

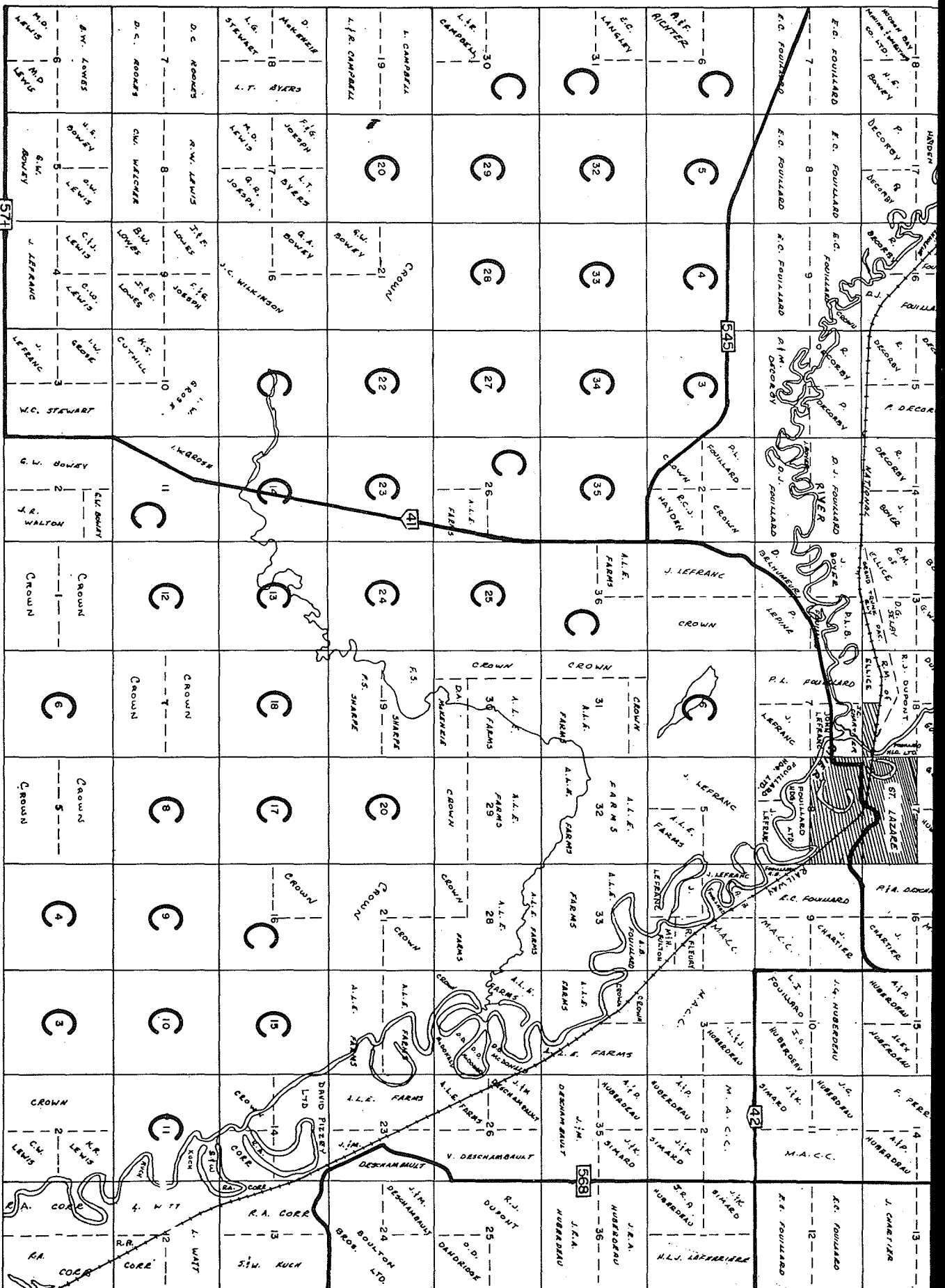
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R.M. of Ellice — 1982.

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Acknowledgements

We would like to express our appreciation for the following.

- a) R.M. of Ellice, initial financial assistance
- b) Secretary of State Grant
- c) New Horizons Grant
- d) Consideration by the Local Histories Program

A Message from the Reeve

On behalf of the citizens and the council of the R. M. of Ellice, I wish to express our gratitude to all, for the excellent work and uncounted hours of many dedicated people who so willingly served on the book committee, which resulted in the publication of

this centennial book. I congratulate you all for a job well done.

The reflections into the past will be fond memories to treasure, an inspiration and a challenge to the generations that follow; they are the foundation on which our future depends.

Someone once said "Try not to become a man of success, but rather try to become a man of value"; this I'm sure our pioneers were.

Sincerely,
Geo E. Boucher
Reeve, R. M. of Ellice.

Editorial

This book is the story of our pioneers and the people who live in Ellice Municipality. Because of the bilingual make-up of our municipality, our book features some stories in French with an English translation. Some of our material was tape recorded in Cree and translated and transcribed by Yvonne LeClerc. She has been gathering stories of the elderly Metis residents in our community since 1979. We are grateful to those who have contributed articles, pictures and family histories. The editorial staff regrets any errors and omissions; we are only human! We hope this book gives a vivid description of pioneer days and will preserve what is known of the early history of Ellice Municipality for future generations. Although a few words of gratitude are not sufficient to compensate for the many hours of generous assistance given, we must mention the following:

The Editorial staff of Eileen Dale, Aline Fouillard, Florence Widdicombe, Connie Ryan, Leone Dale, Myrtle McDonald, Tom Dale, with Lil Falloon, Secretary, and Jackie Selby, President.

Other staff helpers include Mickey Hamilton, Kay Prescott, Betty Burdett, Jean Falloon and Lois Falloon. We would like to thank Emile Huybrecht for putting up with the turmoil and confusion created by the typists working under his wife's supervision; Rosalie Lemoine, Natalie Rittaler, Joyce Fouillard, Robin Tremblay, Louise Chartier, Leone Huberdeau, Theresa Fouillard, JoAnne Selby, Marguerite Lemoine, Anne Plante, Aline Deschambault, Carol Hille, Susanne Huberdeau, Rose-Marie Simard, Sarah Fleury and Marcie Hayden.

Thanks to Yvonne Leclerc and Ruth (McNarry) Meldrum for their special efforts towards compiling our book. To Marion and Wilfred Hamilton and Ted Dupont goes the credit for gathering pictures and information on our war veterans. We are grateful to our Centennial Book treasurer, Olive Perreault.

It would be impossible to thank individually the many who have contributed time, energy and special talents. May their reward come from the pleasure they derive from reading the finished product.

Roll of Honour

No pictures are available of the following veterans:

Boer War

McDonald, Alex

World War I Veterans

Anderson, Gordon

Chantigny, Alphonse

Carr, Percy

Ducharme, John Sr.

Ducharme, John Jr.

Dupont, Emerile

Flamand, Pete

Fraser, Bill

Graham, Walter

Jarvis, James

Lamb, Freeman

Legge, George

McIvor, George

McIntosh, Alex

Phillips, R. A.

Rose, Harry

Traquair, John F.

Redmond, Wm.

Vermette, John

Wroth, W. C.

World War II Veterans

Arnold, Cecil

Arnold, E. A.

Arnold, George

Barker, George

Chantigny, Melborne

Chartier, Aurélie

Chartier, Marie Ange

Comeault, Roger

Ducharme, Alf

Ducharme, Dave

Ducharme, Fred

Ducharme, N.

Dreilick, Carl

Dreilick, Wm.

Fisher, Daniel

Fleury, Paul

Fleury, Raymond

Fleury, Russell

Fraser, Jack

Fraser, Robert

Genaille, Louis

Gouegon, Gerard

Hayden, Amable

Hayden, Archie

Hayden, Felix

Hayden, Frank

Hayden, Gordon

Hayden, Jules

Huybrecht, Arthur

Laycock, Ross

Leaming, Ray

McDonald, Glen

McDonald, Harry

McNarry, Molly

McIvor, Evelyn

McIvor, Monty

McQuay, Leonard

McQuay, Robert

McQuay, Russell

Peppin, Donat

Phillips, George

Phillips, Hilton

Tremblay, Paul

Webster, Jean

Zegers, James

British Empire Service

League Fort Ellice

Branch #103

Charter Members:

G. E. Legge

J. E. Selby

J. F. Traquair

B. Fouillard

A. G. McIvor

H. Hébert

T. Grenier

E. Simard

G. Selby

J. Falloon

W. C. Wroth

T. B. Spanton

P. McIvor

F. O'Keeffe

R. A. Phillips

1938-1942

Charter handed in — 1953

President

J. E. Selby, 1938

T. Jackson, 1939

T. Jackson, 1940

A. Mallet, 1941

A. Mallet, 1942

Secretary

J. A. Sawyer

J. A. Sawyer

J. A. Sawyer

J. A. Sawyer

J. E. Selby

In Service for Our Country



Joe Willis



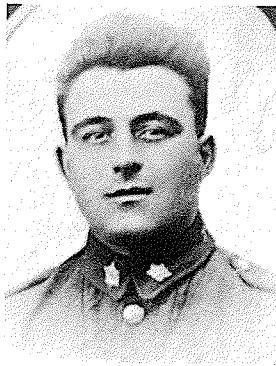
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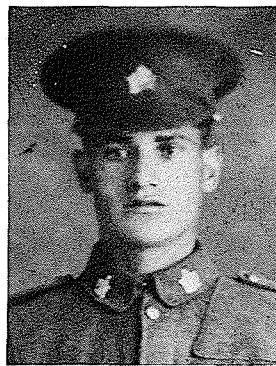
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Baudry, Martha



Baudry, Joe



Bell, Joe Sr.



Bimson, Harry



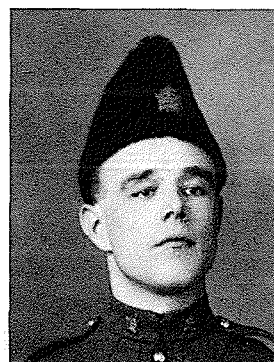
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DeCorby, Henri



Deschambault, Antonio



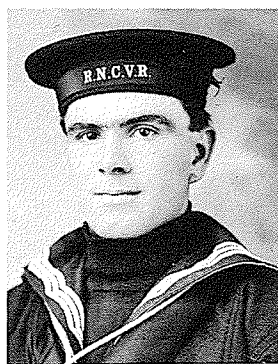
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Dupont, Henri



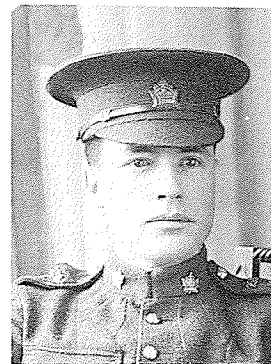
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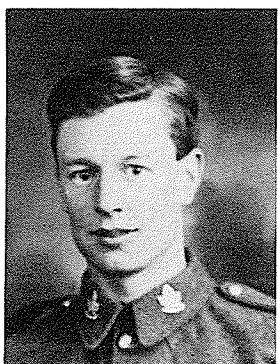
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Ellis, Scotty



Falloon, Jack



Falloon, Len



Fouillard, Benoit



Grenier, Joe



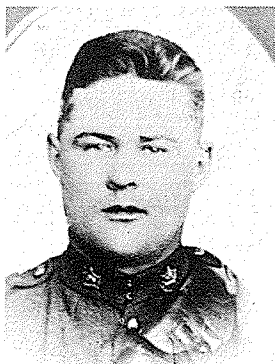
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Irwin, Jackson



Jackson, Thomas



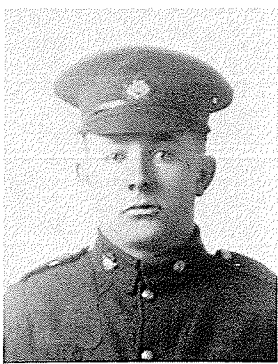
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McIvor, Pat



Mann, John



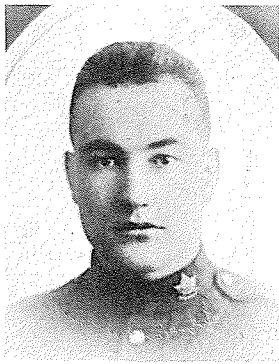
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Revel, Bob



Revel, Walter



Sawyer, Sam



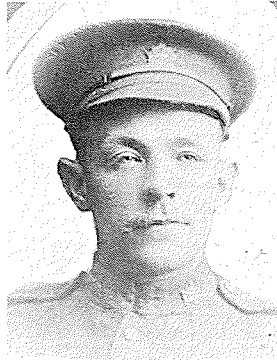
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Simard, Edmond



Selby, John



Selby, Tom



Traquair, John



Traquair, Robert



Widdicombe, C. W.



Barker, George



Boucher, Elie



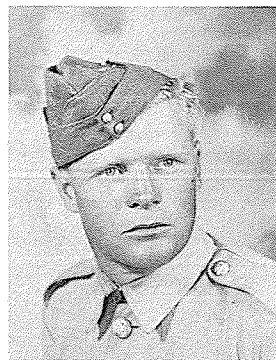
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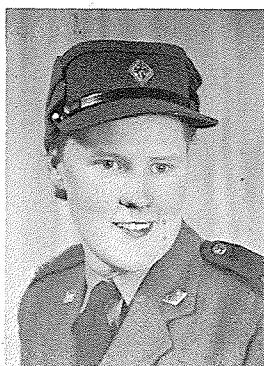
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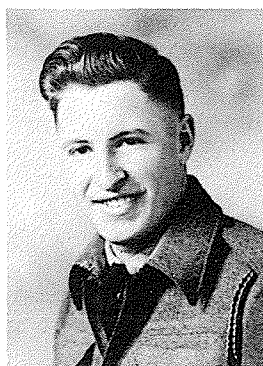
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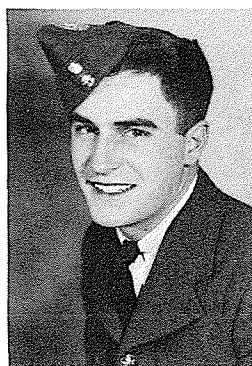
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Byers, Verna



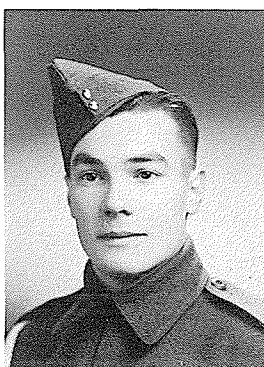
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Chartier, Auguste



Chartier, Robert



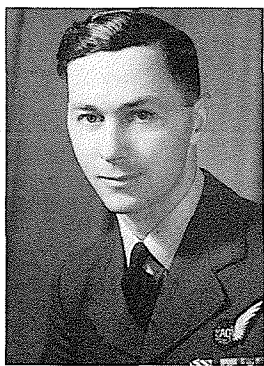
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Chartier, Ernest



Chartier, Gérard



Cooper, Charles



Cussick, Eileen



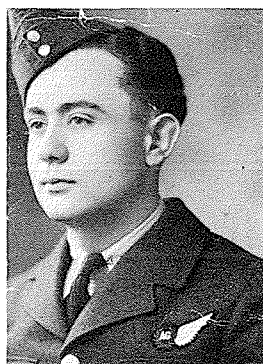
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Dale, Thomas



DeCorby, Henri



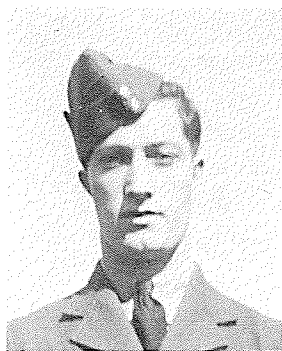
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Dupont, Ted



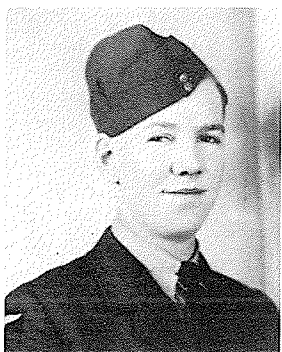
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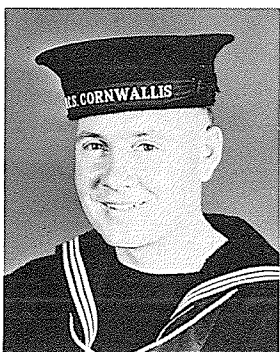
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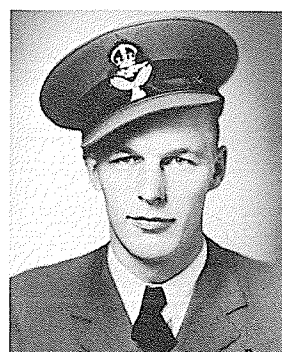
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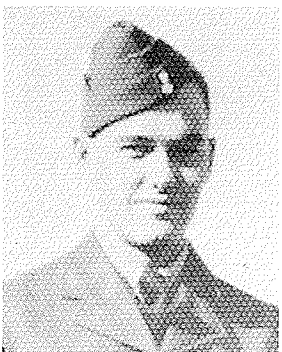
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Falloon, Maurice



Falloon, Ray



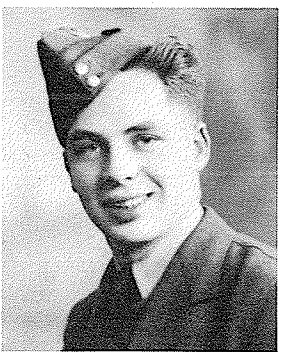
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Fleury, William



Fouillard, Arthur



Fouillard, Denis



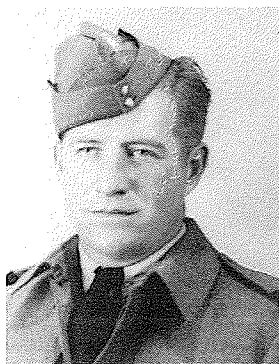
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Fulham, Stanley



Guay, Henri



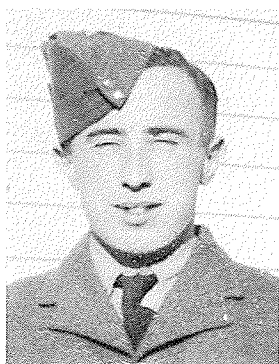
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Haney, Tom



Hayden, Maurice



Huberdeau, Léonard



Hudon, Aimé



Ireland, Edward



Jackson, Elsie



Jessop, Lorne



King, Bob



Kominko, Alex



Lamb, Elmer



Laferriere, Denis



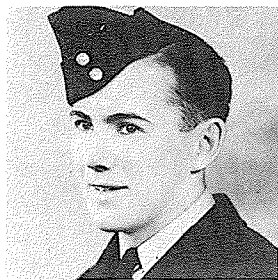
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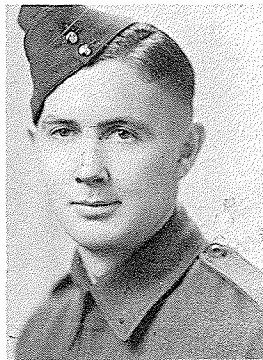
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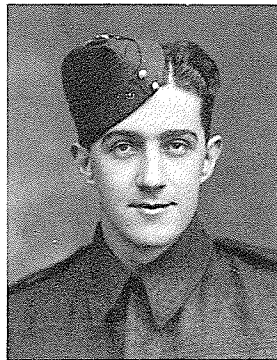
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MacLellan, Joe



MacLellan, Terrance



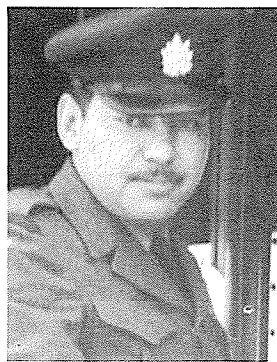
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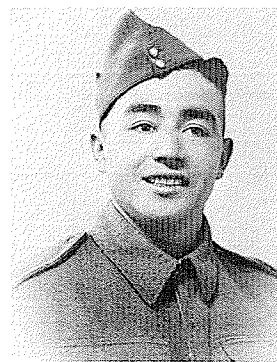
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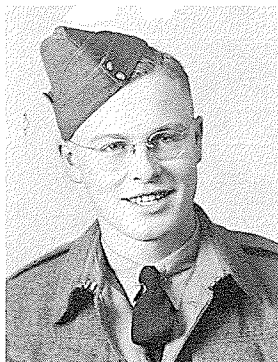
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Peppin, Louis



Peterson, Norman



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Pizzey, Ralph



Pizzey, Tom



Robert, Hector



Roy, Edgar



Sawyer, Jim



Sawyer, Bob



Selby, Bob



Selby, Tom



Simard, Henri



Simard, Joe



Slater, John



Smith, Bill



Spanton, Tom



Stewart, Dorothy



Stewart, John



Stewart, Robert



Traquair, Rob't M.



Venne, Leonard



Vermette, Vincent



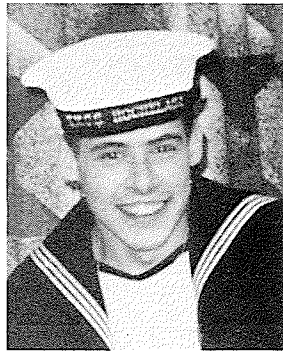
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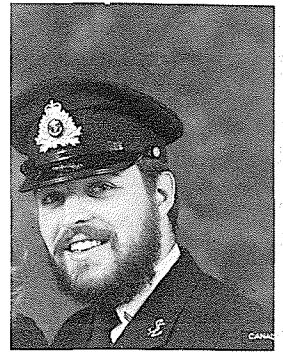
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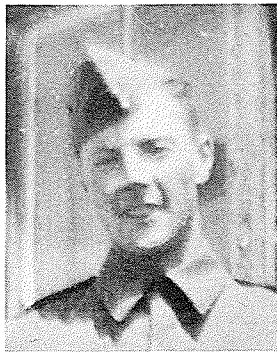
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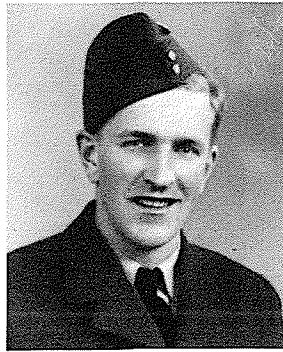
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Lavoie, Gaston



Leaming, Harry



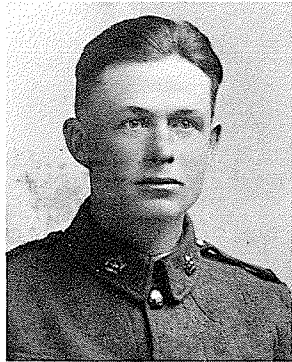
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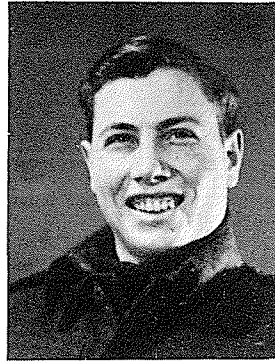
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Graham, Walter



Tibbatts, Lloyd



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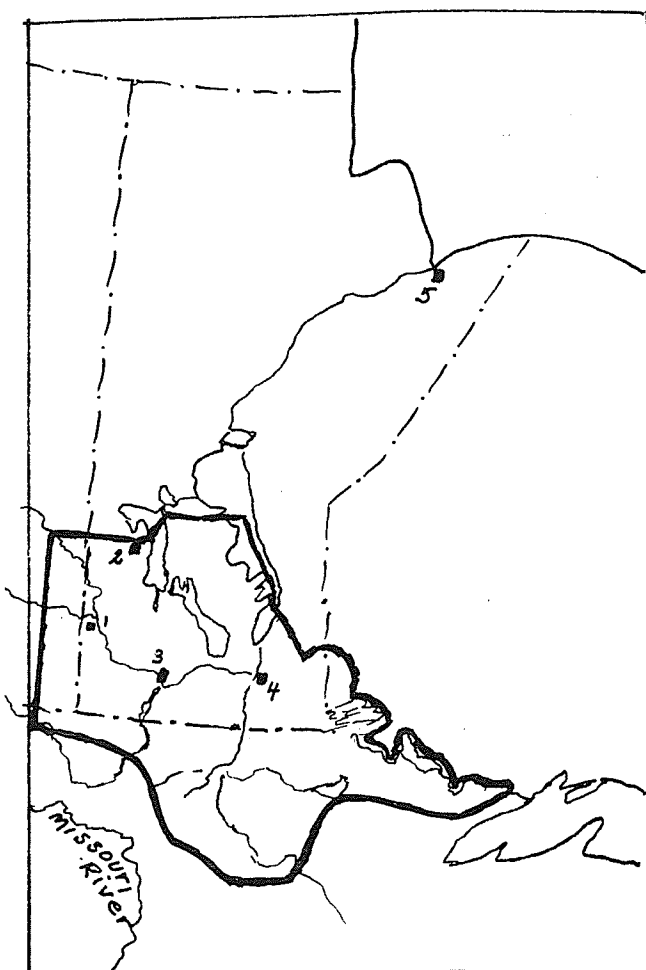


Fort Ellice in 1864.

Fort Ellice

Fort Ellice compiled by Ruth Meldrum

On May 2, 1670, Charles II signed the charter granting sweeping Imperial powers to the Company of Adventurers of England trading into the Hudson's Bay. With the stroke of a pen Charles II began a story



- 1820 Red River Settlement.
1. Fort Ellice 2. Fort Pelly 3. Brandon House site
4. Red River Settlement - Fort Garry
5. York Factory

of infinite variety and fascination. During the following two centuries the company built forts ranging over the majority of what is now Western Canada. That area has been described as a "sparsely-trailed hinterland. . . mostly a flat terrain, dissected by great rivers and endowed with abundant grasslands; a beautifully deceptive utopia; a lovely paradise."

The rival fur-trading company, North-West Company, had been trading along with the "Company of Adventurers," and when the two companies joined forces in 1821 the Hudson's Bay Company became the absolute ruler of the western prairies. There were twenty-five Chief Factors and twenty-eight Chief Traders and these Commissioned Gentlemen became the very fibre of the company in the unsettled west . . . men who showed loyalty, courage, integrity . . . they became the company image in this new land which was just beginning to see the advancing settlements. Had they been less honest, less considerate, less understanding, Canada's history might have been quite different.

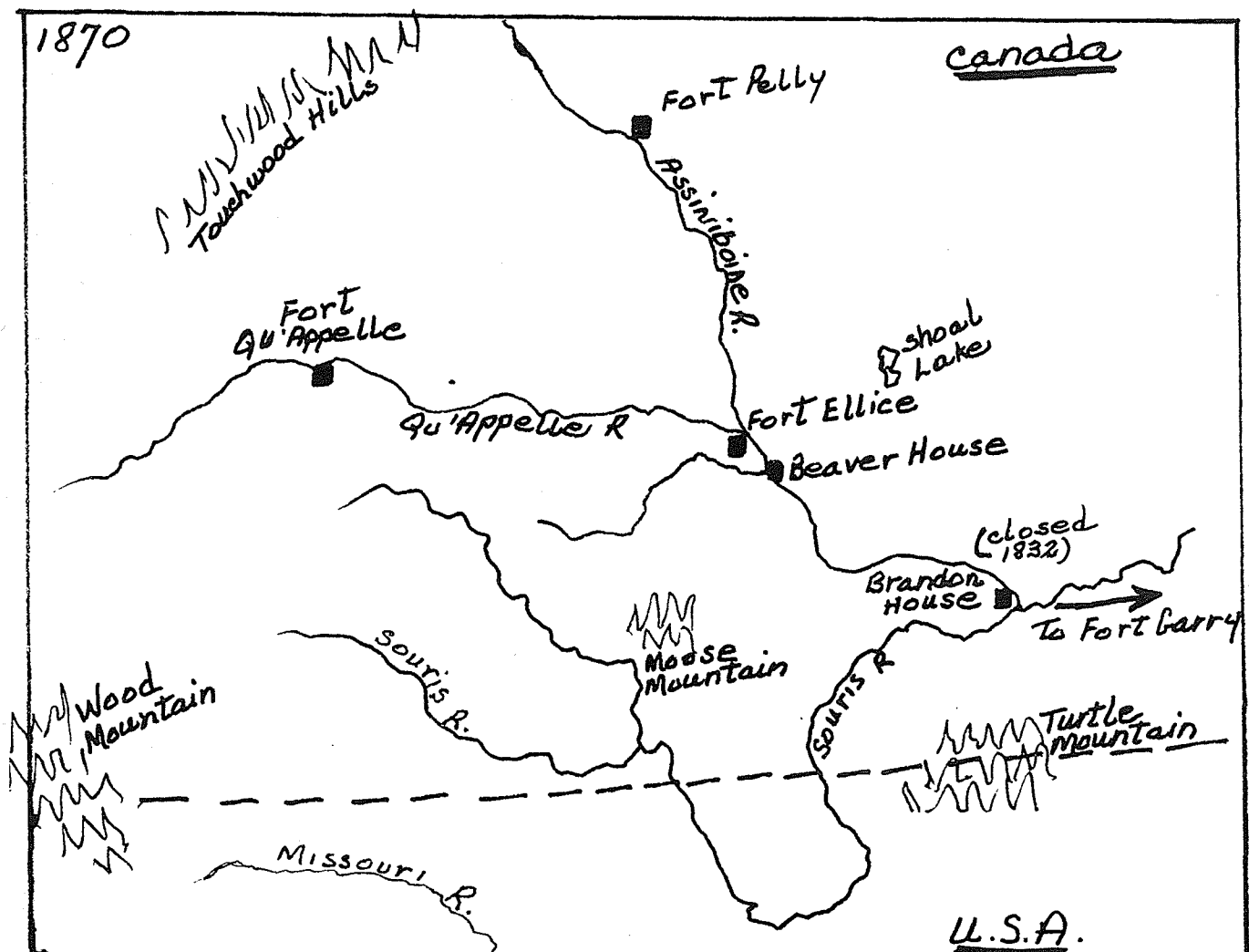
When the first permanent settlers came to the upper regions of the Assiniboine River and surrounding area, many of those fur-trading posts had disappeared, but there were still some to serve as links between the vanishing fur trade and the new agriculture of the prairies. One such post was Fort Ellice. It served in this capacity for many years but as settlements spread over this vast prairie and homesteaders began to farm, the fur trade dwindled and the Hudson's Bay Company closed their trading operation at Fort Ellice. The storehouse was sold to T. V. Wheeler in 1890. Today no trace of the building remains, but what does remain is the glorious valley and its unchanging scenic beauty. In the late 1700s the fur trade flourished in this area and in 1783 the North-West Company built Fort Esperance on the Qu'Appelle River near the mouth of Cutarm Creek. By 1793 Cuthbert Grant Sr. was in charge and Fort Esperance was headquarters for all of Assiniboia. In October of that year, John McKay built a post on the Qu'Appelle and the two companies rivalled one another for some

20 years, and in 1816 the Hudson's Bay post was destroyed. The HBC then built on the right bank of the Assiniboine River, about one and one-half miles from the mouth of Beaver Creek and this new post became known as Beaver House. Following the union of the rival trading companies in 1821, Beaver House served the entire area and was often called Fort Qu'Appelle. Three years later Beaver House was closed due to a decline in the fur trade and the region was left without a trading post.

The "first" Fort Ellice

In 1831 furs were once again plentiful in this territory and traders were asking for a local post so they no longer would have to make lengthy trips to the south and east to sell their furs and buy supplies. Consequently, in 1831 the Council of the Northern Department of Rupertsland passed "**Resolve No. 43**" authorizing the re-establishment of a post on Beaver Creek. It was to replace the old Hudson's Bay post on Beaver Creek as well as the two North-West posts, Fort Esperance and Cuthbert Grant House. This new post was called Fort Ellice in honour of Sir

Edward Ellice, a principal shareholder in the company. Its purpose was to "protect the Trade of the Assiniboines and Crees of the Upper Red River from American Opposition on the Missouri." Although Canadian Indians traded at the fort on a regular basis so did Sioux from North Dakota and occasionally Mandans from Missouri. Only American traders and freemen trading on their own account were to be denied hospitality at Fort Ellice. A notation in the journal states that when two such men arrived at the fort with sleds greatly overloaded and asked for hay, they were refused and were forced to continue on to Fort Qu'Appelle. This new Fort Ellice was built on the left bank of Beaver Creek about three miles from its junction with the Assiniboine River. The site was on level prairie and the outline of the stockade can still be discerned, as can the location of the cellars. A spring some 150 yards away provided water for the residents. This post, generally called the "first" Fort Ellice, was added to the Swan River District and Mr. W. M. Dodd from Brandon House was the first officer in charge, with headquarters at Fort Pelly.



Brandon House was on the Assiniboine River, south-east of the present-day Shilo. It was abandoned in 1832 because it was felt the new Fort Ellice could handle all the trade and perhaps might even attract new traders to deal with the Hudson's Bay Company. Mr. Hughes took over from Dodd and remained in charge until 1833.

John Richards McKay

The minutes of the Council of the Red River Settlement record that on 1 June, 1833 John Richards McKay was assigned to Fort Ellice. McKay had established the Hudson's Bay post on the Qu'Appelle in 1816 and during his time of trading there he had won the respect and admiration of all who dealt with him. He was very popular with the Indians, who admired his horsemanship, and skill with firearms. Above all, they marvelled at his dexterity with a sword. It was said he would have Indian boys shoot dull arrows at him while he warded them off with his sword.

Company Rules and Regulations, 1835

All rules and regulations for the company's operation were determined by head office in England. The standing Rules and Regulations of 1835 stated: "**Resolve** That the following be the Tariff for the advances throughout the Northern and Southern Departments:

"**Clerks and Servant's Tariff** 50 per Cent. on the prime cost of all imported goods, and 12½ per Cent. on the Depot cost of all country made articles, supplied during the summer at the Depot, wines and spirits excepted, to be continued at fixed prices, viz: Madeira wine 20s., Port and all other wines 16s., Shrub, Gin and Brandy 16s., Spirits reduced to proof strength 12s. per gallon; and all subsequent advances without distinction of articles, whether taken at the Depot or inland, to be charged 50 per Cent. on the York or Moose Inventory Tariff, with the exception of wines and spirits, to be sold at 50 per Cent. on the Depot summer Sale Tariff to Servants; and all country produce, consisting of dressed and parchment leather, Buffalo Robes, provisions, and will be sold throughout the year at 50 per Cent. on Depot prices. It is however understood that, in consideration of the peculiar living and mode of journeying at the Bay side Settlements, wines and spirits will be allowed to continue at the Depot summer Sale Tariff throughout the year."

The regulations also stated:

"That all Commissioned Gentlemen, Clerks and Servants be charged 10 per cent. on the last average net sales, for any furs supplied from the Stores during the current outfit for personal or family use in the country, and 20 per Cent. if supplied for any other purpose."

Some of the prices for goods here on the prairies when Fort Ellice first was in operation were as follows: Canoe, small fishing, 20 shillings; Fat or grease, 3 pence per pound; Meat, pounded, 3 pence per pound; Dried meat, 2 pence per pound; Pemican, 3 pence per pound or 22 shillings 6 pence for 90 pounds; Buffalo robe, (prime) 5 shillings; Salt 8 shillings per bushel; Large moose parchment, 2 shil-

lings; Mooseskin tent, 25 shillings, and wheat was 4 shillings per bushel.

The company charged 30 shillings per piece for private property to be transported from York Factory to the Swan River District. In 1835 the Company also set wages for the boatmen and it was:

"**Resolve That**, in order to prevent all misapprehension on that subject in the future, the existing scale of wages be attended to, as follows, viz:

For all districts in the H. B. Territories — Steersman	22 pounds
Bowmen	20 pounds
Middlemen	17 pounds

Guides never to exceed 5 pounds in addition to the wages of Steersmen of the District, and not to be exempted from the duties of an ordinary Steersman, nor allowed an extra man in their boats; no more Bowmen or Steersmen to be employed in any District than absolutely required for the management of the craft belonging thereto.

Boat builders not to exceed 30 pounds per annum wages. Interpreters not to exceed 25 pounds per annum wages."

Company regulations also stated that mechanic's wages would vary according to circumstances and blacksmiths were to be paid no more than 22 pounds per annum. If a cook or other servant did extra work, the Factor could pay as much as 3 pounds into that employee's account with the Company at the end of the year. The Company also charged the Factor with promoting moral and religious improvement. It was felt children should be encouraged to learn "A.B.C. and Catechism, together with such further elementary instruction as time and circumstance may permit." The 1835 Regulations required "As a preparative to education, that the mother and children be always addressed and habituated to converse in the vernacular dialect (whether English or French) of the Father, and that he be encouraged to devote part of his leisure hours to teach his children."

During John McKay's time as Factor at Fort Ellice the amount of trade through that post appears to have been substantial. On 1 June, 1833 there were 15 voyaging servants, and 180 pieces of goods to be distributed in the Swan River District. The minutes state: "100 pieces of these goods to be taken from the depot on 2 Boats manned by 12 men for the trade of Fort Pelly, Manitoba, and Shoal River (sic) outfits; the remaining 80 pieces for the trade at Fort Ellice, accompanied by the three remaining men who are to winter at that post." In 1837, of 200 pieces of freight 100 were divided between Fort Pelly and Shoal Lake while the other 100 pieces went to Fort Ellice. In 1840 there were 190 pieces and 90 of those went to McKay's post. Numbers of employees there varied but ranged between 20 and 30 in those days.

William McKay

In 1856, William McKay succeeded his father, John McKay, as Factor at Fort Ellice. The McKays

were very capable men who showed tolerance, understanding and fairness in their dealings as Factors for the Hudson's Bay Company. William McKay, who was born and raised on the prairies, was said never to forget a horse and he bargained eagerly for those which he had fancied. He also recognized a good yoke of oxen. An entry in his journal dated 18 September, 1865 states: "Made a bargain with an American who was passing, gave him 3 horses with harness and carts complete for two fine yoke of oxen with yokes, chains and a large transport wagon. The oxen are splendid animals. One yoke is white both alike. The others are red and also well matched."

Fort Ellice moved to new site

Between 1862 and 1864, Fort Ellice was moved about a mile to the east, on a level plain overlooking the Assiniboine River, which, in the words of Issak Cowie, "could be seen winding its way for miles to and fro in the park-like bottomland." It was a strategic location. The area to the east and north was protected by Beaver Creek and nearby the Qu'Appelle entered the Assiniboine from the west. The depth of the banks reached nearly 400 feet in the immediate vicinity of the fort and in some places they were almost perpendicular, and much of them was covered with dense undergrowth.

This new Fort Ellice stood back about 35 feet from the brow of the bank. Like most other establishments of its kind, the fort was almost square, being 300 feet by 275 feet, and surrounded by a stockade of pointed spruce pickets about 15 feet high, with the HBC flag flying just outside the gate. On the west side of the square was a long row of one-storey log buildings of various sizes, with thatched roofs, all joining each other. While they varied somewhat in length, each cabin consisted of only one room with the entrance facing the fort. Each had a clay chimney and open fireplace at which all cooking was done. The sleeping accommodation usually consisted of two tiers of rough bunks around the walls. These cabins were occupied by mechanics, native servants, dog drivers etc. The carpenter's shop was at one end of this row of buildings and the blacksmith's shop at the other end. On the opposite side of the square was an equally long row of 1½ storey buildings of similar design. These were used as warehouses, ration houses, and storage room for flour, pork, dried meat and pemmican. There were also a dairy and an ice house.

On one side of the large front gate stood the trading store and district office, and on the other side stood the fur store and warehouse. Both were 1½ storeys and of considerable size.

Dominating the whole enclosure was the "Big House," the residence of the Factor and the quarters

of the officers and clerks. It stood at the back of the square, opposite the front gate, the front of the house being in line with the ends of the long rows of buildings on either side. This made every house in the fort visible from the front windows of the Big House.

The house was 2½ storeys and measured 40 by 60 feet with a large kitchen at the back and a balcony and verandah at front. It was built of eight-inch logs 10 feet long, set in a frame, a manner of building known as the Red River Frame building. The main entrance opened into a large recreation and council hall. The Factor's office was to the right and the sitting-room to the left. Upstairs were bedrooms for the clerks and a



Chief Factor's House, Fort Ellice.

large hall and reading room, all heated with Carron stoves from a factory in Falkirk, Scotland. The stoves were shipped to York Factory on the Hudson Bay where a Carron employee fired and tested them before they were shipped south of the Red River Settlement for distribution. (The Carron factory closed August, 1882.)

The kitchen of the Big House had a large cooking stove and open fireplace. Four other fireplaces and a Carron stove, which stood in the hall, heated the main floor. The house, built by Jacob Beads, originally had a thatched roof which soon was replaced with shingles.

Outside was a large clay oven for baking bread and preparing large roasts. At the back of the house were flower beds and a kitchen garden which was about an acre in size. There was a four-foot-wide plank walk from the front gate to the Big House and a

similar walk around the square. All buildings were whitewashed, and the fort as a whole must have appeared very tidy and clean.

About 1863 the Saskatchewan River District was being recognized as the nucleus of the prairie fur trade and the importance of Fort Ellice as a fur trading depot was declining. However, it still was important to the Hudson's Bay Company and served as a depot for the collection of dried meat and pemmican, owing to its closeness to the vast herds of buffalo which still roamed the area to the south. Those foods were transported to the wooded regions of the north where they were used by the fur brigades on their long journeys to and from their bases at the northern-most posts.

Fort Pelly Journal

The Fort Pelly Journal of 1863 and 1864 made several entries referring to Fort Ellice.

"24th December, 1863. Mr. William McKay and two men (John Pelly and George Okanise) with 3 trains of dogs arrived today from Fort Ellice.

"28th December, 1863 Mr. Stewart and Mr. McKay with 5 men started early this morning for Fort Ellice with five trains of dogs.

"Friday, 19th February, 1864. Pelly (John) and 3 Indians arrived about noon with 10 Horse sleds with goods (49ps) for the Saskatchewan from Fort Ellice. The said goods were forwarded from Red River in 10 Horse sleds in charge of Mr. James Sinclair of the Portage Post to Fort Ellice and were at once forwarded on here by Mr. McKay where the party had just arrived. They were 8 days on the journey from Fort Ellice and have rendered the pieces and horses in good order.

"Saturday, 20th February, 1864. John Pelly and the other men from Fort Ellice started today for that post with all the horses and harnesses and 2 sleds used for the transportation of the Saskatchewan goods to here — the other 8 sleds are retained here to go on with the pieces to the Touchwood Hills, being larger and broader than the ones provided here for the purpose. A chest of tea had been forwarded to Fort Ellice for the trade there."

Prairie Trails

Fort Ellice was the hub for the overland transportation system of the prairies at that time. From Fort Garry the trail led to Portage la Prairie where it divided into two branches; one taking a southerly route and the other followed roughly the present Yellowhead Route, through Gladstone, Minnedosa, Shoal Lake, Birtle and on to Fort Ellice. From Fort Ellice a series of trails led in all directions. The Mandan Trail led south-east to Brandon, while the Moose Mountain Trail met the Wood Mountain Trail to the south. Running west, the South Qu'Appelle

Trail stretched to the present Moose Jaw and far beyond; while the North Qu'Appelle Trail connected Fort Ellice to Fort Qu'Appelle. The most important trail of the day was the Fort Carlton or Saskatchewan Trail. Over that 1000-mile trail long lines of Red River carts creaked their way through the Touchwood Hills, over Gabriel's Crossing on to Fort Carlton and Edmonton. Two other trails out of Fort Ellice followed each side of the Assiniboine River and led to Fort Pelly in the north. The river also was an important link in this transportation system, as was the stage coach. In the early 1880s William Bowles operated a stage coach between Moosomin and Birtle.

Travel during those days of the beginning of settlement on the prairies was often hazardous and time consuming, though many travellers recorded happy times as well as difficult days. Mode of travel varied with the season and weather conditions. Red River carts, which cost about \$20.00, were the most popular for many years and their screeching heralded their advance long before they could be seen on the horizon. Wagons, buckboards with no springs, sleighs and stone boats were to replace the carts. For speed, travellers rode horseback, with pack horses to carry their goods. When settlers came in greater numbers horses proved difficult to acquire because they were usually brought in from the East or the United States. Oxen were the next best choice and, at times, proved to be the best choice, for they could work longer and more steadily with comparatively little care. A pair of oxen might cost upwards of \$60.00 to \$100.00 while a team of horses might range up to \$200.00.

Those pioneers with their slow-moving wagon trains experienced the rain, floods and mud of spring; the storms, insects and heat of summer; the early frosts and fires of fall; the blizzards, freezing cold and fuel shortages of winter. Their courage, determination, optimism and faith in this new-found land enabled them to accomplish the near-impossible. . . to help build this nation!

Guests at Fort Ellice

During the last half of the 1800s the British and Canadian Governments began to show considerable interest in the agricultural possibilities of the western plains, and as a result of that interest, many distinguished explorers and travellers stopped for rest and provisions at Fort Ellice.

In May, 1856 Captain Palisser visited the fort. The British Government had sent him to explore the possibility of mass settlement of the prairies and he was surprised to find an attempt at farming here along the Assiniboine River. There was a small plot of garden vegetables and the Hudson's Bay Company was running a herd of cattle on the prairie grass.

Within two years of his visit records show McKay's men were ploughing the land and seeding crops, as well as a variety of garden vegetables. While at the fort, Palisser discussed the growing of cereal crops with Mr. Pratt, a Cree Indian from Red River. Pratt, a Church of England missionary, had grown a little grain, vegetables and Indian corn on his land near the fort, and he felt agriculture would expand as the buffalo herds became more scarce. Palisser doubted this but did support a proposal to bring in spades, hoes and ploughs so the Indians could become more familiar with them. Palisser was a bit of a horse trader and exchanged two rather poor animals for an excellent mare from Pratt. When Palisser submitted his report to the British Government, not realizing he had visited the prairies during a drought, he expressed only guarded hope for agriculture in this area.

In July, 1856, Professor Henry Youle Hind of the University of Toronto and a party of 15 men arrived at Fort Ellice. They, too, were studying the possibility of settlement and cereal crop growing, but they were working for the Canadian Government. Hind was much more optimistic than Palisser and felt there was a good chance for the growth of an agricultural community in the west. He proposed a dam on the South Saskatchewan River to provide a waterway from the Red River Settlement to the far west.

Other guests at the fort were big game hunters, the Earl of Southesk, Lord Grosvenor and the Earl of March. In September, 1862, Dr. Cheadle and Lord Milton stopped there for rest and provisions as they were on their way to the Pacific Coast. . . tourists on horseback. In 1870 Captain W. F. Butler, author of "The Great Lone Land" called at the fort and is said to have left eye water and smallpox medicine for the Indians.

Two years later Sanford Evans with John Macoun, a geologist, stopped at Fort Ellice with their survey party. They disagreed with the Palisser Report and felt the west would one day produce abundant crops. Another surveyor, W. F. King, was a guest at Fort Ellice in 1881, when he was working for the Canadian Government. He was laying out meridian lines on which the detailed surveys of townships and sections were later based. At that same time Major Boulton stayed to do some campaigning in the area. A new constituency had just been formed in the western part of the province and Major Boulton was running for election. In later years he lived in Russell, Manitoba.

Men of the Fort

James McCook wrote that from the company journals "can be built an astonishing picture of the agricultural activity, ceaseless building and improve-

ment of transportation and the attention to spiritual and educational needs in a prairie community before the flood of settlers appeared."

Among the industries carried on at Fort Ellice was the manufacture of Red River carts and boats, as well as agriculture which was the beginning of the present farming community. During William McKay's tenure as Factor he employed a carpenter named Jacob Beads and an agricultural supervisor named Henry Millar. An outline of the work of these men gives a picture of the life-style of the times.

Jacob Beads

Jacob Beads, a Metis carpenter of great skill, must often have wondered whether he could meet all the demands upon his skill which included the construction of boats and carts as well as buildings. Completion of the new fort, planned in 1862, took years and Jacob Beads was involved in every part of the operation. On 6 January, 1863 he was off with sleds to find wood "to make a stare (sic) case into the Big House." Later that month Beads had to help two other men in planing boards for a partition in the garret of the house. In February he was left in Charge of the fort when Wm. McKay visited Fort Pelly and apart from his supervisory duties, worked with another man in sawing oak to make wheels for a buggy owned by Chief Factor William J. Christie.

There seemed nothing that Jacob Beads could not do with wood. From wheelwright duty for a senior officer of the company, he turned to the construction of boats to take cargoes of pemmican, meat and furs to Fort Garry. In March he had time to put facings on windows in the Big House and on 6 May he had finished two boats and put them in the water. Next day he was off down the river steering one of them and on 27 May he was back putting shingles on the Factor's home. In October 1864 Beads was flooring the new store at Fort Ellice.

Jacob Beads had a great deal of talent for working with wood and a great capacity for work, however in 1865 he had to go to the Red River Settlement "on account of ill health" and was given provisions for a month. In May the following spring he was back to assist with the installation of spruce pickets around the fort. The journal of the time indicated a concern about a party of Sioux near the fort and the stockade was installed.

In June 1866, Beads, with his family, was off to Fort Qu'Appelle to help with new buildings there. While he was away the flag pole was dressed, adorned with a weathercock made by Louis Gardespai, and erected just outside the entrance to Fort Ellice. By spring of 1867 Beads was back. During an early flood that year high waters and ice had damaged

the bridge and along with assisting with its repair, Beads finished the sitting-room in the Big House.

Jacob Beads trained his men well and when N. M. W. McKenzie arrived at the fort as a carpenter in 1876, his assistants were three Indians who had worked with Beads. They had been taught by that "highly respected servant of the Company" to hew logs; build York boats, scows, Red River carts; make snowshoes, dog sleds and other work with wood.

When Jacob Beads was beyond working he retired to Fort Pelly where he died. . . a well-liked and respected craftsman.

Henry Millar

William McKay's journals of 1858 and 1859 tell of Henry Millar's work at Fort Ellice. In the spring of '58 he was busy supervising men and women who were cutting potatoes for seed. This was just two years after Palisser had been observing the suitability of the area for agriculture. On 25 May Millar had finished the ploughing and field seeding and next day was sowing turnips in the kitchen garden. On 2 June he was tending the cows, milking and doing odd jobs about the garden. By the 18th he was planting cabbage and his varied tasks continued throughout the summer season. The first week in September the men of the fort were across the river cutting their winter's supply of hay.

That same day the Chief Factor recorded that the storehouses were well filled. Ice had been cut the previous winter and placed in the storehouses to serve as coolant for the summer's produce. McKay noted there were 11,518 pounds of pemmican on hand, along with 4,782 pounds of dried meat and 500 pounds of grease, the produce of the buffalo hunts. The people of the fort made good use of the wild strawberries, saskatoons, cranberries, chokecherries and other wild foods which were there for the taking. Nets were set in the river for fish, and wild game was abundant.

In October, Millar supervised the building of hay stacks and hauled manure to the fields. Millar's health was failing and as spring approached he became quite ill and he died 8 April, 1859. A man named Birston made the coffin and Thomas Macklin dug the grave, while George Sanderson tended the cattle. On 9 April Henry Millar was buried.

The missions

The Church of England had established missions throughout the west and one was built at Fort Ellice in 1854. The missionaries had very large areas to cover and frequently spent many days on the trail visiting and ministering to their widely scattered parishioners.

In 1856, a Mr. Pratt served as one of the earlier missionaries to be stationed at Fort Ellice. He was a

Cree Indian from the Red River Settlement who had been trained in the Anglican faith. He lived at the fort for some time and ministered to both the newcomers who worked for the Hudson's Bay Company and to the Indians of the plains.

During the years that William McKay was the Factor at Fort Ellice, his brother-in-law, Rev. Thomas Cook was the Anglican missionary for the area. He no doubt assisted at times with the activities at the fort but was not actually involved with the running of the establishment. McKay's journal frequently mentions Cook's long absences from the fort while he was visiting such places as Fort Pelly, Fort Qu'Appelle and other points across the prairie. Rev. Cook and his family lived within the stockade but his mission was outside of it. During his tenure at the fort he lived with the McKays for some long time while building a home for his wife and family, all the while holding regular Sunday services and, as the journal notes, "keeps school Sunday as well as week days."

James McCook writes of him: "On 17 November, 1864; their second child, Edwin, died and on Sunday, ten days later, his brother died. Despite this second bereavement Mr. Cook on that Sunday had services and also, as the usual drinking began among the men, made one of the staff who had liquor, put it 'in store.' Two months later, on 26 February, 1865, Mrs. Cook had a son and Mr. Cook held a divine service." Later that year the Cooks left Fort Ellice to live near Portage la Prairie.

A Presbyterian minister who stopped briefly at Fort Ellice in 1881 while on his way to Edmonton was the Rev. Andrew Browning Baird. He had travelled by buckboard from Winnipeg and had a letter of introduction to the Factor, Archibald McDonald. Baird was warmly welcomed and invited to stay over until Monday. It had been a long while since there had been a church service at the fort, so McDonald sent Indian boys out on horseback early Sunday morning to invite the settlers to come. There were two services that day and each was well attended. Mr. Baird was assisted by John Valdre and a Mr. Calder who was an excellent singer. The next morning Baird continued on his way to Edmonton, leaving behind a very grateful factor.

The Roman Catholic Church also established missions as the west began to open to the fur trade and to settlement by newcomers from distant lands. There was a Roman Catholic mission near the present site of St. Lazare. Father Decorby served at that mission for many years. This priest, whom the Indians and Metis referred to as the Priest Who Speaks All Tongues, kept a number of horses for his own use during long journeys to his outposts; but at times he gave them away if he felt someone was in real need.

After Sitting Bull had come to Canada, Major Walsh, of the North West Mounted Police, and his interpreter, Solomon, saw a number of horses in the hands of some Indians; Sitting Bull's friend, White Dog, was among them. After taking a double check of the horses, Walsh determined they belonged to "Little" Decorby and then took action. He arrested White Dog, much to the amazement of the well-thought-of Indian. After considerable negotiation, White Dog admitted to having taken the horses when he found them wandering freely on the prairie. The policeman commandeered the horses and freed White Dog. The horses were returned to Decorby . . . his means of transportation remained intact.

During an outbreak of smallpox at Fort Ellice in the late 1800s the Roman Catholic mission was used as a hospital and following that epidemic the mission was felt to be a health hazard and was burned. A new stone church replaced the mission and is reported to have cost \$600.00.

The missions were outside the stockade but they played an important part in the lives of the people of the community and the missionaries were always welcomed to the settlements. They worked among all of the people, newcomer and native alike, and many Indians adopted the Christian faith, while others continued in their belief in the Great Spirit, as is seen in the following quotes from speeches made by some Indian Chiefs of the day.

A Stoney Chief: "We saw the Great Spirit's work in almost everything; sun, moon, trees, wind and mountains."

A Sioux Chief: "I looked at the land and the rivers, the sky above and the animals around me and could not fail to realize they were made by some great Power."

Or another: "The Great Spirit is our Father, but the earth is our Mother. She nourishes us."

Or: "What is life? It is the flash of a firefly in the night. It is the breath of a buffalo in the winter time. It is the little shadow which runs across the grass and loses itself in the sunset."

There are two cemeteries at Fort Ellice. One is situated about 200 to 300 yards to the north-west and is marked by a concrete cross and surrounded by a fence. About one-quarter of a mile to the south-east is another burial ground, which, being partly overgrown, could easily be missed. A marble slab there is inscribed: "In memory of Peter, son of William and Mary Keirstead, born September 4, 1856, accidentally drowned August 24, 1881." It is thought Peter Keirstead was a member of a survey party working in the area of Fish Lake (Kenosee Lake).

Smallpox and Starvation

In 1870 the Fort Ellice district in common with

many other areas was ravaged by smallpox. The Indians frequently camped in an oxbow of the Assiniboine River and they were there in large numbers when smallpox struck. One report at the time stated that the local people had no idea of the devastation of the disease until it was discovered that in many tents every person had died. Those who were still alive were too weak to move their tents and were almost too weak to speak. Three-fifths of the Indians of that camp died. The people of the fort did what they could to help and Captain W. F. Butler was sent as a scout "by the Dominion Government to report on the condition of the Territories; to decide whether troops were necessary to ascertain the ravages of Smallpox and to enforce the liquor law, as well as to report on the condition of the Natives."

During that same year another tragedy occurred at Fort Ellice. A young Indian named White Bear, fainting from exhaustion and exposure, fell from his pony at the fort, and when revived, told of 15 Indian families who were starving about 15 miles to the south. They had eaten all their dogs and horses, except the one he was riding. Several children and old people had died and the rest were too weak to go further. A relief party was sent out with food and firewood and in about three or four days the Indians were brought to Fort Ellice. In a couple of weeks' time they were recovered sufficiently to walk about and their tents were pitched in the valley below the fort. The Indian Agent at Fort Qu'Appelle was notified of their plight and Peter Haurie, the interpreter, was sent down to look after them. The unfortunate Natives never fully recovered from their ordeal and in the spring contracted smallpox and all but White Bear died within a few days. Because the ground was frozen the dead could not be buried and they were placed in the deep snow. The ice and strong waters of the spring flood washed the bodies away, and the site of the tragedy became known as "Poverty Flat."

Over the years the people of Fort Ellice were often called upon to assist during other similar times of trouble and on occasion supplied help to such an extent that there was a shortage of food and supplies for their own use.

Archibald McDonald

In 1872, William McKay was succeeded by Archibald McDonald, who was placed in charge of the fort with the rank of Chief Trader. Descended from the Scottish warrior clans of Glencoe, McDonald had spent his boyhood among the hills and glens of Inverness where his father was chief forester on the estate of Sir Edward Ellice. McDonald arrived at York Factory in 1854 and was assigned to the Swan River District where he served at a number of posts. He learned to understand and deal with the Indians of the

region where he'd had the good fortune of being trained by experienced men. His apprenticeship in the north prepared him for the difficult task of taking charge of Fort Ellice during time of rebellion and declining fur trade. McDonald was a high-spirited and courageous man who respected and made friends with the Indians of the Assiniboine River area. Mrs. McDonald was the former Ellen Inkster, a sister of Collin Inkster, "the sheriff." It is said that when Sitting Bull passed through Fort Ellice on his way back to the United States he gave Mrs. McDonald a necklace of bear claws.

The Swan River District headquarters were at Fort Pelly until 1874 when Fort Ellice became headquarters because of its strategic location on the main transportation routes of the day. At that time Archibald McDonald was promoted to Factor and in 1879 to Chief Factor. He was also responsible for the operation of the Hudson's Bay Company farm, "Invercoe," near Wattsvie. In '79 McDonald hired Alexander McIntosh as overseer of the farm where he supervised the raising of cattle which were later driven across the prairie to market. McDonald was a man of the woods and plains, a champion horse trainer, a dog driver, a man who revelled in the wild free life of the untamed west. He was tall and sinewy, and enjoyed excellent health. . . he encouraged those in his employ to follow the example of living a good life.

As change came McDonald was able to adapt the operation of the fort to the times and when treaties were signed with the various Indian tribes throughout the west Fort Ellice became a treaty-paying post. The Indians came early and camped on the nearby plains, awaiting the time for payment of the moneys to them.

Bridges, Boats and the Mail

A bridge was built over the Assiniboine River at Fort Ellice about 1875, but it was of light construction and did not withstand the high water and ice jams during the spring of '76. During the following year a new, more substantial bridge was built. It was 326 feet long by 12 feet wide and was situated immediately below the fort. Joseph Robilliard was in charge of construction. Two bridges were built over the Qu'Appelle about a year or two later. Previous to this the Hudson's Bay Company had a ferry on the Assiniboine and charged for each crossing: a foot passenger paid 8¢; a horse and rider, 20¢; a vehicle with two horses or oxen, 30¢; a dog, sheep, calf or colt, 8¢ and articles without vehicles cost 2¢ per pound. For some years prior to 1879 scows were used to transport goods from points up river. Those scows were then reloaded at Fort Ellice and floated to Fort Garry where they were abandoned, and the men returned home with the cart brigades.

The Assiniboine River was navigated from Red

River in 1879 and in July that year the Northwest Navigation Company steamboat, Marquette, with Captain Webber in charge reached Fort Ellice, ushering a new, if short, era in the history of transportation in that district. The Alpha and the Manitoba also reached Fort Ellice that year and later a few boats went as far as Fort Pelly.



River Steamer "Cheyenne" on the Assiniboine River, between Fort Ellice and Winnipeg.

The Marquette was a flat-bottomed sternwheeler of 170 tons burden with a crew of 15 and cabin accommodation for 50 passengers. The round trip from Winnipeg to Fort Ellice usually required 12 days. One of the bridges was a swing bridge in order to allow the steamboats to pass down river.

Goods brought in to the fort by boat were transported to other points by carts and wagons, this made Fort Ellice the meeting place for all the freighters in the district at the time. Two warehouses were built near the landing below the fort to accommodate this increase in business. For a time A. H. Bastien was in charge of these warehouses until Alexander McIntosh took on that responsibility. Freight for Birtle was trans-shipped by wagon prior to the coming of the railroad.

Mail service to as far as Saskatchewan was inaugurated in 1876, with the Hon. James McKay as contractor. Previous to this many discussions had taken place to try to speed up communication between the settlements in Manitoba. As early as 1874 plans were made to have a regular service between Fort Garry and Fort Edmonton. The portion of that service from Red River to Fort Ellice was estimated to require 10 days at a cost of about \$160.00, so the plan was vetoed.

During this period of the Fort Ellice history there were many log booms down the Assiniboine. They could be heard long before coming into view. . . as the logs struck each other the sound carried out over the prairie. Men with peevies kept the booms to the centre of the river where the water was deeper.

Fort Ellice Adapted to the Times

With the decline of the fur trade and the disappearance of the buffalo, the chief function of Fort Ellice was to serve as a transportation centre and distribution point for early settlers in that part of the west, and for a few years it was the scene of great activity in that capacity. Some of the old customs of the fur-trading posts were discarded for those of the country store in order to accommodate the newcomers. Formerly when an Indian bought a pound of tea he was obliged to buy a 25¢ handkerchief as a wrapper but now groceries were placed in a paper bag at no extra cost. Some idea of the prices of the day can be gleaned from an entry in the "Day Book" of the fort dated 21 December, 1880: 1 lb. cream of tartar, 60¢; 1 quire note paper, 60¢; 6 yds. blue flannel, \$3.00, 2 bushels oats, \$5.30; 4 bags 4X flour, \$26.00; 1 bottle pain killer, 37¢; 1 pair overalls, \$1.30.

As when William McKay had been at Fort Ellice, Archibald McDonald had many guests and travellers stop over at the post on their way to points west. Many were survey parties, promoters and speculators but there were also government dignitaries. Dr. Baird related that when he visited the fort in 1881, Mrs. McDonald, when showing him his room by light of a tallow candle, informed him that the last person to have slept in the bed was the Marquis of Lorne, Governor-General of Canada. The Marquis, who was the son-in-law of Queen Victoria, was a guest at Fort Ellice in 1880.

Trade Declined

Some of the surveys done prior to the building of the railroad caused local people to speculate about just where the tracks would be laid. Many hoped it would be along the valley below the fort, and it was expected Fort Ellice would become an even larger distribution centre. The Hudson's Bay Company had a town site surveyed and lots were sold in what was to become the town of Coleville. When the line finally came it ran 22 miles to the south through Moosomin, and later the Manitoba and Northwestern Railway built through Birtle. Fort Ellice's future as a distribution centre was lost forever.

McDonald left the fort in 1882 after 10 years of guiding Fort Ellice through the decline of the fur trade and buffalo hunts, and seeing hopes for future growth dashed as the railroad bypassed the area for a more southerly route. W. J. McLean succeeded McDonald as officer in charge and after a short period of service was replaced by George Kinnaird. By 1890 trade at Fort Ellice had declined to such an extent that the establishment was sold to the Company's storekeeper, T. V. Wheeler, who carried on the business for a time. A stage which ran between Birtle and Moosomin changed horses at Fort Ellice, but that trade too was soon to be lost. After a few years the store was purchased by E. R. Lewarton who operated it until the Grand Trunk Railway came to St. Lazare in 1909. At that time the buildings were sold

Fort Ellice Cairn

In 1930 money was subscribed by local people



Speakers and Guests at Unveiling Ceremonies of the Cairn at Fort Ellice, June 10, 1935.

for the erection of a cairn on the site of Fort Ellice and this monument was completed in 1935. The cornerstone was laid by William McKay's son, Mr. Justice James McKay, who was born at Fort Ellice. At the base of the cairn are two stone posts. Centred on top of each is a round inlay of lead about an inch in diameter. These posts were used by the early surveyors as a base to check their chains in order to be sure they were the correct length when they took to the field. There were said to have been three such posts, but one had disappeared before the cairn was built.

Gilbert Johnson says, "Lonely today is the former location of Fort Ellice. The surrounding scenery, however, is as grand as any to be found in the prairie west. The serpentine course of the river as seen from the cairn, or better still, viewed from the apex of the plain above where the deep gorge of Beaver Creek opens into the Assiniboine Valley, present pictures worthy of impression on the memory of the observer.

The spot is easily reached by motor car, and here the visitor can enjoy the beauty of the present while meditating on the historic past."

Sources of Information

Papers written and/or submitted by:

Arthur Fouillard, Louise Falloon, Louise Plante, Gilbert Johnson and Andrew Browning Baird.

The Honourable Company — Douglas MacKay, 1966

Across the Medicine Line — C. Frank Turner, 1973

Touch the Earth — T. C. McLuhan, 1972

Strange Empire — Joseph Kinsey Howard, 1965

A View of the Birdtail — Marion Abra, 1974

The Sandhills of Carberry — John E. Dubois for Museum of Man and Nature, 1976

Power of Prairie Plows — Grant MacEwan, 1974

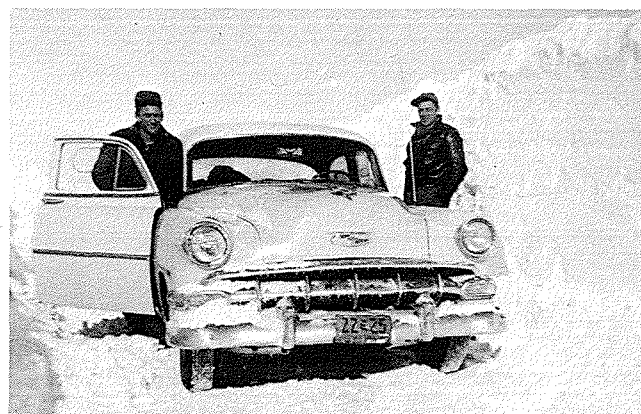
Fifty Mighty Men — Grant MacEwan, 1959

Taped conversations with Mrs. Robert Ferguson.

Tapes made in St. Lazare in 1970 and 1973.



Joe, Fred, Jack, John and Bert Pizzey with ducks and rabbits.



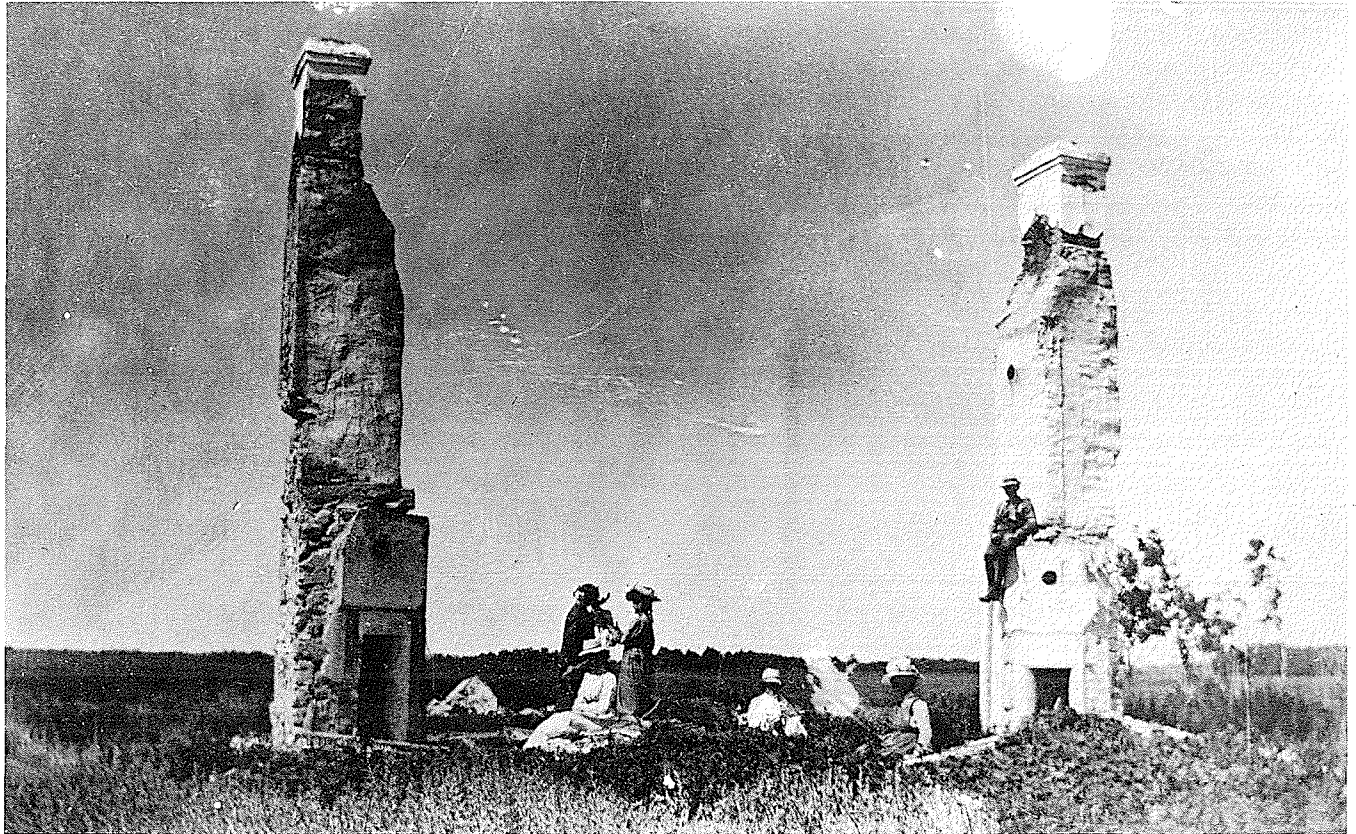
Winter of 1949-50, Highway 41, Bob Tremblay and Raymond Dupont.



Hunting Gang — Leo Bourbonnais, Marcel Giguere, Tom Dale, Bob Wilson, Frank Wilson. F.R.: Frank Dale, Norman Dearle, Arthur Huybrecht.



Suzette and Bill Fiddler, Rosanna. Standing, Angela.



All that remains of Old Fort Ellice.

Father DeCorby

Father DeCorby

Of the pioneer missionaries who ministered to the spiritual needs of the natives and early white settlers in what is now eastern Saskatchewan and Fort Ellice area, there were none more widely known and more highly esteemed by both Catholics and Protestants than Father DeCorby.

Reverend Father Jules DeCorby, O.M.I., was born at Viviers, France, on May 3, 1841. His pious parents gave him a good education and at the age of 20 years he was entered at the Novitiate of the Oblate of Mary Immaculate at L'Osiers. Six years later on May 3, 1867 he was ordained a Priest in the ancient town of Autun, which was the seat of a Seminary and the 12th century cathedral of St. Lazare. He set out at once for his mission field in Western Canada.

From Montreal, Father DeCorby travelled by rail to St. Paul, Minnesota, and from there by ox team to

Fargo, North Dakota. At Fargo he booked passage on a Red River boat and arrived at St. Boniface, Manitoba in October, 1867, where he remained for some months. During this period he served the mission of St. Norbert in the absence of Father Richot.

His real missionary work began in the autumn of 1868, when, with Archbishop Taché of St. Boniface, he went to the Qu'Appelle valley and founded the mission of St. Florent on the site of the present village of Lebret, Saskatchewan. He remained Superior of this mission for twelve years, assisted at various times by Father Lestanc.

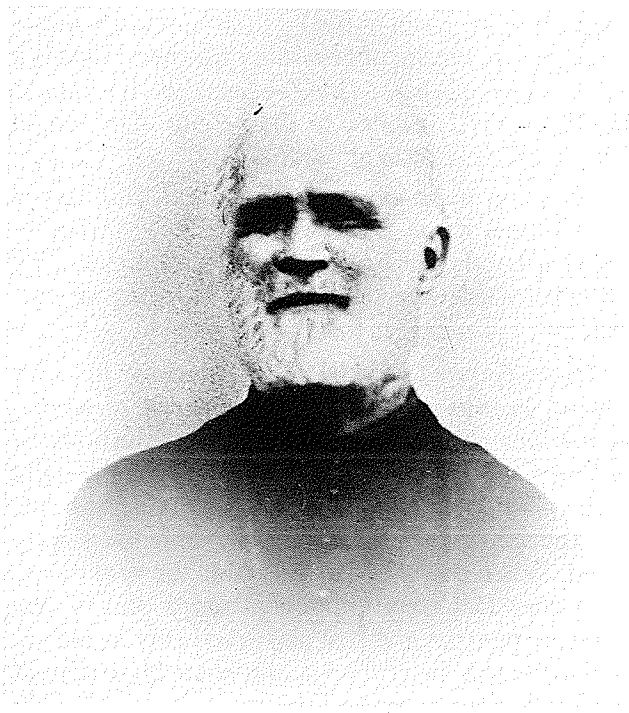
One of the first things Father DeCorby did upon his arrival on the Qu'Appelle was to erect a large cross on the hill above the site of his little log dwelling and chapel. Today a new cross occupies the same spot and is one of the objects of interest to be seen by those who visit the picturesque village of Lebret.

Due to the efforts of Father DeCorby and his colleague, Father Lestanc, a number of nomadic Métis families were induced to established themselves as "habitants" near the mission, and to engage in small-scale agriculture as a supplement to hunting and fishing. In this way it was hoped that the Métis would be less intrusive on the hunting grounds of the Indians, where the buffalo was rapidly disappearing.

Father DeCorby worked ceaselessly for the spiritual and temporal welfare of the Indians and Métis. In 1874, he presented the claims of the Métis to the Hon. Davis Laird, then the Minister of the Interior, and had Father DeCorby's suggestions been heeded, it is possible that the tragic rebellion of 1885 might have been averted.

There was little or no money in circulation in the West at that time. To overcome this difficulty, Father DeCorby issued little slips of paper marked "Bon Pour" (good for) the amount he wished to pay the bearer. When these slips were presented at the Hudson's Bay Company's store at Fort Ellice they were honored and charged to his account.

Father DeCorby was a tireless traveller, using dogs or ponies whichever best suited the nature of the



Father DeCorby, 1841-1916.

journey. He visited the missions of Touchwood, Fort Ellice, Crooked Lake, Willowbunch, Moose Jaw, Swift Current, Yorkton, Canora, Fort Pelly and many other points. If night overtook him on the way he would seek out a sheltered spot, roll up in his blankets and continue his journey the following morning. He accompanied the Métis on their buffalo hunts and travelled to Fort Garry (Winnipeg) for supplies.

On one occasion while crossing the plains west of Touchwood with a pony and cariole (a flat bottomed sleigh or "toboggan") he was overtaken by a fearful blizzard. He turned his horse loose, tipped the cariole over, covered himself and his bag of provisions with his blankets and a canvas, and let the snow drift over him. On the third day he crawled out of his icy bivouac and continued his journey.

In 1880, Father DeCorby was transferred to Fort Ellice where he established the mission of St. Lazare in the beautiful valley near the forks of the Qu'Appelle and Assiniboine Rivers. A contrast indeed was this little log mission in the wilderness to the familiar cathedral of the same name in sunny France.

During this period many new settlers arrived in the area he served. Hence, in addition to the Indians and Métis, Father DeCorby was called upon to minister to such of the new-comers as were of the Catholic faith, and was the friend and counsellor of all, whether Catholic or Protestant. Ever travelling, he could be found in the most unexpected places and often arrived at a time when he could be of some practical help to others. On one occasion when he drove into the farmyard of McKenzies near St. Lazare, he noticed a fire in a shed in which a binder was stored. Father DeCorby immediately hitched his horse to the precious implement and extracted it from the burning building, and then beat out the flames with his cassock. The garment was ruined, but the building was saved.

Father DeCorby was a great lover of horses and kept a large number of these animals near his missions. One team of ponies are said to have been so well trained that when he camped for the night on the prairie, they could be turned loose and would return at his whistle in the morning. In those days horse trading was something of a sport, with its own code of ethics. While Father DeCorby sometimes made a present of a pony to a needy settler, it is said that when he met with a "professional" horse-trader, the good Father seldom got the worst of the deal. His skill as a horseman is illustrated by the following incident related by an old-timer of the Pelly district:

"We were camped about 18 miles east of Yorkton and had a couple of unbroken broncos tied behind the

wagon which we intended to hitch up the next morning. About sunset, Father DeCorby drove up with a big load of lumber for his mission near Fort Pelly. He unhitched and camped with us for the night. The next morning he helped us hitch up the broncos. We threw them, buckled on the harness and hitched them to the wagon, then let them up and away we went. I can still hear Father DeCorby laugh as we rattled off behind the careening broncos. He was the handiest man there, and we were no greenhorns. Had it been necessary, he could have done the job alone."

Father DeCorby was rather short in stature though of sturdy build, and was possessed of great energy and vitality, showing remarkable adaptability to the conditions under which he worked. Because he was called upon to minister to the Catholics of the many different races and tongues he was nicknamed "the little Father who speaks all languages." He spoke not only his native French, but also English, German, and Bohemian as well as the Indian languages — Cree, Blackfoot, Sioux and Saulteaux. The Ukrainians called him "Staroushka" meaning "old loving one."

Father DeCorby was proud of his friendships with the Indians and Métis. On more than one occasion he took ailing children into his own home to care for them. To his parents in France he wrote "I still have a young Sioux boy who was given to me by his parents at about two years of age. He was so hungry, it took two months to satisfy his hunger. He is now nine years old, and it is time he had a horse of his own. Soon I will teach him to ride." He also wrote, "Two little girls were given to me by their Saulteaux mother. She has no means of providing for them. One is a cripple; one leg is half as long as the other; her walk is not elegant. If I listened to the people, they would give me all their little children."

Amusing anecdotes are recorded. One day a naked Indian came into Father DeCorby's chapel. Told that he should go and put something on, the Indian returned wearing boots and carrying an umbrella!

While Father DeCorby cared little for his own comfort, he was always more considerate of others. On one occasion he was expected at a certain home in the Yorkton district where he usually spent the night while visiting that congregation. The hour grew late the expected guest did not arrive, and the family retired. When they went to the stable the next morning, Father DeCorby emerged from a pile of hay where he spent the night! When asked why he did not go to the house, he replied he did not wish to disturb the family. One morning a friend in Kamsack gave Father DeCorby an overcoat which he needed. One

can imagine the donor's despair when, later in the day, he met an Indian wearing the overcoat!

In 1879, during one of the last buffalo hunts in what is now Saskatchewan, Father DeCorby accompanied the hunters with the idea of taking some calves alive. Father DeCorby and his assistant Mr. Lepine, loaded the calves on Red River carts and transported them through 600 miles of wilderness to Winnipeg.

In 1895, Father DeCorby was transferred to Fort Pelly where he established the mission of St. Philips. There he built a log chapel and an Indian day school. Six years later the mission was moved four miles east where he founded an Indian Residential school, built a large church which is still in use, a rectory, a store and a post office. When the store was first opened, no scales were available. When an item of merchandise was sold by the pound, Father DeCorby hefted the package in his hand and judged the weight. His word was never doubted. To calculate the length of fabric, he would stretch it from the tip of his nose to the outstretched tip of his hand, and would then bite the selvage with his teeth, and rip the cloth with his hands.

The modern Indian School of St. Philips, among the finest institutions of its kind in Saskatchewan, grew from the modest buildings first erected by Father DeCorby. A beautiful monument stands on the grounds in memory of its founder.

Like many other great pioneers, Father DeCorby seems to have been oblivious of the fact that he was making history. His early records are the despair of historians; hastily scribbled on poor paper, often difficult to decipher. To him, it was the work that was important.

In 1911, worn out by his strenuous missionary efforts, Father DeCorby retired to St. Laurent, Man. for a well earned rest. In 1913, he ministered for a short time to the members of his church at Cartier, Man. but his health gave way in 1914 and he was obliged to enter a hospital for treatment. Later Father DeCorby went to the Juniorate in St. Boniface where he died peacefully on Oct. 16, 1916 at the age of 75. His remains are interred in the Oblate Father's plot in St. Boniface.

Father DeCorby was one of the great pioneers of Western Canada. In 1951 a recommendation was made that a Saskatchewan lake, island or river be named in his honor. DeCorby Lake was officially approved June 7, 1951, by the Canadian Board of Geographical Names. It is located six miles east of Tall Pines; thirty miles east of Stenan, Sask. Because Father DeCorby was the founder of the mission in St. Lazare (1880-1895), our first school was called "DeCorby School" in his honor.

For the residents of the municipality Father DeCorby was an illustrious figure and also an outstanding Christian. We feel privileged to have had him as one of our pioneers.

Père Decorby

Une des personnes les plus estimées des protestants comme des catholiques fut le Père Decorby, fondateur de la mission de St. Lazare.

Révérend Père Jules Decorby, O.M.I. naquit à Viviers, France le 3 mai 1841. Il reçut une bonne éducation et à l'âge de 20 ans entra au noviciat des oblats à l'Osiers. Six ans plus tard, le trois mai, 1867, il fut ordonné prêtre à Autun, ancien village où se trouvaient un séminaire et la Cathédrale de St. Lazare qui datait du douzième siècle. Il partit presque aussitôt en mission dans l'ouest du Canada. A son arrivée à Montréal, le Père Decorby prit le train jusqu'à St. Paul, Minnesota, de là, voyagea avec des boeufs jusqu'à Fargo, North Dakota. A Fargo, il devint passager d'un bateau sur la rivière Rouge qui l'emmena à St. Boniface en octobre, 1867 où il demeura pour quelques mois comme remplaçant à la mission de St. Norbert.

Sa vie missionnaire débuta à l'automne de 1868 quand, accompagné de Monseigneur Taché de St. Boniface il vint dans la vallée de la Qu'Appelle et fonda la mission de St. Florent, site actuel de Lebreton, Sask. Il y demeura comme supérieur pendant douze ans et fut assisté fréquemment par le père Lestanc.

Une des premières actions du père Decorby fut d'ériger une grande croix sur une côte qui donnait sur une chapelle et sa petite cabane faites en rondins. Aujourd'hui une nouvelle croix occupe le même endroit et est un objet d'attraction pour ceux qui visitent Lebreton.

Le Père Decorby encouragea les Métis à s'établir définitivement comme "habitants" dans la région plutôt que de vivre la vie nomade de leurs ancêtres. Il les incita à devenir agriculteurs pour pourvoir à leurs besoins qui étaient auparavant subvenus par la pêche et la chasse. De cette façon il espérait que les Métis empièteraient moins sur les lieux de chasse qui appartenaient aux Indiens et indirectement sauverait le nombre de bisons qui diminuait à vue d'oeil.

Le Père Decorby intercédait inlassablement pour les droits des Métis et des Indiens. En 1874, il présenta une réclamation pour les Métis au ministre de l'intérieur, l'Honorable Davis Laird. Si les recommandations du Père Decorby avaient été exécutées, il est fort probable que la rébellion tragique de 1885 n'aurait pas eu lieu.

A l'époque comme il y avait très peu de monnaie en circulation, le Père Decorby donnait des papiers marqués "Bon Pour" à ceux à qui il devait de

l'argent. Quand ces bouts de papiers étaient présentés au magasin de la baie d'Hudson au Fort Ellice ils étaient toujours acceptés et chargés à son compte.

Le Père Decorby était infatigable et voyageait constamment soit avec des chiens ou chevaux selon la mode de transportation le plus convenable à la température et l'endroit. Il visitait les missions de Touchwood, Fort Ellice, Crooked Lake, Willow Bunch, Moose Jaw, Swift Current, Yorkton, Canora, Fort Pelly et plusieurs autres endroits. Au lieu de voyager durant la nuit, il trouvait un endroit à l'abri s'enroulait dans des couvertures et continuait son trajet le lendemain matin. Il accompagnait les Métis à la chasse aux bisons et se rendait à Fort Garry (Winnipeg) pour des provisions.

Une fois, lorsqu'il voyageait en poney et cariole sur les plaines à l'ouest de Touchwood il fut pris dans une tempête épouvantable. Il détacha son poney et le laissa aller, renversa sa cariole se couvrit lui-même et ses provisions avec des couvertures et une grosse toile et laissa la neige le couvrir. Trois jours plus tard il sortit de cet "igloo" et continua son parcours.

En 1880, le Père Decorby arriva au Fort Ellice et établit la mission de St. Lazare. La petite chapelle faite en rondins était tout un contraste avec la spacieuse cathédrale du même nom dans le midi de la France. Durant cette période beaucoup de nouveaux colons vinrent s'établir dans la région en plus des Métis et des Indiens et le Père Decorby était le pasteur de la population catholique et l'ami et conseiller de tous, protestants inclus.

Voyageant continuellement on le trouvait partout et il était souvent présent au moment opportun pour rendre service. Une fois en arrivant dans la cour des McKenzie près de St. Lazare il vit la remise en feu où une lieuse était entreposée. Le Père Decorby attela immédiatement son cheval à cette machine précieuse, la retira du feu et se servit de sa soutane pour éteindre le feu. Il y parvint mais son vêtement fut détruit. Le Père Decorby était un amateur de chevaux et en avait toujours plusieurs à sa disposition. Il les entraînait si bien qu'il pouvait les laisser libres le soir et les chevaux lui revenaient le matin au son de son sifflet. A cette époque, le marché de chevaux était un art avec un certain code de moralité. Si le Père Decorby était reconnu pour donner à l'occasion un cheval à un nécessiteux il était néanmoins très capable d'être le victorieux quand il s'agissait d'un marché avec un vendeur professionnel. Il était très habile quand il s'agissait de manier les chevaux et la prochaine anecdote d'un ancien du district de Pelly démontre bien ceci.

"Nous étions campés à 18 miles à l'est de Yorkton et avions deux chevaux non domptés attachés à un wagon avec l'intention de les atteler le lendemain

matin. Au coucher du soleil, le Père Decorby arriva à notre camp avec une charge de planches pour sa mission près de Fort Pelly. Il détela ses chevaux pour passer la nuit avec nous. Le lendemain matin il nous aida à atteler nos deux chevaux sauvages que nous avions attachés au wagon pour les habituer à un attelage. Je l'attends encore rigoler à notre départ qui était sans exagération plutôt précipité. De tous les hommes présents là, il était le plus habile avec les chevaux et nous n'étions nous-mêmes cependant pas des apprentis. Je suis convaincu qu'il aurait pu faire le travail seul si il y avait été obligé."

Le Père Decorby était costaud et possédait beaucoup d'énergie. Comme il desservait des catholiques de différentes nationalités il était reconnu comme le "Petit Père de nombreuses langues" car en plus de parler le français il pouvait converser en anglais, allemand, en bohémien en plus des langues indiennes Cree, Blackfoot, Sioux et Saulteaux. Les Ukrainiens l'avait baptisé "Starouska" qui veut dire "vieux père aimant".

Notre premier missionnaire était fier de l'amitié que les Indiens et les Métis lui portaient et à plusieurs occasions hébergea leurs enfants malades. A ses parents en France il écrivait, "J'ai un jeune Sioux qui demeure avec moi et qui me fut donné par ses parents quand il avait deux ans. Il était tellement affamé quand je l'ai eu que ça m'a pris deux mois pour le rassasier et le ramener à la santé. Il a maintenant neuf ans et il est temps qu'il ait son propre cheval et qu'il apprenne à le conduire." Il écrivit aussi "Deux petites filles me furent donnée par leur mère. Elle n'avait aucun moyen d'en prendre soin. Une est infirme avec une jambe beaucoup plus courte que l'autre. Son marché est loin d'être élégant. Si je les écoutais, ils me donneraient tous leurs petits enfants."

Une anecdote amusante est racontée à son sujet. Un Indien entra une fois dans la chapelle complètement nu. Le Père Decorby lui recommanda d'aller s'habiller. Imaginez sa surprise quand l'Indien retourna tôt après avec des bottes aux pieds et portant un parapluie!

Le Père Decorby était plutôt indifférent à son propre confort et n'aimait pas à déranger les autres. Une fois il était attendu pour coucher dans une maison près de Yorkton. Comme l'heure se faisait tard et le Père Decorby, n'étant pas arrivé, les habitants de la maison se retirèrent pour la nuit. Quand ils se rendirent à l'étable le lendemain matin, ils y trouvèrent le Père Jules couché dans la paille. Il n'avait pas voulu déranger la famille qui dormait à son arrivée. A une autre occasion un ami de Kamsack donna un paletot dont le Père Decorby avait grandement besoin. Imaginez la consternation du donateur quand le

même jour il vit le fameux manteau sur le dos d'un Indien!

En 1879, dans une des dernières chasses aux bisons qui a eu lieu en Saskatchewan, le Père Decorby fut de la partie pour essayer de sauver des veaux. Lui et son assistant M. Lépine chargèrent les veaux sur des chariots de la rivière Rouge et les transportèrent à travers le pays sauvage à Winnipeg, une distance de 600 milles.

En 1895, le Père Decorby fut transféré à Fort Pelly où il alla établir la mission de St. Phillippe. Il y bâtit en rondins une chapelle et une école indienne. Six ans plus tard, la mission fut déménagée quatre milles à l'est où il établit une école résidentielle, une grande église, (dont on se sert encore aujourd'hui) un presbytère, un bureau de poste et un magasin. Quand le magasin fut ouvert il n'y avait pas de balance. Quand il s'agissait de vendre quelques chose à la livre le Père Decorby jugeait le poids en prenant l'article dans ses mains. Pour juger la longueur du linge à la verge il mesurait du bout de son nez à son bras étendu. Il procédait ensuite à couper la lisière avec ses dents et déchirer le linge avec ses mains. L'école indienne de St. Philippe, une des meilleures de son genre, doit son origine au Père Decorby. Un monument fut érigé en son honneur sur les lieux pour commémorer son fondateur.

Comme tous les grands pionniers de l'époque, le Père Decorby ne se rendait pas compte qu'un jour il

ferait parti de l'histoire. Ses documents font la frustration des historiens. Souvent il écrivait au crayon, ou avec de l'encre à moitié gelée sur du papier de pauvre qualité et ils sont très difficiles à déchiffrer. Pour lui le travail accompli était beaucoup plus important que la documentation.

En 1911, épuisé pas les années ardues passées en mission le Père Decorby se retira à St. Laurent, Manitoba pour un repos bien mérité. En 1913 il desservit la paroisse à Cartier, Manitoba jusqu'en 1914 où il fut obligé d'être hospitalisé. De là, il se rendit au Juniorat de St. Boniface où il mourut paisiblement le 16 octobre, 1916 à l'âge de 75 ans. Il fut inhumé à St. Boniface a côté d'autres confrères décédés.

Le Père Decorby fut un des grands pionniers de l'Ouest. En 1951, suite à une recommandation d'un comité historique, un lac de Saskatchewan fut nommé en son honneur. Lac Decorby est situé six milles à l'est de Tall Pines, 30 milles à l'est de Steven, Sask. Parce que le Père Decorby était le fondateur de la mission de St. Lazare (1880-1895) notre première école à St. Lazare fut nommée en son honneur.

Pour les habitants de la municipalité d'Ellice, le Père Decorby est non seulement un grand homme mais aussi un illustre chrétien et nous sommes privilégiés de le compter comme un des nôtres.



5 Generations: G. G. Grandmother Cox, G. Grandmother Cecilia Robinson, Grandfather Frank Robinson, mother Sandra Dewald, baby Bradley Dewald.



Venance Deschambault on Trixie.



Emile Dupont family.

MacKenzie Recollections

the edited recollections of Bill MacKenzie as told to his son Don.

On September 18, 1883, my Stepmother, Johann; my sisters, Etta and Maggie, and I boarded the train at Kincardine, Bruce County, Ontario for Moosomin, Saskatchewan. Our train travelled through London and about midnight we crossed on the ferry from Windsor to Detroit. Next morning we were in Chicago, changed trains and started for St. Paul where we arrived the following morning. Early September 21, we arrived in Winnipeg, which seemed to be one long street of frame buildings. That evening we arrived in Moosomin. We spent the night with Malcolm McLeod who had come from the 9th concession of Kincardine. Next morning we set out for Birtle by stage coach driven by William Boles.

Between Moosomin and the crossing of the Beaver Creek it was mostly open country. As we travelled along the Moose Mountain Trail we saw only two houses; Doc Harris' home about 10 miles north of Moosomin in Township 15, Range 30, and George Wilson's home at Beaver Creek crossing. Having passed many groves of beautiful trees in autumn color, we arrived at Fort Ellice about one o'clock in the afternoon.

We stopped long enough to have lunch, look about the fort and watch Indians and Métis trading. Having changed horses, we went down to Antoine Houle's ferry to cross the Assiniboine River. On the ferry with us were some Indians decorated with colored feathers and brass rings, and dressed in blankets, coats, leggings and moccasins. Between Fort Ellice and Birtle we saw only two houses. They were about four miles from Birtle and situated across the road from one another, one being the Cairncross home. We arrived at the Birdtail Valley around 6:00 p.m. Getting off the stage in Birtle with us was a surveyor, Mr. O'Keefe, from Hamilton, Ontario. Another passenger was Mr. Richardson of the firm of Richardson & Lepper, Merchants; and Harry Gibson, a furniture dealer.

Birtle was a small village of log and frame build-

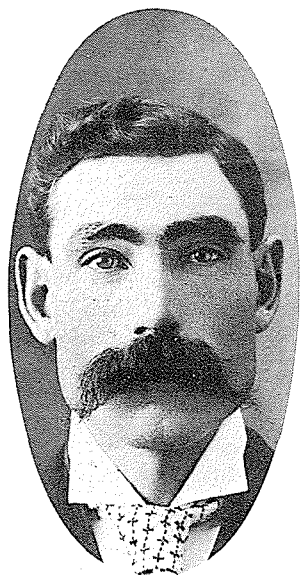
ings with a number of tents as well. George Pentland was the agent at the Land Titles Office. There were three retail stores, a mill, a tinsmith shop, a school and three churches. The ministers were Rev. Morton, Anglican; Rev. Hodnatt, Presbyterian and Rev. Betts, Baptist. The merchants were Richardson & Lepper, Manwaring & Lewis and John Walley, while the butcher was "Sherriff" Adams. There were four boarding houses operated by John McDougall, Russell Easton, John Flynn and Mrs. Adams. My brother, Jim and William Nelson were proprietors of a grist mill. It was a two-storey frame building with a basement. There were either two or three runs of stones for grinding flour and feed. One miller was Mr. McLeod, a native of Tiverton, Bruce County, Ontario; he later retired to San Diego, California. The other was Peter Barclay. The mayor of Birtle was John Crawford and the town clerk was Mr. Webster. The physician was Doctor Morrison.

We stayed a month at the Flynn House and then got rooms in the old Hargrave Block, and finally moved to the basement of the stone school. We bought our first cow from Thomas Carlton. She was reputed to be part buffalo.

My father, Donald, had arrived at Moosomin a year earlier in September, 1882, bound for Birtle, 45 miles distant. There was no stage coach at that time so he made the journey on foot. Before leaving for Fort Ellice he bought a tin of salmon and some biscuits at McNaughton's store in Moosomin. En route he ate the salmon on biscuits, and that made him thirsty. He approached a pond but the water was not good to drink. So, he proceeded on the Moose Mountain Trail towards Fort Ellice. By mid-afternoon he was parched with thirst. Where Moose Mountain Trail reached the rim of Beaver Creek Valley, he found a spring of water. (It was likely the spring near the first site of Fort Ellice, known to have been established about 1831.) Water had never tasted better; and as he looked at the Valley he saw that it resembled his old home in Scotland more than any place he had seen in Canada. He then determined to

locate a homestead in that area. So, in the spring of 1883, with George Wilson driving, he selected a homestead about three miles from the Beaver Creek Crossing (SE¼ 30-16-18). It was sandy soil, but what it lacked in fertility, it made up in beauty. At the time, the homestead took up only a part of the Beaver Creek Valley. (A rather unusual thing occurred later. Under the deed of surrender that was executed in 1869 by the Hudson's Bay Company to the Government of Canada, the Company was allowed a period of 20 years within which to lay out as its property a tract of land about the location of the second site of Fort Ellice at the top of the Assiniboine Valley. Between 1882-1889, the Company staked out the tract of land and cut off some 20 acres on the north side of the homestead. Father took up the matter with Senator Turiff. The outcome was that to compensate for the loss of the acreage, Father received that portion of the south-west quarter of Section 30, bound on the west by the projection southward of the western limit of the Hudson's Bay reserve, and so that gave him the full valley and most of the west bank of the Beaver Creek Valley.)

Homesteading



William "Bill"
MacKenzie

William McKenzie

By 1882 Birtle had begun to grow but the railroad did not come into the village until 1886. Timber could not be brought in by rail, so many buildings were constructed of stone. My father was an experienced stonemason. He had apprenticed to a stonemason at Clashnessie in the Scottish Highlands, and as an apprentice he was paid in oatmeal and not money. At Birtle he had a contract to build a new stone school. So optimistic were the people of Birtle that the school was built a distance outside the village, so when growth occurred, the school would be centrally located.

I started attending school in the Town Hall. The teacher was J. H. Innis and the caretaker was Mr. Tibbits, some of whose descendants still live about Birtle. One of the students was Bob Gourley, later a president of the Beaver Lumber Company and a director of the Great West Life Assurance Company. On January 1, 1884, we moved into the new stone schoolhouse. The first Normal School there was presided over by Professor Goggin and one of the students was Herbert Cartnell.

During the early winter of 1883-84 two groups of young men from Birtle decided to have competition in hunting game. Rules were determined with the highest award being for a fox. My brother Jim and the town lawyer, Mickle, went together with a team and cutter, and I was the driver. My brother, Dan always a keen hunter, was with the other group. I drove up the Birdtail Valley and on to the Nelson farm near Sols-girth where the men tarried due to the charms of the Nelson daughters. On the return trip to Birtle Mickle jumped out of the cutter, fired point blank at a fox and missed. So we arrived back at Birtle having shot only a couple of ducks. Dan had gone out on horseback accompanied by his dog and had great success. The young men wound up the day with an oyster supper paid for by the losing side.

During the Christmas holiday of 1883, I accompanied my brothers, Dan and Alex, to Dan's homestead in the Toddburn district, 12 miles from Birtle. We made the trip in a homemade jumper drawn by a pony in -40 temperatures. We nearly froze even though we all slept in one bed in Dan's shack.

On May 24, 1884, Father and I made a trip to the homestead at Beaver Creek and located a site for the log house and stable on the north side of the gully leading into the east bank of the valley. Those excavations in the bank are still visible. After a couple of days, we returned to Birtle where we stayed until June when my school days ended. I was then 13 years of age. On July 1 we loaded our furniture on a wagon belongings to Mr. Cairncross and using his team, set out for the homestead 22 miles distant. During a heavy thunderstorm bolts of lightning were so close

that one of the horses dropped in his tracks but later revived and we continued on to the homestead.

Our first job was to put up winter feed for the cow which was soon to give birth to a calf. Father used a scythe to cut the hay in the valley and I gathered it up with a wooden handrake. I coiled it with a two-pronged wooden fork made of red willow. We ran two long poles under the coils, and each taking an end, we carried and stacked them nearby. Our next job was to build a stable for the livestock. Selecting two stout trees about 12 feet apart, we lashed a pole from the branches of one tree to the branches of the other, and then laid poles on either side until a gable was completed. This was covered with earth and hay, and a door built into the front. To carry the feed to the stable we made a rope of hay and carried the hay bound by the hay rope. We carried poles for firewood up the steep hill where it was cut with a bucksaw and split with an axe. A water trough was made by hewing out the centre of a large log. We had planted potatoes on our visit to the homestead in May. Mr. Park, our nearest neighbor, had broken the sod with his oxen and plow. The potatoes were dropped in the furrows and the plants grew up between the layers of sod, big and healthy. Our diet that first winter was potatoes, flour, some beef, prairie chicken, partridge, rabbit, some dried saskatoons, currants, and cranberries, most of which grew in the valley.

We had no visitors, but one day April 1, 1885, James Park and his wife arrived in a cart drawn by oxen. It was a happy event.

We had no crop in 1884. It was frozen on the night of August 15, the day my youngest brother, Murdoch, was born. George Wilson had cut most of his crop before the frost and it was a fair sample. Throughout the country the gristed flour was black and scarcely fit for baking. Bread would not rise and, in some cases, people merely poured the dough in the oven. The bread was green in color and had something of a sweet taste.

In 1884, the residents of the Beaver Rapids District were: George Wilson; postmaster of the Beaver Creek Crossing, (a native of Princeton, Oxford County, Ontario); James Stevens on the opposite side of the road; Bob Howes, then living with the Wilsons but later homesteaded on the west side of the sand plain; James Wilson on 12-16-29, cornering George Wilson's land; Ezra Thomas, SW 18-16-28; Effner Thomas, NE of 18; James Park, SW of 18; Robert Park, SE of 18; Pearson Sr., SW 16-16-28; Jack Pearson, SW 20-16-28; Jake Kennedy, NW 18-16-28; Captain Dashwood, NW 2-16-29; Thomas Fortune, SW 2 (he named his homestead "New Mains" after the Eccles Estate in Scotland); John Collyer, SE 24-16-29 and ourselves on 30-16-28.

In the spring of 1885 Father went to Fort Ellice and, for \$80, bought a team of oxen, old and poorly matched. One was a great rangey ox with a scar on his side and a horn spread of two-and-a-half feet. The other was a short dumpy ox, bothered with sore feet and a slow mover. Father hewed a yoke of birch and he bent elm saplings for the yoke. James Gunn, the Hudson's Bay blacksmith at Fort Ellice, made a ring and steeple for the yoke, also a logging chain.

There were some anxious days spent in the spring of 1885 when the North West Rebellion broke out. The nearest encampment of Indians was the Sioux reserve at the mouth of the Birdtail, but they were not involved in the rebellion. The Manitoba Free Press Weekly kept us informed on the trend of events. Tom Selby of our area joined the Boulton Scouts and saw service. He was a dispatch rider and took his chestnut gelding with him. He rode many a breathless trip.

Mr. Park had broken about 10 acres for us in 1884. In 1885 we seeded eight acres to wheat; the balance to potatoes, turnips and peas. Mr. Park lent us a set of wooden drag harrows with iron spikes in them. We harrowed the breaking in the spring and Father broadcast the seed by hand and harrowed it in. In Moosomin, Father bought a wooden-beam 12-inch Massey Harris walking plow from Neil McCallum, a native of Bruce County, Ontario.

Father took a contract to do some stonework for Dr. Proctor on his farm north of Virden and was away most of the summer. At 14, I had to break prairie with the oxen. I set up my stakes and started to strike out the land. I had a bow because the big ox walked faster than the small one and gradually went to the left; however I managed to break about 12 acres.

July 1, 1885, a picnic was held by the creek at a spot later known as Welwyn Beach. Dried apples were made ready for a real treat and a layer cake made with cane syrup filling. Stepmother, my two sisters and I walked three miles to the picnic, while settlers came from miles around, their oxen hitched to lumber wagons decked with poplar saplings. Mrs. Dashwood rode in on a hay rake drawn by a pony. R. A. Bonner, later a prominent lawyer in Winnipeg, walked to the picnic. His homestead was in Township 15 Range 30. There were sports, followed by a dance at Wilson's house in a 14-foot square room. The fiddler was an aged Métis, Andrew Morriveau, who played many a Red River jig.

Bees for raising barns often brought neighbors together, but Bob Howes went one further by putting on a plowing bee. His homestead was four miles from ours, and, as our oxen were so slow, I had to leave the evening before and put the oxen in Bob's corral for the night. Next morning, the neighbors arrived; John Traquair with a fine team of black

horses brought in from Ontario; Frank Collyer with a yoke of white oxen harnessed in fine style with leather collars, back bands, trace chains, even lines and bits; Frank Tidsbury with oxen, Thomas Pearson with horses, Jack Pearson with his bronchoes and Thomas Fortune, dubbed Lord Eccles. I had only a yoke and a whip to control my oxen. On account of their slow gait, I could not keep up with the others; frequently I had to turn out to let another pass. That hurt my pride. Bob Howes, a bachelor and a good cook, served us homecured ham, bread, butter and dried apple pie. That day about seven acres were broken at the bee and it was a big accomplishment. I arrived home the next day, but not without having to leave the oxen about a mile from home; the small ox, exhausted, lay down and refused to go further.

For haying season, I went to DeClaire district, some 10 miles south, with Jack Pearson, a neighbor, and his father. My job was pitching hay to Pearson Sr. who built the stack. There, I had my first encounter with flying ants. They proved to be very troublesome. In those days, we used Quebec-style hay racks. After stacking the hay, we plowed a fireguard around the stacks.

Harvest arrived and Father returned from Virden. He cut the eight acres with a cradle. I raked it with the wooden hay rake and tied the sheaves by making bands of straw, then my stepmother and I stooked the crop. We then stacked it. We had no forks, and the stacking was all done by hand. I was on my hands and knees to place each sheaf where it should be. Father returned to Virden and I started to backset the breaking that I had done during the summer. This proved difficult as the sod had not rotted and shoved up between the coulter and shearer, forcing the plow out of the ground. Later we threshed the crop. John Hogg with John Reavie of Rocanville were threshing at Captain Dashwood's farm. They came five miles across the prairie to thresh our stack of wheat for the modest sum of \$10; we supplied the wood for the steam engine. The engine was moved with Reavie's team of horses and the separator was moved with John Hogg's team. The separator was hand fed and the straw carried up to the straw-carriers and stacked by hand. We threshed 80 bushels of No. 1 Red Fyfe wheat.

During the fall we sold the oxen and got another yoke of oxen from Malcolm McLeod of Moosomin. They were better matched although the off ox was a little slow, but the high ox was a real good one. Out of 80 bushels of wheat we had threshed, we kept some for seed and got a grist from the mill at Birtle.

We built a stable in the embankment of the gully during the fall of 1885, the banks being the walls and the top a couple of feet above the ground. We got

some sheep from Wheeler of the Hudson's Bay Company at Fort Ellice. They attracted wolves and we could hear them howling at night. The sheep were in a pole-and-straw shed, and because they were valuable, I spent nights guarding them with a musket. Later when one of them died, I got the idea of making a trap for the wolves. I built an enclosure of poles and left an opening at one end. There I placed the trap and covered it lightly with straw. In the centre of the enclosure, I placed the carcass of the dead sheep. In the morning a wolf was in the trap.

There were bears about during the summer months. Father encountered a mother with cubs in the Beaver Creek Valley. She stood up on her hind legs, but Father stood still and she calmed down and went off with her cubs.

In September, 1885, there was a livestock fair at Moosomin. George Wilson asked me to drive seven head of cattle to the fair. I started out on foot and Wilson followed with horse and buggy; after about three miles he returned home. I had to chase the cattle a great deal and by noon had only reached the McArthur post office four and a half miles south-east of what is now the village of Welwyn. After lunching at McArthur's, I continued over the open prairie. About six miles north of Moosomin, I encountered a prairie fire fanned by a strong west wind. It was impossible to drive the cattle through it, so I let them go and they turned back. I decided to try to get through the fire myself, and I singed my clothes. The smoke began to choke me, so, I lay down on the ground to get a few breaths of fresh air. I got up again and dashed through the fire. Soon I met a Mr. Bristol who was trying to save his pole fence. Later I returned to find the cattle three or four miles north of George Potter's farm. He had a few acres of breaking which had split the fire. I again started out with the cattle but about four miles north of Moosomin they lay down with exhaustion. I walked to town, arriving long after dark. Several boys from our own district were at the fair and they gathered in Dave Galligher's feed loft where they spent the night in revelry. At daylight, I set out to locate the cattle and found them almost where I had left them. I got them to Moosomin in time for the fair but they were gaunt as greyhounds after their travel. During the fair, the fire had been approaching from the west. Everyone fought it and the town was saved. The fire crossed into Manitoba and eventually reached Riding Mountain.

That winter we ran out of flour. Wilson was to have gone to Birtle with wheat and bring back a grist for each of the settlers; however he tarried too long and a blizzard struck, blocking the roads. For a week we had nothing but potatoes. I took a pillow slip and

got some flour from Thomas' although they had little to spare. We mixed flour with potatoes to make a scone so the food would last longer.

During that winter we got wood from the valley and hauled it up the hill with the oxen and cut with a cross-cut saw. Some of those logs were 10 inches in diameter. I also had to make a few trips to the Traquair farm for straw. Wheeler of Fort Ellice had a man, John Clark, make trips through the open plain for straw. We went almost every day and his face bore many frost bite scars.

Stepmother spent much of her time during the winter spinning yarn. First she carded the sheep wool by hand, then she would turn it on the back of the card and make loose rolls which she would spin on her spinning wheel. Then, it was twisted on the spindle and made into yarn. The wooden spindle was about 10 inches long, tapering from about one and one-half inches at the bottom to about one-third of an inch at the top. It was turned by hand to give a double thread for heavy mitts and socks. All sewing was done by hand at that time.

In the spring of 1886, Father went to what is now the McAuley district to build a stone barn on the south half of 36-15-29, more recently known as the Jeffers' farm, bounded on the east by No. 41 Highway. I was left to sow the crop by hand; five acres to oats, 2 acres to peas and 14 acres to wheat. To broadcast properly it was necessary to start early, about four a.m. I put up stakes about 12 feet apart down the field and then walked down each strip to seed. The grain was put in a thing made of basswood with a canvas bottom, and it held about one-half bushel. Stepmother helped me by carrying the grain from bags in the field. One day when we returned from the field, we found our kitchen table upset and dishes broken. We had left the door open and our pet lamb had gone in and upset the table. I broke more land during that summer and cut hay with a mower and oxen. Bob Howes and I put up hay together on his homestead (10-16-29).

Father went to Birtle and put stonework in the new grist mill and worked on a stone store for Mr. Manwaring. In those days, a stonemason dressed in white moleskin, or white canvas trousers and lined shirts. Father was always particular about his attire.

1886 was a dry year. The grain was not long enough to cut for sheaves. To save what crop there was, I took the oxen and went 12 miles south to borrow, or rent, a reaper from George Jamieson in the DeClaire district. I found Jamieson and Mr. Park building a schoolhouse, south of what is now McAuley. I took the reaper home and cut the grain, leaving it in loose bundles. We gathered it with a fork and took it to Mr. Park's farm, two and one-half miles

distant. Thomas' also brought theirs. It was stacked, then threshed with a horse-power outfit belonging to a syndicate in the settlement and was bought from Mr. Laycock at Foxwarren. It was a windy day and the dust was bad. What little grain we threshed was chiefly used for grist.

1887 was one of the best years we had for wheat, but due to 1886 being such a poor year, farmers had run up debts and there was a great rush to sell grain. As a result, the price of wheat dropped to 26¢ a bushel. Moosomin, over 30 miles distant, was our point of delivery. Father was indignant. Said he, "Before I will draw that 30 miles and sell it for 26¢ a bushel, it can rot in the bin!" But, I said to him: "Dad, remember that on the strength of that good crop you bought a binder in Moosomin and signed a note which is due October 1st." "Well", he said, "You can go into Moosomin and argue that square-jawed blockman, if you like". So, although I was only 16 years of age, I resolved to meet up with the blockman; but first, I wanted to earn some money. Mr. Park wanted some backsetting done on his farm and I did it with his oxen. I earned \$10, and as a bonus, the Park girls knit me a pair of heavy woollen mitts and made me a straw hat. They soaked the wheat straw in brine to toughen it and then braided it and the braids were sewn together.

With the \$10 in my pocket, I made the trip to Moosomin and met with the blockman. I told him, "We have had a good yield but the price is so low. I am sure it will go up within a month. I have \$10 to pay you today and promise the note will be paid in full, if you will extend the time for payment one month." "Oh," he replied, "We've had lots of promises like that." I looked him straight in the eye and said, "You haven't had a promise from me before." Well, he looked at me and said, "Say, lad, I'm going to take a chance on you, and give you that month's extension." I was happy, and within one month, the price of wheat went up to 49¢ a bushel, so into Moosomin I came with a load of grain. Jimmie Sharp, the buyer, had a monopoly on the market. He picked up a handful of our wheat, looked at it and threw it on the ground. "No bid," he said. "No bid?" I queried, "Why not?" "The color," he replied, "It's dark." "Well," I said, "It hasn't been frozen. It was harvested before any frost." "Doesn't matter," said Sharp, "I can get all kinds of wheat the color I want, no bid!" No bid, well, I would go down to the mill and sell it. The miller was up in the top of the mill. "Want to buy a load of wheat?" I asked. "Have you had a bid on it?" "No," I replied. "Well then," he said "I'm not making a bid." What was I to do? I had come over 30 miles and my horses were not shod. Well, I went up town and learned a new elevator had

just opened in Fleming, ten miles away. If I could just find a place in town where the horses could be fed and watered and I could find a place to sleep, maybe, I could sell that wheat in Fleming. Mrs. Harris had a boarding house but I had no money. I went to see her, and told her my sad story. "There's a stable here," she said, "You put them in there over night and they will be fed and watered. You will have supper, bed and breakfast, and when you are able to sell your wheat you can pay me." That, up lifted my spirits. The only problem was, could I sell the wheat in Fleming? During the night a foot of snow fell. I had a difficult trip to Fleming, where I drove up the gangway with my heart in my mouth. The buyer appeared, took up a handful of the wheat, looked at it. "I'll give you 76¢ a bushel for it." "Oh," I replied, "You can have all our wheat." So, the wheat was unloaded and I got a grain cheque for it, cashed it, mailed a money order to Mrs. Harris, got my team shod, bought some groceries and started home. Of course, I was happy. But, as I was driving home, I was thinking. Something was crazy. One day our wheat was worth 26¢ per bushel; within a month it had been 49¢, but on that day it was said to have no value; then the next day it was worth 76¢ per bushel. The thought struck me. We farmers had to get together and do some organizing of our own. More than 20 years were to pass before the Grain Growers Company was incorporated. This was the first organized effort of farmers, and I bought shares in the company. In 1924 I was out getting memberships from farmers to set up the Wheat Pool.

Late in 1886, I went to Brandon hoping to find a place where I could work for my board and room and attend school. I did not find any such place, so went to the farm of a distant relative, Dan McCaig, where I hired for the winter at \$5 per month and board. The farm was five miles from Douglas. My job was to look after 16 horses and 20 head of cattle. The cattle were watered at the next farm where the water was drawn up with a windlass. The water for the horses was hauled from a well on the home farm. I also had to cut firewood with bucksaw and axe to keep two stoves going. In February, 1887, McCaig had to leave on business and I was left in charge of the farm. A blizzard hit. It stormed for three days and three nights. It was impossible to turn out the stock or even haul water so I melted snow in a large iron pot long into the night. The third day, a Sunday, the weather cleared and the temperature dropped to -40. The wells were buried and it took a half day to clear away the snow so I could draw water. Several people were frozen to death during the blizzard. In the McAuley district, Mrs. Harry Jones was a victim. She was trying to reach a neighbor's home with her infant.

Her sister-in-law went ahead with the child but the mother became exhausted, lay down and perished. Her husband was in Elkhorn and unable to get home.

I decided to go to Brandon for the winter of 1887-88. My first job was driving a dray for Mr. Parker, a deaf-mute. I hired at \$20 per month and board. Often, I had to lift quarters of beef, which was quite an effort for a boy of 16. I stayed at a little hotel, the Central on 8th Street; just off Rosser Avenue. The proprietor was Frank Fowler, in later years a president of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange and a trustee of the City of Winnipeg Sinking Fund. Brandon was a busy town with hotels and livery barns crowded at night. In all, there were 13 licensed hotels. Prominent citizens were Doctor Fleming, Sherriff Clements, Chief of Police Duncan and Clifford Sifton, then a young lawyer.

After New Year's, business slackened and Parker told me he had no further work for me and that he could not pay me the \$20 I had earned. I had to settle at \$15. I became the nightwatchman for the Central Hotel, my work including stoking the fires. In March I hired for seven months at \$20 per month and board with Alex Elliott, five miles west of Brandon. On April 2, 1888, there came a big blizzard and the stable, a dugout in a bank, was completely covered by snow. It took Elliott and me a half day to clear out the snow.

That summer I broke 40 acres of land with two horses and a walking plow. They were a grey team, the tallest horses I ever saw. I backsetted the breaking in the fall. The field is on the south side of No. 1 Highway and passing it in the fall of 1944, I noticed that it was still producing good crops.

One day in June 1888, when a provincial election campaign was on, a man drove up in a horse-drawn buggy. He was Clifford Sifton, later Minister of Interior in the Government of Sir Wilfred Laurier. His opponent then was another lawyer, W. A. McDonald, later a Supreme Court Judge in British Columbia. There was a fair crop that fall on the Elliott farm. It was threshed by a steam engine owned by Elliott, John Vallance and Mr. Holly.

Having finished working for Elliott, I hired a saddle pony to travel 60 miles to Killarney. I left Brandon about 9 a.m., travelled south through the Brandon Hills, the Tiger Hills and through Lang's Valley west of Pelican Lake. The settlers were far apart and it was difficult to follow the trail at night. I finally arrived at a sod house on the open prairie, the home of a crofter family named McKenzie, they had emigrated from the Hebrides. In typical Highland fashion they received me for the night. I slept on a bed made of poles covered with hay and I had a warm blanket for covering. I arrived at my sister Annie

McCorquodale's home on the Pembina River, three miles south of Killarney where I stayed for a couple of weeks. Then I rode to see my sister Kate Campbell, another 60 miles, going by Stockton and Glenboro. Two weeks later I started back to Brandon. I had to cross the Assiniboine River at McGinnis' Crossing and my pony went through the ice. I jumped from its back, landing on sounder ice. I gave a pull on the rein and the pony scrambled onto firm ice. I was wet through, however, had dinner and continued on my journey across an uninhabited sand plain. I crossed the river again about 8:00 p.m. on firm ice at Currie's Landing and arrived in Brandon about 9:00 o'clock. There was a letter from my Father asking me to return home as he had hurt his shoulder. I went to Neepawa and took the train to Birtle. I walked the 22 miles to the homestead, my trunk following on the stage to Beaver Rapids. That was February, 1889.

In the spring of 1889, we seeded our crop with a borrowed broadcast seeder. It was an early spring and we started seeding on March 1. Then followed a long spell of cold weather. By late May there was not a green leaf on a tree and the crop was scarcely through the ground. On May 24 there was a picnic at Ben Warrick's farm, two miles east of Fort Ellice. The day was so cold people wore fur coats. We had little rain that year, so the crop on the plains was very light, although better on the heavier land. Livestock feed was so scarce that many animals died. So desperate was the situation that farmers pulled old straw roofs off their stables and fed the straw to their livestock. Again I hauled straw during the winter.

My Own Homestead

In the spring of 1889, being 18 years of age, I decided to locate my own homestead. Father and I drove west from the Sand Plain to heavier land. He was entitled to a second homestead which apparently was given those who had the misfortune to settle on the Sand Plain. Father decided on the NW 24-16-30 WPM, on the Territories side of the Manitoba boundary. William Traquair allowed me to enter for his pre-emption as he did not consider it worth keeping. He was not the only one who so decided. A Mr. Abel had a pre-emption, but he moved on to what is now the Melville area. A descendant of his is the famous Abel, the hockey player for the Detroit Red Wings.

We, Father and I, drove to Birtle on May 27, 1889, and each borrowed the sum of \$10 from Gibson, a private banker, to pay for our homestead entries. We paid back the loans with \$2 interest on each loan.

In June, 1889, I started to break on my homestead, NW 18-16-29 WPM, the western boundary of which is Saskatchewan. It has about 164½ acres. It

proved to be better land than either Abel or William Traquair had imagined. It is gently rolling with a few poplar bluffs, particularly in the south-west area. I came over from the Beaver Creek farm with my team of oxen and a walking plow of the breaker type. I chose the clearest piece of ground to break. It was a dry summer and breaking proved to be difficult. I had good oxen. One of them, old "Bill" was an intelligent ox. When striking out a new headland, I would drive a tall pole at the end of the field for a marker and place a piece of cloth on top of it to wave in the wind. When the oxen reached the marker, I would give them a short rest. Very soon old "Bill" associated the marker with the rest and he went twice as fast to get there, almost pulling the other ox with him. I decided to break 12 acres the first year and that would give me time to build a log house and stable in the fall. My plans got upset when the mosquito season arrived in earnest. In the morning my oxen were in the slough with just their heads out of the water. So, I had to build the log stable for them and there was no time to build the house, and I simply turned the wagon box upside down and slept under it. I did break 12 acres in 1889. I also dug a small well beside a pond and the seepage provided me with water which, when boiled, was suitable for myself.

The winter of 1889-90, I cut logs from near the place where the present No. 41 Highway turns down the south hill of the Qu'Appelle Valley south-west of St. Lazare, and drew them 14 miles across the plains to Father's new homestead on NW 24-16-30 WPM (which now belongs to Campbell Bros.). The road drifted in with snow every day. Father had selected a ridge of hills with a good shelter belt for a building site. I drew enough logs to build Father's house 18' x 24' and mine 14' x 14'. The logs for my house had the bark peeled off. From the Hudson's Bay at Fort Ellice I bought the roof of an old warehouse for my log shanty.

In the spring of 1890 there was a building bee at my homestead. Bob Traquair, Ralph Collyer, Bob Howes and Jim Grigg came to put up the shanty. The whole family then moved over from the plains after putting in a crop there. There was no floor in my shanty. It had one door and one window facing south. The logs were plastered between the chinks with lime and sand. For furniture we had that from Beaver Creek, the stove, table and two beds took up most of the room. Shortly after there was another bee to put up Father's house. It was built Red River frame style of hewn logs with timber and shingle roof.

I seeded the 12 acres on my homestead with a broadcast seeder belonging to Bob Traquair. My crop was frozen but the crop at Beaver Creek matured ahead of the frost. It was stacked and later threshed

with a steam outfit owned by George and Frank McAuley.

When we moved onto Father's second homestead we bought our first team of horses from Jim Fletcher of Binscarth. We traded in a couple of cattle and a number of sheep.

When I moved onto my homestead in 1889 our neighbors were: Bob Traquair SE 18-16-29; James Grigg N½ of 6; Ralph Collyer SE of 6; Herbert Collyer SW of 6; Gordon Donald NW of 5; John McLean NE 2-16-30; William Grummett NW of 2; George Johnson NW of 4 and Sam Reid NW of 20.

By 1889 the Beaver Rapids on the Plains were pretty well deserted. We were the last family to leave but Bob Howes remained, a solitary existence for some 30 years more.

We started breaking up the NW 24 in 1891 and we also added to the breaking on my homestead, and began to get more into cattle. With a need for stables and granaries, I had to put in much of my time cutting and hauling logs. We built granaries, making rafters out of straight poles, also sleepers for the floors. I got a roof from an old building at Fort Ellice and went to Moosomin for lumber for the granary floor. We had a good crop, all stooked but until it was threshed and sold there was no money for lumber. I called on John Hind, lumber dealer, and asked if he would supply lumber on time. He refused. I then saw Mr. Barton who let me have plain poplar lumber. The whole bill amounted to only \$7. From that time on we patronized Mr. Barton and purchased hundreds of dollars in lumber from him.

During the harvest of 1890, I met Tom Reid. He came down from what is now Rocanville and we agreed to exchange work during harvest. I was to cut the crops with our binder, a six-foot Massey-Harris, and he to stook. We had two horses and an ox on the binder and we changed the ox every half day. We harvested our place and then went up to Tom's. He slept in a sod shack, covered with hay. Tom rose long before daylight, fed the stock and made breakfast by lamp light. A neighbor, Mr. Skinner, helped because it was late in September. Tom managed to keep up to the two binders and made our meals as well.

Beaver Rapids School, our first, was built in 1890 on the NW corner of NE 9-16-29; later Bert Elliott's farm. The first teacher was Jeanette Traquair, who had previously taught at Old Welwyn. A later teacher was Mr. Bailey, a musician. The Ferndale School was built near the north bank of Beaver Creek on NE 4-16-30. One of the first teachers was Mary Morrison of Moosomin. The school was later moved three miles north to NE 22-16-30, where it was used until about 1920 when a brick school was built. The old

building was bought by Tom Reid, moved and used as a granary.

About 1890 country dances opened up social life during the winters. They were often held at MacDonald's and other homes in the Assiniboine Valley, and at George Webster's at Beaver Rapids. The fiddler was Dan McKay of Beaver Rapids district and people came many miles to dance. Once a year Moosomin put on a ball and played host to the country people. That was always a big affair, using both the McNaughton and Smith Halls, and a bus driven by Amos Kinsey, travelled between them.

About the fall of 1892 I joined the Delfis Chartier (St. Lazare) steam threshing outfit. My first job was to pitch sheaves off the stack to the threshing floor. The crew were an engineer, fireman, water man, strawbucker, two band cutters, two feeders, one bushel man and about three or four strawmen. Threshing would last for two months; usually starting after freezeup so farmers could do their fall work. Once the whistle blew I was not content until I was out threshing. We worked long hours and usually moved the machine at night. For two years I pitched sheaves at \$1.25 per day. Then Chartier asked me to table sheaves and I became separator man which meant \$1.50 per day. I also kept the men's time, called the fireman at four a.m. and took a note from each farmer on completion of the job. They were expected to pay within 30 days. I had also acted as feeder, taking sheaves from the bandcutter and feeding them into the cylinder by hand. They had to be fed so the straw went up the carrier evenly. We changed men there every 20 minutes.

Outfits were moved about with oxen or horses. It was the thresher's responsibility to move the engine, and the farmer's responsibility to move the machine to the next farm when his threshing was done. Once Bob Howes and I had to move the separator some 15 miles at night to Jim Byer's farm in what is now the Willen District. A threshing outfit might easily cover 40 miles in those days.

I have threshed when it was - 30°. Until it got really cold, we slept in tents but when tent pegs could no longer be driven into the ground, we slept in houses, stables, even chicken coops. One night I heard yelling. A horse was loose and was standing on Bob Howes' foot. The gang consisted of Hebert (engineer), Lionel Chartier (fireman), Ovide Guay (tankman), Leroux (strawbucker), Emile Chartier and Bob Howes (bandcutters), Charlie Stewart, William Bonar, Bob Fowler, and Jack Moss (pitchers), Jack Latta (bushelman) and Chartier and I were feeders and separator men.

Beaver Rapids Post Office was our post office

until I moved to the homestead, then we got our mail at Old Welwyn.

The Stone House on the Welwyn Prairie

In 1900 brother Alex came from Montana and bought the north half of 23. I started to break it for him starting on the NE quarter. (I bought the SE quarter from the CPR. It was raw prairie.) In return, Alex built the foundation for my stone house, as I was expecting to go to the Assiniboine Valley for my bride, Christina McIntosh. The Municipal Council then called Alex to build stone piers to replace the washed out bridge at Beaver Rapids. He put in the piers, came home sick and later died. That year, before I married, I bought the whole section, including Alex's portion. Another mason completed the house, not at all to my Father's satisfaction, for the northeast corner buckled eventually.

I hauled stones for the house, most of them from the NW quarter. One red stone, which can be seen on the south-east corner of the house, I found on a trip to

town, six miles north of Moosomin. The lime for the mortar was burned on the banks of the Qu'Appelle River there by Amab Desjarlais. The sand came from SW 34-16-30.

By 1902, the Kirkella branch of the CNR was built and the new village of Welwyn became our trading place instead of Moosomin. I believe that Welwyn was given its name by the Collyers who came from a place known as Welwyn's Gardens in Hertfordshire in England.

Mention should be made of the families who came into the Welwyn district between 1882 and 1909. There were Latta, Bayless, McGibney, Bell, Langley, Bonar, Swanson, (they were our nearest neighbors). Also McLean, Kemp, Byers, Byrnes, Fallis, Willson, Morton, Stewart, McDonald, Parker, Santer, James, Case, Ward, Lanning, Davis, Campbell, Moffat, Howie, Jamieson, Fleury, Carefoot, Owens, Webster, Bowey, Fowler, McGuire, Doctor Munroe, Johnson, Crump, Clark, Taylor and others.



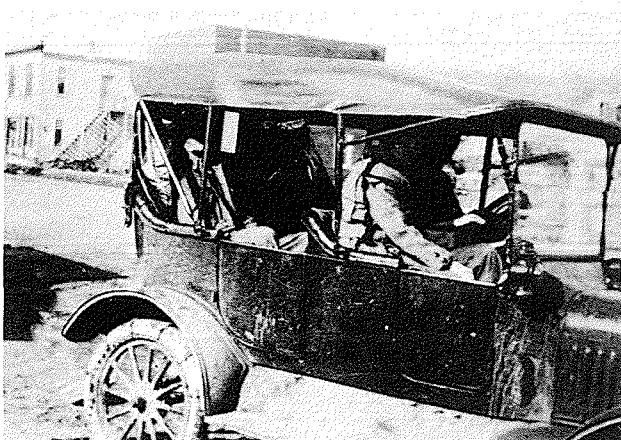
Allis Chalmers Tractor and Holt Caterpillar Combine.



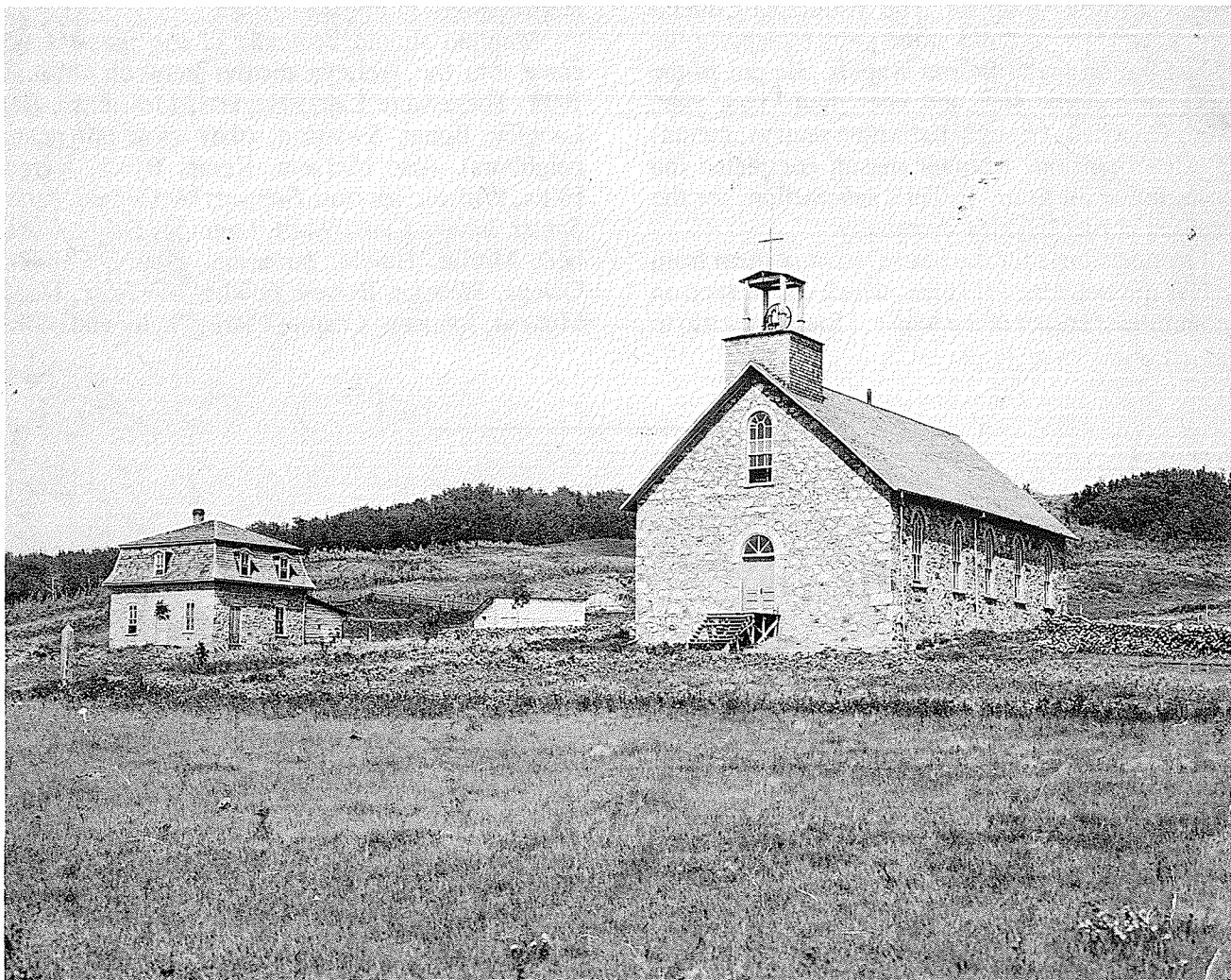
C.N. Workers.



Mrs. Vaudry and Mme. LeBlanc



Elie Decorby's first car.



Old Mission Church and Rectory.

Parish of St. Lazare

The history of the parish begins around 1860 when settlers began to populate this valley. They chose to locate close to Fort Ellice which was then part of the Hudson's Bay Co. They were mainly Metis.

In 1880, Father Jules Decorby, O.M.I. was transferred from the Qu'Appelle Valley to Fort Ellice to found the mission of St. Lazare. He gave the name "St. Lazare" to the new parish to commemorate the place where he departed from France — namely that of the railway station in Paris. The Metis helped him to build a house and a chapel made from logs. The first mass was said in that rustic building in 1880. Previous to that, mass had been celebrated in the settlers' homes. The mission of St. Lazare was situated approximately one mile north of the present village. A little stone chapel, built as a monument, still stands today in the old cemetery.

Missionaries who came after Father Decorby were Fathers St. Germain, Campeau, LePage and Proulx. Father Favreau, O.M.I. came as priest in 1895. It was then that Mr. Delphis Chartier supervised the construction of a church built from stones. Bishop Adelard Langevin, Archbishop of St. Boniface presided at the blessing of the new church. Father Charles Maillard came next and stayed in St. Lazare until 1905. Father Hogue, served this parish until 1909, followed by Father Deshaies. Father Wilfrid Lalonde came in 1910. The official "First Communion" took place on May 13th, 1909.

In 1918, Bishop Alfred-Arthur Sinnott visited St. Lazare and confirmed 52 children and adults. Bishop Sinnott noted at this time that the church was too far from the village which had relocated close to the railway line. The church was also in grave need of repairs. It was suggested that an architect be consulted to find out if the repairs could be done at a reasonable cost. If not, a new church was to be built — this time — in town. The parish council took all this under consideration and as a result a new church

was built on the present site of Robert Selby's office building.

On January 19, 1919, Bishop Sinnott, on a pastoral visit, blessed the new "Way of the Cross" and presumably blessed the recently built church at the same time. On June 8, 1921, he confirmed 26 children and two adults. He also noted that the church was too small for the growing population of the parishioners. (It was consequently doubled in size later in 1921). Father Edward Barton was the parish priest at that time. The bishop also recommended that the church purchase Father Lalonde's house to serve as rectory — the same one in use today.

On April 22nd, 1923, a new statue of St. Joseph



Church burning, 1923.

with the Infant Jesus was solemnly blessed. The statue measured three feet in height and was donated by Father E. Barton.

On May 20th, 1923 at 6:55 a.m., Father Barton on his way to ring the Angelus, discovered a fire raging in the Sacristy. He immediately closed the door and went to arouse neighbors for help. The Blessed Sacrament was hastily removed from the church to a chapel located in the rectory. By then, the flames had made such headway in the sacristy that it was impossible to save any of the valuable vestments, sacred vessels, etc. Every effort was thus concentrated on saving the contents of the church. The

crowd of volunteer helpers soon emptied the church of everything (except the old organ) — the main altar, side altars, statues, confessional, stations of the Way of the Cross, all the seats and carpets were saved. The fine big bell (that was consecrated in 1896) was also lowered safely to the ground. Within one hour, the fine little church was completely destroyed. Father Barton could not even celebrate mass as all vestments etc., had been burnt. By authorization of His Grace Bishop Sinnott, vestments were borrowed from the R.C. Chapel in Rivers. Four sets of vestments, a chalice and missal stand were also lent by the chapel in Ste. Madeleine.

In a letter dated May 23rd, 1923, His Grace Archbishop Sinnott expressed great sorrow to the community of St. Lazare upon the loss of their church. Recommendations were also included stating: (1) that they set up a temporary chapel, (2) that the new church be built next to the rectory, (3) to accept the offer of Mr. Luc Tremblay to sell two lots for the new location of the church. He also gave Father Barton permission to sell the property of the mission, with the exception of the site of the old church and the cemetery and the lots on which the burnt church stood.

Oscar Dupont was in charge of the construction of the new church to be built on lots 14 and 15, Block VIII of the townsite of St. Lazare. It was lumber and plaster-board. The exterior dimensions were 80 feet by 34 feet. The interior measured 48 feet with a sacristy of 16 feet. There was a loft, reserved for the church choir, which measured 16 feet and was situated above the main entrance. The total cost of the new edifice was \$19,000.

On Sunday, October 7th, 1923, Father E. Barton, celebrated the first mass in the sacristy of the new church. On Saturday evening, October 20, 1923, exactly five months from the day the Blessed Sacrament had hurriedly been removed from the blazing church, Father Barton carried it back to the same tabernacle on the main altar of the new church. On Nov. 18, 1923, the new church of St. Lazare was blessed by Bishop Sinnott. It was after these ceremonies that the parishioners asked the bishop to use his influence in bringing Sisters to St. Lazare to teach the children of the community.

On March 16, 1924 the Stations of the Cross, which had been removed from the burning church, were re-erected and re-blessed in the new building. In 1924, permission was sought and granted to use the new church for a bazaar.

Father Alexandre D'Eschambault became priest in 1925 and in 1928 he officiated at the blessing of Decorby School.

On June 5, 1928, Father Arthur Desmarais be-

came parish priest but died on Nov. 8, 1929 at 43 years of age. He was buried in the local cemetery and a monument in the form of a stone chapel was erected to mark his grave. After Father Desmarais' death, Father L. Payette and H. Dansereau ministered in St. Lazare for a few months until Father Paul-Emile Halde was nominated parish priest in 1930.

1930 marks the year the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary came to St. Lazare. Two years later, construction was completed on the Convent which stands today.

Father Jacques Bertrand then served from 1936-1945 and Father Ubald Paquette from 1945-1960.

In 1957, under the leadership of Father Paquette, a fund-raising campaign was launched for the building of another church. The existing one was fast becoming too small for the increasing congregation of St. Lazare. This drive surpassed all expectations much to the amazement of the parishioners.

Father Gerard Regnier, who replaced Father Paquette, in 1960, was encouraged to continue in the planning of the construction of the new church. After several meetings of the parishioners held in 1961, plans submitted by architect, Roy Sellors, were finally accepted.

In the spring of 1962, the parish engaged Louis Ducharme and Associates, general contractors and the work began in July, 1962. Rev. Father A. Baczowski, priest from Dauphin, presided at the ground-breaking ceremonies and blessing of the site on July 22, 1962. Favored with ideal weather conditions, the work went on at such a pace that the new church was used for the celebration of mass on Dec. 23, 1962. The contractors put the finishing touches to the building in the winter of 1963.

The church is constructed mainly of bricks, with a partial basement under the sacristy. This basement consists of a furnace room, bathroom, storage room and a multi-purpose meeting room. The exterior dimensions of the church are 132 feet, 10 inches by 50 feet, eight inches with a height of 35 feet. The total cost of the building was \$114,000.

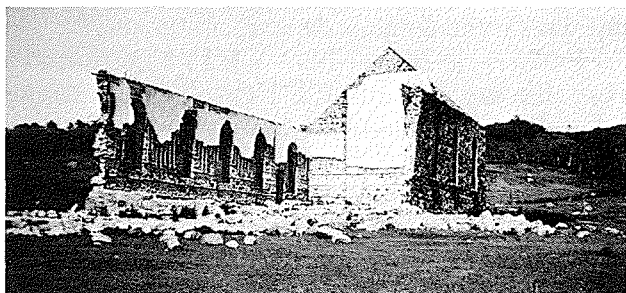
The small church which was replaced by the existing one has been converted into a community hall and still stands alongside the new church and the original rectory.

Monsignor N. J. Chartrand, E. S. Chancellor, came to bless the cornerstone on Sunday May 12, 1963. On June 17, 1963, His Excellency, G. Bernard Flahiff, C. S. A. Archbishop of Winnipeg, blessed the new church.

Father Regnier remained as our parish priest until 1970 when he was replaced in 1972 by Father Edward Morand. Father Maurice Comeault was his successor

until 1977 when our present priest Father Aurele (Prefontaine) O. F. M. Cap. came to St. Lazare.

We feel very privileged that we still have a priest residing in St. Lazare. We have a flourishing parish no doubt due to the efforts of Father Aurele. The Catholic community of St. Lazare consists of 120 families with a population of approximately 650 people.



Remains of first church, 1931.

Paroisse de St. Lazare de 1875 à 1982

La mission de St. Lazare eut son origine vers 1860 quand plusieurs familles de Métis vinrent s'établir à proximité du Fort Ellice. Fondée par le Père Jules Decorby, O.M.I. originaire de France, il donna le nom de St. Lazare à cette paroisse pour commémorer l'endroit d'où il partit de Paris — c'est à dire la gare de St. Lazare. Lui succédèrent comme missionnaires les Pères St. Germain, Campeau, Le Page, Proulx. Au commencement de la mission on disait la messe dans les maisons des habitants de la région. Plus tard, les pères, aidés des Métis, construisirent en huttes de rondins une maison pour eux-mêmes et une petite chapelle. La première messe fut dite dans cette chapelle en 1880. La mission était située à environ un mille au nord de l'emplacement

actuel du village. On voit encore en cet endroit un cimetière et une petite chapelle de roche érigée comme monument au Père Desmarais, décédé à St. Lazare.

Le Père Favreau, O.M.I., devint curé en 1895. C'est à ce temps-là que M. Delphis Chartier dirigea la construction d'une église de pierre. Monseigneur Adélard Langevin, archevêque de St. Boniface, présida à la bénédiction et ouverture officielle de ce nouvel édifice.

La paroisse n'a pas de documents pour la paroisse avant 1918 donc il y a peu de détails de l'histoire de l'église pour cette époque. On sait que le Père Charles Maillard succéda le Père Favreau, comme curé et demeura dans ce poste jusqu'en 1905. le Père Hogue vint ensuite jusqu'en 1910. Le Père Lalonde devint le prochain pasteur de 1910 à 1921.

En 1918, lors d'une visite pastorale, Monseigneur incluses dans cette missive:

- (1) Eriger une chapelle temporaire
- (2) Que la nouvelle église soit construite sur le terrain près du presbytère.
- (3) Accepter l'offre de M. Luc Tremblay pour la vente de deux lots pour la construction de la nouvelle église.

Il donna aussi la permission au Père Barton de vendre le terrain de la vieille mission, à l'exception du site de la vieille église et du cimetière et de disposer du lot du village où était auparavant l'église détruite par le feu.

M. Oscar Dupont fut l'ouvrier entrepreneur de la nouvelle église. La nouvelle structure de bois et de "plaster-board" mesurait à l'extérieur quatre-vingts pieds par trente-quatre. L'intérieur mesurait quarante-huit pieds, avec un chœur de seize pieds et une sacristie attenante, également de seize pieds. De plus un jubé de seize pieds, réservé aux chantes,



St. Lazare Parish, 1919-1923.

s'élevait au-dessus de l'entrée principale. La sacristie servirait de chapelle en hiver et à l'occasion de salle paroissiale. Le coût à la paroisse pour l'érection du nouveau sanctuaire fut du montant de dix-neuf mille dollars.

Cinq mois, jour pour jour après l'incendie, le Saint-Sacrement fut de nouveau transporté dans une église par le Père Barton. L'église fut bénie officiellement par Monseigneur Sinnott le 18 novembre, 1923. C'est à cette occasion que les paroissiens demandèrent à l'évêque de se servir de son influence pour amener dans la communauté des religieuses enseignantes.

Le 16 mars, 1924, le chemin de la croix, qui avait été réchappé du feu, fut de nouveau béni et installé dans le lieu de culte.

Le 21 octobre 1924, permission fut demandée et obtenue par le Père Barton à Monseigneur Sinnott pour faire usage de l'église pour un bazar.

En 1925, le Père Barton fut transféré à la paroisse de Ste. Anne à Winnipeg et fut remplacé jusqu'en 1928 par le Père Alexandre D'Eschambault.

La bénédiction de l'école Decorby a eu lieu le 10 février, 1928. Monseigneur Sinnott présida à la cérémonie assisté de notre pasteur à l'époque, le Père D'Eschambault.

Le 5 juin 1928, le Père Arthur Desmarais devint notre curé mais pour une courte durée car la maladie l'emporta dans peu de temps. Il mourut le 8 novembre 1929 à l'âge de quarante-trois ans. Il fut inhumé dans le cimetière de St. Lazare où une humble chapelle de roche lui fut érigée comme monument.

L'abbé L. Payette succédé par l'abbé H. Dansereau furent responsables du ministère de la paroisse pendant quelques mois après le décès du Père Alfred A. Sinnott, archevêque de Winnipeg, confirma 52 enfants et adultes. A cette occasion, Monseigneur Sinnott remarqua dans son rapport que l'église paroissiale est située trop loin du village, qui s'est localisé près des voies du chemin de fer. Notant que l'église est en grand besoin de réparations, il suggéra faire venir un architecte pour juger si le coût et la possibilité de réparer les dommages seraient rentables. Si le tout serait trop coûteux, il recommanda de bâtir une nouvelle église et cette fois-ci de la construire au village. Comme résultat de cette enquête, une nouvelle église faite en bois fut érigée sur la rue principale, à l'endroit actuel du bureau d'assurances de Robert Selby.

Dans sa visite pastorale du 19 janvier, 1919, Monseigneur Sinnott, bénit un nouveau chemin de Croix — celui qui est présentement dans l'église et à cette occasion a dû aussi bénir l'église. Le 8 juin, 1921, il confirma 26 enfants et deux adultes. Au point de vue

administratif, il prit la décision d'acheter la maison appartenant au Père Lalonde et qui sert encore de presbytère aujourd'hui. Il conseilla de bâtir une autre église parce que celle qui existait ne suffisait plus aux besoins de la population toujours croissante de la paroisse.

Le 22 avril, 1923, une nouvelle statue de St. Joseph avec l'Enfant-Jésus, don du Père Edward J. Barton, fut bénie. Cela précéda de peu une catastrophe qui survint au mois de mai.

En effet, le 20 mai 1923, à 6:55 a.m., quand le Père Barton se rendit à l'église pour sonner l'Angelus, il découvrit un feu dans la sacristie, au sud-ouest de l'église. Fermant la porte de la sacristie, il se hâta d'alerter ses voisins pour lui aider à combattre le feu. Le Saint Sacrement, fut sorti de la sacristie de justesse et transporté dans la chapelle du presbytère. Les flammes étaient trop avancées pour qu'il soit possible de sauver les vêtements et objets dont on se servait pour la liturgie. On concentra donc à sortir ce que contenait l'église. On parvint à tout réchapper sauf l'orgue — grand autel, autels latéraux, statues, confessionnaux, chemin de croix, sièges et tapis. La grosse cloche (qui avait été consacrée en 1896) fut descendue du clocher sans être endommagée. En dedans d'une heure, la petite église, fut totalement détruite par le feu. Le Père Barton, dépourvu de vêtements liturgiques, sans calices etc., ne pouvait même pas célébrer la messe. Avec le consentement de Monseigneur Sinnott, les vêtements furent empruntés de la chapelle de Rivers. Quatre vêtements, un calice et un lutrin furent aussi fournis de la chapelle de Ste. Madeleine, Manitoba.

Monseigneur Sinnott, dans une lettre datée du 23 mai 1923, exprime sa sympathie à la communauté de St. Lazare et les recommandations suivantes furent Desmarais. L'abbé Paul-Emile Halde fut ensuite nommé curé en 1930. La même année, les religieuses de la Présentation de Marie vinrent s'établir à St. Lazare. Deux ans plus tard, le couvent fut construit pour les soeurs et elles y habitent encore jusqu'à ce jour.

En 1936, l'abbé Jacques Bertrand devint notre curé après le départ du curé Halde. En 1945, l'abbé Ubald Paquette fut notre prêtre jusqu'à l'automne de 1960.

En 1957 sous la conduite de leur zélé pasteur, la paroisse lança une campagne de souscription financière pour amasser des fonds pour construire encore une autre église. Le succès de cette propagande dépassa toute espérance prévue. L'abbé Gérard Renier, devenu notre prêtre en 1960, fut encouragé par les paroissiens à planifier la réalisation de ce projet. Après plusieurs réunions qui eurent lieu en 1961, la décision fut prise d'accepter les plans soumis par

l'architecte, Roy Sellors. Au printemps de l'année 1962, la paroisse engageait Louis Ducharme et Associés, entrepreneur-general et les travaux commencent au mois de juillet. Le dimanche soir, 22 juillet, le Père Z. A. Baczkowski, curé de Dauphin, vint présider à la bénédiction du terrain et à la levée de la première pelletée de terre. Favorisés par une température idéale, les travaux allèrent bon train tout l'automne, si bien que l'église a pu servir le 23 décembre pour les messes du dimanche et pour la fête de Noël. L'entrepreneur vint achever les derniers travaux au cours de l'hiver 1963. L'église a été bâtie en briques. Il y a un sous-bassement partiel sous la sacristie et le sanctuaire, qui comprend chambres à fournaise et d'entreposage, salle de bain ainsi qu'une salle qui peut servir pour réunions des organisations paroissiales. Dans son ensemble, les dimensions de l'église sont de 132 pieds et 10 pouces par 50 pieds et 8 pouces à l'extérieur avec hauteur de trente-cinq pieds. L'église coûta \$114,000.00.

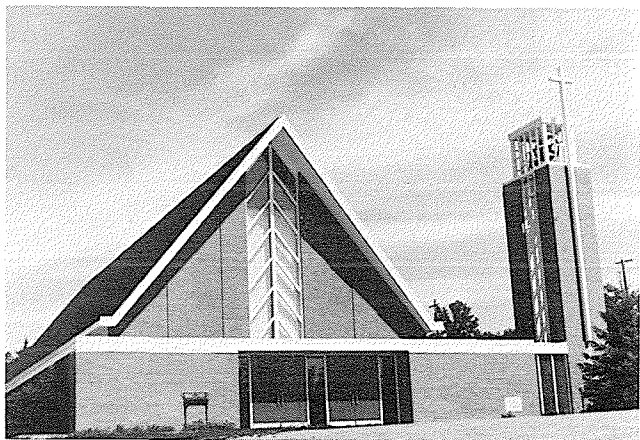
Monsignor N. J. Chartrand, chancelier est venu bénir la pierre angulaire le dimanche du 12 mai 1963. Le 17 juin 1963, Son Eminence George Bernard Flahiff, C.S.A., archevêque de Winnipeg bénit la nouvelle église.

Notre paroisse fut desservie pour deux ans par le curé Edouard Morand après le départ du Père Regnier en 1970. En 1972, le Père Maurice Comeault fut nommé curé jusqu'en 1977 suivi du Père Aurèle Prefontaine qui est encore parmi nous.

Nous sommes particulièrement chanceux d'avoir encore un prêtre résidant à St. Lazare. La communauté religieuse est vivante et nous comptons 120 familles catholiques avec population d'environ six-cent-cinquante.

Missionnaires et curés de St. Lazare:

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| (1) Missionnaires Jules Décorby, O.M.I., St. Germain, Camp-
eau, Le Page et Proulx | 1860-1895 |
| (2) Révérend Père Favreau, O.M.I. | 1895- |
| (3) Révérend Père Charles Maillard | -1905 |



Present Church.

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| (4) M. L'abbé Hogue | 1905-1909 |
| (5) M. L'abbé Deshaies | 1909-1910 |
| (6) M. L'abbé Wilfred Lalonde | 1910-1921 |
| (7) M. L'abbé Edward Barton | 1921-1925 |
| (8) M. L'abbé Alexandre D'Eschambault | 1925-1928 |
| (9) M. L'abbé Arthur Desmarais | 1928-1929 |
| (10) M. L'abbé L. Payette | -1930 |
| (11) M. L'abbé H. Dansereau, vicaire | -1930 |
| (12) M. L'abbé Paul-Emile Halde | 1930-1936 |
| (13) M. L'abbé Jacques Bertrand | 1936-1945 |
| (14) M. L'abbé Ubald Paquette | 1945-1960 |
| (15) M. L'abbé Gérard Regnier | 1960-1970 |
| (16) M. L'abbé Edouard Morand | 1970-1972 |
| (17) Père Maurice Comeault | 1972-1977 |
| (18) Père Aurèle (Bernard) Prefontaine | 1977- |

Bazar

Le bazar annuel était d'importance primordial dans la vie sociale et religieuse de St. Lazare. Voici un article paru dans La Liberté avant 1930.

Parlons d'abord du magnifique bazar qui vient de se terminer. Organisé par un comité élu par les paroissiens, ayant à sa tête MM. Oscar Dupont et Joseph Tremblay, le bazar devait nécessairement être un succès. Le concours entre les Dames de Sainte Anne et les enfants de Marie fut très intéressant; chacune avait à coeur de gagner, et en même temps d'aider à payer la dette qui pèse encore sur notre église. Le décompte a donné victoire aux Dames de Sainte Anne, ayant \$40.75 de plus que leurs chères adversaires. Les deux candidatures ont rapporté la somme de \$910.95. Si l'on ajoute à cela les recettes du comité on constate que le bazar a rapporté à la paroisse la somme de \$1,323.15.

Le bazar s'est terminé mardi soir par un discours du président. M. Oscar Dupont s'est déclaré très satisfait du résultat et a remercié tous ceux qui ont travaillé au succès du bazar, soit en envoyant des objets, soit en les achetant.

M. le curé a ensuite pris la parole. Il a d'abord félicité ses paroissiens et a ensuite déclaré que ses deux mois de séjour à Saint Lazare lui avaient appris qu'il aurait à traiter avec une population profondément chrétienne et très généreuse quand il s'agit des oeuvres paroissiales. Il a terminé en promettant de faire tout ce qu'il pourrait pour faire venir des religieuses qui prendraient charge de l'école Decorby.

Nous donnons ici la liste des principaux prix offerts au bazar et le nom des gagnants.

Service de manicure, donné par le comité du bazar, gagné par J. Jackson.

Commode, donnée par les familles Huberdeau, Cadieux, Guay et Prescott, gagnée par J. Wilson, Saint Lazare.

Chaise berceuse, donnée par Milles Simone et Marie Huberdau, gagnée par M. E.J. Ireland, Binscarth, Man.

Centre de table et buffet, donné par Mme Ernest

Bouchard, Fisher Branch, gagné par M. Origene Cadieux.

Couvrepieds et rideaux, donnés par Mlle Marguerite Dupont, gagnés par M. Lorenzo Trembly, Saint-Lazare.

Centre de table donné par les jeunes gens de Saint Lazare, gagné par M. Paul Decorby, Saint-Lazare.

Service de coutellerie, donné par Mlle Eva Chartier, gagné par M. Guy Selby, Saint-Lazare.

Service de dépecer, donné par M. Jules Decorby, gagné par Réginald Chartier, Saint-Lazare.

Tapis de table, donné par Mme Albert Bouvier,

Hudson Bay junction, gagné par M. Basile Piché, Saint-Lazare.

Service de toilette, donné par Mme Emile Chartier, gagné par Mme Tillman.

Couvertures de laine données par M et Mme Oscar Dupont, gagnées par Réginald Chartier.

Edredon, donné par Mme Israel Tremblay et Mme Henri Chartier gagné par Mme Jean Bouvier, Saint-Lazare.

Coussin en soie, donné par Mmes Eugène et Benoit Fouillard et John Selby, gagné par Mme Monday, Birtle, Man.



Soaking up the sun.



Sunday gathering.



Picnic.



Maison, JeanMarie Fouillard.

The First 100 Years

The First 100 Years

by Tom Dale

What motivated man, at some point in his lifetime to leave his comfortable surroundings and strike out for places unknown? No doubt during the mid part of the last century the thought of owning a piece of land was the main attraction and in western Canada it was there for the taking. Where the Assiniboine and Qu'Appelle rivers meet was an ideal place to begin a new life. The waterways were a means of travel and the proximity to Hudson Bay Co's Fort Ellice, on the ox trail from Winnipeg, gave them a

link with the outside world as well as a place to secure supplies. What ever the reason, come they did, enough of them that on July 7th, 1883 the Rural Municipality of Ellice was born. Although it was incorporated on this date, due to elections and the setting up of a governing body, the first meeting was not held until Jan. 8th, 1884. This was made up of the following personnel: Emerson Bligh-reeve, with J. C. Hunter, J. R. Arnold, Wm. McDonald, W. C. O'Keefe, J. Stephen and P. R. Davey as councillors. (Note that in the beginning the council consisted of six members. This lasted until 1887 when only four



First Council Chambers of R.M. of Ellice.

wards were believed to be sufficient. Again in later years they returned to the original number.)

By-law No. I to appoint a Secretary-Treasurer for the R.M. of Ellice. It read: "Be it resolved that Charles H. Jones be appointed as Sec. Treas. at a salary of \$125.00 per annum." So began the first 100 years of the Municipality!!

In early years meetings were held in private homes, the first being the residence of Wm. Boles. They were granted an allowance of \$1.00 or \$2.00 per meeting, possibly depending on the length of the session. As the number of residents increased a more permanent and central office became necessary. Fort Ellice, being the hub of activity, was chosen. This was to be the home of the Council until 1902.

During this time a settlement to be known as St. Lazare had blossomed some three miles north of the Fort. Since the trading post was gradually being phased out Council decided to move its office to the new site. Space was rented from Father Favreau (possibly at the Mission) and the first meeting was held at the new location on January 6th, 1902.

April 4th, 1903, Council purchased a site for chambers and a stable, and tenders were let for same. A meeting of May 30th selected F. McPherson as successful bidder for a sum of \$500.00. This office was located where the Fortunat Chartier original home is. In later years the stable was sold and Council chambers disposed of. A new site was purchased on the corner lot, (beside Bob Selby's present office). It boasted an upper suite of rooms and a basement. This was to serve as office space until 1971. When it became apparent that the old building was beyond keeping in repair, Council decided a new chamber was desirable. Minutes of meetings prove that discussion of this matter took place. Delegations of ratepayers attended, with arguments for, and against. After all the pros and cons had been weighed, it was decided not to build, but rent office space from the village of St. Lazare. This is the existing meeting place of the R.M. of Ellice.

With our country in the financial mess it is today we may wonder how our forefathers existed. For example: In 1903 those of the municipality who received assistance were allowed 75 cents to \$1.00 per week. Wages for road work: man and team \$3.50 per day. Labourer: \$1.50 per day. Road commissioner \$1.50 per day. D. Chartier operated a ferry over the Assiniboine River in 1916 for the fabulous sum of \$32.00 per month. In the year of 1910, tenders had been let for a bridge over the Assiniboine River. Algoma Steel Bridge Co. was the successful bidder for \$4,885.00. I wonder what the replacement cost would be today?

It appears that gophers caused much concern to

the residents. Many entries in the minutes note the purchase of strychnine "to be distributed to responsible ratepayers." However, one motion was very interesting. It reads as follows:

Resolution March 2nd, 1893

By Bauden & Robertson:

That the clerk be hereby instructed to write to the Minister of Agriculture in regard to the destruction of gophers and this council would suggest that the Provincial Secretary be instructed to communicate with M. Pasteur, Paris France, in regard to inoculating gophers with microbes for their destruction.

Wouldn't our environmentalists of the present day have fun with that one? However, the discovery of S.A.R.M. gopher poison brought the little devils under control.

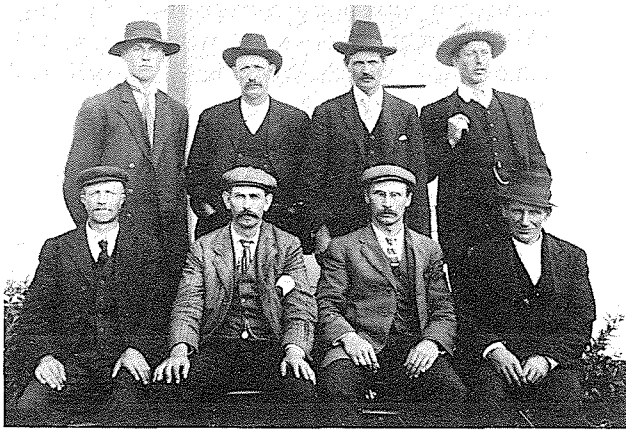
Out-breaks of epidemics in the municipality were also a grave concern. The flu after World War I, polio in the 1930's and the smallpox in the late 1890's. In this outbreak special constables were hired to enforce quarantine laws. Buildings were acquired for confinement of patients, they were known as "pest houses." One of these was the old mission church and a resolution of April 10, 1901 reads as follows:

By Selby and Ebborn:

That the action of the Reeve re: the burning of the old Mission Church and other buildings be ratified and that the compensation agreed upon be paid to Father Favreau. (The amount agreed upon at a previous meeting was \$200.00.)

The discovery of vaccines and inoculations must have eased the burden of our council a great deal as health has forever been one of their greatest problems. However, with the combined efforts of our councillors and the Doctors they have appointed as Health Officers, they have done a commendable job. The R.M. of Ellice has given their neighbouring municipalities full support in the building and maintaining of hospitals. They have aided in ambulance purchases for both Birtle and Russell districts. With council members on both boards they keep in close contact with all aspects of health care for the municipality. The names of some doctors who served as health officers are Drs. Wheeler, Lampman, Flloyd, Munro and Edwards.

Building and maintaining of roads in the municipality has been a great concern for the council over the years. The Assiniboine and Qu'Appelle rivers were the main mode of travel in the early days. River boats were responsible for the transportation of the first settlers. As Hudson's Bay Co. phased out its trading post at Fort Ellice, the boats discontinued their regular runs. This left the council with the necessity of improving the road system so that freight could be hauled from the rail centers which were



Council in 1910. Back Row: Leo Leavens, John Corr, Anthony MacTier, C. Wroth, J. M. Fouillard, Wm. O'Keeffe, H. Tillman, Wm. Crichton.

moving closer each year. Ferries served well as river crossings for many years but eventually were replaced by bridges. Algoma Steel spanned the Assiniboine in 1910. Decorby and Dupont were awarded a contract for the Qu'Appelle in 1916 but due to lack of the proper equipment to complete the work it was later turned over to Buchanan & Co.

The first mention of a road grader was in 1903. It was obtained from Sawyer Massey Co., no purchase price mentioned. Although Massey has always been noted for the superiority of their machinery (their opinion), I am sure the grader did not last until July 19th, 1944 when the motion as follows appears:

By Fouillard and Falloon:

That we purchase a new #22 blade grader from Powell Equipment Co. Purchase price \$1,290.00

The first motor grader was acquired from Kane Tractor & Equipment for \$4,625.00. Powell got in on the act again in March, 1952 with a No. 12 machine at a cost of \$9,250.00. As the years progressed so did the price of Powell motor graders. A new machine in 1964 was quoted at \$38,880.00 but here I must state that a most generous offer of \$20,880.00 trade in on the old patrol was made. However, the last quote from Powell was in the neighborhood of \$212,000.00, less plow and wing. Council purchased a Champion machine for much less. The road system in the municipality added to the fact that the shield for most improved roads has been awarded on different occasions justified purchase of this equipment.

Until 1909 when "two telephone lines" were constructed in the municipality, the only mode of communication was by word of mouth or mail. None the less current affairs were not ignored as a suggestion of a May 14th, 1910 meeting indicates:

That the clerk be instructed to draft a resolution of condolence for the R.M. of Ellice on the death of

King Edward VII also expressing loyalty to King George V and resolution be forwarded to Governor General at Ottawa.

Little mention is made of the two World Wars excepting grants to Red Cross, and purchase of war bonds. January 2nd, 1940 a resolution was presented that read:

By Wilson and Traquair:

That J. A. Glen be asked to use whatever means possible to have an airfield in this municipality.

I assisted on a survey crew for the above but it never got past the planning stage.

On April 24, 1945 a special meeting was called at which time council endorsed a proposal by Manitoba Hydro for rural electrification. This was probably the greatest advancement in the municipality since it was incorporated in 1883.

Although the R.M. of Ellice is not less in acreage than other municipalities, its revenue bearing land is about thirty five percent less. This is due to the area known as the sand plains. The wide tree-less expanse was attractive to the early settlers but it proved to be poor farmland. Light sandy soil and the drought of the 1930's saw most of those who had tried to grub a living out of it give up in disgust. There is little mention of negotiations with the provincial Government as to rental of land but a brief notation of July 5, 1938 mentions P.F.R.A. Some 286 quarter sections were involved and by the early 1940's it had been fenced and was ready to receive cattle. This finally gave the R.M. some revenue from this non-productive land.

Wisely, all mineral rights were reserved by the municipality. When the oil companies began exploration in this part of Manitoba in the late 1940's leases were let which increased monies collected from land that had contributed very little in previous years.

The discovery of potash has caused much speculation since the late 1960's and plans for a mine near McAuley have been tabled by the Provincial Government for the time being.

As the rental agreement was soon to expire with the Government, they expressed their desire to purchase the P.F.R.A. acreage. Lengthy discussion followed this proposal, with delegations, for and against, attending meetings. When a vote was finally cast by council it ended in a tie. This left Reeve Crump with the responsibility of casting a deciding vote. He voted in favor of sale to the Government for the sum of \$215,000.00.

Although the sale of this land and the sale of mineral rights thereof has helped financially, agriculture is still the main industry of this area. Therefore the collection of land taxes is still the greatest source of revenue. An interesting bit of information is that in

1909 there were 205 tax receipts issued for a total of \$7,115.00 for an average of \$34.70 per receipt. In 1982 the total issue was 191 amounting to \$177,178.00 or an average of \$927.00.

One more bit of information was of interest to me, personally. October 29, 1910 Thomas Wilson purchased the SE 2-17-28 and the NW 1-17-28 for arrears of taxes for the sum of \$89.94. The SE 2-17-28 is where our present residence is located. Oh, for the good old days!!

Anything written about the R.M. of Ellice would not be complete without mention of the people who have served it so faithfully for the past 100 years. Though each and every one of them were dedicated men (we have not had a lady councillor in the first 100 years), it would be impossible to do a profile on each one. Therefore, I will make mention of just a few.

The hand writing of some of the first clerks is a beauty to behold. Beyond a doubt the one who excelled was J. C. Wilkinson. He served as clerk for many years, then resigned to become Reeve for two years 1901-03. J. E. Selby is the record holder for the longest term in office, April 1919 to 1959, or forty long years. His father T. T. Selby had filled the position briefly in 1906 and John was succeeded by his son Brian for three years, 1959-62.

Harry Chapple followed Brian from 1963 to 1975. One of his entries proved that clerks are not completely humorless. After a meeting of July 24, 1975 he wrote in the minutes:

"Al Anderson of Powell Equipment attended and took up considerable time presenting slides of a motor grader. The slides did not have a great impact on the "captive" audience as all have seen graders in operation for many years. Al also made a very friendly offer to take the lemon grader off our hands for a very substantial financial consideration. Refreshments were served to terminate the meeting." (Wonder what the flavor was?)

After the sudden death of Harry in late 1975, Claude Chartier was chosen to fill the position of clerk and is still in charge of the office at the present time.

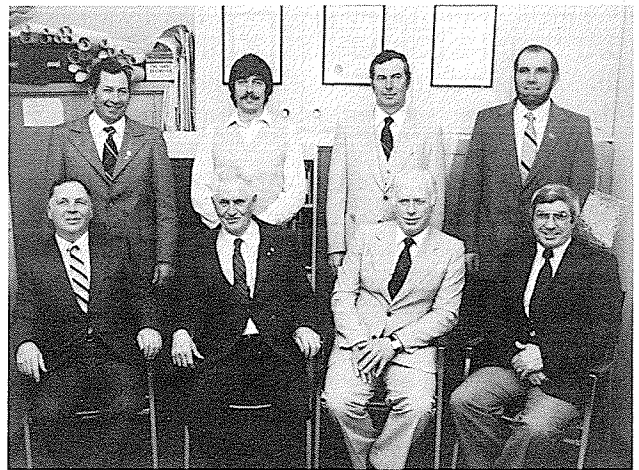
In the early years, probably due to the fact there were less distractions, more interest was shown in local affairs. Until Eugene (Niggy) Simard was honored with a dinner and presented with a gold watch for twenty five years as councillor no one had served more than a few terms. The change is evident by the fact that three of those presently on the board have a total of 54 years to their credit. Eric Wotton holds the record with 27 consecutive years.

As different council members resigned, motions were entered regretting their leaving but not until 1913 is there mention of presentations. The Decem-

ber 20th meeting noted the resignation of Reeve O'Keefe and council honored him with a "beautiful meerscham pipe". W. C. Wroth held the office of Reeve for the longest period, twenty five years, 1914 to 1939.

V. R. Falloon is one of the residents of the municipality who was chairman on two separate occasions. His first term was from 1953 to 56. At this time he was forced to leave for health reasons. He returned in 1961 until 66 when his health again forced him to retire. It may be noted here that Vernon Falloon was the youngest councillor to be elected when he sat on council from 1944 to 47. The other Reeves serving more than one term were E. Bligh, W. C. O'Keefe and G. Wilson.

The present Reeve, Mr. George Boucher, was elected to office in 1975. His will be the duty of ending the first 100 years of Rural Municipality of Ellice. We wish him and the members of his council, E. Wotton, E. Ireland, D. Fouillard, M. Lewis, A. and V. Deschambault every success in the beginning of the next 100 years. We must remember that they, as those who have served all the decades before them are dedicated to their cause. Our well being and that of the municipality is their main concern.



Present Council of the R.M. of Ellice. Back row, L. to R. — George Boucher (Reeve), A. Deschambault, M. Lewis, V. Deschambault. Front row, L. to R. — D. Fouillard, E. Wotton, E. Ireland, C. Chartier (Sec-Treas.)

It certainly is not for monetary gain that prompts any one to become a councillor. Having gone through the records I know what their expense allowances are and I feel they must be on the short end many times. So, good luck gentlemen, and may the next 100 years be as fulfilling as the past 100.

I cannot end this without mention of two entries in the minutes of the November 10th, 1982 meeting!

Mrs. Jackie Selby and Mrs. Lillian Falloon attended re: Centennial Book and invitations to cele-

bration. (Good luck ladies to you and all your helpers.)

Also Harry Graham attended with the news that a company is interested in spending approximately \$1,000,000.00 (one million) on a film of St. Lazare and the Riding Mountains.

So keep smiling ratepayers you may be on "Candid Camera."

R.M. of Ellice Councillors

Arnold, J. R.	1884	Falloon, S. J.	1914-20
Bauden, W. G.	1888-93	Falloon, V. R.	1944-47
Burdett, C.	1894-06	Fouillard, B.	1927-48
Burdett, R.	1893	Fouillard, D. J.	1967-
Broomfield, W.	1920-31	Fouillard, J. M.	1905-10
	34-42	Ferguson, R.	1920
Chartier, D.	1899-01	Fletcher, J.	1886-87
Collyer, R.	1895-97	Fraser, J.	1949-54
Corr, J.	1902-04	Fulham, A.	1955-66
	09-19	Grigg, J.	1892-94
Corr, R.	1942-51	Guay, L.	1911-13
Crichton, W.	1909-13	Hamilton, J. W.	1936-41
Crichton	1942-66	Hayden, R.	1913-14
Dashwood, G.	1887	Hesketh, R.	1889
Davey, P. R.	1884-86	Horning, A.	1953-66
Decorby, J.	1921-26	Howes, R.	1889-91
Decorby, R.	1921-22	Huberdeau, A.	1979-81
	39-44	Huberdeau, P.	1951-60
Deschambault, A.	1982-	Hunter, A.	1898
Deschambault, V.	1971-	Hunter, J. C.	1884
Dunlop, G.	1894-95	Ireland, E.	1980-
	02-03	Johnston, I.	1904-08
Ebbern, G.	1900-01	Johnston, R. M.	1948-52
Ellis, J.	1887-88	Laycock, R.	1907-09
Falloon, A. S.	1921-37	Laycock, W.	1892
Falloon, M. E.	1968-78	Lamb, S. W.	1918-19

Leavens, L.	1910	Woods, W. P.	1885
Lewarton, A.	1911-19	Workman, A.	1885
Lewis, M.	1967-	Wotton, E.	1956-
Little, H.	1918-39	Wroth, C.	1909-13
Martin, E.	1917-20	Wilkinson, J.	1886-87
McCamon, H.	1885		and 89
McDonald, A. F. ...	1900-01		
McDonald, H.	1962-70		
McDonald, W.	1884-88		

Reeves

Bligh, E.	1884		
	and 86-88		
Boucher, G.	1975-		
Collyer, C.	1898-00		
Crump, F.	1967-74		
Falloon, V.	1953-56		
	and 61-66		
Grigg, J.	1895-97		
Hunter, A.	1901-resign		
Hunter, J. C.	1885		
McCrinkle, G.	1957-60		
O'Keefe, W. C.	1891		
	and 04-13		
Little, H.	1940-52		
Wilkinson, C. J. ...	1901-03		
Wilson, G.	1889-90		
	92-94		
Wroth, C.	1914-39		

Secretary-Treasurer

Chapple, H.	1963-75		
Chartier, C.	1975-		
Denham, H.	1915-16		
	17-19		
Jones, C.	1884-85		
Nelson, P.	1901-06		
Selby, B.	1959-62		
Selby, J. E.	1919-59		
Selby, T. T.	1906		
Tillman, H.	1906-15		
	and 16-17		
Wilkinson, J. C. ...	1886-01		



Good Roads Meeting, 1917.

Missionnaires et Prêtres de St. Lazare

Un des premiers missionnaires de la région fut un ministre anglican du nom de **Thomas Cook**. La mission avait été établie au Fort Ellice en 1854, et les missionnaires visitaient aussi les forts Pelly et Qu'Appelle. Sans doute, il appréciait les confort du fort quand il revenait de ses maintes tournées de mission. L'église était en dehors du fort mais un logis avait été accommodé pour lui dans les confins du fort. M. Cook était bien estimé de tous ceux qui le connaissaient et louangé pour son courage. En novembre 1864, malgré la mort de ses deux fils, dans l'espace de dix jours, il conduisit les cérémonies religieuses du dimanche. Il fut cité par ses supérieurs pour son travail admirable parmi les indiens. Quelques années après la mort de ses fils, il fut nommé aux environs de Portage la Prairie, dans une mission où il n'avait plus besoin de voyager comme auparavant.

En 1880, le père J. DeCorby, O.M.I., fonda la mission qu'il nomma Saint-Lazare, d'après son village natif en France. A cette époque Saint-Lazare faisait partie du diocèse de Saint-Boniface mais après 1916, la paroisse fut désignée au diocèse de Winnipeg.

En 1895, le père L. Favreau, Oblat, fut le deuxième pasteur de St. Lazare. Dans les documents officiels du diocèse, on fait mention du fait qu'en 1897 les paroissiens firent une pétition d'environ 70 signatures à Mgr Langevin pour avoir la permission de bâtir une nouvelle église en pierre pour remplacer celle faite en rondins. On promettait de fournir les matériaux et la main-d'oeuvre nécessaires.

Le père Charles Maillard remplaça le père Favreau en 1902 et resta jusqu'en 1904.

1905-1909. Père Hormidas Hogue Biographie donnée par sa nièce Mme Joseph Malo. L'abbé Hormidas Hogue naquit en 1897, à St. David, comté Yamaska, P.Q. La famille s'établit au Manitoba en 1883. Après ses études élémentaires, Hormidas fréquenta le Collège St. Boniface où l'appel de Dieu se fit entendre. Monseigneur Langevin était alors évêque et l'envoya au grand séminaire pour ses études

théologiques. Il fut ordonné prêtre en 1903. Jeune prêtre, il exerça du ministère à St. Adélarde et vint à St. Lazare en 1905. Il fut ensuite curé à Starbuck et de là fut à Elie pour plusieurs années. Homme simple, de nature sensible et délicate, il partageait les épreuves autant que les joies de ses paroissiens qui l'appréciaient grandement. Miné par la maladie, l'abbé Hogue se retira à l'Hospice Taché où il mourut le 16 février, 1945. Ses funérailles eurent lieu à St. Boniface et il fut inhumé dans le cimetière auprès de confrères décédés.

En 1910, le père Deshaies fut curé pour très peu de temps.

De 1910 à 1921, le père C. Wilfred Lalonde dirigea la paroisse. On se rappelle de lui comme un prêtre très sévère. En 1914, les paroissiens promettent de donner \$1530.00 pour la fondation d'un couvent de religieuses à Saint-Lazare.

De 1921-1925 le père Edward Barton fut curé. Natif d'Angleterre, il parlait le français couramment et pouvait desservir une population de majorité française.

De 1925-1928 le père Alexandre Deschambault, Biographie donnée par son neveu Arthur Deschambault.

Alexandre, né le cinq janvier, 1893 était le fils du Docteur Alexandre Deschambault et de Corinne Marcotte, et venait d'une famille de cinq enfants. Il fréquenta le Collège St. Boniface et entra ensuite au noviciat des oblats. Ayant une maladie de coeur, le régime des oblats était trop rigoureux pour lui et il entra donc au séminaire de St. Boniface.

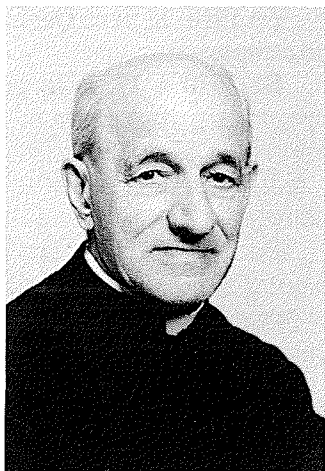
Il fut ordonné prêtre en 1921, en même temps que son frère Antoine qui devint plus tard monsignor. Alexandre fut vicaire à Ste. Rose du Lac et ensuite curé à McCreary, St. Lazare et Grande Clairière.

La maladie l'emporta en 1929. Il était reconnu pour sa charité, son dévouement et l'affection qu'il portait à ses ouailles.

1928-1929. Les pères Arthur Desmarais et Joseph Payette firent du ministère à St. Lazare durant cette période.

L'abbé Arthur Desmarais, né en 1886, natif de St. Pie de Guire, Québec fut ordonné prêtre à Nicolet, Québec en 1910. Il devint curé de St. Lazare au mois d'août 1928 et mourut dans son presbytère le lundi 4 novembre 1929. Ses funérailles eurent lieu le vendredi de la même semaine avec son frère Adélard, curé de Grantham, Québec, comme officiant. Monseigneur A. Sinnott, archevêque de Winnipeg, plusieurs prêtres ainsi qu'un grand nombre de fidèles assistèrent à la cérémonie. Il fut inhumé dans le cimetière de St. Lazare où une chapelle de pierre, qui existe encore, lui fut érigée comme monument. Malgré son court séjour à St. Lazare le curé Desmarais fut estimé de tous.

1930. Le père Horace Dansereau, né le 11 juin 1895 à Verchères, Québec, fut ordonné prêtre le 14 avril 1928. Il devint pasteur à Grande Clairière en mai 1929 et à l'automne devint assistant-chapelain à l'Hôpital Miséricorde de Winnipeg. Il fut pasteur à St. Lazare de novembre 1929 jusqu'en avril 1930. Ensuite il fut curé à McCreary jusqu'en 1935 et de là prit la cure de la paroisse de San Clara où il mourut subitement en 1973.



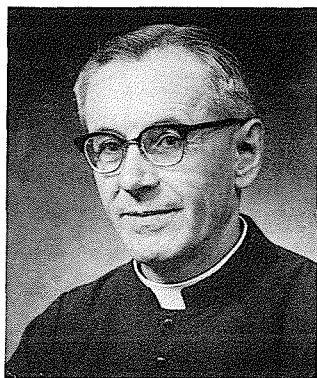
Father Halde

1930-1936. M. l'abbé Paul Emile Halde naquit à Saint Alexandre d'Iberville, Québec en 1885. Il fut ordonné prêtre en 1910. Il arriva à Grande Clairière comme vicaire en janvier, 1911. (Il aimait raconter comment il avait quitté Montréal à la pluie battante et arrivait à Grande Clairière où il faisait - 40 degrés). Dès 1912 il fut le premier curé de Deloraine et ensuite il exerça un fructueux ministère à plusieurs endroits, (Amaranth, McCreary, Laurier, etc.). Après St. Lazare il fut curé durant deux ans à Dunrea et ensuite il fut curé à St-François-Xavier de 1938, jusqu'en 1963. Il s'est retiré à St. François et c'est là qu'il est décédé en avril 1976. C'est au printemps de 1930 qu'il arriva à Saint-Lazare. Ayant à coeur l'éducation de la jeunesse, il a obtenu que les religieuses de la

Présentation de Marie viennent enseigner à l'école du village. Effectivement, elles arrivèrent à temps pour enseigner à l'automne 1930. C'était les années difficiles de la Dépression. Il était homme à tout faire. Architecte à ses heures, il dessina les plans du couvent. Ensuite, avec les paroissiens, il se mit à l'oeuvre lui aussi (de ses mains) pour travailler à la construction du couvent qui existe toujours aujourd'hui, d'où les Filles de la Bienheureuse Mère Marie Rivier continuent à se dévouer au service de la population. Les plus anciens de la paroisse se rappellent qu'ils travaillaient à dix cents de l'heure et donnaient une journée de travail gratis par semaine à sa construction. M. le curé Halde n'était pas prédicateur; c'était par son dévouement, sa charité et son esprit de service qu'il donnait à tous le témoignage de sa grande et profonde foi chrétienne. Bricoleur hors de pair, il dotait le couvent et le presbytère d'un système d'aqueduc; cela de nombreuses années avant que le village en ait un. Prêtre missionnaire, il était bâtisseur d'église (et de couvent). Toujours intéressé à améliorer la situation de ses gens, à plusieurs endroits où il allait comme curé, il s'ingéniait pour installer une système de téléphone et faisait venir le pouvoir électrique. Assez bon électricien, il "brochait" lui même les résidences et autres bâtisses. Il s'amusait à être apiculteur (producteur de miel). Par sa détermination il a obtenu que le village s'appelle "St. Lazare" et non 'Lazare' comme le voulait la compagnie du chemin de fer.

1936-1945. M. l'abbé Jacques Bertrand naquit à Saint Boniface le 4 décembre 1891. Il fit ses études primaires et son cours classique au Petit Séminaire. Il alla à Montréal pour son grand séminaire et fut ordonné prêtre à St. Boniface par Monseigneur Béliveau le 20 décembre 1914. Vicaire successivement à Ste. Rose du Lac, à Dunrea et à St. Eustache, durant quelques années il fut curé de Selkirk et de St. Vital (Fort Garry) en même temps. Ensuite il fut nommé curé à Grande Clairière et Ste. Amélie. Il desservit la paroisse de St Lazare 1936 à 1945. Enfin il exerça son ministère à Dunrea de 1945 à 1960. Il s'est retiré à St. Boniface et il est décédé au mois d'août 1967. Doué d'un grand talent de la parole, il était bon orateur. Partout où il est allé, son ministère était mouvementé. D'un caractère turbulent, il aimait les controverses et se trouvait souvent impliqué dans toutes sortes de conflits mais il n'avait pas de méchanceté; fondamentalement, il avait bon coeur. Avec un sourire les anciens se rappellent encore de ses prouesses impossibles au volant de son auto. Les anecdotes à ce sujet ne tarissent pas!

1945-1960. L'abbé Ubald Paquette, naquit le 7 décembre 1909 à St. Eustache, Québec. Le père Paquette perdit sa mère très jeune et fut élevé par une

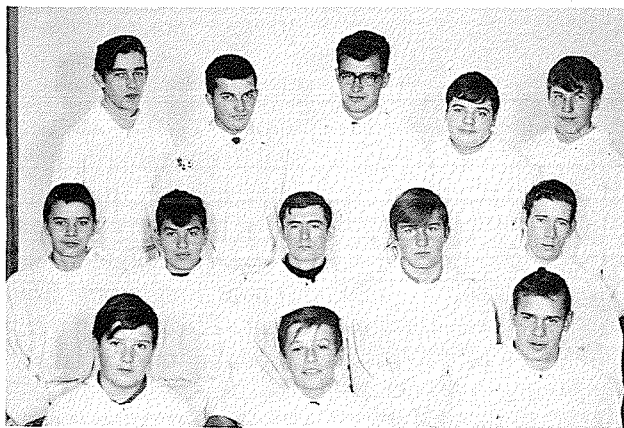


L'Abbé Ubald Paquette.

belle-mère (née Bastien). Il fut ordonné prêtre en 1936. Il appartenait à l'archidiocèse de Montréal et la première année après son ordination il fut surveillant au collège Ste. Thérèse où il avait fait son cours classique. De 1937-1940 il fut vicaire à Ste. Rose de Laval et en 1941 il devint vicaire à St-Jean-Berchmans. La même année il vint à Winnipeg, sous l'insistance de Monsignor Bastien, cousin de sa belle-mère, pour aider dans les paroisses françaises du diocèse de Winnipeg. Il fut assistant du vieux curé de St. Eustache jusqu'à la mort celui-ci et desservit ensuite cette paroisse jusqu'en 1945. Il devint alors curé à St. Lazare jusqu'en 1960. De 1960 à 1970 il fut pasteur à St. Eustache ensuite à Laurier jusqu'en 1982. Durant son séjour à St. Lazare, le curé Paquette initia la campagne de souscription pour ammasser des fonds pour la construction d'une nouvelle église. Il travailla aussi à améliorer les alentours de l'église et du presbytère, car il se plaisait à travailler dehors pendant l'été. Il est présentement retiré à Ste. Rose du Lac et dit encore sa messe tous les jours aux "Trois Villas", au Foyer Gendreau ou aux Leisure Apartments.

1960-1970 L'abbé Gérard Régnier, fils de Marc Régnier et de Germaine Morin, est né le 27 mai 1931. (Il est issu de vieilles familles de la province, les Morin arrivant à St. François en 1872 et la famille Régnier en 1878.) Il fit ses études primaires à St. François, à l'école Morgan. C'est à St. Boniface qu'il fit son cours classique et ses études pour la prêtrise. (Bachelier-ès-Arts en 1951 et Bachelier en Théologie en 1955.) Il fut ordonné prêtre en 1955. Pour un an il fut vicaire à Dunrea et pour quatre ans vicaire à St. Paul Apôtre à Winnipeg (1956-1960). Il fut nommé curé de Saint-Lazare en 1960 où il demeura jusqu'en septembre 1970. Depuis, il été curé à Souris, Manitoba de 1970 à 1973; ensuite il fut nommé curé de Dunrea et Grande Clairière avec des missions à Baldur, Killarney et Glenboro de 1973 à 1977. En septembre, 1977 il alla prendre une année d'études à l'Institut de Pastorale de Montréal sous la direction des Pères Dominicains. De là il a été

nommé curé dans la très belle paroisse de St. Rémi, comté de Napierville, où il est présentement en 1983. Il raconte ses années de 1960 à 1970 comme suit. "Le plus grand projet d'ordre matériel d'assez grande envergure fut la construction de la belle église en 1962, bénie et ouverte officiellement en juin 1963. "Avec les gens très sympathiques et très généreux de la paroisse, ce projet de bâtir l'église a été comme une belle aventure. Avec vous tous, j'en suis encore très fier; fier non seulement de la bâtisse, mais surtout du bel esprit d'amitié et de coopération qui s'est formé et cimenté autour de ce projet, et qui a rapproché les gens les uns des autres. Le bien-être spirituel des enfants, des étudiants et de la jeunesse, des personnes âgées ou malades, des familles, était mon souci continu. "Quand j'arrivai à St. Lazare, le Conseil des Chevaliers de Colomb se formait. Avec les dames, nous avons fondé les "Dames Auxiliaires" qui, depuis leur début ne cessent de faire un travail merveilleux pour aider la paroisse de toutes sortes de façons. Pendant mon séjour à St. Lazare, il y a eu les "Chevaliers de l'Autel", un club de grands et petits garçons (de la quatrième à la douzième année) qui m'aidaient beaucoup pour les belles cérémonies tous les dimanches et aux grandes fêtes. **C'étaient mes préférés.** J'en étais bien fier, même



Altar Boys.

s'ils me donnaient souvent des inquiétudes et du fil à retordre. C'est sûrement quand j'allais camper avec les Chevaliers que j'ai commencé à grisonner. Il y a eu aussi le "Club des Jeunes" qui se rencontraient à la salle de l'église les dimanches soir. C'était fameux.

"J'étais content de seconder le merveilleux travail que les Soeurs de la Présentation et les autres professeurs accomplissaient à l'école. En retour les religieuses nous aidaient beaucoup à l'église pour la musique, le chant et l'entretien du sanctuaire.

"Je suis content d'avoir pris part aux premières recontres qui ont conduit à la fondation de

l'Association Métis du Manitoba, section St. Lazare. La grande amitié et la confiance que les Métis m'ont toujours manifestées me sont très précieuses. Ils m'ont fait un grand plaisir quand ils m'ont donné une carte de "membre honoraire" de leur association.

"Pendant mon séjour à St. Lazare, j'étais continuellement intéressé au fait français et c'était toujours avec joie que j'encourageais les gens à être fiers et fidèles à leur culture et langue française (avec votre foi chrétienne, ce sont là vos plus grandes richesses). Alors qu'on se débattait pour reprendre les droits tout à fait légitimes en faveur des francophones, je me rappelle les efforts sincères qui se faisaient pour être respectueux des droits des autres et surtout des anglophones, qui, quand même, étaient une petite minorité dans la paroisse.

"Quand Monseigneur l'Archevêque me demanda d'aller à St. Lazare, dans la lettre de nomination il écrivait ceci: "Ton travail à St. Lazare sera terminé quand chacun des paroissiens sera assez sanctifié pour être canonisé". Quand je suis parti, on n'était pas tout à fait rendu là encore. Mais avec l'encouragement des bons prêtres qui m'ont succédé, je suis certain que c'est en train de se réaliser.

Les dix années passées à St. Lazare furent parmi les plus belles de ma vie.

"Les félicitations les plus chaleureuses à toute la population à l'occasion du 100ième anniversaire de la municipalité d'Ellice."

1970-1972. M. l'abbé Edouard Morand C'était le troisième samedi de septembre 1970 — un beau jour chaud d'un été qui ne voulait pas mourir. Sur le lac des Fouillard où ils avaient semé la truite, une petite chaloupe se reposait dans le silence du beau soleil reflété sur l'eau tranquille. Deux hommes semblaient y dormir — mais pas pour longtemps! Soudainement une voiture apparaît. Elle semblait être tombé du ciel! "What are you doing on that lake?" Des étrangers à St. Lazare! . . . sur le lac . . . sans doute, des anglais! "It's a private lake!" Vite, l'ancre fut tirée du fond du lac et échappée au fond du bateau. Sans perdre de temps, les deux étrangers s'étaient rendus au bord du lac. L'un d'eux dit "Bonjour, je suis votre nouveau curé. Excusez-moi, je ne savais pas que ce lac était le vôtre." — "Et moi, je ne savais pas que vous étiez notre nouveau curé. Je suis M. Fouillard. Vous aimez faire la pêche, soyez mon invité."

Ce nouveau curé était M. l'abbé Edouard Morand, né à Tecumseh, Ontario près de Windsor, d'une famille franco-ontarienne. Il est un des dix enfants de feu Edouard Morand et Marie Reine Létourneau. On parle souvent de pénurie de vocations religieuses. Ce n'est pas ce qui fait défaut dans cette famille. Des huit frères Morand, Bernard est mort à quatre ans.

Des sept autres, six sont devenus prêtres — en ordre de naissance: Lionel (curé à la Paroisse Sacré-Coeur, Lasalle, Ontario) Edouard (curé: Notre Dame de Victoire, Winnipeg) Léonard (curé: Martyrs Canadiens, Saskatoon) Blaise (évêque: Prince Albert, Sask.) Daniel (curé: Missionnaire: Zana, Pérou) Patrick (curé: St. Vital, Fort Garry). Le benjamin de la famille, Paul, doit s'occuper de donner des enfants à cette famille. Les deux filles s'appellent: Yvonne — morte du cancer en 1974, et Irène épouse d'un fermier de l'Est.

L'abbé Edouard, notre ancien curé, fit ses études au Séminaire St. Pierre à London, Ontario. Ordonné le 4 juin 1955, il était secrétaire de Mgr Pocock, vice-chancelier, et vicaire à St. Mary's de 1955 à 1957. Pour cinq ans il était vicaire à la Paroisse St. Vital à Fort Garry. En 1962 il est devenu curé de la Paroisse de Ste. Thérèse à Middlechurch, et aumônier chez les Soeurs du Bon Pasteur, Home of the Good Shepherd, St. Agnes Priory, et St. Ann's Home. En même temps M. l'abbé était animateur du "Sunday School of the Air" avec C.B.C., et aussi aumônier à l'hôpital "Grace".

Au mois de novembre 1966, l'abbé Morand est devenu curé d'une nouvelle paroisse à St. James "John XXIIIrd Parish Centre." Cette paroisse catholique bâtit une nouvelle église en collaboration avec les anglicans de la paroisse "St. Chad". Le nouvel édifice s'appelle "Assiniboia Christian Centre". C'est de là que l'abbé Morand est allé à St. Lazare au mois de septembre 1970 jusqu'au mois d'avril 1972. Il est devenu alors curé de la paroisse du Sacré Coeur à Roblin avec missions à Gilbert Plains et Grandview pour l'été de 1972. Le trois septembre de la même année, l'abbé Morand est retourné à Winnipeg comme curé de la Paroisse de St. Anne à St. James, et comme professeur de français à St. Paul's High School. Au mois d'août il devint curé de la Paroisse de St. Vital à Fort Garry et aumônier à l'hôpital "Victoria". Le 26 août, 1978, Son Eminence le Cardinal Flahiff lui demanda d'accepter la cure de la Paroisse "Our Lady of Victory" à Fort Rouge et de devenir aumônier des trois hôpitaux municipaux: King Edward Hospital, King George Hospital et Princess Elizabeth Hospital. Après huit ans d'enseignement à St. Paul, il se retira de ce travail pour se donner plus complètement au ministère paroissial.

Il y a déjà plusieurs années que l'abbé Morand a vendu son bateau et mis de côté ses lignes de pêche, mais, il pense souvent, dit-il, aux beaux jours à St. Lazare.

Père Maurice Comeault

Une journée d'automne chaude en 1970, le frère

Jean-Baptiste Filteau et moi-même arrivions au presbytère dans une vieille Ford 1957 qui nous avait amenés (presque miraculeusement) de St. Norbert, Manitoba. Le curé Régnier, travaillant dans son jardin avec deux jeunes garçons, se rendit tranquillement à la voiture et je m'introduis, "Je suis le Père Comeault." Un des jeunes dit à son compagnon, "Tiens, Perry Como est en ville!" "C'est à ce moment que j'ai reçu ce sobriquet et qu'on m'interpellait par ce nom ou celui de Père.

Mon but en venant à St. Lazare était d'essayer de vivre la vie monastique ailleurs que dans un monastère. L'expérience dura deux ans et nous avons loué la ferme de Lazare Fouillard et je travaillais pour Fouillard Implement Exchange. Aux weekends, j'aidais le Père Régnier au ministère de la paroisse.

Le Père Edouard Morand avait remplacé le Père Régnier comme curé de St. Lazare et comme il était transféré à Winnipeg, me demanda si je le remplacerais jusqu'au moment où le Cardinal nommerait un nouveau curé. Je fus remplaçant pour cinq ans. Ces années furent un mélange de tout — du bon et pas si bon — mais très gratifiantes comme prêtre. Si l'église veut dire le peuple — et les relations entre personnes importantes dans ce monde — mon séjour à St. Lazare fut une des meilleures périodes de ma vie.

Je suis présentement à Portage la Prairie et j'essaie toujours de devenir un meilleur prêtre — une autre preuve que Dieu est patient et que Dieu est bon!

Je suis né à Letellier, Manitoba en 1941. Après avoir reçu mon Bachelier-ès-Arts au Collège St. Boniface, je suis entré au Monastère des Trappistes à St. Norbert en 1961. J'ai étudié la théologie à St. Boniface, Oka, Québec et Huntsville, Utah, avant d'être ordonné prêtre en 1969. Mon travail du monastère et dans les différentes paroisses m'introduisirent à différents emplois tels que fossoyeur, fermier et entraîneur de hockey pour les jeunes. J'ai été curé à St. Lazare avec missions à Binscarth, Birtle et Russell; à Dunrea avec missions à Boissevain, Killarney, Baldur et Glenboro; et suis maintenant à Portage la Prairie avec missions à Amaranth, Sandy Bay, Alonsa et Langruth.

Père Aurèle Préfontaine, capucin, curé

C'est le 10 mars, 1926 que j'ai vu le jour dans le village de St. Pierre Jolys, 35 milles au sud de Winnipeg. Mon père s'appelait Amédée Préfontaine, troisième fils d'Ovide Préfontaine et d'Adeline Gratton. Il est né en 1894, à St. Pierre où Grand-Père exploitait un certain nombre de fermes en plus d'être un contracteur bien connu.

Entre autres contrats, on lui confia la majeure partie du creusage de la "pipeline" qui devait

acheminer l'eau potable de Shoal Lake (près des frontières ontariennes) à Winnipeg. Ce tuyau mesure douze pieds de diamètre à l'intérieur et on peut facilement s'y déplacer dans une embarcation légère.

Grand-Père eut aussi de nombreux contrats de chemins dans la région de Dauphin. A McCreary, il construisit l'hôtel Mountainview pour les citadins qui avaient soif. Papa en fut le premier gérant malgré son jeune âge. En 1961 cet hôtel existait toujours. C'était alors un entrepôt. En 1966, lorsque j'y suis passé, elle était démolie.

Grand-père Ovide est né à St-Guillaume d'Upton avant la confédération (1863). Son père Firmin (1826) émigra aux Etats-Unis quand sa famille était encore jeune. C'est dans les filatures du Massachusetts que le célèbre Père Lacombe vint le chercher, lui, sa famille et plusieurs compatriotes pour les amener au Manitoba durant les années 1870-75. Un de ses frères, oncle Albert, se fit élire député de Carillon en 1903. Il demeura au gouvernement à titre de ministre d'agriculture jusqu'à sa mort en 1935. Son fils Edmond lui succéda cette même année pour être réélu jusqu'en 1962.

Grand'mère, née Adeline Gratton venait de Ste.-Thérèse de Blainville. Elle vit le jour en 1861. Avec ses parents elle déménagea au Manitoba toute jeune. Elle épousa grand-père à Ste-Agathe en 1888 et s'installa à St-Pierre avec lui. Ils eurent 13 enfants. Elle demeura toujours une personne fort chrétienne et fort distinguée et vécut jusqu'à l'âge avancée de 97 ans. J'ai chanté ses funérailles à St-Pierre en 1958.

Maman se nommait Gertrude Dandenault. Son père Charles, né en 1866 à St-Simon, Québec, vint très tôt à St-Malo avec son père Félix, un type aventurier descendant de La Vérendrye. En 1897, grand-père Charles épousa Joséphine Hébert née à St-Valentin. Grand-Mère eut quatre enfants dont maman était la deuxième. Grand-mère Josephine décéda encore bien jeune à St-Pierre en 1906. Elle n'avait que 33 ans.

Grand-père Charles épousa alors la jeune soeur de Joséphine, nommée Priscille. Ils furent les parents de quatre autres enfants. Elle mourut à l'âge avancée de 92 ans en 1970, tandis que grand-père nous avait déjà quittés en 1954.

Papa et Maman se sont mariés en 1919 après la grande guerre et se sont établis sur une belle terre à St-Pierre sur le plateau qui va vers Carey (la gare). Notre maison, toute neuve, fort grande et fort belle, entourée de galeries et revêtue de briques blanches à l'extérieur, surplombait la rivière aux Rats et était l'envie de tous les habitants. C'est ici que sont nés tour à tour: Aurèle (1921), Lucille (1922), Emilien (1924), Bernard (moi) (1926), Pauline (1928), Corinne (1930), Jules (1933) et Gertrude (1936).

Nous étions tous en santé et très heureux lorsqu'une première tragédie frappa la famille: Maman mourut des suites de la naissance de Gertrude en août 1936. Elle n'avait que 35 ans et laissait huit jeunes enfants. M. le curé Sabourin ne tarissait pas d'éloger à son sujet, mais le départ de maman était quand même définitif. Tante Laetitia Bougard adopta alors ma soeur de quelques jours; Pauline et Corinne prirent le chemin du pensionnat à St-Adolphe où tante Marie était religieuse et les autres ont continué de vivre avec papa, une vie bien assombrie par le départ prématuré de notre chère maman. Malgré sa forte constitution Aurèle, mon frère aîné, la suivit dans la tombe en novembre/38 des suites des fièvres typhoïdes. Il avait dix-huit ans.

Dix ans plus tard Papa épousa en seconde noce, Ernestine Fortin, veuve Lebleu. Ensemble ils vécurent de 1946 à 1976, date de la mort de Papa. Ernestine vient de quitter ce monde (octobre 1982).

Quant à moi, on me porta à la fontaine baptismale à l'âge de deux jours. L'abbé Pierre Picton fit les frais de la cérémonie car le curé Jean Marie Jolys, ce patricien français de haute culture et de grand savoir-faire venait de rendre son âme à Dieu après quarante-cinq années à la tête de la paroisse.

Mes études primaires finies, je pris le chemin du juniorat des Pères Oblats à St-Boniface, car un ami de la famille, le Père Jean Lambert, répétait que j'avais l'étoffe d'un bon missionnaire.

Ce n'est quand même pas chez les Oblats que je finis par aboutir, mais chez ces religieux franciscains qu'on nomme Capucins.

En septembre 1943 je commençai mon noviciat sous la direction du bon Père Chrysostome, un patriarche déjà âgé qui vous inspirait un mélange de crainte et de révérence. Le règlement était sévère, les prières longues et les jeûnes fréquents. Quand même et malgré tout, le 17 septembre '44 je prononçai mes premiers vœux.

Puis ce fut trois belles années de philosophie au sanctuaire de la Réparation (au Sacré-Coeur) à Montréal. Là, le temps s'écoula rapidement dans une ambiance toute empreinte de l'esprit de Saint François. En été nos vacances s'écoulaient au lac Meach (où le Premier Ministre se retire avec son cabinet pour des sessions secrètes) dans la vallée de la Gatineau, dans la pleine nature de Dieu.

Puis un jour, ce fut bien pénible d'entendre: "Vous vous en allez en Belgique." C'est ainsi que le 4 octobre, 1947 j'arrivai à Iseghem en Flandres avec trois confrères canadiens. Nous aboutîmes dans un grand monastère pour y faire notre théologie. La guerre venait à peine de finir et on manquait d'un peu de tout, mais la bonne volonté et le sens hospitalier

des belges suppléant, rien d'essentiel ne nous fit défaut.

C'est là à Iseghem que le premier octobre, 1950, je reçus l'onction sacerdotale des mains de Monseigneur Hector Catry, capucin, ancien évêque de Lahore (Indes). Ce fut sans contredit le grand jour de ma vie. Hélas, personne de ma famille n'y assistait!

Revenu au pays, je commençai une odyssée qui me fit faire la navette constante entre le Manitoba et l'Ontario (15 obédiences).

En 1958, on me nomme curé de la paroisse du Sacré-Coeur des Belges à St-Boniface, le seul canadien à jamais occuper ce poste. En 1963, je fus transféré à St. Philippe Néri à Toronto, paroisse de 13,000 paroissiens où 80 pour cent des fidèles étaient des italiens. Comme vous le voyez, il m'a fallu changer mon fusil d'épaule en vitesse.

Parmi mes apostolats un peu différents des autres il y a eu mes pègrinations à l'île Pelée au centre du lac Erie, le point le plus méridional du Canada. Trois années de suite je m'y suis rendu par avion pour y célébrer la messe le dimanche après-midi. Il me fallait border une petite Cessna très fragile contre les grands vents et dans laquelle on n'était pas brave — Le pilote lui n'avait jamais peur, il avait ingurgité son 40 onces avant le départ. Quand le temps se montrait trop inclément, force m'était de prendre un bi-moteur. Avec la grâce de Dieu et les solides viscères du pilote je ne manquai que quelques dimanches, surtout à cause des brûmes épaisses qui nous empêchaient d'atterrir.

Mon séjour à Venise en Italie (1967-1968) fut une intéressante période de ma vie. A Venise, on ne pouvait faire aucun ministère sans embarquer sur un bateau. Il y avait des tempêtes formidables sur l'Adriatique dans lesquelles ni les bateaux — mouches ni les vaporettes ne s'aventuraient. Aussi, lors des nombreuses grèves quand aucun bateau d'Etat ne pouvait fonctionner, il fallait alors se cramponner sur des embarcations de fortune qui tenaient sur l'eau surtout par la grâce de Dieu, ou, ce qui était beaucoup plus rassurant quand la chose était possible, grimper sur un navire de pêche.

J'étais en même temps aumônier militaire adjoint à Vérone (où le capitaine Dozier a été enlevé l'année dernière par les brigades rouges). Ça faisait un bon divertissement quand j'y allais, ce qui n'était pas souvent. Plus souvent j'entendais des confessions à la basilique de St-Antoine à Padoue, à douze milles de Venise. Tous les dimanches de l'été, on pouvait entendre des confessions des heures durant avec une soixantaine de confesseurs. C'est ici que St-Antoine opérait ses miracles de conversions. C'est aussi à Venise que je liai une longue conversation sur un vaporetto avec l'évêque de Vittorio Veneto, loin de

savoir qu'il deviendrait un jour le pape Jean-Paul premier.

Puis en 1974, ce fut de nouveau le repatriement du Manitoba, à Portage la Prairie (1974), à Gimli (1976) et en dernier lieu à St. Lazare (1977).

Combien de temps me reste-t-il encore ici ou ailleurs? Grand point d'interrogation! L'homme propose, Dieu dispose.

Dans toutes mes pérégrinations et avec l'expérience acquise lors de mes contacts avec des gens de toutes origines et de tout acabit, des gens que j'ai vu naître à la vie de Dieu ou des gens que j'ai vu mourir à ce monde, je n'ai qu'une conclusion; rien ne sert de se cabrer. L'homme peut s'agiter, mais Dieu le mène. En vérité, il le mène par le bout du nez. Les événements de la vie s'en chargent et c'est souvent pour le mieux.

Missionaries and Priests of St. Lazare

One of the first missionaries on record in this area was **Thomas Cook**. Information about him comes from an excerpt of an article written about Fort Ellice in the "Beaver", published by the Hudson's Bay Company. The Anglican mission was established in 1854 at Fort Ellice but its missionaries also visited Fort Pelly and Fort Qu'Appelle. The church was outside the fort but a house had been provided for him inside the stockade. He was away most of the time. He was well liked by Indians and whites alike. His courage was greatly admired. In 1864, his two sons died within a week, but in spite of his grief, he held regular services on the Sunday. His work among Indians was often cited by the Anglican Church in their reviews. Later he was given a mission near Portage la Prairie, which didn't require as much travelling.

In 1880 **Father J. DeCorby**, O.M.I., founded the mission and named it St. Lazare in memory of his native village in France. The mission was part of the St. Boniface archdiocese until 1916 when it was included in the archdiocese of Winnipeg.

1895. A quote from the Moosomin Centennial Book reads: "**In 1895 Father Slyermain of Fort Ellice** was appointed to visit the mission every month. It is not clear how long he served as pastor in the area."

In 1895, **Father L. Fabreau**, Oblate Father, became pastor of the St. Lazare Mission. Church records reveal, that in 1897, a petition signed by approximately 70 parishioners, was forwarded to Mgr. Langevi, asking for permission to build a stone church to replace the old log church. They promised to supply all materials and labor for its construction.

1902-1905. Father Charles Maillard was parish priest.

1905-1909. Father Hormidas Hogue was born in 1878 in Yamaska, Quebec. The family emigrated to Manitoba in 1883. He was ordained in June 1903, and came to Lazare in 1905. He was greatly appreciated by his parishioners as he was very sensitive to their needs.

1910- Father Deshais took over the parish for a short while.

1910-1921. Father C. Wilf Lalonde directed the parish for 11 years. He was a very stern priest. In 1914, the parishioners pledged \$1,530 for the foundation of a convent in St. Lazare.

1921-25. Although **Father Edward Barton** was born in England, he spoke French fluently and was able to serve this community adequately.

1925-28. Father Alexandre Deschambault was born January 5, 1893. He was ordained in 1921. After serving as vicar in a few parishes, he came to St. Lazare. He had a very serious heart condition and died in 1929. He was noted for his charity, his devotion and sincere affection for his people.

1928-29. Fathers Arthur Desmarais and Joseph Payette ministered to the needs of the congregation.

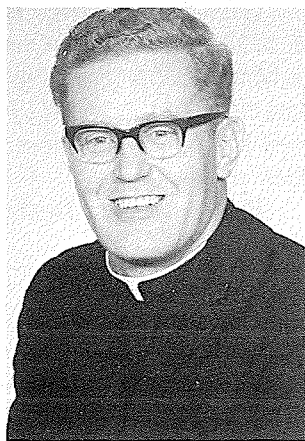
1930. Father Horace Dansereau was born June 11, 1895 in Verchères, Quebec. He was ordained priest in 1928. He was pastor in St. Lazare from November 29 to April 30.

1930-1936. Father Paul Emile Halde was born in St. Alexandre d'Iberville, Quebec, on August 14, 1885. He was ordained in 1910. He came to Lazare in 1930. He was instrumental in bringing the sisters of the Presentation of Mary to teach in Lazare. He was responsible for the water system installed in the convent and rectory long before the town had running water. He was an amateur electrician and as a hobby had several beehives. Father Halde was no orator but he made up for it by his genuine concern for his flock, and he was a living example of his faith.

1936-1945. Father Jacques Bertrand was born in St. Boniface, Man. on December 4, 1891. He was ordained in 1914. He was appointed to St. Lazare in 1936. Father Bertrand was a fiery orator. However, he was often involved in controversies, and because of his hot temper, his ministry was eventful and colorful — to say the least. He would sometimes complain about weddings, baptisms, and funerals paid for with cords of wood, pickets, eggs or dressed chickens. He was a terrible driver, a fact which Edmond Simard told him once in no uncertain words!

1945-1960. Father Ubald Paquette was born in 1909 in St. Eustache, Quebec. He was ordained in 1936. He came to Lazare in 1945 and for 15 years, in his quiet, shy manner, took care of his parishioners' spiritual needs. He is now retired in Ste. Rose du Lac

Gérard Régnier — Prêtre



Senior Citizens Lodge. He loved to be outdoors doing his best to beautify the surroundings of the church and rectory.

1960-1970. Father Gérard Régnier was born in 1931 in Saint François Xavier, Man. He was ordained in 1955 and posted to St. Lazare in 1960. This is what he says of his ten-year tenure, "The main object of my stay was to see to the spiritual welfare of my parishioners. Apart from this, a very rewarding accomplishment, was the building of the new church in 1962. It was officially opened and blessed in 1963. The project cemented the friendship and cooperation between the parishioners and myself and also between themselves." During my stay, the Knights of Columbus, the Ladies' Auxiliary, The Knights of the Altar and the Youth Club were formed and functioned well. The Knights of the Altar being my responsibility, often taxed my endurance and patience, especially during camping trips but they remained my favorites. The Youth Club met every Sunday night and they were fabulous! I feel very privileged to have experienced the friendship and confidence bestowed upon me by the Métis. I was especially flattered to become honorary member of their Association. I was deeply interested in the French element and encouraged the people to be proud and faithful to their French culture; at the same time respecting the rights of the anglophones who were in a minority. When the archbishop asked me to go to St. Lazare, he intimated my work would be ended when each parishioner attained sainthood. Of course, I didn't reach that objective but I am sure everyone keeps working doggedly towards success, even today.

1970-1972. Father Edward Morand was peacefully fishing on the Fouillards' private lake stocked with trout. Unaware that he was trespassing, he was very surprised by Leo Fouillard's angry words; "Who are you?" After identifying himself as the new pastor of the parish, he was granted the right to fish whenever he wished. Father Moran was born in

Tecumseh, Ontario. He, along with five brothers joined the religious orders. He was ordained in 1955 and after serving as pastor of John XXIII and St. Chad in Winnipeg, he came to St. Lazare in 1970. Many years have gone by since his fishing outings, but still, retired now from teaching, he often recalls his happy days in St. Lazare.

Father Maurice Comeault

I was born in Letellier, Manitoba, in 1941. After studying at St. Boniface College and receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Manitoba, I entered the Trappist Monastery at St. Norbert in 1961. I studied theology in St. Boniface; Oka, Quebec, and Huntsville, Utah, before being ordained priest at the end of 1967. I received a Bachelor of Pastoral Theology degree in Montreal in 1969. My work in the monastery and various parishes has introduced me to many jobs, from gravedigger and farm worker to hockey coach for young people. My past parishes have included St. Lazare, with missions at Binscarth, Birtle and Russell; and St. Felix of Valois Church in Dunrea, with missions of Boissevain, Killarney, Baldur, and Glenboro. My present parish of St. John's includes the missions of Amaranth, Sandy Bay, Alonsa, and Langruth.

A 1957 Ford Rideau, black and beat up, pulled up the rectory hill one hot autumn day in 1970 . . . Brother Jean Baptiste Filteau, a trappist brother and myself, an ordained priest and monk had survived a long trip from St. Norbert, Manitoba. Father G. Regnier was in his garden and slowly came to the car. "I'm 'Pere' Comeault", I said. And while we shook hands, one boy reluctantly pulling weeds in the tomato patch whispered to his buddy . . . "Perry Como is in town!" From then on, my name in St. Lazare has been a mixture of "Perry" or "Pere", or whatever else could grab my attention.

My reason to be in St. Lazare at the time was to try and live a monastic type of life in a 'simple' context, rather than in a structured monastery. The experience as such, lasted two years. We rented Lazare Fouillard's farm, and I was employed by Fouillard Implement Exchange. On weekends I helped Father G. Regnier, the parish priest at the time.

Father Ed Morand replaced Father Regnier as parish priest. After a year of study in Brandon, Father Morand was to be transferred to Winnipeg and he asked if I would hold the fort for him till the Cardinal would appoint a new priest in St. Lazare . . . My 'temporary' stay in St. Lazare lasted five years. Those years were a mixture of everything you can find under the sun . . . good and not so good . . . but very rewarding for a priest. If church means people

. . . and relationships with people most valuable in this life, then my experience in St. Lazare can be considered one of my 'better blessings'.

I am presently in Portage and still trying to learn to be a better priest . . . another proof that God is patient and God is good!

Prefontaine, Father Aurèle (Bernard) Capuchin and priest

My father Amedee (1894-1976), son of Ovide and Adelinde (Gratton) Prefontaine and my mother Gertrude (1901-1936), daughter of Charles and Josephine (Hebert) Danenault were married in 1919 in St. Pierre-Jolys, Manitoba. They had a beautiful home on the shore of the Rat River on their farm at St. Pierre. The children were all born here; Aurelle (1921), Lucille (1922), Emilien (1924), Bernard (myself) (1926), Pauline (1928), Corinne (1930), Jules (1933) and Gertrude (1936).

Tragedy struck in 1936 when mother died shortly after Gertrude's birth. An aunt adopted Gertrude, and Pauline and Corinne went to board at St. Adolphe Convent where one of the nuns was our aunt. The boys remained with father. In November 1938 my brother died from typhoid fever at 18.

My father then married Ernestine Fortin (Lebleu) in 1946. He passed away in 1976 and my step-mother, in 1982.

Two days after I was born I was baptized by Father Pierre Picton. After my elementary education I went to the Oblate Fathers' Juniorate in St. Boniface to continue schooling because a cousin, Father Lambert, insisted that I could become a priest. However, I didn't become an Oblate, but joined the novitiate of a Franciscan order known as the Capuchins in September 1943 and made my first vows a year later. For the

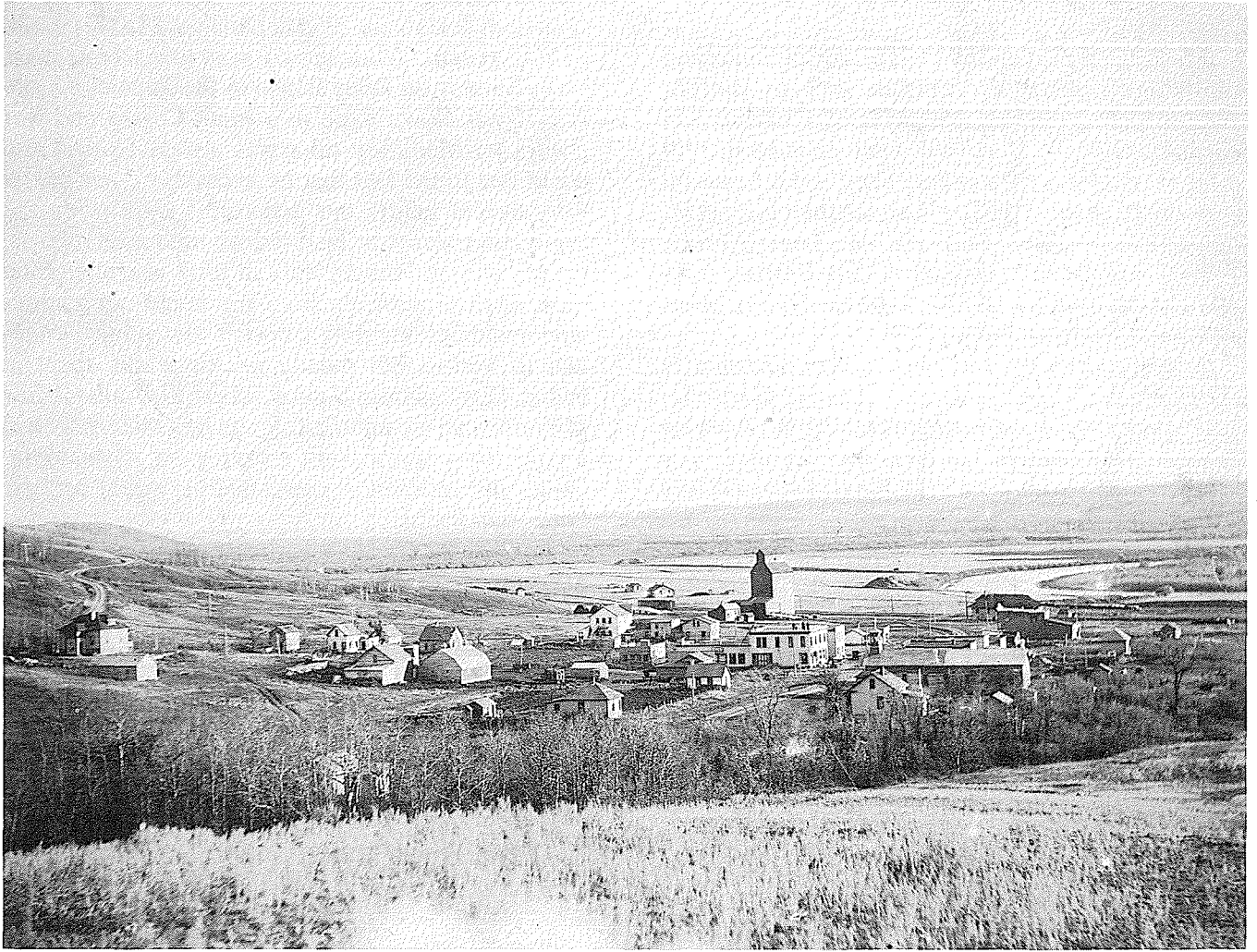
next three years I enjoyed studying philosophy in a monastery in Montreal and spending holidays at Lake Meach in the Gatineau Valley.

In 1947, I and three Canadian companions were sent to Belgium. I was ordained priest there in October 1, 1950 and shortly returned to Canada where I held several posts including that of the first Canadian parish priest at the Belgian Church in St. Boniface. An interesting appointment was to St. Philipp's Church in Toronto in 1963; a parish of 13,000 people — 80% Italian. While there I went to celebrate mass every Sunday on Pelee Island in the middle of Lake Erie. I was flown there in a small Cessna and was always terrified! My pilot was always fearless, no doubt due to the fact that he invariably consumed a forty-ouncer before our departure. Only when the fog was too dense to land did we miss a service.

My stay in Venice, Italy in 1967 was one of the most interesting of my life. You could not go anywhere without boarding a boat. I was military chaplain in Verona but mostly my time was spent in Padua, 12 miles from Venice, where St. Anthony had performed all his miracles. It was in Venice that I had a long conversation with a bishop on a 'vaporetta' (boat) and little did I know that he would become Pope John Paul I!

In 1974 my exodus was finally over and I returned to Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, then Gimli 1976 and finally St. Lazare 1977.

How long do I have here? God alone knows. In my experiences in this world, with the many contacts I have had with people of different nationalities and stations of life — people who were born to serve God and others who died serving the world — I have learned one lesson — one truth always prevails — God is the Ultimate Authority and directs our lives as he sees fit and all in all is it not for the best?



Looking down on St. Lazare.

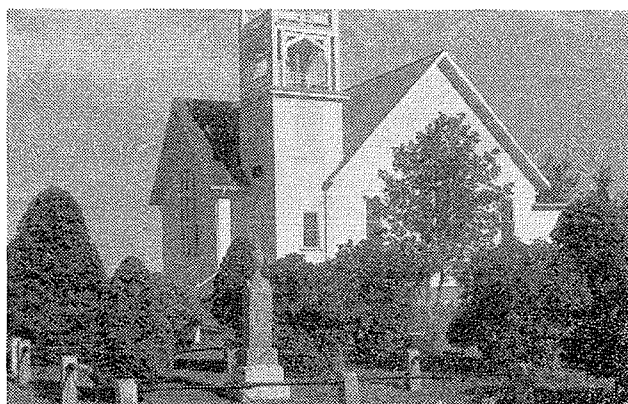
Churches

Zion Church

written by Marian Hamilton from the Historical and Archives records of Westminster United Church, Foxwarren

The history of Zion Church, located midway of the North boundary of section 25-17-28, goes back 95 years when the first church in Zion district was built in 1888. Previous to that date, services were held in the Wilkinson home conducted by the late Rev. Dewart and the late Reverend J. B. Wilson. Dr. Dewart and his brother owned the land on which the church, built by the West brothers of Solsgirth, was erected. Mr. Hall did the plastering and Mr. Manny King supplied the labor. The seats and pulpit were made by Mr. Ridington and hauled from his home by Mr. Joe Laycock. Reverend S. Wilkinson, then a homesteader living two miles south of Zion, was among the residents who volunteered loads of stones for the foundation. Subsequently, he completed his studies and served many years in the active ministry.

Other laymen who gave assistance in the founding of Zion Church were Scott Ellis, John and Robert Dunlop, John Barrett, James Falloon, James Fleming, Edward Hamilton, David Hunter (a lay minister) and his son Andrew, Richard Hesketh, William McMinn, Frank Robbie, James Reid, Charles Siple, James Waddell, Emerson Bligh, Stephen Carr,



Zion Church.

William Laycock and sons, H. McCamon, Jas. Morrison, William Watt, and James and Thomas Wilkinson. Mr. Cheney Burdett gave the lime from his own kiln on Pumpkin Plains; drawing it fourteen miles with oxen, fording the Assiniboine River on the trip. The Ridingtons, William Jr. and John, also gave generous help. These early pioneers moved further west, the former being Sheriff at Battleford for many years and the latter, Librarian at the University of British Columbia.

Although nothing definite can be found, it is believed that the first Board of Stewards of Zion Church was composed of Messrs. Chas. Siple, H. McCamon, Jas. Falloon and William Watt. Mr. Arthur Wakefield was a teacher in the first Bible Class. Later he went to England and entered the Congregational Ministry.

At the time of Zion's first church in 1888 Birtle, Zion, Wattsview, Bayfield, Binscarth, Pumpkin Plains and Solsgirth, were all under the supervision of Birtle with Rev. Buchanan as the minister there. Others who came to Zion during the first four years were Rev. F. A. August, Rev. A. B. Osterhout and Rev. William Somerville, all deceased. In 1892 a student field was formed with Binscarth as centre, consisting of Binscarth, Zion, Bayfield and Pumpkin Plains with Rev. Stephen Williams in charge. Rev. Williams married Miss Mary Wilkinson, a Zion girl and returned to Wales within the year. His place was taken by Rev. Fred Stephen, who later served in the Indian work in northern Manitoba for many years and also as President of the Manitoba Conference.

The late Rev. J. M. Murchison, then a student in Toronto, was summoned to take charge in 1894. He was succeeded in 1895 by Rev. S. W. L. Stewart. In 1897 Rev. F. Huntsman came as an ordained minister from Beulah and the following year he was put in charge when Binscarth became a part of Binscarth-Russell Mission, and Foxwarren was made the centre of a field including Foxwarren, Zion, Seeburn, St. Mary's and Pumpkin Plains. Rev. Huntsman died in 1913.

In 1898 Rev. Murchison returned by request, being the first ordained minister at Zion. In August of that year he married a Zion girl, Eliza Laycock, the first organist of the church. This was the first wedding in Zion Church. They made their home in the newly erected parsonage in Foxwarren which Mr. Murchison helped to build and where he subsequently retired in 1937.

A new parsonage was later bought and all Zion ministers resided in Foxwarren. Their names and dates are as follows:

Rev. L. D. Post — 1899-1901 — died in California.
 Rev. Geo. H. Bennie — 1901-1902 — died in Saskatoon.
 Rev. J. Hellyar — 1902-1906 — died in Brandon.
 Rev. T. W. Bailley — 1906-1909 — died in Winnipeg.
 Rev. Geo. H. Peacock — 1909-1911 — died in Victoria 1963.
 Rev. W. E. Egan — 1911-1914 — died in Fort Frances.

It was during Rev. Egan's pastorate in 1915 that the church was rebuilt larger and more beautiful. Mr. and Mrs. Jack Cooper (nephew of Fred Cooper) were the first couple married in the new church. Second couple was Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Falloon. Mrs. Denham was the faithful organist and active in the musical life of the Church for many years.

The cost of the Church was approximately \$3,500 and it was built under the leadership of Rev. Egan who came from Griswold, Manitoba for the official opening.

During those years, Zion church weathered many storms and at one time had its belfry hit by lightning. In the quiet church yard, rest many of the men and women who laid the foundations of gracious living in the community and pioneered the life of the church.

The trustee Board of the new church consisted of Messrs. C. Burdett (who also served as Sunday School Superintendent for many years), F. Cooper, Geo. Falloon, S. J. Falloon, James McLellan, and Mr. H. Denham who gave record service for 41 years as Church Secretary, retiring in 1956.

Following Rev. Egan:

Rev. W. H. Loree — 1914-1916 — died in Winnipeg 1919.
 Rev. T. W. Bird — 1916-1918 — died in 1958.
 Rev. W. E. Rowan — 1918-1922 — resigned from the United Church in 1926, now deceased.
 Rev. J. M. Murchison — 1922-1925 — died in May 1958 and is buried in Zion Cemetery.

When Local Union brought the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches in the area together in 1922 the new Union Charge of Zion, Foxwarren and Bayfield invited the Rev. J. M. Murchison to be their first minister. This was the third time Rev. Murchison had served at Zion.

It was during this period that the Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational congregations entered into Union and from 1925-1928, Rev. J. S. Caldwell took charge. Rev. Caldwell died in 1960.

Rev. J. W. Price — 1928-1929 — deceased.
 Rev. R. G. Thompson — 1929-1933 — died in Victoria 1973.
 Rev. D. Conly — 1933-1935 — lives in Winnipeg.
 Rev. G. W. Payne — 1935-1938 — lives in Chatham, Ont.
 Rev. S. H. Brown — 1938-1941 — lives in Hamiota.
 Rev. G. D. Robinson — 1941-1943 — deceased.
 Rev. James Savage — 1943-1945 — died at Foxwarren, buried in Brandon 1945.
 Rev. W. W. Harland — 1946-1953 — lives at Emo, Ontario.
 Rev. I. M. Miller — 1953-1961 — lives in Hartney.

Rev. Miller had the unique distinction of being the first lady to serve the field.

It is much to the credit of the old pioneers as well as the founders of the Second Zion Church that they did not shirk responsibilities. As well as those already mentioned we find willing workers in the Sunday School whose service calls for special mention. They were: Mr. Richard Hesketh, first Superintendent and Messrs. Andrew and David Hunter. Mr. Frank Burdett gave 24 years service as Superintendent of the Sunday School in the new church. Early Sunday School teachers were: Mrs. Hesketh, Mrs. Barrett, Mrs. John Leavens, Mrs. Charles Leavens, Mrs. Denham, Mrs. Davies, Mrs. C. Burdett, Mrs. Walt Leavens, Mrs. J. W. Laycock, Mrs. A. S. Falloon and others. Mrs. Fred Cooper was the first President of Zion Ladies' Aid organized in 1925. Mrs. Cooper's daughter, Mrs. Walter Laycock, followed in her mother's footsteps. The first Mission Band was organized by Mrs. Charles Carr, Mrs. Walt Leavens and Mrs. James McLellan, and functioned for many years. Mr. E. H. Edmunds was the director of the first choir to lead the worship at Zion when Mrs. S. J. Falloon was organist. Later Mrs. Harry Denham was the choir leader and for some time the organist. There was a Junior Choir which led the singing for the Sunday School sessions, with Lena Burdett (Mrs. C. Honey) as the organist.

The Epworth League was founded during the pastorate of Rev. Hellyer. This mid-week meeting had an educational and social value as well as providing for a devotional time. The group sponsored many interesting debates. Mr. Frank Burdett was President for some time, and both young people and adults were members.

Some Zion members can proudly display their Teacher Training Diploma, awarded for completing a Course of five books prescribed by the Church and taught by Mrs. W. D. Leavens in 1915.

An annual event to which all ages looked forward was the Zion picnic. The whole countryside turned out for the Christmas concerts held in the Church, coming in sleigh boxes, vans and cutters. Later on in the fall the Fowl Supper was enjoyed, and the tables in the basement were laden with the goodies provided by Zion's good cooks.

Families active in Sunday School and Church

work were: Armits, Heskeths, Burdetts, Falloons, Denhams, Laycocks, Davies, Leavens, Coopers, Carrs, McLellans, Hunters, Burts, Barnettts, Andersons, Fergusons, Tarrantts, Harleys, Woods, Sawyers, Thompsons, Waddells, and Graves.

In 1949 the Zion congregation joined with Foxwarren United Church congregation.

A King James Version of the Holy Bible was presented to Zion Methodist Church at its official opening by Mr. and Mrs. Emerson Bligh. The Bible remained in the pulpit and was used until 1949. In October of 1966 the Bible was given to Mrs. Laura Clark of Binscarth, a granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bligh.

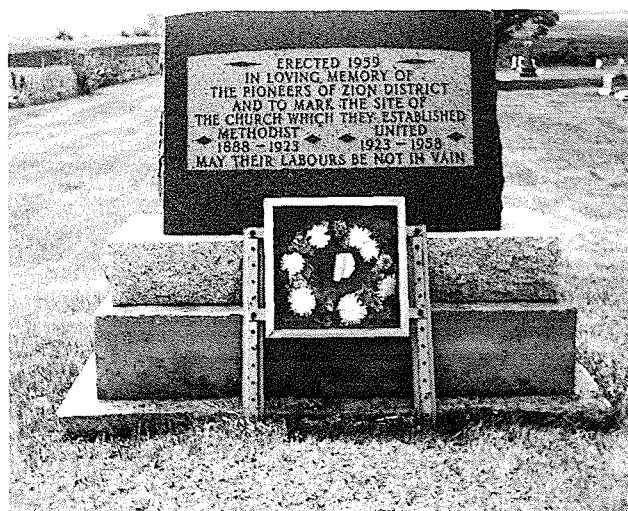
In response to modern trends and conditions Zion church was dismantled in 1958, seventy years after the establishment in 1888. With the money they received from the church, barn and contents, the Board bought the fence, and grave makers for those who did not have one. To mark the site, a beautiful red granite memorial was erected in 1959. On Sunday July 24th, 1960 at 3:00 p.m. a dedication service was held by Rev. I. M. Miller, with Mrs. Walter Laycock reading the history of Zion Congregation. Approximately 80 people attended, many coming from a distance, members of the families who were one time active in the work of Zion Church. The Memorial reads:

Erected 1959

In loving memory of
the pioneers of Zion District
and to mark the site of
the Church which they established
Methodist United
1888-1923 1923-1958

May their labours be not in vain.

Zion Cemetery Committee as of 1982 were Ross Laycock — Secretary, Cecil Burdett, Jim Johnston,



Zion Memorial, 1959.

Douglas Falloon, Wilfred Hamilton and the late Dale Falloon.

The site and the adjacent churchyard, the resting place of many, has been enclosed and cared for in a manner which is fitting tribute to the community pioneers.

St. Peter's Church, Balmerino

The spiritual needs of the early settlers of Balmerino district were met by various student ministers who were based in Binscarth and served that point as well as Balmerino, Bayfield and Pumpkin Plains. The title for the land, part of SW¼ 14-18-28, is dated July 31, 1887. In a note found in Mr. Frank Pizzeys papers, it is stated that the congregation met in a house in 1903 with Rev. Sadler as minister. According to the first minute book and financial statement, the first offering was taken up in April 1900, amounting to \$2.40. Rev. G. Dunlop was minister at that time. The church was built in 1904, a building 20' x 40' at a cost of approximately \$1500 and a petition to have it dedicated was issued July 10, 1911. The minister at that time was Rev. R. C. Pitts and the names of parishioners appearing on the document are R. Langston, Wm. Pizzeys, R. Tibbatts, Frank Pizzeys, R. J. Pizzeys Sr., R. J. Pizzeys Jr., Thomas Scott, John Pizzeys, W. Hamilton, George Ebberts, Fred Pizzeys, J. W. Laycock, G. F. Ebberts, W. J. Pizzeys and C. Saunders. The church was duly consecrated January 28, 1912 by the Bishop of Ruperts Land.

The furnishings in St. Peter's were some of the most beautiful in the country, all hand made by Robert and Walter Pizzeys. The baptismal font and lectern were hand carved by Walter Pizzeys and are still in use in St. George's Anglican Church, Foxwarren. The pews are being used in the Braendle-Bruce Funeral Home in Russell.

Some of the entries in the early financial statement are of interest. In May, 1900, a payment was made on an organ, also an account started for a stable. In 1901, 15 parishioners pledged \$3.00 each to pay for a roof on the stable. In 1902 the minister was Rev. J. Brisco; in 1903 the first prayer books were purchased. Some idea of the use made of the church may be had with the entry of five gallons of coal oil for lights purchased in October, 1903, and another five gallons on January 12, 1904. In July 1904 there is an entry of fifty cents paid to Dr. Lanigan for sacramental wine. Mr. W. Pizzeys audited the books and was caretaker for a number of years. It is believed that in the early years, the services held in the homes alternated between Methodist and Anglican services.

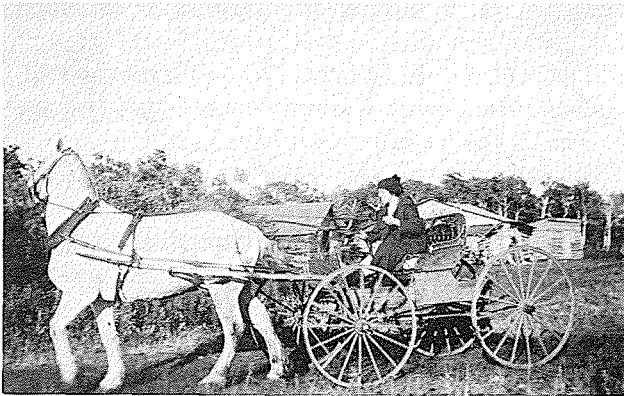
The last wedding held in the church was a double ceremony in 1952, when Melba Pizzeys was married

to Lorne Carter and Dorothy Watt to Les White. The funeral of Tom Redmond was the last to be conducted, in 1964. In 1967, St. Peter's Balmerino was dismantled. For over sixty years it served the community well. A great deal of dedication and sacrifice went into establishing the church to fulfill the spiritual and social needs of the pioneers of this area.

Note: On March 13, 1898, Mary Boles was confirmed in St. Peter's Balmerino Mission Room by Rev. I. Grisdale D. D., Bishop of Fort Qu'Appelle. That same year she married Joe Wilson and their's was the first marriage solemnized in Balmerino Church.



Bessie and Alice Johnston, 1918.



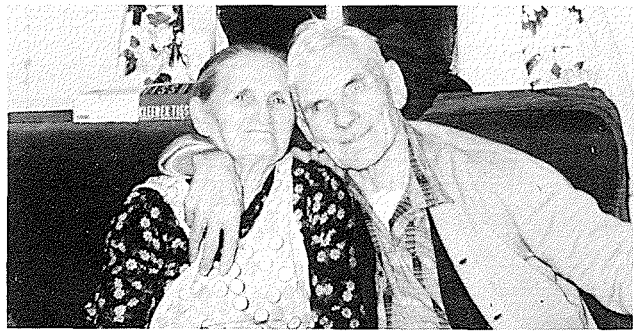
Mrs. Placide Prescott.



Jean Smith and John Selby, Main Street, 1918.



Mme. Prescott, Andeol, Viateur and Rita.



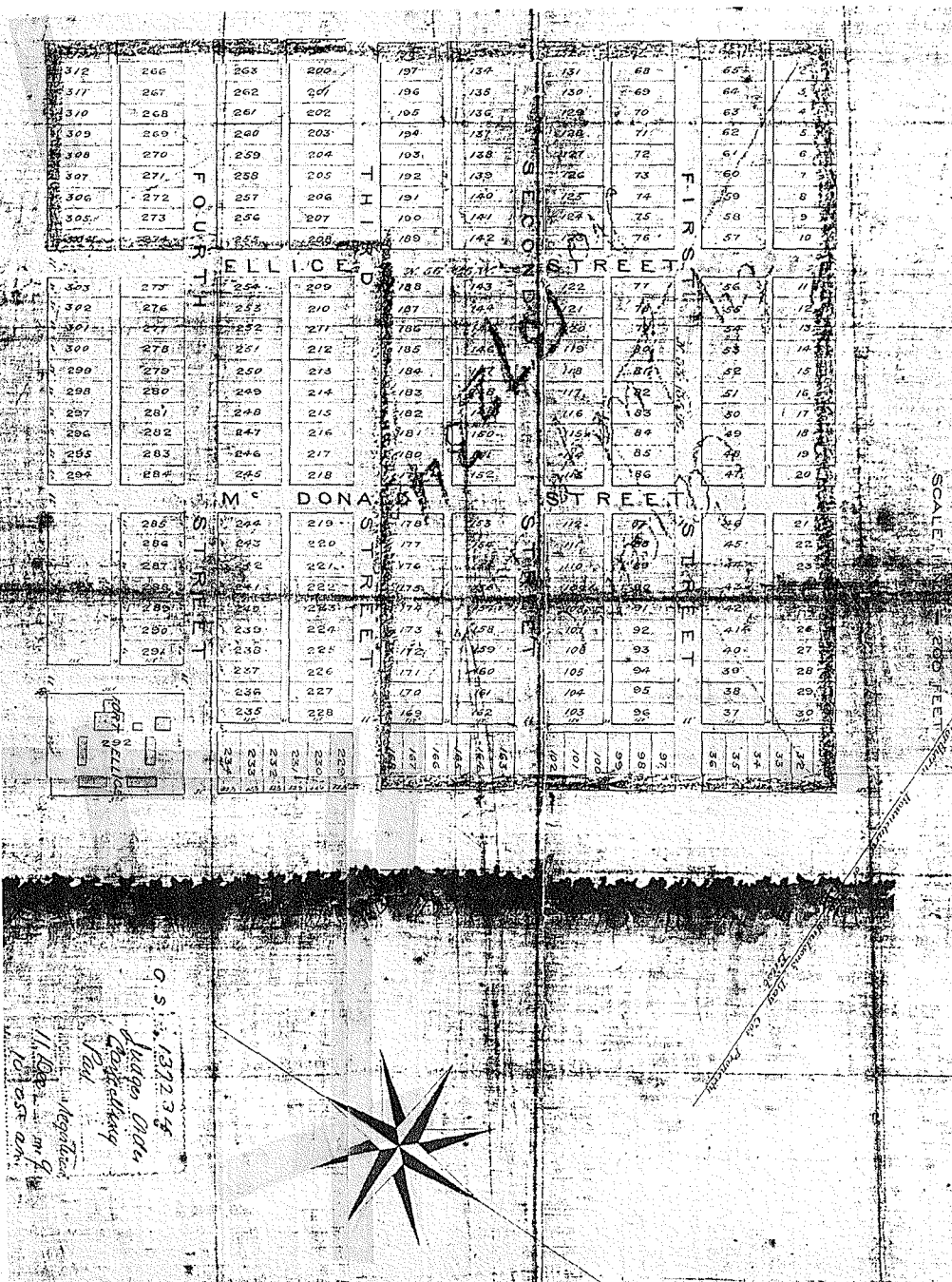
Robert and Rose Hayden.



Location of Ed Simard's old bridge.

Historical Data

PLAN OF COLVILLE Being a subdivision of part of the Hudson's Bay Co's Reserve at Fort Ellipe MANITOBA



Colville

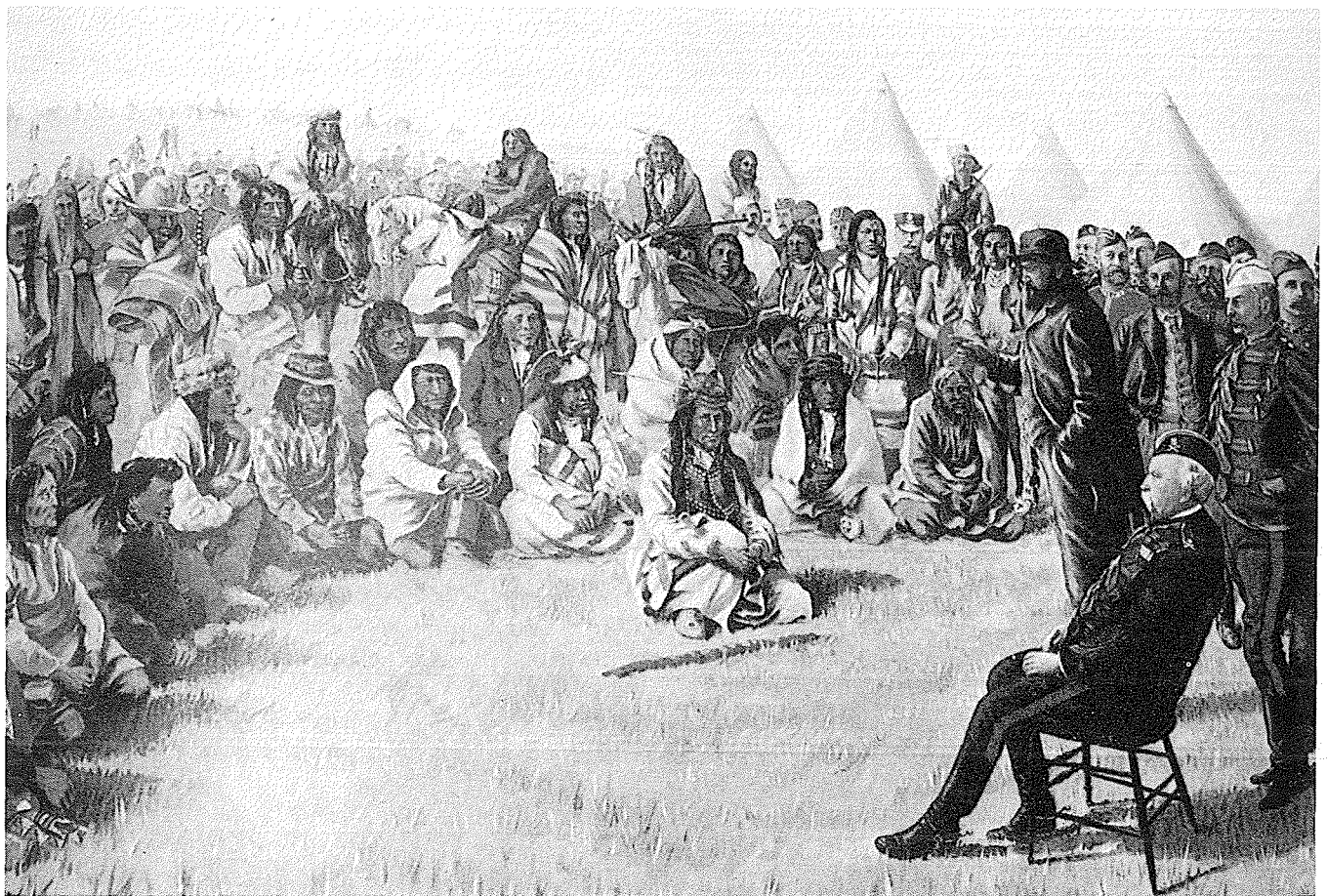
Some of the trail surveys of the projected CPR line through this region, were run in the valley below Fort Ellice. It was expected that this point would continue to be an important distributing centre after the coming of the railway, and there were dreams of Fort Ellice becoming the Capital of the Northwest. The Hudson's Bay Co. had a town site surveyed under the name of Coleville, and lots were sold. When the line was finally run 22 miles to the south through what is now Moosomin, the position of Ft. Ellice as a distributing centre was lost forever.

Boulton's Scouts

by George Pateman of McAuley
Jan. 1936

During the past summer much has been written about the North-West Rebellion of 50 years ago. The eastern papers had great write ups of the Ontario Volunteers and the Little Black Devils of Winnipeg, but no mention was made of Boulton's Scouts. This troop raised in the western part of Manitoba and the Moosomin district, had seen service in the Imperial

army, undertook to raise a troop of young men who could ride and shoot to act as Irregular Horse or Mounted Infantry. The troopers, 75 in number were armed with carbines and revolvers in place of swords and lances. Their uniform consisted of grey breaches and dark colored tunics, helmets and riding boots. All had lived some years on the prairie and were well accustomed to the conditions existing at that time. They proved to be a very useful body of men for scouting purposes. They took the train to Moosomin and started on the trail north from that place. A reunion of the survivors was held last summer in Russell, but only five of these could be found by the committee. Among these were Thos. T. Selby who now resides in St. Lazare and has attained the age of 76, and a Mr. Little who came to St. Lazare last June. These two men were told by Major Boulton to lead the advance on Batoche. In telling the story, Tom Selby says that he had his mind made up that unless he or his horse was badly disabled, he would not retire at a walk. It seemed very unlikely that they would escape serious injury, if not death, riding up to those bluffs in which were hidden men whose unerring aim had killed hundreds of buffalo on the great



Chief Poundmaker surrendering to Gen. Middleton, May 26, 1886. Louis Riel with beard, Thos. T. Selby (scout) on horse on skyline, near tents.

plains. The rebels had left their rifle pits and gone down to the water's edge to fire on two river steamers to create a diversion. This strategy enabled the artillery to plant their guns and establish themselves before the rebels returned. Mr. Selby describes the field pieces shelling the houses in the valley below in which the rebels had taken refuge. Boulton's Scouts took part in the battle of Fish Creek. They were ordered to proceed ahead of the infantry, and when they got in touch with the enemy, to dismount, turn their horses loose, and lie on the ground and shoot as the enemy appeared. The result was that eight or ten of Boulton's men were killed or wounded and ten horses had to be destroyed. This troop crossed the Saskatchewan River and struck north in pursuit of Big Bear and Poundmaker, as far as the Beaver River. Major Boulton mentions Mr. Selby as having ridden with dispatches. The subject of the sketch will be remembered by many old timers, especially those who followed the old trail between Moosomin and Birtle when his place at Beaver Creek was the stopping place for all such travellers.

* * * * *

Belhumeur, Marguerite (1860-1886)

Marguerite was the daughter of Jean Baptiste Bellehumeur (later changed to Belhumeur) and Marguerite Malaterre of Fort Ellice. She married Louis Riel in April of 1881. After their marriage they lived at Sun River, Montana, in a small log house. Louis pursued the life of a trapper, trader and schoolteacher until he was asked by the half-breeds of Batoche to go with them and to help them obtain their land rights. Marguerite went with him. As their marriage had not been blessed by the church, this was done on March 9, 1882 at Carroll by Father Damiani. Marguerite was twenty one years of age. It was reported that she was timid, silent, self-effacing and that she worshipped Louis Riel. She was a loyal companion and became a good, affectionate mother to her three children. Friends said she only showed real happiness when she was with her children.

From Riel's description, his wife was tall, dark and strong. She had fine features and quite a nice figure. Marguerite could not read or write, but she spoke Cree, of which Riel had only a passable knowledge. She knew very little French or English.

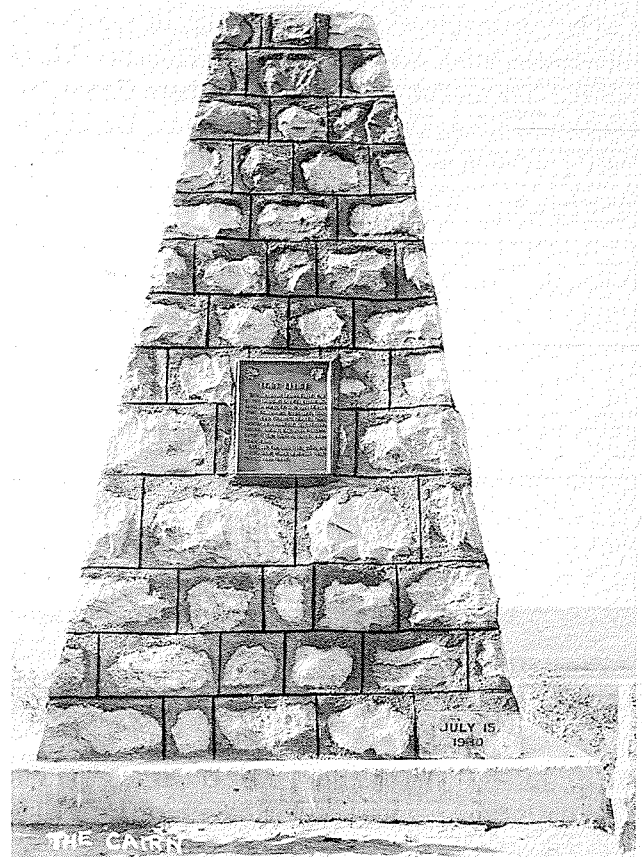
It was said that the romance of Louis Riel and Marguerite was a sad affair. There was no question of Marguerite's love for Louis; he tried to change her over to the image of his lost love Evelina, and though he never succeeded in this, he did become genuinely attached to Marguerite. Riel's attitude towards her throughout their brief life together was considerate,

and at times romantic. Marguerite died in St. Vital shortly after her husband was hanged.

From Famous Manitoba Metis, by the Manitoba Metis Federation Press

A Lasting Monument

Nearly 50 years ago, a move was on foot to save property that belonged to the Hudson's Bay Company fur trade post at old Fort Ellice. The plan, formulated in the late 1920's was for a cairn to be erected commemorating the fur trade in the two valleys, the Assiniboine and the Qu'Appelle. Old Fort Ellice stood at the confluence of the two historic waterways. The building of the cairn took man power and equipment, both rounded up by the Foxwarren Great War Veterans Association. Other help came from far away people. Ottawa chipped in for the bronze tablet to be embedded in the stone cairn. At one time only a lone chimney of the fort was still standing. Finally the day of the unveiling came on a hot day, June 10, 1935, with three thousand people attending. The men of the Foxwarren G.W.V.A. and all the volunteers had reason to show pride that day. C. Wroth was chairman, S. Sawyer president of the G.W.V.A., expressed thanks to all who assisted in the project. The ceremony of unveiling was quite impressive. A regimen-



The Cairn, Fort Ellice, 1935.

tal band from Yorkton was in attendance. The ribbon was cut by William Long Claws, 89 years old. Several dignitaries were present, among them Hon. W. J. Tupper, Brig. Gene. Alexander Ross, Hon. John Bracken, Hon. McKenzie, Hon. I. B. Griffiths, John W. Pratt, Major A. M. Pratt, and C. Wroth. Parchment certificates were presented by Hon. W. J. Tupper to Karl Thomson and Gilbert Brailsford, for saving Robert Sawyer from drowning the month before the unveiling. Fort Ellice was named after Hon. E. Ellice who was responsible for the merger of the North West Co., and the Hudson's Bay Company.

The cairn is dedicated to the fur traders of the 18th Century, commemorating the old forts and the historic settlement of St. Lazare, founded by Father DeCorby, O.M.I. in 1870. The cairn at Fort Ellice was erected by a stone mason, Robert Mitchell of Rosburn, who passed away in 1981.

As is the custom, valuable papers, a few old coins, a history of the Crewe district and a family history of the James Falloon family are embedded in the cairn.

Early Forts

Around 1787, Peter Grant of the Hudson's Bay Co., built trading posts ten miles north of the mouth of the Qu'Appelle River on Silver Creek. Some people remember seeing parts of the palisade about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile up the creek from the mouth of the S $\frac{1}{2}$ of 3-18-29, which is owned by George Boucher. There is little information or reference to these forts to be found, except in the book "Assiniboine Basin" by Martin Cavannah.

Strathallen House

Strathallen House was probably built about 1878. When the William Boles family came to Fort Ellice in 1884, they reported that this stopping house was situated about a mile from the point where the Qu'Appelle River and the Assiniboine merge. "Niggy" Simard claimed it was on the site of what is now Lazare Fouillard's house. There was also a ferry in the vicinity and a dock; references are made of boats coming up the Assiniboine as far as Strathallen. A family by the name of Cosgrove ran Strathallen first, according to William Boles. Later it was taken over by the Armstrongs of Nova Scotia, who had three daughters. This was about 1885. The Armstrongs eventually farmed north of Armstrong Creek, across from the John Cox farm. One of the three daughters died at a early age. The two remaining daughters, Annie and May, herded turkeys all day, knitting as they did so. There were no fences to keep the birds out of neighbors' crops. May passed away, but Annie lived in Binscarth until her death in 1960. Jim Laycock bought the Strathallen house, took it apart,

and moved the logs to Russell, where it became part of the Queens Hotel.

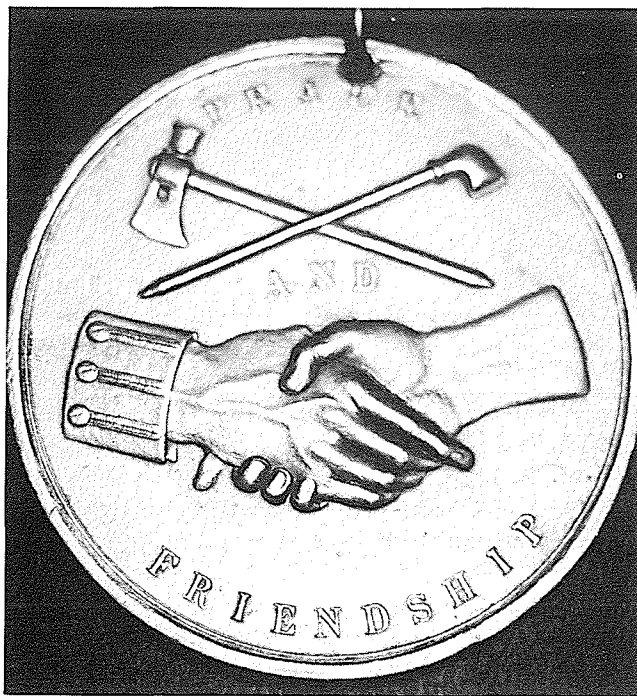
Peace Medals

For a hundred year period, 1789-1889, Peace Medals were given to prominent Indians in North America and were aptly called "Indian" Peace Medals. Their purpose was to promote peace and friendship between Indians and their white neighbours. This custom of giving medals to friendly Indians was adopted from colonial times. One series was issued by the United States government in the name of the President. These medals were usually given to Indian Chiefs on the occasion of signing treaties and holding conferences in or near Indian territory or at the National Capitol, and when Indians visited the seat of government or when federal representatives visited Indian country. Frequently the Indian agent presented these at his own discretion where circumstances warranted. No government records have been kept of any accuracy that indicate the number of medals distributed nor to whom they were given. As governments changed, medals were exchanged in order that the proper allegiance of the recipient could be clearly established. As a result medals are very scarce, particularly the earliest ones. The Indians were very proud of their medals and valued them highly. Many were buried with the bodies of their wearers and many more were handed down to successors.

Medals such as the one pictured came in three styles: a) 76 mm with fur cloak, and the engraver's signature, Furst F., below the edge of the fur (on this



Medal found near old Fort Ellice — dated 1829.



Reverse side of Medal "Peace and Friendship."

medal barely visible); b) 62 mm without fur cloak; c) 51 mm without fur cloak. The medals were made of silver and the one shown is the 'a' style.

This particular medal was found near the site of the first Fort Ellice. There is, there, a large, circular hollow, most likely an Indian Ceremonial ground or even a burial ground, and to this day colorful beads and other artifacts may be found. From time to time re-strikes were made of the medals at the U.S. Mint, in bronze, copper or in silver. These were sold to visitors to the Mint and are sometimes found in the possession of Indians either pierced or provided with attachments for suspension.

Bridge Controversy

On Tues. May 21, 1968, the citizens of St. Lazare were informed that the regular bridge across the Assiniboine River (which had been condemned five years previously), would be closed the next day pending repairs. Protests to Premier Walter Weir and Acting Highways Minister Harry Enns brought no results. Since the bridge was of vital importance to



The "Citizen's Bridge".

the town, being on the main truck route for traffic moving from Sask. to Highway #4 in Manitoba, business would be lost, 125 school students and residents on the west side of the river would be cut off and workers would be unable to commute to the potash mine. The nearest bridges were at Binscarth, 25 miles to the north and at Miniota, 45 miles to the south. The residents were angry over having received only one day's notice, and that no other alternative was provided. So they decided to build their own bridge, the "citizens' " bridge, as a temporary measure. This feat was accomplished in one day!

Historical Tidbits

Stephen Carr saw the **Empress of Dufferin** being hauled up the Red River on a barge. It was the first steam locomotive to come to Winnipeg.

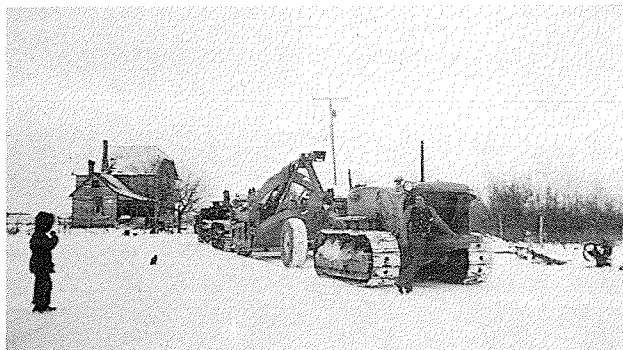
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Louis Riel made a chair from diamond willow and deer thongs while he was in prison, and it was to be given to the oldest citizen in the Foxwarren district. Stephen Carr had the chair given to him and he in turned passed it on to William Carr.

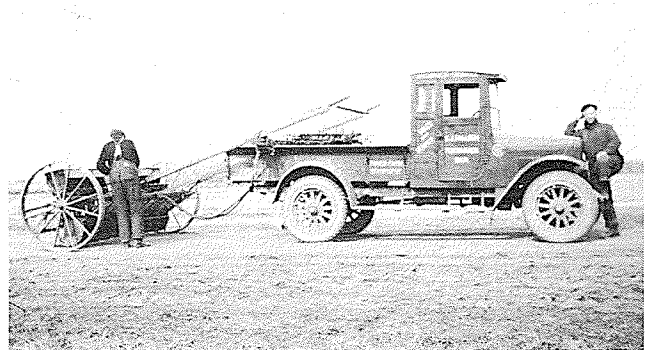
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To **Harry Carr** goes the credit for saving the life of Harty Thorpe who had been injured by a shotgun blast, following a skunk routing incident at Bayfield School. Harty was on his way home and the shotgun discharged as he was crossing a fence in the buggy. He needed immediate medical attention, and, fortunately Harry Carr happened along in time to get Harty to hospital.

* * * * *



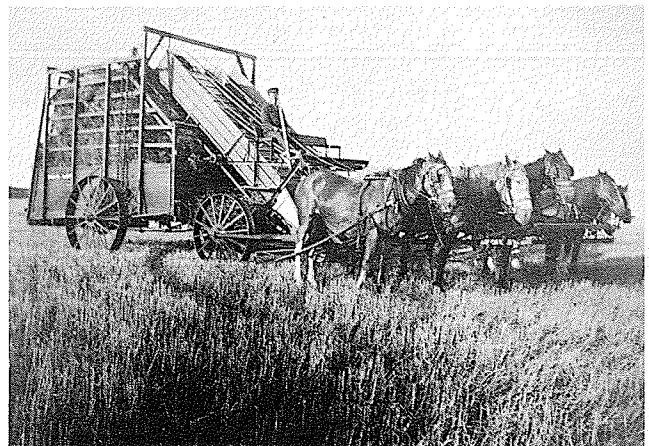
Russell Johnston's Cat and Scraper.



S. Falloon's truck.



Troop train and Passenger train collision, 1942.



Laurence Ryan with stook-loader.

Grand Trunk Pacific

The Grand Trunk Pacific — now CN compiled by Ruth Meldrum

The first regular train service at St. Lazare began when a Grand Trunk Pacific locomotive with its string of railroad cars steamed into the town on January 2, 1909. Much activity in and around the community had preceded that event — and much more activity followed. The last regular passenger boarded Via Rail in St. Lazare in October, 1981.

J. W. (Jack) Stewart, a Highland Scot, worked for the CPR as it drove its way across the prairies and he learned his trade well. When it became clear another railway was to be built across this land, he and his partners, Foley and Welch, were largely responsible for directing and building the Grand Trunk Pacific, with aid from both the provincial and federal govern-

ments. The company negotiated farmland grants, cash loans and grants, and the guaranteeing of bonds. They determined to choose a route with as few steep grades as possible, and carefully surveyed the line to ensure the most efficient use of the rolling stock once it began its daily runs across this wide prairie.

On August 29, 1905, at six o'clock in the morning, a foreman of McDonald, McMillan & Company turned the first sod of the Grand Trunk Pacific on the open prairie 15 miles north of Carberry. Within a month 600 men were at work and all along the line of stakes running into the northwest, the stillness was broken. Contractors pitched a tented town with offices and cookhouses, a park of wagons, carts, scrapers and graders, piles of tools, heaps of forage, and horselines not of neat military pattern but scat-



Building Grade for C.N.R.

tered for convenience and shelter. The first task was the subdivision of the contract and establishment of work camps. These camps were of standard size, designed to accommodate 120 men, which was the allotted labour force on a subdivision of six miles.

Before the last tent had been pitched the foremen and straw bosses were out to inspect the levels and in their mind's eye visualize the job ahead. Next morning there was a gash in the prairie and a welt rose as scraper teams in their monotonous unending circle built up the roadbed or transferred the soil of the cuts to the nearest fills. Then the pick, shovel and wheelbarrow brigade tidied up the edges while graders smoothed the surface. Meanwhile culvert men had gone ahead to plan drainage of embankments and to imprison any small streams to be crossed. If a coulee were in their path the brigade gangs brought timbers to erect a temporary trestle beneath which, when work trains arrived, the fill rose. With a subdivision complete, the prairie was empty once more save for the dyke of the roadbed marching across the plain.

But not for long; as activity died on one horizon, it re-opened on the other. A puff of smoke announced the arrival of the rail-layer. A work engine nudged forward a great mechanical being with two high-cocked, projecting frontal booms and flat cars laden with materials. The booms were fed by two troughs equipped with rollers which continuously brought forward ties in one and rails in the other. As ties were dropped they were deftly laid in orderly files on the

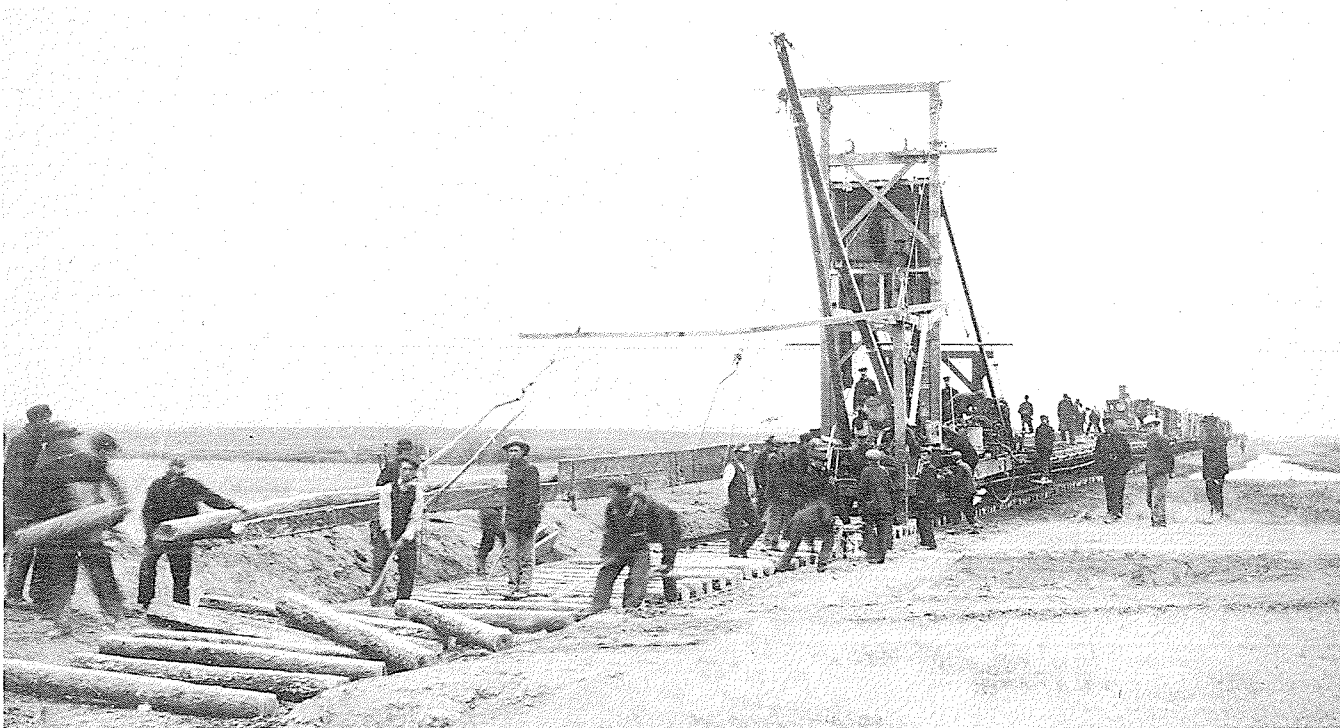
roadbed; from the booms two rails swung down, to be clutched and laid in place. The "bridle man" was ready with the gauge rod; when the rails were positioned exactly, holding spikes were driven. Fish plates were fitted, bolts tightened and the remaining spikes driven home.

The rail-layer lorded it over the crew and drove them at its pace. The feeding and laying crews had no compassion on each other. Anything less than two miles of completed track in a ten-hour day was disappointing.

As soon as the track was down specialists arrived . . . carpenters, bricklayers, concrete workers, plasterers, fitters, painters, plumbers. They built permanent structures. At stated points the roadbed was widened to admit a siding; maybe a water tank, a small station, short platform, sheds, switches and signals. Then one day these little halts were given names . . . chosen in alphabetical order . . . from Bloom to Zeneta and Atwater to Zelma.

By the spring of 1906, 5000 men were at work on the prairie sections. This number shrank sharply during spring seeding and harvesting, when farmers outbid the contractors for casual labour. Hays, a company official who had debated shareholders in London and who had many discussions with Laurier concerning the Grand Trunk Pacific, was confident the work would keep up to schedule; on September 26, 1906 he advised his superiors:

We expect to be able to move a portion of the crop



Laying Ties for C.N.R.

of 1907. The settlers all along the line are depending on us to do this and nothing will be left undone on our part to accomplish this result. I think it is generally admitted that we are going to have the best transcontinental road this side of the Atlantic . . . certainly nothing heretofore done in Canada will match it.

His confidence was justified. By the following spring 500 miles of roadbed awaited steel, and by the end of that year 900 miles were ready. In December 1908, 28 months after the first sod had been turned, the roadbed was complete from Winnipeg to Edmonton and beyond. The steel was far behind, but through no fault of the contractors or the railway company. The Canadian rail manufacturers were overwhelmed with orders and could not keep up with demand. As if in sympathy, the bridge builders, with whom orders for eleven large bridges had been placed, failed to keep up to schedule. The sleeper contractors were caught by a labour shortage and threw up their contracts. Since much of the roadbed stood empty and waiting, Hays placed heavy rail orders in the United States. This speeded up both domestic and foreign deliveries and by March 30, 1908, the bridge over the South Saskatchewan, near Saskatoon, was opened.

There was much to be done — cuts to be tidied, embankments to be reinforced and fills to replace

trestles. Millions of cubic yards of ballast were yet to be laid. Nevertheless, the railway was functioning. The first regular service between Winnipeg and Portage la Prairie was opened July 30, 1908. On January 2, 1909 service reached Melville and on August 13 that year the first Grand Trunk Pacific train entered Edmonton.

As Hays had proclaimed, the prairie section of the Grand Trunk Pacific was perhaps the best railroad ever built in North America.

In midsummer 1906, Hays had travelled by horse and buggy from Portage la Prairie to Edmonton. Such a trip, he declared, would never be made again. He estimated that nine-tenths of the districts he passed through would prove suitable for grain-growing, and that the remainder would provide excellent pasture. He recommended the Grand Trunk Pacific embark on a colonization programme immediately.

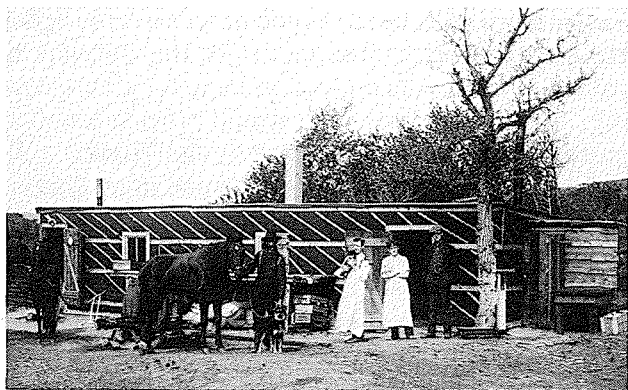
In 1906 and early the following year, 86 townsites had been purchased and engineers were sent to lay out towns in precise patterns, at no less than seven miles apart and no more than fifteen. Soon elevator companies were choosing their sites by the track, and they built at a furious rate — often rising ten to fifteen feet a day — in order to be the first to offer storage space to the producer. Stores, hotels, livery stables and all the other necessities of the day quickly fol-



Building of C.N.R. Bridge.

lowed, and the prairies blossomed forth as a viable source of agricultural product.

For some twelve to fifteen years the Grand Trunk Pacific operated from Manitoba to British Columbia, but by the end of World War I it, like many other railways of the day, was in financial trouble. In 1919 the Canadian Government passed an act creating the Canadian National Railway Company and by 1923 the CNR was running their trains on track which formerly had belonged to no less than 221 railway companies.



Tar Shacks — eating and sleeping quarters for C.N.R. workers.

For over forty years the Canadian National serviced the small communities along its route; bringing new settlers and their goods, carrying freight, mail, passengers; and the roar of the on-coming steam locomotive in earlier times heralded a bit of daily



Troop Train Wreck, 1942.

interest and excitement. As times changed and other means of travel and freighting goods developed the railroads modernized, retiring the steam engines in favour of more efficient diesel-powered units to propel their long lines of freight and passenger cars across the countryside.

St. Lazare shared in that history of opening the west as did all communities along the prairie railroads.



Completed R.R. Bridge.

Sources:

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- Building the Canadian Nation, Vol. II, G. W. Brown, 1968
- Canada, Foundations of Her Future, Stephen Leacock, 1941
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Schools

Balmerino School District #615

When Balmerino School District was formed April 16, 1890, there was no school house, so classes were held in the James Fletcher home on the S.W.¼ of 34-18-28 (Don Baker 1982). The first teacher was Constance Dunlop (maiden name unknown). The first salary was paid out on Sept. 20, 1890 in the sum of \$105.00. Some of the students were Jim, George and Jessie Reid (Marvin Johnston's grandmother); John Widdicombe; Elizabeth Widdicombe (Mrs. Milton Joyce); Gertrude Widdicombe (Mrs Francis Ebborn); Frank and John Pizzey (Walter's sons); Isabelle Fletcher (Mrs. E. P. Clark); and Jack Fletcher. The students sat around a large table with their books and slates, and the teacher had a homemade desk and chair. School continued here until there were more students than the Fletcher home could accommodate. A ledger dating from the day the school began, indicates rent being paid for about five years. The students furthest north began to go to Binscarth and the others attended classes for a short time in a log house on the S.W.¼ of 14-18-28. (Pizzeys 1982.) Records show that in 1895 Maggie Carr and Jennie Pizzey were paid one dollar for cleaning the school. Negotiations began immediately to procure land and build a school. Students included Pizzeys, Ebborns, Widdicombes, Carrs and Cartwrights. The log house

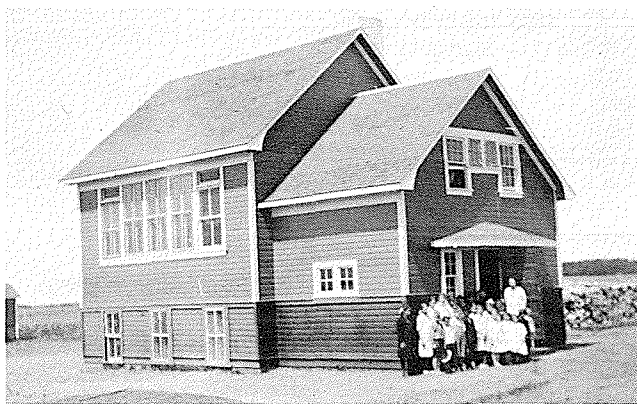
is said to have burned, and since the earliest registers are not available, they may have burned also.

In 1897 an agreement was entered upon between: 1. The Government and Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudson Bay and 2. The Trustees of Balmerino School #615, to purchase one acre of land on the S.W.¼ of 26-18-28 (Elmer Ryan 1982), for the sum of seven dollars. Although negotiations had begun much earlier, the date on the agreement is dated April 8, 1897. (File of Eric Ireland.) Work began on a new school immediately and records show that Robert Pizzey and Sam Widdicombe built a barn that was ready for use early in 1898.

By 1918 this school had outgrown its usefulness and plans were made to build a new school on the N.E.¼ of 28-18-28 (Harvey Loptson in 1982). This was indeed a fine rural school. It had a full-sized basement with a furnace for heat. There were two cloak rooms, one for the teacher and one for the students. There were separate washrooms for the boys and girls, with indoor toilet facilities in the winter. A new stable was built as well as better outdoor toilets. The new school accepted students on Thursday, January 7, 1919, with Clair McDiarmid still the teacher.

In the meantime, the old stable was sold to William Crichton, and the old school to Ed Dupont. It became the home for the Peter Kominko family for a time (Frank Horeczy in 1982).

It is interesting to note that the largest attendance at Balmerino school was in 1921-22, when thirty-five names appear on the roll. Mrs. Jim Watt stands out in memory as the grand Scotch lady who used to help out at the Christmas concerts by accompanying solos, duets, choruses, drills, dances etc. on the organ or the piano or even on her accordian. Christmas carols were pitched too high for a lot of children, so Mrs. Watt simply lifted up the organ keyboard and slid it down, to the left, the required number of tones to make for comfortable singing. This had to be an ingenious method of transposing music quickly and simply, a method not built into today's instruments.



Balmerino School, 1919-1950.

Records indicate that students were privileged to attend the unveiling of the cairn at Fort Ellice in 1935.

Like every other school, Balmerino had a "Puck's Bad Boy". On one occasion he was sent to the teacher's cloak room to cool off, after some misdemeanour, but shortly emerged wearing the teacher's coat and hat and carrying her purse under his arm! Even the teacher broke up! This same fellow made two small sets of harness from binder twine one summer day and hitched up a pair of gophers. He kept them contained close to his desk until the teacher's back was turned, and then he let them out to run up the aisle. As the children finally collapsed in gales of laughter, the secret was out and the gophers were quickly dispatched to the out-of-doors. Readers will recall the game of "Scrub" which was a favorite game in the rural school. As school was adjourned for recess, the cry went up, "I'm first!", "I'm second!", "I'm third!". And so it was; they held those positions the whole year, for no one else could ever get them out!

Mr. E. P. Clark became the Secretary-Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of the new school in 1919 and held that position until 1945, a period of twenty-six years; Mr. J. D. McFarlane held the position of Chairman of the Board for ten years there.

In 1929 a windbreak was planted all along the north side of the school grounds. As time went by the plantation flourished under the care of Mr. A. Corder who rode his bicycle out from Binscarth to prune and cultivate the trees. Minutes reveal that a well was dug by W. E. Barker, but it must have proven to be unsuitable, for drinking water was carried from E. P. Clark's well.

The highlight of the year was the Binscarth Field Day, when all the surrounding rural schools took part in the various sports activities. Each school was also expected to make a small monetary contribution to assist with prizes etc. It is interesting to note that during the depression years Balmerino's contribution was the grand total of three dollars yearly. By today's standards, it seems like an incredibly small amount!

An incident which occurred at the school at S.W. ¼ 26-18-28 is worth relating. It seems that the well-digging team of Baird and McNarry had found it necessary to dynamite a stone in the well hole which they were digging beside the school. This they did on a Saturday, but neglected to take the left-over dynamite sticks with them when they left. On the following Monday the children found the curious looking things and, unaware of the hazards, began to play with them, tossing them about thither and yon. It wasn't until some days later, when Will Johnson (Harry's son) set a piece of the stuff on a block and shot at it, that the truth was revealed. The resultant

explosion thoroughly convinced Will that the world had come to an end. So it was necessary to close the school in order to sort through the woodpile and school grounds to ensure that every last bit of dynamite had been retrieved.

Balmerino School was dissolved on Oct. 25, 1950 and joined the Binscarth Consolidated School. The dissolution was to be effective January 1, 1951. However some difficulty was encountered in fitting all the extra classes from the surrounding rural schools into the new Binscarth School. So classes were continued in Balmerino School, but under the new consolidation jurisdiction until June 30, 1952. In Sept. 1952 the doors closed for all time at Balmerino School and vans began picking up students to go to Binscarth. A cairn to mark the site may be seen on Highway #41 between Binscarth and St. Lazare.



