertaining to the museum.

Both Cliff and Margaret at one time belonged to the Elks and Royal Purple Lodge respectively.

Cliff spent eight years on the town council as a councillor and was chairman of the Elkhorn Centennial Committee in 1970 when Elkhorn celebrated Manitoba's 100th Birthday. He also spent many hours helping coach hockey teams while Larry and Don played several years in Junior Hockey. Margaret was the Elkhorn News Reporter for the Virden Empire Advance for seven and one half years.

### Don and Barbara Clarke

**Don Clarke** the youngest son of **Cliff and Margaret Clarke** married the former **Barbara Manwaring**, the elder daughter of **Doug and Mona Manwaring** in 1969. They both lived in Winnipeg before they were married and continued to live there for four years during which time they had two sons, **Jayson** and **Ryan**. Don worked as a meat manager

for Loblaws. They then moved to Moosomin, Saskatchewan and lived there for four years where Don was also in the meat business. They presently live outside of Brandon where Don works as Meat Manager at Econo-Mart. Their two sons attend school at Forrest, Manitoba.

### **Larry and Linda Clarke**

Larry, the elder son of **Clifford and Margaret Clarke**, was born on July 23, 1943. He grew up on the farm and attended Mossgiel and Elkhorn schools. He was active in sports, mainly hockey and curling, hunting, fishing and golfing.

Upon completing school, he worked in various places, Dryden, Ontario, Calgary and Victoria, prior to returning to Elkhorn in 1967 where he began working for George Bartley. When George's son Don took over the grocery store in 1968, Larry took a meat cutter's course and subsequently became Elkhorn's "Friendly Butcher."

On May 23, 1970 Larry married the former **Linda Clubb** of Manson, daughter of **Clifford and Alice Clubb**. Linda graduated from Elkhorn Collegiate in 1967 and began working in the Bank of Commerce later that fall. She worked there until January, 1978.

In 1978 Larry and Linda took over the meat department in Don's Solo Store and now operate it as a separate business known as "Larry's Meat Market."

They have one son **Todd**, born in 1978, who has added a great deal of enjoyment to their lives.

### **Neil Leslie Clarke**

**Neil Leslie Clarke** was born in the Elkhorn Medical Nursing Unit in 1953 and took his schooling in Elkhorn and Virden schools. He was interested in sports and played with Elkhorn minor ball and hockey clubs with activity in golf and curling later. After graduation, he took a Heavy Duty Mechanics course at Brandon Assiniboine Community College, working in a garage at Vancouver, British Columbia and later in Brandon. He returned to Elkhorn in 1974 and purchased his father's farm in Kirkella and Elkhorn Districts, living on the East half 18-12-28. He did grain farming and fed hogs for market, winning a shield as one of the top twenty producers in his district in 1975. Neil was a Director with Manitoba Hog Producers, District Two, served on the Pool board at Kirkella and worked with Senior Hockey and Curling in Elkhorn. He is a charter member of the local Lion's Club.

In 1975 he married **Janice Berry** of Brandon and has a daughter, **Leslie Marie** (four). After his divorce

he rented the farm and worked for Olin Fibre Corporation for some time. Later he purchased the Elkhorn Super Service and Supply from J. Canart and moved into Elkhorn where he still resides and operates the business.

submitted by Phyllis Clarke

### **The John Clarkson Story**

**JOHN CLARKSON** emigrated from Manchester, England in the spring of 1882, with his twelve year old daughter **EMMIE** and his ten year old son **JACK**, from the midst of a huge industrial city to the great open prairie of Manitoba. The railway was only as far as Oak Lake at this time and he and another pioneer outfit, Arthur Vaux drove across country with their wagons and oxen to their homesteads, a journey of about fifty miles. John was a Joiner (wood worker or carpenter) by trade, well educated, as his beautiful hand-writing in the Family Bible testifies, also educated in music in which he gave lessons in Manchester. However it would appear education was not stressed too highly on arrival in Manitoba, as the settlers arrived in 1882 and Victor School was not built until 1898. Some children missed out on a lot of education.

John homesteaded the southeast quarter of 4-12-27, W1. In the sides of a steep little hill on the north end of the quarter, he dug two holes, one for the oxen on one side and one for himself and family on the other and settled in.

Without a doubt all the trials of the pioneers were his: breaking sod with the walking plow and slow patient oxen who, when they felt they had had enough of flies and heat marched into the nearest slough and there remained until they felt they were sufficiently refreshed to come out again, often having to wade in himself to convince them of this and persuade them that rest period was over. Then the sod must be harrowed with a few sections of harrows, then sowing the seed broadcast and hastily harrowing again before the myriads of little birds devoured it all.

John's wife **ELIZABETH (CLEGG) CLARKSON** and the remaining children, **HANNA, ANNIE, JAMES, LIZZY** and **SARAH**, came out to John in 1883. There had been one other child, the first borne, William, but he had died in infancy. By this time the railroad had advanced as far as Elkhorn and a mix up occurred when John went to Virden with the oxen and wagon to meet his family, while they had been sent on to Elkhorn as being nearer the homestead. The family had some adventure, in Elkhorn, tent town at that time, but finally reached the homestead and everyone got together again,



though John was a little put out at his long fruitless trip.

Imagine Elizabeth's dismay when she saw her new home! A hole in a hill! But courageous woman as she was, she set out to make a home of it and succeeded without a doubt. Soon after, logs were brought from the Assiniboine valley and a log house was built, a "lean to" placed on either side and a neat porch over the front door, and the whole covered with siding, with flowers inside and out, Elizabeth soon turned the house into a home.

Terror came to the Clarkson home when a herd of wandering Indian ponies, were brought for confinement in John's corral as John was pound keeper. The Indians were notified and came to collect their ponies. While the Indian leader went to the house and engaged John in conversation, his men went to the corral and released the ponies. The last John and the terrified Elizabeth saw of them, Indians and ponies were vanishing over the hill in a cloud of dust without benefit of pound fees or damages. A neighbor meeting these Indians on the road was struck with the ferocity of their expression. They didn't think much of having their ponies impounded. Hadn't their ponies always ranged freely over the prairie? What were these white men thinking of?

There being no roads in those days, the trails wound across country in the most convenient direction. The trail to Elkhorn passed close to John Clarkson's door and seldom would a neighbor pass without stopping for a chat.

Almost half a mile west of John Clarksons, two large sloughs were joined by a short narrow creek which the trail took advantage of to cross through the water. No bridges then; you just forded everything.

One day two ladies living to the east of Clarksons, passed down the trail on their way to Elkhorn, no doubt to deliver their eggs and butter and collect their supplies and groceries. Their business in Elkhorn took longer than expected, and as they set out for home darkness was falling. By the time they reached the narrow creek crossing west of Clarksons it was completely dark. Though horses will usually follow a trail, some how this time they missed it and instead of coming to the narrow crossing, waded into the large slough to the south of the creek. On and on they plunged, deeper and deeper the water became, until it reached the buggy box and wet the feet of the horrified occupants, who could not imagine where they had got to, the prairie was full of sloughs, which one were they in? The horses waded on, the terror-stricken driver gripping the reins in her cold hands. Then disaster really struck! One of the horses missed its footing and fell. There were places under the water where last winter's ice still lay on the bottom of the

slough. The horse struggled long and bravely; its mate stood patiently by, sometimes trying to advance, shaking its head and flipping its ears, but to no avail, the struggle of the horse that was down became weaker and weaker; it could not regain its footing with the harness hampering it, the weight of the buggy behind it and the slippery ice under its feet. Presently its struggles ceased altogether and its dead body lay quiet in the cold water. The poor woman remained in this frightful situation all night long, until at last the daylight started seeping in. As soon as the driver, a brave pioneer woman, could see where they were, she climbed over the buggy wheel in to the icy water and set out for shore, no mean feat in those long, heavy skirts, but she made the shore and set out down the trail for John Clarksons, about half a mile away where no doubt she was given dry clothes, hot food and drink and a rescue party immediately organized to return for the remaining woman, the poor, wet, shivering horse and the buggy and supplies. Such were the days of the pioneer! That slough appeared no different to the many other sloughs on Dick and Marion Clarkson's farm, but somehow for the children of Dick and Marion it always held a halo of romance, as the slough where the horse was drowned.

But pioneer days were not all sorrow and trouble. Gradually more sod was broken and brought under cultivation, the stubborn oxen were exchanged for the quicker, more willing horse. There were years when the crop was frozen, hailed or dried out and no crop insurance then; but there were years when the wheat stood high and golden, the heads hanging heavy with the good plump grain within them, the oats covering the good prairie loam like a soft white blanket, so thick and close they grew. There was too much to thresh with a flail now so John Clarkson and his son-in-law, John Reynolds invested in a horse power and separator and long and cold was the day for the lad who stood in the center of the horsepower and cracked the whip over the weary horses as they made their everlasting rounds, always going and never getting anywhere. The grain had been stacked before hand in tall round stacks, with all the heads turned neatly in so the grain was safe from snow and rain until it was threshed. The threshing went on well into the winter, but it was done at last and the good grain stored away until such time as it could be taken over the long trail to town and sold.

Then there were the parties and visiting. Many were the times when the neighbors gathered at John Clarksons, the floor was cleared and the music and dancing began, to last far into the night. It was good to get together and house parties were a wonderful way.

The buffalo were gone when John Clarkson came to his homestead, but their rubbing stones and the deep depressions they had trampled about them, rubbing themselves on the stone and wallowing and luxuriating in the lovely gooey mud they stirred up, were still very visible. One of these huge stones and deep depressions was situated at the north end of John Clarkson's farm and still remains though densely overgrown now with the many years of herbage growth that have come and gone with the ages. The scars they had made at the base of any steep incline where they had rubbed and wallowed were still clearly visible for many years after, as John's grandchildren can well remember, and it was long years before the grass finally returned to cover them, but still the depressions remain to this day to bring back old memories to those seeing, understand.

The prairies lay wide and open when John and Elizabeth came to them: "Not so much as a willow switch to drive a cow with." The hills were bare of snow-berries, "back brush", or the silver willows that later covered them; grass was the only thing that could compete with the continual grazing of the thousands of buffalo and the many prairie fires that swept periodically across the country with nothing to hinder their progress until they came to the next river.

John Clarkson saw the small trees struggling to grow around the little sloughs near his home and plowed fire guards and protected them. The years passed and they became "John Clarkson's bluffs", a gladdening sight on the barrenness of the prairie and a welcome shelter for the little house. Wild black currants and wild raspberries grew luxuriantly in these bluffs and many a happy hour Elizabeth spent gathering them and making them into glowing jams and jellies and then on the more open prairie there were the luscious wild strawberries; it took patience to pick them but they were well worth the trouble. Wild strawberries and good, thick, farm cream; nothing can compare with this wonderful dessert!

Two more children were born to John and Elizabeth on the homestead, a daughter **LILY** in 1884 and a son **RICHARD** in 1886. These two children were the only ones to remain and make their homes in the Victor district. Hannah, who had married John Reynolds, lived in the district for a time. The other children all married and scattered far and wide, and at last John and Elizabeth were left alone. John tried to carry on with his farming but after a somewhat disastrous runaway with his horses, he was convinced it was time to quit. He had extended his homestead by acquiring the north half of section four. He now rented this half section to his son Richard and the Homestead quarter to his daughter and son-in-law, Lily and Wm. Jones, who lived next door to

him. He and Elizabeth then retired to the farm and busied themselves with their beautiful garden, which John had fenced with great labour with logs from the Assiniboine valley and surrounded with Manitoba maples.

Elizabeth passed away at the age of seventy-seven in her prairie home, August 16, 1922, John went to live with his daughter Sarah who had married James Heaman and lived in the Hargrave district. He passed away three years later on September 8th, 1925 at the age of 81 years.

A sad and terrible tragedy to the Clarkson household occurred on June 25th 1893, John and Elizabeth and some of their family had gone to visit their daughter Annie, who had married Tom Haskins and lived in the Assiniboine valley north-east of Virden. John and Elizabeth's son James and a young friend went swimming in the river and were both drowned. James was just eighteen years old. John carved a wooden marker for his son's grave site, and there it stands to this day eighty-eight years later in the Virden cemetery. What wood it was carved from is unknown; but it must have been most durable.

submitted by — Rose Clarkson

### **The Richard (Dick) Clarkson Family Story**

**MARION EVERETT**, daughter of John Everett of "Deben Lodge" farm Falkenham, Suffolk, England, came to Canada in the late eighteen hundreds or early nineteen hundreds, coming to a friend in Manitoba. She remained for a time and then returned to England, but she could not forget the wide open spaces of Manitoba and again returned. She somehow came to help in the home of the Amos Odell family of Hargrave district. Amos Odell had, in addition to his farm at Hargrave, homesteaded the south west quarter of 4-11-27, built the regulation house on it, 12 x 16, broke the required number of acres, built a little car roofed barn, did his six months residence in the winter, paid his \$10.00, and having proved up his homestead, returned to his home at Hargrave, hoping to sell the homestead at a profit. This homestead Marion Everett bought and with her saddle horse Queenie in the barn, made it her home, perhaps she again thinking it might be sold at a good profit. As can be seen Marion Everett was not afraid of a good adventure.

When Marion took possession of the little house it was lined with rough plaster, no putty coat. Being a successful art student in England she saw possibilities in this plaster, gathered a prairie bouquet of bull rushes, golden rod, black eyed Susans and Scotch thistles and taking her oil paints, painted their picture on the bare wall, where they remain until this

day, almost as bright as the day they were painted possibly eighty years ago.

The John Clarkson homestead lying next to Marion's quarter section, the Clarksons were her nearest neighbors and in the early winter of 1904 she and **DICK CLARKSON** were married, and lived that winter in the little house. In the spring they needed land to plant a crop, there being only the few acres broken on Marion's land. So they rented a farm from a Mr. Crump in the Joslin district and acquiring three more horses from Mr. Kyle at Two Creeks, thus, with Queenie making a four-horse outfit, moved themselves and their equipment to this farm in the early spring and set about planting their crop. One of the horses bought from Mr. Kyle was named Susan and according to Dick's reminiscence was a wonder horse and much beloved, but she died young from trying to work too hard, so Dick and Marion's children only knew her from their father's stories and the hollow below the hill that was "Susan's grave".

About this time, though not together, there ar-



Christmas Day, 1941. L-R: Marion, Isaac (Ike), Rose, Dick.

rived from England, Marion's aunt, Miss Emma Skeet, a very kindly elderly woman, and a very distant connection, a Mr. Percy Skeet who stopped in for a few days as he was passing through.

Dick one day hitched up his team and went to work in the field. Percy took the gun and went to hunt in the brush about the field. Dick saw him go into the brush and after a while heard the report of the gun; he thought no more about it until all at once he realized he had never seen Percy emerge from the brush patch. Somewhat alarmed, Dick stopped his team, tied up the lines and went to examine the patch. A terrible shock awaited him! In some manner Percy's gun had discharged, perhaps it had caught on a branch no one will ever know, but Percy was lying dead on the thick, soft, old grass in the brush patch.

A sad beginning for Dick and Marion's married life. Percy was buried in the Bennett cemetery.

In the fall when the harvest was over (steam outfits had made their appearance by this time) Dick and Marion and now a little son, **JOHN EVERETT**, born in September and Emma Skeet "Aunty" returned to Marion's farm. Another great sadness awaited them there, when early in December little John Everett passed away.

The next fall a daughter was born, **MARION AUGUSTA (GUSSIE)**. Almost four years later another daughter, **ROSA KATE (ROSE)** and almost three years later again a son **RICHARD ISAAC (IKE)**. Why Isaac of all names the children often wondered "It means laughter." they were told "and he had ancestors named Isaac". They still felt there was no excuse. Many years later Gussie and Rose found the reason why. Sorting out some old papers in an ancient trunk, they found a very old Everett family tree. The branches were hung thick with Isaacs.

Dick and Marion built two additions to the little house. Two bedrooms on the back, and then a good kitchen and bedroom on the east end, and the little house with the flowers on the wall became the living room. Marion, as well as being an artist, was an accomplished musician and had an old organ. One day the old organ was displaced by a new piano. This was a great blessing to the household then and in later years, and many were the happy times when the family and friends gathered about the piano while Marion played and the others sang their hearts out. Marion was too busy to give her daughters regular music lessons, but Rose was fascinated by music and tried desperately to master the scales of the keys of C and G and play with one finger. Almost like a miracle a very good small instruction book came from England with some other music. Rose seized on it and went through it from cover to cover and thereby established her basis in music. She never became a truly accomplished musician, but she was the organist at St. Mark's Anglican church in Elkhorn for twenty-six years, often helping out at the United Church and at Carscadden's Funeral Chapel in Virden, playing for Weddings, Christmas Concerts and dances, usually with Ike on violin for the dances. Ike's first violin was a wooden box of some description, where the strings and bow came from is quite forgotten, but he progressed to a real violin and became very good at his music. He had a fine strong singing voice that could "raise the roof" but, uninterested in singing, declined to use it.

"Aunty" Skeet became the children's Guardian Angel and one of the pleasures they were entertained with was a "picnic". One very well remembered was across the road in the shelter of the young poplar

bluff. (All the bluffs were young then and there were no ticks.) The "picnic" consisted of onion sandwiches very much appreciated and enjoyed by all.

Another pleasure, long remembered, that "Auntty" took the children on was picking wild strawberries in the pasture, but the hazards had not been reckoned with; little Rose grew weary and seeing a nice soft hump sat herself down to rest — on an ants nest.

Gussie was told to leave bumble bees alone, they would sting you! Gussie felt she shouldn't take anyone's word for this theory, it should be tested, so seeing a fine fat bumble bee, intent on sucking honey from a flower, reached out her little hand and lightly clasped him. She found out she had been informed quite correctly.

Then there was the "Indian Stone". A large stone scarcely rising above the earth with queer humps on it that with great imagination could be thought of as a man's body and legs; this they pretended and half believed, to be where an Indian was buried. Many a happy time was had by going for walks to the "Indian Stone". There was also the large solitary willow, where the "woolly bear" caterpillars lived. Woolly black caterpillars with beautiful yellow colored bands around them, that curled themselves into a tight ring if you touched them! Rose was never sure if they were "Woolly bears" or "woolly beggars" but she delighted in their beauty amid the dark green shining leaves of the willow tree.

Over the prairie, always known as 33, about three-quarters of a mile from Dick Clarksons across country, lived a bachelor by the name of Walter Knight, who had come from England and rented the farm from Arthur Vaux, the pioneer who had driven oxen across country from Oak Lake (Flat Creek) with John Clarkson in 1882. Walter and Dick often shared their work together and he often relieved his loneliness by visiting with the Clarkson household. He and Dick became tired of waiting their turn with the big steam threshing outfits and feeding large gangs of men, and one day decided they would get an outfit of their own. Ike's consisted of a small "Farquar" separator which belonged to Walter, and an eight horsepower stationary "Stover" engine, belonging to Dick. The separator had no apparatus for drawing the sheaves into the separator cylinder or cutting the bands. Instead the "feeder", the man who fed the machine, stood in front of a trough-like slide. On either side of this slide was a small platform where the "pitcher" carefully laid a sheaf, headed in the right direction. The "feeder" clasped the sheaf under his forearm and swept it into the trough deftly cutting the string with his jack knife as he did so, and carefully shook the sheaf into the machine so as not

to "bring it up". This was usually Dick's job while Walter was pitcher. They liked to stack their grain in the tall round stacks before they began threshing. They felt it was safe then whether storms came or not. At the other end of the separator was the "straw carrier", a contraption of wooden straps on two chains that elevated the straw away from the machine, making little stacks about ten or twelve feet high. Behind where the straw was to fall was placed a "bucking" rope with a patient horse attached to each end, when the straw stack reached the "carrier" and threatened to block the passage of the straw, the horses were moved forward and behold the straw came too, and was then deposited a reasonable distance from the outfit. The horses were turned about and the rope was released and again arranged for the next load. A good "bucking" team would learn to do this trick by themselves and save the threshermen a lot of time. Dick and Walter became impatient with this method of disposing of the straw and decided to remove the carrier and make themselves a "blower". This they did with great labor. The blower performed its work but not with the efficiency hoped for, however it was an improvement on the "straw carrier".

The engine that furnished the power was built to bolt onto the long extensions from the frame of the separator, but this being a one-cylinder engine with, uneven, intermittent explosions, it was found to create too much vibration and had the "feeder" jumping around like a "Jack in a Box" and was going to have the whole separator in a shambles if something wasn't done. So Walter and Dick set out on another big project and made a truck for the engine, using two discarded binder bull wheels for the back and two mower wheels for the front. This contrivance worked much better than the blower had, in fact it worked very well and also made the engine available for rolling grain with the old roller that had belonged to Dick's father and for such jobs as sawing wood with the circular saw. Long after the threshing outfit was given up and forgotten, this engine continued to serve on Dick Clarkson's farm until in 1950 Dick became the owner of a Massey 30 tractor and the old engine was retired. It now rests in the Elkhorn Museum, where there is also a similar threshing outfit only a different make from the one Dick and Walter had.

Ike and Rose, believing that a straight line is the shortest distance between two points, used to walk to Victor School in as straight a line as possible across the fields. (It was three miles by the road). This line crossed beside and just behind Grandfather's bluffs. The homestead house was empty at this time.

One night when the young Dick Clarksons were

safely in their beds, cosy and warm, they were suddenly awakened by the most horrible scream. They must have looked like so many porcupines, sitting up in bed with their hair standing straight up! The horrifying scream was repeated several times before they realized it was a lynx. Now the young Clarksons were not afraid of the usual wild animals of the prairies, but a lynx was something else again. They were not natural inhabitants of the prairies and the youngsters were not acquainted with them, as they were with the coyotes, badgers, mink, weasels, and all; these they had no fear of, but lynx they didn't know. They were said to sit in trees and wait for their prey to pass under, then leap down onto it and have dinner. The next morning after the lynx screamed, timid Rose walked almost a mile out of her way, both going and coming from school to avoid the bluffs where the lynx was thought to be, but not Ike the intrepid; he took his traps and 22 rifle and went to the bluffs, hoping to catch the animal, but he had no luck. The fearful screams were heard for several more nights and then the frightful animal passed on and peace reigned again, and Rose returned to walking to school by the bluffs. They found out afterwards, that lynx were not such bad animals after all. They were not really so large, they just had outsized feet and were in fact, rather stupid animals, and if they did jump out of trees sometimes, were much more likely to catch their prey on the run. After all they might have to sit in that tree for a long, long, time before anything came under it, and as Ike would remark when the wild animals got into mischief, "They had to eat something".

Rose and Ike were trappers and hunters together as youngsters, weasels were good but when it was discovered there were minks in the sloughs feeding on the muskrats, that was much better. Rose gave up trapping as she grew older but never regretted her experiences with the wild life of the prairies. Ike carried on with the trapping and made a good part of his living out of it, for a good many years. We cannot speak of Ike's hunting and trapping without mention of the horse he rode. Nettie belonged to Mrs. Ablett, whose farm Ike managed. She was a chunky, pretty, little horse, thought to be half broncho and half Clyde; what ever her ancestry she was a most unusual horse. She carried Ike on his trap line for many years, and ran down many a coyote, as Ike remarked "She often sees them before I do". Barbed wire fences were of little account, Ike would dismount, place his hand on the wire, depressing it as far as possible and Nettie stepped over, even if the wire was as high as her legs were long. Ike rode her until he became the owner of the first snowmobile ever to be heard of in this community, then Nettie had a rest. She lived on

and on, never showing her age, always remaining round and pretty and straight legged. At last around the age of forty years, an almost unheard age for a horse to live, (and we had almost begun to think of her as immortal), she one day died suddenly from an internal hemorrhage. Though as a rule she liked fun and games, when it came to being caught, in this time of trouble, the intelligent beast knowing there was something wrong, came to her human masters for help and refused to leave them until she was put in the barn, where she shortly lay down and died. She was a wonderful horse; her endurance and intelligence were phenomenal.

Ike one day obtained a very ancient car that had belonged to Mr. Mathew Black of the Two Creeks district. It was in poor shape, but Ike set about restoring it with great care, making parts himself that he could not obtain otherwise. This car was the very beginning of the Manitoba Automobile Museum at Elkhorn. Ike found restoring antique cars so fascinating, he never looked back. His health was failing, the trapping and hunting were given up. There was still a large herd of cattle to care for, but restoring antique cars was the Joy of the rest of Ike's life. It is stated in the history book "Prairie Neighbors" that Rose helped with the decorative trimmings; this statement is mistaken. Ike did all this work himself. Ike's health was very poor for years; at the age of fifty-eight he passed away.

Rose and Gussie, as children, were always drawing pictures, with some direction from their mother. Many years later in the winter of '60-'61 they joined the Virden Art Club and began to paint in Oils. They were duly astonished when they found their pictures could be sold for good money. Soon after the Elkhorn Art Club was formed and with great fear and trepidation Rose become its first teacher and continued so for several years. After her retirement from teaching she and Gussie (Marion) continued as pupils. Rose was surprised and delighted when at one of the later Art Shows she was presented with a life membership, which she values very highly.

Gussie was not a hunter and trapper, but she was a colt breaker. She didn't go in for the Wild West bucking bit. She used the tender loving care method, first coaxing and taming with oats and pats and gentle scratches, until the young horse lost its fear of her. One day she slipped a halter over its head, then a bit into its mouth, and finally climbed onto its back. Rose, who liked her horses at least well broken to harness before she rode them, then came beside the colt riding the quiet old saddle horse. The colt walked off with the old horse and was thereby broken to ride and soon would go quite well by itself.

"Aunty" Skeet had passed away in 1927 and

Marion the Mother, strong in courage but never in health, in 1930. Gussie and Ike both left home and went to work. Rose stayed with their father, working inside and out wherever help was needed, and trying to raise turkeys to make a little extra money. She tried raising the pullets with the mother turkeys, but this proved most disappointing and unprofitable; everything imaginable happened to those young turkeys. The mothers couldn't have been more careless — or care less. If the mother turkey was placed in a coop, the old sow tipped it up and ate the babies. If she slept with the young in the grass, a badger seized the opportunity to have turkey for midnight lunch. (Ike and Rose once had a pet badger. That story could fill a book by itself).

Rose saw that she needed a Varmint-proof brooder house and set out to build a small one out of scraps. (Remember her grandfather had been a carpenter!) Gussie came home with a new hammer for a birthday present, after she found Rose driving nails with an old wrench that had lost its bottom jaw. It was a good hammer and still is. Fifty pullets were bought and turkey raising proved profitable at last. The brooder house was enlarged and one hundred pullets became the order of each year.

Dick continued farming, having a large herd of cattle until in his seventies. He then continued grain farming into his eighties, when he rented the farm to Les Graham. Dick passed away July 1st, 1976 at the age of ninety years.

Gussie's (Marion's) last place of employment, was with Mr. Robert Grieve Senior and his aged housekeeper, Miss Jeanie Jaffray. When Miss Jaffray passed away and soon after Mr. Grieve retired to the "Sherwood", Gussie (Marion) came home to the new little house, she and Rose had built with their savings, in the home yard, a few years before their father's death. Dick preferred his familiar old home, and Rose remained with him to care for him until his death, when she moved into the new house with Gussie, where they both still live very comfortably with all the modern conveniences.

So many memories as one looks back, memories that could make a whole book, instead of a few pages in a book! I remember with nostalgic pleasure the horse back ride in the moonlight in the winter, the snow crunching and squeaking under the rhythmic thud of each beat of the horses' hooves, who wanted to reach home. You could have ridden on forever. The pleasant rocking motion of the canter circulating your blood and keeping you cosily warm. The horse not only your good and willing servant, but also your beloved companion! The whole world at peace, a beautiful silver-plated symphony in the moonlight!

The first time when as a child, rising before the

sun on a summer morning, the gentle mystic shadowy distance, the glorious melodic chorus of bird song, the heavenly beauty of the sunrise sky, the overwhelming wonder and majesty of it all, impressed itself so deeply on the child's consciousness, she never forgot the experience.

Skating alone on the frozen slough in the pasture in early spring, the coyote, ears pricked, nose lowered, packing the huge frozen snowbank on the far side of the slough, screened himself behind the reddening willows, eyeing you curiously, imagining himself hidden. You were not afraid of coyotes and welcomed his company; you knew he would be far across the pasture in hasty flight if he thought for a moment he was observed. Still his wild presence did make tingles run up and down your spine.

The hill where the crocuses made a pale mauve blanket in the spring time, that's all gone now and fine crops of grain have taken their place and only memories remain.

submitted by Rose Clarkson



Crocuses on the Hill.

### The Death of the Crocuses

There's no more crocuses on the hill  
 Where the crocuses used to grow,  
 No more they lift their furry heads  
 In the wake of the vanishing snow.

No more they wave in the warm spring breeze  
 As their faces lift to the sun  
 For the prairie sod has been shattered and crushed  
 And the day of the crocus is done.

How welcome the beauty that gladdened our eyes.  
 So weary of winter and snow,  
 But there's no more crocuses on the hill  
 Where the crocuses used to grow.

And the restless wind mourns lonely and sad,  
 As it searches the lonely hill  
 And finds them not, for the prairie sod  
 Lies broken and flowerless and still.  
 The food for the soul must yield food for the flesh  
 And we know this we have to see.  
 But oh! how we miss the prairie hill  
 Where the crocuses used to be.

submitted by Rose Clarkson

### Clifford and Alice Clubb

**CLIFFORD CLUBB** came to the Manson District in 1936 from Kisbey, Saskatchewan with his parents, John and Sadie Clubb, brother Alex and sisters Mary and Agnes. He farmed with his parents until 1947 when he bought the Fred Benson farm.



L-R: Debbie, Alice, Melvin, Linda and Debbie's son Danny O'Greysik.

In 1947 he married **ALICE PETERS**, daughter of Edward and Anne Peters of Dacotah, Manitoba. Alice, at the age of 20 first came to the Kirkella district in 1936, where she worked for her Aunt and Uncle, Clara and Archie Young. While there, she learned that Kendall and Fred Benson of Manson, Manitoba were looking for a housekeeper. She kept house for them for ten years.

Clifford and Alice had three children, **LINDA**, born Sept. 7, 1949, **DEBBIE**, born Jan. 14, 1954 and **MELVIN**, born June 28, 1957. All three children took part of their schooling in Manson and graduated from Elkhorn Collegiate.

Linda married Larry Clarke of Elkhorn in 1970 and they have one son, **TODD**, born in 1978.

Debbie married Gerald O'Greysik of Elkhorn in 1972. They now reside in Brandon, Manitoba and have two children, **DANNY** born in 1975 and **BRENDA** born in 1980. Melvin, still single, resides in Brandon, Manitoba where he is employed by Smith and Carter as a draftsman. Clifford died at the age of forty-six on July 13, 1961. Alice has resided in Elkhorn since 1978.

### George Cole and Family

**George** was born in Herefordshire, England in 1871. He came to Canada with his parents in 1880. They settled on the banks of the Assiniboine in the Miniota district. When he became of age, he homesteaded the south east of 6-13-27 in the West Two Creeks district. Over a period of years, he built up one of the finest estates that could be found in this section of the country; he named his place "Whitfield". He married **Mary Cowan**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Cowan of McAuley. They had a family of ten; Myrtle, Alice, Robert, Jessie, Rose, George, Mary (better known as Polly), Frances, Nellie, and Thomas. There was a creek running down past the farm and the children spent many hours swimming and, in the winter, skating and playing hockey and riding down the huge snow banks on the sleighs made by their father.



Mrs. George Cole Sr. with her poultry.

He and his wife retired to live in Elkhorn in 1937. Mary passed away in 1938. The farm was left in the care of George Jr. Mr. Cole was one of the founders of the Two Creeks School District and served for many years as secretary-treasurer. He was always progressive and interested in links that bind the past of this district to the present and future. Mr. Cole became quite an antiquarian and had an outstanding collection of pioneer trophies, and gathered a most interesting display. He served on the board of the Elkhorn Agriculture Society for many years, as both

director and president. He was keenly interested in sheeprearing and did much good work as mentor for Elkhorn Boys and Girls Lamb Club. Mrs. Cole carded the wool sheared from the sheep and made good warm comforters. Mr. Cole passed away in 1943, in his 73rd year at the home of his daughter Mary (Mrs. Earl Lund).

**Myrtle** married Jim McKenzie of Miniota. They farmed in the Assiniboine Valley in the Miniota District for a number of years. They had two boys, John and George. They retired to Mission City, British Columbia. Myrtle passed away in Vancouver in 1969. The boys and Jim are living in British Columbia. Each of the boys is married and has a family.

**Alice** married Robert Alford of Oak Lake. He taught at the Two Creeks School, also in Winnipeg, Elgin, and Hartney, then took over the garage business in Hartney. They raised a family of six: Allan, Malcolm, Lorraine, Charles, Arden, and Terry. They are all married with families. Allan lives at Calgary, Alberta, Arden in the United States, and the rest in British Columbia. Alice and Robert both passed away at Abbotsford in 1977.

**Robert** married Mildred Lelond of Arrow River. They adopted a son, Murray. Robert farmed a mile east of his dad's farm and Mildred taught at the Two Creeks school. Mildred passed away in the Virden hospital in her thirty-eighth year, 1946. Bob continued farming for a few years before retiring to live in Miniota. He spent the last few years in The Sherwood at Virden and passed away in 1973 in the Virden hospital.

Murray is married and living in Kinistino, Saskatchewan.

**Jessie** Cole passed away at the age of two months.

**Rosie** Cole was twelve years of age at the time of her death in the Virden hospital.

**George Junior** married Irene Lelond of Arrow River, a sister of Bob's wife. George farmed on the original home farm. They raised a family of eight: Marlene, Georgina, Mervyn, Bernice, Beverly, Sylvia, Alvin, and Delbert.

Marlene married Sam McGibney and is living in Virden. They have a family of two girls and a boy: Kathy, Colleen, and Scott. Kathy and Colleen are married and live in Winnipeg; Scott is a very talented bagpipe player.

Georgina married Frank Joseph of Reeder and is living in Selkirk. They have a girl and a boy; Karen and Kent.

Bernice married Allan White and lives in Richmond, British Columbia. They have a family of three; Kerry, Corinne, and Jason.

Mervyn married Beverly Manning and farmed

for a period of time with his dad before moving to Elkhorn to run the Billiard and Barber Shop. Later they moved to White Rock, British Columbia. They have a family of four: Tammy, Perry, Sherrie, and Curtis.

Beverly married Murray Peel of Miniota and they farm in the Assiniboine Valley. They have a family of three; Trent, Blaine, and Tracy. Murray is noted for his show horses and attends most of the fairs around.

Alvin married Bernice Brezden and is barbering in Dauphin. They have a boy and girl: Leon and Kimberley.

Sylvia married Gerald Flecknor of Virden and they have a family of three: Randy, Corey and Michelle. They reside in Virden.

Delbert married Patricia Taylor of Miniota and farms on the Homestead farm in the Two Creeks District. They have a family of two girls: Tricia and Pamela.

George Junior retired in 1978 to live in Miniota and passed away in 1980 at his home.

**Polly** married Earl Lund of Elkhorn. He, Ethel and Seward ran the Bakery at that time. Earl was a very enthusiastic sport fan, played hockey, curled, and coached the Elkhorn Ball Club for a few years. He worked for George Bartley, Waddington and Lee, and W. O. Rudd; later going into partnership with Aubrey Lund at the farm when Oliver took ill. They sold the farm in 1972. Earl retired to Elkhorn and passed away at the Health Sciences Centre in Winnipeg in 1975 in his sixty-eighth year. They raised a family of six: Blair, Marie, Doreen, Reg, Roy, and Ronald.

Blair served in the Army in the Canadian Horse Artillery for twenty-five years. He was stationed in Shilo, Korea, Germany, and Winnipeg. It was while stationed in Germany he met his bride-to-be, Elfi Moran and was married in 1955. Blair is presently employed with Eaton's, Winnipeg.

Marie married Roger Nowlan of Moncton, New Brunswick in 1954. Both were in the Air Force at that time. Roger is an equipment technician with CNCP Telecommunications of Melville, Saskatchewan. They have a family of eight: Diane, Judith, Douglas, Gail, Patrick, Ronald, Gary, and Sharon.

Diane is a Registered Nurse and is nursing at Cuff Lake, North West Territories. Judith is an office manager in Audio Visual Systems in Saskatoon.

Douglas is a leader with Katimavik, a youth group.

Patrick, Ronald, Gary, and Sharon are at home. The three boys are very active in sports, hockey and ball.

Gail is a dietician, a graduate of the University of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.





Cole sisters, Nellie, Polly, Myrtle, Alice and Francis.



Earl and Polly's 43rd Wedding Anniversary. Roy, Marie, Doreen and Ron. Reg and Blair missing.

Doreen married Glen Fowler of Virden. He was in partnership with Orval and Colin Fowler in the garage business in Virden. They had a family of five: Brian, Brenda, Grant, Sharon, and Susan. They later moved to Brandon and Glen took over the Brandon Chrysler Dodge business. He is retired now and they make their home in Brandon. Brian has the Chevo Dealership in Virden and is married to Lois Moffat of Brandon. They have a girl and a boy: Rhonda and Robbie.

Brenda married Curtis Mawby. They live at Roblin. Curtis is employed as a body mechanic. They have two girls: Jennifer and Janine.

Grant is car salesman in Victoria, British Columbia. Sharon and Susan both work in Woolco in Brandon.

Reg is a sergeant in the Air Force stationed at

Greenwood, Nova Scotia. He married Yvette Bedel and they have three boys Aaron, Donald, and Todd. Reg has served twenty-five years.

Roy is employed at Wilson's Publishing Company in Dryden, Ontario. He married Nancy Berg of Dryden and they have a son, Douglas. Roy and Nancy are avid curlers and won the mixed Seagram Championship of Canada at Prince George, British Columbia in 1979.

Ronald, at present, is mayor of Elkhorn, runs the Billiard and barber shop, and coaches the Elkhorn Canadians hockey team. He married Glynis Brennan, daughter of Alex and the late Cora Brennan (daughter of Harry and Flo McKibbon). Ron and Glynis have three boys: Robert, Chadwick and Ashley.

**Frances** Cole married Edison Jenner and farmed eight miles south of Elkhorn in the Parkland District until Ted's death in 1946. They had a family of two: a boy Kenneth and a girl Rita. Kenneth married Irma Smith of Brandon and they have a family of three: Vanda, Curt, and Susan. Ken is employed in Edmonton, Alberta as operations superintendent of Alberta Oil Sands pipeline.

Rita taught school before her marriage to Milbur Giles of Lenore. She also taught later in Hamilton, Ontario where Milbur was employed as Planning Supervisor with International Harvesting Company. They have a girl Tanis and a boy Wayne. Frances lived in Winnipeg from 1950 until 1954 when she married Newton Sinclair of the Parkland District. They retired to Elkhorn in 1962.

**Nellie** Cole became the bride of LAC Charles Morrison, eldest son of Mr. Charles Nichol and the late Mrs. Nichol of Alexander. They were married in St. Paul's Manse, Virden. Her bridesmaid was Helen Allison of Elkhorn, now Mrs. Jack Murray. They resided at Davidson, Saskatchewan where Charles was stationed at that time. Later, they moved to Virden where Merle was born in 1945. Charles was later employed in Sault Ste Marie at "The Locks" where Calvin was born. He works at the Steel Plant and is married to Carol Luzzi; they have a son Grant. Merle married Rodney Webb and teaches school. Rodney also works at the Steel Plant. They have a daughter Lori Anne and a son Jason. Charles passed away in 1963. Nellie still resides there.

submitted by Polly Lund

### The Tom Cole Family

Tom was born on the farm of George Charles Cole, Senior, four miles east and six miles north of Elkhorn. The buildings were located on the north side of Nisi Creek. Nisi, is the Cree Indian word for Two. Doctor Johnston and Mrs. Herb Jones attended

his arrival. He went to Two Creeks School, two miles east of the farm. He remembers being allowed to use his teacher's (Mr. Robert Alford) Model 'T' Ford. Grade nine was taken by a Department of Education Correspondence Course. The teacher at that time was Lilian Cole, daughter of Fred Cole. There were too many pupils for the teacher to handle Grade nine as well. Grades ten and eleven were taken in Elkhorn when Mr. Steffanson was the school principal. Grade twelve was taken at Miniota Collegiate as it was not taught in Elkhorn at that time. The following year (1939-40), he attended the Brandon Normal School. Fifty-eight girls and four boys graduated as School Teachers. Tom taught at Hillsgreen School for one year prior to joining the Royal Canadian Air Force in July, 1941. He became a Flight Sergeant link trainer instructor. A link trainer is an aircraft simulator where pilots are taught navigation and instrument reading. Classes from England, Australia, and New Zealand were trained as pilots as well as Canadians. Upon discharge from the Airforce in September, 1945, he enrolled at the University of Manitoba in the Plant Science Course, Department of Agriculture, and received a B.S.A. Degree in 1949. He took post-graduate training in Entomology and received his M. Sc. degree in 1951. He was employed by the Federal Government, Department of Agriculture, at Brandon and later at the Research Station, University of Manitoba. His work involved establishing populations of native bees (bumble bees and leaf-cutters) to increase alfalfa seed yields, and to test new insecticides for the control of insects. In 1967, he was hired by the Manitoba Provincial Government as Parks Naturalist to set up nature interpretation programs at Bird's Hill and Whiteshell Provincial Parks. He also served as botanist in the Churchill River Diversion Study.

Tom met **Lorraine Elliott**, daughter of James and Lila Elliott of Arrow River, while she was teaching on a Grade twelve permit at Two Creeks School in 1942-43. They planned to be married at the close of the school term in June, but Tom was posted to Instrument Flying Training School, Deseronto, Ontario, and the wedding at the home of Mrs. Earl Lund in Elkhorn was delayed until August 3rd. Nellie Cole was bridesmaid and Bill Watson was best man. On the day of the wedding a telegram was received from the Royal Canadian Air Force that Tom was posted from Virden to Dauphin where they made their first home.

Their family consisted of four girls and one son — **Lynne, Shelley, Lori, Victor** and **Lisa**. Lorraine decided to return to the teaching profession and attended the University of Winnipeg to obtain her teacher's certificate in 1969. While teaching she attended evening classes to obtain her B.A. degree

from the University of Winnipeg in 1977. She is teaching Special Education in Winnipeg, Area One.

Lynne was born at Portage La Prairie. She attended school at Brandon and the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg. She graduated in 1966 as a dietitian with the degree of Bachelor of Home Economics. She was employed as a dietitian with the Victoria Hospital, Winnipeg, the General Hospital, Montreal, and the Federal Department of Northern Affairs. She met Hans Wieland while he was attending the University of Manitoba in the Department of Commerce. They were married in Winnipeg and now live in Neepawa where Hans has the Chev-Olds car dealership. He also owns a car rental business at Shilo. They have two sons, Bernhard Elliott and Hans Michael.

Shelley attended school in Brandon and Winnipeg. After graduating from Kelvin High School, she worked for Investors Syndicate in Winnipeg. She married Sidney Todres who was teaching school in Winnipeg. A hearing impairment prevented him from continuing to teach and he is presently writing a novel on the treatment of the Jewish people under the Hitler regime.

Lori also attended Kelvin High School in Winnipeg. She later worked for Budget Rent-A-Car at the airport where she met her husband, Mike Ford, who was then working part-time at Public Relations for that company. Mike and Lori have two sons, Bryan Michael and Paul Elliott. They have a home in Charleswood, Winnipeg, and own Mike Ford's Sporting Goods store on Pembina Highway. Mike played defense for the Winnipeg Jets Hockey team from 1974-76. In 1974, their team won the Avco Cup trophy and again in 1977. Although Mike was then playing in Sweden on a two year contract, he was asked back to participate in the play-offs of that second victory. Mike and Lori presently reside in Cologne, Germany, where Mike has a three year contract.

Victor graduated from Kelvin High School, Winnipeg. He took a course in welding at Red River Community College and presently works for Motor Coach Industries in Winnipeg. He has applied to enroll in the Computer Science Course, University of Manitoba, for the fall term of 1981.

Lisa is presently attending Kelvin High School, grade eleven, and is considering taking Architecture after completing Grade twelve.

### **The Mervyn Cole Family**

I was born September 13, 1938, first son of George Charles Cole and the former Irene Lelond of Miniota. I grew up on the old homestead Sec. 6-13-27 with my five sisters and two brothers. My

childhood brings back many happy memories of West Two Creeks where we attended school. I was involved with 4-H, played ball, and was a part of the Reeder Royals hockey team. Deer hunting every fall was a sport I enjoyed with much enthusiasm. I farmed with Dad in partnership and in November of 1959, married **Bev Manning**, eldest daughter of John and Alice Manning. We farmed for seven years after our marriage and during that time, we were blessed with two children — **Tammy Faye**, July 19, 1960 and **Perry Mervyn** October 21, 1961.

In August, 1966 we purchased the barbershop and poolroom in Elkhorn, formerly owned by the late Nick Pidluberg. Bev and I and our family moved into Earl Fraser's brick house across from the United Church. On August 27, 1967 **Sherri Lynn** was born (our centennial project). January 15, 1971 our family was complete when **Curtis Dean** was born. We had a busy life in Elkhorn with the children in hockey, figure skating and church choir. Bev was a member of the Daffodil Rebekah Lodge, we both curled and I played some hockey.

An incident I'll never forget happened while I was cutting Brent Reid's hair. Sharp pains started shooting through my chest. I had to sit down several times. Poor Brent didn't know if he'd have to leave with only half a haircut. Thanks, Brent for getting me to the hospital. Also many thanks to my loyal customers who supported Bev while I was out of commission for seven weeks.

With the help of two dear friends, the late Ben Poston and Harry McKibbon, I barbered for eight years in Elkhorn. We have many fond memories of this great little town.

In June, 1974 we sold our ¼ section of land and the barbershop and moved out to White Rock, B.C. I am employed as an icemaker at the Centennial Arena — a busy place year around, and Bev is employed in the merchandise office at K-Mart. Tammy is a dental assistant and Perry a chef. Sherri and Curt are at home with us and going to school.

Best wishes to Elkhorn Centennial Celebration.

### **The Connolly Family**

The Connolly family were early homesteaders in the Arawana and Springvale districts. **Archibald Connolly Sr.** came from near Fergus, Ontario, where their family was born, and came to Minnedosa, Manitoba, in 1879. They later settled on their homestead at W½ 22-10-28, presently occupied by Stefan and Yvonne Leroy. Records and recollections of the Connollys are not complete but we do have some information. **ARCHIBALD** Connolly Sr. lived for a time in Virden and died some time around

1910. Mrs. Connolly's death date was earlier, but is unknown.

**Archibald Connolly Jr.** (1859) married **Sarah Taylor** of Wolseley, Saskatchewan. They farmed in the Parkland district on Section 36-10-28 presently occupied by Paul and Sylvia George. The Connollys retired to Elkhorn and lived in the house built in 1910 on Grange Street, later sold to Mr. and Mrs. George Freeman. There were children lost in infancy, or early childhood — exact details are unknown. Archie died in 1942 at the age of 83 and Sarah Connolly died in 1940 at the age of 76. One daughter, **Sarah Hazel**, lived to adulthood and resided in Elkhorn, then moved to Virden about 1960. She died in 1965 at the age of 69. Hazel was the last surviving member of the family in this district.

**Elizabeth Connolly** (1857) married **Francis Coulter Armstrong**, raised a family of seven and died in 1917 on her 60th birthday.

**Bella Connolly** married **George Bent** and lived for a time near Elkhorn on SW quarter 24-11-28, land owned until recently by Bill Montgomery. The Bents moved to Long Beach, California. They had two daughters. Archie Connolly spent some winters with his sister and family there.



Mr. and Mrs. A. Connolly, Hazel and Fern.

**Mary Ann Connolly** married **William Jackson Sr.** and lived for a time in Elkhorn. She died in 1928. William died in 1929 at the age of 73.

**William (Billie) Connolly** remained on the home farm where two sons and three daughters were born. The family moved to Fairlight or Walpole area in Sask., where Billie died shortly after. The widow and children came back to William Jacksons near Elkhorn for a time before moving west. We understand the older children — **Tom, Stanley** and **Ida** — attended Buckingham school. One member of the family, Stanley Goodwin Connolly, visited relatives in the Elkhorn area around 1970. Stanley was born in 1908 and farmed at Stoney Beach, Sask. He died at Moose Jaw in 1973, and his funeral was attended by George and Elmer Armstrong of Elkhorn. There were many members of this branch of the family living at or near Regina, Moose Jaw, and in the Peace River country in 1973.

submitted by Elmer Armstrong

### The Conquergoods

The Conquergood family originally came from Edinburgh, Scotland. They made the trip by boat and settled around Tiverton, Ontario. Arthur Conquergood's grandfather had eight children. While coming to Canada, his wife died and had to be buried at sea. Then he remarried and had eight more children. The Conquergoods never corresponded with relations in Scotland after they came to Canada. During World War I, one of the sons went back to Scotland and found a monument that had been raised in memory of the Conquergoods who they thought

had been lost at sea. William Conquergood, Arthur's father, married Ellen Stroud in 1868. They had eight children and they all came west to Virden.

**Arthur** was born in Bruce County, Ontario in 1876. He lived there until 1907 when he married **Maggie McKay** of Tiverton, Ontario and came west in 1908 to Virden. They settled on what is now called the Grose farm. They had seven children; Howard, Ella, Bernard, Artie, Jessie, Emma, and Donnie. Howard and Ella were born at Virden. Then they moved to Willen where Bernard and Artie were born. In 1915 they moved to McAuley where Jessie, Emma, and Donnie were born. They all attended McAuley School and later Rose Lea, except for Donnie who attended only Rose Lea and finished his high school at Elkhorn. In 1926, Arthur and Maggie moved back to Willen District and farmed until 1937 when they had a farm sale. They lived on the farm where Bob Grant now resides. They retired to live in Elkhorn where they bought and renovated the Caradice house south of the tracks and five acres of land where Allums now live. Arthur bought the property for \$150.00. He was a stonemason by trade and built numerous chimneys for people around Elkhorn and district; some of his work still stands.

Maggie Conquergood was a hard worker and always had time for everybody. She knitted and hooked rugs in her spare time and was faithful to her Church.

Arthur and Maggie Conquergood's Children:

**Howard** Conquergood married **Gertie Cullen** of Miniota in 1947 and farmed eight miles north of Elkhorn on what was known as the George Banner farm. Howard joined the army in 1942 and was attached to the Toronto Scot Regiment. Howard and Gertie raised two girls who attended Jeffery and Elkhorn Schools. **Evelyn** married **Dennis Bryant** of Elkhorn; now residing in Sherwood Park, Alberta. They have two children named **Denise** and **Scott**. **Joan** married **Terry Johnson** of Manson where they now farm. Joan presently works as a teacher's aide in the Elkhorn school. Howard and Gertie sold out their farm in 1975 and retired in Elkhorn, purchasing the Harry Johnson house.

**Ella** married **Alex Maw** from the Arrow River District. They farmed until 1945 when they moved to Elkhorn. Alex worked in the oil fields and later for the Government. Ella operated the Manitoba Hotel coffee shop for a period of about five years. They raised three daughters who all attended the Elkhorn School. Alex passed away in 1964. **Carol**, the eldest of the three married **Lloyd Moran** who worked for the C.P.R. and now resides in Elkhorn. **Margaret** married **James Cole** of Miniota where they now reside and James works on construction. They have



Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Conquergood. Inset: Arthur (Father).

Conquergood Family. Front row: Jessie MacDonald, Margaret Conquergood (Mother), Bob MacDonald, Bernie Lund, Emma Lund. Back row: Gertie and Howard Conquergood, Jean and Bernard Conquergood, Ella and Wilf Mathers, Fay and Artie Conquergood, Donelda and James Hewitt.



Howard and Artie Conquergood with twin colts, 1935.

three children; **Gerry, Karen, and Dean. Diane**, the youngest of the three, married **Darwin Rowan** of Elkhorn and they are now farming west of Elkhorn. They have two children; **Keith and Dana**. Ella remarried in 1969 to **Wilfred Mather** of Cromer. They bought and farm the Len Leslie farm south of Elkhorn, originally known as the Jack Mooney farm.

**Bernard** married **Jean McBain** of Vandura, Saskatchewan in 1946. They moved to Tiverton, Ontario where they farmed until their retirement. Bernard and Jean raised three children; **Stanley, Orla, and Donnalyn**.

**Artie** married **Faye Davies** in 1947. They resided in Broadview, Saskatchewan. Art was a barber and also worked for the C.P.R. He also was employed at the Portage School for Retardates. Art served in World War II being stationed in the Aleutian Islands. Art and Faye raised four children; **Karen, Bryan, Joy, and Allen**. Art died in Portage la Prairie in 1976.

**Jessie** married **Bob McDonald** of Elkhorn in 1934. Bob was then employed at the Elkhorn Creamery. They raised five children; **Norma, Wayne, Donna, Eldon, and James**. Norma and Wayne started school in Elkhorn. Jessie and Bob moved to Crystal City in 1946.

**Emma** married **Bernie Lund** in 1940. They moved to Kenora, Ontario until 1941. Bernie worked for the C.P.R. until his enlistment in 1942 and resumed his work after the War. Emma and Bernie raised three sons; **Garry, Doug, and Dwayne**. They all attended Elkhorn School. Garry married **Betty Haney** of Birtle. Doug married **Lynne Harrison** of Oak Lake. **Dwayne** married **Alma Iverson** of Oak Lake. Emma and Bernie are now retired and reside in Elkhorn.

**Donnie** (deceased) completed his education at Elkhorn High. He worked at the Elkhorn Creamery

and the C.P.R. He enlisted in 1943 and was discharged in 1944 when he resumed his work with the C.P.R. until his accidental death in 1956.

### Edward and Grace Cook

**Edward** was born in Owen Sound, Ontario. He came west in 1898 with his uncle Tom Cook. They settled in the Lenore district where Tom homesteaded. Ed went to River Valley school. He later worked for farmers and on the roads in that area. He was musical and could play the violin and other instruments by ear. Many the time he played for friends and at social gatherings and with a group at local dances.

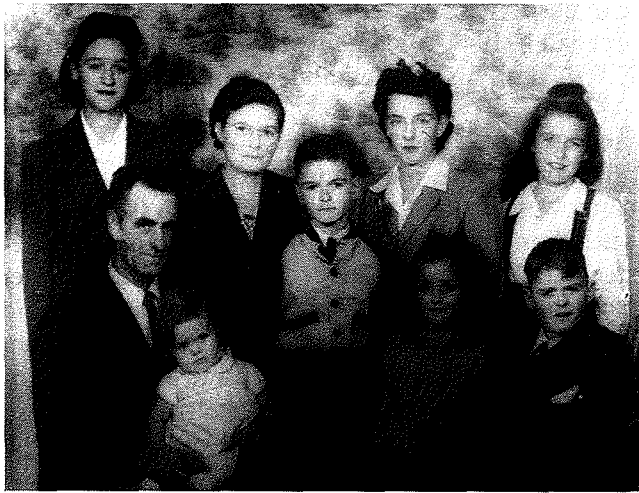
**I** (Grace) was born in Brandon in 1907, the daughter of **Thomas and Elizabeth Stenhouse**. In 1927 Edward and I were married. We lived in a house at Diamond Lake while Charles Cook and Ed hauled gravel for the old highway and used horses on the drag. We moved to the Victor district onto the corner of NE ¼ of 33-11-27. At first Ed used two horses to help keep the gravel roads in shape for the traffic of those days. The horses were in good shape — being well cared for and with good pasture.

We had a family of ten children, three having died in infancy. Our first born was Adaleen in 1928 in the Hunter house in Elkhorn with Dr. Johnston and Mrs. Hunter attending. When it came time to go home Dick Clarkson drove us out in great style in his topless car. A real thrill! Adaleen attended her first show when ten days old in Molly McLeod's theatre.

Later on in 1928 I stayed with the Alex Stonehouse family for a short while when Ed and his men were hauling gravel for the roads. While there a bad storm came up causing a lot of damage to Elkhorn and the surrounding area. Elkhorn was our shopping centre. Here we bought all our groceries and other necessities. We loved to go to town on Saturday nights where one met friends and could also visit.

We lived at Diamond Lake east of Elkhorn for awhile. Doreen was born in 1930 in a house near, "Billie the shoemaker's home", (Bill Taschuk). A Mrs. Wickham, R.N. who had just moved to Elkhorn with her husband and several children came over and took charge of everything from baking bread, washing clothes, dishes, cream separators, and pails and preparing meals, nothing daunted her; she was a very remarkable woman. We then moved back to Victor. We got our first washing machine from Mrs. Moore who took in washing in those days.

As our family grew and attended school at Victor 949, we took a more active interest in district activities. The children took part in the Xmas concerts, school field days and picnics as they came along. One year I made Daisy a blue crepe paper dress for



Mr. and Mrs. Ed Cook with their family Adaleen, Doreen, Edward, Daisey, Dave, Shirley and baby Nedain.

the Xmas concert in which she sang, Alice Blue Gown. This dress was borrowed by many other young girls until we finally lost track of it.

Our older children walked six miles to Elkhorn one winter's night to a winter carnival, but were glad to get a ride part way home. Daisy went to Elkhorn High School for one year. She left home with her dad at 6:30 a.m. and waited at Pearsons garage until time to go to school.

Christmas was a very special time at our house. We never missed a Christmas at our house while Ed still lived. We had all the trimmings for that day and Ed always cooked the turkey. Our Xmas tree was usually a bushy little willow which we decorated with silver linings out of tea bags and any other colorful material we could make ornaments out of. Ed would get out his violin and some of the others would try chording on guitars and accordion. It was a time to remember.

As Ed had more miles of highway to cover we moved to Virden in 1952 to a more central location. He had a government truck by now and could take men and equipment from here to there in a hurry if need be. More modern equipment was now in use on the new No. 1 and Ed became foreman of the maintenance crew on part of No. 1 and on 83 north and south. On his retirement in 1966 he was honored by the Provincial Government for his many years of service.

After Ed's death, February 14, 1972, Eddie lived with me in our house in Virden. After I moved to Drayton Valley, Alberta, Eddie stayed on in my house where he still lives. I live in a self-contained apartment block for Senior Citizens. I take an active part in the social life of the block and enjoy bowling, playing Bingo and going to the Baptist church. I also

like watching hockey when my grandson Dwayne Hausherr is playing.

Our family is scattered now. **Adaleen** married **Elgin Lifeso**, a son of Fred and Elva Lifeso. Elgin drives a truck for an oil company. They live in Sherwood Park, Alberta and have a family of two sons, Dwight and Bradley and a daughter Sharon.

**Doreen**, (1930) married **Ken Hausherr** and they reside in Drayton Valley, Alberta, with their son Dwayne and daughter Darlene. Ken works for Pembina Pipe Line.

**Eddie**, born in 1931 remained a bachelor and still lives in Virden. He worked on the roads for many years in the Hartney area. He now works on road repair with a company out of Brandon.

**Daisy**, born in 1933 married **Fred Ross** of Winnipeg whom she later divorced. She married **Aime Allaire** of Winnipeg. They both work in the city. Their daughter Brenda graduated from High School this year. A son Grant passed away in Winnipeg at age twenty.

**David**, born in 1935 married **Gladys Essey** of Griswold. They have eight children. Dave works on construction in the Griswold area.

**Shirley** born in 1937, married **Emile Doucette** of Virden. They had three sons. They later divorced and Shirley married **E. Collings**. They live in Edmonton, Alberta.

**Nadine** born 1941 married **Henry Ross**, a bank manager in Kelowna British Columbia. They have two sons, Dean and Timothy and a daughter Angela. They have since been transferred back to Winnipeg where they now live.

Our greatest delight is to get together at family reunions and reminisce about our life and experience while living in Victor, Elkhorn and Virden districts.

## Cook

**Nelly Walker** of London, England, sister of Frank Walker, married **Sidney Cook** also from England, in 1912. They lived on a farm one mile north and half mile west of Elkhorn. Mrs. Cook was well known in town for her kindness to the elderly, especially visiting and taking gifts to them. She also was a devout church worker and leader of the young girls' groups. Mr. and Mrs. Cook returned to England in 1936 where they resided until their deaths.

submitted by Marion Sweeting.

## Robert McLaren Coombs

**Robert McLaren Coombs** was born 1851 in Perth, Ontario. His father was John Shine Coombs, and his mother was Anne. His grandfather was Joseph Coombs, a soldier with the Royal Engineers;

he was sent to Canada where the engineers built the first Parliament Buildings. He also built the first log cabin on the Ottawa River, and I have been told that there is a record of it in the Archives.

Robert Coombs worked in his father's drugstore until he got the "Call of the West", and migrated to Manitoba in the spring of 1881. He travelled to Winnipeg via St. Paul; there he purchased stock for a general store and loaded it onto a steamer which carried freight as far as Fort Ellice, now St. Lazare. The trip to Grand Valley took seven days and, as it was a steam boat, if they ran out of wood, the boat stopped and the men were sent into the woods for fuel. The boat docked at "Currie's Landing", about seven miles downstream from Grand Valley; I do not think there were docking facilities at Grand Valley. Grand Valley is about where Chater is now, two miles east of Brandon.

Once he got settled at Grand Valley, he sent back to Perth for his friend Billy Muir to come and clerk for him. Billy spent the rest of his life in Brandon. He opened a grocery store on Sixth Street and carried on business there for fifty years.

When the Railroad came through from the East, landowners at Grand Valley demanded too much for their land during negotiations, and the Canadian Pacific Railway moved up the river to the present Brandon site.

The firm of Coombs and Stewart in Grand Valley dismantled their store, made it into a raft and floated it up the river to the new site. The store was re-erected at the corner of Sixth Street and Pacific Avenue, thus becoming the first business in Brandon.

Business was brisk and there was a great influx of settlers. Some brought money and some got credit, which, in time, was the downfall of the business, and they failed. Stewart pulled out and Father moved to Elkhorn where he started another general store. As near as I can figure, it must have been about 1890. By this time, there were five of a family, and two more were born in Elkhorn. One daughter, Agnes, died of scarlet fever and is buried in Elkhorn Cemetery. Poor crops and easy credit once again closed the business up and they were forced to move back to Brandon and live on the homestead that he filed on in 1881, just south and east of Brandon, along Richmond Avenue. He had "proved up" on his homestead and purchased the south quarter as preemption.

Farming was carried on until 1910, and the land was sold to land developers from Toronto. The north quarter was surveyed and sold as lots in the East by the developers. Father and Mother moved to Winnipeg, and, as he had homesteaded before 1881, he was allowed to file on another homestead, which he did and got one in the Interlake area at Grahamdale,



Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Coombs in house across from Station. Fred, Edith, Jessie, Agnes and hired girl — 1900.



L-R: Roberta and Allena Coombs — 1894.

Manitoba. After the War, they moved to Victoria, British Columbia and he died there in 1922 and is buried in Victoria. Mother died in 1926, and she is also buried in Victoria.

All but two of the family are dead now, Allena and Eudora.

Mother came to Manitoba in 1882 with her parents from Glasgow, Scotland. They brought two sons and two daughters; one son died of pneumonia, and the other son returned to Scotland. Her sister married a farmer at Brandon and died many years ago. My

grandfather was sold a farm southwest of Brandon in Cornwallis by some land agent on the boat. He knew nothing about farming and returned to Scotland.

In our family there were eight children, one son and seven daughters.

**Frederic** — born 1885, and called Frederic Middleton after General Middleton. He served in the British Army for five years during World War I and was decorated with the Order of the British Empire for service in the Veterinary Corps. He later practised at Hamiota; he died in 1944 and is buried there.

**Edith May** — born 1886, died aged 30 and buried in Winnipeg.

**Jessie Struthers** — born 1888, died in Vancouver in 1975 and buried in Victoria.

**Agnes Struthers** — born 1890, died at age two of scarlet fever and buried at Elkhorn.

**Roberta Maud** — born 1892, died in Orangeville, Ontario, 1970 and is buried there. She was born in Elkhorn.

**Allena McLean** — born 1894, in Elkhorn living in Souris, Manitoba.

**Lillian Emma** — born 1896, died in Brandon in 1900 and buried there.

**Eudora Jean** — born 1900 and living in Pittsford, New York.

My parents left Elkhorn in 1896 and returned to the land that my father homesteaded in 1881.

I wish I had paid more attention to the tales my parents and their friends told of the early days and now I have difficulty in recalling some of the facts.

submitted by Allena Strath

## The Corbetts at Elkhorn

**Ken and Hazel Corbett** moved to Elkhorn from Kirkella in the summer of 1942, with their three children **KENNETH, DOROTHEA and GARY**. They took over the small cafe on the north side of Richill which had been operated by Hazel's parents, **Mr. and Mrs. McGinnes**. Following the renovations of the then closed Bank of Commerce, which had been purchased by Dr. Johnston, the business was moved across the street and a very attractive cafe opened. The Corbetts occupied the suite above the cafe. Business was thriving but this contributed to long hours and an almost non-existent family life, so, when Mr. Sterling resigned as buyer for the Manitoba Pool Elevator, Ken applied for the opening and became the new Pool buyer, and the cafe passed into other hands. After living for a year in the Pool house, now the Ed. Frederick home, the Brotherhood house was purchased. This had been a beautiful home but now a great deal of repair was necessary to restore its former spacious comfort.

Here the family grew up until 1950 when the



Ken and Hazel Corbett.

home was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Rudd. Following the death of Dr. Johnston, Mrs. Johnston offered their house on Richill and Tralee for sale and this was now bought by the Corbetts. In 1955 Mr. E. J. McGinnes died and Mrs. McGinnes moved into a suite designed for her in the upstairs of the Corbett home where she continued to live for over fourteen years. It was a happy arrangement with "Ginnes" as she was affectionately called, enjoying her great-grandchildren, and all family visits with her daughter and son-in-law.

Kenneth Jr., in 1950 joined the staff of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, then later the R.C.A.F. He became Captain Corbett, Navigator and Communications Officer, flying all over the world for many years. He spent one year flying for the U.N. out of Naples, Italy and several years in the Air Traffic Control Tower at Trenton Airbase, and on retiring from the forces, some time with Air Traffic Control at Toronto. He resigned to return to Manitoba and is currently managing Souris Plastics '77 at Souris. Kenneth and his wife **Marina**, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Frank Turnbull** of Virden, had three small children when Marina became ill with an unknown virus and lived only a few days. Kenneth and children moved from Montreal to Elkhorn and Ken was



based at Rivers. Debbie took Kindergarten at Elkhorn. Later Ken and **Carole**, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Frank Jones** of Virden were married and **Kathleen Michelle** and **Trevor Stephen** were born at Rivers. Ken was transferred to Trenton and the family moved to Belleville where they remained until the family were educated and Ken resigned from the forces. Carole worked for the C.B. of C. during all these years.

Dorothea, who had gained valuable insight into newspaper work during high school years, thanks to Mr. B. Barnes, then editor of the Elkhorn Mercury, attended Success Business College to learn the technical skills of news reporting. Within three years she joined the editorial staff of the PR department of Canadian Westinghouse, Hamilton, Ontario, and has pursued writing interests ever since. While living in Hamilton, Dot met **Milton From**, whose family were pioneers of Spy Hill, Saskatchewan. Milt and Dot married in Elkhorn and their early years together involved moves from Winnipeg to Pinawa, Toronto, Saskatoon and finally back to Winnipeg. Dot has been on staff and free lanced on various local and national publications. She became well known for her weekly column on Manitoba's craftsmen that ran in the Winnipeg Tribune for several years. Her long interest in embroideries is reflected in her own designs and execution of works as well as the administrative responsibilities she holds within the Embroiderers' Association of Canada. Currently she is working towards her degree in the History of Fine Arts at the U. of W. Milt designs industrial refrigeration systems and is a woodturner during leisure hours.

Dot and Milt have two children, **Milton Jr.** who attends the U of M taking Honours Physics, and **Valerie**, who is in third year Sciences with a view to advanced studies.

**Gary Corbett** took Grade XI at Elkhorn and attended the U of M before he also joined the R.C.A.F. graduating as a Sabre Jet Pilot. Gary and **Mardel**, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Ruchotski** of Winnipeg, were married in Winnipeg, lived a short time at Portage la Prairie and were then transferred to Chatham, N.B. where **Gary Wm.** was born. Within a short time **D'Arcy** was born in the Duchy of Luxemburg, **Jason** in Maryville, and **Craig**, following their return to Canada was born at Portage la Prairie. From there, Gary was transferred to Moose Jaw R.C.A.F. #2 Flying Training School where he became an instructor and was promoted to Flight Lieutenant. Later resigning from the forces, Gary became a Captain with Air Canada, presently flying a 727 out of Winnipeg, and he is the owner of Souris Plastics '77.

Gary Wm. is a Commercial Pilot. D'Arcy is taking Sciences at the U of M, Jason is in First Year Administrative Studies at the U of M and Craig is in residence at the College of Notre Dame, Wilcox, Saskatchewan, taking High School Courses.

Kenneth Corbett remained buyer for the Pool at Elkhorn until forced to retire due to ill health at which time he also sold his coal and flour business. For a short time he managed an Appliances Shop for the Virden Television in the McLeod Block. He had many interests, serving on the Village Council, the Elkhorn Stadium Commission, the Antique Car Museum, United Church Board and was a member of the Masonic Lodge of Elkhorn and the L.O.L. at Kirkella. He formed and managed a boys' hockey team for several years and enjoyed curling, dancing, swimming and his fellow man. Ken passed away in the Elkhorn Hospital in 1969. Elkhorn was home to him in every sense of the word.

Hazel Corbett took an interest in town organizations, the United Church Circle, Ladies' Missionary Society, W.I., Rebekah Lodge and Red Cross. She served one term as school trustee. Over the years she was a C.G.I.T. leader and assisted Lois Plowman



Ken Corbett with children Ken, Gary and Dot.

with boys' and girls' Mission Band, and as leader of the girls 4-H sewing group assisted by Gladys Nylin. Both she and Ken took their turn at teaching Sunday School. When Ken's health became a problem Hazel worked as assistant to the Village Secretary-Treasurer, Garnet Andrews, and later became Secretary-

Treasurer of the Elkhorn Medical Nursing Unit, and as a Registered Medical Record Clerk was in charge of medical records.

In 1972 with her mother residing in the Sherwood at Virden, Hazel sold the home in Elkhorn and moved to Winnipeg. A year later she moved out of the city to Virden where, eventually, she met her neighbour John Mosse Younge and in 1975 they were married. Within a short time Dr. Yates confirmed that Johnny should begin treatment for cancer. Although at times the doctors seemed to have the disease controlled it would appear in another area and in August, 1978 he passed away in the Virden Hospital. Hazel Younge still resides in the home in Virden which had been her husband's.

The Corbett family were all involved in sports such as hockey, Dot playing on a girls team, curling, swimming, canoeing etc. Their children have continued to give their best at all times as indicated by their many trophies, medals, trips abroad etc. achieved both scholastically and in the field of sports.

In 1924, Mr. Norris, owner and publisher of the Elkhorn Mercury arranged for all Elkhorn High School Students to enter an essay contest for which he donated the prize of a Waterman's Pen and Pencil Set, very popular at that time. The pen seems to have disappeared over the years but the pencil is still a prized possession of Hazel Younge (McGinnes). The interesting factor is that the topic for the essay as chosen by Mr. Norris was "The Importance of Quebec to Western Canada".

submitted by Hazel M. Younge on behalf of Dot and Milt From, Ken and Carole Corbett, Gary and Mardell Corbett

### Dennis and Louise Cottingham

My parents, **Dennis and Louise Cottingham**, my sister **Lilly** eight years old, and myself four years old came from Folkestone, England in 1906. We came to Broadview, where Mother's half brother and his wife and family lived, the Charlie Wright family. My brother **Albert** was born here in 1908.

Dad went to work on the C.P.R. coal chutes, at thirty-five cents an hour, no Saturday, Sunday or holidays off then.

He was transferred to Elkhorn in 1909. His work was with a large gasoline motor that had a flywheel almost six feet in diameter. He would walk up these huge rungs of the wheel, grasping the one above and jump off, and the big wheel would go around and start the motor. This action ran the buckets that scooped the coal from the pits, where it had been unloaded from box cars by hand, and raise the buckets to the top pockets and tip so the coal dumped into

these pockets. The train engines then ran alongside the coal chute buildings and the fireman of the steam engine pulled the rope that held the door to the pockets and the coal ran out into the hoppers of the engines. Sometimes in winter this coal would be frozen in the pockets and wouldn't run. Many times Dad would have to climb to the pockets and start the coal running out by picking with a huge pick till the coal broke apart.

We lived just across the street from the railway line. I think this street was called Railway Street. There was a long fence of slabs separating the railway from the street with quite a large field behind the fence. This is where we children congregated, and was always referred to as "Let's play behind the slabs."

The Rodgers lived beside us on this street. The names Maggie or Madge, Bob, Arthur and Martha are ones I remember. Martha and I were together most of our waking hours. I remember our house being struck with lightning while I was minding my younger brother, **Bill** (who was born on June 10, 1912). I was out in the yard at the time and ran into the house by the back door, with my brother in my arms, to find everyone had gone out the front door, the house filled with black soot, the stove pipes had been split from the ceiling to the stove. My mother ran back in the front and got the both of us out. This was an experience we didn't forget in a hurry. Dad used to say he was never lonesome in a storm because we were all in on top of them in bed the minute it started to thunder in the night.



Cottingham family.

The wages were cut by C.P.R. and Dad thought he'd better try something else, so rented a farm six or seven miles from Elkhorn and one and one-half miles from Kirkella. I went to school a short time here as on March 13, 1913 we were burned out by a prairie fire. I remember the names Moss, Siple, and McGinnus. The neighbors were very good to us and our family was distributed around at different places till the men of the community got together and built a shelter on the farm. But we didn't stay here very long. Dad was offered his job back in Elkhorn at more money and made foreman. My Dad, with Mother's help, built a cottage close to the entrance to the Indian School. I remember so well the beautiful flowers along each side of the long road from the gate entrance to the school.

I started school in Elkhorn in 1909 and my first teacher was a Miss Bell. I think the Principal's name was Mr. Tinline.

Dad was transferred later to Brandon, back to Elkhorn, then to Fort William, and finally to Moose Jaw where he continued to work as foreman on Saskatchewan coal chutes till his death in 1939.

Mother, my sister Lilly Stover, and brothers Albert and Bill have passed away. I am the last of my direct family.

I am 78 years, born July 22, 1902. My husband and I farmed four miles N.W. of Moose Jaw. He passed away in 1966. I live in my own home in Moose Jaw by myself and am in very good health. I have three children, **Ruth Ohr, Reg Harris, and Dean McKinnon**. I have seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

May Harris  
880 9th N.W.  
Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan  
S6H 4J2

### Mark Cousins Sr. Family

**Mr. and Mrs. Mark Cousins Sr.** and family, **Reginald, Gertrude, Mark Jr. and Jennie**, came to Elkhorn from Yorkshire, England in 1905.

After visiting with Mrs. Cousins' brother and family, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hunter, they moved into the village. Mr. Cousins obtained employment with a Construction Company which was building the railroad known as the Reston-Wolseley Branch. He later became employed with Mr. Jack Cavanagh who operated a livery and feed barn, on the site now being the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Ogilvie. Reg also became employed by Mr. Andy Cunningham in the livery and feed business. Gertie worked for Mr. Chris Trumbel who owned and operated the bakery and confectionery shop. Mark Jr. worked for Mr. McClymont as herdsboy.



Mrs. Mark Cousins, Sr.



Mark Cousins Sr.



L-R Back row: Bill Cousins, Betty Hayhurst, Mildred Canart, Doug Cousins. Front row: Polly and Mark Cousins 1978.

In the spring of 1906 Mr. and Mrs. Cousins, Mark Jr. and Jennie moved to the farm of Mr. Wm. Onions to take care of the place while Mr. Onions made a trip to his homeland, England. Before he was ready to leave a prairie fire came up, completely destroying the home and contents. Mr. and Mrs. Cousins lost all their prized possessions brought from the homeland.

Construction of a new stone house was started immediately with Mr. Wm. Goethe Sr. and Mr. Luke Harrison doing the masonry work. This home is now owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Twigg and family.

In the spring of 1907, Mr. and Mrs. Cousins started farming on their own, on the west ½ of 28-11-28. They moved in 1908 to the Slyfield farm 6-12-27 now owned by Ken Kliever. Mark Jr. farmed with his parents over the years and in 1918 they moved to the Mossgiel district, later settling on the Frank Thomas farm, now owned by Ralph Colli. Mrs. Cousins died in 1927 and Mr. Cousins in 1944.

Mark Jr. married **Polly Wouchuk**, and they continued farming on the home farm until 1964 at which time they retired to live in Elkhorn. They have two sons and two daughters: **Douglas, Mildred, William, and Betty**.

Douglas and his wife, the former **Irene Ringland**, farm in the Mossgiel district. Their family consists of **Kim, Bruce, Keith, Barbara, and Susan**.

Mildred and her husband **Daniel Canart**, live in Elkhorn. They do some farming along with their business of Canart Backhoe Service which includes backhoe trenching, excavation, and plumbing work. Their family consists of **Mark, Ronald, Claudia, and Barry**.

William (Bill) and his wife, the former **Ruth Sedgewick** live at Carnduff, Sask., where Bill is employed in the oil business. Their family is **Gregory, Catherine, and Lauralee**.

Betty and her husband **Gordon Hayhurst** farm in the Cromer district. Their family of five girls are **Dana Marie, Teresa, Katrina, Shawna, and Julie**. **Nelson and Paula** died in infancy.

Reg Cousins married **Elizabeth Black**. They lived in town and district a number of years. Later they settled at Oakville, Manitoba. They had two daughters, **Mabel and Joy**.

Gertie Cousins married **John Gooding**, a veteran of the Boer War. After living in the village for some time, they later settled in the Alexander district. Their family were **Alice, Horace, and Annie**.

Jennie Cousins married **Ben Poston**. They lived in Woodville and Mossgiel districts from 1917 to 1948 when they moved to Elkhorn. Their children are **Ralph, Claude, Ruth**, and their son, **Lloyd** who died in infancy. Ben died in 1975.

Ralph and his wife, the former **Ethel Morris** live in Winnipeg where he has been employed with the Department of Agriculture as an agrologist since 1950. They intend to retire to Elkhorn in 1981. They have no children.

Claude married **Evelyn Gilbert**, also an Elkhorn girl. They managed the Virden Motel in Virden. Their family of four girls are the twins, **Faye and Gaye, Penny and Wendy**.

Ruth Poston and her husband, **Ben Marshall**, farmed at Manson, and are now retired living in Red Deer, Alberta. Their family consists of two girls, **Twila and Judy**.

Since 1905 Mark Cousins Jr. and Jennie Poston have resided in this area.

## William Cousins

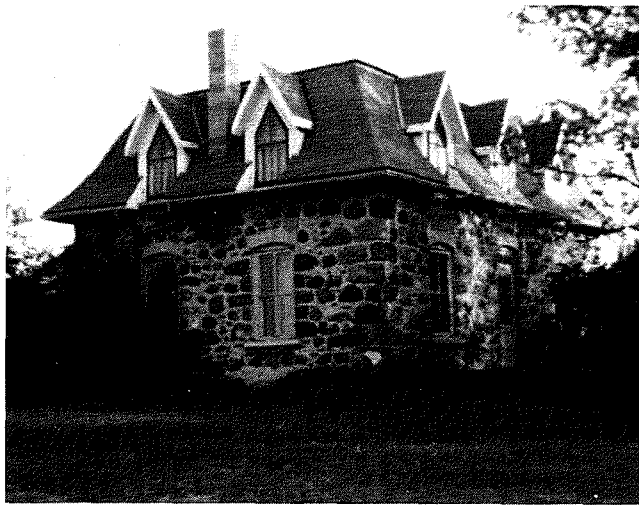
I, **William Cousins** was born in Winnipeg in 1942, fifth child of **John** and only child of the former **Annie Grainger**. My dad was born in 1880 and passed away in 1952. My mother was born in 1910 and passed away in 1962. My dad was the town constable of Elkhorn for a number of years and my mother was a seamstress.

I started school in Elkhorn and continued till 1956 when I moved to McAuley and went to school there. I lived with the Jeffers until I quit school. I then worked on the Jack Cook, Stu Taylor and F. Sheane farms. I married **Eleanor Cammeron** in 1964 and we moved to Miniota in 1970. I bought out Barrett's shoe and canvass repairs and have a shop in Miniota. Along with caretaking the schools, the lodge and Sioux Benn Park, we keep fairly busy. We

have four children, **Dawn**, born in 1965, **Patrick** born in 1966, **Tami** born in 1969 and **Brock** born in 1973. All but Dawn are in Miniota school and she is in senior high in Birtle.

### Rod and Dodie Coutts Story

**Rod Coutts**, and his wife **Dodie** and four of their children moved to Elkhorn in 1968. They had six children, from oldest to youngest; **Carolyn** (Gilmore) **Larry**, **Diana** (Bessant), **Alan**, **Cindy** (Lupton) and **Ellen Rae** (Overand). The four youngest went to school in Elkhorn. Ellen Rae, married to Wes Overand is the only member of the family still living in the Elkhorn area.



Coutts' home, Elkhorn.

Rod and Dodie bought the Service Station and Restaurant known as the "Texaco" on the Trans-Canada Highway near the school. Then having sold the business in 1974 moved to the big stone house with the blue roof on Third Street, south of the tracks. Following is a list of all the former owners and part owners of this old stone house which is still in excellent condition: Joseph Williamson and mortgages held by Herbert J. Rex, Harriet Rex and Annie Laura Rex 1894-1906. Presbyterian Church and Mortgage held by Henry Davis 1906-1920. Florence Hunter 1920-1937. Martin and Mary Matychuk 1937-1972. Rod Coutts — 1972.

During the early years at one of these transactions the house was sold for \$400.00. A few exciting anxious days were spent during the "flood of 1975". That area where the stone house is situated was completely cut off as to roads in all directions. But planks placed on each side of a washed out bridge allowed foot passage for supplies. Rod served as Fire Chief for a number of years and town councillor for a short term. Rod and Dodie pioneered along with

others in the formation of an ambulance service for Elkhorn and district.

Rod and Dodie had planned to retire in their delightful old stone house but a couple of very cold snowy winters sent them to a warmer climate in Creston, British Columbia where they now reside.

submitted by Dodie Coutts

### Mr. James Cowan

**Jim** was born in 1884 the son of **James** and **Mary** Cowan. He had four sisters and four brothers. **Mary** married George Cole, **Maggie** married Alex Rae, **Belle** married Fred Cole, and **Jessie** married Humphrey Dixon. **Bob** married Ethel Johnson. **Tom** married Lizzie Brennand. **Dave** married Louise Kelsey. **Bill** never married.

Jim was the first white boy born in the Archie municipality. He attended school at Cherry Grove and Declair. As a boy he played hockey on sloughs using a hard wood puck and a stick from the bush. He attended "Baptist" prayer meetings held once a month in the homes. When he left home he homesteaded a quarter section southeast of McAuley. He built a sod shack for his animals. He used a walking, breaking plough, drawn by oxen. He never owned a tractor until his own sons farmed. Jim married **Carol Ann Johnson** of the Stanley district in 1914. They farmed a half section seven miles northwest of McAuley. The village of McAuley was where all shopping was done. Their first son **Clarence** was born in 1914 and he passed away in 1981. **Elmer** was born in 1916, and **Helen** in 1918. She passed away in 1977. **Marge** was born in 1926. Their youngest son, **Archie**, was killed at Victoria, British Columbia while in the armed services.

Jim relates many hard times. One in particular was losing his barn to fire. His wife managed to rescue a hundred turkey eggs she had up in the loft. The neighbours came in the fall and helped erect a shed before winter arrived. Jim sold his farm to Bob Lewis and came to live in Elkhorn. His two sons bought a farm one mile southwest of Elkhorn and Jim continued to help until he was 90 years of age. His wife passed away in 1965.

Jim came to live in the Elkhorn hospital in 1978. He continues to be in fair health and his cheerful nature continues to brighten everyone's day who comes in contact with him. One of the big highlights of his life is to have his granddaughter **Norma**, husband **Marvin** and great-grandson **Darren McDougall** of Thompson, Manitoba come to visit.

His son, Elmer, continues to live in Elkhorn and comes to visit his father every day.

submitted by Margaret Allison

### **William Cowan**

Mr. **Bill** Cowan was born in Scotland the son of **James** and **Mary** Cowan. He was a veteran of the Western Field force in the 1885 Northwest Rebellion. His job consisted mainly as a scout to track down Indian encampments and hideouts. During the course of his life he homesteaded three farms, was a policeman, ranch foreman, and a cook for a construction gang. **Bill** never married. When he retired he came to live in Elkhorn. He cooked his own meals and was able to care for himself. He enjoyed visiting with his brother **Jim** and his niece **Polly** Lund. He passed away in Deer Lodge Hospital in 1964 in his 99th year.

submitted by Margaret Allison

### **David Cowan**

**Mr. and Mrs. David Cowan** came from the Willen district to retire in Elkhorn in 1955. They had three daughters and two sons. **Margaret** (Mrs. E. Martin), **Merlene** (Mrs. D. Paetkau), **Evelyn** (Mrs. T. Oliver), **Earl** and **Ross**. **Mr. Cowan** passed away in 1959, **Mrs. Cowan** in 1963 and **Ross** in 1974.

submitted by M. Martin

### **Mr. and Mrs. Earl Cowan**

They moved into town from the farm in 1972 and then moved to Edmonton in 1977 where they still reside. They have three children, **Shirley**, **Shelley**, and **Kevin**.

### **The Charles W. Crosby Family**

**Charles Crosby** came to Canada from England when he was twenty-one years old. He worked as a farm helper and at other jobs for four years. He married **Catherine Scott** of Elkhorn in 1897. They farmed in the Kola district for three years, then moved to their homestead in the Burnbank district, where neighbors were friendly and always ready to help each other out. Owing to poor health, they had to sell the farm and move to Elkhorn in 1910.

**Mr. Crosby** took over as manager and editor of the weekly newspaper, the Elkhorn Mercury. In 1930 he sold the business to **Mr. F. C. Norris**.

**Mr. Crosby** was a quiet, reserved gentleman, but took a keen and active part in all community affairs. He was secretary-treasurer and justice of the peace for five years, a member of the school board and Agricultural Society, and supported all sports activities. He was a life member of the Masonic Lodge, holding different offices there, being a member for over fifty years. The Crosby family were all members of the Anglican Church and active workers for all church affairs. **Charles W. Crosby** passed away in

1958 in his 91st year and **Catherine Crosby** in 1966 in her 90th year.

The Crosbys were blessed with seven children: **Frank**, the eldest, joined the army at the age of seventeen, was severely wounded at Passchendaele, and returned home in 1918. He died in Deer Lodge hospital in 1944.

**Lorna** worked in Doigs store in Brandon for three years and then in Simpsons-Sears in Regina. She passed away in 1945.

**Florence** worked in the Bank of Commerce in Elkhorn for a year. She and **Agnes** went to Regina in 1929 and worked for the Saskatchewan Government Telephones until they retired in 1965. **Florence** married **James Maguire** in 1941; he passed away suddenly in 1977. **Agnes**, still living in their home in Lacombe, is active in Legion and church affairs.

**Irene** taught school for two years in the Anglican school in Elkhorn, married **Spencer Wallace** of Arrow River in 1925 where they lived on the home farm until 1962 when they moved to Virden. They have one son, **Bill**, working with Norcan Oil Company, at present stationed at Weyburn.

**Edith** married **Bill Cole** in 1929. They lived on the home farm at Reeder. They had a family of five: **Fred**, **Keith**, **Betty**, **Jim** and **Linda**. They moved to Virden in 1965. **Edith** passed away in 1966 and **Bill** in 1978.

**Charles**, after finishing school, worked at Chev Motors, Regina. He married **Edna Weston** in 1941. They had a family of two, **Charlene** and **Russel**. **Charlie** joined the Air Force in 1944 and went overseas in 1945. When he returned they moved to Lytton, B.C. and later to Prince George where he worked for the Department of Indian Affairs. **Edna** died in 1965 and **Charlie** came back to Lacombe and was accidentally killed in a car accident in 1975.

We all received our education at the Elkhorn Elementary and High School. Fond memories are often recalled of happy — and sometimes sad times that we spent at the Old Brick House (now demolished) and of friends who will never be forgotten. Elkhorn will always be remembered as "Our Home Town".

submitted by Irene Wallace

### **History of the George Hedley Crosby Family**

**George Hedley Crosby**, born 1864, and his wife **Elizabeth**, born 1865, came to Elkhorn in the 80's from Lowell, Massachusetts. They were both born and raised in Prince Edward Island. The Crosby's homesteaded the N.E. quarter of 36-11-29 and later acquired the S.W. quarter of 36-11-29 and the S.E. quarter of 1-12-29. Two children were born to them:

**ELLA**, who became a school teacher, but developed T.B. and passed away at the early age of twenty-four, in 1913. **WILBUR** was born in 1892 and he too, took up the teaching profession and taught at school in Churchbridge and Lanigan in Saskatchewan and Kenton and Oak River in Manitoba. He became principal of Alexander school in Brandon in 1929, remaining as such until 1935 when he returned to his father's farm. He purchased the remaining two quarters of Section 36-11-29 and began a complete power farming operation in the years when horses were the main source of power for farming. Wilbur carried on a successful farming operation until he passed away at the age of forty-seven on February 1, 1941 after suffering with diabetes since 1930.

Wilbur married **Eva Davison** from Bedeque, P.E.I. in 1913. Three children were born to them, **George Frederick** in 1914, **Charles Kenneth** in 1918 and **Anne Elisabeth** in 1923.

Mr. and Mrs. George H. Crosby retired from the farm to Elkhorn in 1919 where Mrs. Crosby passed away suddenly in 1945 at the age of eighty years. Mr. Crosby lived alone until passing away in 1950 at eighty-six years of age.

Both Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Crosby were active workers in the Methodist Church (later Trinity United Church) and took part in the early building of the church and the congregation. They remained as ardent members until their passing. They are buried in the Elkhorn cemetery along with their children, Ella and Wilbur.

Mrs. Wilbur Crosby (Eva) remained on the farm after her husband died until moving into Elkhorn in 1942. Her widowed mother, Mrs. Davison, came to make her home with her in April, 1941. Mrs. Crosby was an active community worker. She was very active in the United Church and was the organist for several years. She led a C.G.I.T. group for many years too and was very active in the B.E.S.L., especially during the time when the ladies sent many parcels to the boys overseas. She became a life member of the Women's Missionary Society of the United Church. Eva Crosby was noted for her wit and always had a smile for everyone.

Eva and her mother moved to Winnipeg in July, 1950, the year of the famous flood in Winnipeg. Her mother passed away in March, 1952 and is buried in Winnipeg. Mrs. Crosby moved to Whiterock, B.C. in September, 1970 and passed away there in the Peace Arch Hospital in June, 1975 at the age of 83. She is buried in Valley View Memorial Gardens in Surrey, B.C.

Wilbur and Eva Crosby had a family of three children. **George Frederick (Fred)** born in 1914 and married **Mary Freeman** of Selkirk, Manitoba in



Mrs. Eva Crosby with the children Fred, Elizabeth and Ken 1944.

1936. He was a banker and later served in the Air Force from 1940 until retiring in 1964. They spent their winters in California and their summers in Alberta after retirement. Fred passed away suddenly in November, 1970 on his way south.

**Charles Kenneth (Ken)** born in 1918 and married **Dorothy Baggs** of Hooke, England. Ken was among the first to enlist in the army when war broke out in September, 1939. He went overseas with the first contingent before the end of that year, and remained in active service until being invalided home in June, 1944. Ken was somewhat of a daredevil. He volunteered for service with the British Engineers and spent his time digging out bombs that had not exploded and taking the detonators from them, hopefully before they did explode. Ken returned to Elkhorn in 1944 and Dorothy was able to obtain passage out in 1945. He ran a trucking business until 1947. Then they moved to Winnipeg where he purchased a Veteran's Taxi Cab until selling out and working for a large automobile company. In 1966, they moved to White Rock, B.C. where they still live in retirement.

**Anne Elisabeth (Elisabeth)** was born in Kenton, Manitoba in 1923 and married **George Francis** (a farm neighbor) in March, 1941. They have resided in Red Deer, Alberta since December, 1962.

(Their history is noted elsewhere in this book.)  
as recalled by his granddaughter Elisabeth Anne Francis and her husband George

## Mr. and Mrs. Fred Crossman

**Fred Crossman** was born near Oshawa, Ontario and **Mrs. Crossman** in Glengarry County, Ontario.

They came to the west in 1889. About 1900 Fred Crossman and his brother **Charlie** bought land at Kirkella. Charlie lived with his wife on the E-½ of Sec. 10-12-29 and brother Fred lived with his wife and family on N.W. ¼ of 10-12-29.

Fred's family consisted of **Elmer, Cora, Inez, Maurice, Freddie** and **Emma**.

Elmer was in the 1914-1918 war and now is retired. He lives in Winnipeg. He still is active and enjoys playing pool. Emma lives in Medicine Hat, Alberta. Cora, Inez, Maurice and Freddie are deceased. Mr. Crossman held the position of secretary at the Mossgiel School for a period of five years.

Mr. Crossman had taught school at Hargrave, Two Creeks, Harmsworth, Virden and near Winnipeg.

The Crossmans were very involved in church and community work.

In 1912 Fred's nephew Sidney Dean, wife and family moved from Capron, Illinois, U.S.A. on to the land that Charlie Crossman had farmed, E ½ of 10-12-29.

In the spring of 1912 Fred's health failed him and he passed away that same year. His wife and family moved to Elkhorn to further the children's education and lived in a brick house south of the tracks. Mr. Crossman was laid to rest in the Elkhorn Cemetery. submitted by Cecil and Charlotte Dean and Thelma (Dean) Rowan

## Tom and Margaret Cruickshank

**TOM** is the son of Charles and Helen Cruickshank of Cromer and he attended school at Sanderson. He spent his life on the farm until joining the Air Force in 1942 as an engine mechanic.

He married **MARGARET FREEMAN** of Elkhorn in 1942. She is the daughter of George and Agnes Freeman and she attended school in Elkhorn.

Tom and Marg were posted to St. Thomas and Exeter in Ontario and to Gimli, Manitoba. From there, Tom went overseas and Marg worked at the Abbotsford airport in British Columbia. Following the war, they bought a farm south of Elkhorn and resided there until 1981 when they retired to 120-10th Ave. S. in Virden.

They were active in community affairs such as Arawana School Board, Arawana Farm Forum, Seed Club, Livestock Shipping Association, Elkhorn Legion and Elkhorn Agricultural Society. Tom coached Little League baseball and was a leader of the Elkhorn 4-H Calf Club. Marg belongs to the Arawana Ladies Club.



L-R Back row: Ken, Tom, Marg, Ron. Front row: Lynne, Beth.

They raised a family of five children. All attended Arawana school until the school closed at the time of consolidation. They then completed their schooling in Virden schools. All five children belonged to the Elkhorn 4-H Calf Club.

**LYNNE** was born in 1947. She became a teacher and taught at Flin Flon and Reston. She travelled extensively in Europe, Africa and Australia. She married Harry Bajus of the Burnbank community and they reside on the Bajus home farm. They have a son, **MICHAEL** and a daughter, **JODI**. Lynne is the fourth generation to belong to the Elkhorn Agricultural Society.

**KEN** was born in 1949. He was involved in hockey, baseball, curling and football in his school years. He is a foreman for the Manitoba Department of Highways. He married Judy McLeod of Elkhorn and they live in Brandon. They have two children — a daughter, **KIM** and a son, **DARREN**. Ken now coaches a boys' hockey team and enjoys curling, golf and hockey.

**RON** was born in 1953. He worked for Pool Elevators for a year, then went to Assiniboine Community College where he took an auto mechanics course. He secured employment in Boissevain and has since earned his journeyman's papers. He married Brenda Morningstar of Boissevain in 1981. They are living in Boissevain. Ron enjoys curling, softball and golf.

**DAVID** was born in 1955. He worked for U.G.G. Elevators for two years in Brandon and Griswold. At the time of his accidental death in 1976, he was working in the U.G.G. elevator at Griswold and residing at home. He coached the Griswold girls' hockey team and enjoyed curling and broomball.

**BETH** was born in 1956. She worked for the Manitoba Telephone System in Souris for a year before her marriage to Ron Canart of Elkhorn. They reside on



the farm east of Elkhorn formerly owned by Cecil Rodgers. They have two daughters, **TERESA** and **CATHY**. Beth enjoys curling and softball.

### **Ethel Cullen**

In 1940 my mother, **Mrs. Elizabeth Gunn** and her two younger daughters **Ethel** and **Georgina** moved to Elkhorn, where Georgina and I attended school.

In 1943 I worked for Mr. and Mrs. M. Ross as a waitress, up until the early part of 1944. In December, 1944 I married **John Price**. We have five children who all attended Elkhorn School.

**Marie** was born in December, 1945. She married **Jack Pemkowski** in 1968. Children: One set of twin boys born in September, 1969, **Trevor** and **Tracy**, **Kevin** born in October, 1971, **Terry** born in October, 1974.

**Robert** was born in February, 1947. He married **Madalyn Wilson** in 1967. One child: **Karen** born in 1968.

**Johnny** was born in 1948. He married **Betty Howitt**. Children: **Tammy** born in August, 1965, **Spencer** born in April, 1967, **Vicki** born in November, 1973.

**Larry** was born in September, 1950. He married **Wendy Leary** in 1970. Children: **Kandi**, born in December, 1973, **Scott** born in December, 1975.

**Lloyd** was born in June, 1957. He married **Eileen Gardiner** in 1978.

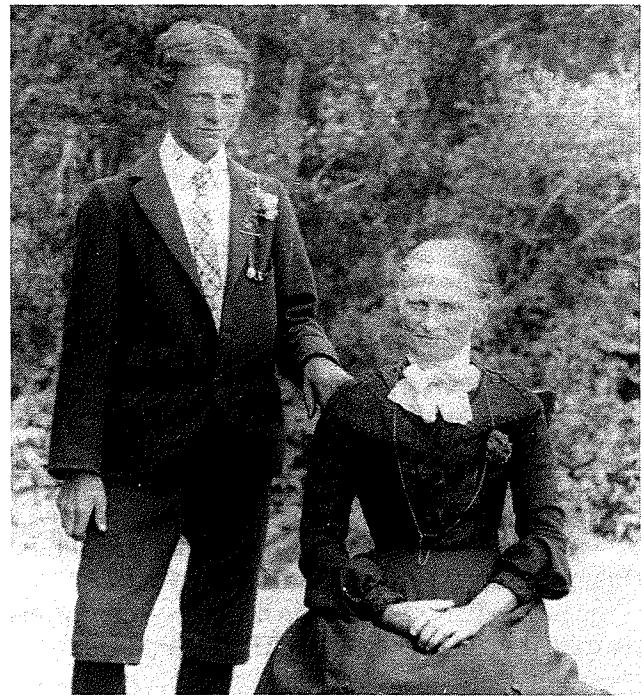
On November 18, 1978, I married **Bill Cullen**. We reside on the home farm at Reeder, Manitoba.

### **Dahl Family**

#### **History of the Family of One of the Founders of Elkhorn**

**Thomas Christianson Dahl** emigrated from Norway near Oslo in 1881, coming to the east coast of Canada by boat and by train to Brandon. He worked on the original construction of the railway from Brandon to Elkhorn. While helping to build the station, Thomas Dahl found the "Elk's horn" which gave the town its name. In 1883, he homesteaded four miles west of Elkhorn on Section 2 Township 12 Range 29. He hauled the logs to build his first house by oxen from the Assiniboine Valley.

In 1883, his wife **Olena** and four little girls; **Minnie**, **Elizabeth**, **Dorothy**, and **Nina** arrived from Norway by boat and rail to Elkhorn. In the summer of 1883, Thomas Dahl went to Brandon to purchase his first cow. He led the cow by foot from Brandon to Elkhorn down the railroad tracks. During the trip, the cow pulled on the rope and tore off his little finger leaving it hanging by the skin only. He



Mrs. T. C. Dahl and son Carl.

tied the finger up with his handkerchief and never lost his finger.

Three more children were born to Olena and Thomas; **Matilda** or **Tillie** in March, 1884, was the first white baby girl born in the area. Then **Nettie** in 1886 and an only son **Carl** in 1888.

**Minnie**, the eldest daughter married Andrew Ekman but as a very young woman, passed away in 1899 and was buried at Elkhorn. **Dorothy** married John Rehill and she too as a relatively young woman, passed away in 1907, leaving five young children who later went to Alberta with their father. **Elizabeth** married Ben Axelson. They farmed for a time in the Elkhorn area and later operated a garage and car dealership in Elkhorn. In 1921, they and their family of five; **Millie**, **Doris**, **Bernie**, **Eddie**, and **Fred** moved to Winnipeg. **Doris** married Hugh John McLeod, son of the original John McLeod family who operated the first store in Elkhorn. **Nina**, the fourth daughter of Tom and Olena married Ike Holland, later divorced, and finally moved to the United States where she married again. Her only child, **Minnie**, at age of sixteen was accidentally killed by a fall from the balcony of the Tom Dahl home in Elkhorn (now owned by Mrs. Pascoe).

**Tillie** married Edward McDonald and recorded under "McDonalds".

**Nettie** married Hugh McIntosh and recorded under "McIntosh family".

**Carl**, only son, married Alice Lipsey and recorded under the Carl Dahl family.

Tom Dahl and Olena lived on their homestead until 1910 when they moved into Elkhorn, purchasing a quarter section of land on the north edge of Elkhorn. He kept a herd of cows, shipping cream to the creamery there. His son, Carl, moved on to the homestead at this time. Thomas Dahl lost a finger and seriously injured his hand in a saw mill accident in Norway before coming to Canada. As a result of this accident, he was unable to milk cows. Therefore, his wife Olena milked twelve to fifteen cows for a number of years. At this time, she was in her early eighties. Tom Dahl passed away in September, 1926 at his residence after a lengthy illness, finally losing his leg to gangrene. His wife, Olena, shortly after, went to live with her daughters, first at Saskatoon with Lizzie, then at Elkhorn with Tillie and then at Ceylon, Saskatchewan with Nettie and returning to Elkhorn in 1939 where she passed away at Carl Dahl's residence in February, 1941 in her ninety-fourth year.

#### **Family of Tillie (Dahl) The McDonalds**

**Tillie** Dahl on December 12, 1906, married Edward McDonald of Fleming, Saskatchewan, son of W. W. McDonald, an early settler (1878) at Fleming and later a Member of Parliament representing Moosomin and Qu'Appelle Constituency. Tillie and Ted (Edward) lived for over twelve years on the McDonald family homestead — two miles west of the Saskatchewan and Manitoba border on the original Number 1 Highway. Edward died in January, 1919 during the Flu Epidemic at age thirty-eight, leaving his wife Tillie with a family of seven; Dahl, Thelma, Adrian, Ilene, Bob, Joffre, and Clarence ranging in age from eleven and one half to one and one half. Tillie moved back to Elkhorn in February, 1919 and purchased her father's residence in Elkhorn. Tom Dahl built a small brick cottage in the same yard which is now occupied by Myrtle Weldon.

All of Tillie's children were brought up in Elkhorn, graduating from Grade eleven there. **Dahl**, born 1907, worked as a mechanic for a time around Elkhorn and also operated the movie projector in the McPherson Theatre (now Bartley's store). In 1927, he went to Alberta. He married Barbara Josey of Hamiota and their two sons and two daughters reside in the Edmonton area. Dahl passed away in May, 1961 at the age of fifty-three.

**Thelma** attended Normal School in Brandon and taught school for a few years. She married Harold Mitchell and they farmed a few years on the Mitchell farm at Cromer. They moved to Virden in 1946 and their family Vernon, Gail, Ann, and Bill were brought up there. Harold Mitchell passed away in February, 1975.

**Adrian** took a position in the Bank at Elkhorn for a time and, in 1933, went to Alberta. He married

Amy Hendra of Edmonton and has two sons; Alan and Robert.

**Ilene** worked in the office of the Creamery for a time and later taught school at Kola and then went to Newton near Portage la Prairie where she married Stan Botterill. They have a family of five sons and one daughter; Ted, Cal, Judy, Chris, Danny, and John.

**Bob** completed his High School in 1930 and went to work in the Elkhorn Creamery where he was employed until December 31, 1945, being joint manager with Ed Lawrence from 1941 to 1945. He married Jessie Conquergood of Willen in December, 1934. Their four children Norma, Wayne, Donna, and Eldon were born there. In 1946, Bob and Jessie moved to Crystal City and son Jim was born there. Bob was manager of the Crystal City Creamery until March, 1962 when he moved to Winnipeg to work for the Manitoba Association of School Trustees. He moved to Oakville, Manitoba in August, 1977 and retired in July, 1978.

**Joffre** worked as a farm labourer around Elkhorn for a time and joined the Air Force in February, 1941. He graduated as a Sergeant Air Gunner in February, 1942 and lost his life in June, 1942 in an aircraft shot down over the Bay of Fundy.

**Clarence**, the youngest, lived for a time with his mother in Elkhorn until they moved to Winnipeg. He served for a short time with the Royal Canadian Air Force and on his discharge, he and his mother moved to Edmonton.

Tillie (Dahl) McDonald, Elkhorn's First Baby, passed away in May, 1971 at the age of eighty-seven in Edmonton.

submitted by Blanche Snyder

#### **Carl and Alice Dahl and Family**

**Carl Dahl** was born on the homestead, July 29, 1888, of his father and mother, **Thomas and Olena Dahl**, the youngest and only son with six older sisters. The original home on S.E. 2-12-29, was burned early in 1898 the present home built later the same year.

Thomas Dahl was one of the pioneers who urged that a school be built in Mossgiel district, where Carl and his sisters attended. June 29, 1910 Carl married Alice Lipsey, eldest daughter of William and Blanche Lipsey. Alice was born October 28, 1884 on the homestead at Fleming, North West Territories. They started their life together on the Dahl farm.

Four daughters were born there **Blanche, Norma, Marjory** and **Gladys**. In 1922, the family moved to the Village of Elkhorn, where the parents resided until their death. Gladys predeceased them May 1923, Marjory October 1955.



Carl and Alice Dahl — 1910.

Blanche married **Mac Snyder** December 6, 1939. From this marriage **Joan** was born July 26, 1941 and **William** was born February 23, 1953. Mac was accidentally killed November 1954 at Lethbridge. Blanche resides at Vancouver. Joan married **Ken Reid** December 1960.

Raymond, an only child was born July 14, 1963. They reside at Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. Bill married **Jeanette Rolheiser** April 27, 1976, their son **Kevin** was born December 27, 1979.

Norma married **Clay Boiteau** January 26, 1938 at Prince Albert. Two daughters were born, **Carla**, January 12, 1940 and **Rae**, July 31, 1952. They have resided in Burnaby since 1958. Clay died October 1977.

Carla married **Lucien Molgat** July 7, 1962. They have three daughters **Michelle**, **Jocelyn** and **Adrienne** and reside in Vancouver. Rae married **Michael Monnon** July 14, 1973. They have one son **Christopher Clay**.

The Carl Dahl family attended St. Mark's Anglican Church. Carl was a member of the vestry for

many years. They all were active in church activities.

In 1960 their Golden Anniversary was celebrated with many relatives and friends present.

In 1970 their 60th Anniversary was very festive, being held on Manitoba Centennial at Elkhorn.

Mr. Dahl was a grain buyer in Elkhorn, then a carpenter. During their lives together, they faced depression and sorrow with great courage and faith and were both respected and loved by friends and relatives throughout their lives. One of his favorite interests was the Elkhorn Stadium. He helped in building the structure, plus many hours helping in varied ways.

submitted by Blanche Snyder

### Walter and Sarah Davey

**Walter Davey**, born November 23rd, 1870, was the son of William Davey and the former Elizabeth Avery Chapple. Walter had two sisters, Fanny and Lucy, and their home was in Neath, Glamorganshire, Wales. As a boy, Walter worked for the London Newcastle Tea Company.

In the 1870's and 80's there was a movement in the British Isles for people to emigrate to the Colonies in order to better their living conditions. If one believed the advertising of the day, it would take only a few years in the new country to make a fortune and so be able to return to the homeland and live a life of luxury!

Walter's half-brother, Frederick William Chapple, the son of Mrs. Davey by a previous marriage, had left for Canada in 1882 in company with friend Jack Russell. From Winnipeg, these two men worked building the C.P. railroad west until they reached Elkhorn, in western Manitoba. There they struck south west about ten miles and filed on land. Fred's was the east half of section 24-10-29, west of the 1st Meridian and Jack's was just west and south.

William Davey and wife, Elizabeth, decided they too would come to Canada. So, with son Walter and grand-daughter, Annie Pedrick, they left for the new land in 1886. Annie Pedrick was the daughter of their oldest daughter, Fanny Pedrick, and was eleven years old. Her role was to help care for her grandmother and generally be useful.

Work on the homestead proved to be hard. For a few months, at first, Walter got a job in a store. Before long, the Daveys had taken up land just west of Fred Chapple — the west half of section 24-10-29, west of the 1st meridian. They called their new home "Castle Hill".

While on the homestead, the Daveys were associated with Kola Church and interested in the community around them. Walter became a councilman for the Rural Municipality of Wallace. William was a

progressive person. He was a good conversationalist, could sing and was a fine penman.

Around the year 1900, Walter made a trip back to Wales and before he returned to Canada he married **Sarah Jones**. Sarah's home was near Ystalfera in the Swansea Valley near Walter's relatives. She was Welsh and spoke the language in Canada whenever she had someone to speak with. She was musical, loved hymns especially, and was very hospitable.

During the time Walter was away from Canada his mother died. She was buried in the Kola Cemetery. Sometime after Walter and Sarah returned to the farm they had the misfortune of losing the house on the farm by fire. Some of their neighbors at this time were: J. Russell, E. B. Weldon, John D. Johnson, P. Stewart, F. W. Chapple, T. Powell and F. O. B. Mundy.

After twenty years of farming, Walter and Sarah moved, in 1906, to Elkhorn to live. Their home was a large frame house at the north end of Grange Street. Walter became Postmaster and Mail-carrier for more than four years but when the Federal Government changed Walter was obliged to look for other means of support. He turned to Insurance and Real Estate, acquiring and exchanging various pieces of property in the Village. He was also County Clerk for a period of time.

Sarah always had a large garden, both flowers and vegetables. She had 'boarders', often having people who were to be in town for only a few days. One of these was the "Seven Sutherland Sisters' Shampoo Lady" whose hair was so long it draped on the floor. The Johnson sisters from north of Elkhorn were other boarders. They were seamstresses and sewed such pretty things! Maurice Ray, the telegrapher at the C.P.R. station was a much liked long-time boarder.

Sarah was a religious person and was a keen supporter of "Revivals" and the Welsh Male Voice Choir which came to Elkhorn periodically. The Presbyterian Church and later the United was the religious centre for the Daveys. Walter was on the Church Boards for years and Sarah did much for the women's organizations.

Walter's father, William, who had come to the village with them was in poor health now. He suffered from arthritis and got around laboriously with two canes. He became confined to the house and was later bed-ridden. He died in 1918 or 1919 and was buried in Kola Cemetery beside his wife. Sometime after his death, Walter and Sarah moved to a cottage farther south on Grange Street, beside the "jail". Sarah's health was failing. Walter continued his interest in the affairs of the Village and was mayor for a term or two. It was during this time that Manitoba

Hydro came to Elkhorn. In the winter, curling became of prime interest. He often coached the young folk in the fine arts of the game.

Sarah died on April 29th, 1949, at the age of seventy-nine. She was buried in the Elkhorn Cemetery. Walter became restless and changed from one mode of living to another, gradually disposing of his property. Finally, in 1951, he returned to his beloved South Wales to be with relatives. He died in November, 1955, at the age of eighty-five years. His ashes were returned to Canada later and were interred in the Kola Cemetery.

submitted by Dorothy J. Borrowman whose mother, Annie Pedrick Johnson, was the niece of Walter Davey.

## The Day Family

**Frederick Gerald Day** (1866-1944) homesteaded on S.W. 16-11-28 in 1887. At the age of 21 he came from London, England and travelled by rail to Virden. He worked for Bill Sproat in the valley north of Virden, soon after he arrived.

**Ada Maude North** (1877-1950) emigrated from Manchester, England, arriving in the Virden area in 1902. She married Frederick Day on December 2, 1902 in Virden. Dave Hutchison, as a small boy, remembers the newlyweds passing through Buckingham School Grounds with team and cutter on the way to the farm.

Frederick and Ada had three children: **Bill, Jack and Ernie**.

Bill, born in 1904, farmed all his working years on the home farm.

Jack, born in 1906, married **May Roach** and farmed on the Arthur Roach farm in the Butler area for many years. Jack and May, who had two children, **Darlene and Terry**, are now retired and reside in Virden.

Ernie (1909-1965) married **Doreen Scotney** and had one son, **Jerry**.

Bill married **Phyllis May Scotney** on June 26, 1933. Phyllis' father, Norman Scotney, had settled in the Lippentott (Kola) region about 1908, and later moved to Elkhorn where Norman started his law practise.

Bill and Phyllis have five children. **Lorne**, now in Dauphin, was married to **Arlene White**, and has two children — **Bradley** and **Arla**. **Joyce** is married to **Bob Dillabough** of Virden and their two children are **Ricky** and **Jackie**. **Jack** is married to **Betty McAuley**. They live in Virden also, with their three girls — **Elan, Shonda** and **Dana**. **Joan** is married to **Wayne Adams** of Goodlands. They, too, have three offspring — **Brian, Michelle** and **Jeffrey**. **Ken**, now third generation farming on the Day homestead, is

married to **Yvonne Ruddick**. They have a small daughter, **Kerri**.

Bill and Phyllis retired in 1973 and are living in Elkhorn.

### **Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Dean**

**Sidney Dean** was born at Oshawa, Ontario in 1874 and came to Kirkella, Manitoba, to spend a while with his uncle, Fred Crossman. During the time he was there, he spent some time attending the Indian Industrial School at Elkhorn.

Yearning to travel, he went to the U.S.A. and spent a few years working in the cotton fields in the deep south, and later on came to Capron, Illinois, where he married **Stella Ellwanger** who had been born in 1884 and lived in Capron, Illinois. To this union, at this time, were born seven children, **Wilson, Ethel, Harold** and **Cecil**, and triplet girls who passed away in infancy. In 1912 Sidney and Stella left Illinois with two rail car loads of stock and settlers' effects to live on Charlie Crossman's farm E ½ 10-12-29. Ethel, Wilson and Harold went to Mossgiel School. In 1914 they moved to Antler, Saskatchewan shipping stock and settlers effects by rail east to Brandon and back west to Antler, Saskatchewan. Mrs. Dean and the four children drove by team of horses and democrat early in March to Antler.

At Antler, there were four more children born; twin girls who were dead at birth, and then **Beulah** and **Thelma**.

Ethel, Mrs. A. Jensen, lives in Yuma, Arizona, U.S.A.

Wilson married Myrtle De Witt, who taught the McNaught School, some fifteen miles southwest of Elkhorn in 1930. She is a widow and is retired and living in Regina, Saskatchewan.

Harold married Tess Foster of Kelvington, Saskatchewan. She is also a widow. Beulah married Joe Mills of Fertile, Saskatchewan.

Cecil married Margaret Kherberg and she passed away in 1963. Cecil re-married Charlotte Sim in 1966 and lives near Virden, Manitoba.

Thelma married Merlin Rowan and now lives in Elkhorn.

Wilson, Harold and Beulah are now deceased.

Mr. Sid Dean was very active in community affairs for many years of his life.

In 1956 he and his wife Stella moved back to Elkhorn to be near their daughter, Thelma. Mr. Dean passed away in 1956 and Mrs. Dean passed on in 1957.

submitted by Cecil and Charlotte Dean and Thelma  
(Dean) Rowan

### **Decelles**

My grandfather, Hercule Decelles, emigrated from Quebec to Connecticut, United States of America. While there, he met and married Adele Herbert. They decided to emigrate again and moved to St. Norbert, Manitoba. They bought a farm and raised four boys and five girls. In 1902, the railroad had gone through and the west needed more people, so grandfather bought a homestead at St. Marthe, Saskatchewan, which is northeast of Rocanville. The family moved in the spring of 1903, and came as far as Kirkella by train.

As there was no branch line north, the family had to walk their cattle forty-five miles to the family homestead site. They farmed there all their life.

My father Zacharie Decelles, married Anna Chartier of St. Lazare in 1909 and farmed on the same section of land, and also raised a family of four boys and five girls. His family is living in both Manitoba and Saskatchewan. In 1966, Dad decided to retire and sold the farm to Silvite Company of Flin Flon. Where my old home stood is now the site of the Rocanville potash mine.

Of Grandfather Decelles' family, Dad is the only survivor and resides in a home in Winnipeg at the age of ninety-seven years young.

I, **Flo**, was born in St. Marthe, and, with my brothers and sisters, went to school and helped with the farm chores. St. Marthe School was situated on two acres of Dad's farm. In 1941, with another brother, I enlisted in the Army and stayed there for four years. I had six months in the Aleutian Islands before I was sent to Italy, then to Britain, before being sent to France and on to Germany. It was there I met my other brother, in the hospital. He was wounded that morning and I got it late in the afternoon. After leaving the hospital, I was sent back to Canada and was discharged in 1945.

In 1947, I bought a half section of land in the Rocanville District and farmed until 1965. That year, I worked for the Department of Highways at St. Lazare and stayed there until 1968 when I was transferred to Elkhorn District. I bought a house from Reg Will in the spring of 1969 and, in April, married **Agnes McLean** from Portage la Prairie.

I sold my farm at Rocanville in the spring of 1973 and bought a quarter section from Mr. Hugh Walker in the Reeder district, known as the Cassell quarter, which I farmed until 1975. Because of medical problems, I retired from the Department of Highways and in the spring of 1978, sold the farm and had an auction sale.

Agnes and I continue to live in Elkhorn. We are both busy with our many hobbies and the Elkhorn Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion. Although we

are newcomers to Elkhorn compared to the length of time some have resided in Elkhorn, we wish Elkhorn a Happy Centennial in 1982 and hope to help her on the way into the next one hundred years.

submitted by Flo and Agnes Decelles

### Story of How The Dixons First Came Before the Railroad

The prairie lay before them  
The future vast and wide  
They came on from Brandon  
Two brothers side by side.  
Their school chums came too  
They were venturesome and bold-  
Up went the tents on the Prairie sod  
A story still untold!

The railroad was coming west  
Stopping places marked the way.  
To our pioneers of long ago  
This was surely a great day!

Many a fact has been lost with time  
In the building of our land,  
But we know they were brave and struggled  
As they took each other's hand.

In 1881 the construction of the C.P.R. railroad was delayed at Brandon so a few young men and women came on ahead to put up tents and provide goods and services for the building crew when they came through to the spot later known as Elkhorn.

Among this group of hardy souls were William and Thomas Dixon with their school chum Chris Trumbell from Parry Sound, Ontario. They put up a wooden frame building which was just a shelter for people to get into from rain and soon a wooden two storey frame building was constructed which was known as "The Stopping House". It provided room and meals and was operated by Thomas Cavanagh and his wife, Jennie (the oldest daughter of Thos. Dixon Sr.) This building burned down and later the Manitoba Hotel was built on the same property (Lots 8 and 9 — Block 33) in 1899, by William Dixon. Thomas Dixon went on to Moosomin and built a hotel. He was a great hotel man.

### Thomas Dixon Sr. 1819-1902

**Thomas Dixon Sr** was born in England and met his wife **Mary Ann** on the ship enroute for Canada. They settled in the County of Grey, Ontario and raised a family of five, moving west in 1881 as far as Brandon where Mary Ann became ill and died in 1884. Then Thomas Sr. (great-grandfather) came on to Elkhorn to join his sons and daughters who were already settled; he lived with William till his death in 1902 and was buried in the old cemetery; later his

remains were removed to the new cemetery in the family plot. Their children in order of age were:

**Jennie** married **Tom Cavanagh**; had two children **Les** and **Edith**.

**Harry** married **Eliza**; had two children **Willie** and **Lillian**.

**William** married **Ellen Mary Cole**; had six children, **Wilfred**, **Anson**, **Winona**, **Frank**, **Earl** and **Muriel**.



L-R Standing: Earl, Wilfred, Nonie, Frank. Seated: Mrs. Mary Dixon, Muriel, Mr. Wm. Dixon.

**Thomas** married **Miss Beach** from Oak Lake at an early age who left him with five children, **Wella**, **Elizabeth**, **William**, **James** and **May**. He later married **Lillian Golding**, the cook at the Manitoba Hotel and they had one son, **Golding**, who later carried on the family hotel business.

**Ellen** married **Chris Trumbell**. They had two children, **Sylvia** and **Eric**. Chris and Ellen had the first bakery in Elkhorn on the corner just east of the hotel (Lots 11 and 12, Block 13).

### William John Dixon

**William John Dixon** born February 22, 1860, died October 7, 1919.

**William Dixon** was known as **Billy Dixon** in the early days of Elkhorn. He was twenty-one years of age when he came to this area with his brother Tom and school chum Chris Trumbell. He set up a tent and sold tobacco and hot lunches to the railroad crew and the early pioneers as they moved in. Then a wooden

THOMAS  
WILLIAM  
DIXON

BORN IN ENGLAND 1818  
CAME TO ELKHORN 1881  
DIED ELKHORN 1902

MARRIED

MARY ANN

MET ON SHIP FROM ENGLAND  
DIED BRANDON 1884

5 CHILDREN

JENNY

MARRIED

TED CAVANAGH

SEVERAL CHILDREN

HARRY

MARRIED

ELIZA

WILLIAM

LILLIAN

WILLIAM JOHN

1860-1919

MARRIED

"NELL" ELLEN MARY COLE

1870-1944

6 CHILDREN

THOMAS

MARRIED

TWICE

BEACH OAK LAKE

LILLIAN

WELLA

MAY

JAMES

WILLIAM

ELIZABETH

GOLDING

ELLEN

MARRIED

CHRIS TRUMBELL

WILFRED CLIVE 1890-1958

MARRIED

LEONE ROSETTA STUBBS

1892-

9 CHILDREN

WINONA LOUISE

MARRIED

MICHAEL ROCHE

ROSEMARY

ANSON CHARLES

MARRIED

MARGARET BURNES

KEITH

BERNICE

FRANK MARIE

FRANK PERCIVAL

WROTE BOOK OF POEMS

KILLED W.W.I

EARL SIFTON

MARRIED

MONA DAVIS

LILLIAN

MERVIN

DOREEN

WILLIAM

RONALD

JOYCE

ELLEN MURIEL ROSE

MARRIED

MAURICE GILBART

ERIC

LEROY

MELVIN

DONALD

MAXINE EDITH WINONA FRASER

DAYS LAND ALTA

JOYCE ISABELLE SODER

SELKIRK MAN.

IRENE ELLEN ACTON

NEWLISKERD ONT.

MARY LOUISE JONES

ELKHORN MAN.

DONALD WILFRED DIXON

FONTHILL ONT

FRANK HAROLD DIXON

ELKHORN MAN.

KATHLEEN LEONE MERRITT

NORTH BAY ONT.

GERALD WILLIAM DIXON

TWINS DECEASED

JOAN LILLIAN CHALLIS

WINNIPEG MAN

CLAIRE DULCIE WEIR

CALBARY ALTA

structure two stories high was built known as "The Stopping House" which was operated by Tom Cavanagh (his brother-in-law). He later owned several businesses: a butcher shop, barber shop and pool room and livery barn built in 1882 on lots 6 and 7 Block 33, and finally the Manitoba Hotel built in 1899 (Lots 8 and 9 Block 33) after the wooden structure burnt down.

In 1888, December 27th he married **Ellen Mary Cole** (Nell) who had come from England with her parents, Charles and Mary Cole with their family of seven daughters and two sons. When they arrived at the station in Elkhorn they all slept on the floor till Great Grandfather Cole could hire a team and wagon to take them to their homestead at "the point", where the Assiniboine valley bends. There they built a log home where sons George and Fred did the farming while their father, who was a carpenter, built some of the first schools and homes in that area. Ellen Mary had been fourteen when she came to Canada in 1884 so she was soon able to leave home and be employed as a nursemaid to Mrs. Thomas Cavanagh (Jennie Dixon) in Elkhorn; the nursery was above the kitchen of the old "Stopping House" and it was there that she met Billy Dixon who with his lovely black team of horses offered to drive her home to visit her family one nice summer day. There were no surveyed roads, just a trail across the prairie toward the valley and Miniota. I remember my Grandma telling me when I was a little girl how Grandpa asked her to hold the reins while he got out and picked a bouquet of wild flowers which were growing thick all over the prairie. She was so proud to be allowed to hold on to such a beautiful team and then she was very surprised when he stepped into the seat beside her and asked her to be his bride! When they arrived at her home above the valley, Grandpa (William John) asked her father (Charles Cole) if he could marry her (Ellen Mary). They were married December 27, 1888 and resided in their new home just north of the livery barn on Lot 4 Block 33. This dwelling was referred to as the "private house" and still stands today where Mr. and Mrs. Berry live. To this marriage six children were born: **Wilfred Clive**, born October 5, 1890 married **Leone Stubbs** October 30, 1917, died March 4, 1958. **Anson Charles**, born in 1890 married **Margaret Burness**, December 20, 1924, died December 20, 1944. **Winona Louise** born March 13, 1894, married **Michael Roche** June 23, 1924, died March 1, 1957. **Frank Percival**, born April 16, 1898, killed in action August 29, 1918. **Earl Sifton**, born November 9, 1900, married **Mona Stuart** in 1929 and died in 1979. **Ellen Muriel Rose**, born November 26, 1902, married **Maurice Gilbert**, resides at Betel Lodge, Selkirk, Manitoba.

In 1897 William had made plans to rent the hotel and leave for the Klondike but the gold rush was suddenly over so he stayed in Elkhorn. He was very fond of race horses and in 1906 he rented the hotel and moved out to the farm two and one half miles west of town which was then on the old highway to Regina, which is now known as the P. Hoemson farm. He farmed until 1910 and moved back to the hotel until the spring of 1914 when they again moved to the farm and finally sold the hotel to his brother, Tom Dixon, in 1916. His remaining years were spent on the farm where he died October 7, 1919.

His wife Ellen Mary (Nell) continued to live on the farm with her youngest son Earl farming the land. She was well remembered for the beauty spot she created around the little stone cottage.

Perhaps from writing to the early seed houses and nursery stock places like Patmores she must have gleaned a great knowledge of horticulture. I am sure a lot of love and elbow grease was poured into that soil too because people used to come in off the highway to take pictures. There was a weeping birch with tulips around in memory of her son Frank, killed overseas, and a plot of beautiful roses in memory of her mother.

The whole front yard was terraced and planned by the hand of an artist — she was a landscape gardener in its truest form. When the farm was sold in 1929 she went to live with her daughter Winona at Estevan, Saskatchewan. She died there September 9, 1944.

submitted by Maxine Dixon Fraser

### Wilfred Clive Dixon Family

Wilfred Clive Dixon born Oct. 5, 1890 died Mar. 4, 1958. **WILFRED** (known as Wilfie) was the eldest child born to Billy and Ellen Mary Dixon in the family home just north of the livery barn. He started school in the little wooden school just north at the end of the block where Pearl Stonehouse now resides. The next year when he went into Gr. II the new stone



Leone Stubbs (Dixon).



Wilfred Dixon.



school was finished and there he completed his education. He helped his father in the hotel till he started farming the N.E.¼ 13-12-28. October 30, 1917 he married Leone Rosetta Stubbs from Miami, Manitoba who had come to Elkhorn in 1914 to teach Grade III and IV in the new brick school which was built in 1910 and torn down in 1977.

Neither Leone nor Wilfie knew too much about farming but with the help of their good neighbors, the Soders, and a few more kind relatives and friends they soon learned. **Maxine** was born January, 1919 at the home of Mrs. Young, a midwife in town next door to the post office (an older wooden structure) where Leone and Wilfie were in strict quarantine for the "flu" (Spanish influenza). Leone was very ill but Wilfie who did not get it had to sneak out in the night and walk west the two and one-half miles to the farm where his parents and other members of the family were all sick with the flu. He would do what he could to feed and water stock and help tend the sick. Those were the days when Dr. Goodwin went night and day tending the sick and the dying. In May, 1921, **Joyce** was born and six weeks later Wilfie and Leone with their two daughters left what they called "the little farm" and moved to the "Sutton Place" N.E.¼ of 15-12-28 which was three miles north of town and three quarters miles east. This was a large house that had been built over and around what was supposed to have been the first building north of Elkhorn. In the floor boards of the dining room you could see it had been a two roomed dwelling. The Suttons had built on a lovely big living room with a high ceiling, black oak mantel with green porcelain fire bricks around the fireplace and a lovely bay window. There were four bedrooms upstairs and a huge lean-to kitchen with a dark little pantry in one corner, then a porch entrance at the back door which was later pulled off to the south for a hen house. It was in this home where in 1922 **Irene**, 1924 **Mary**, 1925 **Donald**, 1927 **Frank** were all born. In 1929 **Kathleen** (Kaye) was born at Mrs. Young's home in Elkhorn. Sept. 27/31 Leone was rushed to Virden by Dr. Johnston who broke all speed records and delivered twins **Gerald** (Jerry) and **Joan**, in the Virden Hospital. **Claire** was born at the home of nurse McFadzean in Elkhorn.

Getting to school was a job at first. The first three went in the York van till they were old enough to drive old Robin into town and leave him at the livery barn. For some unknown reason he would be so anxious to go we could hardly get into the buggy; then he would gallop all the way to "Cook's corner" (a mile north of town) and then break into a trot. Later on during the dry thirties they took a team hitched to what we called "the carry all" some called them Bennett buggies. It was the front of our old model T Ford car with a



L-R: Claire, Joan, Kay, Frank, Donald, Mary, Irene, Joyce, Maxine 1940.

wooden box built on the back. In winter we used the back frame of the car with a wooden dash board — this was set on a bob sleigh. By the spring of 1938 the elementary pupils in our family transferred to Burnbank school. In 1942 Leone went back to teaching school at Burnbank where five of the pupils were her own children. She taught ten years at Burnbank; then she and Wilfie moved to Elkhorn. Frank took over the farm. Leone taught school again in Elkhorn for two years in the same room she had come to in 1914. She taught seven years at Hargrave retiring at the age of seventy-two.

Wilfred was a Past Master of the Elkhorn Masonic Lodge A.F. and A.M. He was a very enthusiastic member of the Pool Elevator and served as Secretary-Treasurer from the beginning of its organization till he passed away in 1958. They were members of the Anglican Church and participated in the community services at Burnbank.

After they moved to town Wilfie helped with the planting of the town park and was always a willing worker for the cemetery. He loved to curl, usually playing third. He also loved to dance, especially an old time waltz. Leone was a great reader and had a large selection of good books. She had her A.T.C.M. in piano and in her earlier years had a good soprano voice. Many a night after the family were in bed she could be heard at the piano downstairs playing beautiful classical music. Times were difficult during the dry years with such a large family but we came through it likely better citizens for having done so.

Wilfred died in March, 1958. Leone now resides at the Sherwood in Virden.

### Donald Dixon

**Donald Dixon** married **Betty Harrison** from London, Ontario. They have three children: a son, **Gregory**, and two daughters, **Darlene** and **Brenda**.

submitted by Donald Dixon

## The Lyle Walter Dodge Family

My father, **Lyle Walter Dodge**, was born in 1896 in Byng, Ontario, a small community near the shores of Lake Erie. The family, of United Empire Loyalist stock, moved to the nearby town of Dunnville when he was young. It was here that he received his education and worked for the Shirton Lumber Company until he joined the Canadian Field Artillery (67th Battery). He was sent overseas in 1916, and fought in several battles, including Vimy Ridge and Passchendaele, before he was wounded two months prior to the signing of the Armistice.



Betty Lou Dodge and friends Sept., 1938.

Upon his return to Canada he soon journeyed west where he joined the Beaver Lumber Company. He worked in several of their yards in Saskatchewan before he was transferred to Govan as manager in 1921. While in Govan he met and later married my mother, **Vera Carrie Gilroy**, in 1923. They lived in Southey and Lemberg before being transferred to Melfort in 1928. It was here that I was born in 1930.

In 1931 my father was transferred to Elkhorn where the Beaver Lumber had just purchased the Taylor Lumber and Hardware Business and that business became known as the Beaver Dodge.

Our years in Elkhorn were during the "dirty thirties" and I often remember men getting off the trains wandering from house to house begging for food and money. In those years, Elkhorn was one of the major stops made by all trains travelling both East and West; it was here that the engines were replenished with water. For that reason, many men got off the trains looking for help. I remember my mother often made sandwiches to distribute to them along with a few nickels, dimes or maybe a quarter.

Although they were difficult years, they were good years. The community was closely-knit and each of us made many long and lasting friendships.

My family belonged to the United Church; my father was a member of the Masonic Order; he was an avid curler and he also took an active part in the organization of the Sports Days in Elkhorn while we lived there.

My parents frequently played bridge with the McCorkindales (he was the postmaster); the Kellys (he was the station master); the Lidsters (he owned the meat market); the Dunbars (he was a bank manager) and the Lunds (a retired couple).

My most vivid memories of Elkhorn were the Saturday evening get togethers downtown when the local townspeople, along with many area farm families, gathered to do their weekly shopping and to share the happenings of the past week.

The winter carnival and the costume competitions at the rink were anticipated by all of us.

The summer croquet club, held on the lawn behind the United Church, was a favourite pastime for many of the ladies in the town.

When my father was asked to move, we did so with great anticipation and yet with deep regrets at having to leave a friendly community and the many wonderful friends we had made.

In January 1939, we bid our farewells and left for St. Catharines, Ontario, where my father opened up the first Beaver Lumber yard in that province. He was manager for several years before being promoted to Ontario Divisional Manager. He then became responsible for both the purchasing of more Beaver yards and the lumber which stocked them. He retired in December, 1961, and following this, he and my mother travelled extensively for several years.

I graduated as a nurse in 1952 from the St. Catharines General Hospital and in 1953 married **Norman John William Bellows**. We have two daughters — **Deborah Lynn** who graduated in 1980 from McMaster University with her Master of Divinity degree. She is married to the **Reverend Terence Dempsey** who has a two point charge at Mountsberg, Ontario.

Our second daughter, **Dianne Leslie**, graduated in 1977 from the Toronto General Hospital. She is presently working at the Foothills Hospital in Calgary, Alberta.

My father died in October, 1977 at the age of 81. My mother still resides in St. Catharines as do my husband and I.

submitted by Betty Lou (Dodge) Bellows

## The Drake Family Story

Drake's Valley View Farm, in a scenic location on the banks of the Burnbank Creek five miles north of Elkhorn, is the setting for the Drake Family Story. **Hugh Frederic Drake** emigrated from England in

1903, coming directly to the Elkhorn district where he bought the farm that forms the centre of the present farming operations carried on by his eldest son and grandson. In 1905 he married **Isabella (Belle) Freer**. They had a family of two sons; **Peter** and **Tom**, and two daughters, **Dorothy** and **Kay**. In addition to becoming a successful farmer, he and his wife together planned and created a beautiful garden and a fine farm home. During their years at the farm, they were active in community affairs; also Hugh contributed his time and talents as Secretary-Treasurer and Trustee of the Burnbank School District



Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Drake with their children. L-R: Peter, Tom, Dorothy and Kay.

and as Secretary and one of the founders of the Elkhorn Co-operative Marketing Association.

In 1943 Hugh and Belle retired to a home in Elkhorn where they proceeded to create another beautiful garden. Together they became regular prize winners at the annual Virden Flower Show. Hugh's special interest in gardening extended into his community where as a member of the Elkhorn and District Chamber of Commerce he helped sponsor the annual Gardens and Grounds clean-up campaign. After winning in the garden contests, he became one of the judges. He left a lasting memorial to his community work in the form of the Elkhorn Park for which he and Jim Francis did so much in planning, arranging, planting, and caring for the trees and shrubs that converted an unsightly vacant area to a place of beauty in the heart of the Village. He passed away in 1956, his wife in 1979 and they are buried in the Elkhorn Cemetery.

Their older son, Peter, carried on with the home

farm. Peter married **Florence Ogilvie** of Elkhorn in 1942. They had a family of one son, **Hugh** and a daughter, **Mary**. Their son, **Hugh Frederic Drake**, named after his grandfather, has successfully taken over the operation of the farm. Hugh married **Myrna Black** in 1969 and they have two sons, **Darwin** and **Dwayne**.

Hugh's second son, Tom, left the farm in 1926 and, after an interesting career with the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, he has retired from active business life. He and his wife, **Mylo**, have established their home on lake-side property on the Bruce Peninsula at Tobermory, Ontario.

Their older daughter, Dorothy, is married to **Gordon Hennan**, formerly of Elkhorn. After many years in the construction business in Vancouver, he has retired and they are living in Burnaby, British Columbia.

The younger daughter, Kay, is married to **Dan Lowery** of Bellingham, Washington, United States of America. Both are enjoying retirement after many years in the teaching profession and Kay is continuing to follow her long time consuming interest in raising purebred Arabian horses.

The family is carrying on with twenty-two great grandchildren at the latest count.

submitted by Florence Drake

### Duke Family

Originally from Scotland, **Robert and Margaret Duke** lived in Birtle and Watsview Plains before arriving in Elkhorn (April, 1929), accompanied by seven of their nine children: **Margaret, Arthur, Archibald, William, Robert, Andrew and Charles**. They set off from Watsview Plains by horse and sleigh, but abandoned this at McAuley after a precarious crossing of the Assiniboine during spring thaw. They travelled the rest of the way by train. They worked on the Aikins farm about seven miles south of Elkhorn for several years before moving into the town itself.

In 1947, Robert and Margaret Duke went to New Zealand, and were joined there in 1949 by Charles. They have now passed on, but he is still at the following address, and might be able to supply you with additional information, as he was in Elkhorn the longest.

Charles Duke  
26 Merfield Street  
Glen Innes  
Auckland 6  
New Zealand

submitted by Archie Duke

## Sidney Dunbar Family

From **Margaret Kersey, nee Dunbar**, born in Red Deer, Alberta, November 30, 1915, moved to Elkhorn July, 1929.

My father, **Sidney Dunbar** was transferred to Elkhorn, Manitoba from Regina, Saskatchewan to take the place of R. H. Brotherhood as manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce. We lived first in the Brotherhood house in SE Elkhorn, but moved the next spring to one of the McIntosh houses in NW Elkhorn, near the CPR station.

I went to the Elkhorn High School, and completed Grades nine, ten and eleven; then to Winnipeg for business college, and then to work in British Columbia. I married a native son of Elkhorn, in the Anglican church on March 29, 1937, and moved to Summerland, B.C.

Life in a small prairie town has a great many advantages. We played games from tennis in the summer to skating in the winter. Dances or card parties cost only 25 cents and included lunch, often ham sandwiches, cake and coffee. There was no local hospital at that time, so my youngest sister was born at home, and a nurse lived with us for several days. The doctor had a car for summer travel and a snowmobile for winter, because house calls were the order of the day. I believe this snowmobile was the first in Canada, and was designed and made by Dr. Johnston and the Livery Stable proprietor. We town children walked everywhere, at any hour of the day or night, alone or in groups, quite freely and safely. I remember walking to the rink to skate one night when the temperature was fifty three below zero F.

The highlight of the winter season was Robbie Burns night, Jan. 25. There was always a dinner, concert and dance. The year I was fifteen I made fifteen lemon pies for the supper. The concert always included tap dancers, singers, etc., and then the dance went on to the wee hours of the morning. The babies were put on blankets in a corner to sleep, but the dancing was enjoyed by everybody else.

Our schooling was a high calibre, even though there were seldom more than a dozen in a class. We had recordings of operas, books of Shakespeare's plays, a wonderful speller that showed the derivatives of our English words from Greek, Latin and French; with such a well-rounded education I think I am better educated than my children who had larger schools, but scant education in common English grammar.

Sidney Dunbar was born in King's Lynn, England, September 16, 1884. He attended school there in King's Lynn Grammar School. An advertisement in an English paper offering passage to Canada to young men who would work for the Bank of Com-

merce, brought him to this country in 1907. He worked first in Armstrong, B.C. where he first met my mother, **Laura Paton**. They were married five years later in Dauphin, Manitoba. They were transferred to Red Deer and Medicine Hat in Alberta, Wadena and Regina, Sask., Elkhorn, Manitoba, and finally to Vancouver, B.C. where Dad retired. They lived in Elkhorn from 1929 to 1941.

In the early 1930's my friend Audrey Norris and I decided to start a Bridge club for the girls, because the boys had hockey practice on Thursday night, and we wanted something to do that night. We usually had four tables, and met at each member's home in turn. At first we played Auction bridge, but Contract was just coming into its own, so we made a stab at learning it. Perhaps we only counted in the new system, but I doubt we made things as complicated as the rules seem to be today. Shopping for clothes other than what we could get out of the catalogues meant a day trip to Virden or Brandon, either by car or local train. Usually we made the most of it by including a movie, as well as dinner at a big restaurant. In the summer we usually spent a couple of weeks or a month at a summer cottage either at Oak Lake, Manitoba, or Carlyle, Saskatchewan.

During the depression, we were fortunate that Dad had a steady job, although his wages were cut several times. Mum made big pots of stew to take to poor neighbors, and we also made sandwiches for men off the trains. Elkhorn was a main stop for all the trains to pick up coal and water, so the hoboes riding the freights would come to those of us who lived near the tracks to try to get something to eat. We often counted hundreds of men on each freight train, often 150 cars to a train. Some of the men would offer to chop wood (no electric stoves then), but most just asked for tea or something to eat.

Every spring we would give our homes a thorough housecleaning. One spring I remember we just got through the cleaning when a huge dust storm developed. It left a good half inch of dirt on the windowsills, a real mess through the whole house.

Submitted by Margaret (Dunbar) Kersey, Mrs. Reginald John Kersey, 22070-50A Avenue, Langley, B.C. V3A 7H9

Sisters and brothers:

**Mrs. H. P. MacCormack** (Millicent Dunbar), 135 Willow Street, Truro, Nova Scotia B2N 4Z8

**Robert Dunbar** (deceased).

**John P. Dunbar**, 1454 Flemish Street, Kelowna, B.C. Some fond memories include: running on the 'rubber' ice in the Spring on the pond across the tracks; skinny dipping in the same area, starting no later than May 24th; playing cops and robbers using hockey sticks for horses; playing shinny on the roads;

hitching our sleighs behind the farmers' sleighs when they came into town on Saturdays; pouring water down gopher holes — we got a cent a tail from Mr. Norris.

I spent my career in the R.C.A.F. — Canadian Armed Forces, retiring here in 1973. **Mary Bulkot**, from Cranbrook, B.C. and I were married in 1949. We have four sons only one of whom is still living at home.

**Mrs. C. Ashe** (Mary Dunbar) #1901, 505 Sixth Street, Calgary, Alberta T2P 1X5.

### Dave and Jim Duncan

**Dave Duncan** was born in a small village in the County of Forfar, Parish of Carmylie, Scotland on November 10, 1892. His father was a stone quarrier in Carmylie. His mother died when he was eight years old. His father remarried soon after, so he was raised by his stepmother whom they called Steppy. He came to Canada in 1910 and worked as a farm labourer in Saskatchewan and Alberta. On one farm in Alberta between 1910-16, they had a horse drawn combine. Dave enlisted in World War I November 25, 1916 at Regina, Saskatchewan. He was overseas until the end of the war. While in the army, he met and became very friendly with another Scotsman, Tommy Will from Elkhorn. Tommy persuaded Dave to come back to Elkhorn with him and meet his sister, Lizzie. He made his home with the Wills for a time, and became very friendly with family. He and Tommy played their violins in the district for many dances. However, nothing did develop from his meeting with the sister. Dave worked for Ben Poston, also Jim Walker. Then he farmed in the district. I believe he rented land from Jack Murray. He was very friendly with the Murrays, and tells how Mrs. Murray baked his bread for him and how good it was. Then in 1920, he bought a farm from Walter Davey, Sec. 24-10-29 about ten miles south of Elkhorn. A younger brother, **Jim Duncan**, born in Carmylie, Scotland, September 14, 1887 came out and joined Dave on the farm, and together they bought the place. They lived in the old shack that was there for a time. In 1922, Dave and Jim built a new house. Gentlemen from Elkhorn were very helpful, in coming out to help build it. Mrs. Walter Davey and Mrs. Bill Milroy and other good ladies, would often come and make meals for the men, when they were working there. They were not farming long when a prairie fire got out of control and burned their barn and a granary full of oats. However it burned off the old raspberry bushes, and the outcome was loads of big, wild raspberries from the new bushes. People from Elkhorn and neighbours from miles around, came to pick the berries. Dave was a barber in the army. Then

Jim picked up the trade from him. Many men would come, even schoolboys, to get their hair cut. They would often bring a cake or home baking of some kind which was always a welcome treat for bachelors. Dave and Jim also kept wolf-hounds for a time. They caught a lot of wolves. The pelts were a good price at that time, and Dave was very good at skinning them. So bringing the wolves in, helped keep the wolf from the door, as the saying goes. When the house was almost finished, the people in the district held several surprise parties, as there was quite a nice living room to dance in. On one occasion Jimmy Boyce from Butler, who was a very good sport, brought his violin to help play for the dance. He also brought a jug of refreshment which he hid beneath the back step. Some of the other guests found it so an extra good time was had by all. In 1932, **Dave** married **Lucey Huntley**, a neighbour. They have one daughter, **Rosella** married to **Stuart Shepherd**. They have one son, **Lloyd**. He was born in the old Dr. Goodwin house in Elkhorn, May 19, 1940. In 1960 he married **Phylis Morrisson** from Calgary. Lloyd and Phylis live on an acreage near Taber, Alberta, where he owns and operates a rug and carpet cleaning plant. They have three children, Dave, Debbie and Jim. Dave married Michelle Collier from Taber in 1979. They have one son Brian. Debbie and Jim both live in Taber. Dave and Jim also bought the S.E. quarter of the section they were living on. Jim married **Clarice Ross** from Antler, Saskatchewan. Both families lived together for several years until Dave paid Jim for his share of the house and moved it onto the S.W. quarter of sec. 24-10-29. Dave lived there until he sold his farm to the Mennonites in 1956, and moved to Brandon, where he lived until the time of death, March 29, 1974.

Jim built a new house on his quarter. The neighbours were very kind in helping. He had been ill with hay fever for several years. He got so bad he had to quit farming and sold out to the Mennonites. In 1939 he moved his family to Banff, Alberta, where the climate suited his health. He did very well working for the government and running a small motel. In his retirement he enjoyed several years of good health. He passed away December 28, 1978. Clarice sold their property in Banff, to the government which wanted to erect hi-rise buildings on it. She then bought property in Canmore, Alberta. Jim had two daughters. **Maxine**, the elder married **Tommy Toma**, a building contractor. They have three children: Laurie, Connie and Jim. All are living in Edmonton, Alberta. The younger daughter, **Bonnie**, married **Ken Giesbrecht**. They own and operate an Esso-Service station at Carbon, Alberta.

by Rosella Shepherd and  
Lucey Duncan

## Duxbury Family History

**Thos. Duxbury** was born 1835 in Bolton, Lancashire, England and was employed in a cotton factory. Working conditions were poor so he immigrated to Canada in 1885 and (along with his two eldest sons, Charles and Andrew) homesteaded on 12-12-29 west of Elkhorn.

His wife **Betty** arrived in Elkhorn in 1887 with sons John, Thomas, James and Ernest.

His wife, Betty, returned to England with son Ernest and passed away suddenly in 1906 in Belmont, Lancashire, England.

Thos. Sr. passed away in 1908 and was interred at Elkhorn.

**Charles** moved to Elkhorn and became busy in real estate. He was Mayor of the Village and was Secretary of the School Board in 1910 when the new school was built. His wife **Frances** came out from England. They had two children. Son **Bruce** was killed overseas in the First World War; daughter **Anne** married Dr. Pomfret and lived in Winnipeg. The Chas. Duxburys moved to Winnipeg in 1920 where he continued his business in real estate. He passed away in 1949.

**Andrew** met with a fatal accident before the turn of the century.

**John** homesteaded NW 28-12-28 around the 1890's. Earlier he had worked out on farms in Brandon Hills, where he purchased a team of oxen, and then walked them home to his homestead. He also tells of visiting back and forth to Brandon Hills by walking the tracks.

He married **Annie Townsend** and she passed away March 26, 1906. They had one daughter **Janet**, who now lives in Winnipeg.

In 1908, John married **Margaret Burton** and they had two sons. **Bernard** now lives at Salmon Arm, B.C. and **Oscar** resides on the home farm in the Burnbank District.

After working seven years in "Servs Store," Oscar married **Grace Pascoe** in 1940. Oscar was in the RCAF for five years and Grace made her home in Elkhorn, Winnipeg and then back in Elkhorn. Previous to her marriage, Grace worked in the Post Office for ten years. They have one daughter, **Sharon**, born in 1943. After Oscar's discharge from the RCAF, Grace and Oscar farmed (on the old home farm) in the Burnbank Area four miles North of Elkhorn. At present they are still on the farm.

In 1963 Sharon married **Don Leslie** and they live in the Burnbank area. They are operating a mixed dairy and grain farm and are milking up to 30 Jerseys.

They have four children — **Troy** is 13 years old, **Todd** is 11 years old and **Leanne** is 7. They all attend

Elkhorn School and are quite involved in sports — hockey and baseball. Todd blows a mean trumpet. **Chad** is still at home and will be going to school in a couple of years.

Bernard joined Seaforth Highlanders in Vancouver early in 1940; he spent time in England and then was off to Sicily and across to Italy. He was wounded in Italy and after convalescence, rejoined his outfit. He was in Rome after the enemy vacated. He then joined in the final assault in the low lands and came up through France to Holland. He entered Amsterdam in 2nd Allied Jeep.

In 1949 Bernard married **Janet Strachan** of West Summerland B.C. They have three children.

**Ann** married and now is Mrs. **Wayne Polson**, Salmon Arm, B.C. They have 3 children, **Terri**, **Chad** and **Chris**.

**Margaret** married and is now Mrs. **Ron Hagaart**, Enderby, B.C. They have 2 children, **Brett** 2 yrs. and **Kelsey** 4 months.

**Jim** is married to **Sharen Berger** of Salmon Arm. They live in Salmon Arm and Jim commutes to Enderby daily to work as a Phys. Ed. Teacher.

In the early days, lumber to build the barn had to be hauled with a team of broncos from a saw mill at Birtle. As there were no bridges in those days, the Assiniboine River had to be forded. All firewood was hauled by team from Pipestone Creek.

In 1907 the house was moved from the North to the South side of the creek with four teams and became stuck in the creek. It stayed there all winter. In the Spring, Ed Parsons pulled the house up the hill with one horse using a "Dead-man" and pulleys.

In 1915 John was the victim of a prairie fire which took his wheat crop in stook — a really good crop and 1916 was the year of a rust crop.

Around these years we first drove McLaughlin cars and we remember fixing flat tires, changing (grinding) gears and carrying stones in case the car stalled going up a hill — stones were used to block the wheels from going backwards down hill.

In 1920 John and Margaret moved to Elkhorn where John was active in real estate and auctioneering. He was county bailiff and assessor of Wallace Municipality for 22 years. He visited all farms in the Municipality driving a model "T" Ford and sent out all assessment cards in the mail for an annual wage of approximately \$1,000 per annum. He was given much help in this work from H. J. Wood, Councillor. Col. Ivens was Reeve in these days.

John was very interested in sports, attending football games at Elkhorn, Miniota and Birtle in the early days. He travelled by horse and buggy. In later years, baseball, football and hockey as a spectator were

included. He enjoyed radio but never did see T.V. as he passed away in 1954.

Mrs. Duxbury was interested in music and played the organ in St. Mark's Church. She later played the organ in the United Church and accompanied many vocalists at concerts. She had been an organist in England when a teenager before she came to Canada in 1905. She passed away in 1973 and was interred in Elkhorn Cemetery.

**Thomas Jr.** enlisted in the army to serve in the "Boer War" in South Africa. He was taken prisoner and was put in a barbed wire enclosure where he suffered from the hot sun in the daytime and from the cold during the nights. This affected his health in his later life when he lost full use of his hands and arms. He was out to San Francisco right after the severe earthquake. He then homesteaded in Saskatchewan around the Watrous area. He returned to Elkhorn and farmed the Townsend farm E½ 27-12-28. He married **Ethel Townsend**. Their family consisted of **Lorna**, a school teacher who is retired and lives in Winnipeg; **Tommy**, who joined the RCAF and was killed overseas in 1941; **Bill**, who is with the CNR and is a Credit Union Director in Winnipeg; and **Lloyd**, who died at an early age.



L-R: Tom, Ethel, Lorna, Tom Sr., Bill 1941.

### Steve Dzus

**Steve Dzus** was born in December, 1909 in a straw shack at Hope Valley, Alberta. His parents **Nick** and **Nancy Dzus** raised a family of eight children and came from the Ukraine in 1900. Steve and his family moved to Manitoba in 1920 to a farm in the Burton area. In 1921 they moved to Portage la Prairie and it was here Steve received his education. Steve farmed with his Dad till 1935 when he became ill with tuberculosis. He was in and out of the Sanatorium until 1941. Steve then farmed with brother Pete till he came to Elkhorn in 1943. Here he started up a shoe repair shop. Steve also worked for eleven



Steve Dzus and his sister Patricia.



House now occupied by Steve Dzus — built in 1898.

years as Janitor of the local hospital. Steve spent many extra hours at the hospital doing little extras to keep things running smoothly. Steve, in his spare time, as a hobby braids rugs and crochets. He learned these arts while a patient in the Sanatorium. Nearly every home at some time or other has had one of Steve's rugs in it. Steve is a member of the "Hospital Auxiliary", helping out in many ways.

Steve is now retired from the shoe business but continues to live in his home, being frequently called

on to repair a clock, or an organ etc. Even in retirement Steve keeps busy and enjoys fairly good health.  
submitted by Margaret Allison

### **Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell J. Edgar**

**Mac Edgar** was born at Broderick, Saskatchewan, the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Edgar.

As a boy of eleven, he came with his parents to the Fairfield district.

When a young man, he married **Katie Bowering**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bowering of Fleming, Saskatchewan. They settled in the Kirkella District and began farming on section 32-12-29.

In 1942 they purchased the N½ of 21-12-29. As there were no buildings, Mac bought the former Feader store in Manson. With the help of neighbors, it was moved to its new location, and with improvements and additions it became the Edgar family home. In 1950 a barn was built to replace the previous stable.

Mac and Katie were good neighbors and took part in community endeavours.

Mac gave assistance whenever required, building chimneys, digging wells, helping ailing animals or fixing a tractor.

He was active in the boy's and girl's calf club, and was administrative leader for several years.

He was a member of the L.O.L. and also served on the Kirkella School Board.

Mac became involved in the building of the Kirkella Rink, and then with the hockey club, first as a player, then manager. Ball was one of Mac's favorite sports, and he umpired games for a number of years.

The Edgars took part in the social functions at the hall, where Mac was a capable floor manager and square dance caller. In 1949, he became councillor for Ward 6 in the Municipality of Wallace. He held this position till 1967, when he became Reeve and still holds that position in 1981.

Katie has been a member of, and has held executive positions in the local organizations of the I.O.D.E. and L.O.B.A. and presently the Ladies Auxiliary to the Royal Canadian Legion, and Elkhorn Hospital Auxiliary. She taught Sunday School in Kirkella for a few years. Mac and Katie have a family of four, **Arthur, Jim, Amy and Brenda**.

In 1967, they purchased the house of the late Mrs. Eastuke, and moved into Kirkella Village where they still reside.

### **George Edwards**

**George Edwards** was born in England on May 19, 1876, the second son of Arthur Dryden Edwards,

a lawyer in Stratford. He came to Canada in 1892 and contracted to work for a farmer in Manitoba in an area that later became the Waskada district when the railroad arrived in the year 1900. After working for several years in the Waskada and Melita districts, Mr. Edwards homesteaded at Waskada and while farming there was married on December 9, 1903 to **Kate Inglis Gibson**, who was born in Ontario and who had moved with her parents in 1883 to a homestead in the same district.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwards and family moved from their farm at Waskada during the fall of 1915 to a farm west of Weyburn, near the town of Trossachs, Sask., and four years later they moved to Elkhorn to farm the south half of section 27-11-28 and to live on S. W. quarter of the same section, one and one half miles south of Elkhorn. They lived there for two and one half years. They also lived on the N.E. quarter of section 28-11-28 for two years.

In the spring of 1924, they moved again to Saskatchewan to a farm south-east of Maryfield close to Hillcrest school, and from there came with their family of four sons and one daughter to Ebor in March, 1926, to a farm one and one half miles east of Ebor on Section 13-9-29. In the spring of 1929 the Edwards family, while continuing to farm section 13-9-29 moved to the west half of section 12-9-29 where they still farm during the summer months.

**Arthur** attended school at Waskada, Trossachs and Elkhorn. While at Ebor he worked for several farmers in the surrounding area and also worked for a number of years for Mr. H. Woods and Mr. Grant Overand in the Woodville district south of Elkhorn, and then retired to Brandon in 1972.

**Max and Russell** attended school at Trossachs, Elkhorn, Hillcrest (which was southeast of Maryfield) and Ebor. They started farming during the depression of the thirties on the W. half of section 12-9-29 and are still farming the same farm and also S.W. quarter of section 13-9-29. In the fall of 1953 they built a home in Brandon and with their parents, started spending the winter months there each year until 1977. They also rented different farms close by.

Mrs. Edwards passed away in Brandon on March 31, 1960 after a lengthy period of poor health. Mr. Edwards also passed away in Brandon on Jan. 5, 1972. Both are buried in Virden Cemetery. Russell married **Mildred Leadbeater** of the Bunclody district, southeast of Souris, on June 24, 1961 and they live on W12-9-29 along with Max during the summer months and in Brandon during the winter.

**Mildred** received her education at Elkhorn, Hillcrest, Ebor and Virden and later worked for several years as a hair dresser for Scory's in Brandon. She was married on November 29, 1948 to **Ralph Bell**



and they lived on his farm at Alexander until 1973, when he moved to Brandon to work for Co-op Implementations. They are now retired in Brandon. They have one daughter, **Shannon**, who attended school at Alexander, Brandon and Winnipeg and is now at York University in Ontario.

**Lloyd** attended school at Hillcrest and Ebor and during the Second World War was employed as a mechanic at the Virden Elementary Flying Training School for several years, after being discharged from the army because of illness. After the war, he operated an Imperial Oil Bulk agency at Cromer for eight years, 1947-1955. In July, 1956 he became employed by Trans-Prairie Pipelines Ltd., and worked there until 1970. On January 28, 1950 Lloyd married **May Stibbon** of Brandon, formerly of Ebor, and they lived at Cromer until 1967 when they moved to a home located on a site that was known as Maples' Siding, south of Virden, and they are now retired there.

### Garnet Effler Family

Garnet Effler was born and raised at Grandview, Manitoba. In 1948 he became employed with the Canadian Pacific Railway as an Assistant Agent at Neepawa. In January, 1950 he moved to the Brandon sub-division and worked at many locations as relief telegraph operator and station agent before settling in Elkhorn in 1951 working the Elkhorn-Wapella and Elkhorn-Virden swings on a permanent basis. He boarded at the Earl Snyder residence until June, 1952 when he married **Dorothy Watson**, only daughter of Dick and Ethel Watson of the West Two Creeks district. They lived in the Dan Hartley house on Grange Street until June, 1956 when they moved to Virden where they still reside. They have a son **Neil** and a daughter **Gail**. **Neil** married **Colleen Gray** of Cromer and they reside in Brandon where Neil is employed with Manitoba Hydro. They have a daughter **Marcie** and a son **Ross**. **Gail** took nurse's training in Brandon and was employed in St. Boniface hospital and the Health Sciences Centre. She married **Denis Mulaire** of St. Lazare and they now own a Store in Russell, Manitoba. They have a daughter **Anathale-Lee** and a son **Chene**. Garnet worked as telegraph operator in the Virden C.P.R. Station until June, 1966. He then quit the C.P.R. and became Clerk of the County Court of Virden where he is still employed.

### Harry and Pearl Ellingson

**Harry and Pearl** moved to Elkhorn in 1947 from Spalding, Saskatchewan. Both Harry and Pearl's parents lived at Spalding where Harry and Pearl met before they were married in Winnipeg. Harry's parents were **Minnie and Helmer Ellingson** and Pearl's

were **Josiah and Emma Tharp** — some pronounce this name "Thorpe", but it is a Pennsylvania Dutch name, "Tharp". Pearl had nine brothers and sisters and Mr. Tharp drove oxen as well as horses. Oxen were only driven in the morning because they couldn't stand the heat, but Pearl had lots of practice driving oxen when she was young.

Harry was a trucker for a number of years and as late as 1946 he drove a truck to Texas to combine. Pearl always says he was a good truck driver, having had lots of experience.



Harry, Pearl and Myrna Ellingson moving to Elkhorn, 1947. Tractor and belongings are on truck — truck wheel came off going down into a valley.

When they came to Elkhorn they bought some land from the Hudson's Bay Co., which at that time was much cheaper but just as hard to pay for. They simply drove into the bush — only forty-five acres broke — no house, only their truck and tractor and there they farmed for 25 years. This farm was 11 miles south and west but they were 1¼ miles from a gravel road so made their own trail, opening three gates and going through pastures to get home. Many times the pastures were flooded and the car (1936 Ford) was left at the road and they walked and carried the egg crate or cream can. One time they came home at 2 A.M. because they were waiting in town for machine repairs to be done at Rudy Schoen's blacksmith shop. Because of the flooding they had to leave the car and carry the groceries etc., this time Harry carried Pearl across the water and unfortunately dropped her half way across. Pearl had on high heeled shoes and was thoroughly anchored in the mud but was able to struggle out somehow.

To begin with their house was a small granary borrowed from Dave Duncan. The table was in the centre and if you sat on a chair you could reach the

wall in almost every direction. The stove was old, rusty and had to be left outside because it had holes and was really unsafe — anyway there was no room inside. They found lots of dry wood as well as dried cow chips to burn — and can you imagine rain drops on the lids of the stove when the fire was going — lots of steam.

That first year was cold for months and there were eighteen inches of rain in three weeks and the Ellingsons were trying hard to keep warm in their granary home but the beds were getting damper every day. One day Harry lit up a gas torch — it soon warmed up the room and made everyone cozy and sleepy. Harry, Pearl and small daughter **Myrna** lay on the bed asleep and the torch flame went out. Soon the air was full of gas and fortunately Pearl woke with a start and awoke Harry and Myrna and they all were lucky to be able to get the door open and breathe some fresh air. Later they bought an air tight heater — it was a joyous time setting the heater up and while Harry was fixing on a plough outside, Pearl finished putting up the pipes out through the square grain window. Soon she was calling Harry for a hot drink and warmth. The next day they had company — Amanda Widger on horseback. Cyril and Amanda Widger, and Bill and Annie Kucheravy were some of our closest neighbors.

When the weather did warm up, along came the mosquitoes and millers and, having no screens, plenty of them came in. Someone said to paint around the openings with coal-oil and really that helped a lot but you couldn't have a light on at night.

For a garden Harry made a few furrows and Pearl planted radishes and lettuce in the turned sod and they grew fairly well. During the first six months they were happy that George Bartley allowed their groceries to be charged, and by fall with the canning done and their food bill tallied up, it came to \$80.00 which was promptly paid. Pearl helped the neighbors at times to pull weeds and in return got some lettuce and milk. Pearl wanted some hens so Harry put up a three pole tripod and it housed 4 or 5 hens for eggs but what was really needed was a setting hen. Pearl heard that a neighbor had one so after walking with Myrna part way to school she went there but there was none there, but they directed her to still another place. On she continued, got the hen and happily walked home again — a total of nine miles that day. She set the hen and raised chickens to eat. This was much better than her previous experience of trying to hatch eggs with a hot water bottle, changing the water often, day and night — only to have the eggs go rotten.

As time went on and winter set in they locked the door and kept the key and returned in the following

spring with horses. Now they built a small frame house — and with a cookstove inside and a good garden Pearl was able to can 300 quarts of vegetables, pickles and fruit. One year after planting strawberry plants they had plenty of berries but the next year they seemed poorly so Harry went through them with the cultivator because it looked like they were “goners” anyway. Pearl was to be pleasantly surprised for very quickly the plants flourished out, bearing lots of fruit.

About this time Harry's brother **Lloyd** and his wife **Ruth**, with their two children **Arnold** and **Marlene** came to buy land near Harry's. They bought the farm where Mr. and Mrs. George Ogilvie Sr. lived across the road from Arawana school about 1949. Because they couldn't get into their house yet they lived at Harry's that summer. Ruth and Pearl took turns milking their cow. By now Pearl and Harry had built a two storey house (20 x 24) and soon added on a kitchen. They also had a barn and pigs and cattle. They were Jehovah Witnesses since the early 1940's so kept busy in the door to door ministry, wishing to encourage Bible Study. Harry also sold Fuller brushes. By 1955 there was still no useable road so they bought a small building from Earl Robinson (he took cows as payment) and they moved it to Elkhorn and built on to it. Now it was a “farming from town” operation but Harry could carry on his business easier and Myrna could attend Elkhorn school. Pearl did odd jobs like selling for a dress company as well as making figurines and roses. She also worked as a cleaner at the Manitoba Hotel.

In 1972 Harry sold the farm to Neil Grant because he was not feeling well. Two years later he had open heart surgery in Vancouver and is thankful that he has been fine ever since. Pearl's mother and Harry's mother both moved to Elkhorn and lived one on each side of Harry's place and Harry and Pearl found it rewarding to care for their aged parents for 10 years — that's what life is all about — families living together and helping each other and caring. Pearl's mother had remarried and was Mrs. Emma Church, deceased at age 91. Minnie Ellingson lived a couple of years at the Elkhorn Nursing Hospital before she passed away at 94 years. Both are missed but at rest.

Harry and Pearl are well to this date of 1981 — still living in Elkhorn and loving it — and hope to continue here with memories built up of the past of washboard days and such — the greatest songs are still to be sung!

Daughter Myrna and husband live in Halifax, Nova Scotia. They have two children, **Cindy** who is an X-Ray technician and **Michael** who is joining the forces.

## The Jim Ewing Family

Grandfather, **Jim Ewing** arrived in Elkhorn from Glasgow, Scotland in the 1800's. He raised Clydesdale horses which he sold to Eaton's. He farmed on section 22-12-28 in the Wallace Municipality. After grandfather passed away, Grandmother **Margaret Ewing** moved into town. She was a nurse for Dr. Goodwin and travelled many miles by horse and cutter to wherever she was needed. She was a big woman, very well liked and respected, and well known for the bread she baked for bachelors.

Dr. Goodwin bought a car and brought it around to give her a ride. When she asked him where the gas tank was, he said, "You are sitting on it." She promptly got out and sat in the back seat! Bill remembers one time when she was thrown from the cutter and hit a cedar post, breaking both post and her collar bone.

Our father, **Bobby Ewing** came to Elkhorn as a child of two years, with his parents. He operated a barber shop until his death in 1960. He and our mother, **Christina Ewing** had four children: **Bill**, **Margaret**, **Alexander** (who died at about the age of one year), and **Christina**. Our mother passed away when the baby was only two weeks old in 1923.



Bill Ewing and sister Christina.

Elsie and Charlie Sawyer took the baby and raised her at their home in the B.C. interior.

Bill was born on Grandfather's farm and the other three children were born at home in Elkhorn. Bill and Christina now reside in the Comox Valley on Vancouver Island where they enjoy the ocean, fishing for salmon and the mild weather year round.



L-R Back row: Charlie and Elsie Sawyer, Christina and Bobby Ewing, Jesse and Fred Feaver (children's aunt and uncle on mother's side of the family). Front row: Margaret and Bill Ewing.

## Robert and Edna Ewing

Children: **Allan and Darlene**

We came to Elkhorn in September, 1966 from our former home at Antler, Saskatchewan. We sold our farm the year prior to this, due to my husband's ill health. We had moved into Antler and lived there one year when the high school was closed. To further our daughter's education we were forced to look for a new home.

We looked at many houses in various towns: Gainsborough, Moosomin, Maryfield, Virden and finally Elkhorn. We enjoyed seeing the lovely homes but alas, most were too expensive. After one long day we were getting weary when Bob said, "We will try Elkhorn." Out of the 'clear blue' we met a Mr. Jones who told us Doctor Hennan's house was for sale. We found the Hennan home suitable for our family and purchased it.

Darlene started school in Elkhorn. That year Mr. Coughlin was principal and I believe Mrs. Chapple was her teacher.

## The Ferris Family

**Bert Ferris** was born October 19, 1909, in Bristol, England. In 1929 he went to an agricultural school before coming to Canada in April, 1930. Between 1930 and 1939 he was either someone's



Edna, Bert and Jim Ferris.

hired man, or was looking for work. He spent one summer riding the rods as far as Alberta looking for work. One place of note where he was a hired man, was at the well known Stewart Criddle's farm near Treesbank, Manitoba. While working at Campbells near Minto he met and married **Dorothy Lacey**, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. George Lacey** of Elkhorn, on June 19, 1935.

After nine years of being someone else's hired man, they decided to move and get their own farm. They came to Elkhorn to be near her parents and to be their own boss.

In the fall of 1939 they settled on SW 10-13-28. It is the original homestead of John Lacey. He built the house in approximately 1890. After John Lacey's death his son Alfred had the farm for a few years. In this original house there were four babies born; Alfred Lacey's had two sons, Mr. and Mrs. George Lacey's son Melville was born there in 1915, and some years later Dorothy Black was born there. Many pieces have been added over the years to the house but the original piece is still underneath. Up till the fall of 1979 the house had been occupied nearly every year since 1890.

On September 23, 1940 Dorothy died and on September 27, 1940 their baby daughter died. On March 1, 1943 Bert married **Edna May**, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. J. Towler** of Manson. Edna received her education at Manson school. They had two children: **James Ronald** born May 7, 1944, and **Judith May**, born May 16, 1948.

During his life time Bert was active in community affairs such as the Farmers Union, Burnbank School Board, Elkhorn Manco Board, Manitoba Pool Elevators Board and a member of Free Masons of which he was Grand Master for a term. On January 29, 1977 Bert passed away.

Jim Ferris received his education at Burnbank School and the Elkhorn High School. In Brandon he took training as an Auto Mechanic. He worked for various garages in Manitoba and then moved in 1966 to Kelowna, B.C. where he worked as a mechanic acquiring his journeyman's papers in 1969.

On October 19, 1968 Jim married **Susan Jean**, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Herb Ripley** of Armstrong, B.C. Susan received her education in Armstrong, B.C.

While still living in B.C. they had three boys, **Ronald Edward** born May 11, 1969, **Gerald Wayne** born January 26, 1971, and **Christopher David** born June 4, 1974.

While working as foreman at White Western Star Truck Factory in Kelowna B.C., Jim became tired of being someone else's hired hand so decided to go farming at Elkhorn, near his parents. In the spring of



L-R Back row: Judy (Ferris) Coe, Jim Ferris holding Nicky, Edna Ferris. Centre row: Gerry, Chris, Ronnie Ferris. Front row: Quentin and Mandy Coe.

1975 they bought the Howard Conquergood farm NW 10-13-28, (the original homestead of Billy Henderson).

On July 1, 1977 another son, **Nicholas Albert** was born.

Jim has served two terms on the Manitoba Pool Board at Elkhorn.

Judith Coe (Ferris) received her education at Burnbank, Elkhorn High School and Brandon University. She spent one college summer break at Expo in Montreal. In 1969 she moved to Kelowna, B.C. where she worked until her marriage on March 21, 1970 to **Stephen Coe**. They have 2 children, **Quentin Robert Stephen**, born December 8, 1971, and **Amanda May Lynne**, born January 2, 1974. Stephen is a logger. They presently live at Kersley about ten miles south of Quesnel, B.C.

### The Charles Fordyce Family

In October, 1937 **Charles** and **Jean Fordyce** moved to Elkhorn with **Cameron** and **Faye** to buy grain for Lake of the Woods Milling Company. **Lorraine** and **Jack** were born in Elkhorn.

In 1941 Charles Fordyce joined the R.C.A.F. and returned in 1945 to start a dairy business. He remained in Elkhorn until retiring to Brandon in 1967.

**Cameron** and **Evelyn** now reside in Brandon and have four children.

**Mrs. Faye Bell** now resides in Lethbridge and has three children.

**Mrs. Lorraine Fraser** now resides in Edmonton and has two children.

**Jack** and **Sharon** reside in Regina and have two children.

**Mrs. Fordyce** passed away November 10, 1968. **Mr. Fordyce** passed away May 26, 1981.

### History of Walter James Francis (Jim) and his wife, Nelly (Pedlow) Francis

**Jim Francis** was born in Winnipeg of English parents in 1884. His father was killed in a construction accident while building a railroad bridge in 1886. His mother took the family of four and one unborn son back to England near Alton (in the south east) and raised the family. In 1906 Jim and his brother **Will** immigrated to Canada and came to the Kenton area in Manitoba where they worked as farm laborers until purchasing land for themselves in 1909. Jim purchased land in the Oakner area and married **Charlotte Brown**, daughter of Jim and **Selina Brown** who had homesteaded near Oakner. Three children were born to them, **Kathleen** in 1910, **Wilfred** born in 1914 and **George** in 1917.

**Charlotte (Lottie)** died in November, 1918 as the result of a house fire.

Jim married **Mrs. Nelly (Mervyn) Pedlow** of Hamiota in 1920, whose husband had died in the flu epidemic of 1918-19. She had one son, **Earl Pedlow**, born in 1917. Mr. and Mrs. Francis and family of four came to Elkhorn to farm the Crosby farm Sec. 36-11-29 in July, 1920.

After several misfortunes which often befall farming operations, such as being hailed out and losing several horses with the deadly disease of Swamp Fever, they left the farm and moved to Elkhorn in 1923. Jim was a hard worker and turned his hand to whatever work was available. He worked in several jobs in Elkhorn and Hamiota and we lived in several homes in Elkhorn until the spring of 1928 when they purchased the "Duke" farm five miles west of Elkhorn, W $\frac{1}{2}$  34-11-29. In 1926 Jim had obtained the job of maintaining the twelve miles of #1 Highway, being from Elkhorn six miles west and three miles north and three miles west to the Saskatchewan border; this he continued to do until 1940 as well as work on the farm. In 1940 he began a trucking business which was taken over by his son, **Wilfred**, when he returned from the Services in 1946. Mr. and Mrs. Francis retired to Elkhorn in 1941 when **Earl Pedlow** took over the farm which had been added to by the purchase of more land. Mr. Francis was an ardent curler for over 50 years and was a hard-working man who was always ready to help others. Mrs. Francis was a quiet lady and a wonderful mother, not only to her own but also to her step-children. They were both very ardent supporters and workers in St. Mark's Anglican Church for many years. Mr.

Francis served his community in many capacities in the different organizations and councils and school boards, which was very typical of many people who contributed to the growth and development of the rural communities and towns in the early part of the century. WE, as the following generation, owe a lot to our parents and grandparents and the many pioneers who built the rural communities and towns that we inherited in later years.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis moved to the Sherwood Lodge in Virden after failing health in 1968. Mr. Francis passed away suddenly in July, 1972 and Mrs. Francis later moved to West-Man in Virden where she passed away peacefully in December, 1976. Fortunately they both had keen minds and were still interested in life to the end. They are both interred in the Hamiota cemetery. One thing in particular that stands out in the life of my parents was the fact that they were very close friends of Mr. Carl Dahl and his wife Alice (Lipse) whom we first became acquainted with when we moved to Elkhorn in 1920, as the Dahls were our closest neighbors, who then lived on S.E. ¼ of 1-12-29 (now Alex and Mame Grant's). To me the close friendship that they maintained as they lived in different places for about 55 years was something rather touching. This friendship has carried on to the next generation as Elisabeth and I very seldom go to Vancouver without having a visit with their daughters Blanche and Norma, usually a couple of times each year.

Kathleen Francis became a registered nurse after completing high school in Elkhorn and three years of training (on the job) in Virden Hospital at a rate of pay of about \$5.00 per month. She married James Clark of Virden and one son was born to them in 1935. He is a pharmacist in the General Hospital in Burnaby B.C. Kathleen passed away suddenly in Virden in October, 1936 and is buried in the Hamiota cemetery.

Submitted by George Francis

### **History of George E. Francis and his Wife, Elisabeth (Crosby) Francis**

I was born in Hamiota on August 5, 1917 where my mother died suddenly on November 13, 1918. I then lived with my grandparents Jim and Selina Brown until my father married again in 1920 and moved to Elkhorn. We first lived on the Crosby farm until 1923 and then moved to Elkhorn until 1928 when we moved to the "Duke" farm five miles west of Elkhorn N.E. 34-11-29 where Bob and Moira Carradice now reside. I attended Mossgiel school until finishing Grade 8 and then took my high schooling in Elkhorn in the 30's.

After high school I returned to the farm. I had not



Mr. and Mrs. Jim Francis with granddaughter Beverley.

intended to be a farmer but had little choice in those days as it was in the midst of the dirty 30's. I later took a motor mechanics course in Brandon and after completing this and working in a garage for a few months I then decided that I would rather farm, so I returned home in 1940 after discovering that I was unable to get in the Service because of my eyes. I worked at home where my brother, Earl, and I rented the farm from Dad.

On March 20th, 1941 I married Elisabeth Crosby and we worked Dad's farm that summer and in the late fall we moved to her mother's farm one and one-half miles east, N.E. ¼-36-11-29 and took it over as her father had passed away that same year with diabetes.

Elisabeth was born in Kenton on May 16, 1923. Her father was a school teacher at that time and they lived in Kenton, Oak River and then Brandon. In 1935 he took over his father's farm at Elkhorn because his doctor advised him to get into the country.

Elisabeth was an active worker in the community. She was a member of the United Church choir and served many years in the Church Circle holding many different offices. Elisabeth also assisted in the 4-H Club while our daughter, Beverley, was a member for some years.

We later purchased part of the Crosby farm and leased the rest of it from Mrs. Crosby. In 1950 we purchased her grandfather's home in Elkhorn and continued farming. We had a married couple living on the farm until selling out in 1958 and purchasing the Red and White store from W. O. Rudd. We had built a new home in 1957 kitty-corner from the skating rink where Mrs. Tena Armstrong now resides. In the fall of 1962 we moved to Red Deer, Alberta and went into real estate business. I carried on in this

business for fifteen years and then took things somewhat easier. At the present time I am still engaged in some property management.

While living in Elkhorn and district I took part in my share of community work by serving on the Church Board (Trinity United), School boards, Chamber of Commerce, Manitoba Pool Elevator Board and others which I enjoyed doing.

While farming I was not interested in livestock very much as my brothers were but I was very fond of machinery, especially harvesting equipment. I loved the threshing and combining.

Our family consisted of three children: **Beverley Kaye** born on December 23, 1941 in Elkhorn took her schooling in Elkhorn and Teacher training in Bran-



L-R: Ken, Elizabeth, George and Brenda Francis.

don College. She taught for a term at Kinross school in the Reston area and later married **Larry Reeves** of Two Creeks. One daughter, **Sandra Lynn**, was born to them, and she graduated from Virden Collegiate in June, 1980. She is at present living in Red Deer and working as a Credit Union teller. She plans to attend University next term.

Beverley passed away suddenly December 17, 1962 and is buried in the Elkhorn cemetery.

**Kenneth George** was born in Virden June 19, 1949. He also took part of his schooling in Elkhorn and graduated from high school in Red Deer in 1967. He graduated from the University of Alberta in Edmonton with a Bachelor of Commerce degree in 1971 and spent five years as a Division Manager with Sears in Edmonton. He married **Mary Dolan**, an R.N., whose home was in Ottawa, in October, 1976 and they moved to Vancouver where he now operates

his own company and Mary is a Public Health nurse. They have no family.

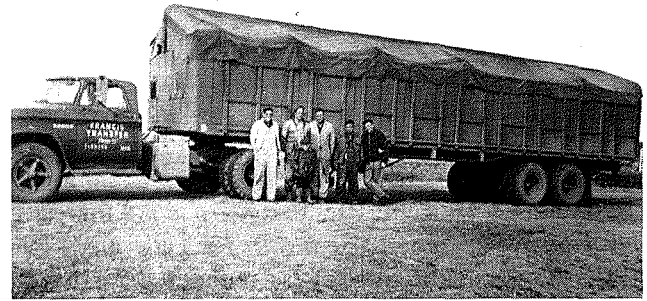
**Brenda Elisabeth** was born in Elkhorn June 30, 1957. She was only five years of age when we left Elkhorn so did not attend school there. Brenda graduated from High School in Red Deer in 1975 and took "Early Childhood Education" training in Mount Royal College in Calgary. She graduated from there in April, 1979 and has been employed as an "Activities Therapist" in the Red Deer General Hospital. Brenda is not married (as yet).

Our memories of Mossgiel District and Elkhorn stand out in our lives. Although we experienced some sad events also we have many happy memories and left many life-long friends there.

Submitted by George E. Francis

### Wilf and Winnie Francis

**WILF** was born at Oakner, Manitoba on July 13th, 1914 and **WINNIE (Nee Turner)** was born on the Turner farm at Two Creeks, Manitoba on April 22nd, 1921.



Wilf Francis Trucking Co. L-R: Wilf Francis, Lloyd Bowles, Earl Cowan, Joe Fairley, Alvin Thompson.

Wilf's mother passed away in November, 1918. There were three in the family: Kathleen, Wilf and George. In the spring of 1920 Wilf's Dad (Jim Francis) married Mrs. Mervyn Pedlow. She had one son, Earl, still living in Elkhorn. The Francis family moved to the Crosby farm three and one-half miles west of Elkhorn. In 1925 they took over the Tom Dahl farm on the north side of Elkhorn and a milk business went with it. Wilf's job was to deliver milk at twelve quarts for \$1.00. He also delivered the Tribune paper. In 1928 the family moved to the Duke farm five miles west of Elkhorn. Wilf joined the R.C.A.F. in the fall of 1940. On May 10th, 1941 he married **Winnie Turner**, youngest daughter of Gordon and Gertie Turner at Flin Flon, Manitoba. Most of the honeymoon was spent on a train, as Wilf had fourteen days leave and ten days were spent in travelling. In the spring of 1946 we moved to the old Cruickshank farm

just north of Elkhorn. We then took over the trucking business Wilf's Dad had started during the war. We operated as Francis Transfer till February, 1964. We also raised Shetland Ponies and entertained children of all ages by teaching them to ride and to care for animals such as horses, cats, dogs, goats, sheep and pigs etc. We have wonderful memories of those times and gladly supplied freshie, cookies, cake, ice cream, apples and oranges. Every now and again we hosed them down with cold water so they would "smell nicer" when they went home, instead of all the barn smells. We also sold Massey Ferguson and Oliver machinery.

Wilf took an active part in Community affairs. While in the trucking business he hauled several of the old cars Ike Clarkson renovated and no freight was ever charged. Jack Norris and Wilf made a special trip to Ontario to get the Elkhorn Museum on the road, so to speak. He was also President of the School Board, President of the Legion, President of Virden Auction Mart and President of Marquette Constituency. We had five children: **Gordon**, the oldest, married **Sherrie Emmerson** in June, 1965. They have three children: **Lana** 13 years, **Debbie** 11 years and **John** 7 years. **Judy** married **Wilson Haines** in January, 1962. They have two children, **Rodney**, 17 years and **Michelle** 14 years. **Jan** married **Don Sullivan** in May, 1973. They have one boy, **Patrick**, one year old. Don is a Chartered Accountant and Jan is a student counsellor at Assiniboine Community College in Brandon. **Jim** is not married and lives in Saskatoon. He works for Federated Co-op as a Co-ordinator. **Shelley** is a registered nurse and will be married on August 8/81 to **Peter Chuchrey**.

We are not certain if it has been mentioned or not but the Elkhorn Park was started by Mr. Hugh Drake and when Wilf's Dad retired he took over the care of the park for many years.

We moved to Brandon on October 2nd, 1965 having sold our place to Jim Martin. Wilf then went into cattle buying and Winnie worked for the Pig Marketing Board. At the time of this resume Wilf has been appointed to the Motor Carrier Board of Manitoba and has therefore given up the Cattle business. We will always have fond memories of the good friends, the good times, the closeness of people and the lasting friendships of our lives in Elkhorn.

Winnie and Wilf Francis

### Mr. and Mrs. G. Frattinger

In the spring of 1949, **Mr. and Mrs. G. Frattinger** and family moved from Spalding, Saskatchewan, to the farm, northeast of Elkhorn, 36-12-28. The school age children went to Burnbank School. In

the fall of 1956, they sold the farm and moved to Furness, Saskatchewan.

Mrs. J. H. Donaghy

### Mr. and Mrs. Earle Fraser

**Earle Fraser**, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Fraser of Fleming married **Margaret Kay** only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. F. Kay of Maryfield on December 28, 1927.

They farmed in the Mossgiel district for thirty-eight years. They had two of a family, **Isabelle** born April 20, 1930 and **Keith** born May 29, 1935.

Isabelle married **Murray Campbell** of Brandon. They now reside in Scarborough, Ontario and have four of a family: Alan and his wife Melanie live in Chipley, Australia; Craig and wife Elayne live in Pickering, Ontario; Brent is attending university in Potsdam, U.S.A.; Keith, at home, graduates this year from Grade 13.

Keith Fraser married **Lorraine Fordyce** of Elkhorn and they now reside in Edmonton, Alberta. They have two daughters. Marla is attending college in Edmonton. Shanna graduates this year from Grade 12. After selling their farm in 1956 Earle and Peg moved to Elkhorn and built their home where Peg still resides.

Earle passed away in March, 1976.

### Mrs. H. D. Frazer

This part of Elkhorn's history was told to me by my late husband, **Henry David Frazer**. He was born in 1873 in Little Britain, Manitoba, the sixth child of **Rev. and Mrs. Alexander Frazer**. In 1875 another son, **Victor**, was born in High Bluff, Manitoba.

In early 1876 the Frazers were sent to Longwood, Ontario. In 1881, Mr. Frazer came back to homestead in Beulah, Manitoba, and returned to Longwood the next year. In the spring of 1883, Mr. Frazer and family came by train to Elkhorn, which at that time was a village of tents and the end of steel (railway).



L-R: Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Frazer, Lilian, John, Adele, William.



They left Elkhorn in a covered wagon and crossed the river on a barge to get to their homestead in Beulah.

After Mr. Frazer's parents passed away, he returned to Elkhorn in 1914 to Jim Evan's homestead S.W. quarter 18-12-29. It was here in 1919 that he married **Lily Moss** the daughter of E. V. Moss of Kirkella, Manitoba. They became members of the Presbyterian Church and Mr. Frazer was also a member of the Masonic Lodge. During the time they lived here, two sons, **William** and **Robert**, were born.

They left Elkhorn in 1926 and lived on farms north and south of Winnipeg. Their third son **John** was born in Stonewall, in 1928. In 1933, Robert, who was only nine years of age passed away in Balmoral.

In 1944 they retired from the farm and moved to Winnipeg. Mr. Frazer passed away in 1956. His widow resides in a Senior Citizen's Apartment.

William and family farm in Beaconia, Manitoba. John (who is a carpenter by trade) and his family live in Port Alberni, B.C. They have eight children and ten grandchildren.

submitted by Mrs. Lily Frazer

### **Edward Frederick and Family**

**Ed Frederick** was born at Hay Lake, Alberta. His family immigrated to Canada from Poland. His family moved to the Gull Lake, Saskatchewan area where they farmed, when he was a young lad. In 1935 he married the former **Dorothy Huntley** who was born and raised in the Tompkins area. Ed and Dorothy farmed in the Tompkins area until moving to the Woodville district in 1946, where they farmed for a few years. They moved to Elkhorn where Ed was employed on the Canadian Pacific Railroad and also worked on the oil rigs. He drove the school bus for sixteen years and also did farm work having to retire due to poor health. Ed is an avid sports fan and also loves to visit at the pool hall.

Dorothy worked at George Bartley's store, later taking a hair dressing course, where she worked from her home for seventeen years. She also had to retire from it due to poor health. Dorothy has many hobbies; ceramics, hand work, quilting and baking are just a few. The Fredericks' door is always open, and a helping hand is given whenever needed. Many cups of coffee have been drunk in their kitchen.

The Fredericks have a family of three:

**Ruby** married Frank Rozak. Please refer to their story.

**Albert** attended school at Woodville. He worked on the oil rigs for a number of years. In 1962 Albert married the former **Jean Black**. Now they farm in the Two Creeks District and Albert also works for Crown Drilling at Virden. They have four children:

**Shiela** at Virden; **Rodney, Troy** and **Teresa** at home.

On November 14, 1981, Sheila was married to Constable **Paul Lacey**. They are stationed at Armstrong, B.C.

**Louise** attended school at Woodville and later high school at Elkhorn. She worked at the telephone office in Elkhorn. Louise later married and has three children: **Sandra** at Elkhorn; **Darren** at Virden and **Timothy**. They live at Langbank.

### **The Freeman Story**

**Charles Henry Freeman** was born January 28, 1852, in Rhyl, Wales, the thirteenth of fourteen children born to **Pheasant John Freeman** and his wife, **Sarah Hales**. Both parents were teachers. They came to Canada in 1858 in a sailing ship, a real adventure for a six year old boy. They settled in Rochester, Ontario, where the father kept the books for the County. They also had a farm at nearby Roscum. From there, **Charlie** and brothers **John** and **George**, came to Rapid City, Manitoba in 1879, Charlie homesteading SW 19-12-19. He married **Sarah Cousins**, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Cousins**, on November 9, 1880. Sarah was born October 1, 1858, at Truro, Nova Scotia. In 1882, he walked to Elkhorn, picked SW 22-12-28 as a homestead, walked to Birtle to register it, then walked back to Rapid city. Brothers JOHN and GEORGE also moved to Elkhorn, homesteading 12-12-28, as did his sister **Emma**, (Mrs. Balmer) and her husband who farmed on nearby 14-12-28. JOHN'S descendants include the ABLETT and HERITAGE families. GEORGE later moved to Victoria, B.C. The Balmers had one son **Charlie**, who married **Bessie Bickerton**. They had a family of six — two of whom survive: **Cyril** and **Kathleen**.

Charles Henry Freeman was a quiet, considerate man, a good friend to his grand-children, whose school pony he would often use to go to the farm during school hours, keeping busy at farm chores and being most helpful to his daughter-in-law. SARAH was a proud housekeeper and cook, busy in church and social organizations. She taught needlework to the young ladies of the church and community. They were both active in the affairs of the community, ardent supporters of the Anglican Church, and among the originators of the Agricultural Society. Charlie was an enthusiastic Mason, as well as of the Canadian Order of Foresters. Charlie and Sarah retired to Elkhorn in 1913, living in the house now owned by John and Marie Lasek. They had a family of five: **Bertha, Nina, George,**



L-R Standing: Nina, Maggie, Bertha, George about 1898. Seated: Charlie and Sara Freeman with Libbie between.

**Margaret, and Libbie.** Charles Henry Freeman died March 21, 1935, and Sarah died November 17, 1934. They are buried in the family plot in Elkhorn cemetery.

**Bertha Isabelle Freeman** was born September 14, 1881. She and **John Davison** eloped June 7, 1898. They farmed NE¼ 15-12-28, now owned by Frank Dixon. They moved into Elkhorn into the home where Steve Dzus lives and were there till 1927, when they moved to Melita. They had four children:

**Harry Davison** was born February 4, 1902. He married and lived at Saskatoon, where he was

employed all his working days at Eatons. He and **Margaret** have a family of three sons: **Jack, Walter** and **Arthur**.

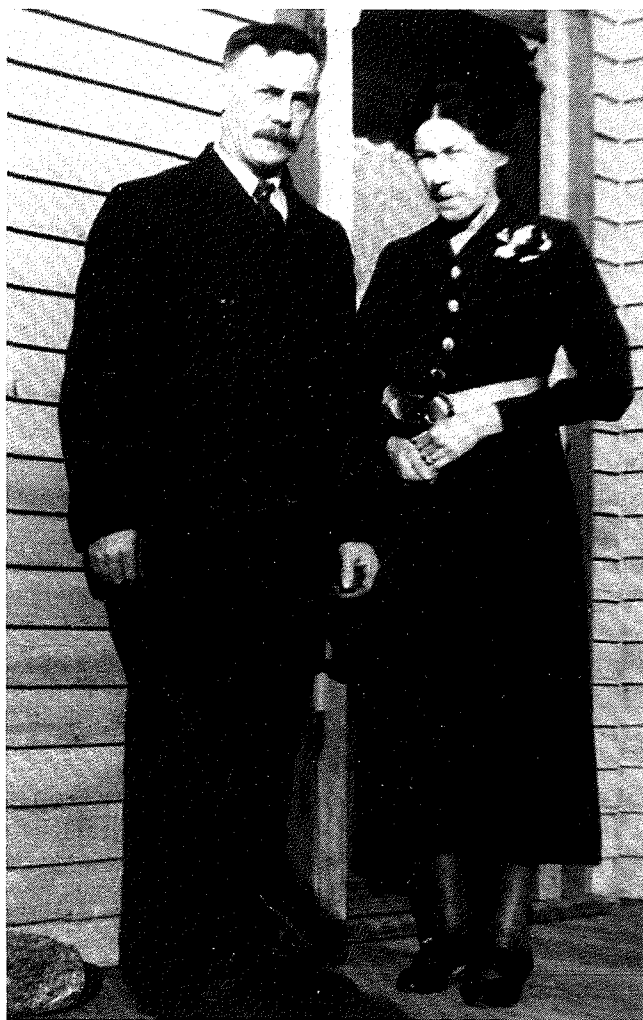
**Muriel Davison** was born February 5, 1904. She trained as a registered nurse at Virden hospital. She married **Harry Allen**, who was with the C.P.R. at Virden, later moving to Prince Albert and Calgary. They had two sons: **Frank** and **Terry**. Harry died in May, 1963. Muriel continues to live in Calgary.

**John Basil Davison** was born December 20, 1907. He married **Carla Neilson** at Dryden. Jack started his career with the Bank of Commerce, then

later became secretary treasurer of the Dryden Paper Mill. They had one daughter, **Joan**. Carla died in August, 1967. Jack resides at Dryden, Ontario and at Mesa, Arizona.

**Aleta Davison** was born February 20, 1917, at Elkhorn. She attended school at Elkhorn, Melita, and Virden. She married **Vernon Pronger** of Dryden in 1939. Vern and Aleta operated a supermarket and deep freeze business, until Vern died in 1965. Aleta then went into the retail fashion business. They had three sons: **Fred, Douglas, and Alyn**. Aleta resides at Dryden and Mesa.

**Nina May Freeman** was born at Rapid City May 6, 1883. She married **Alfred Lucking** November 8, 1911. Alfred was born April 15, 1881. When they first married, they farmed southwest of Elkhorn. They later moved into Elkhorn where Alfred was employed with the C.P.R., and later with the Elkhorn Public and High School. Nina and Alf were very active in the affairs of the Anglican church, and community. Alfred died February 9, 1947. Nina died October 15, 1947. They had a family of four:



Alf and Nina Lucking.

**Charles Henry Lucking** was born September 19, 1912. He died September 6, 1914, and is buried in the family plot in Elkhorn cemetery.

**Dorothy Evelyn Lucking** was born May 10, 1914. Dorothy worked for many years for the Manitoba Telephone System at various locations. She was an ardent supporter of the Anglican church, and dedicated to the Rebekah Lodge, where she went through the chairs. She married **Burton Murray** August 3, 1938, and lived at Flin Flon, Elkhorn, Oak Lake, and Neepawa. Dorothy died February 15, 1977, at Summerland, B.C. where she was being cared for by her son and his family. They had a family of five: **Ted, Linda, Judy, Gaye, and Betty**.

**Charles Freeman Lucking** was born June 14, 1916. He married **Dorothy Heesake** at Dauphin, May 25, 1941. Dorothy was born November 5, 1920. Freeman spent many years as manager of the Co-operative store at Carman and is now retired. He has been very active in the community, serving on the council at Carman, as well as other community projects. Both he and Dorothy take an active part. He is an avid golfer. They had seven children: **Eileen** (deceased), **Doreen, Kathleen, Ellen, Charlie, Dorothy** and **Shelley**.

**Kathleen Frances Lucking** was born August 15, 1922. She worked at Flin Flon before her marriage to **Jack McLaren** of Hargrave on June 12, 1946. They farmed at Hargrave until 1979, when they retired to live in Virden. Kay worked in the office of Valleyview Co-op in Virden for several years. Jack works part time at the Auction Mart. Kay is active in the affairs of the Anglican church, and has gone through the chairs in the Rebekah Lodge. Jack is an active Lodge member, and a supportive sports fan of all Virden games. They have a family of four: **Merle**, Mrs. Randy Browning of Virden; **Brian** with Hydro at Brandon; **Bonnie**, Mrs. Lomer Girardin of Winnipeg; and **Janette**, Mrs. Larry Logan of Lenore.

**George Edward Thomas Freeman** was born March 3, 1885, and was the first baby born in the present house on 22-12-28. He attended school at Elkhorn before taking up farming south of Elkhorn on 20-10-28 and on 30-11-28, before his marriage to **Agnes Stewart**. Agnes was born January 27, 1889, the elder daughter of **Duncan and Agnes Stewart** of Virden. She taught school at Arawana and Burnbank schools prior to her marriage, and was always an enthusiastic spectator of hockey, curling, baseball, and football. Upon the retirement of Charles and Sarah Freeman, George and Agnes took over the operation of the home farm. During the years, the Freemans were most active in all affairs of their

district — school, church, Red Cross, and social activities. They were both directors of the Agricultural Society — Agnes serving for over fifty years. They shared the position of secretary of the Burnbank Beef Ring for its entire lifetime. Non-denominational church services were held in their home during the winter for several years. Theirs had been the open door where one was always sure of a welcome. They retired to Elkhorn in 1962, when they purchased the former Archie Connolly house on Grange Street. Their golden wedding was celebrated at the farm. George died September 30, 1963, and Agnes on January 5, 1981. They had a family of five:

**Agnes Marjorie Freeman** was born May 28, 1914 at the farm home, and attended school at Elkhorn. She took an accounting course later. She married **Bill Paton** and they resided in Brandon for twenty-seven years. She worked for Box Bros. Hardware, Phipps Jewelers, and Lindenberg Seeds, before moving to Winnipeg, where she and Bill were divorced. She worked for the Province of Manitoba until her retirement, when she moved to Elkhorn for two years before making her home at 27-22259 Selkirk Avenue, Maple Ridge, B.C. Marjorie and Bill had two sons: **Roy**, who lives at Maple Ridge, and **Garry**, who lives at Brandon.

**Charles Stewart Freeman** was born December 7, 1915, at the farm house. He attended school at Elkhorn and Burnbank. He farmed with his father until his marriage to **Mary Orr**, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. John Orr**, of the Burnbank district. They farmed until 1962 south of Elkhorn, when they took over the original homestead 22-12-28, the third generation to do so. They are both very active in affairs of the community, as well as the Agricultural Society. They are continuing the pattern of open hospitality, with great, great grand-children of the pioneers among the welcome visitors. Their hobby is old-time dancing. They have a family of three: **Douglas** of Boissevain; **Ilene**, Mrs. Gary McRae of Calgary; and **Merle**, Mrs. Rick McAree of Prince Albert.

**George Stewart Freeman** was born January 23, 1917 at the farm home. He died February 5, 1918, and is buried in the family plot in Elkhorn cemetery.

**Margaret Dorothy Freeman** was born February 7, 1919. She attended school at Elkhorn. She married **Tom Cruickshank** at Elkhorn on February 7, 1942. Following his return from World War II, they took up farming on 20-10-28 south of Elkhorn. They have been active in the Arwana district, in the Legion, and in the Agricultural Society. They were very supportive of all school sports, and are both enjoying their regular curling games during the winter. They retired to live in Vir-



L-R: Agnes, Marjorie, Charlie, Margaret, Doug, George.

den in 1981. They had a family of five: **Lynne**, Mrs. Harry Bajus of Elkhorn; **Ken** and his wife **Judy McLeod** live in Brandon; **Ronald** and his wife **Brenda Morningstar** live at Boissevain; **David**, who died April 3, 1976; and **Beth**, Mrs. Ron Canart of Elkhorn.

**Douglas Craig Freeman** was born at the farm home on May 5, 1921. He attended school at Elkhorn, then went overseas and served in North Africa, Italy and Europe during World War II. On his return, he started farming in the Swan River Valley. He married **Ruth Cotton Ter Horst**. His hobbies are reading, curling and Old time dancing. He is active in the church at Kenville, Manitoba.

**Margaret Aleta Freeman** was the third daughter born to Charles and Sarah Freeman. She was born December 19, 1886, and received her schooling at Elkhorn. She married **Stafford Groat** on September 26, 1906. They resided in Elkhorn before moving to Georgetown, Ontario, where Stafford was employed in the post office before and after his service overseas in World War I. Stafford died May 6, 1949. Margaret, affectionately called Maggie, was an active community worker. She died November 6, 1976. They had one daughter: **Aileen**, born November 4, 1910. She married **Balfe Bradley** at Georgetown, and they had four children: **Brock**, **Gretchen**, **Claire** and **Sandra**.

**Libbie Lena Freeman** was born at Elkhorn on September 21, 1893. She operated a millinery shop in Elkhorn before her marriage to **William Cruickshank** on December 4, 1928. Bill operated a dairy, and the story is told that when he was courting Libbie, he would often stand and talk to her in the morning so long that the horse would move along the route. The horse he used to deliver the milk for twenty-seven years knew the route and would stand a few minutes then move on to the next home,

leaving Bill to catch up. Their farm was 4-12-28, where Jim Martin now lives. In 1936, they moved to Abbotsford, B.C., then to Port Coquitlam, where Bill died in 1950. Libbie married **Russell Crawford** April 29, 1959. Libbie is now widowed and lives in Vancouver. Bill and Libbie had one son, **Duncan**, who married and lives at Hamilton where he is a chartered accountant with Stelco. They have two children: **Anne** and **Brian**.

submitted by Marjorie Paton

### John Freeman

Was born in England and came out to Ontario with his parents while he was still a young boy. Growing up in Ontario during the American Civil War, he joined the militia, and helped put down the Fenians, who were plotting to take Canada for the



John Freeman when he was a soldier during the "Fenian Raid" in Ontario.

Americans. He must have been involved in a skirmish for he received a medal for bravery in rescuing a wounded comrade. He always carried himself very erect and used to say, proudly, "You can tell that I was a drilled man."

He worked for the railways so, being young, he no doubt was intrigued by tales of the glorious adventures and opportunities to be gained by following the C.P.R. westward, with the possibility of expansion and independence for those who were willing to brave it out. He was a strong supporter of Sir John A. Macdonald and was very proud and pleased when, as an old man, he was chosen to represent one of the Fathers of Confederation in a tableau during the 1927 celebrations of Canada's Sixtieth Jubilee.

In 1883 John, with his wife and three small daughters, **Alberta**, **Beatrice** and **Florence**, said goodbye to their home in Belle River, Essex County, Ontario, and followed his two brothers, **George** and **Charles**, who had headed west the previous year, and landed at the last whistle stop of the C.P.R. which was Elkhorn. We wish they had kept a journal of those early years, but no doubt life was too busy to do much but work, sleep, and eat. They took up homestead on N.W. 12-12-28 which remained in the family name until the death of his son, **Hubert**, in 1958. It was later sold to the Soders.

A few of the stories handed down to the younger generation tell of the tent store and post office run by Mr. John McLeod and his daughter Molly. There were also stories of Father's trips to Birtle and Oak Lake for lumber, flour and other necessities. These round trips could take several days while Mother and children were left to fend for themselves — sometimes cold, and sometimes hungry, until his return. In those days Elkhorn was a treeless plain so there was no wood to supplement the fuel supply. No doubt his wife often wished she were back in Ontario surrounded by her large and loving family. A son, Hubert, was born in 1888.

Alberta and Beatrice became professional dressmakers, serving their apprenticeship with Miss Bell. In those days the dressmaker went to the various homes, doing the dressmaking and tailoring for the family before moving on to the next place. For her services she received her room and board and fifty cents pay for a long day's work. They should have had a union! Alberta stayed with her profession until the death of her mother in 1924 when she moved home to take care of her father and brother.

There was a denominational difference between John and his wife, but it was solved by reciprocity. He was an Anglican and she was a Methodist, so he took the two older children to St. Mark's and she took the two younger ones to the Methodist Church. By an

odd quirk of fate, the one family raised Anglican retained the tradition without realizing it — the two older ones remained Anglican and the two younger ones followed their husbands and joined the United Church.

Beatrice married **William Ablett** in 1900 and betrace to his homestead (N.E. 31-11-27) and Florence married his partner, **John Heritage**, in 1900 and made her home on 6-12-27. Hubert remained single and farmed the original homestead until his death in 1958.

John's wife, **Louise**, died in February, 1924 and he died several years later; Florence died in December, 1949, Beatrice in December, 1953, Hubert in February, 1958, and Alberta in July, 1959.

submitted by Elfreda Bonnell

### Kaylynn Gardiner

**Kaylynn**, third child of **Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Clarke**, received her education at Mossgiel and Elkhorn Schools. She was employed as a telephone operator for several years. In 1964 she married **Ford Gardiner** of Virden, Man. They later moved to Vancouver, B.C. where Kaylynn was employed with the Bank of British Columbia. They had two children, **Crystal** and **Stacy**. Kaylynn and her two children now reside in Elkhorn, Manitoba.

### The Gardner Story

**James William Gardner** was the son of **John Gardner** and **Frances Routley**. He was born at Ashburn, Ontario, June 23, 1887 and came west with his parents to the Lenore District in 1890.

Jimmy was one of twelve children. As a young



Gramma Gardner.



Grampa Gardner with L to R: Ron, Frances (on knee), Alice and Elmer.

man, he worked as a fireman with the Grand Trunk Pacific Railroad, and then farmed the south half of 6-11-26 in the Pacific District. He was a dedicated church person and would walk up the railroad track from the farm to Hargrave in order to open the Presbyterian Church, teach Sunday School, and play the organ. On April 3, 1912, he married **Margaret Jean English**, eldest daughter of Elmer English and Alice Lane.

Jean Gardner took great pride in her home and family. She was an exceptional cook and was soon noted in the district for her farm meals given so freely to anyone who dropped in, but especially to the large threshing gangs during harvest time.

Jimmy and Jean Gardiner moved from the Pacific District to the Mossgiel District in 1929. Ten children were born of this union:

**Alice** — married **Lloyd Paterson**. They farmed at McAuley and then moved to Florida. They have two children; **George** and **Phyllis**.

**Elmer** (Son) — married **Frances Oliver** and they live in Winnipeg. He was involved in farming and trucking. The couple have two children; **Shirley** and **Judy**.

**Ronald** (Ron) — married **Lily Turner**. They lived on northeast half of 17-12-29. Ron served with the Army from 1942-46, when he went to work at the Creamery in Elkhorn and later moved to Brandon. They had three children; **Ken**, **Dorothy**, and **Randy**. Ron passed away on October 9, 1979.

**George** (Geordie) — was in the Royal Canadian Air Force from 1941-45. He married **Mildred Smith**, a war bride. He took Carpentry and later became a steam engineer. They lived in Brandon, but now in Minnedosa. They have three children; **Carol**, **Janice**, and **Debra**.

**Frances** (Bubbie) — married **Len Leslie** and they farmed until retiring in Elkhorn. Bubbie works

as a clerk in the Drugstore. They have four children; **Evelyn, Donald, Lloyd, and Gerald.**

**Phyllis (Phil)** — married **Harold (Dutch) Webster** and they live in Swan River. Phil works as a clerk in the drugstore. They have three children; **Wayne, Jim, and Arlene** (deceased 1979).

**Mary (Mae)** — married **Ken Rowan** of the Woodville District where they farm. Mae works at the Elkhorn Hospital. They have five children; **Donna, Linda, Sandra, Betty, and Beverly.**

**James (Jim)** — married **Wilda King** and they live in Kindersley, Saskatchewan. Jim taught school



L-R Back row: Elmer, George, Ron and Jim. Front row: Alice, Frances, Phyllis, Mae, Toadie.

and later went into business with his father-in-law. They have three children; **David, Robert, and Kathy.**

**Dorothy (Dolly)** — deceased in 1939.

**Winelda (Toadie)** — married **Howard Loewen** (divorced). Toadie taught school at Scarth and is now a vice-president of the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women. Four children were born; **Cheryl, John, William, and Naomi.**

Jimmy Gardner died in October 1931. Mrs. Gardner left the farm in 1941 and moved to Elkhorn with her daughter Winelda. She passed away in 1972.

The following account was written by Ron shortly before his death for his sister Toadie, who was not old enough to remember her dad.

#### Ron's Story

Hi, this is Ron talking — I will try to talk about the move the Jim Gardner family took from the Pacific School district to the Mossgiel district, back in 1929.

I remember Mum and Dad talking about moving.

They needed a larger house to accommodate the large family. I remember Dad talking about going to the Carrot River Valley, north of Tisdale, Saskatchewan, but he settled for the farm at Mossgiel; three-quarter section, west half of 2-12-29 and south west quarter of 11-12-29, owned by the late Mary Jaffray.

When Dad came back from looking at the farm, he told us about going to move to the farm west of Elkhorn. We were all excited, but like most kids, we hated to leave Pacific and all our relatives and friends. Dad had made quite a few trips with the feed and seed grain, etc. before the grande finale which was the 29th of March, 1929. We were all loaded the night before for the trip next day. Elmer, John, and I rode horseback, Old Beauty and Mabel, and I forget the name of the dog, and chased the cattle — the head of the ranks. There was a herd of about thirty, I think. One incident I remember well was, things had gone good all the way along, until one mile west of Elkhorn we met Jim Stamford and his family moving from the Jim Francis farm to Reeder. Of course, our cattle got all mixed together — until his dying day Jim Stamford swore we got his best two-year old heifer. Anyway, we got untangled and landed at the Jaffray farm about six that night.

The house there was like a mansion — it meant bedrooms for all of us! Most of the furniture of the house, Dad bought from Miss Jaffray: big double bedroom off the kitchen for the hired man and us boys — four bedrooms upstairs and a parlour off the front room that Mum used as a bedroom sometimes.

If I recall, it was Easter week and Don had helped us move, so he stayed a few days. We did some exploring of the country from Mossgiel to Kirkella, because that was where we would get our mail. We used "shank's pony", of course, because we didn't have a car in those days. It was an early spring and the creeks were running full blast by April 1st.

It was quite a day when we started to school at Mossgiel! The old brick walls bulged when five Gardners marched into the school. I'm not sure if it was Mill Noble or Miss Rattray, the teacher. Anyway we soon made friends and that helped to settle us in our new home.

Dad and Mum soon got acquainted with their neighbors, like the Haywards, the two Fry families and the Francis family, to name a few. Our dad always said, "you can have friends far and near, but if you haven't got a neighbour, you are lost."

It seems to me that Dad was just starting to expand, he took on more land, north half of 4 and the east half of 9. Lots of good hay meadow, if I recall. I guess he was thinking ahead so to be prepared for the four stalwart sons he was raising — not to mention the six daughters that needed new shoes and dresses.

The crop was not so bad in 1929 but from then on the dry weather hit us and the Depression started. The 1930 crop was poor, but Dad put up all the hay he could muster as we were milking 18 cows, and that's how we survived the winter of 1930-31. Mum always had a good garden and nothing went to waste — also the rhubarb and saskatoons made good eating. Dad would smoke or cure 5 nice pigs in the spring, and oh boy, I can just smell it cooking now! Homemade bread, oatmeal porridge and home-cured meat was our main diet. I sometimes wonder how Mum and Dad were able to do it. Our bums got kind of bare sometimes, but the old stomach was always full.

In the winter of 1930-31, the younger ones of the family were plagued with sickness — as Dolly used to say “Toadie and I had whooping toff, chiten pox and pneumonia”. But with Doc Johnston and the help of Aunt Bessie as a nurse (bless her soul), she brought everything back to normal.

With no grain to sell and cattle a poor price, Dad turned his hand to cutting cordwood. There was an abundant amount of good poplar on the Jaffray farm and also the two halves he had rented; so we hired a bushman with a Swede saw and axe, that came from Ontario looking for a job. His name was Sam Gamble. He shipped three carloads of cordwood to Virden from Kirkella; I think it was to Taylor Lumber Company. Dad also shipped a carload of cattle and pigs to Winnipeg from Kirkella in early 1931. I think the whole carload, after the freight, netted him less than \$2,000. Two good steers would bring that today. Anyway, he brought us all home something. He still had great hopes in the country, and went out and bought a new tractor — it was a 15-30 McCormick Deering, and also bought a new Model A Ford. The car gave old Beauty a rest from hauling the cream to town.

After the crop was all in and the hired man set to ploughing summer fallow, Dad went working on the highway with four horses. That was the year they built the speed curve at Mossgiel corner. He must have worked out all the summer of 1931 and wasn't feeling well either. Elmer and I would take him a fresh four-horse team at noon, and his dinner. It seems to me that he could only eat the soup. It was later that summer that we knew that Dad was not very good. After the trip to Winnipeg for treatment, and his return saying that they could not operate or do anything for him, it was only a short time before his death. It was a terrible shock to all of us. The funeral was held right at the farm. When I hear of some dignitaries lying in state, I think of our Dad's casket in the middle of the room off the living room at the farm.

The Hargrave Masonic Order were in charge of

the funeral with T. A. Carscadden. Dad had played the organ at Hargrave church so there was a lot of that district came to pay tribute.

When I think back now, I don't know how our Mother had the fortitude to stay out there on the farm. But I guess she thought it was as good a place as any to raise a family. The Farm Credit and the Bank foreclosed and took nearly all the cattle except five milk cows — all the pigs and most of the grain we had. Miss Jaffray agreed we could stay on the farm on a rental basis. There was very little money around, so it must have been some relief when the Masonic Lodge told Mother she would receive \$100 a month from them till the widow's allowance came through. I think it took six months for the allowance to start. It must have been a Liberal government. Sorry about that, Toad!

Oh, well, those days were not all sad, there were lots of happy times too. Dad was a fun-loving man with a love for young people; he would teach us the word of God on Sunday morning and play ball with us in the afternoon. He was very quick-tempered but forgave just as fast — never held a grudge. I know someone very much like him.

I hope this story will enlighten your early youth, Toad, and if anyone should ask, just say, “Oh, that's my B.S.ing brother.” But I know 90% of it is true.

submitted by Win Gardner and the late Ron Gardner

### **Elmer Gardner** “Vivid Recollections”

**Elmer Gardner** of Elkhorn, Man., married **Francis Oliver** from Fleming, Sask., on December 22nd, 1941. They farmed in the Burnbank district for five years prior to moving into Elkhorn, where Elmer began trucking for the Dept. of Highways. Francis, a talented pianist, taught piano lessons for several years. Many of her pupils took part in the Music Festivals in Virden and Brandon and her recitals in Elkhorn were enjoyed by everyone.

Francis and Elmer have two daughters, **Shirley** and **Judy**. Shirley was competitive in track and field events and was an avid curler and figure-skater. In 1963 she married **Lloyd Day** now a Sergeant in the R.C.M.P. Lloyd lived in Elkhorn for a short time in 1951 while his father was in partnership with Johnny McFarren in an appliance store. Lloyd and Shirley met again several years later and married. They now have three children, **Kimberley**, **Pamela** and **Kevin** all residing in Pincher Creek, Alta.

Judy, who was an out-door girl and enjoyed 4-H cooking is married to **Donald Graham** from Ontario and they reside in Crossfield, Alta., where Judy has a beauty salon and Don has a sheet-metal business.





Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Gardner with daughters Shirley and Judy.

Judy has three children, **Gregory, Kelly and Laurie.**

Francis, Elmer and the girls moved from Elkhorn in 1957. Shirley became a nurse and Judy a beautician. Elmer is now employed by the City of Winnipeg and Francis is involved in many church activities and takes in many social events.

I write this with many vivid recollections of our life in Elkhorn and to this day I enjoy going back and having memories of our life there becoming vividly renewed.

Shirley DAY (nee Gardner)

### Mr. and Mrs. Ken Gardner

**Ken Gardner** eldest son of **Lily Gardner** and the late **Ronald Gardner** was born at Flin Flon, where his parents resided for a short while before moving back to Elkhorn. He attended school in Elkhorn and played hockey. In 1960 he married **Leona Mae Pollock**, a telephone operator at Elkhorn, originally from Brandon.

They lived in Elkhorn for a short while, before

moving to Moosomin, Langenburg and now reside in Swan River. They have three children, **Kevin, Dale, and Laurie Ann** and all live in Swan River.

submitted by Ken Gardner

### Mr. and Mrs. Randy Gardner

**Randy Gardner**, youngest son of **Lily Gardner** and the late **Ronald Gardner** was born in Elkhorn. He attended school in Elkhorn and played hockey. He left Elkhorn in 1966, when his parents moved to Brandon, where he completed his education. He moved to Winnipeg for a while before moving to Swan River.

In 1980 he married **Rhonda Lambert** of Swan River, where they now reside.

submitted by Randy Gardner

### Mr. and Mrs. William Ronald Gardner

**Ronald Gardner** was born in the Virden District, son of **James William Gardner** and **Jean Gardner** (English). He married **Lily Turner**, born in Elkhorn daughter of Mr. Jack Turner and Leah Turner (Kirk) in 1939. They moved into Elkhorn in 1942, the year Ronald joined the army. He was in the service from 1942 to 1946. He worked at construction work and was manager of the Elkhorn Creamery for a number of years. He was active in Council, School Board, and Legion work. Lily was active in Legion work also. They moved to Brandon in 1966, where they lived until Ronald's death in 1979. His wife still resides in Brandon. They had three children. **Kenneth** — married **Leona Mae Pollock** in 1960, they have three children, **Kevin, Dale, and Laurie.** They live in Swan River, Manitoba. **Dorothy** — married **Clarence Campbell** in 1963, they had two children, **Terry and William.** They live in Winnipeg. **Randy** — married **Rhonda Lambert** in 1980. They live in Swan River, Manitoba.

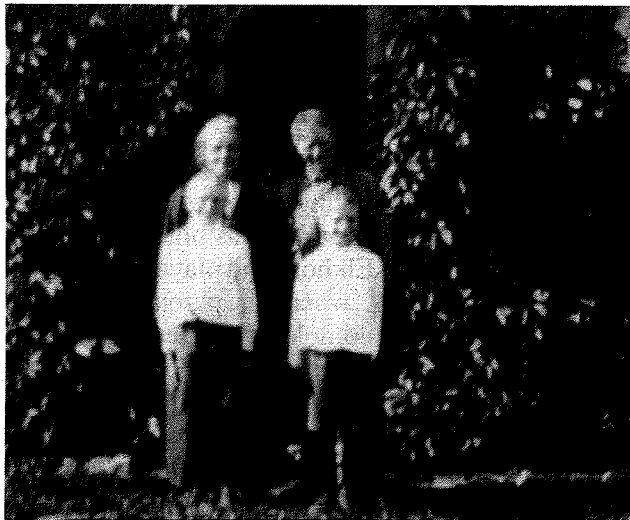
submitted by Mrs. Ron Gardner

### Mr. and Mrs. Walter Garlick

#### A Chance To Remember

It is one hundred years since our grandparents, **Mr. and Mrs. Walter Garlick** came from England to settle on a homestead seven miles east of Elkhorn and three miles north of Hargrave. They met up with Mr. and Mrs. Vaux and the Clarkson family and they settled in the same area. They had one daughter, **Mary**, born in England in 1880. **Walter**, junior, was born on the homestead in 1883. They lived there until 1899 during which time eight children were born to them. A daughter was born after they came to Rocanville in 1900.

They attended the small church north of the highway at Hargrave and the school for a short time. They



L-R Back row: Edith and Walter Garlick Jr. Front row: sons Wilfred and Edward.

were well educated in England and my grandfather kept a daily diary that would be very valuable if we had it now. He worked for a short time on the C.P.R. from Oak Lake to end of construction west of Moose Jaw. They farmed the land at Hargrave until 1899 and then moved to Rocanville. They got land north of town and farmed until he was thrown from a cart and killed on the Qu'Appelle hill in 1904. Grandmother raised her family on the farm and died in 1940 after living in Rocanville for a number of years.

After farming for a while at Rocanville, Walter Garlick, junior, and his wife **Edith** and sons **Edward** — born 1917 and **Wilfred** — born 1919 returned to the Elkhorn district to farm in 1920. They farmed seven miles north of town in the Burnbank district. We both attended school there. Miss Leslie was one of our teachers, Mr. Middleton another and I do not remember the others.

The event that I remember well was when I knocked my teeth out on the old cement bridge north of the school after sliding down the hill on a hand-sleigh; also the time our willow and grass tee-pee burned in the slough south of the school. I remember some of the parties at the school, concerts and the church services there.

The event of the year was when Mr. Lacey came with his team outfit to thresh. One year he pulled through our yard at seven in the morning. Wilfred and I got into some clothes and followed him for a mile or so to where he was to thresh, hoping to get a chance to sit on the seat of the engine. After starting to thresh Mr. Lacey came to us and asked why we were not at school. It was already ten o'clock and we had better go. We started away but he called us back and let us sit on the engine seat for five minutes and that made us happy. When we got home Mother was

hostile and sent us on to school. We thought Mr. Lacey a hero to be able to drive that engine.

Those were good years at Burnbank. Our school chums are remembered and I see some of them sometimes and will remember them always. The Bryant family were our neighbors and we kept in touch.

We left to return to Dad's farm north of Rocanville in 1931 and I really left my youth at Burnbank. Father passed away in 1972 and Mother in 1975.

submitted by Edward Garlick

### **Alfred George Family**

**Alfred Stanley George** arrived from London, England as a teenager in 1901. He came to an English family by the name of Olford, at Fleming, Saskatchewan, where he was employed for a long time.

**Francis Elizabeth Fallis** came to Fleming, Saskatchewan with her widowed Mother, older brother and younger sister at eight years of age.

Through activity in the church, Alfred and Elizabeth became friends, and later married in December, 1909.

While employed at the Olfords he met another English family who farmed close by, by the name of Frank Scarff, parents of Marjorie Shepherd, who became residents of Elkhorn in later years.

Alfred was very interested in music. Having had voice training in England he was soon into church choir, and played cello in a small orchestra they formed in Fleming.

He finally established himself on his own farm two miles from Manson, Manitoba, living there for about a year before his marriage. A brother, **Arthur**, came out from England, living with him for a time. He returned to England at the outbreak of World War I.

Alfred and Elizabeth had one daughter, **Winifred Grace**.

At this time they were deeply involved in the Methodist Church in Manson, and community affairs of the village. Both my parents and myself were involved in concerts, elocution contests, debating teams, drama, etc., putting on a new play each winter. All of these were mostly winter activities.

When I was eight years of age my dad met with a very serious accident in a Government gravel pit cave-in. I am sorry to say compensation wasn't handed out or expected at that time, like it is today. He was in bed from December through the spring with broken limbs and unable to do his spring work. Neighbors and friends were priceless in those days. The "pioneer spirit" ran high and farmers, implements and horses came for miles to do the work that spring and the following fall. One of these men was Dick Pascoe who later became an Elkhorn resident,

farming out of Fleming at the time, and other friends from that area also.

Farming became harder over the years, and in 1928 we sold out and moved to Elkhorn. My dad had bought the Decorating and Painting business from Bob Rae, and we started our new life in Elkhorn.

The only available house for rent at this time was a large brick house south of the track that we were told had been built by an English gentleman. It was a very interesting house, and I'm sure when built was something of grandeur. It was in all sense a four level. The staircase curved to each floor, becoming a spiral. It was partially in disrepair, but after paint and paper, etc., it became really nice and quite different. This house was a story in itself and long ago demolished. The following year we bought the Bob Rae house, now owned by Athol Moore.

We became involved in the same activities as in Manson — concerts, plays, etc., also activities of the church. The Church had long before become the United Church. Mom and Dad were deeply involved in church affairs and organizations, and Dad in the choir, along with Dick Pascoe, who had moved to Elkhorn from Fleming, Saskatchewan.

They were very dedicated people, always ready to help their fellow man, and had true faith in God's love.

Dad dearly loved his garden. Along with all the garden goodies, we had raspberries and strawberries galore and needless to say, lots of company. Mom would get a batch of cream puffs in the oven and with all our own butter and cream, it made for a great dessert and all you could eat — home grown as produced. The town garden was on a much smaller scale but just as good.

Over the years, our home was home to many others who came and went, from fellows in orchestras, oil, etc. Harvey Sparling, a lawyer, made his home there, Mr. George Earle for a period of time after selling his home, Mr. Dunbar, while waiting for his family to move to Elkhorn after the school term, and many more. Mom had a real gift of setting up a lovely table, white cloth and all. It was lots of hard work, but she enjoyed them all. Ill health brought all this to an end, however, as Mom was quite ill with asthma for a long time.

At the time of Dad's death, suddenly in 1957, he was involved with the choir practising for a Minstrel show to earn money to install chimes in the church tower.

Mom later went to live in a suite in the Eastern Saskatchewan Lodge, Moosomin. Dr. Ferre of Elkhorn had finally found medication that helped her a great deal. During these years I finished school, worked for Mr. Tottle in his grocery store for a time,

then to the Beaver Dodge Hardware & Lumber Co. In October, 1936, I married **Kenneth Lidster**, living in Elkhorn until 1954, when we moved to Brandon with our five children. Ken had sold our butcher shop to George Canart in 1951.

Mom passed away in Moosomin, Saskatchewan in October, 1965. Both are buried in the Elkhorn Cemetery.

submitted by Winnifred Lidster

## The Gibbs Family

**Samuel Edward** (Ted) and **Edward Francis** (Frank), although many thought them to be brothers, were really first cousins. Ted came from near London, England while Frank was born and raised in Bristol, England.

Ted arrived in Canada with his widowed mother, one brother Jonathan, and three sisters, Jean, Hilda and Elsie. This family settled in the Winnipeg area from where Ted entered the Services. While in Toronto he contracted the 1918 Flu and spent weeks in hospital. It was also there that he met and married **Angeline B. Stewart** who had an Irish background. Although Ted was fully trained in the Bakery Department he chose to operate a garage, so, with his new bride they moved to Birtle, Manitoba. In 1921 he moved to Elkhorn, Manitoba where he operated the B.A. Service Station for a number of years, later taking over the Esso Garage from which he retired. Throughout the years, he was very active on the United Church Board and faithfully sang in the Church Choir. His Bakery training was a hobby and many a birthday cake and wedding cake he beautifully decorated. In 1942 his wife passed on and several years later he married Mrs. **Florrie McFadzean**. There were no children in either marriage so when **Allen**, (Florrie's son by a former marriage) came to live with him, he was very happy. The couple had many happy years together until Florrie was called "Home." Ted carried on in the family home until his death some years later.

When Frank came to Canada in 1911, although one of five children, he came alone and went to Alberta to work but later, settled in the Spy Hill, Saskatchewan area. In 1921 he married **Violet Rogers** also from Bristol, England and they farmed on the Spy Hill farm where **Bernice** was born. In 1933, he bought a farm at Tantallon, Saskatchewan and it was here that Bernice graduated with a Grade XII certificate. Frank and Violet resided here until Frank was forced into giving up farming for health reasons, and he retired to live in the town of Elkhorn. Taking up the carpentry trade, he joined Ki-An Construction and worked at Rivers, Manitoba building homes. Upon completion of this project, he trans-

ferred with this company and took up residence in Kimberley, British Columbia and later Cranbrook, British Columbia.

During their years on the prairies, Frank and Violet were very active in Community affairs. Frank was organist and choir leader in the United Church for many years and they both sang in the choir most of their lives. While in British Columbia, Frank studied engineering at night school and graduated with his certificate so that when carpentry became too strenuous, he undertook to work in the largest Cranbrook hospital. Because of his personality and his efficient manner, he was employed until he was seventy-four years old.

In 1970, they returned to Manitoba to take up residence in Brandon where Bernice, Bob and family live. In 1971 they celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary with family and friends.

On October 3, 1976 Frank passed away. Violet, now a resident of Winnipeg House in downtown Brandon is very active in Craft Groups, Missionary Groups and attends Church regularly. She has a great interest in Missionaries since she has a niece and family who have been missionaries in India for over thirty years.

While they were together, Frank and Violet were ardent five pin Bowlers where Frank won several trophies and they also carpet bowled in the Drop-in Centre once a week, but now because of her age, Violet is unable to continue to Bowl and has to be content with Handicrafts and letter writing for hobbies.

submitted by Bernice Shoemaker

### The Gilbert Family

Great-grandfather **William Gilbert** was born in 1812, his wife **Elizabeth Jane Thomas** in 1831, at St. Erth, Cornwall, England. They had ten children. In 1879 they immigrated to Canada with six of their children and settled in Blenheim, Ontario and took up farming. He died in 1887 and is buried in Elkhorn cemetery.

Their fourth son **James William**, born in 1856 married **Mary Greenwood** in 1886. She was born in Blenheim, Ontario in 1867. They came West via C.P.R. in 1887, with their six week old daughter Lillian. They brought three horses, three cows and some farm machinery. They built a home and sod stable on 30-11-28.

James' sister **Bessie** married Mary's brother **Sam Greenwood**; they settled in the Woodville district and farmed there for a number of years. He was one of the first trustees of the Woodville school. They had ten children.

James and Mary had seven children; **Lillian**,



James and Mary Gilbert, 1933.

**Roy, Jean, Maurice, Stanley, Wesley and Harold.**  
They all attended the old stone school in Elkhorn.

The first Methodist Church Services in Elkhorn were held under the guidance of James William Gilbert in 1887, in the old frame school house. He initiated the building of the first church in 1892 — a “two-storey” building with the minister’s quarters on the lower floor. This sufficed until 1903 when the new Methodist Church was built. Mrs. R. Travis had the honor of laying the corner stone. Reverend R. A. Scarlet was minister when the building was dedicated.

James Gilbert was a good farmer: he worked one and three quarter sections of land. His son Stanley remembers the ritual of grain cleaning early each spring. He and his brothers would crank the fanning mill and put all the grain through; then they would breathe a sigh of relief but if father found any weeds in it, it would have to be done a second time!

Prairie fires were an ever-present danger in dry weather. Stanley remembers the way they would sweep across the country. They could be seen coming for miles, lighting up the sky at night. They seemed mostly to come from the north-west. Everyone plowed fire guards around his buildings and burned off strips between the guards as protection as there were no roads in those days. Only a good rain could save the homestead if these methods failed.



Gilbart farm 1904.

Unlike today where each family has its own machinery to do the harvesting, only a few farmers operated steam threshing outfits. These would move from farm to farm until harvesting was completed. As this often took a good deal of time, the farmers would often stack their crops and do their fall land cultivation while awaiting the "threshing gang". Often it was done after "freeze up", at a cost of \$5.00 for one of the early years! Threshing time was a busy and exciting time for the women too! Getting meals and sending lunches to the fields for eighteen to twenty men was quite an accomplishment. The huge roasts of beef and the home made breads and pies are something you never forget!

James Gilbert died in 1933 and Mary Gilbert in 1945.

**James and Mary Gilbert's family:**

**Lillian:** Born 1887. Married **Richard Pascoe** in 1905. **Roy Gilbert:** Born 1890. Farmed briefly on land near his father's homestead. Died in 1919 from injuries and complications of an accident with a horse and buggy one Sunday evening on his way home from church.

**Jean Gilbert:** Born 1896. Married **Ernie Phillips** in 1916. They farmed at Sceptre, Saskatchewan. She died in 1975. **Maurice Gilbert:** Born 1896. Married **Muriel Dixon** in 1922. They had four sons; **Eric, Melvin, Leroy and Donald**. He owned a Funeral Home in Selkirk, Manitoba. Maurice served his country in World War I. He died in 1944.

**Stanley Gilbert:** Born 1898. Married **Gladys Lund** in 1921. They had four children, **Evelyn,**

**Lloyd, Eileen and Gordon**. They farmed in the Elkhorn district and on the home farm for many years, then bought the milk business in Elkhorn from Harvey Johnson in 1929; later selling to Richard Pascoe in 1932. They then operated a restaurant in Kenora, Ontario and later returned to live at Elkhorn. Gladys died in 1962.

Stanley married **Lois Farmer** in 1964. They had a daughter **Corrine** born in 1965. Stanley now resides in Brandon, Manitoba. He served his country in World War II; he was injured in battle and spent some time in the hospital.

**Stanley Gilbert's Family:**

**Evelyn:** Born 1922, Married **Claude Poston** of Elkhorn in 1944. They have four girls, twins **Faye** and **Gaye, Wendy and Penny**. They reside in Virden, Manitoba.

**Eileen:** Born 1929. Married **Douglas Cassell** of Elkhorn in 1951. They have two children, **Donald** and **James**. They reside at Lethbridge, Alberta.

**Lloyd:** Born 1924. Served in the R.C.A.F. Married **Erna Brown** of Kenora, Ontario in 1943. They have three children. **Terry, Randy and Linda**. Lloyd has a Ford Dealership in Thunder Bay, Ontario.

**Gordon:** Born 1935. Married **Elsa Thom** in 1956 in Germany. They have four children; **Joseph, Stanley, Cindy and Gordie**. They reside at Ignace, Ontario. Gordon served a period of time in the army.

**Corrine:** Born 1965. Is attending school in Grenfell, Saskatchewan.

**Wesley Gilbert:** Born in 1901. Married **Elva**

**McClure** in 1929. They have two sons, **Ronald** and **John**. Wesley was in the funeral business with an uncle, Chalmers Greenwood in Stratford, Ontario for many years.

**Harold Gilbert**: Born 1904. Married **Mattie Richardson** in 1928. They have one son, **James**. They farmed in the Elkhorn district for a number of years before taking up residence in North Vancouver.  
submitted by Stan Gilbert

### **William Goethe Senior (1859-1956)**

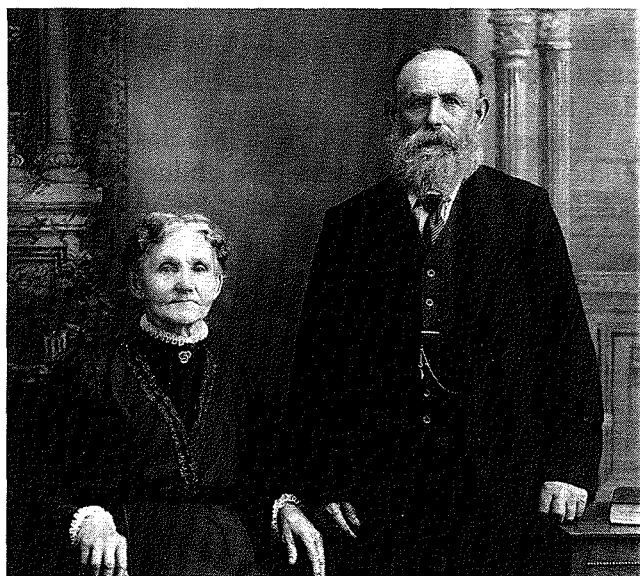
**William Goethe** was born in Ishtad, Germany on February 19, 1859. He came to the United States when he was 25 years old. He came to Canada with his brother Frank in 1905. He was very fond of music and formed a band in the United States. In 1908 "Uncle Bill" as he was known by all, formed another band in the Woodville District (Woodville Band). He was bandmaster of both these bands. His bands played far and near at fairs, garden parties etc. To raise funds for their instruments and uniforms, some of the members of the band, held a "box social" in Uncle Bill's barn.

Uncle Bill never married and lived to be the grand age of 97. He lived for eighteen years with his nephew, Bill. He is buried in the Woodville Cemetery.

submitted by Jeanne Goethe

### **William Charles Goethe (1887-1976)**

**Mr. and Mrs. Frank Goethe** came to Canada in 1905 from Jerseyville, Illinois. They settled on NW 18-11-29 in the Woodville District. They originally



Frank and Racia Goethe.

came from Germany. Frank was a cousin of the great German poet and philosopher Johann Wolfgang von Goethe and a direct heir to his fortune. They had eight children, but only four came to Canada. They were **William (Bill)**, **Fred**, **Annie**, and **Emma**. Fred married **Jessie Baker**, Annie married **Lorne Poston** and Emma married **George Boomhower**.

**Mrs. Frank Goethe (Racia)** was born in Uderslavin, Germany, in 1845 and passed away in 1937. Frank was born in Ishtad, Germany, in 1847 and passed away in 1935. They are buried in Woodville Cemetery.

William "Bill" Goethe was born at Jerseyville, Illinois on July 14, 1887. He came to Canada with his parents in 1905.



Bill and Laura (Coulson) Goethe.

Bill married **Laura Gertrude Coulson** on December 14, 1909 in Fleming, Saskatchewan. Bill and Laura had one son, **Lyle William Richard**, born in September of 1910. Laura and infant son were returning home on May 8, 1912 and were crossing the Pipestone Creek when a whirlpool frightened the horse and both were drowned. Laura was 27 years old and Lyle was 19 months old. They are buried in Woodville Cemetery.

Bill returned then to the United States. Later he



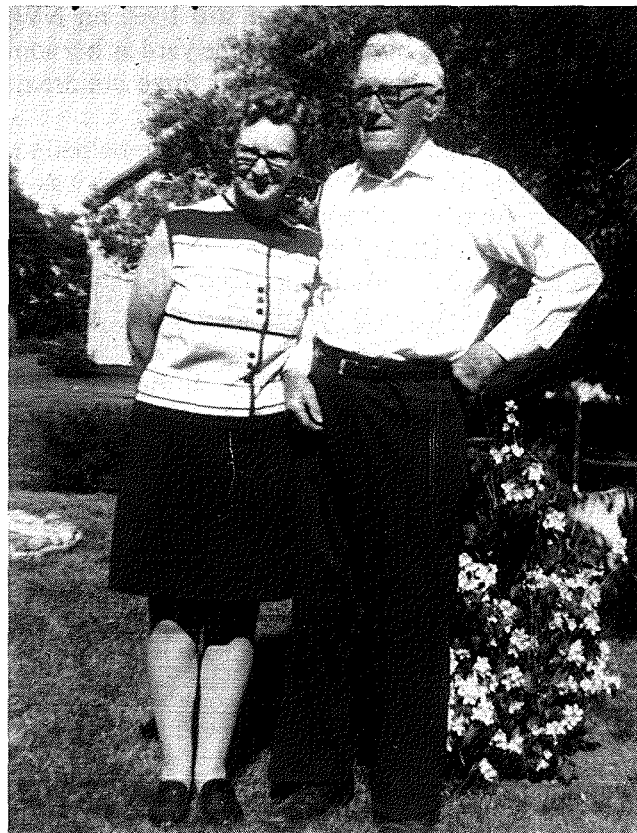
Bill and Eleanor (Krenz) Goethe.

returned to Woodville with his bride, **Eleanor Marie Krenz**. They were married in St. Paul, Minnesota on July 4, 1925. They were only married a short time when Eleanor passed away. She was 31 years old. She is buried in the Woodville Cemetery.

On December 8, 1945, Bill married **Helen Rachael Vass** in Elkhorn. They lived on Bill's father's farm NW 18-11-29. They had twins on December 20, 1946, **Ronald William** and **Donna Wilma**.

Helen was born at North Portal, Saskatchewan on the United States and Canadian border, on September 24, 1910.

Helen's mother and father came from Bonnie Scotland. Her father was a soldier and spent eighteen years in the British Army and was a soldier in the Boer War. Helen's father came to Canada with his first wife and two little girls. After the death of his first wife, he married Helen's mother in 1909. The youngest girl was adopted out, but later died. Mr. and Mrs. Vass had twelve children. Helen was the oldest



Helen and Bill Goethe.

child. Mr. Vass was a miner and worked in the coal mines at Shand, Roche Percee, Bienfait, Estevan and later took up farming.

In 1928 a tragic car accident claimed his life and left Mrs. Vass with thirteen children to raise alone.

Then the "Dirty Thirties" came and they were forced to work out for their board. After they could no longer find food for their horses and cattle they drove them to Maryfield to Mr. Guy Longman's farm, letting them feed along the way on the roadside.

Due to the drought, dust storms, and grasshoppers, Helen and her sisters came to Maryfield to find work. They called them the "Grasshopper Girls". There she met and married Bill Goethe.

Then on December 20, 1946 their twins were born in Dr. Johnston's Private Hospital in Elkhorn, Ronald weighing 5½ pounds and Donna weighing 3½ pounds. The weather was so cold that they were kept warm on the oven door of the big kitchen stove. Mary and Agnes Clubb were the nurses. It was 25 below, the day they brought the twins home. Thelma Rowan came in with Bill to help bring the twins home.

Helen was a great community and church worker. She helps anyone in need. Her pride is her beautiful yard and garden which she enjoys and for which she

has received recognition. Helen still lives on NW 18-11-29 in her own home in the same yard as her son Ron and his wife **Jeanne** and their three children, **Kimberlee**, **Robin** and **Aaron**.

Bill was very active in the district. He helped to plant the beautiful trees at the cemetery and was a school trustee for the Woodville School.

Bill was very fond of music, as his uncle was and was a member of the Woodville Band. He played the violin and cornet. He made the first violin he ever played.

In 1906 the Goethe Brothers, along with the Postons purchased a threshing outfit. Later the Goethes took over the outfit and threshed for many years.



Adults L-R: Ron and Jeanne Goethe, Donna Shoemaker, Helen Goethe. Children: Mark and Christine Shoemaker, Kimberlee and Robin Goethe. Left inserts top: Aaron Goethe Middle: Laura Shoemaker. Right insert: Jim Shoemaker.

Bill was a real sportsman. He enjoyed hunting, baseball, trapping and hockey in his younger years.

Bill was a man that would drop anything he was doing to go and help a neighbor whether it was day or night.

Bill saw many changes in his life time, from horse and buggy to Model T cars and threshing machines to combines, but he took it all in his own stride. Bill was a friend to everyone.

Bill passed away on February 7, 1976. He is buried in Woodville Cemetery.

Ronald William (Ron) is the third generation of the Goethe's to live on NW 18-11-29. Ron was very active in baseball and curling and he enjoys hunting. He attended Woodville School and Elkhorn School. In 1964 Ron took up farming with his father.

Ron married **Jeanne Dunn** of Virden on October 21, 1967. They have three children, **Kimberlee Dawn** born February 13, 1972, **Robin Leigh** born May 23, 1974 and **William Aaron** born December 2, 1977. The girls attend Elkhorn School. Aaron is the fourth generation of Goethes on NW 18-11-29.

Donna Wilma worked in Winnipeg after she finished her education. She attended school at Woodville, Elkhorn, and Virden. On September 21, 1967 Donna married **James Shoemaker** in Elkhorn. They moved to Dartmouth, Nova Scotia where Jim was in the Navy. They later lived in Winnipeg and then returned home to farm on 17-12-28. Donna was very active in school sports and curling. They have three children, **Christine Lynne** born on July 27, 1968, **Frederick William Mark** born on October 3, 1970 and **Laura Elaine** born on September 12, 1978.

submitted by Jeanne Goethe

### Fred Goethe Family

Fred Goethe was born in Jackson, Minnesota, U.S.A. and came to Canada with the family in 1905. They all settled on the farm twelve miles west of Elkhorn which is still the Goethe farm. On January 22nd, 1910 in the County Court of Virden, Fred Goethe became a naturalized citizen. He had resided in Canada five years. Frederick Goethe of Elkhorn and **Jessie Clara Baker** of the Kola district were married November 29th, 1911 at the home of William Goethe, Maryfield, Saskatchewan by J. Leishman, Presbyterian minister. **Catherine** was born September 26, 1912 while they were living on one of the Aikins farms. At six months of age she developed spinal meningitis and only weighing three pounds at birth had a very hard time to survive. Thanks to Dr. Goodwin, he was able to pull her through the illness. Many years later the family all moved to Elkhorn. **Margaret** was born at the Lund's home in Elkhorn on September 19, 1913. **Dorothy** was born at Elkhorn February 28, 1916 and **Clarabelle** was born at the home of Mrs. Allinson on the south east side of Elkhorn, March 30, 1919. This was the year when the ravine on the south side of the track was flooding. The water was going over the sidewalk part of the road. The family had had flu very badly and had been at the home of Mrs. Allinson. The first day out they went down to the ravine to play on the bridge. Dorothy, being very young was throwing stones into the water, lost her balance and fell off the bridge into the fast moving water. She floated through the culvert and got caught on the fence on the other side. If it had not been for Mary Poston, who had been looking after their mother and the girls, hearing them scream Dorothy would have been drowned. She jumped into



the water and got Dorothy loose from the wire. Again Doctor Goodwin came to the rescue. He never failed to come when called. They finally settled on the corner house across from the rink. They all learned to skate and spent many evenings skating and curling which was about all there was to do in those days. They were all very active in St. Mark's Church and joined the choir at a very young age. They belonged to the girls' groups and cleaned the church and set the altar for communion. They all took a hand in acting and filling in at concerts. Mrs. Peloquin, who was a music teacher, was a dedicated person and a beautiful pianist. She trained the girls for operettas and musicals which they all enjoyed. Many times she would teach them from her sick bed.

The Goethe girls all went through Elkhorn School for their education, having Jean Lund and Mrs. Elliott for their teachers. Margaret was very fond of sports. She played basketball and ground ball and took a go at racing, high jumping and curling.

Catherine found employment with Fred Norris in the printing office and later at the Beaver Lumber under Ken Williams. Then she moved to Winnipeg where she worked for Ashdowns, Mitchell Copp and Birks Jewellers where she retired after twenty-five years. Margaret worked for Waddington and Lee and later had the chance to take a hair dressing course in Winnipeg. She found steady employment there after her course and later met and married **Fred Woodman** who had returned from five and a half years overseas. They have two girls and also two granddaughters. Dorothy married **Fred Rodgers** of Virden. They have one son **Michael**, who with his wife **Carol** is now living and working in Saudi Arabia. Dorothy is now retired after twenty-five years with Sears. Clarabelle married **Clarence Shillingford** of Fleming, Saskatchewan. They have a son and a daughter, and now have two grandsons. Both Clarabelle and Catherine are now in poor health. Although times were very hard in their young days their mother and father always managed to keep them together until they grew up and found employment. They were always allowed to bring young people into their home and their parents always made them feel welcome. In those days they always had to make their own fun and amusement and through hard times appreciated what they had.

signed Margaret Woodman (Nee Goethe)

## **Robert Goodwin**

Robert Goodwin was born in Arnprior, Ontario, on July 7th, 1867. He was the youngest of eight children born to **David and Mary Goodwin**, who later settled in Oak Lake, Manitoba. Upon graduation from the Arnprior Collegiate and Normal School

he taught school in the province of Quebec for one year and then joined his parents and brothers and sisters, who had previously established themselves on homesteads north of Oak Lake, Manitoba.

In 1890 he entered the Manitoba Medical College and graduated with the degrees M.D. C.M. in the spring of 1894. In the early summer of 1894 he arrived in Elkhorn on horseback and set up his medical practice, having chosen Elkhorn rather than Moose Jaw, which had bid for his services.

Elkhorn was a small village at that time but the country was large and inviting to a young man of unlimited energy, a pioneer spirit, a love of people and a dedication to his chosen profession. To him, work or play was both a pleasure and a challenge which he met "face on" until the closing moments of his life.

Dr. Goodwin's practice grew rapidly and he served not only Elkhorn and the immediate vicinity, but also such towns and communities as Maryfield, Inglefield, Cromer, Butler, Ebor, Hargrave, Two Creeks, Arrow River, Arawana, Beulah, Willen, McAuley, Manson and Kirkella.

In the early days these communities were served by the doctor with horse and buggy in summer, and cutter in winter. The life was not an easy one before the days of the telephone or motor car, but he was dedicated to his profession and never refused a call when needed either night or day regardless of wind, weather or distance, and was ever grateful for the kind hospitality received in the farm homes including the nourishing meals, a quickly prepared cup of tea or the loan of an extra horse, all of which helped him on his long cold trips.

In the autumn of 1903 Dr. Goodwin, realizing that he had still much to learn, decided to take a post-graduate course in London, England. He made the overseas trip where he spent several months studying, observing and eventually assisting in Chelsea and Great Ormond Street hospitals, which experience he found most rewarding.

While Dr. Goodwin's main objective in going to London was to study and work he still believed in the old adage that "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," and he took some time off to see some interesting sporting events, such as the boat races on the Thames, the celebrated Grand National Steeple Chase and the famous football team Tottenham Hotspurs.

After completion of his course in London, he visited Ireland where by bicycle he travelled many miles visiting interesting places. One purchase that he made in Ireland was a black thorn cane, a gift for his very good Elkhorn friend, Mr. Rufus Travis, affectionately known to all around Elkhorn as



Dr. and Mrs. Goodwin at their home on Richill Ave.

“Dad”. The cane is well preserved and still on duty.

While overseas, he also visited the Isle of Wight, France and Germany.

On November 18th, 1896 Dr. Goodwin married Miss **Clara Buckingham**, who had come to Elkhorn district with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Richard Buckingham, from Essex, Ontario in November, 1884. Mrs. Goodwin was not only a devoted wife, but was also an able assistant. Dr. and Mrs. Goodwin made their home in Elkhorn until 1920. They built a substantial home on Richill Avenue and as there were no hospital facilities within many miles, adults and children alike often were treated and cared for, sometimes for days, weeks or months in the doctor's home as the malady required. There were four children of the marriage, all now living in Winnipeg, **Dr. A. M. Goodwin**, who had followed his father's footsteps in the medical profession, (retired and living in Victoria) **R. R. (Rod)** who is practicing law, **Elizabeth (Betty)** who teaches music and English and **A. J. (Joyce)** a registered nurse at the head office of Great West Life Insurance Company. While living at Elkhorn, they shared the winter joys of the rink, the band, hockey, carnivals and the curling bonspiel. In the summer they enjoyed camping vacations at Pipestone Creek and Fish Lake (now Kenosee).

While Dr. Goodwin's first calling was that as a medical practitioner he still found time to be an active citizen of the town. He served as a member of the Board of Managers of the Presbyterian Church, a member of the Town Council, a promoter of all sport,

such as curling, tennis, baseball, hunting and fishing and football. In connection with his sporting activity it is interesting to note that on two different occasions he coached the Indian Boys School to two provincial soccer championships and the Cadet Corps to the Manitoba championship in rifle shooting. He was a keen hunter and in those early days of plentiful game, many prairie chicken, wild duck, geese, and Sandhill cranes fell before his eagle eye, and each year he took at least a month's holiday shooting moose or elk at Lake Audie, in the Riding Mountains. Evidence of this was a mounted deer head in Jack Mooney's Drug Store. Mrs. Goodwin directed many a play and pageant for Hallowe'en concerts in McLeod's Hall.

Many items of interest might be recorded, such as the time he amputated both the frozen hands of an English immigrant farm boy on a kitchen table in a farm home north of Elkhorn, which farm boy later disappeared and met Dr. Goodwin many years later in a circus side show as he had learned to draw by holding a brush in his teeth; or the time that he called in the local butcher to help him hold a patient on the operating table in his home for the amputation of a farmer's finger, and when the operation commenced the butcher fainted dead away so that the doctor had two patients on his hands.

One of the highlights was the doctor's purchase in 1910 of the old Case car. Many, many stories could be told about this car, such as the time the little lad asked if it was a Massey Harris. Or the time the doctor took the whole baseball team of nine players and himself to Fleming to play a ball game, or the use of the car for the hauling of portable granaries around the farm that he had acquired west of Elkhorn. There were no roads, but simply uncharted prairie trails, but the doctor drove the old car for 75,000 miles and on its last trip home from Butler, through a foot of snow late in the fall, it averaged 18 miles to the gallon of gasoline.

The country doctor in those days had to be a dedicated person. The sick had to be cared for, and if the roads were impassable, due to snow, ice, or mud, travel on foot or on snowshoes was not beyond possibility. The “Flu” epidemic of 1918/19 was a particularly difficult time for Dr. and Mrs. Goodwin. He was on the road constantly. What sleep he could get was often in the cutter, driven by his faithful driver, Charlie Will. One of his most able assistants during that dreadful winter was the Methodist Minister, Reverend D. Bruce Kennedy. As a matter of fact, at least on one occasion during the “flu” epidemic, Dr. Goodwin travelled by foot down the railroad track to near Hargrave to attend a flu-ridden family and upon returning home he set off immediately to Kirkella along the same C.P.R. railroad track to attend an-

other sick family. Thirty miles of walking in the middle of winter was a hard task, but it was all in the day's work for a pioneer doctor, and like all pioneers in every walk of life on the western prairies, they took it in their stride.

In 1920, Dr. Goodwin sold his practice to Dr. Clarence Johnston, and the family spent that summer on his farm nine miles west of Elkhorn (6-12-29). In the fall of 1920, he resumed practice at McAuley and in 1922 relocated in Carberry, Manitoba, where he spent the last 6 years of his professional life. He never became wealthy in terms of money, but was rich in those things that money cannot buy, and on July 26, 1928 he succumbed suddenly to a heart attack, while attending a patient. He was laid to rest in the beautifully kept Carberry Cemetery in a funeral ceremony attended by members of his family and friends from all parts of the province. Mrs. Goodwin died in Winnipeg in 1973, at the age of 98.

submitted by R. R. Goodwin and Betty and Joyce Goodwin.

### The Alexander Grant Family

**Alexander Grant** was born in 1907 in the Sanderson district, where he lived until he was eleven years old, when the family moved to Two Creeks, where he farmed for 18 years. He married **Carrie Olive Turner** in 1935 and they farmed at Two Creeks. Carrie was born in 1916 in the York district, the daughter of **William John** and **Leah Turner**. She moved into Elkhorn with her parents in 1921, and in 1922 they moved to the West Two Creeks area, where she lived until her marriage in 1935. Their daughter **Shirley** (now deceased) was born in 1936.

In 1937, Alex and Carrie moved to the Victor district, and there their two daughters **Gwen** and **Mavis** were born.

In 1940 they moved to the York district and farmed there until 1944. In 1945, they moved to Elkhorn where they lived until 1957 when they moved to Virden. Carrie worked in stores until 1973, and Alex farmed until his health failed and he retired. Alex died in 1969. Carrie resides in Virden.

Their family:

1. Shirley deceased in 1943
2. Gwen married Adam Yochim. They have four children: **Debra**, residing in Brandon; **Bradley**, **Brent**, and **Darcie** all residing in Virden.
3. Mavis married Kenneth Kellsey. They have four children: **Cindy**, **Shelley**, **Colleen**, and **Jason**. They reside in Virden.

submitted by Carrie Kunkel

### James and Sarah Grant

**James (Jim) Grant** and his wife **Sarah** with eight children came to Kola district a year after the turn of the century. The ninth child was born two and a half years later. Their first home stood very near to where the Kola Mennonite church now stands. Three years later they moved to S½ of 34-10-29 where they resided eighteen years, until his death April 11, 1919. Their eldest son **Orval**, born 1884, married **Maude Bailey** of Butler district in 1917. They had a family of three daughters and one son. They farmed for several years in Woodville school district during the depression. They moved to Vanderhoof, British Columbia where Maude operated a bake shop which unfortunately burned down. Orval worked in the mercury mines at Pinchi Lake and was later moved by the CM and S to Trail, British Columbia where he worked at the smelter until retirement age. He then was employed by the Trail Telephone System. He lived to the age of ninety-four. The last few years he spent in Victoria, British Columbia to be near his son **Russ**, a captain on a tug boat on the West coast. His wife Maude lives near her daughter **Dorothy Kraushar** at Powell River, British Columbia. The second child, **Eva Pauline**, taught school. In 1907 she married **Dick Coulson** of the Woodville district. They had three children, one son and two daughters. The son never married, farmed until his father's death, then with his mother moved to Elkhorn where he operated a mechanic's shop. Daughter **Laura** (Toots) married **Ken Booth** an orchardist at Summerland, British Columbia. **Betty Atkinson** lives in Victoria. Eva Coulson died Nov. 11, 1977.

The third child, **Hettie Belle**, taught school for a number of years and married **Walter Norsworthy** of Butler. They farmed for a number of years before retiring to Elkhorn. Their son **Grant** and daughter **Gwen Decorte** operate the farms on which there are oil wells. Hettie and Walter lived at Elkhorn until his death a few years later. She passed away at Sunset Haven in Brandon, June 23, 1966.

The fourth child, **Mac**, died in the spring of 1906 in a flu epidemic at the age of seventeen.

The fifth child, **Myrtle**, married **James Scott** of the McNaught-Kola district. James Scott died July 25, 1944. After his death Myrtle sold her farming interests and moved to British Columbia where she worked in a hospital in Summerland for several years, then looked after elderly people. She moved to Elkhorn in 1961 into a house next to her ailing sister and brother-in-law Mrs. and Mr. Norsworthy. After their death she moved to Virden in 1966 to No. 6 Terrace where she still resides.

The sixth child died of meningitis in June, 1912 at the age of eighteen.

The seventh child, a son **Russell** known as **Buster**, joined the Canadian Army in 1916, was wounded and lost most of his left arm, was demobilized shortly before his father's death in 1919. For a few years he and his mother continued to farm. After her death in 1926 he moved to Mission, British Columbia. He returned to Elkhorn where he married **Katie Urbansky**. He and Katie lived at Mission where he died February 2, 1973. Katie still lives on the holding at Mission. They had two daughters and one son. The eighth child, **Sarah Bessie**, married **James Montgomery** whose death was the result of an accident; his clothing caught fire when he was refueling his tractor, August 26, 1959. Bessie taught school in Saskatchewan and in various districts, in Elkhorn and Virden areas, leaving her personal impression of honesty on each pupil. She resides in Virden.

The ninth child, **Naylen (Babs)** was the most loved by all the members of the family. She died October 25, 1919 of T.B. at the age of sixteen.

This is the history of James and Sarah Grant and family in Kola district.

### **James Grant**

**James Grant**, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Grant was born in Portsoy, Aberdeenshire, Scotland in 1889. He came to Canada in 1911. He worked for various farmers around the Beulah and Miniota areas.

In 1915 he enlisted in the army. He served overseas as a lorry driver in the Canadian Artillery. He was discharged in 1919.

He again returned to Canada and started farming on N½ 6-14-27 in the Willen district.

In 1920 he married **Margaret Allison Beattie**, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Beattie of Miniota.

Three children were born while they farmed in the Willen district — **Gladys Margaret, Alexander James and Irene Agnes Wilson**.

In December, 1930 they moved to the Dahl farm, E½ 2-12-29 in the Mossgiel district.

**Joyce Dorothy** was born in Elkhorn.

Mrs. Grant passed away April 1, 1952.

In 1957 Mr. Grant married **Elizabeth Walker**. They lived in Miniota until her death in 1968. He returned to Scotland where he later married **Ann Connon**. He passed away June 24, 1976.

### **Alex Grant**

**Alexander James Grant**, only son of Mr. and Mrs. James Grant, was born in Miniota.

He started school at Wynona but was only there for a few months as the family moved to the present farm site in 1930.

On April 15, 1949 he married **Mamie Ellen Hill**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hill of Rorketon, Manitoba.

They took over the family farm in 1954.

They had two children — **LINDA LOUISE** and **JOHN ALLAN** (deceased December 20, 1975).

### **Don Greer**

**Don Greer** attended Elkhorn School until 1956 at which time he went to work in Saskatchewan.

He married **Ann Cisecki** in 1961 and lived in Saskatoon until 1968 when they moved to Edmonton, Alta. Five years later Don was transferred to Calgary where he is still a Superintendent for a Steel Company. Don and Ann have 5 children. The three oldest: **Debbie, Janet** and **Ken** have all graduated from High School and **Linda** and **Patricia** are still attending school. Debbie was married to **David Adel** in 1979 and they live in Calgary also.

by Don Greer

### **The Walter Grieve Family**

**Mr. and Mrs. Walter Grieve** and family came to Canada in 1910 from Selkirk, Scotland. They moved to Arawana School district in 1912 from the Virden area, bought and lived on the farm that Robert, Junior, is living on now. Mr. and Mrs. Grieve lived there until they passed away and were laid to rest in the Kola Anglican Church cemetery at Arawana.

Robert (Uncle Bob) carried on the farm. Miss Jean Jaffray was housekeeper there for thirty-two years for Walter and Bob. After she passed on, Miss Marion Clarkson kept house until Bob retired to Virden in 1972.

Walter and Bob showed horses at Elkhorn Fair for years and also at Virden. Walter was a director on the Elkhorn Agricultural Society Board and a school trustee at Arawana. He had also been president of Elkhorn St. Andrew's Society for a time.

Their first threshing tractor was a portable "Watrous" steam-engine. The district always knew who was fired up as you could hear the whistles. The fire man, who was up early, took about two hours to get the pressure up in the boiler, fired by straw and bucked in by a team of horses and bucking rope. When he had steam up on a clear morning, you could hear that long whistle for miles. They had different whistles for different jobs such as: when ready to start, two small toots if you were starting separator, three long ones if you were needing water, lots of small ones if you were needing grain teams and one long for starting and quitting time. There were a few runaways — young horses were sure to be scared the first time they heard it. It was much easier to keep

steam up with flax straw than any other grain straw. The boiler that had flax straw banked in the fire-box was often warm in the morning. On a clear morning you could hear the neighbors' whistles. Mitchells had a "Cook of the North" engine. Haskett's had a "Nickols" or "Shepherd". Chapples and Johnstons had steam engines, too. Some mornings you could hear the Cook boys at Cromer, Bill Goethe and Ben Poston to the west, the Ansleys at Virden and at Hargrave — it could have been Cooks or Odells, and up west, Stuarts and Naylens.

I remember the year we came to Canada. My folks were working for George Moir, north of Montgomery School. J. Nichol was bringing home a new steamer and it went through the bridge north of Montgomery School.

The old steamers went to Museums or were scrapped. The Grieve engine was bought by Ed Parsons of Elkhorn — its boiler went into the Creamery at Elkhorn.

I recall Gordon and Ernie Scott were moving down from Kola to thresh Muirs at Cromer, during some of the wet years, when the muskrats were digging holes in the side of the road. When they were going by Charlie Cruickshank's place, the side went out of the road and the separator upset into the ditch. The steam engine stayed on top and they were a week getting the separator out of the slough.

The tractor steam engine had a little rack built on the side to hold straw for moving. It was not uncommon to see the fire-man steal a few sheaves out of the fields. They would keep the steam up better than straw when moving.

After the steam engines, the brothers had a Rumley and Hart Parr but got newer ones as they came on the market. Before the use of tractors for land work, they farmed with horses consisting of two teams with seven horses in each and one five horse team.

There were four boys and two girls in the Grieve family. **Robert** farmed at home and was president and a member of the Board of Directors of Elkhorn Agricultural Society, also president and member of Elkhorn St. Andrew's Society. Bob was also a member of the Arawana Seed Club. Their club won the Brett Trophy twice and their club's name is on it. Geordie's son, Alex, also belonged to the seed club and both won a trip through it to the Lakehead or Thunder Bay as well as parts of the United States of America. The Brett Trophy is now in the Austin Museum. Bob was a trustee at Arawana and was a pathmaster for a few years.

**John** farmed south of the home place, was a school trustee at Arawana and was also a director on the Pool Elevator Board at Cromer, Manitoba. He did

some curling. John married **Lilian Jackson** of Cromer. They had three children, Elsie (Mrs. Wm. Gardiner), Hazel (Mrs. Lyle Simpson), May (Mrs. Ron McKinnon), all of Virden, Manitoba.

**Dan** farmed in the Sanderson school district, was a school trustee at Sanderson and boarded the school teachers. He was a director on the Pool Elevator Board at Cromer and was a keen curler. He married **Janet Lindsay** from Scotland. They had one girl, Mary (Mrs. Peter Funk of Kingston, Ontario).

**George** worked as a road contractor and foreman for the Government and Wallace Municipality. He was a councillor for twenty-eight years. He was the caller for the square dances at Arawana and at other schools and events. He loved a game of Curling and curled at Cromer, Ebor, Butler, Elkhorn and some in Virden. He married **Mary Walker** of Mossiel School district in 1937. They bought a farm south of the home place and have lived there ever since. He has two sons. **Alex** farmed at home, has been secretary of the Elkhorn Pool Elevator and is a director on the board. He had been president of Elkhorn Agricultural Society and is a director on the Elkhorn Fair Board. He does some golfing and likes curling. **Robert**, Junior, was a 4-H member for ten years and took a two year Agricultural course at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg. After school he was a trucker for Haliburton Oil Company, cementing pipes in Oil wells at Virden and then three years in Saskatchewan and Alberta. After he married, he farmed the Walter Grieve farm and lives there now. He does carpentry as a side line. He has been president of the Virden Co-op Store, is vice-president and a member on the board. He likes a game of golf and does some curling too. Bob married Margie Walton, Ryerson, Saskatchewan, and they have three children — Pamela Lynne, Robert Owen and Sherry Ann.

**Lloyd Walker**, Mary's youngest brother, was raised by her from an infant of five weeks until he got married. Lloyd worked on the oil rigs and the C.P. railroads from Virden to British Columbia and is working on a bridge construction company at Virden and surrounding areas. He likes curling, too. Lloyd married Jackie Mallett, Elkhorn. He has three children: Sandra, in Kitimat, British Columbia, Susan and Richard of Virden. George, Alex, Bob Jr., and Lloyd Walker, all attended school at Arawana.

**Ellen (Mrs. Charles Cruickshank)**, lived on a farm in the Sanderson School district. She was a member of the Cromer United Church, Virden United Church, and was a member of the W.A. at Kola Church, Arawana (where a service is held once a year). Ellen had also been a member of other social groups. They have five children: John and Tom of Virden. Allan of Cromer, (Allan farms the home

place), Ella (Mrs. Fred Garlick) of Vancouver, British Columbia, and Ina (Mrs. Darrell Nolan) of Elkhorn.

**Mary (Mrs. Percy Cook)**, lived on a farm at Hargrave. She passed away after two years of marriage. She took an Agricultural Course at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg. She was quite musical, playing the organ, accordion and the fiddle.  
submitted by Mary Grieve

### The Grimshaws

Three brothers, **John, James and William**, immigrated to Canada in the early 1900's. Their mother was Irish and their father was Scottish. The boys were all born in London, England.

John came to Canada first, approximately in 1904. He settled in Toronto, Ontario. William came in 1906 and worked for a family by the name of Proud. James came in 1907, and worked for Mr. Wes Lund, better known as "Da" Lund, in the Kola, Manitoba district. A post office nearby was called Lippentott. They also had an excellent ball team, in fact enough players for two teams. In 1908 **James (Jimmie)** sent for his wife, **Deborah**, and at that time, his only daughter, **Minnie**. They also were taken to "Da" Lunds, driving some fifteen miles in a buggy and a lovely team of ponies. What a thrill for a little English girl! While in this district, Minnie attended the Kola School. The Principal, at that time, was Mr. R. N. Scotney, who later became one of Elkhorn's lawyers.

Later the family worked for the late Mr. George Freeman. This was a most enjoyable summer, for both my father and Mr. Freeman, as they both enjoyed those horses that Mr. Freeman owned, which had so much get up and go, with or without the driver.

In 1910 the family moved to Elkhorn. Bill and James eventually went into business, running a Livery Stable, behind the Roseberry Hotel. Bill also worked on the building of the school built in 1910. He later joined his brother, John, in Toronto, where he joined the Forces in the First World War. He was a casualty in that War.

James joined the Forces and was active in both the First and Second Wars. On his return, he was employed as Farm Instructor and Supervisor of boys' work at the Elkhorn Indian Residential School. His greatest pleasure was derived from his Cadet Corps, which he proudly drilled and for which he won many parade prizes. He retired after the death of his wife, Deborah, and lived in the Manitoba Hotel. While there he suffered a stroke and was taken to the Deer Lodge Hospital in Winnipeg. While there his right leg was amputated. When he returned he stayed with

his daughter, Minnie, and her husband, Jake Bajus. Not long after, he suffered another attack and was taken to the Virden Hospital, where he died at the age of 68, in 1950.

**Mrs. Grimshaw's** home was her castle. She came from a family of eight, five boys and two sisters, **Beatrice** and **Miriam**. Mother did not take an active part in the Community until the children were grown. (Sorry, no babysitters). Later she belonged to the Ladies' Aid, The Missionary Society, and was the first Treasurer of the B.E.S.L., a position she held until her death. She died on January 23, 1944, in Regina, Saskatchewan, while visiting her daughter, Eva and family. There were three children, **Minnie, Eva, and James**. The oldest, Minnie, first attended Kola School, along with Hazel, Gladys, Clifford and Bill Lund. When the Family moved to Elkhorn, the first school Minnie attended was the old stone school house. At that time Miss Bell was our dearly beloved teacher. From here we moved to the school which was built in 1910. I'm sure many of the older people will remember the old pump which spewed forth snakes and gave the boys a thrill chasing all and sundry nearby.

After teaching school at Kinisota, Estevan and Boissevain, Minnie returned to Elkhorn, and was Chief Operator, first for Mr. Edward Guest (a memorable character), and then for the Manitoba Telephone System, when the new office was built. In the meantime, she was studying for her first class Teacher's Certificate. From this position she was promoted to Winnipeg, as Provincial Traffic Instructress. This position included visiting and instructing all offices in Manitoba, including two other offices in Ontario, namely Sioux and Kenora. After holding this position from 1935 to 1942 Minnie returned to Elkhorn and married Mr. **Jake Bajus** of the Burnbank District. During this time she served as Treasurer of the United Church Board and surrounding charges, was a member of the Young People's Group and was P.N.C. and P.D.D.P. of the Rebekah Lodge, and P.A.W. of the Rebekah Assembly of Winnipeg. Both Jake and Minnie enjoyed being choir members under the leadership of the late Mr. J. Mooney, when they had many enjoyable outings, taking our musical plays to nearby towns. The money, by the way, was donated towards the Hammond Organ, which I'm sure all the members still enjoy.

With the passing of her husband, Jake, in 1955, Minnie was employed by the Department of Agriculture at the Agriculture College as Dean of Women, the first year with Mr. Grenville Bates, and the second term with Principal Mr. R. E. Forbes. While these classes were most rewarding and enjoyable, they were eventually closed out.

While waiting for her certificate to be changed to her married name, she was asked to take the position of Executive Director of the Y.W.C.A., in Brandon. Later Minnie was accepted to teach at the McKay Residential School in Dauphin. This was a new school, and the Principal was Rev. Canon A. J. Scarace, D.D. This was a most interesting ten years of teaching, and one as Counsellor. When this school was changed to Residential only, she was invited to join the staff at the Henderson School, in the town. She thought herself very fortunate in having had such fine gentlemen as principals. It was a pleasure and a privilege to have worked for them. She retired to Brandon in 1970.

In 1912 a sister was born, **Eva Gladys**. Eva graduated from the 1910 school and worked for the Manitoba Telephone System until her marriage to **Laddie McDougal**. Their two children, **Maxine and Douglas**, were born in Elkhorn, and attended the Elkhorn School, until they moved to Regina, Saskatchewan, where Laddie had a barber shop. Laddie and Eva were best known for their love of music and for some time played in the local band. Eva died in Regina, after a lengthy illness. Laddie and Maxine carried on until Maxine was married to **Howard Lowe**, who is Assistant Manager of the Advertising Department of the Leader Post. They have three children, **Douglas, Debbie** and **Tracey**. Debbie has two children and Douglas and Tracey each have one.

**Stanley James**, Jim as he was called in Elkhorn, but his friends and business associates now call him Stan, which he prefers, was born in 1914. In Elkhorn Jim was employed by the Elkhorn Creamery. (The Manager at that time was the late Cecil Paddock.) Jim met his wife, **Betty Windover**, a Brandon girl, who was also employed at the creamery, and they were married.

Jim and Betty moved to Winnipeg, where he was employed by the British American Oil Company. While there, he joined the Royal Winnipeg Rifles. Jim and Mr. Paddock had many interesting adventures, including a visit to Buckingham Palace, where Mr. Paddock received a Special Honour from the Queen. On Jim's return to Canada he finally started his own business, which was connected with several Oil Companies, repairing and installing for them. Jim also is a member of four lodges, including, The Masons, #19, The Royal Arch, #5, The Preceptory, #74, and the Khartoum Temple of Shrine, #7090.

Jim and Betty have three daughters, **Gail, Doreen**, and **Debbie**. The girls were all born in Brandon, Gail and Doreen while they were still residing in Elkhorn, and Debbie, after they moved to Brandon. Gail is **Mrs. George Miller**. They have one son, **Rodney** who graduated from Vincent Massey High

School in 1981. Gail, for the last fourteen years has been employed as Secretary for the Underwriters Adjustment Bureau, dealing in Insurance claims, and previously with Great-West Life Insurance for five years. Until her marriage, she was very active in the Brandon Winter and Summer Fairs, winning many trophies in the different events where she showed her horses. George, her husband, has his own trucking business, and contracts out of the Brandon Woolco Store, along with holding his Broker's License in Real Estate and proprietor of Aladdin Realty.

Doreen, the second daughter, is **Mrs. Russell Little**. She worked for Western Motors for four years prior to her marriage. Russell is the Office Manager of the Brandon Stock Yards. They also have a farm home near Souris. Doreen and Russell, along with their daughter, **Sherry**, still keep up their interest in horses. Doreen, like her sister, has won many trophies with her horses. Both she and Russell have been called on many times during the summer to judge at the rural fairs, which they greatly enjoy. Sherry also has won many trophies of which she is very proud.

Debbie, the youngest daughter, **Mrs. James Quintaine**, and like her sisters, was keenly interested in horses and competition was always keen among the girls. It was always interesting to see which was going to have the most trophies. I think it was mostly a draw. Jim and Debbie have one son, **Corey**. Debbie's stenographic experience is now standing her in good stead, as she and Mrs. Quintaine, Sr., share the bookwork for the business and for the salaries of the staff. Her husband is a partner with his father in the Quintaine Cattle business.

I cannot help but reminisce about the wonderful times the young people used to have at that time, with surprise parties, barn dances and skating parties. The boys would take the girls with horse and buggy or by sleigh load. The boys would sometimes be required to pay a minimal fee and the girls would be admitted free, by taking a cake or sandwiches. Especially, we were royally entertained at least once a year at the Silas Leslie home, where Mrs. Leslie, a most gracious hostess, and Mr. Leslie, would play all night for dancing, while their young family slept peacefully on. Nothing seemed too much trouble for them, and I'm sure they enjoyed it as much as the young folks did.

Respectfully submitted Minnie Bajus

### **Ray and Debby Hall**

**Ray L. Hall** was born on March 21, 1949, one son of six born to Gilbert and Annie Hall of Ebor. **Debby A. Bartlett** was born December 19, 1952, one daughter of six born to Jim Bartlett of Treherne

and Lillie Mauseth of Carman. Ray and Debby were married in Cromer Church on November 3, 1973. They reside in Elkhorn on 4th Street with one daughter, **Lorry Dawn Hall**, born April 23, 1975.

submitted by the Halls

### Bert Harford Family

Bert was christened **John Bernard Harford** when he was born in 1894 at Bramsgrove, England, to Mr. and Mrs. Austin Harford. The Harfords were in shoe sales, and Bert attended boys' school and university before he came to Canada in 1912 to work at the William Jones farm west of Elkhorn. There the farm chores were strange to Bert, as was the harsh winter weather, and he must have longed many times for the comforts of his English home.



Three Generations Bert Harford with daughter Dorothy Parr and granddaughter Teresa.

Over the next several years he moved to Cromer and to Hargrave where he helped his brother Basil, who had come to Canada a couple of years after Bert. In 1929 he rented a farm in the Victor district, and married **Mabel Pringle** of Miniota. Later they lived in the Burnbank area. Bert's main interest was in sports, for he loved baseball, football and hockey especially. At the age of 72 years, he was goalie for the Old Timers' games.

In 1956 he and Mabel moved to Ear Falls', Ontario, to be close to their family, and while there, Bert

was a hydro security guard, and later was employed at a tourist camp. He passed away in September, 1977. Mabel has since married Edward Griffin at Thunder Bay.

Bert and Mabel's family:

**Mrs. D. Parr** — Ear Falls, Ont.

**Mrs. L. Whitely** — Sarnia, Ont.

**Mrs. D. Dewey** — Forest, Ont.

**Lloyd** — Ear Falls, Ont.

Four sons died at an early age.

**Lenard** — 3 months

**Dennise** — 4 years

**Bernerd** — 7 years

**Jack** — 22 years

Submitted by Mabel Griffin

### Luke Harrison Family

**Luke Harrison** who was born in 1854 married **Arrabella Lund** who was born in 1857 and they came to Elkhorn with their family from Sackville, N.B. around 1893. Luke was a stonemason and a bricklayer and he built many of the stores and houses in the village. He built the Harrison home and resided there the rest of his life. They had five children; **John**, worked for the C.N.R. He had one daughter, **Ethel**. After working in Saskatoon for many years, he retired to Vancouver. He passed away in 1976.

**Harry Harrison** farmed with his wife **Mary** at Sinclair, Manitoba. They had four children; **Inez**, **Stanley**, **Robert** and **Lester**. Stanley continues to live on the family farm at Sinclair. Harry passed away in 1979.

**Nell Harrison** was a seamstress, working in Saskatoon and Vancouver, after retirement she made her home with the McCorkindales in Elkhorn. She passed away in 1967.

Luke Harrison died in 1919 and his wife Arrabella died in 1938.

**Edith Harrison** married **John Mathison McCorkindale**. MAC as he was so fondly known by his many friends, was born on the Island of Coll, Scotland in 1878. He came to Elkhorn and opened his own tailor shop. He was a tailor by trade and Edith was a tailoress. They continued to operate their shop in the village until Mac enlisted in the First World War. He was in the 29th Battalion and held the rank of regimental Sergeant Major. After the war, Mac opened a bakery and confectionery in the village. In 1926, Mac began a long career as Elkhorn Postmaster. He served for 25 years until his retirement in April, 1950. In 1948 Edith McCorkindale joined the staff as an assistant, she retired in 1962.

Edith was very active in community life. She was a charter member of the Methodist Church "Swastika Circle" organized in 1907.



Mac was a member of the Masonic Lodge for almost 50 years, serving one term as District Deputy Grand Master. In 1952, he was presented with his life membership in the Great War Veterans, being a charter member. In 1954 he was made a life member in the Canadian Post Masters' Association and had the honor of being the first person to receive such an award.

They had one son **William** (Bill). After completing his education in Elkhorn, he worked in the Oil Fields. He married Lorna Shapley on December 30, 1957. He was tragically killed in a car accident in 1959.

Mac passed away November 13, 1961. The Oak doors on the United Church were dedicated in memory of Mac and Bill in 1966.

Edith passed away in July, 1970.

**Ethel** Harrison married **John Cole** and they continued to live in Elkhorn. Mr. Cole was engineer at the Roller Mill. They had 5 children, all born in Elkhorn. They moved to Oak Lake in 1908.

**Lenora**, the oldest girl, was born in 1898, she attended school in Elkhorn and completed her education in Oak Lake. In 1920, she married **Guy Williams**. They farmed for many years and now are enjoying their retirement in Oak Lake. They have just recently celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary. Their only son **Ralph** resides in Brandon.

**Elva Cole** was born in Elkhorn and educated in Oak Lake. She was very talented in music. She attained her A.T.C.M. She married **Allan Gordon** in 1935 and they had 3 children, **Glenda**, **Garry**, and **Donald**. Elva and Allan still reside in Oak Lake.

**Ralph Cole** worked in the automobile industry in Detroit, Michigan. He and his wife **Rozelle** retired to a farm in Tennessee. Ralph passed away in 1977.

**Lorne Cole** moved to the Toronto area and he was employed in the DeHaviland Aircraft Co. He and his wife **Jerry** lived in Richmond Hill. Lorne died in 1973.

**Aubrey Cole**, the eldest son of John and Ethel Cole, attended elementary school in Elkhorn and moved with his parents to Oak Lake in 1908 and completed his high school education there. He started work for the C.P.R. as a telegrapher, in 1916. He enlisted in the Army. After a medical discharge, he returned to work for the railroad. In 1926 he married the former **Maxine Simpson** of Virden. They continued to live in Virden where their daughter **Tannis** was born. Their son **Deane** was born in Brandon in July 1943. In 1939, they returned to live in Elkhorn and Aubrey continued to work in the station. Although they only lived there 4½ years, they lived in three houses. The former Bob McDonald house, the Dodge house, and the Cryderman house.

Tannis attended Elementary and part of her high school in Elkhorn. In August, 1943, they moved to Forrest, where Aubrey became station agent. Tannis completed her high school there and in 1954 married **Ken Phillips**; they have three children, **Donna**, **Arnold** and **Brock**; they continue to live on the family farm north of Forrest.

Aubrey, Maxine and Deane continued to live at Forrest till 1961 when they retired to Brandon. Maxine passed away in 1969 and Aubrey in 1977.

Deane, a Corporal in the R.C.M.P., resides with his wife and family at Duncan, B.C.

Submitted by Tannis Phillips  
Forrest, Manitoba

### Samuel Hartley Family

"My Grandfather, **Samuel Hartley**, with his wife **Agnes** and sons **Henry** (known as Harry), **Herbert**, **Arthur** and **Christopher** came to Elkhorn in 1893 and homesteaded close to town. Harry was my father and he and his brother Herbert also homesteaded there as my father was twenty-one years of age in 1897 and Herbert was about twenty months younger. Arthur enlisted with Roosevelt's Rough Riders and went to the Spanish-American war and was listed as missing in Cuba. Christopher Hartley, the youngest, worked and trapped in the winters with Alex Walker of Kelliher, Saskatchewan.



Samuel Hartley 1920's.

My father, Harry, sold his homestead in 1906 and bought a half section at Manson where I was born. He bought from Bill McKie and he farmed until 1912 when he sold out and came to the Grande Prairie area. He obtained two S.A. scrips at Hythe. My grandfather's wife died in Elkhorn and he later married and

had one daughter **CORA** who is Mrs. Roger A. Ventress of Fort St. John, British Columbia.