1925 Class: Marie Dupont, Edith Watt, Helen Clarke, Florence Dupont, Mary Barker, Annie Barker.

Teacher List for Balmerino School #615 1890-1952

The following names were taken from the Treasurer's ledger dating to 1906, after which time the registers are housed in the Provincial Archives:

- 1890 — Constance (maiden name unknown) Dunlop
— no record until 1895
- ? - 1896 Jos. Wilkinson
- 1896-1899 — Martha Murphy
- 1900 — D. M. Monteith, Miss McMillan
- 1901 — Mr. Dorset, T. G. Schwalm, James Burke
- 1903 — E. J. Wilson (first half)
- 1903-1904 — Elizabeth Ebborn
- 1904-1905 — W. A. McConkey and E. Balke (two months)
- 1905 — Ruby Palmer (second half)
- 1906 — Elizabeth Ebborn
- 1907 — Miss K. Drysdale (first half)
- 1907-1908 — Miss M. Valens and Ethel Clare (two months)
- 1908-1911 — Lillian Orr (Mrs. Murray Shaw)
- 1911-1914 — Edith Cass
- 1914-1915 — Violet Clements
- 1915-1916 — Margaret Bailey
- 1916-1920 — Clair McDiarmid
- 1920-1921 — Lelia Matheson
- 1921-1924 — Eva Marlin
- 1924-1926 — Olive Mayhew
- 1926-1927 — Gladys Mason
- 1927-1930 — John McGilvary
- 1930-1933 — Lorine McFarlane

1933-1938 — Laura Johnson	1947-1948 — Jean Burdett
1938-1940 — Evelyn Dunfield	1948-1949 — Ida Rowan
1940-1941 — Ena Ross	1949-1950 — Darlene Darker
1941-1945 — Eva Tibbatts	1950-1951 — Mary Matheson
1945-1946 — Ninalou Duke	1951-1952 — Marion Hall
1946-1947 — Muriel Fortune	

Beaver Rapids S.D. #674

by Judie Lewis

Many records of Beaver Rapids School District were lost, but we can find a few facts in the annual report of the school trustees. In 1892 the school was situated on 9-16-29. The premises were rented and the records state there was no school house, so it is to be presumed it was in someone's house. Twelve students started school that year — Ettie Langley 8, Robbie Langley 7, Beatrice Langley 5, Maggie McKenzie 11, Murdock McKenzie 7, Tina Pearson



Beaver Rapids School.

15, Gertrude Wilkinson 7, Winnie Wilkinson 5, George Wilson 13, Roy Wilson 8, Hugh Wilson 6, and Jacob Griffin 8. The teacher was Miss Jeanette Traquair, whose salary was \$75.00 per year! The trustees were — George Wilson, Robert Traquair, and Thomas Pearson. A portion of By-Law #674 reads "necessary and expedient to raise by loan the sum of \$500.00" for the purpose of purchasing the land 9-16-29 and the building of the school." It was a frame building which contained three maps, 76 square feet of blackboard and one globe. In 1905 the school was moved to its present location today SE 8-16-29. A little historical note reads. "Received from W. C. Wroth the sum of \$1.00 for lighting fires. Paid July 20, Willie Little" and "Received from W. C. Wroth the sum of \$5.00 for delivery of a flag pole. August 29, 1907, W. J. Johnson". Beaver Rapids school closed in 1927. The students were transported to Woodline S.D. which is now Welwyn. Thus began van driving days. Vehicles were used in summer;

closed wooden vans drawn by horses, in winter. Trustees that deserve mention from 1929 are S. Shearer, H. Rose, E. Parsons, A. Elliot, F. McGuire, F. P. Crump (1944 to 1965) and B. Lewis. In 1965, Manitoba formed larger school divisions. Beaver Rapids consolidated with Fort la Bosse of Virden. All Beaver Rapids students were transported to McAuley. Two years later, McAuley High School closed its doors with the students going to Virden. Beaver Rapids school still stands today in the same location. It is owned by Lloyd Little, now living in Welwyn, Saskatchewan.



Beaver Rapids School Van: Stella Byers, Eleanor Kirbyson, Suref Elliott, Bill Elliott, Betty Kirbyson, Pat Kirbyson, Josephine Elliott, Lyle Kirbyson, Gertrude Elliott.

The Crewe School District Number 546 1888-1917

The first meeting of the Crewe School District, after being duly publicized was held in the home of J. Ellis on October 1, 1888, and the first trustees elected to the board were J. Ellis, E. Bligh and James Falloon. Other trustees elected over the 29 years the school operated were; Rupert Bligh, David Davis, Scott Ellis, George Randall, C. Burdett, A. Hall, A. Cox, R. Ferguson, J. McQuay, Jim Boles, S. Falloon and L. McNarry. Secretaries who held office were Walter Pizzey, W. R. Riddington, A. Hunter and F. E. Burdett.

The trustees met on March 14, 1889 for the purpose of opening the tenders for the construction of the school house, and the tender was let to Rupert Ellis to construct a school according to the approved specifications for the sum of \$415. Accordingly, the trustees raised \$500.00 by the issuing of debentures for ten years at the rate of six percent and the school was erected on the west side of the NW¼ of 33-17-28, which at the time was owned by James Falloon, presently owned by Cecil Burdett.



Crewe School Class of 1906. Hazel Falloon, Amy Burdette, Clarissa Cox, Dot Ellis, Sophia Falloon, Sarah Jane (Sadie) Falloon, Lucy Ellis, Grace Davies, Bertha Murphy (teacher), Annie Ebborn, Ella Falloon, Aggie Davies, Lena Burdette, Cecilia Cox, (seated) Leonard Falloon, Jack Falloon, Henry Ebborn, Fred Pizzey, Oswald Rorke, Joe Ebborn, John Cox (slate).



B.R. Fred. Pizzey, Joe Ebborn, Lena Burdett, Sophia Falloon, Lucy Ellis, Miss Murphy (teacher), Annie Ebborn, Sadie Falloon. 2nd Row: Oswald O'Rorke, Ella Falloon, Henry Ebborn, Bill Leclair, Bill Ellis, Jack Falloon, Scott Ellis, Leonard Falloon, Joe Caplette, George McIvor. Front: Dorothy Ellis, Cecelia Cox, John Cox, Clarissa Cox, Amy Burdett, Hazel Falloon.

Some of the teachers over the years were Mrs. Gwyer, J. Riddington, Llewellyn Ellis, Reta Edmunds, Edith Dorsett, Wm. Shepherd, Ella Walley, Bertha Murphy (Mrs. J. K. Hay), Miss Cameron, Miss Wilson, Miss Brickley, Miss Maddock, Miss Edna Cline (Mrs. Arthur Falloon) and Nellie Dutton.

It is interesting to note how inflation was rampant in those days, as the early teachers were paid at the rate of \$30.00 per month, but by the time the school closed, salaries had risen to \$600.00 per year. Also, according to the minute book, one of the yearly items was the tendering of stove wood, nearly always for six cords, cut in two foot lengths, split and piled in the schoolyard. In 1890, the tender was let for \$1.85 per cord, but by 1916, had raised to a high of \$4.00. Some of the teachers were paid an additional \$2.00 per month in the winter for lighting the fire, but for a few years, Lennie Falloon was paid ten cents per day, later raised to fifteen. The Secretary-treasurer didn't fare quite as well, as he was originally paid \$15.00 per year, and it was not until the final year that it was raised to \$20.00.

Other oddities revealed in the minute book show that in 1898, the school was moved 500 yards so as to be closer to the road allowance and not be trespassing on Mr. Falloon's property. The tender was let to W. R. Riddington for \$75.00.

In 1892, the school was closed for three months as of January 1st, and a Mr. Johnstone was given the use of the stove while the school was closed. In 1895, a larger box stove was purchased and the old stove was traded to Mr. Redmond for two cords of wood, delivered.

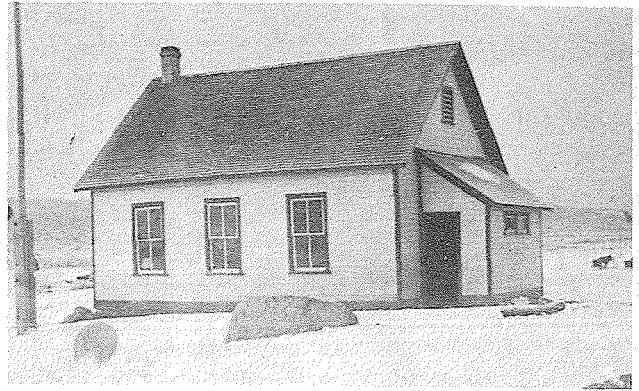
There is little information in the minutes as to the number of pupils enrolled, but there is a picture available, taken in 1906, with Bertha Murphy as teacher and twenty-three pupils.

In December, 1916, a ratepayers' meeting was held and addressed by Inspector Morrison, pointing out the advantages of consolidation, and it was agreed unanimously to consolidate with Foxwarren. The last board of trustees consisted of R. Ferguson, L. McNarry, and S. J. Falloon, with F. E. Burdett as secretary. S. J. Falloon was named to represent Crewe School District on the Foxwarren board. The old building was sold in 1920 to Jas. Reid and moved to the N.W. of 18-18-28, where it still sits, almost hidden in a poplar bush.

Decorby School #846

The history of the very first school in St. Lazare is still uncertain. Apparently, when Father Jules Decorby came to start a mission in our beautiful valley in 1879, he built a school house of logs 20' x 22'.

It has been said that in those early years, M. Jean-



First Decorby School.

Marie Fouillard and Mrs. Delphis Chartier devoted some of their time to education; they taught night school.

The school district of Decorby #846 was formed on November 17, 1894 by by-law #145 of the Municipality of Ellice. There was a small school built about one mile north of town at what was known as the old mission (where the old cemetery is today).

In 1899 the first school teacher on record was Alice Meehan.

In 1926 Decorby School was moved to the site where Villa Decorby is now. Edmond Simard undertook the task with a steam engine; it took him a week to cover one mile, as the ground was soft and very . . . muddy! In 1930 the sisters of the Presentation of Mary arrived in St. Lazare. Four days after their arrival, on August 24th, Sister Ste. Denise and Sister Ste. Anastasia greeted 46 students, 19 boys and 27 girls. By 1934, the enrolment had increased; requiring an additional third class to be opened at the convent for grades VII to X. The Sisters were paid \$150.00 rent for a year. In 1938, a fourth class was opened in the church sacristy. The enrolment was now 99 students.

On August 3rd, 1944 the school trustees of Decorby School met with Sister Superior and Sister Anastasia and accepted Eugene Fouillard's offer to build a new 2-room school on the same site. This new construction would remain the property of Eugene Fouillard. It was agreed to pay \$360.00 rent for a period of one year. Lorenzo Tremblay was care-taker at that time and was paid \$18.00 a month. The trustees were John Dupont, Chairman; Léon Huberdeau, Eugene Simard, Joseph Tremblay, Peter Roy, Louis Guay and Marguerite Dupont. It is interesting to note that in 1945, there were three teachers being paid \$1,000 each a year. Sister Anastasia, principal, was paid \$1,300.00 a year. In 1948, a school principal was paid \$1,800.00, a junior high teacher \$1,500.00, grades II to V teachers \$1,200.00 and a grade I

teacher was paid \$1,000.00. Over the years, the student enrolment increased steadily and consequently, space, again became a problem. At a school trustees meeting on May 19, 1953, a motion was made to apply for a special grant that would help pay 40% of the cost of a new 6 room school. Sr. Anastasia was appointed as delegate to consult with the Minister of Education and negotiate for the proposed new school. Blue-prints were accepted in January 1954. Léon Dupont of Dupont Engineering, was awarded the contract to build the new school in May of that year. (This school is the old part of the present school.)

In April 1958, the trustees held a meeting to discuss the possibility of forming a consolidated school district. This would include the Decorby School district, Ellice School District and that part of Foxwarren belonging to Ellice Municipality. All pupils of these districts would attend Decorby School. On January 1st, 1959 the St. Lazare Consolidated School #2366 was formed. Appointed as trustees and signing their Oath of office, were; Reginald Chartier, Léon-Joseph Fouillard, Frank Dale, Louis Huberdeau, and Arthur Fenez, with Georges Fouillard as secretary-treasurer.

In 1960, St. Lazare was included in the Birdtail River School Division #38. In February, the school trustees requested a four room high school. This request was denied as the student enrolment was not sufficient. Robert Selby was named school trustee for the St. Lazare district. That same year the board accepted the consolidation of Pumpkin Plains School. Again, problems of space had to be solved. In 1962, a solid wall was installed in the school auditorium to make two classrooms. Grades IX to XII were to occupy rented quarters (now apartments owned by Ernest Fouillard). The old church (Parish Hall) premises were used for physical education classes. There were about 300 students from grade 1 to XII at this time. The first kindergarten class started in September 1968. Their teacher, Sister Thérèse Pelletier, taught her 22 young pupils at the convent due to lack of space. The students of the first kindergarten were: John Fleury, Larry Haney, Jean-Pierre Decorby, Roberta Chartier, André Perreault, Marcie Fiddler, Anita Fouillard, Suzette Prescott, Rachelle Huberdeau, Léonne Huberdeau, Albert Bouchard, Darrell Cadieux, Bernard Fouillard, Joel Fouillard, Laurie Lea Selby, Elie Fouillard, Calvin Henderson, Raymond Hayden, Roger Tourond, Pierre Fouillard, René Lemoine and Leonard Selby.

Due to centralization, the grades X, XI and XII students were transferred to Birtle High School. That year, an addition was built to the St. Lazare school, giving us four large classrooms, a gymnasium, a

seminar room, a laboratory and a spacious library. Presently the library contains approximately 10,000 French and English books. In 1970-71, Mr. Denis Bisson, increased the French instruction time allotment to 50% from the previous 25%. This was in agreement with Bill 59 that had been passed in September 1967. Kindergarten to VI were involved in this program. In 1972-73, with Henri Bisson as principal, the French instruction time allotment increased to 75% from kindergarten to grade III; whereas grades IV to VI remained at 50%. Kindergarten to VII may now receive complete instruction in French according to Bill 113. In 1978, with Pierre Beaudoin as principal, the change over from the English to the French program was complete so the name of the school was officially Ecole St. Lazare. Now, the students are permitted to have 75% French instruction and 25% English. This situation is quite the contrary to what it used to be! In previous years, students were taught 75% of the time in the English language and 25% in French. There was also a time when the Manitoba Government abolished the teaching of French and religion. Lessons had to be taught exclusively in the English language. How many former students and teachers remember the school inspector's visits? As soon as his arrival was known, French books and catechisms were hidden . . . The following year, the possibility of having grades X, XI and XII in French at Ecole St. Lazare was entertained at various meetings. However, different factors made all efforts futile. To date, students wanting to pursue their education in French have to attend school in Winnipeg.

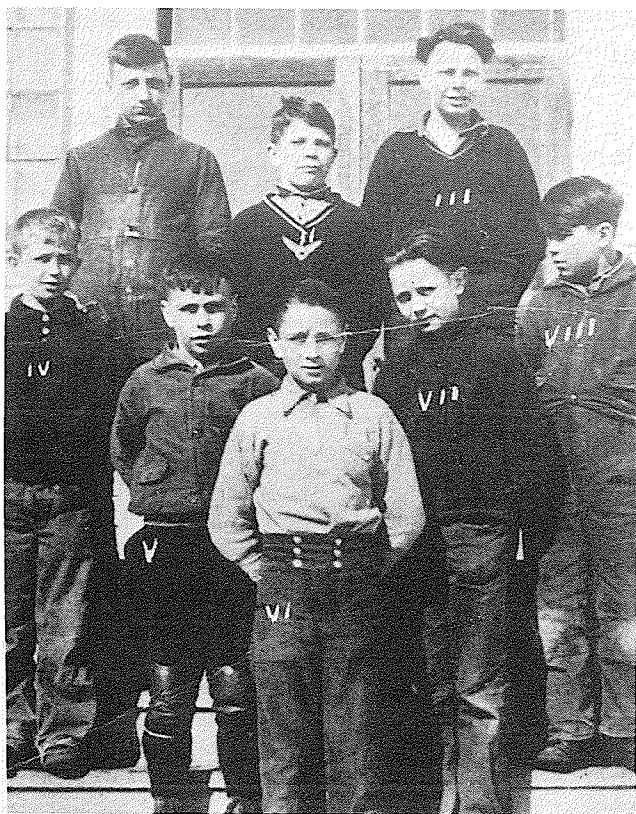
And now, for some highlights that took place at school . . . In 1928 — "A banquet was held in honor of Father Alexandre d'Eschambault, who was leaving for Grande Clairière . . . The banquet was followed by a concert presented by the students. Miss Hélène Fulham presented an address and Arthur Fouillard a bouquet on behalf of all the students of Decorby School.

1963 — . . . "distribution of the diplomas for French and music trophies . . .

A first — in October, 1960, Sister Anastasia put into effect two, 20 minute periods of physical education per week for all classes. She supervised the installation of the necessary equipment for track training.

In 1981 — the primary grades I to IV joined to form a choir, now known as the "Coeurs Joyeux" under the direction of Sister Irène Bouchard. On June 22, 1982, they appeared on the television program "PROFILE" in Yorkton, Sask.

Teachers who taught school from 1930 to 1965 are too numerous to mention.



Pupils of Decorby School: Léopold Chartier, Robert Selby, Paul Dupont, Léon Fouillard, Arthur Fouillard, Robert DeCorby, Adolph Fulham. Front: Bill Smith.

The 1982-83 staff is made up of: Sr. Elizabeth Decorby, principal, Yvette Mallet, Sr. Mariette Bilodeau, Sr. Ida-Marie Hainault, Lorraine Tremblay, Genevieve Tremblay, Sr. Irène Bouchard, Sr.

Thérèse Pelletier, Irène Pelletier, Annette Chartier — librarian, Natalie Rittaler — secretary, Arthur Fenez and Deana Haney — janitors.

The names of those who devoted their time for the education of our children by representing Ecole St. Lazare in the Birdtail River School Division #38 are Robert Selby, Eugene Mulaire, André Huberdeau, and our present representative, Antonio Simard.

In conclusion, we should be very appreciative of all the people involved in the education of the children of this municipality — parents, trustees, lay and religious teachers, who for over a century have laboured, at times with little remuneration, to provide our children with the best of their talents to make good citizens of them for God and Country.

Shortly after the sisters changed from their long habit to a short one, some teenage boys were passing in front of the convent when they saw a young nun working in the flower beds. That particular sister had a very good figure and especially beautiful legs. The boys whistled at her and she turned around and asked them; "What did you expect — wheels?"!

Another sister broke a leg once and her mischievous teen-age pupils gave her the nickname of "Hop-Along Chastity"!

Ecoles à Saint Lazare

Nous commençons à traiter le sujet d'écoles à Saint Lazare avec un peu d'ambiguïté. Tout de même, nous savons que le Père Jules Décorby bâtit une école, 20' x 22', en 1879.

En parlant à quelques pionniers de la place, nous avons aussi appris que M. Jean-Marie Fouillard et



Class of 1925.

Mme Delphis Chartier auraient fait la classe du soir. Le premier professeur aurait été un certain M. Warm. Quelques-uns de ses élèves auraient été Messieurs Jules Décorby, Louis et David Guay.

Le 17 novembre, 1894, par le statut no. 145 de la municipalité d'Ellice, l'école Décorby no. 846 fut formée. Il y avait une petite école, où? . . . à un mille au nord du village à la vieille mission (près du vieux cimetière).

En 1899, ce fut Alice Meehan qui vint enseigner. Elle fut suivie par Robert Doucette, Mélanie Harrison, Louisa Beaupré, (Mme Joseph Tremblay), Marthe Bergeron (soeur de Mme Israël Tremblay), Henri Tielleman, Mlle Paradis, Mlle Poirier, Mlle Courchènes, M. J. A. Blouin, Mlle Philippon, Mlle Leblanc, M. Dansereau, Mlle Lauzé, Marie Saurrette, W. J. Paul et Mlle H. Dupont.

Vers 1926, l'école Décorby fut déménagée de la vieille mission sur le terrain, aux environs de ce qui est maintenant Villa Décorby. Ce fut M. Edmond Simard qui entreprit la tâche. Il y avait eu beaucoup de pluie cette année-là! Imaginez-vous maintenant d'un engin à vapeur tirant une école! En effet, a-t-on dit que ça lui a pris une semaine pour faire le trajet d'à peu près un mille. Il s'enfonçait continuellement dans la boue . . .

Quatre ans plus tard, le 20 août, 1930 les soeurs de la Présentation de Marie arrivaient à Saint Lazare. Cela ne donnait pas grand temps à S. Ste. Denise et S. Ste. Anastasie pour préparer leurs classes, car quatre jours après leur arrivée, elles accueillaient 46 élèves, dont 19 garçons et 27 filles.



Second Decorby School.

En 1934, le nombre d'élèves avait doublé et une troisième classe s'ouvrit au couvent pour les élèves de la 7, 8, 9, 10ième année. La Présentation de Marie recevait \$150 par année comme loyer.

1938 vit ouvrir une 4ième classe dans la sacristie de l'église. L'inscription à l'école était maintenant à 99 élèves.

C'est alors que le 3 août, 1944, les commissaires de l'école DéCorby no. 846, S. Supérieur, ainsi que, S. Anastasie se rencontrèrent et acceptèrent l'offre de M. Eugène Fouillard de bâtir une nouvelle école sur le même site. Ce même édifice resterait la propriété de E. Fouillard. Ce dernier la louerait pour une année à \$360.

M. Lorenzo Tremblay fut nommé concierge. Il était payé la grosse somme de \$18 par mois.

Vu que nous parlons de salaire, en 1945, il y avait trois professeurs à l'école qui étaient payés \$1,000 par an. La directrice, S. Anastasie recevait \$1,300 par an.

En 1948, une directrice d'école était payée \$1,800 — professeurs de classe intermédiaire, \$1,500 — professeurs des grades 2 à 5 — \$1,200 — professeurs de première année — \$1,000.

Le nombre d'élèves augmentait avec les années et l'espace manquait. Les endroits pour faire l'enseignement étaient limités. Les élèves de Pumpkin Plains veulent venir à l'école DéCorby. Ils sont refusés.

Le 19 mai 1953, à une rencontre de commissaires, une proposition est faite par M. Réginald Chartier et secondée par M. John Dupont, que les commissaires fassent une demande au Ministère d'Education pour un octroi spécial qui aiderait à payer 40% du coût d'une nouvelle école de six classes.

Soeur Anastasie fut nommée déléguée pour aller consulter le Ministre d'Education. Elle devait négocier pour avoir des plans convenables pour la proposée nouvelle école. Les plans furent acceptés en janvier 1954.

Au mois de mai de cette même année, M. Léon Dupont de "Dupont Engineering" fut accordé le contrat pour construire la nouvelle école. (Ce qui est la vieille partie de l'école actuelle).

En avril 1958, les commissaires de l'école DéCorby discutèrent la possibilité de consolider les districts scolaires de l'école DéCorby, de l'école Ellice ainsi qu'une partie de Foxwarren appartenant à la municipalité d'Ellice. Tous ces élèves suivraient leur cours à l'école DéCorby.

C'est alors que le 1 janvier 1959, le district scolaire de Saint Lazare, no. 2366 fut formé. Les nouveaux commissaires qui furent assermentés, le 7 janvier furent Réginald Chartier, Léon-Joseph Fouillard, Frank Dale, Louis Huberdeau et Arthur Fenez. M. Georges Fouillard fut nommé secrétaire-trésorier.

Saint Lazare, en 1960, fait partie de la division scolaire Birdtail. Au mois de février les commissaires demandent de l'aide financière pour bâtir une école secondaire de quatre classes. C'est M.

Robert Selby qui représente Saint Lazare à la division scolaire Birdtail. La demande pour la construction est refusée car ils disent que le nombre d'élèves est insuffisant. Il faudrait attendre un autre trois à quatre ans.

Tout de même, notre école est trop petite! On le sait bien! En plus, d'autres élèves viennent se joindre à notre école car l'école Pumpkin Plains fait maintenant partie de notre district scolaire.

Pour accommoder le surplus d'élèves, quelques changements dans l'école durent être faits. En 1962, un mur est installé dans l'auditorium pour en faire deux classes, la salle à dîner (ce qui est aujourd'hui le jardin d'enfance) devint une classe spéciale. On fit même une petite classe près de la chambre de la fournaise. Celle-ci est aujourd'hui le locale de la cantine de l'école actuelle. Les grades 9 à 12 durent occuper des quartiers loués. (Ce qui est maintenant les suites à louer de M. Ernest Foillard). A cause de l'exiguïté des locaux l'éducation physique est enseignée dans la vieille église (salle paroissiale).

Septembre 1968, vit la première classe de jardin d'enfance. S. Thérèse Pelletier fut leur institutrice et cette dernière dût enseigner à ces 22 bambins au couvent car il n'y a plus d'espace dans l'école. Les premiers élèves de cette jardinière sont: John Fleury, Larry Haney, Jean-Pierre DéCorby, Roberta Chartier, André Perreault, Marcie Fiddler, Anita Fouillard, Suzette Prescott, Rachelle Huberdeau, Léonne Huberdeau, Albert Bouchard, Darrell Cadieux, Bernard Fouillard, Joel Fouillard, Laurie Lea Selby, Elie Fouillard, Calvin Henderson, Raymond Hayden, Roger Tourond, Pierre Fouillard, René Lemoine, Léonard Selby.

1969 vit plusieurs changements. Premièrement, nos rêves d'avoir une école secondaire ne se réalisent pas. En septembre, les élèves de la 10, 11, et 12^{ième} année doivent être transférés à Birtle.

Tout n'était pas perdu en ce qui concernait la construction d'une école; car, cette même année, une addition fut construite à l'école de Saint Lazare.

Cette nouvelle partie nous donnait quatre grandes classes modernes, un grand gymnase, un séminar, un laboratoire et une spacieuse bibliothèque. Aujourd'hui, celle-ci contient près de dix milles volumes anglais et français.

Durant l'année scolaire 1970-1971, sous la direction de Monsieur Denis Bisson, l'école Saint Lazare augmenta le pourcentage de l'enseignement en français à un maximum de 50% (en vue de l'école française) d'après la loi 59 passée en septembre 1967. Les classes de la maternelle jusqu'à la sixième année, furent impliquées dans ce programme.

En 1972-1973, dans les classes de la maternelle à

la troisième année, l'enseignement en français augmenta à 75% et les grades 4 à 6 gardèrent le 50%.

Deux ans après, les classes de la maternelle à la septième année purent recevoir leur enseignement totalement en français. (loi 113)

C'est en 1978 que la conversion au français fut complète. A l'occasion d'une visite au Québec plusieurs professeurs eurent l'honneur de saluer M. Olivier Tremblay qui, au début des années '70 fut prêter par cette province pour venir au Manitoba mettre sur pied la section française du Ministère d'Education Française ou BEF. Celui-ci se montra très heureux de rencontrer des éducateurs de Saint Lazare "car: déclara-t-il Saint Lazare a été la première école française au Manitoba".

Cette situation est tout à fait l'opposé des années auparavant. L'enseignement était de 75% anglais et 25% français. Il y eut même un temps lorsque la Législation du Manitoba abolit l'enseignement catholique. L'instruction devait être faite exclusivement en langue anglaise. Combien d'anciens professeurs et élèves se rappellent de la visite du redouté inspecteur? Aussitôt que son arrivée était connue, tout le monde se dépêchait à cacher leurs livres français et petits Catéchismes . . .

L'année suivante, 1979-1980, plusieurs réunions eurent lieu afin de discuter la possibilité de ramener le secondaire à l'école Saint Lazare. Cependant, le tout en était pour rien. Aujourd'hui, les élèves voulant poursuivre leurs études en français après la 9^{ième} doivent le faire à Winnipeg. Maintenant voici quelques événements qui tournent autour de l'école . . . Pour certains la date n'est pas connue mais nous espérons que vous allez pouvoir vous situer et ainsi vous rappeler des souvenirs . . .

"Les 16, 17, 18 mai, nos élèves du couvent prirent part au festival qui a lieu cette année à Foxwarren, Manitoba. Le chœur de chant des 3, 4, 5 arriva le premier sur neuf autres écoles. Les grades 6, 7, 8, furent classés deuxième sur sept écoles . . .

"Le concert du 5 juin, donné par les élèves de nos Révérendes Soeurs, charma les auditeurs. Dans le drame, "Le peuple sans histoire," Charles Chartier imita parfaitement Lord Durham; tandis que, Marthe Selby, celle d'une vaillante petite Canadienne française, fière de sa race et des histoires de son pays . . ."

"La troupe "Margot" nous a quittés vendredi le 18 pour Dunrea. Elle se compose de Mlles Marguerite Goeujon, directrice, Aurélienne et Thérèse Chartier, Messieurs Paul Tremblay, Paul Dupont, Jacques Guay et Auguste Chartier. Mlle J. Lussier les accompagne . . ."

"L'école Saint Lazare, sous la direction de M. Henri Bisson, présente une boîte à chansons . . . Qui

ne se rappelle pas de "La Mini-jupe" présentée par Gilles Guénette et David Chartier."

"Les élèves de l'école Saint Lazare se montrent encore très généreux . . . Sous l'initiative de Soeur Teresa Sanche, les élèves donnent argent, articles de toilette, convertures, poupées, tout pour aider la Croix-Rouge . . ."

Ce qui suit est une liste de professeurs qui ont oeuvré à partir de 1930 à 1965 à Saint Lazare. Nous espérons n'avoir oublié personne, et si c'est le cas, nous nous en excusons . . .

Il y eut S. Ste. Denise, S. Anastasie, S. M-François du Sacré Coeur, S. St. Alban, S. St. Her-mas, S. St. Jean-Emile, S. Cécile Angela, S. Ana-tole-Marie, S. St. Jean-Gabriel, S. Béatrice, S. Lucina, S. Ste. Lutgarde, S. Marie de Sales, S. Marie-Rose du Sacré-Coeur, Mlle Della Desrochers, S. M. St. Joseph, S. M. Catherine de Gênes, S. Marie-Thérèse du Sacré-Coeur, S. Jean du Coeur de Marie, Mlles Méline Chartier, Emma Sabourin, Edith DéCorby, S. Ste. Marie de la Charité, Mlles Raymonde Doucette, Jeannette Pelletier, Rachelle Gosselin, Mariette Gareau, Réjeanne Gareau, Jean-nine Lamontagne, S. M. Jean-de-la-Croix, Mlles Dolorès Gosselin, Christine de Moissac, Mme Houde, Mme Emma Dubé, Mlles Olive Vermette, Claudette Wenden, S. Denis-du-Sauveur, S. Thérèse Marguerite, S. Marie de Montfort (directrice), Mlles Irène Verley, Annette Gagné (Chartier), S. Lucille de Notre-Dame, S. Hélène de la Trinité, S. Marie Ste. Claire, S. Ste. Anselme, S. Présentation-de-Jésus, S. Luc-du-Sauveur, S. M. Ste. Françoise-de-Rome, Mme Isabelle Lamirande, S. Estelle-Marie, Mlles Patricia Tougas, Rachelle Courchênes (Fouillard), Pauline Dupont.

Je continue la liste. Nous sommes en 1966. Elle continuera jusqu'en 1982.

S. Ste. Zita, Jeanne Labous, Odette Chartier, Liliane Johnston, S. Madeleine de la Croix, Damien Perreault, S. Ste. Marie-Teresa, Geneviève Trem-blay, S. Jeanne de Marie, Joseph Bouchard, Elaine Lemoine, Marie Saquet, Rose Perreault, S. Philippe-Marie, S. M. Angèle de la Croix, Réal Sabourin, S. Jeanette Croteau, S. Aline Blais (directrice), S. Syl-vette Gareau, Lorraine Tremblay, Denis Desrosiers, Ina Hodgson, R. E. Meidl, Denis Bisson (directeur), Gisela Goodman, Patricia Pantel, Karen Simard, Darlene Selby, Emile Vermette, Eugene Fosty, Co-lette Dandenault, Henri Bisson (directeur), Helen Stevens, S. Priscilla Houde, Mark et Eileen Lussier, S. Zélie Dion (Thérèse-Marguerite), Lucille Bisson, Alfred Phaneuf, S. Thérèse Bruneau, Marie-An-toinette Delorme, Glen Ashenhurst, Yvonne Glanze, S. Estelle Lavigne, Gilles Laurent, Pauline Gagné, Mildred Johnson, Joanne Arnal, Pierre Beaudouin

(directeur), Karen Olson, Evelyne Beaudouin, S. Huguette Houle, Raymond Painchaud (directeur), Sylvie Huard-Huberdeau, Yvette Mallet, Alma Braschuk, Sr. Irène Bouchard, Sr. Mariette Bilodeau (directrice), et S. Teresa Sanche.

Nous gardons pour dessert le personnel ensei-gnant de la présente année scolaire 1982-1983.

S. Elizabeth DéCorby (directrice), Yvette Mal-let, S. Ida-Marie Hainault, Lorraine Tremblay, S. Mariette Bilodeau, Geneviève Tremblay, S. Irène Bouchard, S. Thérèse Pelletier, Irène Pelletier, Karen Simard, Annette Chartier — bibliothécaire, Nathalie Rittaler — secrétaire, Arthur Fenez et Deana Haney — concierges.

Voici les noms des personnes qui ont oeuvré comme commissaires et qui ont donné de leur temps à l'éducation de nos enfants tout en représentant l'école Saint Lazare à la division Birdtail no. 38 — Robert Selby, Eugene Mulaire, André Huberdeau et Antonio Simard (commissaire actuel).

En conclusion, soyons tous reconnaissants en-vers les éducateurs de la municipalité — parents, commissaires, professeurs, religieux, religieuses et laïcs qui depuis plus de cent ans mettent à la dispo-sition des enfants de Saint Lazare le meilleur de leurs talents et de leur dévouement pour faire d'eux de bons citoyens pour leur Créateur et leur pays.

Ellice School Division #463

Leone Dale

According to information received from the De-partment of Education, the school district of Ellice #463 was formed in July, 1885, to consist of sections N½ and SW¼-25, all of 26, 27, N½ and SE¼-28, N½ and SE¼-32, all of 33, 34, 35 and 36 in Town-ship 16, Range 28 west; S½ and NE¼-17 and S½ of 24 in Township 17, Range 28 west. The district was



Ellice School.

readjusted from time to time and included in the Consolidated School District of St. Lazare No. 2366 effective January 1, 1959, which later became part of the Birdtail River School Division #38.

Upon examining further school records, I was able to obtain the names of the teachers from 1887 to 1958: 1887 — Laura Hill; 1888 — Sarah Lynch, F. McFarlin; 1889 — Sarah Lynch; 1890 — Sarah Lynch, Sam Wilkinson; 1891-92 — J. H. Sharman; 1893 — J. H. Sharman, E. H. Murphy; 1894 — E. H. Murphy, Emily Tibbatts; 1895 — W. H. Brothers, M. Boddy; 1896-98 M. Boddy; 1899 — Stephenson; 1900 — Geo. L. Kennedy; 1901 — T. A. Glass; 1902-04 (No records); 1905 — Ella Stewart; 1906-07 Lottie Reeder; 1908-09 (No records); 1910 — Ida Ward, Freddie Edwards; 1911 — Millicent Hodgson, Maggie Miller; 1912 — Maggie Miller, Alvin T. Kines; 1913 — M. Barke, Theresa White; 1914 — Victor Warner; 1915 — James B. McGuire, A. Gregory, Marg. O'Keefe; 1916-17 Margaret O'Keefe; 1918 — Violet Sanderson, Florence Morton; 1919 — Florence McLennan, M. E. Cochrane; 1920 — M. E. Cochrane, E. Hunter; 1921 — Vivian Hardy; 1922 — Margaret O'Keefe; 1923-25 — Vic Hillcox; 1926 — Elsie Ruddick; 1927 — Leila Fraser; 1928 — Stan Alsford; 1929 — Belle Cameron; 1930-32 Lois Falloon; 1933 — Helen Morrison; 1934-39 Leone Bourbonnais; 1940 — Leone Bourbonnais, Alice Dupont; 1941 — Marie Blanchard; 1942-45 Alice Dupont; 1946 — Lea Levesque; 1947 — Lazare Fouillard;

would set up the stage. From then on the exuberant children were hard to restrain. They put all their heart into every rehearsal. The school was decorated, the tree set up by the trustees, who pretended it was "too much work", but really enjoyed themselves. In between times, the teacher had made up 100 red leno bags to be filled with candies, peanuts and an orange donated by the school board. It was hoped there would be enough for every child at the concert. Parents and friends applauded; the children beamed with pride; Santa made his visit; then lunch and coffee, provided by the mothers, rounded off the delightful evening. In the "thirties", a dance followed for the enjoyment of the "young set" but in later years this was dropped. Remembering all those years, it was surprising that not one had to be cancelled for bad weather. Laura Wilson tells me that when the old school burned in 1922, the Christmas concert was held in their home, which is where Arthur Huberdeau used to live and where Alfred Simard now resides.

Among the school trustees who held office we note the following: Jos. Wilson, W. O'Keefe, R. Dale, G. Leaming, Jack Gardiner, T. Leverington, Rosario Huberdeau, Arthur Decelles, Melvin Graham, Frank Dale, Fabien Perreault, Fred Mouillierat, Louis Huberdeau and Raoul Huberdeau.

The students of Ellice School came from diverse ethnic backgrounds. Families of Anglo-Saxon and Irish descent were: the Wilsons, Dales, Dunns,



Ellice School (teacher Margaret O'Keefe). L. to R. — Joe Fleury, Paul Huberdeau, John Wilson, Charles O'Keefe, Cecil Duff, Frank Dale, Basil Piché, Fred Leverington, Bob Wilson, Davy Duff, Dorothy Spicer, Blanche Spicer, Dora Wilson, Madge Dunn, Annie Wilson, Simone Huberdeau, Olive O'Keefe, Alice Dunn, Dorothy Dale.

Duffs, Gardiners, Leamings, Leveringtons, Dimmerys, O'Keefes, Gwyers, Spicers, Dearles, Grahams, Shephards, Simpsons, and the Greens. Rosario Huberdeau's family was the only French family for many years until the Gaston Cadieux, Albert Chartier, Denis Laferriere, Arthur Decelles, Fabien Perreault, Arthur Fenez, Antonio Deschambault, the Raoul, Paul and Louis Huberdeau families took over farms in the district. The German element was represented by the Krahns, Fasts, Neudorfs and the Wiens. 'Chinatown's' Metis families sent their children to Ellice. The Jos. and Louis Fleury's, Piches, Leclairs, Fiddlers, Houles, Mallaterres, Pepsins, Robert Fleury's and the Mockfords all trudged out of the valley to get to school. As a whole, Ellice School was run smoothly by its teachers who were dedicated to their work. Inspector reports were always favorable. At the time of consolidation, the enrolment had reached 32 pupils from grades one to nine. I am sure that most of Ellice School students remember the good times spent in this institution of learning, and if there were bad times, they have faded into the past.

After consolidation the building was used as a place for meetings especially, and a few years later it 1948 — Hortense Fillion; 1949-51 Alma Desrosiers; 1952-58 Leone Dale. Until 1934, if room and board was required for a teacher, it was provided by the Jos. Wilson family; after 1934, this service was provided by the Rosario and Louis Huberdeau families.

From 1885 to 1887, it is thought that school classes were held in private homes. The first Ellice School, built and occupied in 1887, was situated across the road from the present Louis Huberdeau home. It was a one-room building, heated by an iron wood-stove in the center of the room. The 1887 annual report says three boys and five girls were in attendance. Because some students rode or drove themselves to school, there was a small barn to shelter the horses.

In 1922 a new school was built, about a hundred yards farther south. The basement of the new school was suitable for a gym of sorts. The large wood-burning furnace heated the upper floor. It contained a coat-room, a supply room which doubled as a teacher's room, and a large classroom. Four tall, wide windows let in the sun and, unfortunately, the cold winds in winter. Speaking for myself, from 1934-40, I wore moccasins and at least three pairs of woolen socks all winter through. The students would stand over the large grill in the floor until they "thawed out". The inconvenience of the outside privy was an ordeal to be borne with speed and courage.

Along with the three R's, art, singing, storytelling and physical education were encouraged. As

soon as spring arrived, it was time to practise baseball to hopefully come out victorious in the games against Oxford School. When Birtle held its field days, Ellice and Oxford were usually the only rural teams entered. The smooth, sandy road by the school served as practice ground for sprints, broad jumps, etc. The school was also entered in the Marquette Festival in the rural section and received praise for their renditions. A school picnic usually closed off the school year.

Nevertheless, it was for its Christmas concerts that the school is best remembered. The excitement started early in October when a dance was sponsored to raise money for gifts for the students. The response was always overwhelming. People came from St. Lazare, Oxford, and Foxwarren. One Christmas, Robert Smellie, who was the Conservative candidate in the Provincial Elections, attended the concert, all the way from Russell. The support for these dances was extended to other schools around when they held their dances.

Starting in November, the program having been planned, noon hours were taken up with learning lines, making costumes, practising drills and singing. Two weeks before the concert the school trustees burned to the ground.



Pupils at Ellice School — Leone Bourbonnais, teacher.

Fouillard Special School

Fouillard School was built in 1946, on the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ 34-18-29, in Ellice. Previous to the building of the school, classes were held in the St. Hubert Mission. Fouillard School was built by the Special Services of the Department of Education. Mr. Bernard Grafton was the official in charge until the school closed in 1966.

The school was made up of two large classrooms. The rooms were divided into grades I to IV and V to VIII. When the school was first built, there were

approximately 60 pupils. Gradually with families finding employment elsewhere enrolment dwindled. There had been two teachers employed but with enrolment going down to 24 pupils only one teacher was necessary. When the school was built there were no living quarters for the teachers. Therefore, the first two lived in the furnace room until a teacherage was built. In November 1964, the school burned down. In January 1965, the teacherage was converted into a classroom. One teacher taught grades I to VIII. The pupils from grades V to VIII were taken to Binscarth in the fall of 1965 with grades I to IV remaining at Fouillard. In June 1966, Fouillard School was consolidated with Binscarth.



Fouillard Special School.

At present the site of the area of Fouillard School has been purchased by the Valley View Sheep Farm with the teacherage being converted into an office.

Fouillard School was used as a community centre for the area. Here card games, bingos, dances and basket socials were held. The monies raised were used to buy supplies for the school. Each family with children had to bring wood or fuel for the school. With functions being held to raise money and having wood supplied, the school was not totally dependent on the Special Schools Services.

Gambler S.D. No. 1244

On August 17th, 1903, a meeting was held for the purpose of taking the necessary steps towards the building of a school. P. H. Nelson chaired the meeting with J. E. Armstrong, J. L. Johnston and R. Langston being elected as trustees with the latter moved as secretary-treasurer. A. Corder was chosen as auditor.

A special meeting of ratepayers and trustees was held at the home of R. Langston on August 26th, 1903. This was for the choosing of a suitable school site with S.E. quarter 24-18-29 being selected. The

school was named after an Indian Chief of the Gambler Reserve.

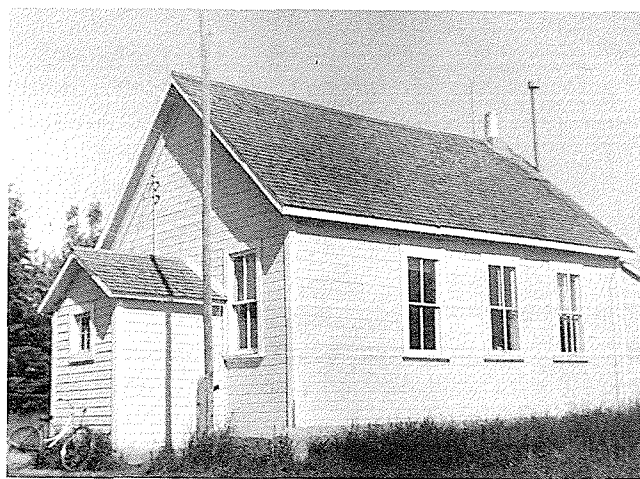
In the register of 1907 the pupils attending school were, Russell, Marion and Alex Johnston, Emma, Katharine and Rene Lalonde, Gertrude and Florence Langston. Miss E. L. Bates was teacher then.

Teachers from 1905 to 1912 were Miss H. Magee, Miss E. L. Bates, Miss A. E. Ebborn, Miss L. M. McKenzie, Miss E. Cass, Miss S. Cameron, Miss C. Fletcher and Miss I. M. Phizacklea.

At the annual meeting of ratepayers held Dec. 2nd, 1912, after much discussion concerning the formation of a new school district it was moved by J. W. Lamb and seconded by Chas Saunders that they allow the new district to take the following sections — namely: 31 in township 18, range 28, W. half of 22, N. half 23, N. Half 24, all of 25, 26, 27, 34, 35, 36 in township 18, range 29W.

Providing they obtain in return — section one in township 18, range 29 and 6, 7, 8, 17, 20, 29 in township 18, range 28. Carried.

On March 1st, 1913 it was resolved that the trustee be authorized to move the schoolhouse from S.E. quarter 24-18-29 to S.E. quarter 13-18-29. J. W. Reid was paid \$100 for moving the school from the old site to the new. For making the cement foundation, plastering, repairs to the building, raising a flagpole and making the stable foundation, Eugene Fouillard received \$98.35. Freeman Lamb was paid \$12 for moving the stable.

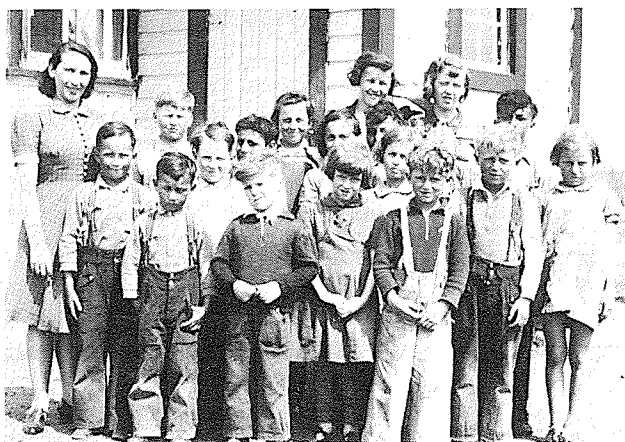


Gambler School.

Teachers from 1913 to 1960 were: Miss M. E. Delmage, Miss A. E. Ebborn, Miss S. Johnston, Miss M. Halliday, J. B. Hall, Miss Laming, Miss Mae Lamb, Miss Hunter, Mr. C. Langford, Miss Mitchell, Miss M. H. Radcliffe, Miss M. Leask, Miss I. M. Lee, Miss Simmie, Mr. V. G. Hillcox, Miss Nellie Butcher, Miss Jean McCrindle, Miss G.

L. Thomson, Miss Ellen Wilson, Mrs. G. Webster, Mr. H. B. Beynon, Mrs. C. Barrington (nee Fletcher), Mr. K. Garden, Mr. F. Smorong, Mrs. V. Lillee, Mr. A. M. Roy, Miss H. J. Robb, Miss V. A. Hogeboom, Mrs. I. M. Tibbatts and Mrs. M. McDonald.

At an annual ratepayers meeting July 17th, 1939 it was moved by T. Jackson and seconded by J. Cox



Pupils of Gambler School — Ellen Wilson, teacher.

that the teacherage be bought from Park Plains S.D. at a cost of \$400. The addition of the teacherage added to the comfort and convenience of the teachers.

The trustees from 1903 to 1960 were: J. E. Armstrong, J. L. Johnston, R. Langston, J. W. Reid, P. Lalonde, Jas. E. Hare, Thomas F. Craft, A. McTier, Wm. Pizzey, J. W. Lamb, Chas. Saunders, John Pizzey, H. M. Johnson, Tom Jackson, Ross Lamb, John Cox, William G. Falloon, Eric Wotton, Honore Plante, Jack McDougall, Ed Perreault.

J. E. Armstrong, R. Langston, J. W. Reid, Wm. Pizzey and Eric Wotton served in the capacity of secretary-treasurer with J. W. Reid and Eric Wotton in that office for many years.

In the spring, school children practised for their athletic event of the year which was known as Binscarth Field Day. Here, they took part in the parade and enjoyed competing in track and field with various other school districts. The annual school picnic was an enjoyable event with races, games and baseball in which the whole community took part. A basket supper was eaten and then home for chores. Concerts were held in December, the pupils providing the entertainment under the guidance of the teacher; often people in the community contributed items for the program.

School was closed at various times for epidemics such as the 'flu of 1918, diphtheria in 1928 and measles in 1941.

In 1935 Mr. Reid planted 650 willows and 150 spruce trees around the school yard. A further 200 trees in 1945 were also planted. These well tended trees made the yard a very attractive playground for the children. The usual rate of pay for cultivating and weeding all these trees was two dollars.

In June of 1960 the school was closed and the pupils were taken by bus to either St. Lazare or Binscarth. The teacherage was bought by Robert LeClair and Mr. Fulham purchased the school and moved it to the Assiniboine Valley.

A cairn now marks the site of the former Gambler School.

Moresby School Division No. 910

Moresby School, built by F. K. Holman for \$676.00, on land donated by Joseph Laycock SE 36-17-28, was opened for classes in August, 1898. Prior to this, classes were held in the home of Hodgson brothers. The stable was built by R. J. Pizzey.

The grades ranged from one to eight, and teachers throughout the years to 1918 were: Miss Mary Smith 1898-9, Miss Helen Noble 1900-1, Miss Rose Hammond 1902, Miss Janet Leach 1903-4, Miss Mary Stewart January to June, 1905, Miss Harriott Taylor August, 1905 to June, 1907, Miss Mary Cuthbertson finished out 1907, Miss Irene Shaw 1908, Miss Anna Huenichen 1909 and up to June, 1910, Miss Taylor (Mrs. W. D. Leavens) finished out 1910, Miss Mary Burke 1911-12, Miss Gertrude McLaren 1913-14, Miss Annie Hodgson 1914-15 and Miss Dorothy Stocker, last teacher before consolidation.

Trustees served as follows: Henry Bierd 1898, Stephen Bierd 1898, Stephen Carr 1898-1906, James Waddell 1898-1904, Henry Denham 1899-1918, Rance Laycock 1905-7, Thomas Burt 1907-9, F. Cooper 1909-18, J. B. Hodgson 1910-15, and Thomas Clarke 1915-18. Serving as chairmen: Stephen Carr, Jas. Waddell, Henry Denham, Thos. Burt and J. B. Hodgson.

Many of the children walked to and from school, winter and summer. The more fortunate drove with horse and buggy or cutter. In the case of little ones, someone had to take them and go for them, if there was not an older brother to drive.

In winter, often times, not much was accomplished before noon, the children being gathered around the wood heater, where lunches would have to be thawed.

Water was always a problem. The first effort was a dug well, which failed to pass testing. Then, a Mr. Gorseline, provided a plentiful supply by drilling. The water was approved by the University, but the taste was such that the children would not drink it. The result was that anyone requiring a drink had to



Moresby School, 1907 — teacher, Miss Cuthbertson. Florence McLellan, Elsie Burt, Roy Hunter, Mary Denham, Ethel Hunter, Pearl McLellan, Lorna Laycock. Willie Laycock, Abby Fraser. 2nd Row: Reuben McLellan, Dorothy Denham. Front: Eliza Laycock, Walter Laycock.

carry a syrup pail of water from home. Needless to say, the ones who did carry a supply did not take kindly to giving a drink to those who did not. One took the precaution of padlocking his pail against finding it empty.

One item of learning, and there were many others, is worthy of note, and which made a lasting impression on the pupils, took place during the first World War. Miss Annie Hodgson, teacher, had procured a large map and with news read from the daily paper, carefully monitored the movements of troops each day. Thus, patriotism was instilled in young minds.

Recreation consisted mainly of baseball in summer. All had to play, big and little, to make enough for teams, and when not enough, they resorted to "catch". In winter, the snow was tramped down and marked out for fox and hounds, prisoner's base or they played kick-can or snow-ball.

One enterprising teacher organized for the older boys, a curling game on a waxed section of floor along one side of the room behind the desks. Their "rocks" were round blocks of wood with a spike

driven in and bent over to make a handle. Those not taking part comprised the cheering line.

The highlight of the year was practicing and decorating for the Christmas Concert. All took part in choruses, recitations, dialogues, drills, skits, whatever. Following Santa's visit, a hearty lunch was partaken of, before going home in the cold in an open sleigh.

The last recorded board meeting was held November 23, 1916. Moresby, Crewe and Dunstan schools joined Foxwarren in consolidation, April 24, 1917. H. Denham of Moresby and S. J. Falloon of Crewe became trustees of the new school in Foxwarren. At a meeting June 16, it was decided to keep Moresby open, with Miss Dorothy Stocker as teacher, until Christmas time, pending the completion of the new school.

The stable, and later the school were purchased by Mr. Thomas Clarke and are still in use on the farm of J. Johnston NE 1-18-28.

A row of maple trees along the road is the only reminder of the site and school years at Moresby.

Park Plains School No. 2192

Park Plains School was situated three and a half miles south east of Beaver Creek. It was built in 1929.

It was a one-room school and a teacherage was built at the same time. The official trustee was Mr. John Selby.



Park Plains School, 1934.

The first teacher was Mrs. Ewart McAuley (Lillian) who with her husband Ewart came there in about 1928. Mrs. McAuley taught school and Mr. McAuley farmed land there and in winter hauled wood to McAuley. They had three children, Rodney, Lois and Gordon.

The people who lived in the district were the Dan Robertsons, Guy Selbys, the Bill Stewarts, James Byers, the Pritchards and the Logans, and their children attended the school. School started the middle of July and closed at Christmas. It opened again in March and continued till July. In 1934 Mrs. McAuley retired from teaching and Miss Ellen Wilson replaced her. The next year the McAuleys moved to a farm near McAuley. During the following years changes took place. This was during the dry years. There were dust storms and the grasshoppers destroyed the crops. People from Saskatchewan and southern Manitoba brought their sheep, cattle and horses to pasture there from the dried out areas. There was a large swamp area with plenty of water and hay where the animals could pasture. There was also a large wood-

ed area where many people from McAuley and Welwyn cut and hauled wood in the fall and winter. The road led past the school and they always had a cheery greeting for the teacher and pupils. The attendance at the school was ten to twelve pupils.

In 1939 the school was closed and a large area of the plains was fenced and became a community pasture. The residents moved to other farms near McAuley and Welwyn.

The school was sold to Mr. P. McGibney for a house. The teacherage was sold to Gamblers S.D. north of St. Lazare for a teacherage.

The school was named after one of the first pioneers, Jas. Park.



Park Plains Pupils. Back: Verna Byers, Hilda Selby, Edith Selby, Grace Robertson, Dorothy Stewart, Bob Stewart. Front: Fred Stewart, Duncan Robertson, Bill Byers, Ethel Byers, Annie Selby, Margaret Byers, Edgar Selby, Lloyd Stewart.

Pumpkin Plains School #702

Pumpkin Plains School District was founded May 14, 1892 by a by-law of the council of the R.M. of Ellice, but some old timers feel there was actually a school in operation there at least a year before that date. The school district was dissolved in June 1960 and its land transferred to the Consolidated School District of St. Lazare. The school was originally located on Pumpkin Plains at the top of the Qu'Appelle Valley, four miles from St. Lazare. About 1948, it was moved down into the valley.

Among the pupils who went to school at Pumpkin Plains when it was opened were the Cheney Burdetts and Reuben Burdetts. Sam Falloon went there the first winter it was open.

The first teacher was Mable Yeandle, followed by Olive Lewarton, W. H. Stratton and Emily Lewarton. There were no records from 1897 to 1905. Teachers after that date were J. R. Archambault, Anthony Belcourt, J. A. Blouin, Martha Beaudry. The school was not in operation in 1916 or 1917, but re-opened in 1918 with Gabrielle Martin as teacher, but closed



Pumpkin Plains school. Class of 1906: Victoria Lemoine, Albina Lemoine, Veronique Belhumeur, Bert Lemoine, Noël Lemoine, Arthur Lemoine, Henri DeCorby, Edward Belhumeur, Regis DeCorby, Napoleon Belhumeur, Paul DeCorby, Elie Decorby.



Pumpkin Plains, 1936 — teacher, Mary Cooper.

during the winter because of the influenza epidemic. It was re-opened in 1920. Among those who taught there in the 1930's were Ila Ferguson Krunfutz and Mary Cooper Lennox. Mary recalls that at Normal

School she was told that a teacher should report all school children in the district who were not attending school. Mary says, "I always did as I was told," also she thought school age children **should** be in school so she reported all non-attenders. The result was such an influx of pupils that she ran out of desks and had to improvise. She brought in nail kegs and packing boxes until the little school was jammed. Mary says there was no play equipment, so she personally bought a ball. They got sturdy pieces of wood from the bush for bats and there were many good roaring baseball games. Mrs. Reg. Decorby (Edna Lewis) was chairman of the school board in those days and the teachers were able to board in her home.

Other teachers were; Miss Nellie Belbas (1953-54) Miss Irene Hort (Mrs. Murray Decorby) 1952-53, Miss Irene Haliuk (Mrs. T. Tibbatts) 1955-56, Mrs. Cecilia Robinson 1958-60.



Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Lepine, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Leclair celebrating their 60th wedding anniversaries.



Home of O. Fleming, 1883.



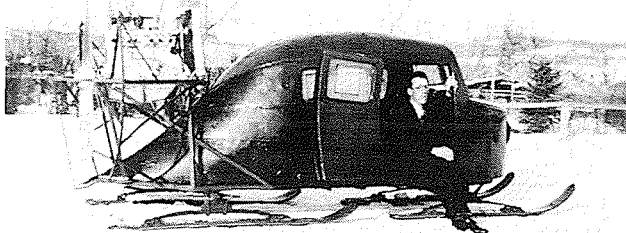
Tootsie Ellis, Mrs. Owen, Marguerite Tremblay.



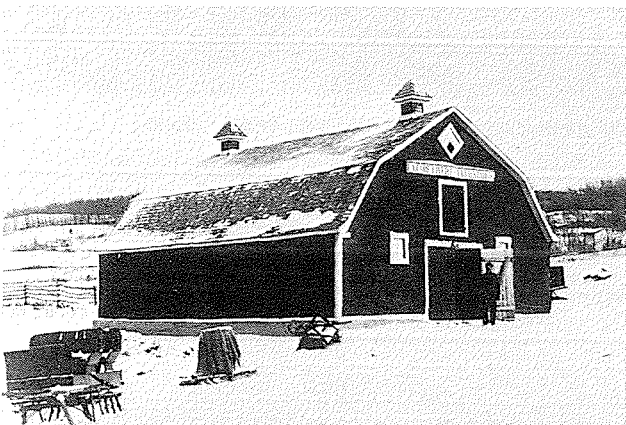
Ruby (McAuley) Wright, Aleta Stewart, Dot and Myrtle Wright.



Building of bridge on road west of town, 1929.



Snowmobile built by Eugene Fouillard, 1935.



Jean Fouillard's Livery Stable.

L'historique du couvent des Soeurs de la Présentation de Marie

En 1928, son Excellence Mgr. Alfred A. Sinnott, archevêque de Winnipeg, mis au courant de la vie paroissiale du village de Saint-Lazare, songea à obtenir des religieuses pour cette paroisse. Par l'entremise de l'Abbé Arthur Desmarais, curé, il invita les Soeurs de la Présentation-de-Marie de Saint-Hyacinthe, Québec, à venir collaborer avec les parents dans l'éducation chrétienne et bilingue de leurs enfants. Ce bon curé plaida sa cause éloquemment. En faisant venir des religieuses à Saint-Lazare, il était désirable qu'elles y établissent un couvent. Elles pourraient alors y desservir tout un district y comprenant les autres centres catholiques des alentours: Sainte-Madeleine, Sainte-Marthe et Saint-Joseph. Toute cette région pouvait compter près de cent-soixante-dix familles. Après ces premières démarches auprès des supérieures des Soeurs de la Présentation-de-Marie, M. l'Abbé Desmarais mourut.

En avril 1930, M. l'Abbé Paul-Emile Halde, curé élu pour remplacer M. l'Abbé Desmarais, poursuivit les démarches de McCreary, où il résidait encore. A son arrivée à Saint-Lazare, il s'empessa de mettre ses paroissiens au courant de ses succès auprès des

Soeurs de la Présentation. Le dimanche, premier juin, il leur lit la lettre promettant des religieuses pour l'école de Saint-Lazare pour le premier septembre, 1931. Même si la nouvelle était bonne et encourageante, les paroissiens se montrèrent un peu déçus car c'était dès 1930 qu'ils voulaient des religieuses! Ils prièrent Monsieur le curé de bien vouloir écrire de nouveau à la supérieure provinciale de Saint-Hyacinthe, Mère Ste-Jeanne de Valois, pour lui demander s'il était possible d'envoyer quelqu'un à Saint-Lazare se renseigner sur place, dès maintenant.

Enfin, le 15 juin, deux religieuses débarquaient du train à 5:00 a.m. pour s'enquérir des conditions offertes par les paroissiens pour un futur couvent à Saint-Lazare. Ces conditions étaient difficiles à refuser. M. et Mme Lionel Chartier, parents d'une nombreuse famille, offraient de quitter leur logis pour aller vivre dans un modeste abri appartenant à la compagnie de chemin de fer afin de procurer une habitation temporaire aux soeurs. Malgré les temps durs, les paroissiens offraient à payer le loyer de la maison en attendant la construction du couvent. Les délégués furent si bien impressionnées de la sincérité des gens et du site si pittoresque que dès leur retour à Saint-Hyacinthe, la Révérende Mère Provinciale fit savoir à M. le curé Halde que cinq religieuses, dont deux institutrices, S. Ste-Denise et S. Ste-Anastasie, seraient à Saint-Lazare pour l'ouverture des classes à la fin août 1930.

Les cinq fondatrices arrivèrent le 21 août: Soeur Ste. Emerentienne, supérieure, Soeur Aimée-du-St. Sacrement, musicienne, Soeur Marie Michel, cuisinière, en plus des deux institutrices mentionnées plus haut. Elles furent accueillies avec de touchantes démonstrations d'estime et d'affection par le bon curé et plusieurs dames de la paroisse. Celles nommées pour s'occuper des religieuses étaient Mesdames E. Fouillard, J. Tremblay, A. Descelles et L. Guay. Les familles généreuses avaient tenu à fournir divers meubles et objets utiles, ce qui facilita l'installation des Soeurs dans le petit couvent. Il faut



Les Révérendes Soeurs, 1969. S. Ste Lutgarde, S. Estelle-Marie, S. Suzanne Detillieux, S. Marie-de-Montfort, Sr. Maria de la Paix, S. Anatole-Marie, S. Ste Zita, S. Agnès-du-Sacré-Coeur, S. Paul-de-Jésus.

aussi mentionner que l'accueil fut aussi chaleureux de la part des protestants que de celle des catholiques.

Il fut enfin convenu qu'un couvent serait construit sur un terrain d'un arpent de longueur et un demi arpent de largeur, lequel terrain appartenait à M. Jean Fouillard: père de Luc, Jean-Marie et Georges et frère de Mme Marguerite Dupont. Pour aider à payer la construction les hommes travailleraient à prix réduits ou fourniraient du gravier, du sable, des pierres et autres matériaux. Ils s'engagèrent encore à procéder à l'excavation pour les fondations et citernes, au nivellement des fondations, au creusage des canaux pour conduire l'eau et les égouts, à trouver l'eau nécessaire pour le dit établissement.

Dès le 12 octobre, et tout au long de l'année, M. le Curé ne cessa de faire appel à ses paroissiens. Il organisa toutes les corvées pour faire le creusage, le nivellement du terrain et le transport des matériaux de la gare au couvent.

Enfin tout était prêt! Le 11 mai 1931 les ouvriers commencèrent à construire sous la direction de l'entrepreneur M. Bourbonnière et la perspicace surveillance de M. le Curé. Les contemporains nous racontent que l'entrepreneur gagnait soixante-quinze sous de l'heure, les ouvriers, quarante sous et les journaliers, vingt sous.

Le 14 mai, c'était la bénédiction des fondations à laquelle assistaient tous les paroissiens. Il y eut chant des Litanies de la Sainte Vierge et de l'Ave Maris Stella. Un mois plus tard, le 14 juin, c'était la bénédiction de la pierre angulaire et de la cloche. Les parrains étaient; Paul-Émile Halde, curé, Joseph Tremblay, Eugène Fouillard et Louis Guay.

Le 29 août 1931, les Soeurs prenaient possession du couvent et le 8 septembre c'était l'entrée des premiers pensionnaires dont les noms suivent: Beatrice Prescott, Imelda Decorby, Hervé Bourbonnière, Ernest Fouillard, Jacques Guay, Alice Huberdeau, Mattie Selby, Denis Fouillard, Leon-Joseph Fouillard, Emmanuel Prescott, Thomas Selby, Clovis Prescott, Rosa Huberdeau, Robert Decorby, Adélard Houle, Arthur Fouillard, Jeanne Huberdeau, Grace Pritchard et Robert Selby.

Le 19 septembre les ouvriers terminaient le couvent. Le 24 du même mois avait lieu la bénédiction du couvent par son Excellence Mgr. Sinnott à laquelle la plupart des paroissiens assistèrent.

Il est à noter que le terrain n'avait été que "fourni" par la paroisse. En octobre 1932 la congrégation des Soeurs de la Présentation-de-Marie acheta ce terrain de M. Jean Fouillard. Plus tard, en novembre 1935, les Soeurs décidèrent qu'un jardin potager aiderait beaucoup à nourrir tous les jeunes confiés à

leurs soins. M. Jean Fouillard leur vendit la lisière de terrain 66' x 274' sur le côté nord de la maison.

Enfin, 52 ans plus tard, le couvent est encore debout et bien solide; ce qui atteste que les paroissiens de Saint-Lazare ont bâti sur le roc! En 1980, les gens étaient heureux de rendre hommage aux religieuses qui avaient partagé leur vie paroissiale pendant 50 ans. Une plaque commémorative fut installée près de la pierre angulaire.* A cette occasion on a aussi rendu hommage aux derniers survivants qui ont travaillé d'une manière ou d'une autre à l'érection de ce solide édifice. Ceux-ci étaient M. Léon Dupont, Brian Simard, Peter Lepine, Albert Roy, Alex Lepine et Georges Plante. Mais les religieuses aussi se souviennent. Elles savent que dans chaque famille de cet arrondissement il y a eu quelqu'un — un grand-père, un père, un oncle ou un cousin — qui a mis la main à la charrue. Que le Seigneur leur rende au centuple. Religieuses —

Peu après que les religieuses avaient changé leur costume long pour un court, quelques jeunes virent une jeune religieuse devant le couvent à travailler dans le parterre. Celle-ci avait très bonne mine avec de très belles jambes. Les jeunes se mirent à siffler et elle se retourna et leur demanda; "Qu'attendiez vous de voir — des roues?"

Une autre religieuse se cassa la jambe et les jeunes élèves lui donnèrent le nom de "Hop-Along Chastity"!

Mémoires

Soeur Anastasie (Marie Casavant)

C'est en 1930 que Soeur Ste. Denise et moi, comme maîtresses de classe, nous sommes intégrées à la population de St. Lazare.

En se rendant en classe, le premier matin, S. Ste. Denise de dire: "Oh! que les enfants sont en retard, il y en a à peine 50!" Et moi, en souriant de lui répondre: "C'est tout ce que nous avons en deux classes (grades 1 à 8) Jeanne Fouillard seule au 8." S. Ste. Denise se pensait encore aux Etats-Unis où elle venait de quitter une école de 1000 élèves, et plus. Avec le temps nous sommes devenues de vraies Lazaréennes. Nous nous sentons apparentées à tout le monde. M. Jean Fouillard, commissaire, avait exprimé à la supérieure le désir de nous garder très longtemps, au moins, 25 ans, mais il n'a eu aucune promesse. Cependant, S. Ste. Denise est demeurée dans ce lieu 25 ans et plus, et moi-même 34. C'est à dire aussi que nos classes se sont multipliées et d'autres de nos religieuses sont venues prêter main forte. Hélas! Soeur Ste. Denise est rendue "Là-Haut", et moi, maintenant à 78 ans, je vis de mes beaux et consolants souvenirs de mes élèves de

l'école Decorby, même les espiègleries de leurs jeunes années me font rire.

Premièrement, je vais vous parler de nos plus jeunes pensionnaires. Je me souviens de Clément Robert, trop jeune pour fréquenter l'école, qui rendait visite à notre classe vaste comme la moitié de la salle de jeux des pensionnaires. Tout le monde aimait ce bambin comme s'il appartenait à la famille de la Haute-Ecole. Nous avons eu aussi Ti-Georges Fouillard qui n'aimait pas être puni. Après un mauvais coup, il disait à Soeur Suzanne, la cuisinière: "Dis pas à périeure, dis pas à Jean Emile, dis à Tazie". Il ne faut pas que j'oublie Victor et Alfred Vermette. Il m'arrivait parfois de voler quelques minutes sur mes cahiers qui demandaient de la correction, pour amuser les deux bambins avant de les mettre au lit. Que d'autres choses semblables on pourrait mentionner! Mais passons! . . .

Nos élèves augmentaient toujours car en gardant le dernier grade chaque année avec les commençants, cela obligeait la commission scolaire d'ouvrir de nouvelles classes, et même de construire une nouvelle bâtisse. Donc, avec le temps, nos enfants de St. Lazare pouvaient faire tous leurs cours chez eux à leur école, sans avoir à voyager ici et là, avant d'entrer à l'université. Comme résultat, St. Lazare a eu ses célébrités. Parmi les élèves de mon temps, je compte: Jean Dupont, docteur de médecine; Luc Fouillard, ingénieur; René Chartier, secrétaire privé du Gouverneur General Schreyer; Claude Fafard, avocat; Larry Selby, avocat; Philip Decorby, principal à l'école de Foxwarren; Kenneth Selby, poste important dans la construction; Wayne Selby, professeur de Français à Winnipeg et combien d'autres se sont distingués dans une sphère ou l'autre!

Dans le domaine des Beaux Arts, un professeur d'université, Joey Fafard, encore l'un des Nôtres, maintenant reconnu comme sculpteur d'une renommée internationale. Si la fournaise de la cave de l'école pouvait parler, elle dirait comme Joey jouissait à passer ses temps libres à dessiner, seule place où on pouvait lui permettre de poser de grands papiers jusqu'à 8 pieds de longueur. Un de ses grands tableaux a été exposé plusieurs années sur le mur du restaurant de Robert Chartier.

La plupart des garçons prennent maintenant part à la vie publique comme commissaires, secrétaires d'école ou autre, de municipalité, même plusieurs ont fait des stages comme maires de village, maîtres de poste. Que dire maintenant de nos garçons de jadis qui ont choisi d'être fermiers — le plus nécessaire secteur de la société. Tout St. Lazare les connaît; ce sont des fermiers qui font face à toutes les exigences de la vie moderne. A eux nos félicitations et nos remerciements!

Dans le monde féminin de St. Lazare, on compte des religieuses de différentes congrégations, nos Soeurs Fouillard, Rosalie et Anita, Présentation de Marie, musiciennes capables et dévouées. Parmi les maîtresses de classe figurent Claire Cadieux, E. MacAuley, Diane et Joan Dale, Lorraine Huberdeau, Genevieve Guay, et autres éloignées dont les noms nous échappent. Anne Fouillard, présentement en Indonésie, qui prépare une thèse importante à l'université de ce même lieu est aussi gloire pour St. Lazare. Camille Fouillard toute à la musique, à Terre Neuve poursuit des études et se rend familière aux agirs de cette province du Canada.

Les Soeurs de la Présentation de Marie sont encore à l'oeuvre à St. Lazare, elles sont heureuses et jouissent à plein coeur de leur couvent. On pourrait dire que le couvent appartient, pour une grande partie, aux bonnes gens de St. Lazare. Ils ont donné du temps, de l'argent, pour la construction mais surtout du support et de l'amitié aux Soeurs de la Présentation de Marie. Les Fêtes du Cinquantenaire de 1980 à l'occasion de l'arrivée (1930) des soeurs à St. Lazare ont été un témoignage éloquent de la sincérité, de l'estime, de l'attachement de toute la population envers les soeurs qui, à leur tour, reconnaissent et apprécient tout ce qui a été fait pour elles.

Passons maintenant au facteur le plus important et indispensable qui a contribué le plus à la réputation de St. Lazare. Ce sont nos Mères et nos Pères de famille dévoués à l'excès dans tous les domaines pour faire de St. Lazare une société saine et heureuse.

La Sainte Vierge veille sur St. Lazare. Soeur Louis Marie, de sainte mémoire, décédée le onze décembre 1982, avait une grande dévotion envers la Sainte Vierge et souvent elle organisait de petites processions pour l'honorer. Elle avait un grand désir d'installer la statue de la Vierge pour qu'elle veille sur le village. Un soir elle en parlait encore lorsque nous, les soeurs, nous nous promenions sur l'herbe près du couvent et je me dis: "Ste. Vierge, si cela est ton desir, fais-moi ramasser un trèfle à quatre feuilles." Doucement, j'ai changé de place, je ne sais pourquoi, et en me penchant j'ai ramassé le trèfle à quatre feuilles. Je me suis dit, "C'est par hasard, il en faut un autre." Aussitôt comme par intuition, j'avance de quelques pas, je me penche et ramasse encore un trèfle à quatre feuilles. Alors je me suis dit, "A l'oeuvre, c'est bien, soeur Louis Marie, je vais maintenant travailler avec vous." Un rêve de réaliser! — la Sainte Vierge n'oubliera jamais St. Lazare.

The History of The Convent of The Sisters of the Presentation of Mary

In 1928, his Excellency Mgr. A. Sinnott, Archbishop of Winnipeg, made aware of the flourishing parochial life of St. Lazare, decided to try to obtain a Religious Order for this community. He had the parish priest, Fr. Arthur Desmarais, invite the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary from St. Hyacinthe, Quebec to come to assist the parents with the Christian and bilingual education of their children. The pastor pleaded his cause eloquently. He was convinced that by having Sisters establish a Convent in St. Lazare they would also be able to serve the surrounding Catholic localities of Ste. Madeleine, Ste. Marthe and St. Joseph. These three communities consisted of approximately one hundred and seventy families. Unfortunately, Fr. Desmarais passed away after his first contact with the major superiors of the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary.

Fr. Paul-Emile Halde was named to replace Fr. Desmarais in April of 1930. He pursued the transactions from McCreary where he was still residing. Upon arriving in St. Lazare, he proudly shared the content of a letter from St. Hyacinthe containing the promise to send Sisters to St. Lazare for September 1931. The news was indeed good but the parishioners were disappointed because they wanted the sisters to arrive in 1930. They asked their pastor to beg the Provincial Superior, Mother Ste. Jeanne-de-Valois, to answer their demand immediately.

Two months later, two sisters arrived in St. Lazare to see what the possibilities were of opening a Convent. The offers made were difficult to refuse. Mr. and Mrs. Lionel Chartier were ready to sacrifice their house temporarily and move with their large family into a smaller CNR house outside of St. Lazare. Times were hard, but the parishioners were willing to pay the rent until the construction of a convent was complete. The two delegates were so impressed with the sincerity of the people and the beauty of the site of St. Lazare that as soon as they returned to St. Hyacinthe the Provincial Superior promised Fr. Halde that five sisters, including two teachers, Sr. Ste. Denise and Sr. Ste. Anastasie, would be in St. Lazare for the opening of classes at the end of August 1930.

The five founders arrived August 21. They were Sr. Ste. Emerentienne, superior; Sr. Aimée-du St. Sacrement, musician; Sr. Marie-Michel, cook; plus the two teachers already mentioned. The pastor and the ladies of the community received them with cordiality and much enthusiasm. The ladies named to take care of the newcomers were Mesdames E. Fouillard, J. Tremblay, A. Decelles and L. Guay. Many families donated several pieces of furniture

and useful articles for the use of the sisters in their temporary dwelling. It should be mentioned that the Protestants as well as the Catholics heartily welcomed the new members of the community.

A few weeks later, Mother Ste. Jeanne-de-Valois arrived accompanied by Sr. St. André, the Bursar to meet with the school trustees and other members of the locality to discuss the plans for the construction of a convent that would also be a boarding house for students who were too far from school. It was decided that the house would be built on a piece of land belonging to Mr. Jean Fouillard. To help pay for this building, the men agreed to work at reduced salaries or supply sand, gravel and other material. They promised to see to the excavation for the foundations and cisterns, the levelling of the ground, the digging of trenches for the water and sewage systems and to also dig a well for the house.

As of October 12th and throughout the year, Fr. Halde constantly appealed to his parishioners to give a helping hand. He organized all the working crews necessary for the digging and levelling of the ground as well as for the transportation of all the material from the train station to the building site.



J. M. Fouillard's first store.



Fouillard's Implement Exchange, 1927 and Main Street.

May 11th, 1931 commemorates the day that the workmen began the construction under the direction of Mr. Bourbonnière, contractor, and under the diligent supervision of Fr. Halde. The old-timers enjoy relating that the contractor earned the fabulous salary of seventy-five cents an hour, the carpenters forty cents, and the labourers twenty an hour!

The blessing of the foundation took place on May 14th. The whole parish participated in singing the Litanies of the Saints and the "Ave Maris Stella". A month later, on June 14th the corner stone and the bell were blessed. Registers list Fr. Halde, Mr. Joseph Tremblay, Eugene Fouillard and Louis Guay as being the honorary godfathers of the ceremony.

August 29th, 1931 stands as the memorable date on which the Sisters took possession of the new convent. Ten days later, on September 10th, the first boarders made their appearance. These were: Beatrice Prescott, Imelda Decorby, Hervé Bourbonnere, Ernest Fouillard, Emmanuel Prescott, Thomas Selby, Clovis Prescott, Rose Huberdeau, Robert Decorby, Adelard Houle, Arthur Fouillard, Jeanne Huberdeau, Grace Pritchard, Robert Selby.

It should be stated that it was only on September 19th that the construction of the building was completed. And on September 24th, His Excellency Mgr. Sinnott presided at the official celebration of the blessing of the new convent.

Since only the building grounds had been supplied by the parish, the Superiors from St. Hyacinthe decided in October of 1932 to buy more land from Mr. Jean Fouillard. Later, in November, 1935, the Sisters bought a strip of land on the north side of the convent to grow a garden which would reduce the cost of feeding the many young students coming in as boarders.

Today, fifty-two years later, the Convent still stands firmly, proving that the St. Lazare parishioners had built on solid rock! In 1980, the people of this friendly community paid their homage to the Sisters who had shared the life and activities of the parish during the past fifty years. A commemorative plaque was added beside the cornerstone.* It was also on this occasion that a tribute was rendered to the last survivors who had helped with the construction of the convent. These were: Mr. Leon Dupont, Brian Simard, Peter Lepine, Albert Roy, Alex Lepine and Georges Plante.

The sisters also cherish many fond memories. They know that in each family of this community there is a grandfather, a father, an uncle or a cousin who lent a helping hand to build this solid edifice. May God bless you all.

*One great joy for the parishioners and for many former students was to meet one of the founders,

Sister Ste. Anastasie who taught thirty-four years in St. Lazare. Joey Fafard, an internationally known artist, who was greatly influenced by this former teacher, presented her with a sculpture of herself as a token of his appreciation.

Memories

Sister Anastasie

In 1930 Sister Ste. Denise and I, school teachers, became part of the population of St. Lazare. On our way to school the first morning, Sr. Ste. Denise said, "The children must be late, there are only about fifty here." I smiled, and answered, "This is all you are going to have in two classes." Sr. Ste. Denise had just left a school in the United States where there were 1,000 pupils! It did not take us long to feel really part of the community. Sr. Ste. Denise was in St. Lazare for 25 years and I was there for 34! As the years went by, classes had to be added and several more sisters came to give us a hand. Sr. Ste. Denise passed away a few years ago. I, at 78, have beautiful memories of my students at Decorby School and recall, with fondness, the pranks they played on us.

I remember — our young boarder, Clement Robert, who as a pre-schooler was a favorite among the High School students, and when young Georges Fouillard did something wrong he asked Sister Suzanne not to tell Sr. Superior or Sr. Jean-Emile but just "Tazie", meaning me; also I used to tuck young Victor and Alfred Vermette in bed at night.

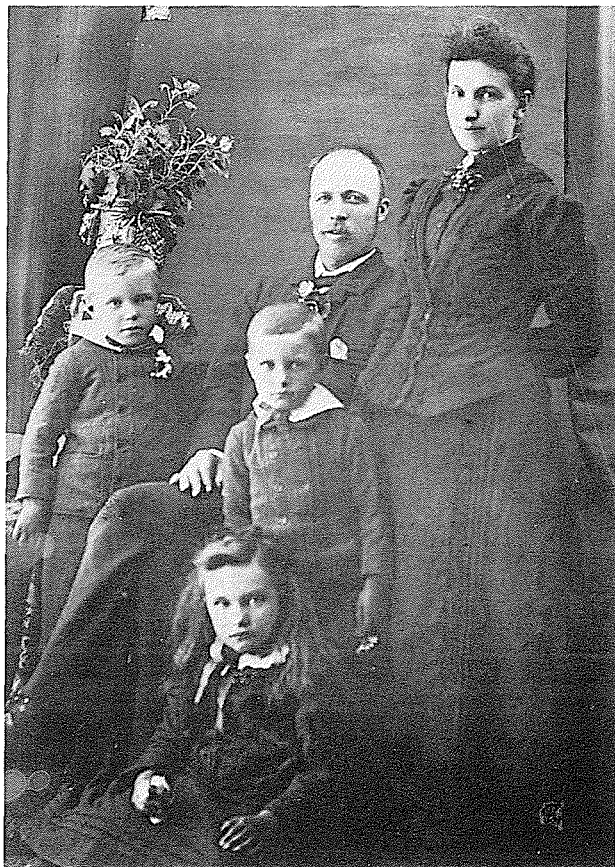
Our school enrollment grew and we had to build a new High School eventually. Among our pupils were Jean Dupont, a medical doctor; Luc Fouillard, an engineer; Rene Chartier, aide to Governor-General Edward Schreyer; Claude Fafard, a lawyer and Judge; Larry Selby, a lawyer; Philip Decorby, school principal at Foxwarren; Kenneth Selby, manager of Selby Flooring, Birtle; Wayne Selby, teacher in Winnipeg; and many more who distinguished themselves in other lines of work or careers. In the Fine Arts one of our pupils was Joey Fafard, a University Professor and world renowned sculptor. If the furnace room at school could talk it would tell of the time Joey spent there drawing — the only place he was allowed to hang his large canvasses, some of them up to eight feet long. One of his first paintings hung for a few years in Robert Chartier's restaurant.

Among the girls, we count nuns of different congregations, besides our sisters Fouillard, Rosalie and Anita who are accomplished music teachers of the Presentation of Mary. There is Claire Cadieux, a nurse, and teachers Lorraine Huberdeau, E. McAuley, Diane and Joan Dale, and Genevieve Guay. Anne Fouillard is presently working on her

thesis in Indonesia and Camille Fouillard has her B. of Music and B. of Education in Newfoundland. There are many more whose names I cannot recall.

The Sisters of the Presentation of Mary are still very happy to be part of the community of St. Lazare. They feel the convent belongs in part to the community since the people provided time and money

towards the construction of the building. Mostly, the sisters value the friendship and support shown to them over the years. The celebration of the 50th anniversary of their arrival was an eloquent testimony to the sincerity and esteem of the people towards them and we are grateful for everything done for us over the last half century.



Mr. and Mrs. Cheney Burdett, Frank, Ernie and Fanny.



Harry and Hattie Ebborn.



Bob King, Bert Elliott, Tom Jackson, Tarleton Elliott.



5 generations — with great-grandmother Henrietta King.

Businesses

Barbers

In the early 1920's, Steve Synchuk was the barber. He was followed by Harold Chapman who cut hair about 1921-1923. Mr. Roussin (Peau de Cuir, Leather Skin) operated a shop where Dupont Electric is presently situated. Ernie Chartier stood on a box to reach his clients' heads when he began his barbering career. It came to an end when he entered the Army. Joe Ducharme was the last man to barber in the shop belonging to Delphis Chartier, during the war years. Mr. Ladebrock also barbered at this time. Bill Parker cut men's hair and trimmed beards after the war years. Alex Melynk arrived in 1946, to be followed by Sid Prokopchuk. Last but by no means least, Robert Lemoine is the tonsorial artist now in St. Lazare. He began his profession in 1960.

Hair Dressers

Mary Louise Hudon gave permanents and did hair styling in the Roberge house in the late 1940's and early 50's. Jacqueline Lemoine had a hair dresser's shop in 1960, which she ran from their two-room home, adjoining Robert's Pool Hall and Barber Shop. Hers was a very short career. Audrey Henderson carried on the profession in a portion of Ted Dupont's Electric Shop in 1970. Ginette Fouillard did hair dressing (in Ted's quarters) in 1974-75. Ubald Deschambault "teased", curled and coiffured in a shop in the confines of Bob's Cafe building. Gladys Huberdeau had a cozy shop in her own home, when she and Phil lived in St. Lazare. Joyce (Graham) Fouillard operates from Joyce's Hair Coiffeuse on Main street in St. Lazare. 'Joyces' — the place to be, for a beautiful '83.'

Clothing Stores

In the early days, all general stores sold shoes, yard goods and some clothing. These stores were Decorbys, J. M. Fouillard, Guays, Bulgers, George Fouillard, and Mulaire. Jacques Guay started the first dry goods store, plus a liquor store. This business is now known as J. C. and O. J. Ltd., Claude and Omer Chartier are the proprietors.

Blacksmith Shops

The first blacksmith shop was operated by Donat Bourret, and was situated where the present Fouillard Furniture stands. It was taken over by Napoleon Hudon of Rocanville, and later Elzear Hebert in the 20's. Herve Bourgon was an employee there. Elzear Herbert and Delphis Chartier had a foundry in partnership and built stoves at the mission. After the demise of this enterprise, all the blacksmith work was handled at the back of Eugene Fouillard's shop.



Blacksmith Shop — Donat Bourret.

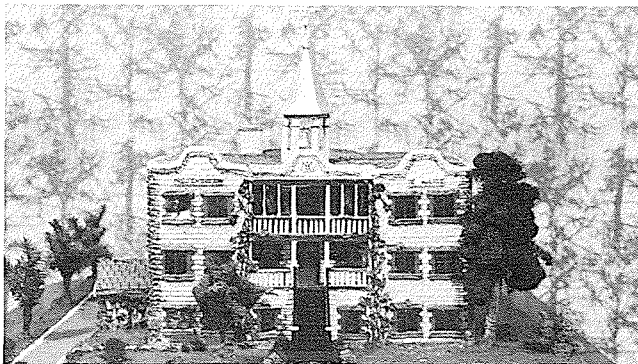
Fouillard Implement Exchange

Eugene Fouillard demonstrated his ability as a shrewd businessman at an early age. With his father, Jean-Marie as co-signer, he took over the Massey-Harris agency in 1908, when he was only eighteen. His first business was started in his father's grocery store, but he soon built his own establishment in 1915, equipped with a blacksmith shop, situated where the Implement Exchange stands today. He added on to the original shop in the 1920's when he started building vans, which he sold to Eatons. After electricity was available, the tools and equipment were updated, making work easier for the employees. During the depression, when farmers were hard pressed for cash, Eugene devised a way of



Présentation de Marie.

bartering, which proved beneficial to both customer and seller. Old machinery was taken in, as part payment on new or rebuilt machinery. There the old was repaired, repainted and resold. This created a lot of employment, at a time when jobs were scarce. Delivery of equipment was made by trucks to all parts of Manitoba and Saskatchewan.



50th Anniversary Cake — Replica of Presentation of Mary.

In 1943, a fire broke out in the shop, and the building was burned to the ground. It was a big loss financially, as the store carried little insurance, and merchandise had increased in value. Because of the war, no new farm machinery was available. The shop was rebuilt, more furniture and electrical appliances were added to his operation. Following the war, business was booming; with electricity made available to most farms, refrigerators, electric stoves, freezers, etc. were much in demand. Eugene's salesmanship and that of his sons, brought rewards and awards. They were the second biggest dealer in Canada for Massey-Harris in 1949 with the sale of 49 new and used combines. In 1981, they sold over a million dollars worth of combines for Versatile Company. Eugene died in 1953, and his sons carried on the business, incorporating in 1957 as a company, Fouillard Implement Exchange, with Arthur, Leo and Eugene Jr., as owners. The barter system is still

used, with grain, cattle or "whatever" taken in on trade. Different agencies represented in the past are Cockshutt, Allis-Chalmers and New Holland. Their main agencies now are Versatile and Massey-Ferguson, plus smaller farm equipment agencies such as Morris and Kello. Fouillard Implement Exchange was again struck by fire in August of 1981. It is being completely renovated as a centennial project. In the meantime, the business is run out of a trailer, (service, shop and repair parts), in the west end of the village. If the amount of machinery lying around town is any indication of prosperity, then Fouillard Implement Exchange must be a thriving business! Customers come from all the prairie provinces.

Some of the employees who have worked for the Exchange over the years, should be mentioned: Donat Bourret, John Dupont, Joe Brunelle, Albert Grimms, and Alex Nagy to name a few, were excellent blacksmiths. Henri Simard was a devoted employee for many years, (away for a few years during the war and while at Radville) until he retired. Mention should be made of Emerile and Theodore Dupont, Telesphore Martel, Norman Haney, William Fiddler, and Mario Roncato, who was a real artist with wrought iron. The office girls were valuable too, Roma Chartier, Hélène, RoseMarie, Sarah Fouillard and Margaret Hodgson. Some of Arthur and Leo's families are now employees of the firm; Henry is a service man and Jacques is in the repair and sales department. Regular employees now include Andre Huberdeau in repairs and sales, Denis Tremblay, our indispensable truck driver, Alfred Perreault in service, Albert Belhumeur in setting-up machinery, and our two good natured, efficient secretaries, Marcianna Hayden and Suzanne Huberdeau.

They say old soldiers never die; they just fade away. The writer does not know if that is to be the fate of the two present work-horses, Arthur and Leo. Both are still working very hard, although their age should indicate, they could do a little FADING, in the near future!

Electric Shop

Ted Dupont started working in Foxwarren as an apprentice with Leonard Falloon in 1947, then worked out of a shop near his house. In 1965, he bought Jacques Guay's old store, and this has been his headquarters ever since. His son Terry, has been working with his dad as an apprentice, and taking courses in Brandon to get his electrician's papers. He is in partnership with Ted, and will one day take over his dad's business when Ted retires.

Marquette Steamfitters

Gunther Hille came to St. Lazare from Germany in 1953, followed by his brother Albert in 1954. The

following year, Marquette Steamfitters, became their trade name. Gunther moved on, but Albert and his sons carry on the business, — heating, plumbing and tinsmithing.

Insurance

John Selby sold general insurance for various companies, going back to about 1925. His son Bob started selling life insurance in 1946, and got into the general insurance agency in 1952.

Fouillard Lumber and Supplies

Eugene Fouillard built the Lumber yard in 1928. It was leased to Glen Bruce for a few years, and then he took it over again in 1941. In 1948, Ernest and Constant took over the operating of the lumber yard. The present building was erected in 1953. Ernest was involved in building "Ready-to-Move" homes for twenty years, and also built many on the home site too. He is assisted by his manager, Art Chartier and nephew, Omer Fouillard.

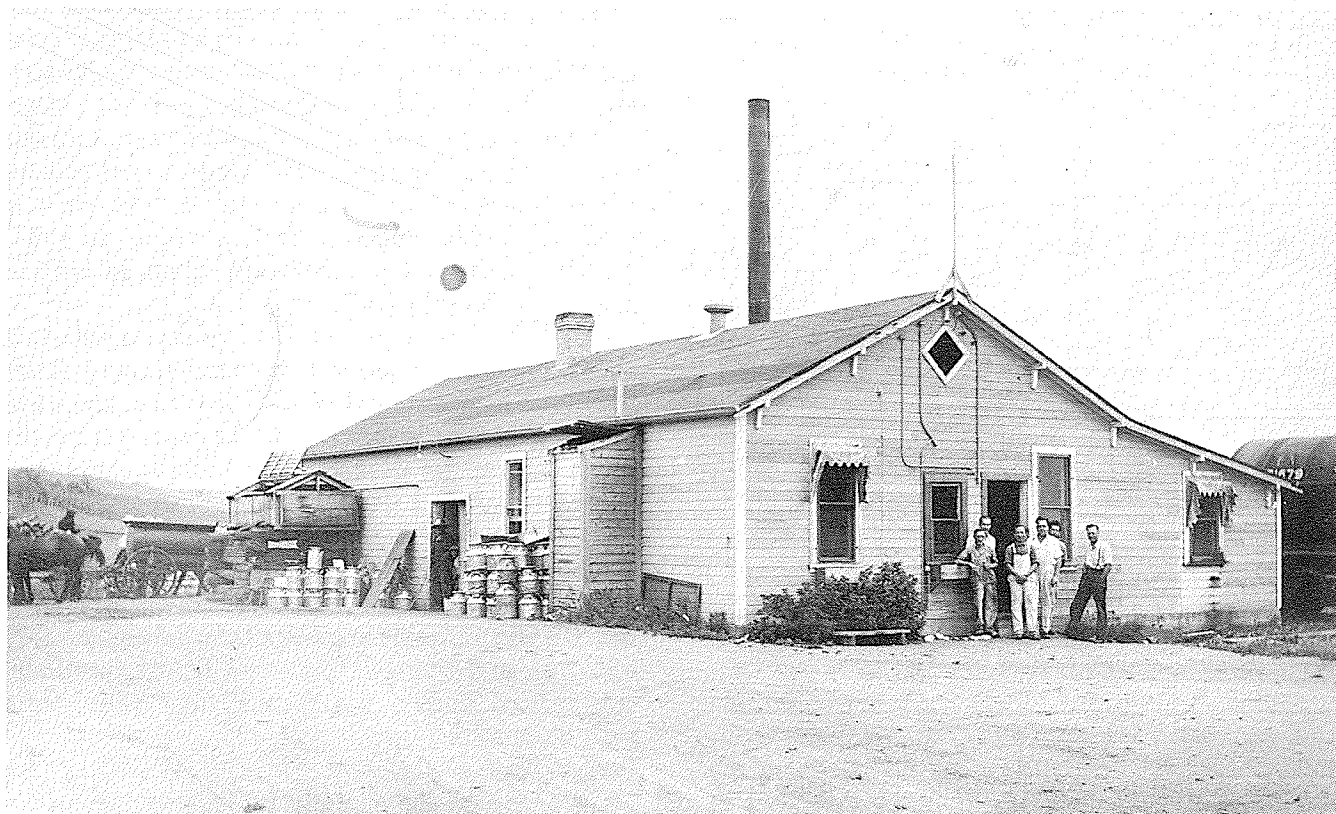
Fouillard Furniture

The original furniture shop was on the second floor of the Implement Exchange building, operated by Eugene Fouillard and Sons. He bought furniture and pianos, from Gray's Auction Market in Winnipeg. From Heintzman in Saskatoon, he bought 2nd hand gramophones. On the sales sheets, the most expensive ones listed were \$50.00. New Victor records in quantities of 400-500 sold for 10¢. When a

shipment of pianos came in, and prospective customers were looking them over, someone would bring in Paul Tremblay to give a demonstration. His "Napoleon's March" was played with such gusto, many a customer was induced to buy. If there was no sale, Paul got 50¢, but pocketed \$2.00 if a sale was made! Fouillard's Furniture and Appliances new modern shop was built in 1965, and is ably operated by Eugene Fouillard, with the assistance of Poke Horning and Eugene's son, Martin. Eugene and brother Ernest built a 60-foot T.V. tower on the top of the hill in 1954, trying to pick up a signal from Minot, not too successfully. In 1960, they finally got a Brandon station. In 1976, Eugene had a 100-foot tower erected and now gets eight channels. Most people in the village have cables hooked up to this tower.

Creamery

A Mr. Gaudette of St. Boniface owned several creameries, and decided to have one built in St. Lazare. He hired Bill Scott in 1925, to come as his butter-maker. He was replaced in 1929 by Howard Smith, and in 1937, Walter Nesbitt took over as manager. When Walter moved on to his father's creamery in Shoal Lake, he was replaced by Jack Rudney. The creamery was closed in 1945, and eventually torn down. Some of the employees at the creamery were: John Hyslop and Alex Baird from

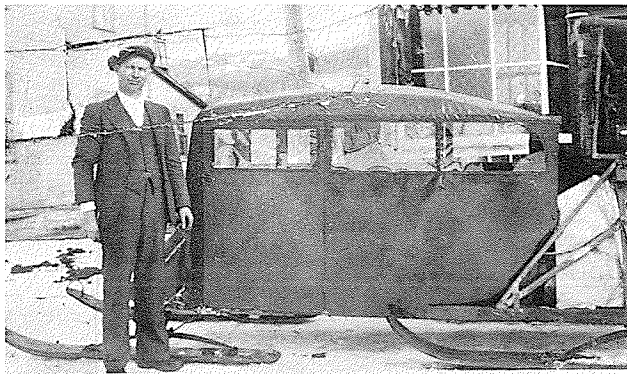


St. Lazare Creamery, 1937.

McAuley, Pud McGibney, Bob Feasby, Binks Lazenby, Mazo Tremblay, Albert Prescott, Roland Vaudry, Margaret Smith and Vic Houle, as egg grader. Trucks hauled cream from McAuley, Welwyn, Rocanville, Binscarth, Foxwarren and Birtle: farmers also shipped their cream by rail. It was a thriving business in the 30's and often the only source of ready cash the farmers had, be the cheques ever so small.

Garages

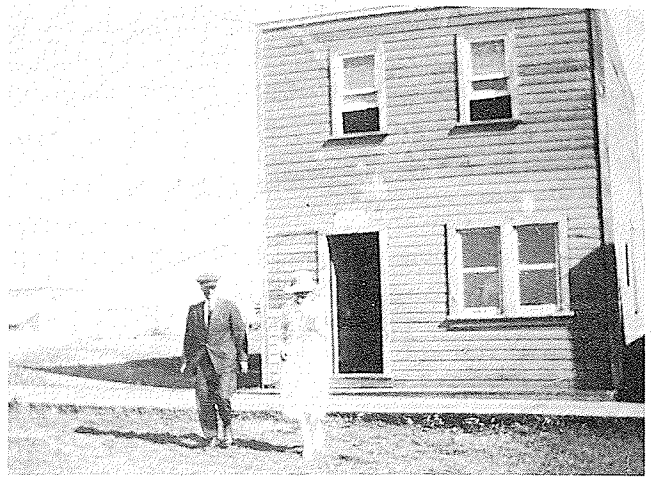
Alfred (Piti) Simard started one of the first garages where the bank now stands. He drove a Ford 90, and could change a pinion quicker than he could change a tire. Ben Fouillard built a garage in 1922 and began selling Model T's, as a sub-agent for G.M., under Frank Clement of Binscarth. In 1929, Ben sold over 50 units, mostly gravel trucks with wooden boxes and bottom unloading doors. That same year, he began trucking with Joe (Pitou) Simard as helper. They would haul two head of cattle in a one ton truck to Winnipeg. Every two or three years, Ben would buy a bigger truck. The transfer business was sold to Leon Dupont in 1944. Lazare took over his dad's garage in 1952. Tom Selby and Aime Hudon bought the Ford Agency and garage from Donald Bulger in 1949, and operated as "Hudon & Selby" until 1965. Andre Perreault took over this garage, and began Andre's Auto Body Shop in 1966. He added to his premises when he purchased Lazare's garage in 1980. Pitsy Tremblay operated a repair shop in what is presently DenBrock's building, working as a mechanic and welder. Rene DenBrock took over this garage in Nov. of 1975.



Ben Fouillard's First Snowmobile.

General Stores

Three pioneers had small grocery stores at the old mission; Joseph Tremblay, Jules DeCorby and Delphis Chartier. When the railway was being built, Jean Marie Fouillard, (in 1905), was the first merchant to build a store in the village, to sell goods to the railroad workers. Jules DeCorby moved his store in 1906 or 7 to the present location of Robert's store.



Decorby's first Store, Albert and Juliette Baudry.

Joseph Tremblay moved his building to where Fort Chartier's house was. His building was used for a municipal office, store and post office. Joe lived above his premises and Grace O'Keefe boarded with the family to run the post office. Joe claimed he made \$25,000 in ten years in this location; a small fortune in those days. He sold out to his brother Luc when income tax was introduced during World War I. Isreal Tremblay had a butchering business at the old mission, and Ed Simard built a butcher shop in town (where the pool room now stands). When he gave it up, the building was moved next to a store Louis Guay was operating, (on the corner where Fouillard Lumber now stands.) Louis started a butcher shop in the addition. His business was taken over by his son, Jacques. Eventually Jacques bought Vermette's building, and operated a general store there until this building burned in April, 1952. Jacques operated out of Donald Bulger's old store until a new one was built, (now Ted Dupont's Electric shop). In 1965, Jacques moved into a new store, which he sold to Eugene Mulaire in 1967.

Amedee Vermette had a confectionary shop in 1926, which was bought by George and Babe Fouillard, leased for awhile to Glen Bruce, and when George married, he operated it as a general store; the dance hall at the back became living quarters for George and Agnes. He was in this business until his untimely death in 1966.

Elzear Hebert had a general store and bakery in the 20's, which he sold to Donald and Red Bulger. In the 30's when Donald married Elzear's daughter, they took over and operated this store. It was eventually sold to Red Bulger, and became his "Solo" store until he retired.

Pool Rooms

A fellow by the name of L'Heureux had a pool room in about 1908. He moved on to Melville in



Poolroom operated by L'Heureux.

about 1912. "Buffalo Bill" Hebert had a pool room in his Accommodation Hotel, along with a confectionary store and butcher shop. Louis Guay operated a pool room for about two years before he started his grocery store. Delphis Chartier had a pool room too, in an old building he moved from the mission, next to Fouillard's Implement Exchange. Ernest Chartier worked with Delphis in the late 20's; they were very high-class; Delphis had his own Delco plant with electricity! Ernie Chartier purchased a building from Albenie Lemire and bought the two pool tables from Delphis Chartier, and he was in business. When Ernest joined the army, Paul Chartier looked after the pool room. Alex Melynk came out from Germany in 1946 and was the next pool room and barber shop operator, followed by Syd Prokopchuk. He was out of business when a fire partially destroyed this building. When Robert Lemoine came back to Lazare in 1960, he repaired the building, and started operating as pool hall owner and barber, first class!

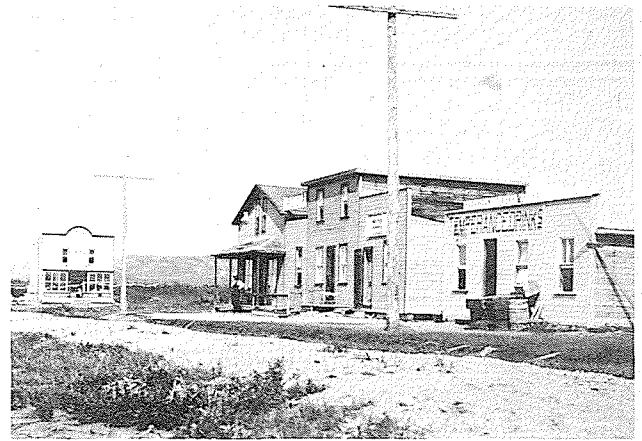
Bakeshops

In 1928, Elzear had a brick oven built by Pierre and Albert Roy, in a shop attached to his store. He rented it out to Albenie Lemire, as a bakeshop. We are not too certain how successful a baker Albenie was; some of the local boys remember putting up a sign on the front of the bakeshop reading "Bricks for sale"! Amedee Vermette opened the next bakery in 1930, and in the late 40's brought his brother-in-law Leo Mazerolle into the business with him. After Amedee left, Leo had a new bakeshop and oven built by Ben Fouillard. When he moved on to Minnedosa, he sold out to Jacques Guay and Alex Melynk, who hired a baker named Janeau Florentine. In 1955, Chef Totte, who had come from Holland to Shoal Lake, moved to St. Lazare, and bought the bakery. When he moved to The Pas, he sold out to Gil Bouchard, one of Chef's employees, and Gil operated the business until he closed the shop in 1978 to go to a

manager's position with the Co-op in Portage la Prairie. The bakeshop was remodeled by Armand Guenette, and it became his office for Accounting and sale of Photography supplies. At the present time it is a "Beehive of activity", the headquarters of the Centennial Committee!

Cafes

The first Cafe was operated by Mr. & Mrs. Lavallee in a building bought from Delphis Chartier.



St. Lazare, about 1910.

About 1920 Mrs. King had a cafe along with a boarding house. When Amedee Vermette decided to go into business on his own, about 1924, he had only three silver dollars to his name. He rented a building from Mrs. J. M. Fouillard and called his place the "Bingo Ice Cream Parlor". He sold home-made fountain drinks and freezer ice cream; made by hand. Amedee had Marguerite Dupont working for him, and he and Aime Dupont cut logs at Victor, had the lumber planed at Emile Dupont's sawmill, and proceeded to build his own place, on the site of the present post office. He got married that same year, 1926, and when his wife died in 1928, his place was taken over by George and Babe Fouillard where they opened a confectionary. George and Babe added onto the building and used the new part for a dance hall. They had their own music; the orchestra consisted of Babe on the banjo, Sylvio Tremblay on the violin, Trueman Lamb on the saxophone, Red Bulger on the guitar and mandolin, Paul Tremblay on the piano, and Wes Lamb, the guitar. In 1930, Amedee Vermette came back to Lazare again, and with the help of Archie McDonald of McAuley, he built a new cafe and a bake shop. He married again, and his wife Flora was noted for her delicious cuisine! In 1939, Amedee added on a "Dine & Dance". Anyone who grew up during that era, must remember Saturday nights at Vermettes; it was the "in" place to go. Music was supplied by a Juke Box, at 5 cents a tune,



Main St.

and three recordings of "Beer Barrel Polka" were worn out in no time. Who can forget how expertly Conrad and Irene Alary did the "flea hop"?

In the late 30's, the Comeaults had a small cafe in part of Jules Decorby's store; and the Bushes were here during the '40's. In 1945, Albert Roy built a restaurant, and operated it under the name of Roy's cafe. In 1952, Charles and Robert Chartier bought the restaurant, and changed the name to Bob's cafe. This business was next leased by Mr. and Mrs. Phil Fafard. They gave it up after two years; Robert Chartier came back for awhile, until the business was sold to Pat and Gil Bouchard. They operated it until March 21st, 1973, when fire started in the basement and the place was so badly damaged, it had to be torn down. Across the street, in what used to be Ernest Chartier's Barber Shop and Pool Room, Robert Le-moine did some renovating, and he and his wife Jacqueline started a barber shop and hair dressing salon. They eventually opened a snack bar, which they still own and operate. Jacques Guay built a drive-in restaurant, which is now owned and operated by Denis Huberdeau, and is called "La Cre-mette". The Fort Ellice Hotel also serves meals.



Remains of Albert Roy's cafe.

Old Businesses

Banks

The first record of a bank operating in St. Lazare was the Hochelaga Bank in the early 20's with Mr. J. A. Blouin as manager. It was situated in Mr. Blouin's store which was located where André Perrault's garage is now located. Marguerite Fouillard (Du-pont) kept the books until 1921 and Grace Hebert (Bulger) was the next bookkeeper until the branch closed. During the war, Father Bertrand, the parish priest, started the Caisse Populaire. It was carried on under the management of Father Paquette from 1945 until 1959. It was then taken over by the following: Hélène Huybrecht, Brian Selby, Henri Simard, Paul-Emile Fouillard, Olive Perrault, Claudette Simard and was closed out in the mid 60's. Alma Perrault was its last manager.

Bank of Montreal by Arthur Fouillard

St. Lazare, notwithstanding its business volume, seemed resigned to carry on its banking at neighboring towns. In the late fifties and early sixties, correspondence was addressed to these same banks requesting that they give consideration to opening up a branch in our village. The reply was that it was not financially feasible. A request was then made for part time services and this met with the same reply. Our needs were then made known to Mr. F. S. Sharpe, Superintendent of the Bank of Montreal, in Winnipeg. On February 21, 1965 he dispatched two of his office personnel with instructions that a branch be opened. Arrangements were made for temporary quarters and the following day a box of stationery and a supply of money were shipped out by bus. The writer was given the first account number 1000, with a complimentary deposit, marking the beginning of long awaited service. The following day, two Win-



Opening of the Bank of Montreal, 1966.

nipeg officials as well as the Manager of the neighboring bank, met with the writer to question our acceptance of the new bank, and offered to open a Branch of their own. Construction of new premises commenced in the fall of 1965 and Saturday, March 19th, 1966 marked the official opening of the new quarters. Several distinguished guests were in attendance and Mr. Sharpe presented the mayor, Arthur Fouillard, with engraved silver scissors for the cutting of the ribbon. Mr. Howie Creedon was the first manager, followed by Paul Villeneuve, Larry McWilliams, Andre Pantel, Maurice Gaudet, Barry Meadows, Clarence Walter, Wayne Johnston, Blair Russell and Don Gemmell.

In 1982 the main office made it known that due to economic conditions, it was considering bank closures at several branches and ours was one of them. On July 31, 1982 it was officially closed.

The vacated premises have since been taken over by the Foxwarren Credit Union with operation commencing on March 1, 1983. We wish them well.

Le Bureau de Poste à St. Lazare

C'est le 1 octobre 1895 que le ministère des postes ouvrait officiellement un bureau à la vieille mission, située un kilomètre au nord du site présent du village de St. Lazare, et Delphis Chartier en fut le premier maître. A la suite Henry Tillman le remplaça le 16 octobre 1912. Durant ces années le bureau fut déménagé où est présentement la "Crèmette". Mlle Grace O'Keefe remplaça M. Tillman le 14 juillet 1915 jusqu'au 25 août 1922, lorsque le bureau fut mis sous la gérance de Louis Guay et fut resitué dans le magasin de ce dernier où est l'édifice, Fouillard Builders Supplies. Le 3 février 1932, Joseph Grenier était maître de poste — ceci pour 2 ou 3 ans. John Selby le remplaça et le bureau de poste se trouva alors dans l'édifice municipal qui était alors au coin nord-ouest des rues Principale et Fouillard. Ce dernier fut maître de poste jusqu'au 30 avril 1959. Son fils Robert le succéda le 13 août 1959. Peu de temps après Robert érigea un bureau pour son service d'assurances et le bureau de poste fit parti de l'immeuble. En 1967 le ministère des postes désigna la position de maître de poste comme un emploi à plein temps. C'est alors qu'un autre maître de poste, Omer Chartier, fut nommé le 1 décembre, 1967. En vue de la possibilité de l'ouverture d'une mine de potasse dans la région, le ministère vit bon de chercher des locaux plus spacieux. C'est en novembre de 1969 que le bureau actuel, bâti par Jacques Guay, fut occupé.

Le Système d'Eau et Egout de St. Lazare

La personne responsable pour le système d'eau à

St. Lazare est nul autre que Benoît Fouillard. Il réalisa ce projet non sans difficultés car il n'y en avait pas beaucoup qui croyait qu'une simple source d'eau pouvait suffire aux besoins du village. La manière que Benoît calculait l'écoulement (avec un seau de cinq gallons) n'était pas assez sophistiquée pour convaincre ses opposants.

Sa détermination finalement gagna la partie. Un des plus gros obstacles cependant était le fait que le village n'était pas incorporé à l'époque et que le tout serait plus facile si c'était le cas. Avec l'aide de John Selby, secrétaire de la municipalité, il approcha un ami du parlement qui dépêcha la demande et le village reçut sans délai sa charte et Benoît en devint le maire. En mai 1955, à une réunion du conseil du village, la firme d'ingénieurs Haddin, Davis et Brown fut engagée pour faire une évaluation du projet en main. Ils donnèrent leur rapport en 1957 et le conseil demanda des soumissions pour la réalisation du travail. Le 16 juillet 1957, le contrat fut donné aux Frères Fouillard qui avaient soumis leur prix à \$59,000, tandis que la plus haute soumission était de \$90,000. Les travaux commencèrent le 19 août, 1957. L'outillage dont on se servait n'était peut-être pas le meilleur mais les employés se mirent à l'oeuvre avec beaucoup d'enthousiasme. Le creusement pour les égouts et l'eau qui était desservi pour soixante-quatorze endroits; le système de chlorure; enfin, le tout fut fini le 19 octobre, deux mois jour pour jour après le début du travail. Même la nature avait coopéré car il n'y avait eu seulement que deux légères pluies pendant les deux mois. Le résultat de cette entreprise était que St. Lazare fut un des premiers petits villages du Manitoba avec un système d'eau courante grâce à la ténacité et la prévoyance d'un homme qui transforma un rêve en réalité.

La Clinique vétérinaire de St. Lazare

Les Vétérinaires de campagne étaient peu nombreux et surmenés depuis des années. Pour remédier à ce problème, Dr. McPhedran, directeur provincial des services vétérinaires, offrit aux municipalités rurales des fonds pour bâtir de nouvelles cliniques. Les fonds offerts seraient du même montant que les municipalités et villages fourniraient eux-mêmes. Après l'annonce de cette subvention, Arthur Fouillard et George Boucher furent nommés pour voir à la possibilité d'ouvrir une clinique dans la région. Ils entrèrent en contact avec les municipalités d'Ellice, Archie, Miniota et les villages de Spy Hill, Rocanville, Birtle et St. Lazare. Leur proposition fut acceptée et ils formèrent un nouveau district avec chaque municipalité et village s'engageant à fournir sa part. Comme résultat, une clinique moderne fut

bâtie. Elle fut ouverte officiellement le 15 mars, 1976 par Sam Uskiw, ministre d'agriculture.

Le premier vétérinaire fut Pierre Gadbois (voir son histoire) qui retourna au Québec en 1976. Kevin et Mary-Anne Miller, mari et femme et gradués du collège de Guelph, Ontario vinrent à la suite de M. Gadbois. La clinique avait été toutefois inoccupée pendant plus d'un an. Tous les deux établirent très tôt une clientèle considérable et étaient très estimés dans la région. Au mois d'août, 1980, Kevin et Mary-Anne acceptèrent l'offre de gérer une clinique à Selkirk, Manitoba. Cette clinique offrait les services d'un autre vétérinaire qui permettrait plus de loisirs à Mary-Anne qui attendait la naissance d'un bébé. Le 21 mars 1981, la communauté fut heureuse d'accueillir un autre couple de vétérinaires, Peter et Kathleen Moisan de Tennessee.

Les membres qui ont servi sur le conseil de direction de la clinique sont Arthur Fouillard, Denis Fouillard, Arthur Burdett, Bernard Loughheed, James Heddison, George Boucher, Jim Boucher, Robert Barteaux, Owen McAuley et Ernest Holland.

Hôtels

Un des premiers endroits d'accommodations dans le district de St. Lazare pour voyageurs appartenait à Lord Milton vers les 1860. Il avait obtenu des Indiens, une "auberge" fait en peaux de "buffalo". Les touristes y habitaient pendant leurs voyages à travers la région. Qui sait si Lord Milton ne portait pas opposition à la "Big House" du Fort Ellice pour satisfaire aux besoins des indésirables?!

On pense ensuite à Strathallan House, selon Niggé Simard cet hôtel était situé où la maison de

Lazare Fouillard est à présent. Apparemment cette bâtisse fut déménagée à Russell pour devenir le premier Queen's Hotel.

En 1907, les voyageurs se rendaient à la mission, et restaient dans un appentis qui avait été ajouté au presbytère à un coût de \$700. En 1909, Delphis Chartier bâtit le premier hôtel (où est situé le motel Fort Ellice) qu'il vendit à M. Lavallée en 1912. M. Chartier plus tard construisit une bâtisse à deux étages qu'il vendit aux Hébert. Cet établissement était connu sous le nom de "Accommodation Hotel". Avant 1915, durant la construction du chemin de fer, Madame Beaudry tenait maison de pension à Victor.

Une annonce de publicité parue dans le Binscarth Express du 25 septembre 1919, mentionnait l'hôtel à vendre qui appartenait à M. Lavallée. Celui-ci fut acheté par Mme King, qui le loua à un M. Rhodes. Lorsqu'elle géra l'hôtel elle-même quelques années plus tard, elle tenait aussi restaurant et faisait des danses. Ayant sa propre installation électrique pour l'hôtel, cet établissement était illuminé comme le "Titanic" selon son beau-frère Edmond Simard.

Vers les 1920, les Lavallée déménagèrent leur maison, située où Mme Edouard Belhumeur habite à présent, au village de St. Lazare pour tenir une maison de pension où la Cremette est localisée. Cette maison fut ensuite vendue vers 1926, à Jos. Grenier qui la vendit plus tard à Alcide Robert pour la somme de \$1500.

En 1928, lors de l'institution de la commission de liqueur, Alcide Robert bâtit l'hôtel qui existe encore aujourd'hui avec l'aide financière de Jules Décorby et l'encouragement de Eugène Fouillard et du curé Halde. Lazare Fouillard se rappelle que pendant la construction de l'hôtel, Normand Mouillierat dirigeait la pelle, conduite par des chevaux, pour creuser le sous-sol et les ouvriers en charge des travaux étaient Oscar Dupont et Pierre Roy. M. Robert vendit cet hôtel en 1942 à M. Omer Huybrecht, père du propriétaire actuel.

L'hôtel ne connut pas tellement de changements depuis 1942. Le premier, de haute priorité, était de mettre une fournaise à l'huile pour remplacer celle de bois. Durant les hivers froids, M. Huybrecht passa plusieurs nuits blanches à chauffer la fournaise, mais ses amis tels que Georges Fouillard et Donald Bulger lui tenaient souvent compagnie à jouer aux cartes, à raconter des histoires interminables tout en consommant une bière ou deux! La deuxième amélioration importante fut l'installation de l'eau courante.

D'autres changements furent apportés en 1963, quand un nouveau bar pour hommes et femmes fut inauguré à l'hôtel. Le motel Fort Ellice qui existe depuis 1967 a été bâti exactement au même endroit que celui de l'hôtel qui existait en 1909.



Accommodation Hotel about 1915.

Voici la conclusion de notre récit sur les endroits à loger dans la communauté depuis son commencement.

Les Huybrechts espèrent que l'accommodation offerte dans leurs établissements donnent aux clients le même accueil chaleureux et le même confort dont ils jouiraient s'ils visitaient leurs amis de St. Lazare.



Fort Ellice Hotel.

Banques

Le premier système bancaire de St. Lazare fut un bureau de la Branche de Hochelaga dans le magasin de M. J. A. Blouin vers les 1920. Celui-ci en était le gérant et il eut Marguerite Fouillard-Dupont et Graziella Hebert-Bulger comme secrétaires pour tenir les comptes. Durant la deuxième guerre, le curé Bertrand ouvrit la Caisse Populaire et il en fut gérant. Le Père Ubald Paquette en prit charge quand il arriva en 1945 jusqu'en 1959. Hélène Huybrecht, Brian Selby, Henri Simard, Olive Perrault, Claudette Simard et Alma Perrault furent les gérants suivants jusqu'à la fermeture de la caisse vers 1965.

Banque de Montreal

St. Lazare semblait destiné à ne pas avoir de services de banque jusqu'à ce que le maire de l'époque s'adressa à F. S. Sharpe, surveillant de la Banque de Montréal à Winnipeg. Celui-ci envoya le 21 février 1965, deux de ses employés avec instruction d'ouvrir un bureau à St. Lazare. Dès le lendemain, ils ouvraient leurs portes dans un local temporaire, ayant eu l'argent et les papiers nécessaires venant par autobus.

Arthur Fouillard eut le premier compte numéro 1000 et la banque lui accorda un dépôt complimantaire de dix dollars.

La construction de la banque fut commencée à l'automne de 1965 et le 19 mars, 1966 eut lieu l'ouverture officielle avec la présence de plusieurs visiteurs distingués. M. Sharpe offrit une paire de

ciseaux d'argent au maire Arthur Fouillard pour couper le ruban. Les gérants de la banque furent Howie Creiden, Paul Villeneuve, Larry Williams, André Pantel, Maurice Gaudet, Barry Meadows, Clarence Walters, Wayne Johnston, Blair Russell et Don Gemmell.

En 1982, la Banque de Montréal annonça son intention de fermer quelques bureaux à cause des vilaines conditions économiques. Le bureau ferma donc ses portes en juillet, 1982. Nous avons depuis le premier mars, 1983 la caisse populaire de Foxwarren qui a ouvert un bureau dans les locaux de la banque. Nous avons donc encore un service bancaire dans notre communauté et nous leur souhaitons bonne chance.

St. Lazare Veterinary Clinic by Arthur Fouillard

The Veterinarians in Manitoba for a number of years operated on a very similar basis to a country doctor. Due to these being few in number, the tasks and distances travelled became more difficult causing them to seek more favorable conditions in which to operate. Several went to small animal practises and others to provinces where the facilities and remunerations were superior. It was then recognized by Dr. McPhedran, Provincial Director of Vet. Services, that if the trend was to be reversed, a match grant program, with Municipalities deserving better services, would have to be legislated and made available immediately. Once a representative of the government travelled throughout the province explaining the requirements to qualify as a District Board. The writer and George Boucher were appointed to attend a meeting in Russell and nominated a steering committee to investigate the possibility of forming a St. Lazare Veterinarian District. Such a district was formed with representatives from the Municipalities of Ellice, Archie, Birtle, Miniota, Spy Hill, Rocanville and the village of St. Lazare. This was later followed by the construction of a modern clinic, which was officially opened on March 15, 1976 with Hon. Sam Uskiw, Minister of Agriculture, cutting the ribbon. Our first veterinarian was Pierre Gadbois. Through advertising in various colleges and magazines we were able to enter into an agreement with Drs. Kevin and Mary Anne Miller who were graduating from Guelph. Both immediately displayed ability in taking over a clinic that had been vacant for over a year. In 1980 they were offered the management of the Selkirk clinic, which they accepted. This meant more advertising and again we were successful in obtaining a second husband and wife team, Peter and Kathleen Moisan, all the way from Tennessee.

St. Lazare Water and Sewage Works

by Arthur Fouillard

Every book has its author, and it can be said with a lot of pride that the author of our sewer and water project was none other than Ben Fouillard.

When he first advanced the idea, his thoughts fell very lightly on the ears of the people of St. Lazare. After all, testing the flow of water with a five gallon pail, fell short of the sophisticated equipment required to insure sufficient water for such a large under-taking. This testing was carried out for a number of years with data being kept on the consistency of flow, always stressing the benefits it would have on our little village.

His determination eventually started breaking down barriers. One of the obstacles was that the village, being part of the Municipality, would be in a more favorable position to go ahead with the project if it were incorporated, as the services would be restricted to the proposed village area.

Being a Councillor and with the help of the Secretary, John Selby, he approached a good friend in Parliament who was able to hasten a bill in the house. Twenty four hours before, an amendment was passed increasing the population number required for incorporation thus eliminating the disqualification of his application.

The village having received its charter made it possible for him to contest and be elected Mayor. This pleased him very much knowing that things were now falling in to their places and his "Pet Project" was coming closer to reality.

In May 1955 a motion was passed authorizing the firm of Engineers, Haddin, Davis and Brown to investigate and report on the feasibility of this under-taking. Their findings were made known in 1957 and the Council followed up by calling tenders. On July 16, 1957, five tenders were opened with the lowest one being \$59,721. and the highest \$90,000. Fouillard Bros. had submitted the lowest tender but with no previous experience, remarks made by the other contractors did cause a few sleepless nights, and uncertainty as to how it would all end up.

A backhoe was rented from Mages Construction of St. Boniface and with some additional mediocre equipment the first bucket of dirt was lifted at the sewer location on August 19, 1957.

The installation of sewers, watermains, supply line, chlorinator chamber, screen chamber, digging and rip-rapping reservoirs, and 74 water curb services was completed on Oct. 19, 1957, exactly two months from its start. The weather, except for two light rainfalls, could not have been better. All personnel employed worked with enthusiasm and took much pride in their work. The end result was, the first

village of its size to boast such facilities in the Province of Manitoba. No more reading of funny papers in the back house or thawing out the old well pump at 30 below zero. All because of one man's idea and determination to see it through.

St. Lazare Grain Elevator

by Leone Dale

Whether silhouetted against a western sunset on the open plain, or, nestled in a green valley 'neath rising, morning mists, there is nothing more reassuring than the sight of a tall grain elevator, towering above its surroundings. It speaks of plenty for today and tomorrow; of food for countries near and far; of that dauntless breed of people — the salt of the earth — the farmer. It is a vital organ contributing to the growth of a community. The grain ticket issued, pays the bills at the local grocers, the machinery agents and the fuel suppliers. It pays the taxes, supports local recreational projects and perhaps, some of it could gather "gold dust" in the bank.

When C.N.R. came through Lazare in 1909 plans for a grain elevator were set up immediately. It was built on the spot taken over later by the St. Lazare Creamery and until a few years ago by Rick Fouillard's Esso Supply depot, a little east of the station. It was completed in 1911 and owned and operated by the Atlas Grain Co. In 1914, the agent was J. D. Bullock. He boarded with Joe Lavalley. It is impossible to verify how long he remained, but a later agent was Jules DeCorby. A colorful agent during those days was Joe Ladouceur who boarded with Delphis Chartier. He was French speaking and played the violin. With such talent at hand, old-timers recall that dances were held in the elevator. The man was a good cook and provided the lunch at the fun reunions. It is also reported that he bought turkeys from farmers and plucked them in the elevator. When the doors were opened, the draft would scatter feathers all over the town.

In those days much of the grain would be hauled directly to the elevator from the threshing machine. Long lines of horse-drawn wagons would wait patiently for their turn, stretching from the Atlas Elevator all the way back to the Decorby store. No one minded, I suppose, for it was an excellent opportunity to visit, to talk about the weather, the crops, the news, all done while one was on the job! Another agent named Irwin, was there when the elevator was torn down. The lumber was used by Eugene Fouillard to build his first house.

A new elevator owned by Security Grain Co., was built a short distance west of the station and facing the present homes of Lena Bulger, Reg. Chartier and Bob DeCorby. Harry Lezz, George White



Flood in St. Lazare — with 2 elevators — Northern and National.

and a Mr. Beresford in turn, were the grain buyers. Later, the elevator became known as the Northern Elevator Company and its agents through the years were George Bicknell, Stanley Buchanan, and Jack McLennan.

In 1943, the National Grain Co., took over the operation and Reginald Chartier became agent, a position he held for nineteen years, until a fire destroyed the elevator on Dec. 2, 1962. It was never replaced — so the local farmers delivered their grain to Birtle or Foxwarren or elsewhere. The Fouillards set up steel buildings for their own grain and the community lost the “handiness” of their friendly elevator.

The St. Lazare Post Office by Omer Chartier

Canada’s governmental records show that it was on October 1st, 1895 that the first post office existed in St. Lazare, being located about one km north of the present town, with Delphis Chartier as postmaster. Henry Tillman replaced him on October 16, 1912. During these years the premises moved to the present location of “La Cremette”. Grace O’Keefe, in turn, took over on July 14, 1915 until August 25, 1922 when Louis Guay was appointed. At that time the office was moved to the latter’s store which was built where Fouillard’s Builders Supplies is located. On February 3, 1932, Joseph Grenier replaced Louis Guay for two or three years. John Selby, who was

secretary-treasurer for the municipality, was next. The office found a new home in the R.M. building, then located on the NW corner of Main and Fouillard St. Mr. Selby was postmaster until April 30, 1959. Shortly after, his son, Robert, then in the insurance business, was named postmaster and again the post office was relocated to his new building. In 1967, the postal department decided that the position should be on a full time basis. A “Tenders or Applications Competition” was called for and on December 1, 1967, Omer Chartier was appointed as St. Lazare’s eighth postmaster. With the population and mail volume rising, (there was also a rumor that a potash mine was to locate here), tenders were let for the construction of a new post office building. In 1969, Jacques Guay was awarded the contract and in November of that year, the spacious premises that now serve the community, were occupied.

Accommodations

It could be said that one of the first lodges in the district of Fort Ellice was owned by Lord Milton in the 1860’s. He purchased through bartering, an Indian lodge made of buffalo skins “nicely” painted on the outside depicting Indian warfare. The tourists used this skin lodge throughout much of their subsequent journeys. Who knows, Lord Milton might have been running opposition to the comfortable accom-

modations of the "Big House" in the fort or were his lodging classified as an "overflow"?

Next Strathallan House comes to mind. According to the late Niggy Simard it was built on the exact site of what is now Lazare Fouillard's house and was later moved to Russell to become the Queen's Hotel. In 1907 there is mention of accommodations added onto the priest's house at the mission at a cost of \$100. A gate separated the yard from the cemetery. Would it be to keep out the deadbeats? Irénée Benoit was caretaker and possibly undertaker too.

In 1909 Delphis Chartier built a hotel on the site of the present Fort Ellice Motel which he sold to Mr. Lavallee in 1912. Delphis later built a two storey building next to the "first" hotel and sold it to the Heberts. It was called the Accommodation Hotel. Before 1915 Mrs. Beaudry had a boarding house in Victor to accommodate railroad workers. An ad appeared in the Binscarth Express of September 25, 1919 for the sale of the hotel which was bought by Mrs. King who then rented it to a Mr. Rhodes for a few years. Later when she took over, she had boarders, a cafe and held dances. She had her own power plant installed. Her brother-in-law Edmond Simard said it looked like the Titanic when they first lit it up!

The Lavalles who owned Wheeler's farm around 1920 (which is now the Ed Belhumeur farm) came back to town moving their house to a lot where La Cremette stands today. This became a boarding house, later sold to Joe Grenier around 1926. Alcide Robert became its subsequent owner years later when he bought the house for \$1500.00.

In 1928, the Liquor Control Commission came into being and in 1932 Alcide Robert with the encouragement of Eugene Fouillard, Father Halde and financing from Jules Decorby built the present hotel. Lazare Fouillard recalls Normand Mouillierat digging the basement with a frezno and horses. He enjoyed riding on the shovel. Oscar Dupont and Pierre Roy built the hotel. Mr. Robert owned this hotel till 1942 when he sold it to Omer Huybrecht. The hotel is still pretty well in its original state. Getting rid of the wood furnace became a priority. In extremely cold weather, many sleepless nights were spent keeping the fire burning, but not without its compensations! Georges Fouillard or other friends would keep Omer company playing cards, and relating long stories interrupted by cat naps. How nice it was to get running water and dispose of the honey pails! To think of all the chamber pots and stands gladly given away which are priceless antiques today! In 1963 alterations to the hotel were made in order to get a mixed drinking licence. In 1967 the Fort Ellice Motel was built on the exact spot where the first hotel was built in 1909.

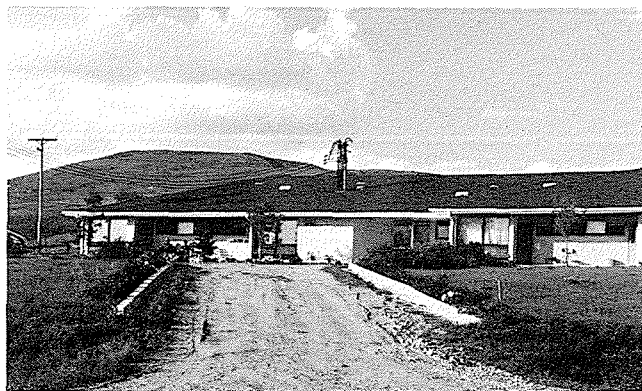
And so ends the story of an important service provided to the community over the years whether it be through tent, lodgings, hostels, boarding houses, hotels and motels. The Huybrechts hope you find their accommodations as friendly and as comfortable as you would any private homes in St. Lazare that are noted for their outstanding hospitality.

St. Lazare Housing and Villa Decorby Lodge

submitted by Lea Selby

In 1969 a group of local citizens got together to discuss better housing for low wage earners in St. Lazare. After meetings with the village councillors and government officials, a committee was formed to "get things rolling." This committee consisted of Leo Fouillard, President, Margaret Bagley, Secretary, Joe Bell, Robert Fleury, Eugene Simard (Niggey), and Eugene Mulaire. It wasn't too long before the land was levelled off and basements constructed, with local people hired to do the work. The fifteen units were moved onto the basements in the fall of 1971 with the Laurence Henderson family being the first to move in. Soon other families followed until the houses were all full. Betty Simard was the first manager. There were eighty-seven children in these homes, hence the name "Sesame Street."

With the low rental homes in operation thoughts turned to a Senior Citizens' residence. A survey was taken and it was found there were many Senior Citizens wishing accommodation. It was decided to build a 12-unit lodge with 10 single and two double apartments. This Lodge is situated where the old DeCorby School was and Paul Emile Fouillard's house was also moved to make room for the lodge. At this time Adele Belhumeur was manager and in 1975 the Villa DeCorby Lodge was officially opened with Mrs. Ruby McAuley, the first resident, cutting the ribbon. All the apartments are occupied and Gail Horning is the present manager.



Villa DeCorby — opened in 1975.

Early History of Chillon Siding and Elevators

by Norman Turnbull

Preamble:

It would be approximately 1906 give or take a year or two when the loading ramp was built by the C.P.R. between Binscarth and Foxwarren. Who gave the Siding the name Chillon, is unknown. Lord Byron, the poet, named one of his sonnets, "The Prisoner of Chillon", a Chateau or Castle at the Eastern end of Lake Geneva, Switzerland. How the name came to this area is conjecture.

The first elevator to be built at the site was built by the Government, with Jack Richards of Binscarth as the first operator. We remember that as 'The Wet Year' which would be 1911. In July of 1912, the United Grain Growers leased the elevator. It was destroyed by fire in early 1920. It was rebuilt in time for harvest, 1921. In 1924 the United Grain Growers purchased all of the Government elevators. N. M. Paterson & Co. built an elevator in 1921-22 with F. Young as first operator and with Campbell Malcolm serving 1924-1928 when Pool bought it.



Chillon Siding.

Despite the convenience of the elevator, considerable grain was still loaded 'over the platform.' There were times when this manner was subject to various interruptions. Sometimes the elevator agent would load a car, then start to move it downgrade toward the platform, the car would gain momentum and before the agent could clamber up to the top of the car and set the brakes it would crash into the cars being loaded at the platform. Many of our early homesteaders were not lacking in profanity and to have a car shunted out of 'spot' in such a manner gave rise to expressions not used in "polite society." More especially so if one's team of horses took a notion to head back home with half a wagon load of grain trailing behind them. A more serious accident took place one harvest afternoon. A way-freight travelling

east from Binscarth ran into an 'open end' switch at the west end of the siding and struck two cars which were in process of being loaded. A neighbor, Joe Irwin, who was "shovelling back" in one car suddenly found himself propelled some fifty feet into scrub to the west of the siding. Two teams immediately left for safer pastures, three badly frightened farmers stared in horror as their grain was spilled over the right of way. One of the crew on the train was badly hurt and it took a while to untangle the wrecked cars and get the siding in use once more.

When needing cars at the siding, adjacent farmers put their request to the local station agent either at Foxwarren or Binscarth. The cars came in two sizes: 72,000 lbs., 1200 bu. and 54,000 lb., 900 bu. Farmers ordered the size of car they thought they would require. When the cars were 'spotted' at the siding there were times when several farmers might arrive to claim their order. The first man to put a bag containing the kind of grain he was going to ship, into the car claimed it as his. This system was usually honored by the neighbors in the early days. However there were times when neighborly consideration was thrown to the wind and the bag of wheat was hauled out and replaced with a whole load. This was infrequent, but it did happen. The offender was dubbed a 'Car stealer'.

The early method of loading grain 'Over the platform' was by muscle power. 'Grain doors' were provided by the railroad company and these were placed on the inner side of the car door jams and nailed in place. Inserted to about two thirds of the door opening they allowed some slope downward from the farmer's wagon box which, by the use of a portable wooden chute about thirty inches wide and six feet long, made for much easier shovelling until the car was at least two thirds full. The last third was an uphill job and there must have been uncounted sighs of relief when cars were finally filled. To load, farmers used either the long handled shovel or a 'scoop' that held about half a bushel to a bushel. This had a bottom and two sides about ten inches in depth and width. One end was closed and had a handle in the form of a loop at the top. There was a free swinging handle across the middle of this contraption that allowed for a somewhat freer motion in 'scooping'. Although one could unload more quickly with this — it held about three times as much grain as the 'long handle' — it also required considerable more back bending and stooping.

The following passages are quotations from a History of Chillon and the Government Elevators, sent to me by Wm. S. Scarth who, like this writer, "Grew up with the Chillon Siding and Elevators."

Quote: "Our community was selected as one of

the points for a Government Elevator. We never questioned this decision — no doubt everyone was delighted to feel that the loading of cars by hand was over. Several years earlier our district had raised considerable agitation to secure a 'loading platform' as provided under the Manitoba Grain Act, and perhaps the authorities felt that we should next be given a little 'guinea pig' treatment with one of the new Government structures.

The railway, in its wisdom, decided that the location would be adjacent to the loading platform, known as Chillon Siding. As far as one can ascertain there appears to be no special reason for the name "Chillon", and one rather doubts any reference to the poetic muse that inspired Byron's immortal work. There would be occasions of course when the elevator agent's existence may have been a solitary, prison-like vigil, but this was generally taken for granted by a succession of very good operators. More than one of them might close up early on a winter's afternoon and travel via handcar with the C.P.R. section crew to enjoy the brighter lights of Binscarth over the weekend. If my memory serves me right, Mr. Jack Richards of Binscarth was the first elevator agent at Chillon.

By an amazing piece of good luck the elevator site was but a short distance from our road to Balmerino School — in fact where the old trail crossed the C.P.R. tracks. This provided us with a summer of new interest, and long before the construction was completed, we were experts in many of the finer things in elevator building. In addition to our daily observations, we usually joined the groups of visitors that gathered each Sunday afternoon to observe progress. So the exuberance of youth became well blended with the wisdom of age, and we were able to discourse learnedly on almost any occasion when the topic of elevators came up.

It will be difficult to credit this today, but few of us had ever seen concrete poured in the large quantities required for the foundations. Up to that time, most of the sub-structural work on buildings was stone and mortar, and there were conflicting local opinions as to how this new-fangled stuff was going to stand up. The grain pit was also concrete, and as it turned out, this would present a problem with moisture and leakage, as we were then going through a cycle of wet years in Northern Manitoba and Saskatchewan. If little was known about concrete, less than nothing was known about making it water-proof.

As experts, we were a little disappointed in the shape and appearance of the elevator as it rose above the prairie. Our ideas of architecture would be classed as 'Traditional,' and the new structure departed from this. Instead of the squat, box-like building

with the square cupola sitting squarely on top, this newcomer extended its airy height like a New York skyscraper. The cupola was an integral part of the upper framing, and to our youthful view the entire structure had a lopsided appearance. Another departure was that, after it was sheeted with tin — the standard practice at that time — it was not painted red. We felt that an unpainted elevator verged on the indecent.

However, there were plenty of assurances that the inner works of this new wonder were of the latest and most up to date design. For one thing it had one of the largest gas engines that any of us had ever seen — of Fairbanks ancestry — indeed an imposing monster of huge gleaming flywheels, rods, springs, and gadgets. It was cooled by the traditional large galvanized water tank and a maze of connecting pipes. Starting this giant called for all the brute strength, dexterity and vocabulary of the operator, and it was a fascinating ritual to watch. After twiddling with various levers, opening relief valves, priming with gasoline, and muttering some sort of incantation, the Agent would balance on a spoke of the flywheel, and throwing his full weight backwards, force the piston in against compression. If all was well, there was a terrific exhaust explosion, followed by a second and third, and it was off for a spell of work. If not, the wheel balancing process would have to be repeated again and again, and if for any reason the engine had been stopped while very warm, it became extremely temperamental.

This was before the days of the impatient trucker, and it was not uncommon to see a line-up of ten to fifteen teams and loads, with the teamsters down in the engine room giving advice and assistance to get 'Old Faithful' started. These periodic delays were, of course not unwelcome to the grain haulers. While the modern coffee break did not exist as such, this spell provided good opportunity to exchange neighborly news, discuss politics, the C.P.R., the price of wheat, and varied fortunes of the threshing outfits. Occasionally, an unusually zealous farmer undertook to find out for himself what the hold-up was and appeared in a buggy behind a foam flecked steed to make anxious enquiry. Such a visitation caused only a minor ripple of interest as the new arrival was absorbed into the waiting concourse of wagons. Of course if this interlude was too prolonged the threshers in the vicinity ground to a halt for the lack of grain teams. This initiated the practice of having a portable bin available as an emergency standby.

An innovation in design in some of the Government elevators was the installation of an 'automatic dump' for weighing the grain just before it went into the car. In theory and on drawing boards this device

must have appeared simple and ingenious, but in actual practice it fell far short of the inventor's dream. The grain to be loaded was elevated to the top bin in the usual manner, then delivered to a special scale hopper, which, on reaching the set weight, automatically dumped it into another spout for final delivery to the car. However, having been stopped halfway for the weighing process, the grain had little kinetic force behind it and merely dribbled from the spout in the vicinity of the car door. This necessitated shovelling every car, and the final outcome at Chillon elevator was that an Agent with a mechanical turn spent a fruitful Sunday installing his own direct spout from the gerber to the car. No one was any the wiser for a year or so, when the automatic was found buried under a deep layer of dust, unhonored and unsung.

An elevator agent's job has never been an easy one, but in those days he had to combine a variety of talents that almost classified him as 'Superman'. A native shrewdness and knowledge of grain had to be mellowed with a pleasant personality. An almost supernatural strength of will and muscle was essential to push box cars around, start the engine and hoist the wagon loads of grain with the old chain and sprocket device then in use. While a crude form of the 'man-lift' was installed for getting upstairs, its operation was temperamental and its occupant might have felt that he was in the first stage of a rocket blast-off. Along with all his other qualities he also needed more than average mechanical ability.

The original elevator at Chillon was destroyed by fire in the early 1920's. When the site was finally cleaned up in the spring, the only visible reminder of Chillon's first government structure was the monstrous old gas engine with its now flattened water tank and twisted pipes. Before these were hauled away for scrap I have no doubt the echo of heartfelt blessings and maledictions must have been heard returning on the prairie winds to haunt its final resting place. There would be other echoes too — of the long crossing whistles of the 'Flyer', the Great West Express, on its way to and from Edmonton and Winnipeg in the dark hours, and the old local from Russell that came down in the morning and back at night so regularly that when working in the fields we could set our watches by it."

Unquote. **Wm. S. Scarth**

The following is a partial list of U.G.G. operators: Tully, C. McCallum, Chas. Nicoll, Thorpe McPherson, Barber, John Brown, Cec. Kelly, H. (Spike) Tibbatts, Wally Lazenby, Bob Feasby, Alex Crerar.

My thanks and appreciation to all those who helped me compile this M.S.S. on Chillon; especially to Will Scarth of Victoria, B.C. whose fa-

ther, Mathew Scarth, was one of the continuous patrons of the U.G.G. at Chillon while he farmed. The quotation I used was from Will Scarth's Manuscript "Binscarth — 1970".

Norman Turnbull

Chillon History — Manitoba Pool from 1927 to 1972

In 1927 negotiations began to form a Cooperative Elevator at the Chillon Siding. Forty-seven members signed up immediately, with one more in 1928. The first Board of Directors consisted of:

E. P. Clark — President

Robert Irwin — Vice President

L. R. Ryan — Secretary

Ed Dupont, John Reinhart, Dave Hall, Sid Tibbatts, Frank Ryan.

The first meeting was held in John Irwin's home (Lloyd Tibbatts 1982). In February 1928 the elevator and residence were purchased from N. M. Patterson Co. for \$10,000. It was renovated, new machinery was installed, a well dug and electricity added making a grand total of \$19,750. It opened for business on August 25 of that year, with F. G. Abbott as the first operator.

In March 1929, the C.P.R. announced that more grain was shipped from Chillon than from 80% of the other stations in Manitoba. Chillon was made a flag station for passengers and freight, and many a can of cream was thrown in the door of the baggage car as the train came almost to a halt. Due to the depression, the elevator was closed December 1, 1931. It wasn't closed for long however, for in August of 1932 it reopened with P. K. Peterson as operator. P.K. was a good choice indeed, for he had worked untiringly for the cause of the farmer while farming at Erickson, and was instrumental in establishing there the first farmer-owned elevator to ship grain through the Manitoba Wheat Pool. Pete or "P.K." was an expert with the grain cleaner. If there was any way to raise the grade of the farmer's grain to bring a better price, P.K. would do it. Many times the cleaner ran night and day. On one occasion, Pete reached in to correct something in the cleaner while it was running and only his brute strength saved him from being pulled in. He was left with just half a shirt and the collar still around his neck. The Pool thrived, with profits being used to assist Associations in trouble.

In 1938 a fatal accident occurred when the body of a transient was discovered in a decapitated state a short distance west of the elevators. It took some time before Police could identify the man as he had nothing on his person except his clothing and the crucifix he was wearing. They could only assume that the man had fallen from a freight.

Sidings were always a welcome sight to the sec-

tion men on cold winter days. It was a place to get warm, catch a bite to eat and spin a yarn or two with the operator.

"P.K." was to stay until 1943, a period of eleven years. Other operators were: Clarence Good, Ken McCullough, George Armstrong, Hap Congdon, Vern Warkentin, Clem Windsor, John Williamson, Cecil Nickol, and Dennis Hunter.

In 1936 a stable was built for the operator, where 'P.K.' kept a milk cow, some pigs and a pony for the children. This burned in 1955. For sixteen years there was a sub-station handling twine, coal, flour, shorts, hardware and supplies. The dividend realized from this business amounted to 13%. It closed in 1958. A new house was built in 1947 and Norman Turnbull purchased the old house after his house had burned. In 1952 a three-bin, 30,000 bushel annex was built for added space, and in 1960, the United Grain Growers elevator and annex were purchased for \$16,000.

Chillon was instrumental in having the Pool colours changed from the dull red to the white we see now.

In 1963, water and sewer were added to the cottage.

In June 1969, the Chillon farmers voted for their elevator to become a member of the new Manitoba Pool Elevator system, turning over the facilities to them. In May 1971 Chillon Pool was closed and the membership was absorbed into either Binscarth or Foxwarren. The Annexes were sold and the elevator dismantled in 1972. The house, garage and lot were sold to Jim Zegers.

In the forty-four years that Chillon Pool was in operation, 217 farmer members used its facilities.

The last Board of Directors for the 1970-71 crop year at Chillon were: President — Frank Horeczy, Vice President — Elmer Ryan, Secretary — Robert Turnbull and David Pizzey, Gordon Orr, Carman Ryan, Melvin Tibbatts.

P.F.R.A. Community Pasture

M. E. Falloon

A survey, submitted to the land Utilization Board in March, 1939, indicated that there were 42,400 acres in the Ellice-Archie municipalities and an additional 20,320 acres north of the Qu'Appelle in the Rural Municipality of Ellice of submarginal land, suitable for pasture development. The cost of construction was estimated at \$76,800.

Construction was started in 1939 and completed in 1940. Owing to the great shortage of money and the number of unemployed in the area during the thirties, every person in the Municipality who applied for work was given a job for a two week period,

then replaced by another. The wages were between twenty-five and fifty cents an hour. Ben Fouillard had the contract to feed and house the workers; the cooking was very ably done by Irene Plante and Mary Hayden. Mr. Hagerman and Mr. McDonald were in charge of construction. All the post holes were dug with hand diggers and 125 miles of wire was strung by hand; corrals and texas gates constructed at a total cost of \$57,763.

An organizational meeting for the Community Pasture Grazing Association was held in St. Lazare on November fourth, 1939 and the following advisory committee was appointed: Chairman, C. Wroth, Welwyn; Wm. Pateman, McAuley; F. Burdett, Foxwarren; R. Huberdeau, St. Lazare; W. F. Collyer, Welwyn. Because of serious drought conditions and shortage of feed in the area; it was decided at the November fourth meeting to open the pasture for grazing of horses free of charge during the winter of 1939-40. The pasture officially opened for business in the spring of 1940 with J. M. Shearer as manager of the Ellice-Archie portion (designated as Number One pasture) and Garnet Falloon as manager of the Ellice north pasture (designated as Number Two). The estimated carrying capacity of Number One pasture was 2,000 head and Number Two pasture was 900 head. During the first season, 1940, a total of 153 patrons pastured a total of 870 head of cattle and 594 horses in Number One pasture and 536 cattle and 204 horses in Number Two pasture.

In the 1942 grazing season, Mr. E. Burdett assumed the duties of Number Two pasture, replacing Garnet Falloon who left to join the Air Force. In that year, 701 cattle and 288 horses were pastured in Number One pasture and 803 cattle and 89 horses in Number Two.

In 1947, the Number Two pasture was merged with the Saskatchewan Spy Hill pasture and became known as the Spy Hill-Ellice pasture, and in that year, N. Scarrow assumed the duties of pasture manager. The carrying capacity of this larger pasture was estimated at 1800 head on an acreage of 40,320, or 22 acres per head. Advisory committee for that year was Chairman, W. Pateman; W. F. Collyer; J. Dupont; F. Murray, and R. Johnston.

In 1961, E. Grona assumed duties of pasture manager in the Spy Hill-Ellice pasture. That year, 2,125 cattle, 371 calves and nine horses and 1,500 sheep were in the south pasture. It was the second year that sheep had been pastured and it is interesting to note the drop in the number of horses being pastured.

In 1964, Milton Henry took over as Pasture Manager at the Ellice-Archie pasture and in 1974, J. Istace the Spy Hill-Ellice pasture. In the 1981 grazing sea-

son, 63 patrons pastured 1,853 cattle and 902 calves on 37,640 acres in the Ellice-Archie pasture and 71 patrons pastured 1,870 cattle, 1,012 calves and 31 horses on 38,324 acres.

Mr. J. Hawkley of Regina was the pasture supervisor for a number of years. We have been fortunate to have had good and conscientious pasture managers through the years, and the pasture has been a great asset to a large number of livestock producers.

The present Advisory Committee for the Spy Hill-Ellice Pasture consists of Lenard Olson (Chairman), Murray Tibbatts, Louis Barrett, Willis Thorpe, Glen Salkeld and Arnold Marshall, with George Boucher the representative for the R.M. of Ellice, Jim Nuget the Assistant Area Manager and John Istace the Pasture Manager.

Valley View Sheep Farm

In 1979, the Métis Federation of the south-west region received word that grants were available for community projects through L.E.A.P. (Local Employment Assistance Program). George Fleury, as chairman of the local Metis Federation in the R.M. of Ellice proceeded to look into possibilities of securing and making use of these grants. With the assistance of two field workers from Brandon, a group was organized to discuss what project would be best suited for this community and the surrounding area. After a great deal of research and discussion, it was decided to proceed with a sheep farm.

The R.M. of Ellice was approached to find out what land was available and so in the fall of 1979, the NE¼ of 34-18-29 was purchased for the sheep project. The farm needed a name, and after much deliberation it became the Valley View Sheep Farm.

Immediately building started, the local men were employed, barns, corrals and sheds were erected. A land clearing machine was hired and after many days of hard work and manual labour during the winter and spring, the land was ready to be seeded. A shepherd, who originally came from New Zealand, was hired for a period of two years to assist, teach, and train the local people in the care of sheep, nutrition suitable for all stages of growth, care at lambing time and the shearing of sheep. In March 1980, the first flock of pregnant ewes (which had been selected from flocks at Teulon and Boissevain) arrived at the farm and the lambing season started.

A board of directors consisted of farmers from the surrounding area who assisted the advisors from L.E.A.P. by attending the monthly meetings held by the local project, and suggestions were offered to aid the local management.

In the spring of 1981, approximately 1,300 ewes lambed. An average of 700 lambs are marketed at a weight of eighty to one hundred pounds. It takes approximately one hundred days to get a lamb ready for market. The lambs are sold at Portage and Canada Packers, Winnipeg. The management at present hopes to be able to purchase more property which would enable the sheep farm to expand the flock of ewes to 1500. The future of this project depends on the same elements as all farming ventures; and the increase in acres and sheep would make it possible to employ more people. At present, employment fluctuates as the seasons demand.

George Fleury is manager, with Roger Smith as assistant. Bill Demontigny and Carl Smith are the shepherds, and Annie Ducharme is the bookkeeper. Lambs are available on request and are butchered at the Russell Processing Plant.



25th Anniversary party.



Babe Fouillard, Don Bulger, Pecky Simard, Lizzie Fiddler, George Tremblay.



Celebrating completion of old bridge.

Clubs

Beaver Rapids Community Club

by Judie Lewis

In 1937 the ladies of this community formed a club. This club catered to weddings, funerals, farm sales, bridal showers, teas, bake sales, strawberry socials, quilting bees and many other activities. The first meeting was held at Mrs. Hugh Littles. The first officers elected were President — Mrs. Frank McGuire; Secretary — Mrs. C. J. Lewis; Treasurer — Mrs. Bill Lewis. There have been many members through the years.

The club is not as active today but we hope it will always be around when, and if it is needed.

Fort Ellice 4-H Club

by Olive Perreault

1955-1957: In 1955 a 4-H Club was organized under the title of **Busy Hands** by Mrs. Tom W. (Jan) Rice as headleader, Mrs. Tom (Paulette) Selby as assistant leader and a handful of volunteers. Thirty eager girls registered in sewing, the only project offered. Club officers were: President — Diane Dale, vice-president — May Alma Peppin, secretary — Valerie Melynk, treasurer — Maureen Bulger.

1972 — Being a former member and now a wife and mother, Mrs. Roberta Huberdeau knew the values of 4-H and persisted in finding enough interested volunteers to start a new club. **St. Lazare Fort Ellice 4-H Club** came to light. A total of 48 members joined, both boys and girls, with 22 adult leaders. Projects offered were: Clothing, Foods, Handicraft, Woodwork, Pony, Dairy, and Home-Away-From-Home. Headleader — Roberta Huberdeau. Club officers — Fleurette Prescott — president, Micheline Chartier — vice-president, Christine Huberdeau — secretary, Nicole Huberdeau — treasurer, Zoe-Anne Guay — news-reporter.

1983 sees the club thriving with 42 members and 20 devoted leaders. This year the club projects offered are Clothing, Crafts, Exploring 4-H, Foods, Home Design and Woodwork. Each year members

are encouraged to take part in the Public Speaking competitions, Crafts and Clothing, Workshops and Junior and Senior Conferences. Club activities include canvassing for Heart and Ability Fund, bonspiels, skating, bake sales and an occasional club dance.

An annual Achievement Day is held in the spring of each year when all projects are proudly displayed. 4-H Rally is another outing the members are eager to attend. All items on Rally display are extra-special and chosen from clubs in the Roblin-Russell district. 1982-1983 officers: HeadLeader — Claudette Chartier, president — Monique Plante, vice-president — Lisa Chartier, secretary — Zita Fafard, treasurer — Lisa Fleury, news reporter — Pamela Jessop.

The 4-H Pledge:

I Pledge my Head to clearer thinking,
my Heart to greater loyalty,
my Hands to larger service, and
my Health to better living, for
my club, my community and my country.

The 4-H Motto:

Learn To Do By Doing

The 4-H Grace:

We thank Thee Lord, For blessings great
On this our own fair land
Teach us to serve Thee joyfully,
With Head, Heart, Health and Hands.

Fort Ellice Local

by Marg. Bagley

This Métis group was formed in 1968. There were many active members at that time. The membership has dropped over the years, due to the migration of Métis to urban areas. Objectives of The Local are to promote the economics, the education, and participation of Métis people in all fields. In 1973, The Local held a rodeo at Fort Ellice, which was a great success. Over the years The Local has been responsible for co-ordinating a service program, such as summer student employment, community co-ordinators, and upgrading programs. It played the

initial role in getting M.H.R.C. to allocate 15 homes to St. Lazare. Villa DeCorby is the result of efforts of the committee, that included representatives from the town, the municipality and the Fort Ellice Local. When the group was first formed they started Sunday night bingo. The funds from the monthly bingo are used to pay one half the cost of supplying lunch at funerals — the remainder being paid by the Ladies Auxiliary.

This club is not as active as it once was.

Les Castors

De 1978 à 1982-83, Mme Annette Chartier, Cheftaine et ses aides Mmes Geneviève Tremblay, Eugénie Fafard, Karen Simard et Soeur Pelletier, Jeanne Huberdeau, Vivianne Deschambault et Adèle Belhumeur préparèrent à leur promesse une cinquantaine de "Castors". Au printemps de 1980, cheftaine Annette Chartier, Mmes Jeanne Huberdeau et Vivianne Deschambault se rendent à un rallye de Castors à St. Norbert avec les Castors aînés.

Les Louveteaux

Cheftaine Christine Fouillard, aidée de Richard Fouillard, prépare à la promesse les premiers Louveteaux. En 1979-80, Marguerite Bagley s'ajoute à eux comme aide et de nouveaux Louveteaux font leur promesse. En 1980-81, Marguerite Bagley devient cheftaine, aidée de Marge Deschambault. En juin on commence la première course "L'ouv-auto". L'année suivante, en plus de la course "Louv-auto", les Louveteaux prennent part à un camp de fin de semaine et à un rallye à St. Boniface. Ces activités sont les principales de chaque année et se déroulent dans la joie des participants.

Les Eclaireurs

Sous la direction de Mme Cécile Blouin, cheftaine, et de Mme Claudette Simard, les premiers éclaireurs font leur promesse en juin 1979. En 1979-80, M. Pierre Baudouin conduit les Eclaireurs à Ste. Anne pour la plantation d'arbres. En 1980-81, Denis Mulaire et Paul Deschambault accompagnent leur groupe au "Camporie" de La Broquerie et y décrochent le trophée de "Meilleurs Campeurs". On prépare le "Jamborie Canadien". Comme les chefs ne peuvent pas accompagner leur groupe, Margaret Bagley et son mari, se chargent de les préparer et les surveiller à Kawanaskis Country, Alberta. Les parents des Eclaireurs multiplient leurs activités pour ramasser les fonds nécessaires. Partis le 30 juin en autobus avec les Eclaireurs de Birtle, ils reviennent le 10 juillet, heureux et fiers de leur expérience et reconnaissants à leur famille et ceux qui les avaient aidés. En 1982 la principale activité fut un camp d'hiver. En 1982-83, Ubald Deschambault devient



Les Eclaireurs, 1980 (Scouts).

chef. Le groupe se renouvelle au complet et compte continuer le succès des années précédentes.

Les Jeannettes

En avril 1979, Mme Lorraine Tremblay devient cheftaine et prépare à leur promesse, les Jeannettes, le 10 juin 1979. Ses assistantes sont Mmes Collette Huberdeau, Jacqueline Den Brok et Marcy Hayden.

Les Guides

Sous la direction de Mme Suzanne Huberdeau, Jeannine Perreault et Debbie Deschambault, les Guides font leur promesse de 1979-1983. La principale activité fut le camp à Riding Mountain — organisé par Mlle Yvette Mallet, et suivi par toutes les Guides et leurs chefs. Les activités cette année ont lieu dans le sous-basement des logis de Mlle Jacqueline D. et Yvette Mallet.

Les Pionniers

À l'automne de '82-'83, les chefs Denis Mulaire et Paul Deschambault demandent de commencer avec leurs anciens Eclaireurs, un groupe de Pionniers. Ils débutent l'année avec un camp d'automne dans les environs de St. Lazare.

Boy Scouts and Girl Guides of St. Lazare.

To afford a project of interest to the young girls of St. Lazare, the "Girl Guides" was organized in the spring of 1964. The response was overwhelming and soon two companies were operating; the "Ste. Therasas" and the "St. Michaels." The girls enjoyed the usual activities, such as camping, near home or away, and rallies. In the summer of 1965, the original leader Mrs. Christine Fouillard, resigned, and although the functions continued for the remainder of the year, most of the remaining assistants resigned as they had other commitments, so the project was put "on the shelf".

In 1969, Mrs. Lorraine Tremblay, looking for something interesting for young people, also involving the French culture, invited representatives of the "French Wing" of the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides to



Sister Ida-Marie Hainault — Founder of Scouts and Guides in St. Lazare.

come to St. Lazare and speak to the parents of the boys and girls. As a result, a committee of parents to look after financial support and five different groups of Scouts and Guides were formed.

The leaders and den mothers with their assistants, have since given many hours of time and service promoting the Scouts philosophy, attending rallies and jamborees, going camping near or farther away with their charges. The scouts and guides organized races, went "tree planting" and even won a trophy in 1981 as the "Best Campers at La Broquerie. They took part in the "Canadian Jamboree" in July of 1981.

All this was possible because of the dedication of the many leaders and their assistants. The "books" of the Club reveal a long list of these active supporters. The parents are responsible for the efficient financial operation of the Club. Every fall a walk-athon was organized to raise funds. The Knights of Columbus and the Ladies' Auxiliary offered financial support when needed. The Club is on solid footing and will continue to be an important part of the training of the boys and girls for many years to come.

Le Guidisme à St. Lazare

En 1963, pendant que les garçons se groupaient comme Chevaliers de l'Autel, les filles n'avaient aucune association. Une religieuse qui avait déjà travaillé avec les Guides, proposa aux étudiantes ce mouvement qui leur apprendrait à servir Dieu, et les autres avec joie, générosité et simplicité. Les jeunes acceptèrent avec enthousiasme; le curé, l'abbé Régnier approuva; et le guidisme fit ses débuts au printemps 1964.

Affiliée aux Guides de Saint Boniface, la première "Cie" s'organise sous le nom de "Cie Ste. Thérèse de l'Enfant Jésus". En présence de la commissaire régionale, Colette Huot, vingt-huit jeunes filles, réparties en quatre équipes, "Serin", "Alouette", "Colombe" et "Canard" firent leur promesse le 7 juin 1964. A l'été, Geneviève Guay et Marie Deschambault participent à un camp-école du 5 au 12 juillet.

A l'automne de 1964-65, les activités reprennent dans l'ancienne église devenue salle paroissiale. Vu le nombre de Guides, des dames: Christine Fouillard, Annette Gagné, Vivianne Plante, Marie Deschambault et Rachelle Courchesne; prêtent main-forte à la cheftaine, Sr. Ida Marie. Il y a une deuxième, une troisième et une quatrième réception avant le 30 mai 1965; alors une seconde compagnie doit s'organiser et prend le nom de "Cie St. Michel". A la fin de cette année, dix-neuf guides font partie sous les équipes "Mésanges", "Muguet", "Hirondelle" et "Bourreuil".

A l'été 1965, la cheftaine nous quitte. Mme Annette Chartier prend sa place et Mme Betty Simard s'ajoute au groupe d'assistantes. Les activités continuent toute l'année jusqu'à ce que cheftaine et assistantes doivent se retirer, appelées par d'autres devoirs. Tous les costumes, livrets, sont remis dans une armoire de l'école — et tout est gardé bien en ordre.

Au début de 1978, Mme Lorraine Tremblay présidente du comité culturel, cherchait avec ses membres un moyen d'intéresser les jeunes à la culture française. Les mouvements scouts et guides, catholiques et français furent suggérés. On invita des représentants de ces deux groupes. Mlle Hélène Proteau, guide et Frère Aubry, scout, expliquèrent aux parents la méthode de Baden Powell; montrèrent la nécessité de chefs pour les jeunes, et d'un comité de parents pour les soutenir matériellement.

Il fut décidé que cinq groupes s'organiseraient; les Castors, les Louveteaux, les Eclaireurs, les Jeanettes et les Guides. Le père Aurèle, curé, accepta d'être aumônier. Les 19, 20 et 21 janvier 1979, des chefs expérimentés vinrent de Saint Boniface préparer les nouveaux chefs et le samedi soir

organisèrent un vin-fromage pour les parents, et les initiant par des jeux à la méthode scout-guide. En février, les réunions commencent et le 10 juin les premières promesses sont prononcées.

Le comité de Parents, fut formé en majorité des membres du comité culturel. Durant les premières années, le comité organisait un marcheton à l'automne pour défrayer en tout ou en partie, les frais de cotisations et les costumes. Cette année, les parents ont payé la cotisation. Le mouvement, en plus d'être redevable au Club Culturel pour sa fondation est très reconnaissant aux Chevaliers de Colomb et aux Dames Auxiliaires pour l'aide substantielle qu'ils ont apportée; et à l'aumônier qui répond à chaque appel des groupes — pour promesses ou leçons.



Les Jeannettes, 1980 (Guides) avec Lorraine Tremblay.

Les Chevaliers De Colomb

En l'année 1960, quelques hommes de St. Lazare, qui avaient joint les rangs de cette société fraternelle comme membres du conseil de Brandon l'année d'avant, crurent bon de commencer leur propre conseil. Plus de cinquante hommes furent recrutés de cette région ainsi que de Russell, Birtle, Rosburn et Elkhorn. Ainsi fut fondé en novembre 1960 le conseil #5047, dont la première réunion eut lieu en la vieille salle paroissiale le 4 décembre, 1960. Voici la liste des premiers officiers élus: Chaplain — Révérend Gérard Régnier; Grand Chevalier — Robert Selby; Député-Grand Chevalier — Arthur Fouillard; Chancelier — Arthur Chartier; Secrétaire-archiviste — Paul-Emile Fouillard; Cérémonière — Léon Dupont; Trésorier — Omer Chartier; Syndics — 3 ans — Eugène Fouillard, 2 ans — Clément Robert, 1 an — Louis Huberdeau; Avocat — William Uhryniuk; Garde Interne — Thomas Selby; Garde Externe — 1-Emile Huybrecht, 2-Pierre Huberdeau. Le nom de Claude Chartier fut soumis au conseil suprême qui

l'accepta pour secrétaire financier, position qu'il a tenue pendant seize ans.

A cette première réunion plusieurs idées et projets ressortirent, mais comme toutes autres organismes nouveaux, les fonds se faisaient rares. Ce sont là que naquirent à St. Lazare les "bingos" hebdomadaires. Les chevaliers s'occupèrent de ce bingo chaque jeudi soir pendant quatorze ans. Les profits qui en résultaient allèrent pour des bourses, réparation à l'arène local, aide aux moins fortunés et bien d'autres causes d'un aspect soit charitable, humanitaire, social ou fraternel. Parmi les projets entrepris, la rénovation de la vieille église, en salle paroissiale, en fut un des majeurs. Avec l'aide d'un octroi du centenaire manitobain en 1970, les chevaliers ont rebâti la vieille église au coût de \$25,000.00.

Depuis le début du conseil les chevaliers suivants ont servi comme grand chevalier ou président: Robert Selby — 1960-1962; Omer Chartier — 1962-1964; Armand Guénette — 1964-1966; Omer Chartier — 1966-1969; André Huberdeau — 1969-1973; Armand Guénette — 1973-1974; Conrad Plante — 1974-1979; Alfred Deschambault — 1979-1982; Bernard Simard — 1982-

The Knights of Columbus

This fraternal organization, first saw light in St. Lazare, when a few local men, who were knights belonging to the Brandon Council, were organized under the leadership of district deputy, Patrick Evans of Dauphin, Manitoba. Over fifty men were recruited from St. Lazare, Russell, Birtle, Rosburn and Elkhorn. These men were the founding members of St. Lazare Council #5047 whose charter dates back to November 27, 1960 and whose first meeting was held in the old parish hall on December 4th, 1960.

The list of the first officers elected, reads as follows: Chaplain — Rev. Gerard Regnier, Grand Knight — Robert Selby, Deputy Grand Knight — Arthur Fouillard, Chancellor — Arthur Chartier, Recorder — Paul-Emile Fouillard, Warden — Leon Dupont, Treasurer — Omer Chartier, Trustees — 3 years — Eugene Fouillard, 2 years — Clement Robert, 1 year — Louis Huberdeau, Advocate — William Uhryniuk, Inside Guard — Thomas Selby, Outside Guards — 1-Emile Huybrecht, 2-Pierre Huberdeau. Following this meeting Supreme Council appointed Claude Chartier as financial secretary, a position that he held for 16 years.

At the outset of the new council many ideas and projects were brought forward such as the establishment of a finance committee for the building of the new Catholic Church, built in 1962, helping renovate the local arena and helping the needy. However, as no funds were yet available, this brought about one of

the first weekly bingos in the area with Brian Selby calling the numbers from an old hand operated machine. This lasted for some 14 years and helped finance many worthy causes. One which stands out is the transforming of the old church into a parish hall, in 1970. This project cost \$25,000.00 and was also helped by a provincial centennial grant that year.

Other areas of involvement, by the Knights, be it of a charitable, humanitarian, social or fraternal nature were; the setting up of mangers at Christmas, bursaries, communion breakfasts, Christmas hampers, and other worthy causes too numerous to mention.

Since the inception of the council the following served as first officers or Grand Knights: Robert Selby — 1960-1962, Omer Chartier — 1962-1964, Armand Guenette — 1964-1966, Omer Chartier — 1966-1969, André Huberdeau — 1969-1973, Armand Guénette — 1973-1974, Conrad Plante — 1974-1979, Alfred Deschambault — 1979-1982 and Bernard Simard — 1982-

Les Dames Auxiliaires de St. Lazare

Toute paroisse a généralement une organisation de dames pour suppléer aux services rendus par l'église. La paroisse de St. Lazare n'est pas une exception.

Au début les dames auxiliaires n'étaient pas connu comme telles — c'était plutôt sous les auspices des Dames de Ste. Anne et plus tard associées avec les Enfants de Marie que celles-ci travaillaient pour la communauté. Il est à noter ici qu'à St. Lazare il n'y a toujours eu seulement qu'une organisation de femmes, sans doute, dû au fait qu'il n'y avait seulement qu'une église et que la population n'était tellement pas nombreuse.

Les anciennes qu'on connaît qui se dévouèrent aux projets entrepris étaient Mmes Joseph et Israël Tremblay, Rosario et Léon Huberdeau, Benoit et Eugène Fouillard, John Selby, Origène Cadieux, Arthur Decelles, Jean Dupont, Placide Prescott, Louis Guay et Mademoiselle Lussier. On sait qu'elles servaient des banquets pour la branche de la Légion Fort Ellice #103 mais leurs efforts étaient plutôt concentrés à ramasser des fonds pour le support financier de l'église et de ce fait, procuraient aussi une vie sociale pour les habitants de la région. Elles préparaient des soupers paroissiaux mais l'événement annuel le plus important était le bazar. Tout le monde y participait, et une rivalité avait été créée entre les Dames de Ste. Anne et les Enfants de Marie pour savoir qui rapporteraient le plus d'argent. Différentes personnes contribuaient des prix pour tirages et tout le monde venait à ce bazar, les enfants inclus.

Plus tard, pour quelques années, sauf pour un souper paroissial annuel, les dames n'étaient pas très actives. C'est après l'arrivée du curé, Père Gérard Régnier que le besoin se fit pressant de se réorganiser dû à la construction d'une nouvelle église. C'est en 1960 que nous adoptons le nom de Dames Auxiliaires. On était réparti en trois groupes à cette époque (on ne l'est plus maintenant) — un pour le village, un pour l'ouest du village et l'autre pour celles qui habitaient sur la côte. La présidente-générale était Mme Léon (Lorette) Dupont avec Jeanne Fouillard comme secrétaire. Les différentes dames élues — pour le village Mme Thomas (Paulette) Selby présidente, Mme Henri (Elisabeth) Simard, secrétaire — à l'ouest du village Mme Alex (Véronique) Hayden présidente et Mme Denis (Hortense) Fouillard secrétaire et finalement pour la côte Mme Honoré (Irene) Plante présidente et Mme Louis Huberdeau, secrétaire.

Aussitôt organisées, les dames se mirent à l'oeuvre et accomplirent un travail gigantesque lors de l'ouverture officielle de l'église.

Les Dames Auxiliaires de St. Lazare n'ont pas de statut et ne conduisent peut-être pas leurs réunions légalement mais elles accomplissent beaucoup de choses. Elles servent aux banquets, aux noces, des goûters après les enterrements, prennent soin des bingos de la paroisse, et servent les repas à la journée sportive de St. Lazare. Pour amasser des fonds elles font des soupers paroissiaux, des thés, des ventes de pâtisserie et des tirages. Elles contribuent à la Croix-Rouge, les Sociétés du Cancer et du Coeur, aux Guides et Scouts, etc. en plus d'acheter différentes choses pour l'église. Elles remettent une somme de mille dollars annuellement envers la dette de l'église.

Le manque d'espace nous empêche de mentionner toutes les dames qui se sont dévouées et se dévouent encore à cette organisation. Qu'elles regardent cette article comme un éloge envers chacune d'elle, individuellement.

L'exécutif des dames auxiliaires à présent est:

Mme Jean (Lucille) Chartier, présidente.

Mme Daniel (Robin) Tremblay, vice-présidente.

Mme Ubald (Yvette) Deschambault, secrétaire et

Mme Richard (Barbara) Bohémier, trésorière.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of St. Lazare

Every church in the small towns has its own auxiliary to provide additional services to its congregation. St. Lazare's church is no exception. It was not, however, known under that name in the beginning. It was under the auspices of the Ladies of Ste. Anne, later joined by the Children of Mary, that they made their contribution to the community.

The older members who were active helpers were

Mrs. Joseph and Israel Tremblay, Rosario and Leon Huberdeau, Benoit and Eugene Fouillard, John Selby, Origene Cadieux, Placide Prescott, Louis Guay, Jean Dupont, Arthur Descelles and Miss Lussier. We know they served banquets for Fort Ellice Legion Branch #103 on a few occasions, but the main purpose of their organization was to raise funds for the financial support of their church and contribute towards the social entertainment of the inhabitants of the area. They prepared community suppers but the main event of the year was the bazaar. The whole community was involved and everyone worked hard to ensure its success. A contest was held between the married women and the single girls to see who would bring in more money from their sales. Everyone came, children included and many people have fond memories when they reminisce about the bazaar.

In the 40's and 50's the annual "fowl supper" was their project. After Father Regnier's arrival in 1960, they re-organized and took the name of Ladies' Auxiliary, with general president Mrs. Leon (Lorette) Dupont, and secretary general, Jeanne Fouillard, and three groups. The village group had Mrs. Thomas (Paulette) Selby as president and Mrs. Henri (Elisabeth) Simard as secretary while the group on the hill had Mrs. Honore (Irene) Plante as its first president with Mrs. Louis (Jeanne) Huberdeau as secretary. West of town Mrs. Alex (Veronique) Hayden acted as president assisted by Mrs. Denis (Hortense) Fouillard as secretary. The auxiliary immediately began the gigantic task of preparing the official opening of the new church.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of St. Lazare does not have a charter and might not conduct their meetings according to Parliamentary procedure but nevertheless, they accomplish a lot in the community.

To raise funds they have draws, fowl suppers, teas, bakesales and rummage sales. They make cash contributions to the Red Cross, Cancer Society, Heart Fund, Girl Guides and Scouts etc . . . Besides buying different articles for the church, they also give at least one thousand dollars per year towards the church debt.

They also render different services in town. Among other things they cater to banquets and weddings, serve lunches after funerals, and serve meals at Sports' Day and take care of parish bingos.

They are all under one group now and the present executive is Mrs. Jean (Lucille) Chartier, president, Mrs. Daniel (Robin) Tremblay vice-president, Mrs. Rick (Barbara) Bohemier treasurer and Mrs. Ubald (Yvette) Deschambault as secretary. It is impossible to acknowledge everyone who has given a helping hand to our auxiliary. Let this article be a vote of thanks to everyone, individually.

St. Lazare Community Crossroads Committee

submitted by Lea Selby

This committee was formed in 1973 with a few people from town and Bill Martin, Joan Clement and Kelvin Smith. As a result of some meetings Larry Selby was hired as co-ordinator. This committee discussed the community, what it included, its services, its good points and what it needed. John Selby was hired in 1974 as co-ordinator until the P.E.P. grant ran out in June 1974. During this brief period of time the group, namely, Gladys Huberdeau, Pat Bouchard, Lorraine Tremblay, Gail Horning, Margaret Bagley, Jackie Selby and Lea Selby, organized fund raising projects, such as a raffle, sold bars, a walk-a-thon and an auction sale. John Selby organized a Defensive Driving Course, was in charge of the cookbook, collecting and banking the money from the various fund raising projects. During this period the committee decided to start a local newspaper, which lasted from 1974 to 1979. Our typists were Margaret Hodgson, Jeanine Selby, Linda Walter, Christine Huberdeau and Donald Selby. This was an enjoyable venture but we finally had to discontinue the "St. Lazare Weekly" because of costs and lack of help.

Our goal was to build a swimming pool, but, as we received information we decided the pool project was just too big. Instead, a playground was built with monies collected for the pool, with the help of Clarence and Linda Walter and Bernie Plett, who was our recreation director and many volunteer workers who helped "clean up" the area around the Arena. Our playground became a reality in 1977. Every summer Margaret, Gail and Lea, with the help of students, keep the playground in good condition, painting, cutting grass, repairing tables, etc. In the near future we hope to add other playground equipment.

Zion Ladies' Aid by Marian Hamilton

Zion Ladies' Aid was organized in 1925 and disbanded in the 1960's.

The Ladies were the backbone of the community, keeping everything running smoothly, helping with Zion Church and the Cemetery Committee.

Through the years these meetings were conducted in the same order. Each month had its own special theme. Every lady who was a member of the Ladies' Aid, held an office, or worked on a committee while it was functioning. The meeting opened with a hymn, followed by a scripture reading and prayer. Roll call was answered, usually a few times a year with a new tea towel for the church kitchen; or plant slips, which were sold later, or squares for a

quilt and during the war years, an article for "Bundles for Britain." After the business was attended to, some member was responsible for a program. Usually, they gave a reading, sang or had one of the member's children sing or give a piano solo. Every child raised in Zion community has participated in some program. Many of the children gave their Festival poems or music items. One meeting a year, First Aid was given by the local nurses. At one time, they gave exercises to keep fit, which really put them in the mood for a good lunch which was always served at the end of the day.

At one meeting each member was given a neatly rolled parcel. Since each parcel was the same size, none of them felt as if they were being slighted. They were allowed 15 minutes to open and enjoy their surprise. The feelings of the members were mixed with pleasure, sorrow and some with disgust, when opening the parcels, they discovered each one contained wool to be teased, and the remaining of the program period was devoted to that task. It was thought advisable to change the program committee!

When the children attended, they usually had the pleasure of taking up the offering. It was noted in the earlier years that offering from 19 who answered the roll call amounted to \$1.10!

But these women worked hard to raise money. They had birthday and anniversary boxes in which they put a penny for every year. They served and sold lunches at the Festival and Auction Sales; operated a lunch booth at the Foxwarren Fat Stock Show, selling only candy one year. At the concerts they put on, they charged 25¢ or \$1.00 for a family.

As the young ladies grew up and wedding bells were ringing, the ladies had a bridal shower and later, catered to some of the weddings.

It was noted, one year each member was given 50¢, to see how much they could make from it. In December after all the money was handed back, they had cleared \$21.44.

Every fall after the harvest was in, the highlight of the year, the Annual Fowl Supper was held in Zion Church basement. The Church was always filled every year and there was no shortage of food from the good cooks. In 1940 the prices were: children 8-12 years 20¢, Adults 40¢ or Family tickets \$1.35.

The Ladies' Aid had Bazaars to no end, both Spring and Fall. The teas in earlier years were 15¢ which also included lunch.

A new idea for one of their Teas that went over successfully was when the secretary bought 100 cups and saucers for 10¢ each. At the Tea they charged 25¢ and everyone took home their cup and saucer as a souvenir. Also, this eliminated dishes to be washed.

Donations were received every year from T.

Eaton Company and Robert Simpsons. It was usually material, the big pieces were made into aprons and the smaller pieces used for patches for their quilt tops.

One afternoon several ladies gathered at a member's home to cut out aprons. That year they had an "Apron Bazaar" selling 150 aprons. Top price for a fancy, bib apron was 90¢.

The Zion Ladies' Aid was well known for its "Quilting Bees." A lot of the meetings were business and quilting. The quilt would be on the frame, ready for quilting, at the hostess' home. Many wonderful patterns and designs were made. The backs of some were made of flour sacks. Before the wool was put in for batting the fleeces had been washed, teased and carded. Two pounds were put into a regular sized quilt. The quilts were sold for \$5.00 or given to needy families. Crew Rink Association and Foxwarren Rifle Club bought some, they then raffled them to raise money for their needs. They took orders. If someone wanted a quilt made, the charge was \$1.50. The Quilting Committee was very pleased with the ladies' work. They reported 10 quilts and 2 crib quilts made in 6 months. During the War Years, the ladies volunteered to help the Red Cross. One year they made 15 quilts plus 2 others donated, making a total of 17 being sent overseas. One month the group made 3.

Not only were they helping the Red Cross but also knitting and making articles for the War Service League Association in Foxwarren, a group of Ladies who sent parcels to local women and men overseas and in Prison Camps.

Sick and Visiting Committee was a busy group; ladies visited homes of the sick, taking baking to families in need, and they always remembered bereaved families.

In 1946 the War brides came. They were visited and welcomed to the community. Anyone leaving the community was given a party and farewell gift.

Donations to no end were made: Osborne Home in Neepawa, St. Paul's Home for Girls, Red Cross for medicine for Russia, Milk to Britain Fund, Women's Missionary Society, Foreign Bible Society, Bible Society, Chinese Fund, Shriner's Hospital, Greek Relief, Children's Aid, Manitoba Temperance Alliance, Camp Wasaga, Christian Training Centre, Fort Qu'Appelle, Needy Families, Crew Rink Association and Sunday School concert for candies for the children at Christmas.

They never shirked their duties at home, they still helped the Cemetery Fund, gave their quarterly allotment to the Minister's salary and towards the upkeep of the Manse. In later years they sent delegates to conventions.

A big event for raising money in the later years was the Annual Pool Supper. Being such a big project they worked with Foxwarren Women's Auxiliary, the afternoon group and the Pollyanna Women's Association, the evening group of ladies. All proceeds were divided equally.

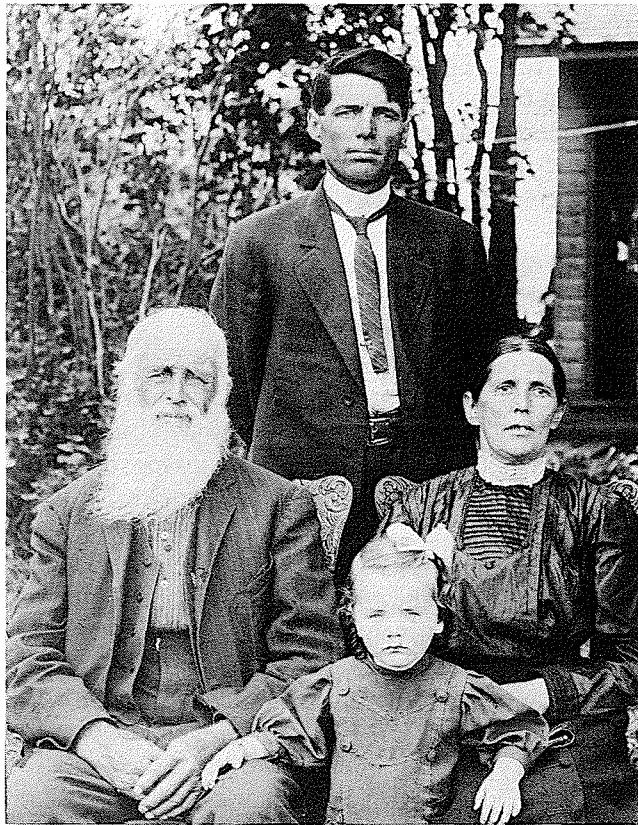
One year the ladies thought they would hire someone to clean Zion Church. An offer was made for \$5.00. Due to slumping economy, nine ladies soon volunteered to clean it themselves. Did they think they were made of money?

Nothing was ever wasted. They saved coupons and wrappers, this bought the dishes for the church and kept up the stock. They bought silverware the same way.

A gift of hymn books was made to the church, in appreciation from a member. They were the small black ones, still found in some churches, priced at 50¢ each.

In the early years, this organization was the only one in the community. They made their own fun. Many of the meetings went to 6:30 p.m. before mentioning going home. As the years went on times changed, the community had less people, everyone travelled farther afield. The membership declined and eventually the organization was disbanded.

Ladies who still live in the area can remember when life was busy but interesting. They are the Burdetts, Falloons, Grahams, Hamiltons, Johnstons, Laycocks, McCrindles, Pizeys, and Ryans.



Dave Guay, Arsene Simard, Evangeline Guay, with Germaine.



Gang in front of old store.



Wood Sawing Day.

Sports

Beaver Beach by Judie Lewis

Approximately two miles east of 41 Highway, driving past the P.F.R.A. buildings, there is a dam of stones and wood, built in Beaver Creek. Hundreds of people, for years, have come there to swim, picnic or even to pick berries in season. It is the only area suitable for swimming without travelling great distances. This writer does not know when the dam was built, but Teriffe Collyer recalls in 1936, he and some boys went swimming at the beach during a prairie fire.

The beach lost its attraction to the public when Welwyn Regional Park was developed in 1965.



Beaver Dam, 1944.

Crewe Rink by J. R. Hamilton

Crewe rink was located on NW 4-18-28, the farm of Wilson Hamilton in 1933. This location was chosen for the abundance of water. The rink came into being because the community needed a centre for recreation and social activities. It consisted of just a rink first with ten foot walls, then a straw stable, a log waiting room, a delco electric plant for lighting were added. Later a log stable was made. There were two wells for flooding — one at either end of the rink.

This rink was built by a great community effort of volunteer labor, under the leadership of J. E. Falloon.

On the opening night in October 1933 a presentation was made to J. E. Falloon in appreciation of his effort in organizing and engineering this project. The following quote by Sam Sawyer is from the minute book.

And it came to pass that a great murmuring arose amongst the children of the land of Crewe, a great weeping and wailing that reached the ears of that wise man who had his home on the hilltop and putting on his raiment he went down unto them and harkened to their lamentations. One chosen from the tribe of Falloon said, "Master, a great sorrow has fallen on your children, your brothers' children, and even the children of your neighbors. Their skates lay rusting on the shelves. Your children are losing the cunning of their feet and are becoming back sliders. The women of the tribe are using our hockey sticks for hooking the clothes out of the wash boiler. Master, save us from growing into a knock-kneed generation". And when the wiseman heard these things his heart was sore troubled, and he took communion with himself for a season and when the frost lay heavy on the land he called unto himself some of the young men and to the one said, "Do this" and to the other, "Do that" and so a great undertaking was started. With horses and men a great space was cleared off and levelled and the master said, "It is good", and the young men not being used to work said, "It's a good job, it's done". Now a great trouble arose in the master's alleged mind. The ball games of last year in the pasture of Scott Ellis had drained the treasury and so there were no shekels to get lumber for the rink. So he called unto him all the young men who had rested up and to each he commanded, "Go forth onto the highways and byways and get me each one of you ten logs", and it was done. Some of the logs were got honestly and some were not, but that did not worry the great mind of the master. Each log was fashioned by the cunning hand of Samuel Falloon and shaped into planks for the rink and when all the men presented themselves with their lumber, the great man's heart glowed within him and he gave

thanks that all had returned without chopping their legs off. After the young men had rested again and renewed their strength, the Master set them each according to their ability at the task and ladies and gentlemen you can see the results and I now call for a hearty clap for Mr. Johnnie Falloon. Unquote.

The first directors were President J. E. Falloon, Vice President Wilson Hamilton. A. S. Falloon, E. Burdett, George M. Graham, George McCrindle and secretary Hazel Falloon. Money was raised by several means — picnics, carnivals, raffles, box socials, pie socials, turkey shoots, serving lunches at various functions, and Zion Ladies' Aid also helped. Cost of a family season ticket was \$3.00. Caretakers wages started at \$5.00 and ended up at \$7.00 per month. Hockey teams were senior men's, junior boys, and a ladies' team. The minutes also state that the rink should be closed each night at ten o'clock except Saturday night which was for skating only, and no skating between periods on hockey nights.



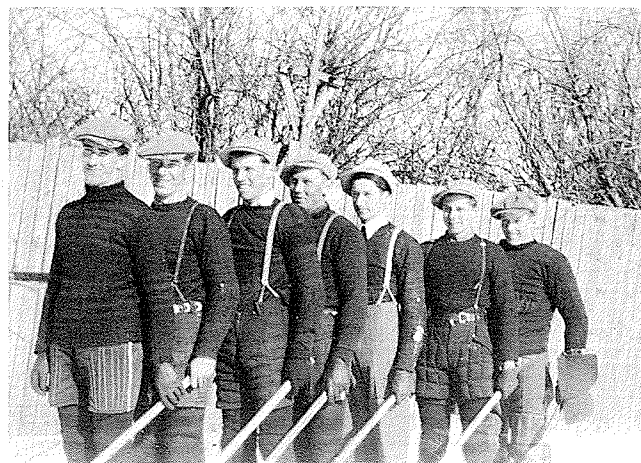
Crewe Girls' Hockey Team: Nora Jackson, Jackie, Edith and Lorraine Falloon, Vella Ferguson, Fanny, Reta and Norma Falloon, Winnie Jackson, Leslie Falloon, Jack Falloon, Manager.

The winter of 1938 three families in the district were quarantined for scarlet fever, these being Scotty Ellis, J. E. Falloon, and Wilson Hamilton families. During that quarantine period these families had use of the rink two nights a week. After these nights the waiting room was fumigated.

A favorite trick of J.E.F.'s was to call everyone at six p.m. stating that the ice was clear of snow and ready for everyone to turn out for hockey practice, but on arrival we would find the ice surface with a foot of snow. Another one was when J.E.F. used to drive the school van. He would say "Wilfred and Jim when you light the fire in the waiting room tonight sweep out the north west corner and look for a dime I lost and you can keep it if you can find it". It took awhile to catch on to this one.

The first horse stable was constructed of poles and wheat straw. One certain team of horses were noted for eating the barn.

The senior hockey team played against teams from McAuley, St. Lazare, Birtle, Foxwarren, besides tournaments at Vista, Rosburn, and Solsgirth. Chillon rink was located in Laurence Ryan's yard and Bayfield rink was located in Tom Low Jr.'s yard. One season there was a league consisting of Bayfield, Crewe, and three teams from Foxwarren, the Blackhawks, Rangers, and a junior team; St. Lazare also had a team.



Crewe Boys' Hockey Team: Harry Graham, Vern Falloon, Jim Hamilton, Leonard Burdett, Garnet and Dean and Bob Falloon.

It is interesting to note that in 1934, February 12 to 17, there was no ice due to a thaw.

The rink was closed in the fall of 1941 due to the war and so many young people being away in the forces. It was dismantled and parts of it sold.

The last board of directors were Doug Falloon, President; Leon McNarry, vice president; A. S. Falloon, Bill Falloon, Wilson Hamilton and Cecil Burdett. V. R. Falloon was the last acting secretary.

St. Lazare Athletics

The Manitoba Senior Baseball League came into being in 1961. The main reason for its formation was due to the fact that teams such as Brandon, Hamiota, Riverside, Binscarth and Dauphin were far superior in calibre to any other teams in the area and were finding themselves barred from tournaments or other local opposition.

The executive of the founding year was as follows: Laurie Artiss — Brandon, President; Ab Richardson — Brandon, Vice-President; Don Sumner — Brandon, Sec.-Treas. and Statistician.

Hamiota finished the regular schedule in first

place, followed by Dauphin, Binscarth and Brandon. Riverside was in fifth place out of the play offs. Dauphin won the league championship.

Five teams made up the league in 1962 but due to financial problems, Binscarth was forced to drop out. A delegation from their club met with members of the St. Lazare Athletic Association suggesting their team move to St. Lazare. The new team was to be known as the "Athletics". Hamiota won the pennant as well as the league championship. This was the beginning of a new phase of the league as the Athletics imported players from the U.S. The first to make their debut in the M.B.S.L. were Stan Skeen and Ken Wilson.

The year 1963 saw the Athletics make their first mark in the league by winning the pennant. However, Hamiota went all the way in winning their second in a row championship. This season the Athletics had acquired the services of one Bill Cundiff, a left handed fire-baller released from the Winnipeg Gold-eyes. Cundiff set a record for strikeouts in one season, by whiffing 170 batters in thirteen games, a record that still stands. This year the Athletics had the pleasure of playing a game against the great Satchel Page All Stars which they lost by a score of three to one. This year also saw the admission of Virden Oilers to the league. They finished in sixth place.

Souris Cardinals became the seventh entry in 1964. Again Hamiota Redsox won both the pennant and the championship. Although the Athletics only managed a third place finish a change was in the offing. New faces had been added to the team, in the person of Dave Pearson and Oscar and Ike Walker. Dave lead the league with forty-four safe hits and contributed as well with a good right arm. Although he had a dismal year at bat, the big "O", Oscar Walker, proved to be invaluable at second base with better days ahead.

Hamiota won the pennant again in 1965, four in five years. The "A"'s finished in second place, but, in the semi-finals, after losing the three first games to Brandon Cloverleafs they bounced back to win the next four and the right to meet Riverside Blues in the finals.

Two other records went to the Athletics this season. Dave Pearson was the pitcher with the best record, six wins and no losses and Oscar Walker took the top batters award with an average of .452. This set the stage for the finals and it looked as if the "A"'s were in trouble. Dave Pearson was called back to his job in Kansas City, Bob Thompson, newly married was off on his honeymoon, leaving the Athletics with a seven game series ahead of them and only two pitchers. The Blues won the first game but behind the

excellent pitching of Keith Redmond who worked thirteen innings in a double header the "A"'s took the next two. However the Blues were determined and won the next two games. Now it was Mickey Torres' turn to bail the team out of trouble. He and Redmond combined to win the next two games and the championship. Fourteen long games later, the coveted Thomas Ryles Trophy for the western division champs was ours. This year Laurie Artiss gave up the league presidency to become sports editor of the Regina Leader Post. The rest of the executive remained the same as first elected with Les Edwards filling the vacant president's position.



St. Lazare Athletics.

In 1966 Brandon Cloverleafs swept the league with the Athletics finishing in fifth place. A new rule had been introduced limiting imports to two. This seemed to spell the beginning of the end for the "A"'s. Les Edwards passed away during the season and Ab Richardson assumed the position of president.

Cliff Cory became president in 1967 with Jim Leckie sec.-treas., Ab Richardson vice.-pres. and Don Sumner, statistician.

Hamiota won the pennant in 1967 with Brandon taking the championship. Once again St. Lazare finished in fifth spot. The crowds of spectators that had once filled the stands dwindled to a handful and team expenses became more of a burden — the good days were gone.

The season of 1968 looked a little brighter when a group of Brandon juniors offered to play for the Athletics. Bolstered by a few of the veterans the season began well but lack of experience proved too great and the Athletics finished the year with 8 wins and 16 losses, last place.

This was the Athletics last year in the league. They had only won one championship but had provided a great deal of entertainment for the surrounding area. The M.S.B.L. is still in operation

with Binscarth and McAuley bringing this better class of baseball to the local fans.

The Yellow Head League has been formed in the past couple of years and with a little refinement could in the future be a sequel to the M.S.B.L.

May this great game of baseball continue to bring pleasure to both players and fans alike for generations to come.

St. Lazare Athletic Association by Tom Dale and Omer Chartier

For a few years after the arena was built in St. Lazare, there were two separate organizations responsible for the operation of the building. The sheet of curling ice on the west side of the rink was very successful under the guidance of the Curling Club. On the other hand, the skating and hockey ice part of the operation always seemed to suffer financially. This, of course, led to disagreement between the two factions. Consequently, at a meeting, in March of 1956, held in the elevator office, it was decided that the two clubs amalgamate. Hence, the birth of the "St. Lazare Athletic Association". At an organization meeting a short time later, Frank Dale was appointed president with Constant Fouillard as vice and P. E. Fouillard, as secretary treasurer. This is not a history of any one member but it would not be right to overlook the part the vice president played in the early history of the Association. Connie was a great organizer and was responsible for all sorts of money raising projects. Included in these were bingos ranging in size from little prizes to cars, ready built homes as well as great out door extravaganzas. When it was decided to hold a sports day it was he who was responsible for over-seeing the construction of the main ball diamond, the wading pool and several other projects. He excelled in raising money but this was surpassed by ways of spending it, which kept us all on our toes and made for a very active organization.

The aim of the Association was to fulfill the needs of all sporting activities in the community, with minor sports being their main concern. At the outset, the annual bonspiel proved to be the main money raising event. The number of entrees in these spiels some times made it necessary to curl around the clock. However, this never seemed to dampen the "spirits" of the participants. On the other hand "spirits" on the ice would often rise as "spirits" in the spiels' containers became depleted.

Unfortunately, over the years repairs and renovations to the arena made it necessary to remove the curling rink. Though there have often been proposals

made to build a new curling rink, to date nothing has developed.

Next year, 1984, the St. Lazare Athletic Association Sports Day will celebrate its diamond jubilee. The first day was held on the August long weekend in 1959. No one could possibly foresee the great success it would be. The number of ball team entrees was staggering and it soon became apparent the few diamonds we had laid out would be inadequate. In the ensuing years more playing fields were added along with concessions, a band stand and a tub ride the Association had purchased. Sports dignitaries, government officials along with many other distinguished guests have taken part in the yearly program. I have a movie of Edward Schreyer, then Premier of Manitoba, dressed in a Dauphin Red Birds uniform playing baseball with them. Edward Schreyer, governor-general of Canada, opened the ceremonies at the August 1979 Sports Day.

Over the years the Sports day has become the financial back-bone of the Association. In 1962, the membership decided to enter a team in the Manitoba Senior Baseball league. That story appears elsewhere in this book.

The association was officially incorporated on December 2, 1965. The first president was Omer Chartier and the board of directors were E. Fouillard, P. E. Fouillard, F. Dale, T. Dale, C. Chartier, A. Huberdeau, G. Selby, E. Huybrecht and T. Selby. There are five honorary members on the roll (members who have served continuously for 20 years or more) Leon Dupont, Ted Dupont, Eric Wotton, Claude Chartier and Omer Chartier.



1970, St. Lazare "Saints" Fastball Team. B.R.: Guy Chartier, Clarence Haney, Peter Totte, Dave Poque, Larry Barr, Louis Guay. F.R.: Wayne Haney, Ivan Tremblay, Phil Fafard, Andrew Hayden, Phil DeCorby, Butch Cox, Bat boy — Cam Chartier.

L'Association Athlétique de St. Lazare par Paul Emile Fouillard

Pour quelques années, après la construction de l'arène, deux organisations étaient responsables de

l'opération de cet édifice. Nous avons le "Curling Club" qui, évidemment, avait soin du Curling et un autre groupe qui voyait au programme de patinage et hockey.

Ce n'est qu'en 1956, lors d'une réunion de paroissiens que fut fondée l'Association Athlétique. C'est alors qu'il fut décidé que tout événement sportif serait administré par cette nouvelle organisation.

Le premier président élu fut Frank Dale. Constant Fouillard agissait comme vice-président et Paul-Emile Fouillard fut donné la tâche de secrétaire-trésorier.

Nous soulignons ici le travail de Constant Fouillard qui, dès le début se mit en charge de presque tous les projets tels que la petite piscine et le terrain de jeux au Fort Ellice. Il s'y donna à plein cœur et il faut croire que grâce à lui, l'Association Athlétique peut se féliciter des grands succès obtenus. Cela avait tout-de-même demandé une immense coopération de la part des membres aussi.

Plusieurs se rappellent des "Bonspiels" annuels et le plaisir que tous jouissaient en y prenant part. Il y avait toujours un grand nombre de participants qui démontraient cet esprit de camaraderie.

Malheureusement, dû aux rénovations et réparages, il fut décidé au cours des années d'éliminer la glace de "Curling". Il a souvent été question de construire un nouveau "Curling Rink" mais il s'y présentait toujours des obstacles — le manque de finances en particulier.

L'an prochain, 1984, aura lieu la 25ième journée sportive annuelle organisée par l'Association Athlétique. Le premier pique-nique eut lieu au cours du



Curling in St. Lazare, 1949, John Selby, John Dupont, Jacques Guay, Johnny Selby.

premier weekend d'août, 1959. Qui aurait rêvé des immenses succès des années qui suivraient! Les revenus de cette journée annuelle étaient toujours la source nécessaire aux divers programmes organisés par l'Association Athlétique.

L'organisation fut incorporée le 2 décembre, 1965. Omer Chartier était président. Le comité de direction consistait des membres suivants: Eugène Fouillard, Paul-Emile Fouillard, Frank Dale, Thomas Dale, Claude Chartier, André Huberdeau, Guy Selby, Emile Huybrecht et Thomas Selby.

Il y a cinq membres honoraires (ont servi 20 ans ou plus): Léon Dupont, Théodore Dupont, Eric Wotton, Claude Chartier et Omer Chartier.

St. Lazare Rink by Phil Fafard

From what we can find out organized hockey in St. Lazare began in the early 1930's. An open air rink was located east of the Hotel on what is presently Harry Jessop's home lot. Players of that time included: Phillippe Dupont; Conrad Allarie; Leon Dupont; Bill Boles; Alex Beard; Pudd Gibney; George Dupont; Reg Chartier and Bob Feasby.

In the late 1930's the rink was moved to the corner of Main and Fouillard Avenue which was the municipal office lot. The small jail house, as well as the upstairs of the municipal office served as dressing rooms. St. Lazare competed in a league consisting of Foxwarren, McAuley, Birtle and Binscarth. They also played exhibition games against other surrounding communities. The teams of this period were coached by Roger Dupont. Leon Dupont, Paul Dupont, Ernest Fouillard, Arthur Fouillard, Jacques Guay, Robert Decorby, Edgar Roy, Adrian Roy and Bob Feasby were among some of the players.



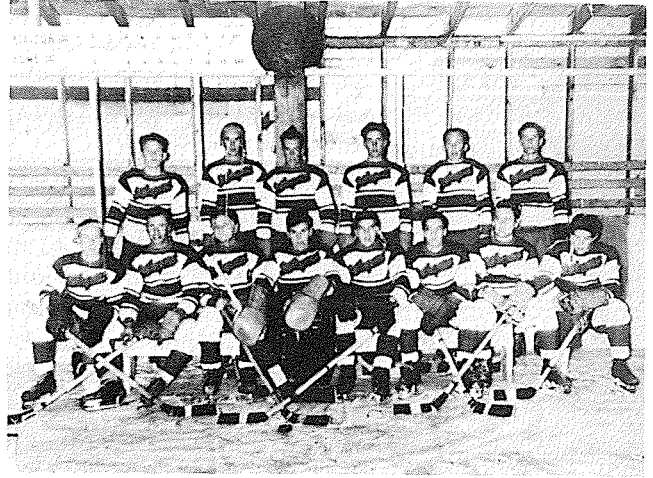
St. Lazare Hockey Team, 1938: Conrad Alarie, Glen Bruce, Edgar Roy, Joe Simard, Bob King, Joe McLellan, Roger Dupont, Robert DeCorby, Adrien Roy. F.R.: Chas. Chartier, Jacques Guay, Art Fouillard, Stick Boy — Peter Roy.

Minor Hockey was organized in the late 1930's when Walter Nesbitt (Manager of Creamery) organized a team. Opposition was hard to find as there were few Minor Hockey teams around. An example of their competition was a girls' team from the Crewe District, consisting mainly of Falloons, Jacksons and Vella Ferguson.

Construction on a new covered arena began in 1947 at the present arena site and was completed in 1949. Construction committee members were: Bob Selby, Eugene Fouillard, Omer Huybrecht, Ben Fouillard, Roger Dupont, Georges Fouillard, Leon Dupont and Roger Henriette.

Senior Hockey in St. Lazare began to flourish and many good teams were produced. Players of this era were: Raymond Dupont, Emile Huybrecht, Jean-Marie, Luc, George and Roland Fouillard, Jacques Guay, Robert DeCorby, Roy Haney, Baker and Stanley Fleury, Douglas Desjarlais, Charlie, Robert and Claude Chartier, Pierre Huberdeau, Billy, Bobby and Buster Tremblay, Ernest and Marcel Lefranc and tending goal with great ability was Paul-Emile Fouillard.

Senior teams in the late 50's and early 60's consisted of some of the following players: Noel Guay, Omer Chartier, Ivan Tremblay, Gus Tremblay, Johnny Chartier, Joe Pelletier, Phil Fafard, Edward Houle, Wallace and Peter Fleury, Robert Lemoine, Guy Selby and Albert Leclair.



Hockey team.



First Boys' Hockey Team to play in the New Rink, 1948.

Minor Hockey in the 60's really took off in St. Lazare. Under Raymond Dupont, teams from St. Lazare travelled across Western Canada winning many championships and producing some great hockey players such as Dan Tremblay, Ernest Dupont, Mervin Haney, Carl Haney, Gilles Chartier and Martin Dupont. Other coaches of this time were Roland Fouillard, Paul-Emile Fouillard and Andre Perreault. These teams won championships in the Snake Creek League year after year.

In 1971, St. Lazare teams won every age division at the Snake Creek League finals being held in Foxwarren. This was the first and only time that one town captured championship trophies in all age groups. Coaches that year were: Eight and under — Andre Perreault; Ten and under — Phil Fafard; 12 and under



St. Lazare Girls' Hockey Team: Natalie Guay, Jeannine Chartier, Pat Lepine, Betty Lepine, Marie Anne Lepine, Juliette Tetreault, Sylvia Tremblay, Annette Lemoine, Marg Selby, June Wotton, Elaine Selby, Shirley Dupont. Manager, Raymond Dupont.

— Omer Chartier and Denis Bisson; 14 and under — Ivan Tremblay; 16 and under — Pere Comeault: Girls' Division — Ray Dupont.

In 1974, the St. Lazare PEE-WEE's captured the town's first Provincial Championships. Team members were: Coach — Phil Fafard; Paul and Jacques Guay, David and Francis Chartier, Raymond and Roger Fouillard, Danny Lemoine, Mike Huybrecht, David Haney, Luc Huberdeau, Gino Fafard, Peter Perreault, Johnny Dupont, Robert Hayden, Kelly Cole and Ron (Rocky) Anderson. This team went on to win many other championships across Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Dave Chartier went on to play Junior Hockey with the Brandon Wheat Kings and

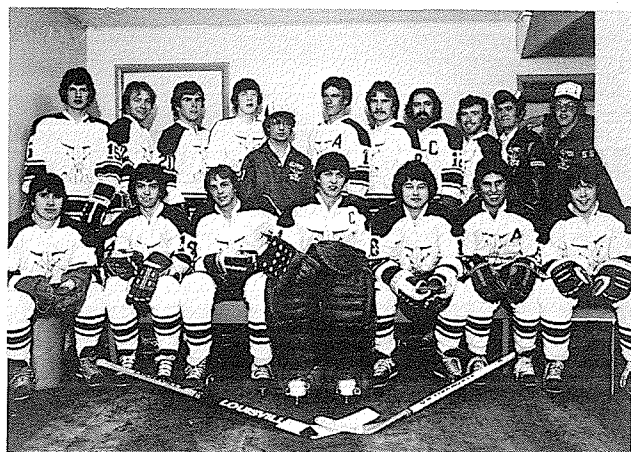
has since signed a Pro-Contract with the Winnipeg Jets.

In 1977 the St. Lazare PEE-WEE's again won a Provincial Championship coached by Conrad Plante. Team members were: Junior and Perry Fafard, Damien and Andre Blouin, Patrick Bouchard, Sheldon Fleury, Marc Huberdeau, Jean Decorby, Michel Chartier, Paul Huybrecht, Charles Fouillard and Joe Plante.

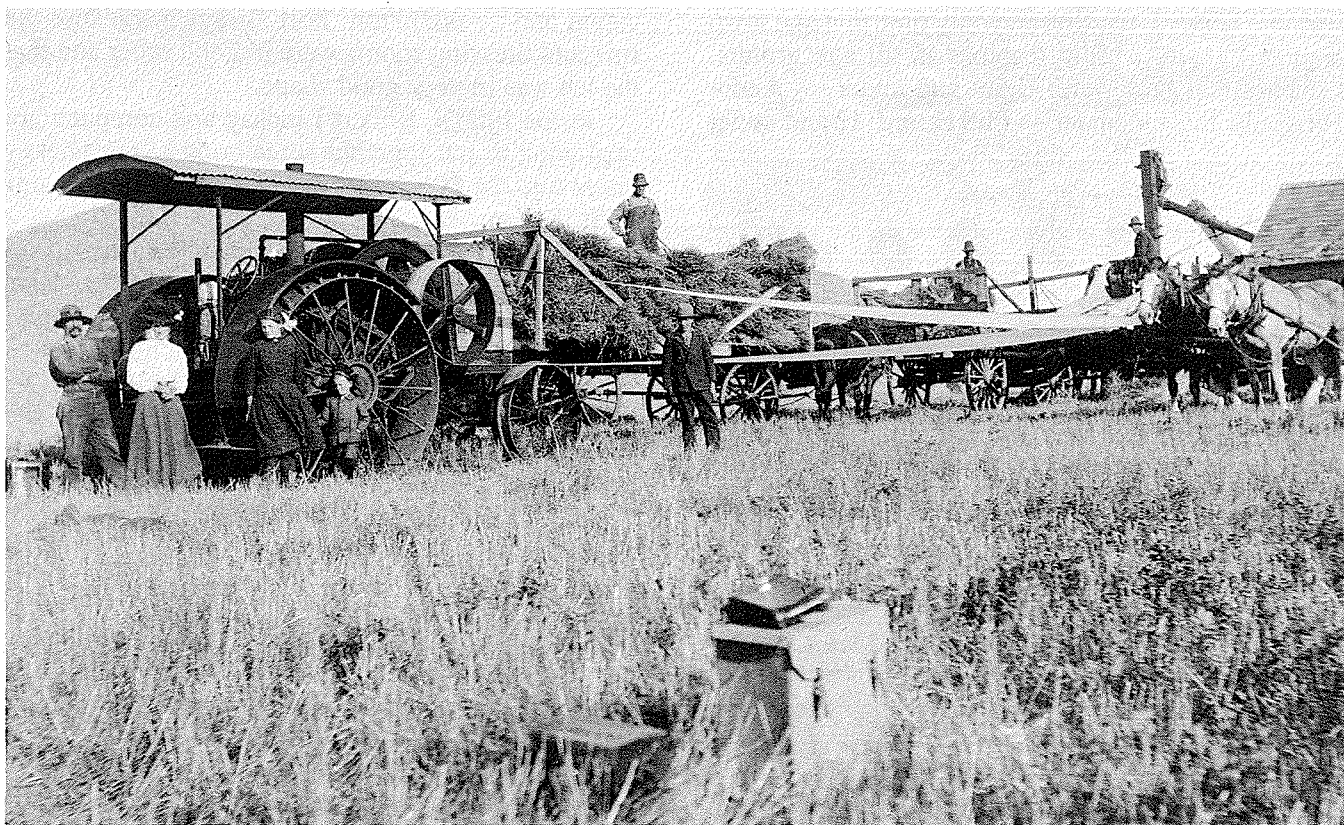
During this time, Fort Chartier took over the duties as caretaker. All coaches and players of this time owe him much gratitude for his un-ending dedication and co-operation. Fort always made sure the rink and dressing rooms were in good order and that the ice was in very good shape.

In the 1980's, Robert Lindsay and company are beginning to put together some good minor hockey teams and the 80's look promising for hockey teams in St. Lazare.

Senior Hockey in St. Lazare suffered a drought in the 70's, but in 79-80 the St. Lazare Outlaws were formed and in 1982 they won the Provincial Senior Championship in Division D. Coached by Phil Fafard, team members were: Martin and Louis Dupont, David and Larry Haney, Jacques, Joel and Raymond Fouillard, Danny and Rene Lemoine, Allan Rittaler, Danny Tremblay, Gilles and Francis Chartier, Vern Falloon, Perry Fafard and Alois Neumier.



St. Lazare Outlaws, 1981. B.R.: Dave Haney, Louis Dupont, Tony Chartier, Larry Haney, Cam Chartier (mgr.), Chico Decorby, Jacques Fouillard, Allan Rittaler, Marcel Fouillard, Phil Fafard (coach), Lionel Huberdeau (Equipment Manager). F.R.: Joël Fouillard, René Lemoine, Paul Guay, Alois Neumier, Terry Dupont, Danny Lemoine, Junior Fafard.



Archie Cox Threshing outfit about 1913.

Family Histories

Allen, Orange Christopher

Orange Christopher was the second son of Joseph Clinghan Allen. Joseph and Minerva Allen moved from Osgoode, Ontario, to Binscarth, Manitoba, before there was a railroad or town. They used an oxcart and oxen as their way of travel. This would be around 1882.

They built a log house. Minerva served meals for people passing through, when the men were around.

They raised a family of eight children. One little girl died shortly after birth. Orange was born March 22, 1884. He lived at home and helped his father until he was thirty five years of age. Then he went looking for land of his own. He purchased the north half of 20-18-28, one quarter in 1916 and the other quarter in 1917, six miles south of Binscarth.

During the early years of his life, an axe and rifle were very important possessions. They built their buildings out of logs and a rifle meant meat on the table. Orange remained a bachelor for the next ten years. During this time he broke land, and in 1927 built a new house and barn. Norman McLean and his father built these buildings.

Orange came from a family of the Baptist faith. There wasn't a Baptist church in this area, so they made the United Church their spiritual home.

On April 12, 1928, he married Victoria Clements. She was the daughter of Thomas and Mary Ellan Clements of Binscarth. She was born July 1, 1899. There were two children from this marriage. Doreen born January 4, 1929 and D'Arcy born January 26, 1937. They attended school for a time at Gambler school, but most of their school years were spent at Balmerino.

Orange loved hard ball and curling in his young days. He was very fond of hunting elk, deer and ducks as long as he was able.

Victoria liked music, had a piano and played for company on occasions. She passed away February 14, 1953. Then Orange sold his farm and retired to Binscarth. He passed away March 28, 1955. They are both buried at Binscarth.

Doreen went to Winnipeg in 1952 to work as a Nurses' Aid at the Misericordia Hospital. Two years later she moved to Calgary, Alberta, and took further training. She worked at three different hospitals, then got married and made her home twenty miles from Taber, Alberta. They have raised six children, five boys and one girl.

D'Arcy went to Alberta also. He passed away at 22 years of age and is buried in the Taber cemetery.

Anderson, William

by R. Doris (Anderson) Wilson

William Anderson was born March 1, 1863 in Wyman, Quebec. He married Rebecca Grant, December 24, 1890 in Bristol, Quebec. She was born April 15, 1815 in Bristol. They had eight children, Amanda, 1891 — Neilson, 1893 — Gordon, 1896 — Katie, 1898 — Mabel, 1903 — Malcolm, 1903 — Doris, 1908 — William Nott, 1908.

My father and brothers, Neil and Gordon came to Foxwarren the fall of 1912 on the Harvest Excursion. Neil stayed the winter. Dad had rented E½ of 35-17-28.

March 1913, Dad and Gordon left Wyman, Quebec with two railroad boxcars of cattle, horses and furniture. Mother, Amanda, Katie, Mabel and Malcolm, ten year old twins, William Nott and Doris, five year old twins, left by train. We stayed one night with relatives in Ottawa, which was lucky for us, as we discovered Dad had all the food, which we needed for the week on the train. Sister Katie was quite ill on the trip and died in May 1913. She was buried at Zion Cemetery.

We all attended Zion Church two and a half miles away. Amanda, Neil and Gordon sang in the choir, as well as helping Foxwarren Methodist Church choir on special occasions. Neil and Gordon went to school in Foxwarren in the winter. We four went to a small country school, Moresby. When the weather was good we walked that two and a half miles.

I can recall two teachers in the four years we went to Moresby — Miss A. Hodgson, Foxwarren and

Miss D. Stocker, Shoal Lake. Preparing and putting on the Christmas concert in the church was a lot of fun. A new church was soon started and opened in 1915. My first Sunday School teacher was Mrs. Joe Laycock, whose youngest son, Ross, is still there on the same farm.

Amanda went to visit a sister of our Mother, who had a small fruit farm in the Seattle area in 1916, and entered Southern Pacific Hospital in Los Angeles to train for a nurse. She was called home in two years as our parents were ill. She was the nurse for Dr. Munroe, Welwyn, Sask. and Dr. Lanigan, Binscarth, and during the "flu" epidemic she nursed in many homes. She went back and completed her training in 1925. She is now living in a Care Home in Winnipeg.

Neil went to Winnipeg to work in "Eaton's" and later went into the insurance business. He died in 1979.

Gordon went overseas in 1916 with the 78th Battalion. He is living in Winnipeg.

Mac helped on the farm in summer and went to lumber camps in winter. Eventually he went to Chicago where he worked until he retired to Arizona, where he lives now.

Mabel took a stenographer's course in Winnipeg, where she worked at J. R. Watkin's until her death in 1938.

Moresby School was closed in June 1918. That fall the four youngest ones went to a consolidated school in Foxwarren, in a horse-drawn van.

In 1920, the farm we lived on was sold to Freeman and Ella Lamb. We moved to a farm seven miles north east of Birtle. William Nott and I took our high school there. When Dad retired to Birtle, William Nott went to Chicago. He served in the American Air Force. He died in 1958 and is buried there.

Dad passed away June 19, 1938 and mother Sept. 6, 1944. They are buried at Zion Cemetery and so is Mabel.

I, Doris went to Normal School in Winnipeg and taught for three years. I married Lorne Wilson of Birtle, who worked 40 years for Manitoba Hydro. He retired in 1970. We live in Kenton.

Arnold, Henry

Henry and his family lived in a small log house on NE¼ 14-16-28. The family consisted of four sons, George, Bert, Cecil and Norman and daughters Ruby, Elva, Cora, Julia and Kathleen. Henry worked for the C.N.R. for many years with Jack Gardiner, Frank Cooper and George Leaming. After retiring, Henry moved to Lazare in 1945, and later on to Miniota. Mr. Arnold died in the early 1960's. The whereabouts of the family is unknown.

Baker, Donald and Helen

Donald was born in Melville, Nova Scotia but moved to Canton, Mass., U.S.A., where he was educated. He moved to Dauphin Man., then Sinclair, and Binscarth before finally settling on 34-18-28. Helen (Partridge) nee Malena was born in Biggar, Sask. She and her children, Garry and Linda and Violet (Helen's Sister) moved from Saskatchewan in 1947. In 1948 Donald and Helen were married. They have four daughters. **Sandra** attended school in Russell. She worked in Swan River and Winnipeg before marrying Charles Norris in 1971. They have a family of three, Gregory (1975), Tracy (1977) and Amanda (1981), **Judy**, a graduate from Russell worked for Manitoba Telephone system before being married to Ray Prange. They live in Brandon where they both are employed by M.T.S. Two sons were born to them, Geoffrey (1976) and Kevin (1978). **Barbara**, now in Dartmouth, N.S. received the Commandants' shield for the most outstanding recruit in basic training course #7720W and became the first female to enrol in the Electronics Communication System, Technicians course. She has since left the Forces and is in real estate. **Corrie** trained as an animal health Technician in Olds, Alta. and returned to work in St. Lazare Vet Clinic. In 1979 she married Barry Wishart of Russell. Barry is a plumber employed at C.S.P., Harrowby. Corrie and Barry are both involved in training and showing Arabian horses. **Garry** (1941-1976) graduated from Binscarth before attending University of Man. where he graduated from Pharmacy. In 1965 he married Florence Shupeniuk of Minitonas, Man. Sheila was born in 1967 in Swan River, and Michael (1969) in Regina. Garry's career took them to Edmonton where they lived until he passed away in 1976. Florence and family have returned to Winnipeg where she is a pharmacist. **Linda** was a graduate from Major Pratt and Brandon College. Her teaching career began in Foxwarren where she taught Grade III and IV. She began teaching kindergarten in Binscarth in 1972. Linda pursues her career and raises, trains and shows horses, and is involved in judging at horse shows and conducting light horse clinics.

Helen and Don now rent their land and raise, train and race standard bred horses. They also spend part of the year following racing circuits.

Many changes have taken place on 34-18-28. The small house has been replaced by one built by Mac Murdock and Steve Berzanski of Binscarth. The heavy bush area has been cleared, and a barn built by Frank Pizzey and crew has had an addition — the Bob Pages' barn. A half mile race track was built in the south field in 1968. It is believed the original Fletcher house was located here because of findings of dishes and very old nails.

Barker, Arthur Wright

Arthur Barker was born in Liverpool, Lancashire, England, March 9, 1871. His father was a cooper and he worked with him. Liverpool was a large shipping centre and in those days, most food was shipped in barrels. Arthur was intrigued with all the wonderful food which came in barrels from Canada, and at the age of seventeen decided to sail to Canada and see for himself what a wonderful country Canada was.

Arthur Barker landed in Canada in August of the year 1888 and was destined to go to Yorkton, North West Territories. He stopped at Neepawa Land Titles Office and took out a homestead on the SE¼ 34-18-28 at Binscarth which he named "Clubmoor", a favorite name from his homeland.

The railroad had gone through in 1885 and by 1888 they were starting to build elevators along the railroad. Arthur took his first job, helping to build an elevator at Franklin. His wages were ten dollars a month and he had to pay seven dollars for board. He couldn't afford to smoke; he chewed tobacco instead. A plug of tobacco cost ten cents and that was his allowance for that for a week. He said if his plug of chewing tobacco ran out before the end of the week, he had to finish off the week "chewing the rag."

Since it was necessary to make improvements on his homestead and erect buildings, he was obliged to work on his homestead in the summer and seek other employment in the winter. His first big investment was a team of oxen and a buckboard. He named his oxen Buck and Bright.

Arthur spent several winters freighting and driving the mail from Binscarth to Moosomin. There were not many branch lines of the railroad at that time; the main line went through Binscarth which later became a divisional point. One of the stories he often told was about his sore toe. He had had a heavy load of freight to haul and he had an ox which would take a notion to lie down when he got tired. The only way Arthur could make him get up was to kick him in the ribs. One night he dreamt that this ox had come into his bedroom and lain down; he jumped out of bed like a flash and landed him a swift kick, only to wake and find he had kicked the wall and nearly broken his toe.

Arthur built a shanty on the north-west corner of his farm and put up a small barn and other buildings, and on November 3, 1897, he married Margaret Carr. They had three children while they lived in the shanty then built a very fine home on the south east corner of his quarter. He and Margaret raised five more children, making a family of four boys and four girls. Arthur was a successful farmer and regularly painted his home white, trimmed with green. It was the only

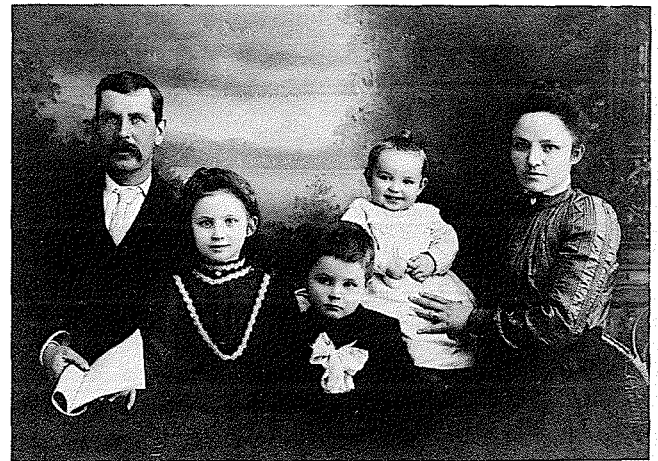
home in that area that was kept painted and was often called "The White House". He bought one of the first Reo cars which came to Binscarth; it was a chain driven car. He also bought the first gas engine powered sawing and crushing outfit, and spent thirteen winters going around to the different farmers, sawing wood and crushing grain. Arthur then invested in a threshing outfit and threshed for many years for his neighbors and most of the area from Binscarth to Russell. In later years, he contracted for building roads and built quite a few of the market roads in the Ellice Municipality.

He bought the N½ of 27-18-28 and the E½ of 26-18-28 when the boys grew up. This gave him a section and a quarter of land — a large farm at that time. Arthur bought a player piano for his family about the year 1920. People came from all over to hear it play. His daughter, Mary Jacob, has this piano now and it is still in good condition.

In 1922, Arthur had electric lights installed in his home, with a Delco plant to provide the power for charging batteries. People came to see the electric lights; they thought it was wonderful to press a button and have a light come on. The threshermen thought it was great to have the barn and yard lit up when they came in at dark. Other farmers had only a coal-oil lantern.

The Barker home was situated half way between Chillon Siding and Balmerino School. On occasions when the winter weather was extra bad, the Peterson children would stop there on their way to school to get thawed out. Florence Widdicombe also recalls Maggie Barker leaving a honey pail full of home-made ice-cream in the snow at the end of the lane for the children to pick up on their way home from school for their mother, Mrs. Peterson, who was ill.

Arthur and Maggie had eight children; William, George, Arthur (died at age 7), Leslie, Ethel, Edith,



Barker Family: Arthur and Margaret (Carr) with Ethel, William and George.

Annie and Mary. Arthur farmed until he was seventy. He passed away September 22, 1945, after spending 57 years of his life in the Ellice Municipality. Maggie died in 1949. They are both buried in Binscarth cemetery.

Barnet, John and Abigail

Abigail Fraser, an adopted daughter of the John McLellans, married John Barnet. They lived on and operated the John McLellan farm in the Zion district. They attended Zion church and their children, three girls and a boy, attended Foxwarren school. John's health deteriorated, he could not stand the cold prairie winters, so they moved to Southern Ontario.

Barrett, Francis William and Vera Maud

Frank Barrett was born in Romford, Essex, England. After he finished school, he worked for a Livestock Insurance Company. He saw no future in this job, so decided to go either to Rhodesia or Canada. He met a Phyl Hallom who persuaded him to come to Canada.

He arrived in Binscarth in 1912 and worked for Percy and Tom Gooda, until joining the navy in the first war. When he came back to Binscarth, he worked for Goodas and McKenzies until 1920 when he bought the N.W. quarter 31-18-28. Here he batched, until he married Vera Maud Mont of Halifax, a girl who he met during the war and with whom he had kept in touch.

They lived on this quarter until 1945 when they sold it to John Selby and bought the N½ of 24-18-28, where they lived until Frank's death in 1962 at the age of 70. Frank was the secretary of the Legion in Binscarth for many years. He was also secretary of the Building Committee when the new hall and theatre was built, to replace the one which burnt in March of 1957.

Vera is presently living with a daughter, Margaret in Birtle.

Their children were **Louis W.** who lives on the home farm.

Robert M. who married Doris Stynes of London, England in 1965. They own Barrett's Allied Hardware in Binscarth and have three daughters.

Eleanor Margaret married William Farquhar of Birtle in 1953. They have five children. Bill was accidently drowned on the family farm in 1972. Margaret still lives there.

Freeman married Mildred Kerr of Roblin in 1956. They moved from Flin Flon to the S½ of 35-18-28 and started farming. They have two boys, Brian and Grant. Freeman owns Barrett's Binscarth Service.

Francis Ruth married Harry Miller Jr. of Wawa, Ontario. They are in the construction business, and have four children.

Baudry, Clovis

I was born at Au-Pin, Deux-Sèvres, France, on August 12, 1898, son of Jules Baudry and Louise Guignard.

Four brothers and one sister of my father — Louis, Elie, Joseph, Clovis and Marie came to McAuley, Manitoba, but all returned to France.

My mother left three sisters and one brother in France. We left France in 1902 — my parents, my brother Joseph and my sisters Marthe, Marie, Juliette and myself. We landed in New York and went to live in Manchester, New Hampshire for approximately a year. We then went to Ste. Agathe, Manitoba and resided there for about a year. In May 1904, we left to take a "homestead" four to five miles north of McAuley, Manitoba.

In the first year, my father built a house made of lumber and broke some land which he seeded the following spring, 1906. He was unable to take care of the harvest as he became sick. Mr. Ben Peppin came to cut the crop. People from McAuley came to harvest the crop in December and helped Mr. Peppin build a kitchen made of logs to add to the house. They provided their services free of charge.

My father had never farmed before coming to Canada as he was a shoemaker by trade in France. Being of ill health, he died on October 27, 1906 at the age of 42 years. Our neighbor, Mr. Prescott made his coffin out of rough boards. He was buried in the old cemetery of St. Lazare.

We lived in Ellice Municipality for twenty years. We lived closer to McAuley but we attended church in St. Lazare and we made friends there such as the Decorbys and the Fouillards.

My mother became a widow with very young children. She knew nothing about farm life as she had been employed as a servant in a castle in Amboise, France. She spoke no English. She felt very isolated in an English-speaking community even though she could not have asked for better neighbors. They provided work for us. We herded cattle on the plains during the summer months from April to November. The first year we had charge of 150 head of cattle and 300 the following year. We were paid a dollar for each head of cattle. I was eight years old at the time; Juliette was six; Marthe was thirteen; Joseph was eleven and Marie was nine. To survive, we also worked for neighbors and my mother even picked "seneca root" which was sold for medicine.

Later, my mother kept a boarding house in Victor, Manitoba for the Grand Trunk, which is now the

C.N.R. mainline from Winnipeg to Vancouver. During that period, I attended school for about 14 months. Marthe, my sister, taught school at Victor.

At fourteen years of age, I started going threshing with a team of horses. I was paid two dollars a day. We returned to the homestead, from Victor in 1915. I always loved the farming way of life. As there was not enough work on our farm, I used to work elsewhere.

On May 24th, 1917, my friend Bob Selby and I went to enlist in the army. I had been called to serve in the French army but preferred joining the Canadian Forces. My brother also left the homestead to enroll. Tom Selby got me an exemption so I could remain with my mother and sisters. I never wore the army uniform and was discharged at the end of the war.

At harvest time in 1922, I did not have the money to buy the twine for my binder. Mr. Park, implement dealer, sent me for a loan to Mr. Bell, manager of the Union Bank. Mr. Bell gave me a loan — the following day, hail destroyed my crop 100%. After three years of failed crops, low prices obtained for cattle, I decided to try my luck elsewhere.

My brother-in-law, F. T. Pollard, married to Marthe, had located a farm for rent three and a half miles north of Ste. Agathe. I went there on March 16, 1923. I had just enough money to pay for the transportation, by wagon train, of my worldly belongings, namely some furniture, farm machinery, two cows and seven horses. The farm I was renting belonged to Emmert Foundation and was situated along the Red River. I had to give a third of my crop to pay the lease.

After living in the area for a while, I met Lucia Lemoine who lived south of my farm. We eventually were married on April 15, 1925. She certainly did not marry me for my money!

We lived on that particular farm for three years. We then bought a farm of 300 acres located north of the previous one and situated also alongside the Red River.

We raised a family of nine children. Two of our daughters died, one at six months and the other one at 23 years of age. My sons settled on farms in the surrounding area of Ste. Agathe. My daughters married and went to live in St. Boniface except one who is in Australia. My wife and I retired in 1959 and went to reside in the village of Ste. Agathe. My wife is now eighty and I am eighty-four.

Baudry, Clovis E.

84ans, raconté par lui-même aidé de sa femme Lucia — âgée de 80 ans.

Je suis né du mariage de Jules Baudry et de Louise Guignard le 12 août, 1898 — Au Pin, Deux-Sèvres, France.

Quatre frères et une soeur de mon père — Louis, Elie, Joseph, Clovis et Marie vinrent au Canada à McAuley mais retournèrent tous en France.

Ma mère avait trois soeurs et un frère en France.

Nous sommes partis de France en 1902 — mes parents, mon frère Joseph et mes soeurs Marthe, Marie, Juliette et moi-même.

Nous sommes arrivés aux Etats-Unis à New York et avons demeuré à Manchester, New Hampshire environ un an. Ensuite, nous sommes venus au Canada à Ste. Agathe, Manitoba en mars 1903 — nous y sommes restés environ un an. En mai 1904, nous partions pour McAuley, Manitoba où mon père pris un "homestead", quatre à cinq avait milles au nord de McAuley.



Famille de Jules et Louise Baudry.

La première année il bâtit une maison en planches avec l'aide de Ben Peppin, défricha un morceau de terrain qu'il sema au printemps de 1906. Etant malade, il n'a pu faire les récoltes. C'est encore Ben Peppin qui vint couper la récolte. Ce sont les gens de McAuley qui vinrent battre la récolte en décembre sans demander de paie et aidèrent M. Peppin à bâtir une cuisine de "logs" ajoutée à la maison.

Mon père n'était pas cultivateur de métier, il était cordonnier en France. Etant de faible santé, il mourût le 27 octobre 1906 à l'âge de 42 ans. C'est M. Prescott, notre voisin, qui fit son cercueil en grosses planches rudes. Il fut enterré dans le vieux cimetière de St. Lazare.

Nous avons vécu dans le district pendant vingt ans. On était plus près de McAuley mais c'est à St. Lazare que nous allions à l'église et avions des amis, tels que les Decorby et les Fouillard.

Papa nous laissa bien jeune avec notre mère qui ne connaissait rien de la vie d'agriculteur. Avant son

mariage, elle travaillait à Amboise dans un château comme servante. Elle ne parlait pas un mot d'anglais. Nous nous pensions bien pauvres et isolés au milieu d'une population anglaise qui fut bien bonne pour nous. On nous donna des animaux en garde. La première année, nous en avions 150 têtes, la deuxième année 300 têtes. Nous étions payés \$1.00 la tête. A partir du mois d'avril au mois de novembre nous gardions les animaux à cheval - j'avais huit ans, ma soeur Juliette, six ans, Marthe, treize ans, Joseph, onze ans et Marie neuf ans. On travaillait chez des voisins et ma mère a même ramassé de la "Seneca root" qu'elle vendait pour médecine.

Ma mère a tenu maison de pension à Victor, Manitoba pour le "Grand Trunk" qui est maintenant la ligne principale du C.N.R. de Winnipeg à Vancouver. Durant ce temps-là, j'ai eu à peu près 14 mois d'école. Ma soeur, Marthe, enseigna à l'école de Victor.

A quatorze ans j'allais faire les battages avec mon "team" de chevaux. Je gagnais \$2.00 par jour. J'ai toujours aimé la vie de fermier et nous sommes retournés au "Homestead" en 1915. Comme il n'y avait pas assez de travaux pour deux, je travaillais ailleurs.

Le 24 mai 1917, mon ami Bob Selby et moi allions signer pour l'armée pour la guerre de 1914. J'avais été appelé par l'armée française mais je préférais aller pour le Canada. Mon frère laissa le "homestead" pour s'enrôler dans l'armée. Tom Selby me fit avoir un laissez-passer de l'armée pour demeurer avec Maman et mes soeurs. Je n'ai jamais porté l'habit militaire comme tout le monde et fus déchargé de l'armée à la fin de la guerre.

Après trois ans de grêles, sans récoltes et les animaux ne valant pas chers et rendu à un certain âge, je décidai de changer de place. En 1922, je n'avais pas l'argent pour acheter la corde pour la moissonneuse. M. Park, agent de machines agricoles, me suggéra d'aller voir M. Bell qui était gérant de la Union Bank à McAuley. Celui-ci m'accorda un prêt — le lendemain ma récolte fut grêlée cent pour cent. M. Park me remit mon argent que je retournai à M. Bell. C'est après cela que je me rendis à Ste. Agathe.

Mon beau-frère F. T. Pallard, marié à ma soeur Marthe, m'avait trouvé une ferme à louer à trois milles et demi au nord de la dite place. Le 16 mars, 1923, j'y suis arrivé. J'avais juste assez d'argent pour payer le transport du "wagon" par train qui contenait les animaux — sept chevaux et deux vaches, quelques machines agricoles et des meubles. Cette ferme où je m'installai appartenait à Emmert Foundation et était située au bord de la rivière Rouge.

Je louais la ferme au tiers de la récolte. Il a fallu

encore emprunter pour acheter les grains de semence. Après un séjour dans la région, j'ai rencontré Lucia Lemoine qui demeurait au sud de ma ferme. Elle me plaisait beaucoup et le 15 avril 1925, nous nous sommes mariés. Elle ne m'a certainement pas marié pour mon argent!

Nous avons vécu sur cette ferme pendant trois ans; ensuite nous nous sommes achetés une ferme de 300 acres située au bord de la rivière Rouge et plus au nord de celle que je louais.

Nous avons élevé une famille de neuf enfants. Une petite fille de six mois et une jeune fille de 23 ans sont décédées. Mes garçons habitent sur des fermes aux alentours de la paroisse de Ste. Agathe. Mes filles sont mariées et demeurent à St. Boniface, sauf une qui est en Australie. Quant à nous, nous nous sommes retirés au village de Ste. Agathe en 1959.

Baudry, Joe — Police Chief

Joe was born in 1895 at Au Pin, Deux-Sèvres, France and immigrated to Canada with his parents, in 1902. He lived on his families homestead in Beaver Rapids area until he joined the Armed Forces in W.W.I. He was on the police force in St. Boniface for 30 years serving the post of Chief of Police for most of that time.

Chief Baudry is known as 'the man who cleaned up the Cathedral City'. When he became chief in 1932, St. Boniface was known from coast to coast for its bootlegging and gaming houses.

A story is told of a "pay-off" which didn't come off. It consisted of ten \$100.00 bills sealed in an envelope and dropped on the new chief's desk by the lawyer of a notorious gaming house keeper. "You take that back", suggested the chief, "He'll need that more than I do". It was just a matter of enforcing the law; as simple as that. Chief Baudry and his colleagues were so successful that 'today the department ranks "second to none" in Canada' (Winnipeg Free Press May 30, 1960).

One of the things that did the job was iron clad discipline! A second proviso that Chief Baudry laid down, as he took office, was that there be no interference from Municipal officials. If what he did didn't suit them, they could fire him and that principle was maintained!

Pallard, Marthe née Baudry

I was born in July, 1893 in Amboise, France. When I was two years old my parents moved to Au Pin where my father operated a shoe and millinery store. My mother was a very beautiful woman and had been employed in a castle before her marriage. My parents had five children; Marthe (myself),

Joseph, Marie, Clovis and Juliette. Before my arrival in Canada, I was a boarder in a convent in France.

My father was eager to come to Canada but as my mother was scared of the extreme cold, of the Indians, as a matter of fact of about everything, they immigrated first in 1902 to Manchester, New Hampshire. There were several French Canadians in the area who were employed in spinning mills. My father found some employment in one of them but the strikes started shortly after and he was out of work. He also became sick and my mother had to find employment herself in one of the mills. This did not last too long as there was a strike there shortly after. Before they left France, they had rented their property but the rent paid annually was minimal and being out of funds they decided to come to Canada.

We arrived in Ste. Agathe, Manitoba, on March 19, 1903. There were only three houses and one church in that town at the time. We boarded at Mr. Dorges and then at Mr. Pallards, an old friend of my mother's, before Dad built us a house. He worked for the priest and nuns for five dollars a month. As there were no homesteads available in the area along the Red River, he went west to find one. Ben Peppin helped him to pick one about four miles north of McAuley. My father made arrangements for his family to live at Delphis Chartiers when we arrived in May, 1904. Mr. Chartier already had a family staying with them so the priest gave us the Indian Pow-Wow House to live in in the meantime. There was only a stove in one corner with a pile of wood in the other but it nevertheless was a shelter. We had to vacate the premises three weeks later for the Indians who had congregated at the mission for their pow-wow and we went to live at Ben Peppins. The mission at the time consisted of the rectory, a church made of stone and Delphis Chartier's house which accommodated newcomers. The Prescotts and Beauregards arrived a year later.

The first year my father broke some land and built a small house with one window, which measured 18 inches square. In 1906, he sowed a crop but died in the fall before the harvest was done. Our hardships were at their worst. An old Metis suggested to my mother that she should chop wood to make posts as a source of revenue. This is what she did, and my brother Joseph and I would sell the posts for two cents each.

I learned English in those years and attended school in the afternoon. When I was eighteen years old, I taught at Victor while my mother had a boarding house for the construction workers of the railway and Joseph was employed there at the same time. My permit for teaching was taken away from me when

Roblin became premier of Manitoba and French was declared illegal in the schools.

Back on the homestead, I heard Doctor Monroe needed an assistant as there was an epidemic of smallpox. We were isolated in an abandoned farm house and the municipality brought us food and water daily. When the smallpox epidemic was over, Spanish Flu made its appearance and many contracted the disease and died. I was given the responsibility of taking care of the McAuley people but we were unable to do too much. Doctor Monroe had given me a bottle of brandy with instructions to give some to the patients whose temperature was 105°. I learned a lot from Dr. Monroe which was extremely useful to me over the years and I was his nurse until I married. Dr. Monroe later became Health Officer for the Saskatchewan government.

When I was twenty-seven years old, I married François Pallard, a widower with a crippled child. He was an agent for Parent Grain and Imperial Oil in Grande Clairière. We later bought a grocery store and were prospering until the depression came. We had five children altogether — the first three were born in a period of thirty-one months. After the Second World War we sold our store and moved to Winnipeg where we kept a boarding house. My husband died in 1963 and I went back to nursing, first in St. Boniface, then in the Senior Citizens' Home in St. Pierre. I now live in an apartment in Columbus Manor in St. Boniface and enjoy the visit of my children and friends.



Marthe Baudry (nurse).

Pallard, Marthe née Baudry

Je suis née en juillet 1893 à Amboise, France et y demeura jusqu'à l'âge de deux ans après quoi mes parents déménagèrent à Au Pin où mon père établit un commerce, un magasin de souliers et chapeaux. Il prit en apprentissage trois infirmes, un boiteux, un bossu et un autre malade, qui démontre le grand coeur que mon père possédait.

Ma mère était très jolie et avait été dame de compagnie dans un château avant son mariage. Mes parents eurent cinq enfants; Marthe (moi), Joseph, Marie, Clovis et Juliette. Avant mon arrivée au pays, j'ai été pensionnaire dans un couvent en France.

Papa avait entendu parler du Canada et désirait s'y établir mais ma mère s'y opposait ayant peur du froid, des Indiens et un peu de tout, donc en 1902, ils s'y rendirent après avoir fait la traversée à Manchester, New Hampshire. Il y avait beaucoup de canadiens français dans cette région qui travaillaient dans les filatures. Mon père y trouva un emploi mais les grèves commencèrent pas longtemps après et Papa tomba malade. Avant notre départ de la France nous n'avions pas vendu nos propriétés mais les avions louées. La rente qui était minime était payée annuellement. Un jour où nous n'avions plus rien à manger, ma mère prit donc un emploi dans une fabrique mais là aussi il y a eu des grèves et elle se trouva sans gagne-pain peu après. C'est alors, que mes parents prirent la décision de venir au Canada.

Ils arrivèrent à Ste. Agathe, Manitoba le 19 mars 1903. Ste. Agathe consistait à l'époque de trois maisons et une église. On trouva un endroit à loger pour commencer chez Freda Dorge et ensuite chez M. Pallard, un vieil ami de Maman. Mon père bâtit une maison et fut employé par le curé et les religieuses pour cinq dollars par mois.

Comme les terres étaient toutes prises aux alentours de la rivière Rouge mon père partit vers les plaines de l'ouest pour obtenir un "homestead". Ben Peppin leur aida à trouver un endroit pour s'établir et il fit venir la famille. Nous étions supposés d'habiter chez Delphis Chartier mais à notre arrivée en mai 1904 il y avait déjà une famille en pension chez les Chartier et le curé de St. Lazare nous donna comme logis la "Pow-Wow House" des Indiens. Il n'y avait à l'époque qu'un presbytère, une église en pierre, le "Pow-Wow House" et la maison des Chartier, qui accueillait les nouveaux arrivés où ce qu'on appelle aujourd'hui la vieille mission. Dans le "Pow-Wow House" il n'y avait qu'un poêle et un tas de bois sec dans un coin. C'était un abri et après trois semaines nous avons été obligés de clairer les lieux pour laisser les Indiens y habiter à l'occasion de leur "pow-wow". On alla ensuite loger chez Ben Peppin car les missionnaires lui avaient dit de prendre soin des

familles blanches. Les Prescott et les Beauregard arrivèrent l'année ensuite.

Le "homestead" que mon père eut, était situé quatre à cinq milles au nord de McAuley. La première année, mon père y bâtit une petite maison ayant une fenêtre de 18 pouces carré et défricha du terrain. A l'automne de 1906, mon père mourut avant que la récolte soit ramassée. La misère qu'on a subi alors était des plus grandes. A la suggestion d'un vieux métis, Maman alla bûcher du bois avec mon frère Jos. pour faire des piquets que je vendais pour deux sous chacun.

Durant ces années j'ai appris l'anglais et je fréquentais l'école durant l'après-midi. A l'âge de dix-huit ans, j'enseignai l'école à Victor où ma mère tenait maison de pension et Joe travaillait pour le chemin de fer. Mon permis d'enseignement me fut enlevé lorsque Roblin vint au pouvoir au Manitoba.

De retour sur le "homestead", j'ai appris que le Docteur Monroe voulait une assistante parce que la petite vérole était rampante. On nous isola sur une ferme abandonnée et la municipalité nous apportait de la nourriture et de l'eau journalièrement. Après la petite vérole, il y eut une épidémie de fièvre espagnole et plusieurs personnes succombèrent et moururent de cette maladie. Le Docteur Monroe me confia le soin des malades de McAuley. Le médecin m'avait donné une bouteille de "brandy" avec instructions d'en donner aux malades lorsque la fièvre était de 105°. J'appris beaucoup de lui et fus sa garde-malade jusqu'à mon mariage. Lui, plus tard devint officier de santé pour la province de Saskatchewan.

A l'âge de vingt-sept ans j'épousai François Pallard, un veuf ayant une petite fille infirme. Il était agent pour la compagnie de grain "Parent" et pour Imperial Oil, à Grande Clairière. Je tenais les comptes et plus tard on acheta un magasin à Grande Clairière. J'ai eu cinq enfants les trois premiers sont nés dans l'espace de 31 mois. Mon expérience de garde-malade fut très utile et j'ai aidé beaucoup de malades durant mon séjour à Grande Clairière. Nous faisons bon commerce jusqu'à l'arrivée de la dépression. Après la deuxième guerre on vendit notre magasin et déménagea à Winnipeg où nous avions des pensionnaires. Mon mari est mort en 1963 et j'ai ensuite été garde-malade à St. Boniface et au manoir de St. Pierre. Présentement, j'habite dans un logis au Columbus Manor de St. Boniface où je jouis beaucoup de la visite de mes enfants et amis.

Belhumeur, Mary

Mary was born Laura Mary Hayden on April 19, 1901 in the Northwest Territories. Mary was the daughter of Robert Hayden and Rose Houle. She came to live in St. Lazare in 1915 where she met and

married Edward Belhumeur. They farmed near Victor. There, seven of their children were born. They moved to a farm at the bottom of the south hill, SW 12-17-29 where four more children were born. **Mary**, born in 1923 married Stan Scribner. They live in Brandon and have three children Frank, Laurie and Kimberley. **Dorothy** was born in 1925 and married Lorne Jessop. For her story see Jessop, Lorne and Dorothy. **Joseph** was born in 1927. He joined the P.P.C.L.I. and was in the army for 13 years, and served in Korea. He died as a result of an accident involving his skidoo and a train in 1975. **Frank** was born in 1929, he never married and died after a lengthy illness at the age of 48. **Albert** was born in 1931. He married Adele Hayden. They have four children and live in St. Lazare. Albert who is called "Skinner" has worked for the Fouillards since he was about 13 years old, in the summer, on the farm, in the winter, in the shop. He is presently employed making windows for Fouillard Implement Exchange which is being renovated after the fire in 1981. **Maurice** born in 1933, married Leona Leclair. They have seven children, Loretta, Wayne, Brian, Myrna, Bradley, Sharon and Rachel. **Jacqueline** born in 1935, died at the age of three. **Arthur** born in 1937 is married to Lucille Blouin. They have a boy and a girl. **Irene** born in 1939, is married to Maurice Belhumeur, they have eight children. They had the misfortune to lose two of them, one at age two and Claude at 17 years of age. Valerie the eldest daughter is married to Joe Fiddler of Portage la Prairie and they have one son. **Albertine** was born in 1941. She lives with her mother and her daughter Sabrina. **Russell** was born in 1943. When he was only 24 he drowned while swimming in Fouillard's Dam near Fort Ellice.

Belhumeur, Dave and Beverly

Dave was born in Brandon General Hospital in 1947, son of Marie Belhumeur, and was raised by his grandmother Mrs. Ed. Belhumeur, due to his Mother's illness. When he was finished school in St. Lazare, he worked for Fouillards. In 1965, he started working for Andre Perreault as body man and painter. In 1970, Dave married Beverly Bell. They have three children, Cheryl 1970, Tracy 1973 and Kelly 1976.

Belhumeur, Alexander J. as related to Yvonne Leclerc

"I was born in Victor, Man., Feb. 7, 1902. My father had a homestead near St. Lazare, NW ¼ 7-17-28. That place is now owned by Lazare Fouillard. Father moved to Victor where he bought a piece of land. It was rich soil and he had good crops there. We had a good house compared to many

Metis. My dad would watch the log drives down the river from Assessippi, and he would catch a few of them. This is how he built his house. There were 16 in our family, 12 boys — Joseph, Andrew, Napoleon and Edward (twins), Harry and John (twins), Fred, Jules, Jim, Amable, Justin and myself, and 4 girls — Veronique (Mrs. Alex B. Hayden), Elizabeth (Mrs. F. Hayden), Octavie (Mrs. Art McKay) and Marie (Mrs. Basile Hayden).

When they were building the railway through Lazare, my mother used to sell buttermilk to the men at 10 cents a cup, she also sold butter to them. A lot of Doukhobors were working on the gang, and once a month, they would strip off all their clothing, it was a part of their religious belief. They were hard working people. My brother, Fred, had a sub-contract with his team building the railroad grade. I did all kinds of work in my young days, stooking, threshing, scrubbing; in the winter, cutting posts and firewood. Stooking wages were 35¢ an hour, \$1.50 a day. I worked on the railway; I started at 10 cents an hour. I remember a big slide west of Victor, caused by underground springs. We worked night and day building up the grade, and it kept sliding away just as fast. The first railway was the Grand Trunk, then the C.N. took over. We worked with wheel barrows hauling gravel and dirt. Arthur Decelles was our foreman for a long time. Donald Gordon was the one who put a lot of men out of work. He took off the steam engine, so a lot of men working at the coal docks were out of a job.

I got married to Victoria Delorme. We had seven children, Mary, Alex, Rosaire, Rose, Arthur, Doreen, Maurice, and three adopted ones, Elizabeth, Janet, and Ronald. We lived in Ste. Marthe for awhile, and later moved to Victor. We also raised a few other kids who had lost a mother or just wanted to stay with us. We always had extra people for meals.

There were a lot of Metis people in those days. They were poor, but lived a lot better than they do today. They were good hunters, trappers and caught fish. The women could hunt and trap right along with the men, and could skin beaver and muskrats. They made their own maple syrup. There was no family allowances or old age pensions then. My mother was the first one in Victor to get an old age pension when she was 65. It was \$10.00.

I remember when Peter Desjarlais got married. I took him and his wife-to-be to the church in my buggy. I remember when Phillip Desjarlais got shot accidentally. Three of them were out hunting, and when one climbed over a fence his gun went off and shot Phillip. Joe and Harry Desjarlais went to the funeral by catching a freight train, it was winter and Joe caught cold and died not long after. I remember a

Mrs. Lalonde (Tanner) whose husband was buried someplace in Alberta. She wanted him brought back here so she took a buckboard and went to get his body. It took her a long time, but she got him back and buried him near here.

I remember the ferry across the Assiniboine River. Norbert Fleury looked after it. It was near where Raymond Dupont lives now. Most of the land around was owned by old man Joe Tremblay and later bought by the Fouillards. Then they hired Metis people to work for them. I did a lot of scrubbing in my days. The main entertainment was dancing, but I never knew how to jig or square dance; I liked to watch.

I am now living in St. Lazare and am in pretty good health after years of hard work. But that never killed anyone, in fact it's good for your health."

Victoria died in Oct. 1979, and Alex in Oct. 1980.

Belhumeur, Wilfred as told to Yvonne Leclerc

My father came from Minneapolis. He lived in the North West Territories and Winnipeg before he came here to settle down. He settled on the Sand Plains on Section 7-17-28, two miles southwest of St. Lazare. My father's name was Jérémie Belhumeur and my mother was Fresen Desjarlais. I was born February 8, 1882.

We had a good log house. The roof was a layer of straw and a layer of mud. It was just like shingles. The house was warm. We later moved to Victor. Dad did a lot of hunting and cut cordwood in the winter.

In the summer we went out digging seneca root. There was a lot of it in those days. People could get big loads of it that they sold for five cents a pound. When they left to dig, they left by groups of three or four families. While we dug for seneca roots, we would hobble our horses.

Dad sold his wood in Birtle and St. Lazare. There was a flour mill in Birtle and we would exchange wood for flour or a small pig. The mill used lots of wood. Quatrex flour was a low-grade flour and a strong baker. It was pretty good.

There was also a cheese factory at Snake Creek halfway between St. Lazare and Birtle. Mr. Dutton used to own this. A load of wood bought a 20 pound piece of cheese.

The road to Birtle was good as there were so many teams hauling wood, maybe 25 teams at a time. The road was too narrow for two teams to meet so we had to pull aside. We would stop at Snake Creek and have dinner and feed and water the horses. The road was no longer than it is now. It took a good day to go to Birtle and back.

The Metis people made a little wooden bridge over the river. They made little boxes with logs and filled them with rocks so the ice didn't take it away in the spring.

I remember when there were hardly any farmers. They sowed 60 day oats. It was black. They hauled their grain to Birtle. I used to work on threshing crews. I remember some small treadmill machines. The horses would walk up and down to make it work. I also remember a machine where the horses walked around and round. There was no blower for the straw. My job was to tie a rope to a team to pull out the straw.

Dad had a piece of land in Victor. There was a bad flood one year. All our grain was under water. My grandmother's house had water right up to the windows.

We also made lime about two miles southeast of St. Lazare. We had to dig a big hole, for an oven, and fill that with lime rocks. It took three days of steady fire before we finally got lime. We sold it as far away as Shoal Lake for 25¢ a barrel. A Mr. Doig bought it from us and sold it to farmers to plaster their walls.

On our little farm we raised all we needed for the family. Grass was hard to get as there was so much water that all the sloughs were full. Straw was hard to find as there were few farmers.

Mail was carried from Birtle to Moosomin by horse and wagon. Every farmer had a mailbox beside the road. Boats delivered goods to Fort Ellice as long as the river was high enough. There was a big warehouse up in the sand. They called it Strathallan House.

Doctors were scarce. The men that worked on the C.N. brought the people some kind of pills. I remember the Spanish Influenza. Lots of people died. It was 1918 or 1919. In Chinatown two and a half miles from St. Lazare it killed nearly all of them. Once an epidemic of chicken pox broke out. There were many people sick. They had an old school or church at the mission where they treated the sick.

I used to work on the log drives. They drove logs from Shellmouth to Brandon. They also floated cordwood as far as Virden. We chopped the wood during the winter, piled it beside the river and then floated it downstream in the spring. It was employment for the winter.

I remember once when Fred Larose and some others were fooling around. With the bark peeled off the logs, they were slippery and that's why you needed spike shoes. Fred didn't have the proper shoes and he slipped and fell in. He was lucky someone saved him. I'm telling you, he didn't fool around anymore.

It didn't take much to start a log jam. A small

rock would catch a log and then everything would pile up. I worked at the front of the drive and when the wood started to jam I'd dynamite it. I remember once when there was a jam about a hundred feet high. The wood caught behind it was floating out into sloughs. We put out dynamite. When the wood started to go it pulled out big trees. In Virden they had a boom where the wood stopped but this time it went straight through. Talk about rubbish with all those trees!

Our wages were 75¢ a day. It was a heck of a job. We started at five in the morning, walking along the river, until late at night. I used to be sleepy lots of times. Once out walking the river we were caught by hail as big as eggs. I'm telling you, that hurts!

I got married when I was 35 years old to Marie Desjarlais. We had five children. Pierre, Venance, Celestin, Rose Mary and Alfred. We lived at Victor for awhile until I bought a quarter on the plains between St. Lazare and Rocanville. I stayed there until 1970.

I never had much education. A Frenchman used to visit us. He went to an auction sale and bought a set of dishes but he couldn't pay for it so I did. He taught me school all winter in exchange. My brothers and sisters went to school in Lebret but I was already too old.

For recreation we played a lot of ball. We also had horse races every Sunday. We'd go up on the plains and have little picnics and races. There were no prizes, it was just something to do.

New Year's Day was a happy time with sleighs all over. We bought a gallon of 65 o.p. alcohol at \$6.00 a gallon. You could make quite a few gallons with that! To add color we burned sugar and then added this to the gallons. People danced a lot at what they called a ball. They brought candies and threw them up in the air for the kids to catch.



Fred Belhumeur.

We had good times in the old days. Today is easier with pensions; we have everything we need.

Belhumeur, Amable

by Robert Belhumeur

My father, Mab was born near St. Lazare in 1893. He married Mary Pelletier (born at Grayson, Sask. May 1906) in 1923. Mary's father was born 1860 in Whitehorse, Yukon, and her mother (Maria De-lorme) near Moose Jaw, Sask. in 1877. A farm on 19-17-29 was purchased in 1926. To this couple fourteen children were born: Robert, 1925; Charlie, 1926; John, 1927; Laura 1929; Germaine 1930; Gilda 1932; Aline 1933; Amable 1934; James 1936; Rene 1937; Margaret 1939; Lore 1941; Rosine 1943; and Bertha 1944. To house the family a new home was built in 1939 by Mr. Decelles and Mr. Joe Gagnon. The children walked to school in summer, but in winter used a horse and cutter. They went to Pumpkin Plains and Ste. Marthe Schools. They walked to St. Lazare without breakfast to receive communion. In 1940 they went to Ste. Marthe church along with several other families. They lived in the St. Lazare and Ste. Marthe area for 55 years. Amable died in 1944 and was buried at Ste. Marthe. Mary retired in 1965 to make her home in Welwyn.

Robert relates a story told him by his Mother. In the Pelletier family there were six children — four girls and two boys. There was a baby-sitter, an Indian woman. One day she walked away with one of the little girls. The parents looked for her, going from one camp to another. Finally one clue — the child's blonde hair had been seen from under her scarf. The child was found in an Indian camp thirty miles from her home!

Belhumeur, Napoleon

as told to Yvonne Leclerc

I was born on March 13, 1899 in St. Lazare on Sec. 7-17-28, two miles southwest of town. My father's name was James Belhumeur and my mother was Fresen Desjarlais. I remember how we used to go and visit my grandmother. She lived at the mission a mile north of St. Lazare. We used to cross a bridge over the Assiniboine. When this bridge washed away they used a ferry. There were sixteen in the family — twelve boys and four girls — Gustin, Joe, John, Harry, Andrew, Mab, Jim, Fred (Wilfred), Edward, Jules, Alexander, Marie, Octave, Elizabeth and Veronique. There were two sets of twins: Edward and myself, and Harry and John. Dad died at the age of 67 in 1909. Mother was 88 years old when she died in 1942. Father farmed. We had cattle and sowed a bit of crop. He also worked out doing odd jobs, he built houses, and cut a lot of cordwood. When they surveyed for the railroad he got a contract to scrub as far

as Victor. He had to hire a bunch of men for that job. Work started on the railroad around 1906, when they surveyed, and the track was laid in 1907. There were a lot of Ukrainians and Doukhobors working there at the time. They earned 15¢ an hour. My father and brother, Fred, hauled cordwood to Birtle for \$2.00 a cord. They hauled with oxen. They left at five a.m. and stopped at Snake Creek for dinner. The road wasn't too good. Quite a few people hauled wood too. They would help one another to get up the big hill with the load. It was too steep and the load too heavy for a team of oxen. There was a flour mill in Birtle and they exchanged cordwood for flour (about \$1.50 a bag). They called this flour Quatrex. It was a low grade flour. We always had good spring water. We were well off in the olden days. When we felt like eating fish, Dad had a net and would set it at night. The next morning it would be full of fish. There were not too many deer. It was mostly rabbits, prairie chickens and ducks. Dad was a good hunter. There was a bear about 12 miles from here at Red Deer Creek. People were afraid of it and they asked Dad to kill it. He left the next morning with Fred and two dogs. They tracked him all day and finally caught up with him at nightfall. The dogs went after him and Fred got him in the head. They came home that night with the bear on the cutter. Dad skinned it and the meat was good to eat. He sold the hide, teeth and claws. They made necklaces from the teeth and claws. Dad was only sick for two days before he died. I think it was appendix. We didn't know what that was and there were no hospitals around here then. We had a Dr. Munroe in Welwyn. After Dad died, Mom sent four of us to Lebreton School. It didn't cost too much and they were good to us. We had good food. The school was run by nuns. We came home for holidays. I went there for three years until I was fourteen. This was 1913. Later I went to school in Victor. Mr. Blouin was the instructor there in 1909 and again in 1913 when I came back from Lebreton. I'm lucky I've got some education. I have my grade VI, English and French.

I remember Joe Tanner. He was the shoemaker in Lebreton School. I used to go and see him all the time when I was there. They used to play tricks. I remember once when we were waiting for the priest to come. Sometimes we had to wait for a long time. Mr. Morriseau was waiting too. He decided to dress as a priest and go into the confessional and listen to the children confess. Just then the priest walked in. They sure did put them in penance for that! So mischievous!

I went to work for farmers — stacking and threshing. I looked after a steam engine in 1914. I was the fire boy. The size of the crew depended on the size of

the engine. It was an average of sixteen men, ten teams of horses, three field pitchers, engineer, fire boy, water boy, separator man and spike pitcher. The farmer would order a grain car and they hauled the grain with five teams as they threshed it. Each wagon held 60 bushels. There were no quotas like there are now. You hauled all you wanted. I started on the railroad in 1916. The Grand Trunk was the owner at the time. I worked for a year and a half. I worked a ten hour day for 25¢ an hour. I went back working for farmers. In 1918, after the war, I went back to the railroad. CNR took over that year. During the war the wages had gone up to 35¢ an hour and only an eight hour day. At that time a pair of shoes was \$2.00 and overalls \$1.25. With Dad dead, Mother had to look after the family. She did really well. She milked cows and sold the cream and sowed a big garden. Andrew Leclair picked up the cream. He had a van and a good team. He brought this to the creamery in Foxwarren until the one was built in St. Lazare. We always had lots of potatoes and berries for the winter. There are hardly any berries anymore. There are too many sprays. When we were all home, Mother used up a hundred pounds of flour a week. She always sewed all our clothing. I tried farming myself but didn't make a go of it. It was during the depression. I seeded barley that year and brought in a 60 bushel wagon box for \$5.00. My brother Fred, took his homestead in 1905 near Ste. Marthe. He helped Mother a lot. Mother died when she was 88 years old. She was still doing her work. She fell in the cellar and broke her hip. Our amusement in those days was playing ball, football and horse shoes. We did a lot of swimming because we were right by the river. At about nine at night, we went for a swim and went to bed feeling nice and fresh. The younger people didn't drink, just the older men. Starting at midnight on New Years they'd go visit every house. Every place gave you a shot of whiskey. They would choose the biggest house and have a dance there for New Years. There were lots of food, the tables were set at all times. We'd dance all night. Today there isn't much of that. You hardly see anybody anymore. At Christmas the school had a concert. The children hung out their stockings and the older kids put in an apple and orange and a few candies. That was their gift and they were happy. Nowadays you never seem to be able to give them enough. I guess because it's like Christmas every day. The people were very religious. Every Sunday my parents brought us to church by buggy or express sleigh in the winter (express is a two seater). The church was at the old mission. There were no cars. The first car I saw was Dr. Munroe's from Welwyn. The second car was the Fouillard's Model T. The houses were pretty well all the same. Ours was

made from spruce logs that Dad got up North. Our house was shingled but some had sod roofs. The nails were flat and square, not like the ones today. My brothers Harry, Fred and Gustin worked on the log drive. Gustin died when he lifted something too heavy. He hurt something inside and died. The men on the crew followed the drive. They had a floating camp. They had to watch at night so the logs wouldn't jam. There was a log jam here at the bridge, I don't know how many feet high, they had to blast it with dynamite. They used to have a flag station at Victor. If you wanted to take the train or if you had cream to ship you would flag down the trains. They would stop. The cream was sent to Miniota. The empty cans were left at the crossing. There had been many Métis families in St. Lazare ever since I can remember. They worked for farmers. In the summer the main work was digging roots. As soon as the roots were sticking out of the ground the people left by bunches. They lived in tents. When we went to dig roots we hobbled our horses. We tied them to a post with a long rope so they could eat around it. We made sure we camped by a slough so we had lots of water. When they ran out of food they would take a bag of roots and sell it for food in the nearest town. They would get 15¢ a pound, green. In those days there were not as many farmers; it was wide open, no fences, you could dig almost anywhere. A few families brought all their children. Everyone dug roots. I used to go with my mother, Mab, Jim and Harry. After a month we'd come back with a big load. We had made a good run. We went to Moosomin to sell it and came back with the wagon full of stuff. I went with Malaterre and his wife once. They could fill a bag a day. My wife could pick that much. I wasn't so good. What I did was look for the big ones so I did more walking than digging. In those days you had enough money for the winter with fifty dollars. You would put things up and save for the winter — lots of wild meat, kill a beef and a pig in the fall. There was only one in the family that got the big flu. We were lucky, no-one died with it because there were a lot of people dying that year. One time they buried four at once. One of my cousins, David, died with his wife and child. That flu cleaned out whole families in some places. It was terrible! In the first war I was too young and in the second, I was too old so I didn't go to war. I was married on October 18, 1924 to Eva Houle. We had ten children all born in St. Lazare. Betty, Lucy, Clara, Jean, George, Alice, Arthur, Laurence, Edna and Eva Marie (deceased). I farmed for awhile. We had cattle, pigs and chicken. In 1940 I went out West with Sandy Fraser to try and get a job on a steel gang. There must have been fifty men outside the fence there waiting for work. We took a freight as far as

Rivers and then walked to Brandon in search of work. We looked for 10 days. We ate and slept outside. Finally we found a job at the CPR gravel pit. We worked there until the job was finished. Then there was work on the airport between Rivers and Brandon. I came home after awhile and got a job with a steel gang between Victor and Lazare. I stayed on that gang for three years and went all over the West. I saw the man next to me killed when a cable broke and the crane dropped a piece of steel on him. I started on the section in 1943 and stayed there until I was pensioned off in 1964.

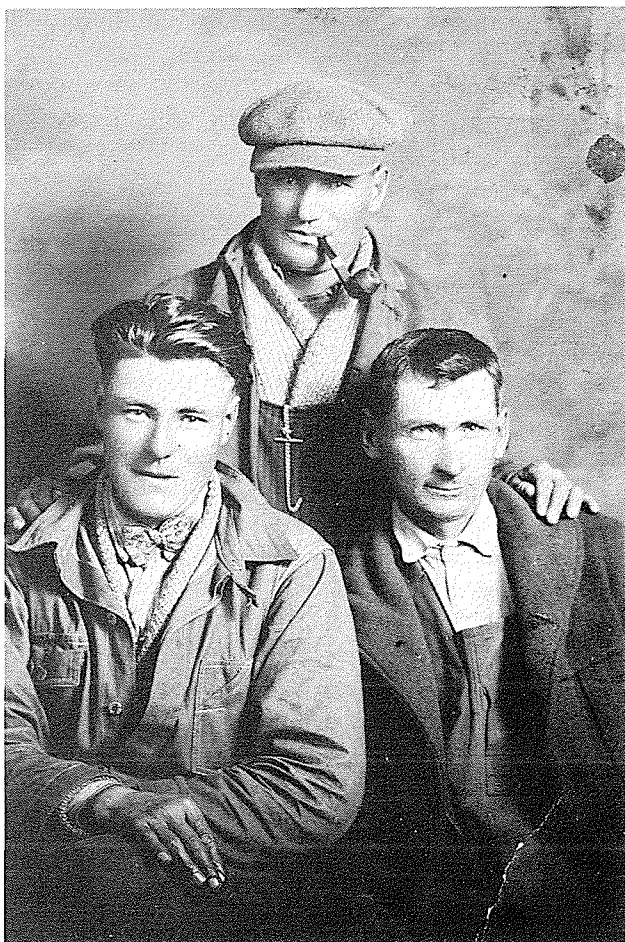
The children of Napoleon and Eva Belhumeur

Betty, (1925), attended school at Pumpkin Plains. She worked for Mr. and Mrs. Vermette and Reg. and Edna DeCorby. After working as a waitress in Brandon she went to Toronto. She married Jim MacRory on July 18, 1959 and has two children, David and Diane. **Lucy**, (1927) lived with her grandparents Mr. and Mrs. John Houle in Ste. Marthe and attended school there. She worked in Virden for ten years and married John Torrance on Apr. 8, 1961. Their daughter Eva Marie lives with them in Rocanville, Sask. **Clara**, (1928), went working for Toddy Ferguson's sister at Virden when she was fourteen years old, then for the Golden Gate Cafe in Brandon as a cook. In 1950, she left for Toronto and in 1952, married George Quinto. They have seven children, Larry, Betty-Ann, Diane, Bobby, Lee, Kenny and Paul. Clara's husband, George died in 1979. **Jean**, (1930), attended school at Pumpkin Plains, then went working at fourteen years of age for Mr. and Mrs. Gaston Cadieux, the Taylors at Welwyn, the Leon Huberdeaus and a sewing factory in Portage la Prairie. She went to Toronto and married Pierre Paquette on July 21, 1956. They have three daughters, Marilyn, Lieth, and Darlene. Jean lives in St. Lazare with Darlene. **George**, (1932), was born in St. Lazare and went to school at Pumpkin Plains. At twelve years of age he worked for Reg. DeCorby doing farm work. In 1951 he went to work on the C.N.R. He is now living at home with his parents. **Alice**, born 1934 in St. Lazare attended Pumpkin Plains school. She worked in Portage la Prairie before she married Rene Houle in Aug. 1955. They have six children Barbara, Laurence, Bernadette, Camille, Rachelle and Lisa. They have been living in Brandon for the past twelve years. **Arthur** born 1937 in St. Lazare went to Pumpkin Plains school. He worked for the C.N.R. but is now working in Russell. He married Alma Paul in August 1980 in Russell. They have one boy, Everett. **Laurence** born 1940 in St. Lazare went to Pumpkin Plains school. He worked for Reg. DeCorby as a farm hand at fourteen years of age. At sixteen he was working for

the C.N.R. In 1960 he went to work for Arnasson Construction. He is now living and working in Birtle. In June 1969, he married Georgina Hayden in St. Lazare. They have five children, Larry, Victor, Richard, Stanley and Shari-Lynn. **Edna** born 1943 in St. Lazare went to Pumpkin Plains school. She worked as a waitress in Robert Chartier's cafe. Edna married Elmer Peppin on Aug. 2, 1966 in St. Lazare. They have two boys, Darcy and Troy. **Eva Marie** born 1946, died two days after birth. Nap and Eva have twenty-seven grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren.

Bell, Joe Sr.

Joe was formerly known as Joe Pische, but changed his name to Bell some years ago. He was born in Rocanville, Sask., and married Flora Morriseau from North Dakota. He built his house on a knoll overlooking the Assiniboine River on NW 22-16-28 where three children were born. **Beaut** Pische, who married Fred Peppin, lived in Russell; **Little Joe**, worked for the C.N.R., and later owned a farm in the Qu'Appelle Valley; **Peter**, lived near St. Lazare. Years ago, Joe Sr. with the help of his wife,



Joe Bell Sr., Joe Henderson and Frank Houle.

fished, hunted and trapped for a living. He cut fire wood to sell and helped neighboring farmers with the stooking and threshing of their crops. He broke some land and grew grain, raised cattle and pigs and kept horses. Mrs. Bell raised geese, turkeys and chickens and gardened. They retired to St. Lazare after selling their farm to Fouillards in 1964. Their log house still stands as an old landmark, although both Joe and Flora have passed away.

Bell, Joe as told to Yvonne Leclerc

I was born August 29, 1913 a few miles out of St. Lazare, a place called "China town". There were quite a few Métis families living there.

My father's name was Joe Bell and my mother was Flora Maurriseau. She was born in North Dakota, one of ten children. There were two in our family, Pete and myself.

My parents had a quarter section of land seven miles south east of St. Lazare. We raised cattle. We had a good spring on our homestead. Our house was a log one, in the fall we'd make a Bee, all get together and mix mud and hay for plaster and patch the cracks for winter. We did the same with the barn, we could finish it up in one day, then move on to the neighbor's house, and do the same.

There were a lot of Métis families in those days, more than we have now. Not so long ago there were six Métis families on top of the hill and they are all gone now. The land was free and they could settle anywhere, open prairie and no fences; now, you can't do that. Some farmers had Ayrshire cattle, and you had to be careful of them, they were mean. Some raised Shorthorns too. The farmers were spaced far apart in those days, we got along good, being a Métis was fine, we felt free, better than now. People would come to get us to come and cut scrub, they didn't give us much money, maybe a dollar and the rest in eggs, flour or pork. In the summer time, starting in May, we'd go out digging Seneca roots until August. We'd take our tent, and didn't have to worry about food as there was lots of wild meat. We'd go as far as Welwyn, Sask., about twenty six miles, back and forth across the plains in a day, camp in an open place near water and then keep moving on, sometimes as far as Moosomin, Red Jacket and into the Moose Mountains. Three months a year we did this. We didn't travel alone, there were always three or four families with us; Fiddlers, with seven or eight children, Joe Tanners, Jim Haydens, Touronds, not always the same bunch. Nobody worried about school, as we didn't go. I had no education. When we camped, we'd hobble our horses and tie one so they wouldn't go away. One time near Wapella, Jim Hayden forgot

to tie a horse, and even with the hobbles on, the horses headed for home. We found them a few miles past Welwyn. One summer we had five tents. We would cook over a big fire, boil our food in cans, and make bannock and tea from boiled slough water. In the morning, every family went their way, digging Seneca. My job was to clean up around, load up and move camp another twenty miles. In the evening, all the kids got together, fifteen or twenty of us, and played ball. We tied up stones in cloth, sewed it good and tight. We didn't work on Sundays, we had the whole day for ourselves. There were many times, when a woman would have a baby while we were camping, but there was always one to be a midwife. Two of Jim Hayden's daughters were born in a tent when we were out digging roots, also one of Joe Tanner's children. We used to get eight cents a pound for green roots, later thirty five cents a pound. Sometimes Dad and I would take off when there was snow on the ground, for two or three weeks. We would go where there had been a prairie fire and you could see the heads of the Seneca roots sticking out of the ground. We would also trap weasels, they were a good price. There were different ways of making money! In the summer, we killed gophers for farmers, the municipality would pay us three cents a tail. We would cut wood in the winter, chop a load to take to town for two dollars. This would buy a bag of flour. We didn't get paid much, but could buy tea and sugar like this. We had our own cows for milk and made butter. It was hard work, but we were okay food wise.

During the dry years, jobs you couldn't get, not even for five cents an hour. I was allowed only two days, at eight hours a day, to give a chance to others to work. You couldn't buy a job then! It was up to us to put something away for winter or it was just too bad. Every cent we had, we saved to buy flour, we'd buy seven or eight bags for the winter. we picked a lot of berries, mother canned them with no sugar. We dried saskatoons, and chokecherries, then in the winter time, we'd fry them in grease. Mother used to salt the meat and put it in sealers. In the summer we'd dig a hole to keep butter and meat cool. We had a lot of wild meat and would trap rabbits and set snares for prairie chickens. We'd watch the chickens dance in the morning but didn't bother them. At night, we'd set snares and the next morning they danced, they got caught in our snares. There might have been laws against it, but no one bothered us. We cut a lot of wood in the bush for farmers at twenty-five cents a load, and we trapped a lot of rats for twenty five cents a piece.

Sometimes for entertainment we'd get together and clear a patch of ice on the river and play hockey.

We never went to town much, but we went to lots of dances at our neighbors. If it was only a few miles away we walked, if it was further or too cold, like 40° below zero, we took the horses. Sometimes, we'd get back at five a.m., sleep for awhile, and at nine, it was back to the bush to cut wood. Sometimes a bunch of us would go out hunting jumpers. Two would go one way, and two another. If anyone got lost, that one would shoot once, then the others would shoot and go towards the sound. We'd keep doing this, until the lost one was found. There was lots of bush where we lived, so we always made sure we carried matches.

When we went to get ducks, we would watch them while they were feeding in a slough. They all dive under water to feed but one is the "watchman". We'd get that one and the ducks underwater wouldn't know, so we'd get quite a few of them. We also caught black birds, they are good to eat. We put out grain and a string, and when they were eating, we'd pull the string and catch them.

I started to work on the C.N.R. in 1939 when the wages were twenty five cents an hour. I worked there for thirty four years. I bought a piece of land while I was working for the C.N. — three quarters of a section. I had cattle and horses, but I didn't make too much money farming, as the floods on the Qu'Appelle River got me nearly every year.

I married Agnes Lepine in 1945. We had no children, but we adopted four, Beverly, Carol, Kenny, Aaron. We kept a lot of foster children, and when



Joe and Agnes Bell, 1958.

they reached eighteen, they left. I remember a long time ago, my parents always sharing with others, so I try to do the same.

The old days were not so bad. We had nothing to worry about; no hydro bills, no telephones, no taxes, no debts to pay off. We had a good living even if we had no money. How we did it, I don't know. I saw hard times when other Métis people had nothing to eat, nothing at all. The older ones had no pensions, and no doctors. We helped them a lot. The younger ones helped the older ones by giving them wild meat. I remember one young married couple who I walked to visit, — they had nothing to eat, no flour, no lard, nothing. We gave them some. People shared more in those days. Clothing was scarce, your clothes had to last. Nothing was wasted, pants were all patched. Mitts were made with old pieces of overalls. Sometimes we had no boots, we made moccasins with cloth and wore lots of socks. The soles were made of dried rabbit skins. Sometimes Mother tanned deer hides and made our mitts and moccasins, she used sinew from beef to sew with. Some of the hides were used to make bags to carry dried meat mixed with flour or berries. I ate some and it was really good.

Hard work is good for any one. Now that I'm not doing anything, I don't feel so good, only when I go out hunting!

Bell, Agnes Marie (Lepine)

Agnes was born July 6, 1920 in St. Lazare to Mr. and Mrs. Jean Baptiste Lepine Jr. She has lived in St. Lazare all her life. When Agnes and her sisters were children, they had to milk cows and do chores before walking four miles to school. When Agnes grew up she worked at many jobs in the community earning 25 cents a day. One of her favorite memories of her grandfather, Jean Baptiste Sr., is a song he taught her, "**Ouvre Moi La Porte, La Belle**". This ditty had been passed down from a close friend, Louis Riel. Joe and Agnes' four children: Beverly, Carol, Kenny and Aaron all live in St. Lazare. Roger and Joey Boyer are only two of the many foster children Agnes took care of.

Bercier, Elizabeth (Ducharme)

Elizabeth was born at St. Ambroise. She married a Mr. Smith, who was the father of her four children, Walter and Bill, Madeline (Mrs. Nap Vermette) and Marguerite (Mrs. Eugene (Bill) Leclair). Her husband died and "Betsy" married Joe Bercier at Ste. Madeleine. After Joe passed away, she lived in Binscarth for four years before moving to spend some time near her daughter.

Elizabeth raised, besides her own family, three

"adopted" children, among them Della Vermette who travelled extensively with her during her "baby delivering days".

She lived for 20 years in a small house of her own at the "Corner", once owning a ¼ section of land that now belongs to Ulrich Fulham.

Elizabeth was a mid-wife, licensed by Dr. Gilbert of Spy Hill, Sask. She delivered 420 babies (maybe more) in the areas of McAuley, Madeleine, Binscarth, Inglis, Ste. Marthe, Foxwarren, Birtle, Welby, Shellmouth, Russell and St. Lazare. She delivered seven of the Boucher babies — staying at the patients home for a week prior to the birth and for two weeks after.

A record book was kept of all the babies that "Grandma" delivered — she was affectionately known by that name.

Elizabeth returned to be near her daughter Marguerite, for her remaining years of life. She passed away at Selby Town (now the sheep farm) on August 26, 1956.



Mrs. Bercier, (midwife) Mrs. Flamand, Mrs. Chartrand.

Bicknell, Bill

My dad, George Bicknell, was born at Wheatland, Man, in 1898 and my mother, Ann Cowing, was born in 1898 at Oak Lake. They were married there in July of 1923. They moved to the Elevator house in St. Lazare (next to Jules DeCorby's) in 1923 and George became grain buyer for the Northern Elevator Co. He was also the Imperial Oil Agent. Here two of their boys were born, I (Bill) in 1924 and Don in 1926. Another brother George was born in 1930 in Russell, where we moved in 1929.

I married Jean Langtry of Carman in 1943 at Russell. I started a P.S.V. Trucking business in 1948, at first in partnership with Larry Glasman, and then on my own. We built a house on the hill above the Convent, where Ernest Fouillard's house is today, and moved in with our four children, David, Jim, Bobby, and Georgeann.

The people of St. Lazare nicknamed our three boys the "Katzenjammer Kids", they were always getting into mischief. Jackie Selby remembers once when she was giving Jean a "Toni", the boys had got a hold of some brushes and red paint and proceeded to decorate the interior of Jean's old car. They looked like three red elves, when they came trooping into the house, pleased as punch with themselves! I remember when they were about 5, 4 and 2, David and Jim were always together, with Bobby tagging along behind. They were going down the convent hill, Bobby couldn't keep up and was hollering "Wait for me you b#!?s." Meantime a sister was outside and scolded Bobby for swearing because it wasn't nice. He said "I know, but the b#!?!s are getting away on me."

Another time, one of my trucks wouldn't start, so I was coasting down the hill to get it going. Jim and Bob were with me. I went around the corner at a good clip, and the door swung open, and out flew Jim and Bob. My brakes weren't working so good and I only got stopped in front of the old post office. When I ran back, Jim and Bob were running down the street crying. I said "Are you hurt?"; "No", they sobbed. "Then why are you crying?"; "We thought you were leaving us!". Raymond Dupont recalls an egg fight the boys had in his dad's chicken house. Needless to say they weren't too popular that day!

Another time, my cattle truck wouldn't run, so I asked my wife Jean if she'd drive it, and I'd tow the truck to town with my semi-truck. The old truck had no brakes, so I told her when she got to the top of the hill, I'd hold the truck back with a chain, but the old truck started to coast down the hill! It picked up speed, and Jean went sailing around the corners and through a stop sign, tore down the street past the Municipal Office, the doors flew open, down past the rink and into the field went the truck and Jean! When I finally caught up to her, she was as mad as a hatter, and told me in no uncertain terms what I could do with my truck!

We moved to Birtle, lock, stock, and house! Five more children were born to us, Ivan, Betty-Lou, Patrick, Linda, and Fred. Our good luck ran out: we lost two of our boys — Jim and Bob, and in 1971, my wife Jean died after a battle with cancer. Now I live in Swan River, where I have my own business "Bicknell's Northern Hauling". My son David operates Bicknell Ltd., general freighters, at Birtle.

Black, Duncan and Catharine

Duncan and Catharine came to Canada in 1913 from Glasgow, Scotland where Duncan worked as a fireman. They came to the Foxwarren area with three children, Mary, Jean and Hector and worked for the Grahams west of Foxwarren on 9-18-28. After a few years, they bought land in Birtle Municipality and moved south of Foxwarren where they farmed until retirement. They then moved into the Village of Foxwarren.

Mary, eldest daughter, married Tom Johnston in 1917 and they lived on 12-17-28 from 1919 to 1927. This farm had belonged to Lewarton Brothers and was bought by Dan Sutherland of Foxwarren and rented to Tom and Mary Johnston. Four children were born while they lived there and the eldest went to Ellice School. They then moved to Birtle Municipality, east of Birtle and lived there until Tom's death. Mary then moved into Pioneer Lodge in Birtle where she still resides.

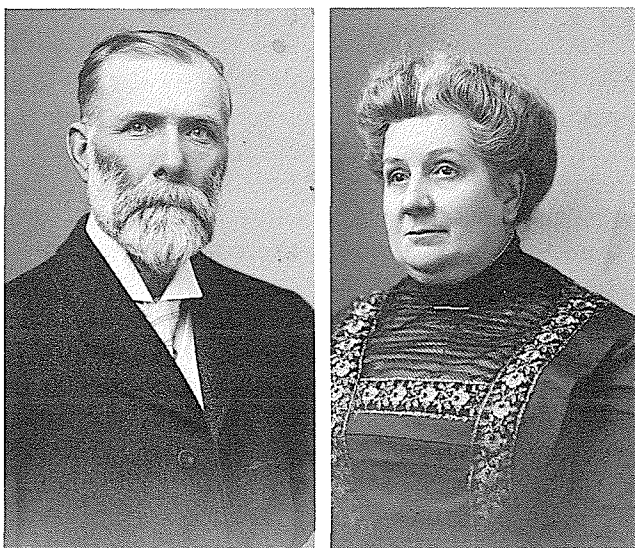
Jean, the next daughter married Hugh Gilmour in 1927 and they moved on to 5-18-28 called the McQuay place. They had one son Robert. In 1928 Hugh died and Jean moved back with her parents. In 1935 she married Alexander Wright and they lived in Ellice Municipality for a few years on 36-17-28. They then moved to Birtle Municipality and farmed in the Foxwarren area until 1973. They retired to Foxwarren Village until Alex's death in 1982. Jean now resides in the Pioneer Lodge at Birtle.

Hector, the only son of Duncan and Catharine Black, continued farming after Duncan's retirement until 1940, when he joined the army and went overseas in World War II. Returning in 1945, he bought a farm south of Birtle and farmed for a few years. He died in 1963.

Bligh, Emerson and Rupert by Mrs. C. H. Clarke (nee Laura Bligh)

My grandfather, Emerson Bligh, was born November 25, 1847 at Lakeville, Nova Scotia. Esther Annie Jones was born in 1853 in Bristol, England. They were married February 27, 1872 at Mt. Denson Falmouth, Hants County, N.S. Grandmother died May 24, 1918 and Grandfather on October 19, 1928, both buried at Spy Hill, Saskatchewan. They had three children all born in Halifax, Nova Scotia; Harris Klenberg born December 7, 1872; Thomas Gregor (my father) born 1874; Laura Juliet born November 10, 1875.

Early in the year 1879, Emerson Bligh and his brother Rupert Bligh and their families decided to come west. Rupert Bligh was born January 22, 1850; he married Emma Lindsay, and they had five children.



Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Bligh.

The reasons that were a deciding factor in their moving west were the fact that you could homestead 160 acres of land, pre-empt 160 acres and buy an adjoining 320 acres at \$1.00 per acre. At this date it did not matter what the number of the sections were that you chose to homestead, but in July 1879 the government passed a law that only even numbered sections could be homesteaded, and uneven numbered sections could be bought.

The Bligh families left Halifax by rail which travelled across Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and along the St. Lawrence Seaway, then across southern Ontario to Sarnia. Here all belongings were loaded on 2 boats to cross Lake Huron and Lake Superior to Duluth, Minnesota. My grandfather brought two dogs that were part of the settlers' effects. When all were aboard the boat ready to sail, the Captain, a big burly fellow, came on deck and demanded to know who owned the two dogs on board. My grandfather said, "I do, Sir." The Captain replied, "I don't allow dogs on my boat; get them off here," speaking in an abusive voice. My grandfather replied, "Fine Sir, hold everything, I will remove my family and all my belongings. If my dogs don't go, we don't go." The Captain saw that grandfather meant what he said and replied, "If that is the way you feel, forget it and stay aboard." Some of the boats that were transporting settlers and their effects to the west were often overloaded; if the crossing was rough, it could be dangerous. The people on the boat that the Blighs were on saw an overloaded boat put cattle overboard to keep the boat from sinking. Grandfather said it was pitiful to see the cattle swimming and bawling following the boat. The swell of water caused by the boat would go over the cattle, they would be out of sight momentarily, come up and try to follow until

eventually they drowned. When the boat the Blighs were on arrive at Duluth, everything had to be unloaded and reloaded onto the train which took them west and then north to Pembina at the International boundary. Crossing into Canada it followed the C.P.R. Pembina Branch to Fort Garry which was the end of the rail.

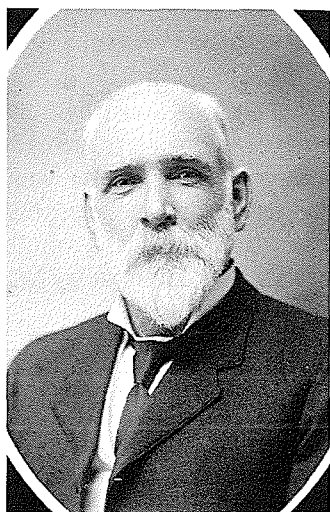
The first night at Fort Garry they were able to get accommodations for all but my grandfather; he told us he spent his first night in Manitoba in jail. He would hurriedly go on to say if he had not accepted the invitation of the warden to sleep in an empty cell he would have to sleep out under the stars. The families stayed at Fort Garry until arrangements were made with the Hudson's Bay Company for oxen, carts, provisions and an Indian guide for their trek west. They found it necessary to leave my Grandmother's organ in storage with the Hudson's Bay Company. At this time their plans were to go to Edmonton. With family, supplies and belongings loaded and cattle and sheep following, they were once again on their way west. When they got to the Portage la Prairie area they travelled in water for miles, having a hard time to find a dry place to camp at night. As they got to the Carberry area there was smoke away to the west. Soon they realized they were in the path of a prairie fire; it was taking in a wide area and travelling fast. They thought they would be burned to death. The Indian guide seemed calm and when he thought the time right, he struck a match and started a fire. When it had burned an area large enough, he told them to pull the carts onto it. From there they watched the prairie fire pass them and go on its way. As lambs began arriving, they were put in a hammock with the children. The hammock was the upturned kitchen table (which I still have) with a sail sheet hung from the four legs. After seventeen days of travel they arrived at Fort Ellice on a Saturday afternoon in May. They would not travel on Sunday, so made arrangements to stay at the Fort till the first of the week. This gave Chief Factor MacDonald the opportunity to ask them to look over the land in his area. He told them he thought he had as much to offer as Edmonton had.

On Monday morning the Factor supplied them with ponies and an Indian guide; they headed in a north easterly direction. After travelling for some time, they spotted a tent, with a flag pole and the Union Jack flying. As they rode up, a gentleman in English riding attire stepped out of the tent and said, "What might you boys be in search of?" The Blighs said they were in search of land on which to settle. He told them he was Mr. Dawson and he would saddle up his horse and take them to the end of his holdings. Mr. Dawson's tent was situated where later Mr.

Hodgson homesteaded close to Foxwarren. The gentleman rode west and the Blighs followed, when he got to the top of the Assiniboine Valley he said, "This is the end of my territory", and with the sweep of his arm to the west said, "Anything beyond here you can have."

On the return of the Blighs to the fort they decided they would settle in the area. At this time only the base and correction lines had been run by the surveyors. Each family decided on a piece of land slightly north of Mr. Dawson's territory. When the survey was completed Emerson Bligh was on W $\frac{1}{2}$ of 31-17-28 W1. Rupert Bligh had his house on SW corner of 7-18-28, his stable on NW $\frac{1}{4}$ 6-18-28, and broke land on SE $\frac{1}{4}$ 1-18-29. There was some controversy over Emerson Bligh applying for entry for homestead and pre-emption of above land on account of the new law passed in July as previously referred to. (My Grandfather had applied for entry to homestead the above land in July 1879, not knowing of the law change.) After a letter to Sir Charles Tupper in Ottawa, Grandfather received a letter on May 20, 1882 that his request was accepted to homestead the above land. Emerson Bligh received his patent for same in 1884. Rupert Bligh received his patent in 1883.

Emerson Bligh was first Reeve of Ellice Municipality, and was also appointed Justice of Peace.



Emerson Bligh

The Rupert Bligh family had the misfortune to lose two of their children with diphtheria. They were buried on the farm. Their mother planted a Maple tree at the graves. The tree, still living, is on the Mabel Cox land. In 1885 Rupert Bligh felt he should be supplying his remaining family with an education, so decided to return to Nova Scotia. After Zion Church was built and a cemetery started, Rupert Bligh had the childrens' graves moved to it and markers erected.

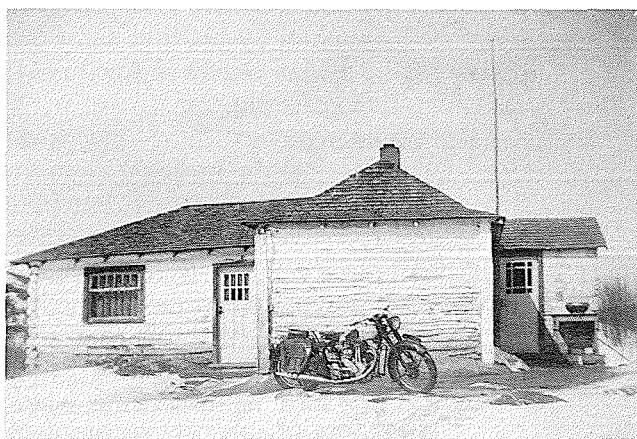
The Emerson Bligh children were taught by hired governesses of which there were three, namely: Miss Scarlet, Annie Armstrong, and Mrs. Gwyer. The governess lived with the family, Mrs. Gwyer had her son Dolly with her. When Grandmother had breakfast ready she would ask Dolly to call his mother. Each morning he would go to the stairway and call, "Mother, be quick, be quick." After completion of the lessons of the third governess, the children had to learn on their own, with exception of one winter when my father was in his teens. He stayed with an Aunt and attended school in Birtle. All members of the Emerson Bligh family learned to speak fluent Cree.

It was permissible to take a second homestead once you had the patent for the first one. As my grandfather was interested in livestock raising and had located land to the northwest on the west side of the Assiniboine Valley with an abundant supply of hay and water he applied to homestead it. In 1885 he moved his family to this new site. They still had an interest in their first homestead. When Zion decided to build a church, my Grandfather helped with it. At the opening of the church in 1888 my Grandfather and Grandmother presented a large leather bound Bible for pulpit use, to the congregation.

Some may be wondering what happened to Grandmother's organ that had to be stored with the Hudson's Bay Company at Fort Garry in 1879. When they settled in this area the organ was shipped to them by boat to Fort Ellice in the spring of 1880. Throughout the years the Bligh families had fond memories of the Ellice area.

Blouin, Joseph Adam and Gracia as told by Laurent and Alma

Joseph-Adam was born on September 8, 1884 in Quebec. He came to St. Lazare in 1902 to teach at the mission. He later went to St. Boniface to obtain his



Blouin House.

Bachelor of Arts then returned to St. Lazare to teach. On August 23, 1910, he married Gracia, born April 10, 1884, daughter of Israel Tremblay and Edith Bergeron, originally from Ile des Coudes, Quebec. They had nineteen children and sixteen lived to adulthood. They were **Laurent** born in 1912 and married to Florence Fiddler; **Gertrude** (1913) (Mrs. John Lefranc); **Horace** (1914) married Regina Poirier; **Rene** (1916) married Rose-Aimee Daoust; Martha (1917) (Mrs. Georges Chartier); Jeanne (Mrs. Paul Decorby) (1919) who died in 1972; Alfred born in 1920 who died as a baby; Alma (Mrs. Fortunat Chartier) (1921); Therese (Mrs. Guillaume Lefranc) (1923); Fernand (1926) married Grace Beck; Jean-Paul born in 1927 who died in an accident in 1933; Hilda (Mrs. Harvey Desrosiers) (1929); Marguerite (Mrs. Rene Huberdeau) (1930); Rita (Mrs. Alfred Berry) 1932; Georges (1933) married Alma Gauthier; Eugene born in 1934 and who died the same year; Yvonne (Mrs. Henry Wittrock) (1936) and Joseph (1937), married Cecile Simard, Joseph died on January 12, 1968.



Blouin Family, 1937.

Gracia is remembered as being a very beautiful woman with a joyous disposition. She must have been intimidated by the serious nature of her husband because she never called him by his first name but called him Master. She died of cancer in April 1944, when she was fifty-five years old.

Joseph-Adam taught in many different places but always came back to teach at the mission, or in St. Lazare (between his moves). He taught at Pumpkin Plains (Victor), Somerset, Laurier, St. Boniface, Ste. Marthe and his final place was Ste. Madeleine.

Besides teaching, Joseph-Adam farmed and in the 1920's had a branch of the Bank of Hochelaga in St. Lazare. Marguerite (Fouillard) Dupont kept the books for him. The first farm he owned was where Raymond Dupont lives at present. He would walk from Ste. Madeleine to St. Lazare and vice-versa to

spend the weekend with his family. One of the reasons Joseph-Adam was so healthy is that he kept up this practice for numerous years; it is only in the last years of his life that he used a car to reach his destinations. Later he bought another farm 19-17-28 which he gave to his son Joseph. When Joseph died in 1968, "J.A." bought a trailer and moved it beside Cecile's house where he lived until he died in 1975.

Teaching was not a highly paid profession when Mr. Blouin exercised it — many people are grateful to him and he is one of our most esteemed citizens.



Blouin Family. B.R.: Therese, Fernand, Laurent, George, Dad, Horace, René, Hilda. F.R.: Yvonne, Rita, Marguerite, Gertrude, Alma and Jeanne.

Blouin, Laurent and Florence (Fiddler)

Florence's parents were born in St. Francois Xavier, Manitoba, but Florence was born March 1923 in St. Lazare. They lived in St. Lazare in a small house with two beds in one room. The house was made of railway ties and papered with newspaper. Her father worked for various farmers for a small wage. Her mother did house cleaning and laundry for several people including Mrs. Louis Guay.

Laurent and Florence were married January 22, 1940, and farmed the Blouin land. They had 12 children — 11 living — six born in St. Lazare and six in The Pas. Roger died at 19 months of age. Living in Winnipeg, Thompson, Snow Lake and St. Lazare are the remaining children — Lucille, Georgette, Paulette, Richard, Bernice, Doreen, Leonard, Jackie, Lawrence, Jean-Marc and Florence.

Laurent and Florence lived in The Pas for 23 years. During that time Laurent worked at the hospital ending up as Laundry Supervisor. Florence worked for two years as "House Keeper" at the hospital but had to return to her own household affairs. Florence also kept Indian students — four at a time. She is very proud of these young people who later became policemen, a lawyer and a teacher.

They returned to St. Lazare in 1976 and are still living here. They have 29 grandchildren, ranging in age from nine months to 18 years.

Blouin, Horace

I was born in Laurier, Manitoba, son of J. A. Blouin. I went to St. Lazare to work for Mrs. Vermette who had the bakery. I met Mrs. Vermette's sister, Regina, and we were married in St. Lazare in a double wedding with Gertrude and Jean Mathurin Lefranc. Our children, **Maurice** and **Rosalie** were born in St. Lazare. After four years, we moved to Gravelbourg where I have pursued my trade as painter and plasterer. My seven boys have kept on with this trade. We had a family of ten children and now reside in Pioneer Villa in Gravelbourg.

Blouin, Rene and Rose

Rene was born in St. Lazare in 1916 where he went to Decorby School. He went to work at Gravelbourg with his brother Horace as a painter. In 1942 he went back to help his dad on the farm. In 1943 he married Rose-Aimee Daoust who at that time was eighteen years of age and had always resided in the city of Vancouver, before seeking and finding work in Gravelbourg, Sask. They were married by Father Bertrand in the chapel of the convent one morning when it was 54 below! Rose-Aimee had arrived from Vancouver carrying fresh flowers to be greeted by such temperatures! They came from the farm with horses and sleigh, wrapped in blankets and with heated rocks at their feet. The wedding dinner was at grandfather Israel Tremblay's. Of course, there was no money for a honeymoon. They lived on the farm at St. Lazare with Rene's family for a year. Here Rose-Aimee hauled water from the river by pail — a real let down for a city girl! Add to this, living with her in-laws numbering eleven in a small house 12' x 16'! This is where Ronald was born. In 1944 they moved to Gravelbourg where they have lived ever since. They had four children, Jeannine, 1944 deceased; Lorraine 1946, Doris 1948 and Denis 1959.

Blouin, Fernand

Fernand born in 1926 married Grace (Pritchard) Beck. They live in The Pas where Fern is a carpenter. When Laurent moved there, so did Fern. He has been there for over twenty-three years.

Desrosiers, Harvey and Hilda (Blouin)

When I was fifteen, my mother passed away, so being the eldest girl, I quit school to help at home. There were five younger children so I had quite a work load. I was at home for about one year before going to work for "ma tante" Eva Tremblay doing general housework. I also worked for Mr. and Mrs.

Leon Huberdeau who paid \$30.00 a month, which was considered a good wage. Madame Leon was a terrific person. She always helped if she could and I never worked past 5:30 p.m. It was a ten hour day, but she always had a kind word. In 1947, I met Harvey at Joe Ducharme's Barber shop in St. Lazare. Mrs. Ducharme is Harvey's sister whom he was visiting. He was working in a gold mine at Central Patricia in Northern Ontario. Wages were 68¢ an hour and gold \$16.00 an ounce. In October 1948, Harvey and I were married. We bought the S.E. quarter of 8-17-27 in the R.M. of Birtle. It was formerly owned by Pierre Prescott but had no buildings on it. We lived with Dad Blouin that winter, until our own house was ready to move into. In August 1949, **Juliette** was born. In November 1951, Harvey went to Snow Lake to work in the gold mine. Juliette and I followed in December and in February, **Remi** was born. In the spring we returned to our farm to put in the crop, and planted a big garden to prepare for the cold winter ahead. In February 1955, **Georgette** was born. When Juliette started school, Harvey began driving the school van and did so until Juliette was in Grade VII. In 1960, Harvey went to work for C.C.I.L. where he stayed until 1981. In 1968, I commenced working in Birtle Hospital kitchen and am now the Head Cook Supervisor. Harvey still does mechanical work at home and is extremely busy in spring and fall. All the children are married: Juliette married Edmond Huberdeau and they live in Wetaskiwin, Alberta; Remi married Marilyn Fowler. They live in Winnipeg. Georgette married Rodney Ashcroft. They live on a farm east of Birtle. We have had some hard years, but have also had lots of good years. Now we have six lovely grandchildren which makes it all worthwhile.

Blouin, Rita (Berry)

Rita was born in 1932. She worked in the hotel for Mr. and Mrs. O. Huybrecht, before leaving for Montreal accompanied by Lucille Fulham, to seek work there. Rita returned to Manitoba and journeyed to The Pas where she met and married Gerard Laferriere. They lived in Cranberry Portage where two of their children, Diane and Donald were born; Reynold was born in Thompson. Rita later married Alfred Berry in Thompson. They moved to Winnipeg where Dean and Glen were born.

Blouin, George

I was born in September 1933, son of Jean-Adam and Gracia (Tremblay) Blouin, and attended school at St. Lazare. I went out to work at an early age. I came to Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan in 1953 to visit relatives and met my future wife. In June 1957, I married Alma Gauthier and moved back to St. Lazare

to farm the homestead. I worked as a cat operator for many years. Our first daughter, Denise, was born in Birtle in 1958; a son, Gerald, in Gravelbourg; then three more girls, Hélène, Paulette and Stella. Two of our children are married — Gerald to Lise Brisebois and Denise to Rodney Dokkebakken. We are the proud grandparents of three, one girl and twin boys.

Blouin, Yvonne

I, Yvonne, daughter of J. A. Blouin and Gracia Tremblay was born in St. Lazare in 1936. I received my schooling in St. Lazare being a boarder at the convent. Later, I left for Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan with my brother Rene and family. I joined the staff at St. Joseph Hospital as a nurses-aide. In 1953, I married Gerard Deaust, a farmer, from Gravelbourg, and had a family of two boys, Alain born in 1955 and Real in 1959. My husband Gerard passed away in December 1969. I married Henry Wittrock, a farmer. Alain is married and has a family of three boys. He is a salesman for Monarch Life Insurance. Real also married having a family of two, a boy and a girl. Farming has become his business. He is now living on the farm we vacated in 1982 to settle in Gravelbourg.

Desrosiers, Cecile(Blouin)

I was born to Eugene and Rose-Anna Simard, and named Cecile Sarah Marie. Growing up on the farm, my older sister Rhea and I were very close; I depended on her a lot, especially when I started going to school and boarding at the Convent. I remember crying to go home every Friday if Dad wasn't there to pick us up at four o'clock sharp. As the years progressed, I came to love life at the Convent, especially the times spent in the kitchen with Sr. Alicia, Florence and Sr. Eugenie. When I reached the age of 14, I stayed home to help on the farm. These were the happiest days of my life, as I didn't like school very much! I learned how to milk cows and helped in the field during threshing time. Dad taught me to drive the truck and unload the grain. Denis helped, too, when there was no school, and we became good co-workers. He taught me to drive the tractor and harness the horses. I was a farmer at heart, and enjoyed every minute of it. When Rhea finished school, she was too young to go teaching, so she helped on the farm, but worked mostly with my mother in the house. At this time, I started noticing a tall handsome fellow, whom I'd met and thought a real PEST during school days. His name was Joe Blouin, son of J. A. and Gracia Blouin. He was the youngest of a family of 21. His mother died when he was only five and he lived with his father on a farm one mile northwest of St. Lazare. Joe and I were married June 5, 1959. He worked for a few months as

a "Cat Skinner" at Touchwood, Sask., before we moved to his dad's farm, which we later bought. We moved a house we bought from Fouillards to this farm. There our six children were born: **Gracia** in 1960, **Jean** 1962, **Roland** 1963, **Damien** 1965, **Andre** 1966, and **Robert** in 1967. Tragedy struck when I lost my husband in an accident in 1968. My large family, my parents and brothers and sisters helped me through this difficult time. My brother Patrick, who was 17, stayed with us for two years, then Jean-Marie, Eugene and Bernard took turns. They were like fathers to my children. Mr. Blouin lived in a trailer nearby, although he was in his 80's, he helped us, too. The years went by, Gracia graduated from school, met and married Gordon Grabauskas of Foxwarren, where she went to live. My son Jean works for Antonio and Roland for Jean-Marie on their respective dairy farms. In the summer of 1980, I met Joseph Desrosiers of Flin-Flon. This wasn't an accident; my sister Rhea and Joe's sister Simone were match-making. It worked! Joe and I were married the same year! Joe came from Ste. Anne, son of Raoul and Gracia Desrosiers who farmed there. Joseph works for HBMS Company in Flin-Flon; last year he received a gold watch for 25 years of service, and also a copper tray for 25 years of "No Loss of Time Injury". We have a comfortable home in Flin-Flon where we live with my two sons Damien and Robert, who are finishing their schooling. Andre is going to St. Vladimir College in Roblin. I am happy to be reunited with my sisters Rhea, and now, Roberta, who has moved to Flin-Flon.

Grabauskas, Gordon and Gracia (Blouin) by Gracia

I am the only daughter of Joseph Blouin and Cecile Simard, born July 1, 1960. St. Lazare was my home for nineteen years where I grew up on a farm about one mile from town. I went to school in St. Lazare and Birtle. After graduation, I stayed home for a year, and became engaged to Gordon Grabauskas of Foxwarren. He was a twin, one of a family of six, of George and Jean Grabauskas. We were married in July of 1979, and reside in Foxwarren. Gordon is employed at the Potash Mine. In September of 1982 our daughter Christine Cecile Marie was born, first grandchild for my mother and first great-grandchild for my grandmother Rose Anna Simard.

Blouin, Joseph-Adam et Gracia raconté par Laurent et Alma

Originaire de la province de Québec, Joseph-Adam naquit le huit septembre 1884. Il arriva à St. Lazare en 1902 pour enseigner à la mission. Il retourna ensuite à St. Boniface pour obtenir son Bachelier-

es-Arts. Revenu à St. Lazare il enseigna à la mission et il épousa Gracia, née le 10 avril 1894, fille d'Israël Tremblay et de Edith Bergeron, originaire d'Ile des Coudes, Québec. Leur mariage eut lieu le 23 août 1910. De cette union naquirent dix-neuf enfants dont seize ont vécu; Laurent, né en 1912 et marié à Florence Fiddler; Gertrude, née en 1913 (Mme. Mathurin (John) Lefranc); Horace, né en 1914 marié à Regina Poirier; René en 1916, marié à Rose-Aimée Daoust; Marthe en 1917 (Mme. Georges Chartier); Jeanne, née en 1919 (Mme. Paul Decorby) décédée en 1972; Alfred, né en 1920, mort bébé; Alma, née en 1921 (Mme. Fortunat Chartier); Thérèse (Mme. Guillaume Lefranc) née en 1923; Fernand, né en 1926, marié à Grace Beck; Jean-Paul, né en 1927, mort en 1933 dans un accident; Hilda (Mme. Harvey Desrosiers) en 1929; Marguerite (Mme. René Huberdeau) en 1930; Rita (Mme. Alfred Berry) en 1932; Georges, né en 1933 marié à Alma Gauthier; Eugène, né en 1934, mort la même année; Yvonne (Mme. Henry Wittrack) née en 1936 et Joseph, né en 1937, marié à Cecile Simard et décédé le 12 janvier 1968.

On se rappelle de Gracia comme étant bien jolie et d'un caractère joyeux. Elle devait être intimidée par le tempérament sérieux de son mari car elle l'appelait maître et ne l'a jamais tutoyé. La maladie l'emporta à l'âge de cinquante ans en avril, 1944.

Joseph-Adam enseigna tour à tour à St. Lazare, à Pumpkin Plains (Victor), Somerset, Laurier, St. Lazare, St. Boniface, Ste. Marthe et finalement à Ste. Madeleine.

Vers les 1920, il ouvrit une banque Hochelaga à St. Lazare où Marguerite Fouillard-Dupont tenait les comptes. Il acheta du terrain où habite Raymond Dupont à présent et faisait le trajet à pied toutes les semaines pour aller et revenir enseigner à Ste. Madeleine. C'est une habitude qu'il garda longtemps, de marcher et sans doute la raison qu'il avait si bonne santé car ce n'est que durant les dernières années de sa vie qu'il se servait d'une voiture pour se rendre à ses destinations. Il acheta une terre 19-17-28 qu'il légua plus tard à son fils Joseph. Quand celui-ci mourut en 1968, il s'installa dans une roulotte près de la maison de Joseph et Cécile où il vécut jusqu'à sa mort qui a eu lieu en 1975.

La profession d'enseignement ne rapportait pas grand chose à l'époque où M. Blouin faisait les classes. C'est une autre raison pourquoi il est considéré comme un des pionniers les plus estimés de la communauté.

Blouin, Joseph et Cécile (Simard)

Je suis née Cécile, deuxième enfant de Eugène Simard et de Rose-Anna Perreault et j'ai reçu ce nom en honneur de tante Cécile qui assistait à ma nais-

sance. Je dépendais beaucoup sur ma soeur Rhéa durant mes années de pensionnat au couvent de St. Lazare. Lorsque j'ai dû quitter l'école pour aider à ma mère, ce fut un moment d'allégresse pour moi car je n'aimais pas les études. Je faisais aussi la traite des vaches et conduisait le camion pendant les récoltes; j'aimais bien cela jouissant de la nature et du grand air. Je me suis marié à Joseph Blouin le 15 juin, 1958. Après quelques mois à Touchwood, Saskatchewan où Joseph était employé, on a acheté la ferme de son père. On habitait une petite maison située dans la vallée et entourée en été de fleurs parmi lesquelles une statue de la Sainte Vierge avait été érigée. Nous avons eu six enfants, Gracia en 1960, Jean en 1962, Roland en 1963, Damien en 1965, André en 1966 et Robert en 1967.

Dans un accident tragique j'ai perdu Joseph le 12 janvier 1968. Mes enfants furent ma consolation; mes parents, mon support. Mes frères Patrick, Eugène, Jean-Marie et Bernard vinrent tour à tour m'aider avec les besognes de la ferme et mes enfants les acceptaient comme un père. Mon beau-père demeurait tout près dans une roulotte. Gracia se maria en 1979 et Jean et Roland travaillent depuis leur adolescence chez leurs oncles Antonio, Jean-Marie et Eugène.

Je fis la rencontre à Flin Flon de Joseph Desrosiers et comme résultat on se maria à St. Lazare le 27 décembre, 1980. Joseph, originaire de Ste. Anne, Manitoba, est employé à la mine depuis 25 ans et nous vivons dans une maison confortable à Flin Flon. Damien et Robert vont tous les deux à la haute école à Flin Flon tandis qu'André prend sa onzième année à St. Vladimir's College, à Roblin.

Grabauskas, Gordon et Gracia (Blouin)

Je, Gracia, fille de Joseph Blouin et Cécile Simard, suis née le premier juillet, 1960. J'ai fréquenté l'école de St. Lazare et j'ai gradué à Birtle en 1978. Mariée le 21 juillet, 1979 à Gordon Grabauskas de Foxwarren j'y habite avec mon mari et bébé. Gordon travaille à la mine à Rocanville. Notre bébé Christine née en 1982 est la première arrière-petite fille de Eugène et Rose-Anna Simard.

Bockstael, Gerry and Helene

Gerry was born in Bruxelles, Belgium in 1914; his wife Helene was also born there in 1919. They were married in 1943, and their three children Gilberte (1943) Yvette (1946) and Georges (1950) were born in Bruxelles. The family immigrated to Canada in 1953, and they resided in St. Boniface for several years. In 1967, they moved to St. Lazare, where Gerry carried on his trade — masonry. They

moved to the Pas for about nine years, then moved back to St. Lazare to retire. They reside at the Villa DeCorby.

Boles Family

William and Dorcas (Gamble) Boles decided to go west about 1884, and reported coming from Winnipeg, on the last boat to make its way up the Assiniboine to Fort Ellice. They arrived with four children and ran a boarding house there, while Bill also carried the mail and passengers between Fort Ellice and Moosomin. Their son James who was the eldest of seven children was born in 1873. A sister Mary married Joseph Wilson, a pioneer of the Ellice district.

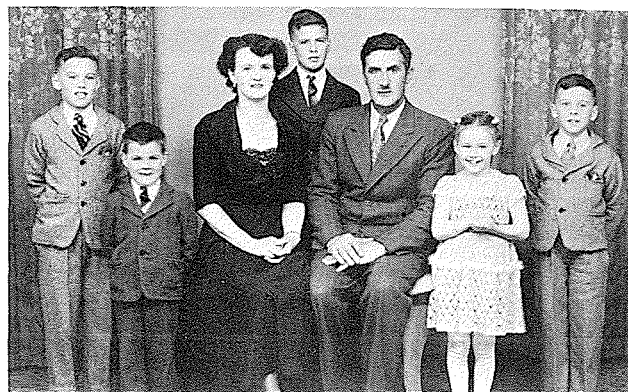
In July of 1903, James married Sarah May Reid of the Bayfield district, north of Foxwarren. They



James Boles and Sarah (Reid) Boles, 1903.

farmed the S½ of 33-17-28, in a house built by Eugene and Ben Fouillard, and there, five children were born to them. Bertha Grace in 1906, John Edward in 1908, Bill in 1910, Gordon in 1914 (deceased in 1938) and James Robert 1916 (deceased in 1946). James was killed in September of 1916 in a threshing machine accident. Bertha now lives in Toronto and is Mrs. McBrien. John married Dorothy Gerod of Winnipeg in 1933, where he had his own business until he retired. They have three sons, James born in 1934, Gordon in 1937 and Murray in 1942.

Mrs. Boles lived in Foxwarren and rented the farm, until her son Bill came back from Alberta. During the depression, Bill had gone west looking for work. He met and married Marguerite Newman of Calendula Alberta in 1938. They came back to Ellice Municipality and took over the home farm in 1940. They borrowed \$2000.00 from Bill's mother and it bought and paid for an Oliver 80 tractor, and an Oliver seed drill and cultivator, a team of purebred



Bill Boles Family: Bruce, Ralph, Marguerite, Brian, Bill, Shannon and Ried.

Clydesdale mares, a purebred Ayrshire cow, and enough second hand furniture for a big four bedroom house.

They had their misfortunes, they once lost five horses, killed by lightning. One night their barn burned down from overheated grain. The house was struck by lightning too, as the lead-in telephone wire had not been grounded. They farmed in Ellice for 20 years, then moved to Pipestone for a year, then Beau-sejour for four years, then to Winnipeg where they are retired. They have five children:

Brian, born in 1939, married Barbara Tilton of Vancouver. He has driven a transport truck for years. They live in Burnaby, B.C. and have two sons.

Bruce was born in 1941. He married Inez Kyles of Virden. Bruce is manager of Acme Fast Freight and lives in Maple Ridge, B.C. They have three children.

Ried was born in 1944. He married Gail Rookes of Virden, a cousin of Bruce's wife. Reid is a construction foreman for U.G.G. at Regina. They have three children.

Shannon was born in 1945. She married Randy Orlowski and lives in Saskatoon. They have two children.

Ralph was born in 1947, and married Elaine Manette of Halifax. He drives a transport truck for Bison and has one son.

Bouchard, Albert Joseph

Albert Bouchard was born November 12, 1884 in Aubingne, Quebec. When he first came west he worked in the Red River area. On January 7, 1919, at Sorel P.Q. he married Rose-Anna St. Jean, a seamstress who was born in the Sorel area, October 27th, 1903. They met in St. Hubert, Sask. when Rose-Anna was visiting her two sisters in that area.

Albert and Rose-Anna farmed in the Welwyn area for nine years and Ruth was born in 1921 and Gilles Roger in 1926. Then in 1928, they moved to a



Albert and Ruby Bouchard.

farm in the Birtle area where they resided until their retirement to St. Lazare in 1950. They purchased a house in the village and lived there for 18 years before selling the house and moving to Pioneer Lodge, Birtle.

Albert died in 1973 and Rose-Anna in 1974. They were members of the Roman Catholic Church in St. Lazare and are buried at Birtle.

Albert Bouchard is remembered as a man who loved to dance. Nothing pleased him more than a rousing polka or a graceful waltz. He could step with the best of them and was still swinging young and old alike in all the old-time dances well into his eighties. He and his wife were fond of playing cards too, especially "Barouche".

Bouchard, Gill and Pat

Gill was born in May 1927 at Welwyn. Pat Selby was born in March 1934, at St. Lazare. Gill and Pat were married in September 1952 in St. Lazare after he had returned from Korea. Their children are Mary Lou (1953); Danny (1955) who was born in Germany; Fay (1956); Nancy (1959); Albert (1963) and Patrick (1965).

After Gillis' return from Korea, the small family spent two years in Germany. He worked at various occupations, after returning from overseas — the cafe in St. Lazare; the bake shop in Portage la Prairie, and now in the Totte Gateway Bakery in The Pas.

Mary Lou married Rick Fouillard; Fay married Neil Jordon; Nancy is married to Tom Hyde; Albert married Tammy Anderson. Danny is taking a welder's course and Patrick is attending school.

We have learned to love the north and hope to live here for a long time.



Gil Bouchard Family: Fay, Nancy, Gil, Danny, Pat, Albert, Pat and Mary Lou.

Boucher, Joseph H.

In 1914, my dad, brother George, sister Maria and myself (Joseph Boucher) moved to Ste. Madeleine from Ituna, Saskatchewan. My mother died in June 1914 after giving birth to George. We moved into a house which was built by Grandpa Hilaire Boucher. This was on the SW¼ of 28-18-29. Grandpa lived on the same quarter. Grandpa's brother Louis, lived on the Northeast quarter of the same section. Dad married Eliza Peppin on August 8, 1914. At this time, I was six years old.

Some of the families that were living at Ste. Madeleine at this time were: four Fleury families, Jean Baptiste, John, William and Frank, all brothers. There were three Ducharme families: John and Philip and their Dad. Alex Flammond lived on the west side of the creek. Some others that lived on Section 32, were Old Lemais, Omar Lemais, Alex Vermette and Paul Ducharme. Mr. Omar Allaire lived on the NW¼ 28-18-29.

Our family moved to 6-19-28 where Dad worked for Billy Davies. We were here for two or three years. We then moved back to Ste. Madeleine to Grandpa's new house on Section 28. Grandpa had remarried and moved to NE¼ 28-18-29.

I started school around 1918. School was held in the church until a school was built. The church was built in 1913 on the SE¼ 32-18-29. Each family had to supply a number of logs for the church. The foreman for building the church was Mr. John Fleury. A priest from St. Lazare would come out once a month to say mass. Father Passaplan was one of the priests that came from St. Joseph Mission at Welby, Saskatchewan.

In 1920, a new school was built on SE 29. It was called Belliveau. In the early 1920's, a Mr. Lemais moved to Saskatchewan and a Mr. Baird bought his

farm. This was our first English man in the district. Mr. Baird didn't stay too long. Mr. Blouin and family came to live on his land. Mr. Blouin taught school at Ste. Madeleine for quite a few years. Then he went to teach in St. Lazare. We then had a Mr. Dubuc. He left and Mr. Blouin came to teach again and taught at Belliveau until the school closed in 1939. The school building went to John LeFranc. The foundation of the old school is still visible in the community pasture.

In 1929, I met a young girl from Welby, Saskatchewan. Her name was Agnes Cote. We were married on December 30, 1930 at the St. Joseph Mission. That winter we lived with my dad. In the spring of 1931, we moved to SE $\frac{1}{4}$ 32-18-29. Five of our thirteen children were born at home in Ste. Madeleine. Mrs. Betsy Bercier was the mid-wife. She was the mid-wife for all expectant mothers here. In her life time, she was supposed to have delivered 250 babies. If a doctor was needed, he came from Spy Hill, which was 15 miles away. Our first child had a thyroid problem. Dr. Gilbert came out every day to see her. She was born in November, so the doctor would make the trip on snowshoes. He would come out at any time of the day or night to help the sick. We used to have Christmas parties at the church. Dr. Gilbert would come from Spy Hill, Saskatchewan, with food, clothing and gifts for all the children. He was a very good man.

In 1932 about 20 families lived here at what was called Ste. Madeleine. All the people here were laborers except for Lemais, Allaire and Louis Boucher. The laborers would try to find work wherever they could. During the summer the people would all go scrubbing (cutting down trees), digging seneca roots, fencing for farmers or whatever work could be found. The children went with the parents therefore schooling was interrupted. The people also fished and hunted for food and picked berries. During the winter, times were really tough. Cordwood was chopped for farmers at Spy Hill, Sask., and Harrowby, Manitoba. To get relief or help, the Ellice Municipality got the people to chop cords of wood. During the 30's, things were tough. Each family had to chop so many cords of wood every month worth \$1.50 a cord. Dad and I got 50¢ from the municipality for hauling the loads out of the bush. All wood relief was taken out in groceries at stores in St. Lazare. Once a month we would go in for supplies. The storekeeper would pay us for the trip. Dad would pick up groceries for all the people at Ste. Madeleine. This was during the war, so things were rationed. When we went for groceries, the sleigh box was so full that the men had to walk behind.

The men hunted and trapped for furs. They sold the pelts so this added to their income.

We had a radio at our house. All the people from the settlement gathered at our house and listened to the radio until it went off the air.

A post office was set up in our house in 1932. I had to go to Binscarth every Friday to pick up the mail then return to Ste. Madeleine. Rain or shine, the mail had to be delivered and picked up. The people came to the house to pick up the mail or post a letter. It cost two cents to mail a letter.

In 1938, the government started to make the Community pasture. By 1939, a lot of the people moved to other places. Some moved to Winnipegosis and Pine Creek. Norbert Boucher, Nora Flammond, Ambroise Fisher moved to Selby Town. Mrs. Maggie Smith, Mary Fleury, Bill Smith, Pete Ducharme, Frank Fleury, Tommy Fleury, Louis Fleury, Jim Ledoux, Bill and Jean Baptiste Morissette, John and Nap Vermette all moved to Fouillard corner. The pasture was opened to farmers to graze cattle in 1940. The first pasture manager was Ernie Burdett.

Dad died on October 23, 1938. In 1940, we moved to the Assiniboine Valley to what we called the Bittner place. This was on E $\frac{1}{2}$ 10 and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ 15-18-29. My brother George and I bought this land from the Ellice Municipality. The kids went to Gambler School which was at the top of the valley, fording the river in the spring. This they did by having a raft tied with a rope then pulled across to the other side. When the river was too high in the spring, the kids stayed with two bachelors, Eric Wotton and Jack McDougall.

In the fall of 1942 we moved to the Broomfield farm on N $\frac{1}{2}$ 36-18-29. The Broomfields lived in a log house until 1922 when they built an Aladdin home. The house is still being lived in. Our children attended the Baldwin School which was in the Tom Douglas yard. The children walked the two miles to school every day. Baldwin school closed in 1950 and the kids from this district were transported to Binscarth. This district where we moved to, was called the Banana Belt District, as it is still called today. I drove the school van for quite a number of years. During the winter, we used a van and team and during the summer, it was a covered truck.

I farmed with my son Elmer until November 1972. In the spring of 1973, my son Harry took over the farm.

Agnes and I had six sons: George, married Thelma Robinson, Elmer, married Rose Yaskew, and Harry, married Valerie Orr of Binscarth, Robert of Winnipeg — married Annette Reagh of Binscarth, Wilfred of Binscarth married Marion Onufreiciuc of Inglis, James of Binscarth married Ursel Bakus of Winnipeg. We had seven daughters: Rosalie (Dreilick) of Binscarth, Irene (Wilson) Winnipeg, Cor-

inne (Le Devehat) of Wabush Labrador, Patsy (Sutherland) Winnipeg, Annette (Walkof) Winnipeg, Cathy (Pestun) Calgary, Alberta, Anna (Fast) High Bluff, Manitoba.

We have 37 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.



Joe Boucher Family. B.R.: Annette, Elmer, Robert, Corinne, Wilfred, Patsy, Harry, Jim, Kathy, Anna. F.R.: Rosalie, George, Mom, Dad and Irene.

Remembering:

- selling oats at 12¢ a bushel
- in 1940 my total income was \$349.00. This was from selling cattle and pigs.

- at Ste. Madeleine we had Basket Socials as a form of entertainment

- New Years was more important than Christmas. We visited each others homes for six days, danced until dawn, children went with the parents, we all enjoyed New Years.

- we had card games, games played were King Pedro, Bull Moose and Barouche.

- when we moved to the Broomfield place, there wasn't a church here, so church was held at our house. During the summer, nuns came from Camperville to teach catechism.

- during lent, the whole family said rosary every night.

- a Mr. Lurch of Spy Hill brought the Doctor to Ste. Madeleine by snow plane which Lurch built himself.

- we milked cows, churned the cream and made butter. The butter had to be taken to Welby (five miles away) before the sun came up.

- electricity came to the Banana Belt District in 1951.

Boucher, Armand Elmer

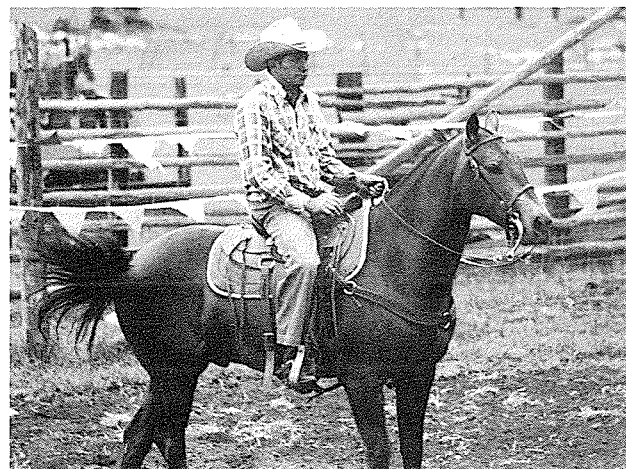
I was born in Ste. Madeleine in the 30's. I'm the third oldest of 13 children. I attended Gamblers school when we lived at the Bittner farm, E½ 10-18-29. We lived there for two years. In 1942 we

moved to the Broomfield farm, where we attended Baldwin school. While farming, I worked as a cat operator for Russell Johnston for quite a number of years. In 1961, I married Rose Yaskiw of Solsgirth, Man. She taught at Fouillard School for a few years, later teaching at Binscarth. We built our home on the NE¼ of 35-18-29. Dad had been renting this parcel of land from the Broomfields. I bought this quarter from Mrs. Clarence Irwin, of Winnipeg, a daughter of Mr. Broomfield. My father (Joe Boucher) and I farmed together until Nov. 1972 when dad retired and moved to Binscarth. Harry, my brother took over dad's farm in 1973. Rose and I have three children: Kelby is nursing at Thompson, Manitoba. Michelle is in her second year at Brandon University, Darcy is in Grade twelve at Russell Collegiate.

Mr. Anthony McTier lived on this place, moving away in 1913. When I bought the land there weren't any buildings here. I also own the N½ of 26 which was at one time the Silas Newman farm. The family sold the farm to me in 1966.

Boucher, George and Thelma

George Boucher purchased this land SE 35-18-29 from Sid Tibbatts Junior in 1955. This land was part of the Gambler Indian Reservation and was first purchased by Sid Tibbatts Senior in 1913. The Dick Tibbatts lived here for a short while, also the Christies. George married Thelma Robinson from the Crosby district in 1954. They have four children, Debbie married Dennis Kowal of Solsgirth. They farm and Debbie nurses at Shoal Lake Hospital. Kevin married Laurel Taylor from Glen Ewen, Saskatchewan. They live in Binscarth and Kevin works at I.M.C. Esterhazy and he also farms. Mark is attending Red River College in Winnipeg taking a computer course. Kimberly is at home and attends M.P.C. at Russell.



Our Reeve — George Boucher.

The SW 35-18-29 was part of Gambler Indian Reserve until William George Murphy bought it and he assigned it to Joe Willis December 12, 1907 who purchased this land in 1909. S. W. Newman rented this land from Willis, then Sid Tibbatts Jr. bought it and now it is owned by George Boucher.

George also owns the following parcels of land in the R.M. of Ellice:

E½ 22-18-29 formerly Reserve land

S½ 23-18-29 formerly Reserve land

NE¼ 15-18-29 crown land

S½ 31-17-28 purchased from Al Rempal of Winnipeg who purchased this land from Louis LeFranc.

George has served as Reeve of the R.M. of Ellice since November 1974 and is an active Charolais breeder in the area. The family members have all been active in 4-H and George is still helping with the calf club.



George Boucher Family: Kim, Laurel, Kevin, George, Mom and Dad, Thelma, Mark, Dennis Kowal and Debbie.

Bourret, Donat

Donat Nazaire Bourret was born on March 9, 1891 in St. Guillaume, Quebec. He was employed as a blacksmith when he lived in St. Lazare. In November, 1912, he married Alice Guay, born on May 5, 1892, daughter of Ovide Guay and Evangeline Simard. They lived in town and their residence was located where Alfred Perrault's house now stands. Donat and Alice had five children Rose (Spilchen) born in 1914, Claire, (Phillips) in 1916, Guy in 1919, Charlie in 1920 and Fernand in 1922.

After the two girls were born the family moved to Melville, Lestock and finally Lebret, Saskatchewan. Alice died in Lebret on March 27, 1924. Donat married his sister-in-law Yvonne Guay in 1925. They had 5 children, Lucien "Mickey" in 1926, Alice (Gagne) 1929, Angelina (McNeely) in 1931 and Paul in 1933. They later moved to Lethbridge, Alberta where Donat died on June 13, 1965 and Yvonne on April 9, 1971.

All the children are well and living except Rose who died in June, 1978.

Bowey Family by Hugh Bowey

I was the son of Arthur Ernest Bowey, who came from Ontario with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James A. Bowey in 1912. They settled on a farm east of Welwyn in the R.M. of Ellice. My father returned to Ontario and married my mother Catherine McDonald in 1921; they settled on a farm in the Beaver Rapids area, where four sons were born; James in 1922, deceased in 1956; myself, Hugh in 1924, George in 1928 (he farms in the R.M. of Archie), and Francis in 1935, who is a Superintendent for the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool Elevators. My mother passed away in 1975 and my father in 1978.

I have fond memories of the Beaver Rapids area, and some of the senior citizens who were our neighbors. Living next to us, were the Alex Websters. As I had lost my grandmother Bowey in 1931, I called the Websters my grandparents. Alex was a very capable butcher, a duty which he carried out for his neighbors. He also had a talent as an entertainer, and could recite poems such as "Sam McGee", and sing songs; one of his favorites was "Golden Slippers". Mrs. Webster was loved by all who knew her for her generosity. Anyone needing help in time of sickness could depend on her.

As we grew up, a source of entertainment was dances at the Beaver Rapids Schoolhouse, where we clowned, danced and laughed together, with never an ounce of liquor! We danced to the music of Chuckie Lewis, Dick Jessop, Johnnie Shearer and Charlie Dumville.

I always remember Hugh Little as being an excellent farmer, as well as being known for his wit. He had a bearing on my success as a farmer in later years. I remember the ball games held each week on our farm, with all the young people participating, and the older people looking after the lunch and lemonade. Beaver Rapids was blessed with many good citizens.

As I recall, it was the only area giving correct elevator weight for loads of grain. This was because of weigh scales situated at the gate of "Teepee Farm" (A. F. Webster). The Welwyn elevator agents were aware of this scale east of town, and claimed that the weights were more accurate.

In 1940, we purchased land east of Welwyn in Saskatchewan, and in 1947, built a house on this farm. On November 20, 1947, I married Jean Chilcott and we raised five children; **Donald**, born in 1948, married Jeannine Plante of St. Lazare in 1970; they have one son Kevin. **Gloria** was born in 1950,

and received her R.N. at the Winnipeg General Hospital in 1971, she married Cpl. Warne Lynd of the R.C.M.P. They live in B.C. and have two children. **Margaret** was born in 1954 and received her B. of Ed. at the U. of Saskatchewan; she married Myles Fuchs and farms at Fleming, they have two children. **James** was born in 1957; he married Diane Fowler, they have one child. James is employed as a heavy duty mechanic at the Potash Mine at Rocanville. **Lester** was born in 1961 and is farming near Welwyn.

Arthur Ernest Bowey had the privilege of living to see four generations of his family, son Hugh Ernest, grandson Donald Ernest and great grandson Kevin Ernest Bowey.

My main interest was farming and getting my family educated! I took part in the community, being chairman of the Welwyn School Board for nine years, chairman of the Saskatchewan Wheat Board Committee for a number of years, a director of Welwyn Regional Park, an elder and board member of the United Church, an executive of the Federal Liberal Association and a member of the Saskatchewan Wildlife Association. In 1977, I became a hail loss inspector, working with the Municipal Hail Insurance. My wife Jean and I are still farming, but we reside in Welwyn in the former Campbell house, which we have remodelled. The land we farm in the Beaver Rapids area, is the farm where Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair Shearer lived and raised their family.

Bowey, George and Islay

George was the third son of Ernest and Catherine Bowey who farmed N½ 32-15-29. George married Islay Gillespie of Rocanville. They reside in Archie Municipality, but half their land is in Ellice. Here (5-16-29) they pasture a large herd of cattle, and as there are buildings, corrals, and a good water supply, the herd is wintered.

Islay belonged to the Beaver Rapids Club until it was disbanded in 1979. During the war, she worked at Symonds Metalworks in Rocanville, making the famous Symonds oil cans. Their daughter Catherine went to school in McAuley, then worked for the M.T.S. She now resides in Courteney B.C. with her two daughters, Nicole and Michelle. Gordon, the only son, married Brenda Dobson from Moosomin. They farm the W½ 29-15-29. They had two daughters, Danette and Charlotte, who attend school in McAuley.

Boyer, Alice as related to Yvonne Leclerc

Alice, born in Oct. 1924 is the daughter of Andrenette (Tanner) and Jacob Houle (who served in World War I). In the family were Joe (now in Moos-

omin), Arthur (in Vancouver), Clement (deceased), Grace (in Nova Scotia), Liza (in Brandon), Jean (deceased) and Alice. At age thirteen she went to live with her Grandmother, Margaret Ledoux, who was already going blind. At that time, the family was living at "China Town" as were the families of Eugene Fiddler, Ambroise Boyer, Louis Fleury, Joe Fleury, J. B. Leclair, and Duck Houle. They played cards and held dances for amusement. She married Peter Boyer and had 9 children — Marjorie, Angela, Stella, Roderick, Annie, Michael, Debbie, Jeanette, and Jean. At age sixteen, Jean drowned in Fouillard's dam. Russell Belhumeur, also, drowned at the same time. The family lived at Joe Bell's farm in the valley. Peter cut wood and fence pickets that were sold in St. Lazare. The last move for the family was to a home two miles from St. Lazare where they still live. Marjorie (Mrs. Alvin Mather), lives in Oak River. Angela (Mrs. Jerome Tourond) lives in McAuley, Stella (Mrs. Bill Nell) is in Brandon, Roderick, Annie, and Michael, all unmarried live in Brandon. Debbie, married, lives in Brandon. Jeanette, married Amadee Hayden (deceased).

Alice has twenty-three grandchildren and has three great grandchildren.

Boyer, Elise by Norman Fleury

Mrs. "Chat-Chat" as she was known by one and all, was born in North Dakota. She married Norbert Boyer. They farmed east of Fort Ellice, a neighbour to Joseph Bell, Senior. Mrs. Chat-Chat was a midwife, a traditional medicine woman, treating tuberculosis patients, miscarriages and hemorrhages. She made her livelihood by cutting cord wood, fence posts, trapping and hunting, tanning hides and making robes. She was a great believer in the Roman Catholic faith during her life time. She also practised the traditional Indian ways of worship. She attended sun dances (a three day ceremony of prayer, worship and self giving) sweat lodge (a bath for the purification of the mind and soul) and Shaky Lodge (performed by a gifted leader of the Indian community). Mrs. Chat-Chat spoke of the Louis Riel Rebellion, meeting Riel when she was 15. Most of her people came from the United States to join in the fight during the Riel Rebellion. It was after the Rebellion they settled around Fort Ellice. Previous to this, they were transients. Madame Chat-Chat was a foster parent to many of her friends and relatives children. She was a step mother to her husband's children because she never had any of her own.

Her own clothing was made from hides, tanned to make gloves, mitts, dresses, vests, coats and mocasins. The thread she made from sinew. She made

cutter robes, from horse and cow hides. It is said she raised cats, also asking farmers or town people for strays. After receiving a quota of cats she killed and tanned their hides, sewing them together to make cutter robes. These were colorful, warm and useful; often these robes sold for \$50.00 or \$75.00 each. Mrs. Chat-Chat dried meat which kept for months. She made her own pemmican, and dried saskatoons for future use. She baked her unrisen bread (bannock) and made her own preserves and jams. Mrs. Chat-Chat could skin any animal (something she did for different trappers). Her entertainment was old time dances, card games, playing checkers, going to Sports Days, visiting neighboring reserves for Pow-Wows. She spoke several languages — French, Cree, Sautaux now Ojibway, Sioux, English and a French Cree dialect which the Metis spoke. (This language is rather unique. Its origin is a French marrying a Cree, and speaking to their offspring in their own language. The children formed a language of their own — which is French Cree).

Madame Chat-Chat was very independent, a good Christian and a very charitable person, always ready to help anyone. She contributed in many ways to the needs of people in the community. Her livelihood was based around her cultural and traditional values and needs. I, personally, knew Mrs. Chat-Chat when I was young, calling her Grandma. She came to visit us at China Town. She was very independent until she was involved in an accident, broke her hip and was then hospitalized. She lived with many of her relatives until she went to a Senior Citizen home, in St. Hebert, Saskatchewan, and then to Notre Dame de Lourdes where she spent the last years of her life.



Anne Boyer, Mrs. Boyer (Mrs. Chat Chat) and Elise Boyer.

Mrs. Boyer received these presentations — an award from Notre Dame de Lourdes, and a Manitoba Centennial Corporation "The Order of the Crocus", which read — "Madame Elise Boyer, age 99, in grateful recognition of your contribution to the welfare and development of Canada, presented and inscribed on 22 of October in Canada's Centennial year 1967 for the Province of Manitoba." Mrs. Chat-Chat passed away at 108 years of age!



Mrs. Boyer (Chat Chat) — Presentation of Canada's Centennial Award being presented when she was 99 years of age, 1967.

Broomfield, William **1874-1964**

William Broomfield was born September 30, 1874 in Llantarnum, Wales. He came to Canada from London, England in April 1892. He lived briefly in Winnipeg before coming to work on a railroad bridge in the Birtle area. Around 1899 he began farming in the R.M. of Ellice the N.½ of 36-18-29 with N.E.¼ of 35-18-29 being purchased later from A. MacTier.

On April 10, 1918, William married Jennie Mangin, of Arnprior, Ontario. She was born December 27, 1878. They were married in the Anglican Church at Binscarth and were blessed with three children: Margaret Jean, February 4, 1919 (Mrs. C. C. Irwin, Winnipeg) Robert John, July 17, 1920 — deceased 1928 and Dulcie Anne — July 14, 1922 deceased 1928.

In 1922 Mr. Coulter of Binscarth built an Aladdin home for the Broomfields.

William Broomfield was a councillor in the R.M. of Ellice for thirty years. He served as President of the Binscarth Pool Elevator. He was a past master of the Binscarth Masonic Lodge, receiving his 50 — year jewel in 1960. William was very interested in community affairs and sponsored the "Chautauquas" in the early 1930's. He was instrumental in



Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Broomfield and Jean, 1919.

getting a road built from the farm, south to St. Lazare. John Selby used to refer to those hills as the "Broomfield Hills".

In 1959 Mr. Broomfield sold the N.½ of 36 to Joseph Boucher. The N.E. quarter of 35 was left to Jean who sold it to Armande Boucher in 1961.

All in all Mr. Broomfield lived in Canada a total of sixty-nine years. Jennie died February 25, 1958 and was buried in Brandon. William died March 24, 1964 and is buried in Binscarth.

Jean recalls her father and J. E. Selby being close friends for many years, and on Council meeting day she enjoyed a visit at the Selby home with Mattie. The Selby hospitality was very special. Mr. Tom Selby — "Grandpa" — was the weed inspector for the municipality, covering his territory with a horse and buggy, and he often brought Mattie with him to spend the night with Jean until Grandpa finished his rounds and picked Mattie up on the way back. Lasting friendships were formed.

Bulger, Donald Patrick

One morning in April, 1930 I found myself in St. Lazare. I was east bound by freight for Winnipeg, where I hoped to find a job at the only thing I did well, bus driving. There I met (among others) John

Selby whom I liked immediately. I told him my aspirations and my background in heavy trucks and buses in Wales. He offered me a job as a truck driver, and for the next 19 years, St. Lazare was my hometown. After working for Mr. Selby for a year or so, I got a contract (a very loose one) with the creamery to truck cream in from the surrounding districts. From that day on, I hardly slept more than six hours a night. I was constantly working, many times without pay! It was the 30's, there was no money, just good people who did things for one another for decency's sake. I had come through the hardships faced in the 20's in Britain, which the prairie people were just running into during the depression of the 30's in Canada. The people of St. Lazare were very kind to me, warm in their friendship and genuine in their love. They trusted each other; their morals were good. There was very little theft or dishonesty. Among my intimate friends were Picky Simard, and his brothers Joe, Niggy and Brian, George Tremblay, Ben, Eugene and Babe Fouillard. John Selby and his wife and family particularly Bobby were the kindest of people.

In the darkest year of the depression, 1933, I had the audacity to propose marriage to my wife, Graziella Leontine Hebert. She was and is a wonderful person, hence we lived happily ever after.

On my cream route, I became acquainted with most of the people of the area, particularly farmers of the Foxwarren, Birtle, Binscarth Angusville and other districts. I liked them and they liked me. They suffered hard times with grain just bringing in a little more than the cost of production. They depended heavily on the cream cheque for cash flow. Some day I will write about these wonderful Canadians that made such an impression on my life and who taught me the art of survival. For a year or two I had a byline with the Binscarth Express, titled D. B.'s column. It didn't amount to much but some people got a chuckle out of its alleged humor. The characters I wrote about were my friends. Possibly some of the oldtimers will remember the pseudonyms Capt. Cuttle, Tiger Babe, Smike, Flame Thrower Barnaby Rudge and others. We all knew each other but were never sure who was called what! What did I get paid for this? Well, the publisher, Mr. Cockburn awarded me a free subscription to the paper . . . which overpaid my spare time journalism!

Before I married, Picky Simard and I batched together. We had a room in the old log house near the sports ground. We spent our evenings reading the complete works of Charles Dickens. Young Bobby Selby, who was about 12 years old, hired on with us as a butler at a salary of 35¢ per week. His duties were to clean up, run errands and generally keep us in-

formed on what was going on around town. Sometimes he would snatch a pie or a few cookies from his mom, and we'd let him join our nightly snack. After awhile I think he felt that he was underpaid and he "worked to rule". No more pie, no more cookies . . . we got the message. We raised his salary to 45¢ but insisted he address us as "Sir". Once in awhile he would also roll cigarettes for us. But to use a modern term, 'it wasn't in his contract'. Sometimes Bobby got his mother to press our suits. Life was pleasant, occasionally we would hire the barber (Ernie Chartier) to drive us to Birtle to the Picture Show (Talkies). With four passengers, the fare was \$3.00, entry fee to the movies — 25¢.

Ernie Chartier was barber, pool room operator, Taxi man, and ran a small poker game in the back room, once in awhile! In addition to this, he was a kind of Medico, and in the event of an accident, he would patch a person up until he could be taken to Dr. Edwards at Birtle.

Whenever I think of St. Lazare, I am overcome with a great sense of nostalgia, and I realize that we do not need a great deal of money to be perfectly happy. All we need to know is "HOW MUCH IS ENOUGH".

In 1950 we moved to Winnipeg and made our home there until 1962 when we built a new home in Coquitlam, B.C. where we are today. From time to time we visit St. Lazare, and it is just like coming home. Such delightful, frank, and open people — God bless them all.

Bulger, Grace (nee Hebert)

My grandparents the Heberts, on my father's side came from France, where they were engaged in the wine making business. My mother's parents were the Dupuis from Sherbrooke, Quebec and my mother's maiden name was Alexina Dupuis.

My parents were from Montreal and came west in 1888 to homestead at Rosssburn. They returned to Montreal about 1890 where my father had been a foundryman. He remained in the foundry business in Montreal until 1893; then came west to St. Lazare with Mr. Delphis Chartier and started a foundry just out of St. Lazare, where they built stoves. Later he started a pool room and butcher shop at St. Lazare in about 1908, when the C.N.R. went through St. Lazare.

I was born on the farm in the parish of Ste. Marthe August 10, 1904. My father's farm was located just about where the potash mine is today. At the time of my birth, Ste. Marthe was in the Northwest Territories. My parents brought me to St. Lazare for baptism and my mother called me

Graziella Leontine Hebert. She was a woman of romantic disposition, hence the name.

I attended school in St. Lazare, the Decorby one-room school near the old stone church, along with Margaret Fouillard (Mrs. John Dupont), Marguerite Tremblay (Mrs. Frank Desjarlais), the Huberdeau children, the Simard children and many others of the founding families of this settlement. They were very happy days for me and my friends. We tobogganed and skated together and enjoyed house parties. The population at the time in the district was about 150 including farmers.

What a treat it was in winter time to venture out to some farmer's house for an evening's fun, packing eight or ten in a sleigh box pulled by a lively team of broncs. We would be covered up with blankets and we'd sing all the way. We'd return late at night tired out but ready to go to another party as soon as it was organized.

My father invested in a movie projector in the early days and we used to have films shown in his pool room. It was my duty at times to turn the crank on the projector and the film went faster or slower, depending on my disposition. There was no electricity in the village at that time. Electricity arrived from Birtle generator about 1932. There was no running water. There was a town well on the street outside of Guay's store. Some people dug wells on their own property; during the drought years most of these either dried up or produced only a few pails of water each day. Water for laundry was collected in a barrel from the roof. But during the drought we hauled water from sloughs outside town or at the spring supplying the C.N.R. tank at Victor, three miles from town. To take a bath was a luxury but in summer there was the Assiniboine or the Qu'Appelle Rivers to swim in. In the winter we used melted snow or ice for soft water supplies.

In 1918 the Spanish flu arrived and people were dying as fast as they could be buried. My two brothers Arthur and Fortunate were kept busy digging graves and trying to help the poor unfortunate ones who sickened in the epidemic. Someone (I don't recall who) said that whiskey was the best defense against getting the virus, so it was not surprising that so many people were in a constant state of good cheer in spite of all the sickness going on all around them. I was at the Convent school in Wolsely and Regina at the time and almost succumbed to the flu.

I remember the winters in St. Lazare. At about nine p.m. every night the westbound train arrived and almost everyone in town went to the station. What for? Well, just to see the train come in, and to see if any passengers would disembark. We waited for the mail to be unloaded and then when the train pulled

out with two blasts of its whistle and a great deal of steaming and puffing, we all followed the mail carrier (Mr. Grenier) to the post office and those of us who had post boxes collected our mail and went home. The day then was officially ended. Some of us got together for a game of 500. Bridge was played only by the highly sophisticated and the bidding was atrocious and followed no known convention.

Every once in a while the Silk train went through town at a terrific rate of speed. I never quite knew why. But it was understood locally that it carried a cargo of silkworms from China which had arrived at Vancouver and had to be taken to Montreal post haste before all those worms died. This would have created a shortage of silk hose and silk scarves which were popular at the time.

In 1933 I married Don Bulger and in 1939 our son Patrick, our pride and joy arrived.

We operated a grocery store from 1934 until 1949. We also had a Ford dealership and several trucks operating on different projects. We worked steadily those days and had little time for holidays or leisure.

Eugene Fouillard was the tsar of industry in those days and kept many men employed. He had terrific business acumen and really made St. Lazare a centre of commerce in farm machinery. His brother Ben owned the General Motors garage and in 1932 made the first snow plane, a workable machine set up on bob sleighs that could get you to Birtle in one hour over snow-filled roads. Emile Dupont invented a snow blower, using parts from an old threshing machine. Indeed, in the thirties the great needs of the people stimulated the inventive mind. **NECESSITY IS THE MOTHER OF INVENTION!**

Footnote: Donald and Grace celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary April 17, 1983.

Bulger, Redmond and Lena

"Red" as he was well known to his many friends in this area, was born in Cardiff, South Wales on October 3, 1911. At the age of 16, he immigrated to Canada arriving in Quebec City. The next few years proved to be a very difficult and strange life — he was accustomed to living in a city in Wales. He worked as a farm laborer in the Kingston, Ontario area for an Irish family.

Following a few years of tilling the soil and milking the cows, he decided to join his brother, Donald, who was established in a general store business in St. Lazare, Manitoba.

Feeling the pressure of the "30's", he changed his employment to that of a miner at God's Lake, Manitoba. Upon his return to St. Lazare, some years later he was employed by Howard Smith who oper-

ated the local creamery. During this time he chose to become established in a business of his own. He took great pride in being the sole owner and driver of the "Bulger Transfer" which covered a weekly pick up and delivery service between St. Lazare, McAuley, Manson, Welywn and Winnipeg.

It was during these years that he met Lena Yankoski of Binscarth, Manitoba. Lena was born and spent all of her childhood years in that town. At the age of 16, she travelled by train to Minnedosa, Manitoba to seek employment. She remained there for approximately one year, before returning to Binscarth, Manitoba.

On September 3, 1941, Lena and Red were married at St. Mary's Cathedral in Winnipeg.

Following their marriage they settled in McAuley, where Red continued with his trucking business. On June 25, 1942, Maureen was born and in the fall of the same year, Red joined the Army. He returned home in 1944.

He and his family then took up residence in St. Lazare, where he once again worked for his brother Donald. For a short period of time he owned and operated a general store in a building next to Bob Chartier's Cafe. He then purchased the building which is presently part of Andre's Auto Body Shop. He remained in business there under the name of "Bulger's Solo Store" until his retirement in 1968.

A son, Desmond, was born on April 22, 1946. Then on March 29, 1949, a daughter Patricia was born.

Red and his family bought a home which was built by Emile Dupont. The Brian Simard family and Arthur Fulham family lived in this house prior to Red's purchase. Lena still resides in this home.

Throughout his years in this village, Red was always interested in the well being of its residents. He coached hockey and among some of his team members were Buster Tremblay, Roy Haney, Roland Fouillard and many others whom he spoke of very often. He was dubbed as "Town Constable" which offered various and interesting duties.

Red was an avid reader. He received books from the University Extension Library in the days prior to local libraries.

He wrote many "mysterious" and informative articles for the "Binscarth Express" owned and operated by Arthur Willis. These writings are retained by the family and when names such as "Gigel", "Pig's Head", "Le Moulin Rouge", "Le Loup Garou", "The Fly" are mentioned; they bring back many memories of Red and his vivid imagination.

In his later years, he enjoyed golfing, curling, reading, gardening and keeping the yard clean. He loved music and played the guitar in a local orchestra

of Frank and Leone Dale, Mowbray Hodgson and Marcus Fitzgerald.

Red was the only Irishman, who was able to involve a French community in the "Wearing of the Green" on St. Patrick's Day. Many a fine step was danced in various places on that day.

Red and Lena's children attended school in St. Lazare.

Maureen graduated from the St. Boniface School of Nursing in 1963. She married Con Erickson of Benito, Manitoba in August, 1964. They are presently living in Minnedosa, where Con is Principal of Tanners's Crossing School. Maureen is employed at the Personal Care Home as head nurse. They have two children: Nolan, 14 and Colleen, 10.

Desmond married Sheila Cole, of Winnipeg in 1970. He graduated from the R.C.M.P. in Regina in April of 1975, and is presently stationed in Bassano, Alberta. They have three children. Michael 10, Kelly 6 and Ryan 5.

Patricia graduated from the Misericordia School of Nursing in 1970 and is presently employed as the head nurse at the Victoria General Hospital in Winnipeg. She married Garry Evans of Brandon and they reside in St. Vital. Garry is with the Canadian Pacific Railroad. They have two children, Kristin 10 and Craig 7.

Red died in Brandon General Hospital in 1981 at the age of 69.

Burdett, Cheney (1855-1943)

Cheney Burdett was the oldest son of John and Maria Burdett who came from Nasby, England, to Canada in 1872. They arrived in Montreal with their seven children — **Cheney, Alf, John, Julia, Anna and Alice** (twins) and **Salathiel**, all born in England. During the trip over Salathiel had his face chewed by rats, and carried the scars all his life.

The family looked for land in the surrounding Montreal area but found nothing they liked, so moved to Guelph. Two more children **Owen** and **Adelaide** were born there.

While living at Guelph, Cheney worked with a survey gang that sent him to Shoal Lake and Elkhorn. The boss of the gang gave him a team of horses and a cutter, while at Elkhorn, to go to Fort Ellice to pick up the pay roll for the gang, which amounted to \$700.00. He got lost in a storm and called in at an Indian shanty. They wouldn't believe that he could be hungry when he had such a fine looking team and cutter and \$700.00. But they finally fed him and his team and he continued on his way.

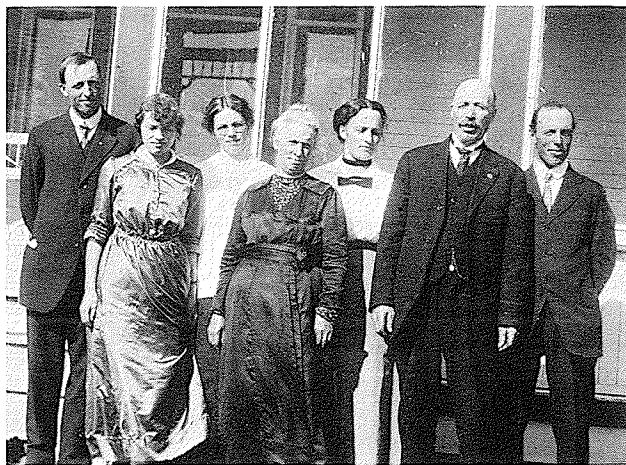
The family moved to Birtle, Manitoba in 1879, and took up homesteads six miles east of Birtle which

later became known as the Burdett School District. John Burdett Sr. was a Methodist Local Preacher.

In 1879 the Brown family moved to the Birtle district. Cheney happened to be in town when they arrived and noticed Elizabeth Brown, and stated "There is the girl I am going to marry," and he did in 1883.

At this time frost seemed to be a problem in the growing of grain, so Cheney, Alf, Owen and their cousin Reuben took up land west of St. Lazare on the sand plains in 1886. The rest of the family moved to Oregon and Illinois.

While still in the Burdett district two children were born to Cheney and Elizabeth. They were **Fanny Elizabeth**, (see Sam Falloon Story) on August 11, 1884, and **Frank Edward** on December 29, 1885. After they moved to the Plains two more children were born. They were **Ernest Arthur** September 25, 1887 and **Lena Adeline** February 24, 1894, and then later when they moved to the Crewe district another daughter **Amy Florence May** was born May 31, 1900.



Mr. and Mrs. Cheney Burdett with Ernie, Amy, Lena, Fanny and Frank.

On the Plains the farm buildings were built of logs. The water supply was a spring near the buildings with good water, which also was used for a place to cool the milk and cream. The family produced a large part of their own livelihood. They had about 12 milk cows. Oxen were used in the fields and later horses. They grew No. 1 wheat but not much of it. Cranberries, chokecherries and pinchberries were in abundance. The cranberries were kept in barrels of cold spring water until freeze up. Then the water was drained off and the berries frozen for winter use.

It was a wonderful place for growing vines, such as pumpkins, citron, tomatoes etc. Cheney named the plains Pumpkin Plains from the exceptional

pumpkins he grew. Cheney would take a wagon load of garden produce to Moosomin, Saskatchewan to sell. He would load the pumpkins by rolling them up a plank into the wagon. Other trips had to be made to Fort Ellice for the mail and supplies, and also on occasions to Birtle, about 20 miles away.

Alf Burdett married Sarah Shepherd in 1886. When Sarah went for the cows on Pumpkin Plains she would leave her children on a high knoll just north of the school while she fetched the cows; thus the naming of 'Sarah's Knoll'.

Pumpkin Plains school was built in 1892 with approximately 12 children attending including Frank, Fanny and Ernie. It stayed open only four years because a family named Lewarton moved away, resulting in no grant, and no school. Mrs. Cheney Burdett was fairly well educated so continued the children's education at home. Also, a minister would call around to the area once a month in the summer, and hold a church service in the homes or school house.

Cheney had a lime kiln on his place and when the first church, a Methodist Church called Zion, was built west of Foxwarren, he drew the lime for the building. They would drive over for service after the church was completed — about 12 miles.

At this point Cheney started looking for better farmland. Alf and Sarah moved to Oregon. Reuben went to farm north of Welwyn in an area known as "Swampy". Owen opened a bakery and confectionary in Birtle, but eventually went to British Columbia.

Cheney Burdett and family moved to Crewe district in 1897 into the old Davies frame house on SW ¼ of 10-18-28. Then a new house was built on the SW ¼ 3-18-28 in 1899. This house was built by Walter Pizzey for \$100.00. The size was 12 x 24 with a veranda. This land was bought from a California speculator for one dollar per acre. They lived in this house until they retired in 1915 and moved to Foxwarren. Cheney still maintained his interest in community affairs, and was elected councillor and served for five years. He enjoyed going back to visit either Frank's or Ernie's farm, especially at harvest, as long as he could handle a horse and buggy.

On December 20, 1943 Cheney passed away at the ripe old age of 88. Elizabeth, age 87, died on Mother's Day May 13, 1951. They are both buried at Zion Cemetery.

Burdett, Frank

Frank was born in the Burdett School district east of Birtle on December 29, 1885. They moved to Pumpkin Plains the next year. When Frank was seven years old there were enough children in the district to

obtain a grant and have a school. Four years later, due to small enrollment, the school closed. From this period on, Frank's mother, Elizabeth, taught the children herself.

In 1897 due to sparse crops on the Plains, a move was made to Crewe district where they continued farming and the children attended Crewe school. After Frank was 12 years old he attended school only three months of the year, and at age 15 he stayed home to help on the farm full time. He worked out part time for friends and neighbors to make spending money.

At age 21 his father, Cheney, gave him a half section of land. To supplement his income he herded cattle for the Redmonds and the Falloons on sections 9, 8, and 11. He did this for 75¢ a head. When asked if it was like the community pasture he said, "No, I was the only fence."

Frank married Mary Erenia Angus, from Bristol, Quebec, on January 1, 1913. They moved into a house on his farm, 33-17-28, which they later expanded.

In 1915 Frank and Mary had their first son **Cecil Angus**. Three years later on October 30, 1918 another son **Leonard Franklin** was born. Happily the next child was a daughter, **Jean Elizabeth** born March 20, 1925.

The farm grew to ¾ of a section. Frank raised grain, had 25 to 30 head of cattle, and horses for the farm work. The first tractor was an International steel-wheel in 1914, and in 1917 the family had a Reo touring car. When they first moved to 33-17-28 the road ended there, the last half mile being built by Frank himself. Now a highway runs past the farm.

The years were busy with farming, but community and church work were never neglected. Mary was a member of the W.A. and took part in many community activities. Her favorite job at a fowl supper and at teas was in the kitchen doing dishes and making the tea. She loved having company come to her home, and was quick to invite you to lunch or a meal.

In later years, one of her greatest joys was her grand and great-grandchildren. They could absolutely do no wrong, and each new one that arrived was "such a dear wee thing."

Frank always had a meeting to go to. He is a Charter member of the Pool Elevator at Foxwarren, the group first renting an elevator building in 1926 and building the next year. He has seen grain handling move from the days when each farmer bagged his own crop and either loaded it himself into a box car or put it in storage until that car arrived, to the rapid handling system of today. He was a member of the United Farmers of Manitoba, president of the

Poultry Pool Livestock Co-operative, Foxwarren Credit Union (founding member) and the Co-op Store.

Zion Methodist Church was near the farm, and Frank was superintendent of the Sunday School there for 22 years. He was also chairman of the Zion Cemetery Committee, and an Elder and Steward of the Foxwarren church.

He sold a half section of his farm to his son Leonard, and continued farming a quarter with his son Cecil for a few years.

In 1965 Frank and Mary built a new home in Foxwarren. They took great pride in their flowers and shrubs, and also had a fine vegetable garden.

Arthritis finally forced them to move to a Senior Citizens suite in Russell in 1976, and after Mary's death in 1977, Frank was able to move in to the Personal Care Home. He receives excellent care there, and at 97 years young really enjoys company.

Burdett, Cecil Angus

Cecil Angus was born on December 18, 1915 at home on his father's farm in Ellice Municipality at 33-17-28. He attended school in Foxwarren completing his grade 10, but his interest was more in farming than school work.

He rented a quarter section of land and farmed with his father. Since this was in the drought of the thirties, the yields left something to be desired. For his first crop he sowed 30 acres of wheat and 40 acres of oats, and this netted him 30 bushels of wheat and 120 bushels of oats at harvest time.

For his next venture he bought a farm near Chillan, but in 1942 he sold it to buy the farm he now calls home, 4-18-28.

To supplement the farm income in the thirties and early forties Cecil worked for Scotty Ellis in construction on Manitoba highways, and airports in B.C. In 1946 Cecil and Dean Falloon bought their own construction outfit in partnership. Later they sold this machine and purchased the International Harvester Agency in Foxwarren. But help became scarce, and they could not look after the shop and farm too, so they decided that they preferred farming.

In 1947 Cecil married Betty Thomson who had been teaching at Binscarth, and they settled on 4-18-28 where they still reside. They bought and sold land until they finally obtained two more adjoining half sections. In addition to his grain farming Cecil also raised cattle and hogs.

On May 31, 1951 Cecil and Betty had their first daughter Brenda Elizabeth. Their second daughter Sheila Irene was born on July 31, 1953.

Cecil has always had an interest in sports. He

played hockey with the Crew hockey team. He played baseball all through school, and then with the Foxwarren ball team. He has always been an enthusiastic curler, and also enjoys golf and hunting. Cecil is still an active grain farmer, although on a smaller scale.

Brenda Burdett attended school in Foxwarren and Birtle. She moved to Winnipeg and studied accounting and Income Tax. Brenda is married to Mr. Jim Cottrell and they live near Edmonton. They have three daughters — Elaine 14, Lisa 11, and Sheila 7.

Sheila Burdett also attended school in Foxwarren and Birtle. After completing her Grade XII she went to Business College and obtained her Junior Accounting and full Secretarial Certificate. She took employment with the Bank of Commerce. She married Gavin Matheson from Binscarth on June 4, 1976. They have one daughter — Karen Amy age 3. They presently reside in Winnipeg.

Burdett, Leonard

I, Leonard was born to Frank and Mary Burdett in 1918 in the farm house on 33-17-28. All of my schooling was at Foxwarren Consolidated School. Transportation was in the back of a covered truck in the summer, with a sleigh and team of horses in the winter. I stayed on the farm until 1940, when I went to Sudbury to work in the mines for International Nickel. I met and married Laura Walford on Nov. 26, 1942, in Sudbury. She was born and raised on a farm at Walford, Ontario.

In 1944, our daughter Lorna was born in Sudbury. We moved back to the farm in 1947, and in 1949, Ellen was born and in 1953 our son Murray arrived. We moved our family to Edmonton in 1956 where I secured employment as a Transport driver for the Federal Government. I am still working at this job. Lorna was educated at Foxwarren and Edmonton and married Bill Cooke from Chemanus, Vancouver Island in 1963. They have three children and live in Delta, B.C. Ellen was educated in Edmonton except for Grade 1 at Foxwarren. She lives in Vancouver and works for the University of B.C. Murray was educated in Edmonton and is a carpet layer. He married Lori Demchuk, a legal secretary, in 1978.

While growing up on the farm, I recall attending Zion Church regularly regardless of the weather. My fondest memories are of living in the Crewe District during the thirties.

With the leadership of Johnny and George Falloon, we built a rink on Wilson Hamilton's farm because he had a good supply of water. So we had hockey in the winter and baseball in the summer.

On the farm, Laura and I lived in a small cottage which dad had built for a hired man. But as our

family grew this house was not large enough. So we decided to move the house over from brother Cecil's farm known as the Brush place. Arthur Wotton was the mover and Maurice Falloon willingly brought a second tractor. We pulled the house across Johnny Falloon's farm. The house was about a foot too high for the Hydro wires. Mr. Wotton got up on the roof and guided the wires with a dry pole, but when the wire slipped off the end of the house it flipped up and hit the top wire resulting in blown fuses. That happened to be bread baking day for Mrs. Bill Boles and Mrs. Joe Ellis, so we were not too popular with those neighbors that day.

Jean (Burdett) Stevens

Jean (Burdett) Stevens was born at Foxwarren in March, 1925, the youngest child and only daughter of Frank and Mary Burdett. She got her education at Foxwarren school, taught "on permit" at a school near Holmfield, Manitoba, attended Normal School at Tuxedo and taught at Balmerino school.

Jean married Seymour Stevens in July, 1948 and lived on a farm near Russell until they moved to town in 1967. Jean and Seymour have three daughters. Seymour's daughter, Betty, born August 1946, married William Cusitar in 1966. They have two sons Thomas and David. They live at Ile des Chenes, Manitoba. Barbara, born in June, 1961, married Kevin Pulver in August 1982, and lives in Nanaimo, British Columbia. Beverly, born June 1963, married Dwayne Mehrer in October, 1982. They live on a farm in the Churchbridge, Saskatchewan area.

Jean has been active with church groups, served as treasurer, Secretary and President of the Russell Women's Institute and is a former member of the Rebekah Lodge. She worked as a nurses' aide at the Russell Personal Care Home for six years.

Burdett, Ernest Arthur and Thurza (Honey)

Ernest Arthur Burdett, second son and third child of Cheney and Elizabeth Burdett, was born Sept. 25, 1887 on the Pumpkin Plains family farm situated on the banks of the Qu'Appelle River. His first years of school life were spent in the Pumpkin Plains school until his family moved to the Crewe District in 1897.

Ernest was an enthusiastic sportsman — an interest that stayed with him all his life. He enjoyed baseball, skating, and especially hunting. Hunting season always found him out with his rifle bringing home deer, moose or elk to boost the meat supply for his family and for his parents. He was an active member of the Foxwarren Rifle Range Club for many years. In later years his interest in sports turned to curling.

Mary Emily Thurza Honey, born in 1895, be-

came the bride of Ernest Burdett on Feb. 16, 1915. Following the wedding held at the home of Thurza's parents, Ernie's team and cutter carried them to their home on the N.W. ¼ of 35-17-28 rented from his father. There they found kind friends had preceded them and deposited bed and bedding high in the treetops. The next year, when his parents moved to Foxwarren, they moved to the home place of the south half of 3-18-28.

Ernie was a long time member of the Foxwarren I.O.O.F. Lodge and took an active part in the community and church affairs. He and Thurza were members of Zion United Church where, for several years, Thurza taught in the Sunday School and was a member of the Zion Ladies' Aid.

During the war, when so many of the young people of the district were gone, Ernie took over the management of the Spy Hill-Ellice Community pasture. He worked there from 1941 to 1948 and even though he reached the age of sixty years while there, riding many miles on horseback was an every day occurrence.



Ernest and Thurza's 60th Wedding Anniversary — with Pearl, Edith, Blanche, Earl and Arthur.

In 1951 they left the family farm and retired to Foxwarren where they lived until 1971 when they moved to Pioneer Lodge in Birtle. In 1975 they celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary at the Lodge. Ernest's death occurred two years later just two days after the sixty-second Anniversary. One year later Thurza was moved to Sunnyside Manor where she resided until her death in July 1981. They both lie in the Zion Cemetery.

Ernest and Thurza raised five children, and, when they were grown, they opened their home and their hearts to two homeless children and legally adopted them.

Their oldest child, **Blanche**, born in 1916, married William Falloon. They lived on Bill's farm in the

Gamblers District and later bought a farm in the Birtle area. In 1981 they retired to a beautiful home on the bank of the Birdtail River in the town of Birtle. They have three children — Carman, Joyce and Joan, and seven grandchildren.

Pearl, born in 1918, is Mrs. John (Dick) Clunie. She taught school in the Swan River Valley where she met Dick. Now they live on the farm a mile east of Foxwarren and she teaches in the Foxwarren School. They have three children — Bruce, Edna, and Heather, and three grandchildren.

Edith, born in 1920, married Gordon Miller of Lumsden, Sask. At present they live in Saskatoon where Edith carries on in her nursing profession and Gordon works at the University of Saskatchewan. They have three children — Evelyn, Clifford and Russell, and two grandchildren.

Arthur Cheney Burdett was born and lived in the Ellice Municipality for 21 years, played hockey with the Crewe team, was a member of the Foxwarren Rifle Range, and belonged to the 4-H Solsgirth Calf Club and Foxwarren Seed Club. He served overseas in W.W.II with the 1st Hussars. When he got back, he bought a farm in 1948 SE 6-18-28 in Birtle Municipality. In 1951 he married Kay Kominko who also was raised in the Ellice Municipality. In 1956 he took a welding course in Winnipeg, after that Arthur and Kay with their two small sons moved west to Edmonton where he welded on the Oil rigs and the pipeline. In 1958 they moved back to the farm. In 1961 they bought more land 36-17-27 (¾ section), Arthur completed a 4-year Farm Management Course in 1967. After that he enlarged his herd of cattle and with Leo Fouillard, went into the exotic breed. They show cattle at the Royal Fair in Toronto, Calgary and Regina. Their children belonged to 4-H clubs in which Arthur and Kay were involved. In 1965 they built a three-bedroom house. Arthur and Kay have three children: Ronald Arthur born 1953, is married to Susan Robert. They have two children Adrienne Leah, and Jennifer Katherine. Ron farms with his Dad and lives a few yards away from his parents' house.

Dale was born in 1954. He lives at home and farms.

Pam was born in 1959. She married J. R. Mitchell and lives in Victoria B.C.

Earl Lester Burdett was born January 13, 1924 to Ernest and Thurza Burdett. Earl started to farm on NW¼ 35-17-28 which he bought from the Ellice municipality in 1943. Earl sold this farm to Doug Falloon in 1951. Earl assisted his dad in managing the P.F.R.A. Community pasture from 1942-1947.

In 1942 he was caretaker of the Crewe outdoor skating rink located on the NW¼ 4-18-28 "The Wil-

son Hamilton farm". The wage was \$10.00 per month. Duties included snow and frost removal day and night, except Sunday. The ice was flooded from a barrel pulled on a hand sleigh and a pail for spreading the water. During the winter of 1946 Earl worked in a logging camp in Northern Ontario.

In 1951 he took over his Dad's farm S½ 3-18-28.

Earl married Helen Watt Mitchell, June 6, 1953. A son Lynn Matthew Burdett was born September 8, 1954.

Lynn is an electrician who served his apprenticeship with Ted Dupont of St. Lazare. Lynn makes his home in Calgary, Alberta.

Earl sold the home farm to Cecil Burdett in 1958 and bought NW¼ 29-17-27 plus NE¼ 19-17-27 in the Birtle Municipality in 1958. He also rented SW¼ 34-17-27 and NW part of ¼ being 53 acres of 27-17-27 from 1958-1971. Earl was park caretaker at Reed Lake in Northern Manitoba for the summer of 1973.

In 1974 Earl bought one of the first airless paint sprayers and became local painter doing the local farmyards. Earl bought a business share in an apartment block in Quesnel, B.C. in 1980. He and his wife Helen managed the apartment from August 1980 until they returned to their farm home at Foxwarren, November 1st, 1982. Earl enjoys hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, and traveling.

Stewart, the adopted son, lives in Alberta and has made cooking his means of livelihood.

Doreen, the adopted daughter, her husband Tom Chura and their three sons live on a farm in the Selkirk area.

Ernest and Thurza lived a long and rewarding life raising their seven children and seeing sixteen grandchildren and fourteen great grandchildren join the family circle.

Amy Burdett (Dahlgren)

On August 16, 1930, Amy Burdett married Dwight Dahlgren in Zion Church. It was such a beautiful day that it was little wonder that some farmers wished they could be in the fields harvesting a bumper crop.

But the church was filled with relatives and friends. Miss Ursula Coons (later Mrs. Clarence Dahlgren) sang "I Love You Truly" so beautifully no one would forget. Dwight's brother Clarence played the wedding march on the organ.

Following the service, there was a luncheon for young and old at Sam Falloon's farm home; Dwight acquired 19 nieces and nephews he didn't have before. Amy and Dwight were driven to their humble home in Miniota, where Dwight was principal for the next four years. Money was scarce, but the people

were so kind. Credit was extended, not only for teachers salaries, but also for groceries.

One afternoon, Amy was attending a Women's Institute meeting. The guest speaker was a Public Health Nurse who had been two years in Flin Flon and surrounding north country. She made it all sound such a glamorous place with a great deal of adventure. So when Amy went home she persuaded Dwight to apply for the position of High School teacher and principal of the schools at Flin Flon. There were twelve teachers then; now 150. To their joy he was accepted. By this time they had two girls; Lorraine Merle and Earla Beatrice. Three months later Flora Jeanette was born.

For Dwight and Amy, the next three years were hard work, and yet exciting years. Dwight worked during the summer holidays for the Hudson's Bay Mining and Smelting Company, and in August 1937 was hired on to the Research Department of the company, where he had very interesting work till 1966. A fourth daughter Elizabeth Ann had arrived in November, 1938. After 1966 Dwight instructed apprentices for the next three years.

Amy found many opportunities to use her Public Health Nurse's training. She belonged to several interesting organizations, and had many wonderful friends.

In July 1969, Dwight and Amy retired to Transcona, Manitoba: 117 Edward Avenue East, a suburb of Winnipeg, near two of their daughters.

Lorraine and Jack Wedel have a daughter and three sons. The boys and wives live in Transcona, the daughter in Vancouver.

Lorraine and Jack are moving to Yellowknife, N.W.T. on January 3, 1983; Jack to work on water resources and Lorraine to be consultant for exceptional children for the schools there.

Earla and Harry Fee live in Grimsby, Ontario where Harry is head of the Maths Department in the Collegiate. They have two sons and a daughter.

Flora and Bob Lamoureux live in St. Lambert, a suburb of Montreal. Bob is a Computer Specialist. They have two sons and a daughter.

Elizabeth and Norman Dumontet, their three sons and a daughter live near Amy and Dwight. Norman is Computer Co-Ordinator for the C.N. Railways.

After 52 years of married life, Amy and Dwight are staying closer to home, but they have enjoyed travelling, especially to visit their eastern families, and spending some winters in Florida.

Lena Adeline Burdett (Honey)

Lena was born in Feb. of 1894, the fourth child of Cheney and Elizabeth Burdett. She attended Crewe

school. On November 24, 1915 Lena married Clarence Honey of Binscarth district. They had two children Elva and Elmor from Clarence's first marriage, and had five children of their own; Myrtle Olive, Ella May, Irene Lena, Jean Elizabeth Adelle, and Gordon Franklin. Clarence died in Dec. of 1965. Lena moved to Morley House in Shoal Lake, where she passed away on March 19th, 1979.

Bush, Roy and Florida

Roy's birthplace is unknown, as is his birthdate, but his burial was in Kamloops, B.C. His wife, Florida (Boisclair) was born in Beddeford, Maine in June, 1905. The birthdates of their children follow — **Roy**, April (1929) lives in Prince George. **Lois**, July (1930), is in Prince George. **Jack**, Nov. 30 (1932) lives in Ottawa. **Don**, April 18, (1933) is in Calgary. **Raymond**, Sept. 25 (1935) drowned in July 1955. **Joyce**, Dec. 11 (1937) lives in Vancouver. **Lorraine**, May 5, (1949) is in Edmonton, Alberta. The Bush family operated a restaurant in St. Lazare for several years.

Butler, Barry

Barry Charles moved into Ellice Municipality in January 1979. He is married to Karen Isabel Pizzey. They have four children, Heath 6, Vickie 4, Charla 3 and Kari 1. They lived in the former Burdett house just off highway 41 until they moved to Jean Paul Huberdeau's former house. Barry farms a $\frac{3}{4}$ section of land which belonged to Louis LeFranc. As well as running a feedlot cleaning operation, they drive two school buses to Foxwarren. Barry is involved in hockey, playing with the "old timers" and coaching his son in the 6 and under team.

Byers, James and Elsie **by Margaret Wedgewood**

'Red' Jim was born in the R.M. of Archie in April of 1888; his parents were among the first homesteaders in that area. Elsie Lowes was born in the Austin area where her parents were early pioneers. Jim and Elsie were married in McAuley in 1911. Jim, my father broke his first land on the sand plains 21-16-28 in 1925 while living on Section 2, in the "big bush". In 1927 he bought a shanty roofed building near Beaver Creek, which he moved to 16-16-28, land belonging to cousin Bill Byers. Here father moved his wife and children, Lawrence, Gordon, Johnny, Bob, Verna, Bill and me (Margaret). The following year he moved another shack to 9-16-28 and added a lean-to, where two more children were born, Ethel and Torrence, known as "Buck".

The first few years, the weather was fine and the

crops were good. Father purchased a combine; one of the first in the area. The following year he bought a Wallace tractor. That fall he shipped three boxcars of wheat . . . with the money from the first two, he paid his bills, the remainder, he gambled away. In the fall of 1929, father did custom combining; 1,700 acres. Wheat was \$1.00 per bushel; in 1930 it dropped to 86¢. The Massey Harris Co. advised father to hold his grain over until the next spring to get a better price. It dropped to 28¢ a bushel. That spring they sowed 1160 acres and scarcely got their seed back. The "Dirty Thirties" had arrived! Having no money for payments, father pulled his outfit back to McAuley and turned it over to the Massey Harris Co.

Living on the plains in those days was Andrew Shield, Joe Bell, Charles Wright and Joe Henderson, each on a ¼ of 8-16-28.

Back in the bush away from watchful eyes, father at various times ran off batches of home brew. One time he and a couple of friends had the ingenious idea of using the steam engine to distill it, which is exactly what they did. Mother got her Irish up over these drinking bouts. One time when a batch had been set, with the men away and D-Day coming up, Mother took us for a walk into the bush, disappeared, then took us home. Years later, we realized that was the day mother had tipped over the still.

The next few years the family living was made by shipping cream in the summer and cutting and hauling wood in the winter. The Creamery was in St. Lazare; a five gallon can brought in about \$1.10. A load of wood brought \$4.00 per cord; by the mid-thirties that had dropped to 50¢ or \$2.00 per cord delivered in 2 foot lengths. Bob and Johnny hauled the wood and did chores; Lawrence, assisted by Harry Desjarlais, Jim Hayden and Arthur Tanner were the wood cutters. Fred Peppin was blacksmith. All were strong men, hard workers and reliable, with a good sense of humor. One day they put out 14 loads of wood and had six more cut for the next day. Mother cooked three big meals a day for the family and hired men, plus the extras who came to haul their own wood. In those days she baked 100 lbs. of flour into bread in a week. The men of the family with help, would cut and stack hay every summer. Once when they had their haying finished, someone going to Beaver Beach tossed a cigarette or match out of a car window. The community lost all their hay, and fought fires until the snow fell. Even next spring, fire still smoldered in the muskeg.

Another of father's enterprises was to bring horses from near the U.S. border in Saskatchewan where the drought was more severe than on the sand plains. He did not get rich; some horses were lost in the muskeg, some stolen or wandered away. The next

experiment was with sheep which he bought at Piapot, Sask. George Gibson came to help with the shearing and we shipped wool and lambs to market; and ate mutton for the first time in our lives.

In 1937 father bought a saw mill and steam engine and started sawing lumber at the Dick Grist place in the bush. I expect there are still buildings around made out of that lumber. In 1938 the P.F.R.A. started building the pasture and in 1939 Pumpkin Plains school was closed. This ended my education. Father sold the shanty and it was moved back to Beaver Creek where it came from in the first place. Other houses that were moved off the plains were the Withrow and McGibney houses. 'Red Jim' died in October of 1979, predeceased by his wife, Elsie, in 1959.

Byers, Lawrence

submitted by Ethel (Byers) Rookes

Buster, as he is better known, son of James and Elsie (Lowes) Byers was born on May 5, 1912, at home which was 32-14-28 N.W. in Archie R.M. He attended DeClare school for a short time. He spent much of his time with his grandparents Jim Sr. and Jennett Byers who lived in the bush near the Assiniboine valley in Ellice R.M. He was introduced to the wood cutting business at an early age. He became very good at this job, many a load of poles and cords of wood fell before his axe throughout the years. In 1927 the family moved to the Park Plains School District. At this time he went to work for Tom Byers, in the Welwyn area, after which he returned home to help with farming and the wood cutting business. He enjoyed playing the violin for school dances and house parties. Even though he worked hard he always had time to play games with the younger members of the family. In June 1941 he joined the army serving with the Royal Canadian Engineers. He took his training at Dundurn, Saskatchewan and was overseas by Christmas. He served in England, France, Holland, Belgium and Germany, returning home in the fall of 1945. After a period of rehabilitation he took up farming on 18-16-29 which he rented and later bought from Louis Lafranc. His parents and other members of the family lived with him for some time. After his parents moved to McAuley, he continued farming until 1973 when he retired. He now resides with his sister and brother-in-law Doug and Ethel Rookes, whom he has lived with since 1962. He spends most of his time at the Drop-In Centre at Welwyn, where he enjoys card games and pool with the seniors.

Byers, Gordon and Gertrude

submitted by Ethel (Byers) Rookes

Gordon was the second son of James and Elsie Byers. He was born in the DeClare S.D. on February

15, 1914, where he attended school. He spent most of his earlier years working on farms around Welwyn, where he worked for Jack Byers, Lorne Ward and Chuckie Lewis who lived in the Beaver Rapids S.D. On March 31, 1941 he married Gertrude Marshall who was born in Elkhorn on February 8, 1916. She is the daughter of Dave and Amelia Marshall of McAuley. Gertrude had worked for her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Roy in the Willen area. Her father died when she was eleven and her mother two years later. After their marriage they farmed south east of McAuley 27-14-29 of Archie R.M. They were blessed with two sons, David born October 19, 1942, and Ronald January 10, 1946. Gordon was a devoted husband and father, but was not to see his family grow as cancer claimed his life in 1947 at age 33. Gertrude being an independent woman and a hard worker, remained on the farm with hired help in the winters to look after the livestock. She rented the land, until the boys had finished their schooling at Cherry Grove and McAuley. A cyclone in 1951 took the roof off the barn, which was later replaced with the help of good neighbours. Gertrude now lives in McAuley, and shares her time between Dave who operates the farm, and Ronald who works as a baker at Virden Co-op store. Ronald and wife Mary have one son, Derrick. Mary works at the Westman Nursing Home.

Byers, John and Lillian by Lillian Byers

I was born to Mary and Duncan Stewart of Windthorst, Sask. I attended Cherry Grove, Old Welwyn, and Park Plain Schools. John, son of the late Elsie and Jim Byers, was born in the Declare district east of McAuley, in 1916. He learned to smoke and chew tobacco long before he started school. He didn't start school until he was 15, but he went to Park Plains. We were married in March of 1939, at Birtle, Man. He loved his horses, but not his cows. John and Russell Maxwell had a lot of fun with their horses. They would meet at the designated race track and the race was on. John was very fond of playing ball which was our entertainment in those days. When our days of playing ball were over, we faithfully followed the McAuley Blazers. We bought our first farm from Lloyd and Alice Paterson in 1947. We lived on the Paterson farm from 1947 to 1965. When we bought the farm of Roberta Waddell, we moved there to live as the house was more suitable. We had four children; **Joyce**, born on Feb. 22, 1940; attended Rutherglen School. **Jack** (March 17, 1942), also got his education at Rutherglen school. Next came **Judy** on Aug. 11, 1951 who went to Rutherglen and Virden. Last was **Garth**, (Sept. 16, 1952) who went to

Rutherglen and Virden. They all live in B.C. Joyce is a hairdresser; Judy is a hairdresser and bookkeeper. Garth is a welder for the sawmills in Vancouver, B.C.; Jack works for the city in Revelstoke, B.C. We sold our farms in 1973, because John's health was failing. We bought a house in McAuley, and we lived in it till sadness came, as John passed away March 6th, 1981 in Brandon Hospital.

I (Lillian) am a member of the United Church, and an active member of the U.C.W. and was secretary of the W.I. for a few years at the local level at McAuley. I also have an award in recognition of five years of Leadership in 4-H Club work.

Byers, Robert (Bob) and Hannah submitted by Ethel (Byers) Rookes

Bob the fifth child of James and Elsie Byers, was born on April 19, 1918, in the R.M. of Archie, moving to Park Plains S.D. in 1927 with the rest of the family. He attended school there, and was more or less a chore boy, while the others cut wood for sale. He and his brother Bill, worked on construction at Rivers, when the Air base housing was being constructed. In 1941 during an outbreak of sleeping sickness, many horses were affected. Because Bob was treating many of them, he contacted the disease himself. Later he joined the Army for a short time and was stationed in B.C. but discharged because of health reasons. On his release he worked under John Shearer, for P.F.R.A. for some time. He also worked with, or for, every one of his brothers and other farmers. He was a good natured fellow and was dearly loved by his many nieces and nephews. Bob married later in life so had no children. He married Hannah Panno of Rocanville, Sask. in December 1968. Less than a year later, Bob died of a heart attack, on December 13, 1969. Hannah still lives in Rocanville.

Stewart, Verna (Byers)

I was born Verna May Byers in September of 1920 in the Declare district, on my grandparents' farm. From there we moved to the sand plains, where I started school at eight at Park Plains school. At fourteen I went out to work on different farms, the wages were \$3.00 per month in winter and \$5.00 in summer. If you hit the right farm, you might get \$15.00! In November of 1942 I joined the C.W.A.C. (at \$1.20 per day) and I was in the army till 1946. I worked for Swift Canadian Meat Company after my discharge; when I came home for Christmas my brother Gordon was ill, so I stayed home to care for his family until his death in 1947. I met a young fellow, John Stewart, who worked for my dad before the war. He was born at Windthorst, Saskatchewan in 1918, and moved with his parents, Duncan and Mary

Jane Stewart, to the Cherry Grove area. In 1934 the Stewarts moved to the sand plains, where John worked in the bush with dad and my brothers. In 1941, John and my brother Lawrence joined the Royal Canadian Engineers. John was back home again in 1945. In 1947, we were married at Birtle. Our first year was spent on the farm where Charles Lewis now lives. We lived in the Declare district on N.E. 32-14-28, where our children were born; **Evelyn** (1948), married Doug Shelvey of Justice in 1967. They live in The Pas with their two children, Evan 1975 and Valerie 1980. **Shirley** (1950), lives in Brandon where she has worked at the K Mart Cafeteria as Assistant Manager for three years. **Elaine** (1953) married Roger Huberdeau (see Roger's story). **Robert** (1955) married Bonnie Davis of Hartney in 1976. They live at Abbotsford, British Columbia, with their family of two, Lana 1977 and Ryan 1980. **Carol** (1957), lives in Virden working as a Nurse's Aid in the Westman Nursing Home.

In 1964 John started working with the Department of Highways out of St. Lazare. When the crew was moved to Elkhorn in 1968, we moved there. John will retire this year.

Memories: Church services at Park Plains School with Rev. King coming from Welwyn, Mrs. Guy Selby teaching us Sunday School on Fridays after school, my dad playing the violin and my mom teaching me to dance, Field Day at Virden (Ewart McAuley taking one car load and John Selby another, bringing along Mattie and Bobby to make enough marchers for the parade), school concerts, dances and house parties, ball games between the "Sand Pipers" and Fort Ellice (one week in Dan Robertson's pasture, the next by Haydens at the top of the Lazare hill), sliding down the creek hill near Guy Selbys and getting soaked plus my dad's numerous escapades!

Byers, William James and Donna

I was born October 28, 1924 to James Robert and Elsie May (Lowes) at "Fat Bills" on 2-16-28. I attended Park Plains school, with Mrs. Ewart McAuley as my first teacher, Miss Ellen Wilson the second. My dad and the older boys cut wood to make a living. People came from Welwyn and McAuley to buy wood. I used to step dance for them for a dime. When P.F.R.A. built the pasture, our school was closed and we moved with the family to the "Grist" place where they cut wood. We moved to Archie Municipality, going to school at McAuley. Mother and the younger members lived there; Dad and the older boys stayed at the Grist place to cut wood. I worked in the bush at Savant Lake, Ontario and also for farmers. I married Donna Marshall of Welwyn in 1950. Donna contacted T.B. shortly after and spent two years at Fort

San, Sask. where our daughter, Sheila, was born. In 1955 I was accepted by the Army, spending time at camps in Victoria, B.C. and Camp Shilo. After my release, I worked in Moosomin, owned the cafe in Welwyn, drove a school van, worked for P.F.R.A. and as a security guard at the mine. For the past 13 years I drove a school bus for Fort La Bosse school district. Donna works at Home Care and Sheila is employed at the Credit Bureau in Calgary.



Donna and Bill Byers with daughter Sheila.

Byers, Ethel and Doug Rookes

Ethel, daughter of James and Elsie Byers, was born at McAuley Man. on Sept. 1, 1928. She took her few years of education at Park Plains, DeClare and McAuley schools. From age ten she worked for various people in Archie and Ellice municipalities. She was employed in Winnipeg, Vancouver, Welwyn, McGregor and Brandon, before her marriage to Douglas Rookes on December 19, 1953. Doug, son of Bob and Mayme Rookes, was born in the Welwyn district in March 1931.

They were employed at McAuley, Virden and Atikokan Ont. before returning to Ellice R.M. in 1961, where they farmed with Doug's father until they bought the farm in the fall of 1962.

They had two sons born in Ontario. **Allan**, January 15, 1959, **Tan**, July 5, 1960. The boys were educated at McAuley, and Virden. After graduation they remained on the farm as partners in the farm operation, growing grain, cattle, and managing a "farrow to finish" hog-operation. Allan married Judy Roy, daughter of Richard and Grace Roy of

Brandon, on August 30, 1980. They have a son, Dana, and a daughter, Amanda. They live in Sask. about 1½ miles from the home farm. Tan lives at home.

Doug keeps busy with the farm and has been a trustee for Fort La Bosse S.D. Ethel keeps busy with choir, church sessions and babysitting the grandchildren, when needed.

Byers, Torrence (Buck)

Buck was the only child from a family of twelve who was born in a hospital. The youngest son of James and Elsie Byers, he arrived in Virden hospital on October 4, 1931. He attended school at Park Plains, DeClare and McAuley. He worked for some years with B and B gangs on the C.N. railway.

Buck was married on November 21, 1957 to Elizabeth Swain who was born at St. Lazare in 1941, daughter of Peter and Madeline Swain. For a few years they farmed in the Assiniboine Valley, Ellice R.M., later moving to R.M. of Archie. There were six children born to this union. Claudette (Mrs. Emery Stonehouse) 1959, Gordon 1960, Vernon 1961, Vivian 1962, Bryon 1965 and Michelle 1969. Vivian died in a tragic accident at seventeen months. Claudette and Emery have a daughter, Liberty, and a son, Emery Jr. They live at Glenboro, Manitoba. The family moved to Brandon in 1964. Elizabeth lives in Regina and Buck lives in Red Deer, Alberta.

Cadieux, Origene

Origene was born around 1879 in St. Pie de Bagot, Quebec, to farm parents. He came west to Letellier where he met and married Rosianne Huber-



M. et Mme. Origène Cadieux.

deau. Rosianne was born in 1889 in St. Hubert, Quebec. From Letellier, they moved to St. Lazare in 1912. They were blessed with eight children; **Annette** (1905-1954) married Lorenzo Tremblay, had seven children and lived in St. Lazare. **Lorette** (1913) married Denis Cyrene, resides in Fannystelle, Man. They have one child. **Estelle** (1915-1952) married Gustave Painchaud and lived in Fannystelle. **Aurore** (1916) married Harvey Cyrene, brother of Denis. They live in Winnipeg with their five children. **Claire** (1919) lives in Winnipeg, **Raymond** born 1910, lived in St. Lazare until his death in 1930. **Gaston** (1911-1980) and **Aurele** (1922-1965) see stories following.

Cadieux, Gaston by Rene and Richard

Our great grandparents, with six children, left St. Pie de Bagot, Quebec to settle on a farm around Letellier, Manitoba. Our grandfather Origene (1879-1940) met Rosianne, (1889-1978) daughter of Pierre Huberdeau of St. Lazare when she was visiting relatives (the Roberts) in the Letellier area. They were married in St. Lazare in 1908 but returned to live on the family farm at Letellier where two children were born, **Annette** (1909-1954) and **Raymond** (1910-1930). While searching for a farm, grandfather was persuaded by Mr. Huberdeau to consider some land in the St. Lazare area owned by him. This event created a humorous tale told us by our father, **Gaston** (1911-1980). Grandfather made a mid-winter journey to St. Lazare to view this land offered by his father-in-law. As they travelled over the fields by horse and cutter, the runners would strike stones sending sparks flying. Grandfather inquired if there were many stones on the land. The reply was, there were a few rolling stones that could be picked up in one afternoon by a few men. Satisfied, Grandfather purchased this land (W½ 31-17-28) and returned to gather his family and possessions. Being a farmer from the stone barren land of Letellier, Grandfather was in for a surprise in the spring of 1910 when these "rolling stones" revealed themselves as the snow melted. Grandfather came to the conclusion that he would require one very long afternoon and quite a few men! In 1920, 9-17-28 was purchased and the family moved there. **Aurele** (1922-1965) was born there. Raymond died during the depression. Grandfather Origene died in 1940 leaving the home place to his wife and youngest son, Aurele. The home place was sold in 1945 and Aurele and grandmother moved to McAuley where more fertile land was purchased. In the later years of his illness, Grandfather left the farming to the boys. Gaston maintained the north farm. It was here he met Suzanne Leclair, daughter of

Xavier and Victoria Leclair. They were married in 1938. Dad officially took over the farm (31-17-28) in 1940, adding more land in 1943 from a Mr. Brush. Four children were born there, Raymond, Rita, Thérèse and René. In 1947 Dad sold the west half of his farm to Miss Guillemette Lefranc and bought land from the Bulger Brothers, which was closer to school. Richard was born here. Dad sold the E ½ of 31-17-28 to Cecil Burdett and the hilltop farm to Harry Jarvis. In turn, he bought 12-17-28 from Mrs. Jane Sutherland. This newly acquired land was heavier and more productive with better buildings, but the shortcoming of the farm was, no water. Two dugouts were excavated to water the animals, however drinking water was hauled from town. Three more children were born here, Jack, Patricia and Beatrice. Gaston, our father, was the last farmer to use a binder and threshing machine. This out-moded operation was appreciated by the neighbors in the dry year of '61. This was probably the first time farmers baled straw in the middle of winter because they parked their machinery by the straw stacks and handfed the balers.

The majority of the children received their education at Ellice — a typical one-room rural school house. We walked in summer, but on very cold days, Dad would harness a team and take us to school. Dad had the third television on the hill. He managed to get his T.V. by trading one of his cows to someone who had won the T.V. at a bingo game, but had no electricity. The first day the aerial was hooked up, all the children were glued to the set; not even supper disturbed or distracted them. When Elvis Presley appeared on the Ed Sullivan show most of the neighborhood children were parked in the living room.

Dad sold his farm in 1967 to Ernest Fouillard and bought a house in town from Robert Chartier. Our parents lived here until they passed away; Mother in 1975 and Dad in 1980. As the family grew up they moved away to make it on their own. Raymond (1940) living in Regina, is married with one child. Rita (1942-1979) married John Muzka, had three children and resided in Esterhazy, Sask. Therese (1944) married Ernie Stadnyk, has two children and lives in Birtle. Rene (1945) married Sandra Wotton, and with their three children are living in Binscarth. Richard (1948) lives in Melville. Jack (1951) lives in Calgary. Patsy (1953) married Russell Henderson, has two children and lives in Melville, Sask. Beatrice (1955) lives in Vancouver, B.C. Darelle (1963) raised by his grandparents, lives in St. Lazare.

Cadieux, Rene

Rene was born October 1945, son of the late



René and Sandra Cadieux with Darren, Lori and Lisa.

Gaston Cadieux (who died September 1980) and the late Susan (LeClaire) (who died in January 1975). Rene attended Ellice School, then took an electrical course in Winnipeg.

He married Sandra Elaine Wotton of Foxwarren, October 1969 in the Binscarth United Church. Sandra was born in Russell Hospital July 1946, the eldest of three children of Eric and Helen Wotton. She went to Gambler School until it closed in 1960, then to St. Lazare School. In 1964, she took a hairdresser's course in Winnipeg. They have three children: Lisa Renée, born August 6, 1971, Darren Richard October 2, 1973, and Lori Rachelle May 15, 1980.

Rene, Sandra and family have a new home in Binscarth which Rene built.

Cadieux, Aurele

In June 1947, Aurele married Lorette Descelles of Welwyn, Sask., and brought his bride to his farm W½ 31-17-28. Mrs. Cadieux Sr. lived with them until October 1947, when she moved to Winnipeg. She died in 1978. The Cadieux Jr. farmed until Aurele's death in May, 1965. They had three children, **Dianne Irene** (1948) attended school at St. Lazare Convent

for three years, married Ronald Lewis and they took over Ron's father's farm 8-16-29 where they still reside. They have three children, Blair (1966), Tami (1969) and Shannon (1973). **Dennis Lawrence** (1949) attended school at the St. Lazare Convent for two years and returned for Grade IX. He is a construction worker. **Anne Marie Raymonde** (1955), married Philip Petays, a farmer, and they have three children, Christopher Glen (1977), Melissa Rae (1980), and Jennifer Elan (1982).

In 1966 Lorette Cadieux was married again to Robert (Bob) Stewart and they reside on an acreage near McAuley.

Charles Steven Carr

Charles Steven Carr spent most of his adult life on Section 1-18-28. He was born January 19, 1881, in Winnipeg, Man. where his parents had come west from Coburg, Ont. He came to the district as a babe in arms, and the mode of travel was ox cart. He, with his eight brothers and sisters, were educated in the rural school of Crewe, and later Moresby, where his father was the chairman of the first school board. Later his daughters were to attend the same school before it was closed and consolidated into the Foxwarren school district. On March 11th, 1908, at Shawville, Quebec, he married Catherine Sturgeon Glenn, a native of Shawville, Quebec. He had met her when she came west to keep house for her brother Will Glenn. From this union were born three daughters, Jessie, Isabel, and Catherine, however Katie, as she was fondly known by friends and neighbors, was not to raise her family. She died in childbirth when Catherine was born, April 25th, 1919, one month before her 32nd birthday. Charlie never married again.

Catherine, who was born when her mother died, never did enjoy good health. She died November 17th, 1975 and is buried with her parents in Zion cemetery.

Jessie Verna, born January 19, 1909, and Frances Isabel, born August 11, 1911, were both born in the log house on the S.E. ¼ 12-18-28 the homestead of their grandparents. Charlie had by then purchased the W½ 1-18-28, however, the house which he was in the process of building was not yet completed. It was there that Catherine was born and Katie died. She is buried in Zion Cemetery. Charlie continued to farm until 1944 when he sold the land to his son-in-law, John Cooper. With John's help he built a cozy home in Foxwarren and enjoyed fishing and travel until he died January 19th, 1954. He is buried beside his beloved wife in Zion Cemetery.

Jessie went to school at Moresby and Foxwarren. She remained at home until she married Albert

Creek. They spent a year helping her father to farm, and then moved to Winnipeg. She died there March 25th, 1963, and is buried in Winnipeg. There was no family. Isabel also began her schooling at Moresby, and then Foxwarren where she was a member of the first Grade Twelve class. It is interesting to note that a number of Grade eleven students had graduated in 1927, but Foxwarren did not provide Grade twelve. A committee of concerned parents was formed, another teacher hired to assist the principal, Mr. Cresswell, and, with the addition of students from Binscarth, and Russell, Grade twelve was underway. Each parent provided \$150.00 per pupil to cover expense over and above the provincial grant. The Binscarth and Russell pupils made the trip back and forth each day on the C.P.R. local train. Isabel was one of this class and went from there to graduate in 1933 as a registered nurse. In 1936 she was married at Bissett, Man. to John Cooper, a romance that began in the junior Bible class at Zion Methodist, which later became the United Church. He also, had been raised in Ellice, on W 24.17.28, but when they were married, was employed in a gold mine at Bissett. They made their home there for 7 years, and there their two daughters were born. When World War II began John left the mine to share in the war effort; those years were spent in Montreal. Charlie Carr was alone on W 1.18.28, his health was failing and John and Isabel were easily persuaded to return west to his farm. They bought W½ 1.18.28 and had 26 happy years, back in their "Home District". They were both active in church, school and community activities. Here their children were educated, and both went from Foxwarren school to graduate as registered nurses from the Winnipeg General Hospital.

Isabel Anne, born July 24th 1937, in Bissett, Man. She married Leonard Gunn of Winnipeg, July 9th, 1960. They live in Minneapolis, Minn., U.S.A. They have 3 sons.

Merrill Colleen, born March 17, 1939, in Bissett, Man. She married David McIntyre of Winnipeg, June 22nd, 1963. They live in Winnipeg, and have a son and two daughters.

In 1968 John and Isabel sold W½ 1.18.28 to Rodney Graham and happily retired in Moosomin, Sask.

Steven Carr

Steven Carr was born in 1848 in Coburg, Ont., the son of Reginald and Cloien Carr. At the age of three he was orphaned and was raised in the home of his Uncle John Carr. He married Maria Davey, also of Coburg in 1869. They had 12 children; 3 died in infancy, the others — Harry, Minnie (Mrs. Tom Copeland, Birtle), Annie (Mrs. Harry Copeland),

Margaret (Mrs. Arthur Barker of Binscarth), Charles, John, Bill, Thomas and Percy, all of whom are now deceased.

Steven and his wife Maria purchased land near Stratford, Ont., but lost it when he acted as backer for his brother-in-law's note. They decided to move West, where they could homestead. Winnipeg was their first stop, but Steven was a farmer and wanted land. It was necessary to go a long way to get it. Portage la Prairie was the end of steel, there they managed to get together a pair of oxen and some supplies, and from there travelled around 100 miles to Fort Ellice. There were no roads; just Indian Trails, the mud was bad and the oxen often mired. The Indians were not pleased to lose their hunting grounds to farmers, fires were a constant menace, crops froze, they suffered all the hardships of pioneer life, but they carried on to raise a large family and end their lives in well-earned comfort.

Home for the rest of their lives was E½ 12.18.28, then they retired to Foxwarren, leaving their youngest son Percy to farm the land. It now belongs to Percy's daughter, Mrs. Alf McFarlin. The site of the original log house still can be seen but another house was built about 1910; it is no longer occupied. Steven died in 1921, Maria in 1930; both are buried in Zion cemetery.

They left their mark on the community as members of the Church of England and Steven was a member of the I.O.O.F. Steven was one of the concerned people who helped to found Morseby school and he served as Chairman of the first school board. They raised a large family and have left many descendants to carry on their pioneer spirit.

Carr, George Percival (Percy)

Percy Carr was born on September 2, 1896 on E½ of 12-18-28, the youngest son of Stephen and Maria Carr. He spent his years farming this same land with the exception of the short time he spent in the Army during the first World War. On November 14, 1917, he married Lorna Laycock, eldest daughter of Agnes and Rancellor Laycock, who was born March 24, 1896 on SW¼ 6-18-27. They grew up barely a mile apart and both attended Moresby School. Lorna spent several years attending Pickering College in Schamberg, Ontario. When Stephen and Maria Carr moved to their new home in Foxwarren, Percy and Lorna began their farming career which was to continue until their eldest daughter Aileen and her husband took over the farm in April 1948.

They managed through the "dirty thirties" and always seemed to make ends meet in some manner; they always felt that someone was worse off than they were. Percy spent many winters sawing wood and



Mr. and Mrs. Percy Carr, 1917.

crushing grain for feed, not only around home, but several miles away, sometimes being away for a week at a time. Horses were his pride and joy. He was a member of the Legion from the time it started, acted as a school trustee and was a member of the Odd-fellow and Rebekah fraternity. Lorna always kept herself busy around her home and with her church organizations, besides being a member of the local Legion Auxiliary and the Rebekah lodge.

Percy and Lorna retired and moved into Foxwarren in April 1948. Percy died March 18, 1952 and Lorna moved to Birtle. She built a home and lived there until February 1975 when she moved into Pioneer Lodge. She passed away January 26, 1980. Both are laid to rest in Foxwarren Cemetery.

To this union there were two daughters born; Aileen (see McFarlin history) and Jean, who married John F. Stewart of Birtle. Jean and Jack have three daughters, Marilyn Hickman (Wayne) at Russell, Myrnalee Grainger (Kelly) at Beulah and Melanie, at present attending Brandon University. There are three Stewart grandchildren, Jennifer, Troy and Bradley Hickman.

Cartwright, Robert Stiles by Blanche Spicer

Robert S. Cartwright (born 1851 at Wiltshire, England) son of Dr. John Cartwright, married Lucy Maude (born 1860 at Bremhill, England) daughter of Canon E. R. Eddrup, on July 31, 1884. Leaving son

Jack, two years old, in care of an aunt, they came to Canada in 1889 to homestead in the Balmerino district, and later near Fort Ellice. They moved to Birtle town in 1909. Lucy died in 1921 and Robert in 1927. Their family was: **Jack**, (1887) came to Canada several years after his parents. He served as a bank teller in Birtle and as lay reader in Anglican churches in the district. He helped to organize the Birtle Agricultural Fair. He became a Distinguished Philatelist in 1956. In 1928 he married Margaret Pearson, a nurse. They had a son, Robert. They went to live in Tunbridge Wells, England in 1945, where Jack died in 1973.

Hilda (1885) attended school at Balmerino, and married O. J. Gwyer in 1906. They had four children, Bill, Jack, Hilda and Eileen (Stewart).

Helena (1889) attended Balmerino School and married in 1907. They had three daughters, Blanche, Dorothy (Kenward) and Edith (Neumann).

Sybil (1894) attended school at Balmerino and married Horace Jelfs in 1926. They had four children, Nora (Gerand), Bob, Norman and Margaret (Boulton).

Chartier, Delphis

Delphis was the first of the Chartier clan to arrive in this region, in 1884 from St. Jacques l'Achigan, P.Q. His wife Aurelie Dumais, was born in Kamouraska, P.Q. They had four children, Lionel, Emile, Anna, and Eva. In the beginning he supposedly lived ½ mile east of St. Lazare and hunted

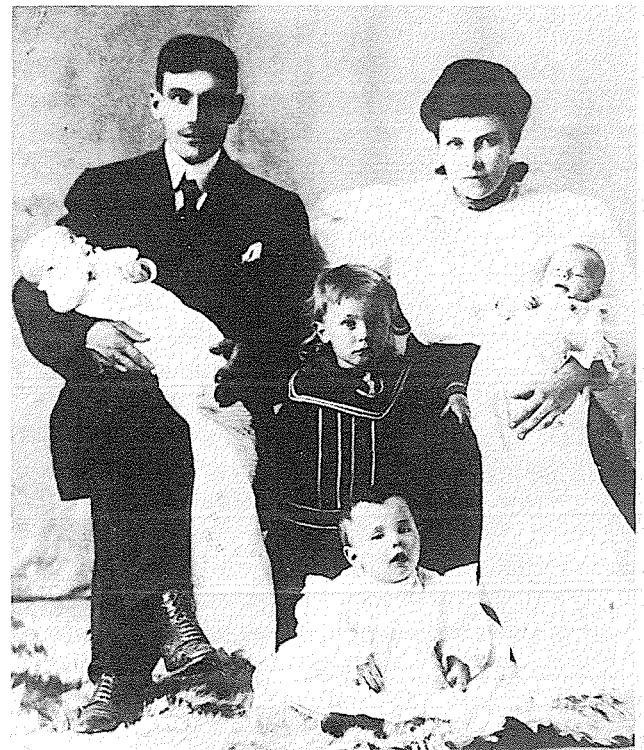


Delphis Chartier, 1854-1926.

buffalo to sell the meat. In 1894, he built himself a stone house at the "old mission", ½ mile north of St. Lazare. He had the first post office in which his daughter Eva worked. In 1898, he undertook to build the roof on the stone church being built at the mission. In 1909, he built a hotel where St. Lazare is now and eventually sold it to a Mr. Lavallee. Following this venture, he built himself a pool room which was sold to "Buffalo Bill" Hebert. Aurelie predeceased him in 1911; he followed in 1926. Both are buried at the cemetery of the old mission, ½ mile north of St. Lazare.

Chartier, Emile and Rose Anna

Emile was born in 1881 in St. Jacques de L'Achigan, Quebec, and came to St. Lazare in 1884 with his parents, Delphis and Marie Dumais, and brother Lionel, and sisters, Eva and Anna. They lived at "Fort Pipe" (a house with many stove pipes) across from the old cemetery. In 1904, Emile married Rose Anna Gagnon, who was born in 1886, in St. George de Bauche, Quebec, daughter of Pierre Gagnon and Josephine Mercier. They lived on a farm a few miles east of St. Lazare on 15-18-28. They moved several times over the years — to Mrs. Pierre Gagnons, Tillmans house on the side hill, Ste. Marthe and to St. Joseph (near Welby, Sask.). In 1932, when their house at St. Joseph burned, they moved back to St. Lazare to Tillmans house, again to live



Mr. and Mrs. Emile Chartier holding twins Paul and Ernest, with George and Fortunat.

there for three years, until 1935, when they moved into a new house built where Fortunat Chartier lived. Emile often drove the priests to their missions at Ste. Madeleine, with teams and cutter in winter and a buggy in summer. During the war years, Emile worked with his son George, in Fort William, Ontario, building "Hell Diver Air-Craft" for Canada Car. When he and his wife retired, they lived with their daughter Emelia, who married Albert Roy, and was living in Brandon. Emile died there in 1962 at 81 years of age. Nine years later, in 1971, Rose Anna died. Their children were all born in St. Lazare. **George** (1905) worked for Eugene Fouillard, building vans and as an electrician. He married Martha Blouin in August 1938. They moved to Fort William where George worked for Canada Car. They retired to Toronto, where he was caretaker of an apartment block. He died in 1978, leaving a wife and two daughters, living in Toronto, and a son in Montreal. **Fortunat** see Fortunat Chartier story. **Paul** and his twin **Ernest** were born in 1907. Paul married a school teacher Marie Sorette. He worked for C.N.R. for 35 years, then moved to Winnipeg, where he worked for C.B.C. Paul and Marie had one son René, who went to Ottawa, as assistant to Ed Schreyer. He still lives there as a supervisor for Labatts. Paul lives in Winnipeg, but his wife passed away. They have one grandson. Ernest had a barber shop and pool room in St. Lazare, until he joined the Army. He worked as a Medical Assistant, until he was discharged for health reasons. He developed multiple sclerosis, and was bedridden for 26 years. He lived in his own house, with help, until his death at the age of 59 at Deer Lodge Hospital in 1967. **Clemantine** (1908) married Omer Legeault in 1931 at McCreary, Man., where they lived until they moved to Timmins, Ontario, where Omer worked in a mine. They moved to Sudbury, Ont., where Omer was manager of a Caisse Populaire until he died. Four sons were born to them, Clemantine still resides in Sudbury. **Florida** was born in 1910, but died at the age of three. **René** was born in 1911 and died at the age of ten. **Gerard** "Gerry" (1913) was a painter and even an interior decorator. He had his own truck, purchased from Lazare Fouillard. This vehicle was completely equipped with a paint sprayer and tools necessary for Gerry's trade. He worked as a waiter in the Fort Ellice Hotel, which belonged to Alcide Robert. Gerry served in the Armed Forces as a Gunner. He married Therese Dupont and they had eight children — Geraldine, Maurice, Rose Marie, Noella, Juliette, Andrew, Patricia, and Phillip. After his military discharge, Gerry was employed as a painter at Rivers Armed Forces Base, until the base closed. His wife expresses her sentiments with these few words, "I

am glad to have been brought up in the valley of St. Lazare with all our relatives around us, and wonderful neighbors like the Selbys, Fouillards, Simards and Tremblays." **Emelia** — see Albert Roy story. **Jeanne**, born in 1915, died at three years of age. **Aime**, (1918) joined the R.C.A.F. at 17 years of age. After returning from overseas, he lived at Rivers, where he married Marie Jeanne Desrosiers. He came back to St. Lazare to work as a painter, later going back to Rivers, where he died in 1969. They had five children, two boys and three girls, all in Cottonwood, Ont. **Aurore**, (1919) joined the Presentation of Marie. She is at Spiritwood and has taught kindergarten and Grade I for 42 years. **Charles** was born in 1921 at St. Lazare. He received his schooling at the convent. He enlisted in the Army on January 5, 1943, arriving in England in November of the following year. He joined the Royal Winnipeg Rifles in February 1945, for front line duty. Charles was awarded the France and Germany Star, Canadian Volunteer Service medal and clasp. After the war, in partnership with Aime, the two brothers painted in the Rivers area. Charlie worked with another brother, Robert in Bob's Cafe in St. Lazare from 1948 to 1955. Lois Lucille Bush from Moose Jaw, Sask. and Charles were married in June 1948. They had six children — Charlene (1949) lives in Vancouver, B.C.; Roy (1950) in Vancouver; Charmaine (1952) in Seattle, Washington; Russell (1953) in Penticton, B.C.; Paul-Emile (1955) in Clearwater, B.C.; and Liza (1959) in Prince George, B.C. There are 13 grandchildren. During his years in St. Lazare, Charles was a member of the church choir. He was a player of the St. Lazare Hockey team for 15 years and is still known as "Pass the Puck, Charlie". He was an avid fan of the Toronto Maple Leafs and was continually placing bets in their favor. No one could determine where Charlie obtained the cash for these rash bets, until one day some one observed Mr. John Selby slipping "a fiver" to the great gambler. Mr. Selby was a Toronto fan also! Charles and his family moved to Kamloops. Charles is now postmaster at Walhachin B.C. **Robert** see Robert Chartier story. **August**, (1925) joined the Navy and served at sea laying mines. He was sick for several years with malaria. He lives in Winnipeg where he is custodian of an apartment block. He was married and is the father of seven children. **Therese**, (1927) received her schooling at St. Lazare. Arthur Gerald (Art) Thompson married Therese Marie, local post mistress, in 1952. The newly married couple lived in various towns, among them, Virden and Wapella before moving to Bienfait, Sask. This is where Therese and Art are living now and where Art works for the Manitoba and Saskatchewan Coal Company as a supervisor.

Four daughters were born to the Thompsons. Wanda Lynn married David Holler. They live in Lacombe, Alberta, but Wanda is an R.N. working in Red Deer Hospital. Her husband is an accountant at Lacombe Hospital. Carol Ann married Wayne Brokenshire. This couple, along with their two children, Wade Wesley and Codie Lynn, farm in the Estevan area and are the owners of Tableland Simmental Ranch. Donna Marie married Barry Rosner. They live in Bienfait, Sask, but Donna works part-time at St. Joseph Hospital in Estevan and Barry works for Utility Coal, also in Estevan. Their children are Cory Allan and Kelly Arthur. Theresa Gail married Brian Lasko. They also live in Bienfait. Working in Estevan, Brian is an Industrial Mechanic for Saskatchewan Power. The Lasko's have one daughter, Alessa Marie.

Chartier, Fortunat Delphis and Alma

I, "Fort" was born on the farm 15-17-28 in 1906 to Emile Chartier and Rose Anna (Gagnon). I started school at the Mission, then we moved to a farm near Ellice School. I didn't stay in school long, as I had to help my dad on the farm. After the first war, my dad sold the farm to Rosario Huberdeau and we moved to town. I started working for C.N.R. in 1926 and built myself a house with the help of Peter Roy. My parents lived with me until I married Alma Blouin, Aug. 2, 1938. I was away from home a lot, I worked west as far as Edmonton and east to Rivers, and spent the last 15 years in the St. Lazare area. I retired from C.N.R. in 1971 after 35 years. I was caretaker and icemaker at the skating rink for seven years. My "spare" time was spent repairing bicycles. My wife worked as janitor of the church for 27 years, custodian of the school for 14 years, at the Motel for five years, and at Fouillard's Furniture shop. Her favorite pastime is playing "bingo"!

Our family consists of six girls and three boys: **Claudette**: was born in 1939. She married Aurel Leblanc in 1956. They both worked at the Cafe for Robert Chartier. In 1955, they moved to Calgary and then to Pincher Creek. They have four children, Celeste, the eldest, is married and has two children, starting the fourth generation of "Fort's" family.

Pierrette: was born in 1941. She left St. Lazare in 1958 for Toronto where she worked in a jewelry factory for many years. In 1966 she married Elmer Smith. They have three children.

Paulette: born in 1943 married Dominic Fera in 1958, and moved to Toronto the same year. Her husband works as a city engineer and Paulette works in a window factory. They have three children.

Raynald: was born in 1945 and lives in Lockport.

He is employed by the Department of Works in Selkirk. He was married in 1979 to Judy Webb.

Gracia: was born in 1946. She married Laslo Kretay in 1963. They lived in St. Lazare for a year and then moved to Strathclair where Laslo is a plumber. They have five children.

Jeannine: was born in 1951. She married Alfred Perreault in 1968. Alfred worked in Brandon, Thompson, then back to St. Lazare where he worked for Lazare Fouillard, then operated his own garage for awhile. Now he works for Leo Fouillard. They bought a house from Alfred's Aunt, Anna Deschambault and have been remodelling it in their spare time. They have five children, Sean, Tammy, Michael, Kimberly and Daniel.

Gilles: was born in 1955, went to school in St. Lazare. He married Anita, daughter of Leonard and Noella Huberdeau, on May 29, 1976. He worked for the C.N.R. until he got employment with the Potash Mine in 1976. His sport is hockey and he and Martin Dupont played with the Dauphin Kings. He now plays hockey with the St. Lazare Outlaws. They have two children, Krista, born on Feb. 14, 1978 and Tessa April 1, 1981. They live in a house they bought from Maggie Tremblay, which they have completely remodelled.

Jean-Paul: was born in 1957. He grew up and went to school in this area as did his wife Louise, daughter of Andrew and Colette Huberdeau. They were married Feb. 7, 1976. "J.P." works at the Potash Mine. They built a prefab house on Louise's father's farm, about one and a half miles from town. They have three children, Serge born in Aug. 1977, Sacha Jan. 1979 and Christian Dec. 1981. "J.P." like his brother Gilles is a hockey player, having played with Russell, Foxwarren and now the St. Lazare Recreation Team.

Barbara: was born in 1958. She married Rick Bohemier, grandson of Babe Fouillard in 1977. Rick worked on the C.N.R. for two years, then started working at the Potash Mine. They have two boys, Joey who is five, and Jason three. They live in the house originally built by Barbara's father.



The Chartiers serenading the newlyweds Rose and Niggy Simard.

Chartier, Robert and Isabelle (Leblanc)

I, Robert, was born Nov., 3, 1923 on a farm on "15" near St. Lazare. We moved several times — from St. Lazare to St. Marthe to Welby and then back to St. Lazare. I attended school in St. Lazare, then followed in the footsteps of my older brothers and joined the Army. I took my training in Canada, and completed it in England, after joining the Winnipeg Rifles. Returning from the war, I took a carpenter's helper job with Albert Roy until 1947. In that year he opened Roy's Cafe, operating it until 1952 when my brother Charles, and I bought the restaurant renaming it Bob's Cafe. On May 18, 1948 I married Isabelle LeBlanc at Bellsite. Our staff was increased when Charles married Lois Bush. After a few years in partnership, Charles left the restaurant business to find an easier way to make a living.

Isabelle and I terminated our restaurant business in 1969 when we leased it to Mr. and Mrs. Philip Fafard and moved to Brandon. To further my knowledge of cooking, I joined a Hotel Chain. I worked for Imperial Oil, Food Division in Brandon, Saskatoon and Prince Albert, Sask. In 1975, I became a member of Canadian Federation of Chefs de Cuisine. After resigning from Imperial Oil, I took a Food Supervisory job at the Saskatchewan Penitentiary Correctional Service of Canada at Prince Albert, where I am still employed. Our family followed in our footsteps — **Denis** and **Aurel** are chefs at Key Lake; **Ernie** is chef at Gulf Exploration in Collins Bay. Isabelle works at the Coronet Hotel as a food "prep".

My life in St. Lazare has unforgettable memories; "la vallée de L'Assiniboine" is still a little heaven of its own.

Chartier, Lionel

Lionel, son of Delphis Chartier and Aurelia (Dumais) was born in St. Jacques, P.Q. on May 14, 1879. He came to St. Lazare at the age of nine. For a few years he worked as a farmer on section 15 located about one mile east of St. Lazare. He was employed by the railroad as a section man and later as a foreman between St. Lazare, Uno and Treat. He married Corinne Lemoine, daughter of Pierre Lemoine and Marie Langevin, of Ste. Agathe. Three children were born of this union, Laetitia, Reginald and a girl who died at birth. Lionel's first wife died in 1912. He married Rosine Alarie of Ste. Agathe, some six months later. Of this union, 15 children were born, Lucia, Bertha, Bill, Marie-Ange, Aurelienne, Martine, Therese, Arthur, Jeanette, Claude, Roma, Melina, and Omer. Two boys, Edouard and Damien, died at an early age. Lionel passed away in his home (Arthur's residence today) in St. Lazare on June 9th,

1943. Mrs. Rosine labelled "the flower of our parishioners" by our pastor Father Aurele (parish bulletin of Dec. 5, 1982) passed away on November 13, 1982.

Chartier, Reginald and Jeanne

Reginald, son of Corinne Lemoine of Ste. Agathe, Man. and Lionel Chartier, native of St. Jacques, Québec, was born on April 10, 1907. He has only one sister Laetitia who is a member of a religious order. Reginald was only four years old when his mother died. His father married Rosine Alarie, and Reginald, from this marriage, acquired half-brothers and sisters.

Reginald went to school in St. Lazare. After leaving school he was employed by C.N.R., at Jules DeCorby's store and drove a transfer truck for Ben Fouillard from 1928 to 1940. He returned to C.N.R. for four more years. In 1944, he became agent for National Grain in St. Lazare. In 1962, the elevator burned, and Reginald had to work away from home until his retirement in 1981.

In 1934 he married Helene Deschambault, Venance's daughter. Helene died fourteen months later.

In November 1937, Reginald married Jeanne, daughter of Rosario Huberdeau and Eugenie Guay. They had eleven children — see **Sr. Corinne's** story. **Jean-Marc** born October 31, 1940 went to school in St. Lazare and spent four years at St. Boniface College. From 1958 to 1962 he took different jobs and then was employed by the Department of Highways, building bridges with Leon Dupont until 1967. He then went to Brandon to take a carpenter's course and lived there until 1975 when he returned to St. Lazare and is now employed at Rocanville mine in his trade. In October 1966, he married Colombe "Claudette" Fafard and they have four daughters — Carmelle born in 1967, Lisa in 1969, Jacqueline in 1973, and Cléo-Anne in 1978. They live in a renovated house which originally belonged to Jean-Marc's grandfather, Rosario Huberdeau. **Lionel Jr.** was born in St. Lazare on April 4, 1942. He went to elementary and high school in St. Lazare. He attended St. Paul's College, (University of Manitoba) where he obtained a Bachelor of Science. He became chemistry professor at Campion College in Regina. He went to Queen's University in Kingston where he obtained a Bachelor in Science (chemistry engineering). He was employed for Consolidated Bathurst Ltd. at Port Alfred, Québec. He married in July 1970, Viviane Pelletier from Jonquière, Québec. They have three children Chantal, Yanic and Hughes. He worked for Abitibi Paper at Beaupré and for the government of Québec in the ministry of Environmental Affairs. He was superintendent for Consolidated Bathurst,

Québec for technical services and then became supervisor of a new paper pulp machine. He is now employed for the same company at Shawinigan (Division Belgo) as general manager. **Eugenie** (See Philippe Fafard story). **Louise** (September 2, 1945) went to school in St. Lazare and St. Michael's Academy in Brandon. After graduation, she was employed at King George Hospital then in 1965 took a "practical nurses" training at St. Boniface Hospital working at Hospic Tâché. She married Blair Evanson of Welwyn, Sask. on June 1967. They lived in Regina before moving to Calgary. They have four children: Jean-Paul, Jean-Claude, Michelle and Danielle. **Monique** (July 11, 1947) went to school in St. Lazare. She was employed at the post office in St. Lazare for one year. In 1963 she went to Regina and worked in a restaurant. She married Larry Tegart, pilot-navigator in the Armed Forces. They moved to Regina where Larry works for the city. They have three children: Roxanne, Kevin and Colin. Monique is now teacher's aid at Vincent Massey School in a French immersion program. **Odette** (October 13, 1948) went to school in St. Lazare and spent one year at St. Joseph's Academy in St. Boniface. After graduation she worked in Winnipeg for Manitoba Telephone. In 1967-68, she taught on permit at St. Lazare — and was secretary for the school the following year. In 1969 she attended Brandon University. In October 1970, she married Jacques Fafard, a farmer from Ste. Marthe where they live. They have four sons; Réjean, Mario, Alain and Bernard. **Pauline** (See Guy Deschambault story). **Guy** was born in Russell, Man. on October 21, 1952. He attended elementary school in St. Lazare until the age of fourteen. At this time he left for Wilcox, Sask., where he spent seven years at Notre Dame College. In 1974, Guy graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree, obtained from the University of Ottawa. In 1975 he went to work for Sureway Construction, in Edmonton, Alberta, where he remained employed until 1982. Guy then returned to Regina, Sask. and enrolled at the University of Regina, in the School of Journalism and Communications. He is presently taking a four month internship working for the Prairie Messenger in Muenster, Sask. **Marie-Paule** (See Claude Lemoine's story). **Camille** — was born in 1958. He attended school in St. Lazare and Birtle where he graduated in 1975. He worked for C.N.R. and Fouillard's and since 1979 has been employed at the Potash mine in Rocanville.

Chartier, Soeur Corinne **by Corinne Chartier S.N.J.M.**

Born in St. Lazare on January 17, 1939, I am the daughter of Reginald Chartier and Jeanne Huber-

deau. When I was sixteen, I left St. Lazare to go to school at St. Joseph's Academy, in St. Boniface. I spent a year there and then entered the Novitiate of the Sisters of Jesus and Mary in Montreal in July, 1956. In 1958, I returned to Manitoba to become a teacher at Sacred Heart School and Holy Cross in Winnipeg, in St. Jean-Baptiste and Somerset. In 1975, I felt the urge to devote my services to the Third World. My dream was realized in 1978 when my congregation sent me to Haiti to work among its people. For two years, I taught in an elementary school, then worked in the diocese of Cap-Haitien. In 1980, I came to l'Acul-du-Nord to open a boys' school. From our humble beginnings of two classrooms consisting of thirty-four pupils we have now two hundred and thirty in the first three grades.

I hope that God will keep giving me good health so I can continue working for many more years for my Haitian brothers.

Chartier, Marie Paule (Lemoine)

My name is Marie-Paule Chartier-Lemoine. I was born to Reginald and Jeanne (Huberdeau) Chartier on January 7, 1956. I attended St. Lazare elementary school until grade IX and then went on to finish my high school at Birtle Collegiate. After my grade XII I attended Saint-Boniface College for four years and obtained my Bachelor of Education degree. I started teaching in 1978 at Ste. Anne, Manitoba, stayed there for three years and now am completing my second year at St. Norbert French Immersion school. On August 27, 1977 I married Claude Lemoine of Saint Boniface.

Chartier, Sister Laetitia

I was born on November 14, 1905, in St. Lazare, the daughter of Lionel Chartier and Corinne Lemoine. As I weighed only two pounds, I was baptized soon after I was born by Father Hogue, in the kitchen of our home. My mother died on January ninth, I am not sure of the year. After her death I spent a lot of time at my grandfather's, Delphis Chartier, with my aunts Anna and Eva. My father married on June 18, 1912, Rosine Alarie, daughter of Omer Alarie and originally from Ste. Agathe, Manitoba. She was a good mother to both Reginald and myself.

Reginald, my brother, and I started school in the village school which was then situated close to the old cemetery in the valley. In January 1919, I went to boarding school in Elie, Manitoba. Diane Huberdeau, Hélène Deschambault, Anna-Marie Tremblay and my sister Lucia also came from St. Lazare. It was our first encounter with the Sisters of the Missions.

In September 1923, I went to St. Michael's Academy in Brandon for one year. In August 1924, I entered the novitiate of the Sisters of the Missions in

St. Eustache, Manitoba. It is not without sadness that I left home. In November, 1926, the novitiate was transferred to Regina, Saskatchewan. This is where I made my first vows on April 26, 1927 with Bishop Mathieu officiating. My father came for the occasion and this was the last time I saw him. On April 26, 1933, I made my final vows in Fort Frances, Ontario, at St. Jude's convent.

Over the years I went to different convents as an elementary teacher; first to Sacred Heart Academy in Regina followed by North Bay, and Fort Frances, Ontario, St. Eustache, Ste. Rose, St. Joseph, Elie and Letellier, Manitoba.

In 1977, year of my golden jubilee in Regina, I came back to Elie where we offer retreats for different groups of persons. We also provide help in the community whenever we can. I am thankful to God to have chosen other members of my family to serve Him, such as my sister Bertha and my nieces, Sister Corinne and Sister Aurore.

I am very grateful to have St. Lazare as a hometown. It is always pleasant to visit my family and friends and enjoy their gracious hospitality.

Lucia (nee Chartier) is the oldest child of the second family. She is married to Patrick Eastveld and they have three children. They live in Las Vegas.

Bertha, joined the order of Our Lady of Missions and served as a missionary in Peru. She is in St. Eustache.

Yvonne, married Bill Dupont. They lived in Seattle, Washington. They had three boys. Bill is now deceased.

Marie-Ange, married Herb Waters and they had four children. Herb passed away in 1965. Marie-Ange lives in Ottawa.

Aurelienne, married Leslie Haig. They had three children and reside in Thunder Bay, Ont.

Martine, see Jacques Guay story.

Therese, married Charles Maki. They had seven children and live in Thunder Bay, Ont. Her husband died in Sept. of 1982.

Arthur; see story following.

Jeannette, married Constant Fouillard. They had six children. Constant died in 1962. Jeannette later married Lorne Snyder. Two girls were born of this union. They live in Brandon.

Claude, see story following.

Roma, married Russell Bishop. They have two daughters and live in Lethbridge, Alta.

Chartier, Arthur

I was born in February 1927 — oldest of the boys in the second family. I attended school until my father died in June, 1943. I left school and worked at Guay's store. My first job with CNR was grease

monkey on a drag line that moved the track closer to the sand pit. I worked with Fred Zaharia as an assistant time keeper. In 1948, I left the gang and worked on the section for some time. The last year, I worked for CN, I was a roadmasters' clerk at Kindersley, Sask. That year, 1949, I began working for Fouillard Lumber, and have remained there since.

Clarice LeBlanc and I were married in July 1957. Clarice had come to St. Lazare from Bellsite, Man., to attend school. She worked in Bob's Cafe. Our two children are; Norman (1958) and Terrence (1964). Norman has worked from coast to coast and in the N.W.T. on the pipe line.

Chartier, Jeannette (Fouillard Snyder)

Daughter of Lionel Chartier (deceased 1943) and Rosine (nee Alarie) also deceased 1982.

I was born in 1931 in a Section House at Treat, Man., where at that time my father was section foreman. He allowed the Presentation of Mary Sisters complete rights and full hospitality to our home, in St. Lazare while the convent was being constructed. I attended Decorby School, for grades I-XI. I then moved to Winnipeg to seek employment, and was employed by the Bank of Nova Scotia. In Winnipeg, I resided with my sister, Mariange (Watters). I returned to St. Lazare where I married Constant Fouillard in July 1952. Here, we raised six children namely: Huguette, Rene, Rosine, Omer, Zita and Armand, all born at Sacred Heart Hospital in Russell, Manitoba. Connie, was in partnership with Fouillard Bros. until his untimely death in October, 1962. After my husband's death, I married Lorne Snyder, formerly of Elkhorn in February 1965. We relocated to Brandon, Man., where we had two children: Edith and Daun-Marie. My husband has been employed by DND Shilo since 1970, and is looking forward to an early retirement. Presently, Huguette (Fouillard) is living in Brandon. Rene was killed accidentally in 1977 in Calgary, Alberta. In 1981 Rosine married Louis Spencer (widower) with three children: Mark, Kevin and Lori, all of Warren, Manitoba. Omer and Armand are residing in St. Lazare. Zita is in Brandon. Edith and Daun are presently attending school in Brandon.

P.S.: We also have Cupid, our family dog.

Chartier, Claude

I, son of Lionel and Rosine Chartier (nee Alarie) was born October 9th, 1933 in St. Lazare, Manitoba. Elementary schooling was taken in St. Lazare, and one year was spent in St. Boniface College. I then resumed my education at St. Lazare High School. While finishing grade IX, X and XI, I worked as a clerk for Georges Fouillard, who owned a general

store at the time. In 1957, I hired on with C.N.R. Engineering Department for whom John Zaharia was also working. In 1959, I quit C.N.R. and returned to St. Lazare to work as a bookkeeper for Lazare Fouillard who had the biggest auto dealership in the village, under the name of Ben Fouillard and Sons. I worked for Lazare for the next five years during which time I married Susan Tremblay, daughter of Israel and Margaret Tremblay. When Lazare sold his business to Fouillard Implement Exchange, I was hired by Marquette Steam Fitters. When Georges and Ronnie Fouillard were accidentally killed on January 12th, 1966, I transferred from Marquette Steam Fitters to Imperial Oil where I replaced Georges as Imperial Oil Agent. In September of 1974, along with the St. Lazare agency, I also managed the Birtle Imperial agency up to December 1975. I transferred the agency to my brother-in-law, Harry Edmundson, who at the time was working for me and residing in Birtle. With the untimely death of Mr. Harry Chapple on November 16th, 1975, the position of secretary-treasurer for the Rural Municipality of Ellice and the Village of St. Lazare was then advertised. Due to the increasing centralization of smaller Imperial Oil Agencies across the country, I decided to apply for the secretary-treasurer's job which was now open. My application being approved by both the R.M. of Ellice and the Village of St. Lazare Council, I started on a full time basis as administrator for both Councils on December 6th, 1975.

My family consists of four boys and two girls. Anthony (Tony) was born March 26th, 1960; David, February 15th, 1961; Francis (Franco) February 2nd, 1962; Roberta, April 7th, 1963, Constance (Connie), February 6th, 1965, and Scott in January 19, 1972.

Anthony (**Tony**) attended St. Lazare Elementary School and Birtle Collegiate. In 1976, Tony was employed by C.N.R. At the present time he works as a section foreman in St. Lazare during the winter and as a Foreman on extra gangs during the summer. In 1981 Tony married Sandra Goodman, daughter of Ken and Beryl Goodman of Rocanville, Sask. They now reside in Rocanville. A son, Brendan was born, May 22, 1982.

David attended St. Lazare Elementary School, and took his grade X at Le Petit Séminaire in St. Boniface. Grade XI and XII were taken at Brandon Neelin High, while playing hockey for the Brandon Wheat Kings. David's main interest is playing hockey, with his goal set for the N.H.L. Except the year he spent in St. Boniface, David played all his minor hockey for St. Lazare under the coaching and supervision of Philip Fafard. He played with Brandon Travellers and Brandon Wheat Kings. He signed an N.H.L. contract for John Ferguson of the Win-

nipeg Jets in April of 1981 and was immediately sent to Tulsa to finish the 80-81 season. Again the 81-82 season was played with the Tulsa Oilers of the Central American Hockey League which was the Winnipeg Jets Farm Club. For the 1982-83 season, the Winnipeg Jets moved their farm club to Sherbrooke, Quebec, and this is where David is presently playing. For the last three years, David has played baseball, first for the McAuley Blazers and then the Binscarth Orioles in the Manitoba Senior Baseball League. For the last four years, during the month of August, he has taught hockey at the Ron Lowe and Butch Goring Hockey School in Foxwarren, Man. A statistical glance back to 1980-81: Age 19; Goal Points 69; Goals 64; Assists 60; Points 124; Penalty in Minutes 295; Power-play goals 22; Power-play assists 22; Winning goals 6; Winning-goal assists 9; short-handed goals 6; shorthanded assists 4. David married Cheryl Kingdon (Aug. 7th, 1957) daughter of Alvin and Margaret Kingdon of Binscarth on June 27th, 1981.

Francis (**Franco**) attended school in St. Lazare and Birtle Collegiate. Franco enjoys working on construction such as pipelines and oil rigs. At present he is employed by Crush Rite Concrete of Foxwarren. Franco is single and lives with his parents.

Roberta attended St. Lazare Elementary School. She took her grades X-XI and XII in Prince Albert at the Rivier Academy. After graduating she went to Brandon where she took a hairdressing course at Pollock's School. She then moved to Ottawa where she is employed as a hairdresser. Roberta is single and lives with her Aunt Marie Watters in Ottawa.

Constance attended St. Lazare Elementary School. She took her grades X and XI in Prince Albert at the Rivier Academy. She is presently taking her grade XII at Birtle Collegiate. Connie lives with her parents.

Scott, the youngest of the family is presently attending school in St. Lazare. Scott enjoys playing hockey and perhaps will follow in David's footsteps.

Edmundson, Melina Yvonne (Chartier)

I was born in 1936, daughter of Lionel and Rosine Chartier. Because I was one of the second set of twins, I never knew if I was number 13 or 14 of the family. My twin brother, Damien, died when he was six months old. I attended Decorby Elementary School and received my high School education at the Convent in St. Lazare. I taught grades V and VI in St. Lazare before marrying Harry Edmundson of Birtle in April, 1958. We lived upstairs at Robert Decorby's until we bought Oscar Dupont's house. That house was later sold to Arthur Fenez. A daughter, **Rose-Marie**, was born in February 1959. Rose married

Kenneth James Ewbank of Birtle in October 1977. James Cory was born in April 1981. **Robert Lionel**, was born on October 20, 1960. He is taking a course in Business Administration at Assiniboine Community College in Brandon and plays hockey with A.C.C. Cougars. Another son, **Kenneth Gilbert** was born in September, 1963. He plays hockey in Hudson Bay, Sask. In December of 1964, we moved to Birtle, where Harry was employed. We lived in Jessie McLeans' house until we bought the Harold Barker home. I began working in the Birtle Post Office in 1967. Maman lived with us for six years during that time. Our daughter, **Lori-Jane**, was born April 23, 1970. She is attending school in Birtle. In 1977, Harry bought the former Wally Grocery store, which he now manages.

I can't recall much about my growing years in St. Lazare. This incident remains in my mind: Claude and I were gathering grasshoppers in the Decorby School yard, just across from our house, for Dad to use while fishing. Our bull calf was tied to the flag pole and somehow managed to get loose. This beast pushed me against the wire fence, bouncing me back and forth. Claude ran home to get help, and finally related to Maman my plight. It took both Papa and our cousin, Paul, who was visiting, to get the bull away from me. I often wonder if that is the reason that today I am so afraid of cattle. I also remember Omer preaching to me from the kitchen counter about the \$2.00 price tag on the nylons I was wearing. Omer often had to pay for my necessities with money he earned while working in Robert Decorby's store after school and on Saturdays.

Having once tasted the Assiniboine water, I always enjoy going back for more!

Chartier, Omer

Omer Chartier was born in St. Lazare, Manitoba on July 4th, 1938, the 15th and last child of Rosine Alarie and the 17th and last child of Lionel Chartier (it was his second marriage). Omer attended St. Lazare elementary and high school, except for grade eight which he attended at St. Boniface College in 1950-51.

During his last three years of school and into 1956, he contracted the "mail run", getting the mail ready and meeting trains at midnight and 4:00 a.m. He worked by day as a clerk for Decorby's Store of St. Lazare until early 1957, after which he went to Kitimat, British Columbia as a surveyor for the Aluminum Co. of Canada. (February 1957 to November 1958). Following a lay-off in Kitimat, he returned to St. Lazare to serve as clerk for his brother-in-law, Jacques Guay, who operated Guay's Store.

November of 1960, saw the beginning of St.

Lazare's Knights of Columbus Council. Having been initiated in Brandon the year before, Omer became a charter member of the council and in 1961, its second Grand Knight, a position that he was to hold again three years later.

In 1963, while playing hockey for McAuley, in Tantallon, he was rushed to Moosomin Hospital, by Thomas Selby and Emile Huybrecht with a serious injury to the face that required 32 stitches and a three week stay in the hospital. This had to be followed by an eye and nose operation in St. Boniface General Hospital some eight months later.

On December 2nd, 1965 when the St. Lazare Athletic Association received its charter, he served as its first president. The same year on August 14th, he married Annette Gagné, born May 18th, 1943, who came to St. Lazare from St. Pierre, Manitoba, two years previous as a school teacher. Five children were born of this union — Michel, June 16th, 1966, André, December 2nd, 1968, Josée, September 16th, 1970, Stéphane January 26, 1973 and Martine August 25th, 1980. The couple resided in a suite above the Fouillard Lumber building for two years after which a house was built by Fouillard Lumber and Supplies on a lot purchased from Armand Guenette. They moved into their new home on October 18th, 1968.

During this period (October 1967) Omer became councillor for the Village of St. Lazare and Postmaster (December 1, 1967). After serving as councillor for seven years, he became St. Lazare's mayor (October 1974), a position he still holds.

Chartier, Henri (Henry) and Leatitia

Joseph Henri Chartier, son of Narcisse Chartier and Olivine Venne, born on May 19, 1891, was baptized the same day at Saint Jacques de Montcalm, Quebec.

He was fifteen years old when he arrived in St. Lazare and went to work for Emile Chartier where he remained for eight years. He had saved enough money then to buy a quarter of land — 16-17-28 — from Arthur Doig. He moved a house bought from David Simard, to the farm and "batched" there for two years. In 1916, he married Marie Ange Leatitia (daughter of Israel Tremblay and Edith Bergeron), born in Chambord, P.Q. In the early years Henri put up several buildings — the barn he built is still standing. They had eleven children. Albert, married Jeanne d'Arc Decelles; Leopold, deceased in 1956, married Julia Malaterre; Lorette, Mrs. Fabien Perreault; Irene, Mrs. Denis Laferriere; Alphonse, deceased soon after birth; Cecile, Mrs. Hervé Plante; Jean, married Lucille Deschambault; Jeanne, Mrs. Marcel Gaucher; Marie-Anne, Mrs. Lucien Pello-

quin; Claire, Mrs. Leo Levac; Majella, Mrs. Robert Fillion.

Henri and Leatitia spent their whole life in St. Lazare where they were busy raising and caring for this large family. In 1956, they left the farm to reside in the town. Two years later, after a short illness Henry died. In 1975, while she was on holiday in Gravelbourg, Leatitia suffered a stroke and died on August 6th. Both are buried in the cemetery in Saint Lazare.

Leopold, was born October 31, 1918, in St. Lazare, son of Henri Chartier and Leatitia Tremblay. He lived at home for the first 19 years of his life. In 1937, he left for seven years and worked up north for the railroad. In 1944, Leopold and his brother Albert, moved to a farm (11-17-18), which they had bought. In 1944, Leopold married Julia Malaterre. They had four daughters. Bernadette October 14, 1947; Patricia October 22, 1948; Aline June 6, 1950 and Madeline December 13, 1951. In 1950, Julia and Leopold moved to a different farm and lived there for a year. They moved to St. Lazare and started a restaurant which served both as a home and place of employment. Leopold died on June 14, 1956, leaving Julia with four young children.

Gaucher, Jeanne (Chartier)

Jeanne, daughter of Henri Chartier and Leatitia Tremblay, was born in St. Lazare on August 4, 1930 and attended school there. In 1952 she left for Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan to meet her cousins René and Rose Blouin. She later found employment as a clerk in a ladies' shop. She married Marcel Gaucher in 1952, a native of Coderre, who in 1949 had a barber shop in Gravelbourg and retired in 1976 because of illness. They had a family of four: **Monique** was born on August 10, 1953 and received her schooling in Gravelbourg. She later took a Hairdressing Course in Regina and worked in Assiniboia until she married Roland Clermont in 1971, a farmer from Lafleche. They have 2 children — Michael, 11 and Chantal, 9. **Rachelle** was born on August 4, 1954 and attended school in Gravelbourg. She then worked as a waitress. In 1972 she married Victor Reed, a farmer from Pateman and they have 2 children — Angela, 7 and Dale, 5. **Gerald** was born on November 3, 1957 and attended school in Gravelbourg until his graduation in 1975. He then attended S.T.I. in Moose Jaw where he took a course in Accounting and is presently teaching in Moose Jaw. He married Karen Corbin from Radville in 1978 who is presently working in Moose Jaw at Immigration and Manpower. **Suzanne** was born on December 13, 1958 and attended school in Gravelbourg until her graduation in 1976. She was employed at Gravelbourg Credit Union, and later

transferred to Regina where she met and married Dave Reddy in 1981. Now they are both working in Calgary.

Peloquin, Lucien and Marie Anne by Marie Anne

I was born July 21, 1936, am the daughter of Henri Chartier and Leatitia Tremblay. I attended school in St. Lazare and boarded at the convent. On October 21, 1953, I married Lucien Peloquin (1920) of St. Malo. We lived in St. Lazare from 1954-1963, where Lucien was a carpenter. During the winter of 1958-59, he was caretaker of the skating rink. In May, 1963, we left St. Lazare with our family to reside in Brandon. Lucien has been employed since by E. C. Higgins Construction Co. as a carpenter. I have been working at Brandon University in the cafeteria and canteen for the past ten years. **Edith Marie Irene** was born in Sept. 1954. She married Derek Kuntz of Winnipeg in August of 1971. They had one child, Jennifer Lee, born May 14, 1976. Derek passed away in 1978. Edith married Cst. Herb Summerfeldt of Dundurn, Sask. in 1981. They presently reside in Winnipeg. **Luc Joseph Lucien** (1956) married Kelly Kamann of Brandon in 1978. In January, 1983 they were transferred to Grand Rapids, Man. by the Dept. of Natural Resources, where Luc is a Conservation Officer. **Brigitte Denise Marie** (1959) married Cst. Robert Bazin of St. Claude in December 1981. They live in Shaunavon, Sask. **Laure Cecile Marie** (1961) lives at home and is employed at the Court House by the Dept. of the Attorney-General. **Henri Joseph Wilfrid**, born in July 1963, is an assistant manager at the Olde Tymes Restaurant and Lounge and resides in Brandon.

Levac, Claire (Chartier)

Claire, daughter of Henri Chartier and Leatitia Tremblay, was born in Birtle, Manitoba on June 25, 1938. She received her schooling in St. Lazare as a boarder at the Convent from 1944 to 1953. Later she left to join her sister Jeanne at Gravelbourg, Sask. She worked in a private home for a year, then joined the staff at St. Joseph's Hospital as an Office Clerk for 3 years. In June, 1959, she married Léo Levac, a farmer from Gravelbourg, who later, in 1974, purchased a business in town, the Robinson Store, and has been operating both the farm and store. They had three girls: **Laurette** (1960) attended school in Gravelbourg until her graduation in 1978. Laurette was employed at the Toronto-Dominion Bank for 9 months in Gravelbourg and then got a transfer to Red Deer, Alberta in 1979. In 1982, she married Brian Carson, a native of Whitewood, Sask. who works on Alberta Oil Rigs. **Louise** (1962) attended school in Gravelbourg until her graduation in 1980. She was

employed at the Robinson Store for a year and later joined the staff at St. Joseph's Hospital as Accounting Clerk and has been working there since. **Lorraine** (1967) is presently attending high school in Gravelbourg. She is in grade X and living at home.

Fillion, Majella (Chartier)

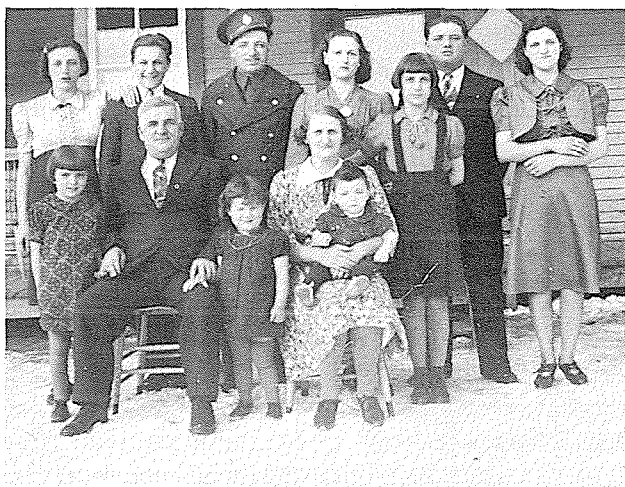
Majella was born in 1940, daughter of Henri and Leatitia Chartier. She married Robert Fillion in 1958 and they farmed at Virden until 1966. Robert took over the Robinson Store at Gravelbourg, Sask., for nine years. He went into the real estate business in Winnipeg, where he and his family are presently living. They have four children, Anita, Hector, Louise and Thérèse.

Chartier, Henri and Leatitia

Joseph Henri Chartier, fils de Narcisse Chartier et d'Olivinne Venne, né le 19 mai 1891, a été baptisé la même journée à St. Jacques de Montcalm, Province de Quebec.

En 1906, Henri Chartier, âgé de 15 ans, arriva de la province de Québec. Il trouva de l'emploi chez Emile Chartier pendant huit ans jusqu'à ce qu'il puisse acquérir sa propre terre (16-17-28). Elle fût achetée d'Arthur Daig en 1914. La même année il acheta une maison de David Simard et la transporta sur sa ferme où il demeura seul pour deux ans. Fatigué de sa vie de célibataire il épousa, le 7 novembre 1916, Marie Ange Leatitia, fille d'Israël Tremblay et d'Edith Bergeron, née à Chambord, province de Québec, le 21 octobre, 1895. Pendant les premières années, M. Chartier érigea les différentes bâtisses dont, l'étable qui survécut jusqu'à présent.

De l'union de M. et Mme Chartier sont nés onze enfants; Albert, épousa Jeanne d'Arc Decelles; Léopold épousa Julia Malaterre, Léopold est décédé en janvier 1956; Lorette, Mme Fabien Perreault;



La Famille de Henri Chartier.

Irène, Mme Denis Laferrière; Alphonse, mort tout jeune; Cécile, Mme Hervé Plante; Jean épousa Lucille Deschambault; Jeanne, Mme Marcel Gaucher; Marie Anne, Mme Lucien Péloquin; Claire, Mme Léo Levac; et Majella, Mme Robert Fillion. Henri et Leatitia ont passé les années de leur vie à St. Lazare où ils se sont occupés à élever et prendre soin de cette grosse famille d'une façon chrétienne et responsable.

En 1956 à l'âge de 65 et 61 ans respectivement Henri et Leatitia déménagèrent au village de St. Lazare, pour vivre de leur rente. En 1958 après une maladie de courte durée, M. Chartier est mort à l'hôpital de Birtle d'un cancer au foie. En 1975 au cours d'un congé à Gravelbourg, Leatitia subit une hémorragie cérébrale et expira le 6 août. Ils sont tous deux enterrés à St. Lazare où ils ont passé leur vie.

Chartier, Jean et Lucille

Je suis né le 29 mai, 1927, fils d'Henri Chartier et Leatitia Tremblay au foyer paternel.

A l'âge de sept ans, je commençai mon éducation à l'école Decorby à St. Lazare. Je suis allé en classe jusqu'en 1941. J'ai été fortuné d'être enseigné par les Soeurs de la Présentation, qui étaient venues à St. Lazare en 1929.

Mon éducation terminée, je me suis appliqué à apprendre l'agriculture avec mon père Henri Chartier. Durant ces années mon plus beau passe-temps était de danser parmi les Métis qui sont sans doute les meilleurs musiciens et danseurs du pays.



Jean et Lucille avec Renée, Ginette, Raphaël, Micheline, Raymonde.

En 1956 à l'âge de 29 ans, j'épousai Lucille Deschambault. Nous nous sommes établis au foyer paternel, mes parents étant retirés au village. Nous avons eu et élevé cinq enfants. Ginette, née en 1957, demeure à Calgary, Raphaël, né en 1958, demeure à la maison, Micheline, née en 1960, demeure aussi à la maison, Renée, née en 1964, demeure à Calgary et Raymonde, née en 1967, va encore à l'école et reste à la maison.

J'ai passé ma vie à St. Lazare où j'ai travaillé ma terre et élevé ma famille à peu près de la même manière que mes parents l'avaient fait. Présentement je m'occupe de mon troupeau de vaches laitières.

Je (Lucille Deschambault) suis née à St. Lazare 1932, fille d'Antonio Deschambault et Joséphine Guay. Etant la deuxième de la famille, j'avais tendance à suivre mon père de très près jusqu'au temps que j'aie à l'école. Je suis allée à l'école d'Ellice à l'âge de huit ans jusqu'à 14 ans. A ce moment là, j'ai été obligée d'arrêter pour faire ma part chez nous, car mon père avait subi une crise du foie. Etant convalescent pendant deux mois, il comptait sur Venance et moi pour prendre soin de la ferme.

Je demeurai chez nous jusqu'à l'âge de 19 ans. Alors je trouvai de l'emploi au café de M. Albert Roy. Après un an de travail, je retournai chez mes parents. A 23 ans, j'allai travailler au Sanatorium de St. Vital pendant six mois. Puis je suis retournée chez nous et à l'âge de 24 ans je décidai d'épouser Jean Chartier, le 10 juillet 1956.

Depuis mon mariage, je passe mon temps à domicile avec ma famille. Je m'occupe à prendre soin de mes enfants et de mes obligations communautaires.

Jean et moi aidons de notre mieux les Chevaliers de Colomb, le Comité Culturel et le comité de Parents pour Scouts et guides et aujourd'hui, je suis assistante aux Louveteaux et présidente des Dames Auxiliaires pour l'année du centenaire. Nous espérons tous les deux de vivre encore de nombreuses années, heureux à St. Lazare.

Péloquin, Marie Anne

Je suis née le 21 juillet, 1936, fille de Henri Chartier et Laetitia Tremblay. J'ai fréquenté l'école de Saint Lazare pendant neuf années et j'étais pensionnaire chez les Soeurs de la Présentation de Marie.

Le 21 octobre 1953, j'ai marié Lucien Péloquin (né le 6 octobre 1920) de Saint Malo, Manitoba. De 1959 à 1963, notre chez-nous était à St. Lazare où Lucien était charpentier. Durant l'hiver il était aussi en charge de la patinoire. En 1963, nous quittions Saint Lazare pour Brandon. Depuis ce temps, Lucien est employé par la compagnie, E. C. Higgins comme charpentier. Depuis une dizaine d'années je travaille au café de l'université de Brandon.

De nos enfants, voici le résumé. La première, Edith Marie Irène, née le 30 septembre 1954, maria Derek Kuntz de Winnipeg en août 1971. Ils eurent un enfant, Jennifer Lee, née le 14 mai 1976. Derek est décédé en mars 1978. Edith se remaria à Herb Summerfeldt de Dundurn, Sask. le 7 mars 1981. Ils résident présentement à Winnipeg. Luc Joseph Lucien,

est né le 18 octobre 1956. Il épousa Kelly Kamaan de Brandon le 10 juin 1978. En janvier 1983, son employeur (ministère des mines et ressources du Manitoba) le déménagea à Grand Rapids où il est à présent. Le troisième enfant, Brigitte Denise Marie est née le 23 février, 1959. Elle épousa Robert Bazin de Saint Claude, le 5 décembre 1981. Ils résident à Shaunavon, Sask. Laure Cécile Marie, la troisième fille, est née le 29 septembre 1961. Elle réside avec nous et est employée par le ministère du procureur-général à Brandon. Henri Joseph Wilfred est né le 18 juillet 1963. Il est gérant-assistant au restaurant "Old Tymes" à Brandon.

Levac, Claire

Claire Chartier, fille d'Henri Chartier et de Leatitia Tremblay, est née à Birtle, Manitoba, le 25 juin 1938. Elle fréquenta l'école de Saint Lazare et fut pensionnaire au couvent des Soeurs de 1944 à 1953. Elle rejoignit sa soeur Jeanne à Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan. Elle travailla dans une maison privée pendant un an, puis fut employée dans les bureaux de l'hôpital St. Joseph pendant trois ans. Au mois de juin en 1959, elle se maria avec Léo Levac, agriculteur. En 1974, ils achetèrent le commerce de "Robinson Store" à Gravelbourg. Ils dirigent les deux opérations depuis jusqu'à ce jour. De ce mariage sont nées trois filles. Laurette, née le 1 novembre, 1960, fit ses études à Gravelbourg jusqu'à sa graduation en 1978. Elle travailla à la banque Toronto Dominion pour quelque temps et fut transférée à Red Deer, Alberta. En 1982, elle se maria à Brian Carson, natif de Whitewood Saskatchewan, qui travaille aux puits à pétrole en Alberta. Louise, née le 7 décembre, 1962, est graduée des écoles de Gravelbourg en 1980. Elle fut employée au magasin Robinson et de là devint commis comptable aux bureaux de l'hôpital St. Joseph; où elle est présentement. Lorraine, née le 15 juin, 1967, suit les cours de la dixième année à la haute-école de Gravelbourg. Elle reste chez ses parents.

Fillion, Majella (Chartier)

Majella Chartier, fille d'Henri Chartier et de Leatitia Tremblay née le 17 avril, 1940. Je commençai mon éducation à l'âge de sept ans à l'école De-Corby, jusqu'à l'âge de dix-sept ans. Plus tard je travaillai à l'hôpital de Birtle, jusqu'à mon mariage à Robert Fillion de Virden en 1958. De cette union sont nés quatre enfants. Anita née le 27 juillet 1959 (maria Blaine Worowski le 9 juin 1979); Hector né le 27 septembre, demeure à Edmonton; Louise née le 29 août 1961 (maria Tom Loger le 5 juin 1982); Thérèse née le 20 octobre 1963.

Nous sommes restés sur la ferme paternelle à Virden jusqu'en 1966, quand nous déménagions à

Gravelbourg. Nous étions gérants du magasin Robinson pour neuf ans. Ensuite nous avons déménagé à Winnipeg. Robert a travaillé pour une compagnie de propriété immobilière et maintenant on réside sur la rue Provencher à St. Boniface.

La Famille Lionel Chartier

Lionel Chartier fils de Delphis Chartier et Aurélie Dumars naquit à St. Jacques Québec, le 14 mars 1879. Il vint demeurer à St. Lazare en 1888 à l'âge de neuf ans.

Pendant quelques années il travaillait comme fermier à l'endroit appelé le "quinze". Plus tard il demeura au village et travailla sur le chemin de fer comme contre-maître pour le Canadien National entre St. Lazare, Uno et Treat.

Il épousa Corinne Lemoine, fille de Pierre Lemoine et de Marie Langevin de Ste. Agathe. Trois enfants furent le fruit de ce mariage, une mourut en bas âge, Laetitia et Réginald.

Lionel, étant devenu veuf en 1912, épousa Rosine



M. et Mme. Lionel Chartier.

Alarie six mois plus tard. Elle aussi est née à Ste. Agathe, Manitoba. De ce mariage, 15 enfants, dont 13 vivants, naquirent: **Lucia, Bertha, Yvonne, Marie Ange, Aurélienne, Martine, Thérèse, Arthur, Jeannette, Claude, Roma, Mélina, et Omer**. Deux garçons moururent en bas âge, Edouard et Damien.

Mme Rosine Chartier appelée par le bon Père Aurèle "la fleur de nos paroissiennes" (ceci dans le bulletin paroissial St. Lazare le 5 décembre 1982) quittait sa famille, sa paroisse et le Foyer Décorby le 13 novembre 1982. Son souvenir restera bien vivant pour tous ceux qui l'ont cotoyée au cours de sa longue vie.

Lionel Chartier mourut à son domicile à St. Lazare le neuf juin 1943.

Chartier, Soeur Laetitia

Le 14 novembre 1905, l'aînée de la famille de Lionel Chartier et de Corinne Lemoine est née à St. Lazare, Laetitia Chartier.

Il m'est impossible de vous donner la date de mon baptême puisque les livres contenant les renseignements à ce sujet furent brûlés lors d'un incendie, et je ne puis plus trouver personne de ma famille qui puisse me le dire.

Cependant, comme je ne pesais que deux livres et que j'étais frêle, le baptême me fut conféré très peu après ma naissance. C'est M. le Curé Hormidas Hogue qui m'a assurée qu'il m'avait baptisée dans la "cuisine". J'aurais bien voulu en avoir connaissance mais ce ne fut pas le cas.

Maman mourut plutôt subitement le 9 janvier. Je suis incertaine de l'année, je crois que c'était 1912. Après son départ j'ai passé bien des moments chez mon grand-père M. Delphis Chartier, et je suis devenue très attachée à mes deux tantes Anna et Eva Chartier, soeurs de mon père.

Le 18 juin, mon père épousa Rosine Alarie, fille de M. Omer Alarie. Elle aussi naquit à Ste. Agathe Man. Ceci fut pour moi vraiment providentiel et depuis 1912 jusqu'à sa mort en 1982, elle a été pour nous une mère chrétienne et très dévouée.

Mon frère Réginald et moi avons d'abord fréquenté la petite école du village qui à ce temps-là était non loin de la vieille église paroissiale près du cimetière qui est dans la vallée.

Nos professeurs furent Mlle Beatrice Philippon, Mme Courchain et aussi M. Blouin.

En janvier 1919, je quittais St. Lazare pour aller à l'école à Elie, Man. On aurait dit que je vivais dans un autre monde. C'était ma première rencontre avec les Religieuses de Notre Dame des Missions. Ma soeur Lucia et moi avons été pensionnaires au Couvent d'Elie pour quelques années. Nos autres compagnes de St. Lazare étaient Anna-Marie Tremblay,

Diane Huberdeau et Hélène Deschambault qui devint plus tard ma belle-soeur.

En septembre 1923, je me dirigeai chez les mêmes religieuses à l'Académie St. Michel de Brandon où je passai un an.

Au mois d'août 1924, j'entrai au Noviciat des Soeurs de Notre-Dame des Missions à St. Eustache. M. le Curé Barton, qui était alors pasteur de St. Lazare, m'accompagna en train jusqu'à Elie puisque lui se rendait à Winnipeg. Mon père fit un petit bout du trajet avec moi de St. Lazare à Treat où il travaillait.

Ce ne fut pas sans chagrin que je lui dis "Au-revoir". Heureusement que le Seigneur nous donne des grâces bien spéciales au temps nécessaire. Je l'ai vraiment réalisé en ce 14 août 1924. Par une étrange coïncidence ce fut M. le Curé Hogue qui ne conduisit d'Elie à St. Eustache en ce jour mémorable.

En novembre 1926, le Noviciat fut transféré de St. Eustache au Collège du Sacré-Coeur sur la rue Albert, Régina. Nous avons quitté St. Eustache au soir du 2 novembre, cela en "wagon" pour aller prendre le train du soir à Elie. Nous nous arrêtâmes à Portage la Prairie chez nos soeurs pour la nuit; le lendemain nous prenions la route de Régina.

Nous étions quatre pour la première Profession au collège du Sacré-Coeur, le 26 avril 1927. La cérémonie fut présidée par Mgr. Elzéar Mathieu, évêque de Régina. Mon père, ainsi que quelques autres membres de la famille, y étaient. C'est la dernière fois que je voyais mon père. Le 26 avril 1933, je prononçais mes vœux perpétuels au couvent St. Jude à Fort Frances, Ontario.

Au mois d'août 1977 je quittai le collège du Sacré-Coeur pour aller à l'Académie du Sacré-Coeur sur la route Athol à Regina. J'y fis un séjour d'un an.

Voici les autres endroits où je suis allée après 1927:

Septembre 1928 à juin 1929 — North Bay, Ontario

juin 1929 à juin 1943 — Fort Frances, Ontario

juin 1943 à juin 1944 — St. Eustache, Manitoba

juin 1944 à juin 1946 — Ste. Rose du Lac, Manitoba

juin 1946 à août 1950 — St. Joseph, Manitoba

août 1950 à août 1955 — Elie, Manitoba

août 1955 à août 1958 — St. Joseph, Manitoba

août 1958 à août 1959 — Letellier, Manitoba

août 1959 à août 1962 — Ste. Rose du Lac, Manitoba

août 1962 à août 1974 — Letellier et St. Joseph

En 1977, année de mon Jubilé d'Or à Régina, je suis revenue à Elie offrant mes services pour un nouveau genre de travail à la Maison de Prière. Ici, nous recevons des personnes qui viennent pour des retraites dirigées, des jours de prière en particulier et autres, et aidons dans la paroisse quand cela est possible.

Les années 1929 à 1974 furent employées à l'enseignement, surtout au niveau élémentaire. Ces années m'ont été précieuses.

Je remercie le Seigneur de m'avoir donné St. Lazare pour lieu de naissance car c'est réellement une belle place que cette vallée de Qu'Appelle. Je le remercie aussi pour la grande famille que nous sommes et pour avoir aussi appelé à son service ma soeur Bertha, ma nièce Soeur Corinne Chartier et Soeur Aurore Chartier.

Il fait bon retourner de temps à autre dans cette paroisse et d'y recevoir un chaleureux accueil du dévoué Père Aurèle et des gens de St. Lazare, sans oublier les chères religieuses de la Présentation de Marie qui ont tant fait pour ce coin de la vigne du Seigneur.

Chartier, Réginald et Jeanne

Réginald Joseph Chartier, fils de Corinne Le-moine de Ste. Agathe, Man. et de Lionel Chartier, originaire de St. Jacques, Québec, est né le 10 avril 1907. Il n'a seulement qu'une soeur — Laetitia, née le 14 novembre, 1905 et qui est devenue religieuse chez les Soeurs des Missions. Réginald avait seulement quatre ans lorsque sa mère mourut. Son père épousa par la suite Rosine Alarie de Ste. Agathe et Réginald de cette union, acquit plusieurs demi-frères et demi-soeurs.

Réginald reçut une éducation formelle à St. Lazare jusqu'au niveau de la septième année. Après quoi, il se mit au travail pour gagner sa vie. Il fut employé pour le C.N.R., au magasin de Jules DeCorby, comme conducteur de camion pour Benoit Fouillard entre les années 1928 et 1940. Il retourna travailler pour le C.N.R. pour la compagnie National



La Famille de Réginald and Jeanne Chartier.

Grain (plus tard nommée Cargill). L'élève de St. Lazare brûla en 1962 et Réginald dut aller en dehors de St. Lazare pour travailler jusqu'à sa retraite en 1981.

En 1934, Réginald maria Hélène Deschambault, fille de Venance. Cette union dura seulement quatorze mois car la maladie emporta Hélène. Aucun enfant est né de cette union.

Le 23 novembre 1937, Réginald épousa Jeanne, fille de Rosario Huberdeau et Eugénie Guay, Réginald et Jeanne ont eu onze enfants: **Corinne** — Voir Soeur Corinne. **Jean-Marc** né le 31 octobre 1940 fréquenta l'école de 1946 à 1958. Il alla à l'école à St. Lazare et pour quatre ans au Collège St. Boniface. De 1958 à 1962 il eut différents emplois et en 1962 fut employé avec Léon Dupont à la construction de ponts pour le "Department of Highways". En 1967 il prit un cours de charpentier à Brandon où il demeura jusqu'en 1975. Revenu à St. Lazare en 1975, il est employé à la mine à Rocanville comme charpentier. Marié en octobre 1966 à Colombe "Claudette" Fafard, il habite dans l'ancienne maison (rénovée) de son grand-père Rosario Huberdeau. Ils ont quatre filles: Carmelle née en 1967, Lisa en 1969, Jacqueline en 1973 et Cléo-Anne en 1978. **Lionel Jr.** Naquit à St. Lazare le quatre avril, 1942. Ecole primaire et secondaire à St. Lazare, termina la douzième année en 1960. De 1960-63, études au collège St. Paul (Université de Manitoba) d'où il obtint un Bachelier en Science en 1963. Professeur de Chimie à Campion College de 1963-1966. Inscrit à Queen's Université de Kingston en 1966, il obtint un Bachelier Science (génie chimique) en 1970. De janvier 1970 à 1972 à l'emploi de Consolidated Bathurst, Ltée à Port Alfred, Québec. Marié en juillet 1970, à Viviane Pelletier de Jonquière, Québec. Ont trois enfants Chantal née en 1971, Yanic en 1974 et Hughes en 1977. De janvier 1972 à novembre 1974, employé de Abitibi Paper à Beaupré et pour le gouvernement de Québec au Ministère de l'Environnement. De novembre 1974 à juillet '82 employé à Consolidated Bathurst Québec comme surveillant des services techniques et ensuite gérant de projet en vue de l'installation d'une nouvelle machine à papier. Employé depuis juillet 1982 pour la même compagnie, division Belgo à Shawinigan à titre de surveillant général des services.

Louise — née le 2 septembre 1945 fréquenta l'école de St. Lazare et l'Académie de St. Joseph. Après sa graduation, elle fut employée à l'hôpital King George à Winnipeg pour un an et en 1965 prit un cours de garde-malade à l'hôpital St. Boniface. Elle fut ensuite employée à l'Hospice Taché. Elle est mariée à Blair Evanson de Welwym, Saskatchewan depuis le 24 juin 1967. Ils habitèrent à Regina jus-

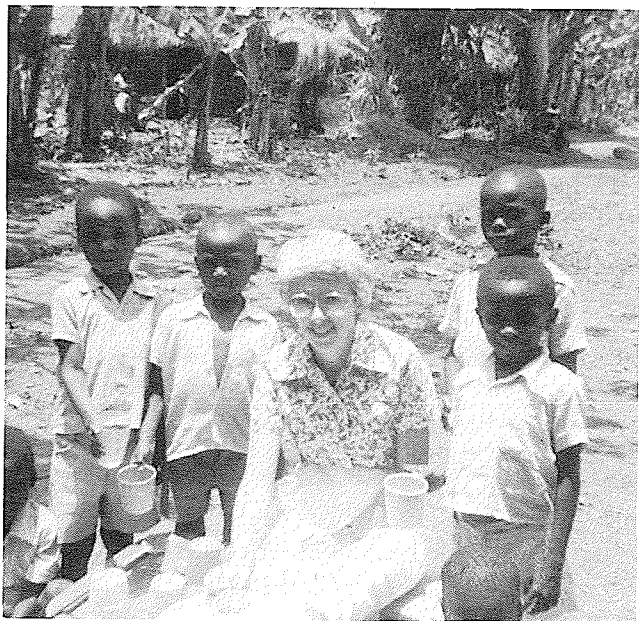
qu'en 1980 pour déménager à Calgary. Ils ont quatre enfants, Jean-Paul (14), Jean-Claude (13), Michelle (12), et Danielle (7). **Monique** — née le 11 juillet, 1947. Fréquenta école St. Lazare. A sa sortie de l'école elle fut employée au bureau de poste à St. Lazare pour un an. Elle se rendit à Regina travailler dans un restaurant en 1963. En mars 1964, elle maria Larry Tegart, pilote-navigateur dans les forces armées. Ils habitèrent à Winnipeg de 1964 à 1978. Ils sont maintenant à Regina où Larry est technicien-coordonnateur pour la ville de Regina. Ils ont trois enfants Roxanne 17 ans, Kevin 16 ans et Colin 11 ans. Monique est assistante-professeur à l'école Vincent Massey dans un programme d'immersion française. **Odette** née le 13 octobre 1948 fréquenta l'école à St. Lazare et l'Académie St. Joseph à St. Boniface. Ses études terminées elle prit un emploi à Winnipeg pour Manitoba Telephone. En 1967-68 elle enseigna sur permis à l'école élémentaire de St. Lazare et en 1968-69 fut secrétaire pour l'école. A l'automne de 1969 elle s'enregistra à l'université de Brandon où elle acquit crédit pour sa première année en faculté de lettres. Mariée depuis le 10 octobre 1970 à Jacques Fafard, fermier de Ste. Marthe où elle habite avec lui et leurs quatre fils Réjean (11), Mario (10), Alain (6), et Bernard (3). **Pauline** — Voir Guy Deschambault. **Guy** — né le 21 octobre 1952 alla à l'école de St. Lazare. A l'âge de 14 ans, il fut élève au collège Notre Dame de Wilcox, Saskatchewan. En 1974, gradua avec un Bachelier-ès-Arts de l'université d'Ottawa. Fut employé de 1975 à 1982 à Edmonton, Alberta pour Sureway Construction. Il fréquente à présent l'Université de Regina et poursuit un cours de journalisme. **Camille** — né en 1958 fréquenta l'école de St. Lazare et gradua de Birtle en 1975. Est employé à la mine de potasse à Rocanville depuis 1979.

Chartier, Soeur Corinne

Corinne Chartier S.N.J.M.

Native de St. Lazare, née 17 janvier 1939, fille de Réginald Chartier et Jeanne Huberdeau, j'y ai passé ma jeunesse. C'est à l'âge de 16 ans que j'ai quitté St. Lazare pour poursuivre mes études chez les Soeurs des Saints Noms de Jésus et de Marie à l'Académie St. Joseph, à St. Boniface. C'est mon désir de demeurer canadienne française qui m'a fait choisir cette institution. J'y ai passé une année et en mai, je décidais d'entrer au noviciat de la Congrégation des Soeurs des Saints Noms de Jésus et de Marie à Outremont, Montréal en juillet 1956.

De retour au Manitoba en août 1958, je commençai ma carrière d'institutrice. Pendant vingt ans, j'ai oeuvré au Sacré-Coeur de Winnipeg, à Holy Cross, à



Sr. Corinne Chartier in Haiti.

St. Thomas More, à Saint-Jean-Baptiste et à Somerset.

En 1975, un appel se fit sentir en moi, appel qui m'invitait à aller vers le Tiers-Monde. En 1978, ça se concrétisait lorsque ma communauté m'envoyait en Haïti où je trouve beaucoup de bonheur. J'y ai trouvé un peuple reconnu comme l'un des plus pauvres du monde mais à mesure que je le connais et le comprends davantage, je lui découvre toutes sortes de richesses dont, je suis moi-même dépourvue.

Durant mes deux premières années, j'ai aidé une religieuse dans une école primaire ensuite j'ai donné un coup de main à une autre qui travaille au diocèse du Cap-Haïtien.

En septembre 1980, je venais dans le bourg de l'Acul-du-Nord pour y ouvrir une école de garçons. De deux petites classes de trente-quatre élèves du début, l'école fait en 1983 le bonheur de 230 petits bambins de première, deuxième et troisième année. Sept professeurs dont j'assure la préparation pédagogique font un très beau travail pour l'éducation des leurs. J'espère que le Seigneur me donnera la santé pour rester au service de mes frères Haïtiens, de nombreuses années encore.

Lemoine (Chartier), Marie-Paule

Je m'appelle Marie-Paule Chartier-Lemoine. Je suis née le 7 janvier 1956. Je suis allée à l'école de St. Lazare et ensuite complété mon éducation secondaire à Birtle. Après quatre années d'étude au collège universitaire de Saint-Boniface, j'ai obtenu mon Baccalauréat en éducation. J'ai été professeur pendant trois ans à l'école de Ste. Anne, Manitoba et maintenant je complète ma deuxième année à l'école

immersion française de St. Norbert. Le 27 août 1977, je me suis mariée avec Claude Lemoine de Saint-Boniface. Nous n'avons pas d'enfant jusqu'à présent.

Chartier, Claude et Suzanne

Je suis Claude, né à St. Lazare le neuf octobre 1933 et fils de Lionel Chartier et Rosine Alarie. J'ai fréquenté l'école de St. Lazare sauf pour un an où je suis allé au Collège St. Boniface. Pendant mes trois dernières années comme étudiant je travaillais à temps partiel au magasin général de Georges Fouillard. En 1957 je travaillai pour le C.N.R. jusqu'en 1959 où j'ai pris un emploi pour cinq ans pour Lazare Fouillard pour faire la tenue des livres de son commerce. Quand celui-ci vendit son garage aux frères Fouillard je travaillai pour Marquette Steam Fitters. En 1966, après la mort tragique de Georges et Ronald Fouillard, je devins agent pour Imperial Oil. En 1974, j'avais aussi l'agence à Birtle et mon beau-frère prit ce commerce en décembre 1975 lorsque je devins secrétaire municipal et du village après la mort subite de Harry Chapple.

Je mariaï Suzanne Tremblay le 6 juillet, 1959 et nous avons cinq enfants. **Anthony** (Tony) né le 26 mars 1960 fréquenta l'école à St. Lazare et Birtle. Il est employé du C.N.R. depuis 1976, est contremaître à St. Lazare durant l'hiver et exerce le même emploi l'été pour les groupes qui sont employés pour différents projets sur la ligne de chemin de fer. Marié en 1981 à Sandra Goodman de Rocanville, Saskatchewan il y habite avec sa femme et fils Brendan. **David** né le 15 février, 1961 fréquenta l'école de St. Lazare, un an au Petit Séminaire à St. Boniface et finit sa haute école à Brandon Neeling High tout en jouant au hockey pour le club des Brandon Wheat Kings. A l'exception de son année à St. Boniface, David joua tout son hockey mineur à St. Lazare sous la direction de Philippe Fafard. Il signa un contrat avec la Ligue Nationale de Hockey avec le club des Winnipeg Jets en avril et fut immédiatement envoyé à Tulsa pour compléter la saison où il retourna jouer pour la saison 81-82. En 82-83, les Winnipeg Jets établirent leur club d'apprentissage à Sherbrooke, Québec où David est présentement et espère recevoir un appel de l'entraîneur, John Ferguson pour rejoindre les Winnipeg Jets. En été, David se tient en forme en jouant à la baseball pour les clubs seniors du Manitoba tels que ceux de Binscarth et McAuley, et il enseigne aussi le hockey avec Ron Lowe à la patinoire de Foxwarren, Manitoba. David maria Cheryl Kingdon de Binscarth le 27 juin, 1981. **Francis** (Franco) né le 2 février 1962, fréquenta l'école à St. Lazare et Birtle, Il est présentement employé par Crush-Rite Concrete de Foxwarren et vit avec ses parents.

Roberta, née le sept avril 1963, fréquenta l'école élémentaire de St. Lazare. Elle alla ensuite à l'Académie Rivier de Prince-Albert, Saskatchewan d'où elle gradua. Ayant pris un cours de coiffeuse à Brandon elle est employée à Ottawa où elle habite avec sa tante Marie Watters. **Constance**, née le 6 février, 1965 prend actuellement son douzième grade à Birtle tandis que **Scott** né le 19 janvier, 1972 fréquente l'école à St. Lazare.

Chartier, Omer

Omer Chartier naquit à St. Lazare, Manitoba, le 4 juillet 1938. Il était le 15ième et dernier enfant de Rosine Alarie et le 17ième et dernier enfant de Lionel Chartier (du deuxième mariage de son père). Omer fréquenta l'école élémentaire et secondaire de St. Lazare à l'exception de sa huitième année qu'il suivit au Collège St. Boniface en 1950-51. Il pensionnait alors au Juniorat des Oblats de Marie Immaculée.

Durant ses trois dernières années de classe et jusqu'en 1956 il transportait le courrier sous contrat avec M. Selby qui était alors maître de poste à St. Lazare. Ceci consistait à la préparation du courrier chaque soir et à rencontrer le train à minuit et pour un temps à quatre heures également, suivi du tri du courrier. De jour, Omer travaillait comme commis au magasin Decorby, ceci jusqu'en février 1957. Ensuite il se dirigea à Kitimat, Colombie Britannique, comme arpenteur avec l'Alcan, compagnie d'aluminium, où il demeura jusqu'en novembre de '58. Mis à pied par cette dernière compagnie, il revint à St. Lazare comme commis au magasin général de son beau-frère, Jacques Guay.

En novembre 1960, St. Lazare vit la naissance de son propre conseil des Chevaliers de Colomb. Ayant été membre du conseil de Brandon depuis l'année précédente, Omer fut un des membres fondateurs du conseil St. Lazare, ainsi que son deuxième grand chevalier en 1962, position qu'il détiendrait pour deux ans et pour un autre terme de trois ans en 1966 à 1969. Il fut aussi le premier président de l'Association Athlétique de St. Lazare quand celle-ci fut incorporée le deux décembre, 1965.

Le 14 août 1965, il épousa Annette Gagné (née le 18 mai 1943). Cette dernière, originaire de Saint-Pierre-Jolys, Manitoba, était venue deux ans auparavant à St. Lazare comme institutrice. Cinq enfants naquirent de cette union — Michel le 19 juin 1966, André le 2 décembre 1968, Josée le 16 septembre 1970, Stéphane le 26 janvier 1973 et Martine le 25 août 1980.

Pour deux ans le jeune couple demeura dans un logis au-dessus de la place d'affaires "Fouillard Lumber" après quoi ils achetèrent une maison qui fut construite par Fernand Peppin sous contrat d'Ernest

Fouillard sur un lot acheté d'Armand Guénette. Ils déménagèrent dans leur nouvelle demeure le 18 octobre 1968.

En octobre 1967, Omer devint conseiller pour le village de St. Lazare et en décembre de cette même année devint le premier maître de poste à plein temps. Il servit comme conseiller jusqu'en 1974 et fut élu maire en octobre de la même année, position qu'il détient jusqu'à date.

Clark, Edward Palmer and Isabelle

E.P. came from Ireland at the age of 19. He first stopped around Brandon before coming to this area, to purchase Section 33 for about five dollars an acre. Walter Ireland built a barn and a house for him, but due to E.P.'s lack of experience, he lost this land. He bought N½ 28-18-28 in 1905. Prior to this, in December 1902, E.P. and Isabelle Fletcher were married. Isabelle born June 28, 1883 was the first white baby born in that area. The family is — **Edward Fitzmaurice**, born August 1904 who married Jessie



Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Clarke, 1948.

Morphy. Their son, Carson, with his wife Isabel, lives at Calgary. Edward passed away in November, 1980. **William** Ross deceased December 23, 1908. **Helen** Isabel, born in July 1913, married Bert Mathe-son. Helen lives in North Vancouver. **Ida** Lorene (1922) married Denis Lloyd. Their daughter, Dawna married Walter Pazmandy of Gleichen, Alta. Ricky and Sharon Lloyd live near Ottawa. Raymond and Tammy live in Kelowna, B.C. Sherry and Rick Mitchell also live in Kelowna. Penny Belle, 12 years old, lives with her mother in Kelowna.

E.P. served on the school board and went around the district with his wood cutting machine, which required six men to operate it. Clarks sold a corner of their land for the establishment of Balmerino School, built in 1919. Consequently, they were quite involved with the school.

E.P. developed an avid interest in trees and flowers — among his favorites were gladioli, sweet peas, roses and apple trees. Isabelle grew the vegetables.

Clarks farmed until 1956 at which time Harvey Lopston rented the land. E.P. passed away February 4, 1958. Belle moved into Binscarth, and since 1966 has enjoyed trips to Calgary, Vancouver, and many places in Manitoba. She is a member of Knox United Church and has been since the age of 17. She is a member of the U.C.W.

Belle will be celebrating her **100th** birthday this year, June 28, 1983.



Mrs. E. P. Clarke who will celebrate her 100th birthday June 28, 1983.

The Cochrane Family

Archie Cochrane was born in 1907 at Allanton, Lanarkshire, Scotland, coming to Canada in 1929 to farm. He married Sarah Anne Barker in Binscarth in 1932. They have three children, Neil, Gail and Garnet. Neil was born on SE¼ 34-18-28 in 1933. Gail and Garnet were born in Russell. He farmed in Ellice Municipality two years as a hired man, then purchased a farm in Russell Municipality NW¼ 21-19-28 in 1935. Neil married Jean McKenzie of Portage La Prairie in 1956. He is a Welding Instructor at Crocus Plains School in Brandon, where he resides. They have three children, two boys and a girl, Laurie, Fred and Kenny. Laurie married Ron Ball, Brandon car dealer in 1976, and they have two children, Scott and Angie. Fred married Cathie Howell from Brandon in 1982. Kenny is living at home.

Collyer, John

John Collyer (1840) of Sussex, England, married Fanny Elizabeth Plomley (1842) in 1864. They had six boys. Fanny died in 1872 in childbirth and John married Rachel Minnie Collins in 1879. In 1882 John and Rachel came to Canada with sons Charles Ralph, Herbert James, Gerald Plomley, and Harold. Francis John joined them shortly after. Herbert caught typhoid fever and their step-mother was ill so they were held up in Winnipeg. When the father and sons finally reached Moosomin, Herbert had a relapse. It is a wonder that he recovered considering the difficulty in obtaining proper food and medicine and water. The step-mother died in Winnipeg December 1882 and is buried in St. John's Cathedral cemetery, Winnipeg. John homesteaded E½ 24-16-29. He died in 1891.

Francis John (1865) homesteaded first on sandy soil near the mouth of Beaver Creek and the Assiniboine River W½ 24-16-29. He soon abandoned this and relocated in Archie R.M. In 1890, he married Jane Traquair and they had two children, Walter Francis and Jeanette Elizabeth. Jane died in 1930. F.J. married Muriel Struthers in 1934. He died in 1948, and Muriel in 1969.

F. J. Collyer helped to organize, build and was secretary-treasurer of the first church in the area from St. Lazare to Moosomin. He was instrumental in having cairns erected to mark the sites of many forts and trails, such as Fort Ellice, Fort Esperance and Carleton Trail. His son Walter after his retirement, worked at marking unmarked graves and erecting a cairn at Beaver Rapids Cemetery. Francis John, his first wife, son Walter and his wife Mary are all buried in the Beaver Rapids Cemetery.

Charles Ralph was born 1866 and bought S½ 6-16-29 from Charlie Barkley. In 1889 he married Jessie Pearson and they had eight children. Jessie died in 1900. Ralph's aunt Fanny came from England to help, and also a school teacher, Emily Sophia Lewarton (1875) who lived at Fort Ellice with her parents, helped. During her vacation in 1901, she rendered help in true western pioneer fashion. This led to their marriage in 1901 at Fort Ellice. They had three children. Ralph was Reeve of the Municipality of Ellice in 1899. Ralph died in 1947 and Emily in 1934.

Herbert James (1868) bought S½ 5-16-29 from the Little brothers. In 1900, he married Janet Traquair, a school teacher at Beaver Rapids school. Herbert died in 1905 and Janet in 1909. They are both buried in Beaver Rapids cemetery.

Gerald Plomley (1870) worked for his father and his brothers as a cook for many years. In 1887-88 the "teaming" to Birtle and Moosomin was left to

Gerald. The first outing for him was a trip to Birtle, immediately after the first frost, with a load of wheat. Fortunately, Herbert had come to see Gerald through the river valley at Fort Ellice; the hills on either side being so steep on the trail. All went well until they arrived at the river's edge, where they found the ferry had stopped running. So the crossing had to be made by driving down the steep slope, used for the approach of the scow, across the glare ice and out at the far side again by the scow's steep approach. It was found that the slopes were very slippery; the ice newly formed was like glass. The ice was some four inches thick and as they were aware, it was considered that two and a half inches of clear ice could carry a team with load weight of 1000 pounds. They had no fear of its strength and decided to make the attempted crossing. Going down was fast, the poor oxen sliding fearfully with the weight of the load behind them, then on reaching the ice, they commenced to slip in every direction. It was a task to keep them from falling. As they stepped out, the ice surface bent in waves beneath the weight of the animals and the load, making it advisable to keep a safe distance in case of a break-through. On reaching the far side more trouble was encountered, owing to the slippery slopes. The only alternative was to unhook the team and take them up, first one, then the other, a difficult task to accomplish. However, that left the job of getting the sleighs and load up the slope. An attempt was made to attach a logging chain to the end of the tongue, hoping the oxen could draw it. However this was unsuccessful, as the animals had no foothold. At last the sacks were all taken off and placed on the ice, then the team was able to draw the empty sleighs up. The heaviest work came next, that of carrying the sacks of wheat, each weighing from 125-130 pounds, up the slope. Although they had left home early, by the time all was again in order for him to proceed to Birtle the sun was getting low for Herbert returning home. Fortunately the team, having rested most of the day, made the trip in good time. It wasn't too cold, but the driver was decidedly hungry, having had nothing to eat since early morning.

Gerald made the decision to seek other employment and left for London, Ontario in April, 1889 and married Mary Elizabeth Main in 1895. They had a family of five. Gerald Collyer died in 1961.

Harold (1871) married Wilhelmena Latimer in 1897. They had 11 children, Eva (Maxwell) Shrader (deceased), Anna Logel (deceased), John Collyer (deceased), Russell (died in infancy), Leonard, William, Katie North, Isabelle (Mulvey) Smith, Terrieffe, Winnifred Lewis and Janet Kilpatrick.

Harold died in 1956 and Wilhelmena in 1963. They are both buried in Beaver Rapids Cemetery.



Comeault Family: Madeleine, Denis, Marcel, Helen, Euclide, Yvette, Blanche, Roger and Lorraine with Mr. and Mrs. Comeault, 1952.

Comeault Family

In 1926 Mr. and Mrs. Albert Comeault left Letellier, Manitoba with four children, to come to St. Lazare and start employment as manager in Mr. Jules Decorby's store.

In 1927 they purchased the home that belonged to Mrs. Gagnon and resided there until 1937. That year they sold it and started a small grocery business. After a year, Albert became afflicted with Multiple Sclerosis and had to close the store. Mr. Jules Decorby was kind enough to sacrifice half his store, so that Mrs. Comeault could open a small cafe. As Mr. Comeault's illness increased they were forced to retire.

In 1943-44 Mr. Comeault was land assessor. He would make his rounds in a horse and buggy driven by his sons Marcel and Euclide. Mr. and Mrs. A. Comeault were both very active in church and sports committees. He was one of the main organizers in starting an outdoor skating rink. He managed one of the best Senior hockey teams around at the time. One of the outdoor events that family and friends were involved in was sliding down the old hill on a double-runner sleigh; afterwards everyone was welcomed to enjoy home-made pork and beans, fresh bread and a hot cup of cocoa. In 1946 they moved and made their home in St. Boniface, Manitoba.

Mr. Comeault died in St. Boniface December 24, 1954 at 62 years of age. Mrs. L. Comeault died in St. Boniface, December 18, 1964 at 68 years of age. Their family consisted of five daughters and five sons: **Helen** (1917) married Aime Dupont in 1934 and raised nine children, Helen now resides in Kamloops, B.C.; **Napoleon** born 1918, (deceased 1918); **Roger** (1921) married Helen Bellamy in 1942, they had two sons, now resides in Hamilton, Ontario; **Blanche** born 1923, married Duncan Davis in 1945,

raised six children and now resides in Winnipeg; **Denis** born 1926 married Marie Bouchard in 1957, they had one daughter. Denis died in 1974. **Marcel** born 1930, married Agnes Gosselin in 1951, they had seven children, now live in Lorette, Manitoba; **Madeleine** (twin) born 1933, married Johnny Gagne in 1956, they raised five children, now live in Medicine Hat, Alberta; **Lorraine** (twin) born 1933 married Joe Milette in 1952, they raised eight children, now live in Vancouver, B.C.; **Euclide** born 1936 married Jeannette Boily in 1959, raised three children, now resides in St. Boniface; **Yvette** born 1937 married Wally Kreke in 1963, they had four children, now reside in Hope, B.C.

Cooke, A. H. (Bert)

To Mr. and Mrs. Bert Cooke goes the honour of having lived in the remotest north-east corner of the R.M. of Ellice. Bert Cooke was born in Banbury, England. His father was General Manager of the Scottish Flour Mills in all of Scotland as well as England. He was also a lay preacher in the Methodist Church. Bert came to Canada in 1906 and worked for Jas. Turnbull for two years before going to Sask. to launch into a farming career. His fiancée, Lily Basket, also of Banbury, had asked the Jas. Turnbulls if



Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Cooke 1937.

she might come to Canada to stay with them for a time in order to learn the Canadian way of life before her marriage to Bert. This she did, and in 1910 Bert and Lily were married. They farmed in Waldrun, Sask. in the district of Good Hope where son Jim was born. In 1920 they sold out and moved to Marquis, Sask. where Bert was manager of two farms belonging to an investor. In 1929 they moved back to Ellice R.M. when they purchased the W½ of 36-18-28 from Jas. Turnbull. They farmed here until 1951 when they sold the NW¼ to Jim Orr and the SW¼ back to Normal Turnbull (Jas. Turnbull's son).

Bert and Lily retired to Victoria in 1951. Lily died in 1965 and Bert in 1976. Their only child, son Jim, predeceased them in 1933 in his early twenties.

Having grown up in the cooperative atmosphere, it isn't surprising that Bert, too, was also a great "co-op" man. He served as Chairman of the Board of Chillon Pool Elevator and he and Norman Turnbull were two of the Pool members at Chillon who refused to sell their grain on the open market. Bert served as an elder in the Binscarth United Church and on the Board of Trustees of Balmerino School. He was an avid sportsman and friends and neighbours enjoyed many a football game on the field he had prepared in front of his house. He was a very capable boxer and he and Jas. Turnbull engaged frequently in this sport.

Bert and Lily Cooke were a most charming couple and well respected neighbours.

Cooper, Frank

Frank married Nellie Willings, and came to live in Corr's house on SE 14-16-28. Later a four-room log house was built on a ridge on SW 24-16-28. Frank worked as a section hand, with Jack Gardiner for several years. Frank and Nellie had three daughters, Annie, Edith and Maude. Frank retired from railroad work and at last report lived in Saskatoon. The present whereabouts of the girls is unknown. Mr. and Mrs. Cooper are deceased.

Cooper, Fred 1865-1952

Fred was born in Wiltshire, England. At age twenty-six, he came to the Wattsvie district where he worked for Joseph Wilson. In 1898, he began farming for himself on NW¼ 24-17-28 (Ellice Municipality) bought from Mr. Henry McCamon. In June of the same year, he married Frances Rebecca (Fanny) Wilkinson (1876-1954), youngest daughter of pioneers Joseph and Ann Wilkinson, who came to Wattsvie in 1881.

The Coopers were active in many community affairs. Mr. Cooper served on Morseby School and

Zion Church Boards. He was a member of the Grain Growers, United Farmers, Beef Ring and Choral Society. He competed in local plowing matches, in the walking plow class. Fanny was often asked to give readings at entertainments. She belonged to Zion Ladies Aid, and was instrumental in founding the local Women's Institute (made a life member in 1943) and the Women's Missionary Society (life membership in 1947). Sunday School picnics were often held on Cooper land, the family taking turns cranking the freezer to provide homemade ice cream. A large two-storey home, complete with modern conveniences, was built to replace their first house.

They retired to Foxwarren, when Fred continued to sing in the Church Choir and to curl. In 1948, they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Later they moved to Winnipeg to live with their youngest daughter, Mary. Fred died September 16, 1952 and Fanny June 30, 1954. They rest in Zion Cemetery beside two daughters, who died in infancy and close to where they farmed and raised four children.

John — 1901. His education was obtained from Moresby School and Manitoba Agricultural College. He married Isobel Carr, daughter of Charles Carr, and has two daughters, Anne and Colleen. There are six grandchildren. (A more complete account is included with the Carr history).

Gertrude — born May 24, 1907. Her twin sister died soon after birth. She attended school in Moresby and Foxwarren, taught Sunday School at Zion, and directed many Christmas Concerts. Gertrude married Walter Laycock, oldest son of close neighbors, June 30, 1931, and continued to live in the district, raising two daughters, Kathleen (Mrs. Viateur Prescott) and Elsie (Mrs. Arthur Butler). There are five grandchildren.

Charles, who was born in 1913, graduated from Foxwarren School, then farmed on his father's farm. During World War II, he served as a Rear Gunner in the R.C.A.F. and was awarded the D.F.C. While stationed in England, he married Margaret Rhodes, of Yorkshire. After the War, they farmed around Birtle and at present, reside in Binscarth. They have a daughter, Peggy, who worked in the Bank after graduation, and is now Mrs. Murray Bradshaw, of Binscarth. For a time, Murray was Secretary-Treasurer of the St. Lazare Council. The Coopers also have twin sons, Howard, a Teacher, and Warren, a Bank Manager. It is interesting to note that the Cooper history of twins was continued when twins appeared in Howard's family in 1982. There are eight grandchildren.

Mary, born in 1917, graduated from Foxwarren Collegiate, then Normal School in Winnipeg. One of her first teaching positions was at the Pumpkin Plains

School, where she boarded with the Reg. Decorby family. After teaching in several other places, including Winnipeg, she became Mrs. Ralph Lennox and the mother of Brian and Michael. Now a widow, she lives in Winnipeg, delighting in two grandchildren.

Corr, John and Mary

John Corr came from Northern Ireland and landed in Canada in 1882. He travelled to Regina and managed a hotel before going to Brandon. Not caring for hotel life, he decided to try farming. He came up the Assiniboine River on the paddle wheel boat as far as Fort Ellice, landing at the present site of Wattsvie Siding on the C.N.R., 196 miles west of Winnipeg. John started farming on a homestead west of Birtle. He met and married Mary McIntosh, who came to Canada from Scotland with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander McIntosh. John and Mary had two children, Christina and John Jr. born on the homestead. This farm was not suitable so he cancelled it and obtained a homestead in the Assiniboine Valley and got a pre-emption on another quarter section adjoining Fort Ellice landing between the McIntosh and McDonald farms. Here they built a log house in 1891 and four more members were added to the family — James, Andrew, Robert, and Nora. Out of these family members only Andrew is surviving today. John started farming with a team of oxen, seeding was done by broadcasting in 1890-92 and grain was cut with a scythe. He hauled cord wood to Birtle and Moosomin, stopping at a half-way house.

John started a herd of Black Aberdeen Angus cattle; the first bull was purchased in 1902. He had a flock of sheep. John was a councillor in the R.M. of Ellice for a number of years and a trustee of Oxford School. All the children received their education at Oxford, walking the three miles. Johnny, Andy and Bob all played baseball for the Wattsvie team, Andy was the pitcher and Bob the backcatcher. James died overseas in 1918, while serving in World War I, being buried in Flanders Field. Johnny died in 1918 of pneumonia and was buried in the old St. Lazare Cemetery. The N.E. 1/4 of 1-16-28 was purchased, mainly because of the abundant supply of spring water, and a new house was started. In 1927 before the house was completed, John Corr died and was buried in the old cemetery. Mary Corr purchased a hotel in Homefield. Later both Christina and Nora left the farm to help their Mother. Mary, Christina and Nora were all buried side by side in the new St. Lazare Cemetery. Andy and Bob took over the running of the farm, eventually adding another section and a half. The Corr Bros. owned a threshing machine, and along with doing their own, they har-

vested for neighbors. In 1936, Robert married Mabel McDonald. They had three children, Robert Jr., Myrna and Linda. Bob was a councillor in the R.M. of Ellice and a trustee of Oxford School, like his Father. In 1949 Bob moved the family to Birtle so the children could further their education, returning to the farm in the spring. In 1960, Robert Jr. married Elizabeth Meadows and they made their home permanently on the farm, with Bob and Andy travelling back and forth from Birtle. Robert Jr. and Elizabeth had three children, Allen, Katherine and Jayme. Bobby still has Aberdeen Angus cattle that his Grandfather started years ago, the cattle roaming the old homestead in the summer. Myrna married Ed Vanstone. They live in Winnipeg with their sons Derek and Darrin. Ed works for the Hudson's Bay Co. Linda married Keith Smith and lives in Birtle with their sons Scott and Wade. Linda works in the lawyer's office and Keith works for the Highways Department. Allen the oldest of the fourth generation has moved the old Selby house from St. Lazare, to what we call the Graham place S.E. 12-16-28. Besides helping on the farm at busy times he works at the Birtle Abattoir. Kathy is a hairdresser in Brandon. Jayme is taking a mechanics course.

The Cox Family

John Archibald Cox was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, in 1873 and came west in 1893. He had worked in logging and lumber camps before coming



Mr. and Mrs. Archie Cox with Cecelia, Clarissa and John, 1903.

to Manitoba. He took up a homestead on the S.W. ¼ of 4-18-28, later purchased the adjoining S.E. ¼.

In 1896 he married Caroline Aslin, who had come to Canada in 1889 with the Ridington family. Their first home was a five-roomed log house which was built with the help of friends and neighbors. This was replaced by a six-roomed frame house in 1916. Their family of three girls and two boys attended Crewe school, which was closed later in 1917, when the district was taken into Consolidation with Foxwarren.

Cecilia was born in 1897, and besides Crewe she attended Moresby, Foxwarren and Brandon Normal, became a school teacher and taught at Ingleford, near Colgate, Sask., and at Crosby. In 1918 she married Jack Robinson, of the Crosby district, and they farmed west of Binscarth for 41 years. They retired to Binscarth in 1959. They have a family of four boys and three girls. Jack died in 1976.



John and Mabel Cox and family.

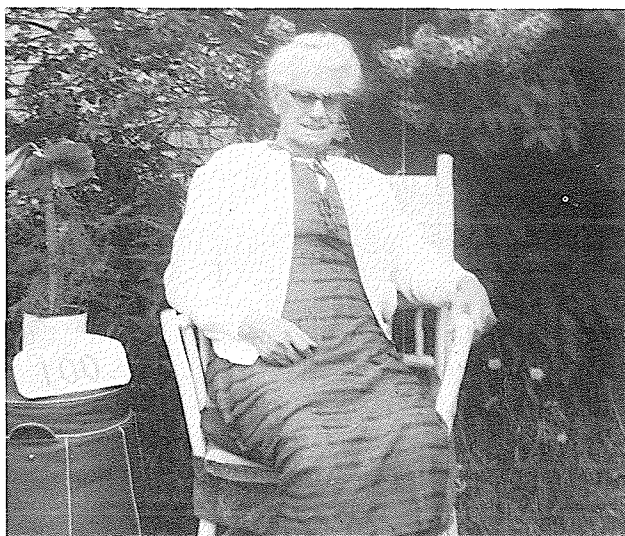
John (1898) started farming on his own in or about 1921, on the N.W. ¼ of 6-18-28 and lived there for 56 years. In 1931 he married Mabel Cusitar of Russell, and they raised their family of five boys and one girl during the depression years. Two of their sons are now deceased. John passed away in 1977. Mabel and sons Donald and Wayne, and daughter Marie still have their home there. The eldest son, Dave, is married, and he and his wife, Marian, their daughter Shirley, and son David, also have their home on N.W. ¼ of 6-18-28.

Clarissa (1900) attended high school in Foxwarren Consolidated school. Later she worked as cook and housekeeper in various homes in the community and in the mid 1960s was clerk in Hall's store in Binscarth. After a lengthy illness she died in 1969.

Henry was born in 1907, started school at Crewe, then finished his education at Foxwarren. In 1925 he went to Alberta and worked in the Daysland district, later moved to Jasper where he worked on construction for some time. In 1939 he enlisted in the Royal Canadian Engineers and spent five years overseas. He returned to Jasper where he lived for the next 28 years, before moving to B.C. He was living at Creston at the time of his death in 1978. His daughter lives at Jasper and his son at Leduc, Alberta. He was married to the former Margaret Pizzey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Will Pizzey, who had lived and farmed in the Gambler district until 1923.

Ada (1909) finished school in Foxwarren, then remained at home to help her parents on the farm. She later worked as clerk in Porter's store in Binscarth.

Mr. and Mrs. Cox and Ada left the home farm on S½ of 4-18-28 in 1927, moved to S.W.¼ of 18-18-28, then later lived on S.W.¼ of 1-18-29. Mr. Cox died in 1942 after being in failing health for two years. In 1950 Mrs. Cox, Clarissa and Ada went to live in Binscarth. Mrs. Cox passed away in 1967 at the age of 101 years. She had the distinction of being the first resident of that area to reach that age.



Mrs. Caroline Cox on her 100th birthday, April 29, 1966.

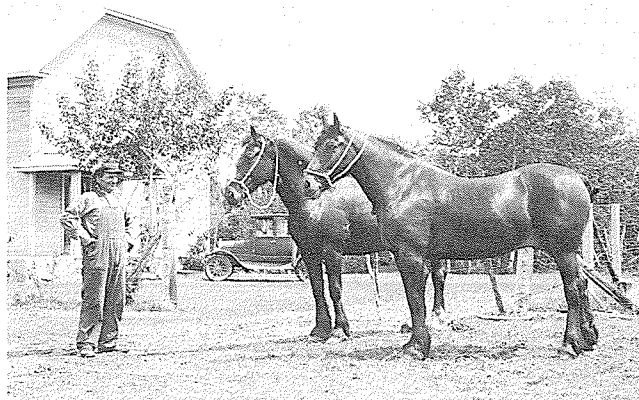
Crichton, William

He was born in 1872 at Aucterless, Aberdeenshire in Scotland. In 1894 he married Margaret Smith of Bogside, Aberdeenshire. He was coachman for Lady Aberdeen who was a cousin of Queen Victoria. It was while working there that he had a thorough schooling in the care, grooming and driving of horses. He took great pride in braiding the horses' manes and tails and using fancy harness. They had one daughter Helen who passed away in 1899 at 4

years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Crichton, with their son Jim came to Canada in 1904. They first settled in Carberry, later moving to Binscarth. Mr. Crichton purchased the north half of sec. 29-18-28 in 1906 in Ellice Municipality. A daughter Mary was born in 1910. Mrs. Crichton passed away in 1927. The Crichtons were Presbyterians and later United Church members.

Their first house was replaced by a larger two storey house built by Mr. Coulter. This house was destroyed by fire in 1933. The third house was a cottage and it is now the summer home of Mr. A. Horning at Silver Beach.

Mr. Crichton continued on the farm until 1944 when he sold it to Mr. A. Horning. He retired to Binscarth and passed away in 1956. He was well known as a horseman and won many prizes at fairs around the country including Brandon and Yorkton. At one fair the judge made him run with his horse a second time although he knew he would receive first prize but he wanted Mr. Crichton to show the people how a horse should be shown properly.



Wm. Crichton and his prize horses.

He was also an ardent curler. He served on the Balmerino school board, at one time as chairman. He was a councillor for Ellice Municipality and received a gold watch as a prize for having the best kept section of road.

Mary Crichton married Albert Oertel in 1930. They had eleven children. Albert passed away in 1969. Mary now resides in Binscarth.

Jim Crichton married Mary (Polly) Christie in 1928. They have five children. They lived in Ellice Municipality until 1943 when they moved to Melville, Sask. where they still reside.

Crump, Francis Philip

Francis and Gordon Crump (twins) were born on the home farm 6-16-29 in 1912, sons of Charles and Mary. The family moved to a farm just north of



F. P. Crump Family: B. R. Judie, Bud, Carole, John, Murray, Mary, Francis, Stephen, Martha.

Welwyn, and worked both farms. In 1941, Francis married Martha Gagnon, daughter of Louis and Albina of Ste. Marthe, Sask. They moved to the home farm and remained there until their retirement in 1977. Both Francis and Martha were active in community affairs. Francis became a councillor for Ellice Municipality in 1943, a position he held until 1967. He served as Reeve until 1974. They had a School van route driving to Welwyn, Sask. from 1948 until 1964, when Beaver Rapids amalgamated with Fort La Bosse. Francis and Martha have seven children — **Francis Jr.** (Bud) married Norma Byers. They, with their two girls, live in Winnipeg. **Judith** married Charles Lewis. They have three children and live in the Beaver Rapids area. **Carole** married Harvey Maxwell. They live, with their three children, on a dairy farm east of McAuley, Man. **John** married Carol McBain, who with their two children, live in Calgary, Alberta. **Mary** (twin) married Wayne Poole. McAuley, the home of Poole Enterprises is Wayne's interest. They and their four children live in McAuley. **Murray** (twin) married to Elaine Taylor works at the Potash mine. They have two children. **Stephen** married Shannon Moran. They and their four children live at Carman, Man. He is a harness racing enthusiast.

Francis and Martha now retired, live in Welwyn, Sask.

Crump, Charles

Charles was born in 1863 in Hereford, England; and came to Canada in 1884 to Two Creeks, Manitoba where he homesteaded a quarter section. He bought another farm in the same area and remained at Two Creeks until 1911. That year Charles and his family moved to Beaver Rapids where he bought from James Gregg N $\frac{1}{2}$ 6-16-29. Charles married Mary Strachan in 1906. They had nine children, namely Mary, Mrs. Walter Collyer, died in 1981, Elizabeth (Beth) lives in Winnipeg, William (Bill)

lives on the home farm at Welwyn. Albina Fulham and Bill were married at St. Lazare and have three children. Mona who married Charlie Parke of McAuley lives in Winnipeg. Francis — see Crump story. Gordon farmed 4-16-29 along with Francis. After his marriage, several moves were made, first to the Bill Traquair farm (18-16-29) then to Welwyn, and eventually to Edmonton where he now lives. Fred worked for Walter and Mary Collyer for many years. He now works for Frank Johnston at Welwyn. Walter (Curly) farmed west of McAuley. He married Jean Carefoot and had one son. Curly died in 1966. Wesley served in the Armed Forces during World War II. He moved to Winnipeg after the war. Wes married Lenene Ross of McAuley and they have three children.

Charles and Mary lived at Beaver Rapids until 1922 when he purchased a farm north of Welwyn. The children attended school at Beaver Rapids. Charles passed away in 1931; Mary in 1942.

Dale, Richard and Laura

It was in the spring of 1908 that Richard Dale, better known as Dick Dale, left his young wife Laura in Yorkshire, England, to seek his fortune in Canada. He was accompanied by several of his brothers-in-law and through the Leamings, who were already in Minnedosa, he decided on this town also, as a likely place for a bright future.

Being a carpenter, wheelwright and joiner by trade, he was employed in this capacity when the railroad station was built in Minnedosa. His wife Laura with her baby daughter **Dorothy**, born on April 21st, arrived to join him in the early fall of 1908. They were still living in Minnedosa when **Frank** was born on May 13, 1910.

The lure of the land was so great that Richard hired out for two years with a certain Mr. Brown. Following this he rented a farm from Randall Smith in the Willow Grove District. It was here that Dorothy started school and **Vincent** was born on November 23rd, 1912.

Some years previously, an uncle of Mrs. Dale's, Joe Wilson, had settled in the Ellice district. In partnership with his brother-in-law, Joe Green, Dick purchased three quarters of land being S.W. of 26.16.28 and the E $\frac{1}{2}$ of 22.16.28 in the Assiniboine Valley with the C.N.R. running through the middle of the home quarter.

This was in 1915. During the summer Ben Pepin, a colourful resident of Decorby Mission was commissioned to build a log house. The house built of logs hauled from Beaver Creek stood solidly for many years by the side of the track, though unoccupied. It was only demolished in the last ten years.



Mr. and Mrs. Richard Dale: Tom, Vin, Frank, Mr. and Mrs. Dale, Dorothy and Mona, 1942.

Christmas of 1915 was spent in Minnedosa but in the spring the whole family moved to the new home, the stock and household effects coming by rail to Birtle. From 1916 to 1928 the family lived there. It was on that valley farm that **Mona** was born August 19th, 1916, and six years later, **Thomas**, born on July 25th, 1922.

Of course, no farming could be carried on without horses. A team was purchased locally, another one was driven up from Minnedosa by Tom Green and four horses came by rail. The first time they were let out, they strayed and were found two days later travelling down the track in the Birdtail Valley east of Birtle. From that day on they were kept tied in the stable, but one fine Sunday afternoon in late spring, they were let out for a little exercise and they promptly disappeared again. This time they were on the C.N.R. track by Corr's house and three of them were killed by the passenger train. Hardy pioneers were undaunted by strokes of bad luck, such as those — three more horses were bought at the Boles' auction sale after the latter was killed in a threshing accident.

Things on the farm were shaping up. The barn and chicken house were raised, a well was dug, the garden plot, the lawns, the flower beds and the shrubbery were landscaped, as Grandad Green, a gentleman with a green thumb, spent the summer with them.

Before the year was over, another unpleasant thing happened. A wind storm struck the valley. A brand new hay rack was carried away, never to be found again, and fifteen loads of hay cut in the meadow were blown away. Vin, who was then four years old, was dismayed as he looked out the window. "Never mind the door," he shouted, "come and see the s---house!" That privy was never seen again either. It was the little humorous incidents that gave people the courage to carry on in spite of disheartening setbacks.

For a few years crops were fairly good, nothing too unpredictable marred the every day life. The kids went to school — to the old Ellice school built in 1888 and located across the road from the present home of Louis Huberdeau. They walked! They climbed! Then a step toward progress, the children got a horse, Old Jack! But it took a great amount of energy on the children's part to prod and get that placid beast going! Gone were the crow's nests hunts, the restful stops and the feasting on red berry patches that had been fun during the long walks.

A highlight of every summer was the Birtle Sports on July 1st. Early in the morning, the democrat, loaded with people and food would head to town and no one ever thought of returning until midnight at least, worn out, but happy.

In the summer of 1922 a Model T touring car stood proudly at the door of the farm house.

Difficult times were experienced during the three floods that struck the Assiniboine valley from 1922 to 1925. In the light of crop failures and possible floods in the future, Dick Dale decided to leave the valley farm. In the spring of 1928, he moved his family and effects to the homestead of the late Tom Wilson on S.E. 2.17.28. Dick's son, Tom, now lives at this location.

Richard and Laura resided on this farm until they passed away. Their children got married, all except Vin. Mona became Mrs. Doug Manwaring. They are now retired from the pharmacy business and spend their winter time in Texas and their summers between Clear Lake and Elkhorn. Frank married Leone Bourbonnais, who taught school at Ellice and set up farming a few miles east of the home place. Tom joined the Air Force and later married Eileen Cussick from Unity Sask., who was also in the Air Force Women's division. Vin remained home with his parents until their death.

The Dale children were very musical, a talent they inherited from their father. Because of this the house was filled with singing and the playing of organ, or violin, or accordion, piano, guitar, and any other instrument on hand. Their services were sought for dances and parties. Their home was the scene of

many enjoyable evenings spent with numerous friends who were always welcome.

Richard was a respected person in the community. He served on the Ellice School Board for thirty years, retiring in the fifties. He was a very fair and just man, exercising great authority over his family.

Laura was the unobtrusive home maker. She ran her home efficiently and quietly. She worked incessantly at the one and thousand chores of a farm wife — baking bread, churning butter, preserving etc. She loved gardening and as her husband was an excellent gardener, they derived great pride and joy from growing things.

The Dunn family, Nora Dunn being her sister, lived close by for many years and her nieces and nephews were always over at Aunt Laura's. She loved them all as her own, scamps though they were. They with their cousins, pulled many a wild caper around the farm. "Grammy Green" also spent many years with her daughter Laura, then moved to live with Nora in Sarnia where she died at the age of ninety-one years and eight months in 1951.

Dick Dale suffered a stroke in 1954 which confined him to a wheel chair. For five years with the loving care of his wife and Vin, he recovered enough to still enjoy reading and listening to the radio; but he never left the house. In February of 1957, they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary with a quiet family party. They loved their grandchildren dearly and spoiled them, behind their mother's back and in the open too.

In the spring of 1957, Dorothy who had married Jack Baldwin of Winnipeg, some years before became very ill. Her father at this time was failing quickly. They died a day apart, May 30th and June 1st. They were buried on the same day in Birtle Cemetery the service being conducted from St. George's Anglican Church. On November 19th of the same year Laura passed away. A great sorrow was added to this when on May 25th, 1959 Vincent died suddenly of a heart attack. The community was deeply saddened by the death of the four members of the Dale family in such a short time.

And so, this is the story of Richard and Laura Dale and of their years spent in the Wattsview and Ellice districts.

Baldwin, Dorothy Myrtle (nee Dale)

Dorothy, the eldest of the Richard and Laura Dale family was born in Yorkshire, England in 1908. Richard had already left England to make a new home in Canada and Laura with baby daughter followed in the fall of 1908. Her education began at Willowgrove School in the Rapid City area where the Dales lived on a rented farm for some time. After

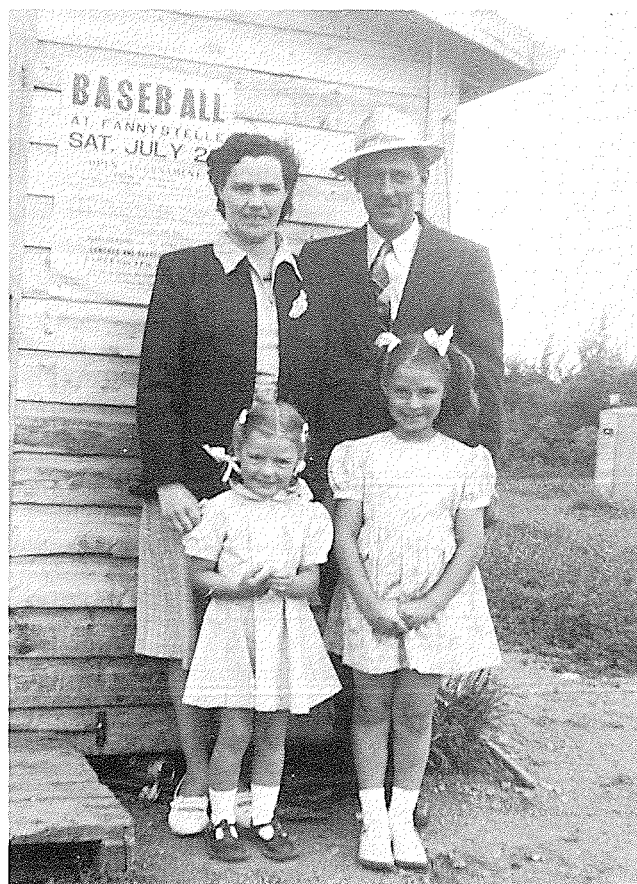
moving to the Ellice district, Dorothy completed her education there. Music was one of her great loves and she learned to play the organ and piano through self taught lessons. She was employed in Kelly's cafe and Morris' store in Birtle before she went to Winnipeg. While in Winnipeg she married Jack Baldwin who was employed as a fire Ranger at Berens River. They lived there for some time then returned to the city to operate a home for the elderly. Dorothy had been ill for some time and did not survive surgery in late May of 1957. She and her father, who passed away June 1, were buried from St. Georges Anglican church in Birtle, June 3rd 1957.

Dale, Frank and Leone

by Leone Dale

Francis Lawrence Dale was born in Minnedosa on May 13, 1910, the second child born to Richard and Laura Dale. He was six years old when the family settled definitely in Ellice Municipality, on the valley farm which comprised SW of 26-16-28 and E ½ of 22-16-28, and later moved on to SE 2-17-28.

Along with his cousins, the Dunns, his sister Dorothy and later on Vin, Mona and Tom, Frank, as he is called, attended the old Ellice School built in 1888 and later on the new Ellice School built in 1922.



Leone and Frank Dale, Joan and Diane, 1948.

They trudged the three and a half miles to school in the summer; in winter Dick, their father, had a van; it was used to take his children and the Gardiner children. After a while, Frank was old enough to have the responsibility of driving a horse and buggy. The horse was stabled in a little barn near the school. Many humorous incidents are still recalled of those hectic days of childhood.

When Frank was sixteen, he went to Minnedosa to stay with Aunt Dot and Uncle Tom (Green) in order to attend high school. After graduating from Grade XI, he returned to the farm where he and Vin took over the field work, leaving their dad to his gardening and chickens. He was a very busy "handy man", but emergency jobs and the milking was done by everyone.

About 1939, the P.F.R.A., having assumed responsibility of the "Plains" for establishing a pasture, was hiring men to build fences, cross fences, corrals and watering places. Frank got a job "aligning posts" at 35 cents an hour — a fortune so it seemed.

When Canada was used as a place to train airforce men, stations mushroomed all over Canada. A training base was built in Carberry and with several other men from Lazare and Birtle, Frank was hired as a carpenter, a skill he inherited from his father.

In 1934, I, Miss Leone Bourbonnais from Winnipeg had come to teach at Ellice School. Although we soon found out we were meant for each other, it was difficult in those days to get enough money jingling in one's pocket to think about getting married. Finally in November of 1940, with prospects a little brighter due to the war, (they say it's an ill-wind that blows no good) I handed in my resignation effective after Christmas and so we were married on January 2, 1941, in Winnipeg.

When we got off the train in Lazare on January 9th, we headed for George Fouillard's store. With twenty-five dollars in our pocket, we bought enough flour, sugar, tea and coffee to see us to spring and we set up housekeeping and farming on a farm we rented from Mr. Sutherland, the blacksmith in Foxwarren. It was on 6-17-27 and we still live at the same place which we purchased in 1944.

With "Snowwhite" our cow, a team of horses, Bob and Molly, we made out quite nicely and little by little got up to a herd of twenty-five cows and a complete set of mechanized machinery. Frank was always proud of his fine Herefords and, as he was an excellent mechanic, his tractors and machinery were always in A-one shape.

Frank worked his farm by himself with the occasional help of boys from the Indian School in Birtle for picking stones. He was rewarded with good crops

mostly. One of the thrills of this period was the coming of the "Hydro". It revolutionized the farm! The cream separator was electric — the washing machine, the fridge — it was like heaven! Frank could now work in his well-equipped workshop as late as he wished. We had the opportunity to realize the worth of good neighbours too. In 1950, Frank was laid up with a bout of sciatica. He was bed-ridden in the spring but our friends and neighbours had a bee and did all the spring work and seeding. Help like that can't ever be repaid.

In 1952 we built a new barn, bought a brand new Ford V8, dug the basement for a new house, and I went back teaching at Ellice. Except for a bee to lay the cement for the basement, the house we live in, was planned and built by Frank and me and the girls over a period of a few years.

By 1966 our farm had grown to 800 acres and our cattle to a fairly large herd. Frank couldn't find time to do everything, so we sold all our cattle and concentrated on grain farming. Frank and Tom, his brother, were among the first farmers to grow rapeseed on contract. Nevertheless by 1972, Frank's health had deteriorated to the point that he was forced to retire. He rented the broken acreage for three years then sold the farm to Henri Laferriere, reserving five acres with the house for our own.

I, Leone Bourbonnais was born in Winnipeg on September 13, 1912, the eldest of ten children born to Oscar and Annonciade Bourbonnais (nee Annonciade Patenaude). We belonged to the Sacred Heart parish of Winnipeg and I attended this separate school until Grade IX, when I went to St. Joseph's Academy in Saint Boniface until the end of Grade XII. After a year at Winnipeg Normal School, I taught at Simonet School in Saint Laurent, then stayed home substituting here and there in 1933-34. In August 1934, I came to Ellice School and have been in this district ever since. In 1952 I returned to teaching at Ellice School Division until its consolidation with Decorby School Division in 1958. That fall I joined the staff of Birtle Collegiate Institute. The first year there I was responsible for the English courses in Grade 9, 10, 11, and 12. In September 1959, I took over the teaching of French in the high school until I retired in June 1971. My extracurricular activities centered on choir singing, drama, and music festivals.

The "Dirty Thirties" during which Frank and I lived afforded opportunity for cheap entertainment. As Frank and I were considered "musicians", we played for dances and home parties, the pay was mostly non-existent, but the lunches served to us were "special". In later years as part of "Buck's Hay Makers" we played in all the surrounding towns. We

really enjoyed these evenings with the rest of the band and the people who attended. There were often sing-songs at Rosario Huberdeau's, either French or English, where many of us **had to** show our talents. Playing cards was a great pastime in the winter. During the summer the Saturday Night outing to Birtle was a must — come rain or shine. For most young people there was the show at 25 cents admission or the jitney dance at the old Legion Hall. This was where you paid 5¢ a dance to go on the floor or just stood outside the wall and looked. We never missed what we had never had — so the lack of money did not prevent us from enjoying ourselves — we made our fun.

Part of this fun was "Baseball." As a member of the "Wattsville Hungry Nine" ball team, Frank would go to all the Sports Days around and Mona, Laura Wilson and I would go along too. It was this interest in baseball that led to the founding of the Athletic Association of Lazare with Frank being on the executive for many years. Lately, we have become spectators and have let the younger members do the leg work. When St. Lazare obtained a sheet of ice for curling, once a week the Dales and Wilsons would hitch up the horses after an early supper to curl in the 7 or 9 o'clock draws and return late after midnight. With frost falling from the low roof and a very erratic sheet of ice, I don't think "finesse" shots prevailed too often. Even then, it was an enjoyable pastime.

When the Manitoba Crop Insurance was organized in 1961, Frank became agent for this locality. It happened that drought struck and caused crop insurance claims so numerous that it was difficult for Frank to maintain his farm work and the crop insurance work so he resigned and Carman Falloon of Birtle took over.

Frank's hobbies are fishing and hunting. Every fall we have relatives or friends from Winnipeg who come for duck or deer hunting. The feats of unbelievable skill or strokes of bad luck make great topics of conversation even today when they all get together. The fishing pals were Mowbray Hodgson and Frank Wilson mostly. After we bought a camper and boat we went farther afield mostly northward, but still the old Assiniboine had real good fishing holes!

We cannot give an account of our life without mentioning our very close friends Mowbray and Ina Hodgson. From the first year of our marriage, their lives and ours have been closely interwoven. Our interests were the same — farming, music, bridge, fishing. When they decided to live in Brandon in 1977 a great void was left in our daily life.

Two daughters were born to us, Diane Lorraine on February 22, 1942 and Joan Valerie on July 9, 1944. When the services of a qualified teacher were obtained for Ellice School in 1949 they continued their education which had been started at home. They went to the convent in Saint Lazare to take their high school. After Grade XII, Diane went to Saint Mary's Academy, then the University of Winnipeg where she obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree and Education 1 in 1963. She took a position with Seven Oaks School Division as teacher of conversational French in elementary grades, a position she held until her marriage in June 1971. Now, she is Mrs. Robert Peden of Winnipeg, has a son Kevin and a daughter Jennifer, our only grandchildren. Joan's grade XII was taken in Birtle. She graduated from the University of Manitoba with a Bachelor of Science degree in Home Economics in 1964. After her Education 1, she joined the staff of the Manitoba School for the Deaf and is still teaching at that school. She is occasionally seen on T.V. in that capacity.

Now that we are advancing in age, our activities are curtailed, but gardening, quilting, knitting, visiting our children, and summering at our cottage on Lake Manitoba keep us busy enough. We count our blessings as many and we hope that our remaining years will be spent in the quiet, beautiful surroundings of St. Lazare.

Dale, Vincent Sidney

Vin was born November 23rd, 1912, at "Smiths Farm" in the Rapid City district. He was educated at Ellice and wrote his "entrance" exams in Birtle. This was the end of his formal schooling as his love for animals and farming was greater than attending school. Everyone who knew Vin remembers him for his jovial personality and his willingness to help. His horses were his pride and joy and often the envy of other horse lovers in the district. His compassion for ailing animals led him to become an "unlicensed vet" of sorts and since there was not a practising animal doctor in the area he was often called upon, at all hours of the day or night, to administer to the ailing cows, horses and pigs of surrounding farms. Vin enjoyed sports and participating in curling, fast-ball and hockey. Deer hunting, duck shooting and fishing were also included in his pastimes.

A good old fashioned sing-song around the piano with relatives and friends, especially at Christmas time, was one of his great joys. Since it was not one of his traits to complain, few people knew that he was quite ill and the community was saddened to hear of his death from a heart attack on May 25th, 1959.

Manwaring, Doug and Mona (nee Dale)

Mona, the second daughter of the late Laura and Richard Dale, was born on the family farm of R.M. of Ellice. She grew up on the farm and attended Ellice school.

In December of 1940 she married Doug Manwaring of Birtle who was at that time in the army, serving with the 10th Armored Regiment (Fort Garry Horse) and was stationed in Camp Borden, Ontario. The young couple set up housekeeping in the town of Barrie, which was some 12 miles from the army camp. In November of 1941, Doug left for England and Mona returned to the farm where she spent the rest of the war years helping her mother and dad to keep things going on the farm.

In July 1945 Doug returned from overseas having served in England, France, Holland and Germany. They spent about a year in Winnipeg before Doug decided to enter the profession of Pharmacy. They spent two years in Birtle where Doug served his apprenticeship with George Barker who had just taken over the Drug Store in Birtle. Their first child, daughter Barbara was born at Birtle in 1947. In 1948 Doug went into University and from that time until 1951 when Doug graduated, they spent the University term in Winnipeg and between terms in Birtle where Doug worked in the Drug Store. It was during this period, August 1949 that a second daughter, Sharon, was born (at Birtle).

Following graduation, in 1951, Doug took a job as pharmacist at Dauphin and the family spent two years there. In August of 1953, the Manwarings purchased the Drug Store at Binscarth and spent 11 years in this great little town. A son, Ronnie, was added to the family in 1956. One of the highlights of each year, during much of this period, was the family gatherings at the Dale home for Christmas.

The store at Binscarth had been a fairly successful venture, but a continuing problem had always been the difficulty of getting (and keeping) a doctor in the town. Finally, after several years without a doctor, Doug and Mona made the difficult decision that they would have to look for a business elsewhere. In 1964 they sold the Binscarth store (which was converted into a Variety Store) and bought the Drug Store at Elkhorn. Mona and Doug worked in the store together until Jan. 1st, 1978, when they sold out and retired. They still make their home at Elkhorn, but spend their winters at Weslaco in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas.

Barbara, the oldest of the family, married Don Clarke, a native of Elkhorn. They have two sons, Jayson and Ryan. Don works as meat manager of Economart in Brandon and they live in a farm house in the Moore Park district.

The other daughter, Sharon, married Ron Walker of Elkhorn and they are presently farming near town. Their family consists of a son, Jamie and three daughters Carey, Kelly, and Terri.

Son Ron is presently living in Drayton Valley, Alberta and is employed in the Oil Well Servicing business with the Sun-Burst Co.

Dale, R. Thomas

by T. Dale

"River Stay Way From My Door" could well have been the theme song of any one residing in the Assiniboine valley in the early 1920s. I was born in July of 1922, just before the most serious flooding began. Six short years before my parents had moved to the S.W. 26-16-28. The house had been built the year before, in 1915 by Ben Peppin, an expert in building with logs. My father, Richard, and his partner my Uncle Joe Green, were beginning to "make a go of it", when the high water, three years out of five, "dampened" their hopes of successfully farming valley land. This prompted Dad to purchase the N.W. 1-17-28 and the S.E. 2-17-28. Our home is situated on a portion of the latter quarter. Since there was only a small log house on the farm, Dad bought the house which the Rosario Huberdeau family had vacated. The winter of 1927-28 was spent moving the building to the new farm site and doing some renovating before the family took up residence in the spring of 1928. It was almost unbelievable that mother nature could make such an abrupt about face, but in the 1930s, instead of fighting water and mud we were in the midst of a drought with dust storms.

By this time my education had begun. I attended Ellice school for many happy years. I recall with nostalgia, as no doubt many rural students do, the school dances, a means of raising a few dollars for the main event, the yearly Christmas concert. Oh, what an exciting evening for the "kids"! The stage was draped with bed sheets borrowed from a kind lady of the community and over in the corner a huge tree was shining with decorations. Underneath were gayly wrapped presents with bags of nuts and candy and all sorts of goodies. I still believe in Santa Claus!

During this time my cousin Frank Dunn and myself were almost inseparable. We had great times together, trapping gophers, fishing and hunting. For some reason we were dubbed the "Katzenjammer Kids" after a couple of funny paper bad eggs. I don't know why to this day, because we were lovable tykes. I rounded out my high school education at St. Lazare and after a short stint working for T. Eaton in Winnipeg, I joined the R.C.A.F. I spent three years at the west coast, then back to Winnipeg for a few months before a posting to Calgary. There I met Eileen

Cussick a member of the R.C.A.F. (W.D.). After a lengthy courtship of almost six weeks she became Mrs. R. T. We were discharged from the Airforce in April of 1946. Something interesting happened when they issued our travel warrants. Mine was made out to St. Lazare, Manitoba but Eileen's was made out to St. Lazare, Quebec. We still argue over who had them changed.

After leaving the service I drove a truck for the army at Shilo for a period of time. We returned to the farm in 1948 where our daughter Penny was born. I stayed on the farm until 1951 when I went to work for Hawk Drilling, a wild cat rig exploring for oil in the area. In the meantime, our son Rick had been born in April of 1950. I worked oil rigs until 1953 at which time I returned and purchased the W $\frac{1}{2}$ 7-17-27 from John O'Kellher. My brother Vin and I farmed together until his death in 1959 when I took over the home farm. Due to the lack of grain sales we sold the O'Kelliher farm to Denis Simard in 1969 and built a coin-operated laundry in Birtle. We ran this business until 1975 when we sold it to Bob Laurie of Roblin. The same year we sold the farm to Tony Simard with the exception of two acres with our home on it.

Eileen and I were employed as park attendants at Wekusko Provincial Park for six years, but at the time of writing we are retired. Being retired means time for the pursuit of the hobbies I enjoy. Woodworking and carpentry have always been a pleasure. I drew up the plans and built the home we live in today. Lapidary (stone polishing and jewelery making) takes up many hours. I spent some time each fall with our son, Rick, at Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, duck shooting. Fishing, anywhere I can find enough water to wet a line, is also much enjoyed. Reading, of course if one of the greatest ways of passing time. I read all of the great writers such as Charles Schultz, author of "Snoopy". Then, there is Ben Wicks, but my favorite is Charlie Farquarson. I have a complete library of his works. It was a great thrill to meet Charlie in person in Brandon last year and have a chat with him. It went something like this:

I lean (thats th wife an former gurlfrend) an me went to Brand em, thats a sub burp of yer Brand em north whar yer Vee Uh Rale usta run a'fore Jon Luck Peep in took er off yer rale. Now their served by yer Pissterrific Worsten Hair Line. They was havin this ear big Cent ten y'all Concerk an Charlie wuz in er. Well sir by gol when she was all done he cum rite down in yer oddy yence ann I got to tock to im. Rite off I cud see he wuz a good fella so I axed im what he thot of her Manny toe bah. He said it wuz shore good to get outta yer y'east and away from Uppity Candada an all that nons tense in yer Common House. He figgers it time Pee Air Terdo an Jo Hoo Cluk give up

an let sumbuddy elst take over th mess thave creeatid. Then I ax him how were things in Parry Sound (thets his home), also the home of yer Bobbie Oar yer grats N. H. heller. When I mentioned Bobbies place he said he hardly wreckinized er the last time he saw er. Sez sinct Bobbie made a buck shootin a puck he panetid er all up an now shes "The Cutest Little Oar House in Parry Sound". Sez he don't know why they don't make a movie of er.

I enjoyed every minute of our chat although his very polished English is hard to understand at times.

This is the story of my life to date but I would like to borrow the words from a favorite old song to end it. The words go something like this:

And if there is going to be a life hereafter,
And some how I feel sure there's going to be.
I will ask my God to let me make my heaven,
In "good old Ellice Municipality".



Tom Dale Family with Eileen's parents.

Dale, Eileen (nee Cussick)

My life has allowed me to visit several provinces in Canada. I was born in Dinant, Alberta in 1925. My father began working for Canadian Pacific Railway in 1937 and was constantly moved from one town to another. My education years were divided between Saskatchewan and Alberta. In fact, my parents moved 22 times in eight months! I finally completed my schooling in Unity, Saskatchewan before attending Normal School in Saskatoon. I taught school in Saskatchewan; enlisted in the R.C.A.F. Women's Division in Winnipeg, and received basic training at Rockcliffe, Ontario. I was posted to various camps, among them — Ottawa, Hagersville, Trenton and Barrie, all in Ontario, before being posted to Calgary where I met and married Tom Dale (Bud). Until Penny and Rick were on their own, I was a plain housewife. We, Dales, built the Laundromat in Birtle where I worked with my parents, Michael and June

Cussick, and master mechanic and machine repair man, Tom. Since our stint of six years at Wekusko campground, I have retired officially to my crafts and domestic engineering.

Lanaway, Penelope Elaine (nee Dale)

My father, Tom Dale, no doubt remembers August 25th 1948, for more than the day of my birthday. The fact that he had a case of German measles at the time is probably recalled as vividly as my coming into the world. He still says he doesn't know what was most irritating, me or the spots. During my childhood days we lived in the little house "down in the bush" not too far from Grandad and Grandma Dale. They were typical grandparents and spoiled us rotten. Then, too, there was Uncle Vin, who didn't do much to help the cause. Early education was at Ellice school, my teacher there being Aunt Leone. When Ellice was consolidated in 1958, with Decorby school, it meant a move to a town "hall" of education. The Sisters of the Presentation of Mary were my teachers until I went to Birtle Collegiate in 1963 and from where I graduated in 1965. I attended Winnipeg University for one semester, then went to work for the Bank of Montreal. I married in 1967 and in 1970 moved to Marshalltown, Iowa. I returned to Canada the following year and Woodstock, Ont. is my present home. I was married to Michael Lanaway in 1976. He is employed as a transport driver, his present run between Woodstock and Boston, Massachusetts. I have worked as an accountant for the past nine years. I have two daughters, Tracy Lynn and Cyndee Aileen. Among my fondest memories are the Christmases spent at our Grandparents' home. We, the Tom Dales, would start gathering on Christmas eve, with the Frank Dales, Manwarings, Uncle Vin, Aunt Dorothy and occasionally, Grandad and Grandma Cussick. These were truly wonderful family gatherings, memories to be cherished forever.

Dale, Richard Michael

I was born April 15, 1950, in Birtle hospital. At this time we lived in a small house just west of Dad's parents. In later years Dad worked on oil rigs and we moved to different localities in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. In 1954 we returned to the farm where I lived until I began a career of my own. Ellice, St. Lazare and Birtle Collegiate were the schools where I received my education. I graduated from Birtle in 1968 and in November of that year began employment with the Bank of Montreal. From then until April of 1976 when I was appointed manager at St. Claude, I saw service at nine different branches. In February of 1977 I was offered a position with Department of Indian Affairs. Since it meant settling permanently in one place, I accepted, and now live in

Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. I am employed as Business Development Officer with the department. During my stint in the bank at Morden I met Karla Sawatzky who was a recent graduate of first year education from the University of Winnipeg. She was employed at Great West Life in the city but in June of 1972 I took her away from all that when she became Mrs. Rick Dale. Karla is presently a stenographer for the Community Health Services, Province of Saskatchewan. Although I have been away from the Ellice district for some time I often think of the early years of my life there, the duck shooting expeditions with Uncle Vin and my trusty "BB" gun. Later on, there were the years as bat boy with the "Athletics" and then as a member of the team. I have given up baseball but still spend my leisure time hunting and fishing. We have a cottage at Little Bear Lake where we spent many enjoyable weekends.

The DeCorby Story

In the year 1882, due to a rampant crop disease, southern France was confronted with the misfortune of total ruin of its vineyards. The farmers of the Ardeche region carried the heaviest burden, facing an uncertain future of poverty. Many fled with what little possessions they owned to seek a new home and profession.

Joseph Benjamin DeCorby, born October 22 1846, fifth child of Joseph and Madeleine (Serre), was only one of the many who was left discouraged and penniless. Recently wed on January 27, 1882, to Sylvie Ursule Almeras born March 18 1860, in Saint Paul le Jeune, Joseph began to plan their future. The village of Chandolas in which he was born and raised, no longer held a promising future for them or their infant son Jules, born September 20, 1882.

After persuasion by his elder brother Jules, who



Mme. Sylvie DeCorby et Colombe, Emile et Elizabeth.

had departed to Canada in 1867 as a Catholic Missionary, Joseph decided to join him. Fortunately, Jules, with a secret longing of this probability, had obtained and established a holding in Southern Saskatchewan. The land was located S.W. 34-17-30.

In order to finance the journey, which at the time was five hundred francs per head, Joseph confronted his elder sister Josephine. The home in which the entire DeCorby family dwelt was built in the late 1400's, and bequeathed to Joseph by his elderly parents. Striking a bargain with his sister in exchange for the funds to make the journey, he would temporarily surrender his claim to the home.

In the spring of 1883 with the intention of someday returning, the family of three bade farewell to their family and Chandolas. To begin their travels they spent three days in Liverpool, England, one day in Ireland, two days in the States. When they arrived in Halifax their spirits were dampened by the misfortune of losing all their belongings. Yet determined, they set out for their destination. One day was spent in Quebec, one day in Winnipeg, and they finally arrived in Moosomin. From there they ventured to Fort Ellice where they were united with Jules. All in all, their journey took twelve days on the boat, eight days on the train and two days from Moosomin to Fort Ellice by wagon.

Upon settling on the homestead Joseph and Sylvie constructed a wood-frame 'soddie'. Their new home was humble yet adequate for the time being. As the land was broken and crops were planted, livestock consisting of cattle, sheep and horses were added to the farm operation. On May 29, 1883, Joseph purchased his homestead patent.

Born to them on this homestead were: Colombe — August 25, 1883, Elizabeth — 1888, Elie — October 28, 1893, Henry — 1895, Paul — November 3, 1898, and Regis — April 12, 1900. As the family grew the need for more land became apparent. Joseph and his family broke new land experimenting with crops, discovering what was to their advantage. In a letter to his family in Chandolas he quotes the prices of livestock and crops. "Cattle 2¢ a lb., pigs 4¢ a lb., sheep 6¢ a lb., wheat 35¢ a bushel, eggs 30¢ a dozen, butter 14 to 25¢ a lb. This year I made 1200 lb. of butter at 13¢ a lb." He also mentions laborers were paid 12-15 francs per day.

As the children reached school age they attended Pumpkin Plains School. The school, established in 1883, was a distance of 6 miles from their home. So to provide a convenient solution to this, Joseph applied for a second homestead in Manitoba. It took many years and several inspectors to convince the government of Joseph's ability to operate two farms successfully.

In a letter to his sister he writes, "This fall I intend to move to my new farm. I am nearer to the chapel, a distance of six kilometres. We can go to mass every Sunday and at the same time it will make the school close to us." So Joseph and his family moved to their new home N.W. 10-17-29. The community in which they now lived was known as Victor. Along with the assistance of his family and neighbors, Joseph built a second home. This time their home was a two-storey log house.

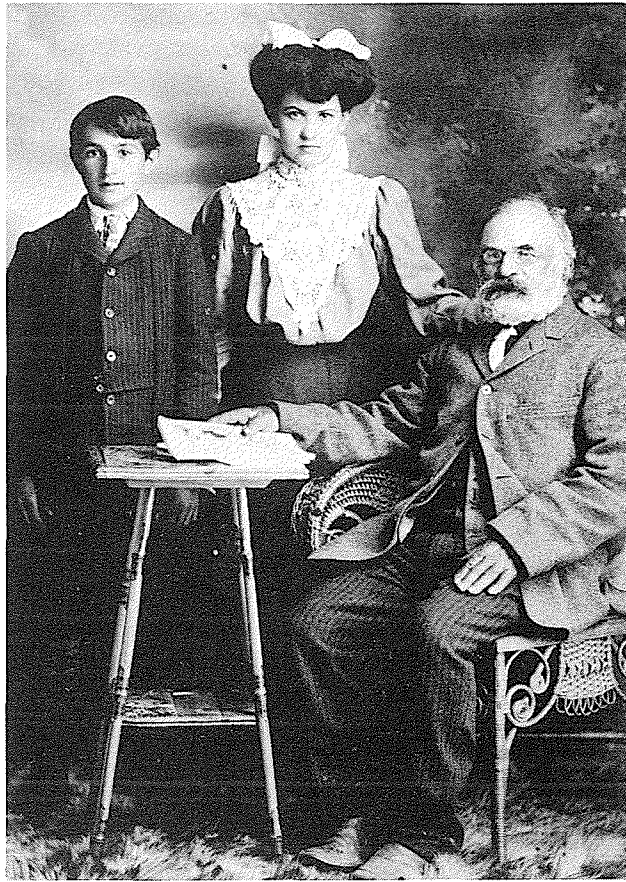
In a letter addressed 1906 he writes, "In our school there are ten students from two families; us, and the neighbors who have fourteen boys without counting the girls. Our school teacher costs us ten francs a day. I will tell you it costs me fifty francs a year. The government supplies the remaining fee."

Joseph born and raised a Roman Catholic was supporting the church both financially and morally. "This spring we will make a beautiful chapel of stone. I am very pleased to say the priest of the mission has put me in charge."

He speaks of the entertainment available to them, "We go to dances in the winter almost every night, everybody dances. Everybody likes to dance, ladies as old as sixty as well as the very young. They clear the house and here we dance until six o'clock in the morning. We go to each other's homes. There are lots of musicians but the violin is the main instrument. We are all of different languages but we all like to dance."

Here in Victor their final child Emile was born March 5, 1905. In a letter addressed December 20, 1906, he writes, "The railway is not yet completed. They work on the frozen ground with powder. The men are paid 25¢ an hour. They intend to build another railway approximately one kilometre distance. The land has taken a value. The land four years ago was ten francs an acre (60 metres square), now the price is one hundred and twenty five."

As the years passed the children began to leave home and start lives of their own. "Jules is doing fine, he built a big general store. It cost him ten thousand francs and thirty thousand francs for the merchandise." He married Anna Roberts and remained in St. Lazare. Colombe married Joseph Cantin and moved to Ste. Marthe. Elizabeth married Pierre Paquette and moved to Angusville. Elie who along with siblings maintained the first homestead by commuting, chose to make it his home. He married Mae Simard and remained on the homestead. Henry, homesteaded at Quill Lake which he left shortly after to return to the Qu'Appelle Valley, and married Mary Gagnon. Paul married Jeanne Blouin and moved to McAuley. Regis married Edna Lewis and remained



Joseph DeCorby, Elie and Elizabeth, 1905.

on the Victor Homestead. Emile married Margaret Miller and moved to Lebret.

Joseph was well respected. All who came to his home were well taken care of. Not only did they receive good company and good food but also feed and water and if necessary a stable for their animals. Fred Belhumeur as a young boy hauled wood for Joseph at 25¢ a load. He once commented it was not for the money but for the hospitality that he continued to work for Joseph.

In Joseph's elderly years, due to illness, he chose to live under the care and in the home of his daughter, Elizabeth. He suffered not only from his illness but his request to return home for his final days was denied. Therefore on September 29, 1919, surrounded by his family, Joseph passed away. Transported by a buggy drawn by a Model T, Joseph was brought home and laid to rest in St. Lazare Cemetery. On July 2 1938, he was joined by his wife Sylvie.

Stories as told by Elie DeCorby

Joseph obtained hay feed from fields two miles west of his home. After a full day's work, provisions for tomorrow's lunch remained at the field. Butter was stored in a ten-pound honey pail placed in the spring. Bread and cheese were stored in containers in nearby bushes.

Following the evening meal it was customary to sit around the kitchen table and reminisce. It was entertaining for the children to sit and listen to the stories which they had heard many times before. Elie along with his siblings chose one specific evening to curl up at the crackling wood stove and listen in silence to the stories. Long after the other children had retired and Elie had been told many times to join them, he fell asleep under the long-legged stove. Determined to teach him a lesson, his parents left him where he lay long after they retired themselves.

Upon awakening he found the kitchen brightly lit and no one to be seen or heard. Believing he had been left behind while the family had returned to the fields, Elie set out to join them. Upon arrival he found the camp deserted, being only five years old it took him a few moments to realize that it was an exceptionally bright moonlit night, and, in fact, the middle of the night. He turned and headed for home.

The following morning to Joseph's dismay and general relief, when returning to the camp discovered it had been ransacked by a bear. The honey pail had been squashed flat in order to extract the butter, and remnants of food were scattered about. Who, in fact, had been last night's first visitor to the camp?

Joseph had a reputation for honesty. A young man who wanted to start farming went to Joseph with the hope of purchasing a pair of oxen. A price was agreed upon and the man handed over a packet of



A Double Wedding: Alcide and Beatrice Robert, Jules and Anna DeCorby.

money, then departed with the animals. A few years later the man returned to Joseph explaining his inability to farm and asked Joseph if he would buy back the animals. Joseph agreed and disappeared, returning with the packet. Handing the packet to the man he said, "I did not count the money, if it is insufficient, then you have cheated yourself."

Decorby, Elizabeth

Elizabeth born in 1888, was the third child of Joseph and Sylvie Decorby (Nee Almeras). She remained with her family assisting with the farm duties and attending school with her siblings. On November 23, 1908 a small wedding ceremony was performed when she and Pierre Paquette were married. They resided in Angusville Manitoba, where they constructed a modest two-storey home and a blacksmith shop. Pierre prospered. In a letter addressed to his family in France, Elizabeth's father wrote, "Elizabeth's husband is making 50 francs to shoe one horse."

In the early months of 1919 Elizabeth's father took ill. Pierre and Elizabeth, who remained childless, offered to take him into their home where he was provided with the rest and comfort he needed until his death.

Pierre continued in his trade until his death in 1959. In her back yard Elizabeth kept a variety of fowl, a milkcow and numerous cats and dogs. Later, she moved into the Russell Senior Citizen's home where she passed away in 1973.

Decorby, Elie

Elie Decorby, (1893) was the fourth child of Joseph and Sylvie Decorby. They lived in Victor and attended Pumpkin Plains school, and Elie assisted in maintenance of both farms. In 1905 south-east Saskatchewan and south-west Manitoba were quarantined as the result of a small-pox epidemic. It became difficult for the children to travel from Victor to the homestead in Saskatchewan because the North-West Mounted Police insisted on border permits each time they crossed the border. Although Elie only attended school for a very short time, he could converse in Russian and Cree and read, write and speak French and English.

In 1915 at the age of 22, he purchased his first homestead, NW 14-17-29 for the sum of ten dollars. He also farmed his father's original homestead in Saskatchewan NW 34-17-30 where he built a small shack. In 1919, after the death of his father, his mother moved into the new two storey wood home he had built to replace the shack. Sylvie, even after 30 years in this new country, did not feel completely secure. Due to this fear she carried a small dagger beneath the folds and layers of her clothing. She

carried this weapon at all times because of Elie's frequent business trips to distant towns. In these times, neighbors were few and far between and individuals were left to fend for themselves. On one occasion when Elie was absent, a huge Metis came to call on him. Upon opening the door, he was confronted by small Sylvie. Never having been introduced she stood defiantly before him. The Metis said to her, "You are not a very big woman, are you not afraid to stay alone?" As she reached beneath her belt, and withdrew the dagger, Sylvie pointed it beneath his nose and replied, "NO"! Following an introduction, he was invited in to await Elie's return.



Elie and May (Simard) DeCorby.

On January 3, 1921 Elie married May Simard, daughter of Edmond and Sarah (Gwyer) in a small wedding in St. Lazare. They were blessed with ten children. Edmond 1921, Henry 1923, George 1924, Irene 1926, Hilda 1928, Marie 1930, Edith 1932, Joseph 1935 and Elizabeth 1936, and an infant in 1939.

As the farm prospered, Elie bought additional land. He raised sheep, cattle, horses and various fowl. The children attended Welby School. Daily they walked four miles. In 1926 when Father C. Passaplan erected St.-Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in the Qu'Appelle valley this provided the Decorbys with the luxury of a church virtually at their doorstep. In the early 1930's Sylvie moved to St. Lazare. In 1941, May died following a long illness.

Edmond remained on the farm until 1941 when he enlisted in World War II. He returned in 1945 and married Jacqueline Platana in 1948. They are both employed and reside in Thompson, Manitoba. Children are Daniel and Arlette. **Henry** bought a farm in the Willowdale district, south of Spy Hill. He married Finna Ingaldson in 1955. They had 10 children, Michael, Marcel, Della, Adrien, Allan, Roger, Noelle, Raymond, John and Jacques. **George** farms the original homestead. In 1957 he married Anna Prescott. They have two children, George Jr. and Rose Marie. **Irene** remained home until 1965 when she married Michael Lawlor. They live in the Qu'Appelle Valley near her brother George. Michael's children from a former marriage are Honora, Alison, Michael, Donald and Rosaline. **Hilda** married Roe Carter in 1950. They have eight children, Donald, David, Lionel, Timothy, Robert, Lorne, Mary and Irene. They have retired from their farm at Spy Hill. **Marie** married Harvey Platana in 1952. They have daughters, Janine, Joanne, and Janette and live in Regina. **Edith** taught in various schools until 1957 when she married John McGeough. They have five children, Joseph, David, Patrick, Peter, and Margo and live in Govan, Saskatchewan. **Joseph** married Inez Walz in 1961. He too lives on the original homestead. Their children are Joan, Darlene, Jean, Irene and Jules. **Elizabeth** became a Religious Sister with the Presentation of Mary, taking her final vows in 1958, the same year obtaining her teaching degree from St. Boniface College. Sister Elizabeth is now principal of Ecole St. Lazare.

On October 29, 1965, the original home burned. A new smaller home was built on the same spot. Elie never remarried and in 1979 he died and was buried beside his wife May. He was known for his eagerness to make new friends. Special warm hospitality was extended to any visitor to his home. His amusing and entertaining way of telling a story was known to many. In his presence there was always happiness and warmth mingled with the aroma of pipe tobacco. He was born and died on the original Joseph Decorby homestead.

Decorby, Paul **by Blanche Steffenson**

Paul Decorby (1898-1979) was the sixth child born to Joseph and Sylvia Decorby. He received his education at a little school in the Pumpkin Plains area, being taught by his future father-in-law, Mr. J. A. Blouin. Dad often talked of his youth. He told us how they had trained a young calf to pull a stone boat and used it to haul water barrels. He spoke of days when they would move sheep to the Railway station

at Moosomin. They traveled by team and wagon, often being gone several days. In 1921 Paul and brother Regis bought the S½ of 35-15-29 in the McAuley area, which they farmed together from St. Lazare, often rising in what seemed to be the middle of the night to travel to McAuley to begin work in the morning. After Regis married they decided to go on their own, Regis stayed on the valley farm and Paul moved to McAuley. He set up a one room shack and proceeded to farm and raise Hereford cattle. In the early 30's during a bitter cold spell in January, Dad took a car load of cattle to Winnipeg, and on returning he found his house and all his belongings had burned to the ground. He had cattle to tend, so he had no alternative but to improvise. He lived the remainder of the winter in a little tin van, with only a small tin heater in one end. He said he woke many mornings, the fire having long gone out with his clothing frozen to the walls of the van. When summer arrived, he moved a wooden granary to the area for a house. Later he added another building to the side and a porch. This was our home until sometime in the early 50's when he moved the present house to the site where it now stands.



Jean, Jacques, Mark, Luke and Paul DeCorby.

On November 30, 1938 he married Jeanne Blouin (1919-1972) of St. Lazare, a daughter of J. A. Blouin and Gracia (Tremblay) Blouin. Together they raised seven children, three boys **Jacques, Mark and Luke**, and four girls **Blanche, Paulette, Georgette, and Mary-Ann**. Jacques married Joyce Van den Berg of Winnipeg. Jacques is employed as a Meteorological Technician at Sudbury, Ontario. Mark married Charlotte Kirby of Spy Hill, Saskatchewan. They reside on their farm at McAuley where Mark farms and works at the mine at Rocanville. They have three children, Bradley, Lonnie, and Martin. Luke married Betsy Hilton of Winnipeg where they live. Luke is employed with a printing company. They have two daughters, Michelle and Nicole. Blanche married

Harvey Steffenson of Moosomin, Saskatchewan. He is employed as a welder for Trans-Canada Pipelines. They live in Moosomin and have four children, Laurel, Brian, Heather and Karen. Paulette is married to Mark Williams of Manson. They farm near Elkhorn, and Paulette does some substitute teaching. They have four children Gisele, Danielle, Nathan and Ruben Jared. Georgette married Brian Robertson of Moosomin. They reside in Melville, Saskatchewan where Brian is employed as a chartered accountant with Gibson, Shaw, Kemp and Skilnick. They have three children Paul, Maurey, and Andrea. Mary Ann the youngest of the children is single and lives in Calgary where she works in the office of an oil company.

Mom and Dad never travelled much and were never involved in community activities. They seemed to be quite content with raising a family and farming. Dad was predeceased by mom, on January 31, 1972, he continued living and working on the farm until he died peacefully in his farm home on May 26, 1979. Both Mom and Dad are buried at St. Lazare.

DeCorby, Regis

Regis, who was born April 6, 1900, resided in Ellice Municipality since he was a boy, coming from Welby, 34-18-30, which was at that time known as the Northwest Territories. He farmed with his parents and brothers. His father (Joseph DeCorby) built two houses on the farm; the first a log house and the second a two-storey frame house. Joseph and his wife Sylvie came from France about 1882 — from growing grapes to enduring many hardships and a different way of farming. They had one child, Jules, when they came, and seven more were born in Canada.

Reg married me, Edna Lewis of McAuley. I was born February 16, 1911. We farmed on 10-17-29 for thirty-seven years until we decided to retire in 1967. We moved to Birtle where we lived in a mobile home. We were only there a few months, when my mother broke her hip so we moved our home to McAuley.

For many years we had a poor road to go to town; getting stuck in the sand many times in the summer. In the winter there was a road across the river which people from Welby and Ste. Marthe travelled to St. Lazare. We went to town about once a week to get mail and do our shopping. When Reg couldn't go, I would ride horseback with a big bag to carry the groceries and mail. We had to go through the Ed. Simard's yard and when I was alone Mrs. Simard always insisted that I stop on my way home for a cup of tea. Sometimes there would be freshly baked

bread and butter, just churned. Mrs. Simard was a wonderful neighbor, always ready to help others. We had four children, Murray born 1932, Dianne 1942, Philip 1945 and Patricia in 1949. In 1982, tragedy struck our family, when Murray accidentally lost his life in June. In September Reg passed away in Birtle Sunnyside Manor. I now reside in Winnipeg.

DeCorby, Murray and Irene

Murray, son of Edna and Reg DeCorby, was born in May 1933. He was educated at Pumpkin Plains and in McAuley when he stayed at his grandmother's, Mrs. Parker. Murray married me, Irene Hort born in Preeceville, Saskatchewan to Austrian parents. I had been educated in Saskatchewan and College Heights in Alberta, attending school at Tuxedo Normal School with Edith Decorby, Doreen Scott and Merle Mitten. My first teaching position was at Greenway, Manitoba, which soon closed because of pupil shortage. I then came to teach at Pumpkin Plains school in 1952. Murray worked in various places as a "cat-skinner". These places included Lemay, Vegreville,



Murray DeCorby Family: Robin, Troy, Dion, Murray, Irene and Kim.

Viking (where his "cat" was completely destroyed by a train). Murray escaped unharmed! Other job locations were McAuley, Beulah and Miniota. I was cook for the crew building the road that summer. Further moves took us and our three children to Rocanville, Vancouver, Warner Bay, Penticton and Kelowna before finally returning to St. Lazare. Here Murray worked for Fouillard's at his trade "cat operator and welder." Our A frame home was built on land purchased from Pumpkin Plains School Dis-

tract. Murray then bought the farm from his dad, and was also working at the mine.

We have four children — **Robin** (1954) married Dan Tremblay. See Tremblay story. **Dion** married Debbie Low, daughter of Alex and Shirley Low of Foxwarren. **Kimberley** married Randy Gordon son of Marie and Jack Gordon of Birtle. They have three children. **Troy** (1967) is at home with me attending Birtle Collegiate. Since the untimely death of Murray in June, I live on the family farm in our "A frame" home.

Schwalm, Dianne (DeCorby)

Dianne attended Pumpkin Plains School and completed her education in Binscarth. She graduated from St. Boniface with a nurses degree. Dianne (Cookie) married Wesley Schwalm from Russell. They live in Esterhazy with their family of five.