Eric Hartley lives at Hythe, Alberta.

submitted by — Eric Hartley  
and Cora Alice Ventress

### James and Lucy Hartley

**James Hartley** was born in Morley, Yorkshire, England, in the year 1866. He went to work in the coal mines at the age of 9 years to support his widowed mother, **Eleanor (Clark) Hartley**. Eleanor had three other children, **Samuel, Frances and Elizabeth**. She came to Canada with James in 1885 to homestead on section 36-11-28 which is 3 miles east of Elkhorn. They built a sod house and lived there for several years. In the winter Eleanor would spend time in Brandon with her sister and they worked in millinery.

In July, 1897 James married **Lucy Vaux** in St. Mark's Anglican Church, and Lucy came as a bride to the sod house. They lived there for seven years and three sons were born to them in that time. It was most difficult to get good drinking water so in 1904 they moved from the homestead into Elkhorn for a year before buying a farm three miles north and east of town. Eleanor lived with them until she passed away



James and Lucy Hartley about 1900.

in 1907. Six more sons and a daughter were born to James and Lucy. Farming had its ups and downs but to provide for a family of ten children was quite a task. All the children attended school in Elkhorn. Lucy said she made lunches for twenty-five years.

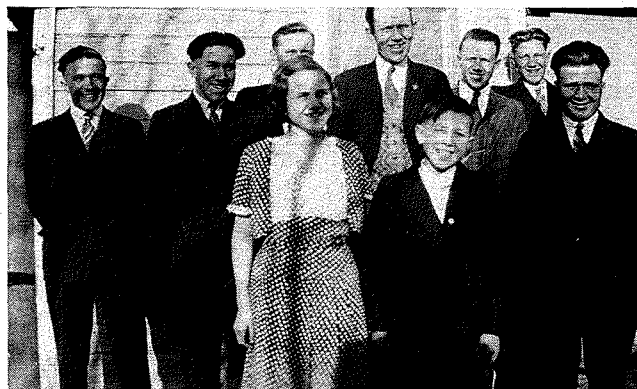
**John** the eldest, joined the Armed Forces for World War I. He married **Ida Hicks**, a widow with five children. He also served in the second war and retired to Vancouver in 1965. He married again after Ida's death to **Coralee Lander**. John passed away in the fall of 1980.

**Vaux** passed away at the early age of 16.

**Dan** married **Margaret Black** and they have one son **Douglas**. They continued farming the home farm. Lucy and James had moved into Elkhorn earlier. James passed away in March of 1933; he was in his 67th year.

**Jim** married **Annie Jones** and they lived on the Vaux homestead on 34-11-27. They had three children, two girls **Lillian** and **Betty**, and a son **James Allan**, the fourth James Hartley in succession. Jim became ill in the spring of 1942 with ruptured appendix and he died in July of that year leaving Annie with three small children.

**Fred** and **George** went to Edmonton in 1929 and trained as auto mechanics. Fred remained in Alberta and married **Renie Guthrie**. They lived in Grand Prairie and they had two sons **Jim** and **Dave**. The family moved to Vancouver later and Fred and Renie are now retired in Duncan, B.C.



L-R Back row: Geo., Alex, Jim, John, Fred, Bert. Front row: May, Dave, Dan 1932.

George returned to Elkhorn following his training in Edmonton. He served in the army in the second war. In the spring 1937 Lucy and George accompanied Dan and his family to Vancouver for a month's holiday. In the fall of that year Lucy, George, Bert, Dave, and Mae returned to Vancouver to spend the winter. Bert worked in the hardware department of Spencers, Dave was a fish inspector in a cannery. George and his mother bought a small grocery store and Mae helped in the store. They all returned to Elkhorn in July of 1938. George worked in several garages in town. He passed away in 1980.

**Alex** went to Grand Prairie, Alta. in 1933 and has farmed there since. He retired in the late 1960's and Fred's son Jim and his family took over Alex's farm.

**Bert** also trained as an auto mechanic and he is a skilled carpenter as well. He married **Alice Peloquin** and they have three children, two girls **Brenda** and **Laura** and a son **Garth**. They lived in Elkhorn until 1953 when they moved to Neepawa.

**Mae**, the only daughter, married **Jack Tivy**, an electrician who operated the movie projector in Elkhorn for several years. They lived in Moose Jaw then Calgary.

**Dave**, the youngest, joined the Air Force during the second war and took up farming upon his return. He married **Ina Carradice** and they have four children, a daughter **Joy** and three sons **Rodney**, **Sterling** and **Gregory**.

Lucy lived a very quiet life with her son George but as her house was close to the school and the rink it was often busy with the coming and going of grandchildren and others. Her children were all sports minded as are most of her grandchildren. She suffered failing health in her later years and passed away in December, 1961 in her 88th year, a very devoted mother and grandmother.

submitted by Betty Heaman

### Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Hayward

**Mr. and Mrs. Hayward** moved from Cromer, Manitoba to the John Will farm, sec. 3-12-29, in the Mossgiel district in the spring of 1927. Both participated in all activities in the district. Mr. Hayward played the violin at the school dances held at



Last log barn built in the district (1935) on the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Hayward. Built by Archie McCormick, father of Mrs. Fred Lipsey.

Mossgiel School and Kirkella hall. He also was a keen ball player, curler and an expert at horseshoe playing. He belonged to the L.O.L. Lodge at Kirkella, Manitoba.

**Mrs. Hayward** was a faithful homemaker and belonged to the I.O.D.E. at Kirkella, Manitoba.

They raised five of a family: **Dorothy** married **Robert Scott** of Elkhorn, Manitoba. They reside at Vancouver, British Columbia and have three children, **Betty**, **Bonnie** and **Janie**.

**Robert**, who served overseas in the second world war, married **Mabel Whitehead** of Vicount, Saskatchewan. They reside at Hargrave, Manitoba and have four of a family: **Ted**, **Lorne**, **Linda** and **Cathy**.

**Hazel** married **Jerald Saunders** of Victoria. They reside at Richmond, British Columbia, and have one son, **Jerald**.

**Margaret** married **Cliff Clarke** of Mossgiel and they reside in Elkhorn, Manitoba. They have four of a family, **Rose Marie**, **Larry**, **Kaylynn** and **Donald**.

**Marion** married **Gordon Hutchison** of Hargrave, Manitoba and they reside in the Montgomery district. They have three of a family, **Wayne**, **Brian** and **Sharon**.

**Mildred** passed away as a baby of three days old, on March 18, 1928. Mr. Hayward passed away on March 11, 1974 and Mrs. Hayward resides at the Westman Nursing home in Virden.

All who remember Mr. and Mrs. Hayward will have many memories of the good times held at their home as it was always a gathering place for the young and old for a ball game, dancing and a good old sing-song. Mr. Hayward, on the violin would be accompanied by one of the neighbouring Gardner family at the piano.

### George Heaman Family

I (**George T. Heaman**) am the fifth son born to **Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah Heaman** of the Hargrave district in 1915.

I took my junior schooling at Montgomery school and secondary schooling at Hargrave. When I finished school I worked for neighbors or at home. In the winter time I cut wood or went to the bush in Ontario.

In the summer time I played ball and in winter time I curled. I played hockey until I got injured in 1935.

In 1940 I joined the Armed Forces but was discharged in 1941.

In 1942 I started to farm on my own. In 1946 I married **Agnes Clubb**, a nurse for Dr. Johnston at the



L-R Back row: Marlene, Dennis, Agnes, George, Bruce. Front row: Susan, Sandra, Marilyn, Marjorie.

time. We farmed in the Montgomery district until 1952, then we bought a farm in the Archie District, twelve miles northwest of Elkhorn.

Agnes was a district leader for the 4H for seven years and was very interested in figure skating. **Marlene, Sandra and Marjorie** took figure skating lessons.

We raised two boys and five girls. The boys and one girl were born in the Montgomery district. The boys played ball and hockey and they curled some, too. The girls play hockey, badminton, basketball and curl and in the summer time they play ball.

In 1969 **Dennis** married **Betty Rowan**. He worked in Brandon for Acklands and on the oil rigs too. They have one son and one daughter.

In 1972 **Marilyn** married **Gordon Pateman** of McAuley and they farm in the McAuley district. They have a daughter and two sons.

In 1975 **Sandra** married **Murray Wright** of Virden and they live in Virden and they have three sons.

**Bruce** worked for Acklands in Brandon when he finished school and has worked for Acklands in Esterhazy for the last six years.

**Marlene** trained for a nurse and she worked in Churchill for three years but is working in Winnipeg at the present time.

**Susan** was at Churchill for four years but is now going to College at Saskatoon to further her education in the recreation field.

**Marjorie** is in training at the Red River College in Winnipeg to become a nurse.

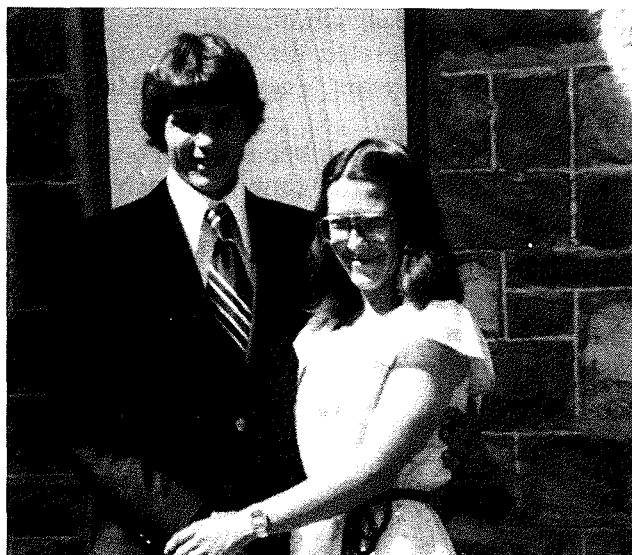
In 1976 we sold our farm, retired and built a new house in Elkhorn. In March of 1979, Agnes passed away.

### **Linda Heaman (Heritage)**

I'm the youngest daughter of **Ernest and Lillian Heritage**. I was born on a very stormy night on February 2, 1956. I imagine that it is one night Bruce Clarke will never forget. He was called on to bring the bombardier out to pick up my mother. He got there with fifteen minutes to spare!!

Living on the farm and no T.V. left lots of time for my mom to teach me the three R's. Her greatest accomplishment was teaching me the alphabet backwards when I was five. I never went to kindergarten but went to Elkhorn School for grades 1-12.

In 1969 I skated in the Elkhorn Skate-A-Thon for twelve hours and fifty minutes. That was quite an accomplishment! I had set out to just skate a couple of hours but as the hours ticked by, I got more determined to stick it out. Imagine the surprise it was for those people who sponsored me for five cents a minute. In 1970, I skated ten hours. And so ended my



Bill and Linda Heaman.

Skate-A-Thon days. I spent many an hour skating or watching the hockey games.

In the summer of 1973, I worked for the Rural S.T.E.P. program. We painted barns, houses, and whatever needed paint. I was afraid of heights, but after standing on a wobbling front-end loader painting the peak of the barn, I soon learned to paint fast, so I could get my feet back on solid ground. I often wondered what got the most paint, me or the barn.

After graduation in 1974, I went to work at the Elkhorn Museum and then for the next two summers I worked at the Esso Coffee Bar. Up until 1977, I babysat for different couples while they worked. I never would see anyone stuck for a sitter, so some days I'd be at three different places in a day.

On September 10, 1977 I married **Bill Heaman**, son of **Walter and Betty Heaman** of the Harmsworth district. We rent the buildings on 1-12-27. Bill is the service manager at Fowler Chev. Olds. I keep busy with the garden and chickens. This year I tried my hand at turkeys.

### **Karl Heinrichs**

**Karl Heinrichs** came here from Wymark, Saskatchewan in May, 1967 to farm, what is known as the "Sinclair place." On May 9, 1967, he and his brother spent the night in the Manitoba Hotel for \$5.00! The farm was purchased from Joe Deda by Karl and his dad, **Isaac Heinrichs** from Wymark, Saskatchewan. Karl lived in the seven room house and farmed by himself with some help from his brothers and/or Dad in seeding time and harvest. On April 5, 1969, after a couple of years of correspondence, he married **Laura Unger** from Rush Lake, Saskatchewan. She had been working as a waitress in

Swift Current, Saskatchewan for a number of years. They have two children: **Reinhardt David** born May 5, 1970 and **Ingrid Jo Ann** born June 13, 1972.

In 1978, Karl bought out his dad's interests in the farm.

Laura takes an active part in the Evangelical Mennonite Church at Kola and is a member of the Arawana Ladies Club.

### **Arnold Hennan, Morse, Saskatchewan**

**Grandma Hennan** arrived in Elkhorn in 1920 with six of her grandchildren whose parents had been victims of the 'flu epidemic of that time. She kept the home and family there until the mid-1930's.

**Gordon** moved to Wabigoon, Ontario, and later settled in Vancouver. **Ross** worked in Edmonton and later moved to Toronto. **Dorothea** nursed in Elkhorn and then moved to Windsor, Ontario. **Evelyn** nursed in Pipestone and now lives in Brandon. **Arnold** moved to Toronto and now lives in Morse, Saskatchewan. **Max** lived in Minneapolis and then later settled in Calgary.

Ours was a busy and noisy end of town, especially in the early hours of the morning. It started when Harvey Johnson arrived on the street with a load of noisy bouncing milk cans to begin the day at his local dairy.

Earl Snyder soon followed, whistling as always, to crank his Model 'T' truck and start his day as drayman and to operate his livery stable service. From his abundant store of local lore, he told of a man arriving there very late from the nearby hotel and while looking for his horse he wandered out to the rear and fell into a large hole several feet deep. Unable to remove himself in his 'condition' he decided to remain there and sleep out the last hours of the night. On awakening rather early and seeing no one about he happily exclaimed, "Oh Hallelujah! Sure now it's Resurrection Day and I'm the first man up!" Further research has failed to reveal the identity of this person, but that's the way it was told to me.

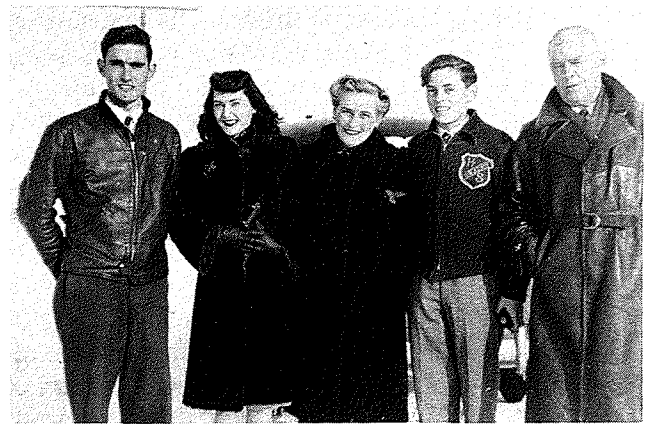
submitted by Arnold Hennan

### **Hennan**

**Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Hennan** arrived in Elkhorn in 1920, where he was a veterinary surgeon for the next 45 years. He was also the auctioneer from the 1930's to the 1950's.

The Hennans were active in the town's civic and social life and were members of the United Church choir. Music played a great part in their lives and Doc belonged to the Elkhorn Brass Band.

He was a Mason, the past president and lifetime member of the Royal Canadian Legion, past presi-



L-R: George, Winn, Mrs. Hennan, Allan and Doc Hennan.

dent and honorary member of the Agricultural Society and he was also a member of the Stadium Commission and of the Chamber of Commerce, a school trustee and the Mayor. He was involved in the establishment of the Elkhorn Antique Car Museum.

There were three children in the family: **Allen**, who is with Philips Electronics in Winnipeg; **George**, formerly with the C.B.C., now retired and living in Stettler, Alberta; and **Winnifred**, who is married and living in Calgary.

Dr. Hennan died in 1975 and Mrs. Hennan still resides in Elkhorn.

### **John Heritage**

**John Heritage** left Stratford-on-Avon in England, his father and family being from a line of Innkeepers, each one in line falling heir to the business as each one became of inheritance age, from which word the name Heritage has been derived "we have been told." John Heritage set sail for Canada on a sailing ship of early vintage, which was beset by gale winds and bad weather. The passengers and crew became weary from the long trip and mutiny became evident. The captain with a stout heart, advised the passengers to cut their seed potatoes ready for planting as seed time was at hand and as providence would have it they did in a few days see land.

Those who desired got land, cleared plots, planted their gardens, and with stout hearts and back breaking labour felled trees and built their first cabins and thus ventured their life in "Fair Canada." John Heritage married a **Miss Green**, and from that union six children were born, three boys and three girls.

One of the boys, **John**, worked with the family in clearing the land until he was old enough to go out on his own. He settled in the Elmira district, later marrying a widow **Augusta "Card" Blakeman**, whose husband had been killed in a barn raising bee, leaving her with three children, two girls and a boy. Of this

union five more children were born. His son, another **John Heritage**, worked side by side with his father clearing the land of bush and rock for planting.

During one winter the first Heritage, now a grandfather, passed away, and was the first person to be buried in Winfield Cemetery near Drayton, Ontario, and it has been said of later years by relatives who had visited the cemetery there, that every one in that crowded cemetery could claim a relationship with each other through those early settlers.

The third John Heritage, caught with the fever of "Go west young man. Go West!," had a vision of vast vistas of waving grassland to be cleared. Weighed against that of clearing land in Ontario and the intensified work in a small area with the cradle, the hoe, the snake and stone fences, it seemed slow back breaking drudgery. So in 1889, John Heritage set out for Two Creeks, Manitoba near Elkhorn and Virden, to his half brother Ed Blakeman, whose letters home had sounded great to John's ears. He soon picked up the art of "clearing in the west." After a few years working and saving money he started on his own. He arranged a partnership and started out in the Harnsworth district, then moved to Elkhorn where he settled on 6-12-27. After a short time getting started, he married **Florence Freeman**, daughter of **John and Louise Freeman**, also pioneers of 1882 from Belleville, Ontario. Of this union seven children were born. The first, a boy, died of croup while teething at about eighteen months; thus was broken the tradition of the elder son John in each generation of Heritages.

John Heritage, a quiet spoken man, often regaled his children with stories of back home, of husking bees, quilting bees, and barn raising bees and such, also the wonderful picnics and revival meetings in the little old church, and the skating and sliding on the old mill pond. There were forty children among the four families whose farms all cornered, not all at once of course, but fun and merriment was had by all. They enjoyed doughnuts and apple juice from their own orchard. Needless to say some of his children would gaze into the burning embers at the fire side while listening to these stories and wonder just why did our parents leave all that neighborliness and pleasure for the vastness of the west, with great tracts of unbroken prairie between neighbours. But they didn't ask "why" when the stories of driving the stage between Virden and Elkhorn and Birtle were told. No wonder when it came time to tell the stories to the grandchildren, one small granddaughter exclaimed, "Grandad! I wish I had lived then, too. I could have gone with you. Did the Indians chase you, and did you carry guns?"

John and Florence Heritage farmed successfully

on the same farm for fifty years, finally relinquishing it to the three sons, who also added each to his own and farmed just as successfully in a new era.

Thus the Heritages through the third and fourth generations have experienced the progress in farming in Canada from almost primitive beginnings to the present days of power farming.

Submitted by Shirley Heritage,  
Rivers, Manitoba

### **John Heritage Sr.**

Having lost his wife, Charlotte, in March, 1903, John continued to farm their land near Elora, Ontario, for one year. He then decided to come west with his youngest son and daughter, **Thomas Ezra** and **Amy Susannah (Susie)**, in 1904. The rest of the family had already come west.

They came to Elkhorn and settled on section 32-11-27, where they farmed for four years. Then Ezra took over the farm at Walpole, Saskatchewan, and Susie married **Fred Stonham**, and they took over the farm in 1908.

Grandpa Heritage passed away in March, 1911, and was buried in Ontario. While he lived on the farm, he was superintendent of the church services held at Victor School.

submitted by granddaughter, Dorothy Rollo

### **Heritage**

The original Heritages came from Germany. In the early days they were Soldiers of Fortune. Around the eighth century they hired out to the King of France and fought so well they were allotted a sizable piece of land. As they settled down they Frenchified their name to "de la Heritage." When William the Conqueror decided to invade England in 1066, de la Heritages were in the Norman army. After the conquest they apparently settled down again and became English, for within a short time they were just "Heritage" again. Here more research must yet be done, mostly in Britain and the U.S.A. About five



Mr. and Mrs. John Heritage, 1924.

years ago, at last count, there were less than twelve hundred Heritage families in both Canada and the U.S.A. One interesting news item in an Ontario newspaper gave another clue on the Heritage family history. It was as follows. "**Captain Silas Card** passed away May 31, 1897 at the home of his youngest daughter, **Mrs. John Heritage**, Winfield County, Wellington, Ontario — one of the oldest men in Canada. Capt. Silas Card was born January, 1800 in the province of Nova Scotia, and at the time of his death was in his ninety-eighth year.

His parents were United Empire Loyalists from Rhode Island and were among those declared by a single act of the famous Philadelphia Congress to be "rebel" and even "traitors," because they would not renounce their oath of allegiance to Great Britain and swear fealty to the new self-constituted authority. They were among those who suffered persecutions, proscriptions and confiscation of property rather than sacrifice the principles in which they believed. The passing years are vindicating the noble worth of these brave suffering men and women. It is no wonder that many of their sons have been sturdy and useful citizens of Canada. Mr. Card, in his youth, learned the trade of a ship carpenter and was quite famous for his strength and skill as a workman. Like most young men of the coast he spent some years sailing the Atlantic Ocean, where he had many narrow escapes from a watery grave. Mr. Card was the only one saved of a small crew of a coasting schooner which was wrecked in the Bay of Fundy. Nearly fifty years since, he moved to Western Ontario and began farming, but it was not to his liking and he soon turned his attention to mechanical work which he followed till old age. Mr. Card remembered well the war of 1812-14 and in his latter years would relate many incidents of those stirring times."

The family of **John and Florence Heritage** lived on S.E. 6-12-27. Their six children went to school in Elkhorn. Only two remain in Elkhorn now, **Ronald** and **Alfred**.

Ronald married **Irene Howard**, R.N. in 1960. They have four daughters, **Elizabeth**, who works in the Harris workshop in Virden. **Carol** works in Brandon with plans to pursue a nursing career. **Patricia**, studying at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg is planning a future in Agriculture and **Janice** is still in school at Elkhorn. Ron still farms.

Alfred joined the R.C.A.F. in WWII and spent four years in Britain. He was in 407 Squadron Coastal Command. On his discharge he came back and took over the family farm. In 1950 he married **Agnes Merrett** of Birch River. They had four children. **Bonnie** at present is working in Edmonton as a computer-programmer. **Margaret** was a school teacher for four

years at Gods Narrows. **Joan** married **Tom Barnes**, son of **Joyce and Harold Barnes**, in 1977 and they reside in Fort Nelson, B.C. **John** at present is working for the University of Alberta in Edmonton as a supervisor in the computer department. **Alfred** retired from farming in 1975 and resides at Elkhorn.

### Lill Heritage

I was born on January 29, 1919 at a farm home where Dad worked at the 2 Bar Ranch, Routledge, Manitoba. I was the fourth child born to **David and Sophia Torry** (Elrick) and when I was small my parents moved to the Boss Hill district. My parents entered me in a baby contest when I was sixteen months old. Along with forty-five other children, we were judged on health, size, and appearance. In those days we were judged just like cattle are now. I



Lill Heritage with her daughters, Lillian and in front, Linda.

was the only baby to score a hundred points. For a prize Mom and Dad received ten dollars and a big diploma.

I received my education at Boss Hill, then Hargrave and finally ended up at Springvale. I quit school at grade eight to help with the harvest in the dirty thirties. My first job was stooking. I won't say what they looked like. When winter came I took on the job lighting fires at Springvale School. I thought I was rich to get \$11.00 a month for walking 2½ miles each morning. I set traps on the way and would catch the odd weasel and make a few dollars more. Jobs were hard to find those days, so one summer I went to work for my sister and brother-in-law. I can remember walking behind the harrows with bare feet, gapping around instead of watching what I was doing. The

horses stopped and I kept on walking: result, two broken toes. After that, I thought I'd find better work, so I came to Elkhorn to work for Ken Lidster's and later Cecil Rodgers.

I got married in 1942. We lived for five years at M. J. Tinline's farm, where my first child, **Lillian** was born. When she was 1½ years old, we lived in a small granary all one summer while the house was being built. Boy was that hot! Nothing much took place the next few years, except a heck of a lot of hard work.

In the winter of 1956 when the roads were blocked and all you could see was snow banks everywhere, **Linda** decided she would make an appearance. The only transportation was by bombardier. Believe me, that was some trip. I was sure glad it was only four miles.

The girls and I moved to town in the fall of 1963. I worked for Mrs. Young, at the Doctor's office, and upstairs at the hotel.

By that time I got that I had to slow down a bit, so as sewing was one of my talents I now do a lot of shortening slacks and putting zippers in jeans, etc. I enjoy the younger folks coming to me with their clothes to be fixed. Gardening is my enjoyment in the summer.

### **The Hey Family**

**Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Hey** of Bulyea, Sask. and **Mr. and Mrs. Fred E. Hey** of Wolseley, Sask. moved to a farm, 26-10-28, south of Elkhorn, in 1953. In 1957 Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Hey retired to Virden, where they enjoyed their large garden. Mrs. Hey passed on in 1981. Mr. Hey then moved to Elkhorn.

Fred and his wife, Inez, lived on the farm until 1977. They then built a new home in Elkhorn, but still farm. Fred was one of the first to have a combine in the Parkland district. Fred and Inez have five children: Bernice, Barbara, Evelyn, Ernest, and Sharon. **Bernice** started school at Parkland; when Parkland School closed, she went to Springvale, attending both for four years. Bernice got her high school in Elkhorn. She was employed at the telephone office until it closed. Bernice married Lyle Rowan, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Rowan, of Elkhorn. They have four children: **Shelley, Ryan, Coralie** and **Gregory**. They farm near Elkhorn.

**Barbara** started in Parkland School, continuing into Springvale, Elkhorn, and Virden School. Barbara worked at the bank in Regina, later moving to Brandon, and is now working in the bank there. Barbara married Doug. Walker, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. R. Walker of Elkhorn. They have two children: **Richard** and **Kathy**. Doug. is employed by the Department of Highways.

**Evelyn** started in Parkland School, continuing into Springvale, Elkhorn, and Virden School. After school, Evelyn was employed at the Virden Credit Union. She now is employed in Winnipeg. Evelyn is not married, and lives in Winnipeg.

**Ernest** went to school in Elkhorn. He was employed on construction in Regina. Ernest married Cathy Harrison, daughter of W. Harrison, of Maryfield. They have no family. Ernest and Cathy live on the home farm south of Elkhorn.

**Sharon** went to school in Elkhorn, and is finishing in Virden. She still lives at home. She is employed at Paul's Creamee after school and on holidays.

### **Cathy Hey**

Cathy Hey's family history also goes back to the Elkhorn area. Her great-grandmother, **Mae Johnson**, lived in the Woodville district with her first husband, **William Frank Longman**. Later, Mae married Cathy's great-grandfather, **Christopher Edmonds** when the families moved to the Maryfield area. Mae and Kit had two daughters and a son.

submitted by Cathy Hey

### **The G. A. (Bert) Hodson Family**

On June 29th, 1901 **G. A. (Bert) Hodson** and **Ada Whiting** were married at Kettering, Northamptonshire, England. In 1903 they came to Canada and worked on a farm in the Hagyard school district south-east of Lenore for the summer. They then moved to Virden where Bert was employed by the Canadian Pacific Railways on a B. and B. gang. Ada worked in the old Balmoral hotel in Virden for a time. The Hodsons later moved to Elkhorn where Bert worked under the late Mr. Clifford as a miller in the Elkhorn grist mill north of the C.P.R. station. The following year, Bert rented the Clifford farm, one mile east of Elkhorn, before purchasing the Buckingham homestead (where the Buckingham School District received its name), on the southeast quarter of section 10-11-28, four and one half miles south of Elkhorn. In 1947, the Hodsons bought a house in the village. Bert lived here until his death in 1952 and Ada kept the house until 1963 when she moved to the Sherwood Senior Citizens' Home in Virden. The house was later sold to Rosalie Frattinger. Ada died in 1973. There were four children in the Hodson family.

**Con** married **Alfred McColl** on July 17th, 1924. They met in Neptune, Saskatchewan, where Con was teaching school. In 1926, they moved to the Burnbank district north-east of Elkhorn. From there they moved to the Jeffery district north of Elkhorn where they farmed for many years. Alfred was a trustee for Jeffery for a short time. The McColls retired in



Elkhorn. Con was an active member of the Women's Institute for many years. Con passed away in 1974 and Alfred in 1975. They had seven children.

**Bert** lives at Carberry. **Roy** died in 1945. **Glen** married **Elsie Kliever** and lives near Elkhorn. **Jack** and **Bev** live near Condor, Alberta. **Margaret** married **Bill Bartley** and lives in Elkhorn. **Jim** married **Shirley Brennand** and lives at Fife Lake, Saskatchewan. **Ron** and **Rosemary** live in Toronto, Ontario.

**Norman** married **Catherine Gibbings** of the Breadalbane district near Lenore, in 1930. They farmed for a time in the Buckingham district then moved on to what was known as the Bill Onions farm. In 1936, they moved to the Gibbings farm. Norman and Kay raised and exhibited Aberdeen Angus cattle for many years. Norman served as councillor in the R.M. of Woodworth and later as Reeve. Kay had been a teacher. They retired in Virden where they lived until their deaths in 1972 and 1968 respectively. They had four children — Leona, Innes, Norma and Gwen.

**Leona** and **Neil Kirkpatrick** live near Kemnay. **Innes** married **Joan Tapp** and has taken over the home farm and added more land. He has continued raising Angus cattle. **Norma** and **Jim Wintringham** live in Edmonton, Alberta. **Gwen** and **Henry Harris** live in Patterson, New Jersey.

**Albert** married **Evelyn Bolam** and they live in Elkhorn. Albert's history is found in a later section.

**Margaret** married **Wilfred Bolam** in 1939. They lived in Prince Rupert, B.C., for a time and then moved to Surrey, B.C. They are still residing in Surrey. They have two children. Gail married David Seymour and lives in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, and Barry and Ann live in Surrey, B.C.

### **G. A. Hodson, Jr.**

**Albert Hodson** was born on his father's farm, four and a half miles south of Elkhorn. He attended Buckingham School and worked with his father on the farm until Bert retired. At that time Albert took over the farm, with the Tom Blakemans renting part of it in 1950. Since that time more land was added to the farm. The farm has been in the family for seventy-four years. It was divided between Albert's two oldest children in 1978 at the time of Albert's retirement.

In 1939, Albert married **Evelyn Bolam**. They purchased the original Vodden homestead, N.W. 10-11-28, from Mrs. Hugh Nelson. They built a new house in 1949 and in 1967 they moved that house into Elkhorn where they still reside.

Albert has always been involved in the community. He served as trustee for the Buckingham School District and has been on the United Church Board for

several years — part of which he served as chairman. He is an active member of the Agricultural Society and the Curling Club. For six years, Albert was a trustee on the Fort La Bosse School Board. Albert has now retired from the Manitoba Pool Elevator Board after serving thirty-four years on the local board — eleven years of which he was also chairman of Sub-District No. 502. For ten of those years he was a delegate for the Pool Elevators.

Evelyn was an active member of the United Church Circle for several years. She was president of the Circle for a few years.

Albert and Evelyn have four children.

**Lee** married **Barbara Bajus** from the Burnbank District. He owns the old Gilbert farm and worked with Albert until Albert's retirement. Lee is on the Manitoba Pool Elevator Board and that of the Community Centre. Barbara is presently the president of the United Church Circle. They have three children: Vana, Vince and Vaughn.

**Valerie** married **Jerry Shoemaker** from the Arawana District. Before her marriage, Valerie completed her Registered X-ray Technician's training. She worked at the Brandon General Hospital until she and Jerry moved to the Shoemaker farm nine miles south of Elkhorn. While in high school, Valerie was a piano teacher and has continued this since her return to the area. Val and Jerry have two children: Keri and Kent.

**Sherryl** married **Brent Reid** of Elkhorn. Sherryl also taught piano lessons during her high school years and has continued doing this in the various towns where she and Brent have lived. Sherryl and Brent presently live in Calgary, Alberta, and have three children: Richard, Anthony and Kimberley.

**Tanis** married **Don Paskell** of Fairlight, Saskatchewan, after obtaining her Bachelor of Social Work degree. They are presently living in Tilley, Alberta.

Submitted by Evelyn Hodson.

### **Pete Hoemsen**

**Pete** married **Anna Szoradi** of Elkhorn, July 17, 1954. Pete was born in South Gotham, Essex County, Ontario on July 7, 1929. At the age of two he moved to Griswold, Manitoba, with his parents **Jacob and Maria Hoemsen**, a German couple who came from Russia. He has three sisters and two brothers. Pete attended school at Griswold. He played goalie on the Griswold Indian hockey team for a number of years. He worked on the road construction gangs and C.N.R. previous to his marriage. After Pete and Ann were married, Pete continued to work for C.N.R. as rock crusher foreman for five years. They lived in Rivers, Manitoba, Beiseker, Alberta and then Bran-



L-R: Slade, Camelia, Ann, Raymond, Joan, Pete, Marcel, Alicia, flower-girl, 1977.

don. Within six years with four children they made their fifteenth and last move to the farm SW $\frac{1}{4}$  6-12-28. Pete's jobs always took him away from home. He is a hoisting engineer and has worked as far north as Summers Harbour, N.W.T., on Dry Dock in Beaufort Sea at Tuktoyaktuk, N.W.T., Montreal to Vancouver, on the pipeline from Alberta to Ontario and started with pipeline again in spring of 1981, after working in Tuk-base approximately four years. From 1960-63 he worked with Rowan Bros. of Elkhorn. In 1963 he bought a dragline and started up a business of his own, working mainly in Yorkton, Saskatchewan area. In 1968 he sold his business and was once again on the move. Ann continued living on the farm with her parents and five children Raymond, Marcell, Camelia, Slade and Alicia. She taught all her children the Hungarian language. Ann took care of her parents from 1965-75 with the help of her children. In 1973 they bought the farm from her mother.

**Raymond Peter Hoemsen**, the oldest of five children, was born June 28, 1955 in Virден, Manitoba. He was altar boy for nine years in the R.C. Church, took nine years of school in Elkhorn and the remaining three years in Virден. He graduated from Virден Collegiate in June, 1973. He took four years at University of Manitoba in Winnipeg. In May, 1977 he graduated from the University of Manitoba receiving his Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Engineering. He began work at Versatile Farm Equipment Co. in the testing department, and moved onto large tractor design group. Ray, a registered professional engineer, at present is a computer applications engineer. Ray was also responsible for all 1981 large tractor design changes. He is also working on part time basis towards his Master of Science in Agricultural Engineering and will be graduating in

1982. He is a well travelled young man. He has made many trips on business and to present papers to such places as Edmonton, Toronto, Chicago, Illinois, Columbus, Indiana, New Orleans, Louisiana, Orlando, Florida and Washington, D.C. Ray happened to be in Washington, D.C. taking a short course when Pres. Reagan was shot. He played football and hockey while at Virден Collegiate and also at U. of M. Now he plays rugby with a University team. In University he was active in residence and in engineering student council. Ray wrote an essay on "Evolution of the Hillis Pump," which took first place, receiving a plaque for the U. of M., one for himself, as well as a sum of money.

While attending U. of M. Ray met Joan Dawydiuk of Arbakka, who was also a student there. He married Joan on June 11, 1977. She took five years of University and also graduated in May, 1977, receiving her Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics and received her teaching certificate as well. She was a substitute teacher in Winnipeg for one year, and until recently worked in the accounting department at the University Centre Commission. They moved into their own home in June, 1980 on Manchester Blvd. S. near Wildwood Park. Ray and Joan both enjoy playing hockey, skiing, tennis and music. Joan also played hockey in University and took part in University activities. Their first-born, a son Travis William, was born October 27, 1981.

**Marcell Emery** was born in Virден, Manitoba on June 27, 1956. Marcell too, was an altar boy in the R.C. Church. He took ten years of school at Elkhorn, and remainder at Virден Collegiate, graduating in 1974. In the fall of 1974 he entered the University of Winnipeg taking Arts. He majored in Geography. After completing three years of University he was unable to get a job in his field of work, so he, like many other students at the time, took a job in whatever was available. He landed himself a job at Fat Sam's Grand Slam Disco (unlicensed) starting out as a bartender (became quite famous for "Marcell's milkshake") and worked his way up to cook, was a disc jockey for one year, until he became assistant manager. A few months later the disco went bankrupt. Marcell then started work for Mother's Restaurant in Garden City Centre, was employed there for several months as first assistant manager, then quit and went up north to Tuktoyaktuk, N.W.T. He got work as Seaman on Explorer I, a drilling ship, with Dome Petroleum in Beaufort Sea. He is presently employed there, still single, and resides in Winnipeg.

As a young boy, he took part in Virден Festivals receiving four shields for singing solo between the ages of eight and thirteen. He enjoys sports, music,

travelling, is artistic and enjoys writing stories, and is planning to return to University, some time in the future.

**Camelia Ann** was born in Calgary, Alberta on December 19, 1958. She was born with a congenital heart condition, was operated on at the age of five months and is completely okay today. She received all her education in Elkhorn and graduated from Elkhorn Collegiate in 1976. While going to high school she worked as a candy-striper at Elkhorn Hospital, worked on home-care during week-ends and holidays. In September, 1976 she entered Nursing Education in Health Sciences Centre, Winnipeg. After taking eight months in nursing, she was in a serious car accident, critically injured with a broken back and broken neck. She was the only one injured out of ten in the two car collision. A year after the accident she returned to nursing, but was unable to lift patients on wards and to her great disappointment this ended her nursing education. In 1979 she went to Calgary looking for work, unable to find a job she decided to visit with friends in Dawson City, Yukon. When visiting there she unexpectedly was offered a job as a cook's helper at a gold mine. She worked there for awhile and then worked as assistant supervisor with Dawson City Child Care Association of Yukon. In the spring of 1981 to mid-August she was employed as monitor with C & C Placer Mining Co. She married Chuck Sigurdson of Flin Flon, Manitoba at Dawson City on August 14, 1981 and they reside at Rock Creek, Dawson City, Yukon. Chuck is a heavy equipment operator and works for a gold-mining company. Camelia was active in school sports, is musical, enjoys writing poetry and now she and Chuck go panning for gold in their spare time on their own claim on Bonanza Creek.

**Slade Alan**, the youngest of the three Hoemsen brothers, was born in Virden, Manitoba on April 30, 1961. He received all his education in Elkhorn Schools. He entered Assiniboine Community College in Brandon in 1977 and graduated in June, 1978 as Motor Vehicle Repairman and Painter. He worked at Mel's Auto Body Shop in Reston for a time, and in the fall of 1978 went up north to work for Dome Petroleum in Tuktoyaktuk, N.W.T. He is a heavy equipment operator and presently is still employed with Dome. Slade received his certificate after completing a fire school training program in Basic Fire Fighting at Dome Fire School, in Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta in July, 1981. He is on the volunteer fire brigade at Tuk-Base. He enjoys all sports, especially hockey. He joined the Optimist Club in 1979 at Virden. He started a body shop; with his father Pete, and Bill Saville Sr. as partners on the home farm called H & S Repairs. Since the men are all away the shop is

temporarily closed. Sometime in the future Slade would like to farm and do autobody work as a hobby.

Slade was in a serious car accident August 18. The family had just returned from his sister Camelia's wedding at Dawson City, Yukon on the evening of the 17th. Shortly after midnight he was in an accident that ended in tragedy. Slade and a friend, both passengers, were thrown out the passenger window of the car, the friend was killed and Slade was very seriously injured, lay in a coma for several days in hospital. Today he is up and around, and may be returning to work sometime next May or June.

**Alicia Barbara Catherine** was born in Virden on July 22, 1968. She is in Grade VIII in Elkhorn Junior High. She is very musical, plays accordion, piano, guitar and electric chord organ and takes part in festivals. Sometimes she is organist at the R.C. Church, mainly as a fill in. She has many kinds of pet animals, enjoys music, art, reading and above all writing stories and making up poems. She was very active in all school sports until recently. She joined the 4-H Horse Club, which started this September, and is president of the Club. She was nick-named "Tag-a-Long" as a tiny toddler because she always tagged along behind the other children, calling out, "Hey, wait for me!" Alicia along with her brothers and sister has become quite a collector of stamps, coins, rocks and antiques, and collects plant slips as well.

submitted by Ann Hoemsen

### **Donna Hogg, Wetaskiwin, Alberta**

My first memory of Elkhorn was the Elkhorn Hospital, which later was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Chapple. Dr. Johnston was my mother's doctor. I was born in 1941 and I grew up on my parents' farm (Mr. and Mrs. Ken Rowan) west of Elkhorn. In 1961 I married **Bert Hogg** from Moosomin, Saskatchewan. We have three children, **Brian, Bradley and Heather**. The youngest two are twins. We now live in Wetaskiwin, Alberta.

I have a lot of pleasant memories of my childhood days in the Elkhorn area. The television show "The Waltons" often reminds me of some of the things that happened when I was growing up.

Going to town on a Saturday was always a highlight of the week. I remember one winter when the snow was so deep that with all our neighbors we had to drive by team and sleigh to Mossgiel School and Wilf Francis met us there with his big truck. The back was covered over with a tarpaulin and we all climbed in the back and away we went to town. It was lots of fun for us younger kids. Even when the roads were ploughed and we could drive down the road we couldn't see the ditches because of the big drifts. It

was the same in Elkhorn. Main Street had a big ridge of snow down the middle of the street. That was before the days of snow removal. At Christmas time there were Christmas Trees down the middle of the street, and all of us kids surely got excited over the thoughts of Santa coming.

Saturday night in Elkhorn was always an enjoyable time for all of us girls. The five of us would sing all the way to town. We would get our weekly allowance and almost always get to see a Roy Rogers and Dale Evans movie.

In the 1950's when the 'Polio' scare was on, Dad and Mom didn't take us to town for almost two months. We really felt we had been hard done by.

One fond memory is Field Day. As a young girl, I attended Woodville School. Miss Paull (Mrs. Allan Thomson) was my teacher. We would practice very hard for the Field Day Parade. Our hard work usually paid off in good results as Woodville School won a lot of first prizes for marching. I remember as a small child, meeting the rest of my classmates on the big stairway of the old Elkhorn High School. In later years when I attended Elkhorn High School, Mr. Callander, the Principal, would drill us for the field day parade. We often called him the "Army Sergeant" as he was so determined we would do well. I remember him having lots of control; he certainly didn't stand for any mischief.

Fair Day was another big day to look forward to and get ready for. Times and customs have changed. I've grown up and moved away but I will always have a special place in my heart for my home town, Elkhorn.

submitted by Donna Hogg

### The Hopley Family

**Tom and Jennie** were both born at Redvers, Saskatchewan where Tom lived until 1943. Jennie and her family moved to Elva, Manitoba and she grew up there. In 1932 on Tom's 25th birthday they were married April 7.

They have 3 children who were all born at Redvers, Sask.

In 1943 they bought Tom Caldwell's farm in the Jeffrey School District where the children **Frances, Bill and Louisa** attended school until Grade VIII.

Frances went to Virden High School and took a business course there and at Brandon College. She married **Russell McKague** of Oak River and they have a large dairy farm.

Bill attended school at Manson and Elkhorn, taught school one year on permit at Stead, worked on the good roads, and is farming the home farm.

Louisa attended Elkhorn and Virden High School, Normal School at Winnipeg, then taught

school for three years and was bookkeeper at Atlas Brush in Winnipeg. She married **Peter Giesbrecht** and now lives in Brandon.

Tom and Jennie still live on the farm with Bill as he is not married.

### Joseph Huculak

**Joe** was born in Round Hill, Alberta and came to the Elkhorn area in 1954 working on a driller on a Peter Bawden oil rig. He roomed and boarded at Bernie and Emma Lund's when he first arrived and later moved to the Ted Gibbs residence. In May of 1958 he married **Marie Ogilvie**, eldest daughter of



L-R: Lori, Bill, Marie, Joe.

**William and Mabel Ogilvie.** In July of 1958 they moved with the rigs back to Alberta where they lived in a mobile home at various Alberta "oil towns" such as Breton, Drayton Valley and Cynthia and late in 1959 moved to Fort St. John, British Columbia. In the spring of 1960 they moved home to the farm owned by William and Mabel Ogilvie which they rented at the time and later bought. On May 29, 1960 their daughter, **Lori**, was born and on February 23, 1962 their son, **Billy**, was born. Lori graduated from Keewatin College in The Pas as a dental assistant. She is presently employed at Prairie Dental Group in Brandon. On May 17, 1980, Lori married **Jeff Price** from McNamee, New Brunswick. Jeff is presently employed with Penner Construction at Kola. Billy graduated from Assiniboine College in Brandon as a welder. He has been employed at Versatile Equipment in Winnipeg as a welder this past year. Joe and Marie are still residing on the farm and have a mixed farming operation. Marie has been employed at the bank in Elkhorn for the past twelve years.

Submitted by Marie Huculak

### John and Jane Hume

The John and Jane Hume family was one of the first families in Elkhorn. They lived in the house next to Parsons.

**John Hume** (1846-1933) was born in County Cork, Ireland. I'm not sure where **Jane (Shaw) (1850-1914) Hume** was born. There were eight children. Allan Percy (1874-?), Hattie Jane (1876-1950), a teacher, married Sydney Springall of Kincaid, Saskatchewan. He had two children. Hattie was cheerful 'til the day she died. She was a wheelchair person for many, many years. She had taught at Reaper school, and boarded at 'Rodgers'. Fred (1880-1904). Henry Garfield (1881-1925). Olive May (1885-1958), seamstress, married Andrew McHardy. They lived at Neudorf, Saskatchewan after Andy was discharged from the Services. They had three children, Evelyn (Yates) Hume, deceased and Douglas (four children). William John (1887-1889). Ethel Maud (1890-1906). Gladys Irene (1896-1946), teacher, married Hartwell Doupe of Crandall (five children — Harold, Margaret, Ben, Ron, Stan). Gladys taught at Blair, Montgomery and Crandall. John Hume was a carpenter. He built Reaper School; he was the contractor for the first public school in Elkhorn; and, he built the second part of the school that replaced the first public school. John Hume built several farm buildings but he had the misfortune to break some toes. Infection became so severe that his leg was amputated and replaced with a wooden one. Cecil Rodgers remembers how well he managed with this handicap.

I, Margaret Heise am the granddaughter of John and Jane Hume. I taught school in Elkhorn Collegiate in 1947-1948.

by Margaret E. Heise (granddaughter)

### The Hunter Family History

**Nancy Diane Hunter** nee Murray was born May 8, 1948 in Virden District Hospital, daughter of **John** and **Helen Murray**. She spent the first eighteen years living at the Murray farm in the Mossgiel district.

She attended the Mossgiel school from September, 1954 until completion of grade eight in June, 1962. She began high school at Elkhorn Collegiate in September, 1962 and graduated in June, 1966. Nancy entered the University of Manitoba, School of Nursing in September, 1966; graduating April, 1970 with her Bachelor of Nursing.

On August 14, 1971 she married **Fraser Gould Hunter** in the Elkhorn United Church. Fraser, a meteorologist by profession, was originally from Oakner, Manitoba. Their daughter **Hilary Marie Hunter**, was born November 29, 1976 at the York Finch Hospital Toronto, Ontario.

Upon graduation in 1970 Nancy went to work as a Public Health Nurse, this being one of her initial goals. She worked for the city of Winnipeg Health Department from August, 1970 to May, 1977. She

then worked for the Manitoba Department of Health and Social Development in Portage la Prairie from June, 1977 until July, 1978. In July, 1978 she moved to Regina to work for the City of Regina Health Unit, where she stayed until September, 1979. She has worked since September, 1980 at the North Bay and District Health Unit, North Bay, Ontario.

Nancy enjoys playing the piano after taking lessons from 1957 until 1966, when she completed her grade IX exam as set by the Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto. She enjoyed attending the annual music festival in Virden. She was also a member of the Elkhorn Trinity United Church attending Sunday School and singing in the choir.

Her major interests now include her family, career, horticulture and travelling.

### William Harry Hunter

**William Harry Hunter** was born at Huttenbuscel, Yorkshire, England in 1861. In 1888 he came to Western Canada and pioneered these parts. Harry purchased section 28-11-28 in 1894, the year he married **Florence Fanny King**, who came from Swindon, Wiltshire, England. They were married in St. Mary's church in Virden, Manitoba on October 17, 1894. During the 18 years they farmed together, Harry had Clydesdale horses, Percherons and a stallion hackney named Dewdrop. The Percherons were used as work horses. Dewdrop and Maximum Teith (one of the Clydesdales) were often used as breeders for other municipality farmers. Dewdrop also won a first one year at the Brandon Fair. The section or farm, abutted the Village of Elkhorn.

In 1905 Harry's sister Emma (Mrs. Mark Cousins) and her family came over from England to the farm. By this time Harry and Florence had three girls, **Violet Elizabeth** (born March 31, 1896), **Alice**



L-R: Florence, Violet, Lillian, Harry with Ruby in front.



Annie Hunter.

**Dorothy Lillian** (born September 28, 1898) and **Ruby Myrtle** (born December 23, 1900). So the family had started to grow. Six years were to pass and they had one more daughter, **Annie Isabel Emma** (born March 31, 1906).

When Harry's health started to decline, the Hunter's bought the old Presbyterian Manse in town in 1912 when it was up for Auction and the family moved into town. The old house still stands today; though some owners have done some remodelling, the old parlor is said to have been left the way it was.

Not being an idle man, Harry's energy turned to the community's road situation and his reputation of being a most congenial man what with his hearty hospitality, grew as he was known as one of the best dragmen in the Wallace Municipality. Harry came from a family of four boys, Thomas, William, Albert and Harold, his sisters, Emma, Mathilda, and Ruth. Harry's brothers remained in England. As the years passed and the daughters grew up, they married and left home to make homes for their husbands and family. Annie, the youngest, went to Normal School in Brandon (now part of Brandon University) and taught school in the old Woodville School in the Wallace Municipality. **Violet** married **Frank Cram-paign**. **A.D. Lillian** married **Matsell Gallinger**, **Ruby** married **Hugh McWhinnie**, **Annie** married **Steve Wallace**. As the older girls married, they gradually moved from Elkhorn to other parts of Manitoba; Annie and Steve stayed in Elkhorn until 1929. Steve Wallace was known fairly well in and

throughout the municipality as one of the town's hockey players. Steve came from Port Elgin, Ontario (then known as Bruce County). At the time of the writing, Ruby, Violet and Lillian are deceased and have families in Brandon, Rivers and surrounding district and others are spread over the country. Harry's girls all had fair-sized families and so as years passed the Hunter family grew very large, too large to try and put names in the writing at this date. Mr. Webb Clark hired Steve Wallace to work for him in the R.A. Knight Hardware store. Steve drove the dray team and hearse for the Elkhorn Trading Company for Mr. Earle. Steve and Annie remember the hockey players, the team then known as the Elkhorn Intermediate Hockey Team with the Lund boys, Earl and Seward, Lloyd McLeod, Herbie Middleton, the Johnson brothers, Mac McPherson (he was at the time the telegrapher) who was also their goalie.

Annie (Hunter) Wallace and Steve added to the family while in Elkhorn, they had three children before they left Elkhorn for Regina, Saskatchewan: Joy, James and Ivan were all born in Elkhorn. Harry's wife Florence tended many of the local women during their pre-natal confinements.

Harry passed away on Monday, February 21st, 1927 at his town residence. He was buried in the Elkhorn Cemetery. Many of his grandchildren unfortunately did not benefit from this fine man's sense of humor and genial personality. At the time of this writing, Harry's granddaughter, Faye (Wallace) Murray is and has been working on building the family tree.

### The Huntley Family

**Isaac Huntley**, known as Ike, and his wife **Martha**, moved, in 1906, from the Daly Municipality



L-R Back row: Lucy, Mary, Dell. Front row: John, Martha, Ike and Cal.

near Brandon. They bought half of section 21-10-29 in the Elkhorn District. Later, Mennonites bought the south west half of section 21 and that is where the Village of Kola is now located. Martha was very despondent for some time as she felt badly about leaving her relatives and many friends behind and moving to a strange part of the country. However, she soon found her new neighbours were very friendly and willing to help.

The house where they were to live was rather odd. Three of the rooms were about three-quarters below ground and two were at ground level. One advantage was the underground rooms were warm in winter and cool in summer. The barn was a very long distance from the house which made it very unpleasant on cold winter days, especially when one was carrying pails of milk. The trail taken by settlers going farther west ran right past the door. Sometimes several wagon loads would come by and stop overnight. They were always asked to stay and given breakfast the next morning.

The Huntley family got their mail from Arawana Post Office. It was located in Chapple's house. A driver brought the mail from Elkhorn. At one time, it was Mrs. Harvey Johnson. They did their shopping in Elkhorn. Martha would drive in every week with cream where it was shipped to Brandon. In the winter she made some very cold trips with the team and sleigh. Dressed in her furs and warm irons at her feet, she was never uncomfortable. She bought her groceries at McLeod's store. The store was then owned by Molly and Angus McLeod. They would warm her flat irons on the stove and treat her to cheese and crackers — they became very good friends.

To the south of the Huntley place, a steel bridge was built over the Pipestone Creek. Later, a siding and general store were built up on the banks to the south. They could ship their cream from there and shop in the store. It was first owned by a gentleman by the name of Dave Reekie — a very honest fellow to deal with.

Later, Isaac rented the south-east quarter of section 16. He rented it from Charlie Baker, so it was always known as the Baker place. Water was very scarce where he was living so he moved to the Baker place to be closer to the creek. He and his son Ike would herd the cattle down the creek, chop a hole in the ice for them to drink, and fill several barrels to bring back for the milk cows. It was over a mile over fairly high banks. The cows would hurry so fast to get home that they would often be more thirsty when they got home than before they left. The barrels of water would be partly ice, as was Isaac's moustache which he wore fairly long. Later, he invested in a large tank and a tank heater. That improved the situation a lot.

The Baker house was also very peculiar. There was a large room at each end with two bedrooms over them. The centre of the house was much lower. There were no storm windows and it was very cold. There was a cook stove in the large room on the north end. In the winter, Martha would stay up all night and keep the fire going. One bedroom above was heated by the stove pipe going up through the ceiling. The other, with just a thimble through the ceiling with a cover on it. If one took a cup of warm water up to drink at night they would need to hurry so it would not freeze and break the cup. It really did freeze solid beside the bed in cold weather. At one time, there was a cook stove in the low room in the centre and later a tin heater with a lid on it. It would be filled with partly green wood at night and one had to put bricks on the lid to keep it from blowing off. One of the boys slept in one of the bedrooms in the south end and he wore his woollen underwear to bed and was covered with woollen blankets. He slept quite comfortably but the top of the blankets would be covered with frost. The big room below could easily be used as a fridge in the water.

However, there were many good times enjoyed there by the family. They would sometimes put on a dance and Martha would bake cakes and have a cream-can full of her favourite sugar cookies. The girls would have the big bread pan full of sandwiches. Neighbors and friends were invited from far and near. They brought their own music and had a wonderful time. Sometimes, the neighbors would have a surprise party . . . they would bring their own food and violins. As many as could, would come in one sleigh box so as not to have too many teams. They would usually play whist until midnight, then dance until dawn.

One winter, there was a surprise party every week at someone's place. At times, the older people and their families would also go and a good time was had by old and young alike.

Isaac and Martha had seven of a family: Maude, John, Mary, Lucy, Dell, Ike and Cal. **Maud** married a farmer and then lived in the Brandon district. In 1908, they moved to a farm not too far from Elkhorn in the Mossgiel district. They farmed there for some time and also in other districts. Then they moved to Antler, Saskatchewan. Maud did dressmaking and Tom was a salesman for the Daily Tea Company for many years. They raised twelve of a family. Two sons served in World War Two. Tom passed away in 1937. Maud later moved to Winnipeg. She kept house for a farmer outside of Winnipeg for many years. She passed away in a nursing home in Winnipeg.

**John**, Isaac and Martha's eldest son, attended Kola school and later high school in Elkhorn. He then went to University in Winnipeg, where he took a

course in mail sorting. As a mail clerk, he had a route running from Winnipeg to Rainy River, Ontario. He enlisted in World War One and trained at Camp Hughes. He went overseas in 1916. In 1917, he was killed in action at Vimy Ridge and buried in the soldiers' plot in France.

**Mary**, known as Polly by most people, lived at home until 1955. That year she married a farmer in the Hayfield district. They farmed there for many years. Then they sold their farming equipment and moved to Brandon. He was employed by the Texaco Oil Company until he retired. He passed away at his home in the three hundred block on Seventh Street in 1974. Mary still owns the home there where she lives with her sister, Lucy.

**Lucy** took her schooling at Kola and later a business course at Wheat City Business College in Brandon. In 1932, she married a neighbour, Dave Duncan. He and his brother, Jim, were buying a farm, section 24-10-28. They had just built a new house. Times were very hard in the 'thirties'. Dave had a sawing outfit and travelled many miles in the winter sawing wood for neighbours and friends. He also did carpentry work. He worked for Bird's Construction Company in Brandon and Shilo, going as far as Port Arthur, Ontario, where he helped build annexes on elevators. Jim managed the farm while he was away. As they were short of water, Lucy had a busy time melting snow. It had to be carried up the six back steps and melted in a boiler on the stove and then strained into a barrel. Needless to say, the barrel was always empty after wash day. Of course the water all had to be carried out again after it was used. She washed on the wash-board at that time, so it was quite different from this day and age. Later, they moved to the south half where they farmed until 1956. They then sold out and moved to Brandon. They bought a house on Sixteenth Street. Dave did carpenter work and Lucy did housekeeping and caring for elderly ladies. Dave passed away in 1934. Lucy sold the house in 1980 and went to live with and care for her sister, Mary. Dave and Lucy had two of a family. Rosella married a farmer, Stuart Shepherd and still lives in the Elkhorn district.

**Dell** did not get much schooling as she was almost blind from birth. She was self educated but did an immense job of it. She went to Winnipeg in the early 'twenties'. She was housekeeper for a doctor for some years and was then employed by the J. R. Watkins Company from 1927-1952. The Company presented her with a beautiful gold watch. Though now blind, she does her own housekeeping and cares for a blind friend who lives with her in Winnipeg.

**Ike** attended school at Kola, lived at home and helped his Dad on the farm. Later, he took over when

his dad passed away in 1930. The following year he married Annie Law from Reston. They farmed on section 22-10-29 for many years and raised five of a family. He was now troubled with hay-fever and was unable to farm. He sold his land and moved to Brandon. He was employed as layman by Brown Steel Company until he retired in 1970. He now resides in the Princess Towers in Brandon.

**CAL**, Isaac and Martha's youngest son, attended school at Kola, later high school in Virden, then University in Winnipeg. He went to Flin Flon in 1934. He was employed by the Hudson Bay Company in the laboratory until he retired in 1973. He married Kay Kirkland in 1935. They had two sons. After Cal retired he moved with his wife to Brandon where he lived until he passed away in 1978.

Isaac farmed on the Baker place until he passed away in 1930 and was buried in Woodville Cemetery. Martha lived with her son Ike and his family on the farm for some years and then with a sister in Brandon for a time. When the sister passed away she lived with her daughter, Mary, until she (Martha) passed away in 1941.

submitted by Mrs. Lucy Duncan

### The James Hutchison Family

James Hutchison came from Scotland in 1887 to the Elkhorn District, later known as the Buckingham District. James homesteaded the south west quarter of Section 10-11-28. In 1892 he returned to Scotland to marry Agnes Hamilton and came back to the district and bought the south east quarter of Section 4-11-28. It was known as the Grey Hill Farm. In 1909 he bought the north east quarter of Section 4-11-28.



Andrew and Ethel Hutchison with their family. L-R: Doreen, Ken, Joan.





L-R Back row: Lorna, Fay. Front row: Ken, Sharon, Janice, Olive.

James and Agnes had a family of six — Agnes, David, William, James, John and Andrew. Mrs. Hutchison passed away at the age of 36 following the birth of their youngest son, Andrew. Mr. Hutchison died in 1911 at the age of 51.

**Agnes** married Charles Robertson in 1916. They had a family of four: Jim, Alex, Margaret and David. Agnes died in 1924 and Charles in 1957. Their family reside in Winnipeg and Vancouver.

**David** was a First World War veteran and came home to farm. He never married.

**William** married Connie Bolam in 1925 and they had three children: Nonie, Dick and Verlie. William passed away in 1968 and son Dick died in 1975. Nonie resides in Vancouver. Virlie in Winnipeg.

**James** farmed the west half of Section 4-11-28. He never married and retired to live in Elkhorn in 1965. Jim passed away in 1981.

**John** married Letitia Wallace in 1925. They had a family of eight children: Wallace, Maurice, Shirley, Lawrence, Lois, Mima, Darlene and Ilene. The family moved to Calgary in 1951. Son Lawrence, died with Polio in 1952. John passed away in 1973, Letitia in 1975 and a daughter, Mima, in 1981. The family resides in Alberta and British Columbia.

**Andrew** married Ethel Bussey in 1932. They farmed the Grey Hill farm, the half of Section 4-11-28, until moving to Elkhorn to retire in 1976. They had a family of three, Kenneth, Doreen and Joan. Ken married Olive Liefso in 1963 and have four daughters, Lorna, Fay, Sharon and Janice. They farm the Section 4-11-28 which has been in the Hutchison and McClymont families since 1887 and now includes the fourth generation.

Doreen married Clarence Horn in 1958 and they have two sons, William and Gary. They reside in Brandon. Joan married Mervyn Rookes in 1964.

They live at Grenfell, Saskatchewan, and have four children, Keven, Dean, Lori and Jay.

Submitted by Andrew Hutchison

### The John Hutchison Family

**John Hutchison** was born April 10th, 1902, in Elkhorn. He married **Letitia (Letty) Wallace** on December 1, 1926. Letty was born June 22nd, 1905, in Helensburgh, Scotland. After their marriage they farmed in the Elkhorn area. John and Letty had eight children, three boys and five girls.



Letty and John Hutchison 1973.

**Wallace** is now living in Calgary, Alberta, and he works for the Customs Office. He was married in 1954 to **Edna Munford** and they have one son.

**Maurice**, the second son, was born April 16th, 1929. He moved west in 1946 and married **Doris Boyden** in 1949. They lived in Calgary for twenty years, moving to the Coast in 1967. They have one son, Larry, born June 20th, 1951, and a daughter, Lorna, born May 28th, 1954. Maurice and Doris now live in Princeton, B.C., where they own a motel. Son, **Larry** attended school in Montgomery, Alberta, until 1967 when he moved to Surrey, B.C., with his parents. After completing his schooling he took his pilot's training. He married **Martha Rindahl**, a Registered Nurse. They have three sons: **Bradley**, born 1974, **Scott**, born 1976, and **Cameron**, born 1980. Larry and Martha live in Surrey and are Amway directors. Maurice and Doris' daughter, **Lorna Gregson** (granddaughter of John and Letty) went to school in Montgomery, Alberta, until moving to B.C. with her parents. Lorna attended University of British Columbia and became a teacher. She taught Grades one and two for two years until her marriage to Eric Gregson in 1977. They have two sons: **James**, born 1978, and **Shaun** born in 1980. Lorna and Eric went into the motel business with her parents. They live in Princeton, B.C.

**Shirley** is now living in Vancouver, B.C. She is manager of Senior Citizens' Home. In 1950, Shirley

married **Bill Quinn**. They have three daughters, three sons and five grandchildren.

**Laurence** died on November 4th, 1952, at the age of twenty, of polio.

**Lois Agnes Letitia (Hutchison) Hand** grew up and went to school in Elkhorn until 1949. She then worked in Virden. Lois married her first husband, **Jacob Harder**, on April 3rd, 1950, in Elkhorn and moved to Winnipeg. They had three children: **Gary**, born September 8th, 1950 in Winnipeg has never married and lives in Brandon. **Shirley Elizabeth** was born June 30th, 1952, in Elkhorn. She married Ray Salt, December 1st, 1973, and lives in Brandon. They have two daughters: Tracy Lynn, born 1974, and Jennifer Marie, born 1978. **Kathleen Ann**, born January 8th, 1960, in Calgary, married Ron Moore, August 19th, 1978. They have one son, Kenneth James born in 1978 in Calgary. Lois was divorced in March, 1977, and married **Carman Hand** on August 12th, 1977. She has a step-son, **Donald George Hand**, born December 13th, 1966. They live at 6360-31 Avenue N.W., Calgary.

**Mima Donald Klywak**, third daughter of John and Letty, was born January 24th, 1936, in Virden. She attended school in Elkhorn until 1952 when she moved to Calgary with her family. She worked at Premium Laundry until she married **Henry Klywak**, July 23rd, 1955. They had five daughters. While the girls were growing up Mima remained at home with them but when the children were all in school she went to work in Woolco. She worked there in various departments for almost ten years. Mima passed away on February 28th, 1981, with a brain tumor. The last time she was in Elkhorn with her family was in July, 1977, for a school reunion. **Karen Anne**, first daughter of Mima and Henry, was born in November, 1955, and married Mark Mehlhaff in March, 1977. They have one daughter, Cassie Alaine, born June 1978 — first and only grandchild of Mima and Henry Klywak. They live in Cremona, Alberta. **Deborah Lynne (Debbie)** born March, 1957, moved to Vancouver and now lives in Burnaby, B.C. **Brenda Lee**, born May 1959, **Sheila Joan**, born December 1960, and **Margaret Letitia**, born August, 1965, are all living in Calgary.

**Darlene** is now living in Revelstoke, B.C., where they own a motel. She was married in 1958 to Donald Sharp. They have three boys and one girl.

**Ilene** is now living in Calgary, Alberta. She is a hair-dresser and was married in 1965 to Jim Hand. They have one girl and two boys.

John and Letty Hutchison left Elkhorn in 1952 to come to Calgary, Alberta. John worked at Canadian Linen as a Steam Engineer until he retired in 1972.

John died on August 11th, 1973 and Letty died on April 14th, 1975.

submitted by Ilene Hand, Lois Hand and other family members

### **Gladys L. (Shepherd) Inches**

I was born December 7th, 1921, in the little house where the Earl Lund family live, as Mrs. Lund senior was a nurse. I grew up in the old house now owned by Mrs. Price on the south-west side of the railroad. The land to the west and south of us was prairie, with a ravine that ran through it. I remember the fun the neighbours' children and I used to have playing there. There was an old abandoned gravel pit that used to fill in the spring from the ravine run-off and provided us with an "ole swimmin' hole". The boys used to go 'skinny-dippin' when they thought no one was around. Sometimes there would be an early thaw and the ravine would fill and then freeze over, providing us with an outdoor rink and we could skate for miles. My older brothers tell me they had been known to skate all the way to Kirkella, and used to soak bullrushes in coal-oil, light them to make torches to skate by at night. In the spring the prairie used to be purple with crocuses and we gathered violets, lady slippers, red lilies and shooting stars, long since gone with the breaking up of the land.

I attended school in the old building that was just recently torn down and my first teacher was Miss Anita Sadler, who left in mid-term to go to Japan as a Missionary. Miss Ruth Blackwell took over from her. I can remember a farewell picnic being held for her on the school lawn and if my memory serves me well, I think the class presented her with an umbrella as a parting gift. School field days were major events and much looked forward to. In the spring the teachers began preparing us for the big day. We were taken out to practise marching as classes and schools were judged for marching, costume and uniformity of dress. On my first field day we were dressed in blue crepe paper pinafores and large sun bonnets. The boys were dressed in overalls, straw hats and neckerchiefs. Our school banner read: "Elkhorn Grade I Sunbonnet Girls and Boys".

When I was in the first grade I can remember my father coming to the school to take me for an aeroplane ride. Mr. Charlie Skinner of Willow Bunch, Saskatchewan, (later to be Saskatchewan's first air ambulance pilot) was in town "barn storming". It was an exciting event for me to be going for an aeroplane ride, also a little scary as it was an open cockpit! I remember sitting there with an oversized leather helmet, which fell over my eyes, and hanging on for dear life, thinking what would happen if I fell out.

I can recall the time when the Chautauqua (traveling road show) came to the Savoy Theatre in 1930. Some of the public relations people came to the school and they brought us a treat — an apple each and some peanuts. They also recruited some of us to participate in a little pantomime to go on before their show. Each child was to represent a country, and as each one of us was called we had to walk on stage and fall into a line. I had to wear a pair of long, white, fleecy sleepers — the kind with feet in and the buttoned trap door in the back. I carried an old fashioned candle holder and my Eaton beauty doll, but what connection there was with that representing Canada, I'll never know. Cousin Kay Lucking was dressed in an Irish costume. This meant we got to go see the show and of course brought the parents out to see their children on stage.

As a youngster I attended St. Mark's Anglican church Sunday School and recall how we looked forward each Christmas to the Sunday School Concerts, usually held in the Savoy Theatre and later in McLeod's hall. My first recollections of being in a concert was when Mrs. Ely (Anglican Indian School Principal's wife) had me take the part of an Eaton Beauty Doll and I had to stand in a large open box for the play "Santa's Toy Shop". Some of the teachers such as Mrs. Sid Cook, her brother Frank Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Francis, Mrs. Duxbury and many others I've forgotten put in many an hour helping put on those concerts. St. Mark's put on a cantata under the direction of Mrs. Duxbury in the Savoy Theatre and Katherine Goethe sang the leading part. All the costumes for it were made of crepe paper. Although I was not a part of it, I can remember the Anglican Young People putting on plays to raise money. My dad helped to drive the players to Miniota and neighbouring towns to put on the play. The late Fred C. Norris used to help direct and Mr. Bob Frazer often took the part of a butler or a Negro to help them out. One particular play I recall was "Silas Ridge from Pumpkin Creek".

I was a member of the Anglican Junior Girls Auxiliary and when I was old enough joined the G.A. We were an active group and used to raise money by putting on teas, bazaars and Pancake Suppers on Shrove Tuesday. The men used to take several of the three-burner type coal cook stoves to the Legion Hall upon which to cook pancakes. My brother Ed made a big grill to go over the burners from heavy cast iron. We didn't have any electric grills then and the smell of the coal oil burners and the pancakes cooking was over-powering but we used to pack them in and by the time the night was over most of us didn't care if we ever saw another pancake until next year.

Sometimes the G.A. would have a toboggan party and we would walk out to the "mile hill" west on the old No. 1 Highway and toboggan on the hill on the south side of the ravine, then walk back to town, often times to the Indian School since many of our members were teachers there and we'd tuck into hot baked beans, homemade bread, coffee and lemon pie.

Sunday School picnics were very much a part of church life and we used to look forward to attending since it meant a day in the country. Often they were held on the Jim Francis or Watson farm in the Mossgiel area or at Kirkella.

While in high school I worked part time in Tottle's store, where my job was to weigh out nuts, icing sugar, coconut, etc., in ¼ pound, ½ pound and 1 pound paper bags to be placed on the shelves in readiness for customers. Little was ever pre-packaged at that time; you could buy a chocolate puff cookie for a penny. Later, I worked for a short time for Mr. and Mrs. Ross when they had a cafe in the building east of the present Post Office which I believe is now a hairdressing shop.

In 1940, October 15th to December 20th, the Manitoba Extension Service conducted a "Home Making School" in the United Church basement under the leadership of Misses Maxine Black and Laurie Muirhead. There were thirty girls registered from Elkhorn and district, Reston, Pipestone and Miniota. Several local women helped with the instruction and the course included care of the home, decorating, sewing, cooking, pre and post natal care. We were divided into groups and can remember taking turns cooking a meal and having to entertain the mayor, councillors, school principal and others.

When World War Two broke out it saw many school acquaintances leave to join the services, some never to return. The Red Cross needed everyone's support — knitting, sewing, and packing overseas parcels. I can remember my friends Marion and Jean Povey and I knitting like mad to see how many pairs of mitts we could get done in a month. Though we were not supposed to do it, we would tuck our name and address into the thumb hoping some soldier or sailor might find it and write. In June, 1942, the Red Cross held a Home Nursing course at the Indian School under the instruction of Miss Long R.N., matron at the school, which I and a number of other girls attended.

When the Elkhorn Stadium Commission was first formed, I remember them laying a temporary dance floor in the old skating rink, putting page wire up along the spectator stands and decorating the stage with fresh cut poplar trees for a back drop. Good orchestras were brought in, some from Regina,

("Walter Bud and His Blossoms") the Green Orchestra from Winnipeg and numerous others. They drew great crowds as it was the largest dance floor in miles. From this temporary arrangement they went to a permanent structure and held movies, dances and concerts. I can recall the St. Andrews banquet and dance on January 25th. The whole community would be canvassed to help with these. It seemed like it was always the coldest day of the year but that would not deter the hardy Scots. Mr. Jock Orr used to give the toast to the Haggis at the banquet which was followed by a concert and a dance. I can remember one such concert when Margaret Gibney (now Mrs. Fred Dykes of Calgary), a beautiful singer, walked down from the Indian School to participate in the concert and froze her legs.

In 1942, I started training as a telephone operator at the Elkhorn Exchange. Miss Kay Carefoot was the chief operator at the time whose position was later taken over by Miss Jean Lidster. One of our duties was to help keep the premises tidy along with the help of the districtman. In October, 1943, the office was awarded the Dyer Trophy and a \$50.00 cheque for general proficiency in attractiveness of grounds, interior of the office and all round courteous service. One experience I recall, was during the bad blizzard we had in February, 1947. I had been working the night shift and when it came morning and time to change operators, we found both the front and back doors of the office were snowed in. I had to remain on duty until my two brothers, Ed and Len, could walk down and shovel the doorways out. Mrs. George Bartley very kindly sent me over some breakfast which they handed me through a small opening of the storm window. The snow was so deep down main street, my brothers had to help me wade through it to get home. I worked at the telephone office for eighteen years and was chief operator when I left in August, 1960 to be married. I married Keith Inches, of Leader, Saskatchewan and we now reside in Regina, Saskatchewan. We have one daughter, Susan Heather Inches.

submitted by Gladys L. (Shepherd) Inches,

## The Jacksons

**Bill Jackson Sr.** from Perth, Ont. worked his way out to this area by helping lay the rail. In 1882 he set up his homestead of a sod shack on section 18, using a big stone in the ravine nearby to cook on. Afterwards he realized that he had built on the wrong parcel of land so he re-settled further south. It wasn't until six years later that his brother, **George K. Jackson**, came out to Manitoba. At this time there were very few trees on their land so they hauled them from

another creek, approximately three miles, in order to build their log house.

Bill (Sr.) married **Mary Ann Connley** and they never had any family. Mary Ann's brother, Billy, died rather suddenly, leaving a widow and five young children. They stayed with the Jacksons for a few years and attended Buckingham School.

George (Sr.) married **Anne Gallinger** and they had two sons **William and George** and three daughters, **Kate, Belle and Mae**. They had one of the first board houses in the district. The men spent many long hours digging the cellar before moving the house from the Bent place over by Montgomery dam. They had it loaded on skids and the oxen were drawing it along all so smoothly until it was about fifty yards from the cellar and then it fell off. It still stands there until this very day. The cellar was made into a dandy chicken house. As the story sounds the oxen were smooth enough; it was the men who weren't so steady.

George (Sr.) died on Jan 11, 1911 at the age of forty-eight, leaving his wife five young children to raise. The going was mighty tough, Willie was nearly seventeen and George only ten, but with help from their Uncle Bill they managed to hold onto the farm.

Bill (Sr.) and Mary Ann bought a little house in Elkhorn where they retired. Mary Ann passed away Jan. 12, 1928 at the age of sixty-three and her husband the following year. Willie was never married and lived with his mother until her passing in 1942. He was born May 29, 1894 and lived his entire life on the homestead until his death Dec. 22, 1973. He was a keen lover of animals and always had a dog at his side.

George married **Coral Wilson** on May 18, 1928 and they lived in the little house his father had moved. They raised one son, **Lorne**, and two daughters, **Margaret** and **Lila**. George and Willie always travelled to town together and their horses were well trained to take them home without any guidance after the men had spent too long in town. The two brothers farmed the land together till George's health got bad and he and Coral moved to town in the fall of 1968. In the spring they had a sale and George's son, Lorne, took over, making it a third generation farm. George found town life hard to adjust to, after working so hard since he was a young boy. There aren't many men around who can keep house and cook as well as George; for the last few years Coral hasn't been able to work much. Presently they are both residing in Elkhorn Medical Nursing Unit. George died Oct. 2, 1981

Kate, the eldest, married Bruce Higgs who was a machine salesman so they lived in various towns in Saskatchewan.

They had one son Paddy. Years after Bruce's death she married Lorne Moffat. Kate passed away in 1967. Belle worked in the telephone office in Virden prior to her marriage to Leonard Simpson. They had one daughter, Mrs. Arthur Cuzner (Shirley) and one son, Melvin. They moved to Regina in 1940, where Belle resided until a year or so ago when she went to Peace River, Alberta, to stay with her son and daughter-in-law. She passed away in the spring of 1981 at 86 years.

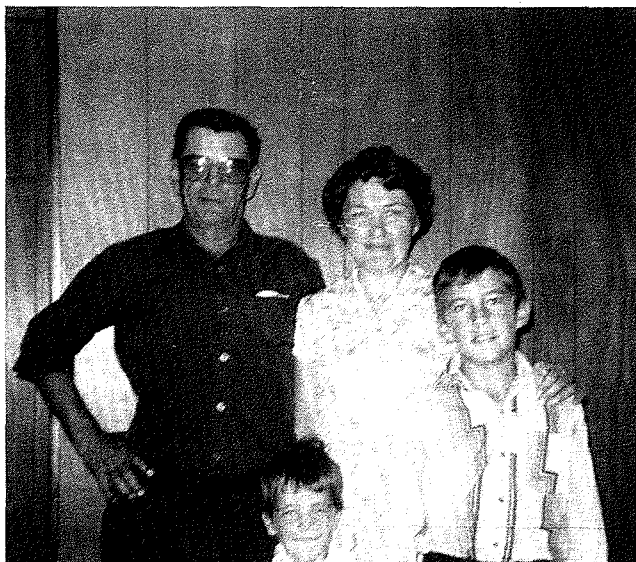
Mae married John Boyce and lived in the Elkhorn area until moving to Regina in 1944. They had one son, Irvin and three daughters, Mrs. Herb Gibson (Muriel), Mrs. Ed Hamm (Rita) and Mrs. Colin Fowler (Ila). Mae was eighty-one when she passed away on June 24, 1978.

### **Lorne Henry Jackson**

I was born at my Great Aunt Mary and Uncle Henry Hubley's farm home west of Hargrave, on October 4, 1929. I was the first son for **George and Coral (Wilson) Jackson**. I have two sisters, **Lila** of Winnipeg and **Margaret** of Vancouver.

I attended the Parkland School which was about a one and one half mile cross-country hike. We were such a bad bunch that it wasn't unusual to have three different teachers during the course of a year. It was probably a relief to the teacher that I decided that I had enough education when I reached grade seven. I worked as a farm labourer for various neighbors; during the 50's and 60's I worked along with my dad and Uncle Willie.

During the winter of '61 I took Army Survival Training in Virden returning to the farm in the spring. The harvest of '62 is one that I will never forget as I



Lorne and Lillian Jackson with their sons Barry and Gerry.

got wound around the power shaft of the swather. I lost two fingers and got badly chewed up but was still able to drive seven miles to the doctor. It was a good thing it wasn't any further or I wouldn't have made it. It was terrible spending two weeks in the hospital during good harvest weather. I spent a year or so working with the Apex Construction, building the feed mill and elevator at Moosomin, Saskatchewan. I didn't really care for construction work so returned to farming. I bought a house in Elkhorn from Fred Budge in 1966. Finally in October 1967 I got tired of my own cooking and married **Lillian Heritage**. I am still farming the original farm which was homesteaded by my great uncle in 1882. We have two boys, who will hopefully some day carry on with the family farm.

### **Lillian Elizabeth Jackson (Heritage)**

I was born on March 30, 1947 in the Virden Hospital, a whopping big 9 lb. 8 oz. daughter for **Ernest and Lillian Heritage**. Grandad Heritage lived close by, so I became a good Chinese Checker player at a young age. It was a real coincidence how the board got jiggled when the going got tough.

Being a farm gal I soon became acquainted with feeding the pigs and of course, like every young kid, there was the novelty of being able to milk a cow. Don't ever attempt to learn if you haven't already tried. Along with flies and heat, tempers wear pretty thin and it certainly doesn't pay to hit the cow with your milk stool — results can be two badly sprained thumbs.

We were privileged to live across the road from Ike Clarkson, founder of the local Antique Car Museum, so spent many hours watching Ike patiently restore old cars as good as new. I practised riding Marguerite's big bike down the hill till finally, mission was accomplished and I got a bike of my own.

It wasn't until February 2, 1956 that I was blessed with a little sister, **Linda**, who rode many miles in my bike carrier. She was a cute wee imp and seemed to know just the right time to make her teasing most effective.

I really worked hard in school, always trying my best to be first in class; sometimes I succeeded. After graduating from Grade eleven in 1964 I set out to get rich, but jobs seemed scarce so I babysat and worked on various farms. During that time I really learnt what it was like to work hard in the heat.

I started as a waitress in Endicott's cafe and R & L Service in Moosomin, Saskatchewan. One busy Sunday night the cook got sick; there were two waitresses on so we flipped a coin; I lost so had to cook. It wasn't so hard, so I kept at it till I started my training as a telephone operator in Moosomin on May 8,

1967. I was employed by the Saskatchewan Telephone System for one and one half years until there was an opening in the Elkhorn Telephone office. I started on April 1, 1968 and sometimes I think you had to be a fool to stick with it. It was certainly different from just handling the long distance calls. No one could estimate when talk fever was going to hit but usually when you were working all alone. Many times we got our ears chewed and probably would have been more if the customer could have got at us; just the same I really enjoyed the job. The conversion to dial was hectic but finally on December 7, 1972 the switch-over was completed and I felt rather sad to think our services were no longer needed here.

On October 28, 1967 I married **Lorne Henry Jackson**, son of **George and Coral Jackson**. We are farmers, but reside in Elkhorn, across from the golf course. Our big yard and garden keeps us busy. Living on the edge of town is an ideal spot to raise our two boys. **Gerald** (Gerry), who was born June 8, 1969 in the Elkhorn Hospital, likes music and plays the trombone in the school band. **Barry** was born in Brandon Hospital on Thanksgiving day October 13, 1975. He gets a real kick out of teasing big brother and trying to keep up with him. Both boys like ski-dooing and riding their trike. They are very fond of their pets, especially Caesar, their big 130 lb. dog, who keeps close watch on them.

I started in the Elkhorn post office in November, 1976 just to help during the Christmas rush and staff vacations. Since January, 1979, when the Post Master passed away, I have been employed as a part time assistant, nineteen hours a week.

### **The Manley and Grace Jacobs Family**

We came from Horse Creek, Saskatchewan, on November 19th, 1949. Manley had been down visiting his brother, Gilbert, when they went to Albert Anderson's sale and heard the farm was for sale, so bought it a little later. We moved down with our sons, **Gordon, Ralph, Jim**, twins **Alvan** and **Allan**, and nephew, **Ronald**. The four oldest started school at Jeffrey and as they grew older some attended school at Manson, McAuley, Virden and later Elkhorn as Jeffrey was closed. A daughter, **Maxine**, was born in 1953 and later a foster son, **Allan Tribe**, came to live with us. Our chosen daughter, **Yvonne**, came in 1962.

Gordon, Joan and Teresa live at Thunder Bay, Ontario, and Ronald, Elsie, Carla, Lisa, Terry, Jeffrey and Shana live at Stoughton, Saskatchewan. Ralph, Ruth, Charlotte and Marcel are at Castlegar, British Columbia, and Jim, Pat, Dawn and Teera live at Port Coquitlam, British Columbia. Allan, Jeanette, Michael and Lisa are at Medicine Hat, Alberta, and Alvan, Tricia, Todd, Tanya and Travis live at Delta, British Columbia. Maxine, Stanley,



Mr. and Mrs. Manley Jacobs and Family.

Monica, and Melissa Bell are at Shamrock, Saskatchewan, and Allan, Marilyn, and Josie Tribe live at Mirror, Alberta. Yvonne is in grade eleven at Western Christian College, Weyburn, Saskatchewan.

We have been on this farm for thirty-one years and are still farming. We have enjoyed our neighbours, district and town very much. Manley also takes his turn preaching and teaching at the Church of Christ, Manson, where I also teach and help in Bible School. I was also a 4-H leader for thirteen years.

Looking back, I remember a humorous incident that occurred a few years ago. One of Manley's hobbies has been hunting and trapping and in 1953 he and the boys trapped five hundred muskrats that spring. At night the day's catch was skinned and as they needed stretchers the next day they insisted the muskrats be hung on a line across the kitchen at night to dry. So, in the morning, there was a rush to get them out or you wouldn't know if it was bacon and eggs you could smell or muskrat!

Another incident I recall is one day the children were slow getting ready for school so the old grey mare which was on the toboggan at the door got tired waiting so she went the mile and a half to school and was standing in front of Jeffrey school when Manley got there with the children.

submitted by Grace Jacobs

### The Jaffray Homestead 1889-1981

**Thomas Jaffray Sr.** 1843-1917 immigrated to Canada from Bannockburn, Scotland. Tom homesteaded the NE¼ 16-12-29 in 1889. He and his wife **Jane** had a son **William** and two daughters — **Jean Hugh** and **Janet** (Netta). They attended the Mossgiel school completing their education there. Their place of business was Elkhorn, Manitoba but due to long distances via oxen Tom Jaffray was one of the members of the community who saw the necessity of a post office, school, church and grain elevator closer at hand. Mr. Jaffray was one of those instrumental in forming the school district of Kirkella. He served as a trustee from 1903-1908 and was a member of the Presbyterian Church. The family home which is still the Jaffray residence today, was built in 1910.

His only son William married **Ada Elizabeth Wilson** in 1915 (Ada had emigrated from England with her Father, Mother and sister **Elsie**, landing in Elkhorn in 1902.).

William Jaffray was secretary of the Kirkella School for fifty-six years. He was an active member in the Elkhorn Agriculture Society. William passed away in 1971 at 92 years. His wife, Ada passed away in 1974 at eighty-five years.

Eldest daughter is **Jean Hugh**, unmarried. Miss

Jean Jaffray went to the Walter King home in Elkhorn to nurse Mrs. King, remaining as housekeeper for many years. While in Elkhorn she was an avid curler. She was housekeeper for the Walter Grieve home from 1932-1960 when ill health forced her retirement. Jean passed away in 1966.

Second daughter, **Janet** (Netta), married **Thos. Merrils** in 1916. They resided in Alberta, had one son **George** who now lives in Edmonton, Alberta.

**Thomas Robinson Jaffray**, eldest son of Wm. H. Jaffray, attended school at Kirkella and completed his high school education at Elkhorn. He received his teacher's certificate at the University of Winnipeg. Tom married **Mary (Garde) Mc Kercher** in 1967. They reside in North Kildonan.

**Ralph William Jaffray**, second son of Wm. H. Jaffray, after attending school in Kirkella, assisted his father in operating the farm till 1942 when he joined the RCAF. Ralph married **Emily Canart** in 1944. After the war they purchased land on section 14-12-29, farming here till 1964. They now reside at Westlock, Alberta. Ralph Jaffrays had ten children.

**Norman Alexander Jaffray**, 3rd son of Wm. H. Jaffray, resides and farms the original Jaffray homestead NE¼, 16-12-29. Educated at Kirkella School, he was active in ball, hockey and 4H Calf Club, developing a keen interest in agriculture. Norman has been on the Elkhorn Agricultural Fair Board for many years.

**Winnifred Jean**, only daughter of William Jaffray attended school at Kirkella. In 1946 she was a staff member at Elkhorn Indian Residential School. In 1953 Winnifred married **Eric Mulligan** at St. Mark's Anglican Church, Elkhorn. They resided on the Eric Mulligan farm west of Elkhorn.

submitted by Winnifred Mulligan

### The Jebbs

**Bill Jebb** came to Canada from Ireland in 1926 as a young man of twenty-one. He met and married **Eva Dickenson** from Creelman, Saskatchewan.

Bill and Eva Jebb moved to the Elkhorn district in 1937. They travelled by wagon and buggy from Creelman, taking them two weeks over rough trails. The first night they arrived, Dunc McGinnis helped them move in and invited them home for a very welcome home-cooked meal. They farmed south of Elkhorn in the Arawana district (29-10-28) until moving into the Village of Elkhorn in 1956, where they still live today.

Bill and Eva had three children; **Lane**, **George** and **Raymond**.

Lane joined the air force and is a flight-sergeant in the armed forces. He married **Dorothy Fraser**

from Chatham, New Brunswick. They live in Edmonton with their two children, **Steven** and **Cindy**.

George stayed in the district and took over his father's farm as well as the Alan Leslie farm. (9-11-28) He married **Donna Shelvey** from Woodnorth, who died in 1979. Donna was a faithful member of the Royal Purple and was very active in Elkhorn community affairs. Their two children, **Phillis** and **Mervin** are living at home and still attend school.

Raymond has an electrical business in Elkhorn. He married **Karyn Boomhower**, eldest daughter of Floyd and Patricia Boomhower. They have three children, a son **Lee**, a daughter **Kelly** and a son **Christopher**. Raymond was a volunteer ambulance attendant in Elkhorn and is now a member of the town council. Karyn has been active in school affairs as well as other community interests.

### Saga of the Fred C. Jenner Family

**Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Jenner** were born and raised at Charing Cross, Ontario. Mr. Jenner was born in 1869 and Mrs. Jenner (nee **Elizabeth Lancaster**) in 1877.

They arrived at Hargrave, Manitoba in March, 1907. They settled with their settlers' effects in the Buckingham S.D. on Section 35-10-28, eight and one-half miles south of Elkhorn. At first, Hargrave served as their Post Office and shopping centre, but later, this was transferred to Elkhorn due to more adequate stores to serve their needs. They farmed on this site until 1938 when the farm was taken over by their son, Ted and his wife Frances (nee Cole). Farming in the early part of the 20th century was a rigorous occupation and like many other settlers, the Jenners managed to survive the drought, pests, hail, and prairie fires encountered during their thirty-one years of farming. One incident that greatly disturbed the



Jack, Fred Sr., Belle, Lida, Fred, Ollie, Marion, Ted, Lizzie, Frances Jenner, Jean Cogger (little one).

Jenner children was the attack of the Armyworms about 1917. This group crawled in a set "pattern" and devoured any green plant in its path, especially the grain crops. The Jenner house happened to be in the pathway chosen by one group of worms. They crawled up, and over, and down the house in a day and during that time, every door and window was kept closed tightly in hopes that none would stray inside. I recall a "path" about twenty-five yards in width was devoured through the wheat field and remained a dead area for that summer.

Travel was by buggy, democrat, cutter, and, from 1918 on, by car. Mr. Jenner bought his first car, a Briscoe, from Mr. Norsworthy in Virden. In those early years, carloads of horses (broncos) were brought to Manitoba from western Canada. These horses were "wild" and had to be broken in — trained in other words. Mr. Jenner was an excellent horseman and was greatly in demand to aid his neighbours whenever needed to train a bronco.

The Jenner Family attended the Methodist Church and, after 1925, the United Church. In Ontario, Mr. Jenner had been very active in the church life, especially choir work, where he had been a member and leader of the Charing Cross choir for twenty years. Due to the distance from town and mode of travel, this participation could not be continued. However, the family attended church whenever possible and Mrs. Jenner helped the Ladies Aid with donations of baking and bazaar articles whenever needed. One member of the family, Mrs. Allan



Grace, Belle, Hilton, Lida, Ollie.



Leslie (Belle) is still active in the Elkhorn United Church — is a member of the U.C.C. and the choir.

All of the nine Jenner children attended the Buckingham School at one time or another. I recall five of us attending at one time — **Grace, Hilton, Ted, Lida, and Ollie**. The older boys attended in the winter months quite regularly, but only occasionally once the farm work began in the spring. I recall with pleasure the three teachers I had during the seven years I attended Buckingham School. They were **Mrs. Jennie Thompson**, (a Scottish war-bride of World War I). She was a very talented musician and graduate of Edinborough University. Her home was in Straness, the Orkney Islands. Secondly, Miss Elaine McLeod of Elkhorn. She is **Mrs. Silas Armstrong** and still lives in Elkhorn. Thirdly, **Miss Florrie Good** from Lenore. She married Harvey McFadzean and after his death Mr. Gibbs. The Buckingham School was built in 1890 on the banks of Gopher Creek, one and one-half miles east of the Elkhorn-Cromer Road, six miles south of Elkhorn. In 1930, it was moved west beside the road. The name, Buckingham, was derived from Bill Buckingham who farmed the land. In 1937, it was moved another mile west. Families attending this school during my years there were: Hutchisons, Days, Hodsons, Nelsons, Leaches, Sipleys, Jacksons, Armstrongs, Sinclairs, Crawleys and Jenners.

The schoolhouse was the centre of the community life. Yearly events were the Christmas Concert and School picnic and baseball games. Dances were held usually each month and Sunday School was held during the summer months when the Minister and Lay people from Elkhorn conducted a service. A high-light of one school picnic was a visit by Sir James and Lady Aikins and their daughters, Betty and June. Sir James was Lt. Governor of Manitoba and had a farm in the Buckingham District where the family "holidayed" occasionally.

I recall a prairie fire threatening the school during Mrs. Thompson's teaching years. She sent the younger children home as soon as the fire was sighted and organized the older pupils into a Fire Brigade. Some carried buckets of water from the Creek, others set "back fires" to halt the big fire, hopefully, and others used wet grain sacks to beat out the flames. By this united effort, the school was saved as farmers nearby rushed to aid the impromptu Fire Brigade. My sister, Lida and brother, Ted were in the Brigade, but I was one of the younger ones sent home.

Community life was not all pleasure, whenever sickness occurred or a building project was planned, neighbours helped. A "bee" would be organized and the project of putting up a building or aiding in planting or harvesting a crop would be completed in a

day. The men did the labour and the women prepared the food and enjoyed a sociable day.

Following World War I, the flu epidemic came to the Buckingham District, and every family fell a victim to this terrible flu. Luckily, not all were sick at the same time, so neighbours helped each other. Mrs. Jenner, not a trained R.N., but a practical nurse, helped many a family during this epidemic. She obtained medical advice by phone from Dr. Goodwin in Elkhorn, and administered his instructions. As I recall, neither of my parents had the flu at that time. Possibly that was due to the horrible smelling disinfectant that was kept simmering on the kitchen range for months to kill the germs (supposedly).

Mr. Jenner died in June, 1948, when visiting his eldest son, Hilton, in Windsor. He was buried in Chatham cemetery. Mrs. Jenner died in August, 1957 at the home of her son, Fred, in Edmonton. She was also buried in Chatham Cemetery.

The two eldest children, **Grace and Hilton** returned to Windsor, Ontario around 1930. Hilton was employed by the Ford Motor Company. He died in September, 1978. Grace, Mrs. Bill Thompson, is in a nursing home in Windsor.

**Ted** farmed at Elkhorn until his death in 1946. He was well-known for his musical ability. He was a violinist in the Elkhorn Midget Orchestra for many years as well as a cornet player in the Elkhorn Band. **Lida and Ollie** took teacher training. Lida taught at Oak Point, Arcola, Rocanville, and Dubuc. She is Mrs. Jack Currie and lives in Regina. Ollie taught at Pine Creek, Rossendale, and Parkland School in Manitoba and later at Summerland, B.C. She is Mrs. Harry Hackman and resides in Summerland. **Marion** trained for a nurse at St. Boniface Hospital in Winnipeg. Later, she moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan where she was Supervisor of an Operating Room until declining health forced her to take early retirement in 1972. She still resides in Ann Arbor.

**Fred and Jack** both served in the Canadian Army (Calgary Tank Corps) in World War II. Jack was killed in action in Italy in October, 1943. Fred served overseas throughout the war and attained the rank of Brigadier. He continued with a prominent role in the reserve army following the close of the war. He was associated with General Motors throughout his working career and founded the successful Jenner Motor Company in Edmonton. He died in Edmonton in December, 1976.

**Belle**, Mrs. Allan Leslie, is still living in Elkhorn. She is very active in Lodge, church, and community work as well as a nurse's aide at the local Hospital.

submitted by Lida, Ollie, and Belle (nee Jenner)

### **Alwyne Thomas Johnson (Alla)**

Alwyne Thomas Johnson was the second child of William Lawrence Downing and Annie Louisa Johnson of Elvaston, Derbyshire, England, and was born on March 22nd, 1886. He came to Canada in late 1905 or early 1906 to the Elkhorn-Kirkella area where his brother Laurie was already located, learning the finer points of Canadian farming.

He settled on the Alex Ewing farm, SE 28-12-28, in the Burnbank District and lived in the cottage on the hill above the creek. After staying a while with Laurie, Alla's mother and sisters came to live with him for a few years before moving to Winnipeg. Following Harry's discharge from the cavalry in 1918, brother Harry and his wife Edie lived with Alla until they were able to build their own home at SE 24-12-29. Alla married Lilla Bajus at Hargrave in August, 1928.

The first year Lawrence and Phillis Johnson attended school at Burnbank they walked across the fields and through their Uncle Alla's yard to join Bob and Mary Walker (at the John Duxbury farm) for the remainder of the way. Alla always had a little chat or joke with the youngsters, asking "Who got a licking at school today?" The kids marvelled at their uncle's curved pipe. They were also intrigued by the huge wolf hounds Alla kept. These hounds were used in conjunction with the Bajus brothers' hounds for the purpose of hunting coyotes in the winter. Alla had built a large box on the front bob of a sleigh gear to carry the dogs. Once a sighting was made or tracks discovered, two of the dogs were let out to begin the chase. When they were tired, two more were released to continue the hunt and the tired ones rested in the box drawn by a fine team of horses. The poor wolf got no rest! Jake or Will Bajus usually went along on horseback. The coyotes needed great strength and wiliness to escape this rather barbarous method of hunting. Needless to say, many skins found their way to the fur markets. There may also have been a wolf bounty during the twenties. Wolf hounds were also interested in a meal of mutton on the hoof. When on their own, in spring or summer, and the big beasts chanced upon an unguarded sheep, they weren't above taking a sample!

Alla Johnson was the Burnbank beef ring butcher. Many people made their way to Alla's yard every week, for many years, to pick up their shares of meat. The beef ring custom made it possible for rural people, who had no refrigeration, to enjoy the luxury of fresh beef every week in the warm weather.

Following demobilization in 1945, Charlie and Gladys Johnson took up residence with Alla. Later, he spent a year with his sister, Edith Osborn, in Winnipeg, only to return to Elkhorn because of ailing

health. He stayed here with Harry and Edie Johnson. He died, at age sixty-six, on December 17th, 1947, in the Elkhorn Hospital. He had been predeceased by his wife, Lilla, in 1944.

submitted by Phillis Cairns

### **Mr. and Mrs. H. J. (Harry) Johnson**

Harry, youngest son (sixth child) of William Downing and Annie Louisa Johnson (nee Lawrence) of Elvaston, Derbyshire, England, was born in 1892. In 1906, he immigrated to Canada to the Elkhorn District, just after brother Alla. He found employment herding cattle. Later, Harry worked for some time at Gordon Turner's farm at Two Creeks. He was a great football fan and played for the Two Creeks team for several years.

He homesteaded on 30-12-29, living in the customary one-roomed bachelor's shanty. When World War I broke out in 1914, Harry enlisted for military service with the Fort Garry Horse and trained at Camp Hughes, east of Brandon, Manitoba. He was badly wounded on The Cambrai Drive in France — (Harry and his chum, Edgar Wilson, had traded places in the ranks and Ed was killed.) Harry was invalided to England. On April 4th, 1918, he married Edith Parkins of Elvaston. They returned to Canada that year after Harry received his Army discharge for health reasons, and made their home with Alla at SE 28-12-28.

Charles Henry (Charlie) was born there March 1st, 1919. In 1921, Harry and Edie built their new home on SE 24-12-29 in the Kirkella District — (Ed Parsons, carpenter). Thomas Downing (Tommy) was born there March 7th, 1922. Mrs. George Collins acted as midwife. Much later a fine new barn, complete with hay slings, was built. They lived on this farm until retiring to Elkhorn in 1954. They located their cottage south of the former Chas. Freeman Sr. home, later known as Lasek's.

Harry and Edie Johnson gave generously of



L-R: Mylo and Tom Drake, Harry, Edie and Lawrence Johnson at Burnbank 1956.

themselves to church and community. She was a quiet, gentle lady of great kindness who enjoyed handwork. Gardening was her passion. Harry was good humoured and kindly and had a certain charm which drew people to him. He had the gift of being able to laugh at himself and with others. He loved to dance, sing and play the accordian or auto harp. He was a marvellous source of fun and jokes and was a hero to the Laurie Johnson kids who never tired of Unc's funny stories and funnier songs.

Harry used to tell about falling asleep while ploughing. Rudely awakened, he found himself hanging by the coat tails from a lever because the plough had struck an immovable stone and stopped with a sudden jerk.

In August, 1950, Harry died suddenly of a heart attack while bringing the car around to the front door, prior to a Sunday outing. His wife continued to live in their Elkhorn home until she moved to The Sherwood, Virden, Manitoba, in 1975, where she passed away May 24th, 1979, at eighty-five years of age — the last Johnson of her generation.

Both sons were educated at Kirkella School and entered fully into the life of the community as they matured. Charlie enlisted in the Air Force during World War Two as an aero engine mechanic. In April, 1944, in Winnipeg, he married Gladys Shaver of Kenville, Manitoba. After discharge from The Service they farmed on his Uncle Alla Johnson's land until moving to the Oakner District near Hamiota in 1963. They have three children: son, Donald, and his wife Janet and their son Scott live at Lloydminster, where the former works as an electrical engineer for an oil company. Janet is a nurse. Son, Dale, and wife, Julie, are based in Brooks, Alberta, where Dale is a Chartered Accountant for the Co-op, following nine years as a Meteorologist with D.O.T. Daughter, Lyn-



Johnson picnic. L-R: Harry, Gladys, Oscar and Grace Duxbury, Eileen, Dora, Joyce, Laurie, Millie, Louie, Bob, Charlie, Tommy. Seated on ground: Sharon Duxbury, Joy Johnson.

da, a registered nurse, married Murray Matheson who farms north of Hamiota. They have three daughters.

Harry and Edie Johnson's second son, Tommy, remained on the farm to help his parents with the all-important farm war effort. At Elkhorn, November 24th, 1945, he married Eileen Young, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Young, then of Willen, Manitoba. Tommy and Eileen built their new home in the Johnson farmyard. When Tommy's parents moved to Elkhorn in 1954 his house went with them and Tommy moved into the original family home. He farmed there until ill health made it necessary to move to Winnipeg, September, 1972. He died the following November.

Tommy and Eileen had four children: Joy, a teacher, and husband Larry Emmerson (construction), and daughter live in Headingly, Manitoba. Edith Mae (stenographer), and husband Jim Shields (accountant) moved from Winnipeg to Calgary in 1980. Della (stenographer), and husband Russ Morley live in Winnipeg and have a son and a daughter. Brent (with Hydro) and wife Donna live in Dryden, Ontario.

submitted by Phillis Cairns

### Mr. and Mrs. W. L. (Laurie) Johnson

William Lawrence Johnson, eldest of a family of seven, was born on October 2nd, 1884, to William Downing and Annie Louisa Johnson (nee Lawrence) of Elvaston, Derbyshire, England. Other children were Alwyne Thomas 1886, Annie (Nan) 1887, Clara (Cis) 1889, Louisa 1890, Henry J. (Harry) 1892, Edith 1893. The family was raised in the Anglican faith and educated at Elvaston and Derby.

At the age of twenty, Laurie emigrated to Canada — the land of promise. In his diary he tells of his mother seeing him off as he set sail from Liverpool, England, March 2nd, 1905, destination St. John,



L-R Standing: Louie, Cissy. Seated: Annie, Mrs. W. D. Johnson, Edith.

New Brunswick, a distance of 2,381 miles across the Atlantic Ocean. His ship (not named in his diary) averaged 238 miles per day. On account of storms, the slowest day was only 153 miles. The fastest, 308 miles. On March 3rd, 1905, he wrote: "Saw the last of Ireland about 5:30 p.m. Seasick". Another notation tells of "the burial at sea of a stoker, 249 miles from Liverpool". The voyage was "very rough and stormy" for the next three days. March 12th, "arrived in Halifax 12 am. Had a Cook round" — (Would that be a Cook's Tour?) — "Dirty looking place. Four or five feet of snow and ice on the streets". Really? or did it just LOOK like that to one not accustomed to snow?

March 15th, Laurie disembarked at the St. John wharf and left by rail for Montreal, where he changed trains. There was a stop-over at Ottawa before the long journey to Winnipeg. March 18th — "strolled around the city (Winnipeg). Put up at Manor House, Main Street. Bed and Breakfast 50¢". March 20th, "Wrote the first letter home, from Canada". March 25th, 1905, "arrived in Elkhorn and went to see Mr. Stocker and he went to see Mr. Watson and so, soon got settled". Who was "Mr. Stocker"? The Mr. Watson mentioned was likely Alf Watson.

March 26th the detested job of stone picking began and continued day on weary day. Years later, on Laurie's own farm, each English greenhorn was set at picking stones for endless days as soon as the ground was sufficiently thawed. Maybe this was his way of avenging fate for the servitude he spent with the stones that first Canadian spring of 1905. There's a yarn about one unfortunate greenhorn who had hung the boss's watch on the front of the stone wagon only to smash it with a wildly thrown rock. My! My! There was quite a to-do over that.

Stone picking, that 1905 spring, gave way to walking behind the harrows almost every day until May 20th. Seeding began at Watsons on April 7th. April 28th "received first letter from home". May 4th, "finished sowing wheat". May 9th and 10th — "much snow". June 3rd "122° F in sun, 98° in shade. Thunder storm at night". That seems dreadfully hot, but that's what was written in his diary!

June 13th "Father died 1:35 pm". (In England).

June 15th "Sports Day. Weather cold and dull. Also sports".

June 17th "Elkhorn Show. Wet". (Fair Day?) August 3rd "started haying".

August 4th "very heavy thunder and hail storm".

August 23rd "Started cutting wheat" and "finished September 6.

Threshing started September 16th at AW". (Alf Watson). "finished October 12". Ten days of fall plowing followed except for a day's threshing at W.

Jaffray's. Laurie also visited with the Bajus family in that time.

There is not one word in the diary about his birthday, October 2nd, but then, on October 26th, Laurie received a draft (money order) from home. Freeze-up October 26 to November 9, then mild weather and ploughing and harrowing resumed until a second freeze-up on November 18th, followed by four inches of snow.

Laurie recorded purchases of winter clothes at hard to believe prices. Mitts 20¢, rubbers \$1.00, moccasins \$1.75, pants \$1.00.

On December 5th, hauling wheat to town began and continued on and off until December 21st. There is no mention of how he spent his first Canadian Christmas. All through his diary Laurie recorded the many, many letters he received from and wrote to his family and friends. He received at least five different English newspapers regularly.

On February 20th, 1906, he recorded "Wrote letter to Mr. Herod at Saskatoon and Battleford". Laurie was investigating farm land for sale in that area. No dates, but from expense records, it's obvious that he did in fact travel to North Battleford. (Single train fare from Elkhorn \$15.50). He visited Indian Head, Regina, Saskatoon, and Warman. No record as to who his travelling companion was — maybe his brother Alla.

In 1906, Laurie helped Fred Crossman at seeding time and then moved to Tom Noble's at Kirkella, all the while checking out land advertised for sale. According to a diary notation on November 8th 1906, at Virden, he bought a half section of land: "SW¼ 29-12-28 W1, No. 3205 and SE¼ 29-12-28 W1, No. 3206 (now farmed by his grandson, Ken Johnson) and records down-payments of \$220 and \$212 respectively. A creek runs through the northern part of this land, which was the source of sufficient water for cattle and sheep herds even during the dry thirties. The land had quite a few stones although not as many as the northwest section of 29-12-28 which was purchased later. Other parcels of land were added from time to time.

The proud young land owner built himself a one-roomed shack for a house which later became a granary. He erected a sod stable on a stone foundation on the hill just east of Ken's big barn.

He joined the Two Creeks football team and used to talk about going to Miniota to play matches there. For years the Townsend family were very hospitable to him and he enjoyed good meals and the companionship of the lovely daughters! In 1908, Laurie hired Walter King to build a two storey, seven roomed house, in preparation for the arrival of his mother and sisters from England, who later moved to his brother

Alla's and from there to Winnipeg. In 1913, he married Evelyn Mildred (Millie) Burton, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Burton, also of Elkhorn.

It seems Laurie caught Millie's eye on Saturdays as he nonchalantly entered Marsh's Store where she worked. He would be dressed in dark jacket and trousers and red turtle neck sweater and carried his butter and egg basket jauntily over his arm. He traded his produce for the weekly groceries as did many other customers of the day.

Laurie and Millie finally decided to get married and a huge three year old steer gave his life that the engagement ring might be purchased. The stones were pearls and a ruby placed on a high setting. The wedding took place on June 26th, 1913, at the Burton home on the "old Duxbury place", at 12-12-29. That evening, as the couple were driving in the open buggy to catch the train for their honeymoon in Brandon, a very heavy rainstorm developed. The bride had to wait alone at the station for what seemed forever, while the groom took the horse to the livery barn and walked back (a fair distance). That year the crops looked beautiful, but were hailed out in July.

In 1915, twins were born — Lawrence Burton, five lbs. and Phillis Mildred, two lbs. Dr. Robert Goodwin, attending physician, announced: "The birth is plural, the gender mixed".

In 1916, a grand new barn was built (Walter King was the carpenter) complete with driveway and huge sliding doors into a full sized loft for feed storage. The loft doors faced west and were visible from almost anywhere on the farm. For many, many years those doors, opened four or five feet, signalled quitting time for men in the field or youngsters herding sheep and cattle. In 1962, the barn was cruelly decapitated by a vicious tornado which spewed pieces of smashed loft and other buildings and feed stacks across a fair part of the community. What a sad mess! However, Lawrence Jr. had the lower part straightened and strengthened. He rebuilt the loft minus its most outstanding characteristic — the huge sliding doors.

Horses provided all the power on the Laurie Johnson farm from the beginning. Undoubtedly, earlier settlers in the Burnbank district used oxen before the turn of the century. The loss of a horse was a very serious matter when a farmer was already operating on a shoestring. Cattle, pigs and later sheep were important to the farm economy. Poultry, dairy and garden produce kept families well fed and provided a little extra funding.

On September 30th, 1918, both pride and consternation reigned at the Johnson residence owing to the birth of identical twins — William Bruce and Robert Downing, five lbs each. Grandma Burton did



Mr. and Mrs. Laurie Johnson with their two sets of twins. L-R: Lawrence, Bruce, Phillis, Bob.

a lot of worrying because she thought the little rascals' names may have been mixed up. It's really not likely, as they were kept tagged for a long time. However, confusions did occur. Once, when Bob and Bruce were about eight years old, their mother needed to scold one of them and wasn't just sure which one was standing in front of her. She was heard to snap, "Bob, are you Bruce?"

As the Johnsons became established their closest neighbours were the John Orr, Bajus, George Freeman, Wilfred Dixon, and Tom Duxbury families as well as Alla Johnson one mile east and Harry Johnson to the south-west. Their children attended Burnbank school and with the Orrs travelled about three miles to school, mostly by horse and buggy in summer, horseback at spring break-up and by team and sleigh or cutter in winter. Laurie bought 'Jess' for a school pony. She was a small, old, one-eyed, bay mare with a black mane and a grey tail. That winter it was old Jess' duty to pull their low-slung "jumper" cutter. Bessie Orr drove with the eight-year old Phillis and Lawrence until they got used to the responsibility. The first morning Phillis announced to Bessie: "This is a jumper and it won't upset", and 'whoops', over it went — kids, rugs and dinner pails, all buried in the deep snow!

In 1920, Laurie and Millie Johnson bought their first automobile — a Model T Ford with curtains. Also, that year, their first privately owned threshing outfit was purchased — an International 22-38 separator (high bagger) and a gas powered International 10-20 Titan tractor which gobbled up gallons of water every day.

It must have been a bad Fall in 1926 as, in December, Laurie was threshing out of the snow at Tom Duxbury's farm yard. It was so bitterly cold that the Titan had to stand inside the barn to keep the motor running.

Telephones, 1908, radios, 1920, rural electricity, 1950, television in the 1950's, and gradual farm mechanization all took their turns at improving the standard of rural living in Manitoba in the first half of the twentieth century. Of all, probably farm mechanization and rural electricity had the greatest impact on the lives of the people.

Millie Johnson was a kindly, greatly respected lady who took a keen interest in community and church affairs, and enjoyed her many friends. She was a life member of the W.M.S. and U.C.W., a staunch supporter of Elkhorn Trinity United Church and a faithful hospital visitor. She was an avid gardener and surrounded her home with the beauty of flowers and well kept lawns. Her beautiful garden kept the family table well supplied with healthful vegetables which were also in demand at the stores. She won many prizes at the local fair for plants, flowers and garden produce. Like other farm wives, Millie was a fine cook. However, even the best cooks pull a boner once in a while and Millie was no exception. One day the buns turned out to be a disgrace to her reputation. She ordered Phillis to throw them to the pigs, "quickly before your dad gets home for dinner". Well, after the meal, Phillis accompanied her dad to the pen to help with the noon chores and here and there about the sty were small, round, charred objects. She remembers her dad kicking one or two of them and growling, "what the hell's that?" Her better self suppressed the urge to supply the answer.

Millie was among the good Burnbank seamstresses and to the great benefit of her family she made coats, shirts, dresses, etc., on her little hand-turned sewing machine — Eaton's "Seamstress". She also knitted uncounted socks, mitts, scarves and stockings.

Throughout his lifetime Laurie Johnson served on many boards and committees concerned with the community. He was elected to Burnbank school board as chairman and secretary at different times during the years. He was a Co-operative Livestock Association director. One of the many times that Laurie had accompanied Jake Bajus, shipper for the organization, to Winnipeg on the stock train, they had left the train at Virden to load horses. In their absence there was an accident. The following is Laurie's account of what happened as written in a letter to Millie:

St. Regis Hotel,  
Winnipeg, Man.  
March 3rd, 1943.  
(9 p.m.)

Dear Millie,

Just a few lines to let you know we arrived safely at 4:30 p.m. today and at Hotel at 5:00 p.m. We had a rail break at Virden as we had left the coach to load stock when the other train crashed into the rear of the stock train. It took a little longer than usual on account of some horses which would not go up the gangway into the car, or we might have returned to the coach after loading and still been in time for the crash. The other three in the coach besides ourselves were all injured more or less, one fatally and died as soon as we lifted him on the stretcher. My idea is that his back was broken, besides broken leg and other injuries. The caboose was totally wrecked and driven into our coach, which had its rear half smashed off and also one side. The coach was driven about 150 yards up the track, past the water tank, one man dropped out of it near the platform, the dead man about half-way between the station and the tank and the other crawled out past the tank. The engineer and fireman jumped from the engine at platform where engine stopped, the coach being belted to the tank. We were certainly lucky our seats being several seats from the other three fellows who went to sleep when we left Hargrave. We left Elkhorn about 10 pm and the smash was just before one a.m. We left Virden at 8 a.m., no sleep, breakfast at Brandon at 10 a.m. Ben P.'s suitcase was smashed, otherwise we all came off very well. We realize how lucky we were and thought we should get Minnie to let the others know, as the news would soon get around and Don Black was wondering how we came out of it. The inquest was at 11 a.m. this Wednesday morning in Virden. Hope everything is going on alright. I wondered about the cream after the crash but it's O.K.

yours Laurie

Laurie was a great reader but also enjoyed curling and followed baseball, football and hockey on television and radio. Laurie acted as leader of the boys and girls Livestock Clubs. He worked hard for the formation of the Elkhorn Pool Elevator Association and served on the board. He did his share of work on the R.M. of Wallace and Elkhorn Town Councils. He was a staunch supporter of the Agricultural Society of which he was secretary-treasurer. He was on the boards of Elkhorn Creamery and Elkhorn Stadium.

Laurie and Millie Johnson retired to Elkhorn in 1952 and located their cottage on a well treed, double, corner lot just south of the Townsend house, now the Sinclair residence. They took an active part in



Millie and Laurie Johnson cutting their 50th wedding anniversary cake at the "home place" 1963.

town life. One of the benefits they enjoyed most was the town water system. Son Lawrence bought the home place in 1960. Laurie and Millie celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in 1963. January 7th, 1965, Laurie, at eighty years died in the Elkhorn Hospital — a stroke victim. Millie remained in their home until her demise on April 16th, 1975, in Brandon General Hospital after a short illness. She was in her eighty-fifth year.

submitted by Phillis Cairns.

### Charlie Johnson Family

**Charlie** was the eldest son of **Mr. and Mrs. Harry Johnson**, Kirkella, Manitoba. He attended school at Kirkella, while helping his dad on the farm. Charlie enjoyed playing ball, also took part in the many community events. After completing his schooling, he bought the SW ¼ 19-12-28. He worked on the Community Pasture Project and the "dam" project. In 1941 he joined the Air Force, serving as an Aero-Engine mechanic.

In 1944 Charlie married **Gladys Shaver** of Kenville, Manitoba, who was a stenographer in Winnipeg. Following Charlie's discharge in 1945 the couple went to farm on the Allan Johnson farm. (S.E. 28-12-2) 4 miles north of Elkhorn. Charlie and Gladys lived in the Burnbank Community for 18 years, taking part in the many activities. They had a family of 3.

**Donald** became an Electrical Engineer and



L-R Back row: Gladys and Charlie Johnson. Front row: Dale, Lynda, Don 1960.

works for "Computalog Gearhart Ltd." at Airdrie, Alta. He married **Janet Hunter** of Hamiota, and they have one son **Scot**.

**Dale**, became an accountant, and works for "The Higgins Evans" accounting firm at Brooks, Alta. He married **Diana McNeill** of Rivers, Manitoba.

**Lynda** became a registered nurse. She married **Murray Mathison**, and they farm north of Hamiota. They have 3 girls.

In 1963, Charlie and Gladys and family left Elkhorn and bought a farm at Hamiota, Manitoba, where they still reside.

submitted by Charlie Johnson

### The Bruce Johnson Family

**Bruce Johnson** took his schooling at Burnbank and Elkhorn. He worked at the farm home until 1940 and then went to Saskatchewan to work on a grain farm. In 1941 he joined up and served overseas until 1945 in the Squadron 400 Spitfires. He married **Marie Young** and went to work on the farm of the late Fred Andrew, between Crandall and Hamiota, in 1947. Due to the illness of Marie's parents they went to Willen, Manitoba, until renting a farm in the Arawana District. In the fall of 1948, their first child was born, **Rita Faye**, now Rita McLeod of Brandon.

In 1950 after being flooded out and in hope of keeping the wolf away from the door, Bruce decided to train for a Grain Buyer. That winter was spent in Brandon. His first elevator was in Kenton, Manitoba. A wonderful adventurous life was enjoyed at Kenton for twelve years. Marie used to say, "Bruce belonged to every organization but the U.C.W."

In 1952 **Marsha** was born, now Marsha Scribner living at a small hamlet, Greenshields, Alberta, near Wainwright. Chosen son **Greg**, joined the family in

1958. He is now living at Coronation, Alberta. In 1962, Bruce was transferred to Basswood. There again community life went on. That year experienced frozen crops, with much wheat grading five, six and feed.

August, 1961, another chosen joy, **Connie**, joined the family. She is now living in Wainwright. Five memorable years were spent in Basswood and then Bruce was transferred to Springhill Siding near Neepawa. We stayed there for ten years. Again, taking in all the community affairs. All these years have been most informative and the experiences unforgettable. There is something special about working, living and loving with all walks of people that makes one feel rich in blessings.

After twenty years with the Manitoba Pool Elevators, Bruce took another jump at experience and moved to Alberta to truck "them thar" barrels of oil, a great change from public service. He still makes the mistake of saying bushels instead of barrels on his tank truck.

Bruce enjoys reading, travel and international affairs. And last, but not least, the fact that he is still doing crossword puzzles in red ink is the joke of the family.

submitted by Bruce Johnson

### Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Johnson

**Robert D. Johnson** (Bob) was one of the second set of twins born to Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Johnson on farm 29-12-28 in the Burnbank district. He received his education in the Burnbank and Elkhorn schools. As was usual in those times, the country school was the focal point for most social activities. Besides working on the home farm, Bob also worked for other farmers such as Percy Rose of Manson, Harry Cowing of Oak Lake, and Sid Williams of Elkhorn. He spent a year working for his uncle, Irving Cottam, at Treherne where one of his duties was to run the Harland Ferry across the Assiniboine River. He remembers being up all night transporting cars returning from seeing the King and Queen in Winnipeg in 1939. The next Ferry downriver had sunk due to overloading, so Bob had a very busy night.

Bob and Bruce both joined the R.C.A.F. in the spring of 1941 as aero engine mechanics. Illness forced Bob to lose his overseas posting and he was sent to Deer Lodge Hospital for surgery instead. He was discharged with the rank of Corporal in 1945.

After the war, Bob bought the South East Quarter of Section 30-12-28 from Wallace Municipality. This land had been allowed to go back for twenty years. He bought an old 1928 IHC steel-wheeled tractor and three-furrow plow which he used to break and summerfallow ninety acres. The following three years he

worked this land as well as the West half of section 16-12-28 which he rented from the V.L.A. This land had been formerly worked by R. Wornock. In 1949 he sold his land to his father and purchased a half section of land at Harding, Manitoba, from Wray Darragh.

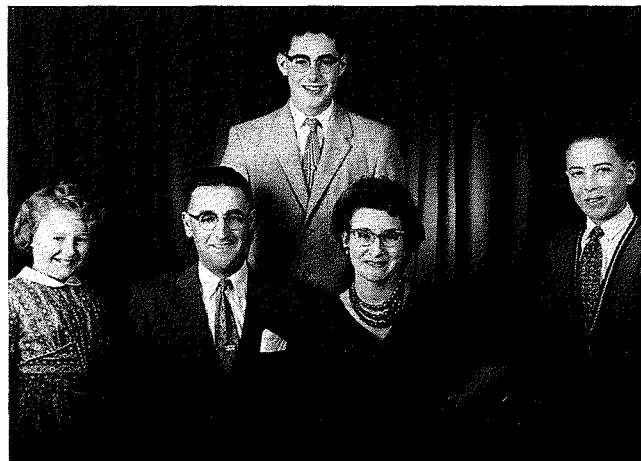
In 1952 he married **Joyce Hamilton** of Glenboro who had taught in the Elkhorn Collegiate from 1949 to 1951. They still reside on their farm home on section 24-12-23. Both have been very active over the years in church and community activities. Bob has served in various capacities on Pool Elevator, Credit Union and Co-op boards, as well as being a staunch supporter of the United Church, first in Harding and of later years in Kenton. In 1960 he rented three quarter sections from the Bridge brothers north of Harding and seven years later was able to purchase this land from them. At the present time, Bob and his son, **David**, are farming seven quarters of land in a cereal grain and oilseed operation.

Bob and Joyce have a family consisting of three daughters and one son. **Joanne** lives in Victoria, British Columbia. **Dianne** is presently teaching at Wapella, Saskatchewan, while her twin brother, **David**, farms with his father. The youngest daughter, **Wanda**, is married to **Brent Strachan** and they farm in the Hamiota area.

submitted by R. D. Johnson

### The Lawrence Johnson Family

Lawrence was born on August 27th, 1915, on his parents' farm, 29-12-28. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Johnson. He was born a twin, having a twin sister, Phillis. He got his public school education at Burnbank, 1922-1930. However, during those years he helped his father with farm work whenever possible. Lawrence also belonged to the boys' and



Standing: Ron Johnson. L-R Front row: Lorraine, Lawrence, Dora and Ken.



girls' farm clubs such as sheep, cattle and pigs. He took up full time farming with his father in 1930. Times were hard but they were also happy ones. A young people's community club was formed in the district by Mr. and Mrs. J. Orr. Burnbank School was the gathering place where young and old had many a good time.

Lawrence married **Dora Mildred Moore**, only daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Moore of Manson, in 1943. They lived in a small cottage in the same yard as his parents. Lawrence and Dora raised three children: **Ronald, Kenneth and Lorraine**. As the children grew up they joined the 4-H farm clubs in which Lawrence became a leader for two years. They also received their public school education at Burnbank and Elkhorn high school.

Through the years, Lawrence became a member of the Manitoba Pool Elevator, a director of the Elkhorn Agriculture Society, a board member of both Burnbank and Elkhorn United Churches and also a trustee and chairman of the Burnbank school board for a few years. Lawrence and Dora both serve on the United Church board.

As time went on, Lawrence worked on the farm gaining more experience for the good of himself and his family. His father decided to retire in 1952 and move to Elkhorn, at which time he moved Lawrence's cottage to town. Lawrence, Dora and family moved into the old family house. In 1960, Lawrence became manager and owner after buying the farm from his father. A few more years went by until, in 1972, his second son, Ken, began to work on the farm with his dad on a partnership basis. Ken and his wife Sharon moved into the old home and Lawrence and Dora bought a house built and owned by John Canart and moved it to the farm to the same location as the first cottage. In all, Lawrence and Dora moved three times and never left the yard! They are happy to say that son Ken and his wife Sharon now own and manage the home farm which makes these young people third generation farmers.

Dora is a member of the Burnbank and York Quilters, the Hospital Auxiliary, the Legion Auxiliary of Elkhorn and the United Church Women. She is very interested in church work, Bible Study and the Ladies Choir. Dora enjoys making quilts and has made over seventy for friends and relatives. In 1978, Lawrence and Dora decided to retire. They now enjoy socializing with friends and neighbors, assisting in the community and enjoying old time dances.

**Ron Johnson**, oldest son of Lawrence and Dora was born in 1946 and got his high school education at Elkhorn Collegiate. He was a member of the 4-H Calf Club and won several prizes including the winning of a calf in the calf scramble at Brandon Winter

Fair. Ron continued his education in Winnipeg, receiving his B.S.A. degree at the University of Manitoba. He finished the last year of his course at the University of British Columbia and has been working for the Department of Lands Forests and Water Resources in British Columbia. Ron got married in 1972 to **Nola McGhie** and they have two children: Stacie and Ryan. They live in Richmond, British Columbia. They now have formed their own company which is called the Pacific Coast Ventures Ltd., with Ron as the president. It consists of land development and clearing.

**Ken Johnson**, second son of Lawrence and Dora was born in 1949 and received his education at Burnbank and Elkhorn. Ken graduated from University of Manitoba Diploma Course in Agriculture in 1969. He married **Sharon Marks** of Rathwell, Manitoba in 1972. They have four children: Rodney, born 1973, Angela 1975, Cheryl 1977 and Darren, in 1980. Ken and Sharon now own and manage the home farm.

**Lorraine Johnson**, only daughter of Lawrence and Dora was born in 1952. Lorraine received her education in Elkhorn and then took a Business Course in Virden. Lorraine was active in the Elkhorn 4-H beef club and won several awards. Lorraine then went to Calgary where she accepted a position with the Grey-Hound Bus Lines in their head office. After a year there, she then went to work as an assistant for Crown Optical of Calgary. In 1972, she married **Mark Davies**, a foreman in a carpet laying business. They have two children: Jamie 5 and Leanna 3. They live in the Huntington Hills of Calgary.

submitted by Lawrence and Dora Johnson

## **Johnsons for One Hundred and Fifty-one Years 1830-1981**

**John D. Johnson** came to Manitoba first about 1880. He and his second youngest son, **William James**, had left Ontario and had gone as far as Texas, returned through Kansas and north to Manitoba looking for land on which to settle. He liked what he saw in western Manitoba and so he returned to Ontario to make ready to bring his wife and family to the west.

On the way back to Ontario, William James worked on the C.P. Railway but contracted scarlet fever and died. He was buried on the north shore of Lake Superior at Jack Fish Bay. He was seventeen years old.

At this time, John Johnson and his wife were people in their sixties and had already lived a full life. John had come to Canada with his parents, **John Sr.** and his wife the former **Jane Davidson**, four sisters and one brother. They sailed from Londonderry, Ireland in 1830, a trip that took them three months by

sailing vessel. The Johnsons got to "Muddy York" (Toronto) and then went north through virgin forest to Thornton near Barry on Lake Simcoe. Land was obtained in that area. The younger John and brother **Thomas** helped their father clear the land and build the necessary buildings on at least two holdings. John was ten years old when he first arrived in Canada. He became very proficient at cutting and shaping logs and engineering the construction of houses and barns as time went by. He was a keen mathematician.

About 1843 when John Jr. was 24 years old, he struck out for himself and went to the "Queen's Bush." This was unsurveyed land in Wellington County, near Moorefield, about sixty miles from his former home. There were other settlers in the "Bush" and they petitioned the Ontario Government to have the land properly surveyed so they could legally own their land. John's name was on that petition. The survey was done between 1843 and 1849. As time went by John acquired other pieces of land of various sizes.

In the Census of Maryboro Township for 1851, John Johnson is enumerated as Farmer; — Presbyterian; — 31 years old; — 2 children; — log house; — log barn. In the Census for 1861 the enumeration is Farmer; — Presbyterian; — 42 years old; — 6 children; — 1½ storey frame house; — frame barn. In 1870 a large two storey brick house was built west of Moorefield on a two hundred acre holding. A man from Kitchener owns this house and land now.

John married the girl from the next farm, **Jean Hay**, and they made their home on the first holding which was at Wyandot P.O. near Moorefield Village. Jean Hay was the daughter of **Robert Hay and Janet Dick** from Aberdeen, Scotland. There were two brothers and one sister in Jean's family and all came together to Canada. Jean was of a gentle and religious nature — loved flowers and things beautiful; she was an excellent needle woman and a good cook. It was at Wyandot that all ten children were born and grew up, attending the local school. Although Jean Johnson was of strong Presbyterian faith and would go to church alone on a Sunday afternoon using an ox hitched to a hayrack as her means of transportation, her husband was not so staunch. He could quote passages from the Bible by the "yard" and he admired Solomon but did not think much of the New Testament. According to him, China rather than Russia was the country to be watched and guarded against. He was a Red Hot Tory and knew Sir John A. McDonald.

During the years they lived around Moorefield, the Johnsons became people of some prominence. John was Councillor for the Municipality and then Reeve of Maryboro 1868-9 and in 1871 he was Justice

of the Peace and then Magistrate. As well, he was lieutenant and then captain in the 8th Battalion of Wellington Militia in 1869. In 1870 he was appointed post master of Wyandot. It was at this time that John added the initial "D" to his name to help distinguish him from other J. Johnsons who were in the Community. The "D" was to stand for Davidson, his mother's maiden name.

In this period of his life, John D. met with an accident while felling a tree and he was left with a lame shoulder. He could no longer harness a horse. Too, he lost the sight of one eye (perhaps in the same accident) and the other eye was impaired because of faulty surgery for cataract. From then on he wore very thick glasses; the one was frosted over.

In 1879 there is recorded a sale of land by John D. Johnson. He had gotten into financial trouble by backing other men's notes and mortgages. It is thought that the family moved at this time to the Grimsby area. The older children were grown up and on their own. **Maggie Jane**, the youngest daughter, had died and was buried at Moorefield in 1870. She was 9 years old. There were 3 sons at home. This, then, is the man who set out with his son in 1870 or 1880 to go to the "New West" to find land on which to make a fresh start and found what he wanted in western Manitoba near the village of Elkhorn.

The actual move was made about 1882. John Johnson with his wife Jean, son **Thomas Craig** now 18 years old and **Harvey Hilton**, 13 years old moved with their household effects and what farm equipment they could manage (including a "hoe-drill" for seeding) to the N½ of Sec. 36, range 10. T. 29W of 1st P.M. — S.W. of Elkhorn about 8 miles. They called their new home "Rosemount." This land was to stay in the Johnson family, under varying circumstances until about 1967. The patent for it is dated June 24, 1886 (Brandon).

In appearance John D. was a rather small man, quick and energetic in action. In later years he had a fringe of white hair around his bald top and a long patriarchal beard. Jean was taller than her husband and of slim build and auburn coloring. John was apparently a severe man in disposition for there are stories told that the sons did not get along very well with their father.

In 1887, **Annie Davidson Johnson** the fourth child, came west from Hamilton, Ontario. She had been looking after her sister — Sarah Catherine the fifth child who was ill and had died. She was 26 years old. Now Annie came to her parents at "Rosemount." In 1888 Annie married **Frederick William Chapple**, a neighbor who was a widower with a small son. Their home was Ebor Post Office (in 1905

it became Arawana P.O.) about two miles south of "Rosemount."

Oldest son **Benjamin Levi** with his wife and two children came west and took up land closer to Elkhorn. But Ben being something of a wanderer was soon diverted and he took over a mill at Assissippi north of Elkhorn on the Assiniboine River. They gave up homesteading and all returned to Toronto in 1894.

Now Harvey Hilton got land for himself. It was the S.W. ¼ of the section his father was homesteading and only about a half mile from his parents. On October 27, 1897 Harvey married **Annie Pedrick** in



Annie Johnson with uncle and aunt, Walter and Sarah Davey on Pipestone Bridge.

Kola Church. Annie was the granddaughter of William and Elizabeth Davey, who were the stepfather and mother of Frederick Wm. Chapple. The Johnsons and the Chapples were now related two ways. There were many happy times when the Daveys, Chapples and Johnsons with neighbors, too, got together — for birthdays, Christmases, picnics, etc. Although the seniors were of opposite political persuasion they got along and enjoyed each other's company. Both could sing, both were interested in good farming methods and making progress in general.

Thomas Craig Johnson apparently stayed with his parents to work the land but late in 1903 he was kicked by a horse and died as the result of the accident. He was buried in Kola cemetery. It is said that he was a handsome man — he was 39 years old.

After a lifetime of pioneering, first in Wellington County, Ontario, then in western Manitoba, Jean Hay Johnson died at "Rosemount" in January 1904. She, too, was buried at Kola. She was 77 years of age.

From this event in 1904 until 1912 there is not much information about John D. Johnson's activities. He was with daughter Annie Chapple for visits of varying lengths and with son Harvey similarly. He

did make an extended trip to Ontario and to the States to visit his family — Ben and **Robert** in Ontario and **John III** and **Janet** in and around Chicago. It was 1910! A couple of years later he got a cottage in Elkhorn. It was south on Grange Street, near the Jail and daughter Janet Eby came from Chicago to make a home for her father. John D. maintained his interest in the affairs of the community and in politics. Reading the daily newspaper to him was one of Janet's duties. He still stepped out smartly as he went for a daily walk, always carrying a cane. Most likely the cane was one he had fashioned himself. When he was in the country, he would search out sapling trees in the bluffs, tie them in position to make a good handle, then come back in a year or so and cut them off at the proper length for a cane. He usually finished them with an orange-colored varnish.

In late 1915, his health began to fail and he was confined to the house. He died February 20, 1916, and was buried from the Presbyterian Church, Elkhorn, with interment in the Elkhorn Cemetery. Of his family there were left four sons and two daughters. He had lived ninety-six years, 2 months and twenty-one days.

To continue with the second generation of this family of Johnsons who lived in and around Elkhorn, Manitoba, the life of Harvey Hilton, the youngest



Harvey and Annie Johnson — 1925.

child of John D. and Jane Hay Johnson, serves our purpose best. Harvey was the only son living in the west. He was born March 14, 1869 at Wyandot P.O. in the County of Wellington, Ontario. He went to the local school to the "4th Reader." In 1882 he came to S.W. of Elkhorn with his parents.

Harvey married Annie Pedrick. Annie had come to Canada from South Wales when she was 11 years old with her grandparents William and Elizabeth Davey and her uncle, Walter Davey, in 1886. Her role was to help her grandparents and generally be useful. She often worked in the fields and found it hard. The Davey home was about 2 miles south and west of the Johnsons. Annie was born at Ystradgynlais, Swansea Valley in 1875.

Harvey liked farming. He was interested in new methods and ways of doing things. He liked the farm animals and appreciated good stock. He and his wife Annie became involved in the community which basically was the church. Woodville, to the north of them, was their centre of activity. Some of the neighbors in this area were Rowands, A. and O.; Scott, James and George; Johnson, S. "Sandy"; Barr, Wm; McAdoo; Montgomery; Fair; Black; McLeod, Alex; Wood, Wm. and Coulson R.

There seemed to be a fair amount of socializing in the district — family gatherings, picnics in the summer, birthday parties and seasonal occasions. To add interest to life in general for the Johnsons and relatives was the arrival of Annie's two sisters from Wales. Elizabeth came to her grandparents, Wm. and Elizabeth Davey. In 1900, she married F. O. B. Mundy. Frank had come from Devon, England to Oak Lake first and later to Ebor where he homesteaded 19-10-28 W. of 1st Meridian. He donated the land for Ebor School which was built in 1898. Their two daughters were born on the homestead. The Mundys returned to Wales temporarily in about 1908 but came to Canada again, this time going to Alberta, still in the business of farming.

Sister Beatrice worked in the home of Dr. Goodwin in Elkhorn and also in the home of Mr. Mooney, when she came to Canada first. She too stayed and became part of the rural community. She married Arthur Roach in 1904. They farmed south-west of the Mundy's. Their two daughters and one son were born on this farm. They retired to Virden where Arthur died in 1956 at the age of 81; Beatrice died in 1964 at 82 years. Their two daughters live in Virden at present.

It is now 1903 or 1904. Harvey and Annie had two sons, **Matthew John** and **Sydney Eby**, both born at Ebor. They decided to have a change and moved to Brandon but did not stay long and came back to the homestead. **Dorothy Jean** had been born.



Sydney Johnson.

Annie's brother, Charles came to Canada to visit his sisters and other relatives. From old pictures and stories one would gather that this was a very happy time. In 1907 Annie made a trip back to Wales to visit her parents and family. It was the only time she saw her parents after coming to Canada. Matthew went with her on the journey.

Brandon seemed to have an appeal for Harvey and Annie, for now Harvey sold his homestead to Richard Bolam and moved to Brandon again. It was at this time that the people of the Woodville District presented Harvey with a gold watch and Annie with a set of Limogee dishes. These gifts are much treasured today.

Coming back west in 1910, the Johnsons came to the Village of Elkhorn — the children were of school age and it was important that they have a chance to go to school. The Johnsons bought a house on Grange St., less than a block from their relatives the Walter Daveys. For a livelihood Harvey went into partnership with Ben Axelson as agents for International Harvester farm implements. Later, he and his nephew Freddie Chapple got a threshing outfit and they went threshing in the area south-west of Elkhorn. Freddie was the engineer for the Sawyer-Massey and Harvey was separator man. This ar-

rangement went on for a number of seasons. Later when the Johnson boys were older, son Matthew was engineer and Syd was fireman; Harvey was still separator man. It was during this time that Harvey got a "Stook" Loader to help speed up the work in harvest time. Land was rented and the farming was done from the village.

The next major change came when Harvey went into the dairy business. Among the herd of milk cows were a couple of purebred Ayrshires of which he was very proud. There was a mechanical milker, a "Surge Milker," to help with the job. A lot of the work in the dairy fell to his wife Annie.

Through these years both Annie and Harvey were actively involved in the Presbyterian church; the former worked with the Sunday school and the women's groups and the latter was an elder. Harvey was a delegate to the conference in Toronto which made the final arrangements for church union. Elkhorn's Methodists and Presbyterians had an arrangement working as a union for a few years before the formal union took place so the final transition to the legal church union was smooth. The best of the furnishings of the Presbyterian Church were moved to the Methodist Church which was larger and a better building and so the work of the church went on.

Carpentering and having a filling station was less strenuous work for Harvey so now he turned to that. He was a kindly man and always had a few drops of oil for the baby carriage and tricycle trade.

In 1932 Annie's health began to fail. She died March 28, 1933 at the age of 57 years. Her funeral service was in the United Church, Elkhorn and interment was in the Elkhorn Cemetery.

After this event Harvey sold the house on Grange Street and went to another house that he owned. He had health problems. After Matthew died in 1942, he was lonely — Sydney was overseas and Dorothy was with her soldier husband. He finally had to go into hospital where he died April 7, 1944 at the age of 74. His funeral service was in the United Church, and burial was in the Elkhorn Cemetery, beside his wife and father.

Now, all ten children of John D. Johnson and wife Jean Hay had lived their lives and passed on. The third generation of this family of Johnsons is made up of the children of Harvey and Annie Johnson: Matthew John, Sydney Eby and Dorothy Jean. Both of the boys were born at Ebor and Dorothy was born in Brandon. Schooling for the boys started in Brandon but after 1910 they went to the Elkhorn School. Towards the end of World War I, when there was a shortage of harvest help, the Manitoba government came up with a scheme to get the teenage boys to "help out." If the boys of grades seven and eight

would help the farmers with the harvest, the department would give them certain credits towards their certificate. Both Matt and Syd joined this group and had a bronze button with S.O.S. (Soldiers of the Soil) to wear. The boys were supposed to get back to school when they finished working; Matt did not go back. Both boys continued to help their father look after his agricultural interests and so became acquainted with things connected with farming.