Decorby, Philip and Isabelle

Philip DeCorby and Isabelle Henderson were married on August 15, 1970 at St. Lazare. They resided in Foxwarren until June of 1973, at which time they moved to the St. Lazare area. Philip John, was born October 30, 1945 at Birtle. His first eight years of schooling were at Pumpkin Plains before attending school at St. Lazare. He went to University for four years, and then into a teaching career. Isabelle Mary Henderson was born in February of 1949. She went to Gambler School and also St. Lazare, then was employed at Russell Hospital. Philip and Isabelle have three children; Shelley Dawn 1973, Leanne Michelle 1975 and their youngest Melanie Renee 1978. At present they live on the late Regis Decorby farm (10-17-29) which was purchased in 1967. The old two storey house was renovated and added to, making it look like a typical farm bungalow. Their immediate plans are to live in this area and have the enjoyment of watching their family grow.

Atkison, Bob and Pat

Bob Atkison and Pat DeCorby were married in June 1971. They lived near Pine Falls, Manitoba until July 1979 when they moved to Swan Lake. In August 1981 they and their daughters went to Kano, Nigeria where Bob taught. In 1982 they returned to Swan Lake. Patricia Joan DeCorby was born on October 4, 1949. She attended school for the first six years at Pumpkin Plains School and the remaining years at St. Lazare Consolidated and St. Lazare Collegiate. Post-secondary education was from Brandon University in Manitoba. Robert George Atkison was born in Moosomin on October 16, 1947. He attended school in Moosomin, graduating from McNaughton High School in 1965. He continued his education at Bran-

don University and the University of Winnipeg. Their first daughter, Kara Lee, was born October 6, 1975. On April 22, 1978 another daughter Kristi Anne was born.

DeCorby, Robert and Corinne

I am the son of Jules DeCorby, born in France in 1881, and Anna Robert, born in Letellier, Manitoba in 1891. I was born the 20th of October 1919. I have a sister, Imelda, and two brothers, Henri and Maurice. My father operated a grocery store in St. Lazare from the coming of the railroad until his death in 1953.

I have lived in St. Lazare all my life. In 1940, I joined the R.C.A.F. in World War II. In November of 1943, our plane was shot down over Mannheim in Germany. I was taken prisoner and remained in a camp at Muelberg on Elbe until April 23, 1945 when we were liberated by the Russian Army.

When I returned home, I worked with my father in his grocery store. After his death I bought the business. In 1948, I married Corinne Fouillard, (May 8, 1928), daughter of Benoit and Leontine Fouillard. We have six children; Constance, Julie, Gerard, Martin, Benoit and Jean-Pierre. In 1953, we moved into a house that my father had commissioned Emile Dupont to build in 1929; we still live there. A new store was built on the same lot as the old one. I hope to retire soon and transfer the business to Benoit, so I will have more leisure time for golf in the summer.

Our children: **Constance** born in 1949, is a Bachelor of Arts graduate from the U. of M. She works with children who have mental disorders. **Julie** (1951) married Mathieu Deschambault, Gerard, (April 9, 1953) married Emilie Paradis. They have a daughter Gillian. They live in Edmonton. **Martin** (1956) is employed presently by A. L. E. Farms. **Benoit** (1959) works with his father. **Jean-Pierre** (1963) attends the University of Manitoba.

My sister, Imelda (Millie) is a teacher at Campbell River, B.C.

Decorby, Henry E.

Henry Decorby, born in St. Lazare in 1950, and his wife Evelyne (Trudel) of St. Malo live in Winnipeg where Henry is presently employed as the equipment supervisor for the gymnasium at the University of Winnipeg. This is his third career as he is retired after 35 years in the Armed Forces and The Public Service.

Evelyne works part time at Eaton's Polo Park. Their children are Raymond, who is married to Gabrielle Turner and they have one son, Spencer, born in 1982. Raymond owns Polar Painting Ltd., in Yellowknife, N.W.T. Monique is married to lawyer David Wright and living in Calgary where she is

studying Medicine after completing her B.Sc. and M.Sc. Henry and Evelynne are still enjoying the company of Michele at home as she is in Grade XI.

Henry's only regret is how he spent his youth, particularly his money. "A lot of it on women, a lot of it on liquor, and the rest I spent foolishly."

Decorby, Maurice Leopold

Maurice was born in St. Lazare in 1927. He married Ora Marguerite McNeill from Edmonton in 1952. They have four children, Neil and Len, and adopted twin girls, Rose and Ruth.

Maurice left St. Lazare when he was 17, and after a number of jobs bought a general store in Enilda, Alberta in 1962, later buying a farm where Ora and children could ride their horses. He has been buying furs for 15 years and will continue to do so for a few more years until he retires to the home he is building on a farm in Campbell River, B.C.

DeCorby, Robert et Corinne

Jules DeCorby, né en France en 1881, et Anna Robert, née à Letellier, Manitoba en 1891 étaient mes parents. Ils ont eu une famille de quatre enfants, donc; Robert (moi), né le 20 octobre, 1919, Imelda, Henri, et Maurice.

Mon père s'établit à St. Lazare dans un magasin d'épicerie à peu près en même temps que le chemin de fer, le CNR, fut construit à travers du village, ils ont vécu à St. Lazare jusqu'à la mort de ma mère en septembre, 1953 et mon père en décembre, 1953.

J'ai demeuré à St. Lazare toute ma jeunesse jusqu'en 1940, lorsque j'ai joint la RCAF au début de la deuxième guerre mondiale. Le 19 novembre, 1943, notre avion a été frappé en mission au dessus de Mannheim en Allemagne, et conséquemment j'ai été pris prisonnier de guerre. J'ai passé un peu plus de 17 mois dans un camp près d'une ville qui s'appelait Muelberg on Elbe, jusqu'au 23 avril, 1945, lors de notre libération par l'armée Russe.

Revenant au Canada et chez nous, la même année, j'ai commencé à travailler au magasin familial que j'ai acheté en 1953, après la mort de mes parents.

Le 26 août, en 1948, je me suis marié à Corinne Fouillard (fille de Benoit Fouillard et Léontine Simard), née le 8 mai, 1928 à St. Lazare. Nous avons eu six enfants: Constance, Julie, Gérard, Martin, Benoit et Jean-Pierre.

En 1953, nous avons acheté et déménagé dans la maison que mon père avait fait construire en 1929 par Emile Dupont, la même maison que nous habitons aujourd'hui.

Puis qu'il pleuvait à grande siseaux l'été et faisait très froid l'hiver dans le vieux magasin, il a fallu en construire un nouveau alors, en 1963, j'ai eu le grand

plaisir de m'installer dans le magasin que nous occupons à présent, situé sur le même lot que l'ancien.

A présent, nous sommes encore à la même place, dans la même maison. Peu à peu, j'espère me retirer et transférer la besogne du magasin à Benoit. De cette façon, je serai plus libre pour jouer au golf l'été. Nos enfants:

Constance née en 1949, graduée de l'université du Manitoba, Bachelier-arts travaille depuis nombre d'années pour Children's Home comme conseillère pour enfants avec problèmes mentaux. **Julie** née en 1951. Voir histoire Mathieu Deschambault. **Gérard** né le 9 avril, 1953 marié le 25 juin 1977 à Emilie Paradis, née le 20 octobre 1956. Ils ont une fille Gillian. Ils habitent Edmonton depuis 1979 où Gerry travaille comme mécanicien et Emilie comme professeur. **Martin** né en 1956, travailla pour nombre d'années à Edmonton et est employée à présent pour ALE Farms. **Benoit** né en 1959 travaille avec son père au magasin DeCorby. **Jean-Pierre** né en 1963 poursuit ses études à l'université du Manitoba.

DeCorby, Anna (Prescott)

Je suis née le 10 avril 1936, de M. et Mme Placide Prescott, la neuvième de dix enfants. J'ai fréquenté l'école de St. Lazare jusqu'à la onzième année. Durant ces années j'ai pensionné au couvent des religieuses. Après la mort de mon cher père en 1954, j'ai demeuré chez-nous. J'ai rencontré George DeCorby de St. Joseph (Welby) en 1956; nous nous sommes mariés le 29 juin 1957. Depuis, nous demeurons sur la ferme paternelle qui avait été développée en 1880 par Grandpère Joseph DeCorby. Nous avons deux enfants: George Placide 24 ans et Rose Marie May 22 ans, qui est postulante chez les Religieuses de la Présentation de Marie à Saskatoon.

Demontigny, Melanie Rose as told to Yvonne Leclerc

I was born April 25, 1906 to Ambroise Fisher and Veronique Fleury. I was born at Ste. Madeline. There were nine girls and one boy; Adrienne, Margaret, Caroline, Pauline and Bernadette (both deceased) Cecile and Damien. I remember when the last baby girl died, I went with Mrs. Betsy to bury her. People had big families in those days.

We lived in a one-room shack. There were several families in Ste. Madeleine. Everywhere you looked there were houses.

The men did anything for a living; digging roots, scrubbing bush, cutting wood, threshing, hunting and trapping.

There was a nice church in Ste. Madeleine. Mass was celebrated once a month. People from St. Lazare would come to it.

We used to work year round. We girls would go with Dad and haul wood on our backs. We were not dressed properly in the winter. We wore dresses and canvas boots and mitts. When we got back we had our chores to do, hauling wood and water for the house.

In the summer we went out threshing, pitching sheaves. Women and men threshed together. A woman could handle a fork as good as a man. Of the group of girls that used to pitch sheaves only myself and Agnes Boucher are left.

I remember the big flu in 1918. Jean-Baptiste Fleury lost his wife then and Gregory Fleury lost his wife and three kids. We helped the ones who had the flu. Joe Venne and I helped the J. B. Lepines when they had the flu. We looked after their stock. We never went into the houses because of the quarantine. We would leave the wood in front of the house and the water in a barrel. The doctor and the priest went in. The priest would go in to give the Last Sacrament to those who were dying. I remember once when they dug a trench and buried five at once.

I never went to school except for catechism once a month. I made my first communion when I was thirteen.

Clothing was hard to come by. If you had a pair of shoes you made them last as long as possible. Our beds were made from poles and a canvas bag filled with straw or hay for a mattress.

We sold berries winter and summer. In the winter we picked frozen cranberries and sold them for 25¢ a pail.

We made blankets and sold them for 25¢ each. The lamps were not too good. We would sew until late with grease lamps and when we had no grease we'd use the light from the kitchen stove. Thread was hard to get. We saved the string from our store packages to sew the blankets.

I was married in Ste. Madeleine to Alfred Demontigny. He was born in St. John, North Dakota on the third of February 1894. His parents were Patrick Demontigny and Rosina St. Germain. I had eleven children but only six are living. Dan, Leo, Ernest, William, Victoria and Angela. When we lived in Madeleine, my husband did a lot of hunting. I would go with him. When we built the house my husband and I cut logs in the valley. We had no horses so we made wooden wheels. By sawing off a big tree we made a wagon to carry our logs. We tied a chain to it and pulled it ourselves. It took sixty logs for a pretty fair-sized square frame. It wasn't easy and we worked hard for our house. While we were out getting logs we set traps and snares for meat.

We were never told the facts of life (such as how babies were born). The old people were told by the missionary priest not to tell the children any of this

because it was a sin. The mother was to tell her girls and the father his boys just before they got married. Many boys and girls were never told until after they were married.

When I was young and a baby was born I would ask where it came from. We would see a newborn baby and the lady in bed then we would wonder and ask. They would tell us that the lady had to run to catch her baby and that she had fallen and hurt her leg and that was why she was in bed.

I was not told all the facts until two weeks after I was married. An old couple asked us to their home and explained the facts to us.

Today the children know too much; they learn from the T.V. and in schools.

At the time doctors were scarce. We had a doctor in Russell, Dr. Torrence. I only had one baby delivered by him. All the others were delivered by midwives, Mrs. Ledoux and my aunt Mrs. Johnny Fleury. My last baby was delivered by Mrs. Willie Boucher.

My mother lived in "Selby Town". This is where they were placed when the P.F.R.A. started coming in. They still didn't bother us — yet. We used to go and haul wood for mother and stay a week or two with her. We didn't worry about school as we didn't have to send our children.

Then the P.F.R.A. came; they told us to move out. We took our blankets and a bit of food and went to my mother's. The next day we came back with a rack to get the rest of our belongings. When we arrived there were only ashes left. They had set fire to our house, burned everything! Whatever furniture we had was all gone.

Our amusement in those days was visiting one another and dancing. From Christmas until New Years we would visit from house to house and dance every night. Everyone ate bannock, lard and rabbit. This was our main meal. The horses were done up with bells and you could hear the teams come jing-a-ling along. You knew when someone was coming. The real Christmas spirit was everywhere.

Not so long ago it was nothing for me to walk to town (about ten miles) and get my groceries and carry a bag on my back. I would make mats and sell them in town. I still go out for my wood sometimes. I still burn wood and have a coal oil lamp. I have no electricity.

I have some old home recipes.

Belangelic: was good for any kind of sickness, especially upset stomach.

L'arbre Saint: We used it to get rid of bedbugs and fleas.

Chokecherry Torro: Take one flat stone and one round one and mash the berries good. Mix with

rendered fat. Form into small patties. Let dry. You can eat it dry or soak in water with sugar, raisins and rendered fat and then use it to butter bread.

Denham, Henry Edwin and Mary **by Frank Denham**

My father, Henry Edwin Denham, came to the Foxwarren district from London, England, about 1892. For several years he worked for different people and engaged in various types of work until he filed on his homestead — the south-east quarter of section 24-17-28. Later he purchased the north-east quarter and farmed the east half of the section until he retired to live in Foxwarren in 1940.

In the spring of 1898 my mother, Mary Eliza Anne Wood, arrived from England and they were married May 16, 1898 at the home of Mr. Charles Leavens. Since Mother had just arrived in the country and knew no one, it was my father's responsibility to send out invitations to the wedding.

Their frame home was far from finished and my mother applied herself by nailing laths in place and assisting with plastering. There were absolutely no conveniences. The water was carried in by the bucket and run out in the same way. Mother had just arrived from England but she readily accepted the challenge and adapted to the primitive conditions of pioneer life. She told of times when they did not have enough money to buy a 2-cent stamp to send a letter home.



Frank and Mary Denham, 1898.

My father told of working on a threshing outfit belonging to Dave and Jim Mulberry. It was a hand-fed machine with a carrier to remove the straw. The grain was all handled in two-bushel bags as it came from the spout. The farmers stacked their crop and this outfit threshed from near Spy Hill all the way to west of Birtle and they continued to thresh on one occasion until the day before Christmas. The crew consisted of 16-20 men. Dad was paid \$1.00 per day and had to speak for work one year in advance. The men were all billeted in the respective farmer's houses, mostly on the floor and they presented quite an obstruction when the ladies had to get breakfast.

I think it was the fall of 1919 when freeze-up occurred October 8th. Even the ducks were caught unaware and departed in haste virtually in clouds. In the spring we learned that half the crop had been consumed by the mice, rabbits and prairie chickens.

Prairie fires were the fear and dread of the settlers since they destroyed everything in their path — the grass was burned off so that nothing was left for their cattle to graze upon. Sometimes the entire crop was destroyed and even their homes, so a prairie fire was a very real menace. On one occasion we had set out in the democrat to go to town; as we came to the crest of a knoll a fire was visible a mile or so away. Dad promptly turned back. He hitched the horses to the plow and proceeded to make a fireguard to protect our home. Neighbors always came to help in such emergencies. Some fought with water-soaked gunny sacks while others hauled barrels of water on a stone-boat from a near-by slough. Sometimes they continued the fight until men, women and horses were exhausted. There were no fire brigades to call for help and no telephones by which to make anyone aware of the situation. The settlers showed mutual concern for the safety and welfare of others and rallied to help whenever they were needed.

I remember when telephones were introduced into our district. We were amazed that we could actually talk to neighbors as far away as a mile or more. We could hear them distinctly and recognize each person by his voice. How remarkable!

The first automobile in our district was a Case car. It was an open car and the driver sat to the right. There were three levers situated on the running board — one for going forward, one for reverse and an emergency brake. To have lights for night driving, first a valve was opened to permit water to drip on some calcium carbide which generated acetylene gas, then you opened little shutters and lit each lamp with a match. A crank was suspended at the front to be used to start the motor. It was considered very daring to drive over 30 miles an hour.

Occasionally hailstorms swept the district. One

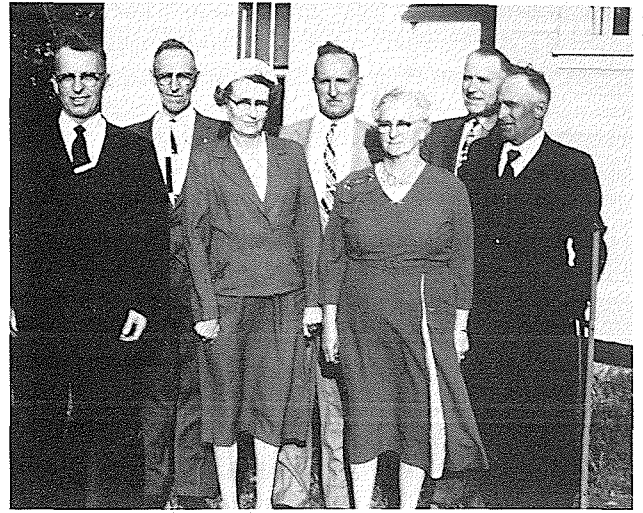
very severe storm destroyed our entire crop. I remember Mother weeping as she sat on Dad's knee and they watched their whole year's work being destroyed while they looked on helplessly. The hired man had been in the barn. He had to use the shovel to remove the hailstones before they could open the kitchen door. To add insult to injury, Dad lost the only \$10.00 he had, so during the winter Mother drove around the district with the pony and cutter to teach music lessons in order to provide food for the family. She had to go on Saturday because the children were in school during the week. That meant Dad was left to wash the kitchen floor and to make sure we children did not miss our Saturday evening bath!

My father took an active interest in community affairs and served in various capacities. He was secretary-treasurer of Moresby School for many years, a Board member of Foxwarren Consolidated School, served on the Board of Zion Church, as a director of the Credit Union, secretary of Ellice Municipality and of the Foxwarren Poultry Pool. My father took time to play catch with us in the yard and told us that he played baseball with Fort Ellice team when the catcher and the first baseman were the only ones with mitts. My father passed away in Birtle hospital at the age of 87 years on September 16, 1958.

My mother was a woman of principle and from a strict Christian background. We were encouraged to regard Sundays as sacred and to meditate upon God and the Bible, and to forego any secular activities. Further proof of her sterling character was revealed by the cheerful, positive manner with which she accepted the life of a homesteader. She learned to drive horses, to raise chickens and turkeys, to make butter, lard and soap. She helped to cure bacon and ham, and her homemade sausages were something I long remember. She picked and canned strawberries, raspberries and saskatoons. She made jelly from pincherries, chokecherries and cranberries. On one occasion she assisted with judging butter and baking at the Birtle Agriculture Fair. She knitted mitts and stockings and made clothing for all the family. In addition to teaching music, she played the organ in church, sometimes with a baby on her lap. She sang in and directed Zion choir and taught a Sunday School class. She was the pianist for the Music Society when they presented such operettas as "The Mikado" and "H.M.S. Pinafore." During World War I she was president of the local Red Cross Society, and during the flu epidemic of 1919 she nursed in several homes and there were times when she assisted with the delivery of babies.

Our family consisted of two girls, followed by six boys.

Mary — married Harry Hayward; they have



Denhams: Frank, Courtney, Mary, Eric, Dorothy, Sid and Bill.

three children; Victor was wounded in Europe during World War II; he became an automobile mechanic and salesman. He lives at Gladstone. Doreen became a school teacher, teaching in various schools in the Province, completing her career in Winnipeg, where she is retired. Harry worked with the Manitoba Government Telephone and lives in Brandon.

Dorothy — married A. Vaughan, who was killed in a wood-sawing accident. After graduating from Misericordia Hospital of Nursing, she married J. Gabriel. They farmed in the Foxwarren district until they retired to live in Brandon. Dorothy passed away in January, 1976.

William — was the victim of poliomyelitis in December 1925. This left him paralyzed from the hips down. He did farm work in the Foxwarren district until he died in a Winnipeg hospital in October of 1971.

Frank — married Edna Godson. He took preliminary teacher-training in Yorkton and completed it in Saskatoon. He taught in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, retiring at Three Hills, after 46 years of teaching. They had two daughters and one foster son; Betty has served as a missionary in Japan for 24 years. Dianne sold Tupperware for several years. She lives at Three Hills where she is active in church and community work. Allan is an electrical contractor and lives at Clearbrook, B.C.

Henry Leonard Victor — died on the farm in 1915 of pneumonia. He was buried at Zion Cemetery.

Sidney — married Sadie McGregor. They have one son Brent. Sidney taught school at Hamiota, Russell and Dauphin before becoming a school Superintendent. He is retired and lives in Winnipeg. Brent teaches at the University in Winnipeg.

Eric — married Jean Middlemas. They have three children. Eric left the farm to become Farm

Instructor at Portage la Prairie. From there he went to Ontario where he has retired and lives at Queensville. His son Paul is a professor at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon. Richard has served in different countries in various capacities. Laurie has progressed in the business world, they have six grandchildren.

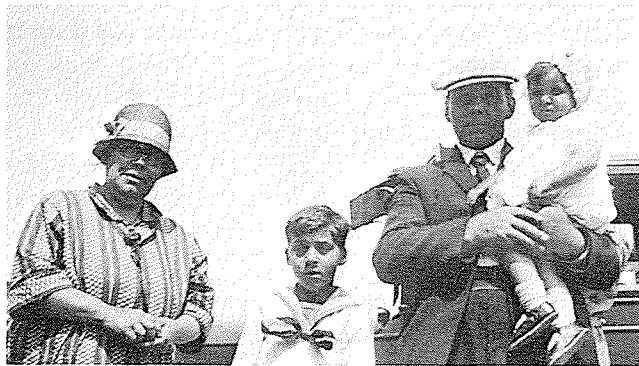
Courtenay — married Marjorie Gardner. He was a grain buyer before he retired to Vernon, B.C. They have two daughters, Joyce who took secretarial training, and at present lives in North Vancouver. Denise is completing her studies in Chicago for a masters degree in Biology.

Descelles, Arthur

Arthur Descelles, fils de Arthur Hercule Descelles et Marie Adèle Hébert de Ste. Marthe, est né à Aubigny, Manitoba, le 9 janvier, 1880. La famille a résidé à Silver Plains, Manitoba puis ils ont déménagé en Saskatchewan, où ils se sont installés à Ste. Marthe en 1903-1904.

Arthur trouva de l'emploi sur le chemin de fer où il était contre-maître pour la section de chemin de fer à Victor où il a travaillé pendant des années. En 1915, il acheta un "homestead", un quart de section, le nord-est du 16-17-28 à l'est de Saint Lazare où il bâtit une maison et une étable pour commencer l'agriculture.

En 1916, il a marié mademoiselle Maria Pelletier de Montréal qui venait aider sa soeur, Mme Elmire Perreault, à Ste. Marthe. En 1919, Laurier, leur premier enfant est né; en 1925, la petite fille, Jeanne d'Arc vint égayer leur foyer.



Famille Descelle, Pépère, Mémère, Laurier et Jeanne D'Arc.

En 1930, Arthur acheta un autre carreau de terre de Tom Leverington, au sud de Saint Lazare. Là, il a bâti une maison et une étable où la famille a déménagé pour y rester.

Papa aimait bien la musique. Il jouait du violon; il pouvait faire la jig, danser et chanter les vieilles chansons, des rigodons. Maman, avait des talents

remarquables. Elle chantait, elle était pianiste, couturière et garde-malade. Elle organisait aussi les chants à l'église pour les messes de minuit les premières années, avant que les soeurs viennent à Saint Lazare. Quand elle chantait l'"Ave Maria" ou le "Minuit, Chrétiens" ou d'autres cantiques, les gens écoutaient attentivement. Elle était bien dévouée et charitable; elle avait toujours un bon mot pour chacun. Laurier était aussi musicien; il chantait, il s'accompagnait de sa guitare, du piano et du violon. Jeanne d'Arc les accompagnait souvent aussi. Nous avions de belles veillées du bon vieux temps chez nous. Je me souviens quand les voisins venaient jouer aux cartes en hiver; la première chose qu'on savait, la musique commençait et ça devenait une soirée de danse.

Nous avons de bons souvenirs des visites que nous faisons aux temps des fêtes à Ste. Marthe, chez mon oncle Jean-Baptiste Perreault et tante Elmire avec le guide "Bébite" Deschambault en carriole.

En 1945, leur fille Jeanne d'Arc a marié Albert Chartier, le fils du voisin. De cette union est née une belle famille de onze enfants vivants.

En 1952, maman nous a quittés pour un monde meilleur à l'âge de soixante-quatre ans, et en 1956, papa, à l'âge de soixante-seize ans. Ils sont inhumés dans le cimetière de Saint Lazare. Laurier demeura sur la ferme familiale jusqu'en 1977. Il se retira au village de Saint Lazare où il est mort en 1978.



La Famille d'Albert Chartier et Jeanne D'Arc (Chartier).

mémoires de Jeanne d'Arc

Les enfants de Jeanne d'Arc et Albert Chartier:
Alphonse, l'aîné, né en 1946, réside avec sa femme à Foxwarren. Ils ont trois enfants: Patricia, Marguerite et un fils Cyrille. Alphonse est un employé du CNR depuis l'âge de dix-huit ans et sa femme est une garde-malade (diplômée). **Maria** née en 1947, a ma-

rié Joseph Duce de Rocanville, Sask. en 1971, elle habite à Brandon avec son mari et deux enfants, Waanita et David. Maria fit une partie de ses études à St. Lazare, fut ensuite pensionnaire au couvent de St. Norbert. A la sortie de l'école, elle suivit un cours de sténographie à Winnipeg où elle fut employée pour deux ans. Elle travailla à la suite pour deux ans à Brandon et gradua d'un cours de Services Sociales du collège Assiniboine en 1977. Elle fut employée comme officière de correction de 1979 à 1981 par le gouvernement du Manitoba. Elle est présentement employée par "Children's Aid Society" comme thérapeute pour adolescents après avoir suivi un cours de psychologie et de sociologie à l'université de Brandon. **Arthur** né en 1948 eut son éducation à St. Lazare, suivi d'un cours de mécanicien obtenu au "Red River College" à Winnipeg. Il a acheté du terrain à Shortdale, au nord du Manitoba, où il vit actuellement avec sa femme, Hélène Cameron, qu'il maria en 1976, et leurs quatre enfants Angela, Lorette, Christian et Martin. **Régis**, né en 1951, qui réside à Brandon, est mécanicien et poursuit en ce moment un cours de soudeur et il est amateur de la musique. **Armand** né en 1953, travaille à "Cor Entreprise" à Brandon, et spécialise à renouveler des meubles et lui aussi aime beaucoup la musique. **Fabien** né en 1954 poursuit ses études à St. Lazare et à Brandon où il réside et prit un cours de maçon, métier qu'il exerce aujourd'hui. **Camille** né en 1955, fréquenta l'école à St. Lazare, à Virden et à Brandon, suivi d'un cours de soudeur. Il est employé par le CNR comme soudeur. **Dolorès** née en 1957, fit ses études à St. Lazare et à Brandon, suivi d'un cours de dactylographie. Elle habite à Brandon. **Boniface** né en 1959 travaille pour le CNR. Il habite à Rivers avec son épouse Dianne, qu'il maria en 1982. **Laurier** né en 1960, réside à Brandon, il est lui aussi employé du CNR, et espère se spécialiser en "analyses de ordinateurs". **Rose-Marie** née en 1962, poursuit actuellement un cours de coiffeuse au collège Assiniboine à Brandon.

Descelles, Arthur

Arthur Descelles, son of Arthur Hercule Descelles and Marie Adele Hebert of Ste. Marthe, Sask., was born in Aubigny, Man. on January 9, 1880. The family took up residence in Ste. Marthe in 1903-04.

Arthur was foreman on the railway at Victor for many years. In 1915, he bought a homestead, NE 16-17-28 and began to farm. In 1916, he married Maria Pelletier from Montreal. She had been visiting her sister, Mrs. Elvire Perreault in Ste. Marthe. A son, **Laurier** was born in 1919 and a daughter, **Jeanne d'Arc**, in 1925. In 1930, Arthur bought

another quarter section of land from Tom Leverington. He built a house and barn on this new location and lived there until his death.

The whole family enjoyed music. Singing and dancing were their happiest pastimes. Maria had had some training in voice in Montreal and was director and soloist for the church choir before the Sisters came. She often acted as nurse for friends and neighbors. Maria died in 1952 at 64 and Arthur died in 1956 at 76. They are buried in St. Lazare. Laurier lived on the home farm until 1977 when he retired to the village where he died in 1978.

Jeanne d'Arc married Albert Chartier. They have eleven children, all living: **Alphonse** (1946) lives in Foxwarren with his wife Irene, a registered nurse, and children Patricia, Margaret, and Cyril. Alphonse is employed by CNR. **Maria** (1947) married Joseph Duce of Rocanville in 1971. They reside in Brandon with children, Waanita and David. Maria took a stenographer's course in Winnipeg, graduated in Social Service from Assiniboine Community College in 1977 and, following courses in psychology and sociology at the University of Brandon, is employed by the Children's Aid Society. **Arthur** (1948) attended school in Brandon and took an electrician's course at Red River College. In 1976 he married Helen Cameron Perrault and they live in Foxwarren with the children Angela, Lorette, Christian and Martin. **Régis** (1951) a mechanic is living in Brandon taking a welding course. **Armand** (1953) specializes in renovating old furniture and has worked for Cor Enterprises in Brandon since 1971. **Fabien** (1954) took a masonry course at Red River College and is presently employed in Brandon. **Camille** (1955) took a welding course and is employed with CNR. **Dolores** (1957) took a stenographer's course and lives in Brandon. **Boniface** (1959) lives in Rivers with his wife Diane whom he married in 1982 and is employed by CNR. **Laurier** (1960) lives in Brandon and is employed by CNR. He hopes to take a course in computer analysis. **Rose Marie** (1962) is presently taking a hairdressers' course in Brandon.

Deschambault, Venance

Venance Deschambault naquit à Ste. Monique en 1867 et passa sa jeunesse à St. Scholastique au Québec. A l'âge de dix-huit ans, il partit pour les chantiers de la baie Georgian en Ontario. Après l'hiver, un M. McArthur lui trouva de l'emploi sur la ligne du chemin de fer C.P.R. Ils se rendirent à Régina à l'automne. Ce M. McArthur avait un contrat de bois alors Venance et lui se rendirent dans les chantiers à Toddburn, dans le Riding Mountain National Park. Aujourd'hui c'est dans les alentours de Rossburn.

Ici, Venance fit la connaissance de Delphis Chartier et Benoît Peppin de la Mission. Au printemps Venance se joignit à eux et retourna à la Mission. Il se pensionna chez Ovide Guay. C'était en 1887; il avait vingt ans.

Le travail des pionniers était bien dur et difficile. Venance transporta du bois de corde avec des boeufs au moulin à farine à Birtle. Ceci continua tout l'hiver. L'été, Joe Davis engagea Antoine Desjarlais et Venance pour descendre des troncs d'arbre et faire la drive sur la rivière Birdtail jusqu'à l'Assiniboine et de là jusqu'à Brandon. Mais ils eurent tant de difficulté que l'été suivant, ils firent le tour par la rivière Shell qui se jette dans l'Assiniboine. Ce travail durait quatre mois de chaque été.

En 1894, à l'âge de 27 ans, Venance épousa Berthe Simard. En 1896, Joe Davis avait du terrain à Spy Hill en Saskatchewan qu'il voulait louer, alors Venance, sa femme, leurs deux enfants, Euclide et Antonio, accompagnés de Edmond Simard et sa famille, s'y installèrent. Ils y restèrent deux ans seulement. Un autre fils, Amédée leur fut né.

A cette époque les pères missionnaires voulaient établir une paroisse catholique. On leur demanda de revenir à la Mission. Le père Proulx avait déjà érigé la croix sur le coin du quart de section nord-ouest de 16-17-28. Cette propriété avait appartenu à Joseph Larose en 1878. En 1898, Venance acheta cette terre des pères. Même aujourd'hui la croix se dresse fièrement bien que renouvelée à quelques reprises.

Six autres enfants furent nés là: Anna, Joseph, Alfred, Henri, Hélène, et Yvonne. Venance et les autres paroissiens aidèrent à bâtir une église et un presbytère en pierres. La messe de minuit fut célébrée dans cette église en 1899.

En 1912, il fit bâtir la maison qui est en très bon état aujourd'hui. A part des travaux de la ferme, M. Deschambault faisait l'élevage de chevaux. On venait de l'Ontario et du Québec pour acheter ces beaux chevaux pour s'en servir dans les chantiers. C'était un commerce assez lucratif et quelque chose que les "Deschambault" aimaient faire.

A la suite d'une longue maladie, Mme. Deschambault mourut en 1922 à l'âge de quarante six ans. Deux ans plus tard, M. Deschambault acheta le Fort Ellice qui appartenait à la Compagnie de la baie d'Hudson et qui comprenait deux milles acres de terre. Il partit avec trois de ses garçons, Euclide, Amédée et Henri. Les autres restèrent sur la terre paternelle — Joseph, Alfred et Anna.

Antonio avait épousé Joséphine Guay en 1926. Ils eurent huit enfants. Antonio, aussi surnommé Dégée, mourut en 1963.

Hélène, qui s'était mariée avec Reginald Chartier en 1934 mourut en 1935.

Yvonne, devenue Mme. Olier Perreault en 1938, donna naissance à six enfants et succomba à la mort en 1953.

Venance et son fils Alfred quittèrent ce monde en 1951.

Avant de mourir, Venance avait laissé sa propriété à ses trois garçons. En 1955, pour cause de santé, les garçons vendirent leur terre aux Fouillard. Amédée mourut en 1957; Euclide en 1961; et Henri en 1976. Anna, non-mariée, habite aujourd'hui à la Villa DéCorby.

En 1945, Joseph épousa Rita Prescott. Ils eurent cinq enfants. Ils prirent leur retraite en 1971, et résident aujourd'hui à la Villa DéCorby. Deux de leurs fils, Paul et Alfred achetèrent la terre paternelle. Ceci assure la terre dans les mains des "Deschambault" depuis quatre-vingt-cinq ans.



La Famille de Venance Deschambault: Anna, Venance, Antonio, Euclide, Amédée, Joseph, Berthe avec Alfred.

Venance Deschambault was born in Ste. Monique, Québec, in 1867 and lived in St. Scholastique until he was eighteen years old. He worked in lumber camps along Georgian Bay, then came west to Regina with a Mr. McArthur to work on the C.P.R. From here, they went to a lumber camp at Toddburn in the Riding Mountains, close to where Rossburn is today.

In 1887, Venance met Delphis Chartier and Benoît Peppin who were from the mission of St. Lazare; Venance returned with them in the spring of that year. He boarded at Mr. Ovide Guay's. During the winter he would haul cord wood with oxen to the

flour mill in Birtle; during the summer, he drove logs down the Birdtail River to the Assiniboine then to Brandon. Some log drives were also made down the Shell River to the Assiniboine, which was an easier route.

In 1894, Venance married Berthe Simard. In 1896, Edmond Simard with his family, Venance with his, set out for Spy Hill to farm. Two years later, they returned to the Mission because a more permanent settlement was being planned. The missionary fathers sold Venance a farm which they owned — the NW of 16-17-28. A cross had been erected on this land. Although renovated a few times, this cross still stands on the corner of the farm today. The whole community helped build a stone church and manse in which Midnight Mass was celebrated in December of 1899.



Venance Deschambault et ses fils, Amedée, Euclide et Henri, 1935.

Venance and Berthe raised nine children, six boys and three girls. In 1912, a fine, sturdy home was built and still stands in good condition. Apart from the usual farm work, the Deschambaults raised fine, beautiful, strong horses. These horses were purchased by men from Ontario and Québec for use in lumber camps. This guaranteed a much-needed income but also was enjoyable work.

Mrs. Deschambault (Berthe) died in 1922 at the age of forty-six. Two years later, Venance bought the "Old Fort Ellice" from the Hudson Bay Company. Venance and his three sons, **Euclide**, **Amédée**, and **Henri**, went to live there leaving the home farm in the care of **Joseph**, **Alfred**, and **Anna**.

Antonio married Joséphine Guay in 1926. They raised eight children. Antonio, known to many as Degrée, died in 1963.

Hélène married Reginald Chartier in 1934. She died the following year.

Yvonne married Olier Perreault, raising a family of six. She died in 1953.



Hélène et Anna Deschambault.

After their father's death, and because of ill health, Euclide, Amédée, and Henri, sold the "Fort" to the Fouillards.

In 1951, Venance and his son Alfred died. In 1957, Amédée died, followed by Euclide in 1961 and Henri in 1976.

Anna lives at the Villa DéCorby.

Joseph, who married Rita Prescott, retired from farming in 1971 and they now live at Villa DéCorby. They had five children. Two of their sons (Paul and Alfred) bought the paternal homestead and are ensuring that for more than the present eighty-five years, a Deschambault family will be living on that farm.

Deschambault, Antonio and Josephine

Je suis la fille de David Guay né à Roberval, Québec, le 19 juillet, 1884 et de Adèle Hogue, née à St. Boniface, Manitoba le 29 janvier, 1889. De leur mariage du 26 juin, 1906, naquit six enfants; Germaine, Joséphine (moi), Adolphe (mort en bas âge), Eugène, Henri et Joseph. Je suis née le 14 novembre, 1908 à St. Lazare. J'ai fait ma première communion dans la vieille église de pierres et j'ai fréquenté l'école du village pour deux ans. En 1917, pour des raisons personnelles, ma mère partit avec le bébé



Famille Deschambault: Charles, Lucille, Guy, Joséphine, Mathieu, Odile, Bertha, Olivier (Antonio).

Joseph, âgé d'un an. Alors, mon père plaça Germaine et moi à l'orphelinat Hospice Taché de St. Boniface, dirigé par les Soeurs Grises, et Eugène et Henri à l'orphelinat de St. Joseph.

Je me souviens spécialement du 11 novembre, 1918, lorsqu'à l'orphelinat on entendit toutes les cloches de St. Boniface et Winnipeg qui sonnaient pour annoncer la fin de la première grande guerre. La même journée, tous les deux cents élèves (sauf Eileen Stewart), et quelques religieuses furent affligées de la fièvre espagnole. De ces malades, sept élèves et cinq religieuses sont mortes. Ironiquement, Eileen mourut quelques années plus tard d'une infection, lorsqu'elle pensionnait chez M. John Selby.

En 1921, à l'âge de treize ans, je suis revenue rester avec mon père qui habitait avec son père, Ovide et sa soeur, Yvonne. Tante Yvonne agissait comme notre mère. Nos études terminées, Germaine et moi avons appris toutes les besognes nécessaires pour tenir maison. L'année suivante, je suis allée à Lebret, Saskatchewan, pour aider une de mes tantes lors de l'accouchement de son cinquième enfant. La même année, j'ai fait mes débuts aux activités sociales de l'époque. On organisait des joutes de cartes et des danses dans les maisons. Les seules choses requises pour organiser des soirées étaient un violoneur et un "caller". Quel plaisir, ma première danse! Nous allions danser au Fort Tuyau où demeurait Sylvio, Mazo et Lolo Tremblay. C'est à cet endroit, que j'ai dansé une quadrille avec Holton Chapman que je trouvais bien attrayant. Nous ne parlions pas la même langue mais ça ne faisait pas de différence!

En été, le football, le baseball et la cachette aux loups faisaient partie de nos amusements. Si nous voulions être aventureux, nous allions à la rivière nous baigner. Pour habits de bains on portait jupon ou

jaquette. Quelle imprudence et surtout quelle indécence!!

En 1925, tante Yvonne se maria et Germaine et moi avons dû tenir maison pour Pépère Ovide, Papa et nos frères. Un an et demi plus tard je décidai moi aussi de me marier. Comme mon père s'opposait à notre mariage parce que nous étions deuxième cousin, Antonio et moi, nous nous sommes enfuis à Winnipeg le 28 novembre, 1926. Nous avons pris le chemin de fer à Birtle, accompagnés de mon oncle Louis (Bébé) Guay et John Selby. Ceux-ci agirent comme témoins à notre cérémonie nuptiale qui eut lieu à l'église Ste. Anne le 29 novembre et qui fut officiee par le Père Edward Barton, ancien curé de St. Lazare. Les dépenses pour notre mariage n'étaient certainement pas extravagantes; deux dollars pour la licence, huit dollars pour le jonc de mariage et dix dollars à M. le curé. Nos témoins nous emmenèrent ensuite partager un bon repas avec eux dans un restaurant de la ville.

Après un voyage de noces de trois jours, nous sommes revenus à St. Lazare habiter sur la ferme de mon mari où il demeurait après avoir quitté la ferme paternelle cinq ans auparavant. J'étais très fière de notre petite maison qui mesurait douze par seize pieds et où nous avons élevé trois enfants avant de l'agrandir de deux chambres. Nous n'étions pas riches mais heureux. Aujourd'hui, quand mes enfants se rassemblent, ils se rappellent de leur enfance avec nostalgie.

A l'exception des trois derniers, mes enfants sont nés dans cette petite maison. Quand le moment arrivait pour accoucher, Degré, mon mari, allait chercher la sage-femme, Mme Etta King qui était assistée de Mme Arthur Decelles. Quelles femmes charitables! Bon temps, mauvais temps, elles étaient toujours prêtes à venir nous aider. Nous avons eu huit enfants vivants; Berthe en 1929 (Voir Garland Griffith), Lucille en 1932 (Voir histoire de Jean Chartier), Venance en 1935 (Voir son histoire), Odile en 1939 (Voir histoire de David Roy), Olivier en 1943, Guy en 1945, Charles en 1949 et Mathieu en 1952 (Voir leurs histoires). Tous demeurent à St. Lazare, sauf Berthe et Odile. De mes cinq garçons, un, Venance, est fermier et les quatre autres sont électriciens.

Notre premier enfant, né le 4 mars, 1928 est décédé le 16 septembre de la même année. Je n'oublierai jamais les sentiments éprouvés lorsque je l'ai trouvé mort le matin du seize. Quel vide dans la maison! Pour une semaine entière, nous allions coucher chez ma belle-soeur Anna qui vivait à deux milles de chez-nous. Heureusement, en 1929, Berthe nous est née le 23 juillet. C'était la première année de sécheresse. Degré fit les semences, pas de pluie, de

gros vents et poudreries. Les meubles étaient constamment couverts de poussière et en sortant on voulait étouffer. N'ayant pas de récolte, ni foin pour soigner les animaux, mon mari fut obligé d'aller chercher de la paille chez Eddie Dupont ou chez Joe Burns, environ neuf milles de chez-nous. Il alla aussi chercher des gerbes d'avoine chez Alcide Robert même s'il faisait du quarante sous zéro comme température. Comme de raison, il lui fallait marcher derrière les chevaux pour aller et revenir afin de ne pas geler. Pendant son départ, je soignais et faisais boire les animaux le midi.

En 1935 nous avons finalement, eu une pluie, comme résultat, une petite récolte. Après que les battages étaient terminés chez-nous, mon mari partait pour des semaines entières aider à ses frères à achever la récolte de la moisson sur la terre de la Baie d'Hudson, connue sous le nom de Fort Ellice. Durant son absence, je prenais soin de neuf vaches, cochons et volailles en plus de faire des conserves avec les légumes ramassés du jardin. Lorsque j'étais seule, j'étais vraiment effrayée à l'approche d'une grosse tempête et j'avais peur que la maison parte au vent. Je me sentais donc plus en sécurité dans l'étable et j'y déménageais avec les enfants. Si l'orage était moins forte je restais à la maison mais j'allumais des chandelles et aspergeais les chambres avec de l'eau bénite pour nous protéger.

Durant l'été de 1939, Degré travailla sur le chemin 42 qui conduit à Binscarth. Il menait une charrue tirée par des chevaux (appartenant à Earl (Toddy) Ferguson) pour la modique somme de \$2.40 par jour. A l'automne il travailla pour le même salaire sur le barrage construit tout près de chez Ubald Deschambault (21-17-28 SE). Il fut employé ensuite par le P.F.R.A. à planter des poteaux pour faire de la clôture. Malheureusement, ces poteaux étaient trempés dans le goudron, auquel il était allergique. Il est revenu à la maison, le visage empourpré et enflé et fut obligé de passer une semaine à l'hôpital de Birtle.

Durant ces années-là, on achetait les provisions, telles que la farine pour l'hiver, à l'automne avec l'argent amassé durant l'été. On achetait toujours nos patates des fermiers de Rossburn (car ils avaient toujours plus de pluie dans ces environs et conséquemment de meilleures récoltes). Je faisais venir mes épiceries du magasin North West Mail Order de Winnipeg pour la somme de \$35.00 (argent que je gagnais à élever des dindes et vendus à la co-opérative de Foxwarren). Quant aux vêtements des enfants, on les faisait avec du linge usagé que nos parents nous donnaient. Je cousais pièce pardessus pièce et même faisais les petits bas de vieux bas d'adultes.

Nous avons eu aussi notre part d'épreuves. En

1947, mon mari après une crise de foie dut subir une opération à l'hôpital de Ste. Rose du Lac. A cause de complications survenues, il y séjourna pendant deux mois. Lucille, âgée de 14 ans et Venance de onze ans, voyaient aux travaux de l'étable, charroyer la paille, nettoyer l'étable et aller moudre les grains soit chez Eugène Simard, notre voisin, ou chez mon père à trois milles de chez-nous. C'était un hiver rigoureux avec un froid intense et des vents qui soufflaient tour à tour pour trois jours de la direction ouest et ensuite de l'est.

Au mois d'août, 1949, mon frère Henri roula en bas de la côte nord du village avec son tracteur et sa moissonneuse-lieuse. Il passa toute la nuit sous le tracteur et ne fut découvert seulement qu'à onze heures le lendemain par Brian Selby qui aperçut le bras levé qu'Henri tenait pour alerter les passants. Transporté à l'hôpital de Russell par Constant Fouillard il y mourut trois jours après, suite des blessures qu'il avait subies.

Puisque notre terre (¼ section 22-17-18) n'était plus suffisante pour supporter notre famille nombreuse, en 1954 on fit un achat de George Leaming et on déménagea sur trois-quarts de section à Wattsvew.

En 1963, mon mari mourut subitement d'une crise cardiaque. En conséquence, quatre ans plus tard, je vendis la ferme à mon fils Venance et vins habiter au village avec mes trois plus jeunes.

En 1966, j'ai eu le grand plaisir de revoir ma mère et faire connaissance avec mon frère Joseph, que je n'avais pas vu depuis 1917, presque cinquante ans auparavant! J'ai entretenu une correspondance avec ma mère jusqu'à sa mort en 1979.

En 1967, je suis devenue employée au bureau de poste jusqu'à ma retraite en 1973. Depuis, je me tiens occuper à jouer aux cartes et surtout à voyager ci et là. Durant toutes ces années de joies et d'épreuves, notre foi et notre église ont joué un rôle très important dans notre vie. Sans elles, nous n'aurions pas été si heureux! Amen!!!

Griffith, Garland et Berthe

Née à St. Lazare, mes parents étaient Antonio et Joséphine Deschambault et je suis l'aînée de la famille. Après ma sortie de l'école, que j'ai fréquenté à Ellice et St. Lazare, j'ai passé plusieurs années à la maison pour aider la famille. En 1957 je me rendis à Selkirk comme étudiante et je graduai avec honneur en 1960 comme infirmière en psychiatrie.

J'ai rencontré Garland Griffith à Selkirk et on se maria à la cathédrale Ste. Marie à Winnipeg en janvier, 1961. Nous avons trois enfants Patrick né en 1962, Averil-Marie née en 1964 et Phillip né en 1971.

Nous vivons présentement à Winnipeg je suis employée à l'hôpital Grace depuis 1975.

Deschambault, Venance

Né à St. Lazare, le 2 mars 1935, je suis l'aîné d'Antonia Deschambault et de Joséphine Guay.

Pendant l'été, de mes huit ans, je suis demeuré, chez ma tante Anna pour aller au catéchisme, enseigné par le Reverend Père Bertrand et Mlle Joséphine Lussier; j'ai fait, alors, ma première Communion et j'ai reçu le Sacrement de Confirmation.

En septembre suivant, je suis allé à l'école d'Ellice. Mes deux soeurs Berthe et Lucille et moi, nous y allions à pied et de temps en temps, en voiture. En hiver, nous restions à la maison. Après deux ans à cette école, en 1946, je suis allé demeurer au presbytère avec ma tante Anna, cuisinière du curé Paquette et j'ai fréquenté l'école de Saint-Lazare. J'ai fait mes grades III et IV la même année.

En 1947, mon père, ayant le foie malade a dû passer l'hiver à l'hôpital. Ma soeur Lucille et moi, avons pris soin des animaux, avec l'aide de notre oncle Alfred qui nous donnait un coup de main pour charroyer la paille.

Je suis retournée à l'école d'Ellice pour deux autres années. J'ai fini mes études à l'âge de 13 ans sous la direction de M. Lazare Fouillard.

Mes premiers souvenirs datent de 1938, année où les chevaux ont souffert de la maladie du sommeil. Papa a perdu deux de ses quatre chevaux et il a dû faire ses semences avec une pouliche de deux ans et un vieux cheval que George Falloon lui avait donné.

Je me souviens aussi du barrage construit en 1939 par le gouvernement sur le carreau 21-17-18 où demeure présentement, Ubald Deschambault. Ce barrage réservait l'eau de la fonte des neiges pour les longs étés secs et pour l'usage du public en général.

Quand nous étions enfants, nous allions passer nos congés d'été chez notre grand-père Venance Deschambault, sur sa ferme au Fort Ellice. Notre grand-père et nos oncles nous racontaient souvent des histoires du temps passé. En 1918, Grand-père Deschambault et d'autres ont été commissionnés par Edmond Simard pour transporter un pont qui était situé un quart de mille au sud du pont existant, à un emplacement au sud du chemin de fer. Le pont fut transporté sur la glace en deux sections, avec huit chevaux. Mon grand-père avait fourni les chevaux pour accomplir la tâche. Voyant le travail impressionnant de ces chevaux, Henri Decorby offrit d'acheter deux de ces bêtes pour la somme pas très modeste à l'époque de \$500.00!

A l'âge de quatorze ans; ce fut la première fois que je conduisais des chevaux pour les battages et j'avais l'aide d'un homme pour charger. Quand

j'avais 18 ans, je fis les battages, chez Mathurin Lefranc, avec mes copains Ernest, René et Marcel Lefranc et Georges Blouin. A huit dollars par jour pour moi et mes chevaux, je me pensais riche.

Ca ne nous coûtait pas cher pour s'amuser: en hiver, on jouait aux cartes, on dansait; en été, on jouait au baseball.

En 1954, nous sommes déménagés à Wattsvie sur une terre plus grande. En 1956, je suis allé travailler à Lynn Lake pour Sherritt Gordon Mines, et le travail terminé, je suis revenu aider à la ferme. J'ai fait aussi de la charpenterie pour les voisins et autres.

De 1958 à 1961, j'ai trouvé du travail avec 'Highway Construction' qui était chargé de bâtir des chemins dans les environs de St. Malo, de Steinbach, Notre-Dame de Lourdes et de Fannystelle. J'ai aussi travaillé pour Pizzey et Graham de Foxwarren.

En 1961 et 1962, je suis retourné travailler, comme charpentier pour la co-operative de Birtle et j'ai pris des contrats pour bâtir des maisons avec Steve North, charpentier de métier.

Le 13 octobre 1962, je me suis marié à Marjorie Peeler, fille de Elmer and Daisy Peeler de Birtle.

Marge s'est convertie au catholicisme au printemps de 1961 — alors qu'elle travaillait comme secrétaire pour le "Birtle Health Unit". Après un an de mariage, Marge était devenue bilingue, grâce à sa bonne volonté et à l'entourage qui lui aidait.

Après notre mariage, nous avons demeuré avec mes parents pendant que nous bâtissions une petite maison, au prix modique de \$600.00. Notre aîné, David, est né au mois de décembre 1963, un mois après la mort de Papa. C'est à ce moment là, que j'ai loué le terrain de Maman, jusqu'en 1967.

Le 3 mai 1967, notre deuxième fils Marc est né et la même année nous avons acheté la ferme paternelle et sommes devenus producteurs de lait. En 1976, à cause d'une crise cardiaque j'ai été obligé de vendre le troupeau laitier et je l'ai remplacé par un troupeau de bêtes à cornes. Je fais aussi l'élevage de chevaux.

En avril 1972, notre troisième fils, Daniel est né. Présentement, il est en cinquième année, Marc fait sa dixième à Birtle et David a fini sa douzième l'an passé.

J'ai recommencé à faire le train avec les chevaux et le printemps passé, je les ai utilisés pour semer quarante acres.

En plus de mon travail sur la ferme, je suis conseiller municipal depuis douze ans, chevalier de Colomb, depuis vingt-deux ans, conseiller de l'hôpital de Birtle depuis cinq ans, et des finances de l'église depuis six ans.

Roy, David et Odile

Ici, Odile Anna Marie (née Deschambault) Roy.

Je suis arrivée dans ce monde à la maison du 22-17-28, la quatrième d'une famille de huit enfants. J'ai habité sur cette ferme, les premiers quinze ans de ma vie — les plus belles années de mon existence. C'est là que j'ai appris à bien m'entendre avec mes frères et mes soeurs, à apprendre ma religion, ma langue et ma culture. N'oublions pas que j'ai appris aussi à travailler et à jouer. Tant qu'à mon éducation, elle a été accomplie à l'école DeCorby, enseignée par les Soeurs de la Présentation de Marie.

En 1954, mes parents décidèrent de vendre la ferme pour un plus grand terrain à Wattsvew. A mon point de vue, c'était un malheur extrême d'être obligée de m'éloigner des filles Simard, nos voisins, qui étaient mes meilleures amies. Mais nous avons réalisé bientôt que la nouvelle ferme n'était pas bout du monde!

En 1959, je me suis rendue à Winnipeg. C'était tellement différent! Mais je m'y suis habituée et maintenant je suis un "rat de ville". N'importe, il y a souvent des journées où je pense à St. Lazare, si beau. Je n'oublierai jamais les visites chez grand-père Venance Deschambault au fort Ellice; ni les visites chez arrière-grand-père Ovide Guay.

En décembre 1960, j'ai rencontré mon mari David Roy. Nous nous sommes mariés à Winnipeg le 2 septembre 1961, à l'église du Sacré-Coeur et nous avons cinq enfants. Guylaine, née le 24 février, 1962; David, né le 29 septembre 1963; Charles, né le 21 août 1965; Julien, né le 2 janvier, 1968; Chantal, née le 22 septembre, 1968.

J'espère que personne n'oubliera que notre village, nos gens et le paysage sont des plus beaux et chaleureux du monde. C'est un plaisir de revenir faire une visite quand l'occasion se présente.

Deschambault, Olivier

Je suis le cinquième de la famille d'Antonio (Dégré) Deschambault et de Joséphine (Pitoune) Guay. La famille comprenait trois filles et cinq garçons dans l'ordre suivant: Berthe, ensuite Lucille, Venance, Odile, Olivier, Guy, Charles et Mathieu. J'habitais sur une ferme près de St. Lazare avec mes parents. Je commençai l'école en 1950 à l'école Decorby où je suis allé jusqu'en 1954, année qu'on a déménagé à Wattsvew. Wattsvew se trouve à huit milles au sud de St. Lazare. De 1954 à 1957 je suis allé à l'école "Ellice". De 1957 à 1960, j'ai travaillé sur la ferme avec mes parents. De 1960 à 1965, j'ai travaillé à la construction des chemins. Le 29 décembre 1965, j'ai épousé Viviane Anna Plante, fille unique de Honoré Plante et de Irène Alarie. Nous avons déménagé à Brandon pour que je puisse aller à "Assiniboine Community College" pour obtenir un diplôme de grade X et prendre un cours d'électricien.

En 1967 nous avons déménagé à Langenburg, Saskatchewan. Là j'ai travaillé dans la mine de potasse à Gerald, Saskatchewan. Le 6 juillet 1967, à l'hôpital de Russell, Manitoba, notre première enfant est née. C'était une fille et on l'a nommée Michèle Irène Marie. En 1968, nous avons déménagé à Winnipeg pour que je puisse continuer mon cours d'électricien. Le 30 octobre 1972 notre deuxième enfant nous est née, une autre fille, nommée Yolande Adèle Marie. Le 9 juillet 1974 notre troisième enfant est né, un garçon appelé Yvon Antonio Joseph. Ensuite au mois d'octobre 1974 nous sommes revenus au village de St. Lazare jusqu'au mois d'août 1977, quand on est retourné en campagne sur un petit terrain de 20 acres à huit milles de St. Lazare. Le 19 novembre 1977 notre quatrième enfant est née, une autre fille que nous avons nommée Natacha Viviane Marie. A présent notre aînée Michèle continue ses études à l'académie Rivier à Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. Je travaille en Alberta, au Manitoba, ou en Ontario, selon les offres d'emploi. Mon épouse est chef de groupe pour les Scouts et Guides et aide le groupe Castor. Nos enfants Yolande, Yvon et Natacha fréquentent l'école de St. Lazare.

Deschambault, Guy et Pauline

Je, Guy, fils d'Antonio Deschambault et Josephine Guay, suis né le 19 octobre, 1945. J'ai fréquenté les écoles de St. Lazare et Ellice de 1954 à 1963. J'ai travaillé sur la ferme de mes parents jusqu'en 1967 où je me rendis à Brandon pour prendre un cours d'électricien. J'ai passé ensuite un an à Esterhazy à travailler à la mine. De retour à Winnipeg pour trois ans j'ai achevé mon cours.

En 1971 je me suis marié à Pauline, née le 21 février 1951, fille de Reginald Chartier et Jeanne Huberdeau. Pauline fréquenta l'école à St. Lazare pour onze ans et prit son douzième à Regina où elle habitait avec sa soeur et beau frère. De retour à St. Lazare, elle fut employée à la banque pour un an et demi et fut transférée à St. Boniface pour une autre année et demie.

En 1972, Pauline et moi sommes allés habiter à Gillam, au nord du Manitoba et sommes revenus habiter à St. Lazare en mars 1974 avec ma mère jusqu'à temps que je construise en décembre, (avec l'aide de mes frères) une maison faite avec l'ancienne "pool room" de Foxwarren.

Mon travail dans la construction nécessite que je sois absent presque tout le temps. Je passe plus de temps à la maison en hiver et j'apprécie les moments passés avec ma famille. Pauline, avec l'aide de ses parents, frère et soeur, parvient à s'arranger durant mes départs.

Nous avons six enfants; Mireille née en 1971,

Stéphane en 1972, Guylaine en 1975, Dominique en 1976, Zoé-Anne en 1978 et Nathalie en janvier 1983.

Deschambault, Charles et Aline

Moi, Charles, fils d'Antonio Deschambault et de Josephine Guay, suis né le 12 novembre 1949. Je demeurais avec mes parents sur le carreau du sud-est de la section 22-17-28. A l'automne de 1954, nous avons déménagé sur la terre de George Leaming à Wattsvew, où habite présentement mon frère Venance.

Pour les deux premières années de ma vie scolaire, j'ai été à l'école Ellice sous la direction de Mme. Léonne Dale. En 1958, j'ai fréquenté l'école Decorby à St. Lazare pour dix ans, sauf l'année scolaire 1963-64 où j'ai pris mon huitième au collège St. Boniface. Etant écolier, il a toujours fallu que je fasse certains travaux sur la ferme tels que traire les vaches, entrer du bois etc.

En 1977, les enfants étant presque tous partis, ma mère, mon frère Mathieu et moi avons déménagé au village de St. Lazare, ayant perdus notre père en 1963.

A ma sortie de l'école en 1969, je me suis rendu à Winnipeg pour travailler et plus tard j'ai appris le métier d'électricien. Au cours des années j'ai travaillé dans plusieurs endroits du Manitoba avec Arthur Chartier, un ami d'enfance et mon pied-à-terre était toujours à St. Lazare chez ma mère.

Le premier juillet, 1977, je me suis marié avec Aline Chartier, fille de Léopald Chartier et Julia Malaterre. Notre premier logis fut la chambre #1 du motel Fort Ellice. En 1978, nous nous sommes bâti une maison à six milles du village sur un lot acquis de mon frère Venance. Depuis, à cause des circonstances, il a fallu partir à plusieurs occasions pour avoir de l'emploi soit aux États-Unis, en Ontario ou en Colombie Britannique, mais nous sommes toujours heureux de revenir à notre cher St. Lazare.

Deschambault, Mathieu

Je suis né à l'hôpital de Birtle le 6 mars, 1952. J'étais le dernier d'une famille de huit, la famille d'Antonio Deschambault. Au temps de ma naissance, mes parents habitaient le carreau (22) quelques kilomètres au nord-est de St. Lazare. Deux ans plus tard, mon père nous a installés sur une autre ferme à Wattsvew. J'ai été assez chanceux de passer une très belle jeunesse sur cette terre en campagne, un temps de ma vie rempli de beaux souvenirs.

Tandis que j'étais là, j'ai commencé l'école à St. Lazare en 1958. William Leclair, notre bon voisin, nous a conduits en autobus (qui était son auto) pour la plupart de ces années.

En 1963, mon père est décédé d'une crise cardia-

que. Conséquemment, ma mère, mes deux frères (Guy et Charles) et moi, avons déménagé au village quatre ans plus tard. J'ai continué mon éducation jusqu'en 1969. Ensuite, j'ai déménagé à Winnipeg d'où je partais et revenais en travaillant sur les barrages au nord. Cet ouvrage dura jusqu'en 1975, périodiquement, des années de voyages et d'indécisions.

En 1976, j'ai marié Julie Decorby, fille de Robert et Corinne Decorby. Notre première enfant, Ghislaine, est née l'année d'après au mois de septembre. En même temps, je suis devenu apprenti dans le métier d'électricien.

En 1979, nous avons acheté douze acres de terre en campagne. Au mois de septembre, lorsque nous étions installés pour une semaine, Gabriel, notre deuxième enfant est né. Deux ans plus tard, au mois de juillet, nous avons eu une fille, Joëlle. Notre bébé centenaire Andrée est née le 13 mai, 1983.

Au cours de ces années, j'ai continué dans mon métier d'électricien, la plupart de mes emplois m'obligeant de partir pour la semaine. Cependant, Julie faisait un ouvrage admirable avec les enfants et dans le foyer.

De ces jours, nous continuons à exister paisiblement en campagne, en supportant activement l'église et la langue.



Villa Decorby, Rosa Lemoine, Joe Tremblay, Anna Deschambault.

Deschambault, Anna

Je suis née le 26 janvier, 1900, fille de Venance Deschambault et Berthe Simard, respectivement de Ste. Monique et la Baie St-Paul, Québec.

J'ai commencé l'école à l'âge de neuf ans, à la vieille mission. La première institutrice était Mlle Kelly. Ensuite J. A. Blouin était professeur. Quand j'ai eu 12 ans, j'ai été obligée d'arrêter l'école car ma mère, étant très malade, ne pouvait plus prendre soin de la besogne. Je faisais la cuisine pour ma famille qui consistait de huit autres membres et mes parents. Avec beaucoup d'hommes qui travaillaient, je boulangeais 100 livres de farine par semaine. On avait aussi beaucoup de visite!

En 1922 ma mère est morte. En conséquence, mon père et mes deux frères Euclide et Amedé ont déménagé au Fort Ellice. Alors, je suis restée avec Alfred, Joseph, Yvonne, Hélène et Henri (Ti-bé) sur la terre paternelle.

En 1938 ma soeur, Yvonne a marié Olier Perreault. Après cela j'allais souvent lui aider à Ste-Marthe.

En 1945 je suis devenue cuisinière pour M. le curé Paquette. J'ai continué dans cette occupation jusqu'en 1948. Ensuite j'ai été à Vancouver en congé. Mon père est tombé malade au même temps; alors je suis revenue en prendre soin jusqu'à sa mort en 1951. Mon frère Alfred commençait à se sentir malade, alors nous sommes partis à Montréal consulter des spécialistes. Hélas, c'était trop tard. Il est mort là au mois de décembre, 1951. En 1952 ma soeur Yvonne est morte, alors, le soin de ses six enfants a passé dans mes mains, surtout les plus jeunes, Albert et Alfred (décédé récemment).

En 1955 la terre au Fort Ellice a été vendue aux Fouillard. Moi et mes frères Euclide, Amedé et Henri avons déménagé dans la maison qu'occupe Mathurin Lefranc maintenant. Amedé et Euclide sont décédés tandis qu'on était là. J'ai demeuré dans cette maison avec Ti-bé (Henri) jusqu'en 1968. A cause de la santé de Ti-bé je me suis vue obligée de vendre la maison et de déménager au village. J'ai habité dans la maison que j'ai achetée d'Albert Bouchard jusqu'en 1976. Après cela j'ai déménagé à la Villa Decorby où je demeure aujourd'hui.

Deschambault, Joseph

Je suis venu au monde dans la vieille maison sur la terre paternelle du 16-17-28 nord-ouest en 1902. Je me souviens quand papa allait chercher les provisions à la vieille mission, il s'arrêtait chez Mme. Jean-Marie Fouillard pour acheter du thé et du tabac. Ce petit magasin venait d'être bâti. En 1908, mon frère Alfred et moi descendîmes dans la vallée avec notre mère en boggie pour voir la construction du

chemin de fer. Il y avait tant de travailleurs, c'était comme des mouches! A chaque fois qu'un rail était posé on avançait l'engin et tirait le sifflet en même temps. J'avais tellement peur que je me cachais sous le siège du boggie. Les "Doukhoboors" égalisaient le terrain avec des boeufs, des chevaux et des mules; les femmes transportaient le gravier avec des brouettes. L'année suivante, j'ai commencé l'école et j'y suis resté jusqu'à l'âge de quatorze ans. En 1916, j'ai abandonné mes études pour aider mon père aux battages avec la grosse machine à battre; à ramasser des gerbes de blé avec l'aide des chevaux. J'étais très heureux. Mon père menait le moulin. Pendant ces années-là, on ne parlait pas de collation. Quand l'heure des repas arrivait on avait hâte de manger tellement on avait faim! C'était de longues journées, de six heures du matin à huit heures du soir. En 1920, mon père me céda sa place. A chaque automne je préparais la machine car on allait battre chez Antonio, mon frère, et au Fort Ellice chez mon père et mes frères. Dans le temps perdu, j'allais réparer les machines des voisins. J'ai beaucoup apprécié ces ouvrages bien que je ne recevais que 15¢ de l'heure. Durant l'hiver avec mon père, j'entraînais les jeunes chevaux pour les vendre. A cause de notre père, on était reconnu comme de bons éleveurs de chevaux alors on pouvait les vendre plus chers. Quand il y avait beaucoup de neige et que les chemins étaient bouchés, les gens qui avaient un mal de dents venaient me voir pour les faire arracher. Il y a encore de ces gens-là qui vivent aujourd'hui. Je coupais les cheveux aux hommes et aux femmes pour 25¢ chacun. Je vous dis que l'argent était rare dans ce temps-là! En 1923, il y a eu une épidémie de maladie du sommeil chez les chevaux. Le gouvernement ordonna à la municipalité de faire vacciner tous les chevaux. Un vétérinaire est venu montrer à George Falloon et à moi comment s'y prendre. Nous avons commencé par les nôtres, ensuite en allant d'une ferme à l'autre en boggie, nous avons vacciné huit cents bêtes. La seconde vaccination nous l'avons faite à bicyclette. On était payé \$123.00 chaque tournée. Quand le vétérinaire, le docteur Page, venait sur demande, j'allais avec lui. En même temps il m'enseignait bien des choses au sujet de comment traiter les animaux. Avec le temps je pouvais faire le même travail que lui. J'ai sauvé beaucoup de chevaux, de vaches et de veaux. Les voisins venaient me chercher, je le faisais avec plaisir. En 1941, M. Minch Hay de Foxwarren me demanda de passer d'un fermier à l'autre avec son cheval de race pure du nom de Flashlight. Le lundi matin je partais et ne revenais que le samedi. La semaine, je couchais chez différents fermiers: Eugène Simard, George Wilson, Norm Barteaux, Elmer Peeler et Minch Hay. J'ai fait



Famille Deschambault: Ubald, Marie, Paul, Rosaire, Joseph, Rita et Alfred.

cela durant les mois d'avril, mai, juin et juillet. Une fois, pendant le mois de mai j'étais en chemin avec le cheval quand une grosse tempête de neige nous donna beaucoup de peine à retourner à la maison. Durant notre séjour sur la ferme paternelle, mon frère Alfred et moi, avons acheté notre premier tracteur pour travailler les champs plus rapidement. En 1945, j'épousai Rita Prescott qui demeurait pas loin de chez-nous. Nous avons eu cinq enfants; quatre garçons et une fille. On a continué à travailler sur la ferme. On avait beaucoup d'animaux, dix vaches à traire et plusieurs vaches qui gardaient leurs veaux. A l'automne on vendait les veaux environ \$125.00 chacun. On élevait aussi des porcs, des poules, des dindes. On vendait les oeufs — cinq douzaines pour une piastre. On était heureux car l'ouvrage ne nous effrayait pas. J'étais aussi un peu charpentier; on réparait la maison ensuite on la peignait. Ma femme aimait beaucoup peindre — on peignait même les machines agricoles. Avec l'aide des enfants le travail des foin et des battages devint plus facile. Toute la famille avait de quoi les occuper soit les volailles ou le grand jardin. On a toujours mangé des légumes frais et des fraises en abondance. En 1970, nous avons vendu notre propriété à deux de nos garçons, Paul et Alfred. Les deux autres, Ubald et Rosaire, sont coiffeurs; notre fille unique, Marie, est mariée et demeure à Brandon. Nous avons acheté une maison à St. Lazare et avons déménagé en 1971. J'ai continué à travailler un peu, car c'était difficile d'arrêter complètement. Les Fouillard m'ont engagé pour prendre soin des animaux de race et durant l'été je réparais les machines agricoles. On m'a toujours bien traité. Ma femme aussi ne voulait pas rester à rien faire. L'hiver, elle gardait des petits enfants, l'été elle peignait les maisons ou faisait du tapissage. A mesure que les années passaient, mes jambes faiblissaient. Il a fallu que j'abandonne la garde des animaux. Quelques années plus tard nous avons dé-

ménagé au foyer Villa DeCorby. Je faisais encore un peu de réparation de machines agricoles. Mais finalement l'année passée, je suis allé aider les garçons aux battages pour la dernière fois. J'avais soixante-dix-neuf ans. Aujourd'hui, je ne peux plus faire grand chose, les forces me manquent. Je suis reconnaissant de pouvoir encore conduire la voiture — peut-être pas l'an prochain. Dieu seul le sait.

Deschambault, Ubald

Ubald est l'aîné des enfants de Joseph et Rita Deschambault, née Prescott. Il est né le 20 novembre 1946. Il a fait toutes ses études à l'école DeCorby de Saint Lazare. Pour quelque temps il a travaillé au garage Fouillard. Au mois de septembre en 1969, il s'est enregistré dans un cours de coiffeur au Collège Assiniboine à Brandon, duquel il a gradué au mois de juin en 1970. Le 10 janvier 1970, il s'était marié avec Yvette Angèle Bockstael à Saint Lazare. Après avoir complété son cours, lui et sa femme ont ouvert un salon de coiffure à l'arrière du café de Robert Chartier sur la rue Principale. Ce bâtiment a depuis passé au feu. Un fils, Roland, est né le 9 juin 1971 et une fille, Dawn, le premier août 1972. En 1973, ils ont déménagé à "Le Pas". Ils y ont ouvert un salon de beauté. Pendant huit ans, durant lesquels un autre fils Philip est né en 1976, leur commerce a été prospère et satisfaisant. En 1981, Ubald et Rosaire, son frère, ont décidé d'acheter la terre de leur oncle Rosaire Prescott, le sud-est du 21-17-28. Revenu dans les environs de Saint Lazare, il a ouvert un salon de beauté à Russell. C'est là qu'il travaille maintenant, et dans les entre-temps, il fait la culture de sa ferme où lui et sa famille résident.

Deschambault, Paul et Deborah

Né le 6 avril 1949, je suis le fils de Joseph Deschambault et de Rita Prescott et le troisième enfant d'une famille de cinq.

La première année que j'ai fréquenté l'école Décorby, je me rappelle qu'une fois, en retournant chez nous après les classes, j'ai rencontré Jean-Paul Huberdeau qui m'invita à l'accompagner dans un "wagon" conduit par un cheval et j'acceptai. En passant près d'un marécage (situé près de la résidence d'Alfred Deschambault) le cheval décida qu'il avait soif et se mit en direction de cet endroit. Ayant peur, et au lieu de rester dans le "wagon", on sauta à l'eau. Quelle expérience!

L'année suivante, en 1957, je retournai à l'école mais cette fois-ci dans un nouvel édifice. J'y restai jusqu'à la neuvième année. Les autobus furent introduits à cette époque-là et nos conducteurs furent Paul et Rosaire Prescott, Honoré et Conrad Plante. En 1966, notre haute école, nouvellement bâtie, était

située à l'endroit où sont les appartements Fouillard aujourd'hui.

Tout en étant étudiant, j'aidais mes parents au travail de la ferme. En 1966, j'ai fréquenté la haute école jusqu'à l'âge de dix-sept ans.

Etant jeune, j'ai appris à jouer la guitare et plus tard je jouais de cet instrument à des concerts et des danses. En 1966 mes trois frères Alfred, Rosaire et Ubald ainsi que moi avons participé à un programme de télévision, "Profile" à Yorkton, Saskatchewan. En 1967, Soeur Emma Rousseau, Denis Fouillard, Jacqueline Lemoine et moi avons introduit, avec l'encouragement de notre curé l'Abbé Régnier, la messe folklorique aux grands messes. Ceci nous permettait de nous servir de guitare comme instrument de musique à l'église. Depuis quinze ans, je sers en capacité de guitariste aux cérémonies de l'église et je fus accompagné en 1980 par Soeur Raymonde Arcand et maintenant par Bernard Simard. Soeur Emma Rousseau fut remplacée par Soeur Huguette Houle et ensuite par Mme Lorraine Tremblay comme directrice de chant et co-ordinatrice de la musique à l'église.

En 1969, je suis devenu membre des Chevaliers de Colomb et y endossai depuis, plusieurs responsabilités dans cette organisation.

J'ai conduit un autobus pendant quatre ans à ma sortie de l'école mais je retournai plus tard poursuivre mon éducation à Brandon pour obtenir mon certificat du onzième grade. J'habitais à cette époque avec ma soeur Marie (Mme. Robert Roy).

A mon retour en 1971, j'aidai mon frère Alfred aux semences et la même année nous sommes devenus partenaires en achetant la ferme de nos parents. Depuis, nous avons construit une laiterie, renouvelé et agrandi l'étable, acheté trois carreaux de terre de Joseph Prescott NE 20-17-28 et W 21-17-28, vendu les animaux de boeufs pour acquérir des vaches laitières qui sont au nombre d'à peu près cinquante. Nous sommes membres du "Dairy Herd Improvement Association" et nous nous servons de l'insémination artificielle pour nos bêtes. En juillet 1976, nous avons revendu le terrain W 21-17-28 à Eugène Simard et fils.

Entre-temps, je me suis marié en octobre 1972 avec Deborah née le 21 décembre, 1953, fille de Georges Fouillard et d'Agnes Smith. Nous habitons dans la maison paternelle depuis que mes parents déménagèrent au village de St. Lazare.

Nous avons deux enfants; Ronald Phillippe, né le 27 juin 1973 et Alain Marc, né le 28 janvier 1976.

Nous comptons vivre une longue vie à St. Lazare et espérons qu'un jour nos fils continueront à travailler la ferme qui appartient aux Deschambault depuis 1886.

Deschambault, Alfred et Lydianne

Je suis né le 6 octobre 1954, fils de Joseph Deschambault et Rita Prescott et frère jumeau de Rosaire. Durant ma vie scolaire j'étais membre des enfants de chœur et je me souviens avec plaisir du voyage à Banff que moi et douze autres avons pris avec l'abbé Régnier en autobus. Plus tard j'appartenais au Club des Jeunes qui organisait des danses tous les dimanches soirs.

Après ma sortie de la haute école en 1970 (que je fréquentai à Birtle), j'ai pris un emploi à Brandon dans une usine; ensuite j'ai travaillé pour les Fouillard et aussi à la mine de Rocanville. En 1971 je suis devenu partenaire avec mon frère dans la P et A Dairy Farm après avoir acquis la ferme paternelle.

En 1976, j'ai marié Lydianne Bourgeois, née le premier juin, 1954, et qui est originaire de Bellegarde, Sask. Nous avons trois enfants, Chantal, cinq ans; Caroline, trois ans; et Serge un an.

En 1975, je devins membre des Chevaliers de Colomb et devins chancelier. En 1980, je fus élu grand chevalier du conseil pour deux ans. En 1982, j'ai remplacé André Huberdeau comme conseiller municipal du troisième arrondissement.

Deschambault, Antonio and Josephine by Josephine Deschambault

My parents were David Guay, born in Roberval, Québec, July 19, 1884 and Adele Hogue born in St-Boniface, Manitoba July 29, 1889. From their marriage June 26, 1906 six children were born — Germaine, Josephine (myself), Adolphe (died in early childhood), Eugène, Henri and Joseph. I was born November 14, 1908 in St-Lazare. I took my First Communion in the old stone church and I went to the village school for a few years. In 1917, for personal reasons my mother left St-Lazare with my brother Joseph who was a year old. Therefore my father placed Germaine and me in the Hospice Taché Orphanage in St-Boniface, run by the Grey Nuns. Eugène and Henri went to St-Joseph's Orphanage in Winnipeg.

I still remember November 18, 1918 when we were at the orphanage, and all the bells in Winnipeg and St-Boniface rang out, announcing the end of World War I. That same day some 200 pupils and many of the sisters were confined to bed, suffering from the Spanish Flu. Seven pupils and five sisters died. Just one person Eileen Stewart wasn't affected. Ironically, she died of an infection several years later when she was a boarder at John Selby's. In 1921, when I was 13 years old, I came back to live with my father who was living with his sister, Yvonne and my grandfather Ovide Guay. Our studies completed, Germaine and I learned how to do all the necessary

jobs for keeping house — cooking, knitting, mending, washing clothes, ironing, milking cows, etc. The following year, I went to Lebret, Saskatchewan to help one of my aunts who was about to have a baby. I did the housework and took care of her four other children. In a few months time, I returned to St-Lazare and continued my usual routine.

That winter, I was introduced to the social activities of that era. We organized card games and dances in different homes. I used to get so excited at the mere mention of a dance that I couldn't eat! All we needed to organize a dance was a violin player and a caller. What a pleasure! I was just 13 years old when I went to my first dance. We had gone to "Fort Tuyau" where Sylvio, Mazo and Lolo Tremblay lived. There, I danced my first square dance with Holton Chapman — whom I thought was very handsome! We didn't speak the same language, but that didn't make any difference! In summer, football, baseball, hide-and-go-seek and tag were all part of our social activities. When we wanted to be adventurous, we used to sneak to the river to go swimming. For a bathing suit we used a slip or a nightgown. What impudence!

In 1925, when our Aunt Yvonne, who raised us, got married, Germaine and I were obliged to keep house for Grandad, Papa and the boys. This went on for a year and a half, until I, too, decided to get married.

My father objected to my going out with my future husband, Antonio, because we were second cousins, so we eloped November 28, 1926. We travelled from Birtle to Winnipeg by train, accompanied by my uncle Bébé (Louis Guay) and John Selby, who were witnesses at our wedding. The marriage took place in Ste. Anne's Catholic Church in Winnipeg, with Father Edward Barton, a former priest of St-Lazare, officiating. The only expenses were \$2.00 for the marriage license, \$8.00 for the wedding ring and \$10.00 for the marriage ceremony. When the wedding was over, our witnesses treated us to a good supper in one of the city's restaurants. After our honeymoon which lasted for three days, we returned to St-Lazare to live on my husband's farm where he had been a bachelor for five years. I was very proud of our little 12' x 16' house, where three children were born, before we added on two bedrooms. It was here that we went through the "dirty thirties". We certainly weren't rich, but we were very happy. Even today, when we all get together the children often talk of their childhood days.

Except for the last three, all my children were born in this little house. When the time came for the baby to be born Degré (a nickname) my husband would go to get Mrs. Etta King, a mid-wife, and

Mrs. Arthur Decelles, who often helped Mrs. King. What wonderful people these women were! Good weather, bad weather, they were always ready to come to help us out. We have eight living children. Berthe (1929), married Garland Griffith in 1961. They have three children. Lucille (1932), married Jean Chartier in 1956. They have five children. Venance (1935) married Marjorie Peeler in 1962. They have three children. Odile (1939) married David Roy in 1961. They have five children. Olivier (1943) married Viviane Plante in 1965. They have four children. Guy (1945) married Pauline Chartier in 1971. They have six children. Charles (1949) married Aline Chartier in 1977. Mathieu (1952) married Julie Decorby in 1976. They have three children. Except for Berthe and Odile, who reside in Winnipeg, the other six children live in the St-Lazare district. Of my five boys only Venance is farming; the four others are electricians. Our first child, born March 4, 1928, died September 16 of the same year. Fortunately, Berthe was born on July 23, 1929.

Next came the "dirty thirties". Degré did his seeding — no rain, just wind and dust. The furniture was constantly covered with Dust. When we went outside, we would choke, because there was so much DUST! Because there wasn't any harvest or hay to feed the cattle and horses, my husband had to go for straw at Eddie Dupont's or Joe Burns, which was about nine miles from home. He also went to Alcide Roberts at Ste. Marthe for oat sheaves, even if it was — 40! Naturally, since he went with the horses, he had to walk, so as not to freeze. I stayed at home to feed and water the cattle at noon. Finally, in 1935 we had some rain — therefore a bit of a crop. Our threshing done, my husband would leave, for two weeks at a time, to help his brothers who owned Hudson Bay land (called Fort Ellice today) to do their threshing. While he was gone, besides looking after the children, I milked nine cows, fed the pigs and chickens, and since I had a good garden that year, I was able to do a lot of canning. I remember, when I was alone with the children, if there was even just a sign of a storm or a bad wind, I would move the children to the barn. It had been built with railroad ties and had a sod roof. I was so afraid the little house would take off with the wind! When it wasn't too windy, we would light candles and had holy water to preserve us from the storms.

In the summer of 1939, Degré worked on Highway 42. He also drove a horse-drawn plow, belonging to Earl (Toddy) Ferguson, for the small sum of \$2.40 a day. That fall, he was able to find work, on the dam, built by the government near Ubald Deschambault's S.E. 21-17-28. Later, he worked at fencing for the P.F.R.A. However these posts had

been treated with a mixture to which Degré was allergic, therefore he had to spend a week in the Birtle hospital.

With the little bit of money we managed to save, we bought enough flour to last the winter. We also bought potatoes from farmers near Rossburn, because they always had more rain in that area. I remember buying groceries from the "North West Mail Order" store in Winnipeg. For the sum of \$35.00 (money we had earned from raising and selling turkeys to the Foxwarren Co-operative) I had enough to last all winter. As for clothing, we made garments for the children from the old clothes our parents gave us. I would sew patch upon patch and even made socks from old socks.

We also had our trials with illness. In 1947, my husband had to have a gall bladder operation in Ste. Rose du Lac. Complications set in and he had to be hospitalized for two months. Therefore, Lucille who was only 14 years old, and Venance, aged 11, had to do the chores, hauling straw, cleaning out the stables and hauling grain to be crushed at our neighbour's, Eugene (Nigé) Simard's, or to my father's who lived three miles from us. It was a very hard winter, with severe cold weather and countless storms with the wind blowing three days from the west and then three days from the east.

In August of 1949 my brother Henri accidentally rolled down the hill north of town with his tractor and binder. All night he was caught under the tractor. Finally about 11:00 A.M., Brian Selby, who happened to be going by on the road, saw the accident. Henri was waving for help. He was immediately taken to the Russell Hospital by Constant Fouillard, but he died three days later.

Because it was almost impossible to raise a large family on a quarter section which was S.E. 22-17-28, we felt it necessary to buy more land. So, in 1954, we bought $\frac{3}{4}$ of a section of land formerly belonging to George Leaming at Wattsview. In 1963 Degré died suddenly from a heart attack. Four years later I sold the farm to Venance and moved to town with the three youngest boys.

In 1966, after 49 years, I had the great pleasure of seeing my mother again. We kept in contact up to her death in 1979. Also, because of this reunion, I was able to re-establish a relationship with my younger brother, Joseph, whom I had not seen since his first birthday.

The next year, 1967, having established myself in St-Lazare, I found employment with Canada Post office. I worked there for five years, until my retirement in 1973.

I enjoy travelling, as well as playing cards with my friends.

During these years of trials and joy, our faith and church played a most important role in our lives, and without them we would not have been able to cope as well as we did! Amen!!!

Griffith, Marie Helen Berthe

I, "Bert" daughter of Antonio and Josephine Deschambault, was born in St. Lazare. I attended Ellice school and finished my education at the Convent in St. Lazare. I remained at home for several years to help Mother cope with the family. I left the community in August of 1957 to attend Psychiatric Nurses' training at the Selkirk Mental Health centre from which I graduated, with honors, in 1960. I met Garland Griffith in Selkirk and married him in January 1961. We had two children Patrick, 1962 and Averil Marie 1964, while we were living in Winnipeg. Our third, Phillip, was born in Swan River, in 1971. Because of my husband's occupation, we have been transferred many times throughout the years. We returned to Winnipeg in 1975, where I have been working for seven years at Grace Hospital.



Venance Deschambault seeding, 1982.

Deschambault, Venance

Born at St-Lazare, March 2, 1935, I am the oldest son of Antonio Deschambault and Josephine Guay. During the summer of 1943, I stayed with Aunt Anna to go to catechism, taught by Father Bertrand and Miss Josephine Lussier. I then made my First Communion and received the sacrament of Confirmation. The following September, I went to the little country school known as Ellice. My two sisters, Berthe and Lucille and I often walked the three miles to school. Once in awhile we went by car. During the winter months we stayed at home. In 1946, I stayed with Aunt Anna, who was cook for Father Paquette and I attended St-Lazare School. I completed grades III and IV that year. In 1947, my father suffering from gall bladder trouble, had to spend part of the winter in the hospital in Ste-Rose du Lac. My sister, Lucille,

and I took over doing the chores, with Uncle Alfred Deschambault's help. I went back to Ellice School for two years. I completed my studies under the direction of Lazare Fouillard! I remember as far back as 1938, the year that many horses died from "Sleeping Sickness". Papa had lost two of his four horses due to this dreaded disease, and the following spring he had only a two-year old filly and an old horse that George Falloon had given him. I also remember when the government built a dam in 1939 on 21-17-28 where Ubald Deschambault is presently living. This water reservoir held the spring run-off for the long, dry summers that followed. This water was available to the public. Our summer holidays were spent at Grandfather Deschambault's, on his farm, which is presently known as Fort Ellice. Grandpa, Uncles Euclide, Alfred and Henri told us stories of days-gone-by. How we loved to listen to them! Being very proud of their horses, they often told us of their experiences with them. During the year 1918, Grandpa Deschambault and others had been commissioned by Edward Simard to move a bridge which was formerly situated $\frac{1}{4}$ mile south of the existing bridge to a location about $\frac{1}{8}$ of a mile south of the railroad. This bridge was transported on the frozen river, in two sections, by eight horses. My grandfather had supplied the horses for this big undertaking. The horses had worked so well, that Henri Decorby had offered to pay the huge sum of \$500.00 for a team! I well remember the fall when I was 14. It was the first time I drove a team of horses in threshing time. I had a man to help me load. There was also an automatic stook-loader. I especially remember the year I was 18. I had gone to Mathurin Lefranc's to help with the threshing. My friends, Ernest, Rene and Marcel Lefranc and myself made up the threshing crew. At \$8.00 a day, for myself and my horses, I thought I was on "easy street"!

Our social activities hardly cost anything. During the winter we used to play cards or dance. In the summer, we would play baseball or go on picnics. In 1954, my parents sold the home place and we moved to Wattsvue to a larger farm. In 1956, I went to work for Sherritt Gordon nickel mines at Lynn Lake. I came back to help on the farm and also did some carpenter work for neighbours and other people. From 1958 to 1961 I worked for "Highway Construction", roadbuilding contractors around St-Malo and Steinbach, and also around Notre Dame de Lourdes and Fannystelle. I also worked for Pizzey and Graham of Foxwarren. In 1961 and 1962 I worked as a carpenter for Birtle Co-op and took contracts to build houses with Steve North who was a carpenter by trade.

October 13, 1962, I married Marjorie Peeler,

daughter of Elmer and Daisy Peeler of Birtle. Marge had converted to Catholicism in the spring of 1962. At that time she was employed as a secretary in the Birtle Health Unit. One year after our marriage, Marge was bilingual — thanks to her determination and the influence of myself, family and friends. **David**, our oldest son was born in December, 1963, just one month after my father's death. I then decided to rent the farm from Maman, until 1967. On May 3, 1967, **Marc**, was born. That same summer we purchased the farm. We became raw milk producers and milked up to 45 cows until 1976. I suffered a heart attack and decided to sell the dairy herd. We bought a herd of beef cows and I love to raise horses. In April of 1972, **Daniel** was born. He is presently in Grade V, Marc in Grade X in Birtle and David finished Grade XII last year. I am presently doing the chores with horses. Last spring I sowed 40 acres with them. Besides the usual farm work, I have been a municipal councillor for 12 years, a Knight of Columbus for 22 years and have been on the Community Hall Committee and Financial Committee of the Church for six years.

Roy, David and Odile

I, Odile, daughter of Antonio Deschambault and Josephine Guay, was born at home (22-17-28) the fourth child of a family of eight. This is where I lived for fifteen years, until 1954 when my parents bought a farm in Wattsvue and we moved there. I attended school in St. Lazare and in 1959, I went to work in Winnipeg. On September second, 1961, I married David Roy at Sacred Heart Church in Winnipeg. We have five children: **Guylaine** born in 1962; **David** 1963; **Charles** 1965; **Julien** 1968 and **Chantal** in 1969.

Deschambault, Guy and Pauline

I, Guy, son of Antonio Deschambault and Josephine Guay, was born on October 19, 1945. I went to school at Ellice and in St. Lazare from 1954 to 1963 at which time I left to help on the farm. In 1967 I went to Brandon to take an electrician's course. I worked at the mine in Esterhazy for one year then returned to Winnipeg for three years to complete my course.

Meanwhile, I married Pauline Chartier, born February 21, 1951 daughter of Reginald Chartier and Jeanne Huberdeau. Pauline attended school in St. Lazare for 11 years but graduated from high school in Regina, Saskatchewan where she lived with the Philippe Fafards. She was employed for a year and a half at the bank in St. Lazare and was then transferred to St. Boniface where she worked for another year and a half. Pauline and I went to live in Gillam, Manitoba in 1972 and returned to St. Lazare in March, 1974. We

lived with my mother until December of the same year when we moved to a house I had built with the help of my brothers. The house had been Foxwarren Pool Room.

Being employed in construction, I necessarily have to be away from home very often. Pauline, with the help of her parents, brother and sister manages quite well during my absences. However, I really appreciate the extra time I spend at home during the winter. We have six children: **Mireille** born in 1971, **Stephane** 1972, **Guylaine** 1975, **Dominique** 1976, **Zoe-Anne** 1978 and **Nathalie** in 1983.

Deschambault, Charles and Aline

I, Charles, was born in Birtle hospital on November 12, 1949, son of Antonio Deschambault and Josephine Guay. My parents lived then on the south-east corner of section 22-17-28. In 1954, we moved to Wattsville on the George Leaming farm where my brother Venance still resides. I went to Ellice School for two years with Mrs. Léone Dale as my teacher. For the next ten years I attended Decorby School in St. Lazare except for my eighth grade which I took in St. Boniface College. After leaving school, I worked in Winnipeg and then took an electrician's course. I also worked in Northern Manitoba with a good friend of mine, Arthur Chartier. Between jobs, I always came back to St. Lazare. In 1977, my mother had moved to town with Mathieu and myself. My father died in 1963. On July 1, 1977, I married Aline Chartier, daughter of Leo-Paul Chartier and Julia Malaterre. Father Comeault performed the ceremony. Our first home was suite #1 of Fort Ellice Motel. In 1978, we built ourselves a house situated six miles from town on a lot bought from my brother Venance. Due to circumstances, we often have to go far afield to find employment but are always happy to return to St. Lazare.

Deschambault, Joseph

I was born on the family farm, NW 16-17-28 in 1902. I used to go shopping with my father at the Mission. Mrs. Jean-Marie Fouillard kept a small store there, selling mostly tea and tobacco. In 1908, my brother Alfred and I went to see the Doukhobors building the railroad through the village. They were laying the rails. The men with horses, oxen or mules would level the bed, then the women with wheelbarrows would dump the gravel. The shouting, the screech of the whistle, and the continuous activity were a little frightening to us. I started school in 1909 and attended until I was fourteen. I then went to work on the farm, helping with haying and threshing. I remember how hungry I used to get. I don't remember any time off for lunch. In 1920, my father handed

me the operation of the threshing outfit. I kept the machinery in good shape. He used to thresh my brother Antonio's crop, and the crops at Fort Ellice. I was mechanically minded and did much repair work for friends and neighbours at 15¢ an hour. My father was a well-known horse breeder. I used to break-in the young horses. We sold our horses for a good price to buyers from Ontario and Quebec and a few locally too. I was a kind of jack of all trades; I even pulled teeth and cut hair — at 25¢ a haircut. In 1923, the horse population was hit with sleeping sickness. It was so widespread that a vaccination program was undertaken by the municipality. George Falloon and I, having been instructed by a veterinarian, were hired to do this work. We vaccinated eight hundred horses and had to return to give a second injection. We were paid \$123.00 for each round. The veterinarian Dr. Page used to take me along on calls in the district. I learned much from him and I was often called by neighbours to attend to their animals in distress, work which I gladly performed. In 1941, Mr. Minch Hay asked me to take his pure blood stallion, Flashlight for stud service. I left on Monday and returned on Saturday. I went to farmers and stayed overnight at different places such as Eugene Simards, George Wilsons, Norm Barteaux, Elmer Peelers and Minch Hays.

In 1945, I married Rita Prescott. We raised five children, four boys and a girl. We worked the farm, had a large herd of cattle, milked cows, raised pigs, chickens and turkeys, had a large garden and a strawberry patch. Even if money was scarce, we were always well fed and happy. In 1970, we sold the farm to our two sons, Paul and Alfred. Ubald and Rosaire are hairdressers. Our daughter, Marie, is married and lives in Brandon. We bought a small home in St. Lazare and continued doing odd jobs here and there. I developed arthritis in my knees and had to use canes to get around. Last year, was the last time I helped the boys at harvest. I was seventy-nine years old. I am thankful that I can still drive the car and I hope it will continue. Meanwhile Rita and I live quietly and contentedly in our apartment in Villa DeCorby.

Deschambault, Ubald

Ubald is the eldest son of Joseph Deschambault and Rita Prescott. He was born on November 20, 1946. All his schooling was taken in Lazare. He worked at Fouillard's Garage until he enrolled at the Assiniboine Community College in Brandon, where he took a hairdressing course from which he graduated in June of 1970. On January 10, 1970 he married Yvette Angele Bockstael in St. Lazare. He and his



Deschambault Bros. Broadcasting: Alfred, Ubald, Rosaire and Paul.

wife opened a hairdressing boutique at the rear of Robert Chartier's cafe on Main Street. (That building has since burned down). On June 9, 1971 a son, Roland was born and on August 1, 1972 a daughter, Dawn. In 1973, they moved to The Pas where they opened a Beauty Salon. They resided there eight years, during which time another son, Philip was born in 1974. These were prosperous years, but in 1981, he and his brother Rosaire, decided to buy a farm at St. Lazare, formerly owned by their uncle Rosaire Prescott. Ubald moved his family to his farm home on the E½ of 21-17-28. He is a part-time farmer, as he owns and operates a Beauty Salon in Russell.

Marie — see Robert Roy Story

Deschambault, Paul and Deborah

I Paul, was born April 6, 1949, third child of Joseph Deschambault and Rita Prescott.

While I attended school in St. Lazare, I helped on the farm. As a hobby I learned to play the guitar. I later performed for parties and concerts. In 1966, I appeared with my three brothers, Alfred, Rosaire and Ubald, on "Profile" a television program produced at CKOS T.V. in Yorkton, Saskatchewan.

In 1967, with Father Regnier's encouragement, Sister Emma Rousseau, Denis Fouillard, Jacqueline Lemoine and I introduced folk-singing and music at masses celebrated on Sundays. This allowed us the use of guitars in the church and I have been playing that instrument for the last fifteen years at religious ceremonies, with Sister Raymonde Arcand in 1980 and now with Bernard Simard. Sr. Emma Rousseau was replaced as choir leader and music co-ordinator by Sister Huguette Houle and presently Lorraine Tremblay.

In 1969, I became a Knight of Columbus and have been very active in this organization ever since.

I drove a school bus for four years and in 1970 took an adult up-grading course in Brandon and lived there with my sister Marie (Mrs. Robert Roy).

I married Deborah Anne Fouillard, daughter of Georges Fouillard and Agnes Smith. We were married by Father Regnier at St. Edward's Church in Winnipeg on Oct. 7, 1972. We have two sons — Ronald Phillippe born June 27, 1973 and Alain Marc January 28, 1976.

My wife, is at present, a D.H.I.A. Supervisor for the Yellowhead Association. She works in conjunction with the Agri-Services Complex at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg.

In 1971, I helped my brother Alfred with the seeding and later formed a partnership with him in purchasing my parents' farm. In 1974 we bought three quarters of land from Joe Prescott N.E. 20-17-28 and W. 21-17-28, the latter half being sold two years later to Eugene Simard and Sons. When we took over the farm we sold the beef cattle, to purchase milk cows, and started a dairy. We later added on to the existing barn which can now accomodate fifty cows. We have belonged to the Dairy Herd Improvement Association since 1981, and now use artificial insemination extensively in our herd.

My wife and I hope to live long enough to see our sons take over the family farm which has been in the Deschambault family for the last ninety-seven years.

Deschambault, Alfred and Lydianne

I, Alfred, twin brother to Rosaire, and son of Joseph Deschambault and Rita Prescott, was born on October the sixth, 1954. During my school years, in St. Lazare, I can recall enjoyable moments, such as being a member of the altar boys; one time thirteen of us went on a trip to Banff, which had been organized by Father Regnier. In later years, I belonged to the Youth Club, which sponsored dances every Sunday night. After completing elementary school, I went to High School in Birtle. In 1970, I worked in Brandon at a wool factory, then at Fouillard's in the machine shop and for a short while at Rocanville mine. In 1971, my brother Paul and I formed a partnership called P and A Dairy farm, after acquiring our parents' farm. In 1976, I married Lydianne Bourgeois, born June the first 1954, who came originally from Bellegarde, Sask. We have three children, Chantal age five, Caroline three and Serge who is one. In 1975, I became a member of the Knights of Columbus, and was named Chancellor. In 1980, I was elected Grand Knight of the council for two years. In 1982, I took over Andre Huberdeau's position as councillor of Ward three for the municipality.

Deschambault, Rosaire

I left St. Lazare in September of 1971, to take a

course in Hairdressing at Assiniboine Community College in Brandon. I graduated in June of 1972 and opened my own shop in Russell. I married Patricia Snitynsky from Russell in June, 1973. Tanya was born in Jan. of 1975 and Michael in Dec. of 1976. In December 1978, I moved to the Pas, where I am still in the hairdressing business, and where I make my home.

Desjarlais, Marie (nee Fisher) as told to Yvonne Leclerc

I was born March 21, 1902 in St. Lazare, Man. My father was born in Lebret, Sask., and my mother was born in St. Ambroise. Her mother was Veronica Fleury. My parents met in St. Lazare and were married in 1901. Ten children were born, nine girls and one boy. At that time there were few families in St. Lazare, Houles, Lepines, Belhumeurs, Ambroise Boyer, Pat, Gaspard and Eugene Fiddler, Edward, Louis and Maxime Fleury and Ben Peppin. Joe Tremblay had a store near the Church. We used to go there to get warm before church.

When I was eight, I was sent to school at Lebret for four years. There was a school at St. Lazare but I don't know why they didn't let me go to it. In Lebret they had an Indian and Metis school. We were well treated by the Grey Nuns. At first I was lonesome but I got to like it. Parents couldn't afford to send their kids to an ordinary school and in Lebret everything was paid for. There I made my first Communion when I was twelve years old. I came home and at sixteen I was told by my parents to get married — I had no choice. I wanted to go back to school but there was no money and I had to help my father cut wood. I could cut a cord of wood in a day. It was hard work, but we were happy. I think if the young ones today had to live like we did, they would starve. Clothes were hard to get, my mother would make shoes out of grain bags. We were proud of our shoes and mitts. To make coffee we would burn barley or wheat until brown. We had no tea. Things were hard to get but people helped one another. The ones with horses transported the ones without. Today, if you have no car, you stay home or pay your way.

I married Peter Desjarlais, and we had a homestead seven miles north-west of St. Lazare. We had horses and my husband sold posts and worked for farmers. We had no children, but I adopted a boy, Peter, son of Jean Baptiste Desjarlais. His mother, Victalene Tanner, died when he was seven days old. My husband was married before to a Delorme and had one boy, Joseph Moses. He was nine years old when we got married. He was raised by Gaspard Fiddler.

We sold the homestead and moved to Birtle and

stayed there seven years, then moved to Foxwarren and stayed there until my husband died. We had a log shack down by Snake Creek, not far from Moses Desjarlais.

After my husband died, I moved to Ste. Madeleine, ten miles south-west of Binscarth. At one time they had a church there and their own school, built from logs they cut themselves. Their first teacher was, Juliette Chartrand. Other teachers were Mr. Blouin and Mrs. Poirrier. The families who lived there had cattle, chickens, and were nicely started when the P.F.R.A. came. They fenced the graveyard and sent the families away. Their homes were burned down.

When I got married I didn't know anything about marriage. The older people never told us where babies came from. In later years I was a midwife. I got permission from Dr. Edwards. If anything went wrong I sent for him. I delivered 51 babies.

Desjarlais, Francois and Marguerite by Marguerite Desjarlais

I lived in St. Lazare from when I was born in 1905 through to 1954. My husband Francois who was born in 1909, arrived in 1925 with his family from St. Eustache; Manitoba. He started working when he was very young, to help his older parents . . . there were no \$400.00 pension cheques then. We were married in 1929. Francois then started his trade of carpenter work at the convent with Mr. Pierre Roy, at 15¢ an hour — the Depression had started.

He built our first little house that year (1929), where our three oldest sons were born. He then bought a team of horses. He would haul wood for the creamery in wintertime, at \$1.50 a cord. The second house he built was a larger one. It was built with squared logs from Uncle Petit Simard's old sawmill. It was pretty nice. Four more of our children were born there. Now we had cattle, horses, pigs and chickens. We got a farm for which we paid \$35.00 from Brian Simard. This is where Raymond Dupont lives today, in the same house that Francois built. Here the rest of the family was born, now 11 in all. The last house Francois built was in 1950 and belongs to Mathurin LeFranc now. In 1954, we decided to go where there was more work for the boys in construction. We made a sale of cattle etc., and sold our house to the Fouillards, and moved to St. Vital. There was not much construction work in Manitoba in wintertime. Our oldest boys were married that year and moved to B.C.; they said it was booming. So, in 1958, we sold out again. The last house he built is the one we have now. He also built our neighbour Don Bulger's house 20 years ago. We celebrated our 50th Wedding Anniversary four years ago. It was a beauti-



Francois and Marguerite Desjarlais and family.

ful celebration with dear cousins from St. Lazare and all our family, including ten in-laws and 36 grandchildren. (Francois was with his old friend Eugene Simard (Niggy) talking of St. Lazare!!)

We have been rewarded and truly blessed with all the children of our family; Jean-Paul, 1929, Henri, 1930, Maurice, Gerard, Irene, Francois Jr., Jeanette, Rosalie, Elizabeth, Andre and Marguerite Jr.

Desjarlais, Jean-Baptiste as related to Yvonne Leclerc

I was born on March 31, 1892 in St. Joseph, Saskatchewan (near Welby) to Adele (nee Pritchard) and Antoine Desjarlais. At that time there was a Metis settlement there called Buckskin Flats. A few names like Pritchards, Desjarlais, Brasseauxs, Lesatts, Damasleys, Haydens, Belhumeurs, Boyers and Caplettes are remembered.

I married Victaline Tanner and had four children. Three boys, Jean, Leo, Pierre and one girl Alice. We were poor, we lived in a log shack. We did a lot of hunting for a living and went out working for farmers. We set snares for rabbits, but owned a gun. Although we were poor, we still enjoyed Red River jigging, square dancing and fiddle playing.

Doctors were very few, one was posted here and there. Hospitals were quite far away, but we had our home remedies. **Farbe Saint** (mint Roots) were used for fevers, you boiled the roots and drank it. It was also used for sore backs. As the land was light and sandy we were infested with fleas. This mint root was

good to get rid of them. They would spread the leaves on the floor. **Belangelic** (rat roots) was good for toothache. You shred it with a knife and put a bit in your tooth. This root is found around sloughs. **Bouna** (wild mint) was good for sore throats and pneumonia and fever. These were found by the river or sloughs.

Later on we moved to a homestead, now the P.F.R.A. We paid \$10.00 for a quarter section of land.

GX Golden Westerners Recognized

The management and staff of Radio CJGX extended congratulations and best wishes to Mr. J. B. Desjarlais on his 86th birthday. "We take great pleasure in welcoming the above designated person to the ranks of others similarly and exclusively recognized as GX Golden Westerners."

Desjarlais, Josephine

This is the story that I was told by my Mother before she died;

"I was born in 1859 in Winnipeg when it was just a small place with a few houses. When I was 12 years old, I left with my uncle John Fleury, to go to the North West. We stayed for a week at Fort Ellice, then moved on to what is now called Melville. In 1880, I met John Delorme and we got married. We honeymooned for three years, travelling all over with a little black horse and red river cart, south to Minneapolis, to Spokane and then to the Rocky Mountains. My husband decided to earn some more

horses, so he built log houses, and took horses for his pay. He would scrub and pull roots for farmers and in 1884, we had about 35 horses. We decided to go back to Winnipeg; but we had the bad luck to be caught in the rebellion east of Battleford in 1885. There was some fighting there, then we went to Pigeon Creek, where there was a battle. I remember seeing the soldiers coming down the hill, they were wearing red uniforms. I could hear the shells banging all around me and I put my baby in a wash tub as I thought that would protect her life. My husband told me I had better start running away because we were going to get killed.

I took my baby and ran for the river bank. When I looked at the water, it was just like it was raining heavy, it was the bullets from soldier's guns. I saw all kinds of men killed around me, and I went through the river without a scratch. In a bush on the far side of the river, the half-breeds and Indians broke little trees and hung their caps and coats on them, and the white men fought the coats and caps all day. There were 13 Indians and three half-breeds killed and I think quite a few soldiers. We lost everything we had, all our horses and wagons, all but our little black mare. She had broken her rope and run away, so the white men didn't find her. So when my husband went looking the next day, he saw her and called and she came right to him. He jumped on her back and rode to where we were camped. We decided to go back to the Rocky Mountains, we were just three families. We tied two poles onto the pony and made a place for five kids to ride. We walked all night, and in the daytime, hid in the bush. Louis Riel was with us, but he went back to see what was happening. We waited there for a week, but he never came back. We never saw him again, and we heard later that he had been hung. We travelled west for about three months sometimes killing a cow we would find. All we had to eat was meat. When we reached the mountains, we were practically bare; our toes were sticking out of our boots, no dresses from walking through the bush for three months. We built ourselves another house, and settled down again. By 1889, we had earned 40 more horses, and my husband was starting to get sick, so we decided to start for home again. When we were crossing the mountains, the young colt's feet, would get sore. I would make them little moccasins to wear. They wouldn't last very long. My husband got sicker, so we stopped and put up our tents. We stayed there until he passed away. I was left with three kids, Sarah, John and Alex. I gave four horses to pay for his funeral. By then, we had to kill the colts, because they couldn't walk any more.

I started for home in Winnipeg again. When I came to Battleford, I heard my mother and father

were at Fort Ellice. When I got there finally, I stayed there. I hadn't seen my parents for 22 years.

I met a widower, Alex Hayden, and we were married in 1890. He had three kids, two boys and one girl, Mary, Alex and Jim. I also had my three kids, so we started out with a family of six. Then we had seven more, Oscar of Rocanville, Rosie, Mrs. Jack Pritchard of Spy Hill, Mary, Mrs. Harry Delorme of Yorkton, Gerald of Rocanville, Edward, in the army at Dundurn, Sask., Lizzie, Mrs. W. C. Bell of Welwyn and Bertha, Mrs. McGilvary of Winnipeg. My son Oscar used to ride that same little black mare; she had 16 colts, the last were a set of twins. She died at 27 years of age.

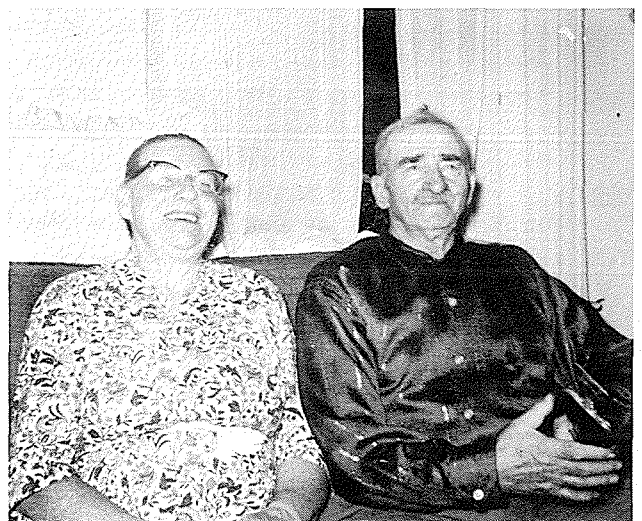
My husband and I took a homestead in the year 1903, and we lived in the same place for 33 years."

Mrs. Alex Hayden died in 1936, and Alex stayed on the same homestead with one of his adopted daughters, Caroline Pritchard, who is now Mrs. J. E. Davis of Winnipeg. When he sold out, he lived in Yorkton with a daughter, Mrs. Delorme, for five years until he died at age 79 in 1943.

Of their family, two sons were in the Army and of 42 grandchildren, ten of them were in the service, some of them overseas.

Drielick, Louie

Louie Drielick was born in Russia on September 6, 1883. He married Ottolie White in Russia in 1905. She was born in Russia May 12, 1886. Louie came to Canada in 1905 but returned to Russia before he finally came to stay bringing his wife and two sons Rheinar and Lenard with him. They settled at Camper, Manitoba and in 1928 they moved to Elkhorn. In 1933 they came to the farm at Chillan, 25-18-28, rented from John Irwin (Lloyd Tibbatts



Mr. and Mrs. Louie Drielick.

and Harry Graham 1982). The seven children born in Canada were Martha, Karl, Albert, Adolph, Ella, William and Ernie.

The Drielick boys were well known among the local hockey teams for their many skills on ice — known as the Chillon Bombers, and considered a mighty tough crew.

Louie and Ottolie left Chillon in 1945, and moved to Winnipeg where they made their home until their deaths. Louie died in 1961 and Ottolie in 1962.

Leonard married Bertha Franke. They farmed at Birtle, they had four children — Dennis, William, Margaret and Evelyn. Leonard passed away in 1971.

Rheinard married Lily Bishop. They had three children, Joan, Randy and Mabel. They farmed in the R.M. of Russell; later he sold the land and moved to Calgary where he still resides.

Martha married Wallace Williams of Oak Lake. They have two children, Margaret of Virden and Murray of Oak Lake.

Ella married Ben Wasney of Winnipeg. They had three daughters and one son, Violet, Dianne, Darlene and Norman. Ben died and Ella later married Alphonse Dube. They have two daughters Rose and Betty Ann and one son Cecil. They all live in Winnipeg.

Albert married Rosalie Boucher of Binscarth. They farm in the R.M. of Russell. Albert served in the armed forces previous to farming. Albert and Rosalie had eight children, Murray of British Columbia, Stan of Flin Flon, Carol of Portage, Sherri (deceased), Garry, Bradley, Miles and Darrell at home.

Adolph married Lena Fleury. They had three children, Linda and Michael of Binscarth and Irene of Winnipeg. Adolph passed away in 1979 at the age of 61.

William married Ruth Myers. They have one daughter Elaine. All live in Winnipeg.

Ernie married Maria Boucher. They have eight children. Louie, Wayne, Dale, Gordon, David, Charlotte, Charlene and Beverly. All live in Winnipeg. Ernie and Maria once lived in the R.M. of Ellice near Silver Creek in the little community called Selby town. He later moved to Winnipeg.

Drielick, Adolph Michael

Adolph came to settle on the S.½ of 36-18-29 which he purchased from Chas. Robinson in 1944. This farm was part of the Gambler Reserve at one time. He came here from Chillon where his parents were farming.

Adolph was born Feb. 2, 1918 at Camper, Man. He grew up and was educated there. From Camper he moved with his parents to Elkhorn. He helped his

parents on the farm and worked at other available odd jobs. One incident he recalled from his teen years was helping to drive a herd of cattle from Swan River to Oak Lake.

One of his great loves was horses, especially breaking them in. He would put them to work hauling wood out of the valley. Many winters he would haul as many as 100 loads of wood, get a gang of men to saw it all up and then sell it. This was his winter work for about 25 years.

In 1948 Adolph married Lena Fleury, daughter of Mary Julie and Bernard Fleury (both deceased). They had three children: **Linda** — born 1949, married Billie Haliuk; **Irene** — born 1952, employed at a Day Care Centre in Winnipeg; **Michael** — born 1957, farming at home.

Adolph purchased S.E.¼ of 26-18-29 from Bella Munro (Thomas Tibbatts 1982), S.W.¼ of 26-18-29 and N.W.¼ of 23-18-29 (south half) from Dorothy Newman in 1965 and N.E.¼ of 14-18-29 from Honore and Harvey Plante in 1967. In 1973 he needed more water for his cattle so moved down the road to Bella Munro's former farm. Here he found an ample supply of water and built a new house.

On Dec. 9, 1979, Adolph passed away. Lena and son Michael still farm.

Dunn, Jack by Jack Dunn

"I started farming in 1917 by renting Section 35-16-28 from Archie McDonald. I remained on this farm for fourteen years before moving to Birtle. I was employed by Mr. Currie at the Indian School, as a Stationary Engineer for eight years until I came east in 1941. As far as farming went, we had some very good times, taking in picnics and dances in both



Dunn Family — 60th Anniversary, 1967.

Ellice school and at neighbors' homes. Christmas concerts at Ellice were enjoyable times. Music would be supplied by Alex Duff and Frank Dale on violins, and Vin Dale and Bob Corr on accordians. Many others also took part to make a pleasant get-together. Farming was not too dull in the 20's, after all!

Looking back over the years, farming was quite a trial. I know all about poor crops and the hail storms that wiped out everything. It cost more to harvest a crop than it was worth. In 1931, I began to look for greener pastures. When I came east, to Sarnia, Ontario, I took a Stationary Engineer position at the Sarnia General Hospital until I was superannuated in 1957 after reaching the age of seventy. Nora and I raised a family of nine, having lost one son. Hilda **Alice** was born in England in 1907. She is now Mrs. Stewart Ritchie and lives in Winnipeg. **Marjorie Mae** was born in Minnedosa in 1909. Her married name is Mrs. Harold McKenna. **Edith** Minnie was born in Minnedosa in 1912. She is Mrs. Hugh McFarlane from Vancouver. **Elsie Iris**, born in Minnedosa in 1915, and her husband Harry Felger live in

Parry Sound, Ontario. **Margaret** Evelyn was born in Ellice Municipality in 1917. She is Mrs. F. M. Manwaring, living in Winnipeg. **Francis Albert** (Frank) born in the Ellice district in 1921, is an operator at Dow Chemicals in Sarnia. **Lorne** William born in 1926 in Ellice is a supervisor at Presto-Light in Point Edward, Ontario. **Douglas** Wayne born in Birtle in 1928 is in partnership with his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. H. Felger, in Parry Sound. **Doreen** Merle born in Birtle in 1930 is Mrs. Earl Harris."

Since the writing of the Dunn history in 1967, a number of changes have taken place. Frank lost his son, Mark, after a lengthy illness. Lorne died in an accident in the early 1970's. Margaret of Dauphin passed away in the 70's also.

We, the Tom Dales, attended Uncle Jack's and Aunt Nora's 60th wedding anniversary in 1967. They went on to celebrate their 65th. John passed away in the late 1970's and Nora lived to the age of 93 when she died in 1981. The remainder of the family reside in Sarnia, Ontario, except Edith, who lives in Vancouver, and Alice, who is still in Winnipeg.



Ed. Dupont Family. Back Row: Ed., Louis, John, Raoul. Middle Section: Louise, Florence, Lena, Helene, Octavie (mom), Georges, Marguerite, Cecile, Anna. Front Row: Marie, Theodore (baby), Bill.

Dupont, Edmond and Octavie

Ed Dupont was born July 15, 1874 in Lawrence, Massachusetts, U.S.A. His wife Octavie Marcotte was born May 12, 1875 in Pont Rouge, Quebec, where they were married January 25, 1897. Because his wife suffered from inflammatory arthritis, for which the doctor advised a drier climate, Ed decided to come west. Leaving his wife and five children, he came to Manitoba in the spring of 1903, and came to Binscarth where he opened a blacksmith shop. Three of his brothers, Charlie, Oscar and Emile arrived from the east and they built a new shop. In the fall Ed returned to Pont Rouge and the following spring, 1904, he brought his wife and children to Binscarth where he carried on his business.

In 1909, Ed bought the south half of 29-18-28, in the Ellice Municipality. On it was a one-room house, where a hired man spent the winter cutting wood. In the spring, he had his brother Emile start to clear the land with a steam engine and plow. The following year, the first crop of flax and wheat was sown. Ed rented the farm to James Watt for four years, and in 1916 bought another half section west of his farm which was called the Fisher place, after the previous owner. Then he bought another quarter section calling it the "Anderson quarter". On the Fisher farm, there once was an Indian camping site where there was a spring with good water. On a hill nearby, stones mark their burial ground.

In 1916, Ed hired Tom Plumb to manage the Blacksmith shop, and started to farm, with the help of his three oldest sons. He bought a car, one of the first in that district. A kitchen was added to the one room house, and a barn and granaries built; a well dug and a windmill put up. The family lived on the farm during the summer and the children went to Balmerino school. In the winter, they lived and went to school in Binscarth.



The Ed Dupont House, 1919.

In the spring of 1919, Ed sold his blacksmith business to his future son-in-law, Joe Laramee. That summer, a contract was given to Oscar Dupont to start building a house on the farm. In late fall it was completed, and the family which by now numbered 14, gladly moved in!

The house was a three storey dwelling with a full basement, and a hot water heating system. There were four bedrooms and a bathroom on the top level. The main floor had a den with a fireplace, parlor, dining room with sliding doors to separate it from the parlor, kitchen and a dumb-waiter, pantry and wash room. A bell was installed outside the kitchen door to be rung at meal-time to summon the family, and hired man. The hired help used part of the old house for sleeping quarters, and Ed turned the kitchen of it into a blacksmith shop. Here Ed made many of the tools needed on the farm, branding irons, collars to tie up the milk cows, hobbles for the horses and he invented the "Dupont" grain auger.

Ed also had a smoke house built, where he cured his own meat. One summer, Marie remembers her father employing as many as 22 helpers, plus a negro cook!

Mrs. Dupont had graduated from a dress-making school before she married, and this talent became very useful with her large family. She made jackets and coats lined with chamois, velvet dresses trimmed with lace, costumes for concerts at Balmerino school; even a red Santa Claus suit! The children were taught to card wool, and with her spinning wheel, Mrs. Dupont spun yarn which was made up into socks, mitts, scarves and toques.

Many changes came about in the 20's; another section of land, called the Reid farm was bought and the old Balmerino school moved onto it. This was rented to Mr. Mouillierat. The Duponts had many horses, sometimes as many as 30, and also beef cattle, with a herd as large as 100 at times. Fences were built, more land cleared and cultivated, an addition made to the barn; the windmill was removed and a pump with gas engine installed over the well. A trough with heated water was made. In the summer, the cattle would pasture along Silver Creek; those that didn't go to market in the fall, were wintered out of doors in a corral near the barn where they were fed hay and boiled chop made from low grade grain. A boiler room, where the chop was heated, also served as a slaughter house for pigs, turkeys and chickens. It was the work of the girls in the family, to kill and pluck the poultry, and get them ready for market. They also helped with the milking (10 to 15 cows) the separating of the milk, and feeding the calves, when it was necessary.

The first big event to take place in the new house,

was the wedding of the eldest daughter **Cecile** to Joe Laramée. They lived in Binscarth for awhile and had one son Maurice, born there.

The eldest son **Louis** (Pete) was called up for the Airforce during World War I, but it ended before he served overseas. He farmed next to his father's place, and owned a few purebred race horses; which he raced at summer fairs. In 1925, he left the district for Detroit, Michigan, where he was employed as a machinist and brake mechanic. There he married Aurore Latour in 1928. They had no family and lived in Detroit till they retired to Stoney Point. Louis died in 1961 and is buried in Windsor, Ontario.

Ralph left the farm to work as a blacksmith in Arrow River. From there he went to Detroit where he was employed by the Iron Work Company making fancy railing for balconies, etc. He married Irene Desharnais in 1929. They had one daughter Loretta. He retired in 1965 and died in 1967.

In 1920, the second oldest daughter **Anna**, married Adelard Savard at the farm home. They lived for awhile in St. Lazare and Winnipeg. After the birth of her second child, she was never in good health again, and died in 1929.

During the 20's, **George** left the farm, and worked for his Uncle Charlie Dupont out west. Then for his brother **John** in Rosburn. There he met and married Helen Buchanan. They resided in St. Lazare for awhile, then moved to Toronto where he worked as a millwright for Neilson Chocolate Co. They had no children, and George passed away in 1958.

Louise left home and found work as a waitress in the C.P.R. hotels, Banff, Alberta, then the Royal York in Toronto. Then she moved to Detroit where she met and married Gustave Lehman. They had one son Louis. Louise passed away in 1958.

Helene went to the St. Norbert convent and then Normal school, and started teaching. She taught in southern Manitoba then in St. Lazare for three years. There she met and married Albany Lemire in 1930. He was a baker, his shop was Ben Fouillard's old garage. They moved to Viscount, Saskatchewan, then to Batoche, then back to St. Lazare where Helene taught school at Pumpkin Plains and Albany returned to his bake shop. In 1933, they moved to McCreary where they had a cafe and bake shop. They moved again to Windsor, Ontario, where they bought a store. They raised four children. Helene died in 1952, Albany in 1975 in Winnipeg.

Marguerite and **Florence**, when they finished their education at Balmerino stayed to help on the farm, until they married, Marguerite to Dominique Lemoine and Florence to Gordon Orr.

During the 30's, hard times came. Ed cut down on his herd of cattle and horses, sold two Ford trac-

tors, as it was cheaper to farm with horses. Only one hired man remained, Alex McRae, who was with the family for five years.

Marie and **Lena** finished school and went to Winnipeg to find work. **Bill** left the farm, found work in Detroit, and in 1935 moved to Seattle where he stayed with his Aunt Louisa. He worked with a Drilling Company during the summer months in Fairbanks, Alaska. In 1942 he married Yvonne Chartier. He enlisted in the U.S. Army and saw service overseas. He was wounded and decorated with the Bronze Star. *See Citation following. He and Yvonne had three sons, one of them, Raymond married Yvonne Simard of St. Lazare in 1977.

Through the years Ed was associated with the Manitoba Pool, Beef Ring and was a school trustee. He was a staunch member of the Conservative party and liked to discuss politics. The Duponts loved company and were hosts to many social events. Relatives from near and far would come and stay, some for short visits, others for longer visits.

The youngest of Ed Dupont's sons, **Theodore** was still at home helping with the farm. Mrs. Dupont took sick, and, Marie was called home to care for her until her death in 1936. On Marie's return to Winnipeg, she married Donat Garipey, and settled in St. Jean-Baptiste. They had one son, Sylvio. Lena married Alex Prestupa and lives at Chilliwack, B.C. She has one son. Ed continued to farm until Theodore (Ted) joined the airforce. Ed then sold out in 1939 and moved to Winnipeg. He remarried and spent three years in Simpson, Saskatchewan with his brother Charlie, making grain augers. He returned to Pont Rouge, Quebec, for his last years and died in August of 1947.

***Citation for Award of the Bronze Star Medal**

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, as amended, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following individual.

William P. Dupont 39201171 CE. Technician Fifth Grade, Company B. 120th Engineer Combat Battalion, for meritorious service in combat on 24 October 1944 near Brouvelieures, France. Technician Fifth Grade Dupont was a member of a tank dozer crew that removed a heavily mined and boobytrapped road block on a main supply route. Then in total darkness which forced the men to operate the dozer from an exposed position on top of the tank, he and his comrades began the removal of another road block. Several times he narrowly escaped serious injury from flying logs but he continued with his task until the tank dozer was finally disabled by an exploding mine. His actions reflect credit on the army of the United States. Entered military service from Seattle, Washington. "Extract of Washington's Gazet".

Prestupa, Marie Jeanne Lena (Dupont)

Lena was born at Binscarth in March 1916, and attended Balmerino school until 1932. Her teachers were John McGilvary and Lorine McFarlane. She left St. Lazare in 1934 moving to Winnipeg where in September 1938, she married Joe Amable Tetu. One child was born December 24, 1940, namely Alfred Cyric. Joe joined the army in 1941 and returned after V.E. Day. This small family moved to British Columbia in March, 1949. Lena later married Alex Edgar Prestupa in April 1964 and they now reside in Chilliwack, British Columbia.

Dupont, John and Marguerite as told by Marguerite Dupont

I was born September 8, 1903, on the farm to Jean-Marie and Prudence Fouillard. Our greatest pleasure then was getting ready for church on Sunday; in summer we rode in a large democrat — a ride I really enjoyed! I remember Mother shining our shoes on Saturday and laying out our clean clothes.

When I was five years old, we moved into a lean-to off my father's general store. I remember all the men who worked on the construction of the railroad. They came to the store in the evening and my father played records on an old Victrola gramophone for the customers.

In 1911, my father suffered a stroke and died on December the 26th. It was a very sad Christmas season for us with everyone sick from scarlet fever. My father was buried on December 31st on a very cold day and I was only eight years old! Many kind neighbors came to help my mother over those hard times.

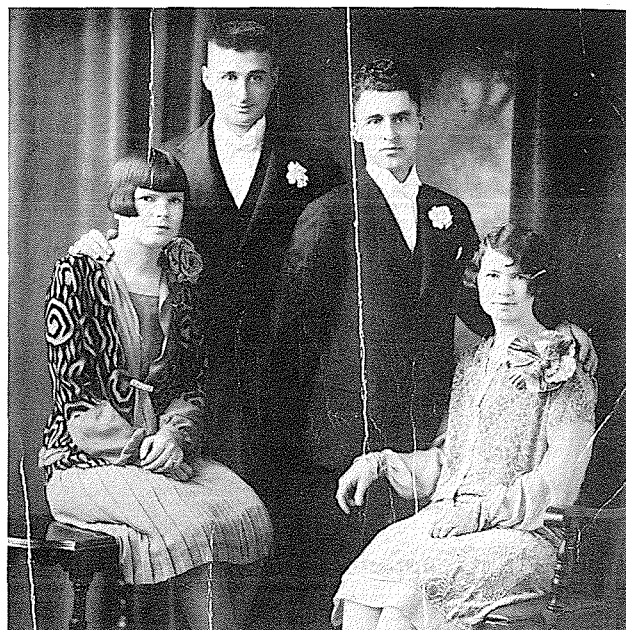
I went to school at the old mission. In winter we would freeze walking there, about three-quarters of a mile. It wasn't much warmer in school; we stood around the old box stove all morning trying to hold our books in frigid hands.

At 15 years of age I started working for my brother Eugène. I did a bit of book keeping and lots of cleaning and painting. My mother kept cows, chickens and pigs and we all had chores to do. My brother Eugène built the first skating rink in St. Lazare; it was greatly enjoyed by everyone.

When I was 18 years of age, I worked for Mr. Blouin, my old school teacher. He had the first little Bank of Hochelaga, and he operated that business mainly for cashing the cheques of the workers on roads and bridge construction.

I worked at all kinds of jobs to help my mother. She was a very proud woman. When the Red Cross sent blankets, Mr. Selby gave me two, but she made me return them. I worked in Amédée Vermette's first

little place of business in 1924, called "The Bingo". I made the ice-cream with a hand machine and used ice for cooling soft drinks. Later on, I worked in a restaurant at Rivers and lived with my sister, Marie Charron.



Double Wedding: Amedee Vermette and Anna (Fouillard), John Dupont and Marguerite (Fouillard), 1926.

I came back to St. Lazare and married John Dupont. He was my brother Eugene's blacksmith. They built winter vans by the hundreds for Ash-down's and Eaton's. I was 23 years old and John was 29 when we were married in 1926. We moved to Rossburn where my husband bought the blacksmith shop and added a garage to the building. We were happy there, but the depression came and we lost everything including five years of hard work.

My sons were born there: John, known as Jackie, on July 1, 1927 and Raymond, on June 22, 1928. In August of that year, my sister, Anna Vermette, died and I took in her little four month old girl, Rita, along with my mother who had suffered a stroke and was bed-ridden. I spent a very hard winter looking after my mother and three babes under fourteen months! It seemed all I did was prepare baby bottles and wash diapers! When spring came, my mother gradually got back on her feet.

We had very good friends in Rossburn; the Robert Peden family, Mr. and Mrs. George Spearman, the Jack McKague family, the Harrisons, our neighbors, the Urbanaski family and the Stitt family who welcomed us to Rossburn with a fine dinner in their farm home, Mr. and Mrs. Budz, the store-keepers and the Harrisons who bought our house. My husband, John, lost an eye in an accident while

repairing a car; I was sick with typhoid fever and had had two operations. When things were going from bad to worse, we decided to leave everything behind and return to St. Lazare.

My husband went back to work at Eugène Fouillard's in 1931. We moved into my mother's old house. When it was sold, we went to live above Jules Decorby's store. Finally we bought a house from Israel Tremblay Jr. and lived there until 1952. We were happy there — all ten of us in a small house for I had taken in my brother John and his four children, Luc, Jean-Marie, George and Anne-Marie, when his wife, Marie, died in 1936.

In July of 1941, my mother died and was sadly missed by us all. In 1942 my son Jean, and Luc, my nephew were sent to Saint Boniface College, soon to be followed by Georges. We kept Jean-Marie and Raymond to help at home. We had acquired 24 cows and started a dairy. Our young boys worked hard — in the barn by 6 A.M., often delivering 110 quarts of milk before school time. We started farming and bought our first farm from Confederation Life in Birtle in 1946. When my husband became ill from an allergy, and Raymond got married in 1951 and moved to the Wattsvie farm, we gave up the dairy business. Jean-Marie went to work for his uncle George looking after the Imperial Oil business.

In 1952, we sold our house to Leopold Chartier and bought one from Aime Hudon. It was moved to a lot where the last school was built. In 1953, the large barn, filled with Ted Dupont's lumber from the Binscarth school, and all the hay went up in flames. Raymond had 12 purebred cows and calves in a corral close to the barn. Someone had freed them and they were roaming in town. Thinking they belonged to the Fouillard farm, people chased them in that direction but they headed down the railroad tracks and were all killed by a train. My husband watched the fire from the kitchen window; he was too sick to go out. He died on October 20, 1953. He lived long enough to see his son, John, graduate as a doctor and become medical director of the Virden Local Health Unit.

I went to work in Winnipeg for 20 years. I then lived for five years in the Foyer, 101 Marion, St. Boniface before taking up residence in 1978 in Villa Decorby where I enjoy visits from my friends, children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Dupont, Jean et Marguerite

Je suis née le huit septembre, 1903, sur la ferme de mes parents. Un de mes meilleurs souvenirs est celui de la préparation pour la messe le dimanche, notre seule sortie! Le samedi, ma mère cirait nos chaussures et préparait nos vêtements propres. A l'âge de cinq ans, nous avons déménagé dans un

appartement attenant le magasin de mon père. Je me souviens des employés à la construction de la voie ferrée à Saint Lazare qui venaient au magasin le soir et mon père faisait jouer des disques sur un gramophone Victrola. En 1910, nous avons déménagé dans une maison construite par mes frères, Jean, Eugène et Benoit.

En 1911, mon père subit une attaque de paralysie et il mourut le 26 de décembre. Ce fut un Noël bien triste pour la famille qui était en quarantaine pour la fièvre scarlatine. Je n'avais que huit ans. Les funérailles de mon père eurent lieu le 31 décembre. Il faisait bien froid. M. Emile Chartier et Marthe Baudry (Mme. Pallard) prirent soin de moi. Tous les voisins étaient bien bons envers ma mère.

J'allais à l'école à la vieille mission. Après avoir marché trois-quart d'un mille, nous avions les pieds et les mains gelés et ce n'était pas beaucoup mieux dans l'école; nous étions autour du gros poêle à bois tout l'avant-midi avec nos manteaux sur le dos et nos livres à la main.

A l'âge de quinze ans, j'ai commencé à travailler pour mon frère Eugène. Le matin je faisais un peu de comptabilité et durant l'après-midi, je m'occupais à peindre ou à nettoyer. J'avais aussi l'ouvrage de la maison à faire car ma mère gardait des vaches, des volailles, et des pourceaux.

Nous avons joui beaucoup de la première patinoire construite par mon frère Eugène. Après avoir été au grand air nous nous rendions à la maison avec nos amis pour du café ou chocolat chaud et un goûter préparé par ma mère, qui aimait beaucoup la visite des jeunes gens.

En 1921, à l'âge de dix-huit ans, je fus employé par M. J. A. Blouin, mon ancien maître d'école, qui était gérant de la Banque d'Hochelaga à Saint Lazare. Avec les instructions voulues je tenais cette petite banque ouverte tous les jours. C'était surtout pour aider aux travailleurs sur la construction des chemins et du pont sur la rivière Assiniboine.

J'ai travaillé à toutes sortes d'emplois pour aider à ma mère. En 1924, je fus employée par Amédée Vermette pour tenir son petit restaurant "Le Bingo" situé dans le vieux magasin de mon père. Je faisais la crème à glace moi-même en tournant une machine à la main.

A l'âge de vingt-trois ans, en 1926, je mariai Jean Dupont, qui avait vingt-neuf ans. Il était employé par mon frère Eugène Fouillard comme forgeron et construisait des voitures d'hiver pour les compagnies Ashdown et Eaton. Après notre mariage mon mari acheta une boutique de forge à Rossburn et y bâtit un garage.

Nos fils naquirent là; Jean, le premier juillet 1927 et Raymond, le vingt-deux juin 1928. La même an-

née ma soeur, Anna Vermette mourut et laissa un bébé de quatre mois (Rita). Le choc ébranla ma mère; et elle subit une attaque de paralysie qui la garda au lit pendant six mois chez-moi. En plus, j'avais trois bébés à avoir soin — Jean avait 14 mois, Raymond deux mois et Rita quatre mois. Toute la journée passait à préparer des bouteilles de lait et laver des couches. Mon mari travaillait de longues journées et de plus m'aidait à finir la lessive le soir. Nos voisins furent très bons pour nous et nous aidaient beaucoup car cette même année-là, mon mari perdit la vue d'un oeil en réparant une voiture. Et moi-même, après avoir subi deux opérations, j'ai fini par avoir la fièvre typhoïde.

Les années difficiles commencèrent, suivies de la dépression et au bout de cinq ans, il a fallu tout abandonner. Ne pouvant faire des collectes, nous ne pouvions pas faire de paiements sur nos bâtiments; nous revinrent donc à Saint Lazare.



Marguerite Dupont and Family: Raymond, George, Anne-Marie, Luc, JeanMarie and Dr. John Dupont.

J'étais heureuse de revenir près de ma mère. En 1931, elle déménagea dans une bonne petite maison achetée par ses deux fils Georges et Joseph et construite par Eugène. On demeura un an dans le vieux magasin de mon père, ensuite dans la vieille maison de ma mère. Deux ans plus tard, nous avons déménagé en haut du magasin de Jules Decorby.

En 1936, ma belle-soeur, Marie (Tremblay) Fouillard mourut et laissa quatre petits enfants. Luc huit ans, Jean-Marie six ans, Georges quatre ans et Anne-Marie deux ans. Ayant pris soin de ces enfants-là pendant la maladie de ma belle-soeur, on les éleva après sa mort. En 1942, on acheta la maison d'Israël Tremblay Jr. et mon frère Jean, le père de ces quatre enfants, vint habiter avec nous. Mon fils Jean, Luc et Georges devinrent pensionnaires au Collège de Saint-Boniface. Avec Jean-Marie et Raymond on

commença une laiterie. En plus de traire 24 vaches et distribuer le lait dans le village, nous avions soin de volailles, pourceaux et jeunes animaux.

En 1946, ayant acheté la ferme de "Confederation Life" le 25-16-28 nous sommes devenus cultivateurs. En 1952, on vendit notre maison à Léopold Chartier et achetions une maison d'Aimé Hudon; qu'on déménagea sur le lot occupé par l'école. On y demeura seulement qu'un an. Notre étable et tout le foin passèrent au feu et trois semaines plus tard, mon mari mourut. Il vécut assez longtemps pour voir son fils Jean devenir médecin et directeur du Centre Médical à Virden.

Je travaillai à Winnipeg pendant vingt ans quand ma maison et propriété furent expropriées pour la construction d'une nouvelle école. J'ai ensuite vécu cinq ans au Foyer, 101 rue Marion, Saint-Boniface et depuis quatre ans j'habite au Foyer Villa Decorby à Saint Lazare. J'aime bien la vie de campagne et je jouis de la visite de mes amis, mes enfants, mes petits-enfants et arrière-petits-enfants.

Dupont, John

My parents moved to St. Lazare, Manitoba when I was four or five years of age, from Rosburn, Manitoba, where I was born, July 1, 1927. It was then that I was to become conversant in French. My life during the elementary school years was quite like everyone else, where besides school activities, we used to swim and fish during the summer in the river near the train bridge and skate on ice ponds and the rink in winter. I also recall the work at home associated with the dairy business, milking cows by hand and haying all summer for cattle feed.

At age 13, in 1941, I went to St Boniface College where I graduated in 1948 with a B.A. from the University of Manitoba. The College is an affiliated institution with the University of Manitoba. A well remembered incident during this period concerns my return home from college during my second year due to home sickness immediately after spending Christmas at home! I always found it easier to adjust to college life during the first semester, particularly when we had to work hard at harvesting in the fall before leaving for school. The change was indeed welcome and provided a rest from manual work. It was, however, more difficult to adjust to residential school life in the second semester after spending an active and relaxing short holiday at home during the Christmas and New Year period. I do remember participating in the ice cutting activities with my father, brother and cousins on the Assiniboine River, during the winter school holidays, when the creamery was still in operation.

After College, I enrolled at the Université Laval

Medical School in Quebec City with a Manitoba scholarship and graduated from there in 1953, after five years of study. It was there that I met Renée Bernier — born in Quebec City June 10, 1930 — who was to become my wife — February 23, 1952 at Giffard, Quebec. She was studying Home Economics.

On graduation, I moved to Virden, Manitoba as Medical Health Officer and Director of the Virden Health Unit, employed by the province of Manitoba. The next year, 1954, I took the Public Health Course at the University of Toronto on recommendation of the Manitoba Health Department. I then returned to Virden for a year and in 1956, I transferred to St. Boniface as Director of the St. Boniface Health Unit until 1959.

I then took up the position of Medical Director at the Regina Grey Nuns Hospital in Regina, Saskatchewan where I stayed until 1964, when I moved to Ottawa as Assistant Director, National Health Grants Program, in the Department of National Health and Welfare. The move was prompted by my wish to be involved at the National level at a period when hospital and medical care insurance programs were being established nationally and to provide an opportunity for the children to learn French. Our children are: Danielle, Marc, Gilles, Pierre, Louis, José and Paul.

I have since remained with the Federal government with prime involvement in federal-provincial programs and health research. However, on numerous occasions, I have visited my home town and province, where my mother, Marguerite Dupont, and brother, Raymond, still reside.

Dupont, Raymond

I was born in Rossburn, Man., June 22, 1927 and was 3 years old when we moved back to St. Lazare. I took all my schooling at Decorby School. I quit school at 14 to help my dad work on the farm. In those days, he took contracts to cut 200 cords of wood in the winter and supply ice to the creamery and other places in town; most people had ice boxes.

During the war I got a special permit to drive a P.F.R.A. truck and worked with my Uncle John Fouillard and the surveyors for the P.F.R.A. Shellmouth dam. Then at the age of 17, I went to work at Central Patricia Gold Mine in Ontario. The mine blew up and I was one of the lucky ones, being out of the shaft just before the explosion. I came back on the plane with the bodies of four of my friends. It certainly shook me up. Quite a few boys from St. Lazare worked there; Harvey Desrosiers, Joseph Haney, Joseph Lepine, Roy Bush, Jules Desjarlais, Henry Decorby and Fernand Blouin. I came back home and

helped my father on the farm until he passed away October 20, 1953.

In 1951, I married Thelma Fleury; I was 21 years old and she was 17, but coming from a family of 16 children, she knew how to work and keep house. We were living on the farm on 25-16-28 and we decided to sell our machinery and cattle and we moved to Winnipeg where I took a welding course at the Manitoba Technical School in 1955. Then I was employed on the pipeline at Edson, Alta., and also through Saskatchewan and Manitoba. I moved my trailer from B.C. back to St. Lazare as my children had to start school; Shirley was 7 years old and Ken was 6. I worked for Fouillard Implement Dealers about one year, then worked for Benjamin Construction at Birtle and later in 1960 for the Village of St. Lazare, making sidewalks. Then I worked on my uncle George Fouillard's farm and after my uncle's tragic death, I bought the farm from his wife, Agnes.

Before Ronald Fouillard died, he was coaching a minor hockey team. One evening, he asked me to take his place with his team at Rossburn and from then on, I coached the minor hockey team for 12 years.

Next I was employed for awhile as a welder at the Rocanville Potash Mine. I rented our farms and later went to Leaf Rapids as a welder for Fenwick Construction Company. Then I came back and started farming again and got a herd of black Angus cattle. In 1974, I developed hip trouble and had to have them replaced, one in 1974 and the other in 1976. From 1978, I got into construction business with the help of my three sons, Kenneth, Robert and John. I am still working with my two younger sons, Robert and John, who will soon have to take over the farming and construction business as I need another leg operation.

On November 7, 1982, we celebrated our 31st wedding anniversary and now my wife and I live to enjoy our grandchildren.

Our children are **Shirley**, born September 22, 1952, married Larry Henderson in 1975; **Kenneth**, born December 5, 1953, married to Carol Boyer in 1978; **Robert**, born November 29, 1959; **John**, born July 31, 1962; **Georgette**, born January 12, 1966.

Dupont, Ken and Carol

Ken Raymond John was born December 5, 1953 in Russell to Raymond and Thelma Dupont (nee Fleury). He attended school in St. Lazare and Birtle. After completing his education, Ken worked for C.N.R. as a surveyor. He returned to St. Lazare to work for Claude Chartier, who was the Esso agent. After marrying Carol Bell, he again worked for

C.N.R. as a section man in St. Lazare. In 1981, he was hired by the Rocanville Potash mine where he still works as a technical operator. Ken and Carol, with their three boys live in the Wattsview area where Raymond and Thelma lived previously. Kevin (1973); Jeremy (1976) and Rene (1977) all attend St. Lazare school.

Dupont, Theodore (Ted)

Ted was born August 19, 1917, the 14th and last child born to Mr. and Mrs. Ed Dupont. He was the only child born on the farm. Ted received his education at Balmerino School. When he finished school, he worked with Donald Mann learning the Blacksmith trade. He farmed with his father until 1939 and also worked for Eugene Fouillard Sr.

At the beginning of World War II, Ted joined the R.C.A.F. (training centre at Brandon) and in 1940 was transferred to St. Thomas, Ontario where he received his training as an air-frame mechanic. He then was posted to Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. During this time he met Anne Simmons in Brandon and they were married in Pont-Rouge, Quebec in 1944. Anne and Ted settled in Lachine, Quebec and then Moncton, New Brunswick. Ted received his discharge from the Air Force in June of 1945 after serving five years and two months in Canada.

The Duponts returned to St. Lazare and Ted once again worked for Eugene Fouillard Sr., assembling machinery. In 1948 he purchased a farm east of St. Lazare which he farmed for many years.

In 1949, Ted received training as an electrical apprentice under Len Falloon. By 1960, he found grain farming and the electrical business too much to manage so he sold the farm and worked fulltime as an electrical contractor. The love of farming was still with him so he bought a small farm close by which is his pride and joy. Now that he has retired, gardening has become his greatest pastime.

Ted took a very active part in community affairs. In 1957, he was instrumental in the formation of the Snake Creek Hockey League and was its President for many years. During these years, he was also water commissioner, constable, councillor and in 1967, the mayor. He was also the first Santa to greet the children of St. Lazare.

Ted and Anne were blessed with three children. Gail educated in St. Lazare and Birtle, married Ulmer (Poke) Horning and they are the parents of two boys and a girl. She and her husband and family reside in St. Lazare. Linda, educated in St. Lazare, graduated as an R.N. from the Misericordia Hospital in 1970 and married Bob Gurniak of Birtle the same year. Since her marriage, she has worked as an R.N. at the Thompson General Hospital. Her husband is a

welder at the nickel mine. She and Bob have three boys including twins. Terry, the youngest also received his education in St. Lazare and Birtle. He apprenticed under his Dad in the electrical business and now manages the business.

Dupont, Oscar and Marie Anne by Leon Dupont

My father was born at Pont-Rouge, Quebec in 1878; my mother Marie Anne Boily was born at Sault au Cochon, Northeast of Quebec City in 1882.

When my father was fourteen, he was sent to Quebec City where he was apprenticed to a master carver, because of his ability to carve things. He was paid \$1.00 per month, and often had to wait to get his money. He had to eat leftovers from the master's table, and it was his chore to carry stovewood for a three storey building as well as learn the art of carving. After three years of this, he went to Massachusetts, where he learned the carpentry trade. Learning to speak English was tough for him.

In about 1903, his brother Ed Dupont, persuaded him to go to Binscarth where he had a blacksmith shop. Then in 1906, he started building camps for the crews who were installing the railroad beds and tracks. This is when a strange thing happened. He was asked to make a coffin for a Catholic worker who died. The body in the coffin was carried upstairs in



Oscar and Marie Anne (Boily) Dupont.

Delphis Chartier's house, about 300 yards from the church at the old Mission. While prayers were being said, the lid of the coffin slowly began to rise. There was a mad scramble to get down the stairs! My father realized what had happened; the lid hadn't been nailed down securely when he'd forced the man's arms down into the coffin!

In 1911 my dad worked at Rocanville for awhile at my Uncle Charlie's blacksmith shop until he sold out to Napoleon Hudon and moved to Simpson, Saskatchewan. There, Uncle Charlie opened a shop which was quite successful. About this time, my father met Marie Anne Boily, who was visiting her sister, the wife of my Uncle Emile Dupont. He married Marie Anne in 1907, and he built her a house in Binscarth (just south of the United Church). Shortly after I was born in 1911, we moved to a house he built in Russell, and he started work as a carpenter on the crew who were building the United Church.

Next my dad acquired a homestead at Camperville. This did not work out as my mother was ill, so he and Uncle Henry decided to get her to a doctor. This was an ordeal; they hitched up a team of horses on a sleigh and started for Pine River. One of the horses died and Uncle Henry had to hitch himself to the doubletree to take up the slack. They finally reached the railroad track and flagged down the train, and got my mother aboard and took her to the St. Boniface Hospital. When she was well again, my dad moved back to Russell where he was fairly successful taking on building contracts. My brother Paul was born in Russell on January 15, 1918. At this time, I was going to school in St. Boniface where I was a boarder at the "Maison-Chapel". The reason I was sent there, was that every time my parents spoke to me in French, I would answer them in English.

In 1921, when school was out, I was given a ticket and put on the train to St. Lazare. My dad had bid and got the contract to move the bridge over the Assiniboine, five-eighths of a mile upstream. He built himself another house, where Art Chartier now lives. That fall I went to a school, located about where Poke Horning's house is. I remember watching the old church burn, the one situated about where Bob Gardiner lives. My dad got the contract to build a new one, which is now our community hall.

In 1925, I was sent to St. Boniface College and my parents moved to the city that winter. They were living in the Provencher Block across from the old city hall. My father got a contract to build an addition to the Oblate Novitiate in St. Laurent. After that, work was pretty scarce and the family moved to Willow Bunch, Saskatchewan where he did more building. In 1929, my mother died and my father moved back to St. Lazare the following spring.



Mrs. Emile and Mrs. Oscar Dupont and Children.

About this time, the great depression had begun. I was lucky to get a job when the convent was being built, and was paid 30¢ an hour. Paul was going to school at this time. During the early thirties, I worked with my father in Russell and Angusville. In the fall of 1937, I landed in Geraldton, Ontario, where I got a job at MacLeod Cockshutt Gold Mine, partly because I could play goal for the hockey team as well as work as a carpenter.

In 1939, I came back to St. Lazare and got work on the community pasture. I started courting Lorette Perreault of Ste. Marthe and we were married January 23, 1940. That summer my father and I started to work at the Carberry Airport; when it was finished we worked on the Dauphin Airport. Our first son Richard was born in November 1940 and my dad and I were laid off in mid-December. In the spring, Albert Roy and I were asked to report for work at the Dafoe Airport in Saskatchewan. From there we went to Souris, then on to Rivers Airport. Meanwhile my dad was working in Russell.

In 1944, I decided to buy Ben Fouillard's transfer, with my brother Paul operating it, when he was discharged from the army. Eventually I started taking building contracts again, and we sold the transfer. Paul married Irene Huybrecht and he went into hotel management.

Our family had increased. Our daughter Pauline was born Feb. 1st, 1945, Lillian was born in 1947, Ernest showed up on May 6, 1952, Martin on March 29th, 1956 and Louis Feb. 1st, 1957. We had the misfortune to lose our daughter Lillian in a plane crash on Vancouver Island on Sept. 9, 1974.

Some of the jobs I've worked on: In 1947 we built a theatre at Melita for Bert Hairsine; put up some bridges for the Highways Department; in 1948, built the curling rink in Russell; when we finished that, we put a skating arena in Foxwarren and another in St. Lazare. Then in 1955, we took the job of building a new school in St. Lazare. In 1956, I was offered a job with the Manitoba Government which I took until I

retired in 1976. Since then I work in my shop, and do some carpentry jobs for others, and am enjoying taking life easy and spending time with my grandchildren.

Dupont, Lorette (nee Perreault)

I was born March 23, 1921 in Ste. Marthe, Sask. into a family of three brothers and two sisters. My parents had originated from Montreal. In 1938 I stayed with my aunt in Montreal and attended the convent St. Louis de Gonzag. It was here that I learned to read and write French. My English school was Oak Knoll. In 1939, my parents moved back to Ste. Marthe, Sask. I came to St. Lazare and stayed with Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Simard, while working for Mrs. Ben Fouillard. I met Leon Dupont in Vermette's Cafe shortly after I came to St. Lazare. We were married in January, 1940. Leon was 28, I was 18! After our honeymoon (four days at the St. Regis hotel in Winnipeg) we stayed at Oscar Dupont's (Leon's dad). Also staying there were Paul, Leon's brother, and Roger, a cousin. It was tough cooking for four men when I really didn't know how to cook a potato. Leon's dad, Oscar, lived with us for 15 years.

These are our children. **Richard** married Judy Fufrane from Winnipeg in July 1961. They had one son, Ricky. In 1968, Judy died. Richard married Dolores Dyck from Steinbach in 1970. They have a daughter, Deanna. **Pauline** is married to Greyam Puff from Winnipeg. They spent five years in Germany. Their sons, Sean and David were born there. **Lillian** married Teddy Longstreet in 1965 and had two children, Kirk and Kimmy. On September 9, 1974 Lillian was killed in an airplane accident in Nanaimo, B.C. **Ernest** married Carla Aerts of Green Bay, Wisconsin. They lost their only child at birth. **Martin** married Norma Haney, daughter of Tom and



Leon and Lorette Dupont: Louis, Martin, Ernest, Pauline, Richard.

Deana of St. Lazare. They have two children, Sara and Adam. Martin played junior hockey in Dauphin for three years. **Louis** is not married and lives with his parents. I keep busy, cooking for two men, Leon and Louis, playing cards and knitting.

Dupont, Paul and Irene

I, Paul, was born in Russell, Jan. 15, 1919 and lived there for three years before moving to St. Lazare. We lived in a house built by my father (later sold to Lionel Chartier). When I was six years old we moved to St. Boniface where I attended school at Maison Chapelle. In 1926 we moved to La Broquerie, and in 1927 to Willow Bunch Sask. In 1929 my mother died. I attended school in Radville, Sask. in 1930 for awhile and then stayed at Ed Dupont's and attended Balmerino school. In 1931, we moved back to St. Lazare to the house across from the elevator (Red Bulgers). We also lived in a suite above the Municipal office and then moved to a house that my dad built behind the hotel. I joined the Army in W. W. II and when I returned in 1945 I met and married my lovely wife, Irene, daughter of the hotel owners, Omer and Alice Huybrecht. A daughter, Diane, was born June 21, 1947. We moved to Swan Lake, Man. in 1949 to manage the Swan Lake Hotel for 10 years. Our son Ken was born Dec. 7, 1949. We moved to St. Pierre, Man. to manage the hotel there. In 1964 we bought the Pilot Mound Hotel from L'Abbatts. We remodelled it and lived there for five years. In 1967, Diane went to Ghana, Africa for two years with C. U. S. O. as a volunteer. In 1969, we sold our hotel and lived in Winnipeg for eleven months, until Diane returned and we moved to Victoria, B.C. where Irene managed apartments and I worked at renovations. Ken worked with me for awhile. Diane married Joe Scaletta of St. Boniface and they have two children, Paulo and Gina and are living in Victoria. Ken has also married and has two children, Michelle and Isaac and they live in Victoria.

I have moved a lot in my lifetime — eight times in 13 years.

Irene and I are now managing a 121 suite apartment block.

I, Irene, was born in St. Boniface, Jan. 7, 1922 and moved with my dad to St. Lazare in 1942 where he was the manager of the Fort Ellice Hotel. My mother, Emile and Art, arrived later. In 1946, I met and married Paul.

Dupont, Arthur Emile by daughter Gracia Roy

My father, Arthur Emile Dupont, was born at Portneuf, Quebec and raised at Pont Rouge, Quebec, where grandfather Louis Dupont founded the first

pulp mill. In 1903, father migrated to Binscarth, Manitoba, where one of his brothers had preceded him.

My mother, Odelie Boily was born at Baie St. Paul, Quebec, migrated as a child to La Broquerie, Manitoba, where she spent her young life before her marriage. While she attended Normal School at St. Boniface, Manitoba, my father met her through a friend Alphonse Tremblay of St. Lazare, and it was love at first sight! After graduating from Normal School they were married.

They lived in Alberta and Manitoba, the greatest part at St. Lazare and surrounding area. We lived in the old Tillman house on the hill and attended DeCorby School, until mother died on November 13, 1925. Our lives changed drastically after that. The girls attended schools at Elie, Willow Bunch, Saskatchewan and La Broquerie, Manitoba. We returned to St. Lazare in 1931 to organize a home for our family and were united at last. My father was a carpenter building a few homes in the village, a saw mill operator, a grain thresher at Welwyn, Rocanville and district and a bridge and dam builder. He built a dam at Birtle and many bridges throughout Manitoba. He seemed to master all trades. We lived between Smiths and Waselenchuks who were lovely neighbors. When we moved away from St. Lazare, we left many a friend behind; the whole village seemed to form one happy family. I would be very ungrateful if I omitted mentioning my nine happy years as Postmistress and assistant to the secretary-treasurer of the Ellice Municipality, John Selby. He was a good teacher, good councillor and a good friend. Hilda, his wife, was also a great friend.

We are very grateful to the whole community for their love and understanding.

Dupont, Emile by Antoinette Bradford

My first impressions of growing up in St. Lazare seemed very leisurely and carefree, though, of course, to our parents there must have been many problems trying to raise and feed a family of seven children of which I was the fifth. My father, Emile Arthur Dupont, came west from Pont Rouge, Quebec where my grandfather Louis Dupont owned and operated a pulp mill. My mother Odelie Boily, one of eleven children from La Broquerie, Man., trained as a teacher, but instead married my father and raised a family.

A tragic incident happened to our family in 1925 when our mother died in childbirth. My oldest brother Aime was 15 or 16 years old. Roger, was 14, Philip 12, Grace 10, (myself) Antoinette 9, Therese 7 and Alice 5 years old. This changed the events of our



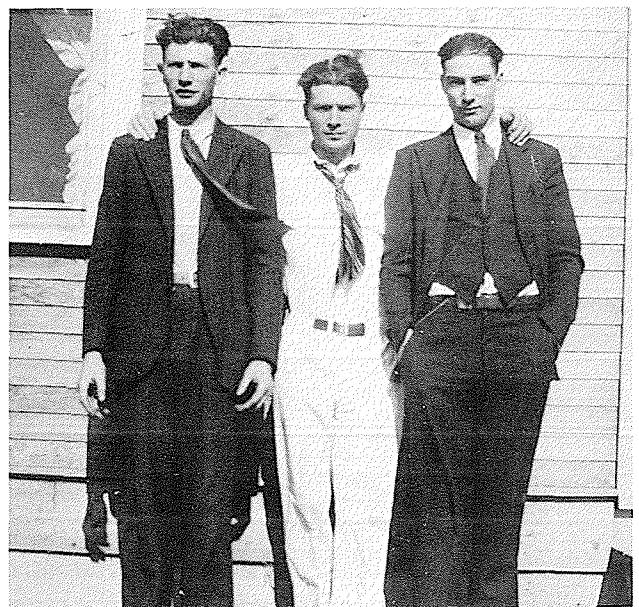
Dupont Girls: Thérèse, Alice, Grace, Antoinette.

lives considerably. Though we spent some of our growing years getting our education elsewhere, we always came home to St. Lazare during summer holidays and finally finished our schooling in DeCorby school, taught by the Sisters.

Our three brothers seemed to grow up quickly and joined the workforce, even though work wasn't plentiful. Our eldest brother, **Aime**, worked in the creamery. **Roger** and **Philip** worked mostly with our dad. I remember my dad better as a bridge contractor though he could do carpentry.

My sister, **Grace**, had her first job working in the post office for John Selby. She also helped in the Municipal office. She later moved to Ottawa and worked for the Federal Government till her retirement. She is now Mrs. Joseph Roy.

My eldest brother, Aime married my girlfriend,



Dupont Boys: Roger, Aime and Phillip.

Helene Comeault, which pleased me greatly. They were blessed with two girls, Odelie (deceased) and, Jeanette, lots of boys, Albert, Jacques, Guy, Philip, Gerry, Dennis and David. They lived in Kamloops, B.C. for many years, where Helene still resides. Roger lived in Williams Lake, B.C. with his wife, Emma. They weren't blessed with a family. Philip never married, settling in Penticton, B.C., after serving in World War II. Our three brothers have passed on, Philip in 1979, Aime in 1980, and Roger in 1981. For myself (**Antoinette**) I married Guy Bruneau in St. Lazare, June 12, 1939. We lived in Melville where our children were born — Annette, Roger, Bernard, Rock, George and Marie. We moved a number of times — to Yorkton, Sask. for seven years, then two years in North Vancouver, then to Lethbridge. In 1967 my husband died. In 1976, I married Percy Bradford. My sister **Alice** married George Boisjoli in St. Lazare. They live in St. Norbert and have four children — Philip, Madeleine, Michelle and Raymond. My sister **Therese** married Gerard Chartier from St. Lazare. They now reside in Fort Coquitlam, B.C., where they enjoy their family — Geraldine, Maurice, Rose Marie, Juliette, Noella, Andrew, Patricia and Philip.

I believe I can speak for all the family in saying that part of us will always remain where we grew up. For us it's still St. Lazare.

Dupont Family

by Alice Boisjoli (Dupont)

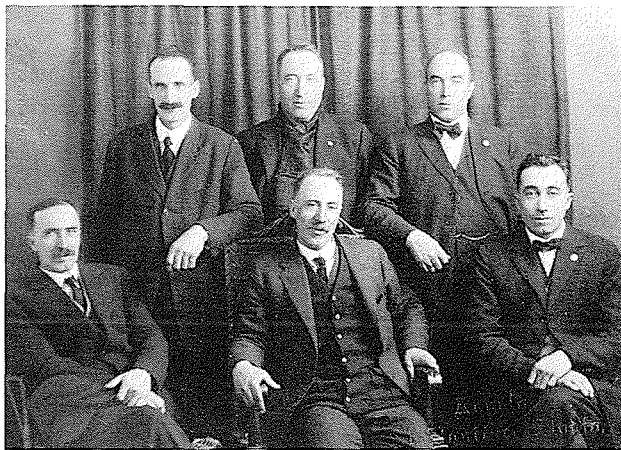
We're giving just an estimate,
Of the time father immigrated.
Emile Dupont came to seek
New horizons about 1903.
He could do many things,
Such as bridge building.
He was a sawmill operator
And in the fall, grain thresher.
It was no small feat,
In this new land to compete.
Ed was an older brother,
Who became an established farmer.
The cadet, Emerile, made a stint
In the village, among his kin.
Henry, a younger brother, went to war.
He also lived in Saint-Lazare.
There was another brother, Oscar,
Who was a skilful carpenter.
Today, Arthur Chartier lives
In a house, he has built.
We must include a sister, Mina,
Married to a farmer, Felix Mouillierat.
They came to town by sleigh, by car.

They farmed three miles east of Saint-Lazare.
Unfortunately, mother died
In the year 1925.
We lived atop the north hill,
About a mile from the village.
We were raised in Saint-Lazare,
Where we walked; we had no car.
It was a good place to be.
It was like a big family.
We were among real friends,
Who gladly gave a helping hand.
The highlights of those times,
For those that were mine,
Were Roger coaching the hockey team.
He was called Pepper for his steam.
Aime was butter maker.
Gaudette was the proprietor.
Margaret Smith kept the accounts.
Mr. Prescott made the pounds.
It was a very happy team,
That worked the farmers' cream.
Mr. Smith was the boss,
He made sure there was no loss.
Philippe worked in the garage.
His employer was Ben Fouillard.
Grace sorted out the mail,
For nine years, without fail.
She also helped in the Municipal Hall,
For Mr. John Selby, a man so tall.
It was the time of our youth,
In the dirty thirties, yet to boot.
Nonetheless, there was no gloom,
In our valley, where crocuses bloom.
Saint-Lazare gave us a chance,
Our knowledge to expand.
We are thankful to the Sisters,
Who were such perfect teachers.
They taught us right from wrong,
To walk erect and to be strong.
We still get a great kick,
Out of Ernie Chartier's little tricks.
Shaving our dog like a lion;
Tying its tail with a ribbon;
Hanging a frozen weasel aloft,
Of Uncle Henry's pigeon coop,
Spying on Henry with his gun,
To put the weasel on the run.
Eugene Fouillard's April trick
Of sending a man on the quick
To fetch a can of free air,
From the garage across from there.
Eva Roy reading tea leaves,
Telling tales, we did believe.
Lolo Tremblay telling jokes,
To make us laugh till we choked.

The Fouillard's playful design,
 Of changing Chartier's painter sign,
 From, Chartier Brothers Painters,
 To, Chartier Brothers Fainters.
 There was Mr. Hebert, who was so fat,
 They called him "Buffalo Bill" behind his back.
 As a child, I believed 'twas his name
 And greeted him with the same.
 Would you believe, I never forgot,
 That "Buffalo Bill", it was not.
 Those were the spices of our lives,
 That left memories ever nice.
 We were sorry to have to leave
 And turn over a new leaf.
 We are grateful to have been
 A part of the Ellice scene,
 We wish a "Happy Anniversary
 To Ellice Municipality."

Dupont, Henri Joseph

Henri was born in Pont-Rouge, Quebec on May 16, 1887 and about 1910 came west to Binscarth where his older brothers Ed, Oscar and Emile had established a blacksmith shop. There he worked until he enlisted in the Army in 1914. He was wounded in action in France, spent many months in the hospital, and was honorably discharged with a steel plate in his head. He received a pension, married Amanda Lemier of Letellier and moved to St. Lazare. He built a wood frame house in about 1930 at the foot of the



Dupont Bros: Emile, Charles, Henri. Front Row: Oscar, Ed, Emeril, 1925.

hill (later the O'Keefe house and now the home of Cecile Huberdeau). Their first born, a son, Bernard, died at about three years of age and they had two daughters, Lucille born in 1935 and Bernadette in 1936. Henri worked as a carpenter and as a hobby, set up 50 beehives on an adjacent lot. During the war the

honey was most useful, and was exchanged for other products such as sugar and butter which were rationed. This helped them survive during the difficult wartime years. Henri died November 19, 1943 and is buried in St. Lazare. His wife Amanda died October 12, 1973 and is interred at Green Acres Memorial Gardens in Winnipeg.

Lucille married Jean C. Morand of Colombes, France in 1980, and they live in Pocatello, Idaho. They have four children.

Bernadette lives in France and has two children.

Dupont, Leon Emeril

Emeril was born June 23, 1889 at Pont Rouge, Quebec, and as a young boy was sent to the boys' convent where he got his education. In 1912 he came west to Binscarth with a car load of horses that his brother Edmond had purchased. He remained in Manitoba until he enlisted in the armed forces in World War I. In France, he met and married Alice Prype of Arquis. When he returned to Canada, they lived in Simpson and worked with his brother Charlie who was a blacksmith. One son, Charles Emeril was born at Simpson in 1921. Later, they moved to Broadview; then back to St. Lazare to work for Eugene Fouillard, before finally moving back east to Quebec City. His wife, Alice, passed away in October of 1946 at the Hospital Hotel Dieu Quebec. Emeril died in November, 1962 and is interred in Pont Rouge, Quebec.

Dyck Family

Abraham and Mary Dyck were both born in the Morden area of Manitoba, Abe in June 1889, Mary in August 1894. When they were first married they homesteaded in the ShellBrooke area of Sask. While living there they had two sons. The first one died when John the second son was two months old. After leaving the homestead, they worked out around the Carlton, Waldheim area; clearing land, stooking, and so on. From there they moved to Rush Lake, Sask., and lived there during the first World War. They did a lot of moving around from place to place in their younger years, and in 1921 moved to the St. Lazare area.

Abe, (better known as Dyck), got a job working on the railroad on what was called the Victor section. During the time he worked on the track, he bought a quarter section of land about three and a half miles west of St. Lazare, on what was called the Pumpkin Plains. It was on the road to Welby, a coal chute stop for the trains; now long gone.

They had one horse, and one cow, when they bought the farm. After buying a second horse, Mary plowed up ten acres of land with a 12-inch walking



Abraham Dyck.



Mrs. Mary Dyck.

plow. They almost got burned out a couple of times by prairie fires. After leaving the railroad, Abe stayed with small farming and operating threshing machines in the fall. After several years, his health was not too good and he did not do much in the way of farming, so in the late forties, he sold out to the P.F.R.A. During the time they lived on the farm, there were four more children born, Helen in 1926, Henry 1928, Ann in 1932 and Frank in 1935.

Mary Dyck was well known in St. Lazare. After her husband's ill health, she would walk to town, and do house work for the John Selbys, or Eugene and George Fouillard or other people.

After selling to the P.F.R.A. they moved into the valley about a mile east of town, beside the railroad. In the early fifties they sold everything, and with their son Frank, moved to Powell River, B.C., where the oldest son John lived with his family.

Abe worked on construction while in B.C. and having lived on the flatlands for so long, he did not like the mountains too much. After about two years Abe and Mary moved back to McAuley, Man. Frank stayed in B.C., bought a house, and Abe lived out his days there. He had developed cancer and passed away in the Birtle hospital on October 26th, 1965 at age 76. He was buried in McAuley.

Mary stayed in McAuley for the next three years or so. She then sold her house, and moved to Killarney to be near her daughter, Helen.

On June 7th, 1970, she married Charlie Watson, a widower whom she knew from the old homestead days. They have a comfortable little home in Killarney, and are still capable of looking after themselves.

The Sons and Daughters

John: Went to B.C. in April 1933, at the age of twenty-one. Married in Vernon, B.C. in 1936. Moved to Powell River, B.C. in 1940, and lived there for 37 years. John operated heavy construction equipment most of his working life. Now retired and living near Merritt, B.C. They have a married son in B.C., and a married daughter near Bowsman, Manitoba.

Helen: Has lived in Manitoba all her life. Married Pete Ducharme. They had two sons, and two daughters. They are all married. One son and daughter in Brandon. One daughter in Winnipeg, and the other son in Calgary. Helen has been divorced for several years. She has her own home in Killarney, and does housework for a living.

Henry: Went to B.C. in early 1947. Worked in logging camps, and got into operating heavy equipment. Has been working in the construction industry for many years. He married and has two sons, also married. Their eldest son was killed in a car accident.

Henry and his wife, and both sons live in the Vancouver area.

Ann married Jake Weins and lived at McAuley for some time. From there they moved to Fruitvale, B.C., where Jake was in the construction business. Ann and Jake had one son, who is single and living in Calgary. Ann is now living in Castlegar, B.C. with her second husband.

Frank moved to B.C. with his parents, where he worked as a logger and in construction work. Eventually he bought his own excavating machine and started his own business in the lower mainland area. Frank and his wife have two sons, one married and the other still at home. The family now lives in Kamloops, B.C.

Ebbern, George Joseph (1852-1937) by John Pizzey

George was born at Hallam, Derbyshire England in 1852. His early years were spent at Reston, Sheffield and Buxton. As a young man he was employed at Midland Railway Shops, becoming an engineer on Passenger trains. In 1875 he married Francis Chambers. In the course of ten years, five children were born, George, Thomas, Francis, Elizabeth, Mary.



Ebbern Family: George standing, George, Francis Hannah, Thomas, Francis, Mary (baby), Elizabeth.

Being unemployed due to a railway strike and hearing about good prospects in Canada, they decided to immigrate. The family left Liverpool, England in 1889 on the *Parisian*, of the Allan Line, landing at Quebec City where they boarded a train for Birtle, Man.

They lived in rooms on Main St. until they secured a farm (one half section) that had been homesteaded previously, six miles N.W. of Birtle and three miles S.W. of Foxwarren.

The farm was poor, bushy, stoney and broken up with ravines. The house was a one room slab shack. Water had to be carried from the creek in summer and in winter they melted snow. Snake Creek had steep banks. A bronco named "Ben" was used to haul water; if he was not allowed to go down to the creek in the place he chose he would protest by rearing up on his hind legs. The Dunstan school was across Snake Creek, a mile distant. They paid \$28, twice a year, on the farm; very little grain was raised, and at times what they did get was frozen. A steer was sold for three cents a pound.

Mr. Ebbern was engineer on a steam threshing outfit belonging to a Mr. Absolam of Birtle; he said when meal time came, and not being as good a runner as most of the men, he would get the fireman to blow the whistle for quitting, while he got a head start across the field to the cook house.

Their closest neighbors were the Ridington family. When their home burned down, they were forced to return to England. Mr. Ebbern then rented their farm, and while there a third daughter Annie was born.

A new school was built to replace the old one, which was then used for a granary. A sad accident occurred, when filling it with grain, the floor gave away and Alf Pizzey who was standing in the centre was crushed, and died immediately. Francis Ebbern who was also in the granary was near enough to a window to be able to grab the sill and pull himself free.

From this location the Ebbern's moved to the Binscarth district settling on S.W. 28-18-28 where they had the Post Office. Two more sons were born, Joseph and Harry. Later the family moved to S.E. 17-18-28, where they built a large cement wall house.

In 1919, Mr. and Mrs. Ebbern retired to the village of Binscarth, later moving to live with their son George on N.W. 16-18-28. Mrs. Ebbern passed away in 1933. Mr. Ebbern then went to live with his daughter, Mary and son-in-law Jack Pizzey. Mr. Ebbern passed away in 1937.

Their children:

George: a bachelor, lived on N.W. 16-18-28, passing away 1944. **Thomas:** school Principal — married

Lucy Troop of Burnside. Tom taught in many schools in Manitoba, then later in Winnipeg; **Francis:** married Gertrude Widdicombe — farmed at Wainwright, Alta. **Elizabeth:** married Angus McQuaker at Wainwright, Alta. She taught at Balmerino in 1906 and later moved to Vancouver. **Mary:** married Jack Pizzey in 1908, they lived on S.W. 17-18-28. They had five children — Francis, Dorothy, John, Joseph and Albert. Jack passed away in 1933, Mary continued to live with the family on the farm till 1950, then moved to Binscarth, where she lived till her death in 1969. **Annie:** school teacher — married William Keating a farmer in the Silverton district. **Joseph:** bachelor — served in the Armed Forces in World War I. Later he farmed the South half 28-18-28. He died in 1955. **Harry:** Served overseas in the Armed Forces in World War I. He married Hattie Cockrane of Silverton, where he farmed.

Elliott, Albert and Rose E.

“Bert” son of Samuel and Sarah Elliott was born in 1890 in Devonshire, England. He came to Canada in 1910, arriving in Welby, where he worked for the CNR. After moving to Welwyn, Saskatchewan, he worked for farmers and in a butcher shop until he enlisted in the Army in Winnipeg in 1914. He was discharged in 1916 for medical reasons. After moving to Beausejour, where he bought a butcher shop, he met Roselea Elsie Shaw (Rose). She was the owner and operator of a grocery and confectionery store. Rose was daughter of Joseph and Annie Shaw, early pioneers of Beausejour. After Bert and Rose married in 1918, they sold their business and bought a farm north of Welwyn, where they stayed until 1927. Again, they moved, this time to a farm 9-16-29 in the Beaver Rapids district.



Bert and Rose Elliott, 1967.

They had 4 sons and 5 daughters:

Frances Anne Penland was born in Beausejour on February 7, 1920. The first years of my life I lived with my family north of Welwyn, Saskatchewan. The spring of 1927 we moved to Ellice Municipality where I lived during my school years. The fall of 1927 my brother, Tarlton and I started school. Although we lived in Beaver Rapids school District at this time, all the children were transported to Welwyn school. In the fall of 1938, I went to Winnipeg where I attended Normal school on William Ave. After graduation I accepted a teaching position at Hillsgreen school, south of McAuley, Sept./39. I taught there for a year, then in the fall of 1940 I taught grades III, IV, V in McAuley, I remained there for two years. The summer of 1942 I enlisted in the RCAF (W.D.). I took my training at Rockcliffe, St. Thomas and Trenton, Ontario. After graduation I was posted to Summerside, P.E.I. I remained there until discharge, Dec. 31, 1944. May 24, 1944 I married Joseph Hiram Penland, who was also in the RCAF, in Charlottetown, P.E.I. We lived in Charlottetown for a year. Our first son, Frederick, was born there. Following the end of the war we moved to Vancouver where we lived for a year. Our next move was to Prince Rupert, B.C. In 1950 we moved to Delta, B.C. where we still reside. We have six children — 2 daughters and four sons.

Tarlton Albert, was born in 1921, on a farm north of Welwyn, Sask. After 1927 he went in the Beaver Rapids school-van to Welwyn. During the school holidays he worked for Harry Rose and Wilfred Barkley. Tarlton worked on the community pasture during its construction in 1939. In 1940 he enlisted in the Army at Winnipeg and was stationed at Shilo, Camp Borden and several overseas areas as a driver with the Medical Corps. While overseas he married Mary McQueen. They had one son. In July, 1944, Tarlton was killed while on active service in France. “For your tomorrow, we gave our today.”

Grace Barbara was born in 1923. She took her schooling (public and high school) at Welwyn, and won a scholarship in 1941. That summer to improve her French she worked for Vermette at St. Lazare who owned and operated a cafe and grocery store. She then taught at De Clare school, east of McAuley. In 1942 she joined the RCAF and was discharged in 1945. She began studies at the University of Toronto and graduated in 1950 with a B.A. degree. She married Lewis Murray in 1946. They have six children — two daughters and four sons. Grace still teaches at Base Borden Collegiate Institute and her husband is kept busy looking after Willow Creek Park which they own and operate.

Suref Edwin born August 19, 1924, took all his

schooling at Welwyn, Saskatchewan. He helped on neighboring farms at harvest time during his school years. He left the district in 1943 to join the R.C.A.F. serving as an Aero engine mechanic until his discharge in October 1945. The following year he moved to Regina and worked for the C.P.R. In 1948 he married the former Alice Keast from Coronach, Saskatchewan. They had two sons, Larry and Gregory. In 1955, Ed joined the Regina Fire Department where he worked until November 1975 when he suffered a fatal heart attack. During his years on the Fire Department, he was active in many community organizations having served three years as Sunday School Superintendent, 12 years as the leader of St. James 41st Cub Pack and Scout Troop. At the time of his death he was a trustee of the International Firefighters Association Local 181 and was also a member of the Pension Committee as well as being on the Vestry of St. James Anglican Church and a member of the Regina United Appeal Board. Ed always had a soft spot in his heart for the farm life and had hoped to be able to retire to a small farm, but didn't live to see his dream fulfilled.

Queenie Shaw was born in 1927. She attended school at Welwyn, Saskatchewan. She worked in Calgary as a telephone operator. She later took a hair dressing course in Winnipeg and had a shop in Welwyn until her marriage in 1948 to Frank Collyer, son of Mary and Walter Collyer. They farmed with his father until 1955 when they moved to Killarney, Manitoba, where Frank owns and operates the Esso Service Station, Ford Car Dealership and Massey-Ferguson, New Holland, Versatile and Wil-Rich dealerships. They have three children — two daughters and one son. Nancy born in 1951 is a secretary with the Department of Agriculture. She married David Ross in 1974. They have two children and live in Killarney. Patricia born in 1954, took a secretarial course. She worked at Thompson and Killarney before she married Bruce Turner in 1973. He owns R.B.T. Construction at Killarney. They have three children. Richard, born in 1957, got a degree in engineering at University of Manitoba in Winnipeg. He married Debra MacAuley in 1979. They live in Drayton Valley where he works for Texaco.

William Albert — Bill was born in Ellice in 1929. He farmed with his dad until 1950, then moved to Regina and worked for the C.P.R. He joined the Navy in 1953, trained in Cornwallis, Nova Scotia, and served on the H.M.C.S. Ontario, H.M.C.S. Fortune mine sweeper, and the H.M.C.S. Saguenay destroyer. He visited the foreign ports of San Ticiuse, Long Beach, Hawaiian Islands, Midway Islands, Japan, Hong Kong and Alaska. When Bill was discharged from the Navy, he owned and operated a

grocery and confectionery store in Victoria. He married Janette Robertson in 1956 in Victoria. They have two daughters. Bill's second marriage in 1976 was to Lora Prince. He still enjoys hockey and belongs to a square dance club. He works for Plywood Mills in Victoria.

Josephine Lillian was born on the farm in the Beaver Rapids district in 1931. She took her schooling at Welwyn, Saskatchewan and went to Normal School in Winnipeg. She taught at Jeffery School near Willen, Manitoba and at Cambridge School in Saskatchewan. Josephine married George Taylor in 1949. They have three sons and one daughter. They still reside on their farm in the Old Welwyn District.

Gertrude Rose was born in the Beaver Rapids District in 1936. She took her public and high school in Welwyn. She worked in banks at Welwyn, McAuley, Winnipeg and Wolsley, Saskatchewan. In 1956, Gertrude married Fred Joseph. They have three sons. Gertrude is now teaching at Fort St. John, British Columbia.

Elliot, Lionel Allen

I was born, the youngest son of Albert and Rose Elliott on a very cold seventh day of January, 1938, on the farm at 9-16-29. Due to the location of our farm, in the Beaver Rapids district, we found it better to attend school in Welwyn, Saskatchewan, some seven and a half miles away.

After leaving school I held various jobs including oil field worker and psychiatric nurse. In April of 1959, I started working for the Saskatchewan Power Corporation as a labourer. I am, presently, Superintendent of Customer Relations and Information in Swift Current, Saskatchewan.

I married Adena Birch of Carievale, Saskatchewan in January of 1962. We have three sons — Lee is 18 and planning to enter Dentistry at University in Saskatoon next year. Rob is 16 and in Grade XI; Jeff is 12 and in Grade VII.

Some of my memories of the time I lived in Ellice Municipality were rides to school and back in the dark of winter inside a horse drawn van driven by local people like Bob Rookes, Fred Stewart and Lawrence Byers; and some of the "fun" times when on Saturday night we would head for Welwyn with a team and sled while picking up a load from Rookes and Byers.

Spring was my favorite time of year. The water would run a foot deep through the yard between the barn and the house when the snow started to melt and Beaver Creek would burst its banks. As the water began to recede, we would go to shallow rocky places along the creek and throw jackfish out on the shore with our bare hands. Some of the other "not so

fun" times were the endless rocks to pick by hand and the thousands of gallons of milk that appeared in the pail the hard way.

Ellis, John

John was born in Nova Scotia in 1817. He came to Manitoba in 1881 with two sons, Rupert and Scott, to homestead N.W. ¼ 28-17-28. The claim was filed on Sept. 6, 1881; the adjoining N.E. ¼ was filed on the 29th of June, 1882. He was the first Crewe district postmaster. John had five children — Hannah, who married in the east; Mary who died in Rhode Island; Scott who had a blacksmith shop in Foxwarren; Tom who went to North Dakota, and Rupert, who went to Ellice. John was seventy-nine years old when he died in 1876, and is buried in Zion Cemetery.

Ellis, Rupert

After leaving Nova Scotia, Rupert, aged 21, came to Manitoba to homestead NW¼ of 28-17-28, where he spent all of his short life. He was a builder of sod homes for neighbors, also helping to build Crewe School and Zion Church. He was a good man on snow shoes, second only to his younger brother, Scott. Rupert married Henrietta Gwyer in 1890. They raised a family of seven children, who were all educated at Crewe school. **Lucy** (1890) married Sidney Barker and had three children — George, Martha and Hilda. Sid was a railroader who lived at various points in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. After Sid's death in 1948, she returned to live with her mother for ten years. After her mother's passing, she moved to Saskatoon to live with her daughter. Lucy was very lonely in her later years. She entered a care home, where she died on November 15, 1981. **Bill** (1893) helped on the home farm until he enlisted in the Navy at 21 years of age. He married a Scotch lassie, Mary. They had one daughter, Shelley. Bill was a mechanic for Peerless Laundry in Winnipeg for 18 years, returning to the farm to visit and 'tease'. He died at Deer Lodge Hospital on October 15, 1961, after a short illness. Mary continues to live in Winnipeg. **Scotty** (1896), see Scotty Ellis story. **Dorothy** (1898) better known as Dot, married Tom Green. Tom was a rail-road engineer living in Minnedosa. They had a daughter, Mona. After Tom's passing, Dot worked at Clear Lake for several summers. She lived with her daughter, Mona, where she passed away in June 1962. Dot is buried at Minnedosa, as was her husband, Tom. **Joe** (1900), see Joe Ellis story. **Owen** (Tim) (1903), see Tim's story. **Ruth** (1904) married Jim Bisset and moved to Penticton, B.C., where they raised two boys, Jim Jr. and Bill. Ruth, better known as Tootsie, and Jim retired to Burnaby, B.C.

Ellis, Scott Sr.

Scott, an eighteen-year old, came from Nova Scotia with his father, John. He and his brother, Rupert, built a one-room log house, chinked with mud and grass and with a sod roof, for James Falloon in the fall of 1882. Scott was the fastest man on snowshoes in the district, and went many a mile to get help when neighbors needed a doctor. One story is told of him travelling sixty miles in one day. He was a blacksmith in Foxwarren, where he had a shop. In 1896 he was Mayor of that town. He went to Vancouver, blacksmithing there, until he was in his late seventies. He returned to live on the original homestead. His nephew, Scotty, and his wife, Mae, owned the farm then. Scott Sr., a true pioneer, died on this farm at the age of eighty-three. He is buried at Zion Cemetery with his father, John, and brother, Rupert.



Scotty and Mae Ellis, 1967.

Ellis, Scotty

Scotty (1896) farmed the homestead for roughly 24 years. During this time, after an elopement, a marriage took place in Feb. 1924, between Scotty and Mae Lamb, daughter of another pioneer family in the district. Scotty had been in World War I before this, where he had been decorated for bravery in the field. After he left the service, Scotty worked for C.N.R. before he used his veteran's benefits to settle the old Ellis homestead that his father had owned. (Scotty purchased the farm from the estate of Rupert Ellis.) He and Mae lived on the NW½ 28-17-28 until 1942, when he sold it to his younger brother, Tim, to keep it in the family. On this homestead, he and Mae raised five children. **Glenis** today lives in Salinas, California, with her husband, Milton Bard. **Melvin**

after finishing high school, went to Texas in 1945 to study Aeronautical Engineering. He married a Shoal Lake girl, Alice Spraggs, in 1955. They had two girls, Carolyn and Kathryn. Mel continued his Air Force career until 1966, when he was killed in action in Vietnam. Alice lives in Denver, Colorado. **Donald** married Orvie Kirvan in 1957, having articled to an Accounting firm in B.C., and having received his C.A. degree from the University of Manitoba. He and Orvie have one daughter, Elizabeth. **Wilmer** (Bill) finished high school in Winnipeg, before going to Calgary to attend Mount Royal College. There he met Gwen Rudolph and married her in August, 1959. Gwen and Bill have two children, Robert Melvin (1969) and Susanne Mae (1972). **Burton** after finishing high school attended the University of Manitoba where he earned a degree in Electrical Engineering. He met and married Ann Padden in 1958. After working for Allis Chalmers, he now owns his own automotive service and repair business in Oakville, Ont. Ann and Burt have three children, Dawn Elizabeth, Scott Gordon and Maralyn Louise.

Scotty not only farmed while living in Ellice, during 1928-38, but owned a gravel crusher. While he had this machine, he gravelled Ellice municipal roads and numerous others stretching from Melville, Sask. to Gladstone, Man. As a winter project in 1930

he had his crusher at Shellmouth. They gravelled the road from Russell to Roblin. Two hundred men, that were supplied meals, tents for accommodation, and work clothes, were employed. Scotty gravelled at Hamiota, hiring young men from the Crewe district to wheel gravel to the crusher using wheelbarrows. These laborers were paid 25¢ an hour, truck drivers received 10¢ a mile. Some of these truckers were Melvin Graham, John and Lennie Falloon, Bill Gwyer and Tim, a brother. Scotty was a man who demanded hard work and long hours, but he paid well. He had a transfer that ran from Rossburn to Winnipeg. The end of this project came when he upset his big truck, losing the load of cattle and the vehicle. Scotty and Melvin Graham purchased an International combine and worked together. After selling his crusher, he purchased a "Cat". He did road work with this machine, putting a v-plough on the front of it to open roads in winter. In 1939 he loaded the "Cat" on a flat car at St. Lazare and shipped it to Prince George, B.C. where it was used in the building of air strips.

When Scotty and Mae left the area, many friends attended a farewell party for them. They moved to Winnipeg, then Vancouver and finally Penticton to retire in the mild climate of the Okanagan Valley. Mae died there in March, 1971. Scotty married Eleanor Thomas in 1974. In November of that year, he suffered a fatal heart attack.

Ellis, Joseph

Joe was born in the R.M. of Ellice, September 22, 1900, to Rupert and Henrietta Ellis. He worked at road building, gravel jobs, C.N.R., Ben Fouillards, and started farming in 1931. He married Elizabeth Lavinia McAuley, from McAuley on January 9, 1930. 'Bessie' passed away October 8, 1970 at age 62. They raised eight children. **Bruce Bennett** was born at St. Lazare, 1930. The next year the family moved to the McQuay farm 5-18-28, and in 1951 to N.E. 7-18-27. Bruce married Geraldine Hall, November 10, 1956. They have three children. Frances married Russell Blellock of Birtle where they reside; James Norman is employed at the Birtle Credit Union and Margaret is attending High School in Birtle. Bruce purchased the homestead farm of Dick Tibbatts in 1961. **Marjorie Georgina** (1931) worked for the Manitoba Telephone System before marrying Morgan Kelso of Roblin. They have three children, Clarence (1957) and Evelyn (1963), employed in Winnipeg, and Thomas (1966) still at school. **George Rupert** (1932) attended Foxwarren School and married Dorothy Low of Foxwarren. George is employed with Manitoba Hydro and they live in Winnipeg. Their family consists of Marilyn



Scotty Ellis Family: Standing: Melvin. 2nd Row: Donald and Burton. Front: Glenis and Bill.

(1954) who married James Nevin and lives at Edmonton; Glen (1955) who is employed in Winnipeg, Carol (1964) at college and Cathy Lee (1956) who passed away at 20. **Dorothy Enid** (1934) after finishing school was employed with Manitoba Telephone System. She married Ronald Stewart, a farmer at Birtle, and they have four children, Karen Mary (1952) married Danny Workman, a Solsgirth farmer, in 1970. Their children are Cari-Anne (1975) and Patrick Ronald (1980). Donna Jane (1954) married William (Bill) Stewart, a Foxwarren farmer, in 1973. Donna is a nurse at Russell. David Ronald (1959) completed an electronic course at A.C.C. Brandon. He married Gwen Black in 1979 and they have a daughter, Roxanne Michelle and live at Yorkton. Rhonda Lynn (1964) is taking Accounting at A.C.C. Brandon. **Kenneth Joseph** (1939) is employed with the Royal Bank in Winnipeg. He married Beverly Tibbatts in 1962 and they had three children, Teresa Lynn (1966), Judy Kathline (1969) and a son, who died in infancy. **Russell Dennis** (1941) is employed with Manitoba Pool Elevators at Reston. He married Ivy Hoffman of Birtle. They have three daughters, Michelle Ann (1968), Christine Mary (1969) and Candace Elizabeth (1972). **Gordon Scott** (1943) a farmer at Foxwarren married Joan Cooley in 1965. They have four children, Bonnie Lynn (1967), Brian William (1970), Connie Elizabeth (1971) and Nelson Scott (1973). **Garth William** (1951) employed in Winnipeg, married Laurali Bezo of Inglis in 1971. They have two sons, Kevin James (1973) and Trevor Garth (1975).

Ellis, Owen (Tim)

Owen was born January 4, 1903. He was raised on the N.W. 1/2 of 28-17-28. He took his schooling at the Crewe school. As a young man he worked on the C.N.R. for nine years. As a labourer at Hubbard Sask., he went threshing with Jack Johnston and Jack Mitchell. He farmed with his brother Scotty for a while, then for nine years with his uncle, Owen Gwyer. Tim married Annie Yule September 30, 1933. Annie had been raised on a farm in the Newdale district and took her schooling at Newdale. She later worked as domestic help at Minnedosa, Newdale and Winnipeg. After their marriage they farmed the Dan Sutherland land for four years, then they moved north of Foxwarren and worked for Melvin Graham for the going wage of \$20 a month. They moved to Willen, Manitoba and farmed there for four years. In 1943 they bought the home farm from Scotty and moved back to where Tim had been born and raised. They continued to farm for 35 years. They raised their family of three there. Doreen their eldest daughter had five children, and is now employed as a secretary in Calgary. Their son Dale, who

as a youth spent a year and a half in the Navy, is now married and has two sons. He lives at Taber, Alberta where he works for an oil company. Dianne their youngest, lives on the home farm with her husband Don Falloon and three children.

While on the farm Tim and Annie raised their two granddaughters, Anna-Marie who is married and lives at Oakville with her husband and small son. This son is their first great grandchild. Kathy works and lives at Le Pas.

In November, 1978 Tim and Annie retired to Brandon where they now reside. Annie was a member of the Rebecca Lodge and Tim was a great hockey fan! He still enjoys this sport today. The house they lived in when they returned to the home farm was an Aladdin home. It was pre-cut and came in a boxcar to St. Lazare, all ready to be assembled. This was some time between 1914-18. In the spring of 1962 with the help of family and neighbors they tore the top off the old house and under the supervision of George Barker of Binscarth they remodelled it and added on a new piece. This is where Don and Dianne live today.

Fafard, Donald et Thérèse

Thérèse, née le 4 juillet, 1939, fille de Placide Prescott et Lucienne Huberdeau, la dernière de dix enfants. J'ai fréquenté l'école de Saint Lazare jusqu'à ma onzième année, pendant lesquelles j'ai pensionné au couvent pour dix de mes années scolaires.

J'ai mariée Donald Fafard en 1959 et nous demeurons à Ste. Marthe depuis, sur une ferme de laiterie et grain. Nous avons cinq filles et un garçon: Jocelyne (22), Della (20), Hélène (19), Monique (18), Lorraine (16) et Yvan (9).

Fafard, Donald and Therese

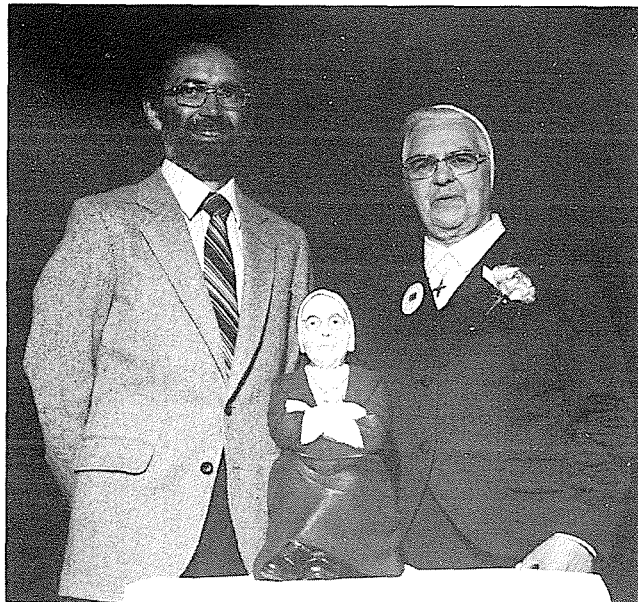
Born on July the fourth, 1939, daughter of Placide Prescott and Lucienne Huberdeau, I, Therese am the youngest of ten children. I went to St. Lazare school for eleven years, ten of them spent as a boarder at the convent. I married Donald Fafard in 1959 and we live on a farm in Ste. Marthe, Saskatchewan. We have a mixed farm-operation. Our children are Jocelyne 22, Della 20, Helene 19, Monique 18, Lorraine 16, and Yvan 9.

Fafard, Joe

"Joey" was born at Ste. Marthe in Sept. 1942. He went to high school in St. Lazare and attended the University of Manitoba, and Pennsylvania Fine Arts Institute. He graduated to become a professor at the Regina University. Joey now lives in Pense, about 20 miles from Regina, with his wife Susan and children Joel, Misha, Joe and Gina in a rambling three-storey house. This is a perfect location for observing the

day-to-day life of the community. Working in this environment to provide the right subjects and atmosphere for his delightful rural ceramic sculptures, Joey has achieved his dream — a setting for work that brings him great satisfaction. He has created the soft faded denims and cottons worn by his subjects using acrylic paints, supplemented by commercial glazes. He uses a white clay talc to create his subjects. All pieces are fired in his 1,000-degree Centigrade electric kiln in his studio. When he finds a subject he wants to create in clay, Joey memorizes the features, and often takes a photograph to keep the features fresh in his mind. He is then ready to create a personality for his collection.

Joey has exhibited in Paris, in many points in the United States, and in most principal cities in Canada. Truly, an artist! St. Lazare, and especially, the R.M. of Ellice, is proud to claim Joey as one of their own.



Joey Fafard with statue of Sr. Anastasie, made for the 50th Anniversary of the Presentation of Mary — a gift to Sr. Anastasie.

Fafard, Philip and Eugenie (nee Chartier)

Philip was born on his parents farm in Ste. Marthe, Sask. on Dec. 9, 1940. His parents, Leo (deceased 1970) and Julienne (nee Cantin) had a family of twelve. Eugenie (Whiz) was born in Birtle Hospital on Dec. 10, 1943, the daughter of Reginald and Jeanne (nee Huberdeau) Chartier, who had a family of eleven. Married in St. Lazare R.C. Church on May 20, 1963, Phil and Whiz moved to Regina, where Philip was employed by the R.C.M.P. The family moved back to St. Lazare in 1968, and Phil started work at Fouillard's G.M. Garage.



Phil Fafard Family: Gisèle, Junior, Perry, Zita, Eve, Whiz, Phil and Gabby.

Presently employed as a buyer for the Potash Corp. of Sask. at the Rocanville mine site, Philip and family own and reside in a house on Fouillard Ave. Whiz has been working part time for years, and is presently working at Bob's Snack Bar.

Phil and Whiz have six children. The eldest, Giselle, born May, 1964, attended elementary school in St. Lazare, and High School at River Academy in Prince Albert. Graduating in 1982, she is presently becoming a journalist. Giselle is at the same time working as a page in the House of Commons. Philip, (Junior), born November 1965, attended elementary school in St. Lazare, and is in Grade XII attending Athol Murray College of Notre Dame at Wilcox. Perry, born Feb. 1967, attended elementary school in St. Lazare and is a grade X student at Athol Murray



Giselle Fafard with M. P. Charlie Mayer (Giselle is a page in the House of Commons).

College of Notre Dame. Zita, born April 1969 (Easter Sunday) is a grade VIII student at St. Lazare Junior High School. Eve, born September 1974, is a grade III student in St. Lazare Elementary School. Gabrielle, born September 1976, is a grade I student in St. Lazare Elementary School.

The family's involvement in the community revolves mostly around sports, with Phil coaching hockey and baseball and Junior and Perry very active in both. Giselle was active in figureskating and swimming. The three younger girls have shown athletic interest also. Whiz, as well as the children, have been involved for years in the 4-H and Scout movements.

Falloon, James — 1846-1922

Falloon, Mary Scott — 1857-1939

by Lois Falloon

The Falloon family can trace its history back to the 1690's when King William of Orange, at the Battle of the Boyne, gained control of Northern Ireland. He rewarded his soldiers with grants of land and one of these grants was to a Falloon. This was at Balleylaney, County Armagh. About 1750 one of the Falloons of this family purchased land at Bush, near Dungannon, County Tyrone. It was from that family that James Falloon descended. The house in which he was born in County Tyrone is still occupied by a Falloon, his nephew George.

James Falloon's background was two centuries of ownership of land and of farming. By the 1870's times were very difficult in Ireland, obviously he

would never own land there, so, in 1875, he immigrated to Canada.

He came first to Toronto where he drove a 'horse street-car' on Yonge Street; then he worked on the C.P.R. construction between North Bay and Winnipeg. There he left the C.P.R. and got a job in a brickyard.

He saved his money and sent home to County Tyrone for Mary Scott. She and her sister Sarah (Mrs. Redmond) came from Coalisland, County Tyrone, Northern Ireland, by ship to New York, then by rail to Minneapolis and by stagecoach and river boat to Winnipeg.

James Falloon and Mary Scott were married in Holy Trinity Anglican Church, November 29, 1880.

The next year, 1881, James was ready to take the next step towards the fulfillment of his dream to be a land owner and farmer — to take advantage of the Canadian Government offer of 160 acres of land, free to a settler who would live on it and farm it.

Early that spring he and four other young Irishmen set out from Brandon by team and sleigh, travelled west, crossed the Assiniboine at Fort Ellice and, in what was to become the Ellice Municipality, they selected their homesteads.

James Falloon chose S.W. 10-18-28, and the next spring he, Mary, their new baby, Samuel James, and a load of settler's effects (three cows, some chickens, a plough, sleigh, wagon and a team of oxen) came by train to Moosomin and then by ox cart to their new home, a one-room house built of logs, chinked with mud and grass and with a sod roof. In 1884 James

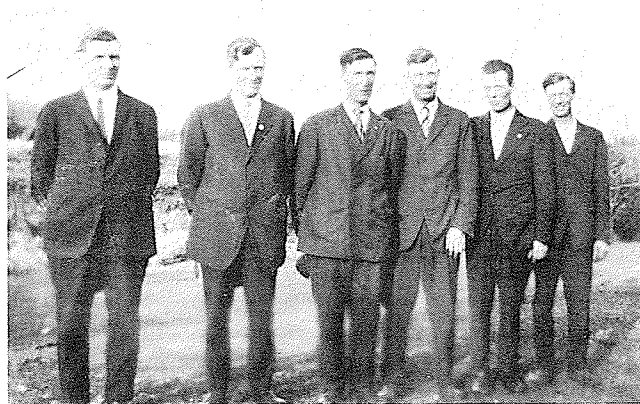


James Falloon Family. Back Row: George, Arthur, Elmer Milne, Bert, Sam. Front: Jack, Sissy, James, Sadie, Hazel, Mother, Len, Ella.

Falloon marketed his first crop. It had been sown and flailed by hand and amounted to half a wagon box of grain. In 1890 the Falloons purchased N. 32-17-25. The higher land with better drainage appealed to them. They built a larger house, but still a log house. In 1898 the stone house, known to the family to this day as 'The Hill', was built and became the Falloon home. In Ellice Municipality, James Falloon achieved his ambition to become a land owner and a farmer. In 1906, when the four eldest sons, Sam, Arthur, George and Bert formed Falloon Brothers Incorporated and took over management of the farms, he owned sixteen quarter sections.

Over one hundred years ago a dream of farming his own land brought a young Irishman to Canada, to this province, and this municipality. Since then, in the district that he chose as a home; his six sons have farmed. Six grandsons and four great-grandsons are, or have been farmers. The Falloon family presently farms eight and a quarter sections of land in Ellice Municipality and one section in neighboring Birtle Municipality.

Building a home was not the only project of those early days. They also built a community. In 1888



Falloon Bros. Sam, Arthur, George, Bert, Jack and Lennie.

James Falloon was a prime mover in building the first church in the area — Zion Methodist Church. He was on the first board of the church. In 1889 he was instrumental in having a school built in the community — Crewe School, across the road from **The Hill**. The first Post Office, Crewe, was in the stone house and he was the first postmaster.

Falloon, Mary Scott

Mary, born in Coalisland, County Tyrone, Northern Ireland, lived the hard life of the prairie pioneer homemaker. She bore 14 children in the years 1882-1900 (only with the last one was a doctor in attendance) three died in infancy and two as teenagers. Two sons served overseas in World War I. We

cannot admire too much pioneer women like Mary who coped so magnificently. She had her babies and brought them up in, what we would consider, a log shack. It was not until 1898 that the stone house was built and she had a good home. She buried five of her children, worried about two who were in the trenches in France. She fought prairie fires that almost wiped out her home and family. She faced angry Indians and Metis during the Riel Rebellion. Those who remember her, remember a tall woman, cheerful, humorous, a mother whose children were devoted to her. In 1919, when Arthur's wife died she moved to his home and with her youngest daughter, Hazel, managed his household until her death in 1939. My last memory of my grandmother, Mary Scott, was the first Sunday in September, 1939. The family members were listening to the war news on radio, the sinking of the Athenia, the first tragic event of World War II. She was rocking gently as she listened, then, she said quietly, "I don't want to live through another one." A month later, I came home for her funeral. The James and Mary Falloon family who grew to adulthood were Sam, Arthur, George, Bert, Saidie (Mrs. T. A. Wilson), Jack, Eleanor (Mrs. Freeman Lamb), Leonard and Hazel.

The family histories of Sam, Arthur, George, Bert, Jack and Leonard and Hazel are written below. Eleanor will be found in the Lamb history.

Saidie: married Arthur Wilson of Birtle, June 16, 1920. They farmed for several years, then moved to Birtle to take over the business of printing the Birtle Eye-Witness when Arthur's father, E. J. Wilson retired. They had two sons, Wilbur and Averd. Wilbur is a diamond-driller by trade and is married to Marion (Wallace) Brackner. Averd was killed overseas while serving with the R.C.A.F. during the second world war. Saidie died March 28, 1962 and Arthur, September 16, 1977.

Falloon, Samuel James Nicholas — 1882-1973

Falloon, Fannie Elizabeth Burdett — 1884-1971

Sam, born in Winnipeg, went with his parents to their homestead when he was a few weeks old. He lived his life in Ellice Municipality until his retirement in 1946 when he moved to the village of Fox-warren.

In his nearly 92 years he saw farming develop from the days when he watched his parents, James and Mary, sow their crop by hand and flail it in the fall, until the 1970's when he watched the big modern machinery operated by his sons and grandsons. Sam Falloon's talents were machinery and carpentry. He used to say "I was always better with my hands." In

1899, at the age of 17, the Falloons purchased their first binder and he assembled it, including, a very intricate twine knotter. In 1903 he was the operator of a Port Huron steam threshing outfit. Old timers long remembered watching Sam unload this steam engine and separator off a flat car onto the platform at Foxwarren and driving it home. We have pictures of seven binders in one field, the lead binder driven by Sam. If a binder broke down the driver simply pulled out of line and waited until Sam came around. He would pull out and repair the broken-down binder. In 1907 Sam was preparing for his wedding, planned for January, 1908. The lumber for a new house had been delivered, the carpenters had arrived. The next morning Sam realized the frost had been very heavy. As he examined his crop he knew he would not harvest one bushel that fall. He dismissed the carpenters and, broken hearted, went to town to tell the lumber agent he would have to return the lumber. The agent said the frost had been so general he could not sell the lumber, so would give him a year to pay for it. Sam, with no harvest to do, built his own house. It was enlarged and a brick veneer added in 1913. The third generation of the family, Ted, Ev and three children, now live in that house. The interior has been remodelled several times, but it is still, basically, the house Sam built in 1907.

In 1949, he was "carpenter-in-charge" when the Foxwarren rink was built. His grandchildren remember the unique swings and other wooden toys he made for them. Sam Falloon served on the Ellice Municipal Council, and was a school trustee when Foxwarren Consolidated School was built. He was responsible for the addition of Grade XII to the Foxwarren Highschool in 1927. He was a member of the I.O.O.F. and had received his 55-year service pin. He was on the Board of Stewards of Zion and Westminster Churches.

Rural electrification came to Ellice and Foxwarren districts in 1945. Selection of this district as one of two trial areas to receive electricity that year was due in great part to the efforts of Sam. In addition he handled the ordering and distribution of materials for wiring and worked at the wiring of homes.

The man that was Sam Falloon is best described in the obituary written by his brother-in-law, T. A. Wilson for the Birtle Eye-Witness at the time of his death.

A Tribute to a Pioneer

Samuel James Nicholas Falloon passed away November 19, 1973, at Russell Personal Care Home and following a service conducted by Rev. Burton in Westminster Church in Foxwarren, interment was made among others of the family in Zion Cemetery.



Harvesting in 1912 — 7 Binders — Falloon Bros.

How can words assess a lifetime of such a remarkable man whose years spanned the whole gamut of time in this prairie land, from the flail to the most modern of methods. And in every phase of the transitions, Sam Falloon was a promoter and a pioneer. A very limited schooling did not deter his determination to master each problem as it presented itself and to become a craftsman in each undertaking, with pride of accomplishment in his work.

This writer has watched as he adjusted his home built bench saw, not satisfied till the cut was paper thin, and, passing the rink heard his comment "that roof has never sagged an inch". Sam learned his carpentry early. The huge barn was built at the turn of the century and hauling timbers from the Riding Mountains meant overnight camping by the winter roadside. The Ontario-style framing was without nails and it fell to Sam to have the cutting and boring of timbers exact for the oak dowels.

His record is not his alone — it was for over sixty years with the aid and comfort of Fannie Burdett, a helpmate in the fullest sense; with the loyal backing of brothers and sisters and leavening influence of a wonderful mother. In addition to all these there was the venue of a receptive community.

Nor was it always sunshine. There were desperately cold winter days in tents during the railway building through St. Lazare; three and four day trips to Riding Mountain for timbers for the big barn; there was a wedding in prospect with a house to build and the crop a total loss overnight from frost. All these Sam accepted as far as they affected him, but the "dirty thirties" was something else. A whole community was being dispossessed of their homes and savings.

The rank inequity of a social system which thus penalized the producers of that which sustained life itself for a larger community raised the ire of red-headed Irish Sam Falloon and he went to battle with a society which had failed to protect the basic producers of Canadian wealth.

Sam Falloon has passed on, but a lasting memorial remains. It can be seen in the rolling lands of Crewe in summer; in greening drill rows in spring, running true as far as sight; heard in the hum of the harvesting machines of fall, and seen in winter in every evergreen-enclosed farmstead, and his memorial will be carried to future generations as they make progress in faith and sober virtue.

Falloon, Fannie Elizabeth (Burdett)

Daughter of Cheney and Elizabeth Burdett, was born in the Burdett district east of Birtle. She moved with her family to Pumpkin Plains and then to Crewe in Ellice Municipality. January 28, 1908, she married

next-door-neighbor, Sam Falloon and moved just two miles to her new home. Fannie and Sam celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. Fannie always took an active part in community affairs. She was a Life Member of the Women's Institute, a Life Member of the Women's Missionary Society, a Charter Member of Prudence Rebekah Lodge, an active member of the United Church Women's Association and of Zion and later Westminster United Churches. As a community worker and good neighbor she had few equals. She was the first on hand to help anyone in trouble. Her family used to tease her that more cakes, pies, and roast chickens left the house for some community affair than were ever eaten at home! The Sam and Fannie Falloon family consisted of Lois, Douglas, Maurice and Beryl.

Falloon, Lois

Lois was born on the family farm in Ellice Municipality, received her Grade XII at Foxwarren High School and a B.A. from the University of Manitoba. She taught school for eleven years at one-room Ellice School, the high school in Ridgeville, Gilbert Plains, and Killarney. From 1942 to 1944 she worked in a war plant in Montreal. She then joined the firm of Zeller's Ltd. where she spent 28 years in an executive position in the Personnel Department.

She lived 30 years in Montreal and in 1980, she moved to Winnipeg to be near members of her family.

Falloon, Douglas Arthur

Douglas was born on his parents' farm, four miles west of Foxwarren in 1913. He received all of his education in the Foxwarren school and lived most of his life in that district. In 1936, he married Betty Gardham of Arrow River and they lived in various places in the Crewe District until 1944, when they purchased the farm on section 35-17-28. Here they built a new home in 1961 and farmed there until they retired to the village of Foxwarren in 1976. In 1977, Douglas was presented with a plaque and a gold watch by the community in appreciation of twenty-five years of service on the Foxwarren and Birdtail River School Boards. They raised four children: **Shirley**, after teaching school for a number of years, married Drillon Beaton in 1964. They live and farm in the Elphinstone district. **Donald**, married Dianne Ellis in 1961 and they farm six miles west of Foxwarren. They have three children, Bill, Neil, and Lori. **Ronald**, married Diane Talbot in 1967; they are living on the home farm and have two children: Jill and Patrick. Diane is presently teaching in Birtle Collegiate. **Janet** after attending Brandon University, married David Gervin in 1969, and they farm in the

Goodlands district. They have two children, Garry and Sam.

Falloon, Don and Dianne

Don is a great grandson of James Falloon, one of the first pioneer families in the Crewe district. He was raised on a farm in this district by his parents Doug and Betty Falloon. He received his education at Foxwarren school. On August tenth, 1961 he married Dianne Ellis. Her great grandfather John Ellis arrived in this district in 1881, another of the first pioneers. Dianne was raised on the farm that was homesteaded by her great grandfather; her parents were Tim and Annie Ellis. She was also educated at Foxwarren. Since their marriage they have farmed in this district. They have three children, Bill, Neil and Lori. Over the years there was never a dull moment as the children were involved in hockey, figure skating and 4-H. Don and Dianne also enjoy helping with community projects, as it helps pass the winter months. The boys Bill and Neil went to Foxwarren elementary school and both graduated from Birtle Collegiate, Bill in 1980 and Neil 1982. Lori is presently taking her grade VII at Foxwarren. Bill is employed with Cactus drilling company at Taber, Alberta. He is a motorman on their oil rig. Neil is employed at Foxwarren Esso Service. He is apprenticing as a auto mechanic. Both boys enjoy helping on the farm when they have time off. Lori also helps out when things are busy. Their family farm is the N.½ 28-17-28. This farm received the century farm award in 1982 as it had been in the same family — the Ellis family for 100 years.

Falloon, Maurice Edward

Maurice was born and raised on SE¼ 10-18-28, which was the pre-emption quarter of the original homestead of his grandfather, James, taken out in 1881. He attended Foxwarren School and for some years helped his father on the farm. He worked in the gold mines at Red Lake, Ontario, for two years and in 1942 joined the R.C.A.F. where he trained as a pilot and graduated as Pilot Officer. After completing a tour of operations in the Transport Squadron over Burma, he received his discharge when war ended and returned to the farm at Foxwarren. In April, 1944, he married Lillian Moxham of Birtle. Lillian had taken her schooling at Birtle, graduated from Success Business College and spent the war years with the Civil Service in Ottawa, working as an accountant in the Central Pay Office of the Treasury Department. Maurice and Lil raised three children: **Edward Garnet (Ted)** who is farming with his dad and also operating Birtle Motor products, a General Motors agency. He married Evelyn Smith of Bran-

don and they have three children, Christopher, Jane and Jamie (twins). **Mary Louise** is married to Carey Lorraine; they have three children, Jason, Clayton and Brian, and live in Winnipeg. **Linda May** is married to John Kort; they have two children, Greta and Peter and also live in Winnipeg. They belong to the Anglican Church in Foxwarren, Maurice belongs to the Legion and Lil to the Order of the Eastern Star. Maurice served as Councillor for the R.M. of Ellice and on the Birtle Hospital Board. They both enjoy living in this community and look forward to many more years of farming and watching the grandchildren grow.

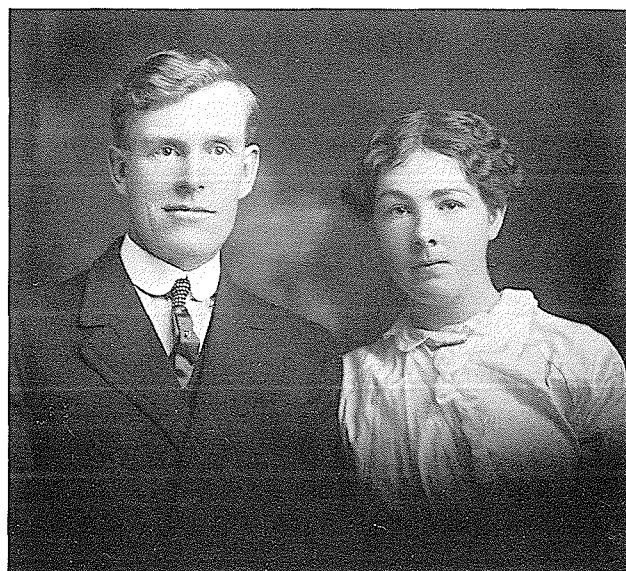
Falloon, Beryl

Beryl (Fallis) was born in Ellice Municipality, educated in Foxwarren High School and Angus Business College. She worked as a secretary at the Winnipeg Electric Company and on November 7, 1953 married Kenneth Fallis, a civil engineer with Manitoba Hydro.

Beryl and Ken have a family of four — Garth, David, and twins, Karen and Lynn. All are interested in sports, both as spectators and participants. Karen and Lynn were on the rink that won the Manitoba Provincial Girls' Curling Championship in 1980. In 1981 with Karen skipping and Lynn playing lead they won the Manitoba Provincial and Canadian Girls' Curling Championships. In 1983 they will represent Manitoba curling in the Canada Winter Games.

Falloon, Arthur and Edna Gertrude (Cline)

Arthur was born October 29, 1883. He was the son of James Falloon and Mary Jane Scott, early pioneers who had emigrated from County Tyrone in



Arthur and Edna Falloon, 1914.

Northern Ireland. They selected and homesteaded the land five miles west of Foxwarren, SW 10-18-28. This farm still owned and operated by their descendants, was presented with a Manitoba Century Farm Award Certificate in 1982 and proudly displays a Century Farm Gate sign. Arthur inherited his love of the land at an early age from his parents and in 1912, SW 10-18-28 became his own to farm and he also farmed a half section to the south — the N½ 3-18-28. He also became interested in Shorthorn cattle and he and his brothers, Bert and George were the first in this area to purchase these cattle.

On December 16, 1914 he married Edna Gertrude, daughter of Peter Cline and Harriet Ann Huston of Belmont, Manitoba. Edna boarded with Mr. and Mrs. Falloon in the stone house on the hill and she was the new school teacher at Crewe School.

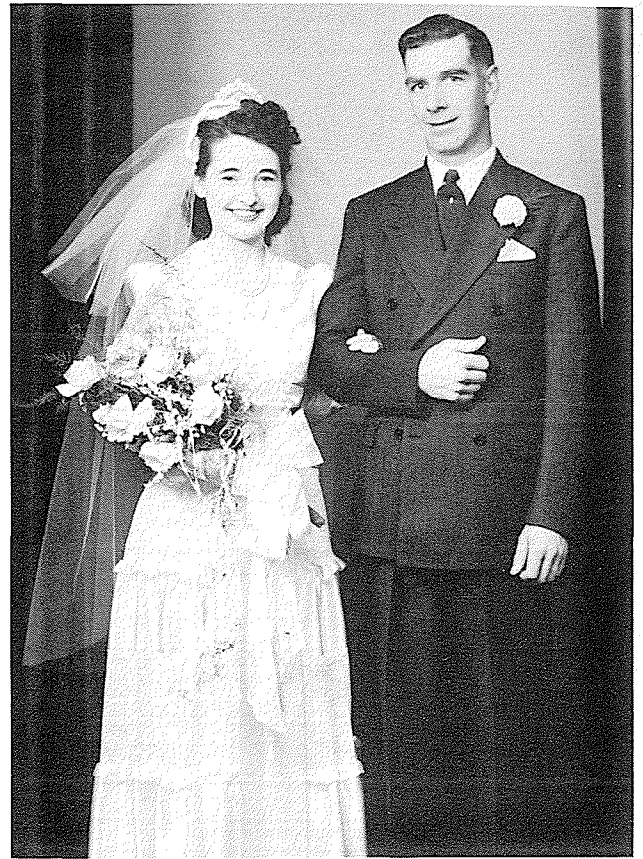
Arthur and Edna's home was built in the summer of 1914 across the road from the original Falloon homestead site. They were blessed with one son, Vernon Russell, born April 5, 1917. In the early spring of 1919 when the terrible flu epidemic was raging everywhere, Arthur was the first in the family to fall sick with the plague. At this time, Edna was expecting her second child, and Vernon was not quite two years old. She tried her best to care for her sick husband as no other help was available. The task proved too great and she was overcome with the dreaded illness. On March 26, 1919 at the age of 23 years, she died along with her new baby. Edna was buried with her infant daughter in Zion Cemetery — a few miles southeast of their home.

Being a close-knit type of family, Arthur's mother and his sister, Hazel, left the stone house on the hill to live with Arthur and Vernon. Arthur's home was the gathering place for many happy family picnics and also for christenings. Grandma Falloon lived there until her death October 26, 1939 at the age of 82. Hazel stayed on a few more years and then found employment and made her home in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Arthur and his son Vernon, later hired a housekeeper, an elderly lady by the name of Clara McRostie from Russell. She stayed with them until 1948.

Arthur never re-married. His interests were in being a good farmer and raising and showing prize Shorthorn cattle. He died July 13, 1945 at the age of 61. He was buried beside his wife at Zion Cemetery.

Falloon, Vernon Russell

Vernon Russell, only child of Arthur Falloon and Edna Cline was born April 5th, 1917 on the family farm NW 3-18-28. His father, grandmother and aunt Hazel raised him, as his mother passed away before he was two years old. Vernon received all his educa-



Ollie and Vernon Falloon.

tion in Foxwarren, graduating from Grade XII there. Vernon always wanted to farm, inheriting his love of the land from his parents and grandparents and an even greater love for his purebred Shorthorn cattle. The Falloons were great "show people", and Vernon was showing his first calf at the Brandon Winter Fair when he was only ten years old. In 1927 this was quite an achievement. In November of 1936 Vernon and his cousin, Garnet Falloon, represented the Sols-girth Beef Calf Club at the inter-provincial Club Competition at the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto, taking top honors as a team in the finals. In his younger days, he played baseball and hockey for the Crewe team. They used Eatons Catalogues for shin pads for hockey in those days. He enjoyed curling as well.

After his father's death in 1945, Vernon carried on with the family farm — the third generation to farm SW 10-18-28. At the age of 26, he was elected to the Council of the R.M. of Ellice representing Ward 5, serving for three years. He served again as Reeve in 1953, and resigned in 1956 due to ill health. In 1961 he again served as Reeve until his death in 1966. He showed cattle at the various fairs and at the Toronto Royal winning top prizes, and he was also a noted cattle judge. He was a firm supporter and dedicated 4-H leader. He was past president of the Cattle

Breeders Association and past president of the Manitoba Shorthorn Club. He was a director on the board of the United Grain Growers and Vice President on the original board of the Manitoba Crop Insurance Corporations. He served on the board of the Birtle and District Hospital, worked on the committee to build the new rink in Foxwarren and he was president of the Foxwarren Fat Stock Show.

On November 11, 1948 in Binscarth, he married Olive Lucille, daughter of Mary Helen Verlin and the late Charles Raymond Collinson. "Ollie's" father passed away in 1935 in The Pas. Ollie received her education in Convents in The Pas and Sifton as well as at Cranberry Portage. She began working in the Royal Bank at Flin Flon and then Binscarth, where she met Vernon. Her mother remarried and she and her husband John Knowles lived in a house on the Falloon farm. Mr. Knowles died in 1973 and his wife in 1975. They are both buried in Zion Cemetery.

Vernon and Olive were blessed with six children:

Russell Arthur, born June 1, 1950, attended school in Foxwarren, Birtle and Russell. In 1979 he married Joanne Marie Woroneski of Russell. They have two sons — Freeman Troy and Sean Russell. The Falloons still live at Fort McMurray, Alberta and Russell has his own business there, namely Falloon Construction.

Carol Lucille: (August 1952) attended school in Foxwarren, Birtle and Russell and is a graduate of Brandon University. She began her teaching career in Inglis, and then taught for a number of years in Major Pratt Collegiate in Russell. In 1973, Carol and Gordon Edward Jones of Russell, were married. Gordon owns and operates Russell Auto. They have one daughter, Stacy Leigh.

Karen Lois: (April, 1956) attended school in Foxwarren, Birtle and Russell and is also a graduate of Brandon University. She began her teaching career at Melita, and then went on to teach at Estevan, Saskatchewan. Karen married Brent Petterson in Foxwarren in 1982. Brent is a surveyor and he works on the family farm in Estevan.

Lyle Vernon: born April 12, 1962. When he was two years old, tragedy struck the family and on May 21, 1964, he drowned in the family farm dugout. He is buried in Zion Cemetery.

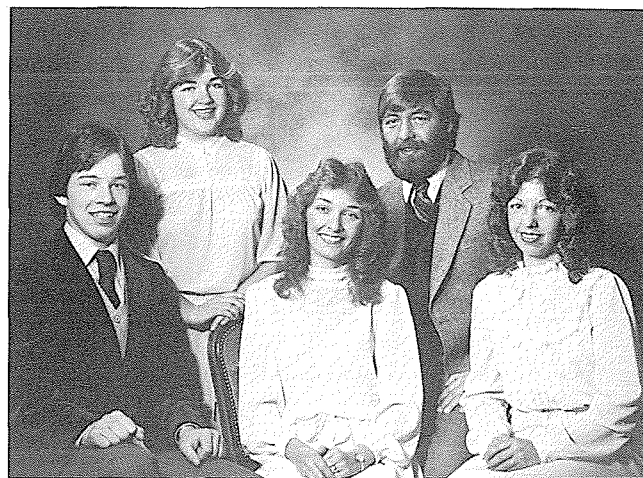
Glynis Elaine: (May 1964) She received her education in Binscarth and Russell, and attended College in Trois Rivières, Quebec, for the summer of 1982. She is presently enrolled at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg.

Vernon Garnet: (April, 1966) He attended school at Binscarth and Russell and in 1982 is attending Athol Murray Notre Dame College in Wilcox, Saskatchewan. Vernon plans to farm.

Vernon Sr., passed away January 17, 1966 in Winnipeg, and is buried in Zion Cemetery. He was 47 years old.

For eleven years, the family managed on the farm, and then on January 4th, 1977 Olive married Edmond Perreault. They are presently residing on the Falloon family farm.

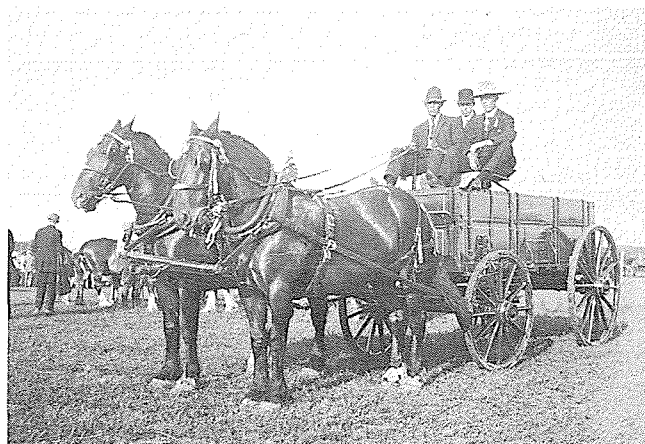
In 1982 this farm received the Century Farm Award, which was presented to Vernon.



Vernon Falloon Family: Vernon Jr., Glynis, Carol, Russell and Karen.

Falloon, George

George was born on Sept. 19, 1885, son of James and Mary. He farmed the north ½ 8-18-28. In 1910 he married Norma Clegg. They had 7 children, Eva, William, Robert, Norma and Myrta (twins), Fannie, and Ray. Myrta died when she was 1 year 9 months old. George was very fond of horses especially his Percherons, which he showed at local fairs and even at the Toronto Royal. Norma was a dressmaker and helped with the Extension service, teaching sewing classes in the district.



George Falloon's prize horses.

Falloon, William

"Bill" was born in 1913 and started school at Gambler, then attended Foxwarren school. He farmed with his father, and enjoyed working with cattle and horses. In 1929 with his brother Bob, he bought his first shorthorn cow, at Brandon Fair for \$165.00.

In 1937, Bill rented 13-18-29, known as the Lamb place. In 1938 he married Blanche Burdett, eldest daughter of Ernest Burdett, who farmed in the Crewe district. They had 3 children Carman, Joyce and Joan. In the fall of 1943, they bought the north ½ 25-17-27 from Tom Edmundson, where they farmed until the fall of 1980, when they retired to Birtle.

Bill was leader of the Birtle Beef Club for 20 years and active in the Birtle and Foxwarren Agriculture Society.

Carman took the diploma course in Agriculture, and farms in the Birtle district. His interests are raising Maine Anjou cattle and working with the 4H Beef and Heifer Clubs. He married Laura Hills of Foxwarren in 1963. Laura teaches in Birtle Elementary school. They have 3 children.

Joyce took a business course in Brandon. She married Duane Bailey of Solsgirth in 1962. Duane works for the Royal Bank in Winnipeg. They have 2 daughters.

Joan took her R.N. at St. Boniface Hospital; she married Glen Peacock of McAuley in 1964. Glen works for Cablevision at Maple Ridge, B.C. They have 2 boys.

Eva, the eldest daughter lives in a Senior Citizens Home in Taber, Alta. where she participates in the social activities held there. Her spare time is spent knitting and crocheting.

Robert, second son of George and Norma Falloon, was born in 1919. He attended school at Foxwarren. He was interested in sports, especially baseball and hockey; he was goal tender. He was active in 4H and showing cattle. He carried on farming after his father's death in 1941 along with his mother and sister Eva, until the farm was sold to Dean Falloon. His mother and Eva moved to Binscarth, until his mother's death in 1959. Eva moved to Taber, Alta. to be near her sisters. Robert worked for the P.F.R.A. engineering department supervising construction and surveys in Alberta and Saskatchewan, for thirty years. He married Helen Jennings in Moose Jaw in 1953. They have four children, Marjorie, Marlene, James and George. Bob is retired now and lives in Winnipeg.

Norma was born in 1920, attended Foxwarren school, was active in 4H and sports. She played hockey with the Crewe girls team. She married Walter May of Binscarth in 1943 while he was in the

armed forces. After the war, they moved to Taber, Alta. where Walter carried on a sheet metal business. He died in an accident in 1970. They had six married children who live in Alberta and B.C. Garry, Gail, Garth, Marilyn, Harold and Colleen.

Fanny was born in 1923, and she too was active in sports. She married Alan Cousins of Manitou in 1945. They moved to Taber Alberta, where Al worked with the Gas Co. He was promoted and transferred to Strathmore, where they now live. They are active in many clubs, curling, golfing etc. They have four children; Dianna, Linda, Kathleen and Kenneth.

Raymond was born in 1925. He left the farm to join the R.C.A.F. After the war he drove a truck for the P.F.R.A. and other companies. He married Joan Hudson of Regina in 1947. They had two children, Cheryl and Barry. He was married a second time, to Helen Magee, while working in Yellowknife and Discovery. They had one son Donald. Ray died in 1968, at age 43. His wife and son live in Edmonton.

Falloon, Albert Scott (Bert) and Pearl McLellan

Albert Scott, child of James and Mary, was born on his father's homestead, SE¼ 10-18-28, on January 29, 1889. His boyhood years were spent on the farm and going to Crewe School when there was no work to be done at home. When he reached Grade VI he had to quit and help in the fields at home. For recreation he hunted wolves and played baseball.

When he was twenty Bert bought his farm from his father — S½ of 8-18-28 and SE¼ of 7-18-28 — for \$250.00 per year as long as his father lived



Bert and Pearl Falloon — 60th Wedding Anniversary, 1966.

(\$3,250). He named the farm Westwarren Farm and started to work the land, three-quarters of which was wild prairie, with three horses and a walking plow. He purchased a small shack for \$100.00 and lived in it most of the next seven years while he worked the land.

1916 was a memorable year. He built a house on his farm and married Mary Pearl McLellan, a teacher, on December 14. That was the first year of the black rust and most of the crops were burned. He had a new bride, a new house, a mortgage, no money and no crop; only love to live on!

He, along with his brother Arthur, commenced breeding Shorthorn Cattle in 1924 with the purchase of the Grand Champion Shorthorn Bull at Brandon Winter Fair. He purchased a few cows from various herds in the district as well as one in Brandon. Three years later he showed his first cattle at Russell, Bin-scarth, Birtle and Shoal Lake and won first at all the fairs.

The Dirty Thirties brought hard times to everyone. Wheat was selling for thirty-five cents a bushel and oats for twelve cents. His total crop for two years was five hundred bushels of wheat. The mortgage company demanded a payment of \$2,500.00 or the farm in 1940. Because he was unable to pay it, the company took the farm. Bert was able to rent it from the company for three years. In 1943 he sold ninety head of cattle he had raised and paid the farm debt.

He continued to show cattle at Brandon Winter Fair, Toronto Royal Winter Fair, Yorkton, Dauphin, Foxwarren and other towns in the area while he farmed and raised his family.

For many years he was a director of the Manitoba Shorthorn Club and the Cattle Breeders' Association of Manitoba. For two years he was the president of the Cattle Breeders' Association; for two years one of Manitoba's Directors to the Canadian Shorthorn Association; for six years he was Superintendent of the Cattle Breeders' Sale, a job which required tact, good judgment, firmness and organizing ability. He was a member of the Advisory Board under the Horned Cattle Purchases Act from its organization to February 1964. Locally he assisted in the organizing of the Foxwarren Fat Stock Show in 1935 and was its very efficient president from its origin to November 1947. He was a councillor from 1920 to 1937. The Manitoba Shorthorn Club honored him at a banquet in Brandon April 6, 1949, when he was presented with an inscribed cane for his outstanding service to the Shorthorn Breeders Assoc. in particular and the livestock industry in general.

In 1960 he turned over the home quarter SE ¼ 8-18-28 to his youngest son Dale and sold him the rest of the farm in 1967.

Pearl came to this area with her parents, the Jim McLellans from Wyman, Quebec, when she was nine years of age. They arrived in this district on April 1st, but it was no April Fool's joke, living in a converted granary . . . cold is what she remembers about those first winters. She attended Moresby school where she completed her Grade IX, taught by Mary Burke (mother of Burke Garnet of Russell). Miss Burke arranged for her to live with a family at Manitou, help with the housework and babysit, while she took her Grade X. The next year she, sister Florence and Ella Falloon lived in Birtle where they took their Grade XI. The following year Pearl went off to Brandon where a three-month course gave her a teacher's permit. Pearl got a school at Earl Grey, Saskatchewan and there she taught in a one-room country school for two years. Pearl says she made the mistake of accepting a diamond from Bert Falloon before she went to Earl Grey, where there were many handsome bachelors. None of them asked for a date; that diamond scared them off! Pearl and Bert were married December 14, 1916 and then as a farmer's wife, Pearl says she really went to work! As well as keeping house and raising a family of six, Pearl did her share of community work; took part in local drama productions and Zion concerts, and taught Sunday school.

In 1963 Bert and Pearl built a new house in Foxwarren, and from there Bert continued to farm with his sons until in 1973 he officially retired when he sold his interest in the cattle to Dean and Dale. Bert lived to see his 92nd birthday. He passed away in 1981 and Pearl moved to the Elk's Court in Russell.

Garnet was born in 1917 on the home farm. With Garnet, livestock was more than a hobby, it was his life work and in the few years given to him, he made a notable contribution. Before enlisting he built up his own herd of purebred shorthorns. When the Archie-Ellice pasture came into being, he piloted it through its first year of operation. In 1941 he joined the R.C.A.F., graduating as a pilot in January 1943. He was awarded a commission. Overseas, he was promoted to Flying Officer and completed a tour of duty in the Middle East. Shortly after his return to Britain, March 21, 1944, he was killed in action. His grave is in Brookside Cemetery near London.

Edith Iola was born in 1919. After completing her highschool at Foxwarren, she took a hairdressing course in Winnipeg. Not being fond of the city, she returned home, and two days a week was hairdresser in St. Lazare, working in a room off Ernest Chartier's Barber Shop. In 1942 she married Murray Wilson. They lived in Foxwarren where Murray was a grain buyer. After several moves, they landed in Taber, Alberta where Murray worked as an apprentice

plumber. When he decided to go into business on his own, they moved to Russell in 1955. There he operated his own plumbing business until his retirement. Murray and Edith have two children, Denis, a teacher in Virden, and Debbie Aberhard, a farmer's wife at Langenburg. Each has presented Murray and Edith with three grandchildren.

Falloon, Dean and Jean **by Dean**

I was born on the S.E. ¼ 8-18-28 in 1923. My school years were spent at Foxwarren. For entertain-



Dean Falloon Family: Glen, Dean, Jean, Patty, John and Larry.

ment during the winter we spent most of our evenings at the Crewe rink either playing hockey or skating. During the 30's when there was a drought and no feed for our cattle I remember riding horseback and chasing our herd through the Assiniboine River at "Lamb's Crossing" and onto the plains on the far side. Rollie Widdicombe was main herder to several farmers' cattle. I would spend the weekend with him, which meant sleeping in a tent and sometimes eating prairie chickens that we would shoot before breakfast.

I helped my dad on the farm but due to a shortage of money, I decided I should get away from home and find work. My first job was driving a truck for Uncle Lenny Falloon. I hauled gravel at Dauphin airport and went trucking as far away as Chicoutimi and Arvida, Quebec. I later worked for Scotty Ellis operating a cat and scraper, building airports during the war. We went as far west as Prince George, B.C. Thinking this was a profitable operation, Cecil Burdett and I decided to get our own road building equipment. We worked at this for five years. After selling out we then purchased the International Harvester business at Foxwarren. This saw me through the next five years.

I guess farming was to be my destiny for in 1952 I settled on the farm that I had purchased from my Uncle George in 1943. It was the N.E. ¼ 8-18-28. I harvested my first crop that year and have been engaged in mixed farming ever since, working with my brother, Dale.

I married Jean, John and Hilda Selby's daughter in 1952. Jean took her schooling in St. Lazare, then worked for her dad who was Secretary-Treasurer of the R.M. and Postmaster. We have three sons and one daughter. John, was born in 1954 and is married to Shelley Ryder who came to Canada from Plymouth, England as a nanny for Ron Clement's children. They live in Brandon where John works for the Manitoba Telephone System. Glen, born in 1956, married Debbie Pizze. He was born on a stormy day in February, causing quite a commotion! Dr. Welsh had to be brought in by snow plane. Mrs. Isabelle Cooper followed the snow plow. Grandma came over with horse and sleigh and Carman Ryan flew in much needed supplies by plane. Glen helps on the farm, and owns and operates his own backhoe. Patty, born in 1959, spent five years in Calgary working for an Oil Company. There she met John Bonnell whom she married and they live in her grandparents' home in Foxwarren. John is a stonemason by trade and hails from Baie Comeau, Quebec. Larry our youngest works with the C.P.R. as well as helping with the farming. He has a few head of cattle. Both he and Glen are living at home. All were very active in the 4-H Calf Club at Foxwarren.

In 1962 we lost our home by fire. The way our neighbours and friends rallied around us helped us realize we are living in a fine community!

Elmer Murray, born in 1925, married Elsie Woodhouse of Binscarth in 1954. Murray has worked for the C.P.R. since 1947, and is now in Binscarth. Elsie is on the Royal Bank staff at Russell, where they make their home. They have two sons; Leslie, a graduate of Royal Military College at Kingston, Ontario, is a commander in the Navy. He married Susan Roberts of Kingston. They live in Victoria and have two children. Ken, who works for Canadian Tire in Brandon married Barbara Good, a teacher, in 1977 and they live in Souris.

Margaret born in 1927, worked as a telephone operator in Foxwarren until her marriage to Bill Murray of Solsgirth in 1946. Bill was a well-known athlete in his younger days, both in hockey and baseball. They live in Gilbert Plains where Bill has played baseball with Gilbert Plains and hockey with the Dauphin Kings. They owned and operated a bake shop and tea room in Gilbert Plains. Now he manages the Golf Club there and Margaret is on the staff of the Personal Care Home in Grandview. They have

five children; Terry who makes his home in Thompson, Trudy (Fillion) lives in Winnipeg where she works as a nurse, Bill Jr. is married and living at Gilbert Plains, with twins Dean, and Dale.

Falloon, Dale

I, Glen **Dale**, son of **Albert** Scott and **Mary Pearl**, was born July 22, 1939 in Russell Hospital. I was raised on the Bert Falloon homestead, SE¼ of 8-18-28, and educated in the Foxwarren School, completing Grade X in 1957. I then took the first year of the Agriculture Diploma Course at Brandon in 1958. The second year had to be taken in Winnipeg and I made the decision to remain home and work on the farm with my father and brother, Dean.

On my 21st birthday in 1960, my father gave me the home quarter SE¼ 8-18-28. Using machinery belonging to my dad and brother, Dean, I seeded my first crop in the spring of 1961. As all farmers know, there was very little to harvest in the fall because of the drought.

In 1962 everything started to go right for me. In April I showed the Supreme Champion Futurity Bull at Brandon Winter Fair. It was a Shorthorn and won over all other breeds. It was also the second last bull A. S. Falloon ever showed. I bought my first car that year, a 1957 Ford, for \$1,000 and was then able to catch a girl. I got married on October six, 1962 in Westminster United Church, Foxwarren to Kathleen Brackner — my aunt's son's wife's daughter — in other words, my cousin Wilbur's step-daughter.

Marion **Kathleen** Brackner was born in Toronto on August 8, 1940, to Walter **Charles** and **Marion** Elizabeth Brackner. On October 16, 1941 her sister, **Elizabeth** Rosina was born. Kathy received her edu-

cation in Toronto at Earl Beatty Public School and graduated from Grade XII at Riverdale Collegiate Institute in 1959. The same year her mother, a widow since 1953, married Wilbur Arthur Wilson from Birtle, Manitoba. Marion and Wilbur moved to Russell but Kathy stayed to complete the Two Year Course at Toronto Teacher's College. After a visit to her mom, she decided to try her luck out west — the scenery being very attractive — and she got a job teaching Grade III at Birtle Elementary School. She stayed with her new grandparents, Arthur and Saidie Wilson above the printing office in Birtle.



Kathy, Heather and Scott Falloon.

In 1963 on August 15, I became the proud father of a daughter, **Heather** Anne. On July 31, 1965 we were blessed with a son, **Arthur Scott**. Both were born in Birtle District Hospital.

From 1962 to 1967 I rented the SW¼ 8-18-28 and the SE¼ 7-18-28 on a half share basis from Dad. In 1967 he sold me the two quarters for \$14,000. Times were not that easy for us and Kathy returned to teaching school at Foxwarren in the spring of 1969.

Things remained much the same until 1973 when Dad officially retired by selling his interest in the cattle to Dean and myself. I also bought from him at that time the NE¼ 36-17-29 for \$1,000, for pasture. I have been farming this land and sharing machinery and cattle on a 50% basis with my brother, Dean, ever since. Being a member of the Canadian Seed Growers Association since 1970, I sell about 25% of my grain as seed through George McCrindle.

I have been on the Official Board of Westminster United Church, Foxwarren, since 1965. I took the position when Dad retired. I have been a member of the Zion Cemetery Committee since about 1970. In 1971 we received the Birtle and District Chamber of Commerce Agricultural Award based on farm yard appearance, farm practices, bookkeeping and community work. I have been the Secretary-Treasurer of the Foxwarren Agricultural Society since 1972. In 1973 I was area finalist for the Farm Management Competition sponsored by the Russell Chamber of Commerce. I worked as an assistant 4-H Leader of



Dale Falloon's 43rd birthday, 1982.

the Foxwarren-Solsgirth Beef Club from 1974 to 1980.

In July of 1978, Kathy, Heather, Scott and I took a trip to England and Scotland to visit Kathy's relatives and the grave site of my brother, Garnet, who was killed in England, March 21, 1944.

At present, we are living on Dad's homestead in the original house built in 1916 by Mr. Boyd. In 1979 we completed an addition to the west side of the house. At that time, Kathy retired from teaching. Therefore, in order to keep income and expenses balanced, I started to drive a school bus for the Birdtail River School Division and am still employed to date.

Kathy has been active in the Foxwarren United Church, 4-H, and the Orange Lodge. She was elected the Grand Mistress of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Manitoba of the Ladies Orange Benevolent Association in 1981, and will retire from the position in March 1983. Her hobbies are singing, crocheting, cake decorating and ceramics.

Heather attended Foxwarren School and graduated from Grade XII at Birtle Collegiate in 1981. She was active in Sunday School; festival — piano, speech and singing; 4-H-beef and sewing; and was Secretary of Student Council in 1980-81. She took a

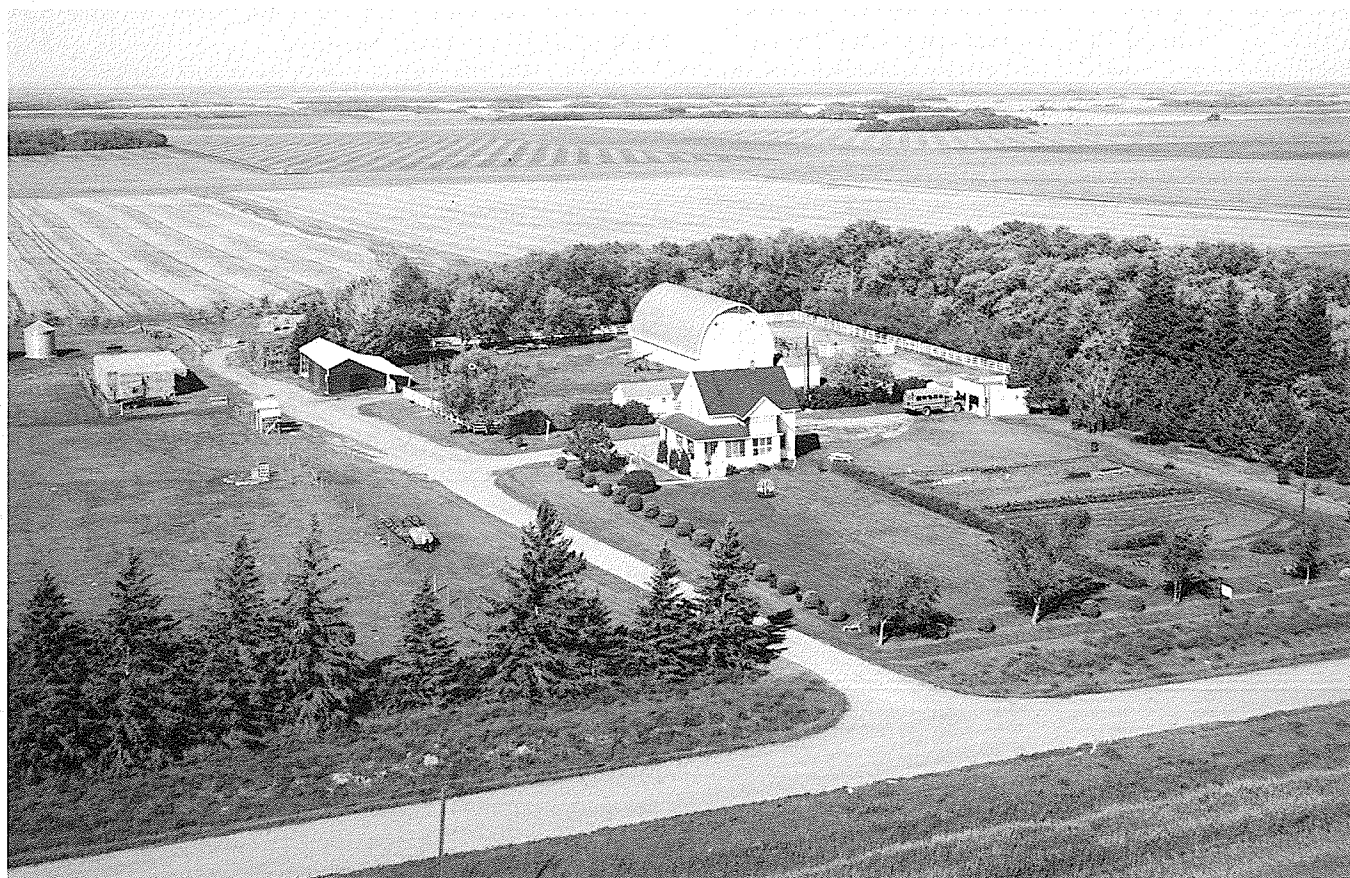
Dental Assistant Course at Keewatin Community College in The Pas and is presently employed by Dr. Prochazka in Virden.

Scott completed his elementary education at Foxwarren School and is now in Grade XII at Birtle Collegiate. His interests are farming, cattle, trapping, and drumming. He was a member of the 1982 International Peace Gardens European Tour Band made up of 80 students between the ages of 16 and 21 from Canada and the United States. They toured Norway, Denmark, and Sweden in August, playing 20 concerts in 21 days.

Note: Dale contributed this article in mid December. On January 2, 1983 at the age of 43, he died suddenly. The above story is a tribute to Dale, as it details the contribution he made to this community.

Falloon, John Ernest and Louise by Reta Nesbitt

John Ernest (Jack), was born December 20th, 1893, in the first home built of log and timber on "the hill". In the 1890's, his parents, James and Mary, purchased the hill farm and moved the family from their homestead (SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 10-18-28) where they had lived since 1882. The hill farm was located 7 miles west of Foxwarren, 4 miles north of St. Lazare, on



Award Winning Farm.



Jack Falloon Family, 1942.

N $\frac{1}{2}$ 32-17-28. Shortly after the family settled there, Jack's father began thinking about building a large stone house, comparable to his family's home in Ireland. Jack's older brothers were relegated the enormous task of locating and digging up the very colorful and huge stones which were found in plentiful supply on the farm land and along the top of the Assiniboine Valley. The stone masons, Chas. Dunham of Foxwarren, and Robert Mitchell of Rosburn, cut the stones into suitably sized blocks and they were hauled to the location for the new home. The house was completed in 1898, and Jack often talked about the jubilation and excitement of the family moving into, what seemed to him, a lad of five years, a palatial mansion. Jack was born into a family of fourteen children. Growing up was a very happy time in this big family and those feelings of affection for his brothers, sisters and their families, remained with Jack and his family throughout the years. He attended Crewe School which was built in 1889, and located across the road from his home. In fact, it was a little too close as far as Jack was concerned, as he often had to rush home to do chores at recess and noon. Upon the completion of his school years at Crewe, he went to Winnipeg and enrolled in a course at the Minneapolis School of Engineering. This course proved invaluable as he learned the "hows" and "whys" of the new-fangled machinery which was rapidly coming on the market, such as the big steam tractors, binders which required a lot of attention as they were constantly not tying the sheaves properly, threshing machines and other farm machinery. The land was plowed and planted by horse-drawn machinery in the late 1890's and early 1900's. Big steam tractors were used to pull the breaking plows and run the threshing machines. By 1906, Jack's father had bought farm lands located within a radius of a few miles from the farm, for all his sons. As a note of

interest, these same farms, including the hill farm, are still owned and operated by James and Mary's grandsons and/or great grandsons. When Jack was twenty years old, he met the girl of his dreams, Louise Wilson, who lived at Birtle. Her father, E. J. Wilson, was a pioneer who had come west from Stratford, Ontario, in 1879, and who, among his many endeavours, published the first newspaper in the area, "The Birtle Eye-Witness". During Jack's courting days, travel in the winter by automobile was impossible because of the high snow drifts and blocked roads. He could be seen dashing across the countryside, with his high-spirited driving horses pulling a cutter, and making the trip to Birtle in a flat thirty minutes. In 1916, Jack enlisted with the City of Winnipeg, 27th Battalion, and was soon overseas. He was in charge of a machine gun section and saw action at Vimy Ridge, Paschendaele and Cambrai. He was wounded twice and was also hospitalized when he and his buddies were overcome by large doses of mustard gas. Just prior to the outbreak of the war, Jack's father had gone to Ireland to visit his brother Henry and family, and was unable to get passage back to Canada. Jack and his brother Lennie, who had also enlisted, had the pleasure of spending two of their leaves from duty with their father at the old home, in Dungammon. (At the present time, Jack's cousin, George and family still live there.)

Jack remained with the Army of Occupation at Dusseldorf, Germany, until the spring of 1919, returning to Winnipeg in May. What a homecoming! The big strike was in progress with hordes of marching angry people, no taxis or street cars operating, with riots and looting. However, he was more than happy to arrive home all in one piece and to be united with his family and Louise. Jack immediately got back to the business of farming. He sold his farm located on the N $\frac{1}{2}$ 23-17-28, which is now occupied by Rene Huberdeau, and purchased the section of land currently owned by Wm. Johnston. During the summer he became a member of the Masonic Lodge at Binscarth, and also joined the Great War Veterans Association at St. Lazare. These were memberships that he retained throughout his life and in his later years, was presented with Life Memberships. On November 26th, 1919, Jack and Louise were married. Very busy summers followed with many improvements made to the farm buildings; a 210 foot well was drilled and completed with a windmill to ensure a good water supply. Many days were spent with the big steam Rumley pulling the breaking plow to clear more land for grain crops, and page wire fencing was put up to enclose the farm. All was going so well, but then, the bottom fell out of the grain market and the cost of goods soared. Jack, unable to meet the high

mortgage payment in the fall of 1924, had no other choice but to leave the farm. The stone house was vacant after his father's death and it was at this time that Jack and Louise bought the hill farm through the Soldier Settlement Board. His mother and sister Hazel, who had been living in the house, left to keep house for his brother Arthur and his small son, Vernon. Jack and Louise were the parents of six daughters and one son, James Wilson. The girls were named Marguerite (Reta), Lorraine, Jacqueline, Lesley, Elizabeth (Betty) and Elaine. Many happy years were spent living on the farm, despite the "dirty 30's" when grain crops were poor. The sale of livestock, poultry and dairy products, brought little income. Jack often worked on road construction projects to pay the taxes. The family had a love for music, Louise and Reta played the piano, Lorraine and Jackie the guitars; and many evenings were spent singing. There were community and family picnics, baseball in the summer, with skating and hockey in the winter, plus house parties and box socials. Jack and Louise's house was always open to all friends and relatives. Christmas Day was the highlight of the year, and will be remembered by all the Falloon clan who lived in the Crewe area. The families met for the day and dinner, each year in a different home. All the houses seemed large enough to accommodate sixty or more children and adults. One summer Jack and his brother George with their wives and sisters Ella and Hazel, took their own and neighboring children to Brandon Fair. They outfitted their truck with benches for seating and enclosed the top with a tarpaulin, making it a fairly comfortable trip for the twenty-five children in each truck. What an exciting experience for many of the children who had never been far from home or seen such sights as those displayed at the Fair. Every whirly ride was tried out again and again. Two huge tents were erected for an overnight stay.

One of Jack's pet projects was coaching and transporting the Crewe girls' hockey team. He barely gave his own four daughters who played on the team, time to do their homework before rushing them off to the Crewe rink to practise or play a game of hockey! Other girls on this team were Nora and Winnie Jackson, Vella Ferguson, Edith, Norma and Fannie Falloon and Pearl Burdett.

Jack and Louise's family have fond memories of the days when they lived among their many affectionate aunts, uncles, cousins, and wonderful friends and neighbors. This happy time was brought to an end by the start of World War II. In 1940, he joined the Veteran's Guard and was stationed at a prisoner-of-war camp near Red Rock, Ont. In 1941 he transferred to the R.C.A.F. and was stationed in Saska-

toon. The farm was leased to a nephew, Doug Falloon, and the family moved to Saskatoon. There the younger members settled into new schools and once more the Falloon home was "open house" for young people in the services who were stationed in or around that city. Many of these lads were from "back home", others from England, Australia and the Bahamas. A few years later, one of these boys, Bill Claridge from the Bahamas, was to become a son-in-law. Jack left the air force in 1946 and moved his family to Lebreton, where he accepted a position with the Sask. Gov't. as Manager of the Métis Farm. Before too long, he had the farm supporting the twelve families who lived there, as well as realizing a profit. With a change of Government and too much red tape, he started doing survey work for the P.F.R.A. Troubled by a leg injury received during the first war, Jack retired in 1966. He and Louise spent many winters visiting their scattered family in the Bahamas, Los Angeles and parts of Canada. In 1969, they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a dinner party in the hall at St. Lazare. All their family were present including twenty-six grandchildren, and one great grandchild, plus over two hundred friends and relatives. In July of 1975, they sold their home in Ft. Qu'Appelle and moved to Villa Decorby in St. Lazare. It was like coming home for them, with so many old friends and relatives nearby. Jack's health began to fail in the spring of 1977 and he died in June of that year. Burial took place at Zion Cemetery.

Marguerite (Reta) graduated from Foxwarren school, took a business course in Winnipeg and worked for the Bawlf Grain Company. She married



4 Generations: Louise, Reta Nesbitt, Pat Kraft, Nicolle and Diana in Australia, 1982.

Walter Nesbitt, who was manager of the Creamery in St. Lazare before moving to his father's Creamery at Shoal Lake. They have two sons, Murray and Gary and one daughter Patricia. Murray married Janet McKillop of Indian Head where he operated an Esso service station before he started trucking for Arnold Bros. Michael their only son, works as a surveyor with the Dept. of Highways at Red Deer. Patricia received her R.N. training at Calgary, then supervised the pediatric ward in Edmonton. She accepted a teaching position at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne, Australia. There she married Dr. Norbert Kraft. They have two daughters, Nicole and Diana. Gary works for Cominco and lives in Calgary. Reta has worked and lived in Calgary, too, for the past twenty-one years. **Lorraine** accepted a position with the Civil Service in Ottawa after completing her education. At the end of the war, she worked for General Electric in Toronto, then Winnipeg. On a holiday to the Bahamas, she met and later married her husband, Percy Claridge of Nassau. Percy is in the import wholesale business. Their two sons, Bruce and Bradley, following their graduation from Business Administration courses at College in Florida, work in their father's business. Bruce is married to Andrea Sands of Nassau. **Jacqueline**; see story Selby, Robert and Jackie. **Lesley** worked in the Royal Bank in Saskatoon and Toronto, took a Business course in Regina with her sister Bette, and was employed by the City Hall in Vancouver. She married Ken McPhee and they lived there before moving to Los Angeles. Ken is a Power Lineman, working on hydro-electric transmission line projects. Les and Ken have four children, James and Jackie who live in Aspen, Colorado, where they work and spend every spare moment on the ski slopes. JoAnne married Dennis McVey in 1982. They reside in L.A., as does Jerry. **Elizabeth** (Betty) after a secretarial course worked for City Hall in Vancouver. There she married Bill Claridge, one of the R.C.A.F lads she had met in Saskatoon. Shortly after their marriage, they moved to Nassau. Bill has the Kentucky Fried Chicken franchise for the Bahama Islands and operates several outlets. Bette and Bill have six children, Steven, Lesley, Brenda, Robert, Diane and Rhonda. All attended high school in Toronto and university in Canada or the U.S. with the exception of Rhonda, who is attending a private school in Conn. taking equestrienne training along with her studies. Bette and Bill's family all live in Nassau and the Caribbean area. **James** graduated from high school in Lebreton, started his own advertising business in Edmonton and Winnipeg. He married Geri Owsher in Winnipeg. Jim and Geri live in Vancouver where they own a tourist goods manufacturing and wholesale

business, called Coast Craft Ltd. They have two daughters, Jamie attending her 3rd year at U.B.C. and Lisa taking her Gr. XII. **Elaine** took a business course in Vancouver where she worked for the School Board, before moving to Nassau where she was employed by Bethlehem Steel. She met Garth McRae when he was on holiday from the R.C.A.F. base at Moose Jaw. Following their marriage, they lived in Moose Jaw for a few months until Garth's discharge. He started flying for Bahamas Airways until the Company went bankrupt. He was a pilot with Jamaica Airlines, and now is with Cayman Airlines. They made their home for many years in Nassau, but now live in Naples, Florida. Garth and Elaine have four children, Donald, Brian, Lynda and Ian. The Falloon family have spent much time together in spite of the distances separating them. Since her husband's death Louise has spent her winter in the warm climes, with her daughters. Twice since she has passed her 80th birthday, she has travelled to Australia to visit her granddaughter Pat and two great granddaughters! Louise celebrated her 85th birthday Jan. 19, 1983 in Naples with several family members present. Long may she live and travel!

Falloon, Leonard and Georgina Eleanor "Nellie"

Leonard, son of James and Mary Falloon, was born in Ellice Municipality and attended Crewe school. When 17 he joined the Canadian Armed forces and because of his age his family interfered and got his discharge, but on his 18th birthday he was back at the recruiting office. He served overseas with the 44th Infantry battalion as a runner between the trenches. He was wounded, gassed, and wounded again on Armistice Day, November 11, 1918.

In the spring of 1919 he was back in Ellice Municipality, courting Georgina Eleanor Lamb, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Lamb. They were married in Winnipeg December 3, 1919 and moved into the Stone House on the Hill. Their first child, Leonard Russell was born there November 30, 1920.

On Christmas Day of that year Leonard had an emergency operation. Because of the ruptured appendix, plus the effects of W.W.I, Len was unable to farm that spring and the family moved to Foxwarren. In the spring of 1922 they were back at The Hill, then the next year, rented a ½ section from Jack Pizzey where they lived for four years.

In the spring of 1928 they bought a farm near Russell, Manitoba. A few months later their only child, Russell became very ill. It was thought to be appendicitis. With limited facilities in the community hospital, the operation took place in their home on the dining room table. The diagnosis had been incor-

rect, but no X-ray equipment was available to indicate that a bowel stoppage was the problem. Russell died a week later at the age of 7 years 9 months.

Len and Nell left the farm and moved to Foxwarren. Len worked at trucking, hauling grain and gravel and operating a bulk oil station.

Their second child, Kay Arden, was born October 11, 1925. In 1941, the family moved to Winnipeg, and in 1944, Len was again in the army, in the Veterans' Guard. A few months later, Len had a serious heart attack, and following his recovery the family were again in Foxwarren. The following summer, 1945 when rural electrification came to the area, Len with his brother, Sam, worked on the wiring and rewiring of homes. Len found that he was able to work during the summer months but when the cold weather came his health deteriorated and he would have to enter Deer Lodge Veterans' Hospital. In 1948 he and Nell sold their home in Foxwarren and moved to Winnipeg to be near the hospital.

Nell's mother, Anne Lamb, had lived with the family in Foxwarren and moved with them to Winnipeg. In 1952 neither Len nor Mrs. Lamb were well, Len had had a stroke, Mrs. Lamb broke a hip. Nell had a busy time, nursing her mother and visiting her husband in Deer Lodge Hospital. Mrs. Lamb died November 2; Len on Remembrance Day, November 11. Funerals for each, just a week apart, were held in Westminster Church, Foxwarren, with burial in Zion Cemetery.

Nell moved to a suite in the Cordaly on Corydon Avenue where she still lives.

Kay attended school in Foxwarren and in Winnipeg. Following Grade XII she took a two year X-Ray Technicians course and worked at that until her marriage. When Len was working for an electrical firm in Winnipeg, he brought home a young apprentice electrician one evening to help him install a new furnace. His name was John Courtney and he and Kay were the same age. That evening they put their initials in the new cement. Soon they began to date. They were married August 10, 1957, and live on Jubilee Avenue, Winnipeg. They have one son, Jack, presently a third year Arts student at the University of Manitoba. He plans to continue in Law.

Hazel Falloon 1900-1974

Hazel was the youngest of the James and Mary Falloon family. She was born in the stone house on **The Hill**, attended Crewe School and High School in Foxwarren. In 1919 she moved to her brother Arthur's home and kept house for him. In 1945 she went to Saskatoon where she worked for several years and where she made her home until her death in 1974.

Her many nieces and nephews have fond memo-

ries of Aunt Hazel — Christmas treats when they were youngsters; Crewe rink and hockey teams that would not have operated as efficiently without her interest and contributions as secretary-treasurer, and family gatherings that she organized.

Fenez, Arthur and Marie

I, Arthur Joseph Emile Fenez son of Martial Fenez and Malvina Peloquin, was born in Ste. Agathe, Man. on November 24, 1926. I was the second child of a family of thirteen and was raised on a farm in the Red River Valley. When I was two years and seven months old, I lost my left arm in a binder accident. Being that young, I adapted very quickly and with the help of my parents I learned to do most things with one hand. When I was fifteen years old, I was able to cut grain, driving four horses with the same binder that had caused my amputation. I attended school and completed grade ten.

When we were young we had no money but lots of fun at house parties on neighboring farms. As means of transportation, we used to hitch a horse on a cutter or a team on a sleigh. We would dance square dances and very often the music was provided only by a harmonica.

I stayed on the family farm until I was nineteen years old, then went to work for different farmers. At that time all farm work was done with horses. It was at that period of my life that I met Marie Huberdeau,



Leo and Art Fenez. (Note Art has two arms!)

daughter of Rosario and Eugenie Huberdeau, of St. Lazare. She was working for Mr. and Mrs. Henri Lemoine of Ste. Agathe. We were married in St. Lazare on November 10th, 1942 and returned to live in Ste. Agathe.

In the spring of '43 I was employed at Henry Magarell's farm west of Ste. Agathe. In the fall, Marie went to help her mother at harvest time which lasted twenty-two days. When I had completed the fall work on the farm, we moved with all our worldly possessions to St. Lazare and started farming on S.E. quarter of 14-17-28.

In the spring of '44, the Huberdeau boys and I, did their seeding and mine with two outfits of four horses on two drills. Having only one arm, my wife had to milk the cows. At breakfast and supper time, I would keep the children while she went to the barn. In '47 or '48 we got the hydro on the farm. I purchased my first car in '49 — a Whippet — from Melvin Graham of Foxwarren. The children then started attending Ellice School. Fabien Perrault was my neighbour and I would drive my children and his in the morning and he would pick them up at four o'clock. The thing I dreaded the most at that time was hauling a tank of water every two days for the stock. Rain or shine I had to do that for six years.

In the spring of 1950, my mother and my twin sisters came to live with us because their farm had been flooded. In the fall of the same year, we moved to Pierre Prescott's farm, the east half of 1-17-28. It was about 65 acres and the rest was bush and pasture. It had a log house and a pole barn. The following summer, we bought a barn from Léon Huberdeau. We then started to milk Jersey cows and those milk cheques paid for all our expenses. I did some land breaking with an old John Deere tractor on steel wheels, on stony land with a breaking plough. Talk about rough work! 1961 was a bad year! Our big slough went dry and we had a total crop failure. We had to have a dug-out so we would never run out of water again. We had to buy grain, hay and straw to keep the stock alive.

The boys were beginning to be of great help but eventually they preferred to leave the farm to get easier jobs. In 1967, we sold our farm to Henri Laferrière. We then bought a house in St. Lazare on first street, which had belonged to Oscar Dupont. I worked for two years for the Fouillard boys, setting up machinery in the winter and working on the farm in the summer. On July, 1969 I took the job as janitor at Decorby School, and expect to be there until retirement.

Marie found life much easier in town and as far as the children are concerned they are all married with families of their own. They all, however, live quite a

distance from us but well, I guess that's life! Our six children are:

Leonard married Rita Bauck of Roblin on March 27, 1968. They have three children; Monique, James and Rene. Leonard is an electrician and his wife is employed in Medicine Hat at the College Library. On June 18, 1965 **Alice** married Denis Simeons. They have a family of five children; Dolores, Doris, Roger, Claude and Patrick. Denis is employed at Tupperware and Alice is a hair dresser at Taber Home. They reside in Morden, Manitoba. **Marie Anne** married Raymond Fowler of Yellow Knife November 29, 1974. There are three children — Genevieve, Brian and Scott (twins). Ray is a surveyor and Marie Anne is a nurse. The family reside at South Cooking Lake, Edmonton, Alberta. **Michael** married Patricia Hamilton of Foxwarren. The three children are Melanie, Amanda and Wade. Michael is employed as a welder at the C.N.R. shops in Transcona. Patricia is a nurse in Ste. Anne Hospital. Their home is at Lorette, Manitoba. On November 20, 1981 **Lucien** married Monica Coady of Charlottetown, P.E.I. Lucien is a military policeman in the Armed Forces. They reside in Lahr, Germany. **Daniel** married Aline Le Comte of Lorette, August 7, 1976. Their three children are Philip, Jo Anne, and Eugene. Aline is employed at Fehr Transport, Winnipeg and Daniel is a welder for C.N.R. at the Transcona Shop. Their home is at Landmark, Manitoba.

Ferguson, Tom and Family

Tom Ferguson came from Scotland to Perth County, Ontario, and practiced his trade as blacksmith. He married Catherine Smith and in the spring of 1880 came west to Manitoba to shoe horses for the Hudson's Bay Co. and the R.N.W.M.P. The family lived in a double house in the Dunstan district on W½ 4-18-27 (Reg Gadd 1982), sharing home and land with the R. W. Patterson family. There were seven Ferguson children.

Tom commuted from the farm to his blacksmith shop in Birtle which was opened in July 1881. He fashioned his own tools and, when the railroad was being constructed, he did all manner of smithery for the camp, situated where the Foxwarren cemetery is now. The Ferguson boys supplied the camp with milk, butter and eggs, delivered by ox and cart.

Catherine died suddenly in 1893 so the three youngest children Bob, Janet and Belle were cared for by Adam and Jean Angus, for whom Angusville was later named. The homestead was sold to J. T. Leavens.

Tom and the older boys Tom Jr., Sam, Will and Walter (Watt) lived together and in 1897 began the construction of a log house on NE¼ 35-17-28 (Doug

Falloon 1982) probably using the same logs which Bob had worked at getting out of the bush north of Angusville. In 1900 Bob began farming N½ 34-17-28 and Walter Pizzezy built a one-storey, two-roomed house for him there with a finished interior, even to a pretty wallpaper. Belle came to keep house for him and Watt helped him break his land with a horse and walking plough. On Christmas Eve, 1902, Bob married Helen (Nellie) McIntosh of Wattsview in the Birtle Anglican Church, the ceremony performed by Rev. Pritchard. Tom Sr. lived with them for three years, returned to Scotland for a visit, then came back to Foxwarren to carry on a livery service for Lou Leavens and Charles Laycock. His last four years were spent with daughter Janet. He died in 1918.

Bob and Nellie eventually built a larger home which is still standing. Their children numbered six: **Willena** (Lena), Public Health Nurse in Saskatchewan, married Walter Lackey and they reside in Ottawa, Ont.; **Douglas** (deceased) — a farmer and implement dealer, married Eva Lockhart of Rocanville, Sask. where Eva still resides; **Earl** (Toddy) farmed west of Foxwarren, now resides in St. Lazare; **Ila**, teacher at Pumpkin Plains School, retired from Special Education in Winnipeg, married Russ Krunnfusz (deceased) of Stonewall and resides in Winnipeg; **Vella**, Interior Decorator with Eatons in Winnipeg, married John L. Davidson of Birtle and resides in Winnipeg; **Elda**, teacher with Success Business College in Winnipeg, married Walter Foliott of Winnipeg where they reside. Bob died in 1951, and Nellie in 1979.

Tom and Catherine's boys, Tom Jr., Sam and Will, never married and Walter died young at 33. Belle became Mrs. George Dunlop and Janet (1888-1945) married James Sherritt and had six children: Norma, Eunice, Iris, Jean, Pat and Eric (killed in action in W.W. II). The Ferguson name is carried on through Bob's son, Douglas, who had one son and three grandchildren.

Fiddler, Gaspard

Gaspard came from St. Francois Xavier, Man. He married Mary Desjarlais from St. Lazare. They had no children of their own, but adopted Joe Desjarlais, and Eva Fiddler (Mrs. Lawrence Henderson). These children were raised during the hard times. Gaspard worked for C.N.R. for several years. He also worked for various farmers, especially during harvest time, doing the strenuous work — stooking and shovelling grain, for the sum of 75¢ a day. They lived in a log shack that Gaspard and his friends had built on the side hill, east of St. Lazare. His wife,



Gaspard Fiddler with Mrs. Pat McIvor.

Mary, died of the flu when Eva was fifteen and Joe had already married.

Gaspard later married Gertrude McIvor (Gertie) on Oct. 17, 1935. Their wedding took place in a Ukrainian home in Binscarth. They moved back to a wooden house in St. Lazare. Gaspard worked for farmers, among them Origene Cadieux. Three children were born, **Joe** who married Violet Stewart of Birtle; **Roger** who married Paulette Fleury of St. Lazare; and **Irene**. The children walked to school. Irene boarded at the convent during the winter months. Irene married John Ternowesky of Birtle in October, 1963. They lived on a farm five miles from Birtle where their three children — Donna, Brian and Johnny were born. On December 1, 1971, her husband died, leaving Irene to raise three small children and to look after the farm. She sold the cattle and moved into Birtle where she worked at the hospital. On July 5, 1975, Irene married Jim Wilson of McAuley, Man. They had two children, Mark and Wendy both born in Russell. Jim works for the town and Irene is caretaker of the Town Hall in Birtle. Gaspard died August 16, 1967 in his house (now Villa DeCorby site). His funeral and burial were in St. Lazare.

Gertie worked for many families as a general houseworker. She has done considerable sewing to help dress her family. She is a very dedicated person — to her church and in helping others. At present, Gertie lives in Birtle taking care of two elderly people.

Fletcher, James

Jim, and two brothers John and Ed and a sister, Maggie, came to these parts in 1881. They homesteaded here (on section 34) and in Russell municipality. Jim made his home on land now owned by Don and Helen Baker. In 1882, he returned to Embro, Ontario to bring back a bride, Bella Ross. They travelled part way by covered wagon bringing horses, cattle and implements with them. In 1884, Mrs. Christina Sutherland Fletcher with Andy, Charlie, Kate and Will also moved west. Mrs. Fletcher homesteaded near Harrowby because all homesteads were taken up in this area. John and Maggie had a stopping house in the area. Jim and Bella's family is **Isabelle** born 1883, who now lives in Binscarth. (**Jack**) **John** McNab born 1884, died in 1960. **Margaret Jane** (1886) was born in Hamilton, Ontario. She married Henry Christfield in 1919 and died at Vancouver in 1974. **Christina** (1892) married James Barrington and had a son, Les, who lives at Victoria, B.C. Christina passed away in 1976. **Mary Jean** (1894) married Morris Martin and lives in Maymont, Sask. **Malcolm Ross** (1895) died accidentally in 1908. **Catherine** Fletcher (1896) who married Bill Roberts, now lives in Burnaby, B.C. **Wilhemina** "Billie" (1902) who died in 1954, had been married to Russell Johnston. **Jemima** Sutherland (1907) married Wilson Roc, and lives in Winnipeg.

Jim and Bella had a livery stable in 1897; they purchased a hotel in 1890, returning to the farm in 1892. They took a particular interest in raising horses — stallions and some thoroughbreds — as well as having cattle. Bella recalled there weren't many horses in the area at that time. Jim purchased, in Ontario, a thoroughbred, "King George" that he took to race meets at Moosomin. From these times, Belle learned to ride and love horses. Once, when a mare and another young horse went missing, she recalled following their tracks leading to Fort Ellice. She and their four dogs, finally found them and returned late at night. She was quite chilly, as she had not been prepared to go that far in her search. Belle also recalled the early days when they milked cows and stored the milk in the basement and years later when Harry Woodhouse built them a stone milk house.

Fletchers' lost the farm on Section 2 but sold the land on Section 34 in 1940. James died in 1936 and Bella Ross Fletcher died in Winnipeg in 1946. Both Jim and Bella had come from Scotland, Ross-shire and Sutherland shire near Inverness.

Fleury, Edward and Natalie (Boyer)

Ed was the son of Edward Fleury and Melanie

Morand, and was born and raised at "China Town". He married Natalie Boyer in 1901.

They had three children — Joe who married Flora Leclair, Louis married Lenore Leclair and Mary, Mrs. Philip Lepine. They had a piece of land where they had cattle and horses. Ed worked for farmers in the area, hunted, and trapped. Natalie died in 1918, and her daughter Mary remembers being cared for by her grandmother Boyer. Ed had a very characteristic stance — he was as straight as a ram-rod. He died in 1970.

Fleury, Felix

as related to Yvonne Leclerc

I was born at Ste. Madeleine, west of Binscarth on April 29, 1907 to Claudia (nee Fisher) and Johnny Fleury. We were three boys and three half sisters — same mother, different father. My half sisters are Ernestine Ledoux, now Morrisette; Annie Ledoux, now Fleury and Pauline, who died in 1902.

My brother Paul married a Tanner girl and moved east. John, another brother, farmed near Binscarth, but died in 1975.

I never married. I moved around because work was hard to find. I cut cordwood for fifty cents a cord. I joined the Army — the Third Regiment in May 1941. I was stationed in Shilo, before being moved to Nova Scotia. I was sent to Mont Joli, Quebec, where a ship was being boarded by soldiers heading overseas. I was to be on that ship, but for some reason, I didn't make it. That ship was sunk! I went to the Mass for all who died on the ship. When I was in Quebec, I went to Arvida to see my brother. He died that year — 1941.

I received my discharge from the army in Sussex, New Brunswick where they fish for sardines. I really enjoyed my year in the army. The barracks were nice, and we had the best of food. I worked for Vic Murray — I stooked for \$3.00 a day. I am now living in the Sunnyside Manor at Birtle. I have been in a wheel chair since 1974. My pastime now is playing cards.

Flora Fleury

as told to Yvonne Leclerc

Fleury, Flora — born June 22, 1902, Assessipi, Man.; Father — Jean-Baptiste Leclerc; Mother — Flora Lepine.

Father was born August 22, 1878 in St. Charles, Man. Deceased Feb. 3, 1966.

Mother born Sept. 12, 1888 in Assessipi. Deceased Sept. 11, 1972.

Nine children: Leonore, Alex, William, Adele, Hilda, Cecile, Albert, Vitaline, Flora.

My Dad scrubbed brush and cut cordwood for a

living. He did a lot of hunting. When we moved to Binscarth, we had a little farm, 25 acres. When Dad finished putting his crop in, he went out working for farmers. We had cattle, horses, pigs and chickens. Mr. and Mrs. Lapointe stayed with us for a while. J. B. Lepine lived near us too. We had quite a few neighbors. I was fifteen when one of Aunt Caroline's brothers went to war. He died there. Then the big flu came and one of my brothers died at 15. Everyone got it, but I didn't, nor Dad as he was working out in Russell. Many people in "China Town" died, also in Ste. Madeleine. Lots of people were saved with the musk of the skunk; a few drops in hot water cured them. I had to look after the sick and look after the cattle and horses, haul water and wood. Food was brought up to us and was left quite a way out as they were scared of getting it. Dad had just built a house and after the flu we moved to St. Lazare. We sold our land and bought quite a few acres here. My dad was smart; he tried very hard and was a good worker. My mother was sick for a long time so I was the only one to wash clothes, cook, make bread.

We helped Dad stook and scrub. Our threshing was done by the neighbors and in turn Dad went out helping them. We had lots to eat, meat, potatoes. My mother made mats and exchanged them for clothing for us to go to school. I walked three miles to Gambler school. I'd get up at six and do my work before going to school. I got grade three in English and three in French.

When Mother had a baby, a neighbor, Mrs. Bob Pizzey helped us a lot. Mother never went to the hospital to have a baby. Her midwife was Mrs. Flammant. My sisters and I had our Mother for midwife: we never went to the hospital. She had her own herbs and her own medicines. In the summer she dug all sorts of roots. Nothing, thank God, ever went wrong. We were kept in bed for ten days after each baby.

The first store was at the old mission. The owner was Mr. Luc Tremblay. There were not many people in Lazare when we moved there. Dad bought a piece of land where the town is today. Then we moved to the old Mission because there was no place to keep our cattle and horses in town. The Lepines lived at the Mission and there was a school there. Dad worked for Johnny Falloon and George McCrindle. I was fifteen years old when I went to work for Prescotts. I was making ten dollars a month, working from six in the morning. They always had a lot of turkeys and I helped milk cows. Then we moved to "Chinatown" about three miles south-east of St. Lazare.

I was twenty-one when I got married, to Joseph Fleury. We had nine children: Deana, Rita, Therese, Lorraine, Betty, Clara, Rene, Norman, Ernest. We

lived at Mr. and Mrs. Boyers for one winter then moved to "Chinatown"; that's where I raised my family. My husband farmed; he and his brother had 180 acres each. We also had a piece of land by Birtle. We had forty-five head of cattle and twenty-five horses and pigs. I shipped cream. He worked for farmers too, and made deals for machinery. After he died I kept a few head of cattle and pigs and chickens to make my living and was able to feed my family. I used to drive my horses to haul sheaves three miles away. We'd leave in the morning and stay overnight at my brother's place and leave early next morning. My brother William helped me quite a bit. My neighbor, Mr. Dale sowed my land and the neighbors threshed it for me in the fall. They were sure helpful! I always had big gardens, picked berries, and canned a lot.

My children went to Ellice school, a few miles from "Chinatown". Mrs. Frank Dale was the teacher. Ben Peppin built the house I was living in. Later on, I got another house built. I kept it up and we made a good living! In the fall we bought our flour, tea and sugar for the winter. I sold eggs all summer and bought the principal things for winter. I can't say I had a hard time. My husband and I brought up our family together and helped each other.

Christmas and New Year, we had a lot of fun, quite different from today. We really prepared ahead of time: it meant a lot to us. The people of that time were very religious; we walked to church for retreats and mass, winter or summer. I knew, as my parents did, that there is a God and we prayed a lot and had a lot of faith. With it, you can go a long way through hardships and still smile. We don't always think of God but when sickness strikes, we say "Oh, God, help us". He is the one that we ask for help.

We danced a lot! People came from all over. There was always someone to play the fiddle, and everybody was so close in those days, like brothers and sisters. On New Year, our father blessed each one of us "for a good year". Our main treat to give the children was "les beignes" (doughnuts, pieces of dough, cut in little squares with a hole in the middle and fried in grease). At Christmas, the school would put on a Christmas concert, and all the parents went to watch their children. We looked forward to that every year. Our only transportation was horse and buggy and the sleigh in winter. Many times we walked.