For a few winters Matt drove Dr. Goodwin to his rural appointments, loving the opportunity to drive a team of "fast" horses. He had the "flu" in the epidemic of 1918 which left him with a heart condition which was to bother him later. He was away from home a lot in the next few years working on telephone and telegraph lines.

In 1928 Matt married **Laura Cousins** in Elkhorn. They had one daughter, **Evelyn Jean**, the present Mrs. Gerry Gatey of Virden. During the thirties for a few years, Matt and Laura farmed the old J. D. Johnson homestead "Rosemount" but it was too hard work and they were obliged to find something less strenuous. They returned to Elkhorn and then went to Brandon. In the early years of World War II, Matt was with the air force as civilian help.

On August 22, 1942, Matt died. He was 41 years old. The funeral service was in the United Church, Elkhorn and burial was in the Elkhorn Cemetery.

Sydney, as a boy, was fond of sports — baseball and fishing in the summer, skating and hockey in the winter. When he was older he was away from home working in the mines of northern Ontario, in Toronto, in other places in that area, in Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, etc.

During World War II he was with the 19th Field Artillery, Legion Services and went overseas in 1941, going to Belgium and France. He returned to Canada (Regina) in 1945. It was while he was overseas that his father died.

One of the things that Syd worked at after his stint in the army was looking after the Elkhorn Cemetery. This was something that he thoroughly enjoyed. In the fall of the year he reverted to family tradition and went harvesting for a number of seasons.

Now, Syd's health was posing problems — he was diabetic and had arthritis, obliging him to be in hospital for varying lengths of time. About 1968 he disposed of his farm property, the original J. D. Johnson homestead and his house in Elkhorn, the "Harrison House" on Richhill Ave. and went to the Sherwood Senior Citizens home, Virden. Later he moved to the Westman Nursing Home. During his ten year stay in Virden he had a leg amputated and also he had a partial stroke. Syd died November 7, 1979 at the age of 76. Once again a Johnson was

interred in the Elkhorn Cemetery after a church service in the United Church, Elkhorn.

With this death comes the end of the name "Johnson" in this particular family. All descendents now living in Canada are from female ancestors.

Dorothy Jean was the youngest child of Harvey and Annie Johnson and the youngest of J. D. Johnson's grandchildren. She was born in Brandon. Her family moved to Elkhorn in the spring of 1910. She started to school, first in the old stone building, then to the "new" building. School to Dorothy was interesting enough — she did well.

Outside of school there were things to do — Sunday school at the Presbyterian Church, learning to skate, visiting Aunt Sarah Davey who taught her to sew and knit, Brandon fairs and holidays on the farm of Annie and Fred Chapple where she learned more hand craft. Meanwhile she took music lessons and the time came when she played the organ for church and Sunday school. High school was completed!

Saskatchewan was going ahead; it needed teachers. It was paying better salaries than Manitoba was paying, so teaching seemed to be a good profession to enter. Dorothy went to a Normal Course at Moosomin and later to another one at Regina and taught school until 1931. That year she married **Roy Borrowman**, December 26th, in the Elkhorn United Church. Dorothy and Roy lived through the depression years in Weyburn where Roy taught school and Dorothy became involved with church and community affairs. Summer vacations were often spent in Saskatoon where Roy took classes at the University. A four year period in the army came next and then in 1944 their life in Regina began. Daughter **Judy Ann** was 14 months old. Here, too, they were involved with the church and community and the co-operative movement.

It was in 1947 that Roy joined the Saskatchewan government and **John David** was born August 16. From then until about 1968 was the period of child-raising. Both children graduated from university. Dorothy learned more crafts including weaving and woodworking. There were some good vacation times at various lakes and travelling. Roy retired from the government in 1974 after 28 years in administration. He continues to keep busy.

Now it is April, 1981. To carry on the influences of John D. Johnson and his wife Jean are left the fourth and fifth generations of Johnsons. The fourth generation consists of Evelyn Jean the daughter of Laura and Matthew John Johnson who married Gerald Gatey in 1953 and lives in Virden; Judy Ann Borrowman the daughter of Dorothy and Roy Borrowman who married Ralph B. Gorby August, 1956 and lives in Calgary; and John David Borrowman,

son of Dorothy and Roy, who is attached to the Canadian embassy and lives in Oslo, Norway. And last there are **Brenda Jean** and **Douglas Ryan** the children of Jean and Gerry Gatey, living in Virden and **Karen Lynne** and **David Douglas**, the children of Judy and Ralph Gorby, living in Calgary, who comprise the fifth generation.

With about one hundred and fifty-one years of family life recorded (about one hundred of which was lived in and around Elkhorn), one wonders where these last generations will continue and will fulfil their life spans. The future is theirs to record.

submitted by Dorothy Jean Borrowman who is the granddaughter of John D. Johnson and the daughter of Harvey Hilton Johnson, April 24, 1981. Mrs. Roy Borrowman, 2521 Pasqua St. Regina, Sask.  
S4S 0M3

### Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Johnson

Ralph and **Doreen** came to this area in 1960 and took up farming in the Kirkella district. They reside on SW ¼ of 4-13-29, the former William Kirby farm. Ralph was born and raised at Maryfield, Sask., and Doreen originally came from Morden, Manitoba. Ralph has served on the local elevator board. He raises purebred Charolais cattle on his Cross-Creek Farm. At present he is president of Westman Charolais Breeders. Doreen is a registered nurse and has worked part-time at Elkhorn District Hospital for several years. She is a member of the Legion Auxiliary and the Hospital Auxiliary. At present she is president of the local ceramic and pottery club.

The couple have three children: **Ray** is married to **Donna Hebert** and they live in Winnipeg; **Kenneth** farms land in the Kirkella and Manson districts and lives at home; **Judy** is in Winnipeg where she is an employee of Western Messenger Company. Ralph's grandfather **Alex (Sandy) Johnson** came to the Woodville district from Sackville, New Brunswick in 1883. He married **Abbey Simpson** and they had five sons and four daughters. They homesteaded on SE ¼ of 4-11-29. Mr. Alex Johnson was a trustee at the opening of the Woodville school in 1890. Ralph's father, **Blake** was one of the first pupils to attend, being six years old at that time.

**James Johnson**, brother to Alex and Ralph's great uncle also settled in the Woodville district. He homesteaded on SW ¼ of 4-11-29, married Libbie Simpson and had six children. He was a carpenter by trade and helped build the Indian School at Elkhorn.

submitted by Doreen Johnson

### The Charles Johnston Family

My father, William Johnston, came from the small town of Fochabers, Morayshire, Scotland, in

April, 1906. He came via New York as the St. Lawrence was still frozen and arrived in Virden after a three week sea voyage and a very long train ride. He had known Mr. John Hendry of River Valley District in Scotland and came through his advice to work the summer of 1906 for Mr. James Hutchison, father of Andy. Mrs. Hutchison had just passed away and my mother came in June of that year to keep house. I, at that time was aged two. In 1907, my father started farming for himself on the west half of Section 16-11-29, known at that time as the McFee farm. Our nearest neighbours were: the Barrs, Paulls, Dick Coulson (a bachelor then who married Eva Grant about 1908), Mr. Gosselin on the north half of Section 21, the Goethes (Frank and Bill Senior), Wes Poston (father of Ben), Blair Lund and family, Tom and John Adair, Sam Hartley on the Boomhower Farm, and to complete the circle the Garrets who lived on a farm now owned by Allan Thomson. None of these were nearer than two miles. Later, Jim Paull, Bob Angus and Orval Grant moved into the area within that circle.

I started school at Woodville half days at the age of four and a half. My first teacher was a Miss Cox. There were never, as I remember, more than twelve pupils in the school at a time and often only three or four. At that time school convened on April 1st until about the end of November, with two weeks holiday in the middle of summer. Later it stayed open all winter but attendance dropped to sometimes one or two, depending on the weather. Remember, some of these pupils had to drive over four miles with a horse and cutter; no snowploughs then, or heated vehicles of any kind. Those who were lucky had a footwarmer and a fur lap robe.

We attended Woodville Church and enjoyed much good fellowship there. Church and Sunday School were at 2:30 pm. The usual Sunday school teachers were Mrs. Barr and Mrs. Grant and the organist, Myrtle Grant, who later became Mrs. Scott. We left the Woodville District in 1917 and I left Elkhorn District in 1935 and settled in Sudbury where my parents joined us. They passed away in 1951.

My wife, the former Grace Taylor, and I were married in Elkhorn on August 31st, 1927. We have a family of five: Mrs. Florence Erickson, Thunder Bay, Mrs. Jean Janakowske and William Johnston, Sudbury, Rosemary Welsh, Ottawa and Margaret Redden of Smiths Falls, Ontario. We also have twenty-eight grandchildren and twenty-two great-grandchildren.

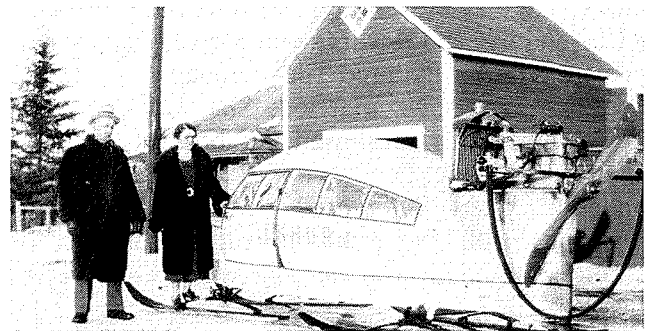
Over the years we have visited Elkhorn quite often and are always interested in the happenings in the district. We are both in good health and I have

been retired for several years. Now, sometimes, I wonder how I ever had time to go to work.

submitted by Chas. W. Johnston

### Dr. Clarence Wood Johnston

My father, **Dr. Clarence Wood Johnston** was born at Newmarket, Ontario in 1888. Coming west with his parents, he was educated at Morden and Manitoba university from which he graduated in 1914. Before entering university, he taught school. He first practiced medicine at Manitou. He joined the C.E.F. (C.A.M.C.) January 3, 1916 and went to



Dr. and Mrs. C. W. Johnston with their snow car.

France in April of the same year to the Ypres front where he was drafted to the Tenth Field Ambulance. He served as medical officer with various battalions. He was awarded the Military Cross at Ypres in 1916. When he returned to Canada, he was attached to Tuxedo military hospital. He was discharged in July of 1919 and came to Elkhorn in November of that year.

He served Elkhorn as Mayor from 1938-1947 and was chairman of the school board for a number of years.

Mother, **Jean Gillespie**, was born in Beaverton, Ontario, March 23, 1893, one of nine children. The Gillespie family moved to a large farm at Swan Lake, Manitoba in 1905.

After a fire and explosive accident in 1908 which killed six, one of whom was mother's oldest sister, Swan Lake held too many tragic memories, and the family moved to a farm near Daysland, Alberta.

Jean went to the Commercial School and was later employed by the Canadian Bank of Commerce, and was transferred to Elkhorn in January, 1919. My father once told me he came to Elkhorn in 1919 on the advice of Dr. Fryer of Virden. Apparently Dr. Goodwin had indicated that he wanted to sell out and leave. The price was set at \$8,500.00 for the practice, which included the house and doctor's office. The agreement was struck, and the Goodwins moved to Carberry.

The bank was involved in the transaction, and it was there that father met mother, and they were married a year later, December 20, 1920, at Red Deer, Alberta. There were four children born; the first baby **Lorne**, born April 19, 1922, died January 1, 1923. **Inez**, born July 4, 1923; **Douglas** born January 3, 1925, and **Margaret** born March 28, 1926.

**Inez** married Ivan Ekin of Boissevain, and they live at 375 West Fourth Street, North Vancouver, British Columbia. Ivan is a welder in heavy construction.

**Douglas** married **Margaret Weeks** in Winnipeg, and they moved to Santa Barbara, California 93109 and live at 521 Miramonte Drive. He is secretary-treasurer of Pyramid Tile Company.

**Margaret** never married. She was employed in Winnipeg, then followed her brother to sunny California, where she was employed by Pacific Telephone Company. She retired and moved to Chelan, Washington 98816 where she is head housekeeper for a retirement home. Her mailing address is Post Office Box 1347.

I will also mention a bit about my father's transportation. A Model A Ford snowmobile was modified with steel front runners, and a tandem set of wheels to accommodate a heavy caterpillar type chain. I believe this was built and driven by Don Lemon, and was a great improvement over horses and cutter. I remember Don saying that the front end was too heavy to go over the snow banks, and they often ploughed through with snow passing over the radiator cap. If they got stuck, he would throw it into reverse and take another run at it.

Don built another snowmobile for Father on a similar plan but removed the auto body and rebuilt one of plywood so there would be room to bring a patient back to Elkhorn or Virden Hospital. It was painted a brilliant blue and was known for miles around as the "Bluebird".

The Bluebird gave way to the snow plane, which was built in Moosomin of canvas and plywood. It was lighter and could pass over the snow with ease, but when you came to a hill, all passengers had to get out and push, being very careful not to get in the way of the propeller.

Some winters there wasn't sufficient snow for the snow plane and much of the country travelling was done by auto with a good set of chains. I remember one February night when I was 14, I drove father out to Joe Frear's farm, nine miles north and east of Elkhorn. Joe was suffering from a perforated stomach ulcer, and father spent many hours there trying to make him comfortable. During our stay, one of those freak Manitoba blizzards hit the area and we decided to head for home.

Since snow banks were forming on the roads we decided to harness a horse, put a single tree in the car, and I would ride the horse following the car. Should the car become stuck, we'd have a method of pulling it out. Father drove the car about half a mile, then would stop and wait for me. We hop-skipped along until we reached Wilfie Dixon's farm, and since there was a break in the storm we left the horse with them and managed to get back to Elkhorn.

The storm continued for two days, and left mountains of snow, and all the roads were closed for days after. Jock Orr's brother wasn't so lucky. He was leading their prize Clydesdale stallion home and was overcome by the blizzard. As luck would have it, a neighbor, also returning home during the storm with a team and sleigh, saw the horse standing on the side of the road with a rope hanging from its halter. He was surprised to find attached to the rope, completely covered by snow, Mr. Orr, almost frozen stiff. There was no sign of life, but they loaded him into the sleigh and returned to Elkhorn. Father went to work on him and in a couple of days the "frozen stiff" was wanting to go home.

Submitted by Doug

### **Mr. and Mrs. D. Norris Johnston**

Jean, the oldest daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. John Zazalak**, was born in Elkhorn. In 1938, she married **D. Norris Johnston** of Virden. They moved to a farm south of Virden until they retired to Elkhorn in 1974.

They had a family of two daughters. **Noreen** married **Gary Brown** of Lenore in 1958. Following his death, she married **Lloyd Baskerville** and they are now retired and living in Elkhorn.

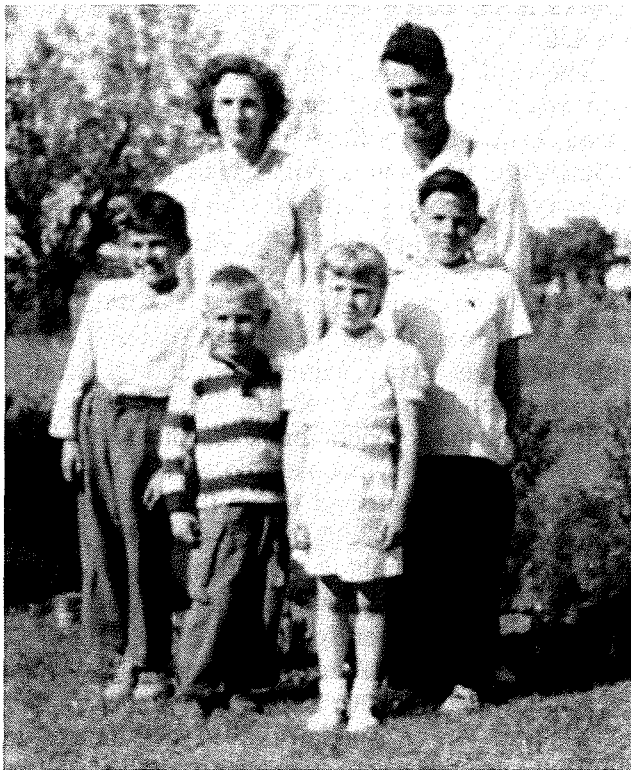
**Ida Mae** married Don Curtis of Lenore in 1971. They live in Calgary, Alberta.

### **Mary Dixon Jones and Family**

**Mary Louise Dixon**, fourth daughter of Wilfie and Leone Dixon was born at the house on the family farm 15-12-28, three miles north and east of Elkhorn.

She was educated in Elkhorn and went to Burnbank for one and one-half years then to Elkhorn High School. She worked in Winnipeg at T.C.A. while the war was on. She was married to **Alfred Jones** of the Victor District in 1943 at the Chapel in the old Indian School. They farmed on the Jones farm five miles east of Elkhorn. They raised four children who went to Victor School and then to Elkhorn High. The oldest is **Jerry Alfred**, who was very athletic and won many ribbons and trophies while going through school. He worked for the Manitoba Hydro for several years, then Magraw-Edison and now is self-employed. Jerry married **Diane Snell** in 1967 of the Manson district and they had one daughter **Teresa**





Mary and Alf Jones with children. L-R: Ken, Vernon, Vallerie, Jerry.

**Lynne.** Diane died in Winnipeg in a car accident in 1973. Jerry lives in Winnipeg and is now married to **Maureen Henderson.** **Kenneth Wilfred** married **Sandra Stonehouse** of Elkhorn. They have two boys, **Shawn and Ricky.** They live in Regina, Sask. Ken is in the trucking business.

**Vallerie Louise** was very active in Sports and especially fast ball. She nursed at Ninette, Winnipeg and Dauphin before going east to Waterloo, Ontario to nurse. There she met and married **Gavin Scott** of Elmira, Ont. They have two children, Rebecca and Graham. They live in Kitchener, Ontario now.

**Vernon David** worked on the C.P.R. for a time, also Austin's Abattoir in Virden. He is now in the meat cutting business in Brooks, Alberta. He married **Colleen Renwick** of Welwood, Manitoba. They have two boys **Kim and Terry.**

Mary worked in the Elkhorn hospital for a few years before she went to Winnipeg where she now resides.

Alfred has rented the farm and now lives in Elkhorn. He drives a cream truck.

## Bill Jones

He was born in 1882, then moving with the family to Oak Lake and finally to the Rose Lea district, helping out with the fortune of farming until 1900. Forsaking the agricultural stint for the newspaper

business, he joined the staff of the "Moosomin World" for one year. Having sipped the nectar of the fourth estate and found it desirable, he parted company with "Moosomin World", proceeded to Indian Head and Qu'Appelle still with the business of printing, then to Regina where he did printing chores for "The West". He rounded out his Prairie Activities in 1907, the west coast beckoned and packing his worldly possessions, he left for Vancouver where he was employed by the "Province" for 37 years as printer.

At the ripe young age of 70 he attended evening classes to brush up on the Spanish, French and German languages to understand better his position as printer with the Vancouver Linguistic Press.

Who is this remarkable character? None other than one of our local lads who made good — W. C. (Bill) Jones of Vancouver. (Bill is the brother of the late Bob Jones).

Incidental to all this, his father, William Jones, was a member of the first Archie Municipal Council and at times acted as secretary-treasurer. His mother, Mrs. Almira Jones, was a ninth generation of the Doane family who landed in America in 1670 on the Mayflower. Both of them passed away at the ripe age of 92. Longevity seems to have been part of their tradition.

So we take pride in claiming Mr. W. C. Jones as one of our native sons.

## Herb Jones

Mr. Herb Jones was born in Goderich, Ontario on May 21, 1871. In 1888 he came to Douglas, Manitoba and later to Brandon. On August 19, 1900 he arrived in Elkhorn, travelling on horseback and leading another; these horses were used as power to run the Lake of the Woods Elevator for which Mr. Jones was buyer for forty years. He retired in 1937.

For thirty years he served as secretary of the Elkhorn Agricultural Society and served on the Village Council for twenty years, fifteen of which he was Mayor. He also contributed twenty years to the School Board, serving many of those years as chairman. He contributed greatly to the early sports of Elkhorn and was an enthusiastic curler.

On February 29, 1904 he was initiated into the Masonic Lodge. He was elected secretary in 1916 and treasurer in 1929. For a time he was Master of the Lodge and District Deputy Grand Master. Through his service to the Lodge he received his fiftieth Gold Jewel and sixtieth Bar. He was made a life member in 1950.

On April 3, 1907, Mr. Jones was married, in Winnipeg, to Mary Ellen. They resided on Grange St. in the house later occupied by their oldest son,

Gordon. They had a daughter Kathleen, and a younger son Bert who passed away in 1954. Mr. Jones passed away July 26, 1966 at the age of ninety-five.

### **Reg Jones Family**

**Reg Jones** was born in 1923, the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Jones of the Victor District. In 1949 he married **Muriel Collier** of Miniota.

They resided in Elkhorn for many years prior to moving to Brandon in 1966 where Reg was employed in building construction.

Following Reg's death in 1968 the family returned to Elkhorn. There were seven children:

**Janet Tyhy** and family of Miniota;

**Donna Tyhy** and family of Winnipeg;

**Mervin** of Edmonton;

**Ron** and Family of Virden;

**Allan** and Family of Winnipeg;

**Leonard** and **Brian** of Elkhorn.

### **R. A. Kellie Family History**

**Raymond Kellie** was born on January 12, 1896. He was a C.P.R. station agent from 1924-1937. Raymond married **Mary Kellie** who was born on December 5, 1894.

Raymond and Mary had two children. **Rae Coggan** (nee Kellie) presently lives in St. Vital. **Jim Kellie** was born May 30, 1920 and enlisted as Pilot Officer in the R.C.A.F. June 27, 1941. He was reported missing on a bombing raid May 24, 1944 over Aachen, Germany.

Raymond died August 21, 1972. Mary is presently living in East Kildonan.

### **Happy Memories**

**Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Kendall** (Jack and Mazae) and two of their daughters, **Nadine** and **Patricia** moved to Elkhorn in May, 1958, from their farm six miles west of Virden (on the Maryfield road). Patricia and Nadine attended Elkhorn schools, United Church and partook in 4H activities. Jack lived with his parents Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Kendall (Bert) on the home farm all his life. Mazae was a former Virdenite — daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Hutchison, who used to have a coal, wood and ice business.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Kendall bought the Esso Garage and Restaurant business from Mr. John Schroeder and son Kenneth upon moving to Elkhorn in May, 1958. It was known as the Imperial Esso Garage on the edge of Elkhorn on Trans-Canada No. 1 highway.

In 1959, **Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Loucks** of Virden joined the Kendalls as partners in the business. Mrs.

Loucks is the oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Kendall.

They did carry on with Bob's Esso Service for nine years — meeting many people and making friends in all walks of life while there. They all took an interest in the town activities such as the Church, 4H work and sports. During that time Jack and Bernard Tutthill became interested in establishing an Auto Museum — a collection of the late Isaac Clarkson. They contacted Elkhorn Council, Municipality of Wallace Council and had several meetings with higher officials such as Minister of Cultural Affairs, Maitland Steinkopf of Manitoba. Their dreams were fulfilled with the co-operation of volunteer help from the town and country people who wished to see the Auto Museum established where it stands today. It has been enlarged since then. Mr. and Mrs. J. Kendall have another daughter, **Helen Burner**, who lived in Elkhorn from 1964-1965 with her three children, **John, Linda** and **Wendy** while her husband **Sgt. Gary Burner** was on Army duty in the Congo. John Burner attended Elkhorn School during that time.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Kendall moved to Winnipeg in 1969 but carried pleasant memories of Elkhorn where they had made many friends.

submitted by Mrs. M. Kendall  
Winnipeg, Manitoba

### **Kersey Family**

From **Reginald John Kersey**, born in a small house on the east side of Elkhorn on April 30, 1907.

My maternal grandfather, **Edmund Mutton**, was born in England August 19, 1846, where he married **Amelia Browning** in 1869. They came to Elkhorn about 1893 with two sons (one had died) and three daughters. The middle daughter became my mother. **Emma Mutton** married **Henry Maitland Kersey** Dec. 9, 1896 in Elkhorn. H. M. Kersey came to Elkhorn from Ontario, to work with his uncle John Hume. They built many of the early houses in Elkhorn, together with Ned Parsons. Among them were the McCorkindale and Earle houses, and his own home next door to the school.

Ed Fisher who lived west of Elkhorn commissioned Dad to build the house across the street from us, with just a picture of the house he wanted. The house had a special tower on one side, with a staircase leading up to it. Several years ago the top storey and tower were removed and the house became a bungalow. It was known as the R. N. Scotney house as they lived there for a number of years after the Fishers. Mr. Fisher moved to Edmonton, and entered politics there.

The Edmund Muttons lived in the little house on the north side of the school. He is well remembered

by old-timers for the beautiful rose gardens in front of the old stone school. When Grandad Mutton first came to Elkhorn he had the butcher shop, and we are donating an original accounts book to the Elkhorn Museum, showing such things as turkeys at .35 cents, and 8 lb. roasts at \$1.00. He was later caretaker at the school; at his death the caretaking duties were taken over by Mait Kersey. I did the same thing for a few months after my dad died, and then Alfred Lucking took over.

The First World War was a time of dark days, a hard life. There was little money, and staples were expensive. My oldest brother, **Edward**, was killed overseas, and my second brother, **Elmer**, died in the 'flu' epidemic in 1918. At that time everything had to be fumigated and nobody was allowed out of the house if there was a patient there. Mum would put sterilized money in a tin can outside the gate, and Mrs. R. N. Scotney from across the road would buy our groceries, which she left outside the gate in turn.

After finishing high school in Elkhorn I started to learn the printing trade from Fred C. Norris. All type for the paper was hand-set from various styles and sizes of type, printed for the newspaper, and then returned to its own little box. The expression 'watch your p's and q's' came from this distribution of type as all the letters and figures were backwards on the type in order to come the right way on the paper, and it was very easy to mix the p's and q's.

Mait Kersey was a member of the Masonic Lodge and the Order of Foresters.

My youngest brother, **Mait Jr.**, worked at the Elkhorn Creamery after he finished school, and at other creameries in Manitoba. He died in Salmon Arm three years ago. During the Second World War he enlisted with the R.C.A.F. Mother sang in the choir of St. Mark's church, and Eddie played the organ. I was married to **Margaret Dunbar** in St. Mark's March 29, 1937, and moved to Summerland, B.C.

### Mr. and Mrs. Walter King

**Mr. and Mrs. Walter King** were married in Helmsly, Yorkshire, England on October 19, 1901.

Walter came to Canada around 1906, his wife following later. **William**, his brother, was already in Canada. Both brothers were carpenters and worked together on buildings around Kirkella, such as Jaffray's house and barn, and McGimpsey's house.

The King family moved to Elkhorn in 1918, where Walter was employed with United Grain Growers elevator. Later he had a filling station, then a garage in partnership with Frank Walker. He was Secretary Treasurer for the town of Elkhorn for



Mr. and Mrs. Walter King with their two daughters, Mary and Lilian.

twelve years, prior to his death in 1943. Mrs. King passed away in 1924.

Walter was very musical and played the organ in the Presbyterian Church at Kirkella, and in later years the Anglican Church in Elkhorn. They had two daughters, **Mary** and **Lilian**, who received all their schooling in Elkhorn and were active members of St. Mark's Anglican Church.

Mary worked for the Manitoba Telephone System for several years and married **John Nicholson** in November, 1942. She now resides in Souris, Manitoba. Her husband worked for the C.P.R. and passed away in 1971. They had one son, **Donald**, who passed away in 1968, at the age of 22. He left one daughter, **Angela**.

Lilian worked for Beaver Lumber Company until moving to Winnipeg in 1943. She married **Charles Goode** in April, 1944, and they now live in Calgary. They have one daughter, **Heather**, who lives in Regina, Saskatchewan and a son, **Ian**, who lives in Calgary. A son, **Douglas**, passed away in 1973, at the age of 18.

submitted by Mrs. Charles E. Goode (nee Lilian King)

#42-2300 Oakmoor Drive, S.W.  
Calgary, Alberta  
T2V 4N7

### Prairie Pioneers

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Kirby Sr. 1855-1944

**Mr. Kirby** was born at Scarborough, Yorkshire, England in 1855. His wife, the former **Elizabeth Richardson**, was born at Settringham, Yorkshire, England, also in 1855. They were married in England in 1876.



Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Kirby Sr.

Immigrating to Canada, they lived in a tent as Mr. Kirby worked on the building of the C.P.R. until reaching Elkhorn in 1882. They remembered well getting mail and provisions in the McLeod store which was then a tent on the village site.

Here Mr. Kirby experienced the rugged job of seeking for, and filing land claims. They first located in the DeClare district, S.E. 4-14-28 in a sod house. They recalled well in those days the pioneer thrills and near tragedies; prairie fires of great dimensions, great winds and winter storms, and searching for land over tractless wastes, where roads led to nowhere. On one occasion, he lost his way while searching for surveyor's stakes and was without food and water "nigh onto three days". He eventually came upon a party of friends who were living in their wagon box. Regardless of poverty, their home was always open to friends and strangers. Mrs. Kirby tells of the times many Indians arrived at their door, lost and practically starving. If she only had potatoes, biscuits, and a pot of tea, it was shared gladly with them. Many Indians never did forget them and faithfully supplied the boys with leather moccasins and jackets.

They had two sons, **Hugh Jr.**, born in 1884 and

**William Thomas** in 1889. They were both born on the original homestead in the DeClare district. In 1890, Hugh found land more to his liking and built a small home on 4-13-29 where he concluded his homestead duties.

Mr. and Mrs. Kirby were very successful in their agricultural operations and in 1911 they built one of the finest farm homes in the area. In later years, the farm was transferred to their son Bill upon their semi-retirement.

It was on December 18, 1941 that Mr. and Mrs. Kirby Sr. celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary, quietly, at their son's home where they were passing the evening of a long and happy life. They both enjoyed good health, keen of vision and hearing for ones of their age.

Mrs. Kirby made numerous quilts, all pieced and hand sewn for the Red Cross during the Second World War. She excelled in knitting, also taking a great interest in embroidery. Her work was beautiful indeed!

Before coming to Canada, they belonged to the Church of England, both having sung in the Church choir.

It was on August 8, 1942 that Hugh Kirby died at their residence after a short illness. He was in his 88th year. On December 12, 1944, Mrs. Kirby passed away in the Elkhorn Hospital. She was in her 90th year.

They were sadly missed, especially by the grandchildren who in their earlier lives had shared their love and home so freely with them. They left two sons, Hugh and William and nine grandchildren. They were predeceased by two infant children. They are buried in the Fleming cemetery.

submitted by Tena Armstrong

### **Hugh Kirby Jr. and Family**

**Mr. Kirby** was born in the Declare District, S.E. 4-14-28, on May 5, 1884, having the distinction of being the first white baby boy born in the district. His parents were **Hugh and Elizabeth Kirby**, new immigrants from Yorkshire, England.

He was educated in the Fleming and Moosomin schools, and farmed N.E. 8-13-29 after his marriage to **Polly (Mary) Rookes**, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Rookes of Manson District.

**Hugh John**, their eldest son, was born in 1906, **William James** in 1907, and **Harry** in 1910 at the farm home.

Polly went to her parents' home when two of her brothers had taken ill. Within weeks of each other, the three of them died of typhoid fever. Widowed, with three young sons, Mr. Kirby was sent to Winnipeg hospital, ill with typhoid fever, for treatment. His

parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Kirby Sr., took the children until they were school age or to be taken care of at home. Upon his return to health, Hugh opened an implement dealership in Fleming, Saskatchewan.

He finally married a nurse he had met in Winnipeg hospital, **Kate (Catherine) McKinnon** of Stornaway, Isle of Lewis, Scotland. They settled in their home in Fleming, Saskatchewan where **Alexander Murdock** and **George Damin** were born.

The Kirbys then moved to his original farm where **Tena Elizabeth Mary** was born. This is where Kate passed away leaving six motherless children. Hugh Jr. took the children to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Kirby Sr. Again they stayed at their grandparents' until able to resume school and go back to their father, all except the baby Tena, who was raised by her grandparents.

A housekeeper, Mrs. Mary Murray of Basswood, Manitoba and her two sons, Frank and Lorne, came to live at the farm. Hugh Kirby Jr. and **Mary Murray** were married. Once again, life was normally resumed until tragedy struck again when Mary died of cancer in 1928.

The boys now being older, Hugh packed his belongings after his marriage to **Nettie Pidlubney** of Vita, Manitoba and headed to Grande Prairie, Alberta to make a new start in life. He started a grist mill and coal business, finally going into real estate. He was a successful businessman. One daughter, **Elsie** was born to this marriage and a son, **Lorne. Jean**, their youngest, died as an infant.

Hugh and Nettie moved to Edmonton in 1955, purchasing an apartment building where they lived in retirement until Hugh's health forced them to a warmer climate. He and his wife moved to Mentone, California, U.S.A., visiting family in Canada frequently. On a visit to Grande Prairie, he passed away, August 25, 1963. He was buried from the Presbyterian Church there, in his 80th year. Leaving to mourn his loss were his widow, Nettie, six sons, two daughters, eighteen grandchildren, two step-sons, and a brother, William of Elkhorn.

John, his eldest son, married **Sadie Evans** and farmed in the McAuley district. They retired to Elkhorn where John passed away October, 1974. His widow, Sadie, still resides in Elkhorn.

John is married to **Esther (Johnson) Anderson**. They farmed the home farm until purchasing in the Manson district.

They have two daughters, **Bernette** and **Diane**. Esther has a son, Stanley by a previous marriage. They have now retired in Manson.

Harry married **Maja Johnson** and worked as a machinist for many years in Winnipeg. They have a son, **Wayne** and a daughter, **Joan**. They moved to

Elkhorn upon retirement. Harry passed away in May, 1978. His widow, Maja still resides in their home in Elkhorn.

Alex married **Cass Walker**. He worked many years in the mining industry; more recently, they had a grocery store in Gladstone, Manitoba, moving to Elkhorn upon his retirement. They have two sons, **Larry** and **Raymond**.

George is married to **Edna Cook** and farmed for many years on the family farm. He has three daughters, **Maxine, Janice, Cathy**, and a son **Ron** by a previous marriage to **Winnifred (Gunn) Kirby**. They have retired to Hamiota, Manitoba.

Tena married **John Armstrong** who was Elkhorn's Postmaster for almost thirty years. They have two sons, **Gerald and Garth**. John passed away in December, 1979. Tena has a son, **Denys** and a daughter, **Betty** by a previous marriage to the late **Earnest Turner**. She resides in their home in Elkhorn.

Elsie is married to **Bill Triggs**, now living in New Westminster, B.C. Elsie has two daughters, **Gail** and **Jean** by a previous marriage to **Ross Tissington**.

Lorne and his wife, **Joan** live in Cape Coral, Florida, U.S.A. where he is in the contracting and construction business. They have two sons, **Lynne** and **Brian**.

submitted by Tena Armstrong

### **Sadie and John Kirby**

**Sadie Kirby** was born in 1913, the daughter of **Hugh** and **Ethel Evans**. She was born on the farm at McAuley, the family consisting of two sisters and a brother. Sadie received her education at McAuley. She particularly enjoys participating in such sports as curling and softball. Sadie married **John Kirby** of the Manson district. They farmed in the "Green Hills" district for thirty-four years. They retired to Elkhorn in 1973 and took up residence in the former "Noble house" on main street.

John Kirby was born in 1906 the son of **Hugh** and **Polly Kirby** of the Manson district. His entire life was associated with farming. He passed away in 1974.

Sadie enjoys her retirement. She participates in Senior Citizen work, her Church, and visiting with her neighbours and relatives.

submitted by Margaret Allison

### **Alex and Cass Kirby**

**Alex Kirby** married **Cass Walker** on August 5, 1936. We spent the first winter on Dad's (Frank Walker's) farm, sec. 24-11-29. Jack Turner and his family lived on the S.E. quarter of the same section, so we exchanged a lot of visits with them that winter.

In the spring of 1937 Alex and his brother-in-law, Ernie Turner, rode the rails north to Flin Flon in search of work. Ernie's parents, the Gordon Turners, were up there at that time. Tena and I (with my baby son **Larry**) left in late April for Flin Flon, travelling by train to Brandon, bus to Neepawa, then train for the rest of the way. We met many interesting people on that trip and everybody was so kind to us. Excursion fares at that time were \$10.00 return from Winnipeg, so a lot of people travelled that way. Our second son, **Raymond**, was born on Dec. 24, 1938 in the Company Hospital in Flin Flon. Alex worked as an electrician for the H.B.M. & S. Co., until he joined up for service in the Navy in 1942. We spent the next three years on the west coast before returning to Flin Flon after the war was over. Alex went back to work for the same company until March, 1957, when he left to go to work for Dennison Mines in Elliot Lake, Ont. Larry stayed in Flin Flon on an Electrical Apprenticeship course with the H.B.M. & S. Co., and still works for them but at Snow Lake, Man.

We spent the next nine years in Elliot Lake before moving to Esterhazy, Sask. in 1966. Alex wanted to get out of the mines so we started to look around for something different to do. We finally bought a grocery store in May, 1969 at Gladstone, Man. which we operated until we sold it in 1978. We already had our house here in Elkhorn so we moved in that May.

Larry is married with two children — **Wanda** who is attending U of M in Winnipeg at present, but who has been known for her prowess in Junior curling, winning the Manitoba Championship in 1979. Their son **Allan** was born on Feb. 27, 1965 and is still attending school.

Raymond is still unmarried and works and lives in Victoria, B.C. His home makes an ideal place for us to steal away to when we want to get away from our cold prairie winters.

submitted by Alex and Cass Kirby

### Edgar Kirk

**Edgar Kirk** came to Elkhorn from Kirkton, Ontario, a very young boy, with his parents **Mr. and Mrs. Joe Kirk**. He had five sisters (**Leah**) J. Turner, (**Sadie**) F. Judd, (**Verna**) H. Middleton, (**Clarice**) G. Seens, (**Norma**) L. Wiggins. He passed away and she remarried **Dewey Hanson**. Edgar had two brothers, **Lewis**, a bachelor, and **Maurice** who is married and his family lives in Vancouver. Edgar is the only one left in his family. Edgar's father farmed on Roy Watson's farm; when his father died they sold the farm and moved to Elkhorn with his mother. Lewis and Maurice were overseas in the First World War. Edgar worked for Fred Hall for a number of years. In 1930 Edgar married **Bella Hutchison**, Dave Hutchi-



Edgar and Bella Kirk's 50th anniversary, 1980.

son's daughter. She lived at Two Creeks for a long time, till her parents went to Fleming, then Calgary. Edgar and Bella farmed at Kirkella for a number of years, then sold and moved to Elkhorn for a while and then settled in Brandon.

They have one daughter (**Leah**), married **Geordie Wakefield**, and they have two girls **Dianne** and **Kelly**.

Edgar and Bella celebrated their 50th Anniversary last October 24, 1980.

submitted by Bella Kirk

### Klievers Then — Klievers Now

Frank Kliever came to Canada from Russia at the age of eight with his parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Kliever. They left Russia in June, 1926.

They sailed from Donskay, Russia with just their few personal belongings on the ship "Montrose." They landed in Southampton in August, 1926. They then changed to a ship called "The Empress of Scotland" and sailed to Canada.

They encountered many difficulties as none of the family could speak English and they had only seventy-five dollars in their pockets. They were all very sick on the long trip over and had to stop many times for icebergs blocked their way.

Frank had one older sister and three younger brothers, the youngest being six months old. One other sister was born in Canada.

After they arrived in Quebec, they took the train to Winnipeg, where Mr. Kliever tried to find work to feed his young family. Work was very scarce and wages were very poor. Then they moved to Winkler where Mr. Kliever worked for a farmer driving a grain wagon. He made four dollars a day. After harvest was over, they moved on to Alexander and later to Elkhorn where most of the family now reside.

The following year they took up farming eight

miles north east of Elkhorn where Earl Smith now resides. Mr. Kliever passed away after a lengthy illness in 1935. The family then moved to a farm in the Victor district. Tragedy struck again as their brother George passed away in 1937 at the age of seventeen from an appendicitis operation. They farmed there until 1943 and then moved to the Milroy farm south of Elkhorn. Mrs. Kliever passed away in 1954.



L-R Back row: Annie, Frank, George. Middle row: Mrs. Annie Kliever, Dave, Mr. Henry Kliever, Jake. In front: Elsie.



L-R Back row: Frank, Annie, Eileen, Dennis. Front row: Ken, Rod.

**Frank**, the eldest son, started farming on his own one and a half miles south of Elkhorn. There he married **Annie**, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. J. Bickerton**.

Frank and Annie raised a family of four — one daughter and three sons.

**Eileen** obtained her education in Elkhorn and when she finished grade twelve she worked in the telephone office until 1966. After her marriage, she moved to Brandon and worked for the telephone company there until 1969. Eileen and her two children, Terri and Brock, live in Brandon where Eileen now works for the Westbourne Company.

**Dennis** and his wife **Janice**, daughter of Alf and Margaret Twigg, were married in Elkhorn in 1975. They both received their education in Elkhorn School. They have one daughter, Colleen. They bought the old Leach farm south of Elkhorn where they now reside.

**Ken** and his wife **Wanda Rae**, daughter of Ed and Margaret Martin were both born and raised in the Elkhorn district. They received their education at Elkhorn and both attended Brandon University. They were married in 1977. Ken bought the Alf Heritage farm in 1975 where they now reside. They have one son, Kirk.

**Rodney**, the youngest, was also born and raised in the Elkhorn district. After grade twelve he attended the Assiniboine College in Brandon, taking a course in carpentering. He worked as a carpenter in Brandon for a year and then decided to go back home to farm. This year he bought the old Ab Bickerton farm south of Elkhorn.

submitted by Mrs. Frank Kliever

**Dave** attended Victor school where he finished his grade eight. During his school years he was an active softball pitcher. He also loved music and played the harmonica well enough that his elder brother George asked him to accompany him at school concerts.



Calf Club — Dave Kliever with his silver cup winner.

Because his father passed away several years before, his help was much in demand on the family farm. He loved working with cattle and so he joined the calf club, showing calves for a few years. One year he was fortunate to win the "silver cup" which made him "king" for a year!

In his leisure time he played with the Buckingham Stubble Jumpers who played at the Elkhorn annual fair, etc.

There were times when work and pleasure were upset with runaway horses. This caused a lot of excitement and often ended with bruised knees and sore muscles. Other times the horses were obedient enough but the winter roads were poor, causing big loads of hay to upset. Reloading wasn't much fun especially when everything was cleaned up and loaded, the journey was resumed and the same thing repeated itself — that was either exasperating or humorous.

Getting our first car, a 1926 Ford Model T, was a thrilling experience to say the least. To start it we had to be sure the coils were buzzing with the right tone. In cold weather, if we jacked one wheel up, it would start easier with the crank. Thirty miles per hour was the fastest she could go.

Dave was also part and parcel of a threshing gang who would travel from one place to another of its members and harvest the crops. In later years, these old threshing outfits were replaced by tractors and self-propelled combines. When the work became easier and faster, Dave acquired more land and eventually sold his cattle.

Dave was a member of the Trinity United Church for a number of years where he was active in singing in the choir.

In 1957, he transferred his membership to the Kola Evangelical Mennonite Church. Here he was a member of a male quartet, sang in a male chorus, and other musical groups.

During this time he attended the S.B.C. for one year before he married **Esther Loewen** from Morris, Manitoba. The wedding took place at Rosenort on May 21, 1961.

He and his wife sang duets and served at many functions and outreach programs in this capacity. Three children were born to them, **Blaine** in 1962, **Boyd** in 1964, and **Darlene** in 1967. As the children grew, it was obvious they enjoyed music so they all learned to play band instruments. This gave us a real pleasure to serve the Lord with our family.

In 1980, Blaine graduated from high school winning a hundred dollar science award. He is at present employed as a carpenter and plans to attend Winnipeg Bible College this fall. He is an active badminton and volleyball player and enjoys pitching on the baseball team.

Boyd, in grade 11, is a member of the Elkhorn Midget hockey team and loves every minute on the ice. He also performed well on the mound last year for the baseball team, and enjoys sports of almost any kind.

Darlene, in grade 8, is taking piano lessons, sings in a girls' group at church and makes up the third voice in a trio with her mom and dad. She is also an avid sports lover and plays softball and badminton.

submitted by Dave and Esther Kliever

## The Ernest Koop Family

**Emily Riediger** from Chilliwack, B.C., came to work at the Elkhorn Medical Nursing Unit in May of 1962. The name Elkhorn, was unheard of to Emily until just months prior to this time, when a classmate from nurses training decided to come to this place to work. The classmate became very lonely, and begged Emily to join her. Possible plans were to stay for awhile — maybe four months — and then join other classmates to work elsewhere. However, shortly after her arrival, Emily met up with **Ernest Koop** of Landmark, Manitoba, who was driving cat for a relative in the Maryfield, Saskatchewan area.

Emily's parents were unaware of the motorcycle accident in which Ernest and Emily were involved, and various other episodes. For Emily to come home, flashing a diamond, when the family hadn't even met the man, was also a little unusual. However, in December of 1963, members of the Koop family motored out to Chilliwack, B.C. to attend the wedding of their son and brother.

Ernest and Emily lived southwest of Elkhorn for approximately one and a half years. Ernest carpentered, while Emily continued to work at the Elkhorn Hospital. During this time, their first child, **Anthony**, was born.

In 1965, the Kooops moved to Wawota, Saskatchewan for a short time. During this time, a trip to B.C. was made, and while there, plans were made to move to that province. Ernest had a carpentry job lined up, and the Riedigers were awaiting the arrival of the Kooops, who had gone back to Manitoba to prepare for the move. The day prior to their departure for B.C., with various good-byes having been said, etc., the Kooops became aware of a house being for sale in Elkhorn. At approximately eleven p.m. that night, Ernest and Emily, along with some relatives, drove into Elkhorn, looked at the house, phoned back to B.C., and bought the house. Instead of hauling the U-haul trailer to B.C., it was unpacked in Elkhorn.

In 1967 Ernest and Emily's second child, **Suzanne**, was born.

In 1968, Ernest decided to "hit the books" again. He completed his high school training, and went on



to take teacher's training at the Brandon University. He taught in Elkhorn for a few years, and then was transferred to the Kola School, where he is still employed at the present time.

**Sidney**, the third child, was born in 1973. As the family increased, the house in town became too small, and a move — approximately five miles southwest of Elkhorn — was made.

Emily is still working at the Elkhorn Hospital, although only on a part-time basis.

The Koop children attend the Elkhorn School.  
submitted by Emily and Ernest Koop

### **Cliff and Bert Kyle**

Cliff and I came to Elkhorn in April, 1968 from Virden, where we had spent the winter. We bought the Creemee from Roy Snyder and operated it for five years before selling it. In 1969 we rented the Esso Cafe from Bob Loucks. We ran the Cafe for five years. Many daily coffee breaks were had with Mark Cousins, Cliff Clarke, the late Jean Canart, Doc Hennan and others. Cliff also drove a school bus for Fort La Bosse and is presently one of the custodians for Elkhorn School.

Our family is all interested in various sports and activities, mainly hockey and horses. The boys took part in the gymkhanas with the horses, and all have played hockey. Cliff coaches the Elkhorn Girls Bomberettes and they have won their share of the league playoffs and tournaments; he also helps manage the Elkhorn Canadians. They too, have won their leagues, both North Central and South West Hockey League in the past years.

Cliff was president of the Agricultural Society for two years and is now a director; he is also a member of the community centre board.

We have 4 children:

**Norman**, born August, 1957, is now farming near Hargrave. He has worked for T. Stenhouse, D. G. Bartley's Solo Store, and then went out west to work on a ranch for a few months. After his return he started to work for D. Gallinger, where he got into farming. He enjoys hockey, curling and horses.

**Dennis**, born in June, 1959 is now residing in Brandon. He worked for T. Stenhouse in the Gulf, Art's Tire Shop, Acklands in Brandon, a ranch in Magrath, Alberta, was caretaker of the skating rink for one winter and is now employed by Manco of Brandon. He takes part in many sports, mainly hockey and ball.

**Brenda**, born July, 1965 takes part in most school sports, girls' hockey, and does various other hobbies. She worked for Agnes Bickerton in the Elkhorn Flower Shop and is now presently employed by D. G. Bartley's.

**Michael**, born July, 1975 is in Grade one, and he, too, is very active in sports. He plays T-Ball, hockey, and tries to ride horses. He spends a lot of time at the Shackels and believes in keeping everyone on his toes.

submitted by Bert Kyle

### **Albert Edward and Margaret Ann Lamb**

**Ned** and **Margaret** came from Cumberland, England arriving in Brandon in 1912. They had three children — **Ted** and **Gladys** and a second daughter **Dorothy**, born in 1913. Ned and Margaret started out by working for Donald McKenzie at Arrow River, later moving on to the Glen-Locker District. Living conditions left much to be desired compared to back home in England. Being hired help, living in granaries in which mosquitoes and flies plagued you in the summer and the frost in the winter, was nearly unbearable. After many years spent working out Ned and Margaret moved to the "Tinline" farm two miles east of Elkhorn. They retired to live in Elkhorn in the 1940's. Margaret Ann passed away in 1950 and Ned passed away in 1964.

Ted married **Kathleen Veldhuis** in 1928. Gladys married **Art Dore** of Regina. She remarried after his death and is now **Mrs. Ed Blake** of New Westminster British Columbia.

Dorothy married **Elmer Swan** and they live in Winnipeg.

submitted by Margaret Allison

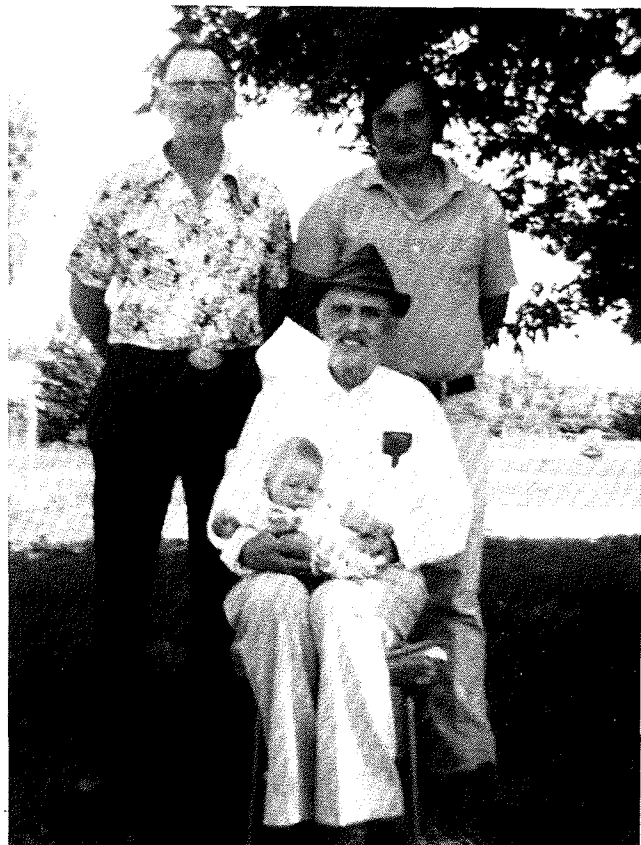
### **George (Ted) and Kathleen Lamb**

**Ted** was born in 1905 at Wigton, Cumberland, England, the only son of **Albert** and **Margaret Ann Lamb**. They, along with sister **Gladys**, immigrated to Canada in 1912. A sister, **Dorothy**, was born in



Ted and Kathleen Lamb, 1950.

1913. They started out living at Arrow River, moving on to the Glen-Locker District. Ted's schooling was taken at Glen-Locker, West Two Creeks, Virden and Hargrave. When he finished school he worked at home and on the C.P.R. tracks for three summers at Hargrave. Then in 1926 Ted went "West" to the Taber area, hauling coal for the farmers. In 1928 Ted married **Kathleen Veldhuis** at Moose Jaw, returning to live in Manitoba in 1933. Kathleen Sophia Veldhuis was born at Manor, Saskatchewan, the oldest child of Dutch immigrants. Times were very difficult and at an early age Kathleen had to leave home and work out. She came to Manitoba to keep house for her two brothers, George and Harry at Hargrave. After a couple of years she returned to Alberta. After their marriage, Ted and Kathleen worked out for a few years and then started farming in the Burnbank and York districts. They lived on 19-12-27 in the York district for twenty years and retired to Elkhorn in 1964. Kathleen had a great love of flowers and took much pleasure from her garden and yard. She planted evergreens both on the farm and in town which have grown into beautiful trees. Kathleen passed away in 1973. Ted is still living in his own home in Elkhorn and managing well at the present time.



Four Generations. Standing: Jim, Keith. Seated: Ted Lamb holding Nolan.

Ted and Kathleen had three children. **James**, born in 1929, married Marie Mytton of Lacombe, Alberta and is a diesel mechanic. They have three children and live at Red Deer, Alberta. **Margaret**, born in 1935, married Robert Allison and they have two children. **Donnie** born in 1942 married Sharon Wolcott of Dodsland, Saskatchewan. They have three daughters. They live at Sherwood Park, Alberta. Donnie has a drill collar inspection business.

submitted by Margaret Allison

### Mr. and Mrs. Charles Leach

**Mr. Charles Leach** came to Elkhorn in 1906 from Smith Falls, Ontario on a harvest excursion. He liked Elkhorn so well that he bought a farm there. He returned to Smith Falls, and the next year Mr. Leach, his wife **Catherine** and their family returned to Elkhorn. They brought all their belongings in a box car — horses, furniture, lumber, etc. Their farm was three miles south and one mile east of Elkhorn. They had very old buildings. In 1912 they built a new house, and in 1919 they built a new barn. The children all attended Buckingham School where Mr. Leach was Secretary-Treasurer for many years until his death in 1924 at the early age of fifty-eight. Mrs. Leach and her son **Milburn** stayed on the farm until 1934, when Mrs. Leach spent a well-deserved holiday with **Clifton** and his family in Regina. In 1935, Mrs. Leach and **Gladys** visited **Myrtle** in Victoria. It was there that Mrs. Leach caught pneumonia. She passed away in the Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria at the age of seventy. **Milburn** and Jean stayed on the farm and raised their family there. In 1973 they sold the farm and retired to Regina where they were close to their family.

Mr. and Mrs. Leach had nine children, of which two died in infancy. **Ethel** was the oldest. She was born in Smith Falls in 1896. In 1919 she married Richard Watson, and they farmed in the Two Creeks District. Dick passed away in 1956, following their retirement in Virden. They had three children, **Roy**, **Bill** and **Dorothy**. Roy married Doreen Dixon in 1953 and they farmed the homestead until 1979 when their son **Lyle** took over. Lyle married Dorinda Stamford in 1979. Their second and younger son, **Kevin** is still living at home in Elkhorn. Bill married Grace Collier in 1959 and they still farm in the Elkhorn District. They have three children. **Brenda** married Vance McColl and now lives in Vancouver. **Donna** is nursing in Deloraine and **Gary** farms with his father. Dorothy married Garnet Effler in 1952. They reside in Virden and have two children. **Neil** married Colleen Gray in 1975. They reside in Brandon and have two children, **Marcia** and **Ross**. **Gail** married Den-

nis Mallaire in 1979. They live at St. Lazare and they have one daughter, **Anathale-Lee**.

**Cora** was born in Smith Falls in 1898. She married Charles Stoneham in 1918 and farmed in the Elkhorn District. They had one son, **Clayton**. Following her divorce, she married Jack Heidebrecht in 1953 and lived in Regina. Jack and Cora passed away in 1955 and 1958 respectively.

**Jessie** was born in Smith Falls in 1900. She passed away in 1921, due to heart problems.

Clifton was born in Smith Falls in 1902. He married Doris Staniland in 1927. They moved to Regina and Clifton joined the City Police Force where he worked for thirty-three years. He retired in 1962. They have three children, **Gwen**, **Charlie** and **Robert**. Gwen married Bill Gottschall in 1952. They have two children, **David** and **Karen**. David married Cindy Tennant in 1977. They reside in Yorkton and have one daughter, **Teresa**. Karen married David Schurko in 1980, and they reside in Regina. Charlie married Marian Kempton in 1954. They have four children. **Donna** lives in Regina, **Lois** was married to Louis Megaw in 1975. They live in Swift Current and have two children, **David** and **Wendy**. **Janice** married Guy Craig in 1975. They live in Saskatoon and have one daughter, **Elizabeth**. **Kenneth** married Pamela Sidaway in 1980 and they have one daughter, **Jennifer**. Bob married Meika Weiss in 1964. They had one daughter, **Deanna**. He later married Wendy Large in 1970, and they have three children, **Tim**, **Terry** and **Sandy**. Tim is married and has a son and daughter, **Scott** and **Kristy**. Terry and Sandy live at home in Calgary.

Myrtle was born in 1905 in Smith Falls. She married Cyril Holloway in 1931 and they lived in Victoria, until her death in 1941. Cyril has since passed on.

Milburn was born in Elkhorn in 1909. He married Jean Snyder in 1934 and they had three sons. **Clarence** married Olga Prokopyshyn in 1959. They have two children, **Norman** and **Sheila**, who still live at home in Weyburn. **Gordon** married Ann Locke in 1960; their three children, **Carol**, **Jeanette** and **Wendy** are still living at home in Regina. **Arnold** married Janet Priems in 1971. They live in Hamilton, and have four children, **Scott**, **Andrew**, **Patrick** and **Robin**, all living at home. Jean died in 1979.

Gladys was born in 1911 at Elkhorn. She went to Regina in 1931 and in 1938 married William Farrow. They have two children, **Warren** and **Linda**. Warren married Darlene Sveinbjorson in 1965. They live in Regina and have two children, **Decklyn** and **Darcy**. Linda married Lorne Lichtenwold in 1975. They have two children, **Chris** and **Kylie**, and their home is in Regina.

submitted by Gladys Farrow and Gordon Leach

## Robert and Ella Leach

**Robert James Leach** came from Smith Falls, Ontario to Manitoba in 1902 with his brothers, Charlie and George, together with their settlers' effects in a C.P.R. boxcar. His brothers were both married and while they were becoming settled Bob worked for a season at Treherne, then joined the rest at Elkhorn. **Mary Ellen Davis** of Brockville, Ontario arrived in Winnipeg in December of 1906, and there she and Bob were married in Elim Chapel — they had not seen each other for three long years! From then on they were part of the Elkhorn community for some sixty years.

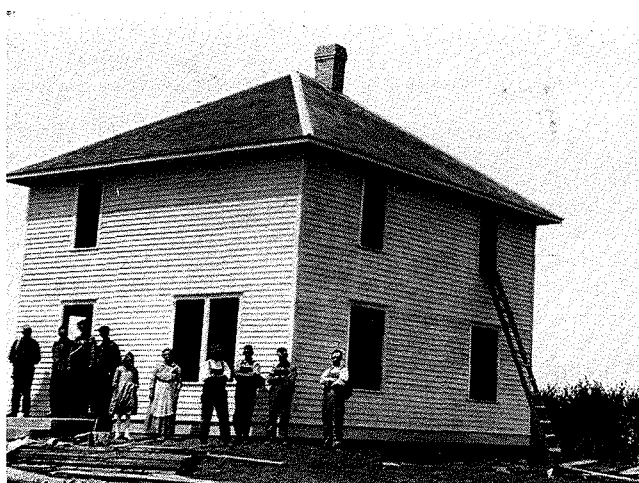


Mr. and Mrs. Leach.

Their first home was south of Elkhorn on 22-11-28, then they moved to what was known as the "Stone House Place" east of town and adjoining the R. Rodger's farm. There Beulah was born in 1910. Soon they moved to N.E. 26-11-28 and gradually they built "Glen-Buell Farm", named for Mrs. Leach's local district in Ontario. The "old" house was the typical frame house comprised of summer kitchen, living room (which became a kitchen in winter) and two small bedrooms. The first major improvement to the frame structure came about 1916

when they purchased a livery barn from Dick Boyce for \$600.00. Because it could not be moved in one piece (over ninety feet long) a carpenter, Ed Parsons, hand sawed it in half while the helpers ate noon dinner, and then the neighbours hitched on teams to move it the three miles.

There was some difficulty making the turn at the United Church corner and half the barn had to stay on the street over Sunday — much to the disgust of church goers. The two halves were joined again on a foundation and today, almost seventy years later, it still stands with a straight roof on the big loft. In 1920 the house was built by contractor, Cecil Balkwell for



House built in 1924 for \$2,500.

\$2,500.00. In 1924 Beryl was born there with Dr. Johnston and midwife Mrs. Scotney attending. The Leaches were mixed farmers and for many years they had a fine dairy herd, an operation which kept things going during the 1930's even though they sold butter for 15¢ a pound. Poultry and vegetables were also marketed and the buggy was usually full to capacity on trips to town. Their generosity must have been appreciated by many less fortunate than themselves for there was many a food box sent from the home. Produce was entered into competition at local fairs and Mrs. Leach had her share of prizes for baking, sewing, butter, etc, and, of course her houseplants were outstanding.

Mrs. Leach was often ill and in times of stress there was such a spirit of sharing and caring among neighbours. Women came to clean the old house and Beulah remembers the big spice cakes someone used to bring and how the cake was wrapped in a clean tea towel and kept in a cupboard. She writes:

“The Leaches were members of the Anglican Church. Mother belonged to the W.A. and was leader of the Little Helpers and Dad was a member of the

vestry. Money was always scarce it seemed, and I recall Mr. R. H. Brotherhood (bank manager) came to our place to see if we could increase our weekly donation of 25¢. Another time Bishop Thomas of Brandon came to announce that we were to have a new minister. There had been several newly married ones previously, but this time he was sending ‘a man with two sets of twins and an odd one’. This minister’s good wife was so busy with her family that she did not always attend services but at Easter someone offered to keep the children so off she went in her blue suit with a dime in her pocket for the offering. After the service her husband came home very disturbed because someone had put a button on the collection plate and he took this as a personal insult. His wife thought for a minute then went to her suit and sure enough — there was the dime. Then they worried about who might have seen her do such a thing!

I should also mention the interest shown by the community in the farming activities of Sir James Aikins, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba. In 1916 he bought some parcels of land in the Elkhorn area and one section joined ours to the east. A crew of men came to do the fencing and buildings, and it was a novelty to me that they had a Chinese cook.

They all lived in tents while the buildings were being built — they are still standing on 25-11-28. Mr. Aikins was affectionately called “Jam” by the men because those letters were his initials. When he was preparing to bring his wife and two daughters from Winnipeg to see the farms, the cook was very excited about the visit and told my Dad that “Jam and Jelly and two little Marmalades” were coming. The first operators were George Banner and family. George was a shepherd from England and it was intended that Aikins would raise sheep in large numbers but it took only a couple of years for the coyotes to change that decision. I think there were three Aikins farms in all — Nicholsons, Balmers, Millars, Wilsons, and Nylins were some of the operators who were our neighbours, and the farm was noted for its Black Aberdeen Angus cattle.”

In 1959 the Leaches retired to Elkhorn and the farm was taken over by Beryl and Scotty Jackson in 1961 after a two year gap when it was rented. Lorraine and Mervin Scott now own the home quarter.

When the Sherwood Home opened in Virden the Leaches were among its first residents and it was there that they celebrated their 60th and later their 65th Wedding Anniversary. Mrs. Leach died at age eighty-nine years in 1971 and Mr. Leach lived at West-Man Nursing Home to celebrate his 101st birthday before this gentle man passed away in May, 1976. Beryl writes:

"The contribution to the community by people like my parents may not have been spectacular but it was genuine. They lived useful, productive lives in spite of many hardships and though their horizons were not as broad as ours today, they appreciated the freedoms that prevailed in those days and there was always an abundance of hope and faith in themselves and in the farming industry. When crops failed there was no crop insurance, neither was there Medicare, Canada Pension, or Unemployment Insurance. Maybe there were no guarantees but there were no Income Taxes or government loans to pay back and no television advertisements were needed to remind you to "Walk-a-block". The perimeters of life were within the small community, and problems were solved at the source by oneself and good neighbours.

Some memories I have can only be jottings here but I remember so vividly.

— My mum's super meals! Great crocks of fried down pork, wild strawberries, Ontario maple syrup in 5 gallon cans, biscuits and fresh honey, goose and wild duck dinners, cream puffs (with real cream) and Parkerhouse rolls that were so good to look at you hated for one small moment to take a bite.

— The anticipation of Field Day, for it was the most important day of the whole year, with Fair Day and the Church picnic at Noble's Camp being close seconds.

— The radio, and how valued it was for entertainment. Neighbours used to come to listen — first on earphone sets — to boxing matches and I didn't get a chance at that!

But there was "Uncle Peter" who gave hints on where to look for your birthday present, and Amos and Andy, and Little Sammy Slingin-hammer and Ma Perkins and a whole chain of soap operas. A major tragedy in the family was a dead battery in the radio. We had a de Forrest Crosley that required the 6 volt car battery, 3 "B" batteries and 2 "C" batteries.

— The hatred I had for the goose grease treatment for chest cold, and sulphur and molasses for whatever it was supposed to do to you in the spring.

— All the kids from Miss Davis's room running to McLeod's field to see their first airplane on the ground.

— Sitting on our front step on summer evenings counting the "ho-bos" riding on top of the freight trains — usually well over a hundred. Come to think of it the C.P.R. provided much interest for us because I remember seeing a silk train, and we never missed the two colorful trains it took to move Brandon Fair midway, and if you were close you could even see the animals. There was always a danger of grass fires set by the sparks from the steam engine. Our quarter was burned off twice, in spite of the ploughed fireguards,

and we had to fight the fires with wet gunnysacks. Also you could always tell by the sound of the whistle if there were cattle on the track.

— My fear of encountering lizards in the underground ice house and worse still, having to take shelter there more than once when the dreaded tornado storms came.

— Good times at school! What sacrifices parents made so that the family could be educated as much as possible. I can hardly believe it when I recall there were no more than a dozen books in our home. None of them were interesting — one was a review of the battles of the World War I and another was "Inside of the Cup" by Winston Churchill — not exciting! But I read Eatons and Simpsons catalogues by the hour and knew almost every item on every page. When a new catalogue came it was just fantastic because I got the old one to use for cut-out dolls and clothes.

— The pesky house flies in the summer with the constant battle of fly stickers, Wilson's fly pads (they made a poison drink for the beasts), fly swatters, fly spray made with kerosene and pyrethrum powder and the oft-repeated "close the screen door!"

— The gypsies and the Indians who came a couple of times a year peddling wares. I was scared to death of such wanderers because of tales told about them stealing kids, and so I felt much relieved when they were well out of sight.

This all seems like eons of years ago but memories come flooding back to be recorded in this book to remind us how much we really owe the pioneers like the Leaches, Sipleys, Jacksons, Montgomerys, Waines, Rodgers, McLeods, Watsons, Clarksons, Heritages, Abletts, Gallingers, and my parents' good friends — The George Harrys — to say nothing of the whole generation who came here before 1900. The stories of this history may sound as if there was a certain glamour to that early way of life but I feel sure those people who lived it were not the least aware of that sensation. Their accomplishments under adversity, and subject to the whims of weather and markets, and the fact that they "stuck to it" in bringing a raw country to productivity deserves our humble attention in this centennial celebration. Even in the face of discouragement there never seemed to be an attitude of "not caring" for I remember distinctly how sensitive and conscious people were about individual and community needs during the trying time of the 1930's.

We can now make no repayment nor reward — only remember them and honour and respect their memory — and be evermindful of our rich inheritance."

**Beulah** is Mrs. Chas. Pepper, living at

Spillimacheen, B.C. She and Charlie have eight children, all of them in B.C.

**Beryl and Scotty Jackson** live in Virden. Their daughter, **Gloria** is Mrs. R. McKinnon of Penticton, B.C. She and Bob have four children, Liza, Scott, Brock and Tara. Their son, **Stanley** married Sheena Keil of Scotland in March, 1981 and they have recently moved to Calgary from Malta where Stan has lived for the past five years while employed in the oil fields on the Sahara Desert of Libya. So Sheena is a 1981 immigrant to western Canada — what a contrast is her lifestyle to those brides who came one hundred years ago!

submitted by Beulah Pepper and Beryl Jackson

### The Lemon Family — Journey to Yesterday

The first of the Lemon family to reside in Elkhorn, Manitoba, was **Donald Stewart**. He was born in Fleming, Saskatchewan, on December 8, 1899. His father **James Lemon** came to Canada in the fall of 1882 with his parents, **Mr. and Mrs. William Lemon**, two brothers and one sister. They came from County Antrim, Northern Ireland. William Lemon had made several trips to Canada prior to this as Customs Officer on the ships. He liked what he had seen and heard about Canada so brought his family here to live. Their homestead was the N.E. ¼, Section 2, Township 12, Range 31 West of the 1st Meridian.

James Lemon married **Flora McGregor** in 1897. Her family were of Highland Scottish descent and came from Whycomagh, Cape Breton. James was a quiet man with quite a little of the Irish wit and was a good neighbor and friend.

One day his wife said to him, "Jim, I wish you would go out and kill the brown rooster." And he said, "What for?" "Well," she said, "I want to have chicken for dinner tomorrow. You know it's our wedding anniversary." James said, "Why should I kill him? It wasn't his fault." (We had many laughs over that little quip.)

Donald Stewart lived in Fleming until he was eight years of age so started school there. Then the family moved to the Lemon homestead and the Senior Lemons moved to Fleming. Donald then went to the Fairfield district school with his younger brothers and sisters.

Don was always mechanically inclined. So, when he was sixteen years old in 1916, he went to Elkhorn and worked for Mr. Louis Parsons at the garage. There he worked in the summer season and went home to help with the harvest in the fall. He gradually got into mechanics permanently and later worked for Mr. Frank Walker.



Don and Clarissa Lemon with daughter Lois.

The family belonged to the Presbyterian church in Fleming. Don's father was quite interested in sports and played baseball. Don played baseball with the Fairfield team later on and was an avid hockey fan as Elkhorn always had a fine team.

On May 6, 1929, Don and I were married in the United Church manse in Virden by Reverend Douglas H. Telfer in the presence of our immediate families. We spent 38 years together. He died July 21, 1967 in Vancouver, British Columbia. We lived in Elkhorn and made many very good friends. I joined the United Church and assisted in the Sunday School. My class was the boys from 10-12 years old and we held our class in the choir room. At times, we may have disturbed the sermon going on in the body of the church.

Don operated Mr. Walker's garage business that first year as Mr. Walker had a job as commercial traveller.

Then came the 1929 Financial Crash and everything seemed to fall apart. We were pretty well into

the Depression of the Dirty Thirties as it is now known. There would be the odd tractor or car to fix, but the Bennett Buggies took over, they, of course, being horse-drawn affairs.

In the winters Don drove Dr. Johnston's snow plane and they travelled all over the district night or day. I could always hear them coming from quite a distance, so could get the fire going and the kettle boiling. Very often Nurse Dorothea Hennan was with them. They had long cold trips and often there were a few frostbites.

In those days dollars were really scarce. I used to make little dresses for Lois from odds and ends, and make-overs. One year she needed a new coat, having out-grown hers. I washed and cut up an old one, but had no pattern her size. So we walked over to see Mrs. T. Lasek, who was a wonderful seamstress. She just took Lois' measurements and cut a pattern for us. The coat turned out perfect. I always think of Mrs. Lasek as the kindest of ladies, and I loved her for helping me out. I'm sure that is the way we got through those trying years, just by helping each other.

With money such a scarce commodity, we had to watch our grocery bills. Milner Reid came into town one night with a lot of onions in his truck. Don bought 50 pounds at 2 cents a pound. So we lived on onion and potato soup that winter. Needless to say, we have never made or liked onion soup since. Another time Milner brought a lot of frozen fish and we bought a bag of those at 4 cents per pound, and that helped to get us through another winter.

One remarkable thing of the depression was that wild fruit seemed to thrive. We could go out to the Pipestone Creek and pick raspberries, pin cherries, chokecherries, and high bush cranberries so we always had preserves. I was raised at the Pipestone and knew where to find the best patches on our old farm at McCormick's bridge.

One of the exciting nights in Elkhorn was when Mr. Earl's Trading Company store burned to the ground. We just had to stand and watch it burn. It was a great loss for the town.

A short time after the fire we had a pleasant surprise. A large van moved into town. It was Mr. George Bartley moving into town and another general store on the way, something we really needed as most of us were immobile and could not drive to Virden or Brandon to shop.

Now Mr. and Mrs. Bartley are gone to their reward, but some of the family still carry on the business of both general and grocery stores. They are a great asset to the village.

When the weather changed and the rains came, the second war was on the way. We had lived through

one war already and it was a horror for us all, but we had to get busy and keep the home fires burning.

One person I will never forget was Miss Long from the Industrial School at Elkhorn. There was a Red Cross Nursing Class formed through the Extension Service of Brandon College. Miss Long instructed us in the classes. She had quite a large class and kept us all very eager to carry on with it. A very kind and understanding teacher she was. I'm sure we have all made the best use of that winter's study; I know I have made good use of it through the years.

In 1939, Don enlisted in the army and served until 1941, when he was discharged owing to ill health. After recuperating for a few months, he went to work for Mr. E. Gibbs.

When the war started we formed a Red Cross Society in town and we were really kept busy. There were a great many who worked very hard both in the country and in town. I was work convenor and kept supplies in our house. Many a large package was shipped away to Headquarters. Everyone did his best.

In February, 1943, Don went to Vancouver where he had a job as mechanic offered him. Lois and I followed him in March, 1943. We left Elkhorn with an ache in our hearts, but very anxious to make a fresh start.

Don worked at his trade until October, 1960, when his health broke down. He was active in the Canadian Legion for the remainder of his life.

Lois graduated from Kitsilano High School and worked in an insurance office for several years, marrying **Alan Benton** in 1954. They have two children. **Dawn** is 20 years of age and in her second year in Florida State University, taking languages. She hopes to be an interpreter. **Bruce** is 17 years of age and in his 12th grade in Atlanta, Georgia.

Lois now is manager of a ladies' wear store in Atlanta and has a staff of 45 people, so is kept very busy.

I am now living in Medicine Hat, Alberta with my younger brother Syd McCormick. We love to visit Elkhorn whenever possible.

submitted by Clarissa Lemon

## **James Leonard**

**James Leonard** came from Millport, Scotland, arriving in Elkhorn in March of 1928. He worked for J. W. Gilbert for five years before buying part of their land, 20-11-28, the two quarters known originally as Buck's and Johnson's. **Harry Leonard Sr.** arrived in 1931 and his wife **Jean** and son **Harry** arrived in October of 1935. Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Sr. lived on the farm till 1950 when they retired to Elkhorn.

Harry, a carpenter by trade, worked in Elkhorn

till 1941, then went to work in the mines at Sheridan. He married **Martha Gidilivitch** in February, 1941. Later he joined the C.N.R. at Niagara Falls and worked there until retirement.

Jim married **Margaret Paull** from the Woodville district in October, 1946. They have four children, **Peggy, Harry, Betty and Laura**.

In 1960 Jim bought section 19-11-28 from Bessie Montgomery. It was originally the summer residence of Sir James Aikins who built the house and spent the summers farming. Jim and Margaret retired from farming in 1977 and they still live in the original house on the farm.

Harry took over the home place after having worked in Calgary for six years. He married **Susan Imre** of Calgary in 1975. They have two daughters, **Andrea and Jessica** and a son **Jordan**.

Peggy trained as a teacher, teaching at Miniota, Brandon, Lenore and Elkhorn. In 1974 she married **Dale McGrath** of Watrous, Saskatchewan and they farm on the Montgomery place. Dale also worked for Gulf Oil and Esso. They have one son, **Bradley**.

Betty is a teacher, having taught in Brandon and Souris. She married **Ray Howell** of Souris in 1977 and they reside in Souris.

Laura trained as a medical records secretary and worked in Brandon and Virden. She married **Bob Hackman** of Elkhorn in 1980 and they reside in Virden.

### **Mr. and Mrs. John Wilmer Leslie**

In the year of 1903 **Wilmer Leslie**, "Sy" as many people called him, moved from his home at Chater, Manitoba and settled on section 22-11-28. He was twenty years old.



Mr. and Mrs. J. Wilmer Leslie.

This farm was located two and one-half miles south of Elkhorn. He homesteaded and batched there until 1910. He then married **Gertrude Ellen Smith** formerly of Kenton, Manitoba who was born in Sydney, New South Wales, Australia. The family travelled over many parts of the world. She taught school in Leeds, England for two years before the family moved to Canada and settled in Kenton, Manitoba. Mr. and Mrs. Leslie had nine children: seven boys and two girls.

**Len**, married **Frances Gardner** of the Mossgiel district and lives in Elkhorn. They have four children, one daughter and three sons.

**Allan**, married Belle Jenner of the Parkland district and lives in Elkhorn. They have two daughters and two sons.

**Clifton** married **Betty Vanetta** of Aldergrove, British Columbia and lives in Savona, British Columbia. They have one daughter.

**Merle** married **Jack Oliver** of Fleming, Saskatchewan and lives on a farm in Fleming district. They have one son and one daughter.

**Winnie** married **Dick Oliver** of Fleming, Saskatchewan and lives on a farm in the Kirkella district. They have three sons.

**Lyle** married **Violet Tapp** of Montgomery district and lives on a farm in the Montgomery district. They have three sons and two daughters.

**Ronald**, married **Christine Stirling** from Renfrew, (Glasgow) Scotland. They farm in Kirkella district and have two sons and three daughters.

**Alex**, married **Eleanor Nordquist** from Edmonton, Alberta and they live in Burnaby, British Columbia. They have one son and one daughter.

**Jack** married **Eileen Johnson** (deceased) of Winnipeg and they had five adopted children: three sons and two daughters (one deceased). They live in Golden, British Columbia.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie lived on the farm until the year of 1931. They had many happy times and of



Len, Allan, Cliff, Merle, Winnie, Lyle, Ron, Alex, Jack.



course some bad times too. In 1921 their barn burned down and a new one had to be built. The top part of this barn is still there on the farm site.

They had many social evenings in the old house and many dances in the winter months. Mrs. Leslie played the piano for a band in the twenties and thirties. Mr. Leslie was very sports-minded and made sure the whole family took part. They all skated and played hockey and ball. The family season ticket was always paid for by hauling wood to the rink. He remained an ardent sports fan until he passed away.

In 1919 they moved to Elkhorn for the winter months. On March 15, 1920 there was a bad blizzard, which lasted for three days and Mr. Leslie could not get to the farm to do chores. We lost quite a few horses and cattle in the storm.

In the spring of 1931 the family moved to sec 5-11-28, seven and one half miles south-west of Elkhorn in the Buckingham School district. They remained there until their retirement in the fall of 1946. They then moved to Burnaby, British Columbia where they bought a home. They came home to Elkhorn each summer and Mr. Leslie farmed a small parcel of land south of Elkhorn. In 1968 they purchased a home in Elkhorn and had many happy times there until Mr. Leslie passed away in October, 1972 at the age of eighty-nine.

Mrs. Leslie remained there until 1978. She then moved to the Sherwood in Virden, where she still resides and enjoys good health at the age of ninety-five.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie had four sons that served overseas in the second world war. They all returned safely; one was wounded in France.

Mrs. Leslie has twenty-nine grandchildren and forty-six great-grandchildren.

### Alex and Eleanor Leslie

I was born in Elkhorn on July 25th, 1925, the eighth child of Gertrude and Wilmer Leslie. I attended Buckingham School. War broke out after I



Alex and Eleanor Leslie with their children Wayne and Maureen.

quit school. In 1944 I joined the Navy, then transferred to the army. I went overseas in March of 1945. I then joined for the far east and was sent back to Canada to train. Then the war ended.

In the fall of 1946 I went to the West coast and worked there for a year and then I went north until 1952. I then went back to Vancouver and worked on the water front where I still am today.

On March 7th, 1960 I married Eleanor Nordquist of Thorhild, Alberta. We have two children. One daughter **Maureen** is a hairdresser in Burnaby, B.C., one son **Wayne** is in Selkirk College taking a millwright course. We still live in Burnaby, B.C.

submitted by Alex Leslie

### Allan and Belle Leslie

Allan was born September 22, 1913. His parents farmed two miles south and one half mile east of Elkhorn, section 22-11-28. He attended Elkhorn School. In 1931, the family moved to 5-11-28, in the Buckingham District. From there, Allan worked the east half of 9-11-28. In 1934, he moved there to live, batching for five years.

In 1939, Allan married **Belle Jenner** (born June 12, 1914). Some of the years in the '30s were rough going with rust, drought, and grasshoppers. In those days, all people used to heat their homes were wood and coal. Allan hauled wood to Elkhorn and sold it in those years. He also rode horseback to light the fires at Buckingham School at 20¢ a day. He later bought 9-11-28 from the Aikins Estate, farming there for twenty-six years. In 1965, ill health forced the sale of the farm and Allan and Belle moved to Elkhorn where they still reside.

Allan drove a school bus for fifteen years, retiring in June 1980. He was caretaker at the skating rink for eleven years. In those years, he helped coach hockey, and sharpened skates, which he is still doing. When Allan retired from the rink, the Board presented him with a plaque in recognition of his years of service. Being a hockey player himself for many years, this meant so much to him and still does. Always interested in any hockey, he encouraged his own boys to play, and travels miles to watch the senior team play. Of course, his wife goes too whenever possible, being a sports fan as well. Allan and Belle both enjoy curling. Allan served a three year term on the Elkhorn Council, and has been caretaker for the Cemetery and Park for seven years with help from his brother, Len for the last three years.

Belle (Jenner) Leslie was born on a farm six miles south and two miles east of Elkhorn, 35-10-28. She attended Buckingham and Parkland schools. Allan and Belle were married November 23, 1939 by Reverend Daynard. They have a family of two daughters,

**Joan and Marion** and two sons, **Dennis and Keith**, plus seven grandchildren. They celebrated their 40th anniversary in 1979 with all the family present.

Joan attended Buckingham and Elkhorn schools. She was always interested in horseback riding, ball, golf, and curling. She was employed by the Bank of Commerce for ten years in Elkhorn, Calgary, and Edmonton. At the present time, she is accounting clerk at the Harry Ainley High School in Edmonton.

In 1960, Joan married **Ron Oko** and they have two children, **Brenda and Blair**. They have lived in Winnipeg, Hartney, Calgary, and presently in Edmonton. Ron has worked fifteen years for Intercontinental Packers. He is a real sports fan especially curling, hockey, and golf.

Brenda attended school in Calgary and Edmonton, and attended the University of Alberta for the last three years to obtain a Bachelor of Arts degree. She is very interested in sports; in 1978, she was on the Alberta rink that won the Junior Women's Dominion Curling Championship.

Blair attends High School in Edmonton. He also likes sports — curling, hockey, and golf.

Marion attended Buckingham and Elkhorn schools. In 1964, she married **Denys Turner**. They have two sons, **Robert and Todd** and a daughter, **Kimberley**. They lived in Brandon for a time where Denys worked for Anglo Canadian Oil. In October 1965, he was transferred to Calgary. Later, he worked for Hudson Bay Gas and Oil Co. and then for Franklin Supply Ltd.. Denys passed away suddenly August 22, 1981. Marion works as Budget Control Officer for Mount Royal College.

Rob is attending his last year at high school. He is very fond of sports, especially hockey and this past season played for the Calgary Spurs. In September,

he will be entering Michigan Tech in Houghton, Michigan for a four year scholarship, majoring in Geology. His dream is to play in the National Hockey League some day and we sincerely hope he makes it.

Kim is in grade eleven and attends school in Calgary. After finishing school, she hopes to attend the University of Alberta to take a course in theatrical make-up.

Todd attends Junior High School, in grade eight. He is also athletically inclined and enjoys making things.

Dennis attended Buckingham and Elkhorn schools. He was interested in sports — hockey, golf, and curling. He worked in Brandon for Crane Plumbing, Beaver Lumber, and several construction companies, starting with Jacobson and Greiner until he received his journeyman papers. He has worked for Manitoba Hydro the past six years, first as a Senior Construction Electrician, spending three and one half years at Gillam, Man. In January, 1981, he received a promotion to Senior Electrical Wire Inspector at Thompson where the family are now living.

On July 17, 1971, he married **Darlia Poole**. They have a daughter **Charlene** and a son **Jerret**. Living first in Souris where Darlia taught school, the family all moved to Gillam in February, 1978. Charlene started school in Gillam for one and one half years and is now finishing grade one in Thompson.

**Keith** attended Buckingham, Elkhorn, and Virden schools. He enjoys sports — curling, golf, and hockey. He played all his minor hockey in Elkhorn and three years with the Elkhorn Canadians. He worked for a time as a welder's helper on the Pipe Lines. At the present time, he is living in Edmonton taking a welding course and working to obtain his journeyman's papers. He married **Bernice Langford** of Moosomin, Saskatchewan on June 27, 1981.

submitted by Allan and Belle Leslie



L-R Back row: Dennis and Darlia Leslie, Keith Leslie, Brenda Oko, Marion and Denys Turner, Joan and Ronnie Oko. Front row: Blair Oko, Kim Turner, Charlene Leslie, Belle and Allan Leslie, Jerret Leslie, Todd and Robbie Turner.

## History of Len and Frances Leslie

**Leonard**, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer Leslie was born on section 22-11-28, two and one-half miles south of Elkhorn. He moved with his family to 5-11-28 in 1931. Len was an ardent sports fan and played all his hockey with Elkhorn. He spent a lot of time at the skating rink, driving in most every night with team and sleigh or on horseback. He worked for Lloyd McLeods, Avery Chapples, Matt Johnsons, Bill Montgomerys, Dick Coulsons and for his Grandad Leslie at Chater. Wages were low in those years, but with the good food and the good homes that were given to him by these people (whom he so often talked about), money didn't matter much. You could attend dances in McLeod's Hall for 10¢

where many a good time was had. He also played hardball with Chater. Len was a member of the Canadian Order of Foresters.

Len married **Frances Gardner** from the Mossgiel area. She worked for the late Goldie Dixon in the Manitoba Hotel for three years. He was married to Margaret Prokopow. That was when "Little Katie", "Big Katie" and Tillie worked there and they had the dining room. Our white uniforms and hats had to be starched, so many an hour we spent ironing, usually the late Mrs. Tom Dixon watching over us which was good training for us no doubt.

Frances received her education at Mossgiel and Pacific schools. Many a good time was had with the Haywards and Francis families who were our close neighbours and we attended many country dances at Mossgiel and Kirkella. The first year we were married, we resided at the farm at Kirkella later moving to the Dave Ferguson farm in the Buckingham area, moving our belongings by wagon and team. Two of our children were born there; Evelyn and Donald. We later moved to the John Mooney farm in 1942 where we resided for thirty-seven years. Lloyd and Gerald were born there. We retired to Elkhorn in 1978.

**Evelyn** was born in Elkhorn in 1937 in Mrs. McFadzean's home where Doc Johnston had his hospital. She received her education at Buckingham and Elkhorn schools, and worked for some time for Rudd's Store. She taught music and also played the Church organ and was a member of the choir. Evelyn married **Vern Frondall** of Fleming where Vern was the Grain Grower's agent. They moved to the farm in 1964 where they now reside — the Oscar Verner farm. They have two children: **Brad** and **Craig**. They received their education at Archie and Elkhorn schools and were very active in sports through their school years, playing hockey and ball with Elkhorn and Fleming.

**Donald** was born in Elkhorn in 1941 at the Chapple house where Dr. Johnston then had his hospital. He received his education at Buckingham and Elkhorn schools and worked for Rudd's Store, and Mooney's Drugstore after school and Saturdays and also at McLeod's Store and the Pipeline at McAuley. Donald played midget hockey at Oak Lake where they were finalists, and the next year he attended the Brave's Camp in Winnipeg, returning to play with the McAuley Juveniles. The next year, he attended the Brandon Wheat King Camp and played out of Virden with the Junior B Team. He played senior hockey with Reeder Royals, Fleming Rockets and McAuley Tigers, returning to play with Elkhorn when the new rink was built in 1965 and coached the team for one year.

Donald married **Sharon Duxbury** in 1963. They



L-R Standing: Don, Evelyn, Gerald, Lloyd. Seated: Frances and Len Leslie — 1975.

have four children: **Troy, Todd, Leanne, and Chad**. He is now President of the Elkhorn and District Community Centre and coaches the twelve and under hockey team.

**Lloyd** was born in 1943 at Virden. He received his education at Buckingham and Elkhorn schools and played minor hockey and hardball with Elkhorn. Lloyd played three years with Brandon Wheat Kings, later going to New York Rovers, and to Charlotte, Colorado where he played for a short time.

He married **Wilma Ogilvie** in 1965 at Elkhorn and moved to Kindersley, Saskatchewan where Lloyd was employed with an oil company and played hockey with Kindersley Klippers.

Their daughter, **Wanda** was born in Kindersley. They later moved to Elkhorn and Lloyd worked as a car salesman in Virden. **Angie** and **Trevor** were born in Elkhorn. Lloyd then attended Community College in Brandon where he took an electrician's course. They later moved to Cranbrook, British Columbia where **Trisha** was born. He worked for Hank's Electric there, later moving to Creston where he took over the business known as Hank's Electric. He is very active there in Kinsmen and also coaches hockey.

**Gerald** was born in Virden in 1954, and attended elementary school and one year of high school in Elkhorn. He participated in minor ball and hockey as

well as school sports. He attended Wheat King camp in 1971 and was sent to Estevan Bruins of Saskatchewan Junior League playing three years there and received his grade twelve diploma from the Estevan Comprehensive School.

Gerald played baseball with Estevan Mets who went to Western Canada play-offs in 1973-74. He then moved to Brooks, Alberta to work for Haliburton Services for two years. He married **Colleen Fleck** of Steelman, Saskatchewan in 1975. They lived in Brooks one year then moved to Lampman, Saskatchewan in 1976. He presently works for Gulf Resources and Colleen works at the Lampman Credit Union. They have one son **Wade Leslie** born May 13, 1980. Gerald is still very active in sports, playing hardball for Lampman Cubs and hockey for Lampman Imperials.

submitted by Frances Leslie

### Lyle and Violet Leslie

Lyle lived in the Elkhorn district until he joined the 12th Manitoba Dragoons on June 16, 1941. In October, 1941, he married **Violet Tapp** of the Montgomery district who was a teacher at Buckingham, South Dakota and later on, at Jeffrey, South Dakota. He went overseas in August, 1942, and was stationed in England until the Regiment landed in France on July 9, 1944 and served all through Europe until war ended on May 8, 1945. He returned home in October, 1945.

In the spring of 1946 he rented a piece of land from his father and farmed it with horses that summer. He purchased a farm in the Montgomery district through the V.L.A. As the house had been destroyed by fire, many years ago, he bought a small cottage from George Canart and moved it to this area.

Violet and Lyle and their small son **Douglas** took up residence on the farm in 1947. They were fortunate to have electricity brought into the district in the spring of 1948. They carried on a mixed farming operation until 1972 when they sold their cattle and continued on grain farming. Lyle being very fond of horses was very proud of his team of dappled greys, May and Betts, whom he trained to be very useful around the farm. They were a real fixture there for years and seemed a part of the operation. He then sold them to Mr. Joe Ruddick of Kirkella, who gave them a very good home.

Lyle and Violet have four other children. **Myrna**, who is married to **Dr. Gary Geddes**, lives in Portland, Oregon. **Garth** works for the Department of Highways at Birtle, Manitoba.

**Faye** is a nurse in the Virden District Hospital and is married to **Greg Hall** who runs the Triangle garage

with his father. **Calvin** is employed with Norcen Pipeline and is married to **Tammie Manser**. They live in Virden and rent the home farm. The oldest son, **Douglas**, farms in the Montgomery district and is married to **Joyce Hayward** of Blair district.

Violet and Lyle have six grandchildren.

There have been many changes since the Leslies have resided in the district. They built a new house in 1954 and their cottage was moved to south Virden where Mr. and Mrs. Bill Fridd now live. In August, 1956 a bad wind and hail storm struck the district blowing down the old barn. They built a new one the following year. For quite a few years there was only a dirt road west of the farm. There was a new road built there in the early seventies which is now paved. They are also fortunate to have the Virden Auction Mart two and one half miles south.

### Ron and Chris Leslie and Family

I was born and raised in Elkhorn and district. I served overseas in World War II with the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders. While overseas I married **Chris Stirling** in Renfrew, Scotland.

I returned home in the fall of 1945. In the spring of 1946 I started farming in Kirkella District on section 19-12-29. Chris came out from Scotland as a war bride with our infant son **John**, now married to **Myrna Kirkham**, living in Innisfail, Alberta with three children, **Ronnie, Marla and Jason**. Two years later, **Betty** was born and is now married to **Bernie Milum** and living in Winnipeg with their three children, **Kelvin, Gordon and Wade**. Nine years later our second family came along, **Rhonda, Jim and Sandra** who now live and work in Red Deer, Alberta.

### The J. P. Leslie Family

**Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Leslie** came from Ontario in 1898. They had lived in the County of Peel and farmed in the area of Acton and Norval.

Three children were born in Ontario: **Annie, Jennie and Lindsay**. Then they moved to Manitoba where two more girls were born. **Elsie and Clarice**. Mr. Leslie purchased land west of Elkhorn — 5-12-28.

As time went on Annie married **Will Groat** in 1910. They had a Hardware, Grocery and Furniture Store combined. You may have heard of a fire in Elkhorn which destroyed their store, Bank and Marshes Store in 1912. Shortly after this the Groats moved to British Columbia, and are now deceased. They had two boys and one girl: **Robert, Les and Sadie**.

Jennie taught school and went to Normal in Regina. She married **Tom Hogarth** in 1911 and settled

in Kerrobert, Saskatchewan, where they ran a Gents Furnishing and Undertaking Business. They had two boys and one girl: **Leslie, Harvey** and **Eileen**. The Depression of almost ten years followed and during this time Mr. and Mrs. Leslie and Lindsay moved to Abbotsford, B.C. Lindsay was a Veteran of the First World War. He married **Rae Coulter** in 1945. They had two boys and two girls: **Glen, Lorna, Peter** and **Loraine**.

Elsie married **William Montgomery** in 1932 and resided on 24-11-28 for 42 years. They had two sons **Jack** and **Gary**.

Clarice went to Normal in Brandon and taught school at Burnbank and Elkhorn. She later moved to B.C. where she married **Ralph Caldwell** in 1942. They have one son **Lyle**.

The Leslie family were very musical. Many happy hours were spent singing and performing at concerts or Church Functions.

submitted by Elsie Montgomery



Stan Levitt and son Fred in 1944 digging a ditch for the sewer for their new house.

### The Stan Levitt Family

**Stan Levitt** was born at Elkhorn in 1920. He spent his younger years in Elkhorn where he worked for Florrie McFadzean in the store and at the post office carrying mail.

On December 8, 1942 he married Margaret Edith

Jones of Lenore and they lived in Elkhorn until July 1944 when they moved to Edmonton, Alta.

Stan worked for the Provincial Government in the Attorney General's Department, then for the Public Works Department as an Elevator Operator until his death on December 9, 1977. They have two children.

**Fred** born December 16, 1943 in Elkhorn, married **Marie Hnatuik** of Edmonton. They have two children, **Brian** and **Sherrie** and both live in Vernon, B.C. where Fred works for the City of Vernon.

**Michelle** born July 27, 1947 in Edmonton, married **Donald Switzer** of Edmonton and they have four children, **Donald K., Tommy, Jason** and **Michael**. They live on a farm near Barrhead, Alta. Don farms and works for the town of Barrhead.

submitted by Mrs. Stan Levitt

### Over the Years with the Lidsters

With deep love and affection, I will try to relate some of the incidents in the lives of my Mother-in-law, **Ettie** and my Father-in-law, **George**; also their family and ours.

As I am the only one left of two generations I have many questions and no one to answer them.

I do know that they were hard working compassionate people, enduring many years that everything was done the hard way, and sharing love and help with others along the way.

**George Henry Lidster** was born at Wiarton, Ontario in 1865, of Scottish parentage, and one of a family of four boys and one girl. The family came from Inverness, Scotland. Their father was a stone mason and the boys learned this trade as young men.

Three brothers, **George, Peter** and **Robert** came West to Brandon as young men to work at this trade. The Central School built in 1892 was one of their projects but this was demolished a few years ago.

From Brandon, George and Peter came to Virden, Manitoba working for a butcher and learning the butcher business, eventually going into partnership with a Mr. Keedwell.

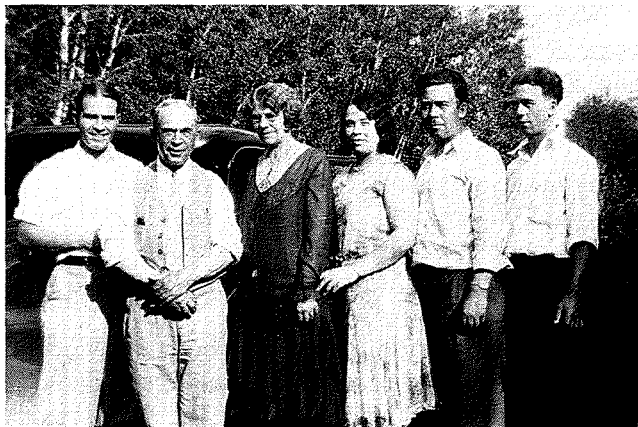
In Virden, he met **Henrietta Giles**. She was born in Teeswater, Ontario in 1877, and as a young girl came with her family, parents, and several brothers and sisters to a homestead in the Scarth district south of Virden. Her father rode in the box car of personal effects on the railway, and due to cold was never well again, developing a type of consumption and passing away fairly young leaving a big family. One brother about seventeen also died of the same illness. She told me how, as a young girl, she would be frightened at nights. They couldn't light lamps because of Indian raids after the Riel Rebellion.

George and Ettie were married in Virden and

lived there for several years. Their first son was born in Virden in 1902 — **Harold Henry George**. During the next year they moved to Elkhorn, Manitoba and George and brother Peter started a butcher shop that was located near the Bank of Commerce as it now stands. It was just a small wooden building that eventually became a storage shed for beef hides and coal and was situated behind the brick butcher shop they built on the north side of the street. They had fire walls built on either side between the other buildings.

At that time, I understand they lived somewhere up towards the C.P.R. station later moving to the brick house on the corner lot off 4th street where Bill Bartley's new home is now situated.

Their family grew to four — three sons and one daughter . . . **Harold Henry George** born 1902 . . . **Peter Emsley** born in 1904 . . . **Dorothy Jean** born in 1908 . . . **Kenneth Glen** born in 1911.



L-R: Harold, George, Henrietta, Jean, Emsly, Ken 1931.

Peter Lidster lived with the family and worked with George over the years. Their sister Margaret Niven, widowed with two of a family, came to Elkhorn from Ontario to live in the suite of rooms on the upper floor of the butcher shop. Her daughter Edna married Ray Pearsall, a CPR agent, and their son **Leroy**, after the death of his Mom, came at the age of two years to live with his Grandma in the upper suite. He was just like a brother to Ken. They grew up together and worked many years learning the butcher business from Dad Lidster. Ken also travelled in the country a lot with his dad learning the buying end of the business.

The Lidster home became home for nephews Andrew and Alvin for some time after the war. Andy working in the shop, married an Elkhorn girl, Maymie Hopps, and died young with the flu which took many lives around that time.

Harold went to University in Winnipeg taking three years in Medicine, then left and went to Chi-

cago. He married a Winnipeg girl — **Matilda Scarfe** and they lived in Chicago until Harold's death. He was with Kraft over the years, working in their office and personally knew Mr. Kraft — a man respected and loved by all. Harold passed away January, 1961 at the age of fifty-nine years, suddenly with a heart attack after having flu for two weeks. He is buried in the Elkhorn Cemetery. His wife passed away in April, 1980 in Regina and is also buried in Elkhorn.

Emsley became a pharmacist, going to Lanigan, Sask. after graduation, then to Foam Lake. He married **Ferne Frazer**, a Saskatoon girl, while in Lanigan. They had two sons — **James Beverly** and **Donald Kenneth**. Jim lives in Kelowna now, is a teacher and Dr. Don lives in Redding, California and is an ophthalmologist. He was a Medical Doctor in Rivers for four years. Emsley was with National Drugs for a long time in Saskatoon before moving to Kelowna. His death came suddenly at the age of seventy-one. His wife Ferne passed away in April, 1979. Both are buried in Kelowna.

Jean worked for Manitoba Telephones for years becoming Chief Operator, when she left to be married in Langley, B.C. After suffering a mild stroke and a broken hip she was never well. She died December 1, 1974 from a stroke. Her husband **Bert Smith** predeceased her, being buried by his first wife. Jean is buried beside her Mom and Dad in Elkhorn Cemetery.

Dad Lidster died in 1944 at seventy-nine years, very suddenly, although his health was failing for a long time.

Mom Lidster died January, 1955 at the age of seventy-eight, after being a semi invalid, because of a stroke at the age of fifty nine. Later, after falling and breaking her hip, she became a complete invalid for the rest of her life. She was always in and out of the hospital; Ken used to lift her from the bed into the wheelchair several times a day and never once did I ever hear him complain.

Dad Lidster served on council in earlier years. He and Mom Lidster were very active in the St. Andrew's society over the years. They were faithful church workers, belonging to the Presbyterian church and later to the United Church. Mom Lidster was a wonderful seamstress, making clothes for many children in need, out of flour sacks; underwear — sometimes dyed to look nicer, quilts, crocheting and fancy work of all kinds.

They were both wonderfully kind and thoughtful people helping those less fortunate to the best of their ability. There always seemed to be relatives and friends to whom they opened their hearts over the years. A small example of this was the Christmas hampers they packed, including the turkey, dropped

on doorsteps Christmas eve — a practice carried on for many years, and unknown to the majority of the public. They helped farmers get their seed grain to plant in the spring. They were truly Christian people in word and deed.

Mom Lidster loved hockey; she went with her foot warmer and never missed a play and until the last, listened to hockey on her radio. She loved golf and curling — all cut off at the time of her stroke.

Ken and I were married in October, 1936. I was the daughter of **Alfred and Elizabeth George**. Our first year was spent in Dr. Hennan's cottage across from the Lidster house. We moved into our own home in November, 1937 — at that time the Lidster family (now just Mom, Dad and Jean) moved to the cottage on Wexford Street, trading houses with Jack Loewens who needed a big house.

Mom Lidster endeared herself to me long before Ken and I were married, a rather stern lady to observe but a jewel at heart.

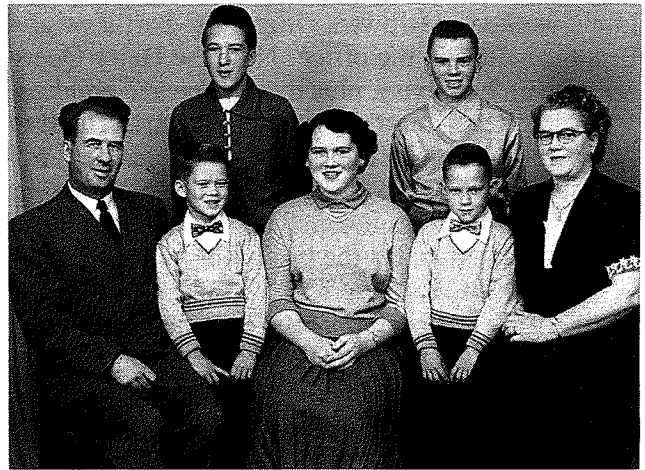
Kenneth Glen Lidster was the youngest of the family, the one who gave up his dreams of what he wanted to do. He stayed and carried on the butcher business as his dad, at this time was not a young man anymore. He and Leroy worked together until Leroy got married and took a butchering job in Winnipeg the first time they had been separated. From then on Ken had hired help in the shop enabling him to do the country business.

The butcher business then was a far cry from today's methods. It was all done the hard way from buying the beast, doing the butchering, to preparing the meat. The refrigeration unit had to have ice which was stored and packed in saw-dust in ice houses. They eventually switched over to electric units, making that part much easier. However there was still a lot of lifting and heavy work. Having had rheumatic fever as a young lad, this lifting and also the lifting of his mom in and out of bed three times a day over the years, until her final days in hospital, was not good for Ken's health.

The pattern of buying from farmers was changing as Auction Marts sprang up. Ken decided to sell the shop in 1951. He started driving to Brandon and back each day so in October, 1954 we moved to Brandon.

We had a family of five children, one girl and four boys — **Donna Jean, Glen Graham George, Dale Garnet**, twins — **Lance Kenneth and Laird Keith**.

Just before we left Elkhorn, Mr. Donaldson of Brandon Packers asked Ken to be Livestock Manager, a position he held until 1961. The Brandon Packers was sold to another firm and eventually was closed down. Ken then started back on the road to Auction Marts, and this was very hard on his health



L-R Standing: Glen, Dale. Seated: Ken, Lance, Donna Jean, Laird, Winnifred.

and against doctor's orders. However he wasn't the kind to quit and carried on. On Sunday, March 10, 1963, God called him home at the age of fifty-two years.

Donna Jean and Glen were both married at the time of his passing and we had four lovely grandchildren whom he adored. The other three boys were still at home and I took other boys in to fill the house. Filling six boys up kept me busy! Donna Jean and **Mel Thompson** lived at Estevan. Mel was working for a gas and oil company. They had three little boys. He was moved to Edmonton with the company, from there they went into Dairy Queen in Calgary. They eventually sold out and built a new Dairy Queen in Edmonton on 82nd Avenue. Their home is in Sherwood Park, just East of Edmonton city. Their children are **Brent Kenneth, Bryan James and Blaine Keith**.

Glen married a Brandon girl, **Audrey Mitchell** and they have always lived in Brandon. Glen is a stationary engineer with the Manitoba Hydro Generating Station; Audrey works for Trans X Ltd. They have three girls — **Laura Lee, Terrilyn and Glenda Dawn**.

Dale married a Brandon girl, **Judie Bass** and they are living in Brandon again, after being in Swan River with Dairy Queen for several years. They sold their store and moved back three and one half years ago. Dale is now with Westcan Contractors and Judie is a Registered Nurse and does part time work at the Brandon General Hospital. They have two children, **Pamela Leigh and Steven Lance**.

Lance Kenneth married a Brandon girl, **Linda Brown** and they have three children, **Kimberly Elizabeth, Donna Loree and Laird Kenneth Ian**. They are in the Dairy Queen business on 18th Street. Lance had been with Wilton's as an accountant and office

manager previous to taking over the Dairy Queen and Linda worked in Brown's Drug Store part-time as a Beautician and in the office. Now the Dairy Queen keeps them both busy, plus their home and children.

Laird Keith married a Brandon girl, **Heather Laird**. She was with the Manitoba Telephone Company and Laird worked with Simplot as a welder, having his first class ticket. They bought into Dairy Queen business and at the beginning of their second year (1974) Laird took seriously ill and we lost him in April, 1974. It was at this time that Lance took over the Dairy Queen store. There were no children. Heather is re-married and lives in Ottawa.

I sold our home after Laird's marriage and have lived in an apartment since then.

### "The Family"

The family is like a book —  
The children are the leaves;  
The parents are the covers  
That protecting beauty gives.  
At first the pages of the book  
Are blank and purely fair,  
But time soon writeth memories  
And painteth pictures there.  
Love is the golden clasp  
That bindeth up the trust,  
Oh! break it not, lest all the leaves  
Should scatter and be lost.

Winnifred Lidster

## Our Yesterdays

### Herbert Linnell Family

Father, **Herbert Magny Linnell**, was born July 29, 1870 in Chisago City in Minnesota of Swedish parentage.

Mother, **Alice Margaret Hemmingson**, was born near Tromso, Norway, on December 11, 1878 of Norwegian parentage. When she was two years of age, the family emigrated to the United States and settled in Minnesota on a farm at Litchfield. In 1905, the Hemmingson family moved to Canada and settled in the Manson district to farm.

March Brothers of Litchfield, Minnesota, who were in the real estate business, were selling land in the Manitoba area. **Sabin Linnell**, Dad's brother, worked for them and took tours of prospective buyers to look at land. Sabin moved to Winnipeg in the early 1900's and continued in the real estate business.

Herbert Linnell had left the family farm near Grove City, Minnesota and had spent some time out in the state of Washington among his cousins. He left Washington and with some pre-planning went by train to Elkhorn to visit his friend Andy Swan from Grove City days. This was around 1907. He worked for Andy Swan for some time — three years or so.

Then the farm, neighbour to Swan's, could be bought with no money down and on that basis, my father bought it — but he did not homestead it. He bought it from a man by the name of Ole Olsen who did homestead it — the east half of section 19-12-27.

Father started out by batching and working the land from Swan's — jumping on a horse, riding to Swan's for breakfast, etc.

There was no house except a glorified portable granary. Our parents started out their married life in that so-called house.

Father and Mother were married in Manson, Manitoba on April 15, 1911 — the Linnell and Hemmingson families were acquaintances in Minnesota. With money that my mother had saved, they built the house that was to be our home for so many years. We occupied the same farm in the York district until 1943 when my parents sold and moved to Elkhorn.

Mr. and Mrs. Linnell had two children — **Melvin** and **Mrs. G. Hall**. There are seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Dad was a trustee for years on the York district school board and worked continuously and without thought of himself to give us and the children of the district a good education in the Elkhorn school system. A school van was built on sleighs. All covered over with canvas and heated with a coal heater. A driver was hired. Mr. Andy Swan supplied a team of horses and drove. Other drivers were Elmer Swan, Bob Balmer and Albert Wilcox. Mr. Wilcox stayed with us while driving one winter. We drove a distance of seven and one-half miles to school with eighteen to twenty children. The van made a longer distance than seven and a half miles because it went a couple of miles beyond our place to pick up children and also east of us before we took the main trail. This was not accomplished without a few hazards — namely fire, the upsetting of the sleigh in the snow and runaways when the team took off. I think the van drivers should have been commended, and probably were, for getting us to school on time. Summer travel was in a truck.

Swan's house was large and seemed to be used for meetings of all sorts. The district nurse would make appointments, drive out there and give vaccinations to all babies and small children in the district. There were also lots of fun times — parties and dances, held in the big house.

During high school years, the mayor, businessmen of the town and the school board established an award for general proficiency. Melvin won this award — red leather-bound classics, several times. At age seventeen, Melvin wanted to take an airplane mechanic's course in Glendale, California. That was 1932. When he returned, he went to Montreal to work for Trans Canada Airlines, as it was known then.



Our uncle in Winnipeg, Mr. Sabin Linnell, lost his wife and that led to the eldest child, a girl, Fern, living with us and attending school in Elkhorn. She graduated about 1918 at about eighteen years of age. She made many friends and there are many people here who remember her. She returned to Minneapolis around 1920 or 1921 and found a job with a newspaper. She often spoke of her days at Elkhorn. She thought highly of her aunt and uncle and we all loved her, too. She died in 1976.

Mom and Dad were Lutheran and liked to attend the Swedish services in Manson when they could. A pastor drove about fifty miles or so from Parkman, Saskatchewan to hold services in a private home in Manson. That gave an opportunity to get together with relatives and friends. We also went to Church and Sunday School in the United Church in Elkhorn.

Social times in the community consisted of Christmas concerts and dances held at schools like Two Creeks and Victor.

For New Year's and Christmas we used to try to get together with the family — our aunts and uncles, cousins, and Grandma and Grandpa Hemmingson of Manson. I remember bedding down in a sleigh and listening to the tinkling of the bells on the horses.

Social times were also in town on Saturday nights. In Harvey McFadzean's store, it was just like the "Hot Stove League" where friends sat talking and warming themselves over the coal heater. When the groceries were unpacked at home, we always found a big bag of candy at the bottom of the box — especially at Christmas.

Ill health began to plague Dad after he moved to town. He died October 3, 1953 at age eighty-three. Mother kept the house for some years before moving to Winnipeg. She lived with her daughter for seven years. She died June 7, 1973 at age ninety-four and one-half.

submitted by Mrs. G. Hall

## William Lipsey

**William Lipsey** was born in St. Thomas, Ontario, September, 1852.

William arrived in Fleming, Assiniboia, N.W.T. spring of 1883. He and his brother **James** walked to Birtle Land Titles Office to file for their homesteads — 18-11-30 W first Meridian. This property is now owned by Lemon Bros. of Maryfield, Saskatchewan.

In November 1883, Bill as he was known to many, married **Blanche Fitzsimons**, who also came from St. Thomas, with her father, step-mother and brother **Mason**. Blanche and Bill lived in their log house on the homestead for several years. In 1889, he purchased W ½ 31-11-29 west of the first, from the



Blanche Lipsey with grandson Frank Hoffman.

Canadian Pacific Railway. Grandson, Earle Lipsey, now resides on the family farm.

William and Blanche had five children:

**Alice**, Mrs. Carl Dahl (see Dahl).

**Fred** married **Agnes McCormick**. Their family, two sons, **William** and **Earle**.

**Nellie** married **John Scarff**, lived on Jack's homestead at Oyen, Alberta. Family, two sons, **Edward** (Ted) and **Thomas** (Tom). Son Ted and wife Gladys are still living on the home farm. Their children: **Edward**, **Linda**, **Marilyn** and **Walter**. Edward and wife Lynda live in Calgary; one daughter, Kimberly. Linda married Joe Breland, lived at Fox Creek, died in a motor accident leaving two children Scott and Keith. Marilyn married Les Herron and they live at New Brigden, Alberta and have one son, Kevin. Walter is at home. Tom and wife Bernice farm south of Oyen. Their children are **Delaine**, **Jan** and **Joy**. Jack Scarff passed away in 1949. Nellie is still living at Oyen, Alberta.

**Lila** passed away at fourteen years of age.

**Viola** (Tott) married Melvin Hoffman, lived on the homestead at Oyen, Alberta. Family, one son **Frank** who with wife Joyce still are on the home farm. Their family **Douglas** and wife Connie live in Vermilion, Alberta. They have one son **Roderick**.

**Maxwell** lives in Oyen, Alberta, lost his wife Debra and three year old daughter **Maxine** in a car accident.

**Beverly** married Trevor Waters and lives in Calgary.

**Neil** farms with his father, Frank, on the original Melvin Hoffman homestead.

**Marjorie** lives in Oyen, Alberta works in Oyen Treasury Branch.

**Melvin Jr.** lives and works in Weyburn, Sask. T.V. and radio.

**Robert** lives and works in Vermilion, Alberta.

**Kathleen**, still at home taking Grade XI, plans to be a registered nurse. Melvin Sr. passed away in 1956. Viola still lives in Oyen, Alberta. William passed away in 1931. Blanche lived with Fred and family on the home farm until she passed away in 1947. William was a member of Elkhorn Masonic Lodge, Blanche a member of St. Marks W.A. and Kirkella I.O.D.E. They loved to visit with neighbors, family and friends and entertain in their home. Bill was very interested in municipal affairs, especially road improvement.



Fred and Agnes Lipsey's 40th wedding anniversary, 1963.

Fred and Agnes lived first on S.E. 25-11-30- West first and moved to the home farm in 1935. They retired to Elkhorn, Manitoba, 1968. Fred became a life member of the Royal Canadian Legion. He enjoyed visiting with friends and neighbors and going for morning coffee with his neighbor Everett who was very kind to him. Billie passed away untimely in December, 1941, Fred in June, 1979. Agnes resides in Elkhorn. She recalls Elkhorn families coming to camp on her father's farm at the McCormick Bridge, south of Fleming, Saskatchewan. Some names that can be remembered are Mr. and Mrs. Archie Wilson from the Indian Residential School, who came with part of their staff, bringing the Indian children to

camp in July. The girls would come for several days, return to the residence and then the boys would come. The scene was fascinating, a large dining tent and many smaller tents. They would play games and go boating on the Pipestone Creek, hold meetings and sing by the campfire. Mrs. Wilson passed away and her remains were laid to rest in the Indian Cemetery west of Elkhorn, as was her wish. I believe Mr. Wilson went to England and have lost track of their family, Meleta, Winnifred and Muriel.

Other families that would come to camp are Mooneys, Dr. Goodwins, Dixons, McCorkindales, Axelsons, Wallers, Watts.

The Cadets and Boy Scouts would come for holidays — to name a few — Rod McFadden, Alex Goodwin, Frank Dixon who died in World War One, Clarence McFadzean. It was delightful to hear the bugle calls echo in the valley, morning, noon and evening.

### **Wm. John Livingstone**

**William John Livingstone** was born at Elkhorn, Manitoba and lived on his father's farm, 14-11-29. John's father came to the Woodville district in 1888.

John attended Woodville school in 1894. He was a member of the Rifle Club, and was a school auditor, and also played the violin, and was a member of the Foresters' Lodge.

John's parents are buried in the Elkhorn Cemetery.

He married **Vera Marshall** and they lived on the homestead until 1922, then moved to Moosomin. John passed away in 1948.

They had one daughter, **Leah**, who attended Woodville School in 1921, and one son **Clair**. Leah Worsley lives in Moosomin, and her mother resides with her. Clair is married and lives at Minitonas, Man.

submitted by Leah L. Worsley

### **J. P. Loewen**

There are many fond memories of my twenty-five years in Elkhorn. We had only been married a short time before arriving in Elkhorn.

All of our seven children were born and got most of their education in the Elkhorn school. The school must have served a very useful purpose. It must have instilled pride in the community and the proper incentive to compete and excel in the field of the student's choice. When I meet former students and reminisce about the achievements of many of Elkhorn's students, I think of many of the teachers who made a valuable contribution to the community.

Elkhorn had a number of outstanding citizens who set a very good example in volunteering to help in any community effort. Every community needs people like Herb Jones, Alf Vodden, C. Webster and Mr. Bergstrom who were always active in field days, fair days, sports days and the golf course or curling rink.

One of the worthwhile efforts in my book was the Legion Hall. Alf Vodden and I went to Souris where my brother-in-law was dismantling the airport. He gave us a very good deal on two car loads of material which went into the hall and the Municipal Office. Jim Clarke and I worked at the hall most of the summer after the Gardner brothers put up the framework. Mr. Clarke did a marvelous job and the Legion and people of Elkhorn should be grateful for the time and effort he put into the building.

The Saturday night dances with the Geo. Harry Orchestra served a very useful purpose to give young people a chance to get together and enjoy the evening for fifty cents, instead of having to go out of town to work off their surplus energy. I had five boys and know that if the community does not provide the facilities for young people to meet and enjoy life, they will go where they can find the things they are interested in. I spent my Saturday evenings at the hall with the young people at that time and was very proud of how well-behaved they were. Dope at that time was no problem and I don't remember having any liquor problems with the young people.

There must be a number of the elderly people who remember when Mr. Milroy looked after the old jail on Saturdays, which was used by people from out of town as a restroom. This was replaced by the basement of the Legion Hall where people could visit and feed the baby, etc. in comfort.

Many of the older people will also remember the poor washroom facilities in the basement of the school. While on the school board, Mr. Webster, as secretary, and I asked the members of the board to visit the school — after which we decided to install the waterworks and remedy the problem.

My six years on the council and five years on the school board were very interesting years. I remember when we did a lot of agonizing on the council before making the decision to sign a contract with the Hydro to bring in electric lighting facilities. Until 1929, all home and street lights were of the coal oil or gasoline lamp varieties and the electrical appliances used today did not exist in Elkhorn.

Those of us who lived through the dusty thirties learned to cope with the weather and to struggle along on very little cash. There was no unemployment insurance, no baby bonus or old age pension. Communities formed their own organizations to help

the needy in whatever way they could and seemed to accept conditions for several years without too much grumbling. Government relief and various forms of help began in 1931. Many homes and farms were sold for arrears of taxes.

Young people of today know very little of the sweat, tears and elbow grease that went into the fabric that built the foundation of the prairies so that future generations might enjoy more of the better life. By trial and error and stubborn perseverance, we have created a nation in which we could live high off the hog if we could bury the hatchet and work together to build a better Canada that we could all be proud of.

submitted by J. P. Loewen

### **William Franklin Longman**

**William Franklin Longman** was born near Londesborough, in Huron County, Upper Canada (Ontario) in 1857. He, along with other members of



Mr. and Mrs. Wm. F. Longman 1884

his family, came west in 1879 to homestead near Pilot Mound.

William did not remain long in this area but chose to come farther west to Elkhorn where he took a homestead in the Lippentott district. His land, the SW 6-11-29 W1 was situated on the Pipestone Creek hills. Date of entry for this homestead was 3, Aug. 1883 and date of patent was 9, Aug. 1887. In 1890, he purchased SE 6-11-29 W1.

The first Lippentott Post Office was located at Williams' homestead and he acted as postmaster until he left the district. He also served as an auditor for Woodville School in the early 1900's.

William's bachelor days soon ended after his arrival in the Lippentott area. In 1884, he married Eliza Mae, daughter of James and Libby (Simpson) Johnson who also homesteaded in this area.

Three sons were born on the homestead: James William Guy in 1886; Harold Roy in 1888; and Herbert Albert (Bert) in 1892.

William was injured in an accident at threshing time and a newspaper account from the Elkhorn Advocate in January, 1893 states that "the Lippentott Postmaster, was, due to illness, returning with his family to Ontario." They settled near relatives in Huron County where he had spent his early years. He never recovered from his injuries and died in January, 1894 at the age of 36 years.

His wife, Mae, and her three small sons returned west shortly after. Having previously rented their land, she applied for another homestead closer to Maryfield. Mae re-married and became Mrs. Christopher (Kit) Edmonds. She died in 1949 at the age of eighty-five years.

submitted by Linda Mulligan

### Guy Longman

Guy, the eldest son of William and Mae (Johnson) Longman attended school at Woodville, McNaught (in Saskatchewan) and for a short time at Elkhorn. He decided during his early teens he would like to farm, and spent each winter working in a lumber camp at Summerland, British Columbia in order to buy his father's homestead and equip it with machinery. In 1906 he took over the S ½ 6-11-29 W1.

The following year he went into partnership on a threshing outfit and did the neighbor's harvesting for many years. Guy later owned his own outfit, and many of his men came from the East. Many returned year after year to thresh for him and became good friends of the family.

The range for the Lippentott Civilian Rifle Association was built on Guy's farm, and he was secretary from 1907-1915. He enjoyed the shooting competitions and won several medals and a silver plate for his

skill with the rifle. There are still remains of the range on 6-11-29 and one may find an old shell there.

In 1910, Guy married Edna Pearl Snyder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joel Snyder of Elkhorn. Pearl had worked for Dr. Goodwin of Elkhorn before her marriage. Guy and Pearl raised a family of five daughters and four sons, all of whom were born on the homestead.

Guy carried the mail by horse and buggy to and from Elkhorn, and later Maryfield, until the Lippentott Post Office closed around 1917.

In 1918, Guy and Pearl decided to start a herd of purebred cattle. Guy travelled to Calgary to purchase his first cow, a beautiful Horned Hereford named Harmonia. He later told his family of riding home in the boxcar to water and feed her and of sleeping next to her to keep warm as it was late in the fall and quite cold.

Guy soon built up a credited, purebred herd in which he took great pride and which he showed with success at many fairs. He suffered a terrible blow when, on two occasions, he lost many of his cattle with T.B. This was before the time of government testing regulations; nor was compensation paid to farmers.

The oldest Longman children, Mae, Fern, Joyce, Norris, Margaret and Lyle attended Woodville school. In 1927, the Longmans decided to buy a farm closer to Maryfield so the children would not have so far to travel to school. Guy bought the S ½



Guy and Pearl Longman with Pearl's Uncle Bob Paterson standing at right.

21-10-30 W1, one mile from Maryfield, in addition to keeping his land "across the creek."

In 1929, two years after moving, Pearl died suddenly, leaving Guy to raise a young family and face the hard times of the thirties. The eldest girls cared for the younger ones when Guy had to leave his family and put in the crop "across the creek." He had a Model T Ford in good running order but couldn't afford a license or gas so he lived on 6-11-29 and walked to a neighbour's house to phone his family and check that everything was all right at home.

After having several housekeepers, Guy's sister-in-law, **Nellie** (widow of Frank Snyder) and her daughter, **Edna**, came to stay with the Longmans. Guy and Nellie were married in 1934. She passed away in February, 1937.

In 1943, Guy married **Florence McLean** from Fleming. They resided on the farm until retiring to Maryfield in 1944. Guy and Florence enjoyed six years of retirement until Florence passed away in November, 1949.

The farm in Manitoba remained in the Longman name, with Guy's son, Gordon, living there until it was sold in 1956.

Guy led a very active life even in his later years. He died when he was three weeks short of his eighty-second birthday in 1968, and while going to saw wood at the farm.

Members of the Longman family are:

Mae and her husband, Elmer Fiddler, live in Burlington, Ontario. Her children are: Beverly (Johnson) and Jim Wildgoose.

Fern and her husband, Martin Jensen, live in Maryfield, Saskatchewan.

Joyce is the widow of Edgar McAdoo, and resides in Maryfield. Their children are: Bernice (Sprague) and George.

Norris and his wife Gerry (Mackie) live in Virden and have one son, Guy.

Margaret is the widow of Percy Christmas; she lives in Maryfield. Their son is Lloyd.

Lyle and his wife Mary (Thompson) reside in Maryfield. Their family: Eletha and Jack.

**Gordon** married Ruth (Dayman). They live in Maryfield and have five sons: Doug, Bob, Ken, Cy and Reg.

**Myrtle** married Bruce Sprague. They live at Red Jacket, Saskatchewan. Their family: Keith and Roy.

**Lloyd** and his wife Freda (Dayman) reside in Maryfield. Their children are: Linda (Mulligan) and Morley.

submitted by Linda Mulligan

### The John Lund Family

Between 1882 and 1892, twenty Lunds flocked into Lippentott. John Lund who was the Daddy and

Granddaddy of them all, later to become known as Grandfather Lund, with his wife Mary Ann and eight of their twelve children, came west in 1884. They were: **Daniel** born June 24, 1843; **J. Wesley** born September 26, 1844; **James** born December 13, 1845; **Mary Jane** born August 18, 1847 (Jane); **George** born April 8, 1849; **Charles** born August 11, 1850; **Christopher** born June 6, 1852-August 9, 1853; **Elizabeth** born November 16, 1853 (Liz); **Guilford** born March 7, 1855; **Arabella** born November 10, 1856 (Bell); **William Blair** born August 10, 1858; **Margaret Ellen** born March 10, 1861 (Nell); George, Charles and James stayed in the East. The family left many good things behind when they travelled more than half way across Canada to settle on the wind swept prairies of Lippentott.

Actually it was in 1882 that the first Lund came west. Wes Sr. (J. Wesley) stopped off in Brandon to call on a doctor who had come west in 1881. He advised Wes to go to Elkhorn as that was as far as the rail was laid on the main line of the C.P.R. Walking the fourteen miles South-west of Elkhorn, Wes picked on the SE ¼ 32-10-29 for his homestead. His wife Cora and son Harry followed soon after.

Grandfather Lund, his wife and family came in 1884. He homesteaded the NW¼ 36-10-30 on the banks of the Pipestone River. Blair homesteaded the SE¼ 12-11-30, up the river from Grandfather Lund's farm.

**LeBaron Read**, who married Jane Lund, homesteaded the SW¼ 32-10-29 and raised a family of three; **Jack**, **Maud** and **Nell**.

**Luke Harrison**, who married Bell Lund, settled in Elkhorn raising a family of five.

In February, 1886, Wes Lund Jr. and Lock Weldon came west. As they were only seventeen years old, too young to homestead, Lock went back East. In 1888, Wes Jr., homesteaded NE¼ 30-10-29 later moving to NW¼ 30-10-29 which he bought from Abe Rowand.

Dan Lund and his wife Charlotte and family arrived in 1892. They brought with them a carload of settlers effects. They piled the furniture up against their son Wesley's (**Wes Jr.**) shanty which went up in flames one Sunday. A spark from the stove was the cause of the fire. Dan bought the NE¼ 25-10-30 — C.P.R. land.

The fall of 1887 found Blair Lund and Edgar Weldon back in Sackville, N.B. Before the first crocus had bloomed at Lippentott in the spring of 1888, two young girls were farmers' wives, living on the Western Prairies. Blair had married a girl by the name of **Maggie O'Connor**. They raised a family of ten.

By the time **Ed** and **Frank** (James' sons) came to

Lippentott, most of the better available land had been homesteaded. **Walter** went on to Calgary, and worked in a packing plant.

Ed went to Oak Lake and worked at the carpenter trade. He also made and sold a grain pickler.

Frank, being a blacksmith, went to Prince Albert and worked at his trade for a short time. Later he took up taxidermy, building up a big wild-life exhibit. His son, **Gordon** took over the business.

**James Oliver Rowand** married Nell Lund and lived on the SE¼ 30-10-29. They had three children. Mr. Rowand was killed by a bull and died January 27, 1895 leaving a young widow to raise two small children.

**Jack Kinnear**, who married Liz Lund, raised one girl, **Mabel**.

John Lund was born April 5, 1819. His parents were George and Jane (previously Mrs. Ibbitson) Lund. He had a step brother George and two step sisters, Fanny and Ann (*History of Cookville* by G. M. Cook M.D. and also mentioned in "Cookville" by Robert E. Estabrooks). They came to New Brunswick in 1835, from Beverly, Yorkshire, England. John married Mary Ann Towse from Yorkshire, England on September 9, 1842. Both John and Mary Ann are buried in the little cemetery called Lippentott (This cemetery is located on Section 36-10-30 what is now known as the Simpson Farm, Sask.). Mary Ann, age 77 years, died December 11, 1894. John, age 85 years, died March 12, 1904. Many of this couple's descendants live in the Elkhorn area.

Much of the above has been taken from "Lippentott" as told by Ivan Lund, March 9, 1963.

Submitted by Marilyn Clayton

## The Lund Family

**Blair Lund** was born in 1858 in Sackville, New Brunswick, and came West in 1882 with his brother **Gil**. They purchased land on the Saskatchewan border near the districts of Lippentott and Woodville, 14 miles southwest of Elkhorn. Blair built a house then returned to the East and brought back a bride, the former **Margaret O'Connor**. They raised a family of five sons and five daughters. They were **Oliver, Rhoda, Lillian, Beatrice, Aubrey, Seward, Ethel, Earl, Orval** and **Jenny**.

A school was built in the Woodville District in 1890 where the Lund children attended. Later on, some of them went to the Elkhorn school. Non-denominational church services were held in John Lund's home and many babies were christened there. In 1892, the men of the district volunteered their services and built a Presbyterian Church.

Besides attending to the needs of her own large

family, Mrs. Lund found time to help the sick in the neighborhood and ushered many new babies into the world. She was always ready to give a helping hand when and wherever she was needed. Some time after Blair died in 1912, she bought a house in Elkhorn and some of the family moved with her in to town. This is where she lived until she died in 1926.

Oliver, a bachelor, was interested in sports and played second base on Elkhorn's first baseball team. He also belonged to the Woodville Rifle Club. He remained on the farm until his death in 1949.

Rhoda married **Billy Kay**. They farmed in the Maryfield district and had two children — **Claude** and **Della** (Mrs. Norman Murray).

Lillian married **George Burge** who worked in Lidster's Butcher Shop in Elkhorn for quite a few years, then purchased his own Meat Market in Yellow Grass, Saskatchewan. Later on, he bought a store and butcher shop in Weyburn. Their son **Jim** operates it at present. Their daughter, **Lila**, married **Jack Shupe**. They live in Victoria, British Columbia, where Jack coaches the Cougar hockey team.

Beatrice married **Earl Snyder** and they had six children. Beatrice was a faithful worker in the United Church Women's Institute. She passed away in January, 1977.

Aubrey married **Evelyn Boomhower** and farmed on the old home farm until ill health forced him to sell. They bought a house in Elkhorn but Aubrey passed away before the move was made in 1972. They had no children.

Seward married **Lillian Cole**. His hockey career took him to Trail, British Columbia, where he played with the Smoke Eaters and was employed by the Smelter until his retirement in 1968 to New Westminster. They had two children. **Donald** was killed in a plane accident in 1957 at the age of 22. **Mavis** married National Hockey League net-minder **Cesare Maniago**. They have 3 daughters who live in North Vancouver, British Columbia.

Ethel married **Don Black**, a Canadian Pacific Railway agent. They had one son, **Bill**, who resides in Calgary and he has five daughters. While in Elkhorn, Ethel was a devoted church worker and sang in the United Church choir for many years. Don's work took them to several stations, the last one being Moosomin where Don retired. Ethel passed away in January, 1977.

Earl married **Polly Cole**. They had six children. He and Seward purchased the Elkhorn Bakery in 1925 and operated it until 1935. Later, Earl went to help on the farm until his death in 1975.

Orval married **Shirley Wilken** of Yellow Grass, Saskatchewan. After serving in World War Two, he

became Postmaster at Yellow Grass until his retirement in 1967. They had no children.

Jenny died in 1900 at the age of three.

Seward, Orval and Earl, the sportsmen of the family, formed the forward line of the Elkhorn Hockey team until Seward and Orval were hired by other teams. When the hockey season was over Seward went on to baseball, being hired by outside teams.

submitted by Seward and Orval Lund

## Harry Lund's Family

Harry Lund's Mother and Father came from Sackville, New Brunswick in 1882. **Wes and Cora**



Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lund on their 50th wedding anniversary, 1949.

**Lund** came to the Lippentott district and farmed. They had a son **Harry** who was 12 years old and later they had a son **William**. Harry and William went to Kola School. When Harry finished school he obtained his first job working for the C.P.R., travelling from Winnipeg to Brandon for approximately 2 years. Then he returned to the Lippentott district and bought a farm beside the Pipestone Creek, ¼ section of land. Then his father gave him a ¼ section of the farm on which he lived, Section 32-10-29.

In 1899 Harry married **Alice Gibbons** of Winnipeg. They raised 10 children. From 1909 to 1915 he owned and operated a threshing machine powered by a George White steam engine.

Harry and Alice left the Lippentott district; later he sold the farm and moved to section 30-11-28 which is now owned by Ronnie Walker. They moved to the Fisher farm near Elkhorn in 1921 now owned by Gordon Brennand. While on the Fisher farm he started raising muskrats and sold the hides to a firm in Winnipeg. He grew wild rice to feed the animals and

for winter housing he made a small dug out, and covered it with poles and straw so the water inside wouldn't freeze. In the early years a very special event for the Lunds was when Harry would hitch up the team and democrat and take the family to Angusville to visit Mrs. Lund's relations. Harry was a good violinist and played for many school house dances. He played with Bill and John Paull, Mrs. Wilmar Leslie, Jim Bernie, Percy Jones, Tom Siple, Arthur Price, Bob Wilson and numerous others.

## Harry and Alice Lund's Children

In 1900, **Clifford** was born. He married **Grace Blaine** and had one son **James** (deceased). They lived around Elkhorn until 1963 and then moved to Lockport and farmed. He still runs a hobby farm for children and senior citizens.

**Hazel** was born in 1902. She married **Clarence Rowand** and had two children, **Margaret** and **Henry**. She is now deceased.

**Gladys** was born in 1903 (deceased). She was married to **Stan Gilbert** of Elkhorn. They had four children who all went to Elkhorn School. They are **Lloyd, Evelyn, Eileen** and **Gordon**.

**Albert** was born in 1905. He married **Nellie Williams** of Elkhorn. They had two children, **William** and **Nancy**. Albert and Nellie now reside in Regina.

**George** was born in 1907 and served overseas in World War II. After his return he married **Jean Bailey** (deceased). They had two children, **June** and **Ronald**. June married **Mervin Pedlow** and resides in Brandon. Ronald teaches school at Alonsa. June and Ronald both went to Elkhorn School. June has two boys.

**Leonard** was born in 1908. He married **Gladys Milroy** in 1940. They have two sons, **Ernest** and



Fiftieth anniversary of Harry and Alice Lund, taken in 1949. Front row: Harry and Alice Lund. Middle row: Bernard Lund, Gladys Gilbert, Cliff Lund, Bertha Ewing, Len Lund. Back row: George Lund, Albert Lund.

**Arnold** who also went to Elkhorn school. Len worked at the creamery and then pig ranching at Elkhorn for Ed Laurence. He was employed by the C.P.R. in 1948 and retired in 1973. He now resides in what was known as the Jim Rogers house. Arnold lives at Lampman, Sask. He married **Jean McDonald** and they have two daughters, **Sandra** and **Ava**. Arnold is a Battery man for Imperial Oil. Ernest married **Gerte Muswagon**. They have seven children, **Rachel, Ricky, Reata, Mary, Barbara, Ernie,** and **Bonnie**. Ernest works for the City of Winnipeg.

**Walter** was born in 1911 (deceased). He had two sons. He married **Dorothy Gibbons**. He served overseas with the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders in World War II. In France he lost his leg in battle. Walter was a really good hockey and baseball player.

These first seven of Harry Lund's children attended the Kola School. The other three attended the Elkhorn School.

**Bertha** (deceased) was born in 1915 and married **Bill Ewing** of Elkhorn. They had two children, **Larry** and **Betty** who both now reside in Winnipeg. Bill Ewing was a truck driver and hauled many loads of cream to Elkhorn creamery and also Reston. They moved to Winnipeg in 1948 and Bill worked for Reimer's trucking until he retired in 1978 and moved to Comox, B.C. Bill and Bertha both went to Elkhorn School.

Twin boys, **Bernard** and **Ernest** were born in 1916. Ernie farmed with his parents on the Fisher farm and later rented the Gilbert farm owned at the present time by Dale OGREYSIK, 17-11-28. After World War II Ernie and George became partners. Ernie's Mother and Father moved in with him. Ernie never married. He later moved to Elkhorn in 1969 and worked for the Municipality of Wallace.

Bernard married **Emma Conquergood** of Elkhorn. Bernard worked for the C.P.R. until he joined the army in 1942. He stayed in Canada till 1943 at which time he was sent to the Aleutian Islands for six months and served the duration of the war in England. He returned to Canada and continued to work for the C.P.R. for 31 years, retiring in Elkhorn. Bernard and Emma have three sons. The eldest, **Garry** resides in Dauphin and works for the Manitoba Telephone System. He married **Betty Haney** of Birtle in 1964. They have one daughter, **Pamela**. **Douglas** lives in Brandon and works for Burns Meat Plant. He married **Lynne Harrison** of Oak Lake. They have a son and a daughter, **Jamie** and **Jennifer**. **Dwayne** lives in Cranbrook, B.C. He is divorced and has two children, **Suzette** and **Douglas**. Dwayne is presently working for Tak's Television Service.

Harry Lund, after a very active life, passed away



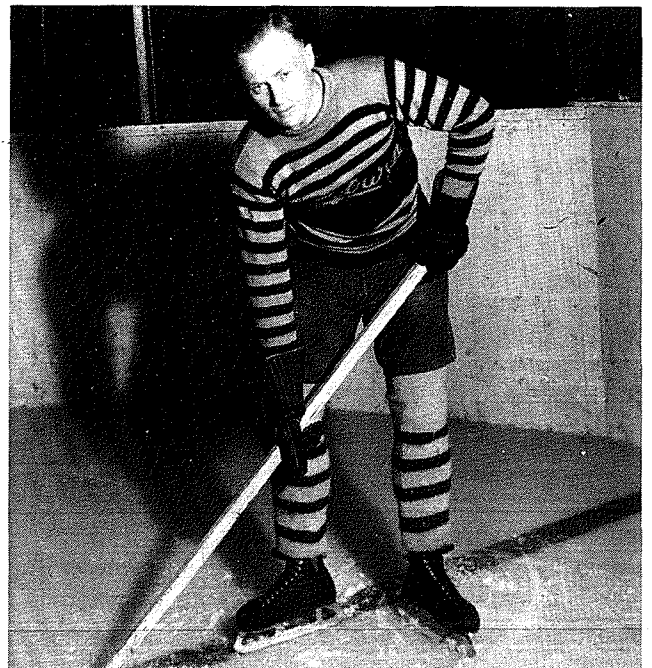
Taken at Bernie's retirement. Lynne and Doug Lund, Betty and Gary Lund, Emma Lund, Dwayne Lund, Bernie Lund.

in Elkhorn hospital in 1958. His wife, Alice, was a very kind and hard working woman. She raised 10 children and was a devoted mother. She was always ready when anyone needed help and was very handy at making patch work quilts which were given to the Women's Institute to be raffled off. The money from these quilts was sent overseas for cigarettes and treats in war time. Alice died in 1950 and was greatly missed by her family and good friends.

submitted by Emma Lund

### Lund — Orval (Odie)

**ORVAL** was born on a farm in the Lippentott District, the youngest son of Blair and Margaret. He attended school at Woodville, Inglefield and Elkhorn



Odie Lund playing hockey for Weyburn, Saskatchewan.



and farmed with his brothers Ollie and Aubrey. He was always interested in sports and especially hockey, playing at a young age with the Elkhorn senior team. In 1929 he left to play with the Kenora, Ont. "Thistles" team, then returned and played for Moosomin "Badgers" and it was while playing a game there he received a broken arm requiring a silver plate to be inserted. After this he pursued his hockey career with the Weyburn "Beavers" team along with his brother Seward or "Red" as he was better known. After several seasons he joined the Yorkton, Sask. "Terriers" for part of a season when he returned to work as a butcher for his brother-in-law George Burge at the shops in Weyburn and Yellow Grass.

During 1942 to 1945 he was in the armed forces with the Army Service Corps, upon his discharge he married **Shirley Wilken** of Yellow Grass and together they operated the post office there for 21 years, retiring in 1969. They still reside in that town. His favorite sport now is golfing.

submitted by Orval Lund

### Bill and Rolla Lund

Mrs. Rex homesteaded the N.W. quarter of 18-11-28 and her son Colin Rex homesteaded the S.W. quarter of 18-11-28 in the 1880's. Colin's wife was very delicate and as they never had any family they sold their farm to David McClure of Streetsville, Ontario. He and his eldest son Herb brought out a carload of settler's effects including four horses, the end of October, 1911. Mrs. McClure brought the other six children — Nellie, Grace, Rolla, Elva, Allan and Edgar by passenger train. In 1919 Rolla married Bill Lund of Kola District. Bill played baseball on the Lippentott team. They farmed there for seventeen years. Then they bought the David McClure farm and moved over there in 1937. They had five sons — **Norman, Kenneth, Morris, Roy and John**. In 1947 Kenneth took over the farm. Bill and Rolla moved into Virden and have lived there since. They celebrated their Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary at John Lund's home in Virden in 1979.

### Mr. and Mrs. Dave Lund

**Mr. and Mrs. Dave Lund** moved to Elkhorn from Maryfield, Sask., in the early 1930's and left again in 1935.

Their son **Jim** married a local girl, **Marion Walker**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Walker, in 1935. They had 3 children, **Lillian, Glen and Garth**. Jim died in 1966. Marion married Andrew Sweeting in 1971 and they reside in Maryfield, Sask.

Their daughter **Jean** taught school in Elkhorn for several years, first in High School then in Room



Mr. and Mrs. Dave Lund, Jim and Jean.

11. She married a local boy, **Leroy (Casey) Pearsall** in 1943. She died in 1965 at Brandon, Man.

submitted by Marion Sweeting

### Kenneth Lund

**Ken** was born in the Kola district, the second son of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Lund. He and his brothers rode horseback to Kola school where he received his education. In 1936 the family moved to the Buckingham district to the farm formerly owned by his Mother's parents, **Mr. and Mrs. David McClure**. He worked on the farm until he joined the R.C.A.F. in 1942 and served as an airframe mechanic. He was discharged in June, 1946. On Dec. 25, 1946 he married **Marion Towler** of Manson and they live on the farm formerly owned by his parents. Ken enjoys hunting, trapping and fishing. He is a member of the Elkhorn Legion No. 58.

This couple have four children — **Charles (Chuck), Gerald (Gerry), Patricia (Pat) and Randall (Randy)**.

Chuck received his education at Buckingham, Elkhorn and his degree in Civil engineering at U. of M. He worked at Dauphin for several years and while there took a flying course and got his pilot's license.



Ken and Marion Lund with their family. L-R: Randy, Pat, Gerry and Chuck.

He is active with cadets and is a member of Melita Legion. On July 22, 1978 he married **Doreen Kennedy** of Pierson and they have one daughter, **Erin**.

Gerry started school at Buckingham and completed his Gr. XII at Elkhorn. He took a welding course at Assiniboine College in Brandon. He worked in the mine at Soab Lake for several months and then returned home to farm. He plays guitar in the Moonlighter's Band. On April 29, 1972 he married **Lillian Lavoie** and they have two daughters, **Sheri** and **Shannon**.

Pat received her education at Buckingham, Elkhorn and Virden and worked at the Imperial Bank of Commerce in Elkhorn for two years prior to her marriage to **Claire Clark** on October 14, 1972. They farm in the Lyleton district and have two children, a daughter **Sierra** and a son **Travis**. Pat enjoys doing leather work and horse-back riding.

**Randy** started school at Buckingham and completed his education at Elkhorn. He worked in the Manitoba Pool elevator at Dauphin, with Sask. Pool construction at Assiniboia and is now working on the C.P.R. On October 18, 1975 he married **Joan Grant** of Miniota and they have two daughters, **Kelly** and **Lisa**. Randy enjoys refinishing old furniture and also making new furniture — dressers, china cabinets, etc.

Submitted by Marion Lund

### **Norman and Lola Lund Family History**

**Norman and Lola Lund** lived in the district and village of Elkhorn during 1945-46.

Norman is the eldest of five sons of **Bill and Rolla (McClure) Lund**. His grandparents were **Wes and Cora Lund**, who homesteaded in the Woodville-Kola district (Lippentott postal district) from

1883, coming from Sackville, N.B., and **David E. and Sarah McClure** who arrived in Elkhorn district from Ontario in 1911 and lived on the farm now owned by Ken and Marion Lund.

Lola is the second daughter of the late **Charles and Emily (Edmonds) Scott** of the McNaught-Maryfield district. Her grandparents, the late **George and Isabella Scott** homesteaded in the McNaught district in the early 1890's. Elkhorn was their town for many years before the birth of Maryfield.

Norman and Lola were married in 1943 when Norman was in the R.C.A.F. stationed in Winnipeg. They spent a few months in Winnipeg and Vancouver before being discharged in 1945. Their oldest son **Donald** was born before his discharge. **Mary** the eldest daughter was born in the village of Elkhorn.

In the fall of 1946 they bought the Kirkella Store from Wm. Feader. Here they served the community and helped with community activities such as the rink activities (mending hockey sticks and keeping gasoline lamps going before the hydro arrived). While in Kirkella, **Audrey, Larry and Gordon** were born.

In 1956 they sold the store to Edgar Towler and moved to Regina. In Regina, Norman worked for Weston Bakeries, Confederation Life Insurance, Fuller Brush and Humphrey Aluminum Windows Co. During this time **Edward, Myrna, Brian and Sandra** were born.

In 1964 the Norman Lund's moved to Mission, B.C. where they lived on a small hobby farm and Norman worked at Lawrence's Furniture Store until 1968 when he bought a bicycle shop and they moved to downtown Mission. Norman is still running the bicycle shop, known as "Lund's Cycle & Repair". Shortly after moving to Mission district **Valerie** was born, completing their family of five boys and five girls.

Now with the family pretty well grown up and most of them married, Norman and Lola try to make an annual visit with old friends and relatives and renew their many acquaintances at Elkhorn. There is nothing like going back to the Old Home Town.

submitted by Norman and Lola Lund

### **William McBean Family**

**William McBean** came from Morayshire, Scotland in 1909. He joined his brother Donald who was already farming on the Sand Plains north of McAuley. He stayed at the old Manitoba Hotel in Elkhorn on his first night on the prairies. In 1914 he bought his own farm three and a half miles north of Manson. He married **Lily Atchison** and three children were born: **Donald, Gordon, and Margaret**.

In 1941 Don joined the Army where he served for



William and Don McBean.

four and a half years as a cook and for a short time as batman for the Medical Officer. All this time was spent in Canada except for six months in the Aleutian Islands. After being discharged from the army he continued his education to acquire a teaching certificate. He taught for fourteen years in rural schools in Manitoba, retiring from teaching in 1965.

Gordon was a farmer on the home farm. In 1945 he married **Dorothy Jamieson** and they had four children: **Ross, Carol, Kenneth, and Douglas**. Gordon passed away in 1957 and son Douglas passed away in 1975.

Margaret married **Lloyd Bowles** in 1947 and they have six of a family — **Sharon, Gary, Beverley, Delbert, Lorrie, and Rodney**. Margaret and Lloyd reside in Elkhorn. Margaret trained to be a teacher and has put in seventeen years teaching school.

William McBean retired to live in Elkhorn in 1958 at age seventy. Here he was joined by his son **Don** who has made Elkhorn his home town since that time.

One of the highlights of William McBean's life was a trip back to his native land in 1949, where he spent six months visiting with relatives and sightseeing. One day in the town of Elgin, he was in a store and when the storekeeper heard his name was McBean he exclaimed, "Oh, I thought all the McBeans were killed at the Battle of Culloden!"

Now, at age ninety-two, Mr. McBean is living in the Westman Nursing Home at Virden.

Mr. McBean passed away January 10, 1982.

Submitted by: Don McBean

### The McClure Family

The McClure family moved to the Woodville district in 1911 from Ontario and farmed in the Woodville district. They had three boys and four girls. **Herb, Floyd, Allan and Nell** are now deceased as are Mr. and Mrs. McClure.

Allan was born in 1904 and farmed with his mother and dad until the early thirties. In 1936 he married **Ruby Turner** and in January, 1937 moved to Flin Flon where **Lauretta** and **David** were born.

In 1942 he moved to Vancouver and worked in the ship yards during the war. The next move was back to Elkhorn where he farmed for awhile and **Joy** was born in Elkhorn.

Then we bought a house in Brandon and worked for the Manitoba Pool elevators until his death on April 3, 1976.

Lauretta married **Don Peterson** and resides in Edmonton. They have four children. **Darcy and Bradley** are married and have three boys. **Darren and Leanne** are still at home.

David lives at Williams Lake and has four children.

Joy lives at Edmonton and has three children. I have twelve grandchildren and three great-grandchildren and I now reside in Moosomin.

Ruby McClure

### David E. McClure

On the second of November in the year 1911, **Mr. David E. McClure** moved his family to the Colin D. Rex farm, that he had purchased from Mr. Rex. The farm, southwest of Elkhorn, known as 18-11-28 (Parlington Farm). Mr. McClure farmed there for a number of years; he also raised pure bred cattle.

The McClure family moved from Lisgar, Ontario, Peel County. Mr. David McClure was born at Churchville, Ontario, Peel County. Mrs. David McClure (nee **Sarah Anne Anthony**) was born in Brampton, Ontario and taught school there before her marriage.

The David McClure family consisted of seven children — namely; **Herbert James** of Abbotsford, B.C. (deceased), **Gladys Ellen** (Nellie) (Mrs. Frank J. Walker of Vancouver, B.C. (deceased), **Mary Etta Grace** (Mrs. Thos Craig) of Stratford, Ontario, **Rolla Laurena** (Mrs. Wm. Lund) of Virden, Man., **Sadie Elva** (Mrs. Wesley G. Gilbert) of Stratford, Ontario, **William Allan** of Brandon, Manitoba (deceased), and **David Edgar** of Port Coquitlam, B.C.

Elva McClure was married to Wesley Gilbert on August 17, 1929 at Virden. Their family consists of two sons: **Ronald M. Gilbert** B. Comm., C.A. of Barrie, Ontario (Ronald has one son, **Douglas**, fourteen years old), **John Gilbert** B.A., M.A. (has two daughters, **Sarah**, three and one half and **Melanie**, two and one half) of Toronto, Ontario.

Wesley Gilbert was a funeral director in Stratford for a number of years, selling the business in 1958, and now living, retired. Elva McClure was a nurse, class of 1924, Grace Hospital, Winnipeg.

The McClure family attended Woodville, and Elkhorn Schools, also the Presbyterian Church and latterly the United Church in Elkhorn.

submitted by Elva Gilbert (nee McClure)

### The McClymonts

**James and Agnes McClymont**, the former **Agnes Hutchison**, came to Canada from Scotland in 1886 settling in the Elkhorn District later known as the Buckingham District.

They homesteaded the south quarter of 4-11-28 known as the Newton Hill farm, later buying the Northwest quarter of 4-11-28. They farmed with oxen and later with horses. They lived in a shanty and had a sod stable, later building a nice home.

The McClymonts had no family of their own but played an important part in helping to raise James Hutchison's family of six who were left very young by the death of their mother in 1906 and their father in 1911. Andrew, the youngest, was brought up as the McClymont's own, being left a tiny baby. James McClymont died in 1917 and his wife Agnes in 1940.

by Andrew Hutchison

### Mr. and Mrs. Alfred McColl

**Alfred McColl** was born in Millersburg, Michigan and came to Canada with his parents. They settled in Neptune, Saskatchewan. It was here he met and married **Constance Hodson** (eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Hodson of Elkhorn) who was teaching school there. They lived at Neptune for a couple of years, then moved to the Burnbank district. In 1930, they moved to the Jeffery district where they resided until they moved to Elkhorn in 1971. They had a family of seven children:

**Bert:** lives in Carberry, Manitoba.

**Roy:** deceased (1927-1946).

**Glen:** see Glen McColl family.

**Jack:** married **Beverly Carter** of Rocky Mountain House, Alberta. They have a family of two — Terry and Judy — and reside at Condor, Alberta.

**Margaret:** see William Bartley family.

**Jim:** married **Shirley Brennand** of Elkhorn. They have a family of four girls — Darlene, Donna,

Diana, and Denise. They live at Fife Lake, Saskatchewan.

**Ron:** married **Rosemary Oliver** of Port Hope, Ontario. They reside in Toronto, Ontario.

### Mr. and Mrs. Glen D. McColl

**Glen Douglas** is the third son of the late **Alfred and Connie (Hodson) McColl** of the Willen district.

**Elsie (Kliever) McColl** is the youngest daughter of the late **Henry and Annie (Tiessen) Kliever**.



Back row L-R: Roy, Rhonda, Glen, Elsie, Brenda, Vance, Glen Allan, Travis and Charlotte in front.

We were married in Elkhorn in the year 1952. We lived in Elkhorn for fourteen years. Glen was employed with Russell and Nylin Garage, and later worked with Trans Prairie Pipe Lines as gauger in Virden. We moved to the farm in 1966 where we now live.

We have three sons. Our oldest son, **Roy**, was born in 1954. He married **Rhonda Lee Shepherd**, daughter of Stuart and Rosella Shepherd in 1975. They have two children, **Charlotte** and **Travis**. They lived in Elkhorn for four years. Roy is in the Corral Cleaning business. They moved to their farm in 1980.

Our second son, **Vance**, was born in 1957. He married **Brenda Lee Watson**, daughter of Bill and Grace Watson in 1980. They live in Richmond, B.C. Vance is employed with C.P. Air as Computer Programmer. Brenda Lee is a registered nurse in Richmond Hospital.

Our youngest son, **Glen Allan**, was born in 1962. He graduated in Elkhorn in 1980, and is presently

employed with Ed Penner Construction Ltd., Kola, Manitoba.

submitted by Mr. and Mrs. Glen D. McColl

### McCorkindale

Mrs. Edith McCorkindale had the honor of being one of the oldest residents in the village. She came to Elkhorn with her family from New Brunswick when a very young child and has taken an active part in our community life over the years. Her husband, the late Mr. J. M. McCorkindale was also extremely active in community service. He was born on the Island of Coll, Scotland in 1878, and was better known to everyone as "Mac". Mr. McCorkindale served for 12



Mrs. McCorkindale.

years on the Council and was Mayor for two terms. He was postmaster for approximately 25 years, when he retired in 1950. A tailor by trade, he operated his business in the village prior to enlisting in World War I in the 79th Battalion, his rank being Regimental Sergeant Major. After the War, Mr. McCorkindale opened a bakery and confectionery in the village.

He was a member of the Masonic Lodge for almost 50 years, serving one term as District Deputy Grand Master. In 1952 he was presented with his life membership in the Great War Veterans. In 1954 he was made a life member in the Canadian Postmaster's

Association and had the honor of being the first person to receive such an award.

Mr. McCorkindale passed away on November 13, 1961.

After the death of her husband, Mrs. McCorkindale continued to live an active life in her home and community. On March 10, 1969, an open house was held in her honor. Guests were received by her two nieces, Mrs. Lenora Williams and Mrs. Eva Gordon. Her brother, Harry Harrison was present.

She passed away July 14, 1970 and was buried in the Elkhorn cemetery.

### McDonalds

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey McDonald moved to Elkhorn in May, 1974. They farmed south of Virden, in the Loggan District, for a great many years, on the McDonald farm where Harvey was born. The last sixteen years, before coming to Elkhorn, Harvey was area manager and buyer for the Manitoba Pool Cattle Feeders Association. Beryl taught school in a neighboring district before they were married. They are now members of Trinity United Church, Elkhorn.

They have a family of two, a son Gerald in Winnipeg, and a daughter Kathleen, Mrs. W. G. Pocatello of Wetaskiwin, Alberta.

Submitted by B. McDonald

### Henry (Harry) McKibbon

Henry (Harry) McKibbon was born in Pembroke, Ontario and came with his brother John-son to the Archie Municipality in 1928. Harry worked on various farms in the district and farmed for awhile on section 18-13-28.

In 1931 he married Flora Kelsey, daughter of Robert and Adelaide Kelsey. They had come west to the Archie district from Ontario in 1894. Robert Kelsey filed a homestead claim on the Quarter Sec-



Harry and Flora McKibbon.



Robert and Adelaide Kelsey.

tion 14-14-29 for ten dollars on condition he would break the land. He worked all day at whatever jobs he could find in the district and in the evening by moonlight his wife Adelaide would lead the oxen and he would plow till near dawn to prove up his homestead. They lived in a one room log shack with a sod roof and transported their grain to Moosomin a distance of seventeen miles by wagon box and oxen. Later he was able to buy a horse and in the winter he would hitch the horse to a stone boat and with Harry on the horse's back and his brother-in-law, Tom Thompson, on the stoneboat they would go to Moosomin for supplies. Robert would gallop the horse so by the time they reached Moosomin Tom Thompson would be completely covered with snow.

Mr. Kelsey helped build the railroad from Manson to McAuley. In later years he was known as a "Master Farmer". Their homestead is now owned by Fred Crosson. Mr. Kelsey died in Elkhorn in 1938 and his wife Adelaide in 1942.

Harry and Flo McKibbon had one daughter, **Cora**, who died in 1963. They moved to Elkhorn in 1931 and Harry worked for Inter Provincial Pipeline at Cromer for ten years and as caretaker of the Elkhorn Medical Unit for ten years. He retired in

1978 and helped out at Merv's Barber Shop and looked after the golf course. He still continues to do yard work for Mrs. Doc. Hennan. Flo enjoys an active life with her grandchildren and loves to garden and work in the yard. Harry and Flo celebrated their fiftieth Wedding Anniversary in 1981 and continue to live in Elkhorn.

### **John McLeod Sr.**

**John McLeod Sr.** was born in Wick, Caithness, Scotland in 1837. He came to Canada as a traveller, selling cotton for a firm in Wick. John started a store in Rockwood, Ontario. While in business in Rockwood he had as his clerks J. J. Hill and Cornelius Van Horne of railroad fame. J. J. Hill left Rockwood to go west with twenty-five cents in his pocket and ended up a millionaire railroad magnate, built in St. Paul railroad and later the Grand Trunk. He credited John McLeod with good early training.

John married **Agnes Smith** whom he met at her father's farm. She was born in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1845. Her family had immigrated to Canada and taken up farming five miles from Rockwood.

They lived in Rockwood for several years and their family were all born there.

**Janet**, born December 19, 1861; died July 13, 1896.

**Isabella**, born June 9, 1863; married **Charles Burns**, station agent at Elkhorn. This wedding was the first marriage ceremony performed in Elkhorn. The first station was an 8x12 shack and the first church service was held in this building in 1882. The Burns family later went to Oak Lake to live. Their children were **Toots**, (Mrs. C. W. Brown, Des Plains, Illinois) and **Dr. Chas. Burns**, a well known doctor in Winnipeg and **Edna Burns Dawson**.

**Agnes Christena**, born November 3, 1864. Agnes married **William Theodore Kennedy**.

**Mary Ashley**, born February 19, 1866. She married **W. J. Thompson**, editor of the Elkhorn Advocate. They have one son **J. W. M. Thompson**, Judge, of Winnipeg.

**William**, born May 28, 1867; lived in New York.

**John**, born October 4, 1868; married **Annie Lund**. Issue: **Hugh John, Elaine** (Mrs. Armstrong,) **Lloyd**.

**James Smith**, born December 7, 1868; married **Alice Gillespie** of Virden. They had six children; **Agnes Christie, James Smith**, deceased, **Alice Willis, Eleanor Stanley, Mary P. McRae, Ruth Coultis**, all living in Alberta.

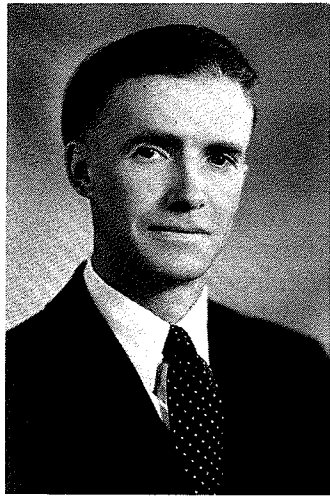
John moved West with his family to Manitoba in



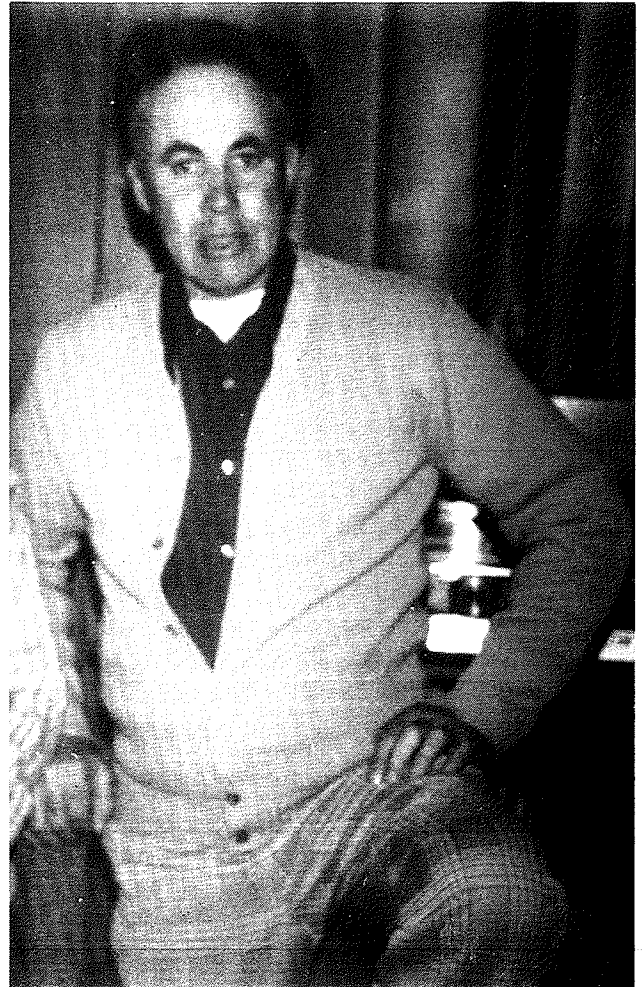
McLeod Five Generations. John McLeod.



John Jr. McLeod.



Lloyd McLeod



Llyal McLeod.



Lloyd Jr., James McLeod.



Mary and James McLeod taken at west end of main street (Richill Ave.) around 1900.

1861 by settlers' train. He set up his first tent store in Brandon but soon moved on to Virden. They took a homestead near Virden two and one half miles southeast, where the family lived while John established his tent store in Elkhorn. Later a stone store was built which became a landmark for many years. He walked to Plum Coulee to register his land. He also became the first postmaster in Elkhorn. Years later his great-grandson, John Armstrong, was also appointed the postmaster in Elkhorn. A portrait of John McLeod is hung in the Elkhorn Post Office.

Agnes Smith McLeod died suddenly of heart failure on the farm near Virden.

John McLeod took a great interest in farming as well as his other ventures and always kept his farm well stocked with plenty of choice animals. Besides the farm at Virden he also had a farm near Elkhorn.

He was a staunch Presbyterian whose seat in the church was never vacant as long as he was able to attend. When he died in 1898, his funeral was the largest ever known in the history of the town. His pall bearers were George Allison, Allan McLeod, E. Ives, T. T. Smith, R. Travis, J. S. Jones.

Submitted by: Mary McRae

### John McLeod Jr. and Family

**John McLeod** was born in 1871 in Rockwood, Ontario and came west with his father in 1881.

When he first arrived they had a farm near Virden which they operated for a number of years. In 1895 he married **Annie Lund** of the Lippentott district, and they took up farming on N.E. 34-11-28.

They had three of a family — **Elaine** (Mrs. Silas Armstrong) of Elkhorn, **Hugh-John**, formerly of Winnipeg now deceased, and **Lloyd** of Elkhorn.

John was a great stockman, and took pride in raising good cattle and horses. He was also an avid sportsman, being active in lacrosse, football, baseball and hockey. He was a well-known curler and served as president of the local club. He belonged to the Forrester's Lodge for many years and was a member of the St. Andrew's Society. He also belonged to the Old Timers' Association organized about 1899.

Mrs. McLeod was an active church worker and served as president of the Ladies Aid for a number of years. She was also interested in sports and enjoyed curling and skating.

After Mrs. McLeod's death in 1928, John and son Lloyd farmed together until John's death in 1942.

### McLeod-Kennedy

**Agnes Christina McLeod** was born in Rockwood, Ontario, on the 3rd day of November, 1864, the third daughter of John and Agnes McLeod. She came west with her parents and family in 1881 and to





L-R Mary McLeod (Thompson), Agnes McLeod (Kennedy).

Elkhorn in 1882. She took an active part in the family business until her marriage in 1912 to **Mr. W. Theodore Kennedy** of Virden, who was the district registrar of the Land Titles Office. They moved to Brandon in 1920 when Mr. Kennedy was appointed to the Brandon Land Titles Office and resided there until Mr. Kennedy's retirement in 1933. Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy then came back to Elkhorn to make their home. Mr. Kennedy passed away in January, 1942. He had been among the first of the graduates of the University of Manitoba, class of 1881.

Mrs. Kennedy, known to all as "Aunt Aggie" as the earlier history of Elkhorn stated, took part in the re-opening ceremony of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce in 1946 by making the first deposit. At the 60th Anniversary of The Presbyterian Church of Elkhorn held in the United Church in 1948 she performed the ceremonial cutting of the birthday cake. She had been organist in the earlier days of the Presbyterian church for fourteen years.

Mrs. Kennedy passed away in July, 1961 in her 97th year.

by J. W. M. Thompson

### Lloyd S. McLeod Family

**Lloyd** was born in Elkhorn in 1901. He married **Mary Siple** in 1921. They had three children — **Llyal** of Elkhorn, **Doris** — formerly of Washington, D.C., now deceased, and **Ennis, Mrs. Frank O'Greysik** of Elkhorn.

In 1928, Lloyd's mother passed away and his father and Lloyd, Mary and family farmed on the farm now operated by Llyal. Mary and Llyal operated a dairy business for a good number of years until her death in 1944.

In 1947 Lloyd married the former **Phyllis Mitchell**. They had one daughter **Judy** (Mrs. Ken Cruickshank) now living in Brandon.

Lloyd farmed with his son for a few years, and moved into Elkhorn in 1955, where he worked for the local hotel, and as caretaker of the school (Collegiate). Phyllis worked in the local post office for five years.

Lloyd and Phyllis took over Max Ross's store and later built a new store, which is now the Elkhorn Library.

Lloyd was a member of the Elkhorn Agricultural Society and was made an Honorary President in 1967. He served on the Elkhorn School Board in the early 1930's and when a resident of Elkview Lodge served on that board.

submitted by Lloyd and Phyllis McLeod

### Llyal and Anne McLeod

**Llyal**, the only son of **Mary and Lloyd McLeod Sr.**, started out farming with his grandfather, father and the help of several hired men. Later in years he farmed on his own and married **Anne Tyhy**, from Manson in 1952.

Together they continued farming and raised four children. The children were educated in the local school and both sons were involved with the various local Elkhorn hockey teams.

**Lloyd Jr.** married the former **Carol Bernard** in October of 1978 and resides in Miniota. **Janet** and **Mavis** both work in the surrounding area and **James** is farming the home place with his father.

The McLeod farm has experienced pleasant, sad, as well as hard times within its 100 years and now that the fifth generation is taking over, Llyal's sons will more than likely experience the same.

### McLeod-Thompson

When **Wellington John Thompson** and **Mary Ashley McLeod** were married in Elkhorn on the 18th

of January, 1905, they already had a history as pioneers in the Community.

Mary Ashley McLeod was born in Rockwood, Ontario on the 19th day of February, 1866, the fourth daughter of **John and Agnes Smith McLeod**. She came west with her parents and family in the year 1881, arriving in Elkhorn in 1882; a girl of sixteen years. Mary immediately became active in her father's store and the Post Office. She continued as a merchant and in the business life of the Community for sixty-five years. Elkhorn, in the early years, was the centre of a far-flung area. There were no railroads to the north or south. Mail was delivered as far away as Parkissimo (Miniota) and Beulah. The store carried a wide variety of goods; in addition to food, men's great fur coats, ladies' millinery and shoes, men's clothing, general dry goods and hardware. Extended credit was the order of the day and farmer customers would come in after harvesting their crop in the fall and pay their account for the entire season.

W. J. Thompson was born in Caledonia, Ontario and came to Manitoba in 1891, when he was twenty-one. A printer and journalist, he spent some months with the *Virten Advance* and then settled in Elkhorn and established *The Advocate*. He later founded the *Moosomin World* which he sold to a local company. The *Advocate* was first published in the printing plant installed in Elkhorn by the Canadian Government for the purpose of instructing Indian boys of the Washakada Industrial school in Elkhorn in the printing trade. The school, at the time, was located in the area to the south of the Elks' Stadium at the corner of First Street and Railway Avenue. The teaching of a trade was, in a sense, a forerunner of the present day Community College concept. When the plant was removed at the beginning of 1899, Mr. Thompson acquired his own press, and had for some time on his staff a number of the boys who had learned the trade.

In 1910, after publishing some twenty years, he discontinued *The Advocate* and became associated with the business of the General Store and farm.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Thompson took an active part in Community affairs. Mrs. Thompson helped to organize church and educational activities, including the teaching of pioneer children. She was an ardent sportswoman, particularly riding and skating and maintained a keen interest in public affairs. Among offices held were trustee of the Elkhorn School District and president of the local chapter of the I.O.D.E. during the First Great War.

Mr. Thompson served the community as Magistrate, Notary Public, and Mayor. He played an active role in the promotion of agricultural, athletic, political, and social organizations. He was a president and long time secretary-treasurer of the St. Andrews So-

ciety and president of the Conservative Association for many years.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson had one son, **John William McLeod Thompson** born July 18, 1908. submitted by John Thompson

### **The Village Tinsmith and His Family**

"He cuts his way through galvanized iron with a hefty pair of snips, and aptly applied irons and solder to stop many a leak." Taken from an article written about the "Tinsmith" from the *Elkhorn Mercury*, 1937.

**George Frederick William Mallett** was born at Port Hope, Ontario in November of 1884, the eldest son of Mary Jane Cordon and Albert William Mallett. He came west with his parents and two brothers in 1891, by train to Moosomin, Saskatchewan. They brought with them two horses, and a Jersey cow, and he helped his father attend to their needs when the train stopped for coal and water. The trip took one week. When they arrived in Moosomin, Swanson's Delivery took them to their home. They had to stop overnight at Willen, and then got to the Brundette Farm, near Welwyn, Saskatchewan (then the North West Territories) the next day. It was the spring when they arrived, and so they planted twenty one bushels of wheat. However, that fall they only reaped twenty-two bushels. So to earn money for winter provisions the father followed the threshing machines and measured the grain by a bushel measure. Fred lived with his parents on his farm for four years until 1895, when his parents decided they would like to have a homestead near McAuley, Manitoba. They hitched up the horse and buggy and drove to Birtle, Manitoba and there they purchased one of the last homesteads for ten dollars. There was great celebration that night, and Fred remarked later it was the first time they had had a pudding since leaving Ontario; the kind escaped his memory, but likely rice or tapioca!

There wasn't a house on the homestead, but there was a big hill, so two caves were dug in the side of the hill, one for the animals, and one for the family. Next year these were enlarged. Four years passed before they were able to move into a house.

Cherry Grove school was built just across the road from their home, but there were chores to be done on the farm. Grain was hauled to Elkhorn to be ground into flour. Fred liked to go hunting in the Riding Mountains in the winter time, heading out with a team, and making Foxwarren by nightfall and the mountains the next day.

In 1900 Fred went to work on a farm in the Orangeville District near Rocanville, as a hired hand. He stayed there one year and then went to George Kerr at Fleming. His salary was to be twenty

dollars a month for the first eight months, but when times were slack it dropped to five dollars a month. He stayed there a year and a half, and then took an apprenticeship with the local tinsmith in Fleming. It was not until 1910 that he was able to move back to McAuley and open his own shop with living quarters upstairs.

During the time he was in Fleming his brother Roy took sick, and his brother Norman went by horseback to Moosomin, Saskatchewan to get the doctor. Before the doctor arrived Roy died of appendicitis.

Meanwhile **Agnes Knowles** was born October, 1889, the fourth child of Frances Mickle and Thomas Knowles near Emerson, Manitoba. She received her grade education at Dufferin School and boarded in Emerson to receive her High School education.

Because their home was near the Red River, there was always the danger of spring floods. One year when she was around 12 years old she remembered the water coming in on the kitchen floor. She and her sister tried desperately to mop it up, but as it wouldn't stop they took the partially baked bread from the oven, and a can of honey, and fled upstairs. There they remained with the family until the next day when they were taken by row boat, four miles to higher land. When she looked back she saw three calves and a flock of geese on the roof of the sod stable. It was almost three weeks before the water receded enough that they could return to their own farm once more.

After high school, Agnes went to Winnipeg for normal training to become a teacher. The training lasted three months. Her first school was at Woodmore where she remained one year. This was the year Halley's Comet was sighted. Then to Menzie School for two years where she was instrumental in organizing the Order of the Royal Templers, and also procuring an organ for the school. Then to Cherry Grove School for two years. As the Mallett farm was close by, she boarded with them.

There she met Fred and in June, 1916 they were married at the Plum Valley Farm, her home at Emerson, Manitoba. They returned to McAuley, and in March, 1917, Albert was born. On July 12, 1917 they moved to Elkhorn where they rented a house facing the railway tracks between Beaver Lumber yard and the Municipal Office. Fred was hired by George Earle, manager of the Elkhorn Trading Company, as a tinsmith and general helper. One of his jobs was to make and line the rough boxes for the coffins. Mr. Earle was also the undertaker.

Shortly after, they purchased a bungalow on the last street at the last of town, and in 1925 Fred was able to open his own shop, near where the Stadium

now stands. Ronald was born in 1919, Clifford in 1922, and finally Amy in 1926.

In 1929 there were plans to bring electric power to Elkhorn, so the council decided to ask the Manitoba Power Commission to supply the power. Fred advertised for a qualified electrician to come to help and to teach him, and Allen Lee of Portage la Prairie answered the call. Between them and another couple they wired Elkhorn, then Pipestone and Cromer, parts of Wawanesa and McAuley. Then as work slackened and the depression was upon them, he worked a few days a week for Mr. Bridgett in Virden.

When he had his own shop, his father loved to come to visit, checker board in hand, hoping to talk some one into a game, while repairs were being made to his pail or whatever.

During World War II five men, including Fred, started the "Woodpeckers" association. They purchased an old car, turned the chassis into a trailer, and rigged up the engine as a sawing outfit. Then they hauled and cut sixteen loads for each member.

During this time the children were busy growing up. They all attended Elkhorn Public and High School and Trinity United Church. **Albert** delivered papers for the Winnipeg Tribune, until finally getting a job at Bartley's General Store. He was always most interested in sports — catcher for the Elkhorn All Stars, hockey and tennis, until in 1937 he left for Sudbury, Ontario, and got a job with a surveying crew. From there he went on as a laborer in the smelter. It was while working as a clerk typist he became interested in Investors Syndicate. He started working with them part-time in 1943 and finally full-time in 1946, opening his own office in Sudbury in 1949 and was assistant manager of the Toronto division. In 1952 he became manager of the Sudbury division. In 1959 he was appointed Vice-President and General Sales Manager and was moved to Winnipeg. In 1963 he was elected Vice-President and Director of Sales and in 1964 appointed Executive Vice-President of Western Savings and Loan. In 1970 he started his own Mutual Fund Dealer Brokership: Pro-Fund Distributors Ltd., 811-294 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, with offices in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. He is married to the former **Margaret Nickerson Greer** of Edmonton, Alberta, and they reside in Winnipeg, as do his two sons **Rick** and **Al**.

Meanwhile **Ronald** was delivering the Winnipeg Free Press, until he finished his grade 12. He also enjoyed tennis, but his great love was music, first the cornet and then the accordion. He always enjoyed being invited to play at the local fowl suppers — a good tune, and an excellent meal! After finishing school, he took a course by correspondence in air

conditioning. He went to Chicago for the final test. With the start of war and while waiting for his call from the Air Force, he went to Fort William to work at Canada Car, which was now building aeroplane parts. He spent about two months in the Army until his transfer came through. He went overseas in the fall of 1942 as an observer, with the rank of Pilot Officer. He was killed November 30th, 1942 and is buried at the Evesham Cemetery at Stratford on Avon in England.

**Clifford** took over Ab's paper route, and seemed to like to putter around the tin shop. However, with the war, he also left for Fort William to work at Canada Car. He joined the R.C.A.F. as a pilot, and upon his discharge went to work at the smelter in Sudbury as a truck driver. Then he went to Steep Rock where he met **Mary Waldner** of Saskatoon. They were married in 1947 and Clifford moved back to Elkhorn to help his Dad and finally to take over the business. By now, the tin shop had been moved to a lot on Second Street, and changed into a home for the Malletts. Fred had a small shop on Main Street, but with Cliff's arrival home, a much larger building was erected, with living quarters at the back. Cliff and Mary had four children, **Jacqueline, Ronald, Dennis** and **Catherine**. Clifford passed away in July, 1975.

As for **Amy**, there was school, the church, working for Max Ross and Mrs. Charles Bartley, leaving for Sudbury, a year of working for Eaton's, a transfer to Brandon with Eaton's, and meeting and later marrying **Ivan Forsyth** in 1948. Ivan is the only son of Grace McKnight and Watty Forsyth, who was an operator at the C.P.R. in Elkhorn from 1935 to 1938. They had five children, **Dianne, Gordon, Douglas, Kenneth** and **Judith** who passed away in April, 1975. They are now in Montreal, Quebec.

Can you remember the anxious time when on the Saturday before Christmas your brothers leave in the morning with a sandwich and an axe looking for that perfect poplar tree for the Christmas tree, and they don't arrive home till almost dusk! Or perhaps smoothing out the silver tobacco papers to cover that perfect star your father had to make each Christmas, and he wasn't satisfied until every one of the five points were equal! Or perhaps that first year when you have a real fir tree, with colored lights. Presents are forgotten for awhile in the thrill. The Christmas concerts at the church when all you see are shadows on the sheet, and you think they are hurting your brother, and you cry out, until he finally comes out to show you they weren't operating on him after all! Or perhaps being stuck in a room for six whole weeks, having caught scarlet fever. You hope that perhaps you will be able to stay at the "shop" overnight, as

your brothers did and have your dad do the cooking; but the Doctor arranges to have the house fumigated too quickly, and your brothers are anxious to get home to Mom's cooking! Or perhaps when you take your new Christmas doll over to show Nurse Young, and after quickly admiring it, she sends you home, saying that you better have your mom look at you. It really wasn't any fun at home. Mom had been up all night nursing your brothers who had got measles during the night and she was so tired! I had them too!

We did not have a telephone so Dr. Goodwin sometimes escaped to our home for a fast sleep. But when Dr. Johnston arrived, he used our home for a different purpose. Many a tonsil was extracted with the kitchen table as the operating table, and the sun shining through the kitchen bay window.

Agnes helped organize a softball league. She curled and was a member of the Ladies Aid for about 30 years, and the Women's Institute for about twenty years. She taught mission band, and while the war was on did all she could for the Red Cross. She enjoyed a good game of croquet on the church lawn. She was always interested in anything that involved young people, and was always to stand up for their rights. She never missed voting day. She enjoyed her garden, especially the flowers, and was active in the maintenance of the park across the street from her home. Together Fred and Agnes acted as Park Supervisors until it became too much of a chore for them.

Fred was a member of the Orange Lodge for fifty-seven years. He was also a councillor. He helped with the plans and building of both Stadiums, and was an executive on the board for several years. He was caretaker of the Stadium for six years. He really enjoyed a good baseball or softball game, but especially liked curling, a "wick and roll"! He always



Curlers. L-R: Dave Hutchison, Cal McRae, Fred Mallett, Rudy Schoen.

threw out a challenge with his "family" rink for New Year's Day. He and Albert went to Virden Bonspiel in 1937 and won the Grand Aggregate, and came proudly home with two sets of dishes.

He enjoyed his garden, especially the size of the vegetables, and was most proud of the crabapple trees which provided the neighbours with plenty of jam and jellies, for years. He loved the fact that he had the first color TV in Elkhorn. How he would have enjoyed it, if he had known when it came time to see, that we had the first "Garage Sale."

Fred and Agnes celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in June, 1966, and enjoyed every minute of the day. Fred passed away July 15, 1970 and Agnes August 24, 1973, leaving behind a heritage of rich memories of good lives well spent, and love!

submitted by Amy (Mallett) Forsyth

### The Manwaring Family

Our family, consisting of my wife **Mona**, daughters **Barbara** and **Sharon** and son **Ron**, came to Elkhorn in 1963. We purchased Mooney's Drug Store from **Jack Norris** and also took over the Norris house which we have lived in ever since. Both Mona and I were born in the Birtle district where my grandfather had come in the 1880's. Mona's parents were natives of Yorkshire, England who came first to the Minnedosa area around 1909 and moved to the Ellice district, between Birtle and St. Lazare around 1912. Our two daughters were born in Birtle and Ron in Binscarth, which was our residence prior to moving to Elkhorn. Our children all attended Elkhorn school for varying periods of their education. I was the owner of the drug store until December of 1977 when it was purchased by Glen Sutley, the present owner.

During our years in Elkhorn, I served on the Village council for three terms, was a member of the Elkhorn Masonic Lodge, the Elkhorn Golf Club, the Elkhorn Curling Club, Chamber of Commerce and the Elkhorn Legion. Mona belonged to the Rebekah Lodge and the Hospital Auxiliary and worked with me in the store. Since our retirement, we have spent most of each winter in Weslaco in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas and quite a bit of the summer at Clear Lake. However, we are still proud to call Elkhorn our home and we still have our house here.

Submitted by Doug Manwaring

### Peter F. Martens Family History

**Peter F. Martens** was born in Samara, Russia. His family lived in good farming country there. In 1924, as a seventeen year old young man, Mr. Martens came to Manitoba. This was after the communist government had taken all their land away, leaving them with no means of a livelihood. The John Koops of southeastern Manitoba helped the Martens family financially so the move could be made. A couple of years later Peter married the Koop's daughter, **Helen**.

Peter and Helen Martens lived on a small farm in the Ste. Anne area for about thirty years. It was here that their twelve children were born, one of whom died as a baby. They felt crowded and there was no room for their farm to expand, so they began looking around for land.

What Peter Martens looked for was good farming land, with the kind of soil they had in Russia.

With others, they came to the Elkhorn-Maryfield area. Yes, here it was, a good eight inches of topsoil, just what Mr. Martens was looking for.

In 1957 they rented a farm and in 1958 Mr. Mar-



L-R Back row: Ron and Sharon Walker, Doug and Mona Manwaring, Barbara and Don Clarke. Front row: Jamie Walker, Ryan and Jason Clarke, Kelly and Carrie Walker. Insert left: Ron Manwaring. Insert right: Terry Walker.

tens, with his son **Jake**, purchased seven quarters of land. **Abe**, another son, had already bought a small farm then and was busily building a house. That first year or so Mr. and Mrs. Martens, with the family they had at home, lived with the Jake Reddekop family.

Those years, the Martens did all their business in Elkhorn, and also got their mail there, although their farm was just across the Manitoba border into Saskatchewan.

In 1967 Mr. Martens sold his land to the Saskatchewan Land Bank. Son **Cornie** rented the land and some years later purchased some. He, with his family, farm it today.

Peter and Helen Martens moved to Kola in 1971. They still had the farming urge so bought a small farm in the Arawana district, which by now, only the two of them farmed. They retired soon after.

Living in the vicinity now are sons **John**, **Abe**, **Jake**, **Cornie** and **Leonard** with their families.

submitted by Helen Martens

## A Chapter In Our Lives

Our father, **Thomas William Martin**, was born in County Durham, England in 1892. After the loss of his father, his mother later remarried, and Dad was sent at the age of seven years to a Dr. Barnardo's home on Jersey Island.

At the age of nine, he was sent to Canada by boat to work at anything that would keep him in food and clothing. In his early twenties, he studied for a steam engineer in Detroit, Michigan. This venture failed due to poor eyesight caused when he was a welder for



Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Martin Sr.

the railway. He then went back to England by boat, where he got work at an electric power station. It was while working there that he met our mother. She had a good home life, compared to Dad's and had belonged to the local church and sang in the choir. She worked in a brick factory during the 1914-1918 war. She was born in 1896 at No. 6 Blaketown, Seghill, Northumberland, England.

Dad and Mother were married in England on February 25, 1922. They came to Canada by boat in March, 1922, and Dad got work on a farm near Pense, Saskatchewan. There was no drinking water so they had to strain the bugs and wigglers from slough water before they could drink it. Mother disliked the heat, mosquitoes and bare prairies. Later that year she went back to England. On January 1, 1923, their first child **Ann (Nancy)** was born in the same house in which her mother had been born. In June, 1923, Mother and baby came back to Canada, again by boat. Dad was still working in Saskatchewan but later they moved to the McAuley area where he worked as a hired man for Seaton Haisine. The Haisine farm is still there, a few miles east of McAuley, but with different owners. After that, Dad rented the Bill Stuart farm, section 27-14-28. In 1926 they moved to the Ed Smithson farm and were there two years. Their first son **Thomas** was born here in 1927. Having a hard time to make a living on poor land, they left in the fall of 1928, as they were just renting, and moved to Winnipeg.

Dad worked as a plasterer and carpenter's helper as jobs were scarce. The summer of 1929, they managed to get together enough for a downpayment on one quarter of land, section 4-14-28 in the Archie municipality. They built a small house which was cold in the winter, as there was no such thing as insulation. We were moved back to the farm, which was now our own. We were on this farm in the dry thirties. There were four more children born in this home, **Lilian**, **Edward**, **Betty** and **James**. We had a very hard winter the first year, as we had no garden — it was too late to plant one when we had moved in July.

The winters were very severe, cold and stormy. Then came the dust storms, in the summer of 1931. You didn't see the sun for days and dust from the fields blew in drifts along the fences with huge Russian thistles. There was no grass but lots of grasshoppers. Some years the Russian thistle was cut and stacked to feed the livestock as hay was very scarce.

These years finally gave way to better ones, but each summer we seemed to be in the path of severe hailstorms so we sometimes had feed, but very little grain. The garden would also be pounded into the ground.

Dad had always farmed with horses. He had broken all the land on our first homestead with a walking plow and a team of horses. This team was quiet but some of the horses shipped from the west were broncos and many sets of harness were broken trying to break these wild horses to pull plows or harrows, which the men walked behind up and down the field. All the farmers had the same problems. The boys were growing up and Dad needed more land. He was able to buy another half section but sold the one quarter we had lived on. It was on the same section 4-14-28, two miles west of Willen, a hamlet consisting of a combined general store and post office and a grain elevator owned by Lake of the Woods grain company. A Mr. Fox owned the store first, then Andrew Rodger Jr. bought it and was there till 1953. Andrew Rodgers Sr. ran the grain elevator. We could buy groceries and most hardware, also everyday clothes for men and boys. Men's overalls were \$1.95 a pair for the best quality, laced gum rubbers, \$1.50 a pair but these were the coldest things to wear, as one's socks got all frost from the sweat of your feet and then your feet nearly froze in them. Later felt socks came on the go with low rubbers worn over them; these were much warmer for the men.

The women and girls had long woollen stockings but these were sure itchy things to wear. A dollar bill went a long way but top wages for farm labor in the winter was \$5.00 per month with board, and \$1.00 per day for harvest, but no work, no pay.

During the second world war Dad bought a tractor and in the 1950's the hydro came into our district. The price of cattle had risen and so had grain prices, so people were able to buy better machinery to work their land and also had a little more money to fix their homes so they were more comfortable. We had always had a wood stove to heat the home during the thirties and part of the forties. If the wood was too green and not cured through the summer, the result was a dirty brown liquid that lined the chimney and ran down the stovepipes. It ruined a lot of walls and floors, as the brown stain would not come out by scrubbing, and it sure had an awful smell. The chimney fires were many as this would catch fire on a very windy day. It dried in the chimney in the summer, so when there was a fire the flames just roared. We had to get on the roof and pour pails of water down the chimney to save the house.

When we were able to afford to buy coal it was really nice as the fire lasted all night and the chamber pots and water pails were not frozen each morning. The house was so much warmer to get up to in the morning.

The winters were spent doing chores and shovel-

ing the paths to the barns and the well after a snow storm, which were many some winters. The water was pulled up from the well a pail at a time for the livestock. We later got an iron pump so that was much easier. The men went to the bush to haul wood to saw and cure, usually eighteen to twenty loads. In the spring a sawing bee was held with the neighbours all helping one another. If we ran out of sawed wood we had to bucksaw the poles till the weather got nice enough for the gang to come.

Our entertainment was an old Edison phonograph with cylinder records. Later we were able to afford a radio, and Monday night was Lux theatre night so the chores were done early, as many good plays came over the radio.

The children nearly all walked to school, having three and a half miles to go each way to Jeffrey school. It was a long walk in the cold and just as long in the summer heat.

The younger ones later had a horse and buggy or cutter to drive the four miles to Rose Lea school after we had moved.

Dad was councillor of ward three in the Archie municipality for seven years and still held this office at the time of his death. His work was now not so hard, as three sons were able to help, but it was not to be. He died June 23, 1947 at the age of fifty-five years after many years of hard work and hard times. Mother stayed on the farm for some years with her sons to help, then as her health was starting to fail, she left the boys to batch and moved to Elkhorn in 1951. She lived in Elkhorn till she moved to the Sherwood in Virden but was there barely one year when she passed away December 29, 1971. From this marriage were six children all still in and around the Elkhorn area.

**Ann (Nancy)** married to **Elmer Sheane**. Two children: **Bruce** (deceased) and **Diane**, now **Mrs. Gus Hamoline**.

**Thomas** married **Joyce Grant**. Five children: **Brian**; **Kenneth** married to **Lynda Bilkey**, one daughter **Heather**; **William**; **Cheryl** now **Mrs. Wayne Volk** two daughters **Sherie Lynne** and **Rebecca**; **Darlene**.

**Lilian** married **George Robertson**. Two children: **Sharon** now **Mrs. John Duncan**, two sons **Stephen** and **Michael**; **Catherine** now **Mrs. Cordell Barker** one daughter **Lark**, three stepsons **Cordell Jr. Byron** and **Sheldon**.

**Edward** married **Margaret Cowan**. Three children: **Sharlean** now **Mrs. Bill Bickerton** one son **Cory**; **WandaRae** now **Mrs. Ken Kliever** one son **Kirk**; **Kelly**.

**Betty** married **Neil Grant**. Five children: **Gordon** married **Claudia Canart**, three sons **Gregory**,

**Terry, and Kenneth; Betty Ann now Mrs. Jim Rattray** two children **Billy and Lana; Sylvia now Mrs. Gary Boiteau**, one child **Twyla; Barbara**, now **Mrs. Mac Mathews** two children **Kathleen and Martin; Larry.**

**James** married to **Gail Pierce**. Three children: **Coralee, Bradley and Jennifer.**

### The Edward Martin Family

**Edward and Margaret Martin** came from the Willen district to the **Waldo Phillips** farm in 1958 where they still reside. They have three daughters, **Sharlean (Mrs. W. Bickerton), Wanda Rae (Mrs. K. Kliever), and Kelly** at home, also three grandchildren.

Submitted by M. Martin

### James Martin Family

**Jim** was born in August of 1937 in a farmhouse not far from Willen, Manitoba. He is the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Martin Sr.

He received his education at Jeffery and Rose Lea Schools. In summer he rode horseback to school and in winter drove his horse and cutter.

At an early age, Jim started farming his parents' land. This venture did not last long as the land was



Gail and Jim Martin with their children. L-R: Bradley, Coralee and Jennifer.

sold and he had to move on. He came to Elkhorn and lived with his mother for awhile. After trying several other occupations he purchased land from Wilf Francis, NW 4-12-28 and turned his hand to buying cattle. This happened in 1965 and today Jim is still a Live-stock Dealer and Order Buyer.

In 1969 Jim married **Gail Pierce**, who was in Winnipeg at the time taking a Registered Nurse's

course. After completing her training Gail moved to Elkhorn and worked for awhile in Moosomin and Elkhorn Hospitals.

Jim and Gail have three children: **Coralee** who was born in 1972. **Bradley** born in 1974. **Jennifer** born in 1978.

submitted by Jim and Gail Martin

### The Middleton Family

The Middleton family resided in Elkhorn from the late 1800's to 1915, when they moved to Winnipeg. Mr. Middleton worked for the C.P.R. His father also resided in Elkhorn for a time, — was a sign writer, belonged to the Masonic Lodge, and passed away in Elkhorn. The Middletons had four children: **Herbert, Clarence, Thomas, and Ethel.** Their home stood where the new school now stands, and was the only home in town built with four chimneys.

Herbert: worked on Blakeman's farm for a number of years, joined the Army, enlisting in the 190th Little Black Devil's Battalion, went overseas, was wounded twice, gassed, and returned home when the war was over. The family had moved to Winnipeg,



L-R Back row: Herb, Mr. and Mrs. Middleton. Front row: Ethel, Tom, Clarence.



but he returned to Elkhorn — married, and raised a family, namely **Helen, Lionel, and Kenneth**, who all attended Elkhorn School. Herbert, in time became policeman and coached the hockey team. For a few years, he ran Blakeman's farm at Walpole, Saskatchewan. He returned to Elkhorn and, with the help of his wife, managed the Hotel for a time, finally moving to Brandon, where he worked at the Crystal Hotel, until he developed lung trouble and passed away. He is buried in Elkhorn, in the Middleton plot, near his grandfather. His children are scattered — Kenneth, married, with one son, lives in Winnipeg; Helen, married, lives in Seattle, Washington; Lionel, married, lives in Kelowna, British Columbia.

Clarence: worked on Billie Crawford's farm; moved to Winnipeg; worked for the C.P.R. there for a number of years; then moved to Minneapolis. He has two daughters — **Patricia**, Del Mar, California, and **Judy**, Corpus Christie, Texas. He is now in the Masonic Home, Minneapolis; aged eighty-three.

Thomas: educated in Elkhorn and Winnipeg; married; has two children: **Jack**, Pinawa, Manitoba and **Shirley**, Burlington, Ontario. Thomas now lives in Winnipeg.

Ethel: educated in Elkhorn and Winnipeg, is married; lives in Thunder Bay, Ontario and has four children.

Mrs. Herb Middleton, the former **Verna Kirk**, passed away in December, 1980 in Winnipeg, and is buried in the Middleton plot in Elkhorn.

"Things I Remember" — Ethel (Middleton) Winters

I was only eight years old when we moved to Winnipeg, but I remember many things in Elkhorn:

— attending a hockey game in Elkhorn and my brother, Herb, getting hurt and ending up with a broken collar bone

— learning to skate on bob skates by pushing a chair around the rink

— watching my dad curl in the curling rink; especially always admiring the box his rocks were kept in; it had gold initials painted on it

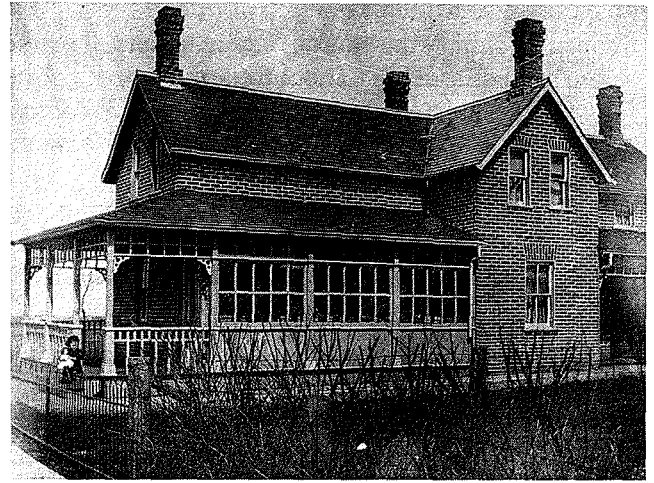
— the strawberry ice cream the Chinaman sold — no other ice cream has ever tasted as good since

— going to Dr. Goodwin's (unknown to my parents) with two dollars to buy a baby sister

— the huge garden we had across from our home; all we children working in it

— the time we sneaked Herb's baseball suit out of the house and his taking off with the ball team to Kirkella, and a bad storm coming up before he got back and his having to stay at the train station all night

— all the stove pipes that had to be taken down and the soot cleaned out; the minister always seemed to call at that time, also the carpets that had to be taken out and beaten



Middleton home.

— my mother nursing baby chicks on a blanket in the oven

— many happy return visits to Elkhorn when I would be a guest in the Lidster home and Jean and I would go to the ice cream parlor for maple walnut sundaes

— Elkhorn Methodist Church; strawberry socials; sometimes losing my collection down a radiator in the floor

— lastly, my mother getting eight boys from Elkhorn to meet us in Eaton's studio in Winnipeg before going overseas, and having their pictures taken and sending one to each family concerned

submitted by Ethel (Middleton) Winters

### John Harvey Miller

**John Harvey Miller** was born in 1851. He was a brother of William C. Miller. He came west to Winnipeg and Elkhorn with his widowed mother in the early 1890's.

Harvey, as he was known to everyone in the area, was a participant in practically every activity in the village and district. He was well known as an auctioneer, an entrepreneur, and supervisor of Sir James Aikins farms in the neighboring districts.

He died in 1924.

### William C. Miller

**William C. Miller** first arrived in Elkhorn when MacLeod's store was in a tent. He later homesteaded in the Beulah district, and returned to Elkhorn, where he worked in Broadley's store, farmed, worked for Dave Carradice the implement dealer, and finally for the Frazers — Alex and his son John, in the local post office for many years.

Mr. Miller was born in 1861. He married **Mabel Travis**, daughter of "Dad" and Mrs. Travis. Both

Mr. and Mrs. Miller were active in local organizations, particularly the church, where he served on the Board, and as Sunday School Superintendent, while she was organist and a member of the Women's Missionary Society, where she became a life member. They had three sons:

**Clarence Miller** was born in 1896. After attending school in Elkhorn, he was articled to the law firm of Aikins and Loftus, from where he joined the Army and drowned while on active service in France.

**Roy Miller** was born in 1904. After attending school in Elkhorn, he went to Normal School, and taught school in Saskatchewan. In the late 1920's, he moved to the U.S.A., where he worked in the Stocks and Bonds business in San Francisco and St. Paul until his retirement. He now lives in St. Paul.

**William Miller** was born in 1910. After attending school in Elkhorn, he commenced working for Harvey McFadzean in the grocery store in 1925. Later he joined the Bank of Commerce, and since his retirement in 1970, has lived in Winnipeg.

Mr. William C. Miller died in 1940.

### Guy and Eleanor Miller

Guy and Eleanor moved to Elkhorn in June, 1955, to replace Scotty and Laverne Dryden with the Manitoba Hydro.

They have three daughters; **Allison**, (Mrs. **Donald Rothnie**) of Marathon, Ontario; **Laurie** (Mrs. **Vernon Brown**) of Winnipeg; and **Glenda**, also of Winnipeg.

They belonged to the United Church. Guy was active in the Elks, Agricultural Society, and Curling and Golf Clubs. He was also a councillor for several terms. Eleanor belonged to the Ladies' Curling Club and the Rebekah Lodge and she also taught in the Elementary School from 1968 to 1973.

In 1973, the Miller Family were transferred to Hamiota, Manitoba

submitted by Eleanor Miller

### Matthew Milroy

**Matthew** and **Jessie Milroy** arrived in Canada in 1913. They came to Treherne and then to Elkhorn in 1915 and worked for Pat Ryan until 1921 when they moved to the J. Mooney farm. In 1940 they retired to Elkhorn. **Jessie** passed away in 1940 and **Matt** in 1964.

Submitted by Gladys Lund

### William Milroy

**William Milroy** arrived in Elkhorn about 1900 and worked for McClymonts. He returned to Scot-



Bill and Harriet Milroy 1944.

land in 1904 or 1905 with a Mr. Mundel, but came back to Canada about six years later — this time to stay. **Harriet Simpson** arrived in Elkhorn in March of 1913 and married **William Milroy** in what was known as the McIntosh house (occupied now by J. Brockman). They lived on Section 2-11-28 and moved to Section 9-11-28 in 1913 where they made their home until they moved to Elkhorn in 1942. Mr. Milroy broke many acres of land by oxen.

In 1923 they adopted two children, **George** and **Gladys**, the children of the late **Robert Latimer**. Mr. Milroy was a member of the United Church, St. Andrew's Society, Oddfellows and the Agricultural Society. Mrs. Milroy belonged to the St. Andrew's Society, the I.O.D.E., the Royal Canadian Legion Auxiliary and the U.C.W.

Submitted by Gladys Lund

### Bernie and Betty Milum and Family

I (**Betty Leslie**), was born in Virden and raised in Elkhorn district. **Bernie** was born and raised in Golden, British Columbia. We were married in Golden in 1967 and moved to Elkhorn in 1968. **Bernie** worked at the creamery and was also active in the town and was a Cub leader for a year and a half.

We left Elkhorn in 1970 but returned in 1976. At this time, **Bernie** became manager of the creamery. When we returned we had two children, **Kelvin** five years and **Gordon** two and one half years. Our third son, **Wade**, was born in Virden.

Bernie belonged to the golf club and served on town council until he was moved to Winnipeg in 1980.

submitted by Betty Milum

### **Mr. Arthur O. Mitchell Story**

Mr. **Arthur O. Mitchell** came to Elkhorn district in 1937 (depression years) with his family of four boys and two girls. He took his cattle and whatever household equipment he had and strove for something better. His wife **Ursala** had passed away in 1934. He landed on the farm which is Reg Will's farm now.

Later in 1941 Mr. Mitchell and **Norman** farmed the Win Blakeman farm and had a few good years. Some of the family had gone out on their own, but **Earl** was sickly and he was home always.

In 1945-46 **Mervin**, the youngest boy, took over the farm and Mr. Mitchell and Earl moved into Elkhorn.

Mr. Mitchell passed away in August, 1948 and is buried at Heward, Saskatchewan beside his wife Ursala. Earl, the son, is in the Fairview Home in Brandon, Manitoba.

### **Looking Back — 1937-1965**

#### **The Mervin Mitchell Family**

**Mervin Mitchell** has lived in the Elkhorn district for thirty years. He remembers arriving there with his father, **Arthur Mitchell**, aboard the caboose of a freight train, which was hauling a carload of their cattle and horses. They were moving from the fried-out area of Froude, Saskatchewan, to take up rental accommodation on the Davis farm, situated one mile north and one mile west of the townsite. Two older brothers, **Bill** and **Norman** drove the 125 miles with horses and wagons, which contained their haying equipment. The furniture was shipped by train. Another brother, **Earl**, and two sisters, **Hazel** and **Emma**, travelled there later by car.

This location was their family residence from July, 1937, to the spring of 1941. Then Art, as he was known, took over the operation of the Blakeman farm — three and one half miles northeast of town. He resided there until he retired into a suite in the Roseberry block, six months before his death on August 23, 1948.

Mervin looks back on his own experience during this time. The highlights of his memory of his youth around Elkhorn are the satisfactions he gained while working out for George Francis, Fred Rodgers, Jack Turner, Dan Hartley and Bill Montgomery. Possibly even more dear to him are his memories of playing for dances, with his brothers Bill and Norman and

Ron Mallett, till all hours of the morning at Burnbank, Victor, Two Creeks, Kola, Kirkella, as well as Elkhorn. Transportation to these functions consisted of anything from horseback to team and cutter in the winter time. During this period he especially remembers the associations he had with Tilden Nylin, the few months they both had the privilege of working as farm hands for Bill Montgomery and partaking of Elsie's good cooking.

He went to war in September, 1942, and was fortunate to return home from active overseas services in November, 1945. He met, fell in love and married **Lois Plowman**, a primary teacher at the Elkhorn School from 1944-46. She had come from Douglas, Manitoba and had lived one year with Ken and Hazel Corbett and children. She met Mervin that second year when she lived with the Rudy Schoen family. They were married July 10, 1946, in the Elkhorn United Church and their reception was graciously catered to by Molly Schoen in her home.

Mervin and his bride took up residence on the Blakeman farm, which they later purchased. Fortune blessed them with four children, **Wenda**, **Cindy**, **Debby** and **Brent**, who many times enjoy reminiscing about their life on the farm. They hold fond memories of their school days in Elkhorn, their Sunday School membership in the United Church, and their participation in the Elkhorn 4-H Clubs, and Virden Musical Festivals. They recollect with pleasure the Field Days, Fair Days, Saturday Nights and especially their visits to Wilf and Winnie Francis' pony farm.

Mervin particularly enjoys chatting about playing the fiddle for the Elks and Legion Socials and, first and foremost, for the Royal Purple Lodge's Old Time Dances in town. Lois fondly remembers her little students and the experiences she gained while being actively involved for eight years in Elkhorn's first parent-organized kindergarten.

Although this family decided to change its lifestyle and move to Winnipeg in July, 1965, they still consider Elkhorn their home town

Submitted by: Mrs. Mervin Mitchell

#### **Norman and Margaret Mitchell Story**

Norman was born at Adanac, Saskatchewan. Parents were Arthur and Ursula Mitchell. Norman, with his parents and two brothers moved to Seward, Saskatchewan where he was educated. In 1937, the depression years, he moved to Elkhorn with his dad and family. The mother passed away in 1934 at Seward Saskatchewan.

I, Margaret McCullum, came to Elkhorn in 1941, from Regina to work in Mr. G. E. Bartley's general store. I knew the Bartley's when they had a store in

Carievale. The Bartley children were all young when I came here.

I was raised in Gainsborough, Saskatchewan where I received my high school and a few music lessons.

Mr. and Mrs. Bartley got me a boarding place with Bill and Pansy Northcut. It was a great place to stay, good food and a real home, lots of young people around. Pansy was like a mother to me. She ran a boarding house.

I met Norman in 1941. Bill, Mervin and Norman had an orchestra, and they asked me to join them. We called the Orchestra "The Elkhorn Ramblers"; as a matter of fact we still have the music stands.

Norm and I were married in 1943 at Virden, then went to Winnipeg for a few days and came back to Virden to pick up the car to go on to Gainsborough. Guess who was at the station to meet us? Mr. Bartley. The three of us went and had lunch then off to Gainsborough. Norm and I went for a couple of days, then back to the farm with Mr. Mitchell and Earl. The rest of the family had gone out for themselves.



Mitchell's Store — 1950.

We stayed on the farm until 1946 and then moved into Elkhorn. Norman took a job at the Creamery and I went back to work for Mr. Bartley in the Ladies Wear and Drygoods.

In 1947 we bought Mr. Tottle's Grocery Store and were in business for ourselves. We put a Meat Counter in shortly after and were in there for seven years. We sold stock and fixtures to Kent McCormick and rented the building in 1964.

After a year of rest I went back with Mr. Bartley to work in the store. I worked for Bill Bartley for a couple years or so and then I had to quit work. Mr. and Mrs. Bartley were great people to work for and Bill was just as good.

Norman went to work for Nylin and Russell, setting up machinery. Then he drove school buses until 1981.

We always like to help in any community effort where possible. Norman is a Past Master of the Masonic Lodge, and I am a Past Noble Grand of the Rebekah Lodge. Norman always enjoyed baseball. He was manager of the Men's Ball Club for three years, which he enjoyed very much.

I have found my forty years here in Elkhorn really great. Elkhorn has wonderful people, and they have been good to us.

I hope the next forty years are as good.

We moved to the Wood house in 1946 and eventually were able to buy it. We have remodelled and now we have a real comfortable home for retirement.

submitted by Margaret Mitchell

### William J. Mitchell

**William Mitchell**, the eldest son of the late Arthur and Ursula Mitchell was born at Heward, Saskatchewan. He moved to Elkhorn with his family in the late thirties.

After coming to Elkhorn, Bill and his brothers formed an orchestra, "The Prairie Ramblers." For several years the group played in this area.

In 1942, Bill married the former **Berniece Caradice**. They farmed on section 8-12-28 until 1946, at which time they moved and worked for Mr. Hercules Wood for two years. In 1948, they moved to their farm in the Mossgiel district 33-11-29. They farmed here until 1969, at which time, due to Bill's ill health, they retired into Elkhorn where they purchased the former Herb Jones residence.

Bill and Berniece had four children, **Beth, Wayne, Debbie** and **Garth**. The children, with the exception of Garth, attended Mossgiel School, then Elkhorn, McAuley or Virden. All attended Sunday School faithfully and were great sports enthusiasts.

**Beth** married **Bob McDowell** of Flin Flon. They live in Unionville, Ontario where Bob is a sales supervisor for Shell Canada. They have two children **Todd** and **Jaime**. **Wayne** married **Sharon Gutzke** of Weyburn, Saskatchewan and now operates his own electrical business "Shays Electric" at Carlyle, Saskatchewan.

**Debbie** married **Bob Labossiere** of Virden, Manitoba. They reside at Thompson, Manitoba, where Bob is an electrical technician. They have two children, **Barrett** and **Shaun**. **Garth** is presently the Assistant Secretary-Treasurer for the Village of Elkhorn. He is a member of the Elkhorn Senior Hockey team and enjoys golfing and playing baseball.

Bill was also a great sports enthusiast, enjoyed senior baseball games, and coaching Minor Hockey games. He took an active part in the building of the new Elkhorn Skating Rink. During its last years of

operation, Bill was a trustee of Mossgiel School. Until his sudden death in 1975, Bill helped his brother-in-law, John Canart, in the Elkhorn Super Service.

Berniece was a member of the Kirkella I.O.D.E. and has belonged to the Mossgiel Guild since it was organized in 1951. She, too, enjoys attending Senior Hockey games.

submitted by Berniece Mitchell

### **Charles A. Mitchell Family**

**Charlie** was born in Toronto March 27, 1896, and came west with his parents at an early age.

In 1918 he married **Cora Howie**, who was born in Welwyn, Saskatchewan August 4, 1900.

They farmed in the Carnoustie district for many years before moving to Tantallon, Saskatchewan where Charlie worked as a mechanic for nine years.

In 1941 they moved to Elkhorn, and Charlie bought grain for the Ogilvie Elevator Co. till 1945; he was then transferred to Carnegie, Manitoba where he worked until his retirement, moving then to Rivers, Manitoba where they lived for ten years.

They moved to Moosomin Pioneer Lodge where they lived till Cora's death in 1973. Charlie then came back to Elkhorn to live in the low rental suites till ill health forced him to the Elkhorn Nursing Home where he resided till his death December 9, 1979.

Charlie and Cora had six children, four boys, **Lawrence** and **Ralph** now residing in Winnipeg, **Bryce** of Winfield, B.C. and **Garth** who passed away in 1939; two daughters, **Shirley** (Mrs. Stuart Milne) of Gladstone and **Phyllis** (Mrs. Lloyd McLeod) of Elkhorn. Charlie was a member of the Elkhorn Antique Museum and was very interested in the operation of the steamers.

### **William J. Montgomery Sr.**

**Mr. William Montgomery Sr.** came from Sarnia, Ontario with his parents in 1882. They homesteaded north of Virden, later known as the Montgomery District.

In the spring of 1889 he married **Flora McMaster** from Glengary, Ontario, at Pipestone, Manitoba. They moved to Section N.E. 24-11-28, not far from Elkhorn.

There were six children: **PAUL**, **JIM**, **WILLIAM**, **DAN**, **ISOBELLE** and **BESSIE**. Bessie died at the age of eight years. The children were educated at McAlonen School, later changed to Reaper. Of the family only two boys married. Dan was a veteran of the second World War.

Jim married **Bessie Grant**. They farmed in Elkhorn District section 19-11-28 until the time of his death in 1959. Only two of the family are still living, Isobelle who lives at Vancouver, B.C. and William.

William married **Elsie Leslie** in 1932 and resided on section 24-11-28. They retired to live in Elkhorn in 1974. They had two sons **Jack** and **Gary**. Because Reaper School closed in 1926 due to lack of pupils, arrangements were made for them to go to school at Elkhorn.

Jack married **Janet Kestirke** from Miami in 1958. They lived in Winnipeg where Jack worked for the Manitoba Hydro until he decided to change his line of work, to farm in the Elkhorn District in 1962. They have one son **Douglas**, who went to school in Elkhorn and Virden.

Gary married **Joan Proctor** from Poplar Point in 1972. They are in the Hotel business at Rossburn at present.

submitted by Elsie Montgomery

### **Mr. and Mrs. John Mooney**

**John Mooney**, my father, was born in the Belgrave-Wingham district of Ontario in 1871, the eldest son of Susan and Alex Mooney, who had sailed from Ireland to Canada in 1855. In 1874 the Mooneys came west via the "Dawson Trail" to Katrime, Manitoba where they homesteaded.

After the early death of my grandmother in 1882, the five children with their father moved to Virden and soon secured a homestead southwest of town in the Daybreak district where the children attended school. My grandfather had been a weaver in Ireland and since he was then both father and mother, he not only fed his family, but clothed them by use of his loom, and at the same time farmed successfully. Later they moved into Virden where Dad took High School and teacher training. He also drove the mail by buckboard from Virden to Pipestone. After teaching for a short period in country schools, he gave it up to pitch sheaves in a threshing outfit where better wages helped pay for enrolment in Pharmacy.

After serving apprenticeship in Dr. Goodwin's drugstore in Elkhorn, which he later acquired for himself, he attended classes in the Old Medical College in Winnipeg, graduating in the first Manitoba Pharmacy class in 1899.

In November of that year he married **Janet Lane** in her family home east of Hargrave. They drove to Elkhorn that day using the Doctor's horses and buggy. A team had been hired from Cavanagh's livery stable but it had not returned from an earlier country trip due to the heavy falling rain. My mother was no stranger to Elkhorn. She was a tailoress and had been employed at the Elkhorn Indian School as early as 1896. Before marriage Dad had boarded with the G.T. Roger's family, first living in one of the stone cottages on 3rd Street south of the C.P.R. track. Later they moved to the white cottage on 2nd Street which

Dad purchased from Mr. Rogers when that family left Elkhorn. The original cottage still stands with the addition of extra rooms when it was bricked.

Business in the first drugstore was by no means brisk so Dad took up two hobbies during his leisure hours which he enjoyed throughout his life — hunting and chess. He and the Dr. set up a target board behind the store and spent free time in practice. Game was always plentiful and it was not uncommon around our house to see mallards, geese, prairie chicken or sandhill cranes. I recall coming home from school one noon hour and hearing my mother phoning Dad (the telephone switchboard was in the 2nd drugstore) to say that a flock of ducks had just flown over and she thought they were landing on Burn's slough. My grandfather, who was visiting us, met Dad with the horse and buggy and shotgun, and before the noon hour ended they had brought home a pair of mallards.

The chess board also was part of the back shop of the drugstore where Dad learned the game, playing with teachers of the Elkhorn School staff at various times, Dick Craig, Robt. Fletcher, and A. J. Hatcher. He pursued the chess hobby all through life, doing the weekly problems published in the Free Press for which he received commendation in the form of a certificate. He and his friend Joe Freer played the game by correspondence after the latter moved to the west coast.

Dad's early interest in farming led to the purchase of a quarter section of land south of town in 1910. He later acquired another quarter which he operated for many years as well as his drug business.

In the community Dad was always a familiar figure — a member of the first village council in 1906 and serving as mayor for two terms in 1917-18. He took a keen interest in politics and was a member of the Liberal Executive for Western Manitoba. Both he and Mother were staunch supporters of the Methodist church and later the United, where they willingly gave of their time in service. Dad was choir leader for many years and Chairman of the Board for 57 consecutive years.

Music played a large part in their lives. They had sung in church choirs and quartets in Virden and were never happier than when people dropped in for a sing-song which happened frequently. They both knew church music and talked about the "Tonic Sol-fa" which I, as a youngster, erroneously thought was something brought home from the drugstore. Mother's lovely soprano could be heard throughout the day as she went about her housework. Many district people will recall the Male Quartet of Fred Norris, Bob Frazer, Doc. Hennan and Jack Mooney who sang at various functions in the countryside.

Dad led this foursome, the outings and practices were a great source of pleasure. He also played in Elkhorn's first band. Previous to its founding, the Indian Home had a brass band which had led the march in the Jubilee Parade. This new band included several boys from the Indian Home. Mr. Wm. Goethe Sr. was leader.

Dad was a soccer player until a knee injury forced him to quit. He was secretary of both the golf and curling clubs for several years and played both games. Mother also golfed, and was an ardent curler in the Ladies Club for several years.

In 1950 Mooney's Drug Store was taken over by Jack Norris, a nephew who later assumed full ownership. In 1956 Dad was honored by the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association along with eight other Manitoba druggists. Each was presented with "50 Year Scrolls and Pins" for service of long standing. Of the nine men, he had given the greatest number of year's service.

The following amusing extract from the Elkhorn Advocate of June 21, 1897, telling about Queen Victoria's Jubilee celebration in the village, is an example of Dad's attitude in life. His great sense of humor and philosophical wisdom always came to the fore which probably made him the leader he was, from the days when he taught Sunday School in Broadly's Hall to the end of his career as a druggist. "A lamp on the stage was upset when the evening concert was in progress. Mr. J. Mooney, with great presence of mind, picked up the burning lamp and ran to the nearest window, throwing it out, thus avoiding a panic."

Mother passed away in February, 1947, and Dad in August, 1963. My brother and I along with two grandchildren and five great-grandchildren survive. **Harold** is a retired medical doctor living in Comox, B.C. and I am in Winnipeg.

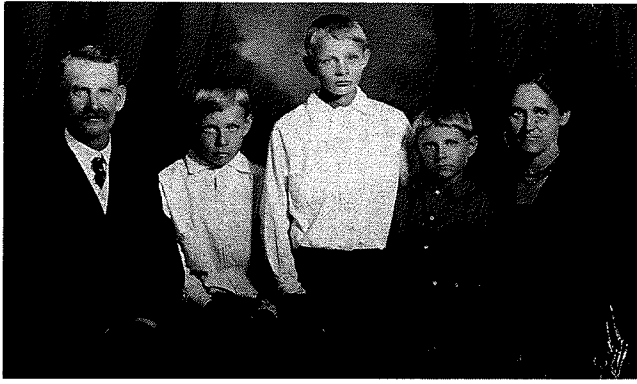
contributed by E. Estelle Baker.

## The Moore Family

**James Henry Moore** was born in England in 1873. He was a ward of Dr. Barnardo in England and sent to Canada as a young boy. He returned to England for awhile and married **Mary Jane "(Polly)" Pinder** in England in 1910. They came to Canada in 1913 and settled in Toronto, Ontario where James was employed by the T. Eaton Company.

Later the couple moved West to Arrow River where they worked for a number of farmers. From there they went to the Mossgiel District and farmed for several years.

Mr. Moore was a carpenter by trade and moved to Elkhorn where he helped to build the Elkhorn Post Office and the Telephone office.



Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Moore and children.

Mr. and Mrs. Moore had five children. Unfortunately three of them died in infancy (**Mabel**, **Henry** and **Reggie**). **Frank**, the oldest son, was a carpenter by trade. He also drove a cream truck for the Elkhorn Creamery. He spent two years in Ninette Sanitorium but passed away at the young age of thirty-one years in March, 1943.

**Lewis**, the second son worked for several farmers in the area. He went to No. 19 Elementary Training Flying School in Virden during the second world war. After the war he was employed by the Canadian Pacific Railways, and moved to Hargrave. Owing to ill health he resigned from the C.P.R. and obtained employment by the Department of Highways where he worked until his death in 1970. Lewis' wife was the former **Ellen Walker**. The couple were married at Elkhorn in 1940 and lived in Hargrave from 1940 to 1971.

They had five daughters as follows:

**Dorothy** married to **Gerald Horn**, Virden, Manitoba.

**Irene** married to **Claude Gordon** R.C.A.F. Red Deer, Alberta.

**Barbara** married to **Raymond Denolf**, Virden, Manitoba.

**Brenda** married to **Garry Bailey** (Kirkella, Manitoba).

**Beverley** unmarried and is attending accounting college in Brandon.

Mrs. Ellen Moore has resided in Virden since 1971.

Submitted by: Ellen Moore

### Lindy and Irene Moore

**Linden George** (Lindy) the eldest son of **William A. R.** and **Martha Rose Asseltine-Moore** was born 1911 in the Manson district section 13-13-29. Later they moved to the Ed. Ott farm in the Archie district, where the family lived till they retired in 1946. Lindy's school years were in Archie School

with Mrs. Jack Burns their teacher for many years. The Archie school is now at the Elkhorn Museum.

His interest in engines and anything mechanical from early youth remained with him throughout the following years. He branched out in other phases of work but always in a related field. He worked as a car mechanic in Moosomin, Sask. and in Elkhorn for the late Frank Walker, then rented the repair shop from the late Ted Gibbs for several years.

In 1939 he married **Irene Mailes** of Moosomin, Sask., only daughter of the late **Charles Ernest Mailes and Elizabeth (Pearl) McDougall** — now remarried to George Pearson. They started their married life in Elkhorn. The George Harrys Sr. were their very good neighbors, also the Rogers and Prokopows. Being the only young bride in the town had its draw backs but these people made up for it with their kindness.

World War II was in progress and his type of work was needed so it was off to build airplanes for the war effort. This meant a move to Ottawa, Ontario, to work for the Ottawa Car and Aircraft. They returned to Elkhorn in 1945, where he started his own business, buying the B.A. Service Station from Beaver Dodge, building a machine shop, also selling International machinery, and B.A. bulk gas. George Pearson went in partnership with him that year. Lindy had a mobile welding outfit and 1952 the oil boom arrived, so he worked for them twelve years. He continued his machine shop and welding for many years, retiring in 1981. They still live in the same home they bought in 1945, and remodeled. It was built in 1883, and is one of the oldest houses in Elkhorn.

Lindy and Irene have two daughters, both born in Elkhorn, **Linda Elizabeth**, 1940 and **Vicki Arlene** 1947. They both graduated from Elkhorn schools, then went on to further their education. Linda took her Teacher Training at Brandon College, graduating in 1958 winning the Gold and Silver Medals. After teaching a number of years at Earl Oxford and Fleming schools, she returned to Brandon University receiving her Bachelor of Arts in 1968. In 1964 she married **David McDowell**, a fellow high school teacher of Brandon. They moved to Winnipeg where they teach high school. Linda has a degree in speech arts and is active in many related fields of education. David is well known in the Historic field and a Past President of the Manitoba Historical Society. They share the love of History and have given many hours of labor to McDonald House in the city.

Vicki also attended Brandon University, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree 1968. She was captain of B.U.'s basketball team, taking part in all sports activities. Vicki started her teaching career at Hamiota high school, where she still is thirteen years

later, and also where she met a fellow high school teacher, **Kenneth Smith**. They were married in 1970. Ken is vice-principal at Strathclair. They live on the home farm at Hamiota where they celebrated this year the 100th anniversary of the farm that Ken's Great-Grandfather homesteaded.

During the past years the Moore family have been very active in community affairs; Lindy school trustee, Stadium Commission, etc. Irene — Sunday School Superintendent, A.Y.P.A. leader, Vestry secretary, presently Church warden, all of St. Marks Anglican Church, Secretary-Treasurer of Elkhorn and District medical housing, Library board member, later chairman of Virden and Elkhorn, Charter member of the O.O.R.P. Lodge, etc. Linda and Vicki participated in many things, to name just a few: School year books, sports, Church activities, Festivals, 4-H, etc. Elkhorn has been a very good place to live and may it continue to prosper and grow. Let me leave you with this thought:

When good friends walk beside us, on the trails that we must keep

Our burdens seem less heavy, and the hills less steep.  
The weary miles pass swiftly, taken in a joyous stride  
And all the world seems brighter, when friends walk by our side.

submitted by Irene N. Moore

### The Family of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Moss

Mr. and Mrs. **Ernest V. Moss** and their two children, **Lily**, age four and **George**, age one came to Canada in April, 1906 from Derbyshire, England.

They had been promised farm employment at Virden, Manitoba but when they arrived there was no work for them. They were then given employment in Hargrave on a farm owned by Mr. William Jackson. Then they moved to Elkhorn and lived one year in one of Mr. Jackson's houses located on the south side of the track.

In 1907, Mr. Moss built a home for his family, a structure twelve feet by eighteen feet. The family, which now included **Herbert** three weeks old, lived in the house for only nine months. The house was rented to Charlie Bell for three dollars per month. Thirty years later, Charlie Bell bought the house and continued living in it until 1965.

In 1908 the Moss family moved to Fairlight where Mr. Moss worked as a Farm Manager and Mrs. Moss as a housekeeper and cook for Mr. William Hopps. In 1910, they purchased a farm SW quarter 24-12-29 from Mr. Hopps in Kirkella and lived there until 1921. Then they moved to a half section 7-12-28 owned by Henry D. Frazer.

In 1923 Mrs. Moss passed away and George left home to work for Frank Watson's brother in Guelph,



Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Moss 1908.

Ontario. He left after one year to work as a mechanic in a garage owned by Harry Watson, a nephew of Frank Watson. He remained there until Harry's death. He then sold his own small garage to purchase the garage business from Harry Watson's widow. He remained in this business until he retired.

George married **Phyllis Braye** and they had two daughters **Joan** and **Barbara**.

Mr. Moss and his youngest son, Herbert, finally settled on George Allison's farm at Burnbank which was later bought by Herbert. Mr. Moss lived with his son until his demise in 1966.

In 1968, Herbert now in poor health, sold the farm. He and his wife moved to Wawanesa where they remained until the death of his wife, **Ada**, in 1980. Herbert now resides in a senior home in Souris, Manitoba.

### Family of Ambrose and Nellie Muller

**Ambrose Muller** was born December 13, 1889 in Kirchschoenbach, Bavaria, Germany. He was a stone-cutter by trade and immigrated to Canada in 1913. He came to the Elkhorn area as a harvest helper. One of the first farms he worked on was John Orr's. Later he worked with the Bill Goethe family.

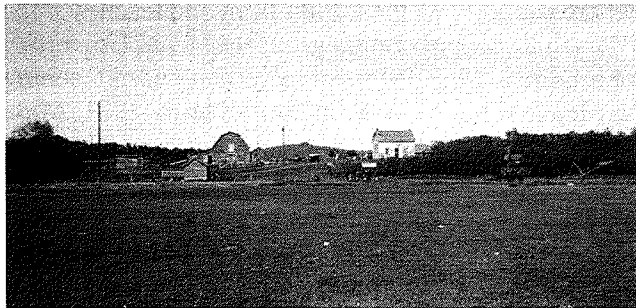
Threshing in those days was done with a big steamer. Men hauled the loads of sheaves with horses, trying to be at the feeder on time. One day, loaded with sheaves, he drove on to what appeared to be a nice smooth spot, only to find his wagon sinking into the ground. It was an "alkali flat," and that load was late!

Later, while working where Betty Joseph's farm





Early view of Muller farmstead.



Later view with trees growing.

is today, he became interested in a little house atop three bare hills to the north. There were no trees and no other buildings. This house had been built as a settler house by Tom Lacey, and had been sold to an American. Ambrose rented this house and land, and before long his friend Bill Boetcher from Germany and he "batched" there together. They farmed together for a few years, then went their separate ways. Bill went to British Columbia and Ambrose returned to Germany for the winter of 1929-30.

On December 21, 1933, Ambrose married **Nellie Barclay** and we established our home and family on those three bare hills (NE 14-13-28). Over the years, we planted many trees, gaining a beautifully sheltered farmstead. There we raised eight children. They all attended Jeffrey school (as did their mother) until it closed, then went to Manson, McAuley, Elkhorn, and Virden Schools.

The family of Ambrose and Nellie are:

**Bill** (William Josef) on the home farm is married to former **Evelyn Jacobs**, Manson, Manitoba. They have five children: Susan, Angela, Dwight, Michael, and Dean.

**Alex** (Alexander James) of Arlington, Texas is married to the former **Lyn Cross** of Dallas, Texas. He works selling and servicing offset printing presses. They have two children: Teresa and Tony. (Tony is one of few presently waging a successful battle

against Leukemia after a bone marrow transplant in which Teresa was the donor).

**John** (John Ambrose) of Winnipeg, Manitoba is married to the former **Bernice Bardsley**. He is an elementary school principal in Southdale, Winnipeg. They have three children: Shauna, Monica, and Jonathon.

**David** of Manson, Manitoba is married to the former **Marilyn Brazle** of Weyburn, Saskatchewan. He is a farmer, and they have four children: Sara, Rachael, Joel, and Joshua.

**Marian** (Marian Rose) is married to **Robert Lees** of North Portal, Saskatchewan where they live on a farm and have two children: Lorri and Melinda. Marian does much of the field work while Bob works at the Sask. power plant; she also has become a car mechanic.

**Margaret** (Margaret Helen) is married to **John Dyck** of Estevan, Saskatchewan. She is an accountant, while he is an auto mechanics teacher at Estevan Comprehensive. They have one son, David Ambrose.

**Charlie** (Charles Thomas) of Brandon, Manitoba is married to the former **Bonnie Davies** of North Battleford, Saskatchewan. He is a Life Skills Counselor with Westbran Activity Projects and the Dept. of Manpower. They have three children: Charla, Danny, and Clayton.

**Doris** (Doris Linda) is married to **Jack Borreson** of Antler, Saskatchewan where they farm. They have two sons: Timothy and Christopher.

Ambrose Muller passed away March 12, 1971. His wife Nellie remains at her home on the "homeplace" where she maintains a very active interest in handwork, gardening, yardwork, and her grandchildren.

told by Nellie Muller

### The Clifford Mulligan Family

I moved down from Semans, Saskatchewan in 1932 to settle with my parents, **James** and **Janet** and brother **Eric**, on section 36-11-30 in Saskatchewan just across the boundary from the Fred Lipsey farm. In 1942, I enlisted in the Canadian Army, went overseas, and served with the R.C.A.S.C. in England and North-Western Europe. I met my wife **Vi Jessiman**, who was serving at the time in the British Army with a Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regt., and Artillery. Vi saw active duty in the London and Dover areas during the missile attacks in 1944. When hostilities ceased, it was some time before I could get back from the continent. We were married August 11, 1945. I returned to Canada in February, 1946. Vi followed in July, 1946. We bought the land known as Pearce's Pasture, east half of 28-11-29 in the Mossgiel Dis-



Cliff and Vi at Watson farm, Mossgiel, 1949.

tract. There were no buildings at the time; we lived in two granaries. Our son was born in April, 1947. With the help of good neighbours, we managed to build a house and barn by fall. We farmed till 1971, when our son **Bill** married **Linda Longman** from Maryfield. We moved into Elkhorn and he is carrying on the farming operation. We have two wonderful grandchildren, **Chris** and **Laureen**. We are both active in the Royal Canadian Legion. Cliff has been a member for thirty-six years. He served three terms on the Village Council and now is kept busy on the United Church Board, and helps on the farm when needed.

Submitted by: Vi Mulligan

### Eric Mulligan Family

**Eric Mulligan**, younger son of **James** and **Jane** Mulligan came with his parents and older brother, **Clifford** to the Elkhorn area from Semans, Sask. in March, 1932. The family settled on S.W.-36-11-30 which is situated in the Province of Saskatchewan adjacent to the provincial border. Like several other families in the immediate area the Mulligan Family used Elkhorn as their principal trading and social centre largely because of the better roads leading to Elkhorn and the difficulties of crossing the Pipestone Valley when roads were bad.

**Eric** attended the Inglisfield School and after completing his studies joined the family farming operations on the home farm. **Jane Mulligan** passed away in November, 1941, and the following year **Clifford** joined the Canadian Military forces. James and Eric Mulligan continued to operate the home farm on a partnership basis until the passing of James in 1959.

Eric married **Winnifred Jean Jaffray**, only daughter of Wm. and Ada Jaffray of the Kirkella District in Elkhorn on December 6, 1953. Of this marriage four daughters were born. **Janet Lee** — 1955, **Linda Marie** — 1959 and twins, **Maxine Jean** and **Marion Elizabeth** — 1961. With the advent of

larger school units and school buses the girls were able to attend school in Maryfield, Sask. and as a result Eric and Winnifred found themselves more involved in the social and civic events of that community but still kept up very strong ties in the Elkhorn and Kirkella districts. In 1975 as a result of severe health problems the family farm business of Eric and Winnifred was terminated, the farm sold and livestock and equipment disposed of. The Eric Mulligan family moved to Moosomin, Sask. where they reside at 918 Moose St. Their eldest daughter, Janet received her Teacher's Certificate from University of Regina in May, 1975 and later that summer was married to Bruce Lemon of the Maryfield district where she lives on the family farm and teaches at the Maryfield School. Linda graduated from University of Regina in May, 1981 and has commenced teaching in Meadow Lake, Sask. in the fall term, 1981. Maxine enrolled in the Manitoba School of Nursing, Portage La Prairie, graduating in August, 1981 and is presently nursing in Edmonton. Her twin sister, Marion, is currently enrolled in the same institution and expects to complete her training there in 1982.

Submitted by Eric Mulligan

### The Ernest Mullins Family

My father and mother, **Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Mullins** moved to Elkhorn in 1955. Dad was involved in hauling crude oil and salt water from the Cromer-Virden oil fields. Dad died in Elkhorn in February, 1968. Mom moved to Winnipeg that same year and still lives there residing at the West Park Manor.

My sisters, **Marjorie** and **Florence**, completed their high school in Elkhorn. Flo attended Ambassador College at Pasadena for one year then married **Avon Pfund**. They lived in Texas for several years. For the past six years they have resided in Bismarck, North Dakota. They have two children — **Victor**, now eighteen and **Nicole**, fifteen.

Marjorie lives in Union, South Carolina. She married **John Moore**. They have three children: **Trent**, twenty, **Tammy**, nineteen, and **Terry-Lee**, sixteen.

I, **Lois**, had worked in Elkhorn from 1957-1964 at Bartley's Store and Mooney's Drugstore. I moved to Winnipeg in 1966. I married **Art Neuls** of Grenfell in 1974. We farm south of Grenfell.

My children, except Corinne, completed their schooling in Winnipeg. **Marla** married **Willie Kempin** of Moosomin, Saskatchewan. They live in Grand Prairie, Alberta. Willie is manager for Dunhill Homes. They have three children: **Kendra**, eight years, **Kalyn**, five years, **Kent** two years.

**Terry** lives in Grand Prairie. He is in construction and is not married.

**Lorri** lives in Calgary, is not married and is a long distance directory operator for Alberta Government Telephones.

**Corinne** lives at home with Art and I. She is in grade ten and takes grade seven piano.

submitted by Lois Neuls

### **Mr. and Mrs. John C. Murray**

**John C. Murray** was born in Arbroath, Scotland in October, 1888. Being an adventurous sort of fellow, who wanted to see the world before settling down, he travelled around the world as a fireman on the King's yacht. Arriving in Canada in 1908, John was employed as a hired hand at the Bill Ewing farm, later working for Carl Dahl, a farmer, who lived four miles west of Elkhorn.

In 1910, he moved to the Dr. R. Goodwin farm, section 6-12-29, to start farming on his own.

In 1912, John wrote back to Scotland to ask his boyhood sweetheart to come out to Canada. She was **Martha Will**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Will. Martha was born in 1886, in Forfarshire, Scotland. Upon her arrival in Canada, she was employed as a maid for Dr. and Mrs. Robert Goodwin until her marriage to John C. Murray. They farmed on the R. Goodwin farm until 1920.

In the spring of 1920, John purchased the E½ 31-11-29 from John Arthur, where the Murrays remained until retiring to Brandon.

During the early years Bill Goethe did the threshing for us with a steamer. This made for a lot of excitement for the younger ones, who used to look forward to threshing time with all its glamour and large gangs of men. They had big threshing outfits in those days, around sixteen men; four men pitching into the machine, four field pitchers, six racks and teams, one engine man, one separator man, and one fireman and waterman. It was a busy time for the cook and if it rained the hired men stayed until it was time to start up again.

In the 1920's, John Murray bought a threshing outfit of his own, a Heider tractor and a wooden Waterloo separator. His second outfit was a Rock Island tractor and Waterloo separator. The third outfit was an I.H.C. tractor and separator. Until his retirement in 1944, he never missed a threshing season which some years ran to thirty days.

For years John ground grain for farmers within a radius of four miles. A boiler of water was put on the cook stove in winter and used to warm the tractor so it would start easier. He did a lot of wood sawing as well.

Mr. Murray was an ardent sports fan, taking a



John Murray threshing in 1920's.

keen interest in hockey, ball and football. He also enjoyed a game of bridge, checkers and pool. He took a great interest in horse-racing, owning a race horse called Texas May, which he later sold to Rud-dick Bros. of Kirkella.

My father was trustee of Mossgiel School for several years and was ever ready to give a neighbour a helping hand. He had musical ability, often playing for local school dances along with his partner Ed. Hayward.

Mother was best known for her homemaking qualities and hospitality, serving many meals and lunches to strangers, neighbours and especially children for whom she had a great love. She will always be remembered by her family as a patient, loving mother and wife.

They retired to Brandon in November, 1944. Mrs. Murray passed away in April, 1960 and Mr. Murray in August, 1971.

They had a family of four.

**John Jr.** — see below.

**Mona** — took a hair-dressing course in Regina, moving to Brandon in 1944, where she has since made her home.

**James** — Jim was married in August, 1941 to **Vera Renwick** of Ryerson, Saskatchewan. He farmed across the border for a few years, then purchased a farm in the Elkhorn district. In 1950 he sold the farm, moved to Brandon and took a job with the C.P.R. He was employed by them until his retirement in 1978. They have three children, **Donna**, **Jim** and **Bonnie**. Donna, Mrs. **Richard Harris**, lives in Brandon and has a son **Kevin**. Richard Harris is deceased. Jim married the former **Leona Clarke** and they live in Brandon. They have two children, **Cindy**, and **Jimmie**. Bonnie and her husband, **Ward Simmons**, live in Winnipeg.

**Norman** — He and his brother Jim both were gifted with musical ability and during the thirties

they and George Canart played for many dances. Norman was married in 1939, to **Della Kay** of Maryfield, Sask. They started farming at that time in the Fleming District, later purchasing a farm in the Archie District where they still reside. They have three children, **Lorraine, Lynn** and **Bill**. Lorraine and her husband, **Peter Flaman**, reside in Saskatoon, and have a family of three, **Laurie, Jody, and Cory**. Lynn lives in Regina. Bill Murray and his wife, the former **Lorie McRae** of Rocanville, Saskatchewan reside at St. Paul, Alberta. They have two sons **Christopher John** and **Michael Arron**.

submitted by J. D. Murray

### **John and Helen Murray**

**John Murray Jr.** was born in the Mossgiel District where he was raised and educated.

John married **Helen Allison** daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Allison of the York District. They took over the farm of J. Murray Sr. in 1944.

They are both interested in community endeavours. John served as secretary-treasurer of the Mossgiel School for ten years and was a trustee for several years.

John was sports minded, playing ball on several teams, and enjoying a game of horse-shoes, or bridge games with the neighbours.

He is a member of the United Church and served on the board of session for a number of years. At present he is chairman of the Worship Committee.

Until the combine came into use John continued to do custom threshing and always took a keen interest in everything connected with farming. He was a member of the Farmers' Union.

Helen Murray (nee Allison) was born and raised in the York district, educated at Elkhorn School, was active in sports and really enjoyed the excitement and preparation of practising for the School Field Day, which was usually held in the later part of May. She took an active part in Club work which is called 4H today.

Helen was employed as a timekeeper at the Virden Flying Training School during the war years. Later she was employed at the Elkhorn Residential School. She is an active member of the United Church Choir, the United Church Women and a member of the Mossgiel Guild.

The Murrays have one daughter, **Nancy Diane**, (Mrs. Fraser Hunter); one granddaughter **Hilary Marie**.

The Murrays retired to Elkhorn in November, 1977. They are enjoying gardening, growing flowers and travelling.

submitted by John and Helen Murray

### **Nels Peter Nelson Family**

He was born in Denmark in 1867, came to Minnesota, U.S.A. in 1871. He grew up there and married **Mary Anderson** in 1890. He served in the Spanish American war and became a lieutenant; while in the army he took typhoid fever and was in hospital for a long time. My mother was not well so they moved to Canada for her health in about 1905 to Esterhazy, Saskatchewan, where he ran an elevator. My brother **Randolph** and I (**Florence**) were born there. My brother **Allan** was born in Minnesota. My family then moved to Shoal Lake, where my father ran an elevator again. He then bought a farm, about ten miles north of Elkhorn. The family lived in a granary while Dad was building a house. My mother then had to live in a tent, as that was about the only treatment for T.B. at that time. My mother died in 1911 before I was four years old. I can remember George Earle, who was the undertaker, coming out in a car, the first car I had ever seen. I can't describe it, but it was surely grand to a little girl.

My brother and I then went to live with our uncle and aunt, Nellie and Oscar Anderson. My older brother, Allan, went to Minnesota with relatives to go to school for a few years. Dad took out his Canadian citizenship papers.

Allan enlisted in the First World War; he was in the 226 Battalion training in Virden. He was killed at Passchendaele in 1917.

Dad's sister came up from Minnesota with her two daughters to keep house for Dad so I came home to stay with them. I remember Evelyn and I driving to Jeffrey school with the horse and cutter, and we were to go to Willen, about 5 miles north to mail a letter. A March blizzard came up. My Dad came to school for us with the team and sleigh, to bring us home; likely we would have been foolish enough to have gone to Willen. Dad hitched the horse and cutter and had the neighbor boy drive the horse behind the sleigh till we got to his gate, then I got in the cutter and followed right behind the sleigh. This was some storm! Dad just had a sod stable at that time, and next morning the snow had drifted right over it completely, so Dad had to guess where the doors were and shovel them out that next day. The stock were all fine.

Dad belonged to the Masonic Lodge at Elkhorn. He had to drive with the team and sleigh in winter and horse and buggy in summer to Lodge. He only owned one car — shortly before he sold his farm.

Dad was very interested in Boys' and Girls' Club in Elkhorn. This group held a small fair of their own in the fall. I guess it was the fore-runner of the "4-H" Clubs. We used to show pigs, colts, butter, cooking, school work and sewing. This was usually held in the old rink in Elkhorn. Of course, going to Elkhorn Fair

was a highlight of the summer. I remember my brother Randolph showing a team of horses hitched to a wagon. We were sure proud of him! I'm sure he never won a prize. In connection with this club, we were taught to judge cattle. We would drive to Elkhorn with the horse and buggy, then Mr. Brotherhood, the Bank Manager, would take us the rest of the way by car, a thrill!

We took our cream to Elkhorn creamery, and many Saturdays I drove to the creamery with horse and buggy with a can of cream.

Dad hauled wood from the Assiniboine River Valley, which must have been fifteen miles. About 5 o'clock in the morning he would fold up the sleigh bunks, putting robes and blankets around the bunks, and covering his lunch, which would most likely be frozen by dinner time; several farmers would go together. They always said they cut their wood on section "37". It would be dark before they arrived home. Making many trips like this, by spring there would be a large wood pile. Then some nice day, the neighbors would come and would saw up this pile of trees into fire wood.

In 1907, Dad won the Western Trap Shooting Championship in Esterhazy.

Dad was a councillor for Archie Municipality and served on Jeffrey School Board.

We had a student Minister every summer, and held church in Jeffrey School; a farmer in the district would supply the minister with a horse and buggy for travelling from one service to another, and visiting during the week.

We had house parties; all the neighbors would go from one house to another. We had one man, Steve Martin, who played the violin. He often sat upon the table on a chair to play as there was no room on the floor, as we were all trying to dance. Dad taught me to waltz, the heel toe polka, buffalo glide, etc. We also had singing and games; really, it was a great, friendly time. During the First World War we had many Box Socials to raise money for the Red Cross. Dad was always one of the most active in these projects. Some of these were just held in our homes, some in schools. They sold for from one dollar to two and a quarter on the average.

In the summer we had our local picnics. Our main sport was baseball. The girls had a team as well as the boys. We skated on the ice in the sloughs.

Around 1914 or 1915 the village of Willen was built as the C.P.R. built a branch line from Virden to McAuley, and we then got our mail at Willen.

Randolph and I took our elementary schooling at Jeffrey School and Rose Lea.

Dad sold his farm in the early 1920's to Bob Walker. I was going to Elkhorn High School, and

Randolph went to Regina to take an Agricultural Course. Shortly after that he went to Redvers, Saskatchewan, and took over a farm which was an estate owned by my Mother and her brothers. While there he met **Margaret McKechnie** and married her in 1927. They had six children living in not much more than a granary, and having difficult times during the depression, he sold the farm and moved to Ontario. After several different jobs he settled in Belleville, and worked for the C.N.R.

One son passed away; the rest of the family have married and live around Belleville. Randolph passed away March 26, 1981, and was buried alongside his son in Belleville cemetery.

After finishing High School I worked for Mr. and Mrs. Web Clarke in Elkhorn, then went to Brandon Normal School. I taught at Rose Lea School for three years, then went to Errol school in Lenore district to teach. There I met **Gordon Hill** and married him in 1931. We had three children. **Allen** is on the home farm, married and has 2 children, **Georgina** is married, lives and teaches in Portage la Prairie, **Bessie Marie** is teaching in Winnipeg, Gordon was killed in a car accident in 1969.

During this interval my dad ran elevators at several different places finally moving to Redvers. When he retired from the elevator he lived with Randolph. When Randolph moved to Ontario, he came to live with me. He would go to Ontario for the winter, then back in the spring to plant and look after a big garden.

Dad received his 50 year Masonic Jewel in 1951. Mr. and Mrs. Butcher brought it over and gave it to him as he was not well enough to go to Elkhorn to receive it. Dad passed away in 1952 in Hamiota hospital and is buried in Elkhorn cemetery beside my mother.

## The Nester Family

In 1907 several families migrated from Minnesota to Manitoba. That year **Valentine Nester** or "Val" as he was called came from St. Paul, Minnesota where he was employed by the Minnesota Icele. He purchased three quarters of Section 27-12-28, ten miles north of Elkhorn. He started breaking up the land with oxen and horses. Mr. and Mrs. E. S. (Ed) Smithson came from Hawick, Minnesota that same year and settled on 21-13-28 an adjoining farm. Many will remember him as an outstanding veterinarian. He travelled many miles over a large area to care for livestock and possessed a greater talent than most university trained vets had.

In 1909 their oldest daughter, **Sadie**, married Val. In 1912 Jeffrey School was built. It took its name

from George Jeffrey on whose farm it was built, N.W. 22-13-28.

The Nester family: **Floyd, Flossie and Hazel** were fortunate in living a quarter mile from school. Val served on the School board as trustee for many years. He was well-known and highly esteemed as being a very gentle and even tempered gentleman no matter what adverse happenings occurred. There was no refrigeration in those times and farmers had difficulty in keeping meat so they formed a beef ring. Each week one farmer would take a turn bringing a steer to the slaughter house. Val would butcher the steer and put each farmer's portion in a meat bag, so they could come and take their own portion home. He butchered for several years. In 1944 they retired from farming and moved to Manson for a year, then to Elkhorn. Their son Floyd took over the farm until retiring to Virden in 1974.

Floyd married **Elizabeth (Bessie) Orr** from the Burnbank district. They have four children. **Donna** married **Murray Brown** of Virden. They reside in Fort McMurray, Alberta. They have one son, **Kevin** and a daughter, **Kimberly**. **Marlene** married **Murray Heaman** of Virden. They are living in Virden and have two daughters, **Christina** and **Jennifer**. **John** is married to **Mona Bradford** from Terrace, B.C. They live in Terrace and have a son, **Kurt**. **Allan** married **Mary Peterson** from Madison, Wisconsin. They live in Terrace, B.C.

Flossie married **John Campbell** from Manson. They live in Winnipeg, where John is an engineer. Their son, **John Lyle**, died at birth. Their daughter, **Nora**, is married to **George Thiessen**. They have one daughter, **Anita**.

**Hazel** married **Bill Copeland** from Ottawa in 1945. Their daughter, **Ellen**, died at birth. Hazel and Bill have both passed away.



L-R Back row: Sadie and Val Nester. Front row: Hazel, Floyd, Flossie.

## **Hugh Stanley Nichols**

**Hugh Stanley Nichols**, born June 24, 1888 at Camberwell, London, England, the son of John William Nichols and Elizabeth Artus, came to Canada in 1904 at age 16, by boat and train.

He obtained a job at McLeod's farm in Elkhorn and worked for them for 16 years.

**Marguerite Annie Roe**, born November 30, 1902 at Lee, London, England, daughter of George Alfred Roe of Lewisham and Annie Crossland of Portsea, Hants, England, left England, February, 1920 travelling by ship and train to Elkhorn, Manitoba.

Marguerite and Hugh were married July 10, 1922 at St. Marks Anglican Church, Elkhorn. They farmed on the Thomas farm from the early twenties until 1936.

Their four children, **Stanley William**, June 1, 1923, **John Richard**, October 15, 1924, **Margaret Eileen**, October 25, 1927, and **Robert Howard**, September 23, 1929, were all born at the farm home, delivered by Dr. Johnston, who drove out to the farm with his horse and buggy.

Times were hard for the Nichols, like many other families in the depression years. Baby Robert died in December, 1930. Marguerite was not well and died in December, 1932.

In 1931 the old log cabin, used as a tool shed, burnt down. In 1935, the wheat crop was hit by rust and one of their best horses came down with encephalitis.

In March, 1935 Hugh married **Frances Jeanette Graham** of Rivers, Manitoba. They had two sons, **Hugh Graham**, December 31, 1935 and **Donald Edward**, May 22, 1942.

The children all attended the Elkhorn School.

The family were on the Dixon farm from 1936-37, then Hugh opened a blacksmith shop at Elkhorn in 1937. The shop had a gas-powered engine until 1938 when electricity and an electric welder was installed. Hugh operated the shop at Elkhorn until 1946 when he sold it and bought a shop in Napinka. He carried on the business a few years in Napinka, returning to Elkhorn about 1951 to build another blacksmith shop. Hugh died February 19, 1959, a few years after retiring from the blacksmith business.

In 1941 Stan joined the air force and received his pilot's wings prior to going overseas. He was with the Coastal Command in the U.K. from 1943-44 with 422 Squadron which consisted of Sunderland Flying Boats. At the end of the war he was with 160 Squadron in Newfoundland.

John joined the Army in 1942 and upon completion of advanced training went overseas as a wireless



L-R Back row: John, Frances, Margaret, Stan. Front row: Hugh with baby Don, Hugh Graham.

operator. He joined the South Alberta Regiment in England going to Europe in 1944.

After the war Stan and John returned to Napinka. Stan worked briefly in Toronto before returning to a career in the air force.

John took vocational training in Winnipeg and worked for a while there before going to work in the Toronto area for A. V. Roe Canada Limited on the C.F. 100 and Avro Arrow programs.

In 1949 while in Air Search and Rescue Operations at Goose Bay, Labrador, Stan married **Rae Davy** of Bancroft, Ontario, an R.C.A.F. nursing sister.

Their son **Barrie** was born in Goose Bay. Five daughters followed, all born in various cities and towns as the Nichols moved with the Air force; Montreal, Quebec; Pembroke, Ontario; Comox, B.C.; air force base Zweibrucken, Germany; and Toronto, Ontario.

Stan's peacetime duty with the air force was with Air Defence and Early Warning Radar. He was with 440 Squadron of C.F. 100's from 1956-60, mostly with N.A.T.O. overseas. His last posting was to North Bay, Ontario where he retired from the air force in 1970.

At present he is with Ontario Northland Transportation Commission, North Bay as operations supervisor for norOntair.

All of Stan's children are married except **Marie**. **Barrie** and **Marie** reside in Alberta. **Linda**, **Margaret** and **Carol** live in Waterloo, Deep River and North Bay, Ontario. One daughter died in infancy. Stan and Rae have five granddaughters and one grandson.

In 1951 John married **Bernice Belsham** whom he met in Winnipeg. They have lived 25 years in Georgetown, Ontario after residing a few years in the Etobicoke area of Toronto.

They have four children, **Judy**, married, living in Brampton, Ontario, **Gord**, in Vancouver, B.C., **Marilyn** and **David** continuing their education in Toronto and Waterloo, Ontario.

John is at present employed with Varian Industries, Georgetown, an electronics firm working in the communications field.

Margaret Nichols remained in Elkhorn, marrying **George Canart** of the area in 1947. George operated the local butcher shop. They had four sons, **Geordie** now of Vancouver, **Gerald**, **Brian** and **Larry** all residing in Brandon.

Margaret and George moved to Virden for two years about 1960, then to Brandon where they operated a trailer court until about 1979. They continue to reside in Brandon.

All their sons but Gerald are married and they have two granddaughters and one grandson.

Hugh Graham and Don have resided in Saskatoon for a number of years. Both have worked at the Potash Mines at Asquith, Saskatchewan. At present both are in the transportation business as truck drivers.

Hugh married **Rene Snoddy** of Moosomin, Saskatchewan in 1960. They have one son **Michael**, who is married, and a grandson **Christopher**.

Don married **Antonia (Toni) Konecnik** at Asquith, Saskatchewan in 1974; they have a daughter **Carlene** and two sons, **Danny** and **Andrew**.

Hugh's second wife, Frances, moved from Elkhorn to Saskatchewan, residing in Saskatoon for a number of years. She returned to Elkhorn in 1978 and is now living in the Seniors Citizens' Lodge.

submitted by Bernice and John Nichols

## Noble Family History

**Thomas Alexander Noble** was one of the early settlers of the Elkhorn area in the community seven miles west — later to be known as Kirkella. Manitoba became a "postage-stamp" province in the newly formed Dominion of Canada just three years before he was born on December 5, 1873 at Coulson's Corner near Bradford, Ontario in the County of Simcoe. He was the fifth child of **David and Margaret (Williams) Noble**. He had four sisters and one brother.

Thomas moved with his family to Shanty Bay, County of Simcoe when he was two years old. His father operated a tavern there for five years and during that time Tom started to school and attended one year before the family moved again to



50th anniversary of Thomas and Elizabeth Noble 1952. L-R Back row: Cliff Cusitar, Aleta Cusitar (Pulver), Birkett Mitchell, Mossie (Noble) Mitchell, Fred Willmott. Front row: Wilma Cusitar (Palmer), Annie (Noble) Cusitar, Mr. and Mrs. Noble, Alice (Noble) Willmott, Gail Mitchell (Kilbank).

Craighurst, Ontario in 1880. During the succeeding years of Tom's adolescence his family moved frequently. They lived in Oro, Vespera and Floss Concessions all in the vicinity of Craighurst. By this time Tom was a teenager and began working for himself. He worked in John Shortridge's Saw Mill in Floss and Huff's and Knight's mills in the Township of Medonta but lived at his father's home on the 2nd Concession of Floss.

It was about this time that Thomas first met his future life partner, **Elizabeth Rehill**, although both had attended the Anglican Church in Craighurst as children. Elizabeth was born in the township of Manvers, Ontario on December 22, 1874, the daughter of **William and Alice (Porter) Rehill**. She was the youngest child in a family of eleven, four girls and seven boys. Her family moved when she was a child to a farm near Hillsdale on the 2nd Concession of Floss. There Elizabeth grew up and attended the elementary school.

In 1892 when Thomas Nobel was nineteen years



Noble's Tourist Camp on old No. 1 Highway 1928-41.

of age he was given the opportunity to come West on a Harvest Excursion. Mr. John Shortridge, for whom he had worked in the sawmill at Floss, paid his fare to Elkhorn. This was just ten years after the laying of the railway through this part of the country. Mr. Shortridge had, in recent years, been west and bought a farm NE 31-11-29 in what was later known as the Mossgiel District about eight miles west of Elkhorn. (This was the farm later owned by Mr. Jack Murray and sons and presently by Mr. Wes Overand.)

Mr. Shortridge traded his farm in Manitoba to Mr. William Rehill for his farm on the 2nd of Floss with considerable money to boot for the Ontario farm. That year, William Rehill, his wife Alice, and their two sons, **William and Jack**, and daughters **Lavina and Elizabeth** moved west to the farm at Elkhorn. About this time and earlier older members of the Rehill family also moved west. Some settled at Rocanville, Sask. and some farther west in Calgary and other parts of Alberta. Susan was the only member of that large family who married and remained in Ontario.

On his first trip west Thomas just stayed from Sept. 6, 1892 until the end of October and left for home Nov 1, the day after Hallowe'en, he recalled. His mother was not well at this time and she passed away later in December of that year. Tom's youngest sister **Harietta (Ettie)** was only 16 years old at this time but after her mother's death she kept house for her father and brother Tom.

In 1894 Tom came back to Elkhorn again and worked for different farmers — Stewart Wardman in the summer of 1894 — W. W. McDonald at Fleming in the summer of 1895 — William Rehill in 1896 and Aaron Botterill in the summer of 1897. He went back to Ontario that winter but returned again in the spring of 1898. In the summer of 1898 he worked for Bob Dawson and that winter and the next he batched with George Laugheed and helped with chores. During the summers of 1899 and 1900 Thomas worked for William Scarth in the Two Creeks district north-east of Elkhorn. In the winter of 1900 he did chores for Smith Wood and the next winter for Bill Sproule.

A home of his own in this area must have been in Thomas' mind for some time because in 1894 he bought the N.W. quarter of section 15-12-29 for \$3.00 an acre. This may have been bought under Agreement of Sale in 1894 as the title for this land was not issued until February 11, 1905 (Title No. 7419). In 1896 he took homestead land S.W. quarter 34-12-29 North across the C.P.R. railway, but sold this later.

Farm land in this part of the province was fast being taken up and settled, especially after the



C.P.R. railway went through in 1882. Still there was no established centre between Elkhorn, Manitoba and Fleming, North West Territories. (Saskatchewan did not become a province of the Dominion until 1905). The C.P.R. wished to locate a station in the area from which telegraphic messages could be received and dispatched. There was also a great need for an established Post Office in this area. And so it was that the site was chosen for a village but it still had no name. In the winter of 1896 when Thomas Noble was spending some time with the family of Mr. Thomas Watson a petition suggesting the name "Kirkella" was drawn up. This was the name that had been taken by the local branch of the farmers organization "The Patrons of Industry" formed at Mossiel in the early 1890's. It was also the name of the Thomas Watson farm, the E ½ of 28-11-29 which in turn had been named "Kirkella Farm" after the Watson home district in the old country. Thomas took the petition and rode on horseback to the various settlers' homes to procure their signatures on this document. This was forwarded to the Minister of Railways and Canals, Honorable J. C. Blair in Ottawa and thus in 1896 Kirkella became a dot on the map of the still very young province of Manitoba.

Once Kirkella was established as a centre for the area, besides a Post Office and box car C.P.R. Station, a store came into being, a school, a hotel, a blacksmith shop, an elevator and an Anglican Church. Some years later a Presbyterian Church was built and in a few years an Orange Hall, which was used for Lodge meetings, dances, and all social functions in the community.

At some time during the years between 1894 and 1902 Thomas built a house and sod barn on his ¼ section 15-12-29. It was a two-storey frame house with three rooms downstairs and two bedrooms upstairs. Many years later (about 1912) this house was struck by lightning and the interior badly damaged. The chimney was knocked down and considerable plaster fell from the walls, but there was no fire damage. It had been standing empty since 1907 when a new house was built in Kirkella. For a number of years after the interior was wrecked, the house was used as a granary.

In 1902 on March 26, Thomas Noble and Elizabeth Rehill were married at the Anglican Vicarage in Virden. Elizabeth's brother, William Rehill and Mathilda (Tillie) Dahl of Fleming (later Mrs. Edward McDonald) stood up with them. It was a very wet "spring" and it poured rain all day on the 26th. A railway bridge was washed out and the train was not able to get through so the wedding couple spent the night at a hotel in Virden. Later they returned to their home on 15-12-29. Several years later the west half

22-12-29 was bought. The title for this was registered in the Brandon Land Titles' Office on November 30, 1906.

During the next few years while living in this house on N.W. ¼ 15-12-29 two little girls were born to Thomas and Elizabeth Noble — **Annie Elizabeth** and **Alice Aleta**. Grandpa Noble from Ontario visited with the family for several months at a time on different occasions and Grandpa and Grandma Rehill, who lived only about six miles away drove over often.

With two little girls who, before many years, would be school age, Thomas and Elizabeth decided to build a home in the village of Kirkella which bordered on their farm (22-12-29). Thomas first built quite a large barn which in succeeding years was to be used as a livery stable as well as serving farm needs. The house was built in 1907 and the family moved in. (this is the house presently owned and lived in by Leonard Persson). Alterations have been made over the years but basically the structure is the same.

Several years after moving into the new house another little girl joined the family. She was called **Edith Moss (Mossie)** after a very dear friend of the family, Mossie Neilly, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Neilly with whom Tom often made his home before he was married. Mossie Neilly passed away in Sept., 1907. She was buried in a tiny cemetery plot on the Noble farm where her mother was also laid to rest in January, 1908 only three months later.

The first elevator was built in Kirkella in 1898. It was located beside the railway about 350 yards north of the Noble farm yard. One night in October, 1916 our household was awakened by a bright light which flooded the house. On investigation it was discovered that the elevator was on fire. The alarm was given, but with no fire-fighting equipment available nothing could be done to save the building, its contents, or the two carloads of grain standing beside it, fully loaded for shipment. Mr. Joseph Neilly was the manager of the elevator at this time. There was a terrific heat from the fire and the men who assembled could do nothing but watch for sparks that might carry and spread the fire farther afield. Our house and barn were especially vulnerable with so much straw around the barnyard and the fall grass everywhere parched and dry. Some threshing machine water tanks were used in an attempt to prevent flames from spreading but nothing could be done to save the building. The ruins were watched for days and nights after that to make sure that a gust of wind did not stir up fresh flames and carry sparks. Piles of burnt grain smoldered for days. Farmers were told to come and salvage all the grain they wanted. It was thought that much of it would be fine for chicken and pig feed.

Soon people began to notice their eggs tasting smoked and chickens also were tainted with the smoke saturated grain. Kirkella district was without an elevator for six years. Eventually in 1922 a new Matheson Lindsay elevator was built several hundred yards farther east along the C.P.R.

In those days before electricity came into the area all homes were heated with either wood or coal. Wood was cut on many of the local farms. Coal was shipped in in carload lots from mines in Saskatchewan, Alberta and U.S.A. Thomas Noble made a business of looking after the ordering and handling of these car loads of both hard and soft coal. The cars had to be unloaded as quickly as possible to avoid paying demurrage on them so there was always a flurry to let people know that the coal was "in." And so they came with wagons or sleighs, depending on the weather, to get their winter supply of coal. What a dirty job that was, but the bins in cellars or sheds had to be filled against the advancing cold of winter.

Those were the days of coal oil lamps and lanterns, but Thomas, who always had an inventive mind, decided to light his house with an acetylene gas system. He studied the necessary equipment, soldered and welded metal cans and piping and installed pipes in the walls of every room. Carbide was used as fuel to generate gas and when completed the light jets throughout the houses were attractive and so seemingly safe compared to carrying lighted lamps around upstairs and down. When the taps were opened and the jets lighted they burned with a beautiful white light and the system appeared to work perfectly. One winter evening just before the family retired a slight odor of gas was detected. Our father investigated and discovered that the system was leaking somewhere. This could be very dangerous. We stayed up most of the night with the doors and windows open and wrapped in blankets to keep warm. The hazards of the system more than off-set the luxury of the beautiful light and so the lamps were brought out again and the gas burner was discarded. But underneath the veneer of modern day wall coverings there are still the holes in the walls where gas lighting was experimented with in a pioneer farm home.

Many thoughts flood the mind when reflecting on past years at the farm in Kirkella. "School days, school friends, teachers and the Inspector" come to mind. Living close to the school we came home for lunch at noon but we always envied the kids who drove a horse and buggy to school and had their lunch in a tin pail and could have something to eat at recess if they liked. Occasionally on a stormy day in the winter we were allowed to take our lunch or perhaps Dad would come knocking at the door with it if the day had suddenly turned stormy.

Teachers who taught at Kirkella school during the years we three girls attended were Annie Campbell, Etta McEwan, Carrie Treffry, Gwen Jones, May Barley, Peggy Wallace, Effie Halliday, Daisy Dennler and Helen Jaffray. Many of these teachers boarded at our place so we got to know them very well. Inspector Hatcher visited the school a couple of times a year. His stern manner and deep voice made this a fearsome experience for most of the pupils and no doubt the teacher also. But underneath this stern mask I believe he was a very kindly and sympathetic man.

School Christmas concerts were always looked forward to and created considerable excitement for at least a month before Christmas. Everyone enjoyed taking part in the program, especially if the part called for a costume.

School Field Days, in which Kirkella later excelled, had not yet been organized during our years at Kirkella School but the "Boys' and Girls' Club Fair," which was the forerunner of 4H Clubs, provided considerable competition and interest at that time. The "Fair" was held in the old Elkhorn Rink in the fall. We prepared and entered vegetables, canned fruits and vegetables, home made butter, sewing and crocheting.

During the years we lived at Kirkella our interests centered and blossomed there. Every activity in the community was participated in with enthusiasm and enjoyment. There were the two churches, Anglican and Presbyterian which at times were both in operation and which we attended and helped promote. There was the Orange Hall built in 1911 through the efforts of the dedicated Loyal Orange Lodge. This provided a central meeting place for all social functions in the community. These consisted of dances, Box Socials, card parties, concerts, fowl suppers, occasional travelling picture shows and meetings of various organizations.

The Kirkella Loyal Orange Lodge No. 2143 was organized in 1910. Thomas Noble was one of the Charter Members and in 1960 he and Joe Ruddick Jr., the only surviving charter members, were presented with 50 year Jewels at a social function held in the Kirkella Orange Hall. Thomas passed away in May of the following year.

The Kirkella Chapter of I.O.D.E. No. 666 came into being on March 13, 1917, during the years of the First World War. This organizational meeting was arranged and conducted by Mrs. R. H. Brotherhood of Elkhorn, a Provincial Councillor of Manitoba Provincial Chapter I.O.D.E. It was held at the home of Mrs. T. Noble and she was made 1st Vice President.

The years of the First World War, 1914-1918, brought difficult times on the farms. It was prac-

tically impossible to get hired help and many of the farm women, older men and school boys carried on and seeded and harvested the crops. We can remember Mother and us girls helping with the haying. Dad had made a long sweep to which a team of horses was hitched at each end. With this device we swept the ravine and built the stacks of hay for winter use.

Several years after the war there was a period of great unrest and unemployment. Living beside the railway we had an opportunity to observe at first hand the hundreds of men who daily "rode the rails," hitching rides from one side of the Dominion to the other. When a freight train stopped in the village we were sure that before long one or several men would be knocking at the door asking for food. Mother usually sent them to the wood pile to chop wood while she prepared a sandwich lunch in a bag which they seized hungrily and returned to the freight train.

The first car in the Kirkella area appeared around 1912. It was a big grey Overland owned by the Hall brothers. At first it looked strange to see this vehicle coming down the road with no horses attached. It made quite a powerful noise and one day we were treated to a ride in it. Thomas Noble purchased his first car in 1915, a Studebaker, from Mr. Ben Axelson, an Elkhorn car dealer. Prior to this we had a horse drawn surrey for family transportation in the summer and a cutter for winter use. If there was a lot of snow and a number of people to be accommodated we used a sleigh with lots of hay and rugs for warmth and a charcoal burning foot warmer.

One rather unusual social function in the community which comes to mind was an "Oyster Supper" at Hall's farm home. It seems "Oyster Suppers" were the "in" thing at that time. The house was filled to capacity with people sitting around visiting or playing cards. "King Pedro" was the game. Then later the food was served. You could have oyster soup and crackers if you wished. There were also dishes of raw and cooked oysters. Apparently it was considered quite an accomplishment to swallow a raw whole oyster and some were dared to try it.

Since there was no High School at Kirkella and the three Noble daughters were at the stage in their education where this was required, Thomas and Elizabeth decided to leave the farm and move their family to Elkhorn. In 1920 they rented the farm to Herb Adams and moved in. Besides farming, Thomas was an agent for Insurance, Singer Sewing Machines and Cream Separators. This he carried on in his new location. Once settled the family entered into the activities of the school, Church and various organizations in Elkhorn community. Before long we had school teachers boarding with us and at times a store clerk.

After completing their High School education all three girls became school teachers and taught in various districts throughout the province.

At this point Thomas and Elizabeth Noble decided to embark on a new venture. They began developing a Tourist Camp on fifteen acres on the S.E. corner of their farm 22-12-29. They built this venture into a successful enterprise and operated it for thirteen years during the summer months and in winter resided in Elkhorn. In 1941 they sold "The Camp" to Mr. and Mrs. Alex McDonald from Manson and retired to Elkhorn.

During the twenty years or more after the Noble family left the farm a number of renters tenanted it. In 1943 they sold it to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Persson.

Mr. and Mrs. Noble continued to live in Elkhorn until 1950. At that time Mrs. Noble had the misfortune to fall and break her hip. When able to leave Virden Hospital she was moved to Douglas, Manitoba to convalesce at the home of her daughters, Alice Willmott and Mossie Mitchell. Later they sold their cottage in Elkhorn and bought a house in Douglas. In later years they spent much of their time in the summer at Russell, Manitoba with their daughter Annie Cusitar's family and the winter with the Mitchells and Willmotts at Douglas. Mrs. Noble passed away in August, 1960 at the age of 85 and Mr. Noble in May, 1961 at age of 87 years.

Annie taught at several schools in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. In 1932 she married **Clifford Cusitar** and they farmed west of Russell, Manitoba, in the Craigie district. They had two daughters **Aleta** and **Wilma** and they have four grandchildren. The Cusitars retired to Russell in 1964. Cliff passed away in August, 1967, and Annie still resides in their home.

Alice became a teacher and taught in schools in the Birtle and Douglas area. She married **Frederick Willmott** in 1933 and they made their home in Douglas. Fred operated an Insurance business until 1963 when his health failed. He passed away in January, 1964. Alice continues to live in their home in Douglas.

Mossie was also a teacher and taught in the Manitoba areas of Chater, Douglas, and Gladstone. In 1938 she married **Birkett Mitchell** and they farmed four miles North of Douglas. They had one daughter, **Gail** and four grandchildren. The Mitchells retired to Brandon and built a new house in 1958. Mossie passed away in September, 1973, and Birkett and his sister, Anne Mitchell, reside in his home.

submitted by Alice Willmott, Douglas, Manitoba

## **Nolans**

**DARRELL AND INA NOLAN** spent five years

farming in what was then Arawana District before moving to Buckingham District where they farm now. They have two sons, **BRENT AND BRIAN** who also farm south of Elkhorn.

Brent got his education at Buckingham School and Elkhorn. Brian at Elkhorn and Virden.

Brent and Patricia Paull were married this year.

### The Ogilvie Family

**George Ogilvie (Sr.)** married **Grace Stevenson** in 1904. He emigrated from Scotland in 1906, coming directly to the Carberry district to work on a farm. The following year Mrs. Ogilvie and **George (Jr.)** arrived to join him. They lived there until 1909. It was when they were there that **Mary** was born. They then moved to the Springvale district, near Elkhorn, in 1912, farming there until 1924. They then



Mr. and Mrs. George Ogilvie Sr. with their family. L-R: George, Bill, Mary, Harold, Florence, Ruth, Ken and Donald.

moved to the Arawana district to farm. Retiring to live in Elkhorn in 1952, George Ogilvie, Sr. was employed by the Municipality of Wallace for many years. He was in charge of equipment for road building, dugout excavations, and later worked with the road patrol. He served for many years as trustee and secretary-treasurer on Springvale and Arawana School boards.

Upon taking up residence in Elkhorn, George Sr. became interested in curling. For a time he was caretaker of the skating rink where he became popular with the small fry. Mrs. Ogilvie spent much of her time looking after her family and knitting.

They had a family of nine — six sons and three daughters.

1. **George Jr.** married **Jean Orr** in 1932. They

farmed in the Arawana district, before retiring to live in Elkhorn.

2. **John James** was raised by his grandmother in Aberdeen. He joined the Navy, and died in service in 1967.

3. **Mary Anne** married **William D. Paull** in 1929. They farmed in the Woodville district before retiring to live in Elkhorn. They have one son, **Ian**.

4. **William** married **Mabel Roach** in 1937. They farmed in the Arawana district, before retiring to live in Elkhorn. They had a family of four: **Marie and Wilma, Douglas**, and an infant son died at birth.

5. **Harold** married **Blanche McBean** in 1941. They farm in the Buckingham district. They have a daughter, **Shirley**, and a son, **Gerald**.

6. **Kenneth** married **Gladys Twigg** in 1940. They had a family of three: **Wayne, Betty**, and **Douglas** (deceased). Gladys died in 1968. Kenneth married **Winnie Corbett** in 1969.

7. **Florence** married **Oswald I (Peter) Drake** in 1942. They are retired on the farm in Burnbank district. They have a family of two: **Mary and Hugh**.

8. **Ruth** married **Frank George** in 1940. They farmed in the Parkland district, retiring to live in Virden. They have a family of four: **Donald, Paul, Pauline and Ronald**.

9. **Donald** married **Betty Huckle** in 1946. They farmed in the Arawana district for a short time and moved to Vancouver. Donald was employed at General Motors. They retired to Salt Spring Island. They have a family of two: **Martin and Bronwyn**.

Mr. and Mrs. Ogilvie suffered many hardships raising a large family through the depression years. They were happy and thankful to be able to celebrate their 61st wedding anniversary with their family and friends.

George Ogilvie Sr. passed away in 1966, his wife in 1968. They are buried in the Elkhorn cemetery.

by Florence Drake

### Tom and Margaret O'Greysik and Family

**Thomas Anthony O'Greysik**, eldest son of Joseph and Lena O'Greysik, was born in Elkhorn on March 17, 1916. He attended Kirkella school and left home at the age of twenty, when he started farming in the Kirkella district in 1937. In 1942 he married **Margaret Frances Young**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard J. L. Young of Moosomin, Saskatchewan. Mr. Young came through Elkhorn by ox cart in 1882. They journeyed through to the Stanley District where they settled on a homestead.

After they were married, Tom and Margaret lived in the Kirkella district where the three oldest boys: Joe, Wes, and Dale were born. In the spring of 1946 they moved to Elkhorn district where they lived on



Tom and Margaret's 25th wedding anniversary. L-R Back row: Wes, Dale, Joe, Randy, Jerry. Front row: Lynn, Margaret, Tom.

the N.W. quarter of 2-12-28. They farmed here where Gerald, Lynn and Randy were born.

All six boys received their education at Elkhorn and enjoyed sports and the outdoor life. **Joseph Richard**, born November 5, 1942, married **Gayle Northcut** of Maryfield, Saskatchewan in September, 1966. Joe and Gayle have a daughter, **Susan** and a son, **Tim**, and live in Souris where Joe is employed by Manitoba Hydro as the district man.

**Wesley Thomas** was born October 21, 1943, married **Patricia Hood**, who was teaching school at Elkhorn at the time, in September, 1966. Wes and Pat have three sons: **Sean, Scott** and **Patrick** (twins) and they now live in Leduc, Alberta, where Wes is an engineer with Dome Petroleum.

**Dale Andrew** was born October 21, 1945. Dale married **Linda Rowan** of Elkhorn in 1963. They reside on a farm in the Elkhorn district and have two sons, **Richard** and **David**.

**Gerald Young** was born May 6, 1949, and married **Debbie Clubb** of Manson in June of 1972. Gerald is a buttermaker at Manco Dairies in Brandon where he lives. Jerry and Debbie have a son, **Danny** and a daughter, **Brenda**.

**Alvin Lynn** was born June 12, 1952 and is unmarried. He resides on the home farm in the Elkhorn district. Lynn is employed by Canadian Pacific Railway as a welder.

**Randall Cecil** was born November 8, 1962. After graduating from Elkhorn high school in 1980, he left Elkhorn and went to Estevan, Saskatchewan for six months and then to Leduc, Alberta where he worked for Baker Line Oil Tools. In October of 1981 he returned home to Elkhorn where he is employed by Lamb Stoves.

In the spring of 1981 Tom and Margaret retired to Elkhorn where Tom enjoys wood working after a lifetime of farming.

## Mr. and Mrs. Frank (Dick) Oliver and Family

**Dick Oliver**, the second son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Oliver was born in the Fairfield District. He attended school at Fairfield and took his High school in Fleming, Saskatchewan. Dick worked on various farms in near-by localities, one of which was the Bajus Bros. in 1937. With his brothers **Jack** and **Bill** they formed an orchestra and played for many dances for a number of years.

Dick married **Winnifred Leslie**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer Leslie of Buckingham district in April, 1941. They celebrated their fortieth Wedding Anniversary this year. Winnie attended school in Elkhorn, and later in Buckingham School. She also played on the Elkhorn Ball and Hockey teams. They are both interested in community affairs, especially sports. They farmed for one summer in the Fleming district, moving to Kirkella district November First, 1941 to reside on the east half of section 17-12-29. Dick was a member of the L.O.L. and a trustee on the Kirkella School Board. He represented this area on the District Hospital Board and later on the Virden District Hospital Board. Winnie taught Sunday School in Kirkella for some years. She was a member of the I.O.D.E.

Dick and Winnie had four sons. **Keith** (deceased), **Gordon, Gary** and **Blaine**.

Gordon went to Kirkella Public School and took his High School in Elkhorn. He was active in sports, mainly hockey, and baseball. He married **Judy Shurvell** of Elkhorn in 1965; they lived in Elkhorn until 1972 where Gordon was employed with the Manitoba Hydro, and Judy worked as a telephone operator. They now live in Calgary where Gordon is employed by the Calgary Power. They have three children **Marletta, Paula** and **Brett**, who are all going to school.

Gary attended Kirkella Public School and took his high school in Elkhorn. He was also active in sports mainly hockey and ball. Following high school he took a welding course in Brandon and a pipeline welding course in Kelowna, B.C. He has spent many hours welding on oil pipelines from Fort Nelson, B.C. to Montreal, Quebec. In 1972 he married **Betty Armstrong** from Ottawa. In 1975 they purchased a farm north half of 21-12-29 from Art Edgar. They have two children **Derek** and **Alanna**. Derek attends Elkhorn School.

Blaine started school in Elkhorn and is now in high school. He also is active in sports, mainly hockey.

submitted by: Winnie Oliver

## John Orr Family

**John Orr** came to Canada in 1902 from Glasgow, Scotland. In the spring of 1903, he homesteaded on SW¼ of section 14-13-28 with a team of grey broncos. He worked for Wm. Kay at Maryfield for two winters. He purchased a farm 28-12-28 from Geo. Doherty in 1904. His brother **Walter** joined him the same year, also coming from Glasgow. In the fall of 1906 he returned to Scotland where he married **Christina Risk** from Stirling. In the spring of 1907 they came to Canada. They farmed on section 28-12-28 for fifty years.

Seven children were born to this couple. Included in the family was **Walter Orr** who never married and made his home with them, always sharing in the work, the good times and the bad. They took great pride in their Clydesdale horses, Shorthorn cattle and Border Leicester sheep, winning many prizes at local fairs and also at Brandon and Toronto. Their son **Thomas, James' wife, Margaret, and son, John** still live on the home farm. Jock Orr, as he was best known to his friends, was very interested in people and was always willing to help for the betterment of the community. He served as chairman for Christmas concerts at Burnbank school for 35 years. Many of the children will remember the game Oats and Peas and Barley Oh, always played after the concert.

He served as President of Elkhorn Agricultural Society. Fair day was a very special day, John and Walter getting up at 4 A.M. to take horses and cattle to the fair. The rest of the family did other chores and drove in later to take in the fair. He was President of the St. Andrew's Society and always took part in the big Burns night held in Elkhorn in January. No matter what the weather, they never missed. A banquet was followed by a Scotch concert and dance. Always the bagpipes, Scotch dancers and old Scotch songs were enjoyed, taking them back to memories of their



L-R: Reg Cousins, John Orr, Walter Grieve, Wattie Orr.

hometown. Not only the Scottish people attended. People came for miles; as many as two to three hundred crowded the hall in Elkhorn. He served as a trustee and also helped organize the church services held at Burnbank where the United Church Minister took the service but it was attended by all denominations. Mrs. Orr, a quiet unassuming person was a wonderful helper. She loved her family, her grandchildren, and their door was always open to visitors anytime.



L-R Back row: John Orr, Wattie Orr. Front row: Mrs. John Orr, Mrs. Mary Lindsay (sister of John and Wattie — from "the old country").

In later years their garden was their hobby. Many people shared in the vegetables they grew. Walter, too, took great pride in the potatoes and turnips.

In the spring of 1943 in March, Walter had taken a stallion to Elkhorn to be shod. A beautiful morning when he left home! He walked the five and a half miles leading horse. By afternoon a blizzard came up. There being no room in the livery barn for the stallion, he decided to start for home. His brother John phoned in and found out he was on his way home, so immediately started out to look for him. George Freeman, a neighbor hooked up a team and went also. He had become exhausted and collapsed. The snow had covered him and he might never have been found except he was lying on the horse's rope and the horse just stood there. He was badly frost bitten and spent several weeks in Dr. Johnston's hospital in Elkhorn.

This pioneer family shared the good and the bad times always working together — through the hard times in the thirties — milking cows when cream was worth less than two dollars for a five-gallon can. For entertainment in the winter, house parties were held where all the family went dancing, and playing



L-R: Thomas, Mary, Belle, Jim, Jean, Bessie.

cards. There was volunteer music where many of the young people learned all the old-time dances. No one needed a bar for refreshments.