Our house was made of logs. Nearly everybody had the same kind of house. We had good drinking water — three springs!

My dad and mother were hard working people and good providers, so that is why we were like that. We had to walk to school, so had to get up early in the

morning. We never got lonesome. We always worked and had a lot to do. Being a Métis never bothered us because God put us all on earth. What I'd like to see happen to Métis people, is to have a good education and make use of it. I'm proud of my family. I was poor but saw to it that my family had their education and they are all doing fine for themselves.

I travel a lot today to visit my children. My health is still good — no complaints. Hard work doesn't kill you, it makes you strong. It's better than sitting and looking at the four walls and getting lonely.

Fleury, Fred and Ruby

Fred was born at Fort Ellice June 22, 1899. He married Ruby Mockford in 1921 at Brandon. Her parents farmed between Welwyn and Rocanville. In 1928 Fred started working for C.N.R. and the family moved 26 times! In those days if a railway family wanted to see their father — it meant moving along with him. The men worked 6 days a week on the track, and the section houses had no conveniences. Besides caring for her family, Ruby sewed all their clothing, grew and tended a large garden, and preserved wild fruit. The eldest daughter learned to bake bread when she was 9 years old. When the family started to leave home, Ruby became cook for the C.N.R. from 1953-1967. If the crew numbered 17 or less one cook did the work alone. Cook houses were old boxcars, with coal and wood stoves. On weekends, Ruby cleaned, cooked and did laundry for her own family. Fred retired from the railroad in 1964. He was accidentally killed Jan. 17, 1968 at Uno, Man. Ruby married Fred's brother Bernard, he too died. Ruby now lives at the Pioneer Lodge in Birtle. Fred and Ruby's family number eleven — Alita, Merrick, Dolarine (Dolly), Jean, Raymond, Stanley, Thelma (Mrs. Raymond Dupont), Dorothy, Donald (who lives in St. Lazare), Faye and Albert. With the exception of Albert who works for Bicknells, all the Fleury boys are employed by the C.N.R.



Gil Fleury, 1897

Fleury, Gilbert and Clemence

Gilbert was born in St. Lazare in 1880. He married Clemence Desjarlais in 1901. They had seven children Riel, Louis, Paul, Madeleine, Marguerite, Rose-Anna and Alvina. In 1953, Clemence passed away and Gilbert died in 1962 at 82 years of age.

Fleury, Jean Louis as told to Yvonne Leclerc

I, Jean Louis Fleury was born April 1, 1900, north of St. Lazare. My father was William Fleury, and my mother was Cecile Gendron. There were seven children in our family; Rene, Madeleine, Isabelle, Julie, Marie-Louise, Danny and Jeanne Louise.

My dad did a lot of trapping — we had a lot of wild meat to eat. We cut cordwood and worked out. We had a hard life. We trapped in the spring, in water up to our waist: we had to break ice in the mornings.

My mother was born on the Lizard Point Reserve. My dad was from St. Francois-Xavier. We had log houses and all had big families. We lived in Ste. Madeleine. I went to work in Langenburg, Sask., and when I came back my house was burnt down — only ashes left. They didn't give us anything or anywhere to live. They burned everything we had: we were not the only family that got burned out — there were quite a few others. I came to live here in Selby Town. I hauled little logs on my shoulders and built a little shack, eight feet by nine; it was miserable. Then I got this one I'm living in now from Tanners: they built it for a barn but didn't use it, so I bought it from them to make a home!

I had ten children, five girls, five boys with Marie Josephine Ledoux, my wife. We have only two here, the rest all moved to Brandon. I worked a lot for farmers, driving horses, threshing, stooking. I stooked in 1936 for \$1.25 a day from seven in the morning to eight at night — stooked for 30¢ an acre. We finished on Aug. 25th then I went to Yorkton, Sask., to work. I trapped, cut wood, hauled wood to town. One winter, I hauled sixty loads to town at \$1.25 a load. As years went by, it got better. A lot of times, I had no horses so I'd go with Joe Tanner to cut posts down below here. We'd get half and half! There was some kind of relief but we had to work for it! I'd walk from here to St. Lazare. When they were building the Assiniboine bridge, I took sick with pneumonia and there was no way to come home. I stayed for two days then decided to walk home: it took me seven hours. On my way I stopped at Leclercs' and they gave me hot tea, liniment and aspirins and I finally got home! I was laid off for six weeks. I tried to get help but they wouldn't give it to me. When I

got a little stronger, I went to see the doctor. I told him I wanted to get some medicine to get better so I could go to work. He told me to phone the municipal office and if they wouldn't help me — tell them to phone him. After that they gave me \$40.00 worth of groceries. Just before I went to see the doctor I sold a skinning knife I had: for \$1.00 — I had paid \$3.75 for it. That was the last thing I had to sell for something to eat.

I never went to school. I worked for farmers for \$10.00 a month and in Langenburg for 25¢ an hour. There were about fifty families in Ste. Madeleine at one time — a few got paid to move out but not all. When we first moved here to Fouillard Town there were already quite a few families. The roads were not much, just trails. There were no hospitals. I used to haul my groceries with dogs. I had no horses. I didn't own my own land but my dad had a homestead in Ste. Madeleine. If there was no work, we hunted for wild meat. We tried to survive the best we could. All my children went to school but they quit too soon. I only wish they had finished their schooling. I would like to see Metis children have an education; without it, is like being blind. Last winter I didn't get my old age pension for three months. Finally the postmaster asked if I had received a form and I said I didn't know. I went home and looked through the mail and there was a form so I took it back and they filled it out and I got my cheques. That's what happens when you can't read — it's very hard without an education.

Our amusements were baseball and dances. We had good times even though we had no money. I played the fiddle a bit. I'd like the good old days I guess for one reason: I was younger and healthier. Now I can't do much, I have asthma and it's hard to get around.

Fleury, Joe and Flora

The children of Joe Fleury and Flora (Leclair) number twelve. A set of twin girls were born in 1923 but only lived for two hours. **Deana** is the second oldest of the family. She married Tom Haney, son of Norman Haney and Eva (Hayden) of Welby. They moved to St. Lazare in 1939, raising seven boys and five girls. They lived in St. Lazare all the years of their marriage, but Tom had been ill and disabled for the past twenty-three years. He died April 19, 1982. **Clara** married Roy McMaster of Toronto. They have nine children all living in Toronto. Roy owns his own towing outfit in the city. One boy died at the age of three in 1932. **Ernest** (Baker) married Theresa La Rose of Welby, daughter of Fred La Rose and Marie (Hayden). They have six children. Baker has been working for Motorways in Winnipeg for the past twenty-three years. **Rita** married Al Brazeau of Pick-

le Lake, Ont. They have four children. Al owns Landing Enterprises in Pickle Lake. **Rene** married a Toronto girl, June Hawkins. They and their six children live in Brandon. Rene is in the roofing business. **Therese** married Bernard Thiell of Saskatoon. They have five children. They have a Bakery in North Battleford, Sask. **Betty** married Al Morrin from Val d'Or, P.Q. They have one daughter who lives in North Battleford. **Lorraine** married Bob Parker from Sudbury, Ont. They have three boys and own a hotel in Central Patricia in Ontario. **Norman** lives in Brandon working as a counsellor.

Fleury, Louis and Lenore by Louis Fleury

I was born May, 1908, son of Edward Fleury and Natalie Boyer. My mother died in 1918 and my brother and I and our sister Mary were adopted by Grandma and Grandpa Boyer. I married Lenore Leclair on November 24, 1931. We lived on the farm with my grandparents until their deaths in 1938 and 1940. We continued to live on the farm where we raised seven children, four boys, Robert, Peter, Wallace and Earl (Butch) and three girls Rosalie, Victoria and Marlene. I started work with C.N.R. in 1941 and worked with them for 32 years until I received my pension in 1973. Lenore and I enjoyed four years of retirement until her death in November 1977. I continued to live in St. Lazare for a short time until I moved to Estevan, Saskatchewan, where I am living with my daughter, Marlene, and her husband Leonard Grube. **Robert**, our oldest, married Elsie Tavenier from Manor, Saskatchewan. From this union were born eleven children. Robert passed away in October, 1978. **Rosalie** married Donald Odgers from Spy Hill, Saskatchewan. They had eight children. Rose and Don are living in Oxbow, Saskatchewan. **Peter** married Lorna Brown from Spy Hill, Saskatchewan. They have two children and make their home in St. Lazare. **Wallace** married Donna Lario of Oxbow, Saskatchewan. They and their three children live in Russell, Manitoba. Victoria — see story. **Butch** married Maureen Campbell of Dauphin, Manitoba. They also have two girls and are living in Roblin. **Marlene** married Joe Lingelback Sr. They had two boys. Joe passed away in April, 1974. Marlene married again on September 9, 1978 to Len Grube. They now own their own Sporting Goods store in Estevan.

Fleury, Robert

Robert was the son of Louis and Lenore. He lived at "China Town", and attended Ellice School. Bob worked for various farmers in the district, especially during harvest. He enjoyed hunting. Robert married



Robert Fleury Family: Standing Bud, Jake, John, David. 2nd Row: Cora, Donna, Elsie, Bob, Darlene, Linda. Front: Debby, Conrade and Sheila. (25th Wedding Ann.)

Elsie Tavanier of Manor, Saskatchewan in May 1953. They lived on the old homestead where Robert farmed. On this farm was a menagerie of animals, including a monkey! Bob worked for C.N.R. for 28 years. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus. Robert and Elsie had a large family, that are now scattered throughout the province. **Darlene** (1953) is now living in Estevan. She has three daughters. **Dwight** (1955) is living and working in Brandon. **David** (1956) and Carol and son, Brian live in Russell, **Debbie** (1957) lives in Brandon. **Jake** (1958) lives in Portage la Prairie. **Cora** (1959) lives in Estevan with her daughter Crystal. **Donna** (1960) and her husband Cam Genaille and son Brent live in Russell. **Linda** (1961) lives in Russell. **John** (1962) lives in Brandon. **Sheila** (1963) lives in Russell. **Conrad** (1964) lives in St. Lazare. Robert passed away on November 26, 1978 at 46 years of age. Elsie has married again, and is now living in Lacombe, Alberta.

Odgers, Rosalie Marie (Fleury) by Rosalie Odgers

I was born in December 1935 on 4-17-28 in Ellice, daughter of Louis and Lenore (Leclair) Fleury. I attended Ellice School and was taught by Miss Desrosiers, Mrs. Frank Dale, Miss Fillion, and Mr. Lazare Fouillard during my school days. Both sets of grandparents lived near us; Edward and Natalie (Boyer) Fleury and John Baptise and Flora (Lepine). Considerable time was spent playing cards with them and listening to them relate interesting and spooky stories. In 1955, I went to Winnipeg to work at St. Vital hospital. I met Donald Charles, son of John and Mable (Perrin) Odgers of Spy Hill. We were married at Spy Hill in May 1957. We moved to Steelman Oilfield where Don was employed with Sun Oil. The company was transferred to Oxbow in 1958. Our first home, a trailer, was exchanged for a "skid house",

before we built a home in Oxbow. Farming was still in our blood, so in 1972 we purchased a farm where we still live. We have a family of eight — **Holley** married Lorne McAuley (son of Stan and Lorraine McAuley). They have a daughter Heather and a son Dallas and live and farm north of Alameda, Sask. **Emily** married Daniel (son of George and Yvette Carrier from Alida). They live in Oxbow where Daniel works for Sun Oil. They have a son, Ryan and daughter, Melissa. **Maureen** married Neil (son of Basil and Doris Arthur). They and daughter Felesia live on a farm at Redvers. **Charlene** married Leon (son of Ed and Bertha Brooks). They live on a farm north of Alameda. **Wayne** works in Oxbow in the oilfield. **Lyle** lives at home and works in the oilfield. **Patricia** and **David** live at home and both attend school.

Over the years Don has been involved with the Oxbow men's baseball and hockey teams as a player, coach and executive member. He played baseball with the St. Lazare Athletics, flying in Fouillard's plane to and from ball games. I have played with the women's fastball team and belong to several clubs in Oxbow.

Fleury, Peter

My grandparents and parents all lived in "China Town". My parents had nine children, two died. Most of the children were born at home with Grandma Leclair acting as mid-wife. She also brought us up. I have lived in St. Lazare most of my life, except for a span of ten years when we lived at Welby, Sask. In 1962, I met Lorna Brown whom I married in St. Lazare two years after the new church was built. Father Regnier was priest then. We now have two children, Sheldon and Lisa. Lorna was raised on a farm 10 miles from Spy Hill, Sask. Her mother is living in Esterhazy, but her father passed away at the age of 49. At present, we are living in St. Lazare.

Fleury, Wallace

I was born in "China Town" in 1940, son of Louis and Lenore. I began my hockey career at the age of ten and have played in several towns since, including Yorkton, playing with the Terriers. In 1967 I married Donna Lario from Oxbow. We moved to Williams Lake, B.C. in 1968, the year Theoren Wallace was born. I played hockey with the Williams Lake Stampeders for four years. Theodore Wilfred (1970) was born during our stay there. Our next move took us to Binscarth where Travis Dwight was born. Lastly, we moved to Russell where we have lived for over ten years, and where I am employed by the town of Russell. I still enjoy Old Timers hockey, where I play for the Russell Bulls. I still sing and play the guitar. During the summer I umpire baseball played

in the Manitoba Senior League, and I, also, participate in a few golf tournaments.

Holt, Victoria (Fleury)

I was born at home on S.E. ¼ 4-17-28 and went to Ellice School. My first teacher was Mrs. Leone Dale, whose guidance made Christmas concerts a lot of fun. Mom and Dad moved to Victor where Dad was section foreman; before moving to Welby. From there I moved to Oxbow to babysit for my sister, Rosalie. I worked for the Jim Workman's on their farm. I met Bill Holt and we were married in Welby, on September 30, 1961. We made our home in Oxbow where Darlene Linda (1962) and Kip William (1964) were born. Bill went to work as a helper for U.G.G. in Alameda in 1965. He got his first elevator in Mather, where we lived for a short time before moving back to Alameda, where we now live. Karla Lynn was born in May, 1967, and Todd Robert Louis in January 1973. Our children attended Alameda Elementary, and Oxbow High School. Our daughter, Darlene met Vaughn Millions of Fertile. They were married and have one child. The small family live in Carlyle where Vaughn works for Saskatchewan Wheat Pool.

Fleury, Earl (Butch)

I am the youngest child of Louis and Lenore born April 22, 1945 in Ellice. I married Maureen Campbell of Dauphin, in 1974. We reside in Roblin with our two daughters, Amber and Erin. I am employed by Roblin town and Maureen teaches school.

Fleury, Lena

as told to Yvonne Leclerc

I was born in 1915 in Ste. Madeleine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Norbert Boucher. There were several families living in the Madeleine area at that time. They all had log shacks that had to be left when P.F.R.A. moved in. I married Dan Fleury when I was 22. We left Ste. Madeleine with my two little girls, and moved to Gerald, Sask. We moved back to Binscarth and bought 80 acres and moved a house to that farm. Our house burned, but it was replaced by M.M.F. (Manitoba Métis Federation). We had a few head of cattle as well. Dan cut cord wood for 50¢ a cord. We caught rabbits and sold hides for 10¢ each. When the Assiniboine bridge was built, Dan worked for Harry Belhumeur.

Dan and I had nine children — Harvey, Rita, Jean, Florence, Wilfred, Elmer, Joseph, Rene and Doreen. My aunt Veronique Fisher was the midwife.

We are now living in Binscarth where earning a living is much easier.

Fleury, Marie Louise **as told to Yvonne Leclerc**

I was born Dec. 23, 1903. My father's name was Jean Baptiste Lepine and my mother was Caroline Pritchard. There were nine in our family, five girls and four boys, Bill, myself, Justine, Peter, Catherine, Norman, Victoria, Agnes and one boy who died when he was a baby. Seven are still living.

I lived with my parents at Assessippi by the Shell River. We had cattle, pigs and horses when we lived there. Then we moved to St. Lazare, on the hill near Joe Lefranc's, two and a half miles from town. I went to school here, Mr. Blouin was my teacher. There were no school vans and we had to walk. We came to church at the mission by buggy or sleigh and horses, or we walked. We lived in an old brick house that belonged to old man Chartier. Then we moved to the Gambler district and I went to school there for four years. We lived by Silver Creek when I was eleven with old John Leclair, who had a piece of land there. It was a mile and a half to walk to Gambler school. I never learned French until I picked it up from my kids.

I did a lot of work to help my dad, I knew how to use an axe and brush hook. We would cut scrub, pile the branches with a fork and burn them. Sometimes my dad would take a job near Foxwarren and we would all go and help stooking, from six in the morning until dark. The wages were not too big, and even my mother worked with us. I quit school when I was 15 and started working out on the farms. The first place I worked was at Falloons for \$15.00 a month. Then when I was 17, I worked at McCrindles near Foxwarren for \$20.00 a month.

When we lived at Assessippi, Rev. Father Lalonde would come there to say mass, and baptize the new babies. Emile Chartier would drive him around, in summer with a team and buggy and in winter, a cutter. Later he had a car.

It was nice at Christmas and New Years. The Metis people were very religious, and we would always go to mass. We had a tradition in our family, every New Year's we had to kneel down in front of our dad and shake hands with him. Then he'd make the sign of the cross, like a blessing for the New Year.

We had good times too. Bill and Tom Ducharme taught Agnes, Catherine, Bill and myself to chord on the organ. At parties, we would take turns chording while someone played the fiddle. Bill Flamand, Bill Ducharme, Gaspard Fiddler all could play the violin. We had lots of fun with music and dancing. It was square dances, jigs, seven steps and old time waltzes. We would start at nine and quit at six or seven in the morning. People came from all over in sleighs and cutters. We always celebrated on my Uncle Peter

Lepine's birthday Jan. 6th. First it was a feast and then a dance.

I got married in 1925 to Gabriel Fleury when I was 21 years old. We had four kids, two boys and two girls. They were Lily, Leo, Dolphine and Leonard. We had some bad times. Leonard died when he was only three months old. Leo was killed in a car accident when he was 29 years old. He was married to Clara Domoslai and had three kids. Lily who was married to George Houle died in 1975. She had five kids, twins Rosanne and Rosalie, Irene and another pair of twins Jimmy and Penny. I have eight grand children and seven great grandchildren. My husband died in 1961. He had asthma for many years, and couldn't work. He finally got a disability pension, not long before he died.

Now I have my old age pension and I have nothing to worry about, just look after myself. It seems to me the olden days were better, even if we had no electricity or money. Everyone was closer together, and visited more. I know that hard work never killed anyone because my dad died at 93 and my mother at 86. They celebrated their silver, golden and diamond anniversary before they died.

Fleury, Ralph (Raphael Clement)

Ralph was the son of Jean (Jack) and Mary (Ducharme) Fleury of St. Ambroise, Manitoba. Jean passed away in 1942 and Mary in 1960. Ralph married Mary (Marie Elvina) Vermette of Welby in 1938. Mary was the daughter of Napoléon and Kathryn (Pritchard) Vermette. (See Napoleon Vermette History.

Ralph and Mary had 7 children — **Elie** Charles (1939) married Thérèse McIvor of St. Lazare. They live in Prince Albert with their three children, Mark, Dwayne and Nicole. **Doreen** Dorothy (1943) married Butch La Rose of Winnipeg. She lives in Winnipeg with her two children Darran and Jackie. **Stanley** Rene (1947) married Carol Rannie of Binscarth. They live there with their children, Ian and Denise. A son, **Joseph** died at birth in 1948. **Donald** Wilfred (1949) is unmarried and living in Calgary. **Kenneth** James (1954) married JoAnn McLeod of Prince Albert where they live. **Joseph Terrance** (1958) married Karen Balan of Prince Albert. They also live in Prince Albert.

Ralph farmed 23-18-29 in the Gambler district from 1946 to 1955. Prior to this, the family lived in a house rented from Lloyd Joyce. Before Ralph started to build his own home in 1946, he bundled his family into the buggy to select a site. Mary chose a site on the south side of the road dividing their place and when she came to inspect it after it was finished, lo

and behold, Ralph had built on the east side. This was his nature, which brought many chuckles to his family and friends. From 1958 to 1961, they lived on Ed Perreault's farm. Then Ralph began work for Russell Johnston operating a "cat" in road construction. He was later employed in construction for the Russell Municipality.

Ralph and Mary retired to Binscarth where Ralph passed away in April 1982.

Fouillard, Jean-Marie and Prudence

Jean-Marie Fouillard de la Liziere was born on March 21, 1862 in Parigny (Ille et Vilaine) France and his wife Prudence Tescier, was born in Amanlis (Ille et Vilaine) France. They were married in Rennes, France on March 7, 1888 and immigrated to Canada in 1892 with three children, **Jean**, three years old, **Eugene**, two, and a baby girl.

They landed in Halifax then boarded a train for Winnipeg and stayed at the Hotel Menard. While they were there the baby, **Marie-Rose**, became sick, died and was buried in the St. Boniface Cathedral cemetery. Jean-Marie also became ill and spent considerable time in the hospital. He and his wife had planned to live in Ste. Anne with Jean's sister Marie-Anne (Mrs. Felix Decorby) who lived there with her husband and her brother Auguste. That plan fell through as his sister's house and all its contents burned shortly before their arrival in Canada. Jean-Marie then decided to take a homestead at Saltcoats, Saskatchewan. Once there, he managed to build a sod hut and put a window in the roof, the walls being thick as a protection from the wolves and the cold. He also built a fireplace for cooking and to provide heat; made beds of wood and used dry hay to make mattresses. Fortunately, they had plenty of linen, blankets and clothes they had brought from France. Their food consisted mainly of prairie chickens, partridges and rabbits which were easily caught and were plentiful in the area. While they lived there, two baby girls were born but died from lack of proper diet and medical attention. After three years of hardship they were discovered by Father Decorby who suggested they move to St. Lazare. On the way there they stopped in Welby and stayed with the Decorbys where **Benoit** was born on December 31, 1895. Marie-Anne, Jean's sister and husband Felix were living there at the time as the Decorbys owned land in that area. Meanwhile Jean-Marie was preparing a new home for the family on the Wheeler farm, located where Mrs. Edouard Belhumeur now lives. **Marie-Anne** (Mrs. John Charron) was born there on August 27, 1897 and was the first Fouillard to be born in St. Lazare. The Fouillards were happy there. The summer had been good. They raised cattle, had most of



La Famille de J. M. Fouillard: Jean, Benoit, Eugene. Assis: Jean-Marie, Prudence, Marie, Anna, Marguerite, 1909.

their supplies in for the winter. As the winter promised to be severe, Jean-Marie left in Nov. to buy additional feed for the cattle from James Falloon of Crewe district. He was caught in a storm and had not returned as early as expected, so Prudence went to feed the calves in the barn. Hearing screams, she rushed back to find the house on fire. The children, Jean and Eugene, escaped barefooted and Prudence put Ben and Marie (who was a baby) in a trunk and pulled it out to safety. She ran to the barn to untie the cattle and meanwhile, Grandin Belhumeur, who had seen the fire from a distance alerted the neighbours who rushed to help. When Jean-Marie returned and saw the blaze, he was in agony until he reached the house. Thankfully no life had been lost but all their belongings were gone. They were taken in by Ed Fleury's father where they spent the winter. In the spring Jean-Marie left for Wapella, Saskatchewan, to obtain employment and Prudence returned to Welby with the children to stay with the Decorbys until her husband could find accommodation for them. For the better part of a year Jean-Marie worked at menial tasks for 50¢ a day. He lived with the Benoits, a French-speaking family whose son later became monseigneur at Holy Cross Church in Winnipeg. They were very kind to him as were the Logans and the Knowles. Finally he moved his family to the

Fitzimon homestead. Marie was left behind for a while with Anna Chartier who took care of her. In return for her kindness, Prudence gave Anna a ring which was returned to Marie years later by Anna's daughter, Mrs. Zacharie Decelles. While they lived in Wapella a girl named Margaret was born but died a year later from pneumonia and Prudence also had a still-born child. Jean-Marie went back for the bodies of the children buried in Saltcoats, thus four little girls share a common grave in Wapella.

Because the children needed religious training and schooling in French, as well as English, Jean-Marie, influenced by Father Maillard, decided to return to live in St. Lazare. Prudence reluctantly agreed. **Marguerite Jeanne** (Mrs. Jean Dupont) was born shortly after their arrival in September, 1903 in a log house built by Norbert Fleury. **Anna** (Mrs. **Amedee Vermette**) was also born there on August 24, 1904.

With the help of Jean and Eugene's money, which they had made from trapping fur bearing animals, Jean-Marie built a general store to accommodate the men employed on the construction of the Grand Trunk Railway. The laborers were mostly Doukhobors. The store was built in 1906-1907 and was located where Fouillard Furniture now stands. In 1908, the family moved from the house on the hill to

live in a lean-to that had been added to the store. **Georges-Auguste** was born there in January, 1908 as well as **Joseph Arthur (Babe)** in June, 1910.

Jean-Marie took an active part in the village activities becoming secretary-treasurer for the school board and councillor of the municipality for a number of years. He also taught evening classes with Mrs. Delphis Chartier until the arrival of the first teacher, Mr. Tillman.

In 1911, the family moved to a log house built by Eugene, Jean and Benoit. The same year Jean-Marie was taken to the hospital where he later died on December 26. At the time his family was sick with scarlet fever so very few people were able to attend his funeral.

Prudence was a very courageous woman, had a good business sense and kept the family together by keeping everyone at work. When her daughter Anna passed away at the age of twenty-four, Prudence suffered a stroke and remained in bed for six months. During her recovery, her sons George and Joseph built her a house in 1929 where she resided until her death in 1941.

Fouillard, Jean

Jean was born in Rennes, France on December 26, 1888. He was the eldest of the children born to Jean-Marie Joseph Fouillard and Prudence Tessier. He came to Canada with his parents when he was three years old. Being the oldest of fourteen children, he endured many hardships. He had very little schooling. What he knew, he learned from his father; he was a self-educated man; he read a lot and could entertain you for hours on subjects relating to world affairs.

As a teen-ager, he learned masonry and plastering. He worked on several stations along the Grand Trunk Railway including the St. Lazare station and section house.

In 1906, he took off with a wagon and a team of horses, to work on the survey of country roads. He came back with a wagon and only one horse, because the other horse had been destroyed on account of a broken leg. It was a long and arduous trip back for an eighteen-year old. One night he got as far as an Indian reserve. The chief told him he could spend the night there. Being very tired, John agreed. The next morning when he woke up, all his belongings were gone including the harness for his horse. He informed the Indian chief and it was not long before he got most of his belongings back.

Jean built homes with his brothers Eugene and Ben. In 1917 he bought the land surrounding the village from the Grand Trunk Railway, and started farming. He married Marie Tremblay, daughter of



Jean et Marie (Tremblay) Fouillard, 1927.

Luc Tremblay and Elizabeth Simard. They had four children, Luc born 1928, Jean-Marie 1930, George 1932 and their only daughter Anne-Marie in 1934. Jean had the misfortune to lose his wife Marie in 1936; he and his young family moved in with his sister Marguerite Dupont, who cared for and raised the children. Jean was a school trustee for 24 years. He died suddenly on March 9, 1949 at the age of sixty one.

Fouillard, Luc

I was born January 2, 1928 in St. Lazare, the eldest of a family of four children. I was eight when my mother died, and from then on, we lived with, and were raised by my Aunt Marguerite and Uncle John Dupont. I attended elementary school in St. Lazare, until I was 13 years old, then in 1942 I went to St. Boniface College and later University. In 1955, I graduated with a Civil Engineer degree. I worked in Winnipeg for a year and in July, 1955, I married Lucille Champagne who worked in a bank, and still does. Our son Marc was born May 7, 1956 and that same year we moved to Virden, Manitoba. I was employed by Slumberger, testing oil wells until 1958. We moved back to Winnipeg, where I started work-

ing for Defence Construction at the Winnipeg Airport, from there I worked for Hi-Way Dept. until 1965. Now I am employed by the Provincial Government as Traffic Study Engineer.

We are living in the Windsor Park area. Our son, Marc, also an engineer, married Michelle Roy, and they have a son Robert.

Fouillard, Jean-Marie (Jr)

Jean-Marie was born March 15, 1930, son of Jean and Marie Fouillard, at St. Lazare. He left in 1955 to work at Kitimat B.C. In 1959 he accepted employment with Fouillard Brothers as manager of the cocktail bar in the La Verendrye Hotel in The Pas.

It was at The Pas that he met and on July 2, 1960 married Rita Howe, born December 9, 1935 in Bristol, England. On June 20, 1961 their daughter Suzanne was born.

After spending 1967 in England, the family returned to Ottawa where Jean-Marie is employed by the Farm Credit Corporation as an accountant and Rita is teaching school for the Ottawa Public School Board. Suzanne attends Algonquin College.

George; went to St. Boniface College, and when he came home, he started working in the Royal Bank at Binscarth, then Russell. He next worked as a bookkeeper for Adrien Roy at Radville, Sask. He was later employed in a clothing store in Edmonton, then started with CNR where he is now employed.

Anne Marie; grew up and was educated in St. Lazare. When she was 18, she got a job as a bookkeeper at St. Boniface Hospital. She has also worked in various stores, among them Eatons, as a salesperson. She married Ronald Wilkes who works for the City of Winnipeg. They have six children, Deborah, Rachelle, Robert, Margaret and Ronnie, plus four grandchildren.

Fouillard, Eugene and Helene by Aline Fouillard

Eugene, son of Jean-Marie Fouillard and Prudence Tescier was born in Rennes, France on March 21, 1890. His parents immigrated to Canada when he was two years old. His recollections of his childhood were of extreme poverty. He remembers when they first settled in Canada at Saltcoats, Saskatchewan, they lived in a sod house but he always talked about another hut where his father used to catch jack rabbits. The fact that he lived in semidarkness in a sod house as a child, is likely the reason why he added innumerable windows in houses he built. One of the toys he and his brother made were trains made from jack rabbit skeletons. The skull of one would be the locomotive while the cars were made from the rest of the skeleton.

When they lived in Wapella, he showed some talent for drawing and modeling. He had made a replica of the town of Wapella with bits and pieces and drawings to illustrate his project. A citizen of the area, after having seen this wanted to adopt him and give him a proper education. His parents naturally refused in spite of their dire financial straits.

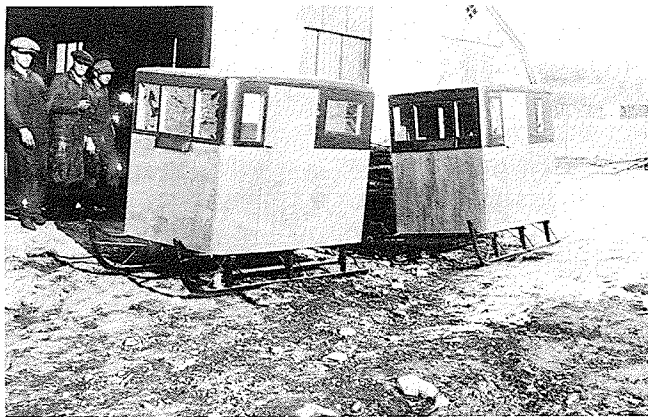
I will let his sisters relate the details of his parents' early settlement in the area, I will only recall the things I personally heard from him or from his children. Before I do, I will talk about his wife Helene, daughter of Edmond Simard and Sarah Gwyer who was born on May 24th 1896. Her beginnings and life, before she married Eugene, were not much easier. This is one reason, I suspect that she never took the relative prosperity she later enjoyed in life, for granted. Helene was born, raised and attended school in St. Lazare where Adam Blouin was her teacher.

Having an English-born mother, she felt at ease in both cultures; French and English. One of her fondest memories was when she was introduced to reading books written by L. M. Montgomery. She used to walk two miles from home every week to Mrs. Charters' to get chapters of "Anne of Green Gables", which were published as a serial in a paper of that particular time. She married Eugene during World War I, on August 1st, 1917, while her father was overseas. They first lived in an apartment above Eugene's store which was then located where Fouillard Implement Exchange stood for years. They later graduated to a better home, one on Main Street where Raoul Huberdeau's trailer is now. Their second residence still stands and belongs to Andrew Perreault. The style of the house attests to his talent and taste in buildings. Later they moved to a farm south of town, into a Spanish-type building, built in 1941 and it is still in the family and occupied by son, Alexandre and family.

Mrs. Fouillard had a regal bearing, giving the impression of being haughty, but it was mostly a facade due to shyness. She was a woman with a heart of gold. She was deeply religious and her religion was an integral part of her life. She never participated openly in business affairs but in the background lent a helping hand to Eugene. For years she had some hired men as boarders. She also raised a family of ten children, so even with hired help, she was extremely busy. Her husband and children were always free to bring home anybody, anytime, to eat or sleep. She was an outstanding cook and her meals (I call them banquets) were something to behold. She led a rather quiet life, otherwise, as she did not enjoy travelling. Her only travels consisted of accompanying Eugene to Winnipeg on several occasions. When she was over 50 years old, she was given her personal car and

learned to drive. Helene had many talents but driving was not one of them. Thank God, St. Christopher had not been demoted at the time, he and God surely had a hand in protecting her and the people she met on the road! She never drove very far without being accompanied by another driver. After becoming a widow in 1953, she retired to a house in town built by her sons and located beside the convent. She lived there with Jeanne and Ernest, being the proverbial, benevolent grandmother to her numerous grandchildren, until 1974 when due to failing health she was admitted to Russell Nursing Care Home. She is now 86 years old. Her children were: Jeanne, born December 26, 1918 who is now a Presentation of Mary sister in Debden, Saskatchewan; Arthur born on August 30, 1920; Leon-Joseph (known as Leo or Pedz) born on January sixth, 1923; Ernest, born on January 21, 1925; Constant, born on January 9, 1927 — died on October 29, 1962; Alexandre, born on March 17, 1929; Paul, born on March 22, 1931; Eugene born October 8, 1932; Helene (Mrs. Emile Huybrecht) born July 6, 1935, and finally Rose-Marie (Mrs. Murray Cook, Binscarth) born on April 13, 1938.

After Eugene's parents moved to St. Lazare, he showed an early talent for "horse-trading". His first venture into business consisted of trading (the beginning of Eugene's basic way of making money) fresh vegetables for bacon to the Doukhobors who were building the railway. He later followed this work crew to Welby to cater to their needs and he sold them such things as peanuts and shoe laces. His establishment was better than his previous open-air arrangement, because he had graduated to a tent.



First vans built by Eugene Fouillard (John Dupont and Norman Haney).

He later became a carpenter in partnership with his brother Jean and Benoit. In 1908, when he was 18 years old, his father had to co-sign a contract so he could obtain the Massey-Harris agency as he was not of age. Eugene became involved in different enter-

prises. Businesswise, he was very aggressive, he was an innovator and grasped every opportunity along the way. In the 1920's, he had his employees build cutters and vans which he sold under contract to Eatons for several years. During the depression, to keep his head above water, he devised a way of supplying farmers. As cash was just about non-existent, he took anything on trade when he sold merchandise. The convent boarders of these depression years will recall eating cabbage one year, in every shape and form because Eugene had paid part of his children's board with these vegetables obtained from a farmer in Angusville in return for goods purchased. He had his employees repair and paint the machinery taken in trade and this created a considerable amount of employment in St. Lazare when jobs were unavailable elsewhere. Peter McDonald, reporter, from the Country Guide magazine interviewed him here in 1934 and described his way of operating. Eugene always drove a good car, in spite of the fact, his sons recall, that one year he had to borrow on his insurance to keep solvent.

Eugene's store which had been partly built in 1915, with an extension added in the 1920's, burned in 1942. It was a great loss; he carried very little insurance, and the stock on hand had greatly increased in value since the beginning of the war. Mrs. Fouillard said the day following the fire, he was back at work trying to salvage something out of the mess; and he never uttered a word of discouragement or bitterness at what had happened to his life's work. He, with his son's help, built a new store which was completed, August 10, 1944.

Eugene acquired several farm implement agencies, and also started a lumber yard (which he later gave to his sons Ernest and Constant). He bought a farm south of town where he built a house in 1941 and moved there with his family. He also sold furniture and later electrical appliances. Having an eye for bargains, he would sell anything under the sun. I recall once when he bought two thousand pairs of shoes from McDonald's Shoe Store in Winnipeg at a dollar a pair and resold them in the furniture department of his store.

I described Eugene as a business man. As a person, he was a man of considerable charm and personality, extremely intelligent, self-educated and very sensitive towards the needs of those less fortunate than himself. He was the best father-in-law anyone could have. When Leo and I moved into our new home in 1951, he told me to go and choose any furniture I wanted. He said it was like at Eaton's, I could return the goods if I was not satisfied — the only difference was I did not have to pay. On another occasion, Christine (Mrs. Arthur) and I made our

first garden. Mr. Eugene teased us incessantly about our non-existent talents as gardeners. Shortly after, on his return from a trip to Winnipeg, he presented us, as well as his wife, each with a nice wooden work-basket which stood on legs. He said he considered buying us hoes but figured this a more appropriate gift for his wife and daughters-in-law.

Eugene loved to make money, not only because it presented a challenge to him, but because he enjoyed the comforts, prosperity provided. A few years before his death he told Frank Clement (his business rival in Russell) as well as Frank Burdett, that he had attained one of his goals in life; which was, he could make money faster than his family particularly (his sons) could spend it. With an attitude like that, he was not a penny-pincher and helped a lot of people anonymously.

I recall once when he sold a mattress to a poor man. He treated him as one of his best customers; everything was done according to regular procedure. The bill was written, so much cash a month was to be given for a while, the balance was to be paid with a cord of wood. Once the fellow was gone, he told Leo, "Throw that bill out, you know as well as I do that he won't pay a cent of it!" He also had a very good sense of humour and enjoyed playing practical jokes without considering the cost. During the middle of the depression, he sent one of his employees to rub "Balsam" on a tree that was in the process of dying. That linament cost three dollars, a considerable price during those hard years. Eugene was a man who judged people according to their qualities. He displayed no prejudice whatsoever against people of any nationality or religion, which was quite unusual at that time; maybe it was due to his European background.

Community-wise he helped mostly with contributions. His brother Ben was the zealous and devoted worker of the municipality and village. When they built the hockey rink in St. Lazare, Eugene sold half the tickets on a draw for a car.

My father-in-law always remained a modest man. He never pretended to be better than others. Nobody can say of him that he was a social climber. He adored his wife and the only thing his children could reproach him for is that he spoilt them too much. He was a man who enjoyed life thoroughly; death however, claimed him in 1953 when he was only sixty-three years old. He kept his sense of humour until the end. A few days before he died, Louis Guay (who was painfully thin, and was one of his life-long pals) went to visit him. Eugene said to him, "It couldn't be windy outside today Lou, for you to come and visit me."

What else can I say about my father-in-law other

than giving him credit for the survival of our hamlet. He brought prosperity and some recognition to the town of St. Lazare. The only regret I have is that he was not around long enough for his grandchildren to know and love him.

Fouillard, Sr. Jeanne by her sister Helene

Jeanne daughter of Eugene Fouillard and Helene Simard was born December 26, 1919. She attended school at St. Lazare and in 1940 entered the novitiate of the Sisters of the Presentation of Marie in St. Hyacinthe, Quebec. She left the convent after one and a half years due to ill health. She came back home and devoted her time to helping others — babysitting, decorating birthday and wedding cakes, playing the organ at church, making meals for the priest and driving people. Father Regnier maintained she worked harder than any healthy person. Jeanne also held a continuous rummage sale in the basement of the house — proceeds going to the church. One of her brothers maintains you needed a detailed map to find the furnace in the basement for the clutter she had created there. In 1966 she underwent an operation and her health improved considerably. After obtaining a special dispensation from the church, she was allowed to re-enter the convent as a nun. After her departure her sister and sister-in-law cleaned out the basement and burnt its contents at the village dump. The flames created were so high and intense that Paul Tremblay figured the Russians had invaded the country!

Jeanne made her final vows in St. Lazare on July six, 1975. The Sisters will tell you Jeanne has not changed her habits but they seem happy to accept her the way she is. She is presently at the convent in Debden, Saskatchewan and teaches music. She also does some cooking — hopefully she has a fire extinguisher close at hand. Jeanne does not enjoy too much leisure as she prays overtime to keep her family on the straight and narrow path!

Fouillard, Art and Christine by Arthur

I was born on August 31, 1920, second child and first of seven boys to Eugene Fouillard and Helene Simard. Mother was a very religious and disciplinary person and from our early childhood our boundaries were established. We dared not leave the yard under any circumstance. When I was about five years old, she possibly got tired of seeing us at the same location and allowed us to wander towards the old mission for gopher trapping. I had struck a friendship with Robert Decorby, which saw us together most of the time including our school years. On our hunting

expeditions he would bring a small jar of squirrel peanut butter for our lunch. We handled the gophers all day and consumed our lunch without the hygiene that might be considered necessary today. Friday was pancake day and Mother would keep the frying pan going until a winner had been declared as having eaten the most. On August 31, 1927 (my birthday) with a scribbler and pencil in hand, I accompanied my sister, Jeanne, to school. Mr. Auguste Dansereau was the teacher and after being shown how to sharpen the pencil, I was given a handful of short pointed colored sticks to make houses or other designs of my choice. I enjoyed school very much and managed good grades all through the seven years. The arrival of the Sisters marked a distinct improvement in my education. On completion of my Grade VIII, Sister Emerentienne arranged for representatives from St. Boniface College to meet with Dad and Mom to enrol me. Meeting over, Dad called me aside and told me that if I really wanted to go, I could, but that he thought that he could show me just as much. The decision was a hard one. However, he had already started moulding us in his business and realizing that he himself had had to satisfy himself with one month's schooling, I felt somewhat obligated to go his way. He had already established a bartering business, taking just about anything that was offered to him, against the price of a purchase. The rebuilding of used farm machinery was also complimented by the sale of furniture, gramophones, pianos and radios. This furniture was purchased from Auction Marts in Winnipeg and brought in by his brother Ben who operated the transfer. On arrival, the large sofas, were given preferred attention as we would search the pleats of the cushion base and often would retrieve money and other articles. The furniture was cleaned and given a final polish with 50/50 turpentine and linseed oil mixture. Pianos received the same treatment and when there was a sufficient number, a tuner was called in to tune them all. There was never a dull moment and many a car left with mattresses, drill and buggy wheels, being tied on with twine and haywire and with the driver and passengers entering through the windows due to the door handles being used as anchors. One of my first assignments was firing the wood stoves, turning the forge blower for Uncle John Dupont who knew no fear and never gave up on the wildest of mustangs who were brought in for shoeing. Mr. Peter Roy, a carpenter, who prided himself in his work, could rebuild a buggy or wagon in its entirety from the ironwork salvaged from an old one. Albert Grimms and Alex Nagy, who became masters at the forge repointed thousands of drill shoe bottoms. Joe Simard, Edgar and Adrian Roy, the human cranes, after a few years of heavy lifting, could load



John Dupont, Geo. Tremblay, Albert Grimms, George Chartier, Ernest and Arthur Fouillard.

drills and plows into the truck box by brute force. Uncle Georges Fouillard was the bookkeeper and managed the Imperial Oil bulk sales as a side line. About the mid-thirties they introduced leaded gas. It was green in color and they called it "Three Star" which eventually accounted for the National Hockey player selection which they were sponsoring along with game broadcasts. I had the pleasure of filling up "Satchel Page's" Buick with this new product. He was on his way to Russell to compete in a baseball tournament with other teams from the Northern States. In spite of the depression, one could look back and see some changes. Hydro had been introduced in our town in 1928, the forge was gradually losing out to oxy-acetylene and electricity for welding portable tools, such as electric drills taking over from the brace and bit and relieving the pressure on the old post drill. There had been some distinct improvement in radios. De Forest Crosley introduced the Superheterodyne vacuum tube, reducing the battery requirements from a 6-volt to a 2-volt. Programs were fast gaining a higher level of professionalism. Many will remember the Lux Theatre, Gangbusters, Amos and Andy, Jack Benny and other interesting programs which helped shorten the winter.

In 1935, Dad sold 35 radios and I was given the assignment of stretching out the antennas from roof tops to the tallest tree, regardless of weather conditions. Snowplanes had made their debut and had attracted Dad's interest. George (Pitsy) Tremblay, who was the mechanic for Uncle Ben, was equally interested and, with little to do until the roads opened up, came over to our shop and along with Henri Simard to do the welding, were given the task of building the chassis, motor mount and installations. Dad, with his past experience in van building and with the help of Mr. Roy, undertook to build the body. From long hours of trial and error were produced two of the most sophisticated and best performing ma-

chines that were kept in use for many years. In the later 30's, some improvement in the economy was being reflected by the increased number of cars and trucks; and tractors with steel cleats that had taken over from the horses were now being offered with rubber tires. A few combines were now competing against threshers. People travelled more and Saturday night meant taking in a movie or dance. This way of life continued until war was declared in Sept. 1939.

Dad introduced me to the payroll and I received yearly salaries as follows: 1939 — \$240.00, 1940 — \$480.00, 1941 — a small cottage. The rationing of farm equipment made it necessary for farmers to nurse and repair their machinery, and many plows and drills that had been discarded as obsolete were revived for a second look at the land. We were to dispose of just about everything that sat in our yard with some of it going as far as Dawson Creek, B.C. After four years in the Army, I returned to my job as bookkeeper. The war years had left the farmers in dire need of new equipment. It took at least seven years for production to catch up to the demand and make it possible to buy a car, truck, tractor or refrigerator from the floor. Our machine sales were increasing at a considerable pace and in 1949 we achieved the second highest sales for Massey Harris across Canada. Dad had taken over the sales of furniture and with chrome being introduced it was not unusual for him to sell four or five dining room suites a day, taking in trade round oak tables and other wood furniture which was eventually given away. Today it is being sold at premium prices as antiques. In post war years we were also blessed with some very devoted employees — Norman Haney, a very likable person always ready to please regardless of the situation. Wm. Fiddler kept the old forge going without a whisper and projected the old Joe Louis smile while pounding out cultivator shovels and plow shares. Mario Roncato possessed the ability and desire to do just about anything. When Mario said, "Me Fix", it was as good as done. The office staff; Georgette Tremblay, Lazare Fouillard, Armand Guenette, Margaret Hodgson, Diane Williams and many others who formed part of the team, were always ready to please.

In 1957 we incorporated as Fouillard Implement Exchange Ltd. with Leo, Eugene and myself as the principals. Farming was also part of our operation and over the years we continued to buy more land which was eventually registered under a charter of its own, A L E Farms Ltd. The land purchased in the Archie Municipality was placed under the management of the Lee Bros., to operate at their discretion. This agreement was signed by a handshake 21 years

ago, based on the sincerity and good business relationship that had existed between the two family fathers over the years. It is renewed every year in the same old fashion with a few ounces of spirits replacing the "Seal".

On May 24, 1950, I married Christine Decaire at Pinewood, Ont. Ten children resulted from our marriage. Our first son died at childbirth. Michelle (July 1952) married Thomas Anderson. Thomas is employed as a Winnipeg Constable and Michelle works for Immigration Canada. They have three daughters, Nathalie, Emily and Sheila. Guy (October 1954) is married to Janet Jansen. Guy teaches French at a Brandon school. They also have three children, Micah, Jared and Chad. Danielle (August 1953) is married to James Moreau. They reside at Iberville, Quebec, where James is employed as a welder. They have three daughters, Jessica, Caroline and Laura. Marcel (February 1956) is married to Jean Dodge. Marcel manages the A L E Farm Ranch. They have one daughter, Melissa. Mona (March 1958) is married to Dave Motuz at Minnedosa. Dave is employed by Hans Weiland. They have one son Stefan and daughter Gabrielle. Jacques (April 1959) is married to Teresa Anderson. Jacques is employed by Fouillard Implement Exchange Ltd. They have one son Jason. Mario (September 1960) is married to Rhonda Randall. Mario has just completed a mechanic's course at Red River College. They have one daughter Jennifer. Juliette (March 1962) is presently attending Brandon University. Joël (June 1963) is at home balancing mother and father's bank account with hockey as a hobby. Such a prolific listing requires an explanation and I have to give credit to my better half, Christine, who was born a housewife-specialist. She can keep a house shining without showing any effort and notwithstanding her cooking experience dating back to our wedding day, has the "savoir faire" to match the best of cooks.

Our large home which now seems vacant and quiet is revived by the occasional weekend invasion of sons, grandsons, and daughters. After 50 years in business, all indications point to an interesting and lively retirement.

Fouillard, Leon-Joseph (Leo) and Aline

Leon-Joseph (Pedz) son of Eugene Fouillard and Helene Simard was born in St. Lazare on January six, 1923. He was the third of a family of ten children.

As a school-boy he maintains he always hated school. In spite of the kindness of the sisters, he was very lonely when he boarded in convent. His mother kept a letter of his addressed to the Virgin Mary (written upon sisters' request in school) where he was asking to be sent home. Times have changed, Leo

does not write such letters anymore! His family life was a very happy one. He recalls with fondness, his excursions with the ponies, Tony and Kate, and speaks glowingly about his grandmother, Sarah Simard.

He left school when he was fifteen years old and started working for his father, Eugene. Their salary, then, was just about non-existent but Leo maintains working for his father was worth a lot learning different trades business know-how. He learned quickly. The same year, he delivered a cultivator to a farmer and brought back as payment one cow, eight calves, an old cultivator and a disk.

During the war years, he became his father's right-hand man while Arthur, his brother, served in the army. He often talks of his business trips during the war when they had to share hotel rooms with total strangers.

On July 4th, 1949 he married Aline Trudel, born June third, 1931, of St. Malo, Manitoba. They spent the first two years of their married life in a house west of their present one which measured 24'x14'. Six children were born in the following years; Pauline, who died as a baby, Anne, Jean-Emile, Henri, Camille and Pierre. Besides being a full-time mother and housewife, Aline, over the years, was involved with the Ladies' Auxiliary, was school trustee for a term just before Decorby School joined Birdtail division, travelled, and still does extensively with her husband. Whenever she is at home, she is content to enjoy a rather quiet life as all the children are now away.

Over the years Leo was and is still mainly a business-man but is also a "gentleman farmer" as he and his brothers own extensive holdings. In 1948, while his father was still alive he bought, for the company, a herd of pure-bred Herefords which was the origin of their cattle operation.

After his father's death in 1953, he became manager of Fouillard Implement Exchange. All the projects described from now on were always done in partnership with his brothers. In 1953, they ventured in the motel business and built one in Virden which they subsequently sold in 1956. They then built La Vérendrye Motel in The Pas in 1958. That motel, operated by brother Paul and some employees, was then rented for a number of years and sold in 1974. During the construction of the gas pipeline they bought, in partnership with cousin Lazare, a fleet of trucks which they rented to Wate-Kote from 1957-60. In 1956, they bought the Hudson's Bay Reserve from the Deschambault brothers. This is the farm where Fort Ellice was originally located and is one of the most picturesque sites in Manitoba. It is known as

A.L.E. Farms, A for Arthur, L for Leo, E for Eugene.

In 1958, Leo went with brother Ernest and Ulric Fulham to buy Charolais bulls in Texas to start cross-breeding with the Hereford cattle. To my knowledge, the Fouillard Brothers were the first Charolais breeders in Manitoba.

As you can see he was a very busy man but nevertheless took an extended holiday in Europe in 1954 with his wife. It was a tourist trip, but Leo's main reason for going was to see where his father had been born and to meet relatives in France.

The Fouillard's business motto is to sell anything and take anything in exchange. Aline will attest to that story. She says the only sacred things not for sale were their wives, children and homes. Her first pots and pans were Wear-Ever taken on trade-in on a bed. She recalls having nine refrigerators in two years but the most unusual transaction was when Leo came home with a live monkey taken on trade-in, among other things, on a used combine. She gave her husband an ultimatum the monkey or herself. She won!

When Leo was younger and before he had to travel so much for business reasons, he was school trustee and town councillor for a number of years.

Let it be known that while Leo was the wheeler-dealer, Arthur carried more than his share of the burden of the business. He kept the wheels oiled and turning by attending to the tedious details; contracts, bookkeeping, selling repairs etc. and held the fort while Leo was gone. Leo and his brother Arthur complemented one another perfectly over the years in the implement business while Eugene sold the furniture and later became manager of the store, Fouillard Furniture, built in 1965.

In 1968, A.L.E. Farms started importing exotic breeds of cattle from Europe. They started with Charolais bulls, then Limousin. They were some of the first Canadians to import Flekvieh and Blonde d'Aquitaine cattle. After the purchase of these bulls, a company was formed in partnership with the Hochhausen brothers of Edmonton for the sale of bull semen. The company was known as H & F Cattle Co. This new enterprise necessitated numerous trips in Europe which comprised the countries of France, Germany, Italy, England and Ireland. Leo would go to Europe at least twice a year and Aline usually accompanied him in the fall.

Luckily Leo and Aline enjoyed travelling because in the fall and winter they would attend different cattle conventions, for publicity purposes for H & F Cattle Company. They would spend a week at Agribition in Regina and ten days in Denver for the National Stock Show.

As a result of his involvement in cattle, Leo

became National and Provincial Director of the Limousin and Blonde d'Aquitaine Associations. A few years ago, Arthur's son, Marcel had been managing the ranch and replaced Leo as director of the Blonde d'Aquitaine Association both on national and provincial levels.

Leo and Aline's last trip to Europe occurred in 1975, where, as Leo had been nominated chairman of the selection committee for the Blonde d'Aquitaine Association, they were guests of the French Association. As pleasant as it was, anybody who knows Aline and Leo know that diplomacy is not their biggest asset!

In 1973, Leo bought a farm on his own account, which is located in the rural municipalities of Miniota and Archie. The last big project which Leo and his brothers undertook is a partnership in the construction, with people from Edmonton, of a water-slide in Penticton, B.C.

Leo still works, but at a much slower pace. He and his wife still enjoy good health and hope to take in a few trips before becoming too old as there are still some corners of the world they have not yet seen.

Their children are Anne, born September 27, 1951, B.A. graduate of Dalhousie, Halifax, Nova Scotia. She was employed for Canada World Youth and was co-ordinator for the Maritimes for a few years. She was director on the board of Katimavik for 5 years, Federal project for the young people, a post she resigned before leaving for Bogor, Java, Indonesia, where she attends the Agricultural university to complete her Masters' in Environmental Studies. Jean-Emile, born October 31, 1952, took a flying-instructor's course and was employed at St. Andrew's Flying Club in Winnipeg. He is presently employed by Prairie Flying Club in Regina where he lives with wife, Jane Falham whom he married on September 27, 1980. They are the proud parents of a son, Jean-Paul, born on March 13, 1983. Henry, born November 16, 1954 — see their story. Camille, born November 7, 1957, obtained her Bachelor of Music, from the University of Ottawa and Bachelor of Education, graduate from Memorial University of St. John's, Newfoundland. She was employed last year as substitute teacher in St. John's where she still lives. Presently she is employed as co-ordinator for Newfoundland Status of Women Council. Pierre, born October 22, 1963 graduated from high school and is employed as salesman in St. John's, Newfoundland.

Fouillard, Henry Gilles

Henry, second son of Leo and Aline Fouillard, was born November 16th, 1954. He attended St. Lazare School and Birtle Collegiate. For the past few years, Henry has worked at Fouillard Implement.

This is where he is still employed. On March 23, 1974, Henry married June Ellen, youngest daughter of Eric and Helen Wotton, in St. Lazare. They have a family of four: Renée Anne born Aug. 11, 1975; Michael Graeme, May 28, 1977; Greg Donald June 23, 1979 and Zoé Anne July 24, 1981. Henry, June and family live on Section 8-17-28 in a new home built in 1978 by Fernand Peppin.

Fouillard, Ernest

Ernest, son of Eugene Fouillard and Helene Simard was born on January 21, 1925. He attended school in St. Lazare and then went to work for his father. He later became owner of Fouillard Lumber with his brother Constant, a business he now operates himself. Ernest maintains he is the smartest one of the family because he never married. Ernie, however, never attends weddings — maybe because it might lead to his loss of freedom! He does not lack any family as he is the proverbial generous uncle to sixty-one nephews and nieces. Two of Connie's sons, Omer and Armand live with him. Ernest travels extensively for pleasure and business reasons and is often accompanied by some of his nephews.

He has a good sense of humor and enjoyed this story told to him by one of his employees. Mr. X made a five dollar bet with Mr. Y that he could make an elephant cry. Mr. X demonstrated that by whispering in the elephant's ear. Immediately after, big tears rolled down the elephant's trunk. Mr. Y refused to pay until he could hear the elephant sob. Mr. X then went around the elephant and whispered something in the other ear. The elephant started crying. Mr. Y said, "Before I pay five dollars I want to know what you told the elephant." Mr. X replied, "In the first ear, I told him I worked for the Fouillards and in the other one I told him how much they paid me!"

Fouillard, Constant (1927-1962)

Dear Constant,

A month has already gone by since you left us for a better world. Your unexpected departure left a big void in our hearts — you left without saying a word as you often did when you were with us. What memories we have of our time spent together! Do you recall the pranks we played on our teachers and classmates when we attended school in St. Lazare? What about our years at college, where we were so lonely at first and made up for lost time with our weekend escapades. Do you remember hunting on the plains? How pleasant it was, even if it often took us boxes of cartridges before we got our prey. By the way, the hunting season took place in the last two weeks, and the hunters from out of town asked about you and missed you as their guide.

Among the souvenirs you likely have are those of the numerous projects you were involved in for the Athletic Association. Very often you were responsible for the realization of those undertakings, and for this, we are thankful. We are also thankful for your encouragement and sense of humour, for the different and innumerable times you gave of yourself for different organizations, for the sick and for the poor. You truly understood the message of Jesus to love one another and hopefully we will follow your footsteps.

Do not worry about your young children. They were left in the hands of a good mother who will show them the way towards a good Christian Life. In the meantime, pray for us and we will see you again some day.

Your friends.

Fouillard, Alexandre and Claire

Alex, son of Eugene Fouillard and Helene Simard, was born on March 17, 1929, one of ten children. As a child, he was champion boxer against his brothers, when they fought in bouts organized by their father. He was a very good singer. After leaving school, he worked on the farm for Fouillard Implement Exchange, until he took a job with the C.N.R. in 1974, where he is still employed.

Alex were married on April 15, 1953, to Claire Larocque, born at Pinewood, Ont. in 1933. Alex and Claire live in the house built by his father in 1941. They have eleven children; **Nicole** (1954) married in 1971 to Yves Descottes, garage owner in Dunrea, Man. They have three children, Christian, Roger, and Rene. **Ginette** (1956) married in 1975 to Vernon Poworoznyk, lives in Sturgis, Sask., and has two daughters, Melanie and Carrie. **Prudence** (1957) married in 1977 to William Owens, has one daughter Michelle and lives in Saskatoon. **Francis** (1958), **Yvon** (1960), **Louis** (born Jan. 1st, 1962) are all employed by the C.N.R. **Elie** (1963), **Joceline** (1965), **Laurent** (1967), **Andre** (1968) and **Mireille** (1972) are all living at home, and attending school at St. Lazare.

Fouillard, Paul and Henriette

Paul was born in March 1931; Henriette, on April 11, 1937. These two were married in January, 1953. **Alain** Eugene was born in April 1954. That fall, Paul was building the Virden Motel, where the couple lived until the motel was sold in March 1956. A combination garage and office building was constructed in Estevan, Sask. This was leased to Oil companies. After living in British Columbia, they returned to St. Lazare to occupy an apartment above the Lumber and Supply building — Paul began working for Fouillard Lumber, and in 1957 worked on the



Paul Fouillard Family. Back R.: Roger, Constant, Monique, Philippe, Gerald. Front: BettyAnne, Paul, Henriette, Marc, Alain, Gabrielle.

installation of the town waterworks. **Marc** was born in December of 1957. Their next move was to The Pas to build a motel there. During those years **Gerald** (April 1959), **Philip** (February 1960) and **Roger** (February 1961) were born. The whole family returned to St. Lazare and Paul began working for Fouillard Implement and Fouillard Lumber, building the spillway, the furniture store and the bank. In 1962, **Elizabeth-Ann** was born, weighing 2 lbs. 10 oz. **Constant** was born in May 1964. At this time the decision was made to build a house. The home was completed in 1966 and **Monique** was born in April 1967. **Gabrielle** was born in August 1973.

The children are in various places, Alain married Christine Sabiston of Prince George. These two had met while Alain was attending Notre Dame College at Wilcox. He worked as a carpenter in the St. Lazare area before moving his family to Edmonton where they built their own home to house their three children, Natalie, Scott, and Sarah. Christine is attending Edmonton University. Marc, unmarried, works for Permanent Concrete across Canada. Gerald married Shawna Leblanc and works for Fouillard Lumber. They live in a house on the farm with their new daughter, Crystal, born February 27, 1983, a centennial baby. Philip works for T.R.W. Company in Alberta, and lives in Edmonton with his wife, Diane Zimmerman, from Solsgirth. They have a daughter, Natasha. Roger married Donna Anderson, from Smokey Lake, Alberta. They live in St. Lazare. Roger works for Permanent Concrete and in off-seasons, works with his father. Betty-Ann, works in Edmonton, for the Dept. of Highways. She is married to Leo (son of the late Paul and Cecile Huberdeau). Leo works on oil rigs with Edmond Fouillard. Constant lives at home and works on Fouillard's farm. Monique attends school at Birtle, taking Grade X. Gabrielle is taking Grade V at St. Lazare.

Paul — presently has a carpet business — sales and installation, thereof.

Fouillard, Eugene and Yvette

Eugene, son of Eugene Fouillard and Helene Simard, was born on October 8, 1932. He went to school in St. Lazare and from 1944 to 1950 attended St. Boniface College. He worked for his father selling furniture. In 1966, a furniture store was built and Eugene has been managing it ever since. On September 22, 1955 he married Yvette, (May 10, 1938) daughter of Lorenzo Tremblay and Annette Cadieux. Yvette and Eugene had six children.

Robert (July 1, 1957) usually employed on heavy road equipment, is presently holidaying in Mexico; Martin (November 2, 1958) (See his story); Maurice (October 9, 1959) is employed on heavy road equipment in Western Canada; Rachelle (January 24, 1962) teaches music in Winnipeg; David (June 4, 1964) works for his father at the furniture store and Rebecca (August 10, 1968) attends school in St. Lazare.

Fouillard, Martin and Joyce

Joseph Jean Martin, was born Nov. 2, 1958 at Russell, the second son of Eugene and Yvette Fouillard. He went to Elementary school in St. Lazare and graduated from Birtle Collegiate in 1977. He took a Commercial Industrial Sales Course at Red River Community College in Winnipeg. Since then, he has been employed by his father in the Fouillard Furniture-Appliance Store. He belongs to the St. Lazare Volunteer Fire Brigade and is Vice-President of the Athletic Association. Martin married Joyce Eleanor Graham on May 24, 1980 at Foxwarren Westminster United Church.

Joyce is the second daughter of George T. and Bernice Graham of Foxwarren. She was born April 15, 1959 at Birtle. She graduated from Birtle Collegiate in June, 1977 and was employed as typist by the Prudential Assurance Co. in Winnipeg for a year. She took a Hairdressing Course at Pollock's Beauty Salon in Brandon. When her course was completed, she was employed by Gladys Huberdeau in Birtle, until opening her own business in St. Lazare, "Joyce's Haircare-Coiffeuse." Martin and Joyce now live in the former Albert Roy home.

Fouillard, Jean-Marie et Prudence

Jean-Marie Fouillard de la Lizière est né le 21 mars, 1862 à Parigny (Ille et Vilaine), France et sa femme Prudence, née Tecsier, naquit le 15 juin, 1866 à Amanlis (Ille et Vilaine). Ils se sont mariés à Rennes le 7 mars 1888 et immigrèrent au Canada en 1892 avec trois enfants, Jean, trois ans, Eugène, deux ans, et un bébé.

Ils débarquèrent à Halifax et ensuite prirent le train pour Winnipeg. Une fois là, ils sont restés à l'hôtel Ménard. Le bébé, Marie-Rose, devint malade, mourut et fut enterrée dans le cimetière de la cathédrale de St. Boniface. Jean-Marie lui aussi tomba malade et fut hospitalisé pour assez longtemps.

Jean-Marie et sa femme espéraient habiter, avant de s'établir définitivement, avec M. et Mme Félix Décorby (Marie-Anne Fouillard) à Ste. Anne, Manitoba. Cela leur fut impossible parce que la maison des Décorby passa au feu avant leur arrivée au Canada. Jean-Marie donc décida de prendre un "Homestead" à Saltcoats, Sask. A cet endroit, il y bâtit une chaumière. Dans cette hutte il bâtit une cheminée qui servait pour la cuisson des aliments et pour le chauffage. Il fit des lits en bois avec des matelas qui étaient bourrés avec du foin sec. Heureusement qu'ils avaient apporté beaucoup de couvertures et de linge personnel de la France! Leur diète consistait principalement de poules de prairies, de perdrix et de lièvres. Deux bébés, des filles, naquirent dans cette hutte et plus tard moururent faute de soins médicaux. Le Père Décorby découvrit la famille après trois ans de misère et leur suggéra de venir à St. Lazare. En chemin pour St. Lazare, la famille Fouillard s'arrêta chez les Décorby à Welby où Felix et Marie-Anne vivaient à l'époque, et c'est là que Benoit naquit le 31 décembre 1895. Entre temps, Jean-Marie se rendit à St. Lazare préparer leur nouvel emplacement, qui était à l'endroit où Mme Edouard Belhumeur réside. C'est ici que Marie-Anne (Mme Jean Charron) naquit le 27 août, 1897. Les Fouillard s'arrangeaient bien à cet endroit et s'y plaisaient. Ils avaient tout ce dont ils avaient besoin pour passer l'hiver, en plus d'avoir quelques bêtes à cornes. Comme le froid était déjà rigoureux en novembre, Jean-Marie se rendit chez M. Falloon à Foxwarren pour acheter du foin supplémentaire pour les bêtes. Comme il n'était pas revenu aussi tôt que Prudence l'attendait, elle se rendit à l'étable pour soigner les animaux. Entendant des cris et des pleurs, elle retourna en courant pour découvrir que la maison était en feu. Eugène et Jean coururent pieds-nus dehors et Prudence mit Benoit et Marie, le bébé, dans une valise et les traîna dehors. Vous pouvez vous imaginer l'angoisse de Jean-Marie quand il vit les flammes à une distance de chez-lui! Heureusement il n'y avait personne de mort mais ils avaient tout perdu! Ils furent hébergés pour l'hiver chez le père d'Edouard Fleury. Au printemps, Jean-Marie se rendit à Wapella, Saskatchewan pour y trouver de l'emploi. Prudence retourna à Welby avec les enfants où elle vécut avec M. et Mme Félix Décorby jusqu'au temps où Jean-Marie leur trouva un endroit où demeurer. Ils s'installèrent finalement sur le "homestead" Fitzimon. Jean-Marie avait

trouvé de l'emploi pour cinquante sous par jour. Les familles Benoit, Logan et Knowles démontrèrent beaucoup de bonté envers ceux-ci pendant leur séjour à Wapella. Marguerite, bébé qui avait environ un an et demi mourut de pneumonie durant ces années-là et Prudence donna aussi naissance à un bébé né-mort. Jean-Marie retourna chercher les dépouilles mortelles des deux petites enterrées à Saltcoats, donc, il y a quatre petites filles qui partagent une tombe commune à Wapella.

Parce que Jean-Marie désirait que ses enfants aient une éducation religieuse et française, il décida de retourner habiter à St. Lazare. Ils vinrent demeurer dans une maison bâtie par Norbert Fleury. C'est à cet endroit que Marguerite (Mme Jean Dupont) naquit le 8 septembre 1903 ainsi qu'Anna le 24 août, 1904.

Avec l'aide financière de Jean et d'Eugène, argent fait à vendre des fourrures d'animaux pris aux pièges, Jean-Marie bâtit un magasin général pour accommoder les employés qui travaillaient à la construction du chemin de fer. En 1908, Prudence déménagea avec sa famille dans un appartement qui avait été ajouté au magasin. Georges-Auguste naquit à cet endroit le 6 janvier, 1908 ainsi que Joseph Arthur en 1910.

Jean-Marie prenait une part active dans la communauté. Il fut secrétaire du district scolaire et conseiller de la municipalité pour quelques années. Il enseignait aussi des classes le soir avec Mme Delphis Chartier.

En 1911 la famille déménagea dans une maison (faite de rondins) et qui avait été bâtie par Eugène, Jean et Benoit. La même année Jean-Marie fut transporté à l'hôpital où il mourut le 26 décembre. Il y avait une épidémie de fièvre scarlatine à ce temps-là donc, peu de monde assistèrent à ses funérailles.

Prudence était une femme courageuse, avait un bon sens d'affaire et parvint, avec l'aide de ses enfants, à subsister à leurs besoins. Quand sa fille Anna mourut à l'âge de vingt-quatre ans, ce fut un choc pour elle et elle fut alitée pendant six mois. Quand elle fut mieux en 1929, elle déménagea dans une maison neuve bâtie par ses fils Georges et Joseph où elle vécut jusqu'à sa mort en 1941.

Les enfants de Jean-Marie Fouillard furent: Jean, né le 26 décembre 1888 à Rennes, France; Eugène, né le 21 mars 1890 à Rennes, France; Benoit, né le 31 décembre 1895 à Welby, Saskatchewan; Marie (Mme Jean Charron), née le 27 août 1897 à St. Lazare; Marguerite (Mme Jean Dupont), née le 2 septembre 1903; Anna (Mme Amedée Vermette), née le 24 août, 1904; Georges, né le 6 janvier, 1908; Joseph, né le 3 juin, 1910.

Fouillard, Jean

Jean-Marie était le plus aîné des enfants de Jean-Marie Joseph Fouillard et de Prudence Tessier. Il est né à Rennes, en France, le 26 décembre 1888. Il vint au Canada avec ses parents à l'âge de 3 ans. Etant l'aîné de quatorze enfants, il eut la vie difficile. Il eut très peu d'éducation formelle; ce qu'il savait, il l'avait appris de son père. Il lisait beaucoup; il s'est instruit lui-même. Ses conversations étaient toujours bien intéressantes car il connaissait l'histoire de beaucoup de pays.

Bien jeune, il apprit le métier de maçon et de plâtrier. Il travailla à la construction des gares sur le chemin de fer Canadien National, à Saint Lazare et ailleurs.

En 1906, il est allé dans l'ouest sur l'arpentage des chemins de campagne. Il est parti avec un "wagon", deux chevaux, quelques provisions et un habit de rechange. Un de ses chevaux eut le malheur de se faire casser la jambe, et dut être détruit. Il est revenu avec un cheval attelé à son wagon. Ce fut un voyage pénible pour un jeune homme de 18 ans. Sur le chemin du retour, arrivant un soir dans une réserve indienne; comme il était bien fatigué, il accepta l'invitation du chef sauvage d'y passer la nuit. Mais il eût une surprise, le lendemain matin! Tout ce qu'il possédait avait disparu! Il demanda secours au chef qui trouva presque tout ce qui lui appartenait.

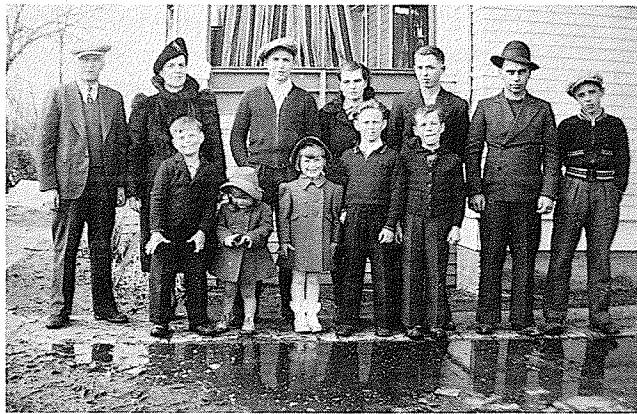
Plus tard il travailla sur la ferme et à la construction de toutes sortes de bâtiments avec ses frères, Eugène et Benoit. En 1917, il acheta le terrain du C.N.R. qui entoure le village de Saint Lazare, la demie nord de 8-17-28 et la demie sud de 17-17-28.

En 1927, il maria Marie Tremblay à trente-neuf ans. Quatre enfants sont nés de ce mariage, Luc, Jean-Marie, Georges et Anne-Marie. Son épouse Marie et un bébé sont décédés en 1936. Ses enfants furent élevés par Marguerite et Jean Dupont. Jean Fouillard fut commissaire d'école pendant vingt-quatre ans. Plus tard, il fut employé par les ingénieurs civils à Sturgis, Sask. et dans l'ouest. En 1949, le neuf mars, il mourût subitement à l'âge de soixante et un ans.

Ses enfants ont eu leur première éducation à l'école Decorby, Saint Lazare. Plus tard Luc et Georges sont allés au Collège de Saint Boniface. En 1942, Luc gradua comme ingénieur civil et géologiste. Georges devint un comptable pour le C.N.R. à Edmonton; Jean-Marie prit un cours de comptable à Ottawa et est employé au bureau de prêts pour les fermiers; Anne-Marie Gilkes, enseigne le français aux jeunes anglais.

Eugène Fouillard

Eugène Fouillard, fils de Jean-Marie Fouillard et Prudence Tessier naquit à Rennes, France le 21 mars 1890. Il n'avait que deux ans quand ses parents immigrèrent au Canada. Ses souvenirs de son enfance sont d'avoir vécu dans une pauvreté extrême. Il nous racontait que sa famille à leur arrivée au pays habitait dans une chaumière. Il se rappelle que son père tendait des pièges dans une cave pour attraper des lièvres. C'est sans doute la raison pourquoi après avoir vécu dans la demi-obscurité quand il était jeune, qu'il aimait tant la clarté plus tard et que toutes les bâtisses qu'il construisait pour lui avaient un nombre incroyable de fenêtres. Il dit que lui et ses frères se faisaient comme jouet, des trains faits avec des carcasses de lièvre, la tête d'un lièvre étant l'engin et les squelettes des corps étaient les chars.



Eugene Fouillard Family: Eugene, Helene, Ernest, Jeanne, Leon, Arthur, Constant. Front Row: Eugene, RoseMarie, Helene, Alex, and Paul.

Quand il vécut à Wapella, étant très doué pour le dessin, il fit un modèle du village. Un citoyen de cet endroit offrit à ses parents de payer son éducation, mais malgré leur situation pécunière embarrassante ses parents refusèrent cette offre généreuse. Son manque d'éducation formelle ne l'a pas nui plus tard. C'est inconcevable de penser toutefois à ce qu'il aurait pu accomplir s'il aurait eu de l'instruction.

Sa femme Hélène était la fille d'Edmond Simard et de Sarah Gwyer. Elle aussi fut élevée très pauvrement. Elle maria Eugène le premier août 1917. Après leur mariage, leur premier logis était situé en haut du magasin d'Eugène, au même endroit où le magasin Fouillard Implement Exchange était depuis bon nombres d'années. De cette union naquit dix enfants: Jeanne née le 26 décembre 1918 est présentement religieuse de la Présentation de Marie à Debden, Saskatchewan; Arthur né le 30 août 1920; Léon-Joseph né le six janvier 1923; Ernest né le 21 janvier 1925; Constant né le neuf janvier 1927 — décédé le

29 octobre 1962; Alexandre né le 17 mars 1929; Paul né le 22 mars 1931; Eugene né le huit octobre 1932; Hélène (Mme Emile Huybrecht) née le six juillet 1935 et Rose Marie (Mme Murray Cook) née le 13 avril 1938.

Mme Fouillard était très religieuse, avait une apparence plutôt froide qui cachait un cœur d'or. Elle fut toujours à l'arrière-plan au point de vue affaires mais prêta main forte pendant plusieurs années à son mari en gardant des employés en pension. Etant mère de dix enfants qui avaient toujours la liberté d'amener qui que ce soit pour repas ou pour coucher elle travailla très fort, même si elle a presque toujours eu une bonne durant les années qu'elle élevait sa famille. Que de repas, plutôt banquets, nous a-t-elle préparés! Sa mère était d'origine anglaise donc Hélène était très à l'aise dans les deux cultures. Un des meilleurs souvenirs de son enfance était d'avoir été introduite aux livres de L. M. Montgomery. Elle me racontait qu'elle marchait chez Mme Chartier, à deux milles de chez elle à toutes les semaines pour aller chercher partie de l'histoire d'Anne of Green Gables qui paraissait en feuilleton dans un journal de l'époque. Elle mena une vie plutôt tranquille car elle n'aimait pas à voyager sauf pour des visites à Winnipeg où elle accompagnait souvent son mari. Elle apprit à conduire une voiture à l'âge de cinquante ans. Elle avait beaucoup d'aptitudes mais certainement pas celle de chauffeur. Heureusement qu'il y avait un bon Dieu pour la protéger et ceux qu'elles rencontraient! Elle se servait de sa voiture pour conduire aux alentours mais ne s'aventurait jamais seule pour voyager au loin. Eugène mourut en 1953 et elle se retira au village tôt après sa mort. Elle vécut dans sa maison jusqu'en 1974 lorsque pour cause de santé elle fut admise au Nursing Care Home de Russell. Hélène a 86 ans étant née le 24 mai, 1896.

Une fois qu'Eugène vint habiter définitivement à St. Lazare avec ses parents, il développa très tôt une aptitude pour les affaires. Sa première entreprise commerciale fut de vendre des légumes frais aux Doukhobors qui construisaient le chemin de fer (ce fut le commencement du principe des affaires Fouillard) en échange pour du jambon. Plus tard, il suivit ces employés à Welby pour répondre à leurs besoins; c'est à dire vente de pistaches, lacets de chaussure etc. Cette fois, toutefois, il le faisait avec un certain luxe — son établissement commercial était à l'abri sous une tente. De plus, il s'était donné le métier de barbier!

Plus tard il devint charpentier et en compagnie de ses frères, bâtit des maisons et étables. En 1908 alors qu'il avait seulement dix-huit ans, et étant trop jeune, son père dut apposer sa signature au contrat pour qu'il puisse obtenir l'agence de Massey-Harris. Eu-

gène fut un innovateur dans plusieurs domaines. Ses débuts furent modestes mais il saisissait toutes les occasions qui se présentaient. Avant que les automobiles soient populaires, il fit construire par ses employés, carrioles et traîneaux et les vendit pour plusieurs années à la compagnie d'Eaton. Durant la dépression, comme les cultivateurs n'avaient pas d'argent pour acheter des machines agricoles il fit bon commerce en établissant un système d'échanges. Il prenait n'importe quoi en échange sur la marchandise qu'il vendait. Les pensionnaires du couvent à l'époque se rappelleront d'avoir mangé, en grande quantité et préparé de toutes façons, des choux. Eugène avait payé la pension de ses enfants avec ces légumes qu'il avait obtenus d'un client d'Angusville. Il faisait réparer et peindre les machines prises en échange et cela créait de l'emploi pour plusieurs hommes pendant que le chômage sévissait à son pire. Le *Country Guide*, magazine agricole, vint l'interviewer en 1934 et écrit un long article à propos de lui.

Le premier magasin qu'il avait bâti vers 1915 et agrandi vers les 1920 passa au feu durant la guerre en 1942. Ce fut une grosse perte car il ne possédait pas beaucoup d'assurance et la valeur de la marchandise en main avait appréciée beaucoup en valeur depuis le début de la guerre. Mme Fouillard me raconta, que le lendemain de l'incendie, il recommença de nouveau sans un mot de récrimination ou de plainte. Il bâtit de nouveau et le nouvel édifice fut complété en 1944. Cette bâtisse existe encore aujourd'hui et présentement est en stage de réparations, suite d'un feu subi en 1982. En plus d'acquérir différentes agences de machines aratoires, il partit une cour à bois (qu'il légua plus tard à ses fils Ernest et Constant), acheta une ferme où il bâtit une très belle maison en 1941, fit la vente de meubles et plus tard d'accessoires électriques.

Je vous l'ai décrit comme homme d'affaires. Comme être humain, il était d'une intelligence extraordinaire, possédait beaucoup de charme, avait beaucoup de connaissances malgré son manque d'éducation formelle et possédait de belles qualités de coeur. Il avait beaucoup de compassion pour les moins fortunés. Comme bru, je ne pouvais demander mieux comme beau-père. Quand mon mari et moi avons déménagé dans notre nouvelle maison en 1951, il me dit de choisir n'importe quel meuble que je désirais. Comme au magasin d'Eaton, je pouvais les ramener et en choisir d'autres, la seule différence était que je n'avais pas à les payer. A une autre occasion, Christine (Mme Arthur) et moi avions fait notre premier jardin (des jardinières on ne l'étaient pas!) et Eugène nous avait taquinées à la mort pour cela. Revenu de Winnipeg pas trop longtemps après,

il nous présenta ainsi qu'à sa femme, chacune un joli petit meuble à ouvrage et nous dit qu'il avait considéré nous acheter des pioches mais qu'après tout on préférerait plutôt cela.

Eugène aimait à faire de l'argent parce que cela présentait pour lui un défi et il jouissait des avantages que l'aisance pouvait procurer. Quelques années avant de mourir il se vantait à M. Frank Burdett et M. Frank Clement (son rival en affaires à Russell), entre autres, qu'il avait atteint son but — il pouvait réaliser plus d'argent que sa famille (surtout ses fils) pouvait en dépenser. Il faisait beaucoup de charité mais plutôt anonymement. Je me rappelle une fois où il vendit un matelas à un pauvre type. Il le traita comme un de ses meilleurs clients. Tout était en règle — sur la facture il écrit les termes de la vente; tant d'argent par mois, ou il prendrait du bois de corde pour régler le compte. Une fois l'homme sorti, il dit à son fils, Léon: "Déchire cette facture, tu sais bien qu'il n'en paiera pas un sou." Il avait cependant un très bon sens d'humour et ne regardait pas le coût quand il s'agissait de jouer un tour à quelqu'un. Dans le beau milieu de la dépression, il envoya un de ses employés frotter un arbre, qui était près à mourir, avec du "Balsam" qui coûtait trois dollars, une somme assez considérable à cette époque. Il jugeait une personne pour ses qualités. Peu lui importait la race ou la religion. Pour moi, tout en n'ayant pas l'apparence d'un homme religieux, il personnifiait un modèle de chrétien selon la façon décrite par Jean XXIII.

Au point de vue communautaire, il aidait plutôt de l'arrière. Son frère Benoit fut le grand dévoué pour la municipalité et le village. Quand ils bâtirent l'arène à St. Lazare, il vendit lui-même la moitié des billets pour le tirage d'une automobile.

Mon beau-père demeura toujours un homme simple. Il n'a jamais essayé de prétendre qu'il était mieux que les autres. Il adorait sa femme et le seul reproche que ses enfants auraient pu lui faire c'est de les avoir trop gâtés. Pour un homme qui jouissait tant de la vie il fut cependant terrassé par la maladie et mourut le 20 avril, 1953. Il garda son sens d'humour jusqu'à la fin. Quelques jours avant de mourir, il eut la visite d'un de ses copains, M. Louis Guay qui était notamment très maigre. En voyant son ami il s'exclama: "Il ne doit pas venter dehors aujourd'hui Lou puisque tu t'es aventuré à venir me voir!"

Qu'est-ce que je peux dire encore de mon beau-père sinon qu'il fut en grande partie responsable de l'existence du village de St. Lazare. Il amena beaucoup de prospérité à notre petit bourg. Le seul regret que j'ai, c'est que nos enfants n'ont pas eu le plaisir de le connaître et de l'aimer.

Fouillard, Soeur Jeanne **par sa soeur Hélène**

Jeanne, fille de Eugène Fouillard et Hélène Simard vit le jour le 26 décembre, 1919. Elle fréquenta l'école de St. Lazare et en 1940 entra au noviciat des religieuses de la Présentation de Marie à St. Hyacinthe, Québec. A cause de raison de santé elle revint à la maison un an et demi plus tard. Elle se dévoua ensuite à rendre service aux autres — garder des enfants, décorer des gâteaux de fête ou de noces, jouer l'orgue pour les cérémonies religieuses, conduire le monde en voiture, faire les repas pour les prêtres etc. Le Père Régnier maintenait qu'elle travaillait beaucoup plus fort que bien des personnes qui jouissaient d'une bonne santé.

Jeanne faisait bonne santé.

Jeanne faisait des ventes continuelles de vêtements usagés au profit de l'église. Son local était au sous-sol de la maison chez elle. Son frère disait que ça prenait une carte détaillée pour trouver la fournaise tellement Jeanne créait du désordre dans la cave. En 1966, Jeanne subit une intervention chirurgicale qui améliora beaucoup sa santé. Ayant obtenu une dispense de l'église, elle entra encore une fois comme novice au couvent. Après son départ sa soeur et belle-soeur nettoyèrent le sous-sol et brûlèrent sa marchandise. Les flammes créées étaient tellement hautes que Paul Tremblay disait qu'il pensait que les Russes avaient envahi la région!

Jeanne fit ses vœux perpétuels à St. Lazare, le six juillet 1975. Les religieuses vous affirmeront que Jeanne n'a pas perdu ses habitudes mais elles semblent heureuses de l'accepter telle qu'elle est. Elle est présentement au couvent à Debden où elle enseigne la musique. Elle fait aussi la cuisine — espérons qu'elle a un extincteur à la maison! Jeanne n'a pas tellement de loisirs car elle doit faire des prières supplémentaires afin que sa nombreuse famille puisse suivre le chemin de la justice!

Fouillard, Arthur et Christine

Je, Arthur, suis né le 31 août, 1920 le deuxième enfant et le premier fils de Eugène Fouillard et Hélène Simard. Mes horizons étaient des plus étroites jusqu'à l'âge de cinq ans et ma mère me donna alors permission d'aller à la chasse aux gauphres à la vieille mission. Mon compagnon de jeux, en plus de mes frères, était Robert DeCorby. Les collations qu'on apportait n'étaient pas des plus hygiéniques! Le vendredi, pour nous, était la journée des crêpes et c'était toujours un concours qui en mangerait le plus parmi nous.

Le jour de mon anniversaire en 1927, je commençai mes études avec M. Dansereau comme professeur. J'aimais beaucoup la vie d'écolier et je

parvenais à avoir de bons résultats dans mes examens. J'ai quitté l'école après mon huitième grade. J'aurais bien aimé à aller au Collège Saint-Boniface, mais mon père, tout en me donnant le choix d'y aller ou non, ne m'encouragea pas à continuer mes études. Etant l'aîné des garçons je me sentis obliger de rester à St. Lazare pour prêter main-forte à mon père.

A cet époque, mon père avait déjà établi un commerce considérable en prenant presque n'importe quoi en échange envers le coût des machines agricoles. En plus de faire le réparation de machines usagées, il faisait aussi le marché de meubles de revente acquis à Winnipeg et transportés en camion par mon oncle Benoit. Ces meubles étaient polis et un accordeur venait harmoniser les pianos avant que le tout soit revendu. Les clients retournaient chez lui avec la marchandise attachée aux poignées de portes de leurs voitures et ils devaient monter leurs véhicules en passant par la fenêtre.

Une de mes premières responsabilités au travail était de voir aux feux et celui de la forge où mon oncle John Dupont se montrait des plus braves et tenaces en ferrant des chevaux souvent farouches. Albert Grimms et Alex Nagy furent aussi forgerons pour nous tandis que M. Pierre Roy, charpentier très habile, pouvait rebâtir wagons, carioles, etc. Edgar et Adrien Roy et Léon J. Simard étaient camionneurs et pouvaient lever des machines lourdes sans manifester trop d'effort. Notre oncle Georges Fouillard tenait les comptes et en plus vendait l'essence en gros pour Imperial Oil. Quand l'essence avec plomb fut introduite, j'ai eu l'occasion une fois d'en vendre à Satchel Paige pour sa voiture alors qu'il était en route en destination de Russell pour un tournoi de baseball.

Malgré la dépression j'ai été témoin de la modernisation de l'outillage dont on se servait pour travailler. Avec le service de l'électricité introduit au village en 1928, le soudage se faisait à l'électricité et la forge devint presque inusitée. En 1935, mon père avait vendu 35 radios et j'étais responsable, dans n'importe quel climat de l'installation des antennes et le fil mécanique était tendu des toits de maisons jusqu'aux branches d'arbres élevés, situés près des dites maisons.

Comme les chemins étaient impassables en hiver, notre commerce était vraiment au ralenti. Mon père, ayant plus de loisirs que durant l'été, inventa et construisit avec l'aide d'autres personnes deux autos-neige qui furent en usage pendant plusieurs années. Georges Tremblay était le mécanicien, Henri Simard le soudeur pour les châssis et Pierre Roy et lui construisirent le dehors des machines avec leur expérience en carrosserie. Vers la fin des 1930, l'économie s'améliora un peu et notre commerce connut une

augmentation en ventes de tracteurs et les moissonneuses-batteuses étaient introduites sur le marché. Mon salaire en 1939 était de \$240 et de \$480 en 1940. Je fus dans l'armée pour quatre ans et de retour après la guerre je repris mon emploi comme comptable que j'avais commencé en 1939. Durant la guerre et pour quelques années après il était bien difficile d'acheter des machines agricoles, à cause de la production des armes, et nous avons vendu des machines usagées jusqu'en Colombie Britannique. En 1949 nous étions les deuxièmes au Canada pour la vente de machines agricoles pour Massey Harris. A cet époque là, avec l'introduction du chrome mon père faisait une vente incroyable de tables et de chaises et tous les meubles de bois franc pris en échange furent éventuellement donnés — ce qui vaut une fortune aujourd'hui. A travers les années nous avons été favorisés par de très bons employés tels que Norman Haney, Henri Simard, Tom Fidler, Mario Roncato et au bureau nous avions Georgette Tremblay, Lazare Fouillard, Armand Guenette, Margaret Hodgson, Diane Williams et bien d'autres encore qui étaient toujours prêts à rendre service.

En 1957, nous avons incorporé Fouillard Implement Exchange en compagnie avec mes frères Léon et Eugène et moi comme partenaires. Nous avons aussi acheté beaucoup de terrain et cette compagnie fut connue éventuellement sous le nom de Ale Farms Ltée. Le terrain acquis et localisé dans la municipalité Archibald fut mit sous la gérance des Frères Lee de McAuley. Le contrat qui existe depuis vingt-et-un ans a été fait avec une poignée de main. L'entente est renouvelée à tous les ans avec la consommation d'un verre au deux, tradition qui avait été établie par M. Lee, père et le mien bien des années auparavant.

Le 24 mai 1950, j'ai épousé Christine Decaire, née le 21 janvier 1931, qui est originaire de Pinewood, Ontario. De cette union naquit dix enfants et je dois ici louer ma femme qui est maîtresse de maison accomplie. Tout est fait sans effort apparent et ma femme en plus est excellente cuisinière.

Notre aîné mourut à la naissance et les autres enfants sont: **Michelle** née en juillet 1952, est mariée à Thomas Anderson, un policier de Winnipeg. Michelle est employée à l'Immigration du Canada. Ils ont trois enfants Nathalie, Emilie et Sheila. **Danielle** née en août 1953, est mariée à James Moreau. Ils habitent à Iberville, Québec et ont trois fillettes Jessica, Caroline et Laura. **Guy** né en octobre 1954, est professeur de français à Brandon. Il épousa Janet Jansen. Ils ont trois enfants Micha, Jared et Chad. **Marcel**, marié à Jean Dodge est gérant du ranch Ale Farms. Ils ont une fille Melissa. **Mona**, née en mars 1958 est mariée à Dave Motuz, mécanicien pour Hans Weiland. Ils habitent à Min-

nedosa et ont deux enfants Stéphane et Gabrielle. **Jacques** né en avril 1959 est employé de Fouillard Implement Exchange. Il est marié à Teresa Andrews et ils ont un garçon, Jason, Mario, né en septembre 1960, est marié à Rhonda Randall et ils ont une fille, Jennifer. Mario vient de compléter un cours de soudeur. **Juliette** née en mars 1962 est présentement étudiante à l'université de Brandon et **Joël** né en 1963 est à la maison et est un vrai amateur de hockey.

Nos enfants ont tous quittés le foyer paternel sauf Joël donc notre grande maison est plutôt vide. Nous avons toutefois la visite assez fréquente des enfants et celle des petits-enfants qui nous fait entrevoir une retraite intéressante et bien méritée.

Fouillard, Léon-Joseph et Aline

Léon-Joseph (Pedz) fils d'Eugène Fouillard et Hélène Simard, vit le jour à St. Lazare le six janvier, 1923. Il était le troisième d'une famille de dix enfants. Il ne fut jamais un élève enthousiaste car il maintient qu'il a toujours détesté être écolier. Malgré la bonté des religieuses, il n'aimait pas la vie au couvent où il fut pensionnaire pendant quelques années. Nous avons encore une lettre de lui adressée à la Sainte Vierge demandant de cesser d'être en pension. Les temps ont changé, il n'écrit plus à la Sainte Mère! Ses souvenirs d'enfance sont toutefois très heureux, en particulier les randonnées qu'il faisait avec leurs poneys, Tony et Kate. A sa sortie de l'école à quinze ans, il se mit à travailler pour son père. Sa première vente consistait d'un cultivateur et en échange il prit une vache, huit veaux, un vieux cultivateur et un pulvérisateur. Leur salaire était bien minime mais il maintient que travailler avec son père valait beaucoup en faits d'expérience et d'apprentissage. Durant la guerre, il devint le bras droit de son père alors que son frère Arthur servait dans l'armée. Il parle souvent des voyages d'affaires qu'il faisait à cette époque où il était obligé de partager des chambres d'hôtel avec de complets étrangers.

Le quatre juillet, 1949, il maria Aline Trudel, originaire de St. Malo, Manitoba et née le trois juin, 1931. Pour les deux premières années de leur vie conjugale, Léon et Aline habitèrent dans une maison à l'ouest de leur résidence actuelle. Ce logis avait les dimensions de vingt-quatre pieds par quatorze. De cette union naquit six enfants, Pauline décédée étant bébé, Anne, Jean-Emile, Henri, Camille et Pierre. Aline, en plus d'être mère de famille, fut pendant plusieurs années membre de l'exécutif des Dames Auxiliaires et servit comme commissaire d'école avant que St. Lazare fasse partie de la grande division scolaire. Elle fut et est encore intéressée dans les activités communautaires. A présent, en plus de

voyager beaucoup avec Léon, elle se contente pour le reste du temps de mener une vie paisible à la maison.

Léon fut toujours et est encore un homme d'affaires en plus de devenir "gentleman farmer". Il fit achat pour la compagnie en 1948 d'un troupeau enregistré de Herefords.

Après la mort de son père en 1953, il devint gérant de la compagnie Fouillard Implement Exchange. En co-opération avec ses frères, il bâtit un motel à Virden en 1954 suivi d'un autre, La Vêrendrye Motel à Le Pas, en 1958. A une autre époque ils firent l'achat, avec leur cousin Lazare, d'un contingent de camions qu'ils louaient pour la construction de la pipeline. Toujours avec ses frères, en 1956 ils achetèrent, des frères Deschambault, le "Hudson's Bay Reserve", ancien emplacement de Fort Ellice qui est un des plus beaux sites pittoresques du Manitoba. En 1958, en compagnie d'Ernest Fouillard et Ulric Fulham, il alla au Texas pour faire achat de boeufs charolais pour croiser avec le troupeau hereford. Les frères Fouillard furent les premiers éleveurs de charolais au Manitoba.

Comme vous le voyez il était un homme très occupé mais prit tout de même une vacance prolongée avec sa femme en Europe en 1954, surtout pour visiter l'endroit où son père était né.

Dans la compagnie Fouillard Implement Exchange, la devise est de vendre de tout et de prendre argent comptant en plus de n'importe quoi en échange. Aline en fera le serment que les seules choses sacrées étaient leurs femmes, enfants et maisons. Elle se rappelle avoir eu neuf réfrigérateurs dans une période de deux ans. La chose la plus spectaculaire toutefois fut quand Léon arriva un jour à la maison avec un singe qu'il avait pris en échange, entre autres choses contre la vente d'une moissonneuse-batteuse. Elle lui donna un ultimatum (sans connaître d'avance le résultat) de faire le choix entre le singe et elle. Elle gagna!

Etant plus jeune, Léon fut commissaire d'école et conseiller au village pendant plusieurs années.

En 1968, ses frères et lui commencèrent l'importation d'Europe des bêtes de boeuf de races exotiques. Ils commencèrent à importer des boeufs Charolais, Limousins, Gelviah (ils importèrent les premiers boeufs au Canada de cette race ainsi que celle des Blondes d'Aquitaine) des Simmental, Flekvieh et Chianina et après ces achats commencèrent avec les frères Hochhausen, une compagnie de vente de semences pour l'insémination artificielle de bêtes à boeuf. La compagnie était connue sous le nom de H. et F. Cattle Co. Cette nouvelle compagnie occasionna beaucoup de voyages en Europe pour faire les achats. Aline l'accompagnait une fois l'an tandis que Léon lui, y allait deux ou trois fois. La connaissance

de la langue française était, tout un avantage pendant ces transactions. Léon et sa femme ont de cette façon voyagé en France, Italie, Allemagne, Angleterre et Irlande. C'était très intéressant puisqu'ils faisaient contact avec beaucoup de monde en plus de visiter différentes demeures.

Ces années-là furent des plus mouvementées car pour faire de la publicité pour vendre de la semence, ils assistaient à tous les congrès des éleveurs. Cela consistait à au moins six voyages à Calgary (pour Aline et Léon), une semaine par année à Agribition à Regina, en plus d'un voyage annuel à Denver pour le congrès national des éleveurs. Heureusement que tous les deux aimaient beaucoup à voyager. Leur dernier voyage en Europe eut lieu en 1975, où Léon et sa femme furent les invités de la Société d'Éleveurs Blonde d'Aquitaine en France. Qu'on en a consommé du vin et mangé des repas délicieux! Tout en étant très plaisant, ceux qui connaissent Léon et Aline sauront que la diplomatie n'est pas leur fort! Plus tard, la gérance du Ranch A.L.E. Farms tomba aux mains de Marcel, fils d'Arthur et il remplaça Léon comme directeur dans l'association Nationale des Blondes d'Aquitaine.

En 1973, Léon acheta à son propre compte une ferme qui est localisée dans les municipalités de Miniota et Archie et qu'il fait cultiver par des employés. Le dernier projet important que Léon commença avec ses frères et gens d'Edmonton, est un centre de récréation à Penticton, Colombie Britannique.

Léon continue toujours de travailler mais plutôt au ralenti. Sa femme et lui sont seuls maintenant à la maison car les enfants sont tous partis du foyer paternel. Ils jouissent tous les deux d'une bonne santé et espèrent bien pouvoir voyager encore pendant quelque années car il y a encore des coins du monde qu'ils n'ont pas visités.

Anne, née le 27 septembre, 1951, Bachelier-ès-Arts de l'université de Dalhousie en Nouvelle-Ecosse est présentement à Bogor, Java, Indonésie pour achever une thèse en "Environmental Studies". Elle fut employée auparavant par Jeunesse-Canada-Monde et devint coordonatrice pour les provinces maritimes. Elle passa un an comme employée à l'université Memorial à St. Jean, Terre-Neuve. Elle fut directeur pour cinq ans pour Katimavik, projet fédéral pour les jeunes, poste qu'elle démissionna avant son départ pour l'étranger.

Jean-Emile, né le 31 octobre, 1952 est instructeur-pilote à Prairie Flying Club, Regina, Saskatchewan. Il fut auparavant gérant à St. Andrew's Flying Club à Winnipeg. Il est marié à Jane Falhman de Regina depuis le 27 septembre, 1980. Jean et Jane

sont les heureux parents d'un fils Jean-Paul, né le 13 mars, 1983.

Henri, né le 16 novembre 1954, est employé par Fouillard Implement Exchange. Marié à June Wotton depuis le 23 mars, 1974 ils ont quatre enfants Renée-Anne, Michael, Greg et Zoé. **Camille**, née le sept novembre, 1957 Bachelière en musique de l'université d'Ottawa, Bachelière en Education de l'université Memorial de St. Jean, Terre-Neuve. Elle fit de la suppléance l'an dernier comme professeur, habite à Terre-Neuve et travaille comme coordnatrice pour "Newfoundland Status of Women Council". **Pierre**, né le 22 octobre 1963, est employé comme vendeur à St. Jean, Terre-Neuve.

Fouillard, Ernest

Ernest, fils de Eugène Fouillard et Hélène Simard, naquit le 21 janvier, 1925. Il fréquenta l'école à St. Lazare et travailla ensuite pour son père. Il devint plus tard propriétaire, avec son frère Constant, de Fouillard Lumber, commerce qu'il possède encore aujourd'hui. Ernest est célibataire et n'assiste jamais à un mariage — peut-être a-t-il peur de perdre sa liberté! De toute façon, il jouit d'une nombreuse parenté et est l'oncle généreux pour soixante et un neveux et nièces. Deux fils de Constant, Omer et Armand habitent avec lui. Ernest voyage beaucoup par affaires et est souvent accompagné par des neveux.

Il a un bon sens d'humour et jouit beaucoup de cette histoire qui lui fut racontée par un de ses employés. M. X fit un pari de cinq dollars à M. Y, qu'il pouvait faire pleurer un éléphant. M. X démontra ceci en murmurant quelque chose dans l'oreille de l'éléphant et de grosses larmes coulèrent immédiatement sur la trompe de celui-ci. M. X refusa de payer disant qu'il voulait entendre l'éléphant pleurer à gros sanglots. Ceci se produisit aussitôt après que M. X lui murmura dans l'autre oreille. Avant de payer M. Y demanda à M. X, "Que lui as-tu dit pour qu'il pleure?" M. X répondit, "Dans la première oreille je lui ai dit que je travaillais pour les Fouillard et dans la deuxième je lui ai mentionné la somme du salaire qu'ils me payaient!"

Fouillard, Constant (1927-1962)

Cher Constant,

Comme le temps passe vite! Il y a déjà près d'un mois que tu es parti. C'est le Maître Suprême qui t'a demandé de nous quitter pour entreprendre le grand voyage. Il avait besoin de toi là-haut.

Ton départ inattendu a certes laissé un grand vide dans le cœur de tous. Mais comme tu le faisais quelques fois, tu es parti sans rien dire. Oh! tu sais, mon vieux, nous ne t'en voulons pas.

Te souviens-tu de nos premières années à l'école? Tu te souviens des petits tours que nous avions coutume de jouer aux maîtresses et aux copains. Souvent, c'était nous qui nous faisions prendre par ces petites taquineries.

Et notre temps au Collège! Que de belles heures nous y avons passées ensemble! Oh! il y avait toujours l'ennui. Il y avait toujours les fameux congés du mois entre les petites escapades. Comme nous, tu n'as jamais regretté ces années au collège.

Te souviens-tu aussi des fameuses parties de chasse sur la plaine? Quelle belle aventure bien que ça nous prenait parfois deux boîtes de cartouches avant d'attraper un gibier.

Oh! oui, nous avons eu la visite de plusieurs chasseurs depuis deux semaines. Nous pouvons t'assurer qu'ils ont manqué leur guide. Te souviens-tu les projets de l'Association Athlétique? La plupart du temps, c'est toi qui voyais à ce que ces projets soient exécutés. Sois assuré que nous sommes très reconnaissants.

Merci pour tes encouragements et ta bonne humeur. Merci aussi pour les heures nombreuses que tu as passées à aider les différentes organisations de la paroisse, les pauvres, les malades, etc.

Comme tu as bien compris la parole de Jésus, celle de pratiquer la vertu de charité sous toutes ses formes.

*Ne sois pas inquiet des tiens. Tu as laissé de bons enfants avec une bonne maman. Avec l'aide de Dieu, par ton intercession, ils seront guidés dans une vie chrétienne.

Adieu, cher Constant, et au plaisir de te revoir là-haut.

Tes Amis

Fouillard, Alexandre et Claire

Alexandre, fils de Eugène Fouillard et Hélène Simard, naquit le 17 mars 1929 dans une famille de dix enfants. Comme enfant, Alexandre était le champion contre ses frères dans des rounds de boxe organisés par son père. Alexandre aimait beaucoup la musique et était très bon chanteur.

A sa sortie d'école, il aida sur la ferme de son père, fut employé de Fouillard Implement Exchange avant d'obtenir un emploi en 1974 avec le C.N.R. où il travaille encore aujourd'hui.

Alexandre maria Claire Larocque le 15 avril, 1953. Claire née le deux février, 1933 est originaire de Pinewood, Ontario. Après la mort de M. Eugène Fouillard, ils vinrent habiter la maison de celui-ci, lorsque Madame Fouillard se retira au village. Claire et Alexandre sont les parents de onze enfants. Nicole, née le 20 février, 1954 maria Yves Descottes en 1971, habite à Dunrea, avec son mari et trois fils

Christian, Roger, et René; Ginette, née le 21 janvier, 1956, mariée en 1975 à Vernon Poworoznyk, demeure à Sturgis, Saskatchewan avec son mari et deux fillettes Melanie et Carrie; Prudence, née le 14 mai, 1957, mariée en 1977 à William Owens, habite à Saskatoon avec son mari et fille Michelle; Francis né le 2 décembre, 1958; Yvon, né le 18 juin, 1960 et Louis, né le premier janvier, 1962 sont tous employés du C.N.R. Elie, né le 13 septembre, 1963; Jocelyne, née le 27 janvier 1965, Laurent, né le 22 mars, 1967, André, né le 15 octobre, 1968 et Mireille, née le deux juin, 1972, demeurent tous à la maison avec leurs parents.

Fouillard, Paul et Henriette

Paul, fils de Eugène Fouillard et Hélène Simard, naquit le 22 mars, 1931 et Henriette fille de Mathurin (John) Lefranc et Gertrude Blouin le 11 avril, 1937. Ils se sont mariés en janvier 1953. Alain, leur premier fils est né en avril 1954. Le même automne, Paul bâtit un garage à Estevan qu'il loua à une compagnie d'huile et se rendit ensuite en Colombie Britannique avec sa famille. De retour en 1957, il fut employé par Fouillard Lumber et travailla à l'installation du système d'eau du village. Marc est né en décembre 1957. Paul et Henriette déménagèrent ensuite à Le Pas où Paul était gérant de La Vérendrye Motel. Gérald (avril 1959), Philippe (février 1960), et Roger (février 1961) sont tous nés à Le Pas. De retour à St. Lazare, Paul fut employé par Fouillard Lumber et participa à la construction de la banque et du magasin Fouillard Meubles. Elizabeth-Anne est venue au monde en 1962, Constant en mai 1964, Monique en avril 1967 et Gabrielle en août 1973. Paul et Henriette déménagèrent dans une maison neuve en 1966.

Alain est marié à Christine Sabiston de Prince George, B.C. qu'il rencontra à Wilcox au Collège Notre Dame. Alain fut charpentier à St. Lazare et déménagea plus tard à Edmonton avec Christine et leurs trois enfants Natalie, Scott et Sarah. Christine prend actuellement un cours de comptabilité à l'université d'Edmonton. Marc travaille pour Permanent Concrete à différents endroits du Canada. Gérald, marié à Shawna Leblanc travaille pour Fouillard Lumber. Ils habitent sur la ferme de Ernest Fouillard et ont un bébé centenaire, Crystal née le 27 février, 1983. Philippe, employé en Alberta réside à Edmonton avec sa femme Dianne Zimmerman de Solstgrith et bébé Natasha. Roger, marié à Donna Anderson de Smokey Lake, Alberta habite à St. Lazare et est employé par Permanent Concrete et travailla pour son père en hiver. Betty-Anne, mariée à Léo (fils de Paul Huberdeau et Cécile Perreault) vit à Edmonton, est employée par les compagnies

d'huile. Monique fréquente l'école à Birtle tandis que Gabrielle va à celle de St. Lazare. Paul a présentement un commerce pour la vente et l'installation de tapis.

Fouillard, Eugène et Yvette

Eugène, le septième fils de Eugène Fouillard et Hélène Simard, vit le jour le huit octobre 1932. Il fréquenta l'école de St. Lazare et de 1944 à 1950 poursuivit ses études au Collège St. Boniface. Il travailla ensuite pour son père à faire la vente de meubles. En 1966, un nouveau magasin de meubles fut bâti et Eugène y travaille depuis, avec deux de ses fils Martin et David.

Le 22 septembre, 1955, il épousa Yvette (née le dix mai, 1938), fille de Lorenzo Tremblay et Annette Cadieux. Yvette et Eugène ont eu six enfants, Robert, né le premier juillet, 1957, qui travaille à Calgary, est présentement au Mexique en vacances; Martin, né le deux novembre 1958 (Voir son histoire), Maurice, né le neuf octobre, 1959 est employé sur la construction des routes dans les provinces de l'ouest; Rachelle, née le 24 janvier, 1962 donne des leçons de musique à Winnipeg; David, né le quatre juin, 1964 travaille avec son père et Rébecca, née le dix août, 1968 fréquente l'école de St. Lazare.

Fouillard, Benoît et Leontine

Benoît Labre Fouillard, fils de Jean-Marie Fouillard et Prudence Tessier naquit à Welby, Saskatchewan le 31 décembre 1894. Son enfance (comme tous les enfants de pionniers d'ailleurs) fut vécu dans une extrême pauvreté. Il a eu très peu d'éducation formelle mais avait une aptitude extraordinaire pour le calcul, ce qui lui facilita les choses plus tard lorsqu'il devint charpentier avec son frère Eugène. En 1917 il s'enrôla dans l'armée. A son retour il épousa Léontine (fille d'Edmond Simard et Sarah Gwyer, née le 8 février, 1900) le 31 décembre 1918. De cette union naquit neuf enfants, Soeur Rosalie née en 1919; Marie (Mme Edgar Roy) en 1921; Denis en 1923; Lazare en 1926; Corinne (Mme Robert Decorby) en 1934; Soeur Anita en 1931; Paul-Emile en 1933; Benoît en 1937 et Jacqueline (Mme Robert Lemoine) en 1940. Léontine se devoua beaucoup aux oeuvres paroissiales et était toujours prête à rendre service à qui que se soit. Sa maison était le rendez-vous et le refuge de tout le monde. Durant la guerre elle hébergea des soldats de tous les coins du monde que son fils Denis amenait avec lui de la base de l'aviation canadienne à Rivers. Foncièrement chrétienne, elle avait une tendance à prêcher, ce qui lui mérita le surnom de Monseigneur Tine.

A la fin de la guerre durant la fièvre espagnole,



Ben and Leontine Fouillard with eldest grandson, Edgar.

Benoît devint malgré lui entrepreneur de pompes funèbres. Comme il semblait immunisé à la maladie, il allait de porte en porte ramasser les cadavres (lorsque peu de monde voulait s'aventurer dans les maisons affligées) en buggy — plus tard il se servait d'un modèle T. Il racontait qu'à des endroits des familles entières avaient succombé à la maladie. Israël Tremblay, reconnu pour sa force et sa vitesse au travail était le fossoyeur tandis que Eugène fabriquait les cercueils. Comme toute la communauté était en quarantaine, bien souvent il était le seul présent pour dire quelques prières lors des enterrements.

En 1928, il acquit l'agence de General Motors et était vraiment loyal à la compagnie. Selon lui, aucun produit sur le marché égalait la qualité de General Motors. La compagnie lui décerna un trophée pour vingt-cinq ans de service en 1953, l'année où il vendit son entreprise à son fils Lazare.

En 1931, réalisant le besoin d'un service de transport pour marchandises, il appliqua pour et obtint une licence pour voyager de Winnipeg à St. Lazare en camion lourd. De St. Lazare il amenait des animaux ou du grain et ramenait des marchandises pour les magasins généraux et des meubles usagés, tels que pianos, qui étaient revendus par Fouillard Implement Exchange. En 1946, il vendit son permis à Paul et Léon Dupont qui le vendirent à leur tour à Bicknell Freighters. Benoît a conduit d'innombrables milles

sans accidents et fut toujours connu pour sa courtoisie et l'aide qu'il apportait à l'occasion à ses compagnons de route.

Il fut conseiller municipal pendant dix-huit ans et servit avec fidélité, souvent aux dépens de son propre commerce. Il fut reconnu pour son intégrité quand il distribua l'aide au monde durant la dépression. Son honnêteté lui gagna l'amitié et le respect de D. L. Campbell, Eric Willes et Stuart Garson.

Il fut responsable de l'incorporation de St. Lazare comme village et devint son premier maire. Le premier but de l'incorporation était surtout pour pouvoir amener un système d'eau courante au village — rêve qui se réalisa en 1958.

Benoît aimait les changements et en faisait continuellement dans son garage et sa maison. Les murs se faisaient déplacer pour être remis au même emplacement quelques années plus tard. Ses enfants parlent de ses changements de système de chauffage — qui avaient toujours lieu alentour des Fêtes.

Benoît retourna au métier de charpentier éventuellement et bâtit des maisons pour Fouillard Lumber. Le dernier projet dont il était surveillant était la construction de la motel à Le Pas. Le 15 novembre 1958, sur le chemin de retour à St. Lazare pour le weekend, il eut un accident sur les chemins glacés. Son camion renversa dans le fossé et Benoît fut tué. Sa femme Léontine mourut le 27 janvier 1967. Léontine et Benoît seront toujours reconnus comme étant des meilleurs citoyens qu'une communauté puisse avoir.

Fouillard, Sr. Rosalie

En ce glorieux Centenaire, je me sens bien proche de Saint Lazare où j'ai des racines profondes. J'y ai passé de si heureuses années!

L'ainée d'une famille de neuf enfants, j'avoue que j'avais un faible pour les plus "tannants" et facilement, je gâtai les plus jeunes. Je les aimais tous profondément et je jouissais de seconder mes bons parents.

Ce ne fut pas facile de les quitter lorsque, en juillet 1939, je partais pour le Noviciat de Saint-Hyacinthe. Mais, devenir religieuse était mon rêve depuis toujours. Pour cause de santé, mon premier stage loin de ma famille fut assez bref. En mars 1940, je revenais chez nous. En février 1942, je reprenais le chemin du Noviciat pour me préparer à mes vœux temporaires. Deux ans plus tard, j'étais enchantée de revenir dans l'Ouest, mais, ici-bas, les joies et les peines se mêlent souvent. A cette même époque, Denis, mon frère soldat, devait partir pour l'Angleterre. La Providence permit que nous nous croisions à la Gare Centrale à Montréal. Jamais je n'oublierai la joie de cette rencontre.

Le train m'emporta donc, à travers montagnes, forêts et plaines jusqu'en Saskatchewan. Je vécus les quatre premières années de ma carrière religieuse à Wakaw, où nous avions un studio de musique. Là, je poursuivis ma formation musicale sous l'habile direction de Soeurs Ste-Irmine, Gertrude-des-Anges et Cécile-Yvonne, à qui je demeure très reconnaissante.

En 1948, j'étais nommée pour le pensionnat de Duck-Lake où, pendant six ans, j'enseignai le piano, le violon et le chant. Le jour le plus radieux de cette étape-là fut évidemment celui où j'appris, en 1950, que ma soeur Anita viendrait me rejoindre à la Présentation-de-Marie.

Ma troisième obédience fut pour Spiritwood où je passai un autre six ans, toujours au service de "l'harmonie". Ici, j'avais, en plus, le privilège de diriger la chorale scolaire. Bien que nous oeuvrions dans une école séparée, les non-catholiques avaient accès à l'enseignement musical. J'allais allègrement mon chemin lorsque tout à coup se dressa une grande croix. C'était en 1958 . . . un accident fatal nous ravissait notre incomparable Papa.

En 1960, je partais pour Vawn, qu'un jour j'avais eu l'audace d'appeler plaisamment "le pays des papillons gris". J'aimais déjà beaucoup cette paroisse lorsque, après quatre mois, je fus transférée à la petite mission de Makwa. Là, mon emploi de cuisinière me laissait des moments libres pour mes études professionnelles.

En 1961, j'étais désignée pour Prince Albert où je m'adonnai entièrement à la musique. L'année suivante, c'était le grand déménagement dans la nouvelle maison provinciale. Ce fut une expérience inoubliable. J'enseignai ici jusqu'en 1966; on m'accorda la faveur d'une année d'études.

1967 fut marqué par un autre événement douloureux pour notre famille: notre si chère Maman allait rejoindre là-haut le compagnon de sa vie. A ce temps-là aussi, je passai des examens de chant et on me confiait la direction de la maison provinciale. Des trois années qui suivirent, je garde surtout le souvenir de la bonté et compréhension de mes compagnes.

En 1970, je devenais responsable de notre maison d'accueil à Saskatoon. En 1975, je revenais à l'Académie où il me fut doux de partager la vie et les travaux de Soeur Anita qui, elle aussi s'appliquait à son perfectionnement dans l'art musical.

En 1976, j'étais destinée à la mission de Vawn. Loin d'y être "en pénitence", comme le disait en taquinant mon cher frère Lazare, j'y ai vécu trois années des plus sereines parmi des gens exceptionnellement affables.

En 1979, j'étais appelée pour la seconde fois à Spiritwood, une attachante paroisse dirigée par

l'Abbé Renaud. Il fait bon vivre et servir dans ce milieu sympathique. J'aime tout particulièrement mes élèves à qui je veux témoigner le Christ.

Je pourrais vous entretenir longuement des bienfaits du Seigneur dans ma vie, et dans la vôtre aussi. Je me borne à rendre grâce avec vous de ces 100 années d'existence du village de Saint Lazare auquel je suis fière d'appartenir et dont je confie l'avenir à Dieu et à la Vierge Marie.

Félicitations à tous les Lazaréens d'hier et d'aujourd'hui pour avoir bâti ce que je crois sincèrement être un des plus beaux coins du monde.

Fouillard, Denis

Je suis Denis Fouillard, né le 27 septembre, 1923, le troisième enfant de Benoît Fouillard et Léontine Simard. Notre famille de neuf, cinq filles et quatre garçons, furent élevés au village, dans une maison qui est maintenant la propriété de Léonard Huberdeau. Mon père possédait un garage ainsi qu'une route de camion de 1929 à 1942. Je suis allé à l'école Decorby jusqu'à la huitième année et ensuite j'ai travaillé au garage. Aussi, j'ai conduit des camions pour transporter le grain aux élévateurs pour les fermiers, et ramassé les bêtes pour délivrer au parc de bestiaux à Winnipeg. A l'âge de huit ans, j'ai commencé à traire deux vaches pour fournir du lait à mes clients du village, à cinq sous la pinte. En 1938, mon père prit un contrat pour pensionner quarante hommes employés par le P.F.R.A. pour clôturer soixante-trois milles acres de pâturages au nord et au sud de la rivière Qu'Appelle. Mme Honoré Plante était la cuisinière et son père M. Alarie et moi-même étions ses aides. Nous nous levions à cinq heures du matin et de temps en temps travaillions jusqu'à dix heures du soir à préparer les repas pour la journée suivante. Souvent les hommes se perdaient, sur la plaine, alors nous servions encore des repas à minuit.

En décembre 1942, j'ai joint "Motor Transport Division" du R.C.A.F. Après, je suis allé au centre d'entraînement à Brandon et à Rivers jusqu'au mois de décembre 1943, où j'ai ensuite été outremer à Bigginhill, Angleterre. Après six mois d'entraînement dans la partie sud de l'Angleterre, nous avons pris part à l'invasion de la France et traversé le canal anglais en barque en juin 1944. J'ai passé deux mois à Beny-Sur-Mer et ensuite traversé la Belgique et la Hollande, et passé l'hiver dans des tentes et casernes à Heesch, en Hollande. Au printemps de 1945, nous avons été en Allemagne en passant à travers de la "Black Forest" pour nous rendre à un aéroport proche de Hanover. C'est là que nous avons célébré "la victoire". Plus tard nous sommes allés à un aéroport à peu près à quinze milles

de Hamburg où je suis resté jusqu'à mon retour au Canada en mai 1946.

J'ai ensuite passé sept ans à travailler au garage de mon père à vendre des voitures G.M. et des machineries agricoles de la compagnie Case. J'ai acheté trente acres de terrain au nord du pont de C.N.R. de mon oncle Jean Fouillard, et aussi ceci fut le début de ma carrière de fermier. Ce terrain a été vendu à mon oncle Eugène Fouillard après mon achat du S $\frac{1}{2}$ de 11-17-29 du département des Mines et Ressources.

En 1949, j'ai rencontré Hortense Fillion, fille d'Hector et Aldéa Fillion de Routledge, qui est venue faire de l'enseignement à l'école Ellice. En 1950, elle est allée à l'école normale à Winnipeg, et ensuite se rendit à Ste. Rose pour deux années pour enseigner. Le 27 septembre 1952, nous nous sommes mariés à l'église catholique de Virden, officié par le Père Schrieber. Pour la première année de notre vie conjugale, nous habitions dans la nouvelle maison bâtie par mon père où la résidence de Robert Lemoine est située à présent.

En 1953, j'ai bâti une maison, un grenier aménagé, de seize pieds par vingt pieds, sans eau courante et où nous avons eu huit enfants. J'ai aussi construit une étable et les deux étaient situées à trois milles à l'ouest du village dans la vallée Qu'Appelle, et je commençai une ferme laitière de Holstein, pure race, vendant du lait et de la crème aux clients du village. Les livraisons du lait en hiver avec cheval et voiture d'hiver étaient parfois difficiles à cause de la neige (et parfois les clients se plaignaient du lait étant trop gras)! En 1955, j'ai mis mon troupeau sur le "Record of Performance" "enregistrement de lait", et j'ai commencé à me servir de l'insémination artificielle pour les vaches. Maintenant, nous trayons quarante-deux vaches avec une route de lait au village et nous envoyons le reste de la production au "Rossburn Cheese Plant". Nous demeurons à présent dans une maison bâtie en 1964 qui est de 32 pieds par 46 pieds, de "C.N.R. ties", avec un fini de stucage en dehors et celui de bois contre-plaqué et de "gyproc" en dedans.

Dieu nous accorda le bonheur d'avoir treize enfants, huit garçons et cinq filles. Ils sont:

Edgar: né le 4 novembre, 1953, fréquenta l'école St. Lazare pour sept ans, et le Collège St. Boniface pour six ans, ensuite à l'Université de Grand Forks, North Dakota pour trois ans, où il a reçu son diplôme de Bachelier de Sciences en Education. Il enseigne à présent l'éducation physique au Collège Louis-Riel à St. Boniface. Le 14 juillet, 1979, il épousa Jolene Tiegs, garde-malade diplômée de Hankinson, North Dakota. Le 7 janvier, 1983, ils ont eu un fils, Eric

Paul. Ils demeurent dans une nouvelle maison à St. Vital.

Edmond: né le 12 septembre, 1954, est allé à l'école St. Lazare pour sept ans, au Collège St. Boniface pour deux ans et demi, ensuite à l'école de Birtle pour six mois. Il travailla sur la ferme laitière pendant deux ans: Le 13 juillet 1973, il maria Debbie Anderson de Welwyn, Sask. Ils ont quatre enfants, deux garçons, Jean-Paul et Daniel, et deux filles, Jacinthe et Rae-Lynn. Ils résident à Stony Plains en Alberta. Il travaille sur les équipages d'huile depuis 1975, et est maintenant employé comme surveillant de terrains d'huile pour Spartan Drilling à Edmonton.

Lionel: né le 13 janvier 1956, fréquenta les écoles de St. Lazare et Birtle. Il travailla deux ans à Fernie, B.C. pour une compagnie de bois, et est maintenant employé comme "driller" pour Spartan Drilling à Edmonton.

Rosalie: née le 12 avril 1957. Voir l'histoire à Jean-Marc Lemoine.

Sarah: née le 13 juillet, 1958. Elle est allée à l'école St. Lazare et a gradué à Birtle en 1975. Elle épousa Larry Fleury de Beulah le 24 septembre, 1977. Ils ont deux filles, Léontine et Michelle, et résident un mille à l'ouest du village.

Angelo: né le 13 septembre 1959. Il est allé à l'école St. Lazare ainsi que celle de Birtle. Il a travaillé un an pour Target Tunnelling et est à présent employé comme "assistant driller" pour Spartan Drilling, à Melville Islands, N.W.T.

Léontine: née 1er décembre 1960, est allée à l'école St. Lazare. Elle mourut le 31 décembre 1968, de méningite.

Aimé: né le 28 février 1962, est allé aux écoles de St. Lazare et de Birtle. Depuis deux ans, il est employé comme "roughneck" pour Spartan Drilling et travaille actuellement aux Iles du Territoires Nord-West.

Anita: née le 5 mai, 1963. Elle est allée à l'école St. Lazare et a gradué de l'académie Rivier à Prince Albert, au mois de juin, 1981. Elle prend un cours de deux ans de secrétaire bilingue au Collège St. Boniface.

Denis Jr.: né le 9 juin, 1964, est allé aux écoles de St. Lazare et de Birtle, et est employé sur la ferme.

Charles: né le 20 octobre, 1965, est allé aux écoles St. Lazare et de Birtle. A présent il est employé sur la ferme.

Adrien: né le 12 septembre 1967, fréquenta l'école St. Lazare pour huit ans, un an au Collège St. Boniface Louis-Riel et à présent, poursuit ses études de dixième année au Collège Louis-Riel à St. Boniface.

Carmelle: née le 24 février 1972, est à présent

étudiante de l'école St. Lazare. Elle prend une part active au 4-H, au mouvement guide, apprend le piano et l'accordéon.

Mes activités sont: Conseiller pour la municipalité d'Ellice; Président Suppléant — en charge de la Sécurité Sociale pour le conseil municipal; Secrétaire de la clinique vétérinaire de St. Lazare; Président du Rossburn Cheese Plant Committee, Chevalier de Colomb et Maître de Chant à l'église de St. Lazare où je fais parti du chœur depuis 1930 alors que nous avions Sr. Aimé du Sacré-Coeur comme directrice.

Fouillard, Lazare et Rhéa

Lazare, deuxième fils de Benoit Fouillard et Leontine Simard, vit le jour le trois janvier, 1926. Lazare maintient que c'était un événement tellement mémorable que les cloches de l'église sonnèrent toute la journée à l'occasion de sa naissance! Il fréquenta l'école de St. Lazare et ensuite fut élève au Collège St. Boniface pour quatre ans.

En 1948, il se rendit à Burns Lake, B.C. avec Jack Traquair de Welwyn où il prit un emploi pour un an comme bûcheron et dans une scierie. Il revint à St. Lazare et travailla au garage de son père pour retourner l'année ensuite à Campbell River, B.C., où il fut employé encore comme bûcheron et aussi dans une mine de fer qui exportait leur minerais au Japon. Il habitait avec Amedée et Flora Vermette, qui demeuraient autrefois à St. Lazare.

En 1952, il se rendit à Kitimat et travailla comme mécanicien. Son contrat de cent jours étant échoué, il revint ensuite à St. Lazare pour entreprendre le garage de son père pour dix ans. Lazare vivait la vie de célibataire et durant ses loisirs prit des instructions à Brandon et devint pilote. Il fut le premier à voler et à acquérir son propre avion à St. Lazare. C'était un Aeronca 65 H.P. qu'il avait baptisé du nom de "Puddle Jumper".

Sa liberté cependant prit fin quand il rencontra Rhéa Laroque, soeur de Mme Alexandre Fouillard. Rhéa, originaire de Pinewood, Ontario, et fille de Ernest Larocque et Jeanne Legros, était employée à Winnipeg. Leur mariage fut le secret du siècle! Arthur et Christine Fouillard furent témoins à la cérémonie qui eut lieu le 27 août, 1960 à la cathédrale de St. Boniface avec le père Oscar Boily, S. J. ami de Lazare, comme officiant.

Pour cinq ans Lazare devint vendeur pour Fouillard Implement Exchange et ensuite pour Frank Clement and Sons. Il fut employé plus tard pour la construction de la pipeline en Ontario. Il reprit la gérance de son garage de 1972 à 1976 pour retourner travailler chez Clement à Russell jusqu'en 1982. Il

est présentement surintendant de Crush-Rite Concrete.

Lazare et Rhéa ont eu trois enfants, Gilles, né le 4 mai, 1962, est employé comme camionneur pour Crush-Rite Concrete; Bernard, né le 7 juin, 1963 est étudiant à Russell tandis que Gisèle, née le 11 décembre 1964, prend sa douzième année d'études à l'Académie Rivier de Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

Lazare et Rhéa habitent sur une ferme un mille à l'ouest de St. Lazare. Leur maison est située à l'endroit exact où Strathallan House existait à la fin du siècle dernier. C'était une maison d'accueil pour les voyageurs et Lazare et Rhéa ont certainement maintenu la tradition. Leurs nombreux amis et leur parenté jouissent de leur hospitalité incroyable. Lazare en plus est reconnu comme un raconteur hors de l'ordinaire et fait rigoler la compagnie lors de leurs visites qui sont fréquentes.

Fouillard, S. Anita

Vous me demandez de dire qui je suis? Voici . . .

Un jour, à une leçon de catéchèse dans l'école de mon village, l'institutrice a posé cette question:

"Qui peut nommer les deux soeurs de Lazare?"

Mon cousin Ronald, sûr qu'il n'y avait qu'un Lazare dans l'univers, lève la main et donne cette réponse:

"Il y en a une qui s'appelle Anita; l'autre, je ne me souviens pas de son nom. Ça fait trop longtemps qu'elle est partie." (C'était Rosalie)

Quoique je sois, en effet, la soeur de Lazare, je ne suis ni Marthe ni Marie, mais bien Anita, la sixième des neuf enfants de Benoit Fouillard et Léontine Simard, née le 15 mars 1931.

J'admirais mon père et ma mère. Chez les deux, je voyais une bonté compatissante, un sens d'humour qui ne dramatisait pas la vie, une foi qui surmontait tous les obstacles et une extraordinaire capacité d'accueil et d'amitié. Tout le monde était bienvenu chez nous; la porte était toujours ouverte à tous, la théière était toujours remplie, la table était toujours prête. Que Papa entre à cinq heures ou à onze heures du soir, seul ou accompagné de un ou plusieurs copains, un repas chaud et appétissant l'attendait.

Chez Ben Fouillard, il y avait du temps pour écouter, pour partager, pour se détendre. Je me souviens en particulier des années de la Grande Guerre de '39, alors que les soldats venaient, nombreux et souvent, passer de longs moments sous notre toit. Maman, qui excellait dans l'art de cuisiner, leur servait tout ce qu'elle avait de meilleur. Ensuite, la maison se remplissait de chant et de musique. Le concert se prolongeait tard dans la veillée. Parfois on jouait aux cartes aussi. Que c'était plaisant!

Si l'hospitalité était une valeur importante dans

notre foyer, le dévouement ne l'était pas moins. Papa était de tous les métiers: menuisier, mécanicien, forgeron. Il était tantôt conseiller, tantôt maire de la municipalité, et toujours, refuge des miséreux. Son hobby était de rendre service. Il oubliait presque toujours de faire une facture, mais, lorsqu'il allait trois fois la semaine à Winnipeg, en gros camion avec des charges d'animaux, il n'oubliait jamais de rapporter le sac de bonbons traditionnel pour les petits. C'était un homme au coeur sensible et généreux.

Maman, elle aussi, avait bien des cordes à son arc. Couturière habile, elle nous habillait de la tête aux pieds et, après cela, trouvait le temps de confectionner des couvre-pieds, véritables petits chefs-d'oeuvre. Et le tricot, et le crochet, ses doigts de fée n'arrêtaient jamais. Je la vois encore 'se démener' pour les bazars de la paroisse, encourager les 'candidates', rassembler les Dames de Sainte-Anne, réunir la famille pour le chapelet quotidien.

Auprès d'elle, entourée de mes frères et soeurs, la vie était bien douce. L'aînée, Rosalie, était pour nous comme une seconde et bien tendre maman. Elle se servait de son adresse, de sa créativité, pour nous procurer des plaisirs de tous genres. Marie, la deuxième, m'éblouissait par sa grâce et sa gentillesse. Ce que je trouvais moins emballant, c'était de la chaperonner. Quand Edgar la courtisait, Maman me disait toujours; "Reste en bas, Anita." Pour eux, le temps passait trop vite; moi, je trouvais les heures bien longues!

Et Denis . . . Dès l'âge de huit ou neuf ans, il rêvait de devenir avocat. Il a toujours été enjôleur. Même les vaches accouraient à toute vitesse lorsqu'elles entendaient son retentissant 'Come, Jersey.' Sa voix de stentor a rendu service surtout au chœur de chant. Toujours en retard, il grimpait l'escalier du jubé en roucoulant l'"Asperges me." Un jour, il arrive avec un 'brush cut'. Au lieu de se recueillir, comme il aurait dû, il souffle à son voisin: "Ma femme ne pourra plus me tirer les cheveux."

Quant à Lazare, j'ai failli m'évanouir d'étonnement le jour où déposa dans ma petite main un beau \$5.00 pour aller à l'Exposition de Birtle. Puis Corinne, je la vois encore, assise au piano, accompagnant les refrains français, latins, irlandais; tous ces airs tirés de la Bonne Chanson, de 'Everybody's Favorites' ou bien du répertoire de quiconque voulait s'exécuter. J'enviais sa disponibilité, et sa dextérité au clavier. Paul-Emile, lui, était l'intellectuel, l'artiste, le perfectionniste de la tribu. Contrairement à certains autres, il était toujours reluisant comme un sou neuf. Benoit, le benjamin des garçons, gagnait le coeur de tout le monde avec ses cheveux frisés et son sourire permanent. Vous pou-

viez lui demander n'importe quoi — il disait toujours OUI — ensuite, il faisait à sa tête. Pourtant, personne n'a jamais eu l'idée de le gronder. Il était si charmant! J'ai hâte de voir à quelle hauteur va planer l'avion qu'il vient de patenter . . . Il me reste à parler de la dernière, mais non la moindre. C'est Jacqueline, la choyée de tout le monde, la douée de tous les talents. A quatre ans, elle était déjà une virtuose au piano et elle longeait la rue pour aller porter le déjeuner à Marie qui était employée au bureau de poste.

J'ai pu jouir de mes frères et soeurs d'autant plus que, pour cause de maladie, j'ai dû manquer quatre années d'école. J'étais heureuse de seconder ma mère dans les travaux, même les moins poétiques, comme traire les vaches, faire le ménage de la laiterie, aller porter le lait à quelques clients. Les petits revenus servaient à payer nos cours de musique. Je m'arrangeais pour aller porter le lait au couvent vers les huit heures du soir afin de rencontrer les pensionnaires et, surtout, les religieuses que j'estimais beaucoup. Paraît-il qu'une d'entre elles, Soeur Aimé-du-Saint-Sacrement, m'aurait déposée sur l'autel le jour de mon baptême, le 16 mars '31, et aurait prié pour qu'un jour je devienne religieuse. C'est peut-être un peu à elle que je dois le privilège d'être aujourd'hui une fille de la Bienheureuse Marie Rivier.

Le 27 juillet 1950, après avoir terminé mes études académiques à Saint-Lazare, je prenais le train pour Saint-Hyacinthe, P.Q. Là, je bénéficiai de deux années et demie de formation culturelle et spirituelle en vue de la carrière apostolique qui allait s'ouvrir devant moi. Le 3 février 1953, je prononçais mes premiers voeux et désormais on m'appellerait Soeur Sainte-Marie Constance (nom de ma première et si chère nièce.)

De retour dans l'ouest, je poursuivis mes études à l'Académie de Prince-Albert. Je dois une reconnaissance éternelle aux professeurs si compétents qui m'ont accompagnée et soutenue avec tant de compréhension tout au long de ma formation professionnelle: Soeurs Henricia, Jean-de-Béthanie et Sainte-Irmine.

En 1953, je me joignis à la communauté de la Villa Sainte-Marie. A mon programme d'étudiante, j'ajoutai quelques heures par jour d'enseignement aux grades 1 et 2 de l'Ecole Saint-Paul. Ils étaient mignons mes élèves, mais ce fut de courte durée. Dès 1954, je fus de nouveau désignée pour le studio de musique de l'Académie pour y faire mes débuts dans l'enseignement du piano. Je passai ensuite une année à Laurier, Manitoba, où j'étais responsable d'un groupe de jeunes musiciens ainsi que de la chorale paroissiale.

De 1957 à 1960, je revins en Saskatchewan, cette

fois, à Marcelin. Là, Soeur Cécile-Yvonne fut pour moi une compagne sympathique et une aide très appréciée dans les études que je devais poursuivre jusqu'à l'obtention du diplôme ARCT en chant.

Au cours des ans, j'ai vécu une foule d'expériences très enrichissantes et suivi des cours de tous genres, entre autres avec Mme Frances Adaskin, puis les inoubliables ateliers de musique à Banff en 1971! J'ai peu connu la vie en paroisse; ma destinée semble être rattachée à la grande maison de Prince-Albert. C'est là que, depuis 23 ans, je m'applique à l'éducation chrétienne de la jeunesse à travers la musique et le chant. Contribuer à l'épanouissement des talents artistiques de mes élèves; participer à la vie communautaire d'une équipe attachante; trois fois le jour, mêler ma voix à celles de mes soeurs dans la louange divine, voilà ce dont ma vie est tissée et ce qui comble mes aspirations les plus profondes.

J'en rends grâce à Dieu, sachant bien que c'est à Lui d'abord, puis à vous tous et à ma famille religieuse que je dois tout ce que j'ai et tout ce que je suis. En ce merveilleux Centenaire, j'ai voulu vous livrer le secret de mon bonheur; le vôtre, je vous promets de m'en occuper dans ma prière quotidienne toute enveloppée d'affection fraternelle.

Fouillard, Benoit Labre

Benoit Labre Fouillard was born December 31, 1894 at Welby, Saskatchewan, son of Jean Marie and Prudence Fouillard. His early years, were spent under very trying conditions, accepted by the homesteaders of the day, living in hope that their efforts would lead them to better times in the future. His schooling, as well as that of the older members of the family was short-lived. He had a liking for and an extra talent in arithmetic. As he became involved in carpentry with his brother Eugene, Ben was known for his rapidity and exactness in figuring out materials and costs of buildings. He could figure in seconds in his mind what the average person would take



Ben Fouillard Family: Sr. Rosalie, Marie, Denis, Lazare, Corinne, Sr. Anita, Paul Emile, Benny and Jacqueline.

minutes with pencil and paper. Many of the buildings and homes they built are still in use today. In 1917 he joined the army and spent nine months soldiering until the war ended in 1918. On his return he married Leontine Simard, (on his birthday December 31) and was blessed with nine children — five girls — Sister Rosalie; Marie (Mrs. Edgar Roy); Corinne (Mrs. Robert Decorby); Sister Anita; Jacqueline (Mrs. Robert Lemoine) and four boys — Lazare, Denis, Paul Emile and Benoit.

Leontine was a community leader and spent a lot of her time working for church projects. She was always ready to give a helping hand to whomever was in need. Her hospitality had no limits and extended to all walks of life. Her son, Denis, who was in training at the R.C.A.F. base in Rivers made a practice of bringing recruits home from across Canada, England and Australia. Being deeply religious she had a tendency to preach and earned the nickname of "Monsignor Tine."

When the Spanish flu reached epidemic proportions, Benoit became the acclaimed undertaker. He seemed immune to all disease and for the duration of the plague, with a democrat and horse as conveyance, and later on with an improvised Model T; Ben was called upon to pick up corpses when very few people dared venture into these homes. He related some very sad cases where entire families had been wiped out within a few days. Israel Tremblay Jr. who was known for his strength and speed on the shovel was the grave digger, and Ben's brother, Eugene, fabricated coffins for these multiple burials. Meetings and dances, were all forbidden by law, so the undertaker (Ben) had the double duty of carrying out the spiritual duties, a short prayer, for those unfortunate people.

He had a very special liking for cars and trucks. In 1928 trucks were fast becoming the new mode of transportation for grain and gravel. This required gravel for the dirt trails, so he applied and received a franchise from General Motors. He befriended some very important people in the Corporation and his allegiance made him a die hard GM man until he died. There just wasn't another car built like a Chevy! In 1953 the Company presented him with a 25 year Dealer award and he continued for a few more years until he sold his garage to his son, Lazare. In 1931, he realized the necessity for better services in transportation and decided on a trial run to Winnipeg. With his mechanic, George Tremblay, they loaded a cow in a truck he had bought from his brother Eugene; delivered the cow to the abbatoir in St. Boniface and brought back freight for the local merchants who were pleased and excited with the service. He eventually applied and received a P.S.V.

license and operated until 1946 when he sold his franchise and equipment to Paul and Leon Dupont, who later sold it to Bicknell Freighters Ltd. His is one of the few licenses left that retains special privileges due to its early date of issue. He had driven a million plus, accident free miles, helping out other truckers or travellers in distress. Routine trips during the depression were made up of livestock that barely covered the freight cost. The return trip consisted of dry freight for local merchants with the balance of the load being made up of used furniture, gramophones, pianos, dishes, for resale by Fouillard Implement Exchange.

He liked excitement and experimentation. He saw a picture of a snowplane in a Popular Mechanics and it was not long before the truck motor was lifted and a snowplane was in progress. Mr. Peter Roy, a carpenter, was given the job of making a propellor. A set of bob sleds was used for the chassis. Many will remember the test run with George Tremblay (Pitsy) at the motor controls and Amedee Vermette sitting inside the motor stand and steering the front sled with his heels. The narrow gauge of the sled made it top heavy and when executing the first turn it tipped over with the pilot and mechanic. The audience had to make a hasty retreat before the lumber from the prop started falling from the sky. The first snowplane! There were more to follow, some very comfortable and efficient ones, that were piloted by none other, than Benoit. Other emergency trips made in blizzard conditions were more demanding. He served 18 years as councillor for the Municipality of Ellice and his duties were not taken lightly. They were without remuneration, and many times took priority over his own business. He was known for his fairness in distributing relief in the depression years. These appointments brought him in contact with people in Parliament, who became his friends and respected his honesty; to name a few, ex-Premier of Manitoba, D. L. Campbell, the late Eric Willis and Stuart Garson. He later planned the incorporation of the Village and became its first Mayor. His motive was the installation of water and sewage which became a reality in the fall of 1958. He was a leader when it came to fighting fire and floods. His judgement always gained the respect of the people who assisted him. He liked changes and his garage had renovations on many occasions. Walls were torn down and moved to a new location only to be returned to the original spot a few years later. The building was cut up so many times that his mechanic George Tremblay (Pitsy), told him, "Ben, you have reached the point where some day you will pull out the mystery nail and the building will collapse on you." His retirement years brought him back to the trade he loved. He built

several homes for Fouillard Lumber and Supply, both prefab and on location. His conscientious work brought much praise from their owners.

His last contract was the building of the La Verendrye Motel at The Pas. It was started in the summer of 1958. The project was to his liking, and notwithstanding his age, he showed an overabundance of enthusiasm. His crew was made up of men who had worked with him for a number of years. On Saturday night, November 15, 1958 he left The Pas heading home in a freezing rain. Road conditions became progressively hazardous. His truck skidded and overturned in the ditch, resulting in his death. Many mourned his passing and realized what an asset he had been to the community. Leontine died on January 27, 1967.

Fouillard, Sr. Rosalie

During this centennial year, I feel very close to my birthplace where I spent such happy years. The oldest of a family of nine children, I must admit I loved spoiling the younger children and I enjoyed my role as a substitute parent for my brothers and sisters.

It was not easy for me in July 1939 when I left for the novitiate in St. Hyacinthe, but I had always dreamt of becoming a nun. My first departure from home did not, however, last long as I was back home in March 1940 due to health reasons. In February 1942, I nevertheless returned to the convent and was very happy to return west two years later. As is often the case, my joy was mixed with sadness as my brother was leaving for overseas — we met in Montreal at the railway station before his departure.

The train took me to Wakaw, Saskatchewan where I continued my music studies for four years under Srs. Ste-Irmine, Gertrude-des-Anges and Cecile-Yvonne to whom I will always be grateful. In 1948, I was sent to Duck Lake where I taught piano, violin and singing. In 1954, I went to Spiritwood, (where I spent six years) and besides teaching music, I took charge of the school choir. It is during that time in 1958, that my father was accidentally killed. In 1960, I went to Vawn, then four months later to the Makwa mission as a cook where I had enough leisure time to continue my music studies. In 1961, I was sent to Prince Albert to continue teaching until 1966. In 1967 my mother died and after having taken examinations in singing, I became superior of the provincial house, for the following three years. In 1970, I became superior in our house in Saskatoon and in 1975 returned to Prince Albert where my sister Anita was continuing her music studies. I then spent three enjoyable years in Vawn and 1979 saw me return to Spiritwood where I still am presently. I could write at length about my gratitude to our Lord for the benefits

I enjoyed in life. Suffice to say that I am happy to have been born in St. Lazare.

Congratulations to the residents of the municipality which in my opinion is located in one of the nicest corners of the world!

Fouillard, Denis

I was born in September, 1923, child of Benoit Fouillard and Leontine Simard. Our family of nine, five girls and four boys were raised in the village, in the house now owned by Leonard Huberdeau. My father owned a garage, and also had a truck route from 1929-1942, now operated by Bicknells. I attended DeCorby School to grade VIII, then worked in the garage and drove trucks hauling grain for farmers, and picked up cattle to deliver to the stockyards in Winnipeg. At the age of eight, I began milking two cows to supply customers in the village at 5¢ per quart. In 1938, my father contracted to room and board approximately forty men who were hired by P.F.R.A. to fence 63,000 acres of pasture land north and south of the Qu'Appelle River. Mrs. Honore Plante was the cook, her father Mr. Alarie and I were hired as bull cooks. We were up at five in the morning and occasionally worked till ten at night preparing for the next day's meals. Quite often the men would get lost and we would be still serving meals at midnight.

In December, 1942, I joined the motor transport division of the R.C.A.F. going to manning depot in Brandon, being posted to Rivers until December, 1943. I was posted overseas to 126 airfield comprised of four spitfire squadrons at Bigginhill, England. After six months training in the southern part of England, we took part in the invasion of France and crossed the English Channel on barges in June 1944. I spent two months at Beny Sur Mer across the road from what is now the Canadian Veterans Cemetery, and then moved up through Belgium and Holland, and spent the winter in tents and barracks at Heesch, Holland. In the spring of 1945 we moved into Germany, through the Black Forest and to an airport close to Hanover. This is where we celebrated V.E. day. We then moved to an airport approximately fifteen miles from Hamburg where we remained until my return to Canada in May 1946.

I spent seven years in my father's garage selling G.M. cars and Case Implements. I purchased 30 acres north of the C.N.R. bridge from uncle John Fouillard, which started my farming career. This land was sold to uncle Eugene Fouillard after purchasing the S½ 11-17-29 from uncle Eugene Simard in 1949. In, 1950, I purchased the N½ 11-17-29 from Mines and Resources.

In 1949, I met Hortense Fillion, daughter of Hec-

tor and Aldea Fillion from Routledge, who came to teach at Ellice School. In 1949 she went to Normal school in Winnipeg and then taught in Ste. Rose for two years. On September 27, 1952 we were married in Virden R.C. Church with Father Schrieber officiating. We lived for a year in a new house that my father built where Robert Lemoine's house is now situated.

In 1953, I built a house and barn three miles west of town in the Qu'Appelle Valley and started a pure-bred Holstein dairy farm, selling milk and cream to customers in the village. The winter deliveries with horse and van were difficult due to excess amounts of snow, (and some customers complaining about milk being too rich). In 1955, I entered my herd on Record of Performance (R.O.P.) milk recording, and began artificial insemination. I am now milking forty-two cows with a milk route in the village and shipping the balance to the Rossburn Cheese Plant.

Fouillard, Hortense (Fillion)

I was born in St. Jean Baptiste in April, 1929. We moved to a mixed farm near Oak Lake in 1939. I attended a country school at Routledge to grade VIII and completed my school education, grade IX to XII at St. Joseph Academy, St. Boniface. I taught school on a permit at Ellice in 1948, before enrolling for a one year teacher's training course at Tuxedo. In 1950 I was hired to teach at Ste. Rose du Lac where I remained for two years. I married Denis Fouillard in September, 1952.

We raised eight children in a converted granary, 16' x 20' with no waterworks. We built a new house in 1964 — 32' x 46', split level, out of C.N.R. ties with stucco finish outside and plywood and gyproc finish inside. We were blessed with thirteen children, eight boys and five girls. Our children: **Edgar**, (November 4, 1953) attended St. Lazare School for seven years then went to St. Boniface for six years, and three years in Grand Forks, North Dakota University where he received his B.Sc. in Education. He is presently teaching physical education at Louis Riel College. On July 14, 1979, he married Jolene Tiegs, a registered nurse from Hankinson, North Dakota. On January 7, 1983, they were blessed with a son, Eric Paul. They live in a new home in St. Vital. **Edmond**, (September 12, 1954) attended St. Lazare School for seven years, then went to St. Boniface College for two and a half years, and six months to Birtle Collegiate. He worked on the home farm for two years. He married Debbie Anderson of Welwyn, Sask., on July 13, 1973. They have four children, Jean-Paul (1974), and Daniel (1976), Jacinthe (1978), and Rae-Lynn (1980). They now reside on a five-acreage holding in Stony Plains, Alta. He has worked

on oil rigs since 1975, and is presently employed as field supervisor for Spartan Drilling in Edmonton. **Lionel**, (January 13, 1956) attended school in St. Lazare and Birtle Collegiate. He worked for two years in Fernie, B.C. for a lumber company, and is now employed as driller for the Spartan Drilling Co. in Edmonton. **Rosalie**, (April 12, 1957) attended St. Lazare School and graduated from Birtle Collegiate. In 1975, she took a nursing course in Brandon. She married Jean-Marc Lemoine on July 17, 1976. They have two children, Noel, and Chantalle, and reside in the village. (See Jean-Marc Lemoine's story). **Sarah**, (July 13, 1958) attended St. Lazare School and graduated from Birtle Collegiate in 1975. She married Larry Fleury from Beulah on September 24, 1977. They have two daughters — Leontine (1979), and Michelle (1981), and reside on an acreage one mile west of St. Lazare. **Angelo**, (September 13, 1959) attended St. Lazare School and Birtle Collegiate. He worked one year with Target Tunnelling and is presently employed as driller for Spartan Drilling Co. on Melville Islands, N.W.T. **Leontine**, (December 1, 1960) attended school in St. Lazare. She died on December 31, 1968 of meningitis. **Aime**, (February 28, 1962) attended St. Lazare school and Birtle Collegiate. He has been employed for the past two years as roughneck with Spartan Drilling and is presently working on Melville Island, N.W.T. **Anita**, (May 5, 1963) attended St. Lazare School and graduated from Rivier Academy, Prince Albert, Sask. in June 1981. She is now completing a two year bilingual secretarial course at St. Boniface College. **Denis Jr.**, (June 9, 1964) attended St. Lazare School and Birtle Collegiate and is presently employed on the home farm. **Charles**, (October 20, 1965) attended St. Lazare School and Birtle Collegiate. He, too, is employed on the home farm. **Adrien**, (September 12, 1961) attended St. Lazare School for eight years taking grade IX at St. Boniface College. He is presently taking grade X at Louis Riel College in St. Boniface. **Carmelle**, (February 24, 1972) is attending St. Lazare School, and is actively involved in 4-H, Scouts, piano, and accordion.

My activities are: Councillor for Ward 4, R.M. of Ellice; Deputy Reeve — in charge of Welfare for the R.M.; Secretary of St. Lazare Vet Services District Board; President — Rossburn Cheese Plant Committee; Choir Director — St. Lazare R.C. Church, (joined church choir in 1930 with Sr. Aime du Sacre-Coeur as director), and I am a 3rd Degree at St. Lazare Knight of Columbus.

Fouillard, Lazare and Rhea

Lazare, second son of Benoit Fouillard and Leontine Simard, was born in St. Lazare Jan 3, 1926.

Lazare says the church bells rang all day! He attended school in St. Lazare, then spent four years at St. Boniface College. In 1948, he left with Jack Traquair from Welwyn for Burns Lake, B.C., where he got a job as a lumberjack, skidding logs and working in the sawmill. He was there a year, came back to St. Lazare, worked in the garage with his dad for a year, then went back to B.C. to Campbell River, where again he worked in a lumber camp. He stayed for awhile with Amedée and Flora Vermette, who were living there at that time. Lazare worked for awhile in a surface iron mine; ore was being shipped to Japan. In 1952, Lazare went to Kitimat, on a contract to work as a mechanic for 100 days.

The same year, Lazare came home, and took over his father's garage where he spent the next ten years of his life. In his spare time, he took flying lessons at Brandon, and in 1953 got his pilot's license. He bought an Aeronca 65 H.P. which he called his "puddle jumper". These were his carefree bachelor days . . . he was the first guy to own and fly his own plane in St. Lazare.

Lazare met a girl who was working in Winnipeg, who often came to visit her sister, Mrs. Alex Fouillard. She was Rhea, daughter of Ernest Laroque and Jeanne Legros of Pinewood, Ontario. They eloped on Aug. 27, 1960, and were married in Winnipeg. This was the best kept secret since the invention of the atomic bomb!

Lazare sold the garage and worked for Fouillard Implement Exchange as a salesman for five years, then with Frank Clement and Sons at Russell, next came a job on the pipeline in Ontario, then into the garage business again from 1972-76; from 1976-78 he worked for Fouillard Implements and from 1978-82 again was salesman for Clements. Lazare is presently working as a superintendent with Crush Rite Concrete.

Lazare and Rhea have three children; Gilles, born May 4, 1962, has been working for Crush Rite as a truck driver, for the past four years. Bernard, born June 7, 1963, is attending school in Russell. Gisele born Dec. 11, 1964, is taking her Gr. XII at Rivier Academy in Prince Albert.

Lazare and Rhea live on their farm, in a remodeled section house, one mile west of town. Their house is on the exact location of what was once a stopping house called "Strathallan", which was near a bridge over the Qu'Appelle River, on what was once a well-used trail between Rossburn and Moosomin. With the number of friends who come to call, you could say that Lazare and Rhea still run a "stopping house" with the added attraction of Lazare's entertainment (he is an incomparable raconteur!) Rhea is a very relaxed and charming hostess.

Fouillard, Sister Anita

You want to know who I am? Well, one day during a religion class at school, the teacher asked "Who can name Lazare's sister?" My cousin Ronald, believing there was only Lazare Fouillard who had such a name, answered "One of them is Anita, but I don't remember the other one's name, she's been gone from St. Lazare for a long time!" It was Rosalie. I am definitely Lazare's sister, not Martha nor Mary, but Anita, sixth of nine children, born March 15, 1931, to Benoit Fouillard and Leontine Simard.

I always had great admiration for my parents. In both, I found compassion and kindness, a sense of humour and faith, which enabled them to accept life with its difficulties, without complaints. They had an extraordinary capacity for friendliness and hospitality. Everyone was welcome; the door was always open, the tea ready and the table set! Whether my father came in at five in the afternoon or eleven at night, alone or with friends, an appetizing hot meal always awaited him.

At Ben Fouillard's home, there was always time to listen, share, and relax. I recall during the war years, when numerous soldiers came on leave and stayed in our home. My mother, an excellent cook, always served them the best of food. Later the house would be filled with music and singing till late at night. We sometimes played cards. How pleasant it was!

If hospitality was important in our home, so was community service. Dad was a jack-of-all-trades, a carpenter, mechanic, blacksmith etc. He was at times councillor and mayor of the municipality and village. His lifetime hobby was helping people. He very often forgot to give bills to his customers when he hauled cattle by truck to Winnipeg three times a week; but he never forgot to bring us back a bag of candy! He was a very sensitive and generous man.

Mother was a very gifted woman. She was an excellent seamstress, and made all our clothes and still found time to make quilts, which were works of art. She also knitted, and crocheted. Her hands were always busy. She organized bazaars, held meetings of the Ladies of Ste. Anne; then would round us up for the daily rosary. Life with her and my brothers and sisters was a happy one. Rosalie, the eldest, was like a second mother, so gentle and loving. She used her imagination and creativity to amuse and please us. I always admired Marie for her gentleness. What I did not enjoy much however, was chaperoning her when her future husband Edgar (Roy) came courting. Mom always said, "Anita, stay downstairs!" Perhaps for Edgar and Marie the time flew, but for me, I found those hours long and boring!

Denis . . . from the time he was eight or nine years old, he dreamt of becoming a lawyer. He was always a charmer! Even the cows would come when he called "Come, Jersey". Over the years his stentorian voice rendered a lot of service at church. Always late, he would start singing while climbing the stairs to the choir loft. One day he arrived in church with a brush-cut. Instead of praying, he whispered to a friend sitting beside him, "Now my wife won't be able to pull my hair."

I remember Lazare as always being generous; I nearly fainted the day he gave me five dollars to go to Birtle Sport's Day. Corinne, I can still picture her at the piano accompanying songs in French, Latin or English; songs taken from "La Bonne Chanson" or "Everybody's Favourites" or special requests. How I envied her talent at the piano. Paul Emile was the intellectual, the artist and perfectionist of the family. Ben, the youngest son, charmed people with his smile. He was always agreeable when you told him something, but always did as he pleased and nobody thought of scolding him. I am anxious to see the finished product of the airplane he is now building. Now I have come to the last but not the least of our family; Jacqueline, the one with so many talents. At four years of age, she was already playing the piano! I can still see her bringing breakfast to Marie, who was working at the post office.

Because of sickness, I was out of school for four years, so I had time to enjoy my family. I was quite happy helping my mother in such unromantic chores as milking cows, cleaning the milk house or delivering milk to a customer. The slight revenue from this venture paid for our music lessons. I always managed to deliver milk to the convent at about eight o'clock at night, so I could chat with the boarders and visit with the sisters. Apparently Sister Aimé-du-Sacrement had put me on the altar list the day I was baptized, and asked God for me to become a nun. Maybe she is partly responsible for me being a sister of the Presentation of Mary now.

In July of 1950, I left St. Lazare for the novitiate at St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, where I spent two years. In February of 1953, I took my first vows and the name, Sister Ste. Marie-Constance (name of my oldest niece). When I returned to western Canada, I continued my studies in Prince Albert, under such capable teachers as Srs. Henricia, Jean-de-Bethanie and Ste. Irmine, to whom I will always be grateful for their support and understanding. In 1953, I taught Gr. I and II part time as well as continuing my studies. In 1954, I started teaching piano lessons. I spent a year in Laurier, Man., teaching music and taking charge of the church choir. From 1957 to 1960, I was in Marcelin, Sask. where I continued studying and ob-

tained my A R T C in singing. Sr. Cecile Yvonne was a great help and good friend, during these years. Among many interesting and enriching experiences, I was extremely fortunate to take courses with Mrs. Francis Adaskin, and attend music workshops in Banff. I was not destined to enjoy life in small parishes; I have been in our big convent in Prince Albert for the last 23 years, teaching music and singing lessons. I am happy to be able to contribute to the religious and musical development of my pupils, and participate in the community life with the other sisters. I am thankful to God and to my family for what I am. I am proud to be a native of Ellice Municipality, and congratulate you on your centennial year. I pray to God for your continuing happiness.

Fouillard, Paul-Emile

Paul Emile was born in St. Lazare August 18, 1933, son of the late Benoit and Léontine Fouillard. He received his early education in St. Lazare followed by six years at St. Boniface College. After completing Grade XII, Paul-Emile returned to work at his father's automobile dealership, working as a bookkeeper, shop foreman and parts man. He stayed with the garage business, although it changed ownership.

In 1957, he married Gracia Tremblay, daughter of Lorenzo and Annette. They have four children, Nola, Annette, Louise and Yvan. Annette married Robert Fontaine and has a son, Daniel. Louise married Gerald Hebert. They have two children, Joel and Renée.

Paul-Emile spent two years working for Fouillard Furniture before moving to Winnipeg with his family in 1971. Since then he was employed by Stern G M C trucks and later by Parkville Gulf.

During his years in St. Lazare, Paul-Emile was active as village councillor, Secretary of the School Board, Secretary-treasurer of the St. Lazare Athletic Association, Recorder of Knights of Columbus, Manager of the Credit Union, Manager of a Music Bank and correspondent for the Birtle Eye Witness and the French Weekly, La Liberté.

Fouillard, Ben Jr.

Ben left St. Lazare in 1963 to fly as a bush pilot at Pickle Lake, Ontario. In 1964-65, he continued flying in Prince Rupert, B.C. In 1966-67, he returned to St. Lazare to continue his high school education, returning to his flying job at Pickle Lake during the summer months. In 1969, he gave up his flying career to take up his original trade of auto mechanic at Smithers, B.C. He was then transferred to Kamloops. It was in Kamloops that he met Clara Fisher whom he married in 1971. In 1975 their son, Des-

mond, was born, followed by their daughter, Jacqueline, in 1978. His interest in airplanes has always remained, and he is presently building a two-seater Emeraude in his spare time which he hopes to have completed within three years.

Charron, Jean Baptiste and Marie Fouillard

Jean-Baptiste was born in Worcester, Massachusetts, USA, of Canadian parents who left him an orphan at a young age. He was adopted by relatives and returned to live in Quebec. He was educated in Montreal and knew Brother André very well (who was beatified a few years ago and was the founder of St. Joseph's oratory in Montreal). He learned telegraphy as a young boy in Quebec, later coming out west and working at Roblin Hotel as night clerk while he waited for an opening on the CNR. He went to St. Lazare with friends to hunt, where he met, and later married Marie Fouillard on August 28, 1917. He was working as telegrapher and operator on the railway main line in Rivers at the time. He and his wife lived there for a number of years.

John started a hospitalization plan, on the Rivers Main Line which later became the Blue Cross, (blue being his favorite color). After signing up ninety per cent of the employees it became too big to handle, so he went to the Manitoba government to include the province, as well, in this plan. His name is on the original charter of the "Blue Cross" with Len Bell of Rivers. He was given a Centennial medal by the Manitoba Historical Society in recognition of his work.

John also started the first Rod and Gun Club in the province at Rivers. He was organist and choir leader at St. Anthony's church there. He died on May 2nd, 1971 in Winnipeg, where he had retired.

His wife, Marie, was born in St. Lazare August 27, 1897. She went to school there and recalls Miss McDougall as one of her favorite teachers. She married John and moved to Rivers. She had six children and over the years lived also in Ste. Rose, St. Laurent, returned to St. Lazare for a few years during the war and finally retired to Winnipeg where she still lives with her daughter, Jeannette.

Their children are: **Adolphe** was educated in Rivers and became a pilot in the RCAF during the war. He took a Radar Technicians' course and now is senior draftsman and engineer at Bristol Aerospace in Winnipeg. He has three children. **Philippe**, educated in Rivers, was a radar technician in the RCAF. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from the U. of M. and is also a graduate of McGill University in Canadian Industrial Management. He is personnel manager for RCA Victor, and lives in

Montreal with his wife and six children. **Aldea-Georgette** — see Earl Reid story. **Eugene John Robert** was educated in Rivers, St. Laurent and Winnipeg. He operates his own fishing tackle business. He lives in Winnipeg and has 3 children. **Jeanette** was educated in Rivers and St. Laurent, previously employed by Can. Railway News Restaurant, now lives with her mother in Winnipeg. **Ray Thomas** went to school in St. Laurent and Winnipeg. He started working in CNCP Telecommunications and now is a project engineer and management consultant. He was transferred (with his wife and two of his family of four children) to Bandung, Indonesia, as computer and telecom consulting engineer.

Fouillard, Georges and Agnes

Georges, son of Jean Marie Fouillard and Georgette Prudence Tessier, was born January 6th, 1908, in St. Lazare. He began his education at the old Decorby School; at that time, Mr. Adam Blouin was the sole teacher. He left school at age 16 to work for his older brother Eugene, in the Implement shop. At the age of 19 he was the secretary treasurer for the school and this post was still his at the time of his death. In the next few years, he and brother Joseph (Bebe) owned and operated a general store purchased from Amede Vermette and also were the Imperial Oil Agents, which Georges operated for 39 years. When Joseph decided to move to Winnipeg, Georges pur-



George and Agnes Fouillard.

chased the farm, from him. Originally it had been owned by Frank Desjarlais and presently by Raymond Dupont. Bebe ran the farm for him for a while, then, Ray Dupont managed it until Georges' death. Georges and Agnes Mae, daughter of Howard and Margaret Smith, were married on July 16, 1938. Agnes was born on June 6th, 1915, on the family farm in McAuley. They made their first home in the house presently owned by Reg. Chartier. After a year, they moved behind the general store which Georges was managing. Two children were born here. In June 1945, Georges purchased Eugene Fouillard's house, which became their family home for 21 years. It is presently owned by Andre Perreault. At that time waterworks were non-existent. Georges dug the basement deeper and installed his own water system. The system consisted of three pumps, one for hot water, one for cold and one for drinking water.

In the years that followed, five more children were born. On January 12, 1966, Agnes and family suffered a severe loss due to the accidental death of Georges and eldest son, Ron. Agnes, then sold the store to Mathieu Gagnon. Jacques Guay later erected a new post office on the site. Agnes and her family moved to Winnipeg a year later. They resided on Lipton Street until the winter of 1982, where Agnes took up residence in Villa Decorby in St. Lazare.

Their seven children were: **Georgette** was born April 2nd, 1939 in Dryden, Ontario. (Agnes was visiting her parents in Dryden). Georgette married Jerome (Buster) Tremblay. They reside in Maitland, Ontario having one daughter and two sons; **Ronnie**, born July 26, 1943 married Rachelle Courchene, August 9th, 1965, (deceased January 12, 1966). Their daughter Brigitte was born June 12, 1966; **Joanne** born January 9th, 1946, married Clifford Olson. Their children were Alan (deceased at age 10), and daughter Tara 13; **Ricki**, born February 20, 1949, married Mary Lou Bouchard. They have one daughter, and two sons; **Marcie**, born August 9th, 1951, married Andrew Hayden, July 10th, 1971. They have two daughters; **Debbie**, born December 21, 1953, married Paul Deschambault. They have two sons; **Dolly**, born May 3rd, 1960, now resides in Agnes's house on Lipton street and is employed by Federated Insurance Company.

Fouillard, Joseph

Joseph (Bébé or Babe) Fouillard was born June 3, 1910 at St. Lazare. He was nick-named Babe because he was the baby of the family and it stuck with him his whole life. He was the son of Jean-marie and Prudence Fouillard.

He shared a grocery store business with his



Babe and Tony Fouillard.

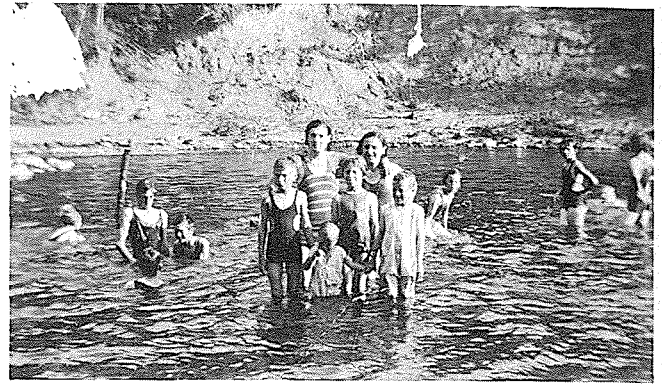
brother Georges for about 22 years. He was a member of a band where he sang and played the banjo along with Margaret Corley and Trueman and Wes Lamb. This was his favorite pastime and they played for dances in and around St. Lazare.

In 1947 he bought a farm and cattle from Francois Desjarlais (formerly his parent's land) and lived there for five years. He worked for brother Eugene in the furniture business and in 1952 he sold his farm to his brother Georges. He moved to St. Boniface with his family and bought a rooming-house which was a meeting place for many residents of St. Lazare. He worked in Winnipeg as a painter for 22 years. He died June 4, 1977.

He enjoyed nothing better than a good old sing-along followed by his own commercials. He had difficulty remembering someone he met yesterday but could pick a person out of a crowd whom he had not seen for 30 years. He always welcomed everyone to his home.

On May 21, 1934 he married Antonia (Tony) Houle, born August 16, 1909 to Beatrice Lemire and Oliva Houle of Letellier. She was helping her aunt, Laura Comeault, at St. Lazare when Babe met her.

They had five children: **Roland** born 1936 helped on the farm until he was 16 when the family moved to St. Boniface. He worked for Massey Harris for a while but decided to make St. Lazare his home, so he began delivering fuel for Uncle Georges Fouillard.



Antonia Houle (Fouillard) chaperoning the Comeault children at Birtle dam in 1932.

In 1961 he married Henrietta Ruth (Tootsie) Tremblay born 1937 and they have a son Raymond born in 1962.

Denise born 1938 has two children: Rick married Barbara Chartier and they have two sons, Joey and Jason. Gisele works for an Oil Company in Calgary.

Claire born 1943, attended Precieux Sang school in St. Boniface. She married Wayne Jopling of St. Boniface and they have two children, Dinah and David.

Claude born 1945 works for the C.N.R. and helped his father in the painting business on his days off. He married Marguerite DeSchutter of St. Boniface who works for Cargill Grain Company. They have two children: Brenda and Catherine. Claude and Marguerite are very much involved in promoting the Winnipeg Jets Hockey Club.

Therese (Terry) born 1949, worked at Air Canada for 10 years. She married Eugene (Ash) Gysel in 1972. Ash has been a player and coach of the St. Boniface Riels. They have two children, Jennifer and Nicole. There is the story told of the time Terry was bringing a plant for Tootsie from Tony. She was riding with "Buster" Tremblay and kept cautioning him to take it easy so the plant wouldn't get wrecked. Whereupon Buster stopped the car, got out, opened the back door and very calmly picked up the plant and pitched it out, into a farmer's field with an accompanying "comment".

After Babe's death, Tony sold her home in St. Boniface and moved into a suite. Her hobbies are ice fishing, camping and listening to the old tunes which Babe enjoyed and sang.

Fraser, John by daughter-in-law, **Dulcie Fraser**

My Father and Mother-in-law were born in Elgin Scotland and emigrated to Canada in 1912 bringing their family of two small boys. They settled in Welby Saskatchewan after acquiring homestead there. They

lived there for five years, while Dad was working at various places on the C.N. Railway. He later got a job as Section Foreman at Victor, five miles west of St. Lazare and the family moved down from Welby. Shortly after moving mother became ill and passed away in November 1918. Our aunt came from Vancouver to look after us. Jack and Robert attended school at Pumpkin Plains and later went to work on the Railway, taking time off to enlist in the Services of World War II.

Jack married Dulcie Gardner of Wattsvie and now resides in Miniota. Robert married Jaye Beam of Welby and now resides in Spy-Hill.

Dad passed away in August 1951. They are laid to rest in Spy-Hill cemetery.

Fraser, Andrew B.

In 1906, Andrew brought his wife Jeannie, his mother-in-law Mrs. Thomas Greenshields, and his five children, Nellie (Mrs. Doug McCaig), William, Dina (Mrs. Laurence Ryan), Delmar, and Lillie (Mrs. Jack Drever) to Manitoba. They came from Arnprior, Ont., to a rented quarter section with no buildings, between Foxwarren and Binscarth, a half mile east of where Chillon Elevators later stood for many years. At that time it was only a loading platform siding. The children attended Balmerino school, 2½ miles west. They and the three Joe Irwin children walked in summer and rode in a sleigh in winter.

In 1910 the family moved a few miles north to the William Scarth farm with a **real** house, and for a few years the children attended Clifford school in the R.M. of Silver Creek. Then Andrew again rented a quarter section of land in the R.M. of Ellice and bought land for his son William. The family school was once again Balmerino. It was a splendid community and a good place to spend your learning years. The Fraser family increased to twelve; Irene (Mrs. John Baldwin), Lyle, Ivy (Mrs. Dubby Vinnell), Morley, and Mac, Pearl (Mrs. Garland McConeghy) and Peggy (Mrs. Archie Rea). Not all went to Balmerino as Binscarth later became their school. The neighbors were all like family, as are those still remaining, even though the pupils of the school have moved to all parts of the world.

Fraser, William T.

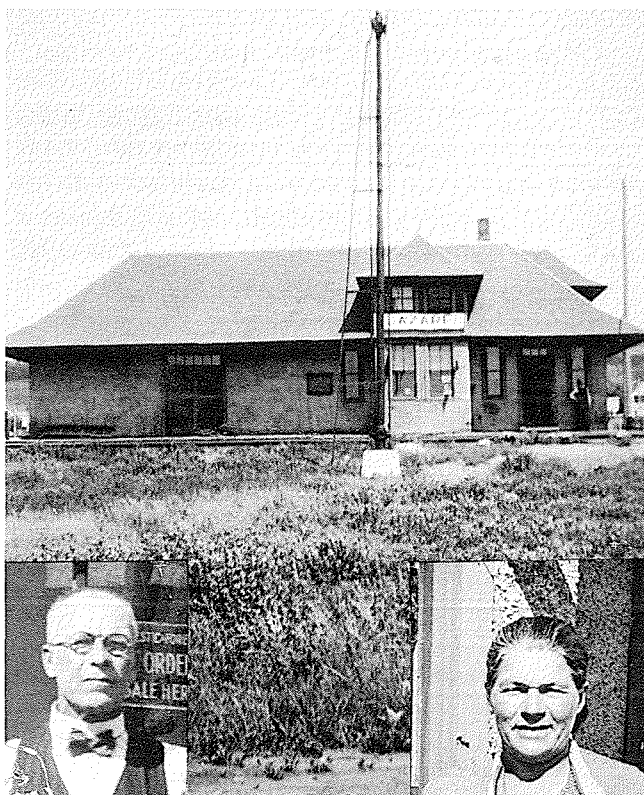
William farmed land cornering Chillon elevators to the north-west. He married Irene Bond, the Binscarth school principal's daughter, and they raised three children; William, now teaching at Neepawa, is married and has a family. Gordon; driver inspector for Motor Vehicle Branch, is married with a family and living in Brandon. Carole, married a farmer,

Howard Maguire. They have a family and live in Brandon.

To supplement his income in the 1930's, William trained at Chillon under P. K. Peterson, gave up the farm, and took an elevator operator's position at Waskada, where he lived until his retirement. Both he and Irene are now deceased.

Fulham, Arthur and Tillie by Albina Crump

Arthur J. Fulham was born in Caraquet, New Brunswick, on Nov. 16th, 1878. As a young lad he worked for the Canada Atlantic Railway, until his family moved to Howick, Quebec, where he then joined the Grand Trunk Railway System. In 1909, Arthur decided to come west where jobs were supposed to be plentiful. He was lucky to get a job as Telegrapher with C.N.R. He worked in Winnipeg until he was transferred to Lazare in 1911 or early 1912, but this was for a very short time. He returned to Winnipeg and married Tillie Kolojkolo, who had immigrated from Poland in 1909. They lived in Winnipeg and Elie, Man. until in 1914, Arthur was asked to move back to Lazare. Being bilingual proved to be a great asset in his work. He served as agent until his retirement in 1945, at which time Arthur received a letter of congratulations from C.N.R. for the longest service rendered by one agent.



Arthur and Tillie Fulham, station in background.

Arthur and Tillie raised a family of eleven children. Two passed away in early childhood. As the children grew up they started moving on to establish their own lives in different parts of the country. **George** was the first of the children to receive his education in St. Lazare. Later he worked at whatever job he could get. At this time our mother decided to start farming and with George's help and a lot of sweat and hard work they got the farm going. He then decided to move on, finally settling in Winnipeg, with his wife and daughter. After a lengthy illness, George passed away in 1965. **Wes** attended school in St. Lazare and later worked on road construction. He helped on the farm, until he joined the Army and went overseas. Upon his return he bought the land adjoining the home farm and settled down for a few years, but due to ill health was forced to sell and after a short retirement, passed away in 1971. **Helen** attended school in town and High School in Letellier, Man, and then moved to Montreal, Quebec, where she took up nursing. In 1940 she married Robert Leblanc, and after raising three sons she returned to her career. She is now a widow still living in Montreal. **Albina**, after her schooling, helped out with the younger members of the family. In 1939, she left for Montreal, where she worked and attended night school. After a few years, she returned to St. Lazare, married Bill Crump from Welwyn, Sask. They have a family of three children and are still residing in Welwyn. **Adolphe** received his education in St. Lazare. He helped on the farm, and also worked for C.N.R. He later joined the Army and went overseas and upon his return acquired some land and raised beef cattle. He eventually sold out and now is living on the old home farm. **Stanley** attended school in St. Lazare and later served several years in the R.C.A.F. during World War II, including a period of time in German P.O.W. camps. Upon his release he attended university and travelled extensively before returning to the Air Force. He married Audrey Low of Foxwarren, Man, in 1954. They have four children, all living in Winnipeg, where Stan is now employed in Housing and Construction and Audrey is a Resource Teacher. **Ulick** quit school at the age of 16 and took full responsibility on the farm, while his older brothers were overseas. He finally acquired the farm and in 1966 married Simonne Vaudry and after a few seemingly short years and a brief illness, she was taken from her family. Ulick and his six children still reside on the farm. **Teresa** received her education in Lazare and Brandon, and later took her nurses training in Winnipeg. After nursing a few years, she decided to change her career, and moved to Montreal, where she was employed by C.N. She was later transferred to Ottawa

and while in Ottawa she met and married David Fuller in 1955. They have four children. In 1958, Teresa was employed at the House of Commons and to date is still employed as (Hansard Reporter) Emmenusis with the Government. **Lucille**, after finishing High School in Lazare, left for Montreal, where she worked and attended special classes in secretarial and business management. After a couple of years, she decided to move back west to Edmonton, where she met and married Herb Palmer. They raised a family of three sons and a daughter. Lucille is now working for the Department of Highways in Edmonton.

Arthur Fulham — deceased November 1950; Tillie Fulham — deceased December 1982. This is the Fulham Family history compiled to the best of my knowledge.

Gadbois, Pierre and Renee

Pierre born in St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, in September 1948 married Renee, (nee Houle) born on March 22, 1951 in 1971. They have three children Melanie born in 1972, Simon in 1974 and Benjamin in 1977.

Following an advertisement noted at the Veterinary School in St. Hyacinthe, asking for the service of a veterinarian, Pierre came to St. Lazare to be interviewed by Arthur Fouillard. Pleasantly surprised by the picturesque surroundings of this village he returned to Quebec, convinced his fiancée Renee they should be married in June instead of the previously arranged date in July. After their wedding they immediately left for Manitoba. Their first home was in an apartment in the Fort Ellice Motel. Pierre was notified of his first call with a note attached to the door. He will never forget performing his first Caesarean on a cow which was lying in the middle of a field on a hot summer evening surrounded by a cloud of mosquitoes. It was a far cry from the antiseptic



Pierre and Renée Gadbois.

atmosphere he had experienced at veterinarian school!

Operations on small animals were performed on the kitchen table covered with a plastic sheet. The following Spring they moved into a house on Queen's Street. In the summer, Pierre decided to go to St. Pierre, to work with Dr. Forgues to gain further experience. They stayed there only one year and were happy to return to St. Lazare.

Awaiting the completion of the clinic, which was officially opened on March 15, 1976, Pierre increased his clientele and improved his English. When the clinic opened in 1974, Renee became the receptionist and Guy Huberdeau became Pierre's assistant. Pierre and Renee say they will always have fond memories of their friends and their stay in St. Lazare.

While Pierre was here he indirectly advertised for the Renault Company; any vehicle that withstood the abuse and the speed at which Pierre drove his car, had to be a good product!

Gadbois, Pierre et Renée

Pierre né à St. Hyacinthe, Québec le 20 septembre 1948, et moi Renée (Houle) suis née le 22 mars 1951. Mariés depuis 1971, nous avons trois enfants Mélanie née en 1972, Simon en 1974 et Benjamin en 1977.

Suite à une annonce parue à l'école de Médecine Vétérinaire à St. Hyacinthe demandant les services d'un vétérinaire pour pratique générale à St. Lazare, Pierre décide de contacter M. Fouillard. Suite à l'obtention de son diplôme en mai 1971, il décide de venir visiter les lieux. Il est enchanté par l'aspect pittoresque du village et des environs, revient au Québec, et de commun accord avec moi, avance la date de notre mariage qui devait être à la fin de juillet, pour venir s'établir au plus tôt. Donc mariés le 4 juin nous partons pour notre voyage de noces qui dura cinq ans puisque nous sommes revenus à notre province natale en 1976.

Nous nous installons au Motel Fort Ellice, Pierre y aménage un bureau et pharmacie. Le premier cas de Pierre était une note accrochée à la porte. Sa première césarienne, il s'en souviendra longtemps, une vache qui était en plein champ, couchée, une chaude soirée d'été, avec un nuage de moustiques; il se trouvait bien loin des cas déjà vus en milieu aseptisé de l'école!! Les opérations de petits animaux se font sur la table de cuisine recouverte d'un plastique.

Nous trouvons les gens de St. Lazare vraiment très sympathiques et rencontrons presque des secondes familles.

Au printemps suivant nous déménageons dans

une maison sur la rue Queen. A l'été Pierre décide d'accepter l'offre du Dr. Forgues de St. Pierre, Manitoba, pour travailler avec lui et ainsi prendre de l'expérience. Mais nous venions à St. Lazare rencontrer nos amis très régulièrement et n'avons resté à St. Pierre qu'une année pour revenir à St. Lazare. Il était alors question de construire une clinique à St. Lazare avec subvention gouvernementale.

En attendant la Clinique, Pierre augmente toujours sa clientèle, s'exprime mieux en anglais, et je vais aux rencontres des Minifrancophones avec les enfants et fais la réceptionniste. Les travaux de la clinique débutent au printemps 1974. L'ouverture officielle de la Clinique sera le 15 mars 1976. Guy Huberdeau y travaillera comme assistant.

C'est assez difficile de résumer notre séjour, car il y a tellement de bons souvenirs; ce fut pour nous une expérience incomparable à tous points de vue.

Gagnon, Mathieu and Marie

Mathieu was born in July, 1925, the son of Louis Gagnon and Albina Lemoine, who farmed in the Ste. Marthe area. Marie was the daughter of Placide Prescott and Lucienne Huberdeau. She was born in 1934 on the W½ 21-17-28 near St. Lazare. She stayed at the convent while going to school with her sisters,



Gagnon Family. Back Row: Marcel, Theresa, Roland, Cecile, Gerard. Front: Mathieu, Marie, Albina.

and except for holidays, only went home once a month for a weekend. She had one year of college at St. Charles, near Winnipeg. She married Mathieu in July of 1954. They lived in Ste. Marthe for two years, then moved to St. Lazare. Mathieu worked for a short period as a baker for Chef Totte, before starting with the Department of Highways, where he has been employed for 27 years. They had a house moved to St. Lazare, with an addition added when Mathieu's father, Louis, came to make his home with them. The Department of Highways was moved to Elkhorn in 1968, and Mathieu and family moved to an acreage just out of Elkhorn, where they have lived since.

They were blessed with a family of six children: **Therese**, married Noel Faucher in July of 1972. They live in Prince George, B.C. where Noel works for a sawmill. They have three children; Gerald, Monique and Lionel. **Cecile**, married Mike Lowe of Moosomin in May of 1978. Mike works at the Potash Mine at Rocanville. They have two children: David and Michael Jr. **Roland**, married Brenda Janzen of Virden in June of 1980. Roland works for the Department of Highways and they make their home in Virden. They have one daughter, Rachelle. **Marcel**, married Donna Pederson of Swift Current, Sask. in Sept. of 1979 at Moosomin. Marcel works at the L. and J. Auto Body Shop in Moosomin where they live, with their two daughters, Michelle and Christa. **Albina**, married Tom Lowe of Moosomin in April of 1982. Tom works for the Potash Mine at Rocanville. They have one son Matthew. **Gerard**, the only son at home, is going to High School at Elkhorn.

Gardner, John by daughter **Dulcie Fraser**

Dad and Mother were born in England; Dad from Shropshire, Mother from Worcestershire. Dad emigrated to Canada in early 1900, and Mother arrived shortly after. Dad was employed by the C.P. Railway as Section Foreman, and worked at various places in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. He then transferred to the Canadian National Railways and in 1914 he moved to St. Lazare, residing in the Section house there. In 1917 they bought three quarters sections of land, three miles east of St. Lazare. Mr. Eugene Fouillard built them a four room house in the Assiniboine Valley, close to the railroad, where Dad continued on as Section Foreman on Wattsview Section for over forty years. A spring of cold fresh water flowed through their yard. It was here that Mother took great pride in growing a large garden every year. She made many gifts of fresh vegetables to friends and neighbors. They raised a family of three girls and one boy, and all attended Ellice School.

My brother, sisters and I are pleased to honor our



Jack Gardner.



Mrs. Gardner

Dad and Mother who worked so hard for this great country. Dad and Mother moved back to St. Lazare and spent their retiring years among their many friends.

Mother passed away in July, 1955, Dad in April 1963. The family is scattered, Evelyn is living in Chemainus, B.C. Margaret in Vernon, B.C. I, Dulcie in Miniota, and Robert in St. Lazare.

Gardner, Robert and Eva by daughter Gloria Fleury

It was a frosty October morning, when Jack and Beatrice Gardner were awaiting the arrival of their fourth child. Jack had previously gone for the help of a midwife, Mrs. Ambroise Boyer.

A son, John Robert Gardner was born October 16, 1920, on their farm 25-16-28, four miles East of St. Lazare. All his boyhood days were spent on the home place. He attended Ellice School which was



Robert and Eva Gardner.

quite a walk, about seven miles both ways. Spring and fall were okay, as young Robbie was more interested in watching nature take its course, than in school. There were farm chores to do, such as milking. Best of all were the carefree days spent roaming the hillside hunting gophers. His favorite sport was fishing. In his spare time, young Robbie could be found fishing at "the Old Bridge," which once was the crossing to Fort Ellice. He didn't know then, that he would take his own grandsons to the very same spot 40 years later, for weekend camp outs.

In 1938 young Robbie started walking the track to St. Lazare. There working at the Fort Ellice Hotel was a dark eyed girl, by the name of Eva May Pritchard. Eva came into this world on November 1, 1918, at Spy Hill, Saskatchewan. She was orphaned at the early age of three. First her father passed away in 1922 and a year later, her mother.

She was then taken in by an aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Lepine, and attended the DeCorby School in St. Lazare. She walked with the other children from the old fort, across the river to town. One event she always remembered, was crossing the foot bridge, during spring breakup. The ice on the river broke, as she was crossing the bridge. It was very frightening.

After leaving the Lepine home, she worked for many of the town people, and then started working for the Sid Robert family at the Fort Ellice Hotel. There she met and married Robbie, who by then was a proud owner of a new 39 Chev truck and had moved to the N.E. half of 35-16-28. Gloria was born in 1941. That winter, Dad and Joe Fleury, a neighbour, cut wood and hauled it the 14 miles to Birtle and sold it to the Birtle Hospital. They would leave at dawn, and return at dusk and then do chores.

There were "get togethers" with the valley neighbours at threshing time, and "post cutting" time in the valley that we will never forget.

There was always the Ellice School Christmas concert, which was a very good performance. It was enjoyed by young and old. It was something I will always remember, the gas lamps, before the school had the hydro, the stage curtains, made out of grey bed sheets; everyone crowded in, excited kids and of course the nervous teacher. To me, the best part was when all the teams came prancing around the front of the school, ready to head home. One team in particular, I remember had bells. To me the horses were beautiful, but none could compare with Dad's little black team, Beauty and Judy, they were Dad's pride and joy.

There were some dry years and Dad gave up farming, and started working on the railroad at Treat in 1954 under Bill Petronko. His first permanent section was Undora, Saskatchewan. He came home one weekend, getting off No. 12, at Wattsvie and walked home. That was the weekend our house on the home place burnt down. Mom and I then went with him to Undora and later Raymore, and then back to Treat in 1957. I then married Ray Fleury and moved to Uno, where we still live.

Dad had to go back to Saskatchewan on account of lay offs on the job. He went to Harris and later to Tessier, Saskatchewan, where Roberta Colleen was born in 1960. He was then at Clavet, Saskatchewan and returned to Oakner Quadra for a few years and finally returned to the home section in St. Lazare. During this time, Mom worked in Bob's Cafe for a number of years.

Colleen attended school in St. Lazare and Birtle, left home and married Ken Carnegie and they have two girls, Heidi and Reagan.

Dad and Mom purchased the late Mrs. Eva Haney home on main street. Dad is still working on the section, and has two remaining years before retirement. Dad and Mom both enjoy the garden during the summer months. They also enjoy having everyone come home. They have nine grandchildren. Robert, Darwin, Barry, Martin, Heather, Donna and

Joni Fleury, Heidi and Reagan Carnigie and one great grandchild, Ginger Martin Fleury.

Genaille, Mary-Rose Delima as told to Yvonne Leclerc

I was born August 30, 1905 in St. Madeleine. My father was John Fleury and grandfather Allan Vermette. My mother's name was Rosanna and my grandmother Angele. Four children were born, Fred, Bernard, Rosanna and myself, Marie-Rose.

Dad cut wood for a living and worked on the railroad for awhile. We had a log house. Everyone there had this kind of house. We plastered the houses with mud. There is not much left at St. Madeleine except the cemetery which they still use today.

The women kept busy making mats and picking berries in the summertime. They sold the berries or traded them for clothes or anything useful. We used to dance a lot for recreation; we'd dance all night and have lots of fun. We baked all sorts of cakes and pies a week before New Years. The old people stayed home on New Year's day and the young ones went out visiting. The next day the old people went out, and the young ones kept house. We always had rabbit meat balls, a special dish for New Year's day.

I remember the flu — I was very sick with a high fever. I don't remember where we were but I was staying in a tent with my grandfather, Mr. Vermette. Mr. Bernier had a good remedy for the flu — Musk from a skunk, put in water and they drank this. There was no medicine from drug stores. We used home remedies like wild meat broth for high fever, a herb for blood poison or infection. A lot used cow manure for blood poison.

There was a lot of wild meat as Dad hunted. We used flour bags for clothing; they were useful in those days as clothes were scarce! I remember when I was fourteen, I went to dig seneca root and sold it in St. Lazare and bought myself a pair of boots. They were high boots I bought myself. My grandfather used to buy my shoes.

I married Napoleon Belheumeur and had nine children. All my babies were delivered by a midwife, Mrs. Bercier. My husband Napoleon had a good team of horses, cows, chickens and ducks. It wasn't too hard for us, we always had something to eat. At times when he worked away from home, it was hard: he cut cordwood and exchanged it for animals, calves or sheep. He always brought something home.

We stayed in St. Madeleine until Napoleon died. I married Alex Genaille and we had one girl, Delia. We lived in St. Madeleine for awhile, then moved to Russell. I am still living there, my health is not too good, but I can't complain.

Giguere, Marcel

Although Marcel never lived here, his death in Winnipeg, in January 1983, struck a blow to people in the area. He had been a yearly visitor at hunting times, at the home of Frank and Leone Dale, for the past 40 years. Marcel had been a dental mechanic and many a "smile" in this immediate district, displays his excellent workmanship.

Goeujon, Abel

Abel Goeujon was born in Busnes, Pas de Calais, France in 1880. He came to Canada at 30 years of age. Abel lived in the southern part of Saskatchewan till 1936 when he moved to St. Lazare. His farm was about 5 miles from town and Regis DeCorby the nearest neighbor.

Abel married Alma (nee Wilcott) in Cantal, Sask. in 1920. Alma was born in St. Paul, Minnesota on March 16, 1883. Of Alma's previous marriage to Adolph Giguere there were two children — Roland and Germaine. Abel and Alma Goeujon had four children: Sidonie (Sister of the Presentation of Marie); Marguerite, Gerard and Gail.

Abel knew the art of growing unusually beautiful produce. Jovial, musical, hard working and well educated he could have been successful at anything he attempted. Quite independent and loving peace and quiet, he preferred living in the country. He will be remembered for his patriotism and trust in divine providence.

Alma was a woman of courage. She did not shy away from work and knew how to make do with very little. This proved especially true when living in the dry depression belt of southern Saskatchewan prior to coming to St. Lazare. She was a woman of peace and prayer.

Abel, buried in the Regina Veteran's cemetery, passed away in 1944. Alma, who died in 1969, is interred in Saint Anthony's cemetery in Edmonton, Alberta.

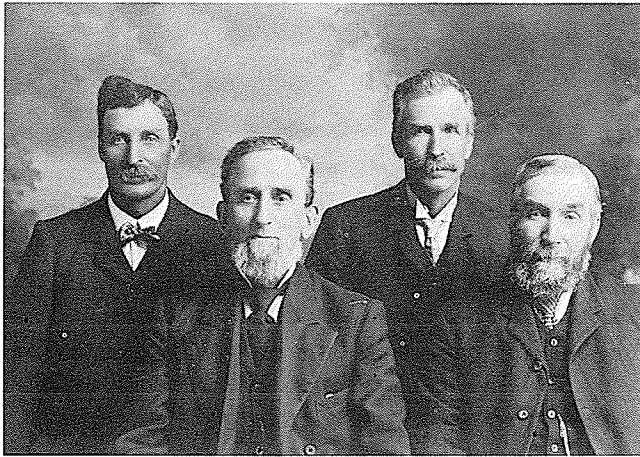
Gordon, Charles Albert

Charlie was born in Washington, U.S.A. July 4, 1871. He came to Beaver Creek area in the early 1900's. He worked as a labourer for different ones in the area. He was the first black man ever to live here.

He took sick in 1936 and was sent to Deer Lodge Hospital in Winnipeg where he died August 19, 1936. He was buried in the Deer Lodge Cemetery.

Graham Family History

When Edward Graham, who owned a farm and a cheese factory in Shawville, Quebec, returned to Canada after serving in the Boer War he resumed his



Jim Graham, Walter Park, Edward and George G. Graham.

interest in Western Canada. In 1902, he visited the Foxwarren area, was favorably impressed and decided to emigrate from Quebec. Over the next few years, with several return trips to Quebec he moved his family, together with his two brothers, George and Jim, and his brother-in-law, William Graham, as well as over twenty other families from Pontiac County in Quebec into Western Manitoba. The Nickels, Hamiltons and Workmans settled in the Solsgirth area; the Frasers and the Greenshields in the Binscarth-Russell area and the rest in the Foxwarren area. Edward's eldest son, Walter, together with George's (G.G.) eldest son, Dave, settled on Sec. 26-17-27 in the RM of Birtle. Walter later sold his interest in that farm to his uncle, Jim Graham, the youngest brother of George and Edward. Jim Graham, who never married, later purchased property in Ellice municipality in the Beaver Rapids area.

In 1904, together with William and Annie Graham, Edward Graham moved his entire family of six children onto Sec. 9-18-28 and started a family farm with his sons, Walter and George (G.M.). That family consisted of:

1. Janet — the eldest born in 1880, who later in 1908 married James Thomas, the first grain buyer in Foxwarren for the Imperial Grain Co. (later N. Bawlf Co.). They had one daughter, Elenor, who in 1974 married Scotty Ellis and lives in Winnipeg.

2. Walter Park Graham — who brought Marion Lord to Canada as a war bride after World War I. They had three children, Freda Whitely Graham, Trevor Harley (deceased) and Cleveland Park (Turk) all of Calgary. Mrs. Walter Graham presently lives in Innisfail, Alberta.

3. George Malcolm — who married Margaret Leckie, a teacher and daughter of Henry Leckie, general merchant, Foxwarren 1898. They had two sons, Harry Edward and George Rodney. (more of them, later)

4. Dinah — who married Alex Hay, CPR agent at Foxwarren, Virden, Dryden, etc. They had one son, Lloyd, of Brandon.

5. Myrtle — a teacher and nurse who never married and presently, at the age of 89, is a resident of Heritage Personal Care Home in Winnipeg.

6. Melvin — the youngest of the family, who came to Manitoba at the tender age of three years. (more of him, later.)

The early years were not easy years for the new settlers. For the first few years they returned to Quebec in the winter to cut timber for their building needs. Sec. 9-19-28 was not the only land the Ed Graham family purchased in Ellice municipality. In quick succession, Sections 13 and 11-17-28 were acquired.

In order to supplement his income, Edward Graham in 1907 took over from Albert Laycock as grain buyer for the Maple Leaf Milling Co. and held that position until he retired in 1918. He operated in competition to his son-in-law, Jim Thomas, in the Imperial Grain elevator. The Graham family was closely tied to the grain industry as George M. succeeded Jim Thomas in the Imperial (by now the N. Bawlf Co.) elevator in 1919. The youngest son, Melvin, also became a grain buyer when he began buying grain for the Federal Grain Co. (formerly the Maple Leaf) in 1935.

Edward Graham made many contributions to the community in which he lived. In the Manitoba general election of July 11, 1910, he ran as the Conservative candidate in Birtle constituency only to lose to Huntley George Malcolm by 110 votes. This did not deter him though, as he ran again in the next provincial general election. This time, through boundary changes, he ran as the Conservative candidate in Russell constituency, only to lose to Donald MacDonald the Liberal candidate by 30 votes. He served as mayor of the Village of Foxwarren on two different occasions, as well as being the first chairman of the Consolidated School District of Foxwarren #525, in 1917, when the school that is presently used was built in Foxwarren. Edward Graham died, January 21, 1940 and his wife, Margaret, died July 5, 1946.

Walter Park and George Malcolm Graham, together with their father, their uncles Willie, George and Jim and cousin, Dave, began breaking the land on Sec. 9-18-28 in the summer of 1905 or 1906, after having first done considerable breaking on Sec. 26-17-28. Their first year in Ellice municipality they broke 200 acres. Over a period of six or seven years they succeeded in bringing over 1000 acres into production on Sections 9-18-28 and Sections 11 and 13-17-28. Walter enlisted in World War I, returning to Canada in 1919. He went back to the farm for the next

year but in the late fall of 1920 he returned to England to marry Marion Lord, a nurse he had met while overseas in the army. They came back to Foxwarren in early 1921 when he then became a grain buyer for the Victoria Grain Co. as well as continuing farming. In 1924, he moved to Innisfail, Alberta, where his wife still resides although Walter died in 1961.

George Malcolm Graham spent the winters of 1906 and 1907 in South Dakota learning something about these newfangled internal combustion engines — the machine that was to replace the horse on the farm. Indeed, most of the land he and his brother broke was with this latest gadget and an eight bottom plow. In 1917, he married Margaret Leckie and they had two sons, Harry Edward born in 1921 and George Rodney born in 1923. Both George and his wife played an active part in their community and, in particular, their church. His tenor voice and Margaret's alto were heard for many years in the church choir. George also loved to curl and hunt. He was one of the founding members of the Foxwarren Rifle Club. George, like his father and brother-in-law, Jim Thomas, also became a grain buyer and succeeded Jim Thomas as the grain buyer for the N. Bawlf Co. in 1919, as well as carrying on his farm operations. In 1924, he quit the elevator and moved out to live on Sec. 13-17-28 and for the next three years that was his home, before he moved up to Sec. 9-18-28 in 1927. Hail, rust and drought did not make these next decades an easy life but they survived to witness the change in farming fortune occur in the 1940's. The "Dirty Thirties" taught everyone a very important lesson — that you had to use every means possible, just to survive. George became a seed grower and a member of the Canadian Seed Grower's Association and it was through this avenue that later years on the farm would prove rewarding. In 1952, George and Margaret left the farm, having sold it to Rodney, and they built a house in Foxwarren for their retirement. In 1954, George died, followed by Margaret, in 1965.

Melvin was the youngest of the Ed Graham family. He was only three years old when they arrived in Foxwarren. Even though he was only a boy, there were many jobs that he could do to help in breaking the land. One of those jobs was climbing the larger trees to tie a heavy rope near the top of the tree so the tree could be pulled out by a horse. Melvin played hockey for many years. He was also active in curling and other sports — some of his own making.

In 1924, Melvin started farming on his own on Sec. 11-17-28, just three miles east of St. Lazare. The following year he married Gertrude Laycup of Foxwarren and they raised a family of four. Pearl Marie, born 1927, married Jack Gordon and lives in Birtle;

Douglas Harold, born 1928 married Myrna Ryan and lives in Brandon; Ruby Evelyn born 1931 married Don Breakey and lives in St. Albert, Alberta; and Herbert William married Joyce Parrott and lives in Brandon.

In 1935, Melvin followed the tradition of his father and brothers as he also became a grain buyer (for the Federal Grain Co. in Foxwarren, 1935-42). He also moved his farming operation to the Foxwarren area at the same time. In 1939, Melvin re-opened the International Harvester agency in Foxwarren, which had been closed for a year. In 1949, he expanded his IHC operation and purchased the agency in Brandon. At the same time, Melvin spearheaded the Foxwarren Athletic Associations ambitious efforts to build a new rink in Foxwarren. Without the assistance of Frank Bell M.L.A., John Selby the Sec.-Treas. of Ellice, Leon Dupont and Eugene Fouillard of St. Lazare, the Foxwarren rink might never have been built. The Foxwarren community owes a lot to the dedicated efforts of many people for their efforts in community enterprise. In 1950, Dean Falloon and Cecil Burdette purchased the Foxwarren IHC Agency from Melvin, only to sell it back to him 2 years later. In 1952, Melvin became the largest IHC dealer in Canadian sales for that year. In 1953, he purchased an interest in a road construction business with Robert Johnson and Lawrence Pizzey, as partners — a business they later sold in 1968. In 1953, he sold his Brandon business to his son, Doug, and his partner Bob Martin and in 1957 sold the Foxwarren agency to Norman Bergsteinson. His wife Gertrude died in 1967. In 1969, Melvin remarried and presently resides in Birtle. Throughout the years his interest in farming has always been foremost and he is still active in the farm arena, presently serving as a farm consultant to the Indian community at Rossburn.

From the original group of settlers that came to this area from Pontiac County in Quebec, there are still some surviving families in Ellice Municipality. One of these is the Cecil Burdette family on Sec. 4-18-28; Cecil is a grandson of John Angus; George Rodney Graham, a son of George Malcolm and grandson of Edward Graham lives on Sec. 9-18-28; Harry Edward Graham, the elder son of George Malcolm owns N½ 25-18-28 and his son, Bruce Edward, lives on the E½ 26-18-28.

George Rodney Graham moved with his parents to Sec. 9-18-28 in the R.M. of Ellice when he was four years old and still resides on that farm in the house that was built there by his uncle, Walter, over seventy years ago. Rodney took his schooling in Foxwarren and the diploma course in Agriculture at the University of Manitoba. In 1952, he purchased

the farm from his father and the following year he married Edith Simms. They have raised a family of five. Roberta, the eldest, is married to Greg Malazdrewicz and lives in Brandon; George is farming with his father. Heather and Trudy are working in Calgary and Ruth is attending the University of Manitoba. Rodney carried on from his father as a seed grower and is presently the President of the Manitoba branch of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association, as well as chairman of the local board of U.G.G. in Foxwarren. He is active in the United Church and the Masonic lodge in Foxwarren.

Harry Edward, the elder son of George M. Graham, attended Foxwarren school and the University of Manitoba, although his university term was interrupted by four years service in the R.C.A.F. during World War II. In 1949, Harry purchased the N½ 25-18-28 and in 1951 married Velma Murdoch of Binscarth. In 1953, together with his brother, Rodney, he purchased a Cat tractor and commenced road construction for the R.M. of Ellice. In 1961, he returned to the farm and purchased E½ 26-18-28 and the NW 26-18-28 from Bill Barker. He also took an active part in community affairs, serving on the local school board, the Division school board and the Russell & District Hospital Board, as chairman of the building committee for the present Russell Hospital. In 1969, Harry won a closely contested nomination for the Progressive Conservative party and was elected to the Manitoba Legislature as the M.L.A. for Birtle-Russell, in a by-election. He was re-elected in June, 1969, June 1973 and October, 1977, at which time he became the Speaker of the Manitoba Legislature until 1981. In 1981, the constituency boundaries changed and Harry won the nomination in the new Virden constituency and currently serves as the M.L.A. for Virden. He and Velma had six children. Dianna, the eldest, married Peter Skakum and lives in Winnipeg where she is teaching in Kelvin High School; Walter George, deceased; Bruce Edward, currently farming, having purchased his father's farm, married Lois Kreager of Hamiota and they have two sons; Joy Louise, in Moose Jaw where she is training harness horses; John Malcolm married Enid Rice of Binscarth and they have a son and a daughter and live in Dauphin; Henry, the youngest, is attending Red River College in Winnipeg.

Footnote:

In compiling this history, I have mentioned only those in the Graham family who were actively engaged in farming in Ellice Municipality. In case someone might think I have made a couple of errors, perhaps an explanation is in order. Edward Graham married Margaret Graham (no family connection up to that point). William Graham was a brother of

Margaret and hence, no relative of George G. or James who were brothers of Edward Graham. There are still members of the family in Quebec as well as in the Dakotas and in Australia.

Graham, James by George Graham

James Graham (Uncle Jim as he was fondly called by everybody), came out from Shawville, Quebec around 1907 and settled with his nephew David George Graham sharing section 26-17-27 in Birtle Municipality.

In 1912 he moved to N½ 19-17-27 south of the late Walter Laycocks in Birtle Municipality, now being farmed by Maurice Prescott. Walter Laycock told me many times that he used to go over to see Uncle Jim's team of mules. Walter also remembers his home-cooking.

About 1919 he sold and moved to Ellice Municipality on section 7-16-27 near Welwyn, Saskatchewan, and his nephew David George Graham shared this land. It is now owned by Doug Rookes. Jim and Dave broke this land with two new 15-30 Hart Parr tractors and 24-inch breaker plows.

Uncle Jim was noted for his beautiful Clyde horses which he took to many fairs. He enjoyed going to the plowing matches with his team of horses and his walking plow. He received many medals and trophies for his efforts.

Uncle Jim was a bachelor and he loved to cook. His specialty was homemade bread and pies. So his many friends were pleased to stay for dinner.

He stayed on his farm near Welwyn till 1943, then moved to Lillian and Elton McCredies north of Foxwarren. He passed away in February, 1944 and is buried in Foxwarren cemetery. Inscribed on his stone at the foot of his grave is (Uncle Jim) 1863-1944.

Green, James and Annie

James Green and his wife, Annie (McCormick) Green with their daughter, Agnes (Nan) came to the McAuley area from Scotland in the Spring of 1914. They lived with Tom Anderson for whom James worked. While they were living at Anderson's, their second daughter, Isabel, was born on October 28, 1914. Mrs. Samuel Cuthbertson was the midwife. During the ensuing years James Green worked for various farmers, and he and his wife had three more daughters, Annie, Ellen and Dorothy. After a lengthy illness, James' wife, Annie, died in 1921 at the age of 34. A sister of James came from Scotland to help care for the young girls. Isabel decided she preferred to stay with Samuel and Elizabeth Cuthbertson, so their farm became her home until she married Brian Simard on September 28, 1933.

James' sister decided against staying and helping to care for the other four young girls, so each one went to live with a family in the McAuley area; Agnes lived with the Strouds, Annie with the Scotts, Ellen with the Cowans and Dorothy with the Parkers.

Green, Marie Agnes Capon by her daughter Marlene Overman

Agnes was born on July 14, 1913 on the NW¼ 14-18-29. Mother was the oldest child of Clara (nee LeClerc) and Pat McIvor. She had three sisters — Rita (Lepine), Gertie (Fiddler) and Haveline (McFarlane), who still reside in the St. Lazare area, and three brothers Monty, Mac and Jim who are all deceased.

She was raised by her grandmother, Mrs. Andrew LeClerc (nee Elizabeth Desjarlais). They lived at "The Corner" and recall walking to St. Lazare for church and attending Gambler School about 2½ miles from "the Corner". They enjoyed many dances with old time music; tapping maple trees and making syrup and candy; and picking dandelions to make a "nice" drink.

Having very little money and needing glasses at a young age, Agnes quit school in Grade V. At about sixteen, she went to work for LeFrancs where she milked cows and helped with other chores. While riding to bring cattle in, her horse shied, she fell and broke her arm. It was set by a doctor in Binscarth (probably Dr. Munroe).

In July 1934 she married William Capon at Sutherland, Saskatchewan. They had two children Marlene (myself) and Daniel. About 1940 she moved back to St. Lazare where she met and married Joseph Green. They moved away from St. Lazare but thought of it often. They had five children — June, Mildred, Frank, Bob and Teresa.

Joe passed away April 18, 1980 and is buried in the Highmound cemetery in Hardisty, Alberta. At the time of this writing, Mother is making her home in Jasper Place Central Park Lodge in Edmonton. She is still very active and recalls many good times around Fort Ellice. She enjoys seeing her old friends.

The children of Agnes are: Marlene Overman of Hardisty, Alberta; Daniel Capon of Edmonton, Alberta; June Pettinger, Sooke, B.C.; Mildred Stusnoff, Regina, Saskatchewan; Frank and Bob Green of Edmonton, Alberta; Teresa Martin, Olds, Alberta.

She has 16 grandchildren and 5 great grandsons.

Green, Sidney

Sid immigrated to Canada as a young man. He was born in Yorkshire, England in 1886; his parents were Frank Green and Eliza (Wilson). He was a

brother of Mrs. Richard Dale. Sid worked in the Minnedosa area for a few years as a labourer and assistant in his brother Johns' butcher shop. When his older brother, George, took up farming south of Birtle, Sid joined him as a partner. This was to last until the 1930's when due to crop failures they were forced to give up this operation. He returned to the farm labor force and worked in the Birtle, Wattsview and St. Lazare areas for a number of years. He died in September, 1956, in a farm accident and is buried in Birtle cemetery.

Grenier, Joe

Joe was born in Joliette, Quebec. He was 17 when he left Quebec and came west to work on the railroad. During World War I, he enlisted in Winnipeg. There he met Flora MacDonald from Tillsonburg, Ontario. They were married in 1916 just before Joe was posted overseas. Following the war, he was road foreman for the Rural Municipality of Ellice. In 1928 he and his wife established a boarding house in St. Lazare. Joe met the trains at midnight and at four p.m. for the mail. He was also the village constable. During World War II, he sold the boarding house to Sid Robert and joined the Veteran's Guard. Following the war he farmed at Mulvihill. Flora died in 1976. Joe died in Morley House, Shoal Lake in 1978.

Grimms, Albert A.

I was born in Eastern Germany, East Prussia, now belonging to Poland. My Dad, a true blue Prussian, was a small farmer in Canadian terms. He had a large family and I, after finishing school, learned the very ancient and honorable trade of blacksmithing. After getting my trade certificate I worked in several shipyards, factories, powerhouses, construction etc. getting exactly nowhere. This was in 1929. The German currency was practically worthless. Inflation hit the sky — millions of unemployed. Therefore when we heard stories about America, the land of unlimited possibilities, where the money grew on trees, everybody was wealthy and driving a big car, it didn't take much coaxing from the Steamship Line, and I simply bought a oneway ticket to America — U.S.A. (or so I thought). In the meantime the U.S.A. closed the immigration quota and after endless red tape the boat dumped me off in Halifax, Canada. Somehow I managed to scrape up the fare to Regina and landed in Lajord, Sask. — apparently a German district. At the station an old grizzled farmer was looking for farm help "Greenhorns". It being harvest time I had a job and a lovely time I had indeed. I spoke no English and the gibberish they spoke, a mixture of Russian and German I had never heard before either.



Grimms Family: Helen, Mary, Margaret and Albert with Ed.

After harvest I got a job with a Scotch priest in Wapella. His parish couldn't support him so he did farming for a sideline. He couldn't afford to pay me either. From there I moved to Bremen, Sask. working for a Yankee. However, I got a bit unpopular there because those Yankees found out the hard way that 'd--- Greenhorn' could lick anyone of them. So I quit and went back to the MacKays in Wapella, neighbours of the Scotch priest for whom I worked before. In the meantime the dirty 30's had arrived and everybody was dirt poor. I stayed there with the MacKays for a couple of years. They became my best friends. Then I heard Mr. E. Fouillard of Fouillard Implements Exchange might hire a blacksmith so I went there and got a job. Of course the Scotchmen in Wapella warned me, "those Frenchmen in St. Lazare will eat you." Being a German, however, I was sure they would have some d--- tough chewing to say the least. So I started working for Eugene as everybody called him. Well after a few false starts I got along fine with the boys in the shop, the Simards, Duponts, Roys, Mouillierats, Roberts, Peppins, Chartiers, Tremblays and all the rest. Matter of fact my so-called political enemies became my personal friends. Mr. Fouillard, "Eugene" to everybody, was easy to get along with, and an easy boss to work for. I don't think I ever got bawled out once in 13-14 years. Of course I didn't make a mint; but then nobody did. Then in '37 there was a total crop failure in the Lazare

district so Picky Simard, Joe Fouillard and I went to Gurney Gold Mines in Manitoba but we didn't get rich there either. We came back and worked for the same reliable old boss again. However, while working in Gurney Gold Mines I went back to Germany in '38 and married my childhood sweetheart, a neighbor's daughter and got her out of Nazi Germany. We ran into a few snags. She had to become a British subject among other things, but finally we succeeded — biggest obstacle was proving that no Jew was in the family tree.

I worked for Eugene again for a couple of years. Then one day I got the idea I should have my own shop. I bought the shop from Mr. Charles Dupont in Simpson, Sask. a member of the Dupont clan in St. Lazare. Lo and behold I am still here, and have been for 35 years. I didn't exactly make any fortune here either, got badly smashed up once, laid up for a year. Then I burned down twice inside a year or rather got burned down. I took a couple of lazy bums off relief and the story is they burned me down. Perhaps I should explain I have been Mayor here for 23 years or so (they are hard up for a mayor here) obviously. You are inquiring about Community Activities. Well, I believe I have been, or am sitting on every Board or Plank in this place — rink, school, church, Credit Union, K of C, Ambulance Board etc.

We have one son and two daughters. Ed is Gen. Manager of Startco Engineering Ltd. in Saskatoon, 410 Jessop Avenue, an Electronic outfit. Mary is married to a Saskatchewan Power man, a computer programmer. Helen is Co-ordinator in the Emergency Dept. at Pasqua Hospital — Regina — head nurse. She is still single, can't find a guy that makes enough money to afford her style. We have 3 grandchildren. Mary (Mrs. A. H. Bond) has Richard and Cheryl taking University in Regina and Ed has one son, Trevor, aged 6. They are all doing fairly well, Mom and Dad are the poor relatives now it seems. I landed here with 4 dollars, a brown belt and nerve — lots of it. That's about all of my story.

Grose, Irvin

Nestled in the crook of Mother Nature's arm, with the sand plains stretching over the hill to the north and east, and the muskeg to the south and west, lies Rocky Meadow Ranch. This little ranch had its beginning in 1950 when Ernest Grose and son Irvin, attracted by the grazing land and abundance of pure spring water for their Hereford cattle, commenced "homesteading" here. The land had been purchased from Geordie Lewis in 1947. With their tiny cabin and small barn, the Groses were the first to set up a farmstead, although not the first to live here or own the land. Evidence still remains of the dwelling of

Benjamin Peppin in the side of the hill just to the north of the present farmsite. Numerous people had owned the land.

In 1954, Irvin and Lois Swanston were married at Welwyn, Sask. To them five children were born, Wayne, Vivian, Garry, Wanda, and Harvey.

Surrounded by good neighbors, they have been busy striving to improve Rocky Meadow, participating in Church and other activities of the children, camping, swimming, curling, hockey, music and 4-H. For many years Irvin enjoyed helping with the fall round-up at the P.F.R.A. pasture. From 1974-1976, Irvin worked at the Rocanville Sylvite mine to supplement farm income, when cattle prices were depressed. Lovers of horses, they have seen many beautiful ponies come and go, many of which were broken-in for themselves and other people. This was what contributed to the fact that each child has had at least two broken limbs!

In the early days when the road between McAuley and St. Lazare was not a government highway, the Groses' light was often a welcome sight to travellers stranded by car trouble, out of gas or stuck in the snow. Many times the horses were hitched up to pull out someone stuck at "the curve". Those were the days when Lloyd Little's bombardier would oftentimes come to the rescue.

One such occasion came at the end of March, 1956, when there had been a howling blizzard. Feet of snow fell and the wind blew relentlessly. When the storm had spent its fury, the world was a trackless

wilderness of hard, white snowbanks. The snow plow had come from St. Lazare and had started across the plains, but was unable to get all the way across. The Groses' first-born chose this difficult time to make his appearance into this world. They started their trip to Russell with Lloyd in his bombardier and continued with Reg. Chartier, who was bringing Diane and Dennis Cadieux home from the Convent for Easter Holidays. The new baby made his trip home from the hospital through a tunnel-like road which had been carved through the drifts. Great walls of snow were on either side of the road with an occasional "turn-out", whittled out to enable motorists to meet. It was a slow, cautious trip.

There were those who predicted that the Groses would starve to death, but "Sand Plain Irvie", as some have been wont to call him, still survives here on the southern boundary of Ellice Municipality, SE. 10-16-29.

Guay, Ovide (1859-1952)

as told by Jacques Guay, a grandson

Ovide was a direct descendant of Gaston Guay, alias, Gastonguay of La Seigneurie de St. Francois, France. The latter was buried in Quebec on January 6, 1682, and his wife, Jeanne Prevost, April 26, 1699, also in Quebec. Ovide Guay came west to St. Lazare, from Roberval, Quebec in 1887 and married Evangeline Simard, daughter of Arsene Simard of Baie St. Paul, Quebec. They had a family of four boys, Michel, Joseph, David, and Louis, and three



Famille Guay: Dave avec Pitoune, Adele, Mme. Ovide Guay, Louis et Antonia, Alice Guay, Alphonse Tremblay, Germaine, Yvonne, et Pat McIvor.

daughters, Yvonne, Alice and Eugenie. He had a farm about two miles north of St. Lazare and farmed there all his life. Besides being a housewife, Evangeline often served as a midwife in the area. One particular night while she was away attending to someone, her husband, Ovide was left alone with a seven year old son, Michel. The young lad felt very sick with a terrible headache and died that same evening. Evangeline died May 29, 1913. Ovides' second marriage was to Marie Pritchard in 1938 at the age of 80. He then adopted a son Noel, in December of 1938. This son resides in Regina, Sask.

In the spring of 1951, at the age of 91, he had gone to visit an old friend, Gaspard Fiddler, who lived approximately a mile away, for an evening of card playing. When he returned home late that evening along a small trail, lantern in hand, he stopped to fill and light his pipe. After doing so, he started off in the wrong direction and got lost. After an all night search, he was found the next morning sitting on the water well on Johnny Falloon's farm (about two miles away) very tired and cold. He had kept walking all night in order to keep warm. That long cold night had taken its toll — he died a few months later at the age of 92. He was attended to, at his home, by the late Dr. Edwards, of Birtle. Ovide had never spent a day of his life in a hospital. He died in 1952 and is buried in the St. Lazare cemetery beside his wife.

Guay, Marie Jeanne as told to Yvonne Leclerc

I was born April 10, 1908, in Spy Hill, Sask. My parents were Alfred Simon Pritchard and Naomi Hayden.

I was one of eight children: Alvina, Laura, Albert, Grace, Eva, Caroline, Andre. Andre died at seven years of age of diphtheria. My father was a very good provider — it's too bad he got sick and died after he worked so hard for what he had. We had a log house with a sod roof. When it rained, the roof leaked. We had a little farm, cattle, pigs, chickens. No complaints — we were always well off food-wise! Dad would buy material by the yard in Binscarth and Mom sewed our clothes. My mother knitted stockings with wool we got from Elie Decorby. When Laura was born, he was the Godparent. They travelled with oxen to baptize her. He gave her a sheep that gave us wool every year. We made brooms with little blue willows.

I was thirteen going on fourteen when Mother died, of an accident. She went to Spy Hill for groceries and on her way back, the train scared the horses and she had a run away. She fell off but walked back home. The team got home alone. When she

walked in, she said she was not feeling well and three hours later, she died.

Rev. Father Passaplan and Uncle Joe Hayden came and spent the night with us children. He said we could go to confession and communion in the morning and he would come back for us. We stayed a month alone. I made meals. I'd go to the granary and get wheat and wash it good and make soup.

Rev. Father Passaplan took Alvina and Laura and after the school holidays he sent them to a Convent in St. Boniface. He educated them for seven years: Alvina was a school teacher and Laura, a nurse's aid. He placed me at Augustin Decelles: he said "You're old enough to work," but he supervised me. I didn't get an education.

I was fifteen when I started working. I went to school for a few days just before Mom died. Then I had to quit and work at home. I should have kept on going to school, but had to clean the barns and do this and that so it was impossible to go to school. But I'm glad for what I did in my life. Maybe I had plans of my own but didn't do them, but I'm happy and healthy and know enough to be able to handle my business. It's hard without an education sometimes, but there is always someone that will help you along.

I stayed six years at Decelles and one day I came to a picnic here and met Father Passaplan: he said he had a place for me to work if I wanted. I started to work at Guay's at \$5.00 a month and later I started to milk cows and got a dollar more. My wish at the time was to be a nun. I left with Reg Chartier's sister. She is a nun today, but with things others told me, I backed out. This is what I think of today. I wanted to make something of myself and couldn't. That's all past now and maybe better this way! I stayed at Ovide Guays and worked for many years. There was only Eugene and Henri at home. The two girls got married and the two boys were left and they didn't like to see me leave. So I stayed and married Ovide Guay on the 19th of April 1938. He was seventy-five and I was twenty-nine! It was more or less to make myself a home. But I was happy. I milked cows and enjoyed it: kept all my pails nice and clean, kept myself busy keeping house, cooking, sewing, baking. We had no children and I adopted a boy, Noel. I had a lot of visitors and a lot of good times. On Sundays after Mass people came to visit and the men played ball. We had a good time at Christmas and New Year. I baked a lot. The dance started at seven at night: everyone had a good time. No one drank, but we ate a lot. I made nice curtains with flour bags and embroidered them. We had no linoleum but the floors I kept nice and yellow "clean". I used lye, I made from wood ashes to wash them. It smelled so good.

We travelled with horse and buggy on little trails.

We had a doctor from Spy Hill that used to travel by horse. We had a lot of home remedies, like wild mint for fevers, mustard plasters for colds. At the time of the Flu, a lot of people died, but we didn't get it. My dad used "Le gras de mouffette and la Tisane" for all sorts of sickness. Dad had to help others that had the flu so he rubbed himself all over with it and never got the disease.

The first people I remember in St. Lazare are French Canadians: my husband Guay, Deschambaults, Simards, Peppins. The first priest I remember was Father Decorby. The mission was down below my house; on the land that belongs to me now. Rev. Father Decorby was the founder of St. Lazare.

People were religious in those days; we never went to bed without saying the prayers — all the family together. When I was at Guay's, it was the same; we set the table for supper and said the rosary before supper. The way of the cross was held every Friday at home, especially during Lent. We walked to Church and I had cold legs a lot of the time in the winter.

After the death of my husband, I kept on farming up to today. I still have cattle. I'm happy. I still have a cow that is a descendant of one of the old cows I used to milk when I first got married. I never had waterworks in my time and I still haven't got it. Alvina Hayden came to stay with me in 1949 and she is still with me. So I'm not alone.

Guay, Germaine, Eugene and Henri

These three were the children of David Guay and Adele Hogue. The oldest of the three, Germaine, was born in May 1907, followed by Eugene in December 1912, and Henri in December 1914. Germaine lived in St. Lazare until 1917, when she left to go to the orphanage, Hospice Tache, for three years. She returned to live on the farm which belonged to her grandfather, Ovide, and where dwelt her father and her aunt Yvonne. On the 16th of November, 1927, she married Eusebe Paquin of Ste. Marthe, Saskatchewan, where she went to live for a few years. She had three children. Later, she left for Winnipeg and work, where she stayed until 1977. From there, she went to live in Calgary in a home for the aged. Since 1982, she has been living in Sardis, B.C., with her son-in-law and daughter, Bob and Patricia Rinn.

Eugene, at the age of three, accidentally drank Freezone, a remedy for corns. Consequently, he was very sick, having convulsions. The doctor who came to treat him saved his life, but, unfortunately, he became epileptic as a result of his accident. In those days, there were no medicines to treat this sickness, therefore, it was almost impossible to lead a normal

life. He could not attend school, but, on the farm, he occupied himself with various chores. We could set our watches by his activities, since he was always on time for everything he did. He lived a very simple life, well loved by all his neighbours and friends that he visited almost every day. Thus, he lived until his death on the tenth of March, 1955.

The second son, Henri, spent most of his life in St. Lazare, working on his father's farm. During World War II, he served in the Armed services. When war ended, he returned home, where he resumed his work on the farm.

In 1949, during the early hours of August 27, he accidentally rolled, with his tractor and binder, to the bottom of the hill which now leads to Honore Plante's home. He spent all night underneath the tractor, not being discovered until noon, by Brian Selby, who happened to go by. Immediately, he was rushed to Russell Hospital, but he died three days later.

Guay, Louis S.

Louis Guay came out west with his parents Ovide Guay and Evangeline (nee Simard) from Roberval, P.Q. "Lac St. Jean" in 1887, at the age of two. He lived and worked on his father's farm which was situated about two miles north of St. Lazare. Things were tough, their main diet was bread and suet.

Louis married Antonia Huberdeau, daughter of Pierre Huberdeau and Ann Aubertin of Longueil, P.Q. in 1911. They had one daughter, Genevieve, who died at six months. Later they adopted a son, Jacques, when he was six months old. He was their only son. After trying his hand at farming on the plains west of St. Lazare, which proved unsuccessful, Louis went into the poolroom business for a couple of years. Seeing greener pastures in the general store business, he proceeded to buy the old rooming house from his father, (now Fouillard Lumber and Supplies) and in 1912 started a business along with the Post Office. He was in business there for 35 years. He sold the building back to his father, Ovide, and bought Amedee Vermette's grocery store and bakery. That building was destroyed by fire in April, 1952. As he then wished to retire from business, it was rebuilt by his son Jacques. (Ted Dupont's Electric Shop and Joyce's Beauty Salon).

After a few years of retirement, Louis's wife Antonia passed away in 1954. Louis married Grace O'Keefe Sept. 24, 1955. While visiting the store one day, Louis fell and broke his hip and was confined to a wheel chair till his death. Grace passed away in Jan. 1978, and is buried in St. Lazare Cemetery.

Louis was a municipal councillor from 1911-1913 and 1915-1916. He was an active church member and involved in politics. He had a fur business to supple-

ment his grocery business. In one instance, when beavers were a restricted species, but a very good dollar value, he set out to buy pelts from local trappers. He needed more money so the pelts had to be sold. His only connection was a fur dealer in Winnipeg. He was being watched closely by police and fur inspectors. He finally devised a plan to get these furs to Winnipeg for sale without being caught. After digging out the furs, that were being "stored" in an old manure pile, he packed them in two very large mattresses. He spread the word around that his wife was very ill, needing prompt medical attention in the city. For this reason, Antonia was placed on the mattress, covered with a blanket, and carried from the store where they lived, to the C.N. station. She was placed in the baggage car, accompanied by himself, and off to Winnipeg they went, undetected! They were met at the depot by the fur dealer, transported to a "rendez-vous", where his wife quickly regained her health, mattresses opened, deal finalized, money pocketed, and they returned to St. Lazare the same day!

Guay, Jacques and Martine

I, Jacques, was born March 18, 1925. My schooling began at Decorby School before furthering my education at St. Boniface and St. Paul's College. At St. Paul's I was enrolled in the R.O.T.C. (Canadian Officers Training Course) before being transferred to Fort Osborne Barracks CMSC-HQ (Canadian Military Staff Clerks — Headquarter staff). After serving a few weeks I was honourably discharged for medical reasons. I returned to St. Lazare to work with my parents in the general store and raw fur business. On January 30, 1946, I married Martine Chartier (born November 11, 1922) daughter of Lionel Chartier and Rosine (nee Alarie). Martine was born at Uno, and educated in St. Lazare. To pay for our honeymoon in the St. Regis Hotel in Winnipeg (plus cash in pocket amounting to less than \$20.00), I brought along an extra suit-case of mink, weasel and squirrel pelts. These pelts were sold to Cyril Bell, a fur buyer. The first house we lived in was the former home of Pierre and Anna Huberdeau (now Robert Gardiners residence). On February 14, 1947, **Genevieve** was born. The mid wife was Mrs. J. B. Perreault. The following children were all born in Russell Hospital; 1948 — **Phillippe**, 1949 — **Rachelle**, 1952 — **Louis Jr.**, 1954 — **Natalie**, 1956 — Claude, 1959 — Zoe-Anne, 1961 — Jacques Jr. and 1962 — **Paul**. Genevieve see — Scott Tremblay story. Rachelle has taught in St. George, St. Pierre and Sacred Heart in Winnipeg. She has now returned to St. Boniface College. Phillippe see — Phillippe Guay story. Louis see — Louis Guay Jr. story. Natalie, married to Allen

Rittaler of McAuley, has a daughter and lives in St. Lazare. Claude is employed by Cargill Elevator Company as a carpenter rigger. Zoe-Anne manages "La Cremette Drive Inn" and is living with us along with Jacques and Paul who are employed in summer months by C.N.R.

In 1961, we moved into our new home, on Fouillard Avenue. Throughout the years, including working at the Rocanville Potash mine for ten years, I have built, owned and sold a general store, a modern store, the Post Office building including clothing and Liquor Vendor and La Cremette Drive Inn. I served on the village council for 18 years. I was a travelling raw fur dealer. Due to ill health, I have now retired.

Martine and I are very proud of our family and thank God for them and our health.

Guay, Philippe and Juliette

Philippe, born July 26, 1940 son of Jacques and Martine (Chartier) Guay, married Juliette, (born May 11, 1948), daughter of Edgar Tetrault and Rita Trudel, on November 7, 1969 in St. Lazare R.C. Church. Juliette was then employed with the Bank of Montreal and Philippe was working in Lampman, Saskatchewan, as section foreman with C.N.R.

They bought Albert Hebert's house. Joel was born January 8, 1971 in Birtle hospital — the first grandchild for the Guays and the Tetraults, Christian was born November 14, 1974 in Russell, Manitoba.

In 1973, Philippe became section foreman in St. Lazare, replacing Louis Fleury. In 1978, he was transferred to Sioux Lookout, Ontario to work on the Allenwater Subdivision, as roadmaster. He and Juliette bought a house in Sioux Lookout and moved on January 1, 1978. On March 24, 1978, Marc was born. In 1981, Philippe got another transfer and he moved his family to Winnipeg and he now works with System Production Engineering.

Guay, Louis Jr. and Marie

Louis, son of Jacques Guay and Martine Chartier, was born on May 29, 1952. After attending school in St. Lazare, in 1967 he went to Notre Dame College in Wilcox, Saskatchewan for four years, and was on the hockey, football and lacrosse teams. He obtained a bursary and went to Saint Francois-Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, where he obtained a Bachelor of Arts in 1974 and one in education in 1975. He married Marie Gaudet, born in May, 1954, who has a Bachelor Degree in Nursing. In 1975, Louis was a physical education teacher for three years, then obtained a Masters' in Education from the University of Moncton in 1979. He was parent counsellor with the pre-school deaf children for three years. Since September 1982, he has been provincial

supervisor with the francophones' deaf handicapped. He lives in Moncton, New Brunswick, with his wife.

Guay, Ovide et Evangéline

Ovide est descendant de Gaston Guay de "La Seigneurie de St. François, France, qui fut enterré à Québec le six janvier 1682 et sa femme Jeanne Prévoist le 26 avril, 1699. Ovide, originaire de Roberval, Québec, vint dans l'ouest en 1877 avec sa femme Evangéline, fille d'Arsène Simard, qui était née à Baie St. Paul, Québec. Ils ont eu sept enfants, Michel, Joseph, David, Louis, Yvonne, Alice et Eugénie. Ovide avait une ferme à deux milles au nord de St. Lazare et y habita toute sa vie. Sa femme agissait parfois comme sage-femme et un soir lorsqu'elle était partie assister à un accouchement son fils Michel, âgé de sept ans, tomba malade et mourut le même soir. Evangéline mourut le 29 mai, 1913.

Ovide se remaria à Marie Pritchard en 1938 à l'âge de quatre-vingts ans. En décembre, il adopta Noël âgé d'un an et qui vit maintenant à Regina, Saskatchewan.

Au printemps de 1951, alors qu'il était âgé de 91 ans, Ovide rendit visite à Gaspard Fiddler qui habitait à un mille de chez lui. Sur le chemin de retour, après s'être arrêté pour allumer sa pipe, il perdit son sens de direction et passa la nuit à marcher. On le retrouva le lendemain matin à deux milles de chez lui mais cette nuit passée dehors l'affaiblit considérablement. Il mourut quelques mois plus tard chez lui sans jamais avoir passé une journée de sa vie à l'hôpital. Il fut inhumé dans le vieux cimetière près de sa première femme.

Guay, Louis et Antonia

Louis Guay, né en 1886, vint du Québec en 1887 avec ses parents Ovide Guay et Evangéline née Simard. Il vécut sur la ferme de ses parents, jusqu'après son adolescence. Il travailla sans succès une ferme sur la plaine à l'ouest de St. Lazare; eut une salle de billiards pour à peu près deux ans et en 1912 commença un magasin général en plus du bureau de poste dans une vieille maison de pension qu'il acheta de son père. Ce magasin était localisé où Fouillard Lumber est situé à présent. Il eut son magasin à cet endroit pour trente-six ans. Il vendit son magasin à son père pour faire l'achat du magasin et boulangerie d'Amedée Vermette. Cette bâtisse fut détruite par un incendie en 1952. Le magasin, maintenant Ted's Electric, fut rebâti par son fils au même endroit et Louis se retira.

Ovide épousa en 1911 Antonia, fille de Pierre Huberdeau et de Anne Aubertin. Ils eurent une petite fille nommée Geneviève qui mourut à l'âge de six mois. Ils adoptèrent un garçon nommé Jacques. An-

tonia mourut en 1954. En 1955, Louis épousa Grace O'Keefe. Louis mourut en 1966 et sa deuxième épouse mourut le 10 janvier, 1978.

Louis fut conseiller municipal de 1911 à 1913 et en 1915 et 1916. Il était actif dans les politiques et les activités paroissiales. Pour augmenter ses revenus en plus de ceux de son magasin général, Louis faisait le marché de fourrures. Une année il acheta une grande quantité de fourrures de castor beaucoup plus que la loi dictait à l'époque. Le problème était donc d'amener ces fourrures au marché à Winnipeg sans que la gendarmerie s'en aperçoive. Louis n'était pas un type pour s'embêter longtemps. Il fit parcourir une rumeur dans le village que sa femme était très malade et avait besoin d'être transportée à Winnipeg pour soins médicaux. Il prit les peaux de castors, les cacha dans deux gros matelas et transporta matelas et femme sur le train. Une fois arrivée à Winnipeg sa femme guérit miraculeusement, un ami fourreur les rencontra à la gare, acheta les fourrures et Louis, argent en main revint à St. Lazare le même jour.

Guay, Jacques et Martine

Je, Jacques, né le 18 mars, 1925 fréquentai l'école de St. Lazare, le Collège St. Boniface et le Collège St. Paul à Winnipeg. En 1943, je me suis enrolé dans le R.O.T.C. (entraînement pour officiers), fus transféré à Fort Osborne mais je reçus une exemption à cause de raison de santé. Le 30 janvier 1946, j'épousai Martine, née le 11 novembre, 1922, fille de Lionel Chartier et Rosine Alarie. Nous nous rendîmes à Winnipeg pour notre voyage de noces avec peut-être vingt dollars en argent comptant et un porte-manteau de fourrures que j'ai vendues pour défrayer nos dépenses. La première maison que nous avons habitée appartenait autrefois à Pierre et Anne Huberdeau et est la propriété à présent de Robert Gardiner. Le 14 février, 1947 Geneviève naquit à la maison à cause de tempêtes de neige et chemins impassables, avec Mme Jean-Baptiste Perrault qui agissait comme sage-femme.

Nos autres enfants sont tous nés à l'hôpital de Russell — Philippe le 26 juillet 1948; Rachelle le 15 décembre, 1949; Louis le 29 mai 1952; Natalie le 11 juin 1954; Claude le 9 octobre, 1956; Zoé-Anne le 5 avril 1959; Jacques jr. le 30 mai 1961 et Paul le 2 décembre, 1962. **Geneviève** (Voir histoire Scott Tremblay) **Rachelle** fut professeur à St. Georges, St. Pierre et l'école du Sacré-Coeur à Winnipeg. Elle est présentement au Collège St. Boniface pour obtenir son Bachelier en Education. **Philippe**, marié à Juliette Tétrault le 7 novembre, 1969 habite à Winnipeg. Ils ont trois fils Joël, né en 1971, Christian en 1974 et Marc en 1978. Il est employé comme surveillant pour des équipes de travailleurs pour le

Canadian National. **Louis** — voir son histoire. **Natalie** est mariée à Allen Rittaler de McAuley, Manitoba. Ils habitent à St. Lazare et ont une fille Jamie Lynn, née le 7 mai, 1976. **Claude** est employé par Cargill comme charpentier. **Zoé-Anne** gère le restaurant Cremette et habite avec ses parents ainsi que **Jacques Jr.**, et **Paul**. Ceux-ci sont employés durant l'été par le Canadien National.

En 1961 nous avons déménagé dans une nouvelle maison construite par Fouillard Lumber. Au cours des années j'ai bâti et opéré un magasin général qui appartient à présent à Ted Dupont et un autre magasin plus grand et plus moderne que j'ai vendu à M. Mulaire. J'ai aussi appartenu et gère le magasin de linge et liqueur (qui appartient maintenant aux Frères Chartier) et qui inclus aussi le bureau de poste et la boulangerie. J'ai aussi vendu la Cremette Drive-In à Denis Huberdeau.

Je fus conseiller du village pendant dix-huit ans. J'ai aussi fait le marché des fourrures et me rendais dans le nord en avion jusqu'à Ilfort et South Indian Lake. Je fus employé à la mine de Rocanville pour dix ans et suis retiré depuis 1978. Martine et moi sommes fiers de nos enfants et sommes reconnaissants pour la santé dont nous jouissons encore.

Guay, Germaine, Eugene et Henri

Ces trois étaient les enfants de David Guay et d'Adèle Hogue. La plus vieille des trois, Germaine, est née le 3 mai, 1907, suivie par Eugène en décembre, 1912 et Henri en décembre, 1914.

Germaine a vécu à St. Lazare jusqu'en 1917, d'où elle partit pour l'orphelinat, Hospice Tâché, où elle resta pendant trois ans. Elle est revenue sur la ferme de grand-père Ovide où demeuraient son père et sa tante Yvonne. Le 16 novembre, 1927, elle épousa Eusèbe Paquin de Ste. Marthe en Saskatchewan, où elle est allée demeurer pendant quelques années. Elle eut trois enfants.

Plus tard, elle est partie à Winnipeg travailler et elle y demeura jusqu'en 1977. Ensuite, elle s'est en allée à Calgary dans un foyer pour personnes âgées. Depuis 1982, elle demeure à Sardis, C.B. avec son gendre et sa fille, Bob et Patricia Rinn.

Eugène, le plus vieux des garçons, à l'âge de trois ans, accidentellement, a bu du Freezone, un remède pour soigner les cors sur les pieds. Conséquemment, il a été très malade et tombait dans les convulsions. Le médecin qui est venu le traiter lui a sauvé la vie, mais malheureusement, il est devenu épileptique, à cause de cet accident. Dans ce temps, il n'y avait aucun remède pour traiter cette maladie, donc, il lui était difficile de vivre une vie normale. Il n'a pu aller à l'école, mais, à la ferme, il s'occupait avec divers petits ouvrages. On pouvait ajuster

l'horloge par ses actions, tant il était à l'heure et régulier. Il vécut une existence très simple, bien aimé par les voisins et amis qu'il visitait presque chaque jour. Ceci, il a fait jusqu'à sa mort le dix mars, 1955.

Le deuxième des garçons, Henri a passé sa vie à St. Lazare, travaillant sur la ferme de son père. Pendant la deuxième guerre mondiale, entre les années 1939 et 1945, il a fait du service militaire. La guerre terminée, il est revenue chez son père, où il a repris son travail sur la ferme.

En 1949, durant la nuit du 27 août, accidentellement, il a roulé avec le tracteur et la moissonneuse-lieuse, en bas de la côte qui mène chez Honoré Plante. Il passa toute la nuit sous le tracteur, et ne fut trouvé que vers l'heure du midi, par Brian Selby. Immédiatement, il fut transporté à l'hôpital de Russell, mais il succomba de ses blessures trois jours plus tard, le 30 août.

Guenette, Armand and Stella

Armand was originally from St. Jean-Baptiste, Manitoba and Stella born in East-End, Saskatchewan was raised in Ste. Anne des Chênes. This is where they were married on November 27th, 1948. It was in 1961, that Armand, and his family moved to St. Lazare, to be employed by the Fouillard Brothers. Stella was a busy mother to her children who numbered six at the time namely — Yvette, Paul, Suzanne, Lise, Gisele and Marc. Born later were Gilles, Maurice, Gerald and Rachelle.

While they lived in St. Lazare both Armand and Stella were active in community affairs — Stella with the Ladies Auxiliary and Scout movement and Armand with the Athletic Association, church choir, Credit Union, Knights of Columbus, school board and Toastmasters' Club. He was correspondent to the French paper, representative for French-Canadian Association, member of Boite à Chansons, 4-H club leader, prepared banquets and also cooked the barbecue meat for the annual Sports Day.

They are now in the restaurant business and live in Ste. Anne des Chênes.

Recollections of Armand during his stay in St. Lazare — I remember different things while I was in St. Lazare — the building of the church, Father Regnier's farewell banquet, the train crash at Victor. (It was on a Sunday, Mother's Day and also the same day that the church corner-stone had been laid and blessed). This would bring us to 1963. I recall the satisfaction felt after finally having a beautiful new school for our children. I recall also several tragedies that happened to some of us over the years and they always seemed to bring us closer to one another. I remember the lovely evenings we had among friends

during the Christmas holidays — the hockey games which created such interest and support. Who doesn't smile when they think of the interminable teasing carried on in St. Lazare's poolroom on coffee breaks with Robert Lemoine, Connie Fouillard, Buster, Bobby and Jacques Tremblay! Some of my most pleasant memories include the period when we had a baseball team. To me baseball never was the same after our team ceased to exist. What fun, but what work Paul-Emile Fouillard and I had when we wrote skits for the baseball wind-ups! Our parties with the team at Fort Ellice were such fun. I remember one night when Dave Pearson was singing Old MacDonald Had a Farm perched on a tree branch. It was pitch dark and none of us had been aware of his climbing the tree. Mostly, I remember with fondness and nostalgia the hospitality, generosity and cordiality of St. Lazare people. For this I will be eternally grateful.

Our children —

Yvette born October 30, 1949, married Victor Pedersen on March 6, 1971. They have two daughters, Michele, 11, and Renée eight. They live in Edmonton, Alberta, where Yvette is manager of a branch of the Royal Bank, and Vic is head meat butcher for Chateau Lacombe.

Paul born January 1, 1952, married Marsha Baghetti (Iranian) on November 10, 1978. They have two sons, Sacha, two and Jordan, one. They live in Edmonton, Alberta, where Paul is a forklift operator for Alberta Federated Co-op and Marsha is employed with the Alberta Government in the Department of Agriculture.

Suzanne born July 23, 1953. See story Jean-Paul Huberdeau.

Lise born November 20, 1954, married Donald Fraser on June 8, 1974. They have two daughters, Sara, seven and Carrie, three. They live in Edmonton, Alberta, where Lise is employed with the Bank of Nova Scotia in the Internal Audit Department and Don is presently attending University, studying Science Computers.

Gisele born November 22, 1957, married Steve Payne (American) on July 7, 1979. They live in Edmonton, Alberta, where Gisele is Head Teller in the Toronto Dominion Bank and Steve is foreman for Gray Beverage Co. (makers of Pepsi).

Marc born April 15, 1960, lives in Edmonton, Alberta, where he is employed as Salesman for Small Engine & Equipment Ltd.

Gilles born June 7, 1961, Geraldine Flynn (Isabella) on June 6, 1981. They have one daughter, Nicole. Gilles and Geraldine live in Edmonton, Alberta, where Gilles is manager of several departments in Zellers store.



Guenette Family: Yvette, Paul, Gisele, Gilles, Suzanne, Marc, Lise. Sitting: Stella, Armand, Rachelle and Maurice.

Maurice born December 12, 1963, married Judy Morissette (Birtle) on September 18, 1982. They have one son, Joseph, and reside in Langenburg, Saskatchewan. They are presently continuing their studies.

Gerald born February 2, 1966 died accidentally in 1967.

Rachelle born June 3, 1969 is still at school.

Guenette, Armand et Stella

Armand est originaire de St.-Jean-Baptiste au Manitoba et Stella de East-End, Saskatchewan mais passa sa jeunesse à Ste. Anne des Chênes. C'est de ce même endroit que nous nous sommes mariés le 27 novembre, 1948.

C'est en 1961, que nous nous rendions à St. Lazare où Armand était à l'emploi des frères Fouillard. Stella, elle, était la reine du foyer à plein temps. A cette époque la famille comprenait, en plus de Stella et moi, Yvette, Paul, Suzanne, Lise, Gisele et Marc. Marc a eu un an la journée du déménagement. Sont nés par la suite Gilles, Maurice, Gerald (né le 6 février, 1966. Le Bon Dieu est venu le chercher en juillet 1967) et Rachelle. Qu'il soit dit en passant, que Rachelle est la seule qui reste à la maison et fréquente encore l'école.

Au cours de nos vingt et une années passées à St. Lazare, nous avons été actifs dans la plupart des organisations. Pour Stella, ce fut les Dames Auxiliaires et le mouvement scout. Pour Armand, ce fut d'abord l'Association Athlétique, la chorale de l'église, la Caisse Populaire, les Chevaliers de Colomb, la commission scolaire, les Toastmasters, correspondant à la Liberté, représentant des canadiens-français (maintenant Société Franco-Manitobaine), Boîte à Chansons, Club 4-H, préparations de banquets et cuisson de la viande pour la journée sportive.

Nous sommes maintenant dans la restauration et habitons à Ste. Anne des Chênes.

Beaucoup de choses se sont passées durant notre séjour à St. Lazare telles que la construction de l'église. Le banquet d'adieu pour l'abbé Régner nous rappelle aussi de bons souvenirs. J'ai plusieurs diapositives de cet événement ainsi que sur beaucoup d'autres. Je me souviens aussi du grand déraillement à Victor. C'était un dimanche, le jour de la fête des mères et la même journée qu'on avait béni la pierre angulaire de la nouvelle église, ce qui nous amènerait en 1963. La construction de la nouvelle école nous a apporté une certaine satisfaction. Enfin, une école avec facilités digne de nos élèves. Il y a aussi plusieurs tragédies qui, à mon avis, nous ont rapprochés les uns des autres. Ces dernières années, nous avons vraiment regretté de ne plus avoir les rencontres que nous avions auparavant durant les fêtes. Le hockey a toujours créé beaucoup d'intérêt parmi la jeunesse et les adultes à St. Lazare.

Ce qui nous ramène de très bons souvenirs c'est l'équipe de "base-ball". Le support et l'encouragement des gens étaient formidables. A mon avis, la ligue n'a jamais été la même après la disparition de notre équipe. Les courtes pièces ou "skits" que nous préparions avec Paul-Emile pour les "baseball wind-ups" nous ont toujours apporté beaucoup de plaisir et de satisfaction malgré le gros travail que cela demandait. Les rencontres au Fort Ellice avec l'équipe étaient fantastiques. Je me souviens quand Dave Pearson grimpa un arbre sans que personne s'en soit aperçu et qu'il se mit à chanter "Old MacDonald Had a Farm". Il faisait noir comme su'l loup!

La "poolroom" était le "rendez-vous" des travailleurs le midi ou pour les pauses-café. Que de taquinage s'y faisait avec Robert Lemoine, Constant Fouillard, Buster (Jérôme), Bobby et Jacques Tremblay!

Ce qui nous a toujours frappé chez les gens de St. Lazare étaient leur hospitalité, leur générosité et leur bonne humeur. Nous vous en serons toujours reconnaissants!

Les enfants:

Yvette née le 30 octobre, 1949 maria Victor Pederson le 6 mars, 1961 et a deux filles Michelle, 11 ans et Renée, huit ans. Elle habite à Edmonton où elle est gérante pour une banque de la Royal Bank et son mari est un maître-boucher pour le Château La-combe.

Paul né le premier janvier, 1962, marié le 10 novembre, 1978 à Marsha Baghetti (Iranienne) a deux fils Sacha, deux ans et Jordan un an. Ils vivent à Edmonton où Paul est à l'emploi de Alberta Feder-

ated Co-op et sa femme travaille pour le département d'agriculture du gouvernement de l'Alberta.

Suzanne née le 23 juillet, 1953 (voir Jean-Paul Huberdeau).

Lise née le 20 novembre 1954, maria Donald Fraser le 8 juin, 1974 et a deux filles, Sara sept ans et Carrie, trois ans. Elle habite à Edmonton où elle est employée pour la banque de Nova Scotia dans le département des auditeurs tandis que son mari fréquente l'université et étudie en "Science Computers".

Gisèle née le 22 novembre, 1957, maria Steve Payne (américain) le 7 juillet, 1979. Elle vit à Edmonton et est caissière principale pour une banque du Toronto Dominion et son mari est contre-maître pour Gray Beverage Company.

Marc né le 15 avril, 1960 vit à Edmonton et travaille comme vendeur pour Small & Equipment Ltd.

Gilles né le 7 juin, 1961, marié à Geraldine Flynn (d'Isabella, Manitoba) le 6 juin 1981, demeure à Edmonton avec sa femme et fille Nicole, un an. Gilles est gérant de plusieurs départements du magasin Zellers.

Maurice né le 12 décembre, 1963 est marié à Judy Morissette de Birtle depuis le 18 septembre, 1982. Ils ont un fils Joseph, résident à Langenburg et tous les deux présentement continuent leurs études.

Gérald né le 6 février, 1966 mourut accidentellement en juillet 1967.

Rachelle née le 3 juin, 1969 fréquente encore l'école.

Gwyer Family

William Gwyer married Henrietta Parsons, born in 1843. Both had been born in Wiltshire, England. They came to the Birtle area from Crompton, England around 1884 with six children; Henrietta, William, Sarah, Brian, Minnie and Owen. Mr. Gwyer lived in Birtle for only three months before his death, caused by complications from broken ribs. The remainder of the family survived that winter existing on ground wheat and skim milk. Later, Mrs. Gwyer married a Mr. Dubord, and they lived on the O'Keefe farm, where he died.

When daughter Henrietta was sixteen years of age, she married Rupert Ellis and moved to the Crewe area. Her mother and family with the exception of William who was on his own, lived with them. Mrs. Gwyer (Dubord) was the first teacher at Crewe school when it opened. It is said that Rupert was very good to his newly acquired family. Rupert died at the age of 49, when his youngest child was just four. Rupert's widow, Henrietta, then married William King. From this union, three children were born;



Grandma Dubord and Owen (Dolly) Gwyer.

Margaret (see Maggie and Tirel Tremblay) Maude (see Ross Laycock story) and Robert (see Bob King story). William worked for the C.N.R. He was injured in an accident involving a saw, resulting in the loss of a thumb on one hand and three fingers on the other. He died in July, 1936. Henrietta ran a hotel in St. Lazare in her later years. Her mother Mrs. Dubord lived with her for many years, and with her daughter Sarah Simard until her death in 1938. Henrietta King died in 1958 at the age of 85 and was buried in Zion cemetery.

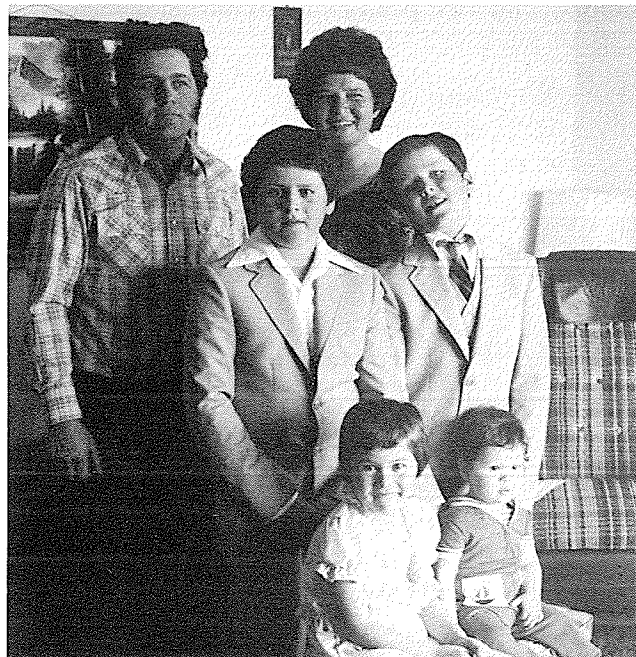
Returning to the Gwyer children who came to Canada with their parents in 1884; Sarah married Edmond Simard; she was born in Wiltshire, England in Dec. 1874. **Owen** (1882-1963) was born in Crompton, England. In his early teens, Owen worked with his brother William, surveying the railroad between Virden and Moosomin, and also near Quill Lake, Sask. Owen, known as "Dolly" because of his long blonde curly hair, married Hilda Florence Cartwright in 1906. They began farming and moving; first to Binscarth, then Foxwarren, Chillon area (Louis Barrett's farm) where daughters Eileen and Hilda were born. Bill remembers living on this farm. In 1920 they moved to Welwyn for three years. From 1923-1929 they lived on the Frank Dale farm, then

12-17-28 (Ernest Fouillard's farm). They finally settled on the Hay homestead NW 20-17-26 north of Birtle where they remained for 37 years. The senior Gwyers celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in Dec. 1956, and have both since passed away. William (1908) and Eileen were educated at Balmerino and Welwyn, Hilda and Jack attended Ellice school. Bill helped his father on the farm and worked with his gravel truck on the Provincial roads, generally loading with a shovel. In 1938, he married Winifred Bartram of Angusville and they began farming. First they farmed near Birtle, then moved to St. Lazare in 1940, then back to a farm SW¼ 27-17-26 They now reside in Birtle.

Minnie Gwyer, who had come to Canada as a young girl with her parents, resided for many years with her sister, Mrs. William King. After her death, she was buried in Zion cemetery near her parents. Of the original Gwyers in this area, only Bill and his sister, Eileen Stewart live in Birtle. Jack and Hilda passed away recently.

Haliuk, Billie and Linda

Billie and Linda Haliuk moved to the S½ 36-18-29 in the R.M. of Ellice in October 1980. Linda was the former Linda Drielick, daughter of Adolph and Lena, and inherited this parcel of land at the time of her father's death. They moved a ready-built home onto the farm and built other buildings. They have a mixed farming operation, and until recently, Billie worked as a mechanic at Birdtail Equipment.



Bill and Linda Haliuk, Brian, Bobby, Karen and Kevin.

Billie and Linda were married on September 27, 1969. They farmed with Billie's parents in the Foxwarren district before moving to the R.M. of Ellice in 1980.

Billie and Linda have four children, Brian age 12, Bobby age 10, Karen age 6, attending Binscarth School and Kevin age 2, at home. The children participate in music and 4-H.

Hallacy, Daniel Charles

Dan was born in England in 1880 and came to Canada at a young age to learn farming. At the age of 16 he returned to England to farm. Dan married Louise Ivy Dorling; and two girls were born to them in England, Ivy (1906) and Bertha (1909). In 1912 the Hallacy family came to Foxwarren where they farmed west of town for several years. He worked for Andrew Hunter, Bierd's and Cox's, later moving to Foxwarren. Dan died in 1944 and Ivy in 1945. **Ivy**, the daughter, went to Crewe, Gambler and Balmerino Schools but finished her education in Foxwarren. In 1936, she married Lloyd Newsham of Birtle. After serving in WW II, Lloyd opened a bakeshop at Foam Lake, Saskatchewan. They now are retired in Winnipeg. **Bertha** married a barber, Frank Johnson, from Foxwarren. Frank served in W.W.II. They moved to Winnipeg and are retired. **Florence** was born in 1914 in Foxwarren. She married Bert Good of Lenore, Manitoba. He served in the Armed Forces and was a prisoner of war for four years. They are retired in Haney, B.C. and enjoy seven grandchildren. In 1916 Mr. and Mrs. Hallacy had twin girls, Myrtle and Ruby who died as infants. They are buried with their parents in Foxwarren cemetery.

Hamilton, John Wilson

by J. R. Hamilton

The parents of John Wilson Hamilton, Edward and Agnes (Kerr) were married in Wentworth County, Ontario, and came west from Hamilton in 1881, homesteading on SW 6-18-27. They had three sons, Wilson, Roy and Harold.

John Wilson, the eldest son, married Winifred Pizzey (1884-1982) daughter of Walter J. Pizzey. They lived on SW 26-17-28 until 1915 when they moved to the N½ 4-18-28 which they purchased from Fred Pizzey. They had five children, three still living. The eldest, Myrtle married E. W. McDonald of Wattsville, where she still resides. John Wilfred lived at home until he enlisted in the R.C.A.F. in 1940. He married Marion Newsham of Birtle in 1945. After discharge Wilfred took up residence on SW 6-17-27 in 1946 and still lives there.

They have three children; **Patricia**, who married



Wilson and Winnifred Hamilton, with Myrtle.

Michael Fenez of St. Lazare on June 28, 1969. They have three children, Melanie, Mandy and Wade. Michael is employed with the C.N.R. and they make their home in Lorette. **Wendy**, their second daughter, married Richard Brereton of Birtle on Aug. 22, 1970. They live in Winnipeg where Richard is a member of the city police force. They have one daughter Kara. **Jack**, married Kathy McLennan of Binscarth on August 19, 1978. They farm the homestead in the R.M. of Birtle, the N.E.¼ of 6-18-28 in the R.M. of Ellice, as well as the former Fred Stanchuk farm where they reside. They have one son Jordan Wayne.

JAMES RUSSELL HAMILTON, youngest son of Wilson and Winifred Hamilton was born in 1922. He attended Foxwarren school and the University of Manitoba, graduating with a diploma in agriculture in 1947. He married Edith May Moxham of Birtle in 1948. They have four children: Russell George the eldest, born September 1949, married Barbara Lowry of Altamont in 1976. They have two daughters, April (1980) and Kelsey (1982). Russell attended Foxwarren and Birtle school. He is employed by Manitoba Hydro, works in the Shoal Lake division and resides on NE 14-18-28 which he farms. His hobby is flying.



Hamilton Family: Jim, Barbara, April, Mick and Russell. Front Row: Dale Snyder, Betty, Frank (insert JoAnne).

FRANCIS JAMES (FRANK), second son was born April 1952. He attended Foxwarren and Birtle schools, worked on C.N.R. and in a saw mill in B.C. and now farms in partnership with his father in seed production. Frank is also a pilot.

BETTY KATHLEEN was born September 1954, attended Foxwarren and Birtle schools, graduated as an L.P.N. from Red River College. In 1978 she married Dale Snyder of Saskatoon. They have purchased SW 36-17-28 in Ellice and will reside in a log home they are constructing there.

JO-ANNE born January 1957, attended Foxwarren and Birtle schools and is now attending the University of Saskatchewan, taking Education.

Jim has been in seed grain production since 1945 and became an Elite Seed Grower in 1965. He received the Robertson Associate Award in 1971 from the Canadian Seed Growers Association.

Haney, Norman **by Deana Haney**

Norman was the son of William George Haney who was born and raised in Northern Ontario. His father worked as a logger when he was young. William went to Oak Lake and there he met and married Florence Guinn in 1899. He farmed there until around 1905 when they came by horse and buggy to Spy Hill, with two children, Norman and Eva. William took out a homestead, three miles east of Spy Hill and built a stone house, the only one in the district at that time. Three more children were born, before the family moved to a farm near Welby on the sand plains where two more boys were born. The children went to school in Welby.

Norman married Eva Hayden (daughter of Tom Hayden) in 1920. He served in the army during World War I. After he came home, he farmed on the plains for a few years, then sold out and moved his



Norman Haney

family to St. Lazare. He started working for Eugene Fouillard as a mechanic and welder, and there he stayed for 30 years. He is remembered as a good and faithful worker. They had 6 children; **Tom**, who joined the P.P.C.L.I. when he was 18. He was overseas three years serving in England, France, Belgium, Holland and Germany. He came home in 1945 and married Deana Fleury, daughter of Joe Fleury and Flora Leclair. Tom worked for C.N.R. until he became ill in 1962. He was hospitalized for two years in the Ninette Sanatorium. Never in good health thereafter, Tom received a Veterans allowance until his death in April of 1982 at age 58. Deana has been employed by the Birdtail School Division as a bus driver for 20 years. Deana and Tommy raised 12 children, Clarence the oldest, is a school teacher — married to a school teacher, Anne Abas of Fisher Branch. They built a home in The Pas where they live with their two sons, Ryan and Neil. Both Clarence and Anne have taught there for nine years. Mervin played hockey, first for provincial teams, then went to training camp in Guelph, Ont. He played with the Ottawa Nationals, Salem and Dauphin Kings. He married Anita Selby, daughter of Johnny Selby and Lea McAuley. They moved to Kimberley, B.C. where Merv played hockey and started working in the mine for Cominco. They have two children, Melinda and Mervin Jr. Wayne is taking a course at Keewatin Community College. Carl played hockey with the Dauphin Kings, the Kenora Muskies and Oakland Seals. Due to an injury received in a mill where he worked part time, plus a car accident, his hockey career came to an end. Carl married Diane Hetter of Foxwarren. They live in Yorkton. Valerie worked in the Bank of Commerce at Pickle Lake, Ont., where



Tom Haney Family — Norma's wedding, 1981.

she met and married Mike Huntley at Atikokan. Mike is employed by the Luscar Sterco Mine. They have two children, Kerri and Ryan. Norma is married to Martin Dupont, son of Leo and Lorette Dupont of St. Lazare. Martin works at the Potash Mine near Rocanville. They have two children, Sara and Adam. Marion is married to Blair Kerman of McAuley, where they live with their two children Regan and Rae-Lynne. Blair farms with his father south-west of McAuley. Terry, David and Larry are living at home, as are Sharon and Karen. The girls are attending high school at Birtle. I'm proud to say my children are all bi-lingual.

Mona married Charlie Hayden (son of Frank Hayden) of St. Lazare, Charlie was employed by C.N.R. They had 2 sons, Marvin and Andrew. Marvin died as a baby. Both Mona and Charlie died at a young age, leaving Andrew to be raised by his grandparents, Norman and Eva Haney.

Marie died when she was young in 1953.

Joe married Leona Vaudry. They have 8 children, 7 girls and 1 boy, and live at Kelliher, Saskatchewan. Joe has worked for C.N.R. for 25 years. **Roy** married Fern Johnston of Binscarth. They have 2 children and live at Gretna where Roy works for Manitoba Hydro. **Eileen** married Claude Schwerzel from Germany. They have 3 children and live in Winnipeg.

Hart, Chris

Chris, who was born in 1881, came from the British Isles to Canada as a young man. Years ago he owned a farm near Beaver Rapids. He worked for various farmers before renting SE 35-16-28 from A. F. McDonald. He retired and moved to Birtle where he passed away.

Hayden, Alexander (Butcher)

94 years of age, as related to Yvonne Leclerc

My grandfather, Felix Hayden, hauled mail to and from Winnipeg with dogs in the winter and oxen in summer. It was a long, slow haul.

My father was Alex Hayden and my mother Elise Pritchard. I was born May 16, 1888.

I was just a baby when my mother died. We were three: two boys and one girl — Jim, Caroline and myself. They are both dead now. We were born at the old Fort Ellice, right where the monument is now.

At Fort Ellice the Hudson's Bay Co. bought a lot of pelts. They used to send their pelts to Winnipeg by dogsled.

I remember the ferry they used to have there. They hauled people and horses and buggies across before the bridge was built.

My father worked for Mr. Wheeler and hauled wood to Birtle and Moosomin at \$2.50 a load and

was very proud of it. When he hauled to Birtle he would sleep halfway, by a creek, and proceed the next morning.

There were many buffalo around in my father's time, but my dad never killed any. He trapped rats and beavers. He was a good hunter. My aunt used to put snares out to catch deer. I remember we hauled wood on our back one mile and a half for firewood. It was hard.

My father got married again after mother died. He married a widow. She had a girl and two boys. My stepmother wasn't good to me. She was very rough. In those days we hung our stockings up for Christmas to get candies. Everyone else got candies but me. I never went to school like the others. I had to stay home and do the chores, feed the cattle and haul the wood. Our overalls were made out of gunny sacks and grain bags and our shoes were made out of the same material. Yes, we suffered. I'm telling you, when we got a little piece of bannock to eat, we were happy. It was my stepmother who used to feed us this way but when I left to work on the C.N. I was all right.

I was ten years old when I started work. That's when the foreman saw me and hired me on the C.N. to be his flagman. He said, "He's big enough." I worked with Mr. Simard. We used dynamite. Wheelbarrows, picks and shovels and stoneboats were used to haul dirt for the C.N. There were many Doukhobors working there then. I worked for twenty-seven years on the railway.

In 1914 I went to war for two years and six months in the old country. If they killed a horse, we skinned it and that's what we ate. We'd make a fire and cook it at the end of a stick.

I can't remember the names of towns when I was in the Army. They were just "Old-Country" towns. We stayed in the subway, it was like a tunnel under ground. That was where we ate and slept, otherwise we slept outside. I was a sniper. We'd sleep outside with our rifles. They used to like me. I had two cousins in the Army but I don't remember their first names. Their last name was Bill. I remember our Corporal, he was Sam Abbott. Before I came home, after the war, they tattooed my arm with the flag we fought for. I came part of the way by train and then they put me on a boat for home.

Wallace Bill married my stepsister Lizzy. They were taking her to Yorkton by snowplane for her appendix. There was something wrong with the snowplane so they got stopped. When they started it again Mr. Bill got hit by the propeller, but didn't tell his wife right away. When they got to the hospital, he died. They only told her after the funeral. She was in the hospital at the time.

I got married to Veronique Belhumeur after I got back from the war and went back to work on the C.N. When they picked me up to go to war the foreman said, "When you come back your job will still be waiting." That is what I did. I went back to my same job two years and six months later.

We had seven children — five girls and two boys — and eighteen grandchildren. One of my boys Nap was in the Second World War. He was wounded in the leg in the Sicily fight. He stayed in the army for four years.

In my day I liked to help others. I kept other children from homes where their mother died. The wages were not too much. We survived. I got 10 cents an hour when I first worked on C.N. and we worked 10 hours a day.

It will be sixty years on the 25th of February, 1983 that we've been married.

My eyesight is going and I don't hear too well.

When I was in the Army there was no discrimination. We were all friends. They liked me.

Hayden Veronique (Belhumeur) as told to Yvonne Leclerc

I married Alexander Hayden in 1922.

We both did a lot, I might say, for others and liked doing it. Children that were orphaned — I would sew and feed them, and taught them their prayers, and catechism, prepared them for their first communion. They were mostly our relatives. I made their bread, washed and patched their clothes. We were all neighbors.

I did the same for Mr. Tom Malaterre when he lost his wife. That time was not like now. They really had to know their Catechism and prayers. Out of thirty I think there were only twelve that made it, six boys and six girls. Confirmations too, as you were asked questions you had to be prepared to answer. Now it isn't so strict.

I barely remember the big flu. I didn't get it. But it was terrible, I wasn't so big, but I had to do the chores outside.

There was David Belhumeur's family that all died of that flu except the baby. It was still nursing its mother's breast and she was dead. There were five dead in the same family. The baby died after. I guess it sucked its mother's fever. This family lived in Selby Town. Apparently they got a big fever and a pain on the heart and died. My mother used dry mustard plaster on your chest and one would sweat and take that plaster off and change your clothes.

I was fourteen when the C.N. went through here. I have a pass I can use on the C.N. for life from coast to coast, as my husband worked for 27 years for C.N. I remember when they used dynamite to blast. We

used to go to Pumpkin Plains school in Victor. There were a lot of Doukobors working — they had their own big camp there. We milked fifteen cows and sold the milk to the ones that worked on the track. We had no separator for our milk so we had a pail with a glass on the side, and all the cream goes to the top and my mother took the milk as far as the cream. This was for our butter. My parents were very religious.

No one had pensions then. After dad died we were all small and mother made a living alone for us. With such a big family, sixteen of us, it was not so easy for her. But she made it. Eleven boys and five girls.

I'm still in good health except for high blood pressure.

I went to grade ten in school French and English. I was in Lebret Sask. school for a while along with quite a few from St. Lazare and the surrounding areas. There were three of us from our family. I went to grade nine there, and finished grade ten here at Pumpkin Plains school in Victor. We didn't have as many subjects then as now. We only had arithmetic, Bible study, spelling and reading. We didn't have many books any-way.

I would like to see the convent at Lebret again. The priests I remember were Father Ucanar and Rev. J. Oullette. There was a nun I used to like, she was a Metis girl.

They also had a big building at the convent by the Lake where the boys went when they were going in as priests. It was mixed races there — French, English, Metis and Indians.

I took pity on a nun, an Irish girl, she was so pretty. They sent her to far away across the sea. There they had a convent for nuns and once there you couldn't get out, you died there. But she sure didn't want to go, she cried so much before she left.

There was also a nun there that was the sister of Rev. Father Champagne, of Ste. Marthe. We were well treated there — we had good food. I used to help the cook in the kitchen.

Years later I brought Alphonse Belhumeur to the hospital. I used to go and visit him often. One day he said, "There's a nun here that wants to see you, just go to the office and ask for Sister Lamontagne". She was so glad to see me. She was one that I used to know in the convent. Our pastime in those times was old time dances. I used to be crazy about dancing; old time waltzes, two steps and seven steps. I'd give anything to be back in the olden days.

Today if there is a party there's too much liquor and they would all leave. Years ago it was not like that, they came by bunches to dance and stayed to the end.

That is what is spoiling everything — cars and liquor and too much money.

No one was too rich in our days, just about everyone was poor and friendly. Today there are too many different classes; rich, poor and in between. Children are spoiled with hardly any respect for the elders.

At home our parents hitched up a team of horses, we didn't feast at Christmas, but at New Years, we'd go to a house and visit and dance for a while, the table was always set with all sorts of food and you ate whenever you wanted; then we'd leave and go to another house and do the same, dance if you liked, or eat; they were always playing fiddle. We had a lot of fun.

At twelve midnight New Years, you could hear all sorts of bells on the harness and you could hear them come from a long ways. The horses were all decorated with big plumes in different colors. People drank then but, I don't know, we had a lot of fun. We'd go and see the old people first and each in turn we'd kneel in front of our father and he'd bless us for the New Year and did this with the whole family.

The old people worked hard for their money.

I still would like to be in the olden days.

Hayden — The Children of Alex "Butcher" and Victoria Belhumeur

Mr. and Mrs. Hayden had seven children. The eldest, **May**, widowed now, married U. McGillvray, and is now living in the lodge in Binscarth. She had two daughters, Eileen and Diane. Eileen died when she was twenty years old. Diane married Bud Wondrasek, and lives in Esterhazy, with daughter Dina.

The second child **Amable**, married Beatrice Bogner, had two daughters, Cindy and Carol and lives in Saskatoon.

Eileen — the third child died at twenty years of age from polio.

Helen, who was a schoolteacher at Victor also died at twenty-one years of age. Both Eileen and Helen are buried in St. Lazare cemetery.

Ernest — See Ernest Hayden story.

Rita married Red Fitzpatrick, and lives in Pierceland, Sask. They have two children, Rose-Marie, and Raymond and adopted a girl, Susan. **Raymond** married Debbie Laycock. They have two children, Toni-Lynn and Roberta-May and live in St. Lazare. The youngest **Adele**, married Albert Belhumeur and lives in St. Lazare. They have five children, Darren, Lisa, Sterling, Cory and Trevor. The youngest, Trevor, died in a drowning accident.

Hayden, Ernest

Ernest Hayden was born April 22nd, 1929, son of Butcher Hayden. He has lived in St. Lazare all his

life. He has a farm 17-17-29 which was transferred to him in 1961 by his father. His father had bought that farm after his return from World War I. Ernest worked for several years on road construction and is presently superintendent of road building for Keating Brothers.

He married May Peppin, born on August 2, 1939, in St. Lazare Roman Catholic Church in 1961. They live in town in a new house built in 1978 by brother-in-law Fernand Peppin.

They have a family of nine children: Sharon — born October 28, 1961, presently employed at the Bank of Montreal in Saskatoon, Sask.; Marianne — born September 20, 1962 graduated in 1980 and is presently employed at "La Cremette" in St. Lazare; Elaine — born May 16th, 1964, is in grade XII; Donna — born July 21st, 1965, is employed in Regina. The other children are either in school or still at home. Brenda born June 29, 1969; Nestor born June 3rd, 1970; Karen born January 9, 1972; Jason born April 15th, 1974; and finally Christopher, the baby, born January 8, 1980.

Hayden, Felix

by William (Beliche) Hayden

My grandfather, Felix Hayden came to Winnipeg with my grandmother from Trois-Rivières, Quebec, at age twenty-two. He began to work for the Hudson's Bay Co. hauling mail by dog team on a sixty mile trip. There was a halfway house where he stayed over night. In the winter he also hauled logs to make Red River Carts for the Hudson's Bay. For a time, with the help of one other man, he freighted during the summer between Winnipeg and Edmonton and hauled 42 carts of dry goods, sugar, tea, flour and tobacco. The return trip would take three months.

When the railroad came to St. Lazare, the Hudson's Bay sent him here to run a ferry about three hundred feet from the train bridge. He later moved to Hamona, Sask. where he farmed a homestead until his death in 1904.

Hayden, Archibald

Archie, the son of Frank Hayden Sr. and Elizabeth Belhumeur, was born September 12, 1917 in Ste. Marthe, Saskatchewan. He attended Pumpkin Plains school and helped his dad during his spare time. As a young man he worked for C.N.R. In 1942, he enlisted in the army, returning to work for the railroad after the war ended.

In 1947, he married Delphine, daughter of Jos and Adeline (nee Piche) Desjarlais. They lived at Victor where they had a small mixed farm, and then moved to St. Lazare. Archie continued to work for the railroad for over 25 years, retiring due to ill

health. The family moved to Birtle where he lived until his death in 1982.

Archie and Delphine had nine children: **Irene** (1947) married Jacques Houle of St. Lazare. They have two children. **Georgina** (1949) married Lawrence Belhumeur. They have five children. **Beverly** (1951) married Henry Lee of Birtle. They have two children. **Archie Jr.** (1953) married Barbara Lee of Birtle. They have two children. **Sharon** (1961) and **Shirley** (1963), **Alvin** (1965), **Kenneth** (1967) and **John** (1967) live at Birtle.

Delphine died in 1978 and was buried in St. Lazare. Her husband died in 1982.

Hayden, Andrew and Marcie

Andrew, son of Charlie Hayden and Mona (Haney) was born April 18th, 1946. He married Marcie Fouillard, daughter of George Fouillard and Agnes Smith, on July 10th, 1971. Marcie was born August 9th, 1951. Their daughters are Tanya Mona, born April 8th, 1974 and Andrea Rachel June 25th, 1977. Since 1969, Andrew has been employed with Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting, now Potash Corporation of Sask., and presently holds the position of electrician. Marcie is employed by Fouillard Implement Exchange Limited as bookkeeper.

Hayden, Joe and Rita

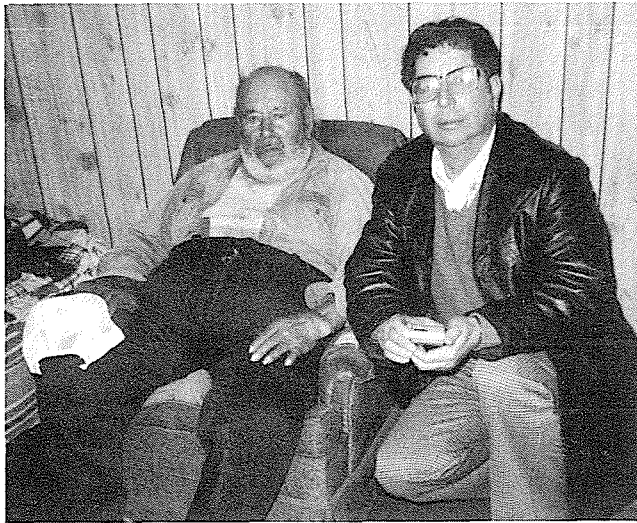
Joe, son of Joe Hayden Sr. married Rita, daughter of Bert and Leonard Leclerc, in 1955. Joe worked at Fouillards farm for thirteen years, and now lives in St. Lazare. They have seven children: **Glen** married Hazel Manson and they live in Thompson with their two children, Amanda and Billy. **Mona** died at four years of age. **Darlene** 21, lives at home, **Betty** 19, lives in Thompson. **Noella** 17, **Diane** 15 and **Jason** 12, attend school in Birtle.

Hayden, Joe Senior

by Arthur Fouillard

Joe is the son of Thomas Hayden and Agathe Fleury. Other family members are Alex, Edward, Napoleon, William, Louis, Marie, Henriette, Justine, Vitalene, Alma and Madeline. The children attended school at Pumpkin Plains and Welby. Thomas (Joe's father) was a neighbor to Grandpa Fouillard on a homestead near St. Lazare. During this time Norbert Fleury ran the ferry.

Joe hated Father Lalonde; his parents used to whip Joe to make him attend Catechism. Joe courted Blanche Paquin, but the marriage never took place — due to his drinking habits. He was a hard worker, and was able to chop 3½ cords of wood in a day. Joe worked for Rosario and Leon Huberdeau. Joe and his brother were standing on a hayrack, and spied a jack rabbit, and decided to chase it. The rifle dropped



Joe Hayden's good left arm . . . with Lazare Fouillard.

through a hole in the floor, the trigger hit a board splinter and fired, the bullet going through his left wrist, shattering it and knocking off part of his hat. Marthe Baudry, teacher at Pumpkin Plains, gave Joe first aid, bandaged him up, went to the section house, got two torpedos and set them on the track to stop the train. The engineer was not very happy about this! When the train stopped in St. Lazare, Joe's father dashed over to DeCorby's store, borrowed money from Jules and boarded the train for Winnipeg where Joe was hospitalized for three months.

Surviving members of the family are Joe, living in Rocanville at Niché Hayden's; William at Welby.

Hayden, William John

I am William John Hayden born in 1910, and as I can remember, I started school at the age of seven. At that time we only had school six months a year. There was no school in winter — this was at Ste. Marthe, Sask. This was a French school — half a day in French and the other half in English, so you learned two languages at the same time. I did not get ahead fast. We had 2½ miles to walk, morning and night, and on Sunday we went 3½ miles to church — walking also. I was in grade VII when I stopped going to school — age 14 years. I went to work for a farmer — 4 years at the same place.

There was no automation then — all the work was done by hand — pitching hay and sheaves, picking stones and walking behind all machines except the binder. When we moved grain we had to load it with a pail or a grain scoop. All the work was heavy and then the hard times started — that is what they called the dirty 30's. We could not get work anywhere. We cut bush for farmers for 4 or 5 dollars an acre. I dug seneca root and sold it for eight cents a pound. Then I

got another job — driving a tractor for a farmer at \$25.00 a month. I worked there for eight months when my brother died. He had been farming my Dad's land so I had to take over as my dad had started to work for C.N. Railway and my other brother was still going to school. I bought cows very cheap — they were about \$5.00 each at that time. I was selling cream — a five gallon can would bring \$1.00 to \$1.25 a can, eggs five cents a dozen. I sold rye for eight cents a bushel. When my younger brother finished school, he took over and I went to work for an extra gang on the C.N.R. at 20 cents an hour — that was big money then. I was paying 20 cents a meal; board and room was free. You had to be a good man to keep a job. They fired men every day and others were lined up along the fence waiting for a job. There were hundreds of men riding on every freight train that went through. There were no Unions in those days.

Then I thought it was time to get a home and a wife. I married Rose Belhumeur. I was 23 years old — that was in 1933. We went to work for a farmer — she was getting 25 cents a day and I got 75 cents. They gave us room and board free. I got a job that fall unloading coal for the C.N.R. coal burning engine at a dollar a day, seven days a week. There were no holidays. I worked every day of the year. This was at Welby, Sask. It was good money in those days. There were a lot of men working for farmers — the government was paying them five dollars a month and the farmer was getting five dollars to feed them.

I was the first breed to have a radio around there. We were getting a lot of visitors every night who came to listen to the radio. I was living at St. Joseph then. I had a good Model T-Ford car but I was walking 2 miles to work. I took the car only when I had something too heavy to carry home like flour.

We had 12 children in the family — six boys and six girls. The boys were Karl, Henry, Fred, Peter, Mervin and Octave and the girls — Lilly, Mearle, Noella, Diana, Roselen and Theresa. In 1952, four of them were in the hospital with polio but they all survived — only one was left paralyzed. I had a quarter section of land and raised cattle. While I was working at the coal dock in 1953 — the diesel locomotive had been invented, so they shut the coal dock down. I had 35 head of cattle, six horses, a tractor and a new truck, so I sold everything except the truck and went to work on the track as a section man. I got along pretty good and got to be relief foreman. I was a machine operator and I stayed with the C.N. till I got my pension in 1975. My wife had only one brother and he was always with us — just like one of the family.

I lost two of my boys, age 32 and 33, and my wife and brother-in-law all in two years time, so I sold my

home in Spy Hill, Sask. I could not stay there any more, so I bought a little house in Rocanville, Sask. I am living here now, alone. The time seems to go by pretty slow after raising a big family. It seems to be a hard and lonely way to finish up a happy life — but if I had a second chance I would gladly do it all over again.

Hebert, Albert by Agnes Decelles

My grandfather, nicknamed “Buffalo Bill”, left Montreal in the early 1900’s to settle near St. Georges, Manitoba where he bought a farm. With him were his three sons Albert, Octave and Conrade, and four daughters. The girls married; Angelina (Agnes’ mother) Bruneau lived in Selkirk, Delica Autel, moved to Los Angeles, Bartine McBeth lived in Winnipeg, and Emilienne Maynard in Vancouver. Albert Junior went to war and Octave drowned in the Red River in 1918. The Heberts moved to St. Lazare where Albert bought the Accommodation Hotel. There was a grocery store, butcher shop and pool room on the main floor and rooms to let upstairs.

When my mother died leaving six small children, the five older children were sent to an orphanage in St. Boniface; I, the youngest at two years of age, came to St. Lazare to live with my grandparents. I



Albert and Victoria Hebert.

started my schooling here, but when I was nine, my grandmother became ill, and took me to Winnipeg with her. When she died, I was sent to live with my father in Fort Francis, a father I didn’t know! My grandfather, went to Winnipeg in 1934 to spend the winter with his daughter and died there the same year.

My Uncle Albert Hebert, who worked on the C.N.R., tore down the “Accommodation Hotel” to build a house next to the Kings. He married a widow Victoria Perreault (née Lemoine) in 1945 in Winnipeg, and they lived in this house where Victoria died in 1955. Everyone remembers her as a mid-wife; she assisted in many births in and around St. Lazare.

I lived in Fort Francis until I was 16, then left to find work in Winnipeg. While there, I came to St. Lazare to visit Helene Fouillard, and a few friends and to see once again the hills I remembered and loved when I was a child. I was married in 1937 and raised two children. I worked at the Mental Institute in Portage la Prairie. In 1969, I married Florent Decelles and settled in Elkhorn. Flo is retired from Good Roads.

Henderson, Lawrence and Eva by Eva Henderson

Lawrence was born October 22, 1903 at Foxwarren, and at an early age moved with his parents, Samuel and Bella Henderson to the farm (36-18-29) five miles north of St. Lazare. He had one sister who died at the age of six months. In 1913, his father passed away and in 1947 his mother died.

He attended Crewe School and after leaving, worked at the George Falloon farm. Later he rented land and began farming on his own but continued to work as a farm labourer.

I was born in April 1918 in Binscarth. I was



Lawrence and Eva Henderson.

adopted by Mary and Gaspard Fiddler. I received most of my education in Birtle. We moved from Birtle to St. Lazare where my father worked as a farm labourer. In 1933 my mother passed away. My father remarried and had three children. He passed away in 1967.

In 1935, we were married at St. Lazare by Father Halde. We lived on 32-17-29 (the Brush place). We moved to 36-18-29 (Henderson farm) and lived there for 30 years. We were blessed with fourteen children. In 1968 we moved to St. Lazare. Lawrence passed away in June 1974 after a lengthy illness.

Alvin (1936) attended Gambler School. In 1954 he went to work for C.N.R. In 1959, he married Audrey Ward of Semans, Sask. They had three children — Carmen (deceased 1974) Ward and Glen. He presently works as a mine supervisor at Calton Lake, N.W.T., but now resides in Regina. **Lucy** was born in Birtle and attended Gambler School. In 1959 she began working at Birtle Hospital as a nurse's aide. In June 1963 she moved to Nokomis to continue work in the hospital. Later she graduated as a Certified Nursing Assistant. In 1972, she married Ross Meikle of Nokomis and they reside on a farm. **Donald** (1942) attended Gambler School. In 1959 he left to work for C.N.R. in northern Manitoba. Presently he is working as a painter for C.N.R. at The Pas, where he now resides. **Elwood** (see Betty Henderson). **Russell** was born in 1946 in Russell. He started school at Gambler and took his grades IX and X in St. Lazare. He worked for C.N.R. and in the mines at Rocanville and Manibridge. He married Patricia Cadieux in 1977. They have two boys, Leslie and Curt. **Rosalind** (1947) attended Gambler and St. Lazare schools. In September 1968, she left to work in the hospital at Thunder Bay, Ont. as an assistant cook. In May 1971, she married Winston Matchett. They have one child — Jennifer. In September 1974, they moved to Fox-warren, then in 1976 to Rivers where they were both employed with Marrs Leisure Products. They built a house in the Rivers area in 1979 where they still reside. **Isabelle** (see DeCorby, Phil and Isabelle). **Janet** (1952) attended Gambler School, St. Lazare and graduated from Birtle Collegiate in 1970, later taking a stenographer's course at Red River Community College. In 1971, she worked at a hospital clinic at Thunder Bay. In 1973, she moved to Kitchener, Ont. to take an insurance-adjuster's course. In October 1977, Janet married Doug Wyseman of Sarnia, Ont. They reside in Elora, Ont. and are working with insurance companies. **Larry** (1953) born in Russell, attended schools at Binscarth and St. Lazare. He worked for C.N.R. and in the mines in northern Manitoba. He took a brakeman's course with C.N.R. and is still employed with them at

Edson, Alta. He married Shirley Dupont. They have four children, Jason, Jared, Melissa and Philip. **Robert** (Bob) was born in 1956 at Russell. He attended schools in Binscarth and St. Lazare. He worked for C.N.R. and P.F.R.A. before going to oil rigs in Alberta. **Anna-Marie** was born in 1958 at Birtle. She graduated from Birtle Collegiate in 1977. That summer was spent in Nokomis, Sask. and in the fall she went to work in a Winnipeg supermarket. In the summer of 1978, she went to Kitchener, Ont. She was employed with Marrs Leisure Products in the sales department. In 1979, she attended Assiniboine Community College and completed first year Social Services course. In 1980, she began working in Nipette at Pelican Lake Training Centre with the mentally handicapped. **Kenny** was born in 1959 at Birtle. He attended school at St. Lazare. In 1975 he started with C.N.R. In 1978 he went to Alberta to work on oil rigs. **Elaine** was born in 1961 at Birtle. She attended schools at St. Lazare and Birtle. In the summer of 1979 she worked at a restaurant in Nokomis, Sask. She moved to Rivers and was employed with Marrs Leisure Products in 1980. She is currently employed at Riverdale Personal Care Home in Rivers. **Calvin** was born in 1963 in Birtle. He worked at Marrs Leisure Products building campers trailers. In 1982, he began working for C.N.R.

Henderson, Elwood and Betty (Lepine) by Betty

I was born in Russell District Hospital in Feb., 1950. My sister Pat (Jessop) and I were janitors for years at the rectory while we went to elementary and high school. Father Regnier had a Youth Club Organization that all the high school students really enjoyed. Mom was the janitor at the high school until it closed, and we all went to Birtle Collegiate. I worked at the Fort Ellice Hotel, Motel and the St. Lazare Bakery while I went to school and until I went to Brandon University in 1971-73 where I received my Teaching Certificate.

During the summer I went to Winnipeg to do "experience work", where we students went up north to Berens River, Big Black River, and Brochet, where isolated native children live. We brought these children to Winnipeg so they could experience the outside world. We went on many interesting tours to beaches, cities, towns and the Sioux Valley Pow-Wow. We even brought them overnight to tour St. Lazare, Old Fort Ellice and Fouillard Farms. Elwood was born in April, 1944 at home on the farm 1-18-29. He went to Gambler school for years until it closed and then came to school in town. While going to school and later on, he worked for farmers, for Ted Dupont (electrician); and with land surveyors. He

also worked on the pipeline at Rocanville and Man-ibridge mines.

Elwood and I were married April 12, 1975 in Dunrea. We made our first home in Bill Lepine's log house and then on Sesame Street in St. Lazare for 2½ years where our two daughters, Kerriane Cindy (1975) and Nicole Tennille (1976) were born.

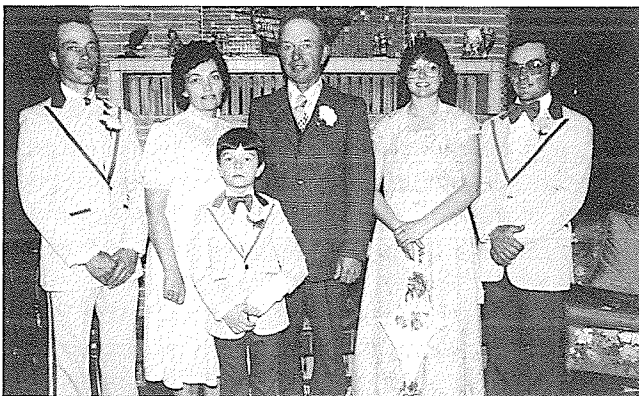
Elwood was employed as a C.N.R. labourer at the time. A year later he worked as an oiler; that led to his becoming a crane operator which he is now. We moved to Winnipeg for the school year of 1977-78 where I took courses and taught TESL (Teaching English as Second Language). I graduated with Bachelor of Teaching in 1978 from Brandon University. We moved to Birtle for three years and bought our first home. Two more were added to the family, Chris Eva (1979) and Samuel Scott (1980)

In 1981 we bought our second home on Aster Crescent in Brandon. The two oldest children attend Meadows school and are taking figure skating at the Keystone Center. Kerriane had the opportunity to do gymnastics for Brandon's 100th Celebration in 1982.

Every summer the family goes camping with Elwood where ever he is working. This gives us the chance to be with him, meet new people and see the country; we've been to parts of the States, Saskatoon, Ontario and of course, Manitoba. A pleasant holiday!

Henry, Milton and Elsie

Milton born 1934 to James and Reva Henry of Golden Prairie, Sask., married (in 1953) Elsie Huxted of Maple Creek, Sask., in Medicine Hat. In 1964, the Henrys moved to Manitoba when Milton was awarded the job as manager of the Ellice-Archie Pasture and St. Lazare Bull Station. New corrals and barns were built on the station in 1967, after fire destroyed the old barn and 4,000 bales of hay. The summer of 1973 and 1974, saw ten new bullsheds,



The Henrys; Derald, Elsie, Milton, Lynn, Wayne, Steven (front).

runs and feed bunks built with the employment of several men from St. Lazare. This was a big improvement for the Bull Station as the feeding program of some 150 P.F.R.A. bulls was very primitive. Milton and Elsie have four children: **Derald** James born in 1956 at Maple Creek, Sask., married Sharon Heather Smith of Virden. They live on his father's farm six miles east of McAuley. **Wayne** Milton born 1958 at Maple Creek, has a corral and shed cleaning business and enjoys rodeoing — especially Team Roping where he has won a few trophies. **Lynn** Marlene born 1962 at Maple Creek lives in Bottineau, N.D. with her husband Chris Pedie. **Steven** Minor born 1973 in Virden attends school in McAuley. The Henrys raise half-Arabs and Quarter horses and enjoy participating in rodeos and trail rides.

Hille, Albert

Albert Hille of Hann Munden, Germany, arrived in St. Lazare in June of 1954. He came to join his older brother, Gunther, who had come a year earlier. Both were journeymen plumbers and tinsmiths, employed at the time by Mr. Leo Dupont. The following year in May, Albert's wife Ruth (nee Muller) travelled from Hann Munden to St. Lazare with their four year old son **Gunther**. St. Lazare was to be their permanent home. In 1956, Marquette Steamfitters, a plumbing and heating business which is still serving the community today, was formed. This small new Canadian family was to include three more sons, **Richard** — 1957; **George** — 1959; and **Steven** — 1964. Presently all four sons work and reside in St. Lazare. Gunther an inter-provincial journeyman plumber and gas fitter employed by Marquette Steamfitters is married to Karen Olsen, a teacher, from Trois-Rivières, Quebec. His son Benjamin was born in 1971. Richard an inter-provincial journeyman plumber and gas fitter employed by Marquette Steamfitters is married to Carol (nee Perreault) of St. Lazare. They have a daughter Kelly Amber born on March 23, 1983. George an inter-provincial licensed mechanic employed by Andre's Auto Body is married to Colleen (nee Geck) from Rocanville, Sask. Their daughter Krista was born in April 1982. Steven, employed by Marquette Steamfitters, is working as an apprentice. The last member to join the family was Oma Ella (Elsa Walecki), Ruth's mother, who came to Canada in 1980. She resides at Villa Decorby.

Hodgson, Mowbray

I was born at Foxwarren in 1909, and started school at Moresby which was situated on S.E.¼ 36-17-28. This land was donated by Joseph Laycock in 1898. I worked at home on the farm till 1938, when

I rented the N½ 36-17-28. This land was first homesteaded by James Waddell who came there in 1881. The first house on this land was of logs with a sod roof. In the early 1900's, a frame house was built using mostly square nails. In 1943, I bought the farm. It was hard scratching to make ends meet for a few years. I drew wood to town for \$1.50 a load and a five gallon can of cream brought \$1.95.

In May 1944, I married Ina Beattie, a school teacher from Beulah. We had six children. **Noreen**, 1945, married Willis Zimmer — a farmer at Russell. They have four children. **Blaine**, 1947 has the Wheat City Transmission business in Brandon. **Glenn** and **Lynn** — twins, 1949. Glenn works for Manitoba Highways and is married to Margaret Green of Beulah. They have three children. **Lynn** works with Blaine. He married Karen Pomehiciuk of Solsgirth, and they have twins. **Gloria**, 1951, married Gary Tibbatts — a farmer of Foxwarren, and they have three boys. **Lexie**, 1957, married Morley Butler — a farmer of Solsgirth, and they have two children.

In 1965, we moved across the road into Birtle Municipality to a bigger and better house with good water. In 1976, we sold out. Gary Tibbatts bought the N½ 36-17-28 and since then has torn down the old house and broken up most of the remaining bush. We are retired now and living in Brandon.

Hodgson, Glenn and Margaret (nee Green)

by Margaret

We moved to St. Lazare in January of 1971; Glenn from Foxwarren, Manitoba and I from Winnipeg, just after being married on December 19, 1970. We lived in one of the Fouillard Suites for six months and then purchased a mobile home and moved to the vacant lot across from the school which soon became a mini-trailer court. The reason we chose to settle in St. Lazare was because it was the only place I could secure employment in the area. I was hired as the secretary at Fouillard Implement Exchange Ltd., where I worked full time until the birth of our first child, Graham, on March 14, 1975. After his birth I only worked half days at Fouillard's and spent the rest of my day typing and editing the weekly newspaper; teaching typing and 4-H Handicrafts. I was a member of the Ladies Auxiliary and did the year end bookkeeping for the Athletic Association and the typing for the Monthly newsletter for the Knights of Columbus. We moved away from St. Lazare to Birtle, Man. to be closer to Glenn's work with the Provincial Highways Department on December 17, 1977. We sold our mobile home to Rene Perreault, but I continued on as the Fouillard Implement ac-

countant until the birth of our second son, Mark, on November 9, 1979.

Graham, now seven years old is in attendance at Grade II in St. Lazare Elementary School and active in Castors there. I continue to assist various businesses there with their bookkeeping, while attending to our daughter, Erin, born on January 3, 1981.

A native of Beulah, Manitoba, I found St. Lazare to be a cozy little village with very friendly people, and everytime I go back it feels like going home!

Honey, William

William Honey was born in 1849 in Cornwall, England. He came to Canada in 1869 with his parents who settled in Ontario. At the age of 21 he went to New Zealand to work on a sheep ranch, returning to Canada twelve years later. In 1881 he married Lavinia Blanche McCamon at Warkworth, Ontario and came west to Manitoba, travelling by boat up the Assiniboine River to McDonald Landing. Blanche, eighteen years old, stayed with the McIntosh family there while Will chose a homestead, the N.W. ¼ of 24-17-28 in the Zion district. He procured the N.E. ¼ also, by pre-emption. Blanche's parents, the Henry McCamons settled nearby on S.E. ¼ of 2-18-28.

In 1886 William sold his farm to his in-laws, the McCamons, and took his wife and three young children, Clarence, Harry and June (just three weeks old), in a covered wagon further west to Fort MacLeod, Alberta. For eight years the family "squatted" on land some thirty-five miles out of Fort MacLeod. During this time, Stanley, Ethel and May were born, and Harry died when just nine years of age. William's brother Charlie and family had come to live close by also.

In the spring of 1894, Will was on the move again, this time headed to Lacombe, Alberta. The caravan consisted of his family and that of his brother Charles, each with its own house wagon and carrier wagon. Three men were also in the party to assist in driving the 125 head of cattle and to assume control when the Honey brothers left the trail frequently, in search of lands to purchase. Travel was slow, starting early each day to enable the cattle to stop to graze during the heat of the day. Cows in the herd provided milk, and chickens were killed for meat. A small cook stove baked the bread after it had risen from the warmth of the sun. As calves arrived, they had to be loaded into the wagons. The women took over as drivers while the men herded the cattle along. Anytime that the caravan stopped near water, the wash was done and clothes were strung any available place to dry. Finally, after three months, Lacombe was reached and the family settled in.

Evidently William Honey did not find the land of

milk and honey, for he made the decision to return to Manitoba. He sent his wife and the four younger children home to spend Christmas with Grandma and Grandpa McCamon while he and Clarence remained. Will sold the bulk of his herd, keeping only thirty head to winter over and fatten for sale in the spring.

Back home, early in the spring of 1895, June and Stanley started school for the first time, there having been no schools near their Alberta home. They attended school at Ellice, where Emily Tibbatts was the teacher. Coincidentally she was a sister of the Augusta Tibbatts who later became the children's step-mother. They travelled to school together with the Hesketh children, Mrs. Hesketh driving the rig. Other students recalled by June, were three McDonald children, two boys and a girl. During Will's absence, Mrs. Harry Carr and Mrs. Andrew Hunter lent much assistance to Grandma McCamon and Blanche with the little family and particularly during Blanche's confinement.

Shortly however, Will and Clarence arrived back from the west and Clarence discovered that he had a new sister, Thurza. Will purchased land near Binscarth, where the family moved.

Six years and two babies later, in 1901, Blanche Honey died after being bedridden for a year with a paralytic condition. June, fifteen, became the woman of the house, with Venie only 14 months old.

In 1910 William married Augusta Tibbatts and they retired to Binscarth in 1917. Will died in 1940 in his 92nd year and Augusta in 1956.

The children: **Clarence** farmed near Binscarth, married Bessie Brisbin and they had two children — Elmor of Birtle and Elva. Bessie died and in 1915 Clarence married Lena Burdett. They had five children — Myrtle, Ella, Irene, Adelle and Gordon. **Harry** died at nine years of age. **Matilda June** — see Widdicombe history. **Stanley** farmed near Binscarth, married Gladys Flynn and they had five children — Lloyd, Thora, Irma, Lawrence and George. **May** married a veteran of the Boer War from England, William Davis. They farmed west of Binscarth and had four children — Lillian, Muriel, Percy (deceased) and Beatrice. They left to live in Sacramento, California, where two more girls were born — Norma Jean and Caroline. **Ethel** married Edwin Williams and they farmed near Foxwarren. They had seven children — a boy died in infancy, Llewellyn and Leonard were killed in action in World War II, Edwin Jr., Emlyn (deceased), Sylvia and Lawrence. **Thurza** — see Burdett history. **George** was killed in W.W.I. **Lavinia Blanche** married John MacKay and they farmed near Binscarth. They had four children — Beatrice, Elsie, Donald and Isabel.

Horeczy, Frank and Dora

On Dec. 2, 1949, two brothers, Frank and Tony took over the operation of this farm, 19-18-28 from Frank Kominko. In 1952, Tony married Marjorie Baker and moved to Ont. They have five children and are presently living in St. Catharines, Ont.

Frank married Dora Katcher (nee Wasslen) in 1962. They have three children, all of whom are married; Anna in Meadow Lake, David and Gerry in Winnipeg. We are still operating the farm but we moved into Binscarth in 1980.

Horning, Ulmer and Gail (Dupont)

In November 1959, Ulmer Horning better known as "Poke" came to St. Lazare from his home town of Binscarth. He was a qualified radio and T.V. repairman and was looking for work. As luck would have it, a customer came into Fouillard's with a television in need of repairs. Poke was able to repair it using only a screwdriver and was hired immediately! Over the years, Poke moved from repairman to furniture sales and then to bookkeeper for the Furniture Store. Gail, the eldest child of Ted and Anne Dupont, grew up in St. Lazare and in January 1966, began work under R. T. Selby in the post office. In 1967, Poke and Gail were married and to them were born three children, Brent, Curt and Cara. In spare hours, Poke enjoys working with the 4-H wood working club of which he has been a leader for 11 years. He is also assistant chief of the St. Lazare Volunteer Fire Department. In addition to her home and children, Gail enjoys her part time employment with the post office and also her position as manager of Public Housing in St. Lazare.

Horning, Nelson Ambrose and Annie Neville

Nelson Ambrose Horning was born September 14, 1909, on N½ 18-19-28 (Russell Municipality); Annie Neville, born March 10, 1909, at the farm known as the Bernardo Home, situated in Russell Municipality, where Annie's father, Arthur Neville was employed as one of the foremen. The Horning story follows as related by Ambrose;

Annie and I were married on November 24, 1933, at the Neville home which then was the West ½ of Section 30-19-28. The Nevilles moved to this farm in 1911.

We had three children: Janet Isabelle, born September 7, 1937, James Nelson, born March 31, 1940, (deceased December 22, 1980), and Dianne Ruth, born October 7, 1945.

In August of 1944, we bought a farm in the R.M. of Ellice, the North ½ of Section 29-18-28, from Mr. William Crichton, and took possession in November

of that year. We lived on that farm until 1966 when we moved to our new home in the village of Binscarth. But we continued farming until March 1973, when we sold the farm to David Pizzey. We then retired.

Annie was involved in the ladies' groups in the Balmerino School District and helped with farming and family activities. I served on the Chillon and Foxwarren United Grain Growers Board for many years. I also was a trustee on the Balmerino School Board, and was Chairman of that Board at the time that the Balmerino School became consolidated with the Binscarth School District. We were members of the United Church at Binscarth, and I served on the Board of Stewards for many years. I was nominated for Councillor for Ward 5 of the R.M. of Ellice and served 16 years. During that time I was appointed by the Reeve and Council to be the representative to the Russell-Birtle and District Hospital Board and later was appointed to the Official Board by the Hospital Committee. I also represented the R.M. of Ellice on the Official Board of the Ellice-Spy Hill Pasture. I held these offices until I retired from the farm and moved to town.

In closing, Annie and I wish to express the good memories we have of our years in this community; good friends, good neighbours, and a good life. Annie and I still enjoy relatively good health, and we have had, and still have, a happy family life, with our beloved children and grandchildren.

Horning, Robert Nelson and Isabella (nee Rendall)

by N. A. Horning

Isabella was born on October 8, 1886, in the Orkney Islands of Scotland. Isabella came to Canada in 1902, arriving in the St. Lazare district. She had two uncles; George and David Rendall, who came from Scotland in the late 1800's and homesteaded on the S.E. Section 28-17-28, which is presently owned by Peter Huberdeau.

Isabella had a brother John, who came to Canada and took over this farm when the uncles retired, and returned to Scotland. He sold it in 1920 and moved to Burnaby, B.C. where he died.

Isabella taught school for a while at the Gambler School, which at that time was a room in a private home. Later she moved to Binscarth and took up dress making. During that time she met a young gentleman by the name of Robert Nelson Horning. They were married in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan in November of 1905.

They had four children; Byron Bertrand, Sarah Annie, Nelson Ambrose and Lorraine Isabella. Robert Horning died in September 1930 at the home

farm west of Binscarth. Isabella in later years moved to Winnipeg and passed away there in 1964.

Houle, Adelard

One bright April morning in 1930, my Godfather (Rev. Paul Emile Halde) and my Godmother (Miss Marie Louise Halde) took out our new 1930 chevrolet to drive from McCreary to our new home in St. Lazare. It started to rain just before we arrived in Minnedosa around nine thirty in the morning. To exit out of this town, which is situated in a valley, we had to climb a two-mile hill. The newly built highway was just pure gumbo and water, no gravel. With the help of three or more young men that would push when we got stuck, we finally made the top in one hour and a half. We headed towards Shoal Lake seventy miles away with the same situation ahead of us. We arrived in St. Lazare around two in the morning. I went to public school and met the teenagers of my age. In the fall we had the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary come to our town to teach school. I found out what discipline was in the next ten months, but it paid off. Every spring in April, we had to prepare for the annual concert at the end of June. One year I did not volunteer, so Sister Superior, Sr. Emerencienne gave me a long and serious part. Edgar Roy was the comical one and surely made us laugh. Once we learned our parts, we had fun at the practice.

One year in June, Sister Superior asked the boys to pull out some stones in their garden. We were glad of the change. While we were working, we came upon a stone two feet in diameter. We started to dig around it, after twenty minutes the hole got bigger and the rock, by the time we hit bottom, was four feet wide. We piled cordwood around it then poured on kerosene and set a match to it. In the meantime, some boys brought over three pails of cold water. When the wood was nearly all burned, we, on the word GO, splashed the cold water on the red hot rock and ran some distance away. The rock split into many pieces, then we carried it away.

In summer, the horseshoe lagoon was where we rowed Mr. Fouillard's flat bottom boat for hours. The yearly Fair was exciting; playing baseball, riding horses and many other events. On the south side of the tracks, there was an open field and every night from six o'clock till dusk, we played softball. Our swimming place, was the Assiniboine river, near the C.N.R. bridge, a very enjoyable place in the heat of the summer. We had some daredevils who jumped off the bridge. Bill Smith was like a power boat when he swam on his back. I learned to swim the hard way. I was thrown in the deep side of the river and had to swim across.

One summer, Arthur Fouillard, Robert Decorby, Jacques Guay, Paul Dupont and myself with a few others, decided to have our own communication system. We got some ear phones and plenty of wire and strung the wire from one house to another. A small coil was used to send a number of buzzes (every one had a number of buzzes as his code or ring). We used earphones, one to listen and the other to speak into. I ran out of wire between my neighbor's and my house, so I attached my wire to the neighbour's clothes line. One day I pressed the button on the coil to ring a friend, and at the same time the neighbor's wife was hanging clothes. Did she get a shock! I heard about it, and I had to find more wire to go over her clothes line.

I really enjoyed the winter months, sliding down the three hills behind the school with my toboggan. My other friends had skis. One day as we were sliding down the hill, two teams of horses, pulling loaded racks of hay appeared on the road below. The frightened horses started to run, their drivers walking behind them, tried to catch them. In the meantime, we ran home as fast as we could.

I enjoyed the years when we skated on the river. We would get ten to fifteen teenagers together and walk to the river. The boys would gather dry wood to make a bonfire and then help the girls on with their skates. Coming back we would sing songs. Another thrill was riding a ten-foot bobsleigh down the road coming into St. Lazare. In those days this road had many curves. Sometimes we took shortcuts and landed in the bushes.

Many times we went to play hockey in Foxwarren in an open sleigh with Jean Fouillard and his buckskin team. They would go at a gallop when you left the reins loose. We often walked behind the sleigh to limber up and keep warm. We had plenty of horse blankets and wore longjohns to keep us warm.

I can honestly say I really enjoyed the six years that I lived in St. Lazare. It is one of the most beautiful and friendly places in Manitoba.

Footnote: Edgar Roy tells a story of returning from overseas on a hospital ship and seeing Adelard (an amputee) on the stairway. One man was going up, the other descending, when they suddenly recognized one another! Amid embraces, laughter and tears, two friends were reunited in mid-ocean. The remainder of the trip went quickly, spent in conversation, recalling past days in St. Lazare.

Houle, Antoine Etienne as told to Yvonne LeClerc, by Lizza (Houle) Grant

My great grandfather, Etienne Antoine Houle, was born in Quebec. His son, my grandfather, Antoine Houle, was born in 1826. He came west as a young boy and never returned east. My father, Antoine Houle was born about 1847 in St. Francois



Mrs. Grant

Xavier, Manitoba. My father's first marriage took place in St. Francois Xavier about 1867. There were eight children born to this marriage: **Rosalie** (1867) died at age 12 from a kidney injury, a second girl died from measles, "**Bebe**" died after a scalding accident — all three buried at St. Francois Xavier, four boys (three of whom died from tuberculosis) and **Joe** (1882) drowned at age 20 — are buried in St. Lazare. In 1883 my father was widowed and he moved his family of five boys to St. Lazare. He got a job as a ferry operator on the Assiniboine River below Fort Ellice. After him was Delphis Chartier.

A ferry was a means of crossing the river where there was no bridge. It was big enough to carry three or four wagons and had sides on it so nothing could fall off. A steel cable anchored at each end kept the ferry on course and a strong rope on each side, the width of the river, was how you pulled yourself across. Each fall the ferry was taken out and replaced in the spring. One spring (1887) the three older boys dropped the ferry down into the river and fell into the water. Although they got out they became ill and died of tuberculosis. The ferry was replaced with a wooden bridge. The piling of this bridge can still be observed in the river.

In 1888, my mother Caroline and my father Antoine married and six children were born: **Charles** served in W.W.I, **Mary** and **Bebe** who died with flu, **Antoine**, **Lizza** (me) February third, 1895, and my youngest **sister**, who died from smallpox. My mother died in the fall of 1900 and my youngest sister in January 1901. Accidents and illnesses really took their toll. In 1941, Lizza married Arthur Grant, of Scottish descent. He served in the Armed Forces during World War II. He died in 1970.

St. Lazare is one of the oldest places that I know. The very first Fort was about one mile S.E. of the second one. Mr. Wheeler used to look after the Fort and Gertie Johnson was the first person to run the Hudson's Bay store at Fort Ellice. The old store was moved to the second site because of inadequate water supply. They bought furs, hides and dried meat. My father told me that in the fall the Hudson's Bay would bring in supplies of flour from down east. People were not used to that because they ate mostly meat. They would travel in bunches to hunt and kill a buffalo, then dry and smoke the meat. Then they pounded it to crumbs and mixed it with marrow to make pemmican. They got the marrow out of the bones by boiling them and the marrow kept the meat from being too dry. During World War II bones were still being sold for fertilizer. Nothing was wasted. Bags were made from the hides after they were scraped clean and dried. Sinew from the back part of the hide was used for sewing up the bags, and sharpened files were their needles. These were sold to the Hudson's Bay to make money, and pemmican was also sold, for making a living was hard. Prices for muskrats, weasels and mink were low. There was some small game which we also killed for food. The water way was the means of transportation (before the trains came) for long hauls and the Red River Carts, (Les Charettes), were used for short runs after supplies were unloaded at the Fort. Food staples came west and furs went east.

In early times there were no Métis, until La Verendrye's time. Then the French began to marry Indians and the Métis population was started.

The flu in 1918 was hard on the Métis. Doctors were few and far between. There was Dr. McClaren at Moosomin. Even Mr. John Eaton, president of Eatons, died from the flu, so it wasn't because you were poor, or had a poor home, that you got the flu. There were no drugstores. Our main pain killer was Sloan's liniment. My mother was a midwife and she used to treat the sick with roots — seneca roots and such. Before 1882 we had a store below the Hudson Bay Fort and the owner was Mandren but he moved to Birtle when the railroad came.

Many Métis worked on the Hudson's Bay farms and it took a whole day's work to buy a pound of tea. They ploughed the land with oxen and broadcast grain mixed with ashes, by hand. It was then raked to cover it. There were so many prairie chickens and wild pigeons that they ate up a lot of the seed.

The Métis were religious people and were served by a missionary priest. A lot of Métis could play the fiddle, probably learned from the French who played. Dances were popular and if there was no floor they simply spread out a buffalo robe and

danced on that. They danced square dances and the double jig, (la jel à quatre). Waltzes were forbidden by the priest. They would not dance during lent or the advent season, and marriages must not take place during Advent.

The Métis did not wish to be placed on Reserves as the Indians were and instead were given Scripts or Homesteads that were chosen for them. The promise made in 1870 to give them 250 acres was not honored until 1901 at Riel's urging, and many had died by then. My father got his script. My brother Joe sold his script for \$100.00, and bought a violin and a ring. Unfortunately his ring disappeared when he was helping to plaster the walls of a stable and he believed it must have got into the plaster somehow.

Today the Métis people have a better chance for an education and they are trying very hard to learn more about their culture. They would have been better off if they had chosen to live on a Métis reserve, where their education would have been provided at their own school and mission. They didn't understand the scripts.

In 1901 there was an outbreak of smallpox in China Town. The Chartier boys, Emile and Lionel looked after the sick. They came from the east with four nuns and the little church was used for a hospital for the sick. After the sickness was over, they had to burn the church.

Houle, "J. B." (John Baptiste) **by Louis Houle and Rosalie's daughter,** **Gertrude Vipond**

J.B.'s parents were born in the U.S.A. and came from Massachusetts to homestead at St. Claude near Winnipeg in 1855. It was there J.B. was born. He had four brothers; Charlie ("the Boss"), Jacob (who served as a sniper in World War I), Frank, and another brother who died. He had one sister, Rose, who married Robert Hayden. In 1870, J.B.'s parents sold their land at St. Claude and came west with a wagon train to Fort Ellice. They spent the winter there. For years, J.B.'s father, John, hauled freight from Winnipeg to Fort Ellice by horse and cart or wagon. As a boy, J.B. saw a lot of Louis Riel. Not much was said of it at the time, because there was so much unrest. At 14, J.B. became an interpreter for the railroad, because he was fluent in French, Cree and English. He married a Hayden girl (Robert Hayden's sister) and had two children; John Baptiste Jr. (Duck) and Maurice who died in 1923. After his first wife died, J.B. married her sister. She, too, died at a young age. In 1902, J.B. married Theresa Fleury of St. Lazare. They had Michael (1903) who died in a car accident in 1952, almost at the very spot where J.B. ran the ferry. Another son died at three months of age.

Louis, who was born in 1908, later married Rose Desjarlais of St. Lazare. They have five children; Theresa, Maurice, Bernice, Irene and Henry, all residing in B.C. Two girls were born after Louis, but both died of pneumonia in 1912. They were helping J.B. plant onions one morning while it was raining. They were having fun for the little girls were pulling out the onions after they were planted. That same day both girls became ill. J.B. went for help but when he got back that night one girl had already died. The other little girl died soon after. From 1912 to 1915, J.B. ran a ferry not far from where the train bridge is presently situated. The ferry could carry two wagons and two teams. Joe Tremblay had a store there at that time.



Result of Bear Hunt.

One time J.B. had a runaway team. The wagon rolled and one of the spokes broke and entered his stomach. J.B. was very ill, but he had to recover at home because there were no doctors near at the time.

Rosalie was born in 1914. When the family lived by the "Big Lake" south of St. Lazare, several twisters hit. Rosalie and her mother ran and hid in the ice house when they saw the funnel of water on the lake. The twister took the roof off the house, but set it down all in one piece. The well in the ice house was quite deep with a wooden crib. This was filled with ice and snow in the winter, then covered with sawdust. Even in summer, butter would freeze in the well.

Father Lalonde used to visit everyone in the area at least once every two months. J.B. and Theresa looked forward to his visits. Blizzards were common and often left six or seven feet of snow. J.B. used to tie a rope from the door handle of his log house to the log barn so they would not get lost during the storms.



Rosalie and Theresa Houle and George, Delhia and Cecilia Tourand.

Many times the horses were given a free rein to find their way home.

They made their own amusement then. Rosalie played the organ, and there was always someone who could play the fiddle while they danced in the light of coal oil lamps.

J.B.'s wife Theresa died in 1937. He thought nothing of walking from town to town. While in his 70's he walked from St. Lazare to Welwyn (17 miles) to visit Rosalie and her husband, Lionel Ireland. In fact, he would often walk from St. Lazare to his home (8 miles) with a load on his back.

J.B. died in 1958 at 93 years of age.

Houle, Jean Baptiste (Duck) and Isabelle

Jean-Baptiste known as Duck was born in St. Lazare in 1899. His father, Jean-Baptiste Sr. had married twice. His first wife bore him two sons Jean-Baptiste (Duck), and Modeste, who died of tuberculosis. His second wife, Therese Fleury, had three children Michel, Louis and Rosalie.

Duck married Isabelle Fiddler in 1921, daughter of Eugene Fiddler and Suzette Fleury. Isabelle's mother married twice — Suzette's first husband was Peter Hayden and she had a son by the same name as his father. She later married Eugene Fiddler and had three sons, William, Tom and Bruno and five daughters Isabelle (Mrs. Duck), Marie (Mrs. John Peppin),



Jean Baptiste and Isabelle Houle.

Madeleine (Mrs. Malaterre), Melanie (Mrs. Little) and Annie (Mrs. Donat Peppin).

Duck and Isabelle had eleven children, most of them born at home — the midwives being Mrs. Jean-Baptiste Leclerc and Mrs. Suzette Fiddler. The children were **Vincent** who died at 8. **George** married Lily Fleury in 1960, they have six children: **Marie** (Mrs. Paul Fleury) married in 1948 has seven daughters; **Alma** married to Robert Leclerc in 1950 has three boys and six girls; **Ernest** (Chickadee) Eddie's right hand man; **Maurice** married Marie Leclerc in 1956 — they have four sons and five daughters; **Rene** married Alice Belhumeur in 1955 has a family of six — five girls and one boy; **Rita** who married Walter Leclair in 1962 has two boys and three girls; **Eddie** married Alma Fleury in 1967 — story follows. **Jacques** married Irene Hayden in 1969, has one girl and one boy. **Paulette** married Steve Stadnyk in 1967 and has three boys and three girls.

Duck, at one time, worked at Ben Fouillard's garage. He also helped build bridges. He liked trapping, selling the furs to support the family. Isabelle was an extraordinary woman. She was a very good mother and always welcomed everybody in her house. She worked out as a cleaning lady and was loved and appreciated by those who employed her. With her modest means, she always managed to donate towards the support of the church which she attended regularly. The large attendance at her funeral attested to the esteem the people of St. Lazare had for her.

Isabelle died suddenly in 1961 when she was 58 and Duck passed away in 1972 at the age of 73.

Houle, Eddie and Alma

Eddie was born in St. Lazare in 1938, where he attended school until he was fourteen years old. He

drove Bicknell's transfer for a while and later drove a gravel truck for Guy Selby. He also worked for Ted Dupont and Fouillard Furniture. He worked on the pipeline in Fort Nelson, British Columbia. He met Alma Fleury from Swan River, and they were married in 1967. They have two sons, Tony and Vincent.

Huberdeau, Jean Baptiste

Our first ancestor to come to Canada and that of the families Huberdeau, Hubardeau, Uberdeau, Du-bardeau and La France, originated from the Parish of St. Sulpice of Paris, which is the capital of France, in the ancient French province of the Seine. He was a soldier in the regiment of Mr. de Gannes and it was at this time that he came to Canada. Like all soldiers he had received a surname La France, which was legally adopted to his real name. The only proof of record we have of our first ancestor in Canada is a marriage certificate dated July 27, 1722 at Notre Dame of Montreal. He married Charlotte Gertrude Rouleau. Witnesses at this marriage were Joseph Benoit, surgeon and Major in the army of New France, Jean Jeanne, Jacque Cheval and Jacque Nepveu, a priest. Jean Baptiste spent his entire life in Montreal and it was in the church of Notre-Dame that they baptized their thirteen children. Today, you can still find descendants of Jean Baptiste in the regions of Montreal, Ste. Anne des Plaines, St. Janvier, St. Sauveur and in Manitoba and Alberta.

The first of the Huberdeau ancestors to come out west were Napoléon and Joséphine who took a homestead in St. Albert, Alberta in 1888. They raised a family of eleven, and descendants are still in that region. The second Huberdeau to come out west was Pierre, with his wife Anna, arriving in St. Lazare in 1902.

Sincere thanks to Ivan Sarto (John) Huberdeau of St. Albert, Alberta for this information concerning our ancestor, Jean Baptiste Huberdeau.

Huberdeau, Pierre

Pierre, son of Francois Xavier Huberdeau and Esther Daignault was born in St. Hubert, Quebec on August 8, 1858. His wife was Anna Aubertin (daughter of Louis and Melina — nee Robert). Anna, was born in Boucherville, Quebec, on January 10, 1869. They were married in St. Hubert in 1885 and lived on a farm in that region. They had seven children — Rosario, Rosianne (married Origène Cadieux) Roméo, Lucienne (married Placide Prescott) Antonia (married Louis Guay), Léon, and Dianne (married Albert Bouvier).

On May 22, 1902, Pierre came out west to St. Lazare and purchased from Archibald McDonald (chief factor of Fort Ellice) a parcel of land NE ¼ 17-17-28 for the sum of \$560.00. The following year



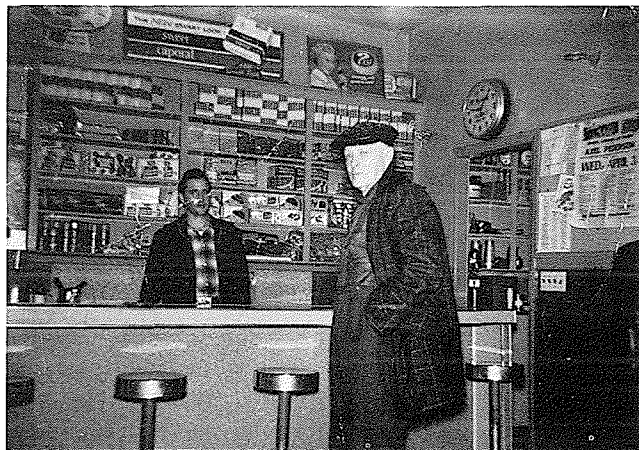
Pierre and Anna (Aubertin) Huberdeau — Taken from Tin-Type.

he sold his farm in St. Hubert and he moved his family to St. Lazare. Later he bought more land, SE 20-17-28 and NW 27-17-28, and lived there until 1925, moving to town that year, but continuing to farm until he retired in 1937.

Anna, passed away in St. Lazare on November 18, 1942; Pierre, on December 8, 1943. Today there are many descendants living in this region.

Huberdeau, Rosario and Eugenie

Rosario (1885) son of Pierre Huberdeau and Anna Aubertin was born in Boucherville, Quebec. At the age of seventeen (1902), he came to St. Lazare with his father, Pierre, to buy a homestead which was



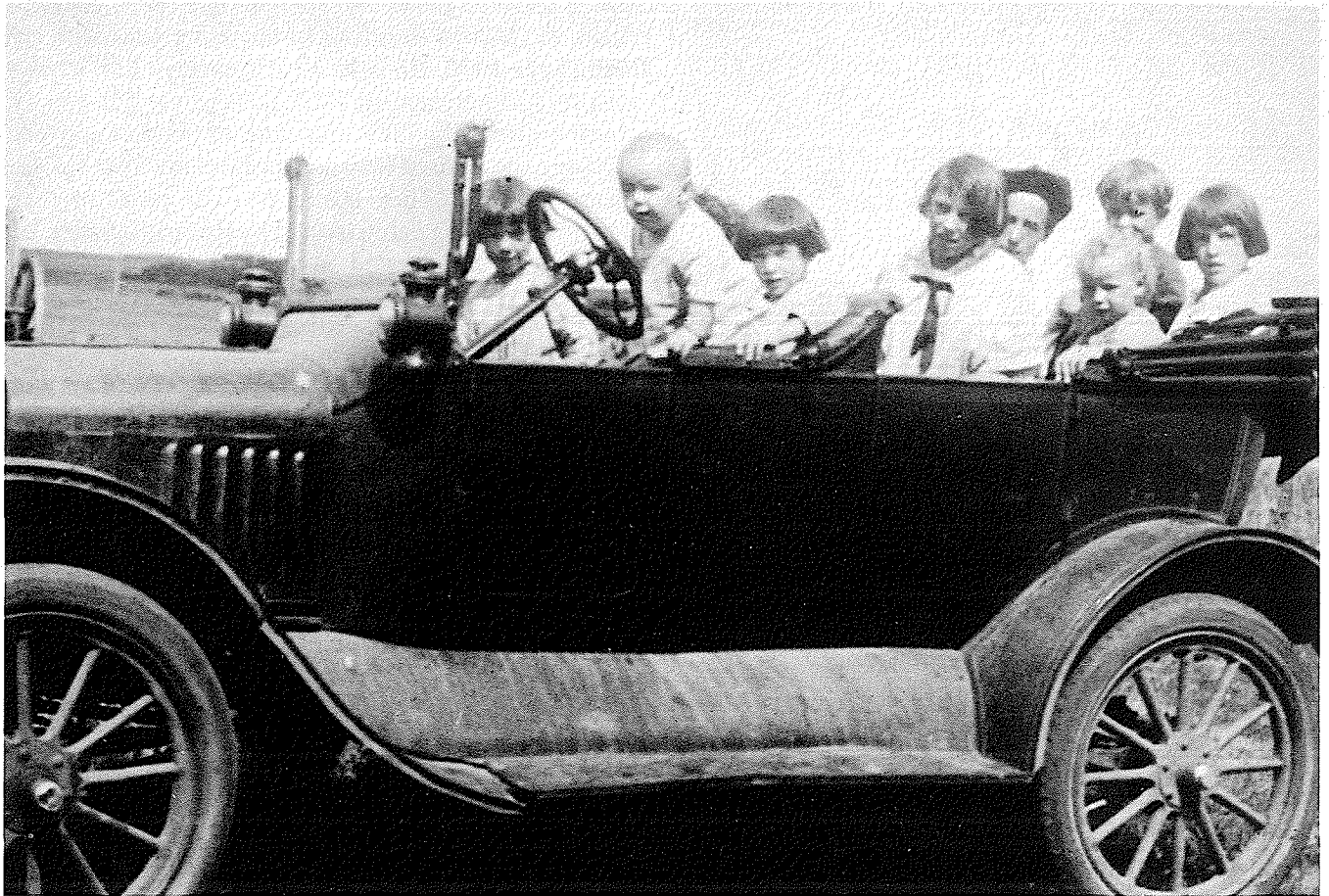
Rosario Huberdeau in Bob's Cafe — Aurèle Leblanc.

located on the plains SW 4-18-29. In 1903 they went back to Quebec to return in the same year with the family. In 1906, Rosario went courting. This finally led to his marriage in 1907 to Eugenie (Ti-Soeur), born on June 16, 1889, daughter of Ovide Guay and Evangeline Simard who originally came from Lac St. Jean, Quebec. They spent the first years of their marriage in a log cabin owned by Rosario's father. As his holding was located on poor soil, Rosario bought in 1910 Section 3-17-28. All the children except the youngest were born in the house (later sold to and moved by Richard Dale). Rosario and Eugenie had twelve children. **Raoul** was born in 1908, **Simone** (Mrs. Desire Sala) 1910, **Marie** (Mrs. Arthur Fenez) 1912, **Paul** 1915, **Jeanne** (Mrs. Reginald Chartier) 1917, **Rosa** (Mrs. Noel Lemoine) 1919, **Leonard** 1921, **Alice** 1922, **Louis** 1924, **Alexandre** 1925, **Rene** 1928 and **Odile** 1929 died at birth.

In 1928, Pierre Roy built a new house for Rosario and Eugenie. It was a spacious two-storey building with veranda and was equipped with a good heating system but strangely enough without running water. Eugenie's children were born at home with only the help of midwives such as Mrs. Decelles and Mrs. King. With such a large family she necessarily had to work very hard not having the conveniences taken for granted today. As they always hired men on the farm she brought innumerable meals to the field. One of her pastimes (you could not call that leisure) was to card wool and make comforters. She also enjoyed making quilts which she embroidered with the help of her daughters. They made these usually as they listened to the radio in the evenings and one of her favorite programs was "One Man's Family."

One of the few pleasure trips she took was to visit her sister, Yvonne Bourret, in Lebret, Sask. She was accompanied by her brother David Guay and Antonio and Josephine Deschambault with baby Berthe. David was an inexperienced driver; it was raining cats and dogs and the car kept sliding from one side of the road to the other. Eugenie (Ti-Soeur) petrified, would implore Ste. Anne to get them out of their predicament. On the other hand David (Blanc) would call out all the saints from heaven but certainly not in prayers!!! Either way did not work because one car took the ditch to avoid David's oncoming one. It is no wonder this was the first and last trip Eugenie took with her brother!!

Rosario and Eugenie found pleasure in musical evenings performed by Leone Boubonnais, (Mrs. Frank Dale) who was boarding there when she was teaching at Ellice School. She was joined by a neighbor Mrs. Decelles who with her children Jeanne d'Arc, (Mrs. Albert Chartier) and Laurier sang. Joseph and Paul Tremblay also provided entertain-



Car Ride in early 20s. Huberdeaus; Rosa, Louis (baby), Jeanne, Simone, Raoul, Alice, Léonard, Marie.

ment, one with singing and the latter with piano playing. Without realizing it; these were the best years of their lives. **Alice**, born an invalid died in 1939 at sixteen. Eugenie already in failing health died in 1945 leaving a big void in the family. After her death, Rosario moved to town with his daughter Simone to a house where his grandson Jean-Marc Chartier now lives.

Rosario was a good operator and over the years acquired additional land, six sections altogether which he later left to his sons and daughters. He always had hired men to break up new land and to work in the fields. His employees and children recall picking stones with a team of horses and wagon set on metal wheels which shook every bone in their bodies. He, nevertheless, was one of the first farmers to buy a combine in the area. In 1937 he bought a new Chevrolet car with profits netted while playing the grain market. When he went to Winnipeg, he would stay at the Frontenac Hotel, which was then the unofficial rendez-vous of the French Canadians. When this hotel no longer existed, he made his quarters at the Tourist Hotel located in St. Boniface. In 1947-48, Rosario was a silent partner of Emile Dupont who built two railway bridges on the Assini-

boine River, one in St. Lazare and the other in Miniota. Rosario was school trustee at Ellice School for many years and was responsible in acquiring a French teacher for the school. He was a good-looking man and was always very neat in appearance. He loved teasing and good-naturedly accepted some in return. He did not mind poking fun at himself, regarding his broken English. He was telling us once of going to O'Keefe's mentioning how polite Mr. O'Keefe had been at the occasion not to laugh at him. He had asked to buy a stud hen. He was understood because he returned home with a rooster! He was always courteous and friendly with strangers. After his daughter Simone married in 1948, Rosario lived alone until his death on June 17, 1970.

Huberdeau, Raoul and Dorothy

Raoul was the first child born to Rosario and Eugenie (nee Guay), on January 8, 1908. He was born in an old log cabin which belonged to his grandfather, Pierre Huberdeau, on NE 17-17-28. He attended Ellice school up to grade VI. Quitting school to help his father work the farm, Raoul learned how to work with four strong horses and a plow, either plowing the fields or picking the stones



Raoul Huberdeau Family; Gerard, Bernadette, Nicole and Arthur, Dorothy and Raoul.

that seem to multiply as they were picked. Alex Hayden was his coach, along with other hired men, making farm work more enjoyable than school work. During the summer he enjoyed playing baseball against the town team, with teammates such as Louis Fleury (pitcher) and Paul Piche (Catcher), the best ones on the team. Raoul played third base, relishing in the only pastime he had. During his spare time, he was lucky to meet Dorothy Hudon, who came to St. Lazare to help her grandmother, Mrs. Pierre Lemoine. Dorothy was born May 28, 1914 in Rocanville, Sask., the daughter of Napoleon and Bernadette Hudon (nee Lemoine). Her father was the blacksmith in Rocanville. When Dorothy was 8 years old, her mother passed away. At the age of 12, Dorothy remembers babysitting for neighbours from 7:00 till past midnight for only 15¢. At the age of 16, she left home to work at the Armstrong Hotel. Later, a family from Kemnay (near Brandon) asked her to go to work for them, payment being \$10 a month. At 10:00 a.m., on April 18, 1938 in St. Lazare, Raoul and Dorothy were married by Father Bertrand. They bought and moved to N ½ of 10-17-28 which belonged to Tom Leverington. The house was not too fancy, with newspaper as wallpaper, letting them read at any time of day.

As a wedding present, they received three top milking cows from his father, along with a good, strong, four horse team. Later, they bought NW ¼ 11-17-28 from Leopold Chartier and John Wilson's farm which was a section, 36-16-28. Dorothy helped out with the farm work until the children were old enough to do so. They always raised a good variety of farm animals such as chickens, pigs, cows and horses. The cream was hauled to the creamery in town until it closed, and then it had to be transported by train to Miniota. In 1969, with the help of the

boys, they enlarged their stock of Holsteins and started in the dairy business till 1975. In that year, they sold their farm to their son Gerard and moved into a house trailer on main street in St. Lazare.

Raoul and Dorothy have four children. While seven months pregnant with their first child, Dorothy accidentally fell into a filled-in well, that caved. Raoul got her out after a while and with God's help, everything went fine and they gave birth to a son — **Arthur**. (See Huberdeau — Arthur and Roberta) **Bernadette Marie** was born June 24, 1940, attended Ellice school and worked in Birtle Hospital. She married Alvin Janzen on March 15, 1968. They have two boys, Reginald (1971) and Keith (1973). The boys enjoy playing hockey in Blumenort. **Gerard** was born July 25, 1944. He took over the family farm where he now resides. **Nicole** was born March 24, 1956. She attended St. Lazare and Birtle schools. After high school she took a hairdressing course at ACC in Brandon, and later worked at Parkview Lodge in Brandon. She now works in Shilo as a dietary technician. Raoul and Dorothy have the joy of sharing life with their children and six grandchildren.

Huberdeau, Roberta (nee Simard)

I was the third daughter of Eugene and Rose Simard, born in 1941. I grew up on the family farm, and when I was 7 I went to board at the Convent with my sisters, Rhea and Cecile, where I attended school. I was always following my sisters around and listening in on their conversations, and getting them into trouble with my big mouth! I went to school for eleven years, then spent three years helping out at home. During this time I dated and later married a young farmer, Arthur, son of Raoul Huberdeau and Dorothy Hudon. I loved the land, and always wanted to be a farmer's wife! We bought a farm from the Wilson Bros. and settled into our home. We had three daughters, Rachel 1963, Edith 1966 and Suzanne in 1969. In 1974 we adopted a son, Constant Arthur Joseph, to complete our family.

Our twenty years of farm life brought many joys and sorrows. For 15 years, we milked cows for a living with hired help, usually cousins or nephews. We had many guests, thanks to 4-H and Melo-Mani, a French club. Once we were hosts for a couple from France who were on a tour of the west. Arthur enjoyed entertaining, and he always took time to visit with guests and friends.

In January of 1981, Arthur was not feeling well and when his condition did not improve, he was rushed to Winnipeg. Within six weeks, he passed away from a disease, known as hemochromatosis. This was a sad time for our family. I continued to live

on the farm, and found work as a secretary of the St. Lazare School. With Rachel, and later, Edith away at boarding school in Prince Albert, it was lonely on the farm. In May of 1982, I went on a tour of Rome and France with the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary



Roberta (Simard) and Arthur Huberdeau, Rachelle. Front: Constant, Edith and Suzanne.

for the beatification of their foundress, Marie Rivier. I returned, feeling more able to accept my life.

Not long after, through my sister Rhea, I was offered a job as Religious Co-ordinator at Ste. Anne's Parish in Flin Flon. I sold the farm to my brothers, packed and moved north to be near my two sisters, Rhea and Cecile.

Huberdeau, Paul Theodore by Cecile Huberdeau

Paul was born in St. Lazare, son of Rosario and Eugenie Guay on December 30, 1914. He took all his schooling at Ellice School, which was about a quar-



Paul Huberdeau Family; Ernest, Rosario, JeanPaul, Cécile, Phillipe, Rémi, Roger and Hector. Front Row: Marie Anne, Christine Carmelle, Leo (1975).

ter mile from his home. In 1943 he married Cecile Marie Perrault who was born in Ste. Marthe on March 25, 1921. We settled on a quarter section, east of St. Lazare, which was the former Harris place. In the spring of 1944 we moved to a three-quarter section farm two miles north-east, section 22-17-28, the former Hunter Place. The house on this place was built of brick which had originally been hauled by horse and trailer from Manson. The first year we farmed with horses, then got into tractor-pulled machinery. We had good crops and got by with mixed farming. We had a very busy life raising eight sons and three daughters. The school years were the most difficult, the three eldest were going to Ellice country school. When it closed down, they drove by horse and buggy to attend Decorby School and four of them boarded in the Convent for a few years. The building of the new school and the addition of school buses, put an end to our troubles. The boys all helped with chores and field work but were soon grown and some of them left home. In 1973 we rented our land to our eldest son. We rented a small house in St. Lazare from Frank O'Keefe, the former Henry Dupont home which was built by him. In 1974 we sold our farm and purchased this house which was situated on the side of the east hill. When Highway Department rebuilt the hill, they had us move the house and we located it on lot 39 on Guay Ave. Paul died May 9, 1975. The children are now all married and residing from Vancouver to Halifax. I enjoy my 22 grandchildren.

Jean-Paul — as written by "J.P." was born in 1944 on January 27. Suzanne Solange Marie Guenette was born July 23, 1953 in St. Boniface. We were married May 6, 1972 in St. Lazare and started our life together in an 8' by 52' mobile home situated on NE 22-17-28. We have moved to and from the farm five times in ten years. I farmed my father's land on my own for the past nine years. I am no longer farming but am presently employed by Paul Sala Construction. I am a member of the Knights of Columbus Council in St. Lazare. Suzanne is presently employed as Secretary for Fouillard Implement Exchange and an active leader of Girl Guides. In August of 1976, we made application for adoption. Melanie Marguerite, now four and a half years old was born February 28, 1978, and became our daughter on April 21, 1978. Our first son, Daniel Armand was born July 5, 1979; Damien Alfred, was born on July 17, 1981. We are very happy here in St. Lazare and are proud to be one of the families in the Rural Municipality of Ellice.

Reme born in 1945, has been in the navy since he was 18. He married Linda Pickren of Halifax — they

have two children. **Rosario** born in 1946 joined the army when he was 17. He served in Cypress and Germany, and is now stationed in England. He married Jacqueline Campbell of Calgary. They have two children. **Phillip** had been employed as a seasonal rider for the Community Pasture at Welby, Sask. for two years when he met Gladys Jeffers of McAuley, Manitoba. They married on October 21, 1976. He continued employment and enjoyed his three years of riding with Ernie Grona. In November, 1968, their first daughter Jeri-Lynn was born. Seeking full-time employment, they moved to St. Lazare to work in the garage for his uncle, Andre Perreault. After two years, they moved to Brandon where Phil took an Auto Body course. While there, their second daughter, Keri-Lynn was born. After completion of his course they came back to St. Lazare to work another three years at Andre's Auto Body. In 1975, Phil decided to purchase his own business and bought the Auto Body Shop in Birtle, formerly owned by Cliff Asselstine. Until that time Gladys had worked part time at Lemoine's Snack Bar, but she, too, decided to take a course. In 1976, Gladys went to Brandon to study hairdressing. She operated her business from her home for two years in St. Lazare until they bought a home in Birtle and moved in 1979. Gladys still operates her hair dressing business from their home.

Living only twelve miles away, they are able to visit St. Lazare often.

Roger born in 1949, married Elaine Stewart of McAuley. They lived in Thompson, Brandon and are now in Abbotsford, B.C. where he works as a welder. They have two children. **Ernest** born in 1951, married Janet Parobec of Foxwarren. They lived in Thompson for a few years, but now live in Brandon where Ernest works as a body shop man. They have two children. **Hector** born in 1953 married Sylvie Howard of Montreal. Sylvie is teaching at Shilo, while Hector is taking a machinist course in Brandon. They have two children. **Marie Anne** was born in 1954 and married Tom Barnes of Birtle, where they farm. They have two children. **Carmelle** was born in 1956 and is married to Howard Zimmer of Russell. They live at Grimshaw, Alta. where Howard works on oil rigs. They have three sons. **Christine** born in 1959 married Tom Scantlebury of Birtle. They live on a farm and have two children. **Leo** born in 1961 married Betty Anne Fouillard. They live in Edmonton where Leo is working on oil rigs.

Huberdeau, Leonard and Noella

Leonard, son of Rosario and Eugénie Huberdeau, was born October 21, 1921. He was educated at



Leonard and Noella Huberdeau and Family.

Ellice and in the village school of St. Lazare.

He was called to the Armed Forces in 1943 and served in Canada for three years, then returned home to help on the farm. He married Noëlla Perreault, daughter of Edmond and Marguerite Perreault, on October 21, 1946, in St. Lazare R.C. Church. They settled on E½ 23-17-28. It had been purchased by his father from Joe Gabriel of Foxwarren. Leonard and Noëlla farmed for twenty-five years and inherited a quarter of section 15 in 1970. In 1973 they leased their land for several years with the exception of a quarter of section 15. They sold that quarter to purchase Ben Fouillard's house which was owned by Mrs. Robert Lemoine. They then moved their family of six to start life in town. They missed the tranquility of farm life but nevertheless enjoyed being in close proximity to people. After leaving the farm, in 1970, Leonard went to work for C.N.R. for a few years. He then took a job on Crew 28 on P.F.R.A. and has now been employed at the Potash Mine for the past six years. In the meantime, Noëlla, still busy with the family, managed to get involved in community activities. She helped with the Ladies' Auxiliary and has been a 4-H group leader in sewing for ten years. She also managed to do some baby-sitting for working mothers.

Both Leonard and Noëlla look forward to retirement in a few years, but are very thankful for what they have and ask blessings for their family in the future.

Children of Leonard and Noëlla Huberdeau:

Edmond (July, 1947), left school after Grade VII in St. Lazare to work on the farm with his father. He worked for C.C.I.L. in Birtle and married Juliette Desrosiers in 1967. In 1972 they moved to Wetaskiwin, Alberta where Edmond trained as a heavy duty mechanic with C.C.I.L. and became foreman in the Tar Sands, Alberta. He is presently employed in the same capacity for Commonwealth Construction Co. in Edmonton. They have two children; Joel (1968) and Genevieve (1970). Juliette is working as secretary to the Provincial Probation Department in Wetaskiwin, where they reside.

Emile (Nov. 1948), left after Grade VII in St. Lazare to continue his education at "Le Petit Séminaire" in St. Boniface. He graduated from St. Boniface College with a B.A. and subsequently received a Bachelor of Social Work Degree in 1973. He is presently employed by the Child Guidance Clinic of Greater Winnipeg. In 1971 he married a nurse, Elaine Phaneuf of Ste. Agathe, where they live, with their three children — Lisa (1974), Patrick (1976) and Mireille (1979). Elaine is presently studying at the U. of M. to complete a Bachelor of Nursing Degree.

Marguerite (June 1950), left after Grade XI at St. Lazare to help at home. She worked as a homemaker for a young family in St. Lazare and Ste. Marthe, and later as a waitress for the Royalite Cafe in Russell until she married Ken Jeffers of McAuley in 1968. They have four children — Peggy Dawn (1970), Charles (1971), Kenneth (1974) and Tannis (1980). They live in Gilbert Plains where Ken is employed by the United Grain Growers. He owns and operates a 24-hour custom work business and Marguerite assists in the business.

Aurore (Dec. 1951) left after Grade XI at Birtle Collegiate to do domestic work for a time before taking a Stenographic course at Red River College. She worked for a Fast Food Restaurant chain in Winnipeg and married Daniel Martin of that city in 1975. They reside there with their children, Rebecca (1975), JoAnne (1979), and Sara (1981). Daniel, a U. of M. graduate, is employed as a councillor at the Canada Employment Centre, and Aurore works part time.

Denise (April 1953), finished Grade XII at Birtle and took Practical Nurse's Training working at The Pas and Edson, Alberta. In 1975, she married Edwin Fossheim, a rancher at Edson. They have two children — Christopher (1976) and Kirk (1979). Denise works parttime in the hospital, at Edson.

Anita (Sept 1954) see Gilles Chartier history.

Therese (March 1956) married Ron Edmundson April 1975, and had three children; Dale Joseph William (1975), Cindy Ann Noëlla and James Joseph Leonard (1979 — deceased at 22 days). Therese and the children live with her parents at St. Lazare.

Ovide (July, 1957), received his Grade XII at Birtle. He worked part-time while training to be an Auto Body Builder at Andres in St. Lazare and later was employed by Philip's Auto Body Shop in Birtle. He has since found employment as a carpenter in the Calgary area. He is un-married.

Gracia (Aug. 1959), received her Grade XII at Birtle. After being a nanny to the Ron Clement family she took bookkeeping at Assiniboine Community College and again in 1981 graduated from A.C.C. as a cosmetologist. She is presently employed by M'Lord and M'Lady Marlborough Inn Winnipeg.

Luc (June 1962), received Grade XII in Birtle and is employed on an oil rig for Spartan Drilling Co. In Jan. 1983, he married Liane Garnett (a legal secretary) of Russell and they reside in Winnipeg.

Alma (Dec. 1963) was employed after Grade XII in Winnipeg for Home Care for a time. She is presently taking a course in Social Work at A.C.C.

Edgar (June 1965), left school after Grade X to work for his brother-in-law Ken Jeffers as a partner in

the Custom work business. He wants to better his skill as a machine mechanic.

Huberdeau, Louis and Jeanne

Louis, son of Rosario Huberdeau and Eugenie Guay, was born April 10, 1924 at the farm house where he now resides four miles east of St. Lazare on NE 3-17-28. Louis is the eighth child of a family of twelve. His education was obtained at Ellice School which was situated about two hundred yards from his house. Louis' childhood was quite active with farm oriented activities and also with having a rink on the farm, the most prominent sports soon became skating and hockey. Louis developed into quite a goalie with the only drawback being equipment. His pads were a Simpson and Eaton catalogue on each leg and worn out felt boots served as remainder of the padding. At the age of 16, Louis left school and started his new career, that of a farmer. His dream had been to become a jockey but soon that was forgotten and he became totally wrapped up in the demanding duties involved in large scale mixed farming. At the age of 21 he had the good fortune of meeting a young girl from Ste. Agathe, Man. who had to come to St. Lazare to help her sister in law, Marie Fenez. They first met when they became godparents for the new born child and one year later they were married in Ste. Agathe, Man. on May 25, 1946. The girl's name was Jeanne.

I, Jeanne, daughter of Martial Fenez of Malvina (Peloquin) was born on June 5, 1924. I was number 5 in a family of 13, eight boys and 5 girls. I went to a country school about a mile from home for the first eight years and my grade IX was taken at St. Charles Academy in Winnipeg. I left school the year after to help Mother who had given birth to twin daughters. I learned early to bake huge batches of bread weekly and to churn butter. We were lucky enough to have a gas washing machine but there were huge amounts of ironing to be done, especially men's white cotton shirts. Our home was always open to relatives and friends and was the scene of many parties and gatherings. Living close to the river (Red River) provided myself and family with access for swimming, and boating and skating and sledding. Later I worked in different homes as a hired girl. In 1945 I came to St. Lazare to work and this is where I met and wed Louis Huberdeau. After Louis and I were married we stayed with Marie and Arthur Fenez for a few months before moving in September to the paternal home on the farm NE 3-17-28. Leonard, one of Louis' brothers, was married in October but Alexandre and Rene lived with us until they were married. Living near Ellice school, we boarded the school-teachers who were successively Lea Levesque, Hortense Fillion

(Mrs. Denis Fouillard), and Alma Desrosiers (Mrs. Joseph Perreault). We enjoyed their company and they were good enough to be our babysitters at times. Louis always employed a farm hand so we were never actually alone with the family. Our home was famous for its house parties, held during the Christmas holidays. Our musicians were Bill Leclair, George Houle, Louis Fleury, Charlie Prescott and Arthur Fenez on the harmonica. Arthur and Niggy Simard used to 'call' the square dances. Parents came with their children. Constant Fouillard would come from town, bringing good dancers, such as the Chartier girls. The good male dancers were Maurice, Joe, and Paul Prescott plus Jeannot Florentin, a French immigrant who now lives in Nassau. Our regular card players, the Eugene Simards and Antonio Deschambaults would come by sleigh in every kind of weather. Louis and Jeanne added to their holding in 1966 by buying Leopald Chartier's half-section E 11-17-28 for \$25,000. In 1969, they went into the dairy farming business until 1977 when their sons Adrien and Claude took over the management. They built a new barn with a milking parlor with self-feeding facilities. For years, Louis was involved in the community as school trustee, director of the Credit Union, on the board of the Farmers Union and is a Knight of Columbus member as well as an ardent hockey fan. Jeanne is very involved with the Ladies' Auxiliary and now devotes some time to the Scout organizations as well as the Liturgy committee.

We were blessed with eight children:

Lorraine 1947 (See Ivan Tremblay's story).

Gisele born Nov. 18 in 1948 attended school at Ellice and St. Lazare and graduated in Winnipeg from St. Charles' Academy. She took a business course but kept on with her music and is teaching piano. Gisele married Ron Maitre, on May 26, 1970, an ex-employee of our local Bank of Montreal, who now works as manager of a Firestone store. Ron and Gisele live in St. Vital with their family of three children; Melanie, Justin and Roland. **Jacinthe** born Feb. 6, in 1951 attended Ellice and St. Lazare schools. After leaving school she worked in restaurants in St. Lazare and Brandon. She married Marc Tremblay, son of George Tremblay and Eva Roy, on Dec. 26, 1970. They live in Schreiber, Ont. where Marc is employed as engineer for CPR. They have two children, Marc and Claude. **Denis** born June 24, 1953 went to school in St. Lazare, Inglis and spent four years at Notre Dame College in Wilcox, Sask. He is employed as underground surveyor at the potash mine in Rocanville. In 1979, he purchased "La Cremette", cafe in town and bought George (Petit) Tremblay's house which is now located on SE 7-17-28. **Ronald** born Aug. 22, 1955 (see own story.)

Adrien born Dec. 30, 1956 attended school in St. Lazare but left school early to help on the farm. He however took upgrading and manages his own book-keeping. He is in partnership with Claude on the home farm. **Claude** — see own story. **Leonne** born May 13, 1963 attended school in St. Lazare, took high school at Rivier Academy in Prince Albert, Sask. where she graduated in 1981. She now lives at home with her parents and is involved in several community activities.

Huberdeau, Ronald and Joanne

Ronald Jean-Marc Joseph was born August 22, 1955 in Russell Hospital. He attended St. Lazare, St. Boniface and Birtle schools. He enjoys taking part in sports, especially hockey and basketball, and really loved horse-back riding. One summer he was fortunate in going to New Brunswick on a student exchange trip. Other summers he worked on his dad's farm, or for Venance Deschambault, or Denis Simard. After quitting school he worked for several years on the CNR as a Crane Operator. Ron and Margaret **Joanne** Norrie were married October 12, 1974 in St. Lazare. They lived in Brandon in their own mobile home where Joanne was working as a Registered Psychiatric nurse at the Brandon Mental Health Centre. Ron took a Heavy Duty Mechanics course at ACC and then worked for Frank Lawson and Sons until they moved to Isabella. They lived on a rented farm for four years until recently when they bought their own home in the town of Isabella. They now own 1½ sections of land and Ron has built up a herd of Limousin-Charolais cattle. They have four boys; **Leigh, Joel and Daniel** (twins) and **Jamie**. Ron and Joanne really enjoy their community and are kept busy with their farm and small children.

Huberdeau, Claude and Shannon by Shannon

On February 22, 1959 Claude Robert Joseph was born to Louis and Jeanne Huberdeau, youngest son in a family of eight. At a very young age, Claude developed a love for the farm, helping his dad with chores in winter and field work in summer. Claude's love for farming would later in life become his main occupation. He attended St. Lazare School, but left school in order to help on the farm full time. In January of 1978 Claude met Shannon Marie Tataryn. I was born on March 26, 1962 in Snow Lake, Man. daughter of Rose and Peter Tataryn. Following the death of my father in 1967 and after Mom became a Stenographer we moved to Russell in 1971. This became my permanent home before leaving for University in 1980. I attended school in Snow Lake for grade I and II. Grade III was taken at St. Edward's school and Major Pratt in Russell. After completing

high school in 1980, I moved to Winnipeg, taking my Bachelor of Education degree, which I am presently completing.

Claude and I were married on June 5, 1982 and in the fall I resumed my studies at the university.

Today, Claude and I make our home near the site of Ellice School.

Huberdeau, Rene and Marguerite

Rene was born January 22nd, 1928, the youngest of nine children born to Rosario and Eugenie Huberdeau. He attended Ellice school, a quarter of a mile away from home, where there was only one teacher, Leonne Bourbonnais, for all grades.

Rene worked on the family farm until he was twenty. On October 17, 1949 he married Marguerite Blouin, born September 10, 1930 to Jean-Adam and Gracia Blouin. His father-in-law also farmed near St. Lazare, but on the other side of the river. It was a custom for Rene to wave a flag to warn Marguerite that he was coming to court her.

Marguerite was the thirteenth of nineteen children. She attended Decorby School in St. Lazare which was two miles from home. Rain or shine they had to walk to school. Her brother, Fernand, was responsible to get them there safely, especially in the winter. If they felt brave, they would walk through the cemetery, which really shortened the distance to their destination. After finishing school, she boarded at her sister's house (Alma Chartier) in town and worked in Robert Chartier's cafe for the grand sum of \$30 a month.

Rene and Marguerite's wedding took place in St. Lazare Roman Catholic Church. The maid of honor was Rita Blouin and Laurier Decelles was best man. The reception was held at Mr. and Mrs. Fortunat Chartier's and the newlyweds then left for their honeymoon in Winnipeg. On their return, they settled on a farm, formerly owned by Gerard Gouegon, 26-17-28 located seven miles north of St. Lazare. They spent their evenings visiting neighbours, brothers Paul and Leonard or playing cards at Eugene Simards.

Their first child, Angele, was born August 3, 1950 and Guy, was born on January 26, 1954. Following them were Geraldine April 16, 1956, Patricia June 21, 1957, Nicholas December 6, 1958, Robert September 21, 1960, Camille July 5, 1962 and Joseph June 8, 1964. Now with eight children, the little two-bedroom house was getting crowded, so with the help of Joseph Blouin and Denis Laferriere, the house was made bigger in 1964. With a larger house there was room for one more, so Alain was born on April 23, 1970.

In 1972, after expanding the barn, Rene started

dairy farming. He retired eight years later and sold the farm to two of his sons. Rene and Marguerite still live on the farm and intend to do so a while longer.

Of the nine children only Angele moved away. After obtaining a C.N.A. nursing degree, she worked in Gravelbourg where she met and married Paul Bourassa on June 3, 1972. They now live in Regina and have two children Chad, born in 1973 and Kevin in 1976. Guy graduated from grade XII in 1972 and settled on the family farm in 1979 after working at several jobs. Geraldine married Robert Lindsay of Foxwarren on September 28, 1974. They now live in St. Lazare and have three sons, Jeremy, Joey and Michael. Patricia married to Blaine Woodhouse on November 6, 1976, lives on a farm at Binscarth and has two children, Christopher and Jamie. Nicholas has been on the farm since 1980. Robert married Ruth Belhumeur on July 5, 1980 and now lives in Russell. They have one son, Ryan. Joseph works on the farm for his two brothers Guy and Nicholas and Alain the youngest is still in school.

Huberdeau, Alexandre and Paulette

Alexandre was born September 23, 1925, the tenth child and fifth son of Rosario and Eugenie Huberdeau. He attended Ellice School and completed Grade VIII. He left school after this to help on the family farm. At the age of 26 he moved to his own farm, ¼ SE 14-17-28 where he lived for two years as a bachelor. On October 10, 1953 Alexandre married Paulette Fenez of Ste. Agathe, Manitoba. Paulette and her twin sister Colette (Mrs. Andre Huberdeau) were the youngest children of Martial and Malvina Fenez, of Ste. Agathe. Alexandre and Paulette continued farming, adding to the original farm in August of 1969, SW 2-17-28 and in June of 1972, NW 25-16-28. In 1972 the dairy side of the farm expanded to shipping milk. Alexandre is a member of the Knights of Columbus and Paulette a member of the Ladies Auxiliary.

Alexandre and Paulette have four sons. **Jacques** the eldest, was born November 30, 1954. He married Laurina Cook of Moosomin, Sask, on June 11, 1982 and they have one son, Owen. Both Jacques and Laurina are employed at the Rocanville Potash Mine and live on the home farm. **Henri** was born October 31, 1955. He is married to Donna Pateman of McAuley. Henri is also employed at the Rocanville Mine and lives in McAuley. **Marcel** was born March 31, 1959. He lives at home and is farming with his father. **Marc** was born March 27, 1965, he also lives at home and is in Grade XII at Birtle High School.

Huberdeau, Alex

Soon after the writing of this family history,

Paulette returned to the hospital for treatments, but she lost her long fight against cancer and died on March 19th. During those years, the courage with which she faced every situation was an inspiration to all who knew her. She will be sadly missed and lovingly remembered by the whole community.

Peu de temps apres la soumission du compte-rendu de la famille, Paulette dut retourner à l'hôpital suivre des traitements mais sans succès. Elle mourut le 19 mars, victime du cancer contre lequel elle avait vaillamment combattu pendant trois ans. Notre peine est profonde mais le souvenir de son courage et de sa résignation restera avec nous pour toujours pour nous aider dans nos propres épreuves.

Huberdeau, Léon

by Pierre Huberdeau

Léon, son of Pierre and Anna (Aubertin) Huberdeau was born in St. Hubert, Quebec on February 15, 1899 and came to St. Lazare with his father in 1903. He combined schooling and working on his father's farm.

In 1917, he took a homestead on NW ¼ 27-17-29. He married Marie Antoinette Plante, daughter of Amable Plante and Bernadette Rajotte on November 12, 1924 in Ste. Marthe, Saskatchewan. Antoinette was born in Nicolet, Québec, on October 19, 1906. Leon and Marie lived on the family farm, staying with his father until he retired in 1937. They had two sons Pierre and André. In 1941, Leon purchased his first tractor from Donald Bulger who was the agent at that time. It was a Fordson on steel wheels because during war years rubber was scarce. His farming combined grain growing with raising beef cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry, also milking as many as twenty one cows. He had a hired man until 1953, because he owned ten quarters of land. He was on the school board and church committee. In 1953, he purchased the first black and white television in the district from John Braendle of Binscarth. This attracted neighbors and people from town to watch hockey games on Saturday nights and although reception was not too clear, it was thought to be great! Such a change by today's standards, with color and so many channels from which to choose! That same year, he had a new house built by Wilfred Peloquin and sons. They enjoyed their new home for only five years as Antoinette passed away on September 17, 1958. Léon moved back into his old house, giving son André the newer one and semi-retiring from the farm until his death on September 17, 1976.

Huberdeau, Pierre and Lillian

I, Pierre, son of Léon and Marie Antoinette Huberdeau (née Plante) was born at home at St.

Lazare on September 6, 1931; Mrs. Henrietta King was the mid-wife. I was baptized by Rev. Paul Emile Halde, and attended DeCorby School, having Sister Cecile Angela as a teacher. Forced to quit school in the seventh grade to help out on the farm, I certainly milked a lot of cows. I hauled buttermilk from the St. Lazare creamery with a horse-drawn wagon carrying a 200-gallon tank. This proved useless as this feed was found unsuitable for pigs. I've done my share of pitching sheaves into the threshing machine. However, work became easier as things were modernized. In 1949 we finally had electricity. In 1950, my father purchased from agent Ben Fouillard, a Case pull-type combine, which meant no more pitching of sheaves.

On June 2, 1953, I married Lillian Paradis, daughter of Arthur and Alice Paradis (nee Beaupré) of Dunrea, Manitoba. Lillian had been born on September 2, 1934 in Dunrea. In 1956, when my brother André got married and moved into the old farmhouse, we had a new house built on the SE¼ of 28-17-28, by Wilfred Peloquin of St. Malo. We are still living at this same place.

I became a member of the Knights of Columbus in 1959 and belonged to a sub-council until we formed our own council in St. Lazare. I belong to the church maintenance committee. I took up carpentry as a hobby and help out with 4-H projects. In 1977 I started renovating my house, adding a family room above a new garage.

Lillian is a member of the Ladies Auxiliary being secretary for two years. She is involved with 4-H, this being her tenth year. We have twelve children, eleven living, seven girls and four boys.

Doris — born June 21, 1954 worked in British Columbia and New Brunswick, and is a keyboard operator for Manitoba Pool head office in Winnipeg. She married Edward (Ted) Albo on October 27, 1978. Ted is employed by the Grain Commission in Winnipeg. Their son, Kevin, our only grandchild was born on November 2, 1981. **Lise** — born December 22, 1955 graduated from St. Boniface School of Nursing in 1975. She nursed at Winnipeg General Hospital in the Children's intensive care unit before transferring to Haiti in the Caribbean Islands for three years. Since her return she has been working at St. Boniface Hospital and was married to Ronald Peters of Winnipegosis on October 23, 1982. Ronald works for the Manitoba Telephone System. **Jocelyn** — born August 20, 1957 has been working in Winnipeg since she left school. **Celine** — born on November 4, 1958 worked for Great West Life and a car rental company in Winnipeg. She is now in Vancouver still working for a car rental company. **Camil** — born May 2, 1960, died at birth. **Richard**

— born August 14, 1961 was a member of Russell Air Cadet Squadron 677 for four years, before moving to Calgary, Alta. to seek and find employment. **Rose-Marie** — born on August 8, 1962 enjoyed 4-H, before working in Winnipeg. She is now with the Katimavik program waiting to get into Red River Community College as a nursing student. **Germain** — born January 15, 1965 was an air cadet for three years and was in 4-H. He is now taking Grade XII at Louis Riel Collegiate in St. Boniface. **Omer** — born January 22, 1966 was an air cadet, and was in 4-H, also, and like his brother is attending Louis Riel Collegiate taking Grade XI. **Marcella** — born March 25, 1967 was in Girl Guides and 4-H and is now taking her Grade X at Rivier Academy in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. **Yvan** — born May 31, 1968 is an altar boy, a Boy Scout and in 4-H. He is taking Grade VIII in St. Lazare. **Odette** — born October 15, 1971 is a Girl Guide and in 4-H, taking Grade VI in St. Lazare.

As you see, with this many children there has never been a dull moment. We farmed until 1978, when our land was rented, and I am now employed in Rocanville at the Potash Mine.

Huberdeau, André

I was born in August 1937 son of Leon Huberdeau and Antoinette Plante. I started school in St. Lazare with Sister Cecile Angela as my first teacher. After school, I had to go right home to help with the farm chores. In 1950, my parents decided to send me to St. Boniface College. At 13 years of age, I spent three lonely months before I settled down to college life. During my three years' stay there, I made many friends and had new experiences in the big city. In 1953, I returned to the family farm, where my parents had built a new home. My older brother Pierre was married in 1953 and was living in the old house which my grandfather had built. With my brother as a partner I started farming. In October, 1956, I married Colette Fenez from Ste. Agathe, Manitoba. When my brother Pierre built himself a new home, we took over grandfather's house (NE¼ 17-17-28). Our daughter **Louise**, was born in 1957. After attending school in St. Lazare and Birtle, she graduated in 1975, and was employed by the Bank of Montreal. Louise is married to Jean-Paul Chartier. For her story see Chartier, J. P. and Louise. In November 1958, two months after my mother's death, **Joel** was born. After completing school he was hired as an oil rigger. Today he is working on the Trans-Canada Pipeline. **Lionel** was born in 1960; after his graduation he started working for C.N.R. where he still is. In 1962, **Roland** was born; he is still at home and works locally. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Mona was born in 1964. After attending school for two years at Rivier Academy in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, Mona is attending Birtle Collegiate. She is active in 4-H and sports. In August, 1969 **Monique** was born. She is attending junior High School in St. Lazare and is active in Girl Guides, and different sports. I am a member of the Athletic Association, the Knights of Columbus since its inauguration in 1960. I was school trustee for five years, municipal councillor for four years, and in charge of renovation of the parish hall. I am presently a member of the Liturgical Committee of our church. My wife, Collette, spends her time in the garden which produces more than she can handle. She is a member of the Ladies Auxiliary, and is involved with the girl guides and the 4-H Club.

Huberdeau, Jean-Baptiste

Notre premier ancêtre au pays du Canada, et celui des familles Huberdeau, Hubardeau, Uberdeau, Dubardeau et Lafrance, était originaire de la paroisse de Saint Sulpice de Paris dans l'ancienne province française de la Seine, soit capitale de la France. Jean Baptiste était soldat dans le régiment de M. de Gannes, et c'est à ce temps qu'il vint au Canada. Comme tout soldat, il avait reçu un surnom, dit Lafrance, qu'il portait légal à son vrai nom. La seule preuve que nous avons de notre premier ancêtre au Canada est son mariage le 27 juillet, 1722 à Notre Dame de Montréal. Il épousait Charlotte, Gertrude Roulleau. Présents à ce mariage comme témoins, étaient Joseph Benoit, chirurgien et major des troupes de l'armée de la Nouvelle-France; Jean Jeanne; Jacques Cheval et Jacques Nepveu, prêtre. Jean-Baptiste passa toute sa vie à Montréal et c'est à l'église Notre Dame qu'il fit baptiser ses treize enfants. Ses descendants se sont multipliés dans les régions de Montréal, Ste. Anne des Plaines, St. Sauveur, St. Janvier, et l'ouest du Canada, soit l'Alberta et le Manitoba.

Le premier Huberdeau à venir dans l'ouest était Napoléon et sa femme Joséphine. Ils prirent un "homestead" à Saint Albert, Alberta en l'année 1888, élevant une famille de onze enfants qui se sont multipliés dans cette région.

Le second Huberdeau qui arriva dans l'ouest était Pierre et sa femme Anna, à Saint Lazare, Manitoba en l'année 1902.

Grand merci à Ivan Sarto (John) Huberdeau de St. Albert, Alberta, pour nous avoir fait parvenir l'histoire de notre ancêtre, Jean-Baptiste.

Huberdeau, Pierre

Pierre Huberdeau, fils de François Xavier Huberdeau et d'Esther Daignault, est né à Saint Hubert,

Québec, le 8 août 1858. Son épouse Anna Aubertin, fille de Louis Aubertin et de Mélina Robert, est née à Boucherville, Québec, le 10 janvier 1869. Ils se sont mariés à Saint Hubert en 1885, et demeurèrent sur une ferme dans cette région. Ils eurent sept enfants: Rosario, Rosianne (mariée à Origène Cadieux), Roméo, Lucienne (mariée à Placide Prescott), Antonia (mariée à Louis Guay), Léon et puis Diane (mariée à Albert Bouvier).

Pierre est arrivé du Québec le 22 mai 1902. Il acheta un carreau de terre, le sud-est du 17-17-28, d'Archibald McDonald qui était le facteur du fort Ellice. Ensuite, il retourna à St. Hubert pour vendre la terre qu'il possédait et revint au Manitoba l'année suivante avec sa famille pour prendre résidence à Saint Lazare sur la terre qu'il avait acquise l'année précédente. Il acheta d'autres terres dans les alentours. En 1925, il laissa la ferme paternelle à son garçon Léon, puis, déménagea au village. Il continua à travailler la terre jusqu'à sa retraite en 1937.

Anna, son épouse, est décédée à St. Lazare, Manitoba le 18 novembre 1942. Pierre est décédé le 8 décembre 1943.

Huberdeau, Rosario et Eugénie

Rosario, né le 27 septembre 1885, fils de Pierre Huberdeau et Anna Aubertin, naquit à Boucherville, Québec. A l'âge de dix-sept ans, en 1902, Rosario et son père vinrent à St. Lazare pour acheter un "homestead". Pierre acheta SW 22-17-29 et Rosario en prit un sur la plaine SW 4-18-29. En 1903 ils retournèrent au Québec pour aller chercher la famille.

En 1906 Rosario commença à fréquenter une jeune fille et la maria en 1907. Il s'agissait de Eugénie (Ti-Soeur) Guay, fille d'Ovide Guay et Evangéline Simard, née le 16 juin, 1889 et originaire du Lac St. Jean, Québec. Durant leurs premières années de mariage, ils habitaient dans une cabane de rondins qui appartenait à son père.

Plus tard en 1910, il acheta une section 3-17-28, l'autre terrain étant trop léger pour produire de bonnes récoltes. Les enfants sont tous nés dans la maison qui existait sur cette ferme, sauf Odile née en 1929 et qui mourut à la naissance. Plus tard la maison fut vendue et déménagée par M. Richard Dale. En 1928, Pierre Roy bâtit une maison pour Rosario et Eugénie. C'était une maison spacieuse à deux étages avec véranda, avec bon système de chauffage à eau mais ce qui était étonnant ne possédait pas l'eau courante.

Eugénie eut tous ses enfants à la maison seulement avec l'aide de sage-femmes, entre autres Mmes Decelles et King. Elle nécessairement fut obligée de travailler très fort n'ayant pas d'électricité et de commodités comme on connaît aujourd'hui. Avec de



Rosario et Eugénie Huberdeau avec Simone.

nombreux employés elle en envoya de nombreux repas dans les champs! Un de ses loisirs (si nous pouvons appeler cela loisirs) était de carder de la laine pour faire des couvrepieds. Elle en faisait aussi en coton blanc qu'elle brodait et se faisait aider par ses filles en écoutant la radio. Un de ses programmes préférés était "One Man's Family" qui passait aux ondes le soir. Un des seuls voyages d'agrément qu'Eugénie prit fut pour aller visiter sa soeur Yvonne Bourret à Lebreton, Saskatchewan en compagnie de son frère David (Blanc) Guay, Antonio (Degré), Josephine Deschambault et Berthe (bébé). Il pleuvait à pleins seaux et sur les chemins de terre, l'auto patinait d'un côté à l'autre du chemin. Ti-Soeur, épuisée ne jouissait pas trop de son voyage mais fit rire les autres avec ses invocations à la Bonne Sainte Anne tandis que son frère tout énervé de conduire dans la température inclemente, sortait tous les saints du ciel mais non en prières. Ces invocations furent en vain car, une voiture qu'il rencontra dut prendre le fossé pour le laisser passer. C'est peut-être pour cette raison qu'Eugénie n'entreprit pas d'autres voyages avec David.

Eugénie et Rosario, tout en travaillant très fort cependant trouvaient le temps de s'amuser. Pendant l'hiver ils avaient souvent des soirées musicales sur-

tout à l'époque où Léonne Bourbonnais (Mme Frank Dale) pensionnait là. Avec son talent et celle de la voisine Mme Decelles et ceux de M. Paul et Joseph Tremblay, on passait d'agréables soirées. Sans le savoir ce furent leurs plus beaux jours de leur vie. Alice, leur petite invalide, mourut en 1939 à l'âge de seize ans et déjà la santé d'Eugénie n'était pas tellement bonne. Elle mourut en 1945 et laissa un gros vide dans la famille. Après sa mort Rosario déménagea au village avec sa fille Simone dans une maison où habite maintenant son petit-fils Jean-Marc Chartier.

Rosario eut beaucoup de succès dans ses entreprises. Au cours des années il acheta beaucoup de terrain pour finalement posséder six sections de terre qu'il a plus tard léguées à ses enfants. Il employa toujours plusieurs hommes pour le travail des champs surtout pour défricher le terrain et plus tard ramasser des roches parce que le sol était plutôt rocailleux. Ses employés et enfants se souviennent d'avoir conduit un tracteur avec roues de fer qui ébranlaient tous les os du corps. Toutefois Rosario fut un innovateur car il acquit en 1946 la première moissonneuse-batteuse (Minneapolis-Moline) parmi les fermiers de St. Lazare.

En 1937, il prit possession d'une voiture neuve, une Chevrolet, qu'il avait gagnée sur des options de ventes de grain. C'est une fois qu'il fut chanceux car jouer le marché n'est pas toujours rentable. Quand Rosario se rendait à Winnipeg pour ces marchés il logeait à "La Frontenac" hôtel fréquenté par les Canadiens-Français. Plus tard quand l'hôtel fut démolie il descendait à l'hôtel Tourist lors de ses voyages à la ville.

En 1947-48, Rosario donna son support financier pour construire deux ponts de chemin de fer sur la rivière Assiniboine, un à St. Lazare et l'autre à Minn-ota.

Au point de vue communautaire, il fut commissaire pendant de nombreuses années à l'école Ellice et fut responsable pour obtenir une maîtresse canadienne-française pour enseigner à ses enfants.

Rosario était un bel homme et était toujours soigné dans son apparence. Il aimait beaucoup à taquiner les autres mais acceptait la même chose en échange. Il était toujours affable et courtois avec ses amis et avec les étrangers.

Sa fille, Simone, s'étant mariée en 1948, Rosario vécut seul de nombreuses années jusqu'à sa mort qui eut lieu le 17 juin, 1970.

Huberdeau, Louis et Jeanne

Louis Ovide, huitième enfant d'une famille de douze fut né le 10 avril, 1924, fils de Rosario et Eugénie (née Guay). Il fit ses études à l'école Ellice



Famille de Louis et Jeanne Huberdeau.

tout près de chez lui et fut ensuite pensionnaire au couvent des Soeurs de la Présentation de Marie pendant trois ans. Il retourna finir ses études à l'école Ellice.

Pendant sa jeunesse, Louis, ses frères et ses amis d'école organisaient des activités comme le baseball et le hockey. En hiver, ils construisaient une patinoire dans la cour de l'école Ellice pour jouer au hockey. Louis était le gardien de but pour leur équipe et son costume n'était pas dispendieux comme ceux d'aujourd'hui. Ses "pads" étaient fabriqués à la main avec des vieilles bottes de feutre. Les patins n'étaient pas neufs non plus car ils passaient de pieds en pieds à un autre membre de la famille à mesure qu'ils devenaient trop petits. Louis a toujours été et est encore un "hockey fan" et ce n'est pas souvent qu'il manque une joute sur la T.V. ou même à la patinoire.

Après ses études finies, il aida son père et ses autres frères sur la ferme. Ils avaient beaucoup de bêtes à cornes, des chevaux, et des cochons. En été ils avaient plusieurs vaches à traire et du terrain à travailler; à cette époque là tout se faisait encore avec les chevaux.

En février 1945, Louis rencontra donc, une jolie demoiselle de Ste. Agathe qui était venue aider à son frère Arthur et à sa femme Marie (soeur de Louis) avant la naissance de leur deuxième enfant.

Jeanne Alice Fenez fut née le 15 juin, 1924 et baptisée dans l'église catholique de Ste. Agathe par l'Abbé Elie Rocan. Elle était la cinquième d'une famille de treize enfants. Elle fit ses études à l'école St. Antoine à un mille de chez elle. Il fallait marcher à l'école matin et soir et ils étaient environ une vingtaine d'élèves des grades un à huit. Elle alla ensuite à l'Académie de St. Charles pour un an pour compléter sa neuvième année. Elle quitta ensuite l'école pour aider à sa mère qui venait de donner

naissance à des jumelles. Plus tard elle fut employée dans plusieurs familles qui avaient besoin d'une gardienne quand les mères allaient à l'hôpital pour leurs accouchements.

Louis et Jeanne furent mariés le 25 mai, 1946 à Ste. Agathe par Mgr. Clovis Paillé. Ils prirent la terre paternelle qui est localisée au NE 3-17-28 dans la municipalité d'Ellice. Pendant leurs premières années de mariage, Alexandre et René (frères de Louis) continuèrent à habiter avec eux jusqu'à leurs propres mariages.

Comme ils étaient tout près de l'Ecole Ellice, Louis et Jeanne prenaient les maîtresses d'école en pension. La première en 1946 fut Léa Levesque de Ste. Agathe, suivie en 1948 par Hortense Fillion de Oak Lake (Mme Denis Fouillard). En 1949, une autre demoiselle sous le nom d'Alma Desrosiers (Mme Joseph Perreault) de St. Boniface demeura avec eux pour deux ans. Elles étaient très charmantes, charitables et donnaient souvent de l'aide avec les enfants qui étaient déjà au nombre de trois. Comme vous voyez Louis et Jeanne n'ont jamais connu la vie à deux.

Pour une quinzaine d'années Louis remplit plusieurs capacités tels que secrétaire de l'école Ellice, commissaire de l'école à St. Lazare et directeur de la Caisse Populaire, membre du "Farmers' Union" et des Chevaliers de Colomb. Jeanne aussi fut et est encore active dans les dames auxiliaires, comité de liturgie, le 4-H, et le mouvement scout. Louis et Jeanne firent l'acquisition d'une demi-section de Léopold Chartier E 11-17-28, qui leur donna deux sections et demie de terrain. En 1969, ils transformèrent leur exploitation en ferme laitière jusqu'en 1979 quand leur fils Adrien et Claude prirent l'entreprise. Depuis ils ont bâti une nouvelle étable moderne pour faciliter leur travail.

Louis et Jeanne eurent huit enfants:

Lorraine née le 7 mars 1947 (Voir histoire de Ivan Tremblay).

Gisèle née le 18 novembre, 1948 fréquenta les écoles Ellice, St. Lazare, Académie St. Charles et gradua de l'Académie St. Joseph à St. Boniface où elle se spécialisa en musique. Elle prit un cours de sténographie après avoir fini ses études. Elle maria Ron Maitre, gérant d'un magasin Firestone à Winnipeg, le 16 mai, 1970. Ils ont trois enfants — Mélanie, Justin et Roland.

Jacinthe née le 6 février, 1951, fréquenta les écoles Ellice et St. Lazare. Elle maria Marc, fils de Georges Tremblay et Eva Roy le 26 décembre, 1970. Ils vivent à Schreiber, Ontario avec leurs deux fils Marc et Claude, où Marc Sr. est employé comme conducteur pour le CPR.

Denis né le 24 juin 1953, fréquenta l'école St.

Lazare, Inglis et quatre ans au Collège Notre Dame de Wilcox, Saskatchewan. Employé à la mine de Rocanville depuis dix ans comme arpenteur souterrain. Propriétaire de la Cremette, restaurant local. Il habite l'ancienne maison de Georges Tremblay qui est maintenant située sur le 7-17-28.

Ronald né le 2 août, 1955, fréquenta l'école St. Lazare et Collège St. Boniface. Il prit un cours de mécanicien, travailla pour un an dans ce nouveau métier pour revenir comme fermier à Isabella où il acheta une section et demie de terrain et fait l'élevage de bêtes à cornes. Il maria Joanne Norrie d'Isabella où ils demeurent avec leurs quatre fils Leigh, Joël et Daniel (jumeaux) et Jamie.

Adrien né le 30 décembre, 1956, alla à l'école à St. Lazare et dû quitter pour aider à son père sur la ferme. Il est maintenant partenaire avec son frère Claude sur la ferme paternelle. Il participe beaucoup à des sports durant ses loisirs.

Claude (Voir propre histoire).

Léonne née le 13 mai, 1963 fréquenta l'école à St. Lazare et gradua de l'Académie Rivier à Prince Albert, Saskatchewan en 1981. Elle habite avec ses parents.

Huberdeau, René et Marguerite

René Huberdeau, fils de Rosario et Eugénie naquit le 22 janvier, 1928. Il était le plus jeune de neuf enfants.

Il fréquenta l'école Ellice, petite école de campagne située à un quart de mille de chez eux, où Léonne Bourbonnais était la seule institutrice pour toutes les classes.

René travailla avec son père jusqu'à sa vingtième année. Le 17 octobre, 1949 il épousa Marguerite Blouin, fille de Jean-Adam et Gracia Blouin. Elle fréquenta l'école DéCorby qui était située deux milles de chez elle. Une fois ses études terminées, elle habita chez sa soeur Alma, au village pour travailler



Famille de René et Marguerite; Guy, Nicolas, Patricia, Robert, René, Marguerite, Angèle, Camille, Géraldine. Front — Joseph Alain.

au restaurant de Robert Chartier. Elle réalisait le gros salaire de trente dollars par mois.

Leur mariage eut lieu dans l'église catholique de St. Lazare avec Rita Blouin et Laurier Decelles comme témoins. A leur retour de leur lune de miel, ils s'installèrent sur une ferme située à environ sept milles du village. Ils passèrent leurs soirées à visiter leurs voisins, frères Paul et Leonard ou à jouer aux cartes chez Eugène Simard.

Leur premier né, Angèle naquit le 3 août, 1950, suivie de Guy, le 26 janvier, 1954 — Geraldine le 16 avril, 1956, Patricia le 21 juin, 1957, Nicholas le 6 décembre, 1958, Robert le 21 septembre, 1960, Camille le 5 juillet, 1962 et Joseph le 8 juin, 1964.

La maison, étant devenue trop petite, fut agrandie en 1964. Avec plus d'espace, on avait de la place pour un autre bébé et Alain fut né le 23 avril, 1970.

En 1972, René commença la vente de lait jusqu'en 1980 quand Guy et Nicholas achetèrent la ferme.

Tous les enfants, sauf Angèle, habitent dans les alentours. Elle réside à Regina, Saskatchewan avec son mari Paul Bourassa qu'elle rencontra à Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan où elle était garde-malade. Elle se maria le 3 juin, 1972 et a deux enfants, Chad et Kevin.

Guy gradua de l'école de Birtle en 1972 et après avoir eu différents emplois, s'établit sur la ferme en 1980 avec son frère Nicholas.

Geraldine maria Robert Lindsay de Foxwarren en 1974, habite à St. Lazare et a trois enfants, Jeremy, Joey et Michael.

Patricia, mariée à Blaine Woodhouse de Binscarth le 6 novembre, 1976 a deux enfants Christopher et Jamie (la seule petite-fille) et réside avec son mari sur une ferme.

Robert travaille dans la construction et reste à Russell avec sa femme Ruth Belhumeur et fils Ryan.

Joseph après avoir quitté l'école, travaille sur la ferme pour ses deux frères. Alain, le plus jeune, fréquente encore l'école.

Huberdeau, Arthur et Roberta

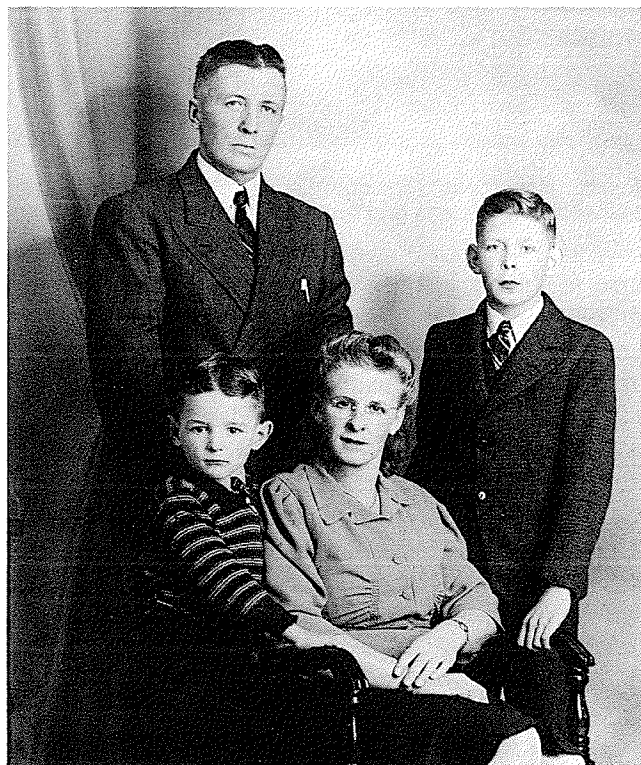
Je suis née Roberta, troisième enfant d'Eugène Simard et Rose-Anna Perreault le 3 mars 1940. J'ai été pensionnaire au couvent de Saint-Lazare pendant les onze années que j'ai fréquenté l'école. Les trois années suivantes furent passées à la maison pour aider à la besogne. J'ai ensuite marié un agriculteur Arthur, fils de Raoul Huberdeau et Dorothée Hudon. Nous avons eu trois filles, Rachelle née en 1963, Edith en 1966, et Suzanne en 1969. Au mois de juin 1974, un bébé adopté du nom de Constant vint compléter notre famille.

Nos vingt ans sur la ferme furent des années

remplies et heureuses. Nous avions une ferme laitière et nécessairement nous avions toujours des employés. Mon mari et moi jouissions de nombreux visiteurs au cours des années. Malheureusement, en janvier 1981, la santé d'Arthur commença à détériorer et six semaines plus tard il mourut d'une maladie rare connue sous le nom de "Hemochromatosis". L'année suivante, j'ai continué à habiter au même endroit et travailler comme secrétaire à l'école; Rachelle et Edith étaient pensionnaires à l'Académie Rivier de Prince Albert. En mai 1982, j'ai pris un voyage à Rome et en France avec les Soeurs de la Présentation à l'occasion de la béatification de leur fondatrice. Eloignée de la routine, j'ai eu le temps de réfléchir à ma situation et je suis revenue prête à entreprendre une nouvelle vie. C'est alors que l'offre me fut faite de devenir coordonnatrice pour la paroisse de St. Ann à Flin Flon. Sans plus de préambules, j'ai plié baggages et je me suis acheminée vers le Nord avec ma famille, jouissant encore une fois de la compagnie de mes deux soeurs Rhéa et Cécile qui habitaient déjà là.

Huberdeau, Léon par **Pierre Huberdeau**

Léon, fils de Pierre Huberdeau et d'Anna Aubertin, est né à Saint Hubert, Québec, le 15 février 1899 et vint à Saint Lazare avec son père en 1903. Il fréquenta l'école de St. Lazare et travailla avec son père aux travaux de la ferme. En 1917, il prit un



Léon and Marie-Antoinette Huberdeau avec Pierre et André.

"homestead" sur le carreau nord-ouest du 22-17-29. Léon épousa Marie-Antoinette Plante, fille de Amable Plante et de Bernadette Rajotte, le 12 novembre 1924 à Ste. Marthe, Saskatchewan. Antoinette est née à Nicolet, Québec, le 19 novembre 1906.

Ils se sont établis sur la ferme paternelle et eurent deux garçons, Pierre et André. Léon travailla avec son père jusqu'à la retraite de ce dernier en 1937. En 1941, Léon acheta son premier tracteur de l'agent, Donald Bulger, — "Fordson" avec des roues de fer, puisque c'était durant la deuxième guerre mondiale, il était impossible d'avoir des pneus. Il récoltait du blé, de l'orge et de l'avoine; en plus, il élevait des animaux à boeuf, des moutons, des cochons, des volailles et il avait aussi des vaches à lait. Il employait un homme à l'année ronde jusqu'en 1953. Durant ces années, il se procura jusqu'à dix carreaux de terre. Il fut commissaire d'école pour quelques années et syndic de l'église. Il fut le premier dans la région à avoir une télévision. La réception laissait à désirer mais en 1953, c'était encore tout nouveau pour la campagne, et c'était pour nous tous fantastique!

En 1953, il fit construire une nouvelle maison sur la ferme paternelle, par Wilfrid Peloquin et fils de St. Malo, Manitoba. Ils jouirent de leur nouvelle demeure pendant cinq ans seulement car Antoinette est décédée le 17 septembre 1958. Après la mort de son épouse, il reprit sa vieille maison et passa la nouvelle maison à son fils André. Il prit sa retraite en 1964. Il est décédé le 17 septembre 1976.

Huberdeau, Pierre

Je suis Pierre, fils de Léon Huberdeau et de Marie-Antoinette Plante, né le 6 septembre 1931, à Saint Lazare et baptisé par l'abbé Paul-Emile Halde, prêtre. J'ai commencé l'école à l'âge de sept ans à l'école Decorby avec soeur Cécile Angella. J'ai quitté l'école à la septième année car il fallait que je travaille sur la ferme parce qu'il y avait beaucoup d'ouvrage dans ces temps-là. Il fallait que j'aie



Famille de Pierre Huberdeau.

chercher du lait de beurre à la crèmerie de Saint Lazare avec les chevaux et un réservoir de deux cents gallons dans la voiture, pour soigner les cochons. Je me rappelle que j'ai commencé à traire les vaches à l'âge de huit ans, toutes à la main, car nous n'avions pas encore les machines à traire. Je prenais soin aussi des moutons et des volailles. Quand arrivait le temps des battages, la journée commençait à cinq heures et ne finissait jamais avant huit heures le soir. Nous n'avons eu l'électricité qu'en 1949. En 1950 nous avons acheté notre première moissonneuse-batteuse. Cela demandait moins de travail.

Je suis devenu membre des Chevaliers de Colomb en 1959 à Brandon. Maintenant j'appartiens au Conseil 5047 de Saint Lazare; je suis sur le comité de réparations à l'église. J'ai travaillé deux ans avec les jeunes dans le 4H. Pour passe-temps, je fais de la charpente. En 1977, j'ai fait une allonge à ma maison. J'ai bâti un garage et un salon au-dessus du garage.

Lillianne, ma femme, est membre des Dames Auxiliaires et fut secrétaire pendant deux ans du groupe de la campagne. Elle enseigne la couture aux jeunes de 4H.

Nous avons eu douze enfants, onze sont vivants — sept filles et quatre garçons.

Doris est née le 21 juin 1954. Elle travailla en Colombie Britannique et au Nouveau Brunswick pour un an, puis à Winnipeg dans les bureaux de "Manitoba Pool". Elle s'est mariée à Edouard Albo, le 27 octobre 1978. Ted travaille pour le "Grain Commission" à Winnipeg. Ils ont un garçon Kevin, né le 2 novembre 1981.

Lise est née le 22 décembre 1955. Elle a gradué garde-malade en 1975. Elle travailla à l'hôpital général de Winnipeg pour neuf mois puis elle alla au Haïti pendant trois ans. Depuis son retour, elle travaille à l'hôpital Saint Boniface. Elle s'est mariée à Ronald Peters de Winnipegosis, le 23 octobre 1982 à Winnipeg. Ronald est employé de "Manitoba Telephone System" à Winnipeg.

Jocelyne, née le 20 août 1957, travaille à Winnipeg. **Céline**, née le 4 novembre 1958, travaille pour "Great West Life" et "Dominion Vehicle Leasing". Elle fut transférée à Vancouver, Colombie Britannique en 1981. **Camille** né le 12 mai 1960, est décédé à sa naissance. **Richard**, né le 14 août 1961, travaille à présent à Calgary, Alberta. **Rose-Marie**, est née le 8 août 1962. Aujourd'hui elle est avec le programme Katimavik en attendant d'entrer au collège "Red River" pour suivre un cours de garde-malade. **Germain**, né le 15 janvier 1965, fait sa douzième année au collège Louis Riel à St. Boniface. **Omer**, né le 22 janvier 1966, est en onzième année au même collège Louis Riel. **Marcella**, née le 25 mars 1967 est en

dixième année à l'académie Rivier de Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. **Yvan**, né le 31 mai 1968, fréquente l'école de St. Lazare. **Odette**, née le 15 octobre 1971, fréquente aussi l'école de St. Lazare.

Les enfants furent toujours occupés dans les sports d'école, le hockey, le 4H, les scouts et guides — alors comme vous voyez, nous n'avons pas eu le temps de nous ennuyer. Je suis retiré de l'agriculture depuis 1978. Les terres sont louées aux voisins. Je suis maintenant employé à la mine de potasse de Rocanville, Saskatchewan.

Huberdeau, André et Colette

Je, André fils de Léon Huberdeau et Antoinette Plante, vis le jour le 12 août 1937, au petit hôpital de Birtle. Une pionnière de notre village, Mme Eva Tremblay, hospitalisée en même temps, fut la première personne à me prendre dans ses bras.

J'ai été baptisé le 22 août 1937 par l'abbé Jacques Bertrand; Paul Huberdeau et Mlle Marie Fouillard étant parrain et marraine.

Après avoir abandonné ma bouteille (on me dit



Famille Huberdeau; Monique, Louise, Roland, Joël, Mona, Lionel. Assis, Collette and André.

que je l'avais jusqu'à quatre ans) je commençai à fréquenter l'école à l'âge de six ans. Le "piqueur" me semblait comme une montagne, parce que je marchais à l'école chaque jour.

Le grade un était enseigné dans la sacristie de l'église. Soeur Cécile-Angela fut ma première institutrice. Soeur Béatrice, Soeur Catherine, Soeur Ste. Claire, Soeur Thomas, Soeur Thérèse du Sacré Coeur, Soeur Présentine, Soeur Ste. Anastasie, ont toutes contribué beaucoup à ma formation. Je les remercie aujourd'hui et j'étais très heureux de les revoir et de les fêter lors de leur cinquantenaire. Il ne fallait pas s'attarder après la journée d'école. Il fallait aider nos parents à l'ouvrage de la ferme.

En 1950, on décida de m'envoyer au Collège de Saint-Boniface. Jeune adolescent de 13 ans qui

n'avait jamais vu la grande ville, je fus émerveillé à mon arrivée au collège et en même temps un peu perdu. Après trois mois d'ennui intense, je m'y suis habitué. Je m'oublierai jamais les amis faits durant mon séjour de trois ans au collège et l'expérience et la formation que j'ai acquises à cet endroit.

En 1953, je décidai de quitter le collège pour revenir à la ferme paternelle où on avait fait des changements. Mon père avait construit une maison neuve. Mon seul frère Pierre s'était marié en 1953, et demeurait dans l'ancienne maison que mon grand-père avait construite. Je devins alors cultivateur et entra en association avec mon frère.

En 1955, je rencontre une belle fille de Sainte Agathe, Colette Fenez. Elle était venue aider à sa soeur jumelle Paulette qui demeurait déjà à Saint-Lazare. Après une année de fréquentation, on se maria le six octobre 1956, et on demeura dans la maison de mon grand-père (N.E. ¼ 17-17-28).

En 1957, Louise notre première est née. Elle a complété son école secondaire à Birtle. Aujourd'hui, Louise est mariée et mère de trois enfants; Serge, Sacha, Christian. Son mari Jean-Paul Chartier travaille à la mine de potasse de Rocanville.

En novembre 1958, deux mois après la mort subite de ma mère Antoinette, Joël est né. Après avoir complété ses études à l'école de Saint Lazare et de Birtle, il travaille sur les puits d'huile et la pipeline.

Lionel, né en 1960, a complété son école secondaire. Aujourd'hui, il travaille au C.N. La même année, mon père décida de retourner à sa maison paternelle, en nous laissant en échange sa maison construite en 1953.

En 1962, arrive Roland, qui est encore à la maison et travaille localement. Il est membre des Chevaliers de Colomb.

Mona est née en 1964. Elle a été active dans la 4-H. Après deux ans d'études secondaires à l'Académie Rivier de Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, elle va compléter sa douzième cette année (1983) à Birtle.

Le 29 août, Monique vint au monde. Elle fréquente l'école et fait parti des guides et prend part à différents sports. Quant à mes activités locales; j'ai été membre du comité athlétique pour plusieurs années. Je suis Chevalier de Colomb depuis la fondation du Conseil #5047 (1960). J'ai été commissaire d'école pendant cinq ans, et conseiller municipal pendant quatre ans. Aussi, j'ai été sur le comité de réparation pour l'église et en charge du comité pour la rénovation de la salle. En ce moment, je fais parti du comité de liturgie.

Ma femme, Colette est membre des dames auxiliaires depuis le début de l'organisation, aide comme

assistante des groupes Jeannette et 4-H depuis cinq ans. Elle est aussi membre du comité de liturgie.

Je me suis donné, je me donne. Ce dévouement a créé de nombreux liens avec mon village, si bien que je veux y demeurer toujours.

Hudon, Aime and Martha

Aime came to St. Lazare from Forget, Saskatchewan in 1939 to work in the store for his aunt and uncle, Grace and Donald Bulger. In June 1941, he married Martha Selby (Mattie) daughter of John and Hilda Selby. He joined the Air Force in 1942, being stationed in the Yukon Territories, Moose Jaw and Brandon until his discharge in 1946. Aime and Mattie moved from St. Lazare in 1956, to McAuley, after selling the garage. They purchased the Pateman farm, south of town, and still reside there. They have a family of eight. **Arthur** married Angella Paradis of Dunrea. They have three children, Teresa, Raymond and Belinda and farm in the Manson district. **Roberta** married Clair Naylor of Birtle. They had four sons, Duane, Lorne, Kent and Dale. Clair passed away in 1972. Roberta is now married to Ed Sandstrom of Birtle. They have a son, Randy. **Jacqueline** (Bijou) is married to Brian Clifford. They and their son, Christopher and daughter, Sherry live in Lethbridge, Alberta. **Louise** is married to Bruce Bertram of Birtle. They have an apiary on their farm, where they live in the re-modelled Oxford School. They operate 700 colonies of bees, whose summer out-yards are found in the R.M.'s of Ellice, Birtle and Silver Creek. The average annual yield is 155,000 pounds of honey, some of which is sold in England, Japan, the United States, Quebec and Ontario. Only a small portion is sold locally. Their two boys are Alan and Neil. **Frank** is married to Faye Marshall. They farm at McAuley. They have a family of two, Colin and Jaime. **Aime Jr.** is married to Patricia Collier from Virden. They have a daughter Michelle and a son Michael. The family lives in Calgary. **Brian and Betty Anne** live in McAuley. Betty Anne is a receptionist at the Hospital in Birtle.

Hunter, Andrew, David and Walter

by Ora Gagnon

Andrew Hunter was born November 16, 1866, at Stroud, in Innisfield Township, Ontario; eldest child of David and Elizabeth (Manneer) Hunter. Here he received his education and entered the carpenter trade. In the early 1890's he and brother Walter decided to go "west" where land was cheap and a future in farming looked bright.

They travelled by train to Foxwarren. Andrew started farming the NE ¼ 22-17-28, while Walter



Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Hunter, Ethel, Roy, Arthur and Mary. (1910)

farmed the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 26-17-28. Andrew built a fair sized frame house, a stone bank barn and out buildings. Walter had a log house.

During the winter of 1896-97, Andrew returned to Ontario to marry Evelina (Liney) Parkinson. They were married February 17, 1897 in Thornberry, at the John McMurchy home (Evelina's brother-in-law) and came west to farm together. About this time the farm was enlarged by adding W $\frac{1}{2}$ of 23-17-28.

Four children were born to this union. **Ethel**, 1898: married Alfred Sealy of MacGregor, Manitoba. **Roy**, 1900: married Grace Ogalcie of Lousanna, Alberta. **Arthur**, 1904: married Edna Thompson of Warren, Manitoba. And **Mary**, 1906: married Stewart King of Foxwarren.

1906 was the year the house was enlarged and bricked. The bricks were hauled by team from Rapid City. This made a very fine home, but as Liney said, "They didn't do it the way I wanted it done". Sometime during this period Mr. and Mrs. David Hunter Jr. moved in with brother Walter. They had been in Alberta where Mr. Hunter was employed as overseer of an experimental farm. They had six children: Nicholas, Newton, Wallace, Isobella, Mabel and William. Mr. Hunter died in 1911. Walter gave up

farming, and he and nephew Nicholas left for Alberta, where they made their home until the time of their deaths. Newton left to homestead at Annerly, Saskatchewan. There he married Lizzie Clellan. They had two daughters. Wallace stayed on with his mother and passed away in 1921. Isobella married Harry Carr, a local boy. Mabel married Louis Leavens. William, married Clara Taylor of Birtle, Manitoba. Will and Clara lived at Bredenbury, Saskatchewan for some time. In 1928 they moved to Vancouver, British Columbia. On a visit home in 1961, Will passed away suddenly. Clara continued to make her home in Vancouver until her death. They had one son, Orval.

Isobella and Harry spent some time in Regina and Moose Jaw then returned to Foxwarren, living there until their deaths. They had one adopted daughter, Verna.

Mabel and Louis lived at Stonewall, Manitoba. They had five children.

In 1907, the Grand Trunk Railway was completed to St. Lazare. On November 22, 1907, Andrew shipped the first car load of grain (oats), out on the line.

During the harvest of 1913, the barn burned with the loss of stock, grain and feed. The foundation stones are still lying around. A frame barn was built in a new location.

About that time it was decided that the family would move to Binscarth, thus giving the children a better chance for education. Up until now, Ethel, Roy, and Arthur had gone to Morseby, a rural school. James McLellan took the farm over and Andrew went back to carpentry. World War I was declared and Roy, never interested in school, dropped out to work on farms. Arthur and Mary continued school, and Ethel went to Normal School in Brandon.

After the war, it was back to the farm. Roy helped out for a while, got itchy feet and headed west.

In 1920 Mrs. Hunter was not so well, so Ethel came home and taught at Ellice School. She drove a horse and buggy to school. This was Roy's saddle pony and had been taught to jump. One morning after a storm, there was a tree across the road and over it Floss sailed, shafts and all, leaving Ethel and the buggy stranded. In 1921 Ethel left home to marry.

By 1926 the farm was getting to be a load for Andrew, so it was decided that Arthur and Fred Sealey would farm it together. Andrew, Liney, and Mary moved to the Hillcox farm NE of Foxwarren. When Mary was planning to marry this was too large also so they moved to a smaller holding one mile south of Foxwarren belonging to McMinns. Here they kept a couple of cows and poultry and Andrew did carpentry work. They enjoyed the local fairs,

taking many prizes with their fowl and Liney's hooked rugs. Andrew died in 1940. Liney sold the assets and went to live with Mary in Rapid City. She died there in 1944. Mary and Stewart King had two children — Donald Smith of Ladysmith, British Columbia, and Raymond who was killed in a motor accident at the age of 21.

After three years of farming together, Arthur left to work for an uncle at Warren. The next three years Fred farmed alone. He also drove a school van to Foxwarren in 1931. That year, Roy and wife with two children, Norman and Eva returned, and with Arthur and his wife they took over the farm. A daughter, Dorothy, was born to Roy and his wife in 1932. Fred and Ethel moved to Welwyn, Saskatchewan. The grandmother, Mrs. David Hunter Sr., lived with them at Welwyn until she died in 1937. Fred Sealey died in 1953. His wife Ethel, passed away in 1969. Arthur and Edna went to Winnipeg and Roy and family back to Alberta. Roy died at Elnora in 1971 leaving his wife, six children and several grandchildren. During World War II Arthur served in the Air Force, being stationed in British Columbia. After his discharge he continued to live there where he died in 1966. His wife Edna and son Ross and family live there yet.

The Hunters were staunch Methodists, and when the churches united, they became United Church members. Needless to say, Zion church was the centre of their lives for many years. It is fitting that today at rest in the old churchyard are: David and Elizabeth Hunter, their son Wallace; Harry and Isobella Carr; Andrew and Evelina Hunter; William and Clara Hunter; Stewart and Mary King and their son Raymond.

Huybrecht, Omer and Alice

Omer, son of Camiel Huybrecht and Elodie Duquesne, was born February 19, 1891 in Belleghem, Belgium. He came to Canada with his parents on May 15, 1905. He married Alice Ysenbaert, daughter of Remi Ysenbaert and Melanie de Meulemuster, who was born July 16, 1893 in Heestert Belgium and came to Canada with her parents on March 6, 1910. Remi came alone in 1905 and worked for the building of the railroad in St. Lazare. Alice and Omer were married on October 28, 1913 and lived in St. Boniface. Mr. Huybrecht worked for Speers Parnel (Weston's Bakery). Mrs. Huybrecht worked as a seamstress for Eaton's and then went into business on her own, working long hours during the hard times when money was lacking. They had five children, namely Robert, Marcel, Irene, Arthur and Emile. They received their education in St. Boniface. **Bob**, born March 24, 1916 married Bernadette Pidalue. They had three children, Carol, Judith, and Gordon.



Alice and Omer Huybrecht, 1913.

Bob worked for Winnipeg Transit until he died on October 23, 1974. **Marcel** born August 2, 1918 married Merle Thomas. They had one daughter, Patricia. Marcel was a pilot officer in the war. He died June 1, 1972. **Art** was born February 5, 1926. During the war he joined the navy. He married Donna Griffiths of McAuley. They had one son Rennie. Art died of cancer January 2, 1972. In 1942 **Irene**, born January 7, 1922 came to St. Lazare with her father to manage the hotel until she married Paul Dupont. They had two children, Diane and Kenneth. Mrs. Huybrecht and Emile came to St. Lazare in 1943. Mr. and Mrs. Huybrecht were hard workers and always fair to everybody — a mean task, at times, in the liquor business. Mr. Huybrecht's hobbies were archery and gardening. He was once president of the St. Sebastian Archery Club in St. Boniface. He grew one of the nicest gardens in town, while Mrs. Huybrecht's flower garden was second to none. She also kept on sewing for her own enjoyment. There were not too many meals served in the hotel then, but those who have tasted her cooking can vouch that she was an excellent cook. Mr. Huybrecht passed away May 6, 1971 after a long illness. Mrs. Huybrecht stayed in the hotel suite with Emile's sons taking turns as companion and guard. She died on November 16, 1978.

Huybrecht, Omer et Alice

Omer, fils de Camiel Huybrecht de Elodie Duquesne, naquit le 19 février 1891 à Belleghem, Belgique. Il immigra au Canada avec ses parents le 15 mai, 1905. Il épousa Alice Ysenbaert, née le 16 juillet, 1893, à Heestert, Belgique, fille de Remi Ysenbaert et Melanie de Meulemuster. Alice vint au Canada le 6 mars 1910 avec ses parents. Son père était venu au Canada en 1905 et travailla sur la construction du chemin de fer à St. Lazare.

Alice et Omer se sont mariés le 28 octobre, 1913 à St. Boniface où ils vécurent pendant plusieurs années. Ils ont eu cinq enfants Robert, Marcel, Irene, Arthur et Emile — Robert né le 24 mars 1916 épousa Bernadette Piedalue. Ils ont eut trois enfants, Carol, Judith et Gordon. Robert fut employé comme surveillant pour Winnipeg Transit jusqu'à sa mort qui a eu lieu le 23 octobre 1974. Marcel né le 22 août 1918 marié à Merle Thomas, père d'une fille Patricia était officier et pilote dans l'aviation canadienne durant la guerre. Il mourut le premier juin 1972. Arthur né le 5 février 1926 matelot durant la guerre, vint à St. Lazare après la guerre pour aider à son père. Il épousa Donna Griffiths de McAuley et ils eurent un fils, Rennie. Plus tard il géra des hôtels dans différents endroits du Manitoba. Il mourut du cancer le 2 janvier 1972.

Quand Omer acheta l'hôtel sa fille Irene née le 7 janvier 1922 l'accompagna pour lui aider. Plus tard elle épousa Paul Dupont et ils eurent deux enfants Diane et Kenneth.

En 1943, Alice vint rejoindre son mari à St. Lazare avec son fils Emile qui completa son éducation à l'école Decorby. Omer et Alice étaient de vrais

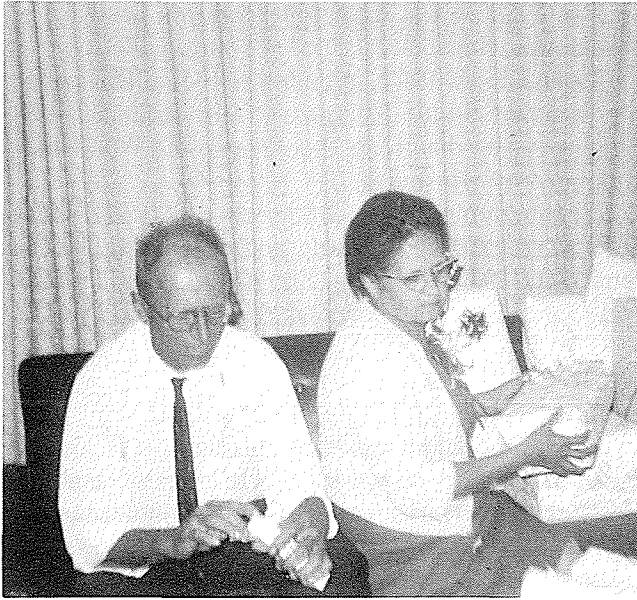


Huybrecht Family: Emile, Bob, Art, Marc and Irene. Seated: Alice and Omer Huybrecht (50th Wedding Anniversary, 1963).

travailleurs et se montraient très justes avec leur clientèle — tout un accomplissement dans le genre de commerce qu'ils avaient. Omer comme passe-temps aimait beaucoup le sport du tir à l'arc et il était président du club St. Sebastien à St. Boniface pour un certain temps. Il passait aussi beaucoup d'heures l'été dans son jardin et comme résultat de ses travaux possédait toujours un des plus beaux jardins du village. Alice qui avait été couturière pour Eaton's et travaillait plus tard à son propre compte quand ils vivaient à St. Boniface, continuait à coudre pour son amusement une fois rendue à St. Lazare. Elle était aussi une excellente cuisinière. Omer mourut le six mai, 1971 après une longue maladie. Alice, après sa mort, continua à habiter dans le logis de l'hôtel ayant les fils de Emile pour lui tenir compagnie et comme poteaux de vieillesse. Elle mourut à l'hôpital de Russell le 16 novembre 1978.

Ireland, Lionel and Rosalie

Lionel Edward Thomas was born near Marchwell, Sask. in May, 1912, to Edward Ireland and Agnes Hamilton. He moved to Binscarth, where he was Town Constable for a number of years. He married Rosina Cook, who died in childbirth. His daughter was raised by his wife's relatives. Rosalie was born in Ellice Municipality, near the "Big Lake", to Jean Baptiste Houle and Theresa Fleury. She went to work in Binscarth where she met and married Lionel Ireland on Sept. 1, 1939. They went to Rosetown where Lionel took up auto mechanics. He worked in various garages in McAuley, Welwyn, Minnedosa, St. Lazare and Dunblane, Sask. He worked on his own for anybody who needed a mechanic. In 1970 he moved to Birtle, where he died in Oct. of 1974. Rosalie died April 13, 1977; they are both buried in St. Lazare. They had seven children. **William Joseph**, born Aug. 1, 1940, married Theresa Blondeau of Ste. Marthe. Their children are Dale, Eldon, Glen, Karen, Lionel, Kerri-Anne and Ruth. **Thomas Wesley**, (Mar. 9, 1942), married Theresa Parisien of Lebret, Sask. Their children are, Tracy, Clayton, Colleen and Todd. **Gertrude Marie**; (Sept. 15, 1943) married Ernest Grona of Kelvington, Sask. Their children are Wayne, Keith, Paul and Roger. After Ernie's death, Gertrude married Elmer Vipond of Watrous, Sask. **Linda Gail**; (Nov. 19, 1944) married Alex Ferguson of Marchwell, Sask. Their children are Wesley, Owen, Calvin, Patrick and Gwendolyn. Linda is now married to William Drielick of Birtle. **Jacqueline Joyce**, (Feb. 14, 1946) married Jacques Prescott of St. Lazare. They live in Birtle with their children Juliette Patricia, Geraldine, Gerard and Margaret. **Leonard Dale**, Sept. 7, 1947 was married to Beverly Brown of Spy Hill. Their



Lionel and Rosalie Ireland and family, Bill, Ken, Tom, Leonard, Jackie, Gail and Gertrude.

only child is Michelle. He is now married to Shirley Baron of Kellwood, Man. **Kenneth Eldon** was born on July 8, 1949.

Ireland, Walter (1862-1939)

Walter Ireland came to Manitoba in the late 1880s. He was formerly a sailor with the Royal Navy. He secured a homestead called Taras Hill Farm in the R.M. of Ellice — N.E. ¼ of 32-18-28. He brought his wife, Sarah Ann Emptage (1861-1937) and small son Walter Jr. (1886-1958) to Binscarth and worked as a carpenter and policeman for the area. He was very community minded and helped to keep the Binscarth Sports Day going for many years. He began farming the homestead in 1894, building a log house on the side of the hill, later moving one quarter mile farther south to the present farm home location. By this time Walter and Sarah had two more boys: Lionel (1889-1967) and William (1891-1946). In the new log home three more children were born: Lillian (1894-1977), Norah (1895-1972) and Edward John (1897-1967). In 1900 Sarah took her three small children and returned to England for a visit. They stayed for two years until her husband returned for a short visit and brought his family home. The three sons carried on the farming with the youngest, William, acting as cook, when the family would move to Binscarth for the winter months.

In 1919 the parents and Norah moved to town to retire. By this time more rooms had been added to the log house and the S.E. ¼ of 32-18-28 had been purchased from P. H. Nelson (later postmaster at Russell).



Walter Jr. married Agnes Hamilton in 1910. They had a family of twelve, six boys and six girls, in the Nelson house and later at Millwood.

Lionel never married, but farmed until 1923. He was an ardent sportsman, participating in Sports Days and curling. He was a car salesman in Winnipeg for a number of years and later was the statistician for the Binscarth Orioles until his passing in 1967.

William married Esther Loftquist and lived in two rooms of the family farm home, later moving to live in the R.M. of Russell and Binscarth. They had six children.

Lillian married Cedric Townsend in 1913 and lived in Minnedosa and Gladstone before moving to England and Portugal during World War I. They came back to Grande Pointe, Man., in 1921 and moved to British Columbia in 1946. After Cedric's passing in 1971 Lillian moved to Thunder Bay to be near her sisters and families.

Norah married James Crowhurst in 1924, a veteran of W.W. I. They farmed north of Foxwarren for 1½ years and then moved to Winnipeg and Thunder Bay. They have two daughters, married and living with their families in the Thunder Bay area.

Edward John spent his life on the home farm until retiring to Binscarth in 1952. He married Elizabeth Highfield in 1922. Elizabeth came to Canada with her family in 1919. They lived in Foxwarren for a short time and then moved to Binscarth. Edward, or Ned or Ted as he was better known, was a community minded person, and a great sportsman. His favorite sports were baseball, curling and billiards. He loved the outdoors and hunted and fished until his death in

1967. Ned and Elizabeth raised their family of six children in the log house and carried on a mixed farming operation. Five of the children were educated at Balmerino School. They are **Edward Charles**, born 1922. He lives with his mother in Binscarth and farms the N½ of 30-18-28. He is an energetic collector of antique tractors. **Norah**, born Nov. 22, 1923 married John William Plumb. They had four children: Elaine, Beverley, Joyce and Edward. John and Norah operated a cafe in Binscarth for a time, finally selling out and purchasing a cafe in Gainsborough, Sask. "Johnny's" was well known to coffee drinkers as well as for their delicious "Fish and Chips". The cafe remained open until John's death in 1976. The building was remodelled and Norah lived there until Oct. 31, 1982, when she returned to live in Binscarth once more.

Sarah lived at Taras Hill Farm until her marriage to Tom Plumb of Binscarth in 1947. The "dirty thirties" were memorable times for children when toys were almost non-existent. Children walked or rode horseback to school, played ball in the summer and slid down snowbanks in the winter. As there were five Ireland children attending school, they were fortunate to have a horse and buggy to transport them in the summer and a horse and cutter in the winter. If the children had to walk because the horse was needed to work in the field, they would cut corners by crossing the Fitz and the E. P. Clark farms. Much credit is due these kind people who did not complain about the path across their fields which was still plainly visible after cultivation. Tom and Sarah lived in Binscarth until 1954 when they moved to Birtle with their daughter Barbara who is now a school teacher in Bowsman, Man. Their son Kenneth was born in Birtle, the first baby in the new hospital, in 1955, and the family moved back to Binscarth that same year. Kenneth lives in Binscarth with his wife Orisse Plante and their two children. The Plumbs' third child, Karen, is a registered nurse and married to Blaine Bauer of Binscarth. They have two children.

Eric Francis, born 1928, is the third generation of the Ireland family living on the homestead. He was a member of the Boys and Girls Club and played baseball for many years with Binscarth teams. He also enjoys curling. He married Joan Mansell of the Inglis area in 1952. They have three children: Lenore (Mrs. Wayne Drielick), Timothy, and Douglas married and living on S.W. 27-18-28. After a few years Eric and Joan replaced the log house with a frame house and in 1982 an addition was built to it.

Bernice was born in 1931 and was at home until her marriage to Robert J. Simpson of the Silverton

area in 1952. They have four children and live at Stockholm, Sask.

Lorna, born 1942, attended school at Binscarth. She married Stuart Douglas of Binscarth in 1959. They have two daughters and farm in the Woodstock area north of Binscarth.

Elizabeth Ireland, now 80 years old, is still active with housekeeping, knitting and crocheting for her family and the Red Cross. She has 16 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren at the time of writing.

Irwin, William by Allan Irwin

My Grandfather was born in Ireland in 1823, and came to Ontario about 1845. He married Isabelle Henderson in Harrietsville, Ontario on December 24, 1854. His trade was cabinet and carriage maker — he made all their furniture, from rocking chair to spinning wheel. They had 11 children, but four died in infancy. In 1875, William and Isabelle, with seven children ranging in age from 21 to one year came by boat to Winnipeg, then by wagon to Rapid City to homestead 160 acres. The eldest son, Joseph Irwin, my father, hauled freight with team and wagon or sleigh in winter from Winnipeg to Brandon and Portage la Prairie for many years. In 1884 he hauled supplies for the government, from Winnipeg to Fort Qu'Appelle in preparation for the Louis Riel Rebellion of 1885. Dad tells of each driver being issued a rifle and revolver and 100 rounds of ammunition to guard the supplies and themselves. However time dragged along the route and so the drivers shot at badgers, gophers or coyotes, arriving at the fort with almost no ammunition. Fortunately, they had encountered no Indians along the way. The wagon he used was made of oak by his father William, in Harrietsville in 1870. I still have it in my barn loft in Mission B.C. The family moved from Rapid City to Ellice municipality in 1903, buying North ½ Sec. 24-18-28, known as the McMinn farm. The house on this farm will be well over 90 years old as it was there when my grandfather bought in 1903. William died in 1905 at 82 and is buried in Binscarth cemetery.

After William's death, sons John and Robert took over the farm for a time, then my Grandmother, with son John and daughter Margaret bought Sec. 25-18-28 and built a home on the east side. It was known as the Shanty as it was only one storey high. Then in 1919 John started a three-storey brick home on the west side which they moved into in 1920. It is still standing but I believe it is unused now. Isabelle died in 1924 and is buried at Binscarth also. It was on this section that the Chillon elevators were built, John giving one acre for this purpose.

Robert continued on at the McMinn farm and

married Mary Bannerman. They had two children, Imogene, a nurse, retired in Oak Bay, Ontario and Cyril, deceased, survived by wife Agnes and two sons living in Ontario. Robert had an implement business in Binscarth in partnership with Bob Hope. They sold to Frank Clement. Robert rented the farm to Dollie Gwyer, later to George and Percy Proudly. John and Rob both retired to Enderby, B.C. where they are buried, with a nephew, Hebert Grant.

Joseph Irwin and his wife Jessie (Stewart) moved from Rapid City to Binscarth in 1903, renting a farm from Tom Moffat for one year before moving to Foxwarren in 1904 to NE ¼ 19-18-27 which was just east of the McMinn farm. Joseph and Jessie's children included Bella, born 1895, Grace, born 1899, and Allan (myself) born 1902. Our first school was Balmerino — teacher Lillian Orr, who married Murray Shaw, whose property the school was built on.

Our second teacher at Balmerino was Edith Cass whose father Fred Cass had bought the farm owned by Mr. Johnston, whose sons Oliver and Walter also attended Balmerino. Our education at Balmerino was interrupted when the Bayfield school trustees claimed us, as they needed extra pupils to fill their quota, and we then had another mile to walk to Bayfield. The teacher at Bayfield was Tanis Nesbitt, who married Thomas McLeod. We then attended the old two-room school at Foxwarren.

I remember one fall while harvesting on the SE ¼ of 25-18-28 with my Uncle Rob we saw a cyclone approaching. Rob called to me to unhitch our horses and single them out to fend for themselves. We made a run for the Shanty, however the wind struck and we lay flat on the ground, holding on to one another, but were nevertheless rolled around and buffeted by sheaves. In minutes the storm had passed, but the Shanty had completely disappeared. It was scattered over the NW ¼ section of 30-18-27, then owned by Mr. Woodhouse and Mr. Cole, later owned by John Widdicombe, and now by John's son, Jack. This same storm continued over to Tom Low Sr.'s farm, completely destroying his barn, but not the house. I remember seeing large trees in his yard twisted off, and a 2x4 from the barn driven through a 12 inch poplar like a cross. One of our binders was badly damaged, the other, less than 30 feet away, was untouched.

Our entertainment in those days consisted of house parties and barn dances in the fall, skating on McMinn and Diamond Lakes or riding on hand sleighs with large sails for wind power in winter.

I remember one house party, at Ed Dupont's new house about three miles west of Chillan, the first house in the district with indoor plumbing. Everyone at that party had to push that plunger, we must have

pumped his well dry, to say nothing of flooding his septic tank. About two years ago here in Mission, B.C., while visiting friends, the next door neighbors dropped in and the conversation turned to old times. The woman told this same story of her Uncle Ed's house party. She was the daughter of Emile Dupont of St. Lazare. She is now Mrs. Gerard Chartier, and has moved from Mission to Port Coquitlam.

My father, Grace, and I moved from Foxwarren in the spring of 1935, to rent the Anderson farm about 2½ miles north and west of Binscarth. Grace and dad moved to Russell in 1938 and then to Brandon in 1942. Dad passed away there in 1945; mother had pre-deceased him in 1916. They are both buried in Binscarth cemetery.

Bella had gone to Wawanesa Manitoba, to work, and in 1936 married Frederick B. MacArthur. Bella died in Wawanesa in 1957. Grace married Jim Nicolson and now resides in Semans, Saskatchewan.

I joined the RCAF in 1941 in Winnipeg, and married Jean Peebles in 1943 in Vancouver. Discharged in 1945, we moved to Mission, B.C. in 1948. We have four sons and one daughter and also raised two foster girls, and have 15 grandchildren. We now have two good friends from Foxwarren living near us, Sam and Ann Widdicombe.

Irwin, William Jackson

Jackson was born in Dungannon, County Tyrone, Northern Ireland on September 14, 1895. In 1911 he came to Canada, encouraged by James Falloon to emigrate. In his first years here he worked for them. In an old account book there is an entry that Jackson had repaid James Falloon for his fare from Ireland — \$56.30! In 1920 he purchased his own farm — sections 1 and 6-29-18. On October 28, 1925 he married Edna Dorothy MacDonald who had been born in Winnipeg, April 6, 1907. They had a seven-room house and raised a family of nine children, all married now and with families of their own; Joseph W. 1926, Edward D. 1927, Robert A. 1928, Thomas A. 1930, Jackson R. 1933, Allan J. 1936, Flora M. G. 1938, Alice E. M. 1939 and Norman D. 1945. There are 32 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

Jackson and Edna are now retired and live in Solsgirth.

Jackson Family

Thomas Jackson was born in Walcott, England. He came to Canada in 1912 and worked for Cheney Burdett until 1914. He joined the army and went back overseas for four years. He met Lucy Anthony while hospitalized in London and they were married in March, 1918. They came back to Canada and worked on the farm for Bert Falloon until 1922. Thomas then

purchased his own farm through the Soldiers Settlement Board. He resided in Ellice Municipality on S.E. ¼ 18-18-28 until he had to retire due to failing health in 1941. The farm was sold to Honore Plante.

Tom was a charter member of the Legion when it started in St. Lazare and also when it started in Foxwarren. He also belonged to the Foxwarren Rifle Range until it dissolved in 1939.

The Jacksons had seven girls, six of them attending Gambler school where Tom was chairman of the board for years. Lucy Jackson was a charter member of the Foxwarren Legion Auxiliary and belonged to the Foxwarren Women's Institute.

Tom and Lucy moved to Foxwarren in 1941. Tom passed away in 1966 at the age of 75. Lucy passed away in 1968 at the age of 69. **Frances Dorothy** — eldest daughter, was born on April 26, 1919. Dorothy went to Gambler school, her favorite sport being "scrub" — a type of soft ball game. They played soft ball at many Sports and Field Days. All schooling was taken at Gambler school and they were very fortunate in having good school teachers.

Dorothy married Frank Gooda in 1941. He served in the R.C.A.F. for 5 years. Frank went overseas in December, 1942 and was stationed in Northern Ireland until 1945. Dorothy and daughter Dawn lived in Foxwarren with sister Winnie (King) until Frank came home. Frank and Dorothy moved to a farm at Binscarth and raised a family of six — Dawn, Hope, David, Bruce, Gwen and Phyllis. Frank passed away in 1971 after a lengthy illness at age 56. Bruce has taken over the farm and Dorothy now lives in Binscarth where she is very active with community affairs, friends and family. Dorothy has six grandchildren.

Winnifred Ruby — Winnie was born on November 12, 1920. She recalls tough times but also funny times as a girl growing up on the farm. She recalls the farm house being built by her dad, Ben Fouillard and Israel Tremblay. Winnie attended all nine grades at Gambler school. Her teachers were Mr. Vic Hillcox, Nellie Butcher (now Mrs. Trueman Lamb) and Jean McCrindle.

Winnie was a tiny girl but a tough one. She was a member of the Crewe girls' hockey team who were known in the district as "Toughies". Winnie relates a story of the team going to Russell to play the Russell girls' hockey team. However, the Russell girls valued their lives and the Crewe girls ended up playing the Russell Pee Wees (a boys' team). The girls were short one player and had recruited Jacques Guay to fill in their roster. The girls and Jacques lost, but a good time was had by all, followed by a delicious lunch at W. W. Wilson's. Winnie says the game was over half-

played before anyone noticed the "guy" in gal's clothing.

Winnie married Bob King on February 18, 1941 in Birtle, Manitoba. See King History.

Elsie May — Elsie was born on January 11th, 1921. When war broke out Elsie joined the R.C.A.F. Women's Division serving there for three years.

Elsie married Alex Cameron in 1947 and they raised a family of five — Valerie, Helen, Butch, Brent and Heather.

Elsie and Alex have an upholstery business at present. Following the war Elsie took a hairdressing course and an upholstery course. For many years she was a hairdresser in Foxwarren.

Nora Alice — 1942-1982.

Nora was born and raised in the Gambler District where she took all her schooling and played ball and hockey with the Ladies Crewe team. Later she came to love the game of curling and was on the rink that won the Manitoba Ladies' Curling Championship and the British Empire Games in 1954. Nora married Jack Campbell on December 23, 1941 and they farmed in the Bayfield District for thirty years. They moved to Thompson in 1974 and worked for the Mystery Lake school Division. Nora and Jack had four children. They are Tom, Faye, Shannon and Michael.

Nora passed away in May, 1982.

There are seven grandchildren.

Shirley Jean — Shirley was born in Russell hospital on March 24, 1930 and attended Gambler school for four years. She then moved with her parents to Foxwarren where she received the rest of her education. Shirley married Alec Low in March 1947. They lived on a farm near Chillon for the first five years. They then moved to the Foxwarren District where they still farm.

Shirley and Alec have a family of four — Bonnie, Ronald, Jack and Debbie. All were educated at Foxwarren. Ron plays hockey in the N.H.L. Shirley is active in Lodge and community affairs.

Audrey Gladys — The sixth of the seven Jackson girls Audrey, was born on April 29, 1932 in Ellice municipality. She lived on the farm until Tom and Lucy moved to Foxwarren in 1941. She recalls Ellen Wilson teaching her in Gambler school. She remembers the maple candy brought to school in the fall by the Desjarlais children and says it was great. Her strongest memory of the farm was the hay rack. The weather was bitterly cold so Bob King (her future brother-in-law) buried her in the hay where it was toasty warm. Audrey spent the majority of her younger years in Foxwarren. She left school and went to work as a switchboard operator in Swan River, Shoal Lake, Winnipeg, Gimli and Calgary.

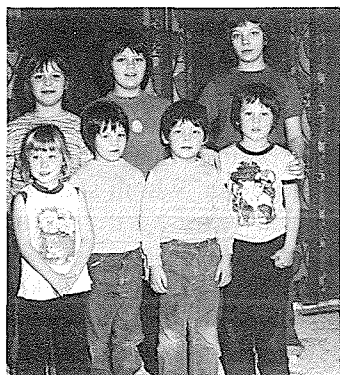
She met her future husband in Calgary and on July 2nd, 1956 became Mrs. Don Copping. Don and Audrey have three children — Terri, Paul and Tony, all of whom reside in Alberta. Audrey continues to work as a switchboard operator in Holy Cross Hospital in Calgary.

Beverley Anne — was born on September 20, 1941 in Russell hospital. She was the youngest of the seven Jacksons. She now resides in Calgary with her husband Roy Forester. She continues to teach school and enjoys it immensely. She also enjoys spending a few weeks down home every summer where she can collect some more tales of the good old days. Alberta is a great place but Manitoba is greater!

Jessop, Lorne and Dorothy

I, Lorne, was born and raised in Welwyn, where I went to school. When I was young, I worked as a farm laborer and drove a truck. I joined the Militia, the 101st Field Battery Artillery, and when the war started I volunteered for overseas duty. I was discharged from the Militia, and went into the C.R.E.M.E. I was posted overseas in 1941 where I served in England, France, Holland, Belgium and Germany. I came home in 1945 and after my discharge, I started working as a mechanic for Ben Fouillard. Later I worked for Hudon & Selby, then Fouillard Implement Exchange, the Potash Mine at Esterhazy and at Rocanville. I worked up north for two years with C.M.H.C. which I enjoyed as I flew to every outpost with Lamb Bros. When I "semi-retired", I started driving a school van to Birtle from 1974-1981. I have always enjoyed sports, and coached a baseball team for many years, mostly the Midgets and 12 and under teams.

I married Dorothy Belhumeur, (born at Victor in May of 1925) in St. Lazare on November 29, 1947. She has always been an active member of the Ladies Auxiliary. We had three sons; **Harry**: born in 1950, married Pat Lepine in 1969, and they have five chil-



Lorne and Dorothy Jessop with grandchildren Jamie, Renee, Pamela, Cathy, Miranda, Owen and Eddie.

dren, Pamela, Renee, Jamie, Miranda and Owen. Harry worked on road construction for seven years, then four years at Andre's Auto Body shop, and now is employed by the Potash Mine near Rocanville. Pat and Harry lived in a mobile home, until Harry built their own house. He took on the contract to tear down and move the old station and used this lumber for his house. **Lorne Jr.**: was born in April, 1953. He married Edith Babiuk in 1976. She is the daughter of Ed and Edna Babiuk, raised on a farm at Arrow River and attended school in Hamiota and Birtle. They live in St. Lazare and have two children, Eddy and Kathy. **James**: was born in January, 1956. He married Beverly Dahl, of Shellbrook, Saskatchewan. They are living in Winnipeg and have one child, Jacey Wade.

Johnston, Joseph Milne Liddell

Joseph M. L. Johnston was born in 1874 and came to Canada from Dublin, Ireland in 1892. He worked as a farm hand for Henry Waller on 12-19-28. In 1894 he homesteaded the N.W. ¼ 12-19-28.

On August 6, 1895 in Moosomin, N.W.T. he married Jessie MacIntosh Reid, who was born in London, Ont. May 7, 1878. Their first child, **Marion MacIntosh** was born on the homestead July 28, 1896. In 1897, Joe sold this land to Annie McPherson. He purchased the S.½ 20-18-28 and the N.W.¼ 17-18-28. They lived with Jessie's brothers, James



Johnston Family: Marion, Alex and Russell. Front: Bessie, Mrs. Johnston, holding Frances, Alice.

and George Reid, while waiting for their house to be built. **Alexander William Liddell** was born April 14, 1898, **Russell Millen** June 12, 1900 and **Alice Martha** — June 14, 1903. Their two-storey, five bedroom home was built in 1904 by Bill Boyd of Foxwarren, Man. on the S.W. ¼ 20-18-28. **Vera Bessie** was born June 3, 1905 and **Gertrude Frances** on October 21, 1907.

These were very difficult years and receiving an education was not easy. Marion started school at Balmerino in 1902. Alex started school in 1904 in Ralph Langston's house on the S.E. ¼ 18-18-28, which was rented by the Gambler School District September 1903 pending the building of a school. Marion attended here along with Alex. For a short time school was held in the home of a Mr. Parks (a bachelor) on the S.W. ¼ 18-18-28. In 1906 Alex stayed with the Diamonds and went with their children to school at Clifford for a time. In 1907, Russell began his schooling at Gambler, along with Marion and Alex. On November 18, 1908, Joseph Johnston died, leaving a wife and six children, three under school age. Alice, Bessie and Frances completed their elementary schooling at Balmerino School and took their High School in Binscarth, Alice took a Business Course in Brandon and Bessie and Frances went to Normal School there. Russell took a year of Agriculture at Brandon College and he, like Alex, became a farmer. Marion started work as a young girl for J. D. McFarlane, housekeeping for him and his three motherless daughters until his death. Marion was a very active member of the community until her death in 1970.

Jessie Johnston married William Hugh Cluff in 1917. Their son William Joseph (Chuck) was born in May 1918. They lived in Binscarth, Rossburn and Winnipeg. Chuck was educated in Binscarth and Winnipeg. He enlisted in 1941 and was killed in action April 28, 1945. William and Jessie passed away in Winnipeg in 1966 and 1968 respectively.

In 1916 Alex bought the N½ 22-18-28 from Miss Cass. He sold this land in 1920 to Fred Pizey. He married Vera Emily McKone (1897) in 1930 in Winnipeg. They farmed the S.½ 20-18-28 and the N.W.¼ 17-18-28. Some 20 years later they owned the N.E.¼ 12-18-29 formerly owned by Alex's uncle James Reid. Later they sold this to Garth Smart. Alex and Vera had one son Keith, (1930) and one daughter Fern (1937). Alex and Vera were very active in the community. Keith stayed with McLean's and went to school in Brandon for one year, then went to school at Gambler, Balmerino and Binscarth. He worked for a time at Morley Clegg's International Shop. Despite a severe health problem he maintained a cheerful disposition. He passed away June 27, 1951. Fern at-

tended school at Gambler, Balmerino and Binscarth. Following school she clerked in Roy Bray's store. Fern married Roy Haney of St. Lazare, employed by Manitoba Hydro. They have lived in Gretna since 1966. They have a son, Brent Keith, (1967) and a daughter, Kimberly Royce, (1969).

Alex and Vera built their retirement home in Binscarth in 1966, although Alex continued to farm from town until 1970. Vera passed away October 8, 1982 and Alex continues to reside in his home in Binscarth.

After finishing her Business Course in 1927, Alice married James McLean of Binscarth in 1928. There are six children: Olwyn and Norma McLean had six children also (Two deceased); Arnold and Joy McLean have one son; Arlene and Don Janssen have three daughters (Don deceased); Marion and Sid Smith have three daughters; Iris and Jerry Hadfield had two sons; Gary and Linda McLean have a daughter and a son. They all reside in B.C. where Alice and Jim went to live in 1946 following a period of living in Brandon. Jim died in 1966 and Alice continues to live in Coquitlam, B.C.

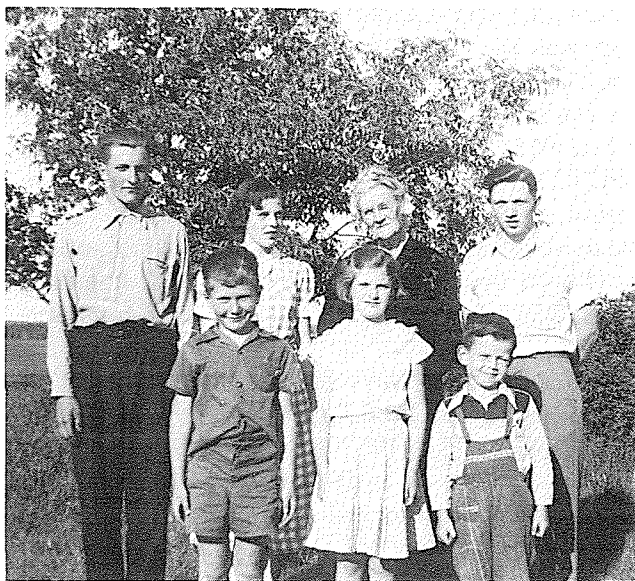
From Normal School in 1928, Bessie went to teach near Russell and at Steep Rock where she met Edward Nachtigall (born 1894), who had come from Germany to settle in Steep Rock. They were married in 1932. They had four children; Bernice and Allan Johnson have Wesley and Nadine; Don and Lois (Parker) Nachtigall have Darren, Steven, Susan and Scott; Arla and Ted Anderson have Heather and Darrel; Grant and Dawn (Gooda) Nachtigall have Kelvin and Pamela. Bessie worked in the general store in Steep Rock for 14 years but in 1967 she moved to Winnipeg to live with her mother, Jessie Cluff, who passed away in 1969. Bessie worked at the Health Sciences Centre from 1967-1970 when she retired. She now resides in a Senior Citizen's Centre in Winnipeg.

Following Normal School in 1928, Frances taught school in Clearwater and Ashern. She married Jack Webster in 1932. They had one daughter Gail, born July 14, 1933. Gail attended Gambler School in 1942-43 when her mother was teaching there. At this time Frances married William Kesterke from Woodridge, Man. whom she met while teaching there for several years. Gail passed away June 22, 1948 just after having completed her Grade XI exams. In the early fifties Frances walked eleven miles to procure signatures on two petitions to get a highway and the Hydro through from Woodridge to their farm. Both petitions were successful. Frances and Bill still live on their farm.

Johnston, Russell Millen

Russell and Helen Wilhemina "Billie" were married in November, 1929 in Binscarth. The wedding supper was on the Fletcher farm now owned by Fred Cook, Sr. Six people were present; the new bride and groom, her mother, Mr. Archie Cochrane, Mr. Fitz Clark and Miss Jessie Morphy. The father, Mr. Jim Fletcher, had retired, refusing to join in the celebration.

They farmed the Jim Fletcher land for a time then moved to the Colony Farm, coming back to the Cass place in Ellice Municipality. About 1947 they purchased the John McFarlane farm.



Russell Johnston Family: Marvin, Fern, Grannie Cluff, Millen. Front: Wayne, Glynis and Gary McLean.

Russell had started road work with horses. In 1949 he purchased his first crawler tractor, a TD18, from Cy Burdett and Dean Falloon. He worked mainly in Western Manitoba and Eastern Saskatchewan until the 1960's, building roads and clearing land. Russell was an active community person. Billie was often called on to give of her nursing skills. Russell and Billie spent many evenings with some of the district school teachers tasting homemade toffee before going on to the Box Socials at Balmerino School or to a barn dance in the district. Russell and Billie had four children: Millen Russell, Joseph Marvin, Glynis Maureen and Wayne Millen.

Billie died in November of 1954 in the Winnipeg General Hospital; Russell passed away in December of 1974 in Russell Hospital.

Millen and Mona Swanson of Brookdale were married in December 1958 and have three children: Dallas, 1960; Daryl, 1962 and Lori, 1963. Millen was active in 4-H, winning a trip to the Royal Winter Fair

in Toronto in 1950. They farmed in the Binscarth area for a few years. Millen is presently employed at the Glenlea Research Station of the University of Manitoba and is living in St. Norbert. **Marvin** married Gail Found of Gilbert Plains in 1962. They have three sons: Scott, 1963; Jim, 1964; and Blair, 1970. Marvin started with his Dad in road construction at the age of 14. He still operates heavy equipment and farms the home place. **Glynis** graduated as a Registered Nurse from the St. Boniface Hospital in 1964. She worked there in Pediatrics until 1967. In 1968 Glynis married Denton Danielson of Stockholm, Saskatchewan. They lived in Saskatoon for a few years with Glynis at the University Hospital in the Medical Intensive Care Unit and in the Operating Room. They have four children: Dana, 1969; Dawn, 1971; Russell, 1977; and Kenton, 1981. Denton and Glynis returned to Binscarth in 1974 and are presently farming on the Alex Johnston place. **Wayne** also married a school teacher, Brenda Buchingham of Transcona in 1968. They have two sons: Keith, Jan. 16, 1969 and Kyle, Dec. 3, 1969. Wayne has worked with Manitoba Hydro since 1963 and lives in Transcona.

Johnston, John

as written by grandson, David Johnston in 1970

"John was born on August 29, 1888 at Strommess Orkney Islands. He was the 5th child of William and Elizabeth Johnston and had six brothers and six sisters; nine are still living. When John was five years



John and Elizabeth Johnston, Bill, Jim, Betty. Front: Addie, Frank.

old he moved with his family to Fraserborough, Aberdeenshire on Mainland, Scotland. John Johnston was educated in Crimond school and graduated with a merit award. He stayed at home until 1907. He then took up blacksmithing as a trade and served three and a half years as an apprentice. Due to illness, he returned to his home farm and delivered milk from his father's dairy.

John left for Canada on the 14th of March, 1911 and landed at Halifax, and on to Calgary by train. He was accompanied on his journey by Mr. Jack Mitchell. They got a job baling hay for the C.P.R. starting the next morning at 7:00 a.m. at Strathmore, Alberta. After three months, because of the failure of agriculture in Alberta, and due to the fact that the government assistance for wages was not too promising, he left Strathmore and came to Brooks-Bassano, Alberta to work at an irrigation development as a blacksmith for six weeks.

John with Jack Mitchell left to come and live at Hamiota, Man. John worked on the farm of Mr. A. D. McConnell where he stayed until the middle of November. He ran a threshing outfit for a Mr. Anderson until Christmas. Stooks were put into a stack and fed into the machine by hand.

John Johnston and Jack Mitchell came to Bin-scarth and bought a sawing and crushing outfit doing custom work in this district until April 1912. With Jack Mitchell and his brother Tom, they rented machinery and worked the old Hunter farm until 1914. After this the three partners moved to section 2-18-28 owned by Rance Laycock. They farmed here for three years until 1917, then moved to the old Boles farm, until 1920. From 1920-1923 he worked the farm of station agent, Allie Hay. During this time Mr. Johnston bought a Case tractor, a threshing outfit and did custom work in the district.

John was married (1924) to Elizabeth Black by Reverend Murchison on February 27, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Black, three miles north of Fox-warren. Their first home was section 2-18-28 which they rented from 1924-1949 and bought in 1949 from Rance Laycock. He sowed his first crop of mixed grains using horses to work the field, he also had 15 head of cattle to start his married life. In 1926 a son was born.

John returned to Scotland for a Christmas visit in 1927 and returned to Canada in time to do the spring seeding, in March 1928. In 1931 their first home was burned and during that summer they built a new one. In 1939 he sold enough horses and bought his first land tractor. During the depression, Mr. Johnston kept sheep which helped to bring in money when there was no other cash available. He was able to sell wool and lambs from his flock of 135 ewes. He won

many first prizes in sheep shows at Foxwarren. At the same time, he also had Clydesdale show horses and registered Shorthorn cattle. During this period he served on many Boards. He was arbitrator for the sheep board members for ten years, going to Winnipeg as a delegate to a sheep convention. Mr. Johnston was also president of the Foxwarren colt club for the clubs duration with Thomas Hodgson and Louis Armit as secretaries. He was a director for the Pool Elevator for 26 years, a member for the Co-Op at Birtle (Fuel and Lumber), Foxwarren Co-Op Grocery department, and also on the Welwyn Co-Op Fuel board, going as a delegate to Regina.

Mr. Johnston bought the east ½ section of 1-18-28, the Tom Clarke farm. One granary on this farm was the old Moresby school, which Mrs. Johnston attended. Bush had to be cleared before they could build a home in 1948. On January 2, 1949 they moved to their new home. They built a second home in 1958 where he is now living. Mr. Johnston planted a spruce grove with trees from the Duck Mountain Reserve and many fruit trees in his garden. These fruit trees consist of apple, crabs, cherries, plums, black currents, red currents and gooseberries.

Mr. Johnston always had an interest in cattle, besides having purebred Jerseys, in 1956, he bought Angus cattle, and in 1963 the Galloway breed."

To bring things up to date, Mr. Johnston is now 94 years of age. (He was still cutting scrub in his late 80's). He keeps busy by working in the garden — planting, hoeing and digging potatoes. Always proud of his trees, he can be found out in the yard, pruning the trees and cutting away the grass from among them.

Now for a word or two about Mrs. Johnston. She was the only child of Matilda Ann Gray and John Black and was born November 21, 1899 in Glasgow, Scotland. The family came to Canada in 1910 settling first at Churchbridge, Saskatchewan. They moved to Foxwarren in 1912. She married John Johnston in 1924.

The oldest son, **Bill** was born April 30, 1926. He married Gwen Evans on October 30, 1949. He has been actively engaged in farming all his life. He is keenly interested in horse racing and owns a few horses. Doug Johnston was their first child. He married Lee Ann, daughter of Burton and Marie Johnston. Doug is now working at construction in Brandon. Norman, married Effie Moulson, daughter of Joe and Gertie Moulson on July 2, 1976. They moved to Calgary to take charge of a farm and fertilizer business. They have a young son, Trevor, who is Bill's first grandchild. David, married Heather Cameron, daughter of Alex and Elsie Cameron on

June 20, 1981. David is in the trucking business and Heather works for the Credit Union as well as teaching figure skating. Shellëy, Bill and Gwen's only daughter, married Mel Bonchuk, July 5, 1980. Mel is a farmer and Shelley is a figure skating instructor. Scott graduated from Birtle Collegiate in 1982. He is still at home. Gwen Johnston, died on July 15, 1980 at the age of 49. On October 10, 1981 Bill married Isabel Brown, widow of Allan Brown. They live on the original Johnston farm 2-18-28.

James Thomas Brownlee, second son of John and Elizabeth, was born January 28, 1929. He was named after Doctor Thomas Brownlee of Russell, who travelled by team through a winter storm to deliver the baby.

Jim married Lilian Drysdale on November 10, 1956. Their only child was born June 4, 1961. She attended school at St. Lazare, Foxwarren and Birtle. She won a scholarship to attend the University of Winnipeg. On July 12, 1980, Laurie married Scott Graham, of Brandon. Scott and Laurie live in Calgary. Scott has his own accounting firm and Laurie is in accounting with Seagull Resources. Lilian Johnston retired from school teaching in 1980 after 24 years of teaching in Milner Ridge, Foxwarren, Winnipeg, St. Lazare and Russell. She has always been active in festival work, especially in Speech Arts. She has directed and taken part in several plays put on by the Russell Community Players.

Besides farming, Jim enjoys curling. He is the coach of the Foxwarren Old Timer's Hockey Team. Every winter the team takes in a tournament in Minot, North Dakota. He has served on the Board of the Foxwarren Credit Union for several years. Jim and Lil live on 1-18-28 sharing the same farm yard as his parents. They went to Australia, March 1982, to visit Uncle Alex Johnston and all the Australian cousins.

Addie Johnston is the first daughter. She was born January 31, 1930. She married Ken Young on February 27, 1949. When Mr. and Mrs. Johnston celebrated their 50th Anniversary, Ken and Addie celebrated their 25th. Ken and Addie live in Virden. Ken and Addie have been over to Scotland to visit relatives. They have two daughters, Kathy and Dorothy. Kathy married Glen Ritchie of Virden on May 4, 1970. They live in Morden. They have two children, Bradley and Angela. Dorothy married Jerry Fox of Virden in 1973. They now live in Winnipeg and have two children, Shannon and Jeffrey.

Betty married Norman Henry April 1957. They have two children, Valerie and Russell. Valerie is an accomplished Scottish dancer. Professionally she is an ultra sound sonographer. Russell has many medals

from Scottish bagpipe competitions. They live in Winnipeg.

Frank was born July 2nd, 1935. On November 5, 1960 he married Yvonne Reddaway, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Reddaway of Melita. Frank worked for the Royal Bank for a time. He now has his own barber shop in Delta, B.C. They have two children, Ronald and Marnie.

The third daughter is **Margaret**. She was born August 22, 1939. On November 25, 1960, she married Garth Field. They live in Miniota. Marg and Garth have five children, Glengarry, Darryl, Roberta, Monica and Shauna.

The youngest daughter is **Ethel**. She was born May 23, 1942. After years of office work, she has taken nurses' training as a change of career. She visited relatives in Scotland. Ethel was married to Garry Cooper of Winnipeg on February 26, 1983.

So ends the saga of Mr. and Mrs. John Johnston — three sons — four daughters, seventeen grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Jones, John Morgan

Early in the 1900s the economy of Wales was in a severe slump and many Welshmen left to find a better life in Canada. One such person was John Morgan Jones. About 1929-30 he and his wife, Lil, arrived in the Foxwarren district and worked for Mr. Thomas Black (Mrs. Jack Johnson's father) and they learned the Canadian way of farming.

Mr. Jones was a veteran of World War I and he negotiated with the Soldier's Settlement Board for a quarter section of land. During 1931 they settled on NW¼ 34-17-28 and began farming for themselves. Their daughter, Betty, began her schooling at Foxwarren and Robert (Jackie) was still a young boy at home.

Early in the morning of February 25, 1932 their farm home caught fire and the neighbours, seeing the flames, went to help. Toddy Ferguson was the first one on the scene. Johnsons, Burdetts and others did what they could to help but in fact there was little that could be done to fight the fire. Mr. Jones had picked up his son, and although badly burned, they escaped. Mrs. Jones and Betty tried to follow but were trapped by the flames. Neighbours had to restrain Mr. Jones from re-entering the house for his wife and daughter.

Mrs. Ferguson took father and son in and nursed them back to health and helped them adjust to their loss. When they had recovered Mr. Jones and Robert returned to Wales to start a new life once again.

King, William Robert

Bob was born on September 3rd, 1916 in Ellice

Municipality to William and Henrietta King (nee Gwyer).

Bob recalls his folks running a boarding house in Saint Lazare for many years before the hotel was built. He also remembers stories told to him by his mother, of how she delivered the mail between Fort Ellice and Moosomin with a horse and buggy.

Bob joined the Service Corps in 1940. He married Winnie Jackson on February 18, 1941 in Birtle, Manitoba. They went down east for a time until Bob was sent overseas in 1942. Winnie returned to Foxwarren while Bob spent time with the Corps in England and Italy. He was discharged in November, 1945. Bob returned home to Foxwarren and worked for many years with the railroad. He and Winnie moved to Calgary in the fall of 1965. Bob retired in Calgary in 1975. Winnie works for Pinecrest Foods in Calgary. They have six children: Frances, Lorraine, Dorothy, Edna, Roberta and Robert, and eight grandchildren, all of whom reside in Alberta.

Kirbyson, Stanley Augustus

Stanley was born 1890 at Riverview, near Souris, Manitoba. He was reared from five years of age by the combined efforts of his sister and grandmother.

In 1917, he settled in the McAuley area, where he farmed until his marriage to Laura Mabel Street of Rocanville, Saskatchewan. In 1927, he moved to the Graham place in the Beaver Rapids district. About 1933 he moved across the road to the Traquair farm — here he farmed until moving to Fleming Saskatchewan in 1944.

Stanley and Mabel retired to Moosomin, Saskatchewan in 1962 where Stanley died in 1972 and Mabel in 1978. The family consists of: James Lyle who is employed at Glenboro, Manitoba; Eleanor Jean Hutton, R.N.A., Hanna, Alberta; Isabelle Patricia Koontz, R.N. Mt. Vernon, Washington, U.S.A.; Elizabeth Rose (Betty) Smart, McAuley, Man.

Kominko, Peter (1890-1963)

Peter Kominko came to Canada in 1910 from Jaroslaw, Poland. He settled in the Buchanan, Sask. area. Mary Hrychuk (1894-1968) came to Canada in 1911 from Western Ukraine. They married in 1912 in Yorkton, Sask. They farmed a quarter section of land on which they cleared bush and broke up sod. The soil was poor and crops did not grow so Peter went out working as far away as B.C. He worked in a lumber camp. He bought about 25 acres of forest land but lost it because he could not pay the taxes. In 1918 Peter was working in the Yorkton area and Mary, Helen (two weeks of age) and three other children



Peter Kominko Family. 50th Wedding Anniversary, 1962, Aug. 5. Back Row: Beatrice, Kay, Mike, Lee, George, Vicki, Francis, Helen, Vera. Front: Alex, Ann, Peter, Mary and Frank.

were home alone. It was a cold, frosty night in October and she had put the children to bed. Around midnight the house caught fire. Mary grabbed her baby and the other children and, holding a quilt with her teeth, quickly got out and settled the children on the quilt. She ran back into the burning building to get another cover and noticed her small daughter Mary, still sleeping. She had just time to snatch her up in a quilt and as she ran out the roof fell in. It was a terrible nightmare! Some gypsies who were tenting nearby saw the fire and helped Mary get the children to a neighbor's place for shelter. Following the fire, Peter and Mary, with help, built a log house which is still standing.

In 1927 they moved to Manitoba and farmed west of Binscarth, the old Rice place. In 1929 they moved to the Black and Armstrong farm, S.E. 19-18-28. They raised a herd of cattle and milked 15-19 cows. The cream was hauled to St. Lazare Creamery by horse and buggy. Peter liked to deal with Eugene Fouillard and very often he would bargain right to the very end on a piece of machinery. One wonders who got the best of the deal! Water was not suitable on the farm so it was hauled from Eric Wotton's place.

In 1945 Peter and Mary bought a farm three miles south of Russell. It had good water and they farmed there until 1954 when son Mike took over the farm. They built a two-bedroom retirement home in Russell. They were members of the St. Mary's Greek Catholic Church and Peter served on the church board for many years. In 1962 they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary and all 12 living children were home for this special occasion. Peter and Mary had 13 children. They are: **Frank** married Anne Snitynsky (Oakburn) — children William and Darlene. **Ann** (Mrs. John Wasylenki, Winnipeg) — children Jean, Linda and Bonnie. **Mary** (Mrs. Jack McDougal, Binscarth, deceased 1951) children Donna and Lana. **Helen** (Mrs. Eric Wotton) — chil-

dren Sandra, Don (deceased 1966) and June. **Alex** of Russell, served in W.W. II, died 1968. **Beatrice** (Mrs. Albert Steinwalt, Russell) — children Millie and Glen. **Kay** (Mrs. Arthur Burdett, Foxwarren) — children Ronald, Dale and Pam. **Mike** of Russell served in the Army in W.W. II for six months. **Vicky** (Mrs. Jim Scott, Toronto) — a son Doug. **Francis** (Mrs. John Burla, Winona, Ont.) — children Sherry, Doug, Robbie, Richard, David and Dennis. **George** married Edna Rose (Hamilton, Ont.) — children Larry, Randy, Brenda, Kathy. **Vera** (Mrs. Urban MacLellen, Toronto) — children Damien, Debbie, Dorinda and Doneta. **Lee** (Mrs. Steve Souchuk, Russell). All 13 children attended school at Gambler. For Peter and Mary there are 29 grandchildren and 30 great grandchildren including a set of twin girls born Dec. 16, 1982, Jennifer Lee and Jamie Lynn Kominko.

Kuch Family by Sam and Bill Kuch

Our father, Fred Kuch, came to Canada from West Austria at the age of five. Our mother, Mary, was born in Canada. They were married in 1923 and farmed in Marco district, R.M. of Rosburn, Man. They had four boys; Sam, John, Paul and Bill. Sam and John went to Bird School and later were moved to Ruska Rawa School. Paul and Bill started school at Ruska Rawa. In 1947, we moved to Wattsvew to the Paul Madiuk farm and Paul and Bill continued their schooling at Oxford. Paul went on to finish high school in Birtle and then to University and Teachers' College. He is now teaching at Plenty, Saskatchewan. John is married and lives in Fort William with his wife Mary and one daughter Phyllis. We (Sam and Bill) are still farming and living in the Wattsvew district. Dad continued to be active until his death in 1958. Mother passed away in 1962 after a lengthy illness.

Laferriere, Denis

Denis Laferriere was born at Aubigny, Man. Dec. 12, 1914. In 1927, aged 12, he went to live with his uncle Albert Bouchard at Birtle. For three years he went to school at Birtle and drove a school van with horses for his uncle. Then he went to work on the Scantlebury farm until he joined the Army in 1940. On Jan. 2, 1941, he married Irene Antoinette Chartier who was born to Henri and Letitia Chartier of St. Lazare, June 29, 1922. They lived in Winnipeg until Denis was discharged from the Army due to a shoulder injury. They returned to Birtle where Denis worked for a short time for his old boss, Jack Scantlebury. Denis had employment with Melvin Graham at Foxwarren, on the railroad, in a lumber camp at Pine



Laferriere Family. Standing: Pauline, Denise, Henriette, Henri. Seated: Irene, Denis, with Cyril, 1959.

Falls, at J. D. McFarlanes for four years, rented Bill Barker's farm for three years and finally, in 1949, bought the John Krahn farm at St. Lazare, 13-17-28, where he and Irene are still living. They lived in the old Krahn house for eight years before buying a house from Earl Salmon of Birtle for \$1200.00, which they moved to their farm and completely remodelled. They operated a mixed farm with cattle, poultry, grain, and pigs. Besides this Denis drove a school van for ten years and became a licenced electrician in 1961. They retired in 1979 selling the farm to their son Cyril and continuing to live in their newly remodelled home. Denis and Irene have five children:

Denise: born Sept. 19, 1941, married Joe Labelle, June 27, 1962. They lived at St. Rose for four years, Campbell River for a time, Uranium City for fifteen years and presently reside at Prince Rupert, B.C. They have three children: Rose Marie, Isabelle and Denis.

Henriette: born Oct. 1, 1943, married Guy Verschere July 31, 1965 at Uranium City. They have one child Ivan. Henriette is living in Montreal.

Henri: born 1947, attended school at Ellice and St. Lazare until he was needed to help out on the farm. Between seeding and combining he would work for Fouillard Implements. His hobby was his horses. When he was 19, Henri worked for a summer for Western Mines mining iron ore in B.C., but decided he was meant to be a farmer. In 1967 he and his father bought the Fenez farm, and rented the house to Gilles Bouchard. Henri worked out as well, building the bridge at St. Lazare, the elevator at

Foxwarren, driving a school bus, driving a Cat for Slater of Shoal Lake who was building roads in the Rossburn area, working for Fouillard Implements and grading roads in R.M.'s of Ellice and Birtle. Two pig barns were built in three years. In 1973 he and his father rented Frank Dale's section 1-17-28. On June 21, 1973 Henri married Debra Lorea Boulton of Birtle. In 1976 he and his brother Cyril purchased the Dale's land, and a third hog barn was built as well as an outdoor shelter. The year 1979 was extra busy, for a machine shed was built, a lean-to on the barns was built and Joel Henri was born Oct. 18. Fern Peppin began the construction of their new home in the spring of 1980; the Fenez house was sold to Ken and Carol Dupont who moved it three miles south of Henri's. Henri went into partnership with his inlaws, and three hog barns 40' x 400' were built. On Nov. 27, 1981, James William Gordon (Jamie) was born.

Pauline: born Dec. 17, 1947, married Bill Lischka March 31, 1967. They lived in Edmonton and Brandon and two sons were born: Brian in 1967 and Blair in 1970. Pauline was remarried to Jim Farrend Dec. 17, 1981 at Brandon.

Cyril: born Dec. 20, 1956, started farming at St. Lazare in 1975 renting land from Raymond Dupont and the Manitoba Agriculture Corporation. He

bought his dad's farm in 1979 and started a 150 sow farrow-to-finish hog operation. He married Terri McCall of Foxwarren July 23, 1977 and their son Jeremy was born Feb. 28, 1981. On March 13, 1983 Andrea Lise was born.

Lamb, John Wesley
recalled by daughter Eleanor (Nell) Falloon and
written by granddaughter Kay Arden Courtney

John Wesley Lamb (born January 20, 1864, in Gorrie, Ontario, Huron County), married Anne Jane Brooks (born July 21, 1866 in Collingwood, Ont.). The wedding took place October 15, 1884 at Lonesborough, Ont. Their first child, **William John Rossington (Ross)** was born June 25, 1889 at Gorrie, Ont., where John Wesley (Wes) was employed as a stone mason.

In 1891 Wes and Anne came west to homestead at Union, Manitoba, (near Neepawa). Here their second son, **Norman Wesley** was born February 21, 1892. Four boys and two girls followed, all born on the homestead. Wes often worked in the summers at his trade as a stone mason, building such structures as the Tremont Hotel in Minnedosa. For this particular job, Wes walked seven miles from the homestead



Lamb Family: Norman, Ross, Cecil, Freeman. Front: Nell, Anne, Trueman, J. W. (Wes) and Mae.

into Minnedosa each morning and then seven miles back in the evening after a full day's work.

In 1904 the family moved to Arden, Man. where Wes (J.W. as he came to be known), became a cattle buyer, travelling around the area, first by horse and buggy and then later in a McLaughlin-Buick automobile, bought in 1910. The family home in Arden was a two-storey, split-level stone house built into a hill, a short distance from the Whitemud River. The move to Arden provided the family with better schooling, piano lessons and the opportunity to attend Sunday school and sing in the church choir. The younger children, in fact, attended the Methodist Sunday school in the morning (J.W.'s family church), and the Presbyterian church again in the evening. As well, Wes and Anne, were very involved in the Methodist church. Baseball was the popular sport. **Eleanor (Nell)** recalls playing on a baseball team at Arden, called "Belles of the Season".

A small stable was located across the road from the house, which housed three cows, several chickens and "Nancy", the Shetland pony. Nell remembers, travelling to Neepawa with Mae and brother Trueman in a small buggy pulled by "Nancy", to see the Calathumpian Circus parade! Behind the house, near the well, was a cement milk house which kept the family in excellent milk and butter. Each fall J.W.



The Baseball Players: Nell Lamb (Pitcher), Mae Lamb (catcher), 1915.

had a box car of apples (usually Northern Spy and Russet), shipped by train to Arden from his family home at Gorrie, Ontario. After reserving a supply for his own family and the minister's, the remaining barrels of apples were quickly bought up. The Lamb basement was always well stocked for the winter. As Anne Lamb used to relate in her later years, whenever she was served her favourite vegetable (mashed turnip with a little brown sugar added), "Wes always put up at least two sacks of turnip each fall".

Pink lady slippers abounded on the Arden Ridge in those days and **Freeman** and **Cecil** found an enterprising way to earn some spending money with them. They sold the lady slippers at thirty-five cents a bunch, on the two passenger trains that went through Arden daily.

In 1912 J.W. decided to try his hand at farming again and moved the family to a 2½ section farm, twelve miles from Foxwarren, in Ellice. The first year was spent in a four room log house with the three oldest boys sleeping in a tent, heated by a wood heater. For the first two years the school, Gambler, was 2½ miles away. Isabel Phizacklea was the school teacher at that time. In 1914, J.W. donated a piece of land and the school was moved within a mile and a half of the Lamb home. The same fall (1914), John and Eugene Fouillard, from St. Lazare, completed a two-storey frame house for the family. In 1925, this house burned to the ground. Wes and Anne built again. Their second house is still standing today, and is now owned by Ed Perreault. The kitchens in both these houses had two pumps — one for soft water from the cistern and one for hard water from the well, an innovation in those days.

Ross, Norman and **Freeman** completed their education at Arden, with Ross and Norman going on to farming and Freeman going into the Royal Bank at Arden. **Cecil** completed his schooling at Gambler. **Nell, Mae** and **Trueman** went on to high school in Plumas, where they boarded with their Aunt Mae and Uncle Webster Lamb (editor of the Plumas Standard). Upon completing grade eleven there, Mae went on to Normal School in Winnipeg. After graduating, Mae taught in several Manitoba schools before marrying.

Baseball still played a large part in the lives of the three youngest, after moving to Ellice. With Nell as pitcher and Mae as catcher, they were a popular combination with various female **hard ball** teams. Nell says she never got hurt playing hard ball but upon trying soft ball, broke her finger. She has also often mentioned, how, when the girls were short a player for a certain baseball match, they hit upon the idea of dressing younger brother Trueman up as a girl! Poor Trueman was on "pins and needles" until

game time, as he could neither associate with the girls or the boys. The game went along great, with Trueman making several good catches. Then he forgot and slid into first base, showing off the knee britches he had on under the skirt. Melvin Graham spied them and said, "Hi there, Lamb. The jig's up!" To make matters worse, the girls on the opposing team, swooped down and began kissing poor Trueman!

In 1934 Anne and J.W. retired to a house in the village of Foxwarren. J.W. died December 14, 1939 at the age of 74, the result of a stroke followed by pneumonia. Anne moved to a house in the town of Russell in 1940, to be near sons Freeman and Trueman, who owned and operated the Russell Transfer there. Later, Anne found it necessary to give up her house and spent her time visiting between her children's homes, finally coming to stay with Nell, first at Foxwarren and then at 391 Beverley St., in Winnipeg. Anne died there November 2, 1952 at the age of 86, the result of several slight strokes.

During J.W.'s lifetime, he was known for his wit, hard work and honest dealings. Anne Jane, although small in stature (barely five feet), as compared with her husband's six feet, matched him in hard work. Anne never had a bad word to say about anyone and as a result was loved by all. She was remembered by many for her kindnesses to them.

Lamb, Ross

Ross, son of J.W. and Anne Lamb, was born in 1889. He married Esther Ducharme of Birtle. Their children were Bertha, who married Edward Pell of Liverpool, England in 1940. They have two daughters Gail and Janet, and live in Thunder Bay. Wesley married and is living in Vancouver with his wife, Jess. Their two sons died in separate accidents. They have one married daughter. Bill, who never married, died in Vancouver, in 1975. Esther died at Dauphin in 1922. Ross married Grace Black in 1925 in Winnipeg. Their children are Doreen, married and living in Calgary, with two daughters. Stuart, born in 1928, was killed in a plane crash. Lincoln born in 1930, died at Thunder Bay in 1973. James born in 1932 is an airline pilot. Glen born in 1934 is with the R.C.M.P. Robert born in 1936 is a chartered accountant.

Norman was born in 1892 at Union. He died in Calgary in 1956.

Freeman story follows.

Cecil was born in 1895. He married Margaret Halliday in Minnedosa in 1918. Cecil was killed in a gasoline explosion at Wainwright, Alta. in 1929. Their four children are: Wilfred 1919, Gladys 1920, James 1925 and Irene 1927.

Georgina Eleanor (Nell) see Falloon, Len and Nell.



Trueman Lamb with prize horse, 1931

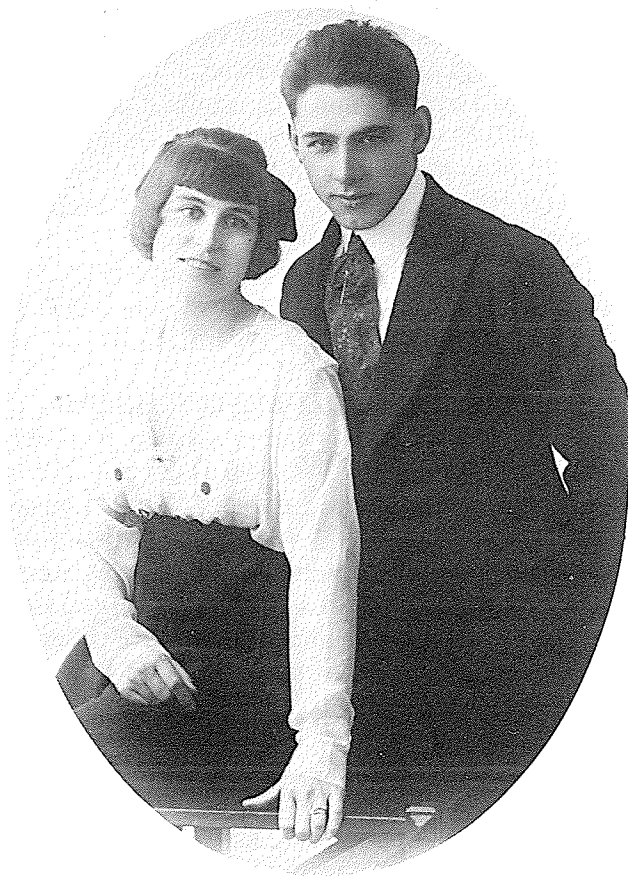
Mae (see Ellis Scotty and Mae).

Trueman was born in 1901. He married Nellie Butcher of Birtle in 1935. Nellie was a teacher at Gambler school in this area. Their children are Glenda, who married Ken Porter and has three children, Bradley, Andrew and Rhonda. Beverley who married Ron Meller, has three children, Gary, Randy and Heather. Trueman and Nellie live in Kamloops, B.C.

Lamb, Freeman and Ella

Freeman was born in Arden, Man. in Feb. of 1894, son of J.W. and Anne Lamb. His family moved to the Ellice Municipality in the early 1900s where they farmed what is still known as the Lamb farm, 13-18-29, now owned by Ed. Perreault. He married Eleanor Falloon, daughter of James and Mary Falloon, in Winnipeg, Dec. 1919. Freeman and "Ella" moved to 35-17-28 in the Crewe district. Two children were born there, Elmer in 1925 and Brooks in 1927. They moved to the Cox farm 4-18-28 where two more children were born, Murray in 1930 and Muriel in 1931. While farming, Freeman also ran a gravel crushing business with Scotty Ellis.

Freeman moved his family to Russell in 1934, where he started Lamb Bros. transfer with his younger brother Trueman. They hauled livestock to Winnipeg twice a week, rain or shine, and brought groceries and supplies to local merchants on their return trip. The Lamb children spent many weekends with their father delivering supplies and picking up livestock. Trueman ran a second hand furniture store that was looked after by his wife (Nell Butcher). Ella played a big part in the trucking business, being on hand at all times to answer the phone; the "office" was in the home. Ella was one of the liveliest members of the James Falloon family; she was a good



Eleanor and Freeman Lamb, 1919.

sport, a dare devil, an expert horseback rider, a hard worker, and loved by all. In Russell, their home was what used to be the hospital (later the R.C.M.P. barracks), a big house with a huge yard, with barns where they kept a cow or two, a horse, and there was plenty of room for trucks; an ideal place to raise a family.

The Lamb family moved to Alberta in 1943; Freeman purchased a tractor to do strip mining work at the Castor Creek Collieries at Castor, Alta. Brooks worked with his father, and after his discharge from the R.C.A.F. Elmer joined them. They spent off hours digging dugouts for local farmers. In 1945, they moved to Calgary, and road building became their main business. When Murray completed high school in 1948, he joined the company; F. W. Lamb and Sons Limited was founded. Each son had his own division, thus they worked harmoniously together as a unit. The first highway job was at High River in 1949. They eventually built many miles of roads in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

In 1954, Freeman bought virgin land at Sundre, Alta., that he broke up with his equipment. The family loved this place, the land was cleared, buildings put up and painted by Ella, along with gardening

and cooking. Farming and horses were in their blood; it was here that Freeman first brought trotting horses. He built a race track, and started breeding and training them. He was instrumental in bringing harness racing back into the limelight in Alberta. With Ella no longer at his side after her death in 1958, Freeman devoted all his time and attention to his horses and grandchildren. He loved to see spring come — a new batch of ponies, calves and grandchildren!

After the sale of the land in Sundre, he moved his horses to a farm near Balzac (north of Calgary). He was up at the crack of dawn to train and work with his horses. He won many prizes with his trotters, travelling far and wide with them. Freeman died in his sleep in the fall of 1970, while attending the Edmonton Race Meet.

Elmer, was educated in Foxwarren and Russell, served in the R.C.A.F. during World War II. He married Betty Hancock of Russell in 1949. They live on the farm near Balzac. They have five children; Shelley who is an R.N., is married to a teacher, Wayne Bushfield. They have one daughter Elanor born 1979. Rhonda, a secretary, is married to a geologist Bruce Holder. Their home is on the farm at Balzac, but they are presently spending two years in Indonesia. They have a son, Cody, born 1981. William (Billy) is working for Mobile Oil and farming with his dad. Christy is working with her Uncle Norm, at Norm's Ski Hut in Calgary. John, her twin, is taking agriculture at the U. of Calgary, as well as working on his dad's farm.

Brooks; educated in Foxwarren and Russell, went into business with his father. He married a secretary, Bernice Hall of Fort McLeod. They "gentleman farm" in the Bears paw area west of Calgary. Brooks has a keen interest in his son's road construction business. They have five children; Freeman Jr. who had a B.Sc. from the U. of Calg., married a nurse JoAnne Gallagher. They live on an acreage near Kimberley, B.C. They have three children, Ashley 1976, Matthew 1979 and Timothy 1982. Kenneth is in the road construction business. He married Diana Hubick in 1974. They live in Calgary with their three children, Dillon 1976, Clayton 1978 and Becki 1983. Lonni, is in business with his brother Ken. He is single and lives in Calgary. Russell (1958-1976) was an honor student; he finished high school in Calgary and died accidentally at the age of seventeen. He is sadly missed and loved by all who knew him. Lori; only daughter of Brooks and Bernie, graduated from Mount Royal College, and is living at home.

Murray; was educated at Russell, Castor and Calgary, went directly into business with his father and brothers. He married Joan Scott, a secretary

from Red Deer. After retiring, they live on Joan's father's farm at Red Deer. They had three children, Patricia, has her own dental practise in Edmonton. Donald (1958-1983) educated in Calgary, was a mason by trade. He helped with the building on his dad's farm, which shows his fine workmanship. He was interested in farming and had cattle with his father. Recently deceased and missed by all who knew him. James; lives on the home place in Red Deer. Works with his father on the land and with the cattle, plus holding down a job in Red Deer.

Muriel; only daughter of Freeman and Ella Lamb, married Norman Russell in 1955. Norm is involved in a family business, Russell Sporting Goods, founded by his father in 1920. Norm and partner Muriel also own Norm's Ski Hut in Calgary. They have four children; Andrea is a paramedic with the city of Calgary. She married Doran Jorgensen of Standard in 1981. Doran is in the 'Oilpatch'. They live in Calgary. Brooks; is a graduate of Mt. Royal College, where he took business administration. He is on staff at Norm's Ski Hut, which he will own and operate some day. Daniel; finished high school in Denver Colorado, took business administration, and is also working at Norm's Ski Hut, where he plans to be Co-Owner. Kori; graduated from school in Calgary and is attending Mount Royal College. Future plans . . . actress!

Laycock, Joseph Watson Family

Joseph (1872-1951), son of William (1839-1894) and Mary (Leavens) (1857-1915) Laycock came with his parents, brothers and sisters from Meaford, Ontario, to the S½ 30-17-27 (Birtle Municipality, bordering Ellice) in March, 1888. Laycocks swapped their Ontario land for this Manitoba farm with William Davey who wished to return to Meaford. It was a "gentlemen's agreement", the legal transfer taking place many years later.

On April 8, 1897, in Foxwarren, Joe married Clarissa (Dolly) Pizzey (1877-1954), daughter of Walter and Clarissa (Syms) Pizzey, who came to the Balmerino District from Fareham England in 1889. They were presented with a Bible thus inscribed "to the first couple married in Westminster Presbyterian Church — Jas. Lang officiating minister". Their first home was on NW¼ 24-17-28 (Ellice) rented from Mr. McCamon and farmed with the aid of one ox and one horse. In order to fulfill his homestead duties, Joe moved to a small frame house on SE¼ 36-17-28 (Ellice). This building was added to and improved upon as their family home until 1919. The bounty from a wolf provided more than enough to pay their first taxes. In 1898, Joe donated a corner of his homestead in order that Moresby School could be

erected. On November 5, 1900, Dolly's and Joe's first son, Walter, was born and on September 30, 1904, a second son, James, arrived.

The Joe Laycock land was acquired as follows: NE¼ 25-17-28 was bought from Peter Davey; SW¼ 36-17-28 from his brother, Rance; S½ 30-17-27 and SE¼ and NW¼ 25-17-28 was purchased from the estate of his brother, Ross.

On March 5, 1919, a third son, Joseph Ross, was born and later that month, Joe moved his family to the large two-storey home built for his mother on SW¼ 30-17-27.

James, married Ethel Mayhew, daughter of James Mayhew from Foxwarren on July 16, 1929, and began farming on SW¼ 36-17-28 and NW¼ 25-17-28. They had two daughters, Verna Louise, 1933, and Marjorie, 1935. After graduation from Foxwarren Collegiate, Verna became a Registered Nurse, Marjorie obtained a B.A. from United College. Verna married Ronald Smith, has five children, and lives in Michigan. Marjorie married Reverend Arthur Woitte and has three children. They served pastoral charges in Manitoba and Alberta before moving to Ontario. James served on church and school boards. He continued to farm until 1960 when he sold his land to a cousin, James Hamilton, and moved to Winnipeg. There he worked for the Tribune until his death in March, 1967. Ethel later married Bertram Biglow and presently resides in Ontario.

Walter was married in Zion Church, June 30, 1931, to Gertrude Cooper, elder daughter of close neighbors, Fred and Fanny Cooper. Joe, Dolly and Ross returned to the original homestead leaving the William Laycock farm for Walter. In 1932, Kathleen (Kay) was born to Walter and Gertie and in 1934, Elsie completed their family. Both graduated from Foxwarren Collegiate. Kay obtained a Home Economics Degree from University of Manitoba, then worked as a District Home Economist stationed at Shoal Lake until her marriage to Paul Prescott in 1955. They began their farm life together in Ellice, one and one-half miles straight West of her parental home. After Paul's death, she married his brother, Viateur. There are three children. Elsie attended University of Manitoba, taught school for a year, then married Arthur Butler of Solsgirth in July, 1955. They farmed before attending Manitoba Teachers College and teaching school. Later, both obtained University degrees and presently teach in Erickson. They have two children, Walter and Kerrie.

Through the depression years, the Laycock brothers each farmed their own land but shared machinery for quite some time. Sunday mornings found them together, socializing and planning the week's work. Times were hard and they had to struggle to

survive as farmers. It is to their credit that they managed not to lose any of their land. The sale of cord and stove wood added to the income, as did the sale of cream and the driving of the school van. They attended Zion Church, situated on a corner of their land; Dolly and Gertie taught Sunday School and all the ladies were active in Zion Ladies' Aid.

Ross married Edna Maud King of St. Lazare, daughter of William and Henrietta (Gwyer Ellis) King, in Foxwarren, December 24, 1943. The first winter was spent on NW¼ 24-17-28, this being the same land where his parents had started their married life — a coincidence since both times it was rented land. Their first home was moved to the Joe Laycock homestead from St. Lazare and Ross took control of this land. Joe's dream had been achieved — that of being able to have his three sons situated on their own land within view of his home. When a stroke confined Joe to his bed, Dolly patiently nursed her paralyzed husband until his death in January, 1951. She continued to live on the homestead delighting in her children and grandchildren until her death in March, 1954. Both rest in Zion Cemetery close to his parents, William and Mary. Ross and Maud moved to the parental home where they are today, keeping the homestead in the Laycock name. Ross acted as Church Secretary for a long time and is a member of Oddfellow Lodge. He has worked at various jobs off the farm during the winter months. Many relatives treasure the beautiful knitted articles made by Maud.

In June, 1976, Walter passed away at home, on the land that had meant so much to him. He was buried in Zion Cemetery. In September, 1977, Gertrude moved to live in a mobile home in Kay's yard, continuing to be active. Grandson, Mark Prescott, rents the farm, working the same land tilled by his grandfather, his great grandfather and his great, great grandfather.

Leaming, George and Myrtle

George was born in Yorkshire, England, July 3, 1887 and came to Minnedosa with his parents at the age of 4. There he attended school, and then started to work at the Livery Stable. Myrtle Agnes Douglas was born in Gilby, North Dakota, July 26, 1889. She came to Manitoba when she was 16 and worked for an Aunt, Mrs. McPherson who lived near Minnedosa. There she met George and they were married in 1914. They moved to the Ellice district and farmed for 8 years. (Tom Dale's farm). There 3 sons were born, Harry, Raymond and James. Due to crop failure, he lost the farm in 1922. He moved his family to the old John Corr homestead and started working for the C.N.R. There William was born. They moved again to the Alex McDonald farm, then to St. Lazare



Mr. and Mrs. George Leaming with Ray.

where they lived until George retired from the C.N. They lived for a time in Rivers, until the death of Mrs. Leaming in 1959. Then George made his home with his son Harry in Brandon. Because of hardening of the arteries, he had the misfortune of having both legs amputated. He died in 1959. While growing up he was very fond of sports, both curling and hockey. He was a member of Railroad B. M.W.E. at Melville, and an honorary member of the Rivers Legion. Myrtle was a very hospitable woman who had many friends and was always ready to help her neighbors.

Harry: the eldest son was born in 1916. He served in the army for 6 years. He farmed for only one year, then moved to Brandon where he worked as Laundry Manager at the Mental Health Centre. He married Vi Haggerty in 1948 and they had one daughter. Harry died in 1977 at the age of 61.

Raymond: was born in 1917 near Birtle. He served overseas with the army for 5 years. He farmed in the Wattsview district, then started working on the C.N.R. until he retired with his wife Marge to Woodlands, Man. Ray died in 1981 at age 64.

James: grew up and farmed in Wattsview until he sold the farm; he and his wife Elsie Brown moved to Saskatoon. They have three daughters.

William: lived on the farm until he joined the Airforce. When stationed at St. Catherines, Ont., he met and married his wife Rose. They live in Thunder Bay, Ont.

Leclerc, Andrew and Lizzie (Desjarlais)

Andrew and Lizzie came to this area in the late 1800's from St. Francois Xavier with their children, some horses and wagons and 25-30 head of cattle, travelling about twenty-five miles per day. They arrived at their homestead at what is known as "the Corner", (where Robert Leclerc still lives). As the family grew up, different homes were built in the area.

The family life style was very simple. After a long winter, the family would get out to tap maple trees and make syrup. With this they made maple sugar, and drank the water as tea. Bannock was a part of every meal, along with ducks and wild meat, such as muskrats. The family also made large vegetable gardens near the river. They fished all summer long in the Assiniboine using nets, scoops and traps. The river was also a good place to wash clothes and they were hung in the trees to dry. They had five children — Clara, Xavier, Eugene (Bill), Elizabeth and Mary.

Leclair, Xavier Sr.

He was born in 1885 at St. Francois Xavier. His father was Andrew Leclair, and his mother Liza Desjarlais, (a sister of Antoine Desjarlais). Andrew came from the States, where, is unknown. There were five children born to Andrew and Liza, Eugene who married Margaret Smith of Ste. Madeleine, Clara married Pat McKivor, Mary married Bill Copan of Saskatoon, and Lizzy married Alphonse Chantigny and lived in Russell. Xavier married Victoria Delorme in 1916. The family moved to a farm 19-17-29, five miles west of St. Lazare in 1900 where they homesteaded a ¼ section. They had horses, cattle and grew big gardens. When Andrew died in 1918, Xavier took over the homestead. He had ninety head of cattle; they milked cows, made their own butter, picked lots of saskatoons which they dried; grew and shelled peas and beans for winter use. Xavier liked playing the fiddle, and story telling. In the 1930's, brother Eugene took over the farm and Xavier worked as cook for construction gangs in Alberta, and as a cook in different bush camps. He was sick for only two years before he died in 1937. Xavier and Victoria's children were; Irene (McKay), Susan (Cadieux), Theodore, Jeanne (Kellington), Rita (Gardeppi) and Fred known as "Puck".

Leclerc, Elizabeth

Elizabeth married Alphonse Chantigny before World War I. Alphonse served in both World wars. They lived in Binscarth before moving to Russell where they make their home. They have one child, Milburn.

Leclerc, Mary

Mary married Bill Copan. They had two children. Mary died at a young age. Agnes Leclerc, Clara McIvor's eldest daughter, cared for the two young children. Later Agnes married Bill, and had two children, Marlene and Daniel. (See story Green, Marie Agnes Capon.)

Leclerc, Fred and Yvonne (Prescott)

I, Yvonne, was born in 1935 in McAuley with Mrs. Peacock as midwife. My parents are Madeleine Tanner and Andrew (Faggy) Prescott. My brothers and sisters are Joe, William (Sonny), Jacques, Grace and John. We were raised on a farm in an area surrounded by Piches, Byers and Tanners. My dog, Toby, was my childhood playmate. We lived in a small home; there were five of us living in a house 24 x 20. Joe was living at Mrs. Charlie Houles at that time. That winter was very severe and I remember my parents, among others, receiving relief amounting to \$5.00 a month. I went to Decorby School, being taught by the Sisters. Father was very religious, always seeing that the family got to church regardless of the weather. After I quit school (Grade VII) I lived with my grandmother, Margaret Tanner, who was blind. I learned to speak Cree during the time I lived and cared for her. About this time a letter came from Camperville for my grandmother. In this letter was a proposal of marriage from an old boy friend, Felix Ledoux. When my grandmother married again, I moved home, but Father was always away. We saw him a few times throughout the summer when he worked for CNR. In 1952, I married Fred Leclerc and we lived on the Leclerc corner where Fred was born.

We bought a shack from Lawrence Henderson for \$250. One year later we moved back to St. Lazare, having six children at that time — Richard, Andrew, Fabian, Johann, Francis and Mary Lou, to live on the Harry Jarvis farm on the side of the hill. Harvey Plante bought the place and again we had to move. We bought a shack situated by the river from Fred Peppin for \$125. We had no conveniences, and here three more children were born — Barbara, Teddy and Therese. In 1962 father came to live with us. That made 12 people living in a one room shack, but we added on a kitchen! Our place was mud plastered, crowded and very cold. We "banked" it with snow to try to make it more comfortable. We cut ice to melt for drinking water and in the summer hauled water from town, a distance of over a mile, in an old truck. The children walked to school winter and summer until 1965 when the school bus came to pick them up. The entire family walked to church on Sundays. We planted a huge garden; the boys did a lot of fishing;

and we tapped trees for maple syrup. Fred finally got a permanent job as a sanitary engineer. Again, we looked for a better home, which we found when Mrs. Eugene Tourond's house was for sale. Although our payment on this house was \$42.00 out of a \$72.00 pay cheque, we managed. This deal was made for us by Mr. Eugene Simard at the local bank. It was different because we now had hydro, an electric washing machine and a bigger house. Our son, Fabian, was involved in an accident and spent several months in the Winnipeg General Hospital. Andrew joined the Armed Forces. Fred got the job of School Van driver which he held until 1974. My father, "Faggy", died that year. I took an upgrading course in 1975 and in the same year I enrolled in the New Career Program for Metis. I graduated in 1977 and received my Counsellor's certificate — something I really worked to obtain. Mary Lou joined the Armed Forces and is stationed at Sioux Lookout, Ontario. Barbara, Richard, Andrew, Fabian and Francis are all married. Johanne lives in Calgary. Teddy and Therese are at home. We have 12 grandchildren, 2 boys and 10 girls. I am a member of the Ladies' Auxiliary, the Manitoba Metis Federation, a director of the South West region for Metis Women, an assistant truant officer for Birdtail School division, and an assistant probation officer.

Leclerc, Eugene (Bill) and Marguerite (Smith)

"Bill" came west with his family in 1900. He married Marguerite (Maggie) Smith of Ste. Marthe in 1912. They lived and raised their family at the homestead 36-17-29 where his son Robert is living today. Bill died in 1972 and Maggie in 1977. They had seven children; **Bert** married Leonore Fiddler, and has three children. Rita (Mrs. Joe Hayden), Mary (Mrs. Maurice Houle) and Leona (Mrs. Maurice Belhumeur). **Alphonse** lives on the "Corner" with Robert. **Alice** married Leo Desjarlais. They live in Foxwarren. They had six children. **Olive** married Bill Smith. They lived in this area where Bill had a jewelry shop. They moved to Kindersley, Sask. They have three children, Maynard, Joan, and Diane. Olive died in October of 1977.

Lawrence called Bebe lives at the Corner.

Leclerc, Robert

Robert was born in 1923, son of Eugene and Marguerite Leclerc. His wife Alma Houle was born in 1931; both were raised near St. Lazare. Robert works as a farm laborer, for the Lefrancis, the Falloons and others. He cuts posts and does a lot of fencing. They make their home 5 miles north of St. Lazare. They have nine children; **Rene** born in 1951 is married to Alvina Ducharme. Rene is a truck



Robert Leclerc Family: Alma, Janet, Alice, Ron, Rene, Marie Anne and Robert. Front: George, Joyce, Rose and Linda.

driver for a vegetable farm at Portage la Prairie where they make their home with their three sons, Chris, Eugene, and Johnny. **Janet** (1952), is married to David Carr. They live at Russell with their two boys, John and Darren. **Mary Ann** was born in 1954 and is married to Murray Grassinger, a trucker at Rossburn. They have two boys, Jason and Stanley. **Alice** 1955, is married to Doug Grassinger, also, a trucker of Rossburn. They have one son, Darrell. **Linda**, born in 1959, is married to Keith Hodge, another trucker at Rossburn. They have one daughter Jennifer. **Rose** 1960, is married to Ken Ament of Rossburn, a surveyor. Three children are still at home, **Ronald** born 1953, **George** 1957 and **Joyce** born in 1951.

Leclerc, Walter and Reta

Walter "Jim" was born in 1931, the son of Eugene Leclerc and Marguerite Smith. Jim and his brothers and sisters attended Gambler school, about a two mile walk. Only on very stormy days did they miss, or their dad took them with the team and sleigh. Jim started working out when he was in his early teens, he remembers driving a stook team during harvest at Bert Falloon's. He worked in a bush camp near Dryden, Ontario, his first time away from home. He was seventeen. Jim worked for C.N.R. for nine years, then for Fouillard Lumber, building "ready built" homes. He had a couple of years at the Potash Mine, then started working with Fern Peppin again as a carpenter.

Jim married Reta, daughter of Jean Baptiste Houle and Elizabeth Fiddler, in May of 1962. Their first home was a small trailer, then they bought a house and moved it to the present site near the Assiniboine River. In spite of their beautiful view, their location has its drawbacks; they have had to move out several times due to the river flooding! Their children

are: **Marguerite** who married Walter Safi who hails from Tennessee. He was working on the C.N.R. They lived in Gerald but plan to move to Tennessee. They have one child, Kristy Lynn. **Elizabeth**, (born 1964) has lived and worked in Portage la Prairie. **Denise** (1965), has been working in Portage, too. **Jean Marc** (1966) and **Ernest** (1969) are attending school.

Leclerc, William as told to Yvonne Leclerc

I was born in 1909 in Assessippi, Man., one of nine children, Flora, Alex, Albert, Léonore, Adèle, Hilda, Cécile, Vitaline and one died when a baby. My mother was Flora Lépine and father Jean Baptiste Leclerc.

Dad was born in St. Eustache, Man., and later moved to St. Laurent. He then left with his brother Andrew and came to live at Fort Ellice. When living in Assessippi, he made lime and sold it. Mr. McLennen had a store there.

After he got married, he took a homestead, the first one six miles north of St. Lazare. He let that go when he saw he couldn't make a go of it, as there were too many stones and the land was no good. He left and got another homestead, ten miles this side of Binscarth, next to the Lamb family and stayed there until the big flu. He lost his two boys, and he sold his land, cattle and horses and moved back to St. Lazare. He stayed by the old cemetery for fourteen years. He built a log house and gradually added to it until finally he had four houses together like a box car. They called this place "Chimney Fort", because the houses had tall stove pipes.

Mr. Lépine bought Israël Tremblay's house and moved it on top of the hill S.W. of St. Lazare. They moved it with a steam engine. They then moved Chartier's house and used it as a boarding house.

I used to go to catechism in the old brick church by the cemetery. The rectory was where Mr. Blouin taught school.

Once Rev. Father Decorby was going to say mass in Ste. Madeleine. When he got half way up the hill, he looked back and saw the rectory burning, he just kept on going. After that the priest moved to town and they built him a rectory; the one which is still in use today. The church was where Mrs. Norman Haney has her house. I was an altar boy and served mass with the priest.

Rev. Father Desmarais is buried in the old cemetery. Israel Tremblay and I dug the grave. I was an altar boy then, and carried the big cross from the church to the cemetery. There were twelve priests and the Archbishop. Everyone walked three-quarters of a mile. We followed the hearse pulled by horses.

When you looked back, you could see the people three-quarters of a mile back, it was a big funeral procession.

This happened in the fall. My mom and dad were out threshing and I was alone in the house. I had no coal oil for the lamp. We had a big tomcat and the door was open. There were dishes on the table and when he jumped on it he made a heck of a noise, I didn't know what it was. Finally I found a match, lit it and saw the cat running out. It sure scared me.

Once Braendle came and woke me up at 4:00 in the morning. He needed help to put a double box in a grave that had to be ready for the coming day. There were screws on the box and as we let it down, it got hooked to my jacket and down I went head first, in the grave, box and all. I'm telling you I got out of there like a bullet. He was a big priest — Father Desmarais. He heard confessions of the people and told them that he was going to die soon. Sure enough he died that night. He was a holy priest.

Mr. Roy and myself built the little house over the grave. I hauled the stones with a wheel barrow. This little building was used to keep bodies in the winter time when the ground was too hard to dig.

That's where I got scared again. I had the key to it, La Charnière, which was the name given to that little building. In it were shovels, picks and everything needed to dig a grave.

Mary Vivier lost her oldest son and they brought the little boy over from Birtle, thirteen miles away. They arrived before six o'clock at night and asked me where they could put the body, so I brought them to "La Charnière". Louis Vivier and Alphonse were there too. I put the little body in it and locked the door. All at once someone started yelling. I couldn't understand what it was or where it was coming from. I started running towards the house. I really was scared. I was all puffed out when I went in. Mom looked at me and asked, "Where's Alphonse?" Then I realized who was in the small building, so I went back. He was a dark man, Alphonse, but when I opened the door, he was as white as a sheet.

After living fourteen years near the cemetery, we moved to China Town, about four miles S.E. of St. Lazare. It was a little settlement of Métis people. There were quite a few families there. That's why they named it like that. A few of the families living there at that time were the Houles, Fiddlers, Ledoux, Boyers, Fleurys. We had a lot of good times along with bad ones. There were lots of dances, square dancing and jigging. We had a special team to take us to dances. Good old days . . . We'd go as far as Binscarth by sleigh.

People made a living in the summer, scrubbing, and during the winter, cutting wood and posts which

they would sell. Laurent Blouin had hired a bunch of men to cut cord wood at .50¢ a cord. We had a contract selling wood to the creamery and the convent. We had two teams of horses to help us along.

I worked for ten dollars a month and always had money. The government gave the farmers \$10.00 a month, \$5.00 for the worker and \$5.00 for the farmer. My boss, Mr. Blouin gave me the whole ten.

I played a lot of cards, nearly all night. Games such as "500", barouche, bull moose. Some would walk or come in a "barlot" to play cards. They had lanterns and you could see their lights from a long way.

Some girls would walk from town to come to our dances and when they reached home their legs were frozen. That didn't discourage them, they were back the following week.

I remember the ferry, it was beyond the train bridge on the Assiniboine River. Norbert Fleury looked after it.

At Fort Ellice there was a boarding house and a hotel. The army came and used the place for training. There also was a Hudson's Bay store which bought buffalo hides.

Mr. Lépine started from Winnipeg on horse back carrying the mail up to Edmonton.

While living on the prairies, Mrs. Ambroise Boyer's first husband, was warned by her not to light his pipe at night for the Sioux would shoot him. He lit it anyway and got shot. Right away she sent their 14 year old boy to look for a Métis camp and ask for help. It took him three days before he returned. All this time she stayed and slept in a tent, with her husband who was dead — you had to be careful as the Sioux and the Métis were fighting then.

There are two cemeteries at Fort Ellice. Old Mrs. Boyer used to tell us that there is a treasure buried there. Four Englishmen who stole gold came as far as Fort Ellice and hid their treasure just before they were killed. The gold was never found.

There was a log drive on the Assiniboine. Logs were cut up North and driven down to Brandon. Dad used to work on that. As soon as the ice was moving they would drive the logs behind the ice. There was once some logs jammed thirty feet high. Dad and Johnny unjammed it. They had a barge where they ate, dried their clothes and slept. The most difficult place for the logs to pass was at Assessippi, the river was fast and narrow.

There was a flour mill in Birtle and this gave work to people. We would haul wood for the mill and exchange it for flour and oatmeal.

In Chinatown, there were quite a few lime pits on the side of the hill. I had an oven. I would dig a hole ten to twelve feet deep and fill it with rocks; then light

a fire which would last two to three days. When the flames would change color, the lime was ready. I sold the lime for so much a barrel. People would use it to whitewash their houses. It replaced the paint. I remember people would whitewash their log houses nice and white for Christmas.

People were better off in those days, than now. You had no rent, hydro or telephone bills to pay. A gallon of coal oil for your lamp lasted a long time and cost about 10¢ or 15¢ a gallon. There were no finance payments either.

If we were out of coal oil, my mother made a grease lamp. She tied a button on a piece of cloth and put grease in a dish. The button and piece of cloth served as the wick. We played cards by this light. It was bright. Mother used to say that ever since people have electric lights and televisions, they're just about all wearing glasses. A long time ago there was hardly anyone wearing glasses.

At 31, I married Clara Genaille. We had six children, among them a set of twins and two boys who died. We've been married 39 years. My wife was from San Clara.

I worked cutting wood and posts up to 1942. Then I worked for a sheep farmer for six years. I bought a half section of land and worked it for six years. As there was no school for the children, I sold it and went back as before to cutting wood and posts and whatever carpenter work on the "good roads".

I moved to Corr's and looked after cattle up to 1955. Then I moved on to Raymond Dupont's land and drove the school bus for five years. I am now living in Brandon, am still in pretty good health.

Ledoux, Margaret

born April 13th, 1882, as told to Yvonne Leclerc

My mother's name was Melanie Morand, she was French and my father's name was Edward Fleury. My grandfather and grandmother were French also.

There were nine in our family — four boys and five girls. Edward, Louis, Johnny, Joe, Suzette, Agathe, Mary (Totewich), Helen and Veronique.

Times were hard. Our house was made of logs with a sod roof, then plastered with dirt. We had only one room with two beds. To make our beds we made holes in the logs about three inches in, and put the poles in there and cut little poles across as we had no springs — then filled potato bags with grass or straw for our mattress. To make pillows, we filled them with all sorts of old rags. We picked slabs of wood people threw away at the saw mill. Our cupboards were apple boxes nailed to the wall. At the garbage dump, we picked pieces of tin to put on the roof under the sods.

Early in the spring when the pig weed was young

we picked that — cooked and ate it. We set traps for gophers, ground hogs, squirrels, skunks, even little wolves which we ate. We would cook the food over an open fire outside, we kept turning the meat on a stick over the flames until it was nice and brown. When we wanted to eat something extra good we got wheat and cooked it in a frying pan until brown, then we'd mash that in a pan with lard. That was good! When a farmer was killing a beef we asked for the tripe and feet. We chopped up the feet and fat from the tripe and rendered it down for lard, then took a bit of flour or shorts and thickened it like a gravy. I remember when there was a farmer that lost his horse, it died from I don't know what, but we went and got pieces of steak. It's a wonder we didn't get sick. We were hungry many times.

When we bought flour, we used the bags for underwear. If we didn't have those bags we would have gone naked. We picked up old clothes at the garbage dump to make blankets. Our brooms were made from little blue rushes tied together.

Tobacco was made from red willows mixed with used dry tea leaves. To make our flour last longer, we mixed it with shorts and bran. Then the bannock was a dark color. When someone had a taste for bread, we would go and pick "Les Vomnoe" which was used for yeast. You pick that in the bush.

I married Joe Tanner when I was 23 and we had eleven children. We lived in Lebret, Sask., then moved to the Gambler Reserve near Millwood. The first kids were born on the Gambler Reserve. There were a lot of people on the reserve. Some of them sowed wheat. This was done by hand carrying the seed in a bag on their shoulder. They cut their grain with a scythe and threshed it by putting the sheaves on a big canvas and beat them with a stick. Then it was brought to the mill at Birtle to make flour. It was hard, very hard, to try and survive.

When my children reached the age of five they had to go to school in Lebret. We were forced by the government, to send them. If we didn't they would come and get them, they were strict in those days.

My husband did a lot of hunting, he killed rabbits for meat and sold skins. My son Arthur was a young boy and wanted a suit so bad that he saved all the rabbit skins until he had enough to buy his suit. Rabbit liver we saved until we had enough for a meal, then we'd fry it; gosh, that was good!

When my husband hunted, if we had too much, we shared with other families. I did all the rabbit skinning. The way we trapped prairie chickens, was to raise a wagon box half way up, put a stick to hold it there, and have a rope or strong string far enough away where someone was watching. We would put grain for bait. When there were quite a few chickens

underneath, we'd pull the string and the box would fall. Then we sent someone inside to kill them.

Christmas and New Years was a time we used to enjoy. We'd bundle our children good and go in a van on top of a sleigh with a stove in it, this was nice and warm for the children and we'd go from house to house. We used to go to Ste. Madeleine alot.

One of the main dishes was rabbit meat balls. The legs were saved for a while before the holidays and when they had enough meat, they would make it into hamburgers for the Christmas and New Years meat balls. Half a bag of flour cost 75¢ and a few families had their own chickens at Ste. Madeleine, so they had eggs. They baked cakes and home made bread-pies.

We danced a lot, the music was the mouth organ and violin. Willie Boucher played the violin and mouth organ; my husband played the fiddle too, so when they had a dance they would ask him to play for them. So I'd bundle the family up and away we'd go. When the children got sick we had no doctor. Our main medicine used was Castor Oil. There was a lady who had her herb medicines if the children would not get well.

We had to come to St. Lazare for baptisms, funerals and midnight mass. Sometimes we went to a church in Ste. Madeleine where a priest came once a month.

My cousin "Fresin" Belhumeur, (Jeremie B.), had a big family and a big house. She was greedy, she had babies two at a time. My mother was the midwife and delivered her babies. We stayed there at the reserve until our family was raised. My husband died when my youngest girl Sarah was five years old.

There were lots of families in Ste. Madeleine. There were the Frank Fleurys, William Fleurys, John Fleurys — there were a lot of Fleurys and they had nice looking girls.

I never went to school. I didn't want to go and my mother always says they should have taken the strap if necessary. But it's to late now. I should have been forced to go to school. I guess the old people didn't know any better.

I married John Ledoux and moved to Welby, Sask. We had no children. During those years I started to have vision problems. We then moved to "China Town" a few miles from St. Lazare.

We had very little money to seek medical help. I had cataracts. I went to the municipality. They had to have a meeting before they could help me with money and in the meantime my eyes were getting worse. So finally they gave me money for my train fare to Winnipeg for an operation but it was too late. So I have been blind ever since. After John, my husband died, I stayed with Mrs. Charlie Houle and

lived there for quite a few years. Then I left and came back to live with my daughter Rosalie Langan in Rapid City and later we moved to Prince George, B.C. for a few years. Then I came back and lived with my daughter Madeline. I still have four children left, two boys and two girls. At my age the good Lord is still keeping me in good health, although I have been blind for thirty-five years.

No, I'd never want to live my life again, we were too poor.

LeFranc, Guillaume

Guillaume was born at Bretigny, France in 1877. His wife Marguerite (Tanguay) was born in 1873 in France. Guillaume left France in 1905 to come to Canada to homestead at St. Lazare on 30-17-28. Later in that year his wife and two children, Guillemette (1902) and Jean (John) (1905) born in France, joined him. Guillaume worked at camp #6 for C.N.R. Four more children were born in St. Lazare — Guillaume (Joseph) (1908); Marcel (1910); Louis (1912) and Henriette (1914) died in 1916.

A new house and barn were built in 1920 on NE ¼ 30-18-28. Because the barn burned, it was decided to move the house to SE ¼ 30-18-28. Here a barn, hen house, machinery sheds and granaries were built. By that time he had a big herd of cattle and horses. They milked cows and shipped cream. The yard was full of chickens, ducks, turkeys and geese.



Lefrancis: Guillaume et Marguerite Lefranc avec Guillemette, 1915.

Marguerite passed away in 1945 at the age of 72. Guillaume passed away in 1958 at the age of 81.

LeFranc, Guillemette

Guillemette spent her life looking after her parents and milking cows. She was a hard worker; a very good natured person, dedicated to her parents, and her farming ventures. She is now being cared for in Brandon.

LeFranc, Jean and Gertrude

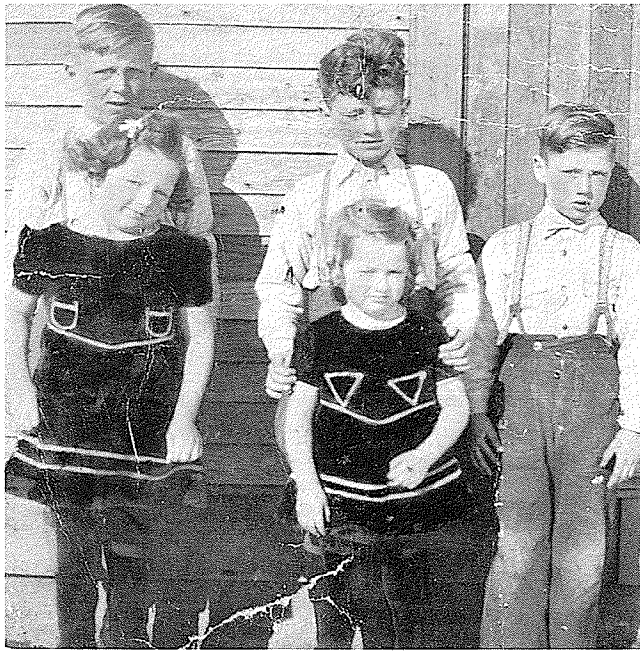
"John" Mathurin was born in April 1905 at Gueret, France. He came to Canada with his mother and sister, Guillemette, to his father's homestead 30-17-28. John married Gertrude Blouin (July 1913)



Lefranc Family. 50th wedding anniversary, 1982, Oct. Ernest, Henriette, John, Gertrude, Rosaline, Marcel, René.

in Somerset on October 25, 1932. They lived on S ½ 6-18-28 in a small two-room house. Here four of their five children were born. By the time Rosalie arrived, they had built a new house. The farm was very stoney, and the boys remember spending many hours after school and evenings "picking stones". Stones from the farm were used for rip-rapping when the bridge was built on the road heading west from town. John had a large herd of cattle and Gertrude did most of the milking by hand — sometimes as many as 18 cows. Times were tough during the 1930's but there was always enough to eat, with a large garden, wild berries, poultry, eggs and milk.

Gertrude's mother, Leatitia Blouin, died at 50 years of age. The younger brothers and sisters of Gertrude spent a good deal of time with her, especially Joe who was only two when his mother died, filling the small house to capacity. In 1958, the LeFrancs moved to The Pas where they were employed at the La Verendrye Motel. They moved to Terrace, B.C. for a year, returning to St. Lazare in 1973. John and Gertrude celebrated their 50th Anniversary in October of 1982.



LeFrancs: Ernest, Rene and Marcel. Front: Henriette, Rosaline LeFranc.

The children of John and Gertrude are: **Ernest** born in September 1933. He left St. Lazare for Kitimat, B.C. in 1955 to work as a surveyor for Alcan. He met and married Sandra Monroe in November 1959 and now lives in Salmon Arm, B.C. Ernest worked as a captain on a freighter between the Mainland and the Queen Charlotte Islands. The children of Sandra and Ernest total six — Michelle (1960) married Neal Hadley of Salmon Arm. They now live in Penticton, B.C. **Vera Lynn** (1961) married Robert Arneson of Vancouver, B.C. They have two children, Terry and Jennifer. **Gregory** (1963) attends University in Lethbridge, Alta. **Denise** (1965) works in Salmon Arm, B.C. **Bruce** (1966) attends High School in Salmon Arm. Shannon (1967) is also attending school.

Rene was born in October 1934. He moved to The Pas where he worked for the Department of Highways. It was here he met his wife-to-be Barbara Anderson. They were married in November 1962. They moved to Terrace, B.C. in 1965, where Rene continued to work for Highways until 1978. Another move took them to Salmon Arm, where Rene did construction work. Their children are Rachelle (1964), attending University in Kamloops, B.C.; Kama (1965) attends Kamloops University; Darren (1966); Koran (1967) and Danielle (1968) all attend high school. **Marcel** was born April 1st, 1936. In 1956 he left St. Lazare for Kitimat where he worked for Alcan doing survey work. He married Barbara Sathewait of Kitimat in July, 1959. The children are Anita (1960), Linda (1962), Donna (1965) and Marc

(1966), all attending various schools in Kitimat. **Henriette** see Paul Fouillard story. **Rosaline** who was born in March 1939, married Bernard Fafard in July 1959. Their children are, Ronald (1961) who married Michelle Harrison of Rocanville in 1982, Natalie (1964) is taking a hair dressers course in Regina, Timothy (1968) and Danielle (1972) attend school in Rocanville. Rosaline who was widowed in 1974, now lives in Ste. Marthe.

LeFranc, Joseph

Joseph (Guillaume) was born in 1908 in St. Lazare. He and Therese Blouin (1923) were married in 1940. They had four children; Gerald (1943) lives at home; Marcella (1948) married Wayne Collins, a farmer at Russell. They have five children — Brian, Tina, Jo-Anne, Sarah and Jonathan; Jacqueline married Wayne Plummer. They and their child live in Regina; Camille married Shelly Heibert and lives at Portage la Prairie.

Joseph has farmed and lives on 5-17-28 since he was 18 years old. He also has land holdings at Wellwyn.



Joe LeFranc Family.

LeFranc, Marcel

Marcel was born in 1910 in St. Lazare. He bought a small acreage in the Qu'Appelle valley and farmed there for several years and sold Watkins products. He married Rolande Giguere in 1941 and the couple moved to Vancouver to operate a Peat Soil business. As a side line, they sold evergreen trees. Their family of four is now living in various places. Clement (1942) is married and lives in Nelson, B.C.; Beatrice (1944) is married and with a family of three lives in

New Zealand; Marguerite (1949) is married and lives in Peace River, Alberta; Lorette (1954) is married and lives in Grand Prairie, Alberta.

Marcel's wife, Rolande, passed away in 1968. After the two younger girls left home to marry, Marcel bought an acreage in DeRoche, B.C. He now lives in Mission, where he is retired and from where he travels on sight seeing tours.

LeFranc, Louis

Louis was born in 1912. He and his sister, Guillaumette looked after their parents until they passed away. They continued farming for 16 more years until Guillaumette became ill. Louis sold everything — the farm cattle and machinery and bought some land in Kipling, Sask. After a few years of farming there, Louis bought himself a trailer and retired.

Legge, George (Butch)

George Legge, or (Butch) as he was more commonly known was born at Ely, north of London. He was a Boer War veteran. George arrived in St. Lazare, from England, after W.W. I. As his name implies he was a butcher by trade. He never tried to hide the fact that he was a family black sheep. The custom in those days was to send "remittance men" to distant parts of the world so as not to cause embarrassment to the rest of the family. He worked for farmers in the area and for sometime plied his trade at Lou Guay's meat market. Probably he is best remembered for the days he travelled a "gentleman horse" through the area to insure the equine population was kept up to the necessary level.

Butch, a very kindly soul, was known as a "pied piper". Children would gather and follow him to Babe Fouillard's store. Here, Butch would have children fitted with celluloid sun visors and as they were leaving the store each one received an ice cream cone.

When Fred Mouillierat left the farm to open a store in McCreary, Butch went with him to operate the meat market end of the business. How many years this was his home is not known but he returned to St. Lazare in the early 1940's. He and John Fouillard became fast friends and he lived in a small house behind the school. When so required Pitsy Tremblay was his chauffeur. In later years Butch moved to a home of his own close to Alex Fouillard's. Sometimes he would act as night watchman at the Binscarth hotel. When he could not be found at home, a likely place to look for him would be a quiet corner in the local pub. Here he would be enjoying a pint with his friends John Fouillard or Pat McIvor. Butch passed away in Birtle Hospital.

Lemoine, Noël et Rosa

Noël naquit à St. Robert, Québec le 25 décembre, 1898. Ses parents vinrent s'établir à Ste. Agathe, Manitoba et déménagèrent à St. Lazare en 1904 sur une ferme située à l'ouest du village. Noël fréquenta l'école quand il pouvait mais commença à travailler très jeune. A l'âge de douze ans, il fit les battages chez Joe Wilson. Après la mort de son père, alors qu'il n'avait seulement que treize ans, lui et ses frères Bert et Arthur durent travailler pour subsister aux besoins de la famille qui habitait au village à l'époque. Ils prirent différents emplois sur le C.N.R. et parfois comme bûcherons à des endroits aussi éloignés que la Colombie Britannique, parce que le travail se faisait rare. En hiver, quand le monde n'avait pas d'eau courante, Noël allait chercher de la glace sur la rivière pour vendre au monde qui s'en servait pour leurs besoins de lessive et pour d'autres qui l'entreposaient dans les chaumières et qu'ils recouvraient de brin de scie pour servir de réfrigération à l'été.

Rosa naquit en 1919, fille de Rosario Huberdeau et Eugénie Guay. Elle fréquenta d'abord l'école Ellice et vint ensuite à l'école Decorby. Elle et sa soeur Jeanne furent les premières pensionnaires des religieuses dans la maison de Lionel Chartier, car le couvent n'existait pas encore à cette époque là. Rosa prétend qu'elle a eu une jeunesse bien tranquille. Ce n'est pas difficile à croire parce qu'elle raconte avoir été bannie des Enfants de Marie par le curé parce qu'elle avait dansé une quadrille à une danse qui avait lieu à l'école Ellice. C'était le scandale et la tragédie dans la famille! Sa mère était en neuvaines perpétuelles pour qu'elle soit ré-admise dans cette organisation.

Noël et Rosa eurent leur union bénie le 3 décembre, 1945 par M. le curé Paquette. Ils vécurent, pour commencer, dans deux chambres de la maison Lemoine, l'autre partie étant louée à Théodore et Anne Dupont. Après leur mariage, Noël alla à Wellwyn avec William Roberge pour bâtir une maison pour les Langleys. Il revenait à la maison seulement qu'une fois par mois. Jeanne Fouillard tenait compagnie à Rosa durant ce temps là. Noël travailla ensuite avec Oscar et Léon Dupont, comme charpentier et ensuite pour Good Roads pour bâtir des ponts. Noël mourut en 1963. Rosa travailla à l'hôtel pour un certain temps. Elle gagna un gros montant à la loterie, pris un voyage à Rome et fit des rénovations considérables à sa maison. Malheureusement elle eut un incendie dans sa demeure et fut obligée de tout recommencer.

Noël et Rosa eurent six enfants: **Noella**, née en octobre 1946, prit un cours de coiffeuse, maria Lester Smith de Birtle. Ils habitent à Thompson où

Lester travaille à la mine. Ils ont cinq enfants Keith, Natalie, Vivian, Wayne et Rebecca.

Marie, née en novembre 1947 prit un cours de garde-malade enregistrée à St. Boniface et travaille à l'hôpital de Russell depuis sa graduation. **Jacqueline**, née en décembre 1949, maria René denBrok le 2 juin 1967. René naquit en Hollande en 1945 et vint à Esterhazy, Saskatchewan avec sa famille en 1952. Quand il arriva à St. Lazare il travailla chez Andre's Auto Body Shop jusqu'en 1975 lorsqu'il établit son propre commerce. René et Joco vécurent pour cinq ans dans une roulotte et achetèrent ensuite la maison de John Selby. En 1982 ils vendirent cette maison pour la remplacer par une neuve. René et Joco sont tous les deux actifs dans les 4-H et mouvement scout. Ils ont trois enfants, René, jr. né en 1969, Yolande née en 1972 et Telly né en 1976.

Yolande naquit en 1953 et mourut à l'âge de quatre ans.

Annette née en juillet 1954 travailla à Edmonton comme sténographe après sa graduation de l'école de Birtle. Elle maria Henri Villeneuve, charpentier. Ils habitent à Stony Plain, Alberta où ils firent l'achat d'une maison. Ils ont deux enfants, Patrick et Melissa.

Jean-Marc né en juillet 1955 prit plusieurs emplois à sa sortie de l'école, au garage d'André Perreault, pour le C.N.R., à la mine, dans les puits d'huile. Il est présentement employé sur la construction de la pipeline. Il maria Rosalie Fouillard née en avril 1957, fille de Denis Fouillard et Hortense Fillion. Ils ont deux enfants Noël et Chantalle. Ils habitent dans une maison acquise de la banque de Montréal où Rosalie fut employée pendant trois ans. Au point de vue communautaire, Jean-Marc est entraîneur pour une équipe de hockey et Rosalie en plus d'être organiste à l'église depuis dix ans, travaille aussi pour les Dames Auxiliaires.

Suzanne née en 1957 maria Grant Roulston de Marchwell, Saskatchewan. Ils demeurent sur une ferme à Langenburg et ont deux filles, Rachelle et Joanne.

Lemoine, Dominique et Marguerite

Dominique est né à Ste. Agathe, Manitoba le 20 novembre, 1903 et vint avec sa famille à St. Lazare en 1904. La première ferme de ses parents était localisée où est la patinoire à présent. Le printemps suivant, leur maison fut inondée jusqu'au deuxième étage et la famille prit refuge chez la famille Delphis Chartier. Craignant une autre inondation, et n'ayant pas connaissance que le chemin de fer passerait sur leur terrain, ils vendirent leur terre pour une somme minime. Ils allèrent s'établir ensuite sur la plaine — cela ne fut pas un succès non plus et ils se rendirent

donc à Ste. Marthe. Le père de Dominique mourut lorsque celui-ci avait huit ans et son frère Arthur devint chef de la famille à 16 ans. Les garçons travaillaient sur des fermes aux alentours de Welwyn pour subsister aux besoins de la famille. En 1925 ils vendirent la ferme à Ste. Marthe et établirent leur mère dans une petite maison à St. Lazare. C'était le pied-à-terre des trois frères quand ils ne travaillaient pas au loin.

Le 5 janvier, 1932, Dominique maria la fille de Ed Dupont, Marguerite née le quatre juillet, 1909. Ils vécurent pour trois ans avec la mère de Dominique. Ils s'installèrent ensuite sur une ferme dans la vallée de l'autre côté de la rivière où Denis Fouillard habite à présent. Comme le terrain inondait régulièrement au printemps ils revinrent au village au bout de cinq ans, et habitèrent dans une maison située à côté de l'actuelle résidence de Richard Bohémier. C'est là que Dominique mourut en 1953, laissant Marguerite avec quatre enfants à élever.

En 1955, Marguerite vendit sa maison et déménagea à St. Boniface où elle trouva un emploi comme couturière. Elle s'acheta une maison, y demeura pendant 18 ans pour se retirer dans un appartement pour les personnes d'âge d'or.

Les enfants de Dominique et Marguerite furent:

Roger, né en 1933, travailla au garage de Benoit Fouillard à sa sortie de l'école. Il alla ensuite à Kitimat, B.C. avec Jean-Marie Fouillard, Omer Chartier, Lucien Mazelski pour travailler. De retour, il se rendit à Winnipeg et fut employé comme mécanicien. Il travaille à présent pour Balcaen's



Roger Fenez, 1933-1980, on top of Boston Prudential Centre in 1978.

Heating & Plumbing. Il vit à St. Vital avec sa femme Jeannine Boulanger qu'il maria en 1959. Ils ont quatre enfants Michelle née en 1960, Paul en 1961, Roland en 1965 et Monique en 1971.

Dolorès née en 1937 était garde-malade avant de se marier à Roger Fenez en 1958. Ils déménagèrent à Toronto où Roger devint contre-maître pour la compagnie Skyline qui a bâti la C.N. Tower à Toronto. Il travaillait dans plusieurs pays du monde avant de mourir subitement en 1980. Ils eurent quatre enfants. Rachelle née en 1959, travaille à Toronto; Nicole 1961, mariée à un fermier, habite à Shelburne, Ontario; Dominique, né en 1964 et Philippe en 1970 sont tous deux à l'école. Dolores est revenue habiter à Winnipeg et est retournée travailler comme garde-malade.

Robert, né le 2 septembre, 1938 maria Jacqueline, née le 19 janvier 1940, fille de Benoit Fouillard et Léontine Simard. Ils se sont mariés le 15 février, 1960. Ils ont eu six enfants; Daniel, né le 16 mars 1961, Marguerite, née le 30 octobre 1962; René né le 24 octobre 1963; Marc, né le 13 mai 1965; Alain, né le 2 mars 1968 et Léontine, le 3 novembre 1969.

Robert acheta St. Lazare's Pool en 1960 de Syd Prokopchuk. En 1963, il ajouta un restaurant à la bâtisse. Robert et Jacqueline servent encore la communauté au même endroit.

Francis, né en 1944 commença à travailler à Winnipeg comme mécanicien. Il est maintenant ajusteur pour Auto-Pac. Marié à Irène Delorme depuis 1967, ils ont deux enfants, Luc, né en 1971 et Pierre en 1975. Irène est professeur à Lorette, Manitoba.

Lemoine, Noel and Rosa

Noel was born at St. Robert, Quebec on December 25, 1898 and moved with his family to Ste. Agathe, then in 1904 to St. Lazare, where the Lemoines had a farm just west of the village. Noel went to school when it was possible; his first teacher was Mr. Blouin. He worked for different farmers around Welwyn and threshed at Joe Wilsons when he was only twelve. He was 13 when his father died and he and older brothers Bert and Arthur worked to support their mother and family who had moved back to St. Lazare. The boys worked at various jobs; for the C.N.R. gang, scrubbing, and some times in the winter as "lumber jacks" in British Columbia. Noel also cut ice on the river, selling it in town to fill water barrels and freezer boxes or to store in ice houses (covered with sawdust) for summer use. He worked at the livery stable; jobs were scarce.

Rosa was born in 1919 the daughter of Rosario Huberdeau and Eugenie (Guay). She grew up on the farm and went to Ellice School until the Sisters came



Noël Lemoine Family: Marie, Jacqueline, Rosa, Annette, Suzanne, Noëlla and JeanMarc.

to St. Lazare. She and Sister Jeanne were the first two boarders at the home of Lionel Chartier, which was used as a school and boarding house until the Convent was built. Rosa claims to have had a quiet youth. It is not hard to believe because she remembers having been expelled from the "Children of Mary" by the priest, for dancing a square dance at Ellice School. Her mother made many novenas to get her reinstated in this organization!

Rosa met Noel when she was working for her sister Jeanne Chartier. She also worked at Vermette's Store. Rosa married Noel Lemoine December 3, 1945 at 7 a.m. in the convent chapel, with Rev. Father Paquette officiating. They lived in two rooms of the Lemoine house, the other part of it had been rented to Ted and Anne Dupont. (They eventually bought this house from Arthur Lemoine.) After they were married, Noel went to Welwyn with William Roberge to build a house for the Langleys. He was able to get home only once a month by team and sleigh. Jeanne Fouillard stayed with Rosa to keep her company while Noel was away.

He worked as a carpenter with Oscar and Leon Dupont, when they started building bridges for Good Roads. Noel died in 1963. Rosa worked at the hotel for awhile; then she was lucky enough to win a sum of money on a Lotto ticket. She went on a pilgrimage to Rome, and then remodelled her house. Unfortunately she had a fire in her home and had to remodel it again!

Noëlla born 1946, took a hairdressing course in Winnipeg and then married Lester Smith of Birtle. They are presently living in Thompson where Lester works in the mine. They have five children, Keith, Natalie, Vivian, Wayne and Rebecca.

Marie born 1947, took an L.P.N. Course at St. Boniface. She started working in Russell Hospital when she graduated, and has been there 17 years.

Jacqueline born in 1949, married Rene denBrok June 2, 1967. Rene was born in Holland in 1945. He came to Canada in 1952 with his family, and settled on a farm near Esterhazy. He came to St. Lazare and worked at Andre's Auto Body Shop until 1975 when he started his own garage. Rene and "Joco" lived in a trailer for five years, then bought the John Selby house which they remodeled. In 1982, they sold this house and bought a "ready-built" one that was put on a new foundation. Both Rene and "Joco" are active in 4-H and are Scout and Guide workers. Their three children are: Rene Jr. born in 1969, Yolande in 1972 and Telly in 1976.

Yolande was born in 1953 and died when she was four years of age.

Annette born in 1954, graduated from Grade XII in Birtle, and went to work in Edmonton, in an office first, then a Personal Care Home. She married Henry Villeneuve and they bought a house in Stony Plain, Alberta. Her husband works as a carpenter. They have two children, Patrick and Melissa.

Jean-Marc was born July 14, 1955. After leaving school, he worked at Andre's Garage, for the C.N.R., at Rocanville mine and on the oil rigs. He has been employed on the Pipeline for the last two years. He married Rosalie Fouillard, born April 12, 1957, daughter of Denis Fouillard and Hortense Fillion, on July 17, 1976. They have two children Noel and Chantalle. They purchased the house formerly owned by the Bank of Montreal. Rosalie had worked for the bank for three years. Community-wise, Johnny is presently coaching the recreational hockey team. Rosalie is active in the Ladies' Auxiliary and has been church organist for ten years.

Suzanne born 1957 married Grant Roulston of Marchwell. They live on a farm near Langenburg. They have two daughters, Rachelle and JoAnne.

Lemoine, Leo and Alice

Mr. and Mrs. Pierre Lemoine emigrated from Sorel, Quebec, with a family of 10, to farm at Ste. Agathe where Dominique was born in 1903. They moved to St. Lazare for a short stay before going to Pumpkin Plains to farm for a couple of years. This is where Eugene was born. After moving to Victor, where they lived in the Section house, father Lemoine worked for the Grand Trunk Railroad, while mother Lemoine baked bread for the men working on the railway. While father Lemoine was at work he was hurt — later dying from this injury to his head. Dr. Munroe from Welwyn, Saskatchewan attended him. This happened in November 1912 and mother Lemoine was now left with six boys and two girls still at home. Two girls by now had married — Albina became Mrs. Louis Gagnon and Victoria married

Lionel Perrault, both of Rocanville. They have both since passed away. The Lemoine boys were Arthur, Noel, Bert, Leo, Dominique and Eugene. Bert and Leo by this time had left home to work as farm hands at Rocanville. The others farmed at Welwyn, but later moved to join their Mother at St. Lazare. The mother passed away in 1944, Dominique in 1952, Arthur, a bachelor who worked for C.N.R., died in 1960, Noel in 1953 and Bert, also a bachelor farmer, died in 1975. Leo is the only one living — he resides in Moosomin, with his wife, Alice. Two children were born to them — **Pearl** (Mrs. A. G. Irvine of Regina) who works as a secretary for Ducks Unlimited, and **Jack** who worked 15 years at the Natural gas station east of Moosomin. Jack and wife Betty have four children.

Leo and Alice are retired and live in the Centennial Manor in Moosomin.

The Lemoine girls are Corinne, Nativia, Bernadette, Anna, Victoria and Albina. **Corinne** was the wife of Lionel Chartier. Two children were born to them, Reginald and Laetitia. They were quite young when their mother died. **Nativia** married Elzear Hebert, a brother of Grace Hebert (Bulger). They moved from Ste. Marthe to Chicago. All the family were raised in the States. **Bernadette** married Napoleon Hudon, a blacksmith at Rocanville. They had six children, only Dorothy lived in St. Lazare (see her story — Huberdeau-Raoul and Dorothy). **Anna** married Elie Robert, a brother of Alcide Robert and Mrs. Jules Decorby. They farmed near Ste. Marthe where they had 14 children. At the beginning of the war, they moved to Nelson, B.C. and later retired to Winnipeg. **Victoria** married Lionel Perrault at Ste. Marthe in 1913. They had three children Roland, Rolande and Henry. She was widowed in 1941 and moved to St. Lazare where Victoria died in May of 1955. **Albina** was a twin of Arthur. She married Louis Gagnon and farmed near Ste. Marthe. Their family consisted of 14 children; only Mathieu who married Marie Prescott lived in St. Lazare. After Louis' wife passed away, he lived with Mathieu and Marie for two years in St. Lazare and moved with them to Elkhorn where he died.

Lemoine, Dominique and Marguerite

Dominique was born in Ste. Agathe on November 20, 1903 and came with his family to St. Lazare in 1904. Their first farm was where the skating rink is today. The next spring the river flooded and they had water right up to the second floor; the family took refuge at the home of Delphis Chartier. Little did they know that the railroad would cross their farm; and fearing another flood, they sold it for next to nothing! They then went farming on the sand plains. This

didn't work out so well either, so they moved to Ste. Marthe. There Dominique's father died when he was only eight years old; his brother Arthur became head of the household at 16 years of age. The boys worked out on farms around Welwyn and struggled to keep the family together. In 1925 they sold out and moved their mother to a small house in St. Lazare. This was home for the boys, when they were not working. In 1932, Dominique married Ed Dupont's daughter, Marguerite, born July the fourth, 1909. They lived with Dominique's mother for three years, until they went farming in the Qu'Appelle Valley, across the river from Denis Fouillard's farm. They lived there five years, but with land flooding regularly, this didn't pay, so the family moved back to town. They settled next door to Fort Chartier's log house. There Dominique died in 1953, leaving Marguerite with four children to support. She decided there would be a better future and more work in Winnipeg, so she sold out and moved there in 1955. She bought a small house in St. Boniface, and started working as a seamstress. This was to be her home for 18 years, until she moved into a Senior Citizens Apartment.



Bert and Dominique Lemoine.

Roger born in 1933, went to school in St. Lazare and worked at Ben Fouillard's garage. He and Jean-Marie Fouillard, Lucien Mazolski, and Omer Chartier went to work at Kitimat. Later Roger moved to Winnipeg working as an auto mechanic. He married Jeannine Boulanger in 1959. They had four children, Michelle born in 1960 is in training to be an R.N. Paul born in 1961, Roland in 1965 and Monique 1971, are still in school. Roger now works for Balcaen's Plumbing & Heating Company. They live on five acres in St. Vital. **Dolores**, born 1937, worked as a

practical nurse. She married Roger Fenez in 1958 and in 1965 they moved to Toronto. Roger worked as a "high rigger", and was foreman of the "Skyline Company" that built the C.N. tower in Toronto. Because of his work he travelled to different countries. He and Dolores had four children, Rachelle (1959) is working in Toronto; Nicole (1961) is married and lives on a farm at Shelburne, Ontario; Dominique (1964) and Philip (1970) are both in school. Roger died quite suddenly in 1980, and Dolores and her two children moved back to Winnipeg. She is still working at her profession. **Robert** was born September 2nd 1938 and married Jacqueline born January 19, 1940, daughter of Benoit Fouillard and Leontine Simard. They had six children, Daniel born March 16, 1961; Marguerite October 30, 1962; Rene October 24, 1963; Marc May 13, 1965; Alain March second, 1968 and Leontine November third 1969. Robert started working in the barber shop and pool room in 1960 which he had bought from Syd Prokopchuk. They opened a restaurant in 1963 where he, Jacqueline and family operate the business to this day. **Francis** born in 1944, started working in Winnipeg as an auto body mechanic. He married Irene Delorme in 1967. They have two boys Luc 1971, and Pierre 1975. Francis now works as an adjuster for Auto Pac, and his wife is teaching at Lorette.

Lemoine, Eugene and Marie Jeanne

The Lemoines, Eugene and Marie Jeanne, lived in St. Lazare for 42 years. Eugene, born January 6, 1906 in Ste. Marthe, Sask. and Marie Jeanne Vermette from Campbellton, N.B. were married March 25, 1940.



Eugene and Jeanne Lemoine.

Eugene worked for CNR from age 19, part time at first but he completed 29 years as a permanent CN employee. He was known as a hard working man who had the respect of young and old alike.

The Lemoines took a foster child into their home, Marguerite Vermette, a second cousin of Marie Jeanne and she lived with them until age 18. She was educated at the St. Lazare Convent.

In St. Lazare, the Lemoines lived in a little bungalow near the church. When Eugene retired, they moved to Campbellton, N.B., where he died May 23, 1972 at the age of 66. He is buried there. Marie Jeanne now lives in an apartment in Campbellton.

Lepine, Jean Baptiste Sr.

"J.B." as he is known in these parts, moved from Montreal, Quebec to St. Francois Xavier, as a young man. There he met and married Julia Fleury. To them were born three boys and four girls. Mr. Lepine was known to help Father Decorby, as he was developing his mission. They were also known to travel the Carlton Trail during a buffalo hunt. On one of these expeditions, two young sons Jean Baptiste Junior and Peter, left the camp site on their own. The two youths walked all morning and part of the afternoon, and



Lepines: Jean-Baptiste, Caroline with Agnes.

were becoming desperate for game and "fame". Finally, one of the lads shot and killed a buffalo. They had no way of bringing home their kill, but wanting proof, they decided to cut out the animal's tongue. Mr. Lepine's sons were known to be adventurous and kept their father on his toes with such incidents.

Jean Baptiste Jr., Peter, and Flora moved to As-sissippi to try "it on their own". From here they travelled back and forth to St. Lazare for church and to Fort Ellice for their supplies. This is when Jean Baptiste met and married Caroline Pritchard of St. Lazare, which led to a double wedding in the Lepine family. Peter married Helen Bronconnier of As-sissippi. After the death of his wife, Julia, J.B. came to live with the boys who had just married. Here he lived until his death in 1920. Peter, accompanied by his small son "Boss" travelled by wagon to bring his father's body to Lazare. Halfway, he was met by Bill Lepine who transported the body the rest of the way. Peter and Flora moved to St. Lazare and raised their children. The three families amused themselves in their spare time by making their own recreation. They had many baseball games and had dances that carried on for two or three days. Musical entertain-ment was provided by the family, and many children and grandchildren carry on the tradition of being musical. Jean Baptiste Jr. bought a house in St. Lazare, where he and his wife Caroline spent their remaining years helping in the community in many ways. Caroline was a midwife. She was born in 1882 to William Pritchard and Marie (nee Malaterre). The only other child we know of in this Malaterre family is Marie (Mrs. Fred Boyer) born in 1888.

Listed below are the Lepine children: Jean Baptiste born May 31, 1872; died Feb. 1, 1965. His wife Caroline born February 9, 1882; died June 5, 1966. Marie Rose — husband Antoine Flemond; Peter — wife Helen Bronconnier; Marguerite — husband Mac Fleury; Liza — husband Joe Ducharme; Flora



Home of J. B. Lepine, Agnes, Victorine, Katherine.

— husband Jean-Baptiste Leclair; Edward — wife Minnie Ducharme. Below are the Jean Baptiste Jr. children — William (1902); Mary (1903); Justine (1906); Phillip (1908); Peter (1909); Catherine (1911); Norman (1913); Victoria (1918); Agnes (1920).

Lepine, Pierre (Peter) and Helen (Broconnier)

by Marg Bagley

Peter and Helen lived in Assessippi where their first three children were born. They moved near Fort Ellice where they had four more children. From a previous marriage Helen, then Burke, had three sons, Frank, Norman and Arthur.

Peter and Helen raised their family in a log house, which was divided into two parts. One was the entrance, kitchen and wash area, heated by a wood burning stove. The other larger room was the dining area, living room and bedroom, with beds all along one wall, and curtains that were drawn in the evenings around each bed. A heater in the centre of the room provided the warmth. During winter the fires had to be kept burning all night. There was a trap door leading to a dirt cellar where winter supplies were kept — vegetables and canning. In the fall, the family gathered gumbo, mixed it with hay and plastered the house. After this dried, it was white-washed. Peter's trap line extended as far north as Assessippi. The animals, mostly muskrats and beavers, were skinned and stretched to dry. Sometimes even the doors of their homes were used as stretchers. In the spring, they were bundled up and sold or traded. (Muskrat pelts would sell for 5 or 10¢ each). During the long winter evenings, the family took turns playing Barouch or Bull Moose — card games still popular today. In summer, the cooking was done outside in a summer kitchen. Helen was a very good cook. She made everything the family needed, from clothes to bedding, mats, and even their soap. Bedding was made from sugar bags, sewn together and filled with down from ducks and geese, or chicken feathers. Peter died in 1958 and Helen, in 1972, at the age of 87. The times were hard, but all the memories are good!

Lepine, Peter and Celina (Vaudry)

Peter came to St. Lazare with his parents J. B. and Caroline Lepine in the year 1914. His father, a farm labourer, found work in this area and settled here. Peter as a youngster went to school in St. Lazare, his only teacher being J. A. Blouin. As a young boy, Peter helped with farm work especially at threshing time. He also helped with the building of the convent.

In 1942 Peter joined the Princess Patricia regi-

ment (army) at Shilo. Further training followed at Winnipeg and in Newfoundland. He went overseas with a French regiment from Montreal and saw action in Holland, Belgium and was wounded in Germany. While still in training at Shilo, Peter took a 5-day leave to come home and marry Celina Vaudry on July 7, 1943.

Celina was born at Meadow Portage, north of Winnipegosis, and came to St. Lazare at the age of 8 with her parents Henry and Lucy Vaudry. Celina attended school at St. Lazare, Mlle. Dupont was her first teacher, followed by the sisters after the convent was built. At the age of 15 Celina began to work out for farmers in the Elkhorn and Reston area until her marriage at the age of 21.

Peter and Celina purchased a farm, 12-17-29 south of St. Lazare in 1946, where they make their home. They were blessed with four children;

Rosaire, took his schooling in St. Lazare and belonged to Father Regnier's Altar Boys. He died in 1968.

Norman and his wife Lorraine (Ducharme) live in Calgary where Norman is supervisor in an Italian Bakery. They have five children, two girls and three boys.

Harvey lives in Portage la Prairie and is employed at the Manitoba School for Retarded Children as an assistant psychiatric nurse. He has one daughter.

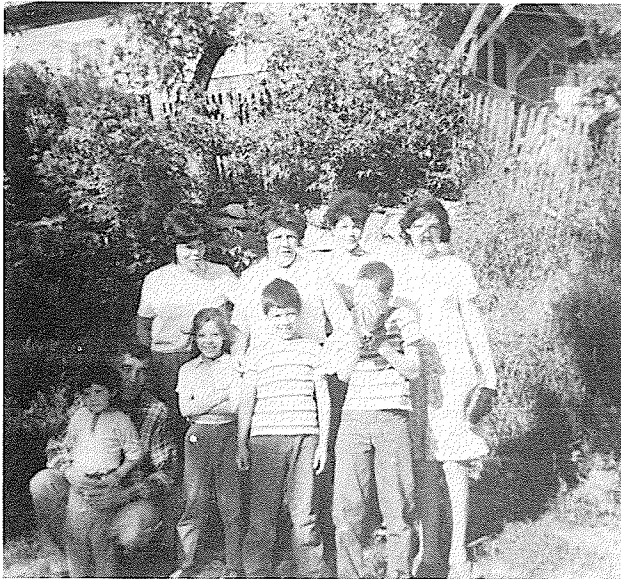
Mary Anne and her husband Maurice Plante live in Kimberley, B.C. They have 3 boys.

After the children were grown, Celina went out to work. She was employed at the hotel for 6 years; as school janitor for 6 years; and as janitor for the Bank of Montreal for 16 years. Celina was also president of the Ladies' Auxiliary. Peter has been an active member of the McAuley Legion since 1966. In retirement, Peter enjoys hockey and baseball on T.V. He and Celina travel often to Calgary and Kimberly to visit their grandchildren.

Lepine, Alex (Boss) and Reta

"Boss" grew up fast, being the eldest of a large family. He started working when he was twelve, at many different jobs. When the convent was being built, he was doing some of the hard work for 15¢ an hour; to keep their jobs they had to work three days per month with no pay! He worked for different farmers and was at the O'Keefes for eleven years.

Reta as a young girl, lived with and helped her Grandmother Henderson. She also worked for different families in and around St. Lazare. At 16, Reta, her sister Evelyn, Celina Vaudry and Marie Malatterre went to Reston, where they got jobs. They worked very hard, but had great times together.



Alex, Reta and Family.

Boss married Reta McIvor on New Year's Eve in 1946. Someone had forgotten to light the fire at the church; it was so cold, the wedding was performed at the Convent Chapel. Two weddings took place that evening, Alex and Reta, Leopold Chartier and Julia Malaterre. They lived at the Cadieux farm on the side of the hill, then in a house on the O'Keefe farm, moving each winter into a little house on Leo Huberdeau's farm. Later Boss built a house at O'Keefes where the family stayed until 1956.

By 1954, four children had arrived. Margaret and Pat, the two oldest girls went to stay at the convent and started school. Boss had to cut cord wood on weekends, to pay for his daughters' board, getting \$5.00 per cord. He couldn't afford to send his daughter Betty, but in 1956 when Margaret had her tonsils out, Pat refused to stay alone, so Betty had one whole week of school!

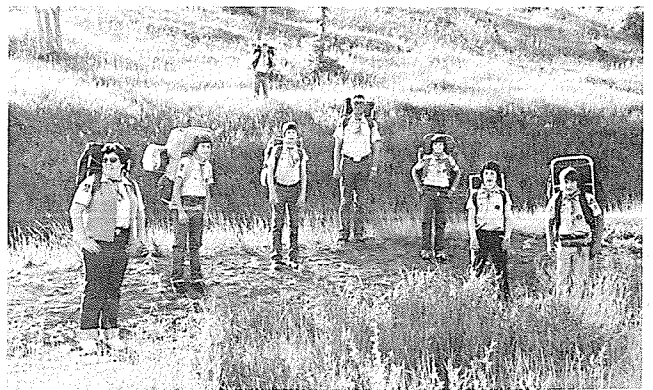
Francois, was born in 1951, and after three girls was a welcome sight, so was called "L'Homme", as he is still known today. Carl born in 1957 was six months old when the family moved to town, and here the last two girls June (1958) and Mona (1961) were born. After Boss started working for CNR in 1953 between Rivers and Melville, he bought a house from Robert Chartier and moved his family to town. They lived in this house, until they moved another one to the same location in 1971. Here the family still resides. Boss retired from the railway in 1980 at the age of 65; but was not to enjoy his well earned retirement for long. After a three year illness, he died on Jan. 23, 1983. During his lifetime, Boss spent a great deal of time fishing, trapping and hunting. He knew every hill and ravine, up and down the valley, and every curve on the river.



Alex and Reta's grandchildren.

Marguerite — After completing her Gr. XII at Birtle, Marg worked in Brandon and attended business commercial classes. A highlight was a trip to Expo 67 with her sister, Pat.

Jim Bagley born in Two Creeks came to Lazare in 1967 with Aurel Leblanc; they both worked on road construction, and Jim lived in his trailer on Raymond Dupont's farm. He worked on the completion of the Shellmouth Dam. He met and married Marg in August of 1969. Their first home was a trailer parked across from the rink. In 1977 they purchased a new house on Fouillard Ave. Both Marg and Jim take an interest in hockey. Jim coached the first 8 and under team; it wasn't easy without equipment. He had one aspiring player arrive at the rink with two skates for the same foot and no laces! Jim's own two boys, Alan and Joris, are now on the team he coaches. Jim has been employed by the R.M. of Ellice since 1972, as road patrol operator. He is also a member of the Volunteer Fire Brigade. Margaret is an active member of the Ladies' Fort Ellice Local, Crossroad Committee, Hall Committee and a Scout Leader. They have four healthy active children, Zita born in 1970,



Marg and Jim Bagley at Scout Jamboree (Banff, 1981).

Alan 1971, Joris 1975 and Jaret 1978. They all love the out of doors, favorite activities are camping, skidooing and cross country skiing.

Pat — married Harry Jessop in 1969. See Jessop, Harry and Pat story.

Elizabeth — see Henderson, Elwood and Betty.

Francois (L'Homme) loves animals particularly horses, and has had several of his own. He has ridden in a few rodeos, and in Calgary 1974-75. Once when L'Homme and Roland Fouillard were at the Norwood Hotel in Winnipeg, a man held up and robbed the desk clerk. L'Homme took off after him along Portage Avenue, caught and held the thief until the police came. Knowing L'Homme's size, a "bear hug" by him, was quite a restraint!

Carl — has a love for cars, especially smashing them at car derbys, where he has won a few prizes! Both Carl and L'Homme are employed in construction, working in Northern Man., Sask., Alberta and the N.W.T.

June — married Ed Conley in June of 1976 in St. Lazare. They lived in Brandon, Evanburg, Alta., Boston Bar, B.C. and moved back to St. Lazare in 1980. They have three sons, Doss, David and Jay and one daughter Zoe born in 1982.

Mona — received her education in St. Lazare and Birtle. She started working as a Nurses' aide at Sunny Side Manor in Birtle in 1980.

Lepine, Jean-Baptiste

Jean Baptiste — never married. He loves hunting. His sister Clara now lives with him.

Napoleon — has always been called "Cinq Sous", a nickname given him as a boy, when a priest blessed a five cent piece and gave it to him to wear as a holy medal. Napoleon married Lizzie Tanner, and they lived in Gaspard Desjarlais house. Lizzie died in 1954. She was a descendant of John Tanner, reputed to be the first white person in this area. Napoleon and Lizzie had three children; Martin works for city maintenance in Brandon and plays with a band. David lives in Calgary. Noela is married and lives in Kamloops with her three children.

Clara — born in 1922, married Bill Houle, son of J. B. Houle, in 1938. They lived near McAuley for most of their married life, where Bill worked for different farmers in the area. They had five children, the four boys Peter, Maurice, Louis and Conrad now work and live in Calgary. Annie their only daughter, lives in Brandon, with her two girls. After Bill's death she moved back to St. Lazare where she lives with her brother, Jean Baptiste.

Robert — born in Oct. 1924 near Fort Ellice, married Mary Boyer July 1st, 1944. To celebrate, they travelled by team and wagon to Birtle where

they attended the sports day. While Robert worked on the railway they lived in various towns along the C.N. mainline. When they moved back to St. Lazare, they lived in what was the first Decorby school. Mary died in 1970. They had two adopted children, Maurice and Janet. There is now a granddaughter, Mary born in 1975.

Joseph — married Rosalie Hayden and worked in this area. they had a family of six children Rodney, Anthony, Richard, Marcel, Sheila and Adrienne. In 1973, the family moved to Brandon. Joseph and Rosalie have nine grandchildren.

Mary Jane — married Floyd Wright in 1953. They lived in different places in Manitoba and Saskatchewan until they moved to Calgary where Floyd had a paint business, until his untimely death in 1979. Mary Jane was left with a family of nine. The oldest, Larry, has a roofing business. He and his wife, Cheryl, have three children. Lorraine, a secretary for an oil company is married to Gerald Plante, and has one child. Clarence and his wife Astrid are both attending university. Frank and Brian both work with their brother Larry. Brenda, Linda, Tina and Russell are attending school.

Lepine, Phillip

Phillip, son of Jean Baptiste Jr. and Caroline Pritchard, was born in 1908 in St. François Xavier. He came to the St. Lazare area with his parents. On Nov. 29, 1933, Phillip married Mary Fleury, daughter of Edward Fleury and Natalie Boyer. Phillip worked for the C.N.R. for thirty-one years. After he retired, he moved his family to Portage la Prairie. Phillip and Mary had two daughters; **Lillian** married Aimé Vaudry, they lived in Alberta and had six children. **Millie** married Allan Wooley, they have three children and live in Portage. The Lepines also raised a grandson Gary, who lives in Portage with his wife, Wendy Damen and four children. Phillip died Jan. 2, 1980. Mary is married to Jim Beckett now and living at Foxwarren.

Leverington, Thomas

by Eva Henke

Dad was born in the county of Essex in England, February 28, 1876. He came to Canada at an early age and worked in Ontario, near Niagara Falls. In the early 1900's he decided to make his own way so he got a homestead in Manitoba, near Foxwarren. In 1909, he sold that, and bought S½ 10-17-28 near St. Lazare. His bride, Eva Freeman, came from Berkshire, England, to be married to Binscarth. Fred was born in April, 1910; I was born three years later, 1913, in February. Dad farmed his land, built a large barn, where many functions were held, helping out war efforts and community projects. Albert was born

Easter Sunday, 1920. Dad's health started to fail, and because of the depression in 1930 he rented his farm and moved to British Columbia, settling near Burton. Two years later we returned to Manitoba to sell the farm, and settled in Nakusp, B.C. **Fred** went to Taber, and married Edna Wilcox, where they grow vegetables and sugar beets for the cannery there. They had seven children. Fred is now retired and living in Slocan. I, **Eva**, worked in Arrow Lakes hospital until I married Paul Henke, and had a son. Paul joined the Army Ordnance Corp., and was transferred to Forestry to run the Power house and mills in Scotland. He returned in 1945, and was a saw filer at Slocan Mill. **Albert** worked for C.P.R. at Nelson after finishing school. In 1939, he joined the Navy. Albert is retired now, is receiving a navy pension, and lives in Iron Bridge, Ontario.

Dad passed away in 1958, at the age of 82; Mum, in 1982 at 93. They are buried in Nakusp cemetery. They had 10 grandchildren, 29 great grandchildren and nine great great grandchildren.

Lewarton, Elias Robert (1846-1923)

Elias Robert Lewarton was born in 1846 in Fullbeck, England. He married Olive Palmer (1844-1914) in 1869. In June 1887 they left England to settle in Warleigh District near Birtle, Manitoba. In 1895 they moved to a farm at Pumpkin Plains where he served as the first and only postmaster, until the Post Office closed in 1897.

The family moved to Fort Ellice where he managed the General Store, then in 1904, he moved his family to Churchbridge, Saskatchewan, where his son Albert had a store. He helped in the store and managed the Post Office. Mrs. Lewarton passed away in Churchbridge on January 6, 1914. Mr. Lewarton moved to Long Beach, California in 1921, where he passed away January 30, 1923.

The Ten Children

I John (Jacky) Lewarton (1870-1955)

John was born in England. He became blind at the age of seven from scarlet fever. He lived a useful, active life as a proof-reader of Braille magazines; and co-editor of an indoor sports magazine "Among Ourselves." He played the organ in the church in Portland, Oregon, and later in Long Beach, California. He also played the piano, used a Braille typewriter, served as President of the Braille Society and travelled up and down the state with a sighted companion. He also learned to dance. He passed away in Long Beach in 1955.

II Albert Lewarton (1872-1956)

Albert was born in England. He operated the store and Post Office in Churchbridge, Saskatchewan. He married Lizzie Minhinich. He passed away

in Long Beach, California in 1956. Their two children are, Mabel and Alvin.

III Olive Louise (1873-1957)

Olive was born in England. She married Harry Lindsay and they lived in Regina, Saskatchewan, and she passed away there in 1957. They had two children.

IV Edgar Lewarton (1882-1968)

Edgar was born in England. He married Maranda Woolley and they lived in Brookings, Saskatchewan, then moved to the States. Maranda passed away in San Diego in 1954. Two daughters, Luella and Edele live in California.

V Elias Lewarton (1884-1924)

Elias was born in England. He married Daisy Lopston of Churchbridge in 1910 and then moved to Wisner, Nebraska where he passed away. He is survived by three daughters.

VI Emily Sophia Lewarton (1875-1934)

She was born in England and married Ralph Collyer. She passed away in London, Ontario in 1934. She is survived by one daughter, Olive.

VII Amy Lewarton

Amy was born in 1887 in Birtle, Manitoba. She married Wayne Troxel in 1907 at Churchbridge. They moved to Portland, Oregon then to Long Beach, California. Her husband passed away in 1958. Amy lives in Hemet, California with her daughter, Myrtle Johnson. Her five sons live in California.

VIII Percy Noel Guyley Lewarton (1890-1970)

Percy was born in Warleigh, Manitoba. He lived in Fort Ellice and Churchbridge, Saskatchewan. They moved to Scoby, Montana and Bell Gardens, California. He and his wife, Mame have passed away.

IX Wallace Lewarton (1880-1964)

Wallace was born in England. He married Nellie McDonald and farmed in the Ellice District (¼ 12-17-28W). They retired to Foxwarren, where he and his wife passed away. Wallace and Nellie had four children: Wallace Jr. and Phyllis (twins) now deceased, and Robert and Mary who attended Ellice School briefly. **Robert** married Lela Taylor of Foxwarren and they have one son — Larry, who with his wife, Reta lives in Nanaimo, British Columbia. **Mary** married Joe Adam, a former banker at Foxwarren. Mary and Joe live in Winnipeg. They have three children. **Wallace** and wife Anne and children Lisa, Kim and Robbie live in Ottawa. **Rochelle** and husband Allan Baker have three children: Brian, David and Craig living in Winnipeg. **Robert** and wife Janet have two children. Andrew and Brent are living in Winnipeg.



Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Lewarton.

X **Arnold Lewarton (1877-1962)**

Arnold was born in England. He married Mary Ann McDonald and then farmed in the Ellice District ($\frac{1}{4}$ 12-17-28W). They moved to Foxwarren where he was a grain agent. He also served a term as mayor. They then moved to Roland, Manitoba where he was also a grain agent. They moved to Kitchener, Ontario where he and his wife passed away.

Arnold and Mary Ann had three daughters; **Elizabeth**, **Maude** and **Emily** who attended Ellice School in early years. **Elizabeth** married Hans Lundsgaard (formerly of Foxwarren) and now deceased. Elizabeth lives in Grinsted, Denmark. She has one daughter, Anne and her husband Ole Heegaard and two grandchildren; Eric and Pernille who live in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Maude married George Barker (now deceased), a former shoemaker at Foxwarren. They moved to Brandon, then to Kitchener, Ontario, where George made the famous Bauer Hockey boots. Maude and George had two children; **Arnold** and wife Kathy and two children, Mary Ellen and Douglas. **Betty** and husband Don Eby and three children; Jim, Dianne and David. Maude lives in Kitchener, Ontario, enjoying her children, grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Emily married George Muir (now deceased) of Roland, Manitoba. George was a member of Parliament for the Lisgar District. They made their home in Roland and Ottawa, Ontario. They have two daughters; Patricia and husband Bill Milnthorpe of Wetaskiwin, Alberta and they have two children Darcy

and Robson. Pamela Barton and sons Trevor and Scott are at Ottawa. Emily sold the farm at Roland and now lives in Carman, Manitoba.

Lewis, Charles J.

Chuckie, son of Charles Henry and Margaret (Byers) Lewis, was born in the Declare district in 1908. He spent his early years on the home farm. In



Chuckie Lewis driving "Nancy Adios" at Assiniboine Downs, Winnipeg.

1929, he bought 4-16-29 in the Beaver Rapids district from John Selby of St. Lazare. In 1930, he married Rita Braybrook of Virden, who was working in Aird's General store in McAuley. In 1934, Katherine Shirley was born, followed by Charles Wilfred in 1940. Chuckie was a great violin player. Throughout the depression, a dance was held every other week end at Beaver Rapids School with Johnny Shearer, Dick Jessop and Chuckie supplying the music. A good time was had by one and all! In 1941, he and Rita bought 8-16-29 from Harry Rose. Ronald Lewis now owns this farm. The Lewis' family moved in 1942, to Welwyn, where Chuckie was the agent for the Western elevator. Later, he took over Bearances' Garage. In 1948, he bought two harness race horses named Minor Bar and Star Patch. That began an avid career in racing from then until his death in 1974. Rita continues to live in Welwyn.

Shirley married Roy Cuthill from Fleming, Sask. in 1952. They have three children, and farm at Welwyn. Roy is very active in the Canadian Amateur Baseball Association. Charles, see C. W. Lewis. Some of the families should be mentioned who throughout the years have rented Chuckie's farm. Bob and Sandra Gould, Gene and Alma Draves, Roy and Shirley Cuthill, Jim and Miriam Douglas, George and Bertha Lewis, Baker Fleury, Frank Bell, Lionel Weatherall, Archie and Margaret Ewan, and Bud and Ev Lowes, just to mention a few. These families played an important part in the community.

Lewis, Charles Wilfred

Charles, only son of Chuckie and Rita Lewis, was born on the home farm, 4-16-29, in 1940. In 1942, he moved with his parents to Welwyn, Sask. Charles completed his education at Welwyn and played hockey for many years. He began working for P.F.R.A. as a rider where he remained until 1963. That year he moved to the family home farm where he and his family live today. Charles married Judith Crump of Beaver Rapids in 1962. They have three children, Laura, David and Christine.

Lewis, George and Bertha

George, son of Charles and Margaret Lewis was born on August 22, 1915 in the Declare district. Bertha was born May 17, 1918 eldest daughter of Frank and Mary Brennand of Manson. We were married at Elkhorn on October 2, 1937. We lived in the Beaver Rapids district of Ellice Municipality on 31-17-29 until October 1939. We then moved to NE 14-15-29 of Archie Municipality. George joined the Queens Own Cameron Highlanders on October 8, 1940 and was stationed at Fort Osborne Barracks. We resided in Winnipeg for ten months. George received his discharge in Aug. 1941, and we moved back to NW 4-16-29 in Ellice and farmed there until the fall of 1947. We bought a grocery store in Welwyn and operated it until April 1950 when we moved back to the McAuley district to farm on SW 25-15-29. We sold it later to our youngest son, Dennis. In 1966, we bought SW 15-15-29, the farm of Huntley and Margaret Baird, where we now reside. We gave up farming in 1980. We have four children: **Gladys** (1938) married Garth Gerrand of Virden in 1960. They have two children — Gerry and Cathy, and farm at Virden. **Huntley** (1942) married Joan Lowes of McAuley in 1963. They have three children — Nancy, Jason and Troy and farm at McAuley. **Dennis** (1945) married Paulette Bourlon of Ponteix, Sask. in 1966. They have two children — Gary and Suzanne, and farm at McAuley. **Phyllis** (1949) married Orville Harper of Welwyn, Sask. in 1970. They have three children — Trent, Tanis and Terri. They operate the same store that we owned in Welwyn. We celebrated our forty-fifth wedding anniversary on October 2, 1982. Our family had a wonderful day for us.

Lewis, Michael

Michael Lewis, son of Charles and Margaret Lewis, was born in 1913 in the DeClare District. Ethel Davidson, daughter of Tom and Sarah Davidson, was born in 1916 in the same district.

In 1941 Michael and Ethel were married at Elkhorn. They lived on a farm in the DeClare district

and were blessed with three children: Ronald 1943, Joyce 1946 and Norma 1947.

In the spring of 1948 they sold the farm and moved to the Chuckie Lewis' farm in the Beaver Rapids District. There, two more children were born — Sharon 1951 and Audrey 1953. All the children attended school at Welwyn.

When Ronald married Diane Cadieux in 1965, he moved to the home farm and his parents bought Ernie Grose's place at McAuley. Sharon and Audrey completed their schooling at McAuley and Virden. In December 1977 Michael died. Ethel continued to live on the farm until 1980, when she sold out and moved to McAuley to live.

Lewis, Ronald and Dianne

Ronald Lewis, eldest son of Michael and Ethel Lewis, was born June 17, 1943 in the Declare district of the R.M. of Archie. In 1948 his family moved to 8-16-29 in the Beaver Rapids area. Ronald received his education in Welwyn, Sask.

In 1965 Ronald married Dianne Cadieux in the St. Lazare Roman Catholic Church. Dianne is the daughter of Aurele and Lorette Cadieux of McAuley. Dianne spent 3 years at the Convent in Lazare, attending school.



Ronald Lewis Family: Tammy, Blair and Shannon, Diane and Ronald.

Michael and Ethel Lewis "semi-retired" to McAuley and Ronald and Dianne have farmed the home place since. Ronald has been seasonally employed with the P.F.R.A. since 1961.

They have three children, Blair born in 1966, is attending Virden Collegiate, Tammy born in 1969 and Shannon in 1973 attend school in McAuley.

Lewis, William Henry

Bill Lewis was born May 13, 1911 in the DeClare district, son of Charles and Margaret Lewis. He attended DeClare school.

He married Winnifred Evelyn Collyer April 4, 1935 at Virden, Man. Winnie was a daughter of Harold and Wilhelmena Collyer and was born at McAuley on Oct. 15, 1915. She received her education at McAuley.

In 1935 Bill and Winnie moved to the Beaver Rapids district and worked for James Graham 7-16-29 for five years.

In 1940 Bill rented the farm which had previously belonged to Courtney Wroth and drove the school van to Welwyn, Sask. for a year. In 1943 he bought the Frank McGuire farm S. 1/2 of 6-16-29 and moved there. This was the original homestead of Ralph Collyer who moved back east to London, Ont. Bill served on the Beaver Rapids School Board and Winnie was a member of the Beaver Rapids W.M.S.

Bill and Winnie continued to farm in Ellice R.M. until 1975 when they retired to Welwyn, Sask. to the house formerly occupied by the Frank McGuires.