After Mr. and Mrs. Orr and Walter had passed on, John's two sons, Thomas and James, farmed the same farm. In August of 1962 a tornado swept through, taking all the buildings in their yard but the house and barn. The barn was moved partly off the foundation. This storm, which took in an area not more than four miles wide from the Saskatchewan border to Killarney, uprooted trees and flattened crops. Hail bigger than baseballs broke windows. No lives were lost, but damages running into thousands of dollars were reported.

Of this family, five children are still living. The eldest son, **John**, died in 1965. **James** died in 1970. **Jean** (Mrs. George Ogilvie) lives in Elkhorn, **Elizabeth** (Mrs. Floyd Nester) in Virden, **Thomas**, still on the home farm, **Mary** (Mrs. Charles Freeman) on a farm at Elkhorn, **Isabel** (Mrs. Roy Heaman) in Virden.

## Pappel

**NORMAN ANTHONY PAPPEL** (1957) was born in Welland, Ontario, only son of the late **Edgar Pappel** and **Leona**. In 1959 Norman and Leona moved to Morden, Manitoba and in 1966 Leona married **Elmer Armstrong** of Elkhorn at which time Norman came to the Elkhorn area, and attended the Elkhorn Collegiate. He is also a graduate of Herzing Institute in Computer Programming and has since completed his fourth year of apprenticeship in masonry. He is now operating his own masonry business

known as Pappel Masonry. His other interests are flying and photography.

submitted by Elmer Armstrong

## Pascoe Family History

The Pascoe family came to Elkhorn from Fleming, Saskatchewan in 1932. For **Lillian** it was a return to the district she grew up in; coming as a "babe in arms" with her parents **Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Gilbart** in 1887 when they arrived as homesteaders from Blenheim, Ontario. She was the oldest of seven children. Two girls and five boys. They all received their schooling in Elkhorn often walking the three miles from their home west of town.

In 1905 Lillian married **Richard Pascoe**. Richard was born in Cornwall, England in 1879, one of a family of six. He came to Canada in 1903. They spent their early married years in International Falls, Minnesota and later in Brandon, Manitoba where Richard was employed in retail sales work.

In 1909 they decided to venture into farming and moved to the Manson district and later on to the Fleming area. Their children **Grace, Gordon, Edith** and **Marion** were born during their years in the Manson-Fleming districts and they received their early schooling there.

In 1932 Richard and Lillian purchased a dairy business from Lillian's brother, Stanley Gilbart at Elkhorn, and they moved to take up residence. They experienced the "ups and downs" of the depression years and with a lot of faith and hard work came through unscathed. They retired from the dairy business in 1947, selling to Elmer Swan.

Richard and Lillian were very active in the United Church. Richard served on the Board of Stewards and for more than thirty years was a member of the church choir.

Lillian was a member of the Women's Institute.

Richard loved to sing and took an active part in concerts and plays in the community and surrounding districts.

They celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary in 1965 with all their children and grandchildren present.

Richard died in January, 1967.

Lillian celebrated her ninety-fourth birthday in March, 1981 and passed away in July of that year in the Elkhorn Health Unit.

Richard and Lillian Pascoe's family:

**Grace Pascoe** — worked in the Elkhorn Post Office prior to and following her marriage to Oscar Duxbury in 1940. During their early married years Oscar was serving in the Royal Canadian Air Force. Grace resided briefly in Winnipeg during this period

JOHN OLDE PARSONS  
and  
MARYANN WOOD

SIXTH CHILD OF JOHN AND MARYANN

EDWIN ALBERT PARSONS  
1862 - 1938

Married  
SALINA JANE HASKELL  
1862 - 1901

THEY HAD SEVEN CHILDREN  
Remarried  
JEAN GILES  
THEY HAD ONE CHILD

DAVID GEORGE 1959  
JOHN GORDON 1958  
STEPHEN DONALD 1965

EDWIN GEORGE  
1922 - DECEASED  
Married  
MARY CAMPBELL

LOUIS EDWIN 1955  
BRANT JAMES 1961

WILLIAM MONTAGUE  
1928 -  
Married  
EVELYN BRADSHAW

EDWIN and SALINA moved their family to the vicinity of Elkhorn probably in 1889.

In 1900, a great fire swept Elkhorn area. The men folk were called out to fight the main fire. SALINA had suffered fatal effects from smoke-inhalation in her attempts to protect her children.

EDWIN left the farm and became a carpenter and builder, which trade he followed until his death Oct. 22, 1938 at Elkhorn

DAVID 1953  
DONNA JEAN 1958  
JOHN 1965

ORAN  
1886 Died Infant

EVA MAY  
1888 - 1974  
married GEOCRANE  
LATER  
RICHARD EMERSON  
No family

ZELMA ETHEL  
1890 -  
married  
ROBERT BRUCE BELL  
9 children

LOUIS MONTAGUE  
1896 - 1963  
Married  
EMILY YOUNG  
2 children

MURICE EDWIN  
1898 - 1972  
Married 1 child  
ANNA MOURITZEN  
LATER  
WINNIFRED BOTTERILL  
4 children

RUFAS HARDING  
DIED INFANT

FLORENCE JOSEPHINE  
DIED INFANT

JOHN ALBERT  
1928  
Married  
VERA COLLIS  
3 children

THOMAS EDWIN  
1909 - 1976  
Married  
ALEXANDRA FEDORAK  
SALINA ISABELLA  
1911 -  
Married  
WILLIAM DALBARNO

EVA IRENE  
1914 -  
Married  
WILLIAM BURGESS  
LOUIS ZELMA  
1916 - 1917

ETHEL GEORGINA  
1918 -  
Married  
WILLIAM KNULL

OLGA ALBERTA  
1920 -  
Married  
SAMUEL KNULL

VICTORIA LOUISE  
1922 -  
Married  
LAWRENCE GERRING

ELLEN MARIE  
1930 - 1933

FLORENCE JOSEPHINE  
1921 -  
Married  
LESTER REECE

MELBA MARIE  
1926 -  
Married  
ROBERT LLEWELLYN THOMAS

GERALDINE FRANCES  
1930 DECEASED

PATRICIA LOUISE  
1930  
Married  
HARVEY IVAN BRAGG

MARLENE EDITH  
1932  
Married  
JAMES RUSSELL DOUGLAS

ROBERT BRUCE  
1879 -  
WILLIAM THOMAS  
1951 -

RETA MARIE  
1942 -

THOMAS EDWARDS  
1945 -  
Married DIANA BROOME

TAMARA SALINA 1949

DARREN THOMAS 1947

GEORGE 1935  
Married KATHLEEN SELDON  
ALMA FOGEDA  
DONNA LOUISE 1967

HILDA 1937  
Married MICHAEL KARBONIK  
SALLY MAY 1941  
DEBRA LYVANE 1944

EILEEN 1938  
Married MICHAEL CHOLACH  
MARIE JILL 1944

GEORGE DOUGLAS TWINS  
1942 DIED INFANTS  
JAMES NICKOLAS  
Buddy CHARLES 1946  
WILLIAM ROBERT 1969

Married  
ELIZABETH DYDDE  
TERRANCE CHARLES 1969

ZELMA MARIE 1943

Married LARRY ZIESMAN 1963

WILLIAM JAMES 1945

Married CHERYL FERIGAN 1966

DIANNA GAIL 1948

Married KLAUSE GLIMM  
LORNE EDWIN 1953

PATRICIA KELSEY 1971

NICOLLE SUZANNE 1973

JAMES EARL 1943  
Married MARGARET FISHER  
CHRISTOPHER 1966  
KENNETH EDWIN 1944

CHRISTIAN ROBERT 1947

GWENETH MARIE 1952

EVAN LLEWELLYN 1955

TIMOTHY IVAN 1953

CHRISTINA LOUISE 1956

EDWARD MURRICE 1959

AUDREY MICHELLE 1962

RUSSEL PATRICK 1963

SHELLY MARLENE 1952

MARTIN JAMES 1954

BERNADINE ANNE 1957

EDWIN PARSONS  
FAMILY TREE



but returned to Elkhorn soon after the birth of their daughter Sharon in 1943.

Following the war, Grace and Oscar decided to take up farming and moved to land owned by Oscar's father, north of Elkhorn. They still reside on their farm.

**Sharon** attended Burnbank and Elkhorn Schools and following school was employed in the office of the Elkhorn Creamery. She married **Donald Leslie**, the eldest son of Len and Frances Leslie in August, 1963. They operate a dairy farm in the Burnbank district. They have four children, **Troy, Todd, Leanne** and **Chad**.

**Gordon Pascoe** — worked with Mr. L. Dodge in the Beaver Lumber Company in Elkhorn and transferred to St. Catharines with the company in 1939. He joined the Royal Canadian Engineers in 1942, serving till the War's end in 1945.

In 1947 Gordon married **Mary Korman** of Roblin, Manitoba. They spent their early married years in Port Rowan, Ontario, later transferring to Cornwall, Hamilton and then to St. Catharines where he still resides.

Gordon and Mary have four children:

**Meron**, a nursing graduate of the Hotel Dieu Hospital in Hamilton, Ontario. She married **Ronald Boldt** of St. Catharines in 1975. They have two children **Gabriel** and **Katherine**.

**Richard** is a graduate of Mohawk College, Hamilton, Ontario. He worked in Television in Sudbury prior to joining the Canadian Unemployment Insurance Office staff in St. Catharines.

**Randall** is a graduate in physical education from Brock University in St. Catharines. He married **Patsy Arksey** in 1979. They are both presently teaching in Burlington, Ontario.

**Maureen** is a 1979 graduate from the University of Waterloo. She has a degree in Environmental Studies and majored in geography. She is presently employed in Regional Planning in St. Catharines.

**Edith Pascoe** attended Dominion Business College in Winnipeg and worked for McKee Moving and Storage and Investors Syndicate of Canada in Winnipeg prior to her marriage to **Herbert Geatthor** of Germany in 1955. They then moved to Calgary where their two children, Paul and Karen, were born. Bert was in the Investment business in Calgary. He died in November, 1980.

**Paul** graduated in Commerce from the University of Calgary in 1979. He married **Barbara Pogson** of Calgary in 1980. He is employed with Hudson Bay Oil and Gas Company.

**Karen** is studying nursing at the University of Calgary.

**Marion Pascoe** studied nursing at the General

Hospital in Stratford, Ontario, graduating in 1943. She carried on her nursing career for many years and did some post-graduate study in New York and Saskatoon. She retired from the Nursing Administration staff of Saskatoon City Hospital in 1979.

She married **John Simmonds** of Winnipeg, Manitoba in 1958. They reside in Saskatoon where John operates a commercial printing business.

### The Paull Family

**William Paull** homesteaded 14-11-29. Mr. and Mrs. W. Paull had six sons and one daughter — **James, John** who died in infancy, **William David, John Gordon, Archibald, Edward** and **Christena Smart**. They had their sorrows as well as their joys — as their oldest son, James, was killed by a team of horses running away and they were bereaved of two other sons, Archibald and Edward, in their early years.

Christena married **Edward "Chap" Naylen** and they had a family of seven.

Bill married **Mary Ogilvie** and had one son, **Ian**.

John Gordon was a very fine fiddle player and he entered and won many a fiddler's contest. John married **Hannah Naylen** in 1918 and they lived on section 9-11-29. They had four children — two daughters and two sons. **Margaret** married **James Leonard** of Elkhorn and they have four children — three daughters: **Peggy Ann, Betty-Lou** and **Laura Jean** and one son, **Harry James**. **Kathleen** married **Allan Thomson** of the Hargrave district. They have one son, **William** and one daughter, **Judy**. **Bill** farms on section 23-11-29. **Edward** married **Irene Rozak**, daughter of Mrs. Anna Rozak and the late Alex Rozak who farmed in the Mossgiel district. Edward and Irene have four children. **John Edward Alexander** is married to **Patti Gail McNeill**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Desmond McNeill of Virden. Ed and Patti farm on section 22-11-29. **Rick William** owns part of section 4-12-28 and works for Crown Drilling. **Terrance Wesley** attends high school in Elkhorn. **Hannah Patricia Ann** is married to **Brent Roy Nolan**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Nolan of Elkhorn.

Ed and Irene moved into Elkhorn in 1976 and built "Paull's Creemee Restaurant" which is still in operation. Ed likes dealing in aircrafts and he gets very much enjoyment out of flying them.

submitted by Irene Paull

### William and Mary Paull

**William David Paull** was born in 1890, the son of **William** and **Margaret Paull**. He lived seventy years on his dad's homestead of 14-11-29. Bill was a talented musician and played in the Woodville band

for dances, social evenings and concerts. He won many prizes playing in fiddlers' contests. He also served on the Woodville school board. There were good times had by all at the dances held in the loft of the barn on this farm.

**Mary** was the oldest girl born to George and Grace Ogilvie at Carberry, Manitoba in 1908. She attended school at Springvale. She married William Paull in 1929 and they had one son, **William Ian**. Ian married Georgina Gillis and has three daughters and one son. Ian and his wife live at Thunder Bay, Ontario.

William Paull spent a lot of time while on the farm trapping, and hunted wolves with hounds. Mary used to accompany him on many of his trips and tells of the time they were out and the dogs caught a wolf. When Bill got a hold of it, he thought it was dead and put it under the robe with Mary to keep it from freezing till they got home. They called in on the neighbours on the way home to show the children the wolf. When Bill lifted the robe the wolf had come to life and it jumped over the side of the sleigh and ran away. The dogs soon caught it as it was lame. Needless to say, that was the last time a wolf went under the covers with Mary.

Bill and Mary retired to live in Elkhorn. Bill spent many hours in his garden and his little spruce trees he planted from seed have gone from Coast to Coast. They will be a landmark for years to come.

Mary, Bill and friends, spent many hours and days hunting for diamond willow along the river. When finished, the diamond willow makes beautiful show pieces. Mary spends all her spare time making quilts, rugs, cushions, etc. They are beautiful pieces of work.

Mary and Bill celebrated their Golden Wedding in 1979.

Due to failing health, Bill now lives in the Elkhorn Hospital and looks forward to Mary's daily visits.

submitted by Margaret Allison

### **Pearsall: 1888-1949**

**Raymond W.** was born at Tyendinagath, Ontario in the year 1888. He came to Elkhorn as a young man around 1908 as a telegrapher in the Elkhorn station. He was a member of different organizations such as the Masons, Odd Fellows etc. and was a member of the Methodist Church.

On November 15th, 1911 . . . he married **Edna M. Niven** (daughter of Mrs. J. A. Niven of Elkhorn.) They left Elkhorn and finally moved to a place called Loverna in Saskatchewan where my dad became agent for the C.N.R. It was here that I was born on September 27th, 1914 and was named **Leroy W.**

better known as "Casey". Two years later I had a brother born **Fredrick E.** but he only lived three weeks and it was at his birth that my mother died in 1917.

In the War of 1914-1918 my father served as an officer with the R.A.F. (overseas) and after the war settled in Montreal where he was plant Chief for the C.N. Telegraph. It was here in Montreal that he was married to a **Mrs. E. Bolton**. In the War of 1939-1945 he served as an instructor with the "B" Corps of Signals and attained the rank of Captain. He died in the year 1949. My stepmother is still living in Vancouver at the age of ninety-four.

It was at the death of my mother that my Grandmother Mrs. J. A. Niven (sister of George and Peter Lidster who had the Butcher Shop in Elkhorn) brought me to Elkhorn and so it was here that I grew up, had all my schooling and in 1932 entered the Butcher Shop of my Uncle Geo. Lidster together with his son Ken, and it was here that we were taught the trade of a butcher. Many were the good times we had in learning our profession and we were very fortunate in having as our teacher the very best and finest, my uncle George Lidster.

Beef Roast at this time was 6¢ to 10¢ per lb, sausage 3 lbs for 25¢, Bologna — 3 lbs for 25¢, Hamburger — 10¢, Saturday night 5¢ a lb. A side of Beef was 8¢ to 10¢ a lb . . . 10¢ worth of liver would feed a family of 6, soup bones and tallow were given away.

I left Elkhorn in 1940 to join up in Winnipeg but did not make it. I stayed in Winnipeg for awhile and in 1943 married **Jean M. Lund**, whom many will remember taught school in Elkhorn in the 1930's. She was the daughter of David and Elizabeth Lund who farmed in the Maryfield district and in the 1930's moved to Elkhorn to live.

We left Winnipeg and took over the butcher shop in Oak Lake, Manitoba in 1944 until 1954. Then we sold the business and moved to Virden, Manitoba to take over a butcher shop there. We stayed in Virden until the end of 1961, then moved back to Oak Lake for one year and in the fall of 1962 moved to Brandon, Manitoba. It was here in 1968 that Jean died. In 1971 I was married to **Mrs. Gladys Duncan** and we now reside at 18 Juniper Bay in Brandon.

L. W. Pearsall

### **Amelia Pearson**

**Amelia (Neddow) Pearson** was born in 1904 at Elgin, Ontario, the daughter of **Frank and Hannah Neddow**. She had five sisters and three brothers. The family moved to Fleming, Saskatchewan and farmed there for twenty-six years. Amelia took her schooling in Fleming and Archie Schools. Amelia worked



Amelia Pearson.

out for a time and then married **Robert Pearson**. Her family consisted of two boys and a girl. Amelia has lived the past forty-two years at Elkhorn and has worked in many of the homes in the village.

**Donald** is married and lives at Chilliwack, B.C. He spent thirty years in the Forces.

**Joyce** is married and has one son.

**Douglas** died at the age of seven.

Amelia keeps in very good health, enjoys her home and yard. There is nothing she enjoys more than to have one of her many friends drop in for a cup of tea.

### Mr. and Mrs. George Pearson

**George Albert Pearson** was born at St. Giles, Northampton, England, growing up in Staffordshire. He was a veteran of World War I, coming to Canada in 1927. He married a widow with three children, **Elizabeth (Pearl) Mailes**. After farming for a time he went east in 1939 to work in the Air Force in World War II. He was head inspector for Ottawa Car and Aircraft. In 1945 they moved to Elkhorn where he went in partnership with Lindy Moore (step son-in-law) later taking over the B.A. Service station which he operated for twenty-five years. The station was sold to John Canart and George retired.

They were both very active in community affairs and their church. George was treasurer of St. Mark's Anglican Church for fourteen years, envelope secretary for two years. He served on the Elkhorn Council

for sixteen years, was a Life Member and Past President of the Legion to which he belonged for thirty-five years. For five years he was president of Elkhorn Medical Unit, also treasurer for twenty-five years of Elkhorn Stadium until it changed hands.

Elizabeth (Pearl) was a W.A. member for many years, a Little Helpers leader, a W.I. member, L.A. to the B.E.S.L. was a thirty-five year member and a Life Member. She had also belonged to the Moosomin Auxiliary and various other groups.

They owned a home on Fourth St., later owned by the McColls, after their deaths. George passed away June 3, 1970, and Pearl March 3, 1971.

Mother and Dad were sadly missed by their children **Irene Moore**, twin sons, **Russ** and **Ed Mailes**, and grandchildren. Russ passed away March 4, 1981. His widow **Martha** (Mart) still resides here in "The Harry House."

submitted by Irene N. Moore

### The Earl Pedlow Family

**Earl Pedlow**, the son of Mervyn and Vanella Pedlow, was born December 19, 1917 in Winkler, Manitoba. His father was a miller, but passed away during the flu epidemic in late 1918. Some time later his mother married James Francis of Hamiota. After several moves, to Elkhorn, back to Hamiota and several places in and around Elkhorn, they settled on section 34-11-29 in the Mossgiel district.

Earl attended school at Hamiota, Elkhorn and Mossgiel. While in Elkhorn he, Wilfred and George (Francis) delivered milk and papers. Later he helped with the farm work, as well as road maintenance. In the late thirties and early forties he operated a trucking business. In 1941 he started farming on his own, and that fall took over the home place.

In December that year he and **Ida Caldwell** were married.

I (Ida) the daughter of Nathanael and Louisa Caldwell, was born in May, 1918 on section 20-12-27 in the York district, northeast of Elkhorn. I attended Elkhorn School and completed Gr. XI. After working at a few farm homes, I worked in Winnipeg for three years before getting married.

We continued farming the section the Francis family had for several years, and then bought a section on the Saskatchewan side of the border.

In 1963 we sold the Saskatchewan farm to Fred Bamson and in 1964 sold the home place to Earl Cowan, moving to Elkhorn early in 1965. Since then Earl has worked as a mechanic, carpenter and school bus driver. I drove a school bus part time for a few years, worked at the Elkhorn Creamery for approximately four years and now there seems to be always something to keep me busy.

We have both taken an active part in community affairs and have worked with many groups and organizations.

We have a family of three boys.

**Mervyn** was born October 21, 1942. He attended Mossgiel and Elkhorn schools and later graduated as a psychiatric nurse at the Brandon Mental Hospital, then continued his studies to be a social worker. He is still employed in this work, in an advanced position.

In August, 1964 he married **June**, daughter of **George** and the late **Jean Lund** of Elkhorn. They have two boys **Scott** and **David** and make their home in Brandon.

**Douglas** was born March 27, 1947. He also attended school at Mossgiel and Elkhorn. After completing his Grade XI he started working for the Manitoba Hydro, later changing to the Thunder Bay Hydro, where he is still employed.

In August, 1971 he married **Carol**, daughter of **Lavern** and **Joyce Linner** of Manson. They have three boys, **Michael**, **Dale** and **Terry**.

**Allen** was born October 12, 1949, and also attended Mossgiel and Elkhorn schools. He started carpentering while he was going to school and continued this line of work, taking his apprenticeship with Jacobson and Griener Construction Company in Brandon. At present he is operating his own construction company.

In October, 1970 he married **Sharon**, daughter of **Lloyd** and **Margaret Bowles**. They have a son **Ryan** and a daughter **Krista** and they live in Brandon.

We enjoy the visits we have with our families; the

grandchildren are growing up, but some of them are small enough yet that they like to baby-sit Grandpa and Grandma.

submitted by Ida Pedlow

### **Alphae and Margaret Penner**

Comparatively speaking, the **Alphae Penners** are newcomers to the Elkhorn district — 23-11-28.

We moved here in 1977. May 1st was the official possession date. It had been a practically snowless winter and a breezy spring.

We, at the time, were: **Alph** and **Margaret**, **Gene**, **Ivan** and **Dale**. Three more children make up the Penner clan. **Roger**, an operating engineer, and the oldest boy, his wife, **Dawn** and their family live in Burstall, Saskatchewan. The two girls **Karen** and **Patsy Lynn** married Schellenberg boys, **Lorne** and **David** respectively.

One reason we wound up in this district was because David and Patsy Schellenberg were prospecting for farm land sixteen miles north of Elkhorn, so we decided to settle somewhere near them. Their plans, however, did not materialize because the owner decided to rent rather than sell his property. So in the end, we moved west a whole year before they did.

We purchased the John Montgomery farm from Montgomerys through the Souris real estate agent. The property consisted of six quarters. Gene, (a 1953 model!) bought two of them. The three above mentioned boys have been helping with the farm work intermittently. This year (1981) Ivan is in Alberta on the pipeline and Dale is in Grade XI in Elkhorn.

The water situation in these parts needed some adjusting to on our part. The little hamlet of Kleefeld, where we moved from, (close to Steinbach) had numerous artesian wells. This was not the case here as the boys soon discovered when they showered. One of them experienced empty taps three consecutive times and was about ready to throw in the towel, a very soapy one at that!

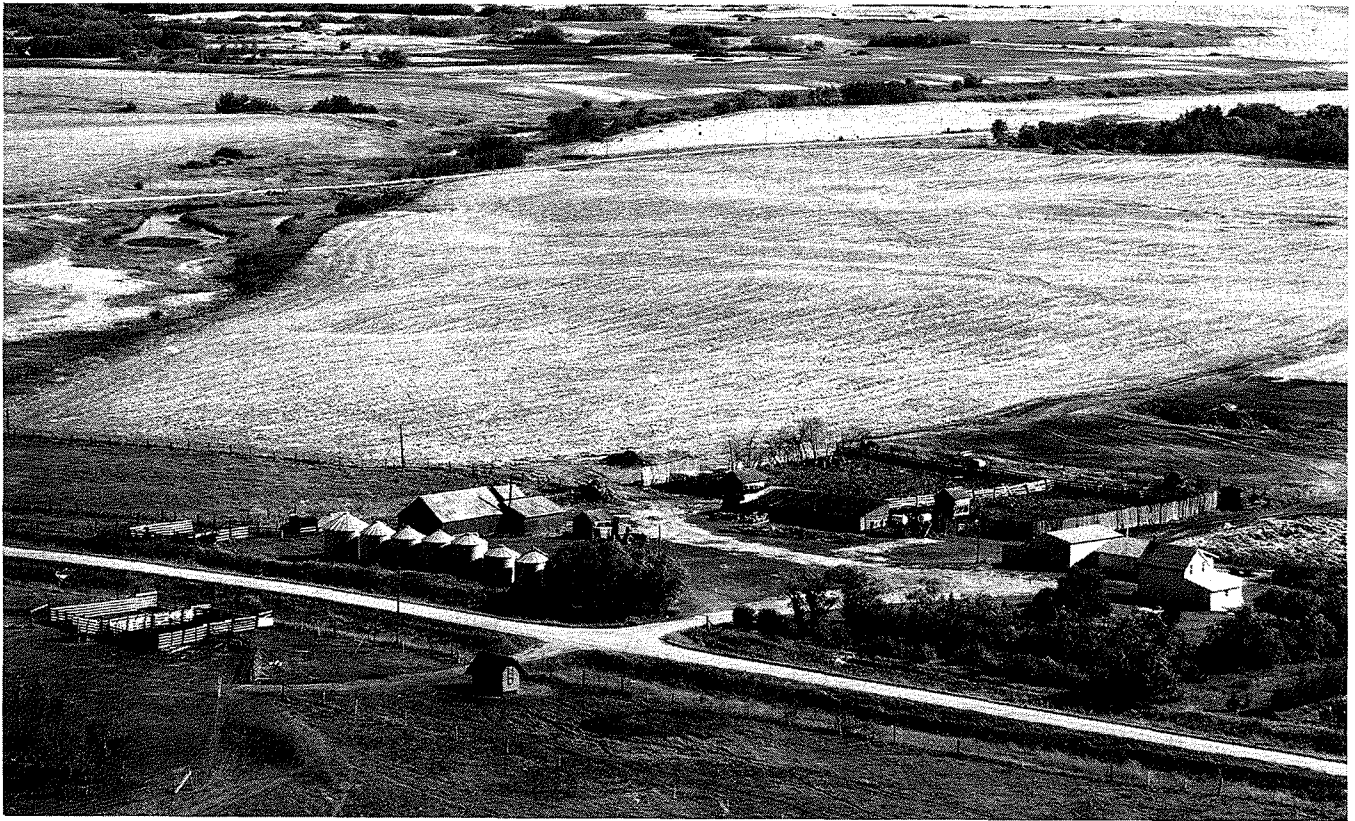
At present we have three operating pressure systems. We had a well made by "Yeo's Well Drilling" the first fall of occupancy and with care we manage quite efficiently.

The following year, 1978, Dave and Pat Schellenberg had a splendid, unexpected opportunity to buy the Harold Siple farm, directly south of us. They moved in exactly a year later to the day. It is good to have children and grandchildren near by.

We have been told the house we live in was built in 1907. We have noticed quite a number of homes of similar design still being used in this area. These homes surely are steeped in memories of former



Ida Caldwell's (Pedlow) birthday party. L-R Back row: Tom Bickerton, Frank Kliever, Ab Bickerton, George Kliever. Middle row: Anne Kliever, Ida Caldwell, Freda Williams, Helen Linnell, Anne Bickerton. Front row: Jake Kliever, Elsie Kliever, Dave Kliever, Betty Bickerton, Marion Bickerton.



Alph Penner's farm with self feeder and corrals belonging to John Montgomery in the foreground — 1978.

times and events. It will be interesting to read about that in the history book of Elkhorn.

submitted by Mrs. Margaret Penner

### **Anne Perlette**

I was twelve years old when we left Russia to come to Canada. I am very thankful to God that our parents made the move. It must have been very hard for them to come to a new country and leave all their loved ones and friends behind. It was for me, too, as I also had a lot of friends.

Mum had to leave her blind sister there, too, whom we all loved very much.

After Mum passed away, **Dave** and I lived and farmed together for six years. Then he got married and I was sort of left behind. But God took care of me and I got a job at Steinbach at an old folks home. That sure was a different life for me. Good job it was far away from Elkhorn or I sure would not have stayed! Again God helped me and I got to like it there, but I was very lonesome for my loved ones at Elkhorn.

After four months I wrote a letter to Mrs. Hitchins if it would be possible for me to get a job in the Virden hospital as she was working there, and I knew her. God heard and answered my prayers. In about one week I got an answer from her that I could come and start on the 1st of November 1961. I was really happy to get closer to Elkhorn.

In January 1966 I met **Cecil Perlette**. That made a difference in my life. We were married July 30, 1966 and we were really happy! Cecil had lost his first wife through death. They had three sons. The oldest two were married and the youngest one was still at home. He got married in 1975 and moved to Brandon. So Cecil and I were alone and enjoyed our married life.

Cecil took sick and passed away July 9, 1979. He had lung cancer and suffered very much the last while. That was a sad time for us all. Our life together seemed very short.

I am still living in our home here in Virden and God is helping me daily.

We are all thankful for living in Canada where we have made many friends.

Anne Perlette  
(nee Anne Kliever)

### **Mr. and Mrs. Fred Persson**

**Mr. and Mrs. Fred Persson** retired from their farm at Kirkella in 1975 and moved to Elkhorn. They bought the house belonging to Mrs. Jessie Robertson. After enlarging and much remodelling, it became the comfortable home they have today.

Fred was born in Skothorp in Halland, Southern Sweden and came to Canada in 1929, leaving behind his parents, five brothers and two sisters.

He first worked on a farm in southern Saskatche-

wan, later coming to the Maryfield district where he began farming on his own, near a good neighbor who had also come from Sweden, Mr. Ernie Gustafson.

In March, 1941, Fred married **Miss Ina Thompson**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Thompson, early pioneers of the Moosomin district. Fred and Ina have one son, **Leonard**. In 1943 the Persson family moved to the Tom Noble farm at Kirkella. Three years later Fred rented the farm to Jim Fry, had a sale, moved into the Kirkella School and shortly took his wife and son to Sweden for nine months.

They came back the next spring; Jim Fry had a sale and the Fry family moved to the west coast. In 1948 the Perssons returned to farming, beautifying their place with trees, flowers and lawns. The farm, which had already been expanded by the purchase of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  15-12-29, received a further addition when, in 1957, Leonard bought the Alf Ekman place. Since 1975 Leonard has taken over the farm.

Since leaving their successful farming career, the Perssons are relaxed and enjoying community life in Elkhorn. A close relationship exists between the Perssons and their neighbors. Mr. Persson continues with his many hobbies, two of which are gardening and oil painting.

submitted by Mr. and Mrs. Persson

### **Elmer R. Peters**

**Elmer** and his wife, **Violet** (nee Ross, of Winnipeg), and their two children **Jack** and **Lyn** farmed at Manson, Manitoba for 5 $\frac{1}{2}$  years, moving to Elkhorn in the fall of 1960. They left September, 1961 to live in Winnipeg where they still reside. Jack, his wife **Ilona** and two children **Michael** and **Shari** live in Transcona. Lyn, her husband **Adrien Poirier** and two children **Danielle** and **Marc** live in Winnipeg.

### **Glen Peters**

Mr. Glen Peters was born at Dacotah, Manitoba in October, 1933, the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Peters. He lived there until he worked for Manitoba Hydro for a short time. He then went to work on construction in the Oil Fields. He and his brother, Wilf bought a house in Elkhorn which was his home when he was off work, as his job was seasonal. He passed away in October, 1971 while working for Majestic Pipelines in Ontario.

submitted by Mrs. Marie Peters

### **Robert and Marie Peters**

Robert Peters was born at Dacotah, Manitoba, the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Peters. He was raised in that district and later married Marie Sinclair of Kirkfield Park, Manitoba. They then moved to the

Archie Municipality on Section 20-13-28 in April, 1951. Here they took up farming on the former Levi Soder farm where they are still farming. Robert is also a councillor in Archie Municipality and has been for the last eight years. Marie is an active member of the Legion Ladies Auxiliary. The couple have four children.

**Laurie** is married to **Larry Bilton** of Boissevain and now live in Iles de Chiene where Larry is working for Customs Investigations.

**Diane** at home attending school in Elkhorn.

**Robbie** at home attending school in Elkhorn.

**Terri-Lyn** at home attending school in Elkhorn.

submitted by Mrs. Marie Peters

### **Wilfred Peters**

Mr. Wilf Peters or Uncle Wilf as he was known by many, was born at Headingly, Manitoba in 1912, the eldest of a family of ten children of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Peters. They lived at McCreary for a few years then moved to Dacotah, Manitoba, where Wilf was raised. He went to work for Manitoba Hydro until he retired in 1972. He also farmed with his brother Robert until he took up residence in Elkhorn in 1968. He passed away in November, 1977.

submitted by Mrs. Marie Peters

### **George and Alvine Plante**

**George Plante** was born in 1911 at Seville, Quebec, one of a family of six. His family moved to St. Marthe, Saskatchewan in 1909. St. Marthe is now the well-known town of Rocanville, Saskatchewan. His father was postmaster there for twenty-five years. George walked two miles to school, leaving school at the age of fifteen to work out for local farmers. He married **Alvine** in 1933 at St. Marthe. George recalls some of the hardships he and Alvine faced in their earlier years together. They bought a quarter section of land, grew two carloads of fall rye and stored it at the elevator over winter. The price dropped from \$1.10 to 10¢ a bushel and it took all of it to pay the storage costs and also ended up losing possession of the land. This quarter section now has potash on it and is worth a lot. George and Alvine then went back to working out for five dollars a month with four children to feed and clothe. The farmer hiring the help got ten dollars to board and pay the help and a two dollar bonus in the spring.

George and Alvine moved to St. Lazare in 1940 working again for a farmer, then for the Co-op in Birtle at carpentering. Then George worked at "black topping" from Shoal Lake to Dauphin. George started work with the government "Good Roads" in 1962 moving to Elkhorn in 1969. He retired from the job in 1976.

Alvine was born at St. Marthe, Saskatchewan, the sixth in a family of fourteen. She went to the same school and Roman Catholic Church as George. Alvine helped at home until her marriage. George and Alvine had a family of twelve. They lost two children **Reine** (6 years) and **Ferne** (9 years) within a week of each other with black diphtheria. All the children but the last three were born at home with the help of a mid-wife. Life was very difficult with a large family, living in granaries and old log shacks. The municipality could only help out in a small way and jobs were very hard to find.

**John**, married with five children, lives at Kitimat, B.C.

**Ernest**, married with two children, lives at Kimberley, B.C.

**Morris**, married with three children, lives at Wasa, B.C.

**Georgette Pliscike**, married with four children, lives in Winnipeg.

**Noella Simard**, married a widower with five children and now has four girls of her own, is living in Quebec.

**Yvonne Lynch**, married, no children, lives in New Zealand.

**Marie Boles**, is married with four children and lives at Ochre River, Man.

**Anita Hannie**, married with one child, lives in Nova Scotia.

**Gerald** went to school at Elkhorn for two years, is married with one child and lives at Calgary.

The three children Reine, Ferne and Marie were buried at St. Lazare.

George and Alvine are now retired in Elkhorn after a hard and busy life and look forward to the visits from their children and grandchildren.

### **Claude and Evelyn (Gilbart) Poston**

On November first, 1944 **Evelyn Gilbart**, eldest child of Stanley and Gladys Gilbart, married **Claude Poston**, second son of Ben and Jennie Poston of the Mossgiel District.

They settled on the Poston home farm and Claude and his dad (Ben) farmed together until 1948 when his parents moved to Elkhorn. In 1947 Claude had a bad accident while combining on a field at Bill Goethe's and was laid up with his arm for two winters as the result of two operations before it was better. They still operated the farm until 1952 when they sold out and moved to Elkhorn.

Claude took a job driving for Francis Transfer and Evelyn opened and operated a Ladies' Clothing Store known as Ev's Fashions. In 1954 Claude joined the staff of Anglo-Canadian Oils in Virden later known as Royalite, now Gulf Servico.

In December, 1958 they moved to Virden and he remained with Gulf until 1970, when Claude and his son-in-law Marv. Hannim built a restaurant and lounge known as Clae Mar Inn which he and Evelyn managed until they sold it in 1977. In the fall of '77 Claude worked for Heritage Equipment as parts man until June of 1979 when he and Evelyn moved to the Virden Motel as managers and at time of writing are still there. They had five children — four girls and one boy.

**Faye and Gaye**: Born in 1945, **Barry**: Born in 1949, died 1951. **Penny**: Born in 1953, **Wendy**: Born in 1955.

**Faye** married **John Hutton** in 1964 and has four children: **Kim**, born in 1965, **Lisa**, born in 1967, **James**, born in 1968 and **Nicky**, born in 1971. They live in Virden.

**Gaye** married **Marvin Hannim** in 1964 and has three children: **Brad**, born in 1965, **Tracey**, born in 1966 and **Darrin**, born in 1969. They also live in Virden.

**Penny** is unmarried, lives in Brandon and is employed by the Scotia Bank.

**Wendy** married **Kim Hunt** in 1975, lives in Virden, and is employed by the Royal Rank.

submitted by Evelyn Poston

### **Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Powell**

**Mr. Tom Powell** came to Manitoba from Ontario in the fall of 1882. He married **Elizabeth East** in December, 1886; she had come from Ontario with Mr. and Mrs. John Norsworthy where she made her home.

Mr. and Mrs. Powell lived on their homestead NE¼ 12-10-29 in the Wallace Municipality.

Mr. Powell was known for buying the first team of horses in the district. These horses were later killed when the stable they were in collapsed. This was very hard on Mr. Powell and his health wasn't just the same after.

They had five children: **Ella Hannah** — who later married **John Roach**; **William Charles** — was a CN engineer — he married **Gladys Chapple**; **Lena Grace** — a teacher — married **Percy Tapp** and farmed north of Virden; **Ethel May** — a teacher, married **Don Campbell**, they farmed near Caronport, Saskatchewan; **Frank Osborne Powell** — farmed the home farm for a number of years. He is now retired and lives in his home at Elkhorn.

— by Mabel Ogilvie

### **Frank Powell**

**Frank** was born in 1900 on Section 12-10-29 the son of **Thomas** and **Elizabeth** Powell. Frank left school with little education to help on the farm. He

had three sisters and one brother — **Ella, Bill, Lena** and **Ethel**. Ella married John Roach. Lena married Percy Tapp, Ethel married Don Campbell and Bill married Gladys Chapple. Bill lived at Prince Albert, Saskatchewan and Frank relates that when McKenzie King was Prime Minister he used to stay at Bill's home overnight when in the area.

Frank spent all his life associated with farming. He worked out a number of years helping some of the local farmers. He retired to his house in Elkhorn. He still has fairly good health. He manages on his own and gets around with the use of a cane.

### **John Price**

**John Price** was born in Allstretton, Herefordshire, England on October 2, 1882. In 1911 he married **Eva Bytheway**. In March of 1925 with the family of four children, they immigrated to Canada under the Soldier Settlement Board Scheme and settled in the Altamont District. He worked for another farmer for the first year, to learn the Canadian way of farming; the next year he started on his own. He served on the Board of Trustees in the Sylvan School District. His favourite sport was hockey.

In the fall of 1929 he moved to the Elkhorn District and farmed in the Manson and Arawana districts before retiring to Elkhorn in 1957. He was predeceased by his wife, Eva in October 1942, and a daughter, **Doris, Mrs. Albert Coleman**, in March 1958. Surviving are **Arthur of Elkhorn, John** of Bassano, Alberta, and a daughter **Mesta, Mrs. Wilbert Foord** of Brandon.

submitted by Arthur Price,  
Elkhorn

### **Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Price**

**Mary Zazulak**, second eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Zazulak who was born in Elkhorn and attended Elkhorn School, and **Arthur**, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. John Price, were married in the Indian School Chapel January 10, 1940 by the Reverend Arthur Minchin. They moved to Regina and worked there for three years before returning to Elkhorn to rent a farm from Hercules Wood (the present Bill Paull farm).

In 1944 they purchased the Jack Downey farm where they raised five boys, all of whom attended Elkhorn School. In 1964 they purchased the George Rozak farm and in 1966 built a new house. In 1972 illness forced the Prices to sell the farm to Donald Robertson and to retire to Elkhorn where they bought the Percy Williams house which they since have completely renovated.

**Raymond John**, the eldest son, married **Darlene Wilson** of Waskada. They have three sons, **Garry**,

**Bruce and Spencer**, and a daughter, **Tammy**. The family resides in Estevan, Saskatchewan.

**Douglas Arthur** married **Eileen Angus** of Virden. They have two sons, **Floyd and Jimmy** and live in Winnipeg.

**Frederick Wayne** married **Debbie Ewanuk** of Winnipeg. They have one son, **Chris** and reside in Edmonton.

**Ralph Thomas** married **Diane McLean** of Virden. They have two daughters **Suzanne and Nicole** and live in Hinton, Alberta.

**Michael William** lives in Edmonton.

— submitted by Arthur Price

### **The Harry Pringle Family**

**Harry Pringle** married **Isabelle Frances White** in 1911 on the 15th of March. He was a great worker. He gravelled on many roads around Miniota, Manitoba. He also dug many water wells. He did draying. He blasted ice from the river to free the bridges. Mrs. Pringle was known as a wonderful cook — she could make a good meal from very little, and the flavor of her roast beef and Yorkshire pudding is still a nice memory. She sang in the choir at Mar, Ontario, in her early years, being known for her good alto voice. She suffered from bronchitis in later years. Sometimes it seemed she could be choking to death.

Mrs. Pringle died in 1949, and is buried at Sioux Lookout, Ontario. Harry moved to Victoria, B.C. where he owned his home and lived to be 81 years old. He is buried in Colwood Cemetery, Victoria. They had a family of four:

**Mabel** was born in Winnipeg in February, 1912.

**Albert** was born in Rivers, Manitoba, in 1914. He passed away in 1975 and is buried in Colwood Cemetery.

**Effie** was born in Miniota in 1917. She married Arnold Smithson, and they live in Elkhorn.

**Greta** was born in Miniota in 1918.

submitted by Effie Smithson

### **Harry Handley Reeves Family**

My father is **Harry Handley Reeves**, of the Two Creeks/Miniota area who married **Lavina Agnes Turner**, daughter of Gordon and Gertrude Turner (nee Cassell). Viney and Harry Reeves now reside in Masset, in the Queen Charlotte Islands, British Columbia.

My immediate family is as follows:

**Donald Kieth Reeves** — married to **Shiela Lowes** of Manson/McAuley area, now residing in Kitimat, B.C.

**Norma Gail** (Reeves) Stringer — married to **Evan Stringer** of the Swan River area and now residing in Calgary, Alberta



**Beverly Eileen Reeves** — residing in Winnipeg  
**Barbara Jean Vermette** (me) — married to  
**Michel Vermette** of Thetford Mines, Quebec and  
 presently residing in Bushell Park, Saskatchewan  
 which is Canadian Forces Base Moose Jaw. My hus-  
 band is a pilot and we move around all over the  
 country every three years. I have two sons, **Andre**  
 age eight and **Daniel** age five.

I was born in Elkhorn in February, 1947. My  
 father still lived on the farm at Two Creeks, but  
 because of bad weather, my mother came into  
 Elkhorn two weeks before my birth and stayed with  
 her mother, Gert Turner. I was born in the Hospital  
 which later became the Chapple house.

I started my schooling in Elkhorn, having moved  
 off the farm when I was four years old. We lived on  
 Foxford Street (I think). In 1952, the school was short  
 of grade one students, and I got to start at age five — I  
 wouldn't turn six until February the next year. I  
 completed grade one to five in Elkhorn, and then my  
 family moved to Brandon, where I grew up and  
 married.

The only thing I can remember about growing up  
 in Elkhorn was when my parents ran a restaurant  
 called the Rolling Pin, which was across from the  
 theatre and behind the Mallets' shop and house. It  
 was a big metal building. I was thrilled to get to eat  
 my lunch in a restaurant every day, and remember  
 having great birthday parties there.

submitted by Barbara Jean Vermette (nee Reeves)

### **Wally and Irene Rempel**

**Wally and Irene Rempel** moved to Elkhorn in  
 August, 1962, together with sons **Farrel** and **Ker-**  
**win**.

**Marty**, son #3, was born in Elkhorn on October  
 17, 1964 and **Marita**, who is now 12, rounds out the  
 family.

I was teaching Principal of the Elkhorn Elemen-  
 tary School for 3 years.

We attended the United Church, and were gener-  
 ally involved in the many and interesting activities in  
 Elkhorn and District.

Sports, however, was my major pastime, while  
 Irene was raising the family. Baseball with the guys  
 was most rewarding — including the money we won  
 at the numerous tournaments. Hockey refereeing  
 took up my spare time in the winter.

Most of all, I appreciated the experience I got as  
 Principal, and the close relationship I had with the  
 School Board, even after the Principal broke a win-  
 dow in the School!

submitted by Wally Rempel

### **Nathaniel Reynolds**

**Nat Reynolds** was born in Colburg, Ontario and  
 came out west with his mother and other members of  
 his family in 1882.

**Isabella Davies** was born in Orangeville, Ontario  
 in 1875 and came west to Moose Jaw, Sask. in 1891.  
 Two years later she met and married Nat Reynolds.



The Nat and Isabella Reynolds family.

They homesteaded in the Victor District on the  
 W½ of 2-12-27. Here they operated a mixed farm,  
 raising sheep, milking cows, etc. In the spring of  
 1916 they lost their home by fire, all members es-  
 caped in their night clothes but his brother **John**  
**Reynolds**, who was burned to death. Nat Reynolds  
 passed away in 1938.

Mrs. Reynolds and her son **George** operated the  
 farm until 1965, when they sold the farm and retired  
 in Virden. Many a quilt Mrs. Reynolds made, giving  
 one to all her nieces, nephews and grandchildren.

There were five children in their family. Mrs.  
 Reynolds passed away in 1972, George in 1978. The  
 youngest daughter **Esther** married **Carl Graham**  
 and farmed in the Harmsworth District. They passed  
 away in 1973 and 1977.

The eldest son, **Walter Richard** served in World  
 War I. After serving for his country, he worked at  
 Kyle, Saskatchewan where he was employed by An-  
 drew McClatchy, later farming for himself. He  
 passed away in Virden Hospital in 1980.

The eldest daughter **Agnes** married **Gordon**  
**Heaman** and farmed in the Harmsworth district.  
 After Gordon's death in 1960, she continued living in  
 the district.

**Dorothy** married **Stuart Carruthers** and farmed  
 at Hargrave, Grandview and Elkhorn districts. They  
 are retired living in Hargrave. They celebrated their  
 50th Wedding Anniversary in 1979.

### **The Rex Family**

Among the early pioneers to Elkhorn were mem-  
 bers of the Rex family: **Colin Davis Rex**, **Herbert**

**James (Bert) Rex** and their sister **Mary** (Mrs. Dr. Harry Pomfret). Dr. H. Pomfret was a veterinarian in the early days of Elkhorn.

Colin Davis Rex and his brother Herbert James Rex operated a hardware store in Elkhorn for a while and then moved to their respective farms.

Colin Davis Rex moved to what is frequently referred to as the McClure farm occupied today by Kenneth Lund and family. There they had a herd of registered Shorthorn cattle. These cattle were imported from Scotland. Mrs. Rex was involved in a run-away accident and because of injuries to her leg, it was necessary for them to leave the farm and an auction sale was held on November 1, 1911. Colin Davis Rex was born December 25, 1870 in Goole, Yorkshire, England. He married **Jessie Jeffery**; there were no children. Jessie Rex was a sister to Peter Thomas and William Jeffery of the Bosshill district. She was also a sister to Mrs. Colonel Ivens, whose husband was Reeve of Wallace Municipality for a number of years. She was also a sister to Mrs. Colonel Palmer, whose husband many older folk may remember was for some time in charge of soldier settlement holdings in this area. Mrs. Rex also had a spinster sister, Mary Jeffery and for many years they



Colin Rex.



Mrs. Jessie Rex.

lived together in a house on King Street in Virden. Mrs. Rex died March 16, 1963. Colin Rex died March 2, 1932 and they are buried at Virden. Incidentally, Colin Rex died within a day of the famous kidnapping of the infant son of Colonel Charles Lindberg by Bruno Hauptmann.

Herbert James Rex (Bert) was born in Nottingham, England on September 7, 1864 and married **Annie Laura Wetherald** of Goderich, Ontario on December 9, 1890. Bert was in partnership with his brother, Colin Davis Rex, in the hardware business. He then took up a homestead on W ½ of 28-10-28. Herbert James Rex died on February 24, 1907 and was buried at Brandon. The farm was sold to Grant W. Sinclair in 1914 and is presently occupied by Karl and Laura Heinrichs. Mrs. Rex then moved back to Goderich and Woodstock, Ontario with her three sons where they attended school.

**Lionel Alfred Rex** was born August 16, 1892 and died November 2, 1961.

**Thomas Herbert Rex** was born January 29, 1894 and was in scouting and army signalling corps during World War I. Also during the war he homesteaded at Fairford, Manitoba. In 1916 he moved to Darlingford, Manitoba where he farmed until retiring to Morden in 1953. He married **Margaret**

**McGregor** who resides at Morden at the present time. Thomas passed away on April 10, 1981.

**Philip Charles Rex** was born May 30, 1899 and moved from Woodstock, Ontario to Toronto and then to Malartic, Quebec where he at present is the president of his own company dealing in mining equipment. He spends the winter months in Port Charlotte, Florida.

Little is known about Colin and Herbert Rex's sister Mary (Mrs. Harry Pomfret). Dr. Harry Pomfret was a veterinarian in the early days of Elkhorn. As recalled by Lloyd McLeod, his stable which housed his buggies and horses was situated behind the present day residence of Norman Mitchell. The Pomfrets had a son named Rex about whom we have little information.

Sources of information for this report were supplied by a nephew of Colin Davis Rex, namely Mr. Thomas Jeffery of Virden and a son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Herbert Rex, namely Bert and Doreen Rex of Darlingford. Other members of the Thomas Herbert Rex family are: Edith and Allan Arnott of Darlingford, Alfred and Elaine Rex of Sanford, Manitoba, and Isobel and Jim Connor of Toronto.

### **Mr. and Mrs. John Roach Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Ogilvie**

**John Roach** born 1879 came with his mother and dad, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Roach from Cornwall, England in the late 1880's. He arrived with his parents who settled in the Ebor district (later Arawana). He farmed a homestead at Antler, Saskatchewan for a short while. He returned to Arawana District and married Ella Powell — January 5, 1910 — settled on N.W. ¼ 7-10-28 where they farmed successfully until retiring to live in Elkhorn, 1941. Ella died 1944; John died 1965 — they both are buried in Elkhorn cemetery. There were two daughters born to this union — **Mabel and Grace**.

Mabel attended school at Arawana and Elkhorn. Trained in Regina General Hospital 1930-1933 where she graduated as an R.N.

In 1937 she married William Ogilvie and farmed the home place approximately twenty-five years. Bill was born in the Springvale District. They moved to Elkhorn to live in 1965. Bill continued to work driving a gravel truck for his brother, Ken (Pat). He retired in 1975.

They had three children — a son, who died in infancy, **Marie and Wilma**.

Marie, the older daughter took her schooling at Arawana and Elkhorn. She worked in the Bank of Commerce, Elkhorn — she married Joe Huculak in 1958 (see J. Huculak). Wilma second daughter — took her schooling at Arawana and Elkhorn and took

a hairdressing course in Winnipeg. In 1966 she married **Lloyd Leslie** of Elkhorn. They now live at Creston, B.C. They have four children, **Wanda, Angela, Trevor and Trisha**.

Grace Roach second daughter of John Roach was born in 1916 and took her schooling at Arawana, Elkhorn and Virden. She attended Normal school at Winnipeg. She taught school at Butler, and Jeffrey where she met and married **Bobby Walker**. They farmed in the Jeffrey district. Grace died in 1948 when their only son, **J. Douglas** was born. Mabel and Bill raised Doug, since he was seven days old. He also went to school at Arawana and Elkhorn. In November, 1970 he married **Barbara Hey**. They live in Brandon and Doug works for the Dept. of Highways. They have two children, **Ricky and Kathy**.

by Mabel Ogilvie

### **Walter and Maud Roberts**

My parents **Walter and Maud Roberts**, settled in Elkhorn in early April, 1904, having emigrated from England. My two sisters and I were born in Elkhorn: **Mrs. A. Hordern (Marjorie)** — 1905, **Mrs. Doris Kerr** — 1907, and **Mrs. G. Lane (Beatrice)** — 1909.



Mr. Walter Roberts far left.

My father had many hobbies. He was always interested in decorating and "stage" things. He worked at a number of odd jobs (unloading coal, section gang-laying ties, etc.). In 1906, he was employed by the Elkhorn post office. In 1914 he obtained a position as a Federal railway mail clerk on the trains and moved to Winnipeg. Later that year he was moved to North Battleford, Saskatchewan. He retired in 1940 and for the last year of his employment had been assistant postmaster at North Battleford. Following retirement, my parents moved to Vancouver and died in 1974 at ages 93 and 94.

submitted by Mrs. D. Kerr



Bill and Jessie Robertson.

### Bill and Jessie Robertson

**Bill and Jessie Robertson** who farmed at McAuley and Willen district moved to Elkhorn district in 1940, and farmed there until retiring in Elkhorn in 1948. Jessie was born at McAuley, Manitoba in 1898, Bill was born at Kincardine, Ontario in 1882. They were active in community affairs and spent their leisure time playing cards with friends and neighbours. Bill passed away on April 11th, 1962 and Jessie made Elkhorn her home until 1973 and then moved to Brandon to the Drop-In Centre where she led a full and happy life. She passed away on March 29th, 1978.

They had two sons, **George and Lil** now living in Elkhorn, **Archie and Phyl** of Elkhorn and two daughters, **Elsie and Bob Barlow**, Chilliwack B.C. and **Margaret and Jim McArthur** of Brandon. Archie and Phyl have two children, **Donald** of Elkhorn and **Myrna Faye** and son **Jason** of Thompson. Donald now lives on part of the home farm with his wife Jan and son, **Trent**. Their one daughter **Noreen** is married to **Darcy Oliver** and lives in Miniota. Donald went to Reisch Auctioneer School in Mason City, Iowa in 1964 and has since made Auctioneering his career.

submitted by Mrs. Archie Robertson

### The Robertson Family

**Charles Robertson** came from Dundee, Scotland to the Virden District in 1906. He was followed by his father and mother and sister, Bella. He worked round Virden area until 1914, then moved to the Parkland District. In 1916 Charles married **Agnes Hutchison**. They had four children, **James, Alexander, Margaret and David**. Agnes passed away in

June, 1924, leaving a small family. Charles, his children and his mother and father, moved to the Buckingham District in 1925 and farmed in Section 32-10-28.

Grandma Robertson passed away in April, 1944.

Grandpa Robertson passed away in March, 1951.

Charles sold his farm in 1955 and moved to Vancouver, B.C. where he remained until his passing in 1957.

**Bella Robertson** married **Duncan McInnis** in 1913 and farmed in the Parkland District until 1947, when they moved to Elkhorn, Manitoba. Duncan worked for the Municipality of Wallace until he retired in 1965. Bella passed away in Brandon in 1971.

**James Robertson** married **Wilhamina Stonehouse** in August, 1944 and they reside in Winnipeg. They had four children **Bonnie, Agnes, Keith and Sandi**.

**Alexander** married **Elsie Walker** in December, 1940 and they reside in Burnaby, B.C. They had three children, **Lloyd, William and Joy**.

**Margaret** resides in Vancouver, B.C. and has worked many years in the Vancouver General Hospital.

**David** married **Lavinia Stonehouse** in November, 1944 and resides in Burnaby, B.C.

They have two daughters, **Judi and Sherrye**.

by Margaret Robertson

### Earl and Meta Robinson

**Earl** was the eldest son of **Reuben and Lizzie (Carr) Robinson**. He was born in 1904 in Ontario and came with his parents to Arcola, Sask. in 1911. In 1929 he married **Meta Ludtke** of Wilmar, Sask. They had two children, **Ada and Irene**. They farmed with his parents for many years. In 1934 the drought forced them to pull up stakes and leave the farm. They moved to Roblin, Man. They settled there for a few years and then on to Dauphin and finally in 1941 to Oak Lake. After his father retired from farming in 1946 **Earl** started out on his own, buying horses. He eventually bought a farm, south of town. Earl inherited some of his father's dealing instincts and before long the farm was sold. Earl then worked out for a time with Dave Taylor. Still buying horses and cattle, his wandering took him to settle for a time in the Cromer district. Then to Elkhorn and Swan River and now to Benito where they have lived for nine years. This is somewhat of a record for them for in forty years of marriage they had moved forty-one times.

As a young boy he always wanted to build roads and drive a Cat, to work in a lumber camp and to own a garage. After he started on his own, he made his boyhood dreams come true. He worked for Rowan's

Construction of Elkhorn, both on the road and in their lumber camp. Meta went along as cook for the camp. He also drove Cats for Pipestone Municipality. He spent one winter working at the "Searle Farms" at Selkirk. He also spent a year working for "Carlbergs" with their show horses. He travelled to Winnipeg and then to Toronto Royal with the eight horse hitch and their fabulous wagon. He also took in a number of shows while in Ontario. His main interest however has been in the livestock business, in which he is still actively involved.

Meta also has been very busy in her lifetime. She was the oldest in her family and so hard work was well known to her at a young age. After her marriage to Earl she was always busy fixing up their new home or packing up for the next move. She always had her home clean and her cookie jar full for one never knew who or how many she would have for dinner or supper. She did a lot of fancy work in her spare time and her house plants show she has a green thumb. Although her eyesight is failing she still tries to do a bit of crocheting. A leisurely day for both Meta and Earl is to be able to go fishing for the day. They celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in 1979 at a surprise family gathering at their daughter Ada's home in Elkhorn.



Earl and Meta Robinson.

Although this family has never stayed in one place long enough to put down roots, they've had a very interesting life and have met many people and made some very dear friends.

submitted by Ada (Robinson) Brennan

### Elgin Robinson

**Howard Elgin Robinson** was born at Waskada in November, 1927, the eldest son of **Viola and Clarence Robinson**. Elgin had one sister, **Greta** (Elford) of Hamilton, Ontario and two brothers, **Lloyd** of Winnipeg, retired from the R.C.A.F. and **Bruce**, teaching at Claresholm, Alberta.

Elgin received his schooling at Waskada. After leaving school, he worked at Red Lake Mine in Ontario, after which he joined the Canadian Army. Upon the sudden death of his father, he left the Army to assist his mother on the farm until she was able to dispose of it. Elgin then found employment with the Manitoba Telephone System. While working for M.T.S. he met and married his wife **Deirdre Catherine Keffen**.

Dee was born in the Hayfield district, east of Beresford, in June, 1927, the second child of **William and Freda Keffen**. An older brother, **Hugh**, is employed by the Town of Killarney; a younger sister, **Dorothy** (Finnen) farms with her husband near Killarney. When she was three, Deirdre's parents moved to a farm northwest of



Dee, Bruce, Elgin (in truck), Ken and Brian. On March 30th, 1963 the Robinsons left their city home in Calgary to begin "pioneering" at Elkhorn.

Beresford. She took all her schooling at Glenvale School, with the exception of Gr. XI which was obtained at Kemnay. After graduating, Dee became employed with the Manitoba Telephone System as a switchboard operator, working at Souris and Brandon, where she met her future husband. Shortly after their marriage, they moved to Calgary, Alberta.

While in Calgary, Elgin worked with Maclin

Motors, Calgary City Police and Harry's Elbow Park Service. Dee worked for a number of years at the Main Post Office. Three sons were born during this time: **Kenneth Elgin** 1951, **Bruce William** 1953, and **Brian Clarence** 1955.

In 1963, the family purchased a farm at Elkhorn, W½ 16-12-27, where they lived until late 1970. They moved into Elkhorn at this time and purchased the old George Harry house on Railway Street. Elgin worked the farm for a couple of years also delivering the C.P. freight until this service was phased out. Dee, once again, worked for M.T.S. until the office was closed in December 1972. Shortly after this, the farm was sold and Elgin was employed by the Village of Elkhorn.

After moving into Elkhorn, Elgin joined various organizations. He was a member of the Fire Department from 1971-78, and has been a member of the Royal Canadian Legion since 1971 — was first vice-president from 1973-75 and again in 1981, becoming president from 1976-78. He joined the Ambulance Service, becoming Superintendent in September, 1977 to 1981. He is vice-president of the Centennial Committee and is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, the Golf Club and the Curling Club.

Elgin and Dee's three sons all live in Regina, Saskatchewan. Ken married **Bonnie MacFarlane** in 1975. He is employed with B.A. Construction, Regina.

Bruce owns Bruce's Landscaping, Regina and Brian is a diesel mechanic with Tobin Tractor of Regina.

submitted by Mr. and Mrs. Elgin Robinson

### **Tom and Dorothy Rollo**

**Tom** was born at Peterhead in Scotland in September, 1914. He was one of a family of six. His father came to Beulah, Manitoba in 1921 and started to farm. Then his mother and the rest of the family came out in September, 1922. His father passed away suddenly in 1924.

They had a very difficult few years and Tom had to go to work when he was very young. He worked on farms for a number of years, finally coming to Elkhorn to work for Mr. Jim Francis, Mr. Mark Cousins and Mr. Fred Stonham.

In April, 1942, he married **Dorothy Helen Stonham**, who was born September, 1910 and raised on the farm 32-11-27, east of Elkhorn. She attended Reaper school which was a half mile and one mile south of the farm.

They had one son, **Vernon Everett** born January, 1943.

Her mother and father retired and moved to Elkhorn in 1944. Tom and Dorothy ran the farm for

two years and then moved to Two Creeks district, where they farmed till 1950. They moved to Elkhorn in August and got two rooms with Mrs. Myles, then built their own house on the corner of Railway and Foxford and moved in July 1, 1951.

Tom worked for Russell and Nylin in the garage. In the winter he curled with Geo. Francis, Geo. Canart and Delmer Nylin. They won several prizes.

In 1953, he went to work for Mel Graham in a machine shop in Foxwarren, Man. They moved to Foxwarren in June. In January, 1957 they moved back to Elkhorn and Tom worked for Lindy Moore. Later he started his own blacksmith shop in Miniota, driving back and forth. In 1962 they moved to Miniota and Tom built a new shop which he ran with his son for several years. He also took on the job as town and district constable for eight years. He retired from that in January, 1978. He also did conservation work for the game branch. He is retired from all that now. He just helps Bob Bonner on the farm with some of his work now.

### **Vernon and Margaret Rollo**

I, **Vernon Everett Rollo**, was born in Virden Hospital January, 1943.

I lived with my parents on the farm 32-11-27, east of Elkhorn till November, 1945, when we moved to a farm in the Two Creeks district.

I started school at Ross school in Two Creeks along with Beverly Reeves and Arlene Anderson. Our first teacher was Hazel Dale. I moved to Elkhorn with my parents in August, 1950. I attended the old school that was built in 1910. Then we moved to Foxwarren in June 1953 then back to Elkhorn in January, 1957. I went to the new school in Elkhorn my last year of school.

I got a job at George Pearson's filling station, working after school and on Saturdays. I quit school at Easter in 1959 and went to help my dad, who had bought the old blacksmith shop in Miniota.

We drove back and forth for awhile, then we moved to Miniota in March, 1962. I worked on the hydro with Eric Peterson for awhile.

In January 1967, I married **Margaret Elizabeth Sararas**, the daughter of Alice and Bert Sararas of Virden.

We bought a trailer and moved it to Tantallon, Saskatchewan while I was working at the mine at Esterhazy, Saskatchewan.

We moved back to Miniota in 1968. In 1969 I went to work in the mine at Lynn Lake. I also worked on the oil in Alberta.

In 1979 and 80 I worked for the Municipality of Miniota on road construction.

We have four children, **Darcy Wyatt** born Sep-

tember, 1967, **Tracy Lynn** born August, 1971, **Heather Angela** born August, 1975 and **Chad Everett** born July, 1978.

We moved Mother and Dad's house from Elkhorn to Miniota in 1975. It is right beside our shop. We had built a new shop in 1962 and operated it until Dad retired in 1977. I worked in Glen Draper's welding shop in Miniota the winter of 1980 and 81.

### **Mr. and Mrs. Max Ross**

**Mr. and Mrs. Max Ross** were former residents of Elkhorn and resided there for thirty-five years. They came to Elkhorn in 1938 and opened a beauty parlor, but later turned to the restaurant business. Finally they branched out to operate a general store until their retirement in 1963.



Max and Gertie Ross.

Mr. Ross served a term as councillor of the Elkhorn Council, served on the Virden-Elkhorn Library Board, was a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and a long-time member of the Elkhorn Masonic Lodge. Mr. Ross had the distinction of being able to speak many languages including German, Polish, Russian, Jewish and English. He was an ardent fisherman.

Mrs. Gertie Ross was keenly interested in the affairs of the town and district and was ever ready to contribute to worthwhile projects. She was an active member of the Women's Institute until ill health forced her to retire from active membership. The Ross' took up residence in the West-Man Nursing Home in Virden in 1973.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Ross have since passed away, Mr. Max Ross on November 17, 1978 and Mrs. Gertie Ross on February 19, 1979.

submitted by Barney Ross,  
685 Strathmeyer St., London, Ontario  
N5Y 3Z3

### **Mr. and Mrs. Albert Lorne Rowan**

At the age of four, **Annie Gray** came west from Thorald, Ontario with her parents. They travelled by rail to Portage which at that time was the end of the railway. They then travelled by ox cart, and settled north of Brandon in the Grand Valley area.

Annie Gray, being a pianist and singer, went to Melville to sing at a church concert. There she met **Lorne Rowan** whom she later married. Lorne, who was born in Pembroke, Ontario, had gone to Melville, Saskatchewan where he was in real estate, law, had a dray business and also was an Imperial Oil agent, delivering the oil by team. Lorne played hockey with the newly formed Melville Millionaires team.

They moved from Melville to Brandon to farm, staying only a couple of years. They then moved to south of Elkhorn to farm Sec. 22-10-29 for seventeen years. From there they moved to Sec. 7-12-29 in the Kirkella area in 1931. Mr. Rowan had his own threshing outfit and threshed for other farmers for a number of years.

Mrs. Rowan played the piano at church, dances and home entertainment.

They had five sons: Merlin, Gordon, Ralph, Ken and Don. They moved to Elkhorn in 1948.

Mr. Rowan passed away in 1954 and Mrs. Rowan in 1957.

submitted by Merlin and Ralph Rowan

### **Mr. and Mrs. Ken W. J. Rowan**

**Kenneth W. J. Rowan** is the fourth son of **Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Rowan**. He was born March 29, 1915 at Brandon, Manitoba, then moved to the Arwana and Springvale District, where he attended school until moving to the Kirkella District in 1931.

He left home when he was 16 to farm with his brothers, **Gordon** and **Merlin**, for a few years. They built themselves a log shack in a hill and called it the Bull Ranch. Times were hard in those days. They did trapping and cut lots of wood and hauled it to Elkhorn eleven miles to get a few groceries. George Bartley had the grocery store then and he helped many people in those days.

Horses were the transportation then; ball games and picnics and school dances were the entertainment. No hydro or telephones or cars or much of a variety to eat! But pretty well everybody was in the same boat then. There was lots of work and hope for a better year next year.

Ken married **Mary Gardner** in April, 1941. Mary was born at Virden on January 29, 1924, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Gardner. They lived in the Pacific District and moved to Elkhorn to the Mossgiel District in 1929 and then to the Kirkella

District in 1936. So Mary attended Mossgiel and Kirkella Schools.

Ken and Mary's family consists of five daughters, born at Elkhorn and Virden, **Donna, Linda, Sandra, Betty and Beverley**. They lived on 30-11-29 until 1947 then moved ½ mile south to 19-11-29 as the family expanded.

Ken rented his land in 1949 and went into construction with his brother Don. They did land clearing and built many roads in this area. In the sixties they went into the sawmill business in the Duck Mountains; but with not much profit and a lot of hard work, Ken decided to go back to farming. Mary stayed on the farm with the girls and kept busy driving the girls to school and 4-H and music and trying to keep the farm together.

The girls took their education at Woodville, Elkhorn and Virden. Donna worked at Sask. Telephone in Regina for a while, then married **Bert Hogg** from Moosomin. They have three children, **Brian, Bradley** (twins) and **Heather**. Donna works as a secretary for the city school of Wetaskiwin and Bert works for the Alberta Government. They live in Wetaskiwin.

Linda married **Dale O'Greysik** of Elkhorn; they have two boys, **Richard** and **David**. They lived in Elkhorn and Dale farmed from town until the fall of 1980 when Dale built a new house on the farm. Dale is now the councillor for Ward 3 in the Wallace Municipality. Linda has worked at Don's Solo for a number of years and also has been a good help on the farm. They farm in the Elkhorn district.



L-R: Sandra, Betty, Linda, Mary, Ken, Donna, Beverley.

Sandra worked as a secretary in Winnipeg for a while, then took her training as an air line stewardess in Minneapolis, U.S.A. Sandra married **Horst Metz**

of Chicago. They have two children, **Margaret** and **Carl**. Sandra is now taking a journalism course at North West University in Chicago where they live.

Betty worked as a store clerk in Brandon for awhile, then married **Dennis Heaman** of Elkhorn. They have two children, **Christopher** and **Rebecca**. Dennis worked at Acklands in Brandon, then moved to Virden to become manager. They moved to Alberta in 1978. Dennis is now an apprentice in electrical training and Betty is taking a course in parts and is working as a parts person in Wetaskiwin, Alberta where they now live.

Beverley took R.N. Nurse training in Brandon and graduated in 1973, worked in Moosomin, Saskatchewan for a year, then married **Garth Towler** and moved to Winnipeg where she nursed at the Misericordia Hospital for five years. They moved to Saskatoon in 1980 where Bev is Assistant Head Nurse in the Operating Room at the University Hospital in Saskatoon. Garth is managing an Audio Visual Store there. On August 11, 1981, a son, **Michael Drew** was born to them.

So with the family all married and scattered around the country, Ken and Mary still live on the farm.

Mary took a part time job at the Elkhorn Hospital as well as helping on the farm in seeding and harvest time.

Ken still hopes to farm for a few more years. But with the dust storms and dry weather in '80-'81 farming doesn't look too promising.

submitted by Mae Rowan

### **Merlin and Thelma Rowan**

In 1933 **Merlin, Gordon** and **Ken Rowan** decided to go farming in the Mossgiel area, Sec. 30-11-29. Money being scarce, they dug into the side of a hill and built their log house from there. To many this was known as the Bull Ranch. Many tales can be told of their hardships and also good times.

They trapped, cut and sold wood and chopped grain for farmers, and did any odd job they could get to earn a few dollars to put towards their farm.

Merlin went north to Roblin to work in the bush for three winters, coming home in the spring with a few dollars to help with the farm.

Later the three brothers bought more land and branched out on their own.

Merlin married **Thelma Dean** of Antler, Saskatchewan. They have four daughters, **Marlene, Sherrie, Patsy** and **Collene**. Marlene married **Ray Bukaluk** of Brandon and they live in Brandon. Marlene worked at the Agricultural Extension Centre for a number of years as a secretary and is now with the





L-R Back row: Wes Shoemaker, Collene Sand, Richard Sand, Ray Bukaluk, Marlene Bukaluk, Barry Stonehouse. Middle row: Latisha Shoemaker, Sherrie Shoemaker, Merlin and Thelma Rowan, Jacquie Bukaluk. Sitting on floor: Dana Shoemaker, Patsy Stonehouse.

Brandon School Division. They have one daughter, **Jacqueline**.

Sherrie married **Wes Shoemaker** of Elkhorn. They have two daughters, **Dana** and **Latisha**. They live in Virden where Sherrie is a hair dresser and has her own business.

Patsy is married to **Barry Stonehouse** also of Elkhorn. Barry is Master Corporal in the Armed Forces and Pat is Training Co-ordinator at the Credit Union in Red Deer. They live at Penhold, Alberta, just south of Red Deer.

Collene married **Rev. Richard Sand** of Thornhill, Ontario. They live at Flin Flon, Manitoba, where Collene is a dental nurse and plays the organ for church. They have one son.

Merlin and Thelma moved to Elkhorn in the fall of 1966, later selling their farm to the Hutterites.

In the winter of 1947, Merlin took a hired man and Ken to Elkhorn to catch a train to Winnipeg. Ben Poston went to town with Merlin travelling the twelve miles by team and sleigh. When they left home it was starting to snow. They got to town and the storm got worse, so they had to stay over night in the hotel. As was the custom in those days, if anyone went to town they brought groceries for all the neighbours. By the next day Bartley's had many orders for groceries. These were all put in boxes and loaded into the sleigh. Merlin and Ben Poston got almost to the track

and due to large snow drifts upset the sleigh. The groceries were all over in the snow. They threw them all back into boxes and took them back to George Bartley to be re-packed with each family's groceries.

Often in the winter when roads got bad farmers would travel by team and cutter to Mossiel School, put their horses in the barn there, and Wilfred Francis would meet us out there with his big truck. We would pile in the back and off to town, children and all. Needless to say, the men would be very happy by the time Wilf would gather us all up to go home, and often the women equally annoyed. Saturday was a big day in those days.

submitted by Merlin and Thelma

### **Ralph and Nellie Rowan**

**Ralph Rowan**, third son of Annie and Lorne Rowan mentioned before in the Rowan history, was born on April 12th, 1912 in the town of Melville, Saskatchewan. He later moved with his parents to Brandon, then moved from Brandon to Elkhorn in 1917, at the age of five.

He started his schooling at Arawana, south of Elkhorn, and also attended Springvale School. Later he moved with his parents to Kirkella on to Section 7-12-29 in 1931.

This was the time known as the Hungry Thirties and the hard times which prevailed in that era will always be remembered and go down in history as the time when only the determination and the pioneer spirit of the people allowed them to survive. However the nature of the people provided a very active social life where everyone met and associated with each other at dances in those little red school houses, broomball and hockey in the winter, with many soft-ball teams competing with each other in the summer providing an atmosphere of fun which has never since been equalled.

It was during these activities that Ralph met **Nellie Oliver** of the Fairfield School District, south of Fleming, Saskatchewan, who became his wife in the year of 1934. They moved to Fleming and started farming with very little except ambition.

One of the memories of these times was one Saturday night after their groceries were bought and paid for out of their \$1.50 cream cheque. They had ten cents left over. Nellie suggested to Ralph that he go and buy two chocolate bars (which were five cents each and twice as large as the thirty-five cent bars of today). Ralph returned with two guard bolts for his mower which he needed more than the two chocolate bars.

Hard times prevailed but by this time the family consisted of one son **William**, and a daughter **Arlene** who passed away at the age of seven months. A second son **Darwin** was born at Fleming. Then the family moved to the Woodville School District, twelve miles southwest of Elkhorn. A third son **Lyle** was born and a daughter **Dorothy**. They purchased their farm from one of the early pioneers, Mr. David Barr, son of William Barr who homesteaded on that land many years earlier.

Ralph and family lived on this land for many years. By this time the family had grown up and had a love of music. They formed a small orchestra and provided music for the dances for many miles around. During the course of this time Ralph had served six years on the school board, four years on the local Pool board, and had become active in the Farmers' Union serving seven years on the provincial board in Winnipeg. It now seemed natural that an interest in politics would follow. Ralph became active in the New Democratic Party and was nominated as their candidate for the Virden constituency, being defeated by Morris McGregor of the P.C.'s.

Ralph and Nellie are no longer active in agriculture, having moved to Elkhorn in 1967, enjoying their ten grandchildren. They have sold their farm but now have a small holding where they run a few horses, pigs and cattle for personal use and enjoyment.

Bill married **Jean Kilbourne**. They have two children, **Mary-Ann** and **David**. Darwin married **Diane Maw**. They have two children, **Keith** and **Dana**. Lyle married **Bernice Hey**. They have four children, **Shelly**, **Ryan**, **Coralie** and **Gregory**. Dorothy married **Barry Doole**. They have two children, **Kent** and **Sheldon**.

submitted by Ralph and Nellie Rowan

### The Rowands

In the summer of 1830, **Abram Rowand** of Paisley, Scotland embarked on the great adventure of crossing the Atlantic in a sailing vessel to spy out the land beyond the sea with a view to making for him and his family, a home in the new world. He returned to Scotland the following year and in 1832, accompanied by his wife (**Jean Thomson**) and three small children, **Jennie**, **Andrew** and **James**, bade farewell to Scotland with high hopes for their future in Canada.

On arriving in Canada, they settled in Little York (Toronto) where they lived for eight years. In the fall of 1840, they moved to Peel Country and it was here

that Jean Rowand gave up her life at the birth of their son **Robert**, April 17, 1845. All together, they had nine children, four of whom died in early childhood.

In 1851 and 1852, the sons of Abram Rowand moved to Bruce County, Ontario, seeking land on which to set up homes for themselves. One son, James Rowand, after spending some time in Brant, made a raft on Saugeen river (which was a common way of travelling in the early days) and navigated his way to Saugeen Township accompanied by his cousin and located land adjoining the river.

James Rowand married **Elizabeth Gowanlock** on June 30, 1853. They had five sons and three daughters. Three of their sons came to settle in the Elkhorn area, **David**, **James Oliver**, and **Abram**.

In May of 1882, James and Abram Rowand, arriving at Portage la Prairie, bought a yoke of oxen, ox harness, a high wagon and box, a plow, a muzzle loader and some food and headed towards the Moose Mountain country where they intended to homestead. After travelling for days, fighting flies and mosquitoes, they came to the Moose Mountain Trail which led them to the Moose Mountain Crossing (on Section 8-10-29) on the Pipestone Creek. The creek



James Oliver Rowand.

was so high that they could not cross so they followed the valley northwest, until they came to homestead section 30-10-29 which was in the middle of what was to become the Lippentott District.

Abram Rowand left the Elkhorn district in 1905 and settled at Nokomis, Saskatchewan, where some of his family still live. Abe and his wife **Anna** and an infant are buried at Elkhorn cemetery. David Rowand was the first owner of the Elkhorn Roller Mill erected in 1895. He also moved west.

James Oliver married **Margaret Ellen Lund**, youngest daughter of John and Mary Ann Lund, March 31, 1886. They had two sons and one daughter, **Harvey** (deceased April 24, 1892, age five years from diphtheria), **Ada** born October 18, 1891 and died April 5, 1977 and **Clarence** born February 23, 1894 and died December 20, 1944. On January 27, 1895, J. Oliver was leading a bull to Wes Lund's farm when the bull suddenly attacked him and before help could reach him he was trampled and gored. Oliver Rowand died later that evening from his injuries, leaving a young widow and two small children.

Mrs. Rowand had to go to work as a housekeeper in order to support her family. Some of the places that she worked were Oak Lake, Lenore, and Fleming and sometimes, her employers didn't want small children so she had to find places to keep her children. Once she put them in an orphan home, but Clarence wouldn't stay and ran away. Another time she left them with her sister-in-law, (Mrs. William Blair Lund) for a winter. Finally when Clarence was just thirteen years old, she returned to their home on section 30-10-29. With the help of a hired hand they farmed there until the summer of 1919 when Clarence left home to batch on Happy Land (section 35-10-29) from where he farmed both places. He married **Hazel Elizabeth Lund**, daughter of Harry and Alice Lund, December 31, 1919 and lived on Happy Land until the spring of 1922. At this time, he was able to obtain section 20-10-29, just kitty-corner to his mother's land and they moved there. This land is now owned by Clarence's youngest son, James.

Clarence and Hazel had two children, **Margaret Alice** born January 12, 1921 and **Henry Oliver** born May 12, 1922. On June 10, 1924, Hazel passed away leaving her husband and two small children in the care of her sister-in-law, Ada Rowand. At this time both Ada and her mother moved over to Clarence's place. During the last years of Mrs. Rowand's life, she was cared for by her daughter, Ada, as she was ill with cancer. She died October 15, 1925.

Ada often spoke of the Indians silently walking, without warning, into her mother's kitchen wanting food. Often when the tribes were travelling between the Carlyle and Griswold Reserves, Ada said that she

and her brother, Clarence, would run and hide under their beds. The Indians camped close to the Pipestone Creek for water. Quite often, they camped on the School Section (29-10-29). Margaret (Rowand) Twigg can remember the Indians still coming through the area when she was a child.

When Clarence remarried, Ada spent a year at Nokomis, Saskatchewan with her cousins, then returned to keep house for Albert and Frank George on the Barr farm and then the Aikin's farm east of Elkhorn. When Frank married and Albert joined the Army, Ada went back to Nokomis for a while, but returned to work at the Jack Mooney home in Elkhorn until 1945 when her great-nephew, Jim Twigg became seriously ill. She helped at Twigg's until 1949 when she returned to keep house for Albert George on the Jenner farm. Later they moved to Virden, and then Whiterock, British Columbia where Ada passed away April 5, 1977.

Clarence remarried on November 29, 1933 to **Eva Mary Adair**, daughter of Thomas Flemming Adair. From this union, two more children were born, **Mary Ellen** born November 17, 1934 and **James Clarence** born November 16, 1938. Clarence died, a young man, from cancer, December 20, 1944. Eva remained on the farm with her young family until Jim could take over. She kept house for her son until 1976 when she moved into Maryfield, Saskatchewan. She passed away suddenly on October 21, 1978 at her home.

On November 1, 1941, Margaret married **Alfred Twigg** and moved to their farm just south of Elkhorn (section 18-11-28). They had three sons and three daughters; **James** (deceased), **Marilyn**, **Janice**, **Lynda**, **Donald**, and **Darryl**.

**Henry Oliver Rowand** — After Clarence's death, Henry farmed at home until he married **Irene Wadham** October 18, 1948. They farm section 15-10-29, one and one half miles east of Kola. They have one son and two daughters; **Larry**, **Faye Ann**, and **Donna**.

Larry James married **Heather Sparks**, daughter of Francis Sparks, June 29, 1974. They have one daughter, **Kimberly Anne** and a son, **Bradley James**. They live in Virden where Larry works for Antler River Equipment.

Faye Anne lives in Virden and is employed at Randolph's Bakery.

Donna Irene is married to **Donald Isleifson** of Virden.

Mary Ellen Rowand married **Herman Roach** May 26, 1955, and lives at Hargrave. Mary Ellen taught school at Arawana, Springvale, Pacific, Victor, and Virden. They have one daughter, **Laura**

**Ellen** who is taking Education at Brandon University.

**James Clarence Rowand**, youngest son of Clarence and Eva, still farms on the home farm, 20-10-29. He also owns the original James Oliver Rowand farm and Abram Rowand's farm, southeast quarter and northwest quarter of 30-10-29. This will be a century farm in 1982.

submitted by Marilyn Clayton

### **Frank Rozak and Family**

**Frank Rozak**, the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Rozak, was born on the home farm section 6-12-29 in 1929 in the Mossgiel district and worked all his young years on the farm.

In 1953 he married the former **Ruby Frederick**, daughter of Ed and Dorothy of Elkhorn.

They spent the first winter of their married life in a little one-room cabin on the home farm. In the spring of 1954 they moved their cabin and few possessions to section 9-12-29. In 1960 they built their house as they had outgrown the little cabin. Their three eldest children went to school at Mossgiel, later going to Elkhorn.

Frank rented the farm in 1979 and is working for the Canadian Pacific Railroad. They still raise chickens and have cows, plus a big garden.

Their family of five:

**Laura** was born in 1955, and married **Arthur Maxwell** of Manson in 1976. They live in Virden, where Laura is Secretary Receptionist at the Fort La Bosse office.

**Kenneth** was born in 1956. He lives in Lethbridge, Alberta and works in the oil patch.

**Bradley** was born in 1957, and married **Donna Rodgers** of Virden in 1980. He lives in Regina and works at the IPSCO Steel Plant.

**Cheryle** was born in 1961. She lives in Boissevain and is a licensed practical nurse.

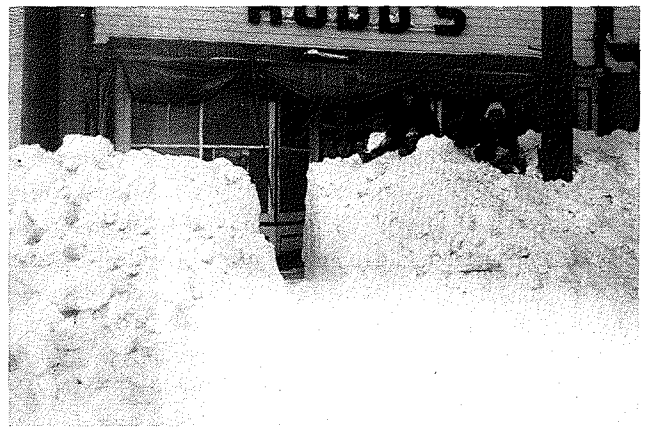
**Wes** was born in 1972 and is at home.

### **Oscar and Ann Rudd**

**William Oscar Rudd** — Born in Regina, Sask. and grew up in Napinka, Man. where his parents were General Merchants. He married **Ann Grace Pearen** of Deloraine, Man. They were in the general store business in Minto, Man. before purchasing the Waddington and Lee business in Elkhorn in 1944.

They were members of the United Church and the choir. Ann was a member of the U.C.L. Auxiliary and an assistant 4-H Sewing Leader.

They both enjoyed sports, playing tennis, curling and golf. Oscar also coached hockey for a number of years.



Oscar, Randall and Sheryl Rudd in front of their grocery store Feb. 1947.

He was a member of the school board and served on the town council, was president of the Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Elks Lodge.

In 1958 they sold their business to Mr. and Mrs. George Francis and moved to Gimli, Man. where they operated Rudd's Tomboy Store for ten years, each year preparing a float for the Islendingadagurinn "Icelandic Festival."

Oscar's interest in hockey kept him coaching and on the Hockey Association. He is also a member of the Rotary Club. They both are members of the Gimli Golf Club. Ann has continued curling and has won the Club Championship a number of times. She is a member of the Hospital Auxiliary and the Gimli Art Club.

They are members of the Gimli Lutheran Church and continue to sing in the Choir.

They have two children —

**William Randall** — B.A., B.Ed., from the University of Manitoba.

He married **Fern Keene** of Gimli. Their children are **William Troy** and **Robin Kipp**. Randall was Principal of Hapnot Collegiate in Flin Flon, Man. for a number of years. He was very active in forming and developing Northern Manitoba Educational Organizations and Programs.

In 1978 he married **Rosalyn Euler** of Dryden, Ont. They live in Barrhead, Alta. where Rosalyn is a Kindergarten teacher and Randall the Collegiate Principal.

He enjoys outdoor activities and is an avid curler and golfer. He served on the executive of these clubs and the Kinsmen Club, coached Little League Baseball and for ten years has been the Student Curling Coach and Golf Instructor.

**Sheryl Ann** — Married to **Richard Arnason** of Gimli, Man. They own and operate "Interlake Agencies" a real estate, General Insurance, Autopac and

Income Tax business, also Vesturland Housing Development in Gimli.

Sheryl is a member of the Advisory Board to the Manitoba Dept. of Education. She is on the executive of the "Evergreen Festival of the Arts" and the Toastmistress Club.

She is also active in sports and Past President of the Ladies' Curling Club and has also organized children's Soccer in Gimli.

Sheryl is a member of the Gimli Lutheran Church and assists with the G. L. Church Luther League.

Dick and Sheryl have two children, a daughter **Toby Ann** and a son **Johann Carl**.

submitted by Ann Rudd

### **Clifford and Betty Russell**

Before coming to Elkhorn, **Cliff** had spent four and a half years in the R.C.A.F. After the war we lived in Portage la Prairie and Virden, arriving in Elkhorn in 1947, accompanied by our six-month-old daughter, **Pat**.

Our first home was next door to our present home on Fourth Street. At that time it was open prairie to Richhill Ave. The Park was formed later.

In 1951 we bought the land east of the park from the Village of Elkhorn (Block 5) and built our present home.

When we arrived, Cliff was employed by Mr. Ted. Gibbs in his garage and continued to work for Mr. Gibbs until Frazer McLeod and he rented the garage from Mr. Gibbs.

"Russell and Nylin" operated a garage in the building now owned by Rowan's Construction. They sold Austin cars and International machinery. As well a school bus was owned and operated for Elkhorn School District and later Fort la Bosse.

In 1953 I (**Betty**) rejoined the teaching staff of Elkhorn School. I had previously taught grade five and six for one year, 1943-44. Over the years I have taught children from grades two to six. Cliff still drives a school bus.

Our daughter, **Pat**, is married to **Ernest Shtokalko** and she has two boys. They live in Kamloops, B.C.

### **Robert C. Sanheim**

My parents, **Rudolph and Stephanie Sanheim**, farmed in Kendal, Saskatchewan for 35 years. I have seven sisters and two brothers. We were all born in the Kendal, Saskatchewan district.

In 1953 my parents moved to Sinclair, Manitoba as well as **Richard, Jake** and I. In 1961 Richard and I moved to farm in the Manson, Manitoba district on SE 31-13-28.

In 1962 our parents and Jake moved here.

In 1964 Richard got married to **Joan Smith**. They live on SE 36-13-28 farm.

Our father passed on in 1965 and our mother in 1967.

In 1977 I got married to **Mary Sanheim** (Braumberger) and live on SE 31-13-28. Jake lives on SE 29-13-28.

### **David and Pat Schellenberg**

We started looking for a grain farm to buy shortly after our marriage in 1967. The Elkhorn area appealed to us because it was good soil at a reasonable price. We also appreciated the rolling terrain. We came from Kleefeld which is south of Winnipeg. There the land is flat as a table top and the population was getting too dense for our taste.

However, it was fall of 1977 before we found a suitable farm at a manageable price. In the meantime, Pat's parents, **Alph and Margaret Penner**, had already moved to the Elkhorn area and were established on the J. Montgomery farm. They heard that the Harold Siple farm, immediately to the south of them, might be for sale so we went to investigate. It was for sale and our dealing went smoothly and quickly. We moved in on May 1, 1978.

We weren't used to the water shortage problem but didn't give up looking, and now in the spring of 1981 it looks as if we've found a well that will water our cattle and us, and perhaps even the garden.

Two sons have been born to us while we've been living here. **Spencer Neal** was born on January 14, 1979 and **Christopher Scott** arrived on December 23, 1980. We hope to continue farming here for many years to come.

### **The Rudy Schoen Family**

**Rudy and Molly** were married in Reston, Manitoba on February 27, 1930, in the United Church by Dr. Robert Harvey. Rudy was employed by Mr. Dunbar, the blacksmith.

On August 8, 1930, they moved to Elkhorn into the Mutton house. Rudy bought the blacksmith shop from Frank Mills. In 1933 they moved into the Hopp's house on Kildare St., with their baby daughter **Margaret**, who was born on May 5, 1932. During the six years in this home, they were blessed with two more children, **Ronald**, born on September 24, 1934, and **Ruth**, born on March 27, 1937. In 1939, they bought the house next door, from Dave Lund. On November 14, 1942, **Beverley** was delivered in Virden Hospital, the only one of the four to have the privilege of arriving in a hospital. Although the three older children were delighted with their baby sister, Ron really wished he could still exchange her for a boy. (He was feeling a little out-numbered.)



L-R: Gordon and Bev Day, Margaret and Arnold Dyke, Rudy and Molly Schoen, Ron and Sheila Schoen with daughter Judianne, Ruth and Keith Gauer — 1970.

In 1944, the family moved into the Blakeman House on Grange St. where all four children grew up and remember many good family gatherings. This place was really home to all of us, as well as many boarders, which included school teachers, telephone operators, bankers, oil men, hydro men, and high school students. They all enjoyed Molly's good cooking and warm welcome. After all of us had left the comfortable nest, Molly and Rudy resided there until 1973, when they moved into the former home of Earl Hall. Here they did extensive remodelling and built a two car garage.

Rudy was very active as a fine and able blacksmith. In 1943 he rebuilt the old shop and fixed it up so that it would be more convenient for his work. As a Blacksmith, Rudy used to shoe all of the horses in the Elkhorn area, and in the 40's and 50's and the early 60's, he used to go into Brandon to shoe the horses that were entered in the Manitoba Winter Fair. In the last three years of his active blacksmithing, Rudy sharpened plowshares sent all the way from Swift Current, because there was no one closer to do them. Many of the Old Timers around the area remember the dedication to excellent work that was his trademark. Aside from the usual blacksmith work, Rudy built truck boxes. Many of the farmers would place their orders and wait patiently for Rudy to complete their truck box.

In 1937, Rudy started bringing children to Elkhorn for the York School District. He always had a good auto, and used it to bus the children, even in the winter when the roads were difficult to travel. He drove the school van for 23 years.

In Rudy's younger years, he took an active part in the curling club. He was an ardent curler and always took in all the bonspiels in the surrounding area, winning many prizes, which are valuable keepsakes.

Rudy was a Past Master and a dedicated member

of the Masonic Lodge. One of Rudy's favorite pastimes was playing Bridge. Both Rudy and Molly enjoyed many evenings of fellowship around the Bridge table. Quite often there would be as many as four tables playing at one time, but on a quieter evening, there would be two tables.

Before Molly was too busy with a number of boarders in her home, she was actively involved in the United Church Circle and the W.I. For many years, she, along with her neighbor, Beatrice Snyder, worked in the agriculture building with exhibits at the Fair.

Molly is a Past District Deputy President of the Rebekah Lodge. Since the Daffodil Rebekah Lodge in Elkhorn has been dissolved, Molly has transferred her membership to Crocus Rebekahs in Virden.

Molly has always been a hard worker and assisted Rudy at all times. It may be driving the school van on busy days, going to Virden or Brandon to get parts and repairs, maybe even painting a truck box, cleaning the shop and windows, or washing the car. Washing the car was a regular task at least every weekend, and hopefully there would be time for waxing as well.

Trinity United Church was a very important part of our lives. All of us attended Sunday School regularly and Ruth and Bev were active in both the Junior and Senior Choirs. Four weddings were solemnized in this church and some of our children were baptized here.

Margaret married **Arnold Dyke** on July 9, 1951, and they are residing in Rocanville, Sask., where they have a dry goods store. They have six children: **Cathy, Karen, Rick, Randy, Corinne, and Christine**. They have two grandchildren: **Scot Dyke** and **Vicki Gibson**.

Ron married **Sheila Rees** on November 9, 1953 and they are now residing in Toronto, Ont. Ron was promoted to President of Beneficial Finance Co. of Canada in January 1978. They have four children: **Connie, Crag, Kevin, Judianne**, and one grandchild, **Jason Ronald**.

Ruth married **Keith Gauer** on November 10, 1956. They are residing in Winnipeg. Their four children are **Brad, Janice, Nancy, and Pamela**.

Bev married **Gordon Day** on December 28, 1961. They are in the John Deere business in Virden, along with their three children, **Jim, Shelly** and **Sandra**.

submitted by Bev Day and Molly Schoen

### **W. M. Scott Family**

**Melville Scott** was born in Tiverton, Ontario in 1898. His family came west in 1908 to the Virden district and moved to McAuley in 1909. In 1933,

Melville married **Christena MacKay** who was born in 1897 at Tiverton, Ontario. She moved west in 1925 and worked for a number of years in Brandon, Manitoba. After their marriage they farmed at Welwyn, Saskatchewan where three children were born. In 1935, **Lloyd** was born at Moosomin, **Phyllis** was born at Welwyn, and in 1937, **Bernice** was born at Welwyn also. The family moved to Elkhorn, Man. in December, 1941. Melville began working for C. P. Rail in the spring of 1942 on the section and later transferred to the running trades to work out of Brandon. The children attended school at Elkhorn until June, 1948, at which time the family moved to Broadview, Saskatchewan. In February, 1949 Melville suffered a stroke which left him partially paralyzed and unable to work again. Tena then began working at various jobs in Broadview: at C.P. Lunch counter, hospital, besides taking in boarders to provide for the family. Melville passed away in May, 1980, in his 82nd year. Tena still resides there.

Lloyd married **Ruth Young** of Bredenbury, Saskatchewan in 1959 and they have three children: **Cindy** now of Regina, **Kevin** and **Gregory** at home in Bredenbury, where Lloyd is employed with C. P. Rail.

Phyllis married **Milford Olson** of Percival, Saskatchewan in 1961 and they have two children: **Valori** and **Timothy** who still live at home in Burnaby, British Columbia.

Bernice married **Donald Eagle** of Regina in 1961 and they have four children: **Donna Lynn**, **Debbie**, **Sherrie** and **Jade** who reside at home in Calgary, Alberta.

submitted by L. M. Scott

## **Cobwebs of Yesterdays Scotney Family**

Historians record that on November 6, 1869, a man named Louis Riel, the leader of the Métis people, invited all the English-speaking Protestant Metis and English-speaking white settlers to send delegates "to consider the present political state of this country".

Ten days later, they met, the first Convention of the People of Rupert's Land, and on July 15, 1870, the Red River District became the province of Manitoba. Its name, chosen by Riel and the provisional government, means "the spirit that speaks".

The first passenger train bearing officials of the C.P.R. arrived at the new station of Brandon the fall of 1881. However, I do not know when the Village of Elkhorn was incorporated, the first C.P.R. station was probably built in the early part of 1882. I was told long ago that an elk's horn was found on the site, thus "Elkhorn". (I would have thought any horn found would have been from a buffalo.)

A listing in Reader's Digest book EXPLORE CANADA, 1973, reads: "ELKHORN, MANITOBA — A 1908 Reo, a 1909 Metz, a 1909 Hupmobile, and a 1918 Chevrolet touring — all in running condition — are among the more than fifty antique cars in the Manitoba Automobile Museum."

My father, **Reginal Norman Scotney**, came to the Kola district in 1909 where he taught in the Lippentott school. I can remember tagging along behind him on his walk from our "upstairs apartment" in a farm house to the school. I was five. I also remember getting my tongue stuck on the axe head one cold winter day. What day wasn't cold!

Dad was born at Winchester, Hants, England, November 15, 1876, the only son of Walter Scotney, solicitor and mayor of Winchester. He graduated from Oxford University in 1897 and was articled to his father's law firm.

As a young man, he was on the Oxford rowing squad, played cricket and rugger, was a chorister in Winchester Cathedral, and an officer in a Hampshire regiment.

On February 7, 1903, he was married to **Alice Maud Mary Bramwell**, affectionately known as "Mollie".

He came to Canada in 1905 and acted as accountant to the Manitoba Canning Company, Grande Point for two years. He was later attached to the law firm of Bradshaw, Richards, and Affleck, Winnipeg and was admitted to practice as solicitor in the Court of King's Bench in November, 1911, at which time he commenced the practice of law in Elkhorn. His first office was on the ground floor, front, of the house on the corner of Main and Grange Streets. I believe the house was referred to as the "Duxbury House". We lived in the house proper. It was while we were living there that my Uncle Frank Watts and Aunt Nora, one of Mother's sisters, came from England. Uncle Frank had accepted the position of Principal of Elkhorn School.

My father later moved to one of the two upper floor offices in the old Post Office. This frame building stood on the site of the present Post Office, and I think, Mr. Miller was the postmaster. The second office was occupied by Mr. R. de W. Waller, Insurance and Real Estate and later by John Fraser.

Dad was always a staunch supporter of Conservative policies. Mr. D. W. Beaubier, writing to my father on August 1, 1930: "Dear Friend, Many thanks for your work on my behalf and also for the Conservative Party. It was a glorious fight and a grand victory. July 28, 1930 will remain a memorable day for the Conservatives of Brandon Constituency."

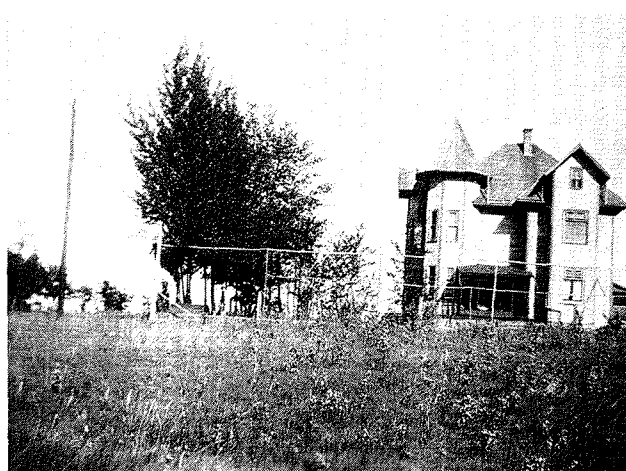
Well-known in curling and cricket circles and for



Mrs. Molly Scotney.



Mr. R. N. Scotney.



Scotney house on Foxford, tennis court in foreground.

his tennis achievements, Dad was a very keen and enthusiastic sports man. A lifelong Anglican, he was a member of St. Mark's vestry, Superintendent of the Sunday School and a member of the choir. In fact that group always contained at least four members of the Scotney family. One Sunday, **Phyllis** donned sister Marjorie's gown by mistake, started to walk out of the choir room, stepped on the hem of the gown, and fell flat on her tummy! Fortunately, for the dignity of the service, it didn't happen while the choir was walking up the center aisle of the church.

Dad was an able amateur actor; he also delighted in substituting his own humorous words for those of the songs of the day. A beautiful example of his artistic talents hangs on the wall of St. Mark's — the Honour Roll of those members who fought in the first world war.

At the time of his sudden death on August 3, 1930, he was chairman of the Elkhorn School Board, of which he had been a member for several years; solicitor for the Bank of Commerce, the Village of Elkhorn, and Municipality of Wallace. He was secretary of the Conservative Association, secretary of the Board of Trade; member of the Canadian Legion, cadet instructor of the local Corps. and Past Master of Elkhorn Lodge No. 74, A.F. and A.M. He is buried in Elkhorn Cemetery.

Mother was born in West Harklepool, Durham, England on February 16, 1874, daughter of an accountant, and one of a large family. Before her marriage, she was a member of the Knaresborough Golf Club, and an excellent tennis player. While living in that city, she was a member of the Wesleyan Church Choir.

She came to Canada to join my father in 1906. Sister **Marjorie** was a baby and I was two. The minimum time for the trip from England to Montreal in those days was about three weeks. Mother was not a good sailor, being sea sick most of the journey, so looking after two small children was a bit too much. The Captain came to her aid by sending a crew member for me every morning, returning me at the end of the day.

The population of the family had increased by one when we left Winnipeg in 1909 for Elkhorn. Mother had presented Dad with my brother **Norman**. Living on a farm must have been quite a change to a person who had always resided in a city, particularly when trips to town were few and far between. There were very few cars in those days — the Model T Ford had been marketed only the previous year.

During her residence in Elkhorn, Mother was a loyal and dedicated member of St. Mark's W.A., the I.O.D.E., and a member of the Church choir, and a



star in the Amateur Dramatic Society. The cast of one of their presentations included Mother, Dad, sister Phyllis, Messrs R. H. Brotherhood, F. C. Norris, F. J. Walker, W. J. Francis, W. Amos Jr., and Agnes Crosby. In sports, she was a tough opponent on the tennis courts and often paired with Dad in tournaments.

In the fall of 1920, mother returned to England to visit her family. Prior to her leaving, her sister Peggy arrived from England to look after us — we were at full strength then, five — and to be our mentor. I am afraid that at first, we gave her rather a rough time and I am not sure just who was the teacher.

In October, 1930, Mother left Elkhorn accompanied by her youngest daughter, **Doreen** for Victoria. A presentation from members and friends of St. Mark's W.A. was signed by Mrs. Allinson, first Vice; Sara Freeman, second Vice; and M. A. Kellie. However, she missed her old friends and the people she had known for so long, so in the fall of 1931, she returned to Elkhorn and took up residence, first in the Hunter house, later in the old Guest house at the end of Main Street. Miss Minnie Grimshaw, head operator in the Telephone Office, boarded with her. In 1935, she returned to Vancouver, residing there until her move to Victoria after the War. Until her death in 1965, in her ninety-second year, she made her home with us, also with Doreen and her son-in-law. She was buried in Royal Oak Burial Park, Victoria.

I, **Walter Bramwell Scotney** was born on September 25, 1904 in Winchester, England. I continued my education in the Elkhorn Public and High School. Graduating in 1922, I entered the service of the Union Bank (later amalgamated with the Royal Bank) in Virden as Junior. Moved to Winnipeg in 1926, I left the bank to join the staff of Malden Elevator and Brokerage Company in the Winnipeg Grain Exchange. In 1927, I was transferred to the Regina office, then later to the Saskatoon branch as assistant manager. Then came that period of economic crisis in both industry and finance — the Depression of 1929 and mid 1930's; a time of hardship affecting everyone.

Maldens sold to a rival firm; with the sale went our jobs. However, I obtained a position in the offices of General Motors, Regina. In the 1930 staff cut-back, I, with hundreds of others, joined the ranks of the unemployed. During the period 1931-1937, I worked on farms, a sheep ranch, construction, and was a partner on a dairy farm. I was working for Hubert Freeman, one of the nicest and most considerate employers, when the new cow barn was built. Jack Turner was construction boss. I believe the year was 1933.

In the fall of 1937, I came to Victoria, obtained

my Industrial First Aid Certificate, and was employed by Northern Construction in that capacity until mobilization of the First Battalion Canadian Scottish Regiment, of which I was a member, on September 4, 1939. On September 16, **Miss Rae Niven** and I were married in the first wedding of the Battalion. The kilts were then put away for the duration.

On October 4, 1940, the Battalion boarded ship for the camp at Debert, Nova Scotia, the first leg of a journey which was to end on the Normandy beaches the morning of June 6, 1944. I was wounded at the taking of Wagenborgen, Germany on April 21, 1945. The enemy capitulated on May 5. Later, I was the recipient of a citation from Field Marshall B. L. Montgomery.

Discharged in September, 1945, I entered the service of the British Columbia Government, resigning in 1952. From January, 1953 until my retirement in July, 1969, I was employed by the Department of National Defence.

Son **Murray**, a Captain in the Fire Department, National Defence, Esquimalt, and several grandchildren live in Victoria.

My sister, **Marjorie Spencer** was born in England on January 2, 1906. She attended Elkhorn High School, graduating in 1923. During her school days, she played baseball and basketball. She remembers that the other players in the latter game had to treat her gently as she was subject to pouring nosebleeds. She was a member of St. Mark's Choir, the Dramatic Society, and was an active church worker.

One week, when she was four, she developed a very sore and swollen throat and started to run a high temperature; Dr. Goodwin was called and performed a tonsilectomy on the kitchen table.

After graduating from Brandon Normal School in 1924, she taught at Niverville, Deloraine, and Boissevain. In 1933 she married **Arthur Starr**, Vice Principal of Tech-Voc School in Winnipeg, ending a rewarding teaching career. The late Dr. Goodwin's son was their family physician.

In telling of her experiences as a teacher, she reminds us that during the "dirty thirties" she was never called upon to teach for her board or to accept a drastic cut in salary, as so many in her profession were forced to do.

Art died in 1966 and the following year, Marjorie moved from Winnipeg to Victoria, and presently lives in Sidney, Vancouver Island. She has two daughters, **Mrs. R. Mott (Janice)** of Sidney, and **Mrs. M. Muloin** of Dorval, Quebec whom she visits quite often, and several grandchildren.

My brother **Norman (Norrie)**, was born in Winnipeg on June 9, 1908. Educated in Elkhorn, he

graduated in 1924. During his high school years, he played baseball, was an excellent hockey player, being offered a trial by the Saskatoon team when he spent part of a vacation with me in that city.

He told Dad he wanted to farm when he left school, so a term of apprenticeship was arranged with Mr. A. Chapple. During the next few years, he worked for J. Freer, cut ice for Archie Bates, and managed a farm for Mr. F. Morrison at Marquill, Saskatchewan.

Married to **Fern Soder** in 1931, the couple commenced farming west of Elkhorn. In the spring of 1934, they moved to Vulcan, Alberta, operating a farm owned by Mr. Hickman, which they subsequently purchased. In the fall of 1950, he sold the farm, moved into Vulcan, leased a White Rose (now Shell) service station, was appointed Cockshutt Implement Company dealer and started construction of a garage, service station, stock room, and Motel complex. As a Cockshutt dealer, he was consistently one of the top salesman in Alberta.

Upon his retirement, in 1960, they moved to Edmonton and later to Hay Lakes. They presently live on the farm of their only daughter, **Phyllis** at Peace River, have three sons and several grandchildren.

Toby was a water spaniel, large for his breed, but nevertheless, a water spaniel. Norrie made a harness and trained him to pull a light sled. Then came the important day — the dog sled race from the Lake of the Woods elevator down Main Street to the finish line at the Manitoba Hotel. First prize was a trip to Winnipeg for dog and owner to compete in sled races. They made a good start, two dogs in the lead, a group in the centre, Toby bringing up the rear. Midway down the course, the two leaders decided they would rather fight than run so went to it. As each dog reached the battle, it either piled in or started a ruckus of its own. (Much like modern day hockey!) Toby calmly circled the snarling pile to cross the finish line. Judges huddled. "Can't send a spaniel to Winnipeg, ridiculous, re-run the race" was the verdict. However, the second race was a repetition of the first, again Toby was the winner, although quite pooped. Judges huddled. They offered him \$10.00 to take his dog home. Norrie accepted; first because Dad wouldn't have let him go to Winnipeg, secondly, Toby was tired. Norrie was twelve or thirteen, Toby about three.

Sister **Phyllis** was born on September 3, 1910, in the "upstairs apartment" of the farm house when Dad was teaching at the Lippentott School. Mrs. Harry Lund was Mother's nurse.

She was about fifteen months old when we moved from the Duxbury house to a big brown

house, midway down Kildare street with a wide veranda along one side and front. I was wheeling her on the veranda one day; I was eight; a couple stopped in front of the house to continue their argument. As the quarrel reached the shouting stage, I became so enthralled I pushed the carriage over the edge, nearly landing on its top. For the next few days, I was not very comfortable in the sitting position. As for Phyllis, Mother's friends often remarked that she seldom cried. I think she got it all out of her system in that one explosion.

She graduated from Elkhorn High in 1928 and from Brandon Normal School in 1929. Her first school was at Hillsgreen School District, situated between Willen and McAuley. The next term was spent at Columbine School District near Carman. At the end of the school term, she stopped with Mother in the old "Hunter" house until the fall when she was asked to substitute for one of the teachers at the Indian Industrial School for about six weeks. After Christmas, she returned to Hillsgreen to finish that term and to remain the following year. With the exception of ladling out the morning dosage of cod liver oil at the Industrial School, she enjoyed her profession.

Phyllis was an active participant in school sports, a member of St. Mark's Choir, and the Dramatic Society.

On June 26, 1933, in St. Mark's Anglican Church, she was married to **William Day** by Reverend E. A. Syms, officiating in his first wedding since being ordained. Miss Dorothy Lucking played the Wedding March.

They have two daughters; **Mrs. R. Dillabough (Joyce)**, **Mrs. W. Adam (Joan)**, and three sons; **Lorne, Jack**, and **Ken**, and several grandchildren.

**Doreen** was born in Elkhorn on February 19, 1912, graduated from Elkhorn High in 1929. During her school years, she played baseball, basketball, tennis, was a member of the High School drill team, a composer of school "pep" songs, and a cheer leader. Active in church work, she was a member of St. Mark's Choir.

When she was about twelve, Dad bought her a pony which had been trained as one of a polo string; would turn at pressure of the rein or hand and would stop instantly on the spoken command. One day Doreen and her friend Muriel Irving, riding bareback, were cantering down Kildare Street. As they were passing the livery stable, one of the group standing at the door shouted "Whoa". The pony obeyed instantly, but not the riders who took a bad fall on the hard road.

Doreen moved to Victoria with Mother in 1930

and in May, 1931 was married to **Ernest Day**. In 1965, Ernie suffered a fatal heart attack.

When Marjorie joined her the following year, the two bought a large turn-of-the-century house, well constructed, in excellent condition and set about renovating the interior. Doreen's son, **Gerry**, a contractor, made this job a bit easier with his help and advice.

In 1971, she married **Laurie Perlette**. On his retirement from the Department of National Defence, they moved to Sidney, Vancouver Island. They have one son **Gerald Day**, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Doreen is the traveller of the family. In the past seven years she has visited China, Australia, New Zealand, Alaska, and countries bordering the Mediterranean. She has traveled far, but I doubt not any faster than the time she met the bear in Banff when we were returning to Elkhorn from Vancouver.

It was while we were living in the white house at the end of Kildare Street (Waldo Phillips and his mother lived opposite) that Mother bought an incubator and entered the poultry business, for home consumption only. At this time also, Dad bought our first cow, which we named "Patience" — she had to learn to stand still while he mastered the art of extraction. She was the first of the three we had when we lived on Foxford, and Mother was never without her hens.

I remember:

— high school friends and baseball teammates; Arthur Rogers (Mux) the catcher, Roy Miller, who came to school in winter from the farm by dog sled, George Harry, George Lambert, Emily Lidster, Seward Lund — hockey was his game; Greg Sinclair — the fastball artist, Dan Leech, Elmer Kersey, and many more.

— the large steam threshing outfits coming up from North Dakota at harvest time, the hundreds of harvesters from the East via "harvester specials"

— the silk trains thundering through Elkhorn at speeds of seventy miles per hour

— skating on Cooper's Slough, the high school girl who ventured on thin ice (while skating), changing from skating to dunking; the high school boy who, while spinning the family car on the ice, collided with the tip of a fence post — then the car had only three wheels

— the long trains of low steel cars hauling gravel from Manitoba pits for Saskatchewan roads

— the school principal, Miss M. who lost a heel midway down the main staircase while carrying the bell to call the students in from recess. The bell beat her to the bottom landing, in fact nearly rolled all the way out.

— the Hallowe'en night the high school students,

farmers and their helpers in town for the several church suppers, plus some of the senior citizens, joined forces to gather all the outhouses, wagons, buggies, barrels, gates — anything that wasn't nailed down or buried, to deposit them in front of the places of business on Main Street. The steam engine and separator belonging to Mr. Johnson looked out of place in the middle of the road

— Norrie and I trying to get our calf down from the roof of the former Webster's Bakery, after it had taken about a dozen tricksters to get it up there.

— the monthly silent-film shows in McLeod's Hall above the store, by Mr. Jenkins, the travelling projectionist

— Fraser McPherson's dance orchestra, the picture shows in McPherson's Theatre (now Bartley's Store), the dances in both places

— School Field Days, cycling to Bajus' farm to swim in their pond, barn dances in the summer, sleigh parties in the winter to school dances

— Dr. Johnston's snowmobile, the silent evenings in our house when Dad, Dr. Johnston, John Fraser and R. H. Brotherhood held a bridge session

— cadet rifle practice in the winter, the target stand in the girls' basement, the prone cadets in the boys' basement, shooting through the connecting passageway

A student whose love of history was not any too intense, expressed his opinion on the inside cover of his history book as follows: "In case of fire, please throw this in." I don't subscribe to his opinion; to me, history books, although perhaps a bit dry, are very fascinating.

submitted by W. B. Scotney

## **The Norman Scotney Story**

I, **Norman Scotney**, was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, in 1908, and came to Elkhorn a year later.

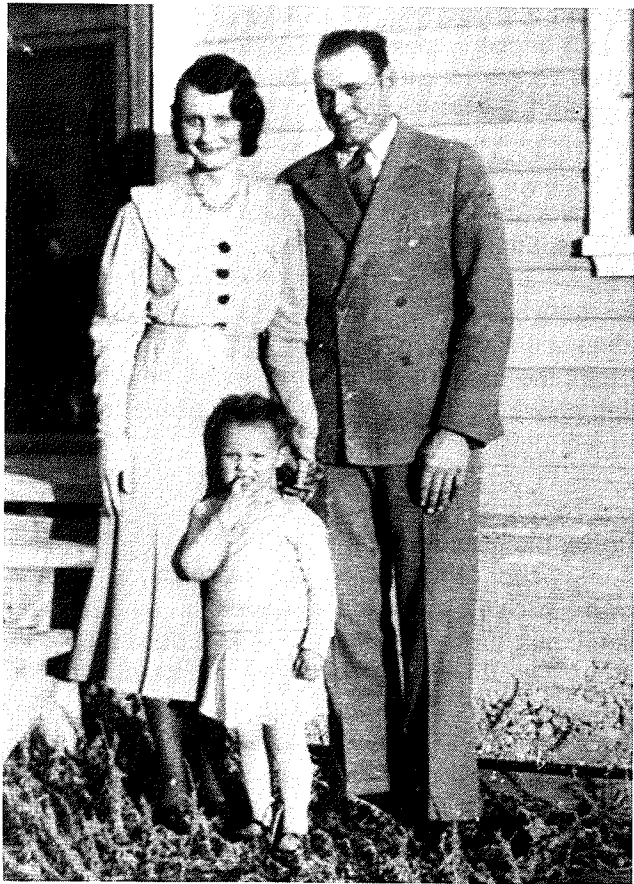
The houses that I remember living in were first, the Duxbury house on the corner on Mainstreet. Dad had his office in front.

Then we moved to the Molly Thompson house on the corner a block north of the hotel.

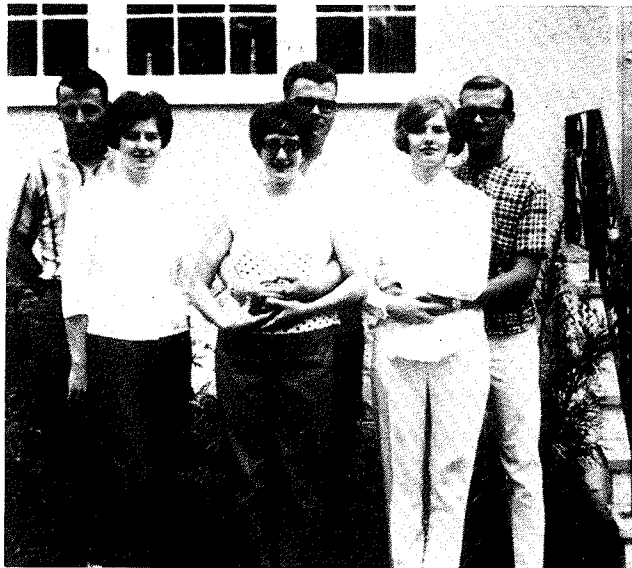
Next we moved to our own house on the hill by the school.

We were living in the Thompson house when Groat's store burnt down. Dad had just come from milking the cows in Phillips livery barn and was coming through the gate; he dropped the milk on the ground and ran.

The fondest memories I have of Elkhorn were the times that I worked for Mr. Balkwell in the livery barn. I worked during summer holidays while Mr. Balkwell was out haying. I loved horses and I trained his colts to lead and then showed them at the fair. He



Norman, Fern and Phyllis Scotney 1934.



Standing together L to R: Reg and Elaine, Doug and Sharon, Ren and Molly.

would let me keep the prize money. During the time I was at the livery barn I got to know most of the farmers in the district and still remember them. Mr. Balkwell was one of the finest men that I have ever met.

In 1931 on June 30th, I married **Fern Soder**, daughter of Frank Soder in the Two Creeks district.

We farmed in the Elkhorn district for three years. We went west to Vulcan, Alberta, in the spring of '34. There I managed a grain farm for O. V. Hickman of Calgary.

In 1940 we rented some land from a neighbor. In 1943, we purchased the farm from O. V. Hickman. In 1945, we bought another half section, which has been owned by John Diefenbaker's uncle.

In 1950, we sold the farm, moved into Vulcan, built a Service Station and took on a machine agency. In 1960, a fire destroyed our building so we moved to Edmonton and started a Novelty business and serviced the Peace River country.

At seventy years of age, I sold the business and retired. We moved to Peace River where a daughter and our oldest son live.

We celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary this year, 1981. My wife has stated what our children are doing.

### **Jim and Wendy Shackel**

Jim Shackel came to Elkhorn from the Killarney area in 1961 to teach school here. He boarded with Mr. and Mrs. Earl Lund then and still raves about her delicious pumpkin pies. He curled, golfed, and played ball and was a member of the Elks Lodge. For many years he assisted in running the projector for the films shown in the Elks' Stadium. He won several trophies for golf. In summer holidays, he enjoyed helping Cliff Clarke at the Antique Auto Museum.

Wendy (Hanlin) was raised in the Hamiota district. She became a registered nurse and worked in Virden for several years.

Jim and Wendy were married in 1974. The highlight of the day was the arrival at the Church door of a 1921 Dodge, courtesy of Mr. Clarke, in which they took their drive around town. They have one son, Ken.

Jim is still active in the Elks Lodge and Wendy is a member of the Royal Purple Lodge. Jim is also the secretary-treasurer of the Elkhorn and District Community Centre.

Ken plays hockey and participates in school sports.

### **A New Life for the Family of Andrew and Elizabeth Sheane Sr.**

In the winter of 1910 a lot of serious thought was given by **Andrew and Elizabeth Sheane**, to the idea of moving their family of ten children to Manitoba. In the spring of 1911 they left the small farm of 100 acres, and brought all their furniture and horses and

machinery by boxcar to McAuley, where they were able to rent a farm. The farm was known as the old Taylor place. The two oldest sons came with the livestock to feed and water them on their long journey, while a younger brother, who wanted some adventure was a stowaway, and hid in the hay when the train stopped at the stations. Father was able to buy three quarter-sections of land, four miles from the hamlet of Willen. The home farm was 21-14-28. He built a large two storey house, also a large barn for the horses before winter set in. The land was cleared and he broke a few acres at a time with a team of horses and walking plow. Later a larger plow that one could ride on was used with four horses to do the plowing. Father was a blacksmith by trade, but also made buggies, democrats, which were double seated buggies and wagons, so there was lots of work to keep the older boys busy. The wood had to be hauled from the Assiniboine valley as there was mostly scrub on the farms at that time. There were ten children, seven boys and three girls, who were all born in Bruce County, Ontario as were Father and Mother. The family were:

**Mary Jane**, married to **James Brocklebank**. Their family: **Ernest, Thelma** — Mrs. Gerald Lothrop, **Patricia** — Mrs. Fred Bamson, **William**.

**Ethel**, married to **Hugh Evans**. Their family: **Sadie** — Mrs. John Kirby, **May** — Mrs. William Jones, **Weldon, Marjorie** — Mrs. Len Desormeaux.

**William** married **Minnie Mathers**. Their family: **Seacord, Robert, Chester, Evyleen, Viola, Teresa, Clifford**. Second marriage to **Violet Talker** — one daughter, **Carolyn**.

**Clarence** married **Pearl Thompson**. Their family: **Clayton, Elwood, Leslie, Delbert**.

**Howard** — wife **Nellie**, last name unknown. Their family: **Wilfred** — deceased, **George, Bernice, Joyce**.

**Elmer**, married to **Ann Sheane**. Their family: **Diane**, now Mrs. Gustave Hamoline, **Bruce** — deceased.

**John**, married to **Jennet Lewis**. Their family: **Charles, Orval, Evelyn** — Mrs. Orval Mitchell, **Floyd, Alice** — Mrs. Bruce Inkster, and **Phylis** — Mrs. Gerald Carlyle.

**Andrew** married **Margret Freeman**. Their family: **Audrey, Elaine, Dorothy, Gloria, Gerald, Nathan**.

**Vernice** married **Hugh Walker**. Their family: **Henry**, deceased, **Alvin, Doreen** — Mrs. Ernest Mitchell, **Marie** — Mrs. Herb Warkentin, **Edwin, Eileen** — Mrs. Grant Kipper.

**Henry**, married **Freda Riemer**. Their family: **Blake and Blair**, twins, **Gail, Garth, Elphilda, Terry, Nona, Maurice**.

Our mother passed away in February 1932 at the age of 64 years. Father passed away in November 1943 at the age of 86 years. Of our large family four are deceased and there are six left. Elmer, Andrew and Vernice live in Elkhorn, John in McAuley, Henry at Bluffton, Alberta and the oldest Mrs. Brocklebank in Calgary, Alberta.

The house and barn are still standing on the farm, but have not been lived in for the last six years. Father ran his own steam engine on his threshing outfit for a good number of years. There was always a huge crew of men to feed for about six weeks, so Mother had lots to do. If it rained the men stayed in a bunkhouse, but still had to be fed. One year we ended the threshing with the racks on sleighs the day before Christmas as it had been a very wet fall. The home farm that was sold in Ontario so many years ago is still being farmed and the house is lived in at this time.

### **Charles J. and Elizabeth Shepherd**

**Charles James Shepherd** was born June 22, 1882 in Buckhurst Hill, Essex, England and **Elizabeth (Lucking) Shepherd** was born April 22, 1885 at West Hanningfield, Essex, England.

They immigrated to Canada in August, 1906, arriving by boat in Montreal and continuing on to Elkhorn, Manitoba by rail.

They came west to Elkhorn since Mother's brother Alfred Lucking was already established on a farm in the Elkhorn District.

Mother worked as a cook and Dad as a farm hand and were first employed by the Wm. Dixons. They were married at St. Mark's Anglican Church November 13, 1906 by the Rev. Stocker. The day they were married Dad had been digging trenches, had to get ready for the wedding, then as soon as the ceremony was over he had to hurry back out to the farm to get back to the digging.

One of Dad's first jobs on the farm was picking stones and being a "Green Englishman" was asked if he had a pair of gloves, to which he replied that he had, never thinking they meant heavy work gloves and had gone out to work, picking stones with fine kid gloves he had brought out with him. They lasted no time of course and he came back in with badly scratched, blistered, bleeding hands.

They worked long hard hours and the pay was little. They were also employed on the Infant Ivans farm south of Elkhorn and worked for Archie Connellys in the Daly District. At harvest time the men had to be up early to get the steam up on the old steam engines and often had to thresh by the light of the strawbuck to get done before bad weather set in.

Dad used to have an old cylinder gramophone which was quite a novelty and it was a common thing

on a Sunday for the neighbours to come over and listen to it.

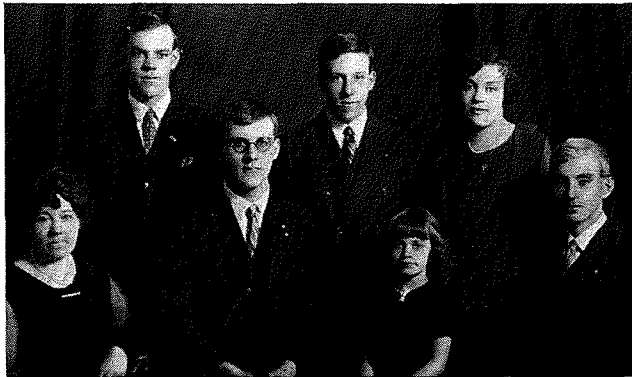
They moved into the town of Elkhorn in 1912 and Dad got a job as drayman for Lambert and Earle's General Store, later known as the Trading Company.

Mother took in washing for the Park and Guest families, milked cows and sold milk at 10 cents for a 10 pound pail to help with the finances.

Elkhorn having an excellent supply of water, became a fuelling stop for the C.P. Railway and in 1914 a coal dock was built and Dad sought employment there. Mr. Cottingham was the first foreman and then in 1915 Dad took over as foreman from him.

It was hard, dirty work and very cold especially in winter. Sometimes in winter as many as ten or twelve men would be employed as the coal would freeze both in the cars and chutes. The coal had to be loosened with a pick axe before it could be scooped and poured into the bins, also before it would run out of chutes into the coal tenders of the steam locomotives. Many a night Dad had to turn out of a warm bed to go "pick" the coal as it was frozen and would not run, thus delaying a freight or passenger train.

There was always the risk of slipping and going down with the coal and being "coaled in" as it was referred to. It did happen on one occasion but fortunately the men all lived to tell the tale.



L-R Back row: Leonard, Charles S., Florence. Front row: Elizabeth, Edward, Gladys, Charles J.

In 1928 another coal dock was built on the east side of the main crossing and another water spout to the west of it giving Elkhorn two coal docks and two water standpipes. At that time I am told there were as many as ten passenger trains passed through Elkhorn in a period of two hours.

In September of 1931 Dad met with a very serious accident at the new coal dock when his sleeve caught on an exposed shaft on the engine. This badly mangled his left arm and broke ten of his ribs. Being no hospital at Elkhorn at the time, the afternoon east-bound passenger train was delayed to take him on a

stretcher to Virden where he was taken to Virden Hospital and operated on by Dr. C. W. Johnston. His hand and arm were saved but he was never able to work again and so was forced into early retirement. His oldest son Edward took over as coal dock foreman.

Adjusting was not easy for him but he turned to other things to fill his time. He and mother grew a huge garden and he became interested in the local hockey team and was Manager of the Senior Club for a number of years. Some of the boys on the team at that time were Oscar Duxbury, Allen and Len Leslie, Mack and Morris Snyder, Earle Lund, Ken Lidster and Joe Tony. Mr. Sid Cook and Harvey McFadzean were also on the Executive at that time.

Green and red hockey sweaters were purchased for the team and Mr. George Bartley designed the crests of the Elks on a white background. The team was pretty proud of their new uniforms and can remember them being brought home after each game to be aired and mended by mother and sister Florence so as to be ready for the next time.

Dad was a great fraternalist and took an active part in several lodges. He was a Charter member of Daffodil Rebekah Lodge #64, now disbanded, Odd-fellows Lodge, member and Past Master of the Masonic Lodge #74. He also was a member of the Canadian Order of Foresters Court #21 for over fifty years, was a Past District High Chief Ranger and financial secretary for 45 years. He belonged to the Sons of England Lodge until it was disbanded in the 30's.

He was a member of the St. Mark's Anglican Church and was secretary-treasurer for several years.

In the forties he took on the job of county court clerk and Justice of the Peace, a position which he held for ten years.

Mother, always a sweet home loving person, worked alongside Dad helping any way she could. During the flu epidemic in 1918 she nursed her own family and three other members of the Stanley family, milked cows and did her housework without contracting it herself.

There were several bachelors in town in the early years and one or the other was usually asked to join us for Christmas dinner.

Mother was noted for her delicious homemade bread and used to win prizes at the fair with it.

Living beside the old #1 Highway near a bad 90° corner on the west side of town, they were often called upon to render first aid as there always seemed to be accidents happening there. Can recall my mother helping two young men, whose car had turned over about a mile west of Elkhorn in the early hours

of the morning and they had acid on their faces and were in grave pain.

There were no telephones and they had walked to our place in the hope of receiving help. Mother quickly bathed their faces with soda and directed them to the doctor's place. Sometime later a parcel was left on our doorstep for mother with a note thanking her for her quick thinking and kindness; neither of the two young men had any scars on their faces from their ordeal.

Mother was a member of St. Mark's Anglican Church, also a Charter member of Daffodil Rebekah Lodge #64 in 1928. She took a keen interest in the lodge and was recording secretary for a number of years and a member for 43 years.

She belonged to the Daughters of England Lodge, Miniota Branch and used to attend meetings there until it was disbanded.

Mum and Dad had five children: Edward, Leonard, Florence, Charles S. and Gladys.

They had been married fifty-six years. Dad passed away November 21, 1962 and mother passed away November 21, 1963.

submitted by G. L. Inches, Regina, Sask.

### **Charles S. Shepherd**

**Charles (Charlie)** the fourth and youngest son of **Charles and Elizabeth Shepherd** was born in Elkhorn on January 18, 1912 and Dr. Goodwin was the attending physician.

He grew up in Elkhorn, attended school there and as a boy worked for a time as a delivery boy for Tottles Grocery Store.

Charlie worked at the Coal Docks with his dad and brothers for a time.

Fond of fishing, he and Uncle Alf Lucking used to often fish down at the Assiniboine River, near Miniota.

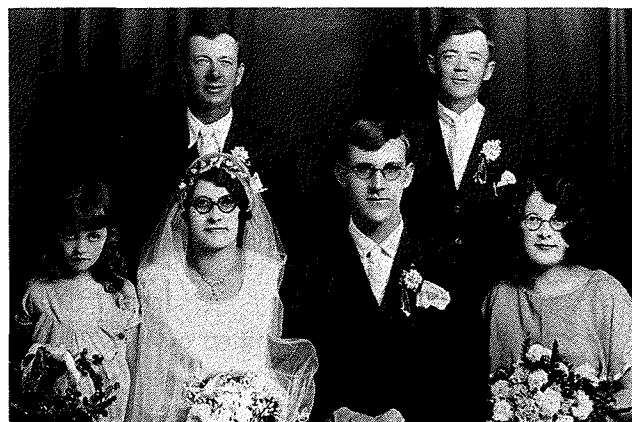
He ran a filling station for a short time, then moved to Kenora, Ontario where he worked for the Ontario Pulp and Paper.

In failing health he returned some years later to reside in Neepawa where he passed away in July, 1978.

submitted by G. L. Inches

### **Edward and Marjorie Shepherd**

**Edward Shepherd**, oldest son of Charles and Elizabeth Shepherd was born in December, 1907 at the Wm. Dixon farm west of Elkhorn. He attended school in Elkhorn. When the old Coal Dock was being built in 1918 he worked as a water boy for the building crew and was paid \$1.00 a day — twelve hour day.



L-R Back row: Frank Scarff, Sid Flavel 1930. Front row: Gladys Shepherd, Marjorie and Edward Shepherd, Ruth Scarff.

For a time he worked as a delivery boy for Tottles' Grocery Store at \$4.00 a month.

In 1926 he started learning to be a film projectionist at the Savoy Theatre, owned by Messrs Mac and Frazer McPherson. In those days all the film was silent and the projection machine was hand operated which meant each reel of film had to be hand wound. With each film there was a programme of suggested music for the pianist to play during showing of the movie.

When the first talking pictures came in, there was a disc with the sound on plus the film, now they are all on the same reel.

When the Savoy Theatre was sold to Mr. Bartley it was turned into a store and a theatre was opened above the McLeod's Store and he was projectionist there for a time.

Ed was also employed at the Coal Dock and worked with his father, taking over as foreman after his dad's unfortunate accident.

In May, 1930 he married **Marjorie Scarff** of the Mossgiel District and took up residence in Elkhorn. They both took an active part in the community and were adherents of St. Mark's Anglican Church. Marjorie sang in the church choir, served on the Vestry, as did Ed and was President of the Anglican Church Women's Auxiliary for years. She was made a life member.

Marjorie was also the first President of the Elkhorn Hospital Auxiliary and served in that capacity for several years.

She worked for Bartleys' Store and kept boarders. Some of them stayed as long as eight years. Their home was a home away from home for many a young banker, Anglican clergyman, creamery worker, teacher or station employee.

In 1948 when the Elkhorn Stadium was opened, Ed accompanied Mr. George Bartley on a trip to Winnipeg to purchase a new modern film projector

for the Stadium and a theatre was operated there. He was projectionist for the Stadium for ten years.

As the diesel engines gradually took over from the steam, the necessity of a Coal Dock decreased and they were closed down in 1959 making it necessary for Ed to seek employment elsewhere and they moved to Brandon where they have resided since.

Ed retired as custodian of the Men's Residence Brandon University in 1974.

Marjorie passed away in August, 1974.

submitted by G. L. Inches

### **Florence Shepherd (Crooks)**

**Florence Shepherd** was born in the Elkhorn District April 19, 1910, third child of Charles and Elizabeth Shepherd.

She attended school in Elkhorn, was a member of St. Mark's Anglican Church and Daffodil Rebekah Lodge #64. She belonged to the Daughters of England, Miniota Branch until it was disbanded.

She was fond of needlework and took up sewing and did dressmaking for people.

When the Elkhorn Hockey Club got their new sweaters (at the time her dad was manager), she sewed all the crests on for them and made the robes for the Carnival Queen and Princesses for the hockey team. They used to sponsor an Ice Carnival each winter.

After her father's accident, he was not in good health and her mother had heart trouble. Florence remained at home and cared for them both until April, when she married **Sam Crooks** and moved to Holland, Manitoba.

She had three children. **Beth** of Cold Lake (deceased), **George** of Neepawa and **Ronald** of Gladstone with whom she now resides.

### **Leonard and Phylis Shepherd**

**Leonard Shepherd**, second eldest son of Charles and Elizabeth Shepherd was born on the Flood Farm in the Daly District, southeast of Elkhorn on March 25, 1909.

He attended school in Elkhorn and as a boy he worked as a delivery boy for Tottles Grocery Store.

In 1927 he started working as a welder for the C.P. Railway and worked in various places.

On January 6, 1930 he married **Phylis Leech** of the Woodnorth District, south of Virden and they took up residence in Elkhorn.

Before their marriage Phylis had been a cook at the Manitoba Hotel and Mr. Tom Dixon was proprietor at the time. She started out as a kitchen girl and worked from six a.m. until eight p.m. seven days a week for \$15.00 a month; later she took over as cook

at \$25.00 a month, a position which she retained for seven years.

In 1943 he quit the railroad and went to work at the Coal Dock, where he was employed until they were shut down and from there went to work for Oilfield Services, Virden for a year.

For four years he worked at the Cecil Hotel in Brandon but retained his home in Elkhorn.

Active in the community, he was President and caretaker of the Elkhorn Cemetery Association for a number of years, worked at the Stadium and being fond of children helped out the Chamber of Commerce by playing the role of Santa for the Chamber's Annual Christmas treat for the children. Being well-known by the railroad conductors he used to arrange to climb aboard the passenger train on the south side of the train on that particular day, go through the coach and get off at the platform where they had Santa's sleigh waiting to take him to the Hall. The lovely team of horses and sleigh were supplied by the late Walter Myles.

After Len left the Cecil Hotel in Brandon he came back to Elkhorn and began working as caretaker of the Elkhorn School a position he held until his retirement in 1974.

They have a family of six, all born in Elkhorn, **Doris (Mrs. D. Wright)** of Kimberley, B.C.; **Harold Shepherd — Spy Hill**, a foreman at Rocanville Potash Mines; **Douglas** who spent 20 years in the Armed Services, now at Thomasburgh, Ont.; **Edward (Ted)** of Oakville, Ont.; **George** of Lindsay, Ont.; **Gladys E. (Mrs. Russell)** of Lindsay, Ont.

They have thirteen grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. In 1979 they moved into Parkview Manor, Senior Citizens home at Spy Hill, Saskatchewan where they are still residing. On January 6, 1980 they observed their Golden Wedding with their family in Ontario.

submitted by G. L. Inches

### **James Shepherd**

**James Shepherd** was born in Edinburgh, Scotland. He came to Canada in about 1905 and worked as a farm hand at Moosomin. He had two brothers who came out a year or two later: Robert Shepherd, who later brought his wife from Scotland, and John Shepherd who married a girl from Moosomin.

**Laura Agnes Linnen** was born in Ontario. Her family moved to a farm southwest of Brandon, and later moved to Moosomin where they farmed. About 1909 James and Laura were married and they farmed south of Moosomin where they raised a family of eleven children: **William Morgan, James Clifford, Robert Douglas, Elizabeth Jessie, Francis Malcolm, Laura Myrtle, Lawrence Angus, Conrad**





Mr. and Mrs. James Shepherd with their children and their spouses.



Mr. and Mrs. James Shepherd with their grandchildren.

## **Stuart, Donald Harvey, Edgar Russell and Andrew Garnet.**

For a few years the family lived west of Fleming, Saskatchewan. Then in 1930 they moved to a farm northeast of Kirkella where they lived for ten years.

In 1941 the family moved to a farm southwest of Elkhorn, where they lived until 1965. When Laura passed away, James went to Moosomin to live with Jessie and passed away in October of 1968.

Russell Shepherd passed away in 1920. The remaining eight sons and two daughters with their families are spread from Brandon to Vancouver. Clifford and Malcolm farmed in the Elkhorn district until 1975 and 1977. Stuart still farms at Elkhorn. Angus farms at Fleming, Saskatchewan. Douglas has a chicken ranch at Brandon. Morgan is a retired carpenter at Comox, B.C. Harvey lives at Edson, Alberta. Garnet lives in Regina, Jessie resides in Moosomin and Myrtle in Vancouver.

Some of the schools attended by the family were: Woodlands, Fleming, Kirkella, Manson, Woodville and Elkhorn.

Some of the years were quite hard, especially in the years 1930 to 1940 when drought, gophers and grasshoppers covered a large part of Canada and the United States.

James and Laura celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 1959.

The members of the family and their spouses are as follows: Morgan married **Frances Bolt**, Clifford married **Blanche Linner**, Douglas married **Melville Boyd**, Jessie married **J. Adam** and later **William Dayman**, Malcolm married **Rhoda McFarlane**, Myrtle married **Norman Grender**, Angus married **Iris** (last name not known), Stuart married **Rosella Duncan**, Harvey married **Margaret Lawrence** and Garnet married **Beth** (last name not known). They have a total of thirty-four children.

Submitted by Malcolm Shepherd

## **Stuart Shepherd**

**Stuart** moved with his family from Kirkella to Elkhorn district in 1941. He worked for Pat Ogilvie (Ken) in the trucking business from 1944 to 1951. In 1952 he bought a farm on section 34-10-29. In 1954 he married **Rosella Duncan** raising three children: **Rodney**, **Rhonda** and **John**. In 1966, he bought the original Indian school site west of Elkhorn, section 4-12-28, where the family lived until 1975, when he sold it and moved the family back to the farm. Rodney bought the Ian Paull farm section 4-11-28 where he now lives. In 1977 he purchased the Malcolm Shepherd farm.

John graduated from Gr. XII in 1979. In 1981 he bought section 2-11-29 which he is now farming.

Rhonda married Roy McColl in 1975. They have two children, **Charlotte** and **Travis**. In 1980 they bought section 5-11-28 where they now live. Rodney and Rhonda started school at Kola, with Sarha Martens as their teacher. All three children attended Elkhorn school and Virden Collegiate.

submitted by Rosella Shepherd

## **The "Bob" Shoemakers**

**Bernice and Bob Shoemaker** were married in Elkhorn United Church by Rev. J. L. Fargey on January 16, 1948. Bernice was the only child of Frank and Violet Gibbs who farmed in the Tantallon, Saskatchewan district and took all her education in the Tantallon School. After completing her Grade XII she came to Elkhorn and was later employed in the Canadian Bank of Commerce there. Bob was the youngest son of Fred and Laura Shoemaker. He and his brother Fred operated a cream truck bringing cream to the Elkhorn Creamery regularly. He also worked on the family farm where Gerald Shoemaker now resides.

After being blessed with two children, **Roberta Jo-Ann**, now Mrs. Cliff Bernie of Elkford, B.C. and **Darwin John**, the Barber at Killarney, Manitoba, the Shoemakers moved to take up residence in Kimberley, British Columbia where Bernice's parents were then living. Two years later they returned to Elkhorn where **David Graham**, now Transport Owner and Operator, and later **Ernest Spencer**, also Transport Operator were born. Six children completed the family circle when **Adele Marie**, (now Mrs. Gordon Attridge of Brandon) and **Tanis Lyn** (now Mrs. Brian Mitchell of Vegreville, Alberta) were born. They now have eight grandchildren.

In Bernice's early years in Elkhorn she played the United Church organ, taught Sunday School and played the piano in several dance bands.

Bob worked on farms, operated a grain truck and later worked in the Virden Oil Fields for Regent Drilling.

In 1963 the Shoemakers opened up an electrical store where the Paull's Creemee now stands. It was known as "B & B Electric" but was destroyed by fire in 1966. It was then that this family decided to leave the district and take up residence in Brandon where both secured work. Bernice worked at the University and, after seven months, transferred to the Accounting Department of the Assiniboine Community College becoming a civil servant. After fifteen years, Bernice still enjoys her daily duties for the College.

Bob took up maintenance for apartment blocks and now is a self-employed carpenter.

They both enjoy good health and are very active in the Veterans Associations of Brandon but they

look back on their life in Elkhorn with fond memories.

submitted by Bernice Shoemaker

### **Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Shoemaker**

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Shoemaker were born and raised in the Elkhorn village and district. **Mr. Shoemaker** lived in the Arawana district attending school there until Grade Nine. He served four years in the Armed Forces during the Second World War from 1939-1946. Following his discharge he married **Vera Snyder** on May 8, 1946 in the United Church with Rev. Wilkinson officiating. Later all of their children attended Sunday school and church there. Mrs. Shoemaker taught Sunday school class of eleven and twelve year old boys. They had ten children, all of whom are living and all of whom attended Elkhorn School at one time or another. Their children are: **Ronald** and wife **Verna** and two children of Saskatoon; **Kenny** and wife **Colleen** and daughter **Jody** of Beulah; **Darlene**, (Mrs. **Harvey Bryant**) and two sons, **Donald** and **David**; **Larry** and wife **Lois**, **Scottie** and **Christine**; **Dennis** and wife **Marilyn**, **Tena** and **Clay**; **Doug** and wife **Wendy** and daughter **Angela**; **Karen**, (Mrs. **Bob Rowson**) and two daughters, **Charleen** and **Amber**; **Richard**; **Rodney**; and **Denise**, all of Brandon. They now have thirteen grandchildren. **Darlene** attended 4-H, serving for four years and attended track and field at the Peace Gardens sponsored by the R.C. Legion.

Mrs. Shoemaker served as President of the Woman's Institute for several years, becoming Vice-President of Hamiota district of twenty-nine WI's. She also served as president of R.C. Legion Auxiliary for eight years and worked as 4-H leader under direction of Ede Chapple. **Verna** attended Elkhorn School up to Grade Eleven prior to being married. They spent eleven years in the Springvale district before coming back to Elkhorn to stay. **Mr. Shoemaker** served as town Constable and as maintenance man for the Village of Elkhorn for several years. He worked in the Municipality for eight years building roads in surrounding areas. He belonged to the R.C. Legion Branch #58 in Elkhorn for more than twenty-five years. They celebrated their 25th Wedding Anniversary in the Legion Hall with some one hundred and thirty friends in attendance.

They moved to Brandon July 12, 1973 where Lawrence has since worked for the Department of Highways. Mrs. Shoemaker, nurses aide, worked for Mrs. Marge Brignall's nursing home in Elkhorn and now works at Hillcrest Place in Brandon.

submitted by Vera and Lawrence Shoemaker

### **Norman Shoemaker**

In the spring of 1926 **Fred and Laura Shoemaker** moved from the Woodnorth area to the Ralph Stevenson farm. The buildings are now gone but the farm was approximately situated between the two farms where Paul and Don George now live. When **Fred and Laura** moved to the Elkhorn district they had five children: **Arthur** who is now deceased, **Irene** (Mrs. Peter Bowes) of Vancouver, **Norman** now living in Virden, **Fred** and **Laurence** both of Brandon.

On April 8, 1928 they moved to the farm that Dr. Holmes owned. Their son **Robert** was born and he also now lives in Brandon.

In the fall of 1943 **Norman** took over the farm. He and his wife **Flora**, known to all of us as **Biddy**, lived there for twenty-nine years and have now retired to Virden. They had four children: **Nora**, **Jan**, **Wes** and **Jerry**. **Nora** is Mrs. **Dave McGonigal** of Elkhorn. They have two children, **Wendy** and **Janet**. **Wendy** is now Mrs. **Kevin Orr** of Calgary. They have one son **Christopher**. **Jan** is Mrs. **Don Robertson** of Elkhorn. They have two children, **Noreen** and **Trent**. **Noreen** is Mrs. **Darcy Oliver** of Miniota. **Wes** married **Sherrie Rowan** and they live in Virden. They have two children, **Dana** and **Latisha**. **Jerry** married **Valerie Hodson** and they live at Elkhorn. They have two children, **Keri** and **Kent**.

In 1972 **Jerry** and **Val** moved to the farm to be the third generation of Shoemakers.

The farm is eight and one-half miles south of Elkhorn and thirteen miles west of Virden — Section, township and range is 10-11-28.

### **W. J. Shurvell**

**William (Bill)** was the sixth eldest of ten children born to **Herb** and **Annie Shurvell**. He and **Alice**, daughter of **Alva** and **Marion Brad**, were both born and raised in **Isabelle**. We spent many happy years growing up together.

After finishing school **Bill** went to work for Imperial Oil Company as well as having his own trucking business.

**Bill** and I were married and had two children, **Rae** and **Joan**, before moving to Elkhorn in 1945 when **Bill** took over the management of Imperial Oil, later working for Ogilvie Elevators. **Bill** passed away in Brandon General Hospital on December 7, 1971.

We had three more children, **Jim** and **Judy** born in Dr. Johnston's Hospital, Elkhorn, and **William** born in Virden, who passed away from pneumonia at the age of four months.

**Rae** worked for Nelson River Co. when they installed the sewer system in Elkhorn moving with them to the White Shell area, Calgary and Kitimat

where he took his apprenticeship as a steam and pipe fitter, later receiving his ticket. For the past fifteen years Rae has worked for Celenese Co. in Edmonton where he is now pipe inspector. Rae married **Chyрил Collins** of Virden. They have four children, twins **Raymond** and **Gaye**, **Darrell** and **Brad**.

After finishing school Joan trained as telephone operator in Elkhorn under the supervision of Mrs. Eleanor Brydon. Joan transferred to the Souris Telephone Office and worked there for ten years. In Souris she met and married **Charles McCormick** of Wapella, Sask. They now live in Brandon and have three children: **Susan**, **Rhonda** and **Randy**.

Jim worked in Brandon for Brandon Heating and Plumbing. He was married to **Jo-ann Shoemaker**. They have two children **Robert** and **Sheila**. They later divorced. Jim moved to Saskatoon where he studied and received his plumber's ticket and is now operating his own business. In Saskatoon Jim married **Diane Clarke** and has one daughter **Lisa**.

Judy trained as a telephone operator under the supervision of Mrs. Eleanor Brydon and worked for eight years in Elkhorn. Judy married **Gordon Oliver** of Kirkella and lived in Elkhorn for seven years before moving to Calgary in 1971. They have three children **Marletta**, **Paula** and **Brett**.

In 1966-67 I took Practical Nurse's Training in Winnipeg and Souris. After receiving my license I worked in Kitimat, B.C. and the Assiniboine Hospital in Brandon before returning to Elkhorn Medical Nursing Unit.

In 1969 my father, Mr. Brad, came to make his home with Bill and me. He passed away in Brandon General Hospital in April, 1978.

submitted by Alice Shurvell

### Frederick Joseph Simpson

**Frederick Joseph Simpson** was born in Bernice, Manitoba in 1913. He served overseas during the war and returned from England to take up residence in Virden. He moved to Elkhorn in 1946 to operate the Imperial Oils dealership. Later he managed Anglo Canadian which was later called Royalite and was eventually known as Gulf.

He took an active part in community and sports activities, curling during the winter months, fishing and golfing in the summer. He put in many hours working on the new golf course and club house. He coached and managed the first (known) girls' hockey team, winning most games. The fire department, Chamber of Commerce, Car Museum and minor sports were some of his other interests.

He was elected mayor in 1967 and served the community until his death in 1969.



Ruth and Fred Simpson.



L-R: Jeff Dusessoy, Teresa Stanley, Raymond and Donny Baker, Grandma Ruth Simpson, Bob Baker, Heather Dusessoy and Michele Stanley.

**Ruth Broderick** married Fred as a war bride in 1941 and returned with him to Canada.

Curling was the one sport she really enjoyed. She belonged to the Evening Branch and the Royal Purple and taught Sunday school for many years.

She was kept busy raising three daughters. Mrs. Raymond (**Nedra**) Stanley has two daughters,

**Michele and Teresa** and the family presently reside in Ft. McMurray, Alberta. Mrs. Jim (**Jean**) Baker has three sons, **Bob, Don and Raymond** and the family farms just north of Virden. Mrs. Ernie (**Betty Lou**) Dusessoy has two children, **Jeff and Heather**; the family live just east of Virden.

Ruth remarried in 1978 to **Jim Matchett** and moved to Virden until the time of her death in 1979.

submitted by Jean Baker

## Sinclair Family

### I Remember

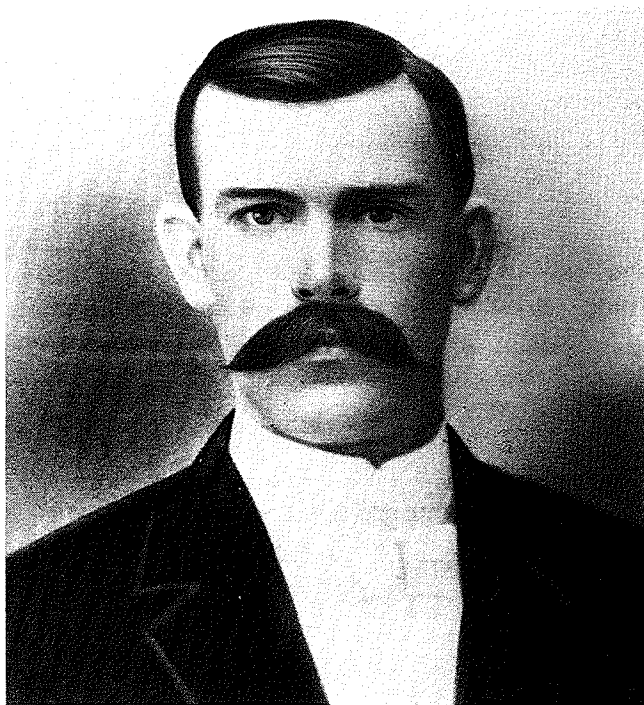
In mid-March, 1914 the Sinclair family, consisting of **Grant Wilbert**, and **Ellen**, and six children, **Ella May, Gregory, Victor, Roy, Jean and Newton** began the long journey, by train, from Zimmerman, near Milton, Ontario, via Toronto, where they were joined by dozens of other settlers who had, also, answered the call "Go West, young man, go West". After four days and four nights on the crowded settlers' train we arrived in Elkhorn about 3 a.m. and with the darkness and the chill spring breezes, it was anything but pleasant to stumble along in the prairie darkness from the station to the Roseberry Hotel. There was one lonely little light to guide us on what we later learned to be Travis Corner. Even the hotel was locked and almost in darkness. You can imagine the concern of the parents with six tired children at their heels or in their arms. In due time the hotel proprietor was aroused and we were soon in the comforts of the "Roseberry".

As we were assigned rooms, one thing of interest was the lighting of lamps — a small bracket on the wall about the height of the door. We watched intently as the night man lit a small torch with a match and after turning a small knob on the bracket the torch was applied to the nozzle, and there was our light. Roseberry gas lights! We were told when we were ready for bed the knob had to be turned and the light would go out. This being done the travel-worn family was soon in slumberland and all was quiet until daylight came.

Morning came, all too soon, and with it renewed activities — Mother rested in the hotel for the day with five of us. In the meantime a trip to the farm seven and a half miles south, was being arranged. From Balkwell's livery barn a team of ponies was hired along with a buggy and Pa and I, along with, I believe it was Dave Carradice, spent two hours wending our way along prairie trails — sometimes around sloughs — sometimes through them and around bluffs. Then down through the big ravine and up over the big hill, from the top of which we got the first glimpse of our house — a mile and a half away. Twenty minutes later we drove into the farmyard —



Mrs. Ellen Miller Sinclair.



Grant Wilbert Sinclair.

the old homestead of Bert Rex — everything in need of repair. The rigors of time and winter were still in evidence in this neglected farmyard. Some time was spent taking stock of farm and home necessities and then the drive back to Elkhorn — part of it in darkness — and wasn't it pleasant to get back into the warmth of the "Roseberry".

For a few days it was necessary that we stay in the



L-R Front row: Mrs. Sinclair, Laurie Perlette, Jean Sinclair, Gordon Sinclair, Grant Sinclair. Second row: Rev. Bird, Eva Sinclair, Kelly Perlette, Rhoda Sinclair, Pat Sandford, Grace Bray, Newton Sinclair, Ella Black, Tena Sinclair, baby Stanley Sinclair, Mrs. Rev. Bird, Lloyd Sinclair. Back row: Jeff Robertson, Roy Sinclair, Lorraine Perlette, Alf Black (husband of Ella Sinclair).

shelter of the hotel. During that time exploratory trips by the adventuresome boys were made around the town. We soon knew where the school, the churches, the jail and the stores were. McLeod's store was one of the most interesting. Everything seemed to be there. McFadzean's blacksmith, too was of particular interest. Many an hour was whiled away watching the shower of sparks fly from the forge and anvil as the smithy shod the horses, sharpened the plough shares, or fitted new rims on the ailing wheels of the buggies and lumber wagons — not a car was in sight that I can remember.

All settler effects, comprising household furniture, farm machinery, etc. had been shipped by freight from the east, and in due time this was transported by wagon to the farm. Along with the "moving in", preparations for the seeding of our first crop were made. Horses and cattle were necessary and were bought either at sales or from neighbors. Even pigs, chickens, and turkeys appeared. As if by magic and long hours of hard work the crop was in and the remodelling of the house was underway. This was followed, in due course, by the building of the new barn and granary with the windmill for power. A few years later the growing of the corn was tried and then, of course, the silo for the storage of cut corn. In time, midst the hustle and bustle of farm life, memories of the old Ontario life faded — the memories of May flowers and maple syrup of the East were replaced by the beauty of the crocuses and the lilies of the prairies, and the climatizing to a new life went on apace.

School was of great concern. Arawana was our home school, but for obvious reasons we chose to go to Buckingham where, under the guidance of Mrs. Thompson — a settler from Scotland — we received the fundamentals of Scottish discipline and early Manitoba education. The school was three miles away, but every school day, rain or shine, the six mile round trip was made — helping with the farm chores before and after school, with homework being done by lamplight, around the kitchen table. By nine in the evening the house was quiet with the stillness of the evening, so often punctuated by the hoot of the owl, or the mournful howl of the prairie coyotes.

After a few years at Buckingham, conditions changed at Arawana and we transferred there, driving as usual, the three miles there and back. Between the two the names of Jenner, Armstrong, Hutchison, Hodson, Siple, Mitchell, Roach, Grieve, Johnson and Rowan still bring back memories of happy school days.

Days grew into weeks, weeks into months and months into years. The family grew and prospered. Three more children, **Rhoda**, **Eva** and **Lloyd** were added to the family — making the family of nine children.

Eleven people for years around our kitchen table and when Christmas and New Year's came the annual interchange with the Jenner family took place. Their household of eleven and our eleven made twenty-two around the table in our house and in their's, with usually a twenty-two pound home-grown turkey in

the centre. Much more could be said about each one of the family, but it is difficult to say too much about one and not enough about another. If possible I will set them up in chronological order later on.

In reminiscing, many things come to mind. I'll try to mention a few.

Not a Sunday passed during the first few months that neighbors from far and near did not drop in to wish us well in our new surroundings. We soon learned that Sunday afternoon was visiting day and on Saturday preparations were made accordingly.

Threshing time will never be forgotten. The different outfits had their cabooses where the men slept, and all other necessary equipment. Jenner's, Armstrong's, Chapple's. Fond memories of "Fred-die's" big "Tiny". To see these machines lumber so ponderously into the lane and down the hill was a forerunner of continuous activity from day-light until dark. The setting of the machine and the tightening of the belt told us all was ready. Stook wagons were already loaded, the grain wagons were in position or the portable bin was open. Threshing had begun. No person acquainted with old time threshing can forget the breakfast by lamplight — oatmeal porridge, ham and eggs, home-made bread, fried potatoes, bowls of jam, milk, tea or coffee. Then the dinner and supper by a table loaded with roast beef, pork or sausage and everything else that goes with it. And the pies cut in quarters! Many a man ate a half — sometimes a whole pie. But the highlight of all was the afternoon lunch taken to the field and spread out in the shelter of a grain wagon. Sandwiches, biscuits, cake and gallons of well-brewed tea spiked with farm cream gave the hard-working men the energy to last until another sumptuous meal came at supper time — again by lamplight.

One of the heart-breakers was the snowstorm in September in 1916, I believe. One day's threshing had been done when snow came and stayed. The rest of the crop stood in the stooks all winter — ravaged by the jack rabbits and prairie chickens. However, "with evil sometimes comes good". Weather conditions were ideal in May. The crop was threshed — almost a bumper one and there was still time to plant another crop.

Years later the "rust" came. Dismayed farmers watched as the wheat turned white instead of golden and the black and rust infested stems and leaves with only the hulls left in the heads drooped and became lifeless. Many farmers, all over the country, rather than thresh a worthless crop, applied the torch and the roaring fire swept away a year's work in a few minutes.

Early Church connections were made in Elkhorn at the Methodist Church — later United. It wasn't

always possible to get to church or Sunday School in winter, but, invariably, in good weather the seven mile trip was made by horses and democrat. As time passed the Ford Touring car took over — travel was much speedier. Fond memories still linger around the associates of the church and Sunday School life. Two things were always attended. The Annual Church picnic at Gilbert's farm and the Annual Fowl supper in the church. The Rev. D. B. Kennedy, wife and family are still fondly remembered.

Another Annual Picnic that was attended for years was Kola Picnic, at the farm of Sam Wright in the Pipestone valley, near Butler. A long drive but an afternoon of field events, games and what a supper in the shade of the maple trees in the farm yard.

There was no Community Club to organize it, but there was a baseball team. The Sinclair Boys and the Jenner Boys and others. Roy became one of the most wanted pitchers at Baseball Tournaments around the country. The door of our machine shed bore baseball marks for years as Roy, in his spare time, practised the mysteries of curves and drops necessary to bewilder the batter.

As time passed each member of the family grew into manhood and womanhood. Each one had a choice to make as to their future. Other fields rather than farming beckoned and was answered by each one in turn. **Ella May** became a teacher, **Greg** the same. **Victor** sought and found employment in the oil business in Calgary. **Roy** finally settled into farming near Virden and still is at it. **Jean**, after trying Virden and Emo, Ontario, found work with the Hudson Bay in Victoria, B.C. **Newton** (Chub) chose to stay on the home farm and remained there until he retired in 1962. He now lives in Elkhorn. **Rhoda** (Dovey) went to Virden and then to Kenora, Ontario. **Eva** went to Toronto and now lives in Mississauga.

**Lloyd** became a teacher and when the call came in the Second Great War, he became a pilot in the Air Force and was lost during a bombing sortie over Germany. He and his crew were buried in what is now East Germany.

Up to now, in my story, I have been considering the expanding growth of the family. There comes a time when the peak of growth is reached. That peak has now appeared. Lloyd was the youngest but the first to go. Then, in September, 1949 Dad, after a short illness died in Virden Hospital. In March, 1954 Mum passed away in Elkhorn Hospital. Mum and Dad are interred in the family plot in Elkhorn Cemetery — a memorial to Lloyd is also on the stone. Ella May went next and is buried in their home church cemetery near Harding. Rhoda, after a lingering illness, died in Kenora and is buried there. Jean was the next to leave us and is buried in Victoria, B.C.

Victor was the last to go and is buried in Calgary on a hill overlooking the city he loved so well. There are four of us left — Eva in Mississauga, Newton in Elkhorn, Roy near Virden and Greg in Winnipeg.

The following is a brief summary to the fourth generation of the family:

**Grant Wilbert and Ellen Sinclair**

9 children  
19 grandchildren  
50 great-grandchildren  
1 great-great-grandchild

As I bring this to a close many more things come to mind, but what I have written should serve to help re-live some of the things that happened in the yester-days.

**GRANT WILBERT AND ELLEN SINCLAIR  
ELLA MAY AND ALF BLACK**

Jack 2 children  
Don 3 children  
Jean 2 children

**GREGORY AND CHRISTINE SINCLAIR**

Gordon 4 children and 1 grandchild  
Stanley 4 children  
Lawrence 3 children  
Marlene 2 children

**VICTOR AND GRACE SINCLAIR**

Jerry 4 children

**JEAN AND LAURIE PERLETTE**

Douglas 3 children

**ROY AND VERLIE SINCLAIR**

Ralph  
Audrey 4 children  
Dixie 3 children

**NEWTON (CHUB) AND FRANCES SINCLAIR**

Ken 3 children  
Rita 2 children

**RHODA (DOVEY) AND GARNET MILLER**

Murray  
Tannis 3 children  
Garnet 2 children  
Vivian 4 children

**EVA AND HOWARD BROOKS**

Toni 2 children

**LLOYD**

submitted by Gregory Sinclair

**James Siple Story**

**James Siple** came to Elkhorn in 1887 from Woodstock, Ontario. He settled on N.W. 24-11-28. Later he took over his brother **Jack's** homestead NE 14-11-28.

In 1895 he married **Anne Regas**. She had three children from a previous marriage, **Elizabeth**, **William** and **John**.

Elizabeth married **Hugh Nelson**. She now re-

sides in a nursing home in Winnipeg. William and John lived in Elkhorn for many years but are now deceased.

Five children were born to James and Anne Siple:

**Joseph** — born in 1896 and married **Eleanor Mills** in 1925. They lived at Elkhorn until 1979 when they moved to Sherwood Lodge in Virden. They have five children: **Harold** — born in 1926, married **Vivian Wray** of Angusville in 1955. They farmed at Elkhorn until 1978 and then moved to Virden. They have two children. **Judith** was born in 1959 and is now an L.P.N. in Dauphin hospital. **Dennis** born in 1967, was adopted and still resides at home.

**Lorne** was born in 1928 and married **Eileen Goring** in 1955. They still farm at Elkhorn. They have one daughter **Lorna** born in 1964 and still in school. **Kevin**, their adopted son, was born in 1968.

**Aileen** was born in 1931 and married **Lynn Farough** in 1949. They farm at Elgin. They have three children: **Calvin**, born in 1950, married **Alma Jean Harper** of McCreary in 1970. They farm at Elgin. They have two girls **Jodi** and **Jennifer**. **Karen** was born in 1953. She married **Howard Roehle** in 1972 and lives on a dairy farm in West St. Paul just north of Winnipeg. They have three children: **Kendal**, **Andrea**, and **Warren**. **Randall** was born in 1957 and married **Alva Genik** of Dauphin in 1977. They reside on a farm at Elgin. They have a girl, **Anita**.

**Lindsay** was born in 1935. He married **Pat Parker** of Nelson B.C. in 1959. He is with the R.C.M.P. and at present they reside in Kerrobert, Saskatchewan. They have four children: **Jocelyn** was born in 1959, she is now an R.N. and is nursing at Doddsland, Saskatchewan. **Keith** was born in 1960 and was married to **Jamie Mything** in 1980. They reside in Swift Current and have one daughter, **Tania**. **Daryl** was born in 1962, is employed at Kindersley, Saskatchewan. **Maureen** was born in 1968, is still in school.

**Allan** was born in 1940, married **Marion Seamone** in 1963. He was employed with Imperial Oil in Elkhorn and Birtle but moved to Liverpool, Nova Scotia. He is now employed by Michelin Tire at Bridgewater and resides at Mill Village. They have two daughters: **Anita** born in 1963 and **Angela** in 1967, both in school.

**Annie Siple** was born in 1898. She married **Ivan Tapp**. They resided in Winnipeg, later moving to California. They had three children: **Lois**, **Patsy** and **Doug**. Annie died in California.

**Thomas** was born in 1900. He remained single and resides in Virden.

**Mary** was born in 1902 and she married **Lloyd**



**McLeod** at Elkhorn. They had three children: **Llyal**, **Doris** and **Ennis**. Mary passed away in 1944.

**Sam** was born in 1904, married **Florence Johnson** in 1929. He was employed with the Winnipeg police force for twenty-five years. They had three children: **Jim**, **Joyce** and **Melvin**.

### **Lindsay W. Siple — Memories**

**Lindsay W. Siple**, son of **Joe** and **Eleanor Siple**, was born in 1935 on the home farm, N.E. 14-11-28, Elkhorn District, Man. Educated in Elkhorn School, he resided on the farm until 1957 when he joined the R.C.M.P. His interest in sports consisted mainly of baseball and curling but he had little opportunity to become involved. He spent many leisurely hours riding horseback for pleasure and checking the cattle, his main interest on the farm. As a boy he remembers how he admired the many teams of horses that turned up at the old livery stable in the winter, the hours he spent with a great and understanding friend, **Jake Bajus**, helping load livestock at the yards in Elkhorn and the interesting stories told by those heroes who returned from World War II.

In 1959 he married **Patricia (Pat) Parker** in Nelson, B.C., left the police force and accompanied by his wife returned to Elkhorn to the home place to farm in partnership with his brother **Allan**. Two children were born, a daughter, **Jocelyn** in Virden, Man. and a son, **Keith** in the same house as his father and on the same farm as his grandfather. In 1961 **Lindsay** re-joined the R.C.M.P. He remembers during the period 1959/61 the crops were so poor and the cattle, pigs and grain worth so little they lived on the cream cheque. That was as close to depression as he wishes to recall.

After serving in a number of locations in British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Ontario over the past twenty years, **Pat** and **Lindsay** now reside in Kerobert, Sask., where he is presently the Sergeant in charge of the local detachment of the R.C.M.P. They have two other children, **Daryl** and **Maureen**.

submitted by Lindsay W. Siple

### **Bert and Agnes Smith Family**

When **Bert** (Albert) and **Agnes** (nee Preston) **Smith** came to the Elkhorn station in December, 1961, there still clung to the railways some of the panache with which it had burst upon the wilderness some eighty years before. The office was manned around the clock by three operators (**Earl Bartley** was one of them) working eight-hour shifts. There was **Ross Beatty** as assistant to help with the express, for the stores were still getting supplies by train and so

were the private citizens. **Charlie Will** met the train to get the canvas mail bags and deliver them to the post office. The drayman loaded up the town express and delivered it with despatch. Passengers came and went from Elkhorn station, having bought their tickets here. Telegrams were sent and received in matters of sorrow, joy or urgency. Operators scanned each wheel as the train clicked by, trying to spot in time any dangerous "hot box" which, just down the line, might precipitate a derailment. Although steam locomotives had been replaced by diesels, the coal dock and water tower still stood since the time they had played such a vital role in the operation of the trains which passed. **Bernie** and **Len Lund** and the rest of the section gang still stamped into the waiting room with frosty eyebrows and red cheeks after the cold, early morning run over their section of track.

The Smith children (**Kenneth Derek**, aged eleven; **Audrey Ellen**, aged ten; **Kathleen Mary**, eight; **Charles Albert**, seven; **Robin Leslie**, five; and **Preston Henry**, almost two) were accustomed to "the railway running through the middle of the house" in Storthoaks on the Reston-Wolseley line, their previous home. But that was only a couple of times a week and in the daytime. It took a little time to get used to the trains thundering through at all hours of the day or night.

**Bert** was active in community affairs. He sang in the United Church choir and acted as secretary-treasurer for the Church. He curled and golfed and was very interested in the stories the old-timers told. It was a sad time to see the station personnel and services diminish and finally, in 1971, to accept the reality that many mainline stations were really being closed, among them, Elkhorn. **Bert** moved on to Souris.

**Ken** graduated from Elkhorn Collegiate, earned a degree in mechanical engineering at the University of Manitoba, and has since worked for Dominion Bridge in Winnipeg, Regina and Edmonton where he is presently works engineer. In 1972 he married **Mary Franklin** of Winnipeg (daughter of **Jean Caradice**). **Mary** is a computer operator.

**Audrey** also graduated from Elkhorn Collegiate, earned her B.A. from Brandon University and took teacher training in Edmonton. She married **Barton Sisk** of Brandon. Now in Toronto, **Bart** is a member of the staff of the Bank of Toronto-Dominion, having earned his Master's degree in economics in 1980. **Audrey** works in a clinic for children with learning disabilities and is completing her Master's degree.

After completing her secondary education in Elkhorn, **Kathleen** attended Brandon University, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in mathematics and physics. She married **Walter Nichol** of Isa-

bella in 1973. Walter is a trucker. After a year of teacher training, Kathleen was hired by Brandon University and teaches there in the mathematics and science programs.

Charles attended Elkhorn and Virden Collegiates, graduating from Virden. He attended the University of Manitoba for a year. He has taken a tree-felling course and has worked in many places in the four western provinces.

Robin attended Elkhorn and Virden Collegiates, graduating from Virden. He attended the University of Manitoba, then completed a course in laboratory technology at Red River Community College. In 1979 he married **Christine Bartley** at Elkhorn. Robin works in the West-Man Laboratory in Brandon. Christine is studying education at Brandon University.

Preston attended Elkhorn School. After taking a course in architectural drafting at Assiniboine Community College in Brandon, he is employed in Glen River Industries in Red Deer, Alberta.

Agnes joined the United Church Circle and Rebekah Lodge and worked with Brownies for three years. When she began teaching in the collegiate following the sudden death of Mr. Manteuffel, she found it necessary to hang up her Brown Owl pin. Through summer and evening courses from Brandon University she has earned a BA and B.Ed. and the Teacher-Librarian requirements and is teaching in Elkhorn School.

Bert and Agnes are divorced. Bert has remarried.  
submitted by Agnes Smith

### The Family of George Christopher (Chris) and Mary Amelia Smith

**CHILDREN: Queenie, Oswald, Clair, Alice and Mary.**

The family moved to Elkhorn from the Victor School District east of Elkhorn around 1906. **Chris Smith** and his brother-in-law, Jim Balkwell, were first in the implement business and then built and operated a feed and livery barn in downtown Elkhorn, just off Main street. His father and mother, **John and Sarah Smith**, also moved to Elkhorn at the same time. His sisters, **Mrs. James Balkwell** and **Mrs. Ed Blakeman** also lived in the area and the children of the three families grew up together.

The **Chris. Smiths** at first lived fairly close to the downtown area. Later, about 1908, they bought a house which had belonged to a Mr. Fisher who had become a member of either the Provincial Legislature or the Dominion Parliament. The house was quite an imposing structure on a hill on the outer fringe of the town, just across from the school yard.



Smith residence. L-R: Oswald, Alice, Queenie, Mrs. Mary Smith, Mr. George C. (Chris) Smith, Mary (on her father's knee) and Clair.

The family enjoyed several years of happy living in that house. In more recent years the upper stories were taken off the house and used to build another house in the adjacent area.

**Chris. Smith** was active in community affairs and at one time he served on the town council. He had an interest in the skating rink which existed before the Municipal rink was built. The family attended the Methodist church where **Chris** was active and where **Mary** was active in what was then called the Ladies' Aid, on one occasion hosting Mrs. Nellie McClung who was in Elkhorn to speak to the Ladies' Aid Society of the church. In 1916, **Chris** accepted a position with an implement firm in Regina where the elder son **Oswald** was articled in law. The family moved to Regina in the summer of that year.

The children all attended school in Elkhorn — **Queenie, Oswald** and **Clair** even attended for a time in the old stone school until the new school was built. The two oldest completed High School in Elkhorn, the other three completed High School in Regina. Those were happy days in Elkhorn — there were so many fine families there and so many young people with whom to associate. Some of the school principals during those years were McNiven, Speers, McDonald, Huntington and Watts. In those days, one of the favorite punishments for the girls was to make them write several hundred lines after school. **Clair** remembers when his mother sent him over to the old stone school with a lantern so that his sister could finish her lines.

**Oswald Smith** passed away in Shaunavon, Sask. in 1931. He was in law practice in that town. The

other four children are living, three of them in Regina, and **Alice** in Gull Lake, Sask.

submitted by Clair Smith

### **Mavis (Stephens) Smith**

I, **Mavis Smith** (nee Stephens) was raised on a farm at Cardale, Manitoba. I took my elementary schooling at Cardale and my High School education at Oak River Collegiate, graduating in June, 1968. While at home I was involved in various sports activities and 4-H groups. In 1968 I went to Brandon University and in 1969 received my Teacher's Certificate.

I came to Elkhorn in 1969 and taught Grade 2 from 1969 until 1972. While in Elkhorn I boarded with George and Jean Ogilvie. In 1972 I moved to Birtle and taught Grade 2 there for one year.

On March 24th, 1973, I married **Mel Smith** from Hamiota. We now live on a farm south of Hamiota. We have three children — **Julie**, born June 17th, 1975, **Jody**, born January 13th, 1978, and **Curtis**, born June 30th, 1979.

submitted by Mavis Smith

### **Stanley J. Smith Family**

**Stan Smith** was born in Leroy, Saskatchewan in 1950. He moved to Butler, Manitoba with his family as a small boy.

In 1969 he married **Valerie Volk** and in 1970 they moved to Armstrong, British Columbia. In 1972 he started a tire shop in Lumley, B.C. He sold the tire shop in 1978 and returned to Manitoba, where he bought a farm in the Elkhorn area, where they live now. Stan is presently employed with the R.M. of Wallace. They have one daughter, **Tammy Faye**, who was born in 1979. Both Mr. and Mrs. Smith enjoy curling and horses.

### **Thomas Taylor Smith**

Thomas Taylor Smith was born to Alexander and Jane Smith (nee Taylor) at North Dumfries, Waterloo County, Ontario, on May 19, 1850, one of the family of six sons and four daughters. On May 1, 1877, he married **Martha Dorsey** of Beeton, Ontario, at Bondhead, Ontario, and they resided at St. Mary's, Ontario, where Mr. Smith owned a livery and dray business. They moved to Elkhorn, Man. in 1892. To this union was born two daughters and one son. **Ethel Jane** passed away November 4, 1895 at seventeen years of age and **Selina Hannah** passed away September 20, 1892 at eleven years of age. Both girls died of diabetes. **Milburn Dorsey Smith**, their son, was born in St. Mary's on March 24, 1889.

Mr. T. T. Smith was farm instructor at the Indian

Residential School at Elkhorn for eleven years and later farmed in the Elkhorn district for a time. He eventually built a house in Elkhorn where they resided and where Mr. Smith was an avid gardener.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith were devoted members of the Presbyterian Church and were associated in many phases of church work. They later joined the United Church.

Mrs. Smith passed away in 1934 at the age of eighty-one years. Like her daughters, she too died of diabetes. Following Mrs. Smith's death Mr. Smith went to live with his son Milburn and family at St. Walburg, Sask. where he passed away on January 3, 1940. Mr. and Mrs. Smith and two daughters are buried in the Elkhorn cemetery.

When Mr. and Mrs. Smith celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on May 1, 1927, it was reported in the Elkhorn Mercury that it was the first golden anniversary in the town since the paper had come into existence. When Mr. Smith celebrated his 83rd birthday in 1933, he was the oldest pioneer in the Elkhorn area, it was reported.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Smith was situated on First Street and not too far from the railroad tracks. During the "Depression" many men were "riding the rails" in search of work or for something better. When the freight trains stopped in Elkhorn en route through, many of the men would dash across to the



Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Smith and three granddaughters.

Smith house for a drink of water from their pump where a cup always hung, or for something to eat. Many were the meals and lunches given to these men by Mrs. Smith.

Milburn Dorsey Smith joined the Canadian Bank of Commerce in 1907 and served in several towns and cities in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, moving to St. Walburg, Saskatchewan in January, 1922 and retiring there in 1948. He continued to live there until 1956 when he and his wife moved to Saskatoon where Milburn passed away September 29th, 1959. Mrs. Smith still lives in Saskatoon. Milburn married **Christina Agnes McGibney** of Welwyn, Saskatchewan on July 6, 1922 and they had three daughters; **Florence Selina Jenkins** of Strasbourg, Saskatchewan, **Ethel Jean Ullrich** of Edmonton, Alberta and **Georgina Frances Soutar** of Winnipeg, Manitoba, and one son **Milburn McGibney Smith** of Yellowknife, North West Territories.

On a visit to Elkhorn in July, 1980, Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Smith's grandchildren were pleased to learn that their grandparents' old home is still being lived in and owned by a retired Anglican minister and his wife and the house is being put in good repair.

Georgina Smith (the T. T. Smith's youngest granddaughter) married Donald Soutar of Richard, Saskatchewan on September 4, 1949, and they went to reside at Elkhorn where Don, too, worked in the Canadian Bank of Commerce until being transferred in 1952.

submitted by Florence S. Jenkins

### The Ed Smithson Family

The **Smithson** family came here from Hawick, Minnesota, in the year 1906, with two railroad car loads of settlers' effects. They spent the next two years on farms north of Elkhorn. In 1908, **Mr. Ed Smithson** bought the N.E. quarter of section 36-12-29, which was northeast of Kirkella. After a house and barn were built, the family moved in that fall.

**Ed Smithson** will be recalled by many for his assistance rendered in treating of ailing animals. He was blessed with a natural skill and therefore was often called upon. Veterinarians were few and far between. He helped neighbors with livestock for miles around. **Ed and Ella Smithson** had a family of seven children:

1. **Sherman** deceased
2. **Sadie** married **Val Nester**. Both Val and Sadie are deceased.
3. **Edna** married **Halmer Hemingson**. She lives in Virden.
4. **Hazel** married **Elmer Fledderjohn** of Calgary.

5. **Randolph** and his wife **Dorothy** live at Rimby, Alberta.

6. **George** married **Elsie Granbury**, now deceased. He lives at Vernon, B.C.

7. **Arnold** was born in Elkhorn in 1909. He married **Effie Pringle**.

### The Arnold Smithson Family

**Arnold Smithson** was born in Elkhorn in 1909. He married **Effie Pringle**. **Effie** is the daughter of **Isabelle Frances White** and **Harry Pringle**. They farmed north of Elkhorn until 1974 when they retired to live in Elkhorn. They have two sons and one daughter:

**Douglas** married **Darlene Nault**, and they have four boys and one girl. They live at Victoria, B.C.

**Lorne** married **Karen Barris** and they have one daughter. They live at Fort St. John, B.C.

**Lois** married **Harvey Heaman**. They have one daughter and two sons. They live at Hargrave, Manitoba.

Their parents were truly honest people. In fact, to be and live honestly was the first rule they learned in life's game.

**Arnold** and **Effie** are enjoying their retirement, and think that Elkhorn is a great town in which to live.

### The Snell Family

**Clarke** and **Gwen** (Nee Bullion) were married June 21, 1975 in Brandon. They had their first child June 9, 1976 and named him **Murray Edwin**.

Clarke started with the Manitoba Telephone System in 1973. In November of 1976 the family moved



Gwen and Clarke Snell with their children Elizabeth and Murray.

to the Elkhorn District, as Clarke was positioned as the area repair and installation person. They lived in the Manitoba Hotel for one week while looking for permanent accommodations. They then moved into what was at one time the caretaker's house for the Indian Residential School. The Snells purchased the house from Lyle and Bernice Rowan and in the spring of 1977 moved the house to W ½ NW 15-11-28. The house was thoroughly renovated. While the house was being moved the Snells rented the suite above the M & M store. Clarke was born in Killarney, Manitoba on Jan. 28, 1954 and received his grade 12 education. The area to which Clarke provides service includes not only Elkhorn but McAuley, Cromer and as of Spring of 1981, Sinclair. Clarke has been involved with the volunteer fire department for Elkhorn since 1978 and has served as secretary treasurer since 1979.

Clarke and Gwen were confirmed to the United Church in the spring of 1980. Their second child, **Elizabeth Dawn** was born December 9, 1978 and was baptized in the Spring of 1979. Both children attend Sunday school regularly. Gwen enjoys curling and served as treasurer for the Elkhorn Ladies' Curling Club from 1977 to 1978. Mrs. Snell enjoys jogging also. In 1981 she won the Manitoba Marathon as well as a few other shorter road races.

submitted by Gwen Snell

### **The Senkler Snyder Family**

**Senkler Snyder** was born on November 4th, 1894, at Gainsborough, Lincoln County, Ontario. He came west with his family to the Lippentott District (now known as Kola District) in 1901, where his father settled as a farmer. His parents farmed until 1919, moving to Elkhorn on their retirement. Senkler took his schooling up to grade five at Kola.

In 1922, he married **Edith Alma Cook** of Hargrave, Manitoba. They continued to farm the home farm but spent the winter months in Elkhorn. In 1925, he joined a construction firm that built grain elevators. He was one of a crew that built the Elkhorn Pool Elevator. While Mr. Snyder was away working, his wife and children remained in Elkhorn until he finally settled in Elkhorn and became a well-known carpenter in the late 1920's. He found general carpentry more to his liking than farming. Once he became self-employed, his work included building, painting and even wallpapering. Many houses and barns stand today as a result of his laborious hours of work.

Mr. and Mrs. Senkler Snyder had seven children — **Alma** (Mrs. Louis Ducharme) of MacGregor, **Kay** (Mrs. Neil McPhail) of Brandon, **Vera** (Mrs. Lawrence Shoemaker) of Brandon, **Gladys** (Mrs. Joe Young) of Watrous, Saskatchewan, **Lorne** of

Brandon and **Lyle** of Vancouver, British Vancouver. One child died in infancy.

Mr. Snyder was a member of the Elkhorn Curling Club for many years. He was ice-maker and caretaker of the Rink in the winter-time until his death in September, 1957. Following her husband's death, Mrs. Snyder and Gladys moved to various towns — Souris, Elva, and Deloraine, where Gladys taught school, and later to Brandon. Mrs. Snyder remained in Brandon with her sister, Vera Cook, after Gladys married Joe Young.

submitted by Vera (Snyder) Shoemaker  
and Alma (Snyder) Ducharme

### **The Frank Soder and Norman Scotney Families**

Some time around 1910, my dad, **Frank Soder**, along with two of his brothers, **Wilfred** and **Enoch**, arrived in Elkhorn from Minnesota. They were bachelor farmers for several years. Another brother, **Levi**, arrived later and settled in the Manson District.

Mary Olson, with her two sisters and a brother, arrived from Norway around 1908 or 1910. Little did these gentle folk realize the hardships to be dealt with in Canada in those days as Norway was an old country and already was enjoying luxuries which were not to come to Canada until years later. The brother returned to Norway but the girls remained in Canada.

Frank Soder married **Mary Olson** and they lived on at the Soder farm for several years. They had six children. Three were born on this farm, **Margaret**, **Fern** and **Gladys**. A lovely new home was built here, Gladys being the first baby born in this home. I remember sitting in the long hallway in the new brick house, cutting out Dolly Dimples. In later years on one of Mrs. Dixon's visits to the West, I mentioned this to her. She smiled and said she was the lady who brought those magazines over to us. The Dixons were newly-weds and Mrs. Dixon and my brother were good friends and neighbours.

Uncle Wilf took over Dad's share of the farm and we moved to Two Creeks west. This is where **Ronald**, **Ida** and **Norman** were born. In subsequent years, Uncle added many more sections to his property and this is now owned and operated by his sons who are very successful farmers.

We received our schooling in the Two Creeks school. Little did the town children know of the hardships involved for the country children trying to walk, ride horseback, bike or whatever, trying to get to school. However, we managed.

I met **Norman Scotney** at a hockey game at the Canadian Pacific Railway Skating Rink. Subsequently, we were married in the dear wee chapel of the Old Indian School. **Phyllis**, our first child, was

born while we farmed at Burnbank and the three boys, **Reginald, Douglas and Renforth**, were born in Vulcan, Alberta. Later, we had Doug and Ren christened in this same Chapel at Elkhorn. Not too long after that the whole complex was torn down. This was a shame because it was the only one of its kind and known far and wide.

Phyllis has five daughters — **Leah, Lori, Deanna, Susan and Marcey**. Leah and Lori have married, Lori giving us our first great-grandchild, **Brandy**. Phyllis is Transport and Safety Co-ordinator for the Peace River School Division.

Reg also lives in the Peace River with his wife, **Elaine**, and their only son, **Reginald Phillip 'Troy'**. Reg is District Administrator for the Alberta Social Services and Community Health Department. His wife was a Dental Technician to Dr. Wood in Lethbridge for twelve years prior to moving to Peace River. She now enjoys working in the Peace River Library.

Doug lives in Lethbridge with his wife, **Sharon**, and their two sons, **Steven and Shawn**. Doug is Assistant Director in the Lethbridge College of Continuing Education. Sharon is Assistant Matron at the Southland Nursing Home in Lethbridge. Prior to that she nursed in Edmonton, Bassano, and Brooks.

Ren lives in Calgary with his wife, **Molly**, and their two sons, **Christopher and Jeffrey**. He is currently working on a Thesis in **Family and Individual Counselling in Home Making Services**. This is the work in which he is now employed. Molly has a degree in Nursing and has done a lot of nursing in Prince Edward Island, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Red Deer and now Calgary. Molly also worked in the Rehabilitation Drug Centre in Winnipeg.



Mr. and Mrs. Frank Soder.



L-R: Back row: Margaret, Fern, Gladys. Front row: Norman and Ronald.

Norman and I have lived at Vulcan, Alberta, since 1934 but at the time of this writing we are living in the Peace River Country. We are looking forward to our fiftieth wedding anniversary this year.

submitted by Fern (Soder) Scotney

### The Wilfred Soder Family History

The **Soder** Family emigrated from Sweden to Minnesota before 1875. With the availability of agricultural land in the Elkhorn area four sons, **Wilfred, Enoch, Frank and Levi** moved to this area between 1907 and 1910.

**Wilfred Soder**, son of **Jonas and Christine Soder**, was born at Atwater, Minnesota, on October 27, 1884, and came to Canada in 1907. He purchased land 14-12-28, formerly the Balmer homestead and which is presently the home quarter of **Soder Bros.** farm and cattle operation. The present house was built in 1915. In 1920, Wilfred married **Frances Elizabeth Staniland**, daughter of Arthur and Margaret Staniland. She had emigrated with her parents from Lincolnshire, England, in 1913. They raised a family of four sons and three daughters on the farm. A son, three months old, **Lloyd Douglas**, died in 1930.

They worked hard with few conveniences while the family grew up. All were born in the farm home except Fern, youngest daughter and she was born in the Nursing home in Elkhorn.

The family all received their education at Elkhorn. Their family was as follows:

**Grace** — Graduated as a Registered Nurse in 1944. She married **Erle Pearn** November 6, 1948. They farmed until they retired to Virden in 1976 when their oldest son, **Keith**, took over the farm. They have two sons, **Keith**, and **Murray**, and a daughter **Lois**. All are married. There are five grandsons.

**Robert** — Farms his own farm in the area. He married **Edith Bagley** and together they raised eleven children.

**Gilbert and Milburn** — Soder Bros. Actively farming and residing at 14-12-28.

**Alice** — Took up hairdressing before her marriage to **Clifford Stitt** on February 7, 1948. They have lived in British Columbia since their marriage and now reside in Kamloops. They have a family of four daughters: **JoAnn**, **Francie**, **Sandra** and **Donna** and one son, **Richard**. There are six grandchildren.

**Murray** — graduated from the University of Manitoba with a degree in Agriculture. He married **Leonie Reed** January 6, 1955. They now reside in Oliver, British Columbia. They have a daughter **Janice** and a son **Guy** who died August 22, 1973.



Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Soder.

**Fern** — Graduated from the University of Manitoba as a Home Economist. She married **Fred Sutherland** April 2, 1966. They now reside in Calgary, Alberta, and have one son, **Robbie**.

The late Wilfred Soder took his share in the life of the community and served as both Trustee and Chairman of the Board of York School District for a number of years. He also served on the Elkhorn Agricultural Society Board at one time and was a member of the Board of Directors of the Manitoba Pool Elevator Association at Elkhorn.

He was a successful farmer. In his earlier years, he was active in curling and enjoyed playing "500" with his neighbors.

He passed away on April 4, 1968, after a long and active life.

The late Frances Soder was a totally devoted wife and mother. Her death occurred August 6, 1980.

### Robert Soder

**Robert Soder**, eldest son of the late Wilfred and Francis Soder, was born and raised in the York District — four miles northeast of Elkhorn. Following his educational years at Elkhorn School he worked with his parents on the home farm. While living at home he bought his first section of land (24-12-28) known to many people as the old Stagner farm.



L-R Back row: Barbara, Neil, Ivan, Garth, Allan. Middle row: Margaret, Robert, Merle, Marlene. Front row: Wayne (standing), Brent, Edith, Karen.

In 1953 he married **Edith Bagley**, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bagley of Two Creeks. They continued to farm and raised their family of eleven.

Robert and Edith take an active part in their community of Burnbank-York and in the district affairs of Elkhorn. Robert has been particularly active in affairs relating to the school. He served as a trustee

for the York District and spent four years on the Elkhorn School Board. Edith is a member of the Hospital Auxiliary and the church choir.

Their other interests include old-time dancing, for which they join their neighbours and travel to various communities.

Their children have all attended the Elkhorn School and were very active in school activities, especially those relating to sports.

Their oldest daughter **Margaret**, married **John Spratt**. They farm in the Elgin District. Margaret also nurses at the Souris Hospital.

**Allan**, the eldest son, lives in the Elkhorn District and farms his own land as part of the home farm.

**Ivan** farms his own land as part of the home farm.

**Marlene** married **Blaine Pierrard**. Blaine works as a truck driver in Virden. They have two preschool children: **Carrie** and **Joey**.

**Garth** helps farm.

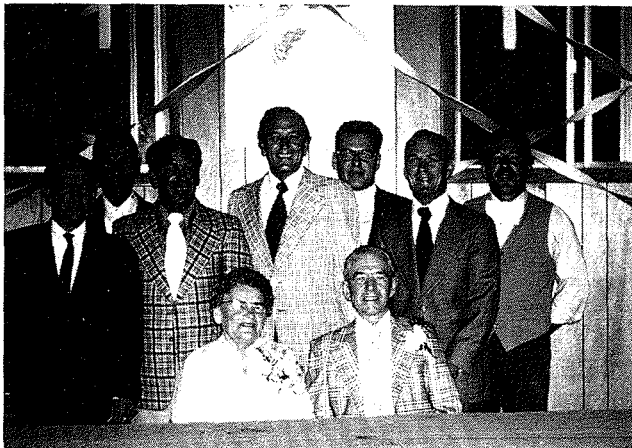
**Barbara** lives in Brandon and works as a secretary at the Brandon Sun.

**Neal** helps farm.

**Wayne, Merle, Brent** and **Karen** all still attend the Elkhorn School.

### Frank Sokalski Family

**Frank and Jessie Sokalski** entered Canada as immigrants in 1927. They left Poland because their country was in an unsettled state and threat of another war was present. There was much hostility present between the Poles and the Ukrainians at that time. Upon arrival in this country, they were faced with such problems as language and employment. They first settled in Beausejour, then Broadview and finally Elkhorn. They resided in Elkhorn for thirty-eight years and then moved to Winnipeg in 1973. Their trip to Beausejour was by train. They arrived there with clothing and personal effects only. Their



Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sokalski with their seven sons.

first home was a rented house.

Mr. Sokalski spent most of his Elkhorn stay as sectionman on the C.P.R. They attended the Roman Catholic Church. Their habits were mainly concerned with making a living from a garden, a few domestic animals and a small salary. The Polish foods included perogies, golompki, Polish dill pickles, etc. Neighbours always helped with slaughtering a beast, cutting wood or loaning out a tool of some kind. Payment for labour was often given in the form of meat, wood, grain, etc. Their recreation was mostly visiting others of the same language and listening to the radio. Their children attended school in Elkhorn and participated in sports such as hockey, baseball and golf.

The problems of locating wells was common. Mr. Sokalski had the well-witching skill and not only found water but dug wells with pick and shovel. If the job was "pay by the hour", you may have made money. Usually it was a set price for a well.

During the thirties, hot and dry conditions were ideal for prairie fires. A common cause of these was sparks flying out from train engines. Mr. Sokalski experienced fighting these fires which lasted sometimes a full day.

They arrived in the Elkhorn district with six children. The two youngest were born in Elkhorn, making a family of eight children.

The second and third generations are as follows: **Emily**, the oldest, is a housewife who now resides in Port Coquitlam, British Columbia. She married Vic Favel. They have four children: **Virginia, Richard, Joyce** and **Dianne**.

**Ed** is retired from the R.C.A.F. but is still employed as an aircraft metal technician. He married Ardeen Dandy and they live in Winnipeg. Their children are **Derek, Monica** and **Michael**.

**Ben** graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering. He is presently employed as a controls technician. He spent many years working in Ontario cities but is now living in Winnipeg. He married Fern Bell and their children are **Beth** and **Doug**.

**Stan** graduated from Teachers' College and taught school for eight years. He is presently employed with investigation and security. He married Eileen Swan and their children are **Corinne** and **Brad**. They live in Winnipeg.

**Tom** is postmaster at Wapella, Saskatchewan. He married Frances McEachern. They have six children: **Margaret, Duane, Clare** (deceased), **Bernadette, Laura** and **Thomas**.

**Walter** was unmarried. He spent most of his working years in the bank and as a bookkeeper. He was deceased in January, 1981.



**John** is a communications technician with the Manitoba Telephone System. He is also owner of bowling lanes and pool hall in Treherne, Manitoba. He married Karen Dixon and they have two children: **David** and **Laurie**.

**Ray**, the youngest, is also a communications technician with the Manitoba Telephone System in Morden, Manitoba. He married Sandy Ballingall and their children are: **Cheryl**, **Rhonda** and **Garry**.  
submitted by Stan Sokalski

### **Ahab Spence**

Born on the Split Lake Reserve in Northern Manitoba, **Dr. Spence** was the son of nomad trappers who did not speak English but understood the value of education. They sent him to the McKay Indian Residential School at The Pas, nearly 300 miles from the reserve on which they lived, but the only available school. From there, he later transferred to another residential school at Elkhorn, Manitoba and then completed high school in Prince Albert. He entered Emmanuel College, the Anglican divinity school in Saskatoon, graduating as a licentiate in theology in 1937.

After ordination, he went into northern Saskatchewan to serve as a missionary among Indians. His first appointment was the old Stanley Mission where he remained for six years. He spent those years crossing the lonely regions by canoe in summer and by dog team in winter.

He married **Elizabeth Bear** in 1940 and they have six children. In 1943 he was transferred to the Little Pine Reserve where he was a teacher as well as a missionary, and four years later he was named rector of the Paynton Cum Maidstone parish. During his earlier years as a missionary he continued to study, taking five correspondence university courses and in 1952 received his bachelor of arts degree from the University of Saskatchewan.

Dr. Spence became rector of the Wilkie parish in 1956, for the first time ministering in a white community. His rise in the Anglican church continued in the meantime. In 1955, he was collated a canon and became a member of the general synod of the Anglican Church of Canada, a post he held until 1963.

In 1957 he was made supplementary chaplain of the RCAF.

In 1959 Dr. Spence was made archdeacon of Indian work in the diocese of Saskatoon and in 1961 he became archdeacon of the western part of the same diocese.

Among his other activities, he was provincial chairman of Indian education for the Saskatchewan Home and School and Parent-Teacher Federation and

International chairman of its committee on Indian-Eskimo education. In March, 1964, Dr. Spence headed a home and school delegation in presenting a brief to Hon. Rene Tremblay, then minister of immigration and citizenship.

He was also active in work with the Indian-Eskimo Association of Canada and was general chairman of its fourth annual conference.

After serving the church in Saskatchewan for 25 years, Dr. Spence was named principal in 1963 of the Pellican Indian Residential School at Sioux Lookout, Ontario thus relinquishing the title of archdeacon.

The next year he was awarded the highest academic honor ever accorded a Canadian Indian. At the University of Saskatchewan spring convocation, he was awarded the honorary degree of doctor of laws.

Shortly after receiving the honorary degree, Dr. Spence was granted leave of absence from the Anglican church to join the Indian affairs branch and for the last three years has been community development liaison officer for Saskatchewan.

### **Stenhouse**

**Margaret Evelyn Stenhouse** (nee Bickerton) was born November 13, 1911 at the Willow Bank farm. Her mother, Charlotte Bickerton (nee Whalen) died when she was four years old. Her father, John Douglas Bickerton, sent her to live with his mother and sisters in Winnipeg until he remarried. She then returned to Elkhorn where she was raised with nine other Bickerton children. Evelyn received her schooling in Elkhorn and raised her family in the village. When the children were young she worked for Mr. Pascoe and later for her cousin, Elmer Swan at the dairies to help to keep things going. She was always a devoted mother and a friendly neighbor. After a lengthy illness, she died in 1967.

Evelyn had six children. The eldest, **James Douglas Stenhouse**, married **Gloria Sheane** and they are farming at Calder, Saskatchewan. They have five children: **Larry**, **Brenda**, **Jeff**, **Laurie**, and **Jamie**.

**Thomas Lloyd Stenhouse**, the second son, began working at a very early age as he was his mother's right hand man. After spending some time in the R.C.A.F., he returned to Elkhorn and married a school teacher, **Frances Penner**. Tom farms and has a tire business in Elkhorn. They have one daughter, **Laura**.

**Elizabeth Marlene Stenhouse** married **Alan John Brown** of Thunder Bay, Ontario. He is the Deputy Lakehead Harbour Master. Betty has worked in the field of business. They have one daughter, **Deborah Lee**.

**William Harold Stenhouse** was deceased at the age of two years and three months.

**Allan McMillan Stenhouse!** This man could sell ice to an Eskimo. Allan left school at an early age to get on with, as he thought — more important business. His business career began with a part time job for George Pearson. He worked for the Virden Empire Advance and Fowlers in Virden, and then decided to move west to find his fortune. He married **Marsha Thornton** and they reside in Calgary. They have two children, **Kevin** and **Leah**.

**Lorraine Margaret Stenhouse** went to school in Elkhorn and later to Brandon University. Special interest groups for her were 4-H and teaching Sunday School. She married **Mervin Blair Scott** from McAuley. She is presently employed at the Virden Junior High School. Mervin came to Elkhorn in 1961 as an apprentice for Russell and Nylin. Later, he worked for Gulf Oil and served the community as the Esso Agent for five years. Now he is employed by the Department of Highways and enjoys farm life.

submitted by Lorraine Scott

### The Statham Family

My parents, **Arthur B. Statham** and **Janet Statham**, came to Elkhorn in 1912 from Fleming, Saskatchewan. At that time, there were three in our family; my older brother, **Theodore**, my older sister, **Frances**, and me, **Kennatha**. A fourth child, **James** was born in Elkhorn in 1913, in a small cottage type house on the outskirts of town. I do not recall this home; my sister, Frances says she does.

My first recollection of Elkhorn was living in a cottage type home on a corner — sort of kitty-corner to what must have been the Manse because Jack and Eileen Kennedy lived there. Jack was a friend of my brother Theodore, usually called Ted.

I started school in Elkhorn, and my first teacher was Miss Strang. Miss Strang sang in the choir as did my father. There were Cantatas at Christmas and I can recall being a very fat snowflake in one of these. Miss Strang later married Dr. Alex Goodwin, who practiced in Winnipeg until a few years ago.

I can't recall what my father worked at, but he was an accountant by trade and, I believe, he kept books at Axelson's and a feed grain place. He was also the town policeman — for a time.

We left Elkhorn in 1917, briefly, and came to Winnipeg, but did go back in the fall of the same year. I recall Mr. Axelson met the train and we went to a fowl supper. This time, we lived in a red brick house which was referred to as the "Brunnell" house. It was near Goodwin's. Betty Goodwin was the same age as my sister, Frances; Joyce Goodwin was my age, so we played together.

We left Elkhorn in 1918 and moved to Rocanville, Saskatchewan.

Our family is all gone except my sister, Frances Statham who never married. I married **Jack Gilbert** in 1951. We had no family. He died in 1975. Dad died in 1950 while still employed by the John Deere Plow Company. Mother died in 1958. Ted died in 1970, in his 64th year, and James died in 1958 at age 45.

Dad was a big man, Mother was very small. They both curled and took part in what social life there was during World War I.

contributed by Mrs. Jack S. Gilbert (nee Kennatha Statham)

### Mr. and Mrs. George Stinson

**George** and **Margaret Stinson** came with their family from Mono Mills and Pearl County, near Orangeville, Ontario, in 1918. They lived on the farm 28-11-27 from 1918 until their deaths. Mrs. Stinson passed away on August 26th, 1939, and Mr. Stinson died on November 23rd, 1940. They are both buried in the Elkhorn Cemetery.

Their family consisted of five children — **Earl**, **Bertha**, **Marshall**, **Vera** and **Roy**. Earl married **Ruth Blackwell** on September 16th, 1939, and they farmed on 20-11-27 until 1966 when they moved to Virden to retire. **Marilyn**, their daughter, married **Gavin Tait** in 1980 and they reside in Virden. Marilyn taught school for twelve years in Manitoba. Ruth died in 1966 and Earl in 1972.

**Bertha** moved back to Orangeville, Ontario, to marry her fiance. **Marshall** stayed on the farm until 1929 and then moved to Edmonton to work as a barber until his retirement in 1960. He passed away in 1976. **Roy** lived on the farm, 28-11-27, until his death in 1938.

Vera married **Robert Carefoot** of Hargrave and they had two children — **Rita**, born in 1921, and **Merle**, born in 1927. They moved to Vancouver in 1943. Vera Phillips still resides in Vancouver.

submitted by Marilyn (Stinson) Tait

### The Reverend William Stocker

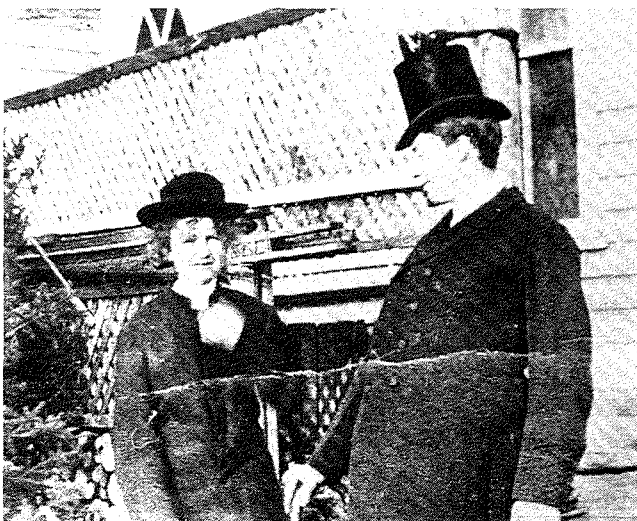
Rector of St. Mark's Church, Elkhorn and St. John's, Kirkella 1902-1910.

The **Reverend William Stocker** became rector of St. Mark's Church in 1902 and ministered to the members of St. John's, Kirkella as well as to the Indian Residential School in Elkhorn. In his diaries of these years, mention is made of the dedication of a new chancel and altar in 1906 and in 1907, September 1, the two churches were consecrated. In 1909, on January 3, he noted that "services were held for the first time in the Orange Hall, Ebor, with seven communicants."



Mr. and Mrs. George Stinson with their family Bertha, Marshall, Vera, Roy and Earl about 1912.

The era of the horse and buggy days meant “driving 3:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m June 9, 1909 — visiting Smiths, Frazers, Halls, Owens, among others” and spending the night with “good folk.” The return trip covered another route and often baptisms and celebration of Holy Communion were held in the homes.



Rev. Nat Stocker and Dorothy (Dolly) Allonby outside St. Mark's Rectory dressed for their parts in a play.

Notes in his diary concern many families — names such as Bell, Waller, Brotherhood, Freeman, Jones, Crosby among others. All must tell ‘stories’ of those early years.

**Mr. and Mrs. Stocker's** five children all attended school in Elkhorn. Two live in retirement in White Rock, B.C. **W. V. (Bill)** and **Edith** recall school days, the installation of the telephone and the first two cars, one owned by the Doctor and a red one owned by a Mr. Duxbury. **Nat**, the eldest, an engineer, died in 1935, **Louise**, a nurse, in 1951 and the youngest, **Dorothy**, a teacher, in 1979.

Mr. and Mrs. Stocker left Elkhorn in late 1910 for St. George's, Brandon. Later, he went to St. Luke's, Strathclair and there built his own home where he lived for many years. In 1923, Mrs. Stocker died and Mr. Stocker retired, living in Jamaica and Winnipeg where he died in 1926.

As one gentleman said ‘he was a good man and much people were added to the Lord.’

### **The Henry Stonehouse Family**

**Henry Stonehouse** was born in North Allerton, Yorkshire, England, and he had three sons — **Phillip**, **Isaac** and **Eleazer**. The family of Eleazer Stone-

house consisted of three boys and two girls. They were **Zacheres Ralph** (1828-1912) who married **Mary McFadyen** in 1874, **Edward Harrison** (1832-1921), **Mary** who married **Stewart Purdy Wesley** (died at a young age), and **Grace**.

Henry Stonehouse and family came from Yorkshire, England, and settled in Nova Scotia. Zacheres came west to Bruce County, Ontario, and worked as a carpenter and stonemason. Several families with connections to the Nova Scotia families moved to the southern part of Chicago, Illinois, many working as building contractors.

Zacheres came up to a job at Fort Garry, Manitoba, walking the many miles from Ontario. Mary McFadyen (his bride to be) came with her family from Glasgow, Scotland, and they settled in Bruce County, Ontario. She came to Fort Garry and worked at the home of the Lieutenant-Governor of Canada, at the time of the Riel Rebellion. She told stories of the terrible shootings at that time. Always a kind and generous woman, she made friends with the Indians and gave them jams and other things she had made.

She and Zacheres were married at Fort Garry in June, 1874. They returned to Tiverton, Ontario, where Zacheres continued working as a stonemason. He was a gifted musician and in the winter months gave music and voice lessons. In those days, the teachers went to the pupils and he walked many miles giving lessons.

The children of Zacheres and Mary Stonehouse were born in the Kincardine and Tiverton, Ontario, area. They were — **Alexander Wesley** (born 1875), **Hannah** (born 1877), **Hector** (born 1879), **Daniel Edward** (born 1883), **William** (born 1885), and **Rachel Henrietta** (born 1889).

In the early 1900's, William came west to Manitoba on the harvest excursions for two years. The family decided to come west to homestead and settled in the McAuley district in 1910. William married **Elsie Sexsmith** at Welwyn, Saskatchewan, in 1911. They farmed in the McAuley, Elkhorn and Kirkella districts, moving from the farm, N.E. 33-12-29, now owned by Andre Lachapelle, to Elkhorn in 1957. They bought a home formerly owned by Hugh Nelson, corner of Foxford and Kildare, which was the first school in Elkhorn, built in 1885.

William passed away in 1959 and his wife, Elsie, died in 1972. The children of William and Elsie were: **Mary**, born at McAuley in 1913, and received her education at Victor and Mossgiel schools. In 1943, Mary joined the Air Force where she served for two and a half years. She married **William Watson** of Roblin, Manitoba, in 1948. They resided in Winnipeg for four years where Bill was employed as a sheet metal mechanic. They moved to Chicago, Illin-



L-R Standing: Mrs. Bickerton, Bill and Elsie Stonehouse. Seated: Grannie Stonehouse 1917.



L-R: Bill, Elsie holding Frank, Mary, Alex, Dan, Teanie, Pearl, Bessie missing from picture, 1927.

ois, and lived there until 1973 when they moved back to Manitoba and made their home in Elkhorn. Bill passed away in August, 1974. Mary resides in Elkhorn on Richill Avenue.

**Alex**, was born in McAuley District in 1915 and attended school at Victor and Elkhorn. He was employed as a farm hand until his marriage to **Gladys Johnson** in 1940. They farmed on the farm previously owned by Andrew Johnson, Section N.E. 9-13-29, until 1952, when they moved to Fleming, Saskatchewan. Gladys operated the Cafe for a year and Alex was drayman. Then he worked for the Canadian Pacific Railways for a few years and later as a farm labourer for eighteen years, all the while still involved in raising livestock of his own. They have four children; **Mardell, Karen, Dwight, and Calvin**. Mardell married **Ted Saxton** in 1954; he died in 1956. They had one son, **Randy**. She married **Lorne Cuthill** in 1957 and they have five children, **Glenn, Brent, Carla, Beverley and Lorri Anne**. Mardell

and **Lorne Cheaters** were married in 1981 and farm in the Elkhorn District. Karen married **Les Wyber** in 1959. They live at Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, and have three children, **Kim, Darcy** and **Scott**. Dwight married **Connie Forsythe**. They live in Fleming, Saskatchewan and have four children, **Kennilea, Samantha, Andrew** and **Sara Anne**. Calvin married **Beverly Brugger** in 1969. They live in Winnipeg and have one daughter, **Alison**.

**Dan**, was born in 1918 and attended school at Mossgiel, Elkhorn and Archie schools. He worked on the home farm until 1945 when he married **Mary Edith Brennand**. They farmed in the Kirkella district until 1956, when they moved to Elkhorn. Dan was employed with the Canadian Pacific Railways and construction work for eleven years. He is now employed as custodian of Fort La Bosse Elkhorn school. They have three sons. **Ed** married **Sharon Chapple** in 1969 and they live at Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. They have two daughters, **Tisha Rae** and **Kristin**. **Barry** married **Patsy Rowan** in 1971. He is stationed at the Air Force Base at Penhold, Alberta. **Bryan** married **Elaine Crosson** in 1972. They live in Melita, Manitoba, and have two children, **Ryan** and **Kerry Dawn**.

**Christina**, was born in 1920 and received her education at Mossgiel, Elkhorn and Archie schools. She married **Athol Moore** in 1944. They farmed in the Archie District for 14 years and then moved to Elkhorn where Athol has his own Plumbing and Heating business.

**Pearl**, was born in Mossgiel district in 1924 and attended school at Mossgiel and Archie. She lived with her parents on the farm, moving to Elkhorn in 1957. She worked for G. C. Andrews, Insurance Agent, and as Secretary-Treasurer of the Village of Elkhorn, from 1966 until Mr. Andrews' death in 1973. Pearl continued the General Insurance and Autopac business which she operates from her home on Foxford Avenue, Elkhorn. She has a daughter, **Heather**, married to **Don McElroy**. They live at Snow Lake, Manitoba, and have one son, **Brett**.

**Frank**, received his education at Archie and Manson schools. He worked on the home farm and commenced work on the Canadian Pacific Railways in 1953. He married **Frances Brennand** in 1954. In 1957 they moved to Elkhorn where he has been employed with the Railways and holds the position of Assistant Roadmaster, Brandon-Broadview Subdivision. They have three children, **Sandra, Janis** and **Ray**.

Sandra married **Ken Jones** in 1972 and they live in Regina, Saskatchewan. They have two boys, **Shawn** and **Ricky**. **Janis**, a registered nurse, married **Ray Hall** in 1979 and they live at Watrous, Saskatch-

ewan. Ray was formerly from Bedford, England. **Darwin** lives at home and is employed by the Canadian Pacific Railways at Fleming, Saskatchewan.

**Bessie**, was born in the Elkhorn district in 1929 and attended Archie and Manson schools. She married **Dale McLean** in 1956. They lived in various places where Dale was employed with construction. They returned to Elkhorn to live in 1967 where Dale is employed with the Railways. They have four children, **Tracy, Mervin, Fred** and **Kevin**. Tracy married **Tim Furlong** in 1980 and they live in Souris, Manitoba. Mervin is employed in Edmonton as a Machinist. Fred and Kevin attend school in Elkhorn.

submitted by Pearl Stonehouse

### **Mr. and Mrs. Chas Stonham**

**Charlie** was born in Sussex, England, on July 2nd, 1890, and came to Canada with his father and two sisters in 1912. He returned to England the next year to bring his mother out. She had been ill when the rest of the family had come.

He worked for his brother, Fred, and then joined the Army in 1916 with the 217 Battalion. In 1918 he married **Cora Leach**. Cora was born at Smith Falls, Ontario, on February 10th, 1897, and was the second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chas Leach.

They farmed three miles north of Elkhorn and later moved into town. While at Elkhorn they adopted a 10 months old boy, **Clayton**. A few years later they moved to a farm four miles east of Elkhorn and then later to Regina, Saskatchewan, where Charlie worked as Night-watchman at Simpson Sears store. While in Regina, Chas and Cora were divorced and both remarried. Cora's second husband passed away in 1955 and Cora died in 1958. Charlie had a stroke and was partially paralysed for a number of years. He and his second wife, **Millie**, separated and Charlie lived in a boarding house. The last place he stayed at caught fire and he was tragically burned to death on June 6th, 1969. He is buried in the Veteran's Cemetery in Regina. Clayton passed away in Weyburn, Saskatchewan, a few months after his father.

submitted by niece, Dorothy Rollo

### **Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stonham**

**Philip Frederick Stonham** was born at Beckley, Sussex, England, on October 29th, 1884. He was one of a family of seven children, **Annie, Tom, Ethel, Fred, Charlie, Dolly** and **Marjorie**.

Before coming to Canada he had worked as a tailor's apprentice for six months and then went to work for gentry till he came to Canada in the spring of 1904.

In Canada, he herded cattle for the town of Vir-

den, then worked at the flour mill. One winter he went to Roblin and worked there and later came to Elkhorn. In Elkhorn he worked for Chris Smith and for John Heritage Jr. He met his wife **Amy Susannah (Susie) Heritage** at the Victor School where they had church services. Susie was the youngest of a family of eight with two half sisters, **Lizzie Madill** and **Mahala Lundy**, and one half brother, **Ed Blake-man**. Her sisters were **Mary Lewis** and **Helen Younger** and brothers were **John Heritage Jr.** and **Ezra Heritage**. Susie was born at Winfield, Ontario on September 25th, 1877, and came west with her father, John Heritage Sr., and her brother, Ezra Heritage. They settled on the farm 32-11-27, east of Elkhorn, in March, 1904.

Fred and Susie were married on December 18th, 1907, and worked her father's farm, as Ezra had taken a farm at Walpole, Saskatchewan. They took over the farm in 1908 and lived there until 1944, when they moved into Elkhorn and bought the old "Dad" Travis house on the corner of Cavendish and Railway Streets.

They had one daughter, **Dorothy Helen**, born September, 1910. She married **Tom Rollo** in April, 1942 and they have one son, **Vernon**, born January, 1943.

Amy Susannah Stonham passed away on July 27th, 1962, in the Brandon Hospital after a very short illness. Philip Frederick Stonham passed away at his daughter's home at Miniota after two month's illness on February 11th, 1965.

Fred's father, **Philip Stonham**, and two sisters, **Dorothy May (Dolly)** and **Marjorie May**, and one brother, **Charles**, came out from England in 1912. His mother, **Jane (Monk) Stonham**, who had been ill, followed later in 1913.

Fred's parents stayed with him most of the time they were in Canada until they passed away. His mother died in June, 1931, after a lengthy illness, and his father on September 11th, 1942, very suddenly at the age of 85 years 11 months.

Dolly married **Nelson Banister**, Marjorie married **Frank Younger**, and Charlie married **Cora Leach**.

### **Mr. and Mrs. Allan Struthers 'Memories of the Past'**

**Mr. and Mrs. Allan Struthers** were among the early pioneers to settle in this section of Manitoba. They came with their family from Glasgow, Scotland, on May 2nd, 1883. The trip across the Atlantic by steamboat was long and tiring. Quebec was their first stop in Canada. They travelled to Sarnia by train, to Duluth by boat, and finally arrived in Winnipeg by train.

Mrs. Struthers and family stayed in Winnipeg while Mr. Struthers continued West by rail to Virden, then by foot to Birtle, where he filed his claim for a homestead. This journey took him by way of Fort Ellice, which is now called St. Lazare.

On his return to Winnipeg he purchased the necessary settlers' effects and the family set out again by train to Elkhorn. Mr. George Allison, a relative, met them at the station and drove them by team and wagon to their homestead, which was in the Two Creeks district north of Elkhorn. A tent was the Struthers' new home until a log cabin was completed.

That first year was one of great hardships for the settlers. Cutting logs for houses, stables and firewood as well as digging wells for water and making hay for the animals were all hard tasks. It was only with perseverance and determination that success was achieved.

**Margaret Struthers** was only nine years old when they first arrived. She must have found her new environment quite different from her Scottish home. One day while she was playing, she had the misfortune to step on a hot stove lid and burned her foot badly. When it healed she went back to Winnipeg to continue her education until a school could be established in the district. This became a reality in 1886.

Each spring brought improvements to the young land. The first store in Elkhorn was a tent. Soon a frame building was constructed. This was followed by a Post Office and other buildings.

At first, the church services were held in the settlers' homes, but later were held in the school. The minister travelled from place to place performing marriage ceremonies and baptisms when requested.

The settlers held house parties and everyone entered into the good times. In later years the school became the place for entertainments.

It was at one of these functions that Margaret Struthers met **Matthew Black**, a dashing young Scot from Glasgow, and soon became a blushing bride. The wedding ceremony took place in 1895 and they settled on a farm in the Two Creeks district. Matthew was widely known as a breeder of Shorthorn cattle and was noted for his standardbred horses. He was also a proficient engineer and machinist. In other capacities he was Grand Master of the Oddfellow Lodge in Elkhorn and was councillor for Wallace Municipality. He was also Secretary-Treasurer of the Two Creeks School for many years.

Mr. and Mrs. Black had ten children. There were six boys and four girls — **Allan, James, William, Margaret, Jean, George, Violet, Beatrice, Robert** and **John**. Allan and James served overseas in the First World War and Robert and John served in the

Second World War. James paid the supreme sacrifice in 1917.

One of the girls, Violet, married a Carberry lad, **Henry Switzer**, and in 1945 came with their family, **Lynn, Joan and Larry** to settle in Elkhorn. Mr. Switzer bought the J. Walker Garage and ran the Massey Harris Implement and North Star Oil business. Unfortunately, the garage was destroyed by fire. Henry, not to be daunted by this mishap had a cinder brick building erected on the same site. He was an avid curler and he coached the young boys' hockey team. He was a member of the Chamber of Commerce and belonged to the Order of Foresters.

The Switzer children attended the Elkhorn school and took an active part in church work and sporting activities.

The passing of time brought many changes and vast improvements. It is fitting for us at this time to pause and pay tribute to these early pioneers, whose heroic struggles, sufferings and achievements have given us such a rich heritage.

submitted by Violet Switzer

### **The Andrew John Swan Family**

**Andrew John Swan** was one of eight children born to Swedish immigrants in Atwater, Minnesota in 1872. He was lured to immigrate to Canada with the prospects of obtaining land at a reasonable price and knowledge that homesteading was still possible.

In 1904, prior to coming to Elkhorn, he spent some time engaged in the employment of a grain elevator at Beausejour, Manitoba. In 1905, Andrew Swan bought and developed Section 18-12-27. Later he was able to procure one of the last homesteads in the district. It was situated near Willen, one-half of Section 28-13-28, was obtained by him and was worked by Samuel Greenwood for some years. This land, being somewhat hilly in nature, contained some gravel and pits and the hills are still known as "Swan Hills".

In 1906, Andrew married **Mary (Molly)**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bickerton, who had homesteaded in the district in 1881 on Section 20-12-27. Mr. Robert Bickerton was a buyer for C.P. and C.N. land so Mrs. Bickerton and the children mainly ran the farm because Robert was away from the farm a great deal of the time. Mrs. Bickerton was noted for her fine buttermaking. Prairie fires were a constant threat in the 1880's, and 1890's. Their children are: **Elmer, Elsie, Albert and Freda**.

Being of a progressive turn of mind, Andrew always allied himself with movements that tended to the betterment of farming conditions. He was first and foremost a practical dairyman. In 1924, he purchased the nucleus of what was to become a fine

dairy herd of registered pure-bred Holstein cattle. He was one of the first to employ the use of a milking machine, which was powered by a gasoline engine. He was also one of the leading promoters of the original Elkhorn Creamery in which he was a shareholder and which did so much to stimulate industry in the Elkhorn district. This creamery burned down in 1924, causing serious financial losses for many.

Being a dedicated livestock breeder, he introduced Belgian horses into the district. One sire, Camille, was a splendid specimen of this breed of work horses.

For a number of years, he was a director of the Elkhorn Agricultural Society and served a term as president with distinction. As Holsteins were heavy milkers his cows won awards not only for volume but also for butterfat content.

He was sought by fellow ratepayers of Ward 5 in the Municipality of Wallace to represent them as councillor. During his four years on the Board, he ardently supported the good roads movement and even up to the time of his death, he continued to demonstrate his interest as shown by the fact that the stretch of road in his charge was one of the best in the ward.



Swan picnic — Dorothy Johnson, Millie Axelson, Mrs. Lidster, Mrs. Roper, Mary Tinline, Kate Bickerton, Mrs. Gladstone and baby Marion, J. P. Leslie, A. J. Swan.

Andrew was the Secretary-Treasurer for the York School District. In 1915, he instigated its formation, but resisted the building of a school in order that all the children of the district might have the advantage of a high school education. This was achieved by transporting them by van to school in Elkhorn, a form of consolidation many years before it became as widespread as today.

He became a shareholder in the Grain Grower's Grain Company in 1908. When in 1916 the Livestock Commission Branch of the Company was set up, through the livestock Shipping and Marketing

Branch, and introducing co-operative shipping, he became a shipper of livestock. In 1920, ten carloads, one of the largest shipments of cattle ever to leave Elkhorn at one time was shipped by him to Toronto. Usually his shipments ended in the stockyards of St. Boniface. He was succeeded by Jake Bajus as shipper.

When the Wheat Pool was formed, he became a member and was the Vice-Chairman of its local elevator association. He also operated a threshing outfit jointly with his neighbour, Ed Stagner, and for years the crops of many farmers in the surrounding district were threshed by him.

Since he farmed on a fairly large scale by renting other parcels of land in addition to his own, he required much extra help for his operation. He employed many men to help with the work. Often there were as many as six extra men in busy times, usually two men were kept on a steady basis. Many men came from his native town of Atwater. Among them were: Herbert Linnell, Enoch Soder, Wilfred Soder, Levi Soder and William Anderson to name a few, all of whom went on to establish themselves on nearby farms in their own right. He provided funds to bring many men from England, who in turn worked off their passage fare by working on his farm until branching out for themselves in various careers. One whole family, Arthur Stanilands, was brought from England by him; many still live in the surrounding area.

In 1918, his farm buildings were electrified through the installation of a battery-powered 'Delco' plant.

As a friend, Andrew Swan was staunch indeed, cool in judgment, honest in thought, word and deed and truly a man who had the courage of his convictions. He spent much time and considerable money in promoting those things he deemed beneficial to the whole community.

Before church union, he was a member of the Presbyterian Church and later joined the United Church congregation. His unstinted cooperation in church matters will long be remembered by those who were privileged to work on various boards with him from time to time.

Molly was always interested in church work, too. She was a member of the Ladies Aid of the Presbyterian Church. As there was no hospital in Elkhorn and the one in Virden was too far away by horse and buggy, Molly acted as a midwife. She brought many of the neighbours' children into the world.

She retired to Cawston, British Columbia where she spent her last years before she passed away in November of 1970.

Andrew's tragic death on August 24, 1932 at the

age of 60, was caused by a threshing accident on the farm of Wilfred Soder.

The editor of the Elkhorn Mercury, Fred Norris, reported: "Surely, this is a man worthy of a particularly fine obituary." The paper also reported that at his funeral friends and acquaintances were present from a wide area and the capacity of the building was overtaxed. It was one of the largest funerals ever held in the Elkhorn United Church. The pallbearers were: John Allison, George Cole Sr., W. Lamont, H. M. Linnell, R. Pearson, and Jack Watson.

Andrew's and Molly's four children are:

Elmer, married Dorothy Lamb, their older son was born in 1907, received his education in Elkhorn, operated the home farm, later moved into Elkhorn to run the dairy and is now retired in Winnipeg. They have five children: **Eileen, Donna, Norma, Ray and Karen.**

Elsie, born in 1909, completed her high school education in Elkhorn, received teacher training, taught school and nursed for many years before she married Edward Smith of Winnipeg in 1947. They have lived in Winnipeg all their married life. They have one son, **Murray.**

Albert, born in 1911, took his education in Elkhorn and stayed on the farm until 1928. In 1935 he moved West and settled in Cawston, British Columbia where he married Gladys Roblin in 1937. He operated his own fruit farm and trucking services. They have three children: **Beatrice, Ralph and Shirley.** In 1957, Albert was killed accidentally. The rest of the family still reside in various fruit growing regions in British Columbia.

Freda, the youngest, was born in 1914, was also educated in Elkhorn. She left the farm in 1932 when she married Dan Cassan of Elkhorn. Later they moved to Brandon where they still reside. They have five children: **Joyce, Carole, Robert, James and Andrew.**

respectfully submitted by Elsie Smith, Eileen Sokalski, and Elmer Swan. (of Winnipeg)

### **The Carl Elmer Swan Family**

**Carl Elmer Swan** was born on March 28, 1907; the first child born to Andrew and Molly Swan who homesteaded in the district in 1905. One of his early memories happened in 1910 when he was about three years old. Mr. and Mrs. Francis had gone to church leaving their young child at home with the hired man. The child wandered away. A horse and buggy brigade was organized to search the area. Elmer remembers riding with his mother and father in the buggy. Three or four years later the bones were found in a slough on Section 8 about 2½ miles away from the Francis





L-R Back row: Eileen, Donna, Norma, Ray. Front row: Dorothy, Karen, Elmer.

home. Crosses were set up to mark the spot; they remained there for the next 15 to 20 years.

Another incident Elmer recalls vividly happened on March 20, 1920. It started out as a beautiful spring morning, but by 10 o'clock it started to snow and the wind began to blow. The storm raged for three days. Hundreds of cattle in the district were lost, frozen to death or buried alive in snowbanks. He remembers riding horseback over to Jack Bickerton's, a neighbour near-by, rounding up his cattle and putting them in his barn; thus saving his herd.

He attended school in Elkhorn and remembers Mrs. Leone Dixon, Mrs. Carman Whiteford, and Mrs. Tupper as three of his teachers.

Elmer married **Dorothy Margaret Lamb** in 1933, the youngest daughter of Albert Edward and Margaret Lamb. Albert and Margaret Lamb were born and married in England, came to Canada in 1912 and farmed in the Miniota, Virden, Hargrave and Elkhorn districts before retiring in 1946 to live in Elkhorn. Elmer and Dorothy operated the home farm for the next fifteen years before moving into town.

The farm is now owned by Mike Palahicky. The house has been completely remodelled; the second storey has been taken out and the roof has been lowered onto the first storey. The only other remaining building is the granary.

Elmer's and Dorothy's first years of marriage were during the Depression Years. Vivid memories still exist of the wind starting to blow at 7 o'clock in the morning and continuing for twelve hours each day. The dust in the air never left. The temperature in the summer reached well over 100°F. which made it impossible to work during the daytime so it had to be done in the evenings. The winters, on the other hand, were exceptionally cold with an abundance of snow.

Elmer recalls particularly the year 1935 when he had an unusually good crop, in fact the best crop ever, but it was not to be! It rusted away and never matured.

Another event, well remembered by both Elmer and Dorothy, was the celebration held at the end of World War I. The townspeople built a huge bonfire and a dummy representing the Kaiser was made and placed on top of the pile of rubble and it was lit. The crowd of people cheered as the dummy Kaiser and the pile of rubble burned to the ground. The end of the war was indeed something to cheer about! This celebration was repeated again at the end of World War II, the dummy representing Hitler this time.

During a ten year period from 1937 to 1947, several dog trainers brought dogs to Canada each summer to train them. They obtained rooms in the Swan house for living and space in the barn for the dogs.

Four of their children were born when they were living on the farm: **Eileen, Donna, Norma and Ray**. They all attended school in Elkhorn. Fond memories are recalled of being transported to school by car in the summer driven by Rudy Schoen. Horses and a big covered school van with a small stove inside were used in the winter driven by many different people, Elmer being one of them. The children had to leave home when it was dark in the morning and returned in the evening when it was dark, making it a very long day for them.

Dorothy belonged to the Burnbank Red Cross Quilting Bee where the ladies quilted blankets to send overseas during the War years, 1939 to 1945.

The family attended the United Church and the children Sunday School.

Elmer was a director of the Agricultural Society for thirty years and for the Elkhorn Cooperative Creamery for five years.

He was always interested in Percheron horses. Romeo was a fine example of this breed. He left some remarkable offspring in the district.

The three girls when they were nine, ten and eleven years old drove the tractor on the binder helping to cut the family crop. They also helped in the cutting of neighbours' crops as well.

In 1948, the barn was lost through fire. Elmer suffered a heavy loss of livestock and his winter's supply of grain and hay. The family then moved into Elkhorn where Elmer took over the Pascoe Dairy Business. He first delivered milk with horses, later graduating to a milk delivery truck. Dorothy and the children helped significantly in this business from the cooling of the milk to the delivering of it.

Pasteurizing was necessary, so Elmer was then employed by the Manitoba Cooperative Dairies.

Dorothy belonged to the United Church Circle,

sang in the choir and was a member of the Daffodil Rebekah Lodge for a short while. Elmer joined the Masonic Lodge in 1957.

Dorothy kept boarders to help with the family income. Some of the boarders included: the workers who built the Elkhorn Hospital, the hydro men who put hydro lines in the country and the oil men who were working at Virden.

The Swan children were always keenly interested in sports which included softball, hockey, curling and track and field. Many ribbons and trophies were won by them at the school field days. During the summer they participated in many softball tournaments at Sports Days. They were fortunate to win many of them. One of the coaches they remember was George Paton.

One year Eileen, Donna, Norma, and Marlyn Blakeman took a rink to Brandon to play in the School Girls' Bonspiel.

In 1966 the family moved to Winnipeg where Elmer was employed with Blackwoods Beverages and Dorothy was employed with Eaton's until their retirements.

They are keeping active in their retirement. Elmer does volunteer work and curls and they both enjoy playing bridge. They also keep busy with several hobbies, finishing furniture being one of them.

Eileen attended Teachers' College in Winnipeg and taught for two years in a country school, Victor, and one year in Virden, before moving into Winnipeg where she is still teaching. As well as teaching grade 5, she is presently studying toward a Bachelor of Education degree. She married Stan Sokalski of Elkhorn in 1957. They have lived in Winnipeg since. They have two children: **Corinne** who is completing her first year of a Bachelor of Education degree. **Brad** is presently in high school and is very active in hockey, baseball and badminton.

Donna started in the Bank of Commerce in Elkhorn, later being transferred to Regina. In 1959 she married Ron Pollard of Blaine Lake, Saskatchewan, who had been an employee with the bank in Elkhorn. They live in Blaine Lake where Donna is an Administrative Officer with the Commerce Branch there. They have no family.

Norma also started with the Bank of Commerce in Elkhorn, transferred to Virden and then to Winnipeg. She later moved to Minot, North Dakota where she was employed with the First National Bank. She married John Keller of Rugby, North Dakota in 1963. They have lived in various states, presently residing in Richland, Washington where Norma is employed with a bank. They have three children: **Sandy** who is presently in high school, **Sheri** who is in junior high school and is very active

in cross country running and basketball and **Randy** who is in elementary school and is a soccer player.

Ray took further education in electronics at the Red River Community College in Winnipeg after which he joined the Armed Forces. He then attended the University of Winnipeg graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree. Presently he is stationed in Ottawa with Air Defense Command. He married Mary Ann Tremontini of Sudbury, Ontario in 1974. They have no family.

**Karen**, the youngest, was born after the family moved into Elkhorn. She received the first nine years of her education in Elkhorn, completing her high school in Winnipeg. She started with the Bank of Commerce in Winnipeg where she is still employed. She married Michael Deda of Carman, Manitoba and later of Elkhorn in 1970. Karen keeps active playing softball with a Charleswood team called the Holiday Chevettes. They have two children: **Troy**, who will be attending Nursery School next year and is involved in a swimming program, and **Tara Lynn** who was born on April 16, 1981.

respectfully submitted by  
Eileen Sokalski and Elmer Swan

### **Imre (James) Szoradi Sr.**

**Imre Szoradi**, better known as James or Jim, was born in Szil, Sopron Megye, Hungary on October 29, 1885. He came from a family of fourteen children. He had nine brothers and four sisters. One brother, the youngest, Rev. Father Tibor is still alive and living in Rome. Mr. Szoradi's family tree is traced back as far as 1820 and all the way down the line his ancestors were Hungarians. Mr. Szoradi's family and descendants are priests, nuns, doctors, engineers, stone-masons, lawyers and farmers. He received his elementary schooling in Szil, and completed his high school in Budapest. After high school he entered the Mounted Police Force Academy. During the war he was Sergeant in the Military Mounted Police Force. He did a lot of travelling throughout Europe before coming to Canada. In 1919 he married **Katalin Lednecski** of Paks, Sopron Megye, Hungary. She was an only child. Mr. Szoradi came to Canada in May, 1925. While waiting for friends, he knew from Hungary, to meet him at the Elkhorn C.P.R. Station, he pitched in to help plant most of the poplar trees that surrounded the station for years. He was a great horticulturist and gardener in his day. Finally, when his friends arrived by team and wagon they returned to the Kola district, and he settled into the large farm house (which was large enough for four families) until October, 1925, when his wife Katalin and their son James Jr. (Jim) arrived. That farm is presently owned by Abe Martens of Kola. After his wife and

son arrived they moved to section 3-11-29 in the Woodville district. Mrs. Szoradi enjoyed Canadian life for only two years. She passed away October, 1927, at the age of twenty-nine and is buried in the Catholic section of the Woodville cemetery. While living in Hungary, Mr. Szoradi did a lot of wood-carving and metal work. He made many wire flower stands large enough to hold twelve plants. His daughter Anna (from his second marriage) owns one of these flower stands today.

On October 29, 1931, Mr. J. Szoradi married **Mrs. Anna Horvath**, in Virden, Manitoba. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Father Holloway of Souris, Manitoba. Mrs. Horvath, a widow, had arrived from Hungary earlier in October, with her young son Michael (Mike), knowing when she came she was going to be Mrs. J. Szoradi. Mr. Szoradi adopted Mike. Mrs. Szoradi was born in Pali, Sopron Megye, Hungary on December 6, 1895. She received her elementary schooling in Pali, and finished her high school education in Budapest. She was a very talented woman, musical, a singer, a dancer, and was also a stage actress. She took a chef's course in Budapest and then specialized in cooking. She did a lot of fancy work e.g. cut work, crochet, embroidery, for which she received many prizes at the Elkhorn fairs. In Budapest she was an active church worker. She came from a family of six children; two half-sisters, two step-sisters and a brother who passed away at an early age. Her family tree has been traced back to 1832, and her ancestors were Hungarians as well. Her family and descendants are mostly musicians, singers, painters, artists and nurses. One brother-in-law is a very famous wood-carver and painter in Hungary, and two nieces are very well known artists in Hungary.



L-R Back row: Jim Jr., Kathleen, Mike, Ann. Front row: Mr. and Mrs. J. Szoradi on their 35th wedding anniversary and Mr. Szoradi's 81st birthday in 1966.

In 1918 she married Jozsef Karoly Horvath of Budapest. They had one son, Michael. Mr. Horvath passed away when Michael was four years old. After his death and before her marriage to him she cooked for a Count and Countess in Budapest. During this time she travelled through Europe with them along with all the servants. Mike learned to speak High German as an exchange student, and he also travelled with his mother throughout Europe.

After her marriage to Mr. Szoradi they lived on 3-11-19 in Woodville district for a short time. While living there Mike and Jim attended school at Woodville until the family moved to the Aikins farm 19-11-28 in the Elkhorn district. Mr. and Mrs. Szoradi then had two daughters, Ann and Kathleen, and one son Harold who died in infancy and is buried on the home farm 19-11-28. Anna was born on the farm. At present Mr. and Mrs. Dale McGrath live on this farm.

Kathleen, delivered by Dr. Johnston, was born in Elkhorn at Dorothy Hennan's Nursing Home. (Dorothy is Doc. Hennan's niece). This was a large two storey house situated on the site where George Lund now lives on Grange St.

In 1945 Mr. and Mrs. Szoradi bought SW $\frac{1}{4}$  6-12-28 from the National Trust Co. They moved there in 1946 and Mr. Szoradi farmed till 1959, when he retired because of ill health. Jim Jr. helped work the farm until 1955 when he went to work for the C.N.R. The farm was then rented to George Tait for a few years. In 1965 he rented the farm to his son-in-law Pete Hoemsen. Mr. Szoradi eventually went deaf and passed away in August, 1968. Mrs. Szoradi remained on the farm, Pete still renting the farm, and due to a lengthy illness and failing eye-sight sold the farm in 1973 to Pete and her daughter Anna. She continued to live on the farm with them until she passed away in September, 1975. Mrs. Szoradi had become very much a home body in Canada. She devoted herself to her family, enjoyed her housework, cooking, gardening, and raised hundreds of ducks and geese through the years. All the fine feathers and down were saved and stuffed into feather ticks and pillows. She and Mr. Szoradi cured and smoked their own pork. The poultry during the winter months was stored in barrels of snow, which served as a freezer. She didn't master the English language quite as well as Mr. Szoradi. He learned to read English quite well. English language was hardly spoken in the home since Mr. Szoradi didn't want the children to lose their mother tongue. They both could speak the High German language fluently and the Szoradis were all of the Roman Catholic faith. Mr. and Mrs. Szoradi, Mike and Jim, received their Canadian Citizenship certificates in May, 1956. The

ceremony was held in the Masonic Hall presided over by Judge H. G. Buckingham of Brandon.

**Mike** was born in Pali, Sopron Megye, Hungary on May 10, 1920. Mike received five years education in Hungary, and the remainder in Woodville and Elkhorn schools. He married Verna Koeckeritz, daughter of the late Eva and Herb Koeckeritz, of Ebor, Manitoba in 1943. Verna was born in Antler, Saskatchewan in March, 1920, and attended school at Braeside, Saskatchewan. They have three children, Michael Jr. (Mickey), Allan, and Carol. Their family are all married. Mike retired from farming (28-11-28) in May, 1980 and moved into Elkhorn.

**James Jr.** was born in Paks, Sopron Megye, Hungary on December 29, 1921. He arrived in Canada with his mother Katalin in October, 1925 to join his father, James Sr. Jim (later he was called "young Jimmy" and his father "ol' Jim") received some of his education at Woodville and the remainder in Elkhorn. Jim married Carol Runions, daughter of Bertha (Toots) and the late George Runions, of Lena, Manitoba. They were married at Bienfait, Saskatchewan in August, 1965. Carol attended Woodville school for a few years. Jim and Carol have three daughters, Bunny, Cindy and Barbara. They are residents of Virden, Manitoba. The girls attend Virden schools and Jim works for the C.P.R. at Virden. Previous to his marriage he farmed with his father, then worked for the C.N. Railroad at Rivers, Manitoba, Beiseker, Alberta, McBride, British Columbia and Bienfait, Saskatchewan. Jim had a serious accident when he was about ten. In town, when playing with other children, he ran out from between two cars and was struck down. The driver, we found out years later, is a local resident. Jim was a patient of Dr. Johnston and was hospitalized for a long time. With no hospital in town, at that time Dr. Johnston used rooms at the Manitoba Hotel for his patients. Jim was out of school for a year. Jim and his family enjoy sports.

**Kathleen**, the younger of the two sisters, was born at Elkhorn in Dorothy Hennan's Nursing Home on January 8, 1935. She attended Elkhorn Elementary and High School. She took part in all school sports. After Gr. XI she taught for one year at Bardal School as a permit teacher. She worked in Elkhorn Bank of Commerce for four years and transferred to Winnipeg and worked in several Bank of Commerce branches. She attended evening classes and finished Gr. XII in Winnipeg. After Gr. XII, she continued working at the bank, and was also with the R.C.A.F. Reserve on part time basis for two years. Also while working, she attended evening classes at the University of Winnipeg and graduated receiving her Bachelor of Arts degree in the fall of 1977. Kathleen also

had taken some courses at Toronto and Los Angeles, California. She was accountant and later assistant manager in the banks. She became manager of two banks of Commerce in Transcona in May, 1978. In 1981 she received a promotion and became assistant manager (this being a much larger branch) at Main and Bannantyne in Winnipeg. Later in the spring of 1981 she was promoted to Credit Department as assistant to the assistant supervisor in the Regional Office in the Richardson Building in Winnipeg.

Kathleen married Gary Lally of Brandon on December 30, 1967. They were married in Winnipeg. Gary is a University graduate, has several degrees, and at present is a school principal. They have no family. Each year on their vacation they travel to different parts. They have spent time in different countries in Europe, the Caribbean, and the United States.

**Anna** was born on the home farm 19-11-28. She attended school at Elkhorn and graduated in June, 1952. When Ann started school she couldn't speak English. She will never forget her embarrassing moment when her teacher, Mrs. Marg. Frazer, asked "And what is your name, dear?" Ann replied, "Yes." Ann took part in all sport activities — still enjoys sports, music and reads a lot of material in relation to medicine. She worked as a telephone operator for two years in Virden, Manitoba. On July 17, 1954, she married Pete Hoemsen of Griswold, Manitoba.

submitted by Ann Hoemsen

### **Mike Szoradi**

**Mike** came to Woodville district with his mother, **Mrs. Anna Horvath**, from Hungary, in the fall of 1931. He was born May 10, 1920 at Budapest.

Mike was adopted by **Mr. Jim Szoradi Sr.** when Jim and Mrs. Anna Horvat were married in 1931.

He moved from Woodville to Elkhorn district with his parents in the fall of 1931 to what was known as the Aikins farm 19-11-28.

Mike received his education in Budapest, Woodville and Elkhorn.

He married **Verna Koecheritz** on May 16, 1943 in the Elkhorn Catholic Church.

Verna was born March 21, 1920 at Antler, Saskatchewan and is the eldest daughter of nine children of the late **Herb and Eva Koecheritz**.

Verna received her education grade I to IX at a one room country school named Braeside. She moved with her parents to Ebor, Manitoba in 1938 and took a General Housekeeping course in the winter of 1939-1940 in Brandon. Upon completion she accepted employment at the Brandon Mental Hospi-



Mike and Verna Szoradi with their children. L-R: Carol, Allan and Mickey 1973.

tal, Wawota Hotel, Manitoba Hotel and Indian School of Elkhorn.

Born of this marriage were two sons, **Michael (Mickey)** on July 3, 1943, **Allan** on August 12, 1944, and a daughter **Carol** on May 26, 1947.

Mike and Verna started farming in 1946 one mile north of Elkhorn. In 1950 they moved to the Hunter farm 28-11-28, one mile south of Elkhorn. They retired to Elkhorn in June, 1980, and are now residing on Railway Street.

Mike was actively involved in sports and hunting. He is also an active member of the Agricultural Society, Elks and Royal Canadian Legion.

Verna was a member of the Daffodil Rebekah Lodge and also is now active in Ladies Auxiliary of the Royal Canadian Legion, Ladies Curling Club and United Church choir.

They now have five grandsons and two granddaughters.

**Allan Szoradi** is the younger son of Mike and Verna. He was born in Elkhorn and received his education there. He joined Manitoba Hydro in 1963 and met his wife **Bernie (Hainsworth)** while stationed in Deloraine. They were married in 1964 at Deloraine United Church and have three sons, **Dean, Terry, and Warren**.

They have lived in Deloraine since their marriage. Allan works for Manitoba Hydro in Brandon.

**Carol Smith** is the only daughter of Mike and Verna; she was born in Elkhorn and received her education there. Carol attended Marvel Hairdressing

School in Winnipeg and received her diploma in 1964. She married **Allan Smith** of Welwyn, Saskatchewan in 1966. A son **Troy** was born 1966 and a daughter, **Candice** born 1970, deceased 1971.

Carol was divorced in 1980. She and her son Troy now reside in Brandon and she is presently employed at Woolco Department Store.

Michael (Mickey) is the elder son of Mike and Verna, born July 3, 1943 at Elkhorn. Mickey received his education there; he was employed by Manitoba Hydro from 1964-1967.

In May 1967 he married **Starr (Bernard)**.

Starr was born to **Cecil and Dorothy Bernard** on December 20, 1946 in Rocanville, Saskatchewan. She moved with her parents to Willen district in 1949. Starr received her education at Jeffrey, Manson, McAuley, and Virden. After graduation Starr was employed at Stadium Ford Sales Ltd. and A.&W. Food Services of Canada head office.

Mickey and Starr resided in Winnipeg from 1967 until moving to Lockport in 1975. Mickey was employed by Stadium Ford Sale Ltd. and Parkside Ford Sales Ltd. during this period. In June, 1980 they moved to the family farm 28-11-28 at Elkhorn.

There is one son, **Robert**, born November 17, 1969, and two daughters **Kimberly** born May 29, 1974 and **Karin** born April 8, 1977.

submitted by Mickey Szoradi

### **Alvin Thompson Family**

**Alvin Thompson**, son of **Charles and Jean (Cowan) Thompson** of McAuley came to the Elkhorn area in the 1950's and worked for Wilf Francis as a truck driver. He later drove a school bus, worked for Jim Martin and the Virden Auction Mart before obtaining his own land and beginning a farming operation with pigs and cattle. **Kay** was born and raised in the Fairlight district of Saskatchewan coming to Elkhorn area in the '70's with her two children to join the Thompson family.

We live in a house built by a Mr. Clifford around the turn of the century. It housed the Earl Snyders, Allan McClures, Jack Lacey, and George Canarts before Alvin obtained it in 1959. There have been many changes and renovations done over the years so I am sure Mr. Clifford would not recognize his house if he were alive today.

Our family includes six children all living at home. There are three girls, **Debbie, Shannon and Sandra**, and three boys, **Perry, Bobby and Jeffry**.

### **Henry Thompson, Chrissie Bryant Thompson**

We farmed northeast of Elkhorn until 1965. Then we went to Calgary, Alberta. In 1980, we retired and

came back to Virden. Our oldest son, **Douglas**, passed away on November 6, 1978. His widow and three children live in Kamloops, British Columbia. Our second son, **Ricky**, and his wife and five children farm near McBride, British Columbia. Our third son, **Wesley**, and his wife and two children live in Calgary. Wesley is a truck driver.

### **John W. M. Thompson**

**John W. M. Thompson**, only son of **Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Thompson**, was born in Elkhorn, attended Elementary and High School here, graduating with the Governor-General's medal for general proficiency, and after obtaining a B.A. degree at Brandon College and a LL.B. degree at the University of Manitoba, was called to the Bar of Manitoba, and returned to Elkhorn to practice Law. He remained in practice for twenty-five years, with the exception of three years in the R.C.A.F. during the Second World War.

Community offices held by John Thompson include School Trustee, Councillor, Mayor and Chairman of The Hospital Board. Some of the activities

during his mayoralty were the construction of the new Municipal Office and Fire Hall, the re-construction and up-grading of Richhill Avenue (Main Street), the disposition of the Indian School properties after strenuous efforts to obtain a resident institution, and the construction of the Elkhorn Hospital. As Chairman of the Hospital Board John was active in the planning and formative years of the Elkhorn Hospital and its first years of operation and presided at the official opening in 1951.

After 14 years in Municipal office John Thompson was elected in 1953 as member of the Manitoba Legislature for Virden constituency. Following the victory of the Progressive Conservative Party in the election of 1958 he was appointed Minister of Labour and of Municipal Affairs and after two years Minister of Public Works and Highways. He was appointed a Queen's Counsel in 1959 and was elected President of Good Roads Association of Canada in 1960.

Mr. Thompson resigned from the Government at the end of 1962 upon his appointment by the Federal Government as Judge of the County Court of the Southern Judicial District of Manitoba, with headquarters in Morden. After ten and a half years he was



W. J. Thompson home. L-R Lower veranda: Mr. Thompson, Mrs. James McLeod with daughter Agnes, Mrs. Thompson. Upper veranda: the man who painted the home.



Agnes Kennedy, John Wm. Thompson holding Marlene Thompson, Mary (McLeod) Thompson 1944.

transferred to Winnipeg as Judge of the county and Surrogate Courts of the Eastern Judicial District and has since continued in that post.

In 1942, John Thompson married **Lorraine Dutton** of Virden. Lorraine was associated in Elkhorn with community, church and sporting activities, particularly curling. The Thompsons have four children, **MARLENE**, wife of Aivars Pone of Ottawa, **DOROTHY**, wife of Bill Willson of Burlington, Ontario, **JOHN** of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and **LAURIE ANN**, wife of Kevin Rowan of Winnipeg. The Pones have two children: Richard and Andris.

While John was eight years of age and Laurie two years when the family moved to Winnipeg, Marlene and Dorothy attended Elkhorn schools to complete grades ten and eight respectively and were among those successfully representing their school at the Music and Arts Festival, in piano, voice and public speaking. They were also active in the United Church Sunday School Choir, figure skating and 4-H clubs. Marlene is an R.N., graduating from Children's Hospital, Winnipeg, and obtained a Diploma for singing from the Royal Conservatory of Music, University of Toronto. Dorothy graduated as a Bachelor of Home Economics and Bachelor of Education. John started in hockey as a little boy and played professional hockey in Germany, the U.S.A. and in Winnipeg. He played for the Bisons while a student at the University of Manitoba, from which he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts. Laurie received her Bachelor of Nursing from the University of Manitoba.

submitted by John Thompson

### **William and Audrey Thompson**

**William** (Bill) and **Audrey Thompson** moved to Elkhorn, from Ebor, on October 31, 1952. They had a family of four — **Agnes**, **Mary Ellen**, **John** and **Irene**, ranging in ages from six to ten and a half years.

They rented the Andrew Sheane farm one mile east on No. 1 Highway. For two years we (the children) walked to school most of the time, depending on the weather. In winter we sometimes travelled in a little closed-in cutter with a heater in it. My grandpa, Harry Nichol, had built it. Often when it was cold, Mr. Earl Stinson would turn around and take us after he delivered his van load of children.

Due to the fact that one-quarter of a section of land and approximately twenty head of cattle could barely provide for a family of six, Mom went to work in town. She did housecleaning for Mrs. George Bartley and others, and scrubbed public places such as Poloski's pool room, the Hotel cafe and the Doctor's office for fifty cents per hour.

Dad also helped out a few farmers such as Earl Stinson and Cliff Mulligan, but due to his failing health, we had a sale, with Dr. Hennan as auctioneer and made enough money to purchase the "Mat Towler" house on the south side of Railway in Elkhorn.

Mom continued to work hard and took in washing as well as her cleaning jobs. Then, I believe it must have been an exciting event when she got the job doing laundry at the Elkhorn Hospital. She also took over for the cook for holidays and days-off.

Mom drove a 1929 Chev. and we couldn't go for a Sunday Drive without giving it a good polish.

At that time, we children thought we were burdened with chores. We had wood and snow to carry in during the winter and ashes and slop-pails to carry out.

I was fortunate to belong to the 4-H Sewing Club for four years under the leadership of Mrs. Cliff Lund. **Agnes** and **Irene** both took 4-H cooking with Mrs. Edith Chapple as their leader.

We all attended Sunday School at the United Church and Agnes and I sang in the Junior Choir for some time. We also belonged to the Hi-C youth group.

We all did plenty of baby-sitting and bought our own clothes as teenagers. **John** often did jobs for Mr. Fordyce, who had a farm just south of our lot. He also did odd jobs for Bernard Tutthill.

At the age of fourteen, Agnes went to work for Ken and Mary Schroeder at the Esso Cafe. She also worked for Jack and Mazae Kendall at the same location and is still working in a cafe in Campbell River, B.C. Agnes joined the R.C.A.F. in 1960 when she finished Gr. XI and went to Nova Scotia. She met **Raymond Flemming** from Nova Scotia and was married on March 31, 1962. They had two children: **David**, born December 28, 1962 and **Susan**, born March 2, 1964. They are separated now, but Agnes and the children reside in Campbell River, B.C.

I, **Mary Ellen**, started work on weekends, at the



Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Thompson and children. L-R: Mary Ellen, Irene, John and Agnes.

age of fifteen years for Bud Townsend at the Texaco and later moved down the road to the Esso to work for Mr. and Mrs. Jack Kendall and later for Mrs. Linda Daniels. In February, 1964, I went to St. Boniface to train for a Licensed Practical Nurse and later was employed at the Virden District Hospital.

On August 7, 1965, I became **Mrs. Sid Warkentin** and began a new life at the PFRA pasture at McAuley, Manitoba. After transfers to North Portal, Saskatchewan, Kayville, Saskatchewan, and Kindersley, Saskatchewan, we bought a farm and returned to McAuley in July, 1973. We have three children: **Sheryl**, born at Estevan, on December 8, 1967 (Canada's Centennial), **Wade**, born at Bengough on April 12, 1970 (Manitoba's Centennial) and **Denise**, born at Moosomin, on November 20, 1974 (Winnipeg's Centennial).

John married the former **Barbara Tomms** from Virden on August 29, 1964. They started married life working at a mixed farm operation at Carievale, Saskatchewan. John had always been interested in Mechanics and got a lot of experience trying to keep his \$150 teenage cars on the road. He was fortunate to get a job with Thomas Motors in Virden and was later promoted to Manager of the Shell Service Station at Virden. In 1973, they moved to Elkhorn, where John operated the former "Russell and Nylin" garage. The following year they moved to Campbell River, British Columbia, where John was employed by Steve Marshall and is presently Shop Foreman at the same garage. They have two children: **Marlene**, born August 18, 1965 and **Brian**, born July 31, 1968.

Irene left school after Gr. IX and worked for the Adam Turbaks at Elkhorn and the Tom Tapps in the

Montgomery district. She married **Joe Ewasko** from Basswood, Manitoba on May 7, 1966. Joe worked for the C.P.R. at that time, so they moved about and resided at Oak Lake, Virden, Wapella, Indian Head, Whitewood, and Shoal Lake. Later, Joe joined his brother in Edmonton, working for oil companies and this led them to Fort St. John, British Columbia where Joe bought his own truck and is hired by "Beaver" to haul equipment for different oil companies. They have two sons: **Allan** born March 3, 1969 and **Randy** born June 15, 1971. They had the misfortune of losing an infant son, born December 8, 1967.

Dad (Bill Thompson), passed away December 1963 after a lengthy illness, and Mom (Audrey Thompson) passed away in March, 1967. They were predeceased by a son, **James Alexander** in 1943. He was the first-born and had been kicked by a horse at the age of three.

Bill Thompson had married the former **Audrey Nichol** in 1938, and they had the pleasure of celebrating their 25th Anniversary before Dad's passing away. May They Both Rest in Peace!

submitted by Mary Ellen Warkentin

### **Robert B. Thomson Family**

**Robert Thomson** was born in Portage la Prairie while his wife **Dorothy** was born at Killarney. They met when Dorothy was teaching near Portage and were married in 1959, moving to Cromer in 1963.

Robert and Dorothy moved to Elkhorn from Cromer in the spring of 1969, moving into the stone house just across the track. Robert worked as mechanic for Delmar Nylin's Garage until its closure. For a couple of years he worked in the garage owned by Rod Coutts. He is currently employed as a school bus driver for the Fort La Bosse S.D. They have a family of four; **Dale, Jamie, Kimberley** and **Darren**. Dorothy is a teacher at the Plainview Colony.

### **Tinline, William John**

**William John Tinline**, born in Toronto, Ontario in 1860. Married to **Phoebe Hacking** in 1879. They lived at Vandorf, Ontario for nine years. Wm. Tinline was a blacksmith. He worked for a Mr. McTaggart at Vandorf and when the McTaggarts moved to Elkhorn and started a blacksmith shop, they persuaded my father to come to Elkhorn and work for them. He came to Elkhorn in 1889 and was joined by his wife and five children, **Milton, Percy, Roy, Pearl** and **Olive** in 1890. They resided in Elkhorn and as there was no bake shop in the town, Mother baked bread for a number of the bachelors in the district.

They took out a homestead about 1893 one and one-half miles east of the town on the north side of



the road. During their years on the farm, three children were born, **Mary, Rosena and Keith.**

My father continued to be the blacksmith in Elkhorn having bought the shop from the McTaggarts. He still owned the shop when he moved to Regina. The three older boys helped to clear and work the farm.

The Tinline family attended the Presbyterian Church and Sunday School. They all went to the old stone school in town and later went to the new brick school built in 1910. Many memories were brought back when I attended the reunion before the brick school was torn down. My father was a trustee of Elkhorn School from the early 1900's until he left in 1917.

In 1917 we decided to leave the farm for help was hard to get because of the war. Father rented to Robert Leach and we moved to Regina. In the 1920's my brother Milton took over the farm. Father worked in Regina until his death in 1931 and Mother died in 1944.

#### **Tinline Family Tree**

**Milton John, 1880-1968** married **Mable Evans** (deceased).

Children: **Elizabeth** (deceased), **Phyllis, John** (deceased), **Dorothy and Joyce.**

Milton took a homestead at the age of twenty-one and kept it until his death, even in his 80's he went back to clear trees and drain the sloughs. He was one of the first to enroll in the Manitoba Agricultural College, graduating in 1911. He received many honours in the province of Manitoba — the Golden Boy for his work in the Peace Gardens and later he was admitted to the Agricultural Hall of Fame.

**Percy William, 1882-1945** married **Lena Darwin** (deceased).

Children: **William** married **Adeline Davies.**

Children: **Jean, Robert, Edward** (deceased), **Ronald.**

Percy was a commercial traveller in Manitoba and Saskatchewan until he bought the hardware store at Whitewood, Saskatchewan, where he resided until his death.

**Francis Roy, 1884-1955** married **Ruth.**

Children: **Keith**

Roy worked for a freighter going from Grande Prairie to Edmonton using horses in summer and dog sled in the winter. He lived his later years in Toronto.

**Pearl May, 1886**

Pearl was a teacher in Manitoba and Saskatchewan earning her B.A. degree as so many did in summer schools and correspondence classes. She resides in Regina.

**Olive Genivere, 1888-**

Olive was a secretary and after moving to California,

trained as a laboratory technician. She is now retired in Los Angeles.

**Mary Muriel, 1895** married **Erle Myers.**

Children: **Muriel, George, Clayton.**

After marriage they farmed for many years at Grand Coulee, Saskatchewan, and they are now retired in Regina.

**Margaret Rosena, 1900-** married **Harold Wilson.**

Children: **Ellwood, Everett and Rosemarie.**

Rosena taught school in Saskatchewan until her marriage, then moved to a farm at Rouleau, Saskatchewan. They have now retired to Regina.

**Robert Keith, 1902-1974** married **Mabel Jordan.**

Children: **Rodney and Richard.**

Keith finished his schooling in Regina and worked there. He was a partner in O.K. Marking and Stamping Devices until his retirement. He then spent winters in Texas and summers in Regina until his death.

The following reminiscences may be printed if space permits:

I remember the gypsies who travelled through every summer, begging for food for the sick woman in the covered wagon. Also food for their horses. They had beautiful hand work for sale and would tell your fortune if you crossed their hand with silver. Being on the trans-Canada railroad we got tramps all summer long begging for a meal but after making two or three of them cut wood for a meal, they must have left a mark for, after that, they passed us by.

The prairie fire I remember: My Father saw it from the field and went directly to the fire. He sent the hired man, "A Green Englishman", to the house to hitch the team to the walking plow and come to the fire quickly. The man didn't know how to hitch up the team and Mary (eleven years) did this and sent him on his way.

There was also the Remittance Man who lived northeast of Elkhorn. His people in England had bought him a small acreage on which he built a cabin. They sent him money each month to keep him there. He wandered the country with his gun and his dog shooting rabbits and wild fowl, and asking for a meal from the neighbors when his money ran short at the end of the month.

submitted by Rosena (Tinline) Wilson.

#### **The Townsend Family**

In 1894 the crops were poor around Acton, Ontario, and in 1895 grasshoppers and dry weather combined to practically wipe out the wheat. That was the final factor that caused **Henry and Janet Townsend** to move west.

Henry was the fifth son of his family — a lean, 6 foot red-headed man, though his grandchildren re-



Townsend family, 1908. Standing: Ethel, Frances. Seated: Janet, Ada, Henry.



George and Ada Gardner with their family of Annie, Dorothy and Hank about 1913.

member him with white hair and a white beard. He married Janet Leslie — the short, brunette, eldest daughter of John and Annie Leslie on March 27, 1879 at Union Presbyterian Church, Norval, Ontario. They had four daughters — red-haired **Annie** and **Ada**, auburn **Ethel** and black-haired **Frances**.

The Townsends packed up their family and belongings in a settlers' car on the railroad and headed west. They stopped at Chater at the home of Allen Leslie — Janet's brother, so they could rest and feed the cattle and horses. Then they proceeded by train to Hamiota from where they had to drive the livestock to a farm at Kenton. They weren't long in Kenton when Janet's youngest brother, J. P. Leslie told them about the farm north of Elkhorn at 27-12-28. They moved there in 1898 and made it their home until they retired to Elkhorn for the rest of their lives.

The farm prospered and Henry, who was also an excellent carpenter, remodelled the house, built an unusual two story granary and a big barn. The lower part of the barn was of stone with a big red loft above it. There was a gangway so the horses could pull the loads of hay inside the loft. It was also fitted with rope slings and a pulley system for unloading hay or straw. Ethel said that that barn was her father's pride and joy. To his grandchildren it was a place for fun

and games. When the loft was empty my father made great swings for us with the ropes. When it began to fill up with hay we loved to run and jump from the rafters. It was not uncommon for someone to roll too far and end up with a bloody nose. The barn was moved north and is still being used on the Drake farm. At this time the old house still stands though vacant many years. The other buildings and all the maple trees and hedges are gone.

In Ontario the Townsends are listed as charter members in the Union Church near Georgetown. They continued their church work in the Methodist church in Elkhorn where Janet was listed as secretary in the first records of the Ladies' Aid in 1907. She continued to be active well after the churches united and was treasurer of the Sunday School for many years while Mr. Miller was superintendent.

After their daughters were all married they rented the farm and moved to the little brown house on the corner of Cavendish and Maharg where the Sinclairs now live. They had a green barn where Henry kept a horse and also had a room for his buggy and a workshop. They lived full and active lives until Henry died in 1920 and Janet carried on until 1938.

Janet Townsend loved people and her home was a gathering place for family, friends and neighbours — young and old. Saturday would usually find country folk in for a visit and tea after shopping. On Sunday evenings after church there were gatherings around the piano for hymn singing while Janet (Duxbury) played.

In those days there was no hospital in Elkhorn. On one occasion Dr. Johnston asked to set up an operating table there in her home to remove tonsils from some of the children in the area, three of whom were Marjorie Freeman, Lorna Duxbury, and Frances Gardner. They promised us all the ice cream we wanted.

When the time for high school came Annie and Dorothy Gardner and later the three Duxburys — Lorna, Tommy and Bill stayed with Grandma Townsend through Grades IX to XI. Some of the neighbors were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Freeman, Sr. in the yellow house where Laseks now live, Mr. and Mrs. Dahl to the north and later the Weldons and Mrs. Hennan and her six grandchildren on the north east.

As for the Townsend daughters, the eldest, **Annie**, married **John Duxbury** in 1901. They had one daughter, **Janet**, born in 1904. Before the baby was two, Annie died so Janet was raised by her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Townsend. Janet went through school in Elkhorn and stayed with Mrs. Townsend until her grandmother's death. She became a practical nurse and worked at her profession

until she retired from the Children's Hospital in Winnipeg in 1969.

The youngest daughter, **Ada**, became a teacher. She married **George Gardner**. They began to farm across the road, east of the Townsend farm where their five children — **Henry, Anne, Dorothy, Frances** and **Leslie** were born. Ada Gardner died in Elkhorn in 1927.

**Frances** Townsend married **Andrew Cairns** and they resided on his farm north of Oak Lake town. They had two sons, **Harold** and **Henry**.

After the Boer War in South Africa ended, Thomas Duxbury returned to Elkhorn as a war hero. He met **Ethel** Townsend (my mother). She remembered him as "very handsome and a fine person". On a cold windy day, December 13, 1911 Reverend Schier officiated at the wedding of Thomas Duxbury and Ethel Townsend at the farm home. The bride wore a lovely gown of white lace over silk. Her going away dress was one she made herself of emerald green velvet. (Over twenty years later she and Mrs. Gerty Leslie remodelled that dress for her daughter.) The couple went to Imperial, Saskatchewan to live where my father had a homestead. My grandfather asked them to take over the farm in the Burnbank district so they returned there in 1914. They lived there and raised their family until World War II began when my father's failing health caused them to move into the Townsend house in Elkhorn.

In the 1920's tractors were not yet being used for land work. The farmers were up at 5:00 A.M. all summer to feed their horses before going to the fields with four or six-horse teams. They had cows to milk, calves and pigs to feed before breakfast. They usually hired a man to help them. My mother raised chickens and turkeys. Turkeys are probably the slyest yet stupidest birds. They hid their nests and would lead the poults so far away that the coyotes would catch them, unless they were watched carefully. Those which survived were fattened and then bled and dressed for the Christmas market.

The milk was put through a separator. The skim milk was fed to the calves and pigs. The cream, in special five gallon cans, was lowered down the well to keep it cool and sweet. Mother churned butter for the family. The rest of the cream was sent on the train to Virden until the Elkhorn creamery was built.

In those days before electricity, the district organized a beef ring. Every Thursday from spring to freeze up one family provided a steer to be slaughtered by Alla Johnson and the meat was shared among the members. One Thursday in threshing time in 1923, my mother — five months pregnant — planned to drive for the meat. The car was a 1921 Chevrolet touring car. It was started by turning a

crank by hand in the front. It was important that it should be out of gear so it would not start to move. After several false starts she forgot to return it to neutral. The next time she cranked, the motor caught. The car knocked her down and the front wheel ran over her shoulder. She turned but the back wheel went over her too, and the car continued till it hit the barn. She managed to get to the house.

Someone phoned Dr. Johnston who is reported to have drawled "You'll be all right. Fords and Chevys are too light to do you any harm."

There were some dreadful wind storms in the short summers around 1930. I can remember seeing hay racks, planks and rubbish being blown across the field. We huddled in the house wondering if we should scurry to the cellar. Though the windows and doors were shut tightly, the dust sifted through anyway and covered everything. Then there were several years when the crop was wiped out by hail. In 1935 there was rain and the wheat grew thick and heavy. In mid-July it was attacked by rust and again the crop was lost. I wonder, now, how they had courage to keep on.

But there were good times too. There was no T.V. and the battery radios just coming in had earphones at first. The people visited and arranged house parties with cards and dancing in winter, and picnics and ball games in summer. For some years Mr. Laurie Johnson used to have the young people playing ball on Sunday evenings. Sometimes the Johnsons would join us to go to the valley to pick saskatoons, chokecherries or cranberries. We took a picnic supper and everyone had a great time, besides laying in fruit for pies and desserts. The school was a centre for social activity too. Nearly ever other Friday all winter they held a whist drive (sometimes euchre) and dance, with different families taking turns bringing the coffee and looking after the dishes. Mr. Jock Orr was usually M.C. and called the square dances.

A big event was the annual Christmas concert put on by the teacher and pupils in the school. As there were so few children, each child took several parts and probably wore several costumes — often made of crepe paper. The school had a small organ which the organist pumped as she played the accompaniment. The trustees set up a platform, boards and benches for seats, and a fir Christmas tree. They decorated the tree with lots of tinsel and decorations including real candles. These were lighted while Santa Claus passed out the gifts and bags of candy to the children. People came from miles around and the late ones would be standing. After the concert and lunch the seats were cleared out and the children played "Oats and Peas and Barley O" and a few other games, before the dancing started.

One year Freemans offered to pick up the neighbours along the way with their team and sleigh. By the time our family — the last house — were in, there must have been 20 people or more standing in the sleigh box. On the return everyone was laughing and talking when suddenly one runner went over the edge of the snow drift and everything was dumped in the snow. There were some anxious moments while we dug out some little kids at the bottom of the heap and rescued the burning lantern. But the horses didn't run away and the fellows soon righted the sleigh and we were on our way again.

The Duxburys had four children — Lorna Leslie, Thomas Lincoln, Andrew Lloyd George and William Bruce. **Lloyd** died after a fall when he was three years old. The others walked to one-roomed Burnbank school for grades one through eight. Like most of the other children, we carried sandwiches of home-made bread, cake and fruit in tin pails for lunch. Beginners started after Easter. The grade eight pupils had to write exams set by the Department of Education before they could enter high school. Miss Marion Lambert of Elkhorn was a great teacher and the one who prepared Melville Lacy and me for those "Entrance Exams". In a small group like that every child took part in the games. I can remember the boys being annoyed with my friend Phillis Johnson and me for deciding to go for a walk at noon instead of playing softball. From Burnbank the three of us, as we were ready, went to Elkhorn High School to complete Grade XI.

**Tommy** stayed on the farm during those depression days until World War II broke out in 1939. He immediately enlisted in the R.C.A.F. and became a Wireless Air Gunner. Because of Dad's illness, he was allowed five days compassionate leave in January, 1941. We never saw him again. He was sent to England where he saw much action. Because they were so short of air crew he had to begin a second tour of duty as soon as the first was completed. He never finished that tour but was reported missing over Europe in October 1941. In 1960 I visited Citadelle Cemetery at Dinant, Belgium where I found a tombstone listing Flight Sgt. Thomas L. Duxbury R.C.A.F. along with 24 others who were shot down the same night.

After they moved to Elkhorn my mother became involved in United Church activities — Ladies' Aid, W.M.S., where she was honored with a life membership, and W.I. She also enjoyed playing croquet and bridge with many friends. After my father died in 1942, Mother stayed for another two years and then moved to Winnipeg to be with her family. She lived first with Bill, then Lorna, when she was widowed, then Janet, and eventually to the Lions Manor until

her sight failed. She passed away in 1978 and is buried in Elkhorn Cemetery. We are grateful for the kindness of friends and neighbours of Burnbank and Elkhorn.

At seventeen **Bill** finished Grade XI and went to Winnipeg. He married **Alice Shumski** in 1953. He obtained his R.I.A. degree in accountancy and is working for the C.N. in that capacity.

I (**Lorna**) became a teacher. I taught four years at Mossiel School and then two more years in eastern Manitoba. I married Bill Ellison in 1938. After my husband's death in 1952, I taught in Winnipeg until retirement. We have three children — **Moira Phillis Diane, Walter Thomas and Gwendolyn Joy**. They are all married now with families of their own. Strangely enough Moira and her family now live in Brampton close to Acton where her great-grandparents came from. She is surrounded by descendants of their relatives.

submitted by Lorna Ellison (Nee Duxbury)  
April, 1981

### **Rufus Travis**

**Rufus Travis** was born February 24, 1840, at Amherst, Nova Scotia. He married **Minnie Embree**, who was born November 13, 1845. He came west with his wife and two children to be a pumpman on the railroad at Niverville, Manitoba.

In 1883, he came to Elkhorn where he was the pumpman for the C.P.R. For years he also attended the oil burning street lights of the village. This necessitated twice daily trips around the village, where he became known to everyone as "**Dad**", a friend, a jack-of-all-trades, ready to help at any time. He was an avid hunter.

The story is told that in order to pass the time in the early days of his sojourn in the West, he set up a pile of stones close to the railroad and placed a set of moose antlers on top. This attracted considerable gunfire from the passing train crews and doubtless was responsible for delays in train schedules, if any.

Mrs. Travis, "**Minnie**" was mini in size, providing considerable contrast to "**Dad**"'s over six feet. She was a friendly type of person, whose family and church were the interests of her life. In 1903, she was chosen to lay the corner stone for the present United Church. Their children were:

**C. FRED TRAVIS** (see story)

**MABEL D. TRAVIS** married **William C. Miller** (see story)

**ADDIE E. TRAVIS** (see story)

**WELDON TRAVIS** was born August 11, 1886, and died May 20, 1908 in his twenty first year.

Rufus Travis died October, 1929. Minnie Embree Travis died March 31, 1924. They are buried in the family plot in Elkhorn cemetery.

### **Addie Elizabeth Travis**

"**Addie**" **Travis**, as she was known to everyone in Elkhorn, was born March 14, 1883, in the railroad station at Niverville, Manitoba, where her father was pumpman. She came to Elkhorn with her parents in 1883, and took her schooling in Elkhorn. She attended Normal School, and in 1910 commenced working for Mr. John Mooney in the drug store, where she continued until her retirement some forty years later.

Addie was active in the church, the Rebekah Lodge, the tennis and curling clubs, and played the organ for church services for many years.

Addie died July 7, 1965, and is buried in the family plot in Elkhorn cemetery.

### **Charles Frederick Travis**

**Charles Frederick Travis** was born in Amherst, Nova Scotia, April 16, 1879, the son of "**Dad**" and **Mrs. Travis**. He married **Margaret Broley**.

Little is known of the movement of Fred Travis other than that he was one of the principals responsible for the establishment of the Elkhorn Rolling Mill, which later proved to be an unsuccessful venture. Their family was:

**ERNIE TRAVIS** worked for several railroad companies and retired as C.P.R. passenger agent at San Francisco.

**CORRA TRAVIS** taught school. She married **Leslie Mutch**, who retired from the Civil Service after being M.P. for Winnipeg South for several terms.

**BROLEY TRAVIS** retired as a senior executive of California State Power Co. in Los Angeles.

Fred Travis died in Winnipeg, November 30, 1913. His wife died in 1947. They are buried in the family plot in Elkhorn cemetery.

### **Mr. and Mrs. John Turbak**

**John Turbak** and his wife, the former **Genewiefa Rogowski**, came to Canada in 1928 and resided in the Vermilion, Alberta area. From there they moved to the Ed Fry farm at Kirkella, section 10-12-29, in the year 1945.

They farmed there until 1967 at which time they bought a house in Elkhorn and took up residence.

Mrs. Turbak passed away in August, 1974. Mr. Turbak still resides in Elkhorn awaiting a room in the West-Man Nursing Home in Virden.

Mr. and Mrs. Turbak had one son, **Adam Edward**, who at present is residing on the home farm.

### **Mr. and Mrs. Adam E. Turbak**

**Adam E.**, the only son of **John** and **Genewiefa Turbak**, married **Agatha Looy** of Coronation, Alberta in 1953 and together they started farming on the

N.E. ¼ of 11-12-29. In the year 1967 they took over his father's farm on S.E. ¼ 10-12-29 and are still residing there.

Adam was an oil field pumper for some years, attending to the wells that were located in the Kirkella oil field. He was also an interested party in the United Grain Growers and the Pool Elevator Association.

Adam and Agatha had five children:

**Judy** — District Sales Manager for Costain Real Estate in Calgary.

**Charles** — deceased in 1972.

**Thelma** — secretary in Calgary.

**Connie** — married to **Harvey Schmithe**, resides on the home farm at Okotoks, Alberta, where Harvey operates a trucking business.

**Gladys** at present is in Australia working and seeing the sights, and upon her return hopes to pursue her modelling career.

### The Gordon Turner Family

**Gordon Turner**, fourth son of Allan Turner, was born at Sunderland, Ontario, on November 11th, 1899. He came to Manitoba at an early age. In 1913, he married **Gertie Cassell** and lived in a log house on the hills of Assiniboine Valley, near Miniota. They had four children: Ruby, Ernie, Viney and Winnie.

**Ruby** married Allan McClure in 1936 and they had three children, Lauretta, David and Joy. Lauretta has four children and two grandchildren and lives in Edmonton. David has four children and lives at Williams Lake. Joy has three children and lives in Edmonton. Allan McClure passed away in 1976.

**Ernie** married Tena Kirby and they had two children, Betty Arlene and Denys Charles. Ernie was killed overseas on October 30th, 1944.

**Viney** married Harry Reeves, has five children and lives in Masset, British Columbia.

**Winnie** married Wilfred Francis, has five children and now resides in Brandon.

Gordon and Gertie lived in the stone house in Two Creeks until 1937. They then moved to Flin Flon, Manitoba, and later returned to Elkhorn where Gordon passed away in 1950. Gertie passed away in 1975.

submitted by Ruby L. McClure

### The William John Turner Family

**William John Turner** was born in 1884 at Beaverton, Brock County, Ontario, and moved west in 1897 to Briarwood. In 1899, he moved to Two Creeks, Manitoba. He married **Leah Beatrice Kirk** in 1912. Leah was born in 1894 at Kirkton, Ontario. She moved to the York district, near Elkhorn, in 1911 with her parents. After their marriage they lived in



Mr. and Mrs. Jack Turner, Gordon and Gerty Turner and Mrs. J. Turner's mother, Mrs. Kirk.

the York district, where they had four children: Joe, Mary, Carrie and Maurice. They moved to Elkhorn in 1921, where their last child, Lily, was born.

**William John (Jack)** working as a carpenter for a year before moving to Two Creeks district, where he farmed for a number of years, then moved to the Woodville district in 1935, returning to Elkhorn to live in 1940. The next ten years, they spent at Souris but returned to Elkhorn in 1950 because of ill health. John Turner died in July, 1960. His wife continued to live in Elkhorn until 1969, then moved to Hamiota, and Viriden, where she died in July, 1978.

**Mary** married Charles Morton (now deceased). They had two children, Harry and Joan. Mary still resides in Viriden.

**Joe** married Reta Henderson and they had two children, Clare and Glenys. Joe is deceased. His wife resides in Winnipeg.

**Carrie** married Alex Grant (now deceased). They had three children, Shirley (deceased), Gwen, and Mavis. Carrie married Martin Kunkel, and still resides in Viriden.

**Maurice** married Evlyn Davies. They had six children, Gordon, Karen, Sherry, David, Peggy, and Jim. They reside in Hamiota.

**Lily** married Ronald Gardner (now deceased). They had three children, Ken, Dorothy, and Randy. Lily resides in Brandon.

### Mr. and Mrs. Claude Tutthill

My husband and our little daughter, **Hazel**, came to Canada in June, 1929. We arrived in Quebec. The ride on the train to Winnipeg was certainly an experience for us as we came out without any assistance from the Government and we had to try and find work ourselves. I had a brother out here working for Mr. Joe Haymes of Hargrave; his name was Jack Balding. As there was no work around there just at that time we heard of work at Kisby, Saskatchewan. We went there and found employment with a Mr. Charles Barker.

They were very kind and helpful and we have kept in touch with their family ever since. However, they only needed help for the summer and fall so Mr. Barker found us a steady job on the next farm to theirs. In June, 1930, our only son, **Bernard**, was born. As the dry years had hit that part of Saskatchewan, my brother got us a job at Ken McDonald's in the Taggan District, so we came to Manitoba in February, 1932. We stayed there nearly one year then we moved to the Victor District for about one year. In the fall we went to work for the winter for Mr. Thompson, who lived just east of Elkhorn; he was the father of the Honourable John Thompson. In the spring we went to work for Mr. J. P. Leslie for the summer. From there we moved to Mossgiel where we stayed for seven years. We moved into an empty farm house and there we started up on our own. It was a "Soldier's Settlement" quarter section of land. My husband and I built a sod barn there with a wheelbarrow and by hand.

Our children started school at Mossgiel. This was really where we put down our roots, so to speak. We then moved to Buckingham District and stayed for about four years. We went from there to what was called, then, the old Dixon Farm, west of Elkhorn, on the old Number One Highway. We were renting so when it was sold my husband was asked to go and help at the Indian School where Hazel, our daughter, was working as a Nurse's Aide. We then moved into the Harrenson House on Richhill, later moving to the Indian School grounds. We stayed there until 1951. The school had closed in the fall of 1949. It was at the Indian School that Bernard met **Etta Black**. They were married May, 1950. Etta worked at the school as "Girls' Supervisor". They had five children. Hazel, now Mrs. **Le Roy Williams**, has two children by her first marriage to **Arthur Acheson**, now deceased. She lives in Vancouver. I am now grandmother to seven grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. All of Bernard's family live in Elkhorn. Hazel's two children are **Vaughnn** and **Lynda**. Vaughnn is living and working in Vancouver. Lynda also lives in Vancouver. She is married and has one daughter, **Monika**.