Born to this marriage were: William Allen deceased at one month. Norman married Frieda Taylor and they live in Killarney, Man. with their children Terry, Ray and Donna. Evelyn married Dale Chelton and they live in Cranbrook, B.C. with their children, Cindy, Glen and Douglas. Kenneth married Elaine Thompson and they live at Portage la Prairie with their three children, Jeffrey, Derek and Kelly. Murray married Murdeana McLeod and farms the home farm in the Beaver Rapids district. Their children are Darin and Leanne.

There are eleven grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Bill passed away in 1977 and is buried at Welwyn. Winnie still resides in Welwyn.

Lewis, Murray and Merdeana

Murray was born on June 27, 1940, youngest son of William and Winnifred Lewis. He grew up in the Beaver Rapids District and attended Welwyn school. Murray married Merdeana McLeod in 1945 of the Ferndale district in 1964. They have two children — Darin Blake (1965) and Lisa Leanne (1966). They are both attending Virden high school. Murray is active

in community work and is councillor of Ward I, R.M. of Ellice. After completing his schooling he took up farming with his father, later purchasing SW 1/4 6-16-29. William passed away in 1977 and Murray took over the family farm SE 1/4 6-16-29, which was previously owned by Ralph Collyer. The house the family now lives in was built by Ralph in 1896 and after many renovations is still in use today.

L'Heureux, Henry and Elizabeth written by Diana Dafoe

When I was about five years old, my parents moved to St. Lazare. My father originated from Massachusetts and my mother, nee Monette, came from Bathgate, North Dakota.

We moved into a pool hall, which had adjoining living quarters. There were seven of us, Edward, Delia, Emma, George, Marie, Diana (myself) and Joe.

My father worked for farmers during the week and, in the evenings and Saturdays, he would do barbering as he had a barber chair in the pool hall. He also sold cigars, soft drinks, ice cream and cider. George would attend the pool table when my father was busy. Edward worked for the farmers, Emma worked for one of the neighbors. Delia (who was only sixteen at the time) did all our sewing and sewed for others too. She also helped my mother with the baking and cooking as my mother fed the train men who stopped in St. Lazare for water for the train.

Emma, George, Marie and I went to school, which was on a little hill all by itself. I remember how we would slide down the hill during recess. It was a French school and when I left St. Lazare I could not say a word in English. The church was only a short distance from the school house but nearer to the bigger hills. Marie and I took our First Communion there. Joe was about three years old when we left St. Lazare and moved to Melville, Saskatchewan. In 1914, the family moved to Pembina, North Dakota. My father died when he was sixty-five and my mother died at eighty-nine.

Edward died a few years ago. Delia married Arthur Trudell in Melville, Sask. They lived in several places before moving to Transcona, Manitoba. She is now a widow and is in a nursing home in Victoria, B.C. Emma married Ray Dumontier, lived in Transcona but is a widow now. George married Mary Campeau and moved to International Falls, Minnesota. He is in a nursing home there. Marie married Adelard Defoe and moved onto a farm west of Pembina, N.D. She and her husband are still living, being the fifth generation of the Defoes living in the area. Joe and his wife Beatrice lived in International Falls. Joe is now in a nursing home in Hibbing,

Minnesota. I (Diana) married Oscar Defoe. We lived on a farm for about twenty years then moved to Neche, N.D. We then moved to Drayton in 1974 where I still reside. My husband passed away in 1977.

Little, Hugh Arnold

Hugh was born in 1883 in Walkerton, Ontario, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Little. The Littles came west first to Treherne and in 1906 to the Welwyn district. In 1908, Hugh started farming by himself south of Welwyn. He operated a Farm Implement business for awhile and in 1913 purchased Section 9-16-29 in Ellice Municipality. In 1912, he married Annie Helene Dumville (1886) of Welwyn. Annie and Hugh had four children, the first died in infancy. Lloyd H. was born in 1914, Katherine H. in 1916 and William D. in 1919. Hugh and Annie were always interested and active in the community. Aside from other activities, he was a councillor of the R.M. of Ellice from 1918 to 1939 and reeve for the years 1940 to 1952. Mrs. Little was an avid gardener. She died in 1957 and Hugh in 1967. Lloyd lives in Welwyn; William (Bill) and wife Lil in Saskatoon have two daughters, Carol and Brenda and eight grandchildren; Katherine and husband Merle Wilson of McLeese Lake, B.C., have son Barry and two grandchildren.

Lowes, James and Evelyn

"Bud" as he is known, and Evelyn Thompson were married in August, 1947 in Birtle. He was a truck driver and was a construction worker until 1962 when he moved to the farm. Six children were born; **Dale** is married to Bonnie Chase. They have two children, Nicole and Jamie. Dale worked for Trans-Canada pipeline before moving to the farm in 1980. **Diane** married Grant LaRose. They have two boys, Murray and Brian. The family lives in McAuley. **Valerie** who married Brian Rose lives in Moosomin with their adopted son, David. **Barry** lives at home on the family farm. **Betty** who married John Dryden, an R.C.M.P. constable, and son Michael, live in Unity, Sask. **Glenn** is also living at home, and works on the farm. The farm is located on 9-16-29. In 1980, Bud and three sons in partnership built a modern dairy barn.

MacLellan, John Archie

John Archie (Jack) was born in Inverness, Nova Scotia in 1886. He left home and worked his way west in his early 20s. He first worked in Port Hope, Ontario at a saw mill. He travelled from there to Detroit, Michigan for a short stint, then went to

Regina, Sask., where he worked for a Mr. Swarder on a Ranch nearby. It was in Regina that he met Nellie McDonnell, who was born in County Cork, Ireland, in 1889. Nellie was orphaned at the age of 14 and came to Woodstock, Ontario to stay with an older married sister who ran an Inn there. While in Woodstock, a couple, with one small child, were being transferred to Regina and they asked Nellie if she would go with them, as their maid, and she did. Jack and Nellie were married in December 1915. They raised six children — Mary — Joe — Helen — Terrance — Theresa and Jim.

In the year 1922, Jack hired on as a Grain Buyer with the Northern Elevator Company, at Lebret, Sask. and transferred to St. Lazare, Man., in the spring of 1930. Jack MacLellan went to St. Lazare ahead of his family and stayed in a Boarding House operated by Eva Chartier. When the school year ended in 1930, the family was moved to St. Lazare — furniture — along with Joe and Terrance, on Ben Fouillard's truck and the rest of the family in Louie Guay's car. The house in St. Lazare was a small single story building situated between Decorby's store and Decorby's residence. It was supplied by the Grain Company, but an addition known as "the shack" was built to accomodate everyone. The shack became a gathering place on many occasions and the stories about the fun and laughter that took place there is still talked about when you visit St. Lazare. MacLellan's stay in St. Lazare was for a period of 12 years, then in 1942 Jack was transferred to Fort William, Ont. where he retired in 1955. After retirement Jack and Nellie spent a couple of years in St. Thomas and then went to Vancouver, where he died at the age of 72. Nellie came back to St. Thomas where she died at the age of 82.

Mary — the oldest of the children, spent very little time in St. Lazare as she returned to Lebret, Sask. to finish her last year of high school and then on to Edmonton where she graduated as a Registered Nurse. She was the Valedictorian of her Graduating Class. Mary worked as a Nurse in Edmonton, Brandon and Montreal. She married Ken Christenson and lived her married life in Tillamook, Oregon. She died of cancer in 1960 at the age of 43.

Joe — the eldest of the boys, the second child, would be two years of age when the MacLellan family arrived in St. Lazare. He attended school there for about 7 years, and as was typical in western communities in the late 30s, wandered from job to job wherever work could be found. I remember him putting some hot metal into the paint dipping container at Fouillard's Implement Shop causing a fire, which fortunately was quickly put out. Joe served in the Army during World War II, but received a medi-

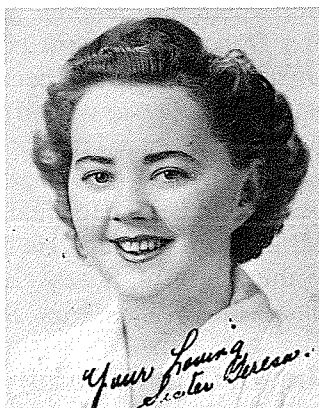
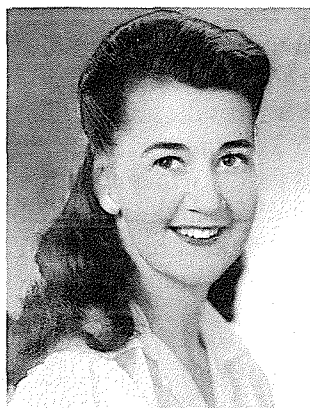
cal discharge. He then went to Fort William and worked at Canada Car, where Spit Fire planes were being built. He never married. After the war, Joe travelled west to British Columbia where he worked at various jobs and secured a Stationary Engineering Certificate. He was flying on an Air Canada flight north of Vancouver when a bomb went off at the tail end of the aircraft. There were no survivors. He was 44 years of age.

Helen — died in 1929, at the tender age of nine.

Terrance — was in St. Lazare for about 10 years. Terrance had a very outgoing personality and was very generous with anything he had. He was instrumental in having hydro put into the house where we lived. He bought his mother her first washing machine, a big event in her life. He worked as a "Cooke" at a lumber camp in Northern Ontario and sent money back home — he would be only 16 or 17 years at this time. He had a job with a company which was painting Elevators at various locations in 1939, and the next thing heard was that he had joined the Army. After his enlistment in the Army his stay in Canada was very short; he was overseas until 1945. On his return from overseas, he married Beatrice Theory. They had two children — Reine and Theresa — who are both married now, and living in Edmonton. Terrance was a barber by trade. He died in Edmonton of a heart attack in 1977.

Theresa, the youngest of the girls in the family, took most of her schooling in St. Lazare. She completed Grade 12 at St. Rose and took a business course in Fort William. On completion of the business course, Theresa went to work with Canada Car. After the war, she worked for a Car Dealer in Fort William. From there she travelled west and is now living in Vancouver, B.C.

Jim — the youngest of the family, born in 1925, attended school in St. Lazare for the entire eleven years. He went to St. Paul's college in Winnipeg for one year and was in the Air Force for two years.



Mary and Theresa MacLellan.

While in the Air Force he met Patricia Gilbert and they were married shortly after the war. He attended St. Thomas Business College and found employment with Canadian National Railways in St. Thomas, where he is still living. He has three sons, who are now married and on their own.

To the MacLellan's, St. Lazare will always be "Our Home Town."

Mactier, Anthony by daughter Christina Murray

Anthony was born in Port William, Wigtownshire, Scotland on June 8, 1875. He was the seventh son in a family of nine boys and two girls. In 1898, Anthony and a younger brother came to Canada. Anthony settled at Binscarth, the brother going farther west. Work was wherever you could find a job. His first was with the William Diamond family on the farm. The railway was coming through, so he spent sometime at this work. After the turn of the century, Anthony like many other new-comers, decided to turn to farming. Land was available on the Gambler Indian Reservation, a part of the Wayceecappo Indian Band. In 1902, he settled on N.E. 35-18-29 and built a set of log buildings. Shortly after this, his sister Jane McKenna, came to Canada from Scotland. She kept house for her brother for a short time. On December 5, 1904, Anthony married Elizabeth Lowe, daughter of a Scottish family, who came to Canada in 1891. Three sons and three daughters were born in their log home. Mrs. Hugh Skeoch, a wonderful early pioneer attended all these births, sometimes alone, as often the doctor never arrived in time. It's hard to say how many babies this good lady helped into the world!

As the years went by it soon became clear that a school was not going to be built in this area. With a small family ready for school it was decided to move out of the district. In March 1913 we all moved to the Bob Calvert farm in the Russell Municipality. The town of Binscarth and schools, Crescent Ridge and Woodstock, were available in that area. In the early days friends and neighbors were a very important part of living for pioneers and settlers alike. A helping hand was the order of the day and none was refused.

Father served for a time on the Ellice Council before he left the area. The Reserve holdings were eventually sold to Wm. Broomfield. The Alex Pash family lived for a time in the log house. Several of their family were also born there.

Even with the passing of so many years, many memories and events remain clear in my mind.

Mansell, Arden

Isabel and I moved to St. Lazare in 1956. I worked for Lazare Fouillard in his garage. Our four children Ardena, Fred, Wayne and Graham were on their own at this time. While we lived in St. Lazare I farmed my land in Foxwarren. In 1958, Isabel and I moved to the farm because it was more convenient. Even though our stay at St. Lazare was brief, we enjoyed living there and made new friends. We now live in Neepawa, but often think of the little village of St. Lazare.

McAuley, Ruby

In the late 1920s I taught school at Pumpkin Plains, which was a one-room school west of St. Lazare. My grades were I to VIII, and I had 12 pupils in these classes. They were Laura, Archie, Freddie, Florence and Jules Hayden (all Frank Hayden's children), May and Amable Hayden, which were Butcher Hayden's, Mary Belhumeur, belonging to Ed and Laura Belhumeur, John Desjarlais, Alphonse and Charlie Belhumeur who were Harry Belhumeur's children. Napoleon McKay who lived with his grandmother Belhumeur and Laura Hayden were both in Grade VI but the Inspector passed them to Grade VIII. They both wrote their exams at McAuley. Frank O'Keefe was the official trustee at that time and gave me a new blackboard, painted the school inside and out, and put in a new floor and window. Our school was heated by a wood stove.

There was a comfortable, but small teacherage beside the school so I lived there all week with Katie Collyer looking after my two small children, Phyllis and Gladys. We would go back to McAuley on weekends, weather permitting, where my husband farmed.

I am now a resident of Villa DeCorby Lodge in St. Lazare and have lived here since it opened in 1975.

McCamon, Henry

Henry McCamon's father, Robert T. McCamon (born 1795), migrated from Belfast, Ireland, to Canada about 1816. He landed in the area of Picton, Ontario, and married Elizabeth Wessels (born 1797) of that area about 1818. They had a family of ten children, Henry being born Aug. 22, 1836. Robert had purchased a farm near Dowings Rapids (Tweed) Ont. in 1883. Henry married Lavinia Blanche Jones at Warkworth, Ont. about 1862. In 1881 Henry and Blanche arrived with their family from Warkworth, Ont., to take up a homestead on the S.E. ½ 2-18-28. Besides Blanche, who had just married William

Honey, their children were Victor Winsor (Feb. 17, 1866) and Carrie.

Winsor married Sarah Frances (Frankie) Laycock (born 1870). Their children were Edgar, Verna, Villa Elizabeth (1891), Wilmer (1899) and Phyllis. An infant, as well as Villa, who died at 12, are buried in Zion cemetery. Winsor operated a store for a time in Binscarth but sold it to George Bowden of Balmerino in 1893. The next year he became involved in a store in Foxwarren. He was also in the creamery business in Foxwarren as well as in Russell and finally became a commercial traveller out west. He died in Nelson, B.C. in 1940 and Frankie died at Jarvie, Alberta in 1965.

Carrie married a Mr. Johnston of Portage la Prairie and died there.

For Blanche's story see William Honey history.

Henry and Blanche took over the Will Honey homestead, N½ 24-17-28 and farmed there for twelve years. They rented the N.W. ¼ to Joe Laycock in 1897 and finally sold out to Fred Cooper in 1898 when they left to make their home in Binscarth.

When Zion church was built in 1888, Henry was one of the hard working volunteers, and was a member of the first Board of Stewards. The minister at the time, Rev. T. C. Buchanan, worked out of Birtle to serve a seven-point charge and Henry McCamon was able to assist the minister in the capacity of layman at Zion Methodist Church.

McCrea, Alex by Marguerite Dupont

Mr. McCrea came from Scotland as a young man. He had been born in 1865. He bought a farm in Russell Municipality NE 32-19-28. He married Jessie Cameron, who had come from Ontario. She passed away three years later. Alex quit farming and worked for different farmers, among them Mr. Honey in Binscarth, Russell Johnston and Ed Dupont. He looked after cattle for Eugene Fouillard, and Glen Bruce who was fattening steers in a feed lot by the river where Ray Dupont now lives. He worked for John Dupont as a farm laborer. Alex had to slow down when he was 80, because of his legs. He had a plate in one, (a war wound). As a result, he spent his last days in John Fouillard's little house and was cared for by the John Dupont family. He died at the age of 85 in Birtle Hospital, in 1950, and was buried in Binscarth cemetery. He had a brother in Binscarth by the name of Sandy. He has a grand-niece in Binscarth, by name Mrs. Souch.

The McCrindle Family by Jean (McCrindle) Henry

James M. McCrindle (Dad) was born in Nova

Scotia in 1879. At the age of twelve he came west to Winnipeg with his family and later in 1897, to Foxwarren, where he clerked in Mr. Albert Laycock's store. Later he took over the business himself and operated it until 1912. During this time he married Agnes Leckie, whose family had come from Scotland in 1898 and, who also operated a store (her father's), and was Dad's opposition. We teased him that this was a good way to get rid of his opposition!

In 1908 Dad, whose first love was the soil, bought section 15-18-28, and later N.W. 11-18-28 in the Ellice municipality. In the early years we lived on, and worked the farm in the summer and moved to town for the winter. Mother and Dad grew tired of this gypsy life and decided to remain on the farm the year round.

The land acquired was virgin soil and had to be broken. Horses were used first and later Dad bought a Sawyer Massey tractor for the job. Break it he did, but it nearly broke him! The first land cleared was



McCrindle Family: Isabelle, Jean, George, Margaret, Marion, Mr. and Mrs. McCrindle.

sod and the fields lay around the bluffs. Dad told us about going out to cut with the binder and getting lost. He simply kept cutting around the bluffs until he met his first sheaves.

Of course the crop had to be harvested and a Rumley threshing machine was bought. I might add that this was the only threshing machine Dad ever owned, and it, along with the Sawyer Massey tractor, were placed in the Austin Museum, later.

Threshing time was the high-light of the farmer's year. To efficiently operate our threshing outfit we needed fifteen to twenty men — six stook teams, field pitchers, men to haul the grain to the granaries or to Chillon Siding, as well as the separator man etc. It meant hard work for everyone but especially the

womenfolk. Remembering that there was no electricity, no refrigeration, we can imagine what it was like baking 18-20 loaves of bread every other day along with biscuits, buns, cakes etc. I can still see those huge pans of warm cinnamon rolls as they were sent to the field for lunch! A 98 lb. bag of flour lasted only a week. It was a happy time though when the men sat down to that big table, unwashed, for there was no time for those details, but with hearty appetites. It wasn't quite so much fun washing the dishes afterwards!!

Dad started into the seed business as early as the mid-thirties and continued producing seed until his retirement, when his son, George took up the responsibility. In 1955 he was honored to be made a Robertson Associate of the C.S.G.A.

Dad's other love was horses, Percherons in particular. He raised these as a business and he always maintained that it was the money derived from the horses that pulled us through the depression of the thirties. He showed them at the Fairs and he loved to tell the story of the time he showed three black fillies, almost identical, in one class at Binscarth Fair. The judge placed them. The next day they were shipped by train to Birtle Fair. It was the same judge there and he placed them in the opposite order!

As well as the Percherons, Dad always had some light horses. In the winter, a pair of these would be hitched to the "jumper" (a form of cutter) and it proved to be a pretty speedy mode of travel. What a thrill it would be today to have just one more drive. Take a clear, still winter's night, northern lights dancing, snow sparkling in the bright moonlight, a team of spirited horses with bells jingling, hitched to a cutter and drive them through that old trail through the bluff from George Redmond's to Percy Carr's. Memories!

Dad took a keen interest in all community endeavors. He served on the Foxwarren Consolidated school board for years. He served a term as president of the local branch of U.F.M. (United Farmers of Manitoba). He played the bass horn in the Band, which travelled around to all the Fairs in the summertime and at the rink each Thursday night during the winter. He was an Elder and board member of the United Church, and was always ready to promote anything for the good of the community. Dad and Mother retired to Foxwarren and Dad died at the age of 87.

I have said very little about Mother until now. Her life on the farm was a decided contrast to the life she had led managing her father's store. She worked hard, did without much, for her chief thoughts were always for her family and their well-being. Through the depression years she sold eggs for 5¢ a dozen,

butter for 15¢ a lb. and chickens for 50¢ each, to help pay for our music lessons etc.

She saw to it that we had a happy childhood. As we grew older, and came home late at night, she always heard us. Her three questions invariably were: "Are you cold? Did you have a good time? What time is it?"

Mother very seldom left the farm in the winter time. We were six miles from town. We used to tease her that the only things she attended in the winter were W.M.S. meetings and funerals! She loved her family and her home. She spent her later years with her daughter Isobel and died at the age of 99.

There were six children in the family. Isobel was born in 1908. She was the only one of the family who attended Balmerino School. This was for a very short time before she transferred to Foxwarren. She taught school for forty-seven years in Rapid City, Solsgirth, Russell, The Pas and Winnipeg. She died in 1981.

James or "Boy" was born in 1910 and died of pneumonia two years later.

George was born in 1913, and now operates the home farm. (See George McCrindle)

Margaret was born in 1915. She took teachers training and taught in Inglis, Oak River and The Pas. She married Frank White, also a school teacher, and now lives in Winnipeg. They had three children — Betty Jean, who died in 1980, Jim and Beverley.

I, Jean, was born in 1916 and also became a teacher. I taught in the local Gamblers School from 1935-37 and earned \$500 a year, the going salary for one starting to teach at that time. I also taught at Lavinia and then Hamiota. I married Stan Henry, a seed grower, in the Oak River district. We have three children — Cameron (farming with his father), Lynn and Leslie.

Marion was born in 1919. She chose a teaching career too and taught school at Kenton, Oak River, Hamiota and Killarney. She married Allen Shepherd, a station-agent, now employed by a lumber company, and they have three children — Caroline, and twin daughters Wendy and Debby. After her family was in school, Marion went back to teaching at Mather and Crystal City and has just recently retired.

George McCrindle

George was born on the farm in 1913. He took his education at Foxwarren and after a brief stint of clerking first in the hardware store and then in a dry goods store, he returned to farm.

He married Marjorie Barker of Glenboro who was teaching in Foxwarren. For the first few years they lived where Ron Falloon now resides, and when Dad and Mother retired, they took over the home place.

George followed in his Dad's footsteps and car-

ried on and expanded the seed business. He has an efficient seed plant and multiplies and processes the new varieties of grains. He was awarded the Outstanding Service Award by the Canadian Seed Growers and in 1970 he was made a Robertson Associate by them. He also served a term as President of the Manitoba branch of C.S.G.A.

George and Marge take an active part in the life of the community — in the church where they have served on the Board, and George, like his father, is an Elder. They support the rink activities whether it be serving meals, or transporting hockey teams. Marge is a member of the Eastern Star and George is presently serving his third term as Master of the local Masonic Lodge.

George and Marge have three children: Pat, Linda and Garry.

Pat took her education in Foxwarren and Birtle, then a hairdressing course in Regina. She married Wayne Workman and had one child, Angela. Later she married Stephen Hrynychuk. They had two children, Marnie and Stephen. She now resides in Winnipeg.

Linda went to Foxwarren School and then to Birtle for high school where she took a commercial course. She took a position in Russell as a book-keeper. She married Herbert Wollny, a carpenter, and now resides in Rosetown, Saskatchewan. They have three children, Tanya, Jentz, and Neil.

Garry went to school in Foxwarren and now farms with his Dad. This makes the third generation of McCrindles on that farm. Garry, too, is carrying on the seed business. He married Barbara Butler of Solsgirth who was a stenographer. (With her typist fingers and book-keeping ability, she is a big asset to the business too.) They have two children, Joan and Judy who are still attending school.

The roots of home grow deep, and over the years, we, the McCrindle sisters, have watched our old home develop under the care of George and Marge, into a modern, well-cared for seed farm of which we are justly proud.

McDonald, Alexander

In 1880, Alex was born at Mull, Scotland. He came to Canada with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William McDonald. They resided beside the Red River Cart Trail on NE 26-16-28. Alex farmed on Section 25 with his brother Will and later served in the Boer War. After the war he spent some time in California. When Alex returned, he married Mary Randall in the early 1900's. They made their home on NE 23-16-28. Their family consisted of Ruth, Charlie, Edith, Dorothy, Wilma, Harry, Eva, Glen,

Mervin and another daughter who died in infancy. Alex enjoyed all kinds of sports and excelled in baseball. The McDonalds retired to Melfort where Alex died in 1950.

The present whereabouts of the family is unknown with the exception of Ruth who married Lloyd Bradley of Moosomin, where they still reside.

McDonald (MacDonald), Archibald

In Glengarry, Scotland in 1796 Archie McDonald was born. (He died there in 1886.) He became deer stalker for Edward Ellice from 1840-1863. Mr. Ellice, who was at that time Chairman of the Hudson's Bay Company, sent Archie's eldest son also named Archibald, at the age of 18, to work for the H.B.C. in Canada, arriving on the Company's annual supply ship in 1854. He served his apprenticeship as a clerk.

He married Ellen Inskter and they had five children, one daughter, Eleanor and four sons: H.F. who became a brigadier general in the Canadian army, D.H. who was a banker and a member of the Saskatchewan Legislature, John A. a lawyer in Fort Qu'Appelle and Dr. Ellice McDonald, a surgeon.

Archibald McDonald was sent to Fort Ellice, in the early 1870's and became chief factor there in 1879.

While at Fort Ellice the factor obtained a tract of land from the H.B.C. Here he introduced Highland cattle. At about this time a wharf and warehouse were established by the H.B.C. on the Assiniboine river at 17-16-28. At the invitation of A. McDonald, his long-time friend A. McIntosh, brought his family to this country and took over the management of the wharf as well as the care of the cattle.

William, brother of the factor, and his family came to Canada in 1882, to take over the farm management.

William and his wife had nine children as follows: Archibald Forbes, owned a lumber company at McAuley after farming on NE 14-16-28; William Thomas farmed on section 23-16-28; Alexander, served in the Boer War in 1900, later farmed NE 23-16-28; Charles born 1875 died accidentally in 1885; Elizabeth born 1871 died in 1896 while in nurses' training in Brandon; Edward Ellice, served in the Boer War, later as a blacksmith at Turtleford, Saskatchewan; Mary Anne married Arnold Lewarton at Fort Ellice; Nellie, born in Canada, attended Ellice school, married Wallace Lewarton; Maude born in Canada was employed by the government in the Dept. of Indian Affairs at File Hills, Alberta, Birtle, Bella Bella, Edmonton and Portage la Prairie.

The chief factor retired in 1911, died in 1915 while his brother William lived till 1925.

McDonald, William Thomas

In 1882 at the age of seven, William Thomas McDonald with his parents Mr. and Mrs. William McDonald Sr. and his brothers and sisters came to Canada. They made their home by the Red River Cart Trail, two miles east of Fort Ellice on N.E. 26-16-28. Here, Will attended Ellice School and then completed his education in Birtle. He and his brother,



Mr. and Mrs. William T. McDonald and son Edward, 1911.

Alex, began farming on W½ 25-16-28. Then Will moved to the Assiniboine Valley to E½ 23-16-28, and married Maude Butcher in 1907. They had three children — Edward, Mae (Mrs. Robert Carr) and Howard. In 1916 Will moved his family to S.W. 23-16-28 where he had built a new home. There, he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives.

Will and Maude McDonald were always ready to take part in community affairs as well as assisting neighbors in time of need. In earlier years Mrs. McDonald played the organ for church. Will was a member of the Ellice baseball team and later on joined the "Wattsvie Nine". Curling was another favorite sport. He served on the Ellice Council as well as being a trustee for Oxford S.D.

Will died at his home in 1947 and Maude in Birtle Hospital in 1966.

McDonald, Archibald Forbes

Archibald Forbes came with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William McDonald Sr. from Invercoe, Scotland in 1882 to Canada at the age of 12. Their home was

situated by the Red River cart trail two miles east of Fort Ellice.

Archie attended the old log Wattsview School. He farmed on N.E. 14-16-28 near the Birtle Landing. The buildings were made of logs. Grain was grown. After the railway was built passengers would wait at the McDonald home till their train arrived.

Archie married Annie S., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Gourley of Birtle. She was born in York County, Ontario in 1876. The family left Wattsview in 1912 to go to McAuley where Archie operated a lumber business. Later he extended this business to include Imperial Oil, Massey-Harris and coal. For many years Archie served on the school board, on the council and as secretary-treasurer of McAuley Agricultural Fair. He was fond of sports including baseball on the Wattsview team and curling.

There were five children, three of whom served in World War II. Pat (William) was in business with his dad at McAuley; Muriel, who became Mrs. Billy McAuley; Edna took nurses training in Winnipeg — later became a telephone operator; Forbes had a store at Hudson's Bay Junction; Douglas resided at Red Deer, Alberta.

Archie passed away at his McAuley home in 1939 and Mrs. McDonald died several years later. Edna, the only surviving member of the family resides in McAuley.

McDonald, Edward W.

Edward was born at his father's farm home September 5th, 1909 on NE 23-16-28. The owner previous to his father was his great uncle, Chief Factor A. McDonald who had obtained the land from the H.B.C. Edward was the eldest son of William Thomas and Maude (nee Butcher). He had one sister, Mae (Mrs. Robert Corr of Birtle) and one brother, Howard.

In 1916 W. T. McDonald built a new house on SW 23-16-28 and the family moved there in November.

From here Edward walked to Oxford School which was three miles east of home. When he passed Grade VIII, he went to highschool in Birtle. His teachers were Miss H. Manwaring and Mr. O. Beckstead. When half way through Grade X, Ed got rheumatic fever and spent six months in Birtle Hospital so that was the end of his schooling.

When Edward was eighteen he spent one year working in the lumber yard at McAuley for his cousin W. A. McDonald, then back to the farm again with his dad.

On December 12, 1931 Edward married Myrtle, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Hamilton of Foxwarren. He built a log house on the NW 23-16-28

with Snake Creek in the backyard. Here the three daughters and three sons grew up.

The eldest daughter **Jean Margaret**, after completion of school, left the district and obtained nurses' registration from Brandon General Hospital. While in Brandon she met and married Adrianus Bruys. In 1955 they left Brandon to make their home in Vancouver, B.C. where they still reside. Jean and Ad have a daughter Vicky and two sons Gary and Mark, who all live in Vancouver.

David, after completing his schooling, was employed by the C.N.R. for many years. He is now living in Thunder Bay, Ontario. He married Lona Caplette and they have three daughters, Irene, Doreen and Holly.

William, after leaving Wattsview made his home in Winnipeg. Here he has been employed by the Manitoba Telephone System for more than thirty years. Bill married Sharon Ayres of Winnipeg and they have a family of four — Shannon, Deryl, Shelly and David.

A third son, **Donald**, married Joan McCall. They have four sons: Wayne, David, Murray and Michael. Thompson, Manitoba is their home and Don works for Inco. Three of his sons also work there.

Shirley married Herb Weidman of Starbuck. They are farming at Dacotah, Manitoba and have two children, Gloria and Herb Junior.

Before **Arla** married Raymond Gall she worked in the main Winnipeg office of the Manitoba Telephone System. In 1968 they moved to Vancouver, British Columbia. Here Ray is employed by CBC. They have two daughters, Cindy and Barbara.

In 1954 the family left the farm for a time and moved to the Allinson School District where Edward worked part time for David Allinson, a farmer. After that they moved to the Interlake area at Deerhorn school. Here Ed worked for the Highways Department. They returned to the farm home where Edward again took up farming and Myrtle taught at Gambler School until it closed.

A house was purchased from James Hamilton of Foxwarren in 1960 and it was moved onto the site of the old home.

Edward enjoyed sports and took an active part in baseball, fastball, curling, hunting, fishing, golfing and was keenly interested in current events.

After several years of troublesome illness Edward died March 19, 1981.

McDonald, Donald D.

I was born November 27th, 1938 and lived with my parents — Edward and Myrtle McDonald as well as three sisters, Jean, Shirley and Arla, and two brothers, Dave and Bill on N.W. 23-16-28.

I received my elementary education at Oxford School — walking most of the time the three miles.

I worked for a time on the C.N.R., then moved to Birtle and was employed by Bertrams' Garage.

I married Joan, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sid McCall of Foxwarren. Our four sons, Wayne, David, Murray and Michael were born in Birtle.

In 1969 the family moved to Thompson, Manitoba where I have worked for Inco until the shut-down this fall. Three of our sons were also employed by Inco.

Wayne married Gwen Brodofski of Thompson. They have two daughters.

David is interested in outdoor sports while Murray and Michael play hockey every winter.

I am the fourth generation to own a small portion of the land in the Assiniboine Valley originally bought from the H.B.C. by Chief Factor Archibald McDonald, namely part of section 27-16-28.

McDonald, Howard

Howard was born at Wattsville Manitoba, on June 26, 1917. He received his schooling at Oxford School. He then followed a varied career, beginning at Carberry working on construction at Carberry Airport, to worktrain on the C.N.R., to Fort William as a carpenter's helper, then back to St. Lazare creamery, and before returning to the farm in 1944, he worked as a truck driver for McArthur's in Brandon. He remained on the farm until 1969 when he moved to Birtle, Manitoba. In 1974 he sold the farm to Fouillard Brothers.

In October 1945 he married Jean Osevin eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Osevin of Beulah, Manitoba. Jean was born in Leicestershire, England and came to Canada as a small child with her parents in 1927. She received her schooling in Beulah, Manitoba and is presently employed at Birtle Pharmacy. Howard is interested in all Sports and actively participated in soft ball, baseball, curling, golfing, hunting and fishing.

He served on Ellice Council for nine years 1962-1971.

He and Jean have three children: **Dorothy** — was born in Birtle on March 19, 1948. She attended elementary school at Oxford and graduated from Birtle Collegiate Institute in 1966. After completing a B.A. degree in Psychology in 1969 she moved to Toronto where she lived until June 1982 working as a systems analyst with the University of Toronto. She was married to Jeff Lowe in New York City, in 1975.

Dorothy and Jeff are currently living in Winnipeg where Dorothy works as a systems analyst with the Province of Manitoba and Jeff is studying for his Masters Degree in city planning.

John — was born at Birtle on August 30, 1953. He received his education at Oxford School and graduated from Birtle Collegiate in 1971. He started apprenticing as a painter and decorator with Glawson Ltd. in Brandon, Manitoba but in 1972 left to continue his studies at University of Manitoba where he spent two years studying sociology and psychology. He returned to painting and was self-employed for a number of years. He has since attended Red River College where he graduated as a journeyman painter and is presently employed by the city of Winnipeg.

Carol — born in Birtle on October 18, 1955, received her education in Birtle and graduated from Birtle Collegiate in 1973. She then moved to Winnipeg and worked at several secretarial positions. She married Donald Crerar at Birtle on July 31, 1976. Don attended school at Foxwarren and is a graduate of Birtle Collegiate. He is presently employed as an accountant manager by Royal Trust in Winnipeg.

Don and Carol have one son Michael, born on September 22, 1979.

McDougall, John 1901-1978

Jack was born on Manitoulin Island, Ontario and came to live with his Aunt Jean Moffatt in the Binscarth area, then with another aunt, Ellen Wotton in Foxwarren. As a young man, Jack and his cousin Eric Wotton, batched in the Gambler district on what is still the Eric Wotton farm. Later, Jack bought 18-18-28 from a mortgage company and in 1945 he married Mary Kominko. They had two daughters, Donna Faye, 1946, and Lana Fern, 1948. Mary died in 1951. Jack married Margaret Stepler in 1953. Donna and Lana went to school at Gambler until it



Mrs. Mary McDougal with baby Donna, 1946.

closed in 1960, and completed their schooling in St. Lazare. They belonged to the Binscarth 4-H Beef Club. Their father had a way of keeping his family involved in the farm and it was not uncommon to see a load of manure thrown off by the girls while Jack stopped for a smoke. Jack and Margaret retired to Binscarth in 1965. Jack sold machinery for Lavine Implements, curled, and was involved with the ball club. He dearly loved to get his neighbors out of bed early in the morning, and he would start the lawn mower at 7 on a Sunday morning, going back to his couch with a twinkle in his eye when neighbors indicated they were up. Lana lives in Winnipeg where she has been employed by the Department of Revenue since 1976. Donna and Calvin Pizzey lived in Binscarth until 1971, when they moved to the Bill Redmond farm 11-18-28, where they mix-grain farm and raise Simmental cattle. They have four children; Jacqueline 1970; Tracy 1972; Marcia 1974; and Kirt 1976.

McFarlane, John D.

John McFarlane was born at PushLinch, Ontario in the year 1876. His grandparents had come there from Perthshire, Scotland in 1831. His parents, John and Margaret McFarlane lived in Ontario until 1881 when they moved to Northcote, Minnesota. John joined them in 1890 at the age of fourteen and remained in that area until 1903 when he moved to Binscarth, Manitoba. He began farming on Section 33-18-28 in the municipality of Ellice about three miles south of Binscarth.

On the first day of June 1904, he married Ida Christine Lilliquist at Yorkton, Saskatchewan, known as the NorthWest Territories in those days. They lived on the farm until 1920 when Ida passed away after a lengthy illness. John continued to farm until 1949 when he retired and moved into Binscarth where he lived until his death in 1963 at the age of 87 years.

He always loved good horses and was interested in community affairs having served on various United Church boards over a period of more than fifty years.

John and Ida McFarlane were blessed with three daughters, two of them having remained in this area.

Margaret — married William C. Thompson — they had two sons and two daughters.

Lorine — married Bert Thompson — they had one daughter and one son.

Mildred — married H.J.R. Bond — they had one son and one daughter.

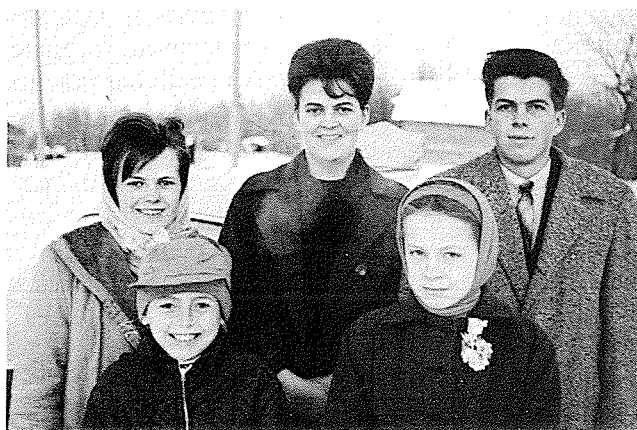
Margaret Thompson died July 29, 1973.

McFarlin, G. Alfred

Alf McFarlin arrived in Ellice Municipality in April, 1948, from Rapid City, Man. He came to farm the E½ of 12-18-28, as Percy and Lorna Carr were retiring to live in Foxwarren and having no sons of their own, were leaving the farming operation to a son-in-law. He and Aileen Carr, the elder daughter had been married at St. George's Anglican Church, Foxwarren, on November 21, 1945. Aileen had been born May 28, 1921 and raised on this farm, took her schooling in Foxwarren and then went further afield to find work. Alf had been born in Edmonton on December 18, 1909 and moved to the Rapid City area in 1916. Alf and Aileen farmed until June 1966 when Alf took employment with the Highway Department. He retired in December 1974. Aileen worked as a medical clerk in Birtle District Hospital from



Alf and Aileen McFarlin.



McFarlin Family: Wilma, Margaret, Bill, Kenny and Cathy.

1960-75. They continued to live on the farm and rent the land until October 1967 when they bought a house and moved to Foxwarren. Aileen still owns the home quarter and Richard Vaughan works the land for her. The McFarlins were members of the Anglican Church and Alf belonged to the I.O.O.F. and Aileen to the Rebekah Lodge.

Alf passed away June sixth, 1982 at the age of 72 years and is buried in Foxwarren cemetery. Aileen has many happy memories to cherish as they loved to travel and camp. They visited many places in the western province and northern United States. They also loved to fish and golf and followed the hockey and ball games near and far.

Aileen and Alf have five children, all married: **William George** (Bill), living in Prince George, B.C. with his wife Nita and two daughters, Deana and Michele. Bill spent several months in Naval Officers training course and is now an electrician. **Margaret Lorna**, married to Elgin Farrell — they live in Brandon. Elgin works for Managro Harvestors. **Wilma Louise** married Louis Kilarski and is living in Grande Prairie, Alberta, with their two daughters, Jacqui and Bobbi Jo. Louis works for Canfar Lumber. **Catherine Lynne**, married to Harvey Heise and along with their son Shawn, live in

Brandon. Harvey is an auto-body mechanic and Cathy a secretary in Manitoba Hydro. **Kenneth Ian** and his wife Irene live in Brandon, they have a Day Care Centre in their home and Ken works for the I.G.A.

Their years together on the farm were happy ones and when they get together now, the time is spent talking of things they did and just what a lot of fun they really had.

McIntosh, Alexander and Family

If God would grant one wish for me, once more I'd sit by mother's knee and be a child again. This time, I'd heed her stories told about the past and try to hold them fresh in memory. For future kin, I'd write it all, and leave a record — to recall, from where it all began. W. (Butcher) Robinson.

Alexander McIntosh — our grandfather was born in the area of Glenquoich, and Invergarry in Invernesshire, Scotland, in the year in 1831. He was a



McIntosh Family. Top Row: Dunc McIntosh, Mary Corr, Teenie McKenzie. Middle Row: Jessie McGibney, Willie McIntosh, Mother Wilhelmina, Alex McIntosh, Dolly McLeod. Front Row: Maggie McGibney, Mina Butcher and Nellie Ferguson.

Stone Mason by trade. Alexander married Wilhelmina Smith at Carlisle, Cumbria, England, January 27, 1871. Her father was a sea captain, he died early in life — of Cholera — leaving a young family.

Wilhelmina's grandmother apparently lived near the area of Glenquoich, and while visiting her she met Alexander, thus the courtship began, and at the age of 20 — she married a man 20 years her senior.

They must have moved to Glasgow for the following year their first child was born there. Within the next year the family came to Canada and settled in Quebec, and there they stayed until 1878. These were years of tragedy and strife — for which Wilhelmina showed the tendency of being a woman ahead of her time.

Alexander developed silicosis and was unable to carry on his trade. Three more children were born and one died at the age of 11 months. During all this, Wilhelmina trained as a Mid-Wife in preparation for becoming the bread winner — she also learned to speak French.

In 1878, they came West to Winnipeg, and in 1879, Archibald McDonald called Alexander to Fort Ellice to become farm manager. He came via steam boat up the Assiniboine River. No doubt he accepted the job with some misgivings as he was a complete green horn at farming; however he must have shown his worth for he stayed, and the rest of his family arrived the following year on the paddle steamer — the "Manitoban". The trip took two weeks, and they were plagued by mosquitoes. Alexander also took on the duties of being in charge of the Company Warehouse. A large amount of goods arrived by boat and ox cart to be distributed to surrounding areas. The Fort, at that time was a busy place.

In 1882, he acquired his own land and moved his family into a newly built log house. They named their home "Aberfail". Tragedy eventually struck again and this house burned down taking with it all the family pictures and mementoes. They built another house, which still stands today — six miles south of the site of Old Fort Ellice.

Between the years of 1881-1893, seven more children were born. Wilhelmina (Mrs. Will Butcher) was the first white baby to be born in the district, and when the Indians came to the Fort they found her to be a great source of interest, and passed this little white thing back and forth among them to be examined. One of the Indian ladies made her a beautiful pair of beaded buckskin moccasins.

The children attended the original Oxford School which was built in 1883, and situated on the Watts-view Plains. They had four miles to walk — up over the Assiniboine Hills. If they were lucky, they had a ride on a buffalo hide dragged behind a horse. They

carried their lunches in lard pails and often had to bring drinking water, as the school well had drowned gophers in it, periodically. They used slates, and attended only in good weather. In 1897, the record shows the attendance of 15 boys and 20 girls, ranging in ages of 5 years to 16 years. The teacher's salary was \$4.00 a month and his name was T. A. Glass. He was in the process of studying to be a doctor while he was employed at Oxford School.

Because of Alexander's poor health, and Wilhelmina working at her midwifery, the children had to shoulder a lot of hard work and responsibility. There were only three boys and they were of the younger group, so the girls worked like men. They helped their Dad clear the land with plough and oxen. They upturned many buffalo bones — there were huge piles in the ravines. In the very early days, these ravines were swampy, and huge herds of buffalo were driven into these swamps just for the sport of it. The Indians told these tales, and at the time, the herds of buffalo must have seemed unending.

The children helped to shear the sheep, spin the wool, and knit the garments. They made soap from grease and lye, they made candles from sheep tallow. They used buffalo hides on their beds — filled the mattresses with fresh straw each fall. They fashioned their toys from wood, and made dolls from rags. They learned to sew by making clothes for these dolls.

The older girls eventually had many young bachelors arriving for social evenings and good home cooking. There were many musical evenings and skating parties. Romances began under the watchful eye of the parents, and the torment of the younger ones.

The W. McDonald's and McIntosh's spent every New Year's together and the two men would resort to their gaelic tongue for their private chats.

During these years, history was in the making and times were gradually changing. They saw the ox carts 10 to 15 at a time come along the trails, carrying supplies to the fort. They could be heard for miles away as they rolled along deep rutted trails. Sometimes the wheels were red from passing through lush wild strawberry beds. They witnessed the beginnings of the railway. They were fascinated by the Dukhobour workers that camped nearby. The home-made steam baths and outdoor stone ovens were a source of interest.

The Riel Rebellion touched near home; because Wilhelmina spoke French, she understood a conversation between two horsemen from whom she was hiding inside a culvert. She was able to warn the proper authorities, thereby preventing trouble in the district.

Alexander died in 1903, and Wilhelmina stayed on the farm until 1919. She then retired to Birtle to live with her son, Duncan, until her health failed. She then lived in the Butcher home with her daughter, Mina, until her death in 1928.

Alexander and Wilhelmina are buried in the Roman Catholic Cemetery at St. Lazare, Manitoba.

Born	Married
1872 Grace Mary	John Corr
1873 Christina Lockhart	William McKenzie
1875 Jessie Florence	Frank McGibney
1878 Joseph Duncan	Deceased (11 months)
1881 Wilhelmina Adelaide	William Butcher
1883 Helen Inkster	Robert Ferguson
1885 Paul Alexander Angus	Deceased (36 years, Vet. W. War I)
1887 William Duncan	Margaret Parkes
1889 Margaret Anne	Stuart McGibney
1891 Duncan Lancelot	Elizabeth McIvor
1893 Eveline (Dolly) Ruby	William McLeod

From these unions, 40 grandchildren were born, seven of these died at birth or within the first year.

The families of Corr, McGibney, Ferguson and Butcher are still living in the surrounding area of old Fort Ellice. There are McIntoshes in the Winnipeg area — McKenzies in nearby Saskatchewan. There are McKenzies, McGibneys and Butchers in British Columbia.

Eveline (Dolly) McLeod is the lone survivor of the Alexander and Wilhelmina McIntosh family. She lives in Blenheim, Ontario, surrounded by all her family.

McGibney, Jessie McIntosh **by her granddaughter Carol McGibney** **Chatakoff**

Jessie Florence McIntosh McGibney gave to generations of children a delightful view of pioneer life and a meaningful history of the Canadian west through her own memories of her childhood in and near Fort Ellice.

Born in Ganonoque, a French-speaking community in Ontario, on June 3, 1875, Jessie's first language, much to the consternation of her Scottish parents, was French. Her father, Alexander McIntosh, a stone mason, had left his homeland in search of employment. Ganonoque proved to have much need of his skills. There he stayed until 1878 when he received an invitation from Archie McDonald, which was simply too tempting for a family with a touch of wanderlust, to ignore. They headed west, wintered in Fort Garry where they were exposed to, but escaped, diphtheria and smallpox, then in 1879 embarked on a gruelling trip up the Assiniboine by stern-wheeler.

That this trip had a profound impact on four year old Jessie was witnessed by her vivid descriptions of

their painfully slow progress. Each night, the crew cut wood for the following day. One evening, they were dejected to find that they were cutting in exactly the same spot that they had the day before. Their entire day's journey had taken them only from one tip of a meandering horseshoe to the other! Understandably, Jessie and her two older sisters, Mary and Christina, soon grew tired of watching the passing scenery. To relieve their boredom, they took to dropping things overboard to see how the circles radiated out. They dropped any tools the crew left about, till the men learned to be more careful. As the journey neared its end, the supply of droppables was seriously depleted. Consequently, the girls explored their own cases — nothing droppable there, only clothing. Next they managed to pry into their mother's case. A distraught Mrs. McIntosh came by just in time to see them toss overboard her precious silver shakers that she had so lovingly carried all the way from the old country.

At journey's end, Jessie's father took up his post as bookkeeper at Fort Ellice and the family occupied one end of the long house until, three years later, Alexander took out his own homestead in the valley below the Fort. The hardships that the family encountered while proving that land were numerous. Like many other newcomers to the great west, their ambition outweighed their knowledge or experience. Alex McIntosh was a skilled stonemason, but he knew next to nothing about farming. He managed to scrounge enough money to buy one ox; however, he needed a team to do his ploughing and, after some persuasion, borrowed one of the Hudson Bay oxen. That night, apparently due to an oversight brought on by an overindulgence of 'wee drops', the oxen were not securely tied — the Hudson Bay ox was gored and killed by the McIntosh beast. In recompense, Alex gave many days free labor to the company, including the time he spent building the stone church at Fort Qu'Appelle.

Early in their second winter on the homestead, it became apparent that there was simply not enough feed to carry either their own livestock or the Hudson Bay cattle through to spring. Fort Esperance, though long since abandoned, still had feed in the storage shed. With Jessie, who was now eight years old, Alex trekked the animals twenty miles overland to Esperance where the two of them managed to rough it through the winter without losing a single head.

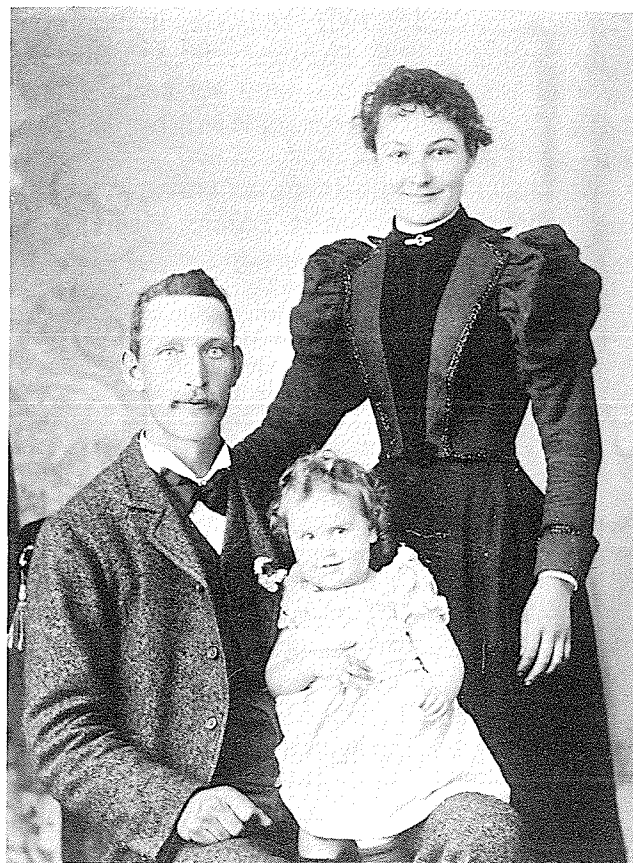
Jessie's mother learned to cope with the weather, to communicate with the Indians, to make do with nothing; however, she was never able to overcome her deep fear of gophers. Jessie and Teenie took delight in capturing these 'wee beasties', setting

them free near their unsuspecting mother, and, from a secure hiding place, noting her range of reactions.

For the most part, Jessie and the other McIntosh children received their schooling at home. When they did go to school in the summer time, they walked up the hill to Oxford School on the Wattsvie Plains. There was, however, too much work to be done to have the luxury of attending school for more than a few seasons. Seven more McIntosh children had arrived, including three boys (all of whom were given the name Duncan). These boys were not yet old enough to do much actual farmwork, so the girls became farmhands. They also became homemakers, gardeners, and seamstresses. They took the wool from the sheep, washed it, carded it, and knit their own garments. On one occasion, Jessie, shocked that Father DeCorby, the area priest, was making his rounds barehanded in the bitter cold of winter, carried out that entire process to make him a pair of mitts before he left on his way to a distant call.

Jessie was sixteen when she met and decided to marry Francis McGibney, a teamster who drove logs to the lumber mill. He had come from Downpatrick, Ireland in 1884. Jessie's parents insisted that her marriage be postponed as tradition dictated that it would not be right for the third daughter to marry while the second daughter remained single. Finally, in 1897, when Jessie was 22 and Frank 32, the couple decided that enough was enough so they travelled to Winnipeg, were married, then migrated immediately to New Zealand. There they worked on a large farm, bought a race horse, learned to hate rabbits, and gave birth to two daughters — Christina Agnes in 1898, and Jessie Florence in 1902. Despite the hospitality of the New Zealanders, Jessie missed her large family terribly. News that her father was ill with 'galloping consumption' started their consideration of a return to Canada. Thoughts became firm decision the day the dishes were tossed out of the sideboard by an earthquake.

On stepping off the train in Moosomin in the fall of 1903, they were welcomed home with the news that Teenie was now married, so their marriage, in turn, was acceptable. They spent that winter in Wattsvie, then moved to take up their homestead north of Welwyn (SW 26-16-30) in 1904. Though the family had left the Ellice Municipality, their ties with the district remained strong — partly through family members who still lived in that area, and partly through their own home which in 1905 was built of logs from the already abandoned store at Fort Ellice. That log house was to serve as birthplace for the couple's four boys: Frank in 1906, John (Jack) in 1909, Alexander (Alex) in 1912 and James (Bud) in 1915.



Jessie and Frank McGibney.

In 1939 the log house was destroyed by fire. The only thing saved was a gas lamp that ailing Frank Sr. grabbed as his son, Bud, carried him out of the house. Ironically, the grain cheques right beside it burned, as did the I.O.U.'s from the school district where Bud had been teaching. Neighbours who had turned to Jessie and Frank McGibney for help in time of crises, now appeared in droves to move, renovate and outfit the Park Plains School into the new McGibney home. The couple occupied that home and continued farming until Frank Sr. died in November, 1954. One decade later, in December 1964, at the age of 89, Jessie passed away having served selflessly as doctor and midwife wherever and whenever she was needed throughout her life. The legacy left by Jessie McIntosh McGibney is three fold; the restored health she brought to many of her patients, the beautiful, whimsical tales she told of early days, and her family — children to great-great-grandchildren now spread across the length and breadth of this land.

McIvor, Donald and Bella **by Marg Bagley**

Not much information is available about my great grandparents. Bella Cardinal is supposed to have

come from Edmonton, before she met and married Donald. He loved to race horses, and would travel around to different fairs to take part in the races. While on one of these trips he was accidentally killed, leaving a young family of four; Annie, Dick, George and Pat. Annie and Dick died while very young. Bella moved to Russell, then Birtle. Here she met and married Samuel Henderson. He was from Kingston, Ont. and his trade was stone masonry. He built a few homes in Birtle before moving to St. Lazare. He built the first store belonging to J. M. Fouillard. Sam and Bella had one son Lawrence and another child who died at six months of age.

McIvor, Pat and Clara

Pat was born in 1887 and lived around St. Lazare all his life. In May of 1916 he married Clara, daughter of Andrew and Lizzie Leclerc. As a young girl, Clara was cook in the Murdock Hotel in Binscarth. Pat served in World War I, as a sniper and Ed Simard told of Pat's good humor on the boat coming back to Canada; he kept everyone's spirits up by insisting he could see shore, although still miles out at sea! He brought a friend home with him — George (Butch) Legge, and their friendship was to last a lifetime. Pat was employed by the C.P.R. and worked on the "pusher" on the Millwood hill. No doubt, it was at this time that he was given the nickname "Casey". The story is told of some Binscarth residents wishing to attend a dance at Brendenbury. As there was no other means of transportation, Pat offered the use of the locomotive and caboose. End of railroad career! During the 1930s when jobs were scarce, Pat always seemed to find some sort of employment. He had keys to several buildings in town, and in the early morning, would get the fires going. He worked on road construction gangs in the summer, with harvest crews in the fall, and as general choreman around town in the winter. Many is the armload of wood he carried into the Municipal office and Ernie's Pool hall. Pat's family lived on four lots on the side hill overlooking the town. These lots were given to Pat by Eugene Fouillard, for saving his life. Eugene was drowning in the Assiniboine River, when Pat jumped in to rescue him. In later years, Pat liked to while away his spare time in the pub, gossiping with the boys. He was very patriotic, and if friends Dick Dale, John Selby, Jack Fraser or Jack Gardner were present, Casey would break into a verse or two of "Soldiers Of The Queen" or "We'll Never Let The Old Flag Fall". This was always good for an "invite" to join in a round, and pass a pleasant hour or two. On Nov. 11th, Armistice Day, Pat would blow the whistle at the Creamery. Pat died in 1945 and was given a funeral with full military honors. Clara, his hard-

working, generous partner, died in 1965. Their children were; **Gertie**, see Gaspard Fiddler story. **Reta**, see Alex Lepine story. **Monty**, was a private in the army from 1939-45. He never married and died suddenly in 1961. **Jim** worked on the C.P.R. gangs until he became ill. He lived in Brandon till his death in 1979. **Mack** died quite young. **Evelyn**, married Fred Hamilton. They lived and farmed in the Binscarth area. Fred started working on the C.P.R. as a section foreman and moved his family to Shoal Lake. They have seven children, including two sets of twins.

McIvor, George and Rose

George married Rose Desjarlais. He was an engineer with C.N.R. for 35 years. The first years of their marriage, they lived in the old McIvor home, then moved to Lazare where they lived upstairs in the Tremblay house (Gil Chartier's home). George next moved his family to Melville where they lived for 22 years until his retirement. They moved to Ottawa to be near their daughters, Alma and Lorraine. George died in 1970 and Rose is still living in Ottawa.

McIvor, Therese

Therese was the granddaughter of Pat and Clara McIvor, and was raised by them. She married Elie Fleury of Binscarth in August of 1963. They lived two years at Little Grand Rapids, where Elie taught school. They moved to Pine Falls area where they lived until 1976. Elie was principal of Fort Alexander school, and Therese worked at the hospital in Pine Falls as a nursing assistant. They next moved to Prince Albert, where Elie is Director of Education with the Northern Lights School Division and Therese is a nursing assistant at Victoria Union Hospital.

McKenzie, Eugene C.

Eugene McKenzie was born April 22, 1941 at Eureka, Montana. Following high school, Gene went to Canadian Bible College in Regina where he received his B.R.E. There, he met and married Alice Lutz, a Registered Nurse, who came from Edmonton, Alberta via nurses training in New Westminster, B.C.

Following their marriage Alice and Gene owned a Book Store in Spokane, Wash. USA. Their children Tyrone and Valerie were both born there. In 1970, Gene pastored a church in Winnipeg, all-the-while looking for a picturesque location for a Christian family camp.

While touring Western Manitoba, George Shields took him out to Louis and Guillemette LeFrancs' farm. Gene fell in love with the Assiniboine Valley. They moved to the farm July, 1974. In eight years, Gene, along with interested help, has

built his house, a cabin, a lodge and a chapel for Berachah Valley Ranch Camp. Using horses for each camper to ride, Gene takes a group of teens on out-trips to the Spy Hill Community Pasture or as far as Riding Mt. National Park. The camp is a member of Manitoba Farm Vacation and Christian Camping International.

The aim or objective of the camping program is — that young people, adults and families might enjoy a rich experience in the outdoors and an inward commitment to its Creator.

Ty and Val have been active helpers on the farm and summer camp. Both have attended St. Lazare, Foxwarren and Birtle Schools.

McKenzie, William

William McKenzie was born February 1, 1871 at Aberfoyle, Ontario. He also lived in Kincardine, Ontario. He came to this district in 1883 to the N.W. 1/4 18-16-29, purchasing the homestead in 1889. The house was of logs and erected with neighbors in a building bee.

On March 18, 1903 he married Christine McIntosh at Moosomin, Saskatchewan. Christine had been born in Gananoque, Ontario, October 18, 1873.

They had three children: Donald Jr. — 1904, Duncan — 1905, and Wilma — 1914.

William was active in sports, particularly curling, and was a member of the Canadian Curling team to Scotland in 1921. He was a councillor for the R.M. of Ellice from 1898 to 1900.

They left to live in Vancouver where William died September 4, 1958 and Christine May 27, 1959. They are buried in Burnaby, B.C.

McLellan, James

James McLellan was born in Wyman, P.Q. in 1867, worked as a street railway motorman at Racine, Wisconsin, then returned to Quebec to marry Margaret Rieland in 1894, and to begin farming. "Go west young man" brought him to Foxwarren in 1905, where the family lived in a granary on Dave Graham's farm until a house was built. The children attended Dunstan, later Moresby school.

Two horses, a one-furrow plow and two cows were a first purchase. Hail ruined the first crop, and four horses were lost in a fire one threshing time.

Jim farmed for sixteen years on 22-17-28. He worked in all community efforts, especially in connection with the Zion Methodist Church. He was on the Ellice Council from 1923 to 1926. He retired to Foxwarren and operated the Livery Barn purchased from M. King. Jim and Maggie had four children: **Pearl** (Mrs. A. S. Falloon) of Foxwarren; **Florence** (Mrs. D. A. Linklater) of Dawson Creek, B.C.;

Grace (Mrs. A. H. Davis) of Victoria; **James Reuben** of Calgary. The three girls were all teachers and Reuben is an electrician.

McLellan, John

John McLellan, a brother of Jim's, moved from Wyman, Quebec to Foxwarren in 1907, with his wife Marjorie and Abigail. He farmed on half of section 27-17-28, which is now owned by Eugene Simard.

He retired in 1917 and built a home in Foxwarren, now owned by Sid McCall. His wife Marjorie died in August 1932. John died in June 1938 at seventy-nine years of age.

McMinn, William

William McMinn and his wife Emily came from Ireland and homesteaded the NW 1/4 24-18-28 in 1882. They had no family, and little is known of their history. They were early members of St. Peter's Church, Balmerino, and very generous supporters. The only so-called 'lake' in the municipality was on this land and was known as "McMinn Lake". During the building of the railway from Foxwarren to Binscarth, a work camp was established near the lake and Mr. and Mrs. McMinn had a ready market for their eggs, beef and poultry at the cook house. They retired to a cottage south of Foxwarren in the early twenties (now the Joe Weslowski home) and lived there for a number of years. Mrs. McMinn died there and Mr. McMinn died at Middlechurch Home, Winnipeg in 1927. Both are buried in Foxwarren cemetery.

This land was owned by the Irwin Bros. until 1936, when Great West Life took it over. It was bought by F. W. Barrett in 1945. Louis Barrett took the farm over in 1956 and drained 'McMinn Lake' in 1961.

McNarry, Leon (Mac)

1886-1963

The McNarrys trace their history back to Donaghadee, County Down, Ireland. Mac was born March 25, 1886 in Dunmow, Essex, England. He was educated at a private school, Biggods, and during his early teens learned the carpentry trade. As a boy, he liked to draw and paint — often on the walls of the outbuildings of his home.

Early in 1905 he immigrated to Canada and soon found himself at the James Falloon Sr. farm home. He lived with, and worked for, the Falloons for some time, learning the ways of this new world he had entered. Farms were few and far apart and there were still some Indians roaming free on the prairies. At that time Crewe Post Office was in the Falloon

"Stone House" and Crewe school was across the road.

In May, 1907, crops were frozen and Sam Falloon could not promise payment to a builder, so he and Mac, both very young men, built Sam's home where he was to take his bride in January, 1908. Mac had brought his carpentry tools from England and those interesting wooden planes which they had used to fashion various mouldings and door frames etc. are still kept by his family. Late in 1908 Mac returned to England when his family moved to Romford near London. After a three-month stay, he returned to the Crewe district but soon went west to work in the B.C. lumber camps and on the railroad. However, the pull of the prairies was strong and he returned to Manitoba. About 1910, he and Teddy Sheridan began drilling wells in the area west of Brandon. Mac's diary tells of walking to Minnedosa, Neepawa and even Winnipeg for repairs and supplies. The Neepawa Salt Company was formed as a result of their drilling for oil and finding brine instead. Mac's brother, Oss, joined him in 1911 and they worked together until the outbreak of World War I, when Oss joined the Army Medical Corps.

While drilling at Pettapiece, Mac met Annie Elizabeth Bollman. Her parents had emigrated from Europe in late 1880, and lacking time to build a house, they spent their first winter in a dugout in the bank of a deep slough. They had been given a cow so their baby daughter would have milk and the cow shared the dugout with them. Truly a difficult winter! In the spring of 1881 Annie's Mother walked to Minnedosa to register their homestead.

Annie was born July 9, 1889 at Pettapiece and lived there until she married Mac in October, 1915, and they took up residence on the farm at SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 34-17-28. The house had been built by Leo Leavens in 1906-07. It is a 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ storey frame building and has changed very little over the years. Mr. Leavens planted some spruce, and Mac, with Annie's help, landscaped around the home; planting more trees, lilac, honeysuckle, crab apple along with delphiniums, peony, and other bright and colorful flowers. The stables were small frame buildings, as were the storage sheds. Mac moved a log building to the farm yard. It had been built by Scott Ellis' father when he had come to the community in the late 1800s. (A side note: The Ellis home had at one time served as a post office and when Mac moved the building he found an uncanceled letter behind the wallpaper — it apparently had slipped there unnoticed).

For several years Mac had been interested in the school system. (In 1906 he noted in his diary that the Indians were asking for a better deal in education.)

Soon after settling on his farm he worked actively with others in the area for a consolidation of the small school districts into larger units, and their efforts resulted in the formation of the Foxwarren Consolidated School District #525 and a new brick school was built in 1917. Mac served as a trustee and Secretary-Treasurer for many years. He foresaw even larger districts and hoped Foxwarren would be the centre of such a larger division because he felt that as change came many small towns would suffer loss of vitality and growth. Mac was a man of many interests and they ranged from politics and the co-operative movement to reading and painting.

In 1917 many farmers had switched to seeding Marquis wheat but Mac grew Red Fife and entered a one-pint jar of it in competition in Chicago, winning an award. He set the jar aside and kept it. Years later his daughter, Ruth, was glad he had done so. Early in the 1970s when there was much concern over possible mercury contamination of crops, the Canada Grains Commission was searching for a pure sample of Red Fife to test along with present day samples. Ruth contacted them, the grain was tested and found to contain traces of mercury.

Mac and Annie had four children: Leon Robert (Timber), Edgar Garnet, Marjorie Ruth and Mary Kathleen (Molly), all of whom were educated at Foxwarren Collegiate. The school was six miles from their home and school vans called daily to pick up the children — a car in summer and a horse-drawn van in winter. No snowplows and buses then!

Annie died in April, 1930 and was buried at Zion Cemetery. Times were surely different then. She became ill at home and it was Mrs. Ferguson who lent a reclining chair and Johnny Falloon who provided a heated van and fast team of horses to take her to Birtle Hospital. Later Mac took the four young children to Birtle on a CPR jigger, Mr. Lazenby having agreed to the use of the jigger because the roads were impassable.

In October, 1930, Blanche Ethel McNarry (Mac's sister) came from Romford, Essex to help raise the children, and experience the hardships and pleasures of rural life during the Depression: the dust storms, the heat, the sunsets, the wild flowers of summer; the cold, the wind, the hoar frost, the wild birds of winter! Culture shock! that's what it was for her and those many early pioneers who built the West. After the children left home, Miss McNarry spent some years in Foxwarren helping others. She nursed Mrs. Armit, Mr. Armit and later Nina Hall. When Mac was taken ill while on a visit to Winnipeg, she left for the city to help with his care until his death in November, 1963. Miss McNarry is presently living with Ruth in Winnipeg.

Thinking back to the Depression years Ruth remembers: I remember the dust storms, the heat, burnt grass under bare feet. Also the sound of sleigh runners on the frosty snow, the beauty of winter drifts, Christmas at Falloon's and the hand-painted handkerchiefs Hazel made. And there were family outings in the Assiniboine valley, Zion picnics, music festivals, sports days and Fat Stock Shows.

I remember drinking Paris Green, Mother playing the organ, Dad buying a gramophone from Harold Ranson — and we heard Caruso! I remember wanting a doll that never came, Leon's crystal set and later radios he made, a six-minute ride home from school on Edgar's Harley Davidson, eggs stored in waterglass, a cool cucumber sandwich at Mrs. Lennie Falloon's and the dress Mrs. Ferguson made for me after Mother died. I remember staying at Edith Falloon's and 'knowing' the world would end that night! And Toddy Ferguson's team bolting when I tried out a saxophone near his field; and flying over that same field . . . a biplane. I remember working for the summer for \$15, which bought a skirt, a blouse and paid Dr. Edwards to extract a molar without any freezing! I remember a Grade V Harry Graham dipping my curl in the ink well at school, and the Watkin's man, Leon's electric fence and he and I slamming the oven door on Auntie's cakes — we liked them when they fell. I remember Auntie baking wheat in a crock in the oven for our evening meal, and her staying up night after night to nurse us when we were ill. I remember the horses having sleeping sickness, the cows eating French weed, calf weaners and milking tubes.

I remember Dad explaining lightning, Molly and I cutting the crop while Leon was on crutches, Auntie's laughter, Balmerino Church and Sunday School by Post.

I remember SW¼ 34-17-28 as an excellent place to experience the whims of nature, to wonder, to question, to observe . . . and to hate washing the cream separator!

Leon Robert (Timber) McNarry 1916-

Leon was born on the farm on September 5, 1916. After completing his education in Foxwarren he ran the family farm for a number of years. He built radios, developed mechanical skills, read and was active in the community — and when World War II broke out he joined the RCAF and served as a radar officer overseas. Following his discharge he attended the University of Western Ontario and graduated with an MSc degree in 1950. He then joined the National Research Council in Ottawa and worked in the field of electron physics, radio astronomy and computer-aided learning for handicapped children. Leon retired from NRC in late 1979.

He has lived at Cumberland, Ontario for nearly 30 years and is active in the community, having served on the local school board, worked with Home and School Associations, served on revision committees for the Department of Education. Leon has also been involved with improving the teaching of science in Ontario. In 1980 he was nominated for the Marconi International Fellowship Award for his humanitarian work. Since his retirement he has helped in establishing the Cumberland Township Museum, for which he has restored a number of vintage tractors, and helped develop the grounds and physical displays. Photography is another of his interests, as is recording the events of the day. The National Archives are copying some of his 6000-hour audio tape collection.

Leon married Mavis Reid of Hamiota in March, 1943. Mavis teaches dressmaking and tailoring in the Ottawa school system and has written books on sewing. She, too, is interested in the local museum and is an accredited judge for women's handicrafts in Ontario. She put her knowledge of handicrafts to good use when she and Leon built their house some 30 years ago . . . and over the years has passed those skills on to many others in schools and 4-H clubs.

Leon and Mavis have four children: Mary Margaret, John Robert, David Barclay, and Daniel Gordon. John married Elsie Kroeker of Winkler in 1979 and they live at Alexander, Manitoba.

Edgar Garnet McNarry 1917-1976

Edgar, like his brother, was born at the farm home on November 5, 1917. His interest always lay with flying and as a boy he made that interest evident. He joined the RCAF when World War II broke out and at graduation was commissioned as a pilot. He was an instructor prior to being posted overseas. Following the war he farmed west of Foxwarren (NW¼ 34-17-28) but flying was his first interest and he rejoined the RCAF, flying many Search and Rescue missions out of Station Winnipeg. Later he did low-level aerial surveys for mining companies, covering much of Canada from Mold Bay in the North-West Territories to Labrador. The United Nations engaged him to teach those skills to Mexican pilots and he and his family lived in Mexico at that time. In 1972 Edgar began flying for the Manitoba Government Air Services and was stationed at Lac du Bonnet and later in The Pas, where he and Lauretta were living at the time of his death in June, 1976. Edgar married Lauretta Daisy Scott of Parry Sound on March 1, 1941. They had four children: Marjorie Pamela, Robert Wayne, Lynda Anne and Barbara Helen. Pam was an airline stewardess when she married Sam Distefano of Miami, Florida. They have one son, Michael. Pam, now single, lives in the United States. Robert

makes Victoria, B.C. his home base where he can enjoy his love of the sea. Lynda was struck by a car and died in March, 1962. Barbara married Robert Varey of Toronto and they have two children; Arlo and Deanne. Bob works for the CNR in The Pas and Barbara is a nurse in the hospital there.

Following Edgar's death Lauretta bought a home in Foxwarren where she has been active in the community during the past few years.

Marjorie Ruth (McNarry) Meldrum 1921-

Ruth was born in Birtle on June 16, 1921 and like her brothers was educated at Foxwarren. She took teacher training in Winnipeg and taught in a number of rural schools and as a substitute teacher in Winnipeg. While teaching near Deloraine she met Allan Meldrum and they were married on July 3, 1944. They lived in the Deloraine-Hartney area until moving to Winnipeg in 1951. Allan was employed by the CPR and Ruth ran a restaurant for four years. In 1962 Allan joined a construction company and worked both in Winnipeg and northern Manitoba until his death on November 11, 1976.

Ruth left the restaurant business before the birth of their daughter, Marjorie Helen in February, 1957. Later she worked at the Winnipeg Free Press and for a number of years proofread at Universal Printers. In 1973 she joined the staff of Eaton's Advertising Department and presently works there on a part-time basis. Her daughter, Marjorie, also is employed by Eaton's. Ruth still has title to a portion of SW¼ 34-17-28.

Mary Kathleen (Molly McNarry) Wilson 1926-1981

Molly was born at Birtle Hospital on March 17, 1926 and educated at Foxwarren. She then attended Dominion Business College in Winnipeg and began work with the Unemployment Insurance Commission in 1945. Soon she was off to Calgary helping settle insurance claims for the Alberta Hail Insurance Corp. Then following a two-year stint with the Income Tax Department in London, Ontario she returned to the UIC in Winnipeg, where she joined the 5002 Intelligence Unit of the RCAF Auxiliary. She was commissioned in 1955 and joined the regular RCAF in 1956. Following her training she was stationed at Rivers, where she met W/C Adrian Edgar Wilson, whom she married in 1960.

Following Ed's retirement in 1965 they moved to Ottawa and in 1967 to Kanata, Ontario. Molly and Ed had two children: Robert Brian and Rosemary Anne. Brian is studying geology at Queen's University, Kingston and Rosemary is completing her high-school courses.

Following Ed's death in 1974, Molly continued with the activities they'd begun; raising bees, gar-

dening, photography, wine making and handicrafts. Over the years she won awards in all these endeavours. She was active in planning and developing Tom Thomson Park in Kanata, and a long-time member of the Women's Institute. She died July 1, 1981.

McNarry, Oswald 1889-1953

Oss was born September 5, 1889 in Dunmow, Essex, England where he received his education and, following in his uncle's footsteps, developed a love of painting. In 1911 he came to Canada to join his brother, Leon (Mac) and they spent some time together drilling wells in Saskatchewan and western Manitoba. When World War I broke out Oss was drilling near Foam Lake, Saskatchewan. He joined the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps and served as a stretcher bearer in France. While on leave in England he met Violet Church and they were married in 1917.

Following Oss' discharge from the army in 1919, he and Violet immigrated to Canada to take up farming on NW¼ 34-17-28. Their eldest daughter, Lilla, was born on the farm with Mrs. Robert Ferguson in attendance. Oss continued farming until 1923 when he and his family moved to Winnipeg, where Ethel was born in 1923 and Ida in 1928. Oss' hobby was painting and many beautiful pictures flowed from his brushes. During the Depression he painted murals in several theatres in the city.

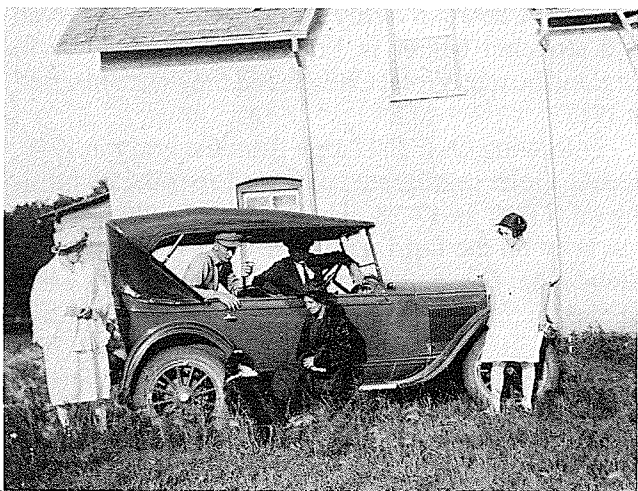
• Oss died in Winnipeg in July, 1953 and Vi moved to Vancouver to live with Lilla. She died there in December 1960.



Gathering at McNarry's, 1940: Mrs. Ferguson, Eva, Pearl Falloon, Mary, Thurza Burdett, Betty and Fanny Falloon. Front Row: Edith Falloon with Dale, Fanny, Ruth McNarry, June Widdicombe and Lorraine Falloon.

Mitchell, John Clark

John was born in 1888, the youngest of eleven children at Frazerburgh, Scotland. He served his apprenticeship in the grocery business. Due to his love of the out-of-doors he decided to come to Canada to farm, in 1911. He worked at various jobs at Strathmore, Alberta, Hamiota and Binscarth to earn enough money to start farming. He rented a farm (the Hunter Place) not far from St. Lazare. The first seed (to be replaced in the fall) was given to him by a neighbor. Jack rented 33-17-28 from Mrs. Sarah Boles, where he farmed until 1932, until he bought the S.W. 34-17-27 and N.W. 27-17-27 from Mrs.



Mrs. Mitchell with John at the wheel of car.

Tom McJanet. In 1919, Jack married Jessie Ann Taylor from Stonehaven, Scotland. Jessie passed away in Winnipeg when their son Charles was born. Their son was taken to Scotland by his maternal grandmother to be raised. Jack later married Mary Ann Taylor (no relation to his first wife) who had come from Coleraine, Ireland. They had one daughter, Helen. After a lengthy illness Mary Ann died in 1941. Helen married Earl Burdett in 1953.

Jack retired from active farming in 1959, but he lived on the farm until his death in 1969. Jack was known for his love of music. He travelled by team and open cutter as far away as McAuley and Rocanville, to play for dances. House parties were popular then and enjoyed by young and old. They would dance or play cards at someone's home, almost every week. It didn't cost any money to make your own fun in those days.

Moisan, Peter G.

Peter was born in Toronto, Ontario. His family moved to Cleveland, Tennessee where his father worked as a statistician for Bowaters Paper Co. He went to school at Cleveland State College, University

of Tennessee at Knoxville, and East Tennessee State University where he earned a B.S. and M.S. in Microbiology. He continued his education at the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Tennessee where he met Kathleen Taber.

Kathleen was born in Basei, Central African Empire where her parents were Missionaries. She has lived in Central African Empire, Connecticut, Indiana, Ghana where she went to highschool, Zaire, Ivory Coast, and Tennessee. She went to Milligan College, East Tennessee State University and University of Tennessee at Knoxville. Peter and Kathleen were married after one year of veterinary school and they graduated in 1981. They moved to St. Lazare and are servicing the St. Lazare Veterinary District.

The Moisans enjoy the area and their work in a mixed animal practise. They hope to have a farm and raise horses and purebred cattle some day. At present their family consists of one dog, four cats, four guinea pigs, one Donald Duck, three horses and one dairy heifer.

Morrisette, Marie Ernestine as related to Yvonne Leclerc

I was born to Jean Baptiste Ledoux and Claudia Fisher on October 28, 1899, in Lebret, Saskatchewan. I was baptized on November 25, 1899, at Lebret parish by Reverend Father Conan O.M.I.; my god-parents were Ambroise Fisher and Elizabeth Fisher; I was confirmed April 19, 1912 in Lebret Indian School.

My father died in 1904. My sister, George Fleury's mother, was one year old, so he went to town to buy groceries to celebrate her birthday and make a dance but he got killed in an accident.

After that Reverend Father Perreault came and took me to school. I wasn't very big after my father died but I ran away and got home. I did this while he was making dinner. I was playing outside by the creek and decided to run away. I seemed to be too closed in. He came for me and said, "She's a little too young yet so I'll leave her now until she's a bit older."

I went to school in Merriville in Crooked Lake for two or three years, from there they moved us to Lebret Boarding School. We were a mix of Indian and Metis children. I stayed there till I was fourteen. A long time ago, that's what the Metis people did — they put their children in the boarding school. I went to school with the Caplettes, the Tanners, Madeline Delorme, and Veronique Belhumeur. A lot of these people were living in Fort Qu'Appelle. I also went to school with Adrienne Fisher, now Desjarlais.

When we stayed at the boarding school we never

came home, not even for holidays, but we liked it there. During holidays, we never went to school but we knew a lot of people and we could visit with them and enjoyed it. We were well treated. I really liked it. We were all so close and friendly! Most of those people are dead now.

When the war started in 1914, I was in the hospital in Regina. The Grey Nuns took care of me, until my grandfather came for me and took me to Ste. Madeleine in 1916. I married William John Morrisette on August 21, 1917 in St. Lazare. Father Lalonde was the priest. We had no children but I raised a few — Andre, Paul, Thomas, after their mother died. We had hard times. We dug roots. Not one went to school but they're all smart.

In 1916, we put the cross up at Ste. Madeleine cemetery in the month of June. The feast of the Sacred Heart, we had a procession from the church to the cemetery. Old Joe Tremblay and I sang all through the procession, quite a way up. When we had to move to Fouillard town, we all helped to build a new church. Women, boys, men, with carpenters and painters all worked to finish it. Father Poulette was a priest there. The bell they have was given to us from Winnipeg. I remember how cold it was the day they brought it! I was always in the church no matter how cold it was because I had to make the fire and keep it going. That church is on the reserve. One acre of land, Louis Tanner and Joe Tanner, gave to the church and a bit on the road allowance. Nobody can touch that church! I heard they were going to try to close it. I wouldn't like to see it closed, because when someone dies, that's our funeral home. We had a statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We used to carry it to every house to say the rosary three nights at each place. All the statues came from Saint Boniface and brought in by Father Poulette. I was the one who looked after everything at the church. Finally, I couldn't do it anymore, I was too sick.

I nearly died. I had tuberculosis, my blood changed to water, the doctor didn't think I'd live. I went to Ninette Sanatorium in November, 1956. Father Poulette came to see me on Saturday and said he would be back on Monday, but that morning he died. It was 1957. He was liked by everyone. I stayed almost three years in Ninette. There were all kinds of people there. The Eskimos were real nice people.

Last summer we went to the cemetery in Ste. Madeleine. The cross is gradually going down. We were going to try and get another one fixed and get a priest to bless it. It needed lots of cleaning up. I got Buster's bunch to come and help. For two days, we cut grass, scrubbed bushes, raked. Next year, I want to seed some more grass, if I'm still living. I want a nice clean cemetery! The church and the bell are

gone now. Lots of the parents and relatives of people around lie there — John Tanner and his wife, George Fleury's mother and relations, are only a few.

Mouillierat, Felix

Felix Mouillierat was born in Bordeaux, France on March 4, 1858. He married Almina Dupont on June 29, 1890. Almina was born in Exeter, New Hampshire, U.S.A. on August 15, 1868. They had three children; Blanche, born in 1891, Alfred, born in 1897, and Normand, born in 1908. Felix came to Canada in 1866 and worked as a millwright at Building Products Limited, Pont Rouge, P.Q. He came west and homesteaded in the Camperville district for about seven years, then lived on Ed. Dupont's farm for a year. He then bought the West half of 14-17-28 in the R.M. of Ellice in 1924, and engaged in mixed farming until 1936. At that time, he moved to McCreary, Man., where he died on November 9, 1946. His wife died June 14, 1957.

Blanche died when she was quite young. Alfred moved to McCreary where he married, and then moved to Calgary, Alta. Normand worked for Fouillards when they were building vans for Eatons and was also caretaker of the church. In 1936, he moved to McCreary and married Ida Detour. They had four children, three girls and one boy.

Mulaire, Eugene and Fabiana

Eugene and Fabiana came to St. Lazare from Somerset in 1967. They bought Jacques Guay's grocery store, and formed Mulaire Food Market which they still operate today. They have four sons; **Paul**, the eldest, was attending school in Winnipeg, when the family moved. He is chief flying instructor at St. Andrew's Airport. He married Dolores Kalichak of Sifton, who is a registered nurse at St. Boniface Hospital. **Gerald** married Joyce Deleau of Birtle. They reside in Virden with their two children, Lise and David. Gerald and Joyce own and operate a theatre and ladies clothing store. In 1981, Mulaire Food Market expanded; a store was purchased in Russell, where **Marc**, the youngest son, is part owner and manager. He is married to Marjolaine Guenette of St. Boniface; they have a daughter, Janelle. **Denis** worked for C.N.R. for six years, after graduating from high school. He attended University in both Brandon and Winnipeg and has a B.Sc. degree. In 1979, Denis married Gail Effler of Virden. Gail attended St. Boniface Nursing school and Assiniboine Community College, where she completed her L.P.N. She was employed in Winnipeg and Birtle, but her career came to a halt with the arrival of a daughter Anatha-Lee in 1980, and a son, Chêne, in

1981. Denis joined the Mulaire Food Market in 1981, and is presently employed in the St. Lazare store.

Newman, Silas William

Silas William Newman came from Bournemouth, England to Winnipeg in the early 1900's. He had a dray business in Winnipeg for a few years and then bought land on the Gambler Reserve where he farmed until his death in 1960.

The first Mrs. Newman passed away in 1917, after many years of ill health. In 1931, he married again and two children were born: Diane, Mrs. John Plante, Kitimat, B.C., and Silas Albert, living near Spy Hill.

Silas Sr.'s brother, Albert lived with the Newmans for a few years, but returned to England during World War I to enlist in the English Army. He remained in England.

O'Keeffe, David and Margaret

David Charles was the first white man to settle in the Fort Ellice area. Born in Cork, Ireland in 1825, David graduated from Trinity College, Dublin with a B.A.C.E. degree, and served as County Surveyor for the south riding of Tipperary, Ireland. David immigrated to Hamilton, Ontario, where he married Margaret Campbell in 1855, and practiced his profession.

In 1879, David was engaged by Canadian Pacific Railway as a surveyor when they were locating their route through the west. Desiring to make a home for his family, David purchased several sections of land on the banks of the Assiniboine River overlooking old Fort Ellice. Here he successfully managed a large farm operation, and raised four children: Mary Ellen (1957), married John Dillon of Bothwell, Ontario; David John (1860), married Mary Kavanagh and had three children (Mary Evelyn, Nora Stella, and Desmond Charles); William Charles (May 26, 1862), married Gertrude O'Neill at Fort Ellice and had seven children; John Michael (1867), married Lucy Chatfield at Boxhill, England and had five children (David, Kathleen, John Michael, Margaret Mary, and Agnes Vera).

David Charles conducted extensive surveys in the area. When the Hudson's Bay Company abandoned Fort Ellice, he was given a number of valuable historical documents, including pictures, maps, and certificates. Previous to his death. David resided with his son William Charles, and died at the age of 73 (1898), predeceased four years by his wife. Both were laid to rest in the cemetery at historic Fort Ellice. David's personal documents and surveying equipment can be found in the Provincial Archives and the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature (the

David Charles/William Charles O'Keeffe Collection).

O'Keeffe, William Charles

William was one of St. Lazare's most prominent pioneers, being a community leader who filled several offices. Born in Hamilton, Ont., William came west with his father, David Charles O'Keeffe, in

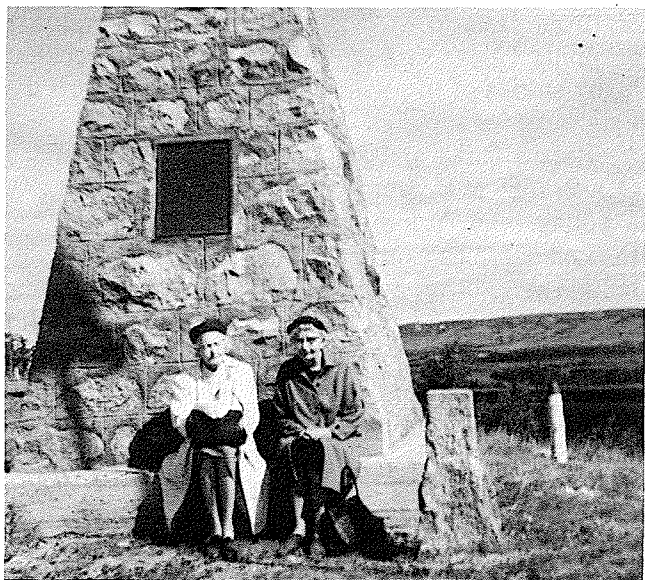


Mr. and Mrs. W. C. O'Keeffe, 1919.

1879, assisting in survey work. He came again in 1880 to teach school, then homesteaded two miles east of St. Lazare. William was a school trustee for over 40 years, was one of the first municipal councillors, was reeve for the period 1899 til 1913, was St. Lazare's postmaster from 1916 to 1922, and also served as police magistrate. Predeceased by his wife Gertrude O'Neill in 1926, William died in 1930 at the age of seventy. Both are buried in the St. Lazare Cemetery. William and Gertrude had seven children: Mary Grace, Margaret Agnes, Francis William Charles, Gertrude May, Anna Dorothy, Olive Celelia, and David Charles.

Grace (1894) later took up residence in St. Lazare, serving as postmistress and school teacher. Late in life she married Louis Guay. Following his death, she moved to Russell and resided there until her death in January, 1978.

Margaret (Peggy), born in 1896, taught school at Ellice for two years, and later in Oak Lake, Manitoba. Following this she worked with the Canadian



Margaret and Grace O'Keefe, 1966, at Old Fort Ellice.

Imperial Bank of Commerce in Foxwarren, and was transferred to Winnipeg. She remained with the bank for 38 years. She died at age 78 in October, 1974.

Frank (Bud) was born in 1898. He spent 20 years farming the family homestead. During the first and second World Wars, Bud served in the R.C.A.F., particularly as a captain supervising the Canadian Legion War Services at Dauphin and Paulson, Manitoba, and with the army in Edmonton, Alta. and Maple Creek, Saskatchewan. Bud was instrumental in the organization and establishment of a number of Legion branches, serving as President of the local branch for several years. Bud was also President of the Chamber of Commerce in the community. During a hospital confinement in 1940, he learned of the location of the original Fort Ellice bell at Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan. He retrieved the bell and donated it to the R.M. of Ellice. (The bell now sits on the St. Lazare municipal office.) Bud lived in Grandview for many years as a P.F.R.A. inspector. He was very active in the Progressive Conservative party all his life. Upon the death of his wife, Mina Harrisson, Bud moved to Winnipeg. He died in March, 1982 at age 84, and is buried in the family plot in St. Lazare. He leaves two stepsons, Bill and Jack in Thompson.

May was born May 13, 1900. She lived on the family homestead for many years, and completed a diploma in Practical Nursing. She worked in St. Lazare until her marriage to Robert Robb of Russell (Scotland previously) in 1928, when they moved to Winnipeg. To them was born Gertrude Maureen, who married Rosaire Perreault. The family lived in St. Lazare from 1932 until 1948. May moved to Winnipeg in 1955, and lives on her own (widowed) in the suburb of St. Vital.

Dorothy married Carman Rutan, a Winnipeg pharmacologist. She predeceased him in July, 1973.

Olive was born in St. Lazare. She moved to Winnipeg, married, worked at Picardy's for 20 years, and died Olive Scott in November 1980.

David (Charles), made quite a name for himself in the army during the Second World War where he served as a captain in the Italian campaign and was awarded several medals. He met his wife, Eleanor and they set up home in Toronto. Charles was the first of the siblings to pass away.



O'Keefe Family picnic.

Orr, Gordon and Florence (Dupont) by Gordon Orr

I was born in Beulah, Man. in 1907; moved to Binscarth in 1928. I was married at St. Lazare in 1933 to Florence Dupont. The following year I moved to the R.M. of Ellice and worked for Florence's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Dupont. I moved to the S. ½ of 27-18-28 which I purchased in 1939. The house was built by Wm. Crichton and added to by Oscar Dupont and sons.

My wife Florence was born in Binscarth in 1912. Her parents moved to the R.M. of Ellice in 1919. She took her schooling in Balmerino School #615. Florence and I had three sons and one daughter. William, our eldest son, born in 1934, married Lillian Humback, of McLennan, Alta. They live in Edmonton and Bill is working for a Seismograph Co. They have five children: Gordie, Eva, Debbie, Dougie and Billie.

Stanley born in 1936 is married to Joy Cavell of Owen Sound, Ontario. They have one daughter, Christine and one son, Mark and live in Mississauga, Ontario. Stan has been with the Royal Bank since leaving school.

Rita was born in 1938 in the Russell Hospital where she now works as an X-ray technician. She is married to Harold Wasslen now a merchant in Bin-

scarth and they have three daughters. **Brenda** is married to Paul Douglas, with one daughter, Tanya; Paul works at Esterhazy mine; **Carol** is taking computer training in Winnipeg at the present time; and **Diane** is attending Major Pratt Collegiate in Russell.

James born in 1940 married Mary Pocotelli, Malta, Malta. They had two sons, Paul attending school in Vernon, B.C. where they now reside and Shawn, who died a victim of childhood leukemia. Jim has worked for oil companies in Libya, North Africa for a number of years and is still flying back and forth to Libya four weeks at work and four weeks at home in Vernon, B.C.

Our family went to Balmerino School and although it was a country school they have all done well. They lit school fires for some years, took part in sports that were available and all took part in 4-H work where Florence and I were assistant leaders. Florence was involved with Binscarth Women's Institute for a number of years, also St. Joseph the Worker Woman's group in Russell. Florence died in Feb. 1966. I was secretary treasurer for Balmerino School District for the last five years that it was in existence.

I retired to Binscarth in 1978 where I started a small museum in the old North American Lumber Company building.

Parke, James

James was born Dec. 1, 1838 at Leeds, Quebec and died Feb. 8, 1925 at McAuley. He married Jane Elliot Jan. 12, 1863 at Leeds. Jane was born June 22, 1837, at Leeds and died Oct. 12, 1909 at McAuley. They came west with their family looking for land similar to the good farm land he had left in Quebec and thought he had found just that on the sand plains so he settled on the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 18-16-28, but soon discovered it to be unproductive, and re-established on a homestead near McAuley. James was expert with a broad axe and many logs were squared up by him for building houses and barns.

They had four children: **Martha** married Thomas Selby. **Robert** married Rhoda Thomas. **Elizabeth** married Frances McAuley. **Sara** married Dave Smith.

Parke, Robert and Rhoda (Thomas)

Robert James Parke (1866-1949) came west with his parents from Leeds, Quebec, in 1882. His father, James, was looking for land similar to the good farm land he had left and he thought he had found it on the sand plains. He soon discovered it was unproductive and re-established on a homestead near McAuley.

Rhoda Ann Thomas (1872-1958) came west to Fort Ellice with her parents, a sister, and three broth-

ers from Ontario in 1878. Her parents operated a Stopping House at Fort Ellice. She could recount many stories of life within the walls of the fort; the long treks for supplies and mail.

Robert Parke and Rhoda Thomas were married Oct. 2, 1889 at Beaver Rapids on the sand plains. As a young man, prior to his marriage, Robert had trekked supplies overland to the site of the Riel Rebellion at Batoche, Sask. His first homestead was the S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of 18-16-28 in the R.M. of Ellice. He relocated in June 1892, on the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of 24-15-29. The family have in their possession the Interim Homestead Receipt issued by Dominion Lands No. 8971 for the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 24-15-29, dated June 1, 1892, for the sum of \$20.00. It is interesting to note that even at that time all minerals excepting stones were reserved by Her Majesty the Queen.

During the early 1900's, Rhoda lost her leg and was fitted with an artificial limb. Shortly after in 1905, they moved to McAuley where they lived the rest of their lives. Bob operated a livery stable and later, a garage and service station. There were eight children born of this union: **James**, born 1891, died 1961, married Mary Loevery in 1922 and they had one daughter; **Liddie**, born 1893, died at one month of age; **Mable**, born 1894, died at three months; **Edith Harriet**, born 1895, married Seaton Hairsene in 1914 and had two children; **Mary Jane (Maimie)**, born 1898, died 1953, married William Simpson in 1919, and had three boys; **David Robert**, born 1900, died 1979, married Dorothy McNaughton in 1941, and they had one son; **Elizabeth Anna (Annie)**, born 1904, died 1968, married Harold Chilton in 1932, and they had one son; **Charles Melvin**, born 1910, died in 1979, married Mina Crump in 1930, and they had two daughters.

Pelletier Joseph Louis Henry as related to Yvonne Leclerc

I was born in August of 1905 at Indian Head, Sask. There were 12 children in our family. We moved to Manitoba in 1914 and have lived here ever since. During our early teens, religion was stressed emphatically. I was 14 years old when we moved to Ste. Marthe. People made a living cutting posts, cord wood and logs, and growing gardens and keeping a small herd of animals. After leaving Madeline, I worked on the CNR for 30¢ an hour cooling engines and 40¢ firing engines. I received an additional 12¢ firing engines from Division to Division — Watrous to Melville, a distance of 160 miles. Entertainment was baseball games, picnics and dances. Our school was Beliveau — where we used slates instead of note books. My mother died in 1926 at Madeline. Dad left for Lestock, Sask., and my sisters left to marry. I

joined the army in 1939 and stayed in the army until I got married in March 1943. I married Lena Fleury, daughter of Mary Fleury. We had five children, three boys and two girls, and we lived in Selby town. In 1947, I worked for the army in Shilo. I tried to re-enlist but I was over-age. I moved to Minnedosa, Brandon and Dunrae, where I worked at landscaping. I enjoyed my army career. I was to go to Hong Kong in 1940, but my unit was demobilized, and instead we went to Jamaica, and went back to Shilo for the duration of the war. I later went to Alberta for a gas test, to Churchill for a cold weather test, and to the United States for endurance tests. There we took a trade to process fish.

I am now living with my son George in Birtle, and enjoy good health!

Pelletier, Louis **as related to Yvonne Leclerc**

I was born in Lestock, Saskatchewan, on December 10, 1908. My father was Edward Pelletier and my mother was a Boucher. She was an aunt of Joe Boucher. His father and my mother were brother and sister. She was from Qu'Appelle. The priest was Father Uganos at the school in Lebret, Saskatchewan. The Tanners and the Morrisettes went to school there. I never went to school as I went out working when I was pretty young.

We had a hard time all our lives. We moved to Manitoba when I was eighteen years old and we have been here ever since. We moved to St. Madeline where the P.F.R.A. is now. When we got there, there were quite a few families already — the Bouchers, Fleurys, Vermettes and Ducharmes. They had built a church, too.

We worked for farmers here and there. Sometimes we were away all summer and returned in the fall only. Some took their families with them for the summer. A few had their own farms so they didn't have to go to work. We chopped wood for the farmers — not much wage though, 50¢ a load or 60¢ a cord. Those were hard times! We threshed for five dollars a long day — no nine dollars an hour like you get now. I remember we stooked 200 acres for a farmer at .15¢ an acre — \$15.00 for 100 acres. That's lots of stooking! Wages were low but you could buy quite a bit for five dollars. Not like today, your pocket holds what five dollars buys. If we were really hard up, they gave us relief but you had to work for it. Most of the time we had to travel by horses from Madeline to Victor to cut and scrub all week. We didn't get money, we got groceries. We helped to build the Assiniboine bridge. It was cold nailing in winter, kneeling on two by fours. My knees were swollen up like balloons. I had to wrap my knees in pads to go to work. You'd sit

outside, eat your frozen lunch, make a fire to warm up a little. Today, people don't know what hard times mean. If they had to live like we did, they would never make it. I wasn't much of a hunter like some others who made a living out of it. I used to look after cattle, clean up and do chores for farmers.

When they built the P.F.R.A., everybody had to get out of St. Madeline. They were scattered all over after that. Some went to Camperville. My father went back to Saskatchewan, I stayed here until my mother died, then I was on my own. When we moved out of St. Madeline, I wish they would have had a place for us to go to, but they didn't. They promised to give us a place and pay us to move. Some got paid. Some didn't. A few families got \$100.00 or \$150.00. I got nothing. They gave us Selby town, named after John Selby who handled the whole matter, and Fouillard town, named after Eugene Fouillard. They burned the houses in St. Madeline, and we were supposed to get a house the same as the ones they had burned. I don't see why they didn't let us move our old homes elsewhere. It was tough to make a go of it after we were displaced.

I had a family of three kids, not very old then. I didn't stay too long in Selby town. I moved toward Russell and Silverton. I came back to Fouillard town when I had five children. The Fishers helped to build a few houses. When I lived in the "Corner" I used to travel to Silverton and work there all week. I'd make thirty bucks, buy groceries, go home for Saturday night and Sunday then back again. I wasn't home much with my family. We had eleven kids by then. First few we had a mid-wife, seven were born in the hospital. Mrs. Norbert Boucher and Mrs. Bersier were midwives. We didn't know what hospitals were. Old ladies used their own medicine which they made. When Mrs. Bersier cared for a woman and her baby she used her own medicine. The doctor used to travel by horse and buggy.

When the kids started going to school in Fouillard town, it was in the church. After writing and attending lots of meetings, Father Poulette got a two room school built. We had teachers from elsewhere, who boarded at Bouchers.

The church was built by volunteer work. All those who had teams, cut logs across the river and hauled them to a saw mill where George Boucher lives now. Tibbatts had a mill there. Our recreation wasn't much. We played ball in the summer and had dances in the winter.

I have three brothers living and two sisters. Five sisters are dead. I am seventy-four years old. My brother Harry lives in Minnedosa, Edward and Jerry live in Regina, my sister Emma Mandell lives in Crane River and my sister Marie Gordon lives in Regina.

Peppin, Alma **as told to Yvonne Leclerc**

I was born June 3, 1904 in Welby, Saskatchewan. My mother was Agathe Fleury and my father was Thomas Hayden. There were fifteen children in the family, seven boys and eight girls. My father had a quarter section of land where we had cattle, pigs and chickens.

My father worked out most of the time. He'd put in a big of crop, then go out to work until it was ready to cut. We lived in a log shack as did a lot of people around us. There were not too many Métis families nearby. My father also built a little house over a creek, and this was where we kept our milk to keep it cool. We milked four or five cows, just enough for our family. We had no cream separator, but we would sit the milk in containers to settle, and then skim off the cream with a spoon. I remember riding bareback to go and get cows at five in the morning, and then helping to milk them.

I didn't go to school too much, it was three miles away and we walked. I can read and write a little. My mom and dad could not read or write. There was no chance for them to go to school.

Our church was called St. Joseph. It was built with volunteer help — they would have a Bee, and everyone would come and work for nothing. Sometimes a log house was built this way and it didn't take long.



Albert and Alma Peppin.

The doctors in those days would make house calls. We had a little drugstore nearby, so didn't use home remedies. During the big flu, some of our family got it, but we were lucky nobody died. Everyone had their babies at home with midwives.

Clothing was really scarce, we wore patches over patches. But all our friends were dressed like us, in patches too!

In those days, there was a lot of visiting from one place to another. They would make a cake and put a nickel in it, and whoever got the nickel would have to put on a dance. Another custom was, someone would shoot in the air at somebody's door, and that house would have to make a dance. There were also "surprise dances" everyone would make a lunch and we'd all go to a certain home; we were always welcome. Sometimes we also had basket socials, and the money raised would go towards the upkeep of the church. Starting after Christmas up until King's day, there was a dance nearly every night until five or six in the morning. We'd travel by sleigh a whole bunch of us together. Gosh, we used to enjoy ourselves. Only the older ones drank and not as much as people today.

The Metis people were very religious. We would walk five miles to church every Sunday. There were no roads, only cart trails. The first car I ever saw belonged to Emile Dupont. I was wondering what this was coming, with no horses pulling it. It was small, with little curtains on the sides.

I got married when I was 25 years old to Albert Peppin. We lived on a farm near Binscarth for 20 years, then moved into Binscarth for awhile, then to St. Lazare, where we built a home.

Peppin, Family of Albert and Alma

Gilbert was born in 1934. He didn't like farm work, and rode away on a black pony when he was 17 — to join the army. He was brought back home by his parents because he was too young, but after running away a second time, they decided to let him join up. This was 1951 and Gilbert was 18 — he served 25 years in the army. He received the United Nations' Medal for serving in Korea, and one for service in Cypress, as well as the Canadian Forces Medal. He spent 20 years overseas, and while on leave visited many different countries. When he was discharged a letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. L. Cowling states "Cpl. Peppin G. has served well for many years. His dedication and loyalty was a tremendous asset to all concerned. Gilbert was a steady and willing worker, whose devotion impressed everyone who worked with him. Because of his willing and friendly attitude, he has made many friends in the Battalion. I think a vote of appreciation and a good pat on the

back be given to Cpl. Peppin for a job well done.”

Gilbert came home from the army, started working for Keating Bros. at Russell, had plans for buying and raising cattle on a farm in the Qu'Appelle Valley; when he was tragically injured in a car accident. He died on New Year's Day 1975. His funeral was a Military Service held in St. Lazare Roman Catholic Church, January 4, 1975.

Elmer born 1935 in St. Lazare, moved with his family to a farm west of Binscarth when he was about 10. When he was 18, he went farming on his own. Then in 1959, he started working underground for I.N.C.O. at Thompson. From there he went to the Sherritt Gordon Mine at Lynn Lake, and eventually worked at nearly every mine in the Yukon and Northern Ontario.

In 1966, he came back to St. Lazare and married Edna, daughter of Napoleon and Eva (Houle) Belhumeur. Edna didn't want to go so far from home, so Elmer quit his job at Yellowknife, and moved to Thompson, where he worked for a contractor. There, their two boys were born; Darcy in February 1968 and Troy in May 1972. They lived for a short while in Brandon, before moving back to St. Lazare. Elmer now works underground for the Potash mine near Rocanville, Saskatchewan.

Fernand was born in 1938. At an early age he showed an aptitude for carpentry, and started working at this trade with his Uncles — John and Fred. Then he started working for Ernest Fouillard building “Ready Built” houses which were moved all over Manitoba and Saskatchewan. He has worked as a cabinet maker, carpet installer, in fact is a jack-of-all-trades. His last large project was building three pig barns at Henri Laferrier's farm, two are 40 x 400 feet and one 60 x 400. Fernand and his two daughters Doris and Crystal live in St. Lazare.

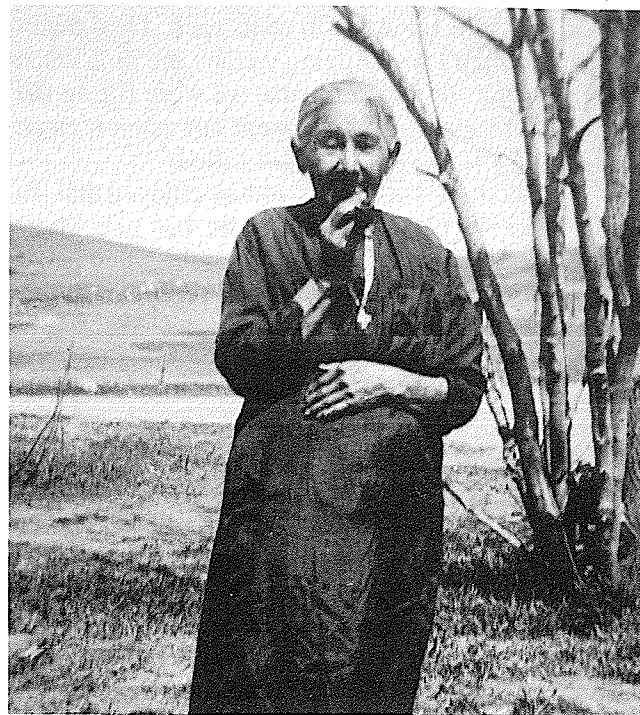
May: Only daughter of Albert and Alma Peppin, was born in 1939. She married Ernest Hayden, where her story is told.

Alex Peppin as related to Yvonne Leclerc

I was born March 2, 1915 near Fort Ellice by the big lake, to Benoit and Isabelle Peppin (nee Tanner). There was sixteen in the family; two step-sisters, Liza Boucher and Mary, full sister Helen, Joe, Fred, Albert, Edward, John, Donald, Isabelle, Victaline, Lucille and two brothers who died quite young.

I lived here all my life, I never had an education; I started to work very young, I think about nine years old. I worked for many farmers like the O'Keefes, lots of time walking behind a hand plow hitched to four horses.

My father used to build log houses. He squared



Mrs. Benoit Peppin — deceased 1955.

off the logs 8x8 with a special adze. There is still a log house standing today in Gerald that he built. He also built Dick Dale's house in 1917; we took it down a few years ago, and the logs were just as good as when he first built it. My father was a hard working man, he just about worked day and night. He was also a lumberjack; he worked way up North for McArthur where they would start a log drive from the camp all the way down the Assiniboine River to Brandon or Winnipeg. In the winter time he earned \$25.00 a month, he had to cut 160 logs a day.

My grandfather was Narcisse Peppin who came from Trois Rivières, Quebec. He bought a piece of land near Winnipeg and that is where my father was born. But it was too close to the river, and he got flooded out every spring so he sold his land. My father married when he was eighteen, lost his first wife, and came down here and married my mother.

My father bought a quarter section of land on top of the hill above what was called “China Town”. He paid \$700.00 for it. We had good water, there were three springs on our land.

I went to Ellice School for nearly a year; the teacher was very strict. We were always afraid of being late. Sometimes in the winter time it would be about 60° below zero and we had to walk to school. One morning in summer when it was raining, we were late, and we had to kneel in the corner for half a day, all wet; well I quit, I never went back to school!

I worked at all sorts of jobs, I would go trapping with my dogs hitched up to a sled. I fed them good on

rabbits, and sold some for 10 cents each. I had many close calls when I was digging wells. One time when I was working for Mr. Cadieux, we were filling the loft with oat sheaves and just went out when it came crashing down. I could have got killed!

There were a lot of dances and we enjoyed that. In the summer we played baseball, we had two Metis teams. Joe Fleury was the back catcher and Louis Fleury the pitcher. In the winter, we played hockey on the river, but most of us had no skates.

Christmas and New Years were happy times, we went to every home around and the tables would be set and we had all we wanted to eat. Meat balls were the main dish. I remember one New Years when I was young, my dad and a few older people, decorated the horses with bells and loaded a barrel of home made beer in the sleigh box. They got Donald and I to drive the team. They started to feel good and to sing "Alouette" and when they got to the part "Ohhhh" the team would stop and we sure had a hard time to get them to go. The younger children didn't drink, just the older ones.

The time of the flu was terrible, because I got it. Ever since then, my lungs were weak, and I would catch cold easy. Mrs. Boyer had all sorts of herbs she used and we had nothing but home remedies like this. A lot of Metis died near us. Once they buried five people at one time. At the time of the flu, the municipality gave us some food, but after we got better, we had to pay back what we owed.

I remember a big rain in December of 1921, and in the spring, it melted fast, and we had one of the worst floods ever. We had to take my brother eight miles by boat to go to work.



Benoit and Isabelle Peppin with Louie who was killed in Hong Kong.

In the spring, we would make maple syrup, Mrs. Joe Boyer, Pete, Donald and myself. We tapped about 300 maple trees, and we'd haul water and wood for Mrs. Boyer to boil it down. My mother would make pancakes and with the maple syrup, they were good!

We caught lots of fish in the river, shot prairie chickens, dug seneca roots; dig all day and sell them at night for 35 cents a pound. We had cows and sold cream for \$2.40 a can after the Creamery was built in St. Lazare.

I remember once leaving with three guys to look for work during the 30s. We didn't find any, so Pete Boyer said "We'll catch gophers and sell the tails". This is what we did to buy our grub. There were no roads like today, not too many fences, you could live anywhere!

My mother was a very religious person. She was a good mother. She always had a big garden and preserved lots of fruit in the summertime. We had a hard time paying for our farm, with my dad only getting \$20.00 a month. I worked at Melvin Grahams for \$20.00 a month too, and I gave \$10.00 to pay for the land.

My father died in 1947 and my mother in 1955. After a few years alone, I never married, I sold the farm to Laurier Descelle for \$1500.00 and have lived in my house a mile from St. Lazare ever since.

Peppin, Donat and Annie

They were both born in St. Lazare and have always been in and around Lazare and "China Town". Annie did not have much schooling, but walked to school in Lazare. Later, she worked for 25¢ a day doing various household chores. Annie and Donat were married on January 25th, 1945. Their children number seven — five girls and two boys — Jeanette, Georgette, Louis, Shirley, Betty-Anne, Annette, and Joe; and are scattered from B.C. to New Brunswick. Donat worked for C.N.R. approximately 20 years, before becoming ill in 1969. He was killed in an accident in 1975.

Perreault, Joseph Edmond Sr. and Edmond Jr.

Joseph was born July 4th, 1885 in Joliette, Quebec. He entered the seminary in Joliette at the age of thirteen, and was transferred to Makinac, Manitoba where he spent ten years. Deciding he was not made for this kind of life, he returned to Joliette, then came out west in 1914 with his three brothers, Jean-Baptiste, Lionel and Napoleon.

He worked in the St. Lazare area until he purchased a homestead in Ste. Marthe, Saskatchewan.



Family of Edmond Perreault Sr. L. to R.: Rosaire, Roseanna, Mother Margaret, Fabien, Cecelia, Yvette, Edmond Jr., Noëlla, Joseph and André, 1952.

He married Marguerite Gagnon of the Rocanville district in 1916.

They had a family of nine — **Rose** (married Eugene Simard). **Fabien** — married Lorette Chartier; **Cecile** married Paul Huberdeau; **Edmond** married Blanche Grose; **Noella** married Leonard Huberdeau; **Rosaire** married Maureen Robb; **Joseph** married Alma Desrosiers; **Andre** married Olive Gurniak and **Yvette** the youngest, became a sister of the Presentation of Mary.

Joseph Edmond Sr. lived on the Latta farm, north of Welwyn, Saskatchewan until his death in 1942.

In 1944, Edmond Jr. and his mother purchased S-13-18-29 in Ellice, then known as the Lamb farm. In 1948, Mrs. Perrault moved into the village of St. Lazare where she died in 1972.



Perreault Family: Stephen, Richard, Blanche, Edmond. Front: Carol, Betty and Patricia.

In 1947, **Edmond Jr.** married Blanche Grose, a schoolteacher from Welwyn Saskatchewan. They resided on their farm named "Ellicedale Herefords" and raised five children. **Elizabeth** — 1951 the eldest, became a schoolteacher and married Bob Downey of Coulter and has twins, a boy and a girl. **Patricia** — 1955 4th year graduate of nursing, married Nady Said, has two children and lives in Toronto. **Carol** — 1958 attended college in Winnipeg; married Richard Hille has a daughter Kelly Amber, born March 23, 1983 and resides in St. Lazare. The two boys, **Stephen** 1948 and **Richard** 1960 live and work on the family farm. Blanche died in 1975 after a lengthy illness and Edmond married Ollie Falloon in 1977 and lives on Ollie's farm on 3-18-28.

Perreault, Fabien Sebastien

Fabien was born in 1919 in Ste. Marthe, Sask. He was the son of Joseph Edmond Perreault. In 1941, he married Lorette Chartier, daughter of Henri Chartier and Letitia Tremblay. In 1943 Fabien purchased N½ and SW¼ of 14-17-28 in Ellice Municipality. It was



Fabien Perreault Family: Rene, Reta, Damien. Front: Adrian, Lorette, Fabien, Gerald, Clement, Greg.

bought from Mr. and Mrs. Nickel who previously owned the farm. Felix and Mina Mouillierat owned the farm before them. They left in 1937.

Lorette and Fabien had eight children. **Rene** now farming, **Edith** deceased, **Rita** is married to John Winowich and living in Hudson Bay, Sask. They have five children. **Damien** married Trudy Chalmers. They have two sons and live in Red Deer, Alta. Damien works with handicapped persons. **Clement** is living in Winnipeg. He is managing a bowling alley. **Gerald** is living in Calgary, working for Canada Post. **Adrian** is also in Calgary. He is presently working for Coca Cola. **Gregoire** died in 1982.

After a lengthy illness Fabien passed away in his 45th year. Rene and Lorette carried on farming. In 1969, Lorette retired to St. Lazare; she now lives at Villa DeCorby.

Perreault, Rene and Anne

Rene received his education in St. Lazare. Due to his father's illness, Rene operated the farm until such time as he was able to purchase it in 1969. He then lived in St. Lazare for a few years. In 1979 he married Johanna Wilson, daughter of Catherina and Petrus Smit of Wiseton, Sask. Their family immigrated to Canada from Holland in 1952. Rene and Anne now reside on their farm SW 14-17-28 with Anne's two daughters, Glenda and Carla Wilson. A daughter, Cindy Lee was born in October 1981.

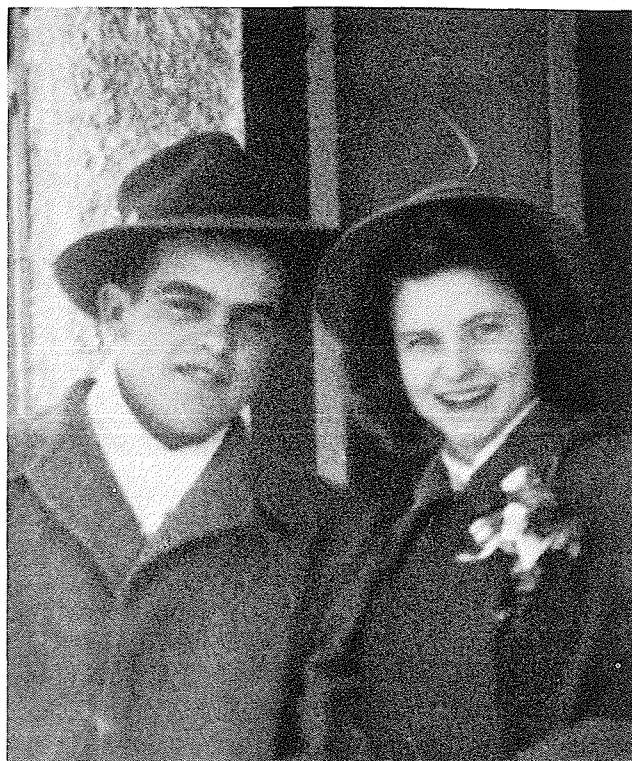


Anne and Rene Perreault, Glenda, Carla and Cindy.

Perreault, Rosaire

Ross quit school early to help out on the family farm when his father died. In November, 1948, he married Gertrude (Maureen) O'Keeffe. They resided in St. Lazare, but moved to Dauphin, Rivers, and then Winnipeg where he worked as a carpenter and foreman. Ross died at age 33 in 1960, and Maureen died at age 48 in 1978. They had two sons: Charles Rosaire Patrick (1949), and Bernard Desmond Donald (1955).

Chaz attended the University of Manitoba, and is employed by the River East School Division. He is married to Linda Neill of Dauphin, and lives in



Rosaire and Maureen (Robb) Perreault.

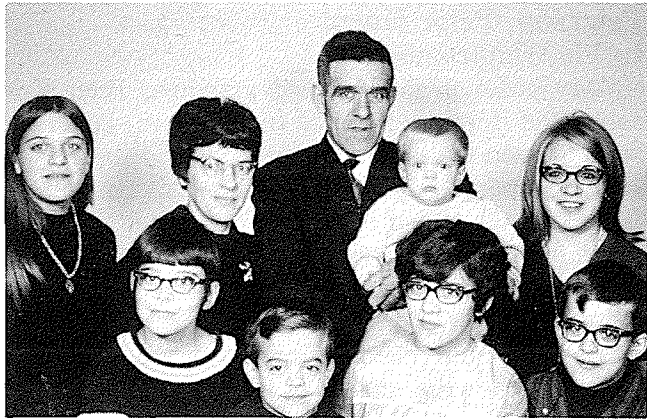
Winnipeg. They have a son, Jon-Paul (March 25, 1981) and have been married eleven years.

Des lives in Transcona, and works for the Federal Government.

The Joseph Perreault Family

Joseph J. Perreault, born in Ste. Marthe, Saskatchewan on September 9, 1928 and Alma M. Desrosiers, born in Ste. Anne, Manitoba on October 27, 1929 were married in St. Boniface Cathedral on August 23, 1952. The newlyweds met when Alma came to teach at Ellice School, close to Louis and Jeanne Huberdeau's farm. Alma boarded with this couple while teaching. Joe was living in town with his mother Marguerite who was a seamstress there.

After their wedding the young couple went to live in Saskatchewan, in Saskatoon, then in Eston, finally in Outlook. This is where Constant Fouillard met them and urged them to return to St. Lazare where qualified carpenters were in demand. Joe and Alma remembered St. Lazare as such a pretty town with friendly, warm people and French was spoken and taught there . . . It wasn't long before the decision to return was made. Leaving behind their spacious, recently finished home (isn't it always the way with carpenters?), Joe and Alma came back, in September '62, to the place where they had met, thirteen years before. To be sure, they weren't alone! There were: Yvette (born in Saskatoon, July '53), Suzanne (Es-



Joe and Alma Perreault and Family.

ton, June '55), Gisèle (Eston, January '57), Claude (Eston, November '58) and Denise (Outlook, July '60).

The seven had been living for six months in a small trailer with no running water (set down where the Henri Simards live on Chartier Street) when an opportunity came for them to purchase the former Simard residence on Fouillard Street, across from the church. What joy to see a roomy house, beautiful trees, a spacious yard and also to have running water! In the course of the next nine years, that house was remodelled from basement to attic, adding much needed space for the nine persons now living in it as Daniel (Birtle, January '64) and Louis (Birtle, February '68) had made their appearance by then.

During the nine years spent in St. Lazare, Joe, employed by E. Fouillard, worked on a number of construction projects such as: Fouillard's Furniture Store, the fire hall, the hotel and Huybrecht residence, Guay's Store and the Post Office . . . He also clerked in his brother's garage, "André's Body Shop", for a while. Alma was active in the Ladies' Auxiliary, served on the Board of Directors then as manager of La Caisse Populaire (Credit Union). Then, just before leaving St. Lazare, she taught an upgrading class of eleven adults — this remains one of the great joys of her life.

In August of '71, it was moving time again — this time, to Ste. Anne, Alma's old hometown where Joe had begun working in construction. There, Joël, was born in November of '71. Eleven years later, the family is still residing there although only Louis and Joël are left at home; the others are scattered across the country. Yvette is in Toronto, Suzanne, in Montreal, Gisèle is in Nelson, BC, Daniel, in Winnipeg, Claude and Denise in Vancouver. Denise and her husband David have presented their parents with two fine grandchildren: Damon and Eliza, thereby adding four more doting grandparents to the list!

Ste. Anne is a town of great educational, health,

cultural and economic opportunities, a good place in which to live. Still, St. Lazare will always have a warm spot in the hearts of the Perreaults — it is unique and impossible to forget. . .

Perreault, Joseph et famille

Joseph J. Perreault, né à Ste. Marthe, Saskatchewan le 9 septembre 1928 et Alma Desrosiers, née à Ste. Anne des Chênes, Manitoba le 27 octobre, 1929 unirent leur destinée dans la Cathédrale St. Boniface le 23 août, 1952. Les époux s'étaient rencontrés quand Alma vint enseigner à l'Ecole Ellice tout près de la ferme de Louis et Jeanne Huberdeau. L'institutrice pensionnait chez ces derniers tandis que Joseph demeurait au village avec sa mère Marguerite, une des couturières de la place.

Après leur mariage, le jeune couple s'en alla vivre en Saskatchewan, à Saskatoon d'abord, puis à Eston et enfin à Outlook. C'est là qu'ils vivaient quand Constant Fouillard les invita fortement à revenir à St. Lazare où les "bons ouvriers" étaient en demande. Jos et Alma se souvenaient de St. Lazare comme étant un joli village situé pittoresquement au fond de la vallée, habité par des gens aimables et accueillants, et puis, on y parlait le français . . . En peu de temps, la décision de revenir fut prise. Laisant à Outlook leur belle maison neuve tout récemment finie (n'est-ce-pas la vie des ouvriers?), Jos et Alma revenaient, en septembre 1962, à l'endroit où ils s'étaient rencontrés treize ans plus tôt. Ils ne revenaient pas seuls, bien sûr! Il y avait: Yvette (née à Saskatoon le 4 juillet '53), Suzanne (Eston, 9 juin '55), Gisèle (Eston, 25 janvier '57), Claude (Eston, 7 novembre '58) et Denise (Outlook, 8 juillet '60).

Après avoir vécu six mois dans une petite roulotte sans eau courante (déposée sur le terrain où demeure présentement M. Henri Simard, rue Chartier), les sept occupants de la roulotte furent enchantés de déménager dans l'ancienne place de M. Simard sur la rue Fouillard, presque en face de l'église. Une grande maison, des arbres, de l'espace et de l'eau courante, quelle merveille! Cette maison fut graduellement renovée de la cave au grenier, créant plus de place pour la famille grandissante qui comptait deux garçons de plus: Daniel (Birtle, 25 janvier '64) et Louis (Birtle, 18 février '68).

Pendant les neuf années vécues à St. Lazare Jos travailla pour Ernest Fouillard sur différents projets de construction, entr'autre le magasin de meubles Fouillard, le poste d'incendie, l'hôtel et la résidence Huybrecht, le magasin Guay, le bureau de poste, etc . . . Alma fit partie des Dames Auxiliaires, servit la Caisse Populaire comme directeur puis gérante et enseigna une classe de rattrapage en 1970-71. Cette

période d'enseignement aux adultes demeure une des grandes joies de sa vie.

En août 1971, ce fut le grand déménagement à Ste. Anne où Jos avait commencé à travailler. Leur huitième enfant, Joël, naquit ici le 9 novembre, 1971. Onze ans plus tard, Ste. Anne est encore le lieu de résidence des Perreault quoique plusieurs soient au loin — Yvette, à Toronto; Suzanne, à Montréal; Gisèle, à Nelson, C.B.; Claude et Denise à Vancouver; Daniel, à Winnipeg; Louis, et Joël encore à la maison. Ste. Anne offre de merveilleux avantages aux points de vue éducationnel, médical, culturel et économique mais soyez assurés que St. Lazare a aussi une place bien chaude dans le coeur des Perreault — ils en parlent souvent et avec une certaine nostalgie . . .

Perreault, Andre Gerald

Andre Perreault was born January 26, 1934 in Rocanville, Saskatchewan area to Marguerite (Gagnon) and Edmond Perrault. His father died when he was seven years of age and he was raised by his brother Edmond Perrault Jr. He was educated at Ferndale School near Rocanville, Gambler and St. Lazare.

He tried farming for three years, worked for Ben Fouillard and Son, Hudon and Selby, Miners Construction Saskatoon and started his first body shop at Birtle in 1956.

In 1958 he married Olive L. Gurniak of Birtle, daughter of Don Gurniak and Mary Soholan, and that year went to work in St. Rose du Lac in the garage of Pineau Bros. for two years. The next year they lived in Langenburg and in 1961 they moved to St. Lazare where André worked for Lazare Fouillard and at the Esterhazy Mine until 1966. He then bought Andre's Auto Body which he still owns and operates. Olive was manager for La Caisse Populaire at St. Lazare for a time.

Andre and Olive have three children: Peter, born March 7, 1962 married Patricia Grabauskas October 24, 1981, and works in the Bodyshop. Andrew Michael, born April 13, 1963 is in Saskatoon and Louise, born April 19, 1966 is still in school.

They live in the former Georges Fouillard residence built by Eugene Fouillard Sr. in 1922.

The garages operated by Andre and Peter are full of history. They have been, over the years, an Imperial Garage operated by Ben Fouillard the G.M.C. dealer, a Ford garage operated by Hudon and Selby, a Hochelaga Bank managed by Joseph A. Blouin, a Bakery, a Blacksmith shop and now a garage and body shop. Red Bulger's store is Andre's office and parts department.

Peterson, Peter Karol

by Flo Widdicombe

My paternal grandpa and grandma, Peter Karolius and Bergithe Kaspara (nee Iversen) Pettersen were blessed with their son, my father, February 4, 1886 in Sputvik, Norway, on the 69th parallel of latitude in the 'Land of the Midnight Sun'. He was given the same name as his father. As a young lad, my father spent much time at sea in the fishing industry. In 1907, at the age of 21, and speaking no English, he immigrated to Canada, via the Lusitania, following glowing reports of the 'good life' in that great land across the sea. The ticket from Hull, England was \$62.00.

He spent the first year working on the C.P.R. at Moosomin and planned to return to Norway when he had earned the price of a ticket back. He had to abandon all hope of returning, however, when he learned that the return ticket would be \$180.00! So he went to friends, Emil Bergesons, at Erickson, who had come from the same district in Norway in 1900, and shortly began farming. In 1917 he married their



Peterson Family: Norman and Peter. Sitting: Annie, Minnie and Florence.

eldest daughter, Helmina Haldina, born to Emil Oli Andreas and Hansine Maria (nee Hansen) Bergeson at Kjerdingnes, Norway in 1898. When he took out his Canadian citizenship papers he simplified the spelling of his last name.

My parents had three children: Anna (Annie or Anne) Wilhelmina born 1918, Florence (Flo) Wilhelmina born 1923 and Norman Peter Wilhelm born 1925. Peter and 'Minnie' farmed at Erickson until 1932 when the trials of the thirties — eggs, 3¢ per dozen; butter, 5¢ per pound; oats, 2¢ per bushel and barley, 8¢ (which cost 7¢ a bushel to harvest with your own machine) led my father to say to my mother, "Others may want to work for nothing, but not I!" So after serving as helper at Arden, Foxwarren and Waskada for three summers, he took the offer of Manitoba Pool Elevator in 1932, to be their operator at Chillon Siding (dismantled in 1972). The trusty McLaughlin-Buick, which had been enjoying an enforced hibernation, was pressed into service again. We arrived at Chillon with as many supplies as the car could carry on a very hot July day.

Life at the elevator siding proved to be somewhat different from the farm. There was just a walkway between our frame house and the elevator, making it a pretty dusty place when my father was cleaning grain, which was often. The north wall of the house was shared by the office and engineroom below, creating a constant vibration when the engine was running; to say nothing of the fuel and exhaust odours. My mother had her share, too, of creeping around underneath the elevator to set out pieces of bread baited with rat poison.

Summer travel was easy enough because we always managed to afford to run a car now that a regular salary, meagre as it was, was coming in. Winter was a different story however. After four years a stable was built and we were able to keep a milk cow, a steer for the 'beef ring' and a Shetland pony for Norman to ride to school. Norman also had some pigs. It just was not practical to keep horses around for winter use only. It was a two and a half mile hike from Chillon to Balmerino school where we received the balance of our elementary education. We walked most of the time, although father did buy a bicycle in time, and we took turns on it. In the winter it seemed only the rabbits shared the road with us and each morning we had to break a fresh trail. In the shelter of the bluffs we would set down our lunch kits and school bags and hop up and down and swing our arms to get warm. What would we do now with the bluffs gone? Norman was more fortunate, however. He had a Collie dog, Carlo, whom he trained to pull him to school either on his sleigh or skis. Many a morning Annie and I gazed on en-

viously as Norman and Carlo whizzed by us in a cloud of snow and disappeared from view. It was a sad day indeed when one spring day, Carlo played Russian Roulette one last time with the train and was killed as he slipped on the ice in front of the engine. The Drielick family would often pick us up, but there were three of them in the van and things were a bit cramped. Neighbors were indeed important to us at Chillon. On one occasion when a devastating blizzard blew up during school hours, W. E. (Bill) Fraser came to our rescue with his team Buck and Bella, and delivered us home safely, much to my mother's relief. We were privileged on many occasions to ride behind Bill's buckskins to Christmas concerts at Balmerino and Binscarth as well as shopping excursions. We would drop Bill and Irene and three children at their place and continue on to Chillon. There we all unloaded and dad would tie the lines up and head Buck and Bella in the direction of home. Bill would meet them and stable them. Even the horses had the good neighbour spirit!

Christmas concerts were the joy of our lives. I'm not so sure about my mother however. By the time she had sewn cheesecloth angel's costumes complete with wings, tinsel, etc., some of the glitter had faded. We did have electric lights while the engine was running, but when it was shut off the lights gradually dimmed and there was a scramble to get lamps lit before we were plunged into darkness. There was the period too of getting your eyes re-adjusted to the pale glow. However, on concert nights, all the struggle of stitching by lamplight far into the nights was forgotten. It looked remotely like home anyway for practically everything moveable at home had been carted off to the school house to be used for props.

When it came time for a High School education, special arrangements were made with the teacher, Laura Johnson, so that Annie was able to take her Grade X at Balmerino. However the time came when we had to go to Foxwarren for further High Schooling, and each Monday we flagged down the passenger train and made it just at bell-time. Out of 25¢ weekly allowance, fifteen cents paid our train fare and we had ten cents spending money. Our "home away from home" in Foxwarren, weekdays, was with Mr. and Mrs. Hartwell Thorpe for a combined total of seven years. Having to board three children out plus pay non-resident fees for them, was a financial drain in the thirties. But these were the sacrifices made by our parents in order that we receive our educations. I recall my father saying "I will pay for one grade a year; it's up to you". We well knew the implications of that statement!

Our home at Chillon was open to all who hap-

pened by and my mother fed many, many transients during the thirties who were forced by hunger to climb off the freights as cars were being spotted at the elevators. The office floor was the only bed they had until the next freight arrived to shunt cars and they were able to climp up top again to continue their journey in quest of work. Our home was always open too, to the many stray dogs and cats which Norman was always bringing home. One day my mother was quite consternated however, when he brought a young fourteen year old boy to the house. He had found him wandering down the railroad tracks. After some investigation, my father learned that he had come from a foster home in the Roblin area. He was not about to go back, he made that plain. So father negotiated with the Children's Aid Society and we were allowed to keep the boy with us. He was Renie Leurquin, a French lad, and he lived with us for two years. When he enlisted in the Army, he named my father as next of kin; and when he was subsequently wounded overseas we received notification of his injuries. Renie died in 1969 in Winnipeg. His wife Jean still resides there.

The problem of winter travel for us made it difficult to get mail regularly. So our postmaster, Joe Willis devised a unique system of mail delivery. He carefully bundled up the mail and on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, when the passenger train went east, the baggage clerk would throw it off. Breakfast was often interrupted as someone in the family, hearing the train whistle, would dash out to catch the mail before it disappeared into the ditch or some other elusive spot. On one blizzardy winter morning the mail bundle did disappear and was not found until the snow had melted in the spring. And lo and behold, it contained two cheques — intact! This service extended into the summers as well.

Mr. Willis was special! When I had run out of money at teacher's college and phoned home for funds, my father decided that, since he would be several days getting to town, he would phone Joe Willis. Mr. Willis promptly dispatched a cheque to me with a note which read, "What on earth are you doing with all your money?"

My sister, Annie, attended Success Business College in Winnipeg and became a civil servant with the Department of National Revenue in Ottawa during the war. She had a stint of service in the Privy Council as private secretary to Mart McClung, a retired Naval Officer and son of the author Nellie McClung. She returned to work in Winnipeg at the Plant Products Division of the Department of Agriculture for a time until her marriage to Sam Widdicombe in 1949. (See Widdicombe history)

My brother, Norman, farmed our father's farm at

Erickson for a year before enlisting in the Army. After the war he received his B.Sc. degree from the University of Manitoba and now heads his own company, known as Peterson Manufacturing, with headquarters at Erickson, Man.

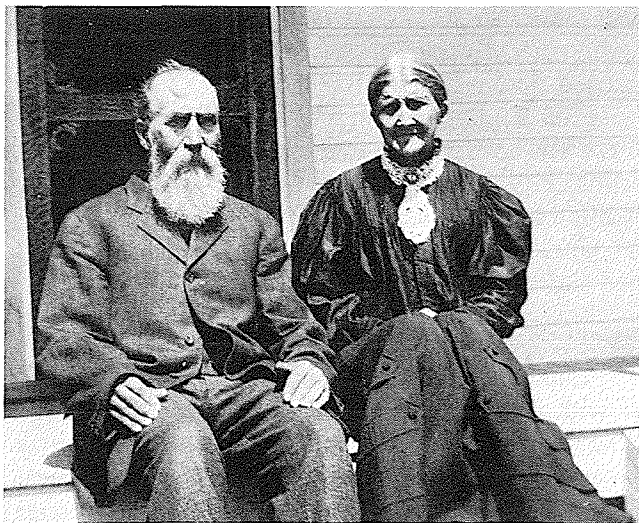
As for me, Florence, I went straight from High School to teach at Baldwin School west of Binscarth, where the Official Trustee was J. E. Selby (Bob's father). My salary was \$700.00, but \$150.00 was withheld to pay tuition fees to teacher's college the next year. This system was instituted to ensure a continuance of teachers. Because I was receiving \$150.00 from that arrangement, I was not allowed to receive the B. J. Hales Entrance to Teachers' College Scholarship which I had won in Grade XII. Nevertheless I went on to Teachers' College the next year, taught another year at Baldwin, three years at Stratford and my sixth and final year at Russell. I married Jack Widdicombe in 1947. (See Widdicombe history)

During our eleven years at Chillon Siding, my father acted on the Board of Trustees of Balmerino School, was a member of the Balmerino Club and the Binscarth Oddfellows Lodge. Chillon Pool had been forced to close in 1931 due to the depression, so my father was faced with the task of establishing a profitable operation. The fact that each year of his tenure showed a profit cannot be completely attributed to his efforts alone for behind him was my mother lending support in her quiet, unassuming way. It was her encouragement and devotion that brought our family through those difficult years.

In 1943 my father was moved to Foxwarren to take over the Pool agency there. He retired in 1957 and after a three-month holiday in Norway, my mother and father built their retirement home in Foxwarren. My mother passed away in 1974 and my father in 1979. Both parents were of the Lutheran faith and their ashes rest in a small rural Lutheran cemetery north of Erickson, known as Danvers. It was here that their lives in Canada began and it is fitting that it is now their final resting place.

Pizzey, Walter John

Walter John married Clarissa Syms, born 1852. Mr. Pizzey came from Fareham Hampshire, England to the Balmerino district in 1888 and settled near Chillon. His wife came the following year with their four young children — Dolly (Mrs. Joe Laycock) John, Frank and Winifred (Mrs. Wilson Hamilton). Fred was born in Canada. They lived in the Chillon district for six years then purchased the East ½ of 4-18-28 from Mr. Fleming, later trading the S.E. ¼ for the N.W. ¼. He farmed here until his retirement when his son Fred took over the farm.

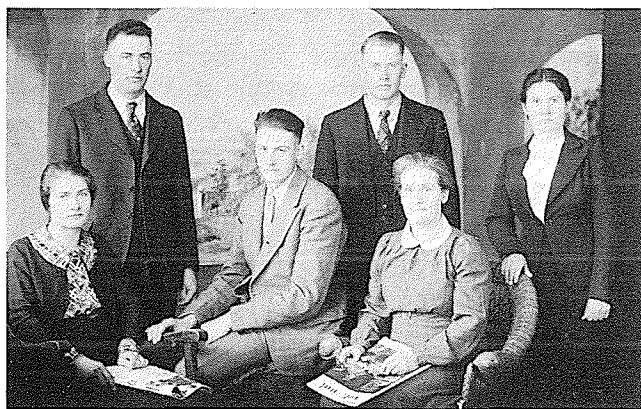


Mr. and Mrs. Walter John Pizzev.

Mr. Pizzev was a cabinet maker in England and was very gifted as a wood carver. Much of his work can be found in buildings in England. The work he did after coming to Canada can be seen in Foxwarren and Binscarth Anglican churches and Braendle Funeral Parlor in Russell. Walter John passed away in 1925 and Clarissa in 1931.

Pizzev, Walter John (Jack)

Jack was born in Hampshire, England, on April 8, 1880. He was the son of Walter John and Clarissa Pizzev (nee Syms). He came to Canada in 1889 at age eight with his mother and two sisters, Dolly and Winnie and brother Frank. His father had come out the previous year. They resided near Chillon (Bruce Graham 1982). They bought the N $\frac{1}{2}$ 4-18-28 from Mr. Fleming in the late 1890's. Jack homesteaded the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 17-18-28 and on Jan. 1, 1908, he married Mary Ellen Ebbern. They had five children; Frances, Dorothy, John, Joe and Bert. He farmed with horses most of the time, although he had a Hart Parr 1530 tractor,



Pizzev Family: Joe, John, Frances. Sitting: Dorothy, Bert and Mother.

which he used for some field work, as well as for threshing. He and his brother Frank had a Case Steam outfit in 1912 and a few years later they had a Sawyer Massey gas engine for threshing. He bought his first car, an Overland, in 1917 from J. K. Hay. Jack had some schooling in England, but very little in Manitoba. He passed away in Dec. 1933, and his wife, in 1969.

Frances Mary — born Feb. 27, 1909, attended Gambler School and Binscarth High School. She trained to be a teacher at Brandon and taught for two years at the Leifer School near Portage La Prairie. She married Thor Loptson of that district on July 29, 1929. They had two children: Eleanore — 1930 (deceased) and Harvey — 1931. After a number of years the Loptsons moved to Binscarth where they resumed farming. Frances later returned to teaching at Pumpkin Plains and Tummel. In 1963, Thor and Frances moved to Winnipeg where Thor worked for the St. James Assiniboia Maintenance Dept. Frances continued teaching there, attending the University of Winnipeg at the same time. Both Thor and Frances are retired in Winnipeg.

Dorothy — born Jan. 25, 1911, attended Gambler and Binscarth Schools. She married Theodore Allan, Nov. 6, 1933. They lived on SW 32-18-28, moving to Vancouver, B.C. in 1947, finally to Victoria in 1956. Theodore passed away Aug. 14, 1958. In 1970, Dorothy was married a second time to John Lupton and they reside in Victoria.

Pizzev, John

John was born March 2nd, 1913 to Walter John (Jack) and Mary Pizzev (nee Ebbern) at their home on SW 17-18-28. He received his education at Gambler School, graduating from Grade VIII in 1926. He farmed with his brothers and father until the death of his father in 1933. John continued to farm with his brothers until 1942. He then entered the ministry devoting his time until 1962 in various parts of Manitoba and Ontario, in the work of the Gospel. In 1962, he purchased W $\frac{1}{2}$ 33-18-28 from John and Marion Slater. On December 19, 1962, John married Winona (Nonie) Shortreed, daughter of Andrew and Mary Shortreed of Fort Francis, Ontario. Their son, Rodney John, was born October 19, 1963 in Winnipeg — Rodney received his education at Binscarth and Russell — graduating from Grade XII in 1980. He is now a student at Red River College taking Mechanical Engineering Technology.

Joseph Frederick — born June 12, 1915, attended Gambler School. He assisted with the farming and in 1943 started on his own on the N $\frac{1}{2}$ of 7-18-28 where he still resides. In 1943, he married Jean White from Northern Ireland. They have one son, David, and father and son farm together. In 1959, they started

pedigreed seed production and in 1968 built their own processing plant, known as Joe Pizzey and Son. Joe now acts in an advisory capacity. He notes that there have been many changes over the years, going from horses to larger and larger tractors, combines and field implements. Joe and Jean enjoy living in this district and "have wonderful neighbors".

Pizzey, J. David

On May 31, 1944, David was born to Joseph and Jean Pizzey at Russell. David attended Gambler School from Grade I to VII and took his High School at Binscarth. He attended the University of Manitoba, receiving his diploma in Agriculture in 1963, and his B.Sc. in Agriculture in 1966. That same year he married Betty Martens of Portage La Prairie (born July 24th, 1945). They have four children: Trevor 1968; Timothy 1970; Lora Jan 1972, and Kirsten 1978. They lived in a house built by Joe's father on NE 7-18-28 for the first six years of their marriage, and then a new house was built by Joe Hawden of Yorkton. In 1982, they built a split-stone retaining wall using, in part, some of the foundation stones of the old Falloon barn (32-17-28). In 1967, David and his father built a small seed cleaning facility and little by little, have added to it. They employ two men during the winter, cleaning special crops such as lentils and fababeans as well as their own grain. 75% to 90% of their own production is sold as pedigreed seed. They also operate a chemical and fertilizer outlet. David purchased the N½ 20-18-28 from John Rudey in 1961 and two sections from Jack McDougall in 1965. In 1969 a section was purchased from Harvey Plante. David is a very progressive farmer and has added other land parcels to his enterprise. David's hobbies are hunting, fishing and flying, having received a pilot's licence in 1973 and purchased a 2-seater Citabria 150 airplane in 1976.

Pizzey, Albert Harry (Bert)

In 1921, I was born in the large stone house built (by my grandfather Ebborn in about 1900) on the SE ¼ 17-18-28. I was the youngest member of the Walter John (Jack) Pizzey family. We moved to the SW ¼ 17-18-28 around 1931, which was my father's homestead, and where I resided until I moved to Binscarth. I attended Gambler School and in 1942 started farming on my own, the SE¼ 17-18-28 and the NW ¼ 18-18-28. In 1950, I married Iona Murdock of Winnipeg. My mother retired to Binscarth in 1950 and I farmed the home quarter until 1976 when we moved to Binscarth, leaving our youngest son Dugald on the farm.

We had four children. **Albert James** was born in 1951. He married Eva Shorland of Brandon in 1974 and is now living in B.C. **Glen Roy** was born in 1953. He married Linda Dunnington of Swift Cur-

rent, Sask. in 1974 and is now farming south of Angusville. **Dugald John**, was born in 1956. He married Vicki Bergh of Fargo in 1982 and is now living on the home farm SW 17-18-28. **Sharon Alberta** was born in 1958 and married James Arnold of Arborg in 1979. They are living in Regina. Our four children attended school in Binscarth, Russell, and the University of Manitoba. Albert (Bert) Pizzey died suddenly April 6, 1983.

Pizzey, Frank J.

Frank was born June 6, 1883, and came to Canada with the other family members in 1889 to his father's homestead at Chillon. When the family moved to 4-18-28, Frank attended school at Crewe during the winter and herded cattle in the summer because there were no fences then.

Frank homesteaded N.E. ¼ 16-18-28. He married Florence Edith Langston. Two years later he bought SE¼ 16-18-28 presently owned and farmed by son **Ralph**. Frank also bought NE¼ 17-18-28 now owned by sons, **George** and **Walter**. Frank and Florence also had a daughter **Clara** who is the housekeeper for Walter.

Ralph's wife Irene and daughter Doreen reside on the farm and son Dale is a trucker in Saskatchewan.

Frank passed away March 14, 1967 and Florence July 21, 1971.

Pizzey, Frederick

1891-1962

Fred born in the Binscarth district, was the youngest son of Walter and Clarissa Pizzey. He farmed the north ½ 4-18-28 until his enlistment in the Army in 1915. He served as a trench mortar-gunner until the end of the war. On his return from the service he and his brother, Frank, had an implement business in Binscarth. He then took up farming and trucking in the Binscarth district. He had a gun dealership and a gunsmithing business which he operated from his home farm on the SW ¼ 16-18-28. He was well known for his knowledge of guns. He repaired all firearms including R.C.M.P. service revolvers. He was a keen hunter and conservationist. He belonged to the Foxwarren Rifle Club and represented Foxwarren at Winnipeg shoots. He was a member of the Fort Ellice Legion and later the Foxwarren Legion. Fred passed away Sept. 7, 1962 and is buried at Balmerino in the family plot.

Pizzey, Robert James

Robert was born in 1875 in England and came to Canada with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Pizzey in 1889. They homesteaded on the SE¼ 14-18-24. Their farm in the Balmerino district expanded to include the N½ of 14. Their first house was a frame

house with wood stoves. The water supply came from a well in the valley on the south part of the farm.

In 1905 Robert married Sarah Jane Redmond (1887-1973). They had eight children: **Robert James** was born April 12, 1905 and attended Moresby School for a short period, later going to Balmerino until Foxwarren school was opened. In 1936 he married Oral Sherritt. They had three children: Sharon died at eleven months; Nola (living at Virden) married Bert Webb of the Rothesay district and had twin girls, Sharon and Shelley and two boys, Brian and Kevin (accidentally killed in 1982); Bill married Geraldine Yaskew and lives at Rennie, Manitoba. Jim farmed all his life until he and Oral retired to Foxwarren in 1977. **Mary Elizabeth** was born in 1906 and in 1929 she married Frank Christie. He died at 30 years of age in 1936. They had one son, Melvin Robert, who married Eileen Joyce Denison of Morden and their children were Jamie (Bradshaw) and Robert Francis. In 1939 Mary married John Herbert (Eddie) Edwards. He died in 1975 and Mary in 1981. **Ethel Eliza Jane** was born February 1911 and baptized at St. Peters Balmerino by Rev. R. C. Pitts. At 19 she married Robert J. Watt, son of James and Elizabeth Watt of Balmerino. They worked for a farmer at Carberry where Dorothy (Mrs. Les White, Brandon) was born. They moved to Binscarth where Doreen (Mrs. Murray Robinson, Prince Albert) was born. In 1933 the family moved to an English homestead, "The Heath" in the Crescent Ridge district, owned at the time by Gerald Drought. They purchased the farm and lived there for 39 years. Their son Sherman was born in 1943. In 1972 Bob and Ethel retired to Binscarth where Bob died in 1973 and Ethel in 1978. There are eight grandchildren. **Norman Thomas** — deceased. **Lawrence Russell** was born January 1, 1917. He was educated at Foxwarren School. He worked on road constructin for a time and in 1942 married Doris Young. They had three children: son Jackie died at age five; Beverley married Jim Peatz and they live at Saskatoon with their daughters Jamie and Jackie; Debbie is married and lives in Saskatoon also. Lawrence and Doris have retired to Foxwarren. **Alex Murray** was born in 1923 on the NE¼ 14-18-28. In 1944 he married Imogene White of Binscarth and for six years he worked for L. R. Ryan. In 1950 he purchased the farm of his uncle Bert Souch and the SW¼ 14-18-28 from Nathan Jones. Murray and Imogene started driving the school van in the early forties with a horse and van in the winter and a car in the summer. They continued this job for 32 years. They still live on the farm, raising cattle and growing grain. Murray has been involved in the 4-H Calf and Seed Clubs and is a hockey enthusiast. Their son Calvin Murray, born 1945 is a farmer on

the SE¼ 11-18-28, the homestead of his great uncle William Redmond (See Redmond history). Their daughter, Cheryl Joyce, born 1955 married Bruce Craig of Brandon and they have a son Jeffrey born 1978. Cheryl received her Bachelor of Arts from Brandon University in 1976 and her Master of Education from the University of Calgary in 1980 where she still resides. **Allan Gordon** — (See story following). **Melba Jean** a school teacher was married to Lorne Carter on July 19, 1952 in a double wedding with her niece Dorothy Watt (White) at Balmerino church. The wedding was performed by Rev. F. H. White from Kelwood assisted by Rev. J. D. Lafferty, Russell. The wedding music was played by Rev. White's wife and the soloist was Linda Becker, a ten-year old former pupil of both brides. This was the last wedding to be solemnized in Balmerino Church. The Carters live in Lac du Bonnet.

Robert Pizzey died in 1934 and Sarah Jane in 1973.



Melba (Pizzey) and Lorne Carter; Dorothy (Watt) and Leslie White. Double wedding — the last one in Balmerino Church, 1952.

Pizzey, Allan by Ardena Page

Allan Gordon was born on 14-18-28 on Nov. 13, 1926, son of the late Sarah and Robert James Pizzey. Allan received his schooling at Foxwarren. He was an active member of the Junior Seed Growers. Allan farmed the E¼ of 14-18-28, renting his mother's quarter. In 1954, he married Ardena, daughter of Arden and Belle Mansell of Neepawa. They had four children; **Karen Isabel** (see Barry Butler story). **Gordon Arden** married Donna Halwas. They reside in Binscarth with their two children Laurie 5 and Allan 2. **Donna Louise** (see Jean-Marie Simard story). **Edith Lorraine** married Less Bonner, and they live in Birtle with their daughter Jennifer.

Allan loved farming, but ill health forced him to retire. He, Ardena and family stayed on the home quarter except for two years which were spent in Winnipeg, for health reasons. Allan worked at the Russell Co-op and Fouillard Implement Exchange at St. Lazare. He enjoyed his family and having company; his hobbies were golfing and hockey. He never complained about his health and was a good natured, happy man. He passed away on June 16, 1978. After his death, Ardena and daughter Edith (14) moved to Birtle where Ardena was employed at the Sunnyside Personal Care Home. In June 1981, she married Jack Page; they reside on his farm at Beulah.

Pizzey, William Thomas

William Thomas Pizzey and Margaret Ann Falloon were married at Zion Methodist Church on November 22, 1899, by Rev. S. W. L. Stewartt. They lived in Bill's father's house close to Balmerino Church for a number of years, then moved to the Gambler district to what is now the Wotton farm. They lived there until the fall of 1923 when they moved to Daysland, Alberta to begin farming. Later they moved to the Athabaska district and took a homestead at Hondo, Alberta, where they farmed until poor health forced Will to quit. Doctors advised him to move to Vancouver Island. He was there only a few months when he passed away in April 1945 at 68 years of age. Maggie moved back to Hondo and after a few years, she married Albert Wood. They lived at Hondo a short time and then went to Bawlf, Alberta to be near Maggie's son, Tom. After seven years Albert passed away. Maggie passed away in the Camrose Nursing Home in September 1964 at the age of 84.

William and Maggie had nine children, all born in Ellice but all of whom grew up in Alberta and British Columbia. Edwin, Alf, Dick, Bill, Lillian, Emmy and Tom are deceased. Cecil is still living in British Columbia and Peggy who married Henry Cox (deceased) lives in Creston, B.C.

La Famille Plante

Notre arrière grand-père naquit en 1842 (décédé en 1915) à St. Cuthbert, Québec. En 1860 il épousa Christine Langevin de l'Île de Grâce, Québec, qui donnera naissance à sept enfants; **Elie, Gilbert, Elmiere, Christine, Annie, Edouard et Joseph-Amable**, ce dernier né le 18 février 1877. Cette famille demeurait dans un petit village appelé St.-Pré de Guire, Québec.

Grand-père Joseph-Amable avait obtenu à l'âge de vingt-six ans son Baccalauréat-ès-Arts au séminaire de Nicolet. Pas longtemps après il épousait Bernadette Rajotte, du village de St. Germain de



J. Amable Plante et Bernadette (Rajotte) avec Amable Joseph et Antoinette.

Grantham, Québec et qui était âgée de dix-sept ans. Ce mariage fut béni de six enfants **Amable-Joseph, Antoinette** (Mme Léon Huberdeau), **Georges, Germaine, Hervé et Honoré**. Homme d'affaires, il quitta le Québec en 1911, accompagnée de son épouse Bernadette et de ses enfants Amable-Joseph, Antoinette et Georges. Le but de sa venue dans l'ouest était de rejoindre sa soeur aînée Christine, veuve avec quatre enfants, qui résidait à Winnipeg. Les deux familles devaient aller vers Edmonton pour faire l'achat d'une auberge. Mais ceci n'allait pas se produire car peu après son arrivée au Manitoba, Christine tomba malade et mourut.

Conseillé par son beau-frère Alphonse Fafard (mari d'Elisa soeur de grand-mère Bernadette) qui lui disait, "Viens résider à Ste. Marthe, Saskatchewan; avec ton savoir-faire il y a une mine d'or pour toi"; grand-père se rendit à Ste. Marthe. Cependant, la voie ferrée fut construite dix milles plus loin à Rocanville et non à Ste. Marthe et il ne réalisa pas une fortune mais donna une vie confortable à sa famille en ouvrant un magasin général. Ce magasin devint un centre de rencontre où tout à chacun venait profiter du savoir faire de grand-père.

Le trois janvier, 1934 on trouva grand-père Plante mort dans son lit, victime d'une crise cardiaque à l'âge de 57 ans. Désespérée, son épouse retourna habiter à Montréal, où elle mourut en 1938 à l'âge de 50 ans.

Joseph-Amable Plante fut un modèle pour les futures générations, un pilier pour sa communauté et sa famille.

Plante, Hervé and Cecile

Hervé Plante, fils d'Amable Plante et Bernadette Rajotte, naquit le six novembre, 1914. Après la mort de son père, sa mère étant retournée à Montréal, il fut employé sur des fermes dans les districts de Welwyn et Rocanville. En 1931, il vint à St. Lazare pour travailler pour son beau-frère Léon Huberdeau. Plus tard, il passa cinq ans à travailler dans les forêts d'Ontario comme bûcheron. Peu de temps après son retour à St. Lazare, il dut aller au chevet de sa mère qui était bien malade à Montréal. Après sa mort en 1938, il prit de l'emploi à Fannystelle, Manitoba pour une période de trois ans. Il revint ensuite à Binscarth où il acheta du terrain et devint agriculteur.

Le 26 octobre 1949, il maria Cécile Chartier, née le 5 décembre 1923, fille d'Henri Chartier and Leatitia Tremblay. En 1957, ils achetèrent une ferme située à un demi-mille de St. Lazare où ils habitèrent jusqu'en 1969 pour aller ensuite demeurer au village où ils sont encore à présent. Hervé travaille à la mine de potasse de Rocanville.

Cécile travailla toujours très fort aux côtés d'Hervé pour les travaux de la ferme. Malgré un accident où elle eut la main sérieusement mutilée, elle parvient tout de même encore à conduire un autobus pour les enfants d'école. Elle fit l'apprentissage de menuiserie de Fernand Peppin quand celui-ci bâtit la maison de son beau-fils et fille, M. Mme Ken Plumb, et depuis elle prêta main-forte à ses autres enfants quand ils construisirent leurs maisons.

Les enfants d'Hervé et Cécile sont Jeannine, née le 21 septembre 1950, mariée à Donald Bowey le 27 juin, 1970, qui demeure sur une ferme à Welwyn et a un fils Kevin; Aurise, née le 23 septembre 1962, mariée à Ken Plumb, mineur, le 21 août 1976, a deux enfants Crystal et Curtis et habite à Binscarth, Manitoba; Roger, né le 27 novembre, 1957 (Voyez son histoire); Bernard né le 24 juin, 1953 mineur à Rocanville et marié à Anne Huybrecht (née le 4 juin, 1962) le 16 mars 1982 ont une fille nommée Breanne née le 6 février, 1983 un des premiers bébés de l'année centenaire; Henri, né le 23 septembre, 1962 et Alphonse né le 5 juin, 1961 sont tous deux à la maison avec leurs parents.

Plante, Roger et Pamela

Roger, né le 27 novembre, 1957 à Russell, est le fils de Hervé Plante et Cécile Chartier. Il fréquenta l'école Decorby, ensuite alla à la haute-école à Birtle. A la sortie de l'école il travailla pour le C.N.R. et en 1975 devint employé de la mine à Rocanville.

A Saint Lazare, au mois d'août, 1977, il maria Pamela Doulas, née le 6 avril, 1960. Pamela était garde du corps à la piscine de Binscarth. Une fois

mariés, ils habitèrent à Binscarth pour deux ans et demi. Un fils, Colin, leur fut né le 23 janvier 1980. Ils déménagèrent ensuite à St. Lazare où ils habitent dans une maison nouvellement construite à trois milles du village. Heureux dans leur nouvelle demeure, ils attendent la venue d'un deuxième enfant. Depuis, Serena est née le huit avril, 1983, un autre bébé centenaire.

Plante, Honoré et Irène

Je suis né Honoré, fils de Joseph-Amable Plante et Bernadette Rajotte, à Ste. Marthe, Saskatchewan en 1917. J'ai fait sept ans d'études dans une petite école de campagne, située près de Ste. Marthe. A l'âge de huit ans je jouais du violon et faisait partie d'une équipe de balle. J'avais aussi un talent pour le billard car peu de gens pouvaient me vaincre.

En 1934, après le décès de mon père, j'eus la responsabilité de délivrer le courrier de Ste. Marthe à Rocanville. Durant l'été, quand la température le permettait, la voiture, (1928, 4 portes-sedan) que mon père nous avait laissée, était utilisée. En ce temps-là, on n'avait pas besoin de permis pour conduire, seulement une plaque d'immatriculation qui coûtait dix dollars annuellement.

Au printemps de 1939, ma mère décida de vendre son magasin à sa soeur Irène Rajotte et son mari Arthur Hébert. Quelques mois plus tard, Maman, mon frère Hervé et moi vers Winnipeg, nous nous dirigeâmes ma mère retourna au Québec et Hervé et moi prenions un emploi à Fannystelle sur la ferme de Gabriel Piché. Le même automne on se rendit en Ontario pour travailler dans les chantiers.

Au printemps de 1940 je revins à St. Lazare pour travailler pour mon beau-frère Léon Huberdeau. A l'automne j'ai épousé Irène Alary, fille d'Omer Alary et de Anna Kermann. Des jumeaux nous arrivent en 1941, Richard Omer et Réginald Joseph. Quelle surprise . . . A cette époque, pour me divertir je joue à la balle avec l'équipe de St. Lazare et ma position est le deuxième but. En 1943, notre troisième enfant Conrad Alphonse naquit.

En 1944 on déménage après l'achat d'un carreau de terre SE 17-18-28. On se sentait bien sur notre petite ferme composée d'un mélange d'animaux. J'ai aussi acheté, la même année, ma première voiture, une chevrolet 1929. Notre quatrième enfant Bernadette, naquit en 1945 et nous donna beaucoup de joie pendant les sept mois qu'elle vécut. Deux autres enfants nous sont nés, Viviane Irène 1946 et Adrien Pierre 1952.

Mes enfants ont tous fréquenté l'école Gambler.

En 1956, pour donner à mes enfants l'avantage d'une meilleure éducation on acheta une plus grande terre de David Guay située près de St. Lazare. (SW

20-17-25). Irène s'intéressa beaucoup aux activités paroissiales et aida l'abbé Régnier à organiser les Dames Auxiliaires et devint sa première présidente. Le 28 juin 1964, fut une journée inoubliable pour nous; mon épouse succomba à une crise cardiaque alors qu'elle assistait à une partie de balle au Fort Ellice.

Présentement j'habite toujours au même endroit et je suis chauffeur d'autobus d'écoliers depuis 1972. Je jouis beaucoup de la vie entouré de mes enfants et de mes dix-sept petits-enfants.

Plante, Conrad et Jeannine

Je suis né Conrad, fils de Honoré Plante et Irène Alary, à la maison le 12 mai, 1943 et ma grand-mère, Mme Anna Alary était sage-femme à ma naissance. En 1948, j'ai fréquenté l'école Gambler, jusqu'en 1956. Mes parents déménagèrent alors à St. Lazare et j'ai ensuite continué mes études à cette école.

En 1963, j'ai épousé Jeannine, fille d'Eugène Simard et Rose-Anna Perreault. Pendant les trois premières années de notre vie conjugale on habitait dans une petite maison près de celle de mes parents et nous avons eu deux enfants, Louise en 1964 et Joël en 1965. Je conduisais un autobus scolaire à cette époque. L'année suivante on déménagea à Langenburg, Saskatchewan après avoir été embauché par la mine de potasse à cet endroit. En 1968, Monique notre troisième enfant naquit.

En 1970, j'ai eu l'occasion d'avoir le même emploi à la mine de Rocanville, donc, on déménagea à Spy Hill, Saskatchewan où Konrad est né en 1971. Pour que nos enfants reçoivent une éducation française et religieuse on revint à St. Lazare à l'automne de 1971. Je me suis alors impliqué dans l'organisation des Chevaliers de Colomb et fut Grand Chevalier Député pour notre conseil. J'ai aussi aidé à l'Association Athlétique et au hockey tandis que Jeannine contribuait son temps au comité liturgique, Dames Auxiliaires, aux clubs de 4-H, patinage de fantaisie, couture et à la musique jusqu'à la naissance de Mélanie en 1975.

En 1977 on acheta une maison d'environ 60 ans et on la déménagea sur le carreau SW 20-17-28 qui appartenait à mon père. En 1979, Christianne, notre sixième enfant naquit. Employé comme officier de sûreté, j'ai commencé une association d'employés pour empêcher les unions internationales de contrôler à la mine. Je suis très fier de cet accomplissement car les relations entre employés et employeurs sont meilleures.

Louise a fini sa douzième année à l'Académie Rivier de Prince Albert et est à présent étudiante en musique à l'Université de Brandon. Joël poursuit ses études au Collège St. Vladimir à Roblin tandis que

les autres enfants sont avec nous à St. Lazare. Quant à moi et Jeannine nous essayons de continuer à donner un foyer heureux pour nos enfants.

An Ancestral Outline of the "Plante" Family

by Joseph Amable Plante

Descriptive narration of the family's continued growth from 1842 on.

The great grandfather of our present residents Plante, was born Jean-Baptiste in 1842 (died in 1915) to parents in St-Cuthbert, Québec. Jean-Baptiste would later (1860) marry Christine Langevin, from l'Île de Grâce, Québec, who gave birth to seven children. The names of those children were in chronological order: Elie, Gilbert, Elmire, Christine, Annie, Edouard, and Joseph Amable, born on the 18th day of February, 1877. The family was at that time residing in a small town called St-Pie de Guire, Québec.



Plante Family.

Grand-father Joseph Amable would then pursue a bachelor of arts degree in the renowned "Seminaire de Nicolet" where he would graduate at the age of twenty-six. He was one of the few Québec scholars of his time.

Joseph Amable was soon to meet and marry Bernadette Rajotte then seventeen, in her hometown of St-Germain de Grantham, Québec. Their union was to be blessed with the birth of six children. In chronological order they are: Amable Joseph, named after the father, Antoinette, after the famous Queen of France, George after the royal dynasty of England, Germaine, after the patron Saint of the mother's birth place, Hervé, because of its signification "combative" and Honoré, after the honorable Honoré Mercier, the Prime Minister of the province of Québec at the time.

Grand-father Joseph Amable was, after graduation, a business man in the town of Nicolet where the first three children were born and lived until their migration. Grand-father Joseph Amable left the province of Quebec (1911) accompanied by his wife Bernadette and children Amable Joseph, Antoinette and George.

The original migration plan was to join his elder sister Christine St-Germain who was widowed and residing in Winnipeg with her four children, Joseph, Aldora, Omer and Christiana. Winnipeg was to be the first stage of the migration. Both families were to continue on to Edmonton to purchase and operate a hotel. This was not meant to be. Soon after the arrival of Joseph Amable, the sister Christine developed a sickness and died. The shattered dream died along with her.

Grand-father Joseph Amable then decided, incited by his brother-in-law Alphonse Fafard (husband of grand-mother's sister, Elisa), to become a resident of Ste-Marthe. The argument given by the brother-in-law was "Come here to Ste-Marthe; with your knowledge, there is a gold mine here for you!"

The promises for the move proved to be partly true. The gold mine was not to be, as the railroad plans were changed and the tracks were laid ten miles down the road (in Rocanville). This phenomena slowed considerably the growth of the town. However, it did afford a comfortable living to the family. The general store operated by grand-father Plante became the town's meeting place and resource center.

Grand-father Plante, well known for his liberal allegiance, entertained the other townfolk with controversial subjects. It became a challenge to outwit the gifted store keeper and many local priests, dignitaries and others tried, with little success. Grand-father Plante passed away at fifty-seven, in 1934. His wife Bernadette, out of despair, moved back to Montreal, Québec, where she died at 50 in 1938.

Grand-father Plante was certainly a model for the future generations. He was a pillar of his community and his family. His participation, along with his "love thy neighbor" philosophy, contributed to the growth of the town.

Plante, George

George Plante was born July 5, 1911 at Sorel, Quebec to a family of six. The family moved to Ste. Marthe, Saskatchewan in 1909. George's father was postmaster there for 25 years. George had to walk two miles to school. He left school at the age of 15 to work out for local farmers.

In 1933, he married Alvine Cantin at Ste. Marthe. Alvine was born March 22, 1915 at Ste. Marthe



Mr. and Mrs. George Plante and family.

to Marie Colombe (Decorby) (1884-1943) and Joseph Cantin (1879-1947). She attended the same school and Roman Catholic Church as George. She helped at home until she and George were married.

George and Alvine faced many hardships 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 George ended up losing possession of his land. This land 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 for John Falloon. Then George worked as a carpenter for the Birtle Co-op; did "black topping" from Shoal Lake to Dauphin, and started with "Good Roads" in 1962. George and Alvine moved to Elkhorn in 1969 and George retired in 1976.

George and Alvine had a family of twelve. They lost two children René (six years) and Fernand (nine years) within a week of each other with black diphtheria in 1943. The first nine children were born at home with the help of a midwife. 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.

The children: **John** (1934) married Diane Newman. They live at Kitimat, B.C. and have five children. **Fernand** (1935) deceased; **René** (1937) deceased. **Ernest** (1939) married Mary Prost. They live at Kimberly B.C. and have two children **Marie** (1941) died at birth. **Maurice** (1942) married Marianne Lepine. They live at Wasa, B.C. and have three children. **Georgette** (1944) married John Pliscike. They live in Winnipeg and have four children. **Noella** (1945) married Raymond Simard (a widower with

five children), and now has four girls of her own. They live in Quebec. **Yvonne** (1947) married John Lynch and they live in New Zealand. **Marie** (1949) married Rod Boles. They live in Ochre River and have four children. **Anita** (1951) married Wilfred Hannie. They live in Nova Scotia and have one child. **Gerald** (1953) married Lorraine Wright. They live at Calgary and have one child.

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.

On April 17, 1983, Alvina and George celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in St. Lazare.

Plante, Herve and Cecile

Herve, son of Amable Plante and Bernadette Rajotte was born in Ste. Marthe, Sask, on November 6, 1914. There were six in his family. After the death of his father, his mother returned to Montreal, and he went to work in the Welwyn, Rocanville district as a farm hand. In 1931, he went to work in St. Lazare for his brother-in-law, Leon Huberdeau. Herve later left for five years and worked in lumber camps in Ontario. A short while after his return to St. Lazare, he went to Montreal, because his mother was in poor health. After her death, a few months later, in 1938, he took employment for three years in Fannystelle, Manitoba. He then moved to Binscarth where he purchased farm land.

On October 26, 1949 he married Cecile Chartier, born in 1923 daughter of Henri Chartier and Leatitia Tremblay. In 1957 they bought a farm one half mile from St. Lazare and they lived there until 1969 when they moved to town where they live presently. Herve works at the Rocanville mine.

Cecile was always a hard worker and always helped her husband on the farm. She suffered an accident and one of her hands was badly mangled in a grain auger. In spite of her handicap she still drives a school bus and has been helping the children build their homes. She says she learned that trade from Fernand Peppin when he built Ken Plumb's house in 1975.

Their children are **Jeannine**, born September 21, 1950, married Donald Bowey on June 27, 1970, lives on a farm and has a son Kevin; **Aurise**, born September 23, 1962 married Ken Plumb, miner at Esterhazy, at Binscarth, on August 21, 1976, has two children, Crystal and Curtis; **Roger**, born November 27, 1957 (see his story); **Bernard**, born June 24, 1953, works at Rocanville mine, married Anne Huybrecht (born June 4, 1962), on March 16, 1982. They have a little girl named Breanne born February 6, 1983 one of the first babies born in the centennial year; **Henri**, born

September 23, 1962 and **Alphonse**, born June 5, 1961 are presently living at home with their parents.

Plante, Roger and Pamela

Roger, born November 27, 1957, in Russell, Manitoba son of Hervé and Cécile Plante, is one of a family of six children. He attended elementary school in St. Lazare and High School in Birtle. He worked on the railway and has worked at the Rocanville mine since 1975.

He met Pamela Douglas, born in St. Boniface on April 6, 1960, when she was lifeguard at the swimming pool in Binscarth. They were married in August, 1977 in St. Lazare. They built a house and lived in Binscarth for two and a half years. Born to Roger and Pamela in Russell was a son Colin, on January 23, 1980. They moved to St. Lazare in 1980 and have just completed building a new home three miles from town on SW 2-17-28. Happy in their new home they have welcomed the birth of their second child, Serena, born April 8, 1983.

Plante, Honoré

I, Honoré, son of Amable Plante and Bernadette Rajotte, was born in Ste. Marthe, Sask. in 1917 where I attended school. I played the violin at the age of eight. At the same age I had an incredible talent for playing pool — few were able to beat me at this game. In 1934, my father passed away. I took the responsibility of delivering the mail from Ste. Marthe to Rocanville. In summer, when the weather was suitable, a 1928 sedan heired to me by my father became very useful. At that time it was not necessary to have insurance or a driver's license, but it was necessary to purchase a license plate for an annual payment of \$10.00. In other seasons, our means of transportation was by horse and sleigh or buggy. In 1939, when my mother decided to sell her store to her sister, Irene and her husband Arthur Hébert, we, my Mother, Harvey and I, travelled to Winnipeg. From there, Mother returned to Quebec, while we two boys found work at Fannystelle on Gabriel Piché's farm. Later that fall, we moved to Thunder Bay, Ontario where we worked in a logging camp. In the spring of 1940, I returned to St. Lazare and worked on the farm for my brother-in-law, Mr. Leon Huberdeau. That fall I married Irene Alary, daughter of Omer and Anna (Kermann). We lived on the farm on SE¼ 28-17-18. We were surprised when a set of twins arrived in 1941 — **Richard** and **Reginald**. In 1943, **Conrad** was born. I purchased my first farm in 1944 where mixed farming was carried on. I bought my first car — a 1929 Chev. six cylinder. **Bernadette** was born in 1945 but died at the age of seven months. We soon were blessed by two more children, **Vivian** in 1946, **Adrien** in 1952. All the children attended Gambler

School. In the fall of 1946 I bought from David Guay, SW ½ 20-17-25. This enabled the children to attend school in St. Lazare. Irene was soon involved in many parish activities. She was the first president of the Ladies' Auxiliary which she helped to organize. June 28, 1964 was a day we will not forget. Irene, while attending a baseball game at Fort Ellice had a cardiac arrest and died suddenly. I am living on the same farm and since 1972 I have been a school bus driver. I am content with my life, receiving joy from my children and my seventeen grandchildren.

Plante, Richard Omer and Reginald Joseph

We, twin sons of Honore and Irene Plante, were born in 1941. We both attended Gambler school until Grade VI when Reginald had to quit because he was an epileptic. I, Richard, completed Grade XII in St. Lazare. In 1961 I married Mariette Garreau, who was a teacher in St. Lazare. We moved to Camp Shilo where I was employed as an accountant for the base camp. We are blessed with five children, Antoinette (1961), Camille (1963), David (1964), Marc (1965) and Peter in 1967. I am employed as an accountant at Lindenberg Seeds in Brandon. Reginald is also in Brandon, keeping occupied by fixing and selling lighters. He has become quite skillful, and enjoys an annual return to St. Lazare on Sports Day.

Plante, Conrad

I was born in May 1943, son of Honore and Irene (Alary) Plante and attended Gambler school. In 1956 when my parents moved to a farm located north of St. Lazare I attended DeCorby school. I married (in



Jeannine Plante and Family.

1963) Jeannine Rosaline, daughter of Rose-Anna (Perreault) and Eugene Simard Sr. During that time, we lived in a small house beside my parents and we were blessed with **Louise Irene** (1964), and **Joel Ivan** (1965). At this time I was a school bus driver for the St. Lazare school district. I started working (in 1966) at the I.M.C. mine near Esterhazy. We then moved to Langenburg. **Monique** was born in 1968. I was given the opportunity of working for Sylvite of Canada operated by H.B.M.S. of Flin Flon. This mine is now Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan and is approximately half a mile north of Ste. Marthe. **Konrad Denis** (1971) was born after our move to Spy Hill, Sask. Because we wanted our children to receive an education in both French and religion, we decided to return to St. Lazare. I am involved in the Knights of Columbus, being a Grand Knight for four years and a District Deputy. I was vice-president of the Athletic Association for two years. I became interested in hockey, and at present I am coaching hockey. Jeannine, is involved in women's organizations. In 1975, **Melanie Anna Marie** was born. An older house was moved to SW 20-17-28 from Oak River, Man. **Christianne Gracia** was born in 1979. I was chairman of an organizing committee which involved setting up our union at the mine, now called the Rocanville Potash Employees Association. It is operated and managed by our local employees. When this association was formed and certified in Regina, May 20, 1979, I achieved a major goal. I am employed as a Safety Officer at the mine now.

Louise completed her education at Rivier Academy in Prince Albert and is attending university in Brandon. Joel is attending St. Vladimir's College in Roblin. Our four other children are attending school in St. Lazare.

Plante, Adrien Pierre

I was born at Russell Hospital in 1952, son of Honore and Irene (Alary). I started school at St. Lazare, completing Grade IX, then obtained my secondary education at Birtle Collegiate. My favorite sports were hockey and baseball in which I participated. In 1964, Mom passed away. I was to spend the next four years with Dad on the farm before deciding to work for Buster Tremblay on the Trans-Canada Pipe line. In the fall of 1971, I married Joan Jordon from Brandon. We are blessed with two children, Melissa and Christy. I started working for a private contractor in Brandon as an electrician, and completed the course as a journeyman while working. Four years later, I went into partnership and bought a Confectionery Store and Laundromat in Brandon. We hope that our future continues to be as enjoyable as our past.

Prescott, Ludger

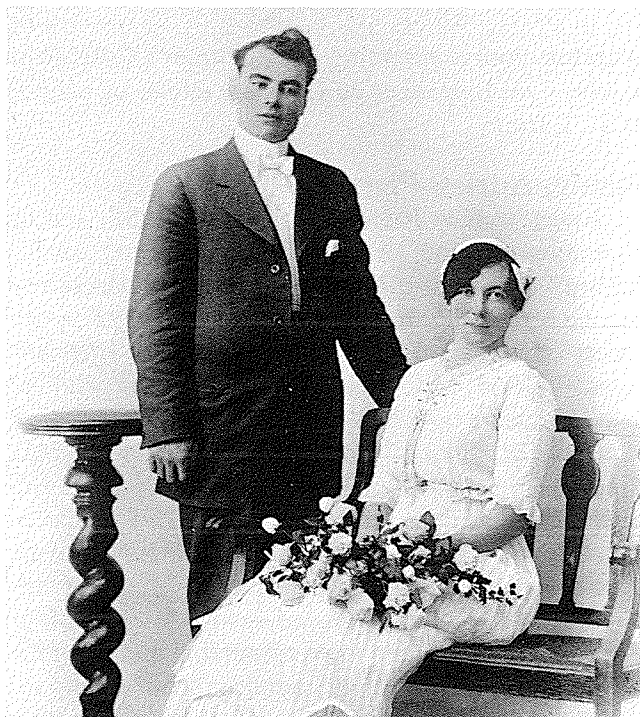
En 1904, Ludger Prescott, sa femme Joséphine Bastien et leurs sept enfants arrivèrent à la ferme sur la plaine dans la municipalité d'Ellice, à un mille, près d'un excellent voisin, M. Beaudry. Ils venaient de la province de Québec, aux environs de Saint Justin. Les enfants s'appelaient Eva, André, Donald, Placide, Albert, Pierre et Arcadius. Plus tard sont nés Charlie, Roméo, et Viola. Ils venaient tous à la messe à Saint Lazare le dimanche, mais ils faisaient les achats de provisions pour la maison et la ferme à McAuley.

En 1925, Mme Prescott est morte et fut inhumée à Saint Lazare. Plus tard, Ludger est venu demeurer avec trois de ses enfants sur la ferme de M. Dan Davis. Peu de temps après il tomba malade, il mourut à l'hôpital de Saint Boniface en 1939 à l'âge de soixante-dix-neuf ans. Il fut inhumé à Saint Lazare.

Prescott, Placide

par Rita Deschambault

Placide Prescott est né à St. Justin, province de Québec en 1888. Son père avec sa famille arriva sur la plaine en 1904. L'année suivante, quand son père et sa mère partirent à Saint Boniface avec les plus jeunes, il resta seul sur la ferme. Il n'avait que seize ans. C'est lui qui prenait soin de tout; ils avaient plusieurs têtes d'animaux et il fallait qu'il travaille la terre aussi. Il disait souvent qu'il était chanceux d'avoir un bon voisin, M. Beaudry et sa famille. Mon père était un homme courageux. Quand son père



Placide and Lucienne (Huberdeau) Prescott, 1915.

revint l'année suivante, c'était moins difficile pour lui car il avait de l'aide. Ils travaillèrent ensemble plusieurs années. A tous les dimanches, il venait à la messe ici à Saint Lazare avec son père.

En 1913, il acheta la demi-section nord-ouest du 21-17-28. Ses frères et son père lui donnèrent un coup de main pour bâtir une maison et creuser un puit. Je vous dis que dans ces années-la on ne creusait pas avec des machines, mais au pic et à la pelle; quand le puit était assez profond, on sortait la terre avec des seaux. Ensuite il érigea une étable pour ses animaux.

C'est durant ce temps qu'il rencontra ma mère, Lucienne Huberdeau. En 1915 ils se sont mariés. Ils eurent dix enfants. Il fallait qu'ils travaillent fort! Quand les enfants sont devenus d'âge d'aller à l'école ils déménagèrent à un mille plus près au sud. A cette place, il bâtit une grande étable en troncs d'arbres, soixante-dix pieds de longueur et trente pieds de largeur. Il a fallu qu'il transporte le bois de la vallée à dix milles de chez-lui.

A mesure que les enfants grandissaient, le troupeau de bêtes à cornes augmentait aussi; il y avait beaucoup de vaches à traire à la main; tous aidaient de bon coeur.

Durant l'hiver, il travaillait à la glace pour la crèmerie. Pendant les années de misère de la grande dépression, lui et Origène Cadieux sortaient la glace par gros blocs carrés de la rivière. Mon père partait au petit jour à pied avec son cheval et le fanal pour l'éclairer, et travaillait jusqu'à huit heures le soir.

Quand les bonnes années revinrent, tout allait mieux. Il a eu des récoltes en abondance pendant vingt ans. Durant ce temps là, il établit ses cinq garçons sur des terres — Rosaire, Viateur, Paul, Maurice et Joseph.

Malheureusement il tomba malade. Il nous quitta pour le ciel en 1954 à l'âge de soixante-cinq ans. Huit ans plus tard, après une longue maladie, Paul mourut aussi. Son frère Viateur continua à travailler sa terre. En 1964, notre mère est morte à l'âge de soixante-huit ans. Quant à mes soeurs, elles sont toutes mariées. Andéol, Mme Jean Ménard reste à Fannystelle; Maria, Mme Mathieu Gagnon à Elkhorn; Anna, Mme Georges Decorby à Spy Hill; Thérèse, Mme Donald Fafard à Ste. Marthe; et moi, Rita, Mme Joseph Deschambault à Saint Lazare.

Il y a quelques années, Joseph et Rosaire ont vendu leurs terres pour aller demeurer avec leurs familles, Joseph à Brandon et Rosaire, à Winnipeg.

Prescott, Rosaire et Corinne

Je, Rosaire, fils de Placide Prescott et Lucienne Huberdeau, vis le jour en 1916. Je fréquentai l'école à St. Lazare jusqu'à l'âge de seize ans. J'ai ensuite travaillé sur la ferme paternelle et ma responsabilité

était d'aller chercher de l'eau, hiver comme été, à un mille de chez-nous pour soigner les animaux. En 1941, mon père m'acheta la demi-section est du terrain 21-17-28 où je m'établis après mon mariage en 1942 à Corinne Decelle de Ste. Marthe. Heureusement, un réservoir d'eau avait été construit sur cette ferme.

En 1970, je déménageai à Winnipeg avec ma famille où j'étais employé mais j'étais de retour tous les printemps pour faire les semences sur ma ferme. Je revenais à l'automne faire les récoltes.

En 1980, comme je prenais ma retraite, j'ai vendu ma terre à mes deux neveux Ubald et Rosaire Deschambault. Corinne et moi avons eu huit enfants Hélène, Marie, René, Ernest, Robert, Lucienne, Anita et Gérard.

Ménard, Andéol (née Prescott)

Je suis la fille de Placide Prescott et Lucienne Huberdeau, née à St. Lazare le 9 avril, 1918. Je me souviens, qu'à l'âge de cinq ans, j'ai été ramassé des "poires" avec ma mère, mon frère aîné, Rosaire et Rita, ma soeur, qui n'avait que trois ans. Nous étions en boggie. Je n'ai jamais oublié le beau cheval gris du nom de Dick, un cheval bien commode pour tout le monde, même pour les enfants. A l'âge de sept ans, j'ai commencé mes classes. J'avais beaucoup de devoirs à faire en plus d'aider à ma mère. Dans ce temps là on faisait tout à la main — traire les vaches, faire le beurre. Même si on aurait eu la télévision je doute si on aurait eu le temps de la regarder. J'ai abandonné mes études à seize ans pour aider ma mère qui avait déjà six enfants et en attendait un septième. J'en ai lavé des couches — les "Pampers" n'existaient pas à cette époque là! En 1936, les Soeurs Grises vinrent à St. Lazare donner un cours de couture, mais j'étais pensionnaire au couvent des religieuses. Une fois le cours terminé, j'étais bien contente car je pouvais faire mes robes et celles de ma soeur Rita ainsi que des "jumpers" pour les plus jeunes. C'était très agréable pour mes parents car ça ne coûtait pas si cher que des vêtements achetés. Quand j'ai eu vingt-quatre ans, mes parents m'envoyèrent en visite à Fannystelle chez mes cousines. C'est à cette occasion que j'ai rencontré Jean Ménard, qui est devenu mon mari. Le mariage a eu lieu à St. Lazare le 17 novembre 1942. Nous avons eu deux enfants, Rosaire, né le 15 décembre, 1943 et Vincent, le 23 avril 1948. Tous les deux sont mariés et demeurent à Winnipeg, Manitoba. Pour des raisons de santé, la ferme fut vendue et nous avons déménagé au village de Fannystelle.

Prescott, Maurice

Je suis, né Maurice, fils de Placide Prescott et de Lucienne Huberdeau, le 27 octobre 1927 au nord-

ouest de la section 21. Un an après ma naissance, mon père déménagea sur la même section mais au sud-ouest pour se rapprocher du village et de l'école.

J'ai fréquenté l'école Decorby de St. Lazare pendant neuf ans après lequel j'ai travaillé sur la ferme paternelle jusqu'en 1951. Mon père m'acheta alors un quart de section de terrain et je cultivais aussi le quart (SE 28-17-18) qui avait appartenu à mon grand-père Prescott. Mon frère Joseph, qui cultivait la ferme de mes parents, et moi travaillions ensemble pour une période de dix-neuf ans après quoi Joseph vendit sa ferme en 1974 à ses neveux et déménagea avec sa famille à Brandon où il est employé.

Quant à moi je suis célibataire et habite dans une roulotte sur la ferme. Mon passe-temps préféré est sans doute la danse mais j'aime bien aussi les parties de balle et de hockey sans oublier le plaisir de consommer une bière ou deux.

Prescott, Ludger

In 1904, Ludger Prescott, his wife Josephine Bastien and their seven children arrived at the homestead on the plains in Ellice Municipality. Their children were Eva, André, Donald, Placide, Albert, Pierre and Arcadius. Charlie, Roméo and Viola were born later. They were very thankful to Mr. Beaudry, a close neighbor who was great help to them. They did their shopping in McAuley but attended church in St. Lazare.

In 1925, Mrs. Prescott died and was buried in the cemetery in St. Lazare. Later on, Mr. Prescott came with three sons to live on the Dan Davis farm. He died in 1939 in Saint Boniface hospital at the age of seventy-nine. He was also buried in St. Lazare cemetery.

Prescott, Placide as told by Rita Deschambault

Placide Prescott was born in St. Justin, Quebec, in 1888. He came to the "Plains" in 1904 along with his family. In 1905, his parents left for St. Boniface with their younger children and he was left alone on the farm for a year. He was only sixteen years old. He had to take care of everything — the cattle as well as work the land. He was extremely lucky in having a good neighbour, Mr. Beaudry. On his parents return he worked the homestead until 1913 when he left home.

He bought the W½ 21-17-28. His brothers and his father helped him build a house and a barn, and dig a well with pick and shovel. At this time he met Lucienne Huberdeau whom he married in 1915. They raised ten children. They worked hard to make a living. When the children reached school age, they moved a mile further south to be closer to the school.



Prescott Family: Rosaire, Maurice, Andéol, Joe, Maria, Paul, Rita and Vic. Front: Anna, Placide, Lucienne, Thérèse, 1950.

They built a huge log barn on this place. With the years, their cow herd grew; all milking was done by hand. The children helped with chores. During the depression years, in the winter, Mr. Prescott and Origene Cadieux cut ice on the river, which they hauled to the creamery in St. Lazare. They left very early, lantern in hand and returned at night.

The good years returned. They prospered so well, during twenty years of good crops, that he was able to set up each of his sons on a farm of his own — Rosaire, Viateur, Paul, Maurice and Joseph.

He fell ill and died in 1954 in his sixty-sixth year. His son Paul died in 1962 and his wife in 1964. She was sixty-eight years old.

The daughters all married and live in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Andeole, Mrs. Jean Menard is in Fannystelle; Maria, Mrs. Mathieu Gagnon lives in Elkhorn; Anna, Mrs. George Decorby is in Spy Hill; Therese, Mrs. Donald Fafard lives in Ste. Marthe; and Rita, Mrs. Joseph Deschambault, lives in St. Lazare.

A few years ago, Joseph and Rosaire sold their land and went to live with their family, the former in Brandon and the latter in Winnipeg.

Prescott, Rosaire and Corinne

I, Rosaire, son of Placide Prescott and Lucienne Huberdeau, was born in 1916. I attended school in St. Lazare until I was sixteen years old at which time I started working on my parents' farm. My daily responsibility was to haul water with a team of horses, for the survival of the animals. I found myself extremely lucky when my father, in 1941, bought me the east ½ section of 21-17-28, and that a reservoir had been built on that farm to hold water. In 1942, I married Corinne Descelles of Ste. Marthe, and we had eight children. Helene, Marie, René, Ernest, Robert, Lucienne, Anita, and Gerard. In 1970, my family and I moved to Winnipeg where I found

employment. However, I was back every spring and every fall to sow and harvest my crop. In 1980, as I was retiring, I sold my farm to my two nephews, Ubald and Rosaire Deschambault.

Menard, Andeol (nee Prescott)

I was born in St. Lazare, April 9th, 1918 daughter of Placide Prescott and Lucienne Huberdeau. I remember going to pick saskatoons when I was five with my mother, older brother Rosaire and Rita who was three years old. We went in a buggy pulled by a grey horse named Dick. It was such a beautiful and gentle horse! I started school when I was seven years old. Two years later, I already had quite a bit of homework and being the oldest girl, I had to help my mother. We did everything by hand then, such as milking cows. We also made our own butter. Even if television would have been available, I doubt if we would have had the time to watch it. At sixteen years of age, I had to leave school as my mother already had six children and was expecting another one — Maria was born later. I can assure you I washed my share of diapers — we did not have Pampers in those days! When I was eighteen, I took a two week sewing course given by the Grey Nuns of St. Boniface. I boarded in the convent for those two weeks. I certainly made use of my knowledge and from then on made my dresses and Rita's as well as jumpers for the younger girls. It was quite a saving and was greatly appreciated by my parents in those lean years. I went to Fannystelle on a holiday when I was twenty-four to visit some cousins. I was introduced to Jean Menard, who eventually became my husband. We were married November 17th, 1942. We raised two sons — Rosaire born on December 15, 1943 and Vincent on April 23, 1948. Both are married and live in Winnipeg. We had to sell our farm because of failing health and now reside in town in Fannystelle.

Prescott, Viateur

Vic. was born December 6, 1921, the fourth child of Placide and Lucienne (Huberdeau) Prescott. He was educated at St. Lazare school, accompanying his older brother and sisters. Quite often, Vic would be seen taking the cream to St. Lazare Creamery with the Prescott pony — one recognized by all because of its crooked foot. Working, for two weeks in the Community Pasture in 1939, at thirty cents per hour, provided an experience he will never forget. With a charge of one dollar per day for bed and board, a ten-hour day netted two dollars!

In the fall of 1944, the E½ 24-17-28 (the former Harry Denham farm) was purchased from George Khran. The following spring, Vic moved there to begin farming on his own with four horses, a few pieces of machinery, three cows, some chickens and

a 1928 Chevrolet car. With lots of courage, ambition and hard work, he gradually improved the line of machinery. For winter entertainment, Vic used to ski or snow-shoe across fields to play cards with the neighbors.

In the fall of 1955, Vic's 'batching' ended when his mother and sisters, Anna and Therese, came to make their home with him. The girls remained until their marriages in 1957 and 1959. In 1963, ill health forced his mother to move to Fannystelle with her daughter, Andeole.

On October 26, 1963, Vic married Kay (Laycock) Prescott, widow of brother Paul, and moved to her farm, S½ 26-17-28. On October 9, 1964, Kevin Viateur was born in Birtle Hospital. Each member of the family has participated in 4-H, as leader or member. For a number of years, Vic and Kay belonged to Square Dance Clubs. Kay judges at Agricultural Fairs. In 1982, Vic, with the help of his sons, completed the ambitious task of tearing down the large barn on the farm and re-building it as a workshop.

Elaine, attended elementary school in St. Lazare. In June 1978, she won the Teen Sewing Competition, held at Brandon Exhibition and later that month, graduated from Birtle Collegiate. In June, 1979, she received a Stenography Diploma from Assiniboine Community College. Her first position was with a law firm and she is presently employed with the Department of Labour in Brandon.

Mark's school days were spent in St. Lazare and Birtle. After graduation in 1980, he began farming with his Dad, renting land from his Grandma, Gertrude Laycock.

Kevin also attended school in St. Lazare and graduated from Birtle Collegiate in 1982. He is presently taking a ten-month Machine Shop Course at Assiniboine Community College.

Prescott, Paul 1925-1962

He was born June 12, the fifth child of Placide and Lucienne (Huberdeau) Prescott, Paul attended school in St. Lazare. Helping with farm chores, provided the basis for his later interest in cattle. Hunting was a favorite sport. A love of music led him to sing in the Church Choir and to be the first on the floor at the beginning of a dance and the last to leave at the end. While still living at home, Paul began farming his own land, N½ 32-17-28, the former James Falloon farm. In 1953, he sold this land to purchase S½ 26-17-28 and SW¼ 25-17-28 from Reinke brothers.

On October 15, 1955, Paul and Kay Laycock,

who had also been born in Ellice, were married in St. Lazare Church, and settled on Paul's farm. During their first winter, a great depth of snow prevented travel by car so rare visits were possible only by using the team of horses. By Good Friday, March 30, this was still the only means of attending Church service.

Paul mix-farmed, and Kay returned to her profession, as District Home Economist, with headquarters in Shoal Lake. Paul drove the neighbors' children to school.

Elaine Clarissa was born, in St. Boniface Hospital, April 29, 1960. In the spring of 1961, Albert Roy was hired to build a new one-storey house closer to the slough and the site of a log home of former owners. Although the family moved into their new home in the fall, Paul never got to enjoy it because he became ill and spent most of the winter in St. Boniface Hospital. It was there that their son, Mark Paul, was born April 26, 1962. Just two weeks later, May 11, Paul died in Birtle Hospital. He rests in St. Lazare Cemetery. Kay and the children continued to live on the farm. The land was worked by Paul's brother, Viateur.

Paul was a member of Knights of Columbus and had served on various Church Committees.

Prescott, Joseph and Roseline

On December 8th, 1930 Joseph Romeo Prescott was born to Placide and Lucienne (nee Huberdeau) Prescott at their farm 21-17-28. Joseph was the 7th child of what later became a family of ten children. He was educated at Decorby School in St. Lazare and later stayed on to help operate the home farm. In 1954, Joseph took over the farm operation.

On October 18, 1955, Joseph married Roseline Alice Beaupre from Dunrea, Manitoba. Their first child, Fleurette Jeannette, was born in 1957, and another daughter, Suzette Andeole, was born in 1963. The family resided at the farm in St. Lazare until 1974 when they moved to Brandon, where they still reside. Fleurette married Wayne Murray of Brandon on May 16, 1981. Suzette now resides in Kamloops, B.C.

Prescott, Andrew Joseph "Faggy" by Yvonne Leclerc

"Faggy" was born in June 1886 at St. Justin, Quebec. His parents were Ludger Prescott and Josephine Prescott (nee Bastien). The family consisted of three girls, Eva, Donalds, and Viola and eight boys, Placide, Joe, Romeo, Pierre, Albert, Charlie, Arcadius and Andrew. The family moved to the U.S. where Andrew worked in a nail factory. They moved to McAuley in 1904 and took a homestead. In 1904 he bought from Mr. Davis SW¼

28-17-28, a short distance from his brother Placide (W½ 21-17-28). The two brothers worked together. In 1930 "Faggy" exchanged land with his father, Ludger, in McAuley. Charlie moved with his father to the Davis land. In 1933, Andrew married Madeline Tanner, daughter of Joe Tanner and Margaret Fleury. Five children were born, Yvonne, William, Jacques, Grace and John. "Faggy" did a lot of hunting in winter, snaring wolves. He sold fence pickets or traded them for flour. He had on the farm a few horses, some cattle, a big wind mill and an abundant supply of water. In 1937, P.F.R.A. leased the land and the family moved to St. Lazare, in 1939, to live by the railroad track. Andrew bought a one room 24 x 20 building from Mr. Blouin for the sum of \$125.00. It was small but five people lived there. Coal oil lamps were used, and water was brought from Mrs. King's well. Andrew worked on the C.N.R. extra gangs during summer months and managed a livery stable in winter. The house was moved to a location by the Assiniboine River (not far from Joe Tremblay's place) where the family lived until 1960. Andrew stayed at a nursing home in St. Hubert, Sask., for two years, before returning to live with his daughter, Yvonne, until his death in 1974.

Prescott, Madeline (Tanner) as told to Yvonne Leclerc

I was born in 1914 at Lebret, Sask. My mother, Margaret Fleury and my father, Joe Tanner, had a family of 11 — Annie, Andrenette, Arthur, Lizzy, Mary Jane, Madeline, Riel, Fred, Rosalie, Mary, Hilda (who died at age of two months) and Sarah. My father, Joe was a shoemaker for the Indian School at Lebret. When I was four years old we moved to



5 Generation Picture: Yvonne Leclerc, Raquelle, Richard, Margaret Ledoux, Madeleine Prescott.

Binscarth. At five I was sent to Lebret school where I remained until I was 16. When I returned to St. Lazare my parents lived below Fort Ellice. My father died in 1932. We lived in one of Charlie Houles' houses. I married Andrew Joseph "Faggy" Prescott in 1933 and had two girls and three boys, William, Jacques, Grace, John, and Yvonne. John was killed in 1962 when he was 16. We had three five generation families — (1) my mother, myself, Yvonne, Richard and his daughter Raquell; (2) my mother, myself, William, Brenda, and Melissa; (3) my mother, myself, Grace, Bernadette and Michael. My mother died in May, 1981 at the age of 99.

Prescott, Albert

Albert was born October 22, 1890 at St. Justin, Quebec. He spent some time in North Hampton, Massachusetts, U.S.A. before coming West. He farmed in the R.M. of Ellice from 1903 to 1929. Then he and his family moved to town to live. They built a log house in 1939. He married Juliette Baudry October 20, 1919. Juliette was born July 31, 1900 at Le Pain, France. Albert and Juliette had ten children: Emmanuel 1921, Clovis 1923, Beatrice 1925, Jeanne 1927, Arthur 1930, Peter 1932, Alice 1934, Marie 1939, Irene 1941 and Marguerite 1942.

They left to live in Vancouver in 1942. In 1962, Albert died and in 1965 Juliette died. They are buried in Vancouver, B.C.

Prescott, Charles Edward and Laura

Charles was born in 1900 in St. Justin, Quebec. He moved to a farm on the plains in 1904 with his parents, Ludger and Josephine (nee Bastien). P.F.R.A. bought the Prescott land, so in 1939 Charles and his brother Romeo bought a farm from Antoine Desjarlais in the Qu'Appelle Valley. Often the river would flood, and the water would come within feet of the Prescott house. The Prescott brothers were musical. Charles played the violin, and Romeo played the piano. They often held house parties and dances in their home, and this is how Charles met his future wife Laura Everell, daughter of Amable and Mary Jane Belhumeur. They were married in October of 1945, and had two children, Donalda 1946, and Irma 1951. The family moved to Welby in 1951; then Welwyn, Sask., where Charles died in 1978. Donalda, the eldest daughter, was a school teacher. She married Mr. Taylor of Welwyn. Irma is married and living in Brandon. Romeo Prescott married a Desjarlais girl and moved with his family to Vancouver, where he died.

Proudley, Charles

Charles Proudley was born in Yorkshire, England in 1890. He came to Canada about 1912.

For a number of years he worked in the Binscarth and Chillon areas, farming with his brothers Percy and George.

In 1923 Charles married Blanche Smith also of Yorkshire, England. Blanche was a registered nurse and after coming to Binscarth she was often an assistant to the local doctors in the surrounding areas. They worked on a farm in Sask. for a year.

On their return in 1925, they rented the N.W. ¼ of 16-18-28 from George Ebberns, which they farmed until about 1930. They then moved to the Woodstock district with their young son, Desmond.

In 1941, they returned to Ellice municipality to live on the N½ of 21-18-28. Desmond attended Balmerino school.

After a short stay, they moved to the Crescent Ridge District where, in 1964, Blanche passed away. Charles died in 1979.

Desmond and his wife and family farm the home place.

Redmond, Thomas John

Thomas Redmond (1860-1919) and his wife Sarah Jane (1851-1936) came to the Balmerino district in 1890 from Winnipeg. They were both originally from Ireland. Thomas had served with the North West Mounted Police and saw action in the Riel Rebellion. He then worked in Winnipeg, operating a horse-drawn streetcar. They had two children when they homesteaded on the NW¼ 12-18-28. Their first home was a frame house with lath and plaster.

School for Sarah Jane Jr. in 1895 was an old log house SW¼ 14-18-28. She started here with young Ebberns, Widdicombs, Carrs and Cartwrights. In 1899, the family moved to E½ 2-18-28 and the Redmond children all attended Morseby School. Thomas helped build Balmerino Church in 1896. The Redmonds moved back to 12-18-28 in 1905, and purchased half of Sec. 11.

The Redmond children were: Sarah Jane Jr. (1887-1973) married Robert Pizzey; Thomas John Jr. (1889-1964); Ethel Mary (1891-1961) married Albert Souch; William Joseph (1895-1966) married Ettie Talbot; and George Victor (1896-1955) married Arla Sherritt. Arla resides in Pioneer Lodge, Birtle. She and George had two children: Delta, a secretary, married Garth Dunham who is employed by the Royal Bank of Canada, and they have one son Michael; Dalmain spent seven years in Europe four of those years as community co-ordinator for the Army base at Lahr Germany. He has recently re-

ceived his Bachelor of Social Work from the University of Manitoba and is presently employed with the Social Planning Council for the City of Winnipeg.

Reid, Earl and Aldea

I, Aldea Georgette Anna was born on April 30, 1920 in Rivers Manitoba, the daughter of Anne-Marie Fouillard and John Charron. I went to school in Rivers, St. Boniface and Ste. Rose. Following a business course taken in St. Lazare Convent during the war, I was employed for three years at the Royal Bank in Binscarth. I married Earl Reid of Foxwarren in St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Russell. Earl, born March 5, 1920 had joined the Royal Winnipeg Rifles, and was wounded in the war and cited for bravery. We operated a general store in Foxwarren for the first three years of our married life then moved to Winnipeg in 1952. Earl was employed with DVA, then as letter carrier for the Winnipeg Post Office. In the meantime, I was full-time mother to five children. My husband retired in 1978 due to ill health. My children are: **Robert** — Attended school in Winnipeg and one year at the U of M. He worked up north for awhile, and is a heavy Equipment Operator. **Edward** — (Ted) Got a B.A. at the U. of M. then took Economics. He was a manager at Household Finance. Now he is an Excise Officer for the Federal Government. His hobby is flying — He has his pilot's license. **John** — Took a course in Social Work at the U. of M. and got his degree. He is employed with "Acto". He married Cherie Edgett of Tampa, Florida and they live in Winnipeg with their son Keith. **Phillip** — After completing his High School, is attending Red River Community College. **Margaret** — Took a course at Success Business College, and has been employed at several places.

Rice, Tom and Jan as told by Diane Rice

I came to St. Lazare, Manitoba on December 16, 1953, with my father, Tom Rice, my mother, Jan, and older sister, Judy. My father had been the station agent for C.N.R. in Mistatim, Saskatchewan but wished to be on the main line, so asked to be transferred to St. Lazare. He was to serve the people of this community for 20 years as he retired in 1973. In that time dad grew to love the people he associated with, on a day to day basis, and the love for the valley and all its beautiful scenery he passed on to me.

Even though he spent many winters in Phoenix, Arizona, he missed the people here. Dad suffered a lot the last years in Lazare with calcium deposits in his knees. Then on December 9, 1980 he suffered a stroke while in Arizona that completely paralyzed his left side. He receives excellent care in the Personal



Jan and Tom Rice with Judy and Diane.

Care Home in Russell, where his good friends from Lazare and surrounding community still visit him.

Mom was the first 4-H leader in Lazare. For years she rode round-up for Ernie Grona, manager of the Welby P.F.R.A. Even with all her entertaining, Mom was always decorating and designing something new. Presently she lives in Binscarth and just bought a horse a few months ago. She loves ski-dooing, too.

Judy took most of her schooling here, then went to Kelowna, B.C. to take grade XI and XII. While there she stayed with Esther Cameron, my mother's mom. On returning she worked in the Post Office under the guidance of Bob Selby — post master at that time. It was during that time she fell in love with David Pearson, a baseball pitcher hired from the States to play for the St. Lazare Athletics. They were married in Kansas City, Kansas in 1965.

They live in Wichita, Kansas, where Dave owns his own steam cleaning carpet business. They have one son, David Junior. Dave just turned 17 on October 13th and is now 6'2" playing defensive end for North Western High.

I, Diane, graduated from St. Lazare High in 1965, attended the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg for one year taking Elementary Teacher Training. For the next two years I taught school in Langley, B.C. and Regina, Sask. In 1968 I was married in Regina and then spent the next 14 years in Ontario. Most of those years I was teaching piano as a part time job, but I also took Dental Nursing and worked two years at that.

In August 1982 I returned to beloved Manitoba with my daughter, Paula-Rachelle, who turned ten on December 30, 1982. We were tired of life in Toronto and because we were now alone, I felt we needed to be closer to mom and dad.

I started a piano school in September 1982 and am pleased to say I have 30 students. I am glad to be back where folks have **not** forgotten how to be neighborly and supportive. I plan to be here for the rest of my life, teaching piano and voice. I hope Paula will come to realize that special feeling one gets, looking out over a golden wheat field, or the feeling of awe

and magnificence that used to sweep over me and still does, when I stand on the north hill and look down at the valley where Indians used to roam, where St. Lazare now nestles and she, **too**, will realize how good it is to be truly **home**!

Roberge, William et Anne-Marie

William Roberge, naquit à St-Paul-de-Chester, Québec, le 11 septembre 1892 et sa femme Anne-Marie Hudon, le 12 juillet 1895, à Dunrea, Manitoba. Mariés à Rocanville, Saskatchewan le 5 novembre 1928, ils eurent six enfants. Ce sont: Roland, né à Ferland, Saskatchewan le 7 décembre 1929, Fernand, né à St. Lazare, le 1er février 1931, Yolande, née le 14 août 1932, Léontine, née le 8 février 1934, Hélène née le 7 juillet 1936, Marianne, née le 28 août 1938.

William Roberge quitta le Québec vers 1908 pour chercher de l'ouvrage aux Etats-Unis. Il s'établit à St. Lazare en 1915, il pensionna chez Mme Delphis Chartier. Il travailla comme menuisier tantôt chez Eugène Fouillard, tantôt à son compte, construisant granges et maisons pour le monde de St. Lazare. En 1928 il se maria et vint s'établir à Ferland, Saskatchewan, il y resta un an. Il revint à St. Lazare où il acheta la maison du professeur Telman, sur la côte! En 1933 il acheta une terre sur la plaine; c'est le temps de la crise et de la sécheresse, les sauterelles mangent, à mesure, ce qui pousse. Il revint trois ans plus tard à sa maison sur la côte, reprit le travail chez Eugène



Roberge Family: Roland, Fernand, Yolande, Leontine, William Roberge with Ellen and Marie Anne.

Fouillard. En 1940, il se construisit une maison au village, une maison construite en partie dans une côte, encore une côte! Quand il pleut l'eau et la boue rentre directement dans la maison; le terrain c'est du gumbo, la maison travaille.

Cette maison fut vendue à Amédée Vermette au printemps 1947, quand la famille, décida de déménager au Québec. Il acheta une maison, sur terrain planche à Ville Lemoyne, où la famille demeure depuis.

William Roberge est décédé le 3 décembre 1981 et Fernand Roberge le 6 avril 1982.

Roberge, William and Anne-Marie

William was born in St. Paul-de-Chester, Québec, 1892 and his wife Anne-Marie Hudon was born July 12, 1895 in Dunrea, Manitoba. They were married in Rocanville, Saskatchewan on November fifth, 1928. They had six children — **Roland** born in Ferland, Sask. on December 7, 1929; **Fernand** born in St. Lazare on February 1, 1931; **Yolande** August 14, 1932; **Léontine** February 8, 1934; **Hélène** July 7, 1936 and **Marianne** August 28, 1938. William left Québec around 1908 to find employment in the United States. He arrived in St. Lazare in 1915 and boarded at Mrs. Delphis Chartier's. He worked as a carpenter on his own or for Eugene Fouillard, building barns and houses for St. Lazare residents. After his marriage he settled in Ferland for a year. He returned to St. Lazare buying Mr. Tillman's house on the hill. In 1933, he bought a farm on the plains. There was drought and the little that grew was eaten instantly by grasshoppers. Three years later he returned to his house on the hill, and resumed work at Eugene Fouillard's. In 1940, he built a house in town, partially constructed on a hill, again on a hill! When it rained, water and rain seeped directly into the house — the soil was gumbo and the house shifted! This house was sold in 1947 to Amédée Vermette, when the Roberges decided, after Anne-Marie's father's death (he had lived with them for 17 years), to move to Québec. He bought a house on level ground in Montreal where the family still lives.

William died on December 3, 1981 and Fernand on April 6, 1982.

Robertson, Daniel Duncan by Grace Reid

Daniel was born southwest of McAuley in November 1884. He received his education at Welwyn School only reaching Grade IV before his help was needed at home. As a young man he homesteaded in the Maple Creek area before returning to take over the family farm. On April 30, 1919 he married Elizabeth Mary Wells of Spring Creek Dis-



Robertson Family: Bill, Mary, Dan, Grace, and Duncan.

trict. She was born in England in 1887 and came to Canada with her parents in 1892.

My parents lived with Grandma Robertson until her death in 1921. My brother William Hugh — September 6, 1920, myself, (Grace), Mary — October 14, 1923, and Duncan Sherman — September 1, 1925 were all born in the same house as was our Dad and his younger brothers and sisters.

We moved to the Sand Plains S.W. 18-16-28 in Ellice Municipality in 1928. There was no house there so we lived the first summer in a granary while Dad built a house. He also planted a shelterbelt; some of the trees are still growing. Dad broke land to grow feed for the livestock. He rented a substantial amount of land and pastured cattle for farmers from as far away as Moosomin, Welwyn, Foxwarren, and Birtle, having as many as 350 head in one season. He later brought sheep from Piapot, Sask. to pasture on shares. Many of these sheep died the first winter because their stomachs were so full of sand that they had eaten on the sparse pasture at Piapot. Dad also brought horses from Carlyle and Redvers area for winter pasture because of the short pastures in the windy dry south.

Mother grew a big garden and did a lot of canning so we were never short of vegetables. There were always berries to pick in those days. When we butchered, Mother would can the meat. We always had fish to eat summer and winter. Dad hunted in winter. Although times were very tough, we were never hungry. Every fall, Mother sent an order to Neale Bros. in Winnipeg for dried fruit and other supplies.

One summer Dad dug out a family of coyote pups and brought them home to raise. All the pups were kept within a wire fence, except for the runt of the

litter that we called Joey. He had the run of the house and yard like a puppy. Our dogs accepted Joey as one of their family. One day Mother had just finished churning, turned her back to put the butter on the table, when Joey smelled the buttermilk and went head first into the crock. He got out easily, but he went under and over everything in the house before he finally found the door. That was the end of Joey's house privileges!

Summer brought many callers to our home. There were always people coming to look at their cattle in the pasture. People came looking to find the best berry patches. The kettle was always on and Dad never hesitated to ask callers to stay for a meal. There were also peddlers and tramps, some of whom were very frightening. These poor men probably had no home or family and although Mother was sometimes very frightened, she never refused them food.

Neighbors were few and far between but a school was needed, so in 1929 a teacherage was built and Mrs. Eurat McAuley taught there. We only had two teachers, the second one was Ellen Wilson. We attended school until Christmas and started again in the spring. I have many happy memories of school days and friends, the Byers, Stewarts, and Selbys. There were frozen lunches, frozen ink wells, chillblains, and very cold children huddled around a big stove at the back of the room. In the summer the sand was very hot on our bare feet and we pulled weeds to try to scare off the mosquitoes while we ran all the way home. Many summers we had Sunday School on Friday afternoon. The Christmas concert was the highlight of the year, with the teacher giving each of us a gift. Winter entertainment was house parties and dances. Jim Byers and his boys supplied the music. Mrs. Selby was always great to help with a party, be it birthday, Hallowe'en or whatever. As the girls got older, Mrs. Selby led a Homecraft Group sponsored by the W.I. In the third year, I was very happy to win a set of scissors donated by T. Eaton Co.

We had many happy times together picnicking, berry picking and visiting with neighbors. Trips to town were a rare treat. Every spring Dad took a team and scraper to help the Welwyn people build a dam in Beaver Creek which was known for years as "The Beach". It was the only place for miles around for swimming, and many church picnics and gatherings were held there. Some girls from Welwyn camped there and occasionally would come to our house for milk or help when rain flooded them out.

In 1938, P.F.R.A. bought all the land Dad had rented and we along with all our neighbors were expropriated. We moved to Moosomin on October 21, 1940. Bill joined the Air Force but received a

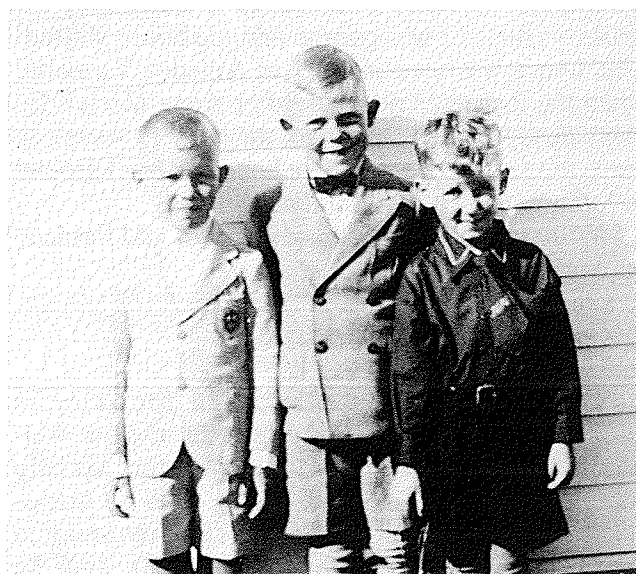
medical discharge and returned to the farm where he still lives.

I helped out at many homes whenever someone was needed to take over household chores, usually when there was a new baby or illness in the home. Later I worked as store clerk in Abernethy, and in the Co-op in Rocanville. It was here I met and married George Reid on February 14, 1953. We have two children. Jocelyn Ann is married to Verden Jeancart. They have a son, Christopher Daniel, and live in Prince Albert. Our son, Murray Daniel, has taken over the farm and we now live in Rocanville. Duncan worked most of his life as a heavy equipment operator building roads. He owned Highland Construction Co. for some years. He married Marj Tebb Clark in April 1962, and they lived in Saskatoon. She had two children, Jim and Jeanne who are both married and live in Revelstoke. Duncan and Marj had a daughter Jerilyn Mae. She lives with her mother and works in Saskatoon. Duncan passed away very suddenly at his home on November 12, 1981.

Dad passed away November 17, 1966 and Mother stayed on the farm with Bill until 1973 when she came to live with us. She passed away October 29, 1974 after a brief illness.

Robert, Alcide

"Sid" Robert was born March 10, 1891 at Letellier, Manitoba. In 1916 he married Beatrice Fafard who was born in St. Germain, P.Q. in 1901. In 1931, Sid hired Oscar Dupont to build the Fort Ellice Hotel, which he operated until August 1942. At that time he sold the hotel to O. Huybrecht, and moved to Birtle where he took over the Commercial Hotel and operated it until he retired in 1971.



Paul Fouillard, Clement Robert and Rene Chartier.

The Roberts had two sons. Hector married Pat Arnatt of Roblin and they have seven children: Leslie, Sid, Rachelle, Jean, Susanne, Philip and Andrew. Clement married Joan Leifer of Russell, and they have three children: Robert, James and Michelle. Sid died May 3, 1971 and Beatrice on May 17, 1959. Both are buried at Birtle.

Rookes, Robinson (Bob) and Mayme by Ethel (Byers) Rookes

Bob was born June 6, 1900, at his parents' homestead at Manson, Manitoba. His parents were the late John and Jane (Pearson) Rookes, who had come to Canada, from England as newlyweds. Bob was married on November 14, 1923 to Mayme, daughter of Robert and Sarah Lambert. Robert was born at Bracebridge, Ontario and Sarah (nee Alexander), at Lenore, Manitoba. To this union were born three sons Earl 1925, Ronald 1928, Douglas 1931, two daughters Shirley (Campbell) 1934, and Maxine (Nicol) 1939. After farming in various places around Welwyn, Saskatchewan, they moved from the Billy McKenzie farm in the spring of 1945, to 7-16-29 of the Ellice municipality, where they farmed until they retired in 1962, to reside in Brandon. Mayme passed away October 10, 1978; Bob at 82 years, enjoys good health and resides at the Fairview Home.

Roy, Rosaire and Marie by Marie Roy

I was born on August 11, 1912, daughter of Edmond Simard and Sarah Gwyer. I lost the sight of one eye, the result of an accident when I was seven years old. I had to be brought to St. Boniface hospital, and due to lack of funds, we had to walk from the station to the hospital. This accident delayed my starting school until I was nine years old. My first teacher was Mr. Albrecht, who was later picked up by the police for having stolen a calf! Nina Leblanc replaced him. In 1923 I left school for a while to help my sister Leontine when Denis (Fouillard) was born. I later had Mrs. Cayer and Mr. Dansereau as school teachers. In 1925, I went as a school boarder to the convent of the Immaculate Conception in Winnipeg.

When I was fourteen, my mother left me (in the summer) to look after eighteen cows while she went to attend mothers who were having babies. I did not take care of them too well as I hurried with the milking to spend some time in town. For the following few years, I was often left to take care of the house and gardening. I also helped out my sisters; May, Mrs. Elie Decorby, before her death, and Helene, with whom I lived, until my marriage in 1947 to Rosaire Roy, born December 10, 1921. Once married, we moved often, that is forty times! My

husband worked at different places as a farm hand and we finally moved to Winnipeg on Blake Street where I still live. I had a son, Alfred, born October 12, 1951, who married Rosalie Kranyk, (December 25, 1953), from Vita, Manitoba. They now live in Moose Jaw, Sask. My husband died August 17, 1982 of a heart attack while on a visit in Montreal. I hope to enjoy good health and a few more years of visiting my numerous relatives.

Roy, Rosaire et Marie

Je suis Marie, la fille d'Edmond Simard et Sarah Gwyer, née le 11 août, 1912. A l'âge de sept ans, je perdis la vue d'un oeil suite d'un accident. En allant à Winnipeg pour me faire soigner, ma mère et moi, faute d'argent, avons dû marcher de la gare jusqu'à l'hôpital Saint Boniface. Cet événement retarda mon entrée à l'école que je ne fis qu'à l'âge de neuf ans. Mon premier maître d'école fut un M. Albrecht, qui fut accusé plus tard d'avoir commis un vol. Il fut suivi de Nina Leblanc. En 1923 j'aidai à ma soeur Léontine lors de la naissance de son fils Denis. A mon retour à l'école j'eus Mme Cayer et M. Dansereau pour m'enseigner. En 1925, je fus pensionnaire pour six mois chez les religieuses de l'Immaculée Conception.

A l'âge de quatorze ans, durant l'été, ma mère me laissa la garde de dix-huit vaches pendant qu'elle était partie accoucher des mamans. Je dois avouer que je n'en pris pas tellement bien soin, j'étais plutôt intéressée à aller au village. A cette époque là, je fus souvent en charge de la maison car ma mère était souvent absente. Dans les années qui suivirent, je passai beaucoup de temps chez Elie Decorby, avant la mort de May, et chez Hélène (Mme Eugène Fouillard) où j'habitais lors de mon mariage en 1947 à Rosaire Roy, de St. Boniface, né le 10 décembre, 1921. Une fois mariés, nous avons déménagé souvent, quarante fois en tout. Mon mari fut employé souvent sur les fermes pour finalement aboutir à Winnipeg dans un logis sur la rue Blake où j'habite encore à présent. J'ai eu un fils Alfred, né le 12 octobre, 1951, marié à Rosalie Kranyk de Vita, Manitoba, qui réside à Moose Jaw Saskatchewan. Mon mari mourut d'une crise cardiaque le 17 août, 1982, lors d'une visite à Montréal. J'espère jouir encore d'une longue vie pour visiter ma nombreuse parenté.

Roy, Albert et Emilia et famille

Albert arriva à St. Lazare en 1926, à l'âge de seize ans pour vivre avec sa famille. Il devint charpentier avec son père; Adrien se mit à travailler pour Léon Huberdeau tandis qu'Edgar et Eva habitaient chez Mme Joséphine Gagnon jusqu'à temps qu'ils

résident tous ensemble dans une ancienne salle de billards qui appartenait à Mme Jean-Marie Fouillard.

En 1928, Albert et son père bâtirent une maison pour eux-mêmes. Albert se rappelle de plusieurs projets entrepris avec son père, tels que la construction de maisons pour Wesley Lamb, Rosario Huberdeau, Henry Doig, et John Butcher et une étable pour George Falloon. Ils firent aussi à la suite d'un incendie, la réparation, avec de l'aide bénévole, d'une étable appartenant à Léon Huberdeau. Plus tard Albert camionnait du grain, du bois et la crème pour fromagerie avec un Chevrolet 1928 acquis des Fouillard. Quand le couvent fut bâti, il se souvient d'avoir camionné (avec Joe Grenier) trois wagons de train de briques — parler de travail fatigant! Il fut aussi employé à la construction de cet édifice. Durant les années suivantes, en plus de conduire son camion, il travailla à la construction de Kingdom House à Tantallon, Grant House à Miniota, l'école Park Plains, une étable pour M. Lefranc et fut aussi employé par le P.F.R.A.

En 1939, Albert épousa Emilia, fille d'Emile Chartier et Rose-Anna Gagnon. Emilia aida beaucoup à la maison étant l'aînée d'une famille de treize enfants. Elle fut employée un an par Alcide Robert comme bonne. Albert construisit une maison pour sa famille, faite avec du bois d'une vieille étable appartenant auparavant à Pierre Prescott. Durant la guerre, Albert était souvent absent car il construisit des camps d'armée à Brandon, Dauphin, Dafoe, Neepawa, Portage la Prairie, Shilo et Rivers. Après la guerre, il eut un café sur la rue principale de St. Lazare, qu'il vendit plus tard à Robert Chartier. Il bâtit ensuite une salle de billards (où le garage de René DenBrok est situé à présent), une église à Binscarth, un magasin pour Gordon Morris et un autre pour Gordon Ball de Birtle. Emilia et Albert déménagèrent à la suite à Brandon (où ils sont encore) où il poursuivit son métier jusqu'à sa retraite.

Albert et Emilia ont eu quatre enfants. Yvonne, née en 1940, est employée depuis 24 ans pour C.B.C. à Winnipeg comme assistante au directeur de la production. Léo (1941) marié (1963) à Rachel Gosselin, une maîtresse d'école, est employé de C.P. Air depuis douze ans. Il habite à Winnipeg avec sa femme et deux enfants Michelle (1964) et José (1969). Robert (1943) fréquenta l'école de St. Lazare. Il fut servant de messe pendant douze ans et accompagnait souvent L'Abbé Poulet dans ses missions. Quand il rejoint ses parents à Brandon après leur déménagement, il continua ses études et travailla à temps partiel dans un restaurant où il fit apprentissage de son futur métier. Pour six ans il géra des restaurants Salisbury House à Winnipeg et à Brandon. En 1962, il épousa Marie (1947) fille de Joseph Deschambault

et Rita Prescott. Marie fréquenta l'école de St. Lazare et étant guide elle jouit beaucoup de ses voyages de camping à Winnipeg et à Edmonton. Avant son mariage, elle fut employée à la banque à St. Lazare ainsi qu'aux restaurants de Robert Chartier et Salisbury House à Brandon. Après leur mariage Robert et Marie vécurent à différents endroits, Moosomin, Oxbow, Swan River, où ils géraient des hôtels. Depuis deux ans, Robert a établi son propre restaurant Rob Roy's Restaurant à Brandon. Marie et Robert ont trois enfants Daniel (1970), Joël (1972), et Monique (1975).

Albertine (1947) la plus jeune des enfants de Albert et Emilia travailla dans divers restaurants avec son frère Robert avant de marier Roger Moran en 1978. Son mari est le policier du village de Rivers où ils habitent avec leurs deux enfants Jenan (1979) et Alissa (1980).

Roy, Edgar et Marie (Fouillard)

Edgar naquit à Swan Lake, Manitoba le 11 février, 1917, fils de Pierre Roy et Rozanne Desrochers. Il déménagea à St. Lazare en 1926 pour être réuni avec sa famille après avoir été dans un orphelinat à la suite du décès de sa mère. Ils habitaient où est "St. Lazare Pool Room" actuellement. Il eut M. Dansereau comme maître d'école. Edgar se rappelle avoir fait les battages avec son père et ses frères pour Léon Huberdeau.

A sa sortie de l'école à l'âge de quinze ans, il fut employé par Fouillard Implement Exchange et Benoit Fouillard's Transfer. En juin 1940, il quitta St. Lazare pour s'enrôler dans l'aviation canadienne.

En 1946, il maria Marie Fouillard, née le 13 septembre, 1921 fille de Benoit Fouillard et Léontine Simard. Ils allèrent vivre à Radville, Saskatchewan et ensuite à Lake Alma où Edgar travaillait pour son frère Adrian. Ils déménagèrent à Brandon en 1958 où tous les deux résident encore à présent.

Edgar et Marie eurent quatre enfants. **RoseAnne**, née en 1956, est un agent de voyages. **Jacqueline**, née en 1957, est mariée à Ross Thomson. Ils habitent à Brandon et ont un fils Matthew. **Damien**, né en 1951, vit avec ses parents. **Juliette**, née en 1961, mariée à Ronald Copplestone, un étudiant à l'université de Brandon, travaille pour Brandon Housing.

Roy, Pierre and family by Ivan Tremblay

Pierre, son of Antoine Roy, was born in 1878 in Maryville, Michigan, U.S.A. Pierre was the eldest of a family of three, followed by Augustin and Joseph. At the age of nine his mother died and to add to his misfortune, his father left and returned only

one year later. How Pierre, at the age of nine, with his two younger brothers survived this ordeal is quite a mystery. When Antoine, their father, returned to their shabby shack, the boys had even burned the table for firewood in order to survive the cold. Later the family moved to Canada, to the Swan Lake area where the boys were placed with families. Pierre moved in with Felix Hudon, Augustin and Joseph went to families in Dunrea. Antoine, their father, went back to Michigan where he re-married and pursued his three main functions in life, hunting, fishing, and dancing.

Later, when the boys were old enough to go on their own Augustin moved to B.C. Joseph and Pierre remained in Dunrea. At 18 years of age Pierre worked with a German mason, but this was not to his liking. He turned to carpentry and became quite proficient. In 1904 at St. Alphonse he married Rozanne Desrochers and settled down in Mariapolis. They had four children, a girl Eva and three boys Albert, Adrian and Edgar. The early years of marriage were very happy for Pierre and Rozanne. Many parties and dances were attended, for Pierre had become a very good fiddler and his wife was quite a dancer. In 1916 Pierre purchased a quarter section of land in Bruxelles and farmed until 1920. In 1921 he sold the quarter and purchased a half section and rented another half in the Swan Lake area. The next two years, 1921-22, were very difficult, for the Roy family. Rozanne (at 36) died in childbirth, leaving Pierre and his four small children in a very sad state. The four children were then placed in orphanages. That same year a bumper crop of wheat froze. The next year, 1922, another crop of wheat was completely hailed out. These two crop failures forced Pierre out of the farming business. He, then, pursued his other line of work, carpentry.

In 1924 the family moved to Letellier. In 1926 their final move was to St. Lazare where Pierre remained until his death. Upon his arrival in St. Lazare, his first contract was with Ben Fouillard and involved building Decorby School. Word was not long getting around concerning the carpenter expertise that "Mr. Roy" possessed. Getting jobs no longer became a problem and many structures which he built or helped build still stand today, for example the local Presentation of Mary convent, Fort Ellice Hotel, Louis Huberdeau's house, the Mariapolis church and others too numerous to mention. In 1930 Pierre found that his father who had deserted him years ago, was back in the Swan Lake area and was suffering hard times. A special trip was planned and Antoine was brought to St. Lazare where he lived with his son and granddaughter Eva, until his death four years later. In 1934 Antoine Roy, known as a

professional hunter, master fisherman and dancer supreme was buried in the old cemetery in St. Lazare.

Shortly after his arrival in St. Lazare, another misfortune befell Pierre. He and his son Albert were building a brick oven for Albenie Lemire, a baker from Letellier. (This was an old store belonging to Isodore Hebert). While chipping stone, a piece broke off and hit him in one eye, causing the loss of his sight. This plagued him till 1945 when his vision in the other eye was lost. Even while blind, he remained active by cutting wood for local folks. At night he enjoyed playing his violin and telling stories to starry-eyed grandchildren and other children.

In 1963 Pierre became ill; he was taken to Brandon hospital and later to Assiniboine Care Home where he died in 1964 at the age of 86.

The legacy left behind by Pierre Roy is four wonderful children, many grandchildren, but especially the "joie de vivre" which he possessed and passed on to all his descendants.

Roy, Albert and Emelia (Chartier)

Albert came to St. Lazare in 1926 at the age of 16 to make his home with his father, Pierre, brothers Adrian and Edgar and sister Eva. He started work as a carpenter with his father; Adrian went to work for Leon Huberdeau; Eva and Edgar boarded with Josephine Gagnon until the family became reunited in a building (once a poolroom) belonging to Mrs. Jean Marie Fouillard.



Albert Roy Family: Robert, Emelia, Yvonne, Albert with Albertine, Leo.

Albert remembers many building projects he worked on with his father, Wesley Lamb's house, George Falloon's barn, the Rosario Huberdeau house, houses for Henry Doig and John Butcher in Birtle, rebuilding a barn damaged by fire with the help of a neighborhood "Bee" for Leon Huberdeau. In 1928, Albert and his father built their own home and the family was reunited under their own roof!

For a while Albert was a trucker, with a 28 Chevy bought from the Fouillards, hauling grain, wood, and later cream to the Creamery. He remembers the building of the Convent in 1931. For three days, cement footings and forms were built by volunteer labourers. With his truck, he and Joe Grenier hauled three carloads of bricks, unloaded from the freight train. This was hard work! He then helped with the construction of the building.

Over the next few years, when he wasn't trucking, he was working as a carpenter — the Kingdom house at Tantallon, Grant house at Miniota, Lefranc Sr.'s barn, Park Plains school near Beaver Creek. He worked on P.F.R.A. during 1938-39.

In 1939, he married Emelia Chartier, daughter of Emile and Rose Anna (Gagnon). She had been kept busy at home as she was the eldest daughter of a family of 13. She worked for one year at the hotel as cook and maid for Alcide Robert. Albert built their first home with lumber from "Fort Pipe" and on old barn near McAuley, which once belonged to Pierre Prescott. Their first child, **Yvonne**, was born there in 1940. During the war years, Albert was away from home a great deal working as a carpenter for the airforce engineers — building army huts at Brandon, Dauphin, Dafoe, Sask., Neepawa, Portage la Prairie, Shilo and Rivers. After the war he built and operated a restaurant which he sold to Robert Chartier. He built a Pool Room, and the building where Rene denBrock's shop is located, a church in Binscarth, the Gordon Morris store and Gordon Ball hardware in Birtle, and many other buildings. Albert and Emelia had three more children, **Leo** born in 1941, **Robert** in 1943, and **Albertine** in 1947. Their daughter Yvonne has worked for CBC in Winnipeg for the past 24 years, as assistant to the director producer. Leo has worked for the C.P. Air in Winnipeg for 12 years. He married a former St. Lazare school teacher, Rachel Gosselin in 1963. They have two children, Michelle born in 1964 and Josie in 1969.

Robert (1943) lived in St. Lazare where he attended school, with a short period spent at St. Boniface Juniorate Oblate. He played hockey and worked part time for Robert Chartier in the restaurant. He was an altar boy for 12 years, served masses with Father Poulet at his missions and was altar server at Father Poulet's funeral. In 1960, when his parents

moved to Brandon, he lived with Robert Chartier to finish the school year. He then went to Brandon, continued school and worked part time at the Gulf Restaurant where he learned his trade. For ten years he was manager of the Salisbury House in Winnipeg and Brandon. In 1969 he married Marie Deschambault, daughter of Joseph Deschambault and Rita Prescott.

Marie, born in 1947 attended school in St. Lazare, and was a Girl Guide for a few years during which time she enjoyed a couple of camping trips to Edmonton and Winnipeg. Before her marriage she worked in Robert Chartier's restaurant, the Salisbury House, Brandon, and in the St. Lazare Bank of Montreal.

After their marriage, Robert and Marie lived in Brandon, Moose Jaw, Oxbow, (purchasing the Bow Manor Hotel) and in Moosomin at the Moosomin Motor Hotel. Robert became assistant manager at the Victoria Inn, Brandon, Manager of the WestWood Inn, Swan River, and then manager of the Victoria Inn again until he opened his own restaurant called "Rob Roy's Restaurant and Lounge" two years ago in Brandon. Robert and Marie have three children, Daniel born in 1970, Joel in 1972 and Monique in 1975.

Albertine, the youngest of Albert and Emelia's children was born in 1947. She worked for her brother Robert in his various restaurants, until she married Roger Moran in 1978. He is "the town cop" in Rivers, where they reside. They have two children, Jenan born in 1979 and Alisa in 1980.

It is worth mentioning that Albert and his father Pierre Roy built the Memorial chapel over Father Desmarais's grave in the old cemetery. In 1951, they built the base and cross on the hill overlooking St. Lazare.

Roy, Adrian and Blanche (Boily)

Adrian, son of Pierre Roy and Rozanne Desrochers, was born in Mariapolis, Manitoba on April 19, 1913. He moved to St. Lazare with his father, brothers and sister in 1927. His first job after leaving school was being a farm-hand at Leon Huberdeau's. He then went to work for Fouillard's Implement Exchange and is remembered there as being a very good employee. He married Blanche Boily in 1933, who was born on April 15, 1915 in LaBroquerie. They lived in a house built in 1934, where Denis Mulaire now lives. In 1946, Adrian and Blanche moved to Radville, Saskatchewan where Adrian became an implement dealer for Massey-Ferguson. In 1956, they moved to Brandon where Adrian took the Cockshutt agency. They later moved to The Pas, where they operated the LaVerendrye Motel. They

retired to Aldergrove, B.C. where they are enjoying life.

Blanche and Adrian have nine living children. **Irene**, married to Armand Prost, an Auto-Pac adjuster, has seven children. They live in Radville. **Peter**, a welder, married to Yvonne Prost has six children and lives in Kitimat, B.C. **Richard** married to Grace Blowatt resides in Brandon with his family of five children and works for C.N.R. **Marguerite**, married to Walter Lambert, a welder, has two children and lives in Maidstone, Sask. **Wilfred** a court-recorder, married to Margaret Fargey, has two children and lives in Vancouver. **John** operates a golf course in summer and is a hockey coach in Thompson, Man. **Lucille**, married to David Maksimchuk, an architect, lives in Lloydminster, Sask. **Celeste**, a court-recorder in Vancouver is married to William Dick. **Adrian Jr.** lives in Kitimat, B.C. **Jerome** lives in Squamish, B.C.

Roy, Edgar and Marie

Edgar was born in Swan Lake, Man. on February 11, 1917, son of Pierre Roy and Rozanne Desrochers. When his mother died he was put in an orphanage. The family was reunited in 1926 when they moved to St. Lazare. When he started school he had Mr. Dansereau as a teacher.

He remembers threshing at Leon Huberdeau's. It was a family project. His father was engineer and separator man, brother Albert was fireman, brother Adrian was waterman and Edgar was on a stook team with another lad. Edgar left school when he was 15 years old and worked for Fouillard's Implement Exchange and Ben Fouillard's Transfer. In June 1940, he left St. Lazare to join the Air Force and never returned to live there.

He married Marie Fouillard, born in 1921, daughter of Benoit Fouillard and Leontine Simard in 1946. They moved to Radville, Sask. and later to Lake Alma, to work for his brother Adrian, who had a farm implement agency. They moved to Brandon in 1958 where they both still live. Edgar has been retired for a few years.

Marie and Edgar had four children. **RoseAnne**, born in 1956, is a travel agent. **Jacqueline** born in 1957 is married to Ross Thomson, a maintenance man for the city of Brandon. They have one son, **Matthew**. **Damien**, born in 1959, lives at home. **Juliette**, born in 1961 is married to Ronald Copplestone, a university student, and works for Brandon Housing.

Ryan

Frank Clifford Ryan, born 1875 (oldest of 5 brothers) and wife Ella Frances (Beagle) born 1876 at



Ella and Frank Ryan.

Leighton, Iowa (3rd of 6 children) and only son, Laurence, arrived in Foxwarren July 18, 1911 amid a shower of rice. Mrs. Ryan was very flattered to think that they would get such a welcome, until she found the rice was meant for Mr. and Mrs. Perry Teeple, newlyweds arriving on the same train.

Previously, Frank had been engaged by Pinkertons Police Force in Chicago to crack down on underworld agents. In 1908 Pinkertons became the F.B.I. and Frank worked for them as a mail delivery clerk to obtain evidence against Chicago criminals. In 1911 his wife and son were threatened and Frank was warned by a friend in the underworld to be out of the country by July 15 for fear of death. He headed for Dropmore, Manitoba on the C.N.R. "Turkey Trail" line to look for a farm. A man on the train persuaded him to get off at Russell and go by C.P.R. to look in the Foxwarren district. On July 1st he landed in Foxwarren, where, J. K. Hay told him his brother-in-law had the best farm in the country for sale. They borrowed Sam Falloon's grey team and buggy, drove out to the Pete Dunlop farm on S-1/2-24-18-28 and bought it — crop, livestock, machinery and all for \$11,000.00. Later in 1919 he bought 13-18-28, adjoining to the south, for \$3200.00, and still later sold the north half of this to Bert Souch, retaining the south half. This "South Farm" is still in the family.

Laurence Reason Ryan, born 1899 at Quincy, Illinois, went to Balmerino school on



Dina and Laurence Ryan.

SW $\frac{1}{4}$ -26-18-28 in the R.M. of Ellice and finished his schooling at Foxwarren. He broke 17 acres of land for Thomas Redmond Sr. and 23 acres for Bert Souch, in return for the first crop. With the proceeds of this crop of Marquis wheat, he put himself through Agricultural College in Winnipeg, graduating in 1921 after 4 years, during which time he also went into training for the army but was dismissed when the war ended in 1918. On June 1, 1922 Laurence married Dina Jean Fraser, born 1898, 3rd of 12 children of Andrew and Jean (Greenshields) Fraser of the Binscarth district, and former schoolmate at Balmerino. Later they were to have 4 children: Carman, Elmer, Beulah, and Myrna. They settled as owners on SE $\frac{1}{4}$ -23-18-28 bought for \$6400, renting the other 3 quarters from a mortgage company until about 1942 when these also were acquired for \$4800.00. Later the "South Farm" was also bought from his mother, Ella. Other parcels of rented land farmed during his lifetime were the present Lloyd Tibbatt's farm, Albert Low farm, Jim Sargent and Bruce Graham section, and the Don Baker farm. Farming was done mostly by horses, and to house this farm power, a barn was built in 1927. This still stands as a grain storage and cleaning plant.

In 1930 a new Nash car was purchased and in years to come several more were to follow. In about 1935 a "Caterpillar 20" tractor was bought to replace a 10-20 Titan and most of the horse power on the farm, and to pull one of the first combines of the district. This "Cat" and a new D4 Caterpillar, pur-

chased in 1938 to replace a steel-wheeled Allis-Chalmers owned by Frank for several years, did most of the farm work as Laurence and Frank amalgamated their operation, running both threshing machine and combine in the fall of the year. In 1936, Laurence and Dina built a new, modern, 5 bedroom home, using as a starter a bank account of \$1200.00, borrowing very little more for finishing touches. Beside this home, for family and community recreation, an outdoor rink was built. The district of Chillon formed a hockey team which played here during the late 1930's and early 1940's. Two other country rinks, Crewe and Bayfield, also had hockey teams. The result was some vigorous and rugged exercise while very competitive hockey games were held among these rinks. These rinks ended with the coming of the war.

In seeding time of 1939 Frank broke a leg and died of a resulting blood clot. He had been a man loved by all who ever knew or worked with him. His funeral filled the church and the street outside with people from various nationalities and all walks of life. The old International truck responsible for the broken leg was sold, (eventually ending in pieces in a duel with a freight train at the crossing in Foxwarren), and replaced with a 1940 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -ton Chevrolet which is still owned and working for Elmer Ryan. Ella Ryan lived with grandson Carman on the farm till 1945 when she moved into a new home in Foxwarren, having sold her home farm to Carman and her "South Farm" to son, Laurence. For a number of years she boarded school teachers. At age 94, while cleaning off her garden, she attempted to burn some pea vines with gasoline and was thrown to the ground when it exploded. After that she required nursing care, both at home and later at Russell Personal Care Home, where she died at age 95. Her son Laurence farmed till 1972, retiring in his farm home until his death in 1978, having been predeceased by his wife Dina in 1975, and his mother Ella in 1972. All four are buried in one plot in Foxwarren cemetery.

Carman John Ryan, born 1923, ended his schooling at Foxwarren in 1939 to take over and rent his deceased grandfather's original half section in the R.M. of Ellice, and an adjoining SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of 19-18-27 in the R.M. of Birtle, buying these in 1943. He married Shirley Scarth of Isabella in 1945.

A unique mode of winter travel for the Ryans during the 1940s was by snowplane — a vehicle on skis, with motor and push propeller on the back — Carman owning a 3-ski and Laurence owning a 4-ski model. After this period, as the roads were being built higher, it was thought possible to keep them open all winter. In the late '40s a V-plow was bought, operated by Carman, for a snowplow club which was formed in the district, and winter car travel was

experienced for the first time. Still later, a front rotary plow was obtained and other club members took turns blowing the snow well off into the ditch. Nurse Isobel Cooper was plowed into Dean Falloon's to help at the birth of son, Glen. Another mode of travel, on skis in winter and wheels in summer, was experienced in 1947 when Carman and Shirley purchased the first airplane in the area, and have owned one ever since. In 1957 they joined the Manitoba Flying Farmers organization. The next year Shirley was their provincial queen. From 1961-63 Carman was president of the organization. During the 1960s he also operated a successful crop spraying business.

In 1955, after renting it for a few years, Carman bought Sec. 22-18-28 from Edith Cass of Minneapolis — a one time school teacher of Laurence and Dina at Balmerino, who still owned several farms in this district. Along with this and his home $\frac{3}{4}$ section, he has also rented Juba's quarter in the R.M. of Birtle (now farmed by Ted Widdicombe), Les Barker's quarter and Don Baker's half in the R.M. of Ellice. In 1963 a new house was purchased to replace the original Pete Dunlop home. From 1965-68 Carman was a trustee on the local school board.

Carman and Shirley have two children: Patti, born in 1952, now Mrs. Roy Reagh, farm wife at Binscarth with 3 sons, David, Leslie, and Kelly; Julie, born in 1960, and her husband, Kevin Bridgeman, now live in Binscarth and work in that area. Shirley, Julie and Kevin own and show Registered Saddlebred and Registered Appalosa horses which are stabled on the home farm. Many awards and trophies have been won by these horses, one being at present the high point saddlebred horse for Manitoba.

Elmer Laurence Ryan, born 1925, finished school at Foxwarren in 1944 and bought the N $\frac{1}{2}$ of 23-18-28 for \$3200. In the next few years he cleared a large acreage of bush from it and built up a herd of Registered Hereford cattle. Along with the above land he also rented the Les Barker quarter, adjoining to the north, for 14 years, till it was sold to Jim Sargent. In 1945, Elmer and team-mate Lawrence Williams of the Foxwarren Junior Seed Club won the Manitoba seed judging championship, thus winning a trip to Toronto, where they competed for and won the Dominion championship. Elmer received a Diploma in Agriculture in 1948 from the University of Manitoba. In 1952 he married Constance Bonner of Birtle, and built a home across the fence in the home yard on the S.E. quarter, where they still live. Elmer has served on the boards of Chillon and Foxwarren Pool Elevators, Credit Union, Welwyn Co-op, and United Church for many years.

Elmer and Connie had 5 daughters: Meredith,

born 1953, married Gaston Lavoie of Rimouski, Quebec, now farm wife at Foxwarren, with one son, Andrew; Shelley, born 1955, now in Quebec learning French in preparation to be a missionary with the Alliance church in Africa; Vicky, born 1956, died at nine months of age; Rebecca, born 1958, now at Abbotsford, B.C. as editor in the office of Campus Crusade for Christ; Maureen, born 1962, now Mrs. Gordon Loewen, farm wife at Marchwell, Saskatchewan.

In the fall of 1960, with no more available land to buy or rent and a young family to support, Elmer sold his livestock and machinery, rented his land to his father, outfitted a trailer towing truck, and moved to Edmonton to tow industrial camp trailers for Atco Industries of Calgary — a world-wide company. The next spring he moved his family to Calgary and worked out of there. Driving 100,000 miles a year for 5 years, wearing out 3 new trucks in the process, he hauled trailers and half-houses to most parts of the North American continent — from the east coast to the west coast, from New Mexico and southern California to Alaska, hauling beyond roads as far as 265 miles into the bush. Ice, snow, mud and cold, absence from his family, worry of pulling illegal sized loads, accidents seen and experienced, all caused him to decide to discontinue trucking. After an absence of 5 years he returned to the farm, bought the "South Farm" in 1965, and the home half in 1972, both from his father, who retired in his farm home until his death. At present Meredith, Gaston and son are living in this home, and are buying some of the farm. Elmer and Gaston are proponents of the new soil conservation method of farming by zero-tillage, having practiced this method successfully for 5 years.

Beulah Eleanor Ryan, born in 1929, finished school in Foxwarren and went to work in Birtle. She married Ivan Cooley in 1949 and became a farm wife east of Birtle till her death in 1963. Beulah and Ivan had 4 children: Nola born 1950, now wife of Dr. Simieritsch with one son, Robert, lives at Stettler, Alberta; Gary born 1951, now married in Saskatoon, is in construction; Orville born 1953, now works in Russell; Brian born 1956, is now farming east of Birtle.

Myrna Althea Ryan, born in 1930, finished school at Foxwarren, then obtained a Degree in Home Economics from the U. of M. in 1951. She married Douglas Graham, IHC dealer of Brandon, in 1952, and they still live there. Myrna and Doug had 3 children: Scott born 1954, married Laurie Johnston of Foxwarren, and now resides in Calgary as a chartered accountant; Jodi, born 1956, now a public health nurse, married Guy Bieber, a broker in Win-

nipeg; Jayne, born 1959, a nurse, married Doug Troop, a farmer at Portage La Prairie.

Sala, Desire and Simone

I, Desire, was born in Winnipeg on the 24th of July, 1913; the eldest of three boys born to Charles and Bertha Sala. My father was a wine merchant. He and his brother Paul had a store in Winnipeg until prohibition was brought in, forcing them to lose their business. My father then moved to a small farm in Notre Dame de Lourdes where he raised his family. In 1942, I joined the army and served for three years. After my discharge, I worked as a labourer doing various jobs such as bulldozing, wood cutting and custom combining.

In 1948, I married Simone Huberdeau of St. Lazare and we lived in Notre Dame de Lourdes for two more years. We then moved to the Birtle district where I bought a half-section of land through V.L.A. The farm, 5-17-27, had been the property of Norman Dearle. We improved it by breaking more land, fencing it and rebuilding the farm house. A few years later, I bought a quarter-section of pasture from Leonard Huberdeau, Simone's brother. Our operation consisted of grain farming and raising beef cattle. In 1967, I bought another half-section from Gordon Brennan. Most of it was trees and shrubs and it took quite a few years to break and clear it into productive fields.

In 1955 and 1956, I erected a barn that measured 60 feet by 30 feet. The walls were made of railroad ties and the loft was large enough to hold 3000 bales of hay. It housed our milk cows for we were now selling cream. In 1971, it was converted into a dairy barn which is still operating today.

One of the major problems we faced was an inadequate water supply. Although the two wells I had dug earlier had very good water, it was difficult to reach them in winter. Not until 1964, did we have running water in the house and barn. It was a very expensive project due to the distance from the water source, the elevation of the land and the slow, dangerous trenching through bedrock. The house we live in was built in 1967 by Joseph Perreault.

Simone and I raised four sons: **Paul**, born in 1950, is a carpenter and farms part-time. He is married to Barbara Springer. They have two children and live in Birtle. **Gilles**: was born on November 12, 1951 in Russell, Manitoba. Gilles was educated in St. Lazare and took his final year in Birtle. After graduation, he went to Brandon University taking Bachelor of Teaching 1st year and Bachelor of Arts 2nd year. For four months he worked at Metev Woollen Mills at Brandon. In 1972, he started working for C.N.R. during the building of the Sylvite spur at St. Lazare.

In 1974, he met Laura Dunham who was born in Birtle on October 27, 1956. Laura received her education at Foxwarren and Birtle. Upon graduating she completed a Stenographer course at Success Commercial College in Winnipeg. In 1976 she was hired as secretary to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Birdtail River School Division. In June 1977 she worked temporarily at Birtle District Hospital as Clerk-Typist for the Lab and X-Ray Unit. On October 15, 1977 Gilles and Laura were married in Foxwarren. They have purchased and are residing in the house on N.E. 23-17-28 west of St. Lazare. They have four children: Joey born in 1978, twins, Giselle and Natalie in 1980, and Rachel in 1981. Gilles is presently employed with C.N.R. as Track Maintenance Foreman of St. Lazare.

Yves and Henri stay with us having bought the dairy and rented the land. My wife, Simone, has stayed home most of her life helping with farm work and the home. After her marriage she continued this routine of milking cows, raising chickens, planting a large garden, canning great quantities of vegetables, meat and fruit, baking bread, churning and looking after the household. She is still on the farm taking care of three men.

Saunders, Agnes by Marion Hamilton

Agnes was the daughter of Charles Philip Syms, postmaster and church warden of Langton, Dorset, England. She married William Saunders February 2nd, 1886 at Langton. William and Agnes had two children: Philip Charles William born January 2, 1887, and Dorothea Rexford who was born in 1890 but died at the age of six. William died in 1898, age 70 and was buried beside his daughter at Langton. Charlie received his education and trade as a carpenter at the age of 17. He received many medals for top student in Arithmetic. In 1904, Charlie and his mother immigrated to Canada, coming to Foxwarren, to her sister Mrs. Walter Pizzey. Robert Syms, Agnes' brother, also immigrated to Foxwarren the same time.

The three of them took up farming on 18-18-28 near the Gamblers' School Site, later moving to the Pizzey home on 4-18-28 (Jim Hamiltons). There Mrs. Agnes Saunders died in 1929 and was buried beside her brother Robert Syms in St. Peter's Cemetery at Balmerino.

Charlie Saunders continued to farm and continued carpentry in the community moving to 12-18-29. He married Emily Leaver, who was born and raised in Birmingham, England. They had no family. Later they built a home on Ralph Pizzey's farm 16-18-28. A few years later they moved to

Binscarth, then they moved to Foxwarren, where Charlie died in 1966. He also rests at St. Peter's. Emily moved to Binscarth for a few years before making her home at Russell and District Personal Care Home in 1972 where she still lives.

As there are no Saunders to carry on the family name, this will end this branch of the family tree. The Saunders Family Tree goes back to 1673 — all of Langton, Dorset, England.

Sawyer, Sam and Mary as related by Jim Sawyer

On the 19th of January, 1892, in the household of the pastor of a small mission in the east end of London, Samuel Alfred Sawyer howled his way into the world, the second to last to be born to the pastor's wife who had already given birth to an even dozen.

Eight of the fourteen survived the hazards of infant mortality with young Sam one of the healthiest of the lot.

After receiving formal schooling to the age of thirteen and a broad practical education around the Thames river docks and the streets of East London as well as absorbing the spiritual values preached by his father and practiced by his mother, young Sam decided it was time to make his mark in the world.

He persuaded his brother Frank, older by three years, to accompany him and they sailed for Canada in the spring of 1908, along with hundreds of other English immigrants who were seeking a new life in a new world.

His mother had now been widowed and it took a great deal of persuasion by young Sam to get her blessing as well as the loan of nine pounds which was the amount of the fare from England to Manitoba.

A brief stop in Winnipeg by the two boys was made memorable by Sam buying two pounds of steak for sixteen cents, but even with those prices their money was about all gone.

They had a destination in mind, some obscure relation of some family member had homesteaded or preempted a quarter section in Ellice Municipality some eight miles south and west of Foxwarren.

Tom Liverington had written glowing reports of Canada and this is partly what had inspired the Sawyer boys to seek their fortunes in the Western world.

They arrived in Foxwarren on the evening of April first and Sam opined as how there might be some truth in the April Fool's joke after all. There was absolutely nothing about this metropolis to excite two Londoners.

By great good luck, Tom had a near neighbor, Mr. McLellan, who needed a chore boy for the summer so after staying only one night with his bachelor

relation, Sam moved into what he described as a decent Christian household where he had the protection of a good family.

He was promised \$10.00 per month with a bonus of \$15.00 in the fall if Mr. McLellan thought he was worth it.

An Englishman at that time was not too well received by employers, so an Englishman had to be good to make good.

Sam tried hard; however he was just a kid who had never known that type of killing labour nor that kind of weather to work in. His hands bled from broken blisters, he often cried from sheer exhaustion, but he never gave up.

From him were added many more stories about the green horns but he stuck and by grim determination he learned and toughened.

Reminiscing in later years Sam credited his knowledge of the Bible, gained from his Pastor father, to his survival. As previously mentioned, the McLellans were a Christian household and prayers before the morning meal was a good time for young Sam to ask the appropriate questions to stall for more rest time and incidently give him time to eat more food — he was a typical growing boy.

To Sam's surprise he was paid in the fall \$10.00 per month plus the promised bonus and such advances that he had were waived as an additional bonus.

He was rich; he had \$95.00 and still in his sixteenth year. He was also heavier, browner and had acquired some degree of efficiency.

He was proud to be able to send his mother the advance of the nine pounds as well as his \$15.00 bonus.

Good fortune prompted a neighbor, Mr. Hunter, "another decent Christian family" to hire Sam for the winter at \$5.00 per month.

Young Sam proved to be a 'good' man and for the next four years worked for various farmers in the district.

The Lewartons, Falloons, Grahams, Boles and many more at one time or another hired and rehired Sam who had gained the respect of the entire community as a worker as well as a cultured and thoroughly decent Christian young man.

In 1913, after five years of apprenticing in the ways of the prairie farmers and becoming passably proficient in the use of forks, shovels, axes, farm machinery and animals as well as gaining full Canadian status as a citizen he returned to England for a visit.

He was twenty one years old and a man by everyone's standards.

War was declared on Germany in 1914 and young

Sam immediately enlisted in the British army and won an early trip to France with the 'Old Contemptables', the Kaiser's description of England's contemptible little army.

The end of 1915 saw Sam discharged from the army after suffering grievous wounds. He lost one lung and for the rest of his life was plagued with bits of shrapnel in his body interfering with his nervous system.

While convalescing, he met and married a Salvation Army girl, Mary Annie Hogg and during the summer of 1918 managed to get transportation back to Canada taking with them young son Robert who had been born April 1, 1918.



Sam and Mary Sawyer, 1917.

The new Sawyer family were in Toronto when Armistice was declared and after a winter's futile search for suitable work, they decided early in 1919 to go home. Home for Sam and by now Mary and little Robert being the farmlands west and south of Foxwarren known as the Crewe district.

Sam's reputation soon got him offered work and he and Mary spent the next two years working for and living in the 'hired men's houses' for first Arthur and then S. J. Falloon.

Second son, Jimmy, joined the family on the coldest and stormiest night in February, 1920, being born in the little house at Arthur Falloons.

An opportunity to become his own master ended in financial disaster when Sam rented the Joyce farm north east of Foxwarren and got rusted out.

Mary learned all about thrift and making do from that experience as they were left with store bills, twine bills, and bills for everything that could be charged. The golden fields of wheat that Sam had promised — "silk dresses waving in the wind" were reduced to ashes and the silk dreams were traded for flour sacks.

In 1922 Sam and Mary, through the Soldier Settlement Act bought the N.W. quarter of 10-18-28, six miles west of Foxwarren. Their first home was an eight by ten granary overrun with mice but it was their own.

The Foxwarren builder, Jack Bailey undertook to build them a house, quite modest by today's standards, 20 feet square, a story and a half of frame construction. Basement was dug with a team and scraper with Mary trimming the sides with a shovel. All of the concrete was mixed in a hoe box with Jack doing the actual carpenter work. The lumber and other building materials were hauled from Birtle with a team and a wagon, the entire cost, including wages was \$875.00.

This small house was the scene of much activity. Sam was always involved in community affairs and Mary was always at his shoulder to provide lunches, meals, labour or anything she could do to second him.

The Epic Club, the Debating Society, Christmas plays, the Bridge of Sighs all hold fond memories for the youth of the thirties and adults of the forties.

A daughter was born in 1927, this time properly in a hospital, and as if to compensate for the sparsity of first names for the boys was christened Vera Mary Emily Sawyer.

Sam was instrumental in organizing Returned Men's Organizations in surrounding towns and assisted on relief committees during the drought.

Bad health and poor crops eventually took their toll and the Sawyers left the farm in 1937 and moved to Foxwarren; Sam doing what work he could, writing an S.A.S. column in the Binscarth paper and Mary continuing to host any and all teas, showers and sundry women's organizations.

In 1952, with their children grown and gone, Sam and Mary tearfully said goodbye to Manitoba and moved to Victoria, where no doubt due to the salubrious climate, Sam's health took a turn for the better. He joined the Canadian Corps of Commissioners and served as a security guard at the Royal

Roads Military College for twelve years before finally officially retiring.

Mary maintained the prairie tradition of always being able to set a good table for unexpected guests and rare indeed was the Manitoba visitor who didn't find the much vaunted western hospitality alive and well at the Sawyers in Victoria.

Sam died in the winter of 1969 and his widow Mary mourned the loss of her 'good man' until her passing in May, 1981.

Both Sam and Mary rest in the Foxwarren cemetery beside their son Robert and their first grand daughter Roberta.

Sawyer, Robert

Robert Sawyer was born on April 1, 1918 in London, England, and came to Canada with his parents when he was six months old. He attended Foxwarren school until the age of fourteen, at which time he left to help his father on the farm. In 1939, when he was working for Donald Bulger in the trucking business, he met Dorothy Dobson of McAuley. They were married on August 16, 1941, and moved to Foxwarren where Bob ran his own trucking business for twenty years. Bob and Dorothy raised four children; **Douglas**, born January 30, 1943, who with his wife Sheila and two children live in Courtenay, B.C., **Roberta**, born April 5, 1945 and died August 16, 1948, **Shirley**, born August 19, 1946, who with her husband Ted Scott and two sons live in Victoria, and **Kenneth**, born September 29, 1949, who with his wife Terry and two children live in Shawnigan Lake, B.C. Bob and Dorothy and family moved to Calgary in October 1961 and Bob died there August 20, 1968. Dorothy now resides in Victoria with her husband Harold Gollmer.

Sawyer, James

James was born on February 9, 1920 on the farm at Foxwarren. He was educated in the Foxwarren school and in 1940 enlisted in the Canadian army. While serving overseas, he met and married Maureen Herbert of London, England. He brought his bride to Canada and settled down to farm life on NW 10-18-28, where they lived until 1950. At that time, they moved to Vancouver Island where Jim pursued the carpentry trade. They have three children; **Marilyn** and her husband Tom O'Sullivan and two children live in Victoria, **Donald** and wife Donna and two children live in Prince George and **Carolyn** and husband Ken O'Connor and two children live in Victoria.

Sawyer, Dillin, Vera

Vera was raised on the family farm in Ellice Municipality and educated at Foxwarren school. She

became a telephone operator and worked in several towns in Manitoba. She married Harold Dillin of Roblin and they are still actively engaged in farming there. They have two children; **Gail**, living in Brandon with her four children and **Gary**, who with his wife and four children live on the home farm.

Selby, Tom and Martha (Parke)

Thomas Tresham was born Dec. 10, 1854 at Peterborough, England.

Tom, and a brother Gerrard, immigrated to Canada in 1882. They travelled via rail to Brandon, Man. He was told at Brandon land office there was good farm land at McAuley and that section 6-15-28 should be good. Tom and a chap by the name of "Leather", walked from Brandon to Fort Ellice via Rapid City, Shoal Lake and Birtle, arriving the night of May 8. His destination was section 6-15-18 which is now the Alfred Smart farm. Tom went back to Brandon and purchased oxen and supplies; returning to his homestead, this time travelling on the south side of the Assiniboine River. His brother, Gerrard, died at Brandon the following year, at the age of 22. Tom's first crop froze and that winter 1882-1883, he went to Hull, Quebec and worked at the Eddy Match factory, returning to the Fort Ellice area in the spring.

In the spring of 1885, he joined the Boulton Scouts under Major Middleton. His regimental No. was 44. He had the rank of Corporal, and supplied his own horse. The pay was 85¢ per day. Tom rode as a dispatch rider and also as Chief Scout. He was present at the surrender of Louis Riel.

He married Martha Parke at her father's home on the sand plains (later named Parke Plains) on her birthday March 21, 1888. Martha was born March 21, 1865 at Leeds, Quebec. They spent their first year on the Doc. Harris farm North East of Moosomin, N.W.T. (Later the Welwyn District). This farm was last lived on by Arnold Parker.

Their first child was born on Sept. 1, 1889 (James) Guy. The following spring they moved to the Beaver Rapids district where Thomas Littleton was born (Nov. 10, 1890), with Mrs. McKenzie as midwife. Thomas Jr. was killed in France, Mar. 17, 1917. Elleanor Ann Goodrich was born Sept. 21, 1892 and died at the farm home, April 21, 1896. She is buried in the Beaver Rapids Cemetery. John Edgar was born April 1, 1894 at the farm home. Gertrude Jane was born Jan. 12, 1896. Robert Tresham Selby was born Aug. 30, 1897.

Tom and Martha farmed the S½ 14-16-29 and ran the Post Office and Stopping House at Beaver Creek Crossing for people travelling from Moosomin to Birtle. Martha and a baby girl died in 1899 and are buried in the Beaver Rapids Cemetery. Tom planted

the first two fir trees at the Cemetery that year by his wife's grave and carried water from the creek to keep them growing. One still stands today, very weathered but still growing. Tom worked as weed inspector for a number of years in Ellice.

He liked a good horse and always drove a good stepper. In 1913 he married Sara (Thompson) Revell. Sara had two sons by her first marriage, Robert and Walter Revell. Sara was mid-wife for many expectant mothers in the area, working with Dr. Munroe. In 1928, Sara passed away and is buried in McAuley Cemetery. Tom moved to St. Lazare in 1929. He spent a good deal of time helping Mr. David A. Smart of Ninette, Man. collect information for the Manitoba Archives on the whereabouts of the early forts and trails used by the fur traders and early travellers of the area.

In 1935 he became sick and stayed at the O'Keefe home where Grace looked after him until his death, June 6, 1936. His funeral service was held at his old home at Beaver Creek crossing with burial in the Beaver Rapids Cemetery beside his wife, Martha.

Selby, Guy and Doris (Moore) by Edgar Selby

(James) Guy eldest son of Thomas and Martha Selby was born September 1, 1889 at the Doc. Harris farm north-east of Moosomin, Sask. He moved with his parents to Beaver Rapids district in 1890. He attended Beaver Rapids school. Guy later homesteaded at what is now known as Kerrobert, Sask. He also worked on the Grand Trunk and CPR railroads.

When W.W. I broke out, he joined the 32nd Battalion at Moosomin in 1914 and went overseas. He transferred to the 10th Battalion and was wounded in France in 1915. He retained the rank of Sgt. Major and took his release in 1919 after the war ended. Guy married Doris Moore of Hull, Yorkshire, on April 25, 1918. They returned to Canada on March 21, 1919 and lived in Grandad Parke's house in McAuley.

The following spring, on April 25, 1920 **Doris Martha** was born. The same year they took a Soldier Settlement farm in the Beaver Rapids district NW¼ 9-16-29. In 1921 Doris' sister, Annie and family (H. Hewick), came out from England and stayed with them for a year. January 21, 1922 their second daughter **Hilda Eleanor** was born. Also Annie and Henry Hewick had their first son, Joe. In July, 1922 a cyclone came through, taking the barn from the yard and leaving the fields of grain looking like summer fallow. Daughter **Edith Muriel** was born on April 29, 1923. On January 4, 1925 their first son, was born, **Thomas Littleton**, but three weeks later, he died of bronchial pneumonia.

In the spring of 1925 they moved to St. Lazare.

Guy worked at Jules DeCorby's store and also as town policeman. He took the job as foreman, building roads around Binscarth area. **Annie Eunice**, was born June 17th, 1927, then **Edgar Guy** Sept. 7th, 1928. Doris and Hilda both attended school in St. Lazare.

In April 1929, the family moved to the crossing at Beaver Creek, S½ 14-16-29, where they set up farming and the children went to school at Park Plains amid the grasshoppers and drought. The buggy spent a lot of time in the creek during the summer so the wheels wouldn't fall apart. During the summer, mother taught Sunday School at the school. She also taught most of the girls in the district to sew. Some of them won prizes for their efforts throughout Manitoba. There were always lots of picnics, school dances and house parties which everyone enjoyed.

In 1940 the family left the creek as the Community Pasture took over. They moved to the Oak Knoll district, north of Rocanville, Sask., and resided there until they retired to Rocanville in 1951. Guy passed away on May 24, 1975 and was laid to rest at Beaver Rapids Cemetery with his parents and other members of his family. His widow, Doris, still lives in Rocanville.



Guy Selby Family: Doris, Guy, Doris, Hilda, Annie, Edgar and Edith, 1956.

Their family has all married: **Doris** — married Ernest Cowan of McAuley, now living in Moosomin. They have a family of five, three girls and two boys. **Hilda** — married Bert Minty of Rocanville. They have one daughter. Bert passed away in 1979. Hilda lives in Rocanville, **Edith** — married Jack Kelly of Rocanville. They have a family of two — a girl and a boy, and live in Rocanville. **Annie** — married Douglas Windrim of Rocanville, and they have a family of two, a boy and a girl. They live in Moosomin. **Edgar** — married Ann Park of Omega, Sask. They have a family of one girl and four boys, and operate a dairy near Rocanville, Sask.

Selby, Gertrude

Gertrude, was born in 1896, the daughter of Thomas Tresham Selby and Martha Parke and grew up in the Beaver Rapids area. She married Kenneth Smith of Shoal Lake, Manitoba in 1914. They moved to Unity, Saskatchewan in 1915 where Kenneth was employed by Beaver Lumber Company. They later moved to Cavell, Sask. where Kenneth operated a lumber yard for the same company until 1921. They returned to Unity and began farming in the Buccleugh district where later their family would attend school.



Wedding of Gertrude (Selby) and Kenneth Smith, 1914.

Gertrude passed away in the fall of 1925 at the age of 29. She is buried in the Beaver Rapids Cemetery. Kenneth continued to farm until his death in the fall of 1939 at the age of 59. He is buried in Pleasant View Cemetery at Unity. There were four children born to this marriage.

John Selby was born in August, 1916 at Unity. After receiving his schooling he spent a year at McAuley working for his uncle Robert Selby, returning to Unity to operate a trucking business. In 1942 he commenced working for Saskatchewan Wheat Pool as a Grain buyer, transferring to Saskatchewan Wheat Pool Inspection Department at Thunder Bay, Ont., in 1965, where he remained until his retirement in August, 1981. John married Gertrude Fawcett of Unity in 1945. They have one son, Howard who is married and lives in Grandview, Man. Gertrude and John are retired and make their home at Grandview.

Martha Gertrude was born at Unity, Sask. in December, 1917. After attending school at Buccleugh she worked at the Unity hospital for two years. She then moved to Winnipeg, working for Trans-Canada Air Lines until the war was over. In 1945 she moved to Vancouver, B.C. Martha married Tom Johnson in July, 1945. They have two children (Kenneth and Barbara), they are both married and live in Vancouver. Martha and Tom are now retired and live in Vancouver, B.C.

Kenneth Robert was born in October, 1919 at Cavell, Sask. Following his school years, he worked on the farm until he joined the Army in 1940. He served overseas and during this time was seriously wounded. After spending some time in hospital in England, and later in Winnipeg, he was discharged in 1945. He farmed near Unity from 1946 to 1962. He then commenced working for the Department of Agriculture in Saskatoon, returning to their farm at Unity in 1970. Kenneth married Marian Lakeness of the Unity district in 1946. They had four sons; James, of Vancouver, B.C.; Marvin of Calgary, Alta; both married. Douglas lives in Saskatoon. Their youngest son, Robert, was fatally injured in a traffic accident in Calgary in 1975. Kenneth passed away in May, 1980.

(Marian has retired from teaching and makes her home at Unity.)

David Malcom was born at Unity, Sask. in February, 1925. After attending High School at Unity, he worked in the area until he joined the Army. He served overseas and was discharged in 1946. He worked in Vancouver, B.C. in 1947 and then joined the Permanent Air Force, but was medically discharged in 1953. He then worked for Fraser Valley Milk Producers for several years before starting his own Refrigeration business known as Delta Food Equipment Ltd., now based in both Vancouver, and Calgary. David married Diana Zink of Tako, Sask., and they had six children. Marilyn of Cloverdale, B.C.; David of Langley, B.C.; and Donald of Surrey, B.C.; are all married. Dale and Donna are presently living at home. Another daughter Debbie passed away in 1961 at the age of five. David and Diana continue to manage their business and reside in Delta, B.C.

Selby, Robert T.

Robert T. Sr. was born at Beaver Rapids on August 30, 1897. He was the sixth child of Thomas T. Selby and Martha (Parke) Selby. His mother and an infant passed away when he was almost two years old. He then went to live with an Aunt and Uncle, Mrs. and Mr. Robert Murray, in the McAuley dis-

trict, until 1905, then returned to batch with the rest of the family at Beaver Rapids.

His education was brief, a short time at McAuley school, also at Parkland school, then at Beaver Rapids.

In his growing years he fished, hunted and trapped with his older brothers. He could handle an axe expertly and hauled wood and fence posts to McAuley and Welwyn for sale, besides helping provide wood to keep the home fires burning. He helped his father with the farm work for many years, as his older brothers were away working and then off to the war of 1914-18. Robert was to go overseas in 1918 but the war ended.

Bob (as he was called) then went trucking. In January 1932 he married the former Jean Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Smith who also resided in the Beaver Rapids district on 4-16-29. She was born August 19, 1911 at Maryland, Bristol, Quebec, coming west with her parents in March 1917. She also attended Beaver Rapids school, going to Welwyn, Sask. for high school.

Bob and I settled on a farm in the Beaver Rapids district 3-16-29, where Bob farmed and went trucking. His trucking was varied, including hauling cream for the Creamery in St. Lazare, Man. He would meet the train at McAuley, Man. in the eve-



Bob and Jean Selby with nephew Bobby and son Johnny.

ning, three nights a week, pick up cream at farm places along the way. He also had routes through the Welwyn and Beaver Rapids area on certain days of the week. In winter he used horses and a van on a sleigh with a little tin heater in it. It was a busy schedule; but we were glad of work during the thirties in order to make a living and gradually collected machinery and some livestock.

We had one son, John born July 25, 1932. In spite of the hardships we had enjoyable times too. Old time dances were held in the Beaver Rapids school house every two weeks during winter; besides, there were many house gatherings. Our home was very small and cold, two bedrooms, a main room, serving as kitchen, dining and living room, and a pantry. It was the old Parkland school house, which had been moved from Archie Municipality and it was here that John was born. However, we never lacked for company and always seemed to have plenty of plain food for all. We drove to Welwyn for Church and Sunday school.

In December of 1940 we moved to the Cailmount District to a farm with good buildings, just five miles south of Welwyn. It was here that John received his education, first at Cailmount rural school, later to Welwyn for high school. Here Bob did various trucking jobs, chiefly grain hauling, besides farming and raising livestock until his retirement to the village of Welwyn, Sask. He enjoyed various sports, curling and horseshoes, also shuffleboard. He loved a good game of bridge. His health failed and he passed away September 24, 1980 in his 84th year. The funeral service was held in Welwyn United Church with burial at Beaver Rapids cemetery.

His son John, continues to own and farm the land vacated by his father, and lives with his mother in the village of Welwyn, Sask.

Selby, John Edgar and Hilda

John was born at Beaver Creek April 1, 1894. When his mother died in 1899, he went to live with his aunt Lizzie McAuley, until he was about 10. He could handle an axe as well as a gun, both being useful while growing up on the plains. He learned to swim in Beaver Creek, a talent he had not mentioned to his son Bob, who was petrified when his dad (at about age 55) dived into deep water at the creek.

John joined the Winnipeg police force until he volunteered for Army service (107th) in February of 1916. Shortly after he was hospitalized with pneumonia caused from sleeping in a tent on the wet cold ground. In September, he was sent overseas, and in February of 1917 was sent to the front lines in France. He knew the horror of trench warfare and was missing one night after an assault on the German lines. A

friend Jack Traquair missed him, went to search for him in "NO-Man's Land" the area between the rival fronts . . . discovered him unconscious in a shell hole, and carried him back to a base hospital. John had been poisoned by mustard gas, which was being used for the first time by the Germans. He was in hospital in France, then in England and finally repatriated and discharged in 1918.

John's father, Thos. T. Selby was secretary treasurer of the Municipality when John came to St. Lazare, and he took over this position from his father in 1920. That same year he met and married Mathilda Simard, lovely 18 year old daughter of Edmond and Sarah Simard. Their first home was the upstairs rooms of Joseph Tremblay's house. Their first son, Robert, was born there in 1921. A new house was built for the family by Oscar Dupont in 1923 and the family was raised and grew up in that home. Four more sons and four daughters were born there to John and Hilda.



John and Hilda Selby, 1920.

During the early 30's John became postmaster, with Grace Hebert as the first postmistress. He also had two gravel trucks, was a road contractor, sold real estate and insurance, contracted with C.N.R. to load sand, and owned land on the plains. Most years the drought or grasshoppers beat him to the crop!

John was a trustee of the country schools at Pumpkin Plains and Park Plains. In 1950, John was given the special job as co-ordinator for the Government assessing water damage to houses in Winnipeg

and along the Red River during the flood. St. Lazare was also hostess to many "flooded out" residents. John was very involved in Community projects, such as the P.F.R.A., relief work, often finding work for the unemployed such as truck drivers, hauling gravel or as carpenters at various airports in Manitoba.

No-one who was ever in need, was turned away empty handed. He loved to play cards, especially bridge and poker. He never enjoyed good health, as a result of his war experiences. He suffered with arthritis, at times his hands and feet almost rendered him immobile . . . Bob remembers driving his car for him when he was about 12, as his dad couldn't hang onto the steering wheel. In 1954, the R.M. of Ellice had a testimonial dinner for John to commemorate his 35 years of service. In April of 1959, John died suddenly of a heart attack.

In her own way, Hilda was a remarkable woman; she was always there when John needed her. She provided many a meal on "Council day" and John always felt free to bring his friends home for dinner. Their house was always full; Donald Bulger stayed with the family when he first worked in Lazare; Grandpa Selby moved in after the death of his wife. There was a hired girl to accommodate, plus a large family! Hilda was known as "Mom" to many; she loved to gather up neighborhood children and take them on picnics. She loved the out-of-doors, putting amongst her flowers or walking in the woods, or climbing the hills. She never failed to enjoy a beautiful sunset. After John's death, she and her two sisters Helene and Tine, were nicknamed the "Murphy Sisters" as they were always on the go. Hilda died very suddenly of a heart attack in December of 1968.

The Selby children are; Robert 1921, Mattie 1923, (see Aime Hudon story), Tommy 1925, Johnny 1928, Brian 1930, Jean 1932 (see Dean Falloon story); Pat 1934, (See Gil Bouchard story), Margaret 1936, (See Dave Edwards story) and Guy, 1940.

Selby, Robert and Jackie **by Jackie Selby**

The first time Bob and I met was at a "Pie Social" at my home on the hill at Crewe. My parents (see Jack and Louise Falloon story) often held social events to raise money to keep the local rink operating. Bob found out which pie was mine, and after some rash bidding, paid the enormous sum of \$1.25, this meant we lunched together. Bob vows that on the ride back to St. Lazare he told one of the fellows, he'd just met the girl he was going to marry! He was 16½ and I was 14½. While attending high school, Bob had the job of meeting the trains at 12 midnight and 4 A.M. to put aboard and pick up the mail. When he finished school he worked for PFRA, then as a

carpenter's helper at the new airports being built at Dauphin and Carberry. Bob and his brother Tommy, joined the army (CPC) and Bob was posted overseas, six months later, in 1942.

When I finished high school, I started working at the Creamery in Lazare; a year later, the creamery closed for the winter months, and I was employed by the Royal Bank at Binscarth. When my family left the farm to move to Saskatoon, I obtained a transfer to the Royal Bank to join them. Two years later, my sister Lorraine persuaded my younger sister Leslie and I to get transfers to the Royal Bank in Toronto. After four years overseas, Bob returned with an Eastern Canada draft. It was an exciting reunion at the huge Colosseum in Toronto, when he came marching in smartly with 5000 other servicemen, behind a peppy band!

After his discharge from the army, Bob started working with Gore Insurance Co. in Winnipeg, and I got a transfer to a Royal Bank on Portage Ave. We were wondering how we could afford to get married on our meager salaries, when Bob was invited to join the Monarch Life Insurance Co. with his territory to be the St. Lazare area. He did so well the first month, we got married in Winnipeg Nov. 6, 1946, went on a lavish honeymoon to Saskatoon, and set up house-keeping in three rooms above the Municipal office in St. Lazare.

The following March, while Tommy Selby was in Montreal getting married, a house he had rented from Mrs. Fulham, burned to the ground. Tom and his new bride moved into another suite of two rooms above the Municipal office. There was one complication, Paulette spoke scarcely a word of English and my French was **very** limited. We agreed to tutor one another. Paulette now speaks very fluent English and my French is still very basic! We managed in our crowded quarters, and even added a few babies. Bob and I had Larry in 1948 and Ken in 1949; Tom and Paulette had David, before they said "C'est assez" and moved into a house they bought from Leo Dupont. We had one more son Wayne, in 1950, then decided to move to Oak Lake, the central point of Bob's territory. There our daughter Margaret was born. After two years we moved to McAuley; Bob seemed to spend all his time in Lazare as he had taken over his father's general insurance business. We added two more children to our household, Elaine in 1954 and Donald in 1956. We finally decided to go out on a limb and build a house in St. Lazare. Our timing was perfect, the village had just installed waterworks; ours was the first house hooked to the water line!