Bernard and Etta have one daughter and four sons. Bernard, Kenneth, and Lynn all work together in Kable Concrete Ready-Mix and Tutthill Construction. Bernard is a trustee for Fort la Bosse School Division. He is a member of the Elks Lodge; Etta belongs to the Royal Purple. Their daughter **Norma** married Murray Lambkin of Belmont. They have four children, Barry, Kristopher, Tawna and Heather. Norma has a hairdressing business in Elkhorn. **Allan** farms and drives a school bus. He is Exalted Ruler of the Elks Lodge. He married Jane

Hall of Moosomin. They have two sons, Leslie and Curtis. **Kenneth** married Cynthia Fisher of Elkhorn. Both Kenneth and Cindy belong to the Elkhorn Volunteer Ambulance of which Cindy is secretary. Their children are Crystal and Steven. **Lynn** married Kathleen Cappie of Virden. She works at the Elkhorn Bank of Commerce. Lynn is a member of the Elks and of the fire department. They have one son Michael. Bernard and Etta's youngest son, **Kevin**, is taking grade seven at Elkhorn school. He belongs to the Virden Army Cadets and plays 12 and under hockey.

Claude and I left Elkhorn as we were asked to go and serve at the Indian Anglican School at Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. We worked there from August, 1951, until June, 1971, when we retired to Prince Albert. After Claude's death, in 1974, I returned to Elkhorn to be near our family. I think I can say I have come home, as I have lived in and around Elkhorn for many years and I have my family near me.

submitted by Mrs. Sybil Tutthill

### The Twigg Family

On October 16, 1888 at Upper Laiths Farm, Hollow Meadows, R.S.D. Bradfield, Yorkshire, England, there was born a baby boy who was destined to be the progenitor of the Twigg clan in the Elkhorn area. He was the second son and third child of **Alfred Twigg** and **Mary Hall**, and was named **Sam**. The members of their family in order of age were: **Jack, Clara, Sam, Floss** and **Alfred**.

Sam's father, Alfred, died in 1897 leaving Jack and Sam to run the farm until their mother remarried. The two brothers left home then and went out to work.

In the year 1910, Sam went to work at the Haigh Farm, Wigtwizzle, Stockbridge, Yorkshire, as horseman. During this time a young girl, Ethel Rolfe, came to work at the farm. Later **Ethel Rolfe** was to become Sam's wife.

Sam Twigg first came to Canada in 1913. He spent his first summer in the Elkhorn area working for Wilmar Leslie and a Mr. Green. Then during the



Ethel Twigg.



Sam Twigg.

winter of 1913-1914 he returned to England only to come back to Elkhorn the following spring. During the spring and summer of 1914 he worked for Harry Hunter. Then in the winter of 1914-1915 Sam worked for Jim McClymont. He joined the Army on January 25, 1916 at Virden and went overseas.

Sam was badly wounded in the arm while fighting in the war and spent considerable time in hospital in England. He married Ethel Rolfe April 17, 1917 at Harrogate, Yorkshire. In December of 1918, Sam was still wearing hospital blue when he and Ethel called to visit with his brother and sister-in-law, Jack and Ada Twigg. At this time he was on his way back to be demobilized.

Sam came back to Canada in the spring of 1919 with the soldiers. Ethel followed him in October of 1919. A friend who accompanied Ethel to buy her outfit for Canada said Ethel was very excited and was looking forward to her new life. Sam and Ethel lived with the Bill Milroy's for their first year and a half in Canada. They moved to Nine (Sec. 9-11-28) in the spring of 1921, to the Nelson Place (NW $\frac{1}{4}$  10-11-28) in 1927 and then to the Onion Place (NE $\frac{1}{2}$  18-11-28) in 1937 where they farmed until their retirement in 1941.

During Sam and Ethel's farming years in the Buckingham district they had four children born to them. They were, in order of age: **Alfred** born July 7, 1920; **Gladys** born November 8, 1921; **Olive**, born March 10, 1923 and **Florence Ethel**, born February 16, 1930. They retired to live in Elkhorn. Ethel passed away suddenly May 24, 1954 and Sam passed away after a short illness on August 5, 1956. They are buried in the family plot in the Elkhorn Cemetery.

Alfred Twigg married **Margaret Rowand** November 1, 1941 and took over his father's farm on his retirement. They still live on this farm. They had three sons and three daughters — **James** born March 29, 1943 died December 16, 1854, **Marilyn** born May 7, 1947, **Janice** born August 29, 1951, **Lynda** born May 3, 1955 and twins **Donald** and **Darryl** born July 20, 1961.

Marilyn attended public school at Buckingham and later high school at Elkhorn Collegiate. In 1966 she joined the staff of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce at Elkhorn. On June 8, 1968 she married **Ed Clayton**, a bank accountant and moved to Killarney, Manitoba. They later lived in Virden, Kenton, Elkhorn (again) and presently are living at The Pas, Manitoba. They have one son and three daughters — **Brian** born January 1, 1970, **Sheila** born October 7, 1972, **Krista** born May 30, 1977 and **Lisa** born January 22, 1980.

Janice attended public school at Buckingham and later high school at Elkhorn Collegiate. On October 18, 1975 she married **Dennis Kliever** and they live on

a farm south of Elkhorn (M. Leach Farm). They have one daughter — **Colleen** born March 9, 1978.

Lynda attended public school at Buckingham for her Grade one and then went into Elkhorn for the rest of her education. She married **Charles Friesen** July 15, 1978 but later became separated. She now has part-time work in Virden and helps on the home farm.

Donald and Darryl received their education at Elkhorn. They were active in sports during their school days and are still involved in broomball, badminton and baseball since finishing high school in 1980. They are now helping work the home farm.

Gladys Twigg married **Kenneth Ogilvie** November 20, 1940 and lived in the Arawana district until her death in May 10, 1968. They had two sons and one daughter — **Wayne** born March 12, 1941, **Douglas** born March 9, 1944 died summer 1975, and **Betty** born August 1, 1945.

Olive Twigg married **James Walker** December 7, 1940 and lived in the Woodville district until moving to the farm where Ronnie Walker now lives. They had two sons and twin daughters — **Ralph** born May 2, 1941, **Ronald** born May 15, 1943, **June** and **Joan** born May 6, 1951. James Walker passed away in 1975 and Olive passed away on March 4, 1976 after a long illness.

Florence married **Mervyn Stewart** and lives near Miniota, Manitoba. They have two sons and two daughters — **Dennis** born April 16, 1953, **Linda** born August 16, 1956, **Ross** born July 22, 1959 and **Brenda** born August 13, 1962.

submitted by Marilyn Clayton

## The Vaux Family

Daniel Arthur Vaux, born May, 1846, and Mary (Jessop) Vaux, born Sept. 1849, immigrated to Canada in the spring of 1882 from Leeds, England with their 8 yr. old daughter Lucy, born Jan. 1874. Although Arthur Vaux was from Leeds he was of French descent and was trained as a French chef. Can you imagine the change in life style going from a large city in England to the task of driving oxen and making a home in a sod house in the side of a hill in the lonely Manitoba prairie?

This plus the trip from England was a major undertaking and well remembered by 8 yr. old Lucy. She broke out with measles sometime on the journey and lay on the seat of the wagon as they rolled over the prairie by oxen from Oak Lake to the homestead, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$  miles north of Hargrave.

The oxen and wagon and a cow were bought in Winnipeg to carry them and their possessions from rail's end at Oak Lake to their homestead on SW $\frac{1}{4}$  34-11-27. They were accompanied by another emigrant John Clarkson and his two children who home-





Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Vaux with their children Lucy and Victor, 1897.

steaded a mile north. These two families were to be joined later by the marriage of two grandchildren.

The land office was situated in Birtle at this time and in order to file claim to their land the homesteaders had to journey to Birtle. Arthur walked the distance, over 30 miles, swimming the Assiniboine on the way there and again on the way back.

A son John Fredrick had been born to Arthur and Mary in England in Dec. of 1875 but he died in infancy in May, 1877. A second son Arthur Victor was born in Canada in April, 1886 but the disease of diabetes took him in 1899 a week before his 13th birthday. Victor had attended school at Hargrave.

The hardships of the homemakers at this time is beyond our understanding in this day and age. Just going for supplies was a major task. Prairie fires could run for miles without being stopped. On one occasion a fire was believed to have been started by a passing train three miles away and the flames swept across the homestead taking everything in its path. Even a chicken coop was burned as was the mother hen and her brood of chicks that was inside.

Fun times and social events were few and far between.

To prepare for a social evening, probably the only one in a year, and then to miss it because your ride didn't come for you would be very disappointing for a young girl in a lonely land.

Arthur and Mary took out the second homestead on S½ of 18-12-27. They lived there for some time. Lucy was able to walk the three or four miles to Sunday School at St. Mark's. In July 1897 Lucy married James Hartley who had homesteaded with his mother near Elkhorn. Lucy and James had nine sons and one daughter.

Arthur and Mary retired to Elkhorn in 1910. The homestead on 34 was rented to a bachelor Walter Knight, who worked the land for 17 yrs., till James Edward Hartley took over. He was Lucy and James' fourth son. A house and barn were built on the west side of 34 about 1902 or 1904 and the house was torn down in 1976 and the eaves were found to be stuffed with the Weekly Telegraph paper from Winnipeg and the Family Herald and Weekly Star from Montreal dated 1903 and addressed to Arthur Vaux.

The impressions of the log house and the barn in the hill and the raspberries remained for many years till that quarter was completely broken, around 1969. Also the rhubarb patch and well were still there. The crib of the well was made of very small stones packed tightly together but with no mortar. This fine workmanship still visible after probably 75 or 80 years.

Mary died in March 1924 at the age of 75 years, Arthur passed away January 1932 at 86 yrs.

### The John Vodden Family

My grandfather, the late John Vodden (deceased 1931), was born at Brampton, Ont., April, 1853. In 1880, he married my grandmother **Frances Authwaite** (deceased 1944), at Shelburne, Ont. To this union three children were born at Dundalk, Ont.: **Tommy, Mabel** and **Alfred**. They moved west in 1889 to a farm N.W. sec. 10-11-28 and farmed this land near Elkhorn until 1897. At this farm two more children were born, my father, **Bert Alva**, in 1893, and **Lena Mae**. In 1897 he moved his family to a farm one mile south of Elkhorn, called the "Taylor" farm and continued to farm until 1903. Then he moved to Elkhorn. He had a carload of hardwood lumber shipped in by railroad and built a two storey home on Grange Street, Elkhorn. It is still in use today but has a brick exterior. He then started a woodwork and harness shop; he was a wheelwright by trade (fixed all types of wagons and buggy wheels), I still have the cast iron double boiler pot he heated water in, which had the glue in the top. He also was a good carpenter and with the help of his sons built one of the first stores in Elkhorn. He owned it but rented it to Carscadden Bros. General Store. In later years this building burnt down.

The children all attended Elkhorn public school as did most of the grandchildren. The family married and the following is a note on each one as far as I remember: Tommy Vodden, died as a young man; Mabel, (deceased 1972), married **Charlie Webster** and to this union six children were born: **Charles**, deceased at age 22; **Edna**, deceased 1981, married **Milf Lowes**, lives at McAuley and has four children. **Harold**, married **Phyllis Gardner**, live at Swan River, Man., and have three children. **Muriel**,



Vodden's Store in Elkhorn.



John and Fannie Vodden and family.

married **Ralph Lince**, live at Stratford, Ont., have three children.

**Helen**, married **Edward Jestin**, live in Winnipeg and have three sons.

**Irene**, married **Ted Morefield**, live at Port Moody, B.C., they have six children.

Alfred Vodden never married, deceased 1962, lived in Elkhorn all his life. He took over the harness shop from his father and was dearly loved by all the younger children as he was always helping fix a broken toy. He served in the Canadian Army in World War One.

Bert Vodden, deceased 1970, married **Agnes Will** at Elkhorn and moved to Sturgis, Sask. He farmed a half section until his retirement in 1960 at which time his son **Russell** took over and still farms the same land. To this union two children were born: Russell Alfred, married **Betty Anderson**. They have two daughters; **Leanne** married **Glenn Geber** and **Cindy** is still at home. **Joyce Anne**, married **Willard Prekaski** and we farm one mile west of my family home and rent our land out now. We are what is known as "semi-retired" but still going strong. We have three children: **Gloria Heather**, a school teacher at Thompson, Man., married **Wayne Mattson** and have two sons **Garth** and **Noel**. **Linda Carol**, a nurse, lives at Preeceville, Sask., married **Glen Leason** and have two children **Jarret** and **Larissa**. **Trent Willard**, single, still at home and works for the C.N.R.

Lena Vodden, deceased 1960, married **Bill Aitcheson**. They have one son **Delmar**, married to **Marie** and they have three children: **Marion**, a nurse, is married and has two children at home, **Diane** and **Mark**. They live at Fisher, Minnesota.

My grandfather, John Vodden, would be remembered by some of the old timers as a good umpire at all the local ball games and also as the Bass horn player in the Elkhorn Citizens' First Band. As for my main recollection of him (at least being told many times of it) was of the wonderful trip he made from Elkhorn, Man. to Sturgis, Sask. in 1928 with a lovely black team and a buggy he had made himself; the team was purchased from Mr. Gudmundson. He fed and pampered them until leaving Elkhorn at 6:30 a.m., June 30 and arrived at Sturgis on July 3 with his only travelling companion his grandson, Charles Webster. They averaged about sixty miles per day and it was a happy sight for my dad and mother and such a wonderful gift in those days; something to travel around and visit with and to get to town over the nearly impossible roads. I think I practically grew up in that buggy, maybe not going far but a lot of pretending and playing house with my dolls. Yes, he

was sadly missed but left us all with a wonderful memory.

submitted by Joyce Prekaski

### **The Walker Family — Reflections**

**Hugh Walker Sr.** was born in Scotland in 1843. In 1873 he married **Sarah Mackenzie** and they resided in Newton-Stewart, Wigtownshire county, Scotland. They had a family of six sons and two daughters. Before coming to Canada one son and both daughters died. They first set foot on Canadian soil in 1906 and proceeded to the Willen district where they resided until their deaths. Mrs. Walker died in 1928 at the age of 82 and Mr. Walker died in 1937 at the age of 97.

Of the five sons, **William** lived in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan where he was a railroad engineer. He died in 1958. **Thomas** lived in Miniota after farming in the Willen district. He died in 1913. **Hugh Jr.** farmed in the Miniota district and died in 1973. The youngest of the family, **John**, farmed at Willen for a number of years before moving to Winnipeg where he worked in a hotel. His health soon failed and he died in 1958.

**Robert G. Walker** was born in 1878. In 1902 he married **Margaret McKean Carson** at Garlestown, Scotland. They had a family of three sons and one daughter. **Hugh** and **Carson** were born in Scotland and came to Canada with their parents in 1906. The third son, **Robert Jr.**, was born in 1908 and his only sister, **Mary**, was born in 1910. The family farmed in the Willen, Burnbank, and Jeffery districts with the exception of a few years spent near Moose Jaw where Mr. Walker ran a milk truck. They returned to the Elkhorn district in 1920 and resided at the farm of the late John Duxbury. They then returned to the Willen district and farmed until 1947 until the sudden death that year of Mrs. Walker. Mr. Walker was a trustee of the Jeffery school district for approximately twenty-five years and their home was often the boarding place of the school teacher. He was also actively interested in the Elkhorn St. Andrew's society and helped to carry on the traditions of his native Scotland. He moved to Elkhorn in 1950 and lived there for several years with Mr. Cassell. Due to ill health he spent the last year of his life with his daughter. He died in 1958 at the age of 80.

Regarding their family: Hugh married **Vernice Sheane** in 1928. They farmed in the Willen, Birch River, and Reeder districts. They have five children: **Alvin**, **Doreen**, **Edwin**, **Marie**, and **Eileen**. One son, **Henry**, died as a small child. Presently they are living in Elkhorn.

Carson married **Elizabeth Cowan** and farmed until her death in 1960. He then sold his farm and



L-R: Robert, Margaret and Mary 1921.



L-R Top row: Hugh, Carson 1921. Seated: Mary, Robert Sr., Robert Jr.

went into the ministry. He was a lay minister at Upsala, Ontario and at Nelson House, Manitoba. In 1964 he married **Doris McDonald**. He has since been stationed at Foxwarren, Arden, Baldur and currently is at Nelson House. They also have five children: **Felix, Leta, Lorraine**, and twin sons, **Larry and Lyle**.

The only daughter, Mary, married **Peter Cameron** in 1929. They farmed in the Willen district until they retired to Miniota in 1975. Mr. Cameron passed away a year later.

Mrs. Cameron still lives in Miniota. They have a family of seven — **Margaret, Donald, Edith, Grace, Allan, Eleanor, and Glen**.

Robert Jr. married **Grace Roach** and they farmed in the Jeffery district. Mrs. Walker passed away in 1948 when their son, **John Douglas**, was born. In 1950, Mr. Walker married **Betty Van Lucen**. They have two daughters, **Linda and Paula**. An infant daughter, **Brenda Lee**, died in 1960. Mrs. Walker has two sons from her first marriage, **Richard and Doug**. They farmed ten miles north of Elkhorn until 1969 when Mr. Walker was forced to retire due to ill health. He passed away in 1971.

Mrs. Walker is still residing in Elkhorn. She is currently employed with Peter Bawden Drilling Ltd. and works in Alberta.

Richard (Dick) is a major with the Canadian Armed Forces and is stationed at Cold Lake, Alberta. He and his wife Elaine have two children, Richard and Robyn.

Doug farms on a farm just outside of Elkhorn. In the summer he also is a toolpush with Dome Petroleum in the Beaufort Sea. In the winter he is engineering operations on land rigs for Dome. He and his wife Wenda have two children, Beckie and Robbie.

Linda is a special constable with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and is working in Regina, Saskatchewan.

Paula is completing her final year of high school at Elkhorn. She plans to attend the University of Manitoba where she will be studying to become a physiotherapist.

Paula Walker

## Walker

**Francis James (Frank) Walker** was born in London, England on February 11th, 1887. He came to Canada when he was 17 years old, and worked on a farm for Ben Axelson. A couple of years later he returned to England for a few months, coming back to his home in Canada in the spring, bringing his sister Nelly with him to keep house. He bought a quarter section of land from Symingtons, 24-11-29, where he built a home for his bride about 8 or 9 years later, **Miss Nell McClure**. They had nine children, **Marion, Kathleen (Cass), Elsie, Jim, Gordon, Alice, Gladys, Betty, Russell**.

Frank sold the farm to Wilson Bros. in 1919 and bought a garage business from Ben Axelson and moved to town. He owned and operated "Walker's Garage" for about 26 years, also selling and assembling farm machinery and selling cars. For a couple of years or so, around 1927-28, he sold out to Don Lemon and became a travelling salesman for I.H.C. He returned to the garage business selling out again to Harry Switzer about 1943-44, and moved to B.C. first to Abbotsford then to Vancouver.

During his many years in Elkhorn, Frank was a popular personality. He served his church and community well. He was Sunday School Superintendent, People's Warden, Minister's Warden in St. Mark's Anglican Church. He was School Trustee, member of Council and member of the Oddfellows Lodge. He enjoyed fishing, golfing and curling when time permitted. He died at Vancouver, B.C. in 1948.

Mrs. Walker had little time for socializing, being mainly occupied with homemaking, gardening and raising her family. In the dirty 30's, she always had something to spare for the many, many "hoboes" who came to her door; none was turned away hungry. She shared her washing facilities (wash tub and scrub board) with a young couple with several small children, who had an old touring car packed with all their worldly possessions and who were seeking "greener pastures" having come east from the dust bowl. She held open house for all her relatives and friends who called frequently, and were always given a warm welcome and a cup of tea. She died in 1967 at Vancouver, B.C.

submitted by Marion Sweeting

### The Frank Walker Family

**Marion** — married Jim Lund in 1935 — they have 3 children — Lillian, Glen and Garth. Jim passed away in 1966. There are 5 grandchildren and one great grandson. In 1971 Marion married Andrew Sweeting of Maryfield, Sask. where they still reside.

**Kathleen (Cass)** — married Alex Kirby in 1936. They have 2 sons, Larry and Raymond, one granddaughter and one grandson. They have retired to Elkhorn to live, and reside on Foxford Ave.

**Elsie** — married a local boy Alex Robertson, in 1940. They have 3 children, Lloyd, Bill and Joy, 9 grandchildren. They reside in Burnaby, B.C.

**Jim** — married a local girl Olive Twigg in 1940. There were 4 children from this union, Ralph, Ronnie and twin daughters Joan and June, and now a total of 11 grandchildren. Jim passed away in Jan. 1975 and Olive in Mar. 1976.

**Gordon** — married Janet McHarry in 1943. They have two daughters Linda and Gail — both married and with families. Gord and Jan reside in Surrey B.C.

**Alice** — married Bob Reeder of Seattle Wa. in 1951. There are two daughters — Karen who lives at Otter Rock Oregon, and Wendy, married, who lives and works in Seattle. Bob passed away in 1973 so Alice lives alone in Seattle.

**Gladys** — passed away in July 1946 at the tender age of 19 years in Vancouver, B.C. **Betty** — married Douglas MacGillivray in 1951 in Vancouver, and they have 3 children, Glen, Joanne and Ross. Glen is



Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Walker.

married with two daughters and works in Vancouver. Doug works for the B.C. Tel. and they reside in Burnaby B.C.

**Russell** — married Mary Meucken in Mar. 1951 and they had 2 children Bob who is married and has two sons, and lives in Victoria B.C. daughter Delores who passed away in Nov. 1974 at the tender age of 18 years. Russ is manager of the Bank of Commerce, and they reside in Vancouver B.C.

submitted by Cass

### Francis James Walker Family

**Francis James Walker** married **Olive Twigg** in 1940. They lived on the N.E. ¼ of 24-11-29 where they mix-farmed. They raised four children — **Ralph, Ron, June** and **Joan**. A fifth child, **Allen**, died as an infant.

They began their married life with one blue roan cow and a horse. One year, after they had acquired five cows, they lost four of the calves due to a brucellosis outbreak. They survived the tougher times, as many did, working hard milking numerous cows, raising a few pigs, chickens, and horses and growing some crop. In 1959 they moved from N.E. 24-11-29 to N.W. 30-11-28.

Olive went into hospital on Feb. 14, 1971 where she remained until her death in March 1976 at the age of 52. Jim moved to Elkhorn in the fall of 1972 where he remained until his death in January 1975 at the age of 53.

Joan married **Jim Nugent** on May 29, 1976 and now lives in Neepawa where they raise Quarter-horses. They have two sons, **Shawn** and **Tyler**.

June married **Gerald Cowan** from McAuley on June 30, 1972 and they lived in McAuley for eighteen months. June worked for three more years as school secretary in Elkhorn and Gerald worked for five years at the Rocanville Potash mine. They moved their house and some farm buildings to the SE¼ of

25-11-29 in the summer of 1974. They had a daughter in April, 1975 (**Christy**) and then a son in May, 1977 (**James**). They went into the dairy business in November 1979 where they raise and milk Jersey cows.

submitted by June Cowan

### The James N. Walker Family

**James N. Walker** came to Canada from Stonhaven, Scotland in 1910. Mrs. Walker, (**Ada Barber Pinder**) of Workington, England came to Canada in 1911. They were married in 1916, bought and lived on the farm known as the Jack Fraser farm in the Mossgiel school district in 1929. They lived there until they sold their farm and retired to Virden in 1949. Mr. Walker was a leader for quite a few years in the calf, sheep and pig clubs. He was a school trustee, president and a member of the Elkhorn St. Andrew's Society, also of the Foresters, Orange and Masonic Lodges and was on the board of directors of the Agriculture Society.

Mrs. Walker was a member of the Elkhorn St. Andrew's Society and a member of the I.O.D.E.

They had a family of nine girls and six boys.

**Mary, Mrs. George Grieve** of Virden, Man., married a farmer and has two children: **Alex** at home and **Robert Jr.** on a farm near home.

**Doris, Mrs. William Kilford** of Virden Man., married a farmer and has four children: **Gladys, Mrs. Don Scott**, Kitimat, B.C., **Myrna**, at Calgary, Alta., **Phylis, Mrs. Ray Jansen** of Thompson, Man., **Kelvin**, at home, Virden, Man.

**Olive, Mrs. Rowatt Veitch** of Rosssburn, Man., married a postmaster. They have four children: **Linda, Mrs. Terry Allan**, The Pas, Man., **Gwen, Mrs. Forde Steel**, Kamloops, B.C., **Georgina, Mrs. Ray Gluska**, Winnipeg, Man., **Blaine**, Rosssburn, Man.

**Ellen, Mrs. Lewis Moore**, Virden, Man., married a railroad worker and has five children: **Dorothy, Mrs. Gerald Horn**, Virden, Man., **Irene, Mrs. Claude Grandin**, Mynarsk Park, Alta., **Barbara, Mrs. Ray Denolf, Brenda, Mrs. Garry Bailey**, and **Beverly**, single.

**Alice, Mrs. Ken Hayward**, Virden, Man., married an electrician and has five children: **Brian** of Virden, Man., **Debra, Mrs. Lawrence Scott**, Virden, Man., **Glen** of Virden, **Cathy, Mrs. D. Morgan** of Virden, **Faye**, of Virden, Man.

**Marjory, Mrs. Wes Russell**, Virden, Man., married a C.P.R. railroad foreman. They have five children: **Heather** of Montreal, Que., **Ian** of Kamloops, B.C., **Lorna** of Calgary, Alta., **Craig** of Virden, Man., and **Wayne** of Virden, Man.

**Florence, Mrs. William Fulkerth** of Cranbrook, B.C., married the manager of an electri-

cal equipment wholesale company. They have five children: **Ronald**, and **Murray** of Lethbridge, Alta., **Paddy Lynne**, Cranbrook, B.C., **Sandra**, Cranbrook, B.C., **Mrs. Terry Dudka**, Cranbrook, B.C.

**Connie, Mrs. George Filteau**, Red Deer, Alta., married and owns Hickory Farm Store. They have two children: **Mark** and **Lisa**.

**Jim**, Grande Prairie, Alta., is a commissionaire at Beaver Lodge Army Barracks. He has four children: **Bill, Randy, Valerie** and **Sharon**, all in Ontario.

**Robert**, Sudbury, Ont., is a construction supervisor for International Nickel Mines, Sudbury. He has five children: **Gordon** and **John** of Elliot Lake, Ont., **Mary Ann**, Cardinal, Ont., **Debra**, Sudbury, **Judy**, London, Ont.

**Douglas**, Edmonton, Alta., is an office manager for a trucking company in Edmonton. He has three children: **Brent, Grant** and **Sharon**, of Edmonton.

**Lloyd**, Virden, Man., works for a bridge construction company and has three children: **Sandra**, Kitimat, B.C., **Susan** and **Richard**, of Virden.

**Bill**, deceased, was a driller in the oil fields in Virden and Alberta.

**Ronald**, deceased, at eleven, and **Gladys**, deceased five years.

Mrs. Walker passed away in 1949, James in 1977.  
submitted by Mary Grieve

### The Waller History

One of the most successful and prominent businessmen during the pioneer days of Elkhorn was **Richard de Warrene Waller** who since 1893 conducted a profitable and important real estate business in town, building up a large patronage by reason of his honorable methods and high standards of commercial integrity. He was born in Londonderry, Ireland November 11, 1857, acquired his education in Dr. Bryce's Collegiate School Edinburgh, Scotland. After laying aside his books, he served an apprenticeship in the tea trade, remaining in London for his full term of three years. At the end of that time, he formed a partnership with two others and purchased a granite quarry in North Wales, with the operation and development of which he remained connected until he came to Manitoba in 1882. After his arrival in Manitoba, he obtained employment with the Canadian Pacific Railway at Flat Creek, and in 1883 came to the Elkhorn district. Mr. Waller took up a homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres of wild prairie land west of Elkhorn, in the Mossgiel district.

In 1886 Mr. Waller was united in marriage with **Miss E. H. Watson** of Guelph, Ontario. Miss Watson was the daughter of Thomas and Mary Watson,

who became pioneers of this district. In 1892 Mr. and Mrs. Waller moved into Elkhorn where he identified himself with the real estate and insurance business, in which he won prominence and success in his work and became recognized as an expert judge of land value. In addition to his real estate business, he was also an appraiser and valuer and conducted a loan and insurance enterprise. He allied himself with many pioneer movements "to put Elkhorn on the map!" He was on the Elkhorn council for many years and served as mayor for one term. He served on the Elkhorn school board for several years. He was an ardent Conservative, and was president of the Conservative Association for many years. Mr. Waller was of the Anglican faith, and was a staunch supporter of St. Mark's Anglican Church from the time of its dedication.

Mr. and Mrs. Waller were the parents of four sons and two daughters; **Richard de Warenne**, who farmed in the Elkhorn district, **Edward G.** who became a surveyor, **Henry Charles Victor** who farmed in the Elkhorn district, **Dorothea B.** who became a nurse, **Annie Mona** who remained at home, and **Archie Francis Alexander** who moved to the West coast. Richard, Edward, Henry, and Dorothea served overseas in World War I. Henry died while in service overseas.

Mrs. Waller died in 1911, and in 1916 Mr. Waller married **Miss Miriam Harland** of Winnipeg. They were the parents of three children; **Pitt de Warenne**, **Jack Harland**, and **Patricia Elspeth**. Pitt served with the Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry and the Royal Canadian Engineers from 1940 to 1946 in the European theatre of war. Upon his return home he worked for many years on the Mountain Division of the Canadian Pacific Railway as Signal Maintainer. He married **Ena (Catt) McCallum**, of Calgary, Alberta and Lumby, British Columbia. They are now retired and living in Bassano, Alberta. Jack served for six years with the Royal Canadian Air Force in Canada and overseas. While in the service, he met and married **Marjorie L. Southworth** who was in the Women's Division of the Royal Canadian Air Force. Patricia Elspeth was of poor health, remained at home and died in 1962.

Jack and Marjorie are parents of three daughters; **Judith Diane**, now **Mrs. Robert J. Brandon** of a pioneer Souris family, **Jacqueline Ann**, now **Mrs. Kenneth A. Hardy** of Brandon, and **Wendy Elizabeth** now **Mrs. R. Keith Dickie** of Deloraine. Judy and Robert have two daughters, **Elizabeth Jane** and **Melinda Lee**; Jacqueline and Ken have one son, **Scott Kenneth**.

Since Richard de Warenne Waller first arrived in Elkhorn in 1882, much has changed, but now one

hundred years later, the Waller ties with Elkhorn and district are still strong. His descendents are proud of their Elkhorn roots and the part their ancestors played in building this area, our province of Manitoba, and our Canada.

submitted by Marjorie L. Waller

## Warnica

**Lloyd and Grace Warnica** first came to live in Elkhorn in the fall of 1967 when Lloyd was transferred with the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. They lived in the upstairs suite of the Bill Warden house until in 1969 they were transferred to Altona.

After several more moves Lloyd decided to quit banking and take up carpentering. When the bank at Jenpeg closed in 1976 they moved from Jenpeg to Elkhorn, having already purchased a house and had it moved to Elkhorn in 1974. Grace worked at the school as secretary from 1976-77.

They have four children, **Glynn, Bryan, Bryce** and **Shelley**.

## Richard Watson Family

**Richard Watson** was born at Rosedale Abbey, Yorkshire, England July 14, 1888, the third oldest of six brothers. He and his brother Jack flipped a coin one day and said "Heads we go to Canada, tails we go to Australia." Jack came to Canada first, then Richard came in 1907 to the Elkhorn district, arriving with only five dollars in his pocket. He went to the store and bought work boots and pants and went to work for Harry Hunter. After a short stay there he left and got another job with Bill Onions. He worked for a while, then he and his brother Jack decided to batch on Jack's farm SW 32-11-27 for nine years. Richard, better known as Dick, bought a farm SE 31-12-27 in the West Two Creeks district from the Kirks. In 1919 he married **Ethel Leach**, eldest daughter of Charles and Katherine Leach from the Buckingham district. They had two sons and one daughter; Roy, Bill and Dorothy. They all attended school at West Two Creeks.

Dick took a great interest in educational matters and he served a total of twenty-nine years as a school trustee in the West Two Creeks district. For many of those years he was chairman of the board, and frequently his interest in education took him to Provincial Conventions. Dick was known by his many friends as an industrious and conscientious farmer. Ethel took a very keen interest in raising chickens and turkeys and loved to go the valley and pick wild fruit for preserving. Later Dick bought another  $\frac{3}{4}$  Section 20-12-27 from Nathaniel Caldwell in the

York district which is now owned by his second son, Bill. In 1949, Dick was forced into semi-retirement after having a heart attack. In 1954 they built a house in Virden.

Roy married **Doreen Dixon** of Cadillac, Sask. and remained on the home farm. Roy and Doreen had three sons. Their eldest son is married and lives on the home farm while Roy and Doreen and son are living in Elkhorn. **Bill** married **Grace Collier** of the Harmsworth district and they have two daughters and one son. **Dorothy** married **Garnet Effler** of Grandview, Manitoba. They lived in Elkhorn for about four years then moved to Virden where they now live. They have one son and one daughter.

Dick and Ethel lived in their home in Virden until Dick passed away with a heart attack in the spring of 1956. Ethel remained living in their home until 1975. Following an operation she went into the West Man Nursing Home at Virden. She enjoys having her family and friends visit with her. There are four grandsons, three granddaughters, two great grandsons and two great granddaughters.

### History of the farm of Bill and Grace Watson.

Farm 20-12-27 in the York district around 1890 was homesteaded by **Mr. Nathanael Caldwell**. Mr. Caldwell met **Louisa Ralph** who had come from Ontario and had found restaurant work in the Roseberry Hotel in Elkhorn. The Roseberry Hotel building is still standing and has been recently renovated and is a combined coffee and flower shop owned by Agnes Bickerton. Nathanael Caldwell married Louisa Ralph in 1905. Together they worked hard. They built a large barn in 1917 to house many horses. Mr. Caldwell was fond of horses and had mostly Percherons. He made plaque cards with each of the horses' names on them and hung them over their stalls. Some of these original name plaques are still hanging in our barn where he had placed them. Some of the horses' names were Bob, Bill, Beryl, Beauty, Barney, Betty and Bud.

In 1916 Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell built a two-storey frame house, which is still being used. The lumber was brought from British Columbia by rail and cost approximately \$875. Mr. Tom Stonham was the carpenter and received 25¢ an hour for his work as foreman and his labourers got 15¢ an hour.

Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell had two children, **Ralph** and **Ida**. Ralph married **Clarice Leslie** from Elkhorn. They are now living in Abbotsford, B.C. They had one son **Lyle**. **Ida** married **Earl Pedlow** from Elkhorn. They farmed in the Mossgiel district. Earl and Ida now reside in Elkhorn. They have three sons, **Mervyn**, **Douglas** and **Allen**.



L-R Back row: Donna, Gary, Brenda. Seated: Bill and Grace Watson.

The Caldwells sold this farm to **Richard Watson** in 1944. The buildings were vacant from 1944 to 1959 other than for a few summer months when **Mr. Bill Cousner** from Mount Victory, Ohio, brought up his 24 to 30 dogs to train for hunting birds. Mr. Cousner came with a cook and a couple of Negro men. These hunting dogs belonged to rich Americans who paid him to train them.

**Bill Watson** bought this farm from his father in 1956. Later, Bill met **Grace Collier** who was nursing at the Virden District Hospital. They were married in 1959. They have three children, **Brenda**, **Donna** and **Gary**.

Brenda completed her nurse's training from the Grace General Hospital in Winnipeg in 1980, and the same fall married **Vance McColl**. They are living in Richmond, B.C. Donna graduated from the St. Boniface Hospital in Winnipeg in 1979, and is now nursing at the Deloraine Memorial Hospital. Gary is at home helping with the farming.

Up to date these are a few of the events that have taken place on this farm.

submitted by Grace Watson

### Thomas Clarke Watson Family

**Thomas Clarke Watson**, a young Englishman from Redcar Yorkshire, came to Canada around the turn of the century. He was very active in English



school sports, cricket, soccer, swimming etc., a love he retained all his life, Thomas had spent some time in military service in South Africa during the Boer War (1899-1902). Upon returning from South Africa he decided to come to Canada. Thomas never returned to England nor did any of his several brothers and sisters ever come to Canada.

Thomas arrived in Manitoba around 1901. Arriving at the C.P.R. station in Elkhorn, he struck up conversation with the station master who offered him a fur robe and told him he could sleep on one of the benches for the night.

Thomas worked for a short time for Walter Norsworthy, then returned to Ontario to work for a fruit farmer by the name of E. D. Smith. He soon returned to Manitoba in search of a farm of his own. He met a man in Elkhorn by the name of Hunter, who was looking after farm sales. It was through this man that he learned about the N.E. ¼ of section 20-10-29.

In May, 1896 a patent was issued to a John Harris Hunt, originally from Manchester, England for this property. In 1905 Thomas Watson purchased the land for \$1000.00 for the quarter section. A small house was moved to this property which was to become home for Thomas, his wife **Pearl**, and the two eldest sons **Harold**, and **Henry**.

In June of 1905 the S.E. ¼ of 20-10-29 was purchased for the sum of \$1450.00 for the quarter section. The house was later moved to this location. This information is recorded in Brandon Lands Title Office.

In November 1904 Thomas Clarke Watson and **Ella Pearl Norsworthy** were married in Kola, Church of the Advent (Anglican). This country church still stands today, although closed for many years, there is usually a service held each fall.

Pearl was the youngest sister of Walter Norsworthy and the youngest daughter of John and Margaret Norsworthy from Ontario. The Norsworthys were among the first pioneer settlers to live on the banks of the Pipestone Creek, near what was later to become Butler. Six children were born to the Watson Norsworthy union, all of whom are living at this time.

**Harold**, the eldest never married; he farmed the home farm until 1973 at which time it was sold to G. Lund. Harold retired and lives in Virden.

**Henry** never married and lives in Brandon.

**Thomas R.** married **Evelyn Lake** of Lewvan, Saskatchewan after serving in the R.C.A.F. during World War II, returned to the district, is semi-retired from farming, and lives on section 22-10-29. They have one daughter **Glynis**, Mrs. Herb Whittle. **Robin** married **Marguerite Cotton** of Brandon; they farm at Roblin, Manitoba and have two sons, **Terry** of Winnipeg and **Brian** of Edmonton.

**John** married **Margaret Pash** of Binscarth; they have two children, **Wayne** of Welland, Ontario and **Kathleen**, Mrs. **Edward Zelonis**, of WaWa Ontario. John, an electrician, is retired and lives at WaWa.

**Isabel** married **William Cotton** of Brandon. They live in Brandon and have one daughter Colleen, Mrs. R. Drysdale of Neepawa.

In 1905 Thomas became active in the affairs of the original Kola School District #601. He was Secretary-Treasurer for many years, also Trustee for some time. In these times the younger members of the family spent little time in school as they were required to help on the farm. According to old school records Harold, Henry and Tom earned pocket money by delivering stove wood to Kola school, or by lighting the stove in the morning so the room would be warm in time for the nine a.m. class, or by plowing fire guards. The classroom was not always warm. Stove pipes might be dirty or the wood green; in either case there was very little heat. In later years Thomas R. was active in school board activities.

Our parents, Thomas and Pearl Watson, died in 1953 and 1946 respectively and are buried with many other pioneers in the Elkhorn cemetery.

submitted by Mrs. W. Cotton

### **The Joseph Webster Family**

The Webster family originated in Ireland. My grandfather Joseph Webster was the first of my ancestors to migrate from Landsdowne, Ontario to Elkhorn, Man. in 1898. At that time he was fifty years of age.

He was employed as farm superintendent at the Elkhorn Indian Industrial School.

He was married to **Anne Elizabeth Gardiner**. They had one son, my dad **Charles Gardiner Webster**, and three daughters; **Kathleen Joyce**, **Sarah Grace**, and **Helen**, who were all born in and around Landsdowne in Ontario.

My dad Charles G. was born in 1879. He joined his parents at Elkhorn around 1900. Later he married **Mabel Vodden**, daughter of John and Francis Vodden. He worked as a laborer for a time with a C.P.R. construction crew that were building wooden trestles on the Rocanville-Esterhazy line.

Charles was offered the position of Creamery Manager of the Elkhorn and District Farmers Creamery. Around the spring of 1922 the creamery burned to the ground. He purchased the Elkhorn Bakery and he and my mother operated the bakery and ice cream parlor for a number of years with the help of Mrs. Reg. (Lizza) Cousins. Sometime later the bakery burned down and my dad took to construction work.

During this time he built a number of barns,

houses and granaries around the district of Elkhorn. A lot of these barns and buildings are still standing. Some of these were built for the Grieve Brothers south of Elkhorn, and the Harry Deans, west of Elkhorn. He then accepted a position as yard foreman for the Taylor Lumber Co., later to become the Beaver Lumber Co., whose managers were at that time Bill Anderson, Lyle Dodge and Ken Williams. My dad spent most of the war years at Rivers working as a maintenance foreman for the R.C.A.F. After the war he accepted the position of Secretary-Treasurer for the Village of Elkhorn, from which he retired.

Both my parents were actively involved in the affairs of the community. Mother was a long time member of the W.I., treasurer of the Hospital Aid, a faithful worker of the Red Cross Society and a member of the United Church. Dad was a member of the Masonic Order for more than fifty years.

Charles and Mabel had six children all born and raised at Elkhorn. **Charles**, the eldest, after completing his schooling took a course in dairying and graduated as a government cream grader. He played hockey at Elkhorn when he was home. In 1933 he discovered he had diabetes and in September he died at the age of twenty-three, (the same night the Elkhorn Trading Company burned down). He was unmarried.

**Edna**, after completing her schooling at Elkhorn and Morden, was employed at the Post Office and later at the Elkhorn Creamery where she was Office Secretary. In 1939 she married **Milford Lowes** of McAuley, where Milf still resides. They raised four children: one son **Charles**, and three daughters — **Barbara** Barkley, **Joan** Lewis and **Pamela** McKay. Edna passed away April 7, 1981.

**Harold** (better known as Dutch) after schooling worked for Cecil Paddock who was manager of the Elkhorn Creamery. This being only a summer job I was able to play hockey and curl most of the winter. In 1939 I obtained my Engineer Operator's certificate and worked in the Creamery until October of 1940. I enlisted in the R.C.A.F. in which I spent five years. In 1941 on my first leave I married **Phyllis Gardner** who was employed at the G. E. Bartley store as a clerk. We had three children: **Harold Wayne**, **Arlene Joyce** and **James Gardiner**, all born at Elkhorn. Wayne is married, lives at Melita and has two daughters. Arlene married and had two daughters and one son. Arlene was deceased January 1979. Jim lives at Swan River and is married.

For seven years after the war we lived in Elkhorn and were involved with the United Church, Royal Canadian Legion, Firemen of the village, the Rebekah Lodge and of course skating and curling. In October 1953, we moved to Glenella, Manitoba

where I was manager of the creamery for twelve years. In 1965 we moved to Swan Valley Hospital. **Muriel Lena**, the fourth child of Charles and Mabel, took all her schooling at Elkhorn and later left for Stratford, Ontario to train for a Registered Nurse. It was there she married and raised two daughters and one son. They all reside in Ontario.

**Helen Mabel** left after completing high school and took a business course in Winnipeg. She married and raised three boys who reside in Winnipeg.

The youngest, **Irene Joyce** also took a stenographer course in Winnipeg. She married and raised six children — one deceased. They now all reside in British Columbia.

Mr. Webster passed away in 1965 and Mrs. Webster in 1972.

### **Helen Mabel Webster**

**Helen Mabel Webster** was born at Elkhorn, Manitoba, on October 23, 1921, the fifth child (third daughter) of Charles and Mabel (nee Vodden) Webster.

I received all my schooling in the old school and finished Grade XI in June, 1940. There was no Grade XII there at that time. Teachers were — Neta Sadler, Ruth Blackwell, Clara Clements, Alice Davis, Joe Butcher and Ross Vasey.

I went to Winnipeg in January, 1943, to take a secretarial course at Success Business College and have worked the majority of the time since as a legal secretary.

I married **Edward Jestin** in July, 1948, and have three sons.

### **Edgar Gilmore Weldon Family A Glimpse into the Past**

**Mr. Edgar Gilmore Weldon**, my grandfather, came from Sackville, New Brunswick to this area in the spring of 1883. He filed for his homestead on Section 22-10-29 in the district known as Kola. Many things confronted this new settler (his first crop was ruined by fire after it was in the granary.) With great determination to make this new land his home, he returned to New Brunswick and married the girl of his choice, **Eliza Phebe Carr**, in the year 1888. They had their honeymoon on the way out in the slatted seat of a colonist car. They lived on a rented farm four miles from their homestead till their new home was ready. They moved March 24, 1889. This home was built by Mr. Weldon of one-ply lumber and didn't keep out much cold but it was home and with hope and determination in their hearts, they won out. Furniture consisted of a bed, a homemade table, and little else. Water and wood were hard to come by and



Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Weldon with son Leslie and daughters Myrtle and Irene 1942.



L-R Back row: Jean, Irene, Viola, John. Centre row: Dianne, Mrs. Weldon, Keith. Front row: Brian, Catherine.

they had to travel many miles to get both. Neighbors were always ready to lend a helping hand. June 3rd was set aside every summer for a picnic in honor of Mrs. Weldon's and Mrs. Chapple's birthdays.

The Weldons moved to Elkhorn in 1926. They

raised a family of four: **Eden** and **Leslie** now deceased; the oldest daughter, **Myrtle**, who lives in the family home in Elkhorn, is now 89. Like her mother, she is a great gardener. **Irene** married **John Regan**, son and step-son of Mr. and Mrs. James Siple who lived on NE 14-11-28. They raised two daughters. **Viola**, Mrs. **Jack Brown**, of Winnipeg has two children, **Keith** and **Catherine**, both of whom live in Winnipeg. Keith is married and has a son. The second daughter, **Jean**, Mrs. **Frank Schilling** of Kenora, Ontario, has three children, **Dianne**, **Brian Dale**, and **Brenda May**. Dianne, who is Mrs. **Wayne Dunn** of Winnipeg, has three children: **Victoria**, **Karen**, and **Cord**. Brian Dale is living in Edmonton and is single. Brenda May, Mrs. **Hugh Robertson**, also lives in Edmonton. Mrs. Regan is eighty and lives in the Fairview Home, Brandon, Manitoba. Mr. Regan died in May, 1973.

Many memories come to mind of those days, such as the field days. Many schools took part in the parades and sports events. Many people visited the Weldon home on that day and Mrs. Weldon was called 'Grandmother' by many. In those days there was no hospital, and Dr. Johnston would get a group of us together at a neighbor's house and remove our tonsils on the kitchen table. When we didn't have electricity we used batteries for the radio. When the battery was weak and money was scarce we would hold hands and touch the wires of the radio in order to hear Talent Night or Don Messer. We visited the place where our home stood across the tracks and it was nice to see a nice home there.

submitted by Mrs. Frank Schilling

### Don and Mildred Whiteford

**Don and Mildred** came to Elkhorn in 1974. Don had been appointed Secretary-Treasurer of the Village of Elkhorn in February of 1974. They moved into their present home on 4th Street in December of that year.

Don was born in Virden, **Donald S. Button**; shortly after both his mother and father died and he was adopted by **Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Whiteford**. Don's father, Stanley Button, was the government engineer for highways in the Virden area until his death.

Don attended schools in Virden and then Business College in Winnipeg and worked in Winnipeg until the outbreak of war in 1939. He joined the Fort Garry Horse, Armoured Regiment in September 1939. In 1943 he was transferred to the Three Rivers Regiment (Tank) in Italy where he served in action for eight months and later was appointed to the CMHQ, Mediterranean Theatre until the end of the war.

After the war he went into partnership with Chas. M. McLean, Mildred's brother, in McLean-Whiteford Motors, Virden as Mercury-Lincoln dealers, until 1951 when the business was sold to Wilbur Marshall. Later Don had an insurance agency, then worked for B. P. Kent Flour Mills as bookkeeper and salesman, then joined Morrow-Leckie Chartered Accountants in Virden which later became Meyers, Norris, Penny & Co. until moving to Elkhorn.

Mildred was born in Virden, **Mildred L. McLean**, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Wm. C. McLean. She received all her schooling in Virden and after graduating worked at Scales and Rothnie general store until her marriage in 1939, November 11th.

During the war Mildred moved first to Winnipeg with her husband, then to Brandon, then Barrie, Ont. and after Don went overseas moved to Toronto for the four years while he was overseas. Here she worked for Household Finance Corp. and Tremco paint company.

After the war they moved back to Virden.

Mildred served seven years as trustee on the Fort La Bosse School Board 1972-79. The Whitefords have four children. **Mary Lynne Bruce** of Wolfville, N.S., **Hughie** is a school teacher and they have one daughter **Tara**.

**W. Robt. Whiteford** presently at Thompson, Man. with the Fisheries and Oceans branch of the federal government, not yet married. **Patricia Dawn Mitchell** lives in Virden with her husband and two children. **Ken** is the Financial Administrator for Hospital District #10. **Tanis J. Atras** presently living in Ethelbert. **Jim** is in the R.C.M.P. Tanis lived in Elkhorn briefly when the Whitefords moved. She is very interested in anything horsey and enjoyed this very much while in Elkhorn.

Both Patricia and Tanis were married in Elkhorn.

Elkhorn is a great place to live, people are very friendly and the Whitefords are busy most of the time in various activities. They especially enjoy the hockey. As Don says "It's something to be sitting in the Elkhorn Arena cheering for Elkhorn, when it used to be different when he played for Virden, with quite a bit of bench time. It's fun reminiscing with guys like Oscar Duxbury and the Leslies."

The Whitefords feel that Elkhorn has a great future and can be rightfully proud of its past.

### The Wickham Family

We moved to Elkhorn in November, 1929, where my father took a job selling for the J. R. Watkins Co. and was assigned the Elkhorn area as his territory. There were seven children in the family, five girls and two boys; the eighth child had died at the age of



L-R Top row: Mrs. Wickham, Ted Stone, Irene, Mr. Wickham, Charlotte. Bottom row: Florence, Alice and Margaret.

three months. The oldest girl, **Alice** was at the time teaching school in Saskatchewan, so was not with the family. Next in age was **Charlotte**, then **Florence** who was working in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, at the time but she later came to Elkhorn and spent some years there. Next was **Irene**, then **Richard** or **Dick** as he was called, then yours truly, **Frank**, and lastly another girl, **Margaret**.

It has been a long time but I will try to recall some events; I remember it as an enjoyable time in our lives. Dad eventually lost his agency for the Watkins Co. because of too many outstanding accounts; for some time he ran a small grist mill, I think three days a week, for Lorne Stirling who also operated the Wheat Pool elevator.

We lived in several different houses in Elkhorn. The first house was owned by the McLeod family, who owned the store on the corner of Main Street, with the hall over the store. I believe at the time there were two sisters running the store and hall. After that, it became the Brotherhood house and I believe there were three other houses owned by the McLeod families that we lived in.

I remember one night as I was coming home from the skating rink, I came by the McLeod house that we had first lived in. A Conquergood family was then living there. The two girls had just arrived home from the rink and found that the front door of their house was open. They immediately suspected a burglar and were afraid to go in, so I was the brave hero chosen to enter. I did so and found that their brother had come home unexpectedly and had decided to give them a fright. Of course I came out claiming no one was in there and when they went on in he had the pleasure of giving them quite a fright. I had to share their wrath! I guess I had a few girl friends while we lived there, but if I remember correctly I just loved

them all. Two names come to mind at the present, Cora Nailer, who gave me the brush-off one night, and Phyllis Gardner who later married Harold Webster.

The oldest girl, Alice, married a rancher in Saskatchewan and still lives there at Hoosier. The next oldest, Charlotte married **Wesley McKenzie** from Willen, Manitoba. They later moved to Miniota and had two sons. Wesley still lives in Miniota but Charlotte died November 4, 1967. Florence married **Charlie Shepherd** of Elkhorn. They never had any children. They later moved to Kenora, Ontario. They were divorced November 5, 1957. She then married **Frank Giesbrecht** of Winnipeg, Manitoba, November 8, 1958 and they are now living in Edmonton, Alberta. Irene married **Ted Stone** of Elkhorn on September 16, 1937. He died September 29, 1951. Irene then married **Gordon Orton** of Neepawa, May 2, 1955. At that time she was living in Kenora, Ontario, where she had moved following the death of Ted Stone. They are still living in Kenora at this time. Richard and I did a lot of travelling around Canada trying to find gainful employment. We spent three years around Lethbridge, Alberta doing farm work, then we went east to the Toronto area where we eventually got work in factories until the war broke out. I married a Toronto girl in 1940 and Dick, or Richard, joined the Canadian Air Force and later went overseas for a little better than a year. After Dick returned from overseas and received his discharge, he registered as an auto mechanic and went to work for Beaty Cadillac in Toronto. He stayed there until he moved to Kenora in 1954 and went to work for Kenora Motor Products. He later left there and went to work for Subway Motors. He got married in Kenora to **Teresa Schroeder**, who had a son named William from a previous marriage, and who came from Toronto. Dick died of lung cancer December 7, 1975, and Teresa, their three daughters and one son remained in Kenora.

As I mentioned, I married a Toronto girl on August 31, 1940 in Toronto. Her name was **Bernice Swain**. We remained in Toronto, except for four years which I spent in the Canadian Army during the war. I joined the active force but still remained in Canada for the full time. After I received my discharge in 1945 I returned to my original place of employment until April of 1947 when we moved up to Kenora, Ontario. I joined the ranks of the auto mechanics and obtained my journeyman's licence. When we moved to Kenora we had one daughter and three sons. While we lived in Kenora we had three more daughters and one son who only lived eleven days. We also lost our oldest child, **Deanna Marie**, who died April 11, 1955 of a brain concussion as a result of a baseball accident.

We left Kenora in November, 1962 and moved to Logan, Utah, U.S.A. We lived in North Logan for nine years then sold our home there and bought one in Hyrum, Utah which is just eight miles further south. I worked as an auto mechanic until June, 1974 when I went to work for the Southern Pacific Railroad as a machinist. I retired from there on March 31, 1979, and Bernice and I went to The Canada Montreal Mission to serve a Mission for eighteen months for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, (Mormons). We returned last December, 1980 and moved down here to Koosharem, Utah where I work part time running a small ranch for a friend who lives in Logan.

submitted by William Frank Wickham

### The Wilcox Family

Henry Albert Wilcox was born November 15th, 1888, in Cornwall England. He came to Canada with his uncle, by boat, in 1903, at the age of fourteen years. After arriving in Winnipeg, the immigration office sent him to the Ormiston farm at Tantallon, Saskatchewan. He worked for four years for \$100.00. He was to get some schooling as well, but got very little.

With Tantallon being in the valley, during harvest time, the grain had to be bagged and taken to Moosomin, Saskatchewan. The load was too heavy to get up the hill, so half the load would be taken off at the bottom. After unloading at the top of the hill, they would return to the bottom for the remainder of the load. Albert helped to haul ties for the railroad for the branch line of the Canadian Pacific Railway to Tantallon, which was the end of the line at that time. In 1979, the family took Albert back to Tantallon to see the old homestead where he had worked, and this trip revived many memories. After working at Tantallon, he moved to McAuley, Manitoba, where he worked with Mr. Parke as drayman.

On April 5th, 1916, Albert married Alice Viola Mallett at the Manse in Tantallon. The manse still stands today and has recently been renovated. Alice was born in Rutherglen, now McAuley, in 1908, where her parents homesteaded. They moved to Virden, Manitoba, where Albert started with the C.P.R. as pump man. In 1917, they moved to Elkhorn and started a Dray and Transfer business with a team of horses. This is an excerpt from the Elkhorn Mercury:

He's not very big, but my oh my, he's able, alert, willing, smiling and boy, what a worker! We feel pretty sure that the average person about town has, by this time, been impressed by Albert Wilcox, as he has impressed us.

The founder of the Elkhorn Dray and Transfer business and his son, Leroy, do much to help us to carry on our several jobs, and the happy manner in which they both go about their tasks makes one realize that they are a big asset to Elkhorn.

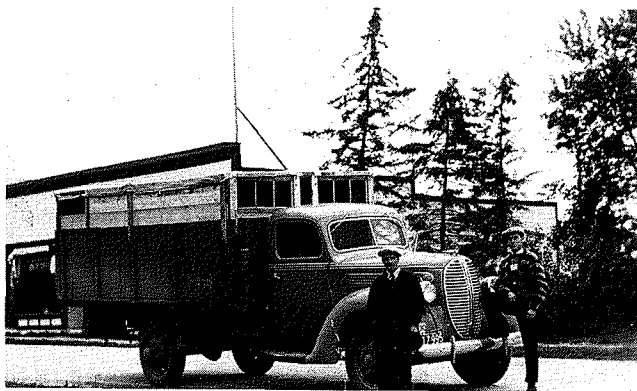
It must be a pretty monotonous job, too, sometimes, but

seldom does one find either father or son late for an appointment, and this fact makes their services all the more valuable.

Since they secured their new truck in the spring, they appear to have increased their business, which has been augmented during the last few years by the hauling of cream for the local butter factory. When the new school term started, Wilcox and Son took on the York S.D. van contract.

Albert is quite an enthusiastic softballer, as manager of the Elkhorn girl's team, and he transported his brigade to and from many a victory throughout the past season.

Well, as we observed in the first place, he's not very big, but then a lot of good hearts and characters are wrapped up in small containers."



Albert Wilcox with his transfer business truck.

Albert also transferred Indian Students from the Elkhorn Indian Residential School to their homes at The Pas and Flin Flon for summer holidays in his vehicle as shown in the picture. He later joined Sigurdson Construction, building War-time houses and schools in Brandon until his retirement in 1966.

Mr. George Bartley organized a mouth organ group and Albert and his son Lyle took an active part in this band. The big thrill to them was when they played on CKX radio one evening. Albert was an enthusiastic sportsman, one of his joys was to enter a family rink in the local bonspiel. He was also very fond of animals.

In April, 1966, the Wilcox's celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary, and in April, 1976, they celebrated their sixtieth anniversary. Albert celebrated his ninety-second birthday on November 15th, 1980, and Alice her eighty-third birthday on February 18th, 1981, at the Elkview Lodge in Elkhorn. Alice still enjoys her needlework and reading Canadian history books, and riding her three-wheeled bicycle. Albert passed away March 4th, 1981.

Albert and Alice Wilcox had five children: Leroy, Bernice, Ernie, Lyle, and Marie.

**Leroy** was born June 9th, 1917, and received his education in Elkhorn. He took part in all sports' activities in the town as well as Boy Scouts. He attended Trinity United Church. He served in World War Two. In 1942, he married Dorothy Burnell of

Winnipeg. They had twin daughters, Gail and Gwen, and a son, Norman. Leroy was a transport driver but due to an accident at Symington C.N.R. yards in Winnipeg he retired to White Rock, British Columbia, where he passed away in May, 1980.

**Bernice** was born October 10th, 1918, and received her education in Elkhorn. She joined the United Church and Rebekah Lodge and took an active part in all sports. After working at the Creamery and Bartley's Store, she moved to Winnipeg in 1949. There she was employed at a ladies' wear store, then a grocery chain store. Bernice also managed Jewel Junior Grocery stores and Red and White until sold. In 1957, she was employed at the Manitoba Telephone System. In 1961, Bernice helped to organize the Elkhorn Reunion Group in Winnipeg, which was held for ten years. She took an early retirement from the Manitoba Telephone System in 1978.

**Ernie** was born May 21st, 1920, and received his education in Elkhorn. He belonged to the Boy Scouts, attended the United Church, and was active in all sports. In 1939, he started working at the Elkhorn Creamery until he joined the army. He served in active service until the end of the war and was then in the occupational Forces in Germany for three years. After his discharge he took a course in Dairy Technology at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg. He later was employed with Manitoba Dairy and Poultry Co-op where he has worked ever since. In 1952, he married Catherine Wood of Brandon. They had four children: Sherrill, Karen, Janet and Neil.

**Lyle** was born March 16th, 1924, and received his education in Elkhorn. He attended the United Church and was a member of the Boy Scouts. Lyle also took part in most sports. After working for Wm. Tottle's Red and White and Bartley's stores, he commenced work with the C.P.R. in 1942 as an assistant agent at Broadview and Souris. He became relief Agent-Operator, August, 1943, relieving at Oak River, Windthorst, Wawota, Kennedy, Antler, Carlyle, Souris, Shoal Lake, Whitewood and Oak Lake before holding permanent agencies at McTavish, Marchwell, Plum Coulee and Lac du Bonnet. He served on the Lac du Bonnet Village Council for three years and as Mayor for seven months, prior to being transferred to Winnipeg in December, 1972. Lyle is currently a supervisor with C.P. Rail Customer Service Centre in Winnipeg. He married Bertie Mary Ward of Wapella, Saskatchewan. In May of 1945, a son, Dean, was born in Minnedosa. Son, Grant, was born in Langenburg, Saskatchewan, and twin daughters, Corene and Connie, were born in Morden, Manitoba.

**Marie** was born July 20th, 1936 and she received

her education in Elkhorn. She attended the United Church and was also a member of the Elkhorn 4H Club. In 1956, she married John Sattler of Rathwell, Manitoba. After being employed by Rowan Brothers, they moved to St. Claude, then to Austin and MacGregor, Manitoba, where they still reside on the family farm. Their family consisted of eight children: Brenda, Robert, Brian, Eddie, Valarie, Susan, Debbie and Michael.

submitted by Mrs. E. A. Wilcox

### **The John Will Family**

John Will was born at Aberdeen, Scotland, on January 19th, 1858. He married Elizabeth Christine Hampton, born September 28th, 1856, on July 1st, 1888, at Brechin, Forfarshire, Scotland.

Mr. John Will looked after cattle for the Earl of Strathmore before coming to Canada. Mrs. Will's youngest daughter, Agnes, had played with the present Queen Mother when she was a wee girl. They are both the same age and Agnes remembers walking past Glamis Castle every day on her way to school.

John and Elizabeth Will came to Canada in 1913 and farmed on Section 3-12-29 until 1926 when they went to Sturgis, Saskatchewan, to stay with Agnes for a few months. They then returned to Elkhorn to make their home in town. They lived through hard times but Mrs. Will was a very kind lady and never turned anyone who was in need away from the door.

They had eight children, including one set of twins.

**Martha**, married Jack Murray (both now deceased) and they had a family of four — John, Mona, James, Norman.

**Jack** stayed in Scotland and later was a policeman in London.

**William** (deceased) married Annie Tosh and they had one child.

**Charles**, married Jane Anne McDonald (both now deceased) and they had six children, including twins — Elizabeth, Douglas, Charles, Reginald and Martha (twins), and Earl.

**James** (twin) married Margaret Duke (both now deceased) and they had three children — Jessie, James and John. James' wife, Margaret died during childbirth and so brother Thomas adopted John and sister Agnes raised James and Jessie.

**David** (twin) joined the Black Watch during World War One and was killed in action.

**Elizabeth** (deceased) was a telephone operator at Elgin, Elkhorn and later in Saskatchewan.

**Thomas** (deceased) married Annie Pearson and lived in Hythe, Alberta. They had two daughters — Doris Annie (deceased) and Florence. Florence married Al Yaeger and they have two daughters, Doris

and Patti who reside in the United States of America. John, their adopted boy, is married and has four daughters and they live in Calgary.

**Agnes** married Bert Vodden (now deceased) and she resides in Sturgis, Saskatchewan. They had two children — Russell and Joyce (who are both married and live at Sturgis) as well as brother James' two children, Jessie and James.

Mr. and Mrs. John Will celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in 1938 at the farm of their second son, Charles, who then lived on the Thomas farm, now owned by Ron and Sharon Walker. John died April 3rd, 1942, in this 85th year and Elizabeth died in June, 1939 at the age of 83.

submitted by Mrs. Martha Mailes

### **Mr. and Mrs. Charles Will**

**Charlie** was born at Forfarshire, Scotland, September 5th, 1890. He came to Canada in 1913 but went back overseas during World War One to enlist. Later, in 1919, he returned with his bride, **Jane Ann Doig McDonald**, also of Forfarshire, Scotland. They took up farming on various locations in the Mossiel and Kirkella areas.

In 1940, Mr. and Mrs. Will gave up farming and moved to Elkhorn. Mr. Will enlisted in the Veteran Guards, World War Two, and after his discharge he became town Constable and Mail Carrier. Mr. and Mrs. Will took an active part in community affairs. Mrs. Will canvassed the Village during Red Cross campaigns for many years and both were members of the Royal Canadian Legion and the St. Andrews Society.

Mrs. Will passed away October 30th, 1967. Charlie lived with son, Reginald, for a number of years before moving to the Westman Nursing Home in Virden. He passed away on November 25th, 1978. The Wills had four sons and two daughters —

**Elizabeth** married Steve Sedor and they live in Calgary. They have nine children including four sets of twins — Dale married Jean Serako and they have a son, Derek, and live in Delta, British Columbia. Darryl married Lesley Clark and they have one son and a daughter, David and Sarah, and live in Calgary, Alberta.

Donnie lives in Calgary. Donna married Wynn Meeder and they have a son, Daniel, and a daughter, Sonja, and live in Lethbridge, Alberta. Dennis, a teacher, lives in Calgary. Denise married Conrad Boutet and they have a son, Ronald, and a daughter, Stephanie, and live in Calgary, Alberta. Valerie (the only child not a twin) married Rob Smith and they live in Calgary, and the youngest twins, Derrdie and Delores, live at home.

**Douglas** lives in Virden and works at the Virden Animal Hospital.

**Charles** married Alys Sampson and they had two sons — Gordon and Gary (deceased). They live in Kamloops, British Columbia, and Charles (Chick) is the owner of the Peerless Printing Company.

**Reginald** married Margerie Nash and they live on a farm at Elkhorn. They have a daughter, Leona.

**Martha** married Russell Mailes (deceased) and lives in Elkhorn. They had two children — Gordon married Kelli Joe White and they have a son, Harley, and live in Brandon. Marla married Richard Dyke and have 2 boys, Scott and Kent, and live in Moosomin, Saskatchewan.

**Earl** married Sharon Lucas and they live in Carroll, Manitoba. Earl works for the Manitoba Hydro and they have 3 boys and 2 girls. Lloyd married Gail Dodd and they live in Brandon. Heather is in the Airforce at Edmonton. Keven works in Brandon. Diana is taking her Nurse's training in Brandon and Bradley is still in school.

submitted by Mrs. Martha Mailes

### **Percy C. Williams and Family**

Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Williams, with their family, came to Elkhorn in 1908, from Wiltshire, England.

Grandma often recalled seeing a large number of Indians gathered on the station platform when they passed through Winnipeg, and as she was never in Winnipeg again to see it as the modern city it had become, her recollection of it remained the same.

When they arrived in Elkhorn, they were welcomed by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hunter, the latter being a sister of Grandma's, and it was at their home that the newly arrived family stayed until Grandad found a house closer to downtown. He then bought a quarter section of land directly north of town which he farmed for a short period of time. Grandad, however, was a blacksmith by trade and unfamiliar with farming methods in Canada, and as the land was low and alkaline, it was not very productive. Consequently he gave it up and eventually acquired two other positions. One of these was the job of looking after the fires at the Bank of Commerce, and the other was that of mail carrier, where he took the mail to the trains and brought the incoming mail back to the Post Office. He met two trains, one each way in the afternoon, and two more in the early morning hours. These were the days of great mail service. This service, however, was discontinued and taken over by the mail trucks — our present service — when the steam locomotives were replaced with diesels, and it



L-R Back row: Percy, Fred, Amy, Arthur, Mrs. Williams. Seated: Herbert and Nell.



was no longer necessary for the trains to stop at Elkhorn to take on coal and water.

Grandma also had a position at the Bank of Commerce. Besides cleaning on the main floor, she cleaned and did the laundry for the two bedrooms upstairs where two of the bank employees slept. Both Grandma and Grandad worked at the bank from sometime before 1920, until sometime during the forties, when the bank was closed. By this time both had reached retirement age and so were able to enjoy their lives together in the little house Grandad had built in 1933. Grandma was a great cook and especially famous for her toffee which she always had on hand and shared with everyone. How well we remember the boxes of stuffed dates she made for us at Christmas. Grandad loved music, and every evening he would spend an hour or so playing hymns on the organ that he had brought with him from England. He was a member of the United Church and taught Sunday School for many years. He always had a good garden which invariably included marigolds, one of his favorite flowers. He rode his bicycle, which he had also brought from England, until he was in his eighties, and many times he would ride out to our farm, a distance of five miles, to lend a helping hand.

In 1941, they celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in Regina with most of their family. In the late forties they spent their winters in Regina, where Grandma passed away in 1950. Grandad continued living in Elkhorn and spending the winters in Regina until he was unable to live alone. Then he stayed with his daughters in Regina, and then in a Senior Citizens Home in Swift Current, where he died at the age of ninety-six in 1965.

The family of our grandparents was comprised of seven children: **Amy**, now deceased, married Colin Prockter, and lived in Regina. They had four children, Joyce, Dorothy, Betty and Harry. **Arthur**, now deceased, World War I veteran, settled in South Africa after the war and became a barber. He was married late in life and had no family. **Harry**, died in childhood. **Herbert**, now deceased, World War I veteran, married Marion McKinnon of Moosomin, and lived in Regina, where he was employed with the Regina Leader Post until his death. They had one son, James. **Nell** married Albert Lund of Elkhorn and lives in Regina. They have two children, Bill and Nancy. **Ronald** married Thelma Towler of Manson, Manitoba. They have lived in several towns in Saskatchewan where he had been a Co-op manager until his retirement. They now live in Milestone, Saskatchewan. They have two children, Arthur and Robert. **Fred**, now deceased, a World War I veteran is our father.

## The Fred Williams Story

Our father, Fred Williams, was fourteen when he came to Canada with his parents in 1908. He worked for several farmers, two of whom were John Heritage and Hercules Woods, before joining the Canadian Army. After spending some time in England, he was sent to France where he was badly wounded in the chest, and lost his index finger. He was then sent back to a military hospital in London where he met our mother. They were married on April 3, 1919, and came to Canada that fall.

In February, 1920, Freda was born, and the following April, they went to Carberry to work on a farm as a hired couple. Mother with a small baby, was introduced to the rugged farm life of which she knew absolutely nothing. Baking bread, churning butter, and cooking three big meals a day for a threshing gang of at least twenty hungry men, was a totally new experience, and one which she has never forgotten. Many a tear was shed during those lonely and confusing months — life in London was so different. The neighbouring ladies were very friendly and most helpful, which along with the music from their first gramophone, made her first few years in Canada more bearable. In 1922, Gordon was born in March — by now the work had become more routine. They returned to Elkhorn the next year, having earned enough money for a down payment on a farm. That summer, Dad worked on the construction of the Indian Residential School, and in the fall, he bought a farm in the York district, Section 13, township 12, Range 28, through the Soldier Settlement Board.

In September, 1923, Grace was born, so with their family of three they began their own farming operation. The fourth member of the family, Maisie, was born in May, 1925.

Life on the farm even then was a hard and rugged one. During the winter months, Dad made from twenty to thirty trips to the Assiniboine Valley, about twelve miles from home, with a team and sleigh bunks, to cut trees for firewood, leaving early in the morning, and returning well after dark, often walking most of the way home to keep from freezing. Usually the pile of wood was sawn into smaller logs during the Easter holidays, with the help of George Freeman, Jake Froese and the old faithfuls, his kids. A steer was killed every fall, and the front half canned for summer, used to supplement the meat from the Beef Ring. A good garden produced all the vegetables that were needed and currants and raspberries were supplied from the orchard, of which Dad was very proud.

In 1931 arrangements were made to build a new basement under the house so we would be able to have a furnace and also there would be more room for

the cream separator. To do this it was necessary to jack up the house and scoop the earth out in preparation for the cement. This was all done by hand with the use of a team of horses and a scraper. While the house was in this precarious position a summer storm came up in the middle of the night. We were all wakened and hustled off to the hen house until the storm was over. Luckily, the house remained on the jacks through it all and no damage was done.

It was a red letter day in 1933 when Dad purchased a 1929 Model A Ford car which replaced the horse and buggy on a Saturday night. Never having driven a car before, Dad had some rather frustrating experiences. One day, we were all dressed up and seated in the car ready to go to town, when the car refused to respond to the starter, at which point Dad began to crank, with no success. In exasperation he got into the car again and realized he had forgotten to turn on the key. After that experience, whenever the car wouldn't go, we would say, "Have you got the key on Dad?" He kept a diagram of the gear shift on the wall where he sat at mealtime so he could get it firmly fixed in his mind.

In 1937, with the help of Sinclair Snyder and Johnny Graham, our hired man, Dad built a new barn.

Mother's days were filled with sewing clothes for three girls, looking after the chickens and keeping the garden clean, canning, helping with the milking, and making the many trips to the Elkhorn Creamery with the old Min and the buggy to take the cream and eggs. The cream was kept fresh in an ice well which had been filled the previous winter. She was rewarded for all her efforts when in 1936 the Legion offered a special rate for World War I veterans and their families to go to France by boat for the unveiling of the Vimy Memorial, and also to England, where Mother visited with her Mother and three sisters. Great preparations were made, instructions given on how to bake bread, pack eggs in waterglass for winter use, spray the dreaded flies with a mixture of coal oil and Pyrethrum powder — an every day occurrence in the thirties, and purchasing those few extra clothes, which included a two piece ensemble she knit for herself. So mother, along with Mrs. Grimshaw and Mrs. Ted Gibbs, left for a two month holiday the first week in July with a temperature of 101 degrees. This was to be the hottest summer on record. When Mother returned in September, we were thrilled to hear that the actor Leslie Howard, had travelled on their boat — first class of course, and also that she had attended a garden party at Buckingham Palace where King Edward VIII had entertained 5000 Canadians.

I believe it was the same summer, the Beaver

Dodge store offered a contest for a model farm to be exhibited at the summer fair. Gordon decided to enter, and spent many hours making all the small farm buildings and fences, carefully painting each piece, and was rewarded by receiving first prize for his efforts which was a gift certificate at the store. With this, he purchased a pink glass fruit bowl and fruit dishes for Mother.

During our years at home, we had very little sickness with a few exceptions. The first of these came in 1929, when we were all stricken with cholera, considered to have been carried by flies. Maisie was affected the most and had to have special care for about six weeks. It was at that time that Mother's friend with her husband and two sons, came from Australia to visit us for a month. She and Mother agreed, when they left England, she for Australia and Mother for Canada that they would meet in ten years. Our crop had been badly damaged by hail on the first of July, so anything that was left had to be cut and stacked for winter feed. Dad was glad to have a helping hand and our visitor enjoyed seeing Canadian methods of farming. As we did not have a car at that time, Harvey McFadzean supplied taxi service for them to and from the station.

Another short illness that could have ended tragically occurred when the new furnace was installed with rather scanty directions. Consequently a few parts were put in the wrong places. One very cold night when the first coal fire was put on, we girls awakened in the middle of the night, faint and nauseated. When Dad phoned Dr. Johnston and explained our symptoms, he said that we were probably gassed and advised opening the doors to let the fresh air in, and to give each of us a spoonful of olive oil. We soon recovered and the proper places were found for the misplaced furnace parts.

The most anxious time, however, came in January, 1932, when, after having tonsillitis, Gordon developed complications. Dad and Mother wrapped him up, and took him to town in the sleigh. Dr. Johnston diagnosed his illness as acute appendicitis, and made arrangements for an operation in Virden. It was necessary to go to Virden by train, as winter road travel was impossible in those days. As Gordon was in great pain, Mother and Dr. Johnston waited anxiously for the 2 A.M. train. When they arrived in Virden, Gordon's appendix had ruptured and his life hung in the balance for several days. Mr. and Mrs. Reg. Cousins came to stay with us while Dad went to Virden. It was a happy day at our house when Gordon returned home.

We all received our education in the Elkhorn School. Our transportation was by covered truck in the summer, and by covered sleigh box (with a stove

in one corner) pulled by horses, in the winter. After a heavy snowstorm, the horses would plunge through the snow drifts, and sometimes in the struggle, the van would tip over on its side, throwing its occupants to the low side. When this happened, the stove became somewhat hazardous and I imagine there were some anxious moments for the driver in case the van should catch on fire. However, to my knowledge, it never did. One very dry year, possibly in 1933, there was not enough snow in March for the sleighs, yet too much in places for the truck, so we were transported to school in a rubber tired trailer. It was the spring of the dust storms, and we would arrive, often late, with a coating of the good earth on our faces, but we quite enjoyed the novel experience. We passed the time during the long winter trips by playing "I Spy" and learned to do many tricks with string by manipulating it around our fingers. We also learned a few words of the German language from the Kliever kids. The various drivers must have had a great deal of patience, as there were usually around twenty chattering, and sometimes fighting, children in the van. Some of the van drivers were, Mr. Taschuck, Mr. Andy Swan and sons Abbey and Elmer, Mr. J. Allison, Oscar Schoen, Ted Lamb, Dorothy Swan and Rudy and Molly Schoen. Dad served on the York School Board for many years while we were attending school.

Our school years held many happy memories for each of us. We were very fortunate to have so many excellent teachers. Can you imagine a teacher of today counting gopher tails? During the thirties, prairie gophers were very prolific and every pupil became a potential trapper, as the municipality paid one cent per gopher tail in an attempt to lower the population explosion. Our teacher, Mr. Butcher, had to count the tails and keep a record, so we could get paid correctly.

I think every child in school looked forward to the one big day of the year — field day. Our teachers took us outside many days beforehand to practise marching and turning those square corners. I'm sure there were times when they thought some of us had two left feet, and still didn't know which was right and which was left. But they persisted, and we often won a prize for our marching. Many, many schools came to Elkhorn to participate — I would say as many as twenty-five or thirty. Each school had its own colors and displayed them on its banner as well as on the students' attire. Marching to the Elkhorn band was a great thrill. Later in the day, everyone took part either individually or on a team, in races, broad and high jump, softball, basketball and folk dancing. The day ended with a dance in the Stadium which needless to say, was always well attended. In the late thirties, we

had some first class basketball and softball teams. Another school sport, that was started then, was curling. I wonder how many of us learned to throw our first curling rock during those years? I know I did, and have enjoyed playing the game ever since. Probably the most common sport and one which everyone from six to sixty enjoyed, was skating. Our family all learned to skate on the sloughs in the spring by pushing a chair in front of us. Occasionally, we would stay in at Grandma's and go skating at the rink. As they lived just across the road, Grandad would put a lamp in the window, which was a signal that it was time for us to come home. When we got older, we played many games of hockey on the ice in Jake Froese's yard, as he and Dad were great hockey fans.

In the winter, our entertainment at home consisted of table tennis, played on the dining room table, monopoly, and German Five Hundred, which we learned from Jake Froese. Around 1930, Dad bought one of those radios that had a horn for a speaker, and produced every kind of howling and squeaking noise imaginable and very little else. A little later a set of earphones was purchased which helped considerably, and we took turns listening to such programs as Uncle Peter, who read out our birthday greetings, and the Adventures of Little Orphan Annie, a serial that we just would not miss. By 1935, radios had improved, and just before Christmas a new RCA Victor became part of our dining room furniture. The first thing we heard on it was Bing Crosby singing "Silent Night." The programs then were every bit as interesting as the ones we see on TV today. They included evening plays such as Lux Theatre, First Nighter and The Shadow, wonderful big band music, the WLS barn dance and we always listened to the weekly Hit Parade to see which songs were tops. The comedy shows like Fibber McGee and Molly, Amos and Andy, George Burns, Jack Benny and Charlie McCarthy, to name just a few, were at their peak in those years, and provided hours of excellent entertainment. There were many afternoon soap operas also, such as Ma Perkins, The Guiding Light, and Pepper Young's Family. I remember getting Zinnia seeds with box tops from Oxydol's own Ma Perkins, and they produced lovely large flowers. Saturday nights would find everyone gathered around the radio to hear the NHL game vividly described by Foster Hewitt. There were just as many hockey fans then as there are now.

When people speak of the "Good Old Days," I'm sure it is the social aspect of life to which they refer, for never have there been closer knit districts than there were during the thirties. As we had no school in our district, we were always invited to join in the activities of the Burnbank district and really

enjoyed the card parties and dances that were held in various homes as well as in the school. Music was never a problem, as there was always a fiddler or two in the crowd, two of whom were Jimmie Bernie and Mr. Orr, and they were accompanied by Mrs. Freeman at the piano. Transportation of course was by team and sleigh, and as the parties lasted until the early morning hours, there wasn't much sleep until it was chore time again.

An annual occurrence during the thirties was a Sunday trip to the Assiniboine Valley to pick saskatoons, which along with rhubarb, were used to make jam and fruit for the winter months. Sometimes we went with the Soder family in a Bennett Buggy along with several cream cans, which were eventually filled with saskatoons, and a delicious dinner. Every child had his own honey pail to fill, and would arrive back invariably with blue teeth, a result of eating probably more saskatoons than he had picked. Other times several families went in Elmer's school van, and everyone contributed toward the sumptuous picnic fare. Usually after this outing, there was an exchange of recipes among the ladies. Sometimes the joys of the day were short lived, as upon arriving home, we would find that the cows had broken down the fence and were in the corn field.

Threshing time was an exciting time for us kids, as we were often allowed to stay home from school to help with the numerous extras, the main one being the job of shovelling grain, as there were no augers in those days. One night when Gordon had been driving a stook team, he rode one of the horses home, and just as he was getting off, the horse was frightened by something and bolted, dragging Gordon. One of the other men found him unconscious and brought him to the house. Dr. Johnston came out and examined him and found he had a broken nose and two big black eyes. We were all relieved that his injuries were no worse. There were usually six teams on the racks and two field pitchers along with the engine man and a grain hauler. With all the extra men for meals, a great deal of preparation took place in the kitchen. I can almost smell the fresh Parker House rolls and raspberry jam that Mother would send to the men for afternoon lunch. With no refrigeration, it was difficult to keep fresh meat on hand, and sometimes when a large roast was purchased, it would rain. At that time, there were many ingenious methods used to try to keep the meat for two or three extra days without spoiling, with the hope that the weather would clear up and threshing would resume. The Beef Ring was a wonderful idea for providing fresh beef every Thursday throughout the summer months. The meetings to arrange the summer's meat were held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Freeman, a very important meeting that both Mother and Dad attended.

The drought of the thirties caused much anxiety to farmers with livestock, as water became in short supply. Dad had dug at least three wells, by hand, on our farm, and it was our responsibility to see that the cattle had enough water to drink. To do this, we made ladders with chalk, on the inside of the water tank and each of us would take turns pumping the allotted space between the rungs; I used to think how wonderful it would be if we could just press a button and the pump would go itself, never dreaming that in less than twenty years, it would be possible.

Toward the latter part of the thirties, we attended the Saturday night dances held in the Elkhorn rink and later, in the Stadium. We thought the music of the smartly uniformed band of Laddie McDougall was absolutely first rate. The moonlight modern waltzes were enhanced by colored lights that shone across the dance floor, creating an air of sophistication (we thought). Admission was ten cents for ladies and twenty-five cents for the gentlemen — I never understood why the men were discriminated against, but the higher fee did not interfere with their attendance. The floor was usually crowded until the dance ended at midnight, and everyone descended upon the cafes, which did an enormous business in the early morning hours.

The forties saw great changes in rural living conditions with the coming of the Hydro power machinery and better prices for grain and other farm produce. Unfortunately, they also found us at war. **Gordon** joined the Canadian Air Force in 1942 and was posted overseas in the spring of 1943. He was killed in action in January, 1944 at the age of twenty-one, which was a tragic blow to our family. Freda, Grace and Maisie all taught school, and later, all farmed. **Freda** married **Wes Nelson**, and farms at Pilot Mound. They have three children: Elaine, Gordon and Maureen. **Grace** married **Russell Strath** and farmed at Hayfield. Now retired, they live in Souris. They have two children: Donna and Gary, who has taken over the farm. **Maisie** married **Fred Lewis**, farmed at Reston and Gladstone, now retired, they remain living on the farm. They have three children: Carol, Eleanor and Ken, who has taken over the farming operation.

By the time Dad decided he had farmed long enough, he had acquired two more quarter sections, 23 and 24. In 1958 he sold the three quarters to Robert Allison and he and Mother retired to Souris. Dad had always wanted to grow productive apple trees, and although he had planted many in the orchard on the farm, the drought did not allow them to produce, but his dream became a reality when after he had retired, he bought and planted two varieties called Goodlands and Hyer, which were abundant producers. He enjoyed gardening but found it diffi-

cult in later years because of arthritis. He and Mother celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in 1969 in Souris with many of their Elkhorn friends attending. In 1971 they flew to Holland, with other veterans' relatives and were taken to the cemetery where Gordon was buried. They were billeted with a young Dutch couple who were extremely kind to them.

Dad passed away at home in 1978, and Mother at eighty-eight still maintains her own suite, which she moved into after Dad died. In 1979, we girls took her to England to see her two sisters and many nieces and nephews. We had a great time but as we went in March, and their spring was late we found the weather equally as cold as many of our winter days.

In closing, we would like to pay tribute to our grandparents and parents who had the courage and foresight to leave their beloved England, and establish themselves in a new and strange land of opportunity. We are indebted to them for the hardships and sacrifices they endured for the benefit of each succeeding generation.

submitted by Freda, Grace and Maisie

This is a poem written during the early part of the century to entice men from Ontario to come and farm in Manitoba.

Come all you young fellows, give heed to my song  
I hope you won't worry, if it be too long  
To view that fair country well known to you all  
It's a land of rich prairies called Man-it-oba.  
Now the snow it has vanished, and spring has  
begun

The ground does not harden, nor bake in the sun  
The horses and cattle not wintered on straw  
Come out fat and fiery in Man-it-oba.

Now seeding has finished, and all in the ground  
The wild flowers around you in beauty abound  
Mosquitoes are plenty, the weather is raw  
And farmers are breaking in Man-it-oba.

When haying comes on, we are busy all day  
Mowing and raking the sweet prairie hay  
Off a small piece of land, you get all you can draw  
No thistles nor daisies in Man-it-oba.

When harvest comes on, we are all hard at work  
Don't mind your old hat, or the sweat on your shirt  
Just look at the piles of the wheat and the straw  
Don't you wish you were farming in Man-it-oba.

When cutting is over, the threshing begins  
And many fine granaries with o'erflowing bins  
And the finest fall weather, that you ever saw  
Is the month of October in Man-it-oba.

When winter comes on, don't let that frighten you  
There's lots of fine days and stormy ones too  
With lots of hard wheat to market to draw  
There's no time for fretting in Man-it-oba.

Come all my young school-mates, who to  
manhood have grown  
If you want to start out to make a home of your  
own  
Just pack up your duds, say good-bye to your  
Maw,  
And try your luck farming in Man-it-oba.

This was written out and given to me this year  
by a man 92 years of age.

### **Kenneth Angus Williams**

**Kenneth Angus Williams** was born in 1902 and came to Elkhorn in 1923 from Ottawa, Ontario. He married **Mabel Willetta Armstrong** and they had a family of three sons and one daughter. Ken was manager of Beaver Lumber Co., of Elkhorn from 1934 to 1966, but continued working as a relief manager until the business was discontinued in 1969. At time of writing, they reside in their own home in Elkhorn. They both enjoy a game of cards. Ken does the gardening and Mabel enjoys crocheting. Their children:

**KENNETH ROSS WILLIAMS** (1925) served in the armed forces, then worked for the C.P.R. for some years in Calgary. He died in 1967, and is buried in the Elkhorn cemetery.

**JAMES EDWARD WILLIAMS** (1927) married **Helen Dixon**, daughter of Jim and Ruby Dixon. They reside in Calgary, where Jim is employed by the City as Lab Crew foreman. They have a family of two sons and one daughter.

**FRANK RUSSEL** (1929) married and had two daughters: **Shelley Margaret** of Calgary, and **Susan Ivy** of Reno, Nevada. Each daughter has one son. Frank resides and is employed in Brandon.

**JOYCE WINNIFRED WILLIAMS** (1939) married **Lyle Hanna**. He is employed by Bradford Industries. They reside in Calgary, and have two daughters.

### **Jonathan Wilson**

**Jonathan Wilson** immigrated to Canada from Newcastle-on-Tyne, Durham, England, in 1882. From the seaboard he travelled by train on the American side of the border to St. Cloud, then the rail terminus. He embarked on a Red Lake River Steamer and travelled to Winnipeg along the Red River. It had taken nine days to make the trip. The weather was warm and the trip pleasant. At the Immigration Sheds on the levee at the foot of the Lombard Street he was offered work, and he drove an engine for the C.P.R. as far as DeWinton (Carberry) transporting supplies and equipment, such as ties and rails for laying of track. The track soon reached Lac de Chenes (Oak Lake), first settled by the Metis in 1870.

My mother and family joined him in 1883, in Brandon. There were eight children in our family: **Penelope** married **George Clark**, and they had a family of four, two daughters and two sons. They farmed at Hayfield. **Phoebe** married **Jim Cornell** a C.N.R. Foreman, and they lived at Brandon. **Mary** married **Henry Hubley** of Bear River, N.S. They farmed for fifty-five years in the Hargrave district. Mary passed away November 17, 1980 in her 100th year. **Jack** married **Annie Hibbert** of Portage la Prairie and they had four children, one daughter and three sons. They farmed at Hargrave, then went to Brandon where Jack worked for the C.N.R. **Steve** married **Margaret Halliday** of Arnprior, Ontario. They had a family of ten children; three daughters and seven sons. They farmed at Hargrave. In 1914 they moved to Brandon and later to Winnipeg. **Fred** married **Ruby Clow** of Virden. They had a family of three daughters and two sons. Fred was a blacksmith at Hargrave until the beginning of the 1914-1918 War, when he enlisted and the family moved to Winnipeg. In 1921 they moved from Brandon to Kelwood. **Tom** married **Minnie Russett** of White Lake, Ontario. They had a family of two girls and three sons. They, too, moved to Kelwood in 1920. All of the senior members have passed on. **Doris** married **John Dunlop**, Mechanical Draughtsman, C.N. Railways at Winnipeg.

Father often recalled sitting on a wooden sidewalk at the corner of Portage and Main, along with Bob and Billy Maugham, who later took up farming in the Maryfield district, where they all wrote letters on birch bark to their wives in England.

Jonathan Wilson came to Canada expressly to take up farming. In 1884 the family moved to Elkhorn, where he did carpentry for a time and he then acquired a Homestead and pre-emption, and in 1886 they moved onto the SW ¼ 16-11-27, in the Hargrave district. (In 1920 this land was sold to Harvey Odell).

Reminiscing, father would recall while living in Elkhorn in 1885, that the men of the village would go through military manoeuvres on flat grounds pretty well where the railways station later stood, in readiness to defend their wives and families should Riel and his army come father East. Names of Tom Cavanagh, Billy Dixon and a Mr. Rosewell, storekeeper, whose brick residence just south of the railroad tracks was recently demolished, and others, were often mentioned.

Neighbours on the farm were Andy McAlonen, Nat McAlonen, Bill Allison, Dave Nichol and Sam Moffat. Jack Bilton came to the district in the 1890's. Robin Hill was the postmaster.

One must not be unmindful, there were acres

upon acres of virgin prairie in every direction, and most every late summer or fall prairie fires raged throughout the countryside.

It was in Sam Moffat's farmyard the first Hargrave school-house was built. Some of the pupils attending were — Mary Burns, Sarah Clarkson, Lily Clarkson, Cora Crossman, Annie McAlonen, Nat McAlonen, Lizzie McAlonen, Herb Moffat, Jim Moffat, Lena Moffat, Maggie Moffat, Ida Raven, Susie Rogers, Mary Rogers, Jennie Rogers, Mary Wilson, Jack Wilson, Fred Wilson and the Teacher was Fred Crossman.

The school-house was later moved to Hargrave village and located on the north side of the C.P. railroad tracks, where Earl Carruthers' house now stands. In later years the building was bought by Tom Cook and moved to his farm one-half mile south of the village, where it now stands as a residence.

In the early 1890's times were hard. Frost came early and ruined the wheat crop. My parents moved from the farm to the village where they managed a Stopping House and livery barn, but they retained the land. In 1905 a house and barn were built and a windmill erected, on the NW ¼ 9-11-27, which Father had bought, and the family moved back to the farm. Grain crops were good and father had an excellent herd of Shorthorn cattle.

Our family was well represented in both W.W. I and W.W. II. Three brothers in W.W. I; Captain Tom Wilson, MC. MM. 1st C.M.R.'s (He marched into Mons on November 11, 1918). Farrier Sergt. Fred Wilson, 181 Battalion. Corporal Steve Wilson, 181 Battalion.

Seven nephews joined the forces in W.W. II. Steve Wilson's sons were — Pte. Duncan Wilson, Q.O.C.H. — killed at Dieppe. Lt./Commander Harris Wilson, loaned to the Royal Navy and served on the Minesweeper, HMS LYDD. LAC. William Wilson, R.C.A.F. Ld/Smn. Gerald Wilson, R.C.N.V.R.

Jack Wilson's sons — GNR. Kennedy (Kenny) Wilson, Royal Canadian Artillery (Mrs. George Jackson's twin brother). He moved to Kimberly, B.C. and passed away there. GNR. Allan Wilson, Royal Canadian Artillery.

Tom Wilson's son — Lieut. Fawcett Wilson, Fort Garry Horse Regiment.

Just recently Tom Wilson's old comrade in the 1st C.M.R.'s, in the person of Mr. Fred Lipsey passed on.

A most disastrous grain elevator engine-room explosion occurred at Hargrave in 1901. Mr. Sykes was killed and Mr. Edward Holmes was severely burned. Jack Wilson rushed into the burning building and carried out Mr. Holmes. A C.P.R. eastbound freight train was flagged and Mr. Holmes made as

comfortable as possible, was placed in the caboose of the train and taken to Brandon, where later in the day he died in Brandon Hospital. The funeral of Edward Arbuthnot Holmes, age 40, took place December 20, 1901, from the Masonic Hall and English Church, Virden.

Edward Holmes was founder of the English Church at Hargrave, a stone structure, still standing, although very dilapidated. Mr. Holmes was truly a fine English gentleman. Hargrave Presbyterian (United) Church was built in 1909.

My mother was kind-hearted and quiet in her manner. Through the years she had worked very hard. When finished with her daily chores she would turn to knitting, sewing and quilting. She did not enjoy good health in her last remaining years, and her eyesight failed.

In 1920 my father sold 9-11-27 to Tom Armstrong, through the Soldiers' Settlement Board, and he and mother retired to Brandon, where every summer they grew a good garden and beautiful flowers.

Mother passed on in 1940 and Father passed away in 1946.

In 1964 my husband retired from the Canadian National Railways after 44 years service. In 1965 I retired from the Canadian National Railways after some thirty years of service as a Clerk-Stenographer. In 1966 we left Winnipeg and came to Elkhorn to take up residence. My husband has now passed on.

submitted by Doris M. Dunlop

### **Mrs. Abe Winters**

My first recollection of Elkhorn was in the thirties when I was married to **Abe Winters**; we used to come here from Fleming to shop at Bartley's store now and again, and we also used to come and visit Ann and John Campbell. I went to Normal School in Moosomin with Ann before I came to Fleming. I was hired after the Normal ended to teach Fairfield School south of Fleming and there I met Abe Winters and married him in 1929.

In 1974 Abe had a series of strokes and we were unable to live in the house at Fleming any longer so decided to move into the Elkview Lodge on the advice of friends, which we did in October, 1976. We were in here for the opening night on October 31, 1976 and now I have the honor of being the longest resident in the Lodge. I have been a member of the Trinity United Church and the U.C.W. ever since I came to Elkhorn and enjoy my life here in this friendly town where I have been made to feel welcome and where I have made many real friends.

### **Fred and Pat Wolfe**

**Fred and Pat Wolfe** moved to Elkhorn in December, 1978. Fred opened a business, Fred's Electronic Service and Sales, in the spring of 1979 in the Old Masonic Lodge.

They have been holding regular services in the Oakview Lodge, as well as a children's club. In July, 1980 they began Sunday evening gospel services in the Upper Room, above the business, under the name Elkhorn Gospel Fellowship. In March, 1981, Sunday School and Morning Services were started.

Fred is on the Fire and Ambulance crews.

They have four children: **John**, born in 1971, **Marcy**, born in 1972, **Karen**, born in 1974, and **Debbie**, born in 1977.

### **Wood**

The Woodville district was named after **William Wood**, who was one of the first homesteaders in this district. He was born on April 19, 1843 in Kincardshire, Scotland and later married **Helen McGill** in 1867.

They came to Ottawa, Canada in 1890, lived there for three years, then moved to Lyle, Ontario staying there for ten years. Then they came to this district in 1883 and settled on the W½ of 12-11-29.

William Wood represented his ward in the Wallace Council for eleven years and was a faithful adherent of the Presbyterian Church. He served on the Woodville School Board for many years. The first meeting held in reference to building a school was held in his home September 20, 1889. He lived on the homestead until 1906 when he then moved into Elkhorn after constructing two buildings on the far west end of Richill Avenue. The one building was their home and the other was originally a barber shop and then later became a store. He died there on July 5, 1911.

William and Mrs. Wood had four sons, **James**, **David William**, **Hector** and **Hercules**. Hercules John, born March 16, 1882, married **Alice Maude Allinson**. They adopted a baby boy, **Murray Martin**, who also attended Woodville School and later on received a private license for flying, also his instructor's and commercial licenses. He now resides in Prince Rupert, B.C. He married **Marguerite Smith** and they had five children; **Fraser** and his wife **Terry**, and their two children live in Red Deer, Alta., **Lynda** lives in Saskatoon, **Cathryn** and her husband **Greg** and their two children live in Hargrave, Man., **Kelly** and her husband **Doug** live in Lacombe, Alta., and **Tracey** is presently living in Winnipeg.

Fraser and Lynda attended Woodville School until this family left the district to live in Virden,

making it the 3rd generation of Wood families attending Woodville School.

### Taken from The Elkhorn Mercury 1930, April 24th

On August 19th, 1883, the parents of Councillor H. J. Wood commenced their homestead duties on sec. 12-11-29, nine miles south west of Elkhorn, founding the Woodville settlement which has developed into one of the best mixed farming districts in the province.

To-day this farm, which now comprises nearly four sections, under the skillful management of the owner, Mr. Wood, is a centre of profitable dairying industry. Five families: Mr. and Mrs. Wood, Mr. and Mrs. G. Collins, Mr. and Mrs. L. Birchall, Mr. and Mrs. A. Collins, Mr. and Mrs. J. Hutchison and three single men Jim Hutchison, H. Bussey and J. Hooge, are employed in the farming operations and live in the five residences situated on the farm, the outstanding one being the original commodious home built in 1883, by the late W. Wood and since, improved from time to time. Here are a few facts that prove the extensive activity that is creating successful production through the application of right methods — Mr.



Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Wood.

Wood harvested 20,000 bushels of grain last fall, 13,000 of which was fed to stock.

This spring 1500 bushels of barley and 500 of oats will be sown for feed, while the wheat, already sown, is merely a sideline, just twenty-five acres. Throughout the winter forty cows were milked daily, the cream sales realizing approximately \$300.00 per month. As the season advances a greater number of cows will be milked.

Since January 1st, Mr. Wood has shipped \$4000.00 of stock and has feeders preparing for regular shipment throughout the entire year. Pig and sheep raising is also included in these activities.

Modern methods are applied to every phase of work — two Hart Parr tractors take care of the cultivation and seeding, while another engine of similar type handles the crushing and stationary farm work. Four Surge machines do the milking within two hours. The dairy is well fitted to handle the vast supply of milk which is separated with a DeLaval power separator. An abundant supply of pure well water is also constantly on tap, being pumped from a 150 ft. well by an air motor.

Above all, the whole venture reflects great credit upon Councillor and Mrs. H. J. Wood. Good management alone has made these extensive operations possible. They have proved by hard work and perseverance that agriculture can be made profitable, if the right methods are employed, for it should be remembered that they too started in a small way with just as many reverses to contend with as the average farmer. They had the land and proceeded to make it pay — Who shall say that they are not succeeding?

### Marjorie (Stonham) Younger

Marjorie was born at Rye, Sussex, England, in September, 1903 and came to Canada in 1912 with her father, brother and sister. She lived with her brother Fred and went to school at Reaper and Elkhorn.

Later she worked for Mr. and Mrs. McFadzean, the local blacksmith, also for Mr. and Mrs. Scotney, a lawyer and for Mr. and Mrs. Brotherhood, a bank manager. She went to Brandon to work. While there she married **Frank Younger** in January, 1927, who worked for the C.N.R. and is now retired.

They lived in Brandon for several years, moving to Winnipeg in the 40's where Frank still worked in the C.N.R. shops. Marjorie was a member of the Fort Garry Chapter No. 17 Order of the Eastern Star and was worthy matron in 1958.

Marjorie took a stroke in June, 1977 and passed away November 4, 1977.

submitted by Dorothy Rollo



## **John Zazalak Family**

**John Zazalak** was born in Romania in 1883; lived there until his youth, and served four years in the army. In 1907 he married **Katrina Yarris** and in 1909 he immigrated to Canada and took his first job at Regina with a construction contractor who was building the General Hospital there. In 1910 John's wife and son, Peter, made the long and rough ocean crossing, and the family was once more united.

When the Regina job was completed, the contractor moved to Elkhorn to commence work on the Indian Residential School, and the Zazalaks found the place in Canada where their permanent home could be established. John worked for the C.P.R. (ten hours a day at 20¢ per hour), and later for the Beaver Lumber Co. until his retirement. They had seven children and found it necessary to grow a big garden and keep chickens, cows and pigs. From their first heifer calf, which cost \$10.00, they expanded to a herd of cattle, and finally acquired four quarters of land, one being a part of the Indian School land.

The family celebrated Christmas on January 7th according to the Julian calendar. On Christmas Eve they had the traditional thirteen meatless dishes that required special preparation to look and taste good.

They celebrated Easter also as it had been done in their homeland. The house smelled of beeswax when the carefully decorated eggs were being prepared for display. The dyes for the eggs were homemade — yellow came from boiled onion skins. The wax was rubbed off with a cloth warmed in the oven. Of course, there was the braided Easter breads made with lots of eggs and butter with some raisins and spice. Friends who called were always given an Easter egg to take home because it was a symbol of friendship and love.

John passed away in 1958 and his wife Katrina, in 1973.

Their family:

**Peter** — married Mary Pidluberg of Two Creeks, both deceased.

**George** — married Clara Sobatka of Esterhazy, and they reside in Wapella, Sask.

**Jean** — Mrs. Norris Johnston, Elkhorn.

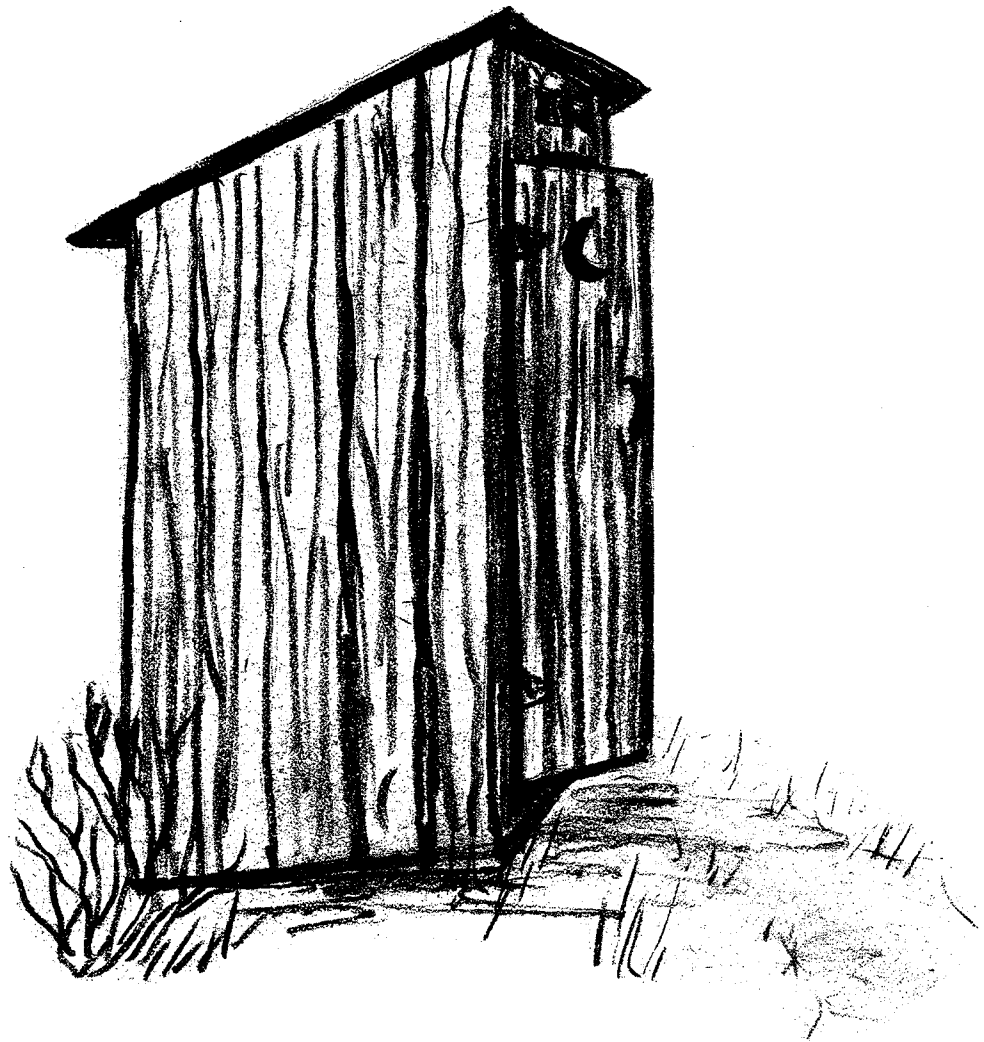
**Mary** — Mrs. Arthur Price, Elkhorn.

**Annie** — Mrs. Ruben Kilborne — Winnipeg.

**Fred** — married Betty Dunn, and they reside at Elkhorn.

**Alex** — passed away in infancy.

submitted by Mary Price



# Vignettes

## First Woodville Cemetery

In what was the first Woodville cemetery there were eight graves. This cemetery is located on Section 36-10-30. This is known as the Simpson farm.

This little piece of land was donated by David Simpson to John Lund to bury the Lund families and is known as the "Lund Cemetery."

Something unique about this little cemetery is that the graves are facing south instead of east as is the custom today.

The first burial was Jennie Kennear who died March 29, 1890, age four years nine months. It is interesting to know that she was the daughter of John and Lizzie Kennear, a daughter of a man who drove the death wagon in the Riel rebellion. The death wagon is one in which the dead are brought in from the battlefield.

Others buried here are Mary Ann, age seventy-seven years, wife of John Lund, died December 11, 1894; James Oliver Rowand, age thirty-seven years, died January 27, 1895; James Harvey Rowand, age five years, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Rowand, died April 24, 1892; Jennie Lund, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Blair Lund, born July 1, 1897, died September 21, 1900; Mary Muriel Lund, daughter of Wesley and Revia, age one year eleven months, died September 20, 1902; John Lund, age eighty-five, died March 12, 1904; the eighth grave was Daniel Lund. It was removed and placed in the new cemetery.

This little cemetery has been cleaned up, a new fence and gate installed, and a plaque hung in honour of the loved ones buried there.

## Items of Interest 1899 to 1900

1. Mr. George Allison was very successful at the Winnipeg Exhibition winning seven prizes from eight head of cattle, five of them being first prizes.
2. Mrs. C. H. Freeman and Mrs. R. Rodgers took several prizes for buttermaking at Brandon Fair.

3. Professor Jones gave notice of a prize of \$100.00 to be given for the healthiest and most handsome child under seven years of age. Must be British or American subject. Contest open till July 1, 1901. Photographs to be sent to England for judging.

## 4. What a dollar would buy in 1899

One year's subscription to *Elkhorn Advocate*

One pair of the best overalls on the market

One pair of durable pigskin gloves

One suit of heavy all wool underwear

Enough socks for a year

(The above items of clothing were from Wilcox and Clingan Store).

Eighteen loaves of bread — Elkhorn Bakery

Bananas — four dozen

Nineteen pounds of rice

Thirteen pounds of evaporated apples

Nine pounds of raisins

Two gallons of machine oil

Three pounds of tea (almost)

Two pounds of Ceylon tea

One quarter of a barrel of apples

Two gallons of white wine vinegar (almost)

## A Blizzard

A tragic story of a man lost and badly frozen in a blizzard has been told by older folks. This man was Tommy Murphy, who was an acquaintance of the George Bent family and had been staying with them. The George Bents homesteaded on SW 24-11-28, on land recently farmed by Bill Montgomery, at a point near what is known as Siple's dam. Tommy had gone away from home and may have gone for medicine for a sick ox; or there has been some mention that he may have attended an auction sale.

The man became lost while walking home and was lost for some time in the storm. When the storm died down, he could see the Bent house and rolled to the door. He arose and knocked at the door, but

collapsed and fell in when the door was opened. Both his hands and feet were frozen so badly that all were lost. It has been repeated that Mr. Murphy survived for some time with artificial hands and feet. Mr. William Jackson senior, uncle of George Jackson who presently lives in Elkhorn, is said to have cut the moccasins from the man's feet.

Mrs. William Jackson, senior, and Mrs. George Bent were sisters. They were also sisters of Archie Connolly and Mrs. Frank Armstrong. The Bent home was one of the earliest, if not the earliest, board houses in the area and was later moved to the Jackson farm and was lived in by George Jackson and his family. It still stands abandoned on the farm occupied by Lorne Jackson.

submitted by Elmer Armstrong

### To Catch a Thief

Here is a little humorous story that came out of the depression of the 1930's.

A number of farmers in Southern Saskatchewan got together and organized a cattle drive whereby the cattle and a few herders literally ate their way from southern Saskatchewan to northern Manitoba and then back again before winter. One evening as camp was being established for that day a visitor approached the camp — an Indian lady. She helped herself to the stew pot and then very much at home she curled up in her blanket before the fire and soon was loudly snoring. In the morning the camp rose to find that their company had been up before them and was just disappearing over the horizon. After breakfast the men started to break up camp by first getting the horses harnessed. On going to the tack for the bridles they found that they were missing along with the squaw. Two of the men immediately took off after her. Catching up with her one of them made a flying tackle and caught her as she was by this time running in high gear. To his surprise as he caught her he also found the bridles — tied around her waist and under skirts. Needless to say the two men returned to camp with all bridles accounted for.

This is a true story, for the quarterback who did the tackling was my uncle.

submitted by Ada (Robinson) Brennan

### Pride and Prestige

Elkhorn's First Eaton Beauty Dolls  
as told to me by Aunt Muriel

Cousins Muriel Dixon and Dorothy Warren, (Aunt Martha's daughter, who was not a robust child and died a year or so after this picture was taken) were trying to entertain themselves while their parents were busy. Muriel, having grown up in the hotel,

was expected to be pleasant and congenial to the hotel guests and was often asked to run small errands. It was "the way" of life in those days and she never expected to be paid beyond a thankyou or smile. One Italian merchant, felt obligated to "repay" Muriel for her cheerfulness and pleasant countenance, by offering her, and her cousin anything they chose from his selection of "toy samples". This was the year that Eatons introduced their "Beauty Dolls" to Manitoba and there were two of those dolls, among the samples. What a delight to own the first Eaton Beauties of the West.

submitted by Joan (Dixon) Challis



Muriel Dixon and Dorothy Warren with their Eaton Beauty Dolls.

### Insulation

These two little girls are Insul sisters. Their father was an early pioneer farmer. He farmed on 25-10-27' on the second mile south of the site where Pacific school used to be located. The farm is occupied today by Alex Scotland and family. Mr. Insul is not reputed



Insul sisters.

to be the most talented farmer, but did have other outstanding talents. He was a close friend of both Sir Thomas Edison and Alexander Graham Bell. As told by Thomas Jeffery of Virden, who owns the original of this photo, Mr. Insul developed a type of material, which was given the name "Insulation". This material became an essential component of the electrical and mechanical devices being invented at that time. The word Insulation was therefore derived from the name of the father of these young girls.

submitted by Elmer Armstrong

### Bird Dog Trainers

During the 1930's and until the early years of the 50's, much of the prairie land in the Elkhorn area was unfenced and abounded with upland game birds — prairie chicken (sharp-tailed grouse), Hungarian partridge, and a few pheasants. This made ideal training ground for the schooling of hunting dogs. Those that came to Canada each summer were English setters and pointers, and, with a few exceptions, were owned by wealthy business men in the United States. Their trainers were paid a monthly fee to break these dogs, and to select those which could qualify for competition in the fall and winter field trial circuit.

The trainers generally tended to live in the southern states, and with the arrival of spring, began to

gather a string of forty to seventy-five dogs for the trip to Canada late in June. Upon their arrival, the first business, once the camp was in order and the kennels made ready, was to yard-break the young dogs. Each was taught to stop and stand quietly at the command of "whoa", and, if this was done successfully, the more difficult part of the training which followed was made considerably easier.

The actual field training began after July 15th. Until that date, it was considered that the year's hatch of prairie chicken and partridge, unable to fly, would fall prey to the dogs.

Bird dogs point by instinct. That is, when they catch the scent of game birds, they stop and their bodies become rigid, their noses pointed in the direction of the game. The object of the breaking is to teach the dog to remain on point until his trainer (handler) arrives on the scene, walks in front, flushes the birds then touches the dog's collar sending him in search of more game. The law does not permit the shooting of upland birds until late fall, but the well-broke dog must be steady to shot. That is, he must



Mr. and Mrs. John Parker, dog trainers from Wichita, Kansas in 1941.

remain motionless while the gun is fired over him, and, to accomplish this, the trainer fires a pistol loaded with blank cartridges. Some dogs are gun-shy and will turn and bolt at the sound of the explosion. Unless they can be broken of this habit, these dogs are of no value in competition; various methods have been tried to steady the gun-shy dog, but no really successful solution has ever been found.

The typical hunting dog seldom gets out of the handler's sight, ranging in distance of fifty to a hundred yards in search of his quarry. However, to be successful on the field trail circuit, the competitor will generally "run big", roaming anywhere from a quarter to a half mile in front of his handler. For this reason, along with the fact that the working day begins at five in the morning and, weather permitting, carries on until six in the evening, training is done from horseback.

The successful field trial campaigner is the dog that looks good on point, is steady to wing and shot when his game is flushed, runs big, and handles well, that is, ranges in front of the handler and remains in contact with a handler's whistle. A trainer is fortunate if he can claim one such candidate from twenty young dogs when the summer ends. Most will fall short in one or more categories.

Among the dogs that came north each year were a few veterans who had proven themselves winners. Work with them involved conditioning generally; the bad habits of their training days, chasing rabbits, swimming after ducks, and breaking at flush were behind them. Nevertheless, the trainer had to make sure no new bad habits developed.

The climax of the summer's work in Canada came with the field trials on the prairies. At these events, trainers from Manitoba and Saskatchewan competed in trials for derbies, the first year campaigners, and all-ages, those three years of age and older. Trials were held at Elkhorn, Broomhill, Pierson, Gainsborough and Forget.

Late in September when the Canadian competitions were finished, the trainers headed to their training grounds in the South where they spent the winter months following the circuit of field trials in Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee and Texas where the quail is the game bird. Off-season was the period from late March to June when the weather is too warm, and birds are nesting.

With more and more prairie land being cultivated each year, the bird dog trainer is no longer part of the summer scene around Elkhorn, although some still make the annual trip north to the countryside around Broomhill and Gainsborough.

One of the first American trainers to come to this

area was Carl E. Duffield. Unlike his counterparts, Carl and his son Carl Jr. owned their English setters. The senior Duffield died suddenly at the Chicago airport en route to attend the funeral of one of his long-time farmhands at Tulsa, Texas. Other trainers who became well known in this part of the province were W. L. (Bill) Cosner, John Parker, Charlie Begge, Jay Gooden and Clayton Lawson. Some Elkhorn residents will recall the close friendships that were formed with such locals as George and Charlie Bartley, Alf Vodden, Sam Twigg, Bonner Williams, Mark Cousins, and Waldo Phillips to name but a few, over games of golf in the pool hall in the evenings, and on rainy afternoons of those summers long gone by.

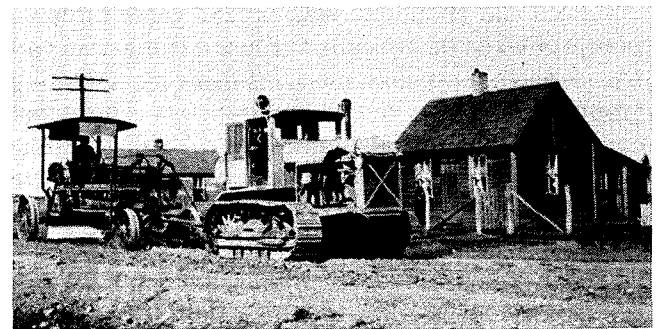
submitted by, Fred Cole

### First Bell Telephone Line

The first Trans-Canada telephone line was installed in Manitoba by Bell Telephone between the years 1907-1909. A work camp was established on the Heritage yard site on the SE ¼ of 6-12-27. Most of the crew were Negroes; they worked long hours, six days of the week but Sunday was a day of rest and religious praise. Ron Heritage recalls how his mother enjoyed their singing and many times spoke of their beautiful singing voices. Mark Cousins also recalls their singing abilities.



Bill Stonehouse's road gang, when building old No. 1 Highway, near Kirkella, 1931. Cliff and Morgan Shepherd by horses. Dannie and Alex Stonehouse also present.



Road equipment building the old No. 1 highway on west side of Elkhorn.

## A True Story

Two bachelor farmers, each about 65 or 70 years of age lived just across a road allowance from one another. One had a tractor, but no trailer. The other had a trailer but no tractor. When either wished to deliver grain to the elevator they would co-operate. I was informed by one of them that there would be a load of wheat coming into the elevator the next morning. The next morning passed by, but no trailer load of wheat yet. After noon, sure enough, along comes their load, one man driving the tractor, one man sitting on the load of wheat. Nothing was said as to why they didn't get the load in that morning as agreed; and I didn't ask.

Two or three days later a neighbor of theirs came into my elevator and he told me why. That morning was chilly and windy. The two old farmers started out with their load. They had about three and a half miles to travel and were about half way there when the chap on the tractor turned around on his seat to see how things were coming. He found he had nothing behind his tractor. He was startled because he could see neither his load nor his partner. The trailer draw-pin had jumped out a little way from home so the driver of the tractor didn't know what had happened until he had gone back to find everything sitting on the road behind a hill.

by Bruce Johnson

## Weather Disasters in Our Area

July 1st, 1935

A tornado started just west of William Cole's N.E. ¼ 6-13-27. It blew his big barn down. The storm was travelling in an east, north-east direction. It demolished a granary of Dunn's on S.W. ¼ 9-13-27. All the buildings on John Bryant's N.E. ¼ 16-13-27 and Jack Thompson's N.W. ¼ 16-13-27 were destroyed.

When it hit the Charlie Bagley place on S.E. ¼ 16-13-27, it took the roof off the barn and set it down on the other side of the bush. It took all the roof off the house, too. There was a comment made about an open jar in the house with quite a few bills of money in it. The suction was just interested in taking the money as it left the jar where it was.

That night Charlie and Beatrice came down to stay at our place (Dunn's). I remember Beatrice saying, just before she left home, John Bryant, Jr. came over as their place had disappeared. When he saw the roof gone from Bagleys' house, he said, "I wonder where I will roost tonight." The storm went north and hit the William Lindsays' place. S.W. ¼ 22-13-27 where Jerry Hodgins now lives. It did considerable damage there. It has been said, it picked up a walking plough and put it up on the roof of one of

the buildings. In the path of the storm, over a mile wide, it laid all the trees down across Brigidoon Creek — a mark that could be seen for a number of years. With the storm there were torrential rains.  
July 10th, 1950 Cloud Burst

There was from six to ten inches of rain that fell in eight hours. John said the Assiniboine River rose eleven feet over night. The R.M. of Miniota reported 27 bridges and major culverts washed out.

That was the day it took our bridge out, our only road and way of getting out. We (Dunns') had to carry the cream can of cream down the railway track to meet the truck. It wasn't long before we had had enough of that. So, I made a swinging bridge across where the bridge had been. My younger brothers, Wilfred and Thomas, (Andrew had gone to Alberta to work) walked around by the railway track over ½ mile to the road to catch the stone and binder twine on a rope that was tied to the page wire that I threw across. We got the wire across and staked it, then I put planks on the wire. This was used for quite a while as a walking bridge. The steel culvert was put in, in the fall. Jim McKenzie was Councillor at that time.

There was a real bumper crop of saskatoons that year. I had the job of taking the berry pickers along our side of the creek after they walked over the swinging bridge. There were quite a few who were afraid to walk on the bridge, so they walked through the water instead.

There never has been a crop of saskatoons as good as in 1950.  
June 17th, 1953

A tornado started out south-west of Reeder going in an easterly direction. It lifted out a corner post with page wire on it on the north-west corner of N.W. ¼ 8-13-27, continuing on east. It hit Andy Jewels' on the S.E. ¼ 16-13-27. It's hard to believe but it is true. Tornadoes or cyclones do strike twice in the same place. Andy's home was on the same spot as Bagleys'. There was nothing left of the house this time. There was a caragana bush in front of the house. The storm drove roofing nails into the trunks of the caraganas. The contents of the house were scattered for four miles along the storm path. The old cook stove, the coal booker heater and wooden tables etc. were smashed to pieces. Some breakable things didn't break. The glass chimney for the coal oil lamp was found some distance away, unbroken.

When it crossed the Assiniboine River, it flattened the big maple, ash and elm trees to the ground — a 150 yards width of swath. A sight you could see for years after. The Ellerington's and John Wiens' yards were also damaged. The last place we heard of

it, was Roland Clogg's at Arrow River where an implement shed was torn down.

We used to have a neighbor who was good at telling stories. He said when Andy heard the noise of the storm coming, he went out and hung on to a saskatoon bush and the storm tore off his boot.

July 13th, 1954

This year we had a real good crop but at 3.00 a.m. a hail storm hit doing 100% damage. It started around Frank Williams S.E. 30-13-27. It was approximately 4 miles wide. Windows were broken, roofs and sides of buildings marked, leaves and twigs knocked off trees. Hail stones were as big as golf balls. Cattle went through fences being cut and bruised. On the farm broadcast, the Brandon Livestock said cattle would not be accepted until the bruises had healed.

August 16th, 1956

Again, one of the largest hail storms ever to hit south-western Manitoba, started at Rocanville Saskatchewan and went to the Souris and Dand areas. When it passed here it was up to 12 miles wide. There was 100% damage to crops, thousands of windows were broken and many roofs destroyed.

Later that fall, John read in the paper there was an estimated crop damage of \$26 million which was a great deal of grain considering that wheat and barley was \$40.00 per tonne (\$1.10 per bushel).

I remember that fall. I had to put guard lifters on the mower and cut it one way against the way it fell. We had a hard time finding enough feed. We didn't know then, but there were more bad years to come.

October 7th, 1929

We had one of the heaviest snow storms on record for that time of year. -30 inches of snow. We were threshing at that time.

I had one field of oat stooks out all winter and by spring there was very little left as the deer fed there all winter.

Ernie Zorn had cattle pastured six or seven miles west and he asked me to go with him to help bring them home. We left on horseback with our feet dragging in the snow. We had gone about four miles when the horses couldn't go any further. We had to return without the cattle. Ernie got someone to feed them till the snow began to go away.

We like to forget most of the bad years. When this is read twenty-five years or more from now, one may get some idea how things were at that time.

### **1961 Drought**

This was one of the worst hit parts of the prairies. There have been many droughts but the intensity of this one coming as it did in June, July and August made it spectacular. From June 1st, to August 31st, our thermometer registered 90 degrees (32 C) on 44 different days, making 100 degrees (38 C) no less

than ten times. All this time there was only one shower ( $\frac{1}{2}$  in. -6mm) of rain.

Almost all hay and straw had to be hauled from 60 to 300 miles (96-480-K).

When it is dry, the grasshoppers thrive and this year was no exception.

One neighbor sold out and went west. He found work in Lethbridge and as far as I know, he is still there.



Tornado damage on the L. B. Johnson farm in 1962.

August 2nd, 1962

A hail storm came from the south-east flattening all crops in this area, some crops completely destroyed. I had oats that year on summerfallow that was pounded into the ground with very little straw in sight. There was torrential rain with it. It was estimated 5 inches in  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours.

June 8th, 1963

On this date a narrow intense hailstorm followed the valley edge blackening all fields in its path.

By John Castle and Howard Dunn

### **The Plane Crash About 1942**

One night, about 1.00 a.m. or 2 a.m., two motored Avro Anson Training planes from Rivers Air Force Base were unable to land because of fog. After wandering around for a while, and getting low on fuel, the four man crew decided to abandon the plane.

They put out a flare and then jumped. The first one landed near Fred Bowles', N.E.20-13-27, two more near Jack Thompsons' N.W.16-13-27 and the pilot landed in an oak tree on the S.E.15-13-27. The first three soon found themselves at Bowles' and Thompson's but the pilot who had sprained his ankle when he let himself out of the chute harness, fell to the ground. He wandered around for the rest of the night. He later said he called in at two abandoned farmsteads but his tracks indicated that he had passed by J. Dunns' S.W.9-13-27 and Dave Andrews' N.W. 3-13-27. He was finally found by a search party about 9.00 a.m. walking west up the railway track



north-west of the school. One of the men who came to Jack Thompson's had walked near the creek bank and being from Texas complained that he "Darned near walked into that canyon out there."

The plane itself must have made an arc and finally crashed on the S.W. ¼ of 3-13-27, north of the

school. One engine tore loose and bounced onto the C.P.R. right-of-way next to the track.

Almost everyone in the District was there the next day to look at the wreckage. I expect there are still many souvenirs lying forgotten on people's shelves.

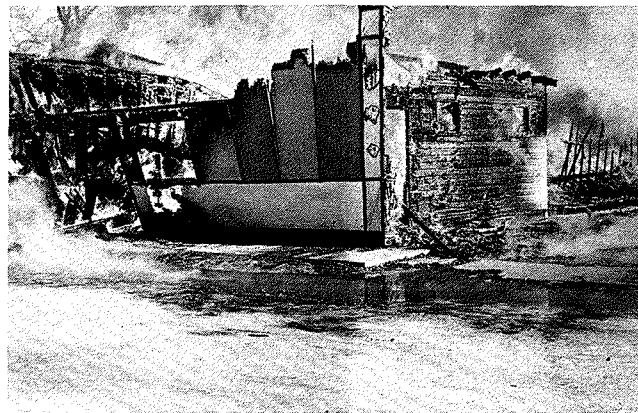
By John Castle



1966 fire in Elkhorn.



Train Wreck at Kirkella.



Stadium fire.



Emptying the ditches after a body had been found at haytime.



After the February, 1947 blizzard on the L. Johnson farm.

## Hargrave Elevator Fire

Two tall elevators were built in Hargrave, Manitoba in the late 1890's. One of them was privately owned and operated by Mr. Edward Holmes known as Teddy Holmes. Mr. Holmes lost his life due to a gasoline fire and explosion in 1901. This gasoline explosion occurred because a can of gasoline was brought into the engine room and set beside the stove. This was one of the first elevators to be equipped with a gasoline engine and was situated on the present site of the United Grain Growers elevator. The other one of these tall elevators was the Northern elevator which sat very near the present site of the recently-acquired Manitoba Pool elevator.

The explosion and fire claimed the lives of two men from the Butler district on December 14, 1901 and a third man, Mr. Teddy Holmes died two days later as a result of burns. One of the two men from Butler was Stewart Wright, 27 years of age, and a brother of a well known Butler district farmer Sam Wright. The second man was a Mr. Sykes about whom very little can be remembered other than that he came from the Butler or Springvale area and his first name is believed to have been Fred.

Two men were pushed out the window. One was Mr. Holmes and the other was a Mr. Heighs who was a blacksmith in Hargrave at the time, his shop being where Bob Brydon's house is today. Two more near victims of the accident were Harvey Odell, a boy at the time and his father, Amos Odell who were crossing the railway on their way to the elevator when they heard the explosion. Had this taken place a few minutes later it is almost certain Harvey and his father would have been in the accident.

Another well-known business man involved in this accident was Mr. Reg Knight. Mr. Knight was about to open the engine room door when the explosion occurred. The door swung in and heat and pressure from inside made it impossible to open it. Had the door swung out, instead of in, it is believed there may have been some hope of saving the two men who died immediately. Mr. Knight received considerable burns and was nursed for some time. Only the engine room burned at that time and was replaced. Mr. Knight operated the elevator after the fire. The elevator did, however, burn completely in 1903 and at the same time the Northern elevator burned, leaving only the McLaughlin & Ellis elevator standing at that time.

Mr. Holmes was a man held with respect and esteem and is said to have been an honest grain buyer who drew customers from a considerable distance. Honest grain buyers were in the minority in the early days. In 1902 a stone church of the Anglican faith was built at Hargrave and dedicated to the memory of

Teddy Holmes. The R. L. Carr family, Mrs. Carr being a sister of Mr. Holmes, were much involved in the building of this church which still stands today bearing the results of time and weather. When the Hargrave church was closed, the pulpit was donated to St. Mark's Anglican church in Elkhorn. A plaque on this Altar reads as follows; —

“Presented by Lebanon Lodge A. F. and A. M. Virden in memory of Brother Edward Arbutnot Holmes, P.M. who died December 16, 1901.”

On July 9, 1902 a corner stone was laid by Masonic Acting Grand Lodge Officers:

Bro. C. E. Pineo, Acting Grand Secretary  
Bro. James F. C. Menlove, Acting Grand Master assisted by

Bro. H. J. Pugh, Acting Deputy Grand Master  
Bro. George Perry, Acting Grand Master Warden  
Bro. George Clinghan, Acting Grand Junior Warden

Bro. John D. McNiven, Acting Grand Director of Ceremonies

Bro. C. E. Pineo, Acting Grand Secretary and the members of Lebanon Lodge #43, A. F. and A. M. Virden.

Submitted by Elmer Armstrong — with sources of information from Masonic memorandum of corner stone laying ceremonies, 1963 issue of Manitoba Co-operator and many individual contacts.

The following was copied from an issue of the Brandon Sun, May 12, 1973 and was written by Florrie Gibbs (Sun Correspondent).

**This farm has been in the family for 90 years.**  
Elkhorn (Special)

A farm in this area has the record of having remained in the same family for more than ninety years. The original owner of the farm situated about fourteen miles southwest of Elkhorn was **John Taylor Russell**, who came from Cumberland County, Ontario, to take up a homestead on 14-10-29 in 1882. He made his way this far by working on the CPR which was being built through here that year.

Like most early settlers Mr. Russell's first concern was to get a roof over his head. Log houses were the usual means of providing shelter. Since prairie fires had rid the prairie of any sizeable trees, logs for his house had to be brought from Moose Mountain, Saskatchewan. Part of that first log cabin still stands, as does a chicken house of logs which to this day is quite useable.

Four years later Mr. Russell met and married 17-year-old **Eleanor Heron**, a city girl from Newcastle, England. The couple had twelve children, all of whom were born in the log house without the aid of a doctor. A neighbor woman acted as mid-wife in each case. Their first child lived but a day. A second baby

died at two weeks. Both are buried on the farm. A son, Christopher, died of pneumonia at age twelve. He was buried in the Kola cemetery. The family had many disappointments in raising their family. A daughter Elizabeth, a cripple all her life, was never able to walk. She never got to school. She died at the age of twenty-three. She and her parents are buried in the Elkhorn cemetery.

The Russell family, like all pioneers, faced many hardships. Good roads, telephones, electricity were unknown. In this modern push-button age one wonders where they acquired the strength and endurance to continue the enormous task of carving a living despite so many difficulties. The story is told how one winter's night a terrific blizzard overtook Mr. Russell en route home from a neighbor's place. The horses floundered in deep snow and the sleigh box overturned. Somehow he managed to unhitch the team and let them loose. He then crawled beneath the box where he spent the night. When they found him he was badly frozen and never really completely recovered from the ordeal. Plans were made to build a new two-storey house and lumber for it had arrived at the nearby little village of Butler. But Mr. Russell never lived to see his dream of a new home realized. He became ill and died when the youngest child, Ruth, was three weeks old.

Left with nine children, Mrs. Russell bravely carried on, and with the help of kind neighbors secured carpenters and the house was finally erected. She made meals for the carpenters and workmen and fixed beds for them in the barn. The family moved into the new house in 1911.

Of great help to the family was Grandma Mary Russell who made her home with them until her death at the ripe old age of ninety in 1918. Grandma Russell took full responsibility for the garden and chickens and after the death of Mr. Russell she was a tower of strength to the family and adored by the children.

During the First World War help was hard to get and the girls in the family had to work like men. By 1920 Mrs. Russell had grown weary of the farm and decided to rent it. Taking son Bill and the youngest daughter, Ruth, she moved to Brandon where she lived until 1931.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Muir (nee Mary Russell) operated the farm for twenty-five years. Other tenants came and went until 1963 when Ruth, now Mrs. Harold Good, felt the urge to return to the place of her childhood. She and her husband came from Vancouver and have operated the farm for the past ten years. Now after being in the family for ninety years the Russell farm has been sold and the new owners are ready to move in. The house, although sixty-two

years old, is in exceptionally good condition as the Goods did much in the way of painting and improving the place. When they return to Vancouver, Ruth and Harold will take with them many memories of bygone days, some happy, some sad.

Mr. Russell lived in the Arawana District.

### **Shady Terrace Farm — SW¼ 6-12-28 Story of the Stonehouse and the "Little House That Travelled"**

The stonehouse on this farm was built by Mr. Robert Vance of Fleming, Saskatchewan, in 1892 for Mr. Edward Ives. I happened to get this information from Mr. Vance's great-grand-son, John McCormick of Vancouver, B.C. He dropped in to our farm one day with his cousin, Earle Lipsey, to look at the stonehouse. Ever since that day my family became very anxious to find out about the other occupants who lived on this farm. We managed to get some interesting stories and information throughout the years from previous occupants who came to visit "the old home place." I also received dates from the Land Titles Office.

Edward Ives — 1892-1905

Mrs. Sarah Lilley — 1905-1907

William John Dixon — 1907-1920

The yard was beautifully landscaped. Dirt was hauled in by wagon loads and Mrs. Dixon terraced the yard with each terrace about two feet higher than the one below. After the terraces were seeded to grass, she planted the rows of trees and the lilac hedges. Mrs. Dixon had planted a weeping birch and three rose bushes.

Mr. Chas. Shepherd, a hired hand for Mr. Dixon, married Elizabeth Lucking on this farm, in the room which is our kitchen. They lived upstairs in the stonehouse. In 1907 their son Edward was born in this stonehouse. Because of the terraced yard and plenty of shade from the trees we named our farm "Shady Terrace."

There was also a little house just north of the stonehouse. This little house had done quite a bit of "travelling" in its day. After Mr. Dixon passed away Mrs. Dixon and son Earl carried on with the farm from 1920-1930. Earl married Mona (Davis) Stewart in 1929, and the "little house" was moved to the south side of the road across from the stonehouse. Earl and his bride lived there, while Earl continued to work the farm with his mother. After a year he and his wife left the district. After Earl left, Mr. J. Francis bought this little house and used it as a granary for several years. It was moved to SE¼ of 29-11-29 in Mossiel district. Mr. and Mrs. J. Francis lived in it for a year with Mrs. Francis's son, Earl Pedlow.



Stonehouse at Hoemsens in 1948 before changeover. 1981 — Stonehouse with mansard roof after changeover.

Claude and Evelyn (Gilbart) Poston bought it from Earl in 1945. In 1948 it was moved to its present location in Elkhorn north of Jerome Brockman's home, on Wilson Street. The Brockman house was once owned by Morris McIntosh. An addition has been built on the house. Mr. and Mrs. Ben Poston lived in it for awhile. It was sold to Miss Lee Latimer, who later married Mr. Jim Clarke. This house is presently occupied by Mr. Frank Powell.

James Grant, his mother and sister Adele farmed from 1930-32. In 1933 The Torrence Title came in.

Stanley Gilbart farmed from 1932-34.

Mrs. Marg. Lamb, her children, and parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Halliday lived in the stonehouse, and Stan Gilbart continued to work the farm until 1934 when he moved to section SE 30-11-28. They were followed by the Gordon Turner family who left a few years later for Flin Flon. Allan McClure married Ruby Turner in 1936 on this farm.

In 1940 the farm was bought by Shipley Bond, believed to be a company.

About 1940 the Hugh Nichol family moved to the farm, and after they left, Mrs. Margaret Lamb, her father and children moved back until the Claude Tutthill family moved here in 1943 to 45.

In 1946, my parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Szoradi bought the farm from the National Trust Co. My brother, Michael Szoradi, and family rented the farm, followed by John Price, who lived there for a short time. In the fall of 1946, my parents, brother Jim Jr., sister Kathleen and myself moved here from 19-11-28, Jim helping with the farm work until 1955. My father continued to farm for a few years, and because of poor health rented the land to George Tait. Dad passed away in 1968, and my mother Mrs. Anna Szoradi continued to live on the farm, renting the land to us, Peter and Anna Hoemsens. We bought the

farm from my mother in 1973. She continued to live with us until she passed away in 1975.

In 1976 we made a change in the stonehouse. Our second son, Marcell, drew up the plans for the house and we made the house over. The old roof with the beautiful cast iron railing around the sky-light was torn off. We saved the railing to put around a flower bed. We tore out the whole interior, right down to the stone, and built a new two-storey house, the ground floor inside the stone "shell" and top storey with a mansard roof. The woodwork in the interior of the house is finished in the same style as it originally was. The lean-to on the house is still the original one. My father planted an orchard, and many shrubs here and there throughout the yard. We planted Colorado spruce trees and caraganas on the west side of the yard, and fruit trees and lilacs on the south side of the yard plus spruce trees on the east side. When all the fruit trees and flowering shrubs are in bloom it is a beautiful spot, and many visitors come during lilac time.

Thanks to the old timers, and many previous occupants who loved beauty, it's remained a beautiful spot.

Mrs. Edward Ives, in 1891, purchased the eighty acres of the N.E. ¼ of section 1-12-29 from the C.P.R. (this falls in the Mossgiel district); ever since, this land has been farmed in conjunction with the S.W. ¼ of 6-12-28. At the present time the title for the eighty acres is held jointly by our sons Raymond, Marcell and Slade.

submitted by Ann Hoemsens

### Near Tragic Story

An incident of interest with a near tragic ending involved a water well and also a well for natural gas at the old Virden Hospital, drilled by two men, Eden

Weldon and George Armstrong, during the early thirties.

During the twenties and thirties considerable difficulty was experienced in finding water in the Arwana and old Kola school districts. George and Eden bought an old well drill from the Manitoba Government through the M.L.A. at the time, Robert Moon-ey. I believe the price paid for the machine, less motor, but including some casing, sinker bars, mud pump and tools was \$30.00. This rig was then equipped with a Studebaker car or truck motor and considerable well drilling followed. Of particular interest was the drilling at the old and now non-existent Virden hospital. On the board at the time was Josiah Nichol for whom the rig had recently worked.

A well for water was begun; however at 150 feet some strange force was struck which blew sand some 60 feet into the air, twice the height of the derrick. The drillers were uncertain and very curious to know what this strange force was. One suspicion was that it was gas; to find out they struck a match to it and indeed it was gas and a considerable fire resulted. This was very difficult to put out and the fire equipment was called in. This equipment was rather primitive and it has been suggested it was horse drawn. After several unsuccessful attempts to extinguish the blaze it was eventually put out quite simply by capping the casing with a shovel full of mud. Fortunately and strangely there were no losses in the blaze, not

even the wooden derrick. Drilling for water continued and water was struck at a depth of 254 feet.

The finding of natural gas was of considerable interest to the hospital board which included Josiah Nichol who took an interest in promoting the drilling of a second well for gas. There was 20 pounds pressure on a steam gauge and it was decided that this warranted the drilling of a gas well which was done very close to the previous well so as not to miss the gas pocket.

After the gas well was completed the machinery was being made ready for removal when an explosion occurred. This came about because a dry well existed near the water well which housed the motors and pumps for the water well. An accumulation of gas had seaped around the well casing into the dry well and a spark from the electric motor is believed to have caused the explosion. A double two inch plank cover was blown to pieces and some 40 panes of glass were broken in the hospital building.

George Armstrong had just stepped off the plank cover and was hurled about the length of the drilling rig in a backward direction. George had no broken bones but had hair and eyebrows burned off and was very bruised and shaken and spent the whole winter recovering.

Written by Elmer Armstrong, son of George Armstrong with reference to Mr. Mel Hammond of Virden who was employed by George and Eden at the time of the drilling operation.