The following spring, I nearly drove my husband crazy; he had just built me a new house and **I had to**

have a **tent**! Thus began our camping outings. The weather was perfect that summer, and instead of the two weeks we planned to spend tenting out along Beaver Creek, we spent two months. Tom, Paulette and their four children joined us; they lived a little more lavishly, in a trailer. Bob and Tom joined us in the evenings when the commotion, mosquitoes and uncomfortable sleeping quarters, didn't drive them home. Our children remember this as one of the happiest summers of their lives; they fished, swam, fought, rafted, built tree houses, and swung on ropes tied to trees over the water. Growing up they thought Lazare was the perfect place; there were rivers for swimming and canoeing, hills for skiing and tobogganing, the rink for skating and hockey. To this, we added two ponies, and many a boy learned to ride on old "Dusty". "Birdie" and then "Lady" were strictly "one man horses" property of Larry! You got to ride them by appointment, only.

Laurie Lea, arrived in 1963. By that time Bob had eased his way out of camping and onto the golf course, in his spare time. He was a trustee in the Birdtail River School Division for ten years and an active member of A.A. for thirty.



Bob Selby Family.

Larry attended U. of Man. where he received his B.A. He married his high school girl friend, Glenda Smith, daughter of the late Allen and Ella Smith, who owned the Collyer farm at Welwyn. Glenda worked in the Toronto Dominion Bank while Larry went on to get his law degree. They moved to Manitou where Larry articulated with Bill Scurfield. They liked small town life, and decided to settle there, so bought the law practice and a house where they now live with their four daughters, Sharon, Tracy, Julie, Elizabeth and on Mar. 22, 1983, a son Robert John. **Ken** went to the U. of Man. where he got his B.A. He has worked at various jobs; road construction, on the

pipeline, councillor at Marymount in Winnipeg, a lumber camp at Tahsis B.C., travelled far and wide to Mexico, and Europe. While working as a carpenter at Milner Ridge, he met a girl from Pinawa, Helen McCarthy, whom he married in 1979. They started a carpet sales and installation business in Birtle. He and his wife live in an energy efficient home they built last year. They have two daughters and a son, Jessica, Peter and Laura. **Wayne**; received his B. of Ed. at the U. of Man. He, too, worked at various jobs, and travelled around, until he met a fellow councillor at Camp Wannacumbac, Susan McIntyre, of Thunder Bay. They were married in 1975. Susan graduated with a pharmacy degree and worked until their first child was born. Wayne teaches at "Ecole du Precieux Sang" in St. Boniface where they live with their three children, Jennifer, Brian and Kevin.

Margaret went to the U. of Man. where she received her B.A. and Certificate of Education. She taught at Nelson House for two years. She worked during the summer with retarded children, and also at the Children's Home in Winnipeg. She loved to travel; one summer she and her cousin Evonne Simard spent four months travelling around Europe and the British Isles by plane, rail, bus and "thumb". This love of travel was to be her death. She took a sabbatical year from her teaching duties to go on a tour of South America. In Honduras, she had a fatal accident Jan. 13, 1976 at the age of 23. **Elaine** went to Brandon University for one year, worked in an insurance office for some time before she decided she didn't like indoor work. She had taken a swimming instructor's course, and went back to that type of work. She was at the "Y" in Edmonton then moved back to Winnipeg. She met and married a well known artist, Larry Kissick in Aug. of 1980. Elaine works part time as instructor and lifeguard at the Centennial Pool. She and Larry have one daughter Angela, born in June of 1982. **Donald** worked for an Insurance Co. in Winnipeg, then went on an extended tour of Europe. He worked for the Halifax Insurance Co. in Calgary, went to Kimberley one weekend to visit the Selby girls, met his future wife, and married her in Calgary in Feb. of 1979. They moved to Kimberley where Don works for Cominco. They have one daughter Trista. **Laurie Lea** completed her Gr. XI and XII at Rivier Academy at Prince Albert. She enrolled at the U. of M., completed one year . . . her studies have terminated for the time being, and she is presently seeking employment.

Selby, Tom and Paulette

Thomas Littleton was born on March 16, 1925, in St. Lazare where he was raised and educated. Tom was the third child of John Edgar Selby and Mathilda



Meeting Overseas — Trafalgar Square, 1945. Tommy Selby, Joe Simard, Bob Selby, Denis Fouillard, Pecky Simard.

Simard. Tom enlisted in the Second World War in 1941. He served in the Canadian Postal Corps in England, until 1946. Quite by coincidence, while on a weekend pass in April 1945 Tom met up with Bob, Picky, Denis and Pitou. They had their picture taken at Trafalgar Square in London. This was a very memorable day for him.

Tom married Paulette Garneau, daughter of M. and Mme. Raymond Garneau of Montreal on April 7, 1947. They lived in St. Lazare and raised six children: David, Judy, Carol, Kathleen, Tim and Paula. Through the years Tom became a Foreman for the Department of Highways and in 1968 was transferred to the Elkhorn District. On May 13, 1982 he was presented with an award in recognition of 25 years of service with the Province of Manitoba.

David Owen was born on March 18, 1948 in Russell. He graduated in 1971 as a Certified Engineer of Technology. He is presently employed by the Department of Highways and Transportation where he is the Manager of Operations and Maintenance in Thompson, Man.

He married Grace Carriere of Ile Des Chenes on November 14, 1971. They have a daughter, Joanna Dawn, who was born in Thompson on April 29, 1981.

Judith Jean was born on November 28, 1949 in Russell. She works with Social Services in Winnipeg and has just completed an intensive course to become a Sign Language Interpreter. She married Bruce Somers on September 22, 1979. They live in Winnipeg, Man.

Nancy Carol was born on March 4, 1951 in Russell. She completed a Commercial Course in Winnipeg and worked for the Motor Vehicle Branch for several years. She married Peter Shewchenko in St. Lazare on February 19, 1972. They have two daughters: Natasha Carol, born on October 26, 1974 in Winnipeg; Nadia Mari, born on November 18, 1978 in Wawanesa. They reside in Winnipeg.

Kathleen Mary was born on September 7, 1956 in Birtle. She graduated from Virden Collegiate in 1974, and is now a Directory Assistance Supervisor for Manitoba Telephone System in Winnipeg. She married Stewart Pickell on December 6, 1975 in Winnipeg. They now live in Lorette, Man.

Thomas Raymond was born February 28, 1960 in Birtle. He graduated from Virden Collegiate in 1979 and is presently working as Residential Treatment Worker for Social Services in Winnipeg.

Paula Michelle was born on March 17, 1963 in Birtle. She graduated from Virden Collegiate in 1981 and is now employed at Sooter Studios as a Lab Technician in Winnipeg.



Tom Selby Family.

Selby, John Jr. by John Selby

I was born in St. Lazare on January 9, 1928 with Dr. Brownlee coming to my parents' home. I started my early schooling in the old DeCorby school, where Villa DeCorby Lodge is now situated, later taking Grades IX, X and XI in the Presentation de Marie Convent. DeCorby school eventually became too small for the number of students and the Grade VIII class was moved to part of the church, which is now the kitchen of the Community Hall.

During my high school I met the midnight and 4 a.m. trains to deliver and pick-up mail for about 2 years, and then the 4 a.m. train was taken off and I met the 12 midnight train for another 13 years. After bringing the mail back to the post office, I would sort it and give the mail to anyone who was waiting in the lobby. This was done for \$25.00 a month which was the rate paid by the post office at that time. After school and on Saturday, I worked for Donald Bulger in his store which is now part of André Perreault's garage. When I finished high school I took a job working for Georges Fouillard in his store, driving the truck and delivering gas and oil.

On June 28, 1951 I married Aleta (Lea) McAuley from McAuley. We first lived in the house now owned by Mrs. Rose Simard, which was situated behind André Perreault's garage then owned by Aime Hudon and Tommy Selby. From there we lived above the old Municipal Office which was on the corner of Main and Fouillard Avenue.



John Selby Family.

I was appointed Justice of the Peace in 1955, a post I held until 1975. We would hold court in the Municipal Office and many stories could be told about the trials!!! Arthur Chartier was town constable at that time. I was Mayor of the village of St. Lazare from June 1967 to June 1969.

I started working for the R.M. of Ellice in 1952 as road patrol operator at 90¢ an hour which was the minimum wage. I worked for the R.M. for 20 years and 4 months and when I finished I was still getting the minimum wage which had gone up to \$2.60 an hour. I resigned from this job in 1972, due to ill health.

Lea has taken an active part in many community organizations and events. She was a leader of the Ladies Auxiliary for the first four years of its organization. She helped out with the figure skating club making costumes and supervising practise. She was a leader in 4-H for 2 years teaching sewing; Roberta Huberdeau was the head leader. She was involved with the Crossroads Committee, organizing and running off the St. Lazare Weekly paper for five years. In the summer she helped to look after the playground and is treasurer of this group. She has been Avon representative for 14 years, and is presently custodian for Villa DeCorby Lodge and the Community Hall. She enjoys curling and has been a member of the Foxwarren Ladies' Curling Club for a few years.

Our family consists of six girls who were all born in Russell Hospital with Doctor Brownlee as our family doctor. Anita, is married to Mervin Haney and they live in Kimberley, B.C. They have two children, Melinda and Mervin Jr. Before Anita and Mervin were married she worked in the Imperial Bank of Commerce in Winnipeg. Darlene our second girl married Gerry Hanlon from Shilo. Darlene and Gerry both went to University in Brandon and are teachers in Moosehorn, Man., where they live. They have two children, Jennifer and Derek. Rosemarie after finishing high school, spent some time in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. where she met and married Ross Cipriano. They live in Winnipeg and have three children, Ross Jr., Lisa and Leanne. Rosemarie was employed by Eaton's in Winnipeg for some time.

Bonnie our fourth daughter has been in Yellowknife, N.W.T. for the last two years. She had previously worked in the mine in Kimberley, B.C. for five years. She is engaged to be married some time in 1983.

Donalda graduated from high school in Birtle and then worked for Bob Selby in his Insurance Office until she got a job with Pelly Trail School Division as secretary and payroll clerk. She is still living at home and drives to Russell daily.

Jo-Ann graduated from Birtle high school in 1979 and has been working in Birtle Hospital as secretary to the Administrator. Jo-Ann also lives at home and drives to Birtle daily.

Our house on North and Main Street, was built in 1953 by Leo Dupont with his dad, Oscar, as foreman. Our lots were bought from Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Tremblay Sr.

Selby, Brian and Bev as related by Brian

I was born in St. Lazare February 28, 1930, the fourth son of John E. Selby; I went to elementary school and high school in St. Lazare, then took my Grade XII at St. Paul's College in Winnipeg. I started teaching (on a permit) at Pumpkin Plains School and taught one year at Ellice School. Then I started working for "Good Roads" in Birtle as a construction surveyor.

On March 26, 1953, I had the good fortune to marry Beverley Brown of Birtle, and there two of our children were born, Owen and Ross. Colleen our first daughter, arrived when I was working at White Dog Falls in Ontario. When my father died, I moved my family back to St. Lazare, and took on the job of municipal clerk. I built a house on the side of the hill, now Mrs. Tom Haney's home. I didn't particularly care for my job, so eventually got back into construction survey and inspection work. I am now Sen-

ior Inspector with B.C. Hydro. Right now I am working on a High Voltage transmission line through extremely rough terrain, only reached by helicopter.

We lived for a few years in Victoria, where two more daughters were born, Paula in 1967 and Sharon in 1968. A few years ago, we bought 15 acres on the outskirts of Courtenay, B.C. where my wife Bev keeps a few cows to milk, pigs, ducks, geese, chickens, dogs and cats. She seems quite content, working in her garden and caring for her menagerie! The girls have their own horses, and sometimes board ponies for their friends, so there is lots of riding going on.

Owen is working in a mine at Port Hardy on Vancouver Island. Ross is an engineering technician in Vernon, B.C. He is married and has a seven-year old daughter. Colleen's first love has always been horses, she worked for a couple of years at Woodward's Ranch (the Douglas Lake Cattle Company), then on a ranch in New Zealand. She plans to go back to the Douglas Lake ranch soon. Paula and Sharon are both in school at Courtenay, and would be brilliant students if they were as interested in their books, as they are in their horses!

In conclusion, I must add, that Bev is a saint, because she has put up with me for almost thirty years!

Edwards, Margaret (Selby)

Margaret, fourth daughter of Hilda and John Selby, was born in 1936. She worked in the post office until her marriage to David, only son of the late Dr. H. L. Edwards and Mabel McLaren. The wedding took place June 11, 1955. They lived in St. Lazare for two years while Dave worked with the Good Roads crew. They moved to Calgary, built their own home on Thomas St. where they raised their six children. Dave works as a surveyor. **Bert**, works for Alberta Telephone Co. He and his wife Debby built their own home at Airdrie where they live with their son, Joshua. **Bob** lives with his wife in Red Deer where he works as a carpenter. **Lynn** is employed by the Toronto Dominion Bank. **Diana** works for Calgary Glass, **David Jr.** on road construction, and **John** is attending high school.

Selby, Guy

Guy was in the trucking business when he lived in St. Lazare. He married a school teacher, Jeannine Lamontagne in Winnipeg in 1959. They lived in a trailer for a few years until they bought Brian Selby's house on the hill (now Deanna Haney's home). In 1975 they moved to Winnipeg, where Guy works for Imperial Oil as a heavy duty mechanic. Jeannine taught languages for awhile at Berlitz. They have five boys; **Phillip**, is working towards a law degree at the

U. of M. **Allan** is taking a course in computer technology at Red River Community College, **Lennie** graduated from Gr. XII last fall and has been working at odd jobs. **Stephen** is taking Gr. XII and **Michael** his Gr. VIII.

Shearer, John M.

John M. Shearer was born May 1, 1899. He came from Wick Caithness, Scotland in 1921 to Welwyn, Saskatchewan where his two brothers Dave and Sinclair were already living.

Johnnie did some carpentering and farmed in the old Welwyn district in 1924. Then he moved to the farm of Mr. Alex Webster west of Welwyn; Mr. Webster had retired in 1935. John farmed this land 14-16-29. In 1939 he was appointed manager of Ellice Municipality pasture. He was married to Eva Tarleton April 10, 1950 at Portage La Prairie. Eva was born at Griswold, Manitoba on September 30, 1902. In 1964 after residing on the farm for thirty-nine years he retired from the pasture and the farm. He and his wife moved to Welwyn. John lived there until his death in April, 1980. Eva continues to reside in the town of Welwyn.

Shearer, Sinclair **by Muriel Boddington**

My father was born April 26, 1893 in Wick, Scotland. He first came to this area in 1911. In 1915 he joined the Canadian Scottish 16th Battalion. He came back to Welwyn in 1919 where he had the dray business until 1928. He met my mother Minnie Mitchell who was born in Wallace, Nova Scotia April 21, 1893. They were married in Winnipeg in January of 1924. Two children were born to them, I (Muriel) in March 1926 and John in September of 1928. In April of 1928 my dad settled on the N ½ of 5-16-29 and he lived in the Beaver Rapids district until 1947 when he died, then my mother retired to Welwyn. She is still living in a Nursing home at Moosomin.

Some of my memories of life in that area from 1930-45 are happy ones. Although these were depression days, I didn't realize it as a child, and have a tender spot in my heart for the community of Beaver Rapids.

In the early 30's, I recall my dad and neighbors leaving in the early morning darkness with their teams to drive across the "sand plains" to cut and load logs for firewood. How cold the horses and drivers looked when they were returning in the evening covered with frost. You could hear the cold creaking sound of the sleigh runners as they bumped along the trail. Later those same logs were cut into firewood, short lengths for the cook stove, and large blocks for the heater. Cold mornings meant stoking

up the heaters, hence there was always the risk of overheated pipes and chimney fires. How frightened I remember being, to see the red hot pipes, and my mother and father scrambling to pour water on them or the chimney.

I have recollections, too, of the late 30's when the P.F.R.A. pasture came into being, and the many men of Ellice and other districts who worked on this project. This meant work and dollars for the community, and when it was finished, a huge pasture was created for cattle in the summer, and horses in the winter. Each autumn, our horses would be turned loose and directed North; they were off on the gallop — they knew exactly where they were headed.

Other happy memories for me, were the enjoyable visits to the P.F.R.A. manager's place, who was my Uncle, Johnny Shearer. We saw P.F.R.A. bulls, hay stacks and corrals; and the many horses that were used during round-up time — until the day the Ford took over the job!

Then too, there were happy memories of the dances at Beaver Rapids School during the late 30's and early 40's. Also the many Bazaars and Teas held there. What delicious baking the district ladies brought to all those affairs, and what beautiful handiwork done on the bazaar items.

Finally came the war years, and I remember my summer holidays spent cultivating the summerfallow with a team of five horses. In spite of the heat and dust, it wasn't work to me, it was fun. Soon came many changes, and now those days are all just happy memories, with a touch of sadness. I moved to B.C. in 1950 and got married in Victoria in 1973, and am now living at White Rock.

Simard, Noel **also known as Noel dit Lombrette**

Noel arrived in Canada in 1657 and died in Baie St. Paul, P.Q. July 24, 1715. During the reign of Louise XIV in collaboration with Colbert, Noel decided to come to Canada. Many Frenchmen were tired of the hardship and wars in Europe and the idea of immigrating was attractive. The "Compagnie des Cent-Associés" established by Champlain undertook to recruit 4000 colonists from 1620-1643. When Noel and his father Pierre arrived in Canada, the population was 700 white people. Pierre left his wife and daughter in France. The ocean crossing took three months. Noel was a mason, and he put many hours into the construction of Ste. Anne Basilica at Beaufort, Quebec. He was able to rent land on a seigneurie de Beaufort. Bishop Laval was like a father to Noel. He helped him purchase some land, and found Noel to be an honest, hardworking and courageous man. Noel had fourteen children of whom the

eighth, Francois who married Ursula Pare, became one of our great-grandfathers. Francois had nine children. As far as we know, all the Simards in North America are descendants of Noel Simard and Madeleine Racine.

Simard, Edmond and Sarah by Marie Roy

Edmond was born in Baie St. Paul, Quebec, July 21, 1868. His parents were Arsene Simard and Eugenie Boily. He and his brother Edouard followed Luc Tremblay to a lumber camp near Rosssburn around 1886. Here Edouard was killed by a falling tree in Nov. 22, 1887. They brought him to St. Lazare to be buried at the Mission. Ed's father, Arsene, a widower arrived in this area with five children; Helene, Elizabeth (Mrs. Luc Tremblay), Evangeline (Mrs. Ovide Guay), Berthe (Mrs. Venance Deschambault) and Alfred (**Petit**).

Edmond married Sarah Gwyer (1874) on April 15, 1895. They had ten children; **Helene**, born May 24, 1896 married Eugene Fouillard in 1917. **May** (Dec. 4, 1897), married Elie Decorby in 1921. **Leontine**, (Feb. 8, 1900) married Benoit Fouillard in 1918. **Hilda**, (Jan. 13, 1902) married John Selby in 1920, **Brian** (Feb. 7, 1904) married Isabel Green in 1933. **William** (May 7, 1906) died in 1950. **Henri** (April

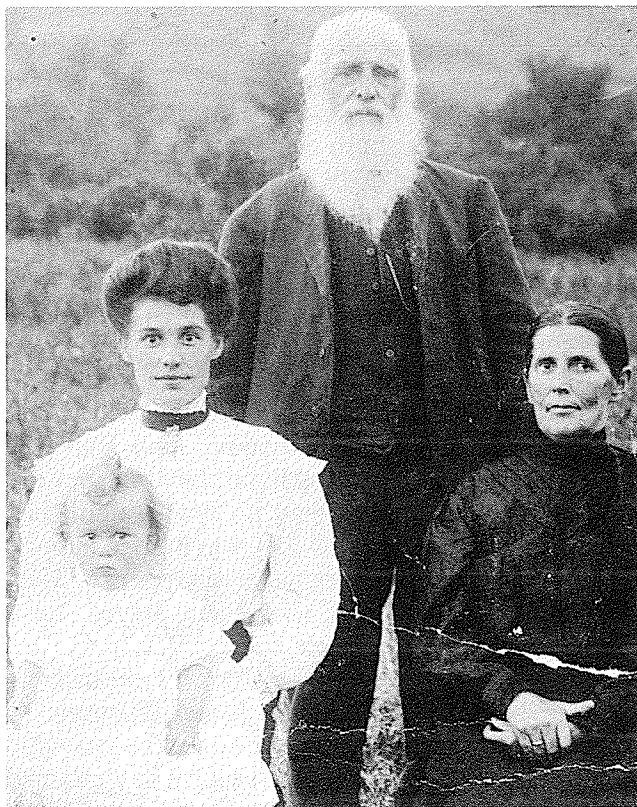
23, 1908), married Elizabeth Boily in 1936. **Eugene** (May 1, 1910) married Rose Perreault in 1937. **Marie**, (Aug. 11, 1912) married Rosaire Roy in 1947, **Leon Joseph**, (Feb. 10, 1915) married Simone St. Laurent in 1946.

The Simard family moved often, as many as nine times in one year! The children were born in different places; one was born in a granary, Leontine was born in a chapel. (Perhaps that is why she was called Monsignor Tine.) The other children were born in more appropriate places. As you can gather, Edmond was a real character. He once left for Winnipeg to sell a carload of turkeys for a neighbor. He used some of the money from the sale to go to Quebec City to visit his brother, Idola, the judge! He had his adventures; once he was guarding the bridge at Cut Arm during the winter, and had to burn his coat to drive the starving wolves away! In 1916 at the age of forty-eight, he joined the army, falsifying his age, of course. He left a family of ten children behind in a shack, where they could watch the moon shining through the cracks in the walls. While overseas, he was sent to Inverness, Scotland, where he brought lumber down from the hills. He was given this job because of his experience with steam engines. He told of crossing a bridge with a load of lumber . . . the bridge had not been used for many years! While he was overseas he met some of his wife's relatives, with whom he corresponded after he returned to Canada. He came back in 1919, having been delayed by sickness.

The family moved to a farm in 1920 — S½ 11-17-29. There were seven floods in the following ten years. Times were nevertheless easier, as there was always plenty of food available on the farm. When Brian married in 1933, Edmond and his family moved to a farm on section 12, north of the river (Joe Bell's farm), until the fall of 1937 when they lived with Henri in town (where Gil Chartier now lives). They moved twice more; to where Raymond Dupont now lives and finally back to town. In this house, Sarah died on Feb. 8, 1938.

Sarah's death was a great loss to the community; she had been a midwife over the years for innumerable babies, usually with no monetary gain. Dr. Monroe said she was an excellent nurse, she was not only midwife but often stayed with the family to care for mother and child for at least ten days. Her grandchildren adored her; to them she was the ideal grandmother, and they still speak in glowing terms about her.

After Sarah's death, Edmond moved to a small house located beside Benoit Fouillard's house where his daughter Leontine took excellent care of him until he died in the Winnipeg hospital on Jan. 19, 1946.



4 Generations: Arsene Simard, daughter Evangeline Guay, daughter Eugenie Huberdeau, and baby Raoul.



Ed Simard Family: Hilda, Helene, Tine, May, Brian. 2nd Row: Sarah holding Mary, Ed holding Niggy. Front: Willie and Henri, 1913.

Edmond was an eccentric person, but tolerant. Who else at that time, would allow his wife to be away from home so often, and for such long periods of time. He was a real raconteur, had an excellent sense of humor and delivered his stories with drama and flair. (Lazare Fouillard likely takes after his grandfather in this respect!) During the war, an Australian Airman came to St. Lazare on leave from Rivers. Life was deadly quiet in small towns in those days with so many young people away. Edmond asked the airman, "Did you come here to die?" and the Australian answered in his 'Down Under' accent, "No, yesterdie!"

A story is told by Bob Selby about the time during World War II, when he and brother Tommy were returning to Ottawa after a leave in St. Lazare. They boarded the train and were chagrined to find Grandpa Simard also boarding! It was a troop train and no civilians were allowed; but Edmond out-argued their protests and those of the conductor. He was going to Ottawa to see Winston Churchill who was meeting the cabinet at the Parliament Buildings, and nothing would deter him! Bob and Tommy were very embarrassed when Grandpa Simard walked into the railway car packed with soldiers. Ed looked it over from end to end, and exclaimed for all to hear, "My God, it's the same coach I came west in, in 1886!" The old gentleman regaled the servicemen with stories from then until they reached Ottawa. Allison Glen, who was speaker of the House of Commons, arranged for Edmond to be at a reception held for Winston Churchill, and to be introduced to him. McKenzie King was only a few feet away and Mr. Glen wanted Edmond to meet him, but Ed was such a staunch Conservative, he would not even turn

around to look at him, let alone shake hands with the Prime Minister!

Simard, Brian and Isabel

Brian and Isabel Green were married on September 28, 1933 in the Church in St. Lazare, on a bright sunny day. Their witnesses were Brian's brother, Niggy (Eugene) and Isabel's sister, Nan (Agnes Green Jones).

They lived on Section 11-17-29 near an old oak tree. Although the oak tree is still there today, the Qu'Appelle River now runs right beside it. There are no signs of the buildings or of a bridge which was located near by.

Brian farmed Section 11-17-29 which his Father, Edmond, had acquired through the Soldier's Settlement Board after World War I. Besides farming, Brian worked on the roads in the fall, and Isabel grew a large garden and did much canning and preserving to feed her family.

During the years they lived by the old oak tree, their four children were born; Annie in 1934, Edmond (Teddy) in 1936, Allen in 1938 and Sarah in 1940. In the fall of 1941 they moved into what was originally Emile Dupont's house in town. At that time they rented it from Sid Roberts. There their fifth child, Ernest, was born on January 3, 1943 during a howling blizzard and a temperature of forty-five degrees below zero.

In the summer of 1944 they moved to Isabella where Brian worked for Ray Cooley. They lived on the Cuff place for the next two years. Their third daughter, Mary, was born on September 12, 1945 in Birtle. In the spring of 1946 they moved to the Cadieux place, which now belongs to Ernest Fouillard.

When Jean Paul Desjarlais returned in February 1947 from B.C. with fabulous stories of potatoes blooming, Brian decided to travel west and see if B.C. offered better job prospects than working on farms or the CNR extra gangs.

Brian left St. Lazare on May 20, 1947 with Frank Desjarlais and Frank's two sons, Jean Paul and Henry, in a Model A. They tell the story that they did not discover that the car had no brakes until they arrived in Burnaby, B.C. Money was in short supply, Brian had seventy-five cents in his pocket. They worked at the auto-court, where they stayed, for a couple of days to earn a few dollars.

On May 31 they went to see Marcel LeFranc who lived on NO. 7 Road on Lulu Island (Richmond). Brian stayed with Marcel and on June 2 he started to work for the Acme Peat Products where he continued to work until his retirement in the summer of 1974. Starting wages were eighty-five cents an hour. His first paycheck after two weeks was \$90.00. He



Brian Simard Family: Daniel, Leonard, Ernest, Allen, Ted, and Brian. Front: Rosalie, Patricia, Mary, Sarah, Annie, Isabel, 1975.

worked long hours every day to provide food, shelter and clothing for his growing family.

In July 1947, Isabel packed the family's belongings, bought tickets for a long train journey to New Westminster, B.C. and with her six children said goodbye to St. Lazare.

Brian and Isabel bought four acres at 6371 No. 7 Road, Richmond B.C., and built a house. They live at this address today. Their hospitality has been enjoyed during the past 37 years by many family members, as well as friends and neighbours from Ellice Municipality. Brian enjoys his years of retirement and visits the St. Lazare area at least once a year. Isabel spends her time gardening the year round. As well, she puts in many hours knitting and crocheting and likes the challenge of an intricate rug pattern to hook.

In addition to their six children born in Manitoba they were blessed with four more children, Leonard, Patricia, Daniel and Rosalie. Today, **Annie** and her husband, Don Johnston and three of their sons, Mark, Keith and Kent live in Prince George, B.C. Annie's oldest son, Ian and his wife, Haleen, live in Vancouver, B.C. Annie served in the Royal Canadian Air Force from March 1956 to the fall of 1957. **Ted** lives in Richmond. He has a stucco and plastering business. **Allen** lives in Calgary, Alta. with his wife, Vera, son Rick and daughter, Kathy. Allen served in the Canadian army with the Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry from June 1956 until October 1980. **Sarah** lives in Surrey, B.C. with her husband, John Wilcox, son, John and daughter, Michelle. **Ernest** lives near Hixon, B.C. He and his wife, Jeanne have a small farm. Their children, Bruce, Wayne and Lorilynn live at home. **Mary** lives in Houston, B.C. **Leonard** has a home in Calgary, with his wife, Louise and three children, Andrew, Alison and Thomas. **Patricia** lives in Fort St. John with her

daughter, Brooke. **Daniel** lives at home with Brian and Isabel. Daniel has a business as a stonemason. **Rosalie** lives in Calgary. She has two children, Brian and Melissa.

Simard, Henri

"Pecky", son of Edmond and Sara Gwyer, attended school at St. Lazare, having Mr. Blouin as teacher. He started working for Eugene Fouillard Sr. in 1926. In 1936 he and Elizabeth Boily from La Broquerie were married. Henry Junior was born in July, 1937. Pecky joined the army in July 1940 and was overseas until his discharge from the service in October 1945. Seeking employment he arrived in Radville, Saskatchewan to work for Adrian Roy. Evonne was adopted at the age of two while the family was living at Radville. Henri (or Pecky) returned to St. Lazare to work again for Fouillards — this time for Pedz and Arthur. Henri Junior, still a bachelor, is working in Winnipeg. Evonne, is living in Seattle with her husband Raymond Dupont, son of Bill Dupont and Yvonne Chartier.



Henri and Betty Simard; standing Henry and Evonne.

Simard, Eugene Jules by Rose Simard

Eugene (Niggy) the eighth child of Edmond Simard and Sarah Gwyer, was born in May of 1910. He married Rose Anna October 28, 1937, daughter of Edmond Perreault and Marguerite Gagnon of Ste. Marthe. Our first home was on N.W. 12-17-29, we took over my in-law's farm when they retired to St. Lazare. We had the Qu'Appelle River on one side and the sand hills, railroad and the water tank on the other side. Ours was a mixed farm with sheep, cattle, goats, geese, and turkeys. Because of the depression,

we had many people stop over, hitchhikers who had no money, would beg for something to eat and a place to sleep. Niggy took care of them, feeding them fried eggs, bread and strong tea. Some came off the freight trains. We had our own hard times. In the spring of 1938, all our ewes were killed during the night by dogs. Our first Christmas, we went to my parents' home for a visit, and received word that our house had burned to the ground. It was rebuilt shortly in 30° below weather. That same winter, Niggy's mother died suddenly, January 1939. In 1940 we had to get rid of all the cattle because of T.B. We hardly got anything for them, and had to milk a goat until we got a milk cow! By 1944, things started to look better, crops were good with lots of rain. That year the two oldest girls started school, boarding at the Convent, and coming home on weekends. In 1945 Niggy was elected as a councillor for the R.M. of Ellice, a position he was to hold until 1974. He was responsible for finding work for the unemployed, in charge of relief programs, and helping people who needed hospital aid. His generous nature made him well suited for this role. We lived ten years in the valley, and managed quite well. Rhea, Cecile, Roberta, Denis, Hilda, Jeannine and Antonio were born while we lived there. Sometimes flooding made it difficult to farm, so when we had a chance to move in 1948, we did. We sold our valley farm to Joe Bell, and purchased the S½ 27-17-28 which belonged to Niggy's brother, Leon (Pitou). It was like a new beginning, we worked hard, getting the land cleared, milking cows and selling cream, raising pigs and chickens. Somehow we managed to make ends meet! Hydro was made available in that area in 1951, which made for a brighter future. In 1956, our milking herd was completely wiped out by Brucellosis. This caused us a great deal of hardship. My husband was always an optimist, and was more determined than ever to improve our situation. While slowly building up our herd again, Niggy spent a lot of time slaughtering and dressing beef and hogs for our neighbors. He was also called when farmers needed help with sick cattle. About this time Niggy and Denis Fouillard took on contracts with C.N.R. to dismantle water towers, old buildings, and clean up after wrecks along the C.N.R. track. He (with Joe Blouin's help) dismantled the coal dock in Melville. After we moved from the valley, we had seven more children: Patrick, Alfred, Eugene, Jean-Marie, Bernard and Anna-Marie. Our family was complete with the birth of our last son Frances in 1961. By that time, our milking herd was an important part of our income. In 1965 we built a new barn for the dairy cows and began shipping fluid milk. Again our children boarded at the Convent, as many as eight at a time.

Our farm was in the Foxwarren School District, and there was no van to St. Lazare school.

Niggy was a charter member of the Knights of Columbus, initiated in 1964. He had the pleasure of seeing seven of his sons also become charter members, possibly a record! An eighth son Frances joined the Knights just two weeks after Niggy's death.

Now all our children are married; except one daughter Hilda, who joined the Presentation of Mary and has been a missionary in Peru since 1972. Niggy and I retired to a house moved to the farm, when our sons Eugene and Jean-Marie took over our dairy operation in 1978. My husband died in 1979 in Brandon Hospital after a short illness and is buried in the St. Lazare Cemetery. He died within a year of our retirement.



Eugene (Niggy) Simard Family: Denis, Rhea, Tony, Cecile, Patrick, Niggy, Sr. Hilda, Alfred, Rose, Eugene, Roberta, JeanMarie, Jeannine. Kneeling: Bernard, AnnaMarie and Francis.

Chudy, Rhea (Simard)

I, the first born of a family of fourteen; (Eugene Simard and Rose Anna Perreault were my parents) was born on my father's farm two miles west of St. Lazare. I can remember my younger days as happy and carefree with no pressures but loads of love. I can't remember any spankings or harsh words, although we often deserved them. When Cecile was six and I was seven we started school and boarded at the Convent being taught by the Sisters for the rest of our school days. Following Grade XI, I taught on permit in a country school near Rosssburn, my first taste of living and coping in an adult world. I was only 17. I went to the Convent in Laurier for my Grade XII and earned scholarships which gave me financial help, very much needed, to take my year of Teacher's College. This was my first experience of being in a non-French atmosphere; it was difficult!

My first two years were spent in Laurier, teaching

Grade VI. I made good friends there, especially the Bouchards and Lapoints. I got itchy feet, and as I always yearned to go north, I applied for northern schools; Snow Lake replied first so there I went, working for four years and loving every minute of my stay. The ratio of boys to girls was about 20-1. This is where I met my husband Mike Chudy. We lived in Snow Lake for the next eight months.

Mike decided to take an electronic course, so we moved to Winnipeg, where we stayed for five years. There **Michelle, Frankie, Valerie** and **Michael** were born. **Jacqueline** was born after we moved to Flin Flon, where Mike worked again with HBM&S as an instrument technician. Here we have lived since 1969. I love the north and it is even more pleasant now that my two sisters live in Flin Flon, too.

Simard, Denis Francois

Born on September 17, 1942, I am the first of eight sons born to Eugene Simard and Rose-Anna Perreault. I was baptized Sept. 27, 1942. During my first school years I boarded with Gramma Perreault, at the convent, and with different uncles and aunts. Once I became old enough to ride horse back, I travelled in summer the distance of five miles between home and school on "Beaut". Since my interests were inclined towards farming and mechanics, I quit school at the age of 14. In the next five years I lived at home and milked cows with my sister Cecile's help. Under my father's watchful eye I learned about farming but my favorite pastime was working with machines. On the weekends, the young people, along with their parents, would meet at Ellice School and spend many happy hours dancing to the music of Dave Cox and Gertrude Ireland. When Father Gerard Regnier arrived in St. Lazare he organized the Youth Club and our Sunday nights were spent in the parish hall. I was president during the Club's first years. I spent a lot of time at Rene Huberdeaus watching television and playing cards.

In 1962 a schoolteacher, Claudette Wenden arrived from LaBroquerie. For one year she taught 32 pupils in Grade four. Her first year of teaching was also her last for on August 10th, 1963 we were married at St. Joachine Church in LaBroquerie. The first ten months of married life we lived with Joseph Blouin, Arthur Huberdeau and my parents. Finally in April, 1964, our house was moved from Treat, about fifteen miles from here to 8-17-27 which is still known as Ted's. This move coincided with the birth of our daughter **Rose-Marie** (1964). The years have been spent improving the land, picking stones and constructing buildings. I started to raise beef — I'd had enough of milking cows!! Our family was in-

creasing, **Gerard** was born on September 5th, 1965 — **Rene**, 1966 **Michelle** in 1969 and **Lynne** 1971. For this reason we decided to add onto the house, but all did not go well. I slipped from a ladder and fell into a window, cutting my wrist quite seriously. I was rushed by ambulance to Brandon Hospital where, thanks to the excellent care of Doctors Purdy and Roberts, my hand was saved; although it has only 50% of its normal function. Despite this, with the help of friends and neighbors, the construction was completed. Our family was not yet complete. More children were to bless our home — **Denise**, on May 19th 1973 — **Louis**, 1974 — **Marie-Reine**, 1980 and **Chantal**, 1982. After finishing high-school at Rivier Academy in Prince Albert, Rose-Marie has returned to lend a welcome hand with household duties. Gerard and Rene are presently boarding at St. Vladimir's College in Roblin.

I am a fourth degree member of Archbishop Sinnott Assembly and a member of Council #5047 of the Knights of Columbus. The Knights have their own ball team and I have the "honor" of being an umpire in the summer months. On occasion, I enjoy becoming involved in politics.

The remainder of our children are either too young to attend, or are going to Decorby School.



Denis Simard Family: Denis with Marie Reine, Rose Marie, Rene, Michelle, Claudette with Chantel, Gerard. Front: Denise, Louis, Lynne.

Simard, Sister Hilda Missionary Life in Peru

I am Sister Hilda Simard, daughter of Eugene Simard and Rose Perreault. I arrived at Lima, Peru, in September, 1972 and first went to San Mateo, a village situated in the Andes at 3,500 feet elevation. It was quite an experience. There were miners, farmers, and mostly children to whom we could bring the

word of God. After three beautiful years spent in that altitude, I came down to Collique, city of 80,000 inhabitants located in the middle of the desert. Collique is situated fourteen miles from Lima, the capital of Peru. It has existed only for twenty years and consists of the poorest people who have come mostly from the mountains to find a better way of life. The economic and social situation of these people is ghastly. Misery confronts us every day and continually. The cruel irony is that they are being exploited by the rich who live a few miles away in ultimate luxury. Our role as teachers and people of God is to try to remedy their situation and give them hope. The voice of the Church in Peru, meaning the bishops and clergy, is becoming louder everyday against the government.

Our work and those of my colleagues consists of teaching, (for myself) nursing and giving religious instruction. The government does not provide much for the education of six million pupils out of a population of eighteen million. The most important and rewarding part of our work is educating young adults to teach religion. In spite of the arduous work, the extreme heat, the dust, lack of water and misery of our people, I am very happy to be in Peru and hope to remain here for the rest of my life.

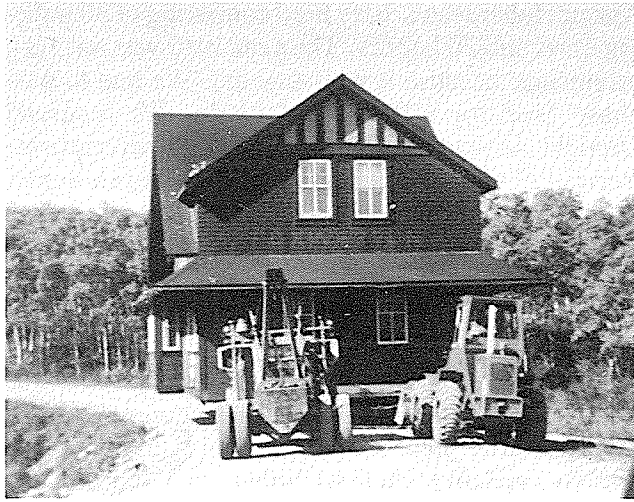
Simard, Antonio

I was born on February 15, 1947 and attended school in St. Lazare boarding at the convent, along with my sisters and brothers, until I was in Grade V. When I reached Grade VIII I was chosen by Father Paquette as a parish hopeful to the priesthood. In the fall of 1959 I was a member of the founding class of the Minor Seminary in St. Boniface. I took classes at St. Boniface College where I became a boarder in Grade XI. After a couple of half-hearted attempts at University, I returned home where I worked on my Dad's farm and also tried to up-grade my Grade XII marks. I worked at the mine in Esterhazy for a short time and in 1968 I started to work for ALE Farms as herdsman. On one of my weekend excursions, while still at College, I met Karen Calder. We were married on August 9th, 1969 in Letellier, Man. and moved into our first home above Fouillard's Implement Shop. Karen taught at St. Lazare School that year. I continued to work for ALE Farms until the spring of 1970. Seeking greener pastures, I took a job on a feedlot at Dugald, Man. with John Vaags. The work was hard and the hours long, but I enjoyed my years on this farm. I had my first experience with Red River gumbo when the initial job I was given was to dig drainage ditches in a field. The gumbo was so sticky that we could not even shake it off the shovels and our boots were swollen to three times their size.

More than once I walked out of my rubber boots as they stuck fast in the mud. I had second thoughts about my move to that area.

It was in 1971 that our son, **David** was born at St. Boniface Hospital. In 1973, just before Christmas, we made a move to our third home, a house we rented from Bobby Tremblay. I took a job as Community Co-ordinator in St. Lazare which gave me an opportunity to better my home community. It was during this time that **Daniel** (Danny) was born in Russell. That spring, with a provincial election likely, it became apparent that the Community Co-ordinator program was going to be drastically reduced. I was trying to decide which of several options I should choose when I received a phone call from John Vaags. He was considering throwing his hat into the ring and wanted me to come back and manage his farm while he dabbled in politics. Since my heart had always been in farming I jumped at the chance. So, after only three months in St. Lazare we moved back, into a section house in Glass, Manitoba. We lived only a few yards from the C.N. mainline and a crossing. After some time we were accustomed to the trains and their whistles. Patrick used to drop in often as he worked in that area. This was an enjoyable summer although, after a desk job, I had to get back into shape. That fall, we made our fifth move into a huge old farmhouse near John's farm. Unfortunately for us, John had lost the election, so my role as manager was no longer concrete but only a title. After giving the orders for so long it became difficult to be demoted to a hand. I managed to get extra help on the farm that winter when my brother Eugene and Guy Huberdeau came to work with me. Karen ended up with three boarders that winter, as John's future son-in-law also lived with us until his marriage.

That spring we took a trip to British Columbia. While we were gone we decided that we would take Dad up on an offer he had made. We would move back to St. Lazare and rent one quarter section from him. When we got off the train we immediately drove to Foxwarren and decided to buy the station-house. We must have had courage. It took months to find someone willing to move the huge building and as it had stood empty for two years it was in a sad state of repair. In August I started work at the Sylvite Mine in Rocanville. We lived in Grandma Perreault's house, next to the bank, until in November 1974, we moved into the renovated station. On January 11th this area was hit by a severe blizzard and did we feel it! The old windows in the house and the uninsulated walls were letting out the heat faster than our furnace could produce it. By noon the next day the water pipes were frozen and the temperature in the house was -4°C . We were becoming frightened. We phoned, in des-



Moving Foxwarren Station — Antonio Simard's house.

peration, for the snowplow to come and pick us up. The tracks filled in so quickly that a car following behind the snowplow was stuck at the corner by the time the snowplow reached our house. What a welcome sight that plow was!

Glen was born that spring. That summer we insulated the house and replaced the windows. In 1975 we bought Dad's quarter S.W. 11-17-28 and three quarters from Tom Dale. I also bought Raoul Huberdeau's dairy herd and moved his dairy barn the ½ mile to our farm. In the morning we milked the cows at Raoul's and that night they were milked at their new location. In the fall of 1976 **Christopher** was born. In 1977 we built a bigger free-stall dairy barn, the first in the immediate area. We also bought Venance Deschambault's dairy herd. Since then



Antonio Simard with David. Front: Glen, Danny, Karen, Christopher, and Jennifer.

we've been milking cows and farming. **Jennifer** was born in the hot spring of 1980. The day she came home on April 20th, it was 95°F and the hill in the valley was on fire. The whole summer was a scorcher; a terrible drought, the effects of which we are still feeling. I am presently involved in the Knights of Columbus and am a member of the school board. Karen works at the school as a teaching assistant and is active in the 4-H program.

Simard, Patrick and Murielle

I, Patrick, son of Eugene Simard and Rose-Anna Perrault, was born on March 17, 1949. I went to school in St. Lazare then finished high school in Brandon. As a student I was an altar boy and president of the youth club. I later became a Knight of Columbus. In 1967, I continued learning carpentry work with my uncle Joseph Perrault. This brought me to Ste. Anne des Chenes, where I met Gilbert Gregoire who introduced me later to my future wife Murielle Gregoire. We were married June 2, 1973, in St. Jean Baptiste, Manitoba. In 1973 I worked for Manitoba Remote Housing which brought my wife and me to Northern Manitoba. For two years I was Inspector of Construction for Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation. In 1978 I established my own construction company.

In 1979, we sold our house in Ste. Anne and moved to Calgary where I was building houses for contractors and manholes for the city of Calgary. In 1982, I returned to Manitoba where I continue to work at my trade.

Simard, Alfred and Theresa

Alfred was born in March of 1951 and grew up on the family farm. He met Theresa Grabuskas who was born in February of 1954 and raised at Foxwarren. They were married November 20, 1971 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Russell. They farmed for the first two years they were married, then Alfred went to work at the Potash Mine, where he is still employed. They moved several times, living in Leonard Huberdeau's farm house for two years until they bought Totte's house in St. Lazare, where they lived six years. When they sold this house, they lived in Cecile Blouin's house for awhile. During that time, Simard Bros. incorporated as Dairy Farms Ltd. and bought Roberta Huberdeau's farm. They now make their home in the house on this farm. They have six children, Vivian 10, Philip 9, Kevin 7, Jason 6, Melissa 4 and Adrian 2.

Simard, Eugene Jr.

I was born in August of 1952. I took my nine years of schooling in St. Lazare and went to grade X in Birtle for a few months before deciding to quit

school for good. After leaving school, I worked on the farm at home until I went to live with my sister Cecile Blouin, and farmed the land for her. I stayed with Cecile for three years from 1969 to 1973. While there I worked for my uncle, Andrew Perreault at Andres Auto Body in the winter months.

In March of 1975 Denis Mulaire and I took a holiday to Peru to visit with my Sister Hilda, who is a teacher there. We saw a lot of the country and also had a visit with Denis' uncle in Bolivia. Upon returning I went back to farm with Dad and brother Jean-Marie. That year we decided to purchase the farm from Dad and to buy 320 acres of land from Alfred and Paul Deschambault. In the summer of 1975 I met Brenda Engdohl from Fleming, and we were married in June, 1976 at Moosomin. For the first two years of our marriage we lived in a little one bedroom house located on the southwest corner of the farm. We moved into a new house built by my brother Patrick.

In the fall of 1979 we decided to expand our dairy farm. Again, with the help of brother Patrick and a crew of local fellows we built a new dairy barn 50' by 175'. In 1981 Jean-Marie and I brought brother Alfred into the business and became incorporated as "Simard Bros. Dairy Farms Ltd." At the same time we purchased the land and buildings owned by Arthur and Roberta Huberdeau.

We have four children — Darcy, 1978, Allison, 1980, Aaron, 1982 and Nicole, Feb. 26, 1983.

I am a fourth degree Knight of Columbus and have served as warden for seven years and recorder for one year. I also play hockey with the Oldtimers team and curl once a week. In the summer months any spare time is spent playing fastball.

Simard, Jean-Marie

I was born in September of 1954, and took my elementary schooling at St. Lazare. I began Grade X in Birtle, but was needed at home. Dad was, at that time, milking a small dairy unit of 30 cows and farming ½ section. In 1978 Eugene Jr. and I bought Dad's farm. I met Donna Pizzey (daughter of Ardena and Allan Pizzey) and we were married on April 16, 1977. We lived in a trailer on NW 27-17-18. In 1978 **Calinda** was born. That summer we sold our trailer and moved into the farm house with my parents. After Brenda and Eugene's house was built, my parents retired to the house on the south quarter. The following summer, **Stephanie** was born. In the fall of 1979 we began construction on a new dairy barn. Patrick was the contractor. His crew consisted of Andrew, Roland, Guy and Jean Paul Huberdeau, Rodney Snow, Bernard and Eugene and myself, Jean-Marie Simard. It was completed in a matter of two months. In order to fill this barn we bought

Arthur Huberdeau's dairy herd consisting of 30 milking cows and 20 heifers. The year 1980 was not very promising, because it was very dry. We had to purchase feed for 150 head of cattle. We received Drought Assistance from the Federal government. Because of this on October 19, 1980 we were honored to have Mr. Eugene Whelan (Minister of Agriculture) personally visit our farm. In March 1981, **Justin** was born. Eugene and I decided to expand into a corporation including Alfred, and are now known as Simard Brothers Ltd. This expansion included buying Arthur Huberdeau's farm and buildings. **Robert** was born January 13 in 1983 — the first centennial baby in the St. Lazare area! I belong to the Knights of Columbus, and my interests, other than farming are playing hockey and curling.

Simard, Bernard and Denise

Bernard, son of Eugene and Rose Anna Simard, born on July 8, 1956 was the twelfth of a family of fourteen. As a boy, Bernard enjoyed the excitement of growing up in a large family. In summer he liked horseback riding with cousins and friends. He enjoyed the camping trips taken with Father Regnier and the other altar boys. Bernard received most of his education at St. Lazare, going to Birtle for his Grade X. Before beginning work at the Potash mine near Rocanville as a miner operator, Bernard worked on the home farm. In 1975, he was on the winning team for the Provincial Mine Rescue Competition in Saskatoon. He worked at the mine until 1976 when he began to work as a welder for Fouillards Implement Exchange. Later in that year he went to work for his brother on his dairy farm, setting up a mobile home in Tony's yard. On June 10, 1978 he married Denise Norrie, daughter of Archie and Jean Norrie of Isabella.

I, Denise, was born on March 15, 1960 and grew up with my two older sisters, JoAnne and Janice, in the big house that my maternal great-grandfather built in 1907. My parents' farm has been in my mother's family since the early 1890's — a beautiful farm that I visit as often as possible.

I received part of my education at Isabella, switching to Miniota and ending up at Birtle. I attended Red River Community College in Winnipeg where I was enrolled in a Commercial Baking course. After our marriage, Bernard continued to work for Tony, but we left to live in Calgary for a short while, to return again to St. Lazare and obtain employment at Goodman Steel and Iron Works in Rocanville as a fitter-welder.

On March 2, 1981, our son Brian was born, weighing 3 pounds 13 ounces. His first days were spent fighting for his life in a respirator. Thanks to

modern technology he overcame his breathing problems. After seven weeks in Brandon Hospital, we brought him home. Today, he is healthy and happy despite his traumatic start in life.

At the present time, Bernard is welding on his own, doing contract work, hoping to build his own shop. Whatever the future brings, Bernard and I look forward to raising our children at St. Lazare, close to our families.

Snow, Anna-Marie (Simard)

I am a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Simard Sr. I spent 19 years in St. Lazare on a farm seven miles from town. I received education in St. Lazare and in Birtle. I was in 4-H for four years. I worked at Birtle Health Centre as a Laundry Aid. While in Birtle, I met Rodney Snow, son of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Snow. We were married in January 1979, and are living five miles from Birtle. Rodney is employed by C.P.R. Adam Eugene Douglas was born in August, 1980 Jeremy Lee in June 1982.

Simard, Francis

Francis was born October 2, 1961, the fourteenth child of Eugene Simard and Rose-Anna Perreault. He attended school in St. Lazare but the farm was his first love. He quit school as soon as possible and started working for his brothers on their dairy farms. When Francis was just a young boy he was visiting Jeannine (a sister) in Spy Hill. He and a gang of nephews and nieces and some neighbors' children were playing at "getting married." Francis' partner was Trudy Surman. Little were they to know that years later they would meet again and this time the marriage was genuine! Francis and Trudy were married on October 9, 1982 in Gerald, Sask. Francis works on a dairy farm at Cabri, Sask.

Simard, Alfred (Piti)

Alfred was born in 1879 in Quebec and was eight years old when he came to St. Lazare with his father, Arsene. He never went to school but made up for it by being a hard worker. He worked at first on his father's farm and owned his own team of horses. He later owned a garage (the building itself was small and mostly a shell) in a brief partnership with Hector Bourgon. Mr. Bourgon had previously been employed in a blacksmith shop bought from Mr. Bourret and then owned by Mr. Gagné. He drove a 490 Chevrolet and could change a pinion on this car faster than he could change a flat tire. He was also very adept at operating steam engines. He was quite adventurous and went with his brother David to prospect for gold in British Columbia. He did not find gold but returned with money earned in lumber camps and lived for awhile with the Deschambaults.

He later owned a saw mill located about a hundred yards north of old Assiniboine bridge, west junction. Some of his lumber was used to build Luc Tremblay's house (now owned by Claude Chartier). Alfred was a very good looking man and had the gift of the gab. After imbibing a few drinks, he would sometimes stand on the street corner and preach and would invariably collect an audience. His favourite song, when he sang, was Billy Boy. He was not, however, all sweetness and light; his nephews' wives can attest to that with the caustic comments he made when he was introduced to them. Over the years, Alfred had broken both his legs while working and these accidents left him quite crippled. He devised unusual ways of getting around. He rode a stallion, Soo-City-Soo, and used a collapsing rope ladder to climb on the horse. Later on, his mode of travelling was even more unique because he rode in a cart drawn by a goat. Apparently this cart is now in the Portage la Prairie museum. Alfred spent the last years of his life living in a shack with his goat. Needless to say, his accommodations were not the best or the most hygienic. He died in Birtle Hospital in September 1956. We do not need to read about colorful characters so fondly depicted in American history; we had one right here and Piti could rival any one of them.

Simard, Leon-Joseph and Simone by daughter Raymonde

Leon-Joseph, son of Edmond Simard and Sarah Gwyer was born February 10, 1915. He was called Pitou by those who knew him well — a nickname which indicated his pleasant personality and good humour. He met Simone St. Laurent, of Mont-Joli, Quebec during the war. Pitou was overseas for five years; he married Simone on July 27, 1946 at Mont Joli. From this union were born four children, three girls and one boy — the last two were twins.

They lived in St. Lazare for a while after they married finally settling in Mont-Joli where Leon worked for C.N.R. from 1949-1972. In 1972 he became a tourist guide for people who visited the Gaspé. He died suddenly on one of those trips in August, 1978.

Leon really loved life and enjoyed playing practical jokes on people. To his children he was friend and confidante. His greatest joy was to see the sun rise on the Gulf of St. Lawrence; it was his way of communicating with God.

Simard, Noël (aussi connu sous le nom de Noël dit Lombrette)

Il arrive au Canada en 1657 et est mort à la Baie St-Paul, le 24 juillet, 1715.

C'est sous le règne de Louis XIV en collaborati-

on de Colbert que Noël décide d'aller au Canada. Beaucoup de français étaient fatigués des misères vécues et des guerres qui se déroulaient en Europe et l'idée d'émigration était très attrayante. La Compagnie des Cents Associés établie par Champlain s'était engagée à recruter quatre milles colons de 1620 à 1643. Au temps que Noël et Pierre arrivèrent au Canada, la population était de 700 personnes.

Pierre et son fils Noël partirent de la France au printemps 1657 pour le Canada, laissant en Europe la mère et une fille. La traversée de la mer dura trois mois.

Noël était un maçon et il mit beaucoup d'heures à construire la Basilique de Ste. Anne à Québec sur la côte de Beaupré. Il acquérit la rente d'usage d'une des seigneuries sur la côte de Beaupré. Mgr Laval devint comme un père pour Noël. Il lui aida dans l'achat d'une terre car Mgr Laval vit en Noël un homme honnête, vaillant, et courageux.

Noël eut 14 enfants dont le huitième, François, marié à Ursule Paré, qui devint un de nos ancêtres. François, lui-même, eut neuf enfants.

C'est un fait reconnu que tous les Simard de l'Amérique du Nord sont les descendants de Noël Simard et Madeleine Racine.

Simard, Edmond et Sarah

Edmond, fils d'Arsène Simard et Eugénie Boily, naquit à La Baie St. Paul, Québec le 12 juillet, 1868. Il suivit Luc Tremblay avec son frère Edouard à Rossburn pour travailler dans la forêt. C'est à cet endroit qu'Edouard rencontra sa mort le 22 novembre, 1887, suite d'un arbre qui tomba sur lui. Ils le ramenèrent à la mission de St. Lazare pour l'inhumation où Arsène, veuf, était déménagé entre-temps avec cinq enfants, Hélène, Elizabeth, Caroline, Berthe et Alfred (Petit).

Edmond maria Sarah Gwyer, née le 21 décembre, 1874, le 15 avril 1895. De cette union naquirent dix enfants — Hélène, née le 24 mai, 1896, mariée à Eugene Fouillard en 1917, May, née le quatre décembre 1897, mariée à Elie Decorby en 1921, Léontine, née le huit février 1900, mariée à Benoit Fouillard en 1918. Hilda, née le 13 janvier 1912, mariée à John Selby en 1920, Brian, né le sept février, 1904 marié à Isabel Green en 1933, William, né le 27 mai 1906, Henri, né le 23 avril 1908 marié à Elizabeth Boily en 1936, Eugène, né le premier mai 1910 marié à Rose Perreault en 1937, Marie, née le 11 août, 1912 mariée à Rosaire Roy en 1947 et Léon-Joseph, né le dix février 1915, marié à Simone St. Laurent en 1946.

La famille d'Edmond déménagea souvent, neuf fois durant une année. Les enfants sont nés à différents endroits, un dans un grenier. Léontine naquit

dans une chapelle. C'est peut-être la raison qu'elle était si religieuse et qu'elle prêchait autant que Monseigneur Sheen. Les autres enfants furent nés dans des endroits plus appropriés, sauf Marie qui naquit dans un magasin. Comme vous le voyez Edmond était certainement un type hors de l'ordinaire. Il partit une fois à Winnipeg pour faire la vente de dindons pour son voisin et partit avec les revenus à Québec pour visiter son frère Idola, qui était avocat et juge. Il eut cependant maintes aventures: une fois il dut bruler son manteau pour chasser des loups affamés alors qu'il faisait la garde d'un pont à Cut Arms.

En 1916, il joignit l'armée en ne déclarant pas son âge réel, laissant sa femme avec dix enfants dans un taudis. Une fois outre-mer, il fut envoyé en Ecosse, où il fut employé dans les forêts à cause de son expérience avec des engins à vapeur. Il n'était pas toutefois sans courage. Il lui fallait traverser un pont (qui avait été hors d'usage pour deux siècles) avec une charge de bois. Pendant qu'il était en Ecosse il fit la rencontre de la parenté de sa femme. Il retourna au Canada seulement en 1919, ayant été détenu à cause de maladie.

Il déménagea avec sa famille sur la demie sud de la section onze. Il y eut sept inondations dans dix ans. Ils vivaient cependant mieux, car la nourriture était toujours abondante sur la ferme. Quand Brian se maria en 1933, il changea encore d'emplacement cette fois sur la section 12 au nord de la rivière jusqu'à l'automne de 1937 où il alla habiter avec son fils Henri, dans une maison où Gilles Chartier réside à présent pour finalement demeurer dans une maison localisée où est la maison de Henri Simard maintenant. C'est là que sa femme Sarah mourut le huit février, 1938.

Sarah laissa un grand vide dans la communauté. Elle avait été pendant des années sage-femme pour nombreuses mères de famille. Le docteur Monroe la considérait comme une excellente infirmière. Elle prenait soin des mères (Métis ou autres) pour au moins dix jours à chaque accouchement. En plus, elle était une grand'mère qui choyait beaucoup ses petits-enfants et trouvait les moyens de les gâter avec différents cadeaux ou gentillesse malgré sa situation modeste. Après sa mort Edmond habita dans une petite maison située à côté de Benoit Fouillard où il vécut jusqu'à sa mort le 19 janvier, 1946.

Edmond était peut-être un excentrique mais il faut lui donner crédit pour avoir laissé sa femme partir si souvent et si longtemps quand elle allait accoucher les mamans. Il était un vrai raconteur, et le faisait avec beaucoup de drame et d'humour et a sans doute réjoui souvent son entourage avec ses récits pittoresques.

Simard, Eugène et Rose-Anna

Eugène (Niggy), fils de Edmond Simard et Sarah Gwyer, vit le jour le premier mai 1910. Il épousa Rose-Anna Perreault, fille de Edmond Perreault et Marguerite Gagnon, le 28 octobre 1937. Les parents de Niggy se retirèrent au village et Niggy et Rose s'installèrent sur la terre NO 12-17-19. Leur maison, située entre la rivière Qu'Appelle et les côtes de sable, était tout près de la tourelle d'eau où les locomotives à vapeur prenaient le plein. Pendant la dépression, plusieurs vagabonds qui voyageaient sur les trains venaient demander nourriture et hébergement et Niggy avec son grand cœur les leur accordait.

En 1938, ils eurent le malheur au printemps d'avoir tous leurs moutons tués par des chiens. À l'automne, Rose donna naissance à Rhéa à la maison ayant le docteur Edwards comme médecin, assisté de Mme Sarah Simard. Aux Fêtes, en retournant chez eux après une visite, ils aperçurent leur maison en feu et toutes leurs possessions personnelles furent perdues dans l'incendie. En janvier la mère de Niggy mourut subitement. En 1939, Cécile naquit à la maison avec Mme King qui agissait comme sage-femme. En 1940, le troupeau de vaches fut affligé de la tuberculose et il a fallu que Niggy vende le troupeau en entier n'ayant qu'une chèvre pour fournir de lait à la famille. Roberta vint au monde à la maison en 1940 suivi des naissances à l'hôpital de Birtle de Denis et Hilda. Jeannine vit le jour en 1945 au village à St. Lazare chez sa tante Mme Elmiere (Jean-Baptiste) Perreault qui agissait comme sage-femme. La même année Niggy fut élu conseiller pour la municipalité d'Ellice. Il se dévoua dans ce rôle jusqu'en 1974, en donnant l'assistance aux gens nécessiteux, tels que, leur trouver des emplois, des logis, des transports à l'hôpital etc. . . . Il devint aussi membre des Chevaliers de Colomb du conseil de St. Lazare en 1964. Antonio aussi a dû être enfanté en 1947 chez sa grand'tante, Mme Perreault à cause d'une tempête de neige qui empêchait toute transportation en dehors du village.

Parce que la rivière débordait ses rives à tous les printemps, en 1948, Eugène vendit sa terre à Joe Boyer et acheta celle de son frère Léon située sur la demi-section 27-17-28. Ce fut pour Niggy et Rose un nouveau commencement et ils envisageaient un meilleur avenir. Après plusieurs années de progrès, la malchance frappa encore et Niggy dut se débarrasser de tout son troupeau, sauf une vache, à cause de la maladie brucéllose. Tandis qu'Eugène recommandait un nouveau troupeau, il fit beaucoup de boucheries en plus de soigner les animaux malades pour aider ses voisins. Il prit aussi des contrats profitables en compagnie de Denis Fouillard avec le Canadien

National pour défaire vieux bâtiments ou déblayer les débris des déraillements. Niggy et Rose ont eu sept autres enfants durant ces années Patrick, Alfred, Eugène Jr., Jean-Marie, Bernard, Anna-Marie, et finalement Francis en 1961.

En 1965, le troupeau laitier étant devenu une bonne source de revenus, Niggy bâtit une nouvelle étable et commença à vendre le lait en gros au lieu de la crème. En 1978, leurs fils Eugène Jr. et Jean-Marie entreprirent la ferme et Niggy et Rose prirent leur retraite en déménageant dans une maison située au sud-est de la demeure qu'ils habitaient auparavant.

Huit des enfants aînés ont été logés au couvent parce que c'était le seul moyen pratique de les envoyer à l'école à St. Lazare car le service d'autobus pour les écoliers n'existaient pas à l'époque. Tous les enfants sont présentement mariés, sauf Hilda qui est religieuse de la Présentation de Marie et missionnaire au Pérou depuis 1972. Niggy n'a pas joui trop longtemps de sa retraite car la maladie l'emporta le 20 octobre, 1979. Rose vit encore dans sa maison et jouit des visites de ses enfants et petits-enfants.

Chudy, Mike and Rhéa (Simard)

Je suis née Rhéa, l'aînée d'une famille de 14, fille de Eugène Simard et Rose-Ana Perreault. Je me souviens d'une jeunesse heureuse où l'amour et les bons soins règnaient. À l'âge de sept ans, je devins pensionnaire au couvent pour mes années d'études à St. Lazare. Après ma onzième année j'ai enseigné dans une école de campagne à Rosssburn. J'ai ensuite complété ma douzième à Laurier où j'ai reçu une bourse qui aida à défrayer les dépenses au "Teachers' College" l'année suivante. J'ai enseigné deux ans à Laurier pour ensuite m'aventurer vers le nord à Snow Lake, qui était à son origine à l'époque. J'ai rencontré un mineur, Mike Chudy et notre mariage fut béni par le Père Régnier le 28 décembre, 1963. Après quelques mois à Snow Lake, on déménagea à Winnipeg pour cinq ans où Mike prit un cours en électronique. Revenu à Flin Flon, Mike reprit du travail avec Hudson's Bay Mine comme technicien.

Nous avons eu cinq enfants, Michelle, Frankie, Valerie, Michael et Jacqueline. Nous nous plaisons beaucoup dans le Nord et la vie est encore plus agréable depuis que mes soeurs Cecile et Roberta sont venues nous rejoindre.

Simard, Denis François

Né le 17 septembre, 1942, et baptisé le 27 septembre par M. le curé Jacques Bertrand, je suis le premier des huit garçons d'Eugène Simard et Rose-Anna Perreault.

Durant mes premières années scolaires, je pensionne chez mémère Perreault, au couvent et chez

plusieurs de mes oncles et tantes. Lorsque je deviens assez "grand" pour me promener à cheval, c'est avec "Beaut" que je parcours, surtout en été, la distance de cinq milles entre la maison et l'école. Comme mes intérêts sont attirés plutôt vers les travaux de la terre et les machines, je quitte l'école à l'âge de 14 ans.

Les cinq années suivantes sont passées sur la ferme à apprendre à cultiver et ensemençer les champs sous la sage direction de mon père, mais mon passe-temps favori est d'obtenir une bonne compréhension du mécanisme des machines agricoles.

Comme divertissements en fin de semaine, les jeunes, accompagnés des parents, se rendent à l'école Ellice où l'on passe des heures à danser au son de la musique de Dave Cox et Gertrude Ireland. Les dimanches soirs on se rencontre à la salle paroissiale, car dès son arrivée, M. le curé Régnier organise un "Club des Jeunes". J'en suis le président durant les premières années. Je passe aussi beaucoup de soirées chez mon voisin, René Huberdeau, à jouer aux cartes ou à regarder la télévision.

En septembre, 1962, arrive de La Broquerie une maîtresse d'école, Claudette Wenden. Elle enseigne pendant un an à trente deux élèves de la quatrième année. C'est aussi sa dernière année d'enseignement car le 10 août, 1963, M. le curé Ubald Lafond bénit notre mariage en l'église St. Joachim de La Broquerie, Manitoba.

Nous passons les premiers dix mois à déménager d'une place à l'autre; chez Joseph Blouin, Arthur Huberdeau, et chez mes parents. Finalement, au mois d'avril, 1964 notre maison est transportée de Treat, situé à une quinzaine de milles d'ici, jusque sur notre terrain 8-17-27, aussi connu comme "chez Ted", et on s'installe pour de bon. Ceci coïncide avec la naissance de notre fille aînée, Rose-Marie, le 4 juin, 1964.

Les années passent à développer le terrain, "ramasser de la roche" et à construire quelques nouveaux bâtiments sur la ferme. Je fais aussi l'acquisition d'animaux à boeuf-traire les vaches, c'est fini pour moi!

La famille augmente, Gérard naît le 5 septembre, 1965, René le 19 décembre, 1966, Michelle le 16 mars, 1969, et Lynne le 6 octobre, 1971. C'est alors que l'on décide d'agrandir la maison en y ajoutant quatre autres pièces. Mais tout ne marche pas sur des roulettes... Le 12 novembre, 1971, un accident imprévu se produit, je glisse et tombe dans une fenêtre et me coupe le poignet. Je suis transporté d'urgence à l'hôpital de Brandon et grâce aux bons soins des docteurs Purdy et Roberts ma main est rechappée, mais elle ne recouvre que cinquante pour cent de son fonctionnement normal. Malgré tout, avec l'aide de tous et chacun la construction se produit.

La vie continue, d'autres petits ajoutent à la joie de notre vie familiale — Denise le 19 mai, 1973, Louis le 13 décembre, 1974, Marie-Reine le 23 janvier, 1980, et Chantal le 2 février, 1982. Après avoir complété ses trois dernières années d'études secondaires à l'Académie Rivier de Prince Albert, Rose-Marie revient à la maison et porte main-forte aux travaux ménagers. Gérard et René sont présentement pensionnaires au Collège St. Vladimir de Roblin.

Je suis membre du 4^{ième} degré des Chevaliers de Colomb du conseil #5047 de St. Lazare. Les chevaliers ont leur propre équipe de balle et j'ai "l'honneur" d'arbitrer leurs parties durant les mois d'été. Lorsque l'occasion se présente j'aime bien m'impliquer dans les affaires politiques.

Ce sont quarante années qui ont passé bien vite mais j'en ai joui pleinement. J'espère que l'avenir m'en réserve une autre quarantaine!

Simard, Hilda Soeur

Par une belle journée de printemps, Hilda, quatrième fille et cinquième enfant de Eugène Simard et Rosanna Perreault est née le 20 mai, 1944. Blonde aux yeux bruns, Goune (son sobriquet), était une enfant sage qui s'amusait seule pendant des heures entières, surtout avec sa "Kewpie doll". Sa compagne de jeux était sa soeur Jeannine et elles étaient inséparables. "Goune" était pieuse et démontrait cela en accrochant des images religieuses sur les murs de la chambre à coucher pour remplacer celles des acteurs que ses soeurs y mettaient. Sa famille ne fut pas, donc, surprise quand elle annonça sa décision de devenir religieuse.

A l'âge de seize ans, en septembre 1961, elle entra au noviciat des religieuses de la Présentation de Marie à St. Hyacinthe, Québec. Revenue au Manitoba en 1964 elle poursuivit ses études à l'université du Manitoba. Elle oeuvra ensuite pendant sept ans à Green Lake, tout en se préparant pour aller en mission à l'étranger en apprenant l'espagnol. Le 17 août 1969, elle fit ses vœux perpétuels à St. Lazare dans une cérémonie religieuse à laquelle toute la paroisse assista. Finalement en 1972, elle se rendit dans les Andes au Pérou parmi les gens qu'elle voulait servir. Depuis, elle est revenue deux fois au Canada pour se reposer et visiter sa parenté. Elle est présentement à Lima et se dit très heureuse parmi ses pauvres illettrés. Ma vie missionnaire au Pérou par Soeur Hilda Simard, fille d'Eugène Simard et Rose Perreault. Arrivée à Lima, Pérou le 25 septembre, 1972. Langue étudiée durant 3 mois — Española. 1^{ère} Mission — San Mateo, village de 3,000 habitants situé dans les Andes à 3,500 pieds d'élévation.

Cette première mission fut une expérience d'apprentissage dans le travail pastoral avec les gens

de la montagne. Avec quelle joie j'ai partagé la vie de foi, de lutte, de travail avec ma communauté et ce peuple Péruvien. Il y avait des mineurs, des fermiers, des jeunes, des enfants à qui il était possible de parler au Christ et de chercher des solutions à leurs problèmes. Après trois belles années de travail je descendais de l'altitude pour aller à Collique, ville située dans le désert. Avec deux de mes Soeurs, la vie continuait à vibrer avec une population de 80,000 habitants. L'enseignement, la catéchèse, la vie de paroisse occupent mes journées. C'est un travail qui remplit le coeur et aide à vivre l'Evangile avec simplicité et joie.

Collique est une ville à 14 kilomètres de la capitale, Lima. Elle n'a que vingt ans d'existence et héberge les plus pauvres et les plus nécessiteux et les gens qui descendent des montagnes. Malgré une pauvreté-misère une espérance règne dans les coeurs. Nous, religieuses de la Présentation de Marie, nous essayons de comprendre, d'aimer, d'accompagner, de lutter et de souffrir avec ces gens qui nous entourent. Nous ne pensons pas soulager toutes leurs misères, mais du moins nous voulons être une présence d'espérance et d'amour.

Nos gens sont très religieux et vivent leur foi de différentes manières. Un petit nombre célèbrent l'eucharistie dominicale. Le sacrement du baptême est important et est demandé à tout instant. Ils ont bien peur que Dieu les punira s'ils ne font pas baptiser leurs enfants. Nous avons toute une catéchèse sacramentale à réaliser avec eux.

Le plus intéressant dans tout notre travail apostolique est la formation de catéchètes, jeunes et adultes. Dans notre secteur, nous en avons une centaine bien dévoués. Ils sont l'espérance et la vie de notre Eglise. Année après année, nous continuons avec eux leur formation chrétienne et humaine.

L'enseignement fait aussi partie de mon travail. C'est très exigeant et demande beaucoup de courage et de fermeté. Le gouvernement aide très peu à l'avancement éducatif et il faut tout simplement faire son possible. Ici la population est de 18 millions et six millions sont étudiants. Il nous manque des écoles et des professeurs compétents.

La situation économique-sociale-politique écrase nos gens. La misère existe à tous les coins de nos rues et ce qui est le plus choquant c'est qu'ils sont exploités par les riches qui vivent à quelques kilomètres d'ici. C'est une contradiction qui fait mal et qui questionne. L'Eglise se compromet davantage avec les pauvres et nos évêques et prêtres cherchent des solutions possibles aux injustices qui nous entourent. Ce n'est pas facile.

Toute cette situation nous interpelle et comme religieuses-missionnaires, nous travaillons, prions et

recommençons jour après jour afin de croître avec nos gens.

Au Pérou, c'est plaisant malgré le travail ardu, la chaleur de l'été, la poussière, le manque d'eau, la misère de nos gens, et grandes injustices. Je suis heureuse et après 10 ans de vie au Pérou je remercie ma communauté, ma famille, mes gens qui m'appuient par leur amitié, leur compréhension, et leurs prières. Je continue avec foi, espérance et amour et veux toujours vivre ici, au Pérou.

Simard, Antonio et Karen

Je suis, Antonio, septième enfant et deuxième fils de Eugène Simard et Rose-Anna Perreault, né le 15 février, 1947. J'ai fréquenté l'école élémentaire de St. Lazare pour ensuite pensionner au petit séminaire et au collège et faire mes classes au Collège St. Boniface. Après mon douzième je suis revenu travailler à la ferme paternelle.

J'ai ensuite pris un emploi à la mine à Esterhazy et en 1967 j'ai commencé à travailler pour la ferme des Fouillard. En août de la même année, j'ai marié Karen Calder de Letellier, Manitoba. Notre premier petit logis était dans l'immeuble Fouillard Implement et Karen enseignait à l'école de St. Lazare. Au printemps de 1970, je devins employé de John Vaags de Dugald, Manitoba pour trois ans. Notre fils David, naquit à l'hôpital St. Boniface en 1971.

En décembre 1973 nous revenions à St. Lazare (un autre déménagement) où je pris la position de coordonnateur pour la communauté. Daniel naquit à cette époque en février 1974. A cause de raisons politiques mon emploi fut terminé et trois mois plus tard j'étais de retour (quatrième déménagement) chez John Vaags, comme régisseur, parce que celui-ci présentait aux élections provinciales. Nous habitions à Glass près du chemin de fer. A l'automne, John ayant subi une défaite électorale, j'étais descendu au rang de simple main-d'oeuvre sur la ferme. Plus tard on déménagea dans une autre maison (le cinquième déménagement!) qui appartenait à mon employeur.

Au printemps 1974, l'occasion se présenta de travailler à notre compte lorsque mon père nous offrit du terrain à louer. Il existait alors à Foxwarren une gare à vendre (avec logis inclus) qui était en grand besoin de réparation. Je l'achetai et l'installai sur notre ferme actuelle SO 11-17-28. Entre-temps on habitait dans la maison de grand-mère Perreault (sixième déménagement) et je travaillais à la mine de Rocanville. Notre septième et dernier déménagement eut lieu en novembre, 1974.

En 1975 on fit l'achat d'un quart de section de mon père et un trois-quart de Tom Dale. A l'automne j'ai acheté le troupeau laitier et l'étable de Raoul

Huberdeau. Christopher, notre quatrième fils, est né l'automne suivant, en 1976. En 1977, on bâtit une plus grande étable pour accommoder le troupeau laitier acheté de Venance Deschambault.

Jennifer naquit le 15 avril, 1980. Cinq jours plus tard il faisait une chaleur de 95F et la côte de la vallée Assiniboine était en feu. Pour trois jours, on combattit le feu pour l'empêcher de se répandre dans les champs des voisins. Ce fut le début d'une triste et longue sécheresse.

Je suis présentement membre de notre conseil des Chevaliers de Colomb et commissaire francophone pour la commission scolaire Birdtail. Karen, mène aussi une vie très active avec les cinq enfants, aide au club 4-H comme dirigeante d'un groupe et est professeur à temps partiel à l'école de St. Lazare.

Simard, Patrick et Murielle

Patrick Simard, fils d'Eugène Simard et de Rose-Anna Perreault naquit le 17 mars 1949, à l'hôpital de Birtle, le huitième enfant et le troisième des garçons d'une famille de quatorze. Je fus baptisé à l'église de St. Lazare par le curé Paquette.

J'ai fait mes études à l'école de St. Lazare jusqu'au dixième et j'ai terminé mes sujets secondaires à Brandon. J'étais actif comme enfant de chœur, président du club des jeunes et plus tard Chevalier de Colomb, troisième degré.

Après mon éducation, j'ai continué mon apprentissage dans le métier de charpentier, appris de mon père (Niggy) et de mon oncle Joseph Perreault, qui m'amena à Ste. Anne des Chênes. C'est là que j'ai rencontré Gilbert Grégoire qui m'amena à St. Jean-Baptiste où j'ai fait la rencontre de mon épouse Murielle Grégoire. Le 2 juin 1973, nous nous sommes mariés à l'église de St. Jean-Baptiste.

En octobre 1973, j'ai commencé à travailler pour Manitoba Remote Housing, ce qui occasionna notre séjour dans le grand nord du Manitoba, où mon travail consistait à bâtir des maisons. A l'automne 1976, j'ai été promu à la position d'Inspecteur de Construction pour Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation. Je suis demeuré à cette position jusqu'en juin 1978 après quoi j'ai commencé ma compagnie de construction.

En 1979 j'ai vendu ma maison à Ste. Anne pour aller demeurer à Calgary. Je bâtissais des maisons pour des contracteurs; et des regards d'égout pour la ville de Calgary.

Maintenant de retour au Manitoba, j'ai l'intention de rétablir ma clientèle et de continuer mon métier de charpentier.

Simard, Jean-Marie et Donna

Je suis né Jean-Marie, fils d'Eugène Simard et

Rose-Anna Perreault le huit septembre 1954. J'ai été aux écoles de St. Lazare et de Birtle et j'ai quitté mes études à ma dixième pour travailler sur la ferme paternelle. Le 16 avril 1977, j'ai épousé Donna, fille de Allen et Ardena Pizzey. Nous avons quatre enfants; Colinda née en 1978, Stéphanie en 1979, Justin en 1981 et Robert en 1983.

En 1978 on déménagea dans la maison paternelle lorsque mon frère et moi achetâmes la ferme de mon père et devinrent partenaires. En 1980, à cause de la sécheresse il a fallu acheter tout le foin et grain pour soigner les bêtes. Heureusement nous avons eu des octrois du gouvernement et c'est à cette occasion que nous avons eu la visite de Eugene Whelan, ministre fédéral de l'agriculture

Dans mes loisirs je m'intéresse aux activités sportives telles que le hockey et le curling. Au point de vue communautaire, je suis Chevalier de Colomb du conseil de St. Lazare.

Simard, Francis et Trudy

Le quatorzième et dernier enfant d'Eugène et Rose-Anna (Perreault) Simard naquit le 2 octobre, 1961. Il fréquenta l'école mais aimant les animaux, il était très heureux de quitter l'école pour travailler sur la ferme laitière de ses frères. Il maria Trudy Surman de Spy Hill, Saskatchewan en octobre, 1982.

Il est présentement à Cabri, Saskatchewan, comme employé sur une ferme.

Simard, Alfred (Piti)

Alfred est né en 1879 au Québec et avait huit ans quand il vint à St. Lazare avec son père Arsène. Alfred n'a jamais été à l'école mais a toujours été un travailleur. Il travailla pour commencer sur la ferme de son père et appartenait des chevaux. Il ouvrit un garage, petite bâtisse, plus tard avec un M. Hector Bourgon. L'entreprise n'exista pas longtemps. M. Bourgon travaillait auparavant pour M. Gagné à la boutique de forge qui avait appartenue à M. Bourret. Alfred conduisait une Chevrolet 490 et pouvait remplacer le pignon différentiel plus rapidement que changer un pneu. Il était très adepte aussi à faire fonctionner les engins à vapeur. Plus tard il se rendit en Colombie Britannique à la recherche d'or, n'en trouva point mais pris de l'emploi dans les camps forestiers. Il vécut avec les Deschambault pour un certain temps après son retour. Il ouvrit un moulin à scie localisé cent verges au nord du pont de l'Assiniboine. On se servit de son bois pour construire la maison de Luc Tremblay. Alfred était bel homme et avait la parole facile. Il était acteur et amusait le monde parfois en prétendant de prêcher sur les coins de rue. Il chantait et Billy-Boy était dans son répertoire régulier. Il n'avait toutefois pas la

langue dans sa poche et les femmes de ses neveux se rappellent des commentaires non flatteurs dits par lui quand elles lui étaient introduites. Alfred se cassa les deux jambes à différents intervalles, et ses deux accidents le laissèrent plutôt infirme. Il trouva des moyens originaux pour voyager. Il montait un étalon, Soo-City-Soo avec une échelle de corde. Plus tard il fut encore plus inventif car il se promenait dans une charrette tirée par une chèvre. Apparemment sa charrette est maintenant dans le musée à Portage la Prairie. Alfred vécut les dernières années de sa vie dans un taudis avec sa chèvre. Il mourut en septembre, 1956, à l'hôpital de Birtle. Nous lisons souvent à propos de personnes excentriques — les Américains en particulier en font des légendes dans leur histoire. Ici nous en avons une dans la personne de Piti et il rivalisait n'importe laquelle qui aurait vécu aux États-Unis.



Alfred (Piti) Simard, in front of his shack, 1938.

Simard, Léon-Joseph et Simone

Léon Joseph, né le 10 février 1915 de Sarah Gwyer et Edmond Simard. Ces amis et ceux qui le connaissent bien l'appelaient Pitou. Ce surnom lui vient de sa gentillesse et de sa bonne humeur. Ceux qui l'ont connu s'en souviennent comme quelqu'un qui était toujours prêt à rendre service.

Avant son départ pour la guerre, il a rencontré Simone St. Laurent, native de Mont-Joli, Province de Québec. L'histoire nous dit qu'il l'a rencontrée à une gare de chemin de fer. . . . Comme quoi l'amour c'est aussi un grand départ! Léon a été à la guerre

cinq ans dans les vieux pays; il a reçu des médailles. Revenu de la guerre, il épousa Simone le 27 juillet 1946 à Mont-Joli. De cet amour naquirent quatre enfants dont trois filles et un garçon. Il est important de noter qu'il en a fait deux d'un coup; les derniers, un garçon et une fille.

Après son mariage, il demeura presque un an à St. Lazare. Puis il vint s'établir à Mont-Joli où il a travaillé de 1949 à 1972 pour le Canadien National. A partir de 1972, il travailla pour Gaspé-Tours, il était guide pour les touristes qui voulaient visiter la Gaspésie. Il mourut subitement dans un de ces voyages en août, 1978.

Léon était un bon vivant qui aimait jouir de la vie et qui se plaisait à jouer des tours aux gens de son entourage. Léon était pour ses enfants, un ami et un confident. Ce qu'il aimait le plus, c'était de voir le soleil se lever sur le fleuve St. Laurent. Le matin vers les cinq heures, il ne fallait pas le chercher; il était au rendez-vous pour voir le soleil se lever et discuter avec le Seigneur de sa vie. Léon voyait cela comme une prière faite au grand jour.

Son souvenir demeure comme une flamme qui ne s'éteindra jamais dans le cœur de ceux qui l'ont aimé. . . . Il y en a eu beaucoup. . . .

Slater, Hubert John

In 1916 Edwin Slater and his wife had a son Hubert John, born in Stoughton, Saskatchewan.

John served for four years in the Royal Canadian Navy, W.W. II.

On November 20th, 1942, he married Marian Rice of Binscarth. She was born in 1917 to Wilbur and Winnie Rice of Binscarth.

In 1943 John purchased the W½ of 33-18-28 from J. D. McFarlane. Previous to the Slaters several families had lived there, namely Mr. and Mrs. Alex Watt, Fitz and Jessie Clark, and Mr. and Mrs. Denis LaFerre. The Slaters built an addition to the house in 1949, the year the Hydro came to the farms.

In 1962 John sold the farm to John Pizzey, having moved to Shoal Lake four years earlier. John was in the road construction business and Marian, who had worked as a registered nurse at Edmonton, Halifax, and Truro, Nova Scotia, became the Hospital Administrator there. She had held this position for twenty years when she retired to Binscarth in 1978.

Their son Ross Walter James was born June 1946 and completed his schooling in Shoal Lake. In the late sixties, John and Ross moved the construction business to Saskatchewan where they still operate, under John's supervision.

Ross married Betty Wack of Yorkton in 1974. They reside south east of Yorkton and have four children: Shauna, Sean, Shannon and Shane.

Smith, Alexander P.

Alexander P. Smith arrived in Welwyn, Sask. with a box car full of household and personal effects in one end of it and horses, cattle and feed in the other end of it, in mid March 1917, from Maryland, Bristol, Quebec.

He had purchased the east half of S.4-T.16-R29 in the Beaver Rapids District the previous fall from Will Webster. Joining him a short time later by train was his wife, Mary (Taber) Smith and two young daughters; Mary, aged seven years, who later married Norman Anderson and lived in the Ivanhoe District of Moosomin; and Jean, aged five years, who is now Mrs. Robert Selby and resides in Welwyn, Sask.



School Days. Jack Smith and Murray Wroth on pony. Mary Smith holding baby sister Margaret. Jean Webster holding pony, Jean Smith (Selby), 1925.

This land had been owned by George Pateman before Will Webster. He had a very large family, some of them quite musical, so the farm was then called "Fiddler's Hill". Alex Smith, being of Scottish ancestry changed the name of the farm to "Gowan Brae" meaning "Daisies on the Hillside".

From here, Mary and Jean started school at Beaver Rapids 1917. Their first teacher was Grace Dumville, Mrs. Hugh Little's sister, now Mrs. Dan McGregor, who is still living in Welwyn, Sask.

On April 11, 1918 a son John (Jack) was born to the Smiths. He is now retired, living in Moosomin, Sask.

January 2, 1925 another daughter arrived, Margaret, now Mrs. Gordon Donald; also retired and living in Moosomin, Sask.

Good crops and poor ones were their lot over the years, as is the case of most farming ventures. They lived in Beaver Rapids District until 1933, before moving to the Moosomin area.

Chuckie Lewis took over that farm and it is now occupied by his son Charles Lewis.

Smith, Howard

I, David Henry Howard, was born October 18, 1893 in Bryants Township, Roberts County, South Dakota. My wife was Marguerite McKay Parker, who was born December 16, 1894, at Inverary, Scotland. We were married in Winnipeg in 1913. I was employed by the Provincial Government, grading cream. We were not left in one creamery too long, thus we did not become too familiar with the manager and we could not be accused of giving grades other than what they should be. Our children Marguerite 1914, Agnes Mae 1915, Gertrude 1917, Esther 1919, William Henry 1921 and Richard 1926 were all born in McAuley. Louella, 1929, was born in St. Lazare. That year Mr. Gaudette offered me the job of operating and managing the plant at St. Lazare. We had five children going to school. Because our children could not speak French, they, and we, as parents were unhappy. I suggested to Mr. John Selby to hire Sisters as French teachers. The suggestion was well received and at the end of that term students who went to Foxwarren to write their Entrance Exam, all passed. The Sisters required housing so lumber and materials were purchased from the local lumber yard run by Glen Bruce. One Sister looked after all the ordering of these requirements. After we moved to Dryden, Ontario in 1937, one daughter, Esther, corresponded in French with this Sister and the Deschambault girls. All our children, except Marguerite learned French. Agnes never spoke the language, but she understood it. Dick, because he spoke French, and with the help of Joe Baudry who was Chief of St. Boniface Police, got on the Winnipeg Police Force.

Every New Year's Eve we held a kind of open house. My wife and our girls would make sandwiches and cakes to serve to our guests. Great fun was had by all including George Fouillard, Eugene Lemoine, Glen Bruce, Leo Dupont, Donald and Red Bulger, and Albert Roy. These "get togethers" sometimes took place in Ernie's barber shop. We moved to Winnipeg January 1, 1941 where we still live on Portage Avenue. I am well, despite a distortion in my eye from a transplant.

Souch, Albert

Albert Souch was born on December 1, 1884 in Chadlington, Oxford, England. He came to Canada March 27, 1909. He worked for a number of people — Jim Donnaly, John McLellan, Wilson Hamilton, Charles Carr and James McCrindle before he bought N½ 13-18-28 in 1917, from John Robbie.

In 1919, he married Ethel Redmond. She was born October 30, 1891, on the west half of 12-18-28 W1, daughter of Thomas and Sarah Redmond. They have two sons, Charles and Stanley of Binscarth.

Albert retired to Foxwarren in October 1949. He was caretaker of the rink for many years. Ethel, passed away in 1961. Albert passed away in 1972.

Charles Souch born September 13, 1921, served in the army for two years. Following the war he bought a farm in the R.M. of Russell S½ 6-19-27. He farmed there with his wife Lorna Hallam and two children Rusty and Donna. Charles and Lorna retired to Binscarth in 1965 and still reside there.

Stan Souch born May 23, 1923, lived on the farm with his parents until they all moved to Foxwarren in 1949. Stan worked around the area for a number of years. Then he started to farm in 1960 in Birtle Municipality. He moved to Foxwarren in July 1960. He moved to Binscarth in 1982 and continues to farm at the present time.

Spicer, Mr. and Mrs. W. C.

written by Blanche Spicer

Dad's parents, William Isaac and Kate Emilie Dickinson Spicer, resided at Batterson, County of Surrey. They were married December 1, 1879. Dad was born May 24, 1881 at Golden Villars, Mallinson Road, London. He attended Beford Grammar School in England where he won many trophies and medals for swimming and running. In Switzerland he did a lot of skiing.

On June 1, 1899 Dad left Liverpool, England on the steamship "California" and arrived in Birtle June 15. He worked for Mr. Charles Darrell on N.W. ¼ 16-16-25 from June 1899 to March 1903. This farm was known as Chislehurst Ranch with the post office at Warleigh.

My mother, Helena Sarah, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Cartwright, was born November 14, 1899 in the Balmerno district. Her mother, Lucy Maud Cartwright, was the daughter of Canon E. R. Eddrup of Bremhill, England while her father was the son of Dr. John Cartwright of Wiltshire, England. Mother's parents came to Canada in 1899 to homestead in the Balmerino district. In 1909 they quit farming and moved to Birtle. They made their home where Mrs. Tibbatts now resides.

Mother and dad were married December 28, 1907 at Balmerino Church by Rev. George Armstrong of Birtle. Gertie Blamey-Dick Spencer's sister — and G. H. Spencer were their attendants. Gertie Blamey tells me that when I was born she came to help my mother. She made scalloped potatoes but she added too much pepper and the hired men could not eat them.

From 1907 to 1912 dad farmed in Birtle Municipality and then moved to Ellice. While farming dad hauled many a cord of wood from St. Lazare to Birtle taking all day to make the trip. In April 1918 we

moved to Birtle. We arrived with a horse and buggy — leading a cow, also had a hen and six chickens, a cat and a St. Bernard dog. Our first home there was Mrs. Uzell's which later burned. Our final home was the former Tansley house built in 1906. It stood where the town hall is located today. This building was pulled up the street by horse power and is still there on the east end of Main Street. While residing in Birtle dad had many jobs including — contracts for building, painting and decorating, operating his own apiary, driving for the livery man, Mr. Hatch, taking doctors, Indians, and ministers as passengers. Dad was assistant post master and people's warden for Blenheim Church. On October 18, 1908 he took part in the procession of the consecration of said church. Later he became a member of St. Georges Church, Birtle. My dad rarely missed a year hunting deer, elk and moose. He had several of these heads mounted.

Mother was kept busy doing household chores such as baking bread, curing meat, churning butter, washing clothes on a scrub board, growing a large garden and picking fruit. She sold eggs and butter at Jules Decorby's store and helped in the field during haying time. Mother drove me, Blanche, to Ellice school.

I have two sisters — **Dorothy** who died June 15, 1966 at Birtle at 55 years of age. **Edith** married February 14, 1946 at Birtle, lives at Pouce Coupe, B.C.

Dad died December 12, 1968 in Brandon hospital and mother December 27, 1977 in Westman Nursing Home at Virden.

Spicer, Blanche

I am the oldest of the W. C. Spicer family and was born October 15, 1908 on N.E.¼ 15-16-27 in the district of Blenheim (farm of Tom Bell.) We lived in the St. Lazare area from 1914 to 1918. While there I attended Ellice School with Miss Margaret O'Keefe as teacher. I remember a terrible storm came up one day about the year 1916 while we were in school. You could hardly see out of the windows for dust. The teacher placed us all in a corner and told us to sit still. The children were very excited and the wind was terrible. You could feel the school rock. I thought it would be blown off its foundation. After the storm we went to a neighbor's and waited for our parents. What a day that was! We had lots of fun at this country school playing baseball and riding horse-back.

In 1918 the family moved to Birtle, and I attended the "Blue School." Later we went to the court room in the town hall for school and still later to the Methodist Church for classes. Many a day we were sent home because the classroom was too cold. Often

we would sit around the big wood burning stoves wearing coats, hats, overshoes and sometimes our mitts. You would often hear these words "Put a bit more wood on". I have seen many changes from 1908-1983!

Swain, Sandy

Sandy, a short, swarthy person was one of St. Lazare's "comedy men". He spent his time between Rossburn and Elphinstone reserves, nearly always, appearing in St. Lazare for the annual sports day. On one such occasion, a Bobby uniform, rented from Malabars', was "sported" by Sandy on a hot, hot day. Another year, a gendarme uniform, complete with cap and all regalia, was rented. That year, Sandy failed to appear! He would jig for nickles and dimes, but was insulted if pennies were thrown in the ring. He had the nickname, Scoop, which he hated (probably derived from trying to work with an over-sized shovel). Sandy worked for Eugene Fouillard Sr., cutting wood and piling the short split pieces to cover the long 4 ft. pieces. He lived at Robert Fleury's for about ten years, before going back to live on the reserve at Elphinstone with people named Blackbird. It is believed he died there.

Tasker, Charles

Charlie Tasker was born in Margate Kent, England. His father owned and operated a large machine shop. They were very well off and Charlie had a good education. However, he also had a very quick temper, so he was sent to Canada to avoid further embarrassment to his family. It is said that his family sent him many fine suits and other clothing which he promptly sold for the money. He is believed to have spent some time in B.C. before coming to the Rocanville area about 1924, first working for Billy Christie. He later worked for many area farmers. Some people believed him to be simple, so did not pay him for his labours. Charlie, however, never forgot and always got even. One story is told of a farmer who short-changed him. When the farmer was hauling wood from the valley, he met Charlie on the road and, following yet another argument, Charlie came behind and loosened the stakes on the load of wood allowing it all to fall off the sleigh. Another story, occurring in the thirties, is told of two business men (brothers) who were not doing very well, so conspired to have their opposition burned out. Thinking Charlie a likely man for the job, they offered him \$100.00 to set the fire. Charlie had no intention of setting a fire but, thinking it a good way to get \$100 said if they gave him the money first he would do the job. The brothers, however, wanted Charlie to set the fire first and then get paid. This

made Charlie angry so he went to the police and together they set up a dictaphone so they could listen to the plans being discussed. The brothers were arrested and charged with attempted arson. A trial followed in Moosomin court and attracted large crowds. The brothers were found guilty and sent to jail, thus averting a tragedy as a fire at that time could have burned out the entire street.

Shortly after this, Charlie bought a quarter section of land on the sand plains calling it his gopher farm! In 1939, PFRA started forming the community pasture and offered to buy Charlie's land. They tried to evacuate him, but Charlie ended up taking them to court to prove the land was his. He won his case and built a fence around his quarter. Later PFRA made a deal with him for land near St. Lazare in exchange for his gopher farm. The first person to encounter Charlie in St. Lazare, was Pat McIvor who found him under the train bridge with a broken ankle. Pat took him home with him, until Charlie was well again. Charlie raised bees when he lived in the village and scattered clover seed all over the north hill, which still grows abundantly. He was a prolific writer of poetry and "letters to the editor" of various magazines and newspapers! Charlie Tasker died and is buried in the cemetery at St. Lazare.

Tetrault, Edgar and Rita

Edgar was born in Transcona, September 9, 1913 and Rita, nee Trudel, was born in Somerset, July 29, 1919. They were married in St. Malo, Man. They made their first home in St. Malo where Edgar built a house, but later moved to a farm south of the same town.

In 1952, Edgar sold his farm and moved to St. Lazare to work for Fouillard Implement Exchange. The family then consisted of Rita, his wife, sons Jean-Marc and Richard, daughter Juliette and baby Luc. They lived in a house next to Leo Dupont's. Roger, Gilles, Jacques and Edith were born later.

Edgar was caretaker of the rink for a while. He enjoyed working with children. Around 1963 Edgar started to work for Bergsteinsons in Foxwarren and the same year he bought Lucien Peloquin's house. Edgar spent a lot of his spare time working in his shed. There he built his first green house and every year thereafter he kept making it bigger. It was a family project. Everybody helped to transplant. Edgar also made huge gardens. Rita would be very busy canning and freezing all that would be needed for the family — the rest would be sold or given away.

Edgar and Rita moved to Lorette, in the spring of 1974, where Rita died of a heart attack on Boxing Day, December 26, 1975. She left a real void —

having been in an unassuming way the heart and the soul of the family. Edgar later moved to the Senior Citizens' Home in Lorette. He still grew huge gardens and made new friends there. On June 25, 1980, he passed away in St. Boniface Hospital and is buried with his wife and grandson Rheal in Lorette.

His children, living in Winnipeg are, **Jean-Marc**, born February 22, 1944, married Marie Prescott, daughter of Rosaire, born December 5, 1946. He has two step children Danielle and Michel and one son Andre. He is in the personnel Department of Indian Affairs. **Richard** born February 1, 1946 married Georgette Preteau, has two sons, Daniel and Jason. **Juliette** born May 11, 1949 (see Philippe Guay's story) and **Jacques** born August 19, 1958. Living in Lorette, Manitoba are **Luc**, born December 30, 1951, with wife Claire Gagne and sons Michel and Serge; **Gilles**, born February 1, 1957, with wife Anita Johnson and children Elaine, Brigitte, and Ronald; **Edith**, born October 3, 1960 with husband Laurent Gregoire and son Julien. **Roger**, born January 10, 1955, lives in Ile des Chenes, Man. with his wife Lucie Gagne and daughters Joanne and Carole.

Thomas, Ezra

Ezra brought his wife, three sons and two daughters from Ontario in 1878 and ran a "Stopping House" at Fort Ellice for awhile. Then he homesteaded SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 18-16-28 in 1882.

His daughter Rhoda married Robert Parke of McAuley. Mary married Ira Fyke of Moosomin. Lorne went to the United States. The whereabouts of the remainder of the family is unknown.

Thomson, Frank Alexander

Frank Alexander Thomson was born in Peoria, Illinois in 1880 where his father Alexander Thomson was employed as a stone mason. They moved to Cartwright, Manitoba. His mother and dad laid the baby, Frank, on the grass under an umbrella, while they built their sod house on the prairies, two miles out of Cartwright. On April 22, 1883, a second son, Harry, was born, and was the first white child born at Cartwright.

Their father built a stone house, being a stone mason, and it was the dust from the stones that caused his consumption, and he died May 3, 1898, at age 48. Their mother died two years later.

Frank went on to Winnipeg where he attended Wesley College for four years and graduated with a B.A. Harry moved to British Columbia where he had a lumber business.

Frank then went to Brandon where he married

Lenna Elizabeth Dorsey on June 28, 1910. Lenna had been born at Methven on December 7, 1885, and was a teacher. Her family later moved to Wawanesa. In 1898 her father, William S. Dorsey, was one of twenty farmers who each put in one hundred dollars to form an insurance company known as the Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Co. William S. Dorsey was its first president.

After their marriage Frank and Lenna Thomson moved to a farm near Justice where their first daughter Gwen was born on July 12, 1911. Their son Karl was born January 15, 1913, and then a second daughter Gladys, on August 12, 1915. The farm did not work out so Frank took over the International Harvester Agency in Minnedosa. At that time another daughter, Betty, was born on April 6, 1924, completing the family.

Frank then became a traveller for the International Harvester Co. working east and west from Brandon and Minnedosa. That is how he first became acquainted with Foxwarren and Ellice Municipality. He purchased a farm there and the family moved to it in 1926. The farm buildings were located one mile south of the Tom Clarkes' on NE $\frac{1}{4}$ 36-17-28. The three eldest children attended school at Foxwarren and made friendships that were to last a lifetime.

In 1929 the family made another move — this time to Winnipeg, where they made their home in Charleswood for thirteen years. Many visits were made back to Foxwarren and Ellice Municipality by the family, and sometimes Karl took summer jobs.

On one of these visits to Ellice Karl found things more exciting than he had expected. This account of events was given to Betty (Thomson) Burdett by a spectator:

During the thirties water was very scarce, particularly finding enough to swim in. Johnny Falloon always seemed to be quite good at helping the younger set enjoy themselves, and nearly every Sunday loaded his truck with kids to take them to the river to swim, or just splash around, as very few could swim. One particular Sunday in 1934, Robert Sawyer attempted to swim across the river. There was about ten feet where the water was too deep to walk across. Unfortunately, Bob could swim only about five feet, and got into serious trouble in the middle. Karl Thomson, who was probably the strongest swimmer there, went to his aid, and with the help of Bert Brailsford managed to get him to shore. Neither Karl nor Bert were accomplished swimmers, so great credit was due them for attempting the life-saving feat. They were both awarded life saving certificates by the Red Cross, which were presented by the Lieutenant-Governor W. J. Tupper, at the unveiling of the cairn at Fort Ellice in 1935. Later Karl received an

Honorary Testimonial from the Royal Canadian Humane Society.

During the thirties Frank Thomsons's health was quite poor and he was able to work very little. He finally passed away on June 28, 1937. Money was short, but Karl and Gwen went north to San Antonio mines and worked and sent home money so Gladys was able to graduate from Teachers' College. Karl was able to go to University finally graduating as a Mining Engineer and Geologist in 1942. He worked in Quebec, Ontario, Newfoundland and Maine, and then went to Toronto, where he is now retired. Mrs. Thomson went back teaching for several years. Betty graduated from Teachers' College also and then went teaching.

After various jobs in Manitoba and Ontario, Gwen and Gladys moved to Calgary for better employment opportunities. Both girls married there. Their mother followed. But after a long illness she died in November of 1961. Betty taught school at Dunrea, Oak Bluff and Binscarth, and then married Cecil Burdett of Foxwarren. They settled on a farm in Ellice Municipality where they still reside.

Gwen and Gladys both eventually moved to southern California, where Gladys taught school and Gwen worked in real estate. Both have recently retired. Gwen lives in La Jolla and Gladys lives a short drive away in Escondido. They both highly recommend California as a great place to live or visit.

Tibbatts, Sidney

Sid Tibbatts was born in 1895 and lived west of Binscarth on 35-18-29. In 1930 he married Janet (Jess) Anderson who was born in Binscarth in 1899. They lived on the farm for 25 years before retiring to Binscarth to the house Sid built.

Sid and Jess were married in a time when entertainment was self made. All the neighbors would get together for an evening of cards or dancing.

Jess' mother thought the newlyweds should have a pig to look after, so Sid made a nice pen. Before the pen was built, they kept the eight-week old pig in a box but one day it got out and escaped to a summer-fallow field. To this day, Jess dislikes pork as she recalls the three-hour chase to recapture that "beastie".

The Tibbatts were members of the United Church and on retirement enjoyed bowling, bridge and other community activities. Sid died in 1980.

Tibbatts, Thomas W.

Tommy purchased the SW 25-18-29 from Mrs. Munroe in the spring of 1955. He married Irene Haliuk of the Foxwarren district in May, 1955. They have two daughters, Linda and Laurie.

In 1965, Tommy built a barn and went into the P.M.U. business which he continues at the present time. In 1968 he built a bi-level home. Their daughter Laurie married Randy Moffit of Portage la Prairie in 1978. They moved to 25-18-29 in the spring of 1981 and Randy farms with his father-in-law. Randy and Laurie have one son, Mark, born July 23, 1982. Linda married Ken Marek of Lac du Bonnet in 1981. They reside in Portage la Prairie.

Totte, Joseph E.

I, Joseph Totte was born in the Netherlands on February 18, 1920. My wife, Bea, was born on August 7, 1923, also in the Netherlands. We were married October 3, 1944. We came to Canada with our two children Peter and Nicolaas on July 1, 1952, and settled at Shoal Lake where I worked as a baker for three years. In 1955 we came to live in St. Lazare, to take over the bakery from Jaques Guay and Alan Melnyk (the local baker at that time). We had no capital or down payment for the bakery, and no money to pay our suppliers, but they all had patience and we were in business. We paid 4% interest at that time! Bread sold for 14¢ a loaf and storekeepers paid 12¢. The following year the price was increased to 16¢. The first winter was nearly disastrous; we had so much snow. We had to travel by Birtle to deliver bread to Foxwarren and Binscarth; the other roads were completely snowed in. You couldn't see the snowplows. The road across the plains was also blocked for two weeks, and, later, when it started to melt, the bridge over Beaver Creek was washed out. Another ten days of sales were lost. It is a miracle how we made it through that first winter! I'll never forget Saturday, November 27. I left to deliver bread to Foxwarren, Binscarth, and Russell. In Russell, I picked up Lucille Chartier who had been visiting John in the hospital. A little past Binscarth we got stuck in the snow and after we dug out, we had a flat tire. We changed that but half a mile down the road, we had another. The tow truck from Binscarth picked us up and we stayed the night at the Binscarth hotel. The next morning we set out for Birtle as the road to St. Lazare was still blocked. In front of McLean's farmhouse we got stuck in a huge snowdrift. We were well received there and stayed overnight. Monday came and the snowplow got us out. The tow truck took us to a Birtle garage. My truck was completely full of snow; the motor was a block of ice. After it was thawed out we were able to start the truck and were home at 10 o'clock Monday night. What a winter! I got stuck so many times, (but was always able to make it home.)

We stayed in St. Lazare ten years, then sold out and started a brand new bakery in The Pas. My sons

are with me in the business. Again it was hard in the beginning, but we have made this investment a success. The people of St. Lazare and the surrounding districts supported us well when we were living there. My children made good friends there and still like to visit the old stomping grounds. My father came from Holland to live with us in St. Lazare for a few years, and still remembers those years at age 85.

Peter was born in Holland May 14, 1946. He received his education in St. Lazare and Birtle. He married Carol Carriere of Regina. They have two children; and are presently living in The Pas, a shareholder of The Gateway Bakery.

Nicolaas was born in Holland November 27, 1950. He got his education in St. Lazare and Birtle and got his Grade XII in Wilcox, under the legendary Père Murray. He also is a shareholder-owner of The Gateway Bakery in The Pas. He is married to Joyce Butcher of Wattsview and has two boys and one girl.

Michael was born in Shoal Lake July 5, 1953. He got his education in St. Lazare and Birtle, and got his B.A. and Teachers Certificate from Brandon University. He is presently teaching French in Russell. Michael married Jayne Honey from Binscarth and they have one boy and one girl.

Jim was born in Birtle May 27, 1956 and got his education in St. Lazare and Birtle — lives in The Pas and is an electrician. Jim is still living at home.

Rose-Anne was born December 23, 1958 at Russell and got her education in St. Lazare and Birtle. She is married to Roy McKenzie, lives in The Pas, and has one girl. She also works in the Gateway Bakery, as a cake decorator and pastry worker.

Douglas was born July 21, 1960 at Russell, got his education in St. Lazare and The Pas. He is also working at the bakery and living at home.

Tourond, Lizza Mary as related to Yvonne Leclerc

I was born March 17, 1914 in St. Lazare, Man. My mother's name was Mary Houle, my grandfather was Charlie Houle and my grandmother Elise Houle. I was three years old when my mother died with the flu, and my Grandmother died the same year. I stayed with my grandfather and an aunt, then after my grandfather died I stayed with my godmother Mrs. Nabess. My uncle John Houle adopted me legally when I was eight years old. I never went to school, I had to work instead.

We had a log house a few miles South West of St. Lazare. My uncle worked out; my aunt made mats and sold them. We picked berries to sell, milked cows and sold butter. Then I worked out and gave them all my wages.

We had good times though. We played cards,

made parties, danced a lot, almost every other night in the winter. Our main card game was "bull moose".

When I worked in the summer at the farmers, my wages were \$8.00 a month, and in the winter \$5.00. We never celebrated Christmas in our time, it was New Year's Eve. We'd go to Midnight Mass at Christmas, but New Year's was our celebration. It started after mass at four in the morning and we'd go to visit the old folks first, and there all the children knelt in front of their fathers and they would bless them for the New Year. This was a French tradition. Christmas was strictly religious and the children looked forward to New Year's. They got their gifts from Santa that day.

The Touronds and Houles came from France, and settled in the States and then came West. My aunt Betsy was a Hogue — her maiden name. I think she was a Scot, her mother was a Morissette. She spoke French and Cree. Joe Venne's grandfather is a brother to my grandmother.

Where I worked as a young girl, I was well treated, but I worked hard. In the morning I got up at 5 AM to milk cows, separated milk, fed calves, gave the hired men breakfast for eight dollars a month. I worked for Dave Hall in Binscarth when I was sixteen. I stayed for four years. I started to work at the age of 12. I could hardly speak English. When I worked in Welwyn, I was in full charge of the house, where a lady had a baby every year and in those days she stayed in bed for ten days. The nurse would stay only a few days.

I never went to school, no education at all. I went to work in Willen, Man. and didn't get paid. It was a struggle all through. I also went to work in Binscarth for people who had a boarding house and a farm. One day she gave me a paper to sign, I didn't know why. When I quit she wouldn't pay me. She said I had signed the paper saying she had paid me already. But I couldn't read so I didn't know what I was signing.

There were a lot of Metis families around St. Lazare, hardly any French.

Decorby started the first store in St. Lazare, right in the town. He had a little house and sold it and started the little store. There were a lot of Metis families at Fort Ellice too. My Grandmother lived at the big lake, on the plains. That's where I lived until she died. You can still see the old cellars where there were houses.

They used to haul cord wood from Fort Ellice to Moosomin for \$1.50 with horses. About 35 miles. For New Year's they made their beer; it was mostly old people that drank it. Drink and sing. I was 17 years old before I could go out on my own, even though I worked out. They used to tell the people I

worked for not to let me go out alone. When they went some where, they took me with them. I made so many mats that today I don't feel like making any more. We kids had the job of going into houses to ask if they wanted to buy berries, cranberries or mats, all the way to Moosomin. Fifty cents a pail. Not always cash — exchanged for old clothes and these were used to make clothes for us. What would the kids do today if they had to do this? A whole bunch of us would go and pick berries, then get home and clean them, and all for 50 cents. Meat we never bought. There was a lot of wild meat. We salted our own pork. For soap we made our own, and used wood ashes for lye; scrubbed clothes with the wash board. Flour sacks were a very useful thing for underclothes and sheets.

I remember in those days, no one made gardens, you very seldom saw a garden, but most Metis had their cattle and chickens and drank a lot of milk, and ate cottage cheese. Metis families would leave in the spring when it was time to dig seneca roots and go till haying time and sell their roots and buy enough flour and lard for their winter. I remember we used to churn butter and sell it for ten cents a pound.

We went to church every Sunday. If it was stormy and we couldn't make it, Uncle John made us say the rosary. He never went to church but encouraged us to go. The church used to be where Mrs. Haney has her house now. That church burned and alot of Birth Certificates burned with it. Then they built the other church where the hall is now.

When there was a funeral we all walked to the cemetery and we prayed all the way a 1½ mile walk. We used to have processions every year. We don't have them any more. There were also pilgrimages which the Bishop and priest attended. You had to walk quite a few miles especially the ones that carried the statues. Everyone had candles. This was for you to earn indulgences for yourself, when you died.

The people smoked "Kinnikinic", made from red willow, you peeled it and scraped it and put it in a pie plate in the oven, dried it, then bought plug tobacco and mixed with it. They smoked this in a pipe. They hardly ever smoked cigarettes. Not many women smoked. If they did, they smoked the pipe. I remember my uncle John used to go and cut red willows by the armful in the summer and peel and scrape it, dry it in the sun, then pack it in little bags. They didn't allow the children to drink or smoke until they were 21 years old and they had to ask permission to go out.

During Lent the family said the rosary every night, made penance by not eating meat during Lent, except on Sunday. There was no dancing, no parties. There was a special dish that we had at New Year's.

This we had to have. They ground the meat and made a big pot full of meat balls, about ten pounds, also different kinds of cakes. Every house you went to, you ate. The tables were always set, you could eat any time. There was a special pudding that we made with raisins, it's not the same as now; they put the dough in a clean flour bag in a pot full of water and lined the bag with flour and cook it right in the water. It was good, not doughy at all. Meat balls were a French tradition. We used to grind meat nearly all nite until we had enough. We also had a "reveillon". This you had right after midnight on New Year's. The ones that were married had to be there about five in the morning to see their in-laws. I can remember seeing people walking by bunches New Year's day visiting. It was nice. We used to go New Year's night to J. B. Lepines. He lived by the big lake. They always had a dance that night.

Dr. Munroe from Welwyn used to travel by horse to visit patients. If someone got sick and there was no way of getting a doctor, you had to try your best. Our main medicine was Castor Oil and Epsom Salts.

There was also a big celebration six days after New Year's for St. Pierre Lepine's birthday. We always had a big supper and a dance.

There was also a law that you had to get married in the morning. I married Eugene at twenty two years of age and had ten children — five boys and five girls. Maurice, Jerome, Elise, Alma, Jacques, Jacqueline, Marguerite, Roberta, Eugene, Robert and now have seventeen grandchildren. When my second boy was born, my husband worked for fifty-cents a day. We lived in the community pasture and when they fenced it off, we moved to Ste. Amelie up North. We stayed there two winters, but I didn't like it. It was too hard to make a living, so we moved to St. Marthe, Sask., and stayed there a year, then moved back to Lazare. My husband died of a heart attack on August 31st, 1959 at Watrous, Sask. while working on the railway. We had been married for twenty-three years.

I am now living in Birtle, Man. Being a Metis and poor in those days didn't make me feel bad. We had no bills to worry about like now. I'm happy and comfortable as long as I see my children. I'd like to see Metis people with better homes and a good education. I wish I'd had an education, I would not have worked so hard.

Tourond, Maurice: was born in 1938, near St. Lazare. Mrs. King was midwife. He worked in Garson as a stone mason. He was diabetic, and died in 1980 at the age of 42.

Jerome: was born in 1939. He married Angela Boyer. They have four children, including twin girls,

who were Lizza's first grandchildren. Jerome works for the P.F.R.A.

Lise: was born in 1941. She married Russ Stephanson and lives at Delta, B.C. They have three children.

Alma: was born in 1942. She married Duncan Campbell and lives at Fleming, Sask. They have a son and a daughter.

Jacques: was born in 1946. He married a girl from Boissevain, Freda Neufeld. They live in Winnipeg where Jacques is a fur buyer and his wife is receptionist in a doctor's office. They have two children, a boy and a girl.

Jackie: was born in 1947. She married Steve Yurasik, and they live in Winnipeg. They have three daughters.

Margaret: was born in 1948. She married Gino Toronno, and they live in Winnipeg. They have three girls.

Roberta: was born in 1951. She married Tony Germono and they live in Winnipeg. She works for the C.P.R. and Tony has his own driving school.

Robert: was born in 1953. He married Luanne Tutkaluk of Birtle. They live in Edmonton, where Robert works as a "dry waller".

Eugene: was born in 1954. He works as a carpenter and at the present time, is living at home.

Traquair, Robert S. and Janet

Robert S. Traquair, was born in Scotland in 1822, and Janet Simpson, was born in 1823, and married in Edinburgh, Scotland on May 30, 1848. They came to Blyth, Ontario in 1873. They stayed a few years there, after which they moved to this area in 1882, where he and his three sons took up homesteads.

Mr. Robert Traquair Sr. reached the great age of eighty-two years. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church.

Mrs. Janet Traquair, although of quite advanced years was still called upon when a child was expected, there being no doctor closer than Moosomin. It would indeed be interesting to know just how many infants she cared for. At the age of eighty-seven years she recovered from having her leg amputated, and lived quite a few more years.

They are both buried in Beaver Rapids Cemetery. They had five living children: **William**, born in 1852, never married; **John**, born in 1854, married Sarah Jane Good, a school teacher; **Robert**, born in 1856, married Margaret Scott. They took up a homestead on the SE 18-16-29. Six children were born. Robert Stuart, Grace, Jeanette, (Mrs. William Shirkie), John Simpson, William Scott, and Margaret, (Mrs. Howard Buckham). Robert Traquair resided on the farm until his death at the early age of 44 on Dec. 22,

1900. Mrs. Traquair moved from the farm into her new house in the village of Welwyn, around 1930, and resided there until her death on July 14, 1935. Both are interred in the Beaver Rapids Cemetery. **Jane**, born in 1858, married Francis John Collyer on Dec. 30, 1890. From this marriage, two children were born: Walter Francis Collyer and Jeannette Elizabeth (Mrs. James Nicolson). F.J. and Jane farmed on E½ 30-15-29 W1. **Janet**, born in 1860, taught at Beaver Rapids School from 1892 to 1900. She married Herbert James Collyer on April 27, 1900. They farmed on S½ 5-16-29. Herbert died May 18, 1905, and Janet on April 26, 1909. They are both buried in Beaver Rapids Cemetery.

Traquair, Robert S. (Bob)

Robert Traquair was born in Scotland in 1856. He emigrated to Canada with his parents, two brothers and two sisters in 1873 to live at Blythe, Ontario. The family farmed at Blythe for ten years but decided to move West in 1883.

Robert and brother John left Ontario ahead of the rest of the family, journeying to Winnipeg by train and from there up the Assiniboine River in a flat bottom boat to Fort Ellice. From the Fort they walked over the Fort Ellice Trail to the Beaver Rapids District in the Municipality of Ellice where Robert filed claim to the North East quarter of Section 18-16-29. When brother William arrived shortly after, he filed claim on the adjacent South West quarter of 18-16-29. The rest of the family took up land in the Municipality of Archie, not far away.

Two years later, in 1885, Robert brought his bride, Margaret Scott, out from Blythe, Ontario and it was here on the farm in Ellice that all of their children were born — Stuart (1886), Grace (1888), Jeanette (1890), John S. (1892), William (1896) and Margaret (1898). All of the children attended Beaver Rapids School.

After Bob's death in December, 1900, Mrs. Traquair maintained the farm until 1929, when she rented it to Mr. Ben Grey and retired to Welwyn. Mrs. Traquair died at Welwyn in 1934.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Robert Traquair are buried in the Beaver Rapids Cemetery. Three of their children Grace (D. 1965), John (D. 1963), and William (D. 1972) are also buried in this cemetery.

Traquair, John S. (Jack)

Jack Traquair was born and grew up on the farm in Ellice but when the First World War broke out in 1914 he, at age 22, enlisted in the tenth C.M.R.'s and served in France. Upon his return in 1918, he took up farming on the South West quarter of 18-16-29 which had earlier been homesteaded by his Uncle William who had never married.

In January, 1921 Jack married Mae Minchin in New Perth, P.E.I. Jack and Mae lived on the farm until 1940 when they moved into the village of Welwyn. Three children were born at the farm — Robert (1923), John (1926), and Miriam (1933). Mae passed away at Welwyn in 1955 and Jack in 1963.

During the years on the farm Jack served as councillor and on the school board and Mae's experience as nurse came in handy when it was impossible to get a doctor.

Robert and Margaret now reside in Osoyoos, B.C., Jack and Marie live in Burns Lake, B.C. and Miriam and Lorne live in Calgary.

Tremblay, Luc and Elizabeth as related by Marguerite Desjarlais

My father Luc and my uncle Edouard Simard (my mother's brother), both 21 years old, came to Manitoba in 1882, from Baie St. Paul, Quebec. They came to work with my uncle Horace Dumais, "surveyor," in Birtle, Manitoba, where there was a C.P.R. branch line from Winnipeg. From there they went to work north of Rossburn and around Kamsack. After a few years of working in the bush opening homesteads, they had earned enough money and decided to buy homesteads around Rossburn. They were cheap — only \$10.00 each. My uncle Edouard sent for his family that was still in Quebec. My grandfather Arsene Simard, was a widower then and had a family of eight children; the oldest, uncle



M. et Mme. Joseph Tremblay.

Hidolas, stayed in Quebec, and my aunt Evangeline, married Ovide Guay. There was my mother, Elizabeth, 16 years old, with three younger sisters and one younger brother, uncle Alfred (Petit). She was housekeeper and mother to them. Uncle Edmond Simard also came with them, he was to help them get settled. They arrived in Birtle in November of 1887, and went to a little log house around Rossburn, on a homestead, which uncle Edouard had prepared for them. Now, here is the sad part of the story which my mother used to tell us and we would cry with her. When they got to their little home, my uncle Edmond had to go and get my father and uncle Edouard to tell them the family had arrived, but when he got there, my poor uncle Edouard had been dead for a week, killed accidentally by a tree while logging. His frozen body was in a box. This was the way they found out about the mission in St. Lazare and Father Decorby, a friendly Oblate missionary from France who had founded this mission in 1883. He went to Rossburn and told my parents to come and take a homestead near the mission. They brought uncle Edouard and buried him in the old graveyard there. He was one of the first to be buried there. I found the date on his gravestone. It read November 1887, 26 years old.

On Father Decorby's advice my father and grandfather took homesteads around the mission. My grandfather took one on the hill near the mission and my father took one where Reg Decorby's place is today, so he would be closer to Fort Ellice to do their shopping.

My parents were married in 1889 by Father Decorby and they stayed there for a few more years. In the meantime, my father sent for his three brothers, Israel, Joseph and Alphonse Tremblay and one sister.

Uncle Joseph started a little store by the Mission, across from the church. My father decided to take a homestead closer to the Mission, so he sold his old one to Father Decorby's brother Joseph, for \$65.00. It is still in his name today. My father took a homestead right near the church, north of the old graveyard. Our family was all born there. Our grandfather Simard was living with us by now. He had sold his land to my father and stayed with us until he died at age 87. My father was very busy, breaking his land with one horse and one ox; he bought some cattle and also had pigs, geese and chickens.

It was a very pleasant place, with all our uncles and aunties with their families around. Uncle Venance Deschambault was on the hill with his big family. He had married Aunt Bertha Simard. Uncle Ovide Guay with his family was also on the hill. He married aunt Evangeline Simard. And there was uncle Edmond and aunt Sarah with their family of



Luc Tremblay Family: Eugenie, Edward, Luc and Marie (standing). Sitting: Grandpa Arsene Simard, Marguerite (4), Elizabeth holding Paul and Luc Sr. holding Joseph (twins), 1908.

ten; Uncle Israel Tremblay, with his family of nine near the mission. The little one room Decorby School was just like one big family. They also built a big stone church.

In 1908, they were working on the railway (The C.N.R.), which was called the Grand Trunk Pacific, at that time. I remember because that was the year my twin brothers Paul and Joseph were born. Uncle Joseph moved his store in 1911. They built a municipal office, my uncle Henri Tillman was the secretary.

My father was very ambitious and was a good worker. He bought some new land now in the Qu'Appelle Valley and the last section of land he bought was a quarter section from the Hudson's Bay (7-17-28), a beautiful place where the Qu'Appelle Valley joins the Assiniboine River, about a mile from the village. My brothers lived there until three years ago. My only living brother Joseph sold it and retired to Villa Decorby.

This is my story of our dear parents and relatives of St. Lazare. We are very grateful that our parents taught us true faith in God and good morals! I will end this with the beautiful song: "I love those dear hearts and gentle people who live in my home town!"

Tremblay, Israel (Sr.) and Edith

Israel was born August 5th, 1870, at La Baie St. Paul Quebec. Edith Bergeron was born February 12th, 1871, at Ile Aux Coudres Quebec. Israel and Edith were married on February 12th, 1892, at St. Louis Chambord, Quebec. Shortly after their marriage, Israel and Edith decided to move west where a few years earlier Luc, a brother to Israel, had settled down. They arrived at St. Lazare by the old cemetery. Israel's first undertaking was a butcher shop and although being a great butcher, things did not materialize and he quit. He borrowed \$5,000.00 from his nephew Fortunat Bergeron, and purchased a ½ section of land and tried farming. Again this proved unfavourable and the land was sold to Eugene Fouillard. Later he moved to St. Lazare and worked as a railroad labourer and at other odd jobs until retirement. Israel was followed by two other brothers when he moved west. Luc who had come before Israel became a farmer, Joseph opened a grocery store and Alphonse was a lifetime railroad labourer. In the span of fifty odd years while living in the St. Lazare area, Israel and Edith raised nine children. The oldest named **Gratia** was born in 1894 and later married J. A. Blouin, a school teacher. **Leatitia** (1895) married Henri Chartier, a local farmer. **Sylvio**

born in 1897 remained unmarried. **Tirel** —1898 married Maggie King. **Lorenzo** (1899) married Annette Cadieux. **Anna-Marie** (1903) married Jean Bouvier in 1925. **Leon** was born in 1901. **George** (1908) married Eva Roy in 1940. **Marthe** was born in 1909 and died in 1917 at the age of 8. One child died from diphtheria. Israel died on June 21, 1950 and Edith passed away December 4, 1953 and both rest peacefully in the St. Lazare cemetery.

Tremblay, Sylvio Roland (Shoemaker) as Ivan Tremblay imagines his uncle Sylvio telling his own story

"I was born Sylvio Roland on June 6, 1897, at our home at what they used to call the "Old Mission" situated ½ mile west of St. Lazare, by the old cemetery. I was the second son of a family of five boys and four girls, and my father and mother were Israel Tremblay of La Baie St. Paul, P.Q., and Edith Bergeron of L'Ile aux Coudres P.Q.

My early childhood was happy till the age of five when I contacted the crippling disease "infantile paralysis" that we now know as polio. In the early 1900's doctors were very few and their knowledge was limited, so my burden was endured at home. My right leg remained the size of that of a five year old while the rest of my body grew to its adult stage. To cover this embarrassment, I covered this deformed leg with approximately twenty-four stockings but as I got older I could not hide my other deformity; the forever growing hump on my back, caused by many years of walking with a crutch and cane. It was very hard living under these circumstances, not being able to participate, being the constant victim of kids' cruelty and later on in life of adults' ridicule, jokes, and worst of all the pity and stares directed towards handicapped persons.

I adapted, I became thick skinned, and I learned a trade; that of shoe repair and leather work at which I became quite proficient. During my span of thirty years or so of repairing shoes, my best customers were the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary who paid both in cash and prayers. Also I did work for farmers, driving tractors, running threshing machines, and other odd jobs. Another outlet for my frustrations was playing the violin, at which I became quite good; I played for many a dance and party!

My home was a small house in the back lane near the lumber yard, with the upstairs serving as my workshop. This place became known as the "Shoemaker's Shack". It was the scene of many happy gatherings, parties, and frequented at one time or another by all my friends, plus many a stranger. It also harboured transients who needed a place to stay; nephews who were having problems with their par-

ents, brothers or whoever; it was well known that after Sylvio's first drink, everybody was welcome at the "Shoemaker's Shack".

Life goes on and upon reaching sixty-five, I received my pension, \$150.00 per month; I had never been so rich, I even had some left over to lend to my nephew, Jacques. All my life I had struggled on meagre earnings, supplemented by donations from Eugene Fouillard Sr. and now I was retired and living comfortably.



Sylvio Tremblay.

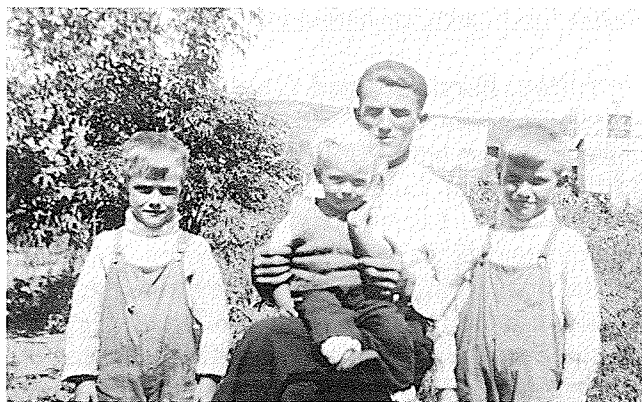
At age seventy-two I became sick and went to Brandon General Hospital, and later was transferred to the Assiniboine Hospital."

Sylvio Roland, best known as "the Shoemaker", loved by all who knew him, famed for ringing the church bell at all funerals, died on January 6, 1973 in Brandon. Sylvio is now resting in peace in the St. Lazare Cemetery next to his mother and father.

Tremblay, Tirel and Maggie

Four brothers, Luc, Israel, Joseph and Alphonse left Baie St. Paul, Quebec in 1900 to settle in St. Lazare. All the Tremblays here are descendants of Luc and Israel. Israel was born April 25, 1870 in Quebec. He married Edith Bergeron, who was born in 1871 in L'Ile aux Coudres. Their son Israel, better known as "Tirel" was born in 1898 and was only two

when his family came to St. Lazare. When Tirel was young he lived with Father Lalonde who purchased a threshing outfit which Tirel operated for a couple of years. In 1915, he started working as a section man for C.N.R. and this was his occupation for the next 35 years. In 1947, he was forced to retire, because of injuries suffered at work to his right leg and foot. From then on he worked at odd jobs in the community. In 1930, Tirel married Roberta Margaret Barbara King, "Maggie", who was born Feb 5th, 1912 near Crewe. She was the daughter of William King and Henrietta (Gwyer). They lived in various houses in St. Lazare, until Tirel's work with C.N. took them to Welby where they were to spend four years. When they moved back to St. Lazare, they bought a log house from Eugene Fouillard which still stands today — owned by Gilles Chartier. Tirel was a man who had little formal education, but he had a quick wit, and very little in the community escaped his notice. He could tell many entertaining stories when he had an appreciative audience, his box of "snoose" and a glass of spirits! He enjoyed cards and perhaps it was his ability to read another person's character, which made him a good poker player. He couldn't stand litter or garbage of any description left lying around and on his daily walks uptown, he would gather papers and wrappings, and curse the careless litter bugs!



Tirel Tremblay with Bobby, Buster and Bill.

Maggie was a person of strong character who provided love and stability for her family. She was always willing to come to the aid of others, and spent many hours nursing the sick, or assisting her neighbors. She too, loved to play cards and was a worthy opponent at crib. She is well remembered by all who knew her. Tirel died Dec. 11, 1975 and Maggie on July 6, 1981.

They raised 7 children, 5 boys and 2 girls. **William** was born in 1931. He married Lucille Fafard, May 2 1958, the daughter of Lea Fafard and



Maggie Tremblay with Ruth (Tootsie).

Jacqueline Cantin of Ste. Marthe. Bill started working for P.F.R.A. and has been with them for 37 years. He and Lucille live in Regina. They have 6 children: Bill Jr. born 1959 who works for Saskatchewan Potash; Peggy born in 1960 who is married to Noel Pilon and lives in Regina; Glen born in 1961 works as a contractor; Martin, born in 1963 is employed by Simpsons-Sears; and Brian born in 1964 and Chantelle in 1969 who are still in school. **Bobby**, was born in 1932. He married Marie-Anne Fafard in 1959 at Ste. Marthe. Bobby worked for many years at Ben Fouillard's garage, and he and Marie-Anne lived in a house built by Ben Fouillard which they moved to an acreage about a mile from St. Lazare. Bobby now works for the Potash Mine, and they make their home in Ste. Marthe. They have 5 children: Suzanne is married to Alan Wishkey and lives near Welwyn; they have two children. Julie is working in Regina; Joey is going to University in Regina, and works part-time as a life guard and Philippe and Dianne go to school in Rocanville.

Jerome (Buster) was born Aug. 22, 1934 in St. Lazare. He married Georgette Fouillard on Sept. 28, 1959. Georgette was the eldest daughter of Georges and Agnes (Smith) Fouillard. Buster has worked as General Field Superintendent for Permanent Concrete, pipeline division, for many years. He travels back and forth across Canada many times each year. They lived in Edmonton for 5 years but are now residing in Maitland, Ont. They have 3 children, Barbara Mae, born Aug. 18, 1960 in Russell, works as a Project Manager at Mississauga, Ont. John Howard was born Aug. 22, 1962 and works as a

Loader Operator with Permanent Concrete at Brockville, Ont. Larry Robert, an adopted son, was born Dec. 1, 1970. He is attending St. Mary's Separate School in Brockville, Ont. **Ruth**, eldest daughter of Maggie and Tirel, married Roland Fouillard, **Susie** married Claude Chartier.

Denis, was born in Jan. 1944 at Welby, Sask. In Nov. of 1963 he married Edith Lawrence of McAuley, Man. Denis has driven a truck for Fouillard's Implement Exchange for 24 years. They have 3 sons, Donald born in 1964, Ronald 1967 and Richard in 1971.

Scott grew up and received his education in St. Lazare. On Aug. 28, 1971 he married Genevieve, eldest daughter of Jacques and Martine Guay. Genevieve took her teacher's training in Brandon, and except for a year off when her daughter Carmen was born (June 12, 1972) she has taught school in St. Lazare for almost 12 years. Scott worked on the Trans-Canada Pipeline for many years, then started working with the Potash Mine at Rocanville. Scott and Genevieve bought their present home from Conrade Plante in 1976. Scott is an outdoor enthusiast, hunting in the summertime and skidooing in the winter. Genevieve likes to cross country ski in her spare time.

Tremblay, Lorenzo (Mazo)

"Mazo" was born in December 1900 in St. Lazare. He was known as a hard worker and a conscientious man. One of his qualities was his good

humour. Mazo always had time for a friendly "good day". He left school at an early age to earn a living. He was known for his painting ability which later became his trade. With the help of his wife, Annette (Cadieux) he spent several years as caretaker of Decorby school. In winter, Mazo was in charge of heating the church for Sunday Mass. With Dominique Lemoine as a partner, Mazo braved winter blasts to haul ice with horse and sleigh from the river to local residents and creamery. He worked at the creamery for a number of years. Annette and Mazo had a family of seven — **Mariette** (1934) now Mrs. Ron Furdyk, lives in Selkirk. They have two children. **Fernand** (1936); **Yvette** (1938) now Mrs. Eugene Fouillard, they have six children; **Gustave** (1939-1975); **Gracia** (1941) living in Winnipeg is now Mrs. Paul-Emile Fouillard, with four children; **Angela** (1943) now Mrs. Ted Tschetter lives in High River, Alberta with two children and **Stella** (1947) is Mrs. Mickey Savino living in New York with two children.

This writer recalls a hot Sunday when fans gathered in St. Lazare for a baseball tournament; Mazo was employed as bartender at Fort Ellice Hotel, because the only thirst quencher available was lemonade, Mazo decided to do something about it. He opened the doors of the pub, and in no time, the place was full of thirsty customers. Business had never been so good! Needless to say, that ended Mazo's brief career as bartender.

Tremblay, Fernand and Gustave by Ivan Tremblay

Fernand was born in Birtle hospital on February 14, 1936, son of Lorenzo and Annette (Cadieux) Tremblay of St. Lazare. His brother Gustave Philippe, nicknamed "Gus", was also born in Birtle hospital on November 10, 1939. They were the only two boys in a family of seven. As youths they grew up in a small town environment; activities consisted of hunting, fishing, playing ball in summer and sleigh riding, skating and playing hockey in winter.

Both parents passed away quite young so Gus and Fernand, with the help of their older sisters Mariette and Yvette, kept the family together. Later, when the girls left home and Gus and Fernand were living alone, their home burned down. They then purchased a small trailer which they called home for many years.

When Fernand left school, he learned the painting trade from his father and later improved by working for Fouillard Implement Exchange. This job involved painting equipment and later when this phase of work ran out, he transferred to Fouillard Lumber where he painted houses and wooden struc-



Annette and Lorenzo Tremblay.

tures. To date he still paints for private individuals and does other odd jobs. Gustave worked as a mechanic's helper, CNR labourer, truck driver and finally settled down to steady employment with P.F.R.A.

Fernand remains a bachelor and now lives in a small comfortable bungalow on Eugene Fouillard's trailer park lot. Gustave passed away unexpectedly on March 31, 1975.

Tremblay, Eva Marie and George as told to Ivan Tremblay

I was born August 11, 1914, at Mariapolis, Manitoba, christened Eva Marie Roy; the daughter of Pierre and Rozanne (Desrochiers) Roy. Our family consisted of myself and three boys, Albert, Adrian, and Edgar. When I was five years old my mother died, and so the three boys and I were placed in separate orphanages for three years. The boys were placed at Joseph Orphanage and I went to Tache Home. During that period, visits were limited to twice a year. In 1924, our family got together and moved to Letellier, Man., where my father worked as a carpenter and my older brothers worked for farmers. In 1926, we moved to St. Lazare where I attended school and kept house for our family while my father and brothers worked for Eugene Fouillard. While there, we lived in Mrs. Fouillard's old store, then rented the municipal hall till my father built us a home during the depression years. In Winnipeg, on December 2, 1940, at the age of twenty-five, I married George Tremblay, a local mechanic. The quiet ceremony was performed by Rev. Denis Jubinville and witnessed by my father and Roger Dupont. George and I returned to St. Lazare, where between 1940 and 1968, we raised eleven children.

Ivan, born November 3, 1941, is married to Lorraine Huberdeau. See Tremblay — Ivan and Lorraine.

Jacques, born November 23, 1943, is married to Florence Ennis. They have one child named Roger. Jacques is presently living in Minnedosa and is employed by Minnedosa Auto Wreckers.

Adrienne, born May 27, 1945, married Arnie Miller. They have four children, George, Connie, Mark, and Julie. Adrienne lives in Brandon where she works as head cook in Rob Roy's Restaurant.

Marc, born July 11, 1946, married Jacinthe Huberdeau. They have two boys named Marc and Claude. Marc and his family reside in Schreiber, Ontario, where he is employed as an engineer for C.P.R.

Jacinthe, born October 24, 1947, is married to Brian Stanick of Rapid City. They have four children named Michael, Raquelle, Jeffrey and Shannon.



Piti and Alphonse Tremblay.

Brian works as a foreman for a welding shop in Brandon and Jacinthe is a secretary at Brandon Mental Institute.

Jocelyne was born on March 29, 1948. She has two children named Darren and Melissa and works as a housekeeper in Brandon Mental Institute.

Monique, born on June 20, 1949, is married to John Munro. They have two children, Jonathan and Justin. John is employed by C.S.P. Foods as an electrician and Monique is a hairdresser at Ubald's Beauty Salon at Russell.

Daniel, born on June 24, 1951, married Robin DeCorby. See Tremblay, Dan and Robin.

Sylvia was born July 15, 1953; she married Don MacPherson of Brandon. They have three daughters, Amber, April, and Ashley. Don and his father have a large farming operation at Grand Valley.

Pierre, born on May 20, 1955, married Susan Sabiston. They live in Saskatoon, and have three children named Beau, Erica, and Dustin. Pierre is a construction bricklayer and Susan works as a secretary.

The caboose, named **Gerard**, better known as "Chico", was born on July 9, 1959. He married Cindy Kostecki of Schreiber, Ontario, where he now resides, working as a carpenter for C.P.R.

During this period I was kept busy raising eleven

children, caring for my blind father, and all with very limited facilities! Our home, however small, was always happy and open to everybody. It was sometimes referred to as a "24-hour stopover" place. We were forever entertaining friends, relatives, the children's boyfriends and girlfriends. George was kept busy working as a mechanic for Ben Fouillard and Son, later Hudon and Selby and again for Lazare Fouillard. Late in 1964 George went into the garage business for himself. This lasted till 1968 when a stroke forced him to retire. We and the three youngest moved to Brandon where we remained till 1979 when George passed away on August 25.

With my family married and settled, I decided to move back to St. Lazare to be with my old and dear friends at Villa DeCorby.

Tremblay, Ivan and Lorraine (Huberdeau)

I was born Lorraine Jeannette Malvina Huberdeau on March 7, 1947 at St. Boniface Hospital, the first of a family of eight. I remember being surrounded by adults as a young child. We lived very close to Ellice School so the teachers would board with us. Mom's sisters and brothers from Ste. Agathe would come to visit or to work. Dad's brothers Alex and Rene were living with us at that time also. I attended Ellice School until grade VI. I hold many memories of Mrs. Leone Dale's teaching, but especially of the Christmas concerts. Grades VII to XI were taken at St. Lazare Consolidated School. I went to St. Charles Academy in Winnipeg for grade XII. I graduated from St. Boniface College in May, 1967 with a B.A. The last year of Education was taken during the summer.

I married Ivan Tremblay on August 12, 1967 at Vermillion Bay, Ontario. Arnold and Adrienne Miller were living there at the time and hosted our small but warm wedding reception and celebration.

In September of 1967 we moved to Inglis, Man., where I taught High School French. Ivan commuted 110 miles to work daily at the I.M.C. K2 mine at Esterhazy. We moved to St. Lazare in July 1968. I taught grade V that year and have been teaching off and on ever since.

I, Ivan Edgar, son of George Tremblay and Eva Roy was born November 3rd, 1941 at Birtle Hospital, the oldest in a family of 11. Like most other small town youths, my activities consisted of playing ball, river swimming, riding horses, getting in trouble in summer, skating and playing hockey in winter. All my schooling including high school, was obtained in St. Lazare, but unlike today's system, our 25% of French was done cloak and dagger style. French books had to be well hidden when the monthly school inspector's tour was scheduled. After graduation, from 1959 to 1964 were five years of fun, uncertainty,

adventure and various jobs ranging from labourer, mechanic, school bus driver, truck driver, heavy equipment operator, municipal clerk, pipeline worker and federal employee (U.I.C.). In 1965, wanting to settle down, I joined the I.M.C. Esterhazy potash mine till 1969 when I transferred to Sylvite of Canada at Rocanville and have been there ever since. To date, I try to remain community oriented being the President of St. Lazare Athletic Association, President of St. Lazare Minor Hockey and am also serving as Village Councillor for the second term.

We have 3 children, Jason (1970), Martin (1972) and Renée (1975). The boys are involved in hockey, 4-H, and knights of the altar. All three belong to the Scout and Guide movement and take piano lessons from Diane Rice. All take swimming lessons in the summer.

Tremblay, Daniel and Robin by Robin

I, Robin, was born in Russell, daughter of Murray and Irene Decorby. Because my father sought employment in various places, I was enrolled in many schools. On the day we went to register in St. Lazare school, our car stalled on the railroad track. A train was coming towards us, but we were too stunned to get out of the vehicle. We just sat there! Just before the train got too close for comfort, the car, somehow, just rolled off the track! After I completed my schooling, I worked in the Bank of Montreal in St. Lazare and later in St. Boniface.

Danny, born in Birtle is the son of George and Eva Tremblay. After completing his grade IX in St. Lazare, Danny attended school in Wilcox where he played hockey with the Notre Dame Hounds. He also played junior hockey with Dauphin Kings. At this time in his hockey career he received a trophy for scoring 100 goals, which he bettered by nine! He has travelled extensively since he began playing. In between hockey games we were married in St. Lazare, but lived in Brandon. From Brandon we moved to Schreiber, Ont. where he was employed by Permanent Concrete. After several moves to and from McAuley, we purchased a lot and trailer from Danny's brother, Marc. This we have sold, and we are now living in our new home where his parents had their house. Danny is employed at the Potash mine as a mill operator. After several years of playing hockey away from home, he is now playing with the St. Lazare Outlaws. Besides following Danny around I also have two children to follow, Jodie (1975) and Jade (1980).

Tremblay, Joseph

I was born January 10th, 1908, at the old mission site and lived on a farm, where my father kept pure

bred cattle, and grew enough feed for them. We milked cows as youngsters, my twin brother, Paul and I. We started going to school at seven years of age when Mr. Blouin was a teacher.

In 1925, we bought the building in town where my uncle Joseph Tremblay had had a store before then. We kept our cattle and bought another farm by the Qu'Appelle bridge, and we built a house for our family which was my mother Elizabeth, and my dad Luc, and my two deaf and dumb brothers Edoard and Luc, and my three sisters Eugenie, Marie and Marguerite.

I lived on the farm until all my family had died, except, my sister Marguerite Desjarlais. Three years ago in 1980, I moved in to Villa DeCorby and sold the farm. I am now 75 years old and enjoying the golden age!

Tremblay, Joseph

Je suis né à St. Lazare le 10 janvier, 1908, à la vieille mission près du cimetière. Nous avons vécu sur une petite ferme là où mon père faisait l'élevage des animaux pure race.

A l'âge de sept ans, mon frère jumeau, Paul et moi avons commencé à marcher à l'école, en 1915 quand M. Blouin enseignait à la vieille mission.

Plus tard nous avons appris à traire les vaches, et à prendre part aux travaux de la ferme. Je me souviens avoir eu bien froid à charoyer du bois de corde, et de la paille en hiver. Nous avons tous souffert pendant la dépression des années 1930 etc.

Nous avons quitté notre petite ferme en 1925 et mon père avait acheté le vieux magasin de son frère Joseph Tremblay. Mes soeurs tenaient un petit restaurant là pendant quelques années et plus tard mon père acheta une autre ferme près du pont de la rivière Qu'Appelle et nous avons recommencé l'élevage des animaux et ensemencé assez pour récolter le fourrage nécessaire. Pendant ces années, j'ai vu mourir mon père Luc, ma mère Elizabeth, mes deux frères sourds et muets Edouard et Luc, mon frère Paul et mes soeurs Marie et Eugénie. Ma soeur Marguerite Desjarlais est la seule qui vit encore.

En 1980, j'ai vendu la ferme et je me suis réfugié au foyer Villa Decorby. J'ai 75 ans et je jouis d'une assez bonne santé!

La Famille Albert Scott Tremblay

Nous nous présentons, Albert Scott Tremblay et Geneviève.

Nous nous sommes unis en mariage le 28 août, 1971, dans l'église catholique de St. Lazare par Père Comeault. Albert Scott est le benjamin d'Israël Tremblay et Margaret King et Geneviève est l'aînée de Jacques Guay et Martine Chartier. Présentement,

nous habitons dans une des plus anciennes demeures de St. Lazare.

Albert Scott, né le 16 janvier, 1945, se souvient d'avoir quitté l'école assez tôt en trouvant de l'emploi chez les Fouillard. La chasse et même le hockey l'occupait. A 16 ans, il est allé travailler pour le "P.F.R.A.". Deux ans plus tard, il est parti travailler sur la "pipe-line", ce qui lui a permis de voir du pays d'un océan à l'autre. Présentement, il est employé à la mine de potasse de Rocanville, Saskatchewan. Les passe-temps favoris de Scott sont les mêmes que ceux de sa jeunesse. Il est membre de l'Association Athlétique et est un pompier volontaire de la communauté. Il ne faut pas oublier de mentionner sa grande passion pour les jeux de cartes.

Geneviève, née le 14 février 1947, est allée à l'école à St. Lazare. Elle était pensionnaire au couvent de la Présentation de Marie lorsqu'elle était jeune. Elle a eu la chance d'apprendre à jouer du piano avec Soeur Emma Rousseau. Ah! Que la soeur était patiente! En plus, Geneviève aidait au magasin de son père après l'école. Ses passe-temps étaient de jouer du piano, de pratiquer le patinage de fantasia. Plus tard, elle est devenue guide. Geneviève est allée à l'académie St. Michael de Brandon, Manitoba, faire sa 11e et 12e années. Ces deux années ont été très enrichissantes. Lorsqu'elle a terminé sa 12e année, on lui a proposé de choisir la carrière d'enseignement. Elle a accepté et enseigne encore. Ses intérêts sont le tricot, la lecture et la randonnée de ski de fond. Elle est membre du comité de liturgie et est responsable du décor.

Carmen Louise, est née le 12 juin, 1972. Elle est notre enfant unique. Carmen est en train de compléter sa 5e année. C'est une fille assez active. Le 4-H, le piano, les jeannettes et ses animaux occupent beaucoup de son temps. En plus, elle pratique le ski de fond, le patinage et la natation.

Tremblay, Ivan et Lorraine

Je suis née Lorraine Jeannette Malvina Huberdeau le 7 mars 1947, l'aînée d'une famille de huit enfants de Louis Huberdeau et Jeanne Fenez. Même si mes parents habitaient la ferme à St. Lazare, je suis née à l'hôpital St. Boniface. Il y avait tellement de neige cet hiver-là que mon grand-père Rosario avait envoyé ma mère, Jeanne, par train, rester avec sa tante Emilienne Normandeau à St. Boniface pour être plus près de l'hôpital en attendant le bébé.

J'ai de très bons souvenirs de ma jeunesse. Nous allions à Ste. Agathe visiter les grands-parents presque à tous les ans, alors j'avais vu la grande ville de Winnipeg à un jeune âge. Il y avait toujours beaucoup d'adultes dans notre maison, filles de ménage, em-

ployés, oncles, tantes et les maîtresses d'école. N'oublions pas les "Cavaliers". Je me souviens surtout de Denis Fouillard qui visitait Hortense. Il fallait qu'il me parle au téléphone et je recevais moi aussi une boîte de chocolat à chaque fois qu'il en donnait une à Hortense.

L'école faisait partie de ma vie à un très bas âge. L'école Ellice n'était qu'à 200 mètres de la maison et les maîtresses pensionnaient avec nous. J'aimais regarder Hortense Fillion-Fouillard et Alma Desrosiers Perreault travailler dans leurs livres le soir et je guettais leur retour de l'école après quatre heures.

En juin 1953, mes parents m'ont mis pensionnaire pour trois semaines pour me préparer à la première communion et confirmation. J'ai commencé l'école en septembre 1953 à l'école Ellice avec Mme Léone Dale comme professeur. L'école était petite et pauvre à comparer à maintenant, mais c'était intéressant avec Mme Léone. Nous avions un concert de Noël à tous les ans. Un vendredi en novembre, c'était la danse de l'école. Alors on plaçait tous les pupitres le long des murs, on balayait le plancher et lavait les tableaux. Cette danse était extrêmement importante! Avec les profits, Mme Léone payait les dépenses du concert et elle nous achetait chacun un cadeau. Vers la fin de novembre, nous écrivions les paroles de pièces et de chansons dans notre cahier pour les apprendre. Vers la mi-décembre, M. Frank Dale venait construire le théâtre. Les rideaux étaient des draps gris en "flannelette". Nous devions décorer les fenêtres et les murs. Les jours passaient à pratiquer pour le concert. Quelle patience, cette Mme Léone! Mais ce n'était pas toujours drôle à la petite école! Parfois, la fournaise arrêta et on gela. D'autres fois, il faisait trop froid pour marcher au puits de mon père pour y chercher de l'eau. Alors on s'en passait pour la journée. Quand la classe était trop sale, Mme Léone nommait des élèves pour balayer pendant la récréation. En 1958, l'école Ellice ferma ses portes. Mon père Louis l'acheta et continua à y faire des danses jusqu'à ce qu'elle brûle en 1960.

J'ai pris la 7e-11e année à l'école Consolidée de St. Lazare, étant pensionnaire au couvent pour la 7e et 10e année. Je suis allée à l'académie St. Charles à Winnipeg pour ma douzième année. J'ai fréquenté le Collège St. Boniface de 1964-1967 où j'ai reçu un Baccalauréat-ès-Arts (Philosophie Latine) et j'ai pris la dernière année d'Education pendant les mois d'été jusqu'en 1968.

J'ai marié Ivan Tremblay le 12 août 1967 à Vermillion Bay, Ontario où sa soeur Adrienne Miller vivait. Nous avons demeuré un an à Inglis, Manitoba, où j'enseignais pendant qu'Ivan travaillait à la mine I.M.C. à Esterhazy.

En septembre 1968, j'ai commencé à enseigner la 5e année à St. Lazare, où j'y suis depuis ce temps. J'ai été très impliquée dans plusieurs organisations: les Dames Auxiliaires 1971-73, Community Crossroads Committee, Le Comité Culturel, Manitoba Teachers' Society Executive 1979-80. Dans le moment, je m'intéresse beaucoup au mouvement scout et guide, à la liturgie et la chorale de l'église et au festival de poésie et de musique.

Pour Ivan Tremblay regardez l'article en anglais.

Nous avons trois enfants, Jason (1970), Martin (1972), Renée (1975). Ils fréquentent tous l'école St. Lazare. Jason et Martin sont actifs dans le hockey depuis qu'ils ont cinq ans. Ils jouissent d'être enfants de chœur et ils sont membres du 4-H où ils aiment faire de la menuiserie. Les garçons et Renée prennent des leçons de piano et font partie du mouvement scout et guide. Pendant l'été, ils suivent des cours de natation.

Turnbull, James and Cecilia

by Norman Leslie Turnbull

James, "Jimmy" was born in Rosario in the Argentine, S.A. in 1867. His parents, Rev. George and Georgina Turnbull were Anglican Missionaries to that area in the 1860's. Jimmy was the youngest of a family of seven. He returned to England with his parents when just a lad. During the 1870's the family immigrated to Petrolia, Ontario. I believe my father went to school there as I recall him saying that the children used to sail wooden chips down the street gutters which were running, not with water, but oil and coal-oil.

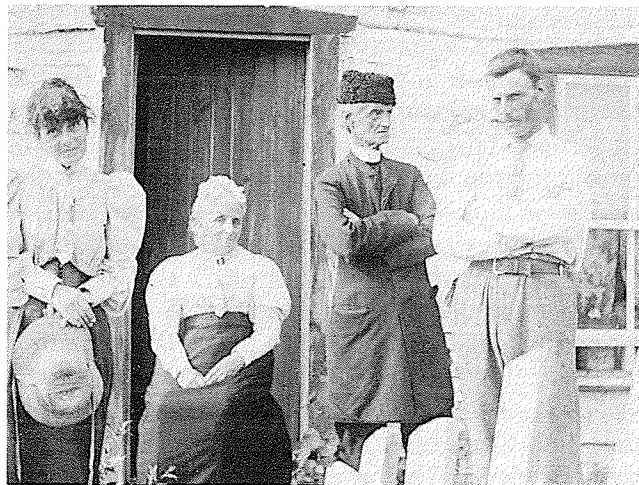
In the late 1870's emigration from Ontario to the west was in full swing and people were flocking to Portage La Prairie and points west. The town of Rapid City was booming with seven sections of land surveyed for a town site. It was to this area my father came with his parents. By the time he was 16 he had finished his education going as far as he could in school at that time.

About 1881 the Scottish Ontario and Manitoba Land Company had obtained three townships of land in the Silver Creek area with the intention of putting immigrant settlers on the tract as a colonization project. News of this spread widely and Dad, hearing it, decided at age 16 to head North West. He took off on foot in 1882 along the Fort Pelly Trail. He arrived at the homestead of Samuel Widdicombe, S.E. ¼ — 36-18-28.

About that time homesteading had been thrown open to young men. Jimmy took over the N.W. ¼ — 36-18-28 of the same section as Widdicombe's that was still open for homesteading in 1883. Later he pre-empted the S.W. quarter and in 1910 bought the

East ½ from Mr. Widdicombe when the latter retired. It was thus that all of Section 36-18-28 came under the name of James Turnbull. Falloons, Pizzeys, Grants, Ebborns, Dunlops, Fergusons, Selbys, DeCorbys and Irwins are names that I recall as neighbors in Ellice. Most of these men were pioneers in the area before the railway came through. James Turnbull hauled his first wheat to Moosomin, a distance of 60 miles. The round trip took a week. While putting in his required duties on his homestead, Dad got logs for a house and barn. The logs were poplar, trimmed and shaped with axe and adze. Later my father went North to the 'bush' or the timbered country of the Riding Mountains. This he did for two or three winters taking part in log drives down the Shell River to Millwood during the spring break up. In this manner he acquired sufficient lumber that would later replace the log home with a frame one.

When the log house was finished Dad brought his aged parents from Rapid City and they lived with him



Original log home, 1895: Barbara Turnbull, Mrs. Georgina Turnbull, Rev. George Turnbull, James Turnbull.

until their deaths — Grandfather in 1902 and Grandmother in 1904. I have heard my father say that in those early days he would frequently look into his parent's room on winter mornings and see hoar frost fringing the covers on their bed.

There were no power chain saws in the early logging days. It was all human muscle power with axe and crosscut saws. The camp cook was the kingpin of the camp community. However, camp cooks came in different categories in those days, as they still do. One of the tales of the early days in the woods was of the cook who was warned repeatedly that he had better clean himself up a bit. Unheeding, he found himself escorted to a hole in the ice of a nearby lake. A rope was forcibly tied under his arms and several brawny homesteaders dunked him up and

down in the icy waters, none but the victim saying a word. After a few minutes of this cleansing treatment he was hauled out, released and directed toward the camp; all in silence. Scuttlebutt told of his 'getting the message.'

During the early 1890's my father met Cecilia Scarth, who, upon the death of her father Robert Scarth of 'Binscarth Farm' in Orkney had come to Manitoba to keep house for her brothers, Mathew and William Scarth. Their sister Cecilia and Dad were married in 1898 and in 1900 I was born.

Some of James Turnbull's early harvests experienced threshing with horse power, and bucking straw away from the separator by hand. Later, Dave Hall and some neighbors got together, formed a syndicate and bought the first steam tractor and threshing machine in this area of Silver Creek and Ellice Municipalities. The separator had a blower instead of a 'carrier'. Whenever a move was made the blower had to be laboriously taken off by hand and hoisted to the top of the separator. In re-setting, the process was reversed. I believe my father and two uncles, Mathew and William Scarth were members of the syndicate for several years.

Pioneers of those early days made their own amusement. In winter there were skating and snowshoeing parties, dances and card parties at local homes, even debates and boxing bouts. As the gloves usually came after the debates, I found my young mind meditating on the fact that one had better be prepared to back up his words with a pair of gloves. However, I was early advised that I had better choose my words first!

Dad belonged to the Binscarth Masonic Lodge. He was one of the early members of the United Grain Growers Grain Co. He was fond of football, tennis, training horses, fishing and hunting. He saw to it that I became proficient with a rifle at an early age and that I learned how to hunt and kill game as humanely as possible.

Jimmy left us in 1943 to go on to other 'Hunting Grounds'. He and my mother, who predeceased him in 1937 were pioneers in Ellice who left their son, his wife and family, a heritage of which to be proud.

Turnbull, Norman Leslie

Norman, only child of James and Cecilia Turnbull, was born August 24, 1900, at Grip Fast Farm, N.W. ¼ 36-18-28. He started school at Balmerino; summers saw him walking to school or riding his pony. Three winters he and his two cousins, Robert and William Scarth walked on their snow shoes, a distance of almost three miles. They were warned that if a blizzard blew up during the day they were to wait at the school until someone came for them with

team and sleigh. On one well remembered occasion, a March storm roared down from the North West shortly after the three boys had started out for home. Fortunately, it was not too cold. As they had made a well beaten path by walking one behind the other they kept to that for a guide and arrived at the Scarth home well covered with ice! Norman's father had started for the school with team and sleigh but missed his road in the storm, and when he arrived at the school the boys had already left. He let the team follow the snow shoe track and caught up with the boys soon after they had reached the Scarth home. There were no telephones in those days, and many a parent had anxious moments during the winter months. Gymnasium was but a dictionary word, our exercise was 'shank's pony'; in summer, we left our foot prints on many a dusty, rural road.

Norman obtained Grade VIII at Balmerino. He went to High School in Binscarth for two months. Because of bad winter roads and a five mile drive his parents sent him to St. John's College in Winnipeg. There he obtained his Junior Matriculation, Grade XI, in the spring of 1916. Due to ill health he did not return to St. John's but stayed home and worked on the farm. By 1918 he took over the management of the farm along with his mother, Cecilia. He spent the winter of 1919-20 at Manitoba Agricultural College taking First Year Degree. The following year he continued to farm with his Mother. From her, due to her experience in banking and business with her father, (Robert Scarth of Binscarth Farm in Orkney), Norman obtained a practical education in farm management.

In 1924 Norman met Ellen Grace Atkinson of Hamiota. Their friendship continued to grow, and in June of 1926 they were married. They lived on the farm east of Binscarth until the spring of 1927 when they moved to 'Hamiota Farm', Grace's home. From there Norman continued to help manage the farm at Binscarth and did so until the fall of 1928 when Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Cooke from Marquis, Sask. purchased the W ½-36-18-28 from Cecilia Turnbull. Those were the years of the Great Depression. In two years the price of wheat fell from \$1.40 per bushel to 20¢. Well established farmers were going under. It was particularly hard on the younger men who were just starting out on their own. Sections of the best farm land in the west were being offered for sale from eight to ten thousand dollars with no takers.

In the fall of 1931 Norman obtained employment with G. W. Spearman who owned and operated the Hamiota Flour Mill. In 1934 he sold out the Hamiota farm and continued with the flour milling business for eight years. In 1936 the Constituency of Hamiota sent him to the Legislature under the Social Credit

banner. He was returned to two succeeding Legislatures, representing Hamiota for 12 years, five of them as Minister without Portfolio. During his final term, he sat as an Independent.

During the 23 years they lived in the Municipality and town of Hamiota six children were born to Norman and Grace; Robert Orison, Georgina Constance, Ida May Cecilia, Jessie Hope, Leslie Blanche, and Violet Heather. The three oldest attended Hamiota schools. Jessie, Leslie and Heather went to Binscarth and Russell. Norman and Grace and family had moved back to the old farm in Ellice by the time their last two daughters, Leslie and Heather started school.

In 1940 Norman took a more active part on the farm. He had always maintained a tenant's interest in the E½-36-18-28 and in the spring of that year he came from Hamiota during seeding and harvest and helped farm the whole of 36-18-28 in partnership with A. H. (Bert) Cooke. In 1942, following the death of G. W. Spearman and the succession to the Hamiota mill by George Spearman Jr., Norman gave up the milling business and turned his whole attention to the farm and his legislative position for the constituency of Hamiota. During summer holidays in the forties all the family came to the farm and lived in the old log house. The children learned to love the land, even though electricity was not yet available to the farms; they received a taste of pioneering which did them no harm.

After the death of his father, in 1943, Norman purchased the E½-36-18-28. In 1950 the family moved back from Hamiota and since that time have made their permanent home on S.E. ¼-36-18-28. In June of 1949 a rebuilt log house burned down while both Norman and son Robert were batching there.

This house was replaced by the old house from the Pool Elevator at Chillon. The house was moved to the Turnbull farm by Wm. Fenty & Son of Hamiota in the summer of 1949. Norman and Grace added a 22 x 12' story and a half to the south end. This gave them needed room for the family still at home.

In 1950 when Bert Cooke retired, Norman bought back the S.W.¼-36-18-28 and Jim Orr purchased the N.W.¼-36-18-28. By that time Robert (Bob) Turnbull had leased the W.½-5-27-19 in Silver Creek Municipality. This land was owned by Jack Griffiths a Civil Engineer with the Department of Public Works in the Manitoba Government. The three men, Norman and Robert Turnbull and Jim Orr continued to farm co-operatively. This they continued to do until they became fully established on their farms.

In 1951 Bob Turnbull and Ivy Hall of Foxwarren were married and set up housekeeping on Jack



Turnbull Family: Heather, Jessie, Leslie, May, Grace, Norman, Connie and Bob. Norman and Grace's 50th Wedding Anniversary, 1976.

Griffiths' farm. They lived there for 12 years, when they built their present home on the S.E. ¼-36-18-28 and in the same yard as Norman and Grace. In 1967 Bob took over the management and ownership of the 'Grip Fast Farms' and Norman and Grace retired from active farming.

They consider themselves most fortunate in that during the 57 years of their married life, their family of six, have never been farther away than a few hours drive, — Bob, on the home farm; Connie Choptuik at Isabella; May Deller at Neepawa; Jessie Woodhouse north of Binscarth, on the farm; Leslie Wrightson at Neepawa and Heather Thurston at Wetaskiwin, Alta. It is a different story with 19 grandchildren. They have spread their wings afar, the nine great grandchildren have quite some time to go before their wings carry them to unknown horizons. Only passing time will tell what their transportation will be.

Turnbull, Robert Orison

Robert (Bob), only son of Norman and Grace Turnbull, was born in Hamiota, Manitoba, on May 28th, 1927. He was educated in Hamiota and the Saskatchewan School of Vocational Agriculture. During his later school years he helped out during the summer in the partnership farming operation of his father and A. H. Cooke near Binscarth. After completing his formal education, he spent the year in B.C. Jobs were scarce for inexperienced young men at the time, due to the recent return from World War II of so many veterans. He was able to find remunerative employment by turning his hand to any thing that was available gaining experience in a variety of vocations, including land clearing, logging, saw-mill work, peat digging and five months on the John Hart Power Project at Campbell River on Vancouver Island.

Bob returned to the home at Grip Fast in 1947 in time to help take off the harvest. In the spring of 1948 he was able to lease a half section in Silver Creek Municipality, across the road from the home farms. With the help of his father and his father's partner, and that of a not-too-friendly banker, Bob set out on his own farming career. In summer he lived with his parents or batched at their home on the E½-36-18-28. For the four following winters he worked for Patricia Transportation of Winnipeg which at the time was engaged in tractor-freighting in areas beyond the reach of roads. During this period, he helped move the mining town of Sherridon 165 tractor-trail miles north to Lynn Lake, site of the new nickel strike. During this time Bob became knowledgeable in the art of moving unwieldy loads over rough terrain, and rose in the Company ranks to Swing Foreman.

In August of 1951, Bob married Ivy Eulah Hall, of Foxwarren. The couple set up housekeeping on the Silver Creek half section rented by the groom. Because farm economics of those days were as difficult as they are today, Bob returned to his work in the north, leaving the new bride to cope with a growing family, the first of which was James Norman Robert, in 1952. Other children born on the W.½ 5-19-27 were Patricia Anne in 1954, Rhonda Louise 1959, and Kenneth Gordon Leslie 1960. To help support this growing brood (and the farm!), Bob continued his winter-works program with Patricia Transportation in a variety of places in northern Canada, including Thompson, the Yukon, and a long stretch of the Mid-Canada Radar Line. His last winter in transport work was in 1965, when he helped retrieve heavy equipment from along the eastern portion of the M.C.L. after it was officially shut down.

In 1963 Ivy and Bob built a new home adjacent to that of the senior Turnbells on E½ 36-18-28. Here their last children were born; Douglas Anthony 1965 and Donald Hall 1966. The new home proved much more comfortable and convenient. They continued to farm together in a loose partnership until Grandfather Norman's retirement from active farming in 1967. The ownership and management of Grip Fast Farms passed to the third generation since the homesteading advent of J. N. R. Turnbull in 1883.

At the present time, the farm which in 1977 was enlarged to its current six quarter sections by the repurchase of the original homestead quarter (NW-36-18-28) from James H. Orr, is operated by Bob and Ivy and whichever of their four sons is currently at home. Presently Doug and Ken are the two fourth generation Turnbells to carry on a century's tradition at Grip Fast.

As well as continuing their farming operation and raising their family, both Ivy and Bob have been

active in outside community affairs. Ivy is a long time 4-H leader both locally and on the Provincial Executive. She has been active in the Binscarth United Church Women since its inception. Bob has been a Director of both Foxwarren Credit Union and Russell and Parkway Co-operative. He is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the Manitoba Credit Union Stabilization Fund.

The family has been fortunate enough to have been able to travel and always return home feeling that their little corner of the R.M. of Ellice is as good a spot as they have seen anywhere.

Bob died May 16, 1983.

Vaudry, Henry and Lucy (Tourond)

Lucy was only a child of four, and the youngest of four girls, when her mother died. She remained at home helping the family until she met Henry Vaudry who was working near Winnipegosis. They were married on February 23, 1918 at Waterhen. Henry was a section man on CNR. He moved his wife and family to Beulah, Treat, and finally St. Lazare. By now 4 children had been born to them: Celina, Honore, Roland, Emilien; and six more were to be born at St. Lazare: Aime, Roma, Simone, Leona, Helemi, and Diane. Only the youngest, Diane was born in a



Henry and Lucy Vaudry, 1920, with Baby Celina.

hospital. Henry spent much of his time working away from home and family, while working on the track in southern and eastern Saskatchewan.

Mrs. Vaudry was a great quilt and mat maker, also a very good seamstress who sewed for all her children. To her family she was the best "bread baker" around. At the age of 73, Lucy became a "Mom" once again to her grandson, Brent Fulham, whom she raised for the first two years of his life, after the death of her daughter, Simone.

Henry died on November 21, 1951 and Lucy on July 8, 1978.

Venne, Joseph Arthur as related to Yvonne Leclerc

In 1904, my father moved from Welby, Sask. to a Metis settlement called Pumpkin Plains. I was born here on November 21, 1906. My mother passed away when I was four years old. After she died, my father left and I didn't see him for twenty-eight years. I had two brothers Frank and Esodore; Ernestine and Rosana were my sisters. In 1918, we moved to St. Lazare and lived by the big stone church with an Uncle and Aunt and three children. That was the time of the big flu. I was twelve years old and the only one that didn't get it. Dr. Munroe was the name of the doctor. Cecil Lamb acted as "policeman" to put us in quarantine for forty days. About twenty days after we were put in quarantine, my aunt who was living with us, died. There was a back kitchen that we were not using. It was not heated. I had to drag my aunt across the floor to that kitchen and lay her on the floor. Two days after, the oldest girl died. I had to do the same thing with her. And do you know the other girl, the boy and my grandmother died. I had five bodies laid out on the floor of the back kitchen. People were dying so fast. There were 13 coffins piled up in the cemetery — they could not dig fast enough to bury them. All I could do was boil meat and feed my grandfather, my brothers and my sisters, a kind of meat broth. That's the only thing they could eat. They did get better, and we moved back to Saskatchewan in 1919. There I went to school. At Christmas time, we had a spelling Bee. The teacher asked me to spell "dominion". I couldn't spell it. The teacher told me to go back to my seat and after Christmas I was to start Grade II over again right from the front page. I took my book, put it on the desk and said "I'm leaving". The teacher asked "Why?", I said, "I'll never come back to school again. I have to work for a living, and I lose time in the books". I walked out and never went back. That's as far as I went in school — half of my grade II.

When I was 17, we lived in Ste. Madeleine. We

had 80 acres of land that we bought for \$400.00, four horses, a cow and a calf. I was to earn a living for myself, and some of my family, by stooking, threshing and cutting wood. I was hauling wood, cut into cord wood to Welby for \$2.00 and loading it into a box car. There were 17 cords in a car. I hauled wood into Binscarth for \$1.25.

I worked for Ed. Dupont for four years. Then I sold my horses and went up North, but it did not suit me. In 1932 I walked from Camperville to Ste. Madeleine chasing our cattle. Things were tough. I'd catch a freight in Binscarth to go to Jedburg for harvest work at \$1.25 a day. Crops were poor — it was dry and everything was drying up. I rode freight to Minnedosa to cut scrub and made \$6.00 a week.

In 1940, I took sick. I had T.B., and was sent home from the sanatorium to die. I started taking a home remedy some old fellow made, and started getting stronger. I started working again in 1944, in Fort Garry. I took a contract to build a house. While I was there, I went to visit my old room-mates in St. Boniface San. The two doctors (Dr. Sinclair and Dr. Johnson) who had looked after me, wanted to know what I was eating and my answer was "Rabbit and Bannock".

I worked in Minnedosa and Rivers, building schools, but sickness forced me to hand over my job to my boy, Alex.

Talk about hard times — I went through them. In my younger days I played baseball and I liked dancing — I could dance all night. I used to "call" for dances during winter. I was appointed Vice-Chairman of the M.M.F. (Manitoba Metis Federation) and have been a Director, also.

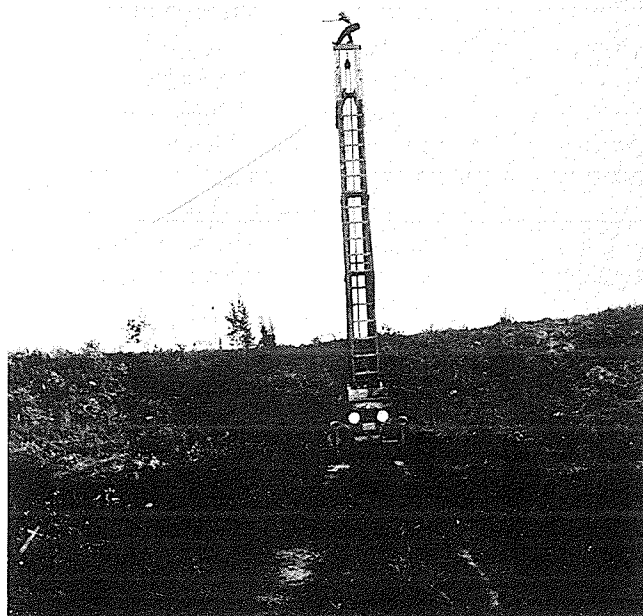
I have seen a lot of changes in my life time, but I would like to see more changes to help the Metis get housing and land claims.

Vermette, Amedee

I, Joseph Germain Amedee Vermette, was born March 13, 1904, at Maple Green, New Brunswick. I worked as a delivery boy at Campbellton, New Brunswick, before coming west to St. Lazare, August 12, 1921.

I went to work for Andrew Hunter that fall, doing the stooking and helping with the harvest. After harvest I was asked by the people of St. Lazare to stay over, because they wanted new blood in the district. It wasn't hard to persuade me, because I was madly in love with Anna. She was Anna Fouillard, born August 22, 1905 near Wapella, Saskatchewan. I worked for her brother John in 1922, the year of the big C.N.R. train wreck. It occurred where the water tank was, by Denis Fouillard's place. I remember John and I going there to salvage grain and getting away with it.

I went to work with Leo and Mazo Tremblay to haul gravel from the pit to the top of the hill in front of Henry Chartiers, making twelve loads a day each with a number two fox shovel — hand operated. Next I went to work on the section and remember a foreman by the name of Wills who loved Jelly Beans and all the time I was there I ate Jelly Beans until they were coming out of my ears. I clerked in Jules Decorby's store for a year and then went back to Campbellton to visit my parents. In three months I was back on the section at St. Lazare but soon decided to open up my own place which I called the Bingo Ice-Cream Parlor, 1924. I had only three silver dollars in my pocket. When Emile Dupont built a lumber sawmill in 1925, about where Alexandre Fouillard's house is now, I cut logs on the Victor sidehill, enough to make lumber to build my own place in 1926 (where the Post Office is now). I married Anna on November 16, 1926. She died August 24, 1928 leaving me with a little girl Rita. Not long after, she was taken from me by my in-laws. Being upset, I hit the booze and my business went under. I went to British Columbia for awhile and worked for the Straight Lumber Company at Nanoose Bay. One night my wife, Anna appeared to me in a dream or a vision and told me to go back to Rita. I headed back to St. Lazare and in 1929 began earning money working on bridges, hauling lumber, and working at the creamery. By 1930 I felt I



Bridge Building in 1929 — Amedee Vermett showing off.

could build my second place. Then I met my second wife, Flora Poirier of Gravelbourg (born June 8, 1907) and we were married February 3, 1931.

In 1939, I added on to the cafe and bake shop, making a Dine and Dance. This was a profitable business but some weren't so happy about my dance hall, and put lots of sticks in the wheels. So I shut down the Cafe and the Dine and Dance and ran just a general store.

In 1948 I sold out and retired to Maple Green where I was born. I will be back to stay for good in lot 98 at the top of the hill.

Flora and I had five children: Rene, born November 23, 1931 at St. Lazare, Alfred, born December 5, 1935 at St. Lazare, Victor, born January 24, 1937 at Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan, Therese, born January 16, 1947 at Birtle and Constant, born January 26, 1949 at Campbell River, B.C.

Vermette, Rita (now Macks)

I was born April 14, 1928, to parents Anna Fouillard, and Amedee Vermette. I was christened (get this) Rita, Georgette, Purdence, Elizabeth Vermette. Then when I was confirmed, they found out that I didn't have the name "MARIE", so they added that to it. I guess they didn't want to lose me. I went to school in St. Lazare to grade VIII, and all that time, I was taking piano lessons that were paid for with bread that my father baked.

When I was four months old, my mother passed away. I often wonder what my life would have been like, had she lived. I lived with my aunt Marguerite Dupont for about a year after my mother passed away, after which Grandma Fouillard took me in and cared for me until Dad re-married. I am fortunate to have had four step-brothers, and one step-sister, whom I love.

After grade VIII, I was sent to school in Gravelbourg, Sask., where I attended high school until grade XI. I then came back to St. Lazare for awhile, and then to Russell, where I lived at Corporal Ferguson's home, working for my room and board, until a further very drastic move to New Brunswick, where I lived with Aunt Irene for about one and a half years. Friends of mine had come to Toronto, and wrote to me saying what a good future there was in Toronto, and enticed me to follow them there. At first it was a struggle, I guess like everyone else at that time, but I eventually met and married Peter Maksimchuk, (later changed to Macks) and this marriage produced a son, Garry Brian. I have two beautiful grandchildren; a girl, Jennifer, aged eight, and a boy, Brian, aged five. They are a joy. I live in my own townhouse in Mississauga, Ontario, and have worked for the same firm for sixteen years, and I

guess I will remain here until my retirement. I have been fortunate in my life despite the obstacles that confronted me. I come from very sturdy stock. I am very fond of my heritage, and I thank you for including me in this historical event.

Vermette, Caroline Anna as related to Yvonne Leclerc

I was born near St. Lazare at what was called the Mission. My father was Ambroise Fisher and my mother was Veronica Fleury. This is where I was baptized, but I made my first communion in St. Hubert. The reason was, it was raining the day I was to make my first communion in St. Lazare and Father Lalonde said "Let her stay back," because I was late. He was so strict, we had to have our collar pinned right up, and had to wear long sleeves to go to church.

Wherever our parents worked, we moved with them. It was either scrubbing for farmers, or digging seneca roots. The Metis people at the time stayed close together, large bunches of us would go digging roots all over the plains.

On the 25 of October, 1926, when I was 18, I married Jean Desire Vermette. We were married in Ste. Madeleine by Father D'Eschambault. There were about 25 families staying there at that time, and we lived there until 1939. We moved to Winnipegosis for awhile and then back to St. Lazare. In the meantime the P.F.R.A. came in and fenced everything off and forced the families to move out. They burnt the houses. We had a quarter section there and when we went to pay our taxes (\$32.00) they would not accept our money. We did not sell our land, and when we went to move back, our house was gone. We lived in the school at Ste. Madeleine for a while, then it was sold, and we had to get out. We moved into the church for two months. All the benches and everything in it were gone. We lived there for two months with four kids. We had nothing! We went to St. Lazare to get some relief and got five dollars a month. That's all we had to live on. We moved to Selby town in the valley, where there was an empty house. We had a big family of twelve children but only four lived. One of my girls died from diphtheria. Doctors were scarce; a Dr. Gilbert who lived at Spy Hill would come eight miles travelling by horse to Ste. Madeleine.

For entertainment, we had picnics in the summer, races, and baseball. The elderly ladies each made a lunch and put it all together and everyone had some. During the winter, there was lots of dancing. We would go from one house one night, on to the next house the following night. We had no liquor, but we enjoyed ourselves. When the church was built, John Fleury got each Metis family to sign a paper, written

in French, saying they would each cut four logs. Then they got together to build it. We also had a post office and Paul Ducharme hauled the mail by buggy in summer and by cutter in the winter. The first postmaster was Roger Flammand. A Mr. Lemier, who also was postmaster gave six acres of land for a cemetery, but all but two acres was fenced off by the P.F.R.A. Now the church, school, nearly all the houses are gone. People who lived there looked after themselves, they had cows, chickens, pigs and sometimes horses.

My husband was a returned soldier from the first World War, and was never in very good health. He died in Deer Lodge hospital in June of 1967.

In 1978, I moved back to St. Madeleine. I always wanted to come back, and now I am happy again. There are only three houses here now, where two of my sisters are living, Marie Dejarlais and Rose Demontigny.

Vermette, Family of Napoleon and Kathryn

Mary — see Ralph Fleury history. **Charlie** — married Bernadette Fisher and they have one daughter. **May** — married John Tanner (deceased 1948) and is living in British Columbia. **Eva** — married Joe Fleury of Ste. Madeleine. They have four children, Maurice of Fort McMurray, Kate of Binscarth, Eugene of Teulon and Mary of Binscarth. **Delina** — (Della) married Jim Tanner of Binscarth. They have six children, Ronnie of Winnipeg, Jackie of Vancouver, Linda of Esterhazy, Jeffrey of Calgary, Barbara of Russell and Pat of Binscarth.

Napoleon died in 1971 and Kathryn in 1924.

Waddell, James (1849-1904)

by Jack Hamilton

James Waddell born at Puslinch, Ontario in 1849, came to Foxwarren in April, 1881, with his future brother-in-law Edward Hamilton, Joe Balsaam and Mr. Johnston. They spent their first night in a tent, waking to find two feet of snow. Determined to stay, James homesteaded the NE ¼ 36-17-28 in R.M. of Ellice. Margaret Jane Kerr who also was born at Puslinch, came to this area and married James Waddell December 24, 1891 at Binscarth. On December 22, 1895 Andrew Percy was born to them. Two other children died at birth.

Percy told me their first home was built with logs, hewn and squared with a broad axe, then the logs were chinked and plastered with lime and sand. The furniture was very simple and plain. Everyone had a wood cook stove; which made hundreds of loaves of bread. The table and chairs were home made. The

mattresses on their beds were made of canvas ticking, stuffed with straw. The lamps and lanterns burned coal oil. The heating system was wood-burning stoves. Every winter they would get 20-30 loads of poles out, then form the "Sawing Gang," and saw the wood up in a day.

They grew their own vegetables and hunted wild game for meat by snaring or shooting. They took wheat to the mill and had it ground for flour at the "Birtle Mill."

There were not many drugs in those days. They used a lot of old home remedies, such as poultices, ginger tea, herbs and homemade soup.

To get their mail, his father had to walk to Old Fort Ellice and wade across the river or cross on the ferry. The old pillars of the first Fort Ellice bridge still stand today in the Assiniboine River in the Watts-view area. When they received their mail, they always looked for letters from Ontario and two of the first farmers papers, the Farmers Advocate and the Northwest Farmer.

Usually, every Friday night, someone in the community would have a house party. Anyone who had a musical instrument took it along and everyone sang and danced till the early hours of the morning.

The first church in this area was Balmerino. They walked usually four miles to church or sometimes took the horse and buggy. Percy used to like the picnics after the church service. The church was demolished in 1968. He also told me that in 1918 they put on a play 'Ten Nights in A Bar Room' with Reverend Egan as leader. It was taken to various towns and the proceeds were used to furnish a class room in Zion United Church.

His first school was in Mr. Tom Ferguson's house, just south of Foxwarren; then to Moresby school just south of their homestead. The old Moresby School is now a granary on Jack Johnston's farm. The porch is Mr. Johnston's pump-house and the boys' and girls' coat hooks are still there with their names on them.

There were no tractors then so they broke the land with a yoke of oxen and a one-furrow plow. They sowed their seed by broadcasting it by hand. To harvest the crop they used a scythe with a cradle on it. They left it lying in rows to dry, then threshed it by using a flail.

Some of the early roads were made by the taxpayers. They had to go out and do the labor, then it was taken off their taxes.

They also had to plough fire guards to save their buildings, as there used to be a lot of prairie fires. Everyone helped one another at their jobs.

Percy remembered one day; Bill Pizzezy, Frank Robbie and his Dad had been digging a well. They

had dug 65 feet and got no water, so they had dinner and returned to the well. Bill Pizzey had gone down into the well again to dig. All of a sudden the ground under him broke into pieces. He yelled to send down the bucket, to get up; but in the meantime he braced himself against the cribbing. He just got out in time, as the last lot of cribbing, the shovel and the pick went. The water rose 25 feet in half an hour. It filled up to 20 feet from the top. This well was known as the "Bottomless Well" as there was a large underground stream.

Percy farmed all his life. He farmed a year near St. James church, then north of Birtle for 20 years and again in 1947 he moved back to Foxwarren.

December 16, 1942 he married Evelyn Irene Wyness of Rosssburn at Birtle. They had one daughter Gladys Maureen, (1945) who married Roger Anderson of Dubuc, Saskatchewan in 1965. Gladys has one son Richard born 1966 and they live in Red Deer, Alberta.

James Waddell died in 1904; Margaret Waddell, 1945; Percy Waddell, 1976; Evelyn Waddell, 1979. They are all buried in Birtle Cemetery.

Watt, James

Jim Watt was born in 1883 in Lumsden, Aberdeenshire, Scotland, the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Watt. He and his parents, brothers and sisters came to Canada in 1900 to the Carberry district, where he met and married Elizabeth Jane Donald in 1910. She had also come from the same area in Scotland but they had never met until they were in Carberry.

Two years later, they moved to Binscarth where they bought the Cass farm, 21-18-28, where they farmed until 1949. The farm was then sold to Russell Johnston.

Their later years were spent living in Binscarth where Jim was employed as caretaker of the Community hall and theatre for 13 years. During those years, he was known to young and old as "Grandpa". Mr. and Mrs. Watt had five children, three boys and two girls namely, Robert, Marjorie, Edith, Clair and Gordon.

Robert married Ethel Pizzey from the Foxwarren area. They bought and farmed the former Gerald Drought farm, seven miles northwest of Binscarth, in the Crescent Ridge district where they spent 39 years.

In 1971 due to poor health, they sold their farm to Gary Douglas, and moved into Binscarth where Robert died in 1973, aged 62 years. Ethel passed away in November 1978, aged 67 years. Bob and Ethel had three children two girls and a boy, namely Dorothy, who married Leslie White and now lives in Brandon, Doreen who married Murray Robinson

and lives in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan and Sherman who married Brenda Yeske and lives in Esterhazy, Saskatchewan.

Marjorie married Tom Douglas. They farmed the old Rhoades farm until Russell Rice retired and moved to Binscarth. Tom bought the Rice farm in 1943 where they lived until 1963 when they built and moved into their present home in Binscarth. Tom continued to farm from town until a sudden heart attack claimed his life in 1970. Jack, their third son, still farms the land and lives with his mother in Binscarth. Tom and Marjorie had four sons. Stuart — who married Lorna Ireland farms the former Charles Campbell farm in the Crescent Ridge district. Gary — married Jean Horning and lives in Binscarth but farms the former Bob Watt farm also in Crescent Ridge district. Jack — unmarried, lives with his mother in Binscarth and farms her land. Bruce — married Annette Desaulnier and lives in Binscarth and is employed with International Mining Corporation Esterhazy.

Edith married Frank Thicksen of Minnedosa where she still lives. Her husband is deceased. They had three children, two boys Roy and Bill both married and living in Winnipeg and one girl married and lives near Edmonton.

Clair married Ethel Robinson. They lived in Binscarth several years where Clair was employed driving the Cornell transfer. They then moved to Saskatoon where he and his brother Gordon operated a meat processing plant. They moved to Bredenburg, Saskatchewan where they are presently. Clair is employed with International Mining Corporation Esterhazy. They had five children — three girls and two boys, Alan, Graham and Donna all married and living in Saskatoon. Karen deceased and Twila married and living in Bredenburg, Saskatchewan.

Gordon married Beatrice Thompson. They had a business in Brandon for several years. They then moved to Saskatoon where he and his brothers operated a meat processing plant. Gordon now lives near Calgary, Alberta. They had four children — two boys and two girls.

Mr. and Mrs. Watt were both members of the Binscarth United Church and for several years Mrs. Watt was a member of the choir. That was when Mum, Dad and children were all bundled into the sleigh box in the winter on Sundays and were away to church with the team decked out in their bells. Mrs. Watt sang in the choir and children attended Sunday school. Those years, the roads were piled high with snow and many times the sleigh upset. They had a reliable old team of horses though, which would just stop and wait for the children to scramble back into

the sleigh box, gathering up their fur robes, blankets and foot warmers.

The children attended Balmerino school which was only three quarters of a mile north. In the summer, they walked but in the wintertime they travelled with an old horse and home-made toboggan with no back on it. Robert or Bob as he was best known, being the oldest, was the driver. He had his old horse "Jack" trained so that on arriving in the school yard or at home he would go in circles until the toboggan was swinging. Consequently, that's how the younger children were unloaded. Each in turn was swung off the back of the toboggan. Their mother helped the teacher each year with the Balmerino Christmas Concert, by playing the organ and accompanying any musical item. Students practised afternoons from three to four in the afternoon about three days a week for about a month before the concert. It was on one of these days when Bob went home for his mother with horse and toboggan that his mother got a rude awakening. All went well until they landed in the school yard, and then the old horse went into his act and poor Mrs. Watt was swished off the back of the toboggan and was left sitting in the snow. Mr. E. P. Clark was caretaker of the school and just happened to be outside the school door in time to see her picking herself up and indignantly brushing the snow off herself. Mr. Clark's hearty laugh only added to poor Mrs. Watt's embarrassment.

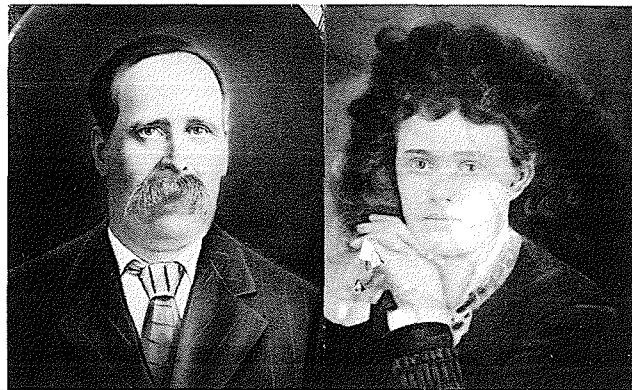
Mrs. Watt passed away in Russell hospital in 1960 aged 70 years. After her death Mr. Watt made his home with his daughter and son-in-law, Marjorie and Tom Douglas until his death in 1967 at the age of 84 years. They are both interred in the Binscarth Cemetery.



James and Elizabeth Watt's 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Widdicombe, Samuel

Samuel Widdicombe was born in 1852 in Portsmouth, England; and came to Ontario with his parents at the age of five. He grew up in Ontario where he worked for some time on the construction of the Welland Canal. In 1878 he married a young widow, Sarah Jane (Diamond) Clements.



Samuel and Sarah Jane (Diamond-Clements) Widdicombe.

Sarah Jane was born in 1854 to Mr. and Mrs. (nee Evans) John Diamond. Originally the maternal family name had been Wheatford, but in 1860, at the time of the battle of the Boyne, it was changed to Evans to ensure safe passage over the bridge. The Diamonds came to Canada by sailboat when Sarah was just an infant, and the voyage took nearly three months. They settled on a farm between Blythe and Auburn in Ontario, on what is now a large dairy farm. Sarah married John Clements at 17 years of age, and they had one son, Isaiah (better known as Isaac or Ike) in 1872. They operated a cheese factory. However, John was killed in a barn-raising bee nearby, three years later; so Sarah sold the factory, worked for a Baptist minister for awhile and finally moved to Langdon, North Dakota. Here she ran a boarding house for 25 people, doing the cooking herself. It was here that she met and married Samuel Widdicombe. They moved to Chicago where Sam was employed as a watchman in a factory. Isaac, now six years old, was sent back to Auburn to live with relatives, mostly his Grandma Diamond.

Sarah gave birth to their first child, William John, in 1879, in Goderich, Ontario. By the time that Elizabeth was born in Seaforth the next year, they had returned to live in Canada to ensure that she too would have Canadian citizenship. Samuel operated a flour mill for a time before making the decision to come west to Manitoba in 1882.

Some controversy exists over how Sam came to Ellice Municipality. Some say he walked from Winnipeg; others say he came by boat to Fort Ellice. If,

indeed he came by boat, records indicate that only one passenger boat made the trip west of Brandon in 1882, and that was the flat-bottomed stern-wheeler, Alpha. He went in search of a homestead on foot, carrying the list of available lands and finally staking his claim on the S.E. ¼ of 36-18-28, in the north-east corner of the municipality, in the district known as Balmerino. He cleared some land and built a log house on the site where Norman Turnbull lives (1982). By the next year he was able to send for his family; and, following the Red River Trail from Winnipeg, the family journeyed to their new home by oxen and wagon. The N.E. ¼ was procured by pre-emption.

Life on the homestead was very interesting. The Widdicombe home was a stopping-house for many weary travellers on the Pelly Trail. Sarah served meals to passers-by, heated bottles, fed babies and extended assistance wherever it was needed. Everyone loved her. She was very kind to the Indians who were a common sight in their home. One day Sam suggested, jokingly, to an Indian brave that they trade wives. However Sam experienced a difficult time when the Indian insisted on taking the lovely white woman with him. He became quite angry, unable to understand the whiteman's sense of humor. Perhaps he was justified in being angry, for Dave McGilvary, a general merchant in Binscarth said, "Sarah Jane is the prettiest girl I ever knew and the best cook in the country!" Another day she had just removed a big pan of biscuits from the oven. She offered one to an Indian woman, whereupon the guest scooped the entire batch into her apron and dashed out. In the fall an Indian opened the door, threw a bag of deer meat on the floor, said the equivalent of "Thank you" in Indian and left! However on another occasion, a traveller made off with her prized silver spoons which she never saw again. Among the travellers who stopped at their home was a contingent of soldiers en route to the Riel Rebellion.

Sam operated a freighting service to and from Yorkton for a time; and his name appears among those of the earliest builders in Yorkton. He was also involved in the construction of several buildings in Birtle when he lent assistance to Henry Woodhouse, a stone mason, and Sam's nearest neighbor. A mail exchange with Fort Ellice was conducted from their home until the Post Office was set up in the Fletcher home. Mr. Widdicombe, at one time, owned the block in Winnipeg where the Somerset building now stands.

Sam and Sarah were blessed with four more children: Gertrude, Wesley, James (who died in infancy) and "Chubby" (also given the name James). Being the eldest, Isaac was entrusted with the task of

travelling to Elkhorn for certain food staples and, during one winter trip when he was just thirteen, he was forced to run beside the sleigh a good deal of the time to keep warm. When the railroad was being built very near their home, John spent many happy hours watching the workers building the railroad grade, much of it with wheelbarrows. One day, when the track was being laid, John rushed home to tell his father that the men were "sawing" steel, whereupon his father promptly spanked him for telling falsehoods!

In the fall of 1888, Sarah became very ill and her husband took her to a rest home for consumptive patients in Colorado, U.S.A. The children were left in the care of their Grandma Diamond and uncle and aunt, William and Martha (Reinhart) Diamond. By early spring Sarah was told she could not live, so she requested that she be allowed to return home to see the children. However she never reached home, for she died in the St. Paul station, after having asked for a glass of wine. She was 35. Sarah Jane was buried in the Silver Creek cemetery along with baby James who had previously been buried on the farm. Hers is the oldest headstone in the cemetery, which was the nearest to their home in 1889.

Sam kept the family of five with him; Isaac, who was eighteen by this time, having joined the American Army. But tragedy continued to strike. Sam had been forced to mortgage his home and sell his stock to pay medical bills. Then early the following spring, their home burned to the ground. The children were home alone as their father had walked to Binscarth to buy groceries. He returned to find a mound of ashes, and the children huddled together on the ground. They had rescued the baby and a quilt. A granary was their home until fall.

The children contracted scarlet fever during an epidemic which swept the country and Chubby died. This was indeed a sad blow, but Sam carried on teaching his two little girls to keep house, and the boys to farm. A neighbor, Mrs. McMinn (Barretts 1982) was very kind to the girls, helping them with personal things such as fixing their hair, pressing their Sunday clothes etc.

The family attended church at Balmerino where services alternated between Anglican and Methodist. Sarah Pizzey told a story about Wes, who had a mischievous streak in him. During one of the services, Wes carefully ripped his red handkerchief into strips and made it into a long tie. This he pinned to the coat-tail of the chap in front of him. Milton Joyce was unaware of this decoration as he ushered his fiancée, Elizabeth Widdicombe, from the church following the service.

Bayfield was their first school, but after Bal-

merino organized in 1890, it was closer to their home.

In order to handle his grain as efficiently as possible, Sam constructed a granary which was the first elevator of its kind in Manitoba. Mr. Ed Dupont made the buckets which ran on an elevator that had wooden wheels at the top and bottom. There is a painting of this granary hanging in the AgriPlex in Regina and it is entitled — "Farm Elevator at the Turn of the Century".

Sam's brother, Johnnie, had homesteaded the S.W.¼ of 36-18-28, but after a year he returned east. Sam purchased land just inside Birtle R.M., in 1900, adjacent to his homestead (owned by grandson Jack in 1982). Here his son John began his farming career. In 1910 Sam sold the homestead to J. Turnbull. He went east where he operated a fruit farm for a time. He finally settled in Victoria, B.C., where he had a short second marriage. He died in 1937 and is buried in Victoria beside his second wife.

Meantime what of the family of Sam and Sarah Jane? Following a stint in the American Army, **Isaac** homesteaded in Saskatchewan. There he married an English girl, Clara Turner. They had two children: Gertrude married Orville Ganes of Toronto. They have one son. Wesley (deceased) married Isabelle Twigg. They have two daughters, Margaret Lamoureux and Catherine Zaharychuk. About 1921 Isaac moved back to Manitoba where he worked with John on the farm for three years, before establishing a home in Binscarth. He died in 1944.

In 1902 **Elizabeth** married Milton Joyce, whose parents were pioneers of the Bayfield district. They had six children. Orville (deceased) married Margaret Lewellyn of Belfast, Ireland. Leafa McLennan lives in Russell. Lloyd married Susie Douglas of Binscarth. They live in Victoria. Delmar married Alice Neville of Binscarth. They live in Los Angeles. Ray married Jessie Munroe of Binscarth. They live in Brandon. Garnet (deceased) married Gertrude Davidson of Russell. Elizabeth Etoila Joyce died in 1958.

Gertrude Mary married Francis Ebborn of the Balmerino district. They took up farming at Wainwright, Alberta. They had nine children; Gertrude, Mary (Rogers), Ruth (who was a missionary in Rhodesia, South Africa for some time), Phyllis, Grace (deceased), Ella, Pat (Fenton), Joe and Huxley. Gertrude died in 1964 at age 81.

Charles Wesley served in the Army during World War I and following that, he took up farming in the Wainwright area. He died a bachelor in 1967 at 82.

William John married Matilda June Honey of Binscarth on June 3, 1907, at the bride's home. The

ceremony was performed by Reverend Bailey, the Methodist minister. There had been a heavy snowfall the previous winter and the newlyweds were unable to take the summer route to their home because there still were banks of snow that hadn't melted away! John and June raised a family of eleven. Violet May was the matron at Yorkton hospital for fifteen years. She married Harry Ellis and they have two girls; Gail Everest and Sharon Greenlaw. William Samuel married Anna Peterson and they have two sons, who are Anglican priests. David married Ruth Dreideger, daughter of a missionary and Peter married Karen Richardson whom he met while studying at Oxford University, England. Before retiring to B.C., Sam spent 28 years raising hackney horses. He put together a six-horse hitch for Manitoba's Centennial and hitched it to a coach built by Bob Porter of Foxwarren. John Wesley is a bachelor, living in Foxwarren. Edward George served in the Army during World War II. He married a teacher, Frances Royle. They have two daughters (both teachers); Mary June Klimack and Margaret Widdicombe Whetter, and two grandchildren Sarah Ashley and Jesse Kenneth Edward. Ted and Sam went into partnership in road construction in 1947. After 10 years Sam withdrew and Ted formed Widdicombe Construction Company. Along with Low Brothers Construction, they built many miles of highways in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. They were awarded the first earth-moving contract for Shellmouth Dam, and Ted supervised the final contract. Ted continues to farm. In 1930 John Widdicombe gave the next three boys, Roland, Jim and George, a Shorthorn heifer calf. The seed of ambition was sown and the famous Shorthorn herd was built. Widdicombe Bros. were constant exhibitors and consistent winners at fairs. In 1948 Roland left the partnership and in 1957 the "Bros" ceased to be when their dispersal sale was held and George moved to Lacombe. Robert Roland served in the Air Force in World War II. He married Gene Weir of Winnipeg. Their children are: Roberta, Marc and Patti. In 1957 he moved his family to Los Angeles to take over one of the chain of MacDonald's Hamburger stands. He died in a fall from a horse in 1966. His wife now has three stands at "The Sign of the Golden Arches". James Arthur lives with Wes and has never married. George Honey married Evelyn Low. They have six children; Leslie Price, Harold, Neil, Laurell, John and Bill. Mildred June married Wilbert Ranson and they had two girls: Karen Latcham and Judy Davis. After Wilbert's death, June enjoyed a short second marriage to Eric Davis, who has also died. She lives in Victoria. Clifford John left University in 1940 to serve in the Air Force as a Bomber Pilot. He married a teacher,

Florence Peterson, in 1947 and began farming the land purchased by his grandfather Samuel Widdicombe in 1900. They have three children: Penny Lou, Mrs. Ian Menzies, a music teacher and farmer's wife in Foxwarren; Melva Lyn, Mrs. Harold Doran, a school teacher and farmer's wife at Isabella and Daryl Lee, farming at home. The grandchildren are Karl Patrick Menzies and Bronwen Emma Doran. Alice Grace was a teacher and married John Millar of Rapid City. They were employed on a P.F.R.A. pasture at Milestone, Sask. until 1979 when they moved to Arizona, U.S.A. Their children are: Brian, Bill, Donald and JoAnne. Daniel Diamond also brought fame to Foxwarren in 1941 when his steer, Lucky, captured the first Shorthorn Championship to be won in 17 years at Brandon Winter Fair and was sold for \$1.40 per pound, the second highest price ever paid at the fair up to that time. Dan was 15 at the time. He served in the Army in W.W.II and married Muriel Cowie of Brandon. They have two girls: Barbara and Diana. Dan lives in Foxwarren.

John and June Widdicombe retired to Foxwarren in 1947. John died in 1964 at 85 and June died in 1982 just ten days short of her 96th birthday. The descendants of Samuel Widdicombe by way of his only married son John, bearing the Widdicombe name, number nine: eight great grandsons and one great, great grandson.



Samuel Widdicombe Family: Isaiah (Ike), Elizabeth, John, Wes, Gertrude.

Wilkinson, Joseph and Family

Joseph Wilkinson (1820-1911) and Ann (Basford) Wilkinson (1833-1911) emigrated from England to Ingersoll, Ontario in the late 1860's with eight children. An additional child, Frances Rebecca (Fanny, Mrs. Fred Cooper) was born in 1876 in Ingersoll.

John, their oldest son, came to Manitoba in 1879 where he obtained a position as clerk of the survey party working in the area now known as Ellice. The following year he was joined by his brother, Joseph. John chose to homestead 30-16-27 situated on a small plain across the Assiniboine from Fort Ellice (Wattsview).

In the fall of 1881, Joseph Wilkinson brought the remaining family to Winnipeg by train. The ladies continued by train to Portage la Prairie while the men drove horses and cattle there. The remainder of the journey was made over Red River cart trails in John's covered wagon drawn by oxen. The nights were spent in a tent and the food supply augmented by fresh prairie chicken stew cooked over the evening campfire. After travelling about two weeks, they reached Birtle and a Dominion Land Office, where Joseph paid his ten dollar land fee to homestead 36-16-28. By this time, it was cold enough to freeze ice at night. John had already collected a pile of logs on his homestead so a "House-Raising Bee" provided a one-story house for the family's first winter.

After some land was broken, wheat was grown and threshed with a flail on a threshing floor made by pouring water on the snow until it was hard and smooth. The entire crop was picked over by hand and used for seed.

The Wilkinsons, as did many of the early pioneers, brought with them a strong religious faith. This is evidenced by the following story as related by Fanny to her family.

One Sunday morning a big flock of prairie chickens landed in the yard, and John, remembering that they had gone without meat for some time, suggested to his mother that he should shoot some. Her reply made a lasting impression on the family "No, if we never have meat, we will not break the Sabbath". However, on Monday morning, the flock reappeared and the family got its meat. By the second winter a missionary, Mr. Dewart, was holding services in the Wilkinson home.

Joseph became a councillor for the newly formed Ellice Municipality. Ann's services as a mid-wife were very much in demand and often a Doctor was not present.

John (1856-1952), oldest son, farmed at Wattsview, then at Beaver Creek, 11-16-29. He married Mary Langly. John served as Secretary-Treasurer of Ellice Municipality for 15 years; Reeve for 3 years; and Auditor for 2 years before going to Regina where he did secretarial work. His later life was spent in British Columbia. His family consisted of one son and three daughters.

Annie (1858-1948) married Richard Hesketh and

together they came from Ingersol to Winnipeg, and later to the Ellice Municipality where he took a homestead and pre-emption. Richard helped form the school district of Ellice where his children attended school. There were five girls and two boys. The Hesketh family later moved to Rolla, North Dakota.

Elizabeth (1861-1948), married Edgar Henry Williams in 1881, lived in Michigan, and then came to Wattsville before settling in Binscarth. There she worked as a dressmaker while he had a hardware and tinsmithing business. Later they moved to Saskatchewan. There were five sons and two daughters.

Emma (1862-1920), also a dressmaker, married Peter Davey on Christmas Day and for a time lived near Zion Church, before returning to Meaford, Ontario. They had one daughter and four sons.

Joseph (1864-1939), farmed in the district, then chose medicine as a profession. He graduated from Medical College in Winnipeg and served several Manitoba, North Dakota and Saskatchewan places as a very successful doctor. He was married to Maggie Murphy and had two sons and one daughter.

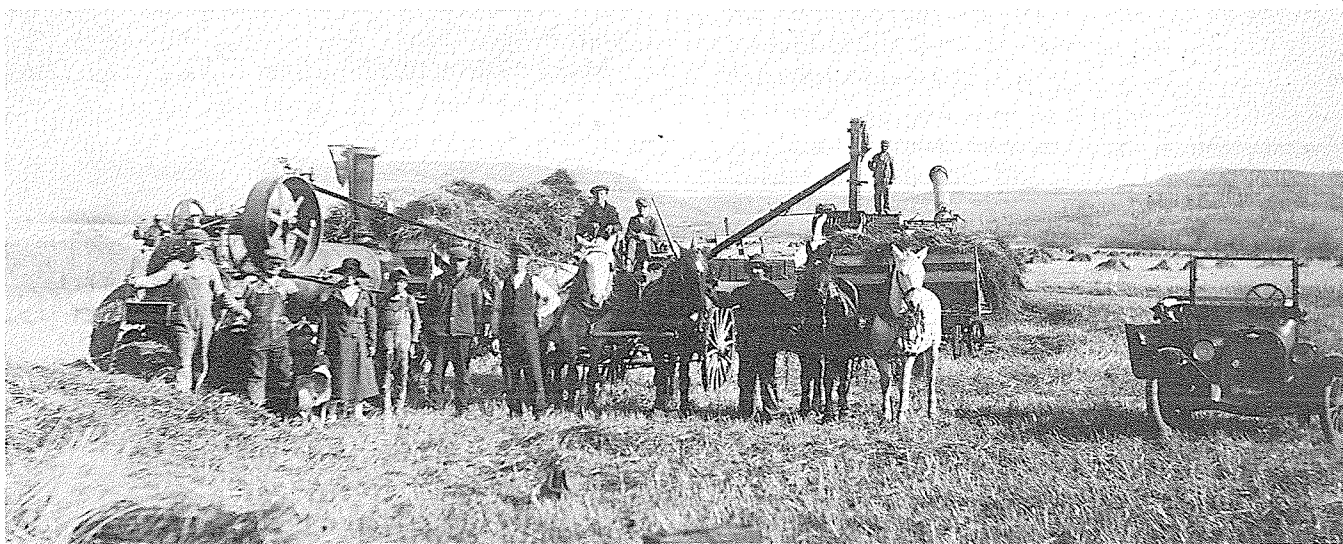
Samuel (1865-1941), farmed at Wattsville before studying at Wesley College in Winnipeg, to become a Methodist Minister. During his vacation, he taught at Ellice school and was instrumental in the erection of the first Zion Church (1888), where he probably preached his first sermon. Nellie Cleveland became his wife. In 1925 when the Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational churches united to form "The United Church of Canada", Sam became the president and was later given the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity. He was a Chaplain during World War I. There were three daughters.

Thomas (1867-1946), farmed at Wattsville. He married Almina Holman. Later they moved to Birtle where he had a farm implement agency, then to Regina and British Columbia where he held various public offices in both provinces. They had one daughter.

Mary (1869-1959), kept house for her brother, Joe, became a dressmaker, and in 1894 married a resident minister, Reverend Stephen Williams. They had pastoral charges in North Dakota before moving to England where they remained. Two sons and two daughters were born to them.

Fanny (1876-1954), grew up on the Wattsville homestead. At that time, prairie fires were a thing to be feared. Fanny told how she worked with another girl and the teacher to set a back-fire around Oxford School, thus saving it from sure destruction. After Zion Church was built, she and Sam used to drive the oxen seven miles to attend Sunday School. Fort Ellice was a place she well remembered. In 1899, before her marriage to Fred Cooper, Fanny drove with a horse and buggy to Moosomin, to purchase a wedding hat. Fanny and Fred continued to reside in the Ellice Municipality where they raised two sons and two daughters.

The latter years of Joseph and Ann Wilkinson were spent in a home situated on the Fred Cooper farm. He died March 4, 1911, and she, June 10, of the same year. They rest in Zion Cemetery. Direct descendants of these 1881 pioneers still residing in the Ellice Municipality in 1982 are their granddaughter, Gertrude (Cooper) Laycock; their great granddaughter, Kay (Laycock) Prescott; and their great, great grandson, Mark Prescott.



Harvest Scene, 1924: Bill Fiddler (fire engineer), Joe Bell Sr., Lizzie Fiddler, Bill Fiddler, Alex McDonald, Ed Fleury, Chas. Will on water tank with Ed McDonald, Bill McDonald with horses. Ambrose Boyer on Separator.

Will, Charlie

Charles Will, a native of Scotland, was born at Bonnymuir Place, Aberdeenshire in 1871. Jane Patterson, also a native of Scotland was born in 1876 at Bridge of Dee. This couple was married in 1898 at Bonnymuir, Aberdeen. In 1902, they left the old land and came to Barre Vermont, U.S.A., where son, Charles, was born. In January 1916, their daughter, Christina, was born at Piqua, Ohio, where they lived until they came to Canada. The family arrived at Springfield, Man. in 1918, later moving to Birtle where they worked for Charles Wady. In 1927, the Duncan McIntosh farm was rented where a home was made for the family. Charles Sr. passed away in 1928 and is buried in Birtle cemetery. Jane had the misfortune to break a leg in 1940, resulting in surgery with the end result that her leg was removed at the hip. The next three months were spent in a wheel chair, but her hands were always busy, knitting or crocheting. She passed away in 1942, at her home, after a long illness. In 1947, Charlie and Chris moved to the Alex Lang farm, 4-17-27. Chris worked in various places in Birtle, while Charlie was a grain farmer, until he retired in 1971. Chris passed away in June 1977, while Charlie continues to live in his own house in Birtle.

Wilson, George

George Wilson, one of the earliest settlers of the R. M. of Ellice came from Princeton Oxford County, Ontario. He homesteaded near Beaver Creek on the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of 14-16-29. He also operated a stopping house. This was equivalent to our modern day motels. Since his residence was on the stage line he held the position of postmaster. He took an active part in community affairs and served as councillor for the years 1885-86. He became Reeve of Ellice Municipality in 1889, his first appointment was for only one term. He was re-elected in 1892 and was chairman until the end of 1893. In later years he sold his homestead to T. T. Selby and moved to Saskatchewan.

Wilson, Walter and Estella as told by son Bob

Walter Wilson was born in Acomb, Yorkshire, England, March 27th 1891, son of William and Elizabeth Wilson. In 1913 at the age of 22 he emigrated to Canada working in the Churchbridge, Saskatchewan area for a couple of years. He then took up a homestead south of Moose Jaw. He later saw the CNR line built westward from Crane Valley, and the beginning of the hamlet of Cardross. This meant an elevator and

stores only two miles away instead of travelling about 12 miles to Mitchelton.

On December 10th 1917, he married Estella Barsen Sutton. She was born September 5th 1896 in Wyken, England. She came to Canada with her mother and two brothers; arriving at Sintaluta, Saskatchewan, later moving to the Cardross district. Walter and Estella had six children, Jean 1918, William 1920 (deceased 1921), George 1924, Joseph 1926, Dorothy 1928 and Robert 1931.

Farming went well for a number of years with a good line of machinery, horses and a car secured. However by 1933 the drought and depression forced the family to move north and a new start was made in the Carruthers district, west of Battleford, Saskatchewan. Only a few head of livestock and some meagre possessions were loaded into a railway box car for the journey. In 1949 they sold out and moved to the Ste. Marthe area and a year later bought the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 17-16-29 in the Beaver Rapids district, R.M. of Ellice.

In 1960 they purchased a house in Elkhorn but continued to farm. In 1964 the farm was sold to Murray Lewis and they retired to White Rock, B.C. Walter passed away May 8th 1975, at the age of 84. Estella, 86, and still in fairly good health, lives in the Highland Villa Lodge, Langley, B.C.

I, Bob Wilson, worked for the CPR for 24 years as a telegraph operator and station agent. When the CPR closed all its stations, I found new employment as a Town Administrator and reside in Moosomin, Saskatchewan. In 1955, I married Faye Percy and we had three children, Robert 1956, Cynthia 1959, Patricia 1962. Robert passed away in 1978; Cindi married Garth Szakacs and they live in Stockholm, Saskatchewan; they have two children Michael and Becki. Pat works in the Diamond Lodge Nursing Home, Biggar, Sask.

My sister Jean (Collins) lives in Vancouver, Dorothy (Dunn) in the U.S.A., brothers George and Joe, in Alberta.

Wilson, Joseph and Family by daughter Laura Wilson

Joseph Wilson was born at Hutton, Cranswick, England in 1864. He came to Canada and arrived at Birtle in 1886. He worked on the farm now owned by Frank Crew. He then bought the homestead NE $\frac{1}{4}$ 36-16-28. In the years to follow, father bought the remainder of the section; from John Wilkinson in 1918 the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 36-16-28, from J. H. Armstrong in 1919 the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ 36-16-28, and in 1899 the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ 36-16-28. He also bought a farm in the Assiniboine Valley SE $\frac{1}{4}$ 22-16-28, and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ 26-16-28, from

Benjamin Reeder in 1909 which he later gave to his son George and is now farmed by the Fouillard Bros.

Mother was Mary Boles and was born in Moberly, Ontario in 1874. She came to Ellice, landing by river boat at the age of six. Her father drove the mail by horses from Birtle to Moosomin. He later bought the homestead now owned by Jerry Huberdeau. After grandmother's death in 1883, mother lived in Brandon for a few years with a minister, his wife and family. She later returned to Ellice and in 1898, she married father in Balmerino, the first wedding held in Balmerino church.

Father had built the house that still stands, although the kitchen and three bedrooms were added later on. There were eleven children, all born in the old house. They were George, Mary, Frank, Bob, Jack, Dora, Anne, Ellen, Hilda, Laura and Jim. We all attended Ellice School and usually the teacher boarded at our place.



Joseph Wilson Family, 1930.

After mother's death in 1939, Frank, Bob and I farmed together until Bob's death in 1962. Frank and I then sold the farm to Arthur Huberdeau and moved to Birtle. Frank died in 1977. I still reside in Birtle.

Some early anecdotes I recall, told to us by mother and father — Grandfather was delivering the mail from Birtle to Moosomin; he would change horses at the Fort. One day he stopped at the Mission with mail; he noticed a broken trace. After fixing it, he went to get back into the cutter, he slipped, the horses took off and headed for the Fort. They arrived safely and the Factor sent men out to look for grandfather. When they found him with his heavy buffalo coat on, he was almost exhausted. Father told us about his oxen. While ploughing when the flies were so bad, they would head for the slough, plough and all and refuse to come out.

Highlights of the year were Birtle Sports Day, Zion picnic, Christmas concerts, house parties and skating parties.

Dad was Secretary Treasurer of Ellice School for

many years. George was a Councillor for Ellice Municipality and so was Bob. Living members of the family are Mary, Mrs. Vic Hillcox who lives in Vancouver; Jack who lives in Winnipeg; Ellen, Mrs. Harold Forder, who lives in Pipestone; Jim who lives in Cincinnati, U.S.A., and I, Laura who built myself a small house in Birtle where I reside.

Wilson, George

George William was born and raised in the Ellice District, the oldest of eleven children of the late Joseph and Mary Wilson. He received all his schooling at Ellice school, then took up farming with his Dad and brothers. He was a real baseball player and played on the Wattsvie team for a number of years. In 1929, he married Winnie Spencer of Birtle. They lived in Wattsvie district, north of the Siding. He was a Councillor for a number of years for Ellice. They had four children, — twin girls who died at birth; another daughter, Gerrine Winifred died at eleven months. In 1939, George Keith was born. In 1947, they moved to Birtle, where George worked at the "Birtle Hotel" for a number of years. The last seven years he worked as "caretaker" of "Birtle Park", which was the "pride and joy" of his life. He passed away October, 1970, after a short illness. Winnie worked in the telephone office for sixteen years until the dial system took over. Keith, their son, was raised and educated in Birtle. In 1970, he was appointed Sec-Treas, of the town of Birtle. He married Margaret Wood in 1962. They have a daughter Debbie Lynne who is going to College in Edmonton. Alan is going to school in Birtle, and like his grandparents and parents, is very fond of sports, being a good hockey player and a baseball player. Both George and Keith loved fishing, hunting and trapping, and spent a few years together at these sports.



Arriving in town are: Lyla Preston, Winnie Wilson, Chris Will and Angela Robin.

Woodard, Arthur

Arthur was born December 2, 1874 in Iowa, U.S.A. In 1912 he married Mabel DePeel of Nebraska, U.S.A. Mabel was born April 15, 1893.

Their marriage took place in California where they lived until coming to Manitoba in 1927. They lived on the McQuay farm 5-18-29 for a few years.

Arthur and Mabel had six children: Eugene, Dwight, Dallas, Gordon, Betty and Hazel.

Arthur died in 1944 and is buried in Winnipeg. Mabel died in 1977 and is buried in California.

Wotton, Eric

I was born March 17, 1914 to Charlie and Margaret (Hall) Wotton in Birtle Municipality, section N.W. 18-18-26. I have one sister, Arlene Storey presently residing in Penticton, B.C.

I started school at Lansburne and later attended Foxwarren School from 1923-29. I farmed on the home farm north east of Foxwarren until the fall of 1934. At that time, Jack McDougall, a cousin and I moved to south east 14-18-29 where I am presently living. This homestead had previously been owned by Jim Hare which he sold in 1932 to Tom Moffitt. Tom was an uncle of mine on my mother's side. He never farmed this land himself — but rented it to Edward Kirk for a couple of years, (1932-34). Jack and I took it over from Kirk.

We batched until January, 1945 when I married Helen Kominko daughter of Peter and Mary Kominko. At that time, Jack moved to south west ¼ of 18-18-28 which he owned, and later that year in June, 1945 he married Helen's sister Mary.

I was a trustee in the Gambler School District for many years then was the secretary-treasurer for the last fifteen years it was open. Duties included hiring new teachers, attending an annual school convention in Winnipeg, etc. This is my 26th year as a councillor for Ward six in the Municipality of Ellice. I've served many interesting years as a councillor and in addition to regular duties I drove the patrol occasionally. I've been with the St. Lazare Athletic Association for more than 20 years, helping out whenever possible. I've served many a hamburger and hotdog in the main concession booth at the annual Sports Day. Helen, is my right hand helper in the booth from dawn to sunset. I've been a member of the Birtle Hospital Board for sometime as well.

I've always been very active outdoors, enjoying hunting, fishing, trapping and participating in the annual Threshermen's Reunions held in Austin, Saskatoon and Yorkton. These Reunions include stooking, sheaf tying, bag tying and many more challenging events from the days gone by.

Helen always spent full, hard-working days on the farm, besides the everyday chores of milking and raising chickens etc. Helen needed very little practice at cooking and baking. In her semi-retirement she bakes for many families in the community. You

could recognize her mouth watering tarts and cookies at many of the social events around.

Helen and I raised three children; Sandra born July, 1946, Donnie, born May, 1949, and June born June, 1950. All three children attended Gambler School until its closing in 1960, and then attended St. Lazare School. Sandra a hairdresser; married Rene Cadieux, and they live in Binscarth with two daughters and a son. Donnie passed away accidentally in September, 1966. June taught school in Foxwarren, married Henry Fouillard and lives in St. Lazare. They have two girls and two boys.



Wotton Family: Donald and Eric. Front: June, Sandra and Helen.

Wroth, Courtney by Lois Falloon

Courtney was one who contributed a great deal to Ellice Municipality. He was a councillor from 1909 to 1913 and reeve of the municipality for 25 years, 1914 to 1939. He guided the municipality through the depression years.

Since none of the Wroth family are living now, it was not possible to get a story with specific dates and facts, but a man of Courtney Wroth's importance and popularity in this municipality must be included in our book. These are just a few remembrances of someone who knew him.

When he was a young man, Courtney came to Canada and to Manitoba from England, in 1901, after service in the Boer War. After getting some experience in Canadian farming, he bought a farm south west of St. Lazare; Welwyn was the nearest town. He married a delightful Scottish lady, Jean, and they had two children, Murray and Marion.

Jean Wroth died of cancer in the late 1920's, when the children were still quite young. Later, Mr. Wroth

returned from a trip to Montreal with a new bride, a lady he had known before he came to Canada.

The Wroths in the early 40's left the farm and for a few years lived on the Experimental Farm, south of Birtle. They retired to their old home in England where Mr. Wroth died in 1954. Murray and Marion are both deceased.

In 1932, I remember Mr. Wroth ran as a Conservative candidate against Liberal Frank Bell in a Provincial election. Having always admired Mr. Wroth so much as a person, I was determined to vote for him. I was teaching at Ellice School at the time but the family with whom I boarded was going to vote Liberal, so I was not offered transportation to the polling station! I phoned the Conservative committee room and they sent a car for me. I had just had my 21st birthday, so I cast my very first vote for Courtney Wroth. He didn't win!

This is a recipe for home made Pork Sausage recommended by Mr. Wroth: 25 pounds ground pork, 5 tablespoons salt, 5 tablespoons pepper, 1 teaspoon nutmeg, 1 tablespoon sage.

The Zaharia Family

It was early in the year, 1928 that our parents, Fred and Mary Zaharia with their two daughters, Rose and Lil came to live in St. Lazare. They would live in the Ellice Municipality for 22 years, and during those years four more children were born to them, John, Donald, Paul and Shirley.

Our father, Theodore (Fredrick) Zaharia, was born on April 28, 1894 of Ukrainian descent, in a little town called Zizalinski, Austria. He immigrated to Canada at the age of 16 and resided in the Winnipeg area where he was employed by the Canadian National Railways, first as a water boy and runner for various departments and then working himself into the position of a section foreman. While in Winnipeg, Manitoba, he met and married our mother, Mary Salamandyk when she was just 16 years of age, at Senkiw, Manitoba on January 27, 1925.

Fred and Mary Zaharia resided in the Winnipeg area trying their hand at farming along with Dad's working on the railway. Eventually, they felt it was too much, and needing a change, they went to live in the village of Smiley, Saskatchewan, where Dad worked on the extra gang. Finally, the post of becoming a section foreman on the main line came up, and we came to live in the little white section house in St. Lazare, Manitoba.

There were many fond memories associated with that little white section house; the hobby farm that we had, the river we skated on, the fishing hole at the old tank, the baseball diamond at the end of our large garden, the swimming hole at the train bridge and the

lifelong friendships we have with the Grimm family, the Bulgars, the Desjarlais, the Chartiers, and many others.

We also remember the weekly Saturday afternoon trips to Birtle in Dad's Model T. That was a day when all of us 'kids' would buy candy, Mom would buy bacon and bologna in the local butchershop that smelled of sawdust, and Dad would slip into the local pub for a few beers with his friends.

Many stories have been recounted about life in St. Lazare. Paul remembers one in particular. It was one of those hot summer evenings as our Dad and one of the locals sat on the front porch of the section house, sipping a glass of homemade dandelion wine. All of a sudden, Dad looked up to see a cloud of dust coming down the road from the Assiniboine bridge caused by a speeding Model A Ford coupe with a rumble seat. The car was travelling too fast to make the curve at the station crossing, smashed into the crossing sign, with both the car and the sign landing in the middle of the tracks. Dad was heard to say, "Who is that crazy x@**##@, driving like that?" When the dust settled, out stepped his two sons, Don and Paul, another boy and Father Paquette, who was rushing to ring the church bell at 7 o'clock. By this time, the nuns had already rung it for him.

Rose, the eldest of the family was born on May 27, 1926, and completed her Grade 11 in St. Lazare. She then moved to Winnipeg where she attended St. Mary's Academy to complete high school. There, she met and married Harold Ball of Transcona on October 18, 1946. They have four children, Ken, Marni, Gary and Bob. They now reside in Burnaby, B.C.

Lil was born on June 15, 1928. She too completed most of her education in St. Lazare and then moved to Brandon where she completed a hair dressing course. She married Maurice Gagnon on November 10th, 1947 at St. Lazare, and now resides at Rocanville, Sask. They have two daughters, Lynn and Sherry.

John was born December 31, 1930 and completed his education in St. Lazare. He then started work with the Canadian National Railway out of Saskatoon and is still employed with the Railway as a Bridge Inspector out of Edmonton. He married Louisa Wagar on September 21, 1957 at St. Albert, Alta. They have two children, Gregory and Bonny.

Donald was born January 31, 1934, and completed his education in St. Lazare. He then moved to Winnipeg to take a business course. After working for C.N.R. for 15 years at various points in northern Manitoba and Alberta, Don and his family returned to The Pas, Manitoba, where he still resides and owns and operates his own Company known as Don's

Welding & Industrial Supplies. He married Irene Godin on May 3, 1958 at The Pas, Manitoba. They have five children, Dennis, David, Derrick, Dannelle and Dale. Irene died at The Pas on May 13, 1977.

Paul was born on October 5, 1936, and left St. Lazare in 1950 at the age of 14. In 1954 he moved to Vancouver, B.C. and married Carole Mayes on October 20, 1954. They have three children, Kim, Cyndi and Jordy. In 1958 Paul joined the Vancouver Fire Department and is now a Captain.

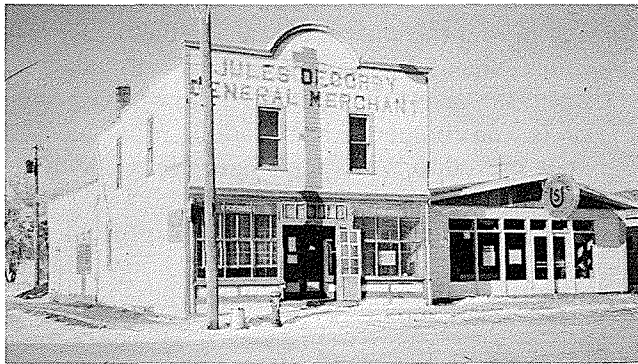
Shirley was born on July 20, 1940 and left St. Lazare at the age of 10. She moved to Vancouver at the age of 18 and married Allan Lindsay on March 11, 1961. They have two daughters, Colleen and Pamela.

Our mother, Mary Zaharia, was born on January 20, 1909 at Senkiw, Manitoba of Ukrainian descent. We want to say that she was the kindest, sweetest lady

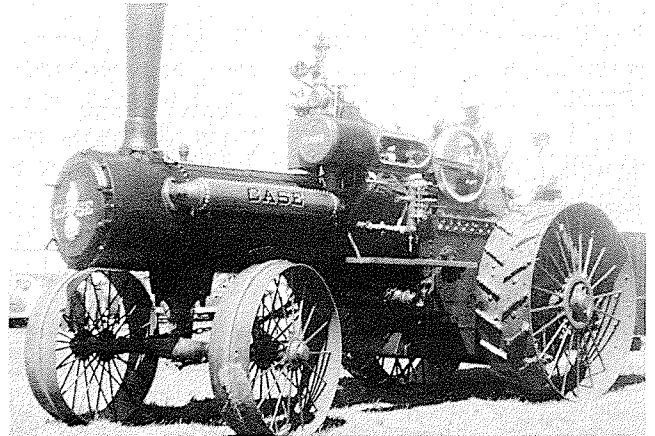
and the best "Mom" in the world. We laid her to rest on September 24, 1981 in Vancouver, B.C. and our eulogy to her is "SHE LIT UP OUR LIVES".



Zaharia Family: Paul, Don, Fred, John, Rose, Lil, Shirley. Front: Mary, 1956.



The old and the new — Decorby Store.



Still operating in 1980.



Opening of CKSB French Channel.



Old Fort Pipe.

Awards

Awards:

Ellice Municipality won the award in 1918, for the best gravel roads in Manitoba, and in 1959, 1960 and 1977 had the best maintained municipal roads.

Having an abundance of good gravel is not the sole reason however, for good maintenance is a prime requisite.



Ellice Municipality — Good Roads Procession.



Construction of Cement Culverts to be used in the building of roads in Ellice Municipality.

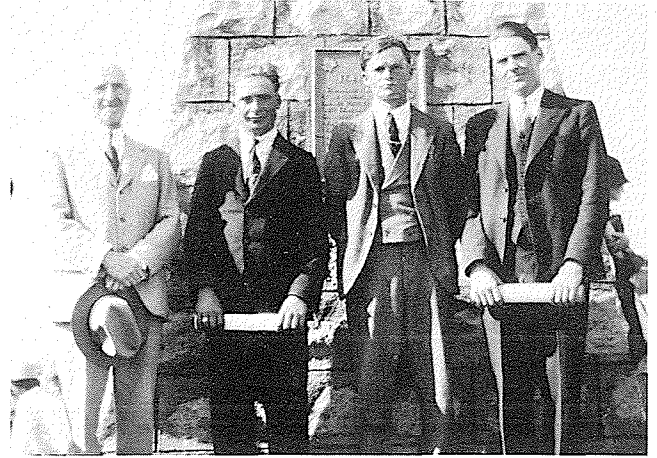


Good Roads Awards, 1918: Courtney Wroth, Arnold Lewarton, Bill Crichton, John Corr, J. Wesley Lamb.

Life Saving Deed Rewarded

Taken from a quotation from the Winnipeg Free Press, Dec. 18, 1934. "Karl Thomson, of Charleswood and Gilbert Brailsford, of Foxwarren, are to receive parchment certificates, at Foxwarren, shortly, for the rescue of Robert Sawyer from drowning last July, at St. Lazare.

Sawyer, Brailsford and Thomson were members



Hon. Tupper presenting awards to Bert Brailsford and Carl Thompson. Centre: Bob Sawyer.

of a private picnic party, part of the afternoon having been spent in swimming. Sawyer and Brailsford remained in the water longer than the rest, and Sawyer, wading about, not being a swimmer, got into a hole. Brailsford, though not an expert swimmer, hastened to his aid, calling for help at the same time. He reached the drowning boy, but alone could not bring him out, and only managed to keep a grip on him. Karl Thomson, the best swimmer in the party, was dressing, but in response to Brailsford's cries dashed to their aid. Between Thomson and Brailsford the drowning boy was brought ashore, unconscious. By his skill in first aid, Thomson soon brought Sawyer around, averting a tragic ending to the day's outing. Sawyer recovered gradually. The incident aroused



Arthur Fouillard on land that once belonged to the Hudson's Bay Co. and is now part of A.L.E. Farms.

widespread publicity, to the credit of Gilbert Brailsford, whose courage took him to the assistance of the drowning boy, and of Karl Thomson, whose speed, pluck and resource completed the rescue and resuscitation of Robert Sawyer.”

* * * * *

**Recipients of Manitoba Historical Society
Centennial Medals
Mr. John Charron
Winnipeg**

Printed May 15, 1971

For his work in founding a Hospitalization Plan at Rivers, Manitoba, which he named the “Blue Cross” and this name was later adopted by Dr. Mitchell in Winnipeg.

Mr. A. B. Fouillard
St. Lazare, Man.



Mr. and Mrs. John Charron — 50th wedding anniversary with Father Gerard McGinnis.

For his leadership in the preservation and marking of the site of Fort Ellice.



Interior of Jules DeCorby Store.

Pioneer Stories

Memories of Crewe School and District written by Amy (Burdett) Dahlgren

At 82 it isn't easy to remember what it was like being five and starting school. There I was the youngest and smallest. The twenty students seemed so big, but they were always kind.

One advantage I had: the teacher, Bertha Murphy (later Mrs. J. K. Hay), lived at our home. She was like a second mother to me and best teacher one could have.

It was very important to me that I learn to read. Thanks to such a wonderful teacher and to my sister Lena, in a month I was able to read, and I have enjoyed books as real friends ever since.

We had one and a half miles to walk to Crewe School from our home. Half way there lived the Cox family. That is where Betty and Cecil Burdett now have their home. We could always stop there for a drink of water, a welcome rest, or to pick berries. My favorites were chokecherries which left their mark on my face. So mother always knew where we had been loitering.

Beyond our home lived the Fergusons, and Lena, their eldest rode a pony. How I envied her. She could even stand up on the pony at full gallop.

Then there was the big stone house on the hill by the school (The Falloon Home). To be invited there for a night was a great adventure. At least six of the Falloons were going to Crewe School at that time.

The one memory that some of us still have was the night the Falloon barn burned. The noise of the trapped animals was terrible. But even worse, we were ill with measles, especially my brother Frank, but he insisted on crawling out to go and help, and I was afraid that I wouldn't see him again. At 97, he is still alive to tell the story.

In November and until Christmas, all children and young adults went to Zion Church on Saturday afternoons to practise for the Christmas Concert. It was the greatest event of the year, especially when the gifts, donated by the parents, were handed out by Santa (The Eaton's Beauty Doll at the top of the tree

for a lucky girl). Now I realize that many in the district were privileged, while others received so little, but everyone had a bag of candy and the memories of being together singing the Christmas carols. Every child recited some poem. These were not all from Crewe School; so we made friends outside our own school.

When I had to leave Crewe School in 1914 to go to Foxwarren School, I was leaving a wonderful teacher, Mrs. Arthur Falloon; but going to new friends. The location of Crewe School had advantages: plenty of space to play; the little slough on one side where we learned to skate; the big slough, or lake, on the other side for the older students to play games.

The small one-roomed school was usually a happy place to start life's adventure. It didn't seem to matter too much that the outdoor toilets were full of snow in winter, or that our lunch sandwiches were frozen and we had to thaw them out over the stove in the middle of the school. The older students helped the younger ones. It wasn't important what your nationality: we were friends.

There are only two or three of us left to remember.

Hayden, Basile by Florence H. T. Barker

Spy Hill (Special) — Among those enjoying retirement in the village of Spy Hill is a tall, broad-shouldered man, grey haired with white beard but still alert for all his 81 years. His name is Basile Hayden and living with him is his charming wife, Marie, 82.

In a quiet, soft-spoken, unhurried manner he loves to tell of their early experiences.

One of a family of 12, Basile does not remember the exact year his father, Felix Hayden, homesteaded in the Qu'Appelle Valley, but he knows it was before 1896, the year the Hamona Colony was formed nearby.

Felix Hayden Sr., travelling in the early 1800's with four dogs and a sled took mail from Ft. Ellice to

Winnipeg. He later operated a ferry when he lived at St. Lazare near Ft. Ellice. Deciding to take up a homestead, he moved with his family to the area south of Spy Hill and took up land on 11-18-31. There were no fences in those days and the Hayden family were the only settlers in that part of the country for a while. In 1896 when the Hamona Colony came into existence, Basile and his brothers and sisters received some schooling with the late R. W. Huston as teacher.

Ornery Oxen — As a young lad, Basile can remember being moved to tears of desperation when a team of oxen he was driving for William Paynter at the Colony became thirsty, and in spite of all his effects to restrain them, took off for the nearby Cut Arm Creek to quench their thirst.

Basile helped with farming operations on his father's homestead, driving a 12-inch plough with two horses. The small crop of wheat was cut with a scythe and tied with straw bands. During the winter, boiling water was poured over a small patch of ground to make it smooth and solid; the bales were placed upon the frozen patch and beaten with a hand-made wooden flail. The resultant mixture of chaff and wheat was kept till a windy day and then lifted through the hands so that the wind would blow the chaff away, leaving a heap of clean kernels.

Wheat was ground for flour by crushing between stones. Yeast was made from wild hops. Saskatoons and chokecherries, which grew in abundance, were eaten raw in summer and the surplus dried for winter use.

Log House — Their house was made of logs, topped with a peaked poplar roof overlaid with six inch thick sods. Mr. Hayden declares the soil was thicker in those days and held together better than now. Windows were made from fleshed deerskins. For the floor, a layer of white clay from nearby hills was spread out. Water was run over it and then more clay was packed down until the final surface became smooth and hard as cement. Candles were made from wild animal fat.

The large family consisted of four girls, Victoria, Kristine, Teresa and Naomi, and eight boys, Alex, Tom, Peter, Basile, Felix, Frank, Robert and Charles. Day to day activities involved the whole family. Menfolk cut and sawed wood for lumber using a ten foot hand saw. To operate it, one man stood on a platform while a younger boy was stationed below. There were no pencils in those days. Measurement of the 10 or 12-foot logs was determined by blackening a piece of string, stretching it taut from each end of the log, pulling it up in the middle and then letting it go. When it snapped back,

it would make a straight mark on the log as true as if drawn by a ruler.

Barter Days — Wagon wheels were made of native elm trees growing in the Qu'Appelle Valley. Ash was used for nails. Seneca root was dug by the whole family and taken to Fort Ellice where it was exchanged for supplies. These supplies sometimes included pemmican. There was practically no money.

A large garden always consisted of homegrown vegetables supplemented by wild deer and rabbits which were plentiful. Basile still remembers the thrill of shooting rabbits with his bow and arrow.

Limestone fireplaces were built before factory stoves were available, the limestone being available in the neighboring hills. Moccasins were made from wild animal skins. Grain bags were made over into pants and other articles of wear for the boys.

Mr. and Mrs. Hayden remember the friendly visits of Rev. DeCorby, the first Roman Catholic missionary to serve the valley area. He had come west to Lebret and then was stationed at Ft. Ellice from whence he would journey around the countryside. Staying overnight, he would hold Mass next day and then journey on after staying for a while.

There was no white doctor available in the early years. Basile and his wife can remember the Indian doctors who used a sharp stone for incisions and administered healing medicines from local roots and herbs. Later, a white doctor took up residence at Moosomin and served the area.

Pioneer Homemaker — Mrs. Hayden who was born on a little farm in the St. Lazare district, never attended school. She learned much at home though. Through the years she has spun sheep's wool and made sweaters and innumerable pairs of mitts. Her family always had a big garden so she early learned to dry corn and peas for winter use. Lye from wood ashes was used to make household soap. She married in 1906 at St. Lazare.

Since that time the Basile Haydens have farmed at Ste. Marthe. Later Mr. Hayden worked on the railroad for 25 years until he was superannuated seven years ago. They came then to Spy Hill to enjoy their later years.

Mr. and Mrs. Basile Hayden had nine children. Those now living are Gerry and Felix at Spy Hill, William and Elmer at Welby, Jean (Mrs. Greg La Rose) at Tantallon, Verna (Mrs. Jules Belhumeur) and Marie (Mrs. William Wallace) both at Young.

In spite of their advancing years, Mr. and Mrs. Hayden enjoy life. Expertly wielding the axe, he still chops the wood for their cookstove while she delights in making patchwork quilts. Many friends enjoy their

hospitality and keep them in touch with the events of the day.

Explosion

Vera Maud Monte (now Mrs. Frank Barrett) was living in Halifax at the time of the explosion. An ammunition ship exploded at 9:00 a.m. in November, 1917. Vera was sitting at her desk when the ship blew up. The blast hurled her to the floor. The window she was sitting beside was in slivers on an opposite wall. She herself, escaped with just a small cut on her knee although 1,654 casualties were recorded. The city of Halifax was almost totally demolished, due mostly to the crumbling of the buildings.

Mrs. Vera Barrett is presently living with her daughter, Margaret Farquhar, at Birtle.

Birthing Babies In Pioneer Days

This story concerns neighbors of Jas. Falloon, Mr. and Mrs. O. (Jim) Fleming, who lived on the corner of 4-18-28. On a cold, stormy February day in 1884, Mrs. Fleming was in labour and things were not going well. The midwife, Mrs. Hall, said they must get a doctor.

Jas. Falloon enlisted the aid of Scott Ellis Sr., famous for his speed on snowshoes, who struck off through the storm across country to Birtle. The doctor was on call at Shoal Lake. So Scott left directions how to get to Flemings and returned with the bad news.

Mrs. Fleming was worse, Scott got his brother Rupe Ellis to go on snowshoes to Moosomin for a doctor. About an hour after Rupe left, the Birtle doctor arrived. He had two dog teams so had a fresh team to set out on this second emergency in the one day. The Moosomin doctor was not needed now, so Scott set out to catch brother Rupe. Scott had already covered over forty miles that day and Rupe had an hour's head start. However, after twenty miles he overtook Rupe.



Amy Lilian Fleming

A lovely baby girl was born that night, but even so, this story has a sad ending. Amy Fleming, when about nine years old, fell while skating, injured her spine, and died after a lengthy illness. She was an only child and following her death her parents sold their homestead to Walter Pizzezy and moved to Vancouver.

A Sunday Tragedy

When Mr. and Mrs. James Falloon were still living in their one-room log house on their homestead, Mrs. Falloon's sister in Ireland sent two velvet Little Lord Fauntleroy suits for her two sons. One Sunday there was to be a church service at Hunters, about five miles away. She dressed her two curly red-haired boys, Sam and Arthur, in their new velvet suits and in great anticipation of showing them off she set off with the team of oxen and stoneboat. But it was a hot day and on the way, those oxen saw a nice cool inviting slough of water; they waded in and no amount of prodding could move them until the sun went down. For all those hours this pioneer woman and her little red-haired boys in their wilting velvet fought a losing battle with mosquitoes and black flies.

The First Crop

Sam Falloon tells this story of his parents' first crop in 1884.

He had watched his parents flail the crop, fan it and then bag it. A neighbor, Mr. Hall, would take it to Moosomin, so his mother made a list of the things she would need to feed and clothe her young family for the winter. The trip took two days each way, five days in all, the wheat was frozen and graded poorly. Mr. Hall brought back the entire proceeds of a year's work in a wooden candy pail!

Sam Falloon saw unbelievable changes in farming in this area. He grew "50 bushels to the acre wheat", owned and operated one of the first threshing outfits and one of the first combines in the municipality.

Ferguson, Nellie

by Pamela Bottomley of the Winnipeg Free Press

Nellie Ferguson is a 90-year old book of memories . . . memories of strawberry juice running from the wheels of ox carts, memories of Indian tents, sheep's wool quilts and three-month school terms.

Mrs. Ferguson lives at St. Lazare, Manitoba just five miles from the pioneer settlement where she grew up, married and shaped a life from prairie and wind.

She and her husband raised six children. There are now eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. She still does all her own housework, makes buns and dresses in bold blouses and slim slacks. And she remembers:

A group of children, some barefoot, others with feet bound in beaded buffalo hide mocassins, gathered in front of the settlement to watch. They had heard the wagon train coming a mile away. There were ten, or perhaps 15, squeaking, creaking ox carts rolling along the Assiniboine Hills to Fort Ellice, rolling toward Edmonton through the ruts and prairie grass that formed the trail. Juice of wild spring strawberries flowed like blood from their wooden wheels. "The ruts are still there, indelible," says Mrs. Ferguson. "Even time cannot erase them." "If you know where the old wagon trains passed, you can find them, deeply rutted in the fields of Saskatchewan. Fifteen miles from my house in St. Lazare there is an old trail."

All supplies would arrive by wagon trains and be taken across the Assiniboine River to the settlement by ferry — horses, carts, everything. Mrs. Ferguson can remember the first man to work for her father, Alexander MacIntosh, who was overseer of the Hudson's Bay Company supply farm at Fort Ellice on the banks of the Assiniboine, five miles below the mouth of the Qu'Appelle River. "He was an Indian and very tall. I can still see him riding up to the settlement with a string of horses and a few ox carts. Indians were the only men who would work for the Hudson's Bay Company. They would all bring their families and camp outside the settlement. Muskrat was their staple diet. Some would drive up from the reserve that was about eight miles below the settlement in old two-seater buckboards. The women would sit on the floor and drive the horses and the men would sit in the back. They were the most honest people I ever met."

"It was hard," said Mrs. Ferguson, "to make a living from that land." But her family had it easier than most because her father, as an employee of the Hudson's Bay Company, could get a discount on most goods. When her father began clearing land for his crops, she recalls, the children walked ahead of the plow drawn by four horses harnessed abreast gathering buffalo skulls from the field. Huge piles of skulls and bones had to be dumped into ravines. Mrs. Ferguson's father explained to her that the field had once been marshy and that when the white man first came to Canada he'd drive herds of buffalo into swamps and bogs to kill them — for sport. "The Indians never killed the buffalo for sport," said Mrs. Ferguson, "they only killed to eat, and they used all the animal. The sinews that ran along the buffalo's

spine on either side were partially dried and then pulled apart into strips. They used to sew their clothing, particularly the mocassins. The mocassins were so beautifully beaded in the most intriguing shapes imaginable, that my mother would send pairs of them back to Scotland so our relatives could see them."

When Mrs. Ferguson was a child, she went to school only three months of the year. She started in June and went until the weather got too cold. "We had to walk four miles across the Assiniboine hills to Oxford School. We didn't go in the winter because it was too dangerous to send a child out. Severe blizzards would come up without warning. People would have to unhitch their horses and tie them up wherever they were when it started blowing." When Mrs. Ferguson was married in 1902, she went to live in a "log shanty — one storey with two bedrooms, a living room and a lean-to kitchen." We lived there about eight years and had three of our children there. Finally, when we couldn't pile the children on top of each other anymore, we moved and built a brick house. In the beginning, we had fifty acres of land, but we had to sell it so we could afford to eat. My husband was very particular about his horses. They were curried every morning before breakfast and again at night. They used to play like kittens in the yard after they were unharnessed. When my sons took over the farm, they thought that was a lot of nonsense, currying horses twice a day. Soon the horse went, as soon as machines could do the work faster. The day they took the horses away, they turned in the truck and looked back until the farm was out of sight. The Fergusons did keep one horse — a Shetland pony — a cantankerous creature that would sit halfway up a haystack like a dog and climb onto the hayracks to go for a ride. Two of my daughters were tomboys and loved to ride.

"We were just hick farmers, but we loved the land . . . the most beautiful country in the world in its wild way." Nellie died just shortly before her 96th birthday in 1979.

He Hunted the Buffalo **by Jean Baptiste Lepine**

"The period from the disappearance of the buffalo from the prairies of Western Canada to the present time exceeds the usual span of a human lifetime; hence any living link with the buffalo, even of our history is an object of interest. At least one such link exists in the person of Jean Baptiste Lepine of St. Lazare.

"Mr. Lepine was born at Bai St. Paul about 1871 and the family settled near Fort Ellice in 1880. In their snug, well kept home in picturesque St. Lazare,

Mr. and Mrs. Lepine spoke of the colorful past. At the mention of buffalo Mr. Lepine's memory flashed back to the time when he as a boy of about eight or nine, together with his parents and a party of buffalo hunters, set out on one of the last full-scale buffalo hunts in what is now the Province of Saskatchewan. He is not certain of the date but thinks it was 1879. The party was accompanied by Father DeCorby, the widely known missionary who served the area at that time.

"Starting at Fort Ellice, the creaking train of Red River carts crept westward over the Carlton Trail. The train was so long that when they camped for the night, those in the lead had finished their evening meal by the time the last carts reached the camp site. Somewhere in the region now occupied by the City of Saskatoon a herd of buffalo were sighted and the hunt was on. Mr. Lepine was too young to take an active part in the slaughter but he distinctly remembers helping his father capture three buffalo calves.

"Mr. Lepine remembers the taste of the buffalo meat and is no stranger to pemmican. While he enjoys his pipe tobacco, he says that for a 'real smoke' he would prefer a mixture of equal parts of tobacco and 'Kinnik-inik' made from the inner bark of the red willow."

Excerpt from The Birtle Eye-Witness, July 1964.

Prairie Fires as told by Sam Falloon

One of the greatest horrors of the early prairie settlers, was a grass fire. There was so little land under cultivation, there was nothing to stop a fire once it got out of control.

The worst fire I remember was in the fall of 1886. It started in the Virden area and all day the high dry southeast wind filled the air with smoke, and at night the sky was red. My dad spent the day plowing fireguards around the buildings and the hay stacks.

During the night, I heard the baby (Geordie) crying, but no one was paying attention to him. Thinking my mother was sleeping, I got up to waken her, but neither mother or dad was there. The light from the fire was so bright, I could see all around the house; the smoke was suffocating! I watched through the window, and could see dad ploughing wider fireguards and trying desperately to prod the oxen on to greater speed. Mother was burning off the ground between fireguards. I could sense the frenzy with which they worked. Dad pushed the plow so hard he bent the beam, and it never was much good afterwards. You could not imagine anyone as black and tired as they were after their night's work, but the fireguards held, the fire passed them by and everything was saved.

Most of the neighbors were not so fortunate. Although Rance Laycock and J. C. Wilkinson had fought stubbornly, they were surrounded by the fire. Each lost a team of horses and was suffering from burns. Other farmers in the area lost hay and grain and had to sell cattle at a loss as there was not a blade of grass anywhere for pasture.

The Recollections of Christine McIntosh who came to Ft. Ellice in the year 1879

My father Alex McIntosh was born in Glen Quoich, Invernesshire, Scotland and was a school-mate of Archibald McDonald, who came to Western Canada in 1854 as a clerk in the Hudson's Bay and by 1879 was Chief Factor of the Company at Fort Ellice. My mother was born in Inverness city and her step father Andrew Petrie was lockkeeper on the Caledonian canal. They had married before coming to Canada and my eldest sister Mary was born in Scotland. They came to Canada about 1872, first going to Apple Hill in Glengarry county Ontario where my father had two brothers, John and Hugh. My father was a stonemason by trade and the family moved from place to place. I was born in Gananoque but the family moved to St. Barthelemy in Quebec and came to Winnipeg where we lived for five months. In July 1879, we made preparations for the voyage up the Assiniboine River. The buffalo had disappeared and the Hudson's Bay Company were building up a herd of cattle, and Chief Factor McDonald had engaged my father to be foreman of the ranch. I remember the careful preparations made for the trip. Each family had to bring their own provisions for the two week's voyage up the Assiniboine. I remember the names of some of the people on the boat which was the "Manitoban". Their names were Hepburn, Hooper and Duff. The Hoopers moved to the area of Beulah and I believe that the lake in that area was named after them. For fuel, for the furnace, on the boat, firewood was picked up at various points enroute. The boat stopped just below the fort. Chief Factor McDonald was there to meet us and he carried my younger sister Jessie up the hill to the Fort, around which there was a stockade, and outside of it a village of Indian tepees. There was a mill, also a warehouse, the Chief Factor's house, etc. They served us with partridge. I recall my mother asking if they were pheasants. Scones baked on the coals were also served. When we were leaving the Fort to go to Invercoe farm in the valley, we were given pemmican. McDonald drove us to the farm in carts and we were seated on buffalo robes. On arrival at the farm we were housed in a tent until a roof could be built on the house that was there. The house was near where the Alex McDonald house

is now situated, only nearer the foot of the hill, a distance of about 100 yards.

The Hudson's Bay Company had considerable land at Invercoe farm. They used a wooden beam walking plow. The oxen had a wooden yoke and were driven with a whip. Red River carts were used for hauling hay. The creaking of the carts could be heard for a considerable distance. The seed for grain crops was sown broadcast by hand, and harrowed in with a wooden harrow drawn by a single ox. The crop was cut with a scythe and bound by hand. The grain was threshed by a horsepower and was stacked before being threshed. The hay was cut by several men and each had an ox and a Red River cart. There were about 75 or 80 head of cattle on the farm. On Christmas day each animal got a double portion of feed. Several cows were milked. My mother made butter using a dash churn. The butter was packed by mother in a 60 pound tub and one tub of it was sent to Winnipeg where it took first award at an exhibition. For food, the Hudson's Bay Company sent down from the Fort bacon, coarse flour, tea, kegs of syrup, hard tack, barrels of soda biscuits and loaf sugar.

At Invercoe farm there was a big Indian by the name of Rattlesnake. He was much attached to my father who called him "brother." Building rail fences occupied much of the first year that we were at Invercoe farm. The rails were of poplar, the posts of elm. The rails were bound together with slender willows, previously soaked in water to make them pliable. Some of the fences were built in zig-zag fashion. The buildings were of log construction. The roof of the stable had poles covered with straw. The floors of the house were of planed wood. The floors of the stables were of split poplar fixed with wooden pegs. Wooden stanchions were built for the cattle.

We had been at Invercoe only a short time when Father Decorby came along. He had his mission about a half mile from where the village of St. Lazare now is. It was built of logs whitewashed over. The first year Father Decorby came down about once a month on Sundays. The kitchen table would be fixed up for an altar and he would celebrate Mass. He was a very great friend of our family. He had a school at the mission where my elder sister Mary attended. A Miss Mossey was the teacher. She had come out from France. She later married a Mr. Bill O'Keefe. His father had at one time been a surveyor on Government Township surveys. He later bought the first self binder. Referring again to Father Decorby, he gave my mother a spinning wheel. He gave me a ewe and the next day she had a lamb. This was the beginning of the herds of sheep later seen in the Assiniboine valley. My mother spun yarn from the sheeps' wool with a spindle. She made cheese from cows' milk and

packed it in gunpowder kegs which were sawed in two. The kegs were obtained from the Fort. She often made dishes of dessert such as junket utilizing a cured calf's stomach. The river was well stocked with fish, including goldeye and catfish. My mother called the goldeye the fresh water herring as they resembled the salt water herring found in the waters along the coasts and islands of the Scottish Highlands. In 1880, the Assiniboine river that Spring flooded from side to side of the valley and even a short way up the hill. After the water went down some fish were trapped in a pool fed by springs near the foot of the hill and for a long time after the pool was stocked with fish.

When the first cold day arrived in the Fall of the year, my father set out with some helpers to round up the cattle. He threw his Highland tartan over his shoulders but he soon found that it was not suitable for the cold here and thereafter he wore a sheep skin fur coat.

While we were still at Invercoe farm, the Hudson's Bay Company built a warehouse at the bend of the river near where the present house of Archie McDonald stands. My father was in charge of the warehouse and met all the boats. They arrived every two weeks during the seasons when the river was navigable. Settlers and freight arrived with each boat. Much of the freight was hauled across to Birtle where Manwaring had a store. The boats were the "Manitoban" and the "Marquette." We could see the boats coming quite a while before their arrival at the dock on account of the many bends in the river. The "Manitoban" was painted white with black trimming and was a noble sight as she plied up the river with her stern wheel churning the water. The William McDonald family arrived by boat. He was a brother of the Chief Factor and had been a gamekeeper on the estate of the Honourable Edward Ellice in Invernesshire Scotland, who was a director of the Hudson's Bay Company. On arrival, the children were dressed in kilts. Later, when the kilts wore out, the boys wore long frock coats sent to them by the factor of the Ellice estates. The precise location of the warehouse mentioned was on the left bank of the Assiniboine at the bend just below what is now Wattsview siding. Many settlers came after the year 1880 and the Wattsview plains above the Assiniboine valley became well settled. Farther to the north settlers came in by covered wagons from the end of the railroad which was then somewhere in the neighbourhood of Portage la Prairie. My sister, Mina, was the first white child born in the Assiniboine valley. She later married Bill Butcher and members of their family still live in the Wattsview District. My elder sister

Mary married John Corr and some of their children still live in the Wattsvie and Birtle districts.

Some three years after our arrival at Invercoe my father took up his homestead. He had quite a choice of location but chose to homestead in the Assiniboine valley some 3 miles to the south, no doubt, because it bore some resemblance to his boyhood home in Glen Quoich in the Scottish Highlands. As part of his contract with the Hudson's Bay Company, he received some cattle, farm implements and rations of food. A yoke of oxen was part of what he received. He started to break the land with them. One of the oxen was very slow and it was so difficult to break the land. He went to the Fort and asked if he could borrow an ox. Well, to the Company, an ox was almost sacred; indeed, a Chief Factor once complained that a factor had slaughtered an ox on "the mere pretext of starvation". The Company's employees were expected to go to the river and catch and survive on fish, even if the fish were only the lowly suckers. However, out of his long standing friendship with my father going back to their boyhood days in Glen Quoich, Chief Factor McDonald loaned the ox to my father. Father took it home, tied it up in the stable with his own ox and went to the house for his supper. When he returned about 20 minutes later, he found that his ox had gored the Company's ox and killed him. An ox was worth \$100.00 and father did not have \$100.00, and so the Company were short one ox on their inventory. How to pay for the ox? Well, it happened that at that time, the Church of England were preparing to build their first stone church at Fort Qu'Appelle. Chief Factor McDonald was of the Scottish Episcopal Church, the equivalent in Scotland of the Church of England. The Chief Factor was able to work out an arrangement whereby father went up to Fort Qu'Appelle, a distance of some 150 miles, and all summer plied his trade as a stonemason in building or rather, helping to build, the church to pay for the ox out of whom he had not received a minute's work. In the meantime, mother was struggling at home on the farm with the children. To add to father's troubles, his mason's tools disappeared while at Fort Qu'Appelle; however, that beautiful little stone church still stands at Fort Qu'Appelle in good condition.

Among the first farm implements that my father had was a plow with a wooden beam and a set of wooden harrows. Later, he acquired a binder the most valuable implement on the farm. The buildings on the farm were constructed of logs. There was considerable limestone about and my father had his own lime kiln where the limestone was burned and then used to whitewash the logs of the house. There was no crop on the farm the first year as the land was

not ready for cropping. The second year, the land was seeded to wheat, oats and barley. The wheat was taken to Birtle for gristing where Messrs. McKenzie and Nelson had just opened a grist mill. The wheat had been frozen and did not make good flour, when mother attempted to make bread out of it.

Once my mother accidentally scalded her foot badly with hot water. An elderly Indian woman happened to be there. She ran to the woods and came back with a large bunch of raspberry leaves which she chewed up and applied to the burns. Then she got juice from the black poplar and applied it over the burns. Soon they were healed. The Indians were usually dressed in skins and wore mocassins on their feet with stockings made of rabbit skins. They adorned themselves with paint. The squaws were not as well dressed, they wore beaded leggings. There were many wild animals about such as bear, deer, red fox, wolves and numerous muskrats.

People did not travel as they do now . . . we were in the valley 7 years before I made a trip to Fort Ellice, near as it was. Birtle was only 12 miles distant, but I was 9 before I ever saw the place.

Apart from Father Decorby's school, already mentioned, we lived in the valley three years before a log school was built on the Wattsvie Plains; it was called Oxford. The first school teacher was a Mr. Sherman who later became a doctor at Souris.

Explosion at the Fort

Story researched and written by Thos. T. Selby in 1932 re: Beaver Creek Hudson Bay Post.

I interviewed Ambrose Boyer, a halfbreed in his 77th year. He remembers this fort, and tells me that when he was a boy of about eight years of age, he accompanied his father and other Metis on a buffalo hunt to the south of the fort. They secured meat and returned to the fort to feed their old folks and cure the meat. After resting, they started out on another hunt. After proceeding five miles they arrived at the Beaver Creek crossing where they loosened their ponies for grass and water. Whilst waiting, they saw a Red River cart coming down the trail at full speed. On its arrival, they saw it contained a woman (Boyer's mother). She was crying and said an explosion had occurred at the fort after their departure, setting fire to it and killing her brother, so she had followed to get them to return.

Boyer told me he remembers seeing his uncle lying dead when they got back, but does not remember if the man who caused the explosion was killed. It occurred through a man striking flint and steel near an open keg of powder after being warned to desist.

Granting Boyer to be about 77 years old now (1932) and eight at the time of the explosion, the

destruction of the fort must have occurred about 1863.

A Hailstorm

by Sam Sawyer

An interesting story told by Sam when reminiscing in later years concerned the severity of a summer storm in 1909. Maybe some old timers will recall it or have heard their parents speak of it.

"I was harrowing in a nearby field, the family was away leaving just the hired girl, Agnes, in the house. It was terribly hot and close and from the west came an unusual rolling cloud streaked with lightning.

I did not like prairie thunderstorms and hurried the team to the end of the field. Suddenly a ball of fire exploded around me with a simultaneous crash of thunder. Miraculously neither the horses nor I was injured but badly frightened and in a trice I had them unhitched and racing to the barn.

Then came the hail, but not hail as I knew it, no small pellets of frozen moisture but chunks of ice, some up to seven inches in measurement.

Practically all windows in the path of the storm were broken, certainly all those in Mr. Hunter's house. Hailstones were piled on the kitchen floor, the fields were as black as if freshly plowed. Poultry were killed outright, pigs and cattle were injured, even the wild ducks were slaughtered. On my own trip from the barn to the house, my fingernails were broken and I bore the marks for weeks.

In less than twenty minutes the sun was shining again, but in all my years on the prairies, even in later years as a hail adjuster, I never even heard of a story of such a damaging nature."

Muskeg

written by Thos. T. Selby in 1932; re: an Indian girl, sole survivor of a band of Muskeg Indians who fought with a hostile band, were conquered and annihilated with the exception of one girl.

From information I have gathered, the fight took place somewhere in the vicinity of the mouth of the Cut Arm Creek, near the N. W. Co's fort on 29-17-30. After all was over a Frenchman by the name of Fleury visited the scene of the carnage, discovering a girl who was still alive, with her scalp hanging over her face. He took her to his home, where she was nursed back to health. The Fleury family took care of her and when she was old enough, she married one of his sons. Whether the said son was white like his father or a halfbreed, I cannot say with certainty. At any rate, she had a family, five of this family, I knew; three sons and two daughters (one of the sons is still living).

There are many descendants of the Indian girl living near St. Lazare today, in one instance at least the sixth generation. This woman was a Muskeg Indian and was called "Muskeg" till death. Her death took place a mile or so up the valley from the mouth of the Qu'Appelle River. She was buried in the Cemetery at St. Lazare by Father DeCorby in the late 1880's. She said she was over 100 years of age, but facts do not bear this out if the aforesaid battle took place in the year 1805, and a granddaughter told me she was supposed to be eight years old at that time.

Her descendants here are represented by the Fleurys, Haydens, Belhumeurs, Pritchards, Desjarlais, Leclairs and many others.

Old Time Remedies

These are a few home remedies that were handed down.

Poplar bark — Good for cramps. You steep it in boiling water, and drink it like tea.

Wild mint — Very good for fever.

Golden Rod — Good for the blood. You steep the root in boiling water and drink it.

L'herbe — à — dinde — You dig it up and dry it, leaves and roots. Steep it and drink like tea.

Seneca roots — This was a main remedy. Used for upset stomach, chills and fever. It was even used in cattle and horse medicine.

Dandelion roots — Roast in the oven until brown, then grind. It was added to coffee.

Framboise (Raspberry) — Peel the prickly bark off and eat the inside.

Les Naveaux Sauvages (wild turnip) — Dig them out, dry, and eat as a vegetable.

L'absin thé (worm wood) — Used in liquor and perfume.

La belle angélique — A root used for toothache, colds, sore throat and headache. You chew it and swallow the juice.

Thos. T. Selby Finds a Homestead

On Monday night the 8th of May, 1882, I and a companion (whose name by the way was Leather) who had walked with me from Brandon via Rapid City, Shoal Lake and Birtle, slept at Old Fort Ellice where the late Mr. Archie McDonald, Hudson Bay Chief Factor was in charge. Our destination was 6-15-28 which we had been told in the Birtle Land office was supposed to be a good section of land.

The next morning we continued our journey, crossing Beaver Creek and the Sand Plains, coming to the Muskeg which had the appearance of an immense river or lake two or three miles wide. We waded through this till we came to Scissors Creek

where the old Brandon cart trail crossed it. Here my companion balked and refused to cross it, as it meant swimming. He at the time suffered from a severe cold, so we turned west on the north side of it, until we reached a point, a short distance above the spot where Mr. Smart now lives and which then looked as if one might cross without swimming. Unfortunately when we reached the channel of the creek, the water came over our heads, but we got across and reached higher ground.

We continued our journey but after finding and inspecting the land we were in search of, night was drawing near. We had been told before leaving Fort Ellice that an Ex. Mounted Policeman, by name Oscar Orr, was living at the mouth of Scissors Creek on the bank of the Assiniboine 24-15-28. We started to find this haven of rest for the night, and fortunately succeeded in doing so, though the good God only knows how. There was no other house in the country at that time nearer than Fort Ellice.

In the morning I was ready to start back, first revisiting Section 6 to try and find a corner stake we had failed to locate the previous day. My friend was all in and decided, to remain where he was. A boat, the "Alpha" was then unloading her cargo at Fort Ellice and would, on her return to Winnipeg, stop at Orrs to take on wood for her engines. My friend could take passage to Brandon on her.

On my return to Brandon after staying a few days I started, with my oxen and outfit, in company with about forty other ox teams, up the old cart trail, to get back to my homestead (this time the trail on the west side of the Assiniboine).

I think that is enough about myself. Now, for my neighbours, who were few and far between. During that first summer all I saw and knew were Wm. Wright and I. Dixon on 18-15-28, Wm. Shelton on same section, Oscar Orr 24-15-28, Wm. Orr 10-15-28, Henry Hearst 4-15-28 who later was the Declare Postmaster and storekeeper at his homestead, Mr. Leslie (Jos. Leslie's father), Harry and Wm. Jones located in township 14-28 S. Leather and T. T. Selby 6-15-28, Gerard L. Selby 24-15-29, A. McArthur 24-15-30, Geo. Wilson and Jas. Stephens 14-16-29 and Cap. Dashwood and wife 2-16-29. Some others drifted in later in the years, for instance Robt. Howes, the Barber bros. and Mr. Collyer and sons in tp. 16-29.

Until the season of 1882 there was not an acre broken and, of course, no crop that year. Our mail and supplies we got at Fort Ellice. Churches and schools there were none.

As a cook in company with other Englishmen I was a failure, in fact I scarcely knew how to boil water; to cook beans so that they could be masticated

and swallowed, almost beat me. I had been initiated into the art of making bannock and succeeded fairly well; dumplings that I made with baking soda we generally managed to eat, the size I made required 25 minutes to boil and I had to be very careful as to time, for if I removed them from the water 2 minutes before that time, they were dough, or two minutes after it, they were leather. I remember some cousins of mine who had settled at Arrow River came over to visit me. They arrived about dinner time and after finishing that meal I suggested we walk over to Mr. Wrights for a visit. Before leaving I put some prairie chickens that were ready to be cooked into the oven and lighted the fire so that they would be ready for us to eat when we returned. It was late when we got back and as there was no such luxury as coal oil in the shack we had to eat them in darkness, with the unanimous verdict that they were very tough. Morning light revealed the fact that the fire had gone out as soon as lighted with the result we tried to eat and enjoy the raw birds. We had an immense dog, called Sailor, to keep us company. There was not food enough in the township to satisfy that voracious dog's hunger. One morning I got up early to find my oxen. On returning I saw Leather charging wildly over the prairie holding his trousers up with one hand, he not having had time to get his suspenders into position, and on looking farther ahead I perceived Sailor going at a 2.40 clip although handicapped by carrying a sack in his mouth which contained our last and only piece of bacon. Under the circumstances there had evidently not been time for Mr. Leather to make an elaborate toilet.

I will stop and beg of you to forgive me for inflicting the forgoing memories on you of which you must be heartily tired by now.

Dated March 11, 1931

Reminiscences of Scarth, Robert

When it was time to start school, a real problem was created for my parents because our farm was at the corner of two municipalities, and along the north edge of a third one. But in that third district there was a prairie trail to Balmerino School and my cousin Norman Turnbull, would be attending that school since their land lay in that district. So it was decided that I, too, would go there. It was necessary to drive me, and most of the time this task fell to my mother. She was glad when Norman started so the morning and afternoon drives could be shared. This worked out quite well through the summer but we missed many days from school in winter. Then my mother tried to teach me at home, which was not always too successful.

My first teacher was Miss Ebbenn. I do not re-

member much about her, except that she blamed me for losing her pen knife which I had borrowed to sharpen a pencil. Maybe I did, I don't know. I do know that I was the only pupil in school for some days at a time. In those days, the older boys often got to school only in the winter time; any boy old enough to work or to herd the cattle was kept home to do the chores. There were no fences and cattle could wander for miles, so it was important that someone be watching them and keeping them in reach of home.

When I was eight or nine years old, I was considered old enough to ride a horse to school. I expect my parents were fed up with driving to school twice each day, although by now I walked to meet them and quite often walked the whole three miles home. When Willie was old enough to go too, we were provided with a horse and buggy for summer and a home-made sleigh, called a Jumper, for winter trips. Sometimes we went on skis or snowshoes when it was too bad to travel with the horse. We could then go straight across the fields on our snow-shoes and never mind the roads. There were a few obstacles though. It was hard to cross the railway track fences. It meant taking off our mitts to get snowshoes off, so we often tried climbing over the page wire, snowshoes and all. Often we walked single file. We were warmly dressed with fur hats and coats lined with sheep-skin, collars that came well up around our ears. I think most days we enjoyed it all, though I know now how many hours my mother stood watching at the windows to see if we were coming home safely.

When I was ten or twelve, the Fraser family moved on to the half-section north of us. Then we had lots of company going to school and we enjoyed being able to play with the Fraser boys and tease the Fraser girls. Soon the trustees of the Balmerino school district decided to charge a fee for children who attended their school from another district, so my brother and I were sent to Binscarth school. Because I had missed two winters from school, Willie had now caught up to me and we were in grade VII together. Roads to Binscarth were always good and we now had a good driver so the five-mile trip was no greater hardship than the former trip to Balmerino, but we were not very happy in the big school for the first year; we were not used to such big classes. I passed my grade VIII there and took a few weeks of grade IX, but I loved the farm work and when harvest time came again, I stayed home to run the binder.

I had run a binder when I was twelve years old. It was a six-foot wide machine drawn by three horses. Dad and the hired man had to hitch the team to the binder because I could not lift the tongue and I

remember they had to change the trip at the seat because I was too short in the leg to reach it. Now, at fifteen, I could handle four horses on an eight-foot binder or drive my own stook team and take the place of a man. In the winter, there were always lots of chores as we had horses, cattle, pigs and chickens. There was always the year's supply of wood to be cut. About twenty loads was required each year for heating the house and for the cook stove. The logs were cut and hauled home in the winter. Towards spring, a neighbor who owned a sawing outfit would go round the community sawing up all the piles of wood. Groups of neighbors would gather at place after place until all the "wood bees" were over. It needed six to eight men to make the job easy as the green poles were twenty to thirty feet long, and heavy! Once sawed, it had to be split and piled to dry out for fuel for the following winter. The size of a man's wood pile was the clue to whether or not he was a good provider.

I recall that wood-sawing bees were a lot of fun. There was always competition as to who could lift the biggest log, or throw the blocks on to the pile to the best advantage. There was always the clown to keep the day merry and always the lazy one who had to be watched, else he was always found at the light end of the log. I can appreciate now why my mother hated the winters. Wood was not a very good fuel when all is said and done. It would not last through the night and our house was not well built, insulation being unknown at that time. The kitchen was a shack attached to the main part of the house; it was hard to heat and the floor was always cold. Sometimes the fire hazard was very high. If the winter's supply of wood had not seasoned enough and was still on the green side, a deposit built up on the inside of the stove pipes which became very inflammable as it dried. Then there would be a sudden roar and some one would shout "The pipes are on fire!" Everyone would run. The first thing was to throw salt on the fire in the stove or furnace and all stood around with pails of water in case the walls or ceiling got too hot. Those were terrifying experiences.

In the early winter of 1919, the elevator at Chillon Siding burned. Percy Proudly and I bought the grain and salvaged it. I borrowed \$500.00 to pay my share of the purchase price and cleared \$2400.00. In the fall of 1920, I used \$2000.00 of this to put a down-payment on a farm of my own which was located east of my dad's farm, owned then by Percy Griffiths. A bad storm just before harvest that year spoiled the crop but even that failed to dampen my spirits. A new teacher had come to teach at Jellicoe school and by spring of 1921 there were more important things in

my future than farming or ruined crops. In November 1921, we were married.

A Story

by Mr. Thomas Tresham Selby

When Mrs. Selby was in the Winnipeg General Hospital, Mr. Selby was in the waiting room early each morning to get news of her. Each morning a distinguished looking gentleman went through the waiting room and into an office.

One morning he stopped to speak to Mr. Selby and, upon learning that Mr. Selby lived in St. Lazare, said that he had been in the country for some 50 years but did not know where St. Lazare was. Mr. Selby went on to explain that it was on the CNR main line at the junction of the Assiniboine and Qu'Appelle Rivers. "Why," said the gentleman, "that must be near Fort Ellice." Then he went on to tell Mr. Selby this story:

As a lad he was tubercular and his doctor had sent him to work on a survey gang as a "cookee" where the combination of steam of cooking, fresh air and sunshine would be the best cure. He left the railroad at Moosomin and took the stagecoach for Fort Ellice. The driver was driving two teams tandem and could fairly take the hide off the lead team with his whip! They got to an Englishman's house by a creek at night and stayed there over night.

In the morning the Englishman warned the driver that the creek had risen so high in the night that it was not safe to cross. However the driver paid no heed and started across the creek. The water immediately took the horses off their feet and they and the coach were swept down stream until a willow bush on the opposite bank halted their progress. The Englishman came with a raft and got the passengers onto the

shore. Then he and the driver untangled horses, harness, willows and coach. It was evening before the harness and coach were sufficiently repaired to be on their way with the waterlogged passengers.

Near Fort Ellice the driver stopped, told the lad to get out, pointed to a light and said that the people there would tell him where the surveyors were located. He felt too ill to walk but was too frightened of the driver to stay in the coach. It was not far and the Métis couple who lived there were the kindest people he had ever met. They took him in and fed him a hot stew that had small bones in it. They made him a bed of buffalo robes and he had never had a warmer, softer bed.

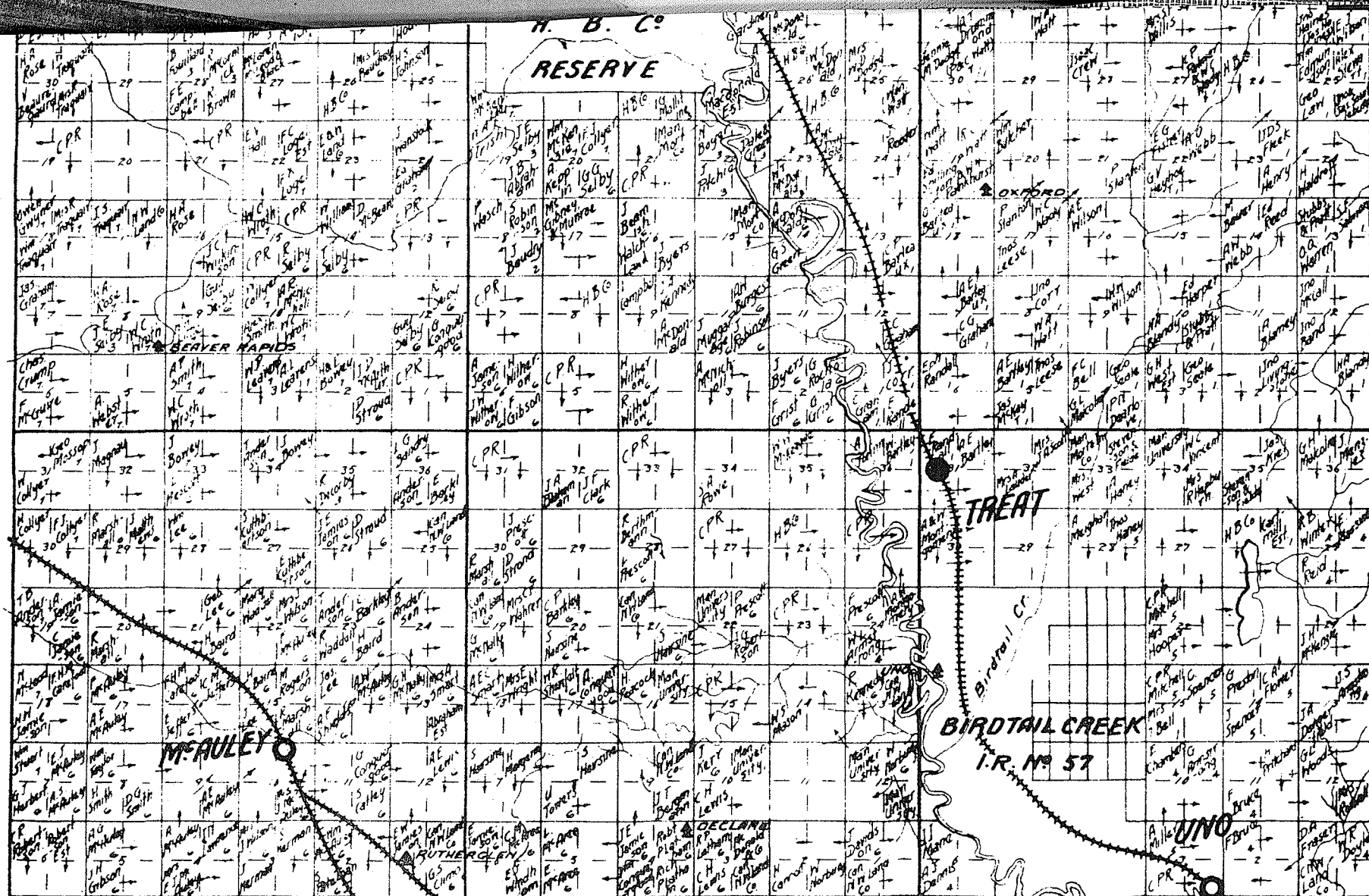
In the morning he felt like a new man. The man drove him to the surveyor's camp with his team of ponies. They crossed the Qu'Appelle River at a place called Strathallen. They had dinner at the Stopping-House run by a Nova Scotian, his wife and three daughters. In the afternoon they found the camp on Pumpkin Plains.

Mr. Selby listened to the story with mounting excitement. He remembered that young lad very well for he was the Englishman whose home was near the creek — Beaver Creek; the stagecoach driver was Mr. William Boles, the Métis couple were the Houles and the hot supper had been made from spring gophers. The Stopping-House at Strathallen was run by the Armstrongs.

Mr. Selby said he often wondered what had become of that sickly lad waiting wet and shivering in the cold. To see him again, 50 years later, a fine, healthy, distinguished looking man and secretary of the hospital, gave him the lift and the fortitude he needed to meet the news later in the day that his wife had died.



Emile Dupont's Sawmill (Isreal Tremblay).



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